



ST. MARK'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 26, 2025 - 9:30AM



“Tough Questions—Why we Suffer”

**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

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

Blessed are those who observe God's commandments.

Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed on righteousness.

Joyful are those whose hearts are filled with praise.

Come, let us love the Lord our God.

We come to worship the One who leads us in the ways of life.

***OPENING HYMN: "Trust and Obey"**

UMH 467

***OPENING PRAYER**

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust. Do not let me be put to shame. Do not let my enemies exult over me. Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame. Let those who act treacherously without cause feel ashamed. Make me know your ways, O Lord. Teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation. For you I wait all day long. 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

OFFERING MOMENT
 Offertory
 Doxology
 Prayer of Thanksgiving

CHOIR ANTHEM: "You Are My All in All"

HYMN: "Near to the Heart of God" UMH 472

SCRIPTURE: James 1:2-4

SERMON TITLE: "Tough Questions—Why We Suffer"

*CLOSING HYMN: "God Will Take Care of You" UMH 130

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING SONG: "Take Jesus With You"

*POSTLUDE Sue Combs

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."

- 01/19 Debbie Vitale's cousin Kathy has recently been diagnosed with cancer and is currently undergoing chemotherapy. Prayers for strength and healing during her treatments.
- 01/19 Jack Meyer's, father, John for a speedy recovery after a partial hip replacement.
- 01/19 Prayers for a family going through a difficult time.
- 01/19 Doreen Robinson's son Richard has been in the hospital for 2 weeks.
- 01/19 Lauren Dichtl's prayers for a friend's fiancé in the hospital for diabetic issues.
- 01/12 Brockfield's friend, Rella Hadley Rev. Joe Hadley's wife), had surgery and is recovering.
- 01/12 Cheryl Klug eye surgery success and to recovery quickly.
- 01/12 Tomie O'Sullivan thanks everyone for prayers. Her heart surgery in December was successful.
- 01/12 Dichtl family nephew, Wil who was assigned to Palisade, CA to fight fires. Please prayer for all of the people California, first responders, firefighters, and those have have lost their homes or evacuated.
- 01/05 Well wishes for Ann Brabbs who is still not feeling good.
- 01/05 Prayers for a family going through a difficult divorce.
- 01/05 Tonya & Pablo Leguina's friend, Darrell Parsons and his family. Darrell will be having his second brain surgery in less than a year due to cancerous growths. He is hoping to be accepted into a clinical trial. We are praying for his faith, strength, and hope.
- 12/29 Continued prayers for Marlis.
- 12/29 JOY! Shirley Aydlett is home and expected to live a long life with a fresh start into the new year.
- 12/29 Terrill Broshear's brother, Jim, who suffered a massive stroke and is in the hospital.
- 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 Marlis Hatton as she continues her treatment journey. We pray for strength, healing and comfort during this time.

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
Tomi O'Sullivan
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, 1/26

- 9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
GLOW, Preschool—5th grade, nursery open for infants—age 3
- 9:30 am Confirmation Class

MONDAY, 1/27

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

TUESDAY, 1/28

- 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch (O'Charley's)

WEDNESDAY, 1/29

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

THURSDAY, 1/30

- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY, 1/31

- 7:00 pm New Covenant Prayer Time

SATURDAY, 2/01

SUNDAY, 2/02

- 9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
GLOW, Preschool—5th grade, nursery open for infants—age 3
- 5:30 pm Annual Chili Cookoff Contest 2025

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIRMATION CLASSES SCHEDULE: (January 26 at 9:30AM)

Sundays at 9:30am—2/16, 3/16, 4/06. Sundays at 6:00pm—2/23, and March 23. Dinner will be provided these nights : 2/23; and March 23. For more info contact Peggy. Students are confirmed on Easter Sunday 9:30AM.

JANUARY MISSIONS: SHOE DRIVE FOR FAIRFIELD CITY SCHOOLS

We are accepting new or gently used shoes. If you don't have any shoes to donate, please consider making a monetary donation. See Jenni Hensler or Tari Randall if you have questions or would like to make a donation. We are extending the shoe drive into February since we are getting a late start.

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!

