

# St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

December 29, 2022

## Upcoming Events

### Bishop Reed's Visit

1/8 Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

### Council Volunteer Registration Deadline

1/12 Thursday

### Annual Meeting

1/29 Sunday, 11:30 a.m.

### Installation Service for Fr. Doug

2/10 Friday, 6:00 p.m.

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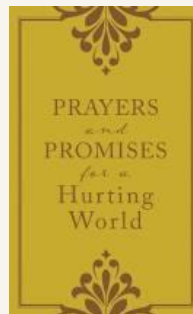
Helpful Links

### Sunday Worship Service:

10:00 a.m.--Morning Prayer-Sanctuary

[Visit our website](#)

## God's Promises



### An excerpt by Laura Freudig

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*"I have told you all this so that you  
may have peace in me. Here on earth  
you will have many trials and sorrows.  
But take heart, because I have  
overcome the world."  
John 16:33*

Dear Lord,

So often I pray for peace within myself and forget to look beyond my own anxious heart, beyond the struggles in my own relationships. Forgive me for this myopic vision. Today I ask You to spread Your peace over this weary, war-torn world. I pray that Your Spirit will work in the regions of this country and world where strife is bubbling beneath the surface. I pray that Your peace will defuse aggression and usher in reconciliation at every level--from postal clerks to presidents. I pray You will raise up leaders who can think beyond *mine* and *yours* to see our common humanity.

I also pray for the areas where war is raging right now. I pray for Your divine intervention to protect innocent bystanders, preserve homes, and protect precious resources. I pray for misfired guns, misinformation, and misdirection. You confused our languages at the tower of Babel, and You can thwart the plans of the enemy of our souls now. I pray Your Spirit will move mightily in those regions of instability, both to bring about peace and to reveal to the

lost that You alone are the Prince of Peace, our only hope amid the conflict of this world. Amen.

## New Years

**Wishing you and yours a very Happy and Blessing filled New Year!**



## Office Closure



### Closed for the Holidays

The church office will remain closed through January 2nd and will reopen Tuesday, January 3rd. We will monitor messages during that time.

## Bishop's Visit

### Bishop Reed to Visit January 8th

Our annual Bishop's visit, which is very early this year, will be on Sunday, January 8th. Bishop Reed will be our guest. The loose offering and any designated gifts will go to support the bishop's discretionary fund, which Bishop Reed uses to assist churches and members. Please consider giving a gift to that fund.



# All Things Council



## Volunteer to Serve on a Subcommittee for the 2023 Diocesan Council Registration Deadline 1/12/23

Bishop Reed asked St. Andrew's, St. Peter's, and St. Mark's to be co-hosts for Council. We are now inviting you to serve on a sub-committee. Council begins at the American Bank Center on Thursday, but the committees will set up Wednesday. Some committees have specific days and times when volunteers will be needed, while others require volunteers for the entire time that Council is in session. There will be sign-up forms in the bulletins this Sunday.

**Hotels—Chair: Beth Offutt.** Two or three volunteers provide onsite check-in assistance and welcome guests.

**Transportation—Chair: John deMontel.** Several volunteers provide assistance for people getting on and off the shuttle service, which will be offered to those who have mobility issues, as well as those who will attend the luncheon at the Omni on Friday.

**Hospitality—Chairs: Molly Wandel and Marybeth Maxwell.** We need to have 584 dozen (6,000+) cookies available. Several volunteers will work to keep cookie trays full and the area clean, as well as work with the ABC staff to keep beverages well stocked.

**Nursery/Childcare—Chair: Chrystal Wilkey.** Four or five volunteers, who must have a current Safeguarding God's Children certificate, will set up space for 6-15 children, serve snacks and meals, provide age appropriate activities, and keep the children safe.

**Worship Service—Music, Acolytes, and Ushers—Music Chair: Gay deMontel.** Bishop Reed will plan and oversee the Holy Eucharist service Friday evening. Volunteers from all area churches and the surrounding area will participate. St. Mark's is responsible for the acolytes and the music. We will also need ushers/greeters to serve as ushers. We have all our acolytes but need a lot of singers for the choir and three or four ushers/greeters.

