



Volume 69
Issue 7

July
2022

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
BULLETIN BOARD	2
UPCOMING EVENTS	
RANDALL'S PEN	3
SESSION HIGHLIGHTS	4
CALENDAR	INSERT

It is all that easy. And it is all that hard.

Dear St. Mark Church,

As we head into what will be my last month with you, I am filled with mixed emotions. My family and I are entering into a season of major transitions – uprooting our lives in Dallas, Alex and I starting new positions, new schools for both the boys, and figuring out how to live in the same city with my parents. We will need your prayers!

As for you, your Session is searching for your next pastor and continues to discern what the next chapter holds for St. Mark. It seems as if everything hangs in the balance. As we read through stories found in the Acts of the Apostles, I can see how the early Christian church is all too familiar with what you are experiencing. Things keep on changing just as the apostles start to feel like they are figuring things out.

Still, I trust God is guiding us each and every step of the way. Over the generations, people of faith have kept on moving forward. The Church persists because God persists. Acts reminds us of God's unbound presence and power in the lives of ordinary people in extraordinary moments.

New Testament Professor Matt Skinner writes, "God is keeping promises. God is creating communities that manifest salvation. God is welcoming those who suffer. God is reshaping our religious imaginations and calling them out for being too small. God is quite active in Acts. The church is mostly trying to keep pace. Perhaps things are not so different today, after all."

Whenever I feel overwhelmed, I get hyper-focused on the things I can control. I make daily checklists of small and manageable items, so that I can feel an enormous sense of accomplishment crossing each item off. Although I cringe at the idea of comparing our lives as Christians to a checklist, there is wisdom in focusing on things within your reach to keep a sense of empowerment and hope alive.

May I offer this Benediction written by the Rev. Bruce Reyes Chow as our daily checklist during this time of shared transition.

Go forth into the world with compassion and justice in your heart.

Hear voices of the long-silenced.

See strength in what has been deemed weak.

See one another. Hear one another.

Care for one another. And love one another.

It's all that easy. And it's all that hard.

And I will add: It is more than possible, because God is always with you. Amen.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Kathy



Sunday Sermons, Scriptures and Events

July 3 – “God Unbound: Always Room for More
Acts 11:1-18
Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

July 10 – God Unbound: Hearts to Listen
Acts 16:9-15

July 17 -
Guest Preacher, Rev. Amy Moore

July 24 – God Unbound: Freedom from Fear
Acts 16:16-34

July 31 - God Unbound: Life & Breath
Acts 17:22-31

God Bless You on Your Birthday

July 4
Kathy Lee-Cornell

July 8
Ella Arthur

July 12
Lacey Zuretti

July 15
Willetta Jones

July 18
Linda Youmans

July 19
Allison Curry

July 31
Trevor Crawley



Sandwich Sunday – July 31st

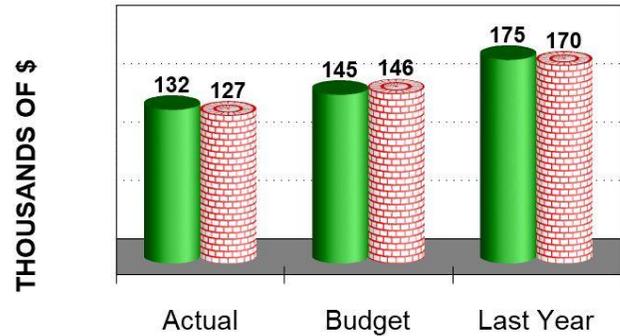
Once again we have the opportunity to give thanks for all our blessings by providing food for the homeless at Austin Street Center. Austin Street has opened their new facility and so we will need to make enough sandwiches to feed 400! Before Covid, we fed 400 regularly so this isn’t an unreal endeavor.

The Church budget pays for fruit and chips so we won’t need those, just sandwiches, and snack cakes. Please bring your sandwiches to the Church by 4:15 on July 31st.

