



# ST. MARKS

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## **MISSION:**

**Our mission is to  
Make followers of Jesus who  
Love God,  
Love others  
And change the world**

## **VISION:**

**Reaching and nurturing those  
Who don't know Jesus.**



# July 2025

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At the start of each new year, many of us begin with resolutions: commitments to eat better, spend less, exercise more, or finally tackle that lingering project. Then, when Lent rolls around, we often give something up: sweets, social media, or bad habits, as a spiritual reset. The first few months of the year are often marked by an eagerness to change, improve, and grow.

But now, here we are, halfway through the year. How's it going?

Maybe some of those New Year's resolutions have faded into memory. Maybe the discipline of Lent gave way to the rhythms of spring and summer. Or maybe life simply got busy, and the focus on self-improvement has taken a backseat to daily survival.

It's around this time of year, in the heart of summer and just before the rush of back-to-school, fall schedules, and the eventual slide into Thanksgiving and Christmas, that we start to feel the weight of it all. The year isn't over yet, but we can sense its shape. The second half of the year often reveals our cracks: the overcommitments, the clutter, the weariness, the regrets.

So here's a thought: what if we made a mid-year resolution? Not as a reaction to failure, but as a recommitment to the journey of becoming. As people of faith, we don't just believe in improvement, we believe in transformation. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, taught that the Christian life is not a one-time decision but a lifelong process. He called it sanctification, the ongoing work of God's grace in us as we are shaped more and more into the image of Christ. Wesley believed we were always moving on toward perfection, always growing in love, always becoming more holy, more humble, more whole. This isn't about perfectionism, it's about purpose.

What if this summer, instead of coasting through the rest of the year, we leaned in? What if we asked ourselves, "Where is God still trying to grow me? Where is the Spirit nudging me to love more deeply, forgive more fully, or trust more completely?"

A mid-year resolution might look like:

- Recommitting to daily prayer or Scripture reading
- Letting go of a grudge or habit that's kept you stuck
- Saying "no" to hurry and "yes" to Sabbath
- Choosing to serve in a new ministry or outreach
- Rebuilding a relationship that needs healing

By the time January comes around, we don't need to start from scratch. We'll already be in motion, already being shaped by grace, already walking the road toward holiness. As Wesley once said, "By salvation I mean not barely deliverance from sin, but a renewal of our souls after the image of God." Let's not wait for a new year to begin the work of becoming everything he created us to be.

Blessings,  
Pastor Dan

## **July**

### **Galatians: Freedom in Christ**

June 29

**Freedom Through the Gospel**  
Galatians 1:1-10

July 6

**Children of Faith**  
Galatians 2:15-21, 3:23-29

July 13

**Freedom to Live by the Spirit**  
Galatians 5:1, 13-17, 22-26

July 20

**Freedom to Serve**  
Galatians 6:1-10

### **In The Garden**

July 27

**In the Beginning**  
Genesis 1:1-4, 26-31

August 3

**Paradise Lost**  
Genesis 2:7, 8, 16-18, 3:1

## **The 2025 St Marks Leadership Team**

**Meetings are the fourth Tuesday  
of the month, 7:00 p.m.**

Rev. Dan Metzger

Leadership Team Chair – Sherri Frantz

SPRC – Mark Miller

SPRC - Val Milum

Trustee Team – Dan Dehnhoff

Trustee Team – Aaron Johnson

Trustee Team – Matt Fix

Trustee Team – Mike Lee

Finance Team – Jeremy Theiss

Finance Team – Becky Iten

Member - Laura Rhodes

Member – Denise Claflin

Member – Lyndsay Hite

Lay Member to  
National Conference  
– Erma Metzger

## **American Red Cross Blood Drive at St Marks**

**Thursday, July 24, 2025.**

It will take place in the DOCK from 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**There is an urgent shortage. If you are able, please  
sign up to donate.**

Go to [redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org) to register.







