

## St. Mark's Yard Sale

St. Mark's Yard Sale Committee is planning the Annual Yard Sale and hopes that you are too!

Please start planning what you would like to contribute to the sale as well as when you would like to volunteer to help during the sorting/pricing work times: Saturday July 28 and July 30 - August 2 and sale day August 3 - 4.

If you plan to donate jewelry, please bring it to the church office as soon as possible.

You might think that the yard sale sounds like a lot of work - and it is! But it's a lot of fun, too! And remember, if you help get ready for the sale, you get to shop early!

Please stop by the sign up board on the patio and let us know when you plant to help with preparation and on sale days—August 3-4. There will be things suitable for all ages and levels of mobility.

The yard sale is also a great outreach to the community!

## Community Restorative Circles

Live Well San Diego gives you a unique opportunity to join others in a positive dialog around topics of concern to your community. Through Restorative Circles your community will gain a deeper understanding of issues, create social cohesion, and solve problems. The next conversation will be on Civility In Politics on Saturday, July 21 from 2-5PM at the Islamic Center San Diego. Please join Rev. Jeri and your neighbors as we learn together how to have open and constructive dialog.

Register at [www.ncronline.com/communitycircles](http://www.ncronline.com/communitycircles)

## Sierra Service Project

The SSP team is leaving in less than 3 weeks for Chiloquin, Oregon, and they would love to hear from you while they are there. If you would like to write a letter of encouragement, or just say hi, the counselors will deliver the mail to the SSP staff to hand out during the week. As per SSP tradition, the youth will receive their mail only if they perform a song/dance routine that the counselors will be sure to take photos of to share when we return. Please mail letters directly to:

St. Mark's UMC Youth  
Sierra Service Project  
General Delivery  
Chiloquin, OR 97624

Thank you for all of your support and we will be excited to share our experiences when we return.

## Hunger Appeal Sunday July 15

Sunday July 15 is Hunger Appeal Sunday. This special offering is a request of the California Pacific Annual Conference. The funds collected are used to support feeding and hunger ministries being conducted by churches throughout of Conference. Hunger should never be a fact of life for anyone. Please be generous with your support of this fund.

## BACK TO SCHOOL BACKPACKS

Community Christian Service Agency (CCSA) Backpack Program is underway. St. Mark's hopes to collect 75 packs for local students in K-9th grade. We will collect new backpacks and school items through July 22 when we will bless the packs and their eventual recipients during church. The flyer and backpack listing is in the church office or you can go to [www.ccsasandiego.org/projects/back-to-school-program](http://www.ccsasandiego.org/projects/back-to-school-program) for more information.

## Church at the Beach

St. Mark's will celebrate another year of church outside at Tecolote Shores in Mission Bay. Join us on Sundays August 5, 12, 19, and 26, at 8:30 AM and enjoy fresh air, fresh music, and fresh ideas of familiar bible stories. Bring your chairs, your blankets, and your neighbors..

## Office Volunteer

Are looking for an opportunity to volunteer your time and talents at church? Do you have some free time during the week ? If so, please consider becoming an office volunteer. We currently have a need for help on Monday mornings from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

For more information please contact: 858-273-1480.

## VBS News

On June 10, your Vacation Bible School team romped the center aisle of the church to introduce this year's theme, *Old Testament Tour of Bible Giants*. Planners dressed as tourists with a mix of props traveling to Mt. Ararat, Shinar, Valley of Elah, Tarshish, Ninevah, and into the Promised Land at Jericho.

All children ages four years and up are welcome to participate in this summer's Vacation Bible School drama. Flyers with registration forms are available in the church office and online at <http://www.stmarksumcsd.org>.

Pack your bags, everybody, don't miss the boat (big flood comin').

We need you for a few hours, a single job in prep, or attending one (or more) of our two-and-a-half hour sessions in August. Please let us know how you'll help, won't you? This is living our United Methodist faith.

If we are to build a massive wall around Jericho at this summer's Vacation Bible School, we need all the boxes you encounter, please. All sizes and shapes.

**Please hang on to them until after the yard sale on August 4, or we'll come and pick them up from you.**

Questions? Karen Scanlon at [kws-canlon@gmail.com](mailto:kws-canlon@gmail.com) or phone 858 583-4992.

## Notes from Rev. Lydia

How wonderful it was to worship with you all last Sunday. Thank you for generous warmth and welcome. James and I felt your love and we are so glad to be here with all of you..

From this point onward. I'll have a small column that's dedicated to sharing about what I'm up to and some of my thoughts. In my first week at St. Mark's, I was given a handy list of young adults and young families who have attended St. Mark's or are affiliated in some way. Part of my role in this first year. Is creating some fellowship groups where people within similar demographics can get to know one another. While the large Sunday morning worship community must always strive to be as diverse as possible, small peer groups within the larger more diverse group helps create more intimacy.

I know that for me, my smaller peer-groups were essential for my psychological, emotional, and spiritual well being all through young adulthood. We had a young adult breakfast club at one of the churches I attended and never did I look forward to church as much as I did then because it meant I would be hanging out with fellow twenty-somethings after the service discussing the sermon and the challenges of being a twenty-something-year-old in all of its particularities. TO this day, into our thirties, this group still keeps in touch.

So...if you are a young adult or a parent of young children, you'll probably be receiving a call from me this next week to connect with you to hear more about where you are at, what you are looking for, and to share with you some ideas that I'm thinking of. You are also .welcome to reach out to me ii you have an idea or think you may not be on my list. I would love to hear from you. My email is: [lydia@stmarksumcsd.org](mailto:lydia@stmarksumcsd.org)

## GriefShare Sessions August 14 through November 6

GriefShare is for people grieving the death of a family member or friend. We understand that there are other losses in life that create feelings of grief. You might be experiencing a job loss, a divorce, estrangement from a child, or the loss of friends because of a move. This grief is real, but it is not the kind of grief discussed in GriefShare sessions..

GriefShare sessions will be held Tuesday, August 14 through Tuesday November 6, at 6:30 PM

Lindsey Van Gorder, Licensed Social Worker, will lead video and workbook discussions. Sign ups are encouraged by visiting the office or calling St. Mark's at 858-273-1480

## In Our Prayers

## Giving Statements

## Next Week @ A Glance

# St. Mark's Messenger

3502 CLAIREMONT DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92117

Vol. 45: Issue 25

- ♥ Phil Currie
- ♥ Renee Pierce
- ♥ Robinson Family
- ♥ Forrest Sedgwick
- ♥ Kelly Hopkins
- ♥ Rose Marie Pierce
- ♥ Phyllis Drewett
- ♥ Sherry Forrest
- ♥ Vera Morrison
- ♥ Al Johannesen
- ♥ Dolores Hall

The mid-year financial statements are now available on the patio after church for you to pick up.

Please take yours and save the church the cost of mailing them at the end of the month.

## Pastor's Sunday School

In Pastor's Sunday School we study the lectionary texts which follow the church calendar.

It's an informal study, *always open to all*, at 8:30 AM in the New Room, just behind the church office.

## NEVER MISS A SERMON

Missed Sunday's sermon? You can watch Sunday morning sermons on video by visiting:

[stmarksumcsd.org/sermons](http://stmarksumcsd.org/sermons). They can also be found on the St. Mark's Facebook Page



### Sunday, July 15, 2018

- 8:30AM Pastor's Sunday School/NR  
Summer Choir/CR
- 9:30AM Church Service/Sanc  
Hunger Appeal Sunday
- 12:00PM Tongan Fellowship/Sanc
- 4:00PM Book Study/NR

### Monday, July 16, 2018

- 4:30PM CCSA Board Meeting /Lib
- 6:45PM AA Meeting/RM 9

### Tuesday, July 17, 2018

- 6:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting/Lib
- 7:15PM AA Meeting/RM 9

### Thursday, July 19 2018

- 9:30AM Ties of Love/SH
- 1:00PM Interfaith Disaster Council/NR
- 7:00PM Boy Scouts/SH
- 7:15PM AA Meeting/RM 9

### Saturday, July 21, 2018

- 3:00 PM Boy Scouts Eagle Ceremony/SH

### Sunday, July 22, 2018

- 8:30AM Pastor's Sunday School/NR  
Summer Choir/CR
- 9:30AM Church Service/Sanc
- 4:00PM Book Study/NR

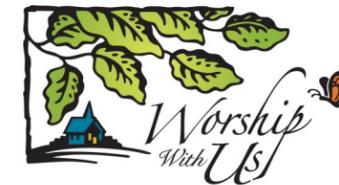
**CR=Choir Room   Sanc=Sanctuary**  
**Lib=Library   SH=Social Hall**  
**NR=New Room**

*\*If you have any questions about or would like to add an event to the church calendar, please contact the church office at 858-273-1480 [umcsdoffice@gmail.com](mailto:umcsdoffice@gmail.com).*

## July 10, 2018



Rev. Craig Dorval  
Senior Minister



Sunday, July 15  
9:30 AM Service  
Rev. Jeri Newell-Davis

Child Care, Rooms 1&2

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE  
SUNDAY JULY 1: 145



858-273-1480

## Keeping In Touch

Dear friends,

Who said this?

*"To speak a vital, creative word to our generation requires both imagination and devotion. Many persons no longer think of the church as the cultural, intellectual, and social as well as the religious center of the community."*

As we together create some new directions for St. Mark's, these are good words to hold close: "imagination" and "devotion." We are fostering a climate of imaginative experimentation—that is, both thinking of and trying ministries that have never been done before. We can also encourage ourselves to imagine and try new ways of doing things we've done the same way for a long time.

"Devotion" is a quality of being that relates to both faithfulness and holiness. We can think of it as living to the highest standard of "love one another," which holds the potential of extraordinary, life-giving witness in this troubled world. I think pretty much everyone longs for this kind of devotion.

What does it mean "to speak a vital and creative word" to each new generation? This could be said a different way, using the mission statement of the California-Pacific Conference of the UMC: "Inspiring the world as passionate followers of Jesus Christ, so that all may experience God's life-giving love."

This word is vital because it is sincere and life-giving, which means relationship-nurturing, connection-fostering, and community-building. It is creative because it is always bringing into being new possibilities and opportunities. This kind of affirming creativity energizes and engenders a palpable sense of expectancy, on Sundays and every day.

Sometimes when the conversation turns to speaking a vital, creative word to new generations, we get so fixated on getting people to come to church that we take a turn into thinking we must give people what they want. We always want to speak to people's deepest wants and needs, and the heart of Christianity does that. But Quaker philosopher Elton Trueblood has this reminder:

*"Occasionally we talk of our Christianity as something that solves problems, and there is a sense in which it does. Long before it does so, however, it increases both the number and the intensity of the problems."*

The words at the start of this letter were spoken 56 years ago at St. Mark's by Rev. Galal Gough on the second Sunday of worship in the new sanctuary—November 11, 1962.

See you in church!

You are invited to participate in the St Mark's prayer chain via email. Prayer requests will be sent to you via an email account you provide; you will not be asked to do anything other than offer your private prayers for requests you receive. To participate, please email Donna Newby: [donewby@san.rr.com](mailto:donewby@san.rr.com).

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