



October 12, 2025 - 9:30AM



“The Hardest Thing”

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**

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens, and in the high places; all you great cloud of witnesses, praise the LORD.

Sun and moon, and star strewn cosmos; edges of the universe, and echoes of creation, praise the LORD!

Praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created;

who set them in place for ever and ever; who gave them order which will never fade away.

***OPENING HYMN:**

UMH 363 (vs 1,3,5)

"And Can It Be That I Should Gain "

***OPENING PRAYER**

"od, you split rocks in the wilderness, and gave your people abundant drink, as from the deep. Come to us, Lord. Give us that abundant water. You made streams come out of the rock and caused waters to flow down like rivers. Come to us, Lord. Send the waters down upon us. You turned the desert into pools of water, the parched land into springs of water. Come to us, Lord. Create springs in the parched desert of our hearts. As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. Come to us, Lord, and fill our longing. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

THIRD GRADE BIBLE SUNDAY

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING MOMENT

Offertory:

Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving

CHOIR ANTHEM: "To Honor Christ"

HYMN: "Love Lifted Me Worship and Song" UMH 3101

SCRIPTURE: James 1:19-27

SERMON TITLE: "The Hardest Thing" Pastor Mark

*CLOSING HYMN: "Precious memories" vs 1,3,4
(*not in hymnal*)

*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.”

- 10/08 Bud Aydtlett has been moved to Doverwood Rehab.
- 10/08 Arvilla Brinkmeyer continues to heal and make progress on her journey back to health.
- 10/08 Helen Brown in your prayers as she continues to recover from a broken foot. She's getting around with a boot and is on the mend!
- 10/08 Zedith Pottenger has recently moved to StoryPoint, where she's settling in to her new home.
- 10/05 JOY! Wade & Nancy Lewis' 64th Wedding Anniversary today.
- 10/05 GRATITUDE! Debbie Vitale is grateful for the successful surgeries for grandson, Michael, and cousin, Kathy. Thank you for the prayers.
- 10/05 Our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Rella Hadley, who passed away on September 23, 2025, after a courageous battle with ALS. May God's comfort and peace surround all who knew and loved her.
- 10/05 The husband of Janet Linneman's friend, recently had a massive stroke and was not responding.
- 10/05 Dave Brockfield's brother, Jerry is had back surgery on October 7.
- 10/05 Helen Brown fell again on October 2 and now has a broken foot..
- 10/05 Bud Aydtlett was rushed to the ER (10/01) at Mercy hospital and still there.
- 09/29 JOY! Helen Brown is recovery very well after her surgery 9/18.
- 09/29 JOY! Becky Hamblin is feeling grateful for successful hip replacement surgery this past week.
- 09/28 Carol Gering's surgery went well and she is recovering nicely.
- 09/28 Lauren Dichtl's friend at work is having neck surgery.
- 09/28 Prayers for Aliee, who is struggling with mental issues.
- 09/28 Friend of the Gregory's, Joey, Michele's son who is deployed in Iran or Syria.
- 09/28 For those in war-torn countries.
- 09/24 Please keep Betty Stover in your prayers as she continues to reside in New York, close to her daughter. But she is facing ongoing health challenges and is not coherent. Betty loves receiving cards with beautiful images, so feel free to send her a card any time.
- 09/24 Pat Pitman, as she settles in to her new home at the Alois Alzheimer Center, 70 Damon Road, Cincinnati, OH 45218. If you feel led to visit or send her a note of encouragement, it would mean so much.
- 09/21 Chris and Sue's friends had successful cancer surgeries that was 9/17.
- 09/19 Bill Dichtl's sister, Cynthia Dichtl passed away on July 1, 2025. Please keep Bill, Julie and their family in your prayers during this tender time with care and love.
- 09/18 Iris Jones is recovering from eye surgery that was 9/19/25.
- 09/14 Amy Bryant recovering from Hernia surgery that was on 9/19.
- 09/14 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 Arvilla Brinkmeyer who is going through some medical issues.
09/07 Eva Clendenin and family—pray for God's guidance.

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
Cliff Klug
Mary Lou Knau
Tomie O'Sullivan
Belinda Peters
Lori Palmieri (P. Coyle's daughter)
Linda Prohaska
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

Pat Pitman (Alois Alzheimer Center)
Zedith Pottenger (Storypoint)
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, 10/12 THIRD GRADE BIBLE SUNDAY

- 9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
GLOW, nursery open for infants—age 3
10:30 am Pastor Appreciation Celebration (Fellowship Hall)

MONDAY, 10/13

- 6:30 pm Ladies Bible Group Study (Zoom)

TUESDAY, 10/14

WEDNESDAY, 10/15

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

THURSDAY, 10/16

- 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY, 10/17

- 1:00 pm Ruth's Circle

SATURDAY, 10/18

SUNDAY, 10/19

- 9:30 am Worship in sanctuary and livestreaming
GLOW, nursery open for infants—age 3
4:30 pm **Fall Fest Trunk or Treat Event**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OCTOBER 12, THIRD GRADE BIBLE SUNDAY AND PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY

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. There will be cake and ice cream plus a few other surprises!

MONTH OF OCTOBER—PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Happy Pastor Appreciation Month, Pastor Mark! Please join us in celebrating and honoring Pastor Mark for his faithfulness, leadership, service, and dedication to St. Mark's. Throughout the month of October, we invite you to share your love, encouragement, and prayers for both he and Diana. If you feel so inclined, special love offerings to show our gratitude and support can be placed in the marked box in the Narthex at the Welcome Center. If using a check, please make out to Mark Gregory and (*Not the church*). Thank you for sharing your appreciation!

OCTOBER 17, FRIDAY, 1:00PM, RUTH CIRCLE WITH GUEST SPEAKER

You're invited to an informative talk with Steven Nguyen: "*Lifestyle Habits to Prevent Dementia*." Curious how daily choices can protect your brain? Come learn practical, everyday steps for a healthier mind. . **Men are welcome at 1:30pm to join the presentation.**

OCTOBER 19, SUNDAY, 4:30-6:00PM, FALLFEST TRUNK-or-TREAT EVENT

Petting Zoo, Food, Fun for all ages. **Please sign up at Welcome counter if decorating your car.** Other ways to get involved: Decorate your car and pass out candy to the children, dress up, help in kitchen, and/or **donate individually wrapped candy**; (Donation box will be located in the Narthex on the shelves), Help serve food to guests, direct traffic, or just come for fun and fellowship. **Set up begins at 3:00pm.** **Please no pets as they make the farm animals nervous and anxious. Contact Peggy Smith.

OCTOBER 28, TUESDAY, 12PM, LUNCH BUNCH at TWIN DRAGON

This month the Lunch Bunch is at Twin Dragon, 7763 Tylersville Road. Please make reservation to Sue Beckett by Sunday, October 25 at (513) 856-8873.

NOVEMBER 1-DECEMBER 28, SCROOGE THE MUSICAL at LACOMEDIA

We are thrilled to share that our very own Music Director, Chris Beiser, will be stepping into the spotlight as Ebenezer Scrooge in LaComedia Dinner Theatre's holiday production of "Scrooge the Musical!" This is a wonderful opportunity to see Chris showcase his talent on stage in a beloved Christmas classic 11/01-12/28/25. Call the theater box office at 1-800-677-9305 or 1-937-746-4554 to reserve your seats for this holiday classic.

NOVEMBER 1, SATURDAY, 9AM, HELPING HANDS—ALL CHURCH WORK DAY

NOVEMBER 2, ALL SAINTS DAY SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 8, SATURDAY, 11:00-1:00, MATTHEW 25 MINISTRIES VOLUNTEERS

The sign up sheet is located in the Narthex on the bulletin board to sign up. Contact Lynne Schumaker for more information.

NOVEMBER 16-DECEMBER 14, PARKSIDE GIVING TREE

The Parkside Giving Tree will be up and ready for you to select your name tags with recipient wish list by November 16. All wrapped gifts are due by December 14. Contact Jenni Hensler, Tari Randall, or Kym Nguyen for more details.

NOVEMBER 21, FRIDAY, 5PM, SERVE CITY MEALS AND VOLUNTEERS

The sign up sheet will be located in the Narthex on the bulletin board to sign up to volunteer, donate food or cash donation to purchase food. The theme: Thanksgiving. Contact Lyn Bucalo.

NOVEMBER 23, SUNDAY, 5PM, DECORATE SANCTUARY FOR CHRISTMAS

We are looking for volunteers to help decorate the sanctuary. Contact: Sue Luken.

NOVEMBER 27-28, THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY—OFFICE CLOSED

NOVEMBER 30, SUNDAY, 5-7PM, ADVENT CELEBRATION & POTLUCK DINNER

Join our church family as we begin the season of Advent. We'll provide the main dish and drinks; please bring a dish to share. A program and crèche dedication will follow dinner. Contact Peggy Smith for more details and reservations.

RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS—OCTOBER 5, 2025

Worship In-Person Attendance: 83

Sunday School Attendance:

Weekly Budget Needs	\$6,763.42
Weekly In-Person Giving	\$8,532.10
Weekly On-Line Giving	\$1,055.78
	<u>\$9,587.88</u>

Special—Designated Giving* \$470.00
**Designated Giving can not be used for Budget Needs*

Pastor Appreciation Day

Sunday, October 12, 2025

**But you can show your gratitude the whole month of October!*



FALL FEST—TRUNK or TREAT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 4:30-6:00PM

Join us for fun and fellowship with community as we decorate our cars and pass out candy to the children. Donate individually wrapped candy at the Welcome Center. More details inside the bulletin. Contact: Peggy Smith.

WEEKLY GROUPS:

MONDAY's, 5:30PM, LADIES BIBLE GROUP STUDY (ZOOM & IN-PERSON 1st MON)

We will continue to the next chapter in our reading in our book entitled, "*Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible: Flawed Women Loved by a Flawless God*" By: Liz Curtis Higgs. Then we will Zoom the remaining month at 6:30pm. Contact: Kym Nguyen for more details.

WEDNESDAY's, 7:30AM, MEN's PRAYER & SUPPORT 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

We are already in the book of Colossians with lots of discussions. Contact Sue McDaniel for more information.

WEDNESDAY's, MUSIC REHEARSALS:

Handbell Choir at 6:30pm, contact Sue Combs (coming soon) and then Chancel Choir at 7:30pm, contact Chris Beiser for more information.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

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513.844.1818

www.Fairfieldstmarks.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

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WIFI: StMarks Guest—PW: HelloFairfield