



SPIRIT OF ST. MARK'S

The Mission of St. Mark's United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world...a world of justice, love and peace filled with people growing in the likeness of Jesus Christ.

May 2022

MAY 8, SUNDAY



Mother's Day is recognized by the contributions of women all over the world. Mother's Day, like the job of "mothering," is varied and diverse. Perhaps that's only appropriate for a day honoring the multiple ways women find to nurture their families, and the ways in which so many have nurtured their communities, their countries, and the larger world. Not all of us can do great things...

"But we can do small things with great love!"
—Mother Teresa



Children's moment...



Thank You...

Dear St. Mark's Friends,
Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness & generosity in loving on The Wesley Foundation to help finance our new roof!
What a beautiful and wonderful surprise! We are so grateful to receive from your generous giving.
Peace & Grace,
Rev. Nancy Turner
Interim Executive Director



We have ONE more confirmation classes where we will discuss how the UMC is a Global church, sharing its response and connections around the world. Finally, our last session will focus on our Baptism and Confirmation vows.

Mark your calendar!
Confirmation Sunday is May 22



M O T H E R S I S S U E

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JOE



Dear St. Mark's family,

One of my favorite childhood activities was of exploring the woods behind our house. The Payne home was in the foothills of southern Ohio, and our woods was a great place to enjoy and to just be a kid. That day, my eleven-year-old legs took me a little further than I had ever been before, to a dry creek bed that seemed to go on and on. I had great fun exploring this and that, seeing sights I had never seen before. There were no fences that divided property lines, so who knows how far I ventured that day. All I knew at the time was the fun I was having, kind of lost in my thoughts and just enjoying myself.

Pretty soon it was time to head home. Probably long past time. So, I turned around and began walking back the same way I came, following that creek bed. Except, my joy turned to dread as I searched fruitlessly for the familiar path that would take me home. Nothing looked familiar, and for the first time in my life, I had the feeling of being lost in that woods, all alone.

After meandering here and there, I finally found familiar surroundings and began making my way home. Pretty soon, I heard the faint voice of my mother calling for me. She had begun to worry and was outside the house, calling my name. I tell you what, her voice never sounded so sweet as it did that day. I yelled back, "I'm coming!" Then, I heard her familiar scolding tone, "Joe, don't you ever go so far in the woods again!" With tears in my eyes, I responded, "I was just thinking the same thing myself!"

My response must have tickled my mother, because she never grew tired of recalling that story to others. She would laugh and laugh as she mimicked my tearful response called down to her from the woods. As a teenager and young adult, hearing her tell that story embarrassed me to no end. But, that didn't matter to her. "A parent's job is to embarrass their kids," she'd say with a grin.

It's been nine years since Mom breathed her last. I miss her, and, as much as it embarrassed me then, I wish I could hear her tease me once more. As I think back to that time of being lost in the woods, I knew my mom saw her job as much more than to "embarrass" her kids. Her job was to love and care for me and my seven siblings. The way she stood outside the house calling for me reminded me of two characters in Jesus' parables: the father who waited outside for his prodigal son to return, and the farmer who left his 99 sheep to search for the single lost one. I believe my mother embodied the love that Jesus has for you and me and all His children.

I am thankful for this and other treasured memories I hold dear of this sweet woman whose calling in life was to raise her family the best way she knew how, and to never stop worrying about us and loving us with the same love that Jesus has for you and me. And yes, for teasing her kids, too. In love, of course.

So, during this month in which we celebrate mothers, I give thanks for my mom who loved me and my siblings. I give thanks also for all who love and care for others, as Jesus loves and cares for us.

Have a blessed May,
Pastor Joe



The Payne Family, *circa* 1999

Looking Ahead in Worship

Sunday Series – *We Are Witnesses*

May 1: "Who Are You, Lord?" – Acts 9:1-6
May 8: Mother's Day: "Get Up!" – Acts 9:36-43
May 15: "What God Called Clean" Acts 11:1-18
May 22: Confirmation: "Opened the Heart" – Acts 16:9-15
May 29: "Disturbing the City" – Acts 16:16-34

YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS



DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY JULIE MISLANSKY

A very busy April for our confirmation class and youth group! On April 3, after learning about John Wesley's 3 Simple Rules (Do no harm, Do good, Stay in Love with God), we headed over to Serve City to serve a meal to the residents. On April 8th, the Goodman family graciously prepared and hosted a Seder Meal to our youth and families! A table of twenty shared in this beautiful tradition; the rituals, prayers, and scripture, along with asking lots of questions so we could learn more. We are so grateful to Devin, Gale, and Kayla for this time with us! The next day was the Easter Egg Hunt which couldn't happen without our very own youth playing the role of the Bunny! (Thanks, Gunnar!! You have such a great way with the little ones!) I am also thankful to Ethan, Kayden, and Ali for helping out that day. **We had a Fun Night Out — Dinner and the Batting cages on April 22!**

SERVE CITY



SEDER MEALS: A BEAUTIFUL TRADITION!



EASTER EGG HUNT



THE BATTING CAGES....SSSSWWING!



MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

ST MARK'S CARES MAY MISSION PROJECT



Thanks to all who donated food for the two meals that we provided for the residents of Serve City in April. On April 3, the youth stayed and served the meal as well.

Thanks to all who volunteered at our two service opportunities in March-some of you volunteered both times! Nine volunteers sorted and packed shirts at Matthew 25, & ten volunteers packed food boxes at Shared Harvest Foodbank.

We have a Shared Harvest Foodbank volunteering opportunity scheduled for Thursday, May 12 from 12:30-2:30.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex and Debbie Bryant is your contact person.



St. Mark's Cares was excited to donate 50 filled kid's Easter Baskets to the Fairfield Food Pantry for the second year in a row. This is a special project that Debbie Bryant has taken on to do something extra special for the kids in Fairfield. We were able to

cover the entire cost of the baskets with a generous donation we received a few months ago. That donation came from Lois Marxen Boden, a dear friend of Marta Hollinger's. She passed away in December, and in her paperwork on her desk, a check for St. Mark's Cares was found. Lois did not attend St. Mark's, but Marta says, "she loved St. Mark's because I loved St. Mark's!" We dedicate these baskets, who will bring joy to many children, to Lois' memory.

MAY MISSION PROJECT

We will be collecting needed items for the Broken Bus Ministry, as they head downtown this summer, helping to provide relief to those living in the heat. Items being collected may be placed in the Narthex during the month of May.

Men's athletic shorts (longer, basketball type) sizes large and x-large; Men's boxer brief style underwear, sizes large & x-large; Bottled water; Bottled sports drinks (Gatorade, Propel, etc.)



Our UMCOR Sunday offering totaled almost \$1100!
In addition, St. Mark's has collected over \$1200 for UMCOR, designated for relief to the people of Ukraine.



St. Mark's has set up another date for volunteering at Matthew 25 on Saturday, June 25 at 11AM. There is a "Sign Up" sheet in the Narthex. For more information contact Lynne Schumacker.



FELLOWSHIP HALL EVENT



2022 ANNUAL SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON & CRAFTS

Thursday, May 5, 2022

11am—1pm

\$10 per person

Sponsored by the Monday Craft Ladies

Don't let the term "Salad" concern you...



There will be much more than iceberg lettuce on the menu. We will have a tasty and a wide variety of salads. A few examples are: Chicken salad, Pasta salad, Deviled eggs, Slaw, Five bean, Fruits, Cheese ball, and so many more.

There will be a mouth-watering selection of dessert options too. This is your chance to get out your favorite salad and/or dessert recipes and share it with everyone!

Don't forget desserts!



A selection of handmade crafts & "good" used books will be available while you spend the day socializing with everyone. Family & Friends are welcome.

Wondering how you can make a salad more interesting and exciting?

Here are 5 easy ways to spice up your salads:



1. Toast your nuts! If you love the crunch that nuts give to a salad, try toasting them to release even more flavor!
2. Add a touch of sweetness. Consider a drizzle of honey or even maple syrup!
3. Chop your salad, who doesn't love a finely chopped salad?
4. Change up your temperatures, not all salads have to be served cold so consider adding a warm dressing, warm protein (Ex. Chicken) or even warm roasted vegetables.
5. Don't forget texture! Consider a variety of textures from crunchy to creamy!

