

**Downer Bike
Race and
Corn Roast**

June 25

**Inside this
issue:**

Deacon's Corner	2
Corn Roast	3
Common Ground	5
Graduates	7
Film Series	8
Adult Formation	9

Rector's Corner

Friends in Christ,

I recently spent a week on a retreat—praying with the seminarians and faculty at Nashotah House, walking the grounds of the DeKoven Retreat Center and visiting with pastors who do vibrant, vital ministry here in Milwaukee. I also spent some time seeing a few friends and generally getting caught up on sleep and life. While away, I thought and prayed about our parish a lot. Where are we called? What do we need? What does God want for the community of St. Mark's?

I found myself thinking quite a bit about escape velocity. Before NASA scrapped the shuttle program, do you remember those huge silo-shaped tanks of fuel that the shuttle would burn to try and break out of Earth's orbit? The silos carried the fuel that the shuttle would need to burn to get into space, and when they were emptied, they'd fall slowly back to the earth. I can still see in my mind's eye the fire and power required for those shuttles to escape the gravity of our planet to reach the blackness and stars of space. There is a certain speed required of these shuttles to be able to break free of gravity, and it takes an incredibly amount of fuel and speed to get to freedom.

I believe we are trying for this kind of velocity at St. Mark's. Our beloved church hopes to meet the challenges of ministry in the next fifty years from a place of strength and passion—doing God's work in this city and in the world. I know this kind of dynamic ministerial presence in Milwaukee is possible, and I

also know that we're not there yet. We have not reached our escape velocity, but when I look around, I see us firing on all burners and preparing for lift off.



Your Vestry and Wardens are working on countless projects around the parish to prepare us for launch. We are working to revitalize our worship of God, Christian formation for children and adults as well as to continue the good work of justice and outreach in the City of Milwaukee. I see no reason why St. Mark's should not stand out as a holy, vibrant vehicle for God's mission. Reaching our escape velocity won't happen overnight. It'll require cleverness and bravery. Thankfully, I believe we have both in abundance. May God grant us the power to achieve escape velocity and the wisdom to know what to do when we do.

Ian+
(Fr. Burch)

Deacon's Corner

I had a “moment of grace” recently when I was finishing reading *Just Mercies* by Bryan Stevenson. This is the amazing book of a young lawyer representing the poor, the oppressed, the most vulnerable, and voiceless in the American South beginning in the 1980s.

He described how, in a moment of great discouragement, when he was doubting himself and his abilities to serve his clients, he had an epiphany. Because of some failures, he was on the verge of quitting what he loved and felt called to do.

Suddenly he recalled how he had often told his clients that they were not the sum total of their worst sins. He told them how:

“Whenever things got really bad, and they were questioning the value of their lives, I would remind them that each of us is more than the worst thing we have ever done. I told them that if someone tells a lie, that person was not just a liar. Even if you kill someone, you’re not just a killer. I told myself that evening what I had been telling my clients for years. I am more than broken. In fact there is a strength, a power even, in understanding brokenness...because brokenness creates a need and desire for mercy, and perhaps a corresponding need to show mercy.”

Wow. In my own life lately, I have been ruminating rather unhealthily about sins committed and good choices not taken in the past. I was spending way too much time examining these sins without making any progress towards reconciliation around them in order to move forward in my life. I was stuck.

Reading these passages just smacked me in the face. They also provided “that moment of grace” that freed me from their debilitating power. It created for me, I believe, a moment of openness to the Spirit which brings true healing. What a gift.

My hope for you is some of these moments of grace, where you, too, may be called into a new life in Christ, a new beginning.

~Michelle Mooney



St. Mark's at The Gathering

Thank you to all who volunteered at The Gathering on May 14. We had a great crew of cooks and servers! We also appreciate all those who brought cookies, coffee, and milk to share. A special shout-out to our neighbors, Nehring's Sendik's on Downer, who donated vegetables to The Gathering. Thanks for all the help!

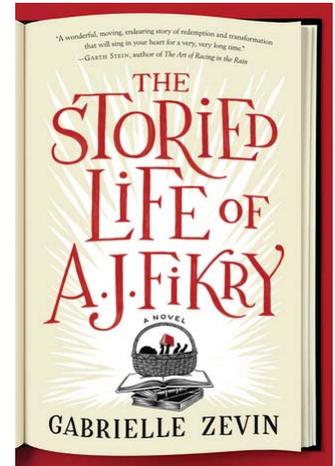


Women's Book Group

The Women's Book group will be meeting on June 27 at 7 p.m., at the home of Joan Nason. Our book for this month is *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin. This story is about a bookstore owner who is very cranky, drinks too much, finds his bookstore failing and don't get him started on the state of publishing. It sounds to me like a fun read.

