



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.**



May 2026

Dear Church Family,

Every year around this time, clergy and laity from West Ohio gather together for our annual conference. The 57th session of the West Ohio Conference will be held May 27 through May 30 at Capital University in Bexley, Ohio where Bishop Hee-Soo Jung will preside.



The theme for this year's session is "Abundant Grace," based on the scripture from Matthew 14:13-21, talking about the miracle of the feeding of the 5000, and how we are all called to take part in the ministry of feeding God's people, both physically AND spiritually. I'm so proud to be a part of a church that is already living into this task!

Every church sends their clergy representative and a lay person to go along with them. The lay person for St Marks is none other than Erma Metzger! Also from our church will be Rev. Amy Haines, our district superintendent, and Nathan Haines as a Maumee River District delegate.

Our time there will be spent in worship, hearing teachings from various speakers, sharing reports, and doing the business work of the larger annual conference. We will remember those we've lost in a memorial service, we will celebrate retirements, and we will bear witness to the ordination of new deacons and elders in our denomination. We will also continue to have conversation and discern the possibility of merging the East and West Ohio Conferences into one Ohio Conference. Right now, our bishop presides over both conferences and there is already much shared ministry between us.

Please be in prayer for all of us as we attend to the work of the church in our annual conference. One of the things I love most about our denomination is the collaborative work we get to do through our connection. Every time we gather, it is a great reminder that St Marks is not alone in its mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Blessings,

Pastor Dan

P.S. - you can follow along and learn more at westohioumc.org

Pastor Dan's new podcast.



Sermon Prep is a new podcast created by Pastor Dan Metzger. The easiest place to find it is at stmarksfindlay.org, WATCH, PODCAST. New episodes are released each Friday. 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!

What critics are saying:

"I never listened to a podcast before."

"I enjoy Pastor Dan's positivity."

"I wasn't getting enough of him on Sunday mornings. Thanks, Pastor."



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 his/her accomplishment.

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.



Join us for our second annual St. Mark's UMC Super Service Saturday.

We will be working together to share the love of Jesus with our community, our congregation and our church.

Saturday May 16th

- 8:30am - Prayer and Worship in the DOCK
- 9:00 - begin projects

Ways to serve include:

- Donate items for Little Free Pantries
- Stock Little Free Pantries
- Assist Church Members with projects at their home
- Assist with outdoor project at St. Mark's UMC
- Volunteer at Habitat Restore
- Volunteer at a stop on City Mission's Break the Cycle of Homelessness
- Make Cards for shut ins and assemble Buckets for Little Lions Preschool kiddos
- Help at Welcome to a New Life

Click this link to sign up to volunteer for any of the above: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A45ADA72DAAFD0-63560976-super#/>

Run the World Vision Global 6K Walk for Water

Click her to sign up:

<https://global6k.worldvision.org/teams/StMarksFindlay>

For questions about the World Vision Global 6K Walk for Water, please see Holly Metzger.

For questions about any of the other projects, please talk with Kellie Bibler or Pastor Dan.

Donations for Little Free Pantries

Please donate no later than May 14th



Canned Fruit and Vegetables

Canned Soups

Pasta - Rice - Beans

Cereal - Pop Tarts - Granola Bars

Peanut Butter - Ketchup - Mustard

Beef Jerky - Nuts - Snacks - Crackers

Flour - Sugar - Seasons and Spices

Water - Juice Boxes - Coffee- Tea






Hygiene Items and Cleaning Supplies

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!



Christian
Clearing House
Christians Helping in Crisis™

Come join us

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

TUESDAY MAY 19TH, 2026

**THE FAMILY CENTER | 1800 N. BLANCHARD ST., ROOM 119
10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.**

About Christian Clearing House

Serving Hancock County since 1994, CCH provides emergency financial assistance to individuals and families in crisis by helping with rent, utilities, food, prescriptions, and more.

Make a Difference

CCH is supported by local churches, businesses, donors, and fundraising efforts. Volunteers are essential to helping meet the needs of our community!

Volunteer Commitment

- Minimum of 6 hours per month
- Weekday daytime hours (9AM-12PM)
- Additional opportunities at events
- No experience needed!

GET INVOLVED

ATTEND VOLUNTEER TRAINING OR

CALL 419-422-2222 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

St Marks Sermon Schedule

Oh, the Places You're Sent!

