WELCOME TO ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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CAPITOL HILL

ST. MARK'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. Mark's is an open community, welcoming people wherever they are on their faith journey. We celebrate the gifts of God that empower us to engage boldly in the struggles of life and to care for others with love, justice, and compassion.

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Living the Questions

February 12, 2023

9:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST

10:00 AM SERMON SEMINAR

11:15 AM HOLY EUCHARIST

Rector

The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Associate Rector

The Reverend Christopher Phillips

Deacon

The Reverend Thom Sinclair

Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Caleb Nelson Amaker

Director of MusicJeff Kempskie

To view the **parish calendar online**, please visit our homepage www.stmarks.net and click "Calendar" at the top of the page.

Masks are optional at St. Mark's and you may continue to wear them during the service.

Hearing – Infrared headsets providing amplified sound are in the tract racks by the doors, or ask an usher.

H H H

The Star: Gracing our front cover, this gorgeous multi-layered collage that was constructed by members of the 5:00pm service using photography by David Deutsch. The star is seen as a symbol which attracts us with its unique brilliance and Holy Mystery and beckons us to follow.

The Theme: Living the Questions: As we planned this service, the quote from Rilke that we use as our Opening Sentences spoke to us and provided the theme of "living the questions." We discussed the chaos and the competing choices and longings we often face, how we live in this tension and uncertainty. Sometimes, there may be a "star" to guide us, but sometimes not. No one can make decisions for us. With no perfect risk-free answer, we may find ourselves in a lonely place. There is only the answer we decide upon. What we can do is "come home" in, or to, our heart. That is, accept and live into these questions, with authenticity, vulnerability, acceptance, and compassion for ourselves. We do our best to walk these paths with imperfect knowledge. Sometimes we miss the mark. We hope we learn and grow, but most especially, we live the questions.

We would like to leave you with a prayer by John O'Donohue. We hope it speaks to the longing in your souls, as it did to ours.

"Give yourself time to make a prayer that will become the prayer of your soul. Listen to the voices of longing in your soul. Listen to your hungers. Give attention to the unexpected that lives around the rim of your life. Listen to your memory and to the inrush of your future, to the voices of those near you and those you have lost. Out of all of that attention to your soul, make a prayer that is big enough for your wild soul, yet tender enough for your shy and awkward vulnerability; that has enough healing to gain the ointment of divine forgiveness for your wounds; enough truth and vigor to challenge your blindness and complacency; enough graciousness and vision not to miss your immortal beauty. Write a prayer that is worthy of the destiny to which you have been called."

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE Prélude en ut mineur

Charles-Alexis Chauvet (1837-1871)

OPENING HYMN 554 'Tis the gift to be simple

Simple Gifts

Sung twice.



OPENING SENTENCES

Excerpt from "Little Gidding," by T.S. Eliot Read responsively by Denise Olivera

"We shall not cease from exploration And the end of all our exploring Will be to arrive where we started And know the place for the first time."

THE COLLECT

Lead by Leslie Allen

Together, let us pray:

Holy one, you are the word behind all word,

The energy that sustains creation.

You are present in the pain behind the tears, the laughing eyes, the yearning of the heart.

Open us up, Lord:

Open us to the depths we have not explored, to the truths we have not followed, to the beauty we have yet to admire.

And open us up to you, Creator, in whom all things are held together. Amen.

(9:00) Those wishing to go to the children's chapel may follow the leader upstairs at this time.

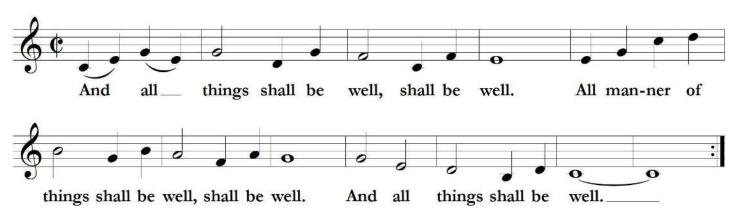
Please be seated.

POEM

Excerpt from Letters to a Young Poet, by Rainer Maria Rilke Read by Marilu Sherer

"I want to beg you, as much as I can, . . . to be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and to try to love the questions themselves like locked rooms and like books that are written in a very foreign tongue. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer."

Sung by all three times.



THE FIRST READING Meditation on the psalms

Lead by Penny Farley

You are my Shepherd, the One whose hedge protects me. Orienteering my thoughts to green pastures Neighboring gentle streams.

Far from the dissonance of this world And the doleful fruit it produces. Vexing, stinging pain, both physical and emotional. Filled to the brim with evil impulses and contemptible thoughts.

