



## What's Happening at St. Mark's Announcements - September 8, 2024

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### *From Parish Leadership & Staff*

**1. Following the service, the community will host the Annual Parish Picnic and Fair.** The grillmasters will be grilling, and parish activities will have tables where you can see their plans for 2024-25 and how to get involved. Youth and Family Ministries will host an **Activity Fair** during which children and youth will gather in the courtyard to play games, make friends and learn about awesome opportunities to get involved at St. Marks.

**2. Consider Confirmation or Reception at the National Cathedral** [9/8]  
**On Saturday, November 16,** the National Cathedral will host the Autumn Diocesan Confirmation Service. At this service, Bishop Budde will confirm and receive new Episcopalians from all over the diocese. Confirmation is the profession of faith that confirms the promises of baptism and brings someone into the Episcopal Church. Reception is a similar process for those who have already been confirmed in another denomination. If you wish to discuss being confirmed or received, contact Reverend Caitlin at [caitlin\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:caitlin@stmarks.net).

### *Parish Life & Diocesan Events*

**3. Meditation Special Event. BORN I. Monday, September 9th, 7:30 p.m., in the Nave** [9/1]  
Join us for a unique evening with BORN I, the locally-based, internationally-known meditator, rapper, hip-hop artist, and all-around “I am enough” compassionate human being. He will be sharing metta and music with his crystal sound bowls, dharma talk, and songs from his album Amida.



Register Now with the QR Code or at <https://tinyurl.com/STMBORNI>. Walk-ins welcome. Suggested donation \$20. Hosted by St. Mark's Meditation Center. Join us other Monday nights in Baxter Hall. Questions? [MMRivard\[at\]hotmail.com](mailto:MMRivard@hotmail.com)

**4. Sunday Lunch is Back This Fall!** [9/8]  
Please plan to be here in person to enjoy the conversations and delicious food at Sunday Lunch:

**Sept. 29:** hosted by Edna Boone, Jessie Jordan, Kit Arrington - featuring a presentation on the **Washington Interfaith Network (WIN)**

**Oct. 20:** hosted by **20s & 30s Group** - contact Jilian McGraw. Interested in organizing Sunday Lunch in November? Contact Pam Lacey [placey914\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:placey914@gmail.com).

## 5. Healing Histories: A Reparations Dialogue

[9/1]

Dear Brothers and Sisters, The Committee on Diocesan Reparations and Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde cordially invites all Black-identifying parishioners to a day of fellowship and discussion of reparations at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in DC (which is doubling as our brush arbor\*).

The Committee will present on the work we have conducted so far, including our research into what reparations might look like in our diocese and how reparations may affect you and your parish. We will also devote good time to hearing your thoughts in a safe, welcoming space. Breakfast and lunch will be served.

\*A brush arbor (also called hush or bush arbor) was a secluded, sacred place, often built with tree branches in remote locations. where enslaved people could worship and meet in secret.

When: **Saturday, September 28, 2024 from 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM**

Where: Parish Hall, **St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 1514 15th St NW,**

RSVP Required: Please scan the QR code or visit

<https://tinyurl.com/HealingHistories> to complete the registration form.

Deadline to RSVP is September 22nd



**6. The Archives & Parish History Team.** Who are they? What do they do? How can I help? Do they want my old St. Mark's memorabilia & files? How can I learn more? Easy! Meet us at our table at the Parish Fair on September 8! Contact Kenn Allen [kenn\[at\]civilsocietyconsulting.com](mailto:kenn[at]civilsocietyconsulting.com) [8/11]

## 7. The Saints and Sinners Harvest Celebration and Dance

[9/8]

The celebration and dance will be **Saturday, October 26th from 6 - 10 p.m.** More details will follow. We have a DJ, and special events for the Children and Teens. This is the last year that Jan will be able to coordinate, so please contact me to sign up for organizing, decorating, photographer duties, and food. We already have volunteers for Children and Teen events, some sweet treats, and 🎵 music. Each year, our volunteers bring great ideas, so we will continue to evolve and improve! Contact [juanita.lipscomb\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juanita.lipscomb[at]gmail.com) to join this year's team.

## *Youth and Family Ministries*

## 8. Sunday School begins September 15th at 10:00am!

[8/25]

Classes are available for students ages 3 and up (children under 3 are welcome in the nursery). Elementary and preschool children can join the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program! Catechesis believes all young children have a spiritual life, that God is present to them in their deepest being. We provide vocabulary, Bible lessons, and connections to liturgy that enable students to become more aware of their relationship with God and to express it.

Youth Sunday School (middle and high school) has a new curriculum this year! Classes will create opportunities for students to learn about the Bible, contextualize their personal stories, play games, do service work and share whatever is on their hearts and minds.

Registration coming soon! Please email [youthdirector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:youthdirector[at]stmarks.net) for more information.

