

May 7, 2010

Window Into St. Mark's



ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# Window Into St. Mark's

## Vacation Bible School — Register Online

St Mark's UMC is now accepting registration for 2010 Vacation Bible School. The easiest way is to long on to [www.smumc.org/vbs](http://www.smumc.org/vbs) and click on the register area. An email will be sent to you to let you know that the registration was received.

VBS Galactic Blast is from June 1-4 with a family dinner beginning at 5:30 pm and the program beginning at 6:05 pm and ending approximately 8:15 pm to 8:30 pm. Pre-school children will be picked up in the children's building at their classroom and the older kids from Kindergarten on will be picked up in the sanctuary. Our mission this year will be the Heights Interfaith Ministries Food Pantry. Please have you child bring canned goods EVERY NIGHT! We are going to stack the cans in a rocket shape in



keeping with the Galactic Blast theme. At the end of VBS, volunteers from the food pantry will pack up and deliver the cans to the pantry. We could potentially have 500 cans if each child brings one can a night!

Remember to go to [www.smumc.org/vbs](http://www.smumc.org/vbs) to register online. If that is not possible, registration forms will be available in the Narthex on the bench beginning this Sunday. For any questions, please contact Patricia Dupuy at [pfdupuy@gmail.com](mailto:pfdupuy@gmail.com) or Leslie Ball at [LBallRDH@gmail.com](mailto:LBallRDH@gmail.com).

## Feed the People Luncheon a Success, by Sue

What a Perfect Day !

The 1st Annual *Feed the People* fundraising luncheon, held on the front lawn of the church, was a huge success. It was a glorious day with beautiful weather, wonderful food and fellowship. Herbs and produce harvested from the garden were included in many of the items that were served. We enjoyed touring and talking about the garden with all who stopped by for a closer look.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who gave generously to support this project and for all who attended the luncheon. We raised \$1,600 ! All proceeds will go towards the expansion of our St. Mark's Community Garden. Specifically the funds will pay for soil, plants, seeds and other supplies and materials. With your support, we can expand the mission of providing healthy and nutritious food to feed the people of our community.

Finally, a big thank you to Cindy Freeman whose expertise in and out of the kitchen kept the project on

target. To Vance Neathery who leads the harvesting team and building team and is always there to do what it takes. To Gail Newman, Nicole Wyman, Emily and Steve Phillips, Pat Higgins, Sid Traylor, Ben and Rose Brewer, Jane Buck, Alan Citti, Dee Scott, Sam Rodriguez, Rick Reeves, Charlsie Neathery, and Bea Thompson, for their time and talents in making the luncheon a success. A great team effort for a cause we all are honored to support. We look forward to a bountiful summer.





## From the Pastor

### The Rhythm of the Morning

Our morning begins with the sound of alarms and the smell of dripping coffee. The dogs go out, we hear the newspaper hit the steps and we scan the headlines before we settle on the puzzle page with its crossword, jumble and word search. After breakfast and showers, we're off to school and churches, prepared for the challenges of the new day.

Our minds are challenged awake, our bodies are fed, washed and dressed, and we're prepared for the day – almost. If you begin your day with a spiritual discipline, you know where I'm going with this.

With the earlier sunrise, and the breeze-softened mornings, I enjoy tending to the new Spring plantings: yellow squash, tomatoes, herbs, roses, perennials and annuals. With the high afternoon temperatures this week, I see the new plantings go dry and begin to wilt quickly in the hot sun. If I check them daily, sticking my finger a couple inches into the soil around them, I know when they need watering. If they have plenty of water and continue to wilt, I move them out of the hot sun into partial shade. They need attention every day: this daily nurture enables them to thrive. Without con-

stant care they quickly become straggly, nonbearing tomato and squash plants and puny, flowerless rose bushes.

And so do we, body, mind and spirit.

In the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter of John, in the setting of Passover and feeding the 5000, Jesus speaks of himself as the bread of life, as God present with them/us through Jesus, but this intimacy with God is too much for some and they turn away. In the final scene, Jesus asks the twelve: "Certainly, you do not also wish to go away, do you?" (6:67).

Peter responds: "To whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." (6:68).

What fuels us for the coming day? On whom/what do we depend? Newspaper? Puzzles? Coffee?

"And we have believed and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God." (6:69).

The One who nurtures us and sustains us. The rhythm of our days becomes the rhythm of our lives.

