

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

February 3, 2022

Upcoming Events.

Outreach Committee Meeting

2/6 Sun, 11:30 a.m.

Hospitality Committee Meeting

2/13 Sun, 11:30 a.m.

Diocesan Council

2/25-26 Fri-Sat

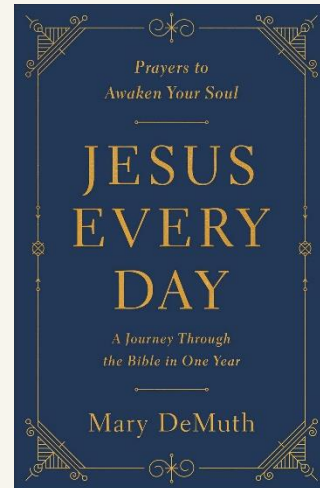
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Sunday Worship Service:

10:00 a.m.--Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary

[Visit our website](#)



An excerpt taken from
**"Prayers to Awaken Your Soul;
Jesus Every Day,"**
a devotional by Mary DeMuth.

*"Be strong and very courageous.
Be careful to obey all the instructions
Moses gave you. Do not deviate from
them, turning either to the right or to
the left. Then you will be successful in
everything you do."
Joshua 1:7*

Jesus, the fact that the Father instructed Joshua to be strong and courageous meant that this was not an impossible task. I admit, though, that I often feel weak and fearful, and to somehow muster power and courage seems impossible. Give me a greater vision--the kind of overarching story that beckons me toward heroism. Maybe the strong and courageous command seems impossible because my vision of what's next is too small.

So steep me in your Word that it becomes instinctive for me to know your will and obey it with joy. I choose to fix my mind on you, not becoming distracted by the wooing world or the lust for more and more and more. I'm tired of spiritual ADD, jumping here and there onto bandwagons and grabbing spiritual snow cones,

when you offer meat and sustenance in your Word. Help me not to chase the culture's fluff, but instead to find all my satisfaction in you and your bedrock instructions for me.

Show me where I've deviated from the straight and narrow. Reorient my heart toward longing to obey you. I am through with lackadaisical faith--it wearies me and shrinks my heart. Instead, may today be a day when I'm deeply connected to you, listening for your voice, and joyfully obeying in small and big ways--full of your strength and courage. Amen.

**Seek God! Pray!
Give it ALL to Him!**

Search Process

Links for Search Process Resources

The search committee met last night. Archdeacon Besson drove here from San Antonio to officially give the committee names of potential candidates, which means the process is now becoming really "real" for the members of the committee. Their time with Archdeacon Besson and each other was one of blessing. They're all looking forward to continuing the process they were called and commissioned to do. Please continue to keep the search process in your prayers.



Scripture for the Week

1 John 3:17 NIV

If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?

James 2:14-17 NIV

Faith and Deeds

What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

Here is a list of useful links to use during the search process for our new rector:

Parish Profile on Mark's [website](#),

Diocese of West Texas website [churches in transition](#)

Prayers during the search process: [prayers](#)

Outreach Committee

Outreach Planning Meeting THIS Sunday, February 6th, during Coffee Hour

Outreach to those in our community has been a fundamental part of who St. Mark's is since the very beginning. In 1986, the congregation pledged to tithe 10% of all income to an outreach account to be used for those outside the walls of St. Mark's.



Our outreach has taken on many faces over the years. We have helped people pay utility bills, provided eye glasses, birth certificates and bus tokens, built ramps for those who had difficulty accessing their homes, and financially supported ministries and nonprofits that provided services to the community in ways we could not.

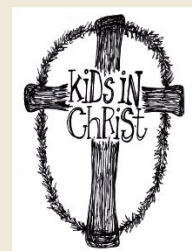
It's time to refocus our vision of what outreach will look like in 2022. If this ministry is important to you, please come to the meeting in the fellowship hall Sunday, February 6th, after our worship service.

Youth and Children's Ministry

SEEK Youth Group and Kids in Christ

Kids in Christ

Kids in Christ will meet at their regular time this Sunday at 11:30 a.m. during coffee hour. Come join in the fun!



Camp Sunday

Our diocesan camping program has been an important part of the lives of a lot of young people here at St. Mark's. Last week we had a picture Rebecca Markert at Camp Capers and little write up about her experience.

Each year, Bishop Reed designates a Sunday as Camp Sunday to generate support and bring awareness to the camping programs in our diocese. There is a scholarship program available to help families, which is also supported through the gifts received on Camp Sunday.

Bishop Reed designated next Sunday, February 13th, as Camp Sunday for this year. Our loose offering and any designated gifts received that day will be sent to the diocesan office for that purpose. Please put "Camp" in the memo area to make sure your gift goes toward supporting the camping program.

SEEK Youth Group

Youth will meet at the regular time this Sunday, 4:00-5:00 p.m. We'll continue our study of Mark, then enjoy some snacks as we begin preparing the blessing bags for our homeless community.

