

Announcements - November 12, 2023

Submit announcements, not to exceed 150 words, to [bulletin\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:bulletin[at]stmarks.net) by 5 pm Tuesday to be included the following Friday. Announcements run for three weeks unless we hear from you. All announcements must include a parishioner's name and email address as a contact. To have your event included on the parish calendar, send it to the parishadmin[at]stmark.net. To have your event posted on the parish website, send it to website[at]stmarksnet.

From Parish Leadership and Staff

1. The 2023 Christmas Festival Fund

[11/12]

The Festival Fund is coming on **November 26 and will run through Monday, December 18th**. You are invited to contribute to this year's Christmas Festival Fund to support purchasing musical offerings and Christmas decorations. Your contribution in memory of, in honor of, or thanksgiving for loved ones or special events will be gratefully acknowledged in the bulletins for Christmas services. When you are ready to donate, your donation will go to our general fund, which we use to pay for music and greening. The Service and Social Justice board will be given the remainder to support the ministries they have worked with all year. If you have any questions, contact [Michele](#)

Christian Education

2. Seeking Volunteer(s) to Lead Sunday Morning or Weekday Evening Bible Study Class[10/29]

For decades, Saint Marks had a Sunday Morning Bible school, but in recent years we have been unable to find a new teacher or teachers to continue the tradition. The Christian Ed co-directors are reaching out to the parish community to see if any individuals would be interested in leading a Bible Study on Sunday morning or on a weekday evening. This could be either in person, virtual, or hybrid. Please contact Greg Niblett ([gregniblett\[at\]hotmail.com](mailto:gregniblett[at]hotmail.com) or 202.297.5559) or Annabelle Swift ([annabelleswift31\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:annabelleswift31[at]gmail.com)) if you are interested in leading such a class or discussing or exploring this opportunity further. Former teachers would be willing to share their experiences with you as you consider this opportunity.

3. Economic Inequality Reading Group (3rd meeting Nov 28, 7:00pm Elders Room) [10/29]

You are invited to a monthly reading group focused on economic inequality in the current United States. The group offers an opportunity for thoughtful conversation centered on nine books by diverse authors. The authors approach education, healthcare, housing, gender and racial inequalities, sexuality, location, incarceration and immigration with a common theme of economic inequality. Selected from a variety of genres, each book will guide a discussion of understanding with compassion and responding boldly to the suffering and structural injustices of economic inequality. A list of the texts and dates is posted on the foyer bulletin board and available in the Christian Education catalog. All are welcome to join monthly or drop in as time and interest allows. The third meeting will focus on *Race for Profit: How Banks and the Real Estate Industry Undermined Black Homeownership* by Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor.

The group facilitator is Angie Cecil. Please be in touch with questions: [angie.e.cecil\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:angie.e.cecil[at]gmail.com)

Service and Social Justice.

4. Reflection on Violence in Gaza After 11:15 Service 11/12

[10/29]

Green Lions invites you to join us in the **Dozier Library** after the 11:15 service for a quiet time of reflection to share thoughts and concerns about the current violence in Gaza and its impact on the

land and people of the region. We will discuss statements by the Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations and Churches for Middle East Peace, other members of the faith community, and human rights groups. Please contact Betsy Agle [betsy\[at\]agle.net](mailto:betsy[at]agle.net) or Mary Neznik [maryneznik\[at\]verizon.net](mailto:maryneznik[at]verizon.net) if you have questions.

5. Incarceration Justice group

[10/29]

Our **next Zoom meeting** is scheduled for **November 14, at 7:30 p.m.** Please note: start time is delayed to 7:30 p.m. We will discuss our thoughts following last month's meeting, where we viewed the documentary film Redemption, and welcomed Council Member Charles Allen. We heard valuable insights from the men featured in the film, Anthony Petty, James Carpenter, and the producer, Pamela Bailey. If you missed this event, you can view the documentary and comments from that evening on this link: <https://tinyurl.com/STMIJOct10>

We will do some brainstorming about the next steps. Also, check out the podcast produced by Ms. Bailey: Voices Unlocked. Contact Jan Lipscomb to be added to the list if you want to attend or receive updates. You will receive email notices no more than 4 - 6 times per month.

