



## 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.”**

**May 15, 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 Geoffrey Anderson. 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, Doug, Victoria and family, Walter, Father Paul Platt, Rosalie Duncan, Robert, Smith, Sr. and Jr., Matt, Bill, Al, Gretchen, Gerry Massey, Shawn West, Martise Williams 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, Charlie Brannon, DonnaLee Strawbridge, Sue Austin and Karen Mendonca. 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.

### **From the Associate Rector**

Questions of the Christian Faith: “What is Pentecost Sunday?”

Pentecost is a prominent feast in the calendar of Ancient Israel celebrating the giving of the Law on Sinai, and also later in the Christian liturgical year commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit after the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus. The feast is also called Whit Sunday, Whitsun, or Whit,

especially in the United Kingdom, where the following Monday was traditionally a holiday. Pentecost is celebrated seven weeks (50 days) after Easter Sunday, hence its name. Pentecost falls on the tenth day after Ascension Thursday.

Today, Pentecost Sunday is a commemoration and celebration of the receiving of the Holy Spirit by the early church. After Jesus' ascension to heaven, the disciples returned to Jerusalem and joined together in prayer in an upper room. On the Day of Pentecost, the sound of a violent wind filled the house and tongues of fire came to rest on each of them and all were filled with the Holy Spirit. This was the beginning of the church as we know it.

The celebration of Pentecost is a reminder that we are co-heirs with Christ, that the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good (1 Corinthians 12:7); that we are all baptized by one Spirit into one body (1 Corinthians 12:13); and that the Spirit which raised Jesus from the dead lives inside believers (Romans 8:9-11). This gift of the Holy Spirit is promised for all who come to believe and is an intimate part of Baptism.

### **Announcements**

**Today we are celebrating Alan Bentrup's** ministry with us. Please join us after the 10:00 service to send him and his family off and to thank his support committee for their dedication.

#### **Mission Trip Update:**

#### **Matching Gift Update:**

***Good news! We have matched our \$2,000 Matching Gift Offer! Also, our Mother's Day Breakfast was a great success with over \$4500 raised. Thanks to all of you for helping us meet our goal. Only \$8,000 to go. We hope to see you at the next fundraiser – the Italian Dinner and Talent Show - on May 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30.***

Our fundraising events include:

May 21st            Social Saints' Italian Dinner, Talent Show and Raffle (Note Date Change)

May 29<sup>th</sup>            Car Wash

June 4<sup>th</sup>             Yard Sale

Thank you for your prayers and support.

**Girl Scout Troop 4841** is hosting an **Open House** on May 17 from 7:00-8:30 pm. Teen girls currently in grades 8-11 and their parents are invited for a campfire and snacks to learn more about Teen Girl Scouting. Open to non-Girl Scouts and current Girl Scouts. Meet us at the fire circle! For more information, contact Linda Larson at [lalarson77@yahoo.com](mailto:lalarson77@yahoo.com) or 703-887-8509. For safety reasons, we ask that a parent or troop leader stay during the event with their girl(s).

**Talent Needed!!** This coming Saturday night, we invite you to strut your stuff, sing your song, play your ukulele! Please let Meredith or John know and we will make a time for you!

**Seminarians:** 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, May 18th, from 6:30-7:30 PM. We will be reading “Mere Christianity” by C. S. Lewis. Please read Book IV, Chapters 1-6, before our meeting. See you then!

**Daughters of the King**/Josephine Bakhita Chapter will meet today 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.

**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!

**Tea Party with Church of the Spirit** ladies plan a spring tea on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, at 9:30 am and invite all women in the congregation. There will be a guest speaker who will be speaking on prayer. Please bring your own tea cup and saucer if you can and a dessert, tea sandwiches or special tea would be appreciated. Please RSVP to Rev. Meredith by 5/15.

### **Upcoming Birthdays**

5/18 – Grace Hardy, 5/20 – Sylvia Williams, 5/21 – Mike Foughty, 5/24 – Nana Marfo, 5/25 – Fatina Williams, 5/26 – Pat Hoppe, 5/28 – Susan Byers, 5/29 – Elizabeth Biddle

## **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, 11:15 Celebration of Alan Bentrup's Ministry (PH), 1:00-3:00 p.m. San Marcos (Sanctuary, PH, GH), 4:00-6:00 p.m. Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)
- Monday, 5/16** 7:00-8:30 p.m. BSA Troop #4077 (PH)
- Tuesday, 5/17** 8:45-10:00 am - workout class (PH), 7-8:30 pm – GS Troop 4841 (fire circle), 7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida Bible Study (Sanctuary)
- Wednesday, 5/18** 10:00 am HE, The Fairfax, 6:30-7:30 pm – Women of Spirit (large classroom), 7:30-9:30 pm – San Marcos (PH)
- Thursday, 5/19** 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) , 7:30-9:30 pm – San Marcos (large classroom)
- Friday, 5/20** 7:00-9:30 pm – Pan de Vida
- Saturday, 5/21** 5:30-8:00 pm – St. Mark's Italian Dinner and Talent Show (PH), 6:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida (Sanctuary)

### **Adult Forum**

- Today Pentecost – The Work of the Church in the World
- May 22 St. Mark's in the Park
- May 29 Memorial Day
- June 5 Ramadan begins, Introduction by Rev. Weatherly