

# Messenger

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

Volume 62, Number 6

June 1, 2022



## Summer Worship Changes

This summer, our 10 a.m. service will welcome those who generally worship and lead the Modern service. We all will worship at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary, with portions of the praise team leading us on guitar, piano, and organ. We will sing traditional hymns but with non-traditional instruments. We will sing some contemporary songs that you likely already know.

We will also spend time this summer asking what we need to resume this fall with a contemporary service. We have done our current structure for more than a decade, with diminishing results. What does a contemporary service need to look like when we return? What is essential, and what is simply habit that is not effective?

If you would like to be part of this conversation, please let Pastor Kim or Pastor Lynn know. Thanks for your commitment to this service and to our church.

## Thank You, Mike Scionti!

We say a big thank you to Mike Scionti, our interim Chancel Choir director. Mike stepped into the position in January, after Betsy Schauer's retirement. He has done a fabulous job leading the choir as it prepared and shared music in our worship these last five months. If you didn't get to share your appreciation with him before he left, send notes to the church to be sent to him. (1431 W. Magee Road, Tucson AZ 85704.)

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee and a music task force have done extensive interviews for a choir director and will announce that hire in July.

## VBS Coming Soon ...

**WHO:** Everyone (Congregation, Family, Friends, Neighbors)  
**WHAT:** Vacation Bible School with a Twist: Food Truck Party - On A Roll with God  
**WHEN:** 5-8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, July 13-15  
**WHERE:** St. Mark's United Methodist Church (La Cañada Drive and Magee Road)  
**WHY:** Fun, Fellowship, Food and Friends  
**HOW:** Register in June. Join us at 5 p.m. for dinner and stay for children and adult activities

This year's "VBS with a Twist" has something for everyone! "Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God" will focus on Scripture from Exodus 16, 1 Kings 17, Daniel 1 and John 6 and 21. These stories demonstrate God's goodness and His promise to provide for us. Each evening we will begin with a food truck-

## Food and Fellowship

Our survey this spring made it clear that feeling like a community continues to be a struggle in our worshipping congregation. With this in mind, we invite you to come to the table, eat and talk! The first Sundays of June, July, and August, we will have a fellowship meal so we can meet new friends or get to know old friends better. If we have more than 100 who come, we will spill from the Fellowship Hall into the library, the patio and any other room available!!

In June, our youth will be sharing some games for ALL ages to encourage us to play, and we will offer a Salad Smorgasbord. Our very own bookkeeper, Lois Britton – food blogger and author of "The Polish Housewife Cookbook" – and friends will prepare a scrumptious meal. In July, Todd Martin will play some patriotic selections and we will sing. In August, Sondra will share some music while we eat.

If you want to help set up or clean up, let Tricia Chester ([tricia@umcstmarks.org](mailto:tricia@umcstmarks.org)) know! Otherwise, mark your calendar and join us! 11:30 a.m. on June 5, July 3, Aug. 7.

themed meal provided by St. Mark's members. Following the meal, children (3 years old and potty trained, through fifth grade) will break off to enjoy VBS activities including music, Bible stories, games, crafts and science activities. Adults will have a choice between participating in various Scripture studies, parenting conversations or small groups led by the St. Mark's Adult Spiritual Growth Committee. We will conclude each evening with a large group closing in the Sanctuary. Registration is coming soon and will be \$20 per child (max of \$40 per family). Adult programs are free, and a freewill donation will be taken for dinner. Child care will be available upon request for children under 3 years / not potty trained. So save the dates and invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us! For more information or to sign up to volunteer, contact Julie Eblen at [julie@umcstmarks.org](mailto:julie@umcstmarks.org) or Marcia Rostad (see church directory).

# Adult Spiritual Growth

Faith is a journey!

## Get Out of the Heat with ASG! Monday Evening Study in June

This four-week study will meet from 6:45 to 8 p.m. Mondays beginning June 6 in Room 17/18. It is intended to be casual and relaxing – no book required. Led by Marcia Rostad.

Come out of the June heat at the end of the day and join the Monday evening study called "Looking for God in Messy Places – A Book About Hope" by Jake Owensby. This is a study about hope – how to find it, how to practice it, how to grow in it, and how it helps manage everyday stressors. Because when we look for God in the middle of the mess, we find hope.

It can seem that each day brings new problems that need to be addressed or resolved or even punted into the future because it can be too much to handle at the time. The children are out of school and home for the summer, but finding child care has been difficult. Inflation has been exceptionally trying on the household budget. Will COVID cases escalate in number and severity? These are a few of the messy places in our lives; those occurrences that can make life complex, confusing, and chaotic.

There will be a short video followed by a brief presentation on that evening's topic, followed by discussion and doodling. Yes, there will be doodling because sometimes, when our words fail us, an image can say it all. Please feel free to bring a sack meal with you. Please register online or on the Adult Spiritual Growth bulletin board in the courtyard.

### Five-Day Academy for Spiritual Formation in Arizona

"Journey into the Heart of Christ: Spiritual Healing & Justice" is the theme for this year's Five-Day Academy for Spiritual Formation at the Redemptorist Renewal Center northwest of Tucson. In a divided Church, we seldom bring the prophetic and the contemplative dimensions together. This retreat suggests the path to Christ needs both. Following a health-giving rhythm of worship, silence and community, the academy is a proven retreat model, developed by the Upper Room in 1983 (<https://academy.upperroom.org/>). The dates are Sept. 18-23, and the faculty presenters are Vance Ross and Hwa-Young Chong. For more information and to register, click here: <https://dscumc.org/arizona-five-day-academy>. Deadline is Aug. 15. See Judy Boroto regarding scholarship availability.

