

November 5, 2017 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/>

Outreach

1. 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.

2. Panel: Challenges and Opportunities Facing Women in the Middle East and North Africa
St. Mark's Middle East Working Group and Women to Women together with Hands Along the Nile invite you to come learn about the challenges and opportunities facing women in the Middle East and North Africa. A group of six women's rights activists from Egypt, Tunisia, and Morocco will be joining us on **Wednesday, November 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. in Baxter Hall** to explore women's political participation, public health issues facing women, and women's entrepreneurship in their region. We hope to see you there! Contact Jennifer Cate jcate@handsalongthenile.org.

3. Thanksgiving Basket Drive to Share Dinners. As we prepare for Thanksgiving, many of us feel called to share our abundance with those in our community who lack the resources to provide their families with a special meal. Please join St. Mark's Outreach Board in partnering with Capitol Hill Group Ministry (CHGM) to provide Thanksgiving baskets to our community's low income families. All it takes is this: When you come to church on **November 19th**, **bring a reusable shopping bag with the following**: two 14.5 oz. cans green beans; two 15 oz. cans yams or fresh equivalent; two 14 oz. cans cranberry sauce; 3 boxes mac & cheese; 2 boxes stuffing; 1 bag rice or mashed potatoes; 2 onions; 1 box muffin/biscuit mix; 1 box cake mix/frosting; one \$25 gift card for meat (Safeway, HT, Giant). For planning purposes we give CHGM the number of "baskets" we expect to provide, so please "RSVP" by emailing Jane Rutherford at janerutherford419@gmail.com.

4. November 19: Inclusivity Lecture by David Super; Legal Precedent in "The New Jim Crow."
Whether you have been reading "The New Jim Crow" by Michelle Alexander with the Inclusivity Book Group or are just interested in how institutional racism has been perpetuated through our nation's drug policy, please join us in the Nave at 6:30 pm on Sunday, November 19th, for a lecture by Georgetown Law Professor David Super. The talk will explore how our judicial system has instituted barriers which prevent legal challenges to unfair policing. If you would like to eat during the lecture, please bring a drink or potluck dish to share. Contact Katherine Anderson kep5@cornell.edu.

Parish Life

5. 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 **November 15th**, we will discuss *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. On **December 20th** we will discuss *The Spectator Bird* by Wallace Stegner. Contact: Linda Ewald, lherbe@yahoo.com or 301-541-5133

6. Alisa (formerly Andrew) Earnest – Seeking 20s/30s Pen and Phone Pals and an Update: – Alisa (formerly Andrew) 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, 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).

7. Justi Schunior will be installed as Rector of the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Denver, Colorado on Wednesday, the 29th of November.

8. Free Bricks - The Third Street garden plan calls for new bricks because they are uniform in size and shape. The old bricks have been removed to the **southeast corner of the parking lot area**. Please take as many as you want. Contact Kathryn Powers kkpowers_dc@yahoo.com

Worship

9. Looking For a Few Lay Readers. St. Mark's has long relied on lay readers to read the lesson(s) and the Prayers of the People each Sunday. In some Seasons our reader needs are even greater. Some of our readers have moved from Washington, and some have joined the Church Triumphant. Thus, we need to recruit new lay readers. We always need at least two readers at 9 and again at 11:15. Jim Steed assigns these readers, following their service preferences. **Please contact Jim at steedj66@gmail.com if you are willing to serve the parish in this way.** Thanks for your consideration.

10. Help Welcome Worshipers on Sunday! Ushers are the first contact people have when coming to worship at St. Mark's. This is your opportunity to provide a warm and inclusive atmosphere to ALL worshipers, whether new or familiar to our community. Welcomers are responsible for greeting parishioners when they arrive for services. You may serve as often or as little as your schedule permits. The **Ushers do not have monthly meetings, sign-up is handled via email and time commitment per Sunday is approximately 35 minutes** (25 mins to "welcome" and distribute hymnals, 5 mins for offertory, 5 mins to "clean up" hymnals, etc. immediately following service). **If you would like to join our team of welcomers, please contact Mary Ellison, mary.c.ellison@gmail.com (952-657-4615).**

11. 11:30 Bread and Wine Volunteers: Thank you all so much. November is all scheduled. And December is posted. Please remember our 12/24 service, Christmas Eve, will be the evening service at 10:00, following the pageant. Thanks again. Cecilie and Bill

