

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

September 9, 2021

Upcoming Events

Acolyte Training

Sun, 9/12 11:30 a.m.

Rockin' K Maze

Sun, 10/3 11:30 a.m.

Parish Profile Workshop

Sun, 10/10 11:30 a.m.

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Sunday Worship Service:

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

[Visit our website](#)



God's Promises

*“Whatever you do, work heartily,
as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that
from the Lord you
will receive the inheritance as
your reward. You are serving
the Lord Christ.”*

Colossians 3:23-24

Have you ever wondered if Jesus cares about the mundane, day-to-day work we have to do to maintain life? Like, making the bed, cooking a meal, answering the phone at work, or driving a truck? He certainly does!

The truth is that Jesus is in ALL of it. Whether He can use those tasks for His Kingdom, often depends on us and our willingness to invite Him into those things we view as unworthy of His attention.

Take maintaining the church grounds, for instance. It takes work to keep our property inviting to ourselves and others. Did you know that some of the residents of the Corpus Christi Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on the other side of our parking lot often come over here to sit in the courtyard or under the big oak tree with the bench around it? They experience the beauty and joy of God's creation because someone else took the time to put in some work.

So, the simple act of riding a lawn mower or running a weed eater opens up an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to move in someone's life. When we offer our daily work to God and allow Him to work in it, others are blessed, and often times we'll never know it happened.

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

Moving Forward

Warden's Corner with Jon Reily

As I mentioned last week, the search for a new rector is a slow process, but be reassured that progress is being made each week.

The selection of Search Committee members is nearly complete. Once that's done, the vestry will be asked to approve the committee members, and then we'll commission them one Sunday during our worship service.

Rev. Betty Fuller will be with us this Sunday and the remaining Sundays in September. We're so thankful that she's able to officiate our services until we have an interim in place.

Archdeacon Besson is currently working on our parish profile. There is a certain amount that he can do without us. However, the most important part requires our participation in the Parish Profile Workshop, so please mark your calendars for a very important date: Sunday, October 10th. Archdeacon Besson will be with us that Sunday to lead the workshop for us. We'll begin with lunch, and then get to work.

Thank you all for your prayers during this process. We truly need to be led by the Holy Spirit, and your prayers will ensure that will happen.

More next week!

Yours in service,
Jon



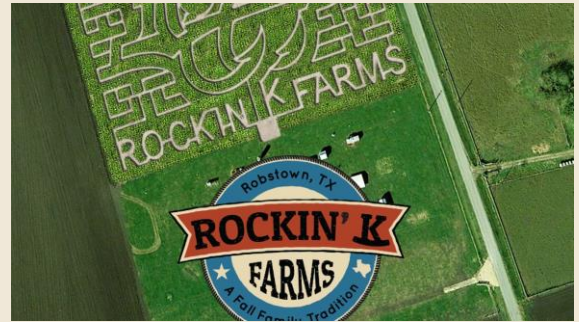
**Please keep the search process, the vestry and leaders of
the church, members of the search committee, the interim, and
our future rector in your prayers!**

Rockin' K Maze

Walk the Maze at Rockin' K Farms in Robstown

We're planning a trip to the Rockin' K Farms to walk the corn maze and enjoy activities like taking advantage of fall photo ops, exploring the pumpkin patch, visiting the goat barn, riding slides, and more. We'll leave after church Sunday morning, October 3rd, to drive out together.

You will need to purchase your tickets ahead of time. The tickets are not tied to a specific date, so you can get them at any time. There is currently a sale price for the tickets until this Friday. The regular cost is \$18.09 (tax included), but until tomorrow at midnight, you can get them for just \$13.60. Click on the link to get your tickets, [Rockin K maze](#).



Please let Molly Wandel know if you'd like to attend. You may contact her at (214) 762-8792.

Acolyte Training

Training this Sunday, 9/12 immediately after Church

Calling all youth ages ten through twelfth grade!

Our acolytes are such an important part of our worship service each Sunday. Here are the jobs they get to do during the service:

- Light the altar candles with a really cool candle lighter.
- Lead and participate in the procession that begins the service by carrying a cross or banner.
- When it's time for Children's Chapel, lead the children to their chapel area in the fellowship hall, hang out with them, and lead them back before communion.
- Assist the priest as he or she sets up the altar for Holy Eucharist.
- Lead and participate in the recession, which signals the end of the service.



