



St. Mark Connection

9999 Ferguson Road

Dallas, TX 75228

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Volume 60, Issue 10

saintmarkchurch.org

October 2013

St. Mark Annual Trash to Treasure Rummage Sale and Bake Sale

Saturday, October 5th - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



You can start bringing your donations to the Family Center **beginning** Tuesday, September 24th. The church office is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays only from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. If you need to bring your items in the evening hours call Barb Tuinstra so she can arrange for someone to meet you there.

Please price your items before you bring them.

To donate items for the Bake Sale, please call Marie Chambers.

If you need someone to transport any large items (such as furniture), please call the church office and let Pat know so we can schedule a pick up time.



Volunteers are needed to help set up items ahead of the sale. If you can help call Barb. Volunteers are also needed on sale day to work and sell items. Call Marie or Barb to volunteer or come on Saturday morning to help. There will be a sign-up sheet on the board outside the church office. We would like to see as many volunteers as possible wearing their St. Mark t-shirts on Saturday, October 5th.

Come enjoy fellowship and the fun of "Wheeling & Dealing" as we join together in our 19th year of this event.

Inquirer's Class

Wednesday, October 16th - 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.

We hope to see you there!



Women of the Church Meeting

Thursday, October 24th
6:30 p.m. - in the parlor

Halloween Festival

Sunday, October 27th

3:00 – 5:00 p.m. - in the Family Center

Wear your costume and bring your pumpkin or bag to collect candy and trinkets. There will be games, snacks, candy, and a cake walk.

If you would like to contribute some candy and/or trinkets please contact Marilyn Jackson or the church office.



St. Mark Blood Drive

Sunday, September 29th

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Remember there must be 56 days between your donations. Your donation could possibly save 3 lives. Call Sue Duncan for more information.



Since celebrating the 60th anniversary of St. Mark in June, I've been acutely aware of the notion of church as family. As Presbyterians, we even define this family type as the Second Great End of the Church: the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the Children of God. In the church family, God sets apart a people in order to build a community of disciples who preserve the truth (the Fourth Great End of the Church), among other goals.

We pass on what is remembered best through story telling. This occurs especially as the church family gathers for memorial services during the time for sharing. What we value about family relationships are worth remembering and repeating. In this way, the truth is preserved and passed on.

One of my favorite writers is Anne Lamott. She frequently shares stories about her recovery from alcoholism that led to her awakening to the claim Jesus made on her fragile, broken life through a local Presbyterian Church. This small church became her new family that accepted her with unconditional love. Lamott wrote about her challenges getting her teenage son, Sam, to attend worship services with her. She writes in "Plan B: Further Thoughts of Faith":

"Why do I make him go?" she reflects and then writes "We live in bewildering, drastic times, and a little spiritual guidance never killed anyone. I think it's a fair compromise that every other week he has to come to the place that has been the tap for me: I want him to see the people who loved me when I felt most unlovable, who have loved him since I first told them that I was pregnant, even though he might not want to be with them. I want him to see their faces."

In October, we'll be exploring the intersection of biological and church family during corporate worship, which happens to be the Third Great End of the Church. October 27th brings Reformation Day where we will attempt to see the faces of those who began the Reformed Faith family.

Blessings, *Pastor Rick*

Sunday Sermons, Scriptures and Events

October 6

"Around the Family Table"

1 Corinthians 10:16-17; Matthew 12:46-50

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

October 13

"Finding Family"

Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Timothy 1:3-10

Service for Wholeness 6:00pm



October 20

"Family Ties"

Hebrews 10:23-25, 11:1-3; 1 Peter 2:1-10

October 27

"Approaching Graceland"

Jeremiah 31:27-34; John 8:31-36

Reformation Sunday

Our Sympathy to . . .

Jeff and Charlene Taylor and family upon the death of



Jeff's mother, Janet Taylor. Janet, a long time member of St. Mark, died September 18, 2013. A Memorial Service for Janet was held at St. Mark on September 21st.

Thank You

Dear St. Mark Family,

Thank you for the many cards, phone calls, prayers, food and the out-pouring of love I received while I was recovering.

Pauline Millender



Second Sunday at Six

A Service of Wholeness

returns on October 13th at 6:00 in the Gleaner's Classroom. Join us for a time of prayer, scripture meditation, anointing of oil and the Celebration of the Lord's Supper.

St. Mark T-Shirts

There is still time to order a St. Mark t-shirt.

The sign up list is on the bulletin board outside the church office. The cost is \$15.00. Please pay Pat in the church office or Marilyn Jackson.

No Movie Night This Month

Movie Night is taking a break in October.



Randall's Pen



I thought I'd share a few odds and ends that occurred to me when I started thinking about this months "Rummage and Bake Sale."

Trash to Treasure. That's what has been on some of the information for the sale. It is a great thing that items that we no longer need can still be useful to someone else. It is also a great thing that the money raised from the sale goes to make a difference in the lives of other people. There is no telling the good that has been done with the proceeds from this sale through the years. Hungry have been fed. Homeless have been sheltered. Orphans have received care. I could go on and on. As the proceeds from our sales have been combined with the treasure of other folks the Good News has been proclaimed in both word and deed through out the world.

Treasure not Trash. "God don't make no junk. Some years back that phrase was often seen on posters and used in sermons and lessons. It was poor grammar but excellent truth. All people have value in God's eyes. They may not think much of themselves. People around them may not think much of them either. But nobody is junk. The children of God need to be reminded of that from time to time.