MUSIC MINISTRY



DIRECTOR OF MUSIC CHRIS BEISER



I'm sure most of you have heard that the interpretation of a visit from a cardinal bird is, it's a message from a departed loved one.

Whenever you see one...

it signifies they are visiting you.

They appear when you need or miss them, they also come in moments of joy or sorrow to let you know they are always there for you.

My mother loved red birds. I believe the interpretation to be somewhat true. There have been a couple of times in my life when I've felt at an extreme low and as my mind is reeling as to what am I going to do, there sitting on a fence post right next to my car is a beautiful red bird, not frightened of me approaching just looking at me as if to say, "I'm not afraid and you shouldn't be either."



Just recently, I had quite a scare with some health issues particularly dealing with my heart. One nice day, I had opened one of my living room windows to get some fresh air in the room as I rested on the couch. My two cats love when the window is open, they both move and wiggle around till both are sitting on the window ledge so they can keep a lookout with the neighborhood goings on. This particular day I wasn't feeling the best, and the cats would not stop a conversation of cackling they were having with something outside of that window. I got up to shut the window and saw a most beautiful red bird sitting in the bush right outside that window. I knelt at the window for a moment as the cats continued their conversation,

the red bird not budging the entire time. I think the cats were saying to my "red bird" mom, we're watching him, he will be just fine. I felt a whole lot better after that little bit of family time together.

It's been 13 years since I lost my mom, but I am so blessed to be surrounded by mom's in all of my areas of life. I oversee 9 ladies in the box office at LaComedia who are concerned about me as much as they worry about their own. I have an amazing group of mother friends who I get lovingly scolded and offered endless advice from, both I would not trade for anything in the world. I have a choir and congregation full of the sweetest most caring mom's anyone could have the fortune of having!

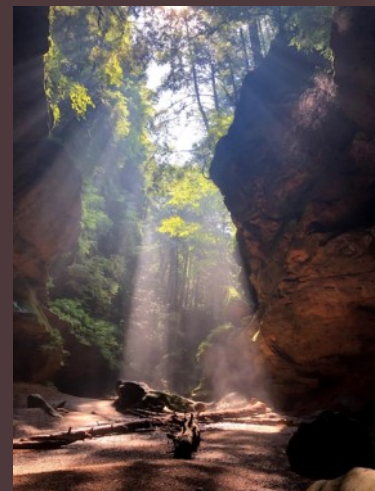
So from the sweet red bird moments I share with my mother, to the awesome moments I continue to share with all the other moms in my life, thank you! God calls on a mother to be a woman of courage, strength, and wisdom. She should rely on God through thick and thin, and lead her children to a knowledge of His saving grace.

I'm thoroughly blessed to be surrounded by moms like this everyday.

POEMS WRITTEN BY LINDA PAYNE

A Patch of Sun

like a spotlight on a stage
accentuates, illuminates
colors, textures, treasures
hidden in the shadowy depths
We are . . .
a patch of sun
in a dark and shadowy world
meant to illuminate, accentuate
hidden treasures in others
shine a spotlight
on all that is lovely
in each person



FINANCIAL UPDATE

TIM MISLANSKY, TREASURER
GALE GOODMAN, FINANCE CHAIR



*"Set your mind on
things above, not on
earthly things."*

— Colossians 3:2

Greetings St. Mark's Family,

March was not a strong month in terms of giving with only \$21,500 coming into the church. This was the lowest month since February of 2021. Online giving remains solid and continues to grow. However, regular giving is down.

We ended the month at nearly \$53,000 at the credit union. A poor giving month and higher than usual expenses caused our cash position to suffer. We are now borrowing almost \$8,300 from ourselves – a near \$7,500 change from the prior month.

