



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.”**

April 24, 2016

Welcome Newcomers and Visitors

The members, staff, and Vestry of St. Mark’s Episcopal Church welcome you to our services. If you are looking for a church home, or want more information about St. Mark’s, please make use of one of our visitor’s cards and give to our clergy or place in the offertory plate.

Please pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity, especially in the St. Mark’s Parish: Beth Oakes, Richard Sparks, Phil Brown, Shirley Hunter, Clara Bottner, Betty Hughes, Lindsay Drabick, Dick Stockstill, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, Sarah Derringer, Muriel Hughes, Mary, Caroline Bradford, and Candace Fisher. Also for our Extended Family: Donna Mayne, Elizabeth Jenkins, Nancy DeLay, Margo Digan, Phyllis Nezar-Biggs, Daniel Gold, Sylvia Beauchamp, Janet Coco, Kamryn Jesperson, Susan Oldow Patterson, Josephine, Linda, Ashley, Avery, Fr. R. Stephen Powers, Doug Smith, Sr. and Jr., Matt, Bill, Al, Gretchen, Gerry Massey, Shawn West, Martise Williams, Victoria and family, Walter, Keleigh, Father Paul Platt, Rosalie Duncan, Robert, David Biggs, Juliana, Vicki Robb, Janet Davis, Sandy Powell, Shaina Friend, James Kent, Chris Coley, Carol Ostergard, Tom Flick, Sandra Robinson, LaVonne T., the Chatmon and Fullerton families, Julie Stockstill and Charlie Brannon. For all military and civilian personnel and those serving in harm’s way, we lift up Andrew Kley, Colin Maloney, Tim, Emily and family and Walter Smiley. We pray for those of every generation who live with the wounds of war or who have given their lives for this nation.

Announcements

Thanks to everyone who joined us for last week’s **Adult Forum** on St. Mark’s core values and participated in our online survey. We will continue the conversation this Sunday at 9:10 am in Patience Hall.

Mission Trip Update:

Please hold in prayer our Mission Team as they prepare for their eight day trip to Puerto Rico: Chloe Lewis, Katherine Larson, Tyler Chui, Ryan Lear, Afia Margo, Andrea Buenrostro, Emily Marquez, Gaby Pineda, Natalie Pineda, Diego Geisner, Issaiah Geisner, Emma Joes, Fernando Rubio, Andrew Alonzo, Daniel Williams, Amber Wihshi, Grace Heffner, Reuben Geisner, Yuris Guzman, Rev. Meredith and Fr. John.

The cost of the trip is approximately \$31,000. Airfare is \$600 per person, and room and board is \$700 per person. Thus far we have raised \$17,000. Every Missioner helps pay his or her own costs but we still need \$14,000.

Matching Gift Opportunity!

Act now and a generous donor will match what you give, dollar for dollar, up to \$1,000! Your matched gift will help send 21 missionaries to Puerto Rico! Please don't let this opportunity slip away. If you'd rather donate off-line, contact St. Mark's at stmarksalex@netzero.net.

Our fundraising events include:

May 8 th	8:45-10:00 am – Mother's Day Breakfast (free will donation)
May 14 th	Social Saints' Spaghetti Dinner, Talent Show and Raffle
May 29 th	Car Wash

Thank you for your prayers and support

We will celebrate Alan Bentrup's ministry with us May 15th and to thank his support committee. We are looking for members willing to work with our new seminarians next year, The Rev. Cornelia Eaton, from the Diocese of Navajoland and Michaelene Miller, from the Diocese of Arkansas. They are working on their MDiv. and will be with us in September through the school year. Please see the Rector, if interested.

Women of Spirit: We will continue meeting this Wednesday, April 27th, from 6:30-7:30 PM. We will be reading "Mere Christianity" by C. S. Lewis. Please read Book II before our meeting. See you then!

St. Mark's Book Group will meet in the library on Monday, April 25th, at 7:00 pm. Please join us to share a book or just listen in!

