

## September 9, 2018 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.

The Official Parish Calendar is online at: [stmarks.net/connect/calendar](http://stmarks.net/connect/calendar)

### From the Vestry and Parish Leadership

**1. Updated Parish Directory and Connect with Realm:** As noted in the last e-gospel, on **Wednesday August 22<sup>nd</sup>**, an updated version of the parish directory was created and sent out via e-mail to all parishioners directly from our new database called "Realm." If you haven't seen the directory, try searching your e-mail for the subject "parish directory." If you still don't find the directory, please send an e-mail to [Patricia@stmarks.net](mailto:Patricia@stmarks.net) to confirm that we have your correct e-mail address.

Going forward, our goal is to send out the directory quarterly. **Realm also allows us to expand our electronic community for our membership** where, among other things, parishioners could log in and look up basic contact information, register for not only Sunday School but also the Parish Retreat, buy tickets to the Maundy Thursday dinner, a dance or crab feast, review your past contributions, make a pledge to support the church, and set up recurring contributions all in one place!

Thank you for your patience as we continue to work on ways to help our dynamic community stay connected.

### Christian Education

**2. Men's Class: Manning Up/Falling Down –The Balance of Men.** In an age of weak leadership, what does it mean to stand up and man up? When all existing lines in the sand are obliterated, where do we begin to redefine those lines? Where is my place in a frightening and unpredictable world? Join us October 2018 for a short men's course, meeting for **four Monday evenings, 7-9 pm (Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29) with a weekend retreat at DuPont House in Rehoboth Beach, DE on October, 19-21.** We will explore the dynamics and navigate the meaning of being a whole and authentic man in today's world. Teachers: Stewart Andrews ([noodlebox@verizon.net](mailto:noodlebox@verizon.net)), Rob Hall ([rphall3@gmail.com](mailto:rphall3@gmail.com)), Don Lipscomb ([dlipscomb@delstudioarchitects.com](mailto:dlipscomb@delstudioarchitects.com)). Register at <https://tinyurl.com/marksmensretreat>.

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

- \* **Sunday Morning Bible Class, 10-11 am, September 16, 2018 - May 19, 2019, Penniman Room Studying First Samuel (Hebrew Scriptures)**  
Convener: Bob Ewald ([llerbe@yahoo.com](mailto:llerbe@yahoo.com)); (301) 541-5133  
First Samuel is the story of Israel's (rocky) transition in leadership from Priest (Samuel) to King (Saul, David). The course consists of class discussion of the text assigned for that day.
- \* **SMMC Meditation, Mondays 7:30-9:00pm, in the Adams Room.**  
Contact: Collie Agle, (202) 255-2687 or [charles.agle@gmail.com](mailto:charles.agle@gmail.com)
- \* **Tuesday Evening Religious Discussion Group – starts again Sept 11th at 7:00pm in the Library.** We will begin the new season discussing religious fundamentalism.  
Co-Coordinator: Bill Jones ([billclough@icloud.com](mailto:billclough@icloud.com)) Kathleen Grant ([queenmommy17@gmail.com](mailto:queenmommy17@gmail.com))

- \* **The Wednesday Bible Class** will study the same prophets Jesus studied. This year we will focus on the Hebrew prophets. These pesky individuals insisted on speaking God's truth to those in power and wound up included in the Bible. We quote them still today (e.g, Amos — "Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."). Who were they, what impact did they have, and what do they offer us today? As a resource & guide we will use the classic work "The Prophets" by Rabbi Abraham Heschel. Class continues on **Wednesdays at 11:30 am** (*note time change*) **until 12:45 pm**. Brown bag lunch follows. Location: **Elders Room in undercroft**. Coordinator: Raiford Gaffney, rgaffneydc@gmail.com.
- \* **Centering Prayer, Thursdays 7:30-8:30am, in the Nave.** Centering Prayer is rooted in the contemplative practices of the Desert Fathers. It is an early Christian contemplative practice that places a strong emphasis on interior silence. Our gathering is for individuals who would like to begin their work day in silence and non-busyness. Cynthia Bourgeault, an Episcopal priest, writes in her book *Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening* "that even though we can perhaps find ways to stop 'outer noise' it is much more difficult to still the 'inner noise.'" Please contact Collie Agle if you are interested or curious, at (202) 255-2687 or charles.agle@gmail.com.

### **Youth & Family Ministries**

- 4. TODAY 9/9, Parish Picnic Kids Activities and Youth Table: After the single 10am morning service** on Sept. 9, there will be a parish wide picnic with fun **kids activities in the courtyard until 12:30pm**-- face painting, carnival games, prizes, and more! Also, stop by the **youth table in the Nave** during the parish programs fair to learn more about our 2018-19 programming and register for Sunday School.
- 5. 9/16, Sunday School Begins!** The 2018-19 Sunday School year will begin **Sept. 16 at 10am in the undercroft** for youth ages 3 to 18. Volunteers will be on hand to help you find the right classroom and get registered. All are welcome!
- 6. 9/16, Youth at Sunday Suppers:** Youth and families are taking over the Sunday Suppers outreach! Sign up to bring a casserole, serve the meal, help drive the youth, and more. **Orientation and training is at 5pm and we leave for Franklin Square at 5:30pm**. This is a great way to give back to our neighborhood and spend time together, and we need everyone's help to make it work. Sign up to volunteer at <https://bit.ly/2LCvt72> or email Caroline.
- 7. 9/22-23, Middle School Lock In:** Youth grades 6th-8th are invited to kick off the school year at our annual Fall Lock In at the church. Movies, games, good food, and fun will be had by all. Register today: <http://www.stmarks.net/grow/youth-and-family-ministry/>.
- 8. 9/29-30, High School Retreat:** Youth grades 9th-12th are invited to spend a relaxing weekend away at **YMCA Camp Tockowgh in Worton, MD**. Start off the school year right with climbing walls, archery, canoeing, bonfire and more. Register today: <http://www.stmarks.net/grow/youth-and-family-ministry/>.

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

## Music & Arts

**9. 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

**10. Eat Pancakes and Support Refugees: Saturday, September 22 (9:00 am – noon) 522 7<sup>th</sup> Street SE,** Washington, DC 20003. This is not your *ordinary* pancake breakfast. Our pancakes feature exciting toppings.... The *suggested donation* of \$10 pp (discount for kids) fully supports the ongoing needs of the Capitol Hill Good Neighbor Refugee Project. Come eat pancakes and meet neighbors from the Afghan Refugee support team . (Want to reserve a table for your family and friends....ryhop21@gmail.com)

**11. Volunteer with Refugee Resettlement Team:** Want to make a positive impact in someone's life? This is an invitation to Volunteer with our Capitol Hill Good Neighbor Refugee Resettlement Team. Refugees need \*friends\* and mentors! The Good Neighbor program has helped to furnish apartments for many Afghan families during the past 18 months and these families are grateful for the welcome they have received in the US. However, they face many challenges in acclimating to a new life. Gaining basic English competence and developing confidence and networking skills are all important to their future assimilation and sustainable employment.

Interested? Here are two opportunities to explore how you might get involved: The Employment Mentors met on Wednesday, August 29 (7:00-8:30 pm) at St. Mark's Church (3rd and A Street SE - lower level in the Rector's Room). **The English Tutoring Team will meet Tuesday, September 11th (7:00-8:30) in the same location.** Want more information? Contact: margaretmclaughlin50@comcast.com or karen.getman@gmail.com

**12. Contribute to Sunday Suppers:** This month the St. Mark's youth are taking over cooking and serving the Sunday Suppers hot meal. But don't worry, you can still help. **Sept 30th** is one of those rare 5th Sundays of the months when there isn't a church to cover. **We could use a hot meal, drinks, sandwiches and eggs for 60 people.** Email Lisa.ramish@gmail.com if you can help with some small part of this.

**13. Help Sunday Suppers Connect to Another Church:** Unfortunately the couple that covered the 4th Sunday of every month is giving up this ministry after 12 years. If you have connections to a church or group that might be willing to take on serving supper **every 4th or every other 4th Sunday**, we need help **starting in 2019.** Email Lisa.ramish@gmail.com.

## Parish Life

**14. TODAY Parish Fair:** On **Sunday, September 9, following the one 10 am service**, we will host a Parish Fair **in the Nave.** Fun and informative, it will feature information on all of the many activities, organizations, services and opportunities that make up the lifeblood of our church. This is a not-to-be-missed opportunity to learn more about how you can get involved and for groups to sign up, recruit and promote!

**15. Scott's Ordination Celebration:** On **Sunday, September 16**, we will celebrate the September 15 ordination of our wonderful Assistant Rector, Scott Lipscomb **after all three services**. **If you would like to help** with coffee hour after the 9 am service, with pub lunch after the 11:15 service or with a reception after the 5 pm service, **please email Julie Murphy** at [juliaabbotmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:juliaabbotmurphy@gmail.com) and she will put you in touch with those taking the lead on these celebrations!

**16. The St. Mark's Reading Group** typically meets on the third Wednesday of every month in the **Dozier Library at 12:30 pm**. On **September 19<sup>th</sup>**, we will discuss Judas by Amos Oz. Contact: Linda Ewald, [llerbe@yahoo.com](mailto:llerbe@yahoo.com), 301-541-5133.

### **Banns of Marriage**

**17.** I publish the **banns of marriage** between Rhonda Summey and Garry Hester. If any of you know just cause why they may not be joined together in Holy Matrimony, you are bidden to declare it. This is the third time of asking.