

Messenger

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

Volume 58, Number 10

May 23, 2018



Welcome Jazmin Cunha!

Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is pleased to announce Jazmin Cunha as the new Administrative Associate replacing Kandy Delk. Jazmin grew up at St. Mark's having been baptized, and confirmed here. She was also involved with Sunday School and Youth Group. Jazmin began her new assignment on May 11. She can be reached at

jazmin@umcstmarks.org or 297-2062.

Jazmin graduated from Northern Arizona University with a degree in Creative Media and film, and minored in graphic design. Jazmin's skills and qualifications make her well suited for the job which includes providing a warm welcome to callers and visitors, maintaining the church calendar, assisting the senior pastor by coordinating aspects of worship, and providing general clerical assistance. Jazmin's appointment supports St. Mark's Focus and Priority II of reaching out to new people in all ages and stages of life, with an emphasis on reaching younger people.



Please join us in welcoming Jazmin to our amazing St. Mark's staff.

Donna Reed, Chair Staff Parish Relations Committee

Vacation Bible School—Peace Lab



There is still time to register your child for Vacation Bible School—PEACE LAB! at www.umcstmarks.org, events.

It's going to be another exciting year with plenty of ways that the entire congregation can contribute to our children here and around the world!

Missions Projects: VBS students will learn how to promote peace in their community and the world through two different missions projects and you are invited to be a part of this mission project, too.

In Our Community - New and very gently used stuffed animals will be given to children that have experienced a physical or emotional trauma providing comfort from these toys.

In the World - Kids for Peace (www.kidsforpeace.org) helps build schools in Kenya and sponsors students. Just \$75 a student pays for a half-years school tuition, two uniforms, plus breakfast, and lunch the entire year! Our plan is to raise enough money (\$750) to sponsor ten children.

Snack Donations: If you would like to donate snacks, here's a list of items we'll need by May 25: Cheerios, chocolate chips, butterscotch chips, Craisins, small pretzels, Teddy Grahams, dried fruit, Oreo cookies, Goldfish, and popcorn.

Prayer Partners: There is still time to sign up to be in prayer (30 minute slots) during VBS. You may sign up at www.umcstmarks.org, upcoming events, and receive prayer suggestions during the week.

St. Mark's Members and Friends,

By now, you have probably read the letters from Rev. Mark Conrad, South District Superintendent for the Desert Southwest Conference announcing that Pastor Tammy will be leaving St. Mark's UMC effective June 30. Also the announcement introducing Stuart Salvatierra, and his appointment, as St. Mark's associate pastor, effective July 1. We recognize that the letters were read by Staff Parish Relations Committee in church on May 20, and that they were circulated via email. However, because much of our congregation travels this time of the year, we have included the letters (as an insert) with this issue of the **Messenger** to make sure that everyone is informed of these important changes.

Adult Spiritual Growth

Faith is a journey!

A number of Adult Spiritual Growth book studies and classes finished this month. Participants had so many great comments that we wanted to share them with hopes you will be inspired by their experiences and consider registering for one or more of these opportunities this fall to grow your relationship with God and others.

Christian Believer: (Disciple I is a thirty-week study about church doctrines and how these doctrines form our faith).

For me, the best part of **Christian Believer** was the readings. We were exposed to a lot of new Christian writers, both from the early church as well as more contemporary authors.

I found the class to be challenging in the sense that I was introduced to different ideas than I had ever heard before. It was very enlightening.



All the cool kids are holy, which I learned from C.S. Lewis in the **Christian Believer** study readings. **Christian Believer** is a good way for people to grasp the nature of the doctrines of the church so often not covered in the daily/weekly church activities.

Christian Believer class challenged my preconceptions about certain church doctrines such as judgment and eternal life. It provided me with the biblical framework to support the doctrines and gave me more confidence in my beliefs.

Through the yearlong study, **Christian Believer**, I discovered how much I can continue to grow. I will never know enough about being a Christian, why I believe what I do, and how I can move faithfully through this lifelong journey.

Bible study has been meaningful, challenging, and strengthening for me. It has kept me learning and growing in my knowledge and faith.

Christian Believer helped to enhance and refine my understanding of how the gospel and church doctrines are embedded in, and reinforce, my Christian beliefs.

