

Messenger

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

Volume 63 No. 7

July 2023



Welcome Sanctuary UMC Community! We Are Now One



The Implementation Team for the merger of St. Mark's and Sanctuary United Methodist churches has been steadily working on the details of bringing two congregations together into one. Finances and staff will merge, which may be completed by the time you read this, and we are making plans for fellowship opportunities so we can all get to know each other. (Please remember to wear your name tag this summer!) *Sanctuary community: We're glad you're here!*

The name of the merged church is St. Mark's United Methodist Church, with a Magee Campus and Sanctuary Campus. We celebrated our first service together on June 25, and members shared cake after each service.

Pastors Appointed at Conference



At Annual Conference in June, Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut officially set the appointments for all the clergy of the Desert Southwest Conference. Stories are told of the days when pastors found out at Annual Conference if they were moving, but thankfully the setting of appointments is more of a formality today. While we say farewell to Pastor Stuart as he begins his service at Lakeview UMC in Sun City after five years with us, St. Mark's is pleased to receive three pastors for the new appointment year, which begins July 1. Rev. Lynn Bartlow will return as Lead Pastor. Pastor Kim Ogle will return as Christian Formation and Outreach Pastor. Rev. Kevin Lester is joining us as our Associate Pastor/Sanctuary Campus Pastor. Rev. Lester was commissioned a Provisional Elder at Annual Conference, an exciting next step in his path to ordination. He is not a stranger to Sanctuary, as he has been its pastor for two years, but he will be a new face for the Magee Campus folks.



The Staff-Parish Relations Committee is working on the details of job responsibilities for each pastor, but we are thrilled to have them all lead us in ministry in this coming year.

A Modern-Day John Wesley

I've decided that I'm a modern-day John Wesley.

As you remember, John Wesley was the founder of the Methodism. He was an Anglican priest who joined his brother in believing that the church needed a return to holiness of heart and life. Together they formed the Holy Club at Oxford, mockingly called "Methodists" by other students.

As the Methodist movement grew, Wesley began to travel to the different Methodist Societies that formed all over England. He would ride his horse and visit the groups who were embracing the Methodist way of living out their faith. During his ministry John Wesley rode over 250,000 miles on horseback, averaging 40 miles a day. He preached over 40,000 sermons, and some say he published 3,000 tracts, books, and pamphlets!

Wesley believed in using your time wisely, and to make the most use of your waking hours. So, he used those hours on horseback for his advantage. He would read, write sermons, and pen letters while he rode. He even had a traveling desk so he could work wherever he went. He believed that his horse stumbled less when his reins were slack, so he gave his horse free rein to go where he needed to go while he read or wrote. The image of the circuit rider is that of a horseback rider with book in hand, giving a nod to Wesley's habits.

I feel like a modern-day John Wesley.

I ride a horse, also known as a fully-electric Mustang I've named EVAlynn. My commute is 19 miles, so I average 40 miles a day in my trusty steed. And while I travel, I study, also known as listening to podcasts. I've not yet preached 40,000 sermons, but his career was 40 years long so I have some time to catch up!! I also haven't published 3,000 pamphlets, but I have articles published in a book and multiple blog posts (two years at St. Marks = 104 blog posts, right?!?). That makes me a modern-day Wesley!

(Continued on page 10)

#WeAre
WRESTLING, ENGAGING, RISING

GENESIS 32-33 | LUKE 22-24

Welcome Emmanuel Fuentes

Stepping into Nick Hiratsuka's shoes as our new technology coordinator is Emmanuel Fuentes. Emmanuel grew up in Tucson, graduating from Vail High School in 2019.



He is a December 2022 graduate of Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, earning a Bachelor of Science in media and film, with a minor in journalism. We introduced him to the congregation on Sunday, May 4, during both services and online. Along with longtime volunteer Paul Simpson, Emmanuel oversees the media used in our in-person

and online services, including Wednesday's Soul Station, as well as operates audio and video equipment when needed during events or meetings for groups on campus. Though our technology folks work behind the scenes, and we don't see them like we do other worship leaders, their gifts greatly enhance our worship time. Please stop by to say thank you and hello and to introduce yourself to Emmanuel.

On Your Mark's Walking Group will not meet again until AUGUST. Stay tuned for updates!

