

# St. Mark's Episcopal Church

# The Lion

March 2017  
Volume 29, Issue 3

## RECTOR'S CORNER

Sometimes we develop ministries through prayer and planning. Sometimes ministries just happen to us—free gifts from God to our community.

As I've been thinking about St. Mark's and our role in this neighborhood, I've observed something wonderful. Almost every Wednesday evening or Sunday morning, I notice we are blessed to host students from UWM at our worship services. I've met undergraduates, graduates and PhD students all looking for a spiritual home and finding one here at St. Mark's.

The Episcopal ministry to the UWM campus closed many years ago. St. Mark's doesn't have a full time student minister on staff. We also don't have the budgeting or a strategic plan for a student ministry. In fact, I've never run a student ministry or even thought about running a student ministry. And yet, here we are—supporting these wonderful young adults as they come seeking a spiritual home. Sometimes ministries just happen to us. Thanks be to God!

So, I have decided to take a bit of a risk. I met with the fantastic pastor who runs the Corner House on the UWM Campus. Corner House is a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It is a place where students can explore their relationship with God, their own vocation, and talk about issues of faith and life in a safe and supportive environment. Pastor Rachel Binter is a wonderful facilitator, and I was impressed with the ministry she was running there. So, instead of reinventing the wheel, I've asked Pastor Binter if we might partner in student ministry with Corner House, and she has enthusiastically agreed.

We will begin small. Corner House hosts about 25 students for a brunch on the second Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. I've volunteered St. Mark's to make brunch on March 9 for those students—some of them from our church—and to spend some time getting to know the cares and concerns of these wonderful, faithful young people.

So, if you have any interest in cooking for some hungry college kids, shoot me an email ([ian@stmarksmilwaukee.org](mailto:ian@stmarksmilwaukee.org)). I'd love your help. And if you have interest in helping me begin a relationship with Corner House, let me know as well.

God has seen fit to provide us with these talented young people, and I think it would be sad not to respond with equal generosity. I believe these students need us, and I believe we need them. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to serve. Who knows? Perhaps someday this will be part of a larger ministry. Or perhaps it will never grow beyond more than one brunch a month. Either way, I am grateful for this opportunity to serve these faithful young people.

In Christ,

Fr. Burch (Ian+)

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**Ministry Leaders:**  
**Communications**  
**Meeting**  
**March 26**  
**11 a.m.**  
**Rector's Office**



Serve Brunch  
at  
Corner House  
March 9  
10 a.m.

## DEACON'S CORNER



The St. Mark's Thrift Shop has been offering clothing, housewares, and furniture for as long as I remember. I joined the church in 1973, and the Thrift Shop was a going concern then. But I really didn't discover it until much later, when I became an official bargain hunter.

In fact, it was only in the last fifteen years or so, that I became a regular shopper. I was amazed at the quality of the clothes there for both men and women. I had no idea just how much gently used and fashionable clothing is regularly on sale there. And the prices really are the lowest on the East Side.

Now my grandchildren routinely shop there and always find at least one new treasure at every visit. Some of the clothing even has price tags still on it, which I find really amazing. The children's bikes that appear each spring are always a star attraction with the younger set, and they are a steal at Thrift Shop prices.

It doesn't stop with chic dresses and Brooks Brothers shirts; there is also a very nice collection of housewares. You can find everything from a set of twelve plates or wine glasses for a song to gently used pots and pans. And small appliances in perfect working order are on the tables, too.

It is not only the students of UWM and the neighborhood who come to the Thrift Shop. We also have a few folks who are homeless or very poor whom we supply with free clothing to on a regular basis. We have even provided outfits for folks who needed to look nice for a job interview. So you can see, we are a valuable asset to the community.

The Thrift Shop is run by volunteers from our parish and the community as well. Being open two days a week for two hours means that at a minimum we need at least four volunteers each week. Lately we have had some church volunteers who have had to retire, and so we find we are really in need of new workers.

I volunteer there now twice a month. I find it fun dressing the mannequins that we have to show off seasonal outfits. It's also nice to meet and chat with so many nice young and not so young people who are regular customers. It's really pretty similar to working in a retail shop but more fun.

