

JUBILEE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

June 2024



ST. MARK'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

worship without walls



Join us for an all-church
worship service under the
big tent on **Sunday, July 14**
at **10:30 AM**.

**IMPORTANT WORSHIP TIME CHANGES
BEGINNING IN AUGUST**

See page 2 for details!

Special News: Worship Times

Worship Time Restructure

After prayerful assessment of the evolving needs of our worshipping community, the Worship Committee, with the approval of the Church Council, is excited to announce a shift in our Sunday worship programming. On August 25, 2024, our Sunday worship schedule will transition to have the 8:15am Traditional service, a 9:30am Traditional service, and The Current at 11:00am.

Rationale

Moving The Current and one of our traditional services would allow us to take advantage of the following opportunities:

- Many church growth studies show that younger families are more likely to attend a later service. Additionally, this demographic is more often drawn to a modern/contemporary style of worship. This is validated with anecdotal evidence in our congregation.



- Research shows that churches are aging as young people disengage, but strategic churches can “grow young.”* We believe this strategic switch may allow us to attract more young people to worship.
- Switching the services would allow musicians in the traditional services, such as members of the handbells, chancel choir, and orchestra, to play and/or sing in back-to-back services rather than having a 90-minute gap between their services.
- Making this time change would eliminate one setup change of the chancel area between services. The first two traditional services (at 8:15 and 9:30) could be a little closer together in time because there would be no setup change between them. This allows more time between the traditional services and The Current and eliminates the need to switch back to the traditional setup after The Current finishes. It also allows The Current more time if it runs long.

Considerations and Logistics

We realize that this will create some logistical questions, exciting new opportunities, and new flexibility for Sunday programming.



We will be in conversations over the next few months to develop implementation plans for all our Sunday Morning ministries. It is our plan to provide forums open to the entire congregation to provide feedback and suggestions as we move forward.

As St. Mark’s approaches this next season of development, we are encouraged by the new energy of our ever-dynamic church. St. Mark’s congregation is courageously committed to the needs of our community while remaining steadfast to our foundational vision to welcome, grow, and serve.

*Reference: *Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church*. Kara Powell, Jake Mulder, and Brad Griffin. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Publishing Group. 2016.

Spring & Summer Events

Take a look ahead at St. Mark's spring and summer events. There are new and annual favorites coming soon for all ages. Please visit stmarkscarmel.org/events for all event details.



ST. MARK'S AFTERNOON AT THE INDIANAPOLIS INDIANS GAME

SUNDAY, JUNE 23 | 1:35 PM

Come out to the old ballgame with your St. Mark's friends! We will be sitting as a group on the lawn and meeting at the flagpole in center field. It is encouraged to buy tickets in advance. Find details at stmarkscarmel.org/events.

COMING SOON



What's Going on in the UMC?

- Info and Q&A - June 2
- Club 56 Mission Camp - June 3-6
- Joyful Sound Handbell Choir Concert - June 9
- Cornerstone MS Camp - June 9-14
- Cornerstone Workcamp - June 16-22
- Sacred Music Camps - June 17-21
- Cornerstone HS Camp - June 23-28



- VBS Leader Training - July 1
- Cornerstone Youth at Kings Island - July 3
- Vacation Bible Camp (VBS) - Camp Firelight - July 8-12
- VBS Community Night & VBS Student Volunteer Social - July 10
- "Worship Without Walls" all-church outdoor tent service - July 14



- Churchwide Fall Kickoff - August 18
- Sunday Morning Worship Time Change Begins - August 25
- Dream Day - September 15

Pastor's Place

Dear Co-workers in Christ,

What does June mean to you? For many people June means graduation and moving into what's next in education or a first full-time job. Oftentimes, June means weddings as college sweethearts begin their next phase in life together. For pastors and church staff it often means a pause in some of the school year programming and a brief moment of rest before Vacation Bible School and summertime events.

But for those of us who are United Methodist Pastors June means Annual Conference! Annual Conference is part business meeting, part convention, and part family reunion for clergy families and long-time lay members. It is a time to make decisions, to renew old friendships, and to welcome new friends and colleagues.

Annual Conference has an added dimension when it is immediately after a General Conference, the United Methodist Church's denomination-wide meeting, which normally happens every four years. Such is the case for Indiana United Methodists in 2024.

I first attended the South Indiana Annual Conference in 1982 so this will be my 43rd time attending, first as an observer, then as a probationary member of the conference, and finally as an Ordained Elder in Full Connection. I have seen lots of change in the past forty plus years. Some years not much has changed and other years we have significant changes - like the year we moved from South and North Indiana Conferences to one Indiana Conference.