Please Donate School Supplies This Month

The St. Mark's Nash Neighbors Committee will once again collect school supplies for Nash Elementary students AND Sanctuary is once again collecting supplies for Estes Elementary. There will be a blue bin for Nash and a black bin for Estes in the church courtyard for your donations. Our scheduled donation dates are: Before and after 8:30 and 10 a.m. services July 2, 9, 16 and 23. We are asking for your support in donating supplies.

Suggested supplies to donate to Nash:

- Kleenex tissues
- Hand Sanitizer, unscented, 30-34 oz. pump bottles,
- Disinfectant Wipes, large canisters
- Elmer's Glue Sticks
- Expo Dry Erase Markers (thick or thin tipped, black or multi)
- Scissors, student-size rounded tip
- Pencils, #2 (yellow preferred)
- Ziplock bags (gallon sized)

Go Persian with the Mark-a-ritas

In case you hadn't noticed, it gets hot here in the summer! The Mark-a-ritas, a group of middle-aged women who want to hang out and have a little fun, are going to use the heat as an excuse to avoid the kitchen and go out for dinner. Brenda Hunter has made a reservation at the Persian Room. 9290 N. Thornydale Road, for 5:30 p.m. Monday, July 10. If you would like to join us, please email Brenda at ([see church directory](#)) by 8 p.m. Friday, July 7, so she can give the restaurant an accurate head count. If you have never joined us before, this is a good opportunity to make some new friends at church!

Summer Office Hours in Effect

With school no longer in session, snowbirds leaving or already gone, and no staff person assigned to the front office (this is temporary!), things are slowing down, so summer office hours took effect June 1.



Until further notice, church office hours are:

- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday
- 9 a.m. to noon Friday (this day remains unchanged)

There is no need to ring the doorbell during office hours.

Other Office Odds 'n' Ends

To request facilities use or have an item added to the church calendar, please email calendar@umcstmarks.org.

To submit an item for the weekly e-blast or Sunday bulletin, use bulletin@umcstmarks.org.

Submissions for the monthly *Messenger* newsletter should go to messenger@umcstmarks.org.

Direct general inquiries to info@umcstmarks.org.

Suggested supplies to donate to Estes:

- Copy Paper
- Expo Markers
- Ticonderoga Pencils

To make a monetary donation, please write "Nash School Supplies" or "Estes 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



<https://umcstmarks.org>, then going to the "Giving" tab. Click on "Donations" and scroll down to the "Nash School Supplies" option or "Estes School Supplies" option. Questions? Contact Sheli Gray (call church office or see most recent church directory) for Nash and Susan Quinn for Estes. Thank you for your support of the children in our communities!

Adult Spiritual Growth

Faith is a journey!

Summertime is Here

ALL REGISTRATION IS ONLINE AT <https://umcstmarks.org> then go to "Classes" and then select "Adult Spiritual Growth Opportunities." Or sign up at the Adult Spiritual Growth board on the patio Sunday mornings. Please pre-register and acquire books from your favorite resource. (Bookshop.org, <https://bookshop.org>, supports local bookstores.)

July Monthly Musical: *The Music Man*

The Adult Spiritual Growth Committee continues its annual summer musicals program by presenting "**The Music Man**" at **6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 18, in Room 17/18**. This 1962 production is the big-screen version of the 1957 Broadway show (written by Meredith Wilson) with Robert Preston reprising the title role. Joining the movie cast are Shirley Jones, Buddy Hackett, Hermione Gingold and Ronny Howard (before becoming Opie on "The Andy Griffith Show").



The movie, set in 1912, concerns a con man who travels to River City and sets in motion a ploy to have the townspeople invest their money in the creation of a boys' marching band. Once the con man secures their trust and enthusiasm, he plans to skip town with the money. But complicating factors intervene, including a skeptical town mayor and a suspicious Marian the librarian. Things eventually go awry, and the con is unveiled but the reactions are not what would be expected.

Trivia: River City was based on Mason City, Iowa. Both the UCLA and USC marching bands took part in the final parade scene. The movie won the 1963 Academy Award for Best Musical Score.

Bring your movie snacks and be ready to sing "Ya Got Trouble," "76 Trombones" and "Till There Was You." It will be an enjoyable night for everyone!

