

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

The Lion

January 2017
Volume 29, Issue 1

RECTOR'S CORNER

Friends in Christ,

What a year this has been! I know that we, as Christians, follow the pattern of the church calendar, but I confess that I feel a certain pull to look back and to reflect during the secular New Year observances.

As I reflect on 2016 at St. Mark's, I am utterly stunned by what we have accomplished in twelve short months. We have cleaned out offices and have begun the process of making the basement usable for more ministry. We have added vibrancy to our worship services. Our choir has grown almost DOUBLE as from this time last year. We have revamped our Church School curriculum and have added a Confirmation class. We have nearly completed an enormously impactful Diaper Drive for the people of Milwaukee, and I see no end to the kind of outreach work we can do to answer God's call. And this is just a partial list!

I am moved and humbled by the power of the Spirit in this place. St. Mark's parishioners show remarkable loyalty and skill for the revitalization of this parish for God's ministry. This church runs on your love, your expertise and your prayer. And I see a bright future for us in 2017. What can't we accomplish when we stay in prayer and work together?

This new year will bring with it some big questions. How do we organize our building so that it is accessible for ALL people who come through the doors? At the moment, only our main floor is available for people with difficulty using stairs. Are our facilities as welcoming and comfortable for people of different abilities as they can be? How do we make sure that we are continuing the excellent Christian education opportunities for both adults and children? Are we passing on the faith the way it was passed on to us? And how are we answering God's call in the city of Milwaukee? Where are we being called to put in our time and expertise?

These are all questions that we will joyfully wrestle with in the year to come. I look forward to hearing your voices as we struggle faithfully with the answers.

Happy New Year, my friends. I am ecstatic about the positive changes I see at St. Mark's, and I look forward to seeing what else God is doing in this place.

Warmly,

Ian+
(Fr. Burch)



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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Epiphany Dinner is on January 14 at 6 p.m.
- Annual Meeting is on January 29 at 11 a.m.

DEACON'S CORNER



As I sit here with a terrible cold, and a little “down in the dumps,” I wonder what ever can I write about for the January *Lion*. But then a flash just hit me. I stayed home from church Sunday because I felt so rotten, and within 30 minutes after the service, three people had already called wanting to know how they could help me. One even brought me chicken soup from Benji’s in Shorewood. Their chicken broth is a guaranteed cure for the worst of what ails you.

Feeling cared for is one of the cures for the winter blahs and colds. Our community at St. Mark’s is well known for this kind of caring. It is the small acts of generosity and love that gives one’s soul its much needed uplift. I have experienced this support so many times over my forty years in this parish. It fed and comforted me back then just as it does today. St. Mark’s is a *blessing* place.

But one thing I am very sure of is that this caring doesn’t come without people’s commitment and efforts. It speaks to the character of this parish that folks help other folks in their

times of need. Sometimes that need can be very great, as in the loss of a spouse or a job. Sometimes it is just a case of the sniffles that is fed by chicken soup. Both give the spirit a lift and speak of caring that comes from a faith in a caring God that sees us as His agents here on earth.

In the new year, take some time to remember the caring acts you have experienced as part of this parish. Remember that this community is a fragile but important one. This community only can reach out if its members reach in and give of themselves.

Perhaps in the new year, instead of making a resolution revolving around individual betterment, we can resolve to feed the needs of the community wherever we experience it. A commitment to our parish community will, in a concrete way, reflect God’s care and love.

Happy and Blessed New Year.

~Deacon Michelle

“Commitment to our parish community will, in a concrete way, reflect God’s care and love.”

RIVERWEST PANTRY WISHLIST

- ◆ Shampoo, conditioner and deodorant
- ◆ Canola or olive oil
- ◆ No-added-sugar canned or dried fruit
- ◆ No-added-salt dried herbs and seasonings
- ◆ Toothpaste and toothbrushes

MUSIC CORNER

A deep thanks from me to all the singers and musicians who participated in our Advent liturgies, in Lessons and Carols at St. John’s, and in our Christmas celebrations. First thanks to the St. Mark’s Choir for their beautiful singing throughout Advent and Christmastide. Thanks to Mike Keegan, Artist in Residence, Horn; Todd Domenget, Artist in Residence, Bass; Evan Taucher, Artist in Residence, Classical Guitar; Dr. Louis Menchaka, trumpet; our section leaders and cantors, Julianne Frey and Elizabeth Smith; and thanks to Kris Tunis, for joining the choir for Christmas Eve. Your contributions to the liturgical life of St. Mark’s are enormous. For all your work and offering of talent, we are deeply grateful. All good things in the love of our Savior!

