



ST. MARK'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PARISH LIFE HANDBOOK

2 0 1 7 - 2 0 1 8



www.STMARKS-SA.org

From the Rector - Come and See

"When Jesus turned and saw the two disciples following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi, (which translated means Teacher), where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.'" - John 1:38-39

When I think about the vision and mission of our community, it seems to me our ability to live out our core vocation requires that we both see the opportunities before us and that we act upon them. When Jesus calls us to follow and seek that which we are looking for, we can only find that in the enactment of community. We cannot sit back and wonder what we are looking for, often we discover it along the way.

St. Mark's understands this invitation inherently. Our community offerings throughout the year are opportunities to be fed and to invite others to come and see, so that we are nourished to go out into our daily lives and ministries. We know that our call to **Feed San Antonio with the Bread of Life** is a way in which we witness to this city and beyond.

Last year we started a two-year stewardship theme of ***Living God's Vision***. The thought was that through the intentional discernment work of our community over the past two years, we were moving into a more active time of engagement. Hopes and dreams were becoming a reality and we were starting to see the fruits of that work in this community.

To amplify that theme this year, we are adding a phrase from Hebrews, which reminds us that ***The Word of God is Living and Active***. This theme will frame many of our offerings in the coming year, from stewardship to formation offerings, from parish life to outreach. We will be building on the success of last year's Lenten offering, once again inviting those in our city to enjoy Music (and lunch) in the Park during Lent. We will worship and go out together in a Day of Prayer and Service.

There are many Adult Formation opportunities coming up in the new program year. Whether you are looking for a Sunday morning class, EfM, or a weekday bible study, there are choices for you. I am excited to begin offering a Lectionary-based Bible Study Wednesday mornings at 7.00am in September. My former boss always said if you study the scriptures before Sunday, the sermons always sound better!

Our Outreach Grant Committee is providing us with a new opportunity to partner with Communities in Schools, San Antonio. In addition to a three-year grant, we will be intentionally serving at Crockett Elementary School, just a few miles from our beloved parish.

Our music offerings continue to be a blessing to the city and beyond. This next year will feature several highlights that include hosting the first Alamo Baroque Festival, a Jazz Mass in conjunction with Jazz'SALive festival, and the Association of Anglican Musicians.

We added some wonderful community building events last year, many of which will continue, including Dinners for Eight and a wonderful, intergenerational Pentecost Picnic in Travis Park. Our children and youth ministries have exciting plans with the arrival of our two full-time Directors of Children and Youth Ministries.

Wherever you are on your journey, we hope this guide will help you plan your year with us. Take an extra copy and share it with your friends. If they don't know us yet, tell them to Come and See!

Peace,



The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton



Services at St. Mark's

Sundays

Unless otherwise noted, each Sunday service of worship includes the Holy Eucharist, also called Holy Communion or the Lord's Supper, the principal act of worship on the Lord's Day. Both the Liturgy of Word and Sacrament are included, along with a sermon or time of reflection and an opportunity for the faithful to receive Christ. Please check the website for seasonal variations.

7.45am Holy Eucharist, Rite I

The Rite I service meets in the church at 7.45am and is a spoken service (no music) using traditional language with an emphasis on reverence, penitence, and silence.

9.00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

9.00am Eucharist welcomes all, including families with children. See the Children's page for more information. Children's Chapel offers an opportunity for 3 yr olds through 3rd graders to experience the lessons in age-appropriate ways. This service is supported by our choirs.

11.15am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11.15am Eucharist presents the splendor of the Christian faith in its most glorious Anglican fashion. Our music, prayers, and sermons draw upon the finest sources of our tradition. This service is supported by our choirs.

Weekday Services

Wednesday Holy Eucharist, Bethlehem Chapel

A simple spoken service, without sermon. This service will be preceded by Centering Prayer at 5.00pm in the Dean Richardson Room.

Thursday, Evening Prayer, Bethlehem Chapel

The Daily Office from the Book of Common Prayer.

Special Services

Weddings

A wedding is a joyful celebration of worship and praise when two lives are joined together in Christ in marriage. When considering a wedding at St. Mark's, it is essential to understand this occasion as a worship service, much like Sunday morning. If you are interested in being married at St. Mark's, visit the St. Mark's website and complete the inquiry form. A member of the clergy will be in touch with you.

Special Services Cont.

Baptism

Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body, the Church (*Book of Common Prayer*, p. 298). At St. Mark's, we welcome people into the community of faith in this sacrament of inclusion. Baptisms are meant to happen in community; the days for Holy Baptism are outlined in the Book of Common Prayer and offers us the opportunity to both celebrate those being baptized and to renew our own baptismal covenant.

Baptism preparation for parents and godparents will be the preceding day at 9.30am. If you would like to schedule a baptism, fill out a Baptismal request form on the St. Mark's website. After we receive the form, one of our clergy will contact you.

2017

August 27 Homecoming (Meeting August 26 at 9.30am)
November 5 Feast of All Saints' (Meeting November 4 at 9.30am)

2018

January 7 Baptism of Our Lord (Meeting January 6 at 9.30am)
April 1 Easter Day (Meeting March 31 at 9.30am)
April 29 Feast of St. Mark (Meeting April 28 at 9.30am)
May 20 Pentecost (Meeting May 19 at 9.30am)
August 26 Homecoming (Meeting August 25 at 9.30am)
November 4 Feast of All Saints' (Meeting November 3 at 9.30am)

Funerals

Losing a loved one is a difficult time in a person's life. No one should face this time alone, and we are here to assist you in such times. As Episcopalians, our understanding of death and funerals is shaped by the *Book of Common Prayer*. When a person is near death, a minister of the congregation should be notified, so that the ministrations of the Church may be provided. Baptized Christians are properly buried from the church; the service should be held at a time when the congregation has an opportunity to be present. The funeral service is for us, the living, to celebrate the life of our loved one who has died.

We encourage members to pre-plan for their funeral service. If you would like to do so, please contact a member of the clergy and together we will explore the options for funerals and burial.

For more information, contact The Rev. Carol Morehead at cmorehead@stmarks-sa.org.

Worship Support

Acolytes

Youth acolytes, sixth grade and above, assist at the worship services. Training is offered at the beginning of each school year. Fifth graders will be trained as Torch Bearers in the spring. For information, contact Meredith Rogers at mrogers@stmarks-sa.org.

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild sets the table for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist for services at St. Mark's and cleans up after the service. Members usually serve at one or two services per month. For information, please contact Mike Duffey at rmduffey@gmail.com.

Baptism Guild

Baptism Guild members serve on the day of baptisms by greeting families, preparing baptismal records, and assisting the clergy. For information, contact Tim Worley at robert.worley@sbcglobal.net.

Eucharistic Ministers

Also called chalice bearers, these licensed members administer the chalice during services. For information, contact James Dennis, OP at tiodennis@gmail.com.

Eucharistic Visitors

These licensed members take the Holy Communion from the Sunday services to those who are homebound. Training is required and offered each year. For information, contact The Rev. Carol Morehead at cmorehead@stmarks-sa.org.

Finance Count Teams

These teams are responsible for counting the offering from Sunday morning. Team members often discover a great opportunity for fellowship in this behind the scenes ministry. To volunteer, contact Priscilla Briones at pbriones@stmarks-sa.org.

Intercessors

These members lead the congregation in the Prayers of the People during the Sunday morning Eucharist. Training is required and offered each year. For more information, contact James Dennis, OP at tiodennis@gmail.com.



Lectors

These members read the scriptural lessons at the Sunday services on a rotating basis. Training is required and offered each year. For more information, contact James Dennis, OP at tiodennis@gmail.com.

Pastoral Care

Parishioners in need should contact a member of the clergy. The Emergency Pastoral Care phone number is 210.507.0256. For hospital visits or visits to the homebound, contact The Rev. Carol Morehead at cmorehead@stmarks-sa.org.

Ushers

Both men

and women serve on usher teams to greet and welcome members and visitors, distribute worship bulletins, assist in the seating of our worshippers, and be attentive to those who need assistance. During Holy Communion they assist people moving to and from the altar rail. Usher teams serve for a month at a time on a rotating basis, usually two months out of the year. Ushers are also needed at special services. For information, contact Craig Donegan at craig.donegan@gmail.com.