May 10

You'll Go To Your City!

Acts 1:4-9

May 17

You'll Go To Your People!

Mark 1:14-15

May 24

You'll Go To Those Different Than You!

Luke 17:11-19

May 31

You'll Go To The Ends Of The Earth

Acts 8:26-39

Discipleship Series

June 7

How Do I Read The Bible?

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

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

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.

If you are able, please sign up to donate.

Go to redcrossblood.org to register.



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.

If you would like to support their trip, you can donate by specifying your donation is for the "youth trip funds." Any and all donations are appreciated!

Another way to donate is for all you pizza lovers! The youth will be selling Domino's pizza BOGO cards for \$20 which gets you a free large pizza when you buy one on any orders through Dec 31. Cards are only for sale April 12-26 so grab one today! Cards can be purchased in person from youth at church or online: <https://store.dominos.cards/53738>

Thank you for your prayers and support of our youth!

St Marks Memorial Garden

An Eagle Scout Project

Soon-to-be Eagle Scout Henry Iten has begun work on his plan to improve the memorial garden which commemorates the loved ones from St Marks.

Work started April 23rd, with preparing the site and laying down the pavers.

There is much work still to be done: benches, flowers and a memorial plaque.



Improving the Memorial Garden to commemorate loved ones from the church.

Contact:
henryiten12@icloud.com
or text 419-379-8977



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.



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 May is **Italian Seasoned Sausage and Pasta**
Donations are needed by May 20th.

Items needed are: 24 oz cans of pasta sauce, Elbow Macaroni 16 oz, Beef Boullion Powder (not cubes), rosemary and oregano.



May donation requests
for the big black barrel

Salad Dressings:
Ranch
Italian
French

Spices:
Garlic Powder
Onion Powder
Salt/Pepper

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 04/30/2026**

1. 2026 ACTUAL GENERAL GIVING VERSUS 2026 GENERAL ACTUAL EXPENSES

	Year To Date 4/30/2026
Actual General Giving Received through 04/30/2026	\$196,514
Actual General Expenses Paid through 04/30/2026	(\$180,488)
Subtotal YTD Actual General Giving More Than Actual General Expenses Paid through 04/30/2026	\$16,026
NOTE: In Order to Meet Our 2026 100% Apportionments Commitment, St. Marks UMC Needs to Pay \$46,716 by 12/31/2026.	(\$10,000)
YTD Actual General Giving More than Actual General Expenses Paid through 04/30/2026	<u>\$6,026</u>

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

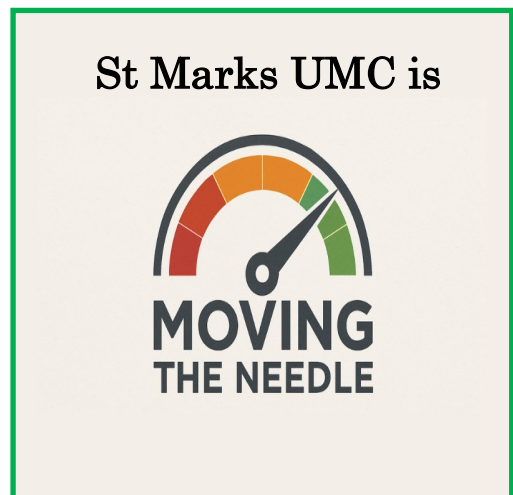
The average weekly General giving through 04/30/2026 was \$11,560. This was short by \$642 as of 04/30/2026.

* Total 2026 West Ohio Conference & Maumee River District Apportionments Commitments at 100% is \$61,716. We have paid 24% of the \$61,716 towards our West Ohio Conference & Maumee River District Apportionments (\$10,000 from General Fund & \$5,000 from Missions Fund), so our unpaid Apportionments balance as of 04/30/2026 is \$46,716.

2. 2026 ACTUAL MISSION GIVING VERSUS 2026 MISSION BUDGET NEEDS

	Year To Date 4/30/2026
Actual Mission Giving Received through 04/30/2026	\$10,532
Mission Giving Required for 2026 Mission Budget Needs through 04/30/2026	\$9,154
YTD Actual Mission Giving Less Than 2026 Mission Budget Needs	<u>\$1,378</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.





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

