



ST. MARKS

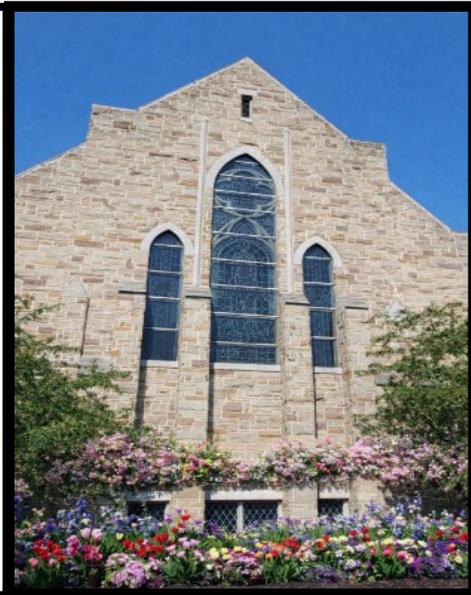
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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.**



March 2026

There is a well-known saying often attributed to John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement:

“Do all the good you can,
by all the means you can,
in all the ways you can,
in all the places you can,
at all the times you can,
to all the people you can,
as long as ever you can.”



While these words were written centuries ago, they capture something deeply important about the Christian life. Faith is not only something we believe, it is something we practice.

During the season of Lent, Christians often focus on prayer, fasting, and repentance. Many people give something up for Lent. But just as important as what we give up is what we give. Lent invites us to practice what Wesley called works of mercy: acts of kindness, generosity, and service that reflect the love of Christ.

Jesus teaches us that loving God and loving neighbor go hand in hand. When we care for the hungry, the lonely, and the struggling, we are putting our faith into action. Over and over as we've learned in the upper room, Jesus commands us to love one another, just as he has loved us.

This year during Holy Week, our church will be putting this into practice in a very tangible way. We are challenging ourselves as a congregation to fill every open volunteer spot on the City Mission's volunteer schedule during Holy Week, and fill the City Mission donation barrel with needed items for those they serve.

You can sign up at findlaymission.org/help/volunteer and you can see their ever-changing needs list here findlaymission.org/help/needs-list. We will also have people at both services to help you sign up the next couple of weeks.

This is a simple but powerful way for us to do good in the place where God has planted us. Each hour volunteered and meal served and each item donated becomes a small act of mercy that blesses someone in need.

Lent prepares our hearts for the joy of Easter. As we cross and the empty tomb, may we remember that the is meant to flow outward into the world. So as you move season, consider asking yourself a simple question: me an opportunity to do good today?

May we do all the good we can, together.



walk toward the love Christ shows us through this Lenten Where is God giving

The Choir has a very special presentation planned for the Maundy Thursday Service.

You do not want to miss this.



GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

APRIL 3, 2026 AT 8:00 AM
(DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 AM)

@ THE DOCK/ST. MARKS UMC

SPONSORED BY THE BAND OF BROTHERS
AND SISTERS

NICHOLE COLEMAN:
ONE MAN AWAKE: COURAGE,
DISCERNMENT, AND LIGHT IN OUR
COMMUNITY

TICKETS: \$10

Tickets for the Good Friday Breakfast are available at the door.



Mark your calendars to attend the special Good Friday Service created and presented by St Marks Youth Group.

And serve our neighbors dinner at City Mission.



St Marks Sermon Schedule
Lenten Series
In the Upper Room

March 15
The Vine and the Branches
John 15:1-17

March 22
The Promise of the Spirit
John 16:5-15

March 29
The Great Prayer
John 17:20-26

Easter Sunday

April 5
The Meal that Changed the World
Mark 14:22-25, Luke 24:13-16,28-32

I Quit

April 12
Making Excuses
Luke 14:15-24

**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

A Memorial to

Jim Insley

From

James & Donna Kleiver

American Red Cross Blood Drive at St Marks
March 26, May 21, 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. I
f you are able, please sign up to donate.

Go to redcrossblood.org to register.





St Marks Cross of Easter Lilies

As in years past, St. Mark’s will have a botanical display of White Easter Lily plants on a 12 foot Cross in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. It is a lovely sight and scent to look forward to each year. To defray the cost, we ask you to purchase the lilies in memory of a loved one and then, after the 9:00 am Easter Service, take your lily from the Cross to share or keep for yourself to enjoy.

