

August 25, 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.***

To view the parish calendar online, go to our homepage <stmarks.net> and click "Calendar" at the top of the page.

Youth & Family Ministries

1. Summer Sunday School Continues. 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 **10 am**.

2. TODAY Celebrate Our 2019 Service Trip. Come celebrate the amazing work our youth did this summer! Join us in Baxter Hall following the August Birthday Luncheon, and share pictures and stories from both the High School trip to Philadelphia and the Middle School trip to Washington, DC. You won't want to miss it!

3. Sunday School Begins September 15! The 2019-20 Sunday School year will begin Sept. 15 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!

Contact **Caleb Nelson Amaker** at **youthdirector@stmarks.net** with any questions.

Music & Arts

4. 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 Kempeskie at **jeff@stmarks.net** for more info.

5. 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**.

6. 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

7. TODAY August 25 Annual August Birthday Luncheon. Help celebrate the August birthdays of at least 20 St. Mark's parishioners today **following the 11:15 service**. Raiford is coordinating the lunch and will bring her favorite Honey Baked Ham. Stick around afterward to join St. Mark's youth in celebrating their Summer Service Trips. For information or to sign up, contact Raiford Gaffney at **rgaffneydc@gmail.com** or 202-460-5415.

8. TODAY 20s/30s Faith Fellowship - The 20's & 30's group meets on the last Sunday of the month for fellowship and deep conversation over tea. We have a discussion guided by our 20 Questions series, share our highs and lows from the last month, and drink tea! Our next meeting will be today, Sunday, **Aug. 25 at 6pm downstairs in the Dozier Library**. For more information, contact Emily McDuff at emily.a.mcduff@gmail.com.

9. The 15th Annual Parish Cook-Out & Ministry Fair will be held on **Sunday, September 8**. The first edition will be **right after the combined 10 AM service**, and the second edition will be **after the 5 PM service**. If you would like your ministry or group to have space at the Ministry Fair, please be in touch with Junior Warden Jim Pittman at juniorwarden@stmarks.net. We are asking folks to bring sides and fixin's, as shown below. We hope y'all can make it!

<i>Last Name...</i>	<i>Bring...</i>
A-B	Cole Slaw for 6-8
C-D	2 doz cookies or brownies (mark if w/nuts)
E-G	6-pack beer
H-L	2-6pk or 1-liter soda
M	Potato Salad for 6-8
N-R	Pasta or bean like salad for 6-8
S-T	A plate of sliced onions
U-Z	A plate of sliced tomatoes

10. September 8 is also "Name Tag Sunday" – The Membership Committee is urging all parishioners to wear their name tags on the 8th as a sign of our hospitality to newcomers, an aid to "oldtimers" (of all ages!) who have memory lapses, and a means of helping people "know and be known" in our community. If you need a name tag, sign up at the table by the organ pipes or email Peter Hawley (phawleydc@gmail.com) if you attend either morning service or David Deutsch (dsd@his.com) if you usually attend the 5 pm service. Don't hide your light (or your name) under that proverbial bushel!

11. Announcing the Fall Line-up for the Lambda Lions:

September 23 at 7 p.m. at St. Mark's -- Start of a two-part film series and discussion

October 28 at 7 p.m. at St. Mark's -- Continuation of the film series and discussion

December 7, TBD -- Joint Thanksgiving/Xmas Celebration: "Gays-giving"

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 our Rector, the Rev. Michele Morgan. 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.

Please contact Mary Ellison at Mary.c.ellison@gmail.com or Brandon Knight at BrandonLKnight@yahoo.com with any questions.

12. St. Mark's Women to Women – Join us for a garden party on **Thursday, September 12th from 5:45-7:45pm in St Mark's main and side gardens**. Come meet some fabulous St. Mark's women, listen to music, and wear a hat! Looking for folks to contribute: sparkling water, soda, wine, salty snacks, veggies/dip. Please RSVP Karen Falk, kfalkdc@gmail.com

Christian Education

13. Sunday School Registration is open. Sunday School will start for ages 3 through Grade 12 on **Sunday, September 15**. All children and young people will need to have a registration form completed which includes various permissions as well as liability releases. That form is on the St. Mark's website if you wish to download it and fill it out. **We will also be registering children and young people for Sunday School at the Parish picnic on September 8 and also during the first day of Sunday School (September 15)**. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Thompson or Greg Niblett, the Co-Directors of Christian Education at susanlynnthompson@gmail.com or greg.niblett@mtctrains.com. You may also contact Stephanie Deutsch who is organizing the Catechesis Sunday School program for ages 3 to Grade 5. Mary Thuell will be the lead teacher for Middle School (mwthuell@gmail.com) and Caleb Amaker will be the lead teacher for Senior High (youthdirector@stmarks.net). Also, all contact information is in the directory.

14. Come. Grow. Belong. The Christian Education Year is Launching. The Christian Education catalogue for the 2019-2020 year has been posted on the St. Mark's website. Please check it out and see if there is a class or course that would interest you. For the fall, in addition to Episcopalians 101, Centering Prayer, Bible Studies, meditation, youth programs & activities and other offerings, please check out the Forgiveness Course and the Aging Class. Take a course and grow and learn but also meet new people and reconnect with old friends as we build community together. You can sign up in the lobby.

