



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.**



June 2026



Dear Church Family,



One of the most exciting, exhausting, energizing weeks of the summer is coming up this week - Vacation Bible School! This week we will be hosting dozens of children and through crafts and decorations and songs and games and skits and snacks, we'll be sharing with them a very simple truth - Jesus loves them.



My own faith story could not be told without remembering the people who loved and cared for me enough to spend a part of their summer leading a Vacation Bible School at my home church. They were not theologians or Bible scholars, they were just a group of people that cared about kids knowing Jesus. I don't remember any of the stories or skits or snacks...but I remember the smiles and the effort, and I remember the love. Its a love that ultimately led me to discover Jesus for myself.



At the writing of this letter, we have 43 kids signed up to come to our VBS, "Rainforest Falls." I am so thankful for all the volunteers and staff who are putting in the time and effort to make this the best week ever for these kids. While they might not remember everything that we say or do this week, I'm sure one thing they will remember is the love we share with them. And its a love that could ultimately lead to them discovering the Jesus who loves them more than anything.



Please be in prayer for the children, their families, and all those who are volunteering this week, and thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus to the little children he loves so dearly!



Blessings,



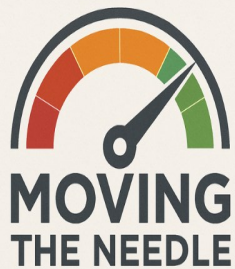
Pastor Dan





At St Marks UMC, we believe that followers of Jesus—empowered by the Holy Spirit and filled with the love of God—produce evidence of their faith by the way they transform the community and world around them. Therefore, as disciples of Jesus Christ grow in the love for God and one another, we should see evidence of their impact in the lives of our neighbors. Our hope is that we “move the needle,” seeing change in our own hearts, and measurable change in our community, that our service and ministry are making a difference in the lives of others.

- Dan Metzger



Pastor Dan's
new podcast.



Sermop Prep is a podcast created by Pastor Dan Metzger. Pastor Dan shares insights and materials he's been gathering as he prepares for the upcoming Sunday sermon. As he humorously notes, if he included everything he's found interesting the sermon would be far too long!

The easiest place to find it is at stmarks-findlay.org, WATCH, PODCAST
New episodes are released each Friday.

St Marks Sermon Schedule

Rooted

June 7

How Do I Read The Bible?

2 Timothy 3:16-17, James 1:22-25

June 14

How Do I Know God's Will?

Proverbs 3:5-6, James 1:5

June 21

How Do I Pray?

Matthew 6:9-13, Romans 8:26

June 28

How Do I Share My Faith?

Romans 1:16-17, Peter 3:15-16

July 5

Youth Sunday

The 2026 St Marks

Leadership Team

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

Rev. Dan Metzger

Leadership Team Chair – Laura Rhodes

SPRC – Kaitlin Peraino

SPRC - Val Milum

Trustee Team – Matt Fix

Trustee Team – Mike Lee

Trustee Team – Joe Stoner

Trustee Team – Don Snyder

Finance Team – Jeremy Theiss

Finance Team – Becky Iten

Member - Dylan Burkholder

Member – Denise Claflin

Member – Lyndsay Hite

At-large Member Endowment Fund
Committee—Scott Rhodes

Lay Member to Annual Conference
– Erma Metzger

Faith 5

Thoughtfully created for you every week by Mandy Stevens, the Faith 5 is a simple habit that you can adopt while eating breakfast or dinner or before bed.

Have faith and feel your relationship with God grow.

American Red Cross Blood Drive at St Marks July 23, and Sept 17

Blood drives 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 to register.



St. Marks Summer Fest



Join your church family on Sunday, July 12th from 5:00-7:00 pm for St. Marks Summer Fest for the whole family! This awesome parking lot party includes yummy food from the grill, live music, 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!



The recipe for the June Give-a-Crock is Vegetarian Fajitas.

Donated Ingredients are needed by June 21:

15 oz can diced tomatoes

4.5 oz can green chilis

15 oz can black beans

15 oz can corn

cumin, chili powder

8 pack flour tortillas

Thank You, all!

Have you ever found yourself in a situation where someone is asking for help and you just don't know what to say? We often get calls at the church from people looking for food or shelter and I'm so happy to be able to respond with a helpful suggestion. "You can use the internet to go to HancockHelps.org It is a one-stop website with connections to all of the resources available in Hancock County." If you, gentle reader, have a minute, you should check it out, too.

