

# Messenger

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

Volume 58, Number 17

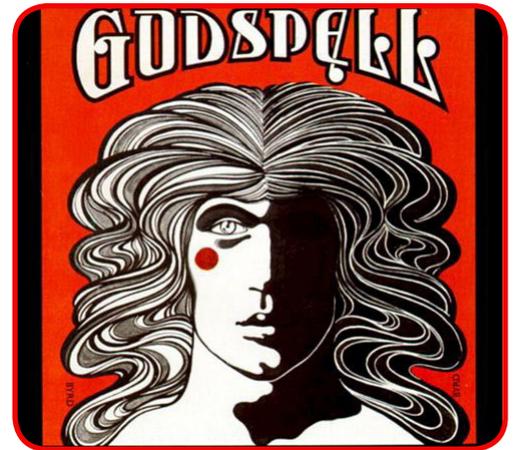
August 29, 2018

St. Mark's  
United Methodist

## Godspell Movie Viewing

We will gather in the **Fellowship Hall at 3:00 Sunday, Sept. 16** for a viewing of this modern classic. This event, cosponsored by St. Mark's Music Ministry and Faith on Stage, is family friendly, free, and open to the community. Snacks and beverages will be served. Proceeds from a freewill offering will be split between Faith on Stage and St. Mark's Concert Fund.

**Godspell** is a musical, composed by Stephen Schwartz with the spoken parts by John-Michael Tebelak. It opened off Broadway on May 17, 1971, and has played in various touring companies and revivals many times since, including a 2011 revival which played on Broadway from October 13, 2011, to June 24, 2012. Several cast albums have been released over the years and one of its songs, "Day by Day" from the original cast album, reached number 13 on the Billboard pop singles chart in the summer of 1972.



The structure of the musical is that of a series of parables, mostly based on the Gospel of Matthew. The parables are interspersed with a variety of modern music set primarily to lyrics from traditional hymns, with the passion of Christ treated briefly near the end of the performance. It started as a college project performed by students at Carnegie Mellon University and moved to La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club in Greenwich Village. It was then re-scored for an off-Broadway production which became a long-running success. A junior one-act version with some songs and monologues removed has also been made under the title **Godspell Junior**.

## First Responders Block Party



A First Responders Appreciation Block Party is scheduled on Tuesday, Sept. 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. come celebrate our local first responders at the 7th annual appreciation block party across the street from church at Mountain View Retirement Village (7900 N. La Cañada Dr.) Pastor Sharon will provide an invocation. Entertainment will include a musical presentation by members of St. Mark's choir, and other members of the community who are part of the program include Sheriff Napier, and Mayor Hiremath.

A delicious barbeque lunch will be served (to eat there or take home) and many of the local first responders such as OV Police K-9, Pima County SWAT team and bomb squad, Golder Ranch Fire Dept., U.S. Border Patrol and others will have exhibits.

If you plan to attend please use St. Mark's parking lot as parking accommodations at Mr. View during the event will be restricted. Everyone is welcome, it will be fun for all ages! This is a free event and open to the entire community.

### JOB OPENING

St. Mark's is looking for an experienced Administrative Associate for the front office of this very busy church. This full-time position (Monday – Friday, 8:00-4:30 p.m.) is eligible for benefits. If interested, please send a resume and cover letter to [info@umcstmarks.org](mailto:info@umcstmarks.org) by Thursday, September 6. Visit [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org) >ABOUT >JOB OPPORTUNITIES to review a job description.

## **The Merits Of Disciple Bible Study**

Remember what Pastor Stuart said last Sunday about taking a risk? Here are some things that former participants have to say about their experiences with Bible Study.

### **Margaret Synhorst**

When I took Disciple, I had two small children and many other commitments. It was hard to get there and be prepared each week, but it was such a rich time of fellowship and learning that I looked forward to it so much. My faith grew so much in that one year and I made great friends. You will never have a free year to devote to Disciple—you have to make the time. I hope this year you will consider being a part of Disciple.

### **Martha Mazzolini**

Reluctantly, I signed up for Disciple I (and) I completed four years of Disciple classes, one year of Jesus in the Gospels and one year of Christian Believers. These six years have strengthened my Christian foundation and helped me to focus my beliefs and act upon them.

