



ST. MARK'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 1, 2024 - 9:30AM

Communion & First Sunday of Advent

"MARY, BEING FAVORED"



Worship with us In-person
Live-Streaming on Facebook and YouTube at
www.facebook.com/fairfieldstmarks
And on our website at
<https://www.fairfieldstmarks.com/live-stream/>

WELCOME, we are glad you are here!

Please complete the Attendance Pad located in each pew.

Pass it to the next person. When the last person completes it, return the pad to its original place, looking at the names of persons in your pew.

Greet one another at the conclusion of our worship!

Have a prayer request?

Prayer Cards are located in the pew racks. Completed prayer cards will be collected during the opening hymn and shared during our prayer time.

*An * invites you to rise as you are able, in body and/or spirit. Congregation responses are in **Bold print** and projected.*

WELCOME/GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

HYMN

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel

UMH 204

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

Come, let us worship the God

Whose light brings hope to a weary world. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

UMH 196

*OPENING PRAYER

From places deeply rooted, we gather to light our advent candles. From places yet undiscovered, we gather to sing our advent songs. From places still hidden in plain sight, we gather to read our advent texts. From places tangled with disappointment, we gather to share our advent prayers. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys/Concerns

If updates are unknown, these items are listed for up to 4 weeks. Extended concerns are listed under "Continuing Prayers."

- 11/24 Pastor Mark & Diana's daughter, Emily Walls.
- 11/24 Prayers for Tomie O'Sullivan's procedure.
- 11/24 Patty Coyle's brother-in-law, Jerry Sang, diagnosed with cancer of the tongue.
- 11/24 Shirley Aydlett's knee surgery has been moved up to December 3, Tuesday.
- 11/24 Prayers for Marlis Hatton as she works her way through medical tests and treatments.
- 11/24 Iris Jones' daughter, Kathy Beltz will have surgery on November 27, Wednesday.
- 11/17 Continued prayers for Bryan as he recovers at the home of Bill and Lynne Schumacker.
- 11/17 Our heartfelt condolences go out to the family and friends of Dick Davis, who passed away on November 16, 2024. May God's comfort and peace surround you during this time of loss, and may cherished memories bring you strength and solace.
- 11/17 My granddaughter, Abby, who is fighting an illness & near the fires in California.
- 11/17 Bill & Ana Brockfield on the death of their 26 yr old son, Christopher who was hit by a car while riding his bicycle. He is David's great nephew.
- 11/17 Tari Randall's family; her sister-in-law has passed away and we send our hearts and prayers to the family and friends.
- 11/10 Joy! We are celebrating our 65th Wedding Anniversary and would like to Thank God for such a wonderful family he has given us and also our church family of 58 years. With Love, Bill & Mary Lou Knau.
- 11/10 Scott Taylor was in a motorcycle accident.
- 11/10 Continued prayers for the Klingel's and Pastor Mark & Diana (*said goodbyes to their doggie, Daphne*)
- 11/10 Prayers for my daughters.
- 11/10 Danny Thomas. He fell hurting his replacement shoulder and leg. He will have a MRI.
- 11/10 Carol Walker, Melinda Gross' mother. She is in Christ Hospital with heart issues.
- 11/10 Jennie Marshall's 16 yr old cousin, Alexis Goebel & her parents, Jeff & Jen. Alexis had emergency surgery to remove tumors that pathology continues to test for cancer.
- 11/03 No words are adequate to say thank you for your cards, food, and thoughtfulness during our time of illness. Thanks for travelling the journey with us.—Pastor Bob& Judy Klingel
- 11/03 Mary Ann Elick who is recovering from surgery November 4.
- 11/03 Jenni Hensler's aunt and cousin on the death of their daughter and sister Karen.

Continuing Prayers

Please help us keep this list current by emailing or calling the church office with updates. Contact Lyn at L.bucalo@fairfieldstmarks.com or call the office (513) 844-1818.

