

# JUBILEE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

May 2026



ST. MARK'S  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4780 E. 126th St., Carmel, IN 46033  
317.846.4912 stmarkscarmel.org



## Vacation Bible Camp 2026!

July 13-17

Don't let the children have all the fun... sign up to be a camp volunteer! For more VBS Volunteer information, see page 3.

[STMARKSCARMEL.ORG/VBS](http://STMARKSCARMEL.ORG/VBS)

# Upcoming Events

Take a look ahead at St. Mark's upcoming events. Please visit [stmarkscarmel.org/events](http://stmarkscarmel.org/events) for all event details.



## St. Mark's Summer Camps

Sacred Music Camps: June 15-19

Vacation Bible Camp (VBS): July 13-17

## COMING SOON



- Night Without a Bed - 2
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- St. Mark's Presents - Brio - 3
- Preschool Dine-to-Donate at Handel's - 11
- UWF Upsy Daisy Picnic - 12
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- St. Mark's Presents The Hoosier Brass Band - 7
- Youth Mission Camp - 8-11
- Walking As a Spiritual Practice Returns - 9 & 11
- Mission Guatemala Team Trip - 13-20
- Indianapolis Indians Game - 14
- Puppet Camp - 15-19
- Drama Camp - 15-19

## Vacation Bible Camp: July 13-17 9 AM - 12:15 PM

Every year around this time, our church starts asking everyone to find a way to participate in Vacation Bible Camp (VBS). What is VBS and why is it so important for the church family to take part?

### What is VBS?

VBS is a summer camp program designed to introduce children to the love and grace of Jesus. It contains all the fun activity stations you'd expect to find at a summer camp (art, music, games, stories, snacks, friendship building...) but each area is infused with the message of God's love! Every day, the children are introduced to a new Bible Point that is reinforced in each activity so kids can explore what it means to their everyday lives.

This summer, the camp theme is Rainforest Falls...Exploring the nature of God.



Through each fun activity station they visit, children will begin to discover what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms.

Over the last several years, St. Mark's has been welcoming roughly 200 campers to experience God's love during our VBS. It is a week full of excitement and energy, and it takes 120+ volunteers to make it safe and fun!

### Why Should YOU Be Involved?

There are SO many reasons to volunteer at Vacation Bible Camp (VBS) this summer!

#### For the children:

- Kids are introduced to the love of Jesus (maybe for the first time!)
- Biblical truths will touch a child's heart and mind and stick for a lifetime!
- Relationships between all generations are fostered
- Camp has a positive atmosphere and is welcoming to all

#### For YOU:

##### *Serving others...*

- Improves your mood
- Reduces stress
- Promotes higher self-esteem
- Increases longevity

##### *Serving at VBS specifically...*

- Deepens one's own faith
- Increases leadership skills
- Creates joy in serving the next generation
- Unites the congregation & reaches out the community



There are 25+ areas to consider helping, and all of them are important to the success of the week! From helping to prep materials to leading activities, there are ways to serve that accommodate all schedules and interests. For more information about VBS and a description of all available volunteer opportunities, please visit [stmarkscarmel.org/vbs](http://stmarkscarmel.org/vbs). Prayerfully consider where God is leading you and sign up today! Thank you!



# Pastor's Place

Greetings Everyone!

*1 Corinthians 9:24-27 "24 Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. 25 Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable garland, but we, an imperishable one. 26 So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; 27 but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I, myself, should not be disqualified."*

We are racing through 2026 and into May already. Indianapolis becomes a very singularly focused city in the month of May. I was thinking of the Indianapolis 500 and remember talking to some folks in the racing industry years ago, who told me about the drivers' training and being in very good shape. Their bodies resist high heat, and they ride in a small cockpit which cannot be overly comfortable. It reminded me of this verse in 1 Corinthians 9.

It is interesting in this scripture that as Paul writes that only one runner wins the prize, he is really saying that we should train like one wanting to win, but in winning the prize is different. The prize is that all people experience and live into the gospel of Jesus. Paul wanted them to be successful in telling the most people about Jesus. He wanted them to train their hearts, minds, bodies, and souls in such a way that they could complete the race of sharing the gospel with all.

This should humble us so that it becomes the opposite of individual recognition. Paul speaks that the only way he feels successful is if all people are successful in living the salvation of Christ. The individualistic reward is made of perishable material, but the communal reward of salvation is eternal.

In verse 27, Paul mentions how he trains his body to do what God has called him to do. During this May Race season, may we all be compelled to train our hearts, minds, and souls to help all members of our community win the prize. Let us train in prayer, study, worship, and community involvement so that others will win the prize of the gospel of Jesus.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Nathan



**Rev. Nathan Whybrew**  
**Lead Pastor**



## May Mission Focus

Greater Indy Habitat for Humanity offers homeownership opportunities to low-income individuals and families who are unable to obtain conventional home financing.

- In Indiana, the average hourly wage necessary to afford a two-bedroom apartment unit at the fair market rent is \$22.18.
- The average Indiana renter earns around \$18.05 an hour.
- Greater Indy Habitat's home construction costs have more than doubled in the past 5 years

Research shows that Habitat for Humanity's homeownership program leads to benefits beyond housing:

- improved quality of life and mental health
- a decreased reliance on social services
- improved academic achievement of children
- increased prosperity of families as well as the entire community

You can make a difference in the lives of families right here in central Indiana! Visit [stmarkscarmel.org/habitat](http://stmarkscarmel.org/habitat) to learn more.

### How can I help?

- Financial donations may be given online at [stmarkscarmel.org/give](http://stmarkscarmel.org/give) or by using the offering envelopes in the blue attendance pads on Sunday morning.
- Show your support for the women from St. Mark's who are part of the Habitat Women Build this summer by donating online and selecting "Women Build" from the pull-down menu.
- Join fellow St. Mark's members for the 2026 Habitat for Humanity Multifaith Build in the fall. Details coming soon!
- Pray for the Habitat mentors, build volunteers, organizers, and families who need affordable housing.
- Donate new and used items in working condition to the Habitat ReStore. Visit [indyhabitat.org/restore](http://indyhabitat.org/restore) for a list of acceptable donations and store locations.



## May In-Kind Donations

During the month of May, we are collecting items to support East Tenth's summer camps and board books to support Grassroot Projects.

East Tenth United Methodist Children & Youth Center is an accredited early learning center in east Indianapolis. They offer an income-based sliding scale for tuition costs and are proud to serve a diverse population. They offer a variety of programs, including the Early Learning Childcare Center, Summer Days for Youth, and a before and after school program.

