

## November 19, 2017 Announcements

Announcements, **not to exceed 150 words**, are to be submitted to [bulletin@stmarks.net](mailto: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. Canvass 2018 Town Halls.** Come learn about the theme for our Canvass, why it's important, our operating budget, our Canvass process, and some of the nuts and bolts of how to pledge. On **Sunday November 19th at 10:20** (in the place of the "seminar" part of Sermon Seminar) and **right after the 11:15 service** (yes, you will be fed) and plan to spend about a half hour. Unfortunately, there's already an event planned for after the 5:00 pm service, so we'll be working to try to find a good time to meet with those folks. Questions? Ask Nora at [seniorwarden@stmarks.net](mailto:seniorwarden@stmarks.net).

**2. Christmas Festival Fund Donations.** The Christmas Festival Fund supports the special Christmas music and professional musicians that Jeff Kempskie and the choir provide for the Christmas services. The Festival Fund also supports St Marks' financial contribution to a charitable organization in lieu of decorating the nave for Christmas. St. Mark's does not budget for the special music or charitable contribution. Last year's Christmas contribution and music expenses were about \$3500. Your contribution to remember, honor, or give thanks for loved ones or special events will be gratefully acknowledged in the bulletins for the Christmas services. If you would like to contribute to the Christmas Festival Fund and honor a special person, you can contribute online at the St Mark's website, complete a donation form and put it in the Sunday collection plate, or mail the form and check to the parish. **Contributions must be received in the Parish Office no later than Sunday, December 17.** Donation forms are in the track racks, Sunday bulletin, or available from Michael Knipe [haroldknipe@gmail.com](mailto:haroldknipe@gmail.com) 202.487.3990.

### Worship

**3. 11:30 Bread and Wine Volunteers:** We are so grateful that December Sunday's have been filled (12/31 provisionally). I will post January after Thanksgiving. For future reference, my email is [cecbill@me.com](mailto:cecbill@me.com). The website is <https://is.gd/stmbw2017winter>. Thanks as always. Cecilie and Bill.

**4. 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](mailto:mary.c.ellison@gmail.com) (952-657-4615).

## Christian Education

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

\* **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, Penniman Room**

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

\* **SMCC Meditation, Mondays 7:30-9pm, the Nave.** Contact: Collie Agle [chagle@washpathfind.com](mailto:chagle@washpathfind.com)

## Music & Arts

**6. Dance Studio's Annual Open House on Friday December 1, 2017 at 8:00 PM**

Doors Open at 7:15 PM...Donations: Regular \$20.00, Senior Citizens (65+) \$15.00, Children under 12 years \$12.00. Theme: "Backstage with the Arts, What's Going On?" Questions? Contact Rosetta Brooks rosetta.brooks@gmail.com

**7. Advent Lessons & Carols:** The St. Mark's Chancel Choir and Boys & Girls Choir will once again offer beautiful, seasonal music, alternating with hymns and readings, at the annual Advent Lessons & Carols Service on **Sunday, Dec. 3 at 5:00 pm in the Nave.** Please join us.

**8. 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

**9. 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](http://stmarks.net/music)

## Youth & Family Ministries

**10. Date Change - Family Fellowship Coffee Hour Advent Wreath Making** Previously scheduled for Nov. 19, our Advent Wreath Coffee Hour **will now be Sunday, Dec. 3!** Join us from 10:45am-11:15am in Baxter Hall for snacks, coffee, and .99 Cent Advent Wreath making! These personalized mini Advent wreaths are fun to make and will bring so much joy to the season. Please bring \$1 to contribute to wreath supplies. Come celebrate the beginning of Advent with other St. Mark's families!

**11. Dec. 3 - Christmas Pageant Sign Ups Begin-** Starting Sunday, December 3 children of all ages are encouraged to sign up for this year Christmas Eve Pageant, 4pm on Dec. 24! We need shepherds, angels, animals, wise people, a holy family, and readers. Kids of all ages are encouraged to participate in this well-loved tradition. See the **sign-up sheets on the downstairs bulletin board** for more information or email Caroline.

**12. Dec. 10 & 18 - Teens at Capitol Hill Group Ministries Family Night:** Middle and High School youth-- We will once again purchase, wrap, and help pass out gifts for the shelter families at Capitol Hill Group Ministries! Join us **on the 10th from 11am-1pm** for the gift shopping and wrapping party and again **in Baxter Hall on the 18th at 5:30pm to serve** as Santa's helpers for our Capitol Hill neighbors.

Questions regarding these activities? **Contact Director of Youth and Family Ministries Caroline McReynolds-Adams** [caroline@stmarks.net](mailto:caroline@stmarks.net)

### Outreach

**13. TODAY 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](mailto:kep5@cornell.edu).

**14. Sunday Suppers Sandwich Making TODAY!** Please join us in **Baxter Hall** today, between 4:15 and 5:00 PM as we prepare 120 sandwiches, in support of Sunday Suppers, a group guided by St. Mark’s members Dan and Lisa Hawkins. *We always need at least 3-4 sandwich making volunteers!* Please help us with this important program. Questions? Contact Jack Richards (703) 751-1456 or Alix Pereira.

### Parish Life

**15. Thanksgiving Service & Dinner at Christ Church 11/23, 11am:** St. Mark’s is invited to join Christ Church at 620 G St SE for a service of gratitude at **11am on Thanksgiving** followed by a wonderful community potluck dinner at noon. Christ Church provides the turkeys and the drinks – everyone else brings the sides and desserts. There are typically about 50 people at the dinner, so think large servings. St. Mark’s members are also welcome to help with cleanup duty. If possible, e-mail their parish administrator <[office@washingtonparish.org](mailto:office@washingtonparish.org)> by Tuesday with the number of attendees, what you are bringing, and if you can help with cleanup.

**16. Gun Violence Project: Heeding God’s Call.** St. Mark’s will again be part of this special project focusing on gun violence. **On November 26, we will be putting up a display** in the garden of t-shirts with the name, age, and date of each person who died from gun violence in 2016 in the DC Metropolitan Area. Heeding God’s Call will provide the t-shirts and the other necessary materials. We need volunteers to put them up after the 11:15 service. **If you would like to help, please contact Maureen Shea – [mtshea@aol.com](mailto:mtshea@aol.com).** We look to the day when there will be no such deaths, no such t-shirts, no such display. <https://heedinggodscall.org/content/greater-washington-dc>

**17. Justi Schunior** will be installed as Rector of the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Denver, Colorado on Wednesday, the 29<sup>th</sup> of November.

**18. Bird Watching Trip:** the Bob Hahn and Crane Miller Memorial Bird Watching trip to Blackwater NWR will be **Saturday, Dec. 9**. A side visit to the nearby Harriett Tubman museum is also being discussed. Optional dinner at The Narrows Restaurant at the end of the day. If interested, please contact Jane Miller [jlm104@earthlink.net](mailto:jlm104@earthlink.net) 202-669-2529 or Gretchen Willson [gretchenwillson943@gmail.com](mailto:gretchenwillson943@gmail.com) 202-362-4417.

**19. 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. We decided **not to meet in December. January 17** we will discuss *The Spectator Bird* by Wallace Stegner, **February 21** we will discuss *Everyone Brave is Forgiven* by Chris Cleave. Contact: Linda Ewald, [llerbe@yahoo.com](mailto:llerbe@yahoo.com) or 301-541-5133

**20. Alisa Earnest – Seeking 20s/30s Pen and Phone Pals and an Update:** – Alisa 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 (trans), 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](mailto:berendes@netalyst.com)).

**21. Registration Open for Anxiety and Joy Guild Summer Seminar – July 7 – 12, 2018**

Registration has begun for the Guild for Transformational Studies' Summer Seminar on Anxiety and Joy to be held at **Roslyn Retreat Center in Richmond, VA from July 7 through July 12, 2018**. To ensure a space, please **register before December 31, 2017**. Jakob Boehme says, "The Holy Spirit leads us by anxiety to a new birth." What might this mean? Is anxiety itself the push of the new being? What orientation of heart and mind might be needed to explore the creativity that is within anxiety? What might be the relationship between the difficult symptoms we experience and freedom and joy? In this seminar, we will use discussion, writing/journaling, art expression, movement, music, silence and above all our own experience and self-reflection to explore the many sides of anxiety and joy. Please email [susanlynnthompson@gmail.com](mailto:susanlynnthompson@gmail.com) for a registration form and further information. Scholarships are available.