**9. New! Next Gen Reflection: A Pre-teen Children's Chapel Program In September** [8/25]  
We're excited to debut NextGen Reflection, an expansion of worship **during the Liturgy of the Word portion of St. Mark's 9AM service to suit the unique needs of preteens, ages 8-13.** It provides opportunities beyond talking and singing to include actively constructing and experiencing spirituality as a community. Participants will have the opportunity to move between four stations that encourage connection: Rest, Reconciliation, Praise and Prayer. After the stations we will gather together, light candles and share our thoughts or say a prayer before returning to the main service for Communion. Next Gen Reflection will run as a four week pilot program on these dates: **September 8th, September 15, September 22 and September 29.** We hope you'll join us! Please email [youthdirector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:youthdirector@stmarks.net) for more information.

**10. Join the St. Mark's Youth Group!** [8/25]  
Every month we will have a special activity for Middle and High School students, starting with painting a mural in the Lion's Den on September 8th! Please save the dates:

<b>September 8:</b> Painting project	<b>February 14-17:</b> Ski Trip
<b>October 5-6:</b> Lock In	<b>March 9:</b> Legos and Easter Art
<b>November 17:</b> Service Project	<b>April 6:</b> River ride and Planting
<b>December 8:</b> Dinner and a Musical	<b>May 4:</b> Local Meetup
<b>January 12:</b> Service Project	<b>June 8:</b> Farewell Lunch

Please email [youthdirector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:youthdirector@stmarks.net) for more information.

### *Music and the Arts*

**11. Participate in the Music Program!** Do you miss singing? Have a child that likes to sing? Curious about handbells? Or maybe you'd just like an easy way to plug-in to the St. Mark's community while having some fun. Join us! The Chancel Choir rehearses on Thursdays from 7:30-9:30 pm. Join anytime. Contact [jeff\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:jeff@stmarks.net). | The Children's Choir starts the season with a retreat on Saturday, September 7th from 10 am to 2:30 pm. They rehearse on Sundays (beginning Sep. 15th) from 11-11:40 am (5-8 years olds) or 11:40-12:30 pm (8 years old +). Email [judith\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:judith@stmarks.net). | The Handbell Choir meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 6:45 to 8 pm. No prior experience is necessary! Email [kep5\[at\]cornell.edu](mailto:kep5@cornell.edu). | 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](http://stmarks.net/music) or contact [jeff\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:jeff@stmarks.net) for more info.

**12. Hymns & Hoopla** Have some obscure hymns that you're dying to sing? Or perhaps you're just looking for a fun, no-strings-attached opportunity to sing a bunch of hymns with others. Join us the evening of **Tuesday, September 10th** - we'll take requests! **Social time, with food & drinks provided, starts at 6:00 pm.** Singing goes from **6:30 until 9:00 pm.** Don't worry - you'll have time to get home to watch the 9 pm Presidential Debate, though we'll also have the TV ready in the nave if you wish to stick around and watch it with others. This event is free, with donations accepted to offset costs. We need both setup and especially clean up help. Email [jeff\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:jeff@stmarks.net) [8/25]

### 13. Upcoming Concerts at St. Mark's

The Capitol Hill Chamber Music Festival will present three concerts. *Canzonas, Sonatas & Suites: 1600-1700* with violin, baroque guitar, and flute will take place in Baxter Hall **this Monday, Sep 9 at 5:00 pm**. *Renaissance Psalms, Irish Baroque & Folk: 1630, 1730 & 1830* featuring guitar and flute will be on **Monday, Sep 16 at 7:30 pm**. On **Sunday, Sep 22 at 7:30 pm**, we will hear *Songs Without Words: 1550-1750* featuring flute and viola da gamba. Suggested donation: \$20-30. 18 and under free. [chcmf.org](http://chcmf.org) | The 21st Century Consort presents "A Portrait of Pinchus: Memorial Concert for Paul Schoenfield" at **2:30pm on Sunday, September 15th**. This eclectic program will include a "Rag and Boogie Tango," "Tin Pan Alley Trio," and more. Professional musicians. Free. [21consort.org](http://21consort.org) | On **Wednesday, Sep 18 at 7:30pm**, piano duo SONET, two of Armenia's best pianists, will perform works by Mozart, Schubert, Poulenc, Tchaikovsky, Faure, & Khachaturian. For tickets/info (\$45, also available at the door), visit [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) and search "sonet". | The Washington Bach Consort performs Bach's *Saint Matthew Passion* on **Saturday, Sep 21st at 7:00 pm**. Considered by many to be the composer's greatest surviving work, both performers and audiences are profoundly affected by it. Tickets: \$45-99, \$20 for those under 40, \$10 for those 18 and under. Limited seats available. [bachconsort.org](http://bachconsort.org) | The Chiarina Chamber Players begin their 10th season with a special program featuring 2023 Grammy Award-winning pianist Michelle Cann alongside a string quartet. Music by Florence Price and Robert Schumann. **Saturday, Sep 28th at 7:30 pm**. Tickets: \$30, free for those 18 and under. Use promo code STMARKS30 for 30% off. [chiarina.org](http://chiarina.org)