This year's General Conference made some important decisions that will impact local churches and annual conferences. We removed exclusive language from the Book of Discipline, which restored the Discipline to it's original 1968 language. The GC also approved a plan to allow the United States to have cultural provisions for the Book of Discipline, something Europe, Africa, and Asia have been allowed to do for quite some time.

We are planning to have question and answer session on June 2 at 3:00 PM in the sanctuary at St. Mark's for those that may have questions about the General Conference decisions. In the meantime, you can download a helpful summary at <https://inumc.org/generalconference> or stop by the church office for a printed copy.

God continues to work in powerful ways through the United Methodist Church and we look forward to being a part of the movement of God's Spirit here at St. Mark's, in Indiana, and throughout the world!

In Christ's service,

Brian



Rev. Dr. Brian K. White
Lead Pastor

**Plan to attend: What's Going on in the United Methodist Church? - Information and Q & A
June 2, 3:00 p.m. Meeting in the St. Mark's Sanctuary.**

Pastor's Place

Dear St. Mark's Family,

Summer is upon us, and with it comes a season of warmth, relaxation, and of course, music! There's something about this time of year that makes us reach for our favorite songs—those tunes that seem to perfectly capture the essence of sunny days, road trips, and gatherings with friends and family. Music has an incredible power to evoke memories and emotions, telling the story of our lives in a way that words alone often cannot.

This summer, I am excited to introduce a new sermon series, "Songs of Summer." Inspired by a conversation I had recently where a dear friend talked about having a "playlist of my life," I realized how deeply music is intertwined with our personal journeys. Just as a well-crafted playlist can tell the story of our experiences, contemporary pop culture songs can also provide us with unique insights into the timeless truths of scripture.

In the "Songs of Summer" series, we'll be exploring how popular songs resonate with and can provide illustrations for various passages in the Bible. Each week, we'll take a closer look at a different song, delving into its themes and lyrics to uncover the spiritual messages that can enhance our understanding of God's Word. By connecting familiar tunes with the ancient wisdom of scripture, we hope to create a vibrant and relatable experience that speaks to all generations.

The series will kick off on June 2nd with an iconic hit from one of the best-selling music acts of all time, with more than 100 million albums sold worldwide. Their music is highly influential, with their unique take on indie rock, pop, and electronica continuing to influence many contemporary artists. Whether you're a lifelong music enthusiast or simply enjoy the occasional sing-along, there will be something for everyone in this series.

I invite you to join us each Sunday as we embark on this musical and spiritual journey together. Let's celebrate the joy of summer, the gift of music, and the enduring power of God's Word in our lives. Together, we'll create our own "playlist of faith," one that inspires, uplifts, and guides us through the season and beyond.

Blessings and peace,

Pastor Karla



Rev. Karla Elliott
Executive Pastor



June Mission Focus

Did You Know?

Lucille Raines Residence (LRR) is a facility owned and operated by the United Women in Faith of Indiana (UWF).

LRR, located in downtown Indianapolis, was founded in 1977.

LRR houses up to 49 individuals recovering from alcohol and drug addiction, giving people a place to rebuild their lives and relationships with God, all while learning how to function independently day-to-day and working on successful recovery. LRR is in GREAT financial need due to UWF units disbanding locally and aging members.

The operating budget at LRR requires \$8,500.00 per month from United Women in Faith of Indiana to maintain this ministry. There has been a deficit of several thousand dollars for a number of months, putting this crucial ministry at risk.

What Can I Do?

- Financial donations to Lucille Raines Residence can be made online at stmarkscarmel.org/give or by using the offering envelope in the blue attendance pads.
- Pray for the residents and staff of Lucille Raines Residence.
- Contact Beth Montag of St. Mark's United Women in Faith for more information on ways you can help (bjmontag@frontier.com).
- Learn more at stmarkscarmel.org/lrr.

June In-Kind Donations

During the month of June, we are collecting items to support Trinity Haven. LGBTQ+ youth and young adults are 120% more likely to experience homelessness than their heterosexual or cisgender peers. Nearly 70% of LGBTQ+ youth experiencing homelessness have been rejected by their families because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Most of them were forced out by their parents or are fleeing mistreatment at home.

Located in Indianapolis, Trinity Haven is Indiana's first and only housing program providing safe, affirming housing for LGBTQ+ youth experiencing housing instability through two housing programs: the Transitional Living Program and the Host Homes Program. Trinity Haven's goal is to help young people graduate from these programs into safe and stable permanent housing with improved life skills, a bigger social network, and the ability to thrive. Learn more at trinityhavenindy.org.

Please support this important mission by donating the following items in June. Donations can be dropped off at St. Mark's Mon-Fri from 9am-4pm. NEW ITEMS ONLY, please.

