

**St. Mark's UMC ~ Men's Conference / Retreat
Sat., August 22, 2026 (8:30am-3:30 pm) in CLC**

This is a one-day event for any man seeking a time of worship, fellowship, and great spiritual teaching.

For more info please contact Rev. Ryan McGough em:

Ryan@saintmarksum.org or Register with link below:

<https://saintmarksum.shelbynexthms.com/external/form/08cb8f48-709c-4321-9c91-8bfcf1d714f0>

Weds., Adult Bible Studies @ 6 pm in Wesley Center
Men's and Women's Studies & New - Veterans Bible Study @ 6 pm
Also, our Summer Bible Study "Messy People." at 10:00 am in Robe Room and 6:00 pm in Wesley Center. Taught by Pastor Jon Kaufman

Children's Ministry

Sunday School Teachers Needed!

For details and all sign-ups contact Anna McGough at
anna@saintmarksum.org

Youth Ministry

Youth Sunday Nights begin: July 12

Thurs., July 16 – "We Will Go!" Service Day meet at SWH 8:30 am

Fri. + Sat. July 17-18 – Guys Lock-In / Overnight - CLC

For details email us at youth@saintmarksum.org

Trendsetter Opportunities *for anyone 50+...*

Branson, MO Trip - Postponed until Spring 2027

Sun., July 12 – New Stage Theatre "High School Musical, JR"

Thurs., July 16 - Play Mahjong @ 9am in CLC

Bingo, Concerts, Live Theatre, Movies & Trips...Join the fun!

Sign up in church office. For details text Sandra Thomas at

601-940-5120 or email Info@saintmarksum.org

Media / Technology Volunteer Assistants Needed!

Flexible scheduling – must be available during Sunday Services

Please contact Dennis O'Neal with interest phone:

601-992-2131 (ext. 116) or email: Info@saintmarksum.org

SUNDAY, JULY 12

8:20 am Trad. Worship (1) (Greeters)
9:30 am Sunday School (1+2+3+4)
10:45 am Trad. Worship (1) (Greeters)
10:45 am 11th Hour Worship (5) (Greeters)
1:15 pm Trendsetters - New Stage Theatre (Bus)
5:00 pm Handbell Practice (1-Robe Rm)
5:30 pm Youth Sunday Night (4+5)

MONDAY, JULY 13

8:00 am Walking with Joy (5)
10:00 am Joyful Connections Respite (5)
10:00 am Women's Bible Study (1-Choir Rm)
7:00 pm AA (2)

TUESDAY, JULY 14

8:00 am Walking with Joy (5)
10:00 am Chair Yoga (5)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

7:00 am Men's Prayer Group (1-Robe Rm)
8:00 am Walking with Joy (5)
10:00 am Adult Study (1-Robe Rm)
10:00 am Chair Yoga (5)
5:30 pm Youth Wednesday Night (4)
6:00 pm Adult Bible Studies (2)
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Practice (1)
7:00 pm 11th Hr. Praise Team Practice (5)

THURSDAY, JULY 16

8:00 am Walking with Joy (5)
8:30 am Youth "We Will Go!" Service (4-Meet)
9:00 am Trendsetters – Mahjong! (5)
5:30 pm Pickleball (5)
6:00 pm "Journeymen" (2)
7:00 pm AA (2)

FRIDAY, JULY 17

8:00 am Walking with Joy (5)
10:00 am Chair Yoga (5)
5:00 pm Youth - Guys Overnight (5)

SATURDAY, JULY 18

8 am Youth – Guys Overnight (5)

SUNDAY, JULY 19

8:20 am Trad. Worship (1) (Greeters)
9:30 am Sunday School (1+2+3+4)
10:45 am Trad. Worship (1) (Greeters)
10:45 am 11th Hour Worship (5) (Greeters)
4:00 pm Finance Council Meeting (1-Choir Rm)
5:00 pm Handbell Practice (1-Robe Rm)
5:30 pm Youth Sunday Night (4+5)

Key:

1 – Sanctuary Building
2 – Wesley - Adult Ed.
3 – Asbury - Children's Ed.
4 – SWH – Youth Bldg.
5 – CLC – Christian Life Center



***"Authentically Imperfect Christ Followers
Uniting all seeking Grace and Belonging."***

**July 12th, 2026
7th Sunday after Pentecost**

Contact Us:

(601) 992-2131

info@saintmarksum.org

Ministry Staff

Jon Kaufman, Senior Pastor

Ryan McGough, Associate Pastor

Sandra Thomas, Pastor of Worship & Senior Adults

Anna McGough, Director of Next Gen Ministries

Elliott Frankel, Director of Youth Ministries

Connect With Us Online:

www.saintmarksum.org

Facebook - St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Instagram – [stmarksumc_brandon](https://www.instagram.com/stmarksumc_brandon)

TikTok - [stmarksumc](https://www.tiktok.com/@stmarksumc)

Traditional Service
July 12th, 2026
7th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering and Announcements

Prelude

+Call to Worship

+Hymn *Stand By Me* # 512

Affirmation of Faith *Apostle's Creed* # 881

Response *Gloria Patri* # 70

Musical Offering *All Good Gifts*
 Jason Boyd, Staci Curry, Shera Higbee

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Anthem *Shall We Gather at the River* Choir

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Youth Trip Video

Doxology # 94

Passing of the Peace

+Hymn *Thy Word Is a Lamp* # 601
 Children ages 3K through 5K are
 dismissed to Children's Church

Scripture Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Sermon "Seeds of Grace" Rev. Jon Kaufman

+Hymn *Hymn of Promise* # 707

+Benediction

Postlude

+Please stand as you are able.

Holy Communion immediately follows 8:20 am service, except on first Sundays.

Livestream available for 8:20 am Traditional & 10:45 am 11th Hour on St. Mark's UMC FB or at Saintmarksum.org

Nursery is available ages up to and including two (2) years.

To Request Prayers Email: Prayerrequest@saintmarksum.org
(A complete copy of our Prayer List available at the exits doors)

St. Mark's Devotional & Prayer Line 601-487-0930
Call St. Mark's Devotional & Prayer Line to hear a devotional message and a word of prayer. It's available anytime you need encouragement or spiritual reflection.

The prayer message is typically updated weekly.

Seeds of Grace

The Type of Sower, Not the Type of Soil
What if this Parable is more about the Sower than the ground. A wise farmer protects his seed. This one gives it away — to hard ground, rocky ground, thorny ground, and good ground.

Seeds of the Kingdom
The seed the Sower scatters is the word of the kingdom —the very acts of Jesus' ministry: healing what's broken, welcoming who's been shut out, and making all things new. Wherever that seed lands and takes root, kingdom life begins to grow.

Grace Before Readiness
The Sower doesn't wait for the ground to prove itself. That's grace — God's love reaching us before we're ready to receive it or have done anything to earn it.

Undeterred by Failure
Three soils fail before the fourth produces a harvest. The Sower doesn't stop after the losses. He keeps sowing — trusting the harvest to God, not to guaranteed results.

What It Means for Us
What if it's not our job to decide who's "good soil" before we extend grace, welcome, or love? What if we left that to God and instead, simply keep sowing — generously, repeatedly, even where the ground looks unlikely to ever produce.

Wednesday Nights at St. Mark's

Weds. Night Supper is recessed for Summer we will resume September 9th!

Please scan the QR Code below to Register or call Church Office at 601-992-2131.



Reminder
Wednesday Night Adult Studies at 6:00 pm in Wesley Center
All Welcome!



St. Mark's Online Shelby Giving

Please scan the QR code with your smartphone to access the Shelby Giving app. Thank you for your continued support of our Ministries!

THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT:	
5/31/2026	Yr. 2026
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	\$ 1,259,835.00
AMOUNT RECEIVED YTD	\$524,333.00
AMOUNT EXPENDED YTD	-\$520,773.00
REVENUE Over/Under EXPENSE	\$3,560.00
UNPAID MISSION SHARES	\$17,062.00

BIBLE READINGS

SUNDAY, July 12
Genesis 25:19-34
Psalms 119:105-112
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

MON., July 13
Psalms 142
Micah 1:1-5
1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

TUES., July 14
Jeremiah 49:7-11
Ephesians 4:17-5:2

WEDS., July 15
Obadiah 15-21
Matthew 13:10-17

THURS., July 16
Psalms 139:1-12,23-24
Isaiah 44:1-5
Hebrews 2:1-9

FRI., July 17
Ezekiel 39:21-29
Hebrews 6:13-20

SAT, July 18
Exodus 14:9-25
Matthew 7:15-20

SUNDAY, July 19
Genesis 28:10-19
Psalms 139:1-12,23-24
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30,36-43