



ST. MARK'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 14, 2025 - 9:30AM



The After Party: "The Alternative"

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come and worship, all you who love and serve the Lord:

There is no one like our God!

The First and Last – the only One:

There is no one like our God!

Creator, Sustainer, Redeemer and King:

There is no one like our God!

The Rock in whom we place our trust:

There is no one like our God! Let's worship God together.

Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: "O Jesus I Have Promised"

UMH 396

*OPENING PRAYER

Holy God, Creator of Life, you call us out of our dark places, offering us the grace of new life. When we see nothing but hopelessness, you surprise us with the breath of your spirit. Call us out of our complacency and routines, set us free from our self-imposed bonds, and fill us with your spirit of life, compassion, and peace. In the name of Jesus, your anointed one, we pray. 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: "Hymn to His Coming"

HYMN: "Take My Life and Let It Be" UMH 399

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 25:31-46

SERMON TITLE: The After Party: "The Alternative" Pastor Mark

*CLOSING HYMN: "Here I Am Lord" UMH 593

*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.”

- 09/07 We lift our prayers for comfort and peace to the families and friends who are grieving the loss of loved ones in recent days
- 09/07 Patty Coyle extends her heartfelt thanks for the prayers, cards, calls, and kind thoughts. She is feeling stronger and improving each day.
- 09/07 Paul Schutte for health concerns.
- 09/07 Eva Clendenin and family—pray for God’s guidance.
- 09/04 With deep sadness, we share the news of the passing of Judy Klingel on 09/04/25. She went peacefully, and we lift her family and friends in our prayers during this time of loss. Our heartfelt condolences and love go especially to Pastor Bob Klingel. May he feel God’s arms of comfort and care surrounding him now and in the days to come.
A Celebration of Life (Open House) SEPT. 14 from 2-4pm.
- 09/04 We received the sorrowful news of Charlene Miller’s passing on 9/04/25. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to her family and loved ones. We pray that God’s presence will bring them comfort, strength, and peace during this time of loss.
- 09/02 Please lift up Brenda’s family in your prayers. Her grandson, Cameron Lee Smoot, the son of Alison and Kevin, passed away unexpectedly on August 30 while hiking. May God’s comfort and peace surround all who are grieving this tragic loss.
- 09/07 Pastor Mark next steps for him.
- 08/31 Debbie Vitale’s granddaughter Kylie’s fiancé Michael Parsley.
- 08/31 JOY! The Nguyen’s are celebrating 32 years of marriage on Sept 4.
- 08/31 Arvilla Brinkmeyer’s surgery has been postponed.
- 08/31 A friend (Eric and family). His brother-in-law passed away following neck surgery due to complications from a blood clot to the brain.
- 08/31 Continue to keep Bud & Shirley in your prayers. Bud continues to do better as he continues rehab at Doverwood. Shirely is scheduled for surgery but it is postponed due to her being ill.
- 08/31 The Hensler’s neighbor, Judy who is suffering with dementia.
- 08/31 Shelby Cavender and Leo in your prayers as they have been battling numerous illnesses.
- 08/31 Marta Hollinger’s youngest sister, Erin who is visiting from Texas. She has been ill with a virus which is affecting her Parkinson’s disease.
- 08/24 JOY! Steve & Kym Nguyen’s are so incredibly blessed to announce that our son, Jack and his wife Marissa, are expecting their first child.
- 08/24 For Knox (10) & Konrad (11) whose father is ill and not expected to recover.
- 08/24 Please pray for all those who are recovering from surgery.
- 08/24 For Sue Bunte’s co-worker during this time of deep sorrow, as they recently had to make the agonizing decision to discontinue life support for a loved one.
- 08/17 JOY! Steve & Kym Nguyen’s son, Jack graduated 8/16 from Miami with his Masters in Medical Science. He will be interviewing now for jobs as a Physicians Associate (PA). Prayers for the right job for Jack.
- 08/17 Ann Brabbs is doing well after having major back surgery 8/06.

