

ALL IN

*Responding to
God's Abundant Love*



October 11, 2026 - Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

THE HAPPENINGS

ST. MARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
With the Sacrament of Baptism

All In With Our Hands

John 13:1-17

Rev. Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson

Our mission is to glorify God, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, provide opportunities for all people to know, love, and follow Jesus Christ.

Our vision is to be a church where every person is welcomed, every generation grows in faith, every gift is called into service, and our neighbors experience God's love and grace.

UPCOMING DATES

New Date for TGIF Meeting

October 11, 2026



Join Us

**TGIF
Meeting**

11:30 AM | Room 109

Church Office Closed Monday, October 12

Office Closed

Monday, October 12, 2026



UPCOMING DATES

Compassion in Action Meets This Wednesday

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
Compassion
In Action

SEWING WITH PURPOSE.
SERVING WITH HEART.



WHEN WE MEET

2nd & 4th Wednesdays
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM



WHERE WE MEET

Room 107
in the Family Life Center



WHO'S WELCOME

Everyone! No sewing
experience required.

Next Step Class - Sunday, October 18



NEXT STEP CLASS

Do you want to learn more about St. Mark?

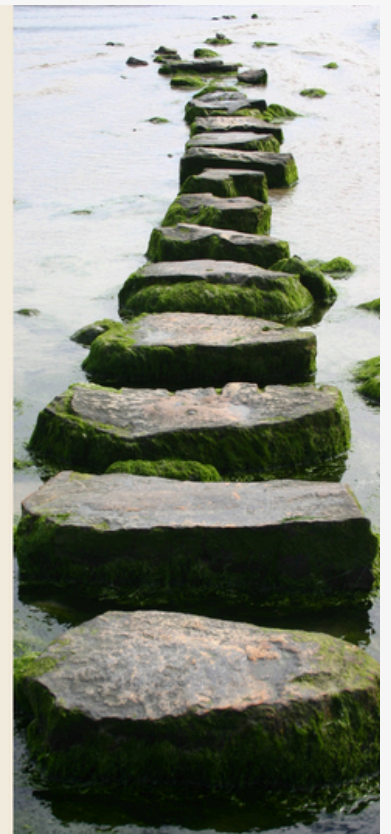
Are you considering membership?

Do you want to get involved in the mission
and ministries of St. Mark?

Are you looking for a connected community?

***Join us on Sunday, October 18, at 9:00 AM in the
Children's Church Sanctuary.***

Questions? Email Melanie Doppenberg at melanie.doppenberg@gmail.com
or call (229) 224-3186.



Faithful Friends and Families
at St. Mark Presbyterian Church



This Fall: "Make a Joyful Noise!"

You're Invited!

Join us for the Faithful Friends
and Families dinner on

Wednesday, October 14
at 5:30 PM

Come enjoy dinner with the
children and their families!



ST MARK
YOUTH



IRON CHEF

CHALLENGE

x x x x

x x x x

Taste and See the Lord is Good



10.18.26

Competition begins at Noon
Everyone is Welcome for Tasting and Judging at 3:00

Family Life Center

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY 2026



On **All Saints' Sunday, November 1**, St. Mark will remember and give thanks for church members, for family and close friends of members, who entered into the Church Triumphant within the past 12 months. During the worship service, as each name is called, a rose will be placed into an empty vase, and their picture will be shown. In the past, we've used red roses during the remembrance. This year we will be using white roses. While red roses symbolize the love, respect, and enduring affection of those we remember, white roses symbolize peace and the hope of eternal life promised to God's people.

If you have lost a relative or a friend over the past year and would like to remember that person on All Saints' Sunday, please take time to fill out the form at the end of each pew in the sanctuary and place it in the offering plate or leave it in the church office. Forms can also be picked up during the week from the church office, and pictures can be left at the church or sent to Julie McCarty at jmccarty@gvtc.com. **Please submit your form and picture no later than October 23.**

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

SAVE THE DATE!



EARLY LEARNING CENTER
of St. Mark Presbyterian Church

FALL FEST

Saturday, October 24th

ENJOY THE FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES

**208 W BANDERA RD
BOERNE, TX
9:00AM - 12 NOON**

**Food-Games-Bounce House-Raffle
Petting Zoo-Face Painting-Hay
Maze-Bake Sale & Candy Crawl**

Funds raised will support programs at the ELC of St. Mark
Where Learning Grows with Faith and Love

There are sign-up sheets beneath the ELC bulletin board in the hallway for those who would like to help out with the Bake Sale or Candy Crawl.

CELEBRATING & CONNECTING

With Joy, We Celebrate This Week's Birthdays



You're Invited: Outreach is sponsoring a table at the Annual PCHAS Luncheon.

*Hope Outshines
Hardship*

Dear Friends,

We kindly ask that you join us for our free 2026 Hope Outshines Hardship luncheon event, benefiting the children and families in our care. Together, we can nurture their strengths, resilience, and faith.