### **Susan Gerstad**

The Disciple Bible Study series I—IV and Jesus in the Gospels honestly changed the course of my life and most certainly my faith journey. Another bonus was the multiple friendships that developed over the course of meeting each week.

### **Kelly Deyoe**

I didn't realize how little I really understood the Bible or the misconceptions I had, until I began to study it in depth. The insights of those studying with me sometimes had such a profound effect (like a light bulb turning on) and was essential to deepening my understanding of God's Word and what it means for me today. The fellowship and close-knit community that developed from such long-term study and sharing cannot be overstated. I feel very close to those I have been in Disciple with. The first Disciple Class is time consuming and entails a lot of reading, but well worth the effort. The second Disciple Class required less work, but was even more fulfilling than the first.

## **Bible Study Opportunities Open Now!**

### **Becoming Disciples through Bible Study**

#### **(Disciple Bible Study I)**

Thursdays, 6:00 p.m., begins Sept. 6, (34 weeks)

Led by Pastor Stuart Salvatierra and Rev. Helen Schlinder

### **Into the Word—Into the World**

#### **(Disciple Bible Study II)**

Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m., begins Sept. 4, (24 weeks)

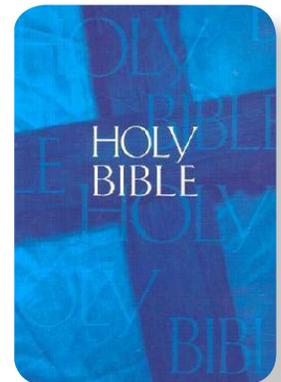
Led by Linda Walker and Vicky Minger

### **Creating, Living, Trusting: Bible Study on Covenant**

Thursday, 1:30 p.m., begins Sept. 6, (24 weeks)

Led by Linda Sterling and Alberta Farnsworth

Covenant: Promises as undertaking commitment made between two entities. This in-depth study of the whole Bible emphasizes the biblical concept of covenant as a unifying pattern through all the books in the Old and New Testaments. It underscores the unique relationship that God chooses to have with us as God's people. This relationship is grounded in the faithfulness of God's love and on our ongoing commitment to stay in love with God while we share signs of that love with others. Register now, online at [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org) or sign up at the Adult Spiritual Growth bulletin board located in the courtyard on Sunday.



# Passages in Caregiving: Turning Chaos into Confidence

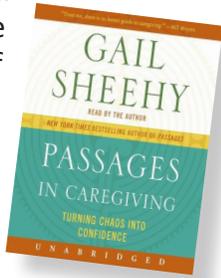
Presented by the Counselor-in Residence program and facilitated by Mary Lu Kiracofe, this six-week class starting on Thursday, Oct. 4 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. will be held in the Library. This is for those of you currently facing the challenges of caregiving for a loved one.

As a caregiver, you understand how difficult it is to make time for your own needs, and yet it is essential to your own stamina, mental health and quality of care giving. Using the book by Gail Sheehy, *Passages in Caregiving: Turning Chaos Into Confidence* and the support and insight of the class participants, we will explore issues ranging from receiving and understanding the diagnosis, the art of advocacy, ways of mobilizing family, friend and community resources, and last but not least, valued self-care strategies.

Caregiving is a powerful emotional journey and this class will examine, explore and offer ways to care for the difficult emotions and isolation associated with caregiving and the potential creativity, compassion and supportive connections that can emerge from this sacred role.

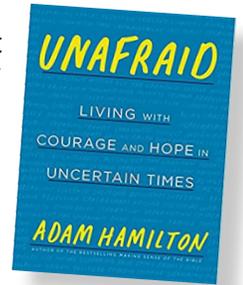
This sharing and supportive class will be facilitated by Mary Lu Kiracofe. Please contact Mary Lu (see directory) if you have questions or if you are interested in reserving a space for this class. You may also register online at [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org). Class size is limited so advanced registration (on or before Sept. 26) is suggested.

If you would like you may purchase or borrow the book, *Passages in Caregiving*. There are some copies available in the St Mark's library or the public library. There is no charge for the class.



## Monthly Book Discussion

Open Minds Book Discussion will meet at 9:30 a.m. each fourth Friday of the month in the Library, starting on Friday, Sept. 22. This group is open to anyone, it's an open-house format.



