

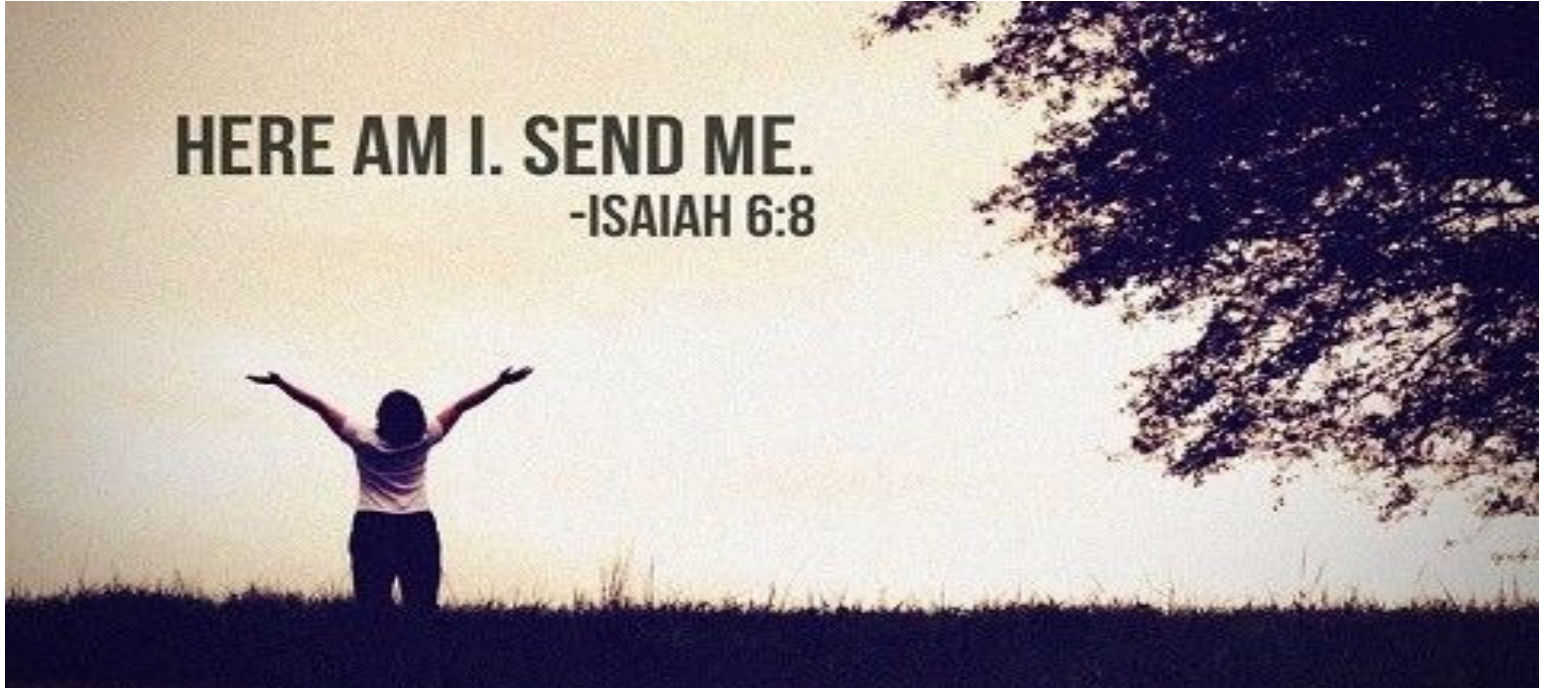
Weekly Announcements  
November 17, 2024

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN



In Christ, we Reach up,  
Reach out,  
Reach in

Service Times: Wednesday - 12:00 pm • Saturday - 5:00 pm  
Sunday - 8:30 am & 11:00 am • Sunday School 9:45 am (September - May)



### **NOVEMBER NOISY OFFERING - Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign**

One of the most-recognized symbols of The Salvation Army is the bell ringer with a red kettle standing in front of a grocery store or shopping mall. The Red Kettle Campaign is The Salvation Army's largest fundraiser, contributing thousands to help those in need throughout the country with invaluable services for our youth, seniors, and individuals in need of food support and emergency assistance.

