



What's Happening at St. Mark's - Announcements March 10, 2024

From Parish Leadership & Staff

1. From the Vestry Clerk, Randy Marks

[3/10]

The Vestry met on February 27, with our new Junior Warden Martha Huizenga and Vestry members Elizabeth Becker, Doug Padgitt, Kristina Keenan attending their first meeting. For information and notes from the meeting, see here <https://tinyurl.com/STMFebVestry>

2. From the Junior Warden: We've purchased a new stove and refrigerator!

[3/3]

These were installed Friday March 1. Both are residential rather than "commercial" appliances: they will not need special repairs and will be MUCH easier to use! Second Chance, a non-profit in Baltimore took the stove: the salvaged materials are sold and profits used for job training. Thanks to Doris Burton and Maureen Shea for their research and diligent questions at the appliance store!

Parish Life & Diocesan Events

3. 20s/30s Group: The next meeting will be Sunday, March 10th at 6 PM in the Dozier library.

[3/10] We will discuss excerpts from *For the Life of the World* podcast from Yale Center for Faith and Culture where they speak with Esau McCauley. The episode Lent: Season of Repentance, Renewal.. and Rebellion is available on Spotify or Apple podcast. Listening ahead is welcomed, but not required! Additionally, the 20s/30s will work in St. Marks gardens Sat March 16. Please reach out to Jilian ([jmcg1213\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jmcg1213[at]gmail.com)) or Annabelle ([annabelleswift31\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:annabelleswift31[at]gmail.com)) for more information.

4. Sunday, March 10 12:30pm - St Mark's Arts Council Lenten Art Exhibit Reception

[2/25]

Please join St Mark's Arts Council and artists in a reception immediately following the 11:15 service to share stories behind "art to change the world." Learn about the inspiration for this lenten social justice art and commemorative poster exhibit by children and members of St . Mark's. Contact: JR Randall or [maryneznk\[at\]verizon.net](mailto:maryneznk[at]verizon.net) 202.997.5640.

5. Come to Sunday Lunch! - March 24th After 11:15 am Service!

[3/10]

The "College of Crustaceans" will host our Sunday Lunch on **Sunday March 24th after the 11:15 am service**. Come on back to **Baxter Hall** Sunday March 24th to sit down for a hot lunch prepared on our new, easy-to-use stove. Catch up with old friends and get to know new-to-you folks too. If you are not familiar with the Crabs, you can ask our hosts about the long and illustrious history of the College of Crustaceans, a group of lovingly crabby folks who from time to time have tried to nudge us to be our better selves and a better community. (They also host the annual summer Crab Feast.) Sunday Lunch Coordinator Pam Lacey, [placey914\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:placey914[at]gmail.com).

6. Sign-up to Host Next Sunday Lunch on April 14th

[3/10]

We are looking for a group of volunteers to organize the next monthly Sunday lunch on April 14th. Ask your class or group of 3 or more friends - could be a class or a group of folks with April birthdays - to join you to make this easy. No need to cook from scratch unless you are so inclined - Costco has plenty of pre-made options. Sign-up in foyer or email Pam Lacey [placey914\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:placey914[at]gmail.com).

7. Update: Gun Violence Strikes Home

[3/10]

The brother of Victor Aldana, who is the key member of our custodial team, was shot by a 16 year old and is in a coma at MedStar Washington Hospital Center. The outlook is uncertain. Victor told us that when he was helping during the December gun violence vigil, he never thought this would happen to his family. Rep. Jamie Raskin's office is trying to get an expedited visa for their mother to travel from El Salvador but no success to date. Victor's brother is the primary support of his family. There is a GoFundMe campaign to help them. Even if he makes a full recovery, there will be many expenses associated with this tragedy so we are urging St. Mark's to give generously. If you have already done so, thank you. Donation link: rb.gy/wdx6ud

Christian Education

8. Economic Inequality Reading Group (meeting 7, March 26, 7:00 pm, Elders Room) [3/10]

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. Each book is selected to guide a discussion of understanding and compassion as we look to boldly respond to the suffering and structural injustices of economic inequality.

February's meeting was canceled. Therefore, March's discussion will combine two books: *The Kissing Bug: A True Story of a Family, an Insect, and a Nation's Neglect of a Deadly Disease* by Daisy Hernández and *The Viral Underclass: The Human Toll When Inequality and Disease Collide* by Steven W. Thrasher. This mix of memoir, journalism, and academic study will guide a conversation centered on impacts of racism, sexism, for-profit healthcare, and public policies that disproportionately impact poor communities. Reading both books is not necessary to participate.

