



Messenger

Changing the world through Christ, by caring for all people.

Volume 57, Number 17

August 22, 2017

Dinner for Eight

Dinner for Eight is a great way to make new friends and enjoy a good meal! Basically, couples or singles sign up to be part of a season of four meals to be scheduled in October/November, January, February, and March/April. You host only one time. Participants rotate, so you are with different people each time.



Each group generally consists of eight people. You may plan a dinner, a brunch, a cook-out, or theme dinner. The host will provide the main course, and the others will bring a salad, a dessert, or whatever is needed. (If hosting at your own home presents a problem, consider contacting the church office about using a room at St. Mark's.) You have the option to sign up as a regular participant, or if you prefer, you may simply put your name on the substitute list. If you would like to attend more than four dinners you may want to sign up as a participant and also as a substitute.

On line registration is available by going to umcstmarks.org and look for the registration under Dinner for Eight in the "Upcoming Events" box on the home page. Watch for sign-up forms in the September 3rd bulletin.

A Note to Singles: You are welcome to participate in **Dinner for Eight** as an individual which would mean hosting on your own. Or if you wish, two people can sign up as a duo... you'll be scheduled together for each meal (and for hosting).

NEW Logo Shop Items!

St. Mark's Fall Logo Shop will be open for business on Sunday mornings, Sept. 10th and 17th in the courtyard after 8:15 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. services. The Church Growth & Hospitality Committee is very excited to announce some terrific NEW items with our NEW logo. We're sure you'll want to grab our great, clear-plastic sports utility tote which is perfect for stadium-entry events as well as everyday use. We're also offering a sturdy utility tote and a hot/cold carrier — no home should be without these useful items! In addition, you will be able to order shirts and caps which will now feature the new logo. So start saving and come prepared to support St. Mark's as we offer this unique way to take our presence into the world with these new versatile, attractive logo items.



Volunteer Opportunities

The Missions Committee would like to invite you to volunteer with St. Mark's UMC at the Community Food Bank on Saturday, Sept. 16th. We have ten slots available, and we will be helping in the main warehouse from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., pack and sort food for our community.



We will meet at the church at 7:30 a.m. and carpool, OR you can meet us at the Food Bank (3003 S. Country Club Road) by 8:15 a.m. that morning. Sign-up sheets are on the Adult Spiritual Growth bulletin board in the courtyard or contact Nancy Jackson (see directory) to get more information or to volunteer. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and the Food Bank requests that we wear closed-toed shoes that day to work in the warehouse. If you can't make it this time, we will have more opportunities in October, November and December to help out. Watch for more details about future dates!



St. Mark's Messenger

Published bi-weekly

St. Mark's United Methodist Church
1431 W. Magee Road
Tucson, AZ 85704
(520) 297-2062
Fax: (520) 297-1058

Email:

info@umcstmarks.org

Website:

www.umcstmarks.org

Sunday Worship:
8:15, 9:45, 11:15am

Wednesday Nights:
Community Meal
5:45pm
Music/Programs
6:15-7:15pm

Senior Pastor:
Rev. Sharon Ragland

Associate Pastor:
Rev. Tammy Hallam

Interim Christian Formation for Children & Adults:
Margaret Synhorst

Youth Ministries:
Kim Ogle

Communications & Outreach:
Sallyann Wassmuth

Messenger Editor:
Sallyann Wassmuth

Next Deadline:
Wednesday,
August 30th, at noon

Calendar Notes

Sun., Aug. 27th

9:00 a.m. – Grace Notes
11:00 a.m. – Common Grounds, Rm 20
11:00 p.m. Exploring Membership
12:30 p.m. Open Doors, Conf. Room
2:15 p.m. – Youth Group, Wesley House
4:00 p.m. – Preteens, Rm 8/9

Mon., Aug 28th

9:15 a.m. – Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall

Wed., Aug. 30th

Noon - MESSENGER Deadline

5:45 p.m. –Soul Station
6:15 p.m. Common Grounds

Fri., Sept. 1st

10:00 a.m. S.O.S. Committee

Sat., Sept. 2nd

2:00 p.m. John Aucott Memorial Service

Sun., Sept 3rd

9:00 a.m. - Grace Notes
11:00 a.m. Common Grounds
No Preteens
No Youth Group

Mon., Sept. 4th

HOLIDAY - Church Office Closed
No - Holy Yoga Class

Tues., Sept 5th

6:00 p.m. Disciple III, Rm 17/18
6:30 p.m. Children's Christian Ed., Rm 20

Wed., Sept. 6th

7:30 a.m. Marksmen Breakfast (Coco's)
5:45 p.m. – Soul Station
6:15 p.m. Common Grounds

Dear Church Family...