In Faith,  
Marilyn

## Upcoming Events

### Sunday, May 9—Mother's Day

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:40 am Sunday School  
10:50 am Worship Service

### 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  
6:30 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  
3:00 pm Club NBetween  
4:00 pm Hospitality Team  
4:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry  
5:00 pm Companions in Christ  
5:00 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship

### Monday, May 17—Newsletter Deadline

### 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

### Wednesday, May 19

10:15 am CDC Chapel  
2:00 pm CDC Graduation  
5:30 pm Wednesday Night Live Supper  
6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal  
6:30 pm Church Council  
7:00 pm Yoga Class  
7:00 pm AA Meeting  
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

### Friday, May 21

6:30 pm Parent's Mixer

### Saturday, May 22

9:30 am Height's Women's Celebration

### Sunday, May 23—Pentecost

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:40 am Sunday School  
10:50 am Worship Service  
3:00 pm Club NBetween  
4:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry  
5:00 pm Companions in Christ  
5:00 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship

### Tuesday, May 25

9:30 am Travis Elementary Grad Rehearsal  
9:30 am Weaving Class  
10:00 am XYZ Club Senior Games Day  
2:00 pm Staff Meeting  
6:30 pm Missions Team

### Wednesday, May 26

9:00 am Travis Elementary Graduation  
5:30 pm Wednesday Night Live Supper  
6:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal  
6:30 pm Wednesday Night Players perform scenes from Shakespeare  
6:30 am Communications Team  
7:00 pm Yoga Class  
7:00 pm AA Meeting  
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

### Friday, May 28

6:30 pm Pajama Party/Family Movie Games  
US Singles go to Motown Revue

### Sunday, May 30—Annual Conference Begins

8:30 am Worship Service  
9:40 am 5th Sunday Brunch  
9:40 am Sunday School  
10:50 am Worship Service  
3:00 pm Club NBetween  
5:00 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship



Do you have a child who thinks they are too old for the children's program, and are too young for the youth program? If yes, then bring them to Club N Between at St. Mark's.

Starts Sunday, May 16th, 2010

Time: Sunday Nights

3:00 p.m.—5:30 p.m.

Where: Wacky Shack

Ages: 4th—5th grade

Activities: Lessons geared for Tweens, fun games that teach team work, Snack Suppers, Summer mission trips, and Summer fun trips! For more information please contact Scarlett Lewis at St. Mark's UMC 713-861-3104 EXT. 13 or at Youth@smumc.org

St. Mark's Calendar  
Online at smumc.org

Upper Room Daily Devotional Online  
at upperroom.org

## Items Needed for the HIM Food Pantry

Spaghetti Sauce

Pasta

Jelly

Macaroni & Cheese

Canned Tuna or Chicken

Canned Green Beans

Diapers

Toilet Paper

Shampoo

Toiletries



# Church News

## St. Mark's Children Perform Shakespeare: **DATE CHANGED!!!**

The Wednesday Night Players, a drama group of first, second, third, and fourth graders under the direction of Carole Fairfield, will perform scenes from Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at **6:30 pm on Wednesday, May 26th** in the fellowship hall.

**WNL Wednesday Night Live:** All are invited to Wednesday supper which will be served in the fellowship hall from 5:30 - 7:30pm:

- 5/19 - Host: Youth Council
- 5/26 - Host: Trustees
- 6/2 - Host: Men's Sunday Class

## United Singles "US" 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.

**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 in fellowship hall. 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.

## Senior Moments

(for anyone over 50 to enjoy)

**XYZ Game Day:** Senior games are Tuesday, May 25 –10:00am.

**XYZ Club:** Tuesday, June 8 at 10:30 am. Diana Van Duzer is the hostess.



**Follow St Mark's on Twitter:** St Mark's news, calendar items and many other important updates are now on Twitter. You can find out or get reminders about meetings,

Wednesday Night Live, church events, music, birthdays, and happenings at your church. You can see our tweets by going to this web page:

[http://twitter.com/SMUMC\\_Houston](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 to join. 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.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry Dates:** The prayer shawl groups knits prayer shawls and blankets, and are giving a blessed blanket to Aaron Greenspan on Sunday for his baptism. The group will meet on Sundays at 4:00 pm in the parlor on May 16, 23 and June 6.

**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.

## Attendance Record:

<i>Attendance for Sunday, April 25</i>	
Sunday School Total.....	107
8:30 Worship.....	19
10:50 Worship.....	199
Total Worship.....	218
<i>Attendance for Sunday, May 2</i>	
Sunday School Total.....	101
8:30 Worship.....	26
10:50 Worship.....	107
Total Worship.....	133

## Join Yahoo E-Mail group:

To add your e-mail address go to: [groups.yahoo.com/group/stmarksumchouston/](http://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  
**Bobby Axelrod** (Camille Boon's uncle) brain tumor surgery  
**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 Chavarria** 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  
**Sophia Easterly** (Mark and Heather's baby) born six weeks premature  
**Steve Fairfield** colon cancer surgery May 4th  
**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  
**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

