

# Messenger

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

St. Mark's  
United Methodist

## Tapestry of Prayer Concert

St. Mark's Celebration Singers will be presenting their annual concert on **Sunday, March 31, 3:00 p.m. in the church Sanctuary**. The theme this year is A Tapestry of Prayer. We will be looking at the need for prayer, as well as the joys of answered prayer. There are also a few surprises planned, so come and bring your friends, too.



This event is open to the community and there is no charge for admission. A freewill offering will be taken to support the Music Ministry concert fund and a reception will follow in Fellowship Hall. We look forward to seeing you at the performance!



## Sonoran Bells Concert

Sunday, April 7 at 3:00 p.m.

The **Sonoran Bells** will present a wide variety of handbell music in a 3:00 p.m. concert on April 7, in St. Mark's Sanctuary. The Tucson group, directed by Shannon Casey, is comprised of experienced handbell ringers chosen by audition. Members include musicians, teachers, engineers, accountants, and other professionals from the Tucson area.

The group performs on a five-octave set of Malmark handbells, a five-octave set of Malmark Choirchimes, a three-octave set of Whitechapel handbells, and a three-octave set of Petit-Fritsen handbells.

This handbell concert is free and open to the community. People are encouraged to invite neighbors and friends. There will be a freewill offering taken at the close of the concert to help defray the costs of our Musical Musings.

## Good News About the Sharon Ragland Scholarship!

A little more than a year ago, St. Mark's UMC joined Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL in honoring your senior pastor, Sharon Ragland, by establishing a scholarship in her name at the seminary, her alma mater.

Good news! The Sharon Ragland Scholarship recently surpassed the minimum \$25,000 goal and will now become a permanently endowed scholarship. Thanks to all who helped make this dream a reality! The first Sharon Ragland Scholarship will be awarded this fall to a deserving student.

More good news! The scholarship is open-ended, meaning that gifts can be added to it at any time! A \$25,000 endowed scholarship fund provides an annual \$1,250 scholarship. However, tuition alone is more than \$20,000. Growing the endowed scholarship fund means that more financial assistance can be given each year to a deserving student. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could eventually grow the Sharon Ragland Scholarship to \$50,000—or higher? If you wish to help grow this scholarship—now or sometime in the future—all you need to do is mail a check to Garrett-Evangelical, 2121 Sheridan Rd, Evanston, IL 60201, noting in the memo portion that it is for the Ragland Scholarship.

Thanks for helping to prepare the next generation of bold Christian leaders!

David Heetland, CFP

Senior Vice President for Planned Giving  
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary  
2121 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201  
847-866-3970

## Holy Communion During Lent

Holy Communion will be offered in the Fellowship Hall after the 8:15 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. worship services. Pastor Joe Brown and other clergy will offer this special opportunity for Communion during Lent.



## Pet Memorial Service



The Animal Ministry Team invites our church and local community to its annual Pet Memorial Service on **Sunday, March 24, at 3:00 p.m.** If you would like your pet's picture to appear in a video montage during the service, please email it to [animalministry@umcstmarks.org](mailto:animalministry@umcstmarks.org) no later than Friday, March 22. (You can also bring a photo to the church office to be scanned.) The video will provide a time to honor their memories.

Following the service, members of the St. Mark's Animal Ministry Team will offer refreshments in the Welcome Center, providing time for participants to mingle and share stories with others.

## Craft Circle Meeting

On Tuesday, March 26, the newly formed Craft Circle group will meet in Rm 17/18, 9:00 a.m. until noon. St. Mark's UMW invite you to join us any fourth Tuesday for as long as your schedule permits. Bring your craft ideas or examples of your favorite craft. You may work on a craft of your own choosing or help others with a craft for the United Methodist Women's craft fairs in November and December.

Everyone is welcome to join us for the fun and fellowship. Please contact Bonnie Sargent (see directory) if you have questions.

Thank you to all who donated their unneeded craft supplies to Craft Circle. We appreciate your continued donations for fabric, buttons, ribbon, thread spools, felt fabric... and the list goes on!



