



ST. MARK'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 29, 2024 - 9:30AM



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

Sue Combs

HYMN SONG: "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

UMH 204

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!

***OPENING HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"**

UMH 230

***OPENING PRAYER**

It may seem naïve, in a world of grief, to choose to live in joy; It may seem foolish, in a world where solemnity is power, to sing and dance to a different tune; It may seem cruel, in a world of suffering and injustice, to speak of light and celebration; But you have come, Jesus, to bring joy into our grief, light into our darkness, singing into our mourning; and it is an act of healing and proclamation to believe and embrace the joy you offer. Joy to the world! The Lord has come! Hallelujah! Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

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."

- 12/22 Prayers for pain relief as Steve Wuest works through Liver cancer.
- 12/22 Lauren's co-worker was in a car accident.
- 12/22 Patty Coyle's friend is having spine surgery.
- 12/20 For the Klingels as they transition into their new home.
- 12/20 Tomie O'Sullivan healing from surgery.
- 12/20 Aydlett's continued prayers.
- 12/20 Marlis Hatton as she continues her treatment journey. We pray for strength, healing and comfort during this time.
- 12/15 Belinda Peters' fiancé' who is having back surgery Dec. 20.
- 12/10 Betty Winkler passed away on December 8 in Valdosta, GA. We send our prayers of peace, love, and condolences to the family and friends of Betty.
- 12/08 Linda Thomas' granddaughter, Kayla Carr. There is another lesion that has developed on her brain.
- 12/08 Jennie Marshall's cousin Lexie Goble, 16 yr old with ovarian cancer and all the tests, surgery, and bloodwork to come.
- 12/08 Cliff Klug's procedure on December 10 for good results.
- 12/08 Jenni Hensler's cousin, Alan who is having a brain tumor removed this week.
- 12/08 Pray for world peace and for the people of Syria.
- 12/08 Shirley Aydlett recovering & healing from knee surgery that was on December 3. She is doing well.
- 12/01 Pastor Mark & Diana's daughter, Emily Walls is recovering and getting better every day but is still having some pain.
- 12/01 Pam Brockfield's cousin, Jeff Renner. His cancer has metastasized.
- 12/01 Tonya Leguina's father, Sam Davis, is healing 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

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)
Parkside Residents

St. Mark's Homebound:

Freida Hawkins
Gale Logan—Otterbein Community
Nancy & Wade Lewis
Bob & Judy Klingel (Westover)
Flo Moore (Berkeley Square)
Eleanor McCollum

Charlene Miller (Berkeley Square)
Zedith Pottenger
Jean Stivers
Virginia Shaw
Paul Schutte
Betty Stover (NY in home hospice)

ST. MARK'S WEEKLY CALENDAR

Check out our online calendar: fairfieldstmarks.com/calendar

TODAY, 12/29

- 9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
GLOW, Preschool—5th grade, nursery open for infants—age 3
- 11:30 am New Covenant Worship Service
- 6:00 pm Confirmation Class with dinner

MONDAY, 12/30

- 10:00 am Ladies Craft Group (Craft Room)

TUESDAY, 12/31

- 8:00 pm New Covenant Watch Night Eve (Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall)

WEDNESDAY, 1/01 New Year's Day

Offices Closed Today

THURSDAY, 1/02

- 10:00 am Small Group Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY, 1/03

SATURDAY, 1/04

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

SUNDAY, 1/05 Communion Sunday

- 9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
NO GLOW, nursery open for infants—age 3
- 5:00 pm Follow that Star Family Event

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECEMBER YEAR END SCHEDULE REMINDER 2024 DEADLINES:

Here is the reminder on the giving of financial gifts to the Church for year-end.

The last date to gift a gift during worship: Sunday, December 29, 2024

The last date to drop off a gift outside of worship WAS 12/27/24

The last date to received anything in the mail WAS 12/28/24

CONFIRMATION CLASSES SCHEDULE: (December 29 at 6:00PM)

Sundays at 9:30am—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.

JANUARY 1, 2025 HAPPY NEW YEAR! (Offices are Closed)

JANUARY MISSIONS: SHOE DRIVE FOR FAIRFIELD SCHOOL STUDENTS

We're collecting shoes to support Fairfield School students—more details are coming. In the meantime, we are also accepting donations of coats, scarves, hats, gloves, and socks. Please place your contributions in the Narthex bins. For more information contact Tari Randall.

JANUARY 5, SUNDAY, 5-7PM, FOLLOW THAT STAR FAMILY EVENT

Embark on a celestial quest to follow the legendary Christmas Star at St. Mark's UMC! Join us for an unforgettable Epiphany Party filled with adventure, joy, and wonder. This FREE indoor/outdoor event kicks off with a delicious complimentary dinner, followed by a magical glow-in-the-dark star hunt for children. Trade your stars for prizes and candy at the Star Store. We will hear the inspiring story of the Christmas Star that brings the season to life. Bring your family and friends—we can't wait to celebrate with you! For more information, contact Peggy Smith.

JANUARY 8, WEDNESDAY, 2-3PM, BIBLE STUDY GROUP RESUMES

We will resume the Bible study group after the holidays on January 8, where we will continue our journey through 1 Corinthians. Come ready to study in depth into God's word together and share in fellowship as we grow in faith and understanding. Contact: Sue McDaniel

JANUARY 14, TUESDAY, 7PM, LEAD TEAMS MEETING

Contact Pastor Mark for questions or more information.

JANUARY 16, TUESDAY, 12:30-2:30PM, SHARED HARVEST VOLUNTEERS

Kick off the New Year with Service! Start 2025 by making a difference! St. Mark's is teaming up with Shared Harvest on Thursday, January 16, from 12:30–2:30 PM, and we'd love for you to join us. This is a wonderful opportunity to give back and connect with others in our community. For more details, contact Debbie Bryant, and don't forget to sign up on the Narthex bulletin board. Let's make this a year of impactful service together!

JANUARY 17, FRIDAY, 1PM, (FELLOWSHIP HALL) - RUTH CIRCLE IN 2025

Ruth's Circle in 2025 – A Year of Connection and Growth! Get ready for an exciting year with Ruth's Circle! We're a community of women coming together to share faith, friendship, and inspiration. Whether you're looking for meaningful conversations, opportunities to give back, or simply a supportive group of amazing women, Ruth's Circle is the place for you. As we welcome the new year—let's get together and be part of something truly special! Contact: Pam Guynes.

JANUARY 28, TUESDAY, 12PM, LUNCHBUNCH

Join us for the St. Mark's Lunch Bunch at O' Charley's, located at 11315 Princeton Pike, 45246 (Springdale/Tri-County area). Enjoy a variety of delicious menu options, including sandwiches, salads, and entrées. Please RSVP to Sue Beckett at (513) 856-8873 by Sunday, January 26, to reserve your seat. We look forward to seeing you there!

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!

RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS—DECEMBER 22, 2024

Worship In-Person Attendance: 132

Sunday School Attendance: 8

Weekly Budget Needs	<u>\$5,320.40</u>
Weekly In-Person Giving	\$3,948.00
Weekly On-Line Giving	<u>\$1,561.17</u>
	<u>\$5,509.17</u>
Special—Designated Giving*	<u>\$6,035.00</u>
<i>*Designated Giving can not be used for Budget Needs</i>	

CHURCH EVENT: FOLLOW THAT STAR FAMILY EVENT
JANUARY 5, SUNDAY @5-7PM

It's a celestial quest to find the legendary Christmas Star.

Contact Peggy Smith
(See inside bulletin for more details)



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For more information contact Tari Randall.

“Happy New Year 2025!”



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