

January 13, 2019 Announcements

Announcements, ***not to exceed 150 words***, are to be submitted to bulletin@stmarks.net by **5:00 pm on the Tuesday** preceding the Sunday you wish the announcement to run.

The Official Parish Calendar is online at: stmarks.net/connect/calendar

From the Vesty & Parish Leadership

1. Save the Date! On January 26th at 6:30 pm, the Extended Vision 2020 Campaign Planning Committee is holding a celebratory event, "**Celebrate the Promise of St. Mark's!**" in the Nave. There is a link in the most recent eGospel that you can use to RSVP. Questions? Ask Jackie Boddie at jlb3135@gmail.com or Rob Hall at rphall3@gmail.com

Christian Education

2. TODAY! Wrestling with the Angel. Each **second Sunday** of the month we meet at **1:15** downstairs in the **library** to discuss theology and ethics. We are meeting **today, January 13** for a discussion on **women in the Bible**. How does the Biblical witness reinforce, challenge, or complicate traditional views of women? And how does the Gospel empower us to recognize women's equality and leadership? All are welcome to join us!

3. Christian Education Weekend - This weekend, many parishioners are exploring topics of Identity, Self, and Society at the Claggett Retreat Center.

4. The Belonging Class: January 29 – April 2, 2019 (Tuesdays: 7:30-9:30 pm in the Adams Room)
Are you new and want to gather a supportive group of friends at St. Mark's? Have you been at St. Mark's awhile and want to be reconnected with yourself and others in a new way? Do you yearn to experience the fullness and potential of your life? Do you want to move along on your spiritual journey? Then sign up for the Belonging Class and begin the adventure. There are two retreats, one of which is paid for you. See one of the leaders: Rev. Michele Morgan, Charlie Rupp (crupp@ix.netcom.com) , Susan Thompson (susanlynnthompson@gmail.com) or Rita Ossolinski (rossolinski@yahoo.com) for more information.

5. Ongoing Christian Education. These groups meet weekly and are open to newcomers:

- * **Sunday Morning Bible Class, 10-11 am, through May 19, 2019, Penniman Room**
Studying First Samuel (Hebrew Scriptures)
Convener: Bob Ewald (llerbe@yahoo.com; (301) 541-5133)
First Samuel is the story of Israel's (rocky) transition in leadership from Priest (Samuel) to King (Saul, David). The course consists of class discussion of the text assigned for that day.
- * **SMMC Meditation, Mondays 7:30-9:00pm, in the Adams Room.**
Contact: Collie Agle, (202) 255-2687 or charles.agle@gmail.com
- * **The Wednesday Bible Class** is studying the Hebrew prophets using the classic work "The Prophets" by Rabbi Abraham Heschel. Class continues on **Wednesdays at 11:30 am (note time change) until 12:45 pm**. Brown bag lunch follows. Location: **Elders Room in the undercroft**. Coordinator: Raiford Gaffney, rgaffneydc@gmail.com.

* **Centering Prayer, Thursdays 7:30-8:30 am, in the Nave.** Centering Prayer is an early Christian contemplative practice that places a strong emphasis on interior silence. Please contact Collie Agle if you are interested or curious, at (202) 255-2687 or charles.agle@gmail.com.

Youth & Family Ministries

6. January 20- High School Service Trip Interest Meeting- All rising 9th-12th grade youth and families are invited to join us in the **Adams Room at 11am** (after Sunday School) to hear about our summer service trip to Philadelphia with The Episcopal Mission Center, June 16-22.

7. January 20- Sunday Suppers- Bring casseroles, help drive youth, and/or serve a meal at Franklin Square. We will **meet at 5:45pm** for pizza and **head to Franklin Square at 6pm**. This is a great opportunity to earn service hours, hang out with friends, and give back to our community. Sign up today! <https://bit.ly/2F3Bj2v>.

