

St. Mark Connection

St. Mark Presbyterian Church

9999 Ferguson Road Dallas, TX 75238 214-321-6437

office@saintmarkchurch.org • www.saintmarkchurch.org



I Spy with My Little Eye... Something New!

My son, Owen, has recently enjoyed playing the game *I Spy* with us. Whether we are sitting around the table for dinner, going for a walk around the block, or driving in the car on our way to school, whenever one of us says, "I spy with my little eye something... green!" Immediately, the other person's eyes start darting around absorbing all of the colors and objects around us in order to quickly guess what it is that has caught the eye of the other person.

I think this season of Eastertide, the 50 days between Resurrection Sunday and Pentecost Sunday is the perfect time for us to challenge each other in a big 'ol game of *I Spy*. What are you noticing in your life and in the world around you that reminds you of God's gift of new life? What catches your gaze and washes you over with joy? What are you reading or watching that you cannot wait to tell others about?

As the resurrected Jesus appears and reappears to his disciples, their eyes are amazed by what they are seeing. And yet for Jesus, his purpose for showing up again in their lives is to give them what they need in order so that they may continue to believe, trust, and join in God's ministry in the world, especially when what they see seems to contradict what it is they are being called to believe. That a life of faith in Jesus is an *abundant* life.

When Jesus appears in our lives, he wants us to not only see God in new ways but to also see ourselves and the world through the eyes of God. God looks lovingly upon Creation and sees the pain, sees the violence, sees the suffering and sees the ways we have relinquished our responsibility in caring for one another. And God sees us. God sees you. God sees the gifts we possess, the compassion and grace we ought to share with ourselves, our neighbors, and yes, even those people we like to pretend do not exist.

Throughout this Eastertide, may we join God in this game of *I Spy*, learning how to recognize the Living God in our lives today. This will be the theme of our Sermon Seasons over these weeks of worship together. And on each Sunday, we will close with this "Benediction," written by the Presbyterian poet, Ann Weems:

Go now with faithful stamina into your courtyards to answer whether you know him or not.
 Go knowing that he who said, Follow me, will stand up with you.
 Go knowing that when you falter, he will hold you up.
 Go knowing that when you fail, he will forgive you.
 Go knowing that when you say I know this Jesus,
 you will dance with the angels on Easter morning.

May you know the peace of faithfulness, the joy of community, and the love of grace.
 In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Grace and peace,
 Pastor Kathy

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

	Page
UPCOMING EVENTS	2
BULLETIN BOARD	3
RANDALL'S PEN	4
CALENDAR	LAST PAGE

CALENDAR REMINDERS

May 29
Sandwich Sunday
Austin Street

Upcoming Events

Sunday Sermons, Scriptures and Events

May 1 – 3rd Sunday of Easter
Recognizing the Living God: Abundance
Psalm 30; John 21:1-19
Celebration of The Lord's Supper

May 8 – 4th Sunday of Easter
Recognizing the Living God: Protection
Psalm 23; John 10:22-30

May 15 – 5th Sunday of Easter
Recognizing the Living God: Love
John 13:31-35

May 22 – 6th Sunday of Easter
"Coming and Going"
John 14:23-29
Guest Pastor – Traci Truly

May 29 – 7th Sunday of Easter
Recognizing the Living God: Prayer
John 17:20-26



May Has Five Sundays!

That means that the St. Mark Family once again has the opportunity to serve the clients of **Austin Street Center** this month, on May 29th. Sharing the bounty that our Lord has showered on us with those who are not as fortunate is one of the ways we give thanks for everything we have been blessed with. The Church pays for chips and fruit so I'm asking for individually wrapped sandwiches, snack cakes and cookies. Thanks for your continuing dedication. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

Dee Huckaba

Our church secretary, Kat Hutchings, is retiring on May 31. The Administration and Personnel Committee is searching for candidates for this position.

If you know a person that might fit the position and would be interested, please have them contact Tricia Johnson. The applicant cannot be a member of St. Mark.

God Bless You on Your Birthday

May 1
Edna Woods

May 2
Mike Parsley

May 8
Kathy Moore

May 10
Tricia Johnson

May 11
Martha Gracey

May 12
Drew Taylor

May 14
Harry Roberts

May 21
Rev. Alex Lee-Cornell

May 22
Travis Moore

May 25
George Schingle



Church Pantry



The church pantry supply is very low. We need:
Canned meat (Ravioli, etc.), soups, tuna or chicken salad kits, fruit cups, granola bars. Thank you!

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

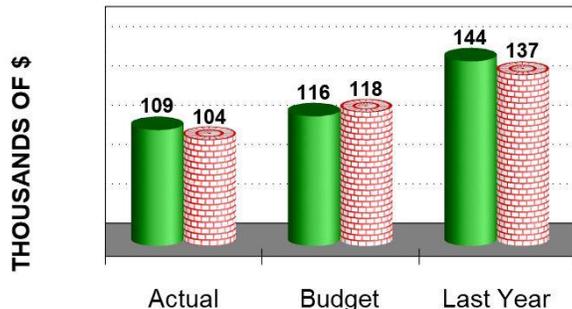
The Session calls the congregation to meet on Sunday, May 1, immediately following worship for the purpose of electing three elders and one trustee for the Class of 2025.



