



What's Happening at St. Mark's Announcements - January 25, 2026

From Parish Leadership & Staff

1. Take the Parish Survey

[1/11]

Please take a moment to complete the parish survey! The results will help inform our strategic plan. Allow 10 minutes or so to complete the survey. You can find it at <https://bit.ly/StMarkssurvey> or scan the QR Code.



2. A Note About Pledges and the Annual Meeting

[1/25*]

Thank you to everyone who has pledged for 2026. We are only 5 pledges from our goal of 300 pledging units! (Units can be families, couples, or singles.) There is now a list of pledging members in the church foyer near the welcome desk. This list also serves as the membership eligible to vote in our annual business meeting on February 8th. Please confirm that your name appears correctly there. If you intend to pledge with your spouse, please ensure that their name is listed as well. That will avoid any confusion and hurt feelings when the meeting comes around. Note that the list will be updated for the last time on 1/31. If you have any questions or corrections, contact Rev. Caitlin at [caitlin\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:caitlin[at]stmarks.net). You can still pledge at <https://bit.ly/4oJ00n1>.

3. Our Parish will gather for the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 8, after the 10 AM service. Lunch will be served, and the Meeting will start at Noon.

[1/18]

4. Vestry Notes from Randy Marks, Vestry Clerk

[1/18]

The Vestry next meets on **January 27, at 7PM**, in person and via zoom. Contact me at [clerk\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:clerk[at]stmarks.net) with questions or to attend a meeting. See the website for Vestry members and meeting minutes <https://www.stmarks.net/who-we-are/leadership-and-governance/the-vestry/>

This note is probably my last as your Vestry Clerk. I have had a lot of fun and appreciated the feedback from you. I expect the newly-elected Vestry will elect our Assistant Clerk (and former Senior Warden) Ryan Baugh as Vestry Clerk at its very brief first meeting after the February 8th Annual Meeting. (The “new” Vestry will have a retreat on February 21 and hold its first regular meeting on February 24.)

Christian Education

5. Why Write? Join Us for a Short Course

[1/18]

Saturday **February 21** and Saturday **February 28** from 2 - 4. At St. Mark's We will explore the art and craft of writing and the ways it allows one to impart information, tell stories and — possibly — to mine one's own experience for nuggets that might help light the way for oneself and others. With Lou Bayard, Travis Beaty and Stephanie Deutsch. Sign up sheet in the foyer. Contact: Stephanie Deutsch [scd\[at\]his.com](mailto:scd[at]his.com)

6. Episcopalians 101 Class

[1/25]

Join the Rector to Learn More about our Faith: 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. 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. Join Rector Michele Morgan at one of the next two class offerings:

First offering: Sunday, January 25 & Sunday, February 1 1:00–3:00 p.m.

In the Rector's Room (downstairs, first door on your right)

Second offering: Sunday, March 15 & Sunday, March 22 1:00–3:00 p.m.

In the Rector's Room (downstairs, first door on your right)

For More Information: Please send an email to Michele Morgan at [Michele\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:Michele[at]stmarks.net) with "Subscribe to Episcopalians 101" in the subject line

Children, Youth and Family Ministries

7. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

[1/25]

Since the 16th century, there is a tradition of eating pancakes to use up rich ingredients before the fasting period of Lent. We will have pancakes in **Baxter Hall on Tuesday, February 17th at 6:30PM**. We will be accepting donations toward our kids' future travel learning which we are now calling the "Youth Pilgrimage." (Suggested \$20 per adult and \$10 per kid.) RSVP at <https://bit.ly/stmarkspancakes>. Email [youthdirector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:youthdirector[at]stmarks.net) with questions.

8. Souperbowl Sunday

[1/25]

We don't know which teams will be in the Superbowl yet. But on **Feb 1st and Feb 8th** we will have baskets with the team names, and you can vote for who you think will win the Superbowl by

bringing a can of soup (or multiple cans) to put in your favorite team's basket. Email [youthdirector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:youthdirector[at]stmarks.net) with questions.

9. Save these dates for 2026

[1/18*]

As we begin the new year, it is a good time to get CYFM dates on the calendar. Below are the ones to save. Email [youthdirector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:youthdirector[at]stmarks.net) with questions.

Sun, Feb 8: All Church Annual Meeting (Activities for kids from 10AM-2PM)

Fri-Mon, Feb 13-16: Ski Weekend

Tues, Feb 17: Shrove Tuesday Family Pancake Supper at 6:30PM

Sun, March 8: Youth Group Meeting at 12:30PM

* Sat (not Sun), March 28: Parents' Night Out (0-10 yr olds) at 5:30PM

Sat, April 4: Walking After Jesus (3-7 yr olds) at 10AM

Sun, April 5: Easter Egg Hunt & Family Potluck at 10:30AM

Sun, April 26: Youth Group Meeting at 12:30PM

Sun, May 17: Capitol Hill Race at 8:30AM, Youth Group Meeting at 12:30PM

Sun, June 7: Youth Group Meeting at 12:30PM

Sun, June 14: All Church Banner Sunday & CYFM Lunch from 10AM-1PM

10. Volunteer in the New Year

[1/11]

Children, Youth and Family Ministries is like a co-op; we rely on everyone to work together to meet the shared needs of our youngest members. We hope you will use the new year as a chance to think about how you'd like to volunteer. Here are some options:

5 min for 1 Sunday: Stuff kids' worship bags

15 min for 1 Sunday: Assist or lead Children's Chapel

15 min for 1 Sunday: Assist in Next Gen Reflection

1 hour for 1 Sunday: Assist in Catechesis II

2 hours for 1 Tuesday: Assist with the Pancake Supper

3 hours for 1 Sunday: Chaperone a youth group meeting

2 hours per month: Join the Sunday School Working Group

4 hours per month: Join the CYFM board

Email [youthdirector\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:youthdirector[at]gmail.com) for more information or to volunteer.