To start our year, we'll be discussing Adam Hamilton's *UNAFRAID, Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times*.

"Drawing on recent research, inspiring real-life examples, and fresh Biblical insight, Hamilton shows how to untangle the knots we feel about disappointing others, failure, financial insecurity, loneliness, insignificance and aging, as well as outside perils like terrorism, death and the apocalypse." Come join us! Jane and Jerry Bartow

## Empty Nest Interrupted: When Young Adult Children Have Trouble Leaving the Nest

Facilitated by Lane Harmon, MC, LPC  
Location: Wesley House  
Date: Monday, Sept. 10, 17, 24, and Oct. 1  
Time: 5:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.

This four-week class will help parents explore caring strategies that can improve boundaries and enhance the health of themselves and their young adult children. Parents can find themselves in a worrisome struggle of shame, anger, fear, despair and uncertainty when their young adult children have trouble becoming independent. This can impact their health, finances and their relationships with partners, family, friends and their other children. This compassionate approach will help find pathways for healing and thriving.



Lane Harmon, our Counselor-in-Residence, has designed this class based on a request from Pastor Sharon. For more information, or to sign up, contact Pastor Sharon (297-2062) or [sharon@umcstmarks.org](mailto:sharon@umcstmarks.org), or Lane Harmon (271-5804).

## Mark Your Calendars!

You are cordially invited to the art opening of Jeanise Hagg at St. Mark's Welcome Center on September 2, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Come meet the artist and join us for an art-filled afternoon.



# St. Mark's Dinner for Eight



St. Mark's 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 cookout, 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 a 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.

**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).

Online registration is open now: [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org) "Upcoming Events" or watch for the sign-up form that will be included in the Sept. 9 bulletin.

## **Bishop asks Laity to attend Holy Huddles South District Meeting on October 6!**

Included in this *Messenger* issue is a letter from Bishop Bob Hoshibata, of the Desert Southwest Conference.

The letter encourages laity to attend the Holy Huddle meeting scheduled on Saturday, October 6, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Christ Church UM, 655 N. Craycroft Road, Tucson. The meeting will help keep people informed about General Conference decisions.



## **Chronic Illness/Pain Support Group News**

September is almost here, where did the year go? I can tell you that Chronic Illness/Pain and Wellness Support Group (CPAW) has been very busy, this year. Our meeting dates for September are Wed., Sept. 12; Wed., Sept. 26; and Sat. Sept. 29.

On Sept. 26, we cordially invite the congregation to join us in the Fellowship Hall, as we welcome Guest Speaker, Kelly Deyoe. Kelly will be sharing some of his life experience, coping with chronic illness on a daily basis, how Christ has helped him and from where he gets that wide smile and infectious laugh.

If you are new to St. Mark's, or have been away over the summer, this is who we are. We are a group of men and women who come together to find hope in Christ to help us cope with challenging/painful situations. We pray, read a short (40 page) book about Chronic Illness and the Christian life, as well have fun and socialize.

We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, in the Library. We have also created a new Saturday morning meeting for those who work and cannot attend during the week. The group is open to all people who feel they need extra support for their physical challenges. You do not have to be religious to come. This group is open to the community, and we welcome caregivers, significant others, and support people. Feel free to bring whatever you need to the meeting to be comfortable.

What's in store for our group as we close in on the year's end? Well, we will have more guest speakers, and will serve another Soul Station meal. We will offer a four-hour workshop on how to help our bodies by making our apartment/home more environmentally safe (not a sales gig). Mike Schrantz is a world-renowned speaker in Environmental Analytics, and blew us away when we had him come and speak with our group. He is passionate about helping people to feel better and is a dynamic and engaging speaker!

Join us, you will be pleasantly surprised at how uplifting our meetings are. If you have any questions, or you would like to be a guest speaker, please contact April DuBoce or the church office (297-2062).

# Making Missions Matter

St. Mark's Annual Missions commitment this year is \$117,350. Through July, over \$93,320 provided support to various partner organizations designated by St. Mark's Missions Committee.



