



# ST. MARK'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**May 5, 2024, 9:30am**  
**Communion Sunday**



**Sermon Title: "Good Friends"**

**Worship with us In-person and Live-stream**



<https://www.fairfieldstmarks.com/live-stream/>

Streaming worship on Facebook and YouTube at  
[www.facebook.com/fairfieldstmarks](http://www.facebook.com/fairfieldstmarks)

## **WELCOME! We are glad you are here.**

*Please sign the Attendance Pad in your pew and pass it along. Return it to its original place when finished, noting those present with you. Greet one another after the worship service! Please offer a warm welcome to those who are visitors.*

*For prayer requests, find Prayer Cards in the pew racks. Completed 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: "Easter Medley" Handbell Choir

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come into this sacred space to worship God

**whose teaching is perfect;**

**whose directions are sure.**

Come into this holy place to worship God

**whose standards are right;**

**whose commandment is clear;**

**whose judgements are true.**

Come with holy fear –

to be given life, and made wise,

to have your heart stirred and your eyes opened wide.

Come — let us worship God.

**Let the words of our mouths and the whispering of our hearts**

**be according to your will, O God. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" UMH526

### **\*OPENING PRAYER**

**Lord, the eyes of all look to You in hope; You give them what they need. You open Your hand and satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing.**

**We, too, turn to You again, longing to be filled—to eat of the Bread of Life, to drink from Your life-giving streams, to taste Your goodness and live.**

**May the time we spend together in Your presence nourish our hearts and minds. May it strengthen our relationship with You and renew our commitment to live in this world as Your faithful disciples.**

**For You alone are God, the Source and Sustainer of life.**

**In Jesus' name, 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

Sue Combs

Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving

HANDBELL SPECIAL: "Honduras/Alleluia"

Handbell Choir

Dick Roemer & Piper Rieke, Percussion

\*HYMN

"Freely, Freely"

UMH 389

SCRIPTURE:

John 15:9-17

SERMON

"Good Friends"

Pastor Mark

\*COMMUNION

\*CLOSING HYMN

"The Gift of Love"

UMH 408

\*BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING SONG

"Take Jesus With You"

\*POSTLUDE

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## **Joys/Concerns**

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

- 04/28 Keep a friend and her family in your prayers as they grieve the loss of her brother-in-law from cancer.
- 04/28 Keep a friend who has a re-occurrence of breast cancer.
- 04/28 Elaine Shreve's brother, Dick Beers, suffering from congestive heart failure.
- 04/28 Pastor Bob Klingel for healing.
- 04/28 Lois Hill asks for prayers for Michael, who is coping with some long-suffering health situations. He is now in a special treatment center.
- 04/21 JOY! Dee Aiken's granddaughter, Gillian Null, will be graduating with a doctorate degree from UC Medical School and will move on to continue her studies at Ohio State in order to become a surgeon.
- 04/21 Jean Cottrill has been moved back into her home on Windermere. She was unable to make much progress with mobility at the rehab facility.
- 04/21 Paul Schutte is now at Gateway Springs for rehab.
- 04/21 Becky Mendenhall fell and hurt her back.
- 04/21 Chelsey Cavender for continued healing.
- 04/21 Iris Jones's son and son-in-law for medical issues.
- 04/21 Vicki & Craig Cavender's friend, Ric, for good test results.
- 04/21 Marianne Calabria Halcomb's young niece, Claire, who lives in Texas, as she is going through a health situation.
- 04/17 Ann Brabbs is now home recovering and not quite ready to receive visitors just yet.
- 04/17 Don Ault is having some balancing issues.
- 04/17 Patty Coyle's son, Tim, the bleeding has stopped, but he has no energy.
- 04/17 Patty Coyle's daughter, Lori, having some medical concerns.
- 04/17 Linda Prohaska's brother, Eugene Campbell, continues to fight through lung cancer. A few extra prayers please.
- 04/17 Ann McWilliams' 40-year-old grandson had a horrible fall rollerblading: broken shoulder, knee, and bruising.
- 04/14 Susan Bunte's nephew, Kirk, who is having significant health challenges.
- 04/14 Danny Thomas asks for prayers as he receives shot for pain he is having in his back.
- 04/07 Donna Armstrong's neighbor, Steve Hogue: his cancer returned and he is receiving treatment.
- 03/31 Ruth Stanifer's cousin, Matthew's daughter, Ella, who had an MRI on April 1 to see if the tumor is shrinking.
- 03/24 Tonya & Pablo Leguina's son's brother-in-law, who is dealing with severe and debilitating depression and other mental health-related issues. He has left the US and is currently being treated in India.

03/24 Virginia Shaw is located at Trustwell Living at Fairfield Place located at 2357 Mack Rd, Fairfield, OH 45014.

03/24 Don & Cheryl Kemen mother, Billie Ingel, is located at Trustwell Living at Fairfield Place, located at 2357 Mack Rd, Fairfield, OH 45014, Room #120.

### **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  
Terrill Broshear  
Tim Beltz (Iris Jones's son-in-law)  
Helen Bowman  
Ann Brabbs  
Patty Coyle

Mike Fitzpatrick  
Jeff Gering  
Sharon Hamp  
Iris Jones  
Cliff Klug  
Wade Lewis  
Lori Palmieri (P. Coyle's daughter)  
Linda Prohaska  
Eugene Campbell—lung cancer  
(Linda Prohaska's brother)  
Parkside Residents  
Marilyn Stewart  
Brenda Smoot

### **St. Mark's Homebound:**

Jean Cottrill  
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

### **MEDIA VOLUNTEER**

Please prayerfully consider volunteering to help with the media area in the back of the sanctuary. Another option, would be to have 2 people alternate weeks.

Please contact Pastor Mark for information, and NO experience is needed.

## **ST. MARK'S WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**Check out our online calendar: [fairfieldstmarks.com/calendar](http://fairfieldstmarks.com/calendar)  
TODAY, 05/05 HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY**

9:30 am Holy Communion & Worship in sanctuary and livestreamed  
NO G.L.O.W. Nursery open for infants—age 3

11:30 am New Covenant Church Worship in sanctuary

### **MONDAY, 05/06**

10:00 am Ladies' Craft Group

6:30 pm Ladies' Evening Bible Study (IN PERSON)

### **TUESDAY, 05/07**

6:30 pm VBS Training

7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troup 960

### **WEDNESDAY, 05/08**

7:30 am Men's Prayer Group

10:00 am Walk/Exercise Class

2:00 pm Bible Study Group

6:30 pm Hand Bell Practice

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, 05/09**

10:00 am Small Group Bible Study

11:00 am Nurture & Care meeting

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

### **FRIDAY, 05/10**

12:00 pm Ruth Circle Ladies' Luncheon

### **SATURDAY, 05/11**

7:00 pm New Covenant Choir Meetings (Choir Room)

### **SUNDAY, 05/12 MOTHER'S DAY, HAT DAY CELEBRATION**

9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreamed

G.L.O.W. Nursery open for infants—age 3

11:30 am New Covenant Church Worship in sanctuary

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **MAY—JUNE 2, FAIRFIELD FOOD PANTRY DONATION DRIVE**

We are collecting and appreciate any and all food donated, but they are in need of pet food, hygiene products, and Mac-n-Cheese. Lyn B. will be collecting items on May 15, 5:00-7:30pm. Tari Randall will be collecting food on May 30, 10:00am—12:00pm.

### **MAY 7 & 19, VBS TRAINING DAYS**

All VBS volunteers will attend one of these training day options. On May 7, Tuesday at 6:30pm or on May 19, Sunday after worship. Please contact Peggy Smith for more questions.

### **MAY 10 FRIDAY, 1-2:30PM, RUTH CIRCLE LUNCHEON, FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Join us for a special Ruth Circle Luncheon this month as we have our season-end luncheon and meeting. We will resume in September. The entrée and beverages are provided. We ask that each attendee bring a covered dish. For more details, contact: Pam Guynes (513)779-9162, or email [Pamguynes2@gmail.com](mailto:Pamguynes2@gmail.com).

### **MAY 17, FRIDAY, BROKEN BUS FOOD DONATIONS**

We are collecting food items to take to the broken bus by May 17, Friday. We do have all the riders, please just food is needed: Sliders—9 pans of 18 per pan (ham & cheese, roast beef, turkey & cheese), Fruit—Grapes and/or Strawberries in baggies, Cuties, Bananas, Mt Dew (NO Diet), Gatorade, Water. We are feeding 50-60. The sign-up sheet is on the Narthex bulletin board.

**MAY 23, THURSDAY, 6PM, CYF SUMMER BREAK FUN FEST at ST. MARK'S**

The Summer Break Fun Fest is open to everyone and the community. We will be outside, 6pm around the church shelter with delicious food, games for all ages, prizes, a bounce house, a raffle drawing for a 'Summer Fun Basket' filled with all kind of goodies. For more information, contact Peggy Smith or Sue Luken. (Rain date May 30)

**MAY 28, TUESDAY, 12PM, LUNCH BUNCH at SMOKEY BONES**

This month, we are having lunch at Smokey Bones in West Chester. Address is 9484 Civic Centre. Besides BBQ Ribs, there are variety of appetizers, sandwiches, and salads. Contact BRENDA SMOOT at (513) 316-1807 by May 26.,

**JUNE 1, SATURDAY, 9-11AM, MATTHEW 25 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Another opportunity to volunteer your time at Matthew 25 Ministries. We always have a great time while helping support this amazing ministry. Contact: Lynne Schumacker.

