

## Rector's Corner

### Rally Sunday, Sept. 11

- Blessing of Backpacks
- Ministry Fair
- Church School Registration
- Confirmation Registration
- Ice Cream

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Friends!

I firmly believe that one of the mistakes that many parishes make organizationally is to slow down in the summer. It's been my experience that the incidences of people travelling is greatly exaggerated and that, in fact, summer brings with it an influx of new faces. The early results from our summer experiment are in, and it looks like it was a rousing success.

1. I've had the pleasure of meeting several newcomers to the parish who wandered in over the summer months.
2. The ten to fourteen people who have been attending Mass on the Grass have shared with me that the service is meaningful, casual, and enjoyable.
3. Our Theology Pub film series (despite the nasty heat) has had good attendance and better conversation, led by the wonderful Fr. John Hickey.
4. The Corn Roast was, of course, a huge success, and we were able to raise our profile in the community.
5. Our Garden Guild has made our Memorial Garden into a little slice of heaven.
6. The new accessible door will make St. Mark's more welcoming for all people for generations to come.
7. Our summer Cantor program brought two skilled singers into our Sunday morning worship to help lead us as we share our songs and prayers with God and each other.
8. Bible Story Time introduced our children to the great stories of the faith during our Sunday morning Eucharists.

There is a lot to be proud of; we've accomplished so much in terms of

organizational vitality. I think we can take a few minutes for a pat on the back.

Still, as we put time and love and prayer into our physical plant and our programs, let's

make sure that we are keeping our eye on the most important thing—sharing the love of God with the whole world.

I spend a lot of time thinking about the growth of our parish. I know some priests who are reluctant to get into spreadsheets and to figure out exactly what the Sunday attendance is from month to month. I respectfully disagree with that approach. I like to know to the decimal how St. Mark's is serving the community at Sunday and Wednesday Eucharists. I realize that numbers are not the only way to measure vitality and engagement, but they are ONE important way. Put another way, I love the Gospel of Christ as represented by the St. Mark's community so much that I want everyone in a thirty mile radius to experience it. I never want someone sitting home on a Sunday morning simply because they didn't know they were invited here to this wonderful parish.

So, congratulations everyone; we had such a fantastic summer. And get excited because there is much more to come this fall!

Blessings,  
Fr. Burch  
(Ian+)



## Deacon's Corner

I hope all of you, as I do, realize what a treasure we have in our new pastor, Ian. Seeing his hard work in developing new ways to worship and experience the life in our community has been very exciting for me.

Our summer offerings of "Mass on the Grass," as well as our movie nights have been delightful. It has given me a chance to meet some of our newer members in a more informal setting. They have been great experiences.

I also see how he is working hard to bring us a revitalized children's program for the fall that will help the responsibilities of teaching our younger ones be more widely shared among all adults in the church. And I am watching with great interest all his plans for our annual Stewardship Campaign that will hopefully bring new vigor and shared participation by our members.

Ian really is working very hard and collaboratively with parish leaders on many

fronts. I can already see the renewed energy this has brought to us.

Rally Day is planned for September 11. This will mark the beginning of the year for Youth Formation. And there will be information about volunteer opportunities in the many programs that we support with outreach dollars and time given. I look forward to record attendance on this day to mark a new beginning in our community's life.

So mark your calendars now and let's plan for "perfect attendance" on Rally Day at St. Mark's.

*~Michelle Mooney*



## Pumpkin Sale Is Coming!



The annual Pumpkin Sale will be starting October 1. Please keep an eye out for notes in our eblasts and bulletins letting you know when we need help unloading pumpkins and when it's time for you to sign up for shifts at the sale.



All images © Augsburg Fortress Press

## Holy Moly! Our New Bible-based Church School Curriculum

“Even if our church buildings burned down tomorrow, we would still have to teach our children the stories of our faith.”

~Fr. Burch at the August Vestry meeting

In other words, Church School is one of the most important activities of a church.

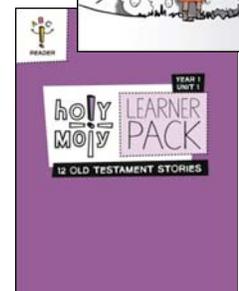
For the year immediately ahead, we have a brand new curriculum from Augsburg Fortress Press that uses stories, video, and crafts to introduce our youngsters to important stories from the Bible. The two-year sequence has 12 stories each for fall and spring, beginning with Abraham and the Patriarchs and Matriarchs for this fall, then New Testament stories for spring. All the stories are supported by video animations of the Bible stories, brightly colored materials for crafts, and age-appropriate Bibles that will belong personally to each child.

