

February 9, 2020 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.

From the Vestry & Parish Leadership

1. Parish Meeting Save the Date: In accordance with 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, Alex Pereira alix.pereira@gmail.com, and Jim Brooks jabrooksjr@gmail.com. Look for regular updates about the parish meeting in the bulletin and the E-Gospel.

Worship

2. 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 11:15: Open to anyone available by 11 am and friendly. Will train.

Lay Servers (chalice bearers) for 11:15. Open to all. Will train.

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

Music & Arts

3. 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! Remaining dates and times: **February 13, 14, 15, 2020 at 8PM; February 15 at 2PM**. Purchase tickets online at stmarksplayers.org.

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 Kempkie 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.

Parish Life

6. Dancing with Rosie in the St. Mark's Dance Studio, organized by St. Mark's Woman to Woman. **Saturday, February 22nd 4-5:30pm.** Rosie Brooks has been on the faculty of St. Mark's Dance Studio for 50 years and currently serves as the Director of the studio. Light Refreshments and opportunity for dinner at Mr. Henry's afterwards. RSVP ednaboon@gmail.com

7. 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 Elders Room.** We are planning an engaging series of discussions to be announced before the March 23 meeting.

March 2: 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 your 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).

8. 20s/30s Faith Fellowship - 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.

9. Spring at St. Mark's brings the return of music and dancing. Save The Date "Spring Fling Dance" -- **Friday, April 17, 2020** for a festive parish-wide celebration complete with food, music, dancing, and the warm company of the St. Mark's community. Child care and kids activities will be arranged. Further details soon about the entertainment lineup and all relevant details. Volunteers to support this effort can make initial contact with Julie Murphy (juliaabbottmurphy@gmail.com).

Christian Education

10. "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

11. *This Class is Currently Full* but if you would like to be added to the **waiting list**, please email Nancy at nancy.yanish@gmail.com

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.

12. "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**.

13. 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 (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.

Youth & Family Ministries

14. February 16- Sunday Suppers: Many thanks to all the volunteers who came out for our January Sunday Suppers service! Mark your calendars for our next Sunday Suppers on Feb. 16 and sign up today-<https://bit.ly/2UylEz9>.

15. TODAY 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 for information on purchasing tickets (\$10).

16. TODAY Spring Kick Off: Join us in the parish hall at 11 am, for a kids craft, information on the Middle and High School service trips, and other Youth and Family programming for 2020!

17. Needed - Adult Chaperones for Summer Service Trips! Looking for ways to get involved at St. Mark's, give back to your community, and be inspired by some pretty cool youth? Consider signing up to be a service trip chaperone! We are looking for **3+ adults for the High School trip to Crown Point, NM June 21-27** and **2+ adults for the Middle School trip to the Shenandoah Valley July 12-15**. Email Caleb for more information.

Outreach

18. Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) Event TODAY -- Church of the Reformation (one block away on East Capitol) is hosting a meeting about WIN and its community organizing work, from **1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** St. Mark's members are invited to attend to learn the arts of community organizing and share updates about WIN's work on public and affordable housing, Reservation 13, job development, immigrant rights, and community safety. This will be more extensive than the information session held at St. Mark's last summer, but no prior experience with WIN is required. RSVP on Google Forms: <https://forms.gle/UX3imyLuz8h2aaJX8> For more information contact Pastor Mike Wilker (Wilker@ReformationDC.org) or Steve Dalzell, St. Mark's Outreach Board (dalzellsr@gmail.com).

19. Brighten the bleak midwinter: The bright and beautiful Haitian paintings and handicrafts return to **St. Mark's February 21-23**. The Vassar Haiti Project sale of original and affordable artwork helps support the artists and raises funds for five initiatives: education, medical access, reforestation, water purification and women's leadership in the mountain village of Chermaitre. This is a wonderful way to both support the artists and help Haiti as it struggles with its political situation, economics, and the aftermath of three natural disasters. For more information about the project, go to www.thehaitiproject.org or contact Maureen Shea at mtshea@aol.com.