8. February 15-18- Family Ski Trip- Our annual St. Mark's Ski Trip will be Feb. 15-18 in Canaan Valley, WV. We will be staying at Blackwater Falls Lodge. There is sledding, a restaurant/pub, cross country skiing, game room, and indoor pool all onsite! Timberline and Canaan Ski Resorts are both nearby for skiing during the day, and we will all enjoy quality time together with games/movies/arts and crafts in the evenings back at the lodge. You must reserve your room(s) by January 10th. Contact Caroline (caroline@stmarks.net) for more information.

Questions regarding these activities?

Contact Director of Youth and Family Ministries Caroline McReynolds-Adams caroline@stmarks.net

Music & Arts

9. Get Involved in Music. We're always looking for more people to participate in the music program! The **Chancel Choir** rehearses **Thursdays 7:30-9:30 pm**, the **Boys & Girls Choir** rehearses approx. **every other Sunday from 11-12:30 pm** and the **Handbell Choir** rehearses the **2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month from 6:45-8 pm**. Let us know if you play an instrument and we can also find ways to get you involved. Contact Music Director Jeff Kempskie at jeff@stmarks.net for more info.

10. Music Lessons are available through the St. Mark's Music Studio: Julia Morris (juliamorris23@gmail.com) teaches flute lessons; Diane Atherton (dianesvoicestudio@gmail.com) offers voice lessons, and Stephanie Ng (stephanien217@gmail.com) teaches piano lessons. Students of all ages and experience are welcome. Learn more about our teachers at stmarks.net/music.

Outreach

11. A New Year's Resolution – Make a Difference in the Lives of Refugee Families - The Good Neighbors Capitol Hill (GNCH) Refugee Resettlement Project is beginning 2019 by inviting you to two Volunteer Get-Togethers:

- **A Tutor Recruitment and Orientation Event, Tuesday, January 15 7:00 – 8:30 PM at St. Mark's** Tutor Afghan family members to communicate with confidence. Learn from current GNCH volunteers how they engage with stay-at-home Moms and help them navigate the peculiarities of American life. Hear how we match your interests with those of Afghan family members. Learn how you can become a tutor, a resource, and a friend to these new arrivals.
- **An Employment and Job Resource Counseling Event, Tuesday, January 22 7:00 – 8:30PM at St. Mark's** - Join our Employment Team and help Afghan heads-of-households improve their

employment situation. Assist with resume writing, honing interviewing skills. and maximize job opportunities and become linked to resources

We are always looking for new volunteers to help! Please email gnch-info@googlegroups.com or margaretmclaughlin50@comcast.net if you would like more information.

12. A Huge Thanks to 20s/30s and Friends - An amazing group of people from the 20s/30s group as well as some additional individual volunteers from St. Mark's worked together to cover a very difficult Sunday to find volunteers for Sunday Suppers. On Dec 30th, they provided a warm, nutritious meal, hot cocoa, treats and eggs. But most importantly they had some good conversation with unhoused neighbors in Franklin Square. Huge thanks to the many people who covered that tricky Sunday all on their own!

13. One Gap in Sunday Suppers - St. Mark's youth group now manages every 3rd Sunday of Sunday Suppers on behalf of St. Mark's. But we are still struggling to find a church or group to regularly cover the 4th Sunday. We have jigsawed coverage for the next few months - except Feb 24th. We could use help with casseroles, 80 hard-boiled eggs, 80 sandwiches, 80 protein bars and 40 clementines. If you can contribute a casserole then we will send you a recipe and ask you to drop it off (uncooked) to church before 10AM on Feb 24th. Email Lisa.ramish@gmail.com if you can help with some small part of this.

Parish Life

14. The Owls Are Watching: An installation of Origami Owls against Sexual Harassment continues. Come, view, stay for coffee hour and/or pub lunch. More than 1350 instances of sexual harassment were collected from more than 55 people. The owls folded by members of the parish stand for each incident. Volunteers to install the art contact elin@watercolorDC.com, Volunteers for pub lunch or coffee contact Valeri Byrd valbyrd22@yahoo.com.