This year, based on their ages and their school grades, St. Mark’s kids will be divided into the following four groups/levels:

- Babies and toddlers, up to age 3: Nursery
- K4 through Grade 2: Primary
- Grades 3 through 5: Intermediate
- Grade 6 and above: Confirmation Preparation

The confirmation preparation will include participation in various liturgical ministries (e.g., acolyting, reading the lessons) and a monthly third Sunday evening class with Father Burch.

Students will leave each class with a story they can retell with their family and a craft product connected with the Bible story of the week. For example, in connection with God’s promise to Abraham in Genesis 15:5 that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars in the sky, the Primary class will do a craft activity with big stars provided in their personal activity packs. (Except for the finished craft, students will be expected to leave their learner materials at church.) Later in the year, in connection with the story of David and Goliath, the Primary class will have an activity involving coloring and a block puzzle to manipulate, and the Intermediate class will have figures to cut out to create a diorama of David confronting Goliath with his sling shot.



# Celebrations



## Birthdays

9/1 Julia Fuller  
 9/6 Sam Diliberti  
 9/6 Irmgard Taylor  
 9/12 James Arndorfer  
 9/13 Ron Zingler  
 9/13 Emily Weinert  
 9/17 Marian Byers  
 9/17 Marcus Lacy  
 9/21 Elaine Reynolds  
 9/21 Janet Martin  
 9/24 Jane Shero  
 9/26 Jon West  
 9/29 John Cain

## Anniversaries

9/8 Jane and Tom Lacy  
 9/12 Vince and Kathy Katter  
 9/21 Justin and Susanna Mortara  
 9/22 Ron and Jamie Zingler  
 9/27 John and Stephanie Dudek

## Thrift Shop Bag Sale

Sept. 6 & 10

## Upcoming Dates

Blessing of the Animals—October 2  
 Diocesan Convention—October 7 & 8 (Madison)  
 Fall Music at St. Mark's Artists in Residence Concert—October 23  
 All Diocese All Saints' Day Service—November 1 (All Saints' Cathedral)  
 Bishop's Visit—November 6  
 Thanksgiving Eve Service—November 23



## Riverwest Pantry Wish List Items

- Brown or white rice
- Low Sodium nuts and dried fruits
- Low-sodium stocks and broths
- Canola or olive oils

As always, egg cartons and reusable bags are welcome. We are so very grateful for your continuing support of Riverwest Food Pantry as we build a pantry offering healthy food choices!

## Garden Guild Garden Party



Thanks for all the fine work you do, Garden Guild!

## Education for Ministry is Returning to St. Mark's

Two new Education for Ministry classes are starting in September in the Diocese of Milwaukee. The first is a Tuesday daytime class held at St. John's on the Lake from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. The second is a new Monday night class held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., here at St. Mark's. Education for Ministry (EfM) is the lay adult formation program of the Episcopal Church created by the University of the South (Sewanee) and used by over 85,000 students around the world. All members of the Diocese are welcome.

Each year is an exploration of the Bible, theology, and church history with an emphasis on discovering and nurturing your ministries to family, friends, community, and the Church. Structured like a college course, but without exams or papers, EfM meets weekly for worship, discussion, and fellowship. Completion of one year earns 18 Continuing Education Units (CEUs), and a certificate is awarded for completing four years.

Please go to the EfM website <http://efm.sewanee.edu/> or contact the EfM Mentor, Bill Stotts, at [wmmex@aol.com](mailto:wmmex@aol.com) or (414) 456-0847 for additional information.

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### Education for Ministry Application

I would like to enroll in EfM for the 2016–2017 academic year. Classes start the week of September 12.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Monday class from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at St. Mark's

Tuesday class from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m, at St. John's on the Lake

There are breaks for all major holidays and we are off for the summer. Regular attendance is required, but unavoidable absences can be accommodated. A check made out to Education for Ministry for the reduced tuition of \$350 must be sent to William Stotts as soon as possible in order to have the texts and study materials for the first meetings.



## Friends of Common Ground Campaign

**W**e will be conducting our annual Friends of Common Ground campaign soon. The campaign raises about \$6,500 dollars each year from our St. Mark's members—a level of generosity that places us in the top tier of supporters within Common Ground.

Common Ground Core Team members will be contacting many of our parishioners starting around September 19. I hope you will consider a gift that helps CG develop the programs that have made such significant inroads in fighting for justice in Milwaukee and the larger suburban area.

