



What's Happening at St. Mark's Announcements - August 30, 2026

From Parish Leadership & Staff

1. Join the Parish Cookout

[8/30]

On September 13th, we will have one **10 AM** morning service followed by the parish cookout at 11:30. See below for what to bring. Assignments are based on the first letter of your first name. If you don't like your assignment, please trade with a friend!

A-C: Coleslaw

D-J: 2 dozen cookies/bars/brownies (label with nuts)

K-M: Potato salad

M-P: Pasta salad

R-Z: Sliced tomatoes or onions

There will also be a cookout after the 5 PM service. Sign up for what you're bringing to that at bit.ly/4gn8X3X

2. Nave Door Restoration Update

[8/30]

We are excited to share progress on our Nave door restoration project!

- **Exterior Doors:** Installation of the restored exterior Nave doors and new hardware begins this week.
- **Interior Doors:** The interior Nave doors will be temporarily removed this week or next for refinishing, with expected reinstallation by mid-to-late September.
- **A Street Entrance:** Restoration of the iron railings is still underway. Please exercise caution when entering and exiting through the A Street doors.

Thank you for your patience and care as we preserve and beautify our church home!

Contact: Martha Huizenga Junior Warden [juniorwarden\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:juniorwarden[at]stmarks.net)

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

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

3. Save the Date: Classroom Reset Day is August 30th! [7/26]

Our last day of Summer Sunday School is August 30th, and we will need to get classrooms ready for the Fall. This includes returning shelves that were moved for the summer. It also means putting together shelves for the new classrooms. We also need to re-paper bulletin boards and unbox art materials. Please join us from **11 to 12:30 pm in the undercroft on August 30th** to help out! Email [youthdirector\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:youthdirector[at]stmarks.net) to let her know you're coming!

4. Support Group for Parents of Neurodiverse Children [8/23]

The Children, Youth and Families Ministry (CYFM) Neurodiversity Working Group (NWG) has launched a support group for parents of young people who are neurodiverse or have special needs (no formal diagnosis necessary). Julie Murphy, a 40-year St. Mark's member and certified parent coach, is convening the monthly meeting. Our next meeting is via Zoom on **September 15 at 8:30 pm**. We hope that this will be a non-judgmental space where parents can share experiences and find support and strength. For questions or receive this month's calendar invitation and meeting link, email Julie at [juliaabbotmurphy\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:juliaabbotmurphy[at]gmail.com).

Parish Life & Diocesan Events

5. Seeking Confirmation Meal Coordinator [8/16]

Annie and Lisa, St. Mark's 2026-2027 youth confirmation instructors, are seeking a confirmation meal coordinator. The meal coordinator is not necessarily on the hook for providing meals but, instead, will take responsibility for **seeking volunteers from the congregation for ~8 lunches between October and May**; keeping track of plates, napkins, utensils, cups, and drinks; and ordering pizza in a pinch. We would welcome your attendance in these meals, as well! If you are willing to step into this important back-of-the-house role, please contact Annie Rorem at [annie.rorem\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:annie.rorem[at]gmail.com).

6. Lambda Lions Kickoff Planning Meeting [8/16]

The Lambda Lions, St. Mark's LGBTQIA+ affinity group, will be holding our August kick off planning meeting on **Sunday August 30 in the Rector's room, immediately following the 11:15am service**. Any and all LGBTQIA+ parishioners are invited to join to discuss ideas and plans for the parish year ahead, including the upcoming Parish Fair and a September picnic. For more information, contact Kelly Dickinson ([kellymarie1848\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:kellymarie1848[at]gmail.com)) and/or Mitch Wood ([mitchw7959\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:mitchw7959[at]gmail.com)).

7. Nursery Coverage During Medical Leave

[8/16]

Greetings everyone, just a note to let everyone know that I'll be out after September 6th for my knee replacement surgery and the nursery will still be up and running by Ms. Katrina and Ms. Kenisha, I'll return as soon as possible ❤️ - Deborah Cunningham
[dcwaterlover\[at\]yahoo.com](mailto:dcwaterlover@yahoo.com)

8. Newcomer Gatherings

[8/23*]

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://shorturl.at/dZYKr>. Reach out to Terri Poxon-Pearson with any questions ([terripoxonpearson\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:terripoxonpearson@gmail.com)).

Service and Social Justice

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

9. Justice in Palestine Book Discussion

[8/23]

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.

10. Understanding the Crisis in Palestine & Israel: Four Free Webinars

[8/23]

Next month St. John's Episcopal Church, Chevy Chase, will present four Zoom calls featuring Dr. Mark Braverman. As an American raised in the Jewish tradition and a psychologist specializing in trauma, he was deeply troubled by witnessing the systematic oppression of Palestinians in the Holy Land. Meeting Muslim, Jewish, and Christians working together for justice and peace inspired him to devote his life to that work. The webinars will be on **September 3, 9, 16, and 21, from 7 to 8:30 pm.** They will examine the historical context for the conflict, the dangers presented by Christian Zionism and the weaponization of anti-Semitism, and how "in the age of Gaza" people can make a faithful response. To see specific topics and register for the programs, go to bit.ly/4xxhBTd. For information on the speaker, see www.markbraverman.org. Questions? Contact Lindsey at [LJonesRenaud\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:LJonesRenaud@gmail.com)

11. Join St. Mark's Incarceration Justice Ministry & A Panel of Returning Citizens[8/23*] Tuesday, September 8th, at 7:00 PM in Baxter Hall

Join St. Mark's Incarceration Justice Ministry and a panel of returning citizens to discuss the legal system and consequences for those with severe criminal charges. Our panelists will cover an array of topics, including but not limited to the challenges of returning home after incarceration, the impact incarceration has had on how they navigate the world, and how we, as a community, can better support returning citizens. Light refreshments will be available. RSVPs appreciated. Please use the QR code or this link bit.ly/stmarks_jusice_panel. A flyer for the event is available at <https://tinyurl.com/Sep8poster>. Contact for information: [incarcerationjustice\[at\]stmarks.net](mailto:incarcerationjustice[at]stmarks.net)



12. Responsive Grant Proposals Due 9/28 [8/30]

SSJ is offering grants of up to \$1500 toward a new project you believe will benefit the larger community outside St. Mark's. All ages are encouraged to apply! **Proposals due by 9/28 with decisions by 10/9.** The recipient must send receipts for expenses incurred on the project to SSJ by mid-December. Judging considerations include: whether the beneficiaries are involved and want the project; whether others from St. Mark's can participate; and is it realistic for implementation? Your proposal for the project should include a description, implementation plan and budget/justification for the amount requested. Send your proposal/questions to Leslie Allen, [lacaphill\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:lacaphill[at]gmail.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[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.