**ST Marks has purchased 40 tickets  
in the hopes that you will bring  
the whole family and join us  
for a fun day at the Allen County Fair  
followed by the Lauren Daigle concert!  
Tickets are available on our website  
[stmarksfindlay.org/events](http://stmarksfindlay.org/events)**

**Experience the JOY  
of attending a  
Christian Concert  
with your family.**





ST MARKS  
UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

# CHRISTMAS in July



**This year we want  
to surprise both  
kids and pets  
with  
Christmas in July  
presents!**

**Teddy's Rescue, Inc.**  
is a non-profit  
that takes in  
dogs and cats  
to help find them  
forever homes.



**St Andrew's free  
laundry room** also has  
a playroom for the  
children while they wait  
for mom/dad to finish  
the laundry.

We are collecting  
**gently used toys.**  
Blocks, cars/trucks,  
dolls and doll furniture,  
and any large item  
suitable for indoor play.

Please, NO puzzles  
or games/toys with  
lots of little pieces.

**Take a gift tag and return it with the item  
by the end of the month.**





**FRIDAY, JULY 18<sup>TH</sup>  
6:00 - 8:00 PM**

**JOIN YOUR CHURCH FAMILY FOR ST. MARKS SUMMER FEST  
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!  
THIS AWESOME PARKING LOT PARTY INCLUDES  
YUMMY FOOD FROM THE GRILL, LIVE MUSIC FROM TWO  
DIFFERENT BANDS, YARD GAMES, AND SOME FUN  
CONTESTS FOR ADULTS + KIDS!  
YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS THIS  
OPPORTUNITY FOR FUN + FELLOWSHIP!  
THE DOCK WILL ALSO BE OPEN FOR THOSE WHO NEED  
SOME TIME OUT OF THE HEAT.  
CONTACT MANDY STEVENS  
(MSTEVENS@STMARKSFINDLAY.ORG)  
WITH ANY QUESTIONS AND WATCH FOR SIGN-UPS SOON!**

*Coming this Fall...*



**2025 Church Directory!**

- October 9, 10, 11 we will have a professional photographer on site.
- Every person/family that has a portrait session will receive a complimentary church directory AND an 8x10 photo of their choosing.
- These items are free just for giving the photographer an opportunity to sell you more of the photos he/she takes.
- Non-church members are also welcome to come have a photo session and get a free 8x10 portrait. (For example, I would love a professional portrait of my grandsons.)
- Members who would like to have their own photo used for the directory may do so. They will need to pay \$15.00 for a directory.
- If the date of the photo sessions is a problem, the photographer will be in the area at other churches and he/she can make sure your photo gets into our directory.
- Sign up sheets will be available soon.
- Any questions can be directed to Tina Aisel or Anita Heintzelman.



**Yay!  
A New Directory!**



## Memorials for Bill Stalets

Rosalyn Smith  
Rick & Tina Vogelbacher  
Becky Babcock  
Pamela McWhorter  
Mark & Krista Miller  
T.S. Desclerck  
John Companik  
Alonzo & Ramona Stalets  
Wade & Kathy Loomis  
Mike & Connie Curlis

Mona Ray  
John & Suzi Richter, Jr.  
Nancy Hoffman  
Dorcas Gillett  
Jack & Sue Cupples  
Don & Diane Snyder  
Jeff & Laura Hauenstein  
Stephen Jozefowicz  
Harry & Jane Landsberg  
Brian & Leslie Shufelt

## Memorials for Elnora Bechtol

Heather Pendelton  
Jennifer Suerman  
Mark & Krista Miller  
Mike Noggle  
Linda Whetstone  
Jeffrey & Cynthia Hunker  
Don & Diane Snyder

## Memorials for Shawn Spencer

From  
Michael & Juliet Hurtig  
Shannon Spencer  
And  
Pat & Ann Gibson



A Memorial for  
**Art Whetstone**  
With Love  
From  
Judy Whetstone

“Those we love  
don't go away,  
They walk beside us  
every day,  
Unseen, unheard,  
but always near,  
Still loved, still missed  
and very dear.

