



Pastor's Corner

My dear friends,

My pastor friend and I added a third piece to our parting blessing. Enjoy God, Prosper, and now we add, Flourish. In Ezekiel 17:24 the Lord promises that he will make the dry tree flourish. The Hebrew word means to break forth or bloom. When we enjoy a relationship with God we prosper, and we also flourish. Our spirits begin to break forth; we bloom into fruition. Our spiritual lives produce fruit that benefits others.

Flourishing in our relationship with God means that our lives become a source of life for others. Jesus taught that "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." When we make a home in God we become a home for others. When we partake of God's nourishment, we become nourishing for others.

We begin to receive nourishment from God when we learn to trust God more than other things that we have relied on. This is the purpose of the season of Lent. We fast from things that we rely on more than God and learn to trust God for our lives. Eventually we will flourish for the sake of others.

Every gardener knows that weeds (and pests!) are the enemy. Weeds divert the needed nourishment from the fruit you are trying to grow. Spiritual nourishment are things that help us to grow closer to God and to love others in the way God loves us. Consider what those things are for you. Weeds take you away from connecting with God and suck the energy away from spiritual flourishing. What might those things be for you?

Some weeds are obvious like worry, hatred, and addiction. These can consume you. But other weeds are not bad in themselves, but they divert your energy and give you nothing much in return. Politics can be a weed if your politics don't lead you to making the world a better place or if they make you abandon the teachings of Jesus. Also, there is a fine line between recreation and entertainment. Recreation helps you to enjoy the life God has given you. Entertainment sucks away your time, money, and energy. Recreation gives you a much-needed break from work and leaves you with energy for another week. It RE-creates you. Entertainment will wear you out and give you very little in return.

Consider making an inventory of the things that are helping you to flourish spiritually as well as a list of the weeds that are keeping you from growing into the fruitful person God intends you to be.

Enjoy God, prosper, and flourish!

Pastor Paul

APRIL WORSHIP SERVICES

April 6 – 5th Sunday in Lent

Celebration of The Lord's Supper

Sermon: Dying to Live: The Death of Your Past

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:4b-14

April 13 – Palm Sunday

Sermon: Dying to Live: The Death of Your Will

Scripture Readings: Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:39-54

April 17 – Maundy Thursday

5:30 p.m. – Soup Supper

6:30 p.m. – Worship Service and Celebration of The Lord's Supper

April 18 – Good Friday

Worship Service – "Stations of the Cross"

