

Announcement from Andy Guevara

As Chair of the Lay Personnel Committee, I'm happy to announce that we will have a new Office Administrator beginning Monday, September 17th. Please welcome Michelle Herman as she joins our office staff! We will also be saying Good Bye and THANKS!! to Laura McHugh our temporary administrator who has been amazing-beyond-words in her short time with us. Laura will be here to train Michelle, with her last day being Friday, September 21. Thank you, Laura and Welcome, Michelle!

Beginning Chimes For Children

The Hallelujah Chimes has started, but we are still looking for kids in grades 2nd through 5th grade who want to learn how to play. We meet Thursday nights from 5:20 to 6 pm, right after Hallelujah choir, in the Social Hall. We hope that you join this wonderful and fun music learning experience. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact Christina Peer at christina.mugg@gmail.com or (858) 722-3618.

FALL REGISTRATION FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS BEGUN

As we begin the new fall semester in Sunday school, all parents who would like their children to attend Sunday school should fill out a new registration form located in the church office and pew pockets, and turn it into the teacher or the church office at their earliest convenience. The teachers will also have blank forms in the classrooms.

The information on these forms will be used to update contact numbers in case of an emergency and for curricular planning.

Thanks for taking time to update this very important information.

Renee Anderson, Education Chairperson



Monthly Finance Report

Pledge/Envelope Giving for August 2018

August	Year-to-Date
\$24,467.50	\$231,607.49

Required to Meet Budget

4 Sunday Month	Year-to-Date
\$29,230.76	\$248,461.46

Capital Improvement Update

After considerable analysis about the status of the Sanctuary roof, experts determined that the test areas showed the roof under the tiles is in reasonably good shape. Advance repairs are not necessary and we can now proceed with the needed termite tenting.

After an extended review of the tree removal and re-landscaping of the front of the Church, the Committee has received what it hopes to be the final design. We hope to soon share the design with the Congregation. Starting with the replacement of the Nursery School stairs, a lot of progress has been made on our improvements. Thanks to the generous contributions of the Congregation and the diligence of the Trustees.

By Jack Carpenter

Digital Art Show

St. Mark's UMC will hold their 15th annual Photography and Digital Art Show September 30 - October 28, 2018.

Everyone is welcome to enter up to three works; there are separate youth and adult divisions. Entries on the theme "Beauty Revealed" will be received Friday, September 28, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 29, 9:00 a.m. to Noon. To learn about cash awards, entry fees, and other details, obtain a show prospectus at:

www.stmarkssd.org/current-events/art-shows, or call the church office (858-273-1480) to have a prospectus mailed to you.

Artists, their friends, and the general public are welcome to attend the awards ceremony on Saturday, October 6, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary, 3502 Clairemont Drive, San Diego. Admission is free. A reception will follow in the Social Hall.

The show is open for free public viewing 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays during the show (October 6, 13, 20, and 27). To see the show outside these hours, call the church office (858-273-1480).

Help Needed For Monthly Pancake Breakfast

Many of you know Ralph Denton, Tim Higgins, and his son Max Higgins as the dynamic trio who coordinate and prepare our delicious monthly Sunday breakfasts. Now that Max is in college, we are looking for somebody to help Ralph and Tim out! This takes place on the second Sunday of each month and is really fun as you get to meet all of us folks who enjoy these breakfasts so much. No experience required! If you are interested, please email Pastor Lydia at lydia@stmarksumcsd.org

The next Tijuana Build and Alternative Christmas

You can get most of your Christmas shopping done November 11th at the Alternative Christmas with the Guatemala and Heifer projects, CCSA, and much more.

If you really want to be involved, we are planning another build in Tijuana ...as soon as possible...and we will be having a meeting TODAY AFTER CHURCH to discuss the next Tijuana build and ways to finance this work. If you want to be a builder or if you have some wonderful inspirations to share with the rest of us on how to raise funds ... be there!

CPR/First Aid Class

St. Mark's is holding a CPR/First Aid class on Saturday, September 29, from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm in the Social Hall.. The class will cost \$30.00 and space is limited to 6 people. Please contact the office to sign up at office@stmarksumcsd.org or 858-273-1480.

Never Miss a Sermon

Missed Sunday's sermon? You can watch Sunday morning sermons on video by visiting:

stmarksumcsd.org/sermons. They can also be found on the St. Mark's Facebook Page.

