

January 7, 2018 Announcements

Announcements, **not to exceed 150 words**, are to be submitted to bulletin@stmarks.net by **5:00 pm on the Tuesday** proceeding the Sunday you wish the announcement to run.

Official Parish Calendar online at: <http://www.stmarks.net/connect/calendar/>

From the Vestry and Parish Leadership

1. ANNUAL MEETING - FEBRUARY 25th The annual meeting is scheduled for February 25th this year, a bit earlier than usual. That means it's time to start thinking about serving on the Vestry or as a Diocesan Delegate. Look in the tract racks in the Nave for a brochure about the duties of each job and a nomination form; you'll need the signatures of 10 pledging members to be on the slate. Questions? Ask Karen Wiedemann at nominatingcom@stmarks.net or Nora at seniorwarden@stmarks.net. Are you a Parish Pillar Chair? You'll be writing a report about last year; start sharpening your pencil! Doris Burton is coordinating the Annual Report; her email is dmburton21@gmail.com and you should have heard from her by now.

2. 2017 Year-end Contribution Statements will be sent out via e-mail in mid-January. If the church does not have an e-mail address on file for you, your statement will be mailed via USPS. If you do not receive an email with your contribution statement by about January 19th, try searching for "Your giving statement," which will be in the subject line, in case it ended up in your spam box.

3. Become a Hospitality Hero in 2018. We have had a highly successful year providing hospitality for all, or almost all, Sundays at 10:45 coffee hour, Sunday lunch and after 5 PM service. Please sign up for slots for 2018 on the posters in Baxter Hall for 10:45 coffee hour and Sunday lunch; and, starting today, on the poster in the Nave at the 5 PM service. Please plan to be a 2018 St Mark's Hospitality Hero!

Christian Education

4. Ongoing Christian Education. These groups meet weekly and are open to newcomers:

* **Wednesday Morning Bible Study, 11:00am-12:15pm, Elders Room** (Brown bag lunch until 1pm)
Studying The Dream of God by Verna Dozier.

Leader: Peter Mosley Coordinator: Raiford Gaffney, rgaffneydc@gmail.com

* **Sunday Morning Bible Class, Sundays, 10-11 am, Penniman Room**

Studying the Book of Amos Convener: Bob Ewald (lberbe@yahoo.com) (301) 541-5133)

* **SMCC Meditation, Mondays 7:30-9pm, the Nave.** Contact: Collie Agle chagle@washpathfind.com

Music & Arts

5. Sing in a Choir! Singers of all voice parts are needed in the **Chancel Choir (rehearses Thursdays 7:30-9:30)** and the **Boys & Girls Choir (rehearses approximately every other Sunday 11:00am-12:30pm)**. The **Handbell Choir** is also looking for people to ring hand bells (rehearses approximately **every other Wednesday 6:45-8pm**). No prior experience is required. Questions? Contact Jeff Kempeskie, Director of Music: jeff@stmarks.net

6. Music Lessons. The St. Mark's Music Studio has two new teachers! Annie Simon (simon.annie@gmail.com) now offers voice lessons in addition to Adam Caughey (adamcaughey@gmail.com). Stephanie Ng (stephanien217@gmail.com) now offers piano lessons in addition to Jeff Kempeskie (jeff@stmarks.net). Students of all ages and experience are welcome. Learn more about our new teachers at stmarks.net/music

Youth & Family Ministries

7. TODAY- Family Fellowship Ice Skating: While our Sunday School teachers are receiving a much needed break, join your St. Mark's family on TODAY at 10am for a fun ice skating outing! We will gather in the Adams Room for donuts at 10am and then walk down together to the Canal Park Ice Rink. This is an event for the entire family, so everyone is invited! Adults skate for \$14 and kids skate for \$13.

8. We are back in Sunday School at 10am next week!

9. January 21- High School Service Trip Interest Meeting: Calling all rising 9th-12th grade youth! Join us for an informational meeting at 11am in the Adams Room on Sunday, Jan. 21 about our trip to rural Appalachia with Appalachian Service Project this summer, June 17-23.

10. January 21- Safeguarding God's Children Training: We are partnering with Christ Church Episcopal on Capitol Hill to host a Safeguarding God's Children Training from 2pm-5pm on Jan. 21 at Christ Church (just down the street). See the website for more information, and email Caroline to RSVP.

11. January 28- Middle School Service Trip Interest Meeting: Calling all rising 6th-8th grade youth! Join us for an information meeting at 11am in the Adams Room on Sunday, Jan. 28 about our trip to Harper's Ferry, WV with FLOC'S Outdoor Education Center this summer, July 12-15.

