

## **November 3, 2019 Announcements**

*Announcements, **not to exceed 150 words**, are to be submitted to [bulletin@stmarks.net](mailto: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](http://stmarks.net)> and click "Calendar" at the top of the page.

### **From the Vestry and Parish Leadership**

**1. Message From the Rector: Watch Out for Phishing Emails.** Please watch out for scam emails which look like they're coming from me. Scammers have been pulling parishioner email addresses from our website or announcements. They send emails from fake g-mail accounts using variants of my name. Memo lines which read something like "God Bless U" or "I Need Your Help." Usually, they send a series of emails asking you to buy a gift card in \$100 denominations and supposedly I will pay you back. If you send them a photo of a gift card number, your money has been stolen.

If you get an email like this, please notify me and I will tell you how to report it to get the account shut down. I may contact you about pledging, I may ask you to fund projects, **yet I will never ask you to send me a photo of a gift card.** You can call me if you are ever in doubt, at the office or on my cell number from the directory. One of our members lost over \$2000 to this and I am furious that they got taken advantage of and that the perpetrator used St. Marks and my name to do it. The problem will likely continue so please be aware; for more info, search for an FBI article entitled "Cyber-Enabled Financial Fraud on the Rise Globally." I am so sorry that this happened and please let me know if it happens to you. - Michele

**2. Some Common Sense Tips for Staying Safe From Online Financial Scams - Rector's Forum November 10th, at 10AM.** What non-technical steps can you take to protect yourself from email financial scams? Find out in this short, interactive discussion led by Michele Morgan and Chris Berendes, in the Parish Hall.

### **Music & Arts**

**3. 21st Century Consort Concert:** Please join us on **Saturday, November 9th** for a concert of contemporary music. A **pre-concert discussion** with the performers **starts at 4 pm** and the **concert begins at 5 pm. Free.**

**4. Solo Harpsichord Concert: On November 16 at 7:30 pm,** Capriccio Baroque presents 'Jupiter - God of Sky and Thunder' featuring internationally-renowned harpsichordist Anna Kiskachi. Composers include Royer, Lopez, Forqueray, Scarlatti, Couperin, Bach, Ligeti and Wajsar. Special discounted tickets of \$40 available to St. Mark's parishioners at [www.CapriccioBaroque.org](http://www.CapriccioBaroque.org) - select St. Mark's under 'seating type' Last call tickets available at the door for \$50.

**5. 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](mailto:jeff@stmarks.net) for more info.

**6. Music Lessons are available through the St. Mark's Music Studio:** Diane Atherton ([dianesvoicestudio@gmail.com](mailto:dianesvoicestudio@gmail.com)) offers voice lessons, and Stephanie Ng ([stephanien217@gmail.com](mailto:stephanien217@gmail.com)) teaches piano lessons. Students of all ages and experience are welcome. Learn more about our teachers at [stmarks.net/music](http://stmarks.net/music).

## Parish Life

**7. TODAY: Coffee Coffee Hour in Celebration of the Marriage of Rob Hall and Chris Behan.** Please join Lynn & Ed Kneeder, Julie & Sean Murphy, and Elizabeth & Mike Townsend as we host a festive coffee hour. We'll have some light brunch fare, cake, and sparkling beverages for toasting this special couple! Immediately following Sermon Seminar, come gather in Baxter Hall where we'll surround Rob and Chris with our love and best wishes!

**8. The St. Mark's Middle Agers/Mid-Lifers group** (those roughly in their mid-40's to mid 60's) is organizing another **cocktail hour-potluck-discussion on Saturday, Nov 16 from 5:00 pm- 8:00 pm in Baxter Hall**. Those on the email roster should expect to see a reminder from our Realm system. Please RSVP using that system. In addition to the general fellowship, the conversation will focus on principles offered by David Brooks in his latest book, *Second Mountain*. We will send video links providing insights from the author directly. As the date gets closer, we'll randomly assign dishes randomly by alphabet. We are seeking volunteers for set up, clean up, and main dish preparations. Detailed questions may be sent to Jim Brooks (jabrooksjr@gmail.com) and/or Jennifer Dalzell (jennifer.coyne.dalzell@gmail.com).

