

Messenger

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

Volume 58, Number 12

June 20, 2018



Shepherding God's People

Shepherding God's People. This was the name of the seminary class I sat in over 15 years ago when, in a voice that could not be ignored, I heard the Lord say, "I have called you to my Church to be a shepherd to my people." His voice moved my soul that day and His call continues to lead me as I listen to His whisper. Jesus has placed such a love in my heart for His church, that without that, I know it would be difficult to continue at times. And it is this love for Christ's church that I believe brought me here three years ago and it is this love that He stirs within me today that is calling me to stay on the pathway that He is showing me.

There are many things that are a challenge in the pastorate, but there is one that stands out to this "highly relational leader," and that is leaving people that have become family. Leaving family as we all know is never an easy thing, especially when they have loved you so well through the highs and lows of life. I have learned so many life lessons from you, my friends. Jack and I will never forget the way that many of you enlarged our world as you loved and encouraged us in this season. My hope is that I was able to impart something to you that infused your faith in our Jesus and reminded you of your identity and purpose in this beloved kingdom of God. May you always know that this was my one desire while I ministered among you, "that you may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that you may have the full riches of complete understanding in order that you may know the mystery of God, namely Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." I truly believe that God wants this for all who follow Christ. When He looks at His Church, he does not see denominations, he sees His Church always in need of a shepherd and always being transformed to be like Him in order to cover the earth with the Good News. Wherever he leads, my hope is that I can be a part of this sacred mission.

And now my prayer for you, our St. Mark's family: *...when I heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus that is present in your community and of your great love for all God's people, I haven't stopped thanking Him for you. I am continually speaking to Him on your behalf in my prayers. Here's what I say: God of our Lord Jesus the Anointed, Father of Glory: I call out to You on behalf of Your people. Give them minds ready to receive wisdom and revelation so they will truly know You. Open the eyes of their hearts, and let the light of Your truth flood in. Shine Your light on the hope You are calling them to embrace. Reveal to them the glorious riches You are preparing as their inheritance. Let them see the full extent of Your power that is at work in those of us who believe, and may it be done according to Your might and power. (Eph 1:15-19)*

And I ask for your prayers as well, *"...please pray for me. Pray that truth will be with me before I even open my mouth. Ask the Spirit to guide me while I boldly defend the mystery that is the good news."* We love you.

Peace, Pastor T



Photo courtesy of Tammy Hallam:
Redwood National Park hiking trail

Thank You and Farewell to Pastor Tammy

On Sunday, June 24 after all three services, we will celebrate Pastor Tammy's ministry as St. Mark's associate pastor, with a reception in Fellowship Hall. Come and thank Tammy for all she has contributed to our lives and our church! A basket will be available for cards and gifts.

Staff Parish Relations Committee



Welcome Stuart Salvatierra

Stuart is coming to St. Mark's on July 1, 2018 to serve as our associate pastor. Previously Stuart was serving as the Associate Pastor of North Scottsdale UMC in Scottsdale. He has had a call on his heart to serve God's people for most of his life. To say that he is excited to be coming to St. Mark's is a massive understatement. Not only is he excited to get involved in community life at St. Mark's, but he is also excited to be returning to Tucson.



Returning to Tucson will be a homecoming for Stuart who was born and raised in the Old Pueblo. Much of his family lives in the city and he is looking forward to being near them again, after spending time in Scottsdale. Stuart has lived several other places as well. After graduating from high school, Stuart took a sabbatical from Arizona for his educational pursuits. Stuart is a graduate of Cornell College in Mount Vernon, IA where he studied Sociology, Anthropology, and Religious Studies. He also lived in Chicago, IL where he ran an after-school program for an area nonprofit while studying for his Masters of Divinity from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. (The same seminary as Pastor Sharon.)

While on a recent mission trip to build a home with 1Mission, Stuart was adopted by a street dog who knew a sucker when she saw one. She lovingly guilted him into taking her home. He wasn't able to bring her back during that trip but was able to bring her to the USA, when all her papers and immunizations were in order. Her name is Ginger and she is an absolute sweetheart after she gets over her initial shyness.

Once Stuart is at St. Mark's please come on over to the church to introduce yourself. He cannot wait to meet you!