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

~Ellie Moseley



Downer Classic Bike Races and Corn Roast June 25

The Downer Classic bike races offer an opportunity for our parish to re-introduce ourselves to the neighborhood and people who come to view the racing. For the last few years we have used the day to convert the green space into a play area for children and parents, provide some musical entertainment, and roast corn on the cob to raise funds for our Outreach Ministry. I encourage you to be a part of welcoming all to join in the fun by:

- Listening to the wonderful music organized and performed by our music director, Steve Wolff, and friends
- Helping with kids activities
- Roasting corn in the front of our church
- Selling hot roasted corn on Downer Avenue
- Bonding with our neighbors
- Enjoying a day full of bike racing and celebrating summer on the Eastside



There will be a sign-up sheet in the Guild Hall for you to indicate how you would like to participate and help out on Saturday, June 25. Come and join in the fun in our community!

Thanks, as always, for your support of St. Mark's. Please contact Harry Moseley at 414-976-0736 or at hmoseley@wi.rr.com if you have any questions.

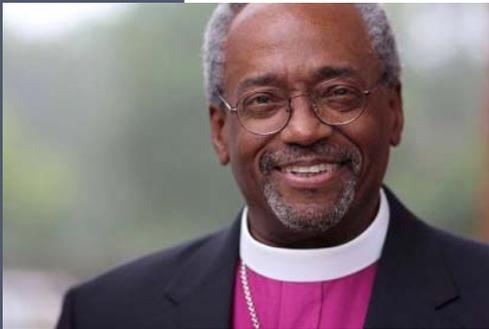
Celebrations

Birthdays

- 6/1 Alice Nelson
- 6/4 Susan Rohde
- 6/5 Bjorn Akerblom
- 6/5 Catherine Lacy
- 6/8 Steve Wolff
- 6/10 Travis Trott
- 6/11 Chris Berg
- 6/11 Brooke Frizzell
- 6/12 Virginia Chappell
- 6/12 Sara Bitner
- 6/13 Barb Franczyk
- 6/22 Greta Holt
- 6/23 Mary Huntington
- 6/26 Lauren O'Hear
- 6/27 Bill Stotts
- 6/28 Jane Lacy
- 6/28 Andrew Muriuki
- 6/29 Todd Domenget
- 6/29 David Platcow

Anniversaries

- 6/11 Molly and Bob Canary
- 6/14 Mark and Amy Diliberti
- 6/15 Richard and Karen Mollenhauer
- 6/17 Andy and Janet Martin
- 6/23 Nick and Mary Weckman
- 6/23 Jane Shero and Michael Weinert
- 6/24 Tom and Sandra McLellan
- 6/28 Bill and Mimi Wainwright
- 6/29 John and Georgia Cain
- 6/30 Harry and Ellie Moseley



Did you catch the recent PBS interview with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry? You can find his inspiring interview with Judy Woodruff, broadcast on Tuesday, May 17, here: <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/six-months-in-new-episcopal-church-leader-reflects-on-church-challenges/>. It's about 8.5 minutes long.

Riverwest Pantry Wish List Items



- Shampoo and deodorant
- Low-sodium or regular canned beans
- Condiments (mustard, ketchup, mayonnaise, sauces)
- Coffee and tea

Egg cartons and reusable bags are always appreciated. We are very grateful for your continuing support of all those served by Riverwest Food Pantry!

Common Ground at St. Mark's

Those of you who may think that Common Ground (CG), as a community organizing entity, mainly runs around carrying pickets or doing actions at City Hall, you may be in for a surprise. Because this summer, the volunteers and staff of CG have as its chief goal to do 1,000 relational meetings with CG members, prospective new members, community leaders, and public officials.

What is a Relational Meeting, or as it is also called, a One-to-One meeting, and why is it such an important part of organizing in CG? Relational meetings are important because building relationships help CG identify new volunteers and new members, and the meetings help CG develop leaders. They make the base of CG stronger and more diverse. They listen to the community, its needs and visions. They build power by increasing the numbers needed to confront issues and win.

The One-To-One is not a strategy that was developed locally by CG. It is the central strategy used by every Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF) affiliate across the world. It has shown over and

over to be the central way to build democratic, broad-based institutions with sufficient organized power and organized money to run effective campaigns for greater justice for the common good.

