

# Messenger

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

Volume 58, Number 19

September 26, 2018

St. Mark's  
United Methodist

## Welcome Shelley Gault!

We're happy to welcome Shelley Gault as our new Administrative Associate. Shelley joined our staff on Friday, September 14, and will be working full-time in our front office. She is responsible for producing the weekly bulletins and other materials, maintaining our church calendar, coordinating room setups with our Maintenance Coordinator, sending out prayer requests, monitoring the administrative office budget and much more. In addition, she may be the one to greet you in the front office (along with our Administrative Assistant, Janie Towne).

Shelley and her husband recently moved to Marana from California, where they live with their small dogs. They have two young adult daughters. Shelley has worked as an office manager and is already learning a great deal about our busy church office. Stop by the church office to welcome Shelley to our church staff!

*Staff-Parish Relations Committee*



## Blessing of the Animals

**The Animal Ministry Team** invites you to join us at our annual Blessing of the Animals service on **Sunday, Oct. 7**, at 4:00 p.m. on the labyrinth of the Meditation Gardens. As always, this event is open to members of the community, so be sure to invite friends and family! Those who don't feel their pet is suited to attending are welcome to bring a photo instead.

A free-will offering will be donated for animal rescue and care in areas affected by Hurricane Florence. Once again, photographer Faye Beckert will be taking pictures of pet owners and their pets following the service, at no cost.

## New Sermon Series Begins on World Community Sunday Connecting Our Lives to God...Our Work & Our Faith

We have been drawn deeply and richly into the love and life of God through our 2018 our worship theme **Connecting to God and One Another**. On World Communion Sunday, Oct. 7, we begin a new series within this theme. How does our daily life and work impact our faith? What questions arise for us about faith as we work and live? How does our faith make a difference in our work? This series gives us a chance to hear from teachers, parents, healers, veterans, builders, those in the arts, and more. We connect with God and one another as we explore our work, daily life and our faith. On Oct. 7, we celebrate Holy Communion with Christians around the world, and launch this new sermon series.



## A Response from Pastor Evy

For many years, I did not attend any church, though I continued to deepen my relationship with God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit. When I was in my early 30s, God led me back to a United Methodist Church in Seattle, WA. To my complete surprise, I felt as if I had come home. While I grew up as a United Methodist, I never understood how much it followed John Wesley's directive to do all the good you can. When I became more active, as a lay leader and lay delegate to Annual Conference, I discovered that there was **A Book of Resolutions**.

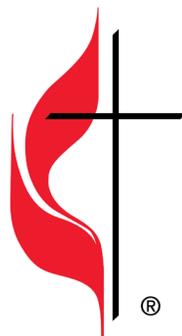
The resolutions in this document are changed, deleted, altered, or new ones added at the General Conference which occurs every four years. The General Conference is our governing body. Most of you are familiar with **The Discipline**—our rules and regulations that guide us as a local, national and international church. However, many (including myself for a long time) have not heard of **The Book of Resolutions**. While these are the official stand of the worldwide United Methodist Church, they are not law and are only guidelines.

This is what brought me back to this church. I could learn where the Church stood on an issue and when asked about the stand of the Church on almost any issue you can think of—hunger, poverty, education, housing, health care, and immigration—to name a few, I was free to disagree and say, “but this is what I believe.” The beauty of our church is that we do not all have to agree and if enough of us feel that a particular resolution needs to be changed we can work together to have that happen at the next General Conference.

Many of the resolutions touch a chord in our hearts. During the past several months Church and Society has been introducing our congregation to a handful of these resolutions. This past month, we presented one on Immigration. This is an issue that is complex beyond our imagination and good rationale exists for many different stands. I want to encourage everyone to read the resolution titled: **Welcoming the Migrant to the U.S.** The link is <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/welcoming-the-migrant-to-the-us>.

