

January 2022

Prayers

St. Mark's United Methodist

Give thanks for the beginning of a new year with new opportunities, new energy and a desire to learn and grow our faith. Ask God's love and guidance as we worship and serve together as St. Mark's United Methodist Church.

Please pray for the victims of the recent tornado outbreak in Kentucky, Indiana, Missouri and other places. Pray for all those who are helping with cleanup and rebuilding, including UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) and various state and federal government agencies and organizations. May God's presence and love be felt and shared in every community.

Give thanks for the various Sunday morning worship times and formats: 8:30 and 10 a.m. traditional services with organ music and choirs in the Sanctuary; and a 10 a.m. modern service with contemporary music and our Praise Team in Fellowship Hall. Give thanks, too, for the 10 a.m. traditional service that is livestreamed via the church website or YouTube.

Pray God's blessings for the online mid-week service, "Soul Station," at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. There is a program and learning/sharing time, and a time to share prayer concerns and joys. Communion is celebrated each week, too. If you are new to Soul Station, contact the church office at 520-297-2062 or email info@umcstmarks.org to request the Zoom link

Give thanks for our church's participation with "Market on the Move" on Saturday, Jan. 8. This involves our volunteers and an organization that makes excess produce – and sometimes, other food items in the commercial market – available to our community. Pray for nice weather, warm clothes/hats/gloves, and lots of people who pay \$10 for up to 60 lbs. of food.

Give thanks for the St. Mark's United Methodist Women monthly meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 11, as in-person and online participants hear about TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network) and the on-going relationship the church has with TIHAN. All women of the church are invited to the meeting.

Give thanks for St. Mark's 10 a.m. Sunday School classes for children. Ask God's blessings for all teachers and helpers, and for the children and families who participate.

Give thanks for all the Adult Spiritual Growth opportunities for St. Mark's members and friends to participate in small group learning. Several new classes or new studies in ongoing classes begin in January. May lots of people check out available class information on the stand-alone bulletin board in the courtyard on Sunday mornings, and/or go to the church website to find information and to register.

Pray God's healing for St. Mark's members, our families and friends who have had recent surgeries, or are receiving medical treatments, and/or have been in the hospital. Pray also for those who are sick, or are homebound, and/or are recovering at home or in rehab facilities.

Pray God's healing power will surround all those with COVID-19 and its variants. Ask God's blessings for the COVID booster vaccines, and that all those eligible will get their booster vaccination. Pray that all people will get the COVID vaccinations for their health, and for the protection of their families, friends and the general public.

Pray for the health, safety and protection of all nurses, doctors and other health-care workers, and for all first responders. Ask God's help for hospital beds and staff to be available where and when needed for COVID patients and others who need hospital care.

Help us be aware of racial inequities and people who are harmed by systems, organizations, or laws that are wrong or unjust. May God give us hearts that love all humanity, eyes to see injustice, and a will to be change-makers.

South District Superintendent, Rev. Matt Ashley, asks that we pray this month for the pastors, congregations, and ministries/communities of Duncan UMC in Duncan; San Pedro Valley UMC in Benson; and UMC of the Good Shepherd in Kearney.