

## Rector's Corner

Friends in Christ,

At our last Lenten Bistro, we talked a lot about hope. What is it? How can we map its contours? Some people wondered whether it might be a gift. A posture? Is it maybe a thing for fools?

I'm not expert on the subject, but I can say with some confidence that I have *seen* hope in my life—sometimes professionally, sometimes personally. There is a sense of God with us that shines through those times or people who embody hope.

For Christians, the Church teaches that our hope is, inexplicably, in the scandal of the Cross and the empty tomb. We are a people who know that God can enter into the most reprehensible situation and create joy, peace, solace. We are a people who know that death is never the end of the story and that suffering will one day cease.

So maybe we are a little foolish as we lean into hope even when the world around us seems to have lost its mind. Fools for God.

We are a people of hope. And we draw hope from the work of God through the stories we heard on Easter morning—and from the empty tomb.

There are empty tombs all around, and Christians have the eyes to see them. We have a special relationship with hope, and we confess it just like we confess the Creed every Sunday. So look around this world and find the

places where death has lost and where Christ has risen. Look around and you will find them.

I suppose I am asking that you choose to be foolish with me. A fool for hope, a fool for God. I've certainly been called worse, and I would be honored if someone carved that on my gravestone. "Here lies Ian, a Christian, a fool for God." Join me. And Easter blessings to you and yours.

Ian+  
(Fr. Burch)



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**Ministry Leaders**, we will have a Communications Meeting on April 10, at 11 a.m., after the service, to plan the calendar through the summer. If you are unable to attend, please make sure that someone from your ministry area will be there to represent your group. The meeting will be held in the Rector's Office.

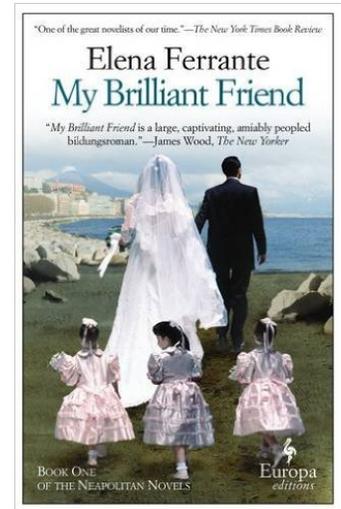


## Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group will meet on April 11, at 7 p.m., at the home of Carolyn Davies. Our book for discussion this month is *My Brilliant Friend* by Elena Ferrante. This is the story of Elena and Lila growing up in Naples, Italy, in the 1950s in a poor but vibrant neighborhood. It is also the story of a neighborhood, a city, and a country undergoing momentous change.

Books can be purchased at Boswell for a ten percent discount. If you need directions to Carolyn's, please call the church office. All women of the church are invited. Guests are also very welcome.

~Ellie Moseley



## Coffee Hour



Many thanks to Jayne and Mark Heffron, Leslie McCormick, Meg Edwards, Marian Byers, Kevin Hanus, and Jackie Adams for hosting Coffee Hour at St. Mark's during the month of March.

We are always looking for people to host Coffee Hour so please take a look at the sign-up sheet in the Guild Hall (next to the library doors) or online at [signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com). I have updated the lists so that you can plan far in advance if that is more convenient. The basic chores include making coffee and hot water for tea, and providing some snacks—nothing fancy is necessary.

Please contact Barbara Costanzo or Jane Shero for more info. Thanks!

~Jane Shero

## Garden Guild

I'm probably tempting a late season snowstorm, but I think spring is here! St. Mark's Garden Guild will get a start on tidying up the church gardens later this month (date and time TBA), but I'm putting the word out early so any one interested in joining our group can get in touch.

Starting in May, we meet most Tuesday evenings from 6 to 7:30 p.m. throughout the summer, to plant, weed, prune, and generally keep the gardens looking good. All are welcome and there are a wide variety of chores. And every work session ends with snacks! Interested, or want more info? Please call or email me.

We hope to see you in the gardens!