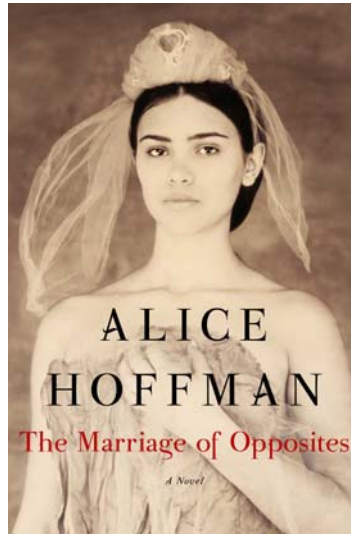
~Steve

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

The Women's Book Group will have its first meeting of the new year on January 16, at 7 p.m., at the home of Stephanie Dudek. The book chosen for this month is *The Marriage of Opposites* by Alice Hoffman. This fictional story is about the family of Camille Pissarro, the Impressionist painter. The setting is on the Caribbean island of St. Thomas. Hoffman's imagined story is grounded in rigorous history. The dates, names and basic events are real, whereas the characters are fictional.

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

~Ellie Moseley



January's book selection

COFFEE HOUR

A big thank you to all who have hosted Coffee Hour in recent months. You've made my job as organizer very easy. We've had record numbers of people staying for Coffee Hour each Sunday, which is great. If you've noticed the coffee tasting better, it's because we purchased a new 100 cup coffee pot. Thanks to those who contributed!

A few of the "veterans" have expressed interest in teaming up with anyone who might like to try their hand at sharing hosting duties some Sunday. I'd be happy to pair you up. If you're unable to host but enjoy baking or would like to contribute in some way, you may contact me. My email is zingpeople@sbcglobal.net.

Lastly, the Sunday after Christmas is traditionally our opportunity to rid our homes of all the excessive sweet treats. Please bring them to Coffee Hour on January 1 to share. Thank you!

~Jamie Zingler



Serving at a Coffee Hour in December

2017 BOOK LIST

January 16

The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman
Location: Stephanie Dudek

February 27

Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City by Matthew Desmond
Location: TBD

April 3

Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People by Nadia Bolz-Weber
Location: TBD

May 15

Britt-Marie Was Here by Fredrik Backman
Location: Jayne Heffrom

June 26

Tale for the Time Being by Ruth Ozeki
Location: Christine

August 7

The Sparrow by Mary Doria Russell
Location: Carolyn Davies

September 18

When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi
Location: Ellie Moseley

October 30

The Nightingale by Kristen Hannah
Location: TBD

November 13

Book Selection Night
Location: Judy Young

December 11

Memed, My Hawk by Yashar Kemal
Location: TBD

COMMON GROUND

On December 18, the Common Ground Core Team, sponsored a thank you coffee after the Sunday worship service. Since late September, the Core Team has been raising money for the annual Friends of Common Ground annual campaign. This effort raises money to support the work of Common Ground to bring greater justice in the lives of Milwaukee area citizens.

We have a goal of \$ 7,000 for the 2017 campaign, but due to the generosity of the parish, we actually surpassed our goal raising \$9, 523. The Core Team wishes to thank everyone who gave from their hearts and enabled us to reach this high level of parish giving.

Core Team members who gave of their time to raise these funds are Janet and Andy Martin, Ellie and Harry Moseley, Jennifer O'Hear, Christine Kuramoto, Carolyn Davies, and Michelle Mooney. Thank you for your efforts. As the saying goes, "many hands make light work."



EPIPHANY DINNER

Please plan to attend St. Mark's first big event of the year, the Epiphany Dinner. In addition to fellowship and good food, the event will feature special music from a string quartet. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Parish Hall where you should, please, indicate what side dish, and how many people will be attending. The church will provide the main course dishes (meat and vegetarian), plus juice, soda, wine, and coffee. The cost will be \$5 per person with a family maximum of \$15. Invite your neighbors—this evening is a great way to get to know St. Mark's.



ANNUAL MEETING

Please mark your calendars for the St. Mark's 2017 Annual Meeting, which will follow the 9:30 a.m. service on Sunday, Jan. 29. This important meeting in the life of our parish will include a look back at our church community in 2016, election of wardens and vestry members, and presentation of the 2017 budget. If you have any 2016 pictures to share for the slide show, please send them to sara@stmarksmilwaukee.org.

The nominations committee is in the process of recruiting candidates for Vestry members. Nominee biographies will be distributed parish email prior to the Annual Meeting.

Ministry Leaders: Please submit your annual reports to Paula Wheeler no later than Jan. 9, 2017. Thank you!



