Join us as we live out "Real Faith for Real Life" together!

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Weekly E-News

November 7, 2019

Your Weekly News & Updates

Visit Our Website

In this Issue:

* Stepping in Faith
* Prayer Retreat
* Seasonal Help
* Youth Director & Children's Ministry Coordinator Position
* Thankful Celebration Potluck
* Sea Gulf Villa Food Collection
* Dr. Whitesel Clinic
* Mid-Winter Camps
* Youth Ministry
* Children's Ministry
* Adult Class Opportunities
* Weekly Calendar
* Helpful Links

STEPPING IN FAITH

Annual Ministry Plan
Stepping in Faith THIS Sunday 11/10

We have a few days left in the Stepping in Faith Annual Ministry Plan journey using the "Practicing Extravagant Generosity" devotional. Our hope is that you are learning about what it means for you to move towards a different level of generosity.

Each year we estimate the anticipated amount of giving to the church for the following year to determine our level of commitment to our ministries. We accomplish this partly through the Estimate of Giving Cards, which families will lay on the altar to be blessed THIS Sunday, our Stepping in Faith Sunday.

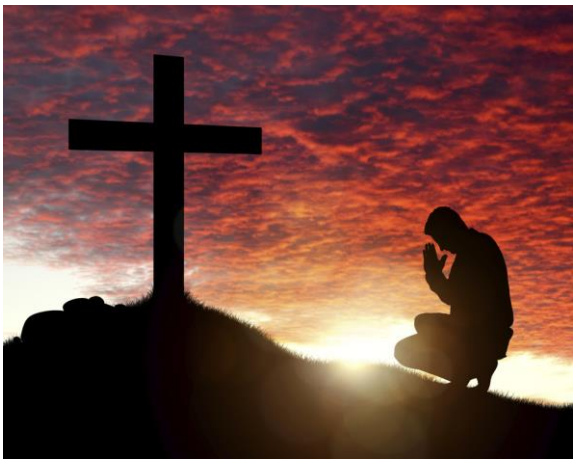
You should have received a copy of the card in the mail. Please pray about how God is calling you to participate in our Stepping in Faith Annual Ministry Plan for 2020. Bring your card to church this Sunday to lay it on the altar to be blessed for work in God's Kingdom. If you forget your card or didn't get one, the ushers will have extras available during the service.

Shammah Prayer Ministry International
Prayer Retreat
at St. Mark's Church Fellowship Hall
THIS Saturday, 11/9
7:30 am to 3:00 pm

Shammah Prayer Ministry International will host a prayer retreat for intercessors here at St. Mark's in the fellowship hall. It will be a time of rest, renewal, and revitalization.

A Continental Breakfast will be served promptly at 7:30 am, and lunch will be provided as well.

You may register at the door; the cost will be $30.



"Tis the Season....Needing Seasonal Help

The Church's season of Advent begins on December 1st. Advent is a season of preparation, but this season comes with its own need for preparation. The Altar Guild is the ministry team that prepares and decorates the Sanctuary each Sunday to enhance the worship service. The Altar Guild will be "Hanging the Greens" on Friday, November 29th, and we are in need of "seasonal help" to put up the Christmas trees and hang the wreaths and banners for Advent. Men are needed to help Doug Wayland manage the trees and purple drapes; women and youth are needed to make quick work of hanging greenery and banners and setting up the Advent wreath. Contacts to help with the Sanctuary decorations are Doug Wayland and Michele Hays.

Marybeth Maxwell needs seasonal help to prepare for Breakfast with Santa on December 7th. The first task is to dismantle the Children's Chapel and Kids in Christ area on Saturday, November 23rd. Then on Sunday, December 1st after our worship service, Marybeth needs an "ant line" of servants to carry Breakfast with Santa decorations and supplies from the storage building to the fellowship hall. Elves are needed Monday through Friday (2nd-6th) to transform our fellowship hall into a magical and welcoming space to hear the Christmas Nativity story, eat pancakes, and take a picture with Santa. Finally, on Saturday, December 7th, it will be all hands-on-deck for Breakfast with Santa as we welcome our guests into our fellowship.

Here's the schedule:

11/23, Sat	10:00 am Take down the Kids in Christ area
11/29, Fri	9:00 am Hang the greens and wreaths and set up the Christmas trees in the sanctuary
12/1, Sun	11:30 am Bring the Breakfast with Santa decorations from the storage building to the fellowship hall
12/2-12/6, Mon-Fri	9:00 am Set up the fellowship hall for Breakfast with Santa
12/7, Saturday	9:00 am Host Breakfast with Santa Event

Come one, come all!!
Offer an hour or more to serve your Church and your Lord,
and be blessed for your stewardship of time and talents!

Search Continues for New Youth Director and Children's Ministry Director

Job flyers available-click the links below.

The search has been underway to find two special people: our new Youth Director and Children's Ministry Director. The job flyer for the Youth Director is available here and the Children's Ministry Director is here. Share this link with those you think might be interested in either position.

The MOST important part of this process is PRAYER!

Please pray for:

- the persons whom God intends to fill these positions
- God to make the path easy for them
- unity in our decision process
- our youth group and children's ministry during this time of transition
- anything else that the Holy Spirit leads you to pray

Thankful Celebration Potluck
Sunday, 11/24

Mark your calendars! Fr. John will be back in the pulpit Sunday, November 24th. We will celebrate his and Melanie's return with a Thankful Celebration Potluck after the worship service. We are **Thankful** for the gift of the sabbatical for him and for us, and we want a **Celebration** to welcome them back home.

The Vestry is going to provide the turkey, ham, rolls, and desserts. You can sign up on the back of the Connection Card to help the vestry members cook the turkeys and hams and/or bring a side dish. Think in terms of a dish that has made Thanksgiving special for you, and sign up to bring it.

