

Advent Series for the whole
St. Mark's family



Today: A Growing Heart



December 19, 2021, 9:30 am

In-Person & Live-Streamed on YouTube and Facebook

www.facebook.com/fairfieldstmarks

GATHER

PRELUDE

Sue Combs

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Joe Payne

ADVENT WREATH

Marty and Gay Kubik

Singing

**A candle is burning, a candle of Joy;
A candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.
Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow
As Joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow**

As we light the Candle of Joy, consider these questions:
When did you experience an altogether joy in 2020 and 2021?

Where have you left room for joy in the chaos of the season?
What is a time when you felt joy even in the midst of sadness?

Why can't joy be manufactured?

How can you share the gift of an altogether joy in 2022?

Let us pray,

Lord Jesus, you have given us a joy that lives beyond the fleeting happiness of this world. This is a joy that cuts through the noise of this world and sings a song so lovely the whole world waits with bated breath to hear. Your joy is a gift we cannot achieve, only receive. Thank you for a joy that brings light to the dark world. This Advent, we continue to search for an altogether joy for all people. Amen.

*HYMN

"There's a Song in the Air"

UMH 249

*PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Worship the King"

Linda Payne

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

MESSAGE

"A Growing Heart"

Pastor Joe

HYMN

"Spirit-Child Jesus"

**Spirit-child Jesus,
in joyful refrain,
echoing songs over
Bethlehem's plain,
what will we do when the
carols all fade?
"Take up my song:
Glory! Be not afraid!"**

**Spirit-child Jesus,
in animal shed,
smiling at shepherds
from strange borrowed
bed,
what will we do
when the manger's
away?
"Take up my story,
and live it each day!"**

**Spirit-child Jesus,
in starry white light,
twinkling on evergreens,
shiny and bright,**

**what will we do when the
branches are shorn?
"Take up my cross
that for you I have
borne!"**

**Spirit-child Jesus,
in vigilant eyes,
awaiting the gift bearing
Love's great surprise,
what will we do when the
presents are done?
"Take up my presence,
for I am God's Son!"**

**Spirit-child Jesus,
in hot tongues of flame,
melting the candle alight
in your name,
What will we do when
the candle is gone?
"Take up my light!
Pass it on, pass it on!"**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord's Prayer

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING MOMENT

DISMISSAL

*HYMN

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

UMH 238

*BLESSING

Response

"Take Jesus With You"

*POSTLUDE

(*Please stand, if able)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys/Concerns

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

- 12/12 Joan Streckfuss has passed away. Funeral is Jan. 4, 2022, Tuesday at 10AM location is Spring Grove Mausoleum.
- 12/12 JOY! Bill Schumacker thanks Matt Snyder for helping to start their car after the battery died. Another angel at St. Mark's!
- 12/12 Doug & Beth Ewald are proud grandparents to Rory Glenn Richardson born to Tami & Greg Richardson.
- 12/12 Betty Jones thanks everyone for their prayers. Her daughter-in-law in Florida has improved! What a blessing & answer to many prayers.
- 12/12 Bud & Shirley Aydlett miss everyone! Bud continues home therapy from his knee replacement on 11/30. It's a slow, painful but productive process.
- 12/12 Kathy Bradley's friend, Sandy Cline is in very poor health.
- 12/12 For the staff & students of our local schools dealing with stress & covid threat. It is heartbreaking!
- 12/12 (Anon.) Neighbor's daughter, Jennifer Hanson is in critical condition in Cleveland Clinic.
- 12/12 Tim Dutey's nephew, Gabe had surgery on December 10th and is doing very well.
- 12/12 (Anon.) Prayers that ablation procedure is approved to help with back pain.
- 12/12 Gale Logan has moved to Otterbein Community. Her dementia is growing worse and she is feeling alone.
- 12/12 Linda Prohaska's brother, Eugene Campbell. Prayers for wisdom in knowing how to treat for lung cancer diagnoses.
- 12/12 Byron Jones who had a major stroke and is in Mercy Hospital.
- 12/12 Peggy Smith's friend Chris, who has cancer, she recently lost her husband to cancer 18 months ago.
- 12/12 Belinda Peters' niece, Megan passed away. She had just got married this past Spring.
- 12/12 Doug & Beth Ewald's son-in-law, Jeremiah deployed at Texas border for (377) days. Prayers for daughter Kristi & children.
- 12/05 Jennifer Rinker thanks everyone for the prayers for her mother. She continues to improve and her kidney failure has reversed and her dialysis & biopsy cancelled. Praise God!
- 12/05 Jennifer Rinker's father has a growth between his bladder and prostate. He will need a biopsy to determine if it is cancer.
- 12/05 The Hensler's neighbor, Darrell will be having open heart surgery on December 22.