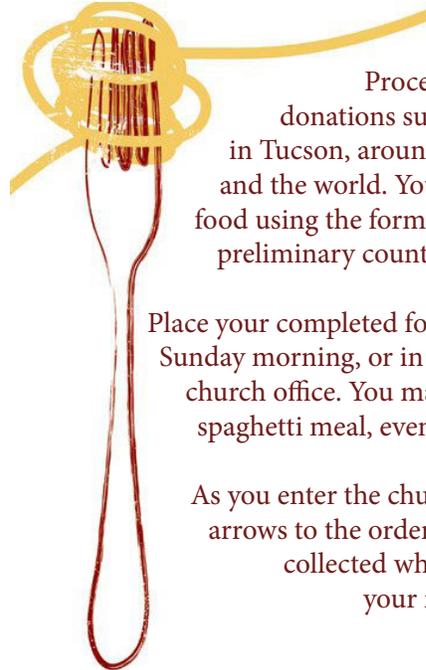
# Drive-Through Spaghetti Dinner

**St. Mark's United Methodist Women**

**\$8.00 per meal**

**Fri., April 5, 2019**

**4:00—7:00 p.m.**



Proceeds and donations support missions in Tucson, around Arizona, the USA and the world. You may preorder your food using the form below, for us to have a preliminary count of meals to prepare.

Place your completed form in the offering plate on Sunday morning, or in the UMW mailbox in the church office. You may "drive through" for a spaghetti meal, even if you don't preorder.

As you enter the church campus, follow the arrows to the order table. Money will be collected when you pick up your meal(s).

Enjoy a complete meal of spaghetti and meatballs, salad, roll and dessert. A vegetarian option is also available when requested in advance. All meals are prepared and packaged in spill-proof containers. Everything will be ready for you to take home and enjoy, or to take to another family or friend(s). Money will be collected when you pick up your meal(s). For questions contact Kay Hayworth (see directory).

## Drive—Through Spaghetti Dinner Preorder Form



*Place your completed form in the offering plate on Sunday morning or in the UMW mailbox in the church office during the week. No money/check is needed with this preorder form.*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ or

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of meat meals for pick up: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of vegetarian meals for pick up: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate time for pick up of order: \_\_\_\_\_

## Sunday Greeter Update!

We are changing the way our Sunday morning Greeters are contacted. Starting in mid-April, interested volunteer Greeters may sign themselves up (by date and time) on the **Volunteer Opportunities Board** located on the west wall of the Sanctuary narthex (foyer).



When signing up for your service of choice (8:15 a.m. or 9:45 a.m.), please include your contact information and you will receive a reminder from the office.

**New Greeter Volunteers** are also encouraged to sign up—just select a date and service

time and fill out the designated card on the **Volunteer Opportunities Board**. Please include your contact information for reminders. New Greeters, feel free to take home the *2019 Greeter Handbook* located in the narthex credenza racks on the south wall.

Thank you, St. Mark's Greeters, for your time and volunteer spirit; and keep up the great work.

*Worship Committee*

## COFFEE HOSTS Needed!

Are YOU one of the many who love having that beverage and snack available in our Welcome Center every Sunday morning? How would YOU like to help us keep that ministry of hospitality available? Could YOU give a little time one Sunday a month?



We need helpers for both the 8:15 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. services. Our wonderful, experienced teams would gladly work with new folks and help them feel comfortable providing this service.

This is such a great way to provide hospitality to our members and visitors, and the rewards (grateful smiles) are plentiful! Please consider this chance to be a part of what makes St. Mark's warm and welcoming. Just contact Janie in the church office (297-2062) and we'll get you started.

## Welcome Center Art Gallery Exhibit

### Current Exhibit

Be sure to stop by the Welcome Center and take a look at the newest exhibit from the late Hazel Irene Roberts a member of St. Mark's before she passed in December 2018.