[juanita.lipscomb\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juanita.lipscomb[at]gmail.com)

6. Volunteers Needed - Supply Sorting for People Migrating

[10/22]

Washington is one of the "landing sites" for the many thousands of Migrants who are in transit to other cities and towns across the country. Capitol Hill United Methodist Church (CHUMC) has taken the lead for collecting and distributing the donated supplies and clothing (of which St. Mark's supplies the underwear, shoes and socks!). Currently, they **need a few volunteers on a regular basis** to assist with the tasks of sorting, folding, and organizing these items. Teams of 2-3 people, even once a month for a particular day/time slot, would be very helpful and greatly appreciated.

Specifically, they have asked for help with the following:

Mondays :

1-3pm - sorting, folding, and organizing clothing and supplies

3-6pm - assisting with selection and other tasks (for example, accompanying the children while their families are selecting the clothing and supplies

Wednesdays;

12-1pm - sorting, folding, and organizing clothing and supplies

1-3pm - assisting with selection and other tasks (for example, accompanying the children while their families are selecting the clothing and supplies

Thursdays: evenings, 6-8 pm: serving meals, assisting with selection of clothing, and providing rides to temporary housing

The person to contact is Jackie Giovanniello, [jgiovanniello14\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jgiovanniello14[at]gmail.com). For any additional questions, email Julie Murphy at [socialjustice\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:socialjustice[at]stmarks.net).

7. Share Your Abundance This Thanksgiving With Our Less Fortunate Neighbors

[10/22]

Everyone Home DC (formerly known as Capitol Hill Group Ministry) **needs your help in providing each of the 150 families they support a \$50 grocery gift card** for the ingredients for their Thanksgiving Dinner. They hope to start distributing the gift cards by mid-November. You

can send a check to Everyone Home DC, Attn: Thanksgiving, 415 2nd Street NE, 3rd Floor, Washington DC, 20002 or donate using this link: bit.ly/StMarksGiving23. If using the website, please use the “Organizational Partners” pull-down menu to indicate you are from St Mark’s. Questions or Comments: Contact Susan Sedgewick [jssedgewick\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jssedgewick@gmail.com).

Music

8. Upcoming Music-Related Events The November 11th Sandbox concerts for children have been canceled. The next Sandbox concerts will be held on Saturday, January 27th at 10:00 and 11:30 am. | The Chiarina Chamber Players perform a program for solo violin and piano on Sunday, November 19th at 7:30 pm. Use promo code STMARKS50 at chiarina.org for discount tickets. | The 21st Century Consort performs on Saturday, December 2nd at 5:00 pm. Pre-concert discussion in Baxter Hall at 4:00 pm. Free. More info at 21consort.org. | The St. Mark’s Chancel Choir leads a service of Advent Lessons & Carols on Sunday, December 3rd at 5:00 pm. A reception will follow.

Parish Life & Diocesan Events

9. 20s/30s Group

[11/12]

Please join the 20s/30s group for our November meeting! **Following the 5 PM service on November 19th, we’ll meet in the Dozier library** to discuss material from chapters 6-10 of This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation and the Stories that Make Us by Cole Arthur Riley. Reading in advance is NOT required, as excerpts will be provided for the discussion. For questions or to be added to our email distro, please reach out to Jilian McGreen ([jmcg1213\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jmcg1213@gmail.com)) and Anabelle Swift ([Anabelleswift31\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:Anabelleswift31[at]gmail.com)). We look forward to seeing you there!

10. You’re Invited to Thanksgiving at Christ Church

[11/12]

You are invited to attend a special **Thanksgiving service at 11 AM on Thursday, November 23rd at Christ Church (620 G ST SE)** and to join them for their traditional **Thanksgiving meal** after the service (about 12:30). Turkey and stuffing are provided, everyone is asked to bring a side or dessert to share. The signup sheet is available [here https://tinyurl.com/ChristChurchTgiving](https://tinyurl.com/ChristChurchTgiving). If you have questions contact Linda Mellgren [p3mp4\[at\]verizon.net](mailto:p3mp4@verizon.net), one of the Christ Church hosts. Bring your friends and family. All are welcome!