*The Noisy Offering for October totaled \$10,274. Proceeds benefit the Tanzania Internet Project for Kashasha School.*

### **JOIN THE CHRISTMAS INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE**

Join the St. Mark's Christmas Instrumental Ensemble! All ability levels and ages welcome. Contact Josh soon in the church office 419-353-9305 or [josh@stmarksbg.org](mailto:josh@stmarksbg.org)

### **THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS - Donations Deadline: Sunday, November 17**

St. Mark's is collecting donations to assist the BG Christian Food Pantry Thanksgiving Basket campaign.

### **COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE - November 24, 7:00 pm (at FUM)**

Plan on attending the Community Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, November 24, at First United Methodist Church in Bowling Green. Non-perishable food donations and monetary offerings will go to Bowling Green area food pantries.

### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - December 1, 10:00 am (in Sanctuary)**

Please plan to join us on Sunday, December 1, for the Congregational Meeting at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. The purpose of this meeting is to approve the 2025 Ministry Plan.

### **CHRISTMAS GIFT PROJECT - Donations Deadline: Sunday, December 8**

All paper ornaments from the Angel Tree (across from the church office) have been claimed to purchase a gift for a man or woman at Wood Haven Nursing Home. Please have gifts in office (with ornament attached) before Dec. 8.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

# Thanksgiving Worship

Wednesday, November 27

12:00 pm

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!  
Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

*Psalms 100:4*

# Community THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Sunday, November 24, 2024 • 7:00 pm

First United Methodist Church

1526 E. Wooster St., Bowling Green

*Non-perishable food donations and monetary offerings  
will go to Bowling Green area food pantries.*

Sponsored by the Bowling Green  
Ministerial Association



# Thanksgiving FOOD BASKETS

Please help the BG Christian Food Pantry and St. Mark's collect the following items for this year's Thanksgiving Food Basket Giveaway.

- St. Mark's has been asked to collect:**
- 150 Cake Mixes**
  - 150 Frosting**
  - 150 Jiffy Mix**
  - 150 Cereal Boxes**

Please bring your donations into the church and place them on the food table across from the Welcome Center.

**Collection Deadline: Sunday, November 17**

All items collected will be delivered immediately following the 11:00 am worship service on November 17.

# HEY!!!!!!

## DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT?!

Join the St. Mark's  
Christmas Instrumental  
Ensemble!

### REHEARSALS THURSDAYS @ 6:00 PM

**ALL ABILITY LEVELS AND AGES WELCOME!  
COME HAVE FUN WITH US!**

**CONTACT JOSH BILLNITZER TO GET REGISTERED! JOSH@STMARKSBG.ORG**



## Youth Group and Oasis



# Friendsgiving

**DINNER - DEVOTION - GAMES**

25 NOVEMBER | 6 PM - 8 PM

St. Mark's Multipurpose Room  
315 S College Dr.

Contact the church office with questions  
419-353-9305

**GIFTS DEADLINE:**

**Sunday, December 8**

Please bring wrapped gift, with Angel Tree ornament attached, to St. Mark's no later than December 8.



**St. Mark's  
Christmas Concert**



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15**

ADULT CHOIR  
HANDBELL CHOIR  
INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

**3:00PM**

315 S. COLLEGE DR.,  
BOWLING GREEN, OH 43402

**Upcoming  
Youth Events**



**NOV  
25**

**FRIENDSGIVING  
6:00PM**

We will have thanksgiving dinner at the church.

**DEC  
01**

**EVENING PRAYER  
7:00PM**

Enjoy evening prayers, devotion, and meditation via Zoom.

**DEC  
15**

**CHRISTMAS PARTY  
12:30PM**

We will have a meal together at the church and games.



# Advent

## Mid-Week Services

Wednesday, December 4 12:00 & 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 11 12:00 & 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 18 12:00 & 6:30 pm

*(6:30 pm The Longest Night/Blue Christmas Service)*



## *The Longest Night - Blue Christmas Worship Service*

***December 18 ~ 6:30 pm***

Christmas can be a painful time for some. It may be the first Christmas without a beloved family member who has recently died; it may be a time that has always been difficult.

Through God's word and music, those who gather will feel God's presence and the light, of Christ, that shines even in the darkest days.

Worshippers may light candles in memory of loved ones.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church and the local Griefshare Grief Recovery Group invite anyone in the community who is mourning the loss of a loved one to join us the evening of Wednesday, December 18 at 6:30 pm at St. Mark's.

*A Service of Comfort and Hope*

# St. Mark's Lutheran Academy

November 11-15, 2024.