- Ziploc bags (Gallon or Sandwich sizes)
- Liquid dish soap
- Disposable razors
- Plastic hangers
- Mesh shower caddies
- Disinfecting wipes
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Ramen noodle cups



Or shop from our [Amazon Wish List](#) and send to the home or directly to St. Mark's

Brightwood Community Center Food Pantry Volunteers



"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat." Big thanks to the many St. Mark's volunteers who have been helping with the monthly food pantry for Brightwood Community families!

BCC Food Pantry is currently offering a "Client Choice" food pantry TWICE per month, on the 2nd & 4th weeks of each month. Volunteers help with shelving food on racks and assisting clients with shopping. Clients select foods that best meet their needs.

- 2nd & 4th Tuesdays: 12:00 - 2:30 - receiving food and shelving
- 2nd & 4th Wednesdays: 1:30 - 4:00 - help patrons shop/restock shelves

If you are ready to be the difference in a community's life, contact Diane Newton for more information and to sign up: joediane244@att.net.

June Meals for Family Promise Apartment Shelter Program

During June, St. Mark's is providing weekly dinner for 2 families in the Apartment Shelter Program each Thursday. Volunteers are needed to make dinner and to deliver the meals to families. The wonderful success of this program is made possible with the love and generosity from you! Please see how you can help by visiting stmarkscarmel.org/signups. For questions contact Jeff or Kathy DeaKyne at 765-491-3749 or jkdeakyne@gmail.com.

Fletcher Place Breakfast

Help Serving Needed

June 28

Help is needed to cook and serve a hot breakfast for the homeless and low-income population at Fletcher Place Community Center. Volunteers ride together to and from St. Mark's, 7:15-11:15 AM. Sign up online at stmarkscarmel.org/signups.



St. Mark's Blood Drive

Sunday, June 23 | 8:00 am-12:30 pm

There is no substitute for blood and the need for it remains critical. YOUR donation will ensure cancer, trauma, labor & delivery and all patients in need have life-saving blood. Please donate and impact a life! Sign up TODAY at stmarkscarmel.org/signups. Contact Terry Fourman at 4manternlyd@gmail.com or Amy Adams at aadams@stmarkscarmel.org with questions or for help signing up.

Soup's On

Sunday, July 21 | Roberts Park UMC

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. Volunteers can sign up to help cook and serve food or to help with clean-up (& arrive later that morning).





Red Bird Mission Trip Informational Meeting

Sunday, August 4 | 12:30 PM | St. Mark's
Trip will be October 20-25, 2024

Have you been thinking about serving on a mission trip but without leaving the country? Interested in working on a mission project in an atmosphere where participants grow spiritually and gain a personal understanding of mission? Red Bird Mission Work Camp, in the Appalachian Mountains, is just what you've been looking for!

Work Camp strives to provide home repair for low-income community residents and maintenance for Mission buildings and grounds. All ages and ability levels are encouraged to join the team - there is something there for everyone! The work, enthusiasm and love shared during the work camp experience has a profound effect on the lives of the participants, staff, and community. The team will be led by Robert Jennings and the cost is \$500. Please prayerfully consider joining the team and contact Robert at 336-403-4769 or rcjennings5@gmail.com if you are interested or have questions.

An informational meeting will be held at St. Mark's on Sunday, August 4. Deadline to register and pay for the trip is September 1, 2024. Sign up online at stmarkscarmel.org/red-bird.

Upcoming Mission Events

Save the Dates!

- Potato Drop: September 28, 2024
- Mission in Action Day: September 29, 2024
- Red Bird Mission Trip: October 20-25, 2024
- Mission Guatemala Trip: July 12-19, 2025

Thank You Notes

Dear St. Mark's UMC,

Thank you so much for blessing The O'Connor House with your generosity and amazing support. The In-Kind huge donations of our wish list items make such a difference in our ministry of serving women and babies, and will go a long way. This means so much and makes the women feel so loved. God bless you all.

With much gratitude,

Michelle & The O'Connor House residents

Dear Christian Friends,

'Tis impossible to put a price on a life transformed. That is what happens at Lucille Raines Residence. Your recent \$1297.00 Lenten offering donation is deeply appreciated. Support from St. Mark's - individually and collectively - is a strong encourager. Gratitude abounds.

Gratefully,

Carolyn M. Marshall, Executive Director
Lucille Raines Residence

Because You Give

Brightwood Community Center: 131 boxes of food given out at food pantry, serving 504 individuals

Family Promise Apartment Shelter Program: Housewares to fill an entire apartment plus extras!

