

# JUBILEE



ST. MARK'S  
United Methodist Church

OCTOBER 2021

## MISSION IN ACTION DAY



ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

[stmarkscarmel.org/mia](http://stmarkscarmel.org/mia)

**October 10**  
**8:45 AM**



# MISSION IN ACTION DAY



ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Potato Drop | Saturday, October 9 MIA DAY | Sunday, October 10

Please join us for our annual churchwide event, Mission In Action! Members of St. Mark's will mobilize the message of Christ's love. We will worship through serving, working as the hands and feet of Jesus. A variety of mission projects will be available Offsite in our community, here at St. Marks, as well as at home projects.

Visit [stmarkscarmel.org/mia](http://stmarkscarmel.org/mia) for more details and link to sign up now!

### Ways to Serve

#### ONSITE PROJECTS

- Childcare for MIA Day
- Student kit assembly
- Christmas Gift Bags for Roberts Park
- Outdoor church cleanup
- Potato Drop (Saturday)

#### OFFSITE PROJECTS

- Hamilton County Kids Coats
- Changing Footprints
- Fletcher Place Community Center
- Outreach Indiana Youth Center

#### AT HOME PROJECTS

- Prayer Warriors
- Sew Cloth Student Bags
- Assemble Sack Meals
- Sew Hat & Scarf Sets
- Care Cards for Shut-Ins



### Donation Items Needed for MIA Day Projects

New Adult Socks	Travel size Hand Sanitizer
Toilet Paper	Notebooks-single subject
Yard Waste Trash Bags	Toothbrushes -individually packaged
Fingernail Clippers	Packaging Tape

# The Pastor's Place

Dr. Brian White, Lead Pastor  
[bwhite@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:bwhite@stmarkscarmel.org)

Dear Co-workers in Christ,

In many ways, it is a disturbing time in which to live. It seems like we read of new acts of violence in the newspaper each day, nations are on the verge of war, and the future seems doubtful at best. COVID-19 has changed how we gather and has created a sense of anxiousness. It is easy to be discouraged if we rely too much on the signs of the times for our hope. Some people would say that we live in an unprecedented era of moral decay.



Let me share a quote with you. The quote reads, "Alas, times are not what they used to be. Children no longer obey their parents and everyone wants to write a book." According to E. Stanley Jones, this is a bit of writing that was found on a piece of papyrus in a Constantinople Museum and is ancient in origin. (E. Stanley Jones, *The Christ of Every Road*, p. 24) These words remind us that there truly is "nothing new under the sun." (Ecclesiastes 1:9 NIV)

People were often disturbed by the signs of the times in Jesus' times as well. Jesus reminded them:

<sup>6</sup>You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.<sup>7</sup>Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places.<sup>8</sup>All these are the beginning of birth pains. (Matthew 24:6-8, NRSV)

I like the imagery that Jesus uses in verse eight. It is a hopeful image. While the current times often seem disturbing and painful they can be the agency of new birth if we are open to God's purposes. It is easy to look at events in our denomination, in our nation, and in our world and be filled despair. Yet, Christ gives us hope that all of these events are just the gestational occurrences, which can lead us into a new era of faith if we remain true to Christ and Christ's mission for us. The Bible says of Christ, "In his name the nations will put their hope." (Matthew 12:21 NIV)

Shouldn't we?

In Christ's service,

*Brian*

# The Pastor's Place

Julia Gonzales, Associate Pastor  
[jgonzales@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:jgonzales@stmarkscarmel.org)

Hello St. Mark's,

The day before I started writing this letter a new St. Mark's encouragement group started. At St. Mark's we're blessed with the existence of groups designed to offer people support and connection after the loss of a loved one or when they're facing the struggle of caring for an aging parent. But there is a type of grief that many people have been told to not discuss with others: the grief of miscarriage and struggles with fertility. But if there is no place to talk, to find support, to reflect on how God continues to love us in the midst of pain, then where is the opportunity for growth and the hope for recovering from that grief?



I myself was encouraged by the start of the group. It went about the way that I expected it would for a first meeting. I was the only one until about halfway through when another woman joined me. I will not share her name or any specifics of what we talked about, but I will share the reason that she came to the group. She was there because of what she experienced years ago and wanted to be a support for anyone in the middle of those struggles.

When we're told again and again to be silent about our grief and struggle, whether related to fertility or not, it can add to a feeling of disconnection and loneliness. But the Bible is filled with songs of sorrow and words of woe, spaces where pain can be expressed so that it no longer festers within. In Isaiah 54:11 (CEB) it is written, "Suffering one, storm-tossed, uncomforted, look, I (God) am setting your gemstones in silvery metal and your foundations with sapphires." In our moments of pain, we are not alone. God has not abandoned us, and there are people who will support us when it is needed. We need only be brave enough to ask.

Until next time,

Julia

# The Pastor's Place

Mary Ann Moman, Associate Pastor

[mmoman@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:mmoman@stmarkscarmel.org)

Listen to my words.

When my oldest son was in day care the staff taught the children about handling disagreements. The teachers would ask the children, "Do you hear my words?" That was the cue to talk about what was happening. It was a good strategy and prevented a few battles over toys.

My son learned to use it with me, too. I thought he was young enough to need an afternoon nap. One day, after many attempts to have him lay down and nap, he said, "Do you hear my words? I'm not tired!" We found a new routine. Quiet time with books.