Sunday, February 13, plan to stay after church to complete preparation of blessing bags. We will not meet at 4:00 p.m. as usual. Super bowl, Baby!

On Sunday, February 20, those youth who aren't serving as acolytes will travel as a group to South Bluff Park to help with the Free Store and distribute blessing bags. The Wandels will be driving and participating with our youth. More details next week.



We would like to ask our St. Mark's family to help with donations of the following items.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Please bring your donation to the fellowship hall by February 13.

Items Needed:

New Socks (men's & women's)

Lip Balm

Brush or Comb

Dry Shampoo

Hand Sanitizer

Rain Poncho

Travel Size Shampoo

Travel Size Conditioner

Toothbrush

Wet Wipes

Floss

Feminine Products

Proverbs 19:17 Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.

Calling all Bakers!

Walk to Siloam Needs Baked Goodies

The Walk to Siloam is a three day retreat, very similar to Cursillo or Walk to Emmaus. It is designed for men who are currently homeless.

John deMontel, who is overseeing the food for the event, would like some help from us regarding baked goodies. He's asking for cookies, brownies or small finger desserts. There are no restrictions on what can be made. However, there is a deadline. It's Sunday, February 20th. You can bring your tasty treats to the church office anytime before that date, and we can freeze them.



Bishop's Visit & Confirmation Sunday

Bishop David Reed April 10th--Palm Sunday

Each year one of our bishops visits St. Mark's for our annual Bishop's Visit. While here, the bishop will provide the Rite of Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation for those who wish to publicly affirm or reaffirm their faith and commitment to their baptism vows.



The Rite of Confirmation is for those who are new to the Church and want to join.

The Rite of Reception is for those who come from a Catholic background and want to join the Church.

The Rite of Reaffirmation is for those who were previously confirmed and want to reaffirm their commitment.

Youth in the tenth grade and up and adults who are new to the Church or who want to reaffirm their faith need to attend a course to prepare them. The start date for the classes is set for Sunday, March 6th. If this interests you, please contact Judy at (361) 994-0285 or judy@stmarkscc.org.

Everyone is invited to come to the class. Even if you don't need to be confirmed, received, or reaffirm your commitment, it's a wonderful refresher course!

Confirmation Sunday is always a special Sunday because it's a time to celebrate new and renewed life in the Holy Spirit.

Ways to Support God's Kingdom through St. Mark's

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORT ST. MARK'S CHURCH!

Is the Lord blessing you? Are you grateful for what He has done in your life? Remember His Church. Though we have experienced limitations for worshiping together, we still have ministries to support and salaries and bills to pay. Give out of faith, thanksgiving, and generosity, and never out of guilt. If you are blessed to be able to give, here are the four ways to do that:

- Online through our website. There is a blue "Giving" button at the bottom of each page. Just click on that and it will take you to our online EGiving page. You will need to set up a user profile, and then you can set up a one-time gift or recurring gifts. You can also give through the ["Donate to St. Mark's"](#) link.
- **NEW APP**----Through your cell phone using the app, Vanco Mobile. To get the app, go to the app store and search for "Vanco Mobile". The icon background is dark purple with a white circle and a purple letter "V" in the center. Download the app and follow the prompts. You can use it to set up a one-time gift or recurring gifts.



- Mail in your check to: St. Mark's Church, 2727 Airline Rd, CC, TX 78414. We have a drop-in mailbox that is locked at all times. We check the mail every day, so your check will be secure.
- Drop your check off at the church. Just put it in the locked mailbox to the left of the red doors at the fellowship hall.

**THANK YOU for helping spread the Kingdom
through your continuing support
of St. Mark's Church.**

Weekly Calendar

Calendar & Ministry Schedule

Here is the [link](#) to the February schedule for our ministries, which is still a work in progress. Please check each week to see if there are any changes.

February 6 - Sunday

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary
11:15 a.m. - Coffee Hour--Fellowship Hall
11:30 a.m. - Kids in Christ--Fellowship Hall
Outreach Committee Meeting--Fellowship Hall
4:00 p.m. - SEEK Youth Group--Fellowship Hall

February 8 - Tuesday

10:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. - Women's Group--Jason's Deli, 1416 Airline Rd.
6:30 p.m. - Men's Reunion Group--Nolan's Restaurant, 7426 S. Staples St.
7:00 p.m. - Bible Study & Prayer Group--Online-Zoom

February 9 - Wednesday

11:30 a.m. - Lunch with the Old Guys--Location to be determined
12:00 p.m. - Noon Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall

Helpful Links

Below you will find several links to websites or Facebook Pages that you might find helpful.

[St. Mark's Episcopal Church](#)

[Donate to St. Mark's Church](#)

[St. Mark's Church Facebook Page](#)

[Diocese of West Texas](#)

[Diocesan Newsletter and Reflection Magazine](#)

[Denison Forum--News Discerned Differently](#)

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