### Rodgers & Hammerstein Monthly Musical Movies

Join us for the June summer movie of the month, "South Pacific," at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 21, in Room 17/18. Hosted by Linda Walker. All ages are invited to relax in the classroom in the comfort of a chair or on the floor (bring your own pillows!). Bring a sack meal or munchies if you wish, dress in character if you desire, choose to sing along with the music (lyrics provided), and have fun watching a classic film.



Set against the dramatic background of an idyllic South Pacific island during World War II, this story intertwines the themes of romance, duty, and prejudice to create a story that is all at once hilarious, heartbreaking, and thought-provoking. After the movie, there will be a brief reflection about these themes and how they continue to play out today.

The monthly Rodgers & Hammerstein musical movies will continue in July and August with screenings of "The King & I" and "Carousel." Watch upcoming announcements for when these memorable movie musicals will be shown.

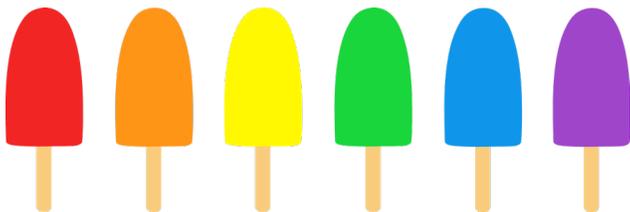
### Dove Mountain Study Begins

Pastor Kim Ogle began a new biweekly informal study on May 24, intended to reflect on and more deeply examine the sermon message from the previous Sunday. This off-site study gathers at 2 p.m. every other Tuesday at the Dove Mountain Brew Pub, 12130 N. Dove Mountain Blvd. The meetings for this month will be on June 7 and 21. Come to dig deeper and explore the message from the pulpit, enjoy the experience of being together in community, and even partake in a late lunch. According to its website, the Tuesday all-day special at the Dove Mountain Brew Pub is tacos – 3 for \$12!

### Sunday Morning Studies for Adults Continue

Two Sunday study classes for adults continue throughout the summer months. Sharing/Family Life is continuing its study on the Parables of Jesus. Because each Sunday class discusses an individual parable, people are invited any Sunday morning to drop in and share in the conversation. The list of parables scheduled for class discussion is posted on the ASG bulletin board in the courtyard on Sundays. The class warmly welcomes anyone interested in participating in one, some, or all the many studies it presents over the year. The group meets immediately after the end of the 8:30 church service (about 9:30 to 11 a.m.) in Room 17/18 and by Zoom. To attend online, please contact either class leader (Terry Majewski and Rick Farnsworth, see church directory) for connection instructions.

The Seekers, a group that studies individual books of the Bible, are currently studying the book of Isaiah. This class begins at 11:15 a.m. Sundays in Room 17/18 and via Zoom. Drop-in participants and short-term attendees are welcomed to join the class any time throughout the year. Bibles are the only book needed for study and are available in the classroom if needed. If attending online, please contact either class leader (Kelly Deyoe and Brenda Hunter, see church directory) for connection instructions.



## Coffee With the Pastor

Join Pastor Lynn for Coffee With the Pastor. Come with questions or just to chat! 9:30-11 a.m. Wednesday, June 22 at the Foothills Mall Barnes & Noble café.



## Kitchen Orientations Have Begun

Planning to use the kitchen to prepare food for events such as Primavera, Vacation Bible School, etc.? Kitchen users need to complete the two-step orientation prior to using the kitchen.

The two-step orientation has been designed to familiarize users with the new kitchen and equipment and expectations for use.

- First, **call the church office for a link to watch the kitchen orientation video**. They will email you the link to the most recent video.
- Second, contact the office to **let them know you have watched the video** and are ready to sign up for an onsite orientation.

The onsite orientation conducted after viewing the kitchen video will be offered only for two Sundays in June and will begin again in mid-July.

The first training was held in the kitchen on Sunday, May 29, and will happen again June 12 and June 19 after church at 11:15 a.m. for individuals who have viewed the video. Group size will be limited to 6-8.

The onsite orientation sessions will be after church service on a regular basis beginning in June. These will be offered once or twice a month depending on the need. Watch the bulletin announcements and weekly e-blast for dates. These sessions will not include Rational oven training.



## New Mosaic in Meditation Garden

The Bits and Pieces mosaic group met Saturday, May 21, to install a new art piece in the Meditation Garden. This art piece is the third in the series to provide inspiration to worship in our magnificent outdoor area. It is titled "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit" and features a large white dove. This work joins a Methodist compass and a Tree of Life already installed along the path of the Stations of the Cross.

## Covered with Prayer



"Ties That Bind" is our prayer quilt ministry. We promote prayer through the use of handmade, lap-sized quilts, which are blessed by members of our congregation and others as they tie knots in the threads while saying prayers for someone in need of prayer. The prayer quilts are a gift of love, prayer, and our belief in God and his power to comfort, strengthen and heal. Ties That Bind is different than other quilting and prayer shawl ministries at St. Mark's and is an addition to the variety of ways we can bless those in need of our prayers.

