

St. Mark Connection

St. Mark Presbyterian Church
9999 Ferguson Road Dallas, TX 75238 214-321-6437
office@saintmarkchurch.org • www.saintmarkchurch.org



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

	Page
UPCOMING EVENTS	2
BULLETIN BOARD	3
RANDALL'S PEN	4
CLUSTER EVENT	5
CALENDAR	6
HOLY WEEK	7

CALENDAR REMINDERS

April 4th – Volunteers to the Bridge

**April 13th –
8:00 a.m. - Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - All Church
Beautification Day**

April 14th – Palm Sunday

**April 18th – Maundy Thursday
7:15 p.m. - Worship**

**April 19th – Good Friday
7:15 p.m. -
Service of Tenebrae**

**April 20th – 9:30 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt**

**April 21st – Easter Sunday
9:15 a.m. – Continental
Breakfast**

"Well done is better than well said." This is one of my favorite quotes from Benjamin Franklin. I saw that quotation a few years ago in Philadelphia on a plate in the first US Post Office. It's a "walk the walk" statement that speaks to the events of Holy Week, at least to me. No matter how many times Jesus told his Disciples that he was on God's mission to redeem people who could not save themselves, they couldn't accept it, especially since it would involve his execution on a Cross. His followers attempted to circumvent this Cross business by talking Jesus out of it. Even after Jesus told them to be at peace because God would raise him from the dead three days later, they didn't want to hear it. Instead, they would need to experience Jesus walking the path that only he could walk. Mere words wouldn't cut it. Jesus put Franklin's words into action long before the first Postmaster General penned them.

The words of Jesus' promise that he would be raised from the sealed, guarded tomb Easter morning were put to the test. God had indeed been faithful to His Word. Jesus appeared to his followers who loved him so deeply. Many others also saw him as well. He had conversations with them. He prepared a barbeque on the beach for them and ate with them. Thomas famously touched the body of the risen Lord. Someone still in the grave could not have done these things.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ has been called the keystone of the arch of the Christian Faith. Without a proper keystone in place, the arch falls. The Apostle Paul probably produced the best reflection on this centrality in 1 Corinthians 15:13-19:

"If there is no resurrection of the dead then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ-whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied"

Jesus walked the walk. He still calls to us to join him in the Resurrection life. Let's get moving because he lives.
Blessings, Pastor Rick

Upcoming Events

Sunday Sermons, Scriptures and Events

April 7 - "Extravagant Grace"
Psalm 126:1-6; John 12:1-8
5th Sunday in Lent
Celebration of The Lord's Supper

April 14 - "Rock Concert"
Psalm 118:19-29; Luke 19:28-40
Palm Sunday

April 18
7:15pm Maundy Thursday
Celebration of The Lord's Supper

April 19
7:15pm Tenebrae Service
Good Friday

April 21 - "Remember"
Acts 10:34-43; Luke 24:1-12
Resurrection Sunday

April 28 - "Peace"
Psalm 150:1-6; John 20:19-31



April Birthdays

April 1
Ann Gordon
Ann O'Neal

April 3
Thomas Munoz
Kim Price
Donna Simes

April 6
Souvenir Swift

April 8
Noylene Howard

April 9
Kathleen Arthur
Don McGowan

April 10
Nikki Guinee

April 12
Joseph Brown
Valerie Bassett



April 13
Mason Brown
Doug Duncan
Mercy Shea

April 15
Alice McLean

April 20
Sandra Knapp

April 21
Anne Carlson

April 22
Patti Aulenbach
John Carver

April 28
Charles Shea

April 30
Bill Grayson

White Rock Center of Hope Sunday, April 14th



URGENT! WRCH needs the following:
canned soup, canned meat products
(chili, chicken, Chef Boyardee, ham,
etc.)

All Church Beautification Day

Saturday, April 13th
8:00am Breakfast in the parlor
9:00am Clean-up begins.



HELPING HANDS ARE NEEDED!!

Easter Egg Hunt



The St. Mark Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be held this year on Saturday morning April 20th from 9:30 until 11:00am. You may begin bringing filled plastic eggs for the hunt on Sunday April 7th. Please fill each egg with wrapped candy or a small trinket. Thank you for helping with our egg hunt.

Vacation Bible School

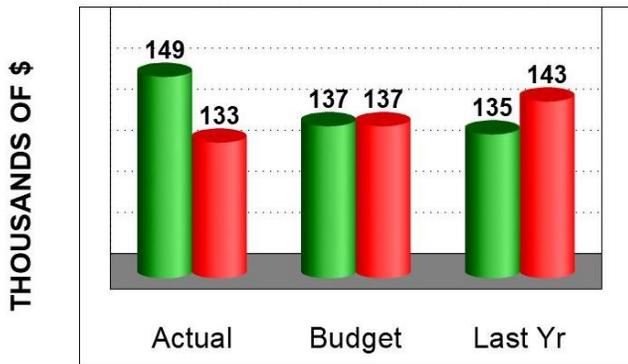
Save the Date for Vacation Bible School
Saturday June 8, 2019



This year we will be trying a new format, 1 day, 10am - 3pm. And a new theme, Yee Haw: Celebrating God's Greatest Gift. Please plan to bring your kids, grandkids, friend's kids, and neighbor kids.

