

# JUBILEE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

September 2024



ST. MARK'S  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

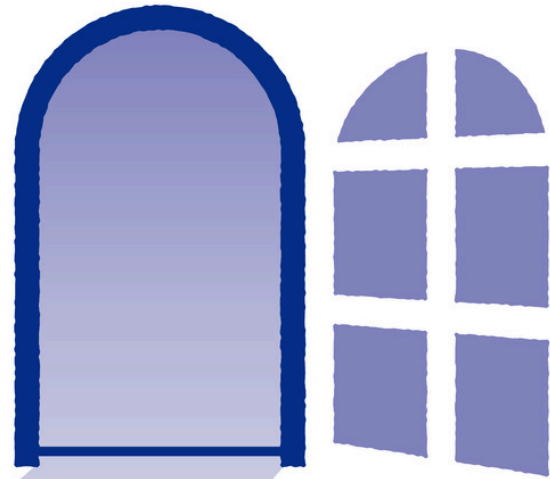
4780 E. 126th St., Carmel, IN 46033  
317.846.4912 stmarkscarmel.org

## DREAM Day

AT ST MARK'S

**September 15, 2024**  
**3:00 – 5:00 PM**

a churchwide conversation with  
guided brainstorming sessions  
for all ages



***Come share your dreams for St. Mark's!***



## Mission in Action Day

On Sunday, September 29, we mobilize the message of Christ's love, living out our motto, "where mission is a way of life" with a variety of mission projects.

**SEE PAGE 2**

for Dream Day & MIA Day details

# Featured Events

## POTATO DROP & MIA DAY

**Potato Drop: Sat., Sept. 28**

**MIA Day: Sun., Sept. 29**

Mark your calendar and join us for our annual churchwide event, Mission In Action! Members of St. Mark's will mobilize the message of Christ's love, living out our motto, "where mission is a way of life."

Saturday fills our parking lot with a "Potato Drop," giving out 40,000 lbs. of potatoes.

Sunday begins with a fellowship gathering in Wesley Hall. Then we will "worship in action," serving as the hands and feet of Jesus. A variety of mission projects will be available both offsite in our community and here at St. Mark's.

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

**MISSION IN  
ACTION DAY**



ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## DREAM DAY

**Sun., Sept. 15 | 3-5 PM**

Come share your dreams for St. Mark's! Reserve your spot today at [stmarkscarmel.org/dream](http://stmarkscarmel.org/dream) (or go to [stmarkscarmel.org](http://stmarkscarmel.org) and click "Dream Day") for this churchwide conversation with guided brainstorming sessions.

We'll split into small groups to share ideas about how we welcome, grow, and serve as St. Mark's--sharing with a spirit of openness, rather than evaluation and strategic planning.

For the last year we've been united in prayer with our breakthrough prayer initiative, asking God to reveal hopes and dreams for our church and our own lives. What are the new hopes and dreams God is revealing for our church's future?

If you missed the video in worship on Fall Kickoff Sunday, check out [stmarkscarmel.org/dream](http://stmarkscarmel.org/dream) to get the ball rolling on your ideas.

What do you love most about St. Mark's? What does St. Mark's do well? What could St. Mark's do better—and what might we be missing?



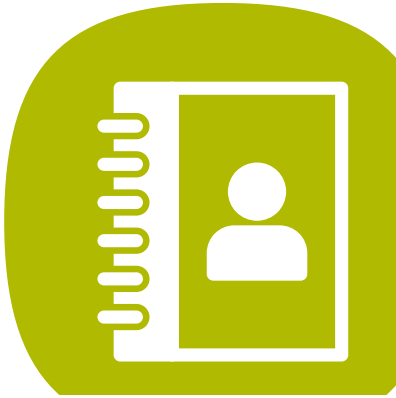
After Dream Day, the ideas generated will be compiled into a report that will be shared with Church Council, with committees, and with the entire congregation so we can move forward, strategically, on God's call for our church.

Let's gather our whole family and bring ideas together. Imagine what could happen!



# 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.



## HAVE YOUR PHOTO TAKEN FOR THE NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY!

You are invited to select a time slot for a Sunday morning photo session on September 8, 15, or 22 to be included in our updated directory. The directory will be produced in-house and securely available online. If all slots are full, you may stop by at any time during the morning and the photographers will fit you in as best they can. If you are unable to get your picture taken in person and would like to be included in the directory, you can submit a photo (.jpg or .png) to Missi Koenig by October 1 at [mkoenig@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:mkoenig@stmarkscarmel.org).

[SIGN UP ONLINE](#)

## COMING SOON



**Choir and Handbell Choir Begins** - 9/4

**Senior High Fall Kick Off Cook Out** - 9/8

**Blood Drive** - 9/8

**Preschool Fall Festival Fundraiser** - 9/13

**Dream Day** - 9/15

**3rd Gr. Bible Recognition** - 9/15

**Photo Direct. Pictures** - 9/8, 15, or 22

**Pumpkins Arrive** - 9/21

**Freetown Singers** - 9/22

**Pumpkin Sale Begins** - 9/23

**Potato Drop** - 9/28

**Mission In Action Day** - 9/29

**Hoosier Brass Band** - 9/29



**Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser Sale Continues Until** - 10/31

**Game On for Grades 5-8** - 10/20

**Kidz Church Family Pizza Party** - 10/27

# Pastor's Place

Dear Co-workers in Christ,

Currently, I am leading a study on the hymns of the church. This includes learning more about some of the tried-and-true favorites but also discovering some newer hymns that have become part of the church's repertoire. One of my favorites among the new hymn writers is British writer, Brian Wren. He wrote an Easter hymn, which begins:

This is a day of new beginnings,  
time to remember, and move on,  
time to believe what love is bringing,  
laying to rest the pain that's gone.



