



St. Mark's United Methodist Church September 27th, 2026



Today's Wonderful Worship Volunteers Include:

Ushers: Ann Parker & Dennis Preslicka

Scripture Reader: Ann Fenner

Acolyte: Izzy & Nevaeh

Next Week Worship Volunteer Schedule:

Scripture Reader : Cheryl Davis

Acolyte: Melanie

Ushers: Cam Davis, David Bywater, & Lee McKnight

Communion Servers: Bob Kesselring, Brenda Mayer, Carol Preslicka,
Diane Berwald, & Sherry Kesselring

St. Mark's UMC, 2675 E. Washington Street, Iowa City

***NEW Website: www.smumcic.com**

Facebook - www.facebook.com/stmarksumcic/

Office – (319)337-7201 - Email – office@stmarks-umc.net

Rev. Alberta Ervin – (712)269-6968 – Email – alberta.ervin@iaumc.net





Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship:

Leader: Lord, we are here to give you our thanks and praise.

People: Everyday, I give thanks to you for making your presence known in my life.

Leader: Lord, I know that your way is the right way. However, sometimes I get impatient waiting.

People: Lord, help me find patience to hear your voice, so that I can answer your calling.

Leader: Lord, help us with patience to follow your lead.

People: Lord, may today be the day I hear your voice and answer your call.

Opening Hymn	We Sing to You, O God	Pg. 2001 TFWS
Scripture Reader	Genesis 15:1-6	Ann Fenner
Special Music	Old Time Religion Medley <i>Arr. Marc Hayes</i>	Chancel Choir
A Time for All God’s Children		Pastor Alberta

Offertory & Prayer – Doxology **Pg. 95 UMH**

 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**If you are paying via Tithe.ly app, please be sure to change “Fund” to General; Thank you for your gifts!*

Pastoral Prayer		Pastor Alberta
The Lord’s Prayer		pg. 895 UMH
Hymn of Preparation	He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought v 1, 2, 3	pg. 128 UMH
Scripture	Genesis 21:1-7	Pastor Alberta
Sermon	Abraham: God Always Does the Right Thing	Pastor Alberta
Closing Hymn	Here I Am Lord	pg. 593 UMH
Benediction		Pastor Alberta
Benediction Song	I've Got the Joy Down in My Heart	see slides

Postlude

Thank you for joining us in worship – we hope to see you again soon!



Announcements & Weekly News



Today's Special Offering: Iowa City Compassion

Iowa City Compassion is a Christ centered organization that engages culturally diverse communities together through hope, opportunities & partnerships. Together they equip people at their point of need to move out of poverty & inspire them to be of service to others.

**Please place donations to this special offering in the yellow envelope; located in the offering tray & at each usher stand. See today's usher for questions & thank you for your generous gifts!*



Going Deeper with God's Leaders

Sunday's Sept. 20th – Oct. 25th 11am - 12:00pm

Join Pastor Alberta each Sunday following worship in **Room 104** for a conversation style study to go deeper into the sermon of that day.

**There is no sign up necessary, no materials or cost, & no obligation to attend each week. This study is open to everyone! For more information, see the handouts located in Fellowship Hall & Narthex, or contact the office.*

Everyone is welcome! We hope you will join!

Loomatics

Every Monday in Room 103
10:00am – 12:00pm/Noon
&
4:00pm – 6:00pm

Join a fun group people who meet twice every Monday to recycle plastic bags into loomed sleeping mats for the unhoused.

Open to new members:
No sign up necessary, just come & join
No looming/weaving experience needed
no commitment to join in this wonderful mission.

Looming & Weaving Team

Please donate clean plastic bags to this mission by placing them in the marked bin located in Fellowship Hall.

Free American Sign Language & Deaf Notes Choir.

Join Lou & her class in learning ASL:

- No cost to attend
- No obligation
- No sign-up necessary
- No commitment necessary

All you have to do is show up!

It can't get much easier than that!

Free ASL classes are held in the
Wesley Room each week on:

**Monday's 6:00pm – 7:00pm &
Wednesday's 5:30pm – 7:15pm.**



EVERYONE IS



WELCOME!

If you have any questions regarding St. Mark's ASL classes please don't hesitate to contact:

St. Mark's office at:

office@stmarks-umc.net

&/or Lou at: schooleylo@gmail.com



**NSI (Non-Snap Items)
Meeting September 28th
9:45a.m. – 10:30am
in Room 101**

New members welcome!



NSI call for donations

September, we are collecting personal hygiene items. These include: male & female incontinence briefs such as Depends & Poise. Tampons & pads. "Help those having a hard time making it through."

Please consider helping the community.
Anything we can do is greatly appreciated.

Please place all donations in the marked bin located in Fellowship Hall & thank you for donations.

Please see Brenda Mayer, Julie Troyer, or Sherry Kesselring for any questions

thank you

A big THANK YOU to each & every one who helped with the pork chop BBQ! It takes a lot of work but is so appreciated & a good way to show our community who we are at St. Marks! – **Thank you!!**



Christmas Stockings
Wednesday's 1:00pm – 5:00pm
& the 2nd & 4th Sat. 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Room 103



Our goal is to be finished decorating by November 14th but that does mean we will need to decorate 40+ stockings per meeting, which mean *we really need help!!*

Everyone is invited to attend & join!
 There is no sign up necessary, just show up when you can!

Donations accepted at this time:

Sr High: Boys: deodorant (NO SPRAY!); decks of cards. Girls: Fluffy sox, nail polish.

Middle School: Boys: solid deodorant (no spray); decks of cards

Grades 3-5: grippy sox; card games.

Ages 4-8: grippy sox; small cars like matchbox, etc.; barbie-type dolls.

Ages 18m-3y: grippy sox; soft dolls; board books; other small toys

Ages 6-18m: grippy sox; bibs; board books.

Adults: Large print puzzle books, other puzzle books; Tooth brushes; fluffy sox

For All Ages: Winter hats; Gloves & mittens (especially); candy canes; chocolate, candy

Please place all donations in the marked bin located in Fellowship Hall between the bulletin boards & see the monthly newsletters for more information.

Warm Winter Wear:
Oct. 11-17th



This spell of cool weather reminds us that winter is coming. The Consultation of Religious Communities (CRC) & the Community Outreach Division of the Iowa City Police Dept. are again co-sponsoring this year's Warm Winter Wear Distribution during the week of Oct. 11 - 17.

Please see the flyers in Fellowship Hall & the Narthex for a list of items needed. You may bring your donations to St. Mark's Sunday - there is a drop off area in Fellowship Hall for these much-needed items (located under small bulletin board between windows).

A lot of volunteers are needed to make this very large community event run smoothly. If you are able to help during this important event please see the QR code above for access to the Sign-Up Genius.

See Mary Brown, Barrie Tritle & Dennis Preslicka for any questions.



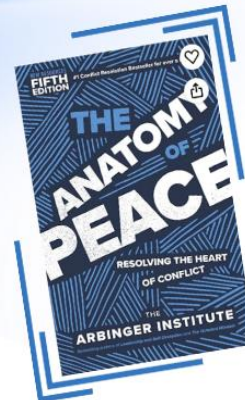
Anatomy of Peace Study

Join Pastor Alberta to go deeper into The Anatomy of Peace.

Thursdays in October from 6:30pm - 8:00pm in Room 104

Please feel free to join this study even if you do not have the book &/or are just wanting to see what this study is all about.

You will walk away from each session with a valuable lesson.



This study is not just for church members - everyone is welcome!
 Please see September & October monthly newsletter for more information.

Build a Ministry



THE SUMMIT

October 4

Ministry Summit 2.0 – You've heard Focus Forward talking about it & they are excited to announce & invite you to the fall ministry summit!

Build a Ministry: October 4th from 2:30pm to 4:30pm

Whether you currently have a ministry of your own, are part of a ministry, or are wanting to start a new ministry in St. Mark's, we would love to have your join. All will benefit from the summit.



Please consider attending, even if you missed the first one!

See a member of the Focus Forward team for more details &/or questions:
 David Bywater, Diane Berwald, Lowell Fenner, Donna Higgins, Cindy McDowell, & Rob Rindels.

*Thank you for joining us
 in Worship!*

We hope to see you again soon