To learn more about St. Mark's Missions Committee and ways that you can serve, go to our website [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org) and select "SERVE" from the main menu for a number of different pages all about St. Mark's Missions including our Missions Partners and how St. Mark's supports our community and the various agencies with Missions funds. Here's what some of the local agencies are saying about St. Mark's generous gifts:



**Community Food Bank** — May gift of \$2,690

"Your gift helps turn someone's life around and give them a reason to smile."

**Michael McDonald, CEO**



**Primavera Foundation** — May gift of \$2,500

"We are extremely thankful for your generous support of Primavera's Mission through your spirit of giving."

**JoAnn Salazar, Chief Philanthropy Officer**



**National Military Family Association** — May gift \$1,500

"Thanks to your recent gift, you are helping create great moments for military kids at Kids Camp."

**Tom Stanners, Board of Governors**



**Home of Hope and Peace (HEPAC)** — June gift of \$500

"Thank you for your generous contribution for repairs to the basketball court retaining wall."



**Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation** — June Missions gift of \$1,000

"Your support is truly making a BIG difference in the live of thousands."

**Wendell Hicks, Executive Director**



**United Methodist Committee On Relief** — June gift of \$900

In honor of Elizabeth L. Heft in support of her missionary work in Israel.

## Worldwide Christian Support Task Force News

Due to the generosity of members of St. Mark's, St. Mark's has made a substantial contribution to support Christian women in Egypt through the Christian support organization Open Doors USA. The church has provided \$2,367.93 from last year's Thanksgiving offering to help women learn new job skills and support their families. Many of them have lost their husbands due to Christian persecution in Egypt and thus are the family's primary breadwinner.



Extremists in Egypt continue to target Christians. Christians around the world stand with Christians in Egypt and support them in their practice of faith. Thanks to all members of St. Mark's who have generously provided their support.

For additional information, or to join St. Mark's Worldwide Christian Support Task Force, please email us ([christiansupport@umcstmarks.org](mailto:christiansupport@umcstmarks.org)).

# Exploring Membership Classes Take Place Soon!

Have you been wanting to know more about this terrific church? Are you considering membership at St. Mark's? Would you like to become better acquainted with our staff and meet more fellow worshipers? If so, you are warmly invited to our next **Exploring Membership Class**. This class will consist of two sessions that will take place in the church Library on Sunday mornings, Sept. 23 and 30, from 11:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. with a light lunch served mid-session each Sunday. Childcare will be available for those who request it in advance.



There are several ways you may register. From the main menu on our website at [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org) select CLASSES>EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP to register online. Or, you may sign up on Sunday in the courtyard, at the Adult Education bulletin board, or call Janie Towne in the church office (297-2062). (Please note that having checked the "Wish to Join" box on the registration pad is not the same as actual class registration.)

The study is called "Exploring Membership" intentionally – the decision of whether or not to join at the end of the class is entirely your own. If these September dates don't suit your schedule, the class is offered several times a year. Information about future winter class dates (January 2019) will be published in the *Messenger* and the Sunday bulletin.

## 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](mailto:prayerchain@umcstmarks.org) or from our website [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org). Also, visit our Prayer Room on campus and leave a prayer on our prayer wall.

Gail Blevins	Breanne Hallam	Hazel Roberts	Linda Walker
Jared Bowman & family	Carolyn Hanna	Howard & Gina Russell	Dave & Jan Webster
Michael Campbell	David & Floretta Harrington	Marian Shultis	Connie White
Donald Chester	Patricia Keele	Carol Underwood	Lindsay Williams
Judy Drescher	Brent & Karen Linebarier	Jackie Vickers	
Keith & Mary Ann Glazier	Jean Ogle	Dave Wait	

## LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

Please keep these people in your prayers.  
Email additions or updates to [messenger@umcstmarks.org](mailto:messenger@umcstmarks.org).

