

LOS TIEMPOS



May 2025

Our Purpose

Jesus Christ calls us to be a joyful community that celebrates God's love, transforms lives, and is a force for justice in the world.

We Welcome All

St. Mark's is a community of believers and seekers committed to being queer-affirming and anti-racist, reflecting the love and justice of Jesus Christ. We are a place where people of all ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, and abilities are welcomed, celebrated for their gifts, and invited to share in God's embrace.

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday | 9am–12pm

Office closed and staff observe Sabbath on Fridays



Find @StMarksAZ on social media!



WHEN THE DESERT BLOSSOMS

IT'S THE SEASON

when the desert blossoms. The palo verde trees are in bloom. Bright red blossoms top the ocotillos. Prickly pear and other cacti sprout brilliantly yellow, orange, and fuchsia flowers.

In the springtime, we desert dwellers can relate to the Isaiah passage when the prophet announces: "The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing."
(Is. 35:1-2)



Isaiah was celebrating the people's homecoming after a prolonged time of exile. His message is that all of creation, even the typically dry and seemingly lifeless parts, will burst into beauty as the people of God return home.

In a similar way, the Sonoran desert this spring seems to celebrate our homecoming. In the season of Eastertide, we celebrate our homecoming to the heart of God's love after a time of separation and exile. God's love rejuvenates the barren and dry parts of our lives, and new life flowers from us. And we celebrate



REV. TRACY DAUB (SHE/HER)
Transition Pastor
tracy@stmarksaz.org

what God can bring forth from desert places!

Blessings,

Tracy



Cover photo:

The white blossoms of a cordia flower

THANK YOU FOR GENEROSITY



The Dunbar Pavilion

An African American Arts & Culture Center

rec'd
A.A. 2025

April 4, 2025

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
3809 E. 3rd Street
Tucson, AZ 85716

Dear Rev. Daub and the St. Mark's Presbyterian Church Family,

On behalf of the Dunbar Pavilion, I extend our deepest gratitude for your generous donation of \$900 in honor of Black History Month. Your thoughtful gift is a meaningful tribute to the legacy of enslaved African peoples and the enduring contributions they made to American culture—particularly through the creation of African American spirituals that continue to be cherished in church hymnals today.

Your recognition of this legacy speaks volumes about your commitment to truth, justice, and the spiritual resilience that lives on in our collective worship. These spirituals are not just songs, they are sacred expressions of hope, endurance, and faith, born from unimaginable hardship and passed down through generations as a form of resistance, healing, and praise.

We are especially grateful for your acknowledgment of the Dunbar Pavilion's role in uplifting the African American community and preserving the rich cultural contributions of Black people in Southern Arizona. Your support reinforces our mission to honor the past, empower the present, and build a future rooted in equity and shared understanding.

Thank you for walking alongside us in this sacred work. Your generosity and solidarity are deeply appreciated and continue to inspire us as we preserve and celebrate the legacies that shape our community.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Freda Marshall
Freda Marshall

Executive Director

The Dunbar Pavilion

executivedirector@thedunbartucson.org

325 W. 2nd Street - Tucson, AZ 85705

NOMINATIONS

Celebration of Graduates

May 11

It's grad season, and we want to celebrate the achievements of the students in our community! Please send the name of any student you want to recognize, and what level they are graduating from (preschool, kindergarten, 8th grade, high school, college BA, MA, PhD!)

Student info can be sent to Rachael Eggebeen prior to May 11(edsrachael@gmail.com)



Our Search for a New Pastor

(May 4)

The search for a new pastor continues. Our next step is for the Church Nominating Committee (CNC) to nominate members of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). As part of this process, the CNC will be having an informational meeting on May 4 in the chapel immediately following the service to provide information about the duties and responsibilities of the PNC and to seek input as to persons you, as members of the Congregation, believe should be considered for this important role. Recommendation Forms will be available at the May 4th meeting.

Place your form in the sealed box next to the forms.

SUPPER CLUB SUCCESS



*Sister José
Women's Center*

Sister Jose Women's Center “ Supper Club”

Each night (7/365) volunteer groups cook and serve dinner to 60 women – staff and resident guests– at the Sister José Women's Center. The evening meal is called “Supper Club” because it provides both food and social time for those who are staying overnight at the Center. St. Mark's Community and Global Engagement (CGE) team has been learning more about volunteer opportunities there and signed-up for a supper club meal on April 28th. Jan Prinz and Caroline Rondeau coordinated the group. Audrey Harding and Charlie Ambrose planned the menu, and shopped for the groceries. Since food must be prepared in a commercial kitchen, cooks Pat Muller, Betsy Hughes, Martha Osborne, and Beth Carroll donned hairnets and gloves to help with the prep and serving. Our menu of sloppy joes, potato salad, veggies, grapes and chips was enjoyed by everyone, and Caroline served cookies at the tables as the guests were finishing their meal.