I want to thank my St. Mark's family for your concern during my sister's battle with cancer. It is hard to believe she is gone, but I know she has no more pain and is now at peace. I am so grateful for all your prayers, cards and calls. I'm so glad to be a part of this church family!

Vickie Dee

I want to express my gratitude to the community of the faithful that is St. Mark's. Thank you for prayers and cards and visits from Pastor Tammy and Pastor Evy too, during my hospitalizations. Pastor Tammy brought a beautiful prayer shawl which was a blessing to me and started many conversations with others. I'm on the mend now and so happy to be back in church for Pastor Sharon's return.

Ann Martin.

HEARTWORKS gives thanks!

I want to thank all of you that are sewing the bags. On August 11th we took 250 finished bags to AVIVA Children's Services. They have donated material that we can have but we can always use more. Sometimes we use sheets that are in good shape, or cotton drapes that are not too heavy.

Thanks again, Gale Wenger

Your very generous gift of \$800 arrived safely and will be put to work at once. Your gift helps make BorderLinks possible and helps us increase awareness and knowledge of the vital issues affecting border communities. Your gift will allow the staff to educate and enlighten visitors from across the country.

In gratitude and peace,
Josefina Ahumada, President



Sitting in the Mess of it with God!

...the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

Romans 8:26-27



Just Breathe

It is three o'clock in the morning and I am praying for both of our daughters who are battling breast cancer — *Lord have mercy, they are struggling and I am afraid for them. Please heal their bodies and souls and reveal yourself to them in a way they can understand and know you love them.* Can't sleep ...

praying for a young woman whose husband has left her, the sorrow and trauma to her soul is overwhelming. *Lord have mercy, I am concerned that the darkness may be too much for her. Lord, help her know you are always faithful and your love is everlasting.* Sleep will not come ... *I pray for a brother with bone cancer, I pray for relief from the pain and healing and that the mysterious peace and grace that Jesus said will be sufficient.*

Yes, life happens, but sometimes it seems that suffering and anguish lay heavier upon us than usual. This is one of those times for me. The tension is how do I love and draw close to God in prayer through broken places allowing Him to strengthen my faith and lead me into even higher places with Him instead of becoming disillusioned with it all. (Read Habbakuk 3:17-19).

I have a place called, "Sitting in the mess of it with God." It is in this place that I picture myself, surrounded by all that is wrong in the world, and God sitting there together in prayer. There are a few things that I have learned in this place, maybe they will encourage you when you find yourself in broken places:

- † Wordless prayers are OK. God tells us, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us. So, we lean into the Holy Spirit and open what is in our hearts and minds to a force much greater than ourselves.
- † Release your worry, pain, anguish, sadness, anxiety like you are letting go of a large bunch of balloons to the sky, knowing that God knows exactly what to do with those.
- † Hope beyond what you see or know at this point. Faith is the assurance of things you have hoped for, the absolute conviction that there are realities you've never seen (Heb. 11:1, The Voice)
- † Invite others to sit with you in the mess. Let others carry your burdens to God when you are getting tired. (Galatians 6:2)

Go to this place often, remembering that listen and silent are made up of the same letters, so accept His invitation to be still and know that He is God as you sit in the mess of it with the One who loves you.

Peace, Pastor T

Meet Our NEW ECC Teacher!

We would like to introduce our new preschool teacher for our three-year-old class, Ms. Amy Boynton! Amy has been married to her husband Ken for 22 years and has two great kids, Katelyn age 13 and Jason, age 11. Both kids are former St. Mark's students! She has a Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Resources with a concentration in Early Childhood Education and a post-bac in Elementary Ed. She has previously taught first and third grades and was an instructional aide for K-6. She enjoys water sports, traveling, camping and working on DIY projects. She is excited to become a part of the St. Mark's team!



Every Pint Matters



Curt Adams



Tamira and Brittany Teeters



David Farnsworth, Arlene Krueger, Tricia Chester (standing)



Daniel Sanchez, Brenda Hunter



Photos courtesy of Martha Lundgren.

A big thank you to the 24 St. Mark's members and neighbors who gave blood on Sunday, Aug. 13th. Flat Sharon got in on the action, too, making sure that everyone enjoyed the refreshments. #NotJust4Cookiez, #GaveBloodGaveLive. The **Red Cross will be back Dec. 3, 2017**. You can make your appointment now through Martha Lundgren (see directory).

Handy Hands Ministry is Two!

Did you know that St. Mark's Handy Hands Ministry will be two years old on Sept. 1?

A big thank you to the 35 Handy Hands volunteers who, during the past two years, have brought glory to God by providing their skills and services to the congregation of St. Mark's. The enthusiasm and can-do attitudes, of these St. Mark's volunteers, have made a significant positive impact in the homes of almost 200 of our parishioners by providing 400 handyman type services for various projects.

As God worked through the Handy Hands volunteers to complete these projects, many comments were made by the parishioners receiving service thanking God for this ministry. As projects were completed, notes of appreciation for the time and skills of the volunteers were also received. In addition, Christian fellowship was shared among members of our congregation who might not have ever met.

The Handy Hands Ministry is being expanded to include the parents who bring their children to The Early Childhood Center at St. Mark's. By including St. Mark's ECC families in this ministry, there is the opportunity to pass onto them St. Mark's love of Jesus Christ through our members and ministries.

Requesting service from Handy Hands can be done by filling out a card located in the back of each pew and then putting it in the Handy Hands mailbox in the church office. Also, if you feel the time is right for you to volunteer as a St. Mark's Handy Hand, please contact Mary Ann Brewer (see directory).

Thank you, John Shattuck and Mary Ann Brewer



Dad & Me Camp

Mingus Mountain UM Camp will host the 8th annual Dad & Me Camp on Oct. 20-22, 2017. It is a great chance for girls and boys (ages 4-18) to spend time with their dad and is filled with great activities and Bible study. To learn more or to register for the camp go to www.umcstmarks.org.



Over 50's - Lunch Group

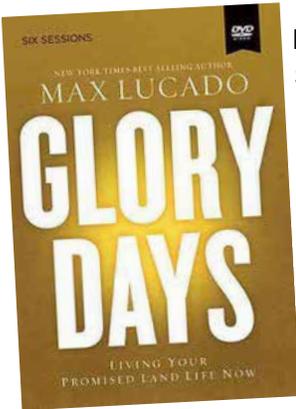
Tuesday, Sept. 5th, at 11:30 a.m. the Over 50's will gather at Outback Steakhouse near Foothills Mall for a tasty lunch and friendly chatter. Please join us as we welcome the friends we know and make new friends.



Reserve your place at the table by contacting Sandra Rush (see directory).

Wednesday Morning Bible Study on Joshua

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study will resume on Sept. 6th, 10:00 -11:30 a.m. in the Library with a five-week Joshua-focused study by Max Lucado entitled **Glory Days**.



Max Lucado writes that life has a way of taking the life out of us. Sometimes we go through situations where the challenge seems so much greater than our strength. During such times, we can find hope and inspiration from the story of Joshua.

God had called Joshua to take over from Moses and lead the Israelites into a paradigm shift from wilderness wandering to promise-believing. In Canaan, they would not fight for victory but fight from victory. God had a Promised Land in store for them, but they had to grasp that reality, change their mindsets, and take action to receive it. The same is true for us today. God is telling us that our best days, our glory days, are still ahead of us. We only need to grasp that truth and live in faith to realize this promise.

Beginning Oct. 11th, the six-week study, **Moses**, by Adam Hamilton will begin. This class will also be presented by the Family Life Class on Sundays beginning Oct. 15th at 9:45 a.m. Registration for either class will begin in September. You may register online (<http://www.uncstmarks.org/adult-classes.php>), call the church office (297-2062), or sign up on the Adult Spiritual Growth bulletin board in the courtyard on Sunday mornings. You are also welcomed to drop in at any time!

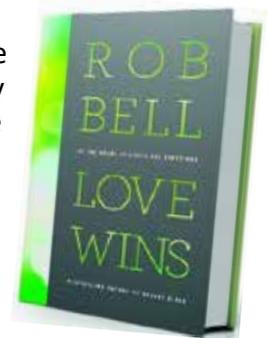
Marcia Rostad, Leader

LOVE WINS - Book Study Group!

The first fall session of the St. Mark's Book Study starts Friday, Sept. 29th from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the church library. The class will be facilitated by Todd and Tyger Penson. The book chosen is **Love Wins** by Rob Bell. It was a book recommended by one of the attendees from last year's class and a great way to start our 2017-2018 year!

Millions of Christians have struggled with how to reconcile God's love and God's judgment. The book considers the following: Has God created billions of people over thousands of years only to select a few to go to heaven and everyone else to suffer forever in hell? Is this acceptable to God? How is this good news?

Rob Bell presents a deeply biblical vision for rediscovering a richer, truer way of understanding heaven, hell, God, Jesus, salvation, and repentance. He argues, would a loving God send people to eternal torment forever? So how does **Love Win**? Buy a copy, read the book, then join us for snacks, discussion, and shared friendship! This is a great way to meet new friends, renew old acquaintances, and explore timely spiritual questions! Hope we see you there!



Update on Syria From the Christian Persecution Task Force Team

In Syria, as the forces arrayed against Islamic State (ISIS) including those supported by the United States have recently had success in securing areas that ISIS occupied, some Christians are returning to their homes. Unfortunately, many who have come back have found homes struck by explosives and almost completely destroyed, and others found houses severely damaged. Many Christians are reluctant to return. While definitive figures for those who have left are difficult to come by, previous estimates of Christians living in the country before 2011 were 1.7 to 1.9 million, around 8-10% of the population. An estimated 300,000 Christians have left the country since 2011. Some cities and towns, which had considerable Christian populations have experienced large out-migrations of Christians. One estimate indicated that 80% of Christians have left Aleppo and almost all from Raqqa, Idlib, and Homs. Recently, Christians have been moving out of Damascus.

Continued on page 7...

Christmas in September Celebration!



Church Women United in Tucson invite you to attend the annual Christmas in September event, Saturday, September 16th, at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, 210 E. Lester Street. This meaningful event will recognize the work of two local charities: **LoveWerks** and **Blessing the Streets in Jesus' Name**. Cost for the event is \$5 registration fee and \$5 for the catered lunch. The program, "Kindle Hearts of Friendship," will begin with a 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. check in and continental breakfast, followed by the program and a catered lunch at 11:30 a.m.

United Methodist Women will have a large drop box in the courtyard on Sept. 3rd and 10th. **LoveWerks** requests blessing bags (gallon-size Ziplock bags filled with such items as deodorant, shampoo, Chapstick, comb, socks, toothbrush, other cosmetics and hygiene items) for low-income and/or homeless individuals and families. **Blessing the Streets in Jesus' Name** is a clothing ministry that requests boots, blankets, coats, socks, etc. for the upcoming cold season. UMW requests your help with filling the drop box and thanks you in advance, always, for your most generous donations!

See the UMW bulletin board for more information and for registration information. Please contact Sharon Hunter (sharonandmorgan@gmail.com), if you have questions.

DEACONESS CORNER: So, what is it you do again?



When I tell people I'm a United Methodist deaconess, I usually have some explaining to do. Many people – United Methodist or otherwise – have never heard of deaconesses (or home missionaries!). Even some clergy have quite a few questions about who we are and what we do.

The really short version is this: Deaconesses are lay women and home missionaries are lay men who are called by God to a lifetime commitment to full-time ministries of love, justice, or service. We work in a variety of settings - sometimes in agencies of the church, other times as hospital administrators, educators, community organizers (like St. Mark's other deaconess, Marjie Hrabec), or homeless advocates. One of our deaconesses is a professional fire fighter. The possibilities for deaconesses and home missionaries are limitless.

So, what is my work as a deaconess? I manage a team of technical support professionals who keep the software used by hospital laboratories running. When you're in the emergency room you want the doctors and nurses treating you to get your stat test results back STAT, right? I also do a lot of volunteer work in older adult and end of life ministries at St. Mark's. I serve on the Desert Southwest Conference Senior Ministry Team, and I was just appointed to the Discipleship Ministries Council on Older Adult Ministries. One day I hope to work full time in that ministry field, but for now my information technology job pays the bills!