SUMMER FUN - Week One Summary

We launched **Summer Fun: Making Connections** our ten-week summer promotion on Sunday, June 3, and what a great beginning it's been to making new and deeper connections with each other. Our boards were overflowing with answers to all four questions. While all of the responses cannot be listed, here are a few that were particularly interesting.



Look for a bulletin insert announcing the Category and Questions for the week. Then post your answers on the boards located in the courtyard. We will also include a summary of the previous week's category to keep everyone connected!

Question 1—Unusual Travel Places. People have been to Antarctica, South America, East Asia and all over the United States. A few specific places included: Jan Webster—African bush; Jim Nussman—Peppersauce Cave (backside of Mt. Lemmon); Deb Cushman—Portofino, Panama; Scott Morrison—active lava field, Hawaii Islands.

Question 2—Favorite Vacation Spot. Some folks said San Diego, Hawaii, anywhere it is cool. Others were: Bob Benson—Colorado Mountains; Mary and Jim Sanders—Vancouver BC; Shelly Shelton—Disneyland or someplace with water.

Question 3—Where did you go to grade school? From those who answered this question we named 25 of the 50 states. We certainly do come from all over!

Question 4—How many places have you lived? Our numbers ranged from 21 places to 1. Believe it or not, there are people born and raised here, who are still living here! The majority of people who answered have lived more than 7 places in their lifetime. We are travelers, and we all ended up here, at St. Mark's.

Perhaps God brought us together for a purpose greater than we can imagine. We were raised in different places and we have crossed the globe: it cannot be a coincidence that we have arrived to this place. What a great start making more connections with each other.

Heartworks

Heartworks still needs fabric so we can continue this worthwhile mission.

Heartworks bags are given by Aviva to children who are leaving their homes when going to their foster homes. Before Heartworks bags were provided, the children were given plastic garbage bags to transport their belongings. Please continue to help us by either donating fabric or sewing a bag. Look for the blue bucket in the courtyard with rolled kits and instructions.

We thank everyone who has donated fabric to Heartworks and appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Gale Wenger (See Directory) or
Linda Sterling (See Directory)



Handy Hands Ministry Update

On Sept. 6, 2015, St. Mark's announced a new Handy Hands Ministry. Since then, a team of 26 dedicated St. Mark's volunteers have completed over 500 projects requested from St. Mark's attendees including families from our Early Childhood Center.

At this time, we would like to inform you of a few changes about this ministry. After two and a half years of faithful service, our current coordinator, Mary Ann Brewer, has stepped down. Susan Zimmerman has assumed the role as coordinator which was effective June 9. We thank Mary Ann for her dedicated service to this ministry and tireless assistance getting this new program underway!

Also, in an effort to make it easier to submit requests, a new Handy Hands email is now available and can be accessed from St. Mark's website <http://umcstmarks.org/about-us>. Here's the updated information regarding the Handy Hands Ministry and everything you need to know to place a service request:

Coordinator: Susan Zimmerman
Email address: handyhands@umcstmarks.org
Phone Number: 520-297-2062 (church office)

1 To request service from the Handy Hands Ministry by phone, contact the church office 520-297-2062 (between 8:00 – 4:30 p.m.) and the staff will take the information and relay it to the Handy Hands coordinator. If you call after office business hours, leave a message on voice mail. The staff will relay the message to the coordinator the next business day. Remember, Handy Hands Ministry **does not**

handle emergency response service.

2 If you would like to email a Handy Hands service request, send it to HandyHands@umcstmarks.org rather than the personal email of the coordinator.

3 You may also use the Handy Hands cards to submit a service request. Complete the card and place it in the Handy Hands mailbox in the church office. Cards are located in the narthex of the Sanctuary or Fellowship Hall, as well as in the church office.



Mary Ann and John Shattuck will still be involved with Handy Hands providing support and advice to Susan on projects that may be outside the normal scope and intent of the Handy Hands Ministry. Following is a list of areas where service was provided by Handy Hands volunteers:

- Bathroom and kitchen faucets, fixtures repairs
- Repair/replace light fixtures (indoors/outdoors)
- Repair ceiling fan
- Repair locks
- Replace furnace filters
- Move furniture
- Repairs to doors (indoors/outdoors)
- Blind installation
- Mount TV
- Down Spout repairs

John Shattuck
Coordinator, Handy Hands Ministry

Available All Year Long!

