

Messenger



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

Connecting God and the World ... the Church in Mission

New sermon series begins August 12!

“Serve God faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you.” (1 Samuel 12:24)

Serving at Interfaith Community Services (ICS), in Agua Prieta, through Sierra Service Project and Middle School Mission, at The INN, and much more. We hear about our involvement with these, and now have the chance to learn more about how faith grows and deepens as we serve, in Jesus’ name. We’ll explore the history and reasons for involvement in God’s work in the world, and hear from some people who served in particular ministries that our church supports.

- August 12 **Mission Work, Then and Now** and Rally Day
- August 19 **Young Hands with Hammers and Saws** (Youth Sierra Service Project and Middle School Mission)
- August 26 **In Desperate Places, Providing Hope through The INN**
- September 2 **Christ Working With Us in Agua Prieta**
- September 9 **Telling the Story, Relieving Suffering at ICS**
- September 16 **An All-Church Effort, Connecting with Nash Elementary School**
- September 23 **Reaching Into the Community, Supporting Local Missions**
- September 30 **Our Call to Mission Today, Connecting Our Lives in Faith**

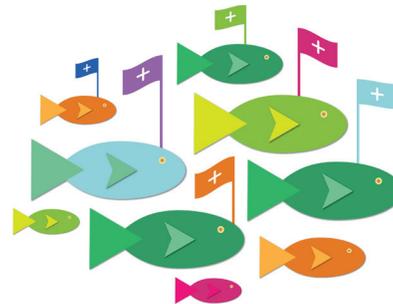
This is a great time to bring others to worship with you. See you in church!

Join Us for Rally Day Festivities

Rally Day is coming, and there is something for everyone!

Children and Youth

On August 12, children will move up to the next grade of Sunday School class with a big celebration, so (preschool children through fifth grade) meet on the West Patio at 9:30 a.m. Remember, sixth graders move up to the Wesley House for Sunday School and Youth Group! Middle and High School kids meet at the Wesley House Sunday at 9:45 a.m.



Adults

Make sure you stop by Fellowship Hall between services on Rally Day and visit with the Adult Spiritual Growth Ministry team about all the activities planned this fall. There is a full list of classes, activities, and studies in this issue of MESSENGER (see insert). The group will assist you with making selections and help get you registered for all the opportunities.

We will also focus on Missions this year. St. Mark’s Missions Committee invites you to stop by Fellowship Hall between services on Rally Day and pick up a brochure and visit with the Missions Committee about all the wonderful mission opportunities here at our church and ways that you can become involved and serve.



Meet Pastor Stuart!

The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) extends a invitation to the entire church family and encourages everyone to stop by Fellowship Hall after any of the three services on Sunday, Aug. 26 to personally meet Pastor Stuart Salvatierra.

Many of you have already said hello, in passing, but this is your opportunity to introduce yourself to Stuart and let him know how happy you are that he is here. Remember to wear your name tag for the **Meet and Greet** to help Stuart become better connected!

Donna Reed
Chair, SPRC



Children and Youth



Children's Ministry upcoming events. Mark your calendars now for these awesome children's ministry activities:

Aug. 12—RALLY DAY! Children (through 5th grade) meet us at the West Patio at 9:30 a.m. for a celebration and Sunday School.

Aug. 24—Kids Night Out! Kids come from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. for food, fun, and a movie!

Sept. 16—Christian Education Sunday. Celebrating all we do to learn more about God's love; third graders will receive Bibles.

Dec. 1—All-church Advent workshop to prepare for Christmas.

PreTeens Amp Up For Fall. The PreTeen Group is for young people in grades 4 and 5. On Rally Day, August 12, those who are entering grades 4 and 5 in school will attend Sunday School in room 8/9 at 9:45 a.m. The PreTeen group meets in the same room on Sunday afternoons from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. for fun filled fellowship. We're kicking off the school year with "Rally Day/Water Day." There will be a 30 foot, inflatable waterslide on the patio just for PreTeens (no teenagers allowed). Don't miss it!

Youth Ministry. Here at St. Mark's, our youth have a great time! Here's a sample of what's coming up:

On Rally Day (Aug. 12), sixth graders move up to the Wesley House for both Sunday School and Youth Group! Sunday School for Middle and High School is at the Wesley House every Sunday at 9:45 a.m. Lesson topics follow the worship plan, with a fun spin and some amazing teachers.