To help with a sub-committee or ask any questions, you may contact Judy in the church office at (361) 994-0285 or at [judy@stmarksgc.org](mailto:judy@stmarksgc.org).

## Calling all Cookie Bakers!

We need your help with the cookie project for Diocesan Council. We are supplying over 500 dozen cookies, but we're not responsible for baking all of them. Thank goodness! We will be inviting the eleven churches in our area to help. That means each church would need to bake 55 dozen, which is much more doable.



Here are the instructions:

- All types of cookies are encouraged.
- Please package your cookies in quart-size freezer Ziplock bags.
- Write the type and quantity on the bag.
- Freeze them.
- We now have a new freezer to store cookies, if you need help with storage.

## Annual Parish Meeting



## Annual Meeting & Potluck Sunday, January 29

This year's Annual Meeting will be the last Sunday in January immediately after the service. We'll elect new vestry members, hear reports from various ministry leaders, learn about our financial condition, and view a photo roller that will capture the year 2022 in pictures.

We'll celebrate with a Southern Bar-B-Que potluck. You may sign up to bring your favorite bar-b-que dish on the back of your Connection Card that will be in the bulletins beginning this Sunday.

Make plans to come for great food and fellowship, and learn about how 2022 ended and what is envisioned for 2023.

## Installation Service

### Installation Service for Fr. Doug Wasinger Friday, February 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Fr. Doug will officially be installed as our rector in February. The service will be on a Friday evening with a reception to follow. There will be more information available later, but we wanted you to have the date now. Mark your calendars for this historic event in the life of St. Mark's.



## Flowers



### Flower Chart Available in the Sanctuary

You may sign up to sponsor the altar flowers on a special Sunday in 2023 by writing your name by the date on the flower chart which is now available in the entryway to the sanctuary. Several dates have already been selected. Here are the dates that are still available:

Jan 8-----June 18-----Nov 12  
Jan 15-----July 2-----Nov 19  
Jan 29-----July 16-----Dec 17  
April 16-----July 23-----Dec 24  
May 14-----Aug 20-----Dec 31  
May 21-----Oct 29

The flowers cost \$55. An email requesting your dedication will be sent at the beginning of the month you sign up for. Please consider sponsoring the flowers in January; it's just around the corner!

## SEEK Youth Group

### SEEK Youth Group

There will be no Youth Group meetings until January 8th, so we can be with our families during the holidays.

Registration for **Camp Capers camping opportunities** are now open:

Mid-Winter Camp 1/6/23-1/8/23

Mid-Winter Camp 1/13/23-1/15/23

Mid-Winter Camp 1/20/23-1/22/23

#### Summer Camp:

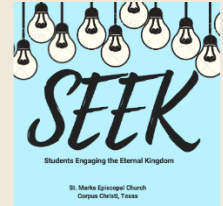
Senior High (10th-12th grade)

Junior High (8th-9th grade)

Intermediate (6th-7th grade)

Primary (3rd-5th grade)

Here's a link to the [diocesan website](#) for registration and additional information.



## Diocesan Events



### Diocesan News

**Nominees for Bishop Coadjutor Election Announced**-Click on [the link](#) for more information.

**Youth/Children's Camp at Camp Capers**--For [information and registration](#), click here.

**Diocesan ENews**--Sign up for the [Diocese of West Texas ENews](#) by clicking the link. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on a white button that has "Let's Connect" written in it.

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

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

## Deadline for 2022 giving is December 31st

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 several 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.
- 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.
- Bequest giving is another way to give to St. Mark's with a gift through your estate. Simply list St. Mark's in your will.

**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 January schedule for our ministries, which is still a work in progress. Please check each week to see if there are any changes.

#### **January 1 - Sunday--New Year's Day**

10:00 a.m. - Morning Prayer- Sanctuary

11:15 a.m. - Coffee Hour--Fellowship Hall

#### **January 2 - Monday**

**OFFICE CLOSED**

**January 3 - Tuesday**

10:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library  
6:00 p.m. - Women's Group--Fellowship Hall Library

**January 4 - Wednesday**

12:00 p.m. - Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall Library  
6:30 p.m. - Men's Reunion Group--Nolan's Restaurant, 7426 S. Staples St.

## 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](#)

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
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