



The Open Door

The Newsletter of St. Mark's Episcopal Church

January-April 2015

Volume 28 Issue 1

From the Rector

A controversy has broken out in the Corinthian church over some serious issues. There is a faction that loudly proclaims that no Christian should ever eat meat sacrificed to an idol. Another faction proclaims, meat is meat, and we are not worshipping as we eat it. So what is the big deal? Every time they called a congregational meeting in the Corinthian church, tired old subjects would come up. The conservatives would accuse the liberals, the liberals would snap back at the conservatives.. charges and counter-charges would be raised. Nobody would ever win the argument, and, after the meeting, both sides would gather separately in the parking lot afterward and say, "Ain't it awful?" No one was listening to the other. A metropolitan seaport, Corinth was intellectually alert, materially prosperous, culturally varied and religiously diverse. It was a place where individualism was greatly valued and fiercely defended. Power, possessions and pride were valuable to these Corinthians.

Paul's letters to them are very personal. Paul had stayed in Corinth for approximately eighteen months (a long time for him to be in any one place). But when he left, new preachers arrived who disagreed with what Paul had taught. Some drew more attention to themselves than they did to the reason why they had gathered together in the first place. Finally, someone suggests they write to Paul about the divisions in the church, moral issues, legal questions, ecclesiastical roles, worship practices, even theology. What the Apostle sends back, in reply, is the first letter to the Corinthians. Paul knows that these are serious, but precious, issues. And Paul's response is one of the better pieces of advice, in or outside of the Bible: "Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up."

*For although there may be so called gods in heaven or on earth, as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords", yet for us there is **one God**, the Father, **from whom** are all things, and **for whom** we exist, and **one Lord, Jesus Christ**, through whom are all things, and through whom we exist..*

St. Mark's is not Corinth, thanks be to God. But our challenges do often define us. It is our response to them that determine who we are, and how faithful we have been to our Call. In our annual meeting we will celebrate some of the incredible things that this parish has accomplished in the past year. I pray that you may join us in Thanksgiving, and in celebration, this coming Sunday Jan. 25th, at 10:00, Jan. 25th.

Yours,
The Rev. John A. Weatherly, Rector

From the Associate Rector

It's time for us to begin gearing up for our youth mission trip to Charleston, SC!

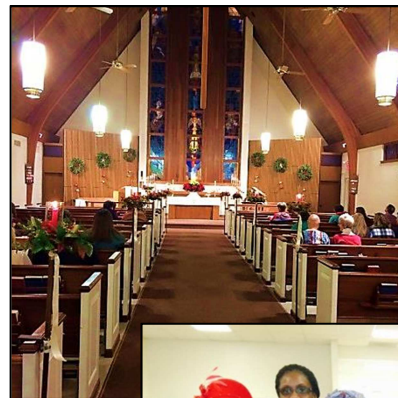
We begin with our first fundraiser on February 17th, the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Talent Show. Not only does this benefit our youth, it is a great time of fun and fellowship before the season of Lent.

Although it is too early to know exactly what we will be doing in Charleston, previous missionaries have worked with a local hospice, food bank, boys home, sports camp and participated in various light construction projects. No matter what the work, this offers our youth the chance to see Christ in those we will minister to and with. We hope you will support them.

Dinner is served from 5:00-7:00 pm. The talent show will begin at 7:00 pm.

See you there!

Rev. Meredith



Christmas 2014 at St. Mark's

Worship and Fellowship Calendar

January

- 25 8 a.m. HE
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Annual Meeting & HE
- 26 7:30 p.m. St. Mark's Book Group
- 28 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
- 29 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders

February

- 1 8 & 10 a.m. HE with Healing
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. New Vestry Member Orientation
- 4 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
12:30 p.m. HE at The Pentagon
- 5 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders
- 6-8 Vestry Retreat at Roslyn
- 8 8 & 10 a.m. HE
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. DOK Lenten Study
- 11 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
- 12 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders
- 13 Youth Group Ski Trip (through 2/15)
- 15 **World Mission Sunday**
8 a.m. HE
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. HE & Installation of Vestry & Officers
11:15 a.m. DOK Lenten Study
- 16 **Presidents' Day Holiday**
Church Office Closed
- 17 **Shrove Tuesday**
5 p.m. Pancake Supper
7 p.m. Talent Show
- 18 Ash Wednesday
7:30 a.m. Ash Wednesday Liturgy/HE
10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Liturgy/HE
- 19 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders
- 22 **Episcopal Relief and Development Sunday**
8 & 10 a.m. HE
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. DOK Lenten Study (at St. Mark's)



