

June 9, 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

From the Vestry and Parish Leadership

1. All Parish Retreat: You may notice that some friends and neighbors are not in their usual seats this morning: our annual parish retreat started yesterday, June 8 at the Claggett Retreat Center near Frederick, Maryland, and will end this afternoon.

Please note that **we will hold all regular services today**, June 9th at St. Mark's: 9am Eucharist, 10am sermon seminar, 11:15am Eucharist, and 5pm Eucharist.

Christian Education

2. June: Barbara Brown Taylor Book Discussion: this month, a "pop-up" Christian 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.

3. TODAY 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 meetings are **June 8th (at the retreat)** and then again **TODAY, June 9th** at 1:15 in the library. We will be asking: "**What is the Church, anyway!?**" For more information, talk to our Assistant Rector, Scott Lipscomb.

4. 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**)

5. 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

6. Summer Sunday School begins June 23rd! During the summer, children ages 3-10 are encouraged to join us the second and 4th Sunday of each month for a special summer edition of Sunday School! We will gather in the Dance studio at 10am.

7. 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!

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

Music & Arts

8. 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 Kempes at jeff@stmarks.net for more info.

9. 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.

10. 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

11. Welcoming our newest members: on Sunday, June 16, we will hold a **Rite of Commitment**, in which those who have joined St. Mark's in the last 3 years—whether through participation in the *Belongings* class or through some other avenue—will publicly commit to this parish. If you have joined the parish recently, and would like to participate, just contact our Assistant Rector, Scott Lipscomb at scott@stmarks.net and he will give more details.

12. 40's-60's Group: We continue to grow opportunities to be more involved at St. Mark's. A new group has solidified around some core themes. Called most recently "Middlescence" (the period of self-doubt at mid-life). This period is often accompanied by aging parents or the loss of parents and grown (or soon to be independent) children. It is a time when we still have dreams unfulfilled and/or unexplored. It's a time when a state of grace is often sought or desired.

If you have not been part of the early formation of this group, now is the time to find your place. Below are the activities planned in the near future along with contact people. These are the people who understand your hopes, dreams, and challenges -- they are living similar ones! So join in and be part.

- We will host our own **potluck on Saturday, June 15 from 6 - 8 pm in Baxter Hall** to discuss the book Love's Way: Living Peacefully with Your Family As Your Parents Age. The authors, Carolyn Miller Parr and Sig Cohen, will be present to talk about the necessary legal hurdles and emotional difficulties that arise with aging parents and will have copies available that evening. **Open to all attendees of all ages**. Sign up here <https://tinyurl.com/MiddleAgersPotLuck>. For more information about the potluck and the book, email Martha Huizenga at marthahuizenga@gmail.com.
- 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 group events, **contact Jim Brooks** (jabrooksjr@gmail.com) and/or **Jennifer Dalzell** (jennifer.coyne.dalzell@gmail.com)

13. 20s/30s events in June!

- **20s/30s Rock Creek Hike & Pizza Paradiso Lunch - Saturday, June 15th from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm** In lieu of our May Faith Fellowship, we will meet on the corner of P St. NW and 23rd St. NW at 11:00 am to hike on Rock Creek Trail, and then walk to Pizza Paradiso near Dupont Circle for lunch at 1:00 pm. Feel free to come to either the hike or the lunch if you cannot make both. Please RSVP to Emily McDuff at emily.a.mcduff@gmail.com.
- **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.

14. Small Groups: we will be launching a series of small groups in mid- to late-June. 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! If you'd like to learn more, please contact our Assistant Rector Scott Lipscomb at scott@stmarks.net

15. Processing the Flag: Looking for people to carry the flag—St. Mark's includes the American flag in the processional on Memorial Day, 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.