11. Submissions open for the Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2023 Art Show

[11/5]

This is the season when we notice the light. The days grow shorter during Advent until the Solstice at Christmas, then the days grow longer again during Epiphany. This gives us the theme: **Birth of Simple Light** – Curator Elin Whitney-Smith. The show will run from **December 9th to January 27th**. **JPEG Submissions: November 8th to November 21st**. Artists notified by November 27th **Art drop off December 3rd 10am to 1pm** Reception: December 10th 2023 – Contact: Elin Whitney-Smith [elin\[at\]WatercolorDC.com](mailto:elin@WatercolorDC.com)

12. Vestry Nominations and More

[11/12]

Considering an active role in how St. Mark’s works - from worship to finances, social justice to dancing in the Nave, formation to yoga, music, and visual arts, pastoral care to maintaining the building? **The Nominating Committee is looking for you**. Our primary purpose is to nominate

three parishioners as Vestry candidates for voting at the Annual Meeting on February 4, 2024. There are other important leadership positions to be filled, so if this has made you think, let's talk. About the Vestry: it's our policy-making and governance body. Members serve a three-year term and are expected to attend monthly meetings, retreats, and rare special meetings. All members of the Parish may run. To learn more, see stmarks.net/nomcomm23 or contact us at [nomcomm23\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:nomcomm23[at]stmarks.net) as soon as possible. Vestry nominations can also be made at the Annual Meeting.

13. Share Your "St. Mark's Moment" to Invite Others in [11/5]

Show the world how St. Mark's has shown up in your life by giving us text and optionally a photo or other image to share on [instagram.com/wearestmarks](https://www.instagram.com/wearestmarks). We're looking for brief stories (90 words) describing a "St Mark's moment" for you. This might be at worship, or in a class, or fellowship in Baxter Hall, or something elsewhere somehow connected to your experience of the congregation. Since the season will soon be upon us, a moment based in Advent or Christmas would be particularly wonderful, but not required. Also great but optional: a photo or drawing that represents your story. Send text and image or questions to [socmed1\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:socmed1[at]stmarks.net)

14. Our Saints & Sinners Halloween Harvest Event Oct 28th was a BIG celebration! [11/5]

We welcomed about eighty adults and about 23 Children. We enjoyed conversations, costumes, a Hula Hoop performance, and dancing with each other. A huge thanks to everyone who helped!!!
Jan Lipscomb

15. St. Mark's Dance Studio is still accepting registration for dance classes [10/29]

for children and adults. >> Please visit our website at www.stmarksdance.org. Questions may be sent through [info\[at\]stmarksdance.org](mailto:info[at]stmarksdance.org).

Unused Sunday Lunch Tickets Redemption plan [11/12]

We realize that some have been holding onto unused lunch tickets in anticipation of the return of Sunday lunch. We offer you a few options: Donate your old tickets: we can accept your lunch tickets and record the unused value as a donation to St Mark's. Redeem your old tickets: we can reimburse the unused value of your lunch tickets in cash. Forget your old tickets: don't feel obligated to dig up your unused tickets; in effect, this would be a donation, but unrecorded. If you would like to donate your old tickets or exchange them for cash, we ask that you do so by December 18, 2023, so that we can clear this obligation from our books. Look for Nick Rogers or Meg Platt at coffee hour on 11/19, 12/3, or 12/17, or reach out to them at [doctornick5\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:doctornick5[at]gmail.com) or [mplatt25\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:mplatt25[at]gmail.com) if you'd like to redeem the ticket for cash or make a recorded donation.

Worship

16. Laying on of Hands Volunteer Training [11/12]

On Sunday, December 10, after the 1115am service, train to be a laying on of hands volunteer: This ministry is back, on the third Sunday of each month, at all three services. If you'd like to train for this lay ministry yourself, please join us. Laying on of Hands is a profound, yet simple healing practice during Communion. A parishioner comes to the chapel and requests prayer for healing, for

consolation in a time of loss, for strength and courage in time of trial, or to express thanks. The volunteer listens and then places hands on the person's head and offers prayers. Patricia Catalano, Liturgy and Pastoral Associate, supported by volunteers, will provide the training. You're not required to join the Laying on of Hands team to receive the training, but we hope you will. **Contact Patricia ([adjunct\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:adjunct@stmarks.net)) by December 3** to register or for more information.

17. New Worship Services coming December 3, 10 & 17! [11/12]

Our January-March "Pilot Project" for Lay Participation in Worship Planning met with convincing success and is now an Ongoing Project, returning for our first 3 Sundays in Advent: December 3, 10 & 17!

"Wherever you are on your faith journey" and curious about different approaches to worship, you are invited to engage in new, experimental, inclusive, and creative liturgies and music. Our "Shared Ministry" approach (3 separate lay teams, each planning with clergy, preacher and Music Director) will offer unique services for our upcoming 3 Sundays of Advent. Team Leaders are: Michael Knipe (Dec 3), Louise Walsh (Dec. 10) and Linda Ewald (Dec.17). Light your lamps! Something New is coming!