Grassroot Projects creates and supports equitable communities for under-resourced immigrant and refugee children. These parents are most concerned about meeting their children's basic needs of food and clothing. Grassroot Projects offers various programs, including "Sponsor A Passion", Early Literacy, Food Insecurity, and Customized Care Packages for families.

Please support these important missions by donating the following items in May. Donations can be dropped off at St. Mark's Mon-Fri from 9am-4pm.

- Soccer balls (new and gently used)
- Basketballs (new and gently used)
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- NEW children's board books (preschool)



Shop quickly and easily right from your smartphone using this QR code for the [AMAZON WISH-LIST](#).



## Family Promise’s Annual Night Without a Bed Campaign

As of January 2025, over 1,800 people were reported to be experiencing homelessness. Of that total, 17% were children. Unfortunately, this number may not include many families doubling up, doing extended hotel stays, or living in their cars. Fortunately, YOU can help.



Join Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis and St. Mark’s United Methodist Church for Night Without A Bed, the primary fundraising campaign to support FPGI’s apartment shelter program, which has served 329 families since 2020. Follow along with FPGI on Facebook and Instagram @Family Promise of Greater Indy for campaign updates, and come out to eat and meet staff, volunteers, and families for a Dine-to-Donate and T-Shirt Giveaway on April 30! Participants are encouraged to find alternative sleeping arrangements for our annual sleepout and post pictures on their social media channel of choice. Be sure to tag #NightWithoutABed, so we can see, too!

**Fundraising:** Saturday, April 4 - Saturday, May 2

**Dine-to-Donate and T-Shirt Giveaway:** Thursday, April 30 from 11 AM - 8 PM at BuffaLouie’s Carmel (43 W. Main St, Carmel, IN 46032)

**Sleepout:** Saturday night, May 2

Join the St. Mark’s team and/or make a donation at <https://tinyurl.com/4t63ad5f>.

## Used (and New) School Supply Collection



St. Mark’s is hosting a School Supply Drive, in partnership with Midwest Mission.

Schools in Honduras are in desperate need of school supplies, while every year in the U.S, hundreds of school supplies that are still in good condition are thrown away. During May and June, collection boxes will be available in the Gathering Area and Children’s Wing for you to drop off the school supplies that you don’t want to keep. This might be pens, pencils, and erasers, notebooks with lots of empty pages, folders, and even book bags! **Any supplies that could still be useful are accepted, except for 3-ring binders or broken items.** Remember – if you wouldn’t give it to a loved one, don’t donate it.

Thanks for helping another student and keeping old school supplies out of landfills!

## Soup’s On at Roberts Park



**Sunday, May 3, 2026**

Can you help us provide a hot meal for homeless in Indy? Each Sunday, volunteers help prepare and serve lunch for Roberts Park UMC’s Soup’s On ministry. Meals are cooked and served onsite. This Soup’s On ministry provides a wonderful opportunity for us to carry out Jesus’ command to “feed the hungry.” Sign up to help provide food and/or join volunteers that morning, at [stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups). Volunteers can sign up to help cook and serve food or to help with clean-up (& arrive later that morning).

## PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

A UMC Special Sunday Offering



No Justice  
No Peace

## Peace with Justice Sunday

May 31

Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as reconcilers of conflict. We insist that the first moral duty of all nations is to work together to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them.

Each Annual Conference has a Peace with Justice Coordinator developing local social justice ministries. Fifty percent of the offering remains in your annual conference to support this ministry. Donations to this Special Sunday offering can be made at [stmarkscarmel.org/give](http://stmarkscarmel.org/give) or by using the special envelope in your bulletin on May 31.

## Walking for Dreams: Supporting Outreach Indiana



Sunday, May 17

Grab your favorite walking buddy. We're Walking for Dreams in May!

This annual family walkathon supports Outreach's mission to empower youth experiencing homelessness in Indianapolis.

**Date & Time:** Sunday, May 17, 1-4 PM

**Location:** Crown Hill Cemetery, 770 W. 38th St

**Registration Fee:** \$30 for adults, \$5 for children ages 4-12, free for children 3 and under

**Registration and/or donations:**

<http://outreachindiana.org/walking-for-dreams>

When registering, join the St. Mark's UMC Carmel team, then create your own individual fundraising page to rally support from family, friends, colleagues, and fellow church members. Our goal is to raise \$1,000 to provide transformational services and build relationships with youth experiencing homelessness in Indianapolis.

## Bags of Hope Fleece Blankets



Every child deserves to feel safe, warm, and cared for — especially children in foster care who are facing uncertain times. You are invited to make **no-sew fleece blankets** to donate to Bags of Hope, an orphan care project providing duffel bags with goodies to children in the foster care system in Indiana. These simple, handmade blankets provide more than warmth. They offer comfort, security, and a reminder that someone cares. **No sewing skills needed!** Just fleece, scissors, and a little time. There are many ways to help:

- Make a no-sew fleece blanket at home – provide your own fleece or pick up a kit at St. Mark's
- Host a blanket-making party with friends, coworkers or small group
- Donate fleece fabric or money for supplies (Recommended length of fabric is 1 ½ yards)

Let's come together to show foster children they are seen, valued, and loved. For more information, contact Amy Adams.

# Support the Habitat for Humanity Women Build 2026



**Team: Joe Newton Legacy Crew**

The Women Build is a unique Habitat event where women volunteers solely raise all needed funds and then spend an exciting day building a new home for a family in our community. If you would like to donate to the build, please visit [stmarkscarmel.org/give](http://stmarkscarmel.org/give) and select Habitat Women Build from the pull-down menu.



## Mission Camp



**Serve. Grow. Make a Difference.**

**Monday - Thursday, June 8-11**

Looking for a meaningful way to spend your time and impact others this summer? Mission Camp is a hands-on service experience where youth step outside the church walls and into the community to serve, love, and lead.

During camp, students will:

- Serve local families, organizations, and neighborhoods
- Build friendships and grow as a team
- Learn what it means to live out their faith through action
- Discover how small acts of service can make a big difference

This is more than a camp - it's a chance to be the *hands and feet of Jesus* while having fun and growing together.

**Dates:** June 8-11

**Time:** 9 AM to 1 PM

**Who:** Grades 6-12

**Register:** [stmarkscarmel.org/missioncamp](http://stmarkscarmel.org/missioncamp) by May 31

**Questions:** Contact Amy at [aadams@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:aadams@stmarkscarmel.org)

Sign up today and be part of something bigger than yourself!

# Brightwood Community Center Food Pantry

Volunteer at  
Brightwood Food  
Pantry!

Your time can make a  
BIG difference in  
someone's life.