### Volunteer Coordinator Needed

The church office is looking for an individual to assist our Administrative Associate, Shelley Gault, with the coordination of art exhibits in the Welcome Center. Responsibilities include getting materials ready for exhibit, hanging artwork, then dismantling the artwork upon completion of the exhibit and returning it to the artist. If you are interested, contact Shelley (297-2062 or [shelley@umcstmarks.org](mailto:shelley@umcstmarks.org)) for information. Many thanks to Clay Thompson for his help with previous exhibits.

### Call for Artists

If you have art (any medium) that you wish to exhibit in the Welcome Center, let Shelley know and she will work with you to schedule a time to exhibit your art.

## Meditation Area Work Day



The Meditation Board is looking for a few volunteers to help with a spring cleaning work day in the Meditation Area.

The group will start at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 13, to remove dead cactus and cut back plants. Bring your work gloves, sun screen, hat and water. Spend a few hours helping spruce up the Meditation Area for Easter! If you have questions, contact Clay Thompson (see directory).

## Early Childhood Center News!

Our ECC annual rummage sale was a huge success, we earned \$1,678 which will help purchase a new sun shade for the playground. Thank you for all the donations and for stopping by to shop! A huge thank you to Glenn and Janet Mitchell, Phyllis Dirksen and Mike and Jane Dorgan for the amazing model train display they shared with the ECC children in February.



# Considering Matthew Shepard

On Tuesday, April 16, 7:30 p.m. Tucson will host the ensemble Conspirare and their Grammy-Award-winning conductor Craig Hella Johnson who will present a performance of the work **Considering Matthew Shepard** at Centennial Hall.

This concert-length work by Craig Hella Johnson is a musical response to the tragic death of a young gay man who has become an American icon and a symbol for hope and empowerment. Johnson has set a rich variety of texts by Lesléa Newman, Hafiz, Hildegard von Bingen, Michael Dennis Browne and others. Many Conspirare singers are featured as soloists, and the vocal group is joined by a small ensemble of strings, piano, guitar, clarinet and percussion.

The work has been described as powerful, uplifting and life-changing by audience members. **The Washington Post** called the work “powerfully cathartic,” and wrote “Like Bach’s large-scale choral works, this spellbinding piece draws on many styles masterfully juxtaposed, though Johnson’s sources are the American vernacular. A Prologue, Passion and Epilogue ... combine spoken text, cowboy song, American hymnody and popular song, spirituals, jazz and dazzling polyphony, all woven into a seamless tapestry. The impact is immediate, profound and, at times, overwhelming.”



More information and a link to the box office can be found at <http://uapresents.org/considering-matthew-shepard>.

## Caring for Our KIDS



Please join us on **Sunday, March 31** between services in Fellowship Hall to learn how you can be a part of Caring for Our Kids. Each time a child is baptized we promise, “With God’s help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround this child with a community of love and forgiveness that this child may grow in service to others. We will pray for this child, that this child may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.”

In our volatile world, it is so important that we fulfill this promise. You may be thinking that you have nothing to contribute, but you do! Come and talk to us because there are many ways to help our children. You may think that you have done a lot in the past, and you do not want to do anything now, but there is a new group of children who need you. You can spoil or indulge a child too much, but you cannot LOVE a child too much. And there is nothing as beautiful and uplifting as Caring for Our Kids. We will see you on Sunday the 31st in Fellowship Hall.

*Children’s Education Committee*

## Wesley Heritage Tour—Information Meeting

Have you wanted to visit Great Britain and visit the sites connected to our Methodist tradition? April, 2020, Pastor Sharon and Art Ragland and Mark and Marjie Hrabec will lead a Wesley Heritage Tour to Great Britain, visiting those sites and learning about John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. Another information meeting about this upcoming trip will be held in Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, March 24**, at 12:45 p.m. Come and find out more!

WESLEY  
HERITAGE



TOUR  
2020

# Heather Hardy Benefit Concert

Friday, March 22

Join us for a night of music under the stars with Heather Hardy & the Lil' Mama Band on the Courtyard Stage at Monterey Court Café 505 W Miracle Mile. The doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the show starts at 7:00 p.m. Advance tickets for the benefit concert are on sale for \$20, and a portion of your food and beverage orders that night will support HIV programs as well. **Good Times Magazine** says: "Heather Hardy shows off her technical prowess on the violin, amazingly strong vocals and a gift for music and lyrics that ranks her with some of the top composers in the field of blues music."



We'll also have a silent auction and 50/50 raffle tickets, and a presentation of our 2019 Leadership Award to Jon Stetson and Noel Floresca.

Concert tickets and sponsorship information for this concert (part of the Swinging@AIDS golf tournament weekend) are available at [www.swingingat aids.org](http://www.swingingat aids.org). The concert benefits Tucson Interfaith /AIDS Network. A fun evening with fabulous food at Monterey Court.



## Call for Artists & Artisans

St. Marks Fine Arts and Craft Guild will host the annual **Masterpiece Festival** on Saturday, Nov. 2, 2019 and is accepting vendor applications for the 2019 show. If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested in selling handmade art or crafts please contact Clay Thompson (see directory) for more information. We have indoor space, covered patio space and parking lot space available. We look forward to hearing from you and to another successful show. Vendor applications may be downloaded from St. Mark's website at [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org) calendar (Nov. 2 Masterpiece Festival).

Clay Thompson—Fine Arts and Craft Guild



Market on the Move is Sat., April 6 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. St. Mark's church parking lot. For a \$10 donation, you may purchase 60# of fresh produce. Take some to your family, neighbors or club (keep it out of the landfill). If you can help please contact Lenna (see directory).

## Over 50s Lunch Group

The Over 50s Lunch Group will meet Tuesday, April 2 at 11:30 a.m. at Applebee's restaurant, 2230 W Ina Rd (near Foothills Mall). Everyone



is welcome to join this group, especially newcomers to St. Mark's. It's a good opportunity to meet new people and make some new friends. Please call Vickie Dee (see directory) by noon on April 1, if you plan to attend.

# WASS UP?

March 20, 2019

Volume 20, Issue 5



## UPCOMING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

### March 24, 2019—

Spring Break!  
No Youth Group

### March 31, 2019—

5th Sunday~  
No Sunday School  
No Confirmation  
4:00—6:00  
High School  
Discussion Study

Middle School  
Underground Church  
(and other really cool stuff)

### April 7, 2019—

12:30-  
Meet at Wesley House  
U of A Baseball vs.  
Washington  
Tickets= \$5  
(scholarships available)



Hello Preteen's,

I hope you're enjoying your Spring Break!

It can be difficult to concentrate in school this time of year as we move closer to summer vacation.

During these next few weeks we will be concentrating on Jesus and his journey to the cross. I encourage you to talk with your families about "Lent" and what Jesus' sacrifice means for us today.

Blessings,  
Julie

March 24th-  
Spring Break  
No Pre Teen



### March 31st-

5th Sunday— No Sunday School  
Welcome Spring  
New Life  
Outdoor games

### April 7th-

Pretzel Prayer Activity  
Board games  
Bring your favorite game from home to share.

Find us on Social Media!



St. Mark's Youth Group



stmarksumyf

a note from the

# YOUTH DIRECTOR

A friend of mine sent out this quote last week: "We are told to let our light shine, and if it does, we won't need to tell anybody it does. Lighthouses don't fire cannons to call attention to their shining - they just shine." ~Dwight L. Moody

Mr. Moody was referencing the scripture in Matthew, where Jesus calls us the light of the world.

I think our St. Mark's youth are very good at letting your lights shine. Every time you say a kind word, participate in a service project, or even step aside, so that someone else can go by, you are the light of Jesus.

Blessings,  
Kim

## Middle School Moments

I can't believe how fast this school year is flying by. It will be summer before you know it! In March, your Youth Council planned some awesome stuff for summer! I can't wait.

I am also busy planning. I'm working with other Youth leaders around the South District to plan one of my favorite summer events— Middle School Mission! This year is turning out super fun. If you are currently in grades 6-8 you are really going to want to check this out. It's right after school gets out and is a **BLAST**.