Interested? Contact the Steering Committee: Betsy Athey [atheylloyd\[at\]comcast.net](mailto:atheylloyd@comcast.net)
Nadine Hathaway [nadinehathaway\[at\]verizon.net](mailto:nadinehathaway@verizon.net)
Louise Walsh [ldwalsh\[at\]earthlink.net](mailto:ldwalsh@earthlink.net)

Ongoing Announcements

18. Wednesday Bible Class This year's study explores historical "context" as the key to understanding the writings in The New Testament (NT). We use commentary, reading, and discussion. Ultimately we ask ourselves: "What does our learning mean for our lives now?" There is no assigned homework. New members are welcome and appreciated. To join the class, click on the Bible Class icon at <http://stmarks.net/bibleclass/>. For more info, email Raiford Gaffney at [rgaffneydc\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:rgaffneydc@gmail.com).

Dates & Time: Wednesdays, September 6, 2023 – May 22, 2024, 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m
Leader: Peter Mosley leading **Location:** Zoom

19. Morning Prayer on Zoom continues: MWF 11:00 - 11:40 am stmarks.net/morningprayer. Readings from the Bible and the life of a notable holy person, prayers (as for Thursday Eucharist), and wide-ranging discussion (similar to Sermon Seminar). Join us on your screen or phone for reflection and fellowship. Latest Zoom info at the link above, or contact Elin Whitney-Smith [elinwhitneysmith\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:elinwhitneysmith@gmail.com) for more information.

20. Centering Prayer. Every day on Zoom at 8:00 a.m. Centering Prayer is an early Christian contemplative practice that emphasizes interior silence. For more information or to join the group, contact The Rev. Patricia Catalano [adjunct\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:adjunct@stmarks.net).

21. 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. Email Caleb youthdirector[at]stmarks.net to sign up.

22. Participate in the Music Program! The **Chancel Choir** rehearses in the nave on **Thursdays from 7:30-9:30 p.m.** Contact jeff[at]stmarks.net for more info. The **Children's Choir** seeks more participants (ages 5+; church membership not required) and rehearses on **Sundays from 11-11:30 am** (ages 5-8) and **11:30-12:10 pm** (ages 9+) downstairs in the Elders Room. Contact Judith Rautenberg judith[at]stmarks.net if you have a child that's interested. The **Handbell Choir** is looking for more ringers! Super fun and no previous experience required. Rehearsals generally take place the **2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:45 to 8 p.m.** downstairs in the Elders Room. Email Katherine kep5[at]cornell.edu if interested. The Music Studio offers **private piano & voice lessons** to people of all ages and abilities. Schedules and rates are set by each teacher. Sasha Beresovsky avberesovsky [at]gmail.com, Saeha Youn saeha.youn[at]gmail.com, and Anh Nguyen anhpng[at]aol.com teach piano. Both Diane Atherton diancesvoicestudio[at]gmail.com and Judith judith[at]stmarks.net teach voice. See stmarks.net/music for more information.

23. Music Classes for Children We will soon be offering music classes for children ages 3-4 years old. Kids will be exposed to a variety of music including echo songs, finger plays, circle dances, songs, and chants. Percussion instruments, rhythm, and listening to music will also be included. Fridays 4-4:35 pm or 4:50-5:25 pm for 10 weeks beginning soon. Fee: \$180. Contact Judith Rautenberg judith[at]stmarks.net for more info.

24. Youth Orchestra Program We are hosting a new program this fall on Wednesday evenings intended for intermediate-level musicians aged 9-14. Led by experienced conductor Emil Chudnovsky, a wide range of repertoire will be covered and the program will include workshops, masterclasses, and concerts. Visit <https://neo-academy.us/p/orchestra-studies> for more information.

25. Caregivers Support Group If you are caring for a loved one and would like to share your experiences with others similarly engaged, email Julie Murphy at juliaabbottmurphy[at]gmail.com to join our support group. **We meet by Zoom on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.** Together, we share the challenges of caregiving -- the stuff that breaks our hearts and challenges our minds but also the quiet moments of profound grace and deep love for the one who needs us.

26. St Marks Yoga Classes. Classes accommodate all levels and are in-person and on Zoom. Join us! <https://www.stmarksyogadc.org/>

27. St. Mark's Meditation Center: Meditation, Mondays 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Join us **in person at Baxter Hall or via Zoom.** Each week, our peer-led sangha gathers for silent or lightly guided meditation, a dharma talk, and discussion. All are welcome to join. Contact Michele mmrivard[at]hotmail.com to learn more. Sign up for the weekly program email to receive info on the week's topic and facilitator.