For this reason, at least five to eight members of CG at St. Mark's will be helping to reach the goal of 1,000 relational meetings. If you are interested in being part of the campaign over this summer, contact Jennifer O'Hear, Harry Moseley, or Michelle Mooney. There will be training for anyone who wishes to be a part of a local, democratic, and tremendously powerful method to fight for progressive change.

~Michelle Mooney



Books Needed for the Hunger Book Sale

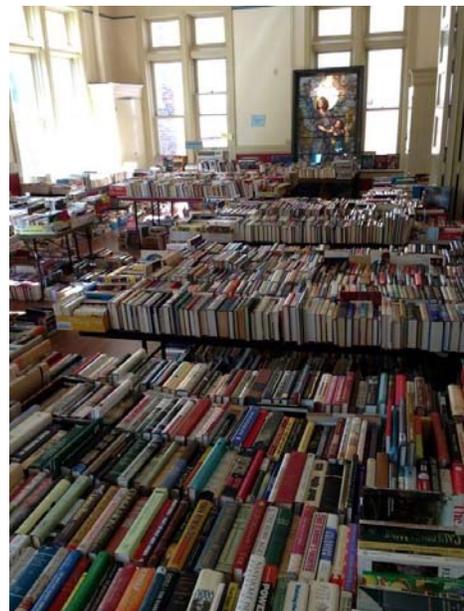
Used books, CDs or DVDs (no magazines, ex-library or textbooks over 5 years old, please) may be dropped off starting June 20 at the back door of:

All Saints' Cathedral
818 E. Juneau Avenue

Monday–Thursday: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

For pickups any time now, call the Cathedral: 414 271-7719

Sale details are found on bright green flyers posted in our Guild Hall and outside the office.



Church School Picnic Pictures



Congratulations 2016 Graduates!

TJ Davies will be graduating from Whitefish Bay High School this June and will be attending the University of Minnesota in the Twin Cities this fall. TJ will be in the Honor's Program. Go Golden Gophers!

Nerissa Eichinger graduated cum laude from Peck School of the Arts (PSOA) at University Wisconsin Milwaukee with a Bachelor of Arts in Studio Arts. She is pursuing a career as a scenic artist, and is currently working as one for the Milwaukee Repertory Theater. Nerissa just finished her first season there, following a year-long apprenticeship with Skylight Music Theater the previous season.

Charles Jason Keller (we call him Jason) graduated with his Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering on May 22, 2016 from UWM. He also turned 26 on May 27.

Sophie Dion-Kirschner is graduating as one of the valedictorians from Wauwatosa East High School this year. She'll attend Lawrence University in Appleton this fall. She's uncertain what she wants to major in, but is figuring it will be "something in the sciences." She's looking forward to the liberal arts experience.



Kirstin Kirschner completes her education at the end of June as well, finishing her two-year fellowship in pediatric psychiatry (this after a three-year residency in general psychiatry, to which she returned after a career in general pediatrics which had required its own three-year residency!).

Andy and Janet Martins have two grandchildren heading off to college next fall. Joe Vuchetich, son of Laura and Scott Vuchetich in Fox Point, is graduating from Nicolet High School and will be going to Colorado College in Colorado Springs and Milena Martin-Rivera, daughter of Alex and Mercedes Martin of Middleton, is graduating from Middleton High School and will be going to Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa. Their grandson Sam Vuchetich is taking a gap year from Washington University in St. Louis and going to Berlin where he will be working for a German foundation.



True Love, Temptation & The Stranger in a Strange Land



Does “true love” really conquer all? How do we treat the strangers in our neighborhoods?
And can one ever resist Marilyn Monroe?

To engage with these and other weighty theological issues, you are invited to
The Inaugural St. Mark’s Theology Pub Summer Film Series!

***The Princess Bride*—Thursday, June 23**

***The Seven Year Itch*—Thursday, July 21**

***Edward Scissorhands*—Thursday, August 18**

Screenings (with discussion to follow) begin at 6 p.m. in the Guild Hall
at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 2618 N. Hackett Avenue, Milwaukee.
Popcorn, snacks, and soda provided. BYOB.

Summer 2016 Mass on the Grass Wednesday Evenings

Adult Formation Series: Embracing a Complicated Faith



Sunday Mornings at 11 a.m.

Our faith may come in a blinding moment of insight, be nurtured in the arms of loving family or lie dormant until forced into the open by a crisis. But once born, faith needs to be sustained, not only for it to live in our lives, but to serve and witness to others. An important block in the building of faith is continued engagement with others in the exploration of what our faith means.

The Adult Formation Committee will host a Sunday discussion series to discuss issues raised by some of the leading thinkers in the Episcopal Church, such as Marcus Borg, Diana Butