



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.”**

August 14, 2016

"Is not my word like fire", says the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?" Is it not fire that descends upon the heads of the apostles and of all the believers gathered in the upper room? Yes fire - can mean many things - it can do many things.

Those afflicted with forest fires this summer like my brother in Montana know this. Homes are destroyed, and this should be prevented if at all possible; labor should be expended to preserve that which can be preserved through our care. But without fire the lodgepole pine in his back yard does not reproduce; without fire the undergrowth chokes out new seedlings; without fire the forest is not renewed. Fire can mean many things, it can do many things, and fire cannot be ignored. "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is completed!" "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!" It is not about judgment. It is not about wrath as much as it is about mercy. It is about God dividing the day from the night, light from darkness - so that we may all see. It is about love overcoming hatred, life overcoming death, so that we might be united forever with all that lives. It is about laughter instead of sorrow, about wholeness instead of division. Jesus defines a very positive reason for destroying "the world" by fire. He describes forces that actually are healing. He describes forces that, while leading to division amongst some people, will actually be uniting for the many.

It was the theologian Teilhard de Chardin, who wrote: "Someday, after we have mastered the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity we shall harness the energies of love. Then for the second time in the history of the world man will have discovered fire." The Rector

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, Betty Hughes, Lindsay Drabick, Dick Stockstill, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, Sarah Derringer, Muriel Hughes, Mary, Caroline Bradford, Jeannette Parris and Cheryl L.

Also for our Extended Family: Elizabeth Jenkins, Bill, Gretchen, Martise Williams, LaVonne T., Joan Chatmon, the Fullerton family, Julie Stockstill, Karen Mendonca, family and friends of Rosalie Duncan, Corinne Dumont, Susan, Scott Taylor, Isaiah Long, Kimberly Earle, the Magruder family, Emmett S., Cordelia S. Warren S., Shirley and Marva Alums, Abdulazeen W., Liz S., Phyllis Nezat-Biggs, Sylvia and Rev. E. Valverde, John R. and D. Crumel. For all military and civilian personnel and those serving in harm's way, we lift up Andrew Kley, Colin Maloney, Patrick Bates, 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.

** Names are kept on the prayer list for four weeks unless requested otherwise. If you would like to add or remove someone, please call the Church office Tuesday-Thursday between 9:00 and 3:00. Thank you. **

Announcements

TODAY please welcome The Rev. Bill Beers, who will be preaching on behalf of the poor and the ministry of **Food for the Poor,** an interdenominational ministry providing food and other needed supplies to the poor in the Caribbean and Latin America. A former hospital chaplain and university instructor, Bill is eager to share his experience.

Seven Month Budget Summary for St. Mark's Episcopal Church

<u>Income</u>	July Actual	YTD Actual	Budget YTD
Pledge and Plate	\$25,199	\$162,349	\$162,631
Building use	1,643	12,000	14,559
<u>Other</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>2,497</u>	<u>8,611</u>
Total	\$26,854	\$176,846	\$185,801

Expenses

Staff	\$19,705	\$129,368	\$136,976
Bldg Expenses	3,931	32,632	31,850
Education, Worship	137	1,694	2,890
Outreach	2,500	12,700	12,488
Other	138	8,512	7,736
Total	\$26,891	\$184,906	\$191,940
Difference	(\$37.42)	(\$8,060)	(\$6,139)

Sunday School Teacher needed! We need one more teacher for the upcoming program year! Can be first or second semester. Join this fabulous group of people as they teach God's word to our children. Contact Ashley Bryda, ashpearson@aol.com or Rev. Meredith, revmeredith@cox.net.

Cherubs Music Program starts in the fall with Jan and Larry Moyer as the teachers. It is a music program for children in K or first grade so if you have a rising K or first grader and would be interested in enrolling him/her in Cherubs Music, please contact Ashley Bryda at 571-435-0676 or ashpearson@aol.com.

Next book discussion of *BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME* will be Tuesday August 9, at Pohick Church. Not necessary to read the book!

The back parking lot will be used on August 17 for storage of five modular housing containers to be removed one by one on August 18. The builder is making a generous donation to St. Mark's in return.

Confirmation and reception classes begin in October for those in seventh grade and above. Bishop Gulick joins us on December 4th.

Homecoming lunch is September 11th. A-L bring salad; M-Z bring dessert.

Walk, run or bike on Tuesday mornings with Tia Murchie-Beyma at Huntley Meadows Park across from the Shops at Telegraph. Meet in the parking lot at 8:30 am, exercise and meet after at Grounded Coffee.

Nurturing Families returns September 21st with a cook-out. We will need help October 5 and 19, November 2, 16 and 30 and December 14.

Save the Date: October 16, 3:30-5:30 pm, VOICE Rally at Oakton High School, Vienna. Call to Action: schools, housing, safety, community. Together we can do much!

Upcoming Birthdays

8/14 – Doug Varner, 8/16 – Pamela Smith, 8/21 – Stacie Jones, 8/22 – Mathilda Williams, 8/23 – Charlie Cagle and Rob Bluey, 8/26 – David Geiss, 8/27 – Kim Fairchild, 8/28 – Susan Poe, Jeff Pierce and Samuel Slobodin, 8/29 - Beverly Weatherly

Upcoming Anniversaries

8/28 – Pat and Mahlon Drabick, 8/29 – Michael and Jeanette Parris

This Week at St. Mark's

Today	8:00 a.m. HE, 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum (PH), 10 a.m. HE, 1:00-4:30 p.m. San Marcos (Sanctuary, PH, GH), 4:00-9:00 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary, dinner in PH)
Monday, 8/15	7:00-8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (PH)
Tuesday, 8/16	8:45-10:00 am - workout class, if raining (PH), 7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida Bible Study (Sanctuary)
Wednesday, 8/17	10:00 am HE, The Fairfax, 7:00-9:30 pm – River Farm Cooperative School meeting (PH)
Thursday, 8/18	8:45-10:00 am – workout class, if raining (PH), 9:30 am – Morning Prayer, 10:00 am – Holy Folders, 7:00-9:00 pm – Girl Scout Troop 4841 meeting (PH), 7:30-9:30 pm – San Marcos (large classroom)
Friday, 8/19	7:00-9:30 pm – Pan de Vida (S)
Saturday, 8/20	10:00 am-noon – Daughters of the King (large classroom), 6:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S, PH), 7:00-9:00 pm – San Marcos Bible Study (large classroom)

Adult Forum

Today	The Rev. William R. Beers, Food for the Poor
August Forums	The Propers of the Day
September 18	Meet The Rev. Cornelia Eaton, Seminarian
September 25	Meet Ms. Michaelene Miller, Seminarian