



# Messenger

Volume 58, Number 25

December 19, 2018

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

## **Christmas Eve Services** **Monday, Dec. 24**

Come and discover the ways that Christ has come into our lives this Christmas and celebrate the deep mystery and joy of Jesus' arrival.



**11:00 a.m.**

**Lessons & Carols Worship and Holy Communion** with a soup and bread lunch following service.

**4:00 p.m.**

**Blessing of the Children Worship** with words/music from *The Little Drummer Boy*

**Christ Has Come! Evening services are based on Isaiah 9:2b-7 & Luke 2:1-20**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Modern worship** with our Praise Band, candlelighting

**8:00 p.m.**

**Traditional Worship** with choir, Holy Communion, candlelighting

**10:00 p.m.**

**Traditional Worship** with choir, Holy Communion, candlelighting outside

## **2019 NEW SERMON SERIES**

What DOES the Bible really say about...? Those who go to church as well as those who don't have good understandings and misconceptions about what the Bible says about God, Jesus, our lives, faith and many other topics. In 2019 our worship theme **What the Bible Really Says About...** will focus on building on what we know about the Bible and what it means for us today.

**January 6**

Celebration of Epiphany

**The Magi Come to Jesus**

Some wise people traveled a long way just to get a glimpse of Jesus!

**New Sermon Series Begins!**

**January 13**

**How the Bible Came to Be and What's In it**

An introduction to the Bible, how it came to be and how we can know it better.

**January 20**

**A Plan for Reading and Knowing the Bible**

How do we start reading the Bible, or how do we get to know it better by having a plan to deeply reflect on the meanings of Scripture?

**January 27**

**Why Baptism?**

What in the world is baptism? How did it begin? What is the meaning of Jesus' baptism and ours?

## **Hunger Relief through Meal Packaging**

On Sunday, Jan. 6, we will work with **Rise Against Hunger** to package 10,150 meals. The meals will be distributed to impoverished nations for people who might not otherwise have enough to eat.

The packaging process is very precise. It's actually a lot of fun. We'll work in assembly lines to package the meals, and box and prepare them for shipping. You'll meet people from St. Mark's, as well as new friends from our community. You'll laugh, and you'll work together

in service. It'll be an amazing feeling of accomplishment when over 10,000 meals are boxed and the cartons are stacked against the wall.



That day, we'll begin at 12:30 p.m. You may want to dress casually for worship, and then join us for packing.

This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to a St. Mark's service project. Most people like to do nice things, but might be hesitant to enter the sanctuary until they get to know some of us. For information, please contact Kim Ogle (297-2062 or [kim@umcstmarks.org](mailto:kim@umcstmarks.org)).

# Multi-site Memorandum



Before I share with you what we learned about St. Mark's from the Readiness 360 survey, I want to thank again all who took the time to complete it last October!

I also want to remind you about the history behind the survey. Pastors Sharon and Evy, and Kim Ogle and I have had the opportunity to attend a couple of different conferences where we learned some of the best (and worst) practices for growing a church's ministry. At a Churches Planting Churches Conference, we were invited to share the Readiness 360 Survey with our congregation. This survey was created to provide a way to measure four attributes (spiritual intensity, dynamic relationships, missional alignment and cultural openness) needed for a congregation to be effective in reaching new people, as well as provide a way for candid comments from the congregation.

While I appreciated the opportunity for us to get numbers (the geek in me) that would either confirm or conflict with impressions I have about our strengths, our weaknesses, and our general preparedness to expand our worship in new ways to reach new people, I confess to being nervous about what the results would show. I should not have doubted! Over 1,000 churches have taken the survey, and when our results are compared to those, St. Mark's ranks at the 90th percentile. In other words, we have a strong foundation which will serve us well as we move forward in expanding our worship opportunities. We also now know areas where we should look for ways to improve.

Our best score was in the area of spiritual intensity: the depth of our love for God, and our willingness to find out and do what it is that God intends for us. Many of us have an expectant attitude, and feel God's presence in worship, or during our practice of spiritual disciplines. A high score in this attribute is very good because spiritual intensity is the underlying fuel for us to be able to carry out God's work. I especially like the fact that many do feel God's presence in worship. Since our goal for our multi-site work is to create another site for worship, we

are building off one of our strengths! A weakness of ours in this area is that many of us feel we are not using our spiritual gifts. I'm inclined to view this as a strength by interpreting it to mean that we have many people who are waiting to find their gift(s), and just maybe they will find those gifts helping with a new worship service!

