



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.”**

February 7, 2016

Important Upcoming Dates

TODAY – Vestry Retreat, Roslyn

**February 9 – 5:30-7:00 pm - Shrove
Tuesday dinner/fundraiser for Mission
Trip**

**February 10 – 7:30 am and 7:30 pm
Ash Wednesday Services; 7:30 pm service
with San Marcos**

**February 17 – 6:15 pm Dinner, 7:15 pm
Program**

**February 24 – St. Mark’s Lenten
Program, All Saints**

**March 2 – Lenten Dinner and Program,
Church of the Spirit, Kingstown**

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.

Your pledge to the work and ministry of the church is desperately needed. Pledge cards may be found in the back of the church and will be received whenever you are able to

prayerfully consider your commitment.

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, Shirley Hunter, Clara Bottner, Betty Hughes, Lindsay Drabick, Dick Stockstill, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, Sarah Derringer, Muriel Hughes, Mary and Caroline Bradford. Also for our Extended Family: Donna Mayne, Elizabeth Jenkins, Nancy DeLay, Margo Digan, Phyllis Nezart-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, J.W. White, Vicki Robb, Janet Davis, Sandy Powell, Shaina Friend and James Kent.

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

Announcements

Daughters of the King will meet following the 10:00 am service **TODAY** in the large classroom. We will also meet on Saturdays from 10:00 am to noon through February 13 in the large classroom.

Join us Tuesday as we celebrate Mardi Gras with our annual pancake supper! We will have live music and plenty of food! All proceeds benefit the mission trip. Donations only. Live music with Jan Varner and her band!

Youth Retreat: We will leave for Wintergreen on Friday, February 19th for a weekend of skating, tubing and working at the Nelson County SPCA! We will return on the 21st. If you can come, email Rev. Meredith ASA at revmeredith@cox.net.

Pledge Drive to Date: 68 pledging units for \$215,000, plus \$10,000 toward the mortgage. Please help with your pledge! To help Tellers, please write pledge envelope numbers of your checks for at least the next month.

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. Our policy at St. Mark's is to sell or liquidate any stock as soon as possible following the donation so that the gift may be recorded to the donor. St. Mark's also has an investment account with the Diocese as our Endowment, and 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.

Fruit of the Spirit Community Garden 2016 Season from Candy Thompson: Happy New Year Gardeners! I hope all of you are surviving the current frigid temperatures. One good thing in my mind is that this extended cold will help kill the weeds and their seeds and remind all the plants that it really is winter. I want to provide a quick update on the garden: We have about \$270 carried over from last year. We plan to

use this for repairs on the fence, purchasing straw, etc. We did a good job last year on minimizing water use from the church. We also experienced flooding again in June and thanks to the Wilhelms, managed to pump out the garden fairly quickly. As we start to think about spring and plan our gardens, we would like to hear from you about your intentions for your community plot at Saint Marks. We would like to know if you want to change plots? I have heard from one gardener who would like a small plot accessible from all sides. Also, some gardeners may have only used a portion of their plot last year and we would like to move them to smaller plots. Shannon moved out of the area so she won't be back. If needed, we will advertise for new gardeners using the local neighborhood newsletters. I am excited for this gardening season! And look forward to hearing from you on your intentions for 2016 gardening at St. Mark's.

This Sunday is SOUPER SUNDAY: Remember to bring soups of all kinds to fill OUR SOUP POT, benefitting UCM Food Pantry.

UCM Food Bank is in urgent need of one or two pound bags of rice. Other food needs, too, but smaller bags of rice are the priority. **UCM Cynthia Hull Food Pantry** is in urgent need of volunteers who can help manage the Food Pantry. One or two weekly shifts are available to help with this critical need: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9:00 am. to 12:00 noon and Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 1:00 pm. to 5:30 pm.

The Food Pantry distributes food to an average of 600 families per week (which includes clients who are unemployed and/or homeless). All volunteers will be fully trained and we will need two volunteers who will be the Team Captain and Assistant Team Captain (or similar name/function) who could train new volunteers from the church, and who will ensure that a minimum of 5 volunteers are at the Food Pantry on the day/shift that the church elects. We also need 3 adult volunteers who could deliver food to 10 seniors who are home-bounded. The volunteers are needed on Wednesdays afternoons, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., the food that they will be delivering will already be bagged and ready for the volunteers, and the all the deliveries will be within a radius of 20 driving miles. The idea is for two people to deliver the food with the third person alternating weekly.

Free Tax Filings at Sherwood Hall Library, no appointment necessary; just walk in. See info on bulletin board in Hallway.

Virginia Primary is March 1. Fairfax County is in need of 1,000 Election officers. \$175. A long day but great satisfaction. See details on bulletin board and be sure to vote!

February Birthdays

2/7 – Tracy Tienken, 2/9 – Kristina Campbell, 2/13 – Kathryn Weatherly and Emily Davis, 2/15 – Meredith Heffner, 2/20 – Sarah Hardy, 2/25 – Hannah Luxner and Dick Stockstill, 2/26 – Bonnie Wilkins

February Anniversaries

2/13 – Barbara and Carl Foster

This Week at St. Mark's

- Today** 8:00 a.m. HE and Healing, 9:00 a.m. Choir rehearsal (large classroom), 9:15 a.m. Adult Forum (PH), 10 a.m. HE and Healing, 11:15 am Daughters of the King (large classroom), 1:00-3:00 p.m. San Marcos (Sanctuary, PH, GH), 4:00-8:00 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Monday, 2/8** 7:00-8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (PH)
- Tuesday, 2/9** 8:45-10:00 am - workout class (PH), 5-8:30 pm – Foster Care Parent Training (large classroom), 5:30-7:00 pm – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and fundraiser for Mission Trip, 7-8:30 pm – GS Troop 4841 (PH), 7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida Bible Study (Sanctuary)
- Wednesday, 2/10** 7:30 am – Ash Wednesday service, 10:00 am HE and Healing, The Fairfax, 7:30 pm Ash Wednesday service with San Marcos
- Thursday, 2/11** 8:45-10:00 am – workout class (PH), 9:30 am – Morning Prayer, 10:00 am – Holy Folders
- Friday, 2/12** 7:00-9:30 pm – Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Saturday, 2/13** 10:00- noon- Daughters of the King (large classroom), 6:00-9:30 pm – Pan de Vida (Sanctuary), 7:00-9:00 pm – San Marcos Bible Study (large classroom)

Adult Forum

- Today** Join Chaplain Michael Pumphrey as he shares his experience of a spiritual renewal
- February 14** Review of Vestry Retreat