Linda Walker, Movie Host

Ada Harrison Scholarship Fund

One unbending principle of ASG is that no one should feel unable to participate in a class because of the inability to purchase a study book. And neither did Ada Harrison, who was a member of St. Mark's for many years. Ada participated in all ASG offerings she possibly could and wanted others to have the same opportunities. The Ada Harrison Scholarship Fund is available to help those in need of financial assistance in purchasing study books or other study-related expenses. Please contact Pastor Kim Ogle, kim@umcstmarks.org, with your request; the process is simple and confidential. Church members are encouraged to donate to this fund in support of its mission. Thank you.

New Class Leader Orientation Aug. 19

Adult Spiritual Growth always needs new class leaders for short-term or ongoing classes. Many of you have attended classes and have expressed a need for more offerings but class leaders have become scarce. Please consider leading a class! To help prepare you, ASG is presenting a roughly two-hour Class Leader Orientation from 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 19.

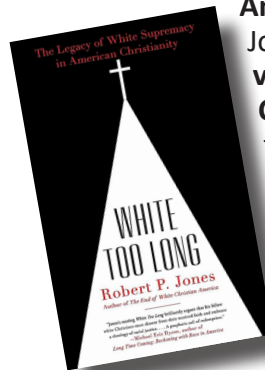
This class will instruct you on how to select a topic, how to obtain study resources, the necessary forms needing completion, and publicity. There will be open discussions regarding the various ways to lead a class, how to encourage discussion, and keeping a class on track. An experienced class leader will be present to help answer questions and to share experiences.

Leading a class is different from teaching a class. A leader learns along with the other participants but has the additional role of overseeing the class. Please consider leading a class and registering to attend this orientation.

Marcia Rostad, ASG Chair

Adult Sunday School

"White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity" by Robert P. Jones. **9:30-11 a.m. in Room 17/18 and via Zoom. Led by Rick Farnsworth and Carl Harrison.** Please register to secure the Zoom link. Drop-ins are welcome!



No class July 2. This is a video-based study with a classroom study guide; no book is required. Historic splits in Protestant denominations between northern and southern churches came about over the issue of slavery. Since the end of slavery, there have been racial demographic shifts as minority populations moved to other regions of the country in search of employment and a better quality of life. Immigration from other nations has led to changes in culture and politics in the last few decades. This has transitioned a majority-white, Christian country into one that no longer has a single racial-religious majority group.

This study will stimulate much discussion and reflection upon the changes we are experiencing and the church's response to them.

Adult Bible Study

The book of Judges. 11:15 a.m. in Room 17/18 and via Zoom. Led by Brenda Hunter and Kelly Deyoe. The class reads this book of the Bible, chapter by chapter, to reflect on its meaning then and now. This class invites not only regular attendees but anyone who can only occasionally attend. Bring your Bible or there are Bibles in the classroom. Please register to secure the Zoom link.



Church & Society

Ending Gun Violence: United Methodist Church Guidance

The General Conference of the United Methodist Church (the legislative branch of the worldwide church) adopted a resolution, "Our Call to End Gun Violence," in 2016, tackling violence both on the international and local levels. The resolution grounds itself in the Bible with Micah 4:1-4, which includes the famous phrase "shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks."

At the international level, the resolution examines the effect in nations where guns and other small armaments are used for internal warfare. It recommends the ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty, passed by the United Nations, which regulates the trade of small arms to nations in conflict.

The resolution goes on to suggestions for how to support individuals, congregations and other religious communities that have been affected by gun violence. Other measures are education to promote gun safety and compliance with existing laws regarding the purchase of guns. Churches are also to post signs prohibiting guns on their property.

Under the resolution, congregations are to advocate at the local and national levels for laws that prevent or reduce gun violence. These include restrictions on who can purchase guns (such as excluding those under restraining orders relating to violence, convicted of violent crimes, a danger to themselves due to mental illness, or under the age of 21); that guns should be sold only by licensed gun retailers using universal background checks; that large-capacity ammunition magazines and weapons designed to fire multiple rounds each time the trigger is pulled be banned. The resolution also recommends greater access to mental illness services and technologies to better trace crime guns.

The complete resolution can be found at <https://www.umc.org/en/content/book-of-resolutions-our-call-to-end-gun-violence>.

