

April 23, 2010

Window Into St. Mark's



ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Heartfelt Mission

by Jennifer Hart, Memorial Hermann Hospital
(used with permission)

When an earthquake devastated Haiti, Camille Boon, M.D., and OB/GYN at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital, wasted no time answering the call for help. As soon as the earthquake hit, Boon began searching for ways to help Haiti, where she traveled on service trips when she attended Rice University as an undergraduate.

"I really wanted to go back, so I contacted a local group and got in touch with Airline Ambassadors," Boon said. "We flew to Miami and took a charter plane to Port-Au-Prince at the end of January."

Her husband, John Boon, M.D., a urologist at Methodist Hospital, joined her. The husband and wife team were assigned to Haiti's Sacred Heart Hospital.

"The hospital was structurally unsound, so there tents were set up outside," Boon said. "We did a lot of wound dressing changes and ran a little emergency room," she continued. "We performed a C-section, which was exciting for everyone because both mother and baby were healthy."

Heights Celebration



"Heights Celebration"

A woman-to-woman ministry of sharing, encouraging, discipling and mentoring in the faith, invites you to enjoy an inspirational message offered by Holly Garrett.

"In God's Presence, Intimacy through Prayer"
Saturday, May 22, 2010

9:30 am - 11:30 am

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Today's technology makes it easy to connect with friends and family via cell phones, Facebook, Twitter, email. Did you know that God is way ahead of our technology? He had the first wireless connection and it still exists today. His battery or power source never runs down. He provides every application we could ever need and His signal is always strong and available. HIS NETWORK IS CALLED PRAYER! Because of Christ and our faith in Him, we can now come fearlessly into God's presence, assured of his glad welcome!

Holly lives with her husband, Gary, daughter, and two grandchildren in Sugar Land, Tx. Her desire and passion are to share God's grace, hope and love to all who need to know He cares. She has been active in women's ministry as a speaker for 15 years.

After bonding with many Haitian people and medical personnel, Boon and her husband hope to return to Haiti on another medical mission within the year.



Camille Boon, M.D., and her husband, John Boon, M.D., take a break while working at Sacred Heart Hospital in Haiti.

All Church Sunday School

May 2, 9:40 Fellowship Hall

"A Heartfelt Mission - Haiti after the Earthquake"

New members, Drs. Camille & John Boon will share their mission experience in Haiti. After the disaster they answered the call for help. You will not want to miss the Sunday learning about their hands on work taking care of the sick in Haiti.

Follow Us on Twitter



Follow St Mark's on Twitter



St Mark's news, calendar items and many other important 140-character pieces of information are now on Twitter. You can find

out or get reminders about meetings, Wednesday Night Live, church events, music, all kinds of things happening at your church.

You can see our tweets by going to this web page: http://twitter.com/SMUMC_Houston. This works even if you don't have a Twitter account. However, you won't be able to get St. Mark's tweets delivered automatically to your mobile phone, laptop or desktop PC Twitter client unless you sign up with Twitter.

Signing up is easy and free - all you need is your e-mail address. Just go to <http://twitter.com/> and follow the directions to "let me in." You'll need to choose a Twitter name for your account. Ours is SMUMC_Houston, but yours can be anything that isn't already taken by someone else - a name, nickname, or something completely different.



From the Pastor

Christ is risen! Still.
Sing Alleluia! Always.

The extended weeks of Easter, also known as Eastertide, challenge us to keep our hearts and minds focused on resurrection. God is always working for good in the world; God is ever offering us new life to be shared for the good of the world.

Every Wednesday morning the children and teachers of St. Mark's Children's Development Center (CDC) meet in the sanctuary for chapel. We sing songs, look at light coming through the rose window reflecting on the wall and talk about God making everything new every morning. We love the caterpillar song, especially the last part when it turns into something new.

All through Lent, every Wednesday Morning, Iyesha would lead us in our butterfly song, but we didn't finish it. We couldn't. It wasn't Easter yet. So we would stick up a finger, singing "I saw a caterpillar climb up a tree, it wriggled wide, it wriggled small, it wriggled right at me. I put it in a box and don't you move I said....." And we'd slam our open hands down on our fists as though we were slamming the box shut, then raise our arms high in the air as we stopped singing. We knew we wouldn't finish the song until it was Easter, so we left the caterpillar in the imagined box until Lent became Easter. We were waiting for the caterpillar to become something new, something beautiful. When it was Easter, we sang the whole song: "...but when I opened up the box, it was a butterfly

instead. (Making our 2 hands into a fluttering butterfly) "I never could have done it, even if I tried, for only God in heaven can make a butterfly!" And our butterfly fingers would flutter away.

