



spring 2012

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# devoted

seek. strengthen. send.



IMPACT! The term denotes a powerful and forceful collision. It is also the name used for the worship service put together and run by our High School youth group, SM2 [St. Mark Student Ministry]. I think that will be a fitting nomer. The first service will have taken place by the time you read this (but not as of this writing) and I expect it will have quite an IMPACT on those attending as well as those who are running the service.

That should be no surprise. When the Lord works through His people, everyone is IMPACTed. When He shows His love for us through Jesus, our future is IMPACTed. When we truly understand what it means to have all our sins forgiven because of Christ's sacrifice on the cross, our attitudes, actions and very lives are forever IMPACTed! When I see the amazing faith and leadership of our youth (high school and those in our school here), I am deeply IMPACTed.

The Lord has richly blessed me through the ministries I have served in. St. Mark is a great example of that. I get to worship with and visit some amazing people. I get to work with a fabulous staff, and I get to be fed by our youth every day – through our school and youth group. More than teaching others, here at St. Mark, I am taught by others. The Lord has allowed me to be in awe, wonder and pure joy to see those of His children who are much younger than I blossom and flourish in the Lord and then teach and lead others in the Faith of Jesus Christ.

I am deeply thankful that you are here at St. Mark – for whatever reason – and I pray that the Lord will use me in your life even as I'm sure He will use you to make a lasting and wonderful IMPACT upon me!

Sincerely and joyfully, an IMPACTed Senior Pastor,

Pastor Scott

## Staff

Scott Heitshusen 713 255 3611 Senior Pastor

Susan Converse 713 255 3634 Director of Operations

Timothy Duerr 713 255 3679 Associate Pastor

Bob Burgess 713 255 3612 Principal

Sheryl Seybold 713 255 3632 ECE Director

Julie Hardin 713 255 3631 Associate Director of Finance

John Marrs 713 255 3616 Director of Music Ministry

Wendy McManners 713 255 3625 Director of Family, Children & Service Ministry

Susan DePue 713 255 3610 Office Manager

Susan O'Connor 713 255 3618 School Office

**devoted**

SPRING 2012

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 3



# Lent and Easter SCHEDULE

*February 22*

**Ash Wednesday**

12 pm - Youth Music Performance

7 pm - Youth Music Performance

*February 29*

Lent Service - 7 pm

*March 7*

Lent Service - 7 pm

*March 14*

Lent Service - 7 pm

*March 21*

Lent Service - 7 pm

*March 28*

Lent Service - 7 pm

*April 1*

**Palm Sunday**

8:30 am - Traditional

11 am - Contemporary

*April 5*

**Maundy Thursday**

7 pm - Traditional

*April 6*

**Good Friday**

12 pm - Tenebrae

7 pm - Family Service

*April 7*

Easter Egg Hunt - 9:30 - 11 am

*April 8*

**Easter Sunday**

Youth Easter Brunch Fundraiser: 7 - 11 am

7 am - Sunrise Service

8:30 am - Traditional

11 am - Contemporary



**FRIDAY, MARCH 2**  
**6:30 - 11 pm**

The Pavillion on Gessner  
2500 North Gessner Road

Tickets:

\$30 per person

\$40 at the door

Reserved Table of 8 - \$240

Dress your Texas best -

**BOOTS**, jeans and plenty of *bling!*

Register online at [gostmark.org](http://gostmark.org).

**ST. MARK  
SUMMER  
CAMP**

Register at [gostmark.org](http://gostmark.org)

Ages 4 - 12  
10 weekly sessions  
TTH/MWF & M-F  
June 4 - August 10  
7 am - 6 pm

around the **WORLD** in 80 days

Our hands-on interactive camps assist children in discovering the wonders of 9 countries around the world. They will learn about traditions, animals, vegetation, insects, music, continents, and food.

Each week includes off-site field trips, pool/splash days, library time, computer lab, art and lots of fun! Pick one or attend all 10 weeks!

Over the holidays we began a project to improve the appearance of the main entrance to St. Mark Church and School. The old carpet was removed and a beautiful man-made porcelain floor was installed through the hallways. A center carpeted area was maintained in order to enhance the acoustics. The Assimilation Team will have a new reception area in the Narthex, two walls will be painted a lighter cream color and several seating arrangements will be added. We thank our very generous donor who made this face lift possible. We also thank our Facilities Focus Team who worked to conceive the design. Our next project will be the patio outside the bookstore, which will also be possible due to an anonymous donor. St. Mark is truly blessed!



## a classic family christmas



## adult studies - AS OF 2/12

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES AT 9:45 am

### *I Have Good News for You!*

New member class required for membership.

Willis Schramper - 713 895 0285

Location: Conference Room 155

### *Books of the Bible*

Charles McDaniel - 713 996 1115

Location: CAFÉ A

### *Women's Bible Study*

Cheryl Dinwoodie - 713 463 9550

Location: Conference Room 145

### *Men of the Bible*

Duane Heckman - 713 461 2748

Location: Library

### *Mirror, Mirror on the Wall*

Ginny Zuppann - 281 752 9869

Location: CAFÉ C

### *Growing Old Gracefully*

Pastor John Freed - 713 462 7597

Location: Room 224

### *College Group*

Jacquelyn Reuther - jacquelyn.n.reuther@uth.tmc.edu

Location: Room M-01

### *Serendipity: Books of the Bible*

Pete Peters - 713 468 1727

Location: Room 225

MIDWEEK CLASSES

### *Pastor's Bible Study*

Currently studying *The Disciple's Cross*, this group will begin *Lutheranism 101* on March 8.

Pastor Tim Duerr - tduerr@stmarkhouston.org

Thursdays at 6:30 pm; Conference Room 161

### *Fusion: For Young Adults*

A group of young adults who meet to study the Bible over dinner.

Currently this group is studying the book of Romans.

Pastor Duerr - tduerr@stmarkhouston.org

4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm; Blue Planet Café  
(at Westview and Wirt)

### *P.U.B. - (Personal Understanding of the Bible)*

This is a men's only study. Bring yourself and your appetite for an evening of food, faith and fellowship.

Pastor Tim Duerr - 713 255 3679

3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm; SRO Sports Bar

### *Men's Early Study*

This men's study explores the issues men face living their faith, using books by current Christian writers as basis for discussion.

Duane Heckman - 713 461 2748

Wednesdays at 6:30 am; Conference Room 155

### *Women's Daytime Study*

Join other women for a time of fellowship and Bible study. It's a great way to be refreshed in the midst of a busy life.

Katie Tonn - 713 461 4615

Tuesdays at 9:30 am; Conference Room 161

## social groups

### *St. Mark Conservatory of Music*

Private music lessons are available to all students of music— young and old, talented and inexperienced.

John Marrs - jmarrs@stmarkhouston.org

### *Prayer Chain*

Individuals are organized into evening or daytime teams for passing on prayer needs of those who request them.

Katie Tonn - ktonn@sbcglobal.net

### *Prayer Time at the Altar*

Join in prayer with others at the Altar.

Fridays at 6 am; Sanctuary

Fred Tonn - ktonn@sbcglobal.net

### *42 Club*

Open to anyone who enjoys a fun game of Dominoes.

2nd Friday of each month at 7 pm; Scout House

Gloria & Erwin Eschenberger - 713 465 8273

### *Phase III*

Women 50+ and widows meet for fellowship and support.

Meets once per month; rotate homes

Vivian Colton - grammycolton@aol.com

### *S.P.I.C.E.*

Seniors Participating In a Caring Environment - all senior citizens are invited to join! Bring your own sack lunch.

1st Thursday of each month at 10 am; Scout House

Glenda Lehmann - 832 370 7746

### **Healing Prayer**

Come for prayer, whether your need is physical, emotional, or spiritual, and a team of people will pray for you.

Sundays at 5 pm; Sanctuary  
Katie Tonn - [ktonn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ktonn@sbcglobal.net)

### **Quilting Club**

Join us as we make quilts to benefit different organizations.

Thursday mornings from 9 am - 1 pm; Room 221  
Margaret Schultz - 713 463 5379

### **Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML)**

This women's group meets monthly for prayer and Bible study, socializing, and planning future projects to support missions. Two opportunities are available:

- » *Circle of Concern* meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 9:30 am in Conference Room 161  
Carol Wyman - 713 668 0548
- » *Evening Circle* meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 pm in Conference Room 161  
Amy Kyle - [amy@kyle2003.com](mailto:amy@kyle2003.com)

### **Seekers**

Come join us for laughter and fellowship with other St. Mark single members over 40.