**24 hour pastoral care
emergency phone
210-507-0256**

Wedding Guild

These members assist the clergy and families during the wedding rehearsal and ceremony. Members serve several times per year. For information, please contact Jody Kelly at jkelly@globalimage.net.

Weekday Lay Readers

These confirmed members lead the Daily Office. For more information, please contact The Rev. Carol Morehead at cmorehead@stmarks-sa.org.

2017-2018 Adult Formation - All are Welcome

The Word of God is Living and Active

What makes you come alive? This program year promises to be an opportunity to delve into that question, looking at our life in God and God's word as we deepen our common life of faith as St. Mark's church, in our families, our relationships, and our selves. Our overall adult formation theme will be ***For the Word of God is Living and Active***, from Hebrews 4. What better way to describe our lives in Christ: alive, energetic, dynamic, vital.

The Rector's Forum will once again dig into the theme from several angles, with offerings in the fall and spring led by The Rev. Beth Knowlton and other guests. Track 2 classes, led by The Rev. Carol Morehead and The Rev. Matt Wise, will include: What is the Bible?, Episcopal Basics, Holy Eucharist Instruction for 2nd and 3rd graders and their families, Daring Greatly, and The Bible Challenge, all with an emphasis on conversation and interaction.

Weekly adult formation offerings will continue as well, including Daughters of the King book studies on Wednesdays; Centering Prayer on Wednesdays; Time Out Bible Study on Thursday mornings; and Gifted Years book studies in October and March. EfM classes will continue this year, with one on the weekend and one on a weekday. Additional options will be our Advent and Lenten Quiet Days and a Grief in the Holidays class.

New additions to this year's formation will be a Bible Study on Wednesday mornings, a film class that will look at images of the divine in film, and Community of Hope classes.

During the Week

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Facilitated by The Rev. Beth Knowlton

Meeting on Wednesday mornings from 7.00-8.00am in the Dean Richardson Room.

This early morning study will focus on the lectionary texts beginning September 6.

Wednesday Daughters of the King Book Study

This group of women meets weekly at 4.30pm to study a book. The group chooses at their first meeting what to read so that it is a group discernment. Meetings begin August 23 in Room 305.

Group Centering Prayer

Facilitated by The Rev. Beth Knowlton

This weekly offering is a time prior to the Wednesday Eucharist during which people can gather in the Dean Richardson Room for quiet reflection as they center in prayer. Prayer time will begin at 5.00pm and last for 20 minutes.

Time Out Bible Study

Facilitated by The Rev. Carol Morehead and The Rev. Matt Wise

Meeting on Thursday mornings from 10.00am-11.30am in the Youth Suite.

Class resumes this fall on September 7 and will run through December 7 and then in 2018 will run from January 11 through May 3. Please join us as we continue our close reading of The Gospel of Luke and then begin a study of the Book of Genesis. No prior participation in the class is required. Childcare available.

Images in Holy Film

Facilitated by The Rev. Carol Morehead at 6.00pm

September 22, November 17, February 16, and April 13

God is often experienced in varied and unusual ways, and we often find images of the Holy in media and film. This class will be an experiential one in which we will view and discuss films together. A wide variety of films will be a part of the curriculum, with the emphasis on images and experiences of the Holy. Films include *Stranger than Fiction*, *The Fifth Element*, *Tree of Life*, and *Babbette's Feast*.

Education for Ministry

EfM (Education for Ministry) classes will continue this year at St. Mark's. A unique four-year distance learning certificate program in theological education that uses seminar groups as its format, EfM helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and then apply it to their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together. Two classes meet for 36 weeks from September through May. For more information about EfM contact The Rev. Carol Morehead.

Gifted Years Book Study

The Gifted Years Book Study will continue this year. It will meet this fall (October 3-31) and the spring (February 20 - March 20) from 10.00-11.30am in the Dean Richardson Room. All are welcome to attend this study that is aimed at anyone interested in reading, discussing as a group, growing spiritually, and connecting with the Unchanging in a rapidly changing world. Check the Announcements and eNews for the different books we will be studying. For more information contact Lillian Morris or Lou Taylor.

Sunday Mornings, Track 1: The Rector's Forum
"The Word of God is Living and Active" - Hebrews 4:12a

Walking in Love: The Word Made Flesh, Fall 2017

The Rev. Beth Knowlton and The Rev. Dr. Jane Patterson

Class meets: September 10 - October 29

This class is a practical exploration of this year's formation theme from Hebrews, ***The Word of God is Living and Active***. Using insights from the Ignatian tradition, we will use scripture and the imagination to explore ways in which we might focus more intentionally on embodying the creative love of God in our relationships, communities, and workplaces. The class will use reflection on our daily habits as a way to discover areas of growth and challenge, and will also look to the daily experiences and practices of early Christians as a helpful counterpoint and guide to living faithfully in a world of competing values.

Creating Space for the Word of God to Become Living and Active, The Invitation of Advent

The Rev. Beth Knowlton, Dr. Joseph Causby, and James R. Dennis, OP

Class meets: November 12 - 26

In anticipation of the season of Advent, this three-week class will engage with the special themes offered by our tradition in arguably our most counter cultural liturgical season. The first class will look at the prophetic texts we encounter in scripture. The second class will look at our Advent hymnody. The third class will look at art images throughout history specifically focusing on themes of Annunciation.

The Revelation of the Word of God in the Body, Epiphany 2017

The Rev. Beth Knowlton and The Rev. Mary Earle

Class meets: January 14 - February 11

While we acknowledge the centrality of the incarnation in our faith, we do not always translate that into an awareness of the way our human experience is impacted by the body in which we abide, and the corporate bodies in which we participate. Theologian Sally McFague has wryly observed, "The most prevalent spiritual disease of our time is not wanting to be here, not wanting to be in a body." Together we will explore the mystery of embodied life, with all of the inherent tensions, joys, and sufferings. We will reflect on the body as God's own divine handiwork, as the vehicle for relationship and community. As scripture scholar Luke Timothy Johnson has written, "My body is not the exception to the world, it is the rule; it is not separate from the world, it is the world in concentrated form." Join us as we explore the personal, relational, and ethical wisdom of the body as sacrament of the life of the Risen Christ, dwelling in us here, now, and always.

Discerning the Word of God: The Prophetic Task of Engaging Reality, Grief, and Hope, Lent 2017

The Rev. Beth Knowlton and The Rev. Dr. John Lewis

Class meets: February 18 – March 11

This four-week Lenten class, using themes from Walter Brueggemann's book, *Reality, Grief, and Hope—Three Urgent Prophetic Tasks*, will help us look at our cultural current context and our calling as Christians. ***The Word of God being Living and Active*** means we need to engage in the context we have been placed. We need to be willing to challenge cultural assumptions through the lens of God's promises and our obedience. The process of seeing the world as it is, allows us to name our grief in areas where it has fallen short of God's vision. This is not to leave us despondent, but to move us towards a more genuine expression of faithful hope.

Sunday Mornings, Track 2

“The Word of God is Living and Active” - Hebrews 4:12a

What is the Bible?

The Rev. Carol Morehead

Class meets: September 10 - October 1

What is the bible? How did this varied and rich collection come to be, and how do we relate to it? This four-week series will explore how the word of God confronts, challenges, and transforms the way we think and feel. Using the themes in Rob Bell's book *What is the Bible?*, the class will consider how to read the collection of books that make up the bible in a new way.

Episcopal Basics

The Rev. Carol Morehead and The Rev. Matt Wise

Class meets: October 8 - 29

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry likes to talk about the Episcopal Church as ‘the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement.’ What does it mean, then, to be an Episcopalian? What do Episcopalians believe? How do we live our faith? What characteristics make us the Episcopal branch? What do we have in common with other branches of the Jesus Movement? This four-week class will be a basic primer for anyone who wants to explore or revisit some of the core concepts of what it means to be Episcopalian.

Daring Greatly: Showing Up, Being Seen, and Living Brave

The Rev. Matt Wise

Class meets: January 14 - February 4

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly...” (Theodore Roosevelt, April, 23, 1910). Using the work of shame researcher (and Episcopalian), Brené Brown, this four-week class will explore the difficult but necessary practice of vulnerability to live the fullest lives God dreams for us. Through discussions around shame, courage, and the importance of community, we will discover what it means to show up, to be seen, and to live bravely.

