

July 2022

Prayers

St. Mark's United Methodist

Pray God's spirit and blessings as many gather for Sunday worship services in the Sanctuary and as others join online. The 8:30 a.m. service features organ music and songs from the United Methodist Hymnal. The 10 a.m. service blends piano music, hymns and praise songs with some guitar and drums. This service also is livestreamed via the church website or YouTube. Give thanks for all the musicians, technicians, and pastors who make all this happen.

Give thanks that pastors Lynn, Stuart and Kim were all reappointed to serve another year at St. Mark's UMC. This took place at the 2022 Annual Conference of the Desert Southwest Conference of the United Methodist Church, June 10 and 11. Pray God's blessings, energy and vision for each of our pastors in our worship, work and mission outreach together.

Give thanks for our church's current good financial position. Ask God's blessings that we continue to support our church operations, mission opportunities and outreach with the offerings of our time and money through the summer months. Pray God will be at work in and through the U.S. economy to bring safety and stability for investors, business owners, workers and families.

Ask God's blessings and good attendance at the new St. Mark's summer community lunches. Pray especially for the potluck meal scheduled after church Sunday, July 3. This time participants are asked to bring a pasta or salad item that we all will share. St. Mark's is providing goodies to make ice cream sundaes.

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 in July and August. We will practice an anthem and sing in both services that Sunday morning.

Pray God's blessings and special care for 13 St. Mark's youth and two youth leaders, along with youth and leaders from St. Paul's UMC, going on the Sierra Service Project mission trip July 8-16 to San Diego, where they will do home improvements. Please pray for our students as they learn and grow in their faith, share God's love through helping others, and build relationships with each other.

Pray for good attendance and participation at St. Mark's Vacation Bible School Wednesday through Friday evenings, July 13-15. The theme is "Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God." May God bless the groups providing meals each evening and the VBS activities for children and adults. May God bless the music, Bible stories, games, crafts and science activities for children. Adult activities will be a choice of Scripture studies, led by the St. Mark's Adult Spiritual Growth Committee, or parenting conversations. Registration is required at https://stmarksumc.formstack.com/forms/vbs2019_form.

Give thanks for the St. Mark's Nash Neighbors Committee's support and the tangible help we provide to Nash Elementary. Pray for lots and lots of school supplies to be donated on Sunday mornings in July, at containers in the church courtyard. Supplies needed include unscented hand sanitizer (30- 34 oz size); large containers of disinfectant wipes; Elmer's glue sticks; black Expo dry erase markers; Pink Pearl erasers; and student scissors.

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. May God bless and guide the communication and interactions with refugee families and our volunteers.

Continue prayers for peace in Ukraine, for God to move in the hearts and minds of Ukrainian and Russian leaders and others to end the war. Pray for the health and well-being of all Ukrainian refugees. Ask God's blessings for all the countries, people and organizations, 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 for the continuing collection of food items for the Interfaith Community Services Food Bank. There is a special emphasis to collect 100s of jars of peanut butter in July – a much-needed item at the food bank. Please bring your food bank donations to church with you on Sunday mornings, or come between 10-11 a.m. Tuesdays and Saturdays to the north parking lot to drop off your donation.

South District Superintendent Rev. Matt Ashley asks that we pray this month for the pastors, staff, and ministry of El Mesias UMC - Nogales, Grace UMC - Douglas, and the South District's Camping Program.