1st Saturday : games & dinner  
3rd Sunday : brunch after 11 am worship  
Pete Peters - [mpete37561@aol.com](mailto:mpete37561@aol.com)

### **Second Sunday Supper**

Join us for a meal and music with your family in Christ.  
2nd Sunday of each month at 6 pm; Cafeteria  
Anna Helmich - 713 464 6487

## **service groups/opportunities**

### **Altar Guild**

Barb Mannlein - 713 688 7734

### **Bereavement Meals**

Church Office - [info@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:info@stmarkhouston.org)

### **Children's Ministry**

Wendy McManners - [wmcmanners@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:wmcmanners@stmarkhouston.org)

### **Choir/Instrumentalists/Worship Teams**

John Marrs - [jmarrs@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:jmarrs@stmarkhouston.org)

### **Church Readiness Team**

Church Office - [info@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:info@stmarkhouston.org)

### **Counting Team**

Susan DePue - [sdepue@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:sdepue@stmarkhouston.org)

### **First Impressions Greeting Team**

Debra Pakkala - [dpakk@comcast.net](mailto:dpakk@comcast.net)

### **Food Pantry**

Katie Tonn - [ktonn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ktonn@sbcglobal.net)

### **Gift Shop**

Nancy Graham - 713 255 3616

### **Junior High Ministry**

David McManners - [dmcanners@goodsonauto.com](mailto:dmcanners@goodsonauto.com)

### **Lunch Bunch**

Cafeteria - [cafe@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:cafe@stmarkhouston.org)

### **Nursing Home Ministry**

Pastor Duerr - [tduerr@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:tduerr@stmarkhouston.org)

### **Office Help**

Church Office - [info@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:info@stmarkhouston.org)  
School Office - [soconnor@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:soconnor@stmarkhouston.org)

### **Peanut Butter Brigade**

Stephen Monsen - [texolina@hotmail.com](mailto:texolina@hotmail.com)

### **Second Family Care Team**

Rita Schaller - [ritaschaller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ritaschaller@sbcglobal.net)  
Gerry Woelfel - [gerry.woelfel@gmail.com](mailto:gerry.woelfel@gmail.com)

### **Senior High Ministry**

Cory Thorson - [cthorsen@earthlink.net](mailto:cthorsen@earthlink.net)

### **Stephen Ministry**

Sharon Lem - [lem@pdq.net](mailto:lem@pdq.net)

### **Tech Team**

Kim Radtke - [kradtke@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:kradtke@stmarkhouston.org)

### **Ushers**

Steve Wible - [s\\_wible@earthlink.net](mailto:s_wible@earthlink.net)

### **Whole Person Health**

Mary Marrs - [mjmarrs@yahoo.com](mailto:mjmarrs@yahoo.com)

## children's ministry

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES AT 9:45 am

### *FaithWeaver*

(3 YEARS - 6TH GRADE)

Every family member explores the same Bible lessons and discovers the same Bible truth in an age-appropriate class. Both adult and children's Bible lessons cover the same Bible story...so it's easy for families to talk about their faith!

3 years/PS : RM 116	2nd grade : RM 105
4-5 years/PK-K : RM 117	3rd/4th grade : RM 109
1st grade : RM 110	5th/6th grade : RM 222

### *Caraway Street*

(3 YEARS - 4TH GRADE)

Caraway Street is an event that connects children to Christ through puppets. Children are escorted from the sanctuary at a special time during the regular Sunday service.

2nd & 4th Sundays at 8:30 & 11 am (September - May)

Location: Conference Room 161

## student ministry

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES AT 9:45 am

### *Junior High Bible Study/Confirmation*

(SM<sup>2</sup> JUNIORS, 7 - 8 GRADE)

This year's Confirmation program combines 7 - 8 grade students to explore the awesomeness of God and the mysteries of faith, personally confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, identify themselves as members of St. Mark and a special part of the body of Christ. Confirmands are also encouraged to regularly participate in worship and prepare for Holy Communion, engage in Bible study and its application to life, strive to lead God-pleasing lives, and serve God by serving others.