You may not be aware that the Thrift Shop contributes to the



*Sue Robde helping customers in the Thrift Shop.*

### RIVERWEST PANTRY WISHLIST

- Dry beans
- Whole grain pasta
- Olive or canola oil
- Tea and coffee

*Reusable bags are welcome!*

church budget every year. It makes a pledge just like you and I. The Thrift Shop also on occasion helps our youth go to church camps or other church activities that they wouldn't otherwise be able to afford.

How long can we continue this ministry without new help? I don't know. If you could give a Tuesday or Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon even once or twice a month, it would really help. Sue Rhode, our volunteer Thrift Shop manager will show you the ropes and make sure that you enjoy your time there. All you have to do is let Sue know that you are interested in trying out a shift to see if this is a ministry that you'd enjoy (susanerohde@gmail.com).

I think it would be a shame to have to close such a widely used East Side institution that folks have come to depend on and enjoy coming to. So come on down and see how you can help. You won't be disappointed.

~Deacon Michelle

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## PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER FLOWERS

This year the St. Mark's Flower Guild is simplifying donations for Palm Sunday arrangements and Easter flowers and plants. There will be only one envelope for everything, included in Sunday bulletins starting Sunday, March 19 with a form inside for noting memorials and thanksgivings for inclusion in the Easter Service bulletins. The deadline for details to be included in Easter bulletins this year is Palm Sunday, April 9. Contributions can be made after this date, but due to the busy season, the office will not be able to include those details in Easter bulletins. You may pay by check (mark "Flowers" on the memo line) or electronically (click DONATE on our website, [stmarksmilwaukee.org](http://stmarksmilwaukee.org), and choose "Easter Flowers"). As always, contributions will appear on pledge statements and are fully tax-deductible.



We usually have Palm Sunday arrangements of palms, forsythia and pussy willows. For Easter, donations will help provide Easter lilies and other plants, daffodils for the children's cross, and cut flowers and greens for flower arrangements throughout the church.

Thanks in advance from the Flower Guild for helping to make our 2017 Easter season beautiful.

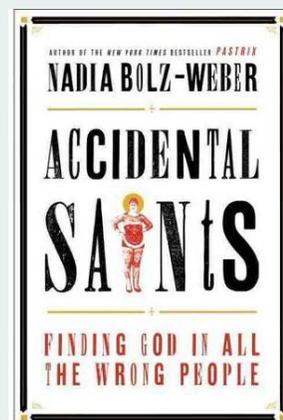
~Judy Young

## WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

The next meeting of the Women's Book Group will be April 3 at 7 p.m., at the home of Leslie McCormick. The book we will be discussing will be *Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. This story demonstrates what happens when ordinary people share bread and wine, struggle with scripture together, and tell each other the truth about their real lives. It will ring true for believer and skeptic alike.

Books can be purchased at Boswell for a ten percent discount or borrowed from the library. All women of the church are invited. Guests are welcome.

~Ellie Moseley



*April book selection*

## POETRY, PRAYER, SILENCE—A LENTEN QUIET DAY



Lent provides us with an invitation to let go of our usual agendas and open ourselves to what God wants to say to us. It's a time for some quiet in the midst of our sometimes overly busy lives. "Lectio Divina," a Latin term meaning "divine reading," is one such way of encountering the God who is desiring to encounter us.

Spend a morning, through individual practice and small group sharing, listening for God's still, small voice in scripture and poetry. All are welcome—members of St. Mark's and of our community alike. RSVP to [sara@stmarksmilwaukee.org](mailto:sara@stmarksmilwaukee.org).

Judith Miller will be facilitating our Lenten Quiet Day.

After retiring from her role as a software project manager in Madison, Judith came to Milwaukee, and St. Mark's, to volunteer at the new Cristo Rey Jesuit High School near Miller Park and also serve as a contract spiritual director at Marquette University.

Since joining the Episcopal Church in 1981, she has served in several roles—as a member of the Commission on Ministry in the Diocese of Pittsburgh and more recently as convenor of a parish discernment committee at St. Andrew's in Madison.