Keep watching the Wass Up for more info, or you can always ask Kim and me. Now we just have to get through this last quarter of school.

See you Sunday!  
Rachel



## Sierra Service Project

**SAN DIEGO**  
**June 28- July 5**

We still have a few spots left! If you want to go email Kim at [kim@mcstmarks.org](mailto:kim@mcstmarks.org).

The cost is \$175, divided in monthly payments. Scholarships are available.

### How do I download a permission slip?

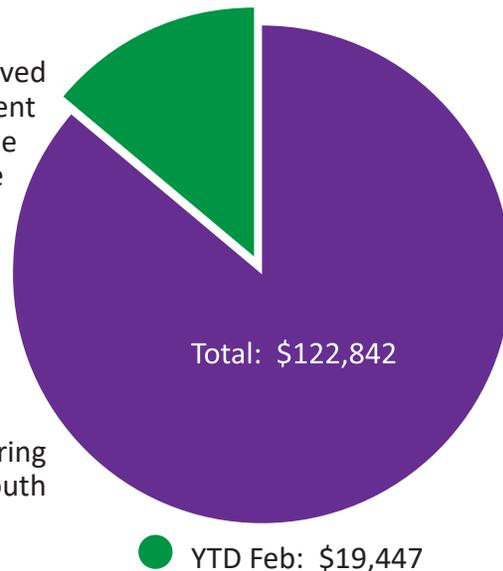
- Step 1: Go to [umcstmarks.org](http://umcstmarks.org)
- Step 2: Click on "resources" at the top.
- Step 3: Go to "forms"; page down to Youth
- Step 4: Click & Print
- Step 5: Share with a friend!

## Making Missions Matter!

Each year, St. Mark's UMC generously designates ten percent of its approved annual budget for Mission funds. The fund pays our missions apportionment (\$65,712) disbursed monthly to the Desert Southwest Conference. The balance of the fund (\$57,130) is managed by St. Mark's Missions Committee and disbursed monthly to various charities, both locally and nationally.

This year, our Missions Committee has approved 29 different agencies to receive financial support from St. Mark's. You can find a list of the agencies and learn more about each organization by visiting our website (<https://umcstmarks.org/serve/missions-partners/>).

Here is a list of some of the agencies who received financial support during January and February this year: Agua Prieta; SSP Youth; Souper Bowl youth project; Bible Stick Ministry; Elizabeth Heft Missionary.



## 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  
Clara Campbell  
Donald Chester  
Shelley Shelton Coltrin

Judy Drescher  
Keith and Mary Ann Glazier  
Jim Hanna  
Floretta Harrington

Patricia Keele  
Marian Shultis  
Carol Underwood  
Jackie Vickers

Connie White  
Lindsay Williams

### CONDOLENCES:

Our sympathy and prayers are offered for Jim Hanna and his family on the passing of his wife, Carolyn Hanna, on Tuesday, March 5, 2019. Services will be held in IL.

## 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  
**Alex Boettcher**, grandson of Carla and Paul Boettcher  
**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  
**Christopher Lewis**, grandson of Donald Lewis

**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

## Sat., March 23

10:00 a.m. Identifying Vulnerable Adults, Rm 20  
11:00 a.m. David Harrington Memorial, Sanctuary

## Sun., March 24

Communion between services, Fellowship Hall  
Aqua Prieta Children's Day Bags - Courtyard  
9:45 a.m. Confirmation Class, Rm 20  
12:45 p.m. Wesley Heritage Trip Info Meeting  
3:00 p.m. Pet Memorial, Sanctuary  
4:00 p.m. Holy Yoga, Rm 17/18  
4:00 p.m. No Preteens, Rm 8/9  
4:00 p.m. No Youth Group

## Tues., March 26

9:00 a.m. UMW Craft Circle, Rm 17/18

## Wed., March 27

10:30 a.m. Chronic Illness/Pain, Library  
Noon BULLETIN DEADLINE  
5:45 p.m. Soul Station Dinner, Fellowship Hall  
6:20 p.m. Soul Station Worship, Fellowship Hall  
6:15 p.m. Common Grounds, Library