We need volunteers like you to help:

- Sort and stock food items
- Pack food boxes for families
- Assist during pantry hours
- Clean up and organize

Location:

4062 E. 34th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46218

Date & Times:

2nd week of each month

2nd Tuesdays: 12:30 - 2:30 PM (receiving food  
and shelving)

2nd Wednesdays: 1:30 - 4:00 PM (help patrons  
shop/restock shelves)

**Sign up online at [stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups)**

Contact: Diane Newton

Email: [joediane244@att.net](mailto:joediane244@att.net)

No experience necessary — just a desire to help.  
Every hour you give helps someone in need. Be  
the reason someone eats today. Volunteer with  
us.

## Travel-Size Hygiene Products Needed

Help us make a difference by donating new,  
unused travel-size hygiene items to support  
individuals and families in need. These small  
essentials—like toothpaste, soap, shampoo, and  
deodorant—can restore dignity, comfort, and  
confidence to someone facing difficult  
circumstances. Your simple donation can go a  
long way in helping our community stay clean,  
healthy, and hopeful. Donations can be placed in  
the bin inside door #2 labeled “travel-size  
hygiene products”.

# Fletcher Place Monthly Breakfast

Friday, May 29

HELP NEEDED

“For I was hungry, and  
you gave me something  
to eat” (Matt. 25:35).

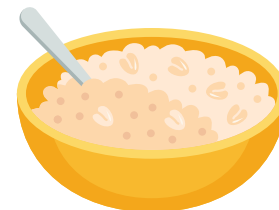
Help is needed to cook and serve a hot  
breakfast for the homeless and low-income  
population served by Fletcher Place Community  
Center. Volunteers ride together to and from St.  
Mark's, 7:15am-11:15am. SIGN UP ONLINE at  
[stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups).



## Oatmeal Collected All Year

### For Fletcher Place Food Pantry

St. Mark's is the  
“oatmeal” church for the  
Fletcher Place food  
pantry. Oatmeal donations (instant packets  
or cups) are collected throughout the year  
and may be left in the middle bin inside Door  
#2.



## Community Food Relief

Recent cuts in government  
funding have placed added  
strain on local food relief  
programs, leaving many  
families struggling to access

the essentials they depend on. With demand for  
food assistance rising, community support has  
never been more important. You can make a  
difference by donating food or funds to the  
CUMC Food Pantry, our partner organization in  
combatting food insecurity right here in  
Hamilton County. Every contribution, big or  
small, helps us continue providing food and  
essentials to those who need them most.  
Together, we can nourish and support our  
community through challenging times.



## Kidz Church Sunday Programming



The check-in station and Kidz Church classes are located in the Children's Wing. Check-in for each hour begins 10 minutes prior to the start of class or service time. For 9 and 11 AM worship hours, children will proceed to the sanctuary with their families after check-in and be released to Kidz Church after the Kidz Chat. For the 10 AM education hour, children will proceed directly to class after check-in. A list of available classes and times can be found in the bulletin each Sunday or online at [stmarkscarmel.org/kidzprogramming](http://stmarkscarmel.org/kidzprogramming).

**NOTE TO PARENTS:** Kidz Church leaders are a wonderful group of adult and young adult volunteers who commit to serving in Children's Ministries on Sundays throughout the school year. As their year comes to a close on May 24, be sure to thank your child's teachers for their time and for sharing the love of Jesus with all our children!

Kidz Church classes will continue through the summer months, however kids ages 4+ will spend the 10 AM Education Hour in one large group, rather than grade-specific classes, to allow school year leaders some time off. (9 and 11 AM classes will continue as usual.) Adults and older students who are willing to assist as volunteers during the summer months are needed. Please see a Children's Ministry Director to volunteer some time in Kidz Church this summer!



## May Kidz Monthly Mission

Each month, Children's Ministries invites kids to get involved in giving to the church's In-Kind Donations. During the month of May, we are collecting items to support East Tenth's summer camps and board books to support Grassroot Projects. East Tenth United Methodist Children & Youth Center is an accredited early learning center in east Indianapolis offering an income-based sliding scale for tuition costs to a diverse population. Grassroot Projects creates and supports equitable communities for under-resourced immigrant and refugee children. For more information about these programs and a detailed list of needs, visit [stmarkscarmel.org/in-kind-donations](http://stmarkscarmel.org/in-kind-donations) or see page 5.



### Kids Sing in Worship

**Sunday, May 10**  
**The Current**

All children are invited to sing in the 11 AM worship service on Mother's Day! Rehearsals for this special song take place Sunday mornings at 11 AM in Kidz Music & Praise.



### Dine to Donate for St. Mark's Preschool

**Handel's Ice Cream**  
**2466 E 146th, Carmel**  
**Monday, May 11**  
**3-10 PM**

Gather your friends for St. Mark's Preschool's spirit night at Handel's. 20% of the total sweet treat purchases will be donated back to the school! Show a copy of the event flyer to your server to be sure St. Mark's receives the credit... flyers and details at [stmarkscarmel.org/events](http://stmarkscarmel.org/events). Thank you for your support!



### Acolytes for Worship

Is your child or grandchild wanting to take on a meaningful role in our Sunday services? We are giving children, 3rd grade +, the opportunity to serve as acolytes. Acolytes light the Sanctuary altar candles before the beginning of either worship service. Email Lori Roberts at [lorigarvasroberts@gmail.com](mailto:lorigarvasroberts@gmail.com) to learn more. Your child will have the important responsibility of carrying the light of Christ into the sanctuary!

# Sacred Music Camps

**June 15-19**

**Register at [stmarkscarmel.org/musiccamps](http://stmarkscarmel.org/musiccamps)**

## **Puppet Camp: Praise and Creation!**

- 9:30-11:30 AM (Age 4- Grade 3)
- Children will make a variety of puppets to tell the stories of Jesus, play fun games, and enjoy a snack each day. Campers will present a special puppet show for families, friends, and church members on Friday at 11:00 AM.



## **Sacred Drama Camp: O Chicken of Little Faith**

- 12:00-2:30 PM (Grades 1-5)
- A children's musical about Faith, a girl on her grandma's farm who dreams her chickens have escaped. In this dream-scape, she guides them across the "Pit of Fear" and "Mountain of Expectations," learning to trust God to overcome anxiety. Showtime is Friday at 2:00 PM!



## **Camp Details**

- Friends are welcome to attend both camps!
- Students entering 6th Grade+ are invited to volunteer (see Apprentice details below)
- Adult volunteers needed! (see description below)
- Cost per camp: \$20 - with scholarships available
- A list of snack donations for camp can be found on the bulletin board in the church Gathering Area OR at [stmarkscarmel.org/musiccamps](http://stmarkscarmel.org/musiccamps).
- Questions? Contact Joyce Click at [jclick@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:jclick@stmarkscarmel.org).

