



## ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**“Opening the doors of Christ’s love:  
offering Good News in the midst of a confusing world.”**

**June 18, 2017**

**Invite, Welcome and Connect**

It’s been another great year for St. Mark’s Mission Team as we’ve prepared for our journey to be with the Dine’ (Navajo) People. Through the hard work of the team and those supporting them, I believe we have, as of today, raised the funds necessary to make the trip! This hasn’t been easy. We’re deeply grateful for the support and prayers that we have received. We pray not only for a safe journey, but that we will be able to share our story when we return so that others may know the blessings we experience.

When we consider the opportunity for ministry, one of the most profound references is in the Old Testament story about David (Samuel, 1:16). The passage describes the selection of David as God’s anointed. The key verse that defines how God sees each of us comes from Verse 7: "But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance...for the Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." There are many things about David that are disturbing. The reader could sincerely ask why God chose such a person. But Samuel was led by God to anoint David as king of Israel because David loved the Lord and would serve the people in God’s name. David’s heart was good, even though his actions often were not. Eventually, it was his heart that redeemed his actions.

Giving our lives in service to others goes against the grain of self-preservation or human survival. To move beyond oneself means to become vulnerable to what others may think about you, or how they may act towards you. God asks us to seek a new relationship through the example of love, friendship and faith first given to us. We are blessed when we have known the heart of another. It can often overcome the things that we do in anger or stupidity. God’s love comes through those relationships. I have seen His love moving through the lives of each member of this mission team.

I want to thank Yuris Guzman, who has so ably picked up the tasks and responsibilities of leadership after The Rev. Meredith Heffner’s departure in January. I also thank the adults who are coming; Russell Bradley, Bill Baker, Reuben Geisner, Linda Larson, and Michaelene Miller. Please keep us in your prayers in the coming weeks, and may we greet one another in peace, July 2nd!

The Rev. John A. Weatherly

## **Intercessions, Thanksgiving, Prayer Requests**

Please pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity, especially in the St. Mark's Parish: Clara Bottner, Beth Oakes, Donna Anderson, Nell Brill, Richard Sparks, Phil Brown, Betty Hughes, Lindsay Drabick, Dick Stockstill, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, Sarah Derringer, Muriel Hughes, Mary, Caroline Bradford, Don Lopez, Jeanette Parris, Kimberly Earle, Carol Farley, Mary Jane Stockstill and Kevannah Campbell.

Also for our extended family: Phyllis Nezar-Biggs, Rod Pearson, Sr., Richard Stockstill, Betty Bradley, Sandra Robinson, Col. Wil Scudder, Elmore, Mike Greenham, Kwan Dae Suk, Jean Blair, Ed Duffy and John Savage.

Please pray for those who have died, especially The Rev. David Laaksa, Matt Shutt, and Mari Gibson Merz, our Parish Administrator.

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

## **Announcements**

**In memory of Mari:** If you would like to donate to Mari Gibson's memory to one of the cat rescue groups, donations may be sent to: 4 Paws Rescue Team, Inc., P.O. Box 2908, Merrifield, VA 22116. Online donations may be made using credit card or Paypal by going to: <http://www.fourpaws.org>.

**The Rev. Donna Foughty** has now been appointed our Interim Associate Rector through the summer. Please welcome her new duties, including organizing our weekend in Shrine Mont!

**Shrine Mont 2017:** Suddenly summer is upon us and so it is time to plan for St. Mark's weekend at Shrine Mont. So, while the area around here will be hot and sticky we can all take a couple of days in the much cooler mountains and I can assure you the cost will be reasonable. We will be doing an intergenerational program (though with some time for just parents and just the kids). It will also involve art projects to engage everyone as we did last year. Thank you and I am looking forward to seeing you at Shrine Mont!

Blessings,

The Rev. Donna Foughty (Mother Donna)

**Special thanks to our incomparable Sunday school teachers for an incredible year!**

Your dedication and talents have been a true blessing to our children: Melissa Bluey, Ashley Bryda, Jackie Cerio, Rodney Fisher, Barbara Foster, Shelley Luxner, Jan Mover and Ann Sparks.

**We offer our 2017 Mission Team many blessings and our heartfelt support on their upcoming trip to Navajo Land in Arizona:**

Kate Larson, Andrew Alonzo, Noah Caliah, Andrea Buenrostro, Natalie Pineda, Emma Jones, Sofia Campos, Molly Hamrin, Emily Martinez, Vanessa Juarez, Justin Baker, Fernando Rubio, Ryan Lear, Issaiah Geisner, Diego Geisner, John Weatherly, Bill Baker, Russell Bradley, Michaelene Miller, Linda Larson, Reuben Geisner, Yuris Guzman and Afia Marfo.

**Outreach:** Please check board in Narthex to see the many upcoming opportunities available. As St. Mark's parishioners, we can participate in, and positively engage, our community as we reach out!

**St. Mark's Summer Music Program for Children starts June 18<sup>th</sup>.** This summer your Vestry has hired a trained children's music person to teach choral singing to our children. Practice will be held during the first part of the 10:00 am worship, about 40 minutes. Then the children will join their parents for Eucharist at the Peace. Please see Pamela Hamrin or Donna Anderson for further information. This will be for any child who shows up on any particular Sunday and does not require weekly attendance.

**Vacation Bible School:**

Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love  
St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Vacation Bible School  
July 31- August 4  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Register in the Narthex today

**E-giving** –Getting started with online giving is easy. Visit [stmarksalex.org](http://stmarksalex.org) and click the "Donate Now" link to create an account and make your donation.

**Please wear your name tag!** If you do not have a name tag or need a replacement, please let us know.

**Upcoming Birthdays**

6/18—Anastasia McIntyre

6/23—Maureen Ison, Irene Parris

6/24—Tifanni Hargrave

## **Upcoming Anniversaries**

6/20—Janet & Kingsley Davis      6/22—Donna & Mike Foughty

6/24—Wally and Terry Tienken

## **This Week at St. Mark's**

Today	8:00 am – HE, 8:45-10:00 am –HE, 1:00-4:00 pm – San Marcos (S, PH, GH), 4:00-6:00 pm Pan de Vida (S)
Monday, 6/19	7-8:30 p.m. BS Troop 4077 (PH)
Tuesday, 6/20	7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida Bible Study (Sanctuary),
Wednesday, 6/21	10:30 a.m. HE and Healing, The Fairfax, 12:30 p.m. 7:00-9:00 p.m. – San Marcos (PH)
Thursday, 6/22	9:30 am – Morning Prayer 10:00 am – Holy Folders
Friday, 6/23	7:00-9:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S)
Saturday, 6/24	7:00 - 9:00 pm – Pan de Vida (S, PH)

## **Adult Forums**

Today	Debunking the Rapture
June 25	Faith and Policymaking in Congress

## **Upcoming Important Dates**

<b>June 18</b>	<b>Dedication of Mission Team at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. First session of children's music program</b>
<b>June 23 – July 1</b>	<b>Mission trip to St. Michael's, N.M.</b>
<b>July 31 – August 1</b>	<b>Vacation Bible School</b>