



# St. Mark Connection

9999 Ferguson Road

Dallas, TX 75228

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Volume 61, Issue 7

saintmarkchurch.org

July 2014

## STILL WATER AND LIVING WATER

### 2014 East Dallas Cluster Adult Vacation Bible School

August 4-7<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. - Noon

#### Monday, August 4

Host: St. Mark Presbyterian Church

Theme Presentation: *Still Water*

Presenter: Phyllis Danhof Speck, Presbyterian Minister and longtime friend of many in the Cluster.

#### Tuesday, August 5

Host: First Presbyterian Church- Garland

Theme Presentation: *Water and Restoration: A Hands-on Experience.*

Presenter: Leah Wyckoff, Director of Grace Presbytery Resource Center

#### Wednesday, August 6

Host: Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Theme Presentation: *Getting Wet: Me, You, and Mission*

Presenter: Jane Els, Author and Speaker with a longtime commitment to mission

#### Thursday, August 8

Host: St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Theme Presentation: *Living Water*

Presenter: Phyllis Danhof Speck

#### 73 Years and Counting!



Frank and Shirley Roberson will have been married for **73** years this July. Please join them in the parlor following worship on Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup> to celebrate with cake and punch.

#### Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, July 20, immediately following the worship service for the purpose of receiving reports from Session Committees, electing three members to serve on the 2014-2015 Nominating Committee, and to approve the Pastor's Terms of Call.

#### Church Beautification Day

Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m. - Noon



#### Summer Break for WBS

The Wednesday Bible Study will not meet in July but will return in August.



The release of US Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl from his Taliban captors in Afghanistan May 31<sup>st</sup> has caused quite a

media stir worldwide. Without knowing all the facts, many have jumped to conclusions well before an official military inquiry had begun. Until more is known, I'm attempting to reserve an opinion regarding Bergdahl.

But this situation did make me stop to consider the theological implications of what it means to have God never give up seeking Christians who leave the fold. I'm reminded of English pastor Robert Robin's 1757 hymn, "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing":

"Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it/Prone to leave the God I love."

Jesus addresses those who stray from the flock and the Good Shepherd's response in Luke's Gospel 15:4-5:

"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices." (NRSV)

God is continually reaching out to the lost, no matter their station in life. He's wooing, guiding circumstances, persistently calling sinners to repentance and into a right relationship with Him through the power of the Holy Spirit. All people have value in God's sight. Yet in God's Plan to redeem the world, the church far too often disregards His vision. "Save her? Return her to *our* faithful fold of ninety-nine? Her values and lifestyle are way too different from ours!" This can lead to the old adage that one must catch the fish before cleaning it. The church is called in the Great Commission (Mt 28:19-20) to be the feet and voice of Jesus. We are commissioned to leave nobody behind in the enemies' hands. In short, we're on a rescue mission.

Blessings, *Pastor Rick*

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### Yoga Classes

The Yoga Class is taking a break in July and will resume classes in August.

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## Sunday Sermons, Scriptures and Events

### July 6

"Just Deserts, Please"

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; 1 Corinthians 3:11-15

Celebration of the Lord's Supper



### July 13

"Brothers"

Genesis 25:19-34; Genesis 27 (selections)

Rev. Dr. Randall McGee

### July 20

"Do You Believe In Magic?"

Romans 5:1-5; John 14:18-27

### July 27

"Happy Together"

1 Peter 1:13-16; 1 Corinthians 12:4-13

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### Our Sympathy to . . .

Pauline Millender and her family upon the death of her grandson, Paul Duerr, on June 14, 2014. Services for Paul were held in Kaufman on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

The family of Marian Hanna upon her death June 16, 2014. A Memorial Service for Marian is pending for Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

The family of Nell Thomason upon her death June 22, 2014. Services for Nell will be held at St. Mark on Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Reception to follow.

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### New Elders and Trustee Installed

On Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> Teri Brooks was installed to fill an unexpired term for the Class of 2016 and Annie Blair, Bill Grayson, Nikki Guinee (also ordained) and Charlene Taylor were installed for the Elder Class of 2017. Alice McLean was installed as Trustee for the Class of 2017.