Sympathy to Christina Swift Powell, Victoria Swift and Rebecca Freeze Swift, daughters of Pelham Swift, in the death of their mother, Susan Gail Schreiber.

Treasurer's Report

9 MONTHS THROUGH 3-31-2022



OPERATING FUND

■ +INCOME ■ -EXPENSE

Operating Fund – YTD unrestricted contributions are under budget by \$6,800, and \$32,000 less than last year. YTD expenses are \$14,000 below budget, and \$33,000 below last year. Bottom line, we are approximately \$5,000 cash positive YTD which is \$7,500 better than budget and \$1,400 less than last year.

Special Easter Offering Update



Our Easter Offering is still a little short of our \$4,000 goal, so just a reminder that if you haven't gotten a chance to contribute this Easter season, you have until May 8th to help us reach our goal. One half of this year's Easter Offering goes to One Great Hour of Sharing and the other half goes to the Presbyterian Church's Ukrainian Relief fund. Thank you for sharing.

Directory Updates

Patti Gooch
Mike and JoAnn Parsley
(contact the church office for more information.)



Thank You!

Dear St. Mark Family,

I want to thank you so much for the many calls, cards, texts, emails, and prayers during my recovery from knee revision surgery. It has been a rough haul, but your kindness and love has been such a blessing to me. Susan and I hope to be back in person very soon!

Love,
Michael Bell



Called Meeting of Session, March 1, 2022

- Motion passed to delay a vote on mask requirements, giving Gary time to research choir masking, until the Stated Meeting of Session on Monday March 21.

Stated Meeting of the Session, March 21, 2022

- Motion passed to adopt the updated guidelines for worshipers in accordance with CDC, State and Local Guidelines.
- Motion passed to call a Congregational Meeting immediately following worship on May 1 to elect 3 elders and 1 trustee.
- Motion passed to accept request for transfer of membership from Teri Brooks to Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church.
- Motion passed that the Easter offering be divided with ½ going to One Great Hour of Sharing and ½ going to PDA Ukrainian Relief Efforts.
- Motion passed to offer Communion in the disposable cups or by intinction.

Full sets of the minutes above are available to read on the Session bulletin board.



Last month I attended the 45-year reunion of my high school class. It was actually 46 years since our graduation, but Covid delayed our celebration for a year. Our school was small, so our class was relatively tight knit. There are reunions every five years. We are scattered all across the country, but we usually have a pretty good turnout. This year was no different. We even had one person who had never attended a reunion before join us.

We had a grand time this year. But some things were a bit different. We are older so most of us don't stay up long past midnight anymore. We are a quieter bunch most of the time. A number of folks are now retired or are contemplating that step soon. So, there were all the conversations about the things that go on at this life stage about aging parents, adult children, grandchildren etc.

We have traditionally been a pretty heathy bunch. We have only had a couple of class members die since we graduated. But we had two folks attend this year who are dealing with serious health issues. We weren't sure that they would be able to attend. But they were and there was much joy in their presence. I don't think it was ever spoken out loud but most of us were aware that our two friends might not make it to the 50-year reunion. The goodbyes with those two were a bit bittersweet. I'd appreciate it and I know they would if you would add Tom and Bob to your prayer lists.

I reflected a bit as I was traveling home. I am thankful for the fact that I had the privilege of attending such a good school. I am thankful for the memories. Both the good ones and the bad ones (that's a conversation that requires more space than a newsletter). I am thankful for the fact that Tom and Bob have received excellent health care.

But I am most thankful that I we Presbyterians have a creed that starts with the line "In life and in death we belong to God." When I think about the future of Tom and Bob and the rest of my classmates, I find great comfort in that promise. If I get a message that any of them have died, I will say those words out loud as has become my custom when I hear of a death of someone I know.

"In life and in death we belong to God."



St. Mark Presbyterian Church
9999 Ferguson Road
Dallas, TX 75228
Non-Profit Organization





St Mark Presbyterian Church, Dallas Texas

May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 11:45a Called Congregational Meeting 12:00p Yoga 12:00p Mission & Outreach Com. Mtg.	2 6:00p Zoom Worship & Music Com.	3 6:00p Zoom Fellowship Com. Mtg.	4 6:30p Handbells 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	5 6:00p Zoom Yoga	6	7 10:30a Zoom Membership/Evang Com. Mtg.
8 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service Mother's Day 	9	10 6:00p Zoom CE Com. Mtg. 6:00p Zoom Stewardship & Finance Com. Mtg.	11 6:00p Property Com. 6:30p Handbells 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	12 6:00p Zoom Yoga	13	14 9:00a Mini Workday
15 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 12:00p Yoga	16 6:30p Session Meeting	17	18 6:30p Handbells 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	19 6:00p Zoom Yoga	20	21
22 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 12:00p Yoga	23	24	25 6:30p Handbells 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	26 6:00p Zoom Yoga	27	28
29 9:15a Sunday School 10:30a Worship Service 12:00p Yoga 4:30p Sandwich Sunday at Austin Street Center	30 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	31	1 6:30p Handbells 7:30p Choir Rehearsal	2 6:00p Zoom Yoga	3	4 10:30a Zoom Membership/Evang Com. Mtg.