What's New in New Ministries By Rev. Lydia Sohn, Senior Minister in Transition

Craig and I just began the first week of our new study on the book, *Fresh Expressions*. I'm so happy to share that it had a wonderful turnout with even more joining us this week. We are all putting our brains together to think of what it means for us to be the church in the 21st century, that actually helps people in their day-to-day lives. The conversations and input is thoughtful and fascinating. As the book encourages us over and over again, the purpose of the study is not meant to give us solutions but to ponder questions with imagination, collective brainstorming and listening to the holy spirit. It's a wonderful group and process and I can see God with us so strongly.

Blessing of the Animals, October 7

Did you know that St. Francis was an Italian Catholic friar but was never ordained to the Catholic priesthood? So what were his contributions that we regard him today as one of the most revered religious figures in history?

As a kid, he was a wealthy playboy and heir inherent to his father's cloth trade. A soldier, prisoner, helper to the lepers, beggar, servant of Jesus Christ, this man's life ended at age 44.

Today millions of people around the world continue his ministry of benevolence and love. Francis proclaimed the gospel to the poor and the least in society. At one such incident he thought they were bored, and scolded, "I might as well be talking to the birds!" This became a symbolic sermon where loud, nasty birds represented laborers and poor people.

Long story short, Francis was made Patron Saint of the Animals by the Church of Rome two years after his death on October 3, 1226.

We commemorate St. Francis in early October by honoring the pets that enrich our lives. Please be with us for the fifth annual St. Mark's Blessing of the Animals on Sunday morning, October 7 at 9:30. All pets and people are welcome. Ruff!

In Our Prayers

- ♥ **Phil Currie**
- ♥ **Renee Pierce**
- ♥ **Lorraine Robinson**
- ♥ **Forrest Sedgwick**
- ♥ **Rose Marie Pierce**
- ♥ **Phyllis Drewett**
- ♥ **Sherry Forrest**
- ♥ **Vera Morrison**
- ♥ **Al Johannesen**

our military personnel:

- ♥ **Kris Brendal, Army**
- ♥ **Robert S. Chisholm, Navy**
- ♥ **Craig Clemans, Marines**
- ♥ **Paul Clemans, Air Force**
- ♥ **Blake Cross, Navy**
- ♥ **Samuel England, Navy**
- ♥ **Lenny Hezelett, Navy**
- ♥ **Amanda Hoadley, Navy**
- ♥ **Michael Hunter, Navy**
- ♥ **Brady Jackson, Army**
- ♥ **Jeremy Munson, Navy**
- ♥ **Milo Riegler, Marines**
- ♥ **Casper Stalnaker, Navy**
- ♥ **Nathan Streeter, Army**
- ♥ **Robert Tarango, Navy**

You are invited to participate in the St Mark's prayer chain via email. Prayer requests will be sent to you via an email account you provide; you will not be asked to do anything other than offer your private prayers for requests you receive. To participate, please email Donna Newby dnewby@san.rr.com.

Celebration of life for Velma Carpenter

A Celebration of Life service was held for Velma Carpenter on September 1, 2018 at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church in Parma, Ohio. Velma was a long-time friend of St Mark's, attending with her husband Jack of 63 years while visiting her San Diego family – Susan Mugg (James), Christina Peer (Gregory) and Brian Mugg. She was a musician by education and training and sang in St.Mark's choir during many of her visits. Velma was 84 yrs old with four children, 12 grandchildren (1 preceding her in passing) and 4 great grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by those who loved and knew her.

Pastor's Sunday School

In Pastor's Sunday School we study the lectionary texts which follow the church calendar. For Sunday, September 23:

- Proverbs 31:10-31
- Psalm 1
- James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
- Mark 9:30-37

It's an informal study, *always open to all*, at 8:30 AM in the New Room,.

Next Week @ A Glance

Sunday, September 23, 2018

8:30AM Pastor's Sunday School/NR
9:30AM Special Offering/Sanc
10:45AM Blood Pressure Screening/NR
11:00AM Worship Committee/Lib
12:00PM Tongan Fellowship/Sanc

Monday, September 24, 2018

1:00PM Book Study/NR
6:00PM Carrillon Bells/SH
6:45PM AA Meeting/RM 9

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

4:00PM Mindfulness Class/Rm 10
6:30PM Grief Share/NR
7:15PM AA Meeting/RM 9
7:30PM Trustees Meeting/ Lib

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

3:30PM UMW Executive Meeting/Lib
5:30PM Bible Study/NR
6:00PM Glory Ringers
6:00PM Kindergarten Info/Sanc

Thursday, September 27, 2018

4:00PM Cherub Choir/NR
5:20PM Hallelujah Chimes/ SH
7:00PM Boy Scouts/SH
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal/CR
7:15PM AA Meeting/RM 9
7:30PM Coffee & Contemplation

Friday, September 28, 2018

5:00PM Digital Art/Sanc
7:00PM Koniseti Misinale/SH

Saturday, September 29, 2018

8:30AM CPR/First Aid class/SH
9:00AM Digital Art/Sac

Sunday, September 30, 2018

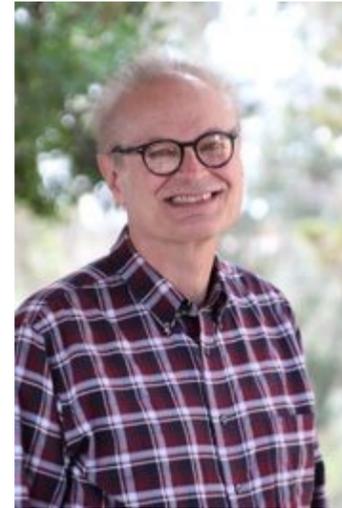
8:30AM Pastor's Sunday School/NR
9:30AM Service Sanc
12:00PM Tongan Fellowship/Sanc

CR=Choir Room Sanc=Sanctuary
Lib=Library SH=Social Hall
NR=New Room

St. Mark's Messenger

3502 CLAIREMONT DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92117

September 18, 2018



Rev. Craig Dorval
Senior Minister

Sunday, September 23
9:30 AM Service
Rev. Craig Dorval

Child Care, Rooms
1, 6, 8, & 10



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE
SUNDAY SPETEMBER 16:
221



858-273-1480

Keeping In Touch

Vol. 45: Issue 34

Dear Friends,

Fifty years ago, the very first day of classes for just-opened St. Mark's Nursery School was September 16, 1968. We celebrated this golden anniversary in church this past Sunday (also September 16), and what a fun time it was! Rev. Jeri led the children (and adults) in song, and we heard from longtime school director M'Lu Colburn, and from Tim Manion. Tim is the parent of a former nursery-school student, and years ago he himself was a student.

In attendance were many students, teachers, former students, former teachers, parents, grandparents, and church members involved in the creation or governance of St. Mark's School. It was a joyful church service, and a reminder for all of us of the lifelong positive influence of devoted, knowledgeable, and talented teachers—especially for young children.

St. Mark's Nursery School has waiting lists for most of its classes. I can't remember the last time we had to advertise to encourage enrollment. We are full, have been full, and it looks like we will continue to be full for the foreseeable future.

This is testimony to the quality and high reputation of the school. And that reputation is ongoing evidence of the extraordinary on-the-ground commitment to the highest ideals of early-childhood education. At a more-basic level, it is evidence of a perfect combination of child-centered enthusiasm and lots of hard work, every day.

It was visionary and risk-taking leadership that brought the school into being 50 years ago. As a result, thousands of lives have been shaped and changed for the better. And this work continues, under current director Anita Hill and a very devoted and talented team of teachers and assistants. I am so grateful for this excellent leadership, both past and present!

Also on Sunday, many of us enjoyed a Puerto-Rican-themed catered lunch after church to support hurricane relief there. Recovery, rebuilding, and storm-preparatory work continue in Puerto Rico under the auspices of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). We haven't had a chance to add up how much money was donated, but I saw quite a few envelopes being put into the collection bags. The three-course lunch was delicious, and was generously donated to us by Roger Shogan and Tricia Elliot and their incredible catering team. Big, big thanks to them, and to the San Diego Convention Center for use of their kitchen and logistical help.

This coming weekend is St. Mark's Fall Campout. The overnight spots are full, but you are invited to join the group during the day on Saturday. Information is in this week's *Messenger*.

In church this week during *Faith Forward* we'll hear from John Zawis of International Relief Teams. He'll tell us about the school that people from St. Mark's helped to build outside Tijuana, and he'll report on upcoming building projects.

St. Mark's *Blessing of the Animals* is less than three weeks away! Every year, this is a great opportunity to invite neighbors, friends, and family to bring their animal companions to a fun and meaningful church service. In past years we've had dogs, cats, cavies (guinea pigs), snakes, lizards, cockatoos, parrots, hamsters, mice, and other animals I don't remember. *Blessing of the Animals* happens at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 7 to celebrate the *Feast of St. Francis*. Representatives of the San Diego Humane Society and other animal organizations will be with us on the patio when the service and *Blessing* have concluded.

See you in church!

Craig

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