FEBRUARY 2, SUNDAY, 5:30-7:30PM, ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF CONTEST 2025

Spice up your Groundhog Day at our 2nd Annual Chili Cookoff Contest! Will the groundhog see its chili bowl shadow? Join us for a day of groundhog predictions and gut-busting chili creations. Whether you're here to taste, compete, or just enjoy the laughs (and maybe a little heartburn and corn bread), this is the place to be. **To Enter:** Sign up at the welcome counter. Prepare your chili, we recommend that you make 4-6 quarts (large crockpot). If you have specific toppings for your chili, please provide that too. (*Continued on next page*)

For those who want to attend and enjoy the chili, there is admission of \$5 per person or \$10 for a family. ALL proceeds go to support St. Mark's Missions and Outreach projects. It'll be a groundhog-ish kind of fellowship—don't miss out on the hottest event of the year! Contact Pastor Mark or Lyn Bucalo.

FEBRUARY 7, FRIDAY, 5:00PM, SERVE CITY MEALS & VOLUNTEERS

Join us as we share and spread the love with the Serve City community! This month's theme is all about LOVE, so let's dish out some heartwarming meals and sweet treats. Think cozy casseroles, pasta bakes, or soups that warm the soul. For dessert, let's go all out with heart-shaped cookies, chocolate-covered strawberries, or cupcakes with a swirl of pink and red. Whether you're bringing something savory or sweet, every bite will show someone they're cared for. Let's make this evening a celebration of kindness and connection! ♡ Contact: Lyn Bucalo or Tari Randall.

FEBRUARY 9, SUNDAY, 3-5PM, LADIES FELLOWSHIP-WOMEN'S BIZ EVENT

Join us for an exciting afternoon of connection, creativity, and community at our Women's Business Spotlight event! Ladies from our church and their family and friends are invited to showcase unique products, with opportunities to browse, shop, and place orders. To participate, please contact Peggy Smith or Sue Luken to ensure variety—spots are filling up with amazing vendors like Mary Kay, Pampered Chef, handmade jewelry by Lyn Bucalo, and homemade candles! For everyone else, come support these incredible women while enjoying refreshments, fellowship, and inspiration. Sign up at the Welcome Center and spread the word—let's make this event a success! Contact Peggy Smith or Sue Luken.

FEBRUARY 9, SUNDAY, SOUPER BOWL FOOD DRIVE FOR THE PANTRIES

We are collecting food for St. Mark's Food Pantry. Pick up a full LIST of items needed at the Welcome Counter.

FEBRUARY 17, MONDAY, CHURCH DIRECTORY 2025 UPDATE

We are updating the Church Directory! Due to privacy and online security, please let us know whether you would like your name, address, and phone number to be included in the online directory or kept private. Printed copies of the 2025 Directory will be available for people to pick up by March. If you'd like to submit an updated photo to be included in the directory. Kindly share your preferences and photo with the church office by February 17, Monday. Please note that we will **not include birthdays and anniversaries** in the updated version. Contact: Lyn Bucalo.

RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS—JANUARY 19, 2025

Worship In-Person Attendance: 100
Sunday School Attendance: 8

Weekly Budget Needs	<u>\$5,320.40</u>
Weekly In-Person Giving	\$5,845.00
Weekly On-Line Giving	<u>\$2,179.80</u>
	<u>\$8,024.80</u>
Special—Designated Giving*	<u>\$ 160.00</u>

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

JANUARY MISSIONS: SHOE DRIVE

We are accepting new or gently used shoes. If you don't have any shoes to donate, please consider making a monetary donation. Contact Jenni Hensler or Tari Randall if you have questions or would like to make a donation. We are extending the shoe drive into February since we are getting a late start.



CHURCH EVENT: ANNUAL CHLI COOKOFF CONTEST FEBRUARY 2, SUNDAY @5:30-7:30PM

Who will claim the title of "Groundhog" Chili Cookoff Champ this year?
Contact Pastor Mark or Lyn Bucalo



SERVE CITY MEALS & VOLUNTEERS: FEBRUARY 7, SUNDAY @5:00-7:30PM

Our theme is sharing and spreading LOVE.
Contact Lyn Bucalo or Tari Randall



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 are working our way through Corinthians. There is no reading required ahead of time and all are welcome any time to come study and discuss. Contact Sue McDaniel for questions.

WEDNESDAY's, MUSIC REHEARSALS:

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