**Rev. Dr. Brian K. White**  
**Lead Pastor**

As I think about the past few years with the political upheavals both within and outside the United Methodist Church and with all that we have experienced with the COVID-19 pandemic I think these resurrection words are more poignant than ever. Before COVID we had momentum in certain areas of the church and dreams of what God was doing. Before the exodus of some churches and church members over debates about inclusion we had dreams about who would be our companions on this journey.

We have learned and grown a lot over the past few years despite some of these disappointments and we find ourselves in a place of new beginnings. We are entering a new year of ministry that is undergirded in prayer through our Breakthrough Prayer initiative. We are making changes in our worship schedule to allow us to reach newer younger people. We are ready to gather together to dream about what God has for us in the future even though not everything in the past has been what we thought it would be. It truly is a day of new beginnings.

The final stanza of Wren's hymn affirms God's role in this resurrection moment. He writes:

Christ is alive, and goes before us  
to show and share what love can do.  
This is a day of new beginnings;  
our God is making all things new.

It truly is a day of new beginnings. Let's see what God has in store for our congregation and Christ's church in the world!

In Christ's service,

Brian

# Pastor's Place

Dear St. Mark's family,

I thank God for the ways we blend our individual talents and gifts when we come together as a church for a bigger purpose—for outreach events like VBS and Holy Walk; ongoing missions work like SAWs and Habitat builds, apartment shelters, Soup's On; and weekly on Sunday mornings and in ongoing small groups.

These moments remind us that when we join forces, united in seeking a common goal, we can accomplish far more than we ever could alone.

We often fall into the trap of comparing ourselves to others, thinking that our input and skills are less valuable or not as important. But scripture reminds us that the Holy Spirit equips us with spiritual gifts to serve the kingdom — and that every gift, every ability, and every role is vital.

Whether you are a gifted speaker or teacher, a compassionate caregiver, a talented musician, a visionary, or someone who works quietly behind the scenes, your contribution is important to the church's mission. So, too, is your input for our future, based on your own gifts, experience, and perspective as part of the body of St. Mark's.

Please plan on bringing your perspective to our churchwide guided brainstorming conversations at Dream Day on September 15. As we seek ideas for God's call for St. Mark's, we truly want everyone— students, parents, grandparents, young, and not-so-young — to bring their unique gifts and input. Let's see how the Spirit moves in and among us as we dream together!

We've been asking God to open our hearts and open our minds to where God is leading us as a community, as a family of faith, in our continued efforts to Welcome, Grow, and Serve. Make sure you reserve your spot in the conversation at [stmarkscarmel.org/dream](http://stmarkscarmel.org/dream).

September will be an exciting month of both action and contemplation—sharing our thoughts for Dream Day and working together on Mission in Action Day (September 29). Remember that your talents and input are valued.

If everyone were a visionary leader, nobody would complete a single project.

If analytics weren't balanced by big-picture people, we'd have paralysis by analysis.

If everyone were administrative-minded, and ministry conversations lacked input from the creative-minded, we'd have well-organized community missions that were irrelevant and boring.

Without servants, nobody would count the offering or lead our VBS crews.

It is the diversity of gifts and talents, working together in unity, that creates something truly beautiful and impactful. I can't wait to see what happens this month!

Blessings & Peace,  
Pastor Karla



**Rev. Karla Elliott**  
**Executive Pastor**



## Family Promise

of Greater Indianapolis

### September Mission Focus

Family Promise was founded in 1994 in response to the crisis of family homelessness. While most traditional shelters separate by gender, Family Promise keeps families together while they work to get back on their feet. As the gap between housing costs and income continues to widen, more and more families are at risk of homelessness, increasing the likelihood families will separate, children will fall behind in school, and eventually drop out. More than 2.5 million children in America experience homelessness.

Supportive services include the After Care Program, a Day Center, and a Diversion Program, offering individual skill development & rehabilitation. In June 2020, Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis began a program to rent ten apartments in the name of the organization. Today the program operates 25 apartments around Indianapolis. Each apartment is used as a temporary homeless shelter for a family with children, all but eliminating the trauma associated with a traditional shelter experience.

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

#### How can you help?

- Financial donations may be made at [stmarkscarmel.org/give](http://stmarkscarmel.org/give) or by using the offering envelopes in the blue attendance pads.
- Donate items in September for our Apartment Restocking Drive.
- Sign up to provide or deliver a meal during October to an ASP family by going to [stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups). Contact Jeff or Kathy Deakyne at 765-491-3749 or [jkdeakyne@gmail.com](mailto:jkdeakyne@gmail.com).

### Sept. In-Kind Donations

Family Promise Apartment Shelter Program  
Restocking Supply Drive

During September, St. Mark's is collecting supplies to help Family Promise restock their apartments in the Apartment Shelter Program. These items are stocked in new apartments as they are leased to incoming families, giving them a fresh start in their new "home". The wonderful success of this program is made possible with the love and generosity from you!

Please consider donating from the list below or the [Amazon wishlist](#). Items can be left in the donation bins at St. Mark's, inside door #2, Monday - Friday, between 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Learn more at [stmarkscarmel.org/in-kind](http://stmarkscarmel.org/in-kind). Thank you for helping families during their challenging transitions!

- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Napkins
- Sponges
- Brillo pads (box of 12+)
- Dish soap (32 oz bottle)
- Laundry detergent (60+ loads)
- Dryer sheets (box of 60+)
- 13-gallon trash bags (box of 36+)
- Liquid hand soap dispensers
- Liquid hand soap refill (32+ oz)
- Shower liner with rings
- Small first aid kit
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Anti-bacterial multi-surface spray cleaner
- Pillows (Must be NEW)



## Potato Drop:

Saturday, September 28

## Mission in Action:

Sunday, September 29

Mark your calendar and join us for our annual churchwide event, Mission In Action! Members of St. Mark's will mobilize the message of Christ's love, living out our motto, "where mission is a way of life". Saturday fills our parking lot with a "Potato Drop", giving out 40,000 lbs. of potatoes. Sunday begins with a fellowship gathering in Wesley Hall. Then we will "worship in action", serving as the hands and feet of Jesus. A variety of mission projects will be available both offsite in our community and here at St. Mark's. Visit <https://www.stmarkscarmel.org/mia-day> for more details and to sign up!



### Participating Partners!

- Society of St. Andrew
- Carmel UMC Food Pantry
- Changing Footprints
- Soup's On at Roberts Park UMC
- Fishers Youth Assistance Program
- I Support the Girls
- Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis
- Shepherd Community Center
- Hamilton County Kids Coats

## Shoe Drive

Do you have shoes that no longer fit? During August and September, we are collecting new or used shoes for Changing Footprints, a local nonprofit organization that accepts shoe donations of all kinds. Changing Footprints distributes shoes to individuals, organizations, and agencies wherever there is a need, whether in Indiana, the United States or overseas. They were founded in 2005 and operate two warehouses right here in the Indianapolis area. Please bring shoe donations to the designated Changing Footprints container inside door #2.



## Donations needed for Mission in Action!

Items are needed for the onsite Mission in Action Day projects. Please help by donating any of the following by September 18th.



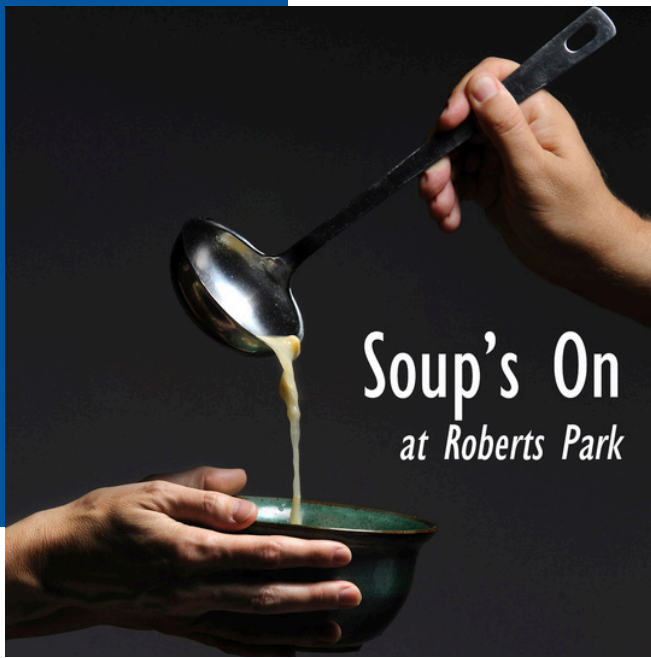
NEW ITEMS ONLY PLEASE.

- Men's athletic socks
- Toothbrushes
- Travel-sized toothpaste
- Travel-sized soap/body wash
- Travel-sized shampoo
- Travel-sized conditioner
- Granola or protein bars
- Bottled water
- Gallon-sized zip lock bags
- Regular & super absorbency tampons
- Menstrual pad (all sizes)
- Panty liners
- Body wipes (individually wrapped)
- Feminine wipes (individually wrapped)

## Coats for Kids Drive

We are collecting coats in good condition that will be given away this fall, with Hamilton County Kids Coats. Hamilton County Kids Coats is a collaborative effort with community partners to make sure all Hamilton County children stay warm this winter. All sizes welcome, from newborn to adult 3XL. 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 September 28.





## Soup's On at Roberts Park UMC

Sunday, September 29

Can you help us provide a hot meal for homeless neighbors in need 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).

## 2024 Habitat for Humanity Build



**Friday, November 1**

Join fellow St. Mark's members for the 2024 Habitat for Humanity Multifaith Build on Nov. 1 from 8:30 - 11:30 am or 10:30 am - 1:30 pm. This build brings together congregations from different faiths to strengthen relationships while building and advocating for affordable housing for everyone. Working side-by-side, the Multifaith Build embodies the power of unity through diversity.

To sign up for this opportunity, please visit [stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups) (deadline Oct. 7). For more information, contact Amy Adams at [aadams@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:aadams@stmarkscarmel.org) or visit [indyhabitat.org/multifaith](http://indyhabitat.org/multifaith).

## October Meals for Family Promise Apartment Shelter Program

During October, St. Mark's will be 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.



Please see how you can help by visiting [stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups). For questions contact Jeff or Kathy DeaKyne at 765-491-3749 or [jkdeakyne@gmail.com](mailto:jkdeakyne@gmail.com).





# Brightwood Community Center Food Pantry Volunteers

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

## Mission Guatemala Trip

July 12-19, 2025

Join us on a mission trip to Mission Guatemala in San Andrés



Semetebaj to “do all the good we can” for the people of this community through love and service.