Something like this happens when we give ourselves- all that we are and all that we have - to God. When we commit ourselves to bringing into the world the good news of the risen Christ and the new life available to us, we find ourselves living and thinking and speaking in new, life-giving ways. We love more like God loves. We live this love by caring and serving in ways we may have never imagined. Whether our giving is through the HIM Food Pantry, or offerings that bring hope to the people of Haiti, we are offering new life in Jesus' name. Mission trips are being planned by Penny and our missions ministry team and they promise nothing less than transformation through the process of giving ourselves in loving service for others.

We waited and prayed through many weeks, preparing for Easter. Now we proclaim the risen Christ by the words we sing, the love we share, and the new life we proclaim.

Christ is risen, still!

Alleluia, always!

Marilyn

Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 25—CDC Day

8:30 am Worship Service
9:40 am Sunday School
10:50 am Worship Service
12:00 pm Community Garden Fundraiser Lunch
5:00 pm Companions in Christ
5:00 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Tuesday, April 27

9:30 am Weaving Class
10:00 am Senior Games
2:00 pm Staff Meeting
6:15 pm VBS Leaders Training
6:30 pm Missions Team

Wednesday, April 28

10:15 am CDC Chapel
11:30 am Wacky Wednesday Hogg Mentoring
5:30 pm Wednesday Night Live Supper
6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 am Communications Team
7:00 pm Yoga Class
7:00 pm AA Meeting
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 2

8:30 am Worship Service
9:40 am Sunday School
10:50 am Worship Service
12:00 pm United Methodist Women Meeting
4:00 pm Youth Council
4:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting
5:00 pm Companions in Christ
5:00 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Monday, May 3—Newsletter Deadline

Tuesday, May 4

9:30 am Weaving Class
2:00 pm Staff Meeting

Wednesday, May 5

10:15 am CDC Chapel
5:30 pm Wednesday Night Live Supper
6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 pm Trustees
7:00 pm Yoga Class
7:00 pm AA Meeting
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday and Saturday, May 7 & 8

Jellystone Park Camping

Sunday, May 9—Mother's Day

8:30 am Worship Service
9:40 am Sunday School
10:50 am Worship Service
4:00 pm Hospitality Team
5:00 pm Companions in Christ

Tuesday, May 11

9:30 am Weaving Class
10:30 am XYZ Club
2:00 pm Staff Meeting
6:15 pm Children's Council
6:30 pm SPR Team

Wednesday, May 12

10:15 am CDC Chapel
11:30 am Wacky Wednesday Hogg Mentoring
5:30 pm Wednesday Night Live Supper
6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:15 pm Wednesday Night Players Perform
6:30 am Finance Team
7:00 pm Yoga Class
7:00 pm AA Meeting
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 16

8:30 am Worship Service
9:40 am Sunday School
10:50 am Worship Service
12:00 pm United Singles Potluck Luncheon
5:00 pm Companions in Christ
5:00 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Tuesday, May 18

9:30 am Weaving Class
2:00 pm Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Care Team
6:30 pm Worship Team
7:30 pm CDC Board Meeting

Recent Memorials

In memory of Bob Gaustad

Given by:

Phyllis Waters
Mary Iden
Triple M Class

In memory of Dan Smith

Given by:

Julianne Reagan
Frank Caraway
William Machemehl
Harriet & Truett Latimer

In memory of Kathryn Weeks

Given by:

Richard & Dianne Fielden
Leonard Mahaffey
Virginia Thompson
Mary & Albert Schoellkopf
Mary Sweet
Bonnie Robinson & Family
Kate & Chad Crozier
Pat McCarty
Glenda Smith
Mr & Mrs Roy Dew
Bob & Margery Papenguth
The New Pilgrims Class

St. Mark's Calendar
Online at smumc.org

Upper Room Daily Devotional Online at
upperroom.org



Church News

VBS Leaders training meeting at 6:15 on Tuesday April 27th. All volunteers for VBS please attend meeting. We will also have safe Sanctuary training the same night at 6:00. If you are volunteering for VBS and have not gone through safe sanctuary in the past year you will need to go through the qualifications again this year. For Questions please contact Patricia Dupuy at pfdupuy@gmail.com or Leslie Ball at lballrdh@gmail.com.



VBS—Save the Date!
Mark your calendar for a Galactic Blast-Off! Vacation Bible School

will be June 1-4 from 6-8 pm. A family dinner will be from 5:30 to 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall each evening. Please contact Patricia Dupuy at pfdupuy@gmail.com or Leslie Ball at lballrdh@gmail.com for volunteer opportunities.