Spreading like weeds out of control
From the seeds of empty and discontented lives.
Proud, not wanting to submit a knee to God
But demanding one from others.

Their joy comes through destruction As the lasso brings down the brute beasts Who dissent from their worldview. Punishing them by cancellation. You call to me, to come away from the tyranny To turn my focus onto You Where peace hovers with a sweet smelling aroma Rising into the heavens.

Higher and higher.

Far above the turmoils below

Until all my sentiments fall on You.

And then you unveil Your creative plans

For us to glorify you and further Your kingdom.

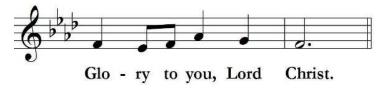
I am renewed, refreshed, reinvigorated Filled with living water from the Spirit A swollen dam of truth Ready to explode upon the rebellious masses.

Genuine warmth and hope
For true purpose and worth
Which can only be found in the One
Who created us.

Please stand as able.

THE GOSPEL Luke 10:38-42

The Gospel of Jesus according to Luke



Now as they went on their way, (Jesus) entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks: so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

The Gospel of Jesus.



SERMON

The Reverend Christopher Phillips

The sermon for the 9 AM service will be delivered after the service during sermon seminar.

Please stand as able.

RESPONSE OF FAITH

Together as a community, we affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Jesus, empowered by the Spirit.

With people everywhere, we affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity planted more deeply than all that is wrong.

With all creation, we celebrate the miracle and wonder of life, the unfolding purposes of God forever at work in ourselves and the world.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, we ask for your guidance, reassurance, love, and assistance as we navigate this troubled world where war, violence, and injustice pressure us and chip away at our peace of mind.

Have mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We seek help with our troubles. We need you, leaders, clergy, friends, and the goodness within our communities to achieve peace. This parish has recently lost people who are near and dear to us while others have become ill and tired; please help us with these troubles, and help all who suffer.

Have mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bless the leaders of our country and the world to guide us to peace and understanding. We pray for our neighbors, families and communities in the hope we can learn to live together in harmony. We pray for forgiveness when we have done wrong and for help to forgive others by which we also forgive ourselves.

Have mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for good health, clear minds, and strong character for ourselves and for others. May we be humble, filled with love, peace, and passion. Help us find in ourselves the strength, perseverance, knowledge and compassion to do our part to further justice in our community and the world.

Have mercy,

Hear our prayer.

All may now offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud, ending with "Please have mercy" to which the people will reply, "And hear our prayer."

The people pause for a moment of silence.

Listening God, grant us a better understanding of ourselves as we move into a new day and a new week so we may better serve you for good and without selfishness.

Amen.

THE PEACE

May the peace of God be with you. And also with you.

All, one with another, exchange a sign of peace.

VESTRY GREETING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELECTRONIC OFFERING

Please consider supporting the work of the church. You may make an <u>online</u> <u>gift</u>, or learn about the <u>other ways to give</u>, by visiting the St. Mark's website, <u>stmarks.net</u>, and choosing "Donate or Pledge" at the top.



Gifts to St. Marks can also be made by texting "stmarks20003" to 73256, or by visiting the QR code.

Thank you for your generous support of our collective work.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Let us put into action the generosity that comes from your faith.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Teach me, O Lord

Thomas Attwood

Chancel Choir

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end.

PRESENTATION HYMN

LEVAS 137 Just As I Am, vv. 1, 3, 5-6

William Bradbury





THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

God be with you.

And also with you.

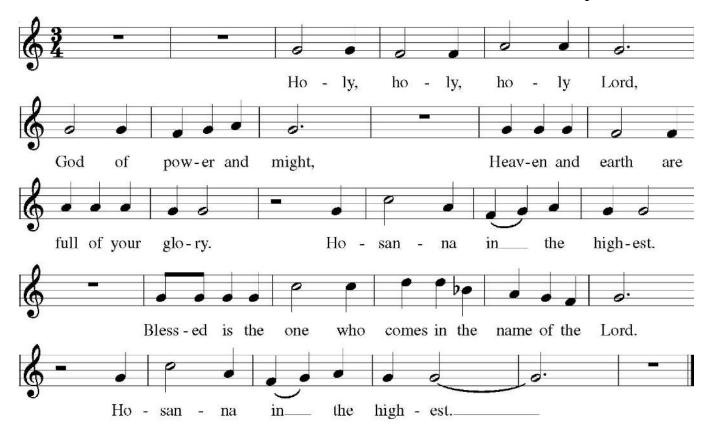
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to praise and give thanks, for you are the One from whom we came and the One to whom we will return. Blessings to our loved ones who are gathered around this table, we praise and give thanks, singing this hymn of glory:



Let us honor the One who was born among us,

Who grew up without privilege or status,

Who told the deepest truths,

Who touched and healed, blessed and disturbed without fear or favor,

Who rises within us and is present within us.

With friends, Jesus took bread.

He blessed it, broke it and said,

"Share this bread with me

And whenever you do this, remember me."

Later, he took a cup of wine

and when he had given thanks, he said,

"Share this wine with me

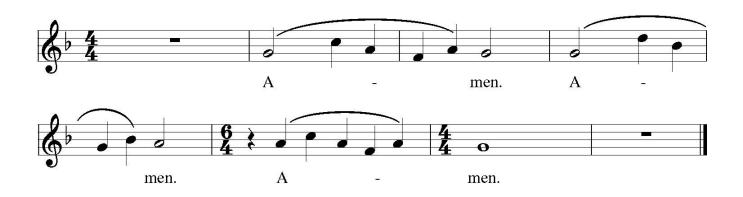
And whenever you do this, remember me."

So we do what Jesus once did,

letting the Spirit move within and among us as we take in this bread and wine.

May that same Spirit stir and guide our souls

And draw us together in unending light and courage.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

From the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa

Together, let us say the Lord's Prayer:

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustains our hope and comes on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.

Amen.

THE FRACTION

We who are many are one body, for we all share in one bread.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come. All who hunger and thirst for the spirit of God. The gifts of God for the people of God.

THE COMMUNION

St. Mark's receives communion "in the round" as a symbol of our strong belief in the power of community. Please remain socially distanced from others for COVID protection.

You will be offered bread by a celebrant, which you may consume as usual. Please remain in place until the presider dismisses the group.

If you are uncomfortable receiving and consuming the host while standing close to others, please remain seated until the last circle has finished and then come forward to receive from the clergy.

Please join us in the eating of the bread, knowing this act of community is a full communion.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

HYMN Here is bread and here is wine

William Flanders



Seek to Serve Lloyd Pfautsch Chancel Choir

May I live in the world as one who always seeks to serve. May I live as one who knows the love of God. Lord, teach me how to live and how to serve. With my ears may I hear. With my eyes may I see. With my lips may I speak. May your Word be heard through me. Thus as I live each day may love sustain the will to serve. Amen.

Please stand as able.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

From St. Teresa of Avila Adapted by Susan Thompson

God has no body but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. You are the body and the hands and the feet that are here to do the work of God.

May the communion affirmed around this table And the gifts of bread and wine, Sustain you and move you, always, To help others in need.

Amen.



THE BLESSING

Prayer Song from Ghana, adapted.

Journeying god,

Pitch your tent with mine, bless us

So that we may not become deterred by hardship, strangeness, doubt.

Show us the movement we must make toward a wealth not dependent on possessions,

Toward wisdom or based on books,

Toward strength not bolstered by might,

Toward a god not confined to heaven.

Help us find ourselves as we walk in others' shoes:

Created, befriended, and enlivened.

DISMISSAL

Jesus came to ask human beings to live up to their full humanity. We are meant to live as bravely and fully in our world and time as Jesus lived in his. Now, go in peace and live bravely!

Amen.

POSTLUDE III. Allegro risoluto, from *Five Pieces for the Organ*, Op. 69 Christian Fink (1831-1911)

H H H

Sermon Seminar at 10:00 am

Announcements

Please limit announcements to one minute or less.

Sermon Seminar Guidelines:

- 1. Is what I have to say relevant to the sermon?
- 2. Is it meaningful? Will others care?

4. Will I later regret having said it?

3. Can I make it short?

5. Has anyone else said it?

* * *

The Epiphany Star above the altar is a gift from Joya Cox, its creator. It is an icosahedron, a figure with 20 plane surfaces, each of which also serves as the base of a pyramid.

About this Ligurgy:

The liturgy is adapted from the Iona Community, an ecumenical Christian community based on the beautiful, rugged isle of Iona in Scotland. Since the sixth century, Iona has been a wellspring of Celtic Christian spirituality and remains a consistent source of renewal to the Christian liturgical tradition. Because liturgy shapes what we believe and because the context of worship — the joys, griefs and realities of a particular time and place — changes over time, St. Mark's has a long-standing practice of incorporating new liturgies into Sunday services. We experiment not because the traditional Episcopal and Anglican liturgies are inadequate, but because the Holy One is continually inspiring us to stretch our vocabulary and imagery for the story of God's healing presence in creation. While the flow of this liturgy mirrors what might be familiar, it has a rhythm all its own. May it be a blessing to you.