Fletcher Place Community Center: 60 meals served, 210 oatmeal packets

Habitat for Humanity: \$6,635.00

Native American Ministries Sunday: \$257.00

Night Without A Bed (Family Promise): \$1155.00

Open Doors of Washington Township: 4 bags of clothing

Preschool/Playground fund: \$93.81 (Dine to Donate); \$4506.00 (Touch a Truck)

Roberts Park UMC: 130 hot meals served; 150 sack meals handed out

Travel Size Toiletries for Homeless Shelters: 2 bags

Versiti Blood Center: 18 units whole blood; 8 units double red cell

Kidz Church Sunday Programming

Check-in station & classes are located in the Children's Wing.

Please note: July 14 is an all-church worship service under the tent at 10:30am. There will be no children's programming taking place that Sunday.

Nursery & Toddler Care | 8:15, 9:40, & 11 AM | Ages 6 weeks-3 years

Staffed by trained & experienced leaders, our nursery & toddler areas are here to care for our littlest members.

Current Kidz | 9:40 AM | Ages 4-Grade 4 | Lower Level Classrooms

All ages combine for an exciting rotational-style class downstairs. Each week includes music, drama, Bible stories, and fun activity stations.

Club 56 | 9:40 AM During the School Year | Grades 5 & 6 | Lower Level Den

Students in grades 5-6 are encouraged to attend worship with their family and friends. Club 56 will resume in August!

Harmonic Voices | 10:30-10:50 AM | Grades 3-8 | Upper Level

This music ensemble sings, plays handbells, and learns to create harmony. They share in worship and perform as part of special music events.

Kidz Music & Praise | 11:00 AM | Ages 4-Grade 4 | Upper Level

This high-energy program is an immersive experience that offers children the opportunity to explore the weekly bible story through singing, movement, instruments, drama, puppets, and more! This class also rehearses for seasonal musicals and shares their talents in worship services, programs, and special events.

Music Camp Performances

Friday, June 21 | 11 AM & 2 PM in Wesley Hall



The Sacred Puppet and Drama Camp students will perform the shows they learned in just one week of camp! Plan to attend one or both performances in support of the children and all their hard work.

Sunday, June 23 | 11 AM Worship

Students who attended Sacred Puppet and Drama Camp will perform songs from their camp shows during the 11AM worship service. Parents, please have your children arrive by 10:45AM, check-in for Kidz Church as usual, and then head to the sanctuary. Children will be escorted by leaders to class following their singing.

Kidz Music & Praise Sings in Worship



Sunday, June 16 | 11:00 AM

All children of the church are invited to sing in the 11:00 AM worship service on Father's Day! Rehearsals to prepare for this performance take place during Kidz Church at 11:00 AM each Sunday. Join us for Kidz Music & Praise every week!

Crew Leader CALL OUT for Camp Firelight VBS



Monday-Friday, July 8-12 | 9:00AM - 12PM

Is God nudging you to serve? If you feel that gentle tug at your heart to be a part of the 100+ volunteers needed to make VBS a reality, please sign up to be a Crew Leader! A good crew leader is a friend and helper for the kids at camp. They ask questions, take kids seriously, and encourage them throughout VBS. The time you give lasts only a week, but to the children you serve it could be the start of a lifetime of knowing they are loved! Register to serve at stmarkscarmel.org/vbs.

- VBS Leader Training: Monday, July 1, 6-7:30 PM
- Community Social Night: Wednesday, July 10, 6-7 PM - Join us outside under the tent for refreshments; entertainment from the musical group, Naptown Jazz 5; and fellowship with all your VBS friends!
- Student Volunteer Social: Directly after Community Night, 7-9 PM - All student-age counselors are invited to stay for dinner, games, and fun activities!
- VBS Music/Dance Rehearsals: Sanctuary, 12:25-1:30 PM, Sunday, June 2, June 9, June 30, & July 7.
- VBS Campers Sing in Worship: All-Church Worship Service outside under the tent; Sunday, July 14, please arrive by 10:20 AM.

Now Accepting Donations! Check out the bulletin board in the church narthex for needed items.

Kidz Church Family Sunday

Sunday, June 30 | All Services

Please check-in children for Kidz Church as usual, then proceed to the sanctuary. Children will join the congregation for worship songs, Kidz Chat with the pastor, and then be dismissed to classes in the lower level (no classes at 8:15).

Kidz Monthly Mission



Each month, Children's Ministries strives to have kids involved in giving to the church's monthly In-Kind Donations. During the month of June, we are collecting items to support Trinity Haven. Located in Indianapolis, Trinity Haven is Indiana's first and only housing program providing safe, affirming housing for LGBTQ+ youth experiencing housing instability. Learn more at trinityhavenindy.org. You and your children can support this program by bringing any of the following items to check-in at Kidz Church any Sunday morning in June:

- Liquid dish soap
- Disposable razors
- Plastic hangers
- Mesh shower caddies
- Disinfecting wipes
- Ziploc bags (Gallon or Sandwich sizes)
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Ramen noodle cups

To shop from the [Amazon Wish List](#), see the QR Code on page 6.