**Hank Bautzmann**, son of Nancy Bautzmann  
**Jon Chytka**, nephew of Donna Severson  
**Zachary Dojaquez**, grandson of Donna Severson  
**Brandonn Eto**, friend of Zirnheld/Compernelle family  
**Patrick Emmett**, son of Julie Wiens  
**Mike Freeman**, son of Ken & Ann Freeman  
**Garrett Geer**, grandson of Ellen Wise  
**Matthew Hughey**, son of Juliee & Billy Morrison and grandson of Joyce Flick  
**Patrick Harris**, grandson of Marilyn Vaughn  
**Rachel Kester**, daughter of Don & Ruth Kester  
**Chad Long**, grandson of Pat Long

**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  
**Geoffrey Shafe**, grandson of Mary Langemeier  
**Jason Smith**, grandson of Jerry & Judy Smith  
**Clint Staschke**, son-in-law of Cliff & June Young  
**Michael and Karisa Szczygiel**, daughter and son-in-law of Joyce Flick  
**Brianna Walker**, granddaughter of Barbara Fradenburgh; niece of Joan Fradenburgh





August 20, 2018

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**UPDATE: Dates and Times of the Holy Huddles have been updated at the bottom of this message.**

Dear Members and Friends of the Desert Southwest Conference,

Peace to you in the name and spirit of Jesus who calls us to live in faith, hope, and love!

The final report of the Commission on a Way Forward has been officially released to the public. The report is 93 pages long and contains the important background information (how we got to where we are) as well as the text of the plan (One Church Plan) that was supported by a large majority of the members of the Council of Bishops and the other two plans (Connectional Conference Plan and Traditional Plan) that were considered by the Commission on a Way Forward and the Council of Bishops.

Reading through these plans is a time-consuming process, but by doing so, you will have a better sense of the nuances of the plans. I encourage you to read through them so that you will be informed about what the breadth of theological differences are in our United Methodist Church. However, let's also remember that numerous other proposals have been officially submitted for consideration by the Special Session of the General Conference in 2019. These, along with the plans included in the report of the Commission on a Way Forward, will be subject to debate and amending at General Conference 2019. Ultimately, what is adopted at General Conference may be dramatically different from any of these plans.

In order to better understand and prayerfully share our thoughts for our Church, I am inviting you to participate in a Holy Huddle on the Future of The United Methodist Church. The Holy Huddles will be helpful to us as we watch what happens in advance of and on the floor of General Conference. The Huddles being planned will consist of two parts. The first part, designed for clergy only, will focus on sharing ideas with the clergy of the Conference about how to lead our congregations with hope amid uncertainty with Christ-like respectful conversations and prayer.

The second part of the Holy Huddle will be for both laity and clergy together. The Holy Huddles are open to all persons who want to come and participate in Christian conversations about the future of our church. We will be hearing some background material to set the stage for our Huddles, but much of our time will be spent in conversation around tables, sharing our thoughts with one another. There will also be time for questions from individuals. All of this will be bathed in a prayerful, worshipful spirit and will include holy communion as the sacramental act which unifies us.

Some may ask why so much time is being devoted to these Holy Huddles. I believe we are in a very crucial moment in the history of our United Methodist Church and its predecessor bodies. Although we are not all able to vote on what plan is ultimately adopted by General Conference, we do have the responsibility to be aware of the implications of the plans. It is a privilege to pray and share around tables in Christ-like conversation. We join in expectation that our United Methodist Church will face the future united in hope for our future. I anticipate that we will be better prepared to continue our excellent ministries because we have these moments of Holy Huddle to inform and inspire us, centering us in the hope of Jesus Christ even as we undergo change. Our participation gives hope to our mission and ministry to all God's children in the name of Jesus.

A complete schedule of Holy Huddles can be found at the end of this message.

I am looking forward to opportunities beginning this Fall to gather together as United Methodists in our Desert Southwest Conference as we discern God's wisdom for us. Our conversations at the Holy Huddles will be part of our step forward into the future for our United Methodist Church. You are an essential participant in that future so I hope you will be present with us!

Prayerfully in Christ's love, Bob

**Part One for Clergy:**

**(Please note: while clergy are encouraged to attend the Holy Huddle within your district, you are welcome to attend any of the gatherings.)**

1. Friday, October 5, for South District Clergy, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at Christ Church UM, 655 N. Craycroft Road, Tucson.
2. Wednesday, October 10, for East and West District Clergy, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon at Crossroads UMC, 7901 N. Central Ave., Phoenix.
3. Wednesday, October 17, for East District Clergy, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon at Grace UMC, 2024 E. University Dr., Mesa.
4. Thursday, October 18, for Flagstaff, Verde Valley, Prescott Clergy, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon, Sedona UMC, 110 Indian Cliffs Road, Sedona.
5. Friday, December 7, for Las Vegas area Clergy, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon at Trinity UMC, 6151 W Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas.
6. Friday, January 11, for Yuma area Clergy, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon at Trinity UMC, 3030 S 8th Ave., Yuma.

