

## **January 26, 2020 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> and click "Calendar" at the top of the page.

### **From the Vestry & Parish Leadership**

**1. Parish Meeting Save the Date:** In accordance of the parish bylaws, St. Mark's will conduct the annual parish meeting on **Sunday, March 15, 2020**. On this day there will be **one worship service at 10:00 a.m. followed by a lunch and moving to the meeting at 12:30 p.m.** Child care will be available. The parish will elect three members of the Vestry and a Diocesan Delegate. If you are a potential candidate, please notify the outgoing members of the Vestry who constitute the core of the Nominating Committee. Those parish members are Tracy Councill [tracy@tracyskids.org](mailto:tracy@tracyskids.org), Alex Pereira [alix.pereira@gmail.com](mailto:alix.pereira@gmail.com), and Jim Brooks [jabrooksjr@gmail.com](mailto:jabrooksjr@gmail.com). Look for regular updates about the parish meeting in the bulletin and the E-Gospel.

### **Youth & Family Ministries**

**2. Sunday School back today!** Children 3-18 can join us at **10am in the undercroft**. All are welcome!

**3. Parenting for Pluralism: a forum for parents of any faith raising children in our interfaith world**  
The Interfaith Council of Washington and the Center for Children and Theology have partnered to lead a conversation for parents of any faith around your own traditions, the religious life of children, and how your own childhood experiences may inform your parenting. The leaders are also seeking input as they prepare to launch a Parenting for Pluralism discussion series.

One of the leaders is Catherine Maresca, the director of the Center for Children and Theology; Catherine is well-known to St. Mark's Catechesis team since she has directly or indirectly trained all of us! The discussion will take place **Sunday, February 9th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church**. Email Caleb [youthdirector@stmarks.net](mailto:youthdirector@stmarks.net) for information on purchasing tickets (\$10).

### **Outreach**

**4. WIN Affordable Housing Campaign:** the Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) is in the middle of a multiyear campaign working for improved affordable housing in DC. Several St. Mark's members are participating individually within various action teams. Anyone interested in learning about the campaign is invited to the **January Action Team meeting at 6:45 this Tuesday night (January 28th) at the Varick Memorial AME Zion Church, 255 Anacostia Avenue NE**. Please contact Steve Dalzell at [dalzellsr@gmail.com](mailto:dalzellsr@gmail.com) to let us know you'll be coming or if you have any questions.

**5. Our next Incarceration Ministry meeting will be Tuesday, January 28, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm at St. Mark's in the Verna Dozier Library.** Please join us to hear about recent activities, including discussion of letters to and from incarcerated individuals, advocacy efforts in progress, and the latest book we will be reading. If you'd like to get started, the book is Guilty People by Abbe Smith, who is a criminal defense attorney. It was just published in 2020 and is available at Solid State Books in DC. Contact Jan Lipscomb - [juanita.lipscomb@gmail.com](mailto:juanita.lipscomb@gmail.com) -or- Jason Horrell - [jrhorrell86@gmail.com](mailto:jrhorrell86@gmail.com) - for more information.

**6. Hebron: A Documentary and Commentary- Wednesday, January 29 – 7:00 pm in Baxter Hall.** Yousef Natseh and Rachel Joy have been serving with the Christian Peacemaker Teams in al-Khalil (Hebron) since 2013. Natseh's film examines the extent to which human rights are realized in a Palestinian community under Israeli occupation. The film will be followed by a brief presentation and Q&A re: the situation on the ground, daily life under occupation, and Palestinian resistance to Israeli settlements. Hebron is the largest city in the southern West Bank.

Its residents live under constant pressure. St. Mark's pilgrims have all visited Hebron and have been exposed to the challenges of this complex city. Mezze served. Contact Karen Getman  
karen.getman@gmail.com.

