

April 22, 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: stmarks.net/connect/calendar

From the Vestry and Parish Leadership

1. Extended Vision 2020 Campaign: We are imagining our spiritual home's tomorrow in more creative and exciting ways. Vision 2020 raised over \$4 million in gifts and in the sale of Baxter House. However, since we reached and stretched on our improvements during the Vision 2020 campaign, we still now service a debt of approximately one million, which costs us \$70,000 a year.

We have some fundamental maintenance and structural issues that need to be addressed soon in order to keep us safe and comfortable in our communal space. Erasing or significantly reducing the 2020 debt and making other capital improvements are the primary drivers of this campaign along with our desire to make a significant gift to our broader community. Because we are sustained by the power of community and strong pastoral support, the Extended Vision 2020 presents an opportunity to support and ensure that St. Mark's will continue to be a force that continues to sustain us, and allows us to contribute to the broader community. We invite 100% participation; the glass is half-full.

Pledges are a three-year commitment and will be accepted until May 31, 2018, with payment due in full by March 31, 2021. Pledge forms are in the Church Office, online and will be in the track racks in the nave at each entrance. Co-Chairs Rob Hall and Jackie Boddie can be reached at ExtendedVision@stmarks.net, to address any questions or concerns you may have. Please contact us if you would like to meet and discuss the Extended Vision.

Parish Life

2. St. Mark's Reading Group meets on the **third Wednesday** of every month in the Dozier Library at **12:30 p.m.** On **May 16**, we will discuss *Stay With Me* by Ayobami Adebayo. On **June 20**, we will discuss *Little Bee* by Chris Cleave. Contact: Linda Ewald, llerbe@yahoo.com, 301-541-5133.

Christian Education

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

- * **Sunday Morning Bible Class, 10-11 a.m., April 22-May 13, 2018, Penniman Room**
Studying the Book of Ruth. Convener: Bob Ewald (llerbe@yahoo.com; 301-541-5133)
Ruth, an outsider (a Gentile and a Moabite) who becomes the great-grandmother of David, is a character in story about close relationships among a people who have to face their difficult situations and resolve them on their own. The course consists of class discussion of the text assigned for that day.
- * **SMCC Meditation**, Mondays 7:30-9pm, the Nave. Contact: Collie Agle chagle@washpathfind.com
- * **Tuesday Evening Bible Study, 7:30-9pm, Dozier Library.**
Discussing mysticism in relation to the Gnostic Gospels
Co-Coordinator: Bill Jones (billclough@icloud.com) Kathleen Grant (xqueenmommy17@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

Youth & Family Ministries

4. TODAY- Earth Day Garden Cleanup and Celebration: The Green Lions Committee working with Youth and Family Ministries is sponsoring an event for **families with young children (age 5 to 10) today right after Sunday school (11am-12pm)**. Parents are asked to come to help supervise and siblings are invited. We will **assemble in the Adams Room downstairs to get directions** for the Scavenger Hunt and the Garden Clean Up. There will be some activity games, simple tasks in the gardens, and “green treats.” In case of rain, the event will be held indoors, but come dressed for the weather!

5. April 28-29: High School Retreat: 9th-12th grade youth- come join us for a relaxing weekend away at a beautiful country home **in Blue Ridge Summit Maryland!** We will cook our meals together, watch movies, play board games, and enjoy some time away. Register today at <https://tinyurl.com/retreat-HS>.

6. Save the Date- The Banner Sunday celebration will be during a single, 10am morning service on Sunday, June 3!

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

Music & Arts

7. Wednesday, April 25th 7:30 pm Organ Recital by Ben Teague, Wales

Works by J. S. Bach, Dietrich Buxtehude, Franz Liszt, Alec Rowley, Robert Groves, Jean Langlais, Alexander Thacker, Benjamin Teague, Robert Crehan, Spencer Arias, and George Calkin. A Welsh organist and composer based in Cardiff, Ben is a student of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and is active as a musician in and around Cardiff. He has performed several recitals across the country, and this is the third time playing in the United States. The program will consist of varied works, from Baroque to modern day commissions by American and British composers. Free. A small reception will follow the recital.

8. Friday, April 27th 8:00 pm Jordi Savall Concert: Classical Movements will present celebrated early music masters Jordi Savall, Hespèrion XXI and La Capella Reial de Catalunya in an enchanting performance at St. Mark's Episcopal Church entitled The « Llibre Vermell » of Montserrat: Songs and Dances in Honor of the Black Virgin of the Montserrat Abbey (14th Century).