## May Birthdays

- 5/1 Tyler Fraser
- 5/1 Jan Terry
- 5/3 Landon Donnelly
- 5/3 Larry Green
- 5/3 Rick Kiley
- 5/4 Steve Fairfield
- 5/4 Matt Rodriguez
- 5/4 Donna Traylor
- 5/5 Carole Fairfield
- 5/5 Shelby Murchison
- 5/7 Robert Anglin
- 5/9 James Ketner
- 5/11 Jennifer Copeland
- 5/11 Megan Palladino
- 5/11 Marc Murchison
- 5/14 Jerry Campbell
- 5/14 Joe Gonzales (83rd)
- 5/15 Eddie Hubbell (89th)
- 5/15 William Machemehl (87th)
- 5/18 Connor Markey
- 5/18 Bonnie Thomas
- 5/20 Elva McDermia
- 5/21 Megan O'Neal
- 5/22 Leta Bush (95th)
- 5/23 Avery Perez
- 5/24 Ethan Anglin
- 5/24 David Reeves
- 5/25 Theresa Parrish
- 5/26 Jennifer Moffett
- 5/27 Harper Alt
- 5/27 Fred Huebner (89th)
- 5/27 Robin Webb
- 5/29 Gail Newman
- 5/29 Jessica Rowe
- 5/29 Jeff Sipes
- 5/30 Matthew Steele
- 5/30 Virginia Thompson (84th)

(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:

- May 8** — Rick & Becka Cannon
- May 16** — John & Seeley Casey
- May 16** — James & Jayna Ketner
- May 28** — David & Susan Patterson

**St. Mark's United  
Methodist Church  
600 Pecore  
Houston, Texas 77009**

Phone: 713-861-3104

Fax: 713-861-2948

Children's Dev. Ctr. 713-861-4443

[www.smumc.org](http://www.smumc.org)

Office Hours: Monday—Friday 8:00 am—4:00 pm

**Pastor**

Reverend Marilyn Meeker-Williams  
[pastor@smumc.org](mailto:pastor@smumc.org)

**Director of Music Ministries**  
Eric Esparza

**Organist**  
William C. West

**Administrative Assistant**  
K. Melody Olivares  
[office@smumc.org](mailto:office@smumc.org)

**Financial Secretary**  
Betty Green  
[financial@smumc.org](mailto:financial@smumc.org)

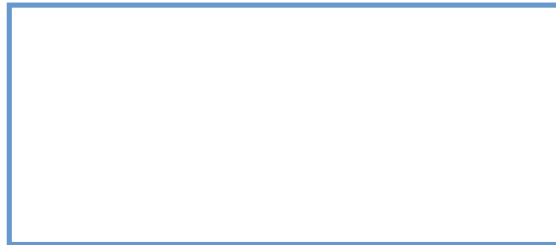
**Director of Children's and Youth Ministries**  
Scarlett Lewis  
[youth@smumc.org](mailto:youth@smumc.org)

**Director of Children's Development Center**  
Kelly Melchor  
[stmarkscdc@smumc.org](mailto:stmarkscdc@smumc.org)

**Child Care Supervisor**  
Dolores Cruz

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**Sunday Worship Times:**

8:30 am — Worship Service

9:30 am — Sunday School

10:50 am — Traditional Worship Service



## Helping Haiti *by Lisa Martinson*

*Thanks again to new members, Drs. Camille & John Boon for sharing a great presentation in Sunday School last week about their mission experience in Haiti, "A Heartfelt Mission - Haiti after the Earthquake." They shared how after the disaster they answered the call for help by providing medical services to those in desperate need. We all left wanting to serve, and here are some ways:*



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

**Learn more about UMCOR**

<http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/>

**Give to UMCOR Haiti Relief** (please indicate St. MarksUMC Pecore Houston in Church affiliation)

<http://secure.gbgm-umc.org/donations/umcor/donate.cfm?code=418325&id=3018760>

**Can you organize supplies for relief?**

<http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/getconnected/supplies/>

**Are you interested in going to on a short term mission to Haiti?** Below is some important info about going with the church (if you are interested please contact Penny Chappel - [penny-cda@academicplanet.com](mailto:penny-cda@academicplanet.com) or church office)

**Teams to Haiti— Haiti Recovery Update 4/29/2010**

If you are interested in being a volunteer in Haiti, then you must go to the official website and fill out the simple application. Go to [www.umrespond.org/haiti](http://www.umrespond.org/haiti) Without your name on this registry, you will not be considered as a potential volunteer on any of our Texas Conference Partners In Mission teams.

Partners in Mission Director Kathie Mann will be going to Haiti

on a leadership team from May 10-18. Once this team has returned she will be able to give details on what to expect and begin the process of creating a "leadership team" from our Conference. All individuals on this team will be required to lead a team from their church or district. UMCOR requires that only team leaders with current experience in Haiti can lead teams, so we are trying to create as many qualified Team Leaders as possible.

Your contact for Haiti will be the PIM office through Kathie Mann at 713-521-

9383 or [texaspim@methodists.net](mailto:texaspim@methodists.net). When she receives notice that you have applied at the official GBGM website for volunteers and then she will put the first team together as soon as she can. The offices in Haiti are now being organized and it will take time before regular teams will arrive. Early teams will be involved in de-construction. Living conditions will be primitive.

-Register online [www.umrespond.org/haiti](http://www.umrespond.org/haiti)

-Sign up for Team Leader training by calling the PIM office: 713-521-9383. Make sure your passport and shots are up to date

Yours In Christ,

Lisa Martinson  
[lisam@euclidstudio.com](mailto:lisam@euclidstudio.com)  
work: 713.686.5170