

September 29, 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. Safeguarding God's Children-October 5 This fall St. Mark's will host Safeguarding God's Children training. Safeguarding God's Children provides participants with the information they need to protect the children they know and care for in their personal lives and the ministries in which they serve.

Training is required for any volunteers working with children and youth (including Christian education leaders) who have not completed a child abuse and sexual misconduct prevention program in the last three years and is strongly encouraged for anyone who wishes to learn more about how their parish can protect children and youth. **Class will be Saturday October 5 from 9am-12pm in Baxter Hall. Please email Caleb youthdirector@stmarks.net to register.**

Music & Arts

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. Friends of Music: Many thanks to all of you who have volunteered to help out the music program at St. Mark's. We need to grow our faithful FOM core supporters to cover events for the 2019-20 season (the schedule of which will be finalized and advertised shortly). Volunteers to greet and usher at special services and concerts, provide food and beverages, set up and clean up, and help advertise events will be most welcome. If you are interested in helping with any of these tasks, **please email Penny Farley at p3farley@me.com or call or text 617-710-1004.**

Parish Life

5. 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, **Sept. 29 at 6pm downstairs in the Dozier Library**. For more information, contact Emily McDuff at emily.a.mcduff@gmail.com.

6. Call for October Winged Lion Submissions: Do you have an idea you'd like to share about our life together in a thoughtful, personal way? The Winged Lion Review's October issue is right around the corner. The WLR is a forum where we can state our views on major issues before the community, reflect on our own lives and display our creative talents. We are looking for articles that include opinion pieces, reports from a personal perspective on parish-related activities and issues, and short stories, poems, graphic arts and photography. Please **submit your articles to the Co-Editors by October 7**, Hank Donnelly (harhath@gmail.com) and Karen Falk (klfalkdc@gmail.com).

7. Third Agers' Fall Potluck – October 19th – Joan Pierotti, will be sharing her story "Leaving the Lying; Finding a Life" a memoir. Join us when Joan will be sharing with us excerpts from her very personal story. When: **Saturday, October 19th at 11:00 am** Where: **Baxter Hall**. Questions/Info? Contact Don Gangloff at d_gangloff@outlook.com

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

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.

9. St. Marks Women to Women Drum Circle. October 24 from 6-7:30pm Bring a drum, a pot, wooden spoons, bells, bongos or anything to make a beat with! Karen Falk will lead us to move ourselves, the spirits and our neighbors! **In the garden (rain in Elders Room)**. RSVP or just show up - Edna Boone ednaboone@gmail.com

Christian Education

10. 2020 Class on Aging: The Aging: Claiming My Changing Life, commencing October 23, 2019, is **now filled**. Unfortunately, many on the waiting list could not be accommodated. To respond to the interest in this class, the Christian Education Co-Directors will be scheduling another Aging Class next fall. Details on class dates and sign ups will be announced by the Co-Directors next year. Any questions, email Pete Eveleth, peter.eveleth@gmail.com.

11. 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 (lherbe@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.

* **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 Bible Study, 11:30 am-12:45pm**, Brown bag lunch follows
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.

- * **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.
- * **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 **October 13**. Contact: The Reverend Scott Lipscomb scott@stmarks.net

From the Office

12. From Your Parish Administrator Now that the new program year is in full swing, our parish administrator, James, asks that you please observe the following if you are holding a meeting at the church:

- schedule meetings with him so they appear on the calendar
- let him know if a meeting has been cancelled
- get setup requests to him at least two weeks in advance
- lock room doors after meetings
- lock the building at the end of the night if your meeting is the last one (check with James)

Secondly, you will notice that we have new parking signs. Too often the lot has been full with no knowledge of whose cars are parked there. If you park Mon - Fri, 9 AM - 5 PM, please call or visit the office to find out which spaces are available (though empty, a space may be assigned to someone who is about to arrive). Thank you!

Outreach

13. October 6: Pilgrimage Forum in the Adams Room from 1:00-3:00. Our speaker is **Phyllis Bennis**, the American Jewish author of the classic primer "Understanding the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict" and fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies. As a long time analyst on Israeli/Palestinian issues, she speaks to basic questions about Israel and Israelis, Palestine and Palestinians, Zionism and anti-Semitism. She will certainly have insights on the recent Israeli election results and how it impacts future efforts for a viable peace process. All are welcome. Questions: karen.getman@gmail.com