The trip cost is \$675 plus airfare and includes all transportation, meals, and lodging. An informational meeting will be held at St. Mark’s in September.

If you are interested in being a Team Leader, please contact Amy Adams at [aadams@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:aadams@stmarkscarmel.org). To sign up for the trip, visit [stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups) or the sign-up sheets in the Gathering Area.



## St. Mark’s Blood Drive:

Sunday, September 8, 2024 | 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](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups).

Contact Terry Fourman at [4manternlyd@gmail.com](mailto:4manternlyd@gmail.com) or Amy Adams at [aadams@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:aadams@stmarkscarmel.org) with questions or for help signing up.

## Because You Give

**Brightwood Community Center:** 120 boxes of food given out at food pantry, serving 448 individuals

**Fletcher Place Community Center:** \$5818.56; breakfast served to 80 individuals; 158 packets of oatmeal; 3 bags of clothes

**Indiana United Methodist Children’s Home:** 38 bottles of shampoo & body wash, 29 deodorants, 15 packs of feminine hygiene products, 8 hair dryers, 3 sound machines, 31 journals, 4 towel sets

**Trinity Haven:** \$2120.00

## Kidz Church Sunday Programming

*Check-in station & 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 will be released to Kidz Church after Kidz Chat with the pastor. For the 10 AM Education hour, children will proceed directly to class after check-in.

### **Nursery & Toddler Care | 9, 10, & 11 AM | Ages 6 weeks - 3 years**

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

### **Kidz Church | 9 AM | Ages 4 - Grade 2 | Lower Level Classrooms**

*(Children in Grade 3+ are encouraged to remain in service. NEW children's resources are available behind the sanctuary)* All ages combine for an exciting rotational-style class downstairs. Each week includes a variety of fun activity stations like music, drama, Bible stories, videos, and more.

### **Kidz Church | 10 AM | Ages 4-Grade 4 | Lower Level Classrooms**

This program opens with worship arts, followed by grade-specific classes that include bible stories, games, and engaging activities.

Parents, check out potential options for adults and indicate your preferences on the "New 10AM Options Interest Form" at <https://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups/#sundayam>.

### **Club 56 | 10 AM | Grades 5 & 6 | Lower Level Den**

Club 56 is a class that celebrates the evolving young minds of tweens by weaving together biblical exploration, some theology, and relationship-building through activities, games, and lively discussions. Social gatherings for Club 56 take place throughout the year.

### **Kidz Music & Praise | 11:00 AM | Age 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.

## Third Grade Recognition Sunday

### **September 15 | 9 & 11 AM Worship Services**

Calling all 3rd grade parents! It's time to celebrate a special faith milestone in your child's life! On this annual day of celebration, all third graders will receive a blessing from the pastors and their very own NRSV Spark Bible. Bibles will be presented by our United Women of Faith and include definitions, facts, trivia, and questions to help kids think about their faith. Families are invited to send a picture of their third grader for the slide show to [kidzchurch@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:kidzchurch@stmarkscarmel.org) by Wednesday, September 11.



## MomCo is Back!



### THE MOMCO

BY MOPS INTERNATIONAL

The Mom Community (MomCo), is a non-profit organization that encourages and equips moms of young children to realize their potential as mothers, women and leaders, in relationship with Jesus and in partnership with the local church. The MomCo at St. Mark's meets two Thursdays a month (9:30 - 11:15 am) and is getting ready to kick-off their fall semester. New moms are welcome! For details about membership and childcare, email us at [momco.at.stmarks@gmail.com](mailto:momco.at.stmarks@gmail.com).

#### September Meetings & Topics

- 9/5: Kickoff picnic at Meadowlark Park
- 9/19: Intentional Connections

## Kidz Monthly Mission



Each month, Children's Ministries strives to have kids involved in giving to the church's monthly In-Kind Donations. During September, St. Mark's is collecting supplies to help Family Promise restock for their Apartment Shelter Program. These items are stocked in new apartments as they are leased to incoming families, giving them a fresh start in their new "home."

You and your children can support this program by bringing any of the following items to Kidz Church check-in:

- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Napkins
- Sponges
- Brillo pads (box of 12+)
- Dish soap (32 oz bottle)
- Laundry detergent (60+ loads)
- Dryer sheets (box of 6)

## Children's Advent Musical Rehearsals Begin!



### Sunday, September 15 | 11 AM Kidz Music & Praise Class

Each year during the season of Advent, children are welcome to participate in an annual Advent Musical.

Rehearsals will begin on September 15 and continue each Sunday morning at 11 am in the Kidz Music & Praise class. Even if your child doesn't wish to play a role in the show, there are plenty of ways to participate in the preparation (set building, back-up instruments, etc.). Save the date for the performance this year on Sunday, December 8 at 1:30 pm.



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

**Roots Burger Bar - September 23**

Dine in or carry out at the Carmel location any time, lunch or dinner, and 10-20% of your total check will go to St. Mark's Preschool.

## Children Sing in Worship

**Sunday, September 22 & October 27**

**11:00 AM Service**

All children of the church are invited to sing in worship at the beginning of The Current service. Rehearsals for these performances take place on Sunday mornings at 11 AM in the Kidz Music & Praise class.