All are welcome to join monthly or drop in and out as time and interest allows. 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).

9. Before I Go: Guidance for Planning your Memorial Service

[1/28]

Leaving our affairs in order when we die is an enormous gift for our loved ones. One way St. Mark's can help you do some of this important work "before you go" is to offer time and guidance on planning your own memorial service. This four session workshop will lead you through the process of choosing readings, prayers, and music, as well as whom you might ask to give a tribute and what sort of bio would suit you. Resources and examples will be available and shared with the class. Along with the nuts and bolts of putting together a memorial service, our time will include exploration, in community, of spiritual issues that arise as we face our mortality. Consider doing this work as a gift for your loved ones...before you go. Sign up in foyer or email [josiejordan52\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:josiejordan52[at]gmail.com).

Teachers: Josie and Bill Jordan. Limited to 12 people

Dates: Saturdays, March 9,16, 23, 31 Location: Elder's Room Time: 1pm - 2:30 pm

10. Called to Act Book Group

[3/3]

Called to Act: The Origins of Christian Responsibility, by Rev. Michael W. Hopkins, strives to examine the Baptismal Covenant in the Book of Common Prayer in relationship to political responsibility in the U.S. As we approach another Presidential election, you are invited to join us in conversation, **Monday evenings, March 11, 18, 25, and April 8, in the Conference Room or on Zoom from 6:00-7:00 pm.** The book may be purchased for \$24.95 at: <https://www.churchpublishing.org/calledtoact> or is also available on Amazon. (If cost is prohibitive, we do have options available). Please contact seminarian Lydia Arnts, [seminarian\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:seminarian[at]stmarks.net), with interest, questions, or concerns.

11. Losses and New Beginnings

[2/18]

Inevitably, each of us will experience loss during our lives, perhaps a loved one's death, an unexpected shift in careers, disappointments or even unexpected calamities. And yet each loss has the potential to leave us open to a resurrection, a renewal that can launch us into a new chapter of life, new relationships, new careers, new applications, or new interests.

Come join class leaders Don Lipscomb - ([dlipscomb\[at\]delstudioarchitects.com](mailto:dlipscomb[at]delstudioarchitects.com)) and Louise Walsh ([ldwalsh\[at\]earthlink.net](mailto:ldwalsh[at]earthlink.net)) **Wednesday evenings April 3 and 10th and our April 5-7 weekend retreat** as we seek to make sense of the past, recent losses, and explore how new directions are able to spring from the ashes of doubt and despair. For some, this journey may break open opportunities to chart a whole new direction for the next stage of our lives. Questions? Please contact us. A sign-up sheet in the foyer.

12. Spring Baptism Class

[2/18]

Families considering having their children baptized this spring or summer are invited to sign up for this two-session, online class. Facilitators John Edwards, Kate McFadden, and Steve Dalzell will walk parents through the Liturgy of Baptism and explore its connections to the larger experience of parenting. The class is also a great way to meet other families with (or expecting) young children and learn about other St. Mark's programs for youth and families. Classes are planned for the **evenings of April 4 and 11, with dates and times to be confirmed** with interested families. For more information or to sign up, email Steve at [dalzellsr\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:dalzellsr[at]gmail.com).

Music and the Arts

13. Upcoming Music-Related Events

Sasha Beresovsky will perform a recital titled "Classical Piano for Ukraine" on Friday, March 15th at 7:30 pm | Chiarina Chamber Players perform on Sunday, March 17th at 7:30 pm.

14. Homestays Needed for Berlin Girl's Choir

[2/25]

The Berlin Girl's Choir will be visiting D.C., performing two concerts (including one at St. Mark's), and will sing at the morning services the Sunday after Easter Sunday. We are in need of families who would be willing to provide a room for one or more of these 14-24 year-old students to sleep in

during their visit. The commitment is from the evening of Tuesday, April 2nd through the morning of Sunday, April 7th. **Help us reach our goal: only a few more beds are needed!** Please email Judith [judith\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:judith[at]stmarks.net) if you have questions or would consider helping us out.

Service and Social Justice

15. Washington Interfaith Network University [2/18]

Political Education Series! The Winter/Spring Political Education series aims to analyze WIN's issue campaigns through the lens of racial and economic equity: How did we get here? What are the powers at play in each campaign? How do we move forward? An opportunity to look at WIN's power, its gaps, and how we need to build. **All sessions 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 222 M St SW, Washington, DC 20024.**

To register use <https://bit.ly/politicaleduseries> or this QR code.



April 4 - Affordable Housing and Home Ownership

May 2 - Climate and Healthy Housing

16. Incarceration Justice meeting this month, March 12th, at 7:00 p.m. in Baxter Hall [3/10]

We will welcome Gene Downing, Free Minds Poet. In addition we will discuss our upcoming plans to visit the DC Jail on **Monday, April 29th, 2024**. Contact Jan Lipscomb at [incarcerationjustice\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:incarcerationjustice[at]stmarks.net) to indicate interest, and receive the zoom link, if you wish to attend remotely.

17. Volunteer - Meal for Migrants [3/3]

St. Mark's will be providing a meal for migrants at Capitol Hill United Methodist Church on Seward Square **on the fourth Thursday of the month - March 28th**. We need your help! Volunteers would arrive about 6 pm and things wrap up around 8 pm. You would either bring food, serve food, play with children or help with the free store. Typically, we serve about 30 individuals. Spanish is helpful but not essential. If you are able to help monthly or even sporadically, email Michael McCabe at [mmccabe963\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:mmccabe963[at]gmail.com).

18. Save the Date: Saturday morning, April 6! [2/11]

This year, Samaritan Ministry's *Next Step Breakfast* will take place on **Saturday, April 6, at the National Press Club** at the corner of F and 14th Streets, NW, near Metro Center. **Come at 9:00 am to enjoy a plentiful continental breakfast** at one of our St. Mark's tables. **From 9:30 to 10:30**, learn how the Ministry is helping returning citizens and other residents of the metro area transform their lives. Our emcee will be Laura Barrón-López, White House Correspondent for PBS NewsHour. You'll hear testimonials from Next Step Program participant Sam Tanner, formerly unhoused and jobless, and long-time volunteer Isaiah Poole, a member of St. Stephen and the Incarnation, one of the Ministry's founding Episcopal Churches (along with St. Mark's). The event is free but registration is required. To reserve a place, please contact Mary Neznec ([maryneznec\[at\]verizon.net](mailto:maryneznec[at]verizon.net)) or Peter Hawley ([phawleydc\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:phawleydc[at]gmail.com)).

19. April 9th, 2024 - Incarceration Justice Meeting - in Baxter Hall at 7:00 p.m. [3/10]

At last, we will welcome **Rudy Logan**, the much anticipated **Missioner of Equity and Justice from the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, DC** as our speaker. His discussion will be on the topic of *Care, Not Carceral Responses*. Mr. Logan plans to help us address the root and material causes of harm in our communities, and suggest alternatives in order to cultivate care within social life and public safety as opposed to actions which perpetuate material dispossession and violence. Please plan to attend in person, if possible. RSVP Here: <https://forms.gle/XfkeJSh7wD7GSrUz6>

If you are attending remotely, a zoom link will be emailed the weekend before, and again on the day of the event. Contact Jan Lipscomb [incarcerationjustice\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:incarcerationjustice[at]stmarks.net) for more information.

20. Take Action to Support Migrant Ministry under Threat [3/3]

The Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing Annunciation House in El Paso, a network of migrant shelters that has been in operation for almost 50 years, and aims to shut it down. Paxton's legal action appears to be part of a broader Republican push to target Catholic nonprofits serving migrants at the border amid an effort to make immigration a key 2024 election campaign issue. Maryknoll's Office for Global Concerns provides a way to show solidarity to Annunciation House <https://maryknollogc.org/action/join-us-solidarity-annunciation-house> and to send a message to the attorney general. Interested in more information, visit <https://tinyurl.com/AHouse1> and <https://tinyurl.com/AHouseNPR>

21. Thanks from Good Neighbors Capitol Hill for Twin Bedding and Toiletries [3/3]

A huge embrace and thanks to all who have been dropping items into the "Afghan Collection Bags" in the Entry Hall. The generosity of many anonymous donations for the St. Mark's Bed, Bath and Beyond warehouse has been a great boost and much appreciated by GNCH as we prepare apartments for refugee families. Unfortunately, we neglected to encourage donors to identify themselves by communicating with us or attaching a name to their contribution. Going forward, we would certainly like to convey a personal thanks and provide a tax donation letter if you let us know who you are. In the future, we hope to communicate our appreciation to many, though some may still prefer anonymity. Contact: Karen [karen.getman\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:karen.getman[at]gmail.com) or [Kimbaylissdc\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:Kimbaylissdc[at]gmail.com)

Youth and Family Ministries

22. Lego Stations of the Cross: This Week and March 17th [3/10]

St. Mark's families are coming together to build stations of the cross out of Legos! Use your creativity to show the story of Holy week! Join us this Sunday, March 10th and next Sunday March 17th. Each week we will have two sessions: 11:00-11:30 and 11:30-12:00, so that the children's choir can participate. Legos will be provided, but you can also bring your own! Please bring your final product to church no later than Palm Sunday, March 24th. Our stations will then be displayed in the chapel beginning on Palm Sunday.