It was a wonderful experience to ponder and question the doctrines which are the foundation of our faith. To be a group which welcomed differing opinions and sought earnestly to learn from one another made the experience even richer.

Shaping a Life of Significance for Retirement:

The book was thought provoking, but more interesting was the sharing of comments.

Totally not what I expected, not finances or insurance, but learning, sharing of others life-changing moments and very uplifting.

Opened doors to questions I haven't even asked yet. It was very thought provoking and enlightening. The casual, comfortable atmosphere encouraged extended discussion. Very encouraging.

Bill (Fritz) was a good listener and respectful of everyone's experiences. The class helped raise some good questions and the discussion time was helpful. Definitely offer it again. People in the class had good insights to share.

I appreciated and valued these aspects of the class:

- breadth of topics in the book
- questions for discussion
- six-week time frame allows time for reflection
- small group (10-12 participants) for conversation
- variety of perspectives among participants that prompt ideas I wouldn't have thought of alone
- this kind of class isn't offered by my employer
- supplemental materials provided by the facilitator

Spiritual Autobiography:

Spiritual Autobiography is a class for absolutely anyone and everyone. Don't worry about your writing skills. Have fun telling your story and reflecting on your life. Not only will you have a chance to share your stories, your classmates will take you on a walk down memory lane as they share theirs. You will laugh. You will cry. You will remember all kinds of things you thought you'd forgotten. This class was a great way to really get to know people. If you are looking for your family at St. Mark's, try this class. Intimacy came quickly. Judy Boroto is a great facilitator and leads you with a list of fun questions that will get you pondering. Have no doubt, your creative juices will come alive. I adored this class!

Sherri Lennarson

Judy (Boroto) personally invited me to attend her Spiritual Autobiography class. I had no idea what I was getting into and I just went along and showed up. It was the best six weeks I have spent in a while. Each week, we were given a specific topic to write about with the requirements of fitting it into two pages. The process of thinking about the topic brought such fond memories of my past. The writing of my stories was actually cathartic and fun. The absolute best part of the class was to read our stories aloud. The reminiscing of nostalgia with the other participants brought laughter and tears. I believe the process is for us to expand upon these stories and leave them as a legacy for others to read once we are gone. I don't know about that, but I sure did enjoy the writing and the fellowship.

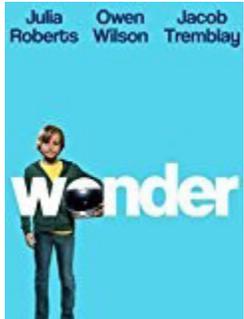
Susan Gerstad

Adult Spiritual Growth will offer several classes throughout the summer in support of Pastor Sharon's sermon series: **Making the Connection: Connecting to Jesus**. We have some challenging courses that may bring us out of our comfort zone, but also help us solidify our faith in an exciting way. Some of the book and film studies will also challenge us in living out our faith. Below are just a few of this summer's offerings. Please contact the facilitators if you have questions about these. You may register online at www.umcstmarks.org or use the Adult Spiritual Growth board in the courtyard on Sundays for sign up.

Summer Film Offering – Monday June 4

6:30 – 8:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Wonder, starring Julia Roberts & Owen Wilson.



Based on the New York Times bestseller, **Wonder** tells the inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman. Born with facial differences that, up until now, have prevented him from going to a mainstream school, Auggie becomes the most unlikely of heroes when he enters the local fifth grade. The story evolves by telling it from the perspective of multiple characters.

As his family, his new classmates, and the larger community all struggle to find their compassion and acceptance and dealing with problems that are capable of being resolved. Auggie's extraordinary journey will unite them all and prove you can't blend in, when you were born to stand out. It has a wonderful message about tolerance, acceptance, understanding and respect.

Running time: 110 minutes, Rated PG

Childcare will be available if registered ahead of time. Popcorn will be offered; please bring your own beverage.

More Film Offerings This Summer

Want to have fun, fellowship and discussion in one sitting? Join us this summer for three films, one a month during June (see above), July and August. These films have an underlying theme which we will discuss after the showing. Monday evenings, from 6:30 - 8:30 (or 9:00). Keep a watch in future



Messengers for the movies scheduled for July 2, and August 6. Childcare available with registration.

Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time: The Historical Jesus and the Heart of Contemporary Faith

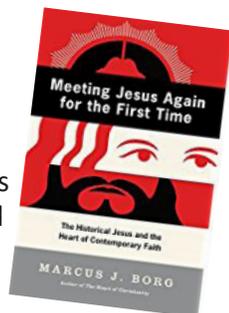
By Marcus Borg

Tuesdays, June 5 – July 10

1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Linda Walker

Many of us have known about Jesus since we were children. As we grow and mature, sometimes what we “know” or “know about” Jesus needs to be



re-examined in light of our changing understandings, questions and concerns. This was the case for the author Marcus J. Borg, and he shares his story and insights in this fascinating and challenging book. In Mr. Borg's words, “The foundational claim of this book is that there is a strong connection between images of Jesus and images of the Christian life, between how we think of Jesus and how we think of the Christian life.”

To quote Walter Wink of Auburn Theological Seminary: “In every generation there is a handful of writers of whom it can be said, ‘Read everything they write.’ Marcus Borg is one of them today, a writer of rare lucidity, original scholarly insights, profound spirituality, and the unusual capacity to connect it all to life in the present. He might just change your mind—or life.”

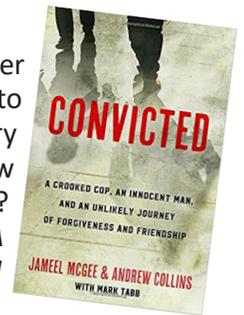
Books are \$10 and are available at the church office for advanced reading. You can also search for the book on Amazon if you prefer.

A Summer Reading Suggestion

Monday, June 18, 7:00-8:30 p.m. (one session)

Facilitator: Sandi Heilman

When a corrupt white police officer knowingly sent an innocent black man to jail in 2005, their relationship had every reason to end in rage and revenge. So how did these two men end up as friends? Discover the answer in **Convicted: A Crooked Cop, An Innocent Man and an Unlikely Journey of Forgiveness and Friendship**. This compelling, true story shows how they grew up just a few miles apart---but in two different worlds. Spoiler Alert: The ending would have been much different if faith hadn't played a part in their story!



This book, written by Andrew Collins, Jameel Zookie McGee and Mark Tabb, is available in hardcover (approx. \$15), as an e-book (approx. \$10), and as an audio-book (approx. \$20). The study is open to anyone interested, regardless of age.

Coming July 9, 16, 23!

Tattoos On The Heart by Gregory Boyle.

Discussion will be led by Sandi Heilman. Watch for details in the next **Messenger** issue.

Confirmation Class of 2018

Please welcome our newest members of St. Mark's church who were confirmed on Sunday, May 13, 2018.

Ashley Marie Drake



Ashley is in 8th grade at Cross Middle School now, and will attend Pusch Ridge Christian Academy in the fall. Ashley likes playing tennis. She likes to make art and to sing and dance. Ashley likes to garden and she loves horses. When she gets older, she wants to be a rancher, or a photographer.

Adriana Elizabeth Morales



Adriana is in 9th grade at Tucson Magnet High School, and will continue high school this fall there as well. Adriana loves to sing, play piano and guitar. She really likes music theory – and music in general. She writes poetry, and likes to read. Her favorite thing to do is to take nature walks.

Samuela Martin Hala'ufia



Sam attends 8th grade at Marana Middle School and will begin high school at Mountain View in the fall. Sam plays sports at school, he likes playing cello, and his favorite thing to study is math.

Kiera Elizabeth Ritchey



Kiera is in 8th grade at Green Fields School this year and will attend high school there in the fall. Her hobbies include volleyball, writing poems and songs, reading, and soccer.

Abigail Romey Lee



Abbie attends Mansfield Middle School and is in 8th grade. She will attend University High School this fall. Abbie likes to dance and sing. She also likes reading, her favorite book is *Les Miserables*. She likes writing and she really likes learning new things.

Jenasys Nicole Turner



Jenasys is in 8th grade at Cross Middle School this year and will attend Canyon Del Oro High School in the fall. Her hobbies include reading books, singing, running, writing, musical theater, and she is really good at cooking and baking!