If you'd like to learn more or get involved, please let Jan (janeth60@gmail.com) or Caroline (carolinerondeau0408@gmail.com) know as we will plan more Supper Club opportunities.



PENTECOST DOVE-MAKING

The Sanctuary Art group of the Worship Team is sponsoring a **Doves for Pentecost** project, and we will need some help. There will be patterns and material at the Opportunity Table beginning May 4, if you would like to take a dove pattern and paper home and cut out some doves.

Bring them back during the month of May, and **we will assemble and hang them for Pentecost, which is June 8th.**

We may have a dozen doves, or a whole flock, depending on participation.

Join in the fun!



A dove resident on
our church campus



OPPORTUNITIES

Second Sunday Supper will be in the **Second Street Parking Lot** this month, **May 11 at 5:00PM!**

Eegee's subs (and eegee's slushies!) will be served as the main dish. Bring a side dish to share if you can. All are welcome!

2ND SUNDAY SUPPER ON 2ND STREET!



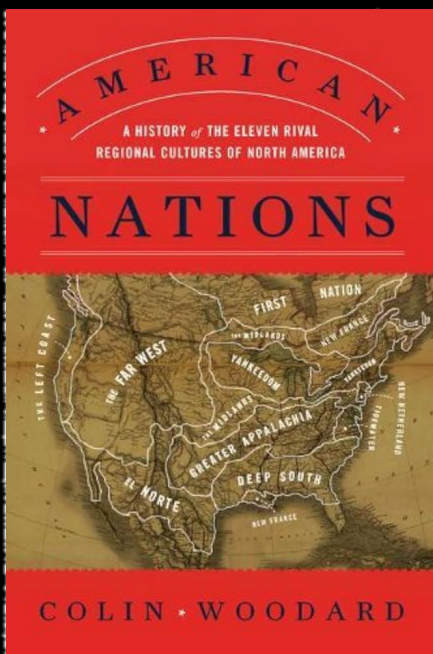
Contact **Gianina**
(gianina@stmarksaz.org)
or call
(520) 325-1001 ext. 205
to reserve the Mt.
Lemmon cabin this
summer to escape the
heat!

Book Club Continues

The Book Club will meet **3 Thursdays in May**. The **1st, 15th and 29th, 11:00AM to 12:30PM** in Calvin Hall. We are continuing to read American

Nations by Colin Woodard. Reading and discussing this book helps to understand how the different cultural regions of the United States are anything but united, and why we continue to be a divided in our politics, life styles, and values.

You don't need the book to participate, and all are welcome.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

From Congregational Care...

It's time to update contact information for the church records.

We want a local emergency contact for everyone just in case you experience a medical emergency while at church. This emergency contact needs to be someone who could get you home and then stay with you for a while. Knowing your next of kin is nice, but doesn't really help if they live outside of Tucson.

Cathy Lurvey of the Congregational Care Team will be collecting this information; she may reach out via email or face-to-face on a Sunday. You can learn more about this request on **Sunday after worship on May 18th**, or email Cathy at deaconmindset@gmail.com

Congregational Care Informational Opportunities

At St. Mark's, we all care for each other, check in on each other, help each other. **On Sunday, May 18**, after church, come learn how you can plug in with one of Congregational Care Teams three areas of service:

Hospitality (assisting with events)

Pastoral Care (visiting members in need, sending cards, etc.)

Membership (identifying and welcoming visitors and new members, and connecting them with other folks at St. Mark's)

We will have 3 separate tables with current Congregational Care Team members. We encourage all to learn how you may continue to help if you wish to engage more to support our community.

Looking forward to seeing you!

- Lynne Davies & Jim Cullum

LIBRARY CART UPDATES

The church library received donations of the 9 books listed below from Ellen Kuyper, Cynthia Lang, and an anonymous donor. Many thanks!

An aside to all of you who want to empty your bookshelves: Unfortunately the church library has very limited space for additions to the collection, so we need to be extremely selective in accepting donations. A good alternative for donations is Friends of the Pima County Library Book Barn, 2230 N. Country Club. They accept donations M-S, 9AM-12PM and hold book sales once a month over 3 days. They also sell many books online.