## **Music Camp Student Apprentice Opportunities**

Students who are entering at least 6th Grade may volunteer to help during both Puppet and Drama camps.

**Responsibilities:** Assist with games, songs, drama, and refreshments and serve as a role model for younger campers.

**Benefits:** Develop leadership skills, receive a letter that certifies volunteer hours, and have fun while serving!

**Register to be a Student Apprentice at [stmarkscarmel.org/musiccamps](http://stmarkscarmel.org/musiccamps).**

## **Adult Music Camp Volunteers**

Come assist camp leaders with games, songs, drama, and crafts as children experience learning about God's love through the arts. Contact Joyce Click at [jclick@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:jclick@stmarkscarmel.org) to sign-up! 11

# Vacation Bible Camp (VBS)

## Rainforest Falls - Exploring the True Nature of God July 13-17 | 9 AM - 12:15 PM

**Campers: Age 4 - Grade 5**

**Volunteers: Entering Grade 6 - adults of all ages!**

**Registration for campers and volunteers at [stmarkscarmel.org/vbs](http://stmarkscarmel.org/vbs)!**



VBS is a summer camp program designed to introduce children to the love and grace of Jesus. It contains all the fun activity stations you'd expect to find at a summer camp (art, music, games, stories, snacks, and friendship building!) but each area is infused with the message of God's love! This summer at St. Mark's VBS, kids will step into a fictional Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures! Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms. It is sure to be a week full of energy and fun so don't wait to get your children signed up!

P.S. Don't let the children have all the fun...sign-up to be a camp volunteer! For more VBS Volunteer information, see page 3 or visit [stmarkscarmel.org/vbs](http://stmarkscarmel.org/vbs).



### Important VBS Dates & Activities:

- **VBS Leader Training Night:** July 8, 6:00-7:30 PM
- **Music Team Rehearsal Schedule:** Sundays from 12:15-1:30 PM on May 31, June 7, June 14, June 28, & July 12
- **Community Social Night:** Wednesday, July 15, 6-7PM

Join us outside under the tent for refreshments; entertainment from the musical group, Circuit Thursday; and fellowship with all your VBS, church, and community friends!

- **Student Volunteer Social:** Directly after Community Night, July 15, 7-9PM.

All student age counselors are invited to stay for dinner and a Silent Disco & Glow Party!

- **VBS Campers Sing in Worship:** All campers and volunteers are invited to sing a medley of camp songs in worship on Sunday, July 19 at 9 and 11 AM.
- **Now Accepting Donations!** Please check the bulletin board in the Gathering Area for camp needs. There are bins under the board to drop off your donations. Thank you!

## Summer Camps!



Registration is now open for summer camps! For more information and to register, check out the St. Mark's Camp page at <https://stmarkscarmel.org/summercamps/>.

- June 8th - Mission Week
- June 14th-19th Middle School Camp
- June 21st-26th High School Wildfires Camp

## Summer Youth Group Events

Mark your calendar for our Summer Sessions 2nd and 4th Youth gatherings starting on June 14 at 5:30 PM. This summer, our youth group is trying something new! Instead of our usual large gatherings at the church, we'll be meeting for relaxed bonfire nights hosted at different homes. These evenings will be a great chance to build deeper friendships, enjoy meaningful conversations, and connect in a more personal setting—all while roasting marshmallows, playing yard games and soaking up those summer vibes.

Keep an eye on the schedule for locations and dates, and don't forget to invite a friend.

## Sunday Mornings

### Sunday Morning Education Hour

Sunday Morning Education Hour is a place where faith meets real life. Our weekly gatherings offer a space to explore the Bible, ask honest questions, and grow in a relationship with Jesus. Meet in Room M for announcements then we will break into discussion groups.

## VBS Volunteers



If you are an incoming 6th grader or older, we invite you to volunteer at VBS! If you enjoyed participating as a camper, this is a great way to still participate in all the fun and help create that energy for the younger campers! All youth volunteers will be invited to the Youth Volunteer Appreciation Silent Disco on the Wednesday evening of VBS. Check out [stmarkscarmel.org/vbs](https://stmarkscarmel.org/vbs) for more information and to register as a volunteer.

## Graduating Seniors Celebrations!



Are you a graduating Senior? (High School, College, or Graduate School) We would love to celebrate you! Join us Sunday morning, May 31st for Graduation Sunday recognition. Please complete the online form for your graduate at <https://stmarkscarmel.org/grads/> so their church family can congratulate them!

## Mission Camp



**Serve. Grow. Make a Difference.**

**Monday - Thursday, June 8-11**

Looking for a meaningful way to spend your time and impact others this summer? Mission Camp is a hands-on service experience where youth step outside the church walls and into the community to serve, love, and lead.

During camp, students will:

- Serve local families, organizations, and neighborhoods
- Build friendships and grow as a team
- Learn what it means to live out their faith through action
- Discover how small acts of service can make a big difference

This is more than a camp - it's a chance to be the *hands and feet of Jesus* while having fun and growing together.

**Dates:** June 8-11

**Time:** 9 AM to 1 PM

**Who:** Grades 6-12

**Register:** [stmarkscarmel.org/missioncamp](https://stmarkscarmel.org/missioncamp) by May 31

**Questions:** Contact Amy at [aadams@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:aadams@stmarkscarmel.org)

Sign up today and be part of something bigger than yourself!

## This Summer: Simplicity, Nature, & Connection

It's a summer of simplicity! Mark your calendars for some upcoming mindful walks with our popular Walking as a Spiritual Practice group, which will return for its 6th season, as well as our abbreviated "fast track" new member classes.

### Walking as a Spiritual Practice



All summer we'll be exploring themes of simplicity and decluttering those things in our lives that get in the way of our connection with God, including lessons from Joshua Becker's new book *Uncluttered Faith*. Becker describes minimalism as "the intentional promotion of the things we most value and the removal of everything that distracts us from it." What can you simplify this summer to find this kind of minimalism in your life, attention, and physical spaces?

Join us in nature to consider these ideas as you reconnect with your spirit, with God, and with others on these dates:

- Tuesday, June 9, 7:00 PM
- Thursday, June 11, 9:00 AM
- Tuesday, June 30, 7:00 PM
- Thursday, July 2, 9:00 AM
- Tuesday, July 21, 7:00 PM
- Thursday, July 23, 9:00 AM
- Tuesday, August 18, 7:00 PM
- Thursday, August 20, 9:00 AM

All locations are TBD. If you would like to be on the email list for summer 2026 walk updates, sign up at [stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups) or on the Connection Tables.



