



We gather, connect, and serve so all may experience the love of Christ.

St. Mark's Messenger

April 2026

Holy Week

APRIL 2 Maundy Thursday
12 pm - Drop In Communion
1 pm - Drive Up Communion
6:30 pm - Maundy Thursday Service

APRIL 3 Good Friday
12 pm - Harp Music
6:30 pm - Good Friday Service

Good Friday Service will feature the I AM statements of Jesus and the events of his last days on earth.

Easter Sunday April 5

SUNRISE SERVICE - 6 AM

Our youth plan and lead our sunrise service as we worship God with the sun rising over the Catalina Mountains, accompanied by our Sanctuary Praise Team. We will have communion and a baptism at this special service on the labyrinth.

MORNING WORSHIP

We will worship at our usual times on each campus. Music will feature a brass quartet, bells, and choirs at the Magee Campus traditional services and our Praise Band at the Sanctuary Campus. Communion will be available at the Magee Campus in the library between services, not during the main services. Children's Sunday School will be available at both locations at 10 am.



Peep Diorama

Each Lent, the youth at St. Mark's have made some amazing dioramas using Peeps! From the Stations of the Cross, and scenes from the life of Jesus, to the stories in the parables.



This year, check out how our youth used Peeps to understand the I AM statements that Jesus

made. Look for the Peeps on display in the Fellowship Hall on Easter Sunday!

Peep Dioramas pictured are from St. Mark's Youth, Lent 2025

EASTER BRUNCH

You are invited to a delicious grab-and-go style Easter Brunch, provided by St. Mark's Youth. You are welcome to eat your brunch at church or take it to go! Brunch will be served between services on Easter Morning.

Donations for brunch will go towards youth ministries and missions.

CULTIVATING PEACE & HOPE IN DIFFICULT TIMES
Imam Jamal Rahman
Muslim Sufi Minister



Imam Jamal Rahman is a popular speaker and author on Islam, Sufi spirituality, and interfaith relations. Along with his Interfaith Amigos, he has been featured in The New York Times, CBS News, BBC, and various NPR programs. Jamal is co-founder and Muslim Sufi Imam at Interfaith Community Sanctuary, and adjunct faculty at Seattle University. He travels nationally and internationally, presenting at retreats and workshops. Jamal's passion lies in interfaith community building and activism.

11:30 AM SUNDAY APRIL 12, 2026
\$10 Presentation Ticket Includes Lunch
REGISTRATION IS LIMITED TO 60 PEOPLE.
SAVE YOUR SEAT NOW!



NEW MEMBER CLASS!

1 - 4 pm Sunday, April 19

Join us to learn about the history of Methodism and St. Mark's, discover what we believe, and explore where God is leading us as a community of faith in Tucson. All are welcome—especially those considering membership.



Contact Tricia for more information! tricia@umcstmarks.org

ADULT EDUCATION

ST. MARK'S
UMC

REGISTER
ONLINE AT

umcstmarks.org/classes/adult-spiritual-growth-opportunities

We have a
seat at the
table for you!

Adult Sunday School - 9:30 am Sundays in Rooms 17/18 and via Zoom. Please register online or contact a study leader to obtain Zoom information. Led by Rick Farnsworth.

Wednesday Morning Study - 10 am Wednesdays in Rooms 17/18 and via Zoom. We will begin *Christianity and World Religions*—A Study by Adam Hamilton starting April 8 in room 17/18 from 10-11:30. Join the class for any or all of the four sessions.

This Bible study compares the beliefs of four major world religions—Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism—with those of Christianity. The author deals openly and honestly with questions like why are there so many religions, how God is at work in other religions, the fate of those who pursue God through other religions, and Christian views of other religions. In examining these major world religions and the beliefs of their followers, Christians are urged to build bridges with others so that we might grow in our faith, seek peace in our world, love our neighbors, and find positive ways to share the gospel.

Open Minds Book Group will meet on **Friday, 4/24, at 9:00 am** on Zoom will discuss, *Horse: a Novel*, by Geraldine Brooks (2022). A record-breaking Civil War-era thoroughbred is the basis for this story, along with the people who cared for him, artists who painted him, and scientists who studied his bones. Brooks takes us from the racing world of the 1850s, to the art scene in the 1950s, and to labs of the present-day Smithsonian in this story of spirit, obsession, and injustice across decades.

After the Amen - Sundays at 11:15 am Library. Join us for deeper conversation around the sermon.

Roadrunner Book Club - 9:30 am Wednesdays at Roadrunner Coffee, Linda Vista and Thornydale.

Seekers Sunday Bible Study – On April 12, the first Sunday after Easter, Seekers will begin studying 1 and 2 Thessalonians. These books contain some of the first writings in Christian literature. Paul is writing to the early Christian church, which is growing to include Gentiles in addition to Jewish participants. We will be reading to see if our contemporary church needs the same instruction that Paul gave 2000 years ago! Please register online or contact a study leader to obtain Zoom information. Led by Brenda Hunter.

Service & Fellowship

Common Grounds - 6 pm the third Saturday of each month. A space for youngish adults (in their 20s - 40s) in any walk of life to meet and connect.

Rainbow Fellowship meets on the **3rd Sunday of each month** in the Library on the Magee Campus at 9 am. Contact Kitty Tobin for more information.

Play Farkle! 1st Tuesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall at 1 pm. All are welcome! We will teach you!

Pub Theology - 6 pm the last Monday of the month at Barro's Pizza on AZ Pavilions Dr. Drink and think (and eat) while discussing life and faith. Contact info@umcstmarks.org.

Pickleball meets **8 am - 10 am Wednesdays & Saturdays** at the court in the Magee campus north parking lot.

The **Marksmen** are a group of friendly retired and semi-retired men. They generally meet the **1st and 3rd Wednesdays** in the Fellowship Hall for a program, breakfast, and fellowship. Contact them at marksmen@umcstmarks.org for more information.

The **Veterans Breakfast Group** meets on the **fourth Friday of each month** at Cracker Barrel at 8400 N Cracker Barrel Rd. in Marana from **8:30 to 10 am**. Come and join them for great conversation and sharing. Contact Marcia Rostad for more info

Mark-a-Ritas - Women who believe it's important to have girlfriends at church, too! The Mark-a-Ritas meet monthly and take turns planning the activities. Contact markaritas.tucson@gmail.com.

Primavera Meals - Various. Teams of 5-7 people making a meal and serving it at the Primavera men's shelter once a month.



BOOKS AND BRUNCH

It's time for the Mark-a-ritas Books and Brunch event! Mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 25, at 9 am**. Diane Hiratsuka and Kathy Howard are hosting this event at Diane's home. It's a wonderful opportunity to share brunch, great conversation, and lots of laughter with friends old and new. All ladies in the church are welcome. **Egg dishes will be provided**; while totally not necessary, you may bring something to share, and RSVP to Diane to receive her address by Wednesday, April 22 by emailing dew9871@hiratus.com. Hope to see you there!

The Mark-a-ritas



PATRIOTIC WREATH MAKING NIGHT



As the US celebrates its 250th birthday, we invite you to participate in a Patriotic Wreath making event on **Monday, May 4th at 6:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. We will make a rag wreath similar to the one pictured. A choice of fabric and a wreath ring will be ready for you; simply bring a good pair of scissors or a rotary cutter and mat. The cost will be \$15 (non-refundable because we will purchase the supplies) per person payable at sign-up. Sign up and pay the fee on April 12th and 19th between church services. Join us for a fun evening! For questions, contact Susan Quinn or Carol Fouch.

Wednesday Morning Study Conducts Mock Trials During Lent

The Wednesday Morning Study staged six weekly mock trials of six Lenten characters. Each week, different class participants were assigned to the roles of Judge, Prosecutor, Defender, and the accused. The accused included Judas, Caiaphas, Peter, Pontius Pilate, the Disappearing Disciples, and the Centurions. Each class participant who played the Prosecutor determined the charges levied upon the accused. The Prosecutors and the Defenders prepared their own cases and delivered them in typical courtroom fashion. The participant playing the Judge wore a black robe, commanded a gavel, and responded to any objections voiced during the proceedings. Six rotating class participants served as the jury and Connor Watson, on Zoom, was the Bailiff.



Sitting from left: Harold Putt and Susan Putt, Defense Attorneys, Judge Carol Fouch, and Joylee Gathings, Prosecutor.



Many of the charges filed by the class Prosecutors were violations which have been lawful over time. And defending people normally determined to be villains of the Lenten story was a challenge, but the class Defense lawyers assembled strong arguments that caused pause in jury deliberations. Overall, the mock trials gave each class participant the opportunity to step into the shoes of their assigned character and briefly live their Lenten experience.

Mary Helen Pelton, dressed as wife of Pontius Pilate and Ray Pelton, dressed as Pontius Pilate, the accused.

- Marcia Rostad, Class Leader
as a witness



Breast Cancer Support Tea

1 pm Saturday, April 11

One in eight women* will hear the dreadful words "You have breast cancer" from their doctor. Even though we know that breast cancer is often successfully treated, those words initially bring apprehension and fear, followed by physical stress depending on the treatment plan. The newly diagnosed individuals, as well as family and friends who will be walking

beside them, may want more support than can be given by the medical professionals, especially in the early anxiety filled days. Those of us who have taken that journey can offer support to the newest travelers at a Breast Cancer Support Tea at 1:00 pm on Saturday, April 11, in the Fellowship Hall on the Magee Campus. If we are honest, even those of us who call ourselves survivors can use support! We might be coping with lingering side effects of successful treatments or have fears of a recurrence. Isn't it easier to deal with problems when you know you are not alone? Please join us on **April 11**.

**The risk of breast cancer is much lower in men, but it is STILL real. Men are welcome at this tea, either for their own concerns, or to support someone they care about.*

thank you



Progress is being made updating our Library! Thanks for all of our amazing volunteers! Check back in May to see the finished space.

LENTEN
MIDWEEK



GATHER CONNECT SERVE

The Discipleship Team is so pleased with the enthusiastic participation at our Lenten Midweek program. We had great turnout and fellowship. We would like to thank Suhail Arburjaila, our new chef, for the delicious meals he prepared. We would also like to thank Brenda Hunter and Mike Ogle for leading wonderful studies. A big thank you to Cindy Pastorius and Jane Anderson for providing beautiful accompaniment for the Taizé services. And of course, thank you to everyone who participated! Because our Midweek event has been seasonal, the final Wednesday will be April 1.

Thank You



Many, many thanks to everyone who was involved in making our cantata a reality. The singers, instrumentalists, actors, costumers, ushers. What a powerful message - if you missed the concert, be sure to watch it on our YouTube channel.



Sunday, April 12 is . . .

- Communion Sunday
- Holy Humor Sunday
- Presentation by Imam Jamal Rahman
- 4-Hand Piano Concert

Sunday
Concert Series

Sunday afternoons at 3:00



April 12 - If you enjoy piano music, you are going to love this **4-hand piano concert** by Kathryn Lieppman and Ji-Young Kim.

May 7

Voices in the Oaks is a community choir that is celebrating their 10th anniversary. You will recognize four of our St. Mark's singers in the choir including our Music Director, Jane Anderson, - AND the wonderfully talented Devin Gardner, who is the pianist for the group. The choir will be reprising some of their favorite songs from the last ten years.



May 17

The Tucson Girls Chorus will provide a concert for us. Please help us celebrate this young ladies and their musical talents!



St. Mark's United Methodist Church

The Animal Ministry Team will hold their annual **Pet Memorial Service** on **Sunday, April 26 at 3 pm**. All are invited to experience a time that acknowledges and respects the importance animals have held in our hearts and lives, and celebrates their place in God's creation. It doesn't matter how recently or long ago your loss occurred, or what type of animal you wish to remember.



United Women in Faith



**All contact information can be found in your Breeze directory*

We seek to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.



APRIL



United Women in Faith March Meetings

10 AM Tuesday 4/14

The United Women in Faith unit meeting will be in Rooms 17/18. Refreshments and fellowship begin at 9:30 am, followed by the meeting. The guest speaker is Rev. Deborah Christine.

9 AM Tuesday 4/21

Grace Circle will meet in Rooms 17/18 from 9 am to 2 pm. Bring a bag lunch. Participants will color quilt squares.



9 AM Tuesday 4/28

Craft Circle will meet in rooms 17/18. The group can always use new ideas, but there are projects anyone can work on, even those who aren't crafty.

HYGIENE BAGS FOR PRIMAVERA

COMING UP IN MAY!

United Women in Faith Grace Circle will be collecting items for hygiene kits for the Primavera's women's shelter. We will be collecting items at the Magee Campus in the courtyard and Sanctuary Campus on **May 10th** and **May 17th** before and after church services. You can bring them to a UWFaith meeting or leave them in the UWFaith mailbox in the office.



- 1 Gallon size zip lock bags
- Shampoo-travel size
- Conditioner-travel size
- Body Wash-travel size
- Bar Soap
- Razor
- Deodorant -travel size



- Vaseline
- Lotion-travel size
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste- .85 oz
- Lip Balms
- Q-tips
- Shaving Cream-travel size
- Tampons



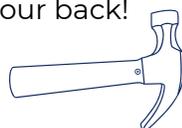
SSP FUNDRAISING- PACK THE SUITCASE!

Help us "pack our bags" for Sierra Service Project 2026! This is our annual high school mission, and this year's 22 student and 5 adult participants are excited to go! This year, we will travel to the Navajo Nation July 5-11 for a week of service and fun. Look for us on the patio after services at the Magee campus during April for this fun new fundraiser! We will have a large suitcase displayed, and you have the opportunity to help us fill it up! There are



different donation levels you can sign up for, and each level will be represented by something that we use at SSP!

For example, for \$10, you can add a paintbrush to our suitcase. For \$50, a hammer! My favorite level is our top level, "I've Got Your Back". For this, you will not only add a t-shirt to the suitcase, but your name will also be printed on the back of our St. Mark's SSP 2026 T-Shirt so the participants remember that you've got our back!





Missions Ministry

March 1 Blood Drive Results - By The Numbers

Our 10th blood drive as your Blood Program Leader resulted in the Red Cross being able to collect 21 pints of blood. Thank you to our pastors, and staff for your help. And, I watched one 3-year-old!

➔ Next Blood Drive: June 7

- 23** Donors present
- 19** Whole Blood Units
- 1** Power Red Donation
- 3** Deferred Donors
- 21** Pints!!



Rise AGAINST HUNGER

Families at St. Mark's UMC, you did it so well! On March 15, with 80 volunteers, we met our goal of packaging 17,064 nutritious meals for families with food insecurity.

17064

There was a task for everyone, from set up to clean up from scooping foods and running food bags to be weighed, to sealing packages, to filling and sealing boxes of food.

Volunteers were estimated to be 5 to 85 years old, and there was a task for everyone. Boxes will be picked up and shipped overseas. *Your Missions dollars at work!*

And an extra special **THANK YOU!** to our clean up crew! They made sure every single grain of rice left behind got cleaned up!



17064

17064



Congratulations St. Marks

Through February the ICS Foodbank highlighted donations of Lotsa' Pasta. Of the 11,000 lbs. collected, St. Mark's contributed 1,071 lbs., 10% of the total. Our church is honoring the biblical mandate to join in feeding hungry people. The most unfortunate reality is the line of families and individuals needing assistance continues to grow. Please continue bringing non-perishable food to the Welcome Center on Sunday, or deliver your items on Saturday mornings, 10-11AM, to the church's north parking lot; Robert & Patricia Kittrell would love to have you come by.

Check out the Donation Station in the Welcome Center!



Many thanks to the Ray and Mary Helen Pelton's family (which included Ray's sister Ginger and brother-in-law Keith) for preparing and serving the March Primavera meal!

Youth Ministry

LATEST NEWS FOR HIGH SCHOOL, MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND PRETEEN STUDENTS



St. Mark's Youth Group is a space for 6th-12th grade students to gather for fun, faith, friendship, and fellowship. We meet in the Wesley House for Sunday School Sunday mornings at 10, and Youth Group meets most Sundays from 4-6. The Messenger and our social media pages have the most up to date information!

April 4th

Sunrise Setup Sleepover

Introducing, a new event that we are super excited about! This year, our Sunrise Setup include an optional sleepover portion! Please come help as you are able, and you may either get picked up or stay with us!

4:00-10:00pm Brunch and Sunrise Prep
 6:30-8:00pm Speaker Practice
 10:00pm LIGHT'S OUT
 6:00am Sunrise Service

April 5th

Easter Sunday

April 12th

Field Trip to the Ostrich Farm

\$10

Let's get out and enjoy God's creation before the heat kicks up! We'll be feeding the animals and having a blast together.

Invite a friend, wear closed toed shoes, and bring \$10 for your ticket!

Scholarships available!

April 18th

Come get service hours and help us make some money for missions and ministry while you are at it! Sign up for shifts to help sell. Of course, when you work this awesome fundraiser, you get first dibs on all of the GREAT treasures!

Parents! We need help pricing and setting up on April 16 and 17!

Treasure Trove Rummage Sale

Youth Fundraiser

\$\$\$\$

April 19th

Treasure Trove CLEAN UP

RIGHT AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL
NO YOUTH GROUP

Sunday April 19th

Right after Sunday School, we're gonna head over to the Fellowship Hall to clean up the Treasure Trove! We will be boxing all remaining items up for donation pickup.

No Youth Group in the afternoon! Spencer & Rachel will be taking a nap!

April 26th

PROGRESSIVE GAME NIGHT!

It's a game night! But not just ANY game night. This is a game night with a twist...St. Mark's style! Game play is broken up into 7-8 minute segments. Where you start...you probably won't end! When you hear the buzzer, you will set down game materials, and move on to the next game. Pick up the materials left there, and continue play! It's fun, exciting, and wild! Don't miss it!

Sunday School meets weekly 10-11 in the Wesley House on 1st-4th Sundays. On 5th Sundays, join us for Family Worship!



YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parent Meet & Greet with Spencer

Parents, I would love to meet you! Please join us for an information meeting on Sunday, April 19th at 11am in the Wesley House. Pastor Deb and I will be highlighting the plans for summer as we navigate this transition in the youth department. I hope to see you all there!

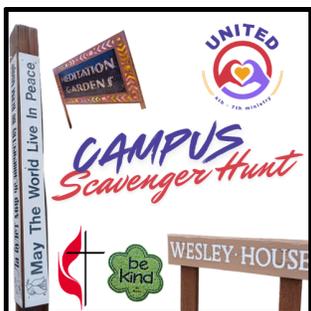
Sleepover & Sunrise Prep

Isn't it such a bummer to come to church on Saturday night before Easter only to be back bright and early for Sunrise service? Well, why don't we just have a sleepover instead!? That's right, this year we are hosting our service sleepover on Saturday, April 4th for Easter Prep! We'll be doing all our breakfast prep in the kitchen, setting up and rehearsing the Sunrise service, then having some fun in the Wesley House while we talk about what Jesus' disciples did the night before His resurrection.

CONFIRMATION '24-'25

Excitement is in the Air

Spring Confirmation Retreats just feel different. We have learned so much together, and learned so much, both as individuals and as a group. This year, our Confirmands will be confirmed on May 17th during the 10AM service on the Magee Campus. I am so proud of you all, and can't wait for the next two retreats, and our celebration on May 17!



United

May 3 will be the final United of the 25-26 school year! Come join other students in grades 4-7 as we make a welcome video for Pastor Ash when he comes to St. Mark's this summer! Meet in the Wesley House 1-3!

LINK TREE



What's a Linktree!? Think of it like a bulletin board- a one stop shop, if you will! Scan this QR code to find the links to all things Youth! Sign up for events, Pay for registrations, get a new permission slip...it has it all!

April Series: Stories That Matter

Jesus is Risen! After the resurrection, the story of Jesus didn't end! It changed, grew, and continued in the lives of his followers. In this series, we will explore what happened next- and why that matters to us in 2026! Let's look at how people encountered Jesus in unexpected ways, and how the encounters shaped their lives. The story of Jesus isn't something we just talk about on Sundays- it is something that we are invited to live!



May looks... weird

You may notice in May (and into June), Youth Sunday School spends a lot of time...not in Sunday School! Between Graduation and Confirmation Sunday, 5th Sunday Family Worship, Youth Worship, and Rachel's farewell...we will be joining our greater church family more than usual! Don't worry! Youth Sunday School isn't going away. Your leaders didn't forget to prepare lessons, and we will miss our time as much as you do! But part of being a member of the Body of Christ involves us showing support for our Confirmands, our St. Mark's family...and Rachel wanted a captive audience! Starting June 14...we're back to our previously scheduled programming!

Sierra Service Project



Gotta Raise those Funds!

Our off-campus calendar fundraiser was a great start to our Spring Fundraising Bonanza! Next up- we are asking the congregation to help us "Pack Our Suitcase"! Please sign up to help at the table in the courtyard after services in April! (And don't forget about Easter Brunch and Treasure Trove!



- | | |
|------------|----------|
| Ian P | April 13 |
| Maddie M | April 20 |
| Felicity N | April 22 |
| Riley H | April 24 |

Did I miss your birthday this year!? I'm so sorry if I did! Make sure to fill out a permission slip, and include your birthday!



Church & Society Arab American Heritage Month 2026

Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha is a pediatrician and public health advocate who helped uncover the Flint water crisis in 2015. When the city of Flint, Michigan switched its water supply to save money, residents were unknowingly exposed to dangerous levels of lead. Dr. Hanna-Attisha discovered elevated lead levels among the children she treated and warned of a public health emergency. Despite efforts to silence her, her persistence helped bring national attention to the crisis and led to action to protect the community.



The daughter of Iraqi scientists who immigrated to the United States, Dr. Hanna-Attisha's story is one example of the contributions Arab-Americans make to our communities.

During Arab-American Heritage Month, we give thanks for leaders like her whose courage reflects values we hold as people of faith: speaking truth, caring for the vulnerable, and seeking the well-being of our neighbors.

Tohono O'Odham Cultural Camp presentation



On March 3rd we welcomed guest speakers from the Desert Museum and the San Xavier District Education Center. Thanks to your generosity to the Thanksgiving Offering, all 23 indigenous kids grades 1-6 were able to attend the camp at no cost. The kids had a great time learning that 'water is life' and is still an issue for the Tohono O'Odham. They were excited to play in the new Spadefoot Splash pool. The spadefoot is a monsoon animal that goes through its metamorphosis cycle in just 9 days. The Tohono O'Odham presenter also talked about the science night at the San Xavier Education district and mentioned their cooperation with the Pascua Yaqui tribe. Our guests were excited to see the St. Mark's peace pole with O'Odham language and our new Man in the Maze mosaic.

Creative Outdoor Fun

Camp Overview: A Day in the Desert

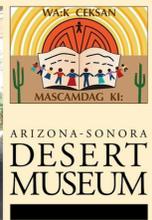
Theme: **Water is Life**

Campers experienced:

- Science investigations
- Crafts
- Outdoor Exploration
- Play-based learning
- Live animal encounters
- Museum exhibits including Stingray Touch, Packrat Playhouse, Spadefoot Splash



With Gratitude



EASTER OFFERING

This year, the Missions Committee invites us to be bold in our Easter giving by supporting two organizations that are new partners for our church. In the current climate, immigration and healthcare are two areas where many in our community are especially vulnerable. Our Easter Offering will support ministries that are doing meaningful, expert work in both areas.

One recipient is El Rio Community Health Center, whose mission is to improve the health of our community through accessible, affordable, and compassionate care. Serving more than **129,000 patients each year—about one in ten Tucsonans—**El Rio provides primary care, dental care, behavioral health services, and other integrated services to people across our community, including many who are uninsured or living at or below the federal poverty level.



We will also support the Sunnyside Foundation's Juntos Fund, which assists families in Tucson and South Tucson who are affected by the detention, deportation, or loss of immigration status of a loved one. This mutual aid fund helps families meet immediate needs and access legal support during times of crisis.



More information about each organization is available on Sunday mornings or in the church office. We invite you to give generously to our Easter Offering during the Easter season, with gifts received through the end of April.

From the Finance Committee

Below are the financial results for January and February compared to budget. January and February contributions were higher than average, which has been the case in previous years. Expenses are usually lower at the start of the year and will pick up after Easter. The year-to-date net income of \$32,715 is lower than 2025 which was \$41,860, however we are ahead of budget by 28,369.

	January	February	Year to date	Budget	Variance
Contributions	118,508.29	99,066.65	217,574.94	188,936.00	28,638.94
Other Income	7,053.12	5,831.64	12,884.76	27,300.00	(14,415.24)
Total Income	125,561.41	104,898.29	230,459.70	216,236.00	14,223.70
Expenses	99,200.72	98,544.40	197,745.12	211,880.00	(14,134.88)
Net Income	26,360.69	6,353.89	32,714.58	4,356.00	28,358.58



Treasure Trove Returns April 18!

Do you have some pre-loved treasures that you are ready to part with? The Youth would be happy to sell them to raise money for Youth Missions and Ministries. Bring them by on **April 16 or 17**. We will be here accepting donations *during office hours, or by appointment*.

Don't forget to stop by on Saturday (from 7-12) to find some new treasures for your home! Come early for the best selection!



Graduation Sunday



Graduation Sunday will be **May 17** this year. If you or your family member is graduating in May, we would love to honor the graduate! Please send a picture to Rachel@umcstmarks.org along with where they are graduating from, and if they are receiving any honors by May 1. High school graduates and their families are invited to a continental breakfast May 17 to celebrate! Mark your calendars.



DISCIPLESHIP TEAM UPDATE

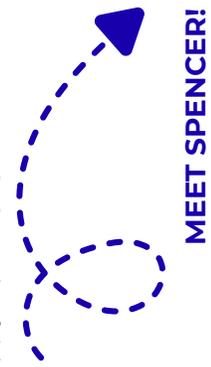
The St. Mark's Discipleship Team continues to evolve and change, while consistently being dedicated to helping everyone in our church family to grow in discipleship, no matter their age or stage in life. With the resignation of Edwin Andrade, the team has shifted some of the responsibilities and expectations within the different roles.

Currently, Rev. Deborah Christine acts as the Director of the Discipleship team. Rachel Mosher is now the interim Associate Director of Discipleship, Intergenerational Ministries (Edwin's former position). Rachel will assume this role until she leaves to serve First UMC in Safford, AZ this summer.

On March 29, 2026 **Spencer Taylor** will officially assume the role of Associate Director of Discipleship, Youth and Young Adults, Rachel's former position. Spencer has worked with St. Mark's Youth since 2021. She comes to this position with care and love for the students, the church, and the program. We are excited that she is able to start in this position right now, and offer a smooth transition.

The focus of the Discipleship Team will be to plan and prepare for spring and summer programs for adults, youth and children and family ministries. We are excited to see what we can do in the next couple of months. It is our hope to coordinate these areas of ministry so that we have more intergenerational opportunities for the St. Marks community.

Yours in Christ,
The St. Marks Discipleship Team



PRAY

We invite your prayers for these individuals - some for health reasons, some for facing hard times, some just because! We would like to pray for you. Submit prayer requests by email to prayerchain@umcstmarks.org or on our website at umcstmarks.breezechms.com/form/PrayerRequest

Those who have passed away

John Lennarson Beth Thompson
 Don Robinson Arlin Hubka
 Mary Ann Glazier Marilyn Haag

Recovering or in treatment

Ron Hill April DuBoce
 Jim Johnson Alex Garrott
 Liza Carsten Alice Brown
 Mary Lu Kiracofe Dan Snyder

In hospice care

Priscilla McInnis
 Charles Moore
 Sonya Moore

meet our STAFF



WELCOME OUR NEW ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP!



We are excited to welcome **Spencer Taylor** as our Associate Director of Discipleship for Youth & Young Adults. Many of you may already know her, as she first joined the St. Mark's staff part-time in 2021 and has continued volunteering with the youth ministry in recent years.



In this role, she will lead youth and young adult ministries and help create intergenerational opportunities for discipleship across the congregation.

She and her husband Jack moved to Oro Valley in 2021 and are raising their daughter Sloane, who attends the St. Mark's Early Childhood Center. She holds degrees in Christian Ministries from Azusa Pacific University and Organizational Leadership from Southern New Hampshire University, and brings experience from church ministry, summer camps, and mission work in India.



Her passion is helping young people develop a faith that is thoughtful, curious, and rooted in Christ, and she hopes to continue strengthening connections between youth, families, and the wider church.

A few fun facts: she's a first-generation college graduate, enjoys painting banners and coaching t-ball, once had a "Tiny Love Story" published in the New York Times, and has worked at Disneyland.

Please join us in welcoming Spencer to this role at St. Mark's!



(520) 297-2062

Email: info@umcstmarks.org

Website: umcstmarks.org

YouTube: UMC St. Mark's AZ

Magee Campus

1431 W Magee Rd
 Tucson, AZ 85704

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10 a.m.

live streamed at 10 a.m.

on our website and YouTube

Sanctuary Campus

8000 N Silverbell
 Tucson, AZ 85743

Sunday Worship 10

Lead Pastor:

Rev. Lynn Bartlow

Sanctuary Campus Pastor:

Tu'ulauena Lolohena

Associate Pastor:

Deborah Christine

Associate Pastor:

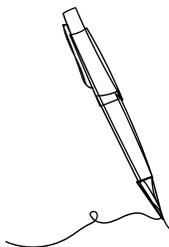
Sharon Ragland

St. Mark's United Methodist Church is seeking a full-time leader for Intergenerational Discipleship who will help people of all ages grow as followers of Jesus Christ. This role focuses on adult discipleship, children's ministry, and building connections between generations across the life of the church. Send a resume and cover letter to info@umcstmarks.org



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from our Congregational Care Pastor

Jesus often did things that surprised and startled people. When he was with his disciples near the end of his time on earth, he took a towel and basin of water and washed their feet. This surprised his followers, who thought they should be doing this for him, their teacher. But by doing this, he showed them that they were to care for and serve one another. After this, near the end of John 13, Jesus says, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

These actions and words of Jesus guide our work as a church in so many ways. It's easy to see it in the work of our Lay Visitors here at St. Mark's. While we may not often wash feet, we do offer our time and ability to listen and provide spiritual support through prayer, Holy Communion and by simply being present. Our Lay Visitation Team is active in caring for those who are homebound and in care facilities.

Other ways our church is providing care:

- Breast Cancer Support Tea offers a chance to connect with others who share this journey. (see page 3)
- The Counselor in Residence Committee is seeking additional counselors to serve in our Counselor in Residence Program. A lovely counseling space and waiting room is available to rent in the Wesley House for one or two additional counselors to have their own practice and support our congregation through counseling services and educational programs. We are grateful to Dr. Susan Proebsting, who currently serves as our Counselor in Residence part-time.
- The Care Line gives you access to our pastors when you most need it. Call 520-783-8837 or email pastoral_care@umcstmarks.org. I respond quickly to calls or messages.

Thank you for the ways you surprise people with your care.

Peace,
Rev. Sharon Ragland,
Associate Minister of Congregational Care