Our scores for dynamic relationships and missional alignment were the same. Our score for dynamic relationships indicates how well we interact with each other on campus and our neighbors off campus. I was not surprised to learn we work well with other churches and organizations in our community, or that many of us know how to welcome new people into our midst. However – and I know this is true for me - many of us are slow to invite our friends and neighbors to church. We are going to need to learn to be more invitational when we initiate a second worship site. Our score for missional alignment indicates how well our investment of time and other resources reflects a biblical vision, as well as how our congregation understands and supports that vision. Again, I was not surprised to learn that we have very dedicated and passionate people who take our call to mission seriously. However, there are many of us who are not sure of, or perhaps disagree with, what St. Mark's priorities are.

Our lowest score was for cultural openness. Even though Tucson is culturally and racially diverse because of our geography, the University, and Davis Monthan Air Force Base, we already knew that our membership is skewed to a "more mature" and homogeneous demographic. We already made it a priority to work on ways to attract younger people and families into worship. Because younger people are more likely to have more diverse relationships than those of us who are older, as they find a home at St. Mark's they will help us increase our diversity.

Again, thank you for your participation in the survey, which gave us valuable insight. Please watch for an invitation in January to a Multi-site Showcase, where you will have a chance to ask questions.

*Brenda Hunter, Co-chair Multi-site Team*

## Upcoming Musical Musing Concerts



### PIANO AND VIOLIN

Sunday, Jan. 13—3:00 p.m.

A classical music performance by artists Patricia Kaltenberger on the piano and Jim Black, violin.

### BEL CANTO: A VOCAL RECITAL

Sunday, Jan. 20—3:00 p.m.

Featuring singers from the UA Fred Fox School of Music presenting music for solo voice and piano. The program includes a variety of traditional and contemporary works, primarily from the classical repertoire.



### MACDOUGAL STREET WEST EXPERIENCE

Thursday, Jan. 31—7:00 p.m.

Peter, Paul and Mary tribute band performance. Today great folk still lives on in MacDougal Street West.



### KOFFEEHOUSE FOR KAIROS



Sunday, Feb. 3—3:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall  
Artist Doug Bowers and friends (guitar, banjo, bass) will be servin' up a seriously smooth afternoon of Coffeehouse style music. Coffeehouse atmosphere with refreshments.

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

**St. Mark's is seeking a part-time** proactive Maintenance/Custodian to work weekends (Saturdays 8:00 a.m to noon, Sundays 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., variable). The candidate would ensure that all areas of the buildings and grounds are safe, clean, tidy and ready for use. Make minor repairs, do light cleaning and stocking of supplies and empty trash as needed.

To apply, send a cover letter and resume to Tom Ellis at [Tomellis0330@gmail.com](mailto:Tomellis0330@gmail.com) by January 18, 2019. A job description may be viewed on St. Mark's website at: <https://umcstmarks.org/about-us/job-opportunities/>

## Save The Date!

January 26, Family Ministries Committee will host a Family Dinner Theater. Join us for a Live Theatre Workshop's production of **The Brave Knight, Sir Lancelot** and a delicious pizza dinner. Tickets are \$3 each and reservations can be made online starting in January. See you at the show!



## UMW Meeting Jan. 8

St. Mark's United Methodist Women will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2019 at in the church Library. Please join us at 9:30 a.m. for light refreshments and fellowship. The meeting and program will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Our guest speaker Bobbie Norris, UMW District President, will present the Legacy Fund 150 initiative. The Legacy Fund is a permanent endowment which generates income dedicated to strengthening the UMW mission of service, advocacy and learning opportunities for us to address the root causes of conditions that harm women, children and youth.

All women are invited. You do not have to be a member of St. Mark's UMW or St. Mark's to attend. Childcare can be requested by contacting the church office before Friday, January 4. Should you have questions or need a ride, please contact Kay Hayworth (see directory).



## Offering Envelopes

2019 contribution envelopes are now available. You may pick up a box in the narthex of the Sanctuary or Fellowship Hall or in the church office. Thank you!

## Christmas Eve Soup Luncheon!

St. Mark's is hosting the annual soup luncheon following the 11:00 a.m. Lessons & Carols worship service on Christmas Eve. We are still in need of a few more crockpots of soup along with homemade (or bakery type) breads. If you would like to contribute, please contact Anita Winslow (see directory) in advance for planning purposes.