- 11/30 Cindy Miller's co-worker, Sarah Haselden hospitalized in ICU resulting from a car accident. Fractured skull & injured C5 vertebra. Sarah's mother also hospitalized.
- 11/28 Iris Jones fell, resulting in broken pelvis & elbow replacement surgery. Now at Triple Creek for rehabilitation.
- 11/28 Belinda Peters' father, Robert McClelland had a heart attack and recovering at home.
- 11/28 Edith & Dick Davis' son-in-law, Bob Nixon awaiting jaw replacement surgery.
- 11/28 Jennie Marshall's sister-in-law, Katrina Biscay has undergone her 23rd surgery related to Crohn's Disease.
- 11/28 Rick Broshear who has lung cancer, continued prayers.
- 11/21 Zedith Pottenger & family in the death of her daughter-in-law, Deborah Pottenger.
- 11/21 Belinda Peter's uncle, Rev. Larry Thornton passed away in Kansas City. Prayers for the family.
- 11/14 Penny Dole & family on the loss of Penny's sister's husband, Henry Hull.
- 11/07 Marlis Hatton's sister, Marilyn Schoppenhorst had back surgery. Marilyn's husband Erwin Schoppenhorst has heart problems.

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.

All service Men & Women

Our Country

First Responders

United Methodist Church

Prayer & Bible Study Groups

Jean Stivers

Mitch Thomas

Lori Palmieri (P. Coyle's daughter)

Merianne Cardas

Dick Brewer

Gina Hollinger

Sharon Hamp

Brenda Smoot

Freida Hawkins

Rick Broshear—lung cancer

Iris Jones—rehab at Triplecreek

Bud Aydlett—knee replacement

St. Mark's Homebound:

Phyllis Tunning—Triplecreek

Dale Shreve—Birchwood, 409

Greg Pullem—Parkside

Gale Logan—Otterbein Community

Byron Jones—Majestic Care

Joan Streckfuss—Marjorie P. Lee

(Hospice)

St. Mark's Homebound at HOME:

Sue Webster

Virginia Shaw

Eleanor McCollum

Paul Schutte

Zedith Pottenger

Jim Beckett

Bob Netherland

Jean Cottrill

Dollie Gallihugh

ST. MARK'S WEEKLY CALENDAR

Check out our updated online calendar:

www.fairfieldstmarks.com/calendar

TODAY, 12/19

9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreamed
(G.L.O.W.) Nursery open for infants—age 3

MONDAY, 12/20

10:00 am Crafter Group
5:00 pm WhoVille Christmas for Kids & Youth
6:30 pm ZOOM Bible Study

TUESDAY, 12/21

7:00 pm Boy Scouts, Tr. 960

WEDNESDAY, 12/22

7:30 am Men's Prayer Group
6:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 12/23

7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY, 12/24

ALL DAY OFFICES CLOSED—CHRISTMAS EVE
7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

SATURDAY, 12/25

ALL DAY CHRISTMAS DAY - Have a Merry Christmas!

SUNDAY, 12/26

9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreamed
(G.L.O.W.) Nursery open for infants—age 3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Photo-OP and shOP in the Choir Room, TODAY!

There are two great Opportunities in the choir room to check out & enjoy! A holiday area has been set up for a photo-OP with family & friends, and you can also shop the wonderful handmade crafts designed by the talented Monday Ladies Craft Group. Make sure you stOP in!

HYMNOLOGY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Chris & Sue have (3) videos of Hymnology for the Holidays posted on the church website. There is a Thanksgiving hymn lesson, an Advent Carol lesson, and an Angel Carol lesson. There will be several more posted in the upcoming weeks. Listen, learn, enjoy and then share the videos with others!

HANDMADE STOCKING STUFFERS FOR SALE IN CHOIR ROOM, TODAY!

Stop in the Choir room to see all the cute stocking stuffers that the Monday Crafting Ladies made. This is your last chance to grab a handmade item. Beginning January, they will begin the Spring craft making. They have some great things planned!

USED BOOK SALE SPONSORED BY RUTH'S CIRCLE—CHILDRENS BOOKS!