Year-to-date, giving is up about \$2,000 or 2%. However, expenses are up almost \$10,000 or 13%. The biggest increases are in staff costs (\$4,500), utilities (\$2,600) and repairs (\$1,700). Overall, we received \$449 less than we spent.

We continue to make our loan payments on time and have paid 1/3 of our total apportionment bill for 2022.

Despite the poor giving month in March, our year-to-date giving is the highest it has been in the past ten years. This can somewhat be attributed to the "newer" trend of people giving an annual gift in January. If you have questions about anything related to St. Mark's finances, please do not hesitate to ask either me or Gale.

Sincerely,
Tim Mislansky, Treasurer
Gale Goodman, Finance Chair



PICK ME UP MOMENTS — MAY

COMPILED BY CAROL PITTMAN

"Honoring Mother's Moments"

- May 01, 2022 Life doesn't come with a manual, it comes with a mother.—Anon
- May 02, 2022 A mother's love cannot be measured. It is a brilliant gem to be treasured. —Anon
- May 03, 2022 MOM spelled upside down spells WOW!—Anon
- May 04, 2022 Being a mother is learning about strengths you didn't know you had.—Linda Wooten
- May 05, 2022 Who needs super heroes when you have a mom!—Anon
- May 06, 2022 A Mother is a guiding force through the journey if life.—Anon
- May 07, 2022 The highest and noblest work in this life is that of a mother. —Russell M. Nelson
- May 08, 2022 **The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the heart of a mother.** —St. Therese of Lisieux
- May 09, 2022 Nature is the art of God.—Anon
- May 10, 2022 It's a new season. A perfect opportunity to do something new, something bold, and something beautiful.—Anon
- May 11, 2022 Life began in a garden.—Anon
- May 12, 2022 Spring: A lovely reminder of how beautiful change can truly be.—Anon
- May 13, 2022 Gardening is medicine that does not need a prescription and has no limit on dosage.—Anon
- May 14, 2022 A garden is a friend you can visit anytime.—Okakura Kakuzō
- May 15, 2022 He has made everything beautiful in its time.—Ecclesiastes 3:11
- May 16, 2022 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.—Anon
- May 17, 2022 The Spirit always speaks, but it is up to us to actually listen and not just listen for what we want to hear.—Al Fox Carraway
- May 18, 2022 God gives you the option to either depend on Him or depend on yourself. The result is either freedom or frustration.—Anon
- May 19, 2022 As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the heart. —Proverbs 27:19 (NIV)
- May 20, 2022 There is something in you that the world needs.—Anon
- May 21, 2022 Don't be ashamed to be different. Be proud that God made you like no one else.—Anon
- May 22, 2022 The testing of your faith develops perseverance to that you may be mature and complete.—James 1:3
- May 23, 2022 God's power is limitless, and His forgiveness is endless.—Anon
- May 24, 2022 Life is like a notebook. Two pages are already written by God. First page is birth. The last page is death. Center pages are empty, so fill them with smiles and love.—Anon
- May 25, 2022 While there are many different roads that we take in life, it is those that walk with us that make the journey worthwhile.—Anon
- May 26, 2022 Today, I will slow down, smile, and enjoy it.—Anon
- May 27, 2022 God uses our weaknesses to help us realize how much we need each other.—Anon
- May 28, 2022 Each new day is a new opportunity.—Anon
- May 29, 2022 It is not important who does the planting or watering. What's important is that God makes the seeds grow.—1 Corinthians 3:7
- May 30, 2022 For whatever is in your heart determines what you say.—Matthew 12:34
- May 31, 2022 Taking time to be with God is the best place to find strength.—Anon



St. Mark's Children's Ministry G.L.O.W.

Growing in faith – Loving God and one another – Outward reaching – Worshiping together

G.L.O.W. @Night Sharing food, fun & faith!

For children 4 years old—grade 5

Dinner at 5:00pm

The fun begins at 6—7pm

Dates: Sundays: May 1 and 22

Please email:

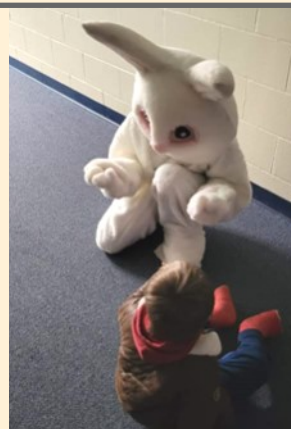
p.smith@fairfieldstmarks.com

if your child/children will be having
dinner with us.

