

Messenger

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

St. Mark's
United Methodist

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

What's it like to connect? What's it like to connect with others, God, the beauty and mystery of what's around us in creation? This year we've been talking in worship about "Connecting to God and One Another," knowing that we are not alone, and that connecting makes life more meaningful. This year we've looked at ways we're connected to creation, the voice of God within us, our past, to Jesus as our hope, and to the Holy Spirit. It's like we're putting pieces of a puzzle together, a little at a time, looking to God to draw all the pieces together.

There are a few more pieces to connect – now we're learning about "Connecting God and the World – the Church in Mission." God has done so much for us, given us everything of who we are, all we have, and what we have to offer, in Jesus' name. Jesus showed us, by his life, his love for those who were suffering, sick, lonely or afraid, and reached out to heal and strengthen them. Then He entrusted this ministry to us by saying, *"truly I tell you, just as you reached out to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."* (Matthew 25:40)

In worship in August and September, we have the chance to hear about some of the mission projects and organizations supported by St. Mark's and the United Methodist Church, and hear from people who are involved in those ministries.



August 19	Young Hands with Hammer & Saws (Youth Sierra Service Project & 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 Interfaith Community Services
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

A Missions brochure has been developed to give information on projects and ways you can be involved. Contact the church office at 297-2062 or info@umcstmarks.org.



Welcome Reception for Pastor Stuart!

Our Staff Parish Relations Committee will host a "Welcome Reception" for Pastor Stuart Salvatierra. Please join us on Sunday, August 26, in Fellowship Hall. Stop by after any of the worship services and introduce yourself to St. Mark's new Associate Pastor and enjoy some refreshments!

MYSTERY THEATER

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 2018

Friday, August 17, Faith On Stage will present “And The Old Man Died,” an old-fashioned dinner and “who done it” mystery. It’s going to be an evening of fun and laughter.

Tickets are SOLD-OUT for this performance! For those with tickets to the performance, we’re looking forward to seeing you Friday evening at the Fallen Angel Cafe (Fellowship Hall). The play takes place during dinner, so listen carefully to the performers for clues to solve the murder mystery. Also, remember to bring lots of one-dollar bills to buy clues. Here’s a few things you’ll want to know about the performance, so you can enjoy the evening:

6:00 p.m. Doors open

6:30 p.m. First act and first course served

7:00 p.m. Main course served

7:30 p.m. Second Act

7:45 p.m. Dessert and purchase clues

8:00 p.m. Mystery solved, prizes awarded to winning table

Do you know the United Methodist Church’s Position on Immigrants?

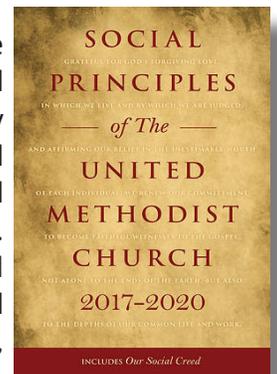
The United Methodist Social Principles are a section of United Methodist Book of Discipline. The Social Principles express The United Methodist Church’s official positions on societal issues, casting a vision for a just and equitable world.

This month, we will examine what the Social Principles say about the rights of immigrants. This particular area falls under the section of the Social Principles dealing with the social community. We acknowledge that all persons regardless of country of origin are members of the family of God. They have the right to equal opportunities for employment, access to housing, education and health care. They also have the right to freedom from social discrimination. We are encouraged to recognize the gifts, contributions and struggles of those who are immigrants and to advocate for justice for all. The church opposes immigration policies that separate family members from each other or include detention of families with children.

The social principles are extended by resolutions which have been adopted by the General Conference. There is a resolution about Welcoming the Migrant to the US. This resolution calls on United Methodists to advocate for legislation that will: uphold the civil and human rights of all migrants in the US, denounce and oppose the rise of xenophobic, racist and violent reactions against migrants in the US. It will welcome newly arriving migrants into our congregations, oppose the

building of a wall between the United States and Mexico and call on the US to immediately cease all arrests, detainment and deportation of undocumented immigrants, including children. It will clear the backlogs and reunify families separated by migration of detainment, eliminate for-profit detention centers, eliminate indefinite detention, incarceration of children, and the expanding prison population. It will support those churches that prayerfully choose to offer sanctuary to undocumented migrants facing deportation. Here at St. Mark’s, through our Missions budget, we support the work of the Inn project. This project supports travelers needing a temporary place to stay as they are on their way to stay with relatives already in the US. Our support provides food and supplies during their stay.

Another project that we support through the Desert Southwest Conference is Justice for Our Neighbors (JFON). JFON is a legal clinic that welcomes immigrants by providing affordable, high quality immigration legal services as well as engaging in advocacy for immigrant rights.



The Church and Society Committee

Wi-Fi Access at St. Mark's

The Technology Committee is pleased to announce that there is now guest wifi availability throughout St. Mark's campus, from the Fellowship Hall, to the Sanctuary, to both East and West Patio areas and to all of the classrooms. We've replaced older equipment this spring with both newer and much faster hardware. The following description of access point names and passwords will enable you to connect your phone, tablet, or laptop to a secure internet connect.

For all of these access points, the password is the same: "stmarksguest" (without the quotes). There are little reminders of the access point name and password posted in all of the classrooms, the Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary. Just look for the sign shown below. For questions, comments and suggestions, please contact Don Booth at techsupport@umcstmarks.org.

Technology Committee



St. Mark's West Guest
(2.4 GHz)

St. Mark's Fellowship Hall 2.4G
(2.4 GHz)

St. Mark's Fellowship Hall 5G
(5 GHz)

St. Mark's Campus Guest
(2.4 GHz)

St. Mark's Sanctuary Guest
(2.4 GHz)

Mission u

August 24th & 25th

St. Mark's United Methodist Women will be hosting South District United Methodist Women's Mission u on Friday and Saturday, August 24th and 25th. 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 the focus will be on Spiritual Growth, Social Issues and Geographical studies. Sign up for the study group of your choice. The books for your selected study group can be ordered on the United Methodist Women website: <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/>.

Make Way for Books is an early literacy program providing books to children, parents and educators throughout southern Arizona each year through many programs. Their mission is to give all children a chance to read and succeed. Mission u attendees are encouraged to bring a donation of new or used books for children ages 0 to 18 to support Make Way for Books.

Registration fee is \$65 per person due by August 17, 2018. Registration can be done on line at <https://dscumc.org/united-methodist-women/>. Registration forms are also available in the United Methodist Women's mailbox in the Church office. Check in will begin at 2:30 in St. Mark's Fellowship Hall on Friday, August 24. You do not have to be a member of United Methodist Women to attend Mission u. Contact Virginia Tupper (see directory) if you have any questions.

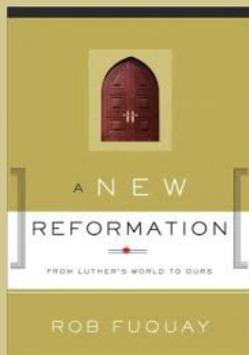
Choir Opportunities

Anyone is welcome to sing in our choirs! Choir rehearsals start up again the week of August 20th. The Bells of St. Mark's rehearses on Mondays at 6:30 in the Sanctuary. Celebration Singers' first rehearsal on Wednesday, August 22 will be at 6:15 in the choir room. Chancel Choir's first rehearsal will also be on Wednesday, August 22. They meet at 7:30 in the Sanctuary. Praise Team continues to rehearse on Thursdays at 6:30 in the Sanctuary. Whether you are returning, or are newly considering becoming part of one of our musical groups, you are welcome.



Wednesday Morning Study

The Wednesday Morning Study will resume September 5 with the 6-week DVD study, *A New Reformation – From Luther’s World to Ours* by Rob Fuquay. Today we are accustomed to the theology justified by faith. But when Martin Luther shared his belief in this concept during the sixteenth century, it was anything but typical – it sparked the Reformation. Author Rob Fuquay says that although “justified by faith” is not a new idea, the message is as revolutionary today as ever.



In *A New Reformation*, Fuquay helps you take a close look into the life of Martin Luther and teaches you how to embrace reformation in your church and in your life today. This study is perfect for Christians at all stages of their spiritual journey. Please join the Wednesday Morning Group in Rooms 17/18 every Wednesday morning from 10:00 – 11:30 AM. You may pre-register by calling the church office at (297-2062), online at www.umcstmarks.org or on the Spiritual Formation Board on the Courtyard Sunday mornings. Newcomers are welcome to join the class at any time.