Eucharistic Instruction

The Rev. Carol Morehead and The Rev. Matt Wise

Class meets: February 18 – March 11

Designed especially for 2nd and 3rd graders and their families, this class dives into the rhythms and meaning of the Holy Eucharist. Classes include looking at different parts of the service, handling the holy hardware, making bread, and understanding the sacred space. Designed to be hands-on, the class invites these young people to be active participants on Sundays.

The Bible Challenge

The Rev. Beth Knowlton, The Rev. Carol Morehead, and The Rev. Matt Wise

Class meets: April 8, 15, 22, and May 6 (Not meeting April 29)

How does the bible challenge us? Combining the two tracks of adult formation, this series will confront a different challenging story or section from the bible each week. Why was the narrative included? What might it be saying about God? About us? We will use a midrash approach of interpreting these challenging stories and sayings in an effort to understand ourselves and our faith more deeply.

St. Mark's Calendar

August

Wednesday, 8/23	4.30pm	Daughters of the King Book Study Room 305, meets weekly
	5.00pm	Centering Prayer Group at 5.00pm in the Dean Richardson Room (followed by Eucharist at 5.30 in Bethlehem Chapel)
	5.00pm	Boy & Girl Choir Novices, meets weekly
	5.00pm	Boy & Girl Choristers, meets weekly
	5.00pm	Cafe Kairos, weekly (ends at 6.30pm)
	5.30pm	Eucharist in Bethlehem Chapel, meets weekly
	5.30pm	Youth Choir practice, meets weekly
	6.15pm	Youth Wednesday Night Fellowship, meets weekly
Thursday, 8/24	5.30pm	Treble Choir practice, meets weekly
	6.30pm	St. Mark's Choir, meets weekly
Saturday, 8/26	9.30am	Baptism Workshop
Sunday, 8/27		Homecoming Sunday, Blessing of the Backpacks at 9.00am, Baptisms, Ministry Fair at 10.10am, regular schedule resumes

September

Sunday, 9/3		Labor Day, no formation
Wednesday, 9/6	7.00am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study, meets weekly
Thursday, 9/7	10.00am	Time Out Bible Study, meets weekly
Sunday, 9/10	10.10am	Formation for Adults, Children, and Youth resumes
Friday-Sunday, 9/15-17		Youth Leadership Retreat
Sunday, 9/17	9.00am	Jazz Mass (part of Jazz'SALive festival)
	11.15am	Jazz Mass (part of Jazz'SALive festival)
Sunday, 9/24	6.00pm	Dinners for Eight Kickoff Dinner
Wednesday, 9/27	6.00pm	New Connections (preceded by optional Docent Tour at 5.45pm)
Thursday, 9/28	6.00pm	Youth Group Parent Night



October

Tuesday, 10/3	10.00am	Gift of Years Book Study, meets weekly in October
Sunday, 10/8	5.00pm	Blessing of the Animals
Sunday, 10/22	5.00pm	Paula Page, Harp Concert
Wednesday, 10/25	6.00pm	Halloween Parade and Blessing of the Costumes
Friday-Saturday, 10/27-28		Youth Fall Lock-In



Halloween Parade and Blessing of Costumes October 25

Join us for an evening of family fun! Wear your costume and be ready to get silly. We will meet in Gosnell Hall for food and games. Our clergy will bless the Halloween costumes and lead a costume parade through the grounds of St. Mark's.

Parish Meeting, Vestry Election, and Stewardship Ingathering



Sunday, November 5 at 10.10am

Between services, we will hold a Parish Meeting during which you will hear from the Rector, Senior Warden, and Treasurer about our accomplishments as a parish, our challenges, and our plans for the future. Come hear about how we, as a community, use our resources for the well-being of this congregation, our neighbors, and our city. We will also hold our Vestry elections to identify the incoming class of 2019.

A printed St. Mark's Annual Report will also be distributed during the parish meeting containing more detail on the financial and programmatic health of our community. And if that's not enough, Kitchen Ministries is offering their annual pie tasting. First day orders will be accepted for holiday treats!

The Word of God is Living and Active

-- Hebrews 4:12a

Stewardship is a year-round discipline to which we are called as members of the body of Christ. We invite you to develop this practice by participating in formation classes, attending the Parish Meeting, and making your pledge on Stewardship Ingathering Sunday, November 5. In the weeks leading up to the Ingathering, you'll be hearing from many at St. Mark's as they share their thoughts on the ways in which we are experiencing the living and active word of God. Be sure to check out our videos in October to hear what St. Mark's members say about our programs and to learn about how we fund them.

When we are asked to make a monetary pledge and to participate in the work of this church, we are being called upon to have confidence that we are giving of God's abundance to us and that there will be enough. Gifts and pledges make possible the worship, formation, music, community life, and outreach activities of St. Mark's. Your support is essential as we continue to live into our Core Vocation: Feeding San Antonio with the Bread of Life.



November

Saturday, 11/4	9.30am	Baptism Workshop
Sunday, 11/5		Feast of All Saints', Baptisms, Parish Meeting with Vestry Election and Stewardship
		Ingathering at 10.10am, start of holiday pie sale
Thursday, 11/9	5.00pm	Choral Eucharist for Feast of All Saints'
Sunday, 11/12	6.00pm	Youth Group Parent Night
Wednesday, 11/15	5.00pm	Remembrance Day Service
	2.00pm	Grief and the Holidays Workshop
	5.30pm	Cafe Kairos Thanksgiving Dinner
Tuesday, 11/21		Pie Pick-up
Wednesday, 11/22		No Cafe Kairos or evening programming



December

Saturday, 12/2	9.30am	Advent Quiet Day
Sunday, 12/3	10.00am	Advent I: Combined Worship Service (takes the place of 9.00am and 11.15am services) Wreath Making with teaching at 9.00am
Wednesday, 12/6	11.30am	Women's Christmas Luncheon 11.30am-1.30pm at the home of Kelly Cavender
Friday, 12/8	9.00pm	Christmas to the Street Lock-In for youth and No Ties Allowed BBQ preparation
Saturday, 12/9	11.00am	Christmas to the Street BBQ
Sunday, 12/10	10.00am	Advent II: Combined Worship Service (takes the place of 9.00am and 11.15am services) Las Posadas at 9.00am
	5.00pm	Advent Lessons and Carols
Saturday, 12/16	3.30pm	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
	5.00pm	Christmas Pops Concert
Sunday, 12/17	10.00am	Advent III: Combined Worship Service (takes the place of 9.00am and 11.15am services) Pageant and Living Nativity at 9.00am
Sunday, 12/24	10.00am	Advent IV: Combined Worship Service (takes the place of 9.00am and 11.15am services) Congregational Advent Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist
		Christmas Eve services 4.00pm, 7.00pm, 10.30pm
Monday, 12/25	10.00am	Christmas Day, Nativity of Our Lord (one combined worship service)
Sunday, 12/31	10.00am	Christmas Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist (one combined worship service)



January

Saturday, 1/6	9.30am	Baptism Workshop
Sunday, 1/7		Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, Baptisms, Daughters of the King Epiphany Baby Shower
		All are invited to celebrate Epiphany by bringing gifts for children in need in our community. All gifts are donated to Good Samaritan Community Services.
Monday-Saturday, 1/8-13		Alamo Baroque Festival
Sunday, 1/14		Formation for Adults, Children, and Youth resumes
Sunday, 1/21		Acolyte Training (immediately following the 11.15am service)
Wednesday, 1/24	6.00pm	New Connections (preceded by optional Docent Tour at 5.45pm)
Sunday, 1/28		Youth Group Volunteer Training (immediately following the 11.15am service)

The Peace That Passes All Understanding: An Advent Quiet Day

Saturday, December 2, 9.30am-2.00pm

Led by The Rev. Beth Knowlton

In our busy lives it can be difficult to feel a sense of peace as we engage in our daily life. Silence invites us to quiet the many voices that may serve to keep us in a state of anxiety or worry. Join us for this day of reflection and quiet. Using scripture, poetry, and art images, we will cultivate a deeper understanding of God's ability to gift us with a deeper indwelling of interior peace that is not dependent on the external pressures that are often in control. All are welcome.

