

March 17, 2019 Announcements

*Announcements, **not to exceed 150 words**, are to be submitted to 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

Parish Life

1. Annual Meeting—Next Sunday, March 24! There will be one morning service at 10:00 am followed by a lunch provided by the Vestry. There will be **no Sunday School**, but Caleb is arranging for children's activities. The meeting itself will start at noon. All members are encouraged to attend and vote!

The meeting itself covers the following:

- Reports to the parish from the Rector, Wardens, and Treasurer
- Election of Junior and Senior Wardens, three Vestry members, and one diocesan delegate.
- Farewells to retiring wardens and officers

If you have any questions, please contact Senior Warden Nora Howell at seniorwarden@stmarks.net.

2. Nave Decorating for Easter: The parish needs a volunteer coordinator to plan decorations for the nave at Easter. The plan need not be elaborate. A modest budget is available, but low cost and ingenuity will be appreciated. If interested please speak to either Scott Lipscomb scott@stmarks.net or Jim Steed steedj66@gmail.com, worship co-chairs.

3. The Way of Love Journal Group will be meeting on Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings during Lent, for those who plan to journal their experience of practicing the Way of Love during this season. We will share our experiences of trying to live the Way of Love, talk about what spiritual practices are working and which aren't, and how our commitment to journaling is forming us. We will gather at **7pm on Wednesdays and 10am on Thursdays in the Dozier Library**. For more information, contact our Assistant Rector, Scott Lipscomb at scott@stmarks.net

4. Lenten Intentions Basket Weaving Project. On Lenten Sunday's, come to Baxter Hall after each worship service to help create a St. Mark's Lenten basket of intentions. Everybody is welcome to prayerfully contribute their intention - either physically with a written statement or silently with your thoughts as you weave together one community basket of intentions for Lent. There will be hands-on instruction, guiding us in our goal to create a woven basket/bowl made of material, yarn, and paper together, representing our Lenten intentions. Questions: contact Cindy Dopp (cindy@stmarks.net) or Tracy Council (tracy@tracyskids.org).

5. Be a Hospitality Hero! Join the fun of bringing food for 10:45 AM coffee hour and for Sunday lunch (or, if you prefer, a "coffee hour" instead). This week's Hero is Lisa Ramish who is excited to be providing a St Patrick's 10:45 coffee hour. Sadly, no one signed up for Sunday lunch this week. All you need to do is to **sign up on the poster boards next to the coffee**. Or, if you want more information or prefer an online sign up, please email Maureen Shea mtshea@aol.com. Maureen and Kenn are now co-chairs of Sunday Hospitality under the auspices of the Parish Life pillar.

6. The 20's & 30's Faith Fellowship meets on the **last Sunday** of each month to discuss a short reading, talk about our month, and build friendships. We gather around **6pm**, just after the 5pm service, down in the **Dozier Library**. Our next meeting is **March 31st**. For more information: contact Emily McDuff at emily.a.mcduff@gmail.com.

7. Pantry Contributions: Thank you all for coffee cups over the past few years. However, our 'cups runneth over' and we have no room for more. Please take your next batch of throw-aways to Good Will

instead! Also: please do not contribute any more flavored tea!! Again, we have an overabundance and limited space. Contact Doris Burton, dmburton21@gmail.com

8. Plastic/s Is/Are a No-No: The pantry is in overload with plastic cutlery left by renters, etc. We even have a load of compostable cutlery! If you are doing pub lunch or a social event, please do NOT bring cutlery...we have enough for 100+ lunches!! Also, remember that styrofoam is outlawed in DC and come July 1, so will plastic straws (hip, hip, hooray!!!). Contact Doris Burton, dmburton21@gmail.com

Christian Education

9. Wrestling with the Angel is a theology and ethics discussion group that meets each **second Sunday of the month** at **1:15** downstairs in the **Dozier Library**. We ponder a few passages of Scripture as a jumping-off point to ask questions about our most deeply-held values and beliefs. Our next meeting is **April 14**; we will be asking whether and how **forgiveness can overcome hatred**. For more information, email our Assistant Rector, Scott Lipscomb, at scott@stmarks.net.