MomCo (formerly MOPS)

What's new at MomCo? This is a place that now supports and welcomes moms of newborns all the way through elementary-aged kids!



Want to learn more about what THE MOMCO BY MOPS INTERNATIONAL MomCo is all about? Join us at any of our summer play dates or Moms' Night Out events!

- June 3, 11AM - Flowing Well picnic and creek stomping
- June 6, 7PM - Moms' Night Out at Urban Vines
- June 12, 11AM - Children's Museum play date
- June 20, 9AM - Holland Park play date

Weekly Gatherings

Sunday Morning Programming

**Cornerstone AM | 9:40 to 10:30 am | Room M
Middle School (grades 7-8)**

Aaron Koenig, Dean Solesky, and this class will be taking the summer off. Make sure to attend the Worship service of your choice and check out the summer opportunities.

Cornerstone Sunday Worship | Any worship service High School (grades 9-12)

High School students are encouraged on Sunday mornings to attend worship with their family and/or friends.

Sunday Afternoon Programming

Cornerstone Fellowship

We will be taking the Summer off. Check out the summer opportunities below.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

**5:00-5:30 pm | Room N and Instagram Live
High and Middle School (grades 7-12)**

Due to Summer Camps, Workcamp, the Kings Island Trip, and VBS, Wednesday Night Bible Study will be taking the summer off and will return in the Fall.

Thursday Evenings

DKB@Starbucks | 5:00-7:00 pm | Starbucks at Hazel Dell & Main Street | Middle & High School (grades 7-12)

Due to Annual Conference, Middle School Camp, Workcamp, and High School Camp, DKB will NOT be at Starbucks during the month of June

Camp Opportunities

Middle School Summer Camp

June 9-14 | Camp Adventure in Pierceton, IN

Students currently in grades 5 through 7 are eligible to attend. (This means students who will be entering grades 6 through 8 in the Fall of 2024). The cost to attend is \$489.00 per student. Contact DKB with any questions, and sign up at

<http://stmarkscarmel.org/campadventure/>



High School Mission Trip (Workcamp)

June 16-22 | Maumee, OH

Students currently in grades 8 through 12 are eligible to attend. Join other students repairing homes in Maumee, OH. The cost to attend is \$600.00 per student. Contact DKB with any questions, and sign up at

<http://stmarkscarmel.org/workcamp/>



High School Summer Camp

June 23-28

Epworth Forest Retreat Center in North Webster, IN

Students currently in grades 8 through 12 are eligible to attend. (This means students who will be entering grades 9-13 in the Fall of 2024). The cost to attend is \$489.00 per student. Contact DKB with any questions, and sign up at

<http://stmarkscarmel.org/hscamp>



Upcoming Events

2024 VBS

July 8-12

Cornerstone Students are invited to sign up to serve as volunteer leaders at VBS! It's a fun way to hang out with friends and have a positive impact on our VBS Campers. Details and sign up at <http://stmarkscarmel.org/vbs/>.



Cornerstone Kings Island Trip

July 3 | 8 am-11 pm | Kings Island, Mason, OH

Students currently in grades 7-12 are invited to join us for a day of fun at Kings Island. Details and sign up at <http://stmarkscarmel.org/kingsisland/>



Adult Discipleship Sunday Programming

Sunday AM Encouragement Group | 9:20 AM | Monthly

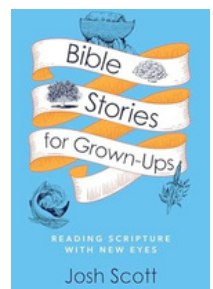
Group meets monthly for those dealing with care of aging loved ones. Call Jennifer in the church office or email grow@stmarkscarmel.org for info.

Cutting Edge | 9:30 AM | Room G-H and Zoom

Led by Steve Click, this class learns about the Bible by following the weekly lectionary scriptures in a 3-year cycle through the New and Old Testaments. Contact Steve for the online meeting info (sclick52@gmail.com).

Foundations & Friendships | 9:30 AM, no meetings in July | Room J-K

Led by Doug Brown, Kathy DeaKyne, and Todd Snow. F&F's shares and discusses Christian themes through contemporary books, Bible studies, and occasional Wired Word devotionals. Continuing with Josh Scott's *Bible Stories for Grown Ups* in June. No meetings in July. All are welcome!



Reel Spirituality | 11:00 AM | Room G-H and Zoom

“The movie class” watches films with various Christian themes and a wide variety of topics at home and then discusses together during the meeting. Contact Lydia and Terry Fourman, 4manternlyd@gmail.com for the film list, and Jennifer, grow@stmarkscarmel.org for the Zoom link.

