

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE LION'S TALE

VOLUME 2019, ISSUE 1 JANUARY/APRIL 2019



St Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

God is With Us

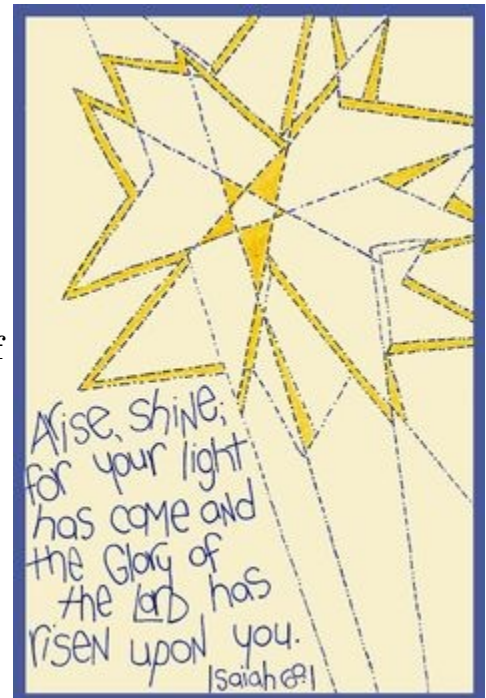
Some celebrations of the Christmas season go way back to the early Church in the fourth century. By the end of the fourth century when Christianity not only became legal, but also when it became the official religion of the Roman Empire the whole Church, East and West, celebrated God's coming into the world in Christ, Christmas, and Epiphany, the appearing or revelation of Christ to the Gentiles, the non-Jews - for all people.

So much of the Christmas story sounds so Jewish: a Jewish baby is born to Jewish woman in a Jewish family in a Jewish city in fulfillment of Jewish prophecies. He receives a Jewish name on the day of his Jewish circumcision and is raised by an observant Jewish family. They go to synagogue in Nazareth and the Temple in Jerusalem. In the story of the Magi, the pagan Magi seek to worship him. Jesus came to become Savior not just of the Jews but of all people. Epiphany celebrates that God loves all people. He wants everyone to know his love— no exclusions because of race, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, rich or poor, young or old. Don't we need to hear that message in a world so divided along ethnic and religious and many other boundaries?

Epiphany celebrates that no one is excluded from the love of God in Christ. God appears for all people. God appears in our humanity. The feast of the Epiphany emerged in the fourth century in the Eastern Church, probably in Egypt which was a center of Christian development. The Eastern Church used the gospel of the Baptism of the Lord for the Epiphany. In that gospel, God appears at the event at the Jordan: the voice of the Father proclaims Jesus as his beloved Son, who has the Spirit descending upon him as a dove. This gospel shows us the Incarnation, the Word made flesh, God become human.

We meet God in the human Christ and in the humanness of our lives. Our God is here - among us, within us, through us and in us. Jesus shared with us everything human, from birth to death, from the manger to the cross, and we still meet him in the same humanity. In joy and sorrow, in failure and success, in stress and in peace, in life and in death, God is there for us. God appears in our humanity to transform our lives.

continued next page



GOD IS WITH US CONTINUED

In the Western Church we also associated the story of the miracle at Cana with the Epiphany. That miracle represents all the miracles of Christ in which "God appears" to transform - water becomes wine, the cripples become whole, the dead rise. Don't we experience the same transforming power of Jesus today? He renews our hope, empowers us to face challenges, gives us hope against death itself. The miracle of Cana becomes a challenge for the Church today. We become the way Jesus transforms lives and reveals himself. We are the "appearing" of God in the world in our lives, in our goodness, in our words and deeds. May 2019 be a blessed year of being transformed by the love of God into his people of peace and accepting our call as Jesus's followers to share the Gospel through our lives.

*Faithfully,
David*



SHARED MINISTRY: FINANCE



Operations Update as of November 2018

November Budgeted Income:
\$375,600 Actual (pledges \$222,556)
\$330,570 Budgeted (budgeted pledges \$243,500)

Our operations budget continues to be managed such that we have not had to go into the principal of our investment account.

Average Sunday Attendance: 2018 - 117.19

2019 Pledge Campaign update: 92 pledge units, total \$289,857! Well on way to a goal of 98 pledges. We are happy to report that a significant number of parishioners have raised their pledges, and we have new pledges.