David McManners with Pastor Scott and Pastor Duerr

Location: Music Room

### *High School Bible Study*

(SM<sup>2</sup> SENIORS, 9 - 12 GRADE)

High School students will grow in faith, their personal relationship with Christ and who they are as God's people in a place where they can use their gifts to the glory of God. It is also a place where they know they are accepted, can ask hard questions, and find answers about faith and life in order to serve in meaningful ways in the church and in the world! Come early to hang out and shoot pool before the lesson.

Cory Thorson with Kaeli Bauer and Ray & Laura Chavana

Location: SM<sup>2</sup> Room (M-91)

## EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

9:30 - 11 AM

Join us as we enjoy an easter egg hunt, crafts, a puppet show and more! Don't forget to bring your own basket!

For children ages 0 - 5th grade

Contact Wendy McManners,  
wcmanners@stmarkhouston.org,  
for more information.

## SM<sup>2</sup> REZ WEEK

We encourage all youth 6 - 12th grade to attend REZ WEEK! We will take time each day that week (April 1 - 8) to help us focus on the coming Resurrection. The schedule of events will be as follows:

- Sunday Pot Luck Dinner; 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- Monday Pray and Praise; 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- Tuesday *Passion of the Christ*; 6:30 - 9 pm
- Wednesday God's Wonders; 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- Thursday Maundy Thursday service; 7 pm
- Friday Good Friday service; 7 pm
- Saturday Service : Easter Egg Hunt; 8 am
- Sunday Service : Easter Brunch; 7 am - 11 am

While we encourage all youth to attend each event, we want to make sure parents of the younger youth make the best decision for them. We will be happy to discuss this further if you have any questions.



# CHO-YEH YOUTH RETREAT 2012

All high school youth and their friends are invited to Camp Cho-Yeh March 23 - 25. We will leave St. Mark at 4 pm on Friday and return Sunday around 6:30 pm. We will spend the weekend praising God, hearing a guest speaker and developing a deeper relationship with Christ.

Cost is \$60 and includes all meals.

## Parent's Night Out

February 11  
5 - 10 pm

Let us care for your child  
ages 1 and up while you  
and your special someone  
have a date night.

Registration is due by Monday, February 6.

**Just for two.  
Just for you.**

Download a registration form at [gostmark.org](http://gostmark.org)!

For more info, contact Wendy McManners at  
[wcmanners@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:wcmanners@stmarkhouston.org).



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

At SKY, kids ages Preschool - 5th grade discover that everything is possible with God! SKY is filled with incredible Bible learning experiences kids can see, hear, touch and even taste! Scency-fun gizmos, team-building games, cool Bible songs and tasty treats are just a few of the SKY activities that help faith flow into real life.

Contact Wendy McManners  
Director of Family, Children & Service Ministries  
[wcmanners@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:wcmanners@stmarkhouston.org)  
713 255 3625

June 18 - 22 from 9 am - noon  
Registration begins April 23  
Volunteer meeting on April 18 at 6 pm

# COMPASSION MINISTRY

## INTRODUCING



St. Mark Lutheran  
**SECOND FAMILY**  
care ministry

St. Mark's Compassion Ministry has jumped off to a great start in 2012. Our elders visit those who are home-bound with communion, our Pastors are visiting the sick and the Second Family Care Team has been working hard to organize care circles around St. Mark members who are most in need of assistance and companionship.

*What is a care circle?* A care circle is a group of 3 to 5 St. Mark members who commit to assisting a specific person. They keep in contact with that person, offering to help them with their groceries, send them a card once a month, call them up just to talk or maybe even making them a meal and coming by to share it with them. Most importantly, they are in touch with the member and with the other people in their care circle to hold each other accountable and be sure that this special member doesn't fall through the cracks.

If you have a special desire to serve in this ministry, contact Pastor Duerr at [tduerr@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:tduerr@stmarkhouston.org) to get more information. If you have a family member who you think could use a compassionate visit or some everyday assistance, then we would be happy to talk with you about your loved-one's needs.

## lutheran women's missionary league || amy kyle



**Pictured:** Amy Kyle, Carol Wyman, Elinor Fischer, Margaret Schultz, Peggy Ramer, Gloria Hammack, Sylvia Franke, Joyce Basham

A mother, a niece, a daughter, a neighbor, a sister, an employee, an aunt, a housewife, a wife, a caretaker, a widow, a teacher, a girlfriend, a Sunday School teacher, a grandmother, a friend, a great-grandmother...

