



What's Happening at St. Mark's Announcements - July 19, 2026

Service and Social Justice

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

1. 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)

2. St. Mark's Justice in Palestine (SMJP) Meeting - Sunday July 19

[7/19*]

Join the St. Mark's Justice in Palestine group **today at 12:30pm** (after the 11:15 service) in the **Dozier Library**. We're discussing plans for upcoming solidarity and educational events for the fall and Advent season. Can't make it but want to be added to our weekly newsletter? Reach out to Giulia DeLuca at [giulialdeluca\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:giulialdeluca[at]gmail.com) or Lindsey Jones-Renaud at [ljonesrenaud\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:ljonesrenaud[at]gmail.com).

3. Support Everyone Home DC's Back-to-School Initiative

[7/19]

Everyone Home DC's annual back-to-school initiative will **provide gift cards** for their client parents and caregivers to make their own choices for their children's back to school needs whether it's school supplies, a new backpack, a pair of shoes, or a first-day outfit that helps a young scholar walk into school with confidence. Your monetary support gives something more than financial assistance, it gives them the dignity and flexibility to choose what is right for their children. Cards will be distributed in mid-to-late August.

Help meet the goal of 200 cards, valued at \$50 each. You can donate online at <https://tinyurl.com/everyonehomedc-back> or mail checks directly to Everyone Home DC, Attn: Back-to-School, 415 2nd St NE, 3rd Floor. Washington DC, 20002.

Need more information? Contact Susan Sedgewick at [jssedgewick\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:jssedgewick[at]gmail.com).

Parish Life & Diocesan Events

4. 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/ Contact: Jan Lipscomb [juanita.lipscomb\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juanita.lipscomb[at]gmail.com)

5. 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!



6. 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.

7. 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)).

8. 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

9. Register for the Capitol Hill Arts Walk

[7/19]

It's almost August. The Capitol Hill Art Walk is September 12th, and 13th. The **registration deadline is August 10th**. Artists, crafts people, please register to participate with St Mark's. Right now, we have 5 people registered, most of them not from our congregation. Questions: [elin\[at\]WatercolorDC.com](mailto:elin[at]WatercolorDC.com). Get out there and register!! Now! It's Free! Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/caphillartwalk>

10. 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 Councill solo show.
Advent starts the next church year.

Please contact me with any questions or suggestions: [elin\[at\]WatercolorDC.com](mailto:elin[at]WatercolorDC.com)

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

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

11. Please Check Your Calendar!

[7/19]

We have had a general call out for **classroom assistants in Summer Sunday School**. The response has been wonderful! But there are still three dates that are looking dicey. If you will be in church on **Aug 9, Aug 16 or Aug 30**, please consider volunteering for just one short hour from 10 to 11am. Email [youthdirector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:youthdirector[at]stmarks.net) if you can make it and she will express undying gratitude forever and ever and ever on behalf of herself and our sweet kiddos.

12. New Parent Support Group

[7/19]

The Children, Youth and Families Ministry (CYFM) Neurodiversity Working Group (NWG) is launching a support group for **parents of young people who are neurodiverse or have special needs** (no formal diagnosis necessary). We welcome interested parents to an initial meeting **July 26th from 11:05 to 12 noon in the upstairs Conference Room**, near the Parish Office. Childcare will be provided by Lisa. Julie Murphy, a 40-year St. Mark's member and certified parent coach, will convene and facilitate by creating a non-judgemental space where parents can share experiences and find support and strength. At the initial meeting, we will get to know one another, discuss topics of interest, and make a flexible plan for future meetings (biweekly vs. monthly, in person vs. virtual). Folks may participate without otherwise being involved in the NWG. For questions, contact Julie at [juliaabbottmurphy\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juliaabbottmurphy[at]gmail.com) or NWG lead, Alexis Erwin at [erwinwangfamily\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:erwinwangfamily[at]gmail.com).

Christian Education

13. 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



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

Submit announcements of 150 words or less to [bulletin\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:bulletin[at]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[at]stmarks.net) for the calendar, [website\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:website[at]stmarks.net) for the website, or complete the form (shorturl.at/vaXg7) by Tuesday night for a spoken announcement.