This resolution was adopted in 2008, amended and readopted in 2016. I imagine that in 2020, it will once again be amended. It is a call to action with nearly twenty different ways we could choose to demonstrate our Christian love for the immigrant, the sojourner, the stranger. Probably no one would agree with every action listed but there may be one that speaks to an individual's heart. I am particularly drawn to the one The Inn Project addresses: “provide wherever possible pastoral care and crisis intervention to refugees and newly arrived migrants, identifying and responding compassionately to their spiritual, material, and legal needs.” Here, our greater church, in the Desert Southwest Conference, is assisting new immigrants who have been cleared by Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

I love this church, St. Mark's UMC, and I love the worldwide United Methodist Church because we are all connected as brothers and sisters in Christ, and while we may disagree, we struggle together to discover the path that Christ Jesus is calling us to go down. May we know that God's blessing is upon us as we work to be all we are called to be.



## Advent Devotional Booklet

Again this year, St. Mark's will produce a “special edition” Advent devotional booklet and we're seeking your help with devotional contributions for the project. Your contribution can be in the form of prose, poetry, or visual artwork.

If you are interested in participating, submit devotions by Nov. 4, to Susan Putt via email ([susan@umcstmarks.org](mailto:susan@umcstmarks.org)), include contact information in case we need to contact you. The best way to submit it is a Word document. Or, a hard copy may be dropped off at the church office. (If it is handwritten, please make sure it is legible).

We appreciate your willingness to share something that is sometimes so personal, yet meaningful and inspiring. May God bless you and yours during this season and always.



# Adult Spiritual Growth

Faith is a journey!

The Sharing/Family Life Adult Sunday School Class is offering the a new class: **Which Way, Lord: Exploring Your Life's Purpose in the Journeys of Paul**, by Rob Fuquay Begins Oct. 7 – Nov. 11 (6 weeks)  
Time: 9:45 a.m., Sundays, room 17

If you have questions contact class co-leaders Rick Farnsworth (see directory) or Terry Majewski (see directory).

In **Which Way, Lord: Exploring Your Life's Purpose in the Journeys of Paul**, Rob Fuquay—senior pastor at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Indianapolis—offers encouragement for those who actively seek a purpose and meaningful direction in life as Christians.

Exploring the life of Paul as a model, Pastor Fuquay shows how through many detours, adversity, and time spent in self-reflection, Paul reoriented his understanding of faith and God's purpose for his life. The DVD that accompanies the study was filmed in Turkey, Israel, and Greece, helping to provide context by introducing places where Paul lived and conducted his ministry.

This study is co-hosted by the Sharing and Family Life Sunday School classes, which meet together on Sundays from 9:45–10:45 a.m. in rm 17.

We warmly invite you to attend for the entire six weeks or for as many sessions as you are able. A limited number of participant guides are available in class starting Sept. 23 for \$10.00 (payable to Terry Majewski). If you wish to order on your own, hard copies and an eBook version are also available through Cokesbury or through other sources, but we encourage you to order through the Cokesbury link on the St. Mark's website (<http://umcstmarks.org/resources/>).

## Upcoming Spiritual Growth Opportunities:

▶ **The Gospel of Mark**, Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., Oct. 4, (5 weeks)

▶ **Praying the Psalms**, Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m., Oct. 9, (4 weeks)

▶ **Labyrinth**, Saturday, 9:00 a.m., Oct. 20, (1 session)

▶ **Wesleyan Living**, Sundays, 9:45 a.m., Oct. 21, (5 weeks)

▶ **UM Social Principles**, Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Nov. 12, (3 weeks)

## Don't forget our ongoing opportunities:

▶ **Wednesday Study Group**, 10:00 a.m., rm 17/18  
**New Reformation - From Luther's World to Ours**  
by Rob Fuquay

## Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse

### October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

On Friday, October 19, from 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. willing volunteers will meet at the church parking lot at (7:00 a.m.) to carpool to Oro Valley Target Shopping Center (10555 N. Oracle Rd.).