Recently, I have reread Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book, *Life Together*. In the chapter on ministry, there is a section on the ministry of truly listening.

Truly listening to another person has the potential to transform the speaker and the listener. I had a plaque that said: "Most people just need a good listening to." That has been my experience over the years. It is an act of hospitality to listen deeply to another.

Bonhoeffer says that the first thing we owe our community members is to listen to them. He also reminds us that if we can't listen to our brothers and sisters we will soon not be able to listen to God. So much of what passes as conversation these days is a series of monologues. In prayer we tell God what we want. In our conversations we are often impatient and inattentive when others speak.

I am reminded of Jesus' telling of the parable of the soils. As he begins the parable he says to the crowd, "Listen to this" and at the end, "Whoever has ear to listen should pay attention." (CEB)

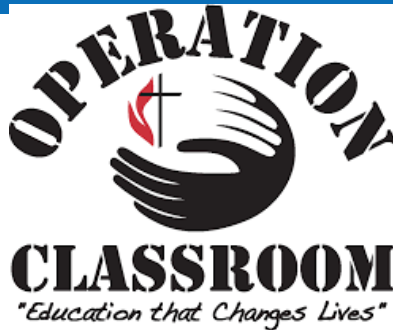
In these days of deep divisions and impatience for a "return to normal" listening can be a gift to our life together. Listen to God. Listen to each other. I can almost hear Jesus saying: "Listen to my words." Listen, pay attention and see the goodness in each other.

Mary Ann



# Monthly Mission Focus

Stephanie Cohen, Missions Coordinator  
[scohen@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:scohen@stmarkscarmel.org)



## Did you know?

- Operation Classroom; a non-profit organization that partners with the United Methodist Church in Liberia and Sierra Leone to empower the people to rise out of poverty through education. Operation Classroom helps young people in Liberia and Sierra Leone grow into educated and productive adults who can make a positive impact on our world and end the cycle of poverty.
- Simply *providing* for a people fails to address the root cause of the poverty puzzle. It is the behaviors, social systems and mindset that create poverty. The key to ending poverty lies in the capacity of a people to change their views and perspectives so that they can facilitate change and engage in productive enterprise. Operation Classroom helps young men and women in Liberia and Sierra Leone to gain an education that alters their perspective of what is possible.
- Operation Classroom has provided thousands of scholarships allowing students who would not have been able to attend school to get an education.
- In October 2019 Taiama Enterprise Academy opened its doors for a new kind of vocational education emphasizing entrepreneurship. This project based learning will lead to an end goal of employment.

## How can I help?

- Make a financial donation using the mission offering envelopes on Sunday.
- Give online at [stmarkscarmel.org/give](http://stmarkscarmel.org/give)

Your support for Operation Classroom impacts the lives of the students, their families, and the communities in which they live. To learn more visit [operationclassroom.org](http://operationclassroom.org).



# Donation & Service Opportunities

## Exodus Refugee Immigration:

### Afghanistan Family Resettlement Support

Exodus Refugee Immigration, located in Indianapolis, is dedicated to the



protection of human rights by serving the resettlement needs of refugees and other displaced people fleeing persecution, injustice, and war by welcoming them to Indiana. Exodus works to be the "next step" for refugees, after they have been processed at military bases, including recent Afghan refugees at Camp Atterbury. To learn more visit [exodusrefugee.org](http://exodusrefugee.org).

Throughout October we are having a supply drive to support the Afghan family resettlement here in Indiana. Household items below are the current greatest need. Donations may be dropped off in the donation bins inside door #2, Monday-Friday, between 9-4. **Items must be New or Unused.**

- Mops and Brooms
- Toilet Brushes & Plungers
- Shower curtain tension rods
- Shoer curtains and rings
- Kitchen trash cans (Black or Grey)
- Bathroom trash cans (Black or Grey)

\*New or gently used furniture needs: COUCHES KITCHEN TABLES & CHAIRS. Please contact Stephanie Cohen , [scohen@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:scohen@stmarkscarmel.org) to coordinate delivery to Exodus Refugee warehouse for donation.

## Changing Footprints Shoe Drive

Our annual shoe drive will culminate with the sorting and packing of shoes on MIA Day, October 10. Shoes will be



donated to Changing Footprints, a local nonprofit organization that accepts shoes of all kinds and distributes them to individuals, organizations and agencies wherever there is a need, whether in Indiana, the United States or overseas. Changing Footprints was founded in 2005 and operates two warehouses right here in the Indianapolis area. Please bring your donations of new or gently worn shoes to St. Mark's by October 10.

## Hamilton County Kids Coats

Hamilton County Kids Coats is a collaborative effort between many churches and community partners whose goal is to make sure all Hamilton County children stay warm this winter. We are collecting coats in good



condition that will be given away in November. All sizes welcome but greatest need is **Boys 8-12 and adult sizes!** If your family has outgrown coats or if you are ready to pass your coat on to someone else, please wash it and donate it to HCKC. Drop off clean coats at St. Mark's by October 10.