## Kidz Church Family Pizza Party

Sponsored by Kidz Music & Praise

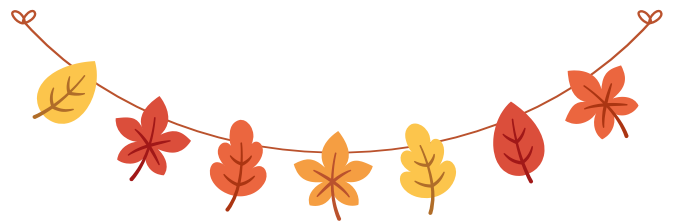
**Sunday, October 27 | 12 - 1 PM**

All Kidz Church families are welcome to attend the fall pizza party after church in Wesley Hall.

There will be plenty of games, food, music, and fun! Please RSVP to Joyce Click at [jclick@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:jclick@stmarkscarmel.org).



## Preschool Fall Festival Fundraiser



**Friday, September 13 | 5 - 7 PM | Church Parking Lot**

Everyone is welcome to kick-off the new school year by celebrating St. Mark's Preschool! The annual Fall Festival is always a blast with food and preschool-early elementary games and activities. This is a perfect time for church and preschool families to meet and get to know each other!



## PUMPKIN PATCH

The Pumpkin Patch is coming back to St. Mark's! Pumpkins will be delivered September 21 and sales will start September 23. We need everyone's help with setting up and selling. It's going to be a fun and profitable fundraiser, but we need you to help make it a success! Proceeds will go to help Youth programs and the preschool.

[Click Here to Sign Up to Help](#)

## SUNDAY MORNINGS

7th - 12th grade, join Scott Melvin and Jenny Miller on Sundays at 10:00 am in Cornerstone Commons for a quick get-together. At 10:15 am breakout for Bible study. Youth Parents, check out the potential options for adults during this hour and indicate your preferences on the "New 10AM Options Interest Form" at <https://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups/#sundayam>.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Senior High Fall Kick Off Cook Out

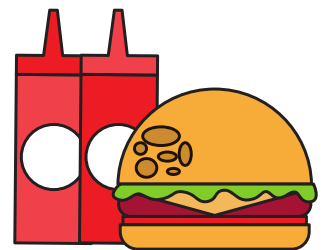
Inviting all 9th - 12th Graders!

**September 8 | 5:00 - 7:00 PM | 14076 Springmill Ponds Circle Carmel, IN 46032**

Event Highlights:

- Food!
- Games!

Bring friends, hangout, eat, and play games as we get to know one another at the home of Kevin and Michelle Byrd!



### Calling All 5th-8th Graders for Game On!

Get ready for an afternoon of fun, sports, and friends!

**October 20 | 12:00 - 2:00 PM | Wesley Hall**

What to Expect:

- Team Games
- Messy Games
- Pizza Party
- Meet New Friends: Connect with other 5th-8th graders in a fun and friendly environment.
- Show Off Your Skills: Compete in your favorite sports and see who comes out on top!
- Have Fun: A great way to spend your afternoon with exciting activities

Don't Miss Out! It's GAME ON!



## Adult Discipleship Sunday Programming

### New Option(s) desired | 10:00 AM

Sign up in the Gathering Area connection tables or at <https://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups/#sundayam> if you need a spot to land during the new 10:00 am Education & Small Groups hour. We have the chance to create new gatherings during our small groups hour! How would you like to connect--perhaps with casual conversation in the café; as a friendly face in a “New to St. Mark’s” gathering; in a parents group; with get-to-know-you and deeper conversation prompts; discussing current events with Wired Word devotionals; or trying a short prayer group? Fill out the interest form to express your preferences.

### Sunday AM Encouragement Group | Monthly at 10:00 AM | Conference Room

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

### Cutting Edge | 10:00 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](mailto:sclick52@gmail.com)).

### Foundations & Friendships | 10:00 AM | Room J-K

In September, reading *Courage: Jesus and the Call To Brave Faith* by Tom Berlin (books are \$12 in church entrance). Led by Doug Brown, Kathy DeaKyne, and Todd Snow, this class shares and discusses Christian themes through contemporary books, Bible studies, and occasional Wired Word devotionals.

### Reel Spirituality | 10:00 AM in Room B/C most weeks, but in Room L on Sept. 8, 15 & 22

“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](mailto:4manternlyd@gmail.com) for the film list. Zoom is available upon request.

## Learn More & Sign Up for Groups

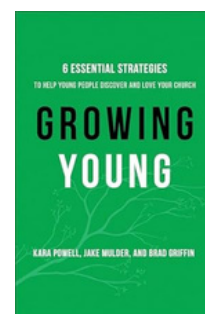
See [stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups](https://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups) for short-term, Sunday, and weekday study groups. For our Grow Groups, encouragement groups, the LIFT Widows Encouragement Group, and other support groups information, see [stmarkscarmel.org/grow-groups](https://stmarkscarmel.org/grow-groups). Books and paper signups are on the connection tables in the Gathering Area.

## How to Pay for Books

Book costs are listed on the signup sheets, website signup, and on each study’s paper syllabus. Make checks to St. Mark’s UMC with “study books” in memo line. If you’d prefer to pay online, click on “Give” from [stmarkscarmel.org](https://stmarkscarmel.org), then “Give Online.” Find the top question saying “How would you like to allocate your donation” and select Study Books from the dropdown menu.

## GROWING YOUNG UPDATE

Would you like to join our asynchronous Facebook group discussion on the book *Growing Young*? There will be a Zoom meeting Sunday, September 8, 7:00 - 8:30 pm for all 35-40 people in the group currently, plus anyone who would like to start reading the book. Connect at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmarksgrowingyoung/> or learn more about the book at <https://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups/#special>. Books are \$12 in the Gathering Area.



