



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.”**

January 24, 2016

Important Upcoming Dates

**TODAY – Annual Meeting following
10:00 am service and reception follows
meeting.**

February 6 and 7 – Vestry Retreat, Roslyn

**February 9 – 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**

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 and Mary.

Also for our Extended Family: Donna Mayne, Elizabeth Jenkins, Nancy DeLay, Margo Digan, Phyllis Nezart-Biggs, Daniel Gold, Sylvia Beauchamp, Janet Coco, Kamryn Jespersion, 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 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.

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.

Mission Trip: **Today** is the final day to sign up. See Rev. Meredith.

Youth Group Activity Today: 11:30-1:00. See Rev. Meredith.

Pledge Drive to Date: 70 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.

St. Mark's Book Group will meet Monday, 1/25 at 7:00 pm in the library. Please join us and share a favorite.

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.

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 idea will be for your church to recruit retired, adult volunteers to form a "Food Pantry Missionary Action Team" which can be at the Food Pantry once a week to help with the management and distribution of food to clients. The Food Pantry distributes food to an average of 600 families per week (which also includes clients who are unemployed and/or homeless).

If your church elects to help us, we will need to know what afternoon, morning or entire day (it will be great if they could select the entire day but half a day if fine as well) they will be at UCM.

Initially, 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. Additionally, the Food Pantry is closed on major holidays.

The churches that commit to help manage the Food Pantry on a given afternoon will also have the added benefit that any student who needs community service hours for school, communion, etc., will be encouraged to volunteer on the same afternoon his/her church is at the Food Pantry. This way we will have different generations volunteering together.

Finally, we are also in urgent need of 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.

Life Line Screening: January 30 in Patience Hall. St. Mark's is pleased to host an affordable preventive health event.. It is non-invasive and painless. There are five screenings that scan for potential health problems related to blocked

arteries, abdominal aortic aneurysms, hardening of the arteries, atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat and a bone density screening. All five screenings take 60-90 minutes and cost \$149. To register for this event and receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.

Birthdays

1/26 – Tom Gorman, 1/28 – Mari Gibson

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, 1/25	7:00-8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (PH)
Tuesday, 1/26	8:45-10:00 am - workout class (PH), 7:00-8:30 pm – GS Troop 4841 (PH), 7:00-9:00 p.m. Pan de Vida Bible Study (large classroom)
Wednesday, 1/27	10:00 am HE, The Fairfax, noon-3:30 pm – GS Troop 1914 (PH)
Thursday, 1/28	8:45-10:00 am – workout class (PH), 9:30 am – Morning Prayer, 10:00 am – Holy Folders
Friday, 1/29	7:00-9:30 pm – Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
Saturday, 1/30	Diocesan Council, Reston, 6:00-9:30 pm – Pan de Vida (Sanctuary), 7:00-9:00 pm – San Marcos Bible Study (large classroom)

Adult Forum

Today	Review of Council and Annual Meeting
January 31	Preparation for Vestry Retreat
February 7	Open Forum
February 14	Review of Vestry Retreat