

# Messenger

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

St. Mark's  
United Methodist

## Coming Soon In Worship...

### Sunday, Nov. 19, – Act-ion Figures ...

The Sunday before Thanksgiving, we will hear the story of Priscilla and Aquila, who worked alongside Paul in Acts 18. The choir from Temple Emanu-El will join our Chancel Choir at 8:15 a.m. along with the St. Mark's Bells, the Celebration Singers at 9:45 a.m., then at 11:15 a.m. they join our Praise Team at *The Gathering*.

### Wednesday, Nov. 22, – Thanksgiving Eve

Walk the stations of the cross as an act of thanksgiving to God with meditation and hymn singing. Worship with us at 6:30 p.m. in our Sanctuary, with Holy Communion. Join us for a meal at Soul Station at 5:45 p.m.

### Sunday, Nov. 26, – Act-ion Figures Wrap Up

We'll close out the church year, and prepare for Advent. Our Finance Committee will provide cake on the patio as a **thank you** for the commitments made to our **Called to Action** 2018 Stewardship Campaign.

### Sunday, Dec. 3, – Advent Begins!

Advent is the time of preparation for Christ's coming at Christmas. This year the Sundays in Advent are December 3, 10, 17, and 24. Yes, the fourth Sunday of Advent is Christmas Eve. Watch for information about the December 24, worship schedule.

### Sunday, Dec. 10, – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Plus, our Annual Community Carol Sing, at 3:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary. Led by our Choirs.

This year's Advent theme is "Questions of Christmas." We'll look at some of the Christmas Story characters and their questions, and how they grow in their faith. We'll meet Zechariah, Elizabeth, Mary, and the shepherds on our journey toward the manger, as we get ready for Christ to come, once again, into our hearts and lives.

Blessings, Pastor Sharon



## Commitment Sunday - Nov. 19



I think most of us view ourselves as ordinary people. Regardless of our current or past achievements, whether in our personal lives, or our professional lives, most people don't consider themselves extraordinary. Even if someone's achievements warrant that view they are reluctant, if not completely unwilling, to view themselves as extraordinary. Regardless of our view of ourselves, it is certainly true that no matter how "ordinary" we may view ourselves, we can, as God's people, achieve extraordinary things together!

Through our 2018, Stewardship Campaign, **Called to Action**, we have learned from the videos shown each

Sunday, stories of ordinary people, who through Jesus' example, accomplished extraordinary things. The theme of the campaign is **Turning an Upside Down World Right Side Up**. We can, as a congregation, do exactly that by prayerfully considering the gifts we receive from God, and what we can do to build God's kingdom on earth. Please take a few moments to consider what you are able to give, over the next year, to support our church because we have truly been **Called to Action**.

On Commitment Sunday, Nov. 19, our **Called to Action** pledge cards will be dedicated as part of the worship service. So please attend service on Commitment Sunday, and join others in pledging your support for the church's programs and activities for the upcoming year. If you prefer, you can also pledge and give online by going to [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org) or by calling Ruth Kester (520-297-2062) in the church office.

By pledging your support of St. Mark's, and its programs, we will be joining others who are **Called to Action** in our effort to "turn an upside down world right side up."

Paul Willman, Finance Committee

# Thanksgiving Offering

## Helps Christian Women in Egypt

2017 has brought brutal attacks in Egypt on Christians by extremists. Attacks have occurred in the northern Sinai which included burning of Christian houses and residents. Islamic State issued a video promising to step up attacks on Christians. In May, 2017, terrorists stopped two buses of Coptic Christians and shot many of the occupants, killing 28, and wounding 23. This brought the number of Christians killed from Jan. to May 2017, to one hundred.

Often, Christian families suffer a double tragedy, because those Christians who are killed are the male head of households and are the breadwinners for the families. Many Christian women are not literate and lack job skills to support their children.