Presbyterian Children's
Homes and ServicesSM

October 27th

- 12:00 pm -

San Antonio Country Club

4100 N New Braunfels Ave
San Antonio, TX 78209

RSVP

*Please RSVP to this free event by
October 16th

Toni Hensley

toni.hensley@gmail.com

ST. MARK'S 3RD ANNUAL MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY



A huge thank you to all who supported St. Mark's "Make a Difference Day" this past Saturday morning. Sixty-seven volunteers gathered together to be of service to our community and beyond.

Although the recent rains limited the projects on Saturday, October 3, they didn't deter 48 St. Mark members and 19 "friends" of St. Mark from coming together to address international hunger and bring butterflies and blooms to local families rebuilding their lives.

Through these 67 hardworking volunteers, 56 men, women, and youth measured, weighed, sealed, and packed ingredients for 10,152 nutritious meals with Rise Against Hunger to be sent overseas, while 11 women, men, and youth transformed a weedy, rocky space at Transformation House into native plant gardens that will bring the beauty of God's creation to the residents.

From all the smiles and hard work, it was apparent that this is a group that takes joy in serving together in Jesus's name. We hope to see you all at next year's Make a Difference Day!

TOGETHER IN SERVICE



Staff in the Community

Last week, the St. Mark staff enjoyed an afternoon serving together at Hill Country Daily Bread Ministries. They sorted bags of donated clothing for their on-site clothing store. It was a wonderful way to lend a hand in our community while enjoying some time together outside the office.



SESSION UPDATE

Dear Congregation,

The Congregational Survey noted a need for more information from the Session on important issues being worked on or considered. The Pastor and Clerk of Session will provide periodic updates on recently completed actions and those in progress.

Summary of Recent Session Actions and Activities

Throughout the month of September, the Communications Committee presented videos of members and friends reflecting on our new St. Mark vision statement. The new **Vision Statement** that you've seen in the Sunday bulletins is an overarching principle for St. Mark:

"To be a church where every person is welcomed, every generation grows in faith, every gift is called into service, and our neighbors experience God's love and grace."

1. The Session focuses on the Strategic Plan and its goals for expansion of mission and facility improvements, yet is watching expenditures to manage the adopted \$62,000 deficit budget.
 - Funding was available for the planned repairs or upgrades:
 - \$92,500 for the audio-visual system (mixer board, cameras, mics, and TV screen)
 - \$5,000 to remove/replace two (2) raised tripping-hazard concrete sidewalk panels
 - Additional funding for unscheduled repairs, using our current cash reserves available due to budget surpluses in the last few years, will be used for repairs or replacements:
 - \$63,200 for repairs to the Sanctuary main stained-glass window (heavy rain in July caused exterior damage to the wood, interior panels, and the stained-glass panels that have slipped in their frames);
 - \$19,000 for two air conditioners (FLC and Choir Room); and
 - \$4,600 for the Kitchen ice machine.
 - Please review Treasurer Rob West's financial review in last week's The Happenings to see our most up-to-date financial reporting.

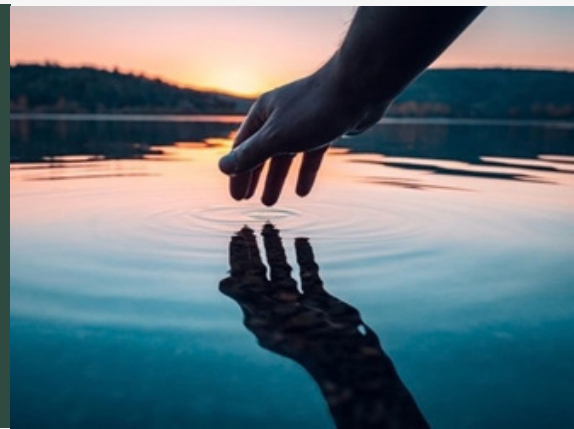
2. The Session is working on a project, "Tying it Together," to track how the:
 - Ten Goals of our Strategic Plan are tied to the Vision Statement, and
 - Ten Goals of our Strategic Plan are tied to the Church Survey (Next Steps – Opportunities)
 - Elders were asked to determine if the Goals are connected to each part of the Vision Statement and Church Survey
 - If yes, then how or why
 - Does anything stand out, or is something missing?
3. The Clerk of Session and two Deacons have conducted a review of church members who have not attended or contributed for the past two years.
 - Twenty-three letters were mailed to members in late August
 - Follow-up phone calls were made to learn if they are facing difficult times, need pastoral care, or have joined another church
 - Purpose is to offer our care and concern and to keep our membership rolls as up to date as possible.
4. The Finance Committee and Stewardship Sub-committee are working with the Session on the 2027 Budget.
 - The Elders were asked to share their program successes and dreams that would have an impact on ministries in support of the Vision and Mission for St. Mark and community
 - The newly formed Stewardship Sub-committee is focusing on a deeper, year-round understanding of responding to God's abundant gifts through our generosity. This has led to an emphasis on giving our all, especially our time and talent, to grow our faith and extend our service through the work of the church.
5. The Session approved the Baptism of Alice Leigh Patton, daughter of Sam and Shelby Patton in Colorado, and granddaughter of Neal and Cheryl Patton, on October 11, 2026. The Book of Order allows the parents to be active members of another Christian church. Since the Session approved the baptism the Clerk and Pastor will send a letter to notify the parents' home church. We as members of St. Mark, along with the grandparents, will be responsible to nurture and guide the granddaughter in Christian life.

