

May 2022

Prayers

St. Mark's United Methodist

Pray God's blessings and good attendance for the Celebration Singers concert on Sunday afternoon, May 1.

Continue prayers for peace in Ukraine. Pray also 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 the \$12,000 donation the St. Mark's Missions Committee authorized to support the work of the church in Ukraine through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief).

Pray as St. Mark's youth celebrate their moms and dads with a special taco dinner at church on Sunday evening, May 1. Let this be a fun time to appreciate parents and enjoy each other.

Continue prayers for the St. Mark's Confirmation students as they complete their faith studies and time together. Pray as they each decide about joining the United Methodist Church. Confirmation Sunday is set for Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8.

Ask God's blessings for all mothers and everyone who was like a mother to you. Remember and give thanks for all these wonderful people on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8.

Ask God's blessings and safe travel as St. Mark's members and friends leave the Tucson area in the coming weeks to go back to their summer homes and churches or begin their summer travels. May everyone feel God's presence and love with them – and enjoy the different rhythms and activities of summer.

Continue prayers for Soul Station, our Wednesday evening service that is available via Zoom. You may connect at 6:15 p.m. to greet each other. The program begins at 6:30. We also share prayer concerns and joys and celebrate Communion each week. Email info@umcstmarks.org to request the Zoom link.

Pray God's healing for St. Mark's members, family members and friends who have had recent surgeries, are receiving medical treatments, or have been in the hospital. Pray also for those who are sick, are coping with ongoing chronic pain or illness, are homebound, or are recovering at home or in rehab facilities.

Give thanks for the Missions Committee money (thanks to congregation contributions) that was distributed to Tu Nidito, Stand Up for Kids, JobPath, and Interfaith Community Services. May God bless these organizations and the good work they provide in our community.

Pray for members of the St. Mark's Missions Committee and others beginning a new mission opportunity with the Tucson Refugee Ministry. This involves reaching out to and working with incoming refugees in Southern Arizona. Pray God will lead those in our congregation who are interested and available to get involved. If you're interested, you may contact Pastor Kim, Missions Committee liaison, or leave a note in the Missions Committee mailbox in the church office.

Give thanks that St. Mark's UMC volunteers can prepare and serve specific Saturday evening meals again at Primavera Men's Shelter. Groups/families have already signed up for the second and fifth Saturday evenings in April, May, and June. There's a SignUp Genius online form for you to let the church know which Saturday you want to provide the meal at Primavera. Pray that our congregation responds to these service opportunities. Contact the church office if you have questions, or need help signing up.

Give thanks that the number of COVID cases and the number of COVID-related deaths continues to decrease. Pray God's healing power will surround all those who have COVID-19 and its variants. Pray also for anyone coping with long-term health issues after they had COVID.

Give thanks for the St. Mark's Racial Equity Advocates and the efforts of all St. Mark's committees, teams, and groups to recognize and celebrate the various national heritage month emphases. This month – ***God of Love, make room in our hearts for all your children. Make room in our congregations, our worship services, and our communities for our Asian American / Pacific Islander neighbors. We thank you for their unique voice in the world you created. Amen.***

May God continue to bless our donation of food items to the Interfaith Community Services Food Bank. Drive-by donations can be brought to the church's north parking lot (Magee Road side) between 10-11 a.m. Tuesdays and Saturdays. Donations can be brought to the church office during the week, too.

South District Superintendent Rev. Matt Ashley asks that we pray this month for the pastors and ministries of the First UMCs in Bisbee, Eloy, and Safford.