## Brightwood Community Center Help Needed

Brightwood Community Center is providing food for families in need, within



the Brightwood area, at their new location, at 2140 N. Arsenal Ave, Indianapolis. Each month families come through the drive thru giveaway to receive boxed food from the food pantry. More hands are needed to make it happen:

- Tuesdays @ 12:30 – 2:30 p.m. to sort and box food
- Wednesdays
  - ◇ 1:00 -3:00 p.m. to pack perishable items and moving boxes outside to distribute
  - ◇ 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. to load recipient's cars in food distribution

Please contact Diane Newton for more information or to sign up at 317-288-4523 or [joediane244@att.net](mailto:joediane244@att.net).

## Because You Give, St. Mark's Gives!

Thank you for your generous support of the missions of St. Mark's. Since the September newsletter we have given to:

- **Changing Footprints:** 32 pairs of shoes
- **Fletcher Place Community Center:** 11 containers of oatmeal, 9 bags of food, 50 sack meals
- **Hamilton County Kids Coats:** 34 coats
- **MIA Day Supplies:** 28 notebooks, 17 bags: (socks, hygiene items, lawn bags, tape)
- **Outreach Indiana:** 24 bags of clothes, 5 bags of food, 22 bags hygiene/household items, 2 backpacks
- **Travel Size Toiletries for Homeless Shelters:** 5 bags
- **UMCOR:** \$5,147
- **Versiti:** 28 units of blood

## Soup's On at Roberts Park Sunday, October 24

Hot meals are back! St. Mark's will be providing and distributing meals for the community served at Roberts Park UMC. Each Sunday, volunteers serve lunch to homeless persons and others in need, in downtown Indianapolis. Meals will be cooked onsite and then packed in carry-out containers. This *Soup's On* ministry provides a wonderful opportunity for us to carry out Jesus' command to "feed the hungry." Signup to help at [stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups).





## Hamilton County 5K Hunger Walk

Sunday, October 3 | 1:30 PM | Dillon Park

Food pantries and organizations in Hamilton County are raising funds to help our neighbors get the food they need.



Participate in a "physical/in-person" or "virtual" walk to fight hunger in Hamilton County. Participate individually or as a group. You direct where you want your donation to be used. To learn more or sign up visit [hamiltoncountyfood.com](http://hamiltoncountyfood.com).

## World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 3

This United Methodist Special Offering supports a diverse mix of national and international ethnic young adults to make a global impact for Christ. Half of the offering benefits World Communion Scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries; the remainder assists Ethnic Scholarships for U.S. and international undergraduates studying in the U.S. and Ethnic In-Service Training. These funds are administered by the General Boards' of Higher Education and Ministry and Global Ministries. Financial donations may be made online at [stmarkscarmel.org/give](http://stmarkscarmel.org/give).

## Mission Trip to Guatemala

June 4-12, 2022

If it has been on your heart to join an international mission trip, you're invited



to join St. Mark's members in this amazing service opportunity, **June 4-12, 2022**. Experience God in a new way with a different culture, as we work together with our Guatemalan brothers and sisters in Christ, to build communities and relationships. Mission work will be in Panajachel, Guatemala and surrounding areas of mountainous San Andrés Semetabaj. Covid vaccination required for all attendees.

- Trip Cost : \$1,292
- Scholarships available for first time St. Mark's UMC attendees.
- Spaces available: 15 total.
- Covid-19 Vaccination required.

Signups will remain open until all 15 spots are filled. More info and signups visit:

[stmarkscarmel.org/mg/#mgmissiontrip](http://stmarkscarmel.org/mg/#mgmissiontrip)

Contact Stephanie Cohen with questions or interest: [scohen@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:scohen@stmarkscarmel.org).

## Fundraising Opportunities

**Home Sweet Home | 10/7**

Benefits Family Promise. Visit [fpgi.org/home-sweet-home](http://fpgi.org/home-sweet-home).

**Fletcher Fun Friday | 10/8**

Benefits Fletcher Place Community Center, visit [fletcherplacecc.org](http://fletcherplacecc.org).

**5K Baby On the Way | 10/31**

Benefits The O'Connor House, visit [theoconnorhouse.org](http://theoconnorhouse.org).

## Sunday Morning Offerings

### NURSERY & TODDLER CARE

Staffed by experienced, caring adults and teens, our nursery is here to help care for our littlest members.

### KIDZ LEARN & GROW | 9:40 AM & 11:00 AM

Children have a blast learning about God, beginning with Worship followed by lively & age-appropriate stations taught by members of the congregation. We'll enjoy Bible Stories, experiment, crafts, and games!

### CLUB 56 | 9:40 AM

For students entering fifth and sixth grade. Club 56 weaves together Bible instruction, some theology, service projects and relationship building. All 5th & 6th graders are welcome to come join the fun! Feel free to invite friends, grandchildren, and neighbors!

### KIDZ MUSIC & PRAISE | 11:00 AM

Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord with in-person and hybrid programming during this fun-filled hour each week. Children participate in this high-energy class that incorporates music, drama, art & puppets. Available in person and on Zoom. Contact Joyce Click ([jclick@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:jclick@stmarkscarmel.org))

### ADDITIONAL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

- Check out the Connect with Kidz website at [stmarkscarmel.org/kidzconnect/](http://stmarkscarmel.org/kidzconnect/) to find weekly Kidz Church, Club 56 and Kidz Music & Praise resources.
- Join our [St Marks Kidz Facebook](#) page to watch a weekly Bible Story, worship and get family activity ideas and share what you are up to each week.