~Jane Shero



## Celebrations



### Birthdays

- 4/1 Alice Weinert
- 4/2 Lisa Krause
- 4/3 Andrew Arndorfer
- 4/6 Virginia Schrag
- 4/9 Jana Troutman-Miller
- 4/9 Leslie McCormick
- 4/17 Hannah Dion-Kirschner
- 4/21 Laura Katter
- 4/23 Anna Katter
- 4/23 Jane Matheus
- 4/26 Richard Runkel

### Anniversaries

4/26 Brad & Kirstin Kirschner



## Kitchen Guild



All are welcome in the kitchen! Members of our newly formed Kitchen Guild coordinate special Sunday Coffee Hours and parish events such as receptions and dinners. We decide how the Guild Hall should be arranged, prepare food, serve, and clean up afterwards. As we look forward with excitement to the future of St. Mark's, we anticipate plenty of opportunities to use our professional kitchen to prepare delicious food for groups, and we extend an invitation to anyone interested in joining us to come to a short kick-off meeting on Sunday, April 17, after church in the Gathering Room upstairs. There are many different ways in which to participate—please come see how you can help!

~Jackie Adams



## Riverwest Pantry Wish List Items

- Dried fruits and low-salt nuts
- Whole grain and regular pasta
- Olive or canola oil
- Whole-grain low-sugar cereals and oatmeal

Egg cartons and reusable bags are greatly appreciated as well. Thanks so much for continuing to support the needs of all those served by Riverwest Food Pantry!

## 14th Annual Flower Sale—May 22, 2016

Spring has sprung and it is time to start thinking about the colorful flowers and healthy veggies you'll want to plant in your garden, patio, baskets, window boxes or balcony planters at the end of May. It's time to think about the St. Mark's Flower Sale!

Sales are done primarily by pre-order and forms will be available soon. Order forms are due by Tuesday, May 10, and flowers will be available for pick-up on Sunday, May 22. A small number of plants will be available for purchase on May 22 as well. We will once again be selling the proven quality flowers from the Flower Source in Germantown. Along with flats and hanging baskets, they will also be offering combination planters, all potted and done. For the health conscious vegetable gardeners, delicious herbs, heirloom tomatoes, and vegetables will also be available.

Our Flower Sale is held to raise funds for Outreach Ministries, which contributes to deserving charities locally, nationally, and worldwide.

So along with providing you with a wonderful opportunity to have a beautiful and healthy garden, the sale will help you feel good about your contribution supporting such organizations as The Gathering, Guest House, Hunger Task Force, Common Ground, and others.

Please tell your friends and neighbors, and remember you can also contribute in other ways:

- St. Mark's Grounds Beautification: non-gardeners and supporters can contribute to purchase plants for our grounds and landscaping.
- Flower Source Gift Certificates: available in \$20 and \$30 increments. You can choose exactly what you want from their extensive greenhouse offerings or buy them to give as gifts.



We appreciate everyone planning to volunteer on the weekend of the sale Friday, May 20, through Sunday, May 22. In early May there will be a sign-up chart in the Guild Hall.

In the meantime, please collect empty paper boxes such as printer paper comes in and flats such as beverages come in for us to use to assemble individual orders. Bring them to church any time and put them on the pews at the east end of the Guild Hall.

Please contact Ellie Mixter-Keller, 414-801-8883 to help, or contact the church office if you have any questions about the Flower Sale.

**Order forms will be available soon.**

**Order Forms Due: Tuesday, May 10, 2016**

**Pick Up at St. Mark's: Sunday, May 22, 9 a.m.–12 p.m.**



## Cake, Conversation and Catechism:

April 7, 14 and 21 at 7 p.m., in the Rector's office

You are warmly invited to learn more about the Episcopal faith in a three-part conversation with the Rector and each other. And cake! For three Thursdays in April, come talk about the Church, the Trinity, the Sacraments...basically all the things the Church assumes we know but we may not! **Episcopal 101**. Come with all your questions: Why do some people cross themselves? Why do the clergy wear funny clothes? What is the Book of Common Prayer and why should I care? All levels of church-y knowledge welcome. Bring your questions! Please RSVP to [sara@stmarksmilwaukee.org](mailto:sara@stmarksmilwaukee.org) or call the church office at (414) 962-0500. This class is especially appropriate for anyone who would like to be Confirmed, Received or Baptized when the Bishop visits our church on June 5. As much as possible, I would like participants to commit to being at all three sessions.

~Ian Burch



## Men's Retreat: April 29–May 1

The Men's Fellowship Group will hold its annual retreat April 29–May 1 (Friday evening to Sunday noon) at Harry and Ellie Mosley's cabin on Dutch Hollow Lake north of Madison. The presenter and moderator will be our own Kyle Potter, who is working at present in the Ph.D. program in theology at Marquette University.



The primary business for the weekend will be an examination of the Psalms. Kyle will discuss the background of the Psalms, their composition, the history of their use in Judaism, the history of their use in Christianity, and their practical use today for spiritual growth.

There will be plenty of time for fellowship, tasty food, and exploration of the area. If you'd like to know more about the retreat, call the church office. We'd love to have you join us.

## Youth Sunday—April 24, 2016

The middle and high school students of our Sunday Exploration class will lead Youth Sunday on April 24. This special service debuted last year (do you remember Lauren O’Hear’s wonderful sermon?!), and everyone enjoyed the experience.



Our Sunday Exploration class has spent most of the year in conversation about community—world, national, local, and church—and they have written their own Prayers of the People for Youth Sunday. With the help of adult ministry leaders and the younger Sunday School children, our youth will organize the service that day, including preparing the altar, reading the lessons, and playing music.



We invite all of you to be there, to encourage and celebrate our youth!

~Jane Shero

## The 35th Annual Hunger Book Sale

Do you have books from winter reading or shelves or piles of books you should cull? Please consider gathering the books you have finished reading and/or those you no longer want to keep, to donate them to a great cause, the Hunger Book Sale at All Saints’ Cathedral. The sale raises funds for local, national, and international hunger causes (e.g., The Gathering, St. Ben’s Community Meals, St. John’s Cathedral Open Door Café, Sojourner Family Peace Center, and Episcopal Relief and Development). From its beginning with an \$800 profit, the Hunger Book Sale now has a \$23,000–\$25,000 annual profit.



Starting Monday, June 13, you may drop off your books, CDs or DVDs (no magazines, ex-library or textbooks over five years old, please) at All Saints’ Cathedral, 818 E. Juneau Ave., Monday–Thursday, at the back door (there will be a sign) or call the Cathedral at 414-271-7719 for a pickup anytime now.

If you would like to help price books this summer, contact Judy Young for details. No experience necessary; training provided. The 2016 Hunger Book Sale will run from July 29 through August 2. The 2016 deadline for donating books is July 20.

## Art Gallery: Comics That Don't Exist, But Should



Stop by to see Skräuss's ever-evolving painting that he is completing during his exhibit. You'll also get to see the other works in his series of comic book covers.

Skräuss's show runs through April 27. The St. Mark's Art Gallery is open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon, Sundays from 9 a.m. to noon, and by appointment by calling (414) 962-0500.



What a stunning display from the Flower Guild this Holy Week.  
Thank you!

## Adult Formation Series: Surprised by Hope

### Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church



So, what are you doing post-resurrection? Has Easter morning changed your life? Now that those pesky duties of Lent are finally over, what does it mean to be saved? In six presentations, N.T. Wright, a noted biblical scholar and Anglican Bishop, will propose different answers to these questions—answers that will challenge us to see the promise of Easter as far more than having our ticket punched for “heaven.” Indeed, the promised reality is that of a new creation in which we are invited to participate here and now as full citizens. The classes will begin with a fifteen-minute DVD presentation by N.T. Wright, followed by discussion. The program will be held in the Library after the Sunday worship service at 11 a.m. on these Sundays:

April 3 – The Hope for the World

April 10 – The Hope of the Resurrection

April 17 – The Hope of Heaven

April 24 – The Hope of the Second Coming

May 1 – The Hope of Salvation

May 15 – The Hope of the Church

## New Babysitter is an Engineering Student

Beginning this month, Maria Schumacher will be working alongside Ana Hoffman on Sunday mornings in the nursery. A biomedical engineering student at the Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE), Maria comes to us with lots of experience working with children in a variety of situations and age groups. When you pass by the nursery on Sunday mornings, stop by and say hello to our new crew of babysitters.



# St. Mark's at The Gathering

The Gathering's South Side Site, Saturday, May 14, 2016  
Christian Faith Fellowship Church East • 724 S. Layton Blvd.

St. Mark's is providing all the volunteers for this lunch—cooking, preparing for the meal, serving, and cleaning up. Help The Gathering's guests receive a warm, healthy meal by volunteering as cooks (5 cooks are needed) or meal preparers and servers (13–15 volunteers are needed). If you can't serve on Saturday, please consider bringing cookies, coffee, or milk to the church kitchen by that Friday afternoon so that we can be sure these items get to the meal. Michelle Mooney and Harry Moseley are serving as coordinators. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Guild Hall soon. Cooks need to be at the site by 7:00 a.m., and servers need to be there by 9:45 a.m. to prepare beverages, salads, and bread and to set up for the meal, which is served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We should be cleaned up and out the door by 1:30 p.m. Volunteer and enjoy the opportunity to help our guests be nourished and welcomed in our hospitable setting. This is one of two times each year that St. Mark's works at this site. If you have questions, contact Harry Moseley (414-967-0736 or [hmosley@wi.rr.com](mailto:hmosley@wi.rr.com)).