Additional information regarding ways United Methodists can help prevent gun violence can be found at <https://www.umc.org/en/content/ways-united-methodists-can-take-a-stand-against-gun-violence>.

June 15, Day 166 of 2023

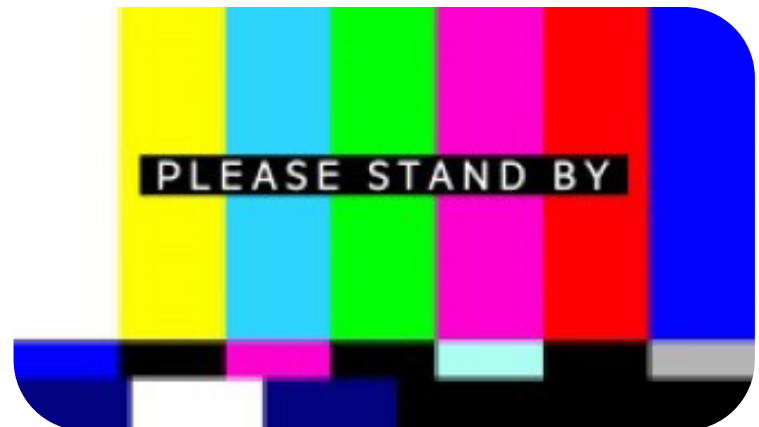
	As of 06/15	As of 05/15
So Far This Year in the U.S.:		
Mass Shooting Incidents (4 or more victims killed/wounded in each)	296	224
Children (0-11) killed by gunfire	124	098
Teens (12-17) killed by gunfire	689	560
All Youth (0-17) injured by gunfire	2131	1610
Unintentional Shootings	727	559

Please visit gunviolencearchive.org to see more statistics and learn more about the organization's background, methodology, and sources of information.

Rainbow Fellowship News



After launching the Rainbow Fellowship in 2019 and leading it since, Melinda Sims is stepping aside as the group's coordinator. We will launch a fresh start as the group discusses its dreams and hopes for the future in our July meeting. Anyone with a heart for our LGBTQIA community is welcome to participate in this planning session as Melinda facilitates her final meeting as coordinator. Join us at 9 a.m. Sunday, July 16, in the church library. Please contact Melinda at rainbow@umcstmarks.org for more information.





We Need Volunteers at the Red Umbrella

Hello everyone. I am Carol Fuller, and I am the new lead for the Red Umbrella. We thank Barbara Conway for her many years of service, four years as the lead and more than 20 years as a volunteer at the Red Umbrella cart!

If you enjoy having a cup of coffee and greeting members, guests and friends on Sunday morning, you already have all of the qualifications for volunteering at the Red Umbrella! This may be the first impression a visitor has of St. Mark's, so this is a very important ministry for the church.

A lot of you have put off signing up, but we could really use you. In fact, if you attend the early service, you might consider signing up for a shift before the service and between the services once a month. Or if you attend the second service, you may consider signing up for the shift between services and also taking the shift after the service. If you do that once a month, on the same week each month, it would be easy to remember and much easier to fill the slots. For example, if you usually attend the late service, you could sign up for the 9:30-10 and the 11-11:30 shifts each month on the second Sunday. Please consider doubling up on shifts that way. It is only once a month, and you are usually visiting with friends before or after church anyway. Volunteering at the Red Umbrella is a wonderful way to volunteer one hour a month.

To sign up for one or more shifts, go to <https://tinyurl.com/RedUmbrellaSMUMC> and fill in any empty space. If you have trouble please contact me at ([see church directory](#)). Also, if you know someone who would be perfect, let me know and I will ask them. I'm embarrassed to say, I waited to be asked; I did not volunteer on my own. I look forward to meeting you and thank you in advance!

Renovation Team: Signage and Wayfinding

At the last town hall meeting, Maryann Nuckolls talked about two weeks when it felt like everything in her house needed repair. It was nothing in plain sight to anyone unless they needed it. It's like the Renovation Team. Much of what we are fixing is out of sight and not a problem unless someone needs it.

The Renovation Team survey on signage and wayfinding is different. Our signage reminds the world that God is present in our neighborhood. It also helps people find us and our ministries. Regulars know where we are. What about new friends from Sanctuary? What about people driving past each day who need a home for their faith? The next time you come to church, focus on what you see.