Finance Update

The Finance Committee is pleased to provide St. Mark's year-to-date financial report for the first four months of 2018:

Total YTD Income	Total YTD Expenses	YTD Difference
\$441,879	\$363,274	\$78,605

Not included in the above, the Easter offering totaled \$12,106, with one-half to Youth Missions (primarily SSP) and one-half to Missions-Change the World, including food packaging and the Inn Project. St. Mark's was also blessed with an increase in Easter worship attendance, totaling just under 1,300 individuals, 100 more than last year.

Many thanks for your continued generosity and support. As we pursue St. Mark's mission, "Changing the world through Christ, by caring for all people," you are helping us make a real difference.

Lezley Barth, Finance Chairperson
Ruth Kester, Bookkeeper

ICS INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES
WHERE HELP BRINGS HOPE

Faith Community Summer Peanut Butter Party!

Help ICS Raise 10,000 Jars of Peanut Butter this summer

Leave your donations in the PEANUT BUTTER DONATIONS box (in the Welcome Center) any Sunday starting June 10 through July 10!

Barbecue & Summer go together like peanut butter and jelly! Celebrate summer with the **Over 50s** lunch group at Famous Dave's, 4565 N Oracle Rd. We will gather on Tues., June 5 at 11:30 a.m. for some delectable Barbecue and enjoyable fellowship. Please give Sandra Rush a call or text (520-780-4876) so we know how many good friends to expect.

INN PROJECT Update



Since Jan. 1, 2018, the INN has welcomed over 1,300 guests. As you know from previous articles, each of these asylum seekers has been legally admitted by ICE to seek safety for their families from imminent threats from within their home countries. They leave home, friends, and extended family quietly, leaving all personal belongings behind. We cannot imagine the circumstances which cause them to uproot and relocate. We are so very blessed in this country.

First the news. When the INN Project began, it was titled "project" because it was unknown, at that time, how long the need would last. Because it is still ongoing, now it will be called The INN. It is still housed in the basement of First UMC on Park with a maximum capacity of 50 people. We provide refuge, food, laundry, showers, comfort, compassion, assistance connecting them to their sponsors, and transportation to the bus station for the long journey (usually two to three days and nights) to meet their sponsors.

The INN operates solely on grants and contributions. Beyond the services listed above, we desperately need to make some physical improvements for the long term. If we have 50 guests, that is 100 sheets, 50 pillowcases, and blankets to launder, plus pillows to sterilize. This is an impossible task for one, soon to be two machines. Here are some other critical needs:

- 1 Volunteers.** Shifts are 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.; 1 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.; 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.; with one overnight volunteer. Could you, perhaps, choose a day to regularly commit to a shift (4-5 hours)? It really works best, if there are two volunteers each shift during the day. If you cannot commit to a particular day, consider a couple of times a month?
- 2 Monetary Donations.** It costs about \$5,000 a month to run a very modest operation. This does not include repairs or replacements. Any amount would be welcome. We count on our donors. Checks can be made out to Desert Southwest Conference of UMC. You may stay in touch with THE INN through www.DSCUMC.org.
- 3 Book and duffel bags.** We'd gladly take any (end of school year) functional container to carry personal belongings on board the bus.
- 4 Towels** - bath towels, including some kitchen towels.

If you wish to volunteer, call Gretchen Lokey, Director, 520-312-1451. I volunteer most Monday mornings and would welcome your company so you can witness the operation and see if this is something you'd be interested in, at any level. Call me and we could either car pool or caravan.

Blessings, Kathie Barrett (520-825-2766)

Permanent Endowment Fund Committee

Each fiscal year St. Mark's Endowment Committee approves between 4% and 6% of the total fund balance to be distributed for non-budgeted St. Mark's programs, projects, and equipment. From 2016 to 2018, over 28K has been disbursed. These funds were used for a variety of ministries



and have had a significant impact on St. Mark's and its ministries. Some of the approved requests were used to create a prayer room, provide window coverings, purchase a Christmas tree, update the portable sound system, provide a keyboard for the Praise Team, support the Nash Literacy Connects program, provide a Young Adult Coordinator, fund the new Welcome Brochure, and start-up funds for the new Safety Committee.

This fund continues to grow through bequests, gifts, and smart investing by the members of the committee. Consider including St. Mark's Endowment in your estate plans or give a gift today. For more information write to info@umcstmarks.org or visit Endowment Fund page at www.umcstmarks.org.