Did you know our great Logo Products are available in the church office during office hours, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday? You may purchase our super Logo products anytime during the week, all year long! There are grocery and lunch bags, large utility totes, mini-coolers, hot and cold carriers, and clear stadium bags. However, because we do not inventory shirts or hats, we will take special orders for those items each spring and fall. If you are interested in purchasing any of the inventoried stock, contact Janie in the office (297-2062 or janie@umcstmarks.org) in advance so she can have items all ready for you.



School Supplies Needed!

It's that time of year when St. Mark's Nash Neighbors collect and donate school supplies to Nash Elementary School for use during the 2018-19 school year. The following are the requested classroom supplies that we invite the congregation to donate:

- Hand-sanitizer, unscented, large pump bottles
- Glue Sticks
- Black Dry Erase Markers
- Pink Pearl Erasers
- Boxes of Tissues
- Clorox Wipes



There will be a container in the courtyard each Sunday during July to collect your donations. *Thank you for your support!*

Adult Spiritual Growth

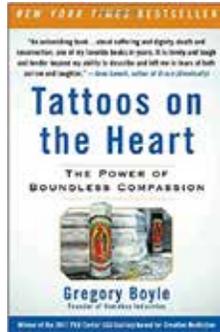
Faith is a journey!

Summer Study Opportunities

Register for either class online at www.umcstmarks.org (classes tab) or sign up on Sunday mornings using the bulletin board that is located in the courtyard.

Tattoos on the Heart by Gregory Boyle
Facilitated by Sandi Heilman
Monday evenings, July 9, 16, 23
7:00 p.m., church Library

This collection of true stories comes from Father Greg Boyle's work within the dangerous gang neighborhoods of Los Angeles. As parish priest, he created Homeboy Industries, an organization to provide jobs, job training, and encouragement so that young people could work together and learn the mutual respect that comes from collaboration.



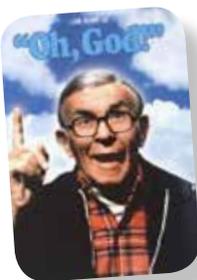
Class outline:

- July 9—we'll discuss the intro., and chapters 1-4
- July 16—we'll talk about chapters 5-9
- July 23—we'll watch "G-Dog," a documentary which allows us to see and hear the people we've been reading about.

Please know you're still welcome to attend if you have to miss one of the dates. Participants should acquire their own materials prior to the class.

Summer Film Offering – OH GOD!

Monday July 2, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall



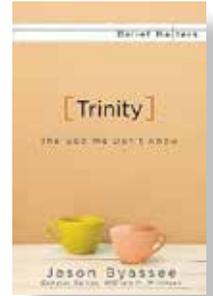
Starring George Burns, John Denver & Teri Garr. This great cast teamed up in 1977 to bring to life the Carl Reiner directed story of a young grocery store assistant manager who has encounters with a very real God. These visits result in changes for all of the people involved, as God calls the young man to be His spokesperson. Set aside time on July 2 to join us for the showing of

this delightful, sometimes challenging film. Be ready to set aside giggles at the hair styles and leisure suits, and come prepared to laugh and be challenged by this classic movie. Running time is 100 minutes; rated PG.

Childcare will be available if requested in advance (by June 28) through the church office. Popcorn will be offered; please bring your own beverage.

Trinity: The God We Don't Know

by Jason Byassee
Facilitated by Brenda Hunter
Thursdays, Aug. 9, 16, 23, 30
6:30 p.m., Rm 17/18



During Communion the pastor addresses God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are called upon during our baptisms. Do you ever struggle with the idea of us calling ourselves monotheists but saying we worship the three persons of the Trinity? Is there a hierarchy among the persons of the Trinity? How do the roles of the three persons overlap, differ and complement each other? (Is 'persons' even what we call the three parts of the Trinity?) If you have questions or ever wondered about the Trinity, please join me in a four-part discussion based on the book **Trinity: The God We Don't Know** by Jason Byassee. The discussion will begin on Thursday, Aug. 9 at 6:30 p.m., Rm 17/18. Class is just one hour.

