



# ST MARK

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



April 21<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter  
Scripture Reading: Acts 8:26 - 40

*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.*

## The Happenings

 **ST MARK**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**Sermon Series: Act 2 - Philip**

Pastor Dick Powell  
Sunday, April 21, 2024

**PASTOR ANN MARIE IS OUT THIS WEEK FOR VACATION AND WILL RETURN TO THE OFFICE ON TUESDAY, APRIL 23. IF THERE IS A PASTORAL EMERGENCY, PLEASE CALL 281-468-9831. WE ARE PLEASE TO WELCOME REV. DICK POWELL TO THE PULPIT THIS SUNDAY.**



Richard H. Powell, Jr. (Dick) and Lynne Brannon Powell have been married for 47 years. Dick is a graduate of The University of North Carolina-Wilmington with a BA in Philosophy. His first master's level degree work was at the School for Public Policy and International Affairs at NC State University. His second master's level work was at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. He is currently enrolled in the Doctor of Ministry program at Austin seminary. He entered seminary after a 25-year career in the public and private sector. His first call upon graduation from Austin seminary, was as pastor of Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, Helotes, Texas, and then was called to Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly as the president and chief executive officer. He retired February 1, 2021.

He has served the greater church as Chair of the Committee on Ministry, the Permanent Judicial Committee, and currently as a trustee of Mission Presbytery as well as various administrative commissions. He currently serves on the board and as the chair of the development committee of the Texas Impact Foundation and on the board of the Texas Presbyterian Foundation.

Lynne and Dick have two children, Richard, married to Mary Beth, living in Austin, TX and Lizzie, married to Will and living in London, England. They have two perfect grandsons living in Austin and one perfect granddaughter who will live in London.

**ST. MARK WELCOMES OUR NEW MEMBERS**



From left to right Jeremy Allen, Daniele Mazzon, son Liam Allen- Mazzon and Jacke Petty.

## REFLECTIONS: PLEASE MR. POSTMAN

*Please Mister Postman, look and see  
Is there a letter, a letter for me  
I've been standin' here waitin' Mister Postman  
So patiently, for just a card, or just a letter*



*Please Mister Postman  
Deliver de letter the sooner de better.*

The Marveletts, 1961

I'm not sure if the young girl singing ever received a letter from her boyfriend "so far away". However, I am confident that the majority of us have neither received or for that matter written a personal letter recently. While you may have written a short note in some of your Christmas cards (if you even sent Christmas cards), I venture to say it probably was an exception to your normal practice. Today, so many of us largely rely on texting and social media platforms to communicate. Prolific letter writers like President George H.W. Bush have gone the way of the dinosaur age.

In an earlier age, the Bible reveals another prolific letter writer: the Apostle Paul. Of the 27 books in the New Testament, 21 are epistles or letters and most are attributed to Paul. Can you imagine Paul sending a text in lieu of writing the Book of Romans to explain that God's righteousness and saving justice is available to all people through faith? Although Paul was a serious theologian, he often included the personal touch of greeting his recipients with the goodwill salutation of "grace and peace" plus his letters would often commend fellow evangelists such as Timothy Phebe to the churches. Paul's deep affection for the Philippians is expressed in v.8 when he wrote "For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus" (NRSV).

In this era of digital messaging, we lose much of the personal touch that a handwritten letter that we've sealed in an envelope can offer. Consider taking a few moments out of your hectic schedule and just breathe and write. While it may take a little bit longer than electronic messaging, you will find that you can really focus on your thoughts and words when you're writing it down. I predict you and your recipient will find it surprisingly rewarding and ever so much more meaningful than a text. At least for me, a personal letter received in the mail is much more exciting than a bill!

So, who should you write a letter to? Possible recipients could be your relatives, friends, your future self, or even God.

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Offered by Larry Warren



# SUMMER INTERN!

**Job Description:** <https://www.stmarktx.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Summer-Internship-Children-Youth-4-9-2024.pdf>

**Job Specifics:**

Job Start/End: Mid-May - First of September - can be flexible

Position Type: Part Time - 30 hours/week.

Rate of Pay: Contingent upon experience/education (\$15 - \$18/hr)

Background Check Required

Reports to: Director of Christian Education

Resumes submit to: [christianed@stmarktx.org](mailto:christianed@stmarktx.org)



CLASS OF 2024 GRADUATES  
DEADLINE APRIL 23



*Calling All  
Class of 2024  
graduates!*

IF YOU KNOW OF A GRADUATE, HAVE OR ARE  
GRADUATING IN 2024, PLEASE CONTACT  
ANGELA GROVER  
[CHRISTIANED@STMARKTX.ORG](mailto:CHRISTIANED@STMARKTX.ORG)

We will be honoring graduates on May 26 with  
a blessing and reception following worhsip.

# TRANSITIONAL WORSHIP

**ST MARK**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Children in Worship

We have some new options for elementary children!