Many people think we are clergy or that we are in training to be clergy. Nope - deaconesses and home missionaries are lay people who understand that God has called us as lay persons, not called to preach or lead congregations, but to serve in the world in a wide array of settings.

If you'd like to learn more I've written up some answers to questions I get often in **An Elder, A Deacon, and a Deaconess Walk Into A Room** (<http://tinyurl.com/y9ezv93r>). And to keep us all straight, I created a handy-dandy **Guide to Elders, Deacons, and Deaconesses and Home Missioners** (<http://tinyurl.com/y953ssz4>). You can get in touch with me any time, (520-834-6015, or martha@aztec506.net or on [Facebook](#)).

Martha Lundgren, Deaconess

WASS UP?

August 22, 2017

Volume 18, Issue 17

*"MESTIVAL" AT CATALINA UMC

UPCOMING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

August 27, 2017—

9:45 Confirmation Orientation

South District Event

"Mestival" at Catalina UMC
Meet at the Wesley House
at 2:15 and return by 6:45

September 3, 2017—

Labor Day week-end
No Youth Group

LABOR DAY



September 10, 2017—

3:00 to 4:00
Youth Council
4:00 to 6:00
Youth Group

We will meet at the Wesley House at 2:15 p.m. to travel to Catalina for messy games and dinner. "Mestival" is more than lame messy games. It's a festival of challenges, including painting, tie-dye, and shaving cream whiffle ball, followed by dinner.

We will return to the Wesley House by 6:45.
Bring spare clothes.

YOUTH COUNCIL

On August 20th, the Youth Council for 2017-18 was elected. This year, there will be two councils. The Middle School Council will plan middle school events, while the High School Council plans high school events.

Our high school co-chairs will preside over the High School Council, and also coordinate collaboration between the two groups.

The new Middle School Chair is Daniel Titzel. The High School Co-chairs are Mackenzie Kester and Ruben Morales.

Youth Council meets the 2nd Sunday at 3 p.m.

a note from the

YOUTH DIRECTOR

As you read on the first page of this newsletter, the Youth Council is going through some changes and revisions this year. One of the reasons for the changes is the opportunity to separate high school and middle school.

Beginning September 10th, the high schoolers will do programs off campus on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. On the first and third Sundays, they will be at St. Mark's, but not necessarily doing the same programs as the middle school.

Conversely the Middle School Council will plan events exclusive to their group.

I'm very excited about these changes. Please pray for God's guidance as we take this leap.

Blessings,
Kim



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

09-03 Rachel Mosher
09-09 Daniel Titzel
09-10 Sarah DeHart
09-10 Keelan McCormick
09-28 Caite Rowden

Middle School Moments

Bring A Friend!

My favorite part about Youth Group has always been the friends we make there. It's so nice to have a solid group of friends who belong to our church. It helps us have a safe place for questions, discussions, and FUN! I love when you guys bring friends and show them what an amazing place St. Mark's is. That's what it's all about! Fun, Fellowship and Friends. Friends are always welcome at Youth Group!

See you (and a friend!) on Sunday!

Rachel

Like us on Facebook:
St. Mark's Youth Group



Update on Syria, continued from page 5

A report by a trio of Christian charities found that the arrival of ISIS was only a tipping point with an accumulation of factors leading to decisions to leave. In January, a UK coalition of mainly Christian charities stated that it was “vital that Christians and other minority populations have support for their political and security concerns if they are to feel reassured enough to return, rebuild their communities, and undertake any reconciliation process.” Hope for the Middle East, a campaign by Open Doors International, a global Christian NGO, among other aims, hopes to restore 40 homes in Homs and Maaloula, historic Christian towns where Aramaic is still spoken.

Prayer: Dear Lord, Please give the Christians of Syria the courage and strength to persevere and find security and peace. Also, Touch the hearts and minds of officials in the International Community to support policy changes in Syria to protect the rights of these Christians.

If you would like more information about persecuted Christians or to join St. Mark's Christian Persecution Task Force, email us (christianpersecutiontaskforce@gmail.com) or drop us a note at the church office.

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS!