From the south on La Cañada: Because of trees and slope, the building can't be seen until you are at the parking entry, and it has no signage. There is signage on the east wall. But it faces the Mountain View facility, not traffic, and is blocked by trees.

From the west on Magee: A beautiful sign marks the entrance; but it blends into the desert, and it faces a wall across the street -- not the cars.

From the north and east: Until recently, the electronic sign was hidden by plants. Trustees and our maintenance coordinator have cleared plants that hid it. There are still low-hanging tree branches left, but we are moving in the right direction.

The movie "Field of Dreams" coined the phrase, "If you build it, they will come." People have to find us first. The Renovation Team made this survey possible. Trustees deserve thanks for taking it seriously and moving forward. Watch for changes making St. Mark's easier to find.

Vacation Bible School was Loads of Fun



In the game of life, God really does change EVERYTHING! From June 5 - 9, children and adults of all ages from both church campuses had a blast twisting and turning, spinning, rolling the dice and moving ahead as they learned about how following Jesus changes the game. During this year's Vacation Bible School,

there were food and fellowship, Bible stories and Scripture, and small table discussions. Children also enjoyed crafts, competing against parents and staff in the Daily Challenge, singing and dancing and outdoor games (some even involving water). In addition, as the VBS Mission Project, the children packaged 40+ bags of "Friendship Soup" for Interfaith Community Services. And there was jumping... lots of jumping! This year's theme, "Twist and Turns," was full of energy and enthusiasm, from our youngest participants to our seasoned volunteers and staff. If you missed it, we hope to see you next year.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers, starting with those who helped paint the fabulous VBS decorations displayed in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Thank you to the volunteers who provided the delicious nightly meals and who donated ingredients for the Friendship Soup. Special thanks to Anita Winslow and Clara Campbell for being at VBS every night to help with the meals. Many thanks to the amazing volunteers who helped the children with the Bible lessons/activities, music, recreation, and crafts. We appreciate Paul Simpson and Emmanuel Fuentes for being at VBS every night in the sound booth so we could watch the VBS videos and learn the songs.



Change in Meeting Time, Day

The Missions Committee meeting time has changed to 5:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month. So if you are interested in joining us, please contact Mary Beth Barone at (see church directory). We have been busy this month and will resume monthly meetings in August.

Mary Beth Barone, Missions Committee Chair

Time for Another ICS Peanut Butter Party

Every July, Interfaith Community Services asks all its faith community partners to collect as many jars of peanut butter as possible, with the ultimate goal of collecting a combined 10,000 jars by the end of the month. Peanut butter is food banks' most-needed donation item. St. Mark's has led the way in collecting the most jars the last two years, and Pastor Lynn has two trophies on the shelf in her office as a result. Rumor has it that she has already cleared some more space on her shelf in anticipation of winning a third trophy this year! Last year we donated an amazing 2,007 jars! Can we do it again this year? It will not be easy and it will require participation from all of us, whether you donate a couple of jars or a few cases. It all helps.

Donation tips: Buying the smaller 14 oz. or 16 oz. jars is preferred. Also, buying smaller jars allows you to buy more jars for less money. Buying generic brands is usually cheaper and also enables you to buy more jars for less money.

Three ways to donate:

1. Bring your donations with you to church any Sunday in July and drop them in the designated bins in the courtyard.
2. Bring them between 10-11 a.m. any Tuesday or Saturday to the Magee Campus's north parking lot.
3. Drop them off in the church office during its business hours.

Let's bring that third trophy home! Thank you for your help.

Peanut Butter Party Food Drive *Spread the Love*

Help ICS collect 10,000 14-16 oz. jars of peanut butter in the month of July



Sign Up to Cook for Primavera Men's Shelter

We have committed to serving a meal at the Primavera Men's Shelter on the second and fifth (when there is one)



PRIMAVERA

Saturdays of each month. On June 10, the Rainbow Fellowship served brisket, beans, coleslaw and cake to the men at Primavera, who enjoyed it thoroughly. We need volunteers for July and September! If you are interested in getting a group together to help, Holly Celmer has a book of recipes and directions to get your group started. Call Holly at (see church directory).