- 08/17 Bill & Lynne Schumacker's son, Bryan who recently had surgery on August 15 is doing well and recuperating in the hospital. Thank you for the prayers.
- 08/17 Pat Fassnacht's daughter, Holly Craig had surgery on August 14 and is healing nicely at home. Thank you for the prayers and concerns.
- 08/17 Please continue to pray for Baby Cooper and his family. The cancer is spreading and is very sick.
- 08/17 Brooke Becker's mother has shingles and her dad has recently diagnosed with dementia.

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 World, Nation, and Communities
 First Responders
 United Methodist Church
 Prayer & Bible Study Groups
 For the sick and/or homeless
 Don Ault
 Shirley & Bud Aydlett
 Ann Brabbs
 Helen Brown
 Kathy Bradley
 Patty Coyle
 Sharon Hamp

Marlis Hatton
 Iris Jones Family
 Bob Klingel
 Cliff Klug
 Mary Lou Knau
 Wade & Nancy Lewis
 Tomie O'Sullivan
 Belinda Peters
 Lori Palmieri (P. Coyle's daughter)
 Linda Prohaska
 Zedith Pottenger
 Brenda Smoot
 Elaine Shreve
 Parkside Residents

St. Mark's Homebound:

Janice Chaney
 Freida Hawkins (Doverwood)
 Bob Klingel (Westover)
 Gale Logan—Otterbein Community
 Nancy & Wade Lewis (Berkeley)
 Flo Moore (Berkeley Square)
 Eleanor McCollum

Zedith Pottenger
 Jean Stivers
 Virginia Shaw
 Paul Schutte
 Betty Stover (NY in home hospice)
 Peggy Wyatt

ST. MARK'S WEEKLY CALENDAR

Check out our online calendar: fairfieldstmarks.com/calendar

TODAY, 09/14

- 9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
GLOW, nursery open for infants—age 3
- 10:30 am CYF Meeting
- 2:00 pm A Celebration of Life (Open House) for Judy Klingel

MONDAY, 09/15

TUESDAY, 09/16

WEDNESDAY, 09/17

- 7:30 am Men's Prayer & Support Group
- 2:00 pm Bible Study Group
- 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 09/18

- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY, 09/19

- 1:00 pm Ruth Circle

SATURDAY, 09/20

- 10:00 am St. Mark's Cares Meeting at Panera

SUNDAY, 09/21

- 9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
GLOW, nursery open for infants—age 3
- 4:30 pm Church Family Picnic & Games

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 19, FRIDAY, 1:00PM, RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle will resume meeting this month! All women are warmly invited to join us for fellowship, prayer, and study as we gather together once again.

SEPTEMBER 20, SATURDAY, 10:00AM, ST. MARK'S CARES MEETING

We will meet and have breakfast together at Panera Bread located at 5875 Dixie Hwy, Fairfield, OH 45014. Contact Tari Randall or Kym Nguyen.

SEPTEMBER 21, SUNDAY, 4:30-8:00PM, CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC & GAMES

An ALL CHURCH-wide celebration! Join us at the church picnic shelter as we come together to fellowship, picnic dinner (serving at 5:30pm), play outdoor games: ***Cornhole, Bingo and more.*** We'll enjoy a Potluck—so please bring a side dish to share. BBQ chicken and pork, mac-n-cheese, coleslaw, buns, and drinks will be provided. **SIGN UP AT THE WELCOME COUNTER** so we know how many people are coming and what side dish you will bring. Thank you. Contact: Peggy Smith and Sue Luken.

SEPTEMBER 23, TUESDAY, 12PM, LUNCH BUNCH at FORD'S GARAGE

This month the Lunch Bunch is at Ford's Garage, 7509 Gibson Street, Liberty Township, Please make reservation to Sue Beckett by Sunday, September 21 at (513) 856-8873.

SEPTEMBER 26, FRIDAY, 5PM, SERVE CITY (STATE FAIR THEME FOOD)

This month our Serve City meal will celebrate with a State Fair theme! We invite your food donations to help us serve others. Sign up at the Narthex bulletin board.

OCTOBER 4, SATURDAY, 9AM-12PM, THE HEALING CENTER (Springdale)

St. Mark's Cares – Volunteer at The Healing Center. This nonprofit provides food, clothing, health care (through UC medical students and doctors), and spiritual support—relying on volunteers like us to serve the community. The morning includes a tour and helping sort donations. Sign up in the narthex! For more information contact Cindy Miller.

OCTOBER 11, SATURDAY, 9:30AM, NAMI 5K WALK

Location: Fitton Center for Arts, 101 S Monument Ave, Hamilton, OH 45011. Please contact Tari Randall for more information. Sign up online at: <https://www.namiwalks.org/butlercounty>

OCTOBER 12, 3RD GRADE BIBLE SUNDAY AND PASTOR APPRECIATION

Please contact Peggy Smith for names of children to receive their bibles and then following worship, we will have a gathering in Fellowship Hall to celebrate Pastor Mark Gregory and his 35 years in the ministry.

OCTOBER 19, SUNDAY, 4:30PM, FALLFEST TRUNK-or-TREAT EVENT

Details coming soon!

NEW CHANGES WITH ALTAR FLOWERS—FORMS IN NARTHEX HALLWAY

If you would like to order altar flowers, please contact Lyn in the church office to make arrangements **at least two weeks in advance of your requested date**. Due to recent price increases, we have updated our florist options, two choices are available:

- \$20 handmade bouquet of mixed seasonal flowers, OR
- \$30 professional arrangement featuring carnations, daisies, and greenery, provided by Bryan's Flowers & Gift Shop.

For your convenience, *a calendar of available dates is posted on the board*. Please complete the pink Altar Flower Order Form, enclose your cash or check in an envelope, and place it in the offering plate. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Lyn (513) 844-1818.

OLD BOWLING TROPHIES—DONATIONS

Wanted: Old bowling trophies. Check your closets and your basement. The youth are going bowling in September and it would be fun to have trophies for them. Big or small, the older and tackier the better! See Peggy Smith for more details.

RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS—SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

Worship In-Person Attendance: 116

Sunday School Attendance: 3

Weekly Budget Needs	<u>\$6,154.12</u>
Weekly In-Person Giving	\$4,858.10
Weekly On-Line Giving	<u>\$1,492.47</u>
	<u>\$6,350.57</u>

Special—Designated Giving* \$275.00

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

Altar Flowers:

*1-Brought together by God, the Mullen's celebrate their
64th Wedding Anniversary (September 16)
1-In Honor of Edith Davis 93rd Birthday (September 12)*



ST. MARK'S CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC SEPTEMBER 21 AT 4:30-8:00PM

Join us at the Church Picnic Shelter for food and outdoor fun!
We are planning Cornhole (casual) tournament, Bingo, Giant Jenga,
and other outdoor games for all ages.
See inside bulletin for details or contact Peggy Smith/Sue Luken.



LUNCH BUNCH SEPTEMBER 23, TUESDAY AT 12PM

Come meet us for lunch and fellowship at
Ford's Garage, 7509 Gibson Street, Liberty Township
For more information, contact Sue Beckett

WEEKLY GROUPS:

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

We are taking a short break and will resume on September 29, In-person! We have a new book if you want to join us, "*Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible: Flawed Women Loved by a Flawless God*". By: Liz Curtis Higgs. Contact: Kym Nguyen for more details.

WEDNESDAY's, 7:30AM, MEN's PRAYER GROUP

This group is more than just a time of prayer—it's also a space for encouragement, support, and fellowship. Contact Jeff Gering for more information.

WEDNESDAY's, 2-3PM, BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Next book of the bible we begin in Phillipians. Contact Sue McDaniel for more information.

WEDNESDAY's, MUSIC REHEARSALS:

Handbell Choir at 6:30pm, contact Sue Combs (details coming soon) and then 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

www.Facebook.com/fairfieldstmarks

facebook.com/groups/fairfieldstmarks

facebook.com/groups/stmarkschildrenfamily

WIFI: StMarks Guest—PW: HelloFairfield