More information to come. Mark your calendars!

Treasurer's Report Eight Months through 02/28/19



OPERATING FUND

■ +INCOME ■ -EXPENSE

Operating Fund YTD income was \$12,100 above budget and expenses were \$3,100 below budget, for a net \$15,200 better than budgeted.

Fund Balances – Total fund balances are up \$1,000 from the previous month and up \$12,000 from the beginning of our fiscal year.

Special Easter Offering

The Session has set a goal of \$5,000 for the 2019 Special



Easter Offering. Your gift will be divided between One Great Hour of Sharing and, for the youth of St.

Mark, the Camps & Campgrounds Special Fund so we can send the future leaders of our Church to Christian camps this year and for years following.

Please give generously.



Pantry Needs at St. Mark

The pantry is getting low on the following items.

- Breakfast Bars
- Fruit cups
- Tuna, Chicken or Ham Salad kits



Thank you for your continued support.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Stated Meeting of the Session, February 18, 2019

- Motion passed to receive, review, and approve the PC (USA) Church Report for 2018.
- Motion passed that half of the Special Easter Offering go to One Great Hour of Sharing, and half to the St. Mark Camps and Conferences Special Fund.
- Motion passed to establish a committee of two to three Session members to plan a Session Retreat, headed by Dick Waters.
- Motion passed to offer the use of St. Mark Presbyterian for a potential meeting with the neighborhood association for February 26, 2019.

A full set of Session minutes are available to read on the Session bulletin board.



St. Mark Family,

The expressions of love, the prayers received from all, the cards, calls and food were a comfort in our loss. We pray God's blessings to you and yours.

Thank you,
Pauline Millender and Family



Later this month we will celebrate Easter Sunday. Each of the four gospels has an account of the first Easter morning. And it is appropriate on Easter Day that we usually focus on the accounts of those events early in the day. But one of my favorite stories of Easter Day occurs later in the day. It is found only in Luke 24. It is what we generally refer to as the “Emmaus Road Story.” I know it is a favorite of many at St Mark. But let me share it with you again:

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

I love the fact that when they realize who had been with them all afternoon, they find the energy to hustle back to Jerusalem. But the neatest part of the story to me is that it is only when the stranger breaks, blesses, and gives bread that the followers recognize that it was Jesus who had been with them on their journey. When I preside at the Lord’s Table I almost always reference this story.

So, what is your favorite Easter Day story?



GriefShare

Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 6:00pm in the parlor, GriefShare will resume its 13-week program. You will find the program to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an “oasis” on your long journey through grief.



For more information contact Willetta Jones, Flo Phillips, or Dee Huckaba

St. Mark Presbyterian Church exists to know Jesus and to make Him known.

The Eastern Dallas County Cluster of Presbyterian Churches

Presents



How Can I Keep from Singing?

An American Musical Identity

With

Joshua Taylor

Director of Worship and Music at First Presbyterian Church of Dallas and
The Instructor of Sacred Music Studies in the University of North Texas College of Music.

Saturday May 4, 2019

11am-1pm followed by lunch

First Presbyterian Church Garland

This event funded by the Cluster Educational Endowment.

There is no charge, but registration is requested.

To register: There is a sign- up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office or contact Randall McGee.

EASTER LILIES



The Worship and Music Committee is taking orders for Easter lilies to decorate our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. If you would like to place an order, please complete this form and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office. Lilies are \$10.00 each!

Make your check payable to: St. Mark Presbyterian Church and mark for lilies. Your check should accompany this form.

THE DEADLINE TO ORDER IS SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH!

Name: _____

I wish to order _____ lilies at \$10.00 each.

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

In Celebration of _____

Other _____

Be Our Guest – April 9th

Grace Presbytery is honored to once again support and participate in the **7th Annual Interfaith Seder**, hosted by the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas.

We have 100 tickets available, at no cost, for members of Grace Presbytery.

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, April 9 at 6:30pm, and let us know if you can join us.

You can view a welcome message from Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie and Rabbi Ari Sunshine [here](#), and make reservations (including your name and congregation) via email to Gloria Beard in the presbytery office no later than March 28.

HOLY WEEK

Sunday, April 14
Palm Sunday
10:30 a.m. Worship



Thursday, April 18
Maundy Thursday
Celebration of the
Lord's Supper
7:15 p.m.



Friday, April 19
Good Friday
Tenebrae Service
7:15 p.m.



Saturday, April 20
Easter Egg Hunt
9:30 a.m.



Sunday, April 21
Easter Sunday
9:15 a.m.
Continental
Breakfast
10:50 Worship



April