

**Sunday Worship Services 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM | Sunday School 10:00 AM**

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By: Rev. Doug Mills

This Sunday is the hinge between the Ordinary Time or season after the Epiphany and the penitential season of Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday. This is the moment that prepares us for that Lenten journey, even as it steels Christ for the path of suffering. Therefore, it is a day of declaration, when we, once again, claim Jesus Christ as our Lord. We see him as he is, in a way, in this moment of Transfiguration. We don't have to fully understand all that might be happening here, but we do have to look in awe and wonder at the glory of our God. It is a day of celebration before a season of denial.

At the request of St. Mark's school advisory board, we will not administer ashes in a stop-and-go fashion during morning drop-off as planned. Instead, we will have a series of services in the sanctuary. The first, for the whole church, will be at 7:30 am and will include confession and imposition of the ashes.

Five times during the day, I will be leading chapel in the school for both elementary and middle school students, I will impose ashes at each service. The elementary school has chapel in the sanctuary at 8:30, 9:00, and 10:00 am and adults from the congregation are welcome in the sanctuary at that time.

In our Lenten journey, we know that perfectionism is impossible. But transformation isn't. And faith—a gift from God—is Good Enough.

Consider these words of Jesus, which are appropriate on Ash Wednesday.

And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting.

**To Reserve and Donate go to:**

Breakfast: <https://flshare.net/k83sq5>

Dinner: <https://flshare.net/w34jd>

Truly I tell you, they have received their reward... but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21)

Jesus used the word "hypocrite" to describe those who put on airs in public to make people believe that they were holy, that their religious practice was... well... perfect. But their hearts were actually not in the practice, rather in the rewards that public approval could bring them—which is here today, often gone tomorrow.

Sometimes it is life itself that robs us of the shiny, perfect life that we had planned for ourselves. Global pandemic. Canceled events. A diagnosis. A broken heart. A lost opportunity. This Lent, rather than change for "the best," we'll seek to gain momentum one day at a time, "to reach for a faith that is never perfect, but good enough" (Bowler/Richie).

In Christ,  
Pastor Mills

PS On Shrove Tuesday, March 1st, St. Mark's men are preparing a pancake supper for us, from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Come anytime during those hours for fellowship and pancakes. Or get take out. The suggested donation is \$5 per person.



**Shrove Tuesday**  
March 1st From 4 PM - 7 PM  
CHURCH-WIDE CELEBRATION DINNER  
Hosted by Mark's Men  
Fellowship Hall  
\$5 Donation Per Plate Recommended

RESERVE HERE  
POINT CAMERA TO SCAN



**St. Mark's School**  
Breakfast  
March 1st.  
7:00 AM  
Fellowship Hall

HAPPY  
Pancake  
Day!

RESERVE ATTENDANCE  
POINT CAMERA TO SCAN



## Christian MP says we must 'continue to have faith' as Russia-Ukraine tensions escalate

Tue 22 Feb 2022 by: Sophie Drew

Christian MP Dr. Lisa Cameron is urging believers to "pray" as the Government prepares for a "full-blown" invasion of Ukraine by the Russian military.

The White House has officially labeled Russia's movements on the border as an "invasion", prompting many others to do the same.

It's believed Putin has ordered forces to two separate areas of Ukraine for 'peacekeeping measures' - a move that many nations have condemned. The Prime Minister attended a COBRA meeting to discuss the action in Ukraine; sanctions have now been imposed.

A number of bank accounts have been closed - some of which belonged to friends of Putin with "a high net worth".

German Chancellor Angela Merkel has announced that the planned Russia-European oil pipeline will not be switched on.

The UK Prime Minister has said further sanctions are ready to be deployed.

However, despite the situation on the Ukrainian border, Dr. Lisa Cameron is urging people not to panic, saying that the best remedy is to take things "one step at a time" in order to achieve peace.

As a devout Christian, she stressed the importance of prayer.

Cameron, who also serves as vice-chair to the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Russia, said: "We must continue to have faith in the goodness of people and in the Lord guiding us through these periods of crisis. We should be praying for people, both in Ukraine and across Russia as well, to find common ground that would avert any further crisis unfolding here, and, you know,

"The main people who are affected in war are the most vulnerable, including children.

"We must do all possible to avert anything that would approximate that.

"We need to keep open the dialogue, we need to look at sanctions, and we need to make sure that peace and stability are at the heart of everything that we do moving forward.

"We must pray for everybody involved because I think that's the humanity of who we are."

*Lord,  
We pray for the situation in Ukraine - may the two nations find peace.  
We lift up our prayers to you Lord; may you work miracles as only you can.  
In Jesus' name,  
Amen.*



**ST. MARK'S READING CAMP FOR STRUGGLING READERS**  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**June 6 – June 30, 2022**

We are accepting reservations for testing students 6-12 for our FREE Summer reading camp. Qualifying students will be registered in the order that they are tested.

**Call Ruth Lindstrom at 915-833-6555 or 605-695-4288** to reserve a testing appointment. Testing will determine if your child qualifies for the camp.

Testing will take place in our Walker Annex, located at 5008 Love Road, directly across the street from St. Mark's United Methodist Church.







**Get your  
FREE SPRING PHOTO**

During Lent, the church will set up displays like the one featured in Zumwalt Hall. We will take photos of individuals and families for our Church Directory and you will get a FREE photo too! We will begin taking photos on Sundays after each worship service between February 27 - April 10th. Signup at the entrance to the Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary before Church.



**Network technician**

The church office is looking for a person with a computer and network skills and knowledge. We need someone who can set up email, initialize software, troubleshoot problems; who also has hardware knowledge and the ability to re-locate servers, install wifi boosters, run cable, move security monitors. Will need to be network savvy and able to interface with the ISP.

