



Window into ST. MARK'S

THE MINISTRY OF ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO ST. MARK'S



James Dickerson & Amy Waldner

Jeremy Muse & Mary Wallace



Gary & Becky Garverick

Roscilla Ryans & Mycah Tucker

Baptisms this Easter Season

- Ernest & Elijah Boon, sons of John & Camille Boon
- Benjamin Spain, son of Nicole Shirley & grandson of Oscar Saldivar
- Zane Steele, son of Matthew & Tamara Steele
- Mycah Tucker



Easter and Children at St. Mark's

The children have been busy learning about one of the two holiest days of the church year, Easter, which celebrates Christ's resurrection. On Palm Sunday in Children's Church, we had a "Walk through Holy Week" in which seven teachers taught a message for each day. They each used a prop and a drawing. For example, for the story of Peter's denial of Jesus, we had a large ceramic rooster. Thank you to all that helped to tell this important story; Sue Thompson, Elizabeth Coffman, Leslie Ball, Heather Greenspan, Rose Brewer and Michele Russell.

Did you notice the children's flowered cross? This wonderful idea was instituted by the creative Jacque Corman. Jacque and the children helped create this for all to enjoy in the courtyard on Easter Sunday. Come take a peak at Children's Church in Room 103 if you missed it. Jacque and Danny are responsible for the organization and ease of use of this room. They continue to be essential to the education of our children.

Easter Sunday, oh what a day! The Alleluias were back in a big way! Tina Sullivan orchestrated the inflatable letters that the children used before the Easter egg hunt. Rita Ferguson, Rose Brewer, Sarah Hollas, Patricia Dupuy and Stan O'Neal worked with the children while they waited for the egg hunt. Thanks to the Hospitality Team for serving breakfast to this group, which consisted of many guests. Over 30 children, many of them our guests, hunted for more than 300 eggs! We may still find eggs for weeks to come.

A new tradition of confetti eggs, or *cascarones*, were hidden in the garden for the big kids. They had so much fun running after each other and throwing confetti everywhere while the parents watched. Thank you, Tina, for bringing this fun to church.

Children's Church welcomed 18 children, more than half of them guests. We told the resurrection story using a special carton of plastic resurrection eggs with each egg containing a part of the story. For example, one egg contained a small rock representing the stone that was rolled away from the tomb. The last egg is empty like the tomb, and that is why we celebrate Easter.

—Lisa Martinson

Reception for Gary Brewton, Sunday, May 6

A farewell reception will be hosted by Hospitality and the Lay Teaching Committee on May 6 between services in the Parlor. Tuesday, May 8 will be Gary's last day as our intern.



Easter Season

Easter continues through its season of 50 days with resurrection breaking out all over the place:

On the first two Sundays of Easter we baptized Mycah at sunrise, Elijah, Ernest, Benjamin, and Zane.
Alleluia!

At sunrise on the first Sunday of Easter we welcomed new members; Amy, James and Harper, Mary and Jeremy, Mycah and Roscilla, and Becky and Gary. See first page photos. Welcome with alleluias!

CDC children and their families join us for worship this Sunday: the children will sing songs from Wednesday morning Chapel.

Lunch on the Lawn this Sunday, April 22, celebrates our Community Garden ministry of growing vegetables and fruit which are distributed to our neighbors through the Heights Interfaith Ministry Food Pantry. Expanding the garden is the next step in loving and serving our neighbors; plans are underway. Alleluia!

We WILL host Travis Elementary's 5th Grade Graduation in our sanctuary, May 30 at 9:00 am. Email Jody Miller at jodymiller@yahoo.com to learn how you may help welcome students, families, staff and teachers. Alleluia!

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW;

PRAISE GOD ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW:

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

PRAISE GOD , THE SOURCE OF ALL OUR GIFTS!

PRAISE JESUS CHRIST, WHOSE POWER UPLIFTS!

PRAISE THE SPIRIT, HOLY SPIRIT,

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

With Alleluias,

Marilyn

Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 22

Earth Day

- 8:30 am Worship
- 9:40 am Sunday School
- 10:50 am Worship—CDC Joins Worship
- 12:00 pm Lunch on the Lawn Fundraiser
- 1:30 pm Disciple Study #211
- 3:00 pm Eagle Ceremony—Troop 30 #FH
- 3:30 pm Prayer Shawl #Parlor
- 3:30 pm Youth & Tweens #WS

Tuesday, April 24

- 9:30 am Weaving #209
- 10:00 am XYZ Games #FH
- 6:30 pm Care Team #109
- 6:30 pm Church Council #WS

Wednesday, April 25

- 10:30 am CDC Chapel
- 5:30 pm WNL—Missions Team
- 6:00 pm Bell Rehearsals #211
- 6:00 pm Communications #Parlor
- 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsals

Thursday, April 26

- 9:00 am Bridge Group #FH

Saturday, April 28

- 8:30 am Trustees Work Day

Sunday, April 29

- 8:30 am Worship
- 9:40 am Sunday School
- 10:50 am Worship
- 1:30 pm Disciple Study #211
- 3:30 pm Prayer Shawl #Parlor
- 3:30 pm Youth & Tweens #WS

Tuesday, May 1

- 9:30 am Weaving #209
- 6:30 pm Worship Team #Parlor

Wednesday, May 2

- 10:30 am CDC Chapel
- 5:30 pm WNL—POYC #FH
- 6:00 pm Bell Rehearsals #211
- 6:30 pm Outreach Team
- 6:30 pm Trustees #210
- 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsals

Sunday, May 6

- 8:30 am Worship
- 9:40 am Sunday School
- 9:40 am Reception for Gary Brewton #Parlor
- 10:50 am Worship
- 1:30 pm Disciple Study #211
- 3:30 pm Prayer Shawl #Parlor
- 3:30 pm Youth & Tweens #WS

Tuesday, May 8

- 9:30 am Weaving #209
- 11:30 am XYZ Luncheon at the Parsonage
- 6:30 pm SPR Team #109
- 6:30 pm Adult Ministries #108

Wednesday, May 9

- 10:30 am CDC Chapel
- 5:30 pm WNL—Trustees #FH
- 6:00 pm Bell Rehearsals #211
- 6:30 pm Children's Council #103
- 6:30 pm Finance #210
- 7:00 pm CONAM #108
- 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsals

#FH = Fellowship Hall
#WS = Wacky Shack

Lunch on the Lawn—April 22

Please join us for our annual Lunch on the Lawn, Sunday, April 22 (also Earth Day!) at noon benefitting St. Mark's Community Garden. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 per child. Tickets will be on sale between services in the breezeway and at the luncheon. We will be inside if there is rain.

The menu will include homemade hummus and pita chips, deviled eggs, brisket, chicken salad, potato salad, kale salad, homemade rolls, pickles, Hello Dolly! bars, raspberry streusel squares, and pecan pie. Yum!

St. Mark's members and neighborhood friends volunteer daily in the garden to provide hundreds of pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables a year for the Heights Interfaith Ministries Food Pantry located at 3523 Beauchamp. The HIM Food Pantry has served more than 8,700 families (including over 33,000 people) in the 77007, 77008 and 77009 zip codes since its inception almost three years ago. The monies raised will help buy rich dirt, seeds, plants and materials to build more beds for planting.

Thank you, St. Mark's, for supporting this direct ministry to those in need. For questions, please contact Cindy Freeman at Lucinda.f@earthlink.net or Nicole Wyman at nwyman@fulbright.com or anyone you see with dirt under their fingernails.

Trustees Annual Work Day, Saturday, April 28,

The Church Wide Work Day has been moved from Saturday, April 14 to Saturday, April 28. We will begin at 8:30 am and hope to finish by about 11:00 am. We will have several projects ranging from quick and easy to more involved. The Trustees hope to see you there.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer Shawl meetings will be held Sunday, April 22 & 29 and May 6 & 20 at 3:30 pm in the church parlor.

XYZ

XYZ Games—April 24 at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall

XYZ Luncheon—May 8 at 11:30 am at the Parsonage, 702 Pecore, on the SW corner of Pecore and Reagan.

Fifth Sunday Luncheon

The Fifth Sunday Luncheon scheduled for April 29, 2012, has been cancelled due to the Lunch on the Lawn on April 22.

We have received the following memorials:

- In memory of Robert Watts from Martha Watts, for the Memorial Fund
- In memory of Dorothea Furstenfeld from Bobby Linn, for the Memorial Fund
- In memory of David Newman from Gail & James Newman, for the Handbell Fund

Bird Watching at the Park

Come join Pat Higgins and crew as they go bird watching at Russ Pitman Park at 7112 Newcastle in Bellaire followed by a quick trip to the West 11th Street Park (between Shirkmere and Shelterwood). We will meet at St. Mark's on Sunday, April 29 at 1:00 pm for a quick drive over to Bellaire. We would love to have you join us. Contact Pat Higgins at 713-775-0077 or Sharon Sawallisch at 281-450-6204.

Prayer Needs

Our thoughts and prayers are with Vicki & Steve Schutter in the death of Vicki's father whose service will be April 21, 2012, in Alabama. Our thoughts and prayers are also with the family and friends of Dorothea Furstenfeld who died April 3, 2012 and Elizabeth "Ann" Collees who died March 22, 2012.