### New Member Classes: Fast Track Version

Are you interested in exploring membership at St. Mark's? Register today at [stmarkscarmel.org/nextsteps](http://stmarkscarmel.org/nextsteps) for one of the special May & summer abbreviated options for our new member class. See more on page 23 and contact Jennifer Cloud-Buckner, Adult Discipleship Coordinator, at [grow@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:grow@stmarkscarmel.org) with questions.

### Teatime Discipleship



#### **Mondays, 9:30-10:30 AM in The Living Room (Room N)**

Whether you're usually in a study that's taking a summer break, or you're trying a group for the first time, you're welcome to jump into Teatime Discipleship on Mondays! There is zero pre-reading required because we read and reflect on the scripture and topic during the session. For an easy way to meet people and grow in your faith, just bring a Bible to Room N, where you'll find a carafe of hot water, an assortment of teas, and a

chance to relax and share with others. Sign up at the Connection Tables or [stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups) for notifications from leader Jen Cawthorne about any upcoming schedule changes or cancellations (e.g., holidays or VBS).

### Parent Connection Brunch

Thanks to all of the parents who attended our Parent Connection Brunch in February and gave feedback about Sunday morning options during the 10AM hour! One of the many fun ideas that came out of this meeting time was the suggestion to have people take turns hosting an informal pitch-in brunch for parents of children in the same grades to meet and get to know one another. The brunches would take place on various Sundays, 10-10:50 AM in Cornerstone Commons and would be coordinated by parent(s) in each grade level. Our Family Ministry team will be reaching out to parents in each grade level to ask for someone to coordinate your grade's brunch, so if you already know you'd like to coordinate the pitch-in for your child(ren)'s grade level, please watch for that email or email [grow@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:grow@stmarkscarmel.org).

### Studies Wrapping up for Summer

The weekday study groups meeting Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays will begin their summer break soon! See the Connection Tables for any books remaining for the final May weeks of each study:

- **Amos, Hosea, & Micah:** Wednesdays, 4/15-5/20 | 9:30-11:00 AM | Led by Lydia Fourman | Room J/K
- Adam Hamilton's **Moses** with supplementary Genesis and Deuteronomy resources: Wednesdays, 4/15-5/20 | 8:00-9:00 AM (Men's Study) & 9:30-10:30 AM (Pastors' Study) | Led by Pastors Nathan Whybrew and Karla Elliott | Room B/C + Zoom
- **Parables: Putting Jesus's Stories in their Place:** Thursdays, 4/16-5/21 | 10:00-11:00 AM | Led by Judy Woempner | Room N (The Living Room)
- **Undistracted** by Bob Goff: Fridays, 4/17-5/15 | 9:30-11:00 AM | Led by Jennifer Cloud-Buckner and Annessa Miller | Room B/C + Zoom

### Save the Date for Connection Fair

See details on page 22 for the Churchwide Fall Kickoff and Connection Fair on Sunday, August 16! Fall study groups and small group signups will be available at this popular event.

# LIFT: a Widows Encouragement Group

Living  
Intentionally  
Forward  
Together

a Widows Encouragement Group

more at [stmarkscarmel.org/growgroups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/growgroups)



The LIFT (Living Intentionally Forward Together) group has spring plans below. If you are a widow who is seeking hope and purpose in new activities and connections, let's do it together. Carpooling from the church is available. To connect with LIFT, contact Jennifer at [grow@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:grow@stmarkscarmel.org) or see Mary Etta Yoho.

- Sat 5/2 Zionsville Brick Street Market
- Mon 5/18 Newfields International Museum Day & Go Public Gardens (Free)

## GriefShare



We have a new GriefShare team! See page 23 for details on how you can help.

### Website Directory for Adult Discipleship groups, signups, and resources

#### Sundays:

See full descriptions of classes and our informal "The Living Room" drop-in gathering at [stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups/#sundayam](http://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups/#sundayam).

The Foundations & Friendships class will be reading Josh Scott's *Context: Putting Scripture in Its Place* 5/3-5/17. No meeting 5/24 Memorial Day, then Bob Goff's *Undistracted* for 5/31, 6/7-6/28.

#### Study Groups and Short-Term Events:

All descriptions and signups are at [stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups).



#### Life Groups:

Our Life Groups support and encourage one another through shared seasons (e.g, parenting young children) and life challenges (e.g. caregiving, becoming widowed, and grief). Visit [stmarkscarmel.org/lifegroups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/lifegroups) to learn more or sign up.

#### Discipleship Pathway and Personal Growth resources:

Find resources for prayer, meditation, spiritual practices, rest, reflection, and growth at [stmarkscarmel.org/discipleship](http://stmarkscarmel.org/discipleship).

#### Breakthrough Prayer:

We share our breakthrough prayer in worship and in many of our small groups and meetings, but this is also a valuable personal and family prayer practice in your busy schedule. Set a timer for 8:00 PM to pray the prayer you can find at [stmarkscarmel.org/breakthrough](http://stmarkscarmel.org/breakthrough).

#### Workshops:

Have a topic you'd like to explore in a Living Room workshop or guided conversation? See examples at [stmarkscarmel.org/workshops](http://stmarkscarmel.org/workshops) and suggest your own by emailing [grow@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:grow@stmarkscarmel.org).

# Open Groups

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

**It's An "UPSY Daisy Picnic"**  
**Tuesday, May 12, 2026**  
**6:00 pm - Games, appetizers, fellowship**  
**6:30 pm - Picnic and Program**



United  
Women  
in Faith



Ladies of the church! It's time for an old-fashion UWF Picnic!  
Theme for the evening is "Upsy Daisy! He loves Me, He Loves Me Lots!"  
Bring your friends, children, and grandchildren and let's have fun and fellowship.  
Come in casual dress and enjoy some fun activities with singing and a traditional picnic meal!  
A freewill offering will be taken and shared with Fletcher Place Garden Ministry. So that we have enough food prepared. Please register at [stmarkscarmel.org/events](http://stmarkscarmel.org/events).  
Sponsored by St. Mark's United Women in Faith.

We would like to give a heartfelt thanks to all of the Interest Group leaders this year, including:

Pastor Karla Elliot - Spiritual Growth  
Gail Lee - AM Book Worms  
Cultural and Life Insights - Nancy Heller  
Helping Hands - Steph Mabe and Holly Moore  
Book Markers - Debbie Skinner  
Your leadership was essential to our monthly programs. We appreciate you!  
Interest Groups do not meet in May.

Visit [stmarkscarmel.org/uwf](http://stmarkscarmel.org/uwf) for more information.

