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

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Weekly E-News

November 28, 2019

Your Weekly News & Updates

Visit Our Website

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"Tis the Season....to Get Ready!"

The Church's season of Advent begins THIS Sunday. Advent is a short but beautiful season of hope and expectation that itself needs some preparation. We are "hanging the greens" on **Friday, November 29th starting at 9AM**. Come help put up the Christmas trees and hang the wreaths and banners. Men are especially needed to help 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 are Doug Wayland 813-1781 and Michele Hays 537-0296.

Come one, come all!!
Offer an hour or more to serve your Church and your Lord,
and enjoy the fellowship with your fellow St. Markans

Thankful Celebration Potluck Pictures

Welcome Back Fr. John!
Thank-you, to everyone who made it such a wonderful event!

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, 12/7
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Our annual Breakfast with Santa is coming up soon, December 7th to be exact. We have been hosting this community event for fifteen years. Many of the families who attend have been coming since it started in 2004 and we look forward to their return every year.

We need your help to make this a success. You can assist in various ways, including flipping pancakes, browning sausage, serving the food, greeting people as they come in, painting little faces, guiding children in making a craft and setting up and cleaning up. Marybeth Maxwell could use a few elves to help with the decorating and set up. She will be at the church Monday through Friday, 12/2-12/6, each day beginning around 9:00 am. You can sign up on the Connection Card Sunday or call the office (361) 994-0285. She also needs a some flat sheets; either white, green or red to be used in the set up.

There are flyers available to use to invite your friends and family on the name tag table in the entryway to the sanctuary. Click here for a PDF of the flyer. There will be door hangers available next Sunday to use to canvas neighborhoods. Grab some and pray about which neighborhood you need to canvas--maybe yours or one close to the St. Mark's.

Thank you!

STEPPING IN FAITH

Annual Ministry Plan

If you didn't have the opportunity to turn in your Estimate of Giving card last Sunday to be blessed, you can do that this Sunday. Bring your card with you and put it in the basket as it is passed around during the offering. If you don't have a card, the ushers will have some available. You can also put your card in the mail or bring it by the office.

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. So, your participation is important, even if you are not able to commit for 2020.

Please turn in your card soon!

Election of
Delegates & Alternates to Diocesan Council
Sunday, 12/8 immediately after the service

St. Mark's sends four delegates and four alternates to our Diocesan Council each year. Council is a three day conference where all the churches in the Diocese of West Texas gather to celebrate ministry, hold elections for committees, hear reports and enjoy each other.

This year, Corpus Christi will host Council at the American Bank Center Thursday 2/20 5 pm through Saturday 2/22 at noon. If you would be interested in representing St. Mark's at Council, stay for the election after the service December 8th.

2020 Flower Chart
& Poinsettia Plants

You can now signup to sponsor the **altar flowers** on a Sunday in 2020. It's a wonderful way to honor a special day or person in your life.

The flower chart is on an easel in the entryway to the sanctuary. Just sign up for the dates that are available. We do not have flowers on the altar during Lent, so those Sundays are identified with "NO FLOWERS" in the area where you would usually sign up.

The flowers cost $55. You will be contacted prior to your Sunday so you can let us know how you would like the dedication to read on the bulletin.

We use **poinsettia plants** to decorate the altar for our Christmas Eve services each year. You can sponsor a plant or two to honor someone special in your life or a life event that is significant to you. There will be
red inserts in the bulletins each Sunday for you to use for your dedication. The cost of the plants are $10 each. Please write "Flowers or Poinsettia" in the memo portion of your check or indicate that on the giving envelope if you give cash. You can take your plants the following Sunday, after the service or leave them to be taken to someone who is shut-in.

THANK YOU!!

Christmas Pageant
Sunday, 12/22
During the Worship Service

Our children and youth have already begun rehearsals for their Christmas Pageant. They will practice every Sunday after church in the fellowship hall up to the 22nd. All kids are welcome to join in the fun. Molly Wandel and her helpers are organizing the pageant and Gay DeMontel is working with the children to learn the music.

Be sure to mark your calendars for this special presentation of the Nativity Story.

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

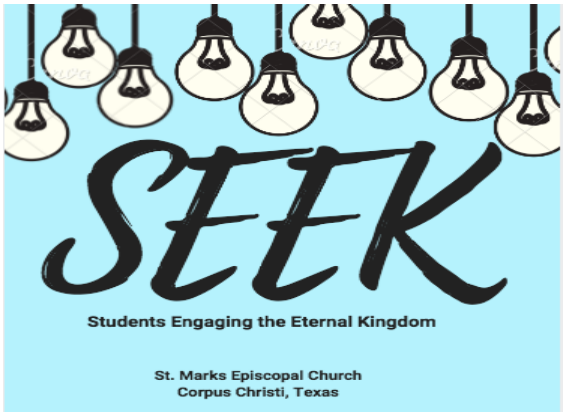
Job flyers available-click the links below.

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



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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Sea Gulf Villa Thanksgiving Food Basket Delivery

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED FOOD ITEMS TO MAKE THIS PROJECT A HUGE SUCCESS!

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, December 1 NO 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.

Calendar and Ministry Schedule

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

November 28 - Thursday--Thanksgiving Day

November 29 - Friday
10:00 am - Hang the Greens & Decorate the Sanctuary--Sanctuary

December 1 - Sunday
9:00 am - Adult Bible Study--Fellowship Hall Library
10:00 am - Morning Prayer--Sanctuary
11:15 am - Pageant Practice--Fellowship Hall--KIC Area

December 2-6 - Monday through Friday
9:00 am - Set up & Decorate for Breakfast with Santa--Fellowship Hall

December 3 - Tuesday
10:00 am - Staff Meeting
1:00 pm - H.U.T. Chess Club--Fellowship Hall

December 4 - Wednesday
12:00 pm - Elders Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library

December 5 - Thursday
6:45 am - Elders Prayer Group--Sanctuary Parlor
5:30 pm - Drama Kids--Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm - Bible Study & Prayer Group--Sanctuary

December 7 - Saturday
9:00 am - Breakfast with Santa--Fellowship Hall

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