Sundays in Advent

Starting December 3

Morning worship services will be held at 7.45am and 10.00am every Sunday in Advent.

Programs begin at 9.00am in Gosnell Hall preceding the combined worship service at 10.00am.

Breakfast will be provided.

Advent I	Wreath-Making with teaching
Advent II	Las Posadas
Advent III	Christmas Pageant and Living Nativity
Advent IV	Congregational Advent Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist



Christmas Eve

December 24

3.45pm Prelude, 4.00pm Holy Eucharist

7.00pm Holy Eucharist with St. Mark's Choir

10.00pm Prelude, 10.30pm Holy Eucharist with St. Mark's Choir (with incense)

Christmas Day

December 25

One Combined Holy Eucharist at 10.00am

First Sunday After Christmas

December 31

One Combined Holy Eucharist at 10.00am



Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

January 7

Regular Holy Eucharist Schedule

7.45am, 9.00am, 11.15am

Daughters of the King Epiphany Baby Shower at 10.10am

February

Thursday, 2/1	6.00pm	Youth Group Parent Night
Friday-Sunday, 2/9-11		Vestry Retreat at Mustang Island
Tuesday, 2/13	5.30pm	Pancake Supper and Shrove Tuesday Talent Show (Talent Show at 6.00pm)
Wednesday, 2/14		Ash Wednesday services at 7.00am, 12.00pm, 7.00pm (no evening formation)
Saturday, 2/17	9.30am	Lenten Quiet Day at the Bishop Jones Center
Sunday, 2/18	5.00pm	Joseph Causby, Organ Recital
Wednesday, 2/21	12.00pm	Lenten Offering: Music in the Park
Friday, 2/23	5.45pm	Evensong for Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes (CEEP)
Wednesday, 2/28	12.00pm	Lenten Offering: Music in the Park

March

Wednesday, 3/7	12.00pm	Lenten Offering: Music in the Park
Wednesday, 3/14	12.00pm	Lenten Offering: Music in the Park
Sunday, 3/18	10.00am	Combined worship service and Lenten Offering followed directly by outreach to the community, a Day of Prayer and Service
Wednesday, 3/21	12.00pm	Lenten Offering: Music in the Park
Sunday, 3/25		Palm Sunday with Festival and live animals at 10.10am (regular service times)
	5.00pm	Service of Lessons and Carols for Passiontide
Monday, 3/26	12.00pm	Holy Monday service
Tuesday, 3/27	12.00pm	Holy Tuesday service
Wednesday 3/28	12.00pm	Holy Wednesday service
Thursday, 3/29	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday (see page 13)
Friday, 3/30		Good Friday services 7.00am, 12.00pm (see page 13)
Saturday, 3/31	9.30am	Baptism Workshop
	11.00am	Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic at Bishop Jones Center
	1.00pm	Holy Saturday service

April

Sunday, 4/1		Easter Day services 6.00am Vigil, 9.00am, 11.15am(childcare during all services)Breakfast served after the 6.00am service
Friday-Sunday, 4/6-8		Youth Retreat
Thursday, 4/12	6.00pm	Youth Group Parent Night
Friday, 4/13	7.00pm	The Choir of Royal Holloway London in Concert
Wednesday, 4/18	6.00pm	New Connections (preceded by optional Docent Tour at 5.45pm)
Saturday, 4/28	9.30am	Baptism Workshop
Sunday, 4/29		Feast of St. Mark, Confirmation
		Sunday, 9.00am Youth, 11.15am Adults, Baptisms
	5.00pm	Fiesta Concert at Temple Beth-El



Lenten Quiet Day: Afraid of the Dark

Saturday, February 17, 9.30am – 2.00pm

Facilitated by The Rev. Matt Wise

Bishop Jones Center

Since childhood, we've all been afraid of the dark. The darkness has simply taken different forms - loss, loneliness, change, the unknown, pain, and grief. Our fear of the dark has prevented us from the fullness of life that God dreams for us even in the midst of the darkness. Using music, art, and scripture, we will spend the day reckoning with our fears and exploring practices to experience God's presence alongside us in the dark.



Worship for Holy Week and Easter

Sunday, March 25 - Palm Sunday

- 7.45am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 9.00am Liturgy of the Palms, Holy Eucharist Rite II
- 10.10am Palm Sunday Festival with live animals
- 11.15am Liturgy of the Palms, Holy Eucharist Rite II
- 5.00pm Service of Lessons and Carols for Passiontide

Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday

- 12.00pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Bethlehem Chapel

Thursday, March 29 - Maundy Thursday

- 7.00pm Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- 9.00pm Gethsemane Overnight Prayer Vigil, Bethlehem Chapel

Friday, March 30 - Good Friday

- 7.00am Good Friday Liturgy with Communion from the Reserve Sacrament
- 12.00pm Good Friday Liturgy
- 1.00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 31 - Holy Saturday

- 1.00pm Holy Saturday service

Sunday, April 1 - Easter Day

- 6.00am The Great Vigil, Lighting of the New Fire, Holy Baptism, and First Eucharist of Easter, with incense. Breakfast to follow.
- 9.00am Holy Baptism & Festal Eucharist, Rite II
- 11.15am Holy Baptism & Festal Eucharist, Rite II with incense

May

Thursday, 5/3	11.30am	Bookstore Lecture and Luncheon
Sunday, 5/13	10.10am	Recognition Sunday during formation hour
Thursday, 5/17	5.30pm	Last Café Kairos until August
Saturday, 5/19	9.30am	Baptism Workshop
Sunday, 5/20		Pentecost, Baptisms, Parish Picnic in Travis Park
		Summer Worship Schedule begins, 7.45am and 10.00am.

Bookstore Lecture and Luncheon

Poet Naomi Shihab Nye
*Voices in the Air - Poems for
Listeners*

Thursday, May 3, 2018
11.30am

Award-winning Palestinian-
American Poet, Essayist, & Educator

Lannan Fellow

Guggenheim Fellow with more than
30 volumes of poetry

[Look for copies of Naomi's books
in the St. Mark's Bookstore.



Photo credit: Ha Lam

June

Friday-Sunday, 6/8-10	Youth Summer Outreach Weekend
Sunday, 6/10	Altar Guild Installation and Luncheon
Sunday-Thursday, 6/10-14	Association of Anglican Musicians Conference
Monday-Thursday, 6/18-21	Vacation Bible School



Member Information

If you are interested in becoming a member of St. Mark's, please contact Dina Aboul Saad at dsaad@stmarks-sa.org, call 210-226-2426, or fill out a membership form online.

If you have not been baptized, please contact The Rev. Carol Morehead at cmorehead@stmarks-sa.org to meet with other adults in an enriching process leading to baptism. If you choose to become a baptized member, we encourage you to attend the Adult Confirmation Class.

There are several different categories of membership. The word "member" denotes either a confirmed communicant, baptized member, or an active participant whose letter remains elsewhere.

Confirmed Communicants

Confirmed communicants are baptized persons who have been confirmed in, or received into, the Episcopal Church and whose names are enrolled in the parish register. Names are enrolled either by confirmation, reception, or letter of transfer from another Episcopal Church. One must be listed in the parish register to be eligible to vote in parish elections and to hold various offices in the church.

New to St. Mark's? Come to New Connections

This program is designed especially for people new to St. Mark's and for those who are considering whether to become a member of the community. It's an opportunity to get to know one another as well as provide you with a clearer picture of how to connect at St. Mark's. We will begin with an optional Docent tour of the church at 5.45pm, followed by dinner and conversation at 6.00pm with clergy and staff of St. Mark's. It is offered three times this year. The dates are September 27, January 24, and April 18. Don't hesitate to reach out any time to learn more about what's happening and how to get connected! Contact Dina Aboul Saad for more information at dsaad@stmarks-sa.org.