Ready to Grow?

What happens on Sunday is just the beginning. Throughout the week, we want to help you stay connected to what God is teaching you as you grow in your faith. Visit the new “Grow” page at stmarksfindlay.org and use the *Take It Home* notes to revisit the message (or to follow along with the message if you are watching online), read & reflect with the *Faith 5* each day, and listen to the weekly worship playlist wherever you are. We can't wait to see how these simple, consistent steps will lead to real growth.



Speaking of Growing...

Cherry Street Community Garden



is an outreach program run by
Howard UMC.

They are looking for volunteers to help plant, weed, water or donate any excess produce they may have from their own gardens.

If interested, call Tina and she will give you contact information.



Save The Date!



YOU ARE INVITED!

At Rainforest Falls kids will explore the nature of God - discovering who God is and how much He loves them! Register online at Stmarksfindlay.org/events

June 16-19, 2026

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Registration is now open! This jungle adventure is open to all kiddos in Preschool- 5th grade. (Please note that this event is best suited for children who are potty trained) Click the picture for the registration link or contact Curynn DeWitt for more information at Cdewitt@stmarksfindlay.org



Adults interested in volunteering should contact Curynn at cdewitt@stmarksfindlay.org





Mission Trip

June 20-25, 2026



Register @ stmarksfindlay.org/events

Pittsburgh, PA

The deadline to register for the trip is April 1st!

St. Marks is sending 16 youth and leaders to Pittsburgh, PA June 20-25. This mission trip will allow our youth to partner with several United Methodist churches in the greater Pittsburgh area and serve alongside their pastors, our mission partners and their congregations to support and further a variety of ministries. From Vacation Bible School to food distribution, clothing distribution and homeless ministries - our youth will be given a chance to grow their faith and further God's kingdom serving with the local church this summer.

The cost of the trip is \$500./person. The youth and their parents would greatly appreciate financial assistance to support the trip. Donations can be dropped off in the office or put in the offering plate. Be sure to specify your donation is for the "youth trip funds." Any and all donations are appreciated!

Thank you for your prayers and support of our youth!

St Marks Confirmation Class of 2026



Lincoln and Mason Kirian
Rachel Haines and Emilia Metzger



Charlotte & Makayla Feasel,
Grace & Leah Reigle
and Adelynn Woodruff





Over 100 volunteers arrived at St Marks on Super Service Saturday. After a short worship service (and 6 dozen donuts) the groups split up and went to work. Here are the “stats” from Holly Metzger:

- ◆ 7 “Little Free Pantries” were stocked.
 - ◆ 15 yards of mulch was spread at St Marks and 3 around the homes of friends in need.
 - ◆ \$500 was raised to help provide clean water for World Vision 6K Walk for Water.
- ◆ 50 buckets were stuffed for the Little Lions with summer lessons and an invitation to come to the St Marks Vacation Bible School.
 - ◆ 20 cards and letters were written for shut-ins.
 - ◆ And 50+ green plastic tablecloths were cut up and crafted into rainforest decorations for Curynn to use during VBS.
 - ◆ Volunteers also helped to organize the Habitat ReStore and Welcome to a New Life.





Memorials for
John Richter, Sr.

given by:

Linda Whetstone
Mike & Diane Mosser
Becky Babcock
Tom & Karyn Schneider
Brian & Leslie Shufelt
Dave & Beth Weissling
Ronald & Anita Rush
Jennifer Suermann
Don & Diane Snyder
Mark & Krista Miller
Tom & Pam Basinger
Susan & Dow Campbell
Martha Jackson

Jerome Treves
Michael Noggle
Judy Pelphrey
Elaine Stevens
Neil & Barbara
Teatsorth
Gene & Deb Foster
Cliff & Diane Hite
Mary & Leslie Miller
John Celebreeze
Carl & Joan Patterson
Joe Binger
Jack Wasbro

Memorials for
Steve Gase

given by:

Beverly Smith
Karen McConnell
Alice Dauterman
Ruth Wagner
Ron, Melissa, McKenna & Pat
Sherman
Vickie Youster
Alona Wibbing

St Marks Memorial Garden

An Eagle Scout Project

Beneath the broad canopy of a mature maple tree, a small patio with benches invites visitors to sit, reflect and pray.

What makes this memorial garden especially meaningful is the contrast it creates: only steps from a busy intersection, it offers a place of welcoming stillness with a choice of sun or shade.