## Attention 3rd- 6th Graders

Be sure to bring your Bible to church each Sunday so you can be learning from your own text. We use the NRSV translation for Kidz Church and Club 56 classes. Parents, if you would like help selecting a Bible for your child, the Children's Ministry team would be happy to show you some of the great editions we use at St. Mark's!

## Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPs) at St. Mark's

**10/7, 9:30-11:15**

**Loving Yourself/Strength from the Inside Out with Hollie Nicholson**

**10/21, 9:30-11:15**

**A Personal Love Letter from God with Katie Spittal**

Come meet other wonderful moms, join our community and develop friendships, gain support and grow personally. (MOPs is also searching for 2-3 mentor moms who are available several hours a month to offer

encouragement and advice to young moms.) Contact Amy Bender at [mopsatst.marks@gmail.com](mailto:mopsatst.marks@gmail.com) to register for MOPs or Ramie Cooney at [kidzchurch@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:kidzchurch@stmarkscarmel.org) to learn more about becoming a mentor mom.



## Children's Advent Musical

Kidz Music & Praise will begin rehearsing the Children's Advent Musical on **10/3** during KMP each Sunday at 11:00am. This age-flexible and engaging class provides an opportunity for children to learn the joy of sharing the Christmas story through song and acting. We will present our musical, *Hotel Noel*, on Sunday, December 12 at 2:00 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Joyce Click, [jclick@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:jclick@stmarkscarmel.org).



## Save the Date

### 2022 Summer Camps

KIDZ MUSIC PUPPET & DRAMA CAMP  
June 20-24

CLUB 56 MISSION CAMP 2022  
6/27-6/30 | 9 AM- 12:00 PM

VBS 2022

7/11- 7/15 | 9:00 AM- 12:00 PM



## Preschool Fall Festival

**Friday, October 8 | 5:00 PM-7:00 PM**  
**St. Mark's Parking Lot**

Join us for an evening of autumn activities, food and family fun on Friday, October 8 from 5:00 PM -7:00 PM in the St. Mark's parking lot. There will be food trucks, a bake sale, games & raffles and crafts for children. Proceeds from food truck sales will benefit playground improvements.

## Preschool Dine-Out

**FUNDRAISER AT HOT BOX**  
**Friday, October 15**

Would you like a break from cooking during the week? Enjoy a take-out meal and benefit the St. Mark's preschool on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Club 56 Upcoming Events

LATE NIGHT  
10/9 | 6:00 PM-10:00 PM

BOWLING  
11/13 | 1:00 PM—3:00 PM Woodland Bowl

CHRISTMAS PARTY/WHITE ELEPHANT  
12/19 | 1:00—3:00 PM



@ St. Mark's



## Weekly Gatherings

### SUNDAY MORNING

#### **Club 56 (grades 5 – 6) | 9:40 AM**

Students in 5th and 6th grade will meet in the lower-level den. Classes will dig-in to God's Word, learn how to apply the Bible to everyday life, play games and offer shepherding opportunities for the younger classes. As always, inviting friends is encouraged!

[stmarkscarmel.org/club56/](http://stmarkscarmel.org/club56/)

#### **Cornerstone AM- Middle School | 10:00 AM**

Middle School students will meet in Room M where we will discuss the weekly gospel passage from the Common Lectionary, as well as fellowship and, of course, donuts.

#### **Cornerstone AM- High School | 10:30 AM**

High School students will meet in Room N where we will discuss the weekly gospel passage from the Common Lectionary, as well as fellowship and, of course, donuts.

### SUNDAY EVENING

#### **Cornerstone Fellowship (grades 7-12) | 5:00 PM**

We gather weekly in Cornerstone Commons for a time of games, fellowship, worship, a quick message, and small groups. We hope to be able to serve dinner each week as well.

### THURSDAY EVENINGS

#### **DKB@Starbucks | 5:00 PM-7:00 PM**

DKB will be at the Starbucks at 131<sup>st</sup> Street and Hazel Dell Parkway from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Feel free to join him for conversation, coffee, or just to catch up. Parents are welcome as well.

## Upcoming Events

### YOUTH FALL RETREAT

#### **10/29-10/31 | Epworth Forest Retreat**

Any students currently in grades 7 through 12 are invited to attend. Cost is \$95 per youth.

Sign up at [stmarkscarmel.org/fall-retreat](http://stmarkscarmel.org/fall-retreat). For more information, contact Don Broad, [dbroad@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:dbroad@stmarkscarmel.org).

### WORK CAMP

#### **Sunday, 6/19- Saturday, 6/25 | Port Huron, MI** Port Huron, MI

Limited spots available. \$500 per student.

Grades 8th through 12th or 14 years or older are eligible. Sign up at [stmarkscarmel.org/workcamp](http://stmarkscarmel.org/workcamp).

