

# St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

March 23, 2023

## Upcoming Events

### Week 5 Lenten Soup & Study

3/29 Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

### Church Work Day

4/1 Saturday, 9:00 a.m.

### Hosanna Chalk Art

4/1 Saturday, 10:00 a.m.

### Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday

4/2-4/8

### Maundy Thursday Rehearsal

4/5 Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

### Resurrection Easter Service Rehearsal

4/8 Saturday, 10:00 a.m.

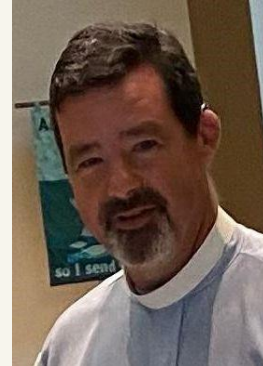
### Resurrection Easter Sunday

4/9 Sunday, 10 a.m.

### Bring a Friend to Church & Instructional Eucharist

4/23 Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

## From the Rector Fr. Doug Wasinger



Lent is a time for reflection and intentionally asking hard questions for the purpose of spiritual growth and change. Our world is moving quickly, and the amount of information we can receive and interpret is staggering. The common default is to respond to complex situations with memes that are saturated with sarcasm. I find myself thinking in those same terms, and that saddens me; I expect more of myself. I also see that this behavior and view of how to interact with rapid fire of information decreases the quality of relationships with the people I care about and how I understand myself. It is time for a change of heart and mind.

Click here for the rest of [the article](#).

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**Sunday Worship Service:**  
10:00 a.m.--Holy Eucharist-Sanctuary

Visit our website

## Lenten Soup and Study Event

### Lenten Soup and Study of *The Chosen* Series Week 5, March 29th



Our Lenten Soup and Study is coming to a close. Our final evening together is next Wednesday. We have enjoyed wonderful meals and lively discussions of the content of the videos in *The Chosen* series.

The link for the video for week five's gathering on March 29th is below, as well as a discussion question for you to ponder. You may also stay during Coffee Hour Sunday to watch the video in the Fellowship Hall after you have had time to get some refreshments. The discussion question for Wednesday will be available at that time.

#### **March 29th video link and questions:**

#### **[Indescribable Compassion](#)**

#### **Guiding questions to consider:**

Which of the four main characters do you relate to the most regarding your own transformation? Mary, whose life changed in an instant? Nicodemus, who remained resistant and skeptical, perhaps even unwilling to undergo the changes that would come from following Jesus? Matthew, who was earnest and open, though perhaps a little slower to make the leap? Or Simon, who was all-in early on, but who continued to struggle as he grew in faith?

**Reference Scriptures:** Luke 5:12-36

#### **Soup Meals:**

The schedule for the ministries providing the meals are as follows:

3/1--**Italian Pasta Soup with Garlic Bread**--Fr. Doug, John deMontel and Judy Netek

3/8--**Italian Wedding Soup**--Men's Group

3/15--**Chicken Tortilla Soup with Chips and Fixings**--Choir

3/22--**Red Potato Soup and Herbed Cheese Bread**--Ushers and Greeters and Altar Guild

3/29--16 **Bean Soup with Cornbread**--Vestry and Children's Chapel

Invite your friends and family to come too.

## Mission Statement Survey



### Mission Statement Evaluation Deadline is Friday, March 31st

The deadline to submit your survey concerning our mission statement is fast approaching. It's next Friday, 3/31. Click on the link below to complete the survey and let us know what you think about our current mission statement:

*Taking Christ's Ministry to People  
Know His Spirit Lives  
Bringing Faith to Life*

Here is a link to the [short survey](#). Please take five minutes to fill it out. Thank you for your help with this project.

## Early Easter Preparations

### Easter Lily Plants

This Sunday, yellow lily dedication forms will be in your bulletins for you to fill out to sponsor a lily that will be used to decorate the altar for our Resurrection Easter Sunday service. This is a great way to honor a special someone or event in your life. You may sponsor more than one lily if you'd like. The cost of each plant is \$13. Just fill out the form and put it, along with your payment, in the offering basket as it's being passed during the offertory song during the service. Here's a link to the [dedication form](#).



### Easter Egg Filler Collection

We need your help to collect enough trinkets (small toys) and candy to fill several hundred plastic eggs for our annual Easter Egg Hunt that will take place after the Resurrection Easter Service. There will be boxes available in the entryway to the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall for donations. Please bring your items by Sunday, April 2nd.

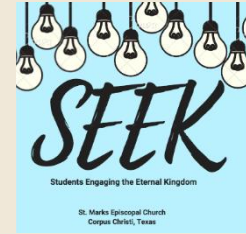
**We do NOT need any plastic eggs, just the fillers.**

## SEEK Youth Group

### SEEK Youth Group

#### Coming up in March:

- **Sunday, 3/26 11:30 a.m.**--We will watch season 1, episode 5 of *The Chosen* together. All are welcome to stay and watch with us!
- **Wednesday, 3/29 6:00 p.m.**--Week 5 of the Lenten Soup and Study.