6:30 at Eastminster Presbyterian Church

April 20 – Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Sunday

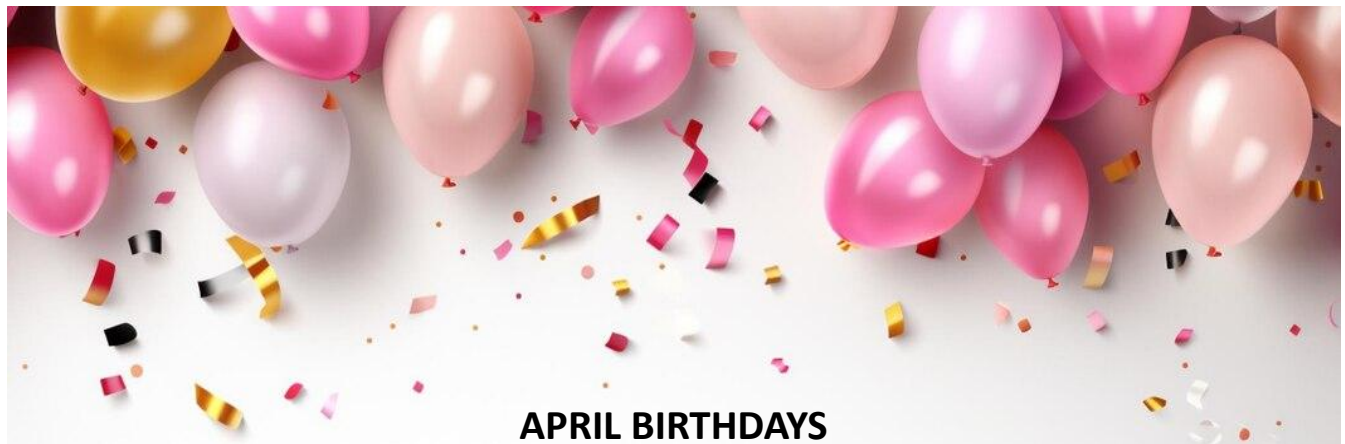
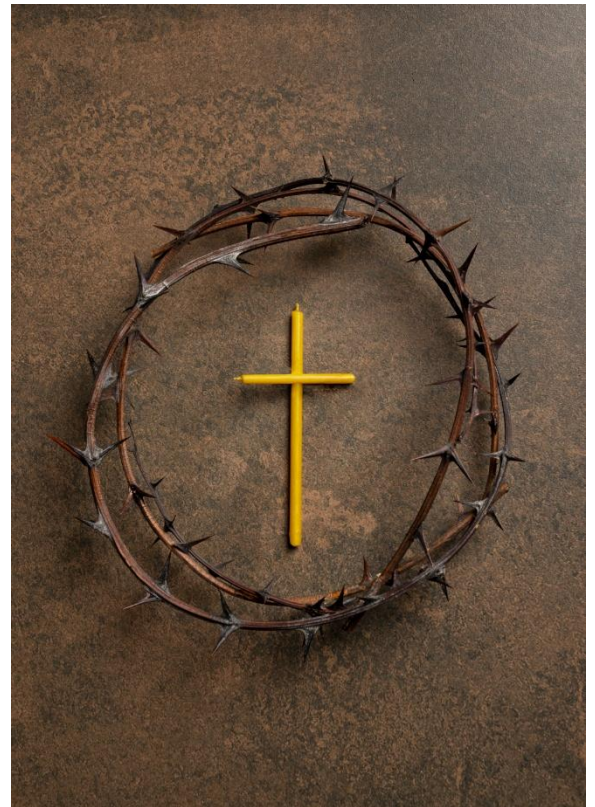
Sermon: Dying to Live: The Death of Your Death

Scripture Readings: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; Luke 24:1-12

April 27 – 2nd Sunday of Easter

Sermon: This Is a Day of Good News

Scripture Readings: 2 Kings 7:1-16; John 20:19-31



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 1

Ann O'Neal

April 3

Donna Simes

April 6

Souvenir Swift

April 10

Debra Golden

Nikki Villalon

April 12

Valerie Bassett

April 15

Alice McLean

April 20

Sandra Knapp

April 22

Patti Aulenbach

John Carver

April 30

Bill Grayson

TREASURER’S REPORT
OPERATING FUND
 8 Months - Through 2/28/2025



Operating Fund – YTD unrestricted contributions are \$11,300 below budget, but the same as last year. YTD expenses are \$1,400 below budget, and \$11,000 above last year. Bottom line, we are approximately \$11,800 cash negative YTD.

ANNUAL EASTER OFFERING
– ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING –

Spring is here, and Easter is coming on April 20th, so it’s time to turn our hearts toward our annual Easter Offering.

This year, St. Mark will be contributing half of our Easter Offering to the One Great Hour of Sharing which supports many of the works of the Presbyterian Church, a fourth to the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund, and a fourth to support Sandwich Sunday expenses.



Please prayerfully consider your donation to these wonderful causes and watch for more information coming in the mail soon.



To view all events scheduled on the church calendar, visit the church website (www.saintmarkchurch.org) or scan the QR Code at the left. Go to the “About” page and select “Calendar.”