### WEEK OF HOPE

#### **Sunday, 7/24- Friday, 7/29**

Pittsburgh, PA

Limited spots. Grades 6 through 8 or 12 years of age. \$300 per student. Sign up at

[stmarkscarmel.org/weekofhope](http://stmarkscarmel.org/weekofhope)

# Adult Discipleship

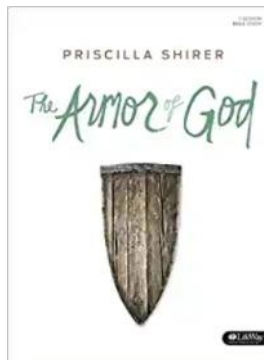
Dr. Jennifer Cloud-Buckner, Adult Discipleship Coordinator  
[grow@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:grow@stmarkscarmel.org)

## Priscilla Shirer's *The Armor of God*

FRIDAYS, 10/1—11/19, 9:30-11:15 AM

Led by Stephanie Cohen | Books \$17 |  
Online + Room B/C | No meeting 10/15

Through this study of the Ephesians “armor of God” verses, author and Biblical scholar Priscilla Shirer equips you to pray strategically and specifically, to grow spiritually, and to turn challenges into prayer opportunities. Through this study you will learn to battle against the unseen



and unheard forces that wreak havoc on everything that matters to you—your heart, mind, marriage, children, relationships, resilience, dreams, and your future. If you're tired of being pushed around by life and caught with your guard down, this study is for you.

## Walking as Spiritual Practice

Thursday, 9/30 and 10/28, 9:30 a.m.

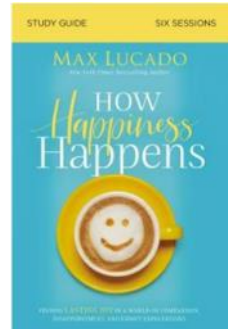
Extended for the fall! Meet Pastor Mary Ann Moman at River Road Park (12575 River Rd.) for a walk at your own pace and duration after a short devotional.

## Max Lucado's *How Happiness Happens*

THURSDAYS, 10/21—12/2, 9:30-11:00 AM

Led by Judy Woempner | Online + Room B/C |  
Study Guide \$9 | No meeting 11/25

Our culture says there is one way to happiness: aspire, acquire, desire, retire. Yet, it's a path that often fails to deliver. In this video Bible study, bestselling author Max Lucado looks at several Biblical “one another” statements that reveal that the happiest people on earth aren't those who have the most but those who are willing to give the most away. Find inspiration to initiate your own quiet revolution of joy, to be God's representative in a cascade of kindness, and to bring a few smiles to one another.



## Reunion Groups

Have you ever attended an intensive spiritual weekend like Emmaus, Tres Dias, Cursillo, Chrysalis, or Great Banquet and want to connect with a weekly reunion accountability group? Sign up at [stmarkscarmel.org/walkalumni](http://stmarkscarmel.org/walkalumni). Zoom meetings for the women's group (Thurs PM) and men's group (Fri AM) are available.

Sign-ups and info at [stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups)

Questions? Email Jennifer Cloud-Buckner ([grow@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:grow@stmarkscarmel.org)) or call (317) 846-4912 x. 214.



## A Lifelong Journey of Discipleship

Where are you in your lifelong journey of faith? Whether you feel a bit stuck, are just beginning your trip, or want to find new ways to nurture your continued path of growth, let St. Mark's help guide you through our six areas of discipleship that are part of how we Welcome, Grow, and Serve.

Visit [stmarkscarmel.org/discipleship](http://stmarkscarmel.org/discipleship) to access a survey that helps support your development as a maturing disciple in: **Welcoming** God and all others (through a life of worship and hospitality); **Growing** in knowledge and grace (through a life open to Jesus and obeying Jesus); and **Serving** our neighbors locally and globally (through a life of service and generosity).

Questions? Contact Jennifer Cloud-Buckner, Adult Discipleship Coordinator, at [grow@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:grow@stmarkscarmel.org).

## Fertility Struggles Encouragement Group

Led by Pastor Julia Gonzales  
Thursday, 10/14 | 6:00 PM-7:00 PM  
Java Coffee (Mid Town Carmel)

A new encouragement group is offering support to women who have had struggles with fertility and miscarriages. If you are interested in joining this group, please email Pastor Julia at [jgonzales@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:jgonzales@stmarkscarmel.org).

## Sunday Morning Groups

### 9:15 AM (after the early service)

- Venture Class (Room B/C)
- Sun AM Encouragement Group (monthly) - for those dealing with care of aging parents. Call church office or email [grow@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:grow@stmarkscarmel.org) for information.

### 9:40 AM

- Open Doors/Open Ideas (Room L)
- Cutting Edge (Room G/H + Online)
- Foundations & Friendships (Room J/K + Online). Reading Barbara Brown Taylor's *Holy Envy* for Sept-Nov.

### 11:00 AM

- Reel Spirituality (Room G/H + Online) - watching films with Christian themes at home and then discussing together.

Sign up for studies and see full descriptions  
of Sunday Morning Groups at [stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups) .  
Questions? Email Jennifer Cloud-Buckner ([grow@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:grow@stmarkscarmel.org)).



# Open Groups



## UMW

Tuesday, 10/12 | 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

We are meeting in **Cornerstone Commons**. The morning gathering will have a continental brunch and the evening gathering will share a light salad supper.

*We will follow the Church Task Force Protocol and wear masks in the church hallways. Come and bring a friend or neighbor as we share the joy of actually meeting in person.*

### UMW Fall Interest Group

Our interest groups will begin meeting in October. Please go [stmarkscarmel.org/umw](http://stmarkscarmel.org/umw) to find out all the details on interest groups.