15. January 18 Film Club - "The Scarlet Pimpernel" (1934) - Join us for this classic film about a British nobleman who rescues French aristocrats from the guillotine after the French Revolution. The film stars Leslie Howard and Merle Oberon, with Raymond Massey. An exciting swashbuckler without a single sword fight! **Friday, Jan. 18 7:30 PM, 1321 Geranium Street, NW, Washington, D.C.** Bring snacks/desserts/potent potables to share. For further info, contact Alicia Ruble, 202-420-9256, blurbologist@hotmail.com.

16. Bystander Intervention Training on Sunday, January 27 from 1-3:30pm in the Adams Room. The Parliament of Owls has shown us that women at St. Marks have experienced more than 1300 incidents of sexual harassment in their lifetimes, plus countless more for which they are too tired to account. What is your role in preventing and ending harassment in our community - and maybe even in our church? This training is not just about sexual harassment, but also any form of harassment based on a perceived identity or vulnerability. Come to this training led by trainers from a DC grassroots organization, Collective Action for Safe Spaces (CASS). You'll learn tangible ways to intervene if you witness harassment, discrimination, and microaggressions. Suggested donation of \$20 per person, or whatever you can pay. To reserve your spot or ask questions, email Lindsey Jones-Renaud at LJonesRenaud@gmail.com or 202 286 8711. Childcare can be made available if you contact me in advance!

17. Last Chance for St. Mark's Baseball Fans – Back in 2005, a group of St. Mark's parishioners formed the Winged Lion Baseball Consortium, pooled their resources and purchased season tickets to our newly-arrived team, the Washington Nationals. That consortium continues to this day, with a mix of St. Mark's parishioners and non-St. Marksians. We still have a couple of openings for new members for the 2019 season. We have four incredible seats directly behind the Nationals' dugout along the first-base line – an amazing view of the action and prime foul ball-catching territory as well. Interested parties purchase a "share" of our season ticket package, which gets you two tickets to eight different games of your choice

during the season (or four tickets to four games, or any combination thereof). We need to finalize our group by the end of January. Interested in learning more? Send an email to Mike Townsend at orangemike@verizon.net. Go Nats!

18. Third Agers' Winter Potluck – February 9th – Susan Flanders will be discussing “If I Ever Lose My Mind: Aid in Dying with Advanced Dementia” the title of her new book. Aid in dying with dementia is a thorny issue that will continue to demand our attention as more of us are afflicted, and the financial, emotional and spiritual resources needed for care grow ever larger. Copies of the book will be available. ALL are invited to discuss a topic that could affect any of us. When: **Saturday, February 9th at 11:00 am** Where: **Baxter Hall**. Questions/Info? Contact Don Gangloff at d_gangloff@outlook.com

19. Looking to get more involved with the St. Marks community? Have great ideas for how to make our church a more dynamic, fun, and welcoming place? Then the Membership committee needs you! Please contact Amber Macdonald (amacdojo@gmail.com) and Ryan Baugh (geographicscale@gmail.com) to find out more.

20. The 20's & 30's Faith Fellowship meets on the **last Sunday** of each month to discuss a short reading, talk about our month, and build friendships. We gather around **6pm**, just after the 5pm service, down in the **Dozier Library**. Our next meeting will be on January 27. Contact Emily McDuff at emily.a.mcduff@gmail.com for more information.

21. Parish Prayer List: With the beginning of the new church year, we have assembled a new parish prayer list. If you or a loved one would like to be added to the list, **please email Scott**, our Assistant Rector: scott@stmarks.net, and he will be happy to add any names!

22. The Annual Bob Hahn and Crane Miller Memorial Bird Watching Trip to Blackwater NWR will be a short-notice event, most likely occurring in January instead of December. If you would like to be placed on a list for a short notice trip please contact either: Jane Miller (202) 669-2528, jlm104@earthlink.net OR Gretchen Willson (202) 362-4417, gretchenwillson943@gmail.com. Last season's trip occurred on a lovely, crisp but not frigid January Saturday. We will be looking for similar "fair" weather.

23. We will begin planning our Lenten liturgy with our next **Community Liturgy Planning** session on Sunday, **January 27** at 1:15 downstairs in the Rector's Room. Whether you have experience planning liturgy or not, all are welcome and invited! If you have any questions, just let Scott know at scott@stmarks.net.