**JUNE 9-13, VBS, 6:30-8:15PM**

Please mark your calendars with the revised VBS date that is now June 9-13. Join us for an exciting adventure with God at this year's VBS, "Camp Firelight," based on Psalm 56:3. The children and youth are invited to twinkle and flutter into a world of engaging activities, music, stories, and meaningful lessons to create lasting memories. Contact Peggy Smith for more questions. Register the participants at this link: <https://stmarksumc.mycokesburyvbs.com>

**WEEKLY MEETINGS:**

**MAY, MONDAY, 10:00-2:00, LADIES CRAFT GROUP**

If you are feeling a little crafty, want to sew/crochet, paint, glue, assemble, and whatever you feel you want to do to help the craft ladies with projects that are sold during church events and seasonal items that are available for purchase. Contact Shirley Aydtlett for more details.

**MAY 6, MONDAY, 6:30-8PM, LADIES EVENING BIBLE STUDY (IN-PERSON)**

We are planning to meet In-person, Fellowship Hall for Ladies' evening Bible study. We continue in Chronicles. ALL are welcome anytime & no requirements. Kym provides weekly study questions for learning and discussions. For more information, please contact Kym Nguyen.

**MAY, WEDNESDAY, 2-3PM, GROUP BIBLE STUDY, FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Pop in any week as we come together to discuss and study the book of Acts. Last meeting May 22

**MAY, WEDNESDAY, 10AM, WALK/EXERCISE CLASS, FELLOWSHIP HALL**

We meet in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM for our Walk/Exercise Class. This class is designed for all levels, including beginners. You can sit in a chair and work out, too! Go at your own pace and show up any week. Contact Ruth Ritenbaugh.

**RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS—APRIL 28, 2024**

Worship In-Person Attendance: 102  
Sunday School Attendance: 7

Weekly Budget Needs	<u>\$6,120.92</u>
Weekly In-Person Giving	\$2,846.00
Weekly On-Line Giving	<u>\$2,247.62</u>
	<b><u>\$5,093.62</u></b>

Special—Designated Giving\* \$155.00  
*\*Designated Giving can not be used for Budget Needs*

## **SUMMER-BREAK FUN FEST** **MAY 23, 6:00-8:00PM at ST. MARK'S**

The Summer Break Fun Fest is open to everyone and the community. We will be outside beginning 6pm around the church shelter with delicious food, games for all ages, prizes, a bounce house, a raffle drawing for a 'Summer Fun Basket' filled with all kind of goodies.

For more information,  
contact Peggy Smith or Sue Luken.  
(Rain date May 30)



## **Reds Game Church Event! Sunday, June 23, 2024, 1:40 PM** **Cincinnati Reds VS Boston Red Sox (At Stadium)**

Come join us for a fun St. Mark's Church event at the Ballpark (Cincinnati) Sign



up on the Sheet, and pay \$28.00 per person. (Children under 2 years old are free, sitting on your lap.) (Minimal walking is required to access our reserved section.) We have SECTION 414 which is reserved for a maximum of 40 people. You MUST be SIGNED

UP and PAID no later than May 12. Use an envelope to pay, and mark it for "RED GAME" with your name. This is a great time for fellowship, fun memories, and friendship! Please sign up on the "sign-up" sheet in the Narthex, or you may contact Lyn Bucalo at the church office: Call (513) 844-1818 or Email at [L.bucalo@fairfieldstmarks.com](mailto:L.bucalo@fairfieldstmarks.com)

Contact Pastor Mark and Diana Gregory for details.

Transportation information will be forthcoming. We hope to see YOU there!

## **DEADLINE FOR JUNE NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

Contact Lyn Bucalo at [L.bucalo@fairfieldstmarks.com](mailto:L.bucalo@fairfieldstmarks.com) to submit content for monthly newsletters on the 3rd Monday each month.

**JUNE 2024 Newsletter deadline is MONDAY, MAY 13!**

## **St. Mark's United Methodist Church**

4601 Fairfield Ave.  
Fairfield, OH 45014  
513.844.1818

[www.Fairfieldstmarks.com](http://www.Fairfieldstmarks.com)

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

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WIFI: StMarks Guest

PW: HelloFairfield