We started this week by paying tribute to our veterans. We are all so grateful for their service. It was another great week of fall weather, leaf piles, and making leaf soup on the playground!



We also learned about the Native Americans and Indigenous Groups that live in North America. The students made clay pinch pots, wove mats, made bead necklaces, and painted native patterns. So much fun!

*Veterans Day*  




## Coming Up:

Nov. 21 - Book Share Day  
26 - Class Thanksgiving Party  
27-29 - NO SCHOOL/  
Thanksgiving Break

## Contact Us:

[academy@stmarksbg.org](mailto:academy@stmarksbg.org)

419-353-9305





# ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN

CHURCH & ACADEMY

## Staff Spotlight



**Christy Brewster**  
SMLA Director

**If you could have one superpower, what would it be?**

Time travel

**What is your dream vacation?**

Hawaii, anywhere warm/tropical.

**What is your favorite meal?**

My mom's homemade chicken pot pie.

**What is your favorite musical artist or song?**

I like a wide variety of music. Reggae, 50's/60's, Dave Matthews, Big Band, Swing, Pop. Anything I can dance to... just not country.

**Did/Do you play any sports and/or musical instruments?**

I ran track in High School. I played flute and sang in choir. I loved the solo and ensemble competitions.

**Tell us about one hobby that you have:**

I love enjoying nature and spending time outside. God's country is beautiful.

**Tell us one fact about yourself that others may not know:**

I am related to Abraham Lincoln.

**Describe St. Mark's in five words or less:**

Friendly, Generous, and Kingdom-Focused

**What is your favorite part about your position?**

I love that each day is new; silly stories from the students, and the sense of community.

**How long have you been attending St. Mark's?**

My husband and I started attending in 2019.

**How long have you been employed by St. Mark's?**

I started working here in September 2021.



Hello  
*Winter*

Winter will be here before we know it, so we're planning now. The church is looking for able-bodied and willing volunteers to remove snow around the church property this winter season. It would be a weekend (Saturday/Sunday) commitment.

Please contact the church office for additional information (419)353-9305.



**Church  
office  
closed**

*Closed for*  
**Thanksgiving**  
*Thursday/Friday*  
**November**  
**28 & 29, 2024**

**Have You Directed Your 2024 Thrivent Choice Dollars?**

The Thrivent Choice program encourages benefit members to recommend where *Thrivent Financial* distributes an amount of its charitable grant funds. Members make this recommendation by directing Choice Dollars to enrolled nonprofit organizations, including churches.



**Log in to your account and direct your 2024 Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. Mark's today!**



*Coffee Hour*  
**Table Talk**

**Sunday, Nov. 17** 10:00 Family Life Center

Join us in the Family Life Center between services and find out what is happening at St. Mark's...





# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

December 1, 2024  
10:00 AM  
in the Sanctuary

For approval of the  
2025 Ministry Plan

The meeting will also be live-streamed on [stmarksbg.org](http://stmarksbg.org).

**AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING PROGRAM**

St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
after school tutoring  
program for all subjects  
grades 1st-5th.

Wednesdays 3:30-4:45  
315 S. College Dr.

You and your family are invited to our free  
community meal following tutoring.

If you are interested in bringing your child for tutoring,  
please contact Stella in the church office  
**419-353-9305**

## Christmas Gift Ideas St. Mark's Apparel

### Available Items:



- Cotton T-Shirt
- Long Sleeve Cotton T-Shirt
- Core Fleece Sweatshirt
- Core Fleece Hooded Sweatshirt
- Soft Ring Spun Fleece Hooded Sweatshirt
- Lightweight Snag-Proof Polo
- Ladies Lightweight Snag-Proof Polo
- Core Fleece Quarter Zip Sweatshirt
- Core Fleece Full Zip Sweatshirt

SIZES AVAILABLE VARY FROM 2T AND YOUTH TO ADULT 5XL • VARIOUS COLORS

**ORDER BEFORE DECEMBER 1 TO  
RECEIVE BY CHRISTMAS!**



Delivery Options to your Home (shipping fees)  
or Pickup at Church Office (free)

**SCAN ABOVE QR CODE TO ORDER, OR GO ONLINE...**  
[https://store.ortinauart.com/st\\_marks\\_church/shop/home](https://store.ortinauart.com/st_marks_church/shop/home)

## food for the soul...

from Women of Faith

Nest Gathering: November 24, 2024 ~ 6:30 pm  
Multipurpose Room

### Upcoming themes for discussion:

- |                    |                             |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| September 29       | Godspace                    |
| October 27         | You Are Contemplative       |
| <b>November 24</b> | <b>Everyone Is In There</b> |
| December 29        | Wilderness Guidebook        |
| January 26         | Sounds of Silence           |
| February 23        | We Are Changed              |



For information or to let us know you need child care, call Chris Budke (419-806-9886), or the church office (419-353-9305)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
*Christmas*  
**CRAFTS**

Join us during the education hour in the Family Life Center on December 1 for Christmas crafts with your family!

