



What's Happening at St. Mark's Announcements - July 12, 2026

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

Learn more about all our different programs at <https://bit.ly/CYFMHandbook>

1. Summer Sunday School Resumes

[7/12*]

Summer Sunday School will resume on July 12 from 10am to 11am with a special lesson from our guests from Navajoland.

We still need classroom assistants - especially for August. You can sign up to help at <https://bit.ly/summeratstmarks>. Email Lisa at [YouthDirector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:YouthDirector[at]stmarks.net) with questions.

Christian Education

2. Christian Education Survey

[7/14]

We've developed a short survey to gauge the congregation's interest in different topics for adult education classes, along with preferences for timing and format. We've had a great response to the hard-copy versions distributed at Claggett and in services, but if we've missed you, here's your online option: Just go to <https://tinyurl.com/STMChristianEd> and jump in. If you have questions, reach out to Steve Dalzell sdalzell@gmail.com, Susan Kyle sfkyle@gmail.com or Bill Jordan jordans4@verizon.net



Service and Social Justice

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

3. Incarceration Justice News

[7/14*]

The **Beauty Behind Bars Art Show** is up now in our Nave. The artwork was created by individuals who are or were incarcerated. Each one found ways to express meaning and passion through creative endeavors. **On Sunday, July 26th**, the last weekend of the show, we'll host a **reception, art walk and panel discussion with some of the artists who are home**. Please take a look at these between or after church services, and plan to join us on July 26th, **right after the 11:15 am service**. Questions: [incarcerationjustice\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:incarcerationjustice[at]stmarks.net)

4. Free Minds Write Night

[7/5]

Free Minds is hosting an in-person Write Night on **July 14th at 7:00 pm at St. Mark's Episcopal Church on Capitol Hill!** You're invited to connect with incarcerated poets through a mutual exchange of creativity, inspiration, and hope. At this special event, Free Minds members who are formerly incarcerated will join other Free Minds supporters and community members to share personal reflections before each participant reads and responds to poetry by our incarcerated writers. Responses will be collected and mailed to the poets following the event. Please RSVP: <https://freemindsbookclub.org/event/write-night-july-14/>

5. Justice in Palestine Book Discussion

[7/12]

Sunday August 30, 12:30-2pm in Dozier Library. For our next book discussion we will be reading *A very short history of the Palestine-Israeli conflict (2024)* by Ilan Pappé. It's a small book and only 160 pages that provides a solid history of the Palestine-Israel conflict from an expert historian - who also happens to be Jewish Israeli. Join us whether or not you have read the book! Email Lindsey Jones-Renaud ([Ljonesrenaud\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:Ljonesrenaud@gmail.com)) with questions.

Parish Life & Diocesan Events

6. Rev. Sam Wells Talk on "A Church for the 21st Century"

[7/12]

Rev. Sam Wells, Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields in London will be in Washington, DC the week of July 19-16 as scholar in residence at the New York Ave Presbyterian Church [NYAPC]. St. Mark's has a relationship with NYAPC through our Incarceration Justice association with the Returning Citizen Assistance Network [RCAN], which started at NYAPC.



Rev. Wells has authored more than 40 books and is a leading voice for church renewal. He will give a public lecture on **Thursday night, July 23rd at 7 PM** entitled: *Living God's Future Now: A Church for the 21st Century.* A reception will follow so people can visit and ask questions. All members of St. Mark's are invited and there is no charge. Registration requested at www.nyapc.org/wells

7. The Crab Feast is Coming!

[7/5]

St. Mark's has long been a church that goes against the tide — not afraid to question assumptions, speak up and speak out, or poke and prod each other into living up to our own potential. In other words, we're a little crabby. And since 1976, we've celebrated that crustaceous spirit with a feast honoring the hard-shelled parishioners who relentlessly show up when they're needed, adamantly volunteer their time, and stubbornly insist on making our

church a better place. Now, we want — no, need! — your help choosing who will wear the crabby crown next. Submit your nominations for Crab of the Year at <https://tinyurl.com/stmcrabnomination> or using the the QR code and join our **crab feast on August 2nd**. Ticket prices to come!

10. Help Include Far Flung Parishioners & Friends in Worship [7/5]

Would you like to help include those in our community who need or prefer virtual access? You can volunteer to share Sunday morning worship via Facebook, Youtube, and Zoom!

The livestream team will train you to be a Tech Director. You don't need to know everything to start. Responsibilities: configure Facebook/Youtube/Zoom streams, set up the video laptop and peripherals, monitor the livestream-in-progress, move/connect our Nave cameras, monitor the audio, and troubleshoot all of the above. Streaming, video, or networking experience helpful.

Commitment: one Sunday morning every three to four weeks, plus special events (e.g. memorials, Holy Week) as available.

If you're interested, contact [christoph.berendes\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:christoph.berendes[at]gmail.com) to schedule a Sunday morning to sit with the tech team and see how it's done.

8. Newcomer Gatherings [7/5]

Newcomer gatherings are an opportunity for new and established members to share a meal, meet people whose paths don't often cross, and discuss what makes this community unique. If you are interested in attending one of these events this summer, please sign up here:

<https://stmarkssignups.netlify.app>. Reach out to Terri Poxon-Pearson with any questions ([terripoxonpearson\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:terripoxonpearson[at]gmail.com)).

9. Join the Membership Committee [6/28]

The membership committee works to welcome folks into the St. Mark's community and build connections for new (or reconnecting) members. If this seems like something you're interested in, please consider joining us. The committee meets monthly via zoom. Commitment can vary from attending and providing your perspective, contributing to "bite size" tasks, or leading new initiatives. New and seasoned members are valued and invited to join. If you are interested, please reach out to Terri Poxon-Pearson at [terripoxonpearson\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:terripoxonpearson[at]gmail.com).

Music and the Arts

11. Arts Schedule (More or Less) or the Rest of the Church Year

[7/12]

July – As you look around you is Beauty Behind Bars – Art by incarcerated people

August – St Mark's art including, kids' art, Banners, and Claggett workshop art

September – SSJ showcasing all the things St Mark's does in the community

October – Fabric Art – And an intergenerational workshop theme TBD

November – Tracy Council solo show.

Advent starts the next church year.

Please contact me with any questions or suggestions: [elin\[at\]WatercolorDC.com](mailto:elin@WatercolorDC.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\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto: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\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:parishadmin@stmarks.net) for the calendar, [website\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:website@stmarks.net) for the website, or complete the form (shorturl.at/vaXg7) by Tuesday night for a spoken announcement.