## So You're Serving as a Leader St. Mark's Leadership Training for 2019

Thank you for serving on a committee, team, task force, or board in our church. Perhaps you're new to that group, or just want to know more about our church and how it works. An upcoming training is for you! Leaders need to be spiritually grounded, understand the mission and priorities of our church, and have skills in the particular area in which they're serving. This training is designed to help with all these.

**What:** St. Mark's Leadership Training  
**When:** Tuesday, Jan. 22 from 5:30—7:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Fellowship Hall

This is for all chairpersons and committee, task force, and team members, or anyone who is interested. Learn important details about leading and being part of a team at St. Mark's, our mission and priorities, the importance of your spiritual growth, and get your questions answered.

A light dinner will be served. Please RSVP by Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2019 to Shelley in the office ([shelley@umcstmarks.org](mailto:shelley@umcstmarks.org)).

The Covenant Council meeting will follow the training session at 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Sharon Ragland

## HIV/AIDS Ministry News

THANK YOU for all the wonderful children's gifts donated for the TIHAN/SAAF (Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network/Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation) Christmas tree. Forty gifts and \$700+ gift cards were donated! Your contributions to the Family Holiday party on Dec. 15 was awesome this year.

So many children will enjoy toys, clothes, games, gift cards and so much more at Christmas. Your generosity, year after year, shows the true spirit of Christmas. Many thanks from all the parents, children and volunteers who participate in this wonderful event!



# FACES OF FAITH

## Soul Station

Wednesdays January 9, 16, 23, 30

*Come with an open heart. Leave with tools for faith!*

We know Christians are being persecuted around the world. But, sometimes we struggle with what it has to do with us and our lives. FACES OF FAITH explores the personal stories of real people who are being persecuted. Each session is scripture driven and prayer based. Interactive discussions and hands-on activities give you tools which you can immediately use during the week.

Wasihun was a seven year old in the only Christian family in an Ethiopian town. One night, neighbors came and attacked the family. His father was killed for his Christian faith. His

pregnant mother and eight children were left to deal with the day to day struggles of a fatherless family. They are supported by groups such as Open Doors which provides food, school fees and support. They have also been given a cow and a pepper mill which has helped them create income. Each week is scripture driven and prayer based with interactive discussions and hands-on activities.

This series is sponsored by St. Mark's Worldwide Christian Support Task Force.



## Advent Workshop A Success!

The Advent Workshop this year included crafts, a photo booth and four mission projects. Approximately 75 people participated in the workshop in order to prepare for the Advent season.

### Mission Projects

During the morning everyone (including children) had the opportunity to participate in the following hands-on mission focus:

- Primavera Men's Shelter Hygiene Kits—172!
- The Inn Children's Bags—133!
- Homemade card ornaments for elders—21!
- Fleece blankets for children in crisis—6!

A big **THANK YOU** to the following people who helped make the workshop a success:

The Adult Spiritual Growth Committee: Judy Boroto, Brenda Hunter, Terry Majewski, Vicky Minger, Roger Pierce, Harold Putt, Art Ragland, Linda Sterling, and Linda Walker.

The Children's Education Committee: Kathy Hale, Phyllis Dirksen, Amy Fiebiger-Hawk, Cindy Flannery, Caroline and Jim Hanna, Pam Howard, Jean Liska, Barb Sargent and Julia Younggren.

Missions Committee for missions donations. Also, thanks to Carol Fouch, Maryann Nuckolls, Sharon Hunter, and Alex Carsten. A thanks to all of you who donated items for the mission projects.

## Cookies, Cookies, Cookies!

We asked and you delivered! A big thank you to all of those who brought cookies for our Advent events. We served cookies to hundreds of people at **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever** and the **Community Carol Sing**.



# Adult Spiritual Growth

Faith is a journey!

## Prepare the Way Advent Studies

This Advent season we have 12 separate groups with over a hundred people involved in the Advent study. Several of the groups meet off campus, others meet Sunday morning—all are enjoying this book which is challenging us to look at how we bring peace, justice, fearlessness and faithfulness to our own lives and to our community.

Please plan to become involved in a spiritual growth opportunity in 2019. Watch for the brochure with new opportunities that will be published in January.