- APRIL 5**
Spring Fling at Eastminster Presbyterian Church
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- APRIL 6**
Communion Sunday
- APRIL 11**
Neighborhood Block Party
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Journey Community Church
- APRIL 13**
Palm Sunday


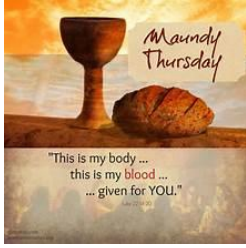


- APRIL 17**
Maundy Thursday
5:30 Soup Supper
6:30 Communion Worship Service
- APRIL 18**
Good Friday Worship Service
“Stations of the Cross”
6:30 at Eastminster Presbyterian Church
- APRIL 19**
Mini Workday – 9:00 a.m.
- APRIL 20**
9:45 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship Service
10:45 a.m. Easter Brunch



HOLY WEEK

Christians around the world will observe Holy Week beginning with Palm Sunday on April 13th (the 6th Sunday of Lent) and ending with Holy Saturday on April 19th. There will be four special services during Holy Week and Easter:

1. We will observe Palm Sunday on April 13th in our 9:45 a.m. worship service with palm branches and music by our sanctuary choir.
2. On Maundy Thursday, April 17th, at 5:30 p.m., St. Mark will host a Soup Supper in the Parlor, followed by a communion worship service in the sanctuary. This St. Mark/Eastminster Covenant event will also include invited guests from Journey Community Church and El Divino. Music will be provided by a combined St. Mark and Eastminster choir, the handbell choir, and Journey.
3. On Good Friday, April 18th, we will take part in a Covenant service at Eastminster Presbyterian Church at 6:30 p.m. This service, "The Stations of the Cross", will also include a combined St. Mark/Eastminster choir. Eastminster's address is 6550 Samuell Blvd., Dallas, Texas.
4. Easter Sunday, April 20th, begins a new church season called Eastertide, when we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. The somber purples and blacks of Lent will be replaced with white paraments along with colorful flowers that will decorate the chancel. Easter day will begin with the Easter Sunday worship service at 9:45 a.m., followed by brunch in the Parlor hosted by the Fellowship Committee. All are welcome! To make the journey of Holy Week the most meaningful experience, we hope you will consider, if possible, attending all the services leading up to and including Easter Sunday.

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, April 13 Palm Sunday</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:45 a.m. Worship</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, April 17 Maundy Thursday Celebration of the Lord's Supper</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5:30 p.m. Soup Supper In the Parlor</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:30 p.m. Worship at St. Mark</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Friday, April 18 Good Friday</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"The Stations of the Cross"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:30 p.m. Worship at Eastminster</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, April 20 Easter Sunday</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:45 a.m. Worship</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:45 a.m. Brunch in the Parlor</p> 
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Come join us for a

SPRING FLING

Saturday, April 5th

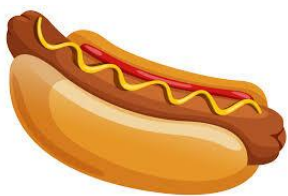
Eastminster Presbyterian Church

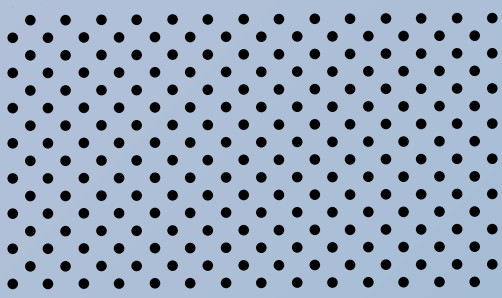
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Right after Saturday morning breakfast

Back parking lot

We will have hot dogs, nachos, popcorn, bounce house, games, a raffle and a prayer station.





Friday, April 11, 2025
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY

▶▶▶ JOURNEY COMMUNITY CHURCH
9999 FERGUSON ROAD, DALLAS, TX 75228

Featuring:

Traveling Petting Zoo

Outside Playground Area

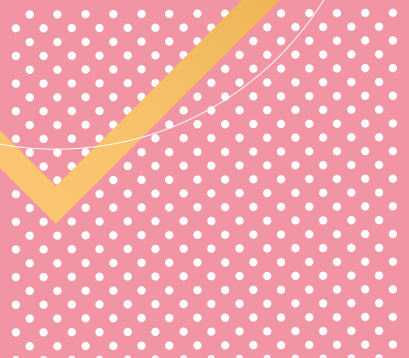
Kona Ice

Outside Movie

Loads of Fun!