Sea Gulf Villa
Thanksgiving Dinner
Food Collection Project
Food Items Due Back Sunday, 11/24

Each year we supply the residents of Sea Gulf Villa, a low-income apartment complex, with Thanksgiving Dinner. Our Outreach Fund provides the turkeys, rolls, and pumpkin pies. We ask for your help to round out the meal. Please click here for the list of the food items that are needed. There will be boxes in the sanctuary and in the fellowship hall for you to put your donations in.

Thank you for supporting this ministry project!

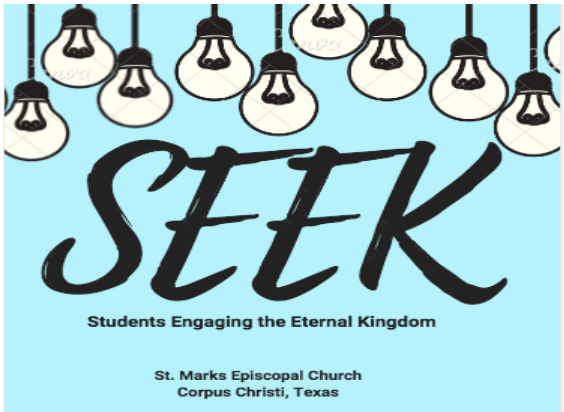
Dr. Whitesel Clinic
Sunday, 11/24

Dr. Whitesel will be back Sunday, November 24 for our next clinic. It will start immediately after the Thankful Celebration Potluck.

Mid-Winter Camps

2020 registration for Mid-Winter Camp and Summer Camp opened Monday, November 4.

Make time for fun, friendship, and faith formation next year at our beautiful diocesan camps. Dates and registration will be available at dwtx.org/camps.



SEEK Youth Ministry
Students Engaging the Eternal Kingdom

"But SEEK first His Kingdom and His Righteousness, and all things will be given to you."
Matthew 6:33

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This Week's Schedule

Sunday, November 10 SEEK Youth Group

Please pray for our next youth minister. We trust that God is already working in the life of this person to bring him or her to us.

Below are some helpful links for SEEK Youth Ministry.

St. Mark's Youth Facebook Page

Diocesan Youth Ministry Events

Children's Ministry

Kids in Christ

Sundays 11:45 am - 12:45 pm

Molly Wandel is overseeing Kids in Christ as we search for someone to fill our Children's Ministry Coordinator position. She is seeking volunteers to help with the kids each Sunday. If this interests you, visit with Molly this Sunday.
Gay DeMontel is sharing her musical talent with the children by leading them in fun and active songs of worship.

Drama Kids International

Thursdays from 5:30-6:30 pm
in the Fellowship Hall

Drama Kids is here again this year. The children who participated last year had a ton of fun. Their parents saw an increase in their self-confidence as well. Children in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to participate. Sign up at www.dramakids.com/tx13 ,or call (361) 881-4813. The tuition is $50 a month.

Nicki Green, Drama Kids Director

*** Children's Chapel--during the 10:00 am worship service**

*** Kids in Christ--begins after fellowship time, about 11:45 am, after the Sunday morning service**

Kids in Christ Children's Ministry is for children 3 years old through 5th grade.

Click here St. Mark's Kids in Christ Facebook to go to St. Mark's Kids in Christ Facebook page.

Adult Classes Sunday Mornings

We have two options for adults to choose from for
Bible study or Christian Formation.

Adult Bible Study
9:00 am every Sunday--Led by John Elmdahl in the Fellowship Hall Library.

A Survey of The New Testament Study
Sundays at 11:45 am began 9/15 for 9 weeks--This study provides a good overview of the New Testament. The class meets in the Sanctuary and is being facilitated by John DeMontel and others. There are weekly reading assignments. Please read **1 Peter, 1 John and the Gospel of John 1-10** for this Sunday and **the Gospel of John 11-21** for the following Sunday. Click here for the list of the reading assignments for the entire class.
Just come when you can.

Calendar and Ministry Schedule

Click here for November Lay Ministry Schedule.
Let the office know if you can fill any of the open spots. THANK YOU!

November 9 - Saturday
7:30 am - SPMI Prayer Retreat

November 10 - Sunday--Stepping in Faith Sunday
9:00 am - Adult Bible Study--Fellowship Hall Library
10:00 am - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary
11:15 am - Coffee Fellowship--Fellowship Hall
11:45 am - A Survey of the New Testament--Sanctuary
Kids in Christ Children's Ministry--Fellowship Hall KIC Area
SEEK Youth Group--Fellowship Hall Youth Room

November 11 - Monday--Veterans Day
2:00 pm - H.U.T. Robotics Team--Fellowship Hall

November 13 - Wednesday
1130 am - Old Guys Lunch Group--Location to be determined
12:00 pm - Elders Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library
1:00 pm - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library

November 14 - Thursday
6:45 am - Elders Prayer Group--Sanctuary Parlor
1:00 pm - H.U.T. Chess Team--Fellowship Hall
5:30 pm - Drama Kids--Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm - Bible Study & Prayer Group--Sanctuary Parlor

November 16 - Saturday
8:00 am - Access Plus Ramp Build--913 Parkers Alley
10:00 am - Wrapped in Prayer--Yarn Texas, 1122 Morgan Ave

Helpful Links

Below you will find several links to websites or Facebook Pages that you might find helpful.

St. Mark's Church Website

Donate to St. Mark's Church

St. Mark's Church Facebook

St. Mark's Youth Ministry Facebook

St. Mark's Children's Ministry Facebook

EMC2 Facebook

Diocese of West Texas Website

Diocesan Newsletter and Reflection Magazine