

# Messenger

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

Volume 58, Number 01

January 16, 2018



## Car Show & Food Truck Café

Save the date for a cruisin' fun night - Friday, Feb. 9, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. sponsored by

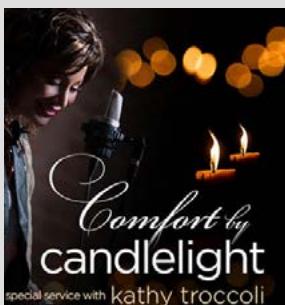
**No Discriminations Car Club.** Everyone is welcome to this fun, family event! Check out the cars, listen to the DJ, enjoy great food from the food truck vendors (including dessert), plus, everyone may register for the prize drawing!



Representatives from **Universal Technical Institute**, Inc. will be available to explain their program and career path for technician training opportunities. Universal Technical Institute is a nationwide provider of Technical education training for students seeking careers in entry level automotive, diesel, collision repair, motorcycle, and marine technicians.

**Food Truck Café Revamped...** For the past two and a half years, St. Mark's has hosted a Food Truck Café on the second Friday of the month, except December. You may remember that the program was funded through a gift from our Bishop and cabinet, known as the Ignite Fund. Our hope was that the presence of the trucks would attract the community to our campus. It has attracted people from our neighborhood and beyond, we've had great entertainment with a relaxing space for fellowship while sharing wonderful food. **Now, it's time to move to the next level.** It's time to focus on Food Truck Café as an event, rather than fast food in a parking lot. To help facilitate growth without exhausting our resources, Food Truck Café will take place only *four times* per year. The first event is our Car Show and DJ event. The "plan" is to host bigger events that draw people beyond our church family from the community and in turn will be supported with more food trucks. If you'd like to be a part of the *task force* for the February 9 event, and the next three Food Truck Café events in 2018, contact Kim Ogle (297-2062 or [kim@umcstmarks.org](mailto:kim@umcstmarks.org)).

## Kathy Troccoli CONCERT



This Sunday, Jan. 21, 6:30 p.m.,  
Sanctuary. Doors open at 5:45 p.m.

**Comfort by Candlelight**  
a performance by Christian artist Kathy  
Troccoli that will bring encouragement,  
hope, truth, and love!

## Market On The Move, Coming to St Mark's!

On Saturday, February 3, St. Mark's will host **Market On The Move** which is the newest location for Market on the Move through Borderlands Food Bank, who disperses fresh produce. ANYONE can donate \$10 and shop for 60 lbs. of produce, to use, share with family, friends, and neighbors. Waste not, want not.



**Get involved!** The Missions

Committee need volunteers that day, starting at 6:30 a.m., to help set up and organize the produce. Then between 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. to help shoppers, and for cleanup at 11:00 a.m. Sign up now on the opposite side of Adult Spiritual Growth message board or contact Lenna Burnham (see directory).

# **STATE-OF-THE-CHURCH Message from Rev. Sharon Ragland**

**Part 1, January 16, 2018**

"It seems like things are really joyful and moving ahead at our church." I heard a comment similar to this, twice last week. One person followed the comment up with, "How IS our church doing?" As I did in 2017, I'm going to share some information and perspectives about these comments and questions in Messenger articles in the first quarter of 2018. Because our church staff is such an important part of the joy and growth of our church, I'm going to start with the staff changes that took place in 2017.

## **Communications and Outreach Coordinator – Sallyann Wassmuth**

began this position on an interim basis in January, 2017, and was employed permanently in April, as Kayla Ruiz decided to stay home with her children when her maternity leave ended. Sandi Heilman held this position till her retirement in 2015, and led our church in reaching out to the community, and communicating our message through the church sign, printed materials, and the beginnings of social media. Kayla helped us continue to grow into using social media and began work on our new Welcome Brochure. Sallyann, working 30 hours per week, is leading us in new directions with social media, marketing, print media (such as the reformatted Messenger) and other forms of communications and outreach. I'm very grateful to past leaders, to Sallyann for jumping in and using her many skills to help us inform and reach people. Communicating our message well, inviting and welcoming people, is key to helping us address our main priority – reaching new people in all ages and stages of life, with an emphasis on younger people.