Adult Confirmation

Led by The Rev. Beth Knowlton, The Rev. Carol Morehead, and The Rev. Matt Wise

Adult Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation class will be held on Wednesday evenings January 17, 31, February 21, 28, March 7, 21, April 11, and 18 from 6.30-8.00pm. Each class builds on the previous class, so plan to attend every session. We will also gather at the Bishop Jones Center on Saturday, April 14 from 9.00am-2.00pm, where we will share a meal, meet the bishop, and cover some additional ground. The class is open all those seeking to be confirmed, received, or who would like a refresher. Confirmation will be on Sunday, April 29 at the 11.15am service. For more information, contact The Rev. Carol Morehead.

Youth Confirmation

Youth Confirmation is for 8th grade youth, and those older who wish to be Confirmed. Join the weekly Youth Confirmation Class that meets during the formation hour on Sunday mornings, starting January 14. Confirmation will be on Sunday, April 29 at the 9.00am service. See page 23 for more information and dates.

Baptized Members

All baptized persons of any age may be enrolled in the parish register. Names are enrolled either by baptism, letter of transfer, or personal request.

Associates

Associates are persons who are active in the life of this congregation, but whose official membership remains elsewhere.

Mailing List and Database Updates

If you would like to receive the electronic version of the St. Mark's weekly eNews, please fill out a visitor card or subscribe on our website at www.stmarks-sa.org. Have you recently moved, married, added a new member to your family, or changed your email address or phone number? Call us at 210-226-2426 or go online to www.stmarks-sa.org and click on My Account. There you can update your information by clicking on the My Information button.



Music at St. Mark's

More than 125 people make up the choirs at St. Mark's, including volunteers, staff singers, and four choral scholars, high school students who commit to spending a year of musical formation with the St. Mark's music program. Together they provide music for the many services that are offered throughout the year. In addition, St. Mark's music program invites the San Antonio community to experience the beauty of worship and creativity through the Music From St. Mark's offerings. Sponsored by the St. Cecilia Guild, these programs are free to all.

St. Mark's Choir

The St. Mark's Choir (adults and youth) sings the 11.15am service each Sunday during the program year. The choir, consisting of 65 members, rehearses every Thursday evening from 6.30-8.45pm. In addition to its Sunday morning duties, the choir regularly sings Evensong and a major choral work with orchestra each April (as an official event of the San Antonio Fiesta celebration).

Direct your questions about music to Joe Causby at jcausby@stmarks-sa.org



Boy & Girl Choristers (grades 3rd-6th)

Wednesdays 5.00-6.00pm

Youth Choir (grades 7th-12th)

Wednesdays 5.30-6.15pm

Treble Choir (grades 4th-12th, auditioned)

Thursdays 5.30-7.00pm

These choirs are highly committed groups that provide music for the 9.00am worship service throughout the program year. These children learn about liturgy and the seasons of the church year as they rehearse service music, hymns, and anthems. Rehearsals are in the Choir room (3rd floor of the parish house). All choirs are affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) training curriculum.

Boy & Girl Novices (grades 1st-2nd)

This training choir consists of boys and girls in 1st and 2nd grades. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 5.00-6.00pm. This group is a preparatory group and sings once a month.





Musical Outreach to the Broader Community

While we warmly welcome all to every service and event hosted at St. Mark's, these offerings are designed to intentionally partner with the broader San Antonio community.

September 17 at 9.00am and 11.15am
Jazz Mass as part of the Jazz'SALive Festival

January 8-13
Alamo Baroque Festival

April 29 at 5.00pm
St. Cecilia Guild presents Fiesta Concert in collaboration with YOSA and Temple Beth-El as an official Tricentennial Event. This program will include Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*.

June 10-14
Association of Anglican Musicians



Children's Ministry

There are many ways for children and families to engage in fun and meaningful activities throughout the year at St. Mark's. Through Nursery, Sunday School, Children's Chapel, and many special events, children will learn of God's great love for them, and experience the joy of being a part of a church family who cherishes who they are and their important role in the life of this community.

Nursery

Sundays 8.30am-12.30pm and during special events/committee meetings as specified in the Announcements, eNews, Messenger, and website. Located in the Parish House on the 1st floor for ages 6 weeks-5 years old.

Children of all ages are always welcome in our worship services. They are a vital part of our St. Mark's family, and it's wonderful to hear their voices while we worship. However, the Nursery is provided for parents who would like to leave their child in a loving, nurturing, and safe environment while they participate in Christian Formation and/or the worship services. The nursery is staffed by highly qualified caregivers who provide playtime, activities, and a place to rest for the littlest parishioners at St. Mark's.

Direct your questions about
Children's Ministry to
Abby Richards at
arichards@stmarks-sa.org

Direct your questions about
the Nursery to Janet Carrizales
at jcarrizales@stmarks-sa.org.

Children's Chapel

Begins at 9.00am in Jerusalem Chapel, located in the Parish House on the 2nd floor. Recommended for children age 3 years old through 3rd grade.

Children's Chapel at St. Mark's is a chance for the children to attend their own liturgy during the first part of the 9.00am service. We will begin each Sunday with Miss Abby in Jerusalem Chapel. Here we will pray, sing, and learn about the current week's Gospel lesson. Then, we will head over to our activity tables for a craft that will reinforce our lesson. After our time in Children's Chapel has come to an end, the children will be led to the Sanctuary and back to their parents during the Peace, where they can either find their parents in the pew or parents of small children can meet us in the back. We hope you will make Children's Chapel a regular part of your Sunday morning routine!



Sunday School

Sundays 10.10am-11.00am, located on the 2nd floor. Available for children ages 3 years old to 5th grade.

Children's Sunday School at St. Mark's will continue to use the Spark curriculum for the upcoming 2017-2018 year. This creative and engaging curriculum provides opportunities for the children to interact with God, with the scriptures, and with each other through games, activities, questions, and conversations. The children will bring home a Learner Leaflet each Sunday with activities and readings for families to do together during the week.

Children age 3yrs-2nd grade will use the Spark Classroom curriculum, which teaches key stories from the Old and New Testaments.

September 10	Creation/Genesis 1.1-2.4a	January 14	Woman at the Well/John 4.5-42
September 17	Noah's Ark/Genesis 6-9	January 21	A Storm/Matthew 8.23-27
September 24	Abram's Call/Genesis 12.1-9	January 28	The Centurion's Servant/Matthew 8.5-13
October 1	Abraham and Sarah's Visitors/Gen. 17.1-7, 15-16, 18.1-15, 21.1-7	February 4	Jesus Blesses the Children/Mark 10.13-16
October 8	Isaac's Blessing/Genesis 25.19-34, 27.1-40	February 11	Jesus Heals Two Blind Men /Matthew 20.29-34
October 15	Free from Slavery/Exodus 5.1-6.13	February 18	The Sower/Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23
October 22	The Red Sea/Exodus 14.1-30	February 25	The Wedding Banquet/Matthew 22.1-14
October 29	The Ten Commandments/Exodus 20.1-17	March 4	Jesus Feeds 5,000/John 6.1-14
November 5	The Battle of Jericho/Joshua 6.1-20	March 11	The Transfiguration/Matthew 17.1-13
November 12	Naomi and Ruth/Ruth 1.1-22	April 8	The Great Commission/Matthew 28.16-20
November 19	David and Goliath/1 Samuel 17.4-11, 32-50	April 15	Doubting Thomas /John 20.19-31
November 26	Elijah and the Widow/1 Kings 17.8-16	April 22	The Ascension/Acts 1.6-14
		May 6	Philip and the Ethiopian/Acts 8.26-40

Children 3rd - 5th graders will use the Spark Lectionary curriculum, which provides reflection and activities based on each Sunday's assigned Lectionary readings.