Youth Group is so fun. We typically meet on Sundays from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Wesley House. A "Youth Council" is elected each year, and there are fun programs every week. Some upcoming highlights include:

Aug. 12— Help us start the year with a SPLASH! Come join us for a great water fun day with a giant water slide and more!

Aug. 28— We will spend the day in Patagonia with our friends from the South District. There will be food, paddle boats, games, water fun, and of course friends! The whole semester is going to be amazing. There's the pumpkin patch in October, the High Ropes Course on Veterans Day and so much more. There's way too much to list here. You don't want to miss an event! Follow us on Facebook ([@StMarksYouthTucson](#)) or on Instagram ([@stmarksumyfj](#)) for the latest, most up-to-date information!

Confirmation for students eighth grade and up begins Sept. 9. Watch for more information if you are interested in this class.



Family Ministries



Family Ministries has exciting events planned for the fall! These events are fun ways to grow in fellowship with other families from our church, and the community. Family Ministries always provides exciting activities for families of all shapes and sizes. If you are interested in assisting with any events, or helping plan future events, please contact Rachel (rachel@umcstmarks.org).

Aug. 10—Water Fun Night; Oct. 27—Trunk or Treat; Dec. 8—Parents' Day Away.



CPR & Childcare



Need a refresher in CPR? On Sunday, Sept. 16, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. St. Mark's will offer Community CPR (Continuous Chest Compression CPR). This is a non-certification course, but all participants will receive a card for completing the training. Through this abbreviated class, you will receive basic information and skills to perform CPR in emergencies. The cost is \$10 per person, and registration is required. For more information or to register, please contact Ruth Kester (ruthk@umcstmarks.org or 297-2062) by Wednesday, Sept. 12.

St. Mark's childcare training is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 16, 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Training is available to those in 7th grade through adults who enjoy interacting with young children and who aren't afraid to change a diaper or get down on the floor to play. *Current and new childcare workers are required to attend the training.* This is a part-time, paid position. Shifts are primarily Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings during worship, however there are other day and evening slots available as needed. It's a great way to gain job experience and earn some spending money in the process. Please contact Ruth Kester (ruthk@umcstmarks.org or 297-2062) for more information to register for training. Please Note: CPR training is required for all childcare workers. This training will be held on Sunday, Sept. 16 prior to the childcare training from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. There is no fee for childcare staff, but you will need to contact Ruth Kester.



The Bells of St. Mark's is an adult handbell choir, playing easy to moderately difficult music. JoAnn Luther directs the group that rehearses at 6:30 p.m. Monday evenings in the Sanctuary. The bell choir plays once a month in the 8:15 and 9:45 worship services. This group is active from late August through May with its first rehearsal on Aug. 20.

Celebration Singers is one of St. Mark's adult choirs open to all who love to sing. This group is directed by Sondra Franks, accompanied by Lira Makarova and tends to sing more gospel and contemporary music. Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 in the choir room. This group usually sings three times a month at the traditional services. This group is active from late August through May and has its first rehearsal for the upcoming year on Aug. 22.

Chancel Choir is open to high school students and adults, and sings a range of multicultural and traditional music for the 8:15 and 9:45 services. It is led by Elizabeth Schauer, with Sondra Franks accompanying. Music reading is helpful, but not necessary. Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 in the Sanctuary beginning Aug. 22. This group generally sings three times a month and for special events, and is active from late August through May.

The St. Mark's Children's Choir is for youngsters from kindergarten through fifth grade. Rehearsals take place in Rm 8/9 for twenty minutes immediately following Sunday School and is led by April DuBoce. Parents are encouraged to fellowship with others until it is time for the children to be picked up. Gatherings will focus on learning traditional children's songs of faith, rather than participating in worship. However, traditionally this group is invited to join in the 4:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. This group does not gather during summer Sunday School, but will start up again on Rally Day, Aug. 12.

Grace Notes is a unique youth instrumental ensemble at St. Mark's, open to young people in fourth grade and up. The leadership for this group is currently open. It rehearses Sunday mornings at 9:00 in Rm 18. This ensemble has traditionally been invited to perform at the Easter Sunrise Service. Grace Notes does not rehearse during the summer, but will resume if/when a new director is found.

St. Mark's Praise Team is an ensemble of voices that leads the music during the 11:15 Sunday morning modern service, **The Gathering**. This group is open to high school age youth and adults. Unlike the other music groups who meet from late August through May, this group continues year round. Cathy Harris-Herchenroeder serves as the Praise Team leader, accompanied by Todd Martin. Rehearsals are held Thursday evenings at 6:30 in the Sanctuary.