About the "Pilot Project" - A Series of Experimental Worship Services

This is the fourths service of the St. Mark's Worship Planning Pilot Project, which is emblematic of St. Mark's "Shared Ministry," a long-standing and treasured element of our ethos and practice. Diverse lay-led teams of four to six parishioners are teaming up with our Clergy and Music Director to produce six services for January 22 & 29, February 5 & 12 and March 5 & 12. Each service is unique and we hope you will find them interesting and fruitful as new ways to experience Sunday services. As this has been developed as a limited "Pilot Project," we are especially interested in your feedback. Please take five minutes to answer & tear off the short QUESTIONNAIRE at the back of the Bulletin and tell us what you think about this service. Place your feedback in the basket on the table next to the High Altar steps.

If you are interested in joining a team to plan creative, new liturgies and music for the future, please contact Team Leaders, Betsy Athey (atheylloyd@comcast.net) and Nat White (whitenat1938@gmail.com).

Today's service was designed by Leslie Allen, Grace Aspinall, Penny Farley, Denise Oliveira and Marilu Sherer in collaboration with the Reverends Michele Morgan, Christopher Phillips and Music Director Jeff Kempskie.

* * *

Liturgical Leaders and Worship Participants

Presider The Reverend Michele H. Morgan
Preacher The Reverend Christopher Phillips

Director of Music Jeff Kempskie

Lay Liturgy Leslie Allen, Grace Aspinall, Penny Farley, Denise Oliveira &

Planning Group Marilu Sherer

Verger Josie Jordan, 9:00; Michael Knipe, 11:15

Readers Leslie Allen, Grace Aspinall, Penny Farley, Denise Oliveira &

Marilu Sherer

Altar Guild Gretchen Willson, 9:00; Liz Layton, 11:15

Acolyte Sybil Ory, 9:00; Kathleen Frydl, 11:15

Bread TBD

Video Director Elin Whitney-Smith

Technical Director Chris Berendes

Liturgy Request

At St. Mark's, we frequently change the liturgy (the language we use during our worship service). Our goal is to use language that reflects our common effort to put into words our relationship with God. In order to keep the liturgy truly alive and life giving, we need your input. Please feel free to contact the clergy at any time to discuss the liturgy and how the words we say affect you.

Acknowledgements

Meditation on the Psalm 151, from morningdevotions.se, The Eucharistic Prayer; From the Iona Liturgy Adapted by Susan Thompson. The Creed from Celtic Service. Prayers of the People:Grace Aspinall, The Lord's Prayer, The Book of Common Prayer of the Anglican Church of New Zealand, adapted. Postcommunion Prayer, from St. Teresa of Avila. Blessing, Prayer song from The African Prayer Book, Desmond Tutu. Dismissal, excerpts from The Scandalous Gospel of Jesus by Peter Gomes, 2007. Remaining prayers were taken from the Celtic and Iona liturgies and/or written by the Lay Liturgy Team.

Permissions

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free. Words: Shaker song, 18th cent. Music: Simple Gifts, Joseph Brackett (1797-1822); acc. Margaret W. Mealy (b. 1922). And all things shall be well. Words: from Julian of Norwich. Music: William Flanders. Used with permission. Gospel Responses. Music: Jeff Kempskie. Used with permission. Teach Me, O Lord. Words: Psalm 119 v. 33. Music: Thomas Attwood (1765-1838). Public domain. Just As I Am. Words: Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871). Music: William B. Bradbury (1816-1868). Holy, holy, holy Lord [Sanctus] & Great Amen. Music: John Karl Hirten (b. 1956) © 1995 John Karl Hirten. Here is bread and here is wine. Words & Music: William Flanders. Used with permission. Seek to Serve. Words: "Text from Scripture." Music: Lloyd Pfautsch, © 1983 Agape, a division of Hope Publishing Company. Go forth for God; go to the world in peace. Words: J.R. Peacey (1896-1971) and English Praise, 1975, alt. Music: Litton, Erik Routley (1917-1982). Copyright: Words: Copyright © 1984 by Hope Publishing company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission. Music: Copyright © 1984 by Hope Publishing Company Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. All selections: All rights reserved. Reprinted and livestreamed under OneLicense.net A-718991.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Capitol Hill

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The Vestry

Senior Warden	Louise Walsh	louise@stmarks.net
Junior Warden	David Wellman	juniorwarden@stmarks.net
Manciple	Martha Huizenga	manciple@stmarks.net
Class of '23	Brent Bickley, Fritz	Henn, and Edna Boone
Class of '24	Christoph Berendes	, Katherine Buchanan and Jeb Ory
Class of '25	Harrison Donnelly, Jan Lipscomb, and Nick Rogers	
Officers	Randy Marks, Treasurer	
	Bill Jordan, Asst. Tre	easurer
	Shay Waye, Register	

Diocesan Delegates

Tom Getman, Mary Neznek and Ruth Roman

The upcoming Vestry Meetings are held on Zoom on these dates. Contact <u>Michele</u> for the link if you want to join us: Tuesday 7pm on 2/28, 3/28, 4/25, 5/23, 6/27, 7/25

Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Washington

Diocesan Commission on Ministry
Pray in thanksgiving for the life and witness of Absalom Jones (February 13)

Anglican Communion

The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

Parish Prayer List

Louise Abbot • Betsy Agle • Ben Alquiros • Nora Alquiros • Don Bennett • Pamela Blumgart
Joseph Boone • Fairfield Butt • Alexander Casadonte • Aldena Clifford

Deborah Cunningham • Shadi Khoury • Martin De Nys • Mary De Nys • Charley Donnelly
Pete Eveleth • Michele Huycke • Elizabeth Long • Nat Marks • Taylor Emerson Marks
Steve Marshall • Pam Burton Moore • David Peterson • Sylvia Peterson • Joan Pierotti
Janet Vail • Betty Wellman • Eleanor Whitman • Joel Wilson

May Yazawa • Tom Zarek

Parishioners and Family Members who have died

Mary Welker

Parishioners and Family Members Serving in the Military

Chase Allen Ammon • Clint Billings • Jason Earnest

In order to keep the prayer list updated, we begin anew semi-annually.

If you would like to request to add a name, please email the

Bulletin Coordinator at bulletin@stmarks.net

Notes

From Your Pilot Project Worship Planning Teams - A Questionnaire!

Please place your completed questionnaire in the basket to the left of the high altar. Thank you!

This service and project have been an experiment in creative liturgy planning by Shared Ministry. We want your feedback!

Please take 5 minutes to let us know your thoughts.
Name (optional)
I/We've been coming to St. Mark's for
I/We attended which service today? (Date & Time)
Regarding this service:
I/We liked itI/We didn't care for it
What did you like?
What missed the mark?
What would you like to see more of in St. Mark's worship services?
1
Please tear off, fold and place in the basket on the table to the left of the high altar steps. Thanks!
(If you are interested in joining this project after March, please contact leaders' emails on page 19.

Welcome Guests!



We'd like to get to know you better!

We invite you to fill out this page, tear it off, and drop it into the offering plate or hand it to one of the greeters as you leave. Please take the rest of this service bulletin with you, so that you can refer to the service schedule, and office directory.

We hope you feel at home with us. If you have questions, please speak with the clergy or one of the greeters after the service. You can also call the office at any time and we will be happy to help you in any way we can.

Thank you for visiting St. Mark's today. Go in peace and return often!

	I J	
I attended:	9 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
	Sermon Seminar	
	11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist	
	5 p.m. Contemplative Eucharist	
	Special (wedding, funeral, etc.)	on February 12, 2023
Name		
E-mail		
Phone No.		
Zip Code		
	in learning more about:	
Zip Code	in learning more about:	
	in learning more about: Volunteering during Worship (Usher, Lay Server, Alta	
	in learning more about: Volunteering during Worship (Usher, Lay Server, Alta Baptism (child, adult)	
	in learning more about: Volunteering during Worship (Usher, Lay Server, Alta Baptism (child, adult) Getting married at St. Mark's	
	in learning more about: Volunteering during Worship (Usher, Lay Server, Alta Baptism (child, adult) Getting married at St. Mark's Music (choir, lessons)	
	in learning more about: Volunteering during Worship (Usher, Lay Server, Alta Baptism (child, adult) Getting married at St. Mark's Music (choir, lessons) Children/youth classes & programs	
	in learning more about: Volunteering during Worship (Usher, Lay Server, Alta Baptism (child, adult) Getting married at St. Mark's Music (choir, lessons) Children/youth classes & programs Adult classes	
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You can stay up to date on St. Mark's news by signing up online for the weekly eGospel newsletter at www.stmarks.net/contact-us/. If you'd like to join the St. Mark's e-group to interact with other parishioners, please contact Raiford Gaffney (rgaffneydc@gmail.com).