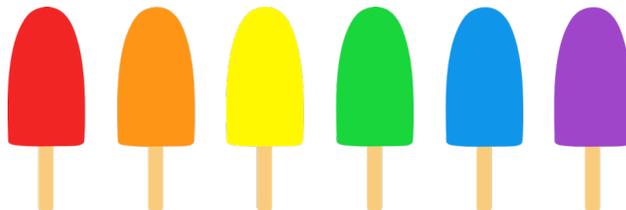
We ask that the person making the quilt request attend our congregation and the request be for someone you have a personal connection with or yourself. The recipients do not have to attend St. Mark's UMC; however, the recipient must be asked if they will accept a quilt and tell us what they want prayers for. A photo is requested (but not required) so the congregation can see who the recipient is. There is *no charge* to the recipients nor the sponsors of the prayer quilts, as they are a gift from our church.



If you would like more information or want to request a prayer quilt, please contact Ann Dyer (see church directory) or one of our pastors.

## Check Out Monthly 'Creative Connections'

Do you enjoy coloring, stamping, painting, drawing or just hanging out with amazing and friendly people? If so, please join us from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, June 26 in the Fellowship Hall for a time of Creative Connections, a fun and creative way to explore and connect to Scripture and each other through coloring, stamping, watercolor pencils and drawing (and maybe even some Bible Art/journaling). The group meets once a month in a relaxed environment of fellowship and creativity. Color and watercolor pencils, pens, ink, stamps, stencils and paper options will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your favorite supplies. We will begin our time together by studying a passage of Scripture (usually from that day's worship service), seeking understanding and connecting with God's word. You may use any medium to create and connect to the studied Scripture or choose your own verse. You may choose to create a bookmark, an insert for your Bible, Bible Art or just enjoy a coloring sheet. Children in fourth grade and above are welcome for the first hour (3-4 p.m.) before attending PreTeens or youth group. All skill levels are welcome. For more information contact Julie Eblen at [julie@umcstmarks.org](mailto:julie@umcstmarks.org).



# Summer Choir Opportunity

Chancel and Celebration Singers choirs do not meet in the summer, but we do have a Summer Choir that is open to anyone who would like to be part of it. We do not meet in separate rehearsal during the week, but practice for 30 minutes the Sunday that we sing. No introits or prayer responses, just an anthem. We sing pieces that take less time to prepare. If you would like to be part of this choir, please join us at 8 a.m. the first or third Sundays of the month in the choir room. We welcome all who want to sing.

*Sondra Franks, director*



## Prayer Shawls Go Far

In worship on April 24, we blessed prayer shawls that were lovingly made by our Prayer Shawl Ministry Team. The knitted or crocheted items are prayed over as they are being made, prayed over by the prayer shawl group when they are turned in, and then prayed over by the St. Mark's congregation. This ensures the recipient will feel wrapped in God's love and St. Mark's blessings for courage, strength, comfort and peace.

Stacked up and ready to hand out, the shawls all look the same. But they are each different!



- ADULT PRAYER SHAWLS are given out by pastors and Visitation Team to members of the St. Mark's congregation who are ill, hospitalized or in care facilities, to someone in need of love or prayers, and at adult baptisms.
- Some prayer shawls are given to a local VETERAN'S HOSPITAL. These are delivered twice a year to the chaplain for distribution, with a note attached thanking veterans for their service.
- RED PRAYER SHAWLS are given to the St. Mark's youth

going through the year-long program of learning about being confirmed in the church. In the spring, those choosing to be confirmed receive shawls. This year, we had six.

- BABY SHAWLS or blankets are given at baptisms and to babies in need.
  - Four-inch POCKET PRAYER SHAWLS are given to Sunday School children to keep or give to someone they know who needs prayers or support. They also are given to Vacation Bible School participants and are used in other times when needed. There is a prayer attached in English and Spanish.
  - Finally, 8" SQUARES are part of the worldwide Knit-a-Square project. These are mailed to South Africa for girls and women to make blankets for abandoned babies or orphans.

As you see, this ministry is far-reaching, and we are grateful for all the ways the Prayer Shawl Ministry cares for people around the world and here at home, thus changing the world. There's always room for you if you want to join! They meet at 10 a.m. the last Saturday of each month in Room 17/18.

## School Supplies for Nash

The St. Mark's Nash Neighbors Committee will once again collect school supplies for Nash Elementary students. We are asking for the congregation's support in donating supplies. We will collect supplies each Sunday in July. There will be a blue bin in the church courtyard for your donations. Following is our schedule of collection dates:

After 8:30 and 10 a.m. services July 10, 17, 24 and 31

Suggested supplies to donate:

- . Hand Sanitizer, unscented, 30-34 oz. pump bottles
- . Disinfectant Wipes, large canisters
- . Elmer's Glue Sticks
- . Expo Black Dry Erase Markers, thick point
- . Pink Pearl Erasers
- . Scissors, student size

If anyone wishes to make a monetary donation, please write "Nash School Supplies" on the memo line of your check and mail the check to the church office, 1431 W.

Magee Road, Tucson AZ 85704. You may also give online by visiting the church website, then go to the "Giving" tab. Click on "Donations" and scroll down to the "Nash School Supplies" option.