**Part Two for Lay and Clergy:**

**(Please note: while lay and clergy are encouraged to attend the Holy Huddle within your district, you are welcome to attend any of the gatherings.)**

1. Saturday, October 6, for South District Lay and Clergy, 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm at Christ Church UM, 655 N. Craycroft Road, Tucson.
2. Saturday, October 13, for East and West District Lay and Clergy, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm at Trinity UMC, 3104 W. Glendale Ave., Phoenix.
3. Saturday, October 27, for Flagstaff, Verde Valley, Prescott Lay and Clergy, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm, Federated Community Church, 400 W. Aspen Ave., Flagstaff.
4. Saturday, November 17, for East District Lay and Clergy, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm at North Scottsdale UMC, 11735 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale.
5. Saturday, December 8, for Las Vegas area Lay and Clergy, 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm at Trinity UMC, 6151 W. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas.
6. Saturday, January 12, for Yuma area Lay and Clergy, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm at Gila Mountain UMC, 12716 N. Frontage Rd., Yuma.

# WASS UP?

August 29, 2018

Volume 19, Issue 17



## UPCOMING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

**September 2, 2018—**



**Labor Day  
No Youth Group**

**September 9, 2018—**

9:45 Confirmation begins  
4:00— 6:00  
Sundae Sunday with  
Youth Council elections

**September 16, 2018—**

4:00— 6:00  
*Mission night*  
Kindness Rocks



Fun Filled Fellowship

Hey PreTeen's—

Hope everyone's school year is off to a good start. Remember there is **NO PreTeen on Sunday September 2nd** due to Labor Day. Enjoy the day with family and friends and don't forget to collect and bring in any empty 12 pack soda boxes from your Labor Day festivities. This is our last week to collect boxes.

Blessings, Julie

**September 9th** - Assemble ( tape & wrap ) our soda boxes and play JENGA!

Other fun games  
yummy made-by-you snack

**September 16th** - FIELD TRIP !!!  
AZ Air Time You need:

LIABILITY WAIVER see:  
[www.azairtime.com/az-air-time-tucson](http://www.azairtime.com/az-air-time-tucson)  
\$5.00 ( scholarships are available)  
PreTeen permission slip see:  
[www.umcstmarks.org/resources/forms](http://www.umcstmarks.org/resources/forms)

Non slip socks if you have them

**September 23rd** -

Service / mission project. (More info to come)

**God calls us to love our neighbors and to serve those less fortunate than ourselves.**

Find us on Social Media!



St. Mark's Youth Group



stmarksumyf

a note from the

# YOUTH DIRECTOR

Yay! Confirmation classes begin the Sunday after Labor Day, September 9. I love Confirmation. In fact, it's my favorite thing to teach.

Confirmation is open to young people in grades 8-12. The class will concentrate on the Bible, history of Christianity and Methodism, and exploring church membership. Class members will meet various people on the church staff and have the opportunity to spend time with each of our three pastors. In addition, there will be field trips to churches of other faiths and denominations.

Our first field trip will be the Greek Festival on Sept. 27. Opa!

If you haven't been confirmed, and you're in grades 8-12, join us on September 9, in room 20.

Blessings,  
Kim

## Middle School Moments

This last weekend, we took a van full of kids and chaperones down to Patagonia the South District back to school event. It was a blast!

One of my favorite parts of going to church here is how connected we are to other United Methodists. There are a ton of opportunities to things with other churches around Tucson, throughout the state, and even on a national level! Whenever I go on vacation, I check out where there is a United Methodist Church nearby, it's like knowing that wherever I go, I can find a friend! I hope that you all get to know our friends at other churches too, and we can see them time and time again at all of the fun events our district puts on throughout the year!