It was a small but mighty group at the **Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona** on June 17! Thanks to our volunteers, we filled 2,160 bags of food for low-income households! This equals 15,000 lbs. of food to help those in need in Southern Arizona! Our next time to be together will be 8:30-11:30 a.m. Friday, July 14. Contact KJ Naae (see church directory) for details.



Youth Ministry

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



Youth Group Calendar grades 6-12



July 2

July 9



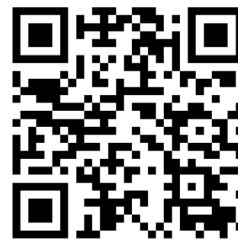
July 16

July 23-28



July 30

St. Mark's Youth Group LinkTree



find the most up to date links for all things youth!

St. Mark's Youth has so many fun things going on, we started using a LinkTree to organize all of the most up-to-date links! Check this out for event signups, online payments, and social media pages!

Back-to-Back Summer Adventures

You know why I love summer in youth ministry? I don't have time to get bored! Shortly after the South District Middle School Mission, I began getting ready to attend Annual Conference, a really big meeting held every year where people from every church in the Desert Southwest Annual Conference come together for a few days. There are clergy and lay people. Together we worship, we learn, and we even get to make big decisions that affect all the United Methodist churches in our area. We had a great lesson about how to correctly use pronouns, and we made some big decisions and had hard conversations. Most importantly, I made a TikTok with our new bishop. If you want to hear more about my experience, just ask. I love to talk! --Rachel

SUNDAY AFTERNOONS - 4PM TO 6PM
ROOM 9 - FRIENDS ALWAYS WELCOME!



NO MEETING JULY 2 & 23



JULY 9
ELEVATE FIELD TRIP!



JULY 16
SERVICE PROJECT & WATER GAMES



JULY 30
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY

Youth Ministry

Latest news for High School, Middle School, and Preteen Students!



WEEKLY YOUTH EVENTS

Independence Day

Happy 4th of July! I know many of our families value their long weekends, especially during the summer, so we will not meet the weekend just before the 4th of July – but I would love it if you send me fun pictures of where you are celebrating!

Youth 2023 Participant and Parent Meeting

11 a.m. to noon July 9

If you are attending Youth 2023, please meet me (Rachel) in the Wesley House immediately after worship/Sunday school. We will go over details and hand out last-minute goodies. Got questions!? You aren't alone. Bring your questions, and we will make sure everyone is ready to go. If you can't make it, please arrange to meet with me during the week so I can get you everything you need.

Service Sunday: Birthday Boxes

4-6 p.m. July 9

I am so excited for this Service Sunday. I recently learned that many people cannot afford to really celebrate birthdays at home. This breaks my heart. I LOVE birthdays and love celebrating people. What a great opportunity for us to help someone who may be in that position to have a FANTASTIC birthday! Join your friends and make birthday boxes for our local food bank. The boxes will contain ingredients to make a birthday cake (complete with sprinkles!), and a birthday card from us. How many boxes do you think we will make?

Vs.

4-6 p.m. July 16 OFF CAMPUS

There is nothing like a little friendly competition. But I worry that if you know what kind of competition it is, some of you will go to great lengths to practice and will end up beating me. We can't have that. So just know it's going to be some serious competition. Friends are, of course, welcome. Be sure they have a permission slip, as this competition will be off campus.

St. Mark's Senior Sendoff

4-6 p.m. July 30

We celebrated our seniors in May, but they get to keep coming all summer long! The time has come to bid them farewell. Seems appropriate to celebrate these friends on National Friendship Day, doesn't it? In true St. Mark's fashion, we will hold a friendly Service Sunday, play some fun games and wish our friends well.



SPECIAL EVENTS

SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT



June 23 - July 1 Navajo Nation

Every year, St. Mark's sends a group of students and chaperones to Sierra Service Project. I wanted to put in here how many projects that we as a church have helped with, but there was no way for me to find out that information. Let's just say...it's a lot!

We have built ramps, painted exterior and interior walls, done roofing, built fences, built decks – the list goes on and on and on. This year, we had nine students working hard on the Navajo Nation with students from around Arizona, and it was such a wonderful experience! Want to hear more about our students' experiences? Stay tuned; we will be featuring stories from your friends here in the coming months. (See photos on page 10!)