12. Save the Date for our annual Family Ski Trip- Feb. 16-19! We will be returning to Canaan Valley, WV for our annual ski weekend. Registration is open now at stmarks.net.

Questions regarding these activities? **Contact Director of Youth and Family Ministries Caroline McReynolds-Adams** caroline@stmarks.net

Outreach

13. Outreach Support of CHUMC Meals Program. Today, please pick up a casserole pan (which contains an easy recipe, a date label, and detailed delivery suggestions) on the table near the High Altar. The pans are provided to the congregation on the first and second Sundays of every month. Parishioners are encouraged to prepare one or more casseroles and deliver them in person to the Capitol Hill United Methodist Church (CHUMC) located three blocks from St. Mark's Church. CHUMC, in turn, feeds our needy and hungry neighbors on the hill throughout the week. Need more information? Please contact Jack Richards (703) 751-1456.

14. Alisa Earnest – Seeking 20s/30s Pen and Phone Pals and an Update: – Alisa Earnest was arrested and jailed more than two years ago. She's now at Greensville Correctional Center (Jarratt, VA), and expects to be released in 2025. We particularly need 20s/30s to be in touch with her by phone, email, or letter, especially if you share her interests in science fiction, LGBTQ with emphasis on T (trans), mental health/relationships, or mechanical and automotive engineering. For more on Alisa, parish support, the legal effort and the giant birthday card, see the 2017 status report: <http://j.mp/aestm171028> or contact Christoph Berendes (berendes@netalyst.com).

Parish Life

15. Seeing the Face of God in Each Other – An Anti-Racism Workshop Friday, January 12 from 12-8:30 pm and Saturday, June 13 from 8 am to 4 pm. The Episcopal Diocese of Washington will host this anti-racism workshop for 30 individuals. Join other Episcopalians from around the diocese and delve into this timely, thought-provoking and often divisive topic. The Diocesan professionally trained staff will lead attendees in striving to find common ground to use as a basis for overcoming racism. Participants will meet at St. John's Norwood in Bethesda. Parking available. For more information and registration go to <https://goo.gl/tfuvGa>

16. Haitian Art Returns: Many of you will remember the wonderful 2016 Vassar Haiti Project sale of original and affordable paintings and handicrafts raising funds to aid residents of dozens of villages served by their medical clinic in Fierville and families in the mountain village of Chermaitre. The project returns to St. Mark's Friday, Feb. 2 from 6-9, Saturday, Feb. 3 from 10-4, and Sunday, Feb. 4 from 9-2. Vassar students will help with the sales which support not only sustainable development but artists in Haiti. Haiti is still suffering from the effects of the devastating 2010 earthquake and hurricanes in 2016 and 2017. For most information about the project, go to www.thehaitiproject.org

17. The Saint Mark's Players present Tony Kushner's *Bright Room Called Day*. It is "unabashedly political, thought-provoking, a little scary, and frequently a good deal of theatrical fun..." (*Chicago Tribune*). Performances are January 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, and 27 at 8 pm and January 27 at 2 pm in the Nave. For tickets or more information, visit the box office online at www.stmarksplayers.org.

18. Save the Date for St. Mark's Women to Women Thursday, February 15th 6:30-8:30 – Loretta Woodward Veney joins us for a potluck, book signing and discussion on caregiving and her experience writing two books: 'Being My Mom's Mom' and 'Refreshment for the Caregiver's Spirit'. Contact: Edna Temaner at ednaboon@gmail.com

19. MARDI GRAS DANCE SAVE THE DATE! We hope everyone will join us on **Friday, February 9 from 6 to 10 pm** for a keep-the-winter-blues-away Mardi Gras dinner and dance. This is an all-parish event with babysitting, kids' activities, a live band, a delicious dinner and dancing until the Fat Tuesday lady sings! Tickets go on sale soon! Contact: Julie Murphy, juliaabbotmurphy@gmail.com.

20. St. Mark's Reading Group meets on the **third Wednesday** of every month in the Dozier Library at **12:30 p.m.** Feel free to bring your lunch. On **January 17** we will discuss *The Spectator Bird* by Wallace Stegner. On **February 21** we will discuss *Everyone Brave is Forgiven* by Chris Cleave. Contact: Linda Ewald, lherbe@yahoo.com 301-541-5133

Worship

21. Bread and Wine 11:15am. Thanks to you, December is filled. I have posted January. Thanks again, Cecilie and Bill. <https://is.gd/stmbw2017winter> cecbill@mac.com.