If you want the church to order your book for you, it will cost \$10, and you should register by July 30. The book will be distributed at our first meeting, which is when you will also pay for it. No advance reading is required for the class. (There is an eBook available through Cokesbury, if that is your favorite book format.) If you have any questions, contact Brenda Hunter (See Directory).

Save the Date!

Wed., July 18, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
"Praying Together for Peace" Worship Service



For the last several months, individuals from various faith communities have gathered to pray for peace. This began with Father Bill, from St. Frances of Cabrini, and has been hosted at six different locations in Tucson.

St. Mark's will host this event on **Wed., July 18**, as our program for Soul Station. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a community meal at 5:45 p.m., have Communion, then move to the Sanctuary by 6:30 p.m. for a short worship service. Fellowship will continue after worship with refreshments for all to enjoy. This event is open to the community and we hope to see you there!

This event is sponsored by the Church and Society Committee, **changing the world through Christ, by caring for all people.**

Pastor Evy, Chair
Church and Society Committee

Homeless and At-Risk Youth in Our Community



What happens to homeless and at-risk youth during the summer when it is very hot in Tucson? They continue to be supported by different organizations in Tucson, although some do not receive as much support since school is not in session. Those on the street continue to struggle, as they do during the rest of the year, to make it through another day. St. Mark's Missions supports two organizations whose main goal is to serve the homeless and at-risk youth. The two organizations are YOTO (Youth on Their Own) and Stand Up For Kids (SUFK). Thanks to you, these young people are receiving assistance and learning ways to cope, and build their lives in a positive way.

YOTO supports youth to keep them in school so they graduate high school. Many of these students continue their education, develop skills for the work world, and become self-sufficient citizens. During the summer, YOTO youth do not get the financial stipends for living expenses they normally would earn during the school year for having good grades. However, they can contact YOTO and can continue to shop at the YOTO mini mall for food, clothing, and hygiene items. You can check yoto.org to learn more about YOTO students, their success stories, and the different ways you can support them. The struggles and success stories may help you look at the homeless kids in a whole new way.

Stand Up For Kids is a national organization with a local program here in Tucson. The mission is to end the cycle of youth homelessness. Most of the adults who work in the program with our local youth are volunteers. Tucson has an outreach program of volunteers who go out into the streets to search for homeless and at-risk youth to build trust with them. This trust is to create in these youth a sincere belief in themselves through open, straight forward counseling, mentoring and lifelong training. The contact starts by supplying the youth with water, food, hygiene items, and sometimes clothing items or sleeping bags. Success might be first having a youth admit they do need help. These youth most likely are not receiving assistance from any organizations when first contacted. By building trust with the youth, the volunteers then seek to assist them with their needs. As well as working personally with the youth, Stand Up For Kids helps the youth find community services and organizations to support their different needs.

Become more aware, and learn more about the homeless youth in your community, by checking out Stand Up For Kids website at www.standupforkids.org/tucson or contact Lorri Jordan (See Directory) our Missions liaison for these organizations.

Summer Praise Choir

Do you love to sing? Do you love listening to Contemporary Christian Radio? Do you sing along in your car like nobody's watching? Do you want to do something new or different on a Sunday morning? Here's your chance!



During the 9:45 a.m. service this summer, a contemporary music choir will sing two songs. The structure is similar to the current Summer Choir, but we will sing on different Sundays. We will have keyboard and drums accompanying the group.

The group will meet in the choir room at 9:00 a.m. and rehearse the two songs. Then, depending on your comfort level, we will choose who will use a microphone, share a microphone, or sing without a microphone. If you play guitar or bass, you are welcome to join us for the songs as well! We will sing/play the two songs at 9:45 a.m. and have fun worshipping God together!

If you are interested, in singing or playing with this group, for one or more Sundays this summer, a CD and copies of the music are available for you to take home and listen to on your own. You can pick up the CD/Music after the 9:45 a.m. service near the piano from Cathy Harris-Herchenroeder. Sundays we will be in worship June 24; July 8, 22; Aug. 5, 19.



Remember if you are going away this summer, electronic giving is an easy and convenient way to automate your regular offering or capital campaign donation. Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit or debit card, and you can designate when you would like your contribution deducted. There is no additional cost for using this giving option.