Return this order form with your payment in the collection plate or to the church office.

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Please indicate the number of plants

you wish to order: _____ Lily(ies) @ \$15.00/each

Total cash or check enclosed: \$ _____

Checks should be made out to “St Marks United Methodist”

Be sure to mark your calendar for:

Holy Week TAKEOVER

Change the world with just one meal

Sign up to serve a meal or meal prep at the City Mission anytime during Holy Week

March 30th - April 4th

Donate needed items to

Darrell the Barrel



- ◆ **March 29, 2026**
Palm Sunday
9:00 a.m. - Church
10:45 a.m. - The DOCK
- ◆ **April 2, 2026**
Maundy Thursday
Worship Service
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary
- ◆ **April 3, 2026**
Good Friday Breakfast
7:30 a.m.—The DOCK
- ◆ **April 3, 2026**
Good Friday Service
7:00 p.m.—The DOCK
- ◆ **April 5, 2026**
Easter Sunday
9:00 a.m. - Sanctuary
10:45 a.m. - The DOCK
- ◆ **April 26, 2026**
Confirmation Sunday
9:00 a.m. - Sanctuary
10:45 a.m. - The DOCK

Singspiration!

Join us for a hymn sing for all ages on Sunday, April 12 at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary! We'll have some pre-chosen hymns and have some time for you to request your favorites, too! Plus, we'll have an area for kids to dance, sing, and play some instruments so they can join in on the fun.

After the hymn sing, we'll have cookies & punch in the Fellowship Hall.

Contact Mandy Stevens – mstevens@stmarksfindlay.org – for more information!



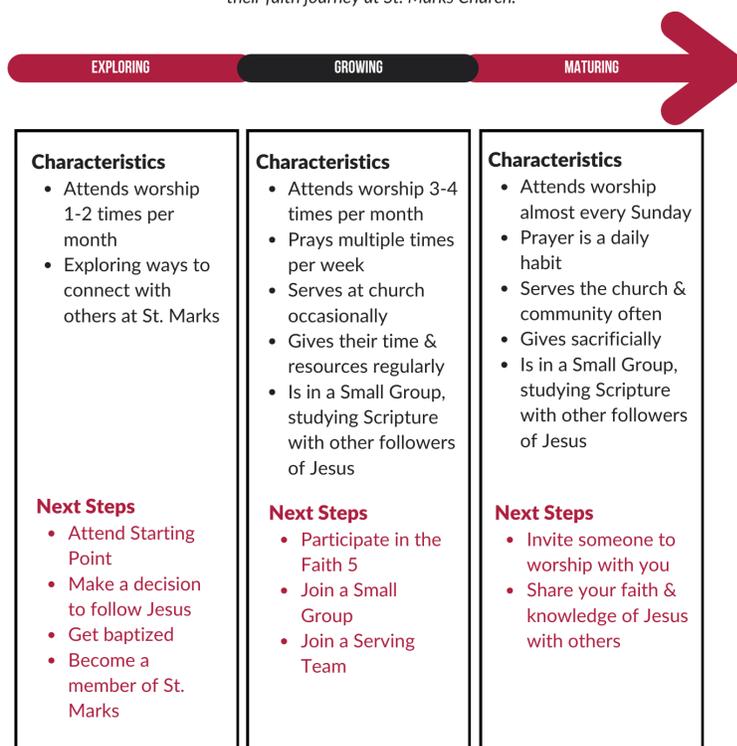
Starting Point Discussion Group – Starting Soon!

Starting Point - God. Life. Faith. What's the Point? Make time to find out. If you're new to faith, just checking it out, or coming back to church after some time away, Starting Point is a great first step. It's an 8-week conversational small group environment where you can explore faith and experience community. Let Mandy Stevens - mstevens@stmarksfindlay.org - know if you are interested. This group will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:00, beginning on March 24. Registration needed by March 16 so we can get discussion guides here in time.

DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY

AT ST. MARKS CHURCH

The Discipleship Pathway is fluid because a person's relationship with Jesus isn't going to be perfectly linear. The path below is the pattern we most often see people living out their faith journey at St. Marks Church.