Do you sing or play an instrument but don't necessarily want to commit to an established group? There are 'hidden gems' in our congregation – and you may very well be one of them! You may be a person who sings beautifully and loves to do so, but is not necessarily interested in or able to commit to a group that meets regularly. That does not leave you out! Or perhaps you are accomplished on an instrument and we simply don't know about it. Please contact the Coordinator of Music Ministries, Susan Putt (susan@umcstmarks.org or 297-2062). Not everyone has the music ability to perform a solo, but if you think you might (either vocally or instrumentally) and are interested, please consider sharing your talents and let us know, we can help!

Musical Musings Series

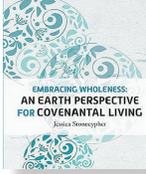
The Music Ministry at St. Mark's is excited to announce its upcoming series of Musical Musings right here at St. Mark's. Performances are scheduled at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon in the Sanctuary unless indicated otherwise. All events are free and open to the community so make sure you invite your friends and neighbors.

- ♥ Sept. 16—Family viewing of **Godspell** at Fellowship Hall (with drinks and snacks served)
- ♥ Oct. 28—Lira Makarova and Renee Bond (piano and flute performance) and reception
- ♥ Nov. 18—Sly Man and Sheryl Ann Jazz Quartet
- ♥ Dec. 9—Community Carol Sing and reception
- ♥ Jan. 13—Patricia Kaltenberger & Jim Black (piano and violin performance)
- ♥ Feb. 3—Koffeehouse for Kairos Doug Bowers & Friends (guitar, banjo, and bass)
coffeehouse type set-up in Fellowship Hall (with drinks and snacks)
- ♥ Feb. 22—The University of Arizona Symphonic Choir (Friday evening, 7:00 p.m.)
- ♥ March 31—Celebration Singers Concert and reception
- ♥ April 28—Tucson Barbershop Experience





St. Mark's United Methodist Women will host the South District United Methodist Women's **Mission u** on Friday and Saturday, August 24 and 25. **Mission u** provides an opportunity to study current issues impacting society through learning and studying together. These studies are based on current mission topics focusing on the responsibilities of women in fulfilling the mission work of the church. Participants gain an understanding of the mission of the church in the current world context. This year's focus is *Spiritual Growth, Social Issues and Geographical Study*.

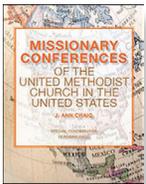


The **Spiritual Growth Study** explores the ways God has called us to live in covenantal relationship with all of creation. Readers (study participants) will learn about, and be challenged to work toward stronger and healthier relationships with creation, their communities, themselves, and God. \$10 - Order M3313 from www.umwmissionresources.org



The **Social Issue Study** is both personal and communal and will explore our own relationship with money, the money choices available to us and how we—individually and collectively—respond to economic inequalities in light of our faith. We all have a relationship with money. Do you love money? Do you hate it? Do you recall events in your life that shaped how you feel about money? How much money do you have? Does anyone else know that number? Most of us would rather talk about politics, or death, or pretty much anything else before we talk about money. This Study explores how we understand money within the context of our faith. This discussion and our own awareness of how we relate to money can actually help free us from many of the financial dilemmas we face.

\$10 - Order M3310 from www.umwmissionresources.org



The **Geographical Study** gives the reader (study participant) a foundational understanding of how the United Methodist Church developed as it is today, by considering the mission and ministries of the three U.S. missionary conferences of the Church: Alaska United Methodist Conference; Red Bird Missionary Conference; and Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. This Study tells the story of The United Methodist Church, including how Methodists boldly fought against injustice, and at other times were perpetrators of it. The Study asks us to acknowledge our place in this history and to strive toward a better future in which we: "Love God and neighbor, serve those in need, challenge injustice, and walk humbly with God." \$10 - Order from www.umwmissionresources.org

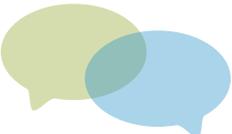
Registration fee for Mission u is \$65 per person and is due by Aug. 17. Register online at <https://dscumc.org/united-methodist-women/>. Check-in begins at 2:30 p.m. St. Mark's Fellowship Hall, on Friday, Aug. 24. You do not have to be a member of United Methodist Women to attend Mission u. Contact Virginia Tupper (ginr3636@gmail.com or 520-820-4119) if you have any questions.