Our monetary goal-to be achieved over a period of years-is to end the annual draw on the investment account to balance the budget. To leap forward and achieve this goal in the present campaign would require \$335,000 in pledged income.

Your Stewardship Team

SHARED MINISTRY: ANNUAL MEETING AND VESTRY

Vestry Nominations 2019

Mike Gephart, Dolores Ramiza, and Sam Shute are our “graduating” Vestry class. As such they serve as the nominating committee. Please let any one of them know if you have questions, suggestions, or feel called to this service. We will elect three new Vestry members during the Annual Meeting, January 27.

By canon, Vestry members must be at least 16 years old, active members of the community, confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church, and in good standing. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

The Responsibilities of the Vestry:

Leadership through envisioning, engaging, empowering, energizing and exemplifying.

Management through planning, (budgeting, allocating resources, setting objectives), organizing (policies and procedures), staffing (hiring, coaching performance, evaluation, compensation), controlling (monitoring results, corrective action, re-planning). *The Vestry Resource Guide*, Episcopal Church Foundation pp. 7-10

All vestry members should strive to the best of their abilities to:

- have a love of God and demonstrate a commitment to following the way of Christ;
- be active in and knowledgeable about the congregation, its programs and governance;
- be fair, interact well with people and strive to earn the respect of all the members of the congregation;
- purposefully strive to “check one’s ego at the door” in order to work for the benefit of the whole congregation
- have enthusiasm and vitality for this ministry;
- commit time to vestry meetings, committee work; vestry retreat, regular worship; congregational events, annual meeting;
- pledge financial support;
- offer talents to support the congregation’s ministry;
- pray for the leaders and members of the congregation.

The Vestry meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6pm.

The 2019 Vestry Retreat is February 8 & 9 at the Roslyn Retreat Center

SHARED MINISTRY: VESTRY

Vestry Candidates

Ivy Burnes

My father is a Baptist minister and my childhood was defined by being a preachers' kid. My parents became foreign missionaries when I was 9, and we moved overseas. I was raised and attended grade school in Jerusalem, Israel, followed by high school in Athens, Greece. I then went to a Baptist college in Rome, GA just north of Atlanta and majored in Business Administration.

I drifted away from church as an adult until Sandy and I were married in April 2015. We both knew we needed to find a spiritual home. Sandy was raised as an Episcopalian, and I felt I could not return to the Baptist church, so we began attending St. Marks in May of 2015 and were welcomed with open arms.

We knew we had found our new church home. I like many things about St Marks, but one of the most important is that at St Marks, not everyone is at the same place on their spiritual journey, and that we can be different, and that's alright.

I have become gradually more involved at St Marks, serving on altar guild, as an usher, and on a coffee hour team. Helping with seasonal events like Christmas boxes and Caritas has also been rewarding. I feel committed to St Marks and very much at home with this church family. I want to continue supporting St Marks as I grow as a Christian and progress along my spiritual journey.



Sanford Eberly

Moving to the Fan in the early 1980's a dear friend invited me to St. Mark's. From the start, the beauty of the worship, the fine architecture, the power of the liturgy, the magnificent music, the warmth of the fellowship touched me and lead me to eventually make St. Mark's my church home.

Over the last almost thirty years my first involvements have grown from singing in the choir to three terms on the vestry, including times as junior warden and register. Other opportunities included Chair of the Property committee during the last painting and refurbishing of the nave and the beginnings of the \$300,000 Capital Campaign. Organizing the yearly picnic and helping with outreach projects such as Caritas created wonderful moments of service and fellowship. Most recently, serving behind the scenes as Altar Guild Co-Chair and Chair of Worship has brought me great joy.



Living with my partner McKenna in Woodland Heights just south of the river, having taught elementary school music in Henrico County for 38 years, travel and gardening, all these round

SHARED MINISTRY: VESTRY CANDIDATES

out my life.

St. Mark's continues to amaze and bless. So many saints serve here, where true acts of charity abound. While we come from many walks of life, political and social avenues of diverse thought, once we enter through the doors, we become one in the Spirit. This small parish faithfully strives to embrace and reflect in our lives the teachings of Christ our Savior. Love truly is our tradition. These are important times and following much prayer and thought I feel called to offer my service on the vestry to the parish.

