

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

August 17, 2023

Upcoming Events

St. Mark's Day at the Beach

8/19, Saturday

Parish Meeting & Potluck

8/27, Sunday

Bring a Friend to Church Sunday

9/10, Sunday

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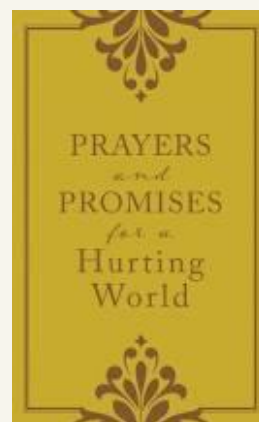
Sunday Worship Service:

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

[Visit our website](#)

Promises of God

Devotion by Laura Freudig



The Loving-Kindness of God

But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works or righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us. Titus 3:4-5

Dear Lord, in You, virtues are not abstractions. In You, they come to life and take on flesh and personhood. We think of kindness and love as light and airy, perfect to adorn a greeting card. But in You, they became, quite literally, the body and blood of Your Son. When Jesus appeared as a man, He was the embodiment of Your kindness and love.

We think of kindness and love as what we can do for others--making nice gestures, giving friendly smiles, sharing a basket of muffins, spending an hour raking leaves. But Your kindness was so much more than that. It cried, it prayed, it was tortured, it bled, it died, and it rose again. We can do nothing to add to that. Your kindness and love have already done it all. Your kindness and love alone save us. Forgive us for minimizing and trivializing those virtues. Your kindness, Lord, is this: You know us completely and yet are sympathetic toward us, forbearing and gentle. Your love is this: You took our punishment and accept us as Yours

based on nothing but that. You require us to bring nothing. We come naked, helpless, hollow. You clothe, empower, and redeem. We praise You for Your kindness and love. Amen.

St. Mark's Day at the Beach



Beach Day in Port Aransas Saturday, August 19

The Wandels have rented a large white tent to provide shade for us while we enjoy a Saturday at the beach with our church family. The photo to the left depicts what it will look like. It will be located near Beach Access Road 1 (not 1A) on Port

Aransas Beach. We will not have the exact location until Friday, so it will be posted on the St. Mark's Facebook page, or you may text Molly at (214) 762-8792 if you need help locating the group. The tent will be in place Friday night, so early birds can come any time Saturday.

Tables and ice chests filled with ice will be provided. You'll need to bring your own food, drinks, towels, sunscreen, chairs, sand toys, boogie boards, and anything else you would take for a trip to beach.

Access Plus

NO Ramp Build for August

Due to the severe nature of the recent temperatures and heat indexes, there will not be a ramp build in August. The group will resume in September. So, mark calendars for the third Saturday, September 16th!



Meals for Beth



Meals for Beth Offutt through Take them a Meal.com

We need your help to provide meals for Beth Offutt. We are using an online tool called TakeThemaMeal.com, which allows people to see who has signed up to take a meal and what they are providing. It's very helpful when a lot of people are a part of the team.

Dietary needs are listed on the website, as well as contact info and other instructions. Click here for the link to [Beth's schedule](#). If the link gives you trouble, you may go to takethemameal.com, click on the "Find a Meal Schedule", and enter Offutt in the name area and 1238 for the password. It will take you directly to Beth's page. Select a date, and type in what you want to bring.

Please be aware that Beth doesn't need full meals; providing a serving or two will be great. She always enjoys your visits!

Prayer Buddies

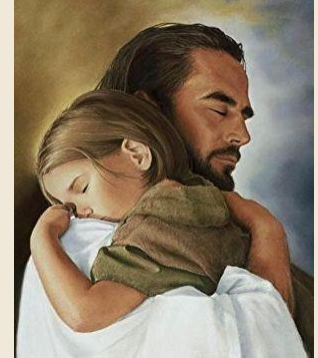
Prayer Buddies for our Children and Youth

Prayer is such an important part of the life of St. Mark's. As a result, we have chosen to be more deliberate about praying for our children.