- 25 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
6:30 p.m. Dinner & Lenten program (St. Mark's)
- 26 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders

March

- 1 8 & 10 a.m. HE with Healing
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School
- 4 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
12:30 p.m. HE at The Pentagon
6:30 p.m. Dinner & Lenten program (location TBD)
- 5 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders
- 8 **Daylight Savings Time Begins**
8 & 10 a.m. HE
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. DOK Lenten Study
- 11 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
6:30 p.m. Dinner & Lenten program (location TBD)
- 12 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders
- 15 8 & 10 a.m. HE
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. DOK Lenten Study
11:15 a.m. Vestry mtg.
11:15 a.m. Seminarian Support Committee
- 18 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
6:30 p.m. Dinner & Lenten program (location TBD)
- 19 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders
- 22 8 & 10 a.m. HE
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. DOK Lenten Study
- 25 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
- 26 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders
- 29 **Palm Sunday**
8 & 10 a.m. HE
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School

April

- 1 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
12:30 p.m. HE at The Pentagon
- 2 **Maundy Thursday**
9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders
6 p.m. Agape Dinner
7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service with Footwashing
- 3 **Good Friday**
12 p.m. Noon Watch with Stations of the Cross
6 p.m. Stations of the Cross (in Spanish)
- 5 **Easter Sunday**
8 & 10 a.m. Festal Eucharist with music
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
- 6 *Parish Office Closed*
- 8 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
- 9 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders
- 12 8 & 10 a.m. HE
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. DOK Lenten Study
- 14 7:30 p.m. Vestry mtg.
- 15 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
- 16 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders
- 19 8 & 10 a.m. HE
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. DOK Lenten Study
- 22 10 a.m. HE at The Fairfax
- 23 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Folders
- 26 8 & 10 a.m. HE
9 a.m. Choir rehearsal
9:10 a.m. Adult Forum
10 a.m. Sunday School



January-April Birthdays

January 1 Jacqueline Cerio
 January 1 Nana Marfo
 January 2 Jeanne Shafer
 January 3 Paul Patterson
 January 3 Ann Sparks
 January 6 Albie Gallardy
 January 6 Sheryl Sims
 January 6 Linda Larson
 January 9 Madison Donaldson
 January 9 Jacob Miller
 January 11 Amber Wihshi
 January 13 Gregory Brunson
 January 13 William Miles
 January 15 Wally Tienken
 January 16 Linda Berg
 January 17 Mahlon Drabick
 January 20 Steven Hughes
 January 20 Ethan Luxner
 January 25 Janice Sheppard-Stringfellow
 January 26 Tom Gorman
 January 31 Jennifer Spans
 January 31 Nina Dominic
 February 2 Candace Fisher
 February 3 Tad Jones
 February 7 Tracy Tienken
 February 9 Kristina Campbell
 February 13 Sherlock Grigsby
 February 13 Kathryn Weatherly
 February 13 Emily Davis
 February 14 Ebenezer Darko

February 15 Meredith Heffner
 February 18 Heidi Hainsey
 February 20 Sarah Hardy
 February 21 Sergio Escalier
 February 21 Miles Connelly
 February 24 Carl Foster
 February 24 Ashley Bryda
 February 25 Dick Stockstill
 February 25 Hannah Luxner
 February 26 Bonnie Brown Wilkins
 March 2 Shelley Luxner
 March 2 Maxwell McIntyre
 March 2 Christopher Williams
 March 5 Kosi Dominic
 March 6 James Bailes
 March 6 Eric Bryda
 March 7 Pete Farley
 March 8 Elizabeth Addie
 March 10 Cheryl Lewis
 March 10 Leah Slobodin
 March 11 John Youngquist
 March 12 Pat Drabick
 March 13 Elizabeth Boyd
 March 14 John Dell
 March 14 Wyatt Patterson
 March 23 Kevannah Campbell
 March 25 Fred Landon
 March 27 Margaret Duczakowski
 March 30 Earl Winsor
 March 31 Patricia Straley
 March 31 Quincy Dominic

March 31 John Miles
 April 1 Stephanie Miles
 April 1 Tanner Beck
 April 2 Tãm Slobodin
 April 4 Eulie Campbell
 April 4 David Powers
 April 4 Joy Haggard
 April 5 Christopher Foster
 April 13 Madeline Murchie-Beyma
 April 14 Benjamin Bluey
 April 17 Eric Murchie-Beyma
 April 18 Al Dominic
 April 19 Jean-Luc Maigrot
 April 22 Michael Parris
 April 22 Rosemary Kley
 April 23 Ricaute Chui
 April 23 John Miles
 April 24 Jillian Gorman
 April 25 Rebecca Carrier
 April 25 Angelica Venzen
 April 27 Juliana Spans

