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pastor of St. Mark.

Upcoming Events

New Member Orientation
This Sunday (June 5)
12:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Congregational Meeting
This Sunday (June 5), 2 p.m.

**Tuesday JAM Night & Junior
High Messy Tuesdays**
Resumes 6 p.m. June 7
Water party, bounce house and
pizza.

High School Youth Night
Resumes 7:30 p.m. June 7
Games & discussion at St.
Mark, followed by fellowship at
the Gelato Spot (40th St. and
Greenway).

ST. MARK CONNECTIONS

Connecting People to Jesus

June 2011



Greetings!

You know, this was probably one of the nicest Mays that I think I've experienced in Phoenix. The weather was great, the Diamondbacks are/were in first place (depending on when you're reading this), the kids are now out of school and ready to hit the summer months head on, and the church is growing and healthy in so many ways.

Sunday we'll have our Congregational Meeting to again set the course (with our Strategic Plan) on where it is that we hope God will take us in the upcoming year... as well as a time that we will be able to celebrate many of the miracles, victories, and stories of this past year with you. My hope is that it will be an incredibly encouraging time for all those who attend. But the take away, I hope is this: that you would know that God is making a difference! So, yeah God!

Now, as some of you have no doubt heard, St. Mark has given me the wonderful opportunity to take a sabbatical this summer. In fact, one of the coolest things about our church (from a pastor's perspective) is that in an effort to take care of and value your staff, you allow them after seven years of service at St. Mark to take a sabbatical, both as a thank you for years past and an investment in the future. But its purpose is to renew and refresh the staff person and prepare them for the next seven years of ministry. Some of you may remember John having this opportunity a couple of years ago and now I am blessed to have it come around to me. So, thank you, thank you, thank you.

Now, just to dispel a couple of rumors...

1) No, I'm not going to Germany. Although, when I heard that one, I got so excited because I thought it was going to be a surprise from you guys. Since then I've been assured by leadership that that is not the case. So, I will be spending my sabbatical in the beautiful cities of Houston, Texas, to visit my wife's family and Scottsdale, Ariz., at a place called "My Casa" - unless that doesn't mean house, then I just mean at my house. And

2) Yes, I'm coming back - in time for VBS week - ready and raring to go.

The thing I love the most about this gift of a sabbatical is this: that it models for everyone the need to rest and restore and renew. It's what

6th Grade Parent Orientation

6:30 p.m. Wednesday,
June 8, Fellowship Hall.

School's Out H.S. Lock-In

6/10 (7 p.m.) - 6/11 (7 a.m.)
Bowling, pizza, video games,
movies. Cost is \$20.

New Member Sunday

June 12, 9:30 a.m. service

Forest Home Meeting & Pool Party

6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 16
Contact Mike at
medge@stmarkphx.org for
more details.

Ice Cream Sunday

June 26, in between services

Ministry Links

[Preschool](#)

[Children's Ministries](#)

Youth Ministry:

[Junior High](#)

[High School](#)

[CONNECT](#)

[Celebrate Recovery](#)

[Women's Ministry](#)

allows the time to renew our perspective. It's what allows God to do some long awaited work in our lives. It's what the Sabbath was intended for in the first place. So thank you once again, but also make sure that you are taking those times to spend with God, with family, with yourself... so that you too may be refreshed for the days ahead.

God's blessings and see you at VBS!

Pastor Mike

Summer CONNECT Studies

Sign-ups are underway this Sunday for the summer CONNECT studies at St. Mark. For a complete list of the summer offerings, or to sign up online, visit our the St. Mark website at: [CONNECT Sign Ups](#) You can also sign up using the Communciation Card in your bulletin, at the CONNECT table in the courtyard or contact the church office at 602-992-1980.

Summer Fun Bible Camp

Looking for something fun for the kids in the summer? Bring them to Summer Fun Bible Camp! For more information, contact Pamela Hardy at phardy@stmarkphx.org.

Session 2: May 30-June 10 *Under the Sea*

Half day rate: \$85.00 Full Day: \$155.00

Session 3: June 13-July 1 *Hop on Board Fitness and Fun*

Half day rate: \$85.00 Full Day: \$155.00

Summer Fun Month (Additional fees added)

Session 4: July 5-8 *Gourmet Kids Cooking* (No school 4th of July)

Half day rate: \$95.00 Full day: \$165.00

Session 5: July 11-15 *FatCat Dancing*

Half day rate: \$110.00 Full day: \$180.00

Session 6: July 18-22 *Vacation Bible School Week/Karate for Kids*

Half day rate: \$5.00 Full Day: \$70.00

Session 7: July 25-29 *Arizona Sunrays Gymnastics-Class*

Half day rate: \$105.00 Full Day: \$175.00

Session 8: August 1-5 *Academic Readiness Review*

Half day rate: \$85.00 Full Day: \$155.00

St. Mark Mission Ministry

St. Mark is organizing a new Mission Ministry. Before we kick off our new program, we'd like to know what's already going on. If you or a group is already engaged in outreach to the community (sharing the Good News, providing meals, giving rides, etc.), please contact StMMissions@gmail.com or call Donna at 602-494-9631.

When sending an email or leaving a message, please include the following information:

- Group name
- Who is involved
- What you do (be specific)
- Contact information

Thank you for your assistance!

Vacation Bible School

Grab a vine, brave the rapids and prepare for a BIG JUNGLE ADVENTURE from 9 a.m. to noon July 18-22. Kids won't want to miss a minute of this adventure where they can go wild for Jesus! Complete with interactive and engaging activities, kids will learn about Jesus' amazing love and will have fun with music, crafts and games. The cost to attend is \$5 and VBS is open to children ages 3 through sixth grade. Invite your family and friends! Call the church office at 602-992-1980 for a registration form, email info@stmarkphx.org or stop by the Children's Ministries table on Sunday.

SplashFest 2011

St. Mark is renting out Paradise Valley Pool (40th Street and Bell) for a morning of fun! Mark your calendars now for SplashFest, scheduled for 10 a.m. - noon Saturday, July 23. Plan to get wet - and invite some friends to cool off, too. Food will be provided.

Contact Information

Do you have a need for assistance? Contact John Hubeler in the church office at 602-992-1980 Ext. 3 or jhubeler@stmarkphx.org. If you have an emergency and are needing to contact someone at the church, please call 623-640-1280. For information on the email newsletter, St. Mark Connections, including submissions, please email newsletter@stmarkphx.org or call the church office at 602-992-1980. The deadline for July submissions is June 24.



Try it FREE today.