Yours in Christ,
Your “Sandwich Lady”, Dee Huckaba

Treasurer's Report

11 MONTHS THROUGH 5-31-2022



OPERATING FUND

■ +INCOME □ -EXPENSE

Operating Fund – YTD unrestricted contributions are under budget by \$12,000, and \$40,000 less than last year. YTD expenses are \$19,000 below budget, and \$43,000 below last year. Bottom line, we are approximately \$5,000 cash positive YTD which is \$6,000 better than budget and about the same as last year.



Sympathy

Sympathy to the family of Rev. Kathy Lee-Cornell in the death of her grandmother, Trinh Hue Quan. Services will be in New Orleans on July 8th. Prayers for Pastor Kathy’s family are greatly appreciated.

Church Pantry



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



I have been thinking about the Holy Spirit this morning. And I have been thinking about St. Mark this morning as well. We are in another season of change. I am wondering what God may have in store for us in this season and beyond.

When I think about the Holy Spirit I immediately think about the story of Pentecost in Acts. I was an amazing day. But I also think about the Holy Spirit section of our Presbyterian "Brief Statement of Faith." It's not very long so here is the whole section:

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

We are a people who are engaged, claimed, fed, and called. So I am wondering what kind of courage the Spirit will give to the people of St. Mark in this season. I wonder how we might be called to pray and witness. I wonder what we might need to unmask and who we might need to hear. I wonder what kind of work we are being called to do at this time. I wonder how our lives will reflect the call to be holy and joyful. I wonder how we will experience being empowered by the Spirit at this time.

So that's what I am wondering right now. How about you?

God is Good all the Time. All the Time God is Good.

Around the first of May, Mr. C, a teacher at Wylie's school asked me if I had any big plans for the holiday weekend at the end of the month. I told him that at my Church, I was called the "Sandwich Lady" because I coordinate our efforts to feed the homeless at Austin Street Center. We chatted a bit about this and he left to direct traffic in the parking lot.

Fast forward to June 9th, the last day of school. Mr. C knocked on my window and asked if I had a minute. He then went on to relate his homeless experience. Mr. C had repeatedly seen some homeless guy on street corners at intersections from I-30 and Broadway all the way to the Classical Center at Brandenburg Middle School. The day after we spoke in May, Mr. C went into the Walmart Neighborhood Market. He bought two pre-made sandwiches and a couple of bottles of cold water and went in search of this homeless man. The man related his story about how his marriage had broken up and since he worked for her family business, he lost his job, the company truck and his home in a matter of hours. He said all he wanted was a chance to start again. Mr. C's cousin happens to run an employment agency so the homeless man was given her card. When Mr. C related his story to his wife, she insisted that he go to Walmart and buy that man a tent so he has some relief from the sun this summer. Mr. C, did just that and delivered it to the homeless man the next day. The homeless man cried at the generosity of spirit and said a prayer of thanksgiving. He told Mr. C that he had a job interview the next week and was hopeful. Two days before school was out, the homeless man stopped by the school to tell Mr. C his news. He had started his new job and might make enough to get a cheap apartment within a month. He promised Mr. C that when he did get a place, he would pass the tent on to another homeless person as well as buying a couple of sandwiches and a few bottles of cold water. Mr. C and I were both crying by the end of this and he promised to keep watching for more opportunities to serve God by helping his brothers and sisters.

This is the ripple effect of what we do here. Our generosity is being paid forward to people we will never see. Isn't God Great?!

Submitted by Dee Huckaba

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

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



Stated Meeting of the Session, May 16, 2022.

- Motion passed to serve Communion during Session meetings.
- Motion passed to suspend distribution from the Endowment Fund due to investment losses lowering the Balance below the distribution threshold.
- Motion passed to elect John Carver as Treasurer and Bill Grayson as Assistant Treasurer for the 2023 fiscal year.

Called Meeting of Session, June 5, 2022

- Motion was approved that Shelly Hale Manriquez be welcomed into the full faith and fellowship of St. Mark Presbyterian Church.

A copy of these minutes can be found on the Session bulletin board.

<p>Confirmation Classes</p>

<p>July 16 and July 23, 2022</p>

<p>10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</p>



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



St Mark Presbyterian Church, Dallas Texas

July 2022

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