St. Mark's United Methodist Church

November 15th, 2026



Today's Wonderful Worship Volunteers Include:

Scripture: Kathy Welsh
Acolyte: Melanie
Ushers: Dennis Preslicka & Kay Seagren

Next Week Worship Volunteer Schedule:
Scripture: Brenda Mayer
Acolyte: Izzy & Nevaeh
Ushers: Jeremy Showers & Deb Jansen

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

INTERPRETING SERVICES • SIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES •

Announcements & Weekly News

~Everyone is welcome to all groups/ministries ~

~ You do not have to be a St. Mark's member to participate –

Today's Special Offering:
St. Mark's Fleece Blanket Project



"It is getting colder outside! Time to provide warm fleece blankets for those in need in our community. This is a project dear to my heart & I feel so blessed to do it again. The smiles on the faces of the recipients warms my heart. As they wrap the blanket around them, I picture God wrapping his arms around them with love and comfort. So let's do it again!!!" -*Kay Seagren*

The Fleece Blanket Project will start in December & are raising funds/fabric to get started. **Each blanket takes two different pieces of fleece 2 yards each.** With JoAnn's closed Hobby Lobby is the local source of fleece & have their material 30% off every other week. If this is something you would like to support, please donate money to purchase fleece or bring donated fleece to the church during November & the Team will prepare it for tying. – **Can you tie a knot? If so, we need you!** Please see the monthly newsletter for more information regarding the Fleece Blanket Project.

**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!

Knitting & Crochet Group

Please join us Wednesday the18th at 11:30am in the

Everyone is welcome to bring your own knit/crochet project to work on & enjoy fellowship while crafting.

United Women in Faith



Join UWIF November 18th 12:00pm in Fellowship Hall for a general meeting & potluck lunch!

DUE DATE

Due dates for articles to be included in the weekly **bulletin is every Tuesday by 9:00am.**

Due dates for articles to go in the **newsletter will be 5 business days prior to the end of the month**.

With the holidays coming up & office closures, please be sure to take note of these deadlines as we may not have time for late additions.

The week of Thanksgiving – please get to the office by Monday at 9:00am

DEADLINE

Building Use Forms Due Friday November 20th

If you lead or are part of a group that meets at the church be sure you have your reservation for **December '26 to Dec '27** scheduled. These forms are DUE on 11/20 because we will have extra staff to enter them for a short period of time. PLEASE get your reservations to the office by this date to have your rooms reserved for the upcoming year – your standing reservation will not continue without it.

*These forms can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex, in the office, & emails have been sent – if you did not get an email & would like it sent again please contact the office. ***Thank you!***

Hanging of the Greens

Please join us for Hanging of the Greens
November 22nd immediately following worship

Please help us welcome in the Christmas Season and celebrate Jesus' birth.

Feel free to bring a favorite Christmas cookie or snack to share!

Poinsettia Orders

Due to the office by December 7th

Two sizes available:

6" - $13 8" - $27

Order forms are available in the office & bulletin board in the Narthex. Please submit completed orders to the office/Mandy.

**Mark payment "Poinsettia"*
**Total includes tax.*

Social Media
A Great Way to Stay Connected!

Please help us get more views on social media to gain the ability to reach more of our community members.

The simple acts of liking, commenting &/or sharing a post helps us to be seen by more people & show up in your newsfeed.
Our social media accounts are an excellent way to keep each other informed, updated, & share the wonderful things going on within the church.

Do you lead or are a part of a ministry or mission in St. Mark's? Share your photos with the office &/or tag us in your photos & posts on social media!



Upcoming Events

- Advent Study Starts: November 29th after worship Room 104
- Consecration Sunday - December 13th
- Fleece Blanket Project: Dec. 13th, Jan 3rd, 10th & 17th
- Filling of Christmas Stockings: Starts December 2nd
- Blue Christmas: December 21st at 6:30pm
- Poinsettia orders due: December 7th
- Christmas Eve Service: December 24th at 5:30pm

The office will be Closed

November 20th & 26th-27th

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship:

Leader: Lord, you have loved us our entire lives.
People: You know me better than I know myself.
Leader: Lord, we have made our promises to love and serve you with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, & witness.
People: Is there more? I pray that you awaken in me the Holiness of your Spirit, opening my soul to the greatness of you.
Leader: We know everything is possible with your love, grace, and mercy.
People: Lord, I don't want to miss my special moment with you. Show the possibilities of how you can live in and through me.
Leader: By your grace Lord, open our hearts to that moment when our hearts can be strangely warmed by your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Opening Hymn	**The Summons** v 1, 2, 5	**#2130 TFWS**
Scripture Reader	**Matthew 1:18-25**	**Kathy Welsh**
Special Music	**Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing** *Arr. Jason Krug*	**Handbell Choir**
A Time for All God's Children		**Pastor Alberta**

Offertory & Prayer – Doxology **# 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		**# 895 UMH**
Hymn of Preparation	**To A Maid Engaged to Joseph** v 1, 3, 4, 6	**#215 UMH**
Scripture	**Luke 1:26-38**	**Pastor Alberta**
Sermon	**Mary: Don't Miss Your Moment With God**	**Pastor Alberta**
Closing Hymn	**Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly**	**#272 UMH**
Benediction		**Pastor Alberta**
Benediction Song	**As We Go**	**# 3169 W&S**

Postlude

Thank you for joining us in worship – we hope to see you again soon! -Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee time!