Child of God. This is not the first time I have shared the opening questions from *Belonging to God* but they often op into my mind. It is a catechism written about 20 years ago to help young children explore the Christian faith. But these are good things for Children of God of all ages to read and ponder and celebrate. Here they are:

1. *Who are you?* I am a child of God.
 2. *What does it mean to be a child of God?* That I belong to God, who loves me.
 3. *What makes you a child of God?* Grace -- God's free gift of love that I do not deserve and cannot earn.
 4. *Don't you have to be good for God to love you?* No. God loves me in spite of all I do wrong.
 5. *How do you thank God for this gift of love?* I promise to love and trust God with all my heart.
 6. *How do you love God?* By worshipping God, by loving others, and by respecting what God has created
- That's all for this month. Let's all go and live like the children of God that we are.

Randall McGee, Director of Christian Education



New Pictorial Directory

We will be producing a new pictorial directory with Lifetouch Church Directories. Our photography dates are:

- Tuesday, October 22nd - 2:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 23rd - 2:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 24th - 2:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- Friday, October 25th - 2:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday October 26th - 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Each family will receive a copy of the directory and a complimentary 8X10 custom color portrait. If you wish to purchase extra portraits, you may place an order with the Portrait Consultant that day. Your portraits will be mailed directly to your home.

When you register online you will receive a \$10 coupon to use toward any extra photos that you order. Bring a non-perishable food item to your photography sitting for an additional \$5 off.

The online registration website is: www.appointment-plus.com/lifetouch. Login name is host and password is 195878. You may also register on Sunday mornings following worship in the church office with Marilyn Jackson.

White Rock Center of Hope is Sunday October 13th

Bring your donations of toys, canned or dried foods, paper products, clothing, etc. and place them in the baskets in the hallway.



Food Needs

Canned Fruit, Tuna, Macaroni & Cheese, Canned Beans, Canned Vegetables (no green beans or corn) and Tomato Products

Other Needs

Clothing, underwear, socks & shoes in all sizes, Queen & King sheets, pillowcases

Please note: the new email address for the church (and Pat Bilger) is office@saintmarkchurch.org

Newsletter Staff:

Pat Bilger office@saintmarkchurch.org
Cecilia Grayson

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

May God Bless You On Your Birthday

October 1 Gene Woods	October 19 Rose Curry
October 3 Cheryl Simpson	October 20 Karl Crawley
October 4 Mary Beckham	October 22 Lisa Hawes
October 6 Jo Still	October 25 Dean Anderson
October 7 Elli Guinnee	October 27 Ellen Roberts
October 11 Jeff Taylor	October 30 Dick Arthur
October 14 Emily McIntosh William Higgins	October 31 Wylie Matthews
October 18 Myrtle Harbaugh Lorraine Stephen	



Yoga is Back

Wednesdays - 5:15 p.m.
Sundays - 12:00 noon



On Sunday, **November 10th** we will again honor our St. Mark Veterans by helping the USO at DFW Airport.

The USO is open 24/7 and serves 12,000 service men and women every month. When the "Welcome Home Hero" program ended most of the donations stopped also.

The USO has many needs: juice boxes, beef jerky, peanut butter or cheese crackers, peanuts/mixed nuts, variety-pack chips, trail mix, chewing gum, cases of canned sodas and juice, travel size baby powder, shaving cream, deodorant, batteries, paper plates for microwaving, paper towels, books for adults.

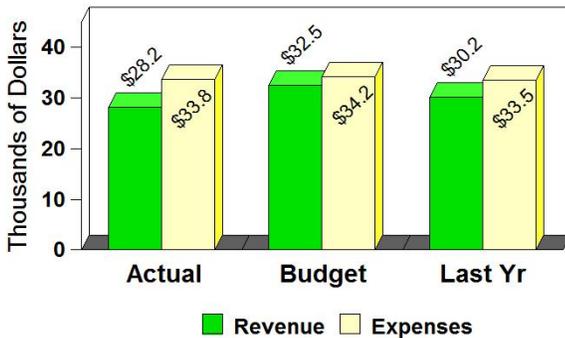
Some children will be traveling with a parent and the USO can also use coloring books, activity books, tablets, crayons and new books for children.

Please place your donated items on the chancel steps before the worship service on Sunday, November 10th.

If you have questions call or email Donna Simes.

Operating Fund

2 Months Through Aug 31, 2013



Treasurer's Report

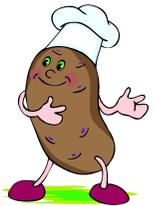
for the two months ending 8/31/13

- ⇒ Operating Fund contributions are \$3700 below budget and \$2700 less than last year. Expenses are on budget and about the same as last year.
- ⇒ Capital and Facilities Fund contributions are \$500 below budget and about \$300 more than the previous year. Expenditures are on budget.

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

Shop-A-Committee Luncheon Sunday, October 20th

Please plan to stay for a Baked Potato and Salad Bar Lunch following worship on Sunday October 20th. After enjoying your fill of taters and salad, please make the rounds of committee tables. Talk to the group members and see if you find a committee that you find interesting.



Being on a church committee is a wonderful way to be a good steward of St. Mark and get to know other church members. Each group has a specific job in supporting our church to accomplishing our goals.

The committees are:

Administration & Personnel	Fellowship
Membership & Evangelism	Christian Education
Property & Maintenance	Mission & Outreach
Stewardship & Finance	Worship & Music

*Check out what you might be missing.
Committee work is very rewarding.*

Newsletter Deadline is October 15th