

June 23, 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

Music & Arts

1. 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.

2. Music Lessons are available through the St. Mark's Music Studio: 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.

3. 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 to advertise. **Please email Penny Farley at p3farley@me.com if you can help.**

Parish Life

4. TODAY Community Liturgy Planning: Our next Community Liturgy Planning session will be **today Sunday, June 23 at 1:15 in the Rector's Room**. We will be talking about so-called "Ordinary Time", and planning some of our **liturgies for the summer** months. All are welcome, whether you have experience with planning liturgies or not! For more information, contact me at scott@stmarks.net.

5. The Lambda Lions will be meeting on Monday, June 24 from 7-9 p.m. in Baxter Hall for our second meeting. Our goal over the coming weeks will be to get to know one another and we have a number of Ice Breakers planned. This month we observe the 50th anniversary of Stonewall, which was the most important event leading to the LGBTQ movement. We'll have a discussion and share personal insights on its relevance in our lives today. Please rsvp to Mary Ellison at mary.c.ellison@gmail.com or Brandon Knight at BrandonLKnight@yahoo.com. Hope to see you on June 24!

6. Anne Barton Service Reception Refreshments Needed: There will be a reception following the service for Anne Barton on **June 29th**. If you would like to bring drinks or cookies or dessert bars for the reception, please sign up at bit.ly/June29Barton by copying this link in your browser. This is a gift we can give John and his family at this sad time. Contact: Susan Sedgewick jssedgewick@gmail.com.

7. From the 40's-60's Group: Cabin Camping Interest Linda Staheli would love to hear from others who might be interested in organizing a **cabin-style camping trip in July** at Camp Misty Mount near Thurmont, Maryland. This lovely park is a short drive away and offers a loop of open air structures with firepits, etc., perfect for an overnight camping experience. Email Linda at lstaheli@gmail.com if you are interested in helping put this together.

If you have not been invited to one of the prior 40's-60's group events - and you'd like to be! - **contact Jim Brooks** (jabrooksjr@gmail.com) and/or **Jennifer Dalzell** (jennifer.coyne.dalzell@gmail.com)

8. 20s/30s Events:

- **Anacostia River Cleanup - Saturday, June 29th from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm** Organized by the Anacostia Watershed Society specifically for our St. Mark's, we will be volunteering for their trash sorting challenge to keep trash from entering the river. Data from this challenge has been used to help pass the grocery bag fee law in D.C. Meet at the historic Bostwick House at 3901 48th St. in Bladensburg, MD 20710, which is at 20-minute drive or 30-minute bike ride from St. Mark's. Carpooling will be organized once we know who is going. Please RSVP to Emily McDuff at emily.a.mcduff@gmail.com.
- **20s/30s Faith Fellowship - Sunday, June 30th at 6:00 pm in the Dozier Library** We will resume our monthly Faith Fellowship meetings on Sunday, June 30th at 6:00 pm in the Dozier Library. We'll continue our 20 Questions series, share highs and lows, and have tea. For more information, contact Emily McDuff at emily.a.mcduff@gmail.com.

9. Small Groups: we are launching a series of small groups this month. Some groups are organized around specific themes or identities, while others will be organized on geography. **If you are looking for a way to connect more deeply with folks at St. Mark's, then small groups are for you!** So that you can learn more and be in touch with facilitators, we have included more information on the groups. You can find it on the *last page* of this Announcements packet.

This is also a good time to remember that St. Mark's has **many already-existing groups**, some of which have been gathering for decades. If none of the groups discussed on the back page interest you, but you would like to find a way to connect with a smaller gathering, please be in touch with Assistant Rector Scott Lipscomb at scott@stmarks.net and he will be happy to get more information on the many different groups meeting here!

And if you lead a group that has been meeting here for many years and would like help publicizing your group, also be in touch with Scott; he would love to help you publicize your gathering!

10. The Membership Committee is looking for people to serve as **Newcomer Greeters** for the 9 a.m. and 11:15 services in the months that have five Sundays, which occur four times a year. This year, fifth-Sunday greeters are needed for June, September and December. The task involves greeting newcomers before or after the service, answering questions, providing information about the church, and inviting them to coffee hour or lunch in Baxter Hall. If you would like to provide this ministry of hospitality, please contact Mary Cooper (macooper3313@aol.com).

11. Coffee Clean-up Volunteers Needed: The 11:15 crowd is not coming through with volunteers to clean up coffee. The majority of current Grounds Crew have been on the job for 5 years and they need a break. Become a team player! Learn the joy of washing pots and serving your fellow-Lions...contact Doris Burton dmburton21@gmail.com if you, too, wish to be a part of this group!

12. Coming Soon! The 40th almost-annual July 4th Crab Feast. Sunday, July 21. There will be **one (1) morning service at 10 a.m.** followed by that amazing event...beginning with that ever-delightful Parade of Crabs led by last year's Crab of the Year, Tracy Council. For crustaceans: crabs will be \$15, chicken (only) \$10, children under 10 eat free. Doors close at 12:45...don't be late! Questions? Contact Doris Burton dmburton21@gmail.com

13. Processing the Flag: We are looking for people to carry the flag - St. Mark's includes the American flag in the processional on **July 4 and Veterans Day**, both to honor those who have served our country and to reflect on ways in which our history has unfolded, for good and for ill. If you would like to participate by carrying the flag on these occasions, please speak to Scott Lipscomb (scott@stmarks.net) or to Jim Steed (steedj66@gmail.com), worship co-chairs.

Christian Education

14. June: Barbara Brown Taylor Book Discussion: this month, a “pop-up” Christina Ed class is discussing Holy Envy together. This book recounts Taylor's "moving discoveries of finding the sacred in unexpected places while teaching world religions to undergraduates in Baptist-saturated rural Georgia, revealing how God delights in confounding our expectations." Our adjunct Patricia Catalano and our Deacon Cindy Dopp will lead us through the book and we will meet on the **four Wednesdays in June (June 5, 12, 19, and 26)** in the **Penniman Room from 7 - 8 pm**. Light refreshments will be included. To sign up, email Julie Murphy at juliaabbotmurphy@gmail.com.

15. Episcopalians 101: We will be holding another session of our Episcopalians 101 class on **July 7 and July 14 at 4pm**, before the 5pm service. If you would like to learn more about the history, theology, and liturgy of the Episcopal tradition, please join us! For more information, please contact Assistant Rector Scott Lipscomb at scott@stmarks.net.

16. Wrestling with the Angel is a theology and ethics discussion group that meets each **second Sunday of the month** at **1:15pm** 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 **July 14th**. For more information, email our Assistant Rector, Scott Lipscomb at scott@stmarks.net.

17. Wednesday Morning Drop-In Ecclesiastes Bible Study: If you have a free moment, the Wednesday Bible Class invites you to drop in for an hour of Bible study, a brown bag lunch, and fellowship. We plan to read and discuss small portions of Proverbs or whatever comes up. No reservations or advance reading required. **Date & Time: Wednesdays through August 28 at 12:00 to 1:00 pm. Coordinator:** Raiford Gaffney at rgaffneydc@gmail.com or 2024605415 **Location:** St. Mark's (**Penniman Room**)

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

- * **SMMC Meditation, Mondays 7:30-9:00pm, in the Adams Room.**
Contact: Collie Agle, (202) 255-2687 or charles.agle@gmail.com
- * **The Wednesday Morning Drop-In Bible Study, 12:00-1:00pm, Penniman Room.**
- * **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

19. Registration is open for all weeks of summer camp at the Claggett Center! Claggett has served as the summer camp and retreat center for the Diocese of Maryland since 1952. In 2018, Claggett began a partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, providing camp experiences for young people grades 2-12 in both dioceses to spend time in creation and grow in faith. All camps are **weeklong** and residential in **Adamstown, Maryland**, with each week hosting a different age group. Spaces are still available at all camps! For more information and registration, visit claggettcenter.org!

20. Summer Sunday School begins June 23rd! During the summer, children ages 3-10 are encouraged to join us the **2nd and 4th Sunday** of each month for a special summer edition of Sunday School! We will gather in the Dance studio at 10am. Contact **Caleb Nelson Amaker** at youthdirector@stmarks.net with any questions.

More information on the new small groups:

Christian Legal Professionals *Facilitator: Jason Horrell (jrhorrell86@gmail.com)*

This intergenerational small group is for lawyers, paralegals, law students, and others working in the legal field to support each other as we discern what it means to pursue justice through law as a Christian in civil society. We may read, share meals, or discuss what inspires and challenges us (on a grand scale or in our day-to-day practice) during our time together. In our first meeting (date TBD), we will get to know one another, attempt to find a catchy name for ourselves, and determine as a group how we might best serve and support one another going forward. Please join us!

Lambda Lions

Facilitators: Mary Ellison (mary.c.ellison@gmail.com) & Brandon Knight (brandonlknight@yahoo.com)

The Lambda Lions is an affinity group of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) members of St. Mark's parish. St. Mark's has a history of inclusion of LGBTQ members, including being the first church in the Diocese of Washington to bless same sex unions in July 2001. LGBTQ members serve in a variety of staff and lay leadership positions, including the Rev. Michele Morgan as our Rector. The Lambda Lions hopes to provide a supportive space for LGBTQ members and visitors to socialize, discuss issues of identity and faith, engage in positive change, and support one another wherever we may find ourselves in the faith journey.

Widows & Widowers *Facilitator: Mary Cooper (macooper3313@aol.com)*

Being widowed affects everyone differently. For many people, loneliness is a big problem. Others struggle with legal issues and estate management. Some are in shock over the sudden change in their lives. The Widows and Widowers group's first task will be to identify members' needs so that we can work together to help each other live into our changed lives.

Roman Catholics *Facilitator: Bill Lee (bill.lee.dc@gmail.com)*

There are a number of parishioners at St. Mark's who were raised in the Roman Catholic faith and may still consider themselves Catholic. What's it like to be a Catholic or an ex-Catholic at St. Mark's? A range of thoughts and feelings including questioning, sorrow, joy, guilt, and freedom may accompany Catholics who have decided to worship at St. Marks. A number of us thought it would be interesting to compare notes on what it means to be a Catholic or ex-Catholic at St. Mark's and what we bring to our worship here. Please join us and share your thoughts and experiences and hear from others who have made the same journey.

Regional Groups: The regional groups will be organized based on where members live, rather than on shared identity, vocation, or life experience. They will therefore be a great way to meet people different from you who are your neighbors. Meetings will feature a topic for discussion and, often, a meal.

Virginia *Facilitators: Beth Mahood (ehmahood@gmail.com) & Jan Lipscomb (deljan26@cox.net)*

Northwest/DC *Facilitators: Marlane Lidell (marlaneliddell@aol.com) & Greg Gay (ggay634@aol.com)*

North/East Maryland Lions

Facilitators: Doris Burton (dmburton21@gmail.com) & Michelle Strange (michelleknitter@gmail.com)