Wednesday Night Live: All are invited to Wednesday supper which will be served in the fellowship hall from 5:30 - 7:30pm:
4/28 - Host: Staff Parish Relations
5/5 - Host: Trustees
5/12 - Host: Worship Team

United Singles “US” Events: This new groups for singles of St. Mark’s is pleased to announce these upcoming events:

Sunday, May 16—Potluck Luncheon in the fellowship hall immediately following 10:50 am service. Come meet and greet other St. Mark’s singles. Bring your favorite dish and ideas for future activities.

Friday, May 28 — Miller Outdoor Theater at Hermann Park — Motown Revue. Start the Memorial Day weekend grooving’ to the sounds of Motown under the stars. Meet at church and take metro to the park. Questions? Contact: Melinda Boon 469-766-6281 or Dee Scott 713-835-4834.

Senior Moments

(for anyone over 50 to enjoy)


XYZ Club: Tuesday, May 11 at the Barbecue Inn located at Yale and Crosstimbers. Lunch is at 11:00.

XYZ Game Day: Senior games are Tuesday, April 27—10:00am.

St. Mark’s Children Perform Shakespeare: The Wednesday Night Players, a drama group of first, second, third, and fourth graders, began their spring rehearsals on March 24th. Under the direction of Carole Fairfield, the Players meet on stage in the Fellowship Hall at 6:15 each Wednesday evening. They are enthusiastically rehearsing scenes from Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," with plans to present their performance on Wednesday, May 12th. Working together to learn amazing language and to perform scenes from one of the Bard's most famous comedies, is a wonderful way for young people to grow, learn, and make new friends.

Pajama Movie/Game Night!
Friday, May 28 is our regularly scheduled game night. We would like to add a twist for the kids and include a movie. More details to follow. Bring your favorite game or use one of the games we have in fellowship hall.

Camping at Jellystone Park! May 7 - 9th -Camping at Jellystone Park (tell them you are with Jacque & Danny Corman Group) Come for a the day or weekend, it is Mothers Day weekend, so no moms will cook. :) Make your own reservations, Jacque will have more info coming.
<http://www.campjellystone.com/camp-resorts-detail.php?campgroundID=76>

 **Join Yahoo E-Mail group:**
To add your e-mail address go to:
groups.yahoo.com/group/stmarksumchouston/

Attendance Record:

Attendance for Sunday, April 11

Sunday School Total.....	94
8:30 Worship.....	25
10:50 Worship.....	101
Total Worship.....	127

Attendance for Sunday, April 18

Sunday School Total.....	96
8:30 Worship.....	40
10:50 Worship.....	122
Total Worship.....	162

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groups.yahoo.com/group/stmarksumchouston/

Prayer Needs

- Our president, leaders, and servicemen and women**
Stacy Alexander (friend of Glenda Owen) breast cancer
Dawn Avery health and encouragement
Gayle Birdwell (Natalie Birdwell’s mother) heart
Avery Brown (Leslie Ball’s niece) deploying to Iraq
Leta Bush recovering from broken hip and surgery
Addison Cameron (Pat Hammond’s friend’s granddaughter) baby born with severe heart defect, surgeries
Frank Caraway health and encouragement
Lydia Chavarrria home hospice care
Ruby Chumchall health and encouragement
Cooper Cody (Julie Cody’s 6 year old son) testing for possible lung tumor after recovering from bone cancer
Carol Curlee (Charlotte Campbell’s sister) heart
Ruth Easterly (Mark Easterly’s grandmother) health
Carolyn Fulbright (Pam Scheyer’s mother) breast cancer and heart problems
Dorothea Furstenfeld health and encouragement
Bobbie Harville (Faye and Thelma’s sister) lung cancer
Eddie & Vivian Hubbell health and encouragement
Rick Kiley back problems
Jessica Lacy (Mary Lacy’s daughter) horse-riding accident
Evelyn Lewis health and encouragement
Raymond & Martha McCallister (Heather Easterly’s parents) health and encouragement
Elva McDermia health and encouragement
Irma McGee health and encouragement
Wendy Melchor (Kelly Melchor’s sister-in-law) cancer
Dr. Lacoste Munn (Carol Munn’s father) blocked artery
David Schmidt (Glenna Schmidt’s son) stroke
Estella Schmidt health and encouragement
Peter Sefeldt (Carol Munn’s nephew) recovering from brain injury suffered in Iraq
Ruth Shuman lung cancer
Art Stevens (Scott Steven’s father) cancer
Thelma Vincent healing
David & Dixie Waters (friends of Glenda Owen) health and encouragement
Mary Weatherly health and encouragement