For Pastor Mark and Diana Gregory
All service Men & Women
Our Country
First Responders
United Methodist Church
Prayer & Bible Study Groups
For the sick and/or homeless
Don Ault
Shirley Aydlett
Ann Brabbs
Kathy Bradley
Patty Coyle

Sharon Hamp
Marlis Hatton
Judy & Bob Klingel
Cliff Klug
Wade Lewis
Lori Palmieri (P. Coyle's daughter)
Linda Prohaska
Kathy Beltz (Iris daughter)
Brenda Smoot (healing)
Debbie Vitale (healing)
Parkside Residents

St. Mark's Homebound:

Freida Hawkins
Gale Logan—Otterbein Community
Nancy & Wade Lewis
Flo Moore (Berkeley Square)
Eleanor McCollum
Charlene Miller (Berkeley Square)

Zedith Pottenger
Jean Stivers
Virginia Shaw
Paul Schutte
Betty Stover (NY in home hospice)
Betty Winkler (Lives in GA 6/30/24)

ST. MARK'S WEEKLY CALENDAR

Check out our online calendar: fairfieldstmarks.com/calendar

TODAY, 12/01 Advent & Holy Communion Sunday

- 9:30 am Holy Communion & worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
NO GLOW, nursery open for infants—age 3
- 11:30 am New Covenant Church Worship in sanctuary
- 5:00 pm Advent Celebration & Potluck Dinner

MONDAY, 12/02

- 10:00 am Ladies Craft Group (Craft Room)
- 6:30 pm Ladies Bible Study (In-Person)

TUESDAY, 12/03

- 7:00 pm Trustees meeting

WEDNESDAY, 12/04

- 7:30 am Men's Prayer Group (Prayer Room)
- 2:00 pm Bible Study Group (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 pm Handbell Practice
- 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 12/05

- 10:00 am Small Group Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Ohio Military Band REHEARSAL
- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY, 12/06

SATURDAY, 12/07

- 7:00 pm New Covenant Choir Practice (Choir Room)

SUNDAY, 12/08

- 9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
GLOW, Preschool—5th grade, nursery open for infants—age 3
- 9:30 am Confirmation Class
- 11:30 am New Covenant Church Worship in sanctuary
- 2:00 pm Winter Wonderettes at GHCT
- 6:30 pm CYF meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECEMBER 1, SUNDAY, 5-7PM, ADVENT CELEBRATION & POTLUCK DINNER

Join our church family as we begin the season of Advent. We'll provide the main dish and drinks; please bring a dish to share. A program and crèche dedication will follow dinner. Contact Peggy Smith for more details and reservations.

DECEMBER MISSION: PARKSIDE GIVING TREE DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 15

The Parkside Giving Tree is up and ready for you to select your name tags with recipient wish list. **All wrapped gifts are due by December 15;** for questions, contact Jenni Hensler.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES SCHEDULE: (December 8 at 9:30am)

Sundays at 9:30am—Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, and March 9. Sundays at 6:00pm—Dec. 29, Jan. 26, Feb. 23, and March 23. Students are confirmed on Easter. If you can help us with providing a dinner, it would be greatly appreciated. The dates we need dinners are: 12/29; 1/26; 2/23; and March 23. For more info contact Peggy.

DECEMBER 8, SUNDAY, 2PM. CYF EVENT TO GHCT's "WINTER WONDERETTES"

CYF Ministries invites everyone to enjoy GHCT's production of Winter Wonderettes, directed by Sue Combs & Chris Beiser. For questions contact Sue Luken.

DECEMBER, HOLIDAY CRAFT ITEMS NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

DECEMBER 11, WEDNESDAY, 6:30PM, ROOM AT THE TABLE (ZOOM)

We are meeting via Zoom on the 2nd Wednesday and 4th Thursday of each month. The dates for the rest of the year are: 12/11, and 12/26. Contact Zachary Dichtl.

DECEMBER 12, THURSDAY, 7:30PM, OHIO MILITARY BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Join us as St. Mark's welcomes the Ohio Military Band for an evening holiday concert. Mark Hensler has been the director of the group for 30 years. The band will be joined by Sue Combs, St. Mark's Handbell Choir, Chris Beiser and other guest to perform. Start off your holiday season with festive music we all love. Find out more about the band on their website at <https://ohiomilitaryband.com> or their Facebook page. (Free admission)

DECEMBER 14, SATURDAY, 1-3PM, SENIOR CHRISTMAS PARTY (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

Bring your favorite potluck/covered dish to share and a \$1.00 gift item to participate in gift exchange. Get ready for an afternoon filled with great food, music, and community! We're thrilled to have Chris Beiser serenading us with his incredible vocals, accompanied by the talented Sue Combs on piano. See you at the party! Please let Sue Beckett know if you plan to attend and for details.