10. Ongoing Christian Education. These groups are open to newcomers:

- * **Sunday Morning Bible Class, 10-11 am, through May 19, 2019, Penniman Room Studying First Samuel (Hebrew Scriptures)**
Convener: Bob Ewald (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
- * **The Wednesday Bible Class** is studying the Hebrew prophets using the classic work "The Prophets" by Rabbi Abraham Heschel. Class continues on **Wednesdays, 11:30 am - 12:45 pm**. Brown bag lunch follows. Location: **Elders Room in the undercroft**. Coordinator: Raiford Gaffney, rgaffneydc@gmail.com.
- * **Centering Prayer, Thursdays 7:30-8:30 am, in the Nave.** Centering Prayer is an early Christian contemplative practice that places a strong emphasis on interior silence. Please contact Collie Agle if you are interested or curious, at (202) 255-2687 or charles.agle@gmail.com.

Youth & Family Ministries

11. POSTPONED - Middle School Service Trip Interest Meeting - Our rising 6th-8th grade will spend **4 days/3 nights together in service in DC this summer July 14-17**. We will serve with many important organizations in our neighborhood and community as well as spend some bonding time together as a group. **The interest meeting scheduled for February 24 is postponed- be on the lookout for a new meeting date and time in the coming weeks.**

12. Needed - Adult Chaperones for Summer Service Trips! Looking for ways to get involved at St. Mark's, give back to your community, and be inspired by some pretty cool youth? Consider signing up to be a service trip chaperone! We are looking for **3+ adults for the High School trip to Philadelphia June 16-22** and **2+ adults for the Middle School trip in D.C. July 14-17**. Email Caleb for more information.

Questions regarding these activities? Contact our new Interim Director of Youth and Family Ministries, **Caleb Nelson Amaker, at caleb@stmarks.net.**

Outreach

13. TODAY Sunday Suppers Sandwich Making! Please join us in **Baxter Hall today, at 4:00 P.M.**, as we prepare 80 sandwiches, in support of Sunday Suppers, managed and supported by St. Mark's parishioners. We usually complete sandwich making in about 30 minutes. Please help us with this very important program. Questions? Please contact Co-Managers Jack Richards @ ktjr89@verizon.net) or Alix Pereira @ alix.pereira@gmail.com

14. Help Immigrant Families Apply for U.S Citizenship! On **March 23rd**, St. Mark's member, Agatha Tan, is hosting a Citizenship Application Workshop with the **Montgomery County Libraries**. At this workshop we will assist near 50 families in completing the paperwork for applying for naturalization. You can support in the form of donating your time or light refreshments for the event. Contact Agatha (202)415-5506, if interested. Thanks!

15. Book Discussion: Strangers, Neighbors, Friends. March 24 6:00pm – Aziz Abu Sarah of MEJDI tours returns to St. Mark's with his co-authors for a discussion of their new book - Strangers, Neighbors, Friends. Kelly James Clark, Rabbi Nancy Kreimer, and Abu Sarah have written an informed and robust Abrahamic defense of compassion toward neighbors, strangers and even enemies. The book aims to show that Judaism, Christianity, and Islam have the resources to motivate respect and love for those of very different faith traditions. For those who don't know him, Aziz is the co-founder of MEJDI with which organize our pilgrimages to the Holy Land. The evening will begin at 6:00 with a light mezze followed by discussion with the authors at 6:30. This is a program of the Mid East Working Group. Contact: Maureen Shea mtshea@aol.com

16. Volunteer Opportunity to Help Another Refugee Family, this time from El Salvador! If you have Spanish skills, assistance is especially valuable in three general areas: (1) Job development: preparing adults to obtain and retain employment (2) Self-sufficiency skills: 1-2 hours per week assisting in English training, etc. (3) Transportation: helping the family get to medical appointments & interviews. For more information contact: kathryntobias@hotmail.com or 301 467-2652. Kathy represents Lutheran Church of the Reformation as a team leader with Good Neighbors Capitol Hill and is Co-Coordinator, Salvadoran Family Project

17. Still Pondering the Possibility of Joining the November 2019 Pilgrimage to the Holy Land? There are still a few spaces available to walk with us into the land of our faith and meet some of the people who work to bring peace and justice on earth. **Sign up on the Pilgrimage Sheet** to get more information and come to the next Holy Land Pilgrimage **Meeting on Sunday, April 7 in the Adam's Room from 2:00 – 4:00 pm**. Contact: Karen Getman karen.getman@gmail.com

18. From the Green Lions: The DC Environmental Film Festival dceff.org runs for a week at local venues **Mar 14-24**. Since films may sell out, you should purchase tickets online now: <https://dceff.org/festival/> You can screen some at home. Choose *Watch* on the banner at the top of the page. The controversial film Cowspiracy is available here. They do charge a fee, but it is cheaper than going to a theater. Most festival movie tickets are \$12. If a film is sold out online at National Geographic, you can try to purchase tix here: <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/events/event/dceff/> Contact: Frances McKay sismckay@att.net

19. Building an Eco Teen Action Network connecting and empowering teens locally and globally to be change makers - Join Global Co Lab Network and teen environmental clubs from across the DC area at **National Landing in Crystal City (above metro) - Saturday evening, April 6th from 5:30-8:30** Heavy appetizers and drinks at a special event celebrating teens working to address global and local sustainability and work with Smithsonian in preparation for the 50th anniversary of Earth Day in 2020! Watch the documentary "StyrofoamMom" highlighting passion of local Arlingtonian Mom Miriam Ginnari who will be

present to speak after the film. Hear from teens working on fighting climate change, plastics, hunger and other issues. Global Co Lab and its project Teens Dream was founded by St. Mark's Linda Staheli with her daughter Jackie Abramowitz with Teddy Ammon supported by Julie Murphy, Don Gangloff and countless others at St. Mark's and across the DMV. Register here soon:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/teen-eco-action-celebration-at-national-landing-tickets-56661847110> \$25 general admission -- teens and youth free. Contributions to support Global Co Lab Network's work building a teen environmental network. Contact: Don Gangloff d_gangloff@outlook.com

20. Consider applying for the Episcopal Service Corps! If you are (or know) a young person deciding what to do after college, this program organized by the church is an excellent option. Move to a new city, live in an intentional community, work in a job helping others. There are more than 20 programs across the country, from Denver to New York City, Chapel Hill to Seattle. Applications are being considered now. Visit episcopalservicecorps.org to apply.

Music & Arts

21. TODAY Chiarina Chamber Players Concert: Titled Transcendence, this program of 20th Century music for violin, clarinet, cello, and piano will feature works by Bartok, Arvo Pärt, and Messiaen, including the stunning "Quartet for the End of Time." **Sunday, March 17th at 7:30 pm.** Tickets: \$10-20 with an online discount at Eventbrite using promo code STMARKS5. A pre-concert film screening will take place in Baxter Hall from 6:30-7:00 pm to provide some background on Messiaen's piece.

22. Arco Voce Concert: On **Saturday, March 23rd at 7:30 pm** this ensemble will perform an all-Brahms program featuring various songs as well as the great F minor Piano Quintet (op. 34a). General admission: \$20

23. Looking for Friends of Music! We are looking for a group of volunteers to support the continued activities of the St. Mark's Music Program. We need assistance with half a dozen or so events throughout the program year including special concerts, Advent Lessons & Carols, Carols & Cheer, Choral Evensong services, and Hymns & Hoopla. Some of the ways you can help include 1) providing food, drinks, or setup/cleanup help for receptions, 2) greeting and ushering at events, and 3) helping with advertise. **Please e-mail Penny Farley at p3farley@me.com if you can help.**

24. Get Involved in Music. We're always looking for more people to participate in the music program! The **Chancel Choir** rehearses **Thursdays 7:30-9:30 pm**, the **Boys & Girls Choir** rehearses approx. **every other Sunday from 11-12:30 pm** and the **Handbell Choir** rehearses the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month from 6:45-8 pm**. Let us know if you play an instrument and we can also find ways to get you involved. Contact Music Director Jeff Kempskie at jeff@stmarks.net for more info.

25. Music Lessons are available through the St. Mark's Music Studio: Julia Morris (juliamorris23@gmail.com) teaches flute lessons; Diane Atherton (dianesvoicestudio@gmail.com) offers 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.

26. St. Mark's Dance Studio Seeking Board Members. The Dance Studio has been an integral part of the St. Mark's community since 1963. The Studio's Advisory Board provides oversight and assistance to the Dance Company. The Board is seeking new volunteer members for a two-year commitment and is particularly interested in individuals with financial and marketing skills. If you are interested, please provide a brief statement that includes the types of activities you can support. Contact Fynnette Eaton (202) 203 8098 or flejem@gmail.com