

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
302 East Pearl Street
Wapakoneta, OH 45895

St. Mark's Messenger July & August 2026



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Pastor Doug's Letter

Good People,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father, Jesus our Savior, and the Holy Spirit our Counselor.

Those of you who get emails from the church know that my identity has been hacked, purchases have been made on my credit cards, and my PayPal account has given money to the hackers. For the last month I have been trying to close all the electronic loopholes that the hackers have been exploiting. It seems they have a particularly robust virus that is able to bypass my passwords. I have had to reset passwords on everything, close credit cards, change checking and savings accounts, and try to close PayPal.

It has been a frustrating process especially when we opened new a checking account, a new savings account, and new credit cards only to have the credit cards and the checking account appear on my PayPal account the next day. It feels like I am fighting a malicious enemy that I cannot see and who is seeking my harm.

From my experience I strongly recommend that you do not save on your computer or phone any automatic links to your financial institutions or credit cards without having some form of two-step verification.

But, because I am a pastor, I also have a spiritual perspective on this situation. This experience is all about my identity and having it stolen from me. My deepest identity, however, is not in my profession, or my citizenship, or my family, or my accomplishments, but my deepest identity is in Christ. I am a child of God, beloved and chosen to be adopted into God's family from before the universe began. Jesus has claimed me as his own and I have received that claim upon my life

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Doug". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Pastor" and "Doug" being capitalized and prominent.

Dinner at the DoGood Restaurant

Thirty-eight people enjoyed a delicious meal together at the DoGood Restaurant on Friday evening June 26.



Plant-a-Row

Plant-a-Row is back for the 2026 gardening season. If you have extra produce, drop off at God's Storehouse, Mercy Unlimited, or Agape Ministries in St. Mary's.

Support the Miracle Meal with Leftover Garage Sale Items

Wanted: Any leftover garage sale items or from Spring clean-up that you would like to donate or give away at this year's Miracle Meal. Contact Rollie Kent at 419-905-9360 or rkent1@woh.rr.cp, for pick-up. Please no clothing except coats, sweaters, hats or gloves.

Attendance 2026			
5/31/2026	20	121	118
6/7/2026	20	62	61
6/14/2026	22	41	75
6/21/2026	22	47	110
6/28/2026	22	67	103



Worship Services for July



July 4 & 5 **From Sadness to Joy** Sunday Communion

Esther 7:1-10 Luke 1:68-79

Redemption



We conclude the story of Queen Esther by hearing how she risked her life to beg pardon from King Ahasuerus that the plot to kill all the Jews might be thwarted. The plot had been arranged by the king's advisor Haman. The Jewish festival of Purim celebrates their change of fortunes from imminent death to victory.

July 11 & 12 **Have Confidence in the Gospel**

1 Timothy 1:12-17 Psalm 23 Luke 15:4-7



There is More Joy in Heaven Over One Sinner Who Repents

Today we begin five weeks of hearing Paul's instructions to his protegee Timothy. Paul begins by describing the immensity of the gift of grace that God gave to him because of Paul's sins in his former way of life.

July 18 & 19 **Take Hold of Eternal Life** Sunday Communion

Pastor Doug on Retreat, Pastor Mark Bauer Preaching

1 Timothy 6:6-19 Psalm 127 Luke 16:19-31



Today is the second of our five-part series on the Apostle Paul's instructions to his protegee Timothy. Paul reminds Timothy of the temptations to amass wealth and to build an identity based on material possessions—temptations he considers common to most people—and charges Timothy to remind his fellow Christ followers that true wealth and true identity are rooted in God's promise of eternal life.

July 25 & 26 **Rekindle the Gift of God** Youth Sunday TSC Taping

Pastor Doug on Vacation, Chad Doll Preaching

2 Timothy 1:1-14 Psalm 116:5-15 Luke 17:5-6



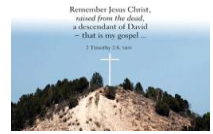
This is the third in a five-part series in which the Apostle Paul instructs his protegee Timothy how to live faithfully. When Timothy struggles in his leadership in Ephesus, Paul writes some encouragement for Timothy to rekindle the "gift of God" that is within him.

Worship Services for August

August 1 & 2 **Remember Jesus Christ, Raised from the Dead**

Pastor Doug on Vacation, No Sunday Communion

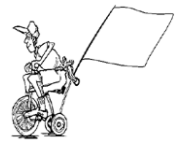
2 Timothy 2:8-15 Psalm 65:1-8 Luke 17:11-19



This is the fourth of our five-part series of the Apostle Paul's instructions to his protegee Timothy. He encourages Timothy to remember the essence of the Gospel, that Jesus Christ is raised from the dead. Stay true to the Gospel and avoid all other distractions, sidetracks, or complications.