-Alex MacLean

## Memorials for Jeanne Wasbro

From  
Mark & Krista Miller  
And  
Becky Babcock

## Memorials for Lois Wohlgamuth

From  
Mark & Krista Miller  
Jane Meyer  
Mark & Sue Stoffel  
Judy Whetstone  
Becky Babcock

## Memorials for Karen Mosser

From  
Judy Whetstone  
Mike Noggle  
And  
Linda Whetstone

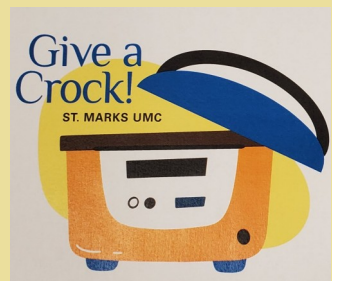
The recipe for July is **Chicken Noodle Casserole**  
Ingredients needed for the 28 needy families: 28 cans Cream of Mushroom Soup, 28 x 32 oz Chicken Broth, 28 cans of chicken, 28—1 lb boxes of spaghetti and 28 cans of mixed vegetables.

**Please drop off by Sunday, July 20.**

**Also, we will be packing the bags on Monday, July 21 at 5:00 PM if anyone would like to help.**

**The Recipe for August is Pasta & Sauce**

**Ingredients needed are: 15 oz cans of tomato sauce**



**July and August donation requests for the big black barrel**

Elbow Pasta  
Bowtie Pasta  
Egg Noodles  
Rotini  
Medium Shells

Cream of Chicken  
Cream of Mushroom  
Cream of Celery  
Tomato Soup  
Beef & Chicken Broths

City Mission is a No Wrong Door Agency that provides referral services to any community member in need and serves as a safe harbor during inclement weather, natural disaster, or emergency. The following services are always available to anyone in the community in need.

- Lunch Noon—1:00 pm Served 365 days/year
- Dinner: 5—6:00 pm Served 365 days/year
- Bottled water is distributed during high temperatures.

Follow them on Facebook for the most up-to-date information on what's for lunch and dinner, and what supplies are especially in need.

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The United Women in Faith would like to thank everyone who participated in the recycling of crayons. Almost 40 pounds of crayons were saved from the landfill where they would not have deteriorated. Tina Aisel took them to Staples in Bowling Green where they accept all sorts of office supplies to be Recycled: crayons, pens, printer cartridges, etc.

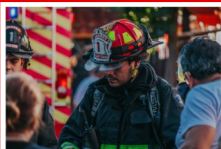




The choir takes a break from rehearsals and Sunday performances during the summer, and so it falls upon our dear Kathy Newell to provide "Special Music" each Sunday.

She will do a lot of singing herself, but if you or someone you know would like to come on a Sunday morning and sing or play a piece of Christian music,

I promise they will find a kind and enthusiastic audience.



**Sunday, July 20th**  
**After 2<sup>nd</sup> service**

- 4 Firestations
- Police Dept
- Sheriff's Dept
- 2 Hanco stations



## **JULY OUTREACH BLESSING OUR FIRST RESPONDERS**

**Grow a little**  
*give a lot*



**COMMUNITY VEGETABLE GARDEN  
AT HOWARD UMC**

**WEDNESDAYS JULY 23 - AUGUST 27**  
**11AM - 1PM**

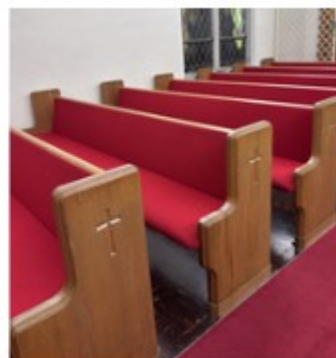


**WE GROW THEM AND THEY GIVE THEM**

*Talk to Kellie if Interested or have questions*



We're getting new chairs for the chapel to make it a more versatile space. If you are interested in purchasing one of the pews for a donation, please contact the church office.  
Each pew is 105" x 23".





## GRIEF SHARE NEWS

August 6th at 10:00 AM,  
GriefShare is going to 50 North.