How to Learn More & Sign Up for Groups

Weekday study groups are off for the summer! For full descriptions and signups for summer short-term topics, see stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups.

For our Grow Groups, encouragement groups, and other support groups information, see stmarkscarmel.org/grow-groups. Books and paper signups are on the connection tables in the Gathering Area.

GROWING YOUNG: AN ONLINE SUMMER STUDY DISCUSSION

Discussions begin June 3, but join anytime this summer at your convenience.

"We need more young families." "Where are the young people?" "Where are my friends?"

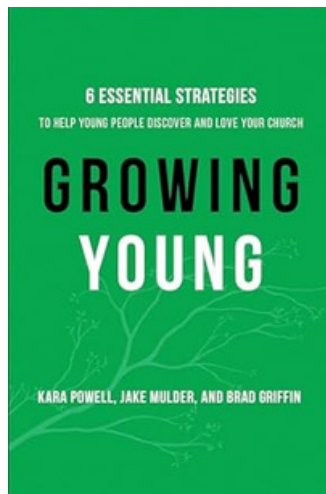
If these statements resonate with you, please consider participating this summer in an online study of the book *Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church*.

About the book:

All churches grow old. Strategic churches grow young. Across the United States, churches are losing both members and vitality as increasing numbers of young people disengage. Based on groundbreaking research with over 250 of the nation's leading congregations, *Growing Young* provides a strategy any church can use to involve and retain teenagers and young adults. It profiles innovative churches that are engaging 15- to 29-year-olds and as a result are growing—spiritually, emotionally, missionally, and numerically. Packed with both research and practical ideas, *Growing Young* shows pastors and ministry leaders how to position their churches to engage younger generations in a way that breathes vitality, life, and energy into the whole church.

About the group:

This will be a private Facebook group ("Growing Young @ St. Mark's Carmel") with prompts and discussion threads about each chapter beginning the week of June 3. It's an asynchronous group—discuss and comment at your convenience, all summer long! We'll also have some Zoom opportunities to view videos and discuss. Led by Rev. Karla Elliott, Executive Pastor, and Jennifer Cloud-Buckner, Adult Discipleship Coordinator.



WALKING AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

9:00 AM on Thursdays 6/13, 7/18

7:00 PM on Tuesdays 6/18, 7/23

Locations may vary, see below

Gather with other St. Markers and Jennifer Cloud-Buckner for a short devotional and mindful walk at your



own pace on any of the Thursday morning sessions (9:00am on 6/13, 7/18) and Tuesday evening sessions (7:00pm on 6/18, 7/23). Sign up at stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups or email grow@stmarkscarmel.org to be added to the email list for weather updates, location changes, or cancellations.

New Location for June: The June walks will meet at **River Heritage Park, 11813 River Road**, near the horse farm and water treatment plant, on River Road between 116th St and Plum Creek neighborhood. ([Map link](#)) This park features an accessible walk to the White River overlooks on wheelchair-friendly paths through the woods. Meet near the restrooms shelter. July walks locations are TBD.

LIFT: A WIDOWS ENCOURAGEMENT GROUP

Our LIFT (Living Intentionally Forward Together) encouragement group for widows has postponed the Indianapolis Speedway Track tour to a fall date, TBD. In the meantime, save the date for a **June 26** outing to the Eiteljorg Museum, details to follow. To connect with the LIFT group, sign up at stmarkscarmel.org/grow-groups or see Mary Etta Yoho.

THE WIRED WORD

Weekly Email Devotional Available

St. Mark's subscribes to *The Wired Word*, a weekly email devotional for personal study and group discussions. Topics are wide-ranging and directly relate scriptures to news stories. If you'd like to receive this weekly email, contact Jennifer (grow@stmarkscarmel.org).

Open Groups



United
Women
in Faith

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

*Violets are blue
Roses are Red
We've many good reasons
to get out of bed!*

*Come join our meetings
Come join the fun
Come join our gatherings
and meet everyone!*

*Women of Faith
will meet side by side
in interesting groups
with God as our guide.*

*Resting this summer
Returning this fall
Watch for more news
because we'll have a ball!*

Looking for connections over the summer?

- Attend Mission U 2024 at Franklin College on July 12-14.
- Join the Bookmarkers on August 13 at 7 PM to discuss The Next Ship Home.

Find out more about these events, read the latest monthly update, and more on the St. Mark's United Women in Faith page <https://stmarkscarmel.org/uwf/>.



UNITED METHODIST MEN

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.

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

Fellowship 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 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.