Tamara Orr

I grew up in southeastern Ohio in a rural farming community dotted with cornfields and covered bridges and where horses, cows and pigs outnumbered people. There was one Methodist church in our village, and this is where I was baptized, confirmed and attended until leaving for college. My grandmother and uncle were Methodist church organists and singing hymns during family gatherings is a fond memory. I converted to the Episcopal faith in 1984, was married at St. Albans, Bexley Ohio and my three sons were christened and confirmed there. I moved to Richmond in 1997 and



after a long search for a church, entered St. Mark's sanctuary and intuitively knew this was home. I confirmed the covenant on January 13, 2002 and have been active in various ministries over the last 16 years including bible study, mission trips to rebuild New Orleans, Habitat for Humanity, Caritas, feeding the homeless, women's group, food pantry and church choir.

I would not necessarily say that I feel called to vestry service. I was asked to serve, and because I love the community of St. Marks, I am willing to say yes, trusting the call will become clearer as it unfolds. My experience has been affirming and I ardently believe in our mission. I can offer an open heart and a willingness to be receptive to the thoughts and feelings of the congregants. I will strive to bring my time and talents, intentionally sharing who I am now and who I am called to be within our caring community. I am willing to surrender to this process and to do the work that is necessary to continue to keep our mission of love alive and moving forward.



Vestry members serve a three-year team. Each member also serves on at least one ministry team of the congregation and reports on activities and needs of the teams to the full Vestry. Vestry meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6pm, and during its annual retreat in early February.

SENT MINISTRY: OUTREACH

Care Bags for ACTS Lent 2019

ACTS is an organization St. Mark's supports and partners with to help Richmond's working poor avoid homelessness. ACTS staff offers budget counseling and financial assistance to those who through no fault of their own have run into financial difficulty and without ACTS help may face eviction or loss of basic utilities.



We all know that personal care and home care products are not cheap—but do you know that most of these items, things as basic as toilet paper and tooth paste that we take for granted **are not covered by SNAP benefits!** So it can be a choice between food and a tooth brush, medicine and soap. ACTS has “Care Bags” for their clients.

During Lent let's fill some bags with the basics of personal and household care products and help those in our neighborhoods who are striving to maintain housing, employment, and dignity.

Bags and lists will be available March 10, both in the church and on-line.

CARITAS Opportunities!

In late 2018, we began participating in a new initiative, CARITAS Eats. We prepare meals and deliver them to CARITAS facilities in Southside. CARITAS now has facilities in Southside for housing, training, and other programs. This year we delivered bagged lunches 6 times. In October, we delivered our first dinner, with special thanks to Zaxby's who donated much of the food. The dinner was a big success. We received many thanks from CARITAS administrators and guests. Our goal is to deliver at least one lunch or dinner a month in 2019. Dates and sign-ups are on-line, stmarksrva.org - go to Community then Outreach.

Bagged Lunches - January 18, delivered to The Healing Place by 4pm

Hot Lunch - March 8 & May 31, served at The Healing Place, 11am-1pm

Dinner - February 13 & April 3, served at CARITAS Works 4:30-6:30pm

To learn more contact Suzanne Long, suzanne_long@hotmail.com



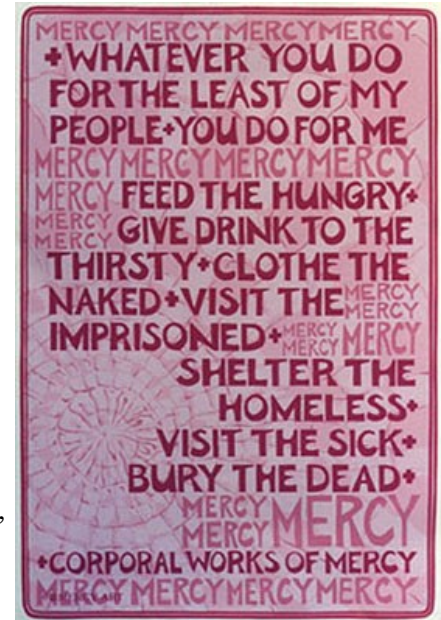
SENT MINISTRY: OUTREACH

Outreach Hospitality Ministry: Food Pantry & Soup Kitchen: How you can help

Pack bags before each distribution on the
2nd and 4th Saturdays, and
Serve on 2nd & 4th Saturday mornings, 9-10:30am