DECEMBER 15, SUNDAY, CHRISTMAS CANTATA "ONE INCREDIBLE MOMENT"

We are thrilled to present One Incredible Moment, a heartwarming cantata celebrating the night Christ was born. Featuring narration drawn directly from Max Lucado's inspiring book and the tender melodies blended with timeless carols, this unforgettable presentation will fill your heart with joy this Christmas season. Don't miss this celebration of Christ's birth like no other!

DECEMBER 15, SUNDAY, UGLY SWEATER/COOKIE DIVA, FELLOWSHIP HALL

Cookie Diva: Bring your best to our Cookie Diva: Christmas Cookie Contest! Bake (2) dozen of your favorite, yummiest, or best recipe and leave them in the kitchen that morning with your name on the bottom of the plate. Our (3) judges will taste, deliberate, and decide your cookie fate. Who will claim the title? Join the fun and find out in Fellowship Hall! *THEN...*

Ugly Sweater: Who will have the ugliest sweater for 2024? If you have a most unfortunate sweater, wear it today so that we can judge (cough—cough) critique the look. Be ready to model it for the chance to be the Ugly Sweater Champ! Let Pastor Mark or Lyn Bucalo know you are competing.

DECEMBER 20, FRIDAY, 12PM, RUTH CIRCLE LUNCHEON

Join us for our Ruth Circle Christmas Luncheon! Bring a small white elephant gift (around \$1) and a covered dish to share. For more details, contact Pam Guynes.

DECEMBER 24, TUESDAY, 10:30PM, CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE

DECEMBER 25, HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

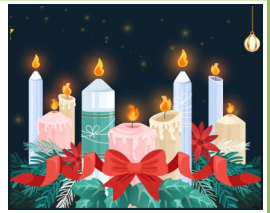
A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Merry Christmas! If you'd like to give a monetary gift to the Gregory's this season, a basket is available by the mailboxes. Please make checks payable to Mark Gregory (not St. Mark's).

Thank you!

CYF—ADVENT CELEBRATION FAMILY EVENT
DECEMBER 1, SUNDAY @5-7PM

Join our church family as we begin the season of Advent. The main dish and drinks are provided. We ask you to bring a dish to share. Program and dedication at the Crèche to follow dinner.
Contact Peggy Smith.



CYF—FAMILY EVENT "WINTER WONDERETTES"
DECEMBER 8, SUNDAY @2:00PM

November 10 is the deadline to reserve/pay for your seat to the GHCT theatre. The show is directed by Sue Combs and Chris Beiser.
For more details, contact Sue Luken.



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT on DECEMBER 12, THURS. @7:30PM

The Ohio Military Band will be returning with Mark Hensler directing, joined by St. Mark's Handbells (Sue Combs), and special guest Chris Beiser.



CHURCH EVENT: COOKIE DIVA and UGLY SWEATER
DECEMBER 15, SUNDAY @10:30AM

Who will claim the title of Cookie Diva and who will be the next Ugly Sweater Star Champ?
For more details, contact Pastor Mark or Lyn Bucalo



WEEKLY GROUPS:

MONDAY's, 6:30PM, LADIES BIBLE STUDY (ZOOM & IN-PERSON 1st MON)

This group is open to all women, at any time, as we unpack each chapter for spiritual growth and meaningful discussions. Contact : Kym Nguyen.

WEDNESDAY's, 7:30AM, MEN's PRAYER GROUP

Join us in the prayer room each week. Contact : Jeff Gering

WEDNESDAY's, 2-3PM, BIBLE STUDY GROUP

We have finished Romans and are working our way through Corinthians. There is no reading required ahead of time and attendance is not taken. Just come when you can. All are welcome. Contact Sue McDaniel.

WEDNESDAY's, MUSIC REHEARSALS:

Bell Choir at 6:30pm, contact Sue Combs for more information. *Chancel Choir* at 7:30pm, contact Chris Beiser for more information. ALL are welcome to come at any time!

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

4601 Fairfield Ave., Fairfield, OH 45014

513.844.1818

www.Fairfieldstmarks.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

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WIFI: StMarks Guest

PW: HelloFairfield