September 10	Joseph Helps His Family/Gen. 45.1-15, 50.15-21	January 21	Jonah and the Big Fish/Jonah 1-4
September 17	The Vineyard Workers/Matthew 20.1-16	January 28	Teaching and Healing/Mark 1.21-28
September 24	The Chief Priests/Matthew 21.23-32	February 4	Jesus Heals/Mark 1.29-39
October 1	Parable of the Vineyard/Matthew 21.33-46	February 11	The Transfiguration/Mark 9.2-9
October 8	The Wedding Banquet/Matthew 22.1-14	February 18	Noah's Ark/Genesis 6-9
October 16	Paying Taxes/Matthew 22.15-22	February 25	Abraham and Sarah's Visitors/Gen. 18.1-15, 21.1-7
October 22	The Greatest Commandment/Matthew 22.34-46	March 4	The Ten Commandments/Exodus 20.1-17
October 29	Be Humble/Matthew 23.1-12	March 11	The Light of the World/John 3.14-21
November 5	Ten Bridesmaids/Matthew 25.1-13	April 8	Doubting Thomas/John 20.19-31
November 12	Parable of the Talents/Matthew 25.14-30	April 15	The Great Commission/Luke 24.36-53
November 19	Sheep and Goats/Matthew 25.31-46	April 22	The Good Shepherd/John 10.11-18
November 26	Be Ready/Matthew 13.24-36	May 6	The Holy Spirit Comes Down/Acts 10.44-48
January 14	God Calls Samuel/1 Samuel 3.1-20		



Outreach Partners and Opportunities

The Bread of Life Grant:

Communities in Schools, San Antonio

The Bread of Life Grant offers the St. Mark's community three years to engage and build real relationships with a specific organization and their work in the city. The Bread of Life Grant takes our outreach to another level, providing the inroads for us to make a deep impact. In the 2017 grant cycle, we had eight applicants for this three-year grant of \$20,000 each year. The recipient of this triennium's grant is Communities in Schools, San Antonio (CIS-SA). Over the next three years we will be working through this organization with the students, families, teachers, and staff of Crockett Elementary School, just 2.5 miles away from St. Mark's (near the corner of Martin and Zarzamora), all in the effort of furthering the reach of our core vocation. Crockett Elementary was a highly at-risk school until CIS-SA was brought in by the state of Texas three years ago. Some facts about the school and CIS-SA's involvement:



- 671 students enrolled in the school, 46% of these students are classified as “at-risk”
- 186 CIS-SA cases currently being managed in K-5th grade
- 2 CIS-SA site coordinators on campus (usual model is only 1 per school)
- 6th grade will be added to the school this fall
- CIS-SA is focusing primarily on the non-academic (social) needs of students
- Many students are being raised by single parents or grandparents

Some of the volunteer opportunities will include: helping to plan and run the school's annual festival, distributing food through collections and preparing snack packs for students who have food insecurities, mentoring students in literacy programs; youth to youth pen pals, after school club participation and facilitation, career days at the school, and sponsoring/facilitating field trips and the explorer's group. If you would like to volunteer in any of these or many other opportunities throughout the year, please email The Rev. Matt Wise at mwise@stmarks-sa.org.

Supported through the Outreach Grants of St. Mark's

Alpha Home
Café Corazon at Corazon Ministries
Children's Shelter - Camp Open Heart, Open Mind
Communities in Schools-SA
Lifetime Recovery
Morningside Ministries: Art is Ageless
Morningside Ministries: Virtual Dementia Tours
San Antonio Christian Dental Clinic
San Antonio Clubhouse
Youth Orchestra of San Antonio

Core Vocation Grants

The Core Vocation Grants are the smaller, one-year grants dispersed to multiple entities. A total of \$40,000 was awarded to nine organizations for the 2017 grant cycle in which the committee focused on programs or projects aimed at the first arm of St. Mark's Core Vocation - “Feeding the hungry with real food.” These recipients are listed below with a brief description of each project in the organization's own words. These grants will provide our community with multiple volunteer opportunities over the next year. If you are interested, please email The Rev. Matt Wise at mwise@stmarks-sa.org.

Alpha Home

Alpha Home's Parenting Program and Parenting Specialist relates to St. Mark's Core Vocation of “feeding those who are hungry for knowledge and meaning,” while also indirectly “feeding the hungry with real food.” All children need healthy, well parents. Alpha Home provides services to help individuals heal and maintain recovery, parent more effectively, break the cycle of substance use disorder, and ensure strong family bonds. The majority of clients in the gender-specific residential treatment program are single mothers whose incomes are below \$10,000 per year. Many have co-occurring mental or physical health issues and are themselves victims of trauma or abuse. No one is turned away for financial reasons. At Alpha Home, in addition to stopping the use of alcohol and drugs, clients seek to gain the ability to build and maintain healthy relationships and establish linkages in the community that support ongoing stability and long-term recovery. A cumulative 89% of clients have met these goals in the past year.

Café Corazon at Corazon Ministries

The three arms of St. Mark's Core Vocation could easily describe what Café Corazon strives to do for their guests every week, but the meals they serve are at the heart of their ministry. Serving meals is where Café Corazon began 18 years ago when a group of young adult members of Travis Park UMC decided they wanted to open the church to the homeless neighbors in the area and began serving breakfast on Palm Sunday in 1999. Their services have grown from that time, but sharing hot, nutritious meals remains an important part of the ministry. Each year, the Café serves 25,000 hot, nutritious meals to the homeless and marginalized neighbors. They offer breakfast Sunday morning, dinner and a Prayer Circle Wednesday evening, and lunch with Bible Study Thursday and Friday at noon.

Children's Shelter – Camp Open Mind, Open Heart

Camp Open Mind, Open Heart provides children from hard places access to the world of art. It allows them the opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings in a variety of new and unexpected ways, often allowing the process of healing from their past to begin. The goal of Camp Open Mind, Open Heart is to provide children with a broad approach to activities which allow them to build their creativity through therapeutic art projects, engage their bodies in physical activity, have cultural experiences, learn about character development, and participate in music, all of which deter behavioral outbursts. Providing support and services to children who have been victims of abuse or neglect not only helps break the cycle of abuse, it ensures better and brighter futures for the children involved. For eight weeks during the summer, children at both the Emergency Shelter and RTC will be involved in activities such as arts and crafts, music, field trips, and, at the RTC only this year, acting. Not only does participation in these activities broaden the children's horizons and overall view of the world, it keeps them engaged in learning and helps lessen the impact of "summer slide".

Lifetime Recovery - Recovery Links

The "Recovery Links" Recovery Coaching program is an aftercare component of the Outpatient Treatment program. It is imperative that clients who successfully complete the 6-8 week outpatient program stay connected within the recovery community or engage with others in healthy and safe environments. "Recovery Links" offers a lunchtime meal every Friday for those clients and alumni who participate in the recovery program. There is so much food insecurity within this population early on as they begin to rebuild the support systems lost to active addiction. We provide real food for hungry people around their ongoing emotional, social, and recovery support.

Morningside Ministries: Art is Ageless

Art is Ageless aligns with St. Mark's focus on "feeding those who are hungry for beauty and creativity." Like St. Mark's, the arts are a priority for Morningside Ministries because we believe in the power of the arts to enrich the lives of everyone, including older adults. For many older adults in care, access to the arts is extremely limited or even non-existent. We know that older adults in care who have the chance to exercise creativity and have fun respond positively. Specifically, they benefit from the intellectual stimulation and social interaction. Art also provides a new way for residents to interact with their caregivers. Finally, art is a relatively inexpensive way to realize health benefits compared to medical care or higher levels of nursing care. In this program, residents participate in hands-on drawing, painting, and ceramic classes. Professional artists who are experienced working with older adults, including those with physical disabilities and dementia, lead the classes.

Morningside Ministries: Virtual Dementia Tours

"Virtual Dementia Tours" is a dementia training program for those caring for someone with Alzheimer's or dementia. The program will use the Virtual Dementia Tour curriculum created by Second Wind Dreams, a nationally recognized nonprofit organization dedicated to changing how aging is perceived in America. Morningside will conduct four Virtual Dementia Tours for up to 30 caregivers on each tour over a one-year period. A Virtual Dementia Tour is a hands-on, experiential three-hour workshop that helps caregivers understand the physical and mental challenges of those suffering from Alzheimer's and dementia. The goal is to equip caregivers with a new understanding of dementia, it helps them provide better care.

