

News and Service Opportunities - Please Take Note:

Please join us in the responsibility to safeguard God's children by making sure no child is unaccompanied while in the building. **Our Nursery** is staffed from 10:15am—noon. **Children's Worship** is offered during our service. Best for children ages 4-11ish. We leave after the Gospel and return at the Peace. **"Soft-spots" for families with young children** offer toddler friendly seating in the church. We love having children in church.

COVID UPDATE: Masks are optional. We ask that you socially distance and remain mindful of other's health. **This Sunday we offer communion in both kinds at the rail**

Office is closed December 22—January 2. We reopen Tuesday, January 3.

St. Mark's Young Adults meets Sundays at 7pm, Gelati Celesti, 5808 Grove Avenue. Questions? Contact Ryn Kennedy.

Christmas Eve Services: Family Service with Pageant 4pm, Christmas Service at 11pm with Choral prelude beginning at 10:30pm. Christmas Day at 10:30am.

Christmas flower & decoration donations! Use the form in the church or on-line to contribute toward our Christmas decorations. Please donate by December 18 TODAY.

Pledge update! The Stewardship Team is grateful to report that our pledge campaign goal is within reach. To date, you have pledged \$320,000, which is over 90% of our goal of \$355,000. Full participation by returning donors, and by a group of new donors, could put us over the top! Each of your gifts, regardless of amount, is an affirmation of our shared life in community.

Community Reads is on pause! We will resume on January 24 with our second book *Invisible Child, Poverty, Survival & Hope in an American City* by Andrea Elliott. Led by Karen Franklin & Malinda Collier with members of St. Peter's Episcopal Church. More info on the website.

Share Your Hymn Requests! Be sure to add your favorites to the Hymn Request Clipboard on the Piano!

Please excuse our peeling paint! The St. Mark's Property Team is beginning the process of testing the surfaces under the new roof for dryness. After years of water seepage, the damage was significant. Until we are sure surfaces are dry it makes no sense to replaster and paint. We appreciate your patience and your support.



Outreach:

Food Pantry service continues on 2nd and 4th Saturdays! We distribute bags, lunches, and fresh fruit to those who come. If you have donations or questions about the pantry, contact our Food Pantry Coordinator, Karen Franklin, forpop247@gmail.com. **The Food Pantry needs baggers—people to prepare bags for distribution on 2nd & 4th Saturdays. A great family activity! Contact Karen Franklin to help. Please shop for the Food Pantry—lists are on-line and in the church entry.**

CARITAS meal ministry - check the Outreach page of the website for details. We prepare and deliver food to their residential sites. When we get 2023 dates we'll post them. **If you would like to help with meals contact Ed Street or Suzanne Long.**

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S:

December 18 — December 24

SUNDAY(18) 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II
 12:00 PM Worship Meeting
 2:00 PM Sacred Ground

TUES(20) 6:00 PM Vestry Meeting

WED(21) NOON Curmudgeons @ Arianna's
 7:00 PM Buck's Bible Study

THURS(22) OFFICE CLOSED

SAT(24) 9:00 AM Food Pantry
 4:00 PM Family Service/Pageant
 10:30 PM Christmas Eve Service

Morning Prayer Monday—Friday at 8am via Zoom

Compline Sunday—Thursday 8pm via Zoom

NEXT WEEK AT ST. MARK'S:

December 25 — December 31

SUNDAY(25) 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II

The Office will be closed December 27th to the 29th

Morning Prayer Monday—Friday at 8am via Zoom

Compline Sunday—Thursday 8pm via Zoom

Serving this Sunday, December 18

Celebrant: The Rev. Charles "Buck" Aiken

Deacon: The Rev. Judy Davis

Preacher: The Rev. Judy Davis

Verger: Penny Adams

First Reading: Phoebe Davis

Second Reading: Karen Hardison

Intercessor: Ryn Kennedy **Chalicer:** Amy Strite

Acolytes: Carter Strite, Amy Strite

Ushers: Dan Hartman, Ivy Burnes, Sandy Steele, Miles Tucker

Greeters: Dan Hartman & Phoebe Davis

Children's Worship: Malinda Collier & Bill Crowder

Nursery: Meredith Franklin

Altar Guild: Liz Smith, Gayle Johnston,
Amy Strite, Carter Strite

Coffee Hour Sponsors:
Karen Franklin, Beth Wentworth
Ivy Burnes & Sandy Steele

Altar Flowers:
Advent Greenery

Serving Next Sunday, December 25

Celebrant: The Rev. Judy Davis

Preacher: The Rev. Sarah Kye Price

Verger: Paul Shane

Chalicer: Paul Shane

Ushers: Phoebe Davis, Steve Clark, Mary Clark

Greeters: Malinda Collier

Altar Guild: Mary Clark, Peter Walker,
Ellen Landers, Dustin Landers

Altar Flowers:
Advent Greenery

*If you plan to be present at this service
and would like to serve please contact Sanford Eberly*