Marcia Rostad, Leader

KIDS NIGHT OUT

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24TH! All children from Kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to Kids Night Out from 5-8 p.m. in the library. We will have dinner, activities, and a movie. FUN! We will see you on the 24th!

Life is Prayer: Developing a Conversation with God



Prayer is much more than an “activity” or an “event.” As scripture reminds us, we are to “pray constantly.” That means having an ongoing conversation with God throughout the day. If you would like to broaden your understanding of prayer from a ritual to a daily reality, please consider attending our September 29 Retreat at the Redemptorist Renewal Center (Picture Rocks). The Retreat will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude by 3 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person and registration is required. Cost includes use of facilities, materials, and a great lunch. Rev. Judy Boroto and Rev. Roger Pierce will co-lead this retreat. Plan now to stretch your understanding of prayer, while you enjoy the beautiful Picture Rocks center and experience this important day with your friends.

Empty Nest Interrupted

When Adult Children Don’t or Can’t Leave the Nest

Facilitated by Lane Harmon, MC, LPC

Location: Wesley House

Date: Monday, September 10, 17, 24, & October 1st

Time: (5:15pm-6:15pm)

This four week class will help parents explore caring strategies that can improve boundaries and enhance the health of themselves and their adult children. Parents can find themselves in a worrisome struggle of shame, anger, fear, despair and uncertainty when their adult children fail to thrive and become 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 at 520-297-2062 or sharon@umcstmarks.org, or Lane Harmon.

WASS UP?

August 15, 2018

Volume 19, Issue 16



Fun Filled Fellowship



UPCOMING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

August 19, 2018 —

World Photography Day
www.worldphotoday.org



4:00-6:00

Photo Extravaganza
(props, challenges, other great fun)

August 25, 2018 — **SATURDAY**
District Event at Patagonia Lake
Meet at the Wesley House



August 26, 2018 —
NO YOUTH GROUP
(See Saturday)

September 2, 2018—
Labor Day
No Youth Group

Hey PreTeen's—

The business of Fun Filled Fellowship at PreTeen group continues. We still need a few empty 12 pack soda boxes for our life size "JENGA" game. (you know, the long skinny ones that look like BIG "Jenga" pieces.) See you Sunday.

Blessings,
Julie

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

August 26th - *Movie Night*
at church.

September 2nd — *Labor Day*
No PreTeen group

We have to say "good bye" to Jayce, as he heads off to College in Prescott. Jayce has been a big part of helping to rebuild the PreTeen group. Our prayers and best wishes go with him.

Confirmation Begins
September 9

Find us on Social Media!



St. Mark's Youth Group



stmarksumyf

a note from the

YOUTH DIRECTOR

Rachel and I have enjoyed teaching Sunday School this Summer. It was fun having Middle School and High School combined.

Now that school has resumed, our amazing Sunday School teachers are back! Pete and Don will be teaching High School, and Lisa will be teaching Middle School. Beginning September 9, I'll be teaching Confirmation. For now, Rachel will alternate between Sunday School and Confirmation.

All of us consider your Christian education to be extremely important. Please thank your teachers.

Blessings,
Kim

Proverbs 16:16 The Message (MSG)
16 Get wisdom—it's worth more than money; choose insight over income every time.

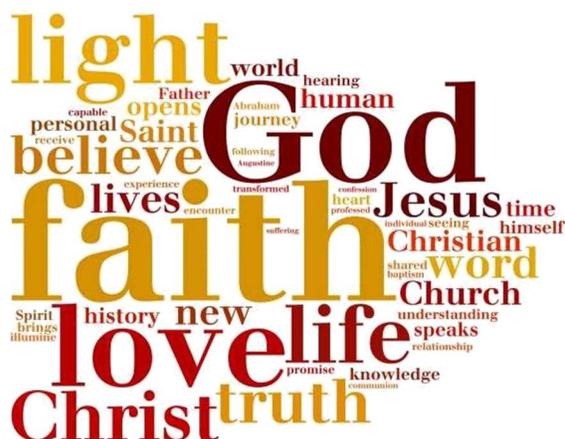
Middle School Moments

I love how our church family is truly a family. We care for one another and we help each other out!