We will lead a one time 2 hour class for  
The Loss of Spouse

This addresses only the loss of a spouse and is a good  
introduction to the Grief Share program.

Call 50 North to register by July 30th...419-423-8496.

The cost is \$7.00 for a book you will take home.

Please share this information with your friends and family.

Our next 13 week session of Grief Share is Aug 20—Nov 12.

This is for all types of loss of a loved one.

If you have questions, call Linda Colwell, 419-423-3951

Thank you notes from  
Super Service Saturday.

*In life it takes a village to make a  
difference - thank you for being a part of our  
village of change and a new life!*

*With your support, we are connecting adults  
with amazing mentors who care and are giving  
them hope. We appreciate you and all you do.*

*Sincerely,*

*Carla Benjamin*

**WELCOME  
TO A  
NEW LIFE**  
~ Offering a Road to Hope

*Just a little note to St. Mark's UMC*

*To say, Welcome to a New Life*

*Sincerely appreciates your  
participation during St. Mark's  
Service Saturday. The thought-  
ful thank you notes were  
truly wonderful & provided an  
invaluable service to our organ-  
ization. Thank you for your  
Kindness & support.*

*Sincerely WNL Board & Staff*



**ST. MARKS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**2025 FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF 06/30/2025**

**1. 2025 ACTUAL GENERAL GIVING VERSUS 2025 GENERAL ACTUAL EXPENSES**

	<b>Year To Date</b>
	<b><u>6/30/2025</u></b>
Actual General Giving Received through 06/30/2025	\$318,607
Actual General Expenses Paid through 06/30/2025	<u>(\$284,751)</u>
Subtotal YTD Actual General Giving More Than Actual General Expenses Paid through 06/30/2025	\$33,856
<b>NOTE: In Order to Meet Our 2025 100% Apportionments Commitment, St. Marks UMC Needs to Pay \$30,400 by 12/31/2025.</b>	<u>(\$15,299)</u>
YTD Actual General Giving More than Actual General Expenses Paid through 06/30/2025	<u>\$18,557</u>

**Total 2025 General Operating Budget is \$612,900. \$11,787 is needed weekly to cover operating expenses.**

**The average weekly General giving through 06/30/2025 was \$12,254. This was over by \$467 as of 06/30/2025.**

**\* Total 2025 West Ohio Conference & Maumee River District Apportionments Commitments at 100% is \$58,299. We have paid 48% of the \$58,299 towards our West Ohio Conference & Maumee River District Apportionments (\$15,299 from General Fund & \$12,600 from Missions Fund. Total Paid \$27,899), so our unpaid Apportionment balance as of 06/30/2025 is \$30,400.**

**2. 2025 ACTUAL MISSION GIVING VERSUS 2025 MISSION BUDGET NEEDS**

	<b>Year To Date</b>
	<b><u>6/30/2025</u></b>
Actual Mission Giving Received through 06/30/2025	\$17,921
Mission Giving Required for 2025 Mission Budget Needs through 06/30/2025	<u>\$13,988</u>
YTD Actual Mission Giving More Than 2025 Mission Budget Needs	<u>\$3,933</u>

**Total 2025 Mission Budget is \$28,000. \$538 is needed weekly and \$7,000 is needed per quarter.**

**Payments: Q1 \$8,000, Q2 \$8,800. Total Paid Year to Date: \$16,800.**



St. Marks United Methodist Church  
800 South Main Street  
Findlay, Ohio 45840

St. Marks United Methodist Church

Phone: 419-422-4236

[stmarksfindlay.org](http://stmarksfindlay.org)

Church office hours: Mon—Thurs, 9am—3pm

Ministers – All at St. Marks who follow Jesus

Dan Metzger, Senior Pastor

James Adkins, Director of Contemporary Worship

Curynn DeWitt, Director of Children's & Family Ministry

Holly Metzger, Director of Youth Ministries

Kathy Newell, Choir Director

Kellie Bibler, Director of Outreach

Mandy Stevens, Director of Discipleship

