

This Week at St. Mark's

- Today** 8 a.m. HE, 9 a.m. Choir rehearsal (Lg. classroom), 9:10 a.m. Adult Forum, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 10 a.m. HE, 11:15 a.m. Confirmation/Reception class (Lg. classroom), 1 – 3 p.m. Eucaristía - San Marcos (Sanctuary, Patience Hall, Gibson Hall), 3:30 – 5:45 p.m. Amazing Grace Ghanaian Fellowship (Patience Hall), 4 - 8 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Monday 11/10** 7-8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (Patience Hall),
- Tuesday 11/11** **Veteran's Day – church office closed.** 7 – 9 p.m. Pan de Vida Bible study (Sanctuary), 7 – 8:30 p.m. GS Troop 4841 (Patience Hall), 7:30 p.m. Vestry mtg. (Lg. classroom)
- Wednesday 11/12** 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax, 12:30 p.m. GS Troop #1914 (Patience Hall), 5:30 – 9 p.m. Nurturing Families program (Patience Hall, kitchen, Gibson Hall)
- Thursday 11/13** 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Chapel), 10 a.m. Holy Folders (Lg. classroom)
- Friday 11/14** 7 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Saturday 11/15** 3 – 5 p.m. Amazing Grace Ghanaian Fellowship Bible study (Lg. classroom), 6 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary), 7 – 9 p.m. San Marcos Bible study (Lg. classroom)

Adult Forum Schedule

- Today** *Healing Trauma and the Veteran*, The Rector
- November 16** *Meet Bishop Jones*
- November 23** *Dedication Sunday – Our Everymember Canvass*
- November 30** *Advent Lessons*
- December (all Sundays)** *The Readings of Advent*

Important Upcoming Dates

- November 15** 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Parish Clean-Up Day
- November 16** Bishop Jones' visit - 10 a.m.: Confirmation
11:15 a.m. Reception
- November 26** 7:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Service and food ingathering

Birthdays

November 10 – Dennis Scott; November 11 – Donna Foughty, Dawni Kissler
November 12 - Laura Landon

Church contact information:

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• **E-mails:** Office: stmarksalex@netzero.net; Rev. John Weatherly: jweathe951@aol.com; Rev. Meredith Heffner: revmeredith@cox.net; • **Internet:** Website: www.stmarksalex.org; Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/stmarksalex>. • **Office Hours:** Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The office is closed on Fridays and national holidays.



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**“Opening the doors of Christ’s love:
an inviting, embracing and serving community
offering Good News in the midst of a confusing
world.”**

November 9, 2014

Excerpts from the Episcopal Church's Suffragan Bishop for Federal Ministries, James Magness. “For many people of my generation who came of age through rites of passage in the 1960s, military service most often was looked upon as *the* least preferred life choice. Even amongst those of us who joined the military service through our own choice -- often to avoid the Selective Service which, we reasoned, surely would have resulted in Vietnam duty -- it was fashionable, and at times expected, that we would let it be known to anyone who would listen that we detested military authority and wearing a uniform. Those of us who grew up with a religious dimension as a part of our lives knew that we would receive little if any support for our choice to serve from our faith communities. Within the communities of worship in America attitudes about military service were often angrily expressed. In fact, for those of us who were spiritually formed in the main-line religious traditions, the only support we could expect was if we had chosen to become conscientious objectors.

Today the social and religious landscape of America is changing. ...Considering that we have just completed 10 years of a brutal and ongoing war, and that there is no requirement for compulsory military service, something is happening that most of us may have missed. Even though far less than 1 percent of our citizens of our country serve in any branch of the military, as a society we have become very connected with men and women in the military services. A significant part of this positive connectedness in no small part has come as a result of all the National Guard and Reserve members from our communities who serve alongside their active-duty counterparts. It is very possible today for a soldier, sailor, marine or airman to be in Afghanistan one week and then the very next week be back at home working in the office and sitting beside you in the pew of your synagogue, church or mosque.

It is always possible that military service will result in periods of being immersed in the moral tension of war. As a follower of Jesus Christ I hope we will never cease to view the actions of our military within the context of the scriptures and teachings of the church. Though the wars of the current era are no exception, our military leaders impress me as having an incredibly high standard of moral and legal requirements that must be met before engaging in doing personal harm to our enemies. Accordingly, I think it is certainly very possible that people of faith can honorably serve in our country's Armed Services. Within my own Christian tradition I am reminded that Jesus viewed the service of others and self-sacrifice as one of the superior virtues (Matthew 23.11-12). To those of you who are in some way related to a service member or count a service member as an important person in your life,

thanks for supporting your loved one in uniform. The life of a service member is not easy, nor is it easy for you to be connected to her or him. I hope that on Veterans Day this year, you will be able to suspend your fears and anxieties, even if only for the day, and simply be proud that you are related and connected to a person who is serving her or his country, and who may be serving as an expression of faith.