She received her training in spiritual direction and retreat-giving from the Spiritual Guidance Program in Racine, WI, and St. Beuno's Jesuit Spirituality Center in Wales, UK.

She has been praying for a long time.

## NEW PARISH TREASURER

The Vestry has elected parishioner Bruce Jacobs as St. Mark's treasurer. A parishioner at St Mark's since 1989 and former Vestry member, Bruce retired after a forty-year career in the iron and steel foundry business. His primary responsibilities as treasurer will be coordinating with bookkeeper Bill Davies in overseeing cash flow, reporting to the Vestry on financial matters, chairing the Finance Committee, and preparing the annual budget.



Bruce brings to the position 20 years of service on the Marshall & Ilsley Bank Board of Directors and Audit Committee, and he is a former 25-year member of the Milwaukee YMCA Executive Board. Founder (in 1977) and current minority partner in the Wichita, Kansas, independent bookstore Watermark Books, Bruce is currently a staff book reviewer for the web-based Seattle bookseller trade magazine *Shelf Awareness*. His wife Elizabeth (Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean of Research, Medical College of Wisconsin) has been a member of the St. Mark's choir for 25 years, and their adult children Ada Jacobs Zavala and Dexter Jacobs, live in Neenah, WI, and Dallas, TX, respectively.

*"The Afternoon knows what the Morning never suspected." —Robert Frost*

### Moving Over Uncharted Ground: Aging as a Spiritual Practice

March 5 - 12, 2017  
at Saint John's On The Lake, Milwaukee



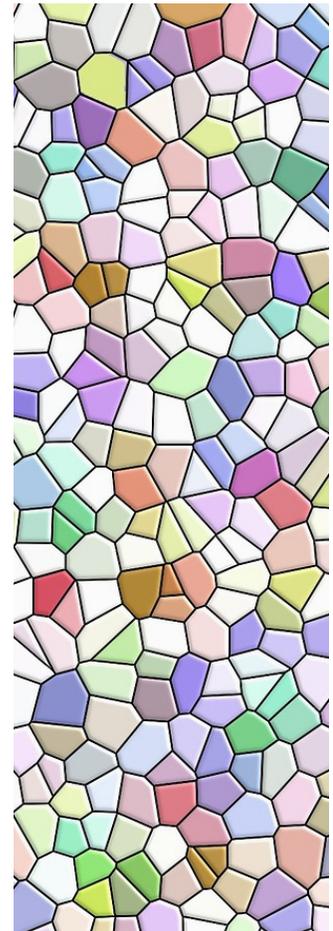
Irish Study #15 by Terrence Coffman

Learn from eight of the nation's most compelling thinkers interweave scientific findings with music, art and the stories of older adults to illuminate the spiritual depths of aging.

**Register Early –  
Seating is Limited**

For More Information,  
and to Register, visit:  
[www.SaintJohnsMilw.org](http://www.SaintJohnsMilw.org)  
or call 414-831-6905.

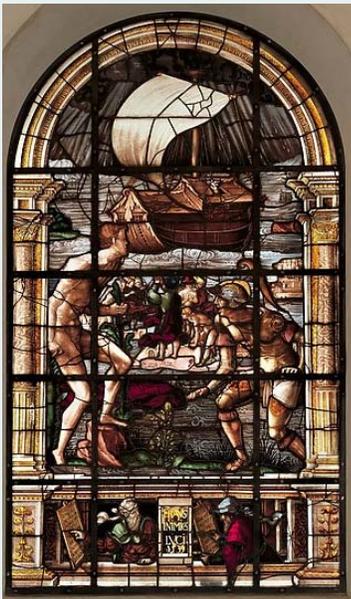
1840 North Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 831-6905



**ADULT  
FORMATION**

**SUNDAYS  
11 A.M.**

**LIBRARY**



## CONFUSION, BETRAYAL, DESTRUCTION AND MURDER IN GENESIS



Scripture gives us many things—comfort, guidance and, most of all, revelation. But there are several Bible stories that seem confusing and disturbing in their portrayal of God and God’s people as jealous, revengeful and violent. This Lenten Sunday morning program will explore five of these stories from Genesis to see if the fog is inherent in revelation or of our own making. Classes begin on March 5 in the Library following the service and continue through Lent.

**Session One—“Am I My Brother’s Keeper?”—Cain and Abel**  
Disappointment, envy, lies and murder—the Bible’s first dysfunctional family.

**Session Two—“And the Lord Was Sorry That He Had Made Man”—The Flood**  
Why would God want to destroy God’s creation, what’s a flood and how does an ark save?

**Session Three—“Let Us Go Down and Confuse Their Language”—The Tower of Babel**  
Humans get together to cooperate on building something and God doesn’t like it—huh?

**Session Four—“I Did Not Laugh!”—Sarah’s Laughter and Hagar’s Cries**  
Take one father, add two mothers, mix in two sons and watch the pot boil. Add a pinch of God.

**Session Five—“Where Is the Lamb for the Burnt Offering?”—The Sacrifice of Isaac**  
Did God really intend for the ultimate test of faith to be murder?

If you have any questions, please contact me ([rostovdog@aol.com](mailto:rostovdog@aol.com)).

# WHICH COLLEGE CAMPUSES ALLOW GUNS?

## PETITION CALLS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT CAMPUS CARRY POLICIES

**A**s the time nears when high school seniors must decide which college they will attend, Common Ground's issue campaign committed to reducing gun violence is circulating a petition calling for data to be compiled nationally about which campuses allow "campus carry." In other words, in those states where concealed weapons are legal, does a particular college or university allow those concealed guns on campus?

The petition is sponsored by the issue group known as Do Not Stand Idly By (DNSIB). It takes its name from Leviticus 19:16: "Do not stand idly by while your neighbor's blood is shed." The petition, circulating nationally, asks colleges, college ratings services, and the U.S. Department of Education to gather and make public information about which colleges allow concealed guns on campus and which do not.

DNSIB's leaders emphasize that theirs is a market-based approach. Their central effort is to change the conversation about gun violence from "gun control" to a conversation about gun manufacturers' responsibility for gun safety and for how and where guns are sold. The campaign encourages gun manufacturers to innovate and



improve in the areas of safety technologies and gun distribution by doing research and development on smart guns and by setting standards for the dealers manufacturers use as sales outlets. Noting that the public sector purchases 40% of the guns and ammunition in the United States—with taxpayers' dollars!—, DNSIB seeks to persuade public officials at all levels of government to focus on safety by encouraging (but not mandating) smart gun technology and by creating market pressure for smart guns and greater gun safety.

While development of child-proof and theft-proof smart guns may not reduce the number of homicides where illegal guns are used, they are very likely to reduce the number of self-inflicted and accidental gun deaths.

For additional information and an opportunity to sign the petition, go to <http://bit.ly/2llmO0k>, and/or come talk with me at Coffee Hour on Sunday, March 5.

*~Virginia Chappell*



Transforming lives.  
Strengthening communities.

## ART GALLERY: BJORN AKERBLOM

### GALLERY HOURS

Tuesday—9 to 5

Wednesday—9 to 5

Friday—9 to 1

Saturday—10 to noon

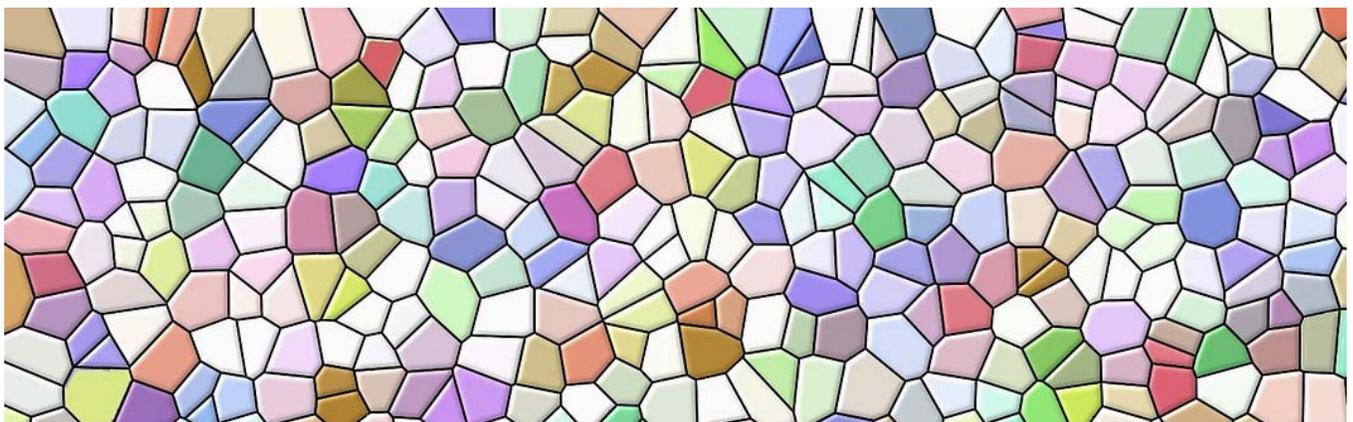
Sunday—9 to noon

Also by appointment;  
Call 414-962-0500 to  
arrange.

When evaluating the social acceptance of those whose presence or representation challenges the normal boundaries of gender identity and sexuality, it is necessary to consider what terms this acceptance is offered under. In many cases, one could argue that the unspoken social terms have to do with visibility and to what degree the majority can comfortably be expected to handle visual confrontation. Tolerance of outsider behavior is often contingent upon maintaining an appearance of normality or by maintaining socially accepted standards of alternative stereotypes.

Through various bodies of work, I attempt to examine the conscious portrayal of personal choice and gender identity through physical presentation and display, and the way in which sexually non-traditional and gender non-conforming people are asked to reconcile their private and personal selves for the sake of those around them.

*Bjorn Akerblom is a local artist and current undergraduate student at the Peck School of the Arts at UWM, pursuing a BFA in Painting and Drawing.*



## LENTEN OFFERINGS



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*I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.*

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### **Ash Wednesday, March 1**

7:30 a.m. Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes  
12–2 p.m. Prayer & Imposition of Ashes  
6 p.m. Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes

### **Wednesdays, 6 p.m.**

Midweek Mass

### **Thursdays, 6 p.m.**

One Book, One Parish  
*Simple meal and discussion*

### **Sundays, 11 a.m.**

Adult Education Lenten Series

### **Saturday, March 25, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

Poetry, Prayer, Silence



## ONE BOOK, ONE PARISH

### MARCH CELEBRATIONS

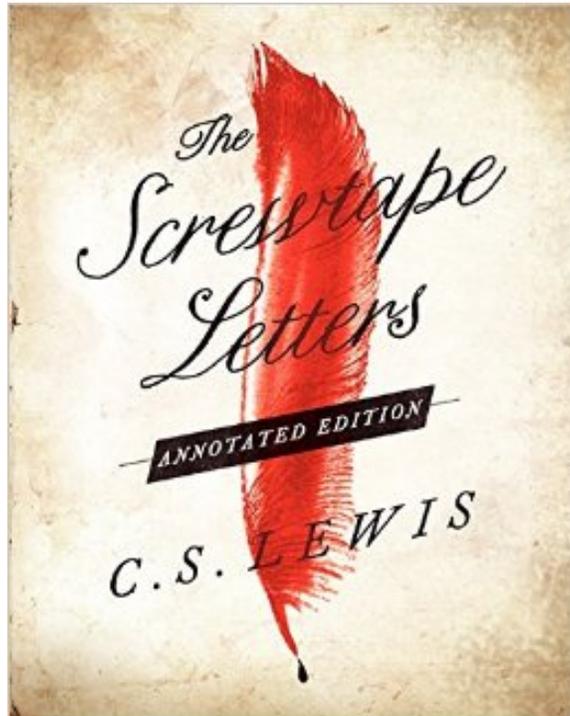
#### BIRTHDAYS

3/1	Rose Mortara
3/2	Tron Patnode
3/3	Jan Rhodes
3/5	Mary Ross
3/10	Isabella Mortara
3/10	Tyler Green
3/18	TJ Davies
3/18	Sandi Tunis
3/21	Peter Batchelder
3/22	Sally Scheurell
3/24	Cheryl Johnson