Donate food for the bags: Tuna, Vienna sausages, canned chicken or Spam, Hearty soups, stews, or chili, Pork and beans, Canned ravioli or spaghetti O's, Mac & cheese mix, Fruit or applesauce cups, Vegetables, Granola bars, Pop tarts, Single serving instant oatmeal or grits, Peanut butter, Packaged crackers, Single serving water or juice, Pudding cups, Cookies.

Pastries, donuts, and muffins are also welcome



Reminder...the Food Pantry Ministry can provide hospitality only through your generosity. Please remember to pick up some easy open proteins, canned pasta, veggies, nutrition bars, fruits, soups or hearty stews.

Toiletry Items for Food Pantry: As you travel and stay in hotels/motels, please pick up the small toiletry items offered to you. Our Food Pantry Guests who are grateful to receive them.

Soup Kitchen is both 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 9:00—10:30am

Come and help serve and share fellowship with our Food Pantry guests. Donations of fresh fruit (especially oranges and bananas) are welcome. Contact Karen Franklin, forpop247@gmail.com

Wednesday Night 12 Step Group Hosts:

Provide a St. Mark's presence in the building during this important support ministry to those in recovery. Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9:00pm. Sign-up on-line or on paper in the basement hallway.

**To share in this ministry of presence and giving please contact Ed Street,
ed.streetva@gmail.com. Thank you!**

SENT MINISTRY: JUSTICE & ADVOCACY TEAM



*But let justice roll on like a river,
and righteousness like a never-failing stream “” Amos 5:24*

Justice and Advocacy Ministry Team Invitation

St. Mark's has a history of engaging in the work of justice. We are seeking to continue that mission today with a newly focused Justice and Advocacy Ministry Team. If you would like to be in conversation around what this ministry team might look like, please join Malinda Collier and others for a time of reflection and planning. This team will both support the current work of individuals in our community, and serve as a filter of sorts for new initiatives – i.e. where are we called to work and with whom?

This team will meet initially with Outreach but our hope is that during this year is will “fledge” to be its own ministry team. Its function is to both support the work of individuals in the parish already active in various justice ministries and organization as well as serve as a filter for new requests. Its members will also serve as a sounding board and information source for those wishing to get involved in advocacy but perhaps unsure of how to begin.

**To learn more about this team and to join, contact Malinda,
dre@stmarksrva.org**

SHARED MINISTRY: BUILDING REPAIRS 2019

Caring for This Beautiful Place

Some people have expressed concern about peeling plaster and paint. While the structure has been well maintained over its almost one hundred years on the boulevard as a sign and symbol of God's presence among us, there is a need to address necessary repairs in order for the building to be here for generations to come – as it is for us.

A plan is in place to address these issues. In order to address the interior repairs we must first address the exterior of the building. We have replaced the protective coverings on the front left and right windows and on the large windows of the nave and narthex. Much of the replacement cost for the large windows was covered by our insurance because of storm(s) damage.

The next phase of the work is also underway. We have received insight and estimates from roofing specialists who understand the construction of historic buildings. We know that there are problems with the sheeting under the slate. After 95 years some of it has deteriorated. Options are being explored for this major repair. The outside brick walls will need to be sealed since water is able to seep through the porous bricks and cause interior problems. Additionally, the gutters need to be replaced. We have agreed with the advice of our Property Team co-chair, Brent Graves, to maintain the services of an experienced project manager to oversee this work.

The interior work is needed because it has been a number of years since the painting and plaster repair was done on the interior. And because of the roof issues, water seepage under the slate on the roof and between the slats that hold the slate in place is occurring and causing problems with the plaster. With the roof fixed and the walls sealed we will be able to move forward with the interior work of plastering and painting without concern that these issues will recur. We will also address lighting and sound issues in this process. Our Property Team and Interiors Team have selected a consulting company whose services will be contracted for guidance on the lighting and sound issues.

The Property Team, Finance Team, Vestry, and Rector know the importance of this project. We have explored options for financing this work and have decided that we will borrow the money from the Diocesan Missionary Society, DMS, which is the diocesan bank. Commercial banks were also explored as a source of funding but the interest rate with DMS was lower. We are also working to increase the income from our parking lot which will be a means of helping to repay the loan. More about this later. As I also said to you in mid- December one of the areas the DMS looks at in considering our loan is our trends in pledge income. If you haven't already pledged for 2019 please do so. We will be completing the paperwork soon. If you believe in our mission at St. Mark's please show your support in a pledge whether it is small or large. We are grateful to all who support St. Mark's in this and so many ways.

Not only is the building a place of solace and still, a place of gathering to worship, but also a place out of which so much ministry is joyfully done in the name of Jesus. Thanks be to God for those before us as well as us who have so carefully maintained this beautiful place of ministry. Please be patient as we work out details with contractors who have fallen behind in many of their jobs already scheduled due to the wet conditions of 2018. You will be kept apprised as we move ahead in the next few months.

Sincere thanks for your love and continued support of St. Mark's.

The Rev. David Niemeyer, Rector

GATHERED MINISTRY: FELLOWSHIP

Come On Now—Everyone Wants to have Fun!

Where better than at St. Mark's with friends new and old

Lunch Bunch
Meets Second Sundays after the
10:30 service



Contact Phoebe Davis,
pdavis@ahmdirect.com or
Karen Franklin, forpop247@gmail.com to
join the Bunch

**Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper**
Tuesday, March 5



6-7pm

PARISH FEAST OF EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 6, 2019 • 6pm



LAST LETTER OF LAST
NAME ENDS IN
A - L
BRING APPETIZERS



LAST LETTER OF LAST
NAME ENDS IN
M - Z
BRING DESSERTS



ALL LETTERS MAY
BRING A BEVERAGE
TO SHARE WITH
THE TABLE

ENTREES AND SIDES PROVIDED BY ST. MARK'S

GATHERED MINISTRY: LENTEN SERIES, HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Lenten Series 2019: The Book of Job



The Book of Job is described in the NRSV Study Bible as not explaining the mystery of suffering nor “justifying the ways of God,” with human beings, but as probing the depths of faith in the midst of suffering. Join in this three week study as we ask and ponder the possible answers for the question, “Does Job fear God for nothing?”

Dates are: March 26, April 2 & 9

6pm Evening Prayer

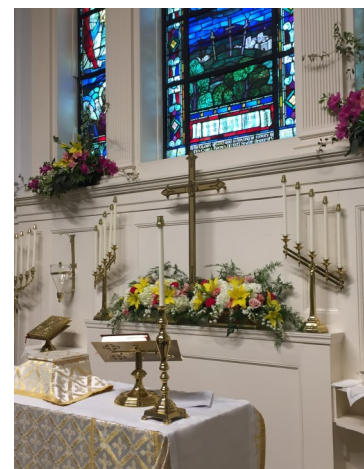
6:30 Supper

7:00 Program led by Malinda Collier

Easter Sunday is April 21

Holy Week services begin with
Palm Sunday on April 14 at 8 and 10:30am
and continue

Wednesday (Tenebrae) and Maundy Thursday at 6:30pm,
Good Friday at Noon and 6:30pm, and Saturday with the
Great Vigil, at 7:30pm.



GATHERED MINISTRY:

Organ Repairs!

Recently the organ underwent some relatively minor repairs. We had to fix some leaking leather pouches. A bit of background:

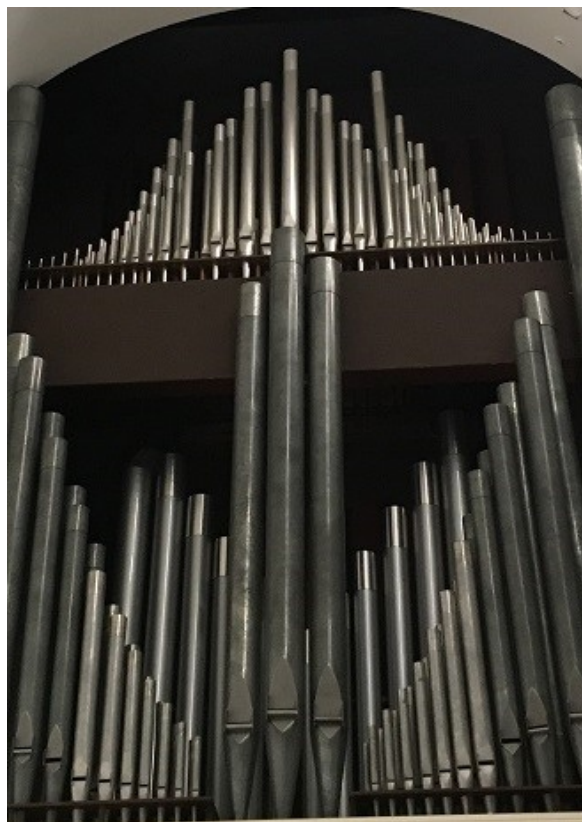
In the 17th and 18th Centuries organs were constructed so that the pipes sat in racks on wind chests and these pipes “spoke” directly into the room. In the 19th Century French builders began enclosing the largest secondary division (the Swell division) of the organ in a large wooden chamber whose front “wall” was comprised of a series of vertical wooden slats, each one 8 to 10 inches wide, which, when open allowed the sound of the pipes to travel into the room relatively unimpeded. When closed, these slats formed a solid “wall” and thereby muffled somewhat the sound of the pipes. The shades could be opened or closed by the organist by means of a pedal or “shoe” at the console. This feature is still used today by organ builders, and allows for gradual and controlled “crescendos” and “decrescendos” in the sound. It also allows for the sounds in the enclosed division to be balanced with sounds in the other divisions.

In our instrument there are two enclosed divisions, and each of the shades in each division was controlled by a leather pouch which opened or closed the shade. Over the years these pouches had dried out, cracked, and begun to leak, markedly reducing the response of the shade to any change in the position of the pedal at the console. The malfunctioning pouches were replaced by a single rod (one for each division) which operates all the shades in series on that particular box by one computerized motor. After some initial difficulties with getting the computers and motors sufficiently and effectively grounded, the mechanisms are operating perfectly.

If you are curious about this aspect of the organ, stop by the console any Sunday morning for a brief demonstration.

All the best for a Blessed New Year,

David Wheeler



GATHERED MINISTRY: EDUCATION AND FORMATION



Coffee & Conversation

Sunday Mornings
9:30am in the Library

Join us for a discussion of the Sunday readings – how they apply to life when written—and today. It will enrich your worship experience and deepen your understanding of the Bible.

LECTIO: GUIDED BIBLE READING

Lectio Study Group—On-line Bible Study

As Christians, we are called to read and learn about our faith so that our life together as a community, our ministries, and our spirituality can grow stronger. Here we integrate how God is present in the daily experiences of our lives and the dynamic relationship we have with God. The study of Scripture offers us such an opportunity. If you have an interest, a small group has begun using an online Bible Study called *Lectio*. They gather on first Fridays at 8am, Carytown Panera with Fr. David for coffee or breakfast to discuss the material. If you have an interest in this method of study please contact Fr. David at rector@stmarksrva.org to join the group.

The study materials are available on-line through Seattle Pacific University
<http://blog.spu.edu/lectio/>.

BUCK'S BIBLE BONANZA

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 7:00 - 8:00 PM
THE LIBRARY

A study of the books of the bible.
Open to everyone.
Currently reading Isaiah

WEDNESDAY AM BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAYS AT 10:00AM

Meetings held in the Library.
Currently reading
New Testament parallels with an
emphasis on the teachings of Jesus

GATHERED MINISTRY: EDUCATION AND FORMATION

Small Group & Retreat Opportunities *On Being*, and March Ministry Retreat

On Being is a Peabody Award-winning public radio conversation and podcast. *On Being* opens up the animating questions at the center of human life: What does it mean to be human, and how do we want to live? *On Being* explore these questions in their richness and complexity in 21st-century lives and endeavors.

On Being takes up the big questions of meaning with scientists and theologians, artists and teachers — some you know and others you'll love to meet. *On Being* airs on 92.5 at 7am on Sunday mornings and is available through their website or podcasts.

O
B E I N G

On Being group meets the third Friday of the month, 12:15pm - 1:00pm. We discuss two *On Being* conversations each month.