The Friends campaign assures that CG will remain independent of any government support that could compromise our independence. Our entire budget is currently raised from member group's dues and contributions, individual supporter gifts, and foundations. This enables CG to develop programs that reflect closely the needs of the community. It pays for staff and

volunteer leaders to have the resources to do the research and education that is needed for complex issues such as housing revitalization, community revitalization, educational reform, environmental needs, as well as smart gun technology and community organizing.



Transforming lives.  
Strengthening communities.

CG leaders at St. Mark's hope you will read the materials that will be available in our 2016 Annual Report. We hope you will think about how, through your support, Common Ground will be able to continue the work towards greater justice for all in our community.

*~Deacon Michelle*



At a gathering to support public funding of an indoor soccer complex on the South Side of Milwaukee.

# Heretics, St. Paul, and Angry Birds Adult Education for the Fall



So, what's your favorite heresy? Are you a Gnostic, a Montanist, or perhaps even a follower of Marcion? To find out just what kind of heretic you are, come to the Adult Education sessions after worship in September. And, if your soul needs cleansing afterward, a series of classes on that most orthodox of Christian thinkers, the Apostle Paul, will follow in October. The programs will be held in the Library after worship on these Sundays:

September 18 & 25—*Heresies! Do They Matter Anymore?*  
October 2, 9 & 16—*St. Paul: Apostle, Theologian, and Curmudgeon*

As an added treat, as part of the St. Mark's at the Movies series, we will be screening Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds* on Thursday, September 29, at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall. A discussion of the "End of the World" will follow. Contact John Hickey if you have any questions, [rostovdog@aol.com](mailto:rostovdog@aol.com).

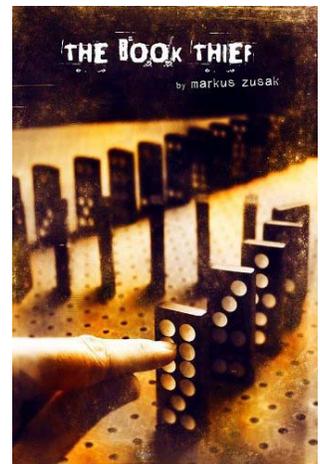
~The Adult Education Committee

## Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group will be meeting on Monday, September 19, at 7 p.m., at the home of Ellie Moseley. Our book for this month is *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak. While subjected to the horrors of WWII in Germany, young Liesel finds solace by stealing books and sharing them with others. The story is told by the voice of Death, who makes you pay attention.

Books can be purchased at Boswell for a ten percent discount or borrowed from the library. If you need directions to Ellie's home, please contact the church office. Guest parking is provided off-street. All women of the church are invited. Guests are also very welcome.

~Ellie Moseley



# Art Gallery

## Four Painters—Images of Wisconsin

Opening Reception—September 11, 2016, 1 to 4 p.m.

### Artists

Ann L Powell

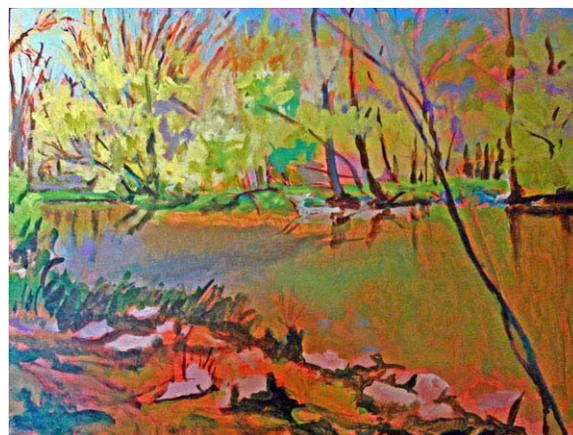
Daniel Stauff

Mara Kay Pozorski

Bridget Lyle Wolf



Ann L Powell



Daniel Stauff



Mara Kay Pozorski



Bridget Lyle Wolf

The Gallery is open Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 9 a.m.–1 p.m., Wednesday from 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m.–noon, Sunday from 9 a.m.–noon, and by appointment by calling 414-962-0500.

# Music Corner

The last three months have been a time of great activity and development in our music ministry.

1. The organ console and its “innards” were completely refurbished. You may remember the horror stories about the cloth-wound wiring from 1926, the spaghetti-like ball of wires through which signals had to pass from console to pipes (almost impossible to troubleshoot when something went awry), the antiquated combination action that “clunked” every time it was activated (40 to 50 times a service). Those problems and many other much-needed console repairs have now been resolved.
2. We have signed two new artists in residence: Aaron Zauner a cellist, and Bob Estlund, a flutist.
3. Last year, one of our longest serving Artists in Residence, Mark Niehaus, became executive director of the MSO with job responsibilities that leave little time for practice. As of June, he gave notice of retiring from his Artist in Residency position at St. Mark’s. Mark has provided us with his glorious trumpet music for nearly twenty years and has been an important part of our liturgical life. We thank you sincerely, Mark, for being part of our worship all these years.
4. The Welsh Music Sunday service on July 24 was splendid. Many thanks go to Mary Williams for organizing the singers and the joyful music on that Sunday. Thanks to all the friends that she brought and to Trevor Williams (100% Welsh), who directed the pick-up choir.
5. Many thanks as well to our marvelous cantors who led the congregation in the kyrie, psalm, and the Gospel acclamation this summer: Sara Bitner, Julianne Frey, and Vince Katter.
6. Looking ahead, The Wardens and Vestry have approved a retiling of the choir room floor. A large section, about a quarter of the tiled area, has come loose and left the cement underneath exposed. The repairs will be funded by various gifts and donations, and money from the capital improvements budget. The work will be led by Alex Cain.
7. A significant gift by an anonymous donor last spring along with the award of a significant diocesan grant have made it possible for St. Mark’s to enjoy section leaders in the choir this coming year. Their role will be to act as leaders (soprano, alto, tenor, or bass) and, in general, to help the growth of musicianship in the choir.
8. Choir rehearsal starts up again on Wednesday, September 7, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Enter either through the door by the garage or, if you have the code, by the other door off the parking lot. The first choral service will be September 11, Rally Sunday. If you are curious or thinking about joining, and want to know more about the choir, look for Ron Tunis and me at the Ministry Fair that day.

All good things in the Lord,

~Steve Wolff



# September 2016 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Rector Away 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	2 Rector Away 8 PM AA	3 Rector Away 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop
4 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:50 AM Bible Story Time	5 Office Closed 	6 7:30 AM Yoga 8:15 AM Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop (Bag Sale) 3:30 PM Yoga	7 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 7 PM Choir	8 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 6 PM Outreach Meeting 8 PM AA	9 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	10 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop (Bag Sale) 1:30 PM Stewardship Committee
11 RALLY SUNDAY 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and Backpack Blessing 10:45 AM Ice Cream Social/Ministry Fair/ Sunday School and Confirmation Registration 1 PM Art Gallery Opening Reception	12 6 PM EfM 6 PM SWEATnDANCE 6:15 PM Finance Committee	13 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 12:30 PM EfM 3:30 PM Yoga 6 PM Theology Pub	14 4 PM Bible Study 4:30 PM ESS Board Meeting 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 7 PM Choir	15 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	16 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	17 9 AM Men's Fellowship Breakfast
18 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 11 AM Adult Formation Series 5:30 PM Confirmation	19 6 PM EfM 6 PM SWEATnDANCE 7 PM Women's Book Group	20 7:30 AM Yoga 8:15 AM Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 12:30 PM EfM 3:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Vestry	21 4 PM Bible Study 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 7 PM Choir	22 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	23 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	24 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 
25 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 11 AM Adult Formation Series 11 AM Newcomer Brunch	26 6 PM EfM 6 PM SWEATnDANCE	27 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 12:30 PM EfM 3:30 PM Yoga	28 4 PM Bible Study 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 7 PM Choir	29 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 6 PM Film Series 8 PM AA	30 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	

The calendar is available on our website:  
[www.stmarksmilwaukee.org](http://www.stmarksmilwaukee.org)

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
2618 N. Hackett Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53211



## St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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Milwaukee, WI 53211  
414-962-0500  
stmarksmilwaukee.org  
sara@stmarksmilwaukee.org  
ian@stmarksmilwaukee.org

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

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

### **Office Hours**

Mon., Tues., Fri. 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

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

**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  
**Barbara Costanzo**, Treasurer  
**Sara Bitner**, Parish Administrator  
**Bill Davies**, Bookkeeper  
**Jyoti Bratz**, Housekeeper  
**Skrauss**, Sexton

### **Vestry Members**

Barbara Costanzo	Jackie Adams	Tom Lacy
David Kiger	Marian Byers	Ellie Mixter-Keller
Susan Rohde	Paula Wheeler	Andrew Muriuki

**Transforming lives through meaningful  
relationships with God in Jesus Christ**