#### ANNIVERSARIES

3/10	Susan and Steve Rohde
3/14	Paula Wheeler and James Arndorfer



This Lent, come and enter into a parish-wide discussion on C.S. Lewis' provocative *The Screwtape Letters*. In the book, Lewis imagines hell as a gruesome bureaucracy where a senior demon, Screwtape, corresponds with his nephew Wormwood. This fanciful premise explores themes of humanity, death, lust, and avarice—a juicy read for Lent.

There are several ways to participate. Each Thursday of Lent, we will gather in the Parish Hall for a simple soup supper at 6 p.m., followed by small group conversations on the book. If Thursday nights are difficult for you, we will post study questions on our Facebook page as well as some teaser questions in the bulletin. You may come for one or all the Thursday night sessions. It should be a thoughtful and meaningful series.

The church has 20 copies of the book. Feel free to take one from the back of the church and kindly put \$10 in the basket provided. You're welcome to use your own copy as well. Or, if we run out, we'll order more!

RSVP to [ian@stmarksmilwaukee.org](mailto:ian@stmarksmilwaukee.org), and we look forward to our One Book, One Parish supper and conversation program for Lent.

# MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #d3d3d3; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">                     For the most current update, please view our calendar on our website: <a href="http://www.stmarksmilwaukee.org">www.stmarksmilwaukee.org</a> </div>			<b>1</b> <b>7:30 AM Ash Wednesday Service</b> <b>12 PM</b> Prayer/Imposition of Ashes <b>4 PM Bible Study</b> <b>6 PM Ash Wednesday Eucharist</b> <b>7 PM Choir</b>	<b>2</b> <b>7:30 AM Yoga</b> <b>3:30 PM Yoga</b> <b>6 PM One Book, One Parish</b> <b>8 PM AA</b>	<b>3</b> Rector's Day Off <b>8 PM AA</b>	<b>4</b> <b>10 AM–12 PM</b> Thrift Shop
<b>5</b> <b>9:30 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11 AM</b> Adult Formation	<b>6</b> <b>12:30 PM EFM</b> <b>6:15 PM</b> SWEATnDANCE <b>6:30 PM UWM:</b> Healthy Foods <b>6:30 PM</b> School Board Candidates Forum	<b>7</b> <b>7:30 AM Yoga</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander <b>10 AM–12 PM</b> Thrift Shop <b>3:30 PM Yoga</b>	<b>8</b> <b>4 PM Bible Study</b> <b>6 PM Midweek Eucharist</b> <b>7 PM Choir</b>	<b>9</b> <b>7:30 AM Yoga</b> <b>10 AM</b> Corner House Brunch <b>3:30 PM Yoga</b> <b>6 PM One Book, One Parish</b> <b>8 PM AA</b>	<b>10</b> Rector's Day Off <b>8 PM AA</b>	<b>11</b> <b>10 AM–12 PM</b> Thrift Shop
<b>12</b> <b>9:30 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11 AM</b> Adult Formation	<b>13</b> <b>12:30 PM EFM</b> <b>6:15 PM</b> SWEATnDANCE <b>6:30 PM UWM:</b> Healthy Foods	<b>14</b> <b>7:30 AM Yoga</b> <b>10 AM–12 PM</b> Thrift Shop <b>3:30 PM Yoga</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Theology Pub	<b>15</b> <b>10 AM</b> Common Ground Core Team <b>4 PM Bible Study</b> <b>6 PM Midweek Eucharist</b> <b>7 PM Choir</b>	<b>16</b> <b>7:30 AM Yoga</b> <b>3:30 PM Yoga</b> <b>6 PM One Book, One Parish</b> <b>8 PM AA</b>	<b>17</b> Rector's Day Off <b>8 PM AA</b>	<b>18</b> <b>9 AM</b> Men's Fellowship Breakfast <b>9:30 AM</b> Quilting Circle <b>10 AM–12 PM</b> Thrift Shop
<b>19</b> <b>9:30 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11 AM</b> Adult Formation <b>5:30 PM</b> Confirmation	<b>20</b> <b>12:30 PM EFM</b> <b>6:15 PM</b> SWEATnDANCE	<b>21</b> <b>7:30 AM Yoga</b> <b>8:15 AM</b> Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander <b>10 AM–12 PM</b> Thrift Shop <b>3:30 PM Yoga</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Vestry	<b>22</b> <b>1 PM</b> Common Ground Core Team <b>4 PM Bible Study</b> <b>6 PM Midweek Eucharist</b> <b>7 PM Choir</b>	<b>23</b> <b>7:30 AM Yoga</b> <b>3:30 PM Yoga</b> <b>6 PM One Book, One Parish</b> <b>8 PM AA</b>	<b>24</b> Rector's Day Off <b>8 PM AA</b>	<b>25</b> <b>9 AM–12:30 PM</b> Poetry, Prayer, Silence <b>10 AM–12 PM</b> Thrift Shop
<b>26</b> <b>9:30 AM Holy Eucharist</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11 AM</b> Adult Formation <b>11 AM</b> Communications Meeting	<b>27</b> <b>12:30 PM EFM</b> <b>3:30 PM UWM:</b> Healthy Foods <b>6:15 PM</b> SWEATnDANCE <b>7 PM</b> Shepherds Meeting	<b>28</b> <b>7:30 AM Yoga</b> <b>10 AM–12 PM</b> Thrift Shop <b>1 PM</b> Spirituality and Aging Group <b>3:30 PM UWM:</b> Midwest Artisan Foods <b>3:30 PM Yoga</b> <b>6:30 PM UWM:</b> Contemporary Foods	<b>29</b> <b>4 PM Bible Study</b> <b>6 PM Midweek Eucharist</b> <b>6:30 PM UWM:</b> International Foods <b>7 PM Choir</b>	<b>30</b> <b>7:30 AM Yoga</b> <b>3:30 PM Yoga</b> <b>6 PM One Book, One Parish</b> <b>8 PM AA</b>	<b>31</b>	

## ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Mark's is a growing, welcoming parish on Milwaukee's Eastside. We are a vibrant community of sojourners and seekers. We are young and old, families, singles and couples, gay and straight, from a variety of races and ethnic backgrounds. Together we represent a diverse array of perspectives and life experiences. We believe that the Holy Spirit is at work in our lives and in the world and that we are called, both as individuals and as a community, to share Christ's love with our neighbors. We hope that the community at St. Mark's will help you to grow deeper in your faith and that you will find yourself enlivened by service to God and to God's world.

**The Rt. Rev. Steven A. Miller**, Bishop of Milwaukee  
**The Rev. Ian C. Burch**, Rector  
**The Rev. Michelle P. Mooney**, Deacon  
**The Rev. John Hickey**, Priest Associate  
**Stephen Wolff**, Director of Music  
**Virginia Chappell**, Senior Warden  
**Ron Tunis**, Junior Warden  
**Bruce Jacobs**, Treasurer  
**Sara Bitner**, Parish Administrator  
**Bill Davies**, Bookkeeper  
**Jyoti Bratz**, Housekeeper  
**Skrauss**, Sexton

**Vestry Members**  
Jackie Adams  
Marian Byers  
Paula Wheeler  
Tom Lacy  
Ellie Mixter-Keller  
Brooke Frizzell  
Cheryl Johnson  
Michael O'Hear

### **Sunday Eucharist 9:30 a.m.**

Childcare is provided from 9:00–11:00 a.m.

### **Wednesday Eucharist 6:00 p.m.**

### **Office Hours**

Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

**Eastside Senior Services: 414-210-5881**

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**  
**2618 N. Hackett Ave.**  
**Milwaukee, WI 53211**  
**414-962-0500**  
**ian@stmarksmilwaukee.org**  
**sara@stmarksmilwaukee.org**