A part of this year's Thanksgiving offering will go to projects to support Christian women in Egypt operated by **Open**

**Doors USA**, which is affiliated with the United Methodist Church. The designated project is in Egypt which is one of the six focus countries of St. Mark's Christian Persecution Task Force, and operates a wide variety of programs for women, including literacy classes, discipleship groups, and training seminars for teachers.

Please consider the plight of our Christian sisters in Egypt as you pray over your Thanksgiving offering.

**Prayer:** *Dear Lord, please touch the hearts and minds of all of us blessed Christians in Tucson and the U.S. so that we may support our Christian brothers and sisters in Egypt, who have been attacked for their faith in you.*

If you would like more information about persecuted Christians, or to join St. Mark's Christian Persecution Task Force, email us ([christianpersecutiontaskforce@gmail.com](mailto:christianpersecutiontaskforce@gmail.com)) or drop us a note at the church office.

**St. Marks Christian Persecution Task Force**

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## Making My Choice To Go On My Own Journey To Emmaus

I was raised in a Christian home, active in youth fellowship, choir, summer camps, and I walked the Christian "line." As adults, working in Michigan, we couldn't find a fit with the Methodist Church, so we joined the Presbyterian Church and were equally active there. As author Richard Rohr, in **Falling Upward** would say, I spent all those years building my "Christian container," a necessary step.

Yet, I felt "unfilled," undernourished, fairly hollow, theologically speaking. I needed more, but as a working wife, and mother, I had little time to ponder this, much less do anything about it — if I had even known what to do.

I had never heard the word RELATIONSHIP, much less AGAPE. My hunger and thirst for MORE increased. But, I still couldn't grow my commitment and my relationship with God. Desire was there, yes, but not time because I was so distracted by the need to take care of "stuff" in my busy life. My faith was on the back burner.

At St. Mark's, a few years ago, I was invited to attend Emmaus. I couldn't do it then, but I now knew there was a way, and I knew I was going nowhere without some intentional movement on my part.

Finally in 2016, I attended Walk 240 here in Tucson, with two other ladies from St. Mark's. We were sponsored and supported by others who had gone before us, and they

answered our questions, drove us to the site, and were there at our closing program — a significant commitment on their parts. Because I knew and trusted these friends, it was comforting for them to be behind me, and it was easier to go.

There was worship, and speakers, but for me the most wonderful opportunity was NO DISTRACTIONS — no clocks, no electronics, a wonderful gift. While there was no pressure of any kind, it was a chance to open the doors to my heart and brain (that's important, too), and let God enter, filling my void. It was just God and me. Indeed, God came and filled my soul, residing there still. Rohr would say that I am finally "filling my Christian container" with substance.

There's more. Back here at St. Mark's, I was invited by former attendees to form a small group which meets to support one another. I have come to feel God with me much of the time, and I "chat" with Him several times a day, if only to thank Him for His presence and His love. And yes, I now better understand Grace — and unconditional love. I realized I've experienced Agape and never knew. I now live with an internal peace and assurance I have never known before. But I know my journey will continue the rest of my life, and I welcome it. Thank you, God.

*Kathie Barrett*

If you want to know more about the Walk to Emmaus weekends contact Charlotte Bowers, Mark Hrabe, or Art Ragland (see directory).



# HIV/AIDS Ministry

## Family Day

Did you see the Christmas tree in the courtyard last Sunday filled with paper ornaments? **Family Day** is a collaborative effort between Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) and Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) to give women, and men, living with HIV and their families the opportunity to experience holiday magic. Parents, or grandparents, get to select gifts for their children that are then wrapped and tagged to keep the gifts a secret until Christmas, Dec. 25.



The event features crafts and games, a yummy lunch, and photos with Santa. Please take an ornament, or two from the tree, for a girl or boy (age ranges are on the tag), purchase a gift, or a gift card, (no religious messages or images, please) and return it to St. Mark's on Sunday, Nov. 26. Since many folks are away for the Thanksgiving weekend, gifts will be accepted during the last week of November. Don't forget to pick up the flyer with many gift suggestions. Last year, St. Mark's donated 60+ gifts or gift cards for this fun, holiday party. Maybe we will top that number for our 2017 giving! THANK YOU for trying!!

## St. Mark's to Host POZ Cafe

St. Mark's is hosting POZ Cafe on Thursday, Nov. 16, along with St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church, and Water of Life Metropolitan Church of Christ. This is a TIHAN luncheon with a social-hour program that happens every month and is held at St. Francis in the Foothills UMC.

Each local faith community sends five or six congregation volunteers to prepare, and serve, lunch and share in the social activities. POZ Cafe is a way to enhance good health through friendship, fellowship, and nutrition. The toiletry items that you donate throughout the year help fill CarePackages that are distributed to TIHAN clients at POZ Cafe, or at the TIHAN office.

The CarePackages are decorated by Mary Wald and her group of crafty women and men. This is our St. Mark's group that uses old calendars for decorations. So donate your old calendars to the HIV/AIDS Ministry box on the big cart in the courtyard, AS WELL as any new calendars, that you won't be using for 2018. New calendars are available to TIHAN clients at POZ and in the church office. As a reminder, you donated 100 boxes of tissues, 100 containers of dish detergent, 100 tubes of toothpaste, 100+ toothbrushes, and 100 bars of soap - Woo hoo! Thank you for your faithfulness to this mission project.

## All-Church Advent Workshop

Saturday, Nov. 18, 9 a.m. - Noon

*Come and go, or come and stay!*

We gather as a church family to prepare for the Advent season. Join us for crafts, missions work, Bible dramas, and cookies! There will be plenty of activities to choose from.



## Sidewalk Sunday School

Again this year, we will collect gift bags for under-privileged children, and gift cards for teenagers. Sidewalk Sunday School is a conference-wide project, during Christmas time, which provides holiday gifts to the less fortunate. It is often the only time that these children, and young people, will receive a gift, and hear the Christmas Story.

Empty gift bags will be distributed on Sunday, Nov. 19, for you to fill or you may use your own bag (approximately 12" x 15"). You may choose the age group, and gender of the gift bag recipient. All gift cards must be either Walmart or Target and the value of each card must be \$20.

Look for the four-foot Christmas tree, in the courtyard, starting Nov 19. The bags, tags, and directions will be available there. Return your filled bag to the Christmas tree on Sundays, or drop it off at the office. The deadline for giving is Friday, Dec. 15. By the way, we will need lots of help to check the bags that day (Friday, Dec. 15, 9:00 a.m. – noon), in Fellowship Hall. Please call me if you can help (see directory). I will bring the doughnuts!

I hope the generous congregation of St. Mark's will again participate in Sidewalk Sunday School and provide a memorable holiday for children.

*Thank you, Ellen Beene*

## Red Cross Blood Drive!

Sunday, Dec. 3, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall. To make an appointment, please call Marilyn Vaughn, or Martha Lundgren (see directory).



# Counselor-in-Residence

Have you met our Counselor-in-Residence?

This is the second installment of Lane Harmon’s conversation with Martha Lundgren about St. Mark’s Counselor-in-Residence (CIR) Program.

**Martha:** What attracted you to practicing within a faith community?

**Lane:** I have always believed strongly that healing comes from attending to the mind, emotion, body, and spirit. We humans are best served when an integrative approach is considered. I have always appreciated St. Mark’s recognition that our psychological health enhances our faith journey and our faith journey enhances our psychological health and wellbeing. St. Mark’s commitment to this program has helped people feel a sense of safety and compassion seeking help and I have felt honored to support the vision.

**Martha:** How long have you been our Counselor-in-Residence?

**Lane:** I started serving the St. Mark’s community about twenty years ago, when I began facilitating a weekly grief support group. Did you know we have had an ongoing grief support group here for twenty years? That means there has always been a safe and healing place available for people experiencing loss for both the St. Mark’s and Tucson communities. The grief support group was how I was introduced to the St. Mark’s community and from there I started to provide individual and couples therapy at my office at the Wesley House. I am not on staff at St. Mark’s and am in private practice.

**Martha:** Our conversation will continue in the next issue of the *Messenger*. In the meantime, there’s more information on our CIR program on the St. Mark’s website, or you may contact Lane Harman (520-297-6228).

## Volunteers NEEDED!



St. Mark’s UMW *Grace Circle* will meet Tuesday, Nov. 21, at 9:15 a.m. in the church Library. We will carpool to the Marana Food Bank to provide assistance. Donations of canned or dry goods are appreciated.

All women of the church are invited. You do not have to be a member of St. Mark’s United Methodist Women, or St. Mark’s United Methodist Church, or any church to attend. If you have questions, contact Anita Winslow (see directory).

## Advent Study



Our *Advent Study* this year will be *Five Questions of Christmas* by Rob Burkhart. The sermons will be based on chapters of the book, and there will be several discussion groups available. Sign up begins Sunday, Nov. 19, in the courtyard, or online at [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org).

*Advent Study*

## Fair-Trade Coffee Sale

Please, mark your calendars! St. Mark’s Agua Prieta Task Force will sell one-pound bags of 100% Arabica, fair-trade, organic coffee on Sunday, Dec. 3. Consider buying some for Christmas gift-giving, or for yourself!



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. The Fuente de Vida (Methodist) Church has been a long-standing mission project of St. Mark’s UMC, and several other churches in the Desert Southwest Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Look for our table in the courtyard on Sunday, Dec. 3, or contact Jay Suchland (see directory), if you have questions.

## Adult Spiritual Growth

Faith is a journey!

### It’s coming!

Look for the next brochure of the various spring Adult Spiritual Growth opportunities to continue your faith journey.

Information will be in the next *Messenger*, and in the Dec. 3, weekly bulletin. Get ready to take your next steps in the journey of faith.

# St. Mark's Church Safety Ministry

Several months ago, we decided to move forward with a Safety Ministry for St. Mark's. It is still in its initial stages of development, but we are looking for a group of volunteers, with specific skill sets, to serve the Lord by maintaining a safe and secure environment for worship, prayer, and study.

If you have the skills, experience, or interest to serve, or if you have questions about this Safety Ministry, please contact John Shattuck, church Safety Team Coordinator (see directory), or Pastor Tammy ([tammy@umcstmarks.org](mailto:tammy@umcstmarks.org)). Also, watch for more details about a meeting date, and time to help you decide if you'd like to participate and how you feel you could best contribute your time and effort.



At this time, our focus will be on four key areas. Following are the basic concepts of each Safety Ministry Team.

## 1 MEDICAL RESPONSE TEAM

Their role is to provide basic support until EMT arrives. They will meet with EMT personnel to obtain their suggestions to eliminate exposures. The medical response team is valuable because they can help people immediately, but they do not take the place of full-fledged, professional medical care. People with medical experience, CPR certification, EMT's, first responders, and those interested in participating in this ministry would be a good volunteer.

## 2 FIRE and SAFETY RESPONSE TEAM

**A. FIRE** — Their role will be to meet with fire department personnel and use a list of audit items to ensure fire safety and evacuation procedures are followed, and develop additional processes as required. People with experience in fire or safety, first responders, or anyone interested in participating in this ministry would be a good volunteer.

**B. FACILITIES RESPONSE TEAM** — Their role is to use best practices documentation to identify preventable hazards with emphasis on the external grounds and lighting, internal building areas, and water intrusion from clogged gutters or downspouts, parking lot safety, walkways, key management, and control. People who are familiar with facilities management, facilities maintenance, facilities construction, and can follow a check-list to ensure that our facilities are safe, and secure, or anyone interested in participating in this ministry would be a good volunteer.

## 3 CHILDREN and VULNERABLE ADULTS

These volunteers will meet with appropriate agencies, and subject-matter experts, to obtain their ideas and to receive training to use appropriate methods. They will develop procedures to identify and eliminate potential problems with children and vulnerable adults. People with previous experience working with children, adolescents, vulnerable adults, or anyone who is interested in participating in this ministry would be a good volunteer.

## 4 DISRUPTIVE PERSONS

These volunteers will meet with law enforcement personnel to obtain their ideas and to receive training to use appropriate methods, which help them identify and eliminate potential disruptive situations before they occur and de-escalate a disruptive situation to a peaceful ending. People with law enforcement, or military experience, first responders, as well as skills in self-defense, counseling, and negotiating, or anyone interested in participating in this ministry would be a good volunteer.

*John Shattuck, Safety Team Coordinator*



## Cookies and Crafts Sale!

*St. Mark's United Methodist Women* will host its annual handmade crafts and baked goods sale, Sunday Dec. 3, in the church Library between services. All proceeds support mission projects in Tucson and throughout the world.

# ***New Member Class of November 12, 2017***

## ***Meet John and Muriel Devitt***



John is from Columbus, Ohio and is a retired engineer. He worked for Boeing Co. at Cape Canaveral on the Apollo Space Program, then moved to Seattle and worked another 20 years before retiring. His hobbies are singing, travel and reading. He is already involved here at St. Mark's as a member of the Chancel Choir. Muriel is a retired Physical Therapist Assistant. She now spends leisure time reading, crossword puzzles, and baseball. She plans to become involved with our Lay Visitation Ministries. They have ten grandchildren. Muriel usually attends the 9:45 a.m. service and John is here whenever the Chancel Choir is singing. Their sponsors are David and Sallie Schmidt.

## ***Meet Marilyn Hagg and Jeanise Jalbert-Hagg***



Marilyn claims Smethport, PA as her hometown. She is a retired RN and hospice nurse and still likes to help others whenever she can. Marilyn lives out the message in Matthew 25:40. She enjoys bringing others to St. Mark's in her "Jesus Mobile." She has been part of SAAG and the Catalina Women's Prayer Group. Jeanise is a retired Recreation and Art Therapist and Minister in Residence and has been involved with many organizations representing both of her interests and careers. She comes from Salem, MA and has three grown children. She enjoys visiting those in hospitals and nursing homes. Jeanise is also passionate about art employing various media and has conducted seminars throughout the United States.

Marilyn and Jeanise are involved with the Chronic Pain Management group here at St. Mark's and plan to be involved with Lay Ministry and the Prayer Team. They attend the 9:45 a.m. service, and their sponsors are Bill Purkey and Don Robinson.

## ***Meet Ken Hanks***



Ken works as a National Sales Manager for MYE Entertainment. His interests include exercise and physical fitness, comedy movies, and U.S.A. travel. He is a great fan of college athletics, especially basketball. Ken and Cindy attended the summer new member class together, but Ken was called out of town on that "joining Sunday." They have two sons. Drew lives in LA and works for Fox Studios. Ross lives and works here and shares his dad's passion for all sports. They attend the 9:45 a.m. service. Their sponsors are Susan and Harold Putt.

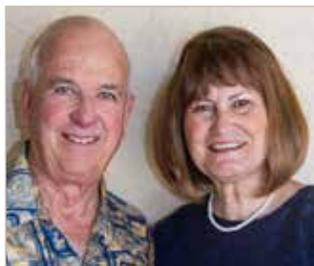
## ***Meet Jim and Carolyn Hanna***



Jim and Carolyn made a recent move to Tucson from Hudson, Ohio to enjoy retirement and be near their eldest daughter, Jerri, and her family. Jim was a technical engineer, registered as a Professional Engineer in Wisconsin and Ohio and a Life Member of IEEE. The Hannas were members of their Hudson UMC for 37 years, and team taught 1st and 2nd grade Sunday School classes for thirty-five years. Throughout that time, Carolyn served on the Committee of Christian Education and was part of UMW and various Bible Study groups and activities. Carolyn enjoys book clubs and devotional reading, while Jim's a science fiction fan. They love travel – one of their highlights being a 120 day world cruise in 2013. Both daughters, Jerri and Crystal, each have two children so they are blessed with grandchildren as well. They attend the 9:45 a.m. service and their sponsors are Pat and Roz Roberts.

## ***New Member Class of November 12, 2017 continued ...***

### ***Meet Jim and Judi Nibbelink***



Jim claims Waukegan, IL as his hometown, but he has lived, worked, and traveled all over the globe. Jim has been a delegate to five UMC General Conferences, served as Lay Leader of two UMC Annual Conferences and has served a term as a Dir. of the UMC General Board of Church and Society. Jim's hobbies include genealogy, singing, and model railroading, and he loves to ski. He and Judi divide their time between Tucson and a cabin high in the Colorado Rocky Mountains. Judi claims Denver as her hometown. She is currently serving as President of the Western Jurisdiction UMW. She is also part of the Program Advisory Group for UMW and on the Western Jurisdiction Leadership Team. Judi has served as a Director on the UMC General Board of Global Ministries. She loves gardening, entertaining, and enjoying family, friends, and God's creation. They attend the 9:45 a.m. service, and their sponsors are Jim and Kathie Barrett.

### ***Meet Claudia Noller***



Claudia's hometown is San Francisco and lived in Phoenix before coming to Tucson. There she was an LPN for 43 years before retiring from Phoenix Baptist Hospital. Claudia moved here to be near children. Her son, Jim, and his family are here and daughter, Laura, is in FL. Claudia has six grandchildren age six to eighteen. She serves here with mission work, book studies, and helping out wherever needed. Claudia attends the 8:15 a.m. service and her sponsor is Elissa Wise.

### ***Meet Ann Reaban***



Although originally from New Mexico, Ann feels that her 40 years of teaching in the Flowing Wells School District almost qualifies her as a native Tucsonan. She was a classroom teacher, later pursuing a Reading Specialist degree so that she could work with K-6 grade students who needed help learning to love reading as much as she does. She belongs to two book clubs and enjoys being part of the Open Minds Book Study group here at St. Mark's. Ann also has a passion for music in many forms - choral singing and musical theatre, marching and concert band, and private piano instruction for students. Her son, Derek, and his three sons share that passion as they are all trumpet players. Derek and his wife, Michelle, will soon have all three boys in college at the same time. Ann is currently taking art drawing classes, something she's long wanted to do. Her new shelter cat, Vonya, is keeping her busy, as well. Ann attends the 9:45 a.m. service, and her sponsors are Ed and Ellen Stephenson.

# WASS UP?

November 14, 2017

Volume 18, Issue 23



## UPCOMING MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

**November 19, 2017—**

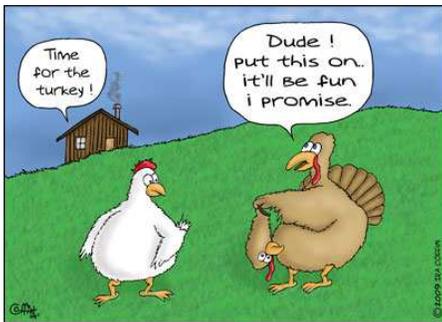
4:00 to 6:00

**“Being Grateful”**

Middle School: Thanking our military, and Gratitude Games  
High School: Thanking our First Responders in writing and in person

**November 26, 2017—**

No Confirmation  
Sunday School as usual  
No Youth Group



**December 3, 2017—**

4:00 to 6:00

**“Christmas in Hawaii” (not literally)**

## BEING GRATEFUL



On November 19, the Middle School and High School groups will show their gratitude in different ways.

High school will go off campus, so make sure you have a current permission slip (meaning, a parent has signed one since the beginning of this school year). Friends are welcome. High School friends can find a permission slip on our website.

## THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

Guess what— There will be worship on November 26. We will also have Sunday School for all ages.

People in grades 6-12 will meet, as usual, in the Wesley House at 9:45. That includes the Confirmants.

Youth group will not meet, so that you can conclude the



a note from the

# YOUTH DIRECTOR

THANK YOU, to Hannah Eblen for organizing our Mystery Game last week. We had a great time trying to figure out "who done it". You are always encouraged to bring new ideas for activities to Youth Group.

I'm also grateful to the Youth Council for all their creative ideas. As you know, the Youth Council plans activities for one Sunday each month. That's not always an easy task.

Please take time to thank all of our volunteers, including the Youth Council, your Sunday School teachers, and the Faith Coaches.

Blessings,  
Kim



Sierra Service Project News

**We're Going to San Diego July 8-14, with a few extra days added for a fun trip. Have you put your name on the list of participants? The trip is open to students who are currently in grades 8-12. The \$40 deposit is due by January 1, 2018. Don't miss this opportunity!**

## Middle School Moments

I saw this meme the other day, and it totally stuck in my head. I know a lot of us keep focusing on the

end goal. On finishing a big assignment, on getting good grades this semester, on finishing this year, and Middle School.

Goals are awesome! I love to hear what goals you are working towards! But don't forget to remind yourself along the way how awesome you are! Maybe your overall math grade isn't as high you liked, but last night's homework was a piece of cake! Or maybe you really wanted to score a goal in last week's soccer game, but you had an amazing assist, that helped your team win.

Whatever your goals are, make sure you notice all of the amazing things you do along the way!

See you Sunday!

Rachel



Don't wait until you reach your goal to be proud of yourself. Be proud of every step you take.

Karen Johnson

# HOLD THESE PEOPLE IN PRAYER!

## Hospital:

Roger Shuma  
Lindsey Williams

## Rehab or Care Facilities:

Patricia Keele  
Harold Mull  
Bob Ross  
Howard Russell  
Earlene Schock  
Tom Walker

## Hospice Care:

Judy Mitzenburg  
Yvonne Yare

## Undergoing Treatment at Home:

Jude Anderson  
Gail Blevins  
Jared Bowman  
Clara Campbell  
Judy Drescher  
Breanne Hallam  
Megan Krzmarzick  
Karen Linebarier  
Dell Long  
Ray Loughney  
Ruth Macthly  
Don Watt  
Connie White

## Recovering at Home:

Donald Chester  
MaryAnn Glazier  
Harmon Harrison  
Hazel Roberts



## 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://www.umcstmarks.org/contact-us-prayer-request.php).

Also, visit our Prayer Room on campus and leave a

prayer on our prayer wall.

## LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY ...

Please keep these people in your prayers.

Email additions or updates to [messenger@umcstmarks.org](mailto:messenger@umcstmarks.org).

**Hank Bautzmann**, son of Nancy Bautzmann

**Jon Chytka**, nephew of Roger & Donna Severson

**Jayce Cunha**, son of Rich and Blanca Cunha

**Zachary Dojaquez**, grandson of Roger & Donna Severson

**Brandonn Eto**, friend of Zirnheld/Compernelle family

**Rob Eubank**, son of David & Johanna Eubank

**Mike Freeman**, son of Ken & Ann Freeman

**Patrick Harris**, grandson of Marilyn Vaughn

**Greg Haynes**, son of Bob & Melinda Haynes

**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

**Joshua Miller**, grandson of Ginny Johnson

**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

**Joshua Ruth**, son-in-law of Marjie Walp

**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

**Timothy Trexler**, great-nephew of Gail Blevins

**Brianna Walker**, granddaughter of Barbara Fradenburgh; niece of Joan Fradenburgh



## St. Mark's Messenger

Published bi-weekly

St. Mark's UMC  
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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.



Third Thursday each month  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m., St. Mark's Library

Coordinator:

Nancy Bautzmann (248-5814)

# Calendar Notes

## Sat., Nov 18

9:00 a.m. Advent Worship, Fellowship Hall  
6:00 p.m. Common Grounds, Library

## Sun., Nov. 19

### Stewardship Campaign - Commitment Sunday

4:00 p.m. Preteens  
4:00 p.m. Youth Group

## Mon., Nov. 20

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

## Wed., Nov. 22

### 12:00 MESSENGER DEADLINE

5:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross, Meditation Garden  
5:45 p.m. Community Meal, Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Service, Sanctuary

Thur., Nov. 23 - Office Closed

Fri., Nov. 24 - Office Closed

## Sun., Nov. 26

No Preteens meeting  
No Youth Group meeting

## Mon., Nov. 27

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

## Wed., Nov. 30

5:45 Community Meal, Fellowship Hall  
6:15 Common Grounds, Library  
6:15 Soul Station, Fellowship Hall



## Dear Church Family...



David's surgery went well. We are thankful for everyone's prayers and cards. Prayers are the best medicine there is! Thank you everyone.

*Dave Harrington and Family*

Thank you so much for the many cards, letters, and prayers for my recent knee surgery. Pastor Tammy, thank you for your call and prayer before my surgery. Your thoughts and prayers mean so much to me.

*With love, Becky Wallace*

A warm and heartfelt thanks to our St. Mark's family, the Chancel Choir, and the Celebration Singers for all the cards, phone calls, and prayers before and after Mary Ann's recent cancer surgery. A special thanks to Pastor Sharon for being at the hospital with us before surgery and bringing the most beautiful prayer shawl. All who helped with the surgery liked it so well that we felt fortunate to still have it when we left. Thanks to the loving hands and prayers that went into making it. God bless you all.

*Mary Ann and Keith Glazier, and Family*

## Conversational Spanish

There is a small group that meets at St Mark's twice a month to practice conversational Spanish. The level is intermediate to advanced. Anyone interested in participating is welcome. For further information call Chuck Boreson (520-449-0020 or [crboreson@gmail.com](mailto:crboreson@gmail.com)).



**Papa John's Fundraiser  
for St. Mark's ECC**

**Please consider supporting St. Mark's ECC-  
Papa John's Fundraiser, Nov. 13-19!**

Orders will be online only at [www.papajohns.com](http://www.papajohns.com).  
Be sure to include the Promo Code **stmark30**, to receive 30% off all regular menu priced pizzas! Twenty percent of every sale, from this event, will be donated back to St. Mark's ECC!



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## Reflections

Recently I had a chance to talk with one of our church's study groups, "Experiencing God," and reflect on some questions they had from their study about God. One question they had was, "When is something, or some action, **God-sized**?" They wondered if "God-sized" meant that something had to be very grand, or crowd-changing, or majestic.

Of course, we experience God in the grand things of life, like beautiful sunsets, and rousing musical pieces. We experience God in life-altering events like the birth of a child, or when we are so inspired by God that we completely change the direction of our lives. These are great gifts!

During this Thanksgiving season, I've been thinking about other moments and events that seem God-sized to me. These are acts of kindness that comfort, or words that bring hope and healing, or gifts that touch the heart, bringing joy. All these I've experienced first-hand, and am so grateful for these **God-sized** treasures.

If we pay attention, **God-sized** gifts are all around us, too. Perhaps these are in a chance to serve, to give someone else a glimpse of God's love through our actions. Perhaps they're in the smile of a child, or the words of wisdom that come from someone who's lived a long time. Sometimes it's the touch of Jesus' Spirit of love upon our hearts, at the moment we need it.

I think offering words of "thanks" to someone can be a God-sized gift. So, "thank you" for the joy and privilege of joining with you to share God's grace at St. Mark's.

*Blessings, Sharon*

P.S. This Sunday, November 19, 2017, we bring our 2018 stewardship commitment cards for **Called to Action... Turning an Upside Down World Right Side Up**. You can also mail those in, or visit our website at [www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org) to make your 2018 commitment.