Mission Trip
June 20-25, 2026



Register @ stmarksfindlay.org/events

Pittsburgh, PA

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



Will be celebrated on
April 26, 2026

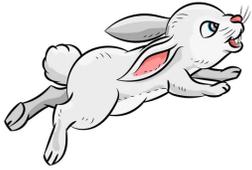


GRADUATION SUNDAY
Will be celebrated on
May 24, 2026



We will be honoring our high school and college graduates. If you have a student graduating from high school or college, please let Holly Metzger know (hmetzger@stmarksfindlay.org) so we can be sure to recognize your graduate.

St Marks United Women in Faith ask you to help support a United Methodist Ministry located in southern Ohio.



Jackson Area Ministries

SERVING CHRIST BY SERVING OTHERS

Since 1978, the JAM has been working to serve the hungry folks in Jackson and surrounding counties by teaching them how to garden and supplying them with the seeds, plants, and knowledge to make their gardens a success. This increases not only the amount of food for these people but also the quality of food.

These clips are from the JAM website.

Seed Potatoes—It's time to start thinking about planting your garden. We have placed our order for seed and baking potatoes. Those will be delivered in mid-March. These orders for seed and baking potatoes will then be distributed to local agencies and individuals to plant and raise their own food. Distribution date is Friday, March 20th.



Garden Seed and Tomato Plants

If you live locally and would like to receive garden vegetable seeds and tomato plants--please contact us at Jackson Area Ministries, P.O. Box 603, Jackson, OH 45640 or at 1-888-237-3141 or ministriesjam6@gmail.com

Our distribution is always the week of Mother's Day!

As always we appreciate the support of your prayers.

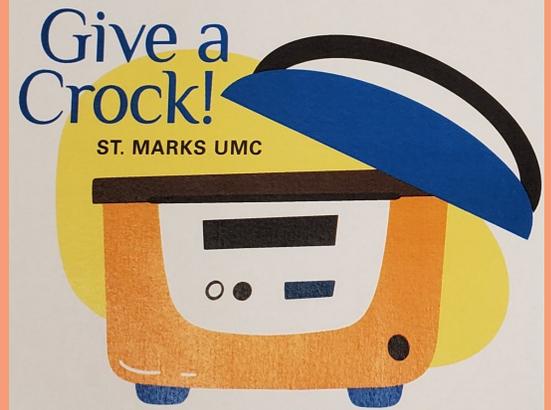
What we are collecting for JAM is vegetable seed packets. (No tomato seeds) Corn and bulk bush bean seed is available at Garden Central here in Findlay.



GREEN THUMB GARDENING

**TEACHES PEOPLE TO HELP
THEMSELVES AND OTHERS**

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 March is Black Beans & Rice. Donations are needed by March 22.

Items needed are: canned green beans, diced tomatoes, corn and 16 oz bags of rice.



March donation requests for the big black barrel

**Chili Powder
Garlic Powder
Onion Powder**

**Corn starch
Salt
Pepper**

**ST ANDREWS
FREE LAUNDRY
NEEDS VOLUNTEERS**

Laundry supplies are provided for patrons to do their own laundry.

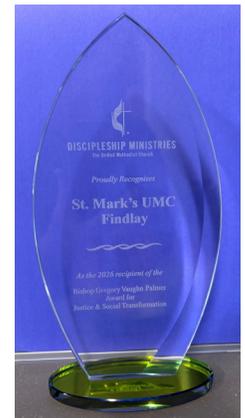
**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
9 AM - 3 PM**

THERE IS AN EMPLOYEE ON-SITE AT ALL TIMES

Volunteers are needed to just be a friendly face, someone to talk with, to admire their children, and to listen.

St Marks UMC is

MOVING THE NEEDLE



Habitat for Humanity®
Findlay/Hancock County

ReStore®
Donate • Shop • Volunteer • Open to the Public

Transformations Thrift Store is open and operating!!

Thanks to the community support, the thrift store has been able to be 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.



Donations may be taken to the greenhouse at Brinkman's through March 7.

Monday—Friday: 9 AM—4 PM.