Grace Circle

United Methodist Women's Grace Circle is a "hands-on" women's mission group which volunteers around church and at various local organizations supported by United Methodist Women and/or St. Mark's UMC mission funds. This fall we will go to: September: Reunion House for Homeless Youth; October: GAP Ministries; and November: The INN. In the spring, we'll go to Sister Jose Women's Center and the Marana Food Bank among other places. All women are welcome to join us, you don't have to be a member of UMW to participate. We gather each month (third Tuesday) in the church Library at 9:15 a.m., then carpool to where we volunteer. Watch the church newsletter and/or weekly Sunday worship bulletin for specific information about Grace Circle meetings and activities.



Common Grounds is a group of young people, in our 20s-40s, on many walks of life. Whether you are married, single, a parent, a student, or none of the above, this is a place for you to get to know God and help us make a difference. Join us for one of our many opportunities! We meet for a study every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. in Rm 20. This is a very laid back, relaxed Bible study. You can come to whichever weeks work for you, it's ok if you can't come every time! We also have a discussion group that meets every Wednesday during Soul Station. Dinner is at 5:45 p.m., then we head over to the church Library around 6:15 p.m. You are welcome for one or both components! Monthly, we meet for coffee and conversation (on the third Saturday of every month) in the church Library at 6:00 p.m. Childcare is always available if you make the request in advance through the church office. Hope to see you there!





Several months ago, we began implementing St. Mark's Safety Ministry focusing on the key areas listed below. We are still in the early stages of obtaining training and developing processes, and are looking for additional volunteers. If you are interested in serving the Lord by helping to maintain a safe and secure environment for worship, prayer and study, please contact St. Mark's Safety Ministry team coordinator, John Shattuck (jwshatt1116@cs.com or 757-635-1919) or Pastor Evy (297-2062). They can provide you with more details, to help you decide if you'd like to participate and how you feel you could best contribute your time and effort. The group meets monthly, on Sunday from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Anyone interested in participating in this ministry is welcome, specific skills/experience is not necessary, but always helpful. Following are the areas of focus and basic concepts of each team:

MEDICAL RESPONSE TEAM—The role of the medical response team is important because they provide immediate basic support until professional emergency medical technicians arrive. This team will meet with EMT personnel to obtain their suggestions to eliminate exposures. Volunteers with medical experience, a CPR certification, EMT's, First Responders would make excellent volunteers.



SAFETY RESPONSE TEAM—This group has two sub-teams Fire and Disruptive Persons.

Fire: Volunteers will meet with fire department personnel, as well as develop a list of audit items to ensure proper fire safety and evacuation procedures and develop additional processes as required. People with experience in fire safety, first responders would make excellent volunteers. **Disruptive Persons:** Volunteers will meet with law enforcement personnel to obtain ideas and training and appropriate methods used to identify and eliminate potential disruptive situations before they occur and verbally de-escalate a disruptive situation to a peaceful ending. People with law enforcement or military experience, First Responders, as well as skills in verbal de-escalation, self-defense, counseling and negotiating would make excellent volunteers.

CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS—Volunteers meet with appropriate agencies to obtain ideas and training of appropriate methods. Then develop procedures to identify and eliminate potential problems with children and vulnerable adults. People with experience working with children, adolescents, and vulnerable adults would make excellent volunteers.



Have you been wanting to know more about St. Mark's United Methodist Church? Whether you are considering membership or are just curious about the details regarding what it means to be a United Methodist—historically and currently—our Exploring Membership class might be just the answer. The next class is scheduled the last two Sundays of September, on the 23rd and 30th. We'll meet in the church Library from 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. both Sundays and a light lunch will be served mid-session each time.

At the conclusion of the class, those who wish to take vows and officially join St. Mark's will do so on Sunday, October 14. If you have any questions, please contact Janie in the church office (janie@umcstmarks.org or 297-2062). You may register for the classes online at www.umcstmarks.org, or sign up any Sunday morning, at the Adult Spiritual Growth bulletin board located in the courtyard, or by speaking with Janie Towne. We've found that even lifelong Methodists learn from these sessions and have much to share. We'd love to have you join us!