## Sharing/Family Life Adult Sunday School Class

### **Fruit of the Spirit** by Hazel Offner

9:45 a.m. in Rm 17/18

January 6 – March 3, 2019 (9-week study)

Hazel Offner examines nine Bible passages that touch on the nine virtues that make up the **Fruit of the Spirit**—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control: (Galatians 5:22–23): All of these virtues are within us as Christians because the Holy Spirit has taken up residence within us. But how can we live out this fruit in practical ways? Join us in class to see what the author has to say about this aspect of our spiritual growth.

We invite you to attend for the entire nine weeks or for as many sessions as you are able. A limited number of participant guides are available in class starting December 16, for \$7 (payable to Terry Majewski). If you wish to order on your own, printed copies (no eBook available) are also available for approximately the same price through Cokesbury or through other sources, but we encourage you to order through the Cokesbury link on the St. Mark's website (<https://umcstmarks.org/resources/>). If you have any questions please contact one of the coleaders: Rick Farnsworth ([ttathorne@gmail.com](mailto:ttathorne@gmail.com)) or Terry Majewski ([tmajewski@sricrm.com](mailto:tmajewski@sricrm.com))

### Wednesday Study Group

10:00 a.m. in Rm 17/18

1/09 -- Completes **Short Stories by Jesus** by Amy Jill Levine (#6) Facilitator, Marcia Rostad

1/16 – Begins **Simon Peter** by Adam Hamilton – 6 weeks Facilitator, Linda Walker

## SOMETHING LIKE HOME

Sunday, Jan. 27-Loft Cinema-3PM-5PM

Join us at the Loft Cinema (Speedway in Tucson) to hear Noor Alsabahi share her story on film and in person. Noor is part of short 36 minute film that not only highlights Noor's journey as a refugee, but also the journey of three others who were forced to flee their native country to find a new home in another land. Noor's story of life as an Iraqi born woman, a Syrian resident and then refugee into Turkey, is inspiring and guaranteed to pull at your heartstrings!



## Tickets Now Available!

You may purchase your ticket(s) for \$5/each in advance:

**Online:** <https://loftcinema.org/film/something-like-home/>

**Box Office:** LOFT CINEMA, 3233 E. Speedway Blvd.

All proceeds go to The INN Project, located at First United Methodist Church, a haven for refugees in transition. Money will be used to update the space that is getting much use!

## Contact Information:

- ▶ Donna Reed ([donna@reedtucson.com](mailto:donna@reedtucson.com))
- ▶ Church Office: 520-297-2062
- ▶ Loft Cinema: 520-795-7777

## Year-End Notice for Donors

Please wait until you've received your year-end statement of giving to file your income tax return. Some donors may not be able to deduct certain contributions if they file a tax return before receiving their church contribution receipt.

For contributions to be deducted in 2018, they must be received at the church by December 31, 2018. This means that a check deposited in the church offering in January of 2019 cannot be deducted in 2018, even if it is backdated to 2018. One exception—checks that are written, mailed and postmarked in 2018 are deductible in 2018 even though not received until 2019. Thank you!

## The Best Christmas Pageant Ever—Really Was!

Faith on Stage presented **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever** with and cast and crew of 40 people.



Members of our congregation and the community had a wonderful time and also enjoyed cookies together in the Fellowship Hall afterwards. Thank you to all those who participated and attended.

## Market on the Move— Sat., Jan. 6

St. Mark's Mission Committee is a proud sponsor of Market on the Move which is scheduled the first Saturday of the month in St. Mark's parking lot. Our next event is Jan 5, 2019, 8-10:00 a.m. For only \$10 shoppers receive 60 pounds of produce to use and the share with friends and neighbors.



Volunteers are needed at 7:00 a.m. to setup and organize produce. After 10:00 a.m. we need help with cleanup and putting tables away. Get involved—sign up on Sunday in the courtyard, at the Missions bulletin board or contact/text Lenna Burnham (305-923-5362).

## Gourmet Coffee Sales Sunday, Jan. 13

St. Mark's has a long history of assisting the Fuente da vida Methodist Church, in Agua Prieta, with financial and material assistance as well as supporting their economic development. (See letter of thanks on page 7 from Pastor Gela). In addition to the letter, she wishes to thank Dana Bugbee, Worship Committee Chair for the purchase of three complete single beds. These furnishings are used by the local hospital and enable them to employ additional medical residents. These young doctors-in-training will in turn help Fuente da vida staff a small medical clinic which is located on the grounds of the church.