Christian Education

12. By Nov 15 – Your Questions About Early Christianity?? Ecology, Refugees, Science, God, and Gender, also Death??? Pray tell! Every year, the Jesus Seminar (JSOR) brings together two scholars of early Christianity, with parishioners and visitors from Philadelphia to Charlotte and everywhere in between. Together, we explore writings from around 100 A.D. to make sense of what it was like to be an early follower of Jesus. St. Mark's will host again on **April 13-14, 2018**. But first we want to open up the choice of topic to get your input. The JSOR catalogue includes: 1-Sex, Death & Evolution; 2-How a Massive Immigration Crisis Birthed Early Jesus Literature; 3-Changing Perceptions: Earth, Self, God; and 4-Rethinking Christianity – Ancient Searches for Belonging and the Encounter with Violence. Please read and comment on the course descriptions at facebook.com/jesusseminardc or jesusseminardc.org/2018 or contact Chris Berendes at jesusseminardc@gmail.com.

13. Marching Through the Bible: Amos: The **Sunday Morning** Bible Class will begin our engagement with the Hebrew Scriptures Prophet Amos on Sunday, October 22nd, which continues our contribution in celebrating the 100th birthday of St. Mark's theologian Verna Dozier. "Amos" was one of Verna's favorite books of the Bible and the "Amos" window in the St. Mark's Nave was created to honor her. The course consists of class discussion of the text assigned for that day. Regular attendance is encouraged. Additional outside readings are not expected. ("Marching Through the Bible" is named in memory of our long-term convener, Francis "Buzz" March.)

Dates & Time: **Sundays October 22, 2017-January 14, 2018, 10-11 am**

Convener: Bob Ewald (lherbe@yahoo.com (301) 541-5133)

Location: **Penniman Room (Undercroft)** Fee: \$25 per semester

14. Wednesday Morning Bible Study: St. Mark's will be celebrating the 100th birthday of our own Verna Dozier in October. In honor of that occasion, the Wednesday Bible Class will be reading her book, The Dream of God. "God has a dream," Verna Dozier believed, "and we are the realization of that dream. The dream of God is that all creation will live together in peace and harmony." Verna was a nationally known theologian and author. The book and Kindle edition are available online.

Date & Time: **Wednesdays September 6, 2017 – May 25, 2017, 11:00 am – 12:15 pm**
(brown bag lunch follows until 1:00 pm.)

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

Location: **St. Mark's (Elders Room)** Fee: \$25

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

SMCC Meditation, Mondays Starting Sept 11th 7:30-9pm, the Nave. Contact Collie Agle
chagle@washpathfind.com

Music & Arts

16. Upcoming Class on Singing and Reading Music Geared towards those with little or no formal training in music, this class will teach the basics of singing and reading music. Singing will include vocal exercises, a chant, round, and two hymns. Solfège (do re mi...) and basic music theory will be taught in order to introduce the skill of reading music. This class will be challenging and fun! E-mail Jeff at jeff@stmarks.net if interested. Takes place **Nov. 13 from 7:30 to 9:15 p.m. in the Elder's room**. Taught by Jeff Kempeskie and Jim Prunty.

17. 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 handbells (rehearses approximately **every other Wednesday 6:45-8pm**). No prior experience is required. Questions? Contact Jeff Kempeskie, Director of Music: jeff@stmarks.net

18. 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

19. Nov. 5 – TODAY Children's Chapel at 5pm Service- Calling all 5pm families! We are having a special Children's Chapel for the 5pm service on the first Sunday of every month. Our next chapel will be Sunday, November 5. We will gather in the Nave together for the opening prayer and will then head to the downstairs lobby for a time of creative worship. Join us!

20. Nov. 12 - 12th Grade Transitions- All High School seniors are invited to a time of casual reflection and conversation about the trials and triumphs of transitioning from High School life to what lies beyond. Join us at 11am in the library of Nov. 12.

21. Nov. 19 - Family Fellowship Coffee Hour: Advent Wreath- Join us on Sunday, Nov. 19 from 10:45am-11:15am in Baxter Hall for snacks, coffee, and Advent Wreath making. Please bring \$5 to contribute to wreath supplies. Come celebrate the beginning of Advent with other St. Mark's families!

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