With help from Two Men and a Truck, the team will collect and load supplies for survivors at Stuff the Truck! If you have questions, please contact Cindy Brocious (see directory).



## Free Concert



On Friday, Oct. 12 at 7:30 p.m., four Tucson-area choirs will be presenting an invitational concert in the St. Mark's Sanctuary as part of the 2018 **Student Symposium of the American Choral Directors Association**.

The program features **Red Harmony A Cappella** from Walden Grove High School, **Tucson Desert Harmony Chorus** (a barbershop group), and **Arizona Choir and Symphonic Choir** from the University of Arizona.

The event features a wide range of music and is free and open to the community.

# Here's Your Chance to get involved!

I know many of you have been inspired as I have by the Missions videos and presentations the last few weeks. Now you are saying to yourself, "I wish I could do something." Here's your chance! Listed below are several ways to get involved with Missions projects at St. Mark's.

## Hands-on Missions Opportunities

On Sunday, September 30, the missions committee will be in the courtyard to answer questions and give information regarding hands-on mission opportunities. In addition, the sewing ministries will have samples for you to see and information about how to get involved with those ministries.

## Donations for the INN and Primavera

Here's how you can help! At this year's Advent Workshop on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, we will put together travel bags and hygiene kits. Please consider donating any of the following items:

### The INN

When the people leave the Inn to go to their final destination, the bus ride is often several days' long. We are going to put together small bags for the children to have something to do during this travel time. Bags have already been donated, but we need help with the contents:

**Art supplies**—crayons, coloring books, markers, activity books, blank pad of paper, pencils, sticker books, etc...

**Toys**—puzzles, balls, match box cars, etc.

**Small plush animals**—We would like each bag to contain a small plush animal.



## PRIMAVERA

Hygiene kits for homeless or near homeless men. Most of the items listed are available at Dollar Stores. We will use a ziplock bag and prepare hygiene kits.

- ✓ One-gallon strong ziplock bags (Slider lock prevents it from opening.)
- ✓ Washcloth
- ✓ Small tissue packet
- ✓ Comb
- ✓ Bar of soap
- ✓ Travel shampoo
- ✓ Razors
- ✓ Toothbrush
- ✓ Toothpaste (small to medium sized)

Donations may be dropped off at the office during the workweek, or left in the "Advent" box in the courtyard on Sundays. Please label your items "Advent." Also, please plan to attend the Advent Workshop on Saturday, Dec. 1 to help us fill the bags!

## Help Wanted!

On Saturday, Oct. 27, the Animal Ministry Team will be hosting our 3rd Annual Rummage to the Rescue(s) event in the St. Mark's south parking lot from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Each animal shelter and rescue that participates brings their own items to sell, and unsold items may be left as donations to TMM Family Services. We again plan to have the TMM truck in the church parking lot, and we're looking for about a half-dozen able individuals willing to be at the church at 1:00 p.m. to transport boxes of leftovers to the truck and load/stack them inside. (If you can bring a hand truck with you, all the better!)

We had some great couples and individuals who helped us do this last year, and it's an opportunity to support animal rescue efforts in our community without having to adopt another pet! To volunteer, please contact Sandi Heilman (see directory).



# Multi-Site Memorandum

In September of 2016, I attended a Multi-Site Workshop with a group from St. Mark's. The purpose of the workshop was to explore ways of reaching new people by using the multi-site model. During the workshop we learned:

1. Multi-site campus churches outnumber mega churches, and
2. Multi-site church have over ninety percent success rate!

We also learned many interesting things about starting a multi-site including—**GOD PROVIDES WHEN IT'S A VISION FROM GOD. MIRACLES HAPPEN AND DOORS OPEN!**

A group (now known as St. Mark's Multi-site Team) formed out of that workshop. We've been meeting and praying regularly and I'm so excited to see what God will do! We appreciate your prayers for God's will and direction with this mission.