### *Service and Social Justice*

*Step into SSJ. View our new volunteer opportunities page [www.stmarks.net/socialjustice](http://www.stmarks.net/socialjustice)*

### 14. SSJ Art in the Nave

[9/8]

The posters hanging in the Nave represent a small portion of St. Mark's Service and Social Justice work. Join us by putting your Faith in Action - Step up and Step in <https://www.stmarks.net/service-and-justice/>. Contact [socialjustice\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:socialjustice@stmarks.net)

### 15. Online Auction Supporting Everyone Home DC

[9/8]

Take a look at Everyone Home DC's signature September Challenge Online Auction! ([bit.ly/3XrMN7c](http://bit.ly/3XrMN7c)) There are great experiences and things to bid on. Proceeds will provide critical funds for people facing homelessness--funds that are even more urgent than ever due to an 14% increase in homelessness in DC from 2023 to 2024, meaning that 5,616 of our neighbors are unhoused. **Auction runs until 7pm on Sept 18**. Questions: Susan Sedgewick [jssedgewick\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jssedgewick@gmail.com)

### 16. Incarceration Justice - Dismantling Mass Incarceration Event

[9/8]

In place of our usual 2nd Tuesday meeting, please consider signing up for this free event, scheduled for **Wed., Sept. 18th -- 6 p.m. Brookland Busboys and Poets, 625 Monroe St., NE, Washington, DC 20017**. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/DismantlingMI> for a free ticket. Contact Jan Lipscomb at [incarcerationjustice@stmarks.net](mailto:incarcerationjustice@stmarks.net) for more information.

### *Christian Education*

## 17. "Catechesis Lite" Training for Helpers

[9/1]

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program offers our youngest children, 3 - 6 year olds, a warm and loving environment in which to hear of God's love in stories from Jesus, to have the fun of practical activities and to share the joy of singing in a group. Our program relies on helpers to assist with the class, joining on a rotating schedule every few weeks. On **Saturday, September 7th**, Nora Howell, who led our Catechesis program for many years and was a much-loved teacher, will offer a brief training for helpers, "Catechesis Lite." The training will provide an overview and introduce the materials and methods used.

Helping out in Sunday school is both fun and profoundly rewarding! Whether you are someone with lots of experience with children or simply a person who wants to know more about how our young ones are introduced to the beauty and lore of our faith, please consider joining this training session.

Catechesis Lite will meet on **Saturday, September 7 from 12:30 to 5 in the Library in the Undercroft**. Please contact Nora Howell to RSVP to with questions at [nora.howell.va\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:nora.howell.va[at]gmail.com).

## *Ongoing Classes and Opportunities*

### 18. Seeking Service and Social Justice (SSJ) Grant Proposals

[7/7]

The SSJ Board has set aside \$1000 grants to allow parishioners to develop and/or support SSJ initiatives. This is your chance to receive a small grant to jumpstart a new project you believe in - to benefit the larger community outside St. Mark's walls. All ages are encouraged to apply! **Proposals are due by September 30th**. The SSJ Board will choose recipient(s) in October, with the grant(s) awarded early November. Judging considerations include:

- Are the beneficiaries involved and want the proposed project?
- What is the immediate or unmet need?
- How can others from St. Mark's be involved?
- Can youth be involved?
- Is it realistic for implementation

Send your proposal to Leslie Allen at [socialjustice\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:socialjustice[at]stmarks.net) (202-544-8399), including a description of the project, plan for implementation, and budget/justification for the amount requested.

### 19. Morning Prayer on Zoom continues MWF 11:00 - 11:40 am [stmarks.net/morningprayer](https://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. The latest Zoom info is at the [link](#) above or contact [Elin Whitney-Smith](mailto:elinwhitneysmith[at]gmail.com) [elinwhitneysmith\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:elinwhitneysmith[at]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](mailto:adjunct[at]stmarks.net) [adjunct\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:adjunct[at]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. Caregivers Support Group** If you care for a loved one and would like to share your experiences with similarly engaged others, email Julie Murphy at juliaabbotmurphy[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.

**23. St. Mark's Meditation Center**

Meditation. Silence, dharma talk, discussion, and metta (such as May I, you, and all beings be safe, joyful, and at peace.) We are peer-led, with a different member or guest facilitating. Whether you have meditated for weeks or years or never before, you are welcome to join the St. Mark's Meditation Center on **Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Zoom also is available.** Questions? Email mmrivard@hotmail.com.

**24. St Marks Yoga Classes.** Classes accommodate all levels and are in-person and on Zoom, daily except for Friday. Join us! <https://www.stmarksyogadc.org/>

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

*You can submit announcements of 150 words or less to 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]stmarks.net. To have your event posted on the parish website, send it to website[at]stmarks.net*