

## Announcements - September 13, 2020

*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. Announcements will be removed after three weeks unless we hear from you.*

To view the parish calendar online, go to our homepage [stmarks.net](http://stmarks.net) and choose “Calendar” at the top of the page.

### *From the Rector*

**1. Rector’s Town Hall** is on hold temporarily, pending the resolution of some calendaring conflicts. Stay tuned!

### *Youth and Family Ministries*

**2. [Check out this week’s Youth E-News](#)** for activities to do this week.

**3. Bible Storytime Podcast.** Join Caleb and the St. Mark’s Sunday School team for a 5 minute daily podcast! We’ll have some music, read a bible story, and say a prayer. - [Sign up to receive the next episode!](#)

**4. Growing with God.** Calling the young and young at heart! Join Michele and Caleb in [this new video series](#). Each week we will read the Sunday gospel lesson, talk about it and pray together.

Contact our Youth and Family Ministries Director, [Caleb Nelson Amaker](#), with any questions.

### *Christian Education*

**5. Sunday School Registration Now Active!** [9/13/20]

If you’d like your child/youth registered in Sunday School this year, please fill out the registration form below (use either the Google Docs or the Word Doc form links below – only one). Only children/youth who are formally registered will be able to participate in Sunday School. We will be using Zoom for all classes, except Catechesis I for ages three to Kindergarten. Contact Christy Rumpf at [Christy.rumpf@gmail.com](mailto:Christy.rumpf@gmail.com) for further information on Catechesis I.

[Online Sunday School Registration Form](#)

[Word doc Sunday School Registration Form](#)

## **6. Christian Education Catalog Now Available!**

[9/13/20]

The new Christian Education Catalog is now available, with a full slate of excellent offerings. In addition to the ongoing adult classes that will continue, there are a number of new, limited-time adult courses available, with the **first classes starting on September 16**. Registration is required for all adult classes. See the link to the CE Catalog below for all courses, then if you are interested in any of the classes in the Catalog, click on the link to the leader's email and send a message indicating your interest. In this way, you will be registered for the class.

If you have any questions, you can contact Susan Thompson or Greg Niblett, who have done a fabulous job putting all this together, or the individual course leaders listed in the catalog.

[Christian Education page](#) on the St. Mark's website

[Christian Education Catalog 2020-21](#)

## **7. Episcopalians 101 (2020)**

[9/13/20]

As Episcopalians, we are coming to understand ourselves as not only members of a church but as people gathered to make meaning out of a broken world. We are called people to serve the dream of God and form beloved communities that live not for themselves but for the world's love. Today, we are part of the ongoing movement of people who center their lives on a loving, liberating, life-giving relationship with God, with each other, and with creation. If it is your desire to understand what it means to be an Episcopalian, consider joining us! We convene this class several times a year, in two sessions held on Sundays.

**Dates:** Wednesday September 16 & 23

Sunday September 20 & 27

Sunday November 22 & 29

**Time:** 1:30-3:00 p.m.

**Leader:** Rev. Michele Morgan

**Location:** Zoom

(If you are interested in taking this course, please send an email to Rev. Michele Morgan at [Michele@stmarks.net](mailto:Michele@stmarks.net) with "Subscribe to Episcopalians 101-2020" in the subject line.)

## **8. Sacred Ground Dialogue Series**

[9/13/20]

This class will be a continuation of the deep work of learning about race and white privilege that began in June 2020 when students gathered to study the book *Waking Up White*. Many of those who participated in that group felt they needed to continue discussing this very important and timely topic. We will organize a dialogue circle in St. Mark's to continue our transformational conversation about racism.

The Sacred Ground Dialogue Series is part of the Becoming Beloved Community initiative of The Episcopal Church, a long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. It is built around powerful documentary films and readings, which will serve as the jumping-off point for dialogue. The curriculum covers various key chapters in U.S. history of race and racism, as well some of the latest thinking by scholars and practitioners of racial healing, racial equity, and whiteness, focusing on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

**Dates:** 10 sessions starting on Wednesday, September 16.  
Meetings will be every other week (9/16, 9/30, 10/14, 10/28, 11/11, 11/25,  
12/9, 12/23, 1/6, 1/20)

**Time:** 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
**Leader:** Rev. Patricia Catalano  
**Location:** Zoom

(If you are interested in taking this course, please send an email to Patricia at adjunct@stmarks.net with “Subscribe to The Sacred Ground Dialogue Series” in the subject line.)

**9. Hear the Poets Speak: The Language of Diversity** [9/13/20]  
America has been gifted with great cultural diversity. This two-night class will focus on the voices of Black, Hispanic, Asians, Indigenous and immigrant citizens of the U.S. who, through their words, bring us a vision of their dreams and desires and hopes. Please join us as we look inside the minds and souls of these American poets using the Great Books method of inquiry. Poets include Richard Blanco, Langston Hughes, Elizabeth Alexander, Yusef Komunyakaa, Lisa Parker, Margaret Walker, Joy Harjo, Victoria Chang, and others. Poems will be sent to you in advance if you register by September 15, 2020.

**Dates:** September 22 & 29  
**Time:** 6:30-8:00 pm.  
**Leader:** Susan Thompson  
**Location:** Zoom

(If you are interested in taking this course, please send an email to Susan at susanlynnthompson@gmail.com with “Subscribe to Diversity Poets” in the subject line.)

## 10. Sunday Morning Bible Class

[9/13/20]

The Sunday Morning Bible Class will **begin on September 20** by examining **Chapters 18-24 of Second Samuel**, which focus on the story of the final years in King David's life.

On December 16, the class will begin the journey through the complex Book of Genesis, from the creation to the world to the death of Joseph the Patriarch.

The class consists of class discussion of the assigned reading for that day. Regular attendance is encouraged. Additional outside readings are not expected.

**Date & Time: Sundays, 9a.m.-10a.m., Sept 20, 2020-May 16, 2021** (except holidays)

**Leaders:** Bob Ewald (Leader); Andrew Stafford (Zoom Administrator)

**Location: Zoom** (if you are interested in taking this class, please send an email to Bob Ewald at llerbe@yahoo.com with "Subscribe to Sunday Morning Bible Class" in the subject line.)

## 11. Wednesday Bible Class

[9/13/20]

**Date & Time:** Wednesdays from **noon to 1:15 pm, September 2, 2020-May 29, 2021**

**Leaders:** Peter Mosley (Leader); Raiford Gaffney (Administrator)

**Location: Zoom** <http://stmarks.net/bibleclass/>

Please send an email to Raiford at rgaffneydc@gmail.com if you would like to participate in this class.

We will continue to study Paul's Letter to the Romans and try to get this juicy Pauline perspective on Jesus more clearly understood. Our recent study of "Resurrection" will serve us well as we can compare some of our own thinking with Paul's on the subject. We will use the Scholar's Translation and some of their commentary as our class texts.

We aim to do our Bible study collaboratively and lovingly. As we grow our understanding, we return again and again to ask: How has our study affected what is meaningful to us about our tradition? In this class we hope to deepen our beliefs and grow ever more trusting of our connection with God. New members are welcome and appreciated.

## 12. Centering Prayer. Every day on Zoom at 8:00am.

[9/13/20]

Centering Prayer is an early Christian contemplative practice that places a strong emphasis on interior silence. For more information or to join the group, contact The Rev. Patricia Catalano at [adjunct@stmarks.net](mailto:adjunct@stmarks.net)

**13. St. Mark's Meditation Center: Meditation, Mondays 7:30-9:00pm** [9/13/20]

Contact: Michele Rivard [Mmrivard@hotmail.com](mailto:Mmrivard@hotmail.com).

[Sign up for the weekly program email](#) to receive info on weekly online meetings.

***Outreach***

**14. Washington Interfaith Network (WIN)** [9/13/20]

**Check into an online "ReImagine DC" session** with WIN to listen, learn and add your voice building advocacy energy for where public money goes on issues of: policing/safety, jobs, public lands, and housing - and to learn about ways to engage.

- [Thursday, September 17, 6:45-8:00 p.m.](#): Utilities and Pepco Campaign Learning and Action

Other ways to continue learning about these issues include:

- [Urban Institute Events](#)- Topics Including: [Responding to the COVID-19 Crisis: Providing Direct Cash Assistance to DC Residents](#)

**15. Fundraising: Everyone Home DC** [9/13/20]

This is the new name of Capitol Hill Group Ministry, the primary organization that St. Mark's partners with to address the issues challenging our neighbors experiencing homelessness. This year their annual fall "Sip N Savor" fundraiser at Eastern Market is morphing into a month long digital campaign of creative fundraisers to raise \$50,000. You can check out all that is being offered and how you can help at <https://tinyurl.com/Sept-Challenge-Auction>.

Join Susan Sedgewick and Maureen Shea at an **Italian Cooking Class on September 13th** <https://www.mightycause.com/story/79n1xf> or sign up for one of the other fun events like **Family Bingo Night on Sept. 18th** <https://www.mightycause.com/story/Akalonubingo>. The needs this year are greater than ever and their programs to support our less fortunate neighbors are among the best in the city. St Mark's is proud to have a long history of founding and supporting this organization. Contact: Susan Sedgewick [jssedgewick@gmail.com](mailto:jssedgewick@gmail.com)

**16. School Supplies for client children of Everyone Home DC** [9/13/20]

Thank you St. Mark's parishioners who contributed funds or gift cards to make sure "our kids" have the school supplies they need for starting this school year. Collectively, along with some Outreach dollars, we are supporting approximately 40 children. Needless to say,

this has been a strange year but an important year to share from our abundance with those less fortunate and probably more stressed than we are.

### **17. Good Neighbors Capitol Hill**

[9/13/20]

Thanks to the many who have donated to our “refugee relief funds.” GNCH continues to stay connected to many of the refugee families we have assisted in the past and though we have been unable to visit families in our network in-person, we speak by phone and receive updates from Lutheran Social Services and other resettlement agencies regarding family needs. Through the generosity of St. Marks Outreach Committee and many individual donors, GNCH has recently donated another \$2000 to Lutheran Social Services to help provide internet support for refugee families to enable their children to have sufficient bandwidth for their remote learning.

Prince George’s County has provided Chromebooks for most of the families, but in some cases there were insufficient supplies available, so resettlement agencies are still requesting donations of laptops and tablets which can be scrubbed and loaded with software appropriate for the academic needs of the older students.

**You can help to increase our ongoing “relief fund”** by sending a check to Lutheran Church of the Reformation with GNCH refugees on the notation line (LCOR manages our designated giving account). You can also visit the online donation portal at [www.reformationdc.org](http://www.reformationdc.org) and designate gifts for “Refugee resettlement.” All funds so designated will go directly to support for refugees Please indicate you are a St. Marks parishioner as we want to thank you personally. Questions or donation info can be directed to [karen.getman@gmail.com](mailto:karen.getman@gmail.com)

### ***Parish Life***

### **18. Show: A Lesbian Belle Tells**

[9/13/20]

Long-time member of St. Mark’s, Elizabeth McCain, will perform her solo show, A Lesbian Belle Tells OUtageous Southern Stories on **September 18th, at 7:00pm**. It has a fabulous St. Mark’s story in it!

Buy tickets on eventbrite-

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-lesbian-belle-tells-tickets-117349125393>

and my memoir, A Lesbian Belle Tells OUtageous Southern Stories of Family, Loss, and Love can be purchased on Amazon or on my website, [www.elizabethmccain.com](http://www.elizabethmccain.com)

## 19. Caregivers Support Group

[9/13/20]

Meeting Tuesday, Sept 29th by Zoom 7:30 pm-8:30pm.

Newcomers are always welcome! This will be only our 2nd meeting but we plan to continue meeting on the last Tuesday of each month.

Caregiving for family members or friends can be extremely challenging. This group offers an opportunity to share issues that are encountered in caregiving. Covid has only emphasized the demands of caregiving – as we seek to support people at a distance. We will look at ways to support each other in our work with those in need.

If you are interested, curious, concerned...please contact Cindy Dopp at [Cindy@StMarks.net](mailto:Cindy@StMarks.net) or 240 893-2693. We will need your email address for the zoom invitation. We welcome particular areas of interest that you may have. Thank you -

## 20. New Book Group! *Son of Laughter* by Frederick Buechner

[9/13/20]

There will be a new book group (via zoom) beginning on October 7th. This group is scheduled to meet **every other Wednesday for three sessions: October 7th, 21st and November 4th at 7pm.**

Based loosely on the Biblical story of Jacob...it is – in my opinion – an outstanding book. I first read it for a seminary class entitled ‘Grace in Literature’. Frederick Buechner is a prolific writer who has written both fiction and nonfiction. His unique theological reflections are both poignant and humorous and I have enjoyed his writing for many years. Please join me to explore and discuss this novel. Email [Cindy Dopp](mailto:CindyDopp) or call her at 240-893-2693 if you are interested or have questions. Thank you.

Also, please remember to get the book and read at least part of it by October 7th. :)

## 21. Nave Visits

[9/13/20]

We are excited to continue to open the Nave in September by appointment through Sign Up Genius for personal prayer and visits to loved ones in the Columbarium. Use this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0E44A8AB22A5FE3-visit>

## 22. 20s/30s Faith Fellowship

[9/13/20]

Calling all young in age or at heart who are looking for an opportunity for fellowship and reflection! Come join 20s/30s Faith Fellowship **virtually (Zoom or Google Hangouts) at 6:00 pm on the last Sunday of each month for a faith tea time.** We took summer (June, July, and August) off apart from a virtual book club last week, and will **pick back up on September 27th.**

We will get to know each other; dwell on selected passages from scripture, poetry, and other texts; and share community insights. In addition to Faith Fellowship, our group of twenty-/thirty-somethings holds regular community service and social events (including virtual book club, hikes, Sunday Suppers, and more). For more information, email Leader Emily McDuff at [emily.a.mcduff@gmail.com](mailto:emily.a.mcduff@gmail.com).

**23. Free Yoga Classes from St. Mark's Yoga Center** [9/13/20]  
Our experienced teachers are guiding free classes via Zoom in service to our congregation and community. Schedule is at [stmarks.net/yoga](http://stmarks.net/yoga). **Special Chair Yoga class on Thursdays. Yoga Nidra (Deep Relaxation) on Sunday evenings.**

*Music & Arts*

**24. Virtual Music Lessons...** [9/13/20]  
...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).