See you Sunday!  
Rachel



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9-3 Rachel Mosher \*\*

9-9 Daniel Titzel

9-20 Don Kester \*

\*\* Middle School Coordinator

\* SSP Chaperone

# Calendar Notes

## Sun., Sept. 2

No Youth Group  
No PreTeens Group

## Mon., Sept. 3

**OFFICE CLOSED - LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**

9:00 a.m. Ties That Bind, Rm 17/18  
NO Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall

## Wed., Sept 5

7:30 a.m. Marksmen, Coco's Restaurant  
Noon - **BULLETIN DEADLINE**  
5:45 p.m. Soul Station Dinner, Fellowship Hall  
6:15 p.m. Common Grounds Chat

## Thurs., Sept 6

Noon - **MESSENGER DEADLINE**  
6:30 p.m. Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. MOM's of Military, Library

## Sun., Sept. 9

1:00 p.m. Welcome Baby Shower  
4:00 p.m. Youth Group  
4:00 p.m. PreTeens Group

## Tues., Sept. 11

11:30 a.m. First Responders Block Party  
4:30 p.m. Meditation Gardens, Conf. Rm  
6:30 p.m. Advisory Board, Library  
6:30 p.m. SPRC, Conference Rm  
6:45 p.m. Missions Committee, Rm 8/9



## St. Mark's Messenger

Published bi-weekly

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Website:

[www.umcstmarks.org](http://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 Night:

Dinner - 5:45 p.m.

Music/Programs

6:15-7:15 p.m.

## Dear Church Family ...



Words cannot express how very much my family and I appreciate all of the support, comfort and love that we have received from our St. Mark's family. Not only did you support us over Tom's six-year illness, but also you continue to care for us throughout our time of grieving our loss. We are so very blessed by all of you.

Thank you, **Linda Walker**

## You Are Invited to Lunch!

New school year, new church classes, time for the Over 50s to try a new place to eat. Please join us on Tuesday, Sept. 2, at Harvest Restaurant, 10355 N LaCañada (Canada Crossroads, SW corner of LaCañada and Lambert) at 11:30 a.m. Contact Sandra Rush (see directory) call or text to reserve your spot with the Over 50s lunch group!



## Annual Report and Charge Conference

St. Mark's Charge Conference is early this year—Monday, October 8, at 6:30 p.m. That means the Annual Report will need to be completed prior to Charge Conference. Committee chairs, ministry team leaders and church staff should provide a report for their respective committee, ministry, or area of responsibility for St. Mark's Annual Report. The report submission deadline is **Friday, Sept. 21, end of day.**

Also, if you have **one or two photos of your group** that you would like to share, please send them with your report. We'll do our best to include them with the photo collage for Annual Report.

Please send the information to Sallyann Wassmuth, Communications and Outreach Coordinator ([Sallyann@umcstmarks.org](mailto:Sallyann@umcstmarks.org)). If you have questions, or need additional clarification please contact the church office (297-2062).

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

## Address Service Requested

If you would like to receive the Messenger electronically, and discontinue your paper copy, submit a request to [messenger@umcstmarks.org](mailto:messenger@umcstmarks.org)

## Reflections

There's lots of ways to stay connected at St. Mark's to God and one another. I think that staying connected often begins with words of thanks, so here I go.

 The Murder Mystery Dinner on August 17 was full of laughter, good food, and intrigue. Many thanks to all those who made it possible, including the many participants in Faith on Stage (and their helpers), led by Pastor Evy.

 For our current sermon series, **Connecting God and the World—the Church in Mission**, several people involved in missions are making videos to be shared in worship. Thanks so much to Addison DaDeppo, Daniel Titzel, Kathie Barrett and Robert Kittrell who have already shared the impact of missions on their lives. I'm anticipating several more great stories!

 Our Multi-Site Team is praying and working to continue to explore "what's next?" for St. Mark's. They are an insightful, hard-working group, for whom I'm extremely grateful. You'll hear more news from them in the upcoming months.

That's only the beginning of my gratitude for leaders, staff, and hundreds of people at St. Mark's who work behind the scenes to connect us to God and one another. Please accept my thanks.

As we move ahead, remember that there are many ways you can stay connected—worship, classes, choirs, fellowship groups, prayer groups and much more.

Subscribe to the electronic weekly email by emailing [info@umcstmarks.org](mailto:info@umcstmarks.org) and ask to be on the "weekly email" list. You can also subscribe to the **Messenger** electronically and can then get it even when you're away from home. Visit our website at [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org). You can also give through the website.

When I stay connected to our church family, it helps me stay better connected to God.

*Blessings, Sharon*