YOUTH 2023

July 23-28, 6th-12th grade, Daytona Beach, FL

Every day we get closer to this trip, I think all of our travel boy. I feel like all year I've been saying, "We will be going...in July." GUESS WHAT, FRIENDS!? IT IS JULY! We are now wrapping up final details, getting packed, and getting ready to go. We welcome prayers as we travel and experience this amazing conference together!



BACK-TO-SCHOOL KICKOFF

South District Back-to-School Kickoff

Save the date! Aug. 18-19

Plans are underway for an epic back-to-school event for students from all around the South District. Plans are still hush-hush, but mark off this weekend because you do NOT want to miss it.

July Youth Birthdays

July 12—**James Carsten**

July 22—**Freder Morrison**

July 26—**Kate Bartlow**

July 26—**Owen Morrison**

July 31—**Brendan Ritchey**



Parting Gift for Pastor Stuart

After saying a prayer over the St. Mark's Quilters' most recent work, the group bestowed one of its creations on Rev. Stuart Salvatierra as a going-away gift. Stuart recently ended a five-year run as our associate pastor and headed north to be associate pastor at Lakeview United Methodist Church. If you would like to write to Stuart, you can send him mail in care of the church at
10298 W. Thunderbird Blvd.
Sun City, AZ 85351



Miscellaneous ...

July Coffee with the Pastor

Get some "face time" with Lead Pastor Lynn Bartlow from 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 18 at the Barnes & Noble Cafe at the Foot-hills Mall. Come with questions or issues or just to be social!



Where Are They Now?

Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut's office has announced that Rev. Sharon Ragland, who served as lead pastor at St. Mark's for 11 years until she "retired" in 2021, will serve as interim pastor from July 1 through Sept. 30 at Trinity Heights United Methodist Church in Flagstaff, where our own Pastor Lynn served until coming to St. Mark's!



Thanks from Tucson Refugee Ministry

We recently got a shout-out from Tucson Refugee Ministry for our refugee bike donations. Linda Martino volunteered with TRM last year, taking a young refugee girl to school. Linda ultimately bought a bicycle and helmet for the girl so she could transport herself. Darcy Halvorson was inspired by this and has led the way in providing more bicycles to refugees for transportation. These bicycles were funded by extra donations made to the St. Mark's flower fund. Well done, Linda, Darcy and Team St. Mark's!



Honoring the Fallen

St. Mark's UMC had a first-time presence at this year's Memorial Day flag placing and flag removing service project at Tucson's Evergreen Cemetery. Six St. Mark's community members, led by Cheri Schwartz, dispersed and joined several large, established groups and placed flags at the feet of hundreds of veterans' gravestones in preparation for this year's Memorial Day service that took place Monday, May 29. They spent 90 minutes making ground holes, or placing flags, and 30 minutes removing flags later on. They said the overwhelming display of flags really made them think, and they all found it rewarding. Pictured are four of the six volunteers.



SAVE THE DATE

RALLY DAY (KICKING OFF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR)
WITH SPECIAL GUEST PREACHER,
BISHOP CARLO A. RAPANUT!

SUNDAY, AUG. 13
Magee Campus

(Continued from page 1)

In all seriousness, I strive to be more like Wesley. He wasn't perfect, but he ordered his day to grow in his spiritual habits. He rose at 4 a.m. so he could pray, read the Bible, journal, fast, and take communion. He was disciplined in his eating and exercising. In fact, he had a "chamber horse" to use during the winter when he couldn't ride so that he stayed in shape for riding in the spring. He read and wrote prolifically, and talked to anyone who would listen about Christ.

How about you? How are your spiritual disciplines of reading and praying and fasting? Do you pay attention to what you eat and exercise? Our body and our spirits are very much connected! We may not be circuit riders, but we can learn from the founder of Methodism and strive for holiness of heart and life. What can you add to your day today, to grow closer to God?

See you soon!
Pastor Lynn



Two horse-riding preachers outside St. Paul's Cathedral, London

Scenes from the Sierra Service Project Youth Mission Trip

Nine of our youth left Tucson on Friday, June 23 for a trip to the Navajo Nation, where they spent the week on construction projects. First, a short stop for some bonding time. They planned to return July 1.



Volunteers ready to head out!



