

let's LOVE one another

Love One Another is a campaign to help close the kindness and justice gap in our country. It's an invitation to consider how we want to be treated and how we treat others, including those with whom we disagree. Its goal is to bring people together through kindness, curiosity, love, and respect to make our world look more like the kingdom of God.

We will join Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City and numerous other churches across the country this month as we focus on the command Jesus gave his disciples to Love One Another.

You'll see invitations to gather around the table, to connect in small groups, and to serve our neighbors through act of kindness.

How will you be kind? How will you *Love One Another*?



Annual Church Conference 7 pm Tuesday, October 6

Plan to attend our church's annual Church Conference on **October 6 at 7 pm** in the Magee Campus sanctuary and via Zoom. This Church Conference is our meeting with church leaders and our district superintendent to review the business and mission of the local church. We will celebrate the work of the year with our committees, set our pastors' salaries, and more.

An agenda, relevant materials, and the Zoom link will be sent via email the week before. Everyone is welcome to attend; church members can vote.

NOTE: Childcare will be provided if you let us know! And DINNER is offered beginning at 5:30 pm



Trunk or Treat at Coyote Trail October 30, 6 to 8 pm

8000 N Silverbell Rd.

Join us for Coyote Trail Elementary School's annual Trunk or Treat! Everyone is invited to help us build community with the families who attend school where we worship.

Let Lora know by Monday, October 26 if your vehicle will be participating to get a spot. Thank you for helping St. Mark's be a visible, joyful presence in our neighborhood!

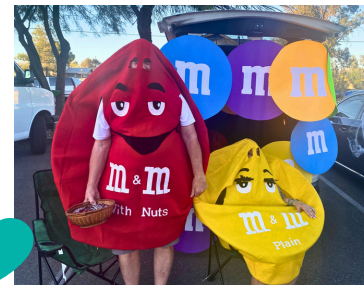
GET INVOLVED:

Decorate a trunk. Bring your car, deck it out, and let your creativity shine.

Help hand out candy. Not interested in decorating your car? No problem. Join us in handing out treats to the kids.

Dress in Costume. Costumes not your thing? Wear your red St. Mark's Volunteer shirt or any St. Mark's logo'd apparel! Want a volunteer shirt? Bring a solid color shirt to the office, and we'll apply the white volunteer decal!

Donate candy. If you can't be with us that evening, you can still be part of the fun. Drop off candy at the Magee Campus office or Sunday morning at Sanctuary.





REGISTER
ONLINE AT

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

ADULT EDUCATION

ST. MARK'S
UMC

We have a
seat at the
table for you!

Starr Gazing A monthly article
by Starr Austin, Assoc. Director of Discipleship

"Learn, learn, learn - but most of all, be kind"

This is the phrase I send my children off to school with each morning. It started when Zaiden was in preschool. This big hearted little boy needed to know that yes, we value learning, but we value kindness more. Jesus was a teacher. He taught us through parables, lectures, and justice-making what we needed to know to live good and Godly lives. At the heart of every example lives just this, be kind. Be. Kind. How is this short phrase such a tall order? Where is kindness getting lost in our society?

I am a mom and I have to tell you this means I spend a good deal of most days in fear. Really, I do. My kids do lockdown drills, have friends with addiction issues, and peers in our larger community have died by suicide before they are even old enough to vote, sometimes not even old enough to drive. I look at my kids: their genetic lottery, the things they have lived through in their short lives, the secrets I know they must hold, and their friends who struggle with family strife, lack of resources, and mental health - and I worry. So I send them into each day asking them to remember that above all else, we value kindness. Go, be the light of Christ. Go, be kind to one another. Go, be kind to yourself.

As we enter October, homecoming games will start, fall sports is in swing, and many of us are signing up for classes, work opportunities, and yes, even planning the holidays already. But, will we be kind? Will we seek to do goodness, to love one another radically and freely, to gather at the table and just connect? This is my ask of you this month - be kind. You will find a month long kindness calendar in this issue. I implore you to try and do the acts of kindness listed for each day. Look for ways to bring kindness into someone's life.