April Birthdays

- 4/1 John Burks
- 4/1 John Thomas, Jr.
- 4/3 Mary Morris
- 4/5 Cailleigh Buchanan
- 4/6 David Hunter
- 4/7 Rose Gonzales
- 4/1 Aurel Ferguson
- 4/12 Stephen Kane
- 4/12 Maryellen Quarles
- 4/14 Mary Nalley
- 4/14 Kitty Newton
- 4/15 Jacque Corman
- 4/16 Chuck Davis
- 4/17 Jeff Copeland
- 4/18 Ernest Boon
- 4/18 Juli Gossett
- 4/18 James Newman
- 4/20 Mike Palladino
- 4/20 Adam Taylor
- 4/21 Alycia Clark
- 4/21 Debbie Markey
- 4/23 Becka Cannon
- 4/24 Aidan Mollhagen
- 4/26 Charlie Burks
- 4/28 June Davis
- 4/28 Laura Neal
- 4/30 Jamie Hubbell

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

Anniversaries:

- April 03 — John & Camille Boon
- April 03 — Scott & Amy Stevens
- April 10 — Steve & Tana Tamez
- April 13 — Joe & Mary Gonzales (62nd)
- April 14 — Mark & Kay Rowe
- April 20 — Al Baker & Monica McHenry
- April 20 — Tod & Kim Harrison
- April 21 — Raymond & Margaret Blackstone
- April 24 — Eddie & Vivian Hubbell (64th)
- April 24 — Dave & Barbara Humphreys
- April 24 — Ben & Jennifer McClure
- April 25 — Dan & Kyna Batterson
- April 28 — Ray & Naomi Radford
- April 30 — Clay & Shelley Naiser

**St. Mark's United
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Office Hours: Monday–Friday 8:00 am–4:00 pm

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Sunday Worship Times:

8:30 am — Worship Service

9:30 am — Sunday School

10:50 am — Traditional Worship Service



Trusty Trustees Stuff *by Vance Neathery*

It must be spring time. My allergies are testifying to that and the Great and Mighty Chair of the Bored of Trustees, aka Melissa Taylor, has decreed that we are going to Spring Clean up the church. During the annual BoT tour of the facility last month we were confronted with a plethora of 'donations' and 'important' stuff that needed to be saved, aka junk that needs to go to the dump if Manna won't take it. We are targeting May first (01May10) for The Big Clean. Each Sunday school class is hereby empowered to come join in the fun and get rid of anything in your classroom that needs to go. If you are in a room shared with other groups, please be polite and check with them before you toss out their prized collection of used plastic bags, or their coffee pot. Manna will be there to take anything they think they can sell. Everything else is going to the dump. We can use all the help we can get. The trusty Trustees will be manning the various areas of the dumping grounds and we will show you what needs to be hauled out.

For your future reference, if you wish to donate any article to the church in general, the Board of Trustees is the ministry team that accepts or rejects such things. In the past this part of the Discipline has been rather loosely followed here at SMUMC. We have over a dozen framed pictures of Jesus gathering dust in the attic. We also have broken furniture and other fine things that people dropped off in a random room and called a 'donation'. In the future the BoT would like to tighten up the adherence to the rule and approve the donation of stuff. We will continue to let the finance ministry team manage the donations of money. They do such a fine job of that.

Yours in a cleaning up fog,

Vance

Men's Bible Study *by Vance Neathery*

FYI from the Men's Bible study class,

We recently embarked on a one year study reading the Bible cover to cover. We are using a book titled 'The Daily Bible' that Quincy found for us. The readings take you through the Bible chronologically so on any given day you may read stuff from more than one book of the Bible. It makes things easier to follow for those of us who are historically challenged.

We have unanimously found that the daily reading is relatively easy to keep up with. It helps that the text is written well and in plain language with minimal 'thee's, thou's and be-gat's'. In our class we don't have a designated teacher, we use a more open outcry format. So we were a little concerned with the fact that there is no commentary within the lessons. But with the huge theological diversity in the group we have not had any problem generating spirited discussion. We are presently at the spot where David is handing the reigns over to Solomon. Man, David sure did a lot more than kill Goliath and steal Bathsheba. When he came after a town he killed everything in sight and burned it to the ground. He gave a serious meaning to the term scorched earth policy.

So if your class or group has been looking for a study like this we can recommend the book we are using. You could also do it on an individual basis, but I find that the group discussion sure helps me round out and understand some of the verses.

Yours in an FYI fog,

Vance