### Morning Groups

#### SPRITUAL GROWTH

The UMW Spiritual Studies group will use Daryl Stephens book: "Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom". Facilitator: Mary Ann Moman

#### BOOKWORMS

Our October book will be "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kid. Gail will have copies from the Carmel Library" Books in a Bag program." Facilitator: Gail Lee

#### CULTURAL INSIGHTS

This group will review different locations from around the world. The leaders have lived in specific regions and will share some of their experiences. Facilitator: Christy Kihm, Ann Baker, Kathy Lentz, Ramie Cooney, Barbie Schmenner

#### COLOR & CHAT

Coloring isn't just for kids! Come enjoy fellowship while coloring with UMW friends. Facilitators: Deirdre Robinson & Cathy Brinkman

#### CARING & SHARING

Enjoy the opportunity and fellowship of creating CARE & SHARE gift bags/baskets for those needing an extra "you are loved and we are thinking of you". Your hands and hearts are

the only requirements, all other supplies will be provided. Facilitators: Sonjia Clodfelder

### Evening Groups

#### BOOKMARKERS

Our book will be "My Dear Hamilton" by Stephanie Grey and Laura Kamoie. Don't forget to bring along a book for our usual summer book exchange. Facilitator: Deb Skinner

#### CULTURAL INSIGHTS

See Morning Group for description

#### CARING & SHARING

See Morning Interest Group for description.

### UMW Reading Group

#### Monday, October 25 | 7:00 PM

United Methodist Women "Your Window to the World" National Reading Program.

The book discussion on books from the Spiritual Growth category will be October 25th from 7:00 PM—8:30 PM and will be held in the St. Mark's library.

A book in this category that can be found in the Carmel Clay library is "Adamant: Finding Truth in a Universe of Opinions" by Lisa Bevere.

Visit the Reading Program website [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/) for a complete list of eligible books.

The United Methodist Women official magazine response is available in the church library. *New participants are always welcome.*

*Contact Kathy Lentz at [kathylentz@gmail.com](mailto:kathylentz@gmail.com)*

## UMM Breakfast Meetings



### Saturday, October 9 | 7:30 AM

The United Methodist Men invite all men to our in person October meeting. The United Methodist Men Breakfasts are held the 2nd Saturday of every month. Please plan to attend and invite other men to join us for this special gathering.

UMM provides a supportive fellowship of men who seek to know Jesus Christ, to grow spiritually, and to seek daily God's will. UMM has donated to many Missions. Some of the groups we donate to are: Family Promise, East 10th Methodist Youth Center, Fletcher Place, Habitat for Humanity, Wheeler Mission, Second Helpings and SAW.

For more information about UMM or to be added to the email list, contact John Clodfelder, email [umm@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:umm@stmarkscarmel.org) or call a UMM Board Member. You can see what's going on at [stmarkscarmel.org/umm](http://stmarkscarmel.org/umm). Join us!

## Marksmen

10/7 & 10/21 | 6:30 AM

Panera | Rangeline Road

A community of career-and family-focused men seeking to develop relationships while we unplug from the daily stress that life can bring. Meet every other Thursday at Panera on Rangeline Road. if you have any questions, email [marksmen@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:marksmen@stmarkscarmel.org).

Marksmen will also be leading the Construction for Holy Walk. Look for opportunities to signup and help.

## COVID PROTOCOL

We continue to monitor COVID data and will adjust our protocols accordingly.

- Office has resumed regular hours.
  - ◇ Monday-Thursday-9 AM-3 PM
  - ◇ Friday- 9 AM- 12 PM
- Masks are recommended when in the building. They are required while walking through the building but may be removed when you are in your room or at final destination if you are fully vaccinated.
- Food & Drink is allowed with restrictions. See [stmarkscarmel.org/stmarksfoodpolicy](http://stmarkscarmel.org/stmarksfoodpolicy)
- Masks are required when entering the Children's wing.
- Please wear masks at all time in the building if you are not fully vaccinated.

Please visit [stmarkscarmel.org/reopening-plan/](http://stmarkscarmel.org/reopening-plan/) for more information.

## Open Group Schedule

### Mondays

#### COFFEE 'N CAMERAS

Monday, 10/4 & 10/18 | 9:00 AM

This self-help camera group meets for conversation about photographic art & technique. Bring your camera & your questions. Contact [ken\\_shultz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ken_shultz@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

#### CAREER CURVE

On Zoom, Mondays | 10:00 AM

A support and resource group for those who have suffered a job loss, are unemployed or under-employed and seeking a change. The mission of Career Curve is to provide individual job search strategies, and informal counsel associated with the challenges of a job search. For more information contact Jim & Chuck, coordinators at [careercurve@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:careercurve@stmarkscarmel.org).

### Tuesdays

#### PAGE TURNER BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, 10/19 | 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

*Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires* by Grady Hendrix

Join us the 3rd Tuesday of each month if you enjoy good books, discussions, and a shared evening with new/old friends. If have any questions, contact Marcia Flora, [mflora1950@yahoo.com](mailto:mflora1950@yahoo.com).

#### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Friday, October 8 | 11:00 AM | Chapel

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, [bonnetjim@icloud.com](mailto:bonnetjim@icloud.com) for more information.