Questions? Contact Sheli Gray (719-393-2383).

Thank you for your support of the children at Nash!



# June is 'Pride Month'



*Church  
&  
Society*

June is LGBTQ Pride Month! Every year around the country and the world LGBTQ communities gather together to celebrate Pride Month with parades and festivals. June was chosen

as Pride Month to commemorate the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots of 1969, a seminal event in the LGBTQ rights movement. Fifty-three years ago in New York City, members of the LGBTQ community fought back against oppressive laws and harassment by law enforcement, leading to the first Pride marches in the U.S. the following year. You might encounter LGBTQ Pride events as you travel throughout the month (Tucson Pride is in the fall every year due to the heat, with this year's events taking place Sept. 30 through Oct. 2), or notice an abundance of rainbow flags around town, on the social media pages of your friends or of many corporations, and more!

When it comes to LGBTQ Pride, the word "pride" is used as an antonym for "shame." Pride Month is an opportunity for the LGBTQ community to stand up in the face of the shame that is directed its way and show that its members have pride in who they are. Things have changed greatly in the last 50 years, but there are still many places around the world where it is illegal to openly be LGBTQ and people can be imprisoned or executed by their governments just for who they are or who they love. Even in the United

States, where marriage equality has existed nationwide for seven years, LGBTQ people still face many legal and social challenges. Many states have passed new laws across the country as part of a political backlash against expanding LGBTQ rights. These new laws target transgender youth and their families, school educators and employees who are LGBTQ or who support LGBTQ rights, and others. Companies that happily display rainbow flags online throughout the month of June turn right around and donate to politicians actively leading the fights against the LGBTQ community through these harmful laws. More personally, many LGBTQ people face rejection, persecution, and discrimination at home, from their families, their churches, their schools, and their communities, and may not feel safe to openly live their true lives.

Pride Month is an opportunity for the LGBTQ community and its allies to show that love, openness, honesty, and solidarity are the most powerful weapons we have against fear, hatred, and oppression. It's a chance for us all to listen to the stories, the hopes, the sorrows, and the joys of our LGBTQ family members, friends, and neighbors, many of which were shared at our "Learn, Love, Grow Together" event at St. Mark's back at the beginning of April. St. Mark's UMC and our Church and Society Committee stand in solidarity with our LGBTQ siblings here at St. Mark's and in our greater community! Happy Pride Month!

*Josh Smith, Church & Society Committee*

## ***Need Support? Try PFLAG!***

During our Learn, Love, Grow Together seminar we became aware some congregants have ties to LGBTQIA folks and are seeking ways to connect with others for support and conversation in a non-threatening environment. There is such a place: PFLAG (<https://pflag.org>)! Founded in 1973 by a mother in public support of her gay son, "PFLAG is the first and largest organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) people, their parents and families, and allies. ... PFLAG envisions a world where diversity is celebrated and all people are respected, valued, and affirmed inclusive of their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression." PFLAG's efforts empower and strengthen families, while healing what is broken and working toward a fairer, more just world for all. The closest chapter is in Sierra Vista ([info@pflagsierravista.org](mailto:info@pflagsierravista.org)).

*Melinda Sims,*

*Church and Society Chair/Rainbow Fellowship Coordinator*



***Come Join the Conversation!*** As we celebrate Gay Pride Month in June, the St. Mark's Rainbow Fellowship is pleased to announce that our monthly meetings will now be open to anyone who would like to join us in conversation! If you identify as LGBTQIA, or as an ally, family member or questioning Methodist, please feel free to pop in during our next meeting at 9 a.m. June 19 in the church library. We're excited to welcome ALL into our time of fellowship as we share questions and live into our faith together as community. If you have any questions (and to RSVP), please contact Melinda Sims, [rainbow@umcstmarks.org](mailto:rainbow@umcstmarks.org).

## ***Pima County Interfaith Civic Academy***

Are you concerned with the state of K-12 public education in Tucson? Have you wondered why we now rank LAST in the country in per-pupil funding? Are you concerned about the availability of health care and the cost of prescription drugs, especially for those with little or no health insurance? Are you aware of the "food deserts" in the Tucson area? Are you concerned about the state of our transportation system and other infrastructure? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, join us from 9:30-11 a.m. Saturday, June 25, in the Fellowship Hall or via Zoom. Pima County Interfaith will present a Civic Academy session on the bud-

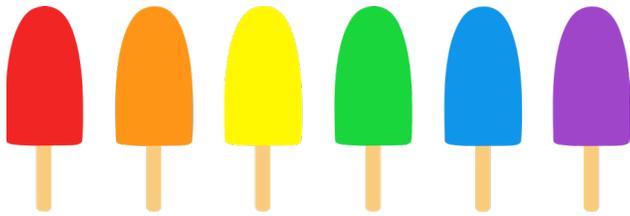
getary process in our state, including information about the revenues and tax structure. You will learn about the funding decisions that have led to teacher shortages and reduced funding in other areas as well as details about what you can personally do to help make a difference in the decisions that are made.

PCI organizes people around issues of importance to them and works to engage people to take action on social justice issues in Pima County and in the statewide community.

For information, please contact Judy Boroto (see church directory).

The current crisis in Ukraine has touched the hearts of our members and the outpouring of prayers and support has been amazing! St. Mark's has channeled our financial support through UMCOR knowing that they will send the help where it is most needed without any administrative cost deducted. The Missions Committee sent \$12,000 to UMCOR in February from available funds, and individual donations through our members to date have exceeded an additional \$11,000. That is more than \$23,000 donated to help those in Ukraine from our congregation this year! UMCOR reports that they are providing food, water, medicine, shelter, and transportation to Ukrainians and others seeking safety both within Ukraine and in neighboring countries. If you want to support the people of Ukraine and surrounding areas, you can send your checks to St. Mark's and mark them for UMCOR / Ukraine assistance. You can also give on the St. Mark's website. Go to the "Giving" tab, click on "Donations" and scroll down to "UMCOR – International Response."

St. Mark's is a wonderful faith community. Thanks be to God!  
*John Yost*  
Missions Committee Chair



## Refugee Resettlement

Our congregation recently embarked on a new mission project in partnership with Tucson Refugee Ministry to help newly arriving refugees resettle into Southern Arizona. More than half of the refugees arriving into our country are not befriended by an American, let alone by a follower of Jesus. There is so much for refugees to learn, and lots of help is needed. More than 50 people from our church family have expressed an interest in serving, and most of those are working on completing the training requirements to get started. That is outstanding! We are fulfilling our St. Mark's mission statement of "Changing the world through Christ by caring for all people." If you are interested in serving in this opportunity or if you are interested in learning about other volunteer service opportunities, contact [missions@umcstmarks.org](mailto:missions@umcstmarks.org).

## Food Donation Update

We are in our third year of collecting and donating food to the northwest food bank at Interfaith Community Services. Our church family has donated tens of thousands of pounds of food, all of which has helped thousands of individuals and families to enjoy more food than they would have received without our help. Thank you!

Did you know that **we also accept cash donations**? Some do not have the time to shop or are unsure of what to buy, so they give us cash on Tuesdays and Saturdays to do the shopping for them. We are happy to do that! We know what is needed, and we search for bargains to get the most for our dollar. In recent months, we have negotiated special pricing with Fry's on boxes of breakfast cereal using our accumulated cash. We have purchased almost a thousand large boxes of cereal for less than \$1 per box! You can bring your donations between 10 and 11 a.m. any Tuesday or Saturday to the church's north parking lot or if it is more convenient, you can leave them at the church office during its business hours. (Do NOT bring cash to the church office.) Thanks again!



## Mission Partner Spotlight

The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network is a local organization that provides support for people living with HIV by bringing together religious, secular, corporate, and nonprofit organizations in creating an inclusive support network. St. Mark's has actively supported TIHAN for 31 years through our gifts, sponsorship of dozens of activities, and thousands of volunteer hours by our church members. Our very own Patricia Small has been an active supporter and volunteer at TIHAN for many years. In May, Pat delivered a check on behalf of our congregation to TIHAN for \$2,500 from our 2022 Missions budget. Your giving to St. Mark's allows us to support more than two dozen organizations locally and around the world that do great work like TIHAN. Thank you! If you are interested in volunteering at TIHAN or somewhere else and are looking for assistance or direction, you can contact the Missions Committee at [missions@umcstmarks.org](mailto:missions@umcstmarks.org).

## Sign Up for Primavera

**Primavera Meal Teams** are gearing up for the summer! Taking reservations for Saturday, July 9. The June slot is taken as is July 30. Second and fifth Saturdays throughout the rest of the year are open for sign ups on Sign Up Genius at <https://tinyurl.com/PrimaveraMeals>.

# Youth Ministry

The latest news for High School, Middle School and PreTeen Students!



## Youth Group Calendar grades 6-12

June 5



Let's go Climbing!  
Meet at the Wesley House  
3:30  
with your signed waiver!  
\$5  
ROCK SOLID

June 12

June 19



No Youth Group  
Father's Day

Service Sunday  
  
Love your neighbor as yourself

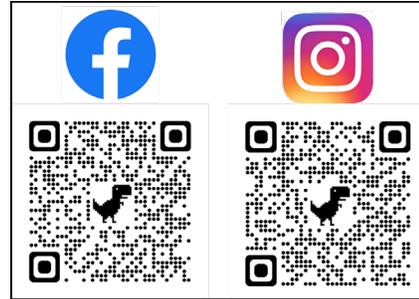
June 26

July 3



Want to know up-to-date youth info?

Check out our social media!



Rachel is posting amazing videos all week long. You DON'T want to miss them!

**We Rise, We Stand Up, We Defy**

This school year was exciting. It was our first year back together, some of you had your first time back in a school building, and some of us are new to St. Mark's or new to youth group! It was an awesome time of growth! We are part of the South District, which had four district events, all related to the theme from John 17:16 "They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world." We ended the year with a FABULOUS all-night lock-in with 60 of our closest friends at Defy Trampoline Park. Stay tuned for next year's theme and events!



PRE-TEEN  
UPDATES!

4th & 5th  
Graders

Sundays: 4-6pm  
in Room 9!

No Meetings On  
June 19th

Invite a friend and don't  
forget good shoes &  
a water bottle.

June

June 5th  
11:30am After  
Church Event!



June 12th  
Water Games:  
Bring a towel!

June 26th  
Movie Night!