Thank to everyone who chose a child or youth to pray for last Sunday. Nearly everyone was sponsored, and we only have five children/youth who need a prayer buddy. Their envelopes are on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Please consider taking one when you go to coffee hour. Inside the envelope you'll find the name and picture of a St. Mark's child or youth. All you have to do is commit to praying faithfully for that child. That's it! Other suggestions for how to support your prayer buddy are included in the envelope.

Our young adults will also be included in the program; once all our children and youth have prayer buddies, you will have the chance to choose an envelope for one of our young adults. They need prayer too!

Thank you for participating in the life of St. Mark's!



Parish Meeting & Potluck Lunch



Picnic Themed Potluck and Parish Meeting Sunday, 8/27

Make plans to be here Sunday, August 27th, for a picnic themed potluck lunch and a parish meeting after the worship service. We'll share great food and hear about the plans moving forward from the strategic planning retreat that took place last Friday and Saturday. Sign up on the back of your Connection Card this Sunday to bring a

dish, or call the church office at (361) 994-0285.

Bring a Friend to Church

Bring a Friend to Church Sunday, 9/10

We've got another Bring a Friend to Church Sunday on the calendar for September 10th. There are small cards available on the black guest services counter for you to use to invite family and friends to come join us.



Travelin' Tom's Coffee truck will be here that Sunday too. They will donate a portion of their sales back to St. Mark's. Isn't that generous! Our first time Sunday guests will receive a ticket for a free coffee from Travelin' Tom's.

The Instructional Eucharist will be a part of the liturgy. Mark Hartlaub will again be our guide.

Be sure to pray about whom you might invite to worship with us, grab a couple of invitation cards, and visit those people Jesus identifies for you. You may even want to offer to pick them up and bring them with you!

Diocesan College and Young Adult Missions Council



College and Young Adult Missions

The College Missions Council of our diocese is requesting contact information for our college students to use to get them connected with college ministry opportunities and Episcopal churches in the community where they are going to school. Here is a link to the [diocese website](#) to find out more and submit contact information.

A fall [College and Young Adult Retreat](#) is planned for September 22-24 at Mustang Island Conference Center. Click the link for details and registration information. The cost is \$50 and scholarships are available.

Remind Texting System

Remind Church Texting Service

We are aware that some of you have had issues trying to connect with the group you need to be part of. We recently learned that we can send a text to you inviting you to join a specific group. You will need to download the REMIND app. In the coming weeks, we will work on sending out messages to those who have not yet signed up for a ministry group that they should be a part of, so be on the look out for that text.



You may also sign up for your specific ministry group using the information below. We're asking everyone to sign up for the "**General Announcements**" group because it will be used for event reminders and emergency related information. That group will be one-way texting only. If you are asked whether you are a teacher, parent, or student, please choose parent.

To sign up for important updates from your ministry group, please text **@(the code for the ministry you are signing up for)** to **81010**.

- **General Announcements @stmarkgen**
- **Youth and Children's Ministry @739d77**
- **Ushers and Greeters @6hed62**
- **Sunday Worship Services** (This includes Presentation Managers / Livestream / LEMs / Lectors / Security Officers / Newcomer Ministers) **@a8c8d8**
- **Outreach Team / Access Plus @82fghdh**
- **Hospitality /Coffee Hour @7c8g6k**
- **College/Young Adult Ministries @69f48hh**
- **Altar Guild @6g9b847**
- **Acolytes @gkf737**

We are excited about having another tool to help with our communications.

Diocesan Events



Diocesan News

Connecting with College Missions--Click on [this link](#) if you'd like to get connected with the diocesan college

ministry.

Fall College and Young Adult Retreat--[Click here](#) for details and registration information. It will be at Mustang Island Conference Center.

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.
- You may also use the QR code below.
- 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 [August schedule](#) for our ministries, which is an ongoing work in progress. Please check each week to see if there are any changes.

August 19 - Saturday

No Access Plus Ramp Build
All Day--St. Mark's Day at the Beach

August 20- Sunday

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. - Coffee Hour--Fellowship Hall

August 22 - Tuesday

6:30 p.m. - Vestry Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library

August 23 - 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.

**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](#)

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2727 Airline Rd
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www.stmarksc.org