23. Walking After Jesus March 23

[3/10]

Join us for this St. Mark's tradition on Saturday March 23rd at 10AM! "Walking after Jesus" is a telling of the last week of Jesus' life that uses creative storytelling to bring the events to life.

Beginning in the Nave, we will take a journey through Holy Week, but will find ourselves a few steps behind Jesus at every turn. Along the way we will encounter a few people who help to tell the story, and show us where to go next, as we move closer and closer to Easter Sunday. Led by our wonderful clergy and some very animated parishioners, this will be a great way for kids, families and adults to experience the story of Holy Week while we prepare for Easter!

24. Easter Egg Hunt

[3/10]

Be sure to join us on Easter, March 31st for an Easter Egg hunt at 10:30am and 6pm! Nothing is required to participate. We will gather in Baxter Hall after each service to receive instructions for the hunt.

If you have any leftover plastic eggs from previous years, consider donating them to our hunt! Please email Caleb at youthdirector[at]stmarks.net with an approximate number of eggs, and plan to drop them off to St. Mark's between now and Easter Sunday

25. Catechesis Luncheon May 11: Save the Date!

[3/10]

Do you have a student in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd? Have you been thinking about volunteering? Always been curious about the St. Mark's Sunday School program?

Parents, students and community members are invited to join Stephanie Deutsch and Caleb Nelson Amaker for a luncheon on May 11th at 12:30 PM. We'll have time for food and fellowship and then we'll experience some Catechesis presentations together. We hope you'll join us!

Ongoing Announcements

26. Weekly Service Projects

[2/4]

Rather than giving something up for Lent this year, the Service and Social Justice Board invites you to deepen your engagement or explore something new. To facilitate this, we invite all ages to join in a **service project for each Sunday of Lent to take place in Baxter Hall after Sermon Seminar.**

While there, children are also invited to borrow a book from the library we will have set up to learn more about service and social justice. Remaining projects include:

March 10 - Write or illustrate letters of hope for individuals in prison or jail.

March 17 - Decorate a "Welcome Home" banner for the new apartment of a recently arrived refugee.

March 24 - Help Grate Patrol make lunches for those living on the grates in our city.

27. 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[at]gmail.com). **Dates & Time:** Wednesdays, September 6, 2023 – May 22, 2024, 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Leader:** Peter Mosley. **Location:** Zoom

28. 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](mailto:ElinWhitney-Smith[at]gmail.com) [elinwhitneysmith\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:elinwhitneysmith[at]gmail.com) for more information.

29. 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](mailto:TheRev.PatriciaCatalano[at]stmarks.net) [adjunct\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:adjunct[at]stmarks.net).

30. 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](mailto:Caleb[at]stmarks.net) [youthdirector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:youthdirector[at]stmarks.net) to sign up.

31. Participate in the Music Program!

The Chancel Choir rehearses on Thursdays from 7:30-9:30 pm. The Children's Choir (ages 5+) rehearses on Sundays from 11-11:30 or 11:30-12:10 pm. The Handbell Choir meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:45 to 8 pm. Contact [jeff\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:jeff[at]stmarks.net) for more info. The Music Studio offers private piano and voice lessons to people of all ages and abilities. Schedules and rates are set by each teacher. Visit stmarks.net/music for more information.

32. Caregivers Support Group If you care for a loved one and would like to share your experiences with similarly engaged others, email [Julie Murphy](mailto:JulieMurphy[at]juliaabbottmurphy[at]gmail.com) at [juliaabbottmurphy\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juliaabbottmurphy[at]gmail.com) to join our monthly Caregivers Support Group. **We meet by Zoom on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.** Over the course of the hour, 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.

33. St Marks Yoga Classes. Classes accommodate all levels and are in-person and on Zoom. There is a new in-person class on Thursday nights at 6 p.m. Join us! <https://www.stmarksyogadc.org/>

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

You can submit announcements of 150 words or less 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.

If you would like to have your event included on the parish calendar, send it to the [parishadmin\[at\]stmark.net](mailto:parishadmin[at]stmark.net). To have your event posted on the parish website, send it to [website\[at\]stmarksnet](mailto:website[at]stmarksnet).