## UNITED METHODIST MEN

UMM provides a supportive fellowship of men who seek to know Jesus Christ, to grow spiritually, and to seek God's will daily.



We have set in motion our continuing financial support of the following missions: Family Promise, East 10th St Methodist Youth Center, Fletcher Place, Habitat for Humanity, Wheeler Mission, and Second Helpings. A check to support a SAWS ramp build will be sent later in the year. UMM members volunteered for St. Mark's rice pack and traveled to Second Helpings for a morning of helping to prepare meals.

### May 9 Meeting at 7:30 AM

After an outing at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum, we are back in our home garage in May. Our speaker will be another one of our own St Mark's member and UMM participants; Ken Steppe. Ken has been heavily involved in Scouting for years. He has worked as a Chaplain at the National Scout Jamboree and has been to or will be attending three World Scout Jamborees, including 2027 being held in Gdansk, Poland. His topic at the breakfast will be on the World Organization of Scout Movement (WOSM), of which Ken is a project volunteer. This will include a discussion of scouting throughout the world and participation in the jamborees. He participated last October in the JOTA-JOTI (Jamboree on the Air and Jamboree on the Internet). Please plan to attend. Bring a friend for good fellowship, good food and hear Ken speak on his experiences in Scouting.

**May 24**—UMM is working at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, which helps raise funds for our Mission Work. [Click here](#) to sign up to help.

Find out more at <https://stmarkscarmel.org/umm/>

# Fellowship Groups

Learn more at:  
[stmarkscarmel.org/groups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/groups)

## MARKSMEN

### Select Thursdays at Starbucks at 116th and Keystone

The MarksMen is a community of career and family focused men seeking to develop authentic and intentional relationships while we unplug from the daily stress and craziness that life can bring. Email [marksmen@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:marksmen@stmarkscarmel.org) for more info.

## ROMEOS

### Retired Old Men Eating Out Wednesdays | 11:00 AM

#### Le Peep | 86th & Keystone

All men are invited to meet weekly at LePeep's. Contact Don Mehl for more information at [djmehl2004@aol.com](mailto:djmehl2004@aol.com).

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

### Tuesdays | 7:00 PM

Join us every Tuesday for Open Gym at 7 PM for basketball for ages 16 and above. Contact Mark Moore, [mvm2920@aol.com](mailto:mvm2920@aol.com) for more information.



## PAGE TURNERS

### Book Club

#### Third Tuesdays at 7 PM May 19



Join us on the third Tuesday of each month to discuss our current book selection. Join us on May 19 to discuss *Flying Solo* by Linda Holmes. Meets in Room G/H.

## JULIETS

### Just Us Ladies Interested In Eating Together | May 21 | Muldoon's at 111 W. Main St., Carmel

Please make your reservations by the Monday before to Linda Schenk, [juliets@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:juliets@stmarkscarmel.org) or 812-454-0661. Carpooling from St. Mark's can be arranged!

## CRAFT GROUP

### Mix of Wednesdays & Thursdays Wednesday, May 6 | 6:30-8:30 PM

RSVP to Kathy Bartel at 317-294-4908 or [krbartel@gmail.com](mailto:krbartel@gmail.com) by May 5 at 5 PM. Contact Kathy for more information about the Craft & Hobby group.

## SONG CIRCLE

### Song Circle | 2nd Monday & 4th Fridays | May 11 & 22 | 7-8:30 PM

Everyone is invited to SONG CIRCLE, an informal sing-along. We will sing pop tunes like "Take Me Home Country Roads" and "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow". We have songbooks in case you don't know the words - but you probably do! No singing talent or sign-up required - just show up and bring a friend. We will meet in Cornerstone Commons.

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

### Select Fridays

Join us as we prayerfully knit and crochet prayer shawls that will be used to provide comfort and solace to people in need. Supplies are available. Men are welcome too! Contact Judy Bonnet, [bonnetjm@icloud.com](mailto:bonnetjm@icloud.com) for more information.



## PICKLEBALL

### Thursdays | 7-9 PM

Looking for a fun weekday evening activity this winter? Join us in Wesley Hall on Thursday evenings from 7-9 PM for some fun and fellowship as we play pickleball! Participants of all skill levels are invited and should be 16 years or older. Contact Janet Brown ([jgrandeyb@gmail.com](mailto:jgrandeyb@gmail.com)) or Doug Brown ([dthbrown@gmail.com](mailto:dthbrown@gmail.com)) for more information.



# Committee News

## Funeral Meal Ministry

Has your family had a loved one die  
And sought a place to grieve?  
A place to meet in fellowship  
Before they had to leave?

To talk about the memories  
Your loved one left behind.  
While eating food together  
Made by people who were kind.  
St. Mark's provides this kind of place.  
This kind of people too.  
Where meals are served to families  
Is our ministry for you.

It takes lots of donations.  
And many helpers too.  
Do you think that this ministry  
Is something you could do?

Contact:

Nancy Heller: [naheller0775@gmail.com](mailto:naheller0775@gmail.com)

Jenny Rundle: [rundlejmaj@gmail.com](mailto:rundlejmaj@gmail.com)

Jackie Mock: [jbmock@icloud.com](mailto:jbmock@icloud.com)

## Acolytes for Worship

We have begun having a few of our children 3rd grade and up serve as acolytes, lighting the Sanctuary candles before the beginning of either worship service. Is your child or grandchild wanting to become more involved in our Sunday services and take on this meaningful role? Email Lori Roberts at [lolidarvasroberts@gmail.com](mailto:lolidarvasroberts@gmail.com) to learn more and to indicate your child's interest so she can coordinate with your schedule and the ushers. Your child will have the important responsibility of carrying the light of Christ into the sanctuary and lighting our altar candles before the beginning of either worship service.

## Are you on a Ministry Team, or Lead a Small Group or Fellowship Group? This Information is for you!

Download your toolkit for getting things done - It's Committee Member 101 found at

<https://stmarkscarmel.org/CommitteeMemberToolkit.pdf>. Check out this document for an overview of How To:

- Schedule a room at St. Mark's
- Request A/V support for an event
- Request publicity in any church publication or communication method
- Use the connection tables, kitchen, or office equipment
- Request office supplies, announcements, event childcare
- ...and more!

Do you have a question not covered in this document or need more details? Contact the church office at 317-846-4912.

Check out [stmarkscarmel.org/committeeinfo/](http://stmarkscarmel.org/committeeinfo/) for more information on Committees at St. Mark's.

# Community Outreach & Upcoming Events

# SUMMER



Beginning May 18,  
St. Mark's Church office  
will be open  
Monday-Thursday  
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
(Fall schedule will resume August 31st.)

## Church Office Summer Hours

For the summer, beginning May 18, the office will be open on Monday-Thursday from 9 AM to 1 PM and closed on Fridays. The office will also be closed Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day.



## UW Faith Upsy Daisy Picnic

**May 12 at 6 PM**

Ladies of the church! Join UW Faith for an "Upsy Daisy Picnic: He Loves Me, He Loves Me Lots" on Tuesday, May 12, 6 pm in Wesley Hall. Come in casual dress, invite your friends, children, and grandchildren, and enjoy the fun activities with singing and a traditional picnic meal. A freewill offering will be taken and shared with Fletcher Place Garden Ministry. In order that we have enough food prepared, please register at [stmarkscarmel.org/events](http://stmarkscarmel.org/events).

## St. Mark's Presents

*St. Mark's* PRESENTS

**May 3 at 2 PM - Brio!** Kelleen Strutz is an accomplished pianist, singer, and teacher and she will be presenting a concert dedicated to women composers with her trio, Brio! This is not to be missed! The concert is FREE and open to the public.

**May 17 at 2 PM - The Happy Enchiladas in Concert:** Enjoy this John Prine inspired folk band featuring vocals, guitar, mandolin, and string bass. Their infectious energy will delight your souls! Mark your calendars so you do not miss this fun and FREE concert!

Questions? Email Eric DeForest at [edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org).

## Music Appreciation Dinner



**May 13 at 6 PM**

It's time to celebrate with all the wonderful participants involved in making a Joyful Noise at St. Mark's! The Music Appreciation Dinner will be held on Wednesday, May 13, at 6PM in the Fellowship Hall. This event is open to all members on the St. Mark's Music Ministry and their families. Questions? Email Eric DeForest at [edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org).

## Save the Dates:

- **Indianapolis Indians Game with St. Mark's - June 14**

Come out to the old ballgame with your St. Mark's friends! Join us Sunday, June 14th at Victory Field to watch the Indianapolis Indians battle the Columbus Clippers. We will be sitting as a group on the lawn. Check out the [stmarkscarmel.org/events](http://stmarkscarmel.org/events) for details on where to meet.

- **St. Mark's on the Prairie - July 18**

St. Mark's are invited to purchase tickets for the July 18 performance of Symphony on the Prairie - Summer Breeze: Yacht Rock Classics. Come join other St. Mark's members for an evening of fellowship and great music under the stars at Conner Prairie in Fishers. Bring a picnic and lawn chairs to enjoy a wonderful evening. Gates open at 6 pm. Concert begins at 8 pm.

- **Trinkets and Treasures Indoor Garage Sale - August 7-8**

UWF Trinkets and Treasures Indoor Garage Sale will be held on Friday, August 7th (8 am to 4 pm) and Saturday, August 8th (8 am to noon). Donations can be dropped off starting Sunday, August 2nd, from noon to 4 pm. Donations will be accepted through Wednesday, August 5th, at 4 pm. No clothes, Christmas trees, or large exercise equipment, please. Any questions, contact Peggy Hoy at 317-850-3132.

- **Churchwide Fall Kickoff - Sunday, August 16**

**10:00 AM One all-church worship service (Sanctuary)**

An annual favorite! We will gather our entire church family in blended worship to launch a new academic year, recognize education class leaders, and launch fall programming. Parents, please check in children for Kidz Church as usual, then proceed to the Sanctuary. Kidz Church leaders will take children to the lower level partway through worship. Parents, pick up children before heading to the Connection Fair.

**11:15 AM Connection Fair with fellowship and food (Wesley Hall / Gym)**

After worship ends, visit the Connection Fair to see friends, meet new people, and enjoy refreshments while exploring the many ways you can connect to the St. Mark's mission to Welcome, Grow, and Serve. Perhaps it's time to try something different! Tables will be set up in Wesley Hall for all ages to learn more.

Would you like to have part of a table at the Connection Fair for your ministry or small group? Email Jennifer Cloud-Buckner at [grow@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:grow@stmarkscarmel.org).

## 5 Crowns Game Day



### You're Invited to 5 Crowns Game Day! - May 31 | 2-5 PM

The Fellowship Team invites you to join us for 5 Crowns Game Day on Sunday, May 31, from 2-5 PM. 5 Crowns is a fun, five-suit rummy-style card game that's light, easy to learn, and perfect for ages 8 and up. New players are not only welcome—they're encouraged!

Come enjoy light refreshments, great company, and an afternoon of laughter and friendly competition in Cornerstone Commons. We'd love to see you there! Let us know you are coming so we can plan accordingly! Visit [stmarkscarmel.org/events](http://stmarkscarmel.org/events) to let us know you are coming.

## National Day of Prayer

All are welcome to Carmel City Hall Council Chambers on Thursday, May 7th at 12p

## Help Honor First Responders



Bakers Needed: Each month a St. Mark's volunteer delivers baked goods to the police officers at their headquarters and to firefighters at Station #44. The volunteer can choose the month that works best for them and can deliver them any time during that month. If you are interested, please contact Jan Walsh at [jow3441@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jow3441@sbcglobal.net) or at 317-908-9935.

# Congregational Care & Connections

## Register for a New Member Class Today



**Choose one session:**  
**Sunday, May 3 (1:00-3:45 PM); Wednesday, May 20 (6:00-8:45 PM); or Wednesday, June 10 (6:00-8:45 PM)**

Are you interested in exploring membership at St. Mark's? Register today at [stmarkscarmel.org/nextsteps](http://stmarkscarmel.org/nextsteps) for **one** of our special abbreviated, "fast track" new member classes in May or June. Meet the pastors and others investigating membership; learn more about what it looks like to welcome, grow, and serve at St. Mark's; and see our broader part in the history and mission of the United Methodist Church. Find out how St. Mark's can help you continue a lifelong discipleship journey. Have a schedule conflict for the date options but still want to join St. Mark's? Note that on your registration at [stmarkscarmel.org/nextsteps](http://stmarkscarmel.org/nextsteps). Questions? Contact Jennifer Cloud-Buckner, Adult Discipleship Coordinator, at [grow@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:grow@stmarkscarmel.org).

## GriefShare Ministry Support Roles Available

If you have found some healing from grief in your life and have a heart for supporting others through similar challenges, consider supporting our new GriefShare ministry team. We are especially in need of folks willing to provide hospitality, prayer, and care for meeting attendees, as well as additional apprentices and facilitators to round out the team. Training will be offered this summer with hopes of beginning our first GriefShare session in fall 2026. If you're interested, please contact Program Director Becky Bultemeier ([bjbultemeier@yahoo.com](mailto:bjbultemeier@yahoo.com)). If you're available, the next organizing meeting for the team is on Wednesday, May 20, 11:00am in the Living Room (Room N) to plan our summer training and next steps.