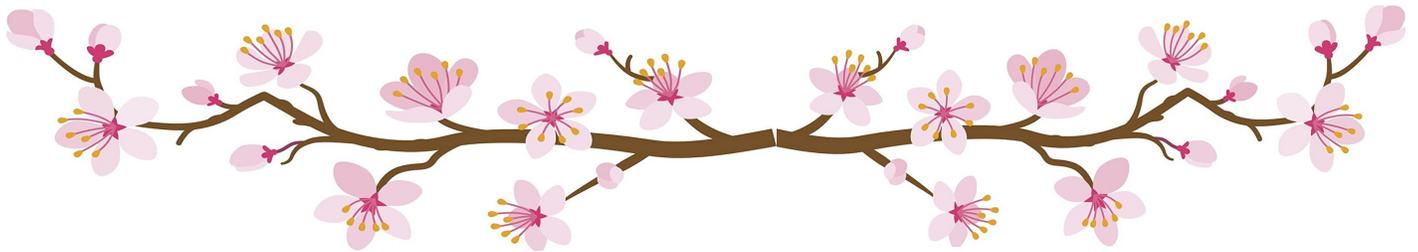
Saturdays: 9 AM—1 PM

The Sale

March 14: 8:30 AM —4:00 PM

March 15: 1—4 PM

(The second day is “bag day” shoppers can fill a bag for \$10. Prices on other items will be discounted.)



The next 13 week session of GriefShare begins Wednesday, February 25—May 20, 2026. The class is offered at 10:00 AM and 6:30 PM. The content is the same both times, so choose the one that works best for you.

No matter what the circumstances, grief is a painful, confusing process. At this 13 week support group program, you'll learn what to expect in the days ahead and what's “normal” with grief.

Share this information with a friend or family member who may benefit from the class. Class members do not need to be St Marks members. This is a unique outreach program offered by St Marks.

Register or get more information by calling the church office at 419-422-4236 Pre-registration is suggested so that adequate materials can be ordered, but it is not required.

**ST. MARKS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2026 FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF 02/28/2026**

1. 2026 ACTUAL GENERAL GIVING VERSUS 2026 GENERAL ACTUAL EXPENSES

	Year To Date <u>2/28/2026</u>
Actual General Giving Received through 02/28/2026	\$106,301
Actual General Expenses Paid through 02/28/2026	<u>(\$85,630)</u>
Subtotal YTD Actual General Giving More Than Actual General Expenses Paid through 02/28/2026	\$20,671
NOTE: In Order to Meet Our 2026 100% Apportionments Commitment, St. Marks UMC Needs to Pay \$55,716 by 12/31/2026.	<u>(\$6,000)</u>
YTD Actual General Giving More than Actual General Expenses Paid through 02/28/2026	<u>\$14,671</u>

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

The average weekly General giving through 02/28/2026 was \$13,288. This was over by \$1,086 as of 02/28/2026.

*** Total 2026 West Ohio Conference & Maumee River District Apportionments Commitments at 100% is \$61,716. We have paid 10% of the \$61,716 towards our West Ohio Conference & Maumee River District Apportionments (\$6,000 from General Fund & \$0 from Missions Fund), so our unpaid Apportionments balance as of 02/28/2026 is \$55,716.**

2. 2026 ACTUAL MISSION GIVING VERSUS 2026 MISSION BUDGET NEEDS

	Year To Date <u>2/28/2026</u>
Actual Mission Giving Received through 02/28/2026	\$4,882
Mission Giving Required for 2026 Mission Budget Needs through 02/28/2026	<u>\$4,308</u>
YTD Actual Mission Giving More Than 2026 Mission Budget Needs	<u>\$574</u>

Total 2026 Mission Budget is \$28,000. \$538 is needed weekly and \$7,000 is needed per quarter.

Contributions in the offering envelope marked in your numbered envelope boxes as
“MY EASTER OFFERING” are specifically designated to “MISSIONS.”



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

St. Marks United Methodist Church

Phone: 419-422-4236

stmarksfindlay.org

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

All at St. Marks who follow Jesus:

Rev. Dan Metzger, Senior Pastor

Kathy Newell Choir Director

Caitlin Parke, Director of Contemporary Worship

Curynn DeWitt, Director of Children's & Family Ministry

Holly Metzger—Youth Director

Mandy Stevens—Director of Discipleship

Kellie Bibler—Director of Outreach