The goal of the Chronic Illness Group is to help one another cope with pain and chronic illness through prayer, discussion, the love of Jesus, and to carry that love and hope to others who are suffering. We are a group of men and women with multiple and varying diagnosis. Whatever YOU deem is something for which you would like to spend time with other Christians finding ways through God to cope and thrive where possible, in spite of our physical challenges is your decision. We refrain from comparing our severity of pain and illness to each other and recognize person's experiences and tolerances are unique.

We have a short book series about chronic illness and the Christian life that we study. We pray together, and do mission projects such as serving a Soul Station meal. We even play games to bring levity to our paths. The group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, in the church Library and one Saturday a month for people who cannot make the weekly meeting. Upcoming meetings are Wednesday Aug. 8, Wednesday Aug. 22, Wednesday Sept. 12, Wednesday Sept. 26, and Saturday Sept. 29. If you have questions, please contact April DuBoce (336-2614).



Adult Spiritual Growth

Faith is a journey!

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, Aug. 12—Rally Day and Fall Launch; Sunday, Aug. 19—Facilitators' Gathering; Sunday, Aug. 26—Long-term Class Orientation

Trinity: The God We Don't Know

Thursdays, 6 p.m., begins Aug. 9, (4 weeks), Led by Brenda Hunter

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? If you have questions or ever wondered about the Trinity please come and join this discussion.

Life is Prayer—Developing a Conversation with God

One-Day Fall Retreat, Sept. 29, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Led by Rev. Roger Pierce and Rev. Judy Boroto

Picture Rock Redemptorist Retreat Center, Prayer is much more than an “activity” or an “event.” As Scripture reminds us, we are to “pray constantly.” If you would like to explore prayer as an ongoing conversation with God join us. (\$35.00 fee includes lunch and materials.)

PRAYER

Praying the Psalms

Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. begins Oct. 9 (4 weeks), Led by Judy Boroto

Discover the richness of the Psalms. Learn to pray into and through them. Let the gamut of your emotions place you closer to God. Experience telling God how you feel. Experiment with writing your own Psalm. No prior Bible study necessary.

Labyrinth

Saturday, 9:00 a.m., Oct. 20, Led by Ruth Machtley

Introduction to the history of the labyrinth and a guided practice. Rediscover this ancient way of praying. It's a mini-pilgrimage to seek a way of communicating with God.

BIBLE STUDY

History of the Bible

Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m. begins Sept. 5, (10 weeks), Led by Pastor Stuart Salvatierra

Never had the opportunity to read the Bible with understanding? Always wanted to know a bit more about how it came to be? Join in this class to discover and explore what God is revealing to us. No prior Bible study is necessary.

The Gospel of Mark

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, begins Oct. 4 (5 weeks), Led by Pastor Evy McDonald

Explore the first Gospel written. What does this account tell us about the life of Jesus and the basis of our Christian faith? No prior Bible study is necessary.

Fruit of the Spirit

Sundays, 11:00 a.m., (9 weeks), Led by Margaret Synhorst

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. To be spiritually mature is to show the fruit of the Spirit of Christ in our lives. These Bible studies from Old and New Testament passages highlight each quality and inspire us to nurture the Spirit's fruit in our lives. Each week is a complete study.

SOCIAL ISSUES

United Methodist Social Principles

Mondays, 6:30 p.m., 3 weeks, begins Nov. 12, Led by Jim Nibbelink

The Social Principles are a prayerful and thoughtful effort of the General Conference to speak to the issues in the contemporary world from a sound biblical and theological foundation. Come learn more about what we believe and how we can be involved.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

Spiritual Autobiography

Thursdays, 3:00 p.m., begins Sept. 20, (7 weeks), Led by Judy Boroto

Ever given any thought to your life's journey? To your faith journey? Ever wondered: What are my family roots & traditions? How did I get to where I am now— in my faith, in my life? These topics and others will help you tell the stories that you'd really like to share with family and friends.

Wesleyan Living

Sundays, 9:45 a.m., begins Oct. 21, (5 weeks)

Learn about some of the spiritual practices of our founder John Wesley and have the opportunity to practice the practices.

Living the Questions, Part 2

Mondays, 1:00 p.m., begins Sept. 17, (7 weeks), Led by Roger Pierce and Art Ragland

Discussion on a variety of theological topics by a wide variety of theologians, pastors, authors and others. (Part 1 of this curriculum is required to participate in Part 2).

LONG-TERM STUDIES

Be sure to read the great testimony (page nine) from Kelly Deyoe regarding the benefits of taking Disciple classes!