If you have any questions or suggestions for the Session to provide additional types of information and feedback that would be helpful in keeping the congregation well informed, please contact Pastor Ann Marie or the Session Clerk, Dave Thomas.

Thank you and Blessings, Your 2026 Session Elders

REFLECTIONS: MORE ON STEWARDSHIP AND GRATITUDE

Offered by Larry Warren



While not diminishing our charge to devoting our time, talent, and treasure to further the Godly works of the church, I want to offer a broader perspective on a stewardship of gratitude and responsibility. Consider the refrain from Joni Mitchell's "Big Yellow Taxi":

Don't it always seem to go

That you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone?

All too often, we fail to appreciate our blessings, taking them for granted, until we lose them. In Mitchell's classic song, the refrain is followed by: "They paved paradise and put up a parking lot" – here, natural beauty is replaced by parking lots and development. How often is something sacrificed that is truly valuable and beautiful for something convenient and profitable? Progress absent wisdom often results in the destruction of something precious which cannot be replaced.

Even though Joni Mitchell wrote a secular song, it is not too difficult to detect themes that resonate with biblical teachings. As a Christian listening to "Big Yellow Taxi," I am reminded that God has entrusted us with many gifts – creation, relationships, opportunities, and time itself. We are cautioned about the cost of short-sighted decisions and not to ignore these gifts only to recognize their value after they are lost or damaged. In sum, for me, the song is in harmony with biblical wisdom and gratitude.

"The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it." - Genesis 2:15, ESV. (Note: I understand that in Hebrew, "keep it" implies guarding, preserving, and caring for it.)

"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it..." Psalm 24:1, ESV. (My interpretation: the earth is not ultimately ours to carelessly exploit.)

"Give thanks in all circumstances..." 1 Thessalonians. (My interpretation: Show gratitude in the present rather than realizing the value of something after it's gone.)



WE'RE HIRING!

**\$15.00
PER HOUR**

**AGES
16+**

NURSERY WORKER NEEDED



The St. Mark nursery staff is hiring for Sunday mornings and occasional weekdays and evenings. Paid training and flexible shifts.

NURSERY/CHILDCARE WORKERS:

- Enjoy caring for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and occasionally elementary-age children
- Lead Bible lessons and activities
- Ensure safe environment



Interested? Contact Marilyn Bonaguro, St. Mark Nursery Coordinator, by text at (210) 857-3157 or by email at nursery@stmarktx.org.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Sunday, October 11, 2026

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	• Explorers Class	• FLC #107/108
9:15 AM – 11:45 AM	• Nursery Care	• FLC #106
9:15 AM – 10:15 AM	• Elementary Sunday School • Youth Sunday School • Engaging God's Word	• FLC #104 • FLC #102 • FLC #105
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	• Breakfast Club	• FLC #101
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	• St. Mark Worship Service	• Sanctuary & Online Live
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	• Table Fellowship	• Infernos
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	• TGIF Meeting	• FLC #109
11:45 AM – 12:45 PM	• Congregational Life	• FLC #107/108
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM	• Gerald Alzheimer Basketball	• FLC

Monday, October 12, 2026

	• Church Office Closed	• All Campus
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	• Hill Country Newcomers Club	• FLC
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM	• Crestmont Christian Prep	• FLC
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM	• BACH Basketball	• FLC
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	• Finance Ministry	• FLC #107/108

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	• ELC Chapel	• Sanctuary
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	• Staff Meeting	• FLC #109
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	• Pickleball (Carol T.)	• FLC

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	• Pastor's Bible Study	• FLC #107/108
12:00 PM – 3:00 PM	• Compassion in Action	• FLC #107/108
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	• HR Monthly Meeting	• FLC #109
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	• Faithful Friends & Family Children's Activities	• FLC, FLC #104 & 105
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	• Faithful Friends and Family Dinner for All	• FLC
6:30 PM – 7:45 PM	• Choir Rehearsal	• Choir Room
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	• A Few Good Men (E-J Warren)	• Hospitality Center

Thursday, October 15, 2026

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	• W.O.W.	• FLC #107/108
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	• Pickleball	• FLC
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM	• BACH Basketball	• FLC
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	• Praise Band Practice	• Sanctuary

Friday, October 16, 2026

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM	• Valor Basketball	• FLC
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Saturday, October 17, 2026

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	• Valor Basketball	• FLC
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	• ELC Audit	• FLC #107
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	• Dinner Theater Play Practice	• FLC #107/108



Click to view
the calendar



Click to view
this week's
service.