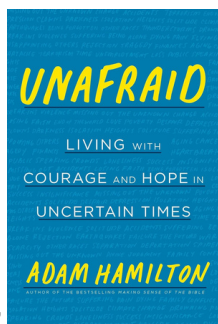
# New Study Groups for Fall

Sign up at [stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/studygroups). Books and paper signups are on the connection tables in the Gathering Area.

## UNAFRAID

***Unafraid* by Adam Hamilton**  
**Fridays, September 6-October 4 | 9:30-11AM | Led by Jennifer Cloud-Buckner and Annessa Miller | Room B-C and Zoom | Books \$15**

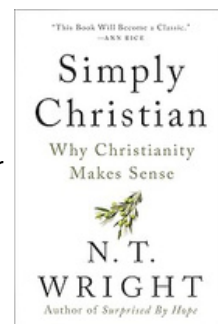
Fear is a complex emotion. Sometimes it saves us, but more often it robs us of the life we want. Drawing on recent research, inspiring real-life examples, and fresh biblical insight, Hamilton shows how to untangle the knots we feel about disappointing others, failure, financial insecurity, loneliness, insignificance, and aging. Then he helps readers understand and counter fears related to large, apocalyptic perils. For anyone struggling with fear or wondering how families and communities can thrive in troubled times, *Unafraid* offers informed, inspiring, and practical solutions. Sign up for Childcare at least 48 hours ahead at [stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups).



## SIMPLY CHRISTIAN

***Simply Christian* by N.T. Wright**  
**Wednesdays, 9/4-10/30 | 9:30-11AM | Led by Lydia Fourman | Cornerstone Commons or Room J-K in various weeks | Books \$13**

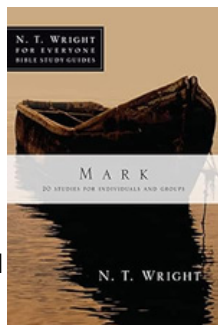
For two thousand years, Christianity has claimed to answer the mystery of human existence. Renowned New Testament scholar and Anglican bishop N. T. Wright argues that the Christian faith still holds the answers today. Wright makes the case for Christian faith for modern readers, whether they are agnostic, from different spiritual traditions, believers, skeptics, or suspicious of organized religion. Wright clearly walks readers through the Christian faith step-by-step and question by question, and reveals how basic inquiries such as “Why is justice fair? Why are so many people pursuing spirituality? Why do we crave relationship? Why is beauty so beautiful?” to take us into the mystery of God.



## MARK

**The Gospel of Mark (Fall 2024-Winter 2025)**  
**Wednesdays, 9/4/24-2/19/25**  
**Early AM Men's Study, 6:30-7:30 AM**  
**Pastor's Bible Study, 9:30-10:30 AM**  
**Led by Pastor Brian White | Hybrid Room B-C and Zoom | Books \$9**

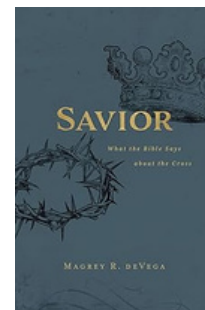
With a scholar's mind and a pastor's heart, author N.T. Wright walks readers through the Gospel of Mark. This study uses the popular inductive method combined with Wright's thoughtful insights to bring contemporary application of Scripture to life. Discover how you can participate more fully in God's kingdom with this study's thoughtful questions, prayer suggestions, and useful background and cultural information. No meetings 10/16, 11/27, 12/18-1/1.



## SAVIOR

***Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross***  
**Thursdays, 9/5-10/10 | 10-11AM**  
**Led by Judy Woempner | Room B-C and Zoom | Books \$12**

If you enjoyed Magrey DeVega's study on Jesus's questions in the Gospels, you'll want to check out *Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross*. Rev. DeVega faithfully describes the need for reconciliation between humankind and a holy God through Jesus' death on the cross. The Bible uses many images to understand the meaning of Jesus' death and resurrection, and DeVega guides us through these images to achieve a richer understanding of the Christian faith. By exploring the mystery of salvation through the cross, we can deepen our love for God and others and strengthen our commitment to follow Jesus. 15



# Open Groups

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

### Fall Kick-off September 10

Women of the church, let's reconnect after a warm rainy summer! YOU are invited to the annual UWF Fall Kick-off! Featured will be a carry-in brunch in the morning and appetizers & salads in the evening with guest speaker and interest group previews.

Our speaker will be a representative from Prevail. Located in Noblesville, Prevail is dedicated to serving victims of crime and abuse. Also, check out the list of interest groups available. There's one for you! Our gatherings are the second Tuesdays from September - May, 9:30 am - 11:30 am & 7 - 9 pm. Come enjoy coffee, fellowship, devotion time & special interest groups. More at [stmarkscarmel.org/uwf](http://stmarkscarmel.org/uwf).

Need childcare for the morning gatherings? Use the Sign Up Genius, found at [stmarkscarmel.org/signups](http://stmarkscarmel.org/signups). Register your child(ren) at least 48 hours in advance of the morning gatherings. Email [uwf@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:uwf@stmarkscarmel.org) for more info. Mark your calendar for Sept. 10! Look forward to greeting you! Invite a friend, too!