## Thurs., March 28

10:00 a.m. Chair Yoga, FH  
Noon MESSENGER DEADLINE  
6:00 p.m. Technology Mtg, Conf. Rm  
6:30 p.m. Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall

## Sun., March 31

9:45 a.m. No Confirmation Class  
3:00 p.m. A Tapestry of Prayer Concert, Sanctuary



## St. Mark's Messenger

Published bi-weekly

St. Mark's UMC  
1431 W. Magee Road  
Tucson, AZ 85704  
(520) 297-2062

### Email:

[info@umcstmarks.org](mailto:info@umcstmarks.org)

### 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.

\*Live-streamed at

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

### Soul Station

Wednesday Night:

Dinner - 5:45 p.m.

Music/Programs

6:15-7:15 p.m.

## Dear Church Family ...



To the caring St. Mark's community, I give you thanks for all the prayers, cards and well-wishes you sent while I was in the hospital in February and during my recovery. Your love and care make all the difference. Thank you everyone.

*Susan Gerstad*

I would like to thank our St. Mark's congregation and Pastor Sharon for making available to me a four-wheel walker. When the need was expressed, Pastor Sharon made it easy for my husband to pick up the walker at church. We are most grateful for our church family.

*Shirley Kilborn*

## HIV/AIDS Ministry

### Sunday Dinner Sale—March 31

Featuring homemade hot and cold entrées, breads and rolls and yummy desserts.

Come and browse the tables for a delicious lunch or dinner option and give yourself a day off from cooking! If you love to cook and would like to contribute an item or two, please call Linda Girard (see directory).



## 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

Some lovely works of art grace our Welcome Center. We've had many appealing displays in the past and now are blessed by the art of Hazel Roberts, who passed away in December, 2018. Such a joy to experience works of art.

Lent is not obviously a work of art. Sometimes we say that this time leading up to Easter is a journey or wilderness travel or use other descriptive words. For me, this year the truth is that I am in the work of Lent. Looking inward, experiencing my own tensions and struggles (especially over our beloved United Methodist Church), and walking with parishioners facing illness, troubles or death, is this year's work of Lent. Sometimes it is filled with calling out to God for comfort and strength and yes, even hope. Here is some of the work of Lent for me this year:

**Waiting.** For me, waiting is hardly ever passive, just sitting and waiting. I wish sometimes that I had that space, but usually I'm glad to be engaged in actively waiting. This year I'm waiting for God to fill lovingly the hurting places in me and in the lives of those around me. With many of you, I'm also waiting for the Judicial Council of the United Methodist Church to rule in late April on whether the Traditional Plan for the UMC which was approved at the Special General Conference in February is constitutional (based on the UMC's constitution). But we're not passively waiting: I've talked and written about this, met with Lay Leaders, staff, Advisory Board, other committees and Covenant Council where we've been talking about sorrows, hopes and possibilities. We will continue to actively wait for God's direction.

**Trusting.** God has worked in my life before. I have watched God work in the lives of many others as well. I have seen God's work in our world. Throughout this Lent the line from the song **Anthem** by Leonard Cohen, has been with me: "There is a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in." I trust that God is working through the cracks in my life, our lives and our UMC to bring God's love and light into clear view. Perhaps what God forms will look different from my self-centered expectations. It often does! Praise God!

**Guiding and leading.** The faithful work of St. Mark's continues. We're planning for Holy Week and Easter. Each week a staff member writes a devotion sent out on Wednesdays. Our choirs are preparing for our Palm Sunday cantata. Practice for the drama **The Seder that Changed Everything** for Holy Thursday is in full swing. Our Community Easter Event is planned for Saturday, April 13. Easter is just around the corner!

We'll do meal packaging with Rise Against Hunger on Sunday, April 28. Behind the scenes our Covenant Council and all the teams and committees of our church keep doing the work of Christ.

We remain committed to **changing the world through Christ, by caring for all people.** Perhaps Lent is turning into a work of art after all.

*Blessings, Sharon*