## **State-of-the-Church REPORT**

**Music Ministries Coordinator – Susan Putt** began this 15-hour-per-week position in May, 2017. Most churches our size have someone who not only coordinates the music ministries, but also helps lead into new opportunities and directions. All our church's excellent music ministries help us worship and honor God, and give people opportunities to serve and connect with others and God's love. Susan is coordinating schedules and needs, has already guided us in hiring a new Praise Team Percussionist and Children's Music Leader, and has initiated and coordinated new programs, such as the Comfort by Candlelight concert on Jan. 21. Her leadership and hard work is already bearing fruit and is much appreciated.

**Christian Formation Coordinator, Children and Adults – Margaret Synhorst** had been serving as the chairperson of the Adult Spiritual Growth Committee, and willingly came into this position on an interim basis when Greg Poling resigned in May. In December, Margaret was permanently employed 27 hours per week in this position. Her first task in June was to lead almost 100 children in a week-long Vacation Bible School! Great things moved on from there, including the development of a wide variety of classes and spiritual growth opportunities for adults, while guiding the children's Sunday School and special programs. Margaret brings exceptional skills and enthusiasm to this vital position.

**Praise Team Percussionist – In September, Mike Brennan** brought his drumming skills to the Praise Team for the Gathering. His abilities and joyful, easy-going manner have helped fill the void left when Carli Ogle went to medical school. Carli held this position for many years, adding her commitment and energy to worship.

**Children's Music Leader – April DuBoce** began working with our Sunday School children in September, and led them in singing twice in worship, including at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Children's music will take some new directions in 2018 – watch for updates. April brings great skill and passion to this work; Carli Ogle also held this position, assisting for many years, and leading the children's music in the 2016-2017 school year.

**Common Grounds Coordinator –** In November, 2016, **Rachel Mosher** began working on our staff as Youth Ministry Assistant. When it became clear in early 2017 that we needed someone to provide direction and vision for our ministries with people in the general age range of 25-45 years, Rachel was invited to take on that work for 10 hours per week. Funded by our Endowment Committee from May-December, 2017, Rachel's great work in providing classes and fellowship opportunities for these people has led us to fund this position in our 2018 budget.

Remember, St. Mark's mission statement is "**Changing the world through Christ, by caring for all people.**" All our staff lead us forward in this, with deep faith and a strong commitment to sharing God's love in Jesus Christ.

# Stewardship Campaign Update

Campaign Year	Commitment Cards Returned	Pledge Dollars	Average Dollars per Commitment Card
2018	340	\$908,218	\$2,671
2017	363	\$906,042	\$2,496
Year-to-Year Variance	(23)	+\$2,176	+\$175

As you can see, we are ahead by \$2,176, but behind by 23 Commitment Cards versus 2017. However, our Average Dollars per Commitment Card increased to \$2,671, up \$175 Year-to-Year, as constituents were *called to action*. **THANK YOU FOR THE ONGOING GENEROSITY!**

You may ask, "Why is it important to receive more commitment cards since our pledge dollars are above last year?" The answer – A number of our committees submitted their 2018 budget requests for additional items based on current needs AND anticipated future requirements for their programs and ministries. These requests are approximately \$35,000 beyond previous budgets. Consequently, if a substantial number of commitment cards are not received, the Finance Committee will have little choice but to decline these requests and/or make other budget cuts to ensure our operations remain within the projected income plan for 2018.



AND anticipated future requirements for their programs and ministries. These requests are approximately \$35,000 beyond previous budgets. Consequently, if a substantial number of commitment cards are not received, the Finance Committee will have little choice but to decline these requests and/or make other budget cuts to ensure our operations remain within the projected income plan for 2018.

So, if you haven't already completed and submitted your commitment card, please consider doing so to help us not only plan for the future but be prepared for it. Commitment cards are available in pew racks, in the church office, or by going online to St. Mark's website at [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org). If it is easier for you, don't hesitate to contact Ruth Kester, St. Mark's Bookkeeper (520-297-2062). She will be happy to take your pledge over the telephone!

## News From Our Early Childhood Center

### 2017 Tax Credit Donation St. Mark's Early Childhood Center

Your generous tax credit donations allowed many of our Kindergarten students to attend St. Mark's Early Childhood Center's excellent education program at a discounted rate and/or tuition-free! By making a tax credit donation for 2017, you can receive dollar-for-dollar credit on your Arizona State Income Taxes.

Please consider making a tax credit donation to help our 2018/2019 students. Visit [www.iescholarships.org](http://www.iescholarships.org) to make your tax credit donation or you may pick up a donation brochure and envelope from the Early Childhood Center office. You may also call the school office (797-2925) for more information.

Tax credits for the 2017 tax year can be made any time until April 15, 2018, or when you file your 2017 Arizona tax return, whichever date is earlier. Thank you for supporting a great education!

*Rummage*  
**SALE**



**ECC RUMMAGE SALE**  
**Saturday, Jan., 27**  
**7 - 11:00 a.m.**  
**Fellowship Hall**

Be sure to stop by Fellowship Hall and browse the bargains. All proceeds help support the Early Childhood Center.

## Register Now, There's Something For Everyone

The Adult Spiritual Growth Committee has just what you need for the next steps of your spiritual growth journey. You will find new opportunities, and a wide range of possibilities, including small group experiences that support Pastor Sharon's sermon series *Connecting to Creation*. [Learn more](#) about all the opportunities by browsing a list of classes from the website at [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org) and register online after you've made your choices. A sign-up sheet will also be posted on the Adult Spiritual Growth bulletin board in the courtyard, or you may call the church office (297-2062) for more information.



# Walk To Emmaus Weekend

Have you given any thought to attending a Walk to Emmaus weekend? Please do, give it some thought!



**What is it?** An ecumenical, three-day, spiritual retreat with other seekers to focus on growing as individual Christians in understanding the faith and your relationship to Christ, always in context of a Christian community. It's a gift to yourself!

Sponsored by **The Upper Room** under the National Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church.

**When, Where?** Two weekends will be held in Tucson this spring:

**Men's Walk: April 5 - 8, 2018**

**Women's Walk: April 12 - 15, 2018**

Thursday evening until early evening Sunday. Both groups will take place at Christ Presbyterian Church, 6565 E. Broadway Blvd., in Tucson.

**Who?** Over seventy men and women from St. Mark's have attended a weekend, including members and non-members and seven clergy. Weekends are held across the US, so we have a broad representation of experiences. Adults of all ages have attended. Accommodations for any special need(s) are lovingly, and skillfully provided.

**Why?** To completely get away—to just focus on God's love for you. To own that personal knowledge and to take that love to your church and to others.

**How?** Come, ask any questions you have about the weekends. Talk to St. Mark's men and women who have attended a weekend. Pick up an application and information to read and ponder. Two information sessions will be held at St. Mark's this month.

**Sunday, Jan. 28, between services, Rm 23**

**Thursday, Feb. 1, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Rm 23**

## **IMPORTANT INFO — for those who have an application**

If you have already picked up an application, you should also attend a session and hear specifics. You may also want to explore the website [www.azemmaus.org](http://www.azemmaus.org).

**Deadline.** You need to apply for either weekend before the February 15 deadline! So it is time to ask questions, explore, and pray about it. Are you being called to go? Then let it be known to St. Mark's Emmaus Community that you are interested!

**Contacts.** If you have questions before the information sessions, please contact Charlotte Bowers, Mark Hrabe, or Art Ragland (see directory).

## **Love Kids?**

### **Looking for a way to serve our community?**



Here is an exciting opportunity for you! For many years, Nash Neighbors Ministry has provided needed and meaningful assistance to teachers, staff, and families at Nash Elementary School. One way we help is to provide committed volunteers in the classrooms. We currently have a dozen or more members volunteering with teachers. Two more teachers have just requested a volunteer for their class. Could one be you?

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Sue Pierce (see directory) right away.

## **New Lenten Study**

**Embracing the Uncertain: A Lenten Study for Unsteady Times.** Just turning on the news lets us know that we are living in uncertain times. Economic instabilities, eruptions of violence, and natural catastrophes can alter the lives and landscapes of entire communities. Our individual lives are often just as unsteady: relationships can break, plans can falter, and confidence can fail. Uncertainty can definitely be uncomfortable. Many of us prefer stability and a predictable future to an unknown fate. We are wired to want to control our destiny.

The reality is that in our fast-changing, unpredictable world there are few guarantees in life. It's those who are willing to embrace uncertainty and make the risky decision to follow Jesus despite the many "unknowns" who will reap the greatest rewards.

**Embracing the Uncertain** invites readers this Lent to engage and wrestle with life's uncertainties, not ignore them. The first six chapters focus on six post-Transfiguration, pre-Passion stories in the Gospels. Each of these stories are signposts in the gospel narrative, pointing down at a world filled with uncertainty, but pointing us forward to a cross that can show us how to follow Jesus with courage, hope, and obedience. Information about the class schedule will be announced in the next *Messenger*.