COFFEE 'N CAMERAS

Select Mondays

Mostly amateur photographers gathering on the first and third Monday of each month at 9:00 AM, to encourage each other's creativity, demonstrate techniques, share our photos and help each other grow in our knowledge and skill of photography. Bring your camera & your questions or your latest work to share with the group. In memory of Ken Shultz and thankfulness for his many years of leadership, we will continue this group with guidance from rotating leaders. All are welcome. Questions, please contact Melinda Deedrick 317-903-8388.



PAGE TURNERS

Book Club Third Tuesdays

Join us on the third Tuesday of each month to discuss our current book selection. Our June 18 book is *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks. Meets in Room G/H.



JULIETS

Just Us Ladies Interested In Eating Together

June 20 | Lunch at 11:30 Please make your reservations by the Monday before to Linda Schenk, lschenk@att.net or 812-454-0661. All women are invited to Wolfies Grill at Feist in Fishers.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Tuesdays | 7:00 PM

Join us every Tuesday for Open Gym Basketball, ages 16 and above. Contact Mark Moore, mvm2920@aol.com for more information.



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 for more information.



METHODISTS ON BIKES

May to October | 2nd & 4th Wednesdays and Special Rides throughout the summer.

All adults are invited to join this recreational bike-riding group. The MOB will ride on the second and fourth Wednesdays (10-12 miles at a slower pace). Our Wednesday rides will always commence at the church parking lot at 6:30 PM. Contact mob@stmarkscarmel.org with questions.



CRAFT GROUP

Select Thursdays June 27 | 6:30-8:30 PM

The Craft & Hobby group will meet on June 27. RSVP to Kathy Bartel by 5 pm June 25 at 317-294-4908 or krbartel@gmail.com Contact Kathy for more information.

Upcoming Events



Musician Hospitality for Indiana UMC Annual Conference

JUNE 5-8 | BRING DONATIONS BY JUNE 4

Did you know that the INUMC Annual Conference is being held near us, at St. Luke's UMC, this year? We at St. Mark's have been asked to provide hospitality supplies (pastries, bottled water, meat & cheese trays) for the musicians. Can you help by donating food or by delivering items to St. Luke's? Go to stmarkscarmel.org/signups for food item donations, bottled water donations, and delivery time signups. Questions? Contact Jennifer C-B (grow@stmarkscarmel.org).



**Dream Day
Sunday,
September 15
3:00-5:00 PM**

Save the date for this unique opportunity to dream for the future of St. Mark's! For the last year we have been united in prayer with our breakthrough prayer initiative, asking God to reveal hopes and dreams for our church and our own lives. What nudges, prompts, or God moments are you experiencing about God's call for the new and next for St. Mark's? Let's gather our whole church family and bring ideas together. Join us for an afternoon of spiritual discernment for the future of St. Mark's.

**Churchwide
Fall Kickoff
Sunday, August 18
10:00 am-12:00pm**



**10:00am | One all-church
worship service in Sanctuary**

This churchwide blended service will feature various St. Mark's musical groups. Parents, please check in children as usual, then proceed to the Sanctuary. Partway through worship, Kidz Church leaders will take children to programming in the lower level.

**11:00am | Connection Fair,
fellowship, and snacks in Wesley
Hall**

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.

Committee News

Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)

Staffing Announcements

In worship services on May 12, Pastor Karla made two announcements about staffing changes.



Our beloved organist Casey Hayes has accepted an exciting new position from his employer, Franklin College, to live abroad in Vienna, Austria, and serve as international recruiter liaison for the school. We are sad to be losing him as our organist, accompanist, and handbell director, but we know that when he is back stateside he'll always be welcome here at St. Mark's. His final Sunday in worship was May 19, and he is moving by the end of the month. If you would like to extend your well wishes and gratitude to Casey, you can email him at chayes@stmarkscarmel.org.



After nearly 20 years of service to the youth of St. Mark's, first as a volunteer and then on staff, Don Broad will be retiring as the director of youth ministries on July 31. He tells us it's a semi-retirement; Don will be staying locally and exploring new opportunities for his schedule. Don will be busy this summer with youth camps and VBS, so make sure you extend your love and gratitude for his time and service here when you see him.

The SPRC hopes you will join us in thanking both Casey and Don for their service and praying for their new adventures. Please join the SPRC in prayer as we begin the processes to fill these roles and seek additional new leaders for our youth ministry that will help us take that vital program into the future.

SPRC Staff Spotlight on Ryan Howe

Ryan Howe, AV Coordinator for St. Mark's, is celebrating his third year serving in his role. He has a variety of responsibilities including orchestrating all audiovisual (AV) services in church, setting up AV for services and other events, recruiting and training AV volunteers, scheduling the volunteers, running AV equipment, and streaming services and events online.

