

ST. MARKS CHURCH - FINDLAY, OHIO

OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER



Hello! It's Bruce Beck. You might know me as the multimedia guy, the "Band of Brothers and Sisters" guy, or the wedding and funeral sound guy. But next year, as St. Marks celebrates its 75th/175th anniversary, I'm thrilled to step into a new role: the history guy!

Over the coming year, we'll take a look back at how St. Marks came to be and explore our incredible history of faith and service through the decades. My own connection to this place goes back a ways—my dad (Robert) and mom (Evelyn) met in the Sunday school orchestra in the late 1930s. They started dating, but my dad wasn't quite sure, so they broke up. That all changed at the annual Lakeside conference when my dad saw my mom walking with another guy, which prompted him to reconsider the breakup. They got back together, and—in a roundabout way—that's why I'm here today as your history guy!

I look forward to the year ahead as we journey together, celebrating St. Marks faithful legacy and how we have served our community as followers of Jesus who love God, love others, and change the world.

(P.S. Here's a picture of my parents' wedding party! They were married on January 10, 1942, at the First Evangelical United Brethren Church by Rev. G.L. Fleming. That church was located on the southeast corner of Hardin and South Cory.)



OUR MISSION IS TO MAKE FOLLOWERS OF JESUS WHO:

LOVE GOD

LOVE OTHERS

CHANGE THE WORLD

OUR VISION:

REACHING AND NURTURING
THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW
JESUS

Gather - find your people!

GATHER

Find your
people...

Worship with Us

9:00 - Traditional Service (with the choir + hymns) in the Sanctuary

10:45 - Contemporary Service (with a praise band) in The Dock

October 4

What Now: Finding Faith for
Whatever Comes Next

Stop Playing it Safe

1 Kings 19:19-21

October 11

What Now: Finding Faith for Whatever Comes
Next

When You Can't Take Any More

2 Kings 4:1-7

October 18

What Now: Finding Faith For
Whatever Comes Next

When Life Demands Too Much

2 Kings 4:1-7

October 25

What Now: Finding Faith for Whatever Comes
Next

God Can Restore What Seems Lost

2 Kings 6:4-7

Tea for Three

Looking for a way to get to know more of your church family, just a couple people at a time? Join Mandy and one additional person for a one hour "Tea for Three" at Swan House Tea Room.

Visit the Events tab on our website: stmarksfindlay.org to sign up!

Gather & Go Lunch

Join us for a new monthly opportunity to **GATHER** - to find your people - and **GO** - to live your faith - *at the same time!*

Mark your calendar for Sunday, October 4 from 12:00-1:00. We'll enjoy a simple pizza lunch together in The Dock before sorting donations for the Little Free Pantries. No need to sign up or bring anything - just show up.

New Members in 2026

Members by Confirmation

Charlotte Feasel
Makayla Feasel
Rachel Haines
Lincoln Kirian
Mason Kirian
Emilia Metzger
Grace Riegle
Leah Riegle

Members by Affirmation

Larry & Carol Young
Lynn, Laura & Colin Mercer
Kade Kirian
Jon & Julie Miller
Jody Allshouse
Rodney & Joy Shaw
James & Allie Garrett

Walk To Emmaus

Do you seek - Spiritual Renewal? New understanding of God's grace and love? Worship and community with other believers? Then The Walk to Emmaus may be a great fit for you!

The Walk to Emmaus seeks to inspire, challenge and equip leaders for Christian action in their homes, places of work, and communities.

On an Emmaus weekend, you will - sing, reflect, pray, worship, learn, share Holy Communion, participate in small groups, experience God's grace in community and in the world and understand Christian love in action.

If this experience is of interest to you or you would like to learn more about The Walk to Emmaus, please contact Sherri Frantz 419 348 8185 or Ken Miller 419 306 5410.

The next walk is the Women's Walk on October 15-18, 2026
and the Men's Walk on November 12-15, 2026

Grow - deepen your faith!

GROW

Deepen your
faith...

Grow from Home

Visit the Grow tab on the St. Marks website for:

- The Faith 5
- The Take it Home sermon notes
- Pastor Dan's "Sermon Prep Podcast"

Borrow a Book from the Church Library

We have a great selection of books on the Christian life, mental health, social topics, etc.

Grow at Church

Pastor Dan's Bible Study

"The Letters of Paul" will be the next subject of study at St Marks University. Classes will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. for 10 weeks, beginning September 9. Please register by Connect Card or talking with Pastor Dan.

Women's Bible Study

The Monday gathering of women for Bible study will start up again on Monday, September 28, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

The reading material will have been chosen by then.

Sunday School Class

Did you know that we have a Sunday School class that meets in the Fellowship Hall area in the church's lowest level every Sunday at 10:00? Attendees discuss Pastor Dan's sermon and get to know one another better. All are welcome! Stop in any Sunday.

Go - find Your Ministry in the Church

GO

Live your faith
inside the
church.

Find Your
Ministry

Children's Ministry

Ready to make a difference for the next generation? Children's Ministry needs you!

Current Needs:

- Backstage Kids Leader
- Nursery Volunteer
- Spark Kids Assistant

Talk with Curynn DeWitt -
cdewitt@stmarksfindlay.org for
more info.

Hospitality

Can you smile and wave? If so, we have the perfect opportunity for you!

We'd love to have you join our greeting team. Greeters & Welcome Center Hosts are needed for second service.

Talk with Mandy Stevens for more info:
mstevens@stmarksfindlay.org

Multimedia

Put your tech skills to use on our Media Team!

Current opportunities include operators for the:

- Sound board
- Multimedia livestream
- Video camera
- Lighting board

As well as programmers for the multimedia livestream.

Contact Bruce Beck for more
info: brucevonbeck@gmail.com

Worship Band Members

Can you:

- Sing?
- Play an instrument?

Our Worship Band could use your skills during our 10:45 service!

You don't need to volunteer every Sunday - just when you can!

Contact Caitlin Parke for more
info: caitlin.parke93@gmail.com

Go - find Your Mission in the community!

GO

Food Insecurity

Give a Crock Donations

Donation requests for October are:

- canned Navy Beans, Peas, Green Beans, and Diced Tomatoes
- 32 oz carton of vegetable broth
- Bay Leaves
- Financial Donations of \$10 or \$12 dollars

Please place the donations in the Give-a-Crock bin in the front lobby of the Church.

Little Free Pantry Donations

Drop off items in the Dock or the Church Lobby

Canned Meat: Beef, Chicken, Tuna
Cookie, Brownie and Cake Mixes
Peanut Butter

Crackers: Snack, Saltines or Butter
Canned Fruit

City Mission Donation Requests for October

- Garlic Powder
- Canned Green Beans
- Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Boxed Stuffing Mixes
- Gravy Mixes
- Fried Onions

Education

Pages & Pals

Thank you for partnering with us to Move the Needle in Education! If you'd like to financially support this mission to help offset the cost of the books each child goes home with, please mark "Pages & Pals" on your offering envelope.

Live your faith
outside the
church.

Find Your
Mission

Help us Move
the Needle in
these areas in
our community!

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.

United Women in Faith

UWF Annual Baked Potato Bar

Special Note: Tater Tots are also available with all the toppings!

You can join your church family in the DOCK for dinner or Carry-Out is available.

Where: St Marks UMC - The DOCK

When: Wednesday, October 21

Time: 5:00 - 6:30 PM

“And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth in me shall never thirst.” -John 6:35

Lydia Ladies meet: October 7, November 4 and December 2 at 10 am in the library.

Ruth Circle meets: November 2 and December 7 at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall

UWF Actions for October

- October 10 - 2026 Annual Celebration with Sally Vonner! Registration is required and it takes place in Hilliard, Ohio.
- October 21 - Baked Potato Bar -Donations and volunteers
- October 24 - UWF District meeting at St Andrews 9:30 am. Registration required. Bring items for Little Free Laundry.
- October 26 - UWF volunteers for Give a Crock - 4 pm kitchen

The proceeds from every UWF fundraiser is faithfully distributed to charities locally, nationally and internationally.

Our Vision

We are a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood.

With a focus on women, children and youth, we act for justice and transform communities.

We face the realities we see in the world, even when they are not the ones we would like to see.

However, our goal is not to simply bear witness to harms, but also to God's Love by acting boldly to change those harms.

Children's & Youth Ministry

CHILDREN'S
& YOUTH
MINISTRY

Spark Kids for Grades K-5!