January-April Anniversaries

February 13 Barbara & Carl Foster
 March 9 Dawni & Jeff Kissler
 April 8 Karen Ashworth & David Powers
 April 12 John & Bev Weatherly
 April 21 Susan Byers & Len Slobodin
 April 21 Jennifer & Mark Spans
 April 25 Dana & Tom Gorman

In Our Prayers

Please pray for those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity, especially:

In the St. Mark's Parish: Shirley Hunter, Clara Bottner, Beth Oakes, Betty Hughes, Lindsay Drabick, Dick Stockstill, Earl Hughes, Nell Brill, Richard Sparks, Juliana, Albie, Lou, Janet, Judy, and Geoffrey.

Our Extended Family: Donna Mayne, Elizabeth Jenkins, Nancy DeLay, Margo Digan, Phyllis Nezart-Biggs, Daniel Gold, Pat McDonald, Sylvia Beauchamp, Janet Coco, Keith Derringer, Rich Line, Kamryn Jespersion, George Daebelar, Danny Butler, David Geeslin, Jan, Catheline, Mike, Carolyn, Tess, and Mal.

Fund Balances

as of December 31, 2014

	<i>Ending Balance 2013</i>	<i>Ending Balance 2014</i>
Loaves & Fishes	\$4,825.62	\$4,466.28
Episcopal Relief & Dev.	\$960.30	\$0
United Thank Offering	\$1,040.00	\$0
Flowers	\$3,340.71	\$4,059.31
Nursery	\$1,046.29	\$646.29
Education	\$4,961.18	\$4,961.18
Memorial Funds	\$5,921.66	\$5,971.66
Virginia Episcopalian	\$216.00	\$0
Mortgage Principal Fund	\$5,950.00	\$0
Diocesan Investment Fund (Knitters' Outreach)	\$38,457.33	\$38,457.33

Treasurer's Report

as of December 31, 2014

Income	Actual	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance
Offering	\$32,161.50	\$22,212.00	\$263,882.42
Other	\$542.96	\$3,542.00	\$74,205.04
Total	\$32,704.46	\$25,754.00	\$338,087.46
Expense			
Staff	\$18,744.58	\$18,255.00	\$216,898.69
Office/Admin Bldg. Ops. & Mortgage	\$97.48	\$738.00	\$10,560.05
Worship	\$6,325.74	\$4,338.00	\$63,212.00
Education	\$504.08	\$201.00	\$2,393.33
Meet/Lay Dev.	\$553.00	\$182.00	\$1,346.60
Parish Life	\$215.00	\$75.00	\$1,442.16
Outreach	\$115.07	\$274.00	\$2,287.68
Evangelism	\$1,500.00	\$1,700.00	\$22,000.00
Other	\$433.62	\$62.00	\$864.01
Total	\$263.80	\$424.00	\$3,135.60
Total	\$28,752.37	\$26,249.00	\$320,140.12
Net Income	\$3,952.09	-\$495.00	\$17,947.34

Important Information

Contact us

Phone: 703-765-3949

Fax: 703-765-3981

E-mail: stmarksalex@netzero.net

Website: www.stmarksalex.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmarksalex

Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

The office is closed on Fridays and national holidays.

Clergy and Staff

Rector The Rev. John A. Weatherly

Associate Rector The Rev. Meredith T. Heffner

Priest Associate The Rev. Donna Foughty

Seminarian Alan Bentrup

Music Director Tatiana Andronikova

Parish Administrator Emily Cole

Accountant Mike Morgan

Sexton Francisco Robles

2014 Vestry

Jimmy Bailes (Sr. Warden), Russell Bradley, (Jr. Warden), Eric Bryda (Treasurer) (Ex Officio), Michael Foughty (Clerk), Donna Anderson, Karen Ashworth, David Boyd, Elizabeth Boyd, Ashley Bryda, Kristina Campbell, Nihal Masih, Pam Smith, Doug Varner

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
6744 S. Kings Highway
Alexandria, VA 22306-1318

Forwarding and address service requested

Sunday Services

8 a.m. - Holy Eucharist without music. A healing service is part of the liturgy on the first Sunday of the month.

10 a.m. - Holy Eucharist with music and hymns sung with the choir. A healing service is part of the liturgy on the first Sunday of the month.

Christian Education

9:15 a.m. Sunday - Adult Forum

10 a.m. Sunday - Children's Sunday School for ages 4 through High School (from September through May).

A nursery is provided on Sundays during the 8 and 10 a.m. services for children ages 3 and under.

Weekday Service

There is a Morning Prayer service on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel.