

Adult Ministries are Heating Up!

- **College Class** becomes **The Orchard**
- Pray for St. Mark's **Youth/Adult Mission** to Henderson Settlement
- **Welcoming Rev. Rickey Wade** Sunday, July 12th
- **GriefShare** course offered this Fall
- Save the Date for St. Mark's **Love • Serve • Lead Day – August 22, 2026**

The Orchard



Younger Adults, including current and recently graduated undergraduate and graduate students and early career folks, gather to explore current issues of faith and life, and grow together. The Orchard is a place to be nurtured, to grow in faith, and to bear fruit; all are welcome! This class is led by Trish Clark and meets in Room 502. Contact David Cowan (615) 893-3455 for more information.



**Please pray for our 15 Missionaries
at HENDERSON SETTLEMENT:**

YOUTH: *Kyle Anderson, Connor Cahill,
Zoe Wright, Cherish Gomez, Rachel Jones,
Bristol Christopher, & Sylvia Anderson*

ADULTS: *Trish Clark, Laney Marlatt, Deb Hobbs,
Cathy Cowan, David Cowan, Butler and Rev.
Martha Touchton, & Rev. Hannah Underwood*



13 Sessions on Sundays, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Beginning August 9th at St. Mark's UMC

\$20 Materials Fee, Assistance Available

Orientation Sunday, August 2, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

For the registration link, email martha@stmarkstn.org

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP Offered AT ST. MARK'S UMC

Almost everyone knows someone going through grief: it might be a friend or a family member, a neighbor, or a coworker. You are encouraged to invite them to GriefShare.

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar designed to help persons rebuild their lives after losing a loved one. St. Mark's group is led by Cyndy Stone Allen, a deeply caring individual who has experienced grief and wants to help others through the difficult days ahead. You can learn more about GriefShare [here](#).

GriefShare meetings are on Sundays, 4:00 – 6:00 pm for 13 Sessions beginning August 9th. A brief orientation meeting will be held Sunday, August 2nd, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m., and books will be distributed at that time.

All meetings will be held at St. Mark's in room 504. Limit 10 participants, open to the public. A materials fee of \$20.00 is payable to St. Mark's UMC by Sunday, August 2nd; assistance is available, please speak to Rev. Touchton if needed.

To register or for more information, visit [here](#) or email martha@stmarkstn.org



WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

As we plan for upcoming ministries, your church staff would like to hear about what's on your mind and heart so we can respond to your needs more effectively.

You're invited to respond to this [questionnaire](#) by July 15th:

MILESTONES AND TRANSITIONS

We are close to completing many milestones and changes happening in the life of the St. Mark's church family. Thank you for your faithfulness and participation in each of these celebrations! Please continue to be in prayer for each person and situation involved, as well as our church as a whole.

If you are willing to assist with the celebration listed below, please volunteer to martha@stmarkstn.org.

May God bless St. Mark's UMC as we continue to move forward for Christ!

SAVE THE DATE:

Sunday, July 12th – Rev. Rickey Wade's first Sunday preaching at St. Mark's UMC, Reception following.



WELCOMING REV. RICKEY WADE

Experiencing a change in lead pastors is a significant event in the life of any congregation; the Staff/Parish Team, church staff, and many lay people are working together to make this pastoral transition as smooth as possible. You are invited to join in as we welcome Rev. Wade and his family into our church family. Here are a few things you can do in the coming weeks to be an instrument of God's grace in this time:



Josh Brown

- 1) **Pray.** Pray for Rev. Rickey Wade, his wife Becky, and their family as they prepare to come to St. Mark's. Please continue to pray for Tommy, Hillary, and Liliana as they prepare for ministry in a new setting and especially pray that their house will sell soon. Finally, pray for and encourage our staff as they go through this time of change. Together, we can trust that God will work through the decisions and processes of this transition in the best way possible.
- 2) **Lend a hand.** If you are willing to lend a hand at one of the special events happening in the coming weeks, please volunteer to Lisa Chappell or Rev. Touchton. Be listening for additional opportunities to help Rev. Wade as he moves into his new office space.
- 3) **Give a gift card.** You are invited to give a gift card to your favorite a local restaurant or other local business to welcome Rev. Wade. We will have a basket at his reception to receive your cards.
- 4) **Plan to attend the Welcome Reception** for Rev. Rickey and Becky Wade this Sunday, July 12th, after worship. During this reception, there will be some creative opportunities for you and your family to help Rev. Wade and his family feel welcome in our church and community. This will be a special time you won't want to miss!

Thank you for all you have already done to give your love and support to our pastors and staff. As we continue to move through this time of change, let's join together to make it a fruitful time full of love and grace.

Josh Brown, Chair
St. Mark's UMC Pastor/Parish Relations Team



Save the Date:
LOVE•SERVE•LEAD DAY
Saturday, August 22, 2026
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

At St. Mark's United Methodist Church, we believe that one of the best ways to demonstrate God's love is through service to our community.

As part of that commitment, you are invited to join in service alongside local nonprofits, community organizations, and our own church family.

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Serve in your chosen project. Options include:

- *Family-friendly projects where children can participate alongside parents*
- *Seated or low-mobility projects especially for persons with physical limitations*
- *Hands-on or physically active projects for volunteers who enjoy outdoor work or more strenuous service opportunities*

Registration for projects will occur August 2 - 16.

Nursery Care for Infants - Age 4 provided at St. Mark's UMC
Please Reserve with Hannah Underwood

12:15 p.m. Ministry Celebration Lunch served at St. Mark's

Watch our newsletter, bulletin and social media outlets for more information.

This event sponsored by
St. Mark's UMC Mission Team
and coordinated by
Meg Van Patten and Rev. Martha Touchton