**SAVE THE DATE:
VBS 2022
JUNE 26-JUNE 30**



**THE
EASTER...**



**EGG
HUNT!**



BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed or is incorrect,
please contact the church office (513-844-1818)

St. Mark's Trustee's Corner "JUNE SPRUCE UP"



Saturday, June 4 at 9am

It sure hasn't felt like spring these past few weeks, BRRR! We had hoped to spruce up the flower beds & lawn before Easter, but the weather didn't cooperate. Thankfully, Marlis Hatton & Penny Dole are on the lookout to plant a few flowers out front to add some color to the front. We still need to fluff the mulch, pull weeds & look at trimming the bushes. You will see some of these items on our

Helping Hands list. Also, we are planning an all church workday work on the cleaning up outside & inside. Join us on Saturday, June 4 at 9am and we will spend a few hours sprucing up the lawn, trimming bushes, and work on our list of projects. It should be warmer weather and a great day for fellowship while keeping the church beautiful.

Helping Hands...

This is an ongoing effort to identify those who can spend time working on areas in and around the church with minor updates, clean ups or necessary tasks. *Sign up on the back of the attendance card*, and a St. Mark's Trustee will contact you. Additionally, the list of items that we are seeking helping hands for will be **posted on the Trustee update bulletin board in the Narthex**. This list will be updated as items are completed or new needs arise. We all can join in to help keep St. Marks beautiful!

RUTH'S CIRCLE MEETING

Friday, May 20 at 1pm
(Fellowship Hall)

We would love to have ALL women of the church to join us.
For more information contact
Pam Guynes at
(513)779-9162 or
Pamguynes2@gmail.com or
Charlene Miller at
(513)-844-6793 or
chardarmiller@gmail.com

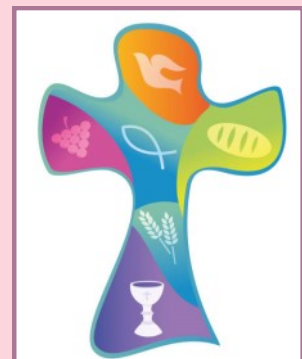


May Anniversaries

5/05	Pablo & Tonya Leguina	32
5/09	Bill & Julie Dichtl	35
5/17	Hugh & Pam Guynes	42
5/25	Lee & Arvilla Brinkmeyer	37
5/28	Charlie & Debbie Bryant	34
5/28	Jerry & Gail Hartwig	45
5/30	Bill & Lynne Schumacker	41

May Birthdays

5/03	Kathy Bradley	
5/03	Marla George	
5/06	Beth Ewald	
5/07	Malakie Edmundson	
5/08	Elliot Luken	3*
5/09	Mary Mislansky	
5/10	Riley Luken	6*
5/11	Tomie O'Sullivan	
5/13	Ted McDaniel	
5/17	Roger Roark	
5/18	John Meyer	
5/18	Julie Mislansky	
5/20	Samuel Saylor	3*
5/22	Jeff Guynes	
5/22	Gretchen Menke	
5/23	Marta Hollinger	
5/24	Zedith Pottenger	93
5/25	Gary Miller	
5/25	Sue Webster	
5/26	Shirley Aydlett	
5/26	Lauren Dichtl	
5/28	Diana Danford	6*
5/28	Rich Zugelter	
5/30	Betty Winkler	93