If that sounds like fun, make plans to come to the acolyte training with Michelle Markert and Melanie Buchi this Sunday after the service.

Planting Time

Raised Beds Available for Fall Gardening

This spring Doug Wayland built a raised garden bed that has three sections that are 8 feet by 4 feet. Good soil was brought in, and spring plants were planted, which resulted in a great harvest of tomatoes and other vegetables.

It's time to plant for fall. If you'd like to take one of the sections, please contact the church office to let us know. Call (361) 994-0285, or email judy@stmarksc.org.



Hospitality Meeting

Sunday, 9/26 after the Service

Hospitality means making people feel welcome. We do that in many different ways. One is providing a time for fellowship that includes refreshments. Another is helping to set up and clean up for special events like parish pot lucks. But the most important part of hospitality is welcoming people into our church family in a way that lets them know that they are important and that we're glad they have joined us.



Lori Jones is overseeing our hospitality ministries, which includes Coffee Hour, the food side of hospitality, and newcomer ministry. Now that we've been back in the sanctuary for several months, we need to plan and organize what these ministries will look like moving forward.

Make plans to come to the hospitality meeting that has been rescheduled for Sunday, September 26th after the service to help plan for the future.

Kids in Christ Ministry

Plans for the Fall

Week two of Kids in Christ is this Sunday, September 12th 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. They'll finish by 12:00 p.m.

"God is Almighty." It's true, but what does it really mean? Join in this Sunday to find out more. John, Livi, and Ella Wandel will lead the kids this Sunday.

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 12th or 19th. 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.

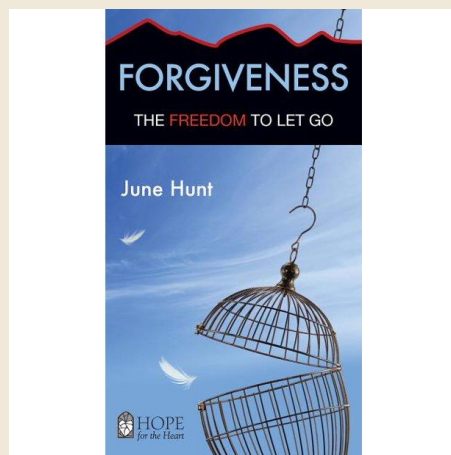


Forgiveness Book

Forgiveness--The Freedom to Let Go

Last Sunday, Mark Hartlaub gave the lay address during the Morning Prayer service. He spoke about forgiveness and how important it is to our faith walks. He referenced a book about forgiveness that impacted him in a very real way. If you weren't able to be here to hear Mark, here's the [Sunday Service](#), so you can listen.

The book Mark spoke about is *Forgiveness The Freedom to Let Go*, by June Hunt. Here's a link to purchase a copy of it on [Amazon](#), if you'd like to read it yourself.



Ministry Highlight

I Love My Church! How Can I Serve? Three Ministries Highlighted this Week

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 or more of these ministries.



Here are three new ministries to consider to serve God through St. Mark's. This week features the Altar Guild Ministry, Greeter Ministry, and Usher 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 contact the office at (361) 994-0285, or judy@stmarkscc.org for more information.

Altar Guild Ministry Team

Teams prepare the altar area for Morning Prayer or Holy Eucharist on Saturday mornings as they wait for the altar flowers to be delivered. They finish their work Sunday before the service begins, and clean up afterwards.

Greeter Ministry Team

Volunteers are stationed at the front of the sanctuary where they open the doors as they greet Sunday guests. They also offer assistance to anyone who needs help.

Usher Ministry Team

Two volunteers man the large wooden doors between the entryway and the interior of the sanctuary and pass out bulletins to those who want one. They direct people who wish to receive the Holy Eucharist. After the service, they count the Sunday offering and secure it in the safe.

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

September 12 - Sunday

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

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

11:30 a.m. - Kids in Christ Sunday School--Kids in Christ Area in Fellowship Hall

4:00 p.m. - SEEK Youth Group--Fellowship Hall

September 14 - Tuesday

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

September 15 - Wednesday

12:00 p.m. - Wednesday Noon Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall

September 18 - Saturday

NO ACCESS PLUS RAMP BUILD

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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