

February 25, 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. Early Morning Lent Eucharist. We are gathering for a simple service of Lent at **8am** on **Wednesdays, February 28 and March 7, 14, and 21**, followed by a light breakfast and coffee afterwards to send you off to work by **8:30 am**.

2. Today in Baxter Hall – Table on Gun Violence Prevention. We will have the opportunity to send notes of condolence to St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church; one of their congregation members and youth leaders, 16 year-old Carmen Schentrup was murdered at the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting. We are forming a working group on what could be our next steps to change the way that we accept murders of our children. Also, sign up to volunteer for March for Our Lives on March 24th. We will have the building open to marchers for rest and refreshment. Please stop by to write a note or to sign up; if you have any questions contact Michele@stmarks.net

Music & Arts

3. CHIARINA CHAMBER PLAYERS CONCERT Please join us for a fantastic concert next Sunday, March 4th at 7:30 pm. Titled "Romance & Tragedy," the program will include Schubert's Fantasia for Piano (4 hands), Brahms' Selected Waltzes, Op. 39, and the stunning Brahms Trio, Op. 40. Among the performers are the principal violinist and principal horn player from the National Symphony Orchestra. You won't want to miss this! Tickets are \$15 online, \$20 at the door, \$10 for students. St. Mark's members receive a \$5 discount off tickets using promo code STMARKS5 at www.chiarina.org

4. 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

5. Music Lessons. The St. Mark's Music Studio has ***new teachers***! Julia Morris (juliamorris23@gmail.com) teaches flute lessons. Diane Atherton (dianesvoicestudio@gmail.com) now offers voice lessons in addition to Adam Caughey (adamcaughey@gmail.com). Stephanie Ng (stephanien217@gmail.com) teaches piano lessons in addition to Jeff Kempeskie (jeff@stmarks.net). Students of all ages and experience are welcome. Learn more about our teachers at stmarks.net/music.

Outreach

6. 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 in the foyer**. 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, on Seward Square SE. CHUMC, in turn, feeds our needy and hungry neighbors on the hill throughout the week. Questions? Contact Jack Richards ktjr89@verizon.net.

7. THANK YOU from the Vassar Haiti Project: “Thank you members of St. Mark’s for welcoming us back to Capitol Hill... **We sold over \$34,000 of Haitian art and handcrafts** - with 65 paintings sold! That means that when we return to Haiti in March, we will be able to buy four score of paintings, giving the artists something of a boost, for sure! .. The monies will go towards the educational initiative that sustains the primary and secondary schools that we support. The ongoing needs of salaries, books, uniforms and the food program will be insured for another year for over 300 students. The profit of the event will be about \$15,000... The 20 students who came ...will reflect upon this as one of the highlights of their undergraduate tenure at Vassar... thank you for supporting our work in Haiti which gives great possibility and hope to these children of God.” www.thehaitiproject.org

8. DC Environmental Film Festival: Concerned about environmental issues? Like to watch films? The Green Lions urge you to check out the Environmental Film Festival, which runs **March 15-25 in venues around Washington, DC**. Many of the films are also available to watch on line. For more information: <https://dceff.org/>. Contact: Christina Herman christina.herman55@gmail.com.

Parish Life

9. St. Mark’s Reading Group meets on the **third Wednesday** of every month in the Dozier Library at **12:30 p.m.** On **March 21** we will discuss *Sing Unburied Sing* by Jesmyn Ward. Contact: Linda Ewald, llerbe@yahoo.com 301-541-5133

10. Join Cindy Dopp for a discussion of Parker Palmer’s profound little book, ***Let Your Life Speak***, **Monday, March 19th at 6:30pm in the Penniman Room**. The title is a “time-honored Quaker admonition usually taken to mean ‘Let the highest truths and values guide everything you do.’” Palmer interprets this saying in an intriguing way that encourages us to listen before acting, and he offers thought-provoking insights into our quest on how to “be” in this needy world. ***Let Your Life Speak*** is available online and in many local book stores. Please read it in advance (109 pages). Soup and bread will be served! If you have any questions, contact Cindy Dopp, Deacon, at cindy@stmarks.net or 240-893-2693.