If you have questions, or would like more information feel free to ask any of our team: Rev. Sharon Ragland, Pastor Stuart Salvatierra, Dr. Rev. Evy McDonald, John Cecilia, Dean Elledge, Brenda Hunter, Mark Hrabec, Kim Ogle, Todd and Tyger Penson, Christina Petrikat.  
*Christina Petrikat, Multi-site Team*

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

Laity and Clergy are encouraged to attend the Holy Huddle meeting Saturday, Oct. 6, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Christ Church UM, 655 N. Craycroft Rd, Tucson.



## **Dear Church Family...** (Continued from page 7)

The effort from St. Mark's requires coordination, communication, and commitment of time and energy. Only God can inspire this type of service to the poor and disadvantaged. Most people in today's world have more important things to do (for themselves). You are sharing Christ's love in a sacrificial manner. Providing light in a dark place week after week. The majesty of the Lord Jesus is shining through you. Thank you for the witness you exemplify to staff and students so they can come to know the character of our Lord. His loving kindness is clearly illustrated to all who have experienced the blessing of the St. Mark's congregation. Well done, good and faithful servants!

Please share this with all those who serve Nash as an encouragement.

*In Christ, Betty Young - Intervention Teacher/Reading Specialist*

## *Note of Thanks!*

**Dear St. Mark's Quilters,**

Your blankets bring a smile as well as warmth to so many of our dialysis patients. As you may know, they tend to be anemic and are usually cold. Your kindness and beautiful quilts are so appreciated by our patients!

In addition, many of the blankets are delivered to the Easter Seals Blake foundation. They serve children who are involved with C.P.S. (Child Protective Services) and are a comfort to them.

Thank you from all of our Davita Dialysis locations (six in Tucson, the Yaqui reservation, Sells-Tohono O'dham Reservation, Nogales. and Sierra Vista).

Thank you for your ministry of Love!

*Kathy Griffin,  
LCSW, and the other social workers!*

## **About St. Mark's Quilters**

The St. Mark's Quilters meet on Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m. to plan patterns, cut fabric and quilt, as well as to enjoy conversation while they work.

Quilts we make are donated to different services in the Tucson area. To raise funds for batting and supplies, people bring quilts to us they wish to have hand quilted and a group of our ladies do that for a fee.

Donations of 100% cotton fabric, batting, and monetary gifts are also greatly appreciated. Gail Blevins (572-6381).



# WASS UP?

September 26, 2018

Volume 19, Issue 19



## UPCOMING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

### September 30, 2018—

5th Sunday Worship  
No Sunday School  
No Confirmation

4:00 — 6:00

Amazing Race

*Middle School/ High School Teams*



### October 7, 2018—

4:00 — 6:00

Pumpkin Patch Prep and Underground Church

### October 13, 2018—



3:00— PUMPKINS ARRIVE !

All youth, family, and friends needed to help unload truck

### October 14, 2018—

**No Youth Group**  
**See Saturday**



### Fun Filled Fellowship

Greetings Pre Teen's,  
So, it's officially fall... you know cooler temps, leaves changing colors etc. I have never actually experienced this personally but it sounds like a good theme for our "Fun Filled Fellowship" for the next couple of months. Oh yeah and there's the Fall School Break! Hope to see you all on Sunday.  
Blessings - Julie

**September 30th-** Make fleece blankets for the children at The Inn as our mission project.

**October 7th -** Make "Apple Ring Donuts" for snack. Cool games. Plan Halloween Party.  
ENJOY YOUR FALL BREAK!

**October 14th -** Get crafty! Glow-in-the-dark slime and pumpkin candy dish from flower pots.

**October 21st -** Movie night. Now taking "PG" movie suggestions. Finalize our party plans. (Are your costumes ready?) Also, please talk to your parents about what kind of treat you would like to bring to share at the party.

**October 28th -**  
HALLOWEEN PARTY !! ~more later

Find us on Social Media!