**9. 20s/30s Faith Fellowship** - The 20's & 30's group meets on the last Sunday of the month. 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 Sunday, **Nov. 24th at 6pm downstairs in the Dozier Library**. For more information, contact Emily McDuff at emily.a.mcduff@gmail.com.

**10. Save the Date from the Lambda Lions - December 7 Joint Thanksgiving/Christmas 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.

## Christian Education

**11. "The Stories We Tell."** St. Mark's Christian Ed program is pleased to host this exciting **Spring retreat** in conjunction with The Guild for Transformational Studies, **April 4-9 at the Roslyn Retreat Center in Richmond, Virginia**. The retreat will offer the opportunity to listen to each others' stories. What has formed our sense of self? Who authors our history? We will invite Knowing to unfold itself through reflection, imaging, art, body awareness, and sharing. This retreat is open to all. A registration form is required. A deposit of \$500 is due no later than the end of December 2019, and the remainder is due no later than February 1, 2020. Additional scholarships – full or partial are available. \*Space is limited.\* Please contact Susan Thompson susanlynnthompson@gmail.com for further information and the **sign-up in Baxter Hall**.

**12. Christian Education Weekend -- January 10-12, 2020:** Come one, come all to the 2020 Christian Education Weekend at the **Claggett Retreat Center**. You don't need to be a teacher to attend! Some call this our winter St. Mark's retreat. Schmooze with new and old members of St. Mark's in the rural countryside of Maryland, learn and make new connections while enjoying the rooms at the Christiane Inn (on site hotel-like rooms). Current Catechesis, Middle School and High School Teachers go free, thanks to the Penniman Fund! First come, first serve. Single rooms are \$274 for the weekend; double

rooms are \$244 per person. Contact Susan Thompson at [susanlynnthompson@gmail.com](mailto:susanlynnthompson@gmail.com) for more information.

**13. Ongoing Christian Education.** These groups are open to newcomers:

- \* **Sunday Morning Bible Class, 10-11 am, until May 17, 2020, Penniman Room**  
Second Samuel (Hebrew Scriptures) Convener: Bob Ewald ([llerbe@yahoo.com](mailto:llerbe@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](mailto: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 Leader: Peter Mosley; Coordinator: Raiford Gaffney ([rgaffneydc@gmail.com](mailto:rgaffneydc@gmail.com) or 202-460-5415).  
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.
- \* **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](mailto:charles.agle@gmail.com).

### **Youth And Family Ministries**

**14. Special thanks** to everyone who helped make Parents Night Out a success!

**15. Nov. 17- Sunday Suppers!** Our next Sunday Suppers Outreach is Nov. 17. Casseroles will be premade, sign up to help drive youth, and serve a meal at Franklin Square. Great opportunity to earn service hours, hang out with friends and give back to our community. Sign up today!  
<https://bit.ly/36htRv6>

### **Outreach**

**16. Small Plots Feed Big Families.** The UN estimates that, due to recent changes in climate and extreme weather patterns, farmers in much of Central America are losing more than half their bean and corn crops. In November, **Roy Lara, Honduran Coordinator of Sustainable Villages Honduras (SVH), will be in DC** to talk about how the program is growing and is more vital than ever. The two SVH staffers, Roy and Idania Reyes, use community development tools to organize alliances of farmers, town councils, water boards, and women and youth groups to protect the Zapotal watershed.

Across the DC area, **St. Mark's members are opening their homes** so you and others can talk with Roy in a small group setting. Each gathering will also include light refreshments and conversations. Names, dates, and emails: Julie Murphy, ([juliaabbotmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:juliaabbotmurphy@gmail.com)), **4-5:30pm Nov 3**; Betsy Agle, [betsy@agle.net](mailto:betsy@agle.net), **10-12am on Nov 5 and 4-7 pm on Nov 8**; Ann Greiner, ([ann.c.greiner@gmail.com](mailto:ann.c.greiner@gmail.com)), **4-5:30 on Nov 9**; Tracy Councill, [tracy@tracyskids.org](mailto:tracy@tracyskids.org), **6-7:30pm on Nov 9**. Please RSVP and attend at a time that works for you!

