



March 2, 2025 - 9:30AM

Communion Sunday



“Tough Questions: That’s Not Fair!!!”

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're so glad you're here!

To help us stay connected, please take a moment to complete the Attendance Pad located in each pew. Pass it along so others can do the same, and when it reaches the end, kindly return it to its place. As you do, take a moment to greet those around you!

Do you have a prayer request?

Prayer Cards can be found in the pew racks. If you would like your request shared during our prayer time, please complete a card and place it in the collection during the opening hymn.

A few helpful notes for worship today:

An (*) invites you to rise as you are able, in body and/or spirit. Congregational responses are printed in **BOLD** and projected. Our ushers are here to assist you with any questions.

We are blessed to worship together today!

WELCOME/GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Sue Combs

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come with your questions, come with your awe!

**For the God who broods over the chaos
meets us in this place.**

Come with your energy, come with your weariness!

**For the God who breathes new life into the dust
meets us in this place.**

Come with your sadness, come with your joy!

**For the God who dared to become human
meets us in this place.**

***OPENING HYMN: "How Firm a Foundation"**

UMH 529

***OPENING PRAYER**

**Not one of us is worthy to approach you, O God, Creator
of the universe, holy and all-powerful.**

**Yet you have approached us and have shown us the
human face of your love in Jesus, your Son, our
Saviour. He revealed your love and mercy by living as he
did—serving others and accepting them
as people made in your image and likeness.**

**He pointed us towards a world in which each and every
person could realize his or her identity as a precious
child of yours. He even gifted us with the Holy Spirit so
that the very fabric of our existence is woven with the
thread of his life.**

**May this time of worship be a true reflection of our
thanksgiving, wonder and praise over such
blessings. This we pray 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
Doxology
Prayer of Thanksgiving

CHOIR ANTHEM: Open My Eyes

HYMN: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" UMH 381

SCRIPTURE: Luke 15:11-31

SERMON TITLE: "Tough Questions: That's Not Fair!!!"

COMMUNION

*CLOSING HYMN: "God of Grace and God of Glory" UMH 577

*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 “Continued Prayers.”

- 02/25 With heavy hearts, we share that Bill Schumacker’s mother, Shirley Schumacker, 94 yrs old, has passed away on February 25, 2025. Please keep Bill, Lynne, and the family in your prayers as they navigate this time of loss. May they find comfort in God’s love and the cherished memories they hold dear. We ask for traveling mercies for them as they gather with loved ones to honor her life.
- 02/25 Update on Belinda Peters: Belinda is home and recovering well, though she continues to experience some pain off and on. She is receiving physical and occupational therapy daily and can move around the first floor with caution. Belinda underwent ankle and toe surgery on 2/14/25, and we continue to pray for her strength, comfort, and full healing.
- 02/23 Mark Hensler to have improved test results at next doctor appointment.
- 02/23 Tomie O’Sullivan having issues breathing.
- 02/23 Susan Bunte’s friend, Yun Li, who was recently diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer.
- 02/16 Our deepest sympathies go out to the family and friends of Jim Menninger, brother of Terrill Broshear, who passed away on 2/15/25. May God’s comfort and peace be with all who mourn his loss.
- 02/11 Wade Lewis, father of Kym Nguyen, who had kyphoplasty procedure on 2/11/25 is now recovering and doing well.
- 02/09 Kristy’s friend, Melissa, who is recovering from breast cancer surgery on 2/18/25.
- 02/09 A family member’s cancer has returned & has spread. Prayers for Sue to receive God’s comfort & healing.
- 02/09 Daughter & granddaughter who are having serious differences and currently estranged.
- 02/02 Angie Wilson having a bilateral mastectomy. My PSA Family.
- 02/02 Danny Thomas is home recovering from his shoulder surgery on January 31. Pray for a speedy recovery. After he recovers from this he will have back surgery.
- 02/02 Shelby and Leo Schneider who have been ill.
- 01/26 Brockfield’s friend, Rella Hadley (wife of Rev. Joe Hadley’s wife) has been diagnosed with ALS-Lou Gehrig’s disease.
- 01/26 Marlis Hatton as she continues her treatment journey. We pray for strength, healing and comfort.

Continued Prayers: Please help us keep this list current by emailing or calling the church office with updates, L.bucalo@fairfieldstmarks.com or call 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
Kathy Bradley
Patty Coyle
Sharon Hamp
Marlis Hatton

Iris Jones Family
Judy & Bob Klingel
Cliff Klug
Wade & Nancy Lewis
Tomie O'Sullivan
Belinda Peterson
Lori Palmieri (P. Coyle's daughter)
Linda Prohaska
Brenda Smoot
Parkside Residents

St. Mark's Homebound:

Janice Chaney
Freida Hawkins
Jim Jones (BeeHive Liberty Twp)
Bob & Judy Klingel (Westover)
Gale Logan—Otterbein Community
Nancy & Wade Lewis (Berkeley)
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, 03/02 Communion Sunday

9:30 am Holy Communion & Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
NO GLOW, nursery open for infants—age 3

MONDAY, 03/03

6:00 pm Ladies Bible Study (Meet in-person)

TUESDAY, 03/04

5:00 pm Shrove Pancake Dinner

WEDNESDAY, 03/05

7:30 am Men's Prayer Group (Prayer Room)

2:00 pm Bible Study Group (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 pm **Ash Wednesday Service**

THURSDAY, 03/06

10:00 am Small Group Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 pm Room at the Table

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY, 03/07

SATURDAY, 03/08

11:00 am Matthew 25 Ministries

SUNDAY, 03/09 (Spring Forward—Daylight Savings Time)

9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming

GLOW, Preschool—5th grade, nursery open for infants—age 3

10:30 am CYF Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER LILIES ORDER FORMS AVAILABLE AT WELCOME COUNTER

The order forms are available at the Welcome Counter. All orders with payment are due by March 16, Sunday. Contact: Lyn Bucalo for details.