### Wednesdays

#### ROMEOS (RETIRED OLD MEN EATING OUT)

Le Peep | 86th & Keystone | 11:00 AM

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

#### MOB (METHODISTS ON BIKES)

Wednesday, 10/13

Adults are invited to join this recreational bike riding group. We will ride on the first and third Saturdays (15-20 miles at about a 15 mph pace) and the second and fourth Wednesdays (10-12 miles at a slower pace). Wednesday rides will always commence at the church parking lot at 6:30 PM. Saturday morning rides will start at 8:00 AM at a designated location. For more info about each ride, contact John Flora, [johnflora2710@hotmail.com](mailto:johnflora2710@hotmail.com).



### Thursdays

#### JULIETS

Thursday, 10/21 | 11:30

Grindstone on the Monon  
17470 Wheeler Road | Westfield

Juliets (Just Us Ladies Into Eating Out Together)  
Contact Barbara Johnson, (317) 863-2689, [timberblj@gmail.com](mailto:timberblj@gmail.com), or text 303-918-6308 by **October 18** so correct reservations can be made.

#### CRAFT & HOBBY GROUP

Thursday 10/14 & 11/11 | 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

Join us for a time of fun and fellowship as we each enjoy our craft or hobby. We will follow all guidelines established by the church at the time of our gatherings. RSVP to Kathy Bartel, 317-294-4908 or [krbartel@gmail.com](mailto:krbartel@gmail.com).

### Saturdays

#### MOB (METHODISTS ON BIKES)

Saturday, 10/2

See Wednesdays above for MOB information.

# Committee News

## Trustees

It has begun. The Sanctuary Refresh you have been told about by the ministers and the video is under way.

We are having the main entrance sidewalk leveled to eliminate the unevenness.

We will be soon painting the youth hallway and they are going to add graphics to make it their own.

Maintenance work includes replacing a door in the preschool door that is delaminating and repairing a lighting protection system on the highest tower on the southeast corner facing the roundabout.

## Library

St. Mark's Library is open. during office hours and on Sunday.

### **LIBRARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!**

Are you looking for a way to volunteer? St Mark's Library Wants You!

- Training available
- Majority of the job can be done at home at your convenience.
- Form a team with a couple of friends
- Learn how to catalog.



If you would like more information, contact Jenny Rundle, [jrundle@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:jrundle@stmarkscarmel.org).

## Finance

We are two-thirds through 2021, including the more difficult months of July and August from a donation's perspective, but before I report anything, let me again thank you for your continued commitment and support.

From a sources vs. uses of cash perspective, we continue to be favorable against budget.

Through August, donations against budget are slightly favorable year-to-date, but 3.5% favorable when we consider seasonality. Expenses, YTD, are favorable to budget by 3.0%, which leaves us 4.8% favorable from a sources and uses perspective. With your continued support, we expect to meet all our obligations.

The year is not over: as the church opened up, operating expenses have risen month over month, and we are not seeing the savings against budget as we saw earlier in the year. As in prior years, we will depend on the usual uptick in donations in November and December in order to meet all our financial obligations. I am not projecting much of surplus, or loss, for the year, which is a tribute to everyone's due diligence for managing the church's resources, and for your commitments.

The finance committee has begun the budgeting process for next year. We will look at all expenses and church programs and develop several scenarios based on the commitments of donation and pledges. St. Mark's has benefited from "one-time" situations over the past two years which we will not have for 2022 - your continued prayers for St. Mark's, the Methodist Church, and for our congregation will be greatly appreciated. Should you need any further specifics, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you  
Bill Nicolai, Finance Chair

# Stewardship

Dear St. Mark's Family,

The encouraging words from the apostle Paul in Ephesians 3:20-21 are truly words of blessing. God is able to do far more abundantly than anything we are able to ask or even think about asking for. And perhaps even more amazingly, God chooses to work through us to accomplish more than we can imagine.

October 31 will be the beginning of a four-week stewardship emphasis for our congregation called "Fearless Generosity." We will learn how to become more faithful and generous stewards as we explore what it means to practice: fearless living, fearless service, fearless sowing, and fearless giving. Each week we will focus on one of these concepts during worship in creative and inviting ways. We hope you will be present each week. And then, on November 21 we will join one another in presenting our estimates or commitments of giving in support of the ministry and mission to which we are called as the St. Mark's United Methodist Church congregation. On this day we will also celebrate and dedicate the renovations that have been made to our church building during the past two years to the entry and gathering area, kitchen and Wesley Hall, and the sanctuary. As we celebrate what God has done let us anticipate with faith what God will do in and through our congregation!

Using us as willing vessels, God through the Holy Spirit - the power at work within us - is able to accomplish abundantly far more than we can ask or imagine. In your personal prayers and as you gather in fellowship with others, please remember to invite God's guidance through this special emphasis. May Paul's prayer for the church at Ephesus be our prayer as we begin this exciting time of exploring how God is calling us to be fearless givers and fearless stewards - as individuals and as a community of faith.

In Christ's service,

Mike Warren, Stewardship Chairperson

Brian White, Lead Pastor



# Community News

## Directory Updates

Dawn Ambler  
104 Junction Pass  
Westfield, IN 46074

## Births

Warner Lawrence was born on July 11.  
His parents are Jacob and Diane, sister  
Charlotte.

Adelaide Melvin was born on August 14. Her  
parents are Scott & Elizabeth.

## Sympathies

To the family of Barry Simich at the death of  
their niece, Libby Simich.

To Dana Rinkovsky at the death of her brother,  
Steven Raketic.