Welcome Newcomers and Visitors

The members, staff, and Vestry of St. Mark's Episcopal Church welcome you to our services during this Pentecost season. If you are looking for a church home, or want more information about St. Mark's, please introduce yourself to the Vestry Person of the Day or to the Clergy. We hope you will fill out the newcomer's card that you will find in the church pew and put it in the offering plate or give it to one of the ushers. We are glad you are here! If you would like to receive our weekly announcements and other parish news by e-mail, please contact the church office at stmarksalex@netzero.net.

Prayer List

Please pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity, especially:

In the St. Mark's Parish: Shirley Hunter, Clara Bottner, Beth Oakes, Betty Hughes, Rebecca Carrier, Lindsay Drabick, Dick Stockstill, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, and Geoffrey.

Our Extended Family: Donna Mayne, Elizabeth Jenkins, Nancy DeLay, Margo Digan, Phyllis Nezart-Biggs, Daniel Gold, Pat McDonald, Sylvia Beauchamp, Jan Varner, Evelyn Lang, Stacy Kley, Janet Coco, Julie Cain, Patricia Scott-Boyle, Conway Telfayan, Cheryl F., Karla, Sandra, Aylene's father, Jack and Kerry.

We pray for those who have died, especially Michelle, friend of the Luxners.

For all military and civilian personnel and those serving in harm's way. We lift up especially Andrew Kley, Robert Payne, and Tim, Emily and family. We pray for those of every generation who live with the wounds of war or who have given their lives for this nation.

If you would like someone who is sick or in need added to the prayer list, please write their name in the blue book on the table in the Narthex, or give the name to Father John or Rev. Meredith. Names will be kept in our intercessions for four weeks, unless notified otherwise.

Announcements

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Evelyn Hodgdon by her daughter and son-in-law, John and Helen Dell.

Please welcome back Barbara Wilson Simpson, our guest organist today.

Mark your calendars for our parish clean-up day this Saturday, November 15 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. If you can come and help out, please contact Russell Bradley after the service or by e-mail at w.russell.bradley@gmail.com.

2014 Inquirer's and Confirmation Classes. Classes are open to all and will be held in the Rector's office at 11:15, unless otherwise noted.

- Nov. 9 - *Mission and Ministry: Where Do We Go From Here?*
The Rev. John Weatherly, Seminararian
José Reyes
- Nov. 16 - 10:00 The Episcopal
Visitation of Bishop David C. Jones.

The next dates St. Mark's will be cooking for the Nurturing Families Program will be this Wednesday, November 12. Volunteers are asked to bring a side dish or dessert that will serve 12 people. Please bring your dishes by 6 p.m. Dinner will be at 6:30. If you would like to volunteer, please see David Boyd after the service or contact him at david.boyd1945@gmail.com.

Bishop Jones' visit November 16: The 10 a.m. service next week will be with San Marcos. We are soliciting donations of finger foods, nice appetizers and sweets for the reception. Please contact Elizabeth Boyd at mary.e.boyd18.civ@mail.mil or at 703/921-5289. Please sign up so we can track who is donating what food. You will find a sign-up sheet in the Narthex today and next Sunday.

Getting ready for the Bishop! Our music director, Tatiana, has been preparing an offertory song with our children. Please make plans for your children to be here on Sundays to practice in Sunday School and to be here next Sunday, November 16, as we show them off to Bishop Jones!

We are putting together care packages for our college students preparing for exams! If you would like to participate, please bring 16 of one item to church by November 16. Items might include snacks, Kleenex, pencils, pens, notes, post it's, etc. We will distribute them to the students' families for them to mail to the kids. Thanks so much! *Rev. Meredith*

Tuesday Morning Bible Study will meet from 10 to 11:15 on November 18 and 25 and December 2 and 9. "The Light Will Shine" – a four-week study for Advent from Kerygma.

Attention Youth: Our trip to the Flight Trampoline Park will take place at 1:00 on November 23. Meet after church for pizza, and then carpool to Flight. The deadline to sign-up via SignUpGenius is today. The cost is \$15. Contact Rev. Meredith for more information.

Angel Tree: Keeping with our Christmas tradition, the Salvation Army Angel Tree program kicks off today. Unlike a toy drive, you are buying for a specific child based on their interests and needs. It's a great opportunity to teach your children or scout troops about sharing with those less fortunate. Bonnie Brown Wilkins will have the clothing and toy wish lists in the narthex before and after the 10 a.m. service. Please consider signing up to "adopt" one of the children or join with another family--these gifts are often the only ones they will receive for Christmas. The unwrapped gifts must be delivered to the church or to Bonnie's home before Sunday, Dec. 7. For more information, contact Bonnie at 703/765-4253 or email her at StMarks22306@verizon.net.

Tellers needed: Thank you to the folks who have volunteered to be tellers. We hope to have training soon. If you are interested, please contact Ed Kley at 703/719-6238 or at epkley@gmail.com, Karen Ashworth at ashworthkc2@verizon.net, or Jim Bailes at bailes.james@gmail.com.

Are you a 21 to 30-year old who has a passion for Global Mission and looking to live and work in an Anglican community across the world? The Young Adult Service Corps of the Episcopal Church provides such opportunities. Deadline for the 2015-2016 class is January 2, 2015. Learn more at episcopalchurch.org/yasc or e-mail ashley.cameron0625@gmail.com.