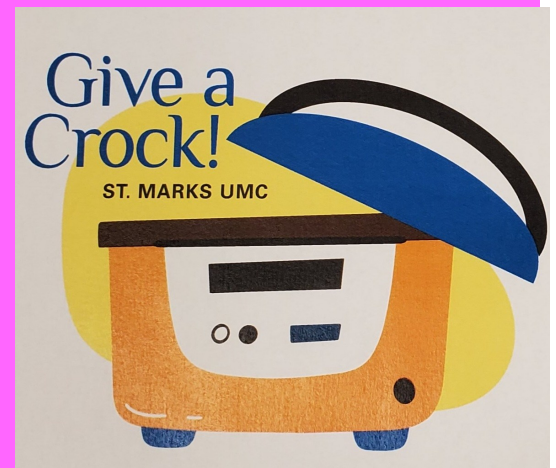


This bench was donated by Kurt Ohlrich in memory of his late wife, Cassie Ohlrich.



A second bench honors the St Marks tradition of supporting Scouting. The inscription reads "Henry Iten—Eagle Scout Project 2026." It will be something to show his children and grandchildren one day.

Give-a-Crock is a St Marks Ministry committed to helping to feed people in need. They provide a crock pot and recipes in the hopes of teaching a cost-effective way of providing a family a hardy and healthy meal. Once a month, Give a Crock gives 27 families a grocery bag full of the ingredients to make a delicious crock of food. Donations are an important way this ministry keeps going. A donation box is in the lobby. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from this, please talk to one of the staff or to Tina Miller.



The recipe for June is **Vegetarian Fajitas**. **Donated ingredients need to be here by June 21st.**

Items needed are: 15 oz cans of black beans, diced tomatoes and corn, a 4.5 oz can of green chilis, cum-in, chili powder and 8 count packages of flour tortillas.



June donation requests
for the big black barrel

Cream of Chicken Soup
Cream of Celery Soup
Cream of Mushroom Soup

Beef & Chicken Broth
Beef & Chicken
Bouillion Powder

Habitat for Humanity®
Findlay/Hancock County

ReStore®

Donate • Shop • Volunteer • Open to the Public



Open Monday—Thursday 9-5, Friday 9-6, and Saturday 9-2.
Donations are accepted Monday—Friday between 1-4 PM.
The store is located at 330 Walnut Street, Findlay.

**ST. MARKS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2026 FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF 05/31/2026**

1. 2026 ACTUAL GENERAL GIVING VERSUS 2026 GENERAL ACTUAL EXPENSES
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	Year To Date <u>5/31/2026</u>
Actual General Giving Received through 05/31/2026	\$280,192
Actual General Expenses Paid through 05/31/2026	<u>(\$225,276)</u>
Subtotal YTD Actual General Giving More Than Actual General Expenses Paid through 05/31/2026	\$54,916
NOTE: In Order to Meet Our 2026 100% Apportionments Commitment, St. Marks UMC Needs to Pay \$46,716 by 12/31/2026.	<u>(\$14,716)</u>
YTD Actual General Giving More than Actual General Expenses Paid through 05/31/2026	<u>\$40,200</u>

Total 2026 General Operating Budget is \$634,500. \$12,202 is needed weekly to cover operating expenses.

The average weekly General giving through 05/31/2026 was \$13,342. This was over by \$1,140 as of 05/31/2026.

*** Total 2026 West Ohio Conference & Maumee River District Apportionments Commitments at 100% is \$61,716. We have paid 32% of the \$61,716 towards our West Ohio Conference & Maumee River District Apportionments (\$14,716 from General Fund & \$5,000 from Missions Fund), so our unpaid Apportionments balance as of 04/30/2026 is \$42,000.**

2. 2026 ACTUAL MISSION GIVING VERSUS 2026 MISSION BUDGET NEEDS

	Year To Date <u>5/31/2026</u>
Actual Mission Giving Received through 05/31/2026	\$13,052
Mission Giving Required for 2026 Mission Budget Needs through 05/31/2026	<u>\$0</u>
YTD Actual Mission Giving More Than 2026 Mission Budget Needs	<u>\$13,052</u>

Total 2026 Mission Budget is \$28,000. \$538 is needed weekly and \$7,000 is needed per quarter. Payments: Q1 \$5,000. Total Paid Year to Date: \$5,000.