## **Christian Persecution**

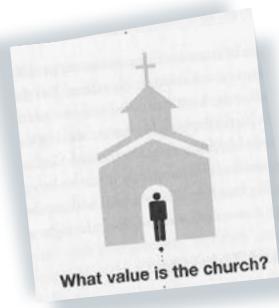
Another new class offered during Lent, **Christian Persecution In Today's World**, will help you understand the essence and magnitude of Christian persecution throughout our world. Many people suffer every day in the name of Christ. Come learn about it and what you can do about it. Beginning Monday, March 5, (4 sessions) 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Conf. Rm.

## CHURCHLESS

**Churchless** is the title of the Barna Group book that will be the center of the **Open Minds Book Study** on Friday, Jan. 26, 9:30 a.m. in the St. Mark's Library. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

**Churchless** presents the startling trends revealed by two decades of interviews with churchless men and women. The discussion will focus on the deeper spiritual realities that are causing men and women to NOT be part of a church. So, what value is the church? We will address ways to build trust-based relationships that might make a difference.

This book gives us an opportunity to read something of a different nature while still being very pertinent to the life-situations around us. We invite you to come and be part of the discussion led by Todd and Tyger Penson. If you have questions, please call them (see directory).



## Fair Trade Coffee Sale

This Sunday, Jan. 21, St. Mark's Agua Prieta Task Force will again sell one-pound bags of 100% Arabica, fair-trade, organic coffee. Look for our table in the courtyard between services or contact Jay Suchland (see directory), if you have questions. The following selection of coffees will be available for \$10 per bag:

### Medium Roast:

Regular or decaf, ground and whole beans

### Dark Roast:

Regular or decaf, ground and whole beans

All proceeds go to Cafe la Colonia, who produces this wonderful coffee. Cafe la Colonia is a small business run by members of the Fuente de Vida church in Agua Prieta, Mexico (across the border from Douglas, AZ). Fuente de Vida (Methodist) Church has been a longstanding mission project of St. Mark's and several other churches in the Desert Southwest Conference.



## New Year - New Ways to Serve!

### Altar flowers

Altar flowers are donated each week with a dedication in the bulletin announcements. If you are interested in honoring a special occasion or remembering a loved one, please take this opportunity to get on the 2018 calendar now available in the narthex; please look for the board labeled Volunteer Opportunities. Contact Pat Adams (see directory) with questions.



### Primavera Meals



Each month, on the second and fifth Saturdays, St. Mark's has committed to serving dinner at the Primavera Men's Shelter. This is an opportunity for your family or group of friends to come together to plan, purchase, prepare, and serve this meal for approx. 100 men. If you are interested in serving in this way of taking Christ into the world in 2018, please look for the brown board labeled Volunteer Opportunities in the narthex. Contact the church office (297-2062) with questions.

### Soul Station

Soul Station is our Wednesday night casual worship with a focus on fellowship. We begin this service with a meal furnished by St. Mark's (potluck on the last Wednesday of the month). We ask for volunteers to assist in planning, purchasing, preparing, and serving each week. This is another opportunity for your family or group to serve in 2018. Please consider signing up on the Volunteer Opportunities board in the narthex. Clara Campbell (297-6669) will answer any questions regarding budget and menus; Clara will also handle setup.



# WASS UP?

January 16, 2018

Volume 19, Issue 1



## UPCOMING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

**January 21, 2018—**

4:00 to 6:00

Youth Mission at the  
Animal Shelter

**January 28, 2018—**

Gem Show  
Times tbd



**February 4, 2018—**

Souper Bowl collection after  
worship services  
3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



**Super Bowl Party**  
@ Catalina UMC

## 2018 GEM SHOW

Did you know that the theme in worship for 2018 is "Connecting to God and One Another"? The first part of the worship series has to do with God and Creation. Pastor Sharon has inspired us to take a closer look at God's amazing creation.

We don't know the time, yet, but we plan to go to the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show on the 28th. What better place to see awe-inspiring pieces of nature than right here in Tucson?

## Super Bowl Party

Catalina UMC is hosting the District Youth Super Bowl party, again this year.

The football game will be projected on the biggest screen in the district. There will be lots of food, alternative entertainment, and good friends.