## Music Corner

Music at St. Mark's Concert Series continues on Sunday, April 17, at 3:00 p.m., with a concert of music by the brothers, Justin and Steve Wolff: music for trumpet, voice, piano, and organ, with Todd Domenget on string bass joining on the second half. Music includes the *Suite for Trumpet and Organ* by Henry Purcell, *Concerto in F Major for Trumpet and Organ* by Tommaso Albinoni, organ music by Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck, preludes and fugues in C by Bach and Wolff, and trumpet improvisations by Justin on much loved hymn tunes. Bring a friend and introduce them to St. Mark's by means of an exciting and friendly musical experience. If your friends would come to a concert, perhaps they would respond more readily next to an invitation to Sunday Eucharist.

~Steve Wolff

# April 2016 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #4682B4; color: white; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;">                     The calendar is available on our website at the bottom of the page: <a href="http://www.stmarksmilwaukee.org" style="color: white;">www.stmarksmilwaukee.org</a>.                 </div>					<b>1</b> Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	<b>2</b> 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop
<b>3</b> 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 11 AM Adult Formation: Surprised by Hope	<b>4</b> 6 PM SWEATnDANCE	<b>5</b> Elections All Day 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 UWM: Contemporary Foods	<b>6</b> 3:30 UWM: Healthy Foods 4 PM Bible Study 4:30 PM ESS Board Meeting 6:30 UWM: International Cuisines 7 PM Choir	<b>7</b> 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 7 PM Cake, Conversation, & Catechism 8 PM AA	<b>8</b> Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	<b>9</b> 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 
<b>10</b> 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School/Sunday Exploration 11 AM Adult Formation: Surprised by Hope 11 AM Communications Meeting	<b>11</b> 6 PM SWEATnDANCE 6:15 PM Finance Committee 7 PM Women's Book Group	<b>12</b> 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 12:30 PM EfM 3:30 PM Yoga 6 PM Theology Pub 6:30 PM UWM: Contemporary Foods	<b>13</b> 3:30 UWM: Healthy Foods 4 PM Bible Study 6:30 UWM: International Cuisines 7 PM Choir	<b>14</b> 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 7 PM Cake, Conversation, & Catechism 8 PM AA	<b>15</b> Rector's Day Off 6 PM The Gathering's Volunteer Recognition Dinner 8 PM AA	<b>16</b> 9 AM Men's Fellowship Breakfast 10 AM Quilting Circle 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop
<b>17</b> 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School/Sunday Exploration 11 AM Adult Formation: Surprised by Hope 3 PM Music at St. Mark's Concert Series: Steve and Justin Wolff, Todd Domenget	<b>18</b> 6 PM SWEATnDANCE 7 PM Shepherd's Meeting 	<b>19</b> 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 UWM: Contemporary Foods 6:30 PM Vestry	<b>20</b> 3:30 UWM: Healthy Foods 4 PM Bible Study 6:30 UWM: International Cuisines 7 PM Choir	<b>21</b> 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 7 PM Cake, Conversation, & Catechism 8 PM AA	<b>22</b> 6 PM Reichert/Wilson Wedding Rehearsal 8 PM AA	<b>23</b> 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 2 PM Reichert/Wilson Wedding
<b>24</b> 9:30 AM Youth Sunday Holy Eucharist 11 AM Adult Formation: Surprised by Hope	<b>25</b> 6 PM SWEATnDANCE	<b>26</b> 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 12:30 PM EfM 3:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM UWM: Contemporary Foods 7 PM Celebration of a New Ministry with Fr. Burch	<b>27</b> 3:30 UWM: Healthy Foods 4 PM Bible Study 6:30 UWM: International Cuisines 7 PM Choir	<b>28</b> 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	<b>29</b> Men's Retreat 8 PM AA	<b>30</b> Men's Retreat 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop

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



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2618 N. Hackett Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53211  
414-962-0500  
stmarksmilwaukee.org  
stmarks\_mke@sbcglobal.net

### Sunday Service 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: 414-961-0661

**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**