## Exploring Membership Class Begin January 20



As we ready ourselves to welcome in a NEW YEAR, perhaps this is just the opportunity you're seeking in 2019. Have you been wanting to know more about this terrific church? Are you considering membership at St. Mark's? Would you like to become better acquainted with our staff and meet more fellow worshippers?

If so, you are warmly invited to our next Exploring Membership Class. This two-session class is held in the church Library on Sunday mornings, Jan. 20 and 27, 2019, from 11:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. A light lunch will be served mid-session each Sunday. Childcare will

be available for those who request it in advance. (Having checked the "Wish to Join" box on the registration pad is not the same as actual class registration.)

You may sign up on Sundays at the Adult Spiritual Growth bulletin board in the courtyard, online (<https://umcstmarks.org/classes/exploring-membership/>) or call Janie in the church office (297-2062).

The study is called "Exploring Membership" intentionally – the decision of whether or not to join at the end of the class is entirely your own. If these January dates don't suit your schedule, the class is offered several times a year. Just watch the **Messenger** and Sunday bulletins for news about the future spring class dates in April 2019.

## Volunteer Coffee Host Needed

Jan Webster is looking for a coffee host helper to assist her with coffee hour after the 10:45 a.m. service, on the second Sunday each month. If you would like to assist Jan, please contact Jan (see directory) or call the church office at 297-2062.

## 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.

Jared Bowman & family  
Michael Campbell  
Donald Chester  
Tom DeShong  
Judy Drescher

Keith & Mary Ann Glazier  
Carolyn Hanna  
David & Floretta Harrington  
Patricia Keele  
Brent Linebarier

Wanda & Ray Loughney  
Jean Ogle  
Hazel Roberts  
Gina Russell  
Jim & Mary Sanders

Marian Shultis  
Carol Underwood  
Jackie Vickers  
Connie White  
Lindsay Williams

**CONDOLENCES:** Sympathy and prayers for Doug Wright on the loss of his dear uncle, Thomas Cummings on Tuesday, December 11, 2018.

# WASS UP?

December 19, 2018

Volume 19, Issue 25



## UPCOMING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

**December 23, 2018—**  
No Youth Group

**December 24, 2018—**  
**Christmas Eve**  
4:00 set up Luminarias  
Clean up candles after  
the last service

**December 30, 2018—**  
No Youth Group

# 2019

**January 6, 2019—**  
4:00– 6:00  
Epiphany Party

**January 13, 2019—**  
4:00– 6:00  
Game Night

**January 18-21, 2019—**  
**Winter Retreat**



*Merry Christmas!!!*  
I hope you all have an amazing Christmas with your families. Remember to include the birth of Jesus in your celebrations. He is the reason why we celebrate Christmas. When we meet again it will be a new year. January will be full of surprises, I am not even sure of our exact plans but they will be something like this ....

Blessings,

Julie

**December 23rd and 30th—**  
No PreTeen; enjoy time with your family & friends.

**January 6th—**  
Epiphany Sunday:  
Three Kings Activities

**January 13th —**  
Movie Night

**January 20th —**  
MLK Weekend no preteen  
Have a safe weekend !

Find us on Social Media!



St. Mark's Youth Group



stmarksumyf

a note from the  
**YOUTH DIRECTOR**

This is the last newsletter of 2018. Hard to believe that this year has gone by so fast. In the last couple of weeks of 2018, we'll be celebrating Jesus' birth, followed by the donning of a new year.

The first great thing we're going to do in 2019 is our winter retreat. You don't want to miss this retreat. There will be kids from other UM churches in Tucson. You'll get to choose between an amazing tubing hill, skiing, or snowboarding. The food is also fantastic not to mention the activities there. As soon as we get there you'll be able to zip line, go on a giant swing, try the high ropes course or just hang out in the lodge and play games. You'll love this little Martin Luther King holiday. It might be the best break you take this school year!

No matter where we go in 2019, God will be with us.

Blessings,  
Kim



**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1-02 Liam DaDeppo
- 1-09 Zoe Newell
- 1-04 Sydney Edwards
- 26 Jax Gibbs
- 1-27 Kaiden Kiracofe
- 1-28 Annika Norine
- 1-29 Kyle Drake

## Middle School Moments

This week, something happened that I really didn't know COULD happen. My GMAIL ran out of storage. I got a message that said I wouldn't be able to send or receive e-mail if I didn't clean it up! Yikes! I remember when I signed up for GMAIL (Let's not talk about how long ago THAT was...), it sounded infinite. My previous email providers had sites that had to be cleared out regularly, so the larger storage capacity sounded simply amazing. But here we are, 2018, and I have run out of space. So I spent some time deleting, and moving things around. Hopefully I made enough room to still get emails!