**What you can create:**

- ✓ Candy cane nativity ornament
- ✓ DIY wood nativity ornament
- ✓ DIY wood nativity stable

*Purchase your*  
**FRESH PINE**  
*Wreaths*

**December 1**  
**9:30 AM**

Decorated and ready for the holidays!  
 All proceeds go to the  
**St. Mark's Mission Fund**

JOIN US FOR THE  
**ST. MARK'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

**"NEW STAR"**

**Sunday, December 15**  
 10:00 am  
 Family Life Center

*Practices will be on*  
**December 8** during the Sunday School hour  
 and **December 15** during the 8:30 service

**COOKIE WALK**  
*Outreach Fundraiser*

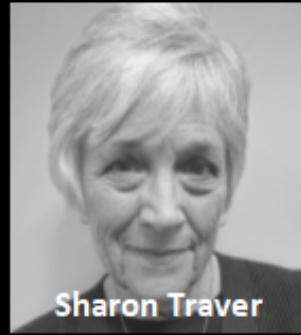
Join us for our first ever Christmas Cookie Walk fundraiser in the Family Life Center. Grab a plate, add your cookies, and pay at the end!

**Sunday, December 15**  
 9:00 am-12:00 pm  
 Family Life Center

**More Information:**  
 If you are interested in donating cookies please email [stella@stmarksbg.org](mailto:stella@stmarksbg.org) or call the church office!



Brian Bushong



Sharon Traver



Craig McKibben

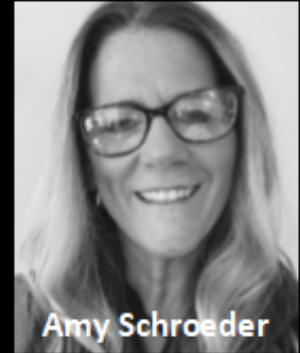


Josh Billnitzer



Pr. Robin Small

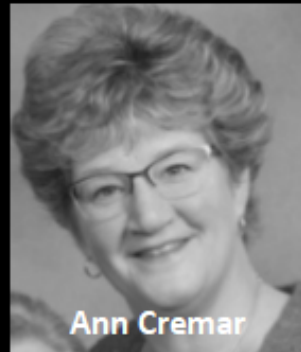
**St. Mark's Lutheran  
Church  
Care Team  
2024**



Amy Schroeder



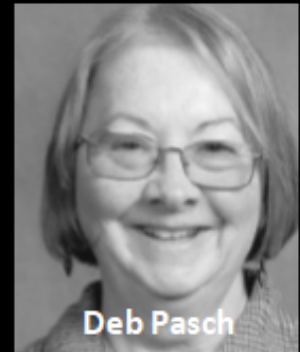
Mary Champion



Ann Cremar



Denise Kisabeth



Deb Pasch



Pr. Ken Pollitz



Pr. Jim Budke



Tim Billnitzer



Stella Miller

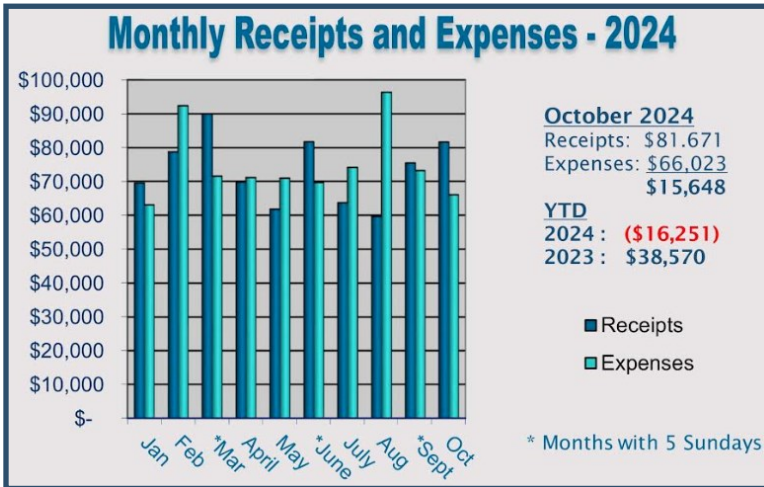
The St. Mark's Lutheran Church Care Team is a new ministry that provides support and care to congregation members experiencing difficult times or crises. They are trained to listen, care, and connect people with Christ's healing love. The focus of our Care Team is to assist the pastoral staff in responding to the spiritual, physical, emotional, and relational needs of the congregation and to engage in the ongoing expression of living faithfully within the Body of Christ. Would you, or someone you know, care to have a care team member contact them? Please contact Pastor Robin.

When speaking of the church, the Apostle Paul said, "All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it." 1 Cor. 12:27

St. Mark's...

- ◆ **Reaches Up** to God in worship services on Sundays
- ◆ **Reaches Out** to love our neighbors through ministries like Wood County Area Ministries (WAM), Furniture Pantry Plus, Quilting Ministry, Youth and Campus Ministries and more.
- ◆ **Reaches In** with in-person Worship, Bible Study, Catechism, Sunday School, Youth Group, Campus Ministry, to help Christians grow in their faith.

St. Mark's is grateful for your financial, tangible, and intangible contributions this year. As you can see, our mission to Reach up, Reach out and Reach in continues to impact our community and neighbors. This work is not possible without every single member of our congregation responding to God's call to do God's work in this world.



Thank you for being part of the body of Christ!

# NOVEMBER Birthdays

- |    |                  |    |                 |
|----|------------------|----|-----------------|
| 1  | Shirley Wilford  | 19 | Jim Woelke      |
| 3  | Jane Wood        | 19 | Ella Sommerfeld |
| 4  | Tim Westhoven    | 20 | Mary Gwin       |
| 4  | Chris Blake      | 20 | Lori Long       |
| 8  | Karen Johnson    | 21 | Michele Dewese  |
| 8  | Angie Blake      | 21 | Jim Amspoker    |
| 8  | Angie Adams      | 22 | Simon Budke     |
| 9  | Paul Neal        | 23 | Andrew Nelson   |
| 10 | John Frobose     | 24 | Joel Hiltner    |
| 11 | Cindy Hollinger  | 24 | Tim Barnhisel   |
| 12 | Deb Bowe         | 24 | Atonn Smeltzer  |
| 12 | Doug Pendleton   | 24 | Asa Lanning     |
| 13 | Taylor Barnhisel | 25 | Lauryn Biegel   |
| 13 | Brandon Bowe     | 25 | Max Maurer      |
| 13 | Tessa Meyer      | 25 | Joey Budke      |
| 14 | Kayla Carpenter  | 27 | Linda Gray      |
| 18 | Kim Warnke       | 27 | Lona Leck       |
| 18 | Jenifer Reynolds | 27 | Larissa Leck    |
| 18 | Cole Christensen | 29 | Scott Gerwin    |
| 18 | Chelsey DeVore   | 29 | Micah Hickman   |
| 19 | Mark Woelke      | 30 | James Turnow    |

## St. Mark's Dartball

Hosts Cloverdale



Monday, Nov. 18 (7:30 pm)

Contact the church office for  
**DARTBALL** more information (419-353-9305)

Come out and support your St. Mark's Team!

## Online Worship

If you wish to watch online, click on this link:

**YOUTUBE LIVE STREAMS:**

**Sundays: 8:30 & 11:00 am**

Remember to contact the office if you are having difficulty connecting.

We are happy to help!