Additional Outreach Ministries and Agencies Supported directly through the Annual Budget

Diocesan Support
Christian Assistance Ministries
Good Samaritan Community Services
SAMMinistries
St. Paul's Montessori
Christmas to the Street
Haven for Hope (food)
Walk-In Assistance
Youth Outreach Projects

Outreach Partners and Opportunities

(continued from pages 20-21)

San Antonio Christian Dental Clinic - RDA Training

The RDA Training Program fits with St. Mark's focus area of "Feeding those who are hungry for knowledge and meaning" by offering disadvantaged Bexar County adults the opportunity to receive an advanced education at no cost through both classroom and hands-on training. The majority of participants are single mothers or Haven for Hope members whose life experience has been typified by low-educational attainment and generational poverty – both materially and intellectually. The no-cost, 18-week program teaches participants how to work in dental clinics or offices through both classroom and clinical training held onsite. The program design anticipates potential barriers to enrollment not only by assuming costs for tuition, but also for uniforms and shoes, immunizations and bus passes, books and supplies, certification testing and CPR training fees; all in exchange for 96 volunteer clinic hours each in the year after program completion. Training includes approximately 576 hours alongside volunteer dentists, dental hygienists, and faculty-supervised dental students from UT Health School of Dentistry (UTHSD). During clinical training, participant is matched 1:1 with a volunteer dentist and Registered Dental Assistant personnel under the constant supervision of program instructors. Students are placed on the floor almost immediately, learning how to interact with patients, performing patient triage, and entering triage codes into the clinic's practice management database. During classroom training, students are instructed in the areas of jurisprudence, infection control, and radiology.

San Antonio Clubhouse

The Clubhouse serves adults with serious mental illness. While there is not a "typical" member, the majority have experienced multiple hospitalizations, are isolated from family and friends, and live significantly below the poverty line. In addition, because of the effects of mental illness on a person's sense of identity and self-worth, many of the members neglect themselves physically, which means they don't eat properly. The feeding program offers an affordable breakfast and lunch every day for the members and offers them the option of taking home a healthy dinner. For the majority of the members, the low-cost, balanced meals served at the Clubhouse are the most nutritious meals of their day...and for some, the meals served at the Clubhouse are their only meal of the day. In 2017, they expect to serve between 10,000 and 12,000 meals.

Youth Orchestras of San Antonio

YOSA has taken drastic steps to increase access to music education for San Antonio youth; so any kid can participate in orchestra regardless of their family's socio-economic circumstance. With a focus on access and inclusion, YOSA has invested heavily in providing music education to San Antonio's underserved youth. This mission has transformed YOSA to reflect the population of San Antonio and has helped feed underserved youth who are hungry for beauty and creativity. Tuition assistance provides the support that young musicians from economically disadvantaged families need to receive the transformational music education opportunities YOSA offers. Between high-quality repertoire, professional instruction, world-renowned guest artists, major performance venues, and international travel, YOSA is able to open up a world of opportunities to young musicians. For youth from low-income households, these experiences can be life changing and provide them with confidence, skills, and perspective that are necessary to break the cycle of poverty.

Core Vocation

Feeding San Antonio with the Bread of Life

*Feeding the hungry with real food
Feeding those who are hungry for knowledge and meaning
Feeding those who are hungry for beauty and creativity*

Youth Ministry

St. Mark's is committed to bringing all people to a transformative relationship with Christ, through diverse and creative worship, education, and ministry. This is clearly evident in the Youth Ministry program. Through weekly programming and numerous events throughout the year we seek to create an inclusive, hospitable, compassionate, and nurturing community where youth from all backgrounds share relationships that can grow into the full stature of Christ. They will be empowered for ministry in their daily life; and by practicing mutual accountability through creative Christian formation programs, participate meaningfully in ministries, missions, and outreach in the San Antonio community and beyond.

Direct your questions about Youth Ministry to Meredith Rogers at mrogers@stmarks-sa.org

Youth Wednesday Night Fellowship - New Time!

Wednesday Night Fellowship is for youth in 6th-12th grade and meets each Wednesday during the program year from 6.15-7.45pm in the Youth Suite. Come to a safe place where you can be yourself, be the Episcopal church now, and have a blast with other youth. Dinner will begin at 6.15pm in the Youth Suite, provided by Café Kairos. Our discussion and worship hour will start at 6.45pm.

Hot Topics is our Wednesday Night topic-based curriculum for youth which examines controversial topics from multiple perspectives over a four-week period. At the beginning of the semester we will brainstorm and select the topics that the youth most want to discuss. We will discuss the facts, what our faith says about the topic, how we think we should respond, and then respond to these topics through service.

Youth Sunday Formation (6th - 12th grades)

Making it Real and Relevant is a curriculum that follows the three-year cycle found in the Revised Common Lectionary. All 6th - 12th graders come together every Sunday morning during the formation hour in the Youth Suite. We will utilize music, movies, and videos to bring the lectionary to life.

September 10	Gathered in My Name/Matthew 18.15-20	January 21	Following the Call/1 Corinthians 7.17-23
September 17	Forgiveness/Matthew 18.21-35	January 28	Being Set Free From Our Demons/Mark 1.21-28
September 24	Laborers in the Vineyard/Matthew 20.1-16	February 4	Jesus Healing/Mark 1.29-39
October 1	Being Christlike/Philippians 2.1-11	February 11	Prioritizing God/John 20.19-31, Luke 22-23.46
October 8	Role Models/Philippians 3.14-21	February 18	Jesus' Baptism/Mark 1.9-13, 1 Peter 3.18-22, Isaiah 58.1-9a
October 15	Gratitude/Philippians 4.4-13	February 25	Lose My Soul/Romans 8.31-39
October 22	Taking a Stand/1 Thessalonians 1.1-10	March 4	Jesus Flipping Tables/John 2.13-22
October 29	The Greatest Commandment/Matthew 22.34-46	March 11	The Giving Tree/Ephesians 2.4-10
November 12	Shoulda, Woulda, Coulda/Matthew 25.1-13	April 8	Doubting Thomas/John 20.19-31
November 19	St. Mark's Youth Have Got Talent/Matthew 25.14-15, 19-29	April 15	Would You Believe?/Luke 24.36-48
November 26	Choosing/Matthew 25.31-46	April 22	The Good Shepherd/John 10.11-16
January 14	We Are One Body/1 Corinthians 6.11-20	May 6	Holy Friendship/John 15.9-17, Job 1.13-22, 2.7-13

Youth Confirmation (8th grade and above)

Youth Confirmation is for 8th graders and any high school students who would like to be confirmed. The class will meet for 12 weeks throughout the winter and spring during the 10.10am formation hour. The Rev. Carol Morehead and The Rev. Matt Wise will teach and lead conversations on topics including: church history, the sacraments, becoming a young adult, the community of the church, and living a life of faith. Students are allowed to miss only two classes. Class dates are as follows: January 14, 21, 28, February 4, 18, 25, March 4, 11, April 8, 15, and 22. Students will be expected to participate in the Day of Prayer and Service on Sunday, March 18 and in a dinner with the Bishop during the week prior to confirmation. Confirmation will be held on the Feast of St. Mark Celebration Sunday during the 9.00am Eucharist on Sunday, April 29. For more information, please contact Meredith Rogers at mrogers@stmarks-sa.org.

Online Access

Did you know you can do all of the following online?

- Update your contact information
- Make your pledge
- See your giving history
- Schedule giving or make a one-time gift
- Check out volunteer opportunities

1. Go to www.stmarks-sa.org and click on **My Account** at the top of the page. The Get Connected page displays.



2. Click on **Sign In**. Your Login ID should be the first initial of your first name followed by your last name.

3. Click on **Forgot Password** and follow the prompts to reset your password.

Now you're all set to explore your account information.

Giving by Text

Did you know you can text your gifts? If you have an open pledge, it will automatically go toward it. If you don't, it will be added as a one-time gift. Here's how it works. Text an amount to 210-399-0072. Text Funds if you want to see the entire list of funds available for text giving.

Community Care

For pastoral emergencies please call 210-507-0256.

Caring for one another in community is part of the core of who we are as the church. For us at St. Mark's, community care includes parish ministries of clergy and laity who respond to needs and concerns.

We want to know when anyone has a need. During the day, the easiest way to share a need, whether urgent or not, is by calling the church. After hours, we have an emergency call system that contacts the priest on call in order to respond to urgent needs. We welcome any call, for whatever reason a member is led to be in contact, and we value the deep relationships that form as we journey together through times of both great sorrow or great joy.