Kairos Outside



Kairos Outside offers a comfortable, non-judging retreat for women to support each other as they journey through the incarceration of a friend or relative.

The Kairos Outside weekend is a two-and-a-half day program based on a series of talks by volunteers designed to address the pain of enduring separation from the one inside and the judgment of others from their community. Guests hear the talks in small table groups. The program is interspersed with music, prayer, and fun activities.

Kairos Prison Ministry is a Christian program, although no religious affiliation is necessary to be a guest. Any 20 year-old or older female family member, whose life has been impacted by the incarceration of a loved one, or a woman who was unable to attend Kairos Inside while in prison is eligible to attend Kairos Outside.

If you, or someone you know, has a loved one in prison, consider this program. There is a weekend schedule in Tucson on September 21-23, 2018. If you have an interest or any questions, contact Judy Boroto (jeboroto@aol.com).

Benefit Auction and Party

One of the community's biggest events to raise funds for HIV support services is **Treasures for TIHAN**, a benefit auction and party, with this year's theme **In Living Color**, and an expected crowd of 400 people.

It takes place on Sat., June 2, 6:00 p.m. at the Marriott University Park Hotel, with emcee KVOA Channel 4's Lupita Murillo.



Businesses and individuals have donated 400 items for the **Silent Auction** – trips, jewelry, restaurant gift certificates, event tickets, golf outings, pottery, massages, home furnishings, spa and beauty services, and concert, theatre, events, museum, sports tickets, and more!

Event tickets are \$65, or \$75 at the door (admission includes food). Casual attire—nothing formal! Purchase tickets at www.tihan.org (click Treasures for TIHAN logo), or call (520) 299-6647 ext 202. They're also raffling off \$1,000 cash, and you don't have to be present to win. Get your tickets on TIHAN's website or call the TIHAN office.

PRAYER CORNER

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

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

Breanne Hallam
Carolyn Hanna
David & Floretta Harrington
Patricia Keele
Pam Kytola
Karen Linebarier
Joan Pepe
Jim Preston
Daylene Peters

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

Tom Walker
Jim Ward
Dave Webster
Connie White
Lindsay Williams
Yvonne Yare

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
Rob Eubank, son of David & Johanna Eubank
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
Adam Seia, son of David & Vonda Seia
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

Sat., May 26

9:30 a.m. Chronic Illness/Pain Support Group, Library

Sun., May 27

No PreTeens group
No Youth Group

Mon., May 28

OFFICE CLOSED
No Holy Yoga

Wed., May 30

Noon - **BULLETIN DEADLINE**
5:45 p.m. Community Meal, Fellowship Hall
6:15 p.m. Soul Station
6:15 p.m. Common Grounds

Thurs., May 31

Noon - **MESSENGER DEADLINE**
6:30 p.m. Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall

Sun., June 3

4:00 p.m. Preteens and Youth Groups

Mon., June 4

Vacation Bible School kick off
9:15 a.m. Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall

Wed., June 6

7:30 a.m. Marksmen
5:45 p.m. Community Meal, Fellowship Hall
6:15 p.m. Soul Station
6:15 p.m. Common Grounds

Thurs., June 7

6:30 p.m. Holy Yoga
6:30 p.m. MOMS of Military, Library

Fri., June 8

6:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School Celebration
6:00 p.m. Food Truck Cafe



St. Mark's Messenger

Published bi-weekly

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Website:

www.umcstmarks.org

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Sharon Ragland

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Tammy Hallam

Sunday Worship:

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

Soul Station

Wednesday Nights:

Community Meal

5:45 p.m.

Music/Programs

6:15-7:15 p.m.

Dear Church Family...



Thank you so much for the cards, calls, visits and prayers surrounding our recent surgeries. We are so thankful for our St. Mark's family.

Alan and LuAnn Roberts

We would like to thank our St. Mark's family for all the prayers, calls, cards, and visits from very special friends. Special thanks to Pastors Sharon, Tammy and Evy for their many visits and words of comfort and support throughout this time. We feel so blessed that Mom and Dad had such a caring and supportive church!

Jay, Lisa and Lori Stauffacher

Thank You from Grace Circle!