Becoming Disciples through Bible Study (Disciple Bible Study 1)

Thursdays, 6 p.m., begins Sept. 6, (34 weeks), Led by Pastor Stuart Salvatierra and Rev. Helen Schlinder

An overview of the entire Bible. The study gives the Old and New Testaments equal time, emphasizing the wholeness of the Bible as a revelation of God. DISCIPLE draws upon the work of scholars, the personal Bible reading and study of the participant, and dynamic group discussion to aid understanding of the Bible.

Into the Word - Into the World (Disciple Bible Study 2)

Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m., begins Sept. 4, (24 weeks), Led by Linda Walker and Vicky Minger

Genesis, Exodus, Luke, Acts – a look at the beginnings of our faith. These four books are studied in more depth, giving six weeks to each one. Beginnings of Judaism and Christianity in Genesis and Luke; the extension into the world in Exodus and Acts. (DBS-1 is a prerequisite for this study).

Creating, Living, Trusting: Bible Study on Covenant

Thurs, 1:30 p.m., begins Sept. 6, (24 weeks), Led by Linda Sterling and Alberta Farnsworth

This study is based on the understanding that it is through community, shared reflection and engagement that we can best discover the Bible's transformative power. It helps us respond together in answering God's call to a faithful life in Jesus. It embraces a learning experience that builds trust in others and confidence in scripture.

Jesus in the Gospels

Thursdays, 6:00 p.m., begins Sept. 6, (30 weeks), Led by Margaret Synhorst and Judy Boroto

This course illuminates some aspect of the Jesus in the Gospels each week and connects Scripture to daily life and Jesus' call to discipleship. The study helps us understand that Jesus is rooted in Judaism and its Scriptures and that Christianity and the New Testament are rooted in the Hebrew Scriptures – our Old Testament. Prior in-depth Bible study is a prerequisite. Please speak with the leaders.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

<i>Class Name</i>	<i>Day/Time</i>	<i>Location</i>
Sharing/Family Life Class	Sunday, 9:45 a.m.	Room 17/18
Common Ground	Sunday, 11:00 a.m.	Room 20
Seekers	Sunday, 11:15 a.m.	Room 17/18
Mountain View Group	Monday, 10:00 a.m.	Mountain View Retirement Village
Wednesday Group	Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.	Room 17/18
Open Minds book discussion	Friday, 9:30 a.m.	Library (Sept. 8)
Holy Yoga	Sunday, 4:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
Holy Yoga	Monday, 9:15 a.m.	Fellowship Hall
Holy Yoga	Thursday, 6:30 p.m.	Fellowship Hall

WASS UP?

August 1, 2018

Volume 19, Issue 15



UPCOMING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

August 5, 2018—
Pool Party!

August 12, 2018 — Rally Day
9:45 a.m.
Sunday School grades 6-12
@ Wesley House



4:00-6:00
Rally Day Water Day
Inflatable water slides

August 19, 2018 —
World Photography Day
www.worldphotoday.org



4:00-6:00
Photo Extravaganza
(props, challenges, other great fun)

August 25, 2018 —
District Event at
Patagonia Lake



Fun Filled Fellowship

Hey Preteen's, Can you believe that summer is almost over and it's time to be heading back to school? I know, it does not seem possible right? This will be a busy month of Fun Filled Fellowship at Preteen group. August 5th will be our last time with our friends who are going into 6th grade/middle school. August 12th is Rally Day and we will welcome in some new 4th grade friends to our group and say good bye to Jayce as he heads off to College in Prescott. Also, don't forget to bug your family and friends for their empty 12 pack soda boxes. I want to build a life size "JENGA" game - so we need lots of 12 pack boxes (you know, the long skinny ones that look like BIG "Jenga" pieces.) See you on Sunday.
Blessings, Julie

August 5th - Board Game Night in our AIR CONDITIONED room. Games and snacks. If you have a favorite game at home, bring it in.

August 12th - Rally Day Party Day
Inflatable slip and slide and CAKE!!!!

August 19th - Friendship Night-
Indoor games like bowling and other fun games; new friends; fun snack!

August 26th - Movie Night

Find us on Social Media!



St. Mark's Youth Group



stmarksumyf

a note from the
YOUTH DIRECTOR

This summer has been amazing! It's been lots of fun to have all those cool activities that are unique to summer, and to be with many of you and your friends, as you served on Middle School Mission and SSP.