ART GALLERY—BYRON S. BECKER

Photography has been one of my primary interests for many years. During the '70s, I attended seminars, workshops and classes at the Milwaukee Center for Photography. Arthur Lazar was important to me as a teacher, portfolio critic and friend. During this period I had a family and my own business, so being involved in photography was always an interrupted pursuit. After retiring 2001, I have been able to devote more time to photography and approach it in a systematic and concise way. The extra time available after retirement has enabled me to travel to California to take two workshops with John Sexton. These workshops were directed at large format, film based photography. The first session was concentrated towards dark room processing and print presentation. The second workshop included field work. Portfolio reviews and classroom work were an important part of both sessions. Charles Cramer has provided instruction and encouragement to me with my approach towards digital color photography.

I have done some commercial work including, architectural, furniture, industrial and even a few weddings, but I found these endeavors completely unsatisfying. Photography as a means of self-expression is my driving force.

The black and white photographs in this exhibit are film based. The film is developed in chemistry that varies in accordance to my response to the scene recorded. The inkjet papers and digital processing are also chosen to emphasize my visualizations. All the materials and work are archival.

~Byron S. Becker

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.

“Photography as a means of self-expression is my driving force.”



Join us for an opening
reception on January 8
at 11:30 a.m.

As a generous offer,
Byron will be giving
half of the proceeds
from sales of his work
here to St. Mark's.

JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

1/3 Stephanie Dudek
1/19 Fr. Ian Burch
1/21 Sophia Diliberti
1/24 Randy Miller
1/30 Rebecca Martinie
1/31 Harry Moseley
1/31 Jennifer West

ANNIVERSARIES

1/1 Bob & Kris Kreuziger



ADULT EDUCATION

“IN MY FATHER’S HOUSE THERE ARE MANY ROOMS”
OR . . .

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?
AND WHY DON’T THEY BELIEVE WHAT WE BELIEVE?



As recent events have revealed, there is a great chasm of understanding in our country. Blue and Red, Coastal and Middle, Town and Country seem pitted against one another. But surely, those of us who call ourselves Christian can find common ground. The Pentecostal will lay down with the Orthodox and the Neo-Pagan will join hands with the Fundamentalist in singing *Kumbaya*. Or maybe not. Indeed, our differences may define us more than we like to think. To begin to try to understand what those differences really are, please join the Sunday Adult Education program this Epiphany season. Classes will be held in the Library following the service on these dates:

January 8—The Pagans	February 5—The Evangelicals
January 15—The Fundamentalists	February 12—The Pentecostals
January 22—The Orthodox	February 19—The Pietists

DECEMBER AT ST. MARK’S



Lighting the Advent candles





Christmas Play—December 18



Wrapping presents for Eastside Senior Services

JANUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist	2 Rector Away 12:30 PM EfM 6:15 PM SWEATnDANCE	3 Rector Away 7:30 AM Yoga 8:15 AM Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga	4 Rector Away 4 PM Bible Study 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 7 PM Choir	5 Rector Away 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 7 PM Common Ground Healthcare Team 8 PM AA	6 Rector Away 8 PM AA	7 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop
8 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 11 AM Adult Formation 11:30 AM Art Gallery Reception	9 12:30 PM EfM 6:15 PM SWEATnDANCE 6:15 PM Finance Committee	10 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Theology Pub	11 4 PM Bible Study 5:30 PM Pastoral Concerns 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 7 PM Choir	12 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	13 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	14 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 6 PM Epiphany Dinner 
15 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 11 AM Adult Formation 5:30 PM Confirmation	16 12:30 PM EfM 6:15 PM SWEATnDANCE 7 PM Women's Book Group	17 7:30 AM Yoga 8:15 AM Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Vestry	18 4 PM Bible Study 4:30 PM ESS Board Meeting 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 7 PM Choir	19 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	20 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	21 9 AM Men's Fellowship Breakfast 9:30 AM Quilting Circle 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop
22 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 11 AM Adult Formation 11 AM Newcomer Brunch	23 12:30 PM EfM 6:15 PM SWEATnDANCE 6:30 PM UWM: Healthy Foods	24 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga	25 4 PM Bible Study 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 6:30 PM UWM: International Foods 7 PM Choir	26 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	27 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	28 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop
29 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 11 AM Annual Meeting	30 12:30 PM EfM 6:15 PM SWEATnDANCE 6:30 PM UWM: Healthy Foods	31 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga				
Note: Updated as of December 21, 2016. For the most current update, please view our calendar on our website: www.stmarksmilwaukee.org						

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

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

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

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