11. Save the Date 4/13, 14 – How a Massive Immigration Crisis Birthed Early Jesus Literature (Jesus Seminar on the Road): Led by Hal Taussig of Union Theological Seminary and the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. From the Syrians to the Rohingya, increasing flows of immigrants and refugees are much in the news and in our hearts. Perhaps, as people following Jesus, we’ve been here before. What if the New Testament wasn’t written to start a new religion but to address massive dislocations of populations within the Roman Empire? Inspired by diaspora studies, this workshop reexamines this literature as a new Exodus experiment based on Israel’s exodus from Egypt. What new interpretations of popular “Christian” texts result from this approach? And how might this guide our thinking and actions today? **Baxter Hall, Friday, April 13, 7:30–9:00 p.m., and Saturday, April 14, 9:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.** Contact christoph.berendes@netalyst.com.

Christian Education

12. Baptism Course for Parents: This course is designed for parents who wish to present their child for baptism. The class consists of a facilitated discussion for parents to explore the parenting issues posed by the Liturgy of Baptism. (Adult candidates for baptism should contact the church office to meet with clergy.) While taking the course, parents may choose a baptism date and select the 9:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., or 5:00 p.m. service at which they wish their child to be baptized.

Date & Time: March 4, 11, 18, 25, Sundays from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Leaders: Jennifer and Steve Dalzell

Location: St. Mark's, room TBD

Fee: \$25 contribution per family

13. The Belonging Class (Formerly Life, Community & Faith)

Religion can be understood as making sense out of our existence, or sense out of what appears to be inexplicable. The Belonging Class is a facilitated discussion about our experiences rather than a lecture. We start with our own experience of how we function in our daily lives and examine our responses to key life issues with others in our class. With an emphasis on authenticity and curiosity, we share our spiritual journeys and consider how our stories are reflected in the Christian story. We explore the ways in which we seek and sometimes fail to connect to ourselves, others, and God. The class is open to all. *Newcomers are encouraged to attend!*

Dates & Time: March 7 - May 2, 2018 (excluding March 28)

Wednesday evenings, 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Leaders: The Rev. Michele Morgan, Martha Connor-Donnelly, Charlie Rupp

Location: Adams Room, with one all-day Saturday retreat either March 10 or 17

Fee: \$25 **Sign-up here:** <https://goo.gl/XsqQ9s>

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

* **Tuesday Evening Bible Study, 7:30-9pm, Dozier Library.**

Discussing mysticism in relation to the Gnostic Gospels

Co-Coordinators: Bill Jones (billclough@icloud.com), Kathleen Grant (queenmommy17@gmail.com)

* **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, January 28-April 15, 2018 Penniman Room**

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

The story of Esther, a member of a religious minority, who cleverly and courageously engineers the rescue of her people from state-sanctioned genocide. The course consists of class discussion of the text assigned for that day. One-time Bible Class fee: \$25

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

Youth & Family Ministries

15. Today - Kids Activities at Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting will take place after a single 10am morning service TODAY. After we all have lunch together in Baxter Hall, kids can head down to the Adams Room for games and crafts while the meeting is going on. The Nursery will be open for children under 3.

16. Today - HS Service Trip Registration due: The High School youth are heading to East Tennessee with Appalachian Service Project this summer, **June 17-23**. Registration is due TODAY. Email Caroline for more information.

17. Tuesdays in March- Capitol Hill Village 'Supporting Aging Parents While Raising Children' Series: Capitol Hill Village is hosting a four-part series for adult children who are concerned about their aging parents-- whether they live nearby or far away. Come to share your concerns, get resources, and learn strategies about how you can support their family to ensure that loved ones are planning their future. For more information or to register, email Molly Singer at msinger@capitolhillvillage.org.

18. March 4- Youth @ Sunday Suppers Meeting: As a means of establishing a consistent service opportunity, the middle and high school youth will be taking a larger responsibility at the monthly Sunday Suppers outreach. Join us for an info meeting on **March 4 at 11am** to hear about how we can make this a successful, meaningful, and sustainable monthly project for our kids and our community.

19. March 11- Acolyte Training:

Are you interested in becoming an acolyte? Don't miss the March 11 acolyte training from **12:45pm-1:30pm!** The role of youth acolyte is an important rite of passage in our community and is a ton of fun. All are welcome! Email David Deutsch for more information: dsd@his.com.

20. March 18- Switch Sunday: In lieu of our traditional Sermon Seminar on March 18, adults will be encouraged to head downstairs to experience a day-in-the-life of youth Sunday School while the children stay in the Nave to learn more about how Eucharist is set up, how the organ works, and what the vesting sacristy is. The traditional Sermon Seminar set up will still be offered in Baxter Hall, but we hope you will take this time to enter into a deeper understanding of all that goes on in this Parish on a Sunday morning. Mark your calendars!

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