REGULAR & RECURRING CLASSES & STUDIES

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

Seekers Sunday Bible Study - 11:15 am Sundays in Rooms 17/18. Scriptures from the Old Testament are not often used as the basis for Sunday sermons, but the Old Testament is more than half of our Bible! These are the scriptures that Jesus and his disciples would have been taught. Seekers Bible Study wants to learn about the whole Bible, including books that often are not preached. Therefore, we alternate studies from the New Testament with studies from the Old Testament.

Please register online or contact Brenda Hunter to obtain Zoom information. Led by Brenda Hunter.

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

Wednesday Morning Study - 10 am Wednesdays in Rooms 17/18 and via Zoom.

Open Minds Book Group will meet on Friday, October 16th at 9 am on Zoom to discuss *Dora: Daughter of Unforgiving Terrain, a Memoir*, by Dora Rodriguez (2025). At age 19, Dora fled political violence in El Salvador with twenty-five others in search of safety in America, only to collapse on the migrant trail in the hot desert of southern Arizona. One of only thirteen survivors, Dora's courage, compassion, and lifelong commitment to saving lives in the borderlands is inspirational. Led by Celeste Pardee.

New Member Class!
New Member Class!
When is our next
New Member Class?

*It's not just
about
membership*

Monday, Oct. 19 from 6-8:30 pm

We talk about who we are as United Methodists and what we believe; how we are organized, both locally and globally, our history & heritage, and where we're headed.

We invite your questions and at the end of it all, no one is obligated to become a member! Coming to a 'New Member Class' equips you with knowledge and may open your eyes to new groups or opportunities. We even have folks who have been members for years come back for a refresh! Contact Tricia@umcstmarks.org to register.

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.
Proverbs 22:6

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY



Dear families, parents, and caregivers,

In recent issues of the Messenger, we have explored building a faith routine and creating a *sticky faith* for our children. As we move into fall together, I know your calendars are filling up. What you may not know, is how many adults at the church are waiting to support your kid. We wanna know about their T-ball practice, soccer games, violin concerts, and any other way they're spending their time. We want to join you on the sidelines cheering for their wins and hugging them through their losses. We know now that if we are to create a sticky faith for our kids, our church kids, we have to show up. So this month, I'm asking you to reach out to me share their tournament schedules, practice times, and concert dates. I can't come to all of them, but I will come to one of them. And, I will be inviting other trusted adults in the church to join me.
– Starr

Family Bible class

October 4, 11:30 am to 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Starr to register your third through fifth grader and their accompanying adult. Family Bible class will teach your child how to use their Bible and offer crafts, games and engagement for your family to explore the Bible in a fun and creative way together.

October is Kindness Month!

We need your help to: **make kindness the norm.**
randomactsofkindness.org

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS FOUNDATION



Introduction to Lay Servant Ministries

Lay Servant Ministries is one of the most significant lay leadership development programs in The United Methodist connection. Through this system of equipping and empowering, lay servants grow as disciples of Jesus Christ who then go and make other disciples. Classes on a variety of topics are offered throughout the year. If you're new to Lay Servant Ministries, you'll begin with the Basic Course and then move on to more advanced courses.

The Basic Class is offered **Saturdays: October 3rd and 10th** at St. John's UMC in Tucson with Linda Sterling as the Facilitator. Go to <https://www.dscumc.org/lay-servant-ministries> to register,

DID YOU KNOW?

- Discipleship has a quarterly faith and family newsletter
- We are looking to recruit an event planning team for family and intergenerational events
- Discipleship has coined phrases to capture stages of faith development here at St Marks
- Family events *aren't* just for K - 12 families but for anyone raising kids, infants through college

We want to support you when you reach out. Let Starr and Spencer know what your family needs to thrive in our community.

LEADERS CIRCLE - A place for leaders to be supported, encouraged, and equipped.

Oct.: Kindness through Care How do we demonstrate care of others and ourselves?

Leaders Circle is a monthly 90-minute gathering for anyone who leads a small group, class, study, ministry group, or other community at St. Mark's.

On the third Saturday of each month, we'll connect with other leaders, tend to our own spiritual lives, practice one useful leadership skill, and share the real questions and challenges we're encountering in our groups.



Leaders circle will meet Saturday, October 17th 11 am to 12:30 pm in the library. This month we will explore **kindness through the subject of care**. As leaders in the church, how do we demonstrate care of those who show up to our groups? How do we make sure we're caring for ourselves and when do we realize we're just over our head and call for help? We will explore all of this prayerfully through activities and discussion.

on't forget ... all Sunday Concerts start at 3 pm! Don't forget ... all Sunday

St. Mark's '26 - '27
United Methodist

SUNDAY CONCERT SERIES

11 Sunday Concerts start at 3 pm! Don't forget ... all Sunday Concerts start

Our 2026-2027 Concert Series is in full swing!

Be sure to get these dates on your calendar! There will be more information about the upcoming concert season next month.

October 11	Tucson Concert Band	Band music at its best
October 25	Southern Arizona Flute Club	Flutes of all sizes and shapes
November 8	Tucson Little Big Band	Classic Rock Re-Grooved
November 22	Carol Markstrom	Western American Folk



Tucson Concert Band



Southern Arizona Flute Club



UPCOMING CONCERTS - MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

October 11 Tucson Concert Band
October 25 Southern Arizona Flute Club

November 8 Tucson Little Big Band
November 22 Carol Markstrom



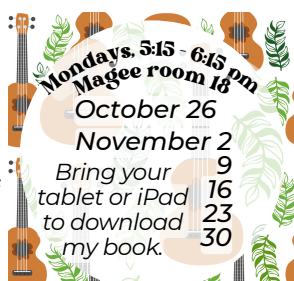
You can't read music? You don't need to!

Whether you've played before or want to learn now, you are invited to join in the fun of playing the ukulele!

Taught by Carla Marquardt with a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and over 35 years of experience teaching music.

Let me know if you need a FREE loaner ukulele.

Sign up with a text to Carla at 209-406-8251 or contact the church office.



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 9am. 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 Dove Mountain Brewing Co. Drink and think (and eat) while discussing life and faith. R.S.V.P. to Cindy Pastorius @ info@umcstmarks.org.

Pickleball meets 7 am - 9 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 information.

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. Contact Kathy Howard.



United
Women
in Faith

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

United Women in Faith unit meeting is **Oct. 13 at 9:30 am in rooms 17/18**

Craft Circle will meet at 9 am Tuesdays, **October 6** and **27**, in Rooms 17/18. The group is finalizing projects and pricing for the Masterpiece Festival. Craft Circle meets again at 9 am on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

CAYA will meet at 9 am Saturday, **October 17**, in Rooms 17/18. All are welcome to this group of fellowship and to explore books on the United Women in Faith reading list. You need not have read the current book to join and meet others. Email DeborahNelson2351@yahoo.com for details.

Grace Circle will meet at 9 am **Tuesday, Oct. 20**, in Rooms 17/18. We will be learning more about GAP Ministries.

Soup for the Soul

United Women In Faith will sell Soup for the Soul after services Sunday, **October 4**, at both campuses. A donation of \$5 for each 16-ounce container will be used for mission projects. There will be a variety of homemade soups to choose from.

United Women in Faith will sell crafts and baked goods at the Masterpiece Festival in the Library and Rooms 17/18. Do your Christmas shopping and have a snack while you look around at the festival.

Brought to you by the Counselor in Residence committee
Breast Cancer Support Brunch **10 AM SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24**

A brunch to provide support, encouragement and friendship for those who have had breast cancer, are currently going through treatment, or support someone.

For more info or to RSVP call Terri at 520-403-3237.

Get your mammograms, ladies, and remind your friends!

Recently, we at St. Mark's found that **70%** of our cancers were found by a routine mammogram. **Nationwide, that statistic is 43%.**

If you've just been diagnosed or are undergoing treatment, members of our Pink Ribbon Team are willing to walk your breast cancer journey with you. If you are a breast cancer survivor and would like to be added to the Pink Ribbon Team, we'd love to connect with you. In either case, you can get in touch by calling the office.

You're invited to the Annual Masterpiece Festival

HANDMADE TREASURES
LOCAL FLAVOR SACRED SPACE

**9 am - 3 pm
Saturday, November 7**

Come shop over 60 artisan exhibitors of handmade jewelry, artwork, home decor, gifts, and more!
Come support local chefs and buy lunch from a food truck!
Come as you are into our worship space to reflect and pray.



The Animal Ministry Team is excited to bring you the 12th annual St. Mark's Blessing of the Animals. The service will be held on Sunday, **October 25** at 5 pm on the labyrinth of our Meditation Gardens. As always, this event is open to the community, so be sure to invite friends and family.

**RUMMAGE
TO THE
RESCUE(S)!**



Saturday, **November 14** from 7 am - 12 noon, the Animal Ministry is hosting a Rummage for the Rescues. This is a rummage sale in our south parking lot for a number of local animal rescues. This provides an opportunity for the rescues to join together for an event that attracts a large number of customers. Please come out and shop.



HO!!! HO!! HO!! Ready for SANTA CLAUS?

FORECAST: As I write this, it's a not so "chilly" 92 °F outside, BUT TiHAN & SAAF need your help for Family Day on **November 21st** to bring gifts for children of people living with HIV. (Earlier in the Holiday Season than usual) Please watch the upcoming Bulletins & E-Blasts for dates, times and gift ideas. 🌬️ -Pat Small



It is that time of the year again! If you are looking for a way to spread love, warmth, and joy this holiday season, the Missions Committee has made it easy for you to support our military service members.

Writing a thoughtful Christmas card filled with messages of appreciation and gratitude is a beautiful way to show our warriors how much we value their dedication and sacrifice, especially during what can be a lonely time of the year away from home. This simple act of kindness is a powerful way to boost morale, create meaningful connections, and spread holiday cheer to those who protect our freedom.



Thank you in advance for your generosity and for making a real impact in the lives of our troops this Christmas.



HARD TO RECYCLE PLASTIC UPDATE

The Tucson Hard to Recycle Plastic Program is changing a bit. Here's what to know before your next drop-off:

- **Styrofoam** is no longer accepted and should go in the trash
- The Hefty Renew **orange bag** is no longer required for the Tucson Hard to Recycle Plastic Program, although you may use any orange bags you currently have on hand. Orange bags will be available for purchase at St. Marks UMC for as long as we can obtain them.
- Instead, any **clear plastic bag** is acceptable. Example – the large bag that contains paper towels and toilet paper purchased at Costco.

The Tucson ByFusion plant should be up and running in early 2027 bringing us one step closer to processing Tucson's Hard to Recycle Plastics right here in southern Arizona.

Thank you for keeping more plastic out of the landfill and putting it back to work.

Taking Jesus to the Polls

"Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow." – Isaiah 1:17

We are compelled by the scripture to love thy neighbor as thy self. Many times throughout the gospels Jesus instructs us exactly in what this means and how we are to treat one another in our society. As we approach the time in our society to cast our votes and affect change on the political stage, we encourage you to do so prayerfully.

We know in our church there are a variety of opinions on every issue. As United Methodists, we center our lives on the scripture, but also reason, experience, and tradition.

At the following website, you can look up the voting issues and eight propositions which will be on our ballot. These are only being listed on our ballots by title. The actual wording and comments submitted for and against will be sent to every address with registered voters. We have listed the propositions below with brief statements on the topics they address:

As you vote this election, we pray the votes carry out the Greatest Commandment.
<https://azsos.gov/elections/ballot-measures>

WANTED YOU!

St. Mark's is on the lookout for disciples ready to live out their faith! When we join the church, we promise to uphold it with our *prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness*. One of the best ways to put that promise into action is by serving right here in our church.

Not sure where you fit? Try our quick **Volunteer Accelerator** to match your gifts with opportunities to serve. You might be just who we're looking for!

Use your smartphone to scan the QR code or go to



<https://tinyurl.com/VolunteerAccelerator>

PROPOSITIONS:

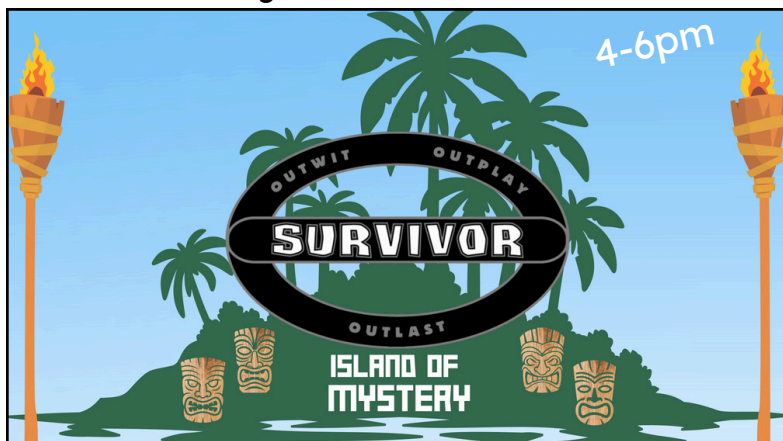
- 141**
car milage tax ban
- 142**
expanded anti-DEI regulations
- 144**
election regulations
- 3216**
grocery tax restrictions
- 317**
drug cartels as terrorist organizations
- 318**
transgender student athlete ban
- 319**
photo-radar enforcement restrictions
- 320**
school spending regulations

OPEN hearts ♥ Open Minds OPEN DOORS

Youth Ministry

At St. Mark's Youth, we believe everyone has a seat at the table.
Youth Group is a place to belong and it happens on Sunday afternoons from 4-6pm in the Wesley House.
We're excited to meet you and want you to feel at home!

Sunday - October 4th



Sunday - October 11th



Sunday - October 18th



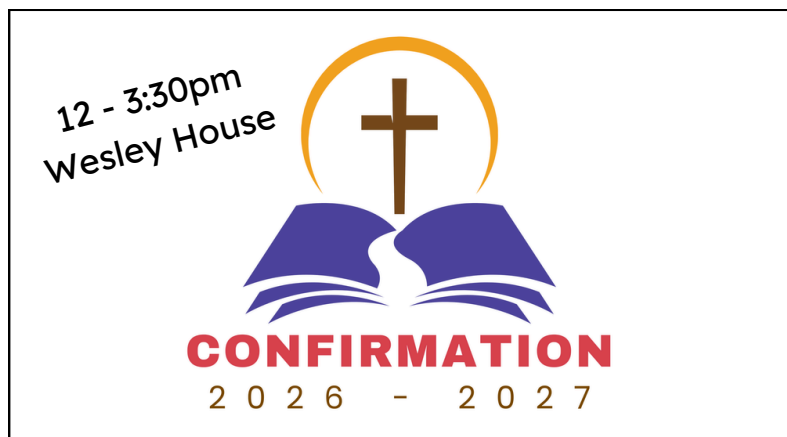
Sunday - October 25th



Sunday - November 1st



Confirmation Meets: Oct. 18th



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

YOUTH VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT!

MEET LISA!

aka Queen Lisa

A long-time St. Mark's member, Lisa and her husband, Adam, raised their three children here. During the week, you can find her at CDO High School where she works as the Gifted Specialist preparing students for college and coaching the Odyssey of the Mind team. In the 1900s she was a Copper Bowl Princess, but we all know she's actually a queen! When she's in the Wesley House with students, you can usually find a Diet Coke in her hand while asking students about their lives (and maybe quoting Shawn & Gus from Psych). Lisa says she loves working with youth because they're funny, genuine, curious, and brave. They constantly remind her that we were created to care for each other.

Lisa's Favorite Verse: Matthew 6:34 NIV

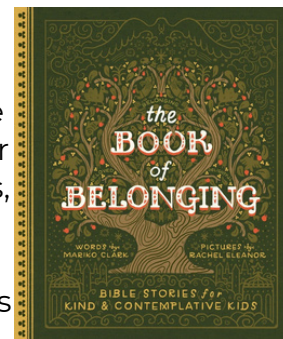
"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."



THE BOOK OF BELONGING

September & October Sunday School!

The Book of Belonging is an incredible children's Bible that was made to encourage curiosity and kindness. In our Youth Sunday School classes, we will be exploring stories that showed us how people found belonging in their lives in unexpected ways that shaped God's grand story of belonging for all.



DENIM & DIAMONDS 2026

Chili Cookoff Time!

Our third annual Denim & Diamonds fundraiser is back with another Chili Cookoff! November 14th from 5-8pm you'll be able to chow down on some amazing Chili, visit our silent auction, and enjoy fun fellowship with friends!



If you're interested in donating to our silent auction, please email Spencer by October 23rd Spencer@umcstmarks.org

To enter a Chili into the contest, please visit the LinkTree below!

YOUTH 2027 : JULY 11TH - 14TH

Texas Here We Come!

Are you interested in attending Youth 2027 with us? Sign up using the LinkTree to get more details!



Fun Fact: Jade is on the design team!

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!

SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT 2027

Ready To Go Back!?

If you're interested in attending SSP next summer, use our LinkTree to sign up and help us pick our dates & location for Summer 2027!



Declan K. - Oct. 4th
Livie K. - Oct. 17th

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!

An Update from the Finance Committee:

Our financial results for July are below. Total Income through July exceeded expectations for a favorable budget variance of \$61,983 while expenses are under \$32,962. We are ahead of budget by \$94,945 year to date.

	JULY	Year to date	Budget	Variance
Contributions	83,068.67	708,469.94	661,276.00	47,193.94
Other Income	16,546.46	110,339.05	95,550.00	14,789.05
Total Income	99,615.13	818,808.99	756,826.00	61,982.99
Expenses	100,533.63	734,765.93	767,728.00	(32,962.07)
Net Income	(918.50)	84,043.06	(10,902.00)	94,945.06

Every week, our two campuses are busy with people gathering, connecting and serving. We worship together, offer discipleship classes, share meals and fellowship, and provide space for groups from our community—including 12-step groups. Our Early Childhood Center welcomes children and families throughout the week. All these ministries depend on having buildings that are safe, functional, and welcoming.

Caring for our campuses and church assets are a big part of our annual budget. Some of the items included in the Trustees' 2026 budget are \$54,000 for utilities, \$21,000 for general maintenance, \$18,000 in rental cost for the Sanctuary location, \$13,200 for landscaping, \$7,000 for custodial supplies and more than \$26,000 for insurance. There are also larger equipment and facility needs that must be addressed from time to time.

As summer ends and we enter the second half of the year, we will begin to consider what our costs will be in 2027. Our annual stewardship campaign will take place this fall, when you will be asked how you will support St Mark's next year.

BREAKING NEWS

TEP has approved our request to operate so our solar carport is now more than shade in the parking lot. We are now producing up to 80 KW of power when the sun is shining, powering our campus and putting any excess back into the grid. We will be able to provide more concrete production and financial numbers over the next couple of months as the bills transition from all TEP power to TEP buying our excess and supplementing our production during dark hours. This is great news!

Our Generosity Campaign Is Coming Next Month

Next year marks seventy years of St. Mark's UMC in Tucson—a remarkable story made possible by generations of people who have supported this church with their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. As we look toward the year ahead, we'll be reflecting on what financial generosity makes possible in the life of our congregation, from worship and ministry to caring for one another and serving our wider community. Our annual Generosity Campaign begins next month, and we invite you to watch for more information and prayerfully consider how you will be part of St. Mark's continuing story through your financial gifts.

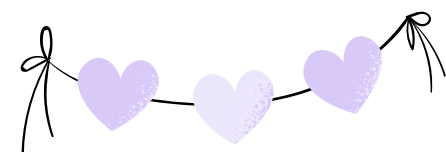
*your
support
means
everything!*

A Partial* Update from the Endowment Committee:

In 2026, the Endowment Committee has assisted in financing the solar project at the Magee campus parking lot, splitting the cost with the Finance Committee.

The Endowment Committee also maintains responsibility for a Seminary Student Scholarship Fund set up by an anonymous St. Mark's donor in 2024. The third annual distribution to a seminary student will be completed this fall.

**a full report is available in the Annual Report*



I want to thank both campuses of St Mark's for their love and support over the past two years as I've traveled back and forth to Pennsylvania to help care for my family. Your prayers, cards and phone calls have meant a lot to me and helped me keep my connection with all of you.

Many blessings and much love,
Judy Boroto



Looking for a great way to meet people and move your body? Join the On Your Mark's Walking Group for indoor walking at our summer walking place, the Tucson Mall! We will meet on **Monday, 10/12 and Friday, 10/30** at 9:40 am in the North parking lot of Magee campus (near the basketball/pickleball court). Or, meet in the Food Court at Tucson Mall at 10 am. Bring water and plan on two hours, for two miles. Contact: Cheri Schwartz

Meet our Praise Team!

Every Sunday, our Sanctuary campus is filled with music that lifts our hearts and invites us into worship, and it's our Praise Team who help lead the way. These faithful volunteers give their time, talent, and joy to help our congregation sing, pray, and encounter God together. We're grateful for each of them and glad for the chance to introduce them to you. Get to know the voices and instruments behind the music!



Chris Cindy Collin Kerry Kevin Tim David

Tim Weiler is the bass guitar player on the praise team. He first started playing bass over twenty years ago at his church in Elgin, IL, but took a long hiatus after moving to Tucson before joining the praise team at the Sanctuary campus in 2023. Tim's favorite Bible verse is James 5:13 "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise."

Chris Barnes is the acoustic guitar player and a vocalist on the praise team. He has been playing on the teams at the Magee and Sanctuary campuses for four years. Chris also



has a solo act called Chris Alone where he performs at local restaurants around town. Chris's favorite Bible verse is John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

Cindy Pastorius is the praise team director/worship leader. She is the keyboard player and a vocalist. She has been a part of the praise team at Sanctuary for over five years and assumed the director role last December. She has been on praise teams for over 25 years! Cindy's favorite Bible verse is 1 John 4:11 "Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another."

David Eubank runs our slides during the service on Sunday mornings. He has been a part of the praise team for a couple years now and helps us stay focused and on time during the service. He can tell you what time it is anywhere on Earth, so he's a natural time keeper! David's favorite Bible verse is the Lord's Prayer from Matthew 6:9-14.

Kevin and Kerry Powers are the Audio/Visual leads on the praise team. They have been volunteering in these roles for over eight years, but also worked in A/V at their church in Oklahoma before moving to Tucson. This area allows both of them, two neurodivergent people, to contribute to and participate in worship in a way that's behind the scenes and fosters creativity. They don't have a specific Bible verse as their favorites, but they look at the various stories and how they can find meaning from them for today.

Collin Pastorius is the jack of all trades on the praise team. He usually plays electric/lead guitar, but fills in on bass and acoustic guitars when needed. He is currently playing cajón until we find a new drummer. He has been a part of the praise team at Sanctuary for over five years, but has been on praise teams for over 18 years. Collin's favorite Bible verse is Proverbs 27:17 "Iron sharpens iron, and one person sharpens the wits of another."



... from our Sanctuary Campus Pastor

I am feeling a growing sense of excitement around St. Mark's Sanctuary Campus as we explore new ways to enrich worship, build community, and better serve our neighbors.

You may notice that things look a little different when you enter worship. Our Discipleship Team has helped create a "pray ground" where children can participate in worship right alongside the rest of us. This welcoming space includes coloring pages, colored pencils, quiet fidget toys, and other activities to help children – and adults!! – engage in worship in ways that are meaningful to them.

We also want more people to know that St. Mark's is part of the Marana community and that everyone is welcome to worship with us. This was the point of our picnic in September and our upcoming Trunk or Treat at Coyote Trail (see page 1 for the details).

There is a wonderful sense of excitement in the air. As we carry that excitement into the community, we have new opportunities to show our neighbors that we care, build meaningful relationships, and extend Christ's welcome to all. Stay tuned for more community events and opportunities to get involved!

- Pastor Ash



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 umcstmarks.breezechms.com/form/PrayerRequest

Gail Blevins
Ellen Beene
Liza Carsten
Heather Fish

Abe Grijalva
Brenda Hunter
Jim Johnson

Priscilla McInnis
Shirley Riley
Ellen Stephenson
Dan Snyder

Lowell & Priscilla Hinkins
Dick & Judy Poffenberger
Members of our military



April DuBoce and Alex Garrett cordially invite you to our wedding nuptials on Sat Nov 21 at 2 pm in the Magee campus sanctuary. A reception to follow. Everyone is invited!

St. Mark's UMC



Call and leave a message:
520-783-8837 (no texts)

Or email:
pastoral_care@umcstmarks.org

HINT: Add it to your cell phone contacts under Care Line



We Are A Table-Oriented Faith.

Jesus gathered over meals and during the Last Supper, broke bread with his beloved Disciples and charged them to do this in his memory. From this moment we get the ritual and tradition of Communion, which we observe as a church community on the first Sunday of each month. However, I think Jesus was saying do this:

break bread together, sit around the table and share your stories, laugh and love one another through the meeting of sustenance with love. Do this, every time you eat together, pray and laugh and love in remembrance of [me].



(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 am

*live streamed at 10 am
on our website and YouTube*

Sanctuary Campus

8000 N Silverbell
Tucson, AZ 85743

Sunday Worship 10

Lead Pastor:

Rev. Lynn Bartlow

Sanctuary Campus Pastor:

Pastor Ash Dotson

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Richard Jones



GATHER WITH US AT THE TABLE

Tuesday, October 6 join us for a pre-conference church meal in the fellowship hall at 5:30 pm. The church conference follows in the sanctuary at 7 pm. Childcare will be provided starting at 6:45 pm. We hope this encourages family attendance at our annual conference.

Wednesday, October 21 join us for [MIDWEEK]! Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm. We will be working on an intergenerational service project as a way to demonstrate love and kindness toward our neighbors in our community.

Coffee with Pastor Ash

Join Ash at Starbucks - 5659 W Cortaro Farms Rd in Marana for conversation, questions, or just to hang out. Hope to see you there! **Oct. 6th at 8 am.**



THE TABLE CHALLENGE

Dinner once a week as a family
Learn a mealtime prayer together
Invite someone you don't know well to a shared meal with you
Volunteer at ICS or another local food bank or soup kitchen

Let's Talk Turkey!

We are looking for a team of people to plan, organize, and host the Thanksgiving day potluck. If you have skills planning events or would enjoy being part of a set up/cleanup, or turkey cooking crew- let Starr know by dropping her a line at starr@umcstmarks.org

Coffee with Pastor Lynn

Come chat with Pastor Lynn!

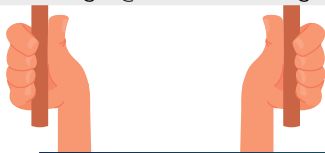
Join her between **3-4 pm** on **Oct. 7**

at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore at the former Foothills Mall. Grab a drink or just come chat!



Address Service Requested

If you would like to receive the
Messenger electronically and
discontinue your paper copy, please
submit your request to
messenger@umcstmarks.org



...from our Historian



It has been a privilege to serve as St. Mark's Historian: to learn about our roots for both campuses and to see how we have evolved as a community. We have the opportunity to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the St. Mark's campus in 2027 as well as the 75th Anniversary in six years! With those milestones ahead, it seems like a wonderful time to build a team to help preserve and tell the story of St. Mark's.

Our Book of Discipline says that we should have an Archives and History Committee, and it seems timely to form a committee now. The job is straightforward: filing, sorting, and inventorying relevant papers and objects that describe our history. We also make these resources available to interested parties.

However, there are tasks one could help with without being a formal member of a committee. Some of the tasks include:

- Creating a current historical timeline
- Writing updated history
- Sorting and inventorying documents from Sanctuary UMC from before our merger
- Organizing our current archives after a move to a new location
- Continuing to store correctly current records
- Identifying and scanning old photographs

You can help with all of this, but I can no longer do it alone. If any of these tasks appeal to you, please reach out to me at hunter.brenda653@gmail.com and we will arrange for a conversation. There are also guidelines available from the larger United Methodist Church that explain what the local Church Historian is expected to do, so we are not working in a vacuum!

Our history is worth preserving—and there are many ways to help make sure that the stories,



Aerial Photo – 1970's

photographs, documents, and memories of St. Mark's are available for generations to come.

Brenda Hunter