Meet at the Wesley House at 3:30. FRIENDS ARE WELCOME!

a note from the

# YOUTH DIRECTOR

Wow! the Winter Retreat over MLK weekend was great. Some of us skied while others of us slid on the snow with giant tubes. At the Camp, we sailed down the zip-line, swung from a giant 3-person swing, shot arrows, and drove RC cars. There was lots of good food, games, fun worship and, more importantly, miles of good Christian fellowship.

I really love that trip. Every year, I look forward to all of the above, while, every year, God has graced us with safe travels, and a break from the routine. He also graced us with Vince Adkins and Don Booth who helped chaperone.

Blessings,  
Kim



Sierra Service Project

## SSP MEETING Feb. 4, 3:00

We are registered for SSP at the San Diego site, July 08 - Jul 14, 2018. Traditionally, a few extra days are added to the excursion for our fun trip. Those dates and activities will be determined at the February 4th meeting. Meet in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Kim with questions.

## Middle School Moments

Fear is a funny thing, isn't it? It can completely consume you. When I was little, I was a total daredevil. I wasn't afraid of anything (sorry Mom!). As I've gotten older, though, things changed. I'm terrified of heights. Not just nervous. Absolutely terrified! I love my feet on the solid ground, thank-you-very-much. This year, on the Winter Retreat, I did something I never would have imagined that I would do. I rode in a giant swing.



They pull you up higher than a two story house, and then LET YOU GO! I took one look and said "nope. Not for me". But you know what? I overcame that fear. I climbed up, strapped in and away I went. Let me tell you—it was AWESOME. Not easy, but awesome.

What is something you fear? Something that makes you just say "no way". Try it. See how awesome it is with God cheering you on to overcome that scary feeling.

See you Sunday!  
Rachel

# HOLD THESE PEOPLE IN PRAYER!

## Hospital:

Marlene Anderson  
Del Long  
Ray Loughney  
Jim Stauffacher  
Jim Ward

## Rehab or Care Facilities:

Patricia Keele  
Harold Mull  
Howard Russell  
Earlene Schock  
Louise Voelker

## Hospice Care:

Judy Mitzenburg  
Tom Walker  
Yvonne Yare

## Undergoing Treatment at Home:

Jude Anderson  
Jared Bowman  
Judy Drescher  
Breanne Hallam  
Megan Krzmarzick  
Karen Linebarier  
Dell Long  
Ruth Machley  
Marian Shultis  
Lona Stauffacher  
Don Watt  
Connie White  
Lindsey Williams  
Dave Webster

## Recovering at Home:

Gail Blevins  
Donald Chester  
Joe Gibson  
Harmon Harrison  
Hazel Roberts  
Gail Underwood

## PRAYER CORNER

We are a praying community at St. Mark's.

Besides Sunday worship, you may submit a prayer request by email [prayerchain@umcstmarks.org](mailto:prayerchain@umcstmarks.org) or from our website at [www.umcstmarks.org/contact-us-prayer-request.php](http://umcstmarks.org/contact-us-prayer-request.php).

Also, visit our Prayer Room on campus and leave a prayer on our prayer wall.



**St. Mark's Messenger**  
Published bi-weekly

St. Mark's UMC  
1431 W. Magee Road  
Tucson, AZ 85704  
(520) 297-2062  
Fax: (520) 297-1058

Email:  
[info@umcstmarks.org](mailto:info@umcstmarks.org)  
Website:  
[www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org)

Senior Pastor:  
Rev. Sharon Ragland  
Associate Pastor:  
Rev. Tammy Hallam

Sunday Worship:  
8:15, 9:45, 11:15 a.m.

**Soul Station**  
Wednesday Nights:  
Community Meal  
5:45 p.m.  
Music/Programs  
6:15-7:15 p.m.

## LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY ...

Please keep these people in your prayers.  
Email additions or updates to [messenger@umcstmarks.org](mailto:messenger@umcstmarks.org).



MOMS of Military is a prayer and support group for mothers, wives, sisters, aunts, daughters, and friends of loved ones currently serving in the military. The group meets on the **1st and 3rd Thursday** of the month in the church Library from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. For information contact Nancy Bautzmann (248-5814).

