



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.”**

September 7, 2014

Welcome Newcomers and Visitors

The members, staff, and Vestry of St. Mark’s Episcopal Church welcome you to our services during this season of Pentecost. 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: Jean Auldridge; Shirley Hunter; Clara Bottner; Beth Oakes; Heidi Hainsey; Betty Hughes; Hailey Heyse; Juliana; Albie; Lou; Janet; Judy; and Geoffrey.

Our Extended Family: Donna Mayne, Elizabeth Jenkins, Nancy DeLay, Margo Digan, Phyllis Nezar-Biggs, Daniel Gold, Pat McDonald, Kelly Clark, Janet Winslow, Robert Konstantinou, Sylvia Beauchamp, Ron Graves, Sheryl Valone Smith, Julie Toler, Tom Watkins, the Rev. Bill Stafford and family, Irene Zheng, Cheryl F., and Karla.

For all military and civilian personnel and those serving in harm’s way. We lift up especially Andrew Kley, Brian Hobin, Ryan Kiggans, Tyler Miller, Austin Graine, Justin Rodriguez, Robert Payne, Michael Bloomrose, Eric Martindell (civilian in Afghanistan), Jeff, Carl, Kevin, Dale and Vania. 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

Please Welcome our new seminarian, Alan Bentrup, along with his wife Elizabeth and their children, Ford and Walker. If you are interested in serving on Alan's Lay Committee, please see Rev. Meredith or Jimmy Bailes.

Sunday School starts on September 21. Register in the Narthex today!

Sunday School Teachers Meeting today after 10:00 worship in the Large Sunday School Room.

Youth Group Pool Party – All youth in grades 7 – 12 are invited to lunch and to swim at the Heffner's from 12 – 2 on September 14. RSVP ASAP to Revmeredith@cox.net.

During the summer months, we encourage families to worship together and to "come as you are." However, if necessary, crafts will be provided in the parish hall for children during the 10 a.m. service. Although we have arranged for help, parents should confirm there is proper supervision before leaving their children.

2014 Inquirer's and Confirmation Classes The classes are intended for anyone in eighth grade or above, who is interested in learning more about their life in Christ, and desiring to make a decision to join the Episcopal Church. Those who wish to make a new commitment to the Church through Confirmation or Reception will be presented when the Bishop comes for his visit November 16th at 10:00.

Confirmation is for those who have never before made an adult, public affirmation of their faith in Christ. Reception is for those who have previously made an affirmation of faith in another denomination and wish now to do so in the Episcopal Church. Reaffirmation is for those who would like to renew their Confirmation/Reception vows. Classes are open to all and will be held in the Rector's office at 11:15, unless otherwise noted.

- Oct. 5 - *Baptism, Creeds and Confirmation* The Rev. John Weatherly
- Oct. 12 - *The History of the Church* The Rev. John A. Weatherly
- Oct. 19 - *Introduction to the Book of Common Prayer* Michael Foughty
- Oct. 26 - *The Eucharist*. Seminarians Alan Bentrup, José Reyes
- Nov. 2 - *The Book of Common Prayer: Marriage, Reconciliation & Death*
The Rev. Meredith Heffner
- Nov. 9 - *Mission and Ministry: Where Do We Go From Here?*
The Rev. John Weatherly, Seminarian José Reyes
- Nov. 16 - 10:00 The Episcopal Visitation of Bishop David C. Jones,
retired Suffragan Bishop of Virginia

Any questions? Call 703/765-3949.

Nurturing Families Return to St. Mark's September 24th. In cooperation with Fairfax County, St. Mark's has provided an opportunity for families to discover new ways of communicating and surviving today's challenges. We are

sponsoring the Spanish language classes, and delivering a meal seven of the 14 evenings they are meeting through December. The first class is September 24th, and we are looking for cooks and salad makers. We have found that it takes at least six people to make the dinner happen. David Boyd and Kathy Hughes are our Points of Light, and Contact. We will have a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Dinners vary from being prepared at St. Mark's to being a pot luck. Those who help prepare and serve also share in the meal. The nights we are cooking are: September 24th - the "Kick-Off," October 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, November 19th, and December 10th.

Again this year, St. Mark's will piggy back with Nurturing Families, and will spend four Wednesday nights in October, "Facing Life's Toughest Questions". This is an ALPHA-based program of presentation by one of our clergy, followed by discussion. All are invited to share in the meal at 6:30, and then continue to the program, at 7:15. Topics this year will include: "Sin and Evil", "Healing", "Evangelism" and "Is Christian Marriage Still Viable?"

All members of St. Mark's are invited to attend the Eagle Scout Court of Honor recognizing Ben Miles. Please join us Saturday, September 20th at 3pm at St. Marks. Thank you for your support as we built the outdoor sanctuary for my Eagle Project. To RSVP email stephmiles@aol.com. Thank you.

If you can help clean the stove and refrigerator in preparation for the Nurturing Families dinners, please contact Kathy Hughes at 703/765-9481.

We are always looking for those who would like to present their passions that are in keeping with our Adult Forum. Please see Pam Smith if you are interested.

Parishioners who are ill or unable to get out are sometimes not able to prepare meals for themselves. We would like to keep our church freezer stocked with casseroles (especially those that will serve two people) that can be taken to those who need them. Drop off your contribution in the freezer, labeled with the date made, ingredients (to avoid allergic reactions), and cooking directions.

Your Mt. Vernon Area Neighbors Need Food! Please help UCM (<http://www.ucmagency.org>) build food pantry supplies by donating. Donations to the pantry may be left in the basket at the back of the church.

Birthdays

September 8 –Delta Youngquist

September 10 – The Rev. John Weatherly

September 13 – Reginald Thompson, Jonathan Kissler

This Week at St. Mark's

- Today** 8 a.m. HE and Healing, 9:10 a.m. Adult Forum, 10 a.m. HE and Healing, 1 – 3 p.m. Eucaristía - San Marcos (Sanctuary, Patience Hall and Gibson Hall), 3:30 – 5:45 p.m. Amazing Grace Ghanaian Fellowship (Patience Hall), 4 - 8 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Monday 9/8** 7-8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (Patience Hall)
- Tuesday 9/9** 7 – 9 p.m. Pan de Vida Bible study (Sanctuary), 7 p.m. Vestry mtg. (Lg. classroom), 7 – 8:30 p.m. GS Troop 4841 (Patience Hall)
- Wednesday 9/10** 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
- Thursday 9/11** 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Life Line Screening (Patience Hall), 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (Chapel), 10 a.m. Holy Folders (Lg. classroom)
- Friday 9/12** 7 – 9:30 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Saturday 9/13** 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** *Moses*
- September 14** *People of Israel Come Home*
- September 21** *Exploring Truth and Grace: The Trouble with Truth*
(six weeks)

Important Upcoming Dates

- September 21** First day of Sunday School
- September 24** Nurturing Families program begins
- October 5** Reception/Confirmation classes begin

Church contact information:

Address: 6744 S. King's Hwy., Alexandria, VA 22306 ♦ **Phone:** 703-765-3949; fax: 703-765-3981 ♦ **E-mails:** Office: stmarksalex@netzero.net; Rev. John Weatherly: jwethe951@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. Clergy are usually in the office until 4 p.m. The office is closed on Fridays and national holidays.