Sound familiar? Many heard me speak in November about the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) and now it's time to act. Do you have the desire and love to help others, spread the Gospel and become an inspiration to others? Have you been looking for a group to belong to that can fulfill this? Did you make a New Year's resolution to become more active in church? Please join the LWML as we charge into 2012. A new group of officers is ready to help you meet others and become closer to God's work around the world. We have 2 opportunities within St. Mark, depending on your schedule (both are part of the LWML & work together). Both meet in Room 161 (across from the cafeteria):

**Morning Circle:** meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 9:30 am

**Circle of Concern:** meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 pm

Please feel free to contact Amy Kyle at 713 277 4697 or [amy@kyle2003.com](mailto:amy@kyle2003.com) if you have any questions.

### OFFICERS:

**President:** Amy Kyle; Carol Wyman (Morning Circle)

**Vice President:** Peggy Ramer & Gloria Hammack, Elinor Fischer (Morning Circle);

**Treasurer:** Sylvia Franke, Myrtle Emery (Morning Circle)

**Secretary:** Joyce Basham, Margaret Schultz (Morning Circle)

## Welcome to St. Mark Lutheran!

We want you to feel at home with us as we worship, praise and proclaim God's Eternal Love and Joy in Jesus Christ for each one of us! We offer several types of worship services in order for everyone to worship at a service that best fits their needs.

If you are interested in membership at St. Mark or would just like more information, stop by the visitors table in the narthex on Sunday mornings before or after services or you may contact the church office during the week at 713 468 2623.

## Worship Services

### SUNDAYS

8:30 am - Traditionally Focused

Using worship that is rooted in our rich heritage of grace, this service is for all who enjoy traditional elements of worship such as liturgy, Lutheran hymns, organ and classic instruments.

11 am - Contemporary Service

Offering a relaxed blend of majestic worship style and contemporary, this service includes praise singers, praise band and instrumentation to accompany praise songs and modern worship music.

### WEDNESDAYS

7 pm - This midweek service is designed as a worship/Bible study hour with singing.

## For Parents With Young Children

Children's church with the Caraway Street puppets meets during the 8:30 and 11 am worship services on the second and fourth Sundays of each month from September to May. This puppet ministry is an exciting and fresh Bible experience for children ages three through 4th grade. Books, crayons and pictures to color are available on the cart in the Narthex for your young children who are attending the worship service in the sanctuary. There is also a nursery for children under 3 years of age, which is located off the Gathering Area. An usher will be happy to assist you in locating the nursery.

## Worship Message on DVD/CD

DVDs & CDs of the worship message may be received by filling out the information on the "Tape Ministry" envelope located in the pew rack and dropping the envelope in the offering plate. DVDs/CDs are duplicated by our volunteers and mailed on Mondays.

## Hearing & Visual Assistance

For those with difficulty hearing, we offer a "hearing assistance" system. The individual systems can be obtained from the sound technician at the back of the sanctuary. We also offer large print bulletins for those that might need them.

## Prayer Needs

If you have a prayer request, please feel free to come up to the front of the church after the service, where the pastors, elders and prayer partners will gladly pray with you. You may also send your prayer request to [prayer@stmarkhouston.org](mailto:prayer@stmarkhouston.org) and your prayer will immediately be placed on the prayer chain.

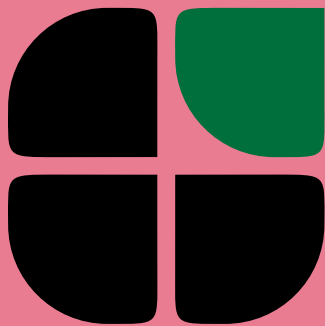
## About St. Mark

St. Mark Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that is dedicated to sharing our love for Jesus Christ by caring for people and equipping them to live out their faith in the world.

We believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior from sin. We believe that the Bible is the foundation of all truth and guide for our lives. Because of God's great love for us, we believe that we best show our love for Him by our response of caring and kindness to others.

Our mission statement is:

In response to God's call, we live to **SEEK, STRENGTHEN AND SEND** fully devoted disciples for Christ.



St. Mark  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH & SCHOOL

1515 Hillendahl

Houston, Texas 77055

[stmarkhouston.org](http://stmarkhouston.org)