While you're all getting ready for school, Rachel and I are getting ready for a new year of youth group and Sunday School. We've already planned through December. You're going to want to bring lots of friends.

Speaking of plans, remember that God has a plan for you. If you get a little nervous or tense, lean on God. Look up Jeremiah 29:11. (It's a good one.)

Blessings,
Kim

Middle School Moments

What is the king of all school supplies?? The Ruler! Ha! I'm hilarious, right? (Don't answer that).

This summer just FLEW by. If you aren't in school yet, you are probably either frantically getting ready or desperately trying to pretend it isn't happening. I remember well the excitement and nervousness that came along with the beginning of each new school year. It's un-nerving not knowing how each day will go. Will your teachers be nice? Will you have classes with some of your friends? But it's also so exciting knowing you have that clean slate. You might not know your teachers, but they also don't know you! You get to start over. Make a name for yourself. Make it a good one!

See you Sunday!
Rachel



How do I download a permission slip?

You need this

- Step 1: Go to umcstmarks.org
- Step 2: Click on "resources" at the top.
- Step 3: Go to "forms"; page down to Youth
- Step 4: Click & Print
- Step 5: Share with a friend!

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord.
"They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."



There is a great need for volunteers at the Interfaith Community Services (ICS) to answer phones and greet clients and they need summertime drivers! To help recruit more drivers, ICS offers it's summer "ANYWHERE" driver incentive program. This includes monthly raffles. Go to www.icstucson.org and click on the volunteer tab to learn more or contact the Volunteer Resources Manager, Tori Carlson (526-9308).

Also, the summer drive to collect 10,000 jars of peanut butter is still in full swing. St. Mark's donated 180 jars of peanut butter to ICS. The Peanut Butter Party continues through the end of summer, so if you didn't bring your peanut butter to church, head to ICS on Ina and Shannon Rd. (north side of the street) and drop it off at the "food donation" door.



Is It Time For You To Step Out?

Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.
—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Disciple classes have helped me realize how little I really understood the Bible. Although I had read the Bible, the insights of my Disciple group sometimes had such a profound effect on me—like a light bulb turning on. Being able to get someone else's insight into verses and passages from the Bible was essential to deepening my understanding of God's word and what it means for me today.

The fellowship and close-knit community that develops from such long-term study and sharing cannot be overstated. The Disciple groups are very accepting and nonjudgmental, and close bonds develop that continue well beyond the classroom.

The Disciple classes add to your understanding of the Bible and yourself, and to an understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. I have received comfort from that and these classes have helped form a way to direct my life and my ministry.

I recommend the Disciple classes for anybody wishing to enrich themselves and those around them.

Kelly Deyoe

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. Please pray for:

Gail Blevins
Jared Bowman & family
Michael Campbell
Donald Chester
Judy Drescher
Keith & Mary Ann Glazier
Breanne Hallam
Carolyn Hanna

David & Floretta Harrington
Patricia Keele
Brent & Karen Linebarier
Jean Ogle
Damian Parkinson
Hazel Roberts
Howard & Gina Russell
Marian Shultis

Ellen Stephenson
Carol Underwood
Jackie Vickers
Dave Wait
Linda Walker
Dave & Jan Webster
Connie White
Lindsay Williams

CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathy and prayers to Linda Walker and family, on the death of Tom Walker who passed away July 26, 2018. Information about a memorial service will be provided as soon as it becomes available.

Calendar Notes

Wed., Aug. 1

Noon - **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

5:45 p.m. Soul Station Dinner, Fellowship Hall

6:15 p.m. Soul Station

6:15 p.m. Common Grounds

Thurs., July 12

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

6:30 p.m. Mom's of Military, Library

Sun., Aug. 5

4:00 p.m. Preteens, Rm 8/9

4:00 p.m. Youth Group, Wesley House

Mon., Aug. 6

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

6:00 p.m. Movie Night, Fellowship Hall

Wed., Aug. 8

Noon - **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

5:45 p.m. Soul Station Dinner, Fellowship Hall

6:15 p.m. Soul Station

6:15 p.m. Common Grounds

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

Thurs., Aug. 9

Noon - **MESSENGER DEADLINE**

6:30 p.m. Holy Yoga

7:00 p.m. Animal Ministry

Fri., Aug. 10

5:00 p.m. Food Truck Cafe, Parking Lot

6:00 p.m. Water Fun Night, West Patio



St. Mark's Messenger

Published bi-weekly

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www.umcstmarks.org

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Sharon Ragland

Associate Pastors:

Stuart Salvatierra

Rev. Dr. Evy McDonald

Sunday Worship:

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

Soul Station

Wednesday Nights:

Dinner - 5:45 p.m.