United  
Women  
in Faith

### I Support the Girls



I SUPPORT THE GIRLS

UWF will be collecting new and gently used bras and period supplies before and during our September Kickoff. Through an international network of Affiliates, I Support the Girls collects and distributes essential items, including bras, underwear, and menstrual hygiene products to those experiencing homelessness, impoverishment, or distress. It allows them to stand tall with dignity. The Indianapolis affiliate began in 2016 in Indianapolis, serving the entire state of Indiana.

Please go to their website to find more information: <https://isupportthegirls.org/>. Check out their story, and when they have been in the news. Also investigate the programs such as Force for Change, Impact and FAQ's, and the Amazon wish list: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1KQSP1199QAWH/ref=nav\\_wishlist\\_lists\\_1](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1KQSP1199QAWH/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1). For more information contact Donna Schwartz at [dehschwartz@gmail.com](mailto:dehschwartz@gmail.com).

## 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.



All United Methodist Men are invited to attend the breakfast September 14 at 7:30 a.m. This month we will welcome speaker, Carmel PD OFFICER D.J. Schoeff. He is also a school resource officer. Find out more at <https://stmarkscarmel.org/umm/>



# Fellowship Groups

Learn more at:  
<https://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).

## PAGE TURNERS

### Book Club

#### Third Tuesdays at 7 PM

Join us on the third Tuesday of each month to discuss our current book selection. Join us on September 17 when we discuss *Wonder Drug: The Secret History of Thalidomide in America and Its Hidden Victims* by Jennifer Vanderbes. Hope to see you there! Meets in Room G/H.



## CRAFT GROUP

### Select Thursdays September 19, | 6:30-8:30 PM

RSVP to Kathy Bartel by 5 pm September 18 at 317-294-4908 or [krbartel@gmail.com](mailto:krbartel@gmail.com). Contact Kathy for more information.

## JULIETS

### Just Us Ladies Interested In Eating Together

**September 19, Uptown Cafe in Carmel.** Please contact Linda Schenk with RSVP's by the Monday before the luncheon date at [lschenk@att.net](mailto:lschenk@att.net) or 812-454-0661.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

### Tuesdays | 7:00 PM

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



## COFFEE 'N CAMERAS

### Select Mondays

Coffee - yes,  
Cameras - whatever you have. Our members use both types of cameras (traditional and phone). We would love to have you join us on September 9 and September 23. We 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, questions, and be ready to tackle a monthly assignment presented by rotating group leaders.



## 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.



## 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](mailto:mob@stmarkscarmel.org) with questions.



# Upcoming Events

## CHANCEL CHOIR & HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSALS SEPTEMBER 4

It's almost time to Make a Joyful Noise again! The St. Mark's Chancel and the St. Mark's Handbell Choirs will resume rehearsals on Wed., Sept. 4. Handbells meet at 6:30 pm in the Music Room and Chancel Choir meets at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary. We would love to have new members! If you love to sing or have interest in ringing, please come and join us! Contact Eric DeForest at [edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org) with questions.

## DREAM DAY | SEPTEMBER 15 | 3-5 PM

Come share your dreams for St. Mark's! Reserve your spot today at [stmarkscarmel.org/dream](http://stmarkscarmel.org/dream) for this churchwide conversation with guided brainstorming sessions. We will break into small groups to a Spirit-led dialogue, gathering ideas about how we welcome, grow, and serve at St. Mark's.

## NARCAN TRAINING | NOVEMBER 10 | 3 PM

You might know a loved one who has been affected by the nation's opioid epidemic. Narcan training is like CPR training--a way for you to be better informed and prepared in the event of an opioid drug emergency. St. Mark's will be hosting Narcan training provided by the Hamilton County Dept. of Health. This training teaches about recognizing the effects of a life-threatening opioid emergency, and how and when to administer NARCAN Nasal Spray. Narcan (naloxone) is a treatment designed to rapidly reverse the effects of opioid overdose. Register for this training at [stmarkscarmel.org/workshops](http://stmarkscarmel.org/workshops).

## 2024 ARTS & CRAFTS MARKETPLACE | NOVEMBER 2

The St. Mark's UWF invites you to its 2024 Arts and Crafts Market Place to be held on Saturday, November 2, 9-3. All crafts and art work will be home-made either by area artisans or by members of St. Marks UWF. Refreshments will be available at the Candy Cane Café as well as the bake sale table. Profits made by the UWF support missions.

Vendors who wish to rent a table for the Arts and Crafts Marketplace may contact Steff Mabe at 317-374-2529 or [steffmabe@yahoo.com](mailto:steffmabe@yahoo.com) 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 UWF craft table. Popular items in the past have included matching knit scarves and hats, aprons, ornaments, American Girl doll clothes and jewelry.



## FREETOWN VILLAGE SINGERS SEPTEMBER 22 | 2 PM

The Freetown Village Singers will be presenting a show that will allow you to "experience the joy and dynamic power of music!"

Preserving African American traditions and culture through storytelling and song, the Freetown Village Singers present an interactive collection of traditional folk songs and Negro spirituals. You won't want to miss this amazing event, so mark your calendars! Questions? Please contact Eric DeForest at [edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:edeforest@stmarkscarmel.org).



## THE HOOSIER BRASS BAND | SEPTEMBER 29 | 4 PM

The Hoosier Brass Band uses the same instrumentation as the British bands. The music will be a mixture of styles and will introduce the audience to some of the unique sounds you get with this type of group.



## NEW MEMBER CLASS

**Nov. 3 | 12:15-3:00 pm (lunch included)**  
**Nov. 10 and 17 | 1:00-3:00 p.m.**

Are you interested in exploring membership at St. Mark's? We invite you to join us for a three-week class to learn about St. Mark's, get to know the pastors, and meet others investigating membership. We will discuss the mission and vision of St. Mark's and committing to a lifelong discipleship journey. The class will meet in Room B/C just inside the main door of the church. Sign up at [stmarkscarmel.org/nextsteps](http://stmarkscarmel.org/nextsteps) or contact Missi Koenig at [mkoenig@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:mkoenig@stmarkscarmel.org). Childcare is available with 48-hour advance notice.

# Committee News

## Stewardship Committee

I was hiking in one of the local parks a few days ago and came across a sign reminding patrons to practice stewardship in their use of the park. The posting emphasized to not feed the wildlife, respect others property, and leave no trace of your visit. The sign was a good reminder that we all need to be responsible for taking care of the earth.

Quoting John Wesley, “When the possessor of heaven and earth brought you into being and placed you in this world, he placed you here not as a proprietor, but as a steward.” Stewardship is an act of faith, a discipline we embrace because of our relationship with God. Doing good also involves nurturing your relationships with one another and God by valuing every one as a child of God. Stewardship is also an act of worship. By being a growing follower of Jesus Christ you will determine how you want to give of your resources, time, and talents—recognizing that this will ebb and flow as your life progresses. Give glory to our gracious God who supplies our needs.

There are three basic principles to John Wesley’s teachings. They are: do all the good that you can for as long as you can, do no harm, and stay in love with the Lord. Does this “signpost” resonate with you?

-Kathy DeaKyne on behalf of Stewardship Committee

## Finance Update

A heartfelt thank you for your generous contributions during our July Close the Gap campaign. It is the deep devotion and love you have for St. Mark’s that shines so brightly when the need arises. We are pleased to report that as we tally the final numbers, we raised over \$94,000 which is very close to our goal of \$96,000. Your generous contributions allow us to continue to support our vital programming and missions throughout the year and our overall year to date finances remain in the black.



## 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** – 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/committeefinfo/> for more information on Committees at St. Mark’s.

## SPRC Spotlight: Juan Mercado, Facilities Manager



Ever wonder who is responsible for keeping our facilities in tip-top shape? Have you ever sat in church and wondered who ensures all the lights are working properly and that there are not spiderwebs on that brick wall behind the altar? Most of us enjoy our facilities and appreciate that everything is functional and attractive but seldom think about the fact that, just like our homes, there is always something that needs to be fixed up, maintained, polished, updated or improved.

St. Mark's is blessed to have Juan Mercado as Facilities Manager. He has been on staff for the past 13 years. He knows our building inside and out and has an expert eye for things that need his attention. He doesn't wait for someone to request a fix, if he sees a need, he is on it. He is also responsive to requests from others. For example, one of Juan's current projects is to modify a room to make it appropriate for creating podcasts—a Podcast Studio, if you will—as St. Mark's continually enhances our online capabilities and offerings. This involves adding flooring that is more acoustically friendly and lighting appropriate for online video captures.

Juan and his wife, Claudia, have been living in Indiana for 25 years. Here, they raised their three kids, Gustavo, Grecia, and Esmerelda, and now enjoy their grandsons, Uriah and Emile, and have another grandson on the way.

Find out more about Juan by visiting <https://stmarkscarmel.org/about/juan-mercado/>

### Trustees Committee

The overhead speaker project in the church sanctuary is complete. The new speakers will improve the quality of the sound and provide additional safety, with the support structure. Thanks to Pastor Karla for taking the lead and ensuring completion of this project.

The landscape project for the columbarium is now complete and the focus moves to replacement of the name labels in that area.


Thanks to Phil Wehman for investigating various options for this improvement.

Lastly, the playground project will be completed in September. Thanks to John Clodfelder and the preschool administration for ensuring its completion in a safe and timely manner that minimizes costs.

## Thank you, St. Mark's

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped with Connection Fair on August 18th! If you are interested in exploring new ways to connect at St. Mark's, contact Missi Koenig at [mkoenig@stmarkscarmel.org](mailto:mkoenig@stmarkscarmel.org) or complete the connection inventory at <https://stmarkscarmel.org/inventory/>

# 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.

As we begin a new year of groups and studies, our Breakthrough Prayer Task Force has developed guidelines for leaders to incorporate breakthrough prayer and sharing God moments within group meetings. Whether we are in a committee meeting, book club, music practice, Grow Group, crafting group, or Sunday study, anytime we gather in groups is a great opportunity to share how God is touching our lives and others' lives through the ministries and people of St. Mark's. Will you join us in this effort to encourage and celebrate God moments in your own groups? Check out the guidelines and a training video at [stmarkscarmel.org/breakthrough](http://stmarkscarmel.org/breakthrough).

Please continue to pray for what new dreams God has for St. Mark's. On **September 15, 3:00-5:00 PM**, we will gather as a church for **Dream Day** to give our input on where God is leading St. Mark's. Save your spot at [stmarkscarmel.org/dream](http://stmarkscarmel.org/dream).

## COMMUNITY & CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

### 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 fire fighters 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.

### 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.

Carol Anderson, Myrnych 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 times of need with Meal Train meals. Meal Train is a blessing for two groups—those who need it (recipients) and those who provide it (participants).

For the recipients it is a great help in a time of need such as a fall or surgery. Surgeries can be reported in advance, accidents and illnesses cannot. 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](mailto: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.

## 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)

## 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).

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