Having services available in real time online was instrumental in keeping our church members connected during the pandemic and plays a significant role in the post pandemic climate as the church continues to adapt and explore new ways to reach people for God. Ryan says the best part of his job is interacting with AV volunteers and streaming services along with training new volunteers. If interested in helping, no prior training is needed. Please contact Ryan.

Ryan has been a member of St. Mark's for 14 years. He enjoys various church events including Gathering at the Tent, Vacation Bible School, Holy Walk, confirmation classes, orchestra and choir, Kidz Music and Praise and volunteering. When Ryan is not busy at church, he likes spending time with his wife, Amy, and their daughter, Kira; and, he likes to travel, read, watch movies, go to concerts, and plan fan run conventions such as Voltcon and Starbase Indy.

Ryan's favorite scripture is Jeremiah 29:11, a theme from one of his years at Huntington University. His favorite hymn is "It is Well with My Soul" and his favorite Christian contemporary song is "Dive" by Steven Curtis Chapman, as it speaks to him on so many diverse levels.

Thank you, Ryan, for your invaluable audiovisual expertise and putting up with all the last-minute changes on Sunday mornings. You handle stress with grace! We appreciate you! Find out more about Ryan and take a quiz by going to <https://stmarkscarmel.org/ryan-howe/>.

Committee News

Trustees

Kitchen Update & Parking Lot Repairs

The new electric stove for the kitchen has been delivered early and is being installed. We are hopeful that it will be available for use soon.

The tentative beginning parking lot resealing and striping project was moved to June 2, due to an emergency project for Carmel Utilities. This project has resulted in the loss of access to the 126th entrance, thereby causing the delay in the parking lot project.

The roof repair project is almost entirely complete. The insurance company is sending an engineer to evaluate the situation and help us determine how to proceed.

WHAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEED TO KNOW

Need a room? Have an event you want publicized? Check out “What Committee Members Need to Know”

Download your toolkit for getting things done - It's Committee Member 101 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
- NEW: 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 your committee chair or the church office at 317-846-4912.

Check out <https://stmarkscarmel.org/committeeinfo/> for more information on Committees at St. Mark's.

Breakthrough Prayer

God, open doors to reveal new hopes and dreams for St. Mark's and in our own lives. Give us the courage to follow where You lead. Amen.



God Moments

As you continue to pray our new breakthrough prayer individually each day and when we gather in small groups, please share how you are hearing from God.

We want to celebrate what God is revealing in your life!

Please visit stmarkscarmel.org/breakthrough to share your God moments.

- Describe a God moment you've experienced through the ministries and people of St. Mark's
- Where do you feel God leading you individually?
- What new doors might God be opening for our church—for St. Mark's, collectively?

COMMUNITY & CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Help Honor First Responders

Bakers Needed: Each month a St. Mark's volunteer delivers baked goods to the policemen at their headquarters and to firemen at Station #44. The volunteers 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 or at 317-908-9935.

Sympathies

Our sympathies are with Jim and Sally Hubbard with the loss of his sister Barb and with Jane VanDyne with the loss of her sister Dorothy.

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 brothers and sisters in Christ mean so much to them and to their families.

Carol Anderson, Myrneath Anderson, Steve Baylor, John and Carole Browning, Trish Boger, Doris Carlow, Phyllis Delp, Phyllis Gidley, Carol Hollinger, Nancy Herrington, 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.

Meal Train Ministry

St. Mark's UMC has long helped members in time of need with Meal Train meals. Meal Train is a blessing for those who need it and those who provide it.

For the recipients, it is a great help in a time of need such as a fall or surgery. Just let us know and St. Mark's Meal Train will respond as quickly as possible. If you are going to need Meal Train, call or email Carol Smith, 406-546-7727, ctsmith106@gmail.com. If you are unable to reach Carol, call the Church Office, 317-846-4912.

For the participants, it is a volunteer opportunity that will make such a difference for a family in need. It is my experience that people need to be needed. What else is a church for if not to take care of its own in time of need.

Thank You!

Thank you, thank you, thank you. It can't be said enough. To all who donated, helped set up or take down, sorted, priced or shopped at UWF's biggest fundraiser of the year, this event would not happen without you! This event takes a whole week just to be put together and dozens of people to make it happen. So many people and missions will benefit from all your hard work. Now take a bow, put your feet up and enjoy the summer. You deserve it!

-Trinkets and Treasures Chair, Peggy-Anne Hoy

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



facebook.com/stmarkscarmel



instagram.com/stmarkscarmel



youtube.com/stmarkscarmel

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. If you have questions regarding the form, please contact techsupport@stmarkscarmel.org.

4780 E. 126th Street, Carmel, IN 46033
stmarkscarmel.org
Office Phone: 317-846-4912
Preschool Phone: 317-846-8941