## St. Mark's Library

Have You Tried Our Electronic Catalog? Available anytime... anywhere, the catalog can be accessed from your phone, computer or other device. Search the Electronic Catalog by title, author, or subject. Instructions and video tutorials are available on the News and Message screen.

### Library Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9 AM - 3 PM, Friday 9 AM - 12 PM,  
Sunday 8 AM - 12 PM

[Electronic Catalog Link](#)

## Connect with Communications

Do you read this newsletter by picking up a copy at the church but don't receive it in your email? Perhaps you also miss out on the weekly announcements that are sent out on Thursdays! If you feel out of the loop on what's going on at St. Mark's, make sure to update your communications information. Go to the [stmarkscarmel.org](http://stmarkscarmel.org) website. From the "WELCOME" menu at the top of the page, select "About" > "Keep in Touch" and fill in the form for any relevant information.

## Circle of Caring

The Circle of Care list includes St. Mark's members and friends who are homebound or in a care facility. Your prayers for these loved ones mean so much to them and to their families.

Carole Anderson, John and Carole Browning, Trish Boger, Doris Carlow, Donna Clary, Phyllis Delp, Doris Hemmerlein, Carol Hollinger, Mary Ellen Juratic, Dorothy Mecca, Melvin & Marlene Myers, Jane Roberts, Jerry & Brenda Weikel

If you would like to be added to the Circle of Caring or know of someone, please contact the church office.

## Need a Nametag?

Add your name to the clipboard list on the counter in the Welcome Center or let us know by filling out the form at [stmarkscarmel.org/info](http://stmarkscarmel.org/info). When new nametags arrive, we'll put them in the Welcome Center.

# Celebrations & Thank You

## Birth Announcement



We rejoice and give thanks for the April 3rd birth of Theodore Timothy Flick. He is the son of Evan & Taylor Flick and the great-grandson of Bob & Pat Parks.

## KMP Musical



The members of St. Mark's KMP presented the annual Lenten Musical on March 22nd. They told the story through song and drama about the Easter message of forgiveness. The performers sang beautifully and spoke their lines with enthusiasm and confidence. The children appreciate the congregation's support of their music programs throughout the year.



## Rice Meal Food Pack



**2400 bags packed, totaling 14,400 meals!**

Dear St. Mark's Family,

Thank you so much for coming together to pack rice meals for those in need in partnership with Midwest Mission Distribution Center. Your time, energy, and generosity truly reflect a heart of compassion and service.

It's inspiring to see how a simple act—working side by side—can make such a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Because of your efforts, many families will receive not just nourishment but also hope.

I'm grateful to be part of a community that cares so deeply and puts faith into action. Thank you again for your kindness and dedication.

In His service,  
Amy Adams



## Easter Egg Hunt



To all our volunteers,

On behalf of the Fellowship Committee, we would like to express our gratitude to everyone who volunteered their time and talents at the St. Mark's Easter Egg Hunt yesterday. Many guests expressed how great their experience at the event was. Overall, we had 114 guests, including 50 children, who had the opportunity to hear the story of Easter. Our outreach efforts yesterday were a great embodiment of Jesus' Commission in Mark 16.

And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation." - Mark 16:15

St. Mark's UMC Fellowship Committee



## Confirmation Retreat



Confirmation students, Fellow Travelers, and other volunteers gathered at Teter Farm for an all-day retreat on April 18 in preparation for Confirmation Sunday. They learned more about one another, their spiritual gifts, Growing with God, the Great Commission, Communion, United Methodism, and what it means to join the church. Be in prayer for these students as they continue their faith journey!

## Hoosier Brass Band

The Hoosier Brass Band would like to thank St. Mark's for giving us a rehearsal space and allowing us to perform regularly at the church. Recently, the band competed at the North American Brass Band Association (NABBA) competition in Fort Wayne. This competition includes bands from all over the US and Canada. We competed in section three and placed third in our section. It is rare for a first-time band to place in the top three. We could not have done this without the generosity of the church. We will have our final concert on June 7 at 4:00 PM in the St. Mark's sanctuary. You are invited to attend this free concert and celebrate the end of our 2025-26 concert season.  
Bill Schmidt, Bandmaster

# Because You Give



- **Ascent 121:** \$5776.44
- **Bags of Hope:** 5 fleece no-sew blankets
- **Brightwood Community Center:** 49 boxes of food given out at food pantry, serving 204 individuals
- **CUMC Food Pantry:** 3 bags of non-perishable food
- **Fletcher Place Community Center:** 768 oatmeal packets; 83 meals served
- **Human Relations Day:** \$168.00
- **Outreach IN (Walking for Dreams sponsorship):** \$1000.00
- **The O'Connor House:** 29 journals; 1323 freezer/storage bags; 888 diapers; 78 underwear; 8 laundry detergent; 1 gift card
- **Travel-size toiletries:** 2 bags
- **UMCOR Sunday:** \$1879.00
- **Versiti Blood Center of IN:** 12 units of whole blood; 4 units double red cell
- **Wings of Hope (for Brightwood):** \$325.00

## CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



[facebook.com/stmarkscarmel](https://facebook.com/stmarkscarmel)



[instagram.com/stmarkscarmel](https://instagram.com/stmarkscarmel)



[youtube.com/stmarkscarmel](https://youtube.com/stmarkscarmel)

## About St. Mark's

4780 E. 126th Street  
Carmel, IN 46033

P: (317) 846-4912

### Office hours until May 15:

Monday - Thursday 9 AM - 3 PM  
Friday 9 AM - Noon

### Office Hours May 18-August 27

Monday - Thursday 9 AM - 1 PM,  
Closed Fridays  
Closed May 25 for Memorial Day

### Sunday Service Times:

9 AM - Traditional Worship  
10 AM - Education & Small Groups  
11 AM - The Current

[stmarkscarmel.org](https://stmarkscarmel.org)

## Jubilee Publication Note

The Jubilee newsletter is published monthly, and all articles are due by the 15th of the previous month. To submit information for the Jubilee, complete the form at

[stmarkscarmel.org/publicity](https://stmarkscarmel.org/publicity). If you have questions regarding the form, please contact [techsupport@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:techsupport@stmarkscarmel.org).

## Submit Celebrations

If you have celebrations from your St. Mark's activities to put in the newsletter, submit them to [stmarkscarmel.org/publicity](https://stmarkscarmel.org/publicity).