

February 4, 2018 Announcements

Announcements, not to exceed 150 words, are to be submitted to bulletin@stmarks.net by 5:00 pm on the Tuesday preceding 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. Ash Wednesday February 14th, services at 7:00am, 12:00 noon, 7:00pm This service beginning the Lenten season will include the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist.

2. Wednesday in Lent an early morning Eucharist. We will gather for a simple service of Lent at 7am on Wednesday February 21, 28 and March 7, 14, 21. Coffee, Juice and Rolls afterwards and you off to work by 8 am.

3. St. Mark's Annual Meeting: Everything You Need to Know!

Our 2018 annual meeting will be **February 25th beginning at noon**. Check-in and lunch will begin in Baxter Hall immediately following a single morning service at 10:00 am. All church members are encouraged to attend the annual meeting, where we hear about the state of the parish and elect new leadership to help our clergy and staff attend to the day-to-day business of St. Mark's. This year, we will be electing three Vestry members and one Diocesan delegate.

The candidates running for the Vestry positions are: Katherine Anderson, Jane M. Byrne, Christina Herman, Brandon Dunn Knight, and Amber Macdonald. One candidate is running for the single open Diocesan Delegate position: Peter Wesley Nye.

We will be posting statements and pictures from the candidates in the foyer and by eGospel. Please take some time to get to know the candidates and to thank them for offering to serve our community in these important roles.

Remember that only members of St. Mark's are eligible to vote at the annual meeting! Under the current bylaws, you must have made a financial contribution to St. Mark's in the twelve months preceding the annual meeting, and either already appear as a member on the parish register or affirm in writing your wish to be a member. You also have to be at least 15 years old. Sorry, kids!

In the weeks before the annual meeting, we will be posting a list of all members eligible to vote. Please check to make sure your name appears on the list. If you haven't made a financial contribution in the last twelve months that can be identified to you (for example, by check or online), please do so if you want to be eligible to vote. If you are new to the parish and would like to affirm your wish to be a member, forms will be available on the day of the meeting for you to sign. If you have any questions about membership and your eligibility to vote at the annual meeting, please reach out to Karen Wiedemann (karen.wiedemann@gmail.com) or Nora Howell (seniorwarden@stmarks.net).

4. 2017 Year-end Contribution Statements were sent out via e-mail on January 17th.

If for example, you use Gmail, the e-mail will appear like this:

St. Mark's Episcopal Chu. » **Inbox** Your giving statement from St. Mark's Episcopal Church

If the church does not have an e-mail address on file, a paper statement will be mailed.

If you do not see your contribution statement in your e-mail inbox, try searching for "Your giving statement".

If you have any questions, contact Patricia (patricia@stmarks.net or 202-543-0053 x305).

Parish Life

5. Haitian Art Returns: You're invited to the Vassar Haiti Project sale of original and affordable paintings and handicrafts **TODAY Sunday, Feb. 4 from 9am-2pm**. Proceeds will aid residents of dozens of villages served by their medical clinic in Fierville and families in the mountain village of Chermaitre. 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. Questions? Contact Lila Meade limeade@vassar.edu

6. The Winged Lion Review February Issue - Call for Articles: We need your articles **now for the February issue** of the WL Review! We welcome articles that may state your views on community issues, parish-related activities, opinion pieces, reflections on your own life, or perhaps a showcase for your creative talents - short stories, poems, graphic arts and photography are welcome. Submissions can be of any length, but as a general rule should be no more than 750 words. Please submit submissions to: harhath@gmail.com AND karen@karenfalk.net.

7. Mardi Gras Dance – Buy Your Tickets and Bring a Friend! Today is the last Sunday to buy your tickets in person (you can buy online until the day at www.goo.gl/HAiQRw) for the St. Mark's incredible Mardi Gras Dance on **Friday, February 9th from 6-10pm**. Join us for a delicious dinner and dancing, with babysitting, kids' activities and a live band.

Adult - \$20 following services/\$22 adult online, Child/Young Adult (5-18) - \$10 following services, /\$12 young adult online, Child (infant to under 5) \$5 and preregistration required by Sunday, February 4. Note: To help us defray costs, each adult/couple are asked to bring a beverage to share (beer, wine and/or soft drinks) Laissez le bon temps rouler! Questions? Contact Julie Murphy juliaabbotmurphy@gmail.com

8. Expanding Your Toolkit for Responding to Racism, February 14, 6:30pm. UU Silver Spring. Do you struggle to respond when a friend or colleague questions the reality of racism? When you speak to racism skeptics, do you get a good response or do they stop listening? This workshop will introduce you to the White Ally Toolkit, tools for empathetic listening and for guiding skeptics to a broader and more nuanced perspective about race and racism in the US. It will be led by Dr. David Campt, an experienced workshop leader, who is nationally renowned for community engagement, conflict resolution, inclusion, and equity, in work with the White House, the US Military, large corporations, and nonprofits. See <http://uucss.org/events/white-ally-toolkit/> for a video summary and \$20 registration. Wednesday, February 14, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm, UU Silver Spring. More information: christoph.berendes@netalyst.com

9. Save the Date for St. Mark's Women to Women - St. Mark's Women to Women invite all (yes, men too) to a pot luck on **Thursday, February 15th 6:30-8:30pm** in **Baxter Hall**. Loretta Woodward Veney will discuss caregiving issues and her experience writing two books: 'Being My Mom's Mom' and 'Refreshment for the Caregiver's Spirit'. Last Name: A-D Drinks, E-J Salad, K-Q Main dish, R-Z Sweets. Contact: Edna Temaner at ednaboon@gmail.com

10. St. Mark's Reading Group meets on the **third Wednesday** of every month in the Dozier Library at **12:30 p.m.** On **February 21** we will discuss *Everyone Brave is Forgiven* by Chris Cleave. On **March 21** we will discuss *Sing Unburied Sing* by Jesmyn Ward. Contact: Linda Ewald, lherbe@yahoo.com 301-541-5133

Christian Education

11. 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 (lberbe@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

12. February 9- Mardi Gras Dance: Mark your calendar and **buy your tickets NOW** for the St. Mark's incredible Mardi Gras Dance. **Friday, February 9th from 6-10pm.** Join us for a delicious dinner and dancing, with babysitting, kids activities and a live band. Visit goo.gl/HAiQRw for details and purchase of online tickets (or you can purchase after services).