St. Mark's Youth Group



stmarksumyf

a note from the

# YOUTH DIRECTOR

Yea! Pumpkins are arriving soon! October 13 at 3:00, specifically. Everyone is needed to help unload the truck and work the patch. More on that later, but now is the time to recruit your family and friends to pass pumpkins.

While I'm on the subject of friends, I hope you know that friends are always welcome at Sunday School and any youth events. Someone you know might just be waiting to be invited to church; you might be surprised.

I remember the summer after my 14th birthday. Someone invited me to a dance at a United Methodist Church. We had a church, but they didn't have dances. Man, am I glad that person invited me to her church!

Blessings,  
Kim

## Middle School Moments

A couple weeks ago at youth group, we painted kindness rocks. It was SO much fun. I was unsure how mine would turn out- I'm not exactly an artist! But we had such a good time and we all made some really pretty rocks! The best part is hiding them. We may never ever see that rock again, or the person who finds it. But knowing that something WE did brings a smile to someone's face is really exciting to me.

Sometimes our missions are big, tiring projects like building a wheelchair ramp, or picking up trash in the desert. And sometimes it's something simple, like hiding a pretty rock to brighten a stranger's day! Thanks for being in mission with me!

See you Sunday,  
Rachel



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10-12 Ken Martin \*  
10-18 Mariana Morales  
10-19 Frederic Laos  
10-19 Vaughn Laos  
10-23 Ashley Drake  
10-30 Mackenzie Kester

\* Faith Coach

## Over 50s Lunch Group

The St. Mark's Over 50s lunch group is going Asian for October. Please join us at 11:30am on October 2nd at the China Phoenix restaurant located at 7090 N.



Oracle ( the SE corner of Ina and Oracle). Give Sandra Rush a call or text (see directory) so we can have an accurate count.

## Annual Charge Conference

This year, St. Mark's Annual Charge Conference is **Monday, Oct. 8 at 6:30 p.m.**, in Fellowship Hall.

This is an open meeting, anyone from the congregation is welcome. We especially encourage committee chairs, ministry team leaders and church staff to attend.



## 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.

Ron Barth	Tom DeShong
Joe Brown	Judy Drescher
Gail Blevins	Keith & Mary Ann Glazier
Jared Bowman & family	Breanne Hallam
Michael Campbell	Carolyn Hanna
Donald Chester	David & Floretta Harrington

Patricia Keele	Carol Underwood
Brent & Karen Linebarier	Jackie Vickers
Jean Ogle	Dave & Jan Webster
Hazel Roberts	Connie White
Howard & Gina Russell	Lindsay Williams
Marian Shultis	

**CONTINUED PRAYERS** for Megan Krzmarzick for bone marrow transplant around the first of October. Megan's new address is 3810 SE Division St. Apt. #407, Portland, OR 97220-5145

**MEMORIAL SERVICE:** A service for **Liz Boxler** will be held in our Sanctuary on Thursday, October 11, 2018, at 4 p.m., with interment in our memorial garden, and reception in Fellowship Hall.

**CONDOLENCES:** We extend our sympathy and prayers to Nat and Monica Norfleet and their family on the death of Nat's mother in August.

**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT:** Congratulations to Ali Farhat and Nathan Beyersdorff on the birth of their new daughter, Mila Jade Beyersdorff born on August 20. Mila, who joins big brother Malachi, weighed in at 4 lbs. 14 oz. and she is growing each day!



## 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  
**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



# Calendar Notes

## Thurs., Sept 27

4:00 p.m. Youth Group Greek Festival  
6:00 p.m. Disciple I, Rm 20  
6:00 p.m. Technology Committee, Library  
6:00 p.m. Jesus In the Gospels, Rm 17/18  
6:30 p.m. Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall

## Fri., Sept. 28

9:30 a.m. Open Minds Book Study, Library

## Sat., Sept. 28

9:00 a.m. Safety Committee, Fellowship Hall  
9:00 a.m. Prayer Retreat (off campus)  
9:30 a.m. CPAW, Library  
10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry

## Sun., Sept. 30

12:30 p.m. Family Ministry, Library  
4:00 p.m. Preteens and Youth Group

## Mon., Oct. 1

9:00 a.m. Ties that Bind, Rm 17/18  
9:15 a.m. Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall

## Wed., Oct. 3

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, Library



## 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 ...



I am a teacher at Nash and attended the 11:15 a.m. service last weekend (Sept. 16), but did not have the opportunity to properly praise you for your ministry to our school. It is exciting to see volunteers in the classroom working with students from St. Mark's.

Extra hands mean students get more specialized attention. Sometimes the focus is less on academics and you are able to give needed assistance to social and emotional health. Many of our students have never had anyone at home read with them. Growing in literacy requires practice reading books and you do that with our students. I know many other tasks are given attention on our campus at the direction of teachers for kids. Thank you for being available to us. Thank you for giving students individualized attention they deserve and the opportunity to learn.



School supplies for the classroom are expensive. St. Mark's is making an investment so that we can do our jobs effectively. We all very much appreciate the pouring out of material resources for students and teachers twice a year. It greatly reduces the burden on families of students. Since teacher's earnings are tiny, it also reduces the burden on my family's finances. Thank you for your generosity!

Hunger prevents children from learning and developing. Hunger is a reality of this neighborhood. We are fortunate to have food available to students during the day. I love that you saw the need for students to have food on the weekend and provide to meet the need. When I see the grocery bags lined up for distribution, I know God is looking down and smiling at the provisions you give out weekly. The children are smiling too.

The perseverance Nash students demonstrate is amazing to me. They experience unspeakable hardships that no child should endure. When staff and St. Mark's come together we can offer a safe, healthy and supportive environment for learning. It is a great partnership. I'm thankful for the dedication of the Church for so many years to this campus.

*continued on page 5*

## 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

This is an exciting time in the life of St. Mark's UMC. We're just wrapping up a worship series on **Connecting God & the World...the Church in Mission**, and heard from many of our people on the ways they serve Christ through our church. We're about to begin a series on **Connecting Our Lives to God...Our Work & Our Faith**, and will get to hear not only my thoughts on our lives and our work, but also hear perspectives from those who work in particular fields. And...that series will dovetail with our 2019 Stewardship Campaign, thanks to the great work of our Finance Committee. Our adult classes are off and running, as well as those for children and youth and much more.

Now I'd like to ask for your prayers and your help as we explore yet another step for St. Mark's. Over the last few months you've heard us begin to talk about a "Multi-Site Project." The idea here is that God has provided us with such strength and joy that we want to take that—the heart of St. Mark's—to start a second site north of us, where a lot of growth and development is taking place. We're going to continue all the good work we do where we are. We're just looking at extending ourselves, taking who we are into a second location. We have a team of people praying and exploring this, and in late August received the strong affirmation from our Covenant Council to

continue that exploration. Brenda Hunter, Kim Ogle and I are participating in a program of the national United Methodist Church, "Churches Planting Churches" through Path 1, and are learning a lot about multi-site ministries, which are taking place all over our country.

One of our main needs now is to isolate a location. We've been looking at the area along Tangerine between Dove Mountain Rd. and Thornydale. Here's the way you may help: do you or someone you know have a business, home or property in that corridor that we might use or rent (low-cost) to begin this second site for St. Mark's? Put on your creative thinking caps—if you have any ideas contact me ([sharon@umcstmarks.org](mailto:sharon@umcstmarks.org) or 297-2062).

Here's the prayer: **God, as you have so abundantly blessed us at St. Mark's, now show us how to extend ourselves to reach new people with your good news of Jesus' love. Guide and direct us, and open doors or windows or other places for us, as you desire. We give our hearts and hands to you, in humility, service and love. Thank you for the joy of knowing and loving you. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

Blessings, Sharon