**7. A Sunday Suppers Support Team Thank You!** Special thanks to our sandwich making volunteers: **Kathy Tatko, Caitlin Frazier, The Rev. Michele Morgan** and **Valeri Byrd**, who last Sunday afternoon helped Sunday Support Team Co-managers Jack Richards and Alix Pereira prepare, bag and box 100 sandwiches. Sandwiches and other food contributions were delivered that evening by **Caleb Nelson Amaker** (Youth & Family Ministries) and his team to Sunday Suppers at Franklin Square. They, in turn, provided sustenance to hungry souls on the street.

### **Worship**

#### **8. Sunday Help Wanted!**

**Acolytes** for both services; ages 8-75. Ability to walk and carry a torch or processional cross necessary. Parent and child combo very possible. Teens welcome and desirable. Will train.

**Laying on of Hands** for both services; adults only. Must be compassionate. Will train.

**Grounds Crew** for 11:15 service.; age 15-90. Ability to clear tables, push a cart, wash coffee pots, and stay after lunch. Will train.

**Ushers** for both services; ages 15 - ? Ability to arrive 10-15 minutes prior to start of service and stay 10 minutes after; ability to stand and walk critical. Will train.

**Applicants:** Please email resume to Worship Chair, dmburton21@gmail.com. All jobs voluntary. Starting salary: gratitude.

### **Music & Arts**

**9. The St. Mark's Players** box office is open for the **production of "Book of Days"**: When murder roars through a small Missouri town, Ruth Hoch begins her own quest to find truth and honesty amid small town jealousies, religion, greed and lies. This tornado of a play propels you through its events like a page-turning mystery. St. Mark's very own former youth minister Caroline McReynolds-Adams is the lead player! Dates and times: **January 31, February 1, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 2020 at 8PM; February 8 and 15 at 2PM.** Purchase tickets online at stmarksplayers.org.

**10. 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 Kempkie at jeff@stmarks.net for more info.

**11. 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.

### **Parish Life**

**12. TODAY 20s/30s Faith Fellowship - Sunday, January 26th** Calling all young in age or at heart who are looking for an opportunity for fellowship. Come join us in the **Dozier Library on the last Sunday of the month following the 5:00 pm service (around 6:00 pm)** for a faith tea time of discussion and reflection. For more information, email Emily McDuff at emily.a.mcduff@gmail.com.

**13. Be Bold in 2020!** Knowing others and being known by them helps build community here at St. Mark's. So **if you have a name tag, please wear it.** If you need a name tag and attend the 9 or 11:15 am services, **sign up for one** at the table by the organ pipes or contact Peter Hawley (phawleydc@gmail.com). If you attend the 5 pm service, contact David Deutsch (dsd@his.com). Like the hymn says: "All things bright and beautiful...and bold!"

**14. "Dementia 101" Winter Potluck – February 1st** – Join the 3rd Agers for the latest on Memory Disorder research and care at Georgetown Medical Center in a presentation "Dementia 101" by Melanie Chadwick. She serves as sub-investigator in clinical trials of potential new treatments for Alzheimer's disease. She also serves as a clinician in the Memory Disorders Program through the Department of Neurology at Medstar Georgetown Hospital specializing in the assessment, diagnosis, and management of patients with dementia and related disorders. Remember it will be **Saturday, February 1st at 11:00 am in Baxter Hall** – Don't Forget. Questions/Info? Contact Don Gangloff at d\_gangloff@outlook.com

**15. Knitting Ministry:** We're starting a St Mark's Knitting Ministry group! First meeting on **February 2, 2020.** Please join us **every other week on Sunday afternoons after Sunday lunch, close to 1:30.** Knit for others in need or knit your own personal project. Open to different meeting times. We can discuss at the first meeting what works best. No experience needed...Yarn and needles provided for beginners. Please let Cindy Dopp know if you are interested – cindy@stmarks.net or 240 893-2693.