Funny that this happened right in December. I always feel like December is so full, I can't possibly stuff anything else in it! But if I stop, take a breath, and allow myself to sit, and just be...there is always room! There is room for the anticipation of Advent, and the Joy of Christmas! I just have to remember to make room.

See you Sunday,  
Rachel

**Winter Retreat 2019**  
**Open to everyone**  
**in grades 6-12**

# Calendar Notes

## Sun., Dec. 23

9:45 a.m. No Confirmation class  
4:00 p.m. No Preteens or Youth Programs

## Mon., Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Services

11:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols  
12:00 p.m. Soup & Bread Luncheon, Fellowship Hall  
12:00 p.m. OFFICE CLOSES  
4:00 p.m. Blessing of the Children  
6:00 p.m. Morden Worship with Praize Band  
8:00 p.m. Traditional Worship (candlelighting inside)  
10:00 p.m. Traditional Worship (candlelighting outside)

## Tues., Dec. 25

OFFICE CLOSED

## Wed., Dec. 26

5:45 p.m. Soul Station Dinner, Fellowship Hall  
6:20 p.m. Soul Station Worship, Fellowship Hall

## Thurs., Dec. 27

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

## Sat., Dec. 29

9:30 a.m. Chronic Illness/Pain Group, Library  
9:00 a.m. Primavera prep, Kitchen

## Sun., Dec. 30

9:45 a.m. No Confirmation class  
4:00 p.m. No Preteens or Youth Programs



## St. Mark's Messenger

Published bi-weekly

St. Mark's UMC  
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### Website:

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

### Lead Pastor:

Rev. Sharon Ragland  
Associate Pastors:  
Stuart Salvatierra  
Rev. Dr. Evy McDonald

### Sunday Worship:

8:15, 9:45\*, 11:15 a.m.  
(\*LIVESTREAMED)

### Soul Station

Wednesday Night:  
Dinner - 5:45 p.m.  
Music/Programs  
6:15-7:15 p.m.

## Dear Church Family ...



Thank you all so very much for your continued prayers for Jared and our family over this past year. We appreciate your cards and caring thoughts, and know they help to heal. We are still working through the issues that persist with Jared's condition, but he's in a much better place thanks to Mayo Clinic and some amazing medical technology. We feel fortunate to be a part of St. Mark's and truly appreciate your concern.  
*Sincerely, Ruth Bowman and family*

My heart is full of gratitude to my loving family at St. Mark's. Your phone calls, sympathy cards, words and letters of comfort and peace surround me as I grieve for my husband, Jim. I called and Pastor Sharon came at a moment's notice to share her loving support with me. I am blessed by your presence in my life. Thank you one and all.  
*Linda Girard*

My heartfelt thanks to all who were and are involved in the new streaming of the 9:45 a.m. worship service. Last Sunday, I participated in the entire service! For the first time in many months, I felt part of my church family again. Whether you are suffering from a cold, visiting family or friends in Phoenix or Timbuctoo, or unable for any reason to attend in person, you can still be a part of worship. It is an answer to prayer!  
*Agnes Fisher*

In "Fuente de Vida" we are so happy with the Lord's work in our community. Our commitment with the Lord is to bring Heaven's Kingdom to our community and we are working hard in that. We are very grateful to you for all the support you have given to our church. Every small or large donation from each member has had a great impact on the lives of the people in our community.

(2 Corinthians 9:10-12: Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown...)

You have sown many seeds in our field and I am sure that God will provide and multiply your seeds and abound in fruits of righteousness.

Thanks for giving joy to our children with their presents, thanks for the tools for the fathers, also we are so thankful for the ProPresenter software license, it has been a blessing for our worship services, and of course, thanks for every pound of coffee you bought. We really appreciate your generosity.  
*Sincerely, Pastor Maria del los Angeles Villicana*



1431 W. Magee Rd. Tucson, AZ 85704

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Susan  
Mr. Eric  
Sharon  
Rachel  
Amanda

Christmas blessings from the office staff at St. Mark's UMC.