ALL AGES
WELCOME

Parking Available in Front and Back Parking Lots





ST. ANDREW'S
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

SPRING CONCERTS



APRIL 30TH AT 6:00 P.M.
SIX STRING PAINTINGS

MAY 1ST AT 6:00 P.M.
ORIENTAL SOUND POETRY

The concerts are free (good will offerings will be accepted). A reception will follow each concert.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

3204 Skillman St., Dallas, TX 75206

214.821.9989 | www.standrewsdallas.org



St Mark Presbyterian Church, Dallas Texas



April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:45a Worship Service 11:30a Yoqa Wellness 4:30p Sandwich Sunday at Austin Street Center	31	1 6:00p Fellowship Com Mtg	2 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 6:00p Way Out Wednesday 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	3 10:30a Bible Study 3:00p Open Gate	4 12:00p Fitness Boot Camp at Eastminster Presbyterian Church	5 10:00a Spring Fling at Eastminster Presbyterian Church
6 9:45a Worship Service - Communion 11:30a Yoga Wellness 1:00p Unplugged Jam Club	7 6:00p Worship & Music Com Mtg	8 6:00p Stewardship & Finance Com Mtg 6:00p Christian Education Com Mtg	9 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 6:00p Way Out Wednesday 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	10 10:30a Bible Study 3:00p Open Gate 7:00p Eastminster/St. Mark Covenant Committee Meeting	11 12:00p Fitness Boot Camp at Eastminster Presbyterian Church 7:00p Neighborhood Block Party - Journey Community Church	12
13 9:45a Worship Service - Palm Sunday 11:00a Membership and Mission Com Mtg 11:30a Yoga Wellness	14 5:00p Property Com Mtg. 6:00p Administration & Personnel Com Mtg	15	16 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 6:00p Way Out Wednesday 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	17 10:30a Bible Study 3:00p Open Gate 5:30p Soup Supper 6:30p Maundy Thursday Worship Service	18 12:00p Fitness Boot Camp at Eastminster Presbyterian Church 6:30p Good Friday Worship Service at Eastminster	19 9:00a Mini Workday
20 9:45a Worship Service - Easter Sunday 10:45a Easter Brunch	21	22 6:30p Session Meeting	23 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 6:00p Way Out Wednesday 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	24 10:30a Bible Study 3:00p Open Gate	25 12:00p Fitness Boot Camp at Eastminster Presbyterian Church	26
27 9:45a Worship Service 11:30a Yoga Wellness	28	29	30 6:00p Spring Concert and Reception at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church - "Six String Paintings" 6:00p Handbells Rehearsal 6:00p Way Out Wednesday 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	1 10:30a Bible Study 3:00p Open Gate 6:00p Spring Concert and Reception at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church - "Oriental Sound Poetry"	2 12:00p Fitness Boot Camp at Eastminster Presbyterian Church	3

EASTER FLOWERS – 2025 ORDER FORM



The Worship and Music Committee is taking orders for Easter flowers to decorate our Sanctuary during the Easter morning service, but this year with a twist!

You can place an order for a 'take home' potted plant, AND/OR you can place an order for a plant that will be planted in the Prayer Garden area. This donation will support the W.O.W. program and will double as beautification of the grounds after we enjoy them for Easter services. A variety of beautiful blooms will be selected for both.

To place an order, fill out the information below, tally up your total, and place your completed form along with your payment in the offering plate or return it to the church office.

I WISH TO ORDER:

NAME: _____

QTY: _____ of 'Take Home' blooming 6" pots @ \$12.00 each. **Subtotal:** \$ _____

AND/OR

QTY: _____ of 'W.O.W Donation' outdoor plants @ \$12.00 each. **Subtotal:** \$ _____

Grand Total: \$ _____

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO SAINT MARK
For: "Easter Flowers"

DEADLINE TO ORDER IS APRIL 13th

In Honor Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

In Celebration Of: _____

Other: _____

(Please use the back of this form if additional space is needed.)