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### STUMP THE PASTOR

This school year, we had a Question of the Week, but now I'm out of questions! I know who always has great questions, though ...YOU! This summer, we will have a Stump the Pastor series. Got a great Bible or church-related question?? Want to see if one of your pastors knows the answer!? It's Team Pastors vs. Team Youth. For the full rules, check out the signs in the Wesley House. Be sure to check social media to see questions, answers, and a leaderboard!

### HIGH SCHOOL OUTING

6:30-7:30 p.m. June 5

Attention high school students! Join Rachel on the first Sunday of every month for a High School Outing. We meet out in public to enjoy some time of fellowship and discussion. On June 5, meet Rachel at Frost Gelato for an hour of friends, fellowship, and connection. No meeting July 3 due to Independence Day.



### MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION

Unfortunately, we aren't able to hold Middle School Mission this year. We hope that next year it will be back and better than ever! In the meantime, South District youth leaders are brainstorming connection service opportunities. While it's different than we expected, we will find a way to serve!

### SSP UPDATE

July 8-16

Sierra Service Project is fast approaching! There are still a few spots available, so if you are interested in joining us, hurry and sign up today. Your first two payments should have already been turned in to Rachel, and the final payment is due July 1. Scholarships are available. Questions? Contact Rachel. Register at the QR code or at <https://forms.gle/3bbmaAUM1sayLFyJ9>



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**All-Church Program** 11:30 a.m. July 3

The second all-church program and community lunch (see June 5 at top right) will be July 3. If there is one thing our youth group is good at, it's scavenger hunts! Let's share that skill with our church family! We will sponsor a St. Mark's Scavenger Hunt during the community lunch on July 3. It will be so much fun!

**Salad Smorgasbord** 10 a.m. June 5

This summer, our church is going to have all-church activities on the first Sunday of every month, so our youth group program will be earlier in the day! The first one will be June 5, with a salad smorgasbord. That's not the official name of it, but Rachel REALLY enjoys saying smorgasbord so ....

Meet in the Wesley House during the Sunday School hour beginning at 10 a.m., and we will prepare some salads to serve to the congregation – it's not just us! We are just providing some of the salad! Then, at 11:30, everyone will join us! During the program, the youth will run a mural center. The whole church will work together on a huge Pentecost poster, and we will help organize it.

**Rock Solid** 3:30 p.m. June 12

It's too hot to go take a hike, so let's go for an air-conditioned climb instead! Meet at the Wesley House at 3:30 p.m., and we will drive over to Rock Solid for some climbing fun. We will return to the Wesley House by 6 p.m. to be picked up. Cost is \$5, but as always, scholarships are available. Friends are welcome. Everyone who comes needs a permission slip and a Rock Solid Waiver, found at

<https://waiver.smartwaiver.com/w/5ddeb76eb6b3e/web>.

**Father's Day** June 19

Father's Day is June 19. You get the evening off from youth group so you can do something special for Dad! Maybe make his favorite dinner? Or even simply write him a letter about how awesome he is! Whatever you do, make it special!

**Service Sunday** 4 p.m. June 26

Just because school is out, that doesn't mean we take a break from service! This one will be fun. Meet at the Wesley House at 4 p.m. and we will travel to a store and buy gifts for Diamond Children's Hospital. But of course – there is a twist! Come join in some friendly competition and help bring a smile to a child's face!

## June Birthdays



June 6—**Abigail Chester**

June 12—**Jenays Turner**

June 17—**Alice Sanchez**

June 19—**Jade Kogovsek**

June 20—**Lake Laos**

June 23—**Benjamin Chester**

June 30—**John Wyatt Compton**

## Send Your Kids to Camp!

Last chance to register for summer camp at Mingus Mountain United Methodist Camp, outside Jerome, Arizona! **Pastor Lynn will drive kids to camp** on June 27. Your kids can come along! Sign up for one of the camp sessions the week of June 27, and Pastor Lynn will take care of the transportation there and then back again on July 2.

For more information, go to

<https://mingusmountaincamp.org/camp-sessions/>



# United Women in Faith



## United Women in Faith

St. Mark's United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) will meet at 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 14 in Room 17/18 and via Zoom. If you are not already

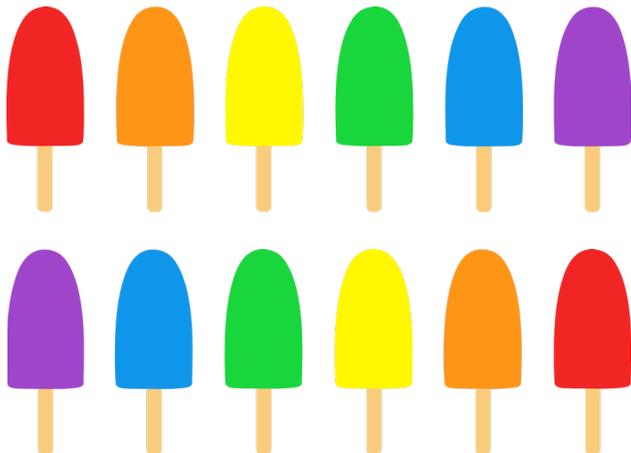
on the list to receive the Zoom information and would like to be, contact secretary Kay Hayworth (see church directory). All women are invited. You don't have to be a member of United Women in Faith, or St. Mark's, or any church to come.