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### Have Any Craft Ideas?

The Women of St. Mark have voted to add a craft corner to the upcoming Rummage Sale. We need glass jars (with lids) and plain glass flower vases at least 3" in diameter and about 6" or more in height to hold spring bulbs. If you are interested in helping with crafts please call Jerri Shevlin.

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### Newsletter Deadline is July 15<sup>th</sup>

**May God Bless You On Your Birthday**

<b>July 5</b> Suzanne Presley	<b>July 18</b> Linda Youmans
<b>July 12</b> Lacey Stephen	<b>July 19</b> Allison Curry
<b>July 14</b> Alaina Basher	<b>July 20</b> Cathie Mackle
<b>July 15</b> Willetta Jones	<b>July 22</b> Jeanette Sanders
<b>July 17</b> Rusty Holloway	<b>July 31</b> Trevor Crawley

**White Rock Center of Hope  
Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>**

Bring your donations and place them in the baskets in the hallway.



**Food Needs**

Jelly, All Varieties of Canned Vegetables, Canned beans, (navy, pinto, etc.)

**Personal Hygiene Items**

Adult Toothbrushes, Deodorant, all sizes of Diapers

**Linen Needs**

King, Queen & Full sheet sets, Towels & Washcloths

**Clothing Needs**

Men, Women, Boys and Girls socks, underwear, pajamas and shoes in all sizes



**Movie Night will not be held in July.**

**Spanish Camp at St. Mark**

**Week of July 7**

We hope you can help with some craft supplies. Do you happen to have any of these items lying around not being used?

**large cereal boxes, cardboard milk or orange juice cartons, scrap book paper, fabric, ribbon**

The kids are learning about food, home, school, city, family, our body and clothes. Some of the activities and crafts include a scavenger hunt and creating a family tree. Each day's theme includes a song, an activity, and a craft. Games, puzzles, flash cards, and labels around the classroom, are among other teaching tools.

The cost for each week of camp is \$150. The camps will be Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Please visit the website, [thespanishcampofdallas.com](http://thespanishcampofdallas.com) to register for camp, or contact Nikki if you have questions.



**GOD  
BLESS  
AMERICA**

**Newsletter Staff:**

Pat Bilger ..... [office@saintmarkchurch.org](mailto:office@saintmarkchurch.org)  
Cecilia Grayson .....

*Articles and information for the newsletter can be e-mailed to these addresses.*

**Treasurer's Report**

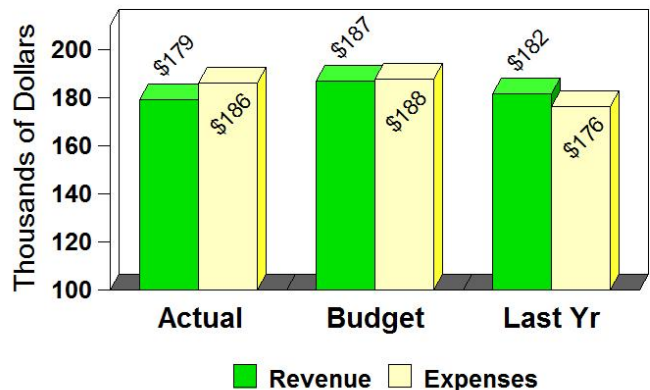
**for the eleven months ending 5/31/2014**

- ⇒ Operating Fund + Mission Fund income is \$8,000 below budget. Expenses are \$2,000 below budget.
- ⇒ Capital and Facilities Fund income is \$1,500 better than budget and expenses are \$700 below budget.
- ⇒ Our Current Fund Balance (all funds combined) is \$5,000 higher than the beginning of the fiscal year, and \$10,000 above the same month last year.

*Detailed financial statements are available for any member to review. Please contact the Treasurer, Bill Grayson, if you would like to see more information.*

**Operating & Mission Funds**

**11 Months Through May 31, 2014**



# St. Mark Annual Rummage Sale

## Saturday, October 4, 2014

The Mission Committee is once again hosting the Rummage Sale. The Worship Committee will head the eagerly anticipated Bake Sale and the Women's Group has decided to sponsor a Craft Table. Finally, the quilt will be ready to be raffled.