To participate in electronic giving, visit our website at www.umcstmarks.org and click on the box "Giving" on the right side of the Home page. If you want to give using your phone or tablet, we also offer GivePlus Church, our new mobile giving app. Simply go to the App Store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus Church" to quickly find the app and download it for free. Please contact me (520-297-2062 or ruthk@umcstmarks.org) if you have questions or need additional information.

Ruth Kester, Bookkeeper

Dinner with the Mark-a-ritas

The Mark-a-ritas (a group of women in those more-or-less mature middle-age years) will be meeting for dinner on Thursday, July 12 at 6:00 pm at Vero Amore (12130 North Dove Mountain Blvd.). This is an opportunity to make new friends or strengthen older friendships over a delicious meal! If you would like to join us, contact Brenda Hunter July 9 (See Directory). We hope to see you there. Don't forget: eating out means the cooking and cleaning-up is done by someone else!



Over 50s Lunch

Start your Independence Day celebration a day early and join the Over 50s group on Tuesday, July 3, at Red Lobster restaurant (River and Oracle Roads). We will assemble for lunch at 11:30 a.m. and would love to have our usual friends plus some new friends join us. Call or text Sandra Rush (See Directory) so she can give an accurate count to the restaurant.



St. Mark's UMW Summer Schedule

There are no unit meetings in July or August. Instead, we will be getting together informally to work on crafts and cards. Join us on July 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Rm 17/18. Bring a craft project to work on or help others with a craft. This is a great opportunity to work on a craft for the Masterpiece Festival (11/3) or the UMW **Craft and Bake Sale**. Or, just come and enjoy the fellowship during our summer break.

Reflections

(Continued from back page.)

The last couple of days of Annual Conference, our new associate pastor, Stuart Salvatierra, sat with us too, beginning to connect with the people of our church. Laughing and learning, already showing his excitement about being part of St. Mark's.

In future issues of the Messenger, some of the people I've mentioned above will be writing articles to share their experiences of Annual Conference, and give you information. Be sure you read those!

This Sunday, June 24, we say farewell to Pastor Tammy and Jack Hallam. My life and our life at St. Mark's has been greatly

enriched by Tammy's work among us these last three years. I'm grateful for the opportunity to share ministry with her, and know that God is already preparing the next place where her great gifts will be offered.

Save the date: On Sunday, July 8, Elizabeth Heft will be with us in worship and at a lunch after the last service. Elizabeth is a General Board of Global Ministries missionary who serves in Bethlehem, Israel. Some of us had the chance to meet and learn from her when we were in Israel in February, and can't wait to have more time to hear her stories and perspectives. Plan to be there that day.

Blessings, Sharon

PRAYER CORNER

We are a praying community at St. Mark's. Besides Sunday worship, you may submit prayer requests by email to prayerchain@umcstmarks.org or from our website www.umcstmarks.org. Also, visit our Prayer Room on campus and leave a prayer on our prayer wall.

Gail Blevins
Jared Bowman & family
Michael Campbell
Donald Chester
Jesse Deyoe
Judy Drescher
Erik Frost
Lori Grimsey
Keith & Mary Ann Glazier

Breanne Hallam
Carolyn Hanna
David & Floretta Harrington
Patricia Keele
Pam Kytola
Karen Linebarier
Dorothy Montgomery
Damian Parkinson
Jim Preston

Daylene Peters
Hazel Roberts
Howard & Gina Russell
Marian Shultis
Jim Snedden
Josh Steinman
Carol Underwood
Jackie Vickers
Louise Voelker

Dave Wait
Lance Wald
Tom Walker
Jim Ward
Donald Watt
Dave & Jan Webster
Connie White
Lindsay Williams

CONDOLENCES:

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Pam Kytola and family, upon the passing of Pam's mother, Ellyne Dillavou. Services are pending. Also, to Judi and Jim Nibbelink upon the passing of Judi's mother, Jean, in Denver last week.

Calendar Notes

Sat., June 23

9:00 a.m. UMW District Mtg.

Sun., June 24

Pastor Tammy, Reception, Fellowship Hall

4:00 p.m. Youth Group

4:00 p.m. PreTeens Group

Mon., June 25

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

Tues., June 26

Annual Conference (Phoenix)

6:00 p.m. Board of Trustees, Conf. Rm.