Join us to watch *The Chosen* after church this Sunday. Even if you haven't seen previous episodes, episode 5 stands alone and is really good!

### Summer Camp Opportunities at Camp Capers

Registration is now open for:

#### 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.

## Church Work Day



### Inside and Outside Church Work Day Saturday, April 1st, 9:00 a.m.

Our Junior Warden, John Wandel, has set a date for the weekend before our Easter Resurrection Service to spruce up the buildings and the property. The work will begin at 9:00 a.m. John will have a list of tasks that need to be done inside the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, as well as the grounds outside. So, grab your work gloves and anything else that you think will make the work easier, and be ready to get busy at 9:00 a.m. on April 1st.

## Holy Week Schedule

### Holy Week Schedule



Here's the schedule for Holy Week this year:

- **4/1, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**--Hosanna Chalk Art Activity to decorate the sidewalks around the sanctuary and the courtyard with drawings and scripture depicting the Palm Sunday story. **EVERYONE** is welcome to come.
- **4/2, Sunday, 10:00 a.m.**--Palm Sunday--We're going to do something new this year. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. before the service to begin a procession to the sanctuary after the palms have been blessed.
- **4/3-4/5, Monday through Wednesday, 12:15 p.m.**--Noonday Services
- **4/5, Wednesday 7:00 p.m.**--Maundy Thursday Rehearsal
- **4/6, Thursday, 7:00 p.m.**--Maundy Thursday--We're going to do something new this year at this service too. After the stripping of the altar, we will move to the courtyard to hear the reading from John's Gospel. The Hour of Prayer will take place in the Sanctuary immediately after the service until 10:00 p.m.
- **4/7, Friday, 7:00 p.m.**--Stations of the Cross
- **4/8, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.**--Easter Resurrection Sunday Service Rehearsal
- **4/9, Sunday, 9:30 a.m.**--Hunt for the Alleluia Banner

**10:00 a.m.**--Easter Resurrection Sunday Service

**11:30 a.m.**--Easter Egg Hunt

Here is [a flyer](#) to print to give to friends and family to invite them to be a part of our Holy Week activities.

## Thistle Farms Ministry in Ukraine



### Thistle Farms Ministry to Women

Thistle Farms was created by Rev. Becca Stevens to help women survivors overcome and heal from systems of prostitution and exploitation. They have now started a ministry to women of Ukraine.

The socks pictured here were knitted by a Ukrainian woman and were purchased by Bishop Reed. He bought enough socks to give a pair to each of the churches in our diocese to help support these women and bring awareness to their plight.

Here's is the note that was included in the package from Bishop Reed:

"During the "We Will Continue...And How!" Festival in San Marcos last September, Keynote speaker, the Rev. Becca Stevens, priest and founder of Thistle Farms, spoke about Thistle Farms' new ministry in Ukraine. Ukrainian women were requesting headlamps so that they would have light in the dark bunkers where they were sheltering during the Russian invasion. They wanted the headlamps also so that they could support their nation's fight for freedom by knitting garments while in the bunkers.

Thistle Farms works with these women to provide materials and sell their products.

Moved by this witness, as many of us were, I ordered 87 pairs of warm, knitted socks - one for each congregation in the Diocese. Two large boxes of Ukrainian blue and yellow socks arrived in my office the week after Council.

Becca tells me that we are the first, and still only, diocese to support this light-giving (and life-giving) ministry with these brave women.

I hope you will share this story with your congregation and use the socks in a way that multiplies the gift. Place them somewhere visible as an aid to prayers for Ukraine. Give them to someone who has family members in Ukraine. Give them to a parishioner who needs light in his or her life.

More about the ministries of Thistle Farms and/or placing orders for more socks may be found at [thistlefarms.org](http://thistlefarms.org).

Love in Christ,  
David M. Reed  
Bishop"

## Diocesan Events

### Diocesan News



#### **Military Ministry in West Texas**--Click

[here](#) to get more information about National Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29th to honor all veterans who served from 11/1/1955 to 5/15/1975.

**Relief Fund for Turkey and Syria**--Click on [this link](#) if you'd like to donate to support relief efforts for the victims of the earthquakes.

**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!



### Thank-you for Your Generosity

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

### March 26 - Sunday

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

11:30 a.m. - Coffee Hour--Fellowship Hall

11:30 a.m. - *The Chosen* Watch Party Week 5 Video--Fellowship Hall

### March 28 - Tuesday

10:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library

### March 29 - Wednesday

12:00 p.m. - Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall Library

6:00 p.m. - Lenten Soup & Study--Fellowship Hall

### April 1 - Saturday

9:00 a.m. - Church Work Day--Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, & Grounds

9:30 a.m. - LEM/Lector Training--Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. - Hosanna Chalk Art--Sidewalks by Sanctuary & 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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