One way we do this, is through our childcare program. Childcare is offered here at the church for families attending church service as well as meeting and classes during the week. Did you know that once you are in seventh grade, you can GET PAID to work in the childcare here?? If you like being with little kids, are willing to play with them and aren't afraid of a dirty diaper, this is the job for you.

There is a CPR/Childcare training here at church on September 16 from 1-4. If you are interested in working in childcare, come to the training!

See you Sunday!
Rachel



You need this

How do I download a permission slip?

- 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!

Holy Yoga

Have you heard about Holy Yoga? Did you know there are Holy Yogis participating in experiential worship right here at St Mark's 2 times each week? Are you interested in learning more? Join us for a 4 week workshop series of Holy Yoga 101 beginning Sunday, Aug. 12th! The workshop is designed to provide information on the benefits of yoga, the Holy Yoga philosophy, breath work, and scripture meditation, as well as in-depth instruction of the primary poses, and an opportunity to connect with God through experiential worship in a Holy Yoga class. Current Holy Yoga times are Mondays at 9:15am and Thursdays at 6:30pm.

Welcome Center Art Gallery



The church office is looking for an individual to assist our Administrative Associate, Jazmin Cunha, with the coordination of art exhibits in the Welcome Center. Responsibilities include getting materials ready for exhibit, hanging artwork, then dismantling the artwork upon completion of the exhibit and returning to the artist. If you are interested, contact Jazmin (jazmin@umcstmarks.org or 297-2062) for information. This is also a call for artists! If you have art (any medium) that you wish to exhibit in the Welcome Center, let Jazmin know and she will work with you to schedule a time frame to exhibit your art.

Many thanks to Jan Hooser and Mark Hrabe for their help with previous exhibits!

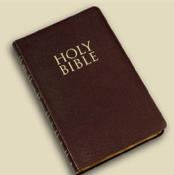
CPR & Childcare



Need a refresher in CPR? On Sunday, Sept. 16, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. St. Marks 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 291-2062) 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.

Common Grounds



Ever wondered what Common Grounds is all about? Whatever walk of life you are on, anyone in their 20s, 30s, and 40s is welcome to join us for one or many events. Sunday mornings please join us at 11:00 in room 20 for a laid back, relaxed discussion. Our studies are thought provoking and fun! No need to sign up, come as you are. Children are welcome to attend the Bible Divers class during this time. For more information about Common Ground programming, please contact Rachel in the church office.

Early Childhood Center News

We would like to thank Karen Ring from Pima Council on Aging for donating gently used PE equipment to the ECC. Also, a big thank you to John, Harold, Curt, Pat, Dave, Russ, Bonnie and Paul from Handy Hands for helping us move furniture. It is very much appreciated!

Did you know our great Logo Products are available in the church office during office hours Monday – Friday? Although we are only able to take orders for shirts and caps at our Fall and Spring Logo Sales, you may purchase our super Logo products anytime during the week, all year long! We have - grocery and lunch bags, large utility totes, mini-coolers, hot and cold carriers, and clear stadium bags. If you call Janie in the office in advance (297-2062), she can have items ready for you.

Tucson Big Sing

St. Mark's members and friends are invited to the first annual Tucson Big Sing, a city-wide sing-along appropriate for all ages! The event will be held on Saturday, September 1st (the Saturday of Labor Day weekend) at 7 p.m. at the DeMeester Performance Center (the Reid Park Amphitheater) and will probably last about an hour or a little over. We encourage people to gather earlier, bring families and friends, set up chairs or blankets to sit on, bring a picnic dinner and make a fun evening of it. Tucson-area music leaders will guide attendees through fun and familiar songs that everyone can sing, dance to or just enjoy. Members of both the Chancel Choir and Celebration Singers are planning to attend and participate. For more information, contact Elizabeth Schauer.

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

CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathy and prayers to Ellen Stephenson on the death of Ed Stephenson, who passed away on July 18th, 2018.

LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

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

Hank Bautzmann, son of Nancy Bautzmann

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

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

Calendar Notes

Thurs., August 16

6:00 p.m. Divorce Recovery, Rm. 20
6:30 p.m. MOMs of Military, Library
6:30 p.m. Holy Yoga, Rm. 17/18
6:30 p.m. Trinity, Rm. 8/9

Fri., August 17

6:00 p.m. Mystery Dinner Theater, Fellowship Hall

Sat., August 18

6:00 p.m. Common Grounds Coffee & Convo,
Library

Sun., August 19

4:00 p.m. Preteens

4:00 p.m. Youth Group

Mon., August 20

9:15 a.m. Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall
3:00 p.m. OFFICE CLOSED

Tues., August 21

All Day - OFFICE CLOSED

Wed., August 22

Noon - BULLETIN DEADLINE

1:00 p.m. OFFICE OPEN

5:45 p.m. Soul Station Dinner, Fellowship Hall
6:15 p.m. Soul Station
6:15 p.m. Common Grounds, Library



St. Mark's Messenger

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Website:

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 ...



I would like to thank my wonderful church family for the support, calls, cards and most of all their prayers, following the tragic death of my son, Michael.

Janet Krug & family

Marksmen meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month. The meeting starts at 7:30 AM. Marksmen are a group of older men who meet at Coco's on Oracle at Ina for food and fellowship. These men are from almost every part of the USA and have had a variety of successful careers. The group is open to any man who wishes to attend. Some wives usually meet informally at the same time for breakfast and fellowship. If you want information about the Marksmen you can contact Bob Sogn, Ken Hall, Darrel Frazier, or Paul Boettcher.

Mark-a-rita's annual blanket service project is coming September 10, 2018, 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us for a fun filled, giving back evening. Are you wondering why we are telling you so early? We hope you will mark your calendars, watch for coupons to get reduced prices, and buy your kit early. JoAnn's has a good supply and is always running coupons and honors competitor coupons. We also have the new Hobby Lobby opening at the end of June which should offer some great sales and coupons. Many like to buy kits early and make blankets ahead and bring them in already finished. I already have the promise of 5 from someone who will be out of town that evening. These are very easy no sew blankets, and I can't tell you how many people come very unsure and leave ready to make them for their entire family. We will have a short demo on how to do them, and we have many experienced blanket makers to help you. So mark your calendars, buy your kit, and please join us. You will need a 48x60 or 72x60 Fleece No Sew Throw Kit. The smaller blankets for the littles and the bigger for the teens. Bring scissors good for cutting fabric. For more information, please contact Carol Fouch at carafouch@gmail.com.

Address Service Requested

If you would like to receive the Messenger electronically, and discontinue your paper copy, submit a request to messenger@umcstmarks.org

Reflections

There's quite a rhythm to life at St. Mark's. From March to November, in various stages and configurations, people head to cooler places. Some people go for six months, or three months, or a month, or a week or two, if at all possible.

Then, as school starts in August, people begin the return. Days gradually become shorter and weather changes, oh-so-gradually. After the summer slow-down, all kinds of things begin again. We look forward to cool days and the ease of being outside. Welcome back to those of you who are returning!

In August, our church staff holds its annual planning retreat. This year, from 3 p.m. on Monday, August 20 to noon on Wednesday, August 22, we'll be working together to review the past year and the goals we set at last year's retreat, and plan for the upcoming year, setting new goals. Those goals are not only for programs and ministries, but also for ways we want to grow in our faith, grow stronger in our connection to God, and to each other. Our commitment to our church's mission statement – Changing the world

through Christ by caring for all people – guides our work. Please keep us in your prayers as we work and laugh and plan together. We're so grateful to Clay Thompson and his assistants for providing meals for us on Tuesday, August 21.

This year we have new people on our church staff, so this will be their first staff planning retreat. Jazmin Cunha serves as our Administrative Associate, and Pastor Stuart Salvatierra as our Associate Pastor. Pastor Evy was with us on last year's retreat, but this is her first as our part-time Associate Pastor. I'm grateful to all our staff members who work so faithfully.

Many classes begin in the next few weeks, and there are lots of mission opportunities, ways for you to serve and connect with God and one another. All this helps us grow in our faith.

Welcome back, and welcome home!

Blessings, Sharon