**“Let the little children come to me...”**  
Mark 10:14

**Sunday Morning Options:**

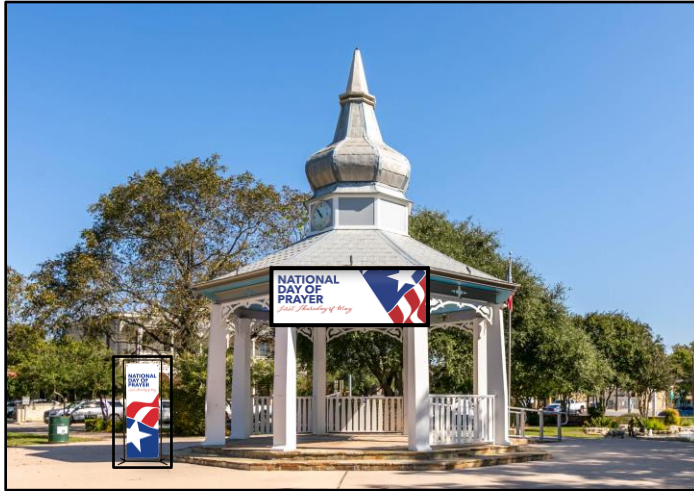
- Children remain in sanctuary for all of worship
- Children stay in sanctuary until Time With Young Disciples then go to **Transitional Worship\***
- Nursery-age children, 0 to Pre- Kinder, check-in to the Nursery anytime between 9:00 and 11:30, located in the Family Life Center

**Transitional Worship**

- Scripture Reading
- hands-on activities
- dancing
- singing
- offering
- praying

Contact: Angela Grover,  
Director of Christian Education  
ChristianEd@StMarkTX.org

**THE 2024 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IS ON THURSDAY, MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>.**



The theme for this year is “LIFT UP THE WORD - LIGHT UP THE WORLD”, a theme that is articulated in the Bible verse, “For you are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness. For by You I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him. 2 Samuel 22:29-31

To commemorate this day, Boerne is holding a prayer vigil at the Main Plaza gazebo on Main Steet, starting at noon on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and finishing at 1:00 PM. There will be special music by a children’s choir, a proclamation by the Mayor of Boerne and prayers offered by youth, local pastors, law enforcement and business leaders. Community leaders are urging all who can to participate in this worthy event.



## ST. MARK VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**ST MARK**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# ADVENTURES in GOD'S WORD

## VBS 2024

June 10-14  
9am-Noon

Registration Opens April 1  
for children ages 4 year (as of July 1, 24) thru students  
entering 5th grade and adults with special needs

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

Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." John 20:29

Vacation Bible School at St. Mark is a wonderful opportunity for Christian education, worship, outreach, and fun! We expect to serve 120+ children, adults with special needs and their families throughout the week. This will require lots of hands: hands folded in prayer, hands to donate items (sign-up will be out in May) and hands to physically volunteer for the week ([register here!](#)) If you have any questions how your hands can serve for this mission, please contact Angela Grover, [ChristianEd@StMarkTX.org](mailto:ChristianEd@StMarkTX.org) <https://vbspro.events/p/ea820d>

**BRAVER ANGELS OF CENTRAL TEXAS  
APRIL 20 FROM 1-4**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BOERNE

# DEPOLARIZING CONVERSATIONS

APRIL 20 FROM 1 TO 4 PM



FIRST UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH SANCTUARY

**REDUCING POLARIZATION IN  
CONVERSATIONS WORKSHOP**

Americans on opposite sides of the political spectrum don't only disagree on issues they increasingly dislike one another. This growing partisan animosity is the crisis of our time and threatens our nation.

This free Depolarizing Within workshop will teach participants to look within and develop strategies for engaging politics without demonizing, and how to constructively intervene in social conversations.

This workshop is provided by Braver Angels of Central Texas.  
To register, scan the QR code to the right



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
205 JAMES ST  
BOERNE TX 78006



**ELC NEWS:**



**LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE!**

**SUMMER @ ST. MARK**

**Why You'll Love it:**

- ✓ A structured routine.
- ✓ Wide range of activities that challenge the whole-child.
- ✓ Hands-on learning and unplugged from technology.
- ✓ Making memories!

**8:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.**

**Dates:**

**Week 1: June 17-21**  
**Week 2: June 24-28**  
**Week 3: July 8-12**  
**Week 4: July 15-19**

**Ages:**  
**3-entering Kindergarten**  
**Must be fully potty trained!**

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
			
Watermelon Investigation	All About Bubbles	Robotics	Summer Olympics

**Choose the week(s) that work for you!**  
**Balance due one month prior to camp week.**

**Weekly Cost \$220**  
**\$50 Deposit per week**

**For more information:**  
**Call: 830-249-3813**  
**Email: [elcstmark@gmail.com](mailto:elcstmark@gmail.com)**

**Spot will not be held until the deposit fee is paid in full!!**

The ELC is having its first ever summer camp program for children ages 3-entering kindergarten. Registration is open to ELC and St. Mark families. Please contact the ELC for additional information or questions. 830-249-3813



## PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERINGS

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

### **PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING**

St. Mark will celebrate the Pentecost Special Offering on April 28.

