

October 22, 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/>

Music & Arts

1. 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! You may attend either or both classes. E-mail Jeff at jeff@stmarks.net if interested. Takes place **Oct. 23 & Nov. 13, each from 7:30 to 9:15 p.m. in the Elder's room**. Taught by Jeff Kempskie and Jim Prunty.

2. St. Mark's Players Present Sister Act! Performances begin at **8 pm in the Nave on Thursday, Oct 26; Friday, Oct 27; Saturday, Oct 28**. There will also be a **matinee on Saturday, Oct 28, at 2 pm**. You can order tickets on their website <http://stmarksplayers.org/>. This is a lively production!

3. Help Make Advent Art Installation St. Mark's Arts Council invites all interested artists to gather on **Saturday, October 28, from 1:00-4:00 pm in the Elders Room**, to begin work on a special art installation for Advent. We hope you will come and catch the vision. Contact Tracy Council, tracy@tracyskids.org for information.

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

5. 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 Kempskie (jeff@stmarks.net). Students of all ages and experience are welcome. Learn more about our new teachers at stmarks.net/music

Youth & Family Ministries

6. Check Out Our Kid's Pumpkin Patch in Baxter Hall! We had a great time decorating pumpkins last week and some of them are still on display. If you left yours on display this week, feel free to take it home.

7. Nov. 5- 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!

8. 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.

9. 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

Outreach

10. Volunteer Meeting for 2017 National Vigil to End Gun Violence. Volunteers are needed for the 2017 National Vigil to End Gun Violence, which St Mark's will again host Weds-Thurs, 12/6 & 12/7. Last year about 80 St Mark's parishioners contributed to the Vigil - everything from providing food, serving & cleaning up in Baxter Hall, greeting visitors, working on the social media committee, etc. We want as many volunteers as possible again this year. Michele will be leading our efforts and wants to renew St Mark's commitment to end gun violence. An initial organizational meeting will be held **TODAY after the 11:15 service on Sunday, 10/22 in the Elders Room**. If you think you are interested, please come. Questions? Contact Michael Knipe at 202-487-3990 or haroldknipe@gmail.com.

11. Sandwich-Making for the Salvation Army - Please join us **TODAY 10/22** for sandwich making after Sunday School and the Sermon Seminar to support our homeless neighbors through the Salvation Army's Grate Patrol. The more hands on deck, the sooner we can get 200 bag lunches completed and ready for delivery. Thanks! Contact Erika Lehman erikalealehman@gmail.com

12. How is D.C. Preparing for Climate Change? And how can we help? The Green Lions have invited Tommy Wells, director of the D.C. Dept. of Energy and the Environment, to speak on this topic at St. Mark's on **Monday, October 23, at 7:30 p.m.** We showed up for the Climate March; now let's show up to decide how to take action. For more information, email Betsy Agle betsy@agle.net.

13. St Mark's W2W Bra Drive – October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month – Women to Women are collecting new and gently used bras for donation to a local women's shelter. **Donations will be collected in a box on the table by the altar.** Contact: Edna Temaner ednaboon@gmail.com

14. Speaker on Sustainable Farming in Honduras: The St. Mark's Honduras Committee and Outreach Board invite you to "Where Farms Meet the Forest" on **Saturday Nov. 4th 3:30-5:00 in St. Mark's Baxter Hall**. Roy Lara, Honduran Founder and Coordinator of the Trinidad Conservation Project, will explain how communities are harmed by climate change and how they are responding. Remarkable results have been achieved using farmer-to-farmer workshops and community-to-community exchanges to adopt sustainable practices. To rsvp or to request information about childcare, please contact Julie Murphy at juliaabbottmurphy@gmail.com or Jen Dalzell at jennifer.coyne.dalzell@gmail.com.

15. Past International Service Trip Participants? Did your son or daughter participate in international service trips through St. Mark's at any time over the past 28 years? If so, we want to reconnect with them! We would love to be able to share with them the ongoing work in Honduras with Roy Lara and the Trinidad Service Project – and invite you and your entire family to the Nov 4th talk. For more info and to share your son's or daughter's contact information, please email Jennifer Dalzell or Julie Murphy (e-mails above).

16. 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.

17. A Sunday Suppers Support Team THANK YOU! Special thanks to volunteers **Kathy Tatko, Reverend Michele Moran and Nora Howell**, who last Sunday helped Sunday Support Team Co-managers Jack Richards and Alix Pereira, prepare 120 bologna and cheese sandwiches, for the Sunday Suppers site, located each Sunday evening at Franklin Square on 14th Street, NW. The sandwiches, lemonade, iced tea and mayonnaise packets were delivered the same day.

18. October Refugee Update: Thanks to your generous support, the Good Neighbor Refugee program continues. The Capitol Hill coalition has created welcoming apartments for ten Afghan families. Your donations and the new or gently used household goods provided a home for the new arrivals. As school begins, the families need extra support with language, culture, clothing, school supplies, etc. Essential to the parent's acclimation is coaching in language, employment, driving tests and self-sufficiency. Deferred medical or dental examinations often reveal needs for costly treatments. Our GNCH family (the Rasoolys) have made excellent progress with assistance from many volunteers. Yet the journey continues for them and the other families who are still in early days of their arrival. **Volunteers and donations are very welcome. For more specifics please contact: Karen Getman Karen.getman@gmail.com**

Parish Life

19. Halloween "Trunk or Treat" FunFest at St. James Episcopal Potomac, MD. Saturday October 28, 2017, 6pm-10pm. 11815 Seven Locks Road, Potomac MD, 20854. Admission: \$5 each/\$20 family max. Safe, secure and fun for all age groups. Come and go as you please. Haunted Catacombs 6:00-8:00; Trunk or Treat 6:00-9:00; Costume Parade 7:00-7:15; Spooky Organ Concert 7:30-7:45; Plus Indoor kids' activities. Church phone number/website: 301.762.8040; stjamespotomac.org.

20. Listening Sessions on the Role of the National Cathedral: The Cathedral Task Force (CTF) was established jointly by Bishop Budde and Dean Hollerith to explore the role of the Cathedral in the diocese, wider church and national life and how it can remain true to its historical mission as a house of prayer for all people and a church set aside for national purposes. Their report will be published in the spring of 2018. It will also consider how the Cathedral and all our congregations can engage in public prayer, public theology, and gospel-based advocacy without becoming captive to any partisan faction or secular ideology. All are invited to attend listening sessions to be held:

Monday, October 30 at Grace Church in Silver Spring 7 to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, November 1 at the Cathedral 7 to 9 p.m.

21. St. Mark's Reading Group meets on the **second Wednesday** of every month in the Dozier Library at **12:30 p.m.** Feel free to bring your lunch. On **November 8th**, we will discuss *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles Contact: Linda Ewald, llerbe@yahoo.com or 301-541-5133

Worship

22. 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 steadj66@gmail.com if you are willing to serve the parish in this way.** Thanks for your consideration.

23. 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).**

24. 11:30 Bread and Wine Volunteers: the dates for December have been posted on the SignupGenius website <https://is.gd/stmbw2017winter>. We will wait after the 11:15 service this Sunday. Please note that the Christmas Day service will be 10:00pm. Thanks so much as always.

Christian Education

25. 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 (llerbe@yahoo.com) (301) 541-5133
Location: **Penniman Room (Undercroft)** Fee: \$25 per semester

26. 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 believes, 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

27. 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