The Sunday School needs your empty paper towel and/or toilet paper rolls. Please leave them on the desk outside Meredith's office by Thursday, April 28.

Daughters of the King/Josephine Bakhita Chapter will meet in May 1 and May 15 to discuss the province retreat and upcoming projects. Please join us in the large classroom at 11:15 am. Santa Elizabeth Chapter members are welcome to join us.

Christ Walk at Shrine Mont, May 6-8. This is a 40-day program about spiritual fitness and Christian living: mind, body and spirit. This weekend retreat is led by author Anna Fitch Courie. Come spend three days focused on your health. Please visit www.christwalk40day.blogspot.com for more information.

Shrine Mont Camps: St. Andrew's Camp is a program specifically designed for children with particular social, environmental or behavioral needs. *If you know of a child or family for whom this camp would be an excellent fit, please contact Paris Ball, Director of Shrine Mont Camps.*

Yard Sale - June 4th! Support our mission team by donating used items for our Yard Sale. Donations are welcome now and can be stored in the red shed. The shed will be open during worship and as needed. Call the Church office to make arrangements. Please NO clothing!

Giving Securities to the Church: If you would like to make a gift of stock or equities to the church, please call Ms. Carol Savage or Mrs. Patricia Drabick at 202-842-5608. St. Mark's also has an investment fund with the Diocese. Gifts may be made through the Diocese directly to St. Mark's Endowment Fund, 1-800-DIOCESE. Finally, donations may be made to pay down our mortgage at John Marshall Bank. **Are you 70.5?** You can make a tax free donation from your IRA!

Fruit of the Spirit Community Garden 2016 Season from Candy Thompson: One large plot left for \$40. Please pay April Wilhelm or Candy by May 1 and have worked your plot by then. We are looking for assistance with maintenance of the butterfly and flower garden and with some repairs to the fence and gate. Please let me know if you can help and contact me for garden rules, sanctions and plot map. Please welcome Amanda Denogean and family.

Flower Power Mother's Day Run – Sunday, May 8th, at Fort Hunt Park, 8:00 am. The Fun Runz is hosting a 1K walk/5K run to benefit UCM. You must pre-register for this event at www.funrunz.org. \$30 for 5K and \$25 for 1K. Check-in opens at 7:00 am in picnic area E. Paved course is stroller and pet friendly.

Bryant Early Learning Center takes craft items: egg cartons, shoe boxes, paper, holiday cards, etc. at their office. info@ucmagnecy.org.

Upcoming Birthdays

4/24 – Jillian Gorman, 4/25 Rebeccah Carrier and Angelica Venzen, 4/27 – Jessica Mitchell and Kari Moyer, 4/30 – Michael Kelly

April Anniversaries

4/24 – Nihal and Niranjana Masih, 4/25 – Tom and Dana Gorman

This Week at St. Mark's

Today	8:00 a.m. HE, 9:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal (large classroom), 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum (PH), 10 a.m. HE, 1:00-3:00 p.m. San Marcos (Sanctuary, PH, GH), 4:00-8:00 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
Monday, 4/25	7:00-8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (PH)
Tuesday, 4/26	8:45-10:00 am - workout class (PH), 7-8:30 pm – GS Troop 4841 (PH), 7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida Bible Study (Sanctuary)
Wednesday, 4/27	10:00 am HE, The Fairfax, 7:30-9:30 pm – San Marcos (PH)
Thursday, 4/28	8:45-10:00 am – workout class (PH), 9:30 am – Morning Prayer, 10:00 am – Holy Folders, 5-9:30 pm – Fairfax County Foster Care and Adoption Training (PH and large classroom)
Friday, 4/29	7:00-9:30 pm – Pan de Vida
Saturday, 4/30	6:00-9:30 pm – Pan de Vida (Sanctuary), 7-9:00 pm – San Marcos Bible Study (large classroom)

Adult Forum

Today	Examining our Core Values, Rob Bluey and Clergy
May 1	Christ, Community, Culture (Rogation Sunday)
May 8	Mother's Day Breakfast