

October 29, 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/>

Youth & Family Ministries

- 1. Check Out Our Kids' Pumpkin Patch in Baxter Hall!** We had a great time decorating pumpkins and some of them are still on display. If you left yours on display this week, feel free to take it home.
- 2. 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!
- 3. 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.
- 4. 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

- 5. 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 ednaboone@gmail.com
- 6. 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 juliaabbotmurphy@gmail.com or Jen Dalzell at jennifer.coyne.dalzell@gmail.com.
- 7. 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).

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. Chef Needed – Sunday Suppers: We have 70 turkey burgers that were given to Sunday Suppers. We need a volunteer to cook them and drop them off (warm) at **6PM at Franklin Square on Sunday, November 19th**. If you want to use the St. Mark's kitchen, we can get you set up, or you can do it at home. We could also use volunteers to provide drinks, buns, lettuce or tomatoes, which could be dropped off in advance. Please email Lisa.ramish@gmail.com if you can help.

11. Cross the Chasm – Meal with Homeless People Sunday, Nov 19th is one of the last chances of the year to break bread with the homeless guests of Sunday Suppers because the rest of the Sundays are being covered by groups outside of St. Mark's. We will meet at **Franklin Square at 6pm** to serve food, eat and make conversation. Please email lisa.ramish@gmail.com *in advance* to participate.

12. 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

13. 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

14. 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

15. 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.

Worship

16. 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.

17. 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).**

18. 11:30 Bread and Wine Volunteers: the dates for December have been posted on the SignupGenius website <https://is.gd/stmbw2017winter>. Please note that the Christmas Day service will be 10:00pm. Thanks so much as always.

Christian Education

19. Jesus Seminar Topic Choice - Your Questions about Early Christianity?? Ecology, Refugees, Science, God, and Gender, also Death, or ??? Please tell us! 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 the Jesus Seminar 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.

20. 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

21. 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

22. 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

23. 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.

24. 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

25. 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