August 8 & 9 **The Lord Stood by Me** Sunday Communion

2 Timothy 3:14—4:8, 16-18 Psalm 119:17-24 Luke 18:1-8



The Tricycle of Faith

In this final installment of his instructions to Timothy, the Apostle Paul commands Timothy to remain true to the teachings that he has received, to the Word of God, and to the Scriptures. People will waver in their faith unless they stay true to the tricycle of faith.

August 15 & 16 **Nineteen Comes before Twenty** Sunday Communion

Exodus 19:1-6; 20:1-2 Psalm 119:105-112 Matthew 22:34-40



Obey Only the First Commandment

Today is the first of a four-part series on the Ten Commandments. We will examine the First Commandment and how all of the other commandments are wrapped up in it. Before we hear the commandments, however, we are invited to remember that all these came from the powerful presence of the Lord.

August 22 & 23 **Tuned into God** Youth Sunday TSC Taping

Blessing of Teachers

Exodus 20:3-11 Psalm 119:9-16 Matthew 22:34-40



Sabbath Keeping Changes Everything

Today we continue our four-part series on the Ten Commandments by looking at the commandments dealing with our relationship with God. We are invited to put God first, to respect God's name, and to respect God's day of rest.

Thank You Notes Received

Kristy from the San Pablo YMCA has shared an update from the opening of their new basketball court, which was partially funded by St. Mark's gifts and Noisy Offerings. Thank you all for helping to create a healthy community space in San Pablo:



Dear St. Marks,
I love my Church Family so much!!!
I greatly appreciate the beautiful butterfly necklace. It is so elegant! Thank you for thinking of me.
Hugs, Ella Price

"Thank you for your gift of \$500, received on 6/1/2026 and serving L&S Ministries."

~Lutheran Social Services

Check Date
05/28/2026



Amount
\$554.00

Sheryl Fordney

Sheryl Fordney
Executive Director

The Filling Homes Foundation

Carol
Carol L. Slight
Vice President

Thank you to your congregation for your generosity, continued prayers and support.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Council - May 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the April meeting were presented. Mark made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Shelley seconded. Motion carried.

Financial Report: The Finance Committee had a meeting May 12. We have an income of \$21,943.74 for April. Giving is a little under budget -it's at 28.8% and should be around 33.3%) Committee discussed that Kitchen supplies can come out of the congregational ministries activity events fund. Finance will monitor this the rest of the year and make adjustments to the budget as needed in the future. They allocated \$400 for choir music (which would be 5 new pieces of music). Mark made a motion to accept the finance report as presented. Corrin seconded. Motion carried.

Worship and Music: Their meeting was May 6, 2026. Feedback from the Lenton skit was very positive with many expressing they liked the nature of the BoxBob series. Advent service ideas were discussed and the committee decided to continue with a skit for Advent which will be chosen at their next meeting. Reviewed upcoming special events for summer and fall: Mother's day blessing will be May 9 and 10th. Confirmation will be May 30/31. Father's Day blessing will be June 20/21 and teacher appreciation will be August 22/23. The next meeting is scheduled for September 2, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Social Ministries: June 26, 2026 will be the date for the dinner at DoGood Restaurant in Osgood, OH. Members will meet at the church at 5:30 to carpool to the restaurant.

Property and Maintenance: There was a misunderstanding with the air conditioners and new quotes were not obtained. Pastor Doug authorized the down payment of \$5,000 to Forge Mechanical and they have begun to replace the two AC units in the sanctuary. Pastor had the payment taken out of the General Fund under Building Repairs instead of Capitol Improvement. This error has been fixed!

Pastor's Report: Pastor Doug helped a family in need, which put our Mission Wapak fund in a deficit of \$524.91. Transferred money from the Friends in Need Fund.

Old Business:

- Nelson moved to revive the previously tabled motion to repair two AC units in the sanctuary with \$9,660.00 to be paid out of the Capitol Improvement fund. Amanda seconded. Motion carried.
- Formed an Ad Hoc Committee for the installation of screens in the sanctuary. Members will include: Rich Garber, Dustin Jeanneret, Rod Metz, and Tina Waltz.

New Business: Council discussed the need for helping members of the community monthly through the Friends in Need Fund. Nelson made a motion to continue to access funds as necessary through the Friends in Need Fund for members of our community who need help with monthly expenses. Mark seconded. Motion carried.