13. February 25- Kids Activities at Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting will take place after a single 10am morning service on Feb. 25. After we all have lunch together in Baxter Hall, kids can head down to the undercroft for games and crafts while the meeting is going on.

14. February 25- 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 on Feb. 25. Email Caroline for more information.

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

Outreach

15. 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.

16. Suppers Update: For the months of February and March, Sunday Suppers has had volunteers from outside the church offer to cook the hot meals. We will have our regular sandwich-making. But otherwise **we need volunteers** who are willing to **come out to Franklin Square from 6-7:30 on Feb 18 and March 18** to serve and make conversation. Email Lisa.ramish@gmail.com to sign up.

17. A Sunday Suppers Support Team THANK YOU! Special thanks to volunteers **Valerie Byrd and Michele Rivard**, who last Sunday helped Sunday Support Team Co-managers Alix Pereira and Jack Richards prepare sandwiches for the Sunday Suppers site, in downtown DC. The sandwiches and dozens of hard-boiled eggs were delivered to the group on Sunday evening.

18. The Good Neighbor Refugee Team is preparing the 13th apartment for a family of five (8 year old daughter and sons, 6 and 4) who will be **arriving in February** from Afghanistan. Our experience has led us to divide the responsibility for organizing the donations among the eight congregations.

(18 Cont.) St. Mark's and St. Peter's have teamed up for organizing the Bed and Bath supplies. By law, we must have NEW mattresses (3) twin and (1) queen. Also needed are mattress pads, duvets, sheets, blankets and pillows (twin and queen size) as well as towels and bathroom supplies – mat, shower curtain, shampoo, soaps, toothbrushes, etc. All in new to good condition.

If you have items for this family or for the future or questions: Contact Karen Getman karen.getman@gmail.com. Karen can arrange for drop off or pick-up. Checks (for purchase of mattresses and new items) can be made out to Lutheran Church of the Reformation and noted for GNP-Refugee.

Other household items can still be donated as well. Dale Manty from Lutheran Church of the Reformation is managing the larger furnishings, beds, as well as computers, television, lamps and other items. Contact: dmanty@umich.edu. Beth Hannold from Capitol Hill Presbyterian is managing kitchen supplies and small appliances. Contact: eahannold@aol.com. All donations (goods or money) can be receipted if requested. Thanks to all for your continuing generosity and encouraging others to give to this important way of welcoming refugee families.

19. Multi-Faith Dialogue on Israel/Palestine Conflict – for many the Israeli/Palestinian conflict ranks at the top of the list of issues that we feel challenged to discuss. Join Rev. Dr. Mae Elise Cannon, executive director of Churches for Middle East Peace (www.cmep.org) as she hosts a conversation with Rabbi Dr. Daniel Roth from Israel & Aziz Abu Sarah, a Palestinian-American, about multi-faith dialogue and engagement in constructive conflict, peace, and the reality of life in Israel and Palestine. Many of us know Aziz who heads MEJDI, the tour group we have used for our pilgrimages. Building on our Epiphany sermon series, they'll also discuss how we can be change agents and reconcilers in the midst of conflict. **February 19th (President's Day) at 6:30 in Baxter Hall.** Light refreshments will be available. Sponsored by the Mid-East Working Group. For questions, please contact Maureen Shea – mtshea@aol.com

20. Supporting Aging Parents while Raising Children: Capitol Hill Village is hosting a free four-part series in March for adult children who are concerned about their aging parents, neighbors, and friends - whether they live nearby or far away. Come to share concerns, get resources, and learn strategies about how you can support your family to ensure that loved ones are planning for their future: **Tuesdays: March 6, 13, 20 and 27; 7:00-8:30 pm** - on Capitol Hill. Enrollment is limited, so sign up early! For more information or to register contact: Molly Singer - msinger@capitolhillvillage.org or call 202-543-1778.

21. 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.

22. MEWG Advent Sale: Thank You once again for your solidarity and commitment to MEWG's 2017 Advent Sale of Olivewood and Olive oil. The farmers and carvers of Burqin and Bethlehem share a commitment to their land and tradition. Their work sustains their families with integrity in a troubled region of our world. Your support of our annual sale is a small, but important encouragement of these worthy professions. This year the sales grossed just over \$6000 and a profit of 20% (\$1200) will be given to the American Friends of the Diocese of Jerusalem for support of the diocesan clinics and schools in the W.Bank and Gaza serving the whole community. An "Epiphany Light" from our Advent sales. Contact: Karen Getman karen.getman@gmail.com.

23. Become an Outreach Board Member - St. Mark's Outreach Board is looking for a few new members and a new Treasurer to grow our dedicated group and continue to serve those in need who live in the broader Capitol Hill community and in international communities where we have made a conscious commitment. Contact Outreach co-chair Elizabeth Okeke-Von Batten (eblazevich@gmail.com) if you are interested to learn more.