# Thank You VOLUNTEERS

<b>SAT/SUN VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:</b>		
<b>Roles</b>	<b>Saturday, Nov. 16</b>	<b>Saturday, Nov. 23</b>
<b>5:00 PM Worship Team</b>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Communion</i>
Scripture Reader	Pasch, Deb	Mercer, Yarin
Worship Assistant	Mercer, Sophia	Mercer, Sophia
Worship Assistant	Mercer, Yarin	Philo, Jodee
<b>Roles</b>	<b>Sunday, Nov. 17</b>	<b>Sunday, Nov. 24</b>
<b>8:30 AM Worship Team</b>	<i>Communion (stations)</i>	<i>Communion (stations)</i>
8:30 - Greeters	Neal, Paul	Clinard, Jane
	Neal, Sarah	Nelson, Cathy
	Sergent, Barb	Nelson, Mary
	Sergent, Roger	Wood, Jane
8:30 - Ushers	Ashenfelter, Bob	Bowe, Al
	Heilmeier, Brian	Bresler, Ed
	Heilmeier, Eric	Cremer, Ann
	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Holcomb, Jeff
8:30 - Assisting Minister	Johnson, Hobie	Imbrock, Ruth
8:30 - Acolyte	Heilmeier, C/Lawrie, A	Ruffner, R / Walch, C
8:30 - Crucifer	Budke, Adam	Ruffner, Jessica
8:30 - Communion Server	Garnder, Sandy	Garnder, Sandy
	Herringshaw, Darlene	Kisabeth, Denise
	Klotz, Ethan	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
8:30 - Communion Set-Up/Clean-Up	Klotz, Ethan	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
8:30 - Stream Operator	Ruffner, Reese	Kellermeier, Wes
<b>11:00 AM Worship Team</b>	<i>Communion (stations)</i>	<i>Communion (stations)</i>
11:00 - Greeters	Crawford, Mary Beth	Groves, Julie
	Crawford, Mike	Schimpf, Jane
	Nelson, Mark	Staib, Joan
	Nelson, Rebecca	-
11:00 - Ushers	Boswell, Eric	Hollinger, Cindy
	Nester, James	Hollinger, Dave
	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Keller, Gary
	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Keller, Laura
11:00 - Assisting Minister	Bushong, Brian	Weiss, Larry
11:00 - Acolyte	Boswell, Gracelyn	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
11:00 - Crucifer	Nester, Emma	Lenox, Jordyn
11:00 - Communion Server	Johnson, Betsy	Lenox, Carol
11:00 - Communion Set-Up/Clean-Up	Klotz, Ethan	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
11:00 - Stream Operator	Boswell, Cole	Adams, Logan
<b>Hospitality Team</b>		
Coffee Hour Host	Tyrrell, Cindy	Wobser, Greg & Sue
<b>Nursery Team</b>		
Nursery Attendant	Blake, Natalie	Bowe, Morgan
	Bowe, Morgan	
<b>Money Counter Team</b>		
Money Counters	Jennings, K/Woelke, M	Jennings, K/Klotz, S

## 2024-25 Church Council

### President

Craig McKibben 419-395-2314  
mckibbenc@defnet.com

### Vice President

Brian Bushong 419-308-8490  
Brian.Bushong@gmail.com

### Council Members

Bob Ashenfelter 419-367-6202  
rjash@bex.net

Katie Budke 419-341-7561  
katiebudke@gmail.com

Leah Budke 419-966-2839  
lrbudke@gmail.com

Michael Dahl 701-541-4761  
michael.joseph.dahl@gmail.com

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wes.kellermeier@gmail.com

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cjlenox97@gmail.com

Sarah Neal 419-376-0337  
photosneal@gmail.com

Doug Niekamp 419-305-2466  
doug\_niekamp@hotmail.com

### Legal Secretary

James Nester 419-297-0522  
jnester1999@gmail.com

### Council Secretary

Debbie Bruns 419-308-8900  
dbruns@bgsu.edu

## Church Staff

### **Robin Small**

Pastor, ext.115  
pastorrobin@stmarksbg.org

### **Ken Pollitz**

Pastor (Part-Time)  
pastorken@stmarksbg.org

### **Jim Budke**

Pastor (Part-Time Visitation)  
pastorjim@stmarksbg.org

### **Mike Schroeder**

Parish Administrator, ext. 121  
mike@stmarksbg.org

### **Josh Billnitzer**

Director of Music & Communications, ext. 111  
josh@stmarksbg.org

### **Stella DeWitt**

Director of Youth & Christian Education, ext. 127  
stella@stmarksbg.org

### **Christy Brewster**

Academy Director/Lead Teacher, ext. 129  
christy@stmarksbg.org

**Gretchen Germann, Bridget Quinlan, Jami Deering**  
Academy Teachers, ext. 129

### **Debbie Bruns**

Part-Time Secretary, ext. 112  
debbie@stmarksbg.org

### **Kevin McGill**

Organist

### **Cleve Patten**

Pianist

### **Norm Carpenter**

Handbell Choir Director

### **Rob Dimon, Jay Pilkington**

Custodians

### **Marilyn Noble**

Treasurer

### **Sandy Gardner**

Financial Secretary, Money Counter Coordinator