

February 2023

Prayers

St. Mark's United Methodist

Pray for our Sunday morning worship services. May we feel God's presence and blessing as we are together. Give thanks for those who come to the Sanctuary at 8:30 or 10 a.m., and those who join the 10 a.m. service online via the church website or on YouTube. Give thanks for our ministers, musicians, and those who provide technical support each week.

Continue prayers for St. Mark's ministers, staff, and members of the Renovation Team, as work continues with the consulting firm, Ministry Architects. Pray as "shepherding information" is made available to church groups and Renovation Team members make some one-on-one contact with people who we haven't seen at church. Pray, also for many people to connect with other St. Mark's people in one or more of the new interest groups that have begun or will be starting in the next few months.

Pray for St. Mark's volunteers working in the church parking lot at Market on the Move on Saturday morning, Feb. 4. Pray God's blessings, good weather, and good community participation as excess produce and other food items in the commercial market are made available to people who can use them.

Give thanks for St. Mark's volunteers who help pack bags or boxes of food at the Community Food Bank each month. May God bless the work and all those who receive food.

Pray God's blessings for St. Mark's United Women in Faith's meeting on Tuesday morning, Feb. 14. St. Mark's member Mary Wald will share pre- and post-bereavement planning information: things to do that we may not think about before a death. All women are invited.

Pray for the St. Mark's youth group, children's and youth Sunday school, and Confirmation class leaders and participants as they meet together on Sundays. May God bless our leaders and each student every time they are together.

Pray God's blessings and good attendance at the Wednesday Night Soul Station meal and service each week. May the programs, worship services and fellowship of people who meet in the Fellowship Hall and those who join online be blessed. Pray also for volunteers, church groups, committees, teams, and individuals to provide meals. Sign up to provide a meal by calling the church office.

Give thanks for all the people who attended Soul Station Jan. 11 and listened to Alona, a Rhodes Scholar from Ukraine who attends the University of Arizona. May God be with Alona, her family and friends in Ukraine. Pray the war will end, that people can once again live peacefully with each other. And, pray that some people who came to this program/our church for the first time, or maybe have not been at church for a while, will continue in-person participation at church.

South District Superintendent, Rev. Matt Ashley, asks that we pray during the month of February for the pastors and ministries of Christ Church United Methodist in Tucson, Community UMC in Bowie, and Duncan UMC in Duncan.

Gracious God of Liberation, free us from our enemies. And when we are the enemy transform us from oppressing others into removing the yoke from their necks, and practicing freedom. In Christ's name, amen. (Recognizing and celebrating Black History Month in February.)