There are some newly donated Children's books added! Perfect gifts for the children. Ruth's Circle is sponsoring a monthly used book sale to help support St. Mark's mission projects. The books are located in the Choir Room and the cost is your donation. Questions? Contact Alethea LaMar at (319) 750-1323. Thank you for your help with this important mission.

SUNDAY MORNINGS DURING ADVENT, "The Heart that Grew Three Sizes"

Finding Faith in the story of the Grinch

Children will revisit and explore the familiar Christmas story, 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas! And ways the Grinch's transformation and redemption point us to aspects of the Christian faith, especially the hope we find in Jesus's birth.

A WHOVILLE CELEBRATION ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 20TH, 5-7PM

Attention Whoville Youths & Kiddos! We are having a WhoVille Christmas feast & fun in Fellowship Hall on Monday, December 20th, 5-7PM. Bring a WhoVille type dish/snack to share and a comfy camp chair, blanket, or pillow as we watch Dr. Seuss' "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!"

ATTENTION!!! BIBLE STUDY WILL RESUME JANUARY 5, 2022

We will break for Christmas holiday and resume January 5, 2022. See you next year!
Please Note: December 22 & 29, we will not meet for Bible Study.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE LIVE STREAMING AND IN PERSON SERVICE, 7PM

St. Mark's will have Christmas Eve Service both live streaming and in person on December 24th at 7:00 PM.

MATTHEW 25 MINISTRIES VOLUNTEERING, SAT., JANUARY 22, 2022, 9AM

St. Mark's is scheduled to serve at Matthew 25 on Saturday, January 22, 2022 from 9-11AM. All church family are invited to join us! A sign-up sheet is on the narthex bulletin board. For more information contact Lynne Schumacker at (513) 382-0488 or email at Lynneshoe@icloud.com.

YOUTH GROUP DINNERS 2022 SIGN UP SHEET FOR MEALS

Thanks to all who provided meals for our hungry youth this fall! This is such a huge help to the leaders, and we are very grateful. The sign-up sheet for meals in 2022 is on the narthex bulletin board.

LITURGIST CLASS, SUNDAYS, JANUARY 9, 16 & 23 AFTER WORSHIP

Linda Payne will be offering another Liturgist class beginning Jan. 9, 16, and 23, 2022. We will meet after worship in the front of the sanctuary. Anyone interested, please contact Linda after church to sign up.

COMMUNION SETS

Nurture & Care Committee is reminding folks that if you borrowed a communion set, please return them as soon as possible. Thank you.



Poinsettias 2021

(A)

In memory of our parents from Bud & Shirley Aydlett (Red)

In memory of departed family and friends from Bud & Shirley Aydlett (Red)

(B)

In honor of my wonderful family from Ann Brabbs (3-Red)

In honor of our parents from David & Pam Brockfield (White and Pink)

In memory of Dave's dad from Dave & Cindy Booker (Red)

In memory of Frederick Bunte, Herb Gross and our Bunte/Schueneman relatives from The Bunte Family (Red)

In honor of our family and friends from The Bunte Family (Red)

In memory of our parents from Lyn Bucalo & Bob Ratliff (2-Red)

In memory of John Bright, Gloria McGrath & Barbara Newell

from Roy & Helen Brown (Red)

In memory of Sharon Brown, Georgette Brown and Konar Davenport

from Roy & Helen Brown (Red)

In memory of my parents Dick & Helen Moser from Debbie Bryant (Red)

(C)

In memory of John Bright from Vicki, Kraig, Chelsey, Shelby Cavender (Red)

(D)

In memory of Bill & Gennie Summers and Bill Dichtl

from Bill & Julie Dichtl (Red)

In memory of Jack Anderson from Tim Dutey, Michael Anderson, Ethan, Kayden, and Isaac (Red)

In memory of Jean Dutey from Tim Dutey, Michael Anderson, Ethan, Kayden, and Isaac (White)

In memory of Marion Dutey from Tim Dutey, Michael Anderson, Ethan, Kayden, and Isaac (Pink)

In honor of our great grandchildren from Dick and Edith Davis (Red)

(F)

In memory of Lou Fassnacht from Pat Fassnacht & Holly Craig (Red)

In memory of Naomi Rowland from Pat Fassnacht & Holly Craig (Red)

In memory of Mike Kinnard from Pat Fassnacht & Holly Craig (Red)

(G)

In memory of Vina and B.A. Myers from Shirley Grant (Red)

In memory of Joyce and Bob Roberts from Shirley Grant (Red)

In memory of our parents; Harold & Ruth Warren and George & Elizabeth Gering from Jeff & Carol Gering (Pink)

In memory of my parents; Roy & Jolene Goebel from Pam Guynes (Red)

In honor of Nurture & Care Committee for all of your help and support.