Our program will be provided by a representative from The Haven, a recovery treatment center in Tucson. The St. Mark's Quilters and the Women's Craft Group have recently donated several home-made and tied lap quilts, knitted hats and cloth bags to The Haven. This is your chance to hear about the programs and services The Haven provides. Questions? Contact UWF President Clara Campbell (see church directory) or leave a note in the church office in the mailbox that is still marked "United Methodist Women."

UWF's Grace Circle (our hands-on mission group) will meet in the church library at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, June 21, for devotions and prayer. We will carpool to Sister Jose's Women's Shelter to work. We expect to sort and hang donated clothes in the shelter's back-room area. This entails mostly standing and some walking. The area is air-cooled. Comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes are recommended. If you have questions, contact Anita Winslow (see church directory) or leave a message in the United Methodist Women mailbox in the church office

### Special thanks ...

Thank you to all who donated to our recent diaper drive. Grace Circle members delivered a trunk full of products to the Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona and then packaged diapers to serve 490 families.



# Let's Talk Mental Health

Our families have been deeply impacted due to COVID and all the hardships COVID brought to our community. One of the most notorious impacts has been mental health. It is time to provide the space and resources to help our families regain their emotional health.



Representatives from *In Balance Continuum* and *Pima County Health Department* will teach us how recognize some of the symptoms of mental health issues and find resources.

Faith Leaders Caucus  
11 a.m. June 9

St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church East Gallery,  
4440 N. Campbell Ave.



Pima County Interfaith Civic Education Organization

## Just Breathe – a yoga class inspired by Holy Yoga®

Just Breathe provides an opportunity for fellowship with others while stretching, practicing controlled breathing techniques, reflecting on scriptures, building flexibility and strength, and once in a while, breaking a sweat! Come as you are; we have mats, straps, and blocks available for borrowing. The only thing we don't have...is you! Open to the community; 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Fridays. There is a suggested donation of \$5/class. Please sign up on our website: Click on "Classes" and then "Studies/Classes Meeting Weekly or Ongoing" to let us know you are coming. For more information, contact Tricia at 520-297-2062.



# June Prayer Requests

The St. Mark's Prayer Ministry Team provides monthly prayer request information for various church activities and services, mission opportunities and people we can pray for during the month. The monthly prayer requests are located on the church website under the "Ministries" tab, then "Congregational Care," and then scroll down to "Prayer Ministry Team."

Give thanks for the musicians, pastoral leadership, and congregation that worshiped in the 10 a.m. Modern Service in the Fellowship Hall as they take the summer off. May God bless all St. Mark's family as we worship together in one of the Sanctuary worship services during the summer.

Continue prayers for peace in Ukraine. Pray for the health and well-being of all Ukrainian refugees. Ask God's blessings for the nearby countries who are helping refugees. Pray for the Ukrainian soldiers, government leaders, and people who are staying in Ukraine. Give thanks for humanitarian and military aid that is going to Ukraine.

Pray the Holy Spirit will be felt and celebrated in our hearts and minds as we worship together on Pentecost Sunday, June 5.

Pray for the changes planned for our St. Mark's summer worship services beginning Sunday, June 5. Music will be provided by the organ, our Summer Choir, special musicians from the congregation, and portions of our Praise Team. May God bless all our Sunday Services, pastors, musicians and worshipers as we gather together each week.

Pray that everyone who wants to sing in the Summer Choir will meet at 8 a.m. in the choir room on the first and third Sundays of June, July, and August. Everyone who wants to sing is invited. We will practice an anthem and sing in the Sunday morning worship service the same morning.

Ask God's blessings and good attendance at the new St. Mark's community lunches scheduled on Sundays, June 5, July 3, and Aug. 7. The June 5 meal will be a Salad Smorgasbord served from the Welcome Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. We will eat together in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited.

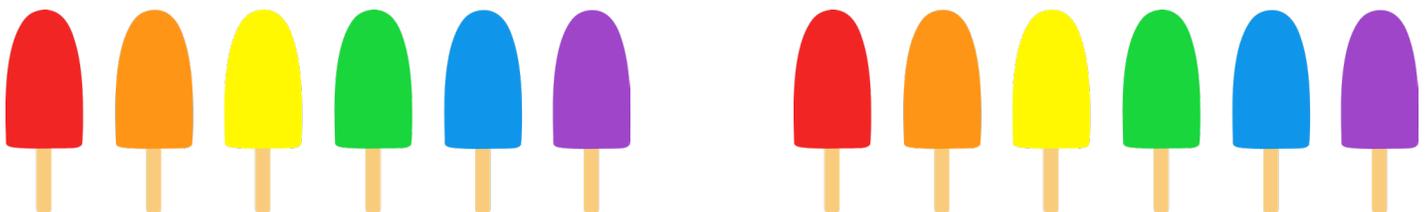
Pray for God's presence and blessing of our Desert Southwest Conference Annual Conference meetings on Friday and Saturday, June 10 and 11. Pray especially for Bishop Grant Hagiya, other conference and district leaders, and all clergy and lay members of our Annual Conference as they meet together. These meetings will be in a hybrid format in which some people meet in person and others connect online. Pray God's direction in the business of Annual Conference including budget approval, fixing/assigning pastoral appointments, election of conference committee members, and an ordination service. Pray for the pastors and lay delegates from St. Mark's who will attend these meetings.