In April, our Grace Circle filled 260 Nash Bags with school supplies and delivered for all their K-3rd grade students. We thank those who donated fabric to make the bags, and those who made the bags, for the donated supplies. The bags are very much appreciated by the teachers and students who receive them!

Gail Blevins



137 St. Mark's Quilts... and counting!



St. Mark's Quilters meet every Thursday morning to sew quilts for Child Protective Services (for children removed from their homes) and for dialysis patients. We thank everyone for the donations of fabric, monetary gifts, and their time. So far this year, we have made and donated one hundred thirty seven quilts in a variety of colors for all ages!

Gail Blevins



1431 W. Magee Road, Tucson AZ 85704-2116

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Reflections

There's a season for everything and a time for every matter under the heavens ... God has made everything fitting in its time, but has also placed eternity in their hearts ... from Ecclesiastes 3: 1 & 11

In the last week, three different people have shared versions of this passage with me. One was a picture with the words, another a different version of the passage, and the third as part of a devotion at a committee meeting. In the devotion, the chairperson shared that she had read this description about the word "changes" – Christ has a new gift each season. I suppose I was particularly struck by this as soon as she said it because we're in this season of staff transitions at our church. Some of you are also experiencing transitions with graduations, or moves, or other life changes.

We often hear that change is hard and that no one likes it. I suppose at some level that is true. We also know, though, that change is a part of daily life. The world around us changes, our relationships change, our bodies and our abilities change. Sometimes we grieve over those changes. Sometimes we can do something about those changes, and sometimes not.

What if we looked at changes as an opportunity to see where Christ is at work, bringing us a gift in each season? We

can still grieve, can still be sad or unhappy, and also look for the ways Christ is already bringing gifts. Henri Nouwen, the late writer, teacher and theologian wrote about our ability to decide how we move through life, and the affect those decisions make on our fulfillment and ability to serve God. He suggested that if we choose to "age into light," with an attitude of hope and seeing life as a gift, then we are more likely to live fully and well. On the other hand, if we choose to "age into darkness," with a sense of entitlement and resentment, we are short-changed and able to do less for God.

On June 24, our Staff Parish Relations Committee will have a celebration for Pastor Tammy and Jack Hallam, as Tammy leaves as our Associate Pastor. Watch for more information on that in upcoming Messengers. Then, in early July, we will welcome Pastor Stuart Salvatierra as our new Associate Pastor.

This Sunday, May 27, we begin a new series as part of this year's **Connecting to God and One Another** focus. For the next few weeks, we'll be immersed in Jesus as we talk about **Connecting to Jesus ... the Power of Hope**. This will give us a great opportunity to notice how "Christ has a new gift each season."

Blessings, Sharon



South District

Desert Southwest Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 15, 2018

Dear members and friends of St. Mark's,

St. Mark's added a full-time Associate Pastor position in 1986. Since that time St. Mark's has been blessed by the talents and contributions of each of the pastors. Your Church has done a great job to mentor and encourage them. During that history, Associate Pastors have been appointed to St. Mark's for one to five years, with a consistent average of three years.

This year, Bishop Robert Hoshibata and the Appointive Cabinet discerned that your Associate Pastor, Rev. Tammy Hallam, was ready for an appointment in a church on her own. In mid-April, the Cabinet offered Rev. Hallam an appointment, which she declined, believing that it did not match well with her gifts and passions for ministry. Since Rev. Hallam is not a United Methodist pastor, she is not guaranteed an appointment in the Desert Southwest Conference. She also is not obligated to accept appointments that are offered.

Therefore, after a season of discerning God's call, another church was not available in this appointment year. With a new associate pastor being appointed to St. Mark's on July 1, Rev. Hallam will be leaving at the end of June. Rev. Hallam, along with her husband, Jack, are thankful for the 3 years they have had the opportunity to be a part of St. Mark's UMC, and for the love and support within this community. They are especially grateful for the love and care shown to their daughters as they faced cancer treatment in the last year. We are very grateful for the contributions that Rev. Hallam has brought to St. Mark's, and know that you will miss having her many gifts among you. Your Staff-Parish Relations Committee is planning a celebration for them on Sunday, June 24. More information about the celebration will be available soon.

A new associate pastor will be appointed to St. Mark's beginning July 1. We will soon have information to share with you about your new Associate Pastor.