Music/Programs

6:15-7:15 p.m.

Dear Church Family...



Thank you for the well wishes and cards of support while I went through cancer treatment. I have completed all treatment and am doing well. Praise the Lord! I also want to thank everyone for their support when I lost my mother in June. We had a beautiful memorial service at St. Marks. Many thanks to Pastor Sharon and the Membership Care Team who made the celebration so special. Blessings to all!

Pam Kytola

Thank you for your loving care, prayers and wonderful generosity towards Megan. We love you all.

Tammy and Jack Hallam

Thanks to all of you for your prayers, thoughts, calls, and words of encouragement before and after my knee surgery. I have a new, improved left kneecap and am well on my way to a full recovery.

Dorothy Montgomery

The **Church and Society** committee would like to thank those who attended and assisted with the Praying Together for Peace service held Wednesday, July 18. Some of you have asked about attending other monthly Praying Together for Peace services. The next Praying Together for Peace service is Wednesday, Aug. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at Johrei Fellowship Center, 3919 E River Rd. If you would like to be notified of future Praying Together for Peace services, please email Father Bill Rimmel (bjremmel@gmail.com).

The Mark-a-ritas will have a Mexican-theme potluck on Monday, Aug. 13, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Newcomers are welcome! This is an opportunity to get better acquainted and to share a favorite Mexican dish or experiment with a new recipe for an appetizer, salad, main dish, and dessert. After dinner, we'll share travel adventures and stories from our trips south of the border. Those of us with a Mexican heritage may want to share a family custom that originated in Mexico. If you plan to attend our Mexican potluck, please RSVP by Friday, Aug. 10, to Celeste Pardee (cpardee@u.arizona.edu or 742-9688) so I'll know how to prepare.



Ever heard of the Bisbee Breakfast Club? If you've never been to the restaurant, here's your chance. **Join the Over 50s** there on Tuesday, Aug. 7, 11:30 a.m. for a late breakfast or delicious lunch. It's located at 4131 W Ina Rd. on the south side of Ina just before you get to Old father Rd. Please call or text Sandra Rush (520-780-4876).



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Reflections

Back to school time already! At the beginning of August many people wonder, “How did summer vacation go so quickly?” I’m writing this from our vacation spot in Lake Tahoe. We’ll be on our way home by the time many of you read this. I’m looking forward to being back in worship with you on August 5.

On August 12, we launch a new sermon series as part of this year’s theme of **Connecting to God and One Another**. In August and September, we have the chance to look at **Connecting God and the World ... the Church in Mission**. We’ll start with what mission work is, why we do mission work at all, what Scripture calls us to, and how mission work has been both helpful and harmful in the past. We’ll also have the chance to hear about the mission work our church does in the community and beyond, and hear stories from people who’ve been involved in Sierra Service Project, Middle School Mission, INN Project, our work in Agua Prieta, Mexico, Nash Elementary School, Interfaith Community Services, and other local missions. This promises to be a rich and inspiring time, as we hear from our church’s people about their work on our behalf, and look closely at what Scripture tells us to do, in Jesus’ name.

I’ve been thinking and reading about mission work, in preparation for this series. I reread Barbara Kingsolver’s

Poisonwood Bible, a fictional account of a pastor and family who became missionaries in a village in the Belgian Congo around 1960. Rev. Price thought he could bring his message, methods of agriculture, music, and way of life and impose it on the local people, and they would run willingly into his church. He had more than a thing or two to learn. It was months into his ministry before he understood why the people would not send their children to be baptized into the river—it was full of crocodiles, and one had recently gobbled up a small child.

Another book I’ve been reading is **Toxic Charity** by Robert Lupton, who says “never do for the poor what they have (or could have) the capacity to do for themselves” and “Strive to empower the poor through employment, lending and investing” and “listen closely to those you seek to help, especially to what is not being said...”

We’ll look at these ideas, and much more, and consider closely Jesus’ words, in Matthew 25:40, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it for one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” I expect this will be an informative and inspiring series, and a good time to invite others to join you in worship.

Blessings, Sharon