**Hank Bautzmann**, son of Nancy Bautzmann  
**Jon Chytka**, nephew of Roger & Donna Severson  
**Zachary Dojaquez**, grandson of Roger & Donna Severson  
**Brandonn Eto**, friend of Zirnheld/Compernolle family  
**Rob Eubank**, son of David & Johanna Eubank  
**Mike Freeman**, son of Ken & Ann Freeman  
**Garrett Geer**, grandson of Ellen Wise  
**Patrick Harris**, grandson of Marilyn Vaughn  
**Matthew Hughey**, son of Juliee & Billy Morrison and grandson of Joyce Flick  
**Rachel Kester**, daughter of Don & Ruth Kester  
**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  
**Adam Seia**, son of David & Vonda Seia  
**Jason Smith**, grandson of Jerry & Judy Smith  
**Alex Snow**, brother of Shelley Shelton  
**Clint Staschke**, son-in-law of Cliff & June Young  
**Michael and Karisa Szczygiel**, daughter and son-in-law of Joyce Flick  
**Brianna Walker**, granddaughter of Barbara Fradenburgh; niece of Joan Fradenburgh

# Calendar Notes

## Thurs., Jan. 18

6:30 p.m. MOMS Military Support Grp, Library

## Sun., Jan. 21

4:00 p.m. Preteens and Youth Group meetings  
6:30 p.m. Kathy Troccoli Concert, Sanctuary

## Mon., Jan. 22

9:15 a.m. Just Breathe Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall

## Tues., Jan. 23

5:30 p.m. Leadership Training, Fellowship Hall  
7:00 p.m. Covenant Council, Fellowship Hall

## Wed., Jan. 24

10:30 a.m. Chronic Illness Support Grp, Library  
5:45 p.m. Community Meal, Fellowship Hall  
6:15 p.m. Soul Station  
6:15 p.m. Common Grounds

## Thurs., Jan. 25

12:00 noon - **Messenger** deadline  
6:00 p.m. Technology Meeting, Library

## Fri., Jan. 26

9:30 a.m. Open Minds Book Study, Library

## Sat. Jan. 27

7:00 a.m. ECC RUMMAGE Sale, Fellowship Hall

## Sun., Jan. 28

11:00 a.m. Exploring Membership  
4:00 p.m. Preteens and Youth Group meetings

## Mon., Jan. 29

9:00 a.m. Holy Yoga, Fellowship Hall



## Dear Church Family...

We have received the money for the ProPresenter App. to begin our media ministry at our church. Thank you so much for your kindness. Tell your church that we appreciate all your generosity. We will be running the system next week as we start our media ministry with our youth.

*Agua Prieta*

I want to thank everyone who helps me setup and clean up for Soul Station. I am chief cook and bottle-washer, most of the time, so all the help cutting chicken, grapes, preparing salad, or going after pizza is truly appreciated. Thank you so very much! It would be very nice if more people would sign up to cook dinner. They like everything!

*Thank you Soul Station family, Clara*

## January at Soul Station

During the month of January at Soul Station, we have several community organizations that partner with St. Mark's coming to share how they serve those that need an extra hand-up and support. One way that Christ's church makes an impact is by reaching out and showing the concern and love of God. By partnering with these organizations, we truly do become the presence of Christ in our world. We look forward to hearing about just how that is happening. Come and bring a friend to hear about how St. Mark's is **"Changing the world through Christ, by caring for all people."**

If you would like information about how your support makes all of this possible or if you have questions about our missions outreach, you can contact Pat Kittrell the chair of St. Mark's Missions Committee.

Here's the balance of the schedule for January:

### **Jan. 17: Kairos:**

Doug Bowers will discuss the exciting ministry that takes the Walk to Emmaus behind bars, in our prison system.

### **Jan. 24: Emerge:**

Domestic Violence shelter for women and children will share how our support helps families gain a new future.

### **Jan. 31: Teen Challenge:**

Teen Challenge representatives will share information about their **Springboard Home** and how this faith-based residential program helps young women in crisis.





1431 W. Magee Road, Tucson AZ 85704-2116

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
TUCSON, ARIZONA  
NO. 454

**Address Service Requested**

---

If you would like to receive the **Messenger** electronically, and discontinue your paper copy, please submit a request to [messenger@umcstmarks.org](mailto:messenger@umcstmarks.org).

## Reflections from our Pastor

*Be sure to see page two of this newsletter to read Pastor Sharon's message on the STATE-OF-THE-CHURCH, Part 1.*



*2018 WORSHIP THEME  
“Connecting to God and One Another”*

Five-week Sermon Series - **Connecting to Creation**  
(Jan. 14 - Feb. 11, 2018)

- January 21: **Creation... Small Things**
- January 28: **God's Creatures as Gifts**
- February 4: **Embody... Holy and Beloved**
- February 11: **Connected Bodies**