August 2026

THE SPIRE

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ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH EST. 1884

YOUTH & FAMILY LIFE

AUGUST 2026

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL "Under the Big Top"

Over 30 students joined us June 8-11 to learn about being strong & courageous in God's love! Thank you to every single volunteer that gave their time & talents to this year's VBS!

ST. MARK YOUTH MISSION TRIP to Asheville, NC

The last week of June, 8 youth and 2 adults traveled to Asheville, NC to assist with Hurricane Helene disaster relief efforts. It was an incredible trip filled with learning, hard work, fun, & faith! Thank you for supporting our youth mission team and making this trip possible!

Check out the VBS & Mission Trip recap videos at youtube.com/stmarktoledo!

LOOKING AHEAD:

SCHOOL SUPPLIES SHOP - Sunday, August 2 from 11:30am-12:30pm

We want to help students feel prepared & ready to take on the coming school year! We will be providing backpacks and school supplies to registered students Kindergarten-12th Grade. We need volunteers! Contact Emily H or Kim F to sign up to help!

AUGUST KIDS NIGHT - Weds. August 12 from 3:30pm-6:00pm

Our monthly Kids night is still going strong, serving 30+ kids monthly with groceries, dinner, and activities! All kids PreK-8th Grade are welcome to attend, and older youth are invited to volunteer! Do you feel called to volunteer in the kitchen or as a kids group leader? Contact Emily H for more information!

BACKPACK BLESSING - Sunday, August 16 at 9:30am Worship

Bring your backpack to worship to receive a special blessing for the school year!

SEPTEMBER KIDS NIGHT - Weds. September 9 from 3:30-6:00pm

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK OFF - Sunday, September 13 at 9:30am

Get ready for another amazing year of Sunday School at St. Mark! A special kick-off celebration will take place for PreK-5th Grade students in the Fellowship Hall, while 6-12th Grade students will meet upstairs in the St. Mark Gym!

CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETING - Sunday, September 13 at 9:30am

All 6th-8th Grade students & parents are encouraged to join us on Sunday, September 13th for our Confirmation Class Meeting! We will get to know one another, go over our Confirmation year calendar and theme, and answer any questions you may have.

Blessings & prayers as you wrap up your summer fun!

– Emily Hemminger
Youth & Family Life Director
emilyinministry@gmail.com

REV+flow BY REFIT

MOVE STRONGER, LONGER.

LOW IMPACT• FUNCTIONAL STRENGTH • INTENTIONAL MOVEMENT

BENEFITS

- Builds strength and endurance specific to each individual and allows for greater diversity in age, shape, size and ability.
- Low impact movements target as many muscle groups as possible which maximizes the workout to benefit the total body.
- This format provides the opportunity to move the body the way it was designed to move and focuses on functionality and mobility movements.

CLASS INFORMATION:

REV+FLOW w/ Jody Swartz

St. Mark Lutheran Church
611 Woodville Rd, Toledo, OH

Thursday night's at 6:30pm

September 10th - April 1st

$5 walk-in or $25 Punch card for 6 classes
Bring a yoga mat & 1lb, 2lb or 3lb dumbbells
*weights are not required

REFITREV.COM

GLEN HAMILTON age 89, passed away on July 3rd.

Memorials

GLEN HAMILTON by Sandy Schneider, Jeff & Kim Kruse, Jan Livingston, Joy Roecker, Fred & Denise Hahn, Dianne Davis.

There are two area theatre groups which regularly use our St. Mark facility for rehearsals and meetings. Oregon Community Theatre (OCT) is based at Fassett Junior High, and the school is not always available for rehearsals. The Village Players Theatre has its own building on Upton Avenue, but there are constantly shows running or in rehearsal in their limited space. Both of these groups are grateful for a place to rehearse. OCT has made some significant financial contributions to our operating budget, and the Village Players just awarded St. Mark its President's Award to recognize the church for its generosity. So, if you happen to see a group working on choreography in the gym or singing through a show tune in the choir room, say a quick prayer of gratitude for the amazing space that is St. Mark!

It's hard to believe that we are already reaching the end of summer. The office area renovation is almost complete. The nursery will be the last area to be completed. The Sunday morning children may still need to relocate to the Kid's Ministry room in the Fellowship Hall until the project is complete. There are two office desks being replaced as well. The kitchenette was sold to an individual who I learned runs a ministry in the Michigan area where he purchases homes and turns rooms into small apartments to help with unhoused individuals and families on a limited income. I felt that the kitchenette will fit right in with his mission!

Cabinets for Ryan's office and the kitchenette area have arrived. Once the floors are completed, the cabinets will be next in line to be installed. With Fall around the corner, the need for the use of the building becomes greater. Last year we had a girl's flag football team and softball team that practiced in the gym (using nerf-like balls for practice). There is often a theatre group rehearsing a few times a week along with choir and bell choir. I love to see the parking lot full and our building utilized.

I'm also looking forward to the group that started the exercise class called "Refit" to be back in the Fall as well. Their program is called "REV+FLOW" and will be offered once a week. I hope you all enjoy your August! Please reach out with any questions, suggestions and/or comments!

Beth Rokicki - Property Board

July Weekly Giving Totals

6/28 - 7/3
General Fund: $4,714
Dedicated Funds: $1,995
Total: $6,709

7/5 - 7/10
General Fund: $5,000
Dedicated Funds: $15
Total: $5,015

7/12 - 7/17
General Fund: $5,175
Dedicated Funds: $365
Total: $5,540

7/19 - 7/24
General Fund: $5,604
Dedicated Funds: $81
Total: $5,685

7/26 - 7/31
General Fund: $5,372
Dedicated Funds: $300
Total: $5,672

"General Fund" is used for everyday church expenses. "Dedicated Funds" are contributions directed to specific ministry areas and can only be used for those areas.

Weekly General Fund amount needed to meet annual budget: $8,293

The Still Ringing the Bell Capital Campaign has received commitments of $763,995, with $723,105 cash received as of Friday, July 31st.

Sunday In-Person Attendance

July 5th Total: 67

July 12th Total: 83

July 19th Total: 79

July 26th Total: 93

JUNE INCOME & EXPENSE

General: $37,006 (May $44,015)

Dedicated: $18,020 (May $11,174)

Capital Campaign: $22,320 (May $19,481)

Expenses: $37,451 (May $40,455)

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE (ONE SERVICE ON SUNDAYS)						1 Sharon Toth Memorial 11 am
2 **9:30 A.M. Worship** **School Supply Giveaway 11:30 am**	3 OCT Auditions 6-10 pm	4 OCT Auditions 5-10 pm A.A. at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall	5 OCT Call backs 5-10 pm Al-Anon 7pm In the Chapel	6	7	8
9 **9:30 A.M. Worship**	10	11 Council 6:30 pm A.A. at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall	12 Kid's Night 3:30pm - 6pm Al-Anon 7pm In the Chapel	13	14	15 Private Party in Hall
16 **9:30 A.M. Worship**	17	18 A.A. at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall	19 Al-Anon 7pm In the Chapel	20	21	22
23 **9:30 A.M. Worship**	24 Theater rehearsal in gym 6-9 pm	25 Theater rehearsal in gym 6-9 pm A.A. at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall	26 Neighborhood Dinner 5pm Al-Anon 7pm In the Chapel	27 Theater rehearsal in gym 6-9 pm	28	29
30 **9:30 A.M. Worship**	31 Theater rehearsal in gym 6-9 pm					

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