MARCH 4, TUESDAY, 5:00PM, SHROVE PANCAKE DINNER, FELLOWSHIP HALL

Join us for a delicious Shrove Pancake Dinner enjoying good food and fellowship as we celebrate this tradition together. Bring your family and friends for a fun evening of pancakes, savory sausage, toppings bar, beverages. Donations appreciated & go to the VBS program. Time: 5:00-6:30PM. Contact: Sue Luken and Peggy Smith.

MARCH 8, SATURDAY, 11:00AM—1:00PM, MATTHEW 25 MINISTRY

We will be volunteering at Matthew 25 to support their mission of helping those in need. A sign-up sheet is available on the Narthex bulletin board—Contact Lynne Schumacker.

MARCH 10, MONDAY, 6:30PM, LADIES BIBLE STUDY (NEW TESTAMENT) ZOOM

We've journeyed through the Old Testament, and now—we've arrived in the New Testament! Join us for Ladies' Bible Study on Mondays as we gain more knowledge exploring the scriptures, share awesome discussions, and grow together. Kym Nguyen will help you get connected, so don't be afraid of the tech—we're here to learn and encourage one another!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES SCHEDULE: (March 16 at 9:30AM)

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

MARCH 21, FRIDAY, 1PM, RUTH CIRCLE, FELLOWSHIP HALL

Every month the ladies meet for devotions and fellowship. Contact Pam Guynes.

MARCH 23, SUNDAY, 3-5PM, 60's BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, FELLOWSHIP HALL

Twist & Shout—A 60's Celebration! Join us as we groove back to the '60s to celebrate Pastor Mark & Chris Beiser's 60th birthdays with music, fun, and festive treats! Stop by the Fellowship Hall for a come-and-go party filled with retro vibes, light bites, and sweet treats! If you'd like to contribute, please sign up at the Welcome Counter to bring an appetizer, light bite, or chips. *No gifts are required*, but if you'd like to bring a little something, Chris appreciates Amazon gift cards, and Pastor Mark would enjoy a Cabela's gift card. We look forward to celebrating!

MARCH 25, TUESDAY, 12:30PM, LUNCHBUNCH

Join us for the St. Mark's Lunch Bunch at Taqueria el Comal at Bridgewater Falls. Located at: 3371 Princeton Rd, Hamilton, OH 45011. Contact Sue Beckett at (513) 856-8873 for reservation and questions.

MARCH 28, FRIDAY, 10:00AM—5:00PM, LASAGNA LOVE, FELLOWSHIP HALL

We are excited to partner with Lasagna Love 2025, to support local families in our community! We are seeking volunteers to donate ingredients or monetary contributions, help assemble lasagnas, and assist with deliveries. Just sign up at welcome counter. Contact Cindy Miller.

CYF NEEDS YOUR HELP TO FILL EGGS FOR ST MARK'S EASTER EGG HUNT

CYF is preparing for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 12, and we need your help! We're asking for donations of individually wrapped candies, stickers, temporary tattoos, or other small toys to fill our Easter eggs. Pre-filled egg bags (containing two dozen eggs each) are available in the Narthex for pickup. Please return the filled eggs to the designated boxes in the Narthex by Sunday, April 6. Thank you for your generosity in helping make this a wonderful community event once again!

MARCH 30, UMCOR SUNDAY, 9:30AM

MONTHLY, FIRST TUESDAY, 6:30PM, ROOM AT THE TABLE (ZOOM)

We are meeting the FIRST Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm via Zoom. Please contact Zachary Dichtl at: rattsmumc@gmail.com. *Due to Shrove Pancake dinner we have rescheduled the meeting to March 6, Thursday.*

RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS—FEBRUARY 23, 2025

Worship In-Person Attendance: 113
Sunday School Attendance: 6

Weekly Budget Needs	<u>\$6,715.56</u>
Weekly In-Person Giving	\$7,900.00
Weekly On-Line Giving	<u>\$1,315.94</u>
	<u>\$9,215.94</u>

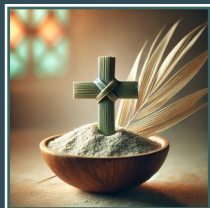
Special—Designated Giving* \$ 200.00

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



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER **MARCH 4, TUESDAY, 5:00-6:30PM**

We have a yummy event involving all - you - can - eat pancakes!
See inside bulletin for more information
Contact: Sue Luken and Peggy Smith.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE **MARCH 5, 7:00PM**

Join us for our Ash Wednesday service as we begin the sacred season of Lent with prayer, reflection, and the imposition of ashes.
All are welcome to come and seek renewal in Christ.

LASAGNA LOVE EVENT on MARCH 28, FRIDAY @ 10AM-5PM



We will once again partner with Lasagna Love to support local families in our community. Whether you would like to donate ingredients, assemble lasagnas, or assist with deliveries, we would love to have you involved! See inside bulletin for more information or
Contact: Cindy Miller for details

WEEKLY GROUPS:

MONDAY's, 6:30PM, LADIES BIBLE STUDY (ZOOM & IN-PERSON 1st MON)

We will meet IN-person-March 3 in Fellowship Hall; We begin the New Testament on March 10. 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 have begun reading II 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:

Handbell Choir at 6:30pm, contact Sue Combs for more information. Chancel Choir at 7:30pm, contact Chris Beiser for more information.

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