Humankind: A Hopeful History. by Rutger Bregman.
Little, Brown, 2019

The Inner Reaches of Outer Space: Metaphor as Myth and as Religion. by Joseph Campbell.
Alfred Van Der Marck Editions, 1986

Women in Buddhism: Images of the Feminine in the Mahayana Tradition. by Diana Y. Paul.
U. of California Press, 2d ed., 1985

A Survey of Bible Doctrine. by Charles Caldwell Ryrie.
Moody Bible Institute, 1972

Taize: A Service of Song and Silent Prayer.
University Presbyterian Church, 1998

Jung and Feminism: Liberating Archetypes. by Demaris S. Wehr.
Beacon Press, 1987

Children's Books:

What is God? by Elan Boritzer
Firefly Books, 1990

Wowtime-52 Engaging Children's Moments. by Mark Burrows.
Abingdon Press, 2010

My Favorite Bible: God's Word Translation. by Randi de Boer and Christine Tangvald.
Revell, 2011

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

April 2025 Session Highlights Margaret Wilkie, Clerk of Session

Session met on **April 15, 2025** for its monthly stated meeting.

Clerk's Report and the Wider Church:

Margaret received notification that the Presbytery's Tucson Record Reviews are scheduled for June 13-14 at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Tucson. The Clerks of Session meet to review the records of the churches in the Presbytery.

Lynne Davies reported the death of Cedric Dempsey. He and his wife June were active members of St. Mark's when they lived in Tucson in the 1980s.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Tracy Daub shared her list of activities and administrative meetings she attended between March 18 and April 14, 2025.

On April 21st Tracy and Tim traveled to the Dominican Republic to visit their son who is serving in the Peace Corps.

The Reverend Kelsey Martin preached on Sunday, April 27. She is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary and was recently ordained in the PC(USA) to serve as a hospice chaplain here in Tucson.

Congregational Nominating Committee:

Jan Prinz reported the Committee will hold an informational meeting on May 4th after the service to provide information about the duties and responsibilities of the Pastor Nominating Committee. Congregational members are encouraged to recommend members to consider for serving on this important committee.

Ministry Teams Highlights/Action Items:

Administration (Charles Ambrose):

There was a workday at the Mt. Lemmon St. Mark's cabin on Saturday, April 19th. The Coronado National Forest approved the temporary placement of a porta-potty for the 2025 operating season. It will be placed in an accessible location near the cabin. This will allow more people to be able to use and enjoy the cabin.

The committee received the 2024 annual financial review from Frey Solutions.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Community and Global Engagement (Martha Osborne and Jan Prinz):

Sister Jose Women's Center: Church volunteers cooked dinner for the Center's Supper Club on April 28th. The hope is this will be the first of many dinners St. Mark's volunteers will help with at Sister Jose Women's Center.

Congregational Care (Lynne Davies and Jim Cullum):

Congregation Care has three areas of responsibility: Hospitality, Pastoral Care, and Membership. **On May 18th** they will have a Congregational Care Table where members can find out more about these areas where they could be of service. On Saturday, June 7th, there will be a Grief Workshop led by Reverend David Fife, Director of Community Engagement, for Roots & Roads: Community Hospice Foundation. This is open to all members.

Faith Formation (Rachael Eggebeen):

The 3-part Lenten series, Finding Hope Amid Crisis, was well attended and received. It was a group effort by Faith Formation and Global and Community Engagement.

St. Mark's will acknowledge and celebrate our students graduating matriculating from all levels – preschool to graduate degrees **during worship on May 11th**. Please send the names and levels of school completion to Rachael Eggebeen (edsrachael@gmail.com). The committee is busy working on plans for the rest of the year.

Personnel (Becky Cook and Beth Carroll):

An update on the Insurance Board Abuse Prevention Coverage provided the information needed to move forward. Team members will complete the Praesidium Academy training so they can frame expectations for others (all employees and volunteers who work with children/youth and vulnerable adults). The policies and training need to be in place by September 1, 2025. The team is hosting a appreciation lunch for staff on Wednesday, June 4th.

Worship (Kevin Hainline, Gwyn Roske, and Robin Staples):

Holy Week plans were all in place.

There will be a memorial service for Linda and Sean Ryan on May 17th. A reception to follow in Geneva Hall.

June 8 is Pentecost. The team will be creating doves to hang in the Sanctuary.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 1|11:00AM-12:30PM

Book Club. Meet in Calvin Hall. Currently reading American nations by Colin Woodard.

May 6| 1:00PM- 3:00PM

The weekly **Bridge group** meets in Calvin. All are welcome, beginners or experienced players.

May 6| 5:00PM- 6:0PM

Community & Global Engagement Committee. Office Conference Room. All are welcome to attend.

May 7| 8:00AM -11:00AM

Join Iskashitaa for their monthly **drum circle**, as part of their weekly **Refugee Garden Arts Program**. The drum circle is held in the playground on the north side of the church. All are welcome

May 7| 8:30AM-9:30AM

Join us for **Midweek Manna**, a gathering for prayer and Bible study on the upcoming Sunday's preaching text, held in the office conference room (2nd Street side). All are welcome.

May 7| 6:00PM-8:00PM

Join the **Contemplative Community of Tucson** in Calvin Hall every Wednesday for prayer, a 20 minute moment of silence, and short biblical reflection.

May 7| 6:45PM-7:45PM

Restorative Yoga. All are welcome to stretch and connect with your body every Thursday in Room F (2nd Street side).

May 8| 5:00PM- 6:00PM

Faith Formation Committee. Office conference room. All are welcome to attend.

May 11| During Worship Children's Church.

May 11| During Worship Graduation Sunday.

May 11| 5:00PM- 6:00PM

Second Sunday Supper. Join our Miramonte Neighborhood community in the 2nd Street parking lot for eegee's. Bring a side dish if you wish. All are welcome, bring a friend!

May 12| 10:30AM-12:00PM

The **Admin Committee** will meet in the office conference room this month. All are welcome to attend.

May 12| 4:00PM- 5:00PM

Personnel Committee. Office Conference Room. All are welcome to attend.

May 13| 1:00PM-3:00PM Bridge Group.

May 14| 8:30AM-9:30AM Midweek Manna.

May 14| 4:30PM- 5:30PM

Worship Committee. Office Conference Room. All are welcome to attend.

May 14| 6:00PM-8:00PM

Contemplative Community of Tucson.

May 14| 6:45PM-7:45PM

Restorative Yoga.

May 15| 11:00AM-12:30PM

Book Club.

May 18| AFTER WORSHIP

Congregational Care Tabling.

May 20| 1:00PM-3:00PM

Bridge Group.

May 20| 7:00PM- 9:00PM

St. Mark's Session. Office Conference Room. All are welcome to attend.

May 21| 8:30AM- 9:30AM

Midweek Manna.

May 21| 6:45PM-7:45PM

Restorative Yoga.

May 25| After Worship Big Coffee.

May 26| ALL DAY

MEMORIAL DAY. OFFICE CLOSED.

May 27| 1:00PM-3:00PM

Bridge Group.

May 27| 1:30PM-2:30PM

Congregational Care.

Office Conference Room. All are welcome to attend.

May 28| 8:30AM- 9:30AM

Midweek Manna.

May 28| 6:00PM-8:00PM

Contemplative Community of Tucson.

May 28| 6:45PM-7:45PM

Restorative Yoga.

May 29|11:00AM-12:30PM

Book Club.

CONTACT INFO

Ministry Teams

Administration

Charles Ambrose – fragglrock2@msn.com

Congregational Care

Jim Cullum – jcullum@jcams.com

Lynne Davies – LCSQRD@cox.net

Faith Formation

Rachael Eggebeen – edsrachael@gmail.com

Community & Global Engagement

Martha Osborne – martha.r.osborne@gmail.com

Jan Prinz – janeth60@gmail.com

Worship

Gwyn Roske – groske1@gmail.com

Kevin Hainline – kevinhainline@gmail.com

Robin Staples – robin.staples@cox.net

Personnel – personnel@stmarksaz.org

Beth Carroll

Becky Cook

Clerk of Session

Margaret Wilkie – wilkie.m.l.tuc@gmail.com

Staff

Transition Pastor

Tracy Daub – tracy@stmarksaz.org

Organist/Pianist, Director of Handbells

Jared Aragón – jared@stmarksaz.org

Director of Music

David Bracerros-Hamm – david@stmarksaz.org

Church Administrator

Gianina Scavone – gianina@stmarksaz.org

Director of Communications

Elaina Richards – elaina@stmarksaz.org

Facilities Coordinator

Michael Robinson – michael@stmarksaz.org





3809 E. Third St.
Tucson, AZ 85716 | (520) 325-1001
www.stmarksaz.org

We Welcome All

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Sunday Schedule

In-Person Worship: 10:30am

Livestream: www.YouTube.com/StMarksAZ

Find Us Online!

www.stmarksaz.org

Facebook.com/StMarksAZ

Instagram.com/StMarksAZ

Twitter.com/StMarksAZ