**17. Diaper Drive:** It's time for our 5th annual diaper drive to support Greater DC Diaper Bank! For **October and the first two weeks of November**, bring in diapers of any size (including adult diapers and pull-ups - packages CAN be open), or other unopened and unexpired baby or family products, like wipes, cream, formula, shampoo, soap, tampons, etc. **Donations can be placed near the sign in the baptismal font area.** Everything we donate will help families in need in the DC area. For questions or to find out how to donate online, email [marikaisabel@gmail.com](mailto:marikaisabel@gmail.com)

**18. Team Citizenship Support** – Thanks and Upcoming Monthly Opportunities To Help: Thanks to the many parishioners who supported the Aug, Sept, and Oct APALRC Citizenship Application Workshops. If you're planning to volunteer for the **Nov workshop (Saturday, the 16th, Rockville)**, please reconfirm with me, so we can be sure we have enough volunteers. And if you'd like to help on **Sunday afternoon, Dec 8th, in Fairfax**, please go to <http://bit.ly/citizenwork2020> to sign up. There will be workshops every month in 2020. For updates, contact me: Agatha Tan (202) 415-5506 [Agatha.tan@apalrc.org](mailto:Agatha.tan@apalrc.org).

**19. Green Lion Film Showing - Paris to Pittsburgh - November 17th at 6:00-8:30 pm in the Parish Hall;** dinner provided. From coastal cities to America's heartland, the film *Paris to Pittsburgh* celebrates how Americans are demanding and developing real solutions in the face of climate change. As the weather grows more deadly and destructive, they aren't waiting on Washington to act. Join the Green Lions Nov 17 to view this 90-minute documentary on what people are doing to address the Climate Crisis. After the film there will be small group discussion among parishioners - both adult and youth - to explore ways we can all take action. Doors open in the Parish Hall at 6:00pm; 6:30 showing. Contact: Betsy Agle [betsy@agle.net](mailto:betsy@agle.net)

**20. Thanksgiving Basket Collection Sunday Nov. 24th** for those in need: This year we will collect Thanksgiving Baskets at church Nov. 24th for Everyone Home DC (formerly Capitol Hill Group Ministry) to distribute to low-income families. In 2018, we provided 53 baskets. Bring the items on the list below in a reusable shopping bag. Please place the \$25 gift card for the meat in an envelope and place in the bag. Bags will be collected in the **baptistry area at the back of the Nave** and Susan and John Sedgewick will deliver them to Shirley's Place Sunday afternoon. Any questions? Ask Susan at [jssedgewick@gmail.com](mailto:jssedgewick@gmail.com).

Shopping List:

- ❖ 2 14.5 oz cans green beans
- ❖ 2 15 oz cans yams or fresh equivalent
- ❖ 2 14 oz cans cranberry sauce
- ❖ 3 boxes mac & cheese
- ❖ 2 boxes stuffing
- ❖ 1 bag rice or mashed potatoes
- ❖ 2 onions
- ❖ 1 box muffin/biscuit mix
- ❖ 1 box cake mix and can of frosting
- ❖ 1 \$25 gift card for meat (Safeway, HT, Giant—placed in an envelope)

**21. A Reminder and Opportunity: The Annual MEWG Advent Sale of Olivewood and Olive Oil Sundays from December 1-22.** Once again you can purchase high-quality Fair Trade olive oil from Canaan and Al'Ard from the West Bank. Produced by Palestinian farmers who carefully maintain an exceptional quality of olives to produce their signature oils. If this description has you wishing you could get the olive oil sooner, you're in luck! You can purchase a case of 6 bottles (\$140.00 per case) before Thanksgiving. Please contact [karen.getman@gmail.com](mailto:karen.getman@gmail.com) to arrange delivery before our departure for the Pilgrimage. We will visit the Canaan cooperative and meet participating families to tell them how much they are appreciated in Washington, DC.