We are looking forward to a successful event and would love to have your input before final plans are set. Accordingly, please respond to the following questions. A decision will be taken based on majority rule. Please return this form to the church office as soon as possible.



1. Should the practice of having donors price items be continued?  yes  no

2. Should we do individual tables per donor?  yes  no

**OR**

Have a general sale?  yes  no

3. Do we want to sell clothes?  yes  no

If yes, children's clothes?  yes  no; Adult clothes?  yes  no

If clothes are sold, should one price be set for t-shirts, one price for slacks, etc.  
 yes  no

4. Any other comments? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you,  
The Mission Committee



# Randall's Pen



For the last several years during the first week of August we have held a daytime Vacation Bible School for adults. Last year for the first time it was sponsored by the east Dallas Presbyterian Cluster. It seems to have been a great experience for all who have participated.

Adult Vacation Bible School is returning in the Summer of 2014.

Once again the August 4-7<sup>th</sup> Adult Vacation Bible School will be sponsored by the East Dallas Presbyterian Cluster. A different cluster congregation will host each day and cluster funding allows us to have great outside speakers each morning.

St. Mark will host the very first day, Monday August 4<sup>th</sup>. Every day will feature all the things we love about Adult VBS: food, singing, fellowship and great presentations.

The Theme this year is **STILL WATER AND LIVING WATER**. The theme is taken from parts of Psalm 23 and the story from the gospel of John about Jesus and the woman at the well.

Phyllis Danhof Speck, Leah Wykcoff, and Jane Els will be the theme presenters.

Each day will feature a different look at the theme:

- Monday, August 4 at St. Mark: *Still Water*
- Tuesday, August 5 at Garland 1st: *Water and Restoration: A Hands-on Experience*
- Wednesday, August 6 at Eastminster: *Getting Wet: Me, You, and Mission*
- Thursday, August 7 at St. Andrews: *Living Water*

### SAVE THE DATES

Watch for more information to be posted around the church in the near future. If you have questions feel free to check with me.

Randall McGee, Director of Christian Education

## Cleaning Out Your Closets or Garage?

St. Mark will have it's annual Rummage Sale this Fall so be sure and save your treasures for the sale. We do have space in the container behind the Family Center for any large items you might want to donate ahead of time.

## Moment for Mission — Dr. Barbara Nagy

Did you know that in addition to the Ministry of Hope, we at St. Mark also support the work in Malawi of PC(USA) missionary **Dr. Barbara Nagy**? Dr. Nagy is a specialist in internal



medicine and pediatrics, appointed in 2004 to serve as a physician at Nkhoma Hospital, an institution of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian in Malawi, Africa. Dr. Nagy's work is concentrated in the areas of women's and children's health, and she lives in Nkhoma with her three daughters, Melia, Anna, and Happiness.

Barbara holds an M.D. from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, a Bachelor of Science from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma., and a degree in tropical medicine from the Prince Leopold School of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium.

The Republic of Malawi, also known as "The Warm Heart of Africa", is a landlocked country in southeast Africa. bordered by Zambia ,Tanzania and Mozambique, separated from neighboring Tanzania and Mozambique by Lake Malawi. About the size of Mississippi, with an estimated population of 17 million, Malawi is a former English colony called Nyasaland. Its capital, and largest city, is Lilongwe.

Malawi is among the world's least developed countries. Its economy is heavily based in agriculture with a largely rural population that mostly live in poverty. The country has a low life expectancy and high infant mortality.

## Inquirer's Class

Wednesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6:30 p.m.

If you have been worshipping with us at St. Mark Presbyterian Church for a while and want a better understanding of what we're all about, you may have some questions.

- *Who are the Presbyterians?*
- *What do they believe?*
- *What do they do?*
- *What is their history?*
- *What has their influence been?*



Bring your questions about being Presbyterian to Pastor Rick's Inquirer's Class.