

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

November 18, 2021

Upcoming Events

Access Plus Ramp Build

Sat, 11/20 8:00 a.m.

Sea Gulf Villa Thanksgiving Food Basket Project

Tues, 11/23 8:15 a.m.

Christmas Pageant

Sun, 12/12 10:00 a.m.

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Sunday Worship Service:

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

[Visit our website](#)



God's Promises to St. Mark's

God's promises are all around us; we just need to open our hearts and eyes to see them. He promised He will be with us; He promised He would come along side us to guide and direct us; and He promised He would supply our needs.

How is that currently happening? First, His Holy Spirit is with us in real ways, which sometimes we overlook. He's in the phone call we get from another parishioner who just wanted to see how we're doing. He's in the generosity of a family (not from St. Mark's) who heard about our church family, and the Holy Spirit prompted them to give a monetary gift on behalf of one of our families. He's in the joy we have when we can participate in something bigger than us to help others, like the Sea Gulf Villa Thanksgiving Food Baskets. And this all happened this week!

Second, He promised He would walk with us and guide us, which He's doing as we take those steps of faith to move forward in ministry. He called Jon Reily and John deMontel to lead us while we're searching for our new rector, whom God has already chosen, and in whose life God is working out every detail to get him or her to St.

Mark's, just like He's preparing us in every way to be ready to receive our new rector.

Third, He promised to supply our every need, which is not always financial in nature. I'm giving thanks for those in our diocese, specifically Archdeacon Mike Besson, Canon Caroline Mowen, and Bishop David Reed. They can see the Holy Spirit amongst us, they know that God has a plan for us, and they are deeply encouraging. Even though our finances have been tough for a while, think about how we've been provided for: a new roof after twenty plus years of leaks, dedicated volunteers who give everything to serve in the ministry they've been called to, and a genuine love we share for one another.

All this is to say that this time in the life of St. Mark's is one of excitement and wonder about what our new adventure with God will look like as we live into His promises for us. But we have promises that we need to keep with God, promises that we will be faithful to Him: faithful in our prayers for St. Mark's, each other, and our community; faithful in our giving; and faithful in our trusting of God working through the people He's put together as the family of St. Mark's.

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

Keep the Faith!
Judy

Warden's Corner

An Update from Jon Reily

This week I wanted to give an update on the search process, as well as open the conversation for some plans going forward.

At this month's Vestry meeting we were happy to welcome Canon Caroline Mowen from the diocese. Caroline is the Canon for Ministry Support, and she was kind enough to drive from San Antonio to talk to us about finances and compensation for our new Rector. While this sounds very clinical, as the business arm of the parish, the Vestry has to consider all things when we are searching for our new Rector, and this is an important step in the process as we start to think about how much we can afford to



pay this person. The meeting was very helpful to all as it gave us a great picture of where we sit amongst other churches in the diocese in terms of our size and what the going rate is, for lack of a better term, for priests.

Now that we have this information, our finance team of church staff and the finance committee of the Vestry can roll up their sleeves to consider what we can pay our new rector and then pass that information to the Search Committee to aid in their search. Once this and the Parish Profile are complete, Archdeacon Besson will start sending the Search Committee names and profiles of priests who have expressed interest in speaking to us. This process can take some time, so we are by no means coming to the end of our search; however, we are leaving the beginning stages, which is great. Now the hard work will fall on the members of the Search Committee as they review and screen the candidates. We will update you on that process as it progresses. Very exciting!

Next I wanted to let you all know that I have asked Fr. Rick Dunham to continue as our interim Rector into next year. Initially Fr. Rick had agreed to serve us through the end of 2021, but he has been kind enough to agree to stay until we call our new priest. This is great news as I have been seeking continuity as we go through this process, and it's wonderful to keep Fr. Rick who is already a member of our family as our interim Rector. Please take a moment to thank him when you see him next, and let me say a big thank you from all of us to you, Fr. Rick!

Next I wanted to talk about the Vestry. As you are likely aware, each member of the Vestry is elected by the congregation to a 3 year term. That is a term limit, and every person "rolls off" after three years. This coming January we will again have openings on the Vestry, and I hope you all will continue to pray as to whether or not this is your time to serve. The Vestry is a very important part of the parish at all times, but especially now as the Vestry members are the whole governing body of the parish in the absence of a Rector. So please look in your heart and consider joining. It's a great experience, and I know you will find it fulfilling.