Next meeting: Thursday June 18, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Jen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nelson seconded. The meeting adjourned with the praying of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Jen Garber

Happy Birthday to...

Hans Schlegel	July 1	Lindsey Woehrmyer	August 9
Dustin Woehrmyer	July 11	Jacob Grunden	August 12
Curtis Copeland	July 14	Heidi Lisi	August 13
Mason Converse	July 16	Katie Lisi	August 13
Ernie Hollenbacher	July 19	Emilia Golden	August 14
Keith Richardson	July 22	Mike Burton	August 15
Cindy Klosterman	July 23	Ella Price	August 15
Marisa Raney	July 23	Kay Ault	August 16
Josie Jeanneret	July 24	Carol Baeumel	August 18
Elaine Hawkins	July 30	Jennings McEvoy	August 18
Pat Cummins	July 31	Bradley Hicks	August 19
Barb Krites	July 31	Karen Welch	August 20
Melissa Grunden	August 1	Sharon Helmlinger	August 21
Grant Golden	August 2	Lynn Werling	August 22
Winifred Hawkins	August 4	Hank Woehrmyer	August 22
George Hengtsler	August 6	Taryn Newman	August 23
Denise Raney	August 6	Jen Garber	August 24
Susan John	August 6		

St. Mark's Motto

Be God's Grace in Action

St. Mark's Mission

St. Mark's Mission is to fulfill the Great Commission by extending God's Grace to all people.

St. Mark's Vision

St. Mark's will transform the Wapakoneta area and the world into a community of love by connecting the disconnected to God's grace and salvation.

We welcome, support, and care for all people.

Pastor	Doug Pretorius	PastorDougP@gmail.com	419-512-4491
Administrative Assistant	DyLynn Epperly	StMarksWapak302@gmail.com	
Church Musician	Melissa Grunden	pridd16@yahoo.com	419-204-1420
Custodian	Amanda Wilder	corrinelyla@icloud.com	567-204-2726
Technology Coordinator	Dustin Jeanneret	djeanneret@flex-corp.com	567-319-0278

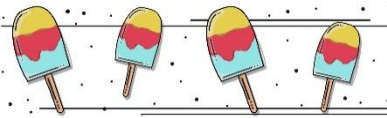
St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

302 East Pearl Street, Wapakoneta, OH 45895

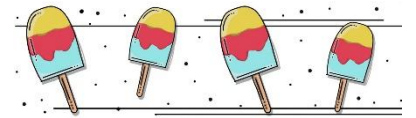
Office Phone: 419-738-3122

Office Cell Phone: 567-356-6799

Website: www.StMarksWapak.Org



July 2026 – St. Mark's Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:30a- Gardens	2	3	4 5p Communion <i>Independence Day</i>
5 10:15a- Communion	6	7	8	9 10:30a- Otterbein Worship	10	11 5p Communion
12 10:15a- Worship	13	14	15	16	17	18 5p Communion
19 10:15a- Communion	20	21	22	23	24	25 5p Communion
26 10:15a- Worship	27	28	29	30	31	

July Who Does What?

July	5-Jul	12-Jul	19-Jul	26-Jul
Greeters, Pearl St	Ryan & Kara	Hannah & Kaylee	Shawn & Celeste	Ethan Jeanneret
	Schneider	Dickey	Rose	Jacob Hicks
Greeters, Seltzer St	Jeanne Clark	Amanda & Ashley	Tim & Kathy	Jennings McEvoy
& Offering	Deb Osborne	Schmerge	Schneider	Avery Newman
Bulletins & Offering	Jeremy and Hannah	John Doll	Braden and Kristi Fisher	Ella Price
	Dickey	JP Metz		Susie LaMarr
Reader	Karen Lenhart	Tina Waltz	Kent Welch	Marlow Johnston
Candle Lighter	Ethan Dickey	Ella Price	Evelyn Oen	Ethan Dickey
Cross Bearer	Marlow Johnston	Ethan Dickey	Avery Newman	Evelyn Oen
PowerPoint	Shelley Schlegel	Mike Burton	Paul Fox	Kelsey Schneider
Communion	Karl Schlegel	N/A	Tina Waltz	N/A
Servers	Heidi LaMarr		Paul Rogers	
Song Leader(s)	Kristin Doll	Ashley Schmerge	Jen Garber	Youth Cantors
Fellowship	Elaine Hawkins	Karen Lenhart	Amanda & Ashley Schmerge	Brittani McEvoy
Sound Tech	Chad Doll	Rod Metz	Rich Garber	Blake Rogers, Trent Lisi
Video Tech	Dustin Jeanneret	Rich Garber	Ryan Schneider	Dustin Jeanneret
5:00pm Saturday	4-Jul	11-Jul	18-Jul	25-Jul
Greeter	Dianne Knipp	Barb Srisongkham	Marguerite Wallen	Sandy Swaney
Bulletins	Marguerite Wallen	Laura Heitz	Dianne Knipp	Mark Swaney
Reader	Sue Jeanneret	Carol Pretorius	Laura Heitz	Mark Swaney
Communion	Carol Pretorius	Sandy & Mark	Dianne Knipp	Sue Jeanneret
Servers	Terry Shoup	Swaney	Laura Heitz	Betty Elsass
Singer	Carol Pretorius	Carol Pretorius	Carol Pretorius	Carol Pretorius
Musician	Melissa Grunden	Melissa Grunden	Melissa Grunden	Melissa Grunden
Altar Guild for the Month of July: Kay Ault, Cindy Klosterman, Barb Srisongkham				