This year our students are roofing and building sheds, ramps, decks and stairs!



An unplanned stop at Discount Tire.



This year our own Addison DaDeppo is the site director!



We managed to Escape the Room thanks to our helpful host.



We join with two other UMCs from our conference and Episcopal churches from Nashville and New Jersey for program, meals, and our favorite: circle!

CONDOLENCES

We extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of:

- Carol Ann Bascom, who died peacefully the morning of June 1 in the presence of family. We held a memorial service for her on June 24.

LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

Please keep these people in your prayers. Email additions or updates to messenger@umcstmarks.org.

Hank Bautzmann, son of Nancy Bautzmann
Alex Boettcher, grandson of Carla & Paul Boettcher
Jacob W. Boettcher, grandson of Carla & Paul Boettcher
Christian Bowers, grandson of Doug & Charlotte Bowers
Jon Chytka, nephew of Donna Severson
Zachary Dojaquez, grandson of Donna Severson
Patrick Emmett, son of Julie Wiens
Mike Freeman, son of Ken & Ann Freeman
Matthew Hughey, son of Juliee & Billy Morrison and grandson of Joyce Flick
Rachel Kester, daughter of Don Kester & Ruth Kester
Don Lauver, Son-in-law of Linda Connolly
Sam and Nathan Lennarson, grandsons of John & Sherri Lennarson

Chad Long, grandson of Pat Long
Jake Newton, son of Robert & Cheri Newton
John O'Regan, husband of Ashley O'Regan and grandson-in-law of Janet Krug
Brian Osborn, pastor in the DSW Conference
William Putt, son of Harold & Susan Putt
Geoffrey Shafe, grandson of Mary Langemeier
Clint Staschke, son-in-law of Cliff & June Young
Jacob Szczygiel, grandson of Joyce Flick
Michael and Karisa Szczygiel, son-in-law and daughter of Joyce Flick
Brianna Walker, granddaughter of Barbara Fradenburgh; niece of Joan Fradenburgh



St. Mark's UMC
Magee Campus
1431 W. Magee Road
Tucson, AZ 85704
(520) 297-2062

Email:
info@umcstmarks.org
Website:
www.umcstmarks.org

Lead Pastor:
Rev. Lynn Bartlow
**Associate Pastor/
Sanctuary Campus Pastor:**
Rev. Kevin Lester
**Christian Formation
and Outreach Pastor:**
Kim Ogle

Sunday Worship
Magee Campus
8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Livestreamed
10 a.m.
umcstmarks.org/live-worship
YouTube:
UMC St. Mark's Oro Valley

Super Summer Soul Station

Soul Station continues! Pastor Kim and Rev. Dr. Evy McDonald, a former associate pastor at St. Mark's, are your team leaders. Let's have some fun as we explore bringing the teachings of Jesus alive in our daily lives. Join us as we explore Jesus' "I am" statements. It will happen at its same time – 5:30-7 p.m. Instead of a full dinner though, we will have healthy snacks. If you need or want more please bring your own sack supper.

Note: The Zoom room for those attending online will open at 6 p.m., with the service starting at 6:15 p.m. for everyone.

*See you there,
Pastor Kim and Rev. Evy*



A fun selfie from the altar on June 25, our first Sunday together as a merged church!

Address Service Requested

Reflections



SUMMER WORSHIP TOGETHER

JUNE
25

FIRST SUNDAY TOGETHER!

Let's celebrate with all our music groups, and a message from Lynn and Kevin based on Genesis 12

JULY
23

Pastor Lynn shares from
Genesis 25

Music from the Sanctuary
Band @ 10am

JULY
2

Pastor Lynn shares from
Genesis 18

Summer Choir, & Communion

JULY
30

Pastor Kevin shares from
Genesis 28

Music from the Summer Choir

JULY
9

Pastor Kevin shares from
Genesis 22

AUG
6

Pastor Kevin shares from
Genesis 32

Music from the Sanctuary
Band @ 10am

JULY
16

Pastor Lynn shares from
Genesis 24

Music from the Summer Choir

AUG
13

LAST SUNDAY TOGETHER Special message from Genesis 37

Music from the Sanctuary Band
@ 10am

All services will be held at the Magee Campus: 1431 W Magee Road
Two Services each Sunday morning: 8:30am, 10am