Love ALL of you! From Pam Guynes (Red)

Poinsettias Continued...

(H)

In loving memory of my husband and parents from Lois Hill (White)

In honor of my three children: Debbie, Tari & Steve from Lois Hill (White)

In memory of Daniel Hatton from Marlis Hatton (Red)

In memory of our parents from Mark & Jenni Hensler (Red)

(J)

In memory of Betsy Jones from Jim Jones (Red and Pink)

(K)

In memory of Jill Klingel Szul & Conner Szul from Pastor Bob & Judy Klingel (Red)

(L)

In memory of Marilyn Davis from Pablo & Tonya Leguina (Red)

In memory of Carlos Leguina from Pablo & Tonya Leguina (Red)

In honor of my grandchildren from Alethea LaMar (2-Red)

(M)

In memory of Joey Miller from Cindy Miller (Red)

In memory of my husband, John from Ann McWilliam (Red)

In memory of Jennie's mother, Karen Mason & Rick's father, Gary Marshall from Rick & Jennie Marshall (Pink)

In honor of our grandchildren; Sophia, Tommy, Millie and Tatum from Rick & Jennie Marshall (Pink)

In honor of our children, Sami (Josh), Jacob (Camry), Morgan and Gunnar from Rick & Jennie Marshall (Pink)

(P)

In memory of George Peters and my mother, Donna McClelland from Belinda Peters (Pink)

(R)

In memory of David Robinson from Kyle Robinson (Red)

In memory of Carol Grammel from Tari Randall (Pink)

In memory of Robert Grammel from Tari Randall (Red)

In honor of Maryada Millsbaugh from Susan Rumley (Red)

(S)

In memory of Lou Fassnacht from The Stracke's (Pink)

In memory of our parents from Don & Marilyn Stewart (Red)

In honor of our children & grandchildren from Don & Marilyn Stewart (Red)

In memory of French Smoot from Brenda Smoot (Red)

In memory of our parents Bob Schumacker and Craig & Florence Kennedy from Bill & Lynne Schumacker (White)

(T)

In memory of James McCann from Rich Turner (2-Red)

In memory of Lee Rumley from Kristy Theiss (Red)

Why is the Poinsettia the most popular Christmas plant?

'Tis the season when United Methodist sanctuaries around the world bloom into shades of red, pink, and white created by poinsettias, the most popular Christmas plant. With leaves shaped like the Star of Bethlehem, the poinsettia has been a decorative staple for decades.

While most people associate the poinsettia with Christmas, what may get overlooked is how the poinsettia actually represents not only the birth of Jesus, but also Christ's resurrection.

"I can't imagine not having the poinsettias in the church," said the Rev. Donna Friddle, senior pastor at United Methodist churches in High Point, North Carolina. "The plants are a visible reminder for us of Christ's birth and His death and the meaning behind those events."

Symbolically, we have Jesus' life story in one plant. The leaves symbolize the star that led the Wise Men to the newborn Jesus, the red leaves are a reminder of the blood of Christ shed during His crucifixion and the white leaves represent Christ's purity.

"We move through the birth of Christ to get to the cross."

[Link for this article:](https://www.umc.org/en/content/the-poinsettia-tells-jesus-life-story)

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/the-poinsettia-tells-jesus-life-story>

*If you ordered a Poinsettia, pick up is Dec 24th after Christmas Eve Service

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.

STAFF

Pastor	Joe Payne
Administrative Assistant	Lyn Bucalo
Director of Music	Chris Beiser
Organist	Sue Combs
Director of Children & Family Ministries	Peggy Smith
Director of Youth Ministries	Julie Mislansky
Pastor Emeritus	Bob Klingel

OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Liturgist	Sue Luken
Sound	Rick Kiefer
Lay Leader/Camera	Mark Hensler
Screen	Jennie Marshall

DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Contact Lyn Bucalo at L.bucalo@fairfieldstmarks.com to submit content for monthly newsletters on the 3rd Wednesday each month.

February Newsletter deadline is January 19th

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

4601 Fairfield Ave.
Fairfield, OH 45014
513.844.1818
www.Fairfieldstmarks.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.Facebook.com/fairfieldstmarks
facebook.com/groups/fairfieldstmarks
www.Facebook.com/groups/stmarksyouthministries
www.facebook.com/groups/stmarkschildrenfamily

WIFI: StMarks Guest
PW: HelloFairfield