August 2026 – St. Mark's Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 5p Communion
2 10:15a- Communion	3	4	5	6	7	8 5p Communion
9 10:15a- Worship	10	11	12	13 10:30 Otterbein Worship	14	15 5p Communion
16 10:15a- Communion	17	18	19 10:30 Gardens Worship	20 6pm Council	21	22 5p Communion
23 10:15a- Worship TSC Taping	24 31	25 5:30 Social Ministry Com.	26	27	28	29 5p Communion
30 10:15a-Worship						

August Who Does What?

10:15am Sunday	2-Aug	9-Aug	16-Aug	23-Aug	30-Aug
Greeters, Pearl St	Kevin & Meddy	Amanda & Ashley	Jen & Rich	Ethan Dickey	Tom & Paula
	Ruck	Schmerge	Garber	Avery Newman	Schmerge
Greeters, Seltzer St	Ethel Shawver	Braden Fisher	Kay & Richard	Jacob Hicks	Ryan & Kara
& Offering	Mandy Wilder	Collin Lenhart	Ault	Susie LaMarr	Schneider
Bulletins & Offering	Bob and Shirley	Ron & Karen	Karl & Shelley Schlegel	Marlow Johnston	Beth and Rod Miller
	Wiesenmayer	Lenhart		Ella Price	
Reader	Karen Lenhart	Karl Schlegel	George Hengstler	Evelyn Oen	Cortney Rogers
Candle Lighter	Marlow Johnston	Collin Lenhart	Ella Price	Jennings McEvoy	Kelsey Schneider
Cross Bearer	Evelyn Oen	Kaylee Dickey	Marlow Johnston	Kelsey Schneider	Jacob Hicks
PowerPoint	Richard Ault	Chad Doll	Nelson Golden	Ethan Jeanneret	Tina Waltz
Communion	Jeanne Clark	N/A	Jen & Rich	N/A	N/A
Servers	Heidi LaMarr		Garber		
Song Leader(s)	Ashley Schmerge	Jen Garber	Kristin Doll	Youth Cantors	Julie Miars Golden
Fellowship	Jen Garber	Kristi Fisher	Tina Waltz	Kathy & Tim Schneider	Willie Winter
Sound Tech	Rod Metz	Rich Garber	Chad Doll	Blake Rogers, Trent Lisi	Nelson Golden
Video Tech	Rich Garber	Dustin Jeanneret	Ryan Schneider	Dustin Jeanneret	Elaine Hawkins
5:00pm Saturday	1-Aug	8-Aug	15-Aug	22-Aug	29-Aug
Greeter	Laura Heitz	Mark Swaney	Marguerite Wallen	Dianne Knipp	Sandy Swaney
Bulletins	Marguerite Wallen	Sandy Swaney	Barb Srisongkham	Laura Heitz	Mark Swaney
Reader	Melissa Grunden	Laura Heitz	Sue Jeanneret	Carol Pretorius	Mark Swaney
Communion	Terry Shoup	Dianne Knipp	Mark & Sandy	Laura Heitz	Betty Elsass
Servers	Barb Srisongkham	Carol Pretorius	Swaney	Dianne Knipp	Sue Jeanneret
Singer	Carol Pretorius	Carol Pretorius	Carol Pretorius	Carol Pretorius	Carol Pretorius
Musician	Melissa Grunden	Melissa Grunden	Melissa Grunden	Melissa Grunden	Melissa Grunden
Altar Guild for the Month of August: Hannah Dickey, Kim Harter					