Ask God's blessings for all fathers and everyone who has been like a father to you. Remember and give thanks for all these wonderful people on Father's Day, June 19.

Give thanks for the St. Mark's Missions Committee initiating a new outreach opportunity, and for members of our congregation who are being trained and making commitments to be part of the Tucson Refugee Ministry in southern Arizona.

In recognition of Gay and Lesbian Pride Month (National Heritage Month designation), please pray: ***Dear Lord, in honor of Gay and Lesbian Pride Month in June, we give thanks for the contributions and significance of LGBTQIA+ persons, and applaud lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, and transgender pride. Give us patience and understanding. Help us always show God's love for all people. Amen.***

South District Superintendent Rev. Matt Ashley asks that we pray this month for Bishop Grant Hagiya and the staff of the Desert Southwest Conference, as well as the staff and churches of the East District, North District, South District, and West District.



## 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). You may also submit via our online form at <https://umcstmarks.org/prayer-request>

Jared Bowman and family  
Deb Cushman  
Judy Drescher

April DuBoce  
Keith and Mary Ann Glazier  
Mary Sanders

Carol Underwood  
Jackie Vickers  
Sherri Wyland

## CONDOLENCES

We extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to:

The family of **Roberta Proffitt**, whose health quickly declined due to illness, causing her to pass on April 14. She was able to be surrounded by much of her family as she crossed over. There are no plans for a memorial service, as Roberta did not wish for one.

The family of **Joyce Roberts**, who died Easter Sunday, April 17, after a long struggle with Alzheimer's. The family has not yet set a memorial date but are looking toward the end of July.

**Floss Bryant's** sister, Betty, and the rest of their family on Floss's death the morning of May 26. You may remember Floss celebrated her 100th birthday last year. The family is tentatively planning a memorial service for November when they all can be together. Condolences to the family can be sent to Floss's address, 4439 N. Old Romero Road, space 41, Tucson 85705.



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. Lynn Bartlow  
Associate Pastor:  
Rev. Stuart Salvatierra  
Christian Formation  
and Outreach Pastor:  
Kim Ogle

Sunday Worship  
In person  
8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Livestreamed  
10 a.m.

[umcstmarks.org/live-worship](http://umcstmarks.org/live-worship)

YouTube:

UMC St. Mark's Oro Valley

### Dear Church Family...

With a grateful heart I want to thank all of you in my church family who reached out to me with cards, visits, prayers, calls and texts to comfort me after I learned of the untimely passing of my son, Adam Huff. I wouldn't have been able to move forward without your love. -- *Diane James*

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Thank you very much for your generous in-kind donation to the Interfaith Community Services food banks of 8,065 lbs. (Jan-Mar 2022).

As you join the collective efforts of our organization and other caring donors who share your enthusiasm to help, you provide more than vital food for those in need. You provide the nourishment of hope and connection. This is so very essential to surviving the struggles many of our neighbors face.

*With gratitude,*  
*Tom McKinney, ICS CEO*

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Thank you for your in-kind gift of 20 bags for Mother's Day (hats, makeup remover, scarves, jars, etc.) to Emerge on 5/6/2022.

At a time when our community faces significant challenges due to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, many survivors of domestic abuse face the impact of the pandemic and the measures implemented to control it. Many survivors and their children have been cut off from the resources and networks that may have helped to support them in the past. Your gift will help ensure they can continue to receive the support they need.

Emerge is committed to supporting those experiencing domestic abuse throughout this challenging time and beyond. All of Emerge's services remain operational, delivered primarily through virtual channels to protect the health and safety of everyone.

Thank you for investing in this work. Together, we can create a community free from abuse.

*Sincerely,*  
*Lauryn Bianco, Emerge VP of Operations and Philanthropy*



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## Reflections

In early March, I was given an article from a local newspaper titled, "Conservatives to form a new church." Perhaps you read the same article, or one similar. It stated, "A group of theologically conservative United Methodists plans to launch a new worldwide denomination on May 1." Well, May 1 has come and gone, and indeed, the Global Methodist Church has launched as an official denomination. You can look online and see what they believe, and how they will structure themselves.

This new denomination launched because its leadership are tired of waiting for General Conference, which was postponed again until 2023. They believed a splintering could happen that would allow them financial resources to put their denomination in place. However, some are ready to leave now, using the provisions were put into place at General Conference in 2019 for churches to choose to leave the denomination.

How does this affect St. Mark's? The short answer is that it does not. We have not talked about this launch of a new denomination because it doesn't require anything of us. I have believed St. Mark's to be one that will remain United Methodist in this splinter. We may not think alike but we agree to love together. I have believed that our church is one that will not want to align ourselves with a more

conservative denomination.

As General Conference approaches in 2023, things may change. After General Conference in 2023, things may change. For now, we are in a holding pattern, watching what the conservative churches choose to do with their membership. We are watching rulings Judicial Council makes about General Conference's next meeting. We are watching what will happen with elections of Bishops and other business in the denomination.

Even more than that, we will continue to believe and to work toward changing the world through Christ by caring for all people. We will continue ministries of Missions in the community. We will continue our work of justice through Church and Society. We will continue our discipleship as we study scripture and worship together. We will continue to care for one another through Church Growth and Hospitality. We will continue our work as a church, because that's what St. Mark's is called to do.

*See you soon,  
Pastor Lynn*