



ST. MARK'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 8, 2024 - 9:30AM

"JOY IN SUBMISSION"



**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

A voice cries out: In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Speak to us Lord. As you promised through your prophets Isaiah and John the Baptist, come to us now.

May all the barriers be removed so that we can receive your Word and worship you, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

UMH 240

*OPENING PRAYER

Holy Light, God of faithful witnesses, please shine in our hearts with all the joys of your coming Son. May we be delivered from trusting the artificial lights of our generation, and from the ephemeral, decorative lights of this season. Bring us into the open place where, dazed yet not afraid, we may praise you with wonder and adore you with profound joyfulness. Through Jesus of Nazareth, our Christ and Saviour. Amen!

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."

- 12/03 Shirley Aydlett recovering & healing from knee surgery that was on December 3.
- 12/01 Pastor Mark & Diana's daughter, Emily Wallis recovering and getting better every day but is still having some pain.
- 12/01 Belinda Peters thanks everyone for good recoveries from surgeries.
- 12/01 Pam Brockfield's cousin, Jeff Renner. His cancer has metastasized.
- 12/01 Tonya Leguina's father, Sam Davis, is recovering from cataract surgery on his left eye on 12/02.
- 12/01 Cindy Ditmyer's grandson, Lane.
- 12/01 Tomie's friends, brother in law, Butch Wheeler, brain cancer
- 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 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 fell and hurt 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.

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, 12/08

- 9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
GLOW, Preschool—5th grade, nursery open for infants—age 3
- 9:30 am Confirmation Class
- 10:30 am CYF meeting
- 11:30 am New Covenant Church Worship in sanctuary
- 2:00 pm Winter Wonderettes at GHCT

MONDAY, 12/09

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

TUESDAY, 12/10

WEDNESDAY, 12/11

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

THURSDAY, 12/12

- 11:00 am Nurture & Care Meeting
- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous
- 7:30 pm Ohio Military Band Christmas Concert

FRIDAY, 12/13

SATURDAY, 12/14

- 1:00 pm Senior Christmas Party (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 pm New Covenant Choir Practice (Choir Room)

SUNDAY, 12/15 Christmas Cantata/Cookie Diva/Ugly Sweater

- 9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
GLOW, Preschool—5th grade, nursery open for infants—age 3
- 10:30 am Cookie Diva and Ugly Sweater Contests (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:30 am New Covenant Church Worship in sanctuary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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—12/08, 1/12, 2/09, and 3/09. Sundays at 6:00pm—12/29, 1/26, 2/23, and March 23. Students are confirmed on Easter. If you can help us with providing a dinner on: 12/29; 1/26; 2/23; and March 23, it's greatly appreciated. For more info contact Peggy.

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: Apron up for 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!

RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS—NOVEMBER 24, 2024

Worship In-Person Attendance: 91

Sunday School Attendance: 6

Weekly Budget Needs \$6,802.56

Weekly In-Person Giving \$2,296.00

Weekly On-Line Giving \$1,236.17

\$3,532.17

Special—Designated Giving* \$ 340.00

**Designated Giving can not be used for Budget Needs*

RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS—DECEMBER 1, 2024

Worship In-Person Attendance: 142

Sunday School Attendance: 17

Weekly Budget Needs \$5,320.40

Weekly In-Person Giving \$5,125.10

Weekly On-Line Giving \$ 651.93

\$5,777.03

Special—Designated Giving* \$ 525.00

**Designated Giving can not be used for Budget Needs*

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



Senior Christmas Party and Potluck **December 14, 1-3PM**

Bring a dish to share and a \$1.00 gift to join in the fun of our gift exchange. Sing along (or just enjoy!) as Chris Beiser and Sue Combs perform your favorite Christmas songs in Fellowship Hall. For more information contact: Sue Beckett.

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!

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

www.Facebook.com/fairfieldstmarks

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WIFI: StMarks Guest—PW: HelloFairfield