Prayer is an important part of our care for one another, and we have several prayer lists. The Sunday prayer list is what we hear during the liturgy of the word and is comprised of names of members and relatives of members; this list is public and is posted on our website and printed in our bulletin. The Staff prayer list and the Daughters of the King prayer list are confidential lists and is comprised of the Sunday prayer list and of prayer requests that may be more private. These people are prayed for daily and remain on these lists as long as there is need. When a friend or loved one dies, we offer prayers for them. Any person, both members or non-members, may be included in the Sunday prayers for those who have died.

Our Community Care is coordinated by the clergy in close collaboration with the Care Committee. Together we seek to provide compassionate and confidential emotional and spiritual support to the St. Mark's community as we live out our baptismal vows to seek and serve Christ in all persons. If your sense of vocation is to help care for the community in this way, there are both long term commitments and short-term assignments.

Pastoral Care Opportunities:

- Attitude of Gratitude
- Community of Hope
- Daughters of the King
- Flower Delivery Ministry
- Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs)

For more information about each of these volunteer opportunities, please contact a member of the Care Committee or The Rev. Carol Morehead.

Getting Connected at St. Mark's

Mind the Gap

Formerly the young adults group, Mind the Gap, borrows its name from the signs in the UK's underground as a reminder that we need to pay attention to the gaps between our working lives, our faith lives, and our home lives. This group has two regular kinds of meetings: Sunday Lunch Socials and Friday Evening Symposiums. The Rev. Matt Wise
mwise@stmarks-sa.org

Attitude of Gratitude

Thanking members for their ministry at St. Mark's.
Trinka McGehee
trinkam@gmail.com

Bookstore

Under the umbrella of Christian Formation the bookstore is open Sundays from 8.30-11.00am. New book titles arrive on a regular basis. We are happy to do special orders for you or a group that needs books. Our gift selection is handpicked with an emphasis on Fair Trade items from around the world.
Carla Pineda
carlaleedpineda@gmail.com

Kitchen Ministries

Volunteers help with special events and Cafe Kairos on Wednesday evenings.
Leah Thomas
lthomas@stmarks-sa.org

Caregivers Support Group

This ministry provides emotional, practical, and spiritual support for those caring for loved ones with long-term illness.
Annabelle McGee and
Lillian Morris
abelle39@gmail.com/
lillian.morris@hotmail.com

Commission on Ministry

COM supports current ministries and facilitating the process of establishing new ministries. The Commission is a vehicle for communication, recruitment, and accountability.
Jessie Lopez
jesselop@swbell.net

Daughters of the King

An order for laywomen who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, or churches in communion with it, or churches who are in the Historic Episcopate. Members undertake a Rule of Life, incorporating the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service.
Denise Dahm
dahmdr@gmail.com

Dorcas Stitchers

The Dorcas Stitchers carry on the tradition of creating linens for use at worship services since the founding of the church. Group members create and embroider baptismal towels as well as altar linens, priests' vestments, and tend to altar linen mending as necessary.
Pat Donegan
pdonegan@aol.com

Funeral Receptions

Provide hospitality for grieving families and friends attending a funeral at St. Mark's. The team prepares Gosnell Hall for funeral receptions including food, beverages, and décor.
Anne Church
angleroom@aol.com

Gardens

Deems Smith
deemssmith@att.net

Greeters

Exhibit hospitality to all who come to St. Mark's on Sunday by greeting everyone with a warm welcome. Hosts are positioned at the main entry points to the church.
Susan Thompson
sthomp303@hotmail.com

Haven for Hope Volunteer Network

An entry point for St. Mark's members wanting to volunteer.
Pat Bridwell or Patsy Jordt
pbridwell@att.net/
patsyjordt@sbcglobal.net

Newcomers

The Rev. Carol Morehead and
Dina Aboul Saad
cmorehead@stmarks-sa.org/
dsaad@stmarks-sa.org.

Outreach Grant Committee

Responsibly allocates outreach funds.
The Rev. Matt Wise
mwise@stmarks-sa.org



See **Worship Support** on p. 4 for information on Acolytes, Altar Guild, Baptism Guild, Eucharistic Visitors, Count Teams, Intercessors, Lectors, Pastoral Care, Wedding Guild, and Weekday Lay Readers.

Clergy and Staff



The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton
Rector
bknowlton@stmarks-sa.org



The Rev. Carol Morehead
Associate Rector
cmorehead@stmarks-sa.org



The Rev. Matthew Wise
Associate Rector
mwise@stmarks-sa.org



Ruby Merrill
Facilities Manager
rmerrill@stmarks-sa.org



Josephy Causby, PhD
Organist & Choirmaster
jcausby@stmarks-sa.org



Dina Aboul Saad
Director of Advancement
dsaad@stmarks-sa.org



Priscilla Briones
Accounting Manager
pbriones@stmarks-sa.org



Leah Thomas
Special Events Coordinator
lthomas@stmarks-sa.org



Eric Nelson
Operations Manager
enelson@stmarks-sa.org



Meredith Rogers
Director of Youth Ministry
mrogers@stmarks-sa.org



Abby Richards
Director of Children's Ministry
arichards@stmarks-sa.org



Rachel Dugger
Communications Coordinator
rdugger@stmarks-sa.org



Robert Brewer
Organist & Artist in Residence
rbrewer@stmarks-sa.org



Kathy Kelly
Children's Music Assistant



Janet Carrizales
Nursery Director
jcarrizales@stmarks-sa.org



Marsha Kimura
Music Department Admin



Chuy Mendoza
Kitchen Supervisor & Chef



Richard Maldonado
Chef



Estella Devora
Nursery Staff



Ruby Alderete
Nursery Staff



Desiree Maldonado
Nursery Staff



Renee Puleo
Nursery Staff



Daira Monrreal
Nursery Staff



Mary Helen Sarabia
Nursery Staff



Callie Sanchez
Nursery Staff



Derek Shively
Head Sexton



John Aranda
Sexton



Ivan Vargas
Sexton

Cafe Kairos

Dinners on Wednesdays and Thursdays

Mid-week dinners are served at St. Mark's to make it easy to attend events and activities in the evenings. Open from 5.00pm - 6.30pm. No reservation required! Menus are posted on the website under About Us, in the Messenger, and in the weekly eNews.

Cost: \$8.00 adults | \$6.00 children (under 6 yrs)

\$28.00 family of four

For to go containers, add \$1 per person



Café Kairos To Go

Want a bite to eat but no time to cook? Tired of grabbing fast food on the road? Well have no fear, Café Kairos is here! Take out is available on Wednesday evenings. Ruby, Chuy, and Leah are planning some tasty dishes this year so stop by. There are plenty of opportunities for volunteers. If you are interested in helping this wonderful ministry, contact Leah Thomas at 210-226-2426 or lthomas@stmarks-sa.org.

Catering

If you would like to have Cafe Kairos cater your next event, contact Leah Thomas at lthomas@stmarks-sa.org.

Vestry



Robert Pollom, Senior Warden
Class of 2017

Paul Allen
Class of 2018

Gary Chambers
Class of 2019



Jan Briley, Junior Warden
Class of 2017

Dawna Boudreaux
Class of 2018

Anne Connor
Class of 2019



John McClung
Class of 2017

Joey Oliver
Class of 2018

Kate Crone
Class of 2019



Elizabeth Raney
Class of 2017

Angela Torres-Lopez
Class of 2018

Mike Duffey
Class of 2019



Anne Rochelle
Class of 2017

Agatha Wade
Class of 2018

Kelly Ranson
Class of 2019

The Vestry is the governing body of the church that determines policy issues, sets goals, and provides stewardship of the St. Mark's operations. The Vestry reviews the church's financials on a monthly basis.

Each year, a Vestry Discernment Committee identifies candidates for the vestry based on the goals and future direction of the parish. Members are elected at the annual parish meeting in November for a three-year term.

Phone: 210-226-2426
Fax: 210-226-2468

315 E Pecan Street
San Antonio, TX 78205

Photo Credits

Thanks to the many who have made a gift of their photography and whose work is included in this Parish Life Handbook, including Joe Causby, Rachel Doyle, Eric Nelson, Patrice Oliver, Brett Richardson, and Ellen Williams.

Love taking photos? Contact Rachel Dugger at rdugger@stmarks-sa.org if you are interested in documenting parish events.