**16. Our annual St. Mark's Ski Trip will be Presidents' Day weekend (Feb. 14-17) in Canaan Valley, WV.** We will be staying at Blackwater Falls Lodge. There is something for all ages-- sledding, a restaurant/pub, game room and indoor pool all onsite! Canaan Ski Resort is nearby for skiing during the day and we will enjoy quality time together with games/movies/arts and crafts in the evenings back at the lodge. Rooms are available on a first come first serve basis, so the sooner you book the better! Questions? Email Caleb at youthdirector@stmarks.net

- **To Reserve Your Room:** Call 304-259-5216 and make your reservation. Ask for a room in the St. Mark's block. Rooms in our block have a group rate of \$112.00. Be prepared to make payment at the time of your call. Note: there are also available suites and cabins outside of our room block, the lodge manager can give you more information about those options at the number above. **\*\*Please note- during our stay, rooms are only offered at a 3-night minimum.\*\***
- **Once You Reserve Your Room:** Email Caleb so you can be added to our list. Ski reservations and other plans will all be solidified shortly after the new year.
- **Ski Reservations:** We offer group rate lift ticket and rental options at Canaan Valley Resort (about a 20min drive for the lodge). These must be purchased through St. Mark's. Other packages may be available directly from the resort, but will disqualify you for our group rate.

**17. Lambda Lions: Save the Date for 2020 Spring/Summer Activities,** which will generally take place on the **4th Monday of the month (except in May) from 7-9 pm at St. Mark's in the Elder's Room.** We are planning an engaging series of discussions to be announced before the March 23 meeting.

**February 24:** Social Gathering & Planning Meeting for 2020    **March 23:** Discussion Series: Part 1  
**April 27:** Discussion Series: Part 2    **May 18:** Discussion Series: Part 3

**DC Pride 2020 -- June 5-7, 2020** -- Please mark you calendars for this weekend when we plan to have some special activities!

The Lambda Lions hopes to provide a supportive space for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (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. If you are interested in learning more about the Lambda Lions, please contact Co-Facilitators are Brandon Knight (brandonlknight@yahoo.com) and Mary Ellison (mary.c.ellison@gmail.com).

## **Christian Education**

**18. “Care for Creation” Class:** All of the seven sermons during the Sundays in Epiphany will be about “Care for Creation.” Epiphany lasts from January 12 until February 23. The inspiration for Care for Creation comes from a book called Care for Creation: A Franciscan Approach.

Join us for an exploration of what the concept means and what we are called to do to care for creation.

**Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 pm, in the Dance Studio, January 15, 22, 29, Feb 5, 12, 19** whichever sessions you can attend. The classes are being held in conjunction with the St. Mark’s Green Lions.

For more information, contact: Collie Agle Charles.agle@gmail.com (202)255-2687

**19. “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. For those who paid a deposit of \$500 to secure a place in this seminar, the second tuition payment of \$598 is due **no later than February 1, 2020**. Scholarships – full or partial are available. \*Limited space is still available.\* Please contact Susan Thompson susanlynnthompson@gmail.com for further information and the **sign-up in Baxter Hall**.

**20. St. Mark’s Sisterhood!** Do you long for more intentional connection with other women at St. Mark’s? Do you want to develop, deepen, and sustain authentic friendships to have a spiritual sisterhood? Join us for five classes to explore topics such as fun, intentional connection, vulnerability, trust, loss, and disappointment. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for to create a soulful sisterhood! **“Foundations of a St. Mark’s Sisterhood: An Intergenerational Discussion on Women’s Spiritual Friendships”** will meet on five Sundays: **Feb. 23 and Mar. 1, 8, 22, and 29, 11 AM - 1 PM in Dozier Library**. Contact Elizabeth McCain EMcCainLPC@yahoo.com, Julie Murphy juliaabbotmurphy@gmail.com, or Nancy Yanish nancy.yanish@gmail.com with any questions.

**21. 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 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 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.** 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.

\* **Sunday Morning Bible Class, 10-11 am until 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.