We are so excited to start Spark Kids back up on Sept 2nd in the DOCK! We meet every Wednesday from 6:30-8pm for games, snack and fellowship!

Our hope is that Spark Kids will be a place where children can grow in their faith, build meaningful friendships, and discover what it means to let their light shine for Jesus.

Youth Fellowship

Middle and High School students meet on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Cafe on the second floor.

Youth Group

Wednesday Nights 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

- 6:30 - Hang time
- 6:45 - Group time
- 7:00 - Game time
- 7:15 - Devotion time
- 7:30 - Small Group time
- 7:45 - Prayer and Announcements
- 8:00 - See ya next time!



The poster is for the 'Men Who Cook' event featuring Dan Metzger. At the top left is the 'the Y' logo. The title 'Findlay Family YMCA' is at the top center. A cartoon chef character is in the center, holding a platter, with the text 'Let's get Cooking!' next to him. The event title 'MEN WHO COOK' is in large, bold, brown letters. Below it is 'DAN METZGER' in a stylized font. The date and time 'SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026 6-8 P.M.' and the location 'FINDLAY COUNTRY CLUB' are listed. A paragraph states: 'Dan is back again this year and cooking with a purpose! Help Dan take the winner's title at this year's event with your support. Donate here before the event, then bring your cash event night and continue to support Dan. The cook who raises the most money prior to and at the end of the event will be crowned the 2026 Men Who Cook Winner! All proceeds benefit the Findlay Family YMCA's Annual Campaign, which supports programs like Open Doors, Feed-A-Child, youth programs, and more.' At the bottom, there are two QR codes. The left one is labeled 'EVENT TICKETS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION HERE' and the right one is labeled 'SUPPORT DAN METZGER HERE'. Between the QR codes is the text 'YOUR SUPPORT MAKES IT POSSIBLE!' and 'Free admission for children accompanied by an adult'.

the Y

Findlay Family YMCA

Let's get Cooking!

MEN WHO COOK

DAN METZGER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026
6-8 P.M.
FINDLAY COUNTRY CLUB

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Help Dan take the winner's title at this year's event with your support. Donate here before the event, then bring your cash event night and continue to support Dan. The cook who raises the most money prior to and at the end of the event will be crowned the 2026 Men Who Cook Winner!

All proceeds benefit the Findlay Family YMCA's Annual Campaign, which supports programs like Open Doors, Feed-A-Child, youth programs, and more.

EVENT TICKETS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION HERE

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES IT POSSIBLE!

Free admission for children accompanied by an adult

SUPPORT DAN METZGER HERE

2026 St. Marks Leadership Team

Pastor

Dan Metzger

Leadership Team Chair

Laura Rhodes

SPRC

Kaitlin Peraino

Val Milum

Trustee Team

Matt Fix

Mike Lee

Joe Stoner

Don Snyder

Finance Team

Jeremy Theiss

Becky Iten

Member

Dylan Burkholder

Denise Claflin

Lyndsay Hite

At-large Member

Endowment Fund

Committee

Scott Rhodes

Lay Member to Annual

Conference

Erma Metzger

Finance Updates

In the Know

Financial Update: August 2026

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." — Proverbs 11:25

Our ministries rely entirely on your faithful generosity. Here is a brief look at our financial health through the end of last month:

Category	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
General Tithes & Offerings	\$ 441,220	\$ 423,000
Ministry Operating Expenses	\$ (385,007)	\$ (380,733)
Apportionments Paid	\$ (24,716)	\$ (42,267)
General Net Financial Position	\$ 31,497	\$ -
Mission Giving	\$ 20,708	\$ 18,667
Local Missions Supported	\$ (3,300)	\$ -
Apportionments Paid	\$ (11,900)	\$ (18,667)
Missions Net Financial P	\$ 5,508	\$ -

Apportionments Paid: We have paid 59% of our conference apportionment payments totaling \$36,616. This is \$24,716 from the General fund and \$11,900 from Missions. Our full year apportionment commitment is \$61,716.

Note from the Finance Committee: Thank you for your incredible stewardship! Meeting our financial goals allows our church to focus entirely on what matters most: growing our discipleship, expanding our local outreach, and maintaining our church. Thank you for your continued dedication and faith as we "Move the Needle".