ST. MARK'S UMC CALENDAR

May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Holy Communion 9:30am - 10:30am Worship & NO G.L.O.W. 9:30am - 10:30am Confirmation Class 3:30pm - 5:00pm Dinner 5:00pm - 6:00pm GLOW @ NIGHT 5:00pm - 7:00pm Youth Group 6:00pm - 7:00pm	2 Crafters Group 10:00am Zoom Bible Study 6:30pm - 8:00pm	3 SPRC meeting 6:30pm - 7:30pm CYFM Team 6:45pm Boy Scouts Tr. 960 7:00pm - 8:30pm Trustees 7:00pm	4 Men's Prayer Group 7:30am Bible Study 2:00pm - 3:00pm Handbell Choir 6:00pm - 7:00pm Room at the Table 6:45pm - 8:15pm Chancel Choir Practice 7:30pm - 9:00pm	5 Spring Salad Luncheon 11:00am - 1:00pm Book Club 1:00pm - 2:00pm Small group Bible study 7:00pm - 9:00pm Narcotics Anon. 7:30pm - 9:00pm	6	7
8 Mother's Day Worship & G.L.O.W. 9:30am - 10:30am	9 Crafters Group 10:00am Zoom Bible Study 6:30pm - 8:00pm	10 Administrative Board 7:00pm Boy Scouts Tr. 960 7:00pm - 8:30pm	11 Men's Prayer Group 7:30am Bible Study 2:00pm - 3:00pm Handbell Choir 6:00pm - 7:00pm St. Mark's Cares meeting 6:15pm - 7:45pm Chancel Choir Practice 7:30pm - 9:00pm	12 Nurture & Care Committee 11:00am - 12:00pm Shared Harvest volunteering 12:30pm - 2:30pm Narcotics Anon. 7:30pm - 9:00pm	13	14
15 Worship & G.L.O.W. 9:30am - 10:30am	16 Crafters Group 10:00am Zoom Bible Study 6:30pm - 8:00pm	17 Boy Scouts Tr. 960 7:00pm - 8:30pm Finance Committe (ZOOM) meeting 7:00pm - 8:00pm	18 Men's Prayer Group 7:30am Bible Study 2:00pm - 3:00pm Handbell Choir 6:00pm - 7:00pm Chancel Choir Practice 7:30pm - 9:00pm	19 Narcotics Anon. 7:30pm - 9:00pm	20 Ruth's Circle 1:00pm - 2:00pm	21 Confirmation Practice 4:00pm - 5:00pm Confirmation Family Dinner 5:00pm - 6:30pm
22 Confirmation Sunday 9:30am - 10:30am Worship & G.L.O.W. 9:30am - 10:30am Dinner 5:00pm - 7:00pm GLOW @ NIGHT 5:00pm - 7:00pm	23 Crafters Group 10:00am Zoom Bible Study 6:30pm - 8:00pm	24 SPRC meeting 6:30pm - 7:30pm Boy Scouts Tr. 960 7:00pm - 8:30pm	25 Men's Prayer Group 7:30am Bible Study 2:00pm - 3:00pm Handbell Choir 6:00pm - 7:00pm Chancel Choir Practice 7:30pm - 9:00pm	26 Ascension Day Narcotics Anon. 7:30pm - 9:00pm	27	28
29 Worship & G.L.O.W. 9:30am - 10:30am	30 Memorial Day Crafters Group 10:00am Zoom Bible Study 6:30pm - 8:00pm	31 Boy Scouts Tr. 960 7:00pm - 8:30pm				

Access the church calendar on our website at
<https://www.fairfieldstmarks.com/calendar/>



4601 Fairfield Avenue
Fairfield, OH 45014

PRST MKTG
POSTAGE AND
FEES PAID
ST MARK'S UMC
FAIRFIELD, OH
PERMIT NO. 62

SPIRIT OF ST. MARK'S MAY 2022



St. Mark's Staff :

Pastor, Rev. Joseph M. Payne
Joe's cell #614-531-2373
Pastor Emeritus, Bob Klingel
Admin. Assistant, Lyn Bucalo
Director of Music, Chris Beiser
Organist, Sue Combs
Director of Children & Family Ministries, Peggy Smith
Director of Youth Ministries, Julie Mislansky

Church Office Hours :

Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday
9:30am - 3:00 pm
Monday - (Office Closed)

(513) 844-1818
Fax: (513) 844-2828
www.fairfieldstmarks.com

Worship Service:
Sundays 9:30 am