6:30 p.m. Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall

Wed., June 27

Noon - **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

End of Day - **MESSENGER DEADLINE (Early)**

5:45 p.m. Community Meal, Fellowship Hall

6:15 p.m. Soul Station

6:15 p.m. Common Grounds

Thurs., June 28

6:30 p.m. Holy Yoga

Sat., June 30

9:30 a.m. Chronic Illness Support Grp., Library

10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry, Rm. 17/18

2:00 p.m. prep for Primavera meal, Kitchen



St. Mark's Messenger

Published bi-weekly

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Website:

www.umcstmarks.org

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Sharon Ragland

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Tammy Hallam

Sunday Worship:

8:15, 9:45, 11:15 a.m.

Soul Station

Wednesday Nights:

Community Meal

5:45 p.m.

Music/Programs

6:15-7:15 p.m.

Dear Church Family...



The family of Earlene Schock would like to thank the staff and congregation of St. Mark's for all the love, prayers, visits, and cards that were showered upon our mother. A special thanks to Pastor Sharon and Pastor Tammy for such a heartfelt Celebration of Life service. It couldn't have been more fitting. We are truly blessed!

Sincerely, The Luther and Schock Families

Thank you all for sending me so many wonderful birthday cards, notes, and for all your kind thoughts and prayers. I cherish the friendships, and love we share at St. Mark's. I miss you all when I'm away during the summer. May God bless you, and all those you love.

Kay Hayworth

Thank you for your compassion and kindness during the difficult time of grieving. May God bless you for your calls, cards, and presence. They were a great comfort to us.

Donna Severson and Family

Thank you so much for your expressions of sympathy upon the death of my brother, Bob. Cards, notes, telephone calls, and hugs were all greatly appreciated.

Sharon Hunter and family

Thanks to all those who helped and hosted our guest musicians from Colorado Springs First United Methodist Church on Sunday, June 3. The Colorado Springs First UMC Youth Singers, Youth Chorale, and Celebration Ringers provided an absolutely incredible concert that afternoon. The concert was followed by a taco bar dinner at which guests and hosts got acquainted. This dinner was made possible by the wonderful volunteers who helped out in the kitchen. Twenty-two households stepped up to host these young people and their chaperones overnight and had them back at the church early Monday morning to see them off to their adventure at the Desert Museum. Without so many gracious and generous people offering to help out, this experience would not have been possible. A very special thanks to Kathy Deason, Chair of the Music Committee. Without Kathy's coordinating and hard work, the event would not have been so successful. Sincerely,

Susan Putt, Coordinator of Music Ministries

Thanks,
Everyone!



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Reflections

There they were. There we were. Two tables of St. Mark's people at the meeting of the Desert Southwest Annual Conference in Glendale, AZ, June 13-16. As I looked from my table to the next one, I saw two of our lay delegates, Don Booth and Mark Hrabec, attentive to all that was going on, smiling, experienced at this. Two of our youth were there, too, Adrianna and Ruben, for the first time, learning and listening. Our deaconesses, Marjie Hrabec and Martha Lundgren were there, too, although sometimes Martha came to our next-door table, and sometimes Marjie sat with folks from Catalina UMC, where she works part time. Kayla Flannery, seminary student and longtime St. Mark's member was helping out the youth, and taking it all in, sitting next to Margaret Synhorst, there to observe and learn.

Kim Ogle was at our table, there because of her work with the Conference's youth and our youth, giving her time and guidance. Lay delegate Kelly Deyoe and his assistant, Susan, sat with us, along with Kelly's sister, Cheri Whisler, who is a UMC pastor on disability leave. There for the first time in a long time, Conference United Methodist Women President, Alberta Farnsworth, and her husband, David, working the Conference "app" on their devices (as we all were), engaged and committed to the work of the UMC. Judy Boroto, retired clergy and chair of St. Mark's Adult Spiritual Growth



Committee, sat next to me, took notes on our discussions, and laughed with me, participating in all that was going on.

Connected to each other in serving our church and the Conference, helping out the new people, guiding each other in using the electronic devices, debating on issues, enthralled with worship and people and all that the UMC does that is faithful to God and life-giving. Through all these people we are connected to the wider church, and bring those connections back to all of you, at home at St. Mark's.

(Continued on page 6.)