In Hospice Care:

Gary Dean, Bill Duryee, Shirley Johnson, Jerry Langemeier, Judy Mitzimberg, Marla Mutschler, Howard Russell

In Rehab or Care Facilities:

Jane Berson, Than Brademas, Donald Chester, Patricia Keele, Bob Ross, Judith Smith, Mel Speck, Yvonne Yare

Undergoing Treatment at Home:

Jude Anderson, Gail Blevins, Judy Drescher,

April DuBoce, Tiffany Guerette, Breanne Hallam, Megan Krzmarzick, Karen Linebarier, Dell Long, Don Watt, Connie White

Recovering at Home:

Agnes Fisher, Ann Martin, Betty Meyer, Jim Ward, Dave Webster

Prayers and Condolences:

To Susan Ambrose and the family of Gary Carlson, Susan's father, who passed away August 21.



LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY...

Please keep these people in your prayers. Email additions or updates to messenger@umcstmarks.org.

Hank Bautzmann, son of Nancy Bautzmann

Capt. Alex Boettcher, Grandson of Paul and Clara Boettcher

Jon Chytka, nephew of Roger & Donna Severson

Jayce Cunha, son of Rich and Blanca Cunha

Zachary Dojaquez, grandson of Roger & Donna Severson

Brandonn Eto, friend of Zirnheld/Compennolle family

Rob Eubank, son of David & Johanna Eubank

Mike Freeman, son of Ken & Ann Freeman

Patrick Harris, grandson of Marilyn Vaughn

Greg Haynes, son of Bob & Melinda Haynes

Matthew Hughey, son of Juliee & Billy Morrison and grandson of Joyce Flick

Rachel Kester, daughter of Don & Ruth Kester

Travis Kroll, son-in-law of Becky Strain

Adam Laurie, son of Ingrid Christensen

Chad Long, grandson of Pat Long

Mark Joseph Maver, son of Seymour & Marcia Maver

Joshua Miller, grandson of Ginny Johnson

Jake Newton, son of Robert & Cheri Newton

John O'Regan, husband of Ashley O'Regan and grandson-in-law of Janet Krug

Brian Osborn, pastor in the DSW Conference

William Putt, son of Harold & Susan Putt

Joshua Ruth, son-in-law of Marjie Walp

Adam Seia, son of David & Vonda Seia

Jason Smith, grandson of Jerry & Judy Smith

Alex Snow, brother of Shelley Shelton

Clint Staschke, son-in-law of Cliff & June Young

Michael and Karisa Szczygiel, daughter and son-in-law of Joyce Flick

Timothy Trexler, great-nephew of Gail Blevins

Brianna Walker, granddaughter of Barbara

Fradenburgh; niece of John Fradenburgh



1431 W. Magee Road
Tucson AZ 85704-2116
info@umcstmarks.org

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Reflections

Every day I discover another way that a member of our staff, one of our leaders, a congregation member, or Pastor Tammy or Pastor Evy led or cared for something while I was on my renewal leave this summer. People cared for one another, led projects, and initiated or carried on ministries while I was gone. I'm very grateful for the care and leadership that was shown, in Jesus' name, and for the good of our church and community.

I'm also grateful for your prayers and care for my brother, Larry Koehn, and his wife, Marti and our family. Larry suffered a major hemorrhagic stroke on July 26, and was slowly recovering until suffering a setback on 8/21 due to infection, heart fibrillation and low blood pressure. He was moved from rehab back to the ICU at a Phoenix hospital. As of this writing, he is stable but has a long road ahead of him. He is very weak and sick, but alert and responsive. God's care, great medical care and your prayers are vital and comforting. Larry is three years younger than me.

Our fall program is underway! Sunday School classes celebrated Rally Day on Aug. 13th. Some adult classes have begun and others are still taking registration. Join

us. It's easy to register for classes on our website at <http://www.umcstmarks.org/adult-classes.php>.

I'd like to invite you to consider the **Growing in Faith** class that I will be leading, beginning Wednesday, Sept. 20th, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This class will meet once a month, and will explore basic foundations of our faith – How did the Bible come to be? Who is God? What about Jesus? What do we mean by the Holy Spirit? Why is there evil and suffering? While this class was originally designed for adults who had not been confirmed, it is open to anyone who wants to delve into these topics.

I pray daily for our country and our world, and seek to live close to Jesus, following his teachings and his love. So we pray: *Cover over your people, O God, with your healing love. Remove hatred from the peoples' hearts. Help us, O God, by pouring out your mercy and grace. Amen.*

See you in church!

Blessings, Sharon