Sincerely,

Rev. Mark Conrad
South District Superintendent
Desert Southwest Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

cc: Donna Reed
Rev. Tammy Hallam
Rev. Sharon Ragland
Bishop Robert Hoshibata
Julie O'Neal





May 15, 2018

Donna Reed
Chair, Staff Parish Relations Committee
St. Mark's United Methodist Church
1431 W. Magee Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85704-2116

Dear Donna,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our risen Lord and Savior!

I am pleased to announce to you that Bishop Robert Hoshibata intends to appoint Pastor Stuart Salvatierra to serve as Associate Pastor of the St. Mark's United Methodist Church, effective July 1, 2018. Through a process of prayerful discernment and consultation with your church, the Bishop and Cabinet believe that Pastor Salvatierra has the gifts and skills needed to serve your church at this time. Pastor Salvatierra is looking forward to being in ministry with you.

Pastor Salvatierra is currently serving as Associate Pastor of North Scottsdale United Methodist Church, Scottsdale AZ. I am excited about the gifts that Pastor Salvatierra brings to this appointment.

I am praying for you as you take time to honor and celebrate the ministries of Rev. Tammy Hallam in the coming months, and then welcome and celebrate Pastor Salvatierra into your presence.

Your brother in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Mark Conrad". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Mark Conrad
Missional Strategist and Superintendent
Desert Southwest Conference
The United Methodist Church

Cc: Rev. Sharon Ragland
Rev. Susan Brims
Stuart Salvatierra
Julie O'Neal
Bishop Robert Hoshibata



WASS UP?

May 22, 2018

Volume 19, Issue 10

Our Sunday School Teachers Rock!



UPCOMING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

May 27, 2018—
Memorial Day
No Youth Group



June 3, 2018—



4:00 to 6:00
Movie Night @
Wesley House
(Movie tbd)

June 17, 2018—
Father's Day
No Youth Group



Spend Time With
Dad DAY

June 24, 2018—
4:00 to 6:00
Laser Tag

Do you realize that, since school began last August, your Sunday School teachers have been taught 37 Sundays? That's with three Sundays being 5th Sundays, and one being Easter, when we don't have Sunday School.

Every Sunday morning, that you walk into the Wesley House, you're greeted by an adult who loves God, and is prepared to share that love with you.

Please thank Lisa DaDeppo, Don Booth, and Pete Herchenroeder for teaching Sunday School. They're taking the summer off, and Rachel and Kim will be your teachers.

SUMMER MISSIONS

St. Mark's takes great pride in being a mission-minded church. From the new mission that's planned for the younger kids at VBS, to the adult projects, there are almost too many opportunities to count. There's still time for you to sign up for **Middle School Mission** or **SSP**! That's what we do.

Find us on Social Media!



St. Mark's Youth Group



stmarksumyf

a note from the

YOUTH DIRECTOR

The last two Sundays have been very special for me. May 13 was not only Mother's Day, it was Confirmation Sunday. Six of your friends were confirmed at The Gathering that day. (See the *Messenger* insert.)

Last Sunday, May 20, was Graduate Recognition Sunday. There was a video in each of the services, which highlighted our high school and college graduates. It was also my great privilege to be at the Blessing of the High School Grads that morning.

One of the best parts of my job is being with you, and praying with you, as you grow and move forward through the milestones of your faith lives.

Blessings,
Kim

Middle School Moments

The school year is over. Doesn't that feel GOOD!? Now it's time for my favorite part of the year- Youth Missions!

You have a chance to do some great Mission Work this summer. First up is Middle School Mission. If you have completed 6-8 grades, you should really check this out! Kids from all over the South District get together, serve others, and have a blast doing it! You don't have to attend youth group, and friends are always welcome. It's next week, so make sure you sign up ASAP! There is something awesome about serving others. I always love how it feels to serve, and especially to serve with my friends. It's a fantastic way to show God's love and to grow in our own spiritual lives.

See you there!
Rachel

Middle School Mission

May 29-June 1

4 days and 3 nights

Service. Worship. Friends!

Ends with a half day at Wet 'n Wild!

All that for only \$65.

Scholarships available



REGISTER NOW!

It's not too late, but you're running out of time.