**Social Media Leader**

We are looking for a person to be part of the communication team who will take primary responsibility for social media interaction. An understanding of all social media platforms, including Instagram, Facebook, Pinterest, and Twitter adding multiple weekly posts of the life of the church, and a knowledge of social media analytics is needed. The ability to help with live streaming would be useful.

Letters of interest can be sent to the Church Office 5000 Love Road, El Paso TX 79922; office@loveroad.org. For questions call (915) 581-4444



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Tap Photo to go to Haskins Webpage

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY



# Happy Birthday!

**February 27 - March 5, 2022**

**Trevor Abell, Feb 27th**

**Bill Cook, Feb 27th**

**Tim Gallegly, Feb 27th**

**Logan Atlas Harrell (3), Feb 27th**

**Danny Goss, Feb 28th**

**Jim Bowden, Mar 2nd**

**Rebekah Elizabeth Jordan, Mar 2nd**

**Benjamin William Nagle, Mar 2nd**

**Peggy Oxford, Mar 2nd**

**Natalie Jane Escontrias-Duran (5), Mar 4th**

**Douglas L. Rutter, Mar 4th**

**Rosemary Hernandez, Mar 5th**

**Marcela Trevino (9), Mar 5th**

**Feb 20- Feb 26**

## Next Week at St. Mark's

### **Sunday, February 27**

8:00 AM Nursery (Ages 6 Weeks - 2 Yr)  
9:00 AM Kids Church  
9:00 AM Praise Worship Service  
10:00 AM NUDGE Youth Sunday School  
10:00 AM Agape Class  
10:00 AM Sunday School (Ages K - 6)

### **Monday, February 28**

6:00 AM Traditional Service Choir Rehearsal  
6:30 PM Boy Scout Troop 59

### **Tuesday, March 1**

7:00 AM St. Mark's School - Fat Tuesday Breakfast  
4:00 AM Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Dinner  
12:00 AM Needlework Group  
3:00 AM Summer reading camp- testing  
6:00 AM Jazz Band Rehearsal  
6:30 PM Grief Share

### **Wednesday, March 2**

#### **Ash Wednesday**

7:30 AM Ash Wednesday Service  
8:30 AM Elementary School Chapel  
3:00 PM Summer reading camp- testing  
4:00 PM Self guided Ash distribution  
6:00 PM Praise Band Rehearsal  
6:00 PM MOPS "Mothers of Preschoolers"

### **Thursday, March 3**

8:30 AM Elementary School Program Practice  
9:00 AM Women's Bible Study  
3:00 PM Summer reading camp- testing  
6:00 PM Weight Watchers

### **Friday, March 4**

3:00 PM Summer reading camp- testing  
6:30 PM NA - Narcotics Anonymous

### **Saturday, March 5**

8:30 AM Weight Watchers

## Please Pray for...

### A prayer for Ukraine

Wednesday, February 23rd 2022

May we all include in our prayers:

- That a diplomatic solution to this crisis will be found. —That Russia will remove its troops from the rebel-held areas of Ukraine and from its borders.
- That Russia, the United States, NATO, and other European and world powers will not resort to warfare. —That every possible means are attempted to prevent escalation.
- That the devastating threat of nuclear retaliation will be avoided at all costs. “May God hear our loving petition and soften the hearts and minds of all, within and without Ukraine, during these dangerous times.”

AMEN



<https://www.loveroad.org>



### Peggy Havener

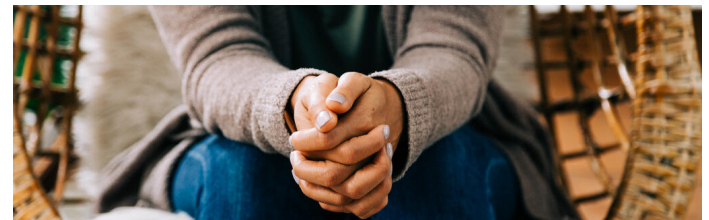
Wednesday, February 23rd 2022

By Jenifer Hutchison - Please pray for Peggy Havener a dear friend who has been diagnosed and undergoing treatment for mucosal melanoma.

### Raymond Brown

Wednesday, February 23rd 2022

By Diana Estrada - Please pray for Raymond Brown, born premature (2lbs 6 oz) In NICYU.



## SHAREPRAYER

Each of us can pray gratitude for fellow Christians drawn together to be St. Mark's Church, and for the church buildings provided for worship, teaching, and fellowship.

Each new season brings new challenges. At the same time, the Lord continues to provide His leadership in response to our prayers.

Be part of this shared prayer. In your conversation with God, tell your gratitude and your hope. Then listen and follow.

AMEN!

### How to Share Prayers:

Send your prayer requests to prayer group leader Ruth Lindstrom at [ruthlindstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:ruthlindstrom@yahoo.com).

Call the church office at 915-581-4444 during office hours. (See St. Mark's Chaplains tab on the website).

You can ask that your prayer requests be published to groups or kept private.



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go to [loveroad.org](http://loveroad.org)  
Click Messenger Our mailing address is:  
5005 Love Rd. El Paso, TX, 79922  
Phone: (915) 581-4444

### **St. Mark's Church Staff**

Senior Pastor – Rev. Douglas Mills  
to schedule an appointment with Dr. Mills  
<http://meetme.so/WDouglasMillsmaster>

Associate Senior Pastor - Layloni Drake

Business Office Manager - Laura Ronald

Cheri Bridges - Office Assistant

Traditional Music Director - Stephen Jackson

Children's Ministry Director - Bianca Milan

Analla Communications Director - Bill Wilkson

Praise Team Director - Lawrence Brown III

Facilities Superintendent - Bunnie Betancourt Head

Kitchen Chef - Miguel Guillen

St. Mark's School Principal - Linda Smith