March 30 Ministry Retreat at Roslyn Center 9:30am—1:30pm (includes lunch)

*We Make the Road by Walking by Brian McLaren and
Let Your Life Speak by Parker Palmer*

The title of both books suggests that Christian faith is still “in the making. It continues to grow, evolve, learn, change, emerge, and mature ... in and through us. What we will be as Christians in the 21st century, for better or worse, will surely change what Christian faith will be in the 22nd century and beyond.



The books offers scripture study and opportunity for reflection on the call on our lives. Join us for this relaxed morning of study and quiet, worship and fellowship, and most importantly “me” time to hear and listen for the spirit moving in your life. We begin with worship in the chapel. We’ll do a couple of guided meditations/reflections of the work of the two authors, and have time to sit by the fire or walk the grounds. We close with a lunch provided by the Roslyn Center.

**For more information on these two group offerings contact Malinda,
dre@stmarksrva.org**

GATHERED MINISTRY: EDUCATION AND FORMATION

Children's Worship Continues on Sundays at 10:30am

Please invite friends to join us in our Godly Play story, songs and prayers. The children are honored in the processional and then join together downstairs to hear and tell the lessons of the season and the day.

During the winter and spring we will hear the words of Jesus as he begins to teach and preach, and walk with him to Jerusalem.

Children's Worship is best suited for children ages 4-11, but we welcome younger children with a parent to be with them and older youth to serve as readers and helpers. Children return at the Peace to share the Eucharist with their family.



Families with Young Children Foyer Group

Our Family Foyer Group gathers for seasonal fun and outings. Contact Charlie Boisky for more information, charlie.boisky@capitalone.com



Teen Learning Class begins Sunday, February 3

Best for ages 12 and up this class meets for about an hour and a half after church on the first Sunday of the month. We learn about our faith story, why the church does things the way it does, and what it means to be Episcopalian. Contact Malinda, dre@stmarksrva.org for more information.



Youth Groups

Junior (grades 3-5)

and Senior (grade 6 and up) meet quarterly for fellowship and service

Our youth are involved in all aspects of ministry. Regular youth group meetings include learning and fun, special activities include CARITAS service, local mission, and other outreach projects. Summer mission work is in July.

St. Mark's needs additional children & youth leaders, if you are interested in knowing more about this ministry speak with Malinda Collier, or Father David.



St Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

love is our tradition

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

520 N. Boulevard
Richmond, VA 23220
Office: 804-358-4771

Dates to Remember:

Annual Meeting: January 27

Ash Wednesday: March 6

Lenten Series: March 26, April 2 & 9

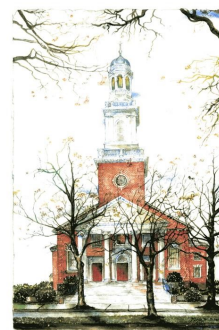
Ministry Retreat: March 30

Palm Sunday: April 14

Holy Week Services: April 16-20

Easter Sunday: April 21

2nd & 4th Saturdays: Food Pantry



Sunday Worship Times: 8:00 & 10:30 am

www.stmarksrva.org—check it out, check it often!

ST. MARK'S STAFF

The Rev. J. David Niemeyer, Rector rector@stmarksrva.org or therev.jdavidniemeyer@gmail.com

The Rev. Charles D. (Buck) Aiken, Jr., Associate Rector buckman356@comcast.net

Malinda Collier, Director of Lay Ministry dre@stmarksrva.org

David L. Wheeler, Organist & Choirmaster wheeler.david10@gmail.com

Steve Barnes, Church Administrator office@stmarksrva.org

Karen Franklin, Feeding Ministry Coordinator, forpop247@gmail.com

Meredith Franklin, Nursery

Noah Cozart, Sexton

Pastoral Emergency: 804-690-6807

ST. MARK'S VESTRY

Senior Warden:

Mike Gephart

Junior Warden:

Mickie Jones

Suzanne Long, Treasurer

Karen Franklin, Register

Patrick McDuff

Nancy Munson

Denis Riva

Dolores Ramiza

Sam Shute

Amy Strite

Paul Williams

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE MAY-AUGUST
ISSUE OF *THE LION'S TALE* IS FRIDAY,
APRIL 12**