Music and the Arts

11. Sandbox Concerts, Saturday, January 31st at 10:00 and 11:30 AM

[1/18]

An interactive music experience for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. Performed by live musicians. \$5 per participant. singoncapitolhill.com. For questions contact Judith: [sandbox\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:sandbox[at]stmarks.net) Please register at <https://tinyurl.com/JanSandboxConcert> or using the QR code.



Service and Social Justice

Step into SSJ. View our volunteer opportunities page www.stmarks.net/socialjustice

12. Migrant Solidarity Opportunities

[1/18]

As detentions and deportations in the DMV continue to ramp up, so do opportunities to help. If you are interested in learning about ways to support migrants, please contact Julie Murphy at [juliaabbotmurphy\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juliaabbotmurphy[at]gmail.com) or Holly Kreutter at [hkreutts\[at\]hotmail.com](mailto:hkreutts[at]hotmail.com)

13. Film on Indigenous (Indian) Residential Schools

[1/11]

On Saturday, January 24th, St. Mark's Navajoland Initiative will present the film "Sugarcane" in the Nave. This award-winning feature documentary investigates one residential school, shedding light on years of forced separation, assimilation and abuse that Indigenous children experienced at the hands of churches and governments. The film will be followed by a short discussion with a representative of our local Piscataway nation and others. Register at <https://kinema.com/events/Sugarcane-maklag> and join us from 7-9pm for a thought-provoking evening. For more information, contact Jan Lipscomb ([juanita.lipscomb\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juanita.lipscomb[at]gmail.com)) or Steve Dalzell ([dalzellsr\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:dalzellsr[at]gmail.com))



Worship

14. Evening Prayer on Wednesdays at 6pm

[1/11]

St. Mark's will hold Evening Prayer in the chapel each Wednesday at 6pm from January 7th to February 11th. Evening Prayer is a daily prayer liturgy from the Book of Common Prayer. It consists of prayers and several readings from scripture. If you've attended choral evensong at St. Mark's, this spoken liturgy will be familiar to you. Families with children are specifically invited. Email [caitlin\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:caitlin[at]stmarks.net) or [joycedecerce\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:joycedecerce[at]gmail.com) with questions.

15. Acolyte Training Registration is Closed

[1/18]

Thank you. Contact: Doris Burton [dmburton21\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:dmburton21[at]gmail.com)

Parish Life & Diocesan Events

16. Lambda Lions Planning Meeting

[1/25]

The Lambda Lions, St. Mark's LGBTQIA+ affinity group, will be holding our next planning meeting on **Sunday Feb. 1 at 12:30pm in the Dozier Library**, immediately following the 11:15am service. Any and all LGBTQIA+ parishioners are invited to join. Light snacks will be provided. For more information, contact Kelly Dickinson (kellymarie1848@gmail.com) or Mitch Wood (mitchw7959@gmail.com).

17. Please Join the 20s/30s Group for Our January and February Meetings!

[1/11]

After the 5 PM, we meet downstairs in the **Dozier Library** to discuss a new podcast episode every month. Listen ahead, or just show up to hear and discuss excerpts. We also walk to brunch (or sometimes pack ahead and eat at St. Mark's) **once a month after the 11:15 service**. Contact Julian McGreen (jmcg1213@gmail.com) or Annabelle Swift (annabelleswift31@gmail.com) with questions or to join our Google group and WhatsApp.

Jan 18 - Podcast discussion after the 5 PM service

Podcast: Experiencing Jesus with Bishop Mariann Budde Episode 8: To Rest

Jan 25 - Brunch after the 11:15 service

Feb 15 - Brunch after the 11:15 service

Feb 22 - Podcast discussion after the 5 PM service

Podcast: The Colin McEnroe Show Episode: From spiritual to practical: We could learn a lot from modern (and Sixteenth-century!) nuns

18. Hot Chocolate Alert!

[1/11]

We now have a hot chocolate station **in Baxter Hall**, on your right as you enter. There will be individual packets of hot chocolate and an urn of hot water. The do it yourself mixing of hot water and cocoa powder resulted in lots of undrunk cups of cocoa being thrown out weekly. So while we're not happy about individual packets, we think it is less wasteful than DIY! Questions? Maureen Shea – mtshea@aol.com

(* next to the date denotes that this announcement has been updated)

Do you have an announcement for St. Mark's?

Submit announcements of 150 words or less to bulletin@stmarks.net by 5 pm Tuesday for inclusion that Friday. They run for three weeks unless we hear from you.

Each must include a parishioner's name and email.

If using a QR code, also provide the underlying link.

*To include your event: email parishadmin@stmarks.net for the calendar,
website@stmarks.net for the website,*

or complete the form (shorturl.at/vaXg7) by Tuesday night for a spoken announcement.