Lastly, I want to share my desire to stay on as Senior Warden in 2022. I have spoken to both the Archdeacon and the Bishop about this, as well as received permission from the Vestry to serve a fourth year on the Vestry and a third year as Senior Warden. Again following my intention of keeping continuity, I think it's important to stay on until we do call a priest to serve as our Rector and continue the work I have been doing to keep the Parish running smoothly (with of course LOTS of help). Once the new Rector arrives, I will serve the remainder of the year as a transition and then step down so the Rector can name his or her own Senior Warden. According to the Canon, a dispensation from the Bishop and permission from the Vestry are all that is technically required for this, but I am very interested in continuing to serve you, the congregation of St. Mark's, in addition to my service to God in this role. Therefore, over the next few months I would like all of you to pray and consider this, and either publicly or privately make it known if you want to keep me as your Senior Warden. I am a servant to you and God, and I serve at the pleasure of you both. It is important that the job I am doing be for all, and that I never forget why I am here. You all called me, and I would like to know that you all continue to do so.

These are exciting times, and I cannot wait to see what God and the future bring to us.

Together, walking hand in hand, we are unstoppable. Thank you for all that you do.

Yours in service,

Jon

Access Plus Wheelchair Ramp Build

**Ramp Build THIS Saturday 11/20 8:00 a.m.
1210 Vernon Street**

The wheelchair ramp being built this Saturday 11/20 is for Hyman who has great difficulty getting in and out of his home. This ramp will give him the access he needs.

If you enjoy working with your hands or power tools, this ministry would be a great fit for you. The team begins at 8:00 a.m. When you get there, just look for Doug Wayland, and he'll be happy to put you to work.



Stewardship Season

Support Kingdom Work through St. Mark's

Our acts of obedience to what God calls us to do in terms of giving to His Kingdom are always blessed. We may not see how God chooses to use our gift, but do not doubt that God uses all gifts to bless others.



**TIME
Talent
TREASURE**

Living a Life of Stewardship

When you decide to make a commitment to give to God's Kingdom through St. Mark's, your commitment is not taken lightly. Your Estimate of Giving Card is prayed over and blessed even before the envelope is opened. God will do more with your act of obedience than you will ever know.

If you haven't been able to submit your Estimate of Giving Card, you still have time. There will be cards available in the sanctuary Sunday, or in the office. You can also email the office with your intentions for 2022.

Mission 911

Thanksgiving Meal Distribution 11/22

Mission 911 is hosting their Thanksgiving meal distribution starting at 6 p.m. Monday evening, November 22, at the Mission. They could use some help from volunteers with this project. If you're available to participate, please be there around 5:00 p.m. The address is 911 Park Ave. Ask for Tony Reyes or Justin to get directions on what they need you to do.



Sea Gulf Villa Thanksgiving Food Basket Project

Our Thanksgiving Meal Project is a Success

You guys did it! We have everything we need to provide 92 people with Thanksgiving Dinner groceries at the Sea Gulf Villa Apartment complex downtown.

Thank you for your support!



Calling all youth! This Sunday after church, the youth are invited to come to the fellowship hall to personalize Thanksgiving Cards for all of the residents. So, make plans to grab a snack and get to work!

Then come to the fellowship hall Tuesday, 11/23, at 8:15 a.m. to bag canned goods for delivery. We'll leave for Sea Gulf Villa at about 9 a.m. to visit with residents and bring joy in the form of Thanksgiving dinner!



Christmas Pageant

December 12th

Marybeth Maxwell has graciously agreed to lead our Christmas Pageant this year in partnership with parent and youth helpers. This is a joint effort, and the youth are always so willing to participate and help the younger children.

There will be a dress rehearsal Saturday, December 4th, at 10 a.m. So parents, please be sure to mark your calendars because it's the only scheduled practice!

Important Dates:

Saturday 12/4 Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal
Sunday 12/12 Christmas Pageant



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

November 21 - Sunday

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. - Coffee Hour--Fellowship Hall
Kids in Christ--Fellowship Hall
SEEK Youth Group--Fellowship Hall

November 23 - Tuesday

8:15 a.m. - Sea Gulf villa Thanksgiving Food Basket Project--Fellowship Hall
10:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m. - Men's Cursillo Reunion Group--Nolan's Restaurant on Staples near Yorktown
7:00 p.m. - Bible Study & Prayer Group--Online--Zoom Meeting

November 24 - Wednesday

Noon Day Prayer Group will not meet.

November 25 - Thursday Thanksgiving Day!

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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