Our president, leaders, and servicemen and women MS150 riders

Janice Appel (Elizabeth Pudwill's friend) health

Scott Burger (friend of Linda Laws)

Leta Bush

Grace & Maxie Callaway (sister and brother-in-law of Willie Marie Iden)

Charlotte Campbell (health of brother)

Frank Caraway

Penny Chappell health

Opal Chesser (Margie Higgin's mother) health

Bryce Coleman (Lisa Martinson's stepson)

Blaine Corman (Danny Corman's father)

Jim & Melody Crain (Jim's mother's health)

Carol Curlee (Charlotte Campbell's sister) health

Ryan Dubose

Donnette Durst (Linda Pollard's daughter) health

Mark & Heather Easterly

DeMarcus Ferguson (nephew of Rita Ferguson)

Raye Fischl (Rose Brewer's sister) health

Iris Guidry (Malcolm Davis' friend)

Earl Hammond (Pat Hammond's father) health

Shea & Blake Hill (health of Shea's Aunt)

Ray & Lois Mahaffey (Leonard's brother/sister in law)

Elva McDermia

Wendy Melchor (Kelly Melchor's sister-in-law) health

Gail Muhl health

Rachel Navarette (Becky & Charlie Burk's daughter-in-law's mother)

Georgie Nelson (Malcolm Davis' friend)

Megan O'Neal (Joellen Snow & Stan O'Neal's daughter)

Becky Pope (Becky Burks' friend) health

Lulu Ramos (Bonnie Thomas' friend) health

Jerry & Joe Rogers (Faye Miller & Thelma Vincent's brother and sister in law) health

Joy Stapp (Joellen Snow's friend)

Jim Woodrick (Amy Steven's father) health

Tammy Zednik (Martin Larsen's friend)

April Birthdays

(We want to make sure we include everyone's birthday. If for some reason your birthday is not here, please call the church office.)

4/1	John Burks	4/18	Patricia Baker
4/1	John Thomas	4/18	Juli Gossett
4/3	Mary Morris	4/18	James Newman
4/4	Cailleigh Buchanan	4/18	Ernest Boon
4/6	Aaron Greenspan	4/18	Camille Phillips
4/6	David Hunter	4/20	Mike Palladino
4/7	Rose Gonzalez	4/20	Adam Taylor
4/10	Hallie Shepherd	4/21	Alycia Clark
4/10	Aurel Ferguson	4/21	Debbie Markey
4/12	Maryellen Quarles	4/24	Aidan Mollhagen
4/12	Stephen Kane	4/24	Jonathan Fowler
4/14	Mary Nalley	4/26	Yvette Palladino
4/15	Jacque Corman	4/26	Charlie Burks
4/16	Chuck Davis	4/28	June Davis
4/17	Jeff Copeland	4/28	Laura Neal
		4/30	Jamie Hubbell

Anniversaries

4/1	David & Marilyn Meeker-Williams
4/3	John & Camille Boon
4/3	Scott & Amy Stevens
4/10	Steve & Tana Tamez
4/13	Joe & Mary Gonzales
4/14	Mark & Kay Rowe
4/16	Patti & Ryan Stoddard
4/20	Al Baker & Monica McHenry
4/20	Kim & Todd Harrison
4/21	Margaret & Raymond Blackstone



600 Pecore, Houston, Texas 77009
www.sumuc.org

Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9:00 am–5:00 pm
Phone: 713-861-3104 / Fax: 713-861-2948

Sunday Schedule
8:30 am Worship
9:30 am Sunday School for all ages
10:50 am Traditional Worship

Pastor: Reverend Marilyn Meeker-Williams
pastor@smumc.org

Director of Music Ministries: Dr. Eric P. Esparza
ericpeche@gmail.com

Organist: William C. West

Administrative Assistant: Shelley Flowers
office@smumc.org

Financial Secretary: Betty Green
financial@smumc.org

Intern: Gary Brewton
intern@smumc.org

Director of Christian Education: Lisa Martinson
lisam@euclidstudio.com

Child Care Supervisor: Tracy Smith
tracyksmith@gmail.com

Children's Development Center
Phone: 713-861-4443

Director: Kelly Melchor
stmarkscdc@smumc.org



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<http://www.facebook.com/groups/73191611496/>



Follow St Mark's on Twitter:

http://twitter.com/SMUMC_Houston

Wednesday Night Live

WNL Dinners are 5:30-6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited.

Hosted by:

- 4/25—Worship Team
- 5/2—Parent's of Young Children
- 5/9—Trustees
- 5/16—New Pilgrims Class
- 5/23—Hospitality



8:30 Worship with Special Music

From our Director of Music Ministries

I am the new artistic director and conductor of World Voices Houston, a chorus that sings music from around the world in addition to the standard choral repertoire. Our premiere concert is entitled African Rhythm and will feature a unique juxtaposition of indigenous African music and American Spirituals, illuminating the common stories of community, family, struggles and triumphs that cross cultures. There will also be snippets from popular music that you are sure to recognize. The spirituals in particular will bless you!

The concert is Saturday, April 21, 2012 at 7:30pm in the sanctuary. There is a special St. Mark's discount (50% off) for church members. You can purchase tickets online or at the door. Our website is www.worldvoiceshouston.org.

The Facebook event page is at <http://tinyurl.com/7sbzug2>

The singers and I would really appreciate your support!
Thanks, Eric P. Esparza