To Linda Mitchell-Powell at the death of her  
nephew, Larry.

To Chari Griggs at the death of her sister,  
Dawn.

To Hal Espey at the death of his sister, Linda  
Hoffman.

## Circle of Care

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

Myrnych & Jean Anderson	Doris Carlow
Mary Ann Davis	Jerry & Phyllis Delp
Annette Dunlap	Dorothy Ensign
Phyllis Gidley	Rosa Groot
Judy Hebenstreit	Georgia Herzog
Betty Lachman	Dorothy Mecca
Hilda Meyers	Ola Morrow
Melvin & Marlene Myers	Don Ranck
Lora Jane Roberts	Mary Ann Pielemeier
Jerry & Brenda Weikel	



## Coffee Volunteers Needed

Sunday coffee will be returning soon! We need Volunteers for making coffee, and cleaning up on Sunday mornings. Please consider signing up for a Sunday a year or a Sunday every month. For more information, contact Amy Adams, [aadams@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:aadams@stmarkscarmel.org) or sign up at [stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups).



## Registering Attendance

We are grateful for your presence in online worship. Please register your attendance every week at [stmarkscarmel.org/attend](http://stmarkscarmel.org/attend). Please include the names of all in the family attending worship. Thank you for being a part of St. Mark's wherever you are!

## Communion

Communion is served the first Sunday of every month. Elements for home use with online worship are available for pickup in the church entrance the week before communion is served.



## All Saints Day

**Sunday, November 7**

In the Christian tradition All Saints Day is the time when we remember and give thanks for the lives of those who have received the grace of Christ's resurrection.



We will celebrate those at the all services on November 7. We will read the names of family members and light a candle in their memory. Please send any names that you would like read to Jenny Rundle, [jrundle@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:jrundle@stmarkscarmel.org) no later than Monday, November 1.

# Events

## St. Mark's Presents



### THE INDIANAPOLIS BRASS CHOIR

Sunday, 10/24 | 4 PM

The Indianapolis Brass Choir, under the direction of Darin Sorley, helps others by tooting their own horns! They are a large brass ensemble who volunteer their time, talent, and effort, without pay, to provide music for area churches and to aid local charities. The IBC, founded by Delbert A. Dale in 1986, has a membership of professional and semi-professional musicians and serious amateurs who meet for weekly rehearsals and perform eight to twelve concerts a year. The choir includes trumpets, trombones, horns, euphoniums, tubas, and percussion. This concert will be presented to support Exodus Refugee Immigration. Exodus Refugee Immigration, located in Indianapolis, is dedicated to the protection of human rights by serving the resettlement needs of refugees and other displaced people fleeing persecution, injustice, and war by welcoming them to Indiana. Exodus works to be the "next step" for refugees, after they have been processed at military bases, including recent Afghan refugees at Camp Atterbury. To learn more visit



[www.exodusrefugee.com](http://www.exodusrefugee.com)

Donations will be accepted at the concert.

## Upcoming Concerts

### THE INDY WINDS FLUTE CHOIR

Sunday, 12/19 | 3 PM

### THE CAROL DENNIS TRIO (FLUTE, VIOLA, PIANO)

Sunday, 3/20 | 2 PM

### CELLO RECITAL WITH LORI HORNER, CELLO

Sunday, 5/15 | 2 PM

## Holy Walk Returns!

**Friday, December 3 & Saturday December 4**

Holy Walk through Bethlehem is a re-enactment of Our Lord's Nativity. St. Mark's held their first Holy Walk in December 1999. The Walk was developed by drawing upon similar events held at Homer UMC in Michigan and Simpsonwood UMC in Georgia. Holy Walk requires over **200 volunteers**. How will you volunteer this year? Please prayerfully consider how you can help! Visit [stmarkscarmel.org/holy-walk](http://stmarkscarmel.org/holy-walk).



A few of the opportunities available are:

- Volunteer to be a Character. No lines to many line parts are available. Opportunities available 12/3 & 12/4
- Volunteer to donate cookies, cups, gift cards for feeding our cast and treating our guests to cookies and hot chocolate. Opportunities available now through 12/3.
- Volunteer to help "Build" Bethlehem. The build will start on 11/20 with opportunities available until 12/5.
- Volunteer to greet our Guests in the Sanctuary or Wesley Hall. Opportunities available 12/3 & 12/4
- Volunteer to entertain our guests while they wait to begin their journeys Opportunities available 12/3 & 12/4.
- Volunteer to get our props and costumes ready. Opportunities available 11/20- 12/5

Signups are active now at [stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups) For more information, contact [holywalk@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:holywalk@stmarkscarmel.org).



## Arts and Crafts Marketplace

The St. Mark's UMW invites you to its 2021 Arts and Crafts Market Place to be held on Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All crafts and art work will be home-made either by area artisans or by members of St. Marks UMW.

Refreshments will be available at the Candy Cane Café as well as the bake sale table. Profits made by the UMW support missions.



Vendors who wish to rent a table for the Marketplace may contact **Gail Lee at 317-650-5352** to receive a registration form. Vendors may rent either one or two tables. Each table is \$35.00.

St. Mark's Crafters may also donate handcrafted items to the UMW craft table. Popular items in the past have included matching knit scarves and hats, aprons, ornaments, American Girl doll clothes and jewelry.



**ST. MARK'S**  
**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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

Label