As one of the four Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. Our gifts to the Pentecost Offering connect with God's hope and future, supporting ministries with children, youth and young adults by building a life of faith.

#### Your Gifts at Work

40% of the Pentecost Offering remains with St. Mark to support youth in our church.

25% goes to Young Adult Volunteers (YAV) to train and equip volunteers in the USA and around the world with opportunities to serve.

25% supports various ministries of Presbyterian Youth. (ages 12-18)

10% is devoted to Children at-risk.

"I am coming to you"

John 14, 18b



FIRST FRIDAY REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 22

**First Friday**  
May 3 | 6-8pm

*"Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching"*  
- John 14:23

Bring the kids, ages 0-5th grade for dinner and a splash of fun in God's Word!  
Register in advance at [www.stmarktx.org](http://www.stmarktx.org)



<https://onrealm.org/StMarkPresbyter/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=MTYwNTYyNDYtOTE4Mi00ODUxLWJkNDMtYjE0ZDaxMDIhZGI5>



**ALL- CHURCH RETREAT 2024**  
**OCTOBER 11 - 13**

ALL- CHURCH  
**Retreat**  
2024

**October 11-13**  
**at Mo Ranch, Hunt, TX**

Early bird registration  
May 1-June 30, 2024

Rooms fill up fast! Don't miss  
this wonderful weekend with  
your church family in this  
beautiful space.

\$120-\$340/person



Register online [www.stmarktx.org](http://www.stmarktx.org)



**"Why Presbyterians Are Like That"**  
**Led by Rev. Dr. John Williams of Austin College**

## ST. MARK LEADERSHIP 2024

<b>ELDERS</b>	
Adult Christian Education	Dan Garber
Children and Youth Christian Education	Kathleen Ramey
Communication	Karen Ragsdale
Congregational Life	Christine Snyder, Gina Klein
Finance/Stewardship	Wally Doppenberg
Outreach	Lynn Bellow, Woody Paul
Personnel	Neal Patton
Property	Rick Eckersley
Strategic Planning	Dave Thomas
Worship	Andy Phillips, Rylynn Fenton
Clerk of Session	Julie McCarty
Treasurer	Bill Manzini
ELC Liaison	Wally Doppenberg
Deacon Liaison	Lynn Bellow
<b>DEACONS</b>	
Card and Flowers	Monica Phillips - Clerk
Driver Assistance	Wanda Pounders - Moderator
Meal Train and Prayer Chain Liaison	Sarah Hinman
Member Follow up	Christina Meeker
Member Care	Crystal McElhenney
Member Care and In-Home Communion	Ruben Trono
Pastoral Support	Pat Anderson
Receptions	Nona Annett, Paula Witt
Visitors Follow Up	Melanie Doppenberg
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	
Member	Gina Klein
Chair	Andy Phillips
Secretary	Dave Thomas



Weekly Calendar **April 21-27**

**Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**

Explorer's Class – Rick Eckersley	9:00 AM	FLC # 107/108
Nursery Care (birth to pre-kinder)	9:15 AM	FLC # 106
Children's Sunday School – Angela Grover	9:15 AM	FLC # 104
Youth High Sunday School – Theresa Gateley	9:15 AM	FLC # 103
Disciple Class – Dan Garber	9:15 AM	FLC # 109
Engaging God's Word – Rob West	9:15 AM	FLC # 101
St. Mark Worship Service in Person	10:30 AM	Sanctuary
<a href="https://www.youtube.com/@stmarkpresbyterianchurchbo7319/streams">https://www.youtube.com/@stmarkpresbyterianchurchbo7319/streams</a>		Online
Congregational Life Meeting – Christine Snyder	11:30 AM	FLC # 109
Property Committee Meeting – Rick Eckersley	11:30 AM	FLC # 107/108

**Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Jericho – Jenny Cashion	6:00 PM	FLC
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**Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Staff Meeting	12:00 PM	Parlor
Pickleball – Carol Trono	6:00 PM	FLC
Worship Team Rehearsal – Ron Thompson	6:30 PM	Sanctuary

**Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**

Bible Study – Rev. Ann Marie Swanson	10:30 AM	FLC # 107/108
Compassion in Action – Betty Parr	12:00 PM	FLC #107/108
Centering Prayer – Lynn Bellow	5:00 PM	ZOOM
Youth Meeting – Angela Grover	6:00 PM	Lake Trip
Midweek Men's Group – Robert Klein	6:30 PM	Parlor

**Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**

Women of the Word – Angela Grover	9:00 AM	FLC # 107/108
Pickleball – Paul Cashion	11:00 AM	FLC
Choir Rehearsal – Mary Beth Thomas	6:30 PM	Choir Room

**Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

**FLC – Family Life Center**