

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

August 28, 2021

Upcoming Events

Hospitality/Coffee Hour Meeting

Sun, 8/29 11:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School

Sun, 9/5 11:30 a.m.

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Sunday Worship Service:

10:00 a.m.--Holy Eucharist-Sanctuary
Guest Priest Rev. Betty Fuller

[Visit our website](#)



An Excerpt from "Between Dawn and Dark"

by Frederick Ward Kates

"God is with you in all that you do."

Genesis 21:22b

There is a further thing to do in the morning hours if we would have this a day happily remembered, namely, consecrate to God the day's work and duties.

Today, as every day, is bound to have in it a certain amount of inescapable work to be performed. This necessary and unavoidable labor can be a curse over our heads or we can make it the source of genuine blessing by offering it to God as work done for Him and to His glory.

One of the surest secrets of a happy day is to view our daily stint not just as a job to grind through as best we can, without joy or enthusiasm, but as work we are privileged to do for God. Wearisome duties can become a road to lead us daily nearer God by our consecrating them, humble and menial as they may be, to God's service and to His glory: "The humblest occupation has in it materials of discipline for the highest heaven."

So take "the trivial round, the common task," the wear and tear of life, the unceasing cycle of prosaic daily tasks, and all that crushes life and living into a pattern of humdrum and drab monotony, and lay it on the altar as your personal oblation to God.

**Trust God, be faithful, pray,
and let Him have His way.**

Moving Forward

Warden's Corner with Jon Reily

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights...". This is a sneak preview of one of our lessons for this week from James 1:17. Of course, in this reading James is talking about the importance of purity in our intentions and keeping ourselves "unstained by the world." To me, this is a great reminder of the importance of ensuring in our daily lives that we "keep the main thing the main thing", as we remember the "why" as well as the "what".

Over the course of the new few weeks the Vestry will begin St. Mark's yearly Stewardship campaign. I know we say this annually, but this year is especially important, so I am asking you all to carefully consider the future of our church when we talk this year about the importance of giving.

The Vestry is in the midst of not only searching for our new Rector, but also determining how we are going to pay this person, that is how we can support him or her financially so our new rector can come to serve God in our church. Yes, it seems a little "stained" to be so practical about something so important, but it's also an example of "keeping the main thing the main thing". We have earthly responsibilities as well as spiritual ones, as will our new Rector. He or she will have needs and things to care for in addition to us, and we will be responsible for helping meet those needs.

So please, as you pray in the coming weeks and months, consider how you can help to support this mission for all of us, our new Rector, and for God in His Church. Let us not just be hearers of the word, but also doers.

We owe it not only to ourselves, but more importantly, we owe it to God.

Yours in service,

Jon

Please keep the search process, the vestry and leaders of the church, members of the search committee, the interim, and our future rector in your prayers!

Hospitality Team

Team Meeting TOMRROW Sunday, 8/29

Hospitality ministry encompasses many ministries: Coffee Hour, receptions after a memorial/funeral service, potluck meals, other parish events and of course, creative decorating. Hospitality also means welcoming others, especially those who are new to our church family. This ministry can be the difference between someone staying or leaving after they've visited on a Sunday morning.

So, if you love to entertain, decorate, cook, bake or visit with people, this would a great ministry for you to be involved in. Make plans to stay after the service this Sunday to get more information and find out how you can plug in and be a part of the Hospitality Ministry Team Meeting.

Kids in Christ Ministry

Plans for the Fall

Kids in Christ will begin meeting weekly again starting Sunday, September 5 after the service. Children ages three years old through 5th grade are encouraged to have a quick snack and then head to the children's area for Bible stories, songs, crafts, and games. We'll finish by 12:00 p.m.

"God is Almighty." It's true, but what does it really mean? Join us every Sunday in September to find out. We'll start by reading about a prophet who thought he could run away from God. You won't believe where he ended up! It's a whale of a tale!

Job Search

Wanted: One or two directors for the always fabulous St. Mark's Christmas pageant. Lots of help and advice provided by past directors! Payment in hugs and blessings. Date for pageant 2021 is either December 12 or 19. Come get involved and share your gifts!

If you have a love of children and would like to help Molly, please contact her at (214) 762-8792. She would certainly welcome the assistance.

Ministry Highlight

I Love My Church How Can I Serve?

Did you know that we have over twenty ministries you could be involved in? Most take place on Sunday mornings, but there are some that occur during the week. All the ministry teams are open to those who are eager to serve God through one of these ministries.

We will highlight three ministries to help you decide where you would like to serve God through St. Mark's. This week features the Acolyte Ministry, Children/Youth Ministry, and Holy Locusts Ministry. If you are interested in joining a team, you may sign up on the back of the Connection Card that will be in your bulletins this Sunday or use the contact info listed below.

Acolyte Ministry Team

Michelle Markert oversees the Acolyte Ministry Team. A training for new acolytes will be scheduled when we have our interim rector in place. Acolytes are usually children and youth ten years old and up, but adults may serve as well. They assist the priest with the service, process with the cross to open and close the service, and help with Children's Chapel. Please contact Michelle at (361) 774-6086, or the church office at (361) 994-0285, or judy@stmarksc.org if you're interested.

Children/Youth Ministry Team

Molly Wandel oversees Children's Chapel, Kids in Christ, and SEEK Youth Group. Children's Chapel gathers in the fellowship hall during the service for a service on the kids' level. Kids in Christ meet after the Sunday service in the fellowship hall for Sunday School. SEEK Youth Group is for youth in the 6th-12th grade. They meet in the fellowship hall Sunday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. Please contact Molly at (214) 762-8792, or the church office at (361) 994-0285, or judy@stmarksc.org if this ministry appeals to you.

Holy Locust Ministry Team

Mal Nesloney oversees our Holy Locust Ministry Team, which is a group of dedicated folks who maintain the beauty of our campus. Ideally, teams serve once a month to cut the grass, use the weedeater, edge the sidewalks, and blow away debris . If you like working with power equipment, this is the ministry for you. Please contact Mal at (361) 945-8513, or the church office at (361) 994-0285, or judy@stmarkscc.org for more information.

Family Swim Party

At the Wandel Home Last Sunday

We had a good turnout and a great time at the swim party on Sunday. Lots of familiar faces, a few we haven't seen in a while, and some new friends too. What a great way to spend an afternoon!

Here are a couple of pictures of the kids having fun!



Altar Flowers

Available Dates

Each week a flower arrangement adorns our altar to bring more beauty into our sanctuary. Parishioners have the opportunity to sponsor the altar flowers for a specific Sunday. It's a wonderful way to honor a special event in your life or someone who means a great deal to you.

We have a four dates still available for this year:

October 10th

October 24th

November 14th

November 21st

If you would like to sponsor the flowers on one of these dates, either sign up on the flower chart in the entryway to the sanctuary or email Judy at judy@stmarksgc.org. A notification will be sent out prior to your given Sunday to request how you would like your dedication in the bulletin to read. The floral arrangements cost \$55.

Online Giving

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.
- Through your cell phone using our app, Give+Plus. To get the app, go to the app store and search for "Give+Plus". The icon background is white, the word "Give" is gray and the "+Plus" is a mustard color. 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 will be checking 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 door 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 August schedule for our ministries, which is still a work in progress. Please check each week to see if there are any changes.

August 29 - Sunday

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

11:00 a.m. - Coffee Hour--Fellowship Hall

11:15 a.m. - Hospitality Ministry Team Meeting--Fellowship Hall

August 31 - Tuesday

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

6:30- p.m. - Men's Cursillo Reunion Group--Nolan's on Staples near Yorktown

7:00 p.m. - Bible Study & Prayer Group--Online--Zoom Meeting

September 1 - Wednesday

12:00 p.m. - Wednesday 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](#)

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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