Falling on the night of the feast of Our Lady of Montserrat, maestro Savall will direct his longtime Catalonian collaborators in the 10 exquisite works that comprise the Cançoner montserratí-the Medieval songbook composed for pilgrimages to the Santa Maria de Montserrat monastery and dedicated to the Black Madonna, herself. Tickets for this event (\$40) may be purchased at <https://goo.gl/5YxpC7>

9. Saturday, April 28th 4:00 pm Chiarina Chamber Players Concert

Titled Mythos and Identity , this performance will include String Trio by Francaix, Pampeana No. 2 for Cello and Piano by Alberto Ginastera, Las Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas by Astor Piazzolla, Primavera and Verano by Astor Piazzolla, and Piano Quartet No. 1 in C minor, Op. 15 by Gabriel Fauré. Discounts tickets using promo code STMARKS5 are available at: <https://goo.gl/efg2m9>

10. 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 Jason West, Interim Director of Music: jason@stmarks.net

11. Music Lessons. At the St. Mark's Music Studio, Julia Morris (juliamorris23@gmail.com) teaches flute lessons; Diane Atherton (dianesvoicestudio@gmail.com) and Adam Caughey (adamcaughey@gmail.com) offer voice lessons; and Stephanie Ng (stephanien217@gmail.com) teaches piano lessons. Students of all ages and experience are welcome. Learn more about our teachers at stmarks.net/music.

Outreach

12. TODAY - Mite Box Collection - If you participated in the Lenten Mite Box Devotional exercise and have a filled mite box with offerings, please bring your mite box to St. Mark's for collection. **You can drop-off your mite box** on the small dusty rose octagon **next to the organ today Sunday, April 22.** Members of the Outreach Board will pick-up the boxes and all donations will go to Horton's Kids, a Capitol Hill-based nonprofit that empowers school age children to graduate from high school ready for success. Contact: Elizabeth Okeke-Von Batten eblazevich@gmail.com.

13. TODAY Last Chance Israel/Palestine Film Festival: Explore through film complex, difficult, and emotional issues that have prevented peace in Israel/Palestine for over three generations. A free series with discussion following each showing – Voices from the Holy Land – will explore these issues **TODAY April 22nd in two locations at 2:30. Bethlehem - Hidden From View** will be at **Ravenworth Baptist Church, 5100 Ravenworth Road, Annandale. The Field at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Arlington 4444 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington.** This documentary follows an initiative between Palestinians and Israeli settlers working towards coexistence and peace not through politics but through a peoples movement developing from the grass roots. For more information go to www.voicesfromtheHolyland.org Co-sponsored by the St. Mark's Mid-East Working Group.

14. Sexual Harassment Bystander Intervention Training on Saturday, April 28: from 1-3pm in the **Elders Room.** The #MeToo movement has finally given the seriousness and pervasiveness of sexual harassment the attention it deserves. What is your role in preventing and ending sexual harassment in your workplace and community? Come to this two-hour training led by trainers from the awesome local non-profit organization, Collective Action for Safe Spaces (CASS). You'll learn tangible ways to intervene if you witness harassment, discrimination, or even microaggressions. The training cost \$25 per person and reservations are required. To reserve your spot or ask questions, email Lindsey Jones-Renaud at LJonesRenaud@gmail.com.

15. Thank you – Good Friday Offering: Thank you to all who gave to the Good Friday Offering which totaled \$2,000. Among the beneficiaries will be the Episcopal Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza which is under great stress right now. Since 1922 Episcopalians have found the Good Friday Offering to be an effective way to express their support for the ministries of the Diocese of Jerusalem. Pastoral care, education and health care continue to be primary ministries through which our sisters and brothers serve all in need and help the Christian presence in the Holy Land to be a vital and effective force for peace and understanding. Contact: Maureen Shea mtshea@aol.com.

16. A Sunday Suppers Support Team *Thank you*! Special thanks to volunteers **Nora Howell** and **Valerie Byrd**, who, last Sunday, helped Sunday Support Team Co-managers Alix Pereira and Jack Richards prepare 90 sandwiches for the Sunday Suppers site in downtown DC. And *thank you* to **Caroline McReynolds-Adams** and our **St. Mark's teens and parents**, for preparing 7 ½ dozen hard-boiled eggs and casseroles. The food was delivered to the Sunday Suppers site on Sunday evening.

17. The Green Lions' (St. Mark's Environmental Action Group) Earth Day is *TODAY* and Everyday. Ready to make an impact? Learn more or join the Draw Down Challenge today. The 100 most substantive solutions to 'draw down' global warming. See how your daily choices matter: <https://drawdown.ecochallenge.org/> Questions? Contact Victoria Doyon 202-286-3112