

St. Mark's Messenger

Volume XXXIV Issue 28
3502 Clairemont Drive, San Diego, CA 92117

July 12, 2017
(858) 273-1480

DEAR FRIENDS,

“Summertime, and the livin' is easy Fish are jumpin' and the cotton is high”

Many of you know these lyrics from George Gershwin's opera, *Porgy and Bess*. The opening lines of this lullaby make it seem like life is easy, but when we look deeper we see the discrepancy of what is and what ain't. Life ain't easy; there is pain and suffering in the lives of Porgy, a disabled black man and Bess, the drug addicted, abused woman he longs to save. There is segregation and there is poverty. There are the haves and the have nots.

I bring this up because we live in a time when some people would have us believe that it's summertime, and the livin' is easy, but some people don't see it that way. They are struggling with life and death issues, acts of exclusion, poverty, and loneliness. That is why St. Mark's continues to reach out to the community in a variety of ways. Here are some of the ways you can help to ease the burdens and maybe, just maybe, allow for a little easy livin' during this summertime.

- **Hygiene Items & Socks Drive**– Bring your donations for CCSA to church on Sunday, July 16 to help community families receive the basics during financially difficult times. Bins will be located by the doors as you enter the church.
- **CCSA Backpack Drive** – We hope to have 75 packs stuffed with the essential school supplies for student K-9th grade for blessing on Sunday, July 23. You can bring your packed backpacks to the church any time between now and July 23. Information is found in the church office or on line at <http://www.ccsasandiego.org/projects/back-to-school-program>.
- **Clairemont Days** – Saturday, August 5, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. St. Mark's will be across the street meeting and greeting our neighbors, playing games, and inviting them to all the free things St. Mark's offers; monthly pancake breakfast, Vacation Bible School, Blessing of the Animals, Annual Concert Series, Living Nativity, and more... I invite you to sign up to help host the booth for two-hours
- **Annual Yard Sale** – We are offering our campus up to the community to unload and load up on gently used items. What is not sold is donated to DAV and Calexico Neighborhood House. Donations can be dropped off beginning Sunday, July 30. All ages are invited to help sort and sell. Sign up in the church office
- **Sunday Church on the Beach** – Sundays, August 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 8:30 a.m. we will celebrate church in Mission Bay at Tecolote Shores (South of Hilton Hotel). This will be an opportunity each week to share communion, participate in a mission project, hear a message in a different way, and experience God's great creation. Bring a chair or blanket
- **Grief Share** – Beginning Tuesday, August 8 at 6:30 p.m., Social Worker, Lindsey Van Gorder will lead the 13-week Grief Share classes for those who are dealing with the loss of a loved one. Registration is requested.

Yes, it's summertime, so let's make the livin' easy for our neighbors. I invite you to join us by volunteering your time and resources as we make the community a better place for everyone. Check in with the office for more information. Our number is 858-273-1480.

See you in church,
Jeri

GRIEFSHARE

GriefShare groups meet weekly at 6 p.m. in the New Room to help people face the challenges and move toward rebuilding life after the death of a loved one. Each GriefShare sessions have three distinct elements: videos, group support, personal study and reflection. The next 13-week session begins Tuesday, August 8. Lindsey VanGorder, MSW, will be leading the class. Sign-ups are in the church office.

39ER'S MONTHLY LUNCH GATHERING

July 14th the 39er's social group will be meeting at 11:15 a.m. at Country Waffle (5252 Balboa Ave.) Topic of discussion: Changing the name of the 39er's group being that most of the active participants are in their 80's and 90's. Please RSVP with Wendy Holman at 858-273-3184 and let her know what your idea is for re-naming the group.

SUMMER CHOIR IS HERE

You are invited to sing with the summer choir on Sunday mornings. Rehearsals are Sunday mornings at 8:30 a.m. in the Choir Room. Please see Frank Williams, Choir Director for more information. Everyone is invited.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Are you interested in engaging in friendly and lively study of the Bible? You are always invited to drop in on Wednesday Night Bible Study, which meets weekly from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. in the New Room near the church office.

ST MARK'S PRAYER CHAIN

You are invited to join the 95 families who 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 send your email address to Donna Newby, donewby@san.rr.com.

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MEMORIAL GARDEN PLAQUES

Are you aware that there is a dedicated Memorial Garden area at St. Mark's? It is the outside upper terrace in front of the church, including the walled deck with trees and plants, and the Memorial Wall. The posts of the Wall hold memorial plaques, dedicated to deceased loved ones as a way to memories of them alive. An accompanying book of biographies with a page for each of those identified by the plaques is inside the narthex near the Memorial Wall.

Each year we offer the ordering of bronze plaques for deceased former pastors, members, constituents and their immediate families. Plaques may be ordered with either one name (minimum donation of \$500) or two names (minimum donation of \$750), with the costs covering purchase of the plaques, their installation and dedication, and maintenance of the Memorial Garden.

If you would like to dedicate a plaque, please obtain a Memorial Garden Wall brochure from the church office. The brochure provides much more information, and includes an order form. Orders and payments must be received by August 20 to be included in this year's All Saints Sunday dedication in November. If you have further questions, please contact Ron or Donna Newby at 858-278-4482 or other members of the St. Mark's Memorials Committee.

YARD SALE AUGUST 4 – 5

Please remember the dates for the yard sale and plan to participate by:

- Donating Items
- Assisting with sorting items before yard sale
- Shopping the yard sale
- Assisting during the yard sale

Please pray for the event and its contribution to our church and community!

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Attendance on Sunday, July 9 was 158.

GIVING STATEMENTS

Your giving statements for the first half of the year are available for pick-up on the patio this Sunday morning or in the office during the week. Please contact Arlene Dempster at 858-2733-9938 with any questions about your giving statements.

SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2017

8:30 AM	Pastor's Sunday School/NR Summer Choir/CR
9:30 AM	Church /Sanc
11:00 AM	Membership Conversation/NR
12:00 PM	Tongan Fellowship /Sanc

PASTOR'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Begins at 8:30 a.m. in the New Room. Everyone is invited. Child care is available.

Below are the lectionary readings for this week:

*Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 119:105-112
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

SAN DIEGO PRIDE PARADE

Join Rev. Jeri and others as together they stand and march in solidarity with the LGBT community during Pride festivities. This Saturday, July 15, St. Mark's will be marching in the Pride Parade. Information on this will be coming from the organizers to Rev. Jeri. It is important that you contact the church office ore Rev. Jeri to sign if you are going to participate in this event so you will know the gathering time and location.

MARKETPLACE 29 A.D. AUGUST 21 -25

This year's St. Mark's Vacation Bible School program is a whole-self experience. Let's imagine a child is visiting the spice shop, and she is grinding fennel or cardamom on the mortar and pestle. Suddenly she and the trades-people in the shop hear the sound of Roman soldiers afoot in the marketplace. Why are they coming? Run, hide...

Or, a young boy is pounding coin in the Roman treasury when he hears the shouts of his neighbors, "The storyteller has come, hurry." He throws aside his tools and rushes to the edge of town."

These and many more scenes will be created for children in the Marketplace. Five half days of learning, singing, games, drama, and crafting for children ages four years and up. Snack at the fruit stand or shop at the bake house. Lunch included. All children everywhere are encouraged to meet at the Marketplace.

Families may register now online at <http://www.stmarksumcsd.org>, or pick up a registration form in the church office. *Shalom.*

HUNGER APPEAL SUNDAY – JULY 16

This Sunday, July 16, 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 our Conference. Hunger should never be a fact of life for anyone. Please be generous with your support of this fund.

ST. MARK'S MEMBERSHIP

Some people have been inquiring how to join St. Mark's, while others of you may just want more information on who we are. Either way, you are invited to meet with Rev. Jeri this Sunday, July 16, at 11 a.m. in the New Room (found in the back of the Offices) to talk about St. Mark's, the United Methodist Church, and who we are as a community. Bring your coffee from the patio and let's talk.

CLAIREMONT DAYS

Your help is needed at the Clairemont Family Days on Saturday, August 5! Sign up in the church office if you are available for a two-hour commitment. This is a wonderful, fun opportunity to invite neighbors from our community to "the church across the street." For more information, please contact the church office.



Clairemont Family Days 2016

NEXT WEEK @ A GLANCE

Monday, July 17, 2017

4:30 PM CCSA Board Mtg

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

6:00 PM Finance Committee/NR

Wednesday, July 19, 2017

5:30 PM Bible Study/NR

Thursday, July 20, 2017

8:00 AM Chair Yoga/SH

9:30 AM Ties of Love/SH

1:00 PM Interfaith Disaster Council/NR

7:00 PM Boy Scouts/SH

Sunday, July 23, 2017

8:30 AM Pastor's Sunday School/NR
Summer Choir/CR

9:30 AM Church /Sanc

10:45 AM Blood Pressure Screening/NR

12:00 PM Tongan Fellowship /Sanc

CHURCH AT THE BEACH IN AUGUST

Mark your calendars and dust off your beach chairs to come worship at the beach! St. Mark's will have church at the beach each Sunday in August which includes a time for music, prayer, scripture, a message and fellowship beginning Sunday, August 6. Church at the beach starts at 8:30 a.m.

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 23 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 for more information. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

Pledge/Envelope Giving for June 2017

<u>June</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
\$28,232.15	\$182,389.66

Required to Meet Budget

<u>4 Sunday Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
\$28,679.24	\$186,415.06

CHAIR YOGA

Stretching our muscles while deep breathing is something everyone knows is important but sometimes we don't know how to get started. Chair Yoga is a great place to begin. No headstands or pretzel bending, just moving body and breath. You are invited to chair yoga at 8 a.m. in the Social Hall.

LET US KNOW!

Picture-taking and video recording are frequently done during church events. Some of those pictures may be published in our church publications, slideshows, on our website, or on our social media pages. If you do not wish to have your picture published, please let an usher know, or contact the church office 858-273-1480 or via email.

IN OUR PRAYERS

When we became part of the United Methodist Church, we made a commitment to ourselves to support the Church by "our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness." **Please keep the following people and their loved ones in prayer:**

- ♥ *Ralph Denton and Kasia*
- ♥ *Beth Dugan*
- ♥ *Anita Ness*
- ♥ *Erin Riechman*
- ♥ *Christine Kay*
- ♥ *Ron Hess*
- ♥ *Dolores Hall*
- ♥ *Mitch and Marisa Boyer*
- ♥ *Tricia Martin*
- ♥ *Forrest Sedgwick*

and our military personnel, including:

- ♥ *Kris Brendal, Army*
- ♥ *Robert S. Chisholm, Navy*
- ♥ *Craig Clemans, Marines*
- ♥ *Paul Clemans, Air Force*
- ♥ *Blake Cross, Navy*
- ♥ *Brandon (Dempster) Lewis, Navy*
- ♥ *Samuel England, Navy*
- ♥ *Lenny Hezelett, Navy*
- ♥ *Amanda Hoadley, Navy*
- ♥ *Michael Hunter, Navy*
- ♥ *Brady Jackson, Army*
- ♥ *Jeremy Munson, Navy*
- ♥ *Milo Riegle, Marines*
- ♥ *Nathan Streeter, Army*