15. The Challenge of Forgiveness: As Christians, seekers, and skeptics seeking to live well, we know that forgiveness is essential to living healthy and healing lives. Yet forgiveness does not always come easily. Join Michele and Scott as they explore the reasons to—and the challenges and promise of—forgiving. Guided by Desmond & Mpho Tutu's *The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World*, we will seek to learn the power of forgiveness. The class will meet on **Wednesday evenings at 7pm, Sep. 11 through Oct. 16 in the Dozier Library**. (We will also hold **repeat sessions on Thursdays at 10am** starting Sep. 12 for those who prefer mornings to nights.) For more information, contact Scott at scott@stmarks.net

16. New Class on Aging. There is a new Christian Education class coming this Fall; **Aging: Claiming my Changing Life**. We will explore those changes that come as we grow older, the losses, the gains, the new realizations. There will be 4 class sessions and a weekend at Claggett. The classes are at St. Mark's on **October 23 & 30, November 6 & 13 (Wednesdays)**. **The weekend is November 1 - 3**, and the cost is \$230. The leaders are Martha Connor-Donnelly (macd46@hotmail.com), Pete Eveleth (peter.eveleth@gmail.com), Betty Foster (bettywesfoster@earthlink.net), and Don Lipscomb (4zdel-arc@cox.net). Please talk to one of us if you have questions or are interested.

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

* **Sunday Morning Bible Class, 10-11 am, September 15, 2019-May 17, 2020, Penniman Room**
Second Samuel (Hebrew Scriptures)
Convener: Bob Ewald (lberbe@yahoo.com; 301-541-5133)

Second Samuel focuses on the complicated life of David: claiming his kingship; centralizing the religious and political traditions of the Israelites; waging war against The Other; dealing with messy family relationships. The class consists of class discussion of the assigned reading for that day. Regular attendance is encouraged. Additional outside readings are not expected.

- * **Wrestling with the Angel, Second Sunday of the Month 1:15 pm**, downstairs in the **Dozier Library**. Wrestling with the Angel is a theology and ethics discussion group. 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 will be on **September 8**. Contact: The Reverend Scott Lipscomb scott@stmarks.net
- * **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, 11:30 am-12:45pm**, Brown bag lunch follows Proverbs through August 28th; “Minor” Prophets starting September 4th
Location: **Elders Room (in the undercroft)**
Class Leaders: Peter Mosley; Coordinator: Raiford Gaffney, rgaffneydc@gmail.com or 2024605415.
The So-Called “Minor Prophets” were not diviners of the future but loud critics of the inequalities, corruption, and injustices in their society. Jesus knew them well. As a resource and guide we will continue to use the classic work *The Prophets* by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel. We will read Bible text from different translations and Heschel’s commentary of a particular passage. Each of these elements of our “study” launches our questions and discussion, and deepens our ongoing conversation. We keep learning more about the historical context of The Bible, our Tradition, and how each of us finds meaning from what we learn.
- * **Centering Prayer, Thursdays 7:30-8:30am, in the Nave**. Centring 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.

Outreach

18. A Sunday Suppers Support Team Thank You! Special thanks to our sandwich making volunteers Kathy Tatko and Kenn Allen, who helped Sunday Support Team Co-manager Jack Richards prepare, bag and box 120 sandwiches. The sandwiches were delivered by Kenn to Sunday Suppers at Franklin Square, 14th St. NW. They, in turn, provided sustenance to needy souls on the street. Contact: John Richards ktjr89@verizon.net and alix.pereira@gmail.com

19. Thank you, St Mark's! Thirty backpacks full of school supplies were delivered to Shirley's Place, Everyone Home DC's day hospitality center. Many thanks to Caleb for rounding up youth and parents to help stuff the backpacks with school supplies. Kudos to grill chefs Rick Rutherford and Jack Richards for helping make our post backpack picnic a success. Thanks to Maureen Shea, Jack Richards and Kathy Tatko, Penny Hansen, Cindy Dopp, Michele Morgan, Karen Getman, Cecillie Jones, Raiford Gaffney, Lisa and Dan Ramish, Grace Aspinall, and Ellen Spencer for providing the delicious picnic fare. Contact: Susan Sedgewick jssedgewick@gmail.com

20. The Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) is launching a multiyear campaign, From Witness to Action, aiming to organize communities throughout DC on a range of interrelated social justice issues. Areas of action include the development of Reservation 13 (the 67 acres near RFK Stadium), public housing, living-wage jobs, and community safety/gun violence. St. Mark’s has been approached about joining this effort, and several individuals attended preliminary meetings to learn more about it.

For more information about WIN’s campaign, see <https://www.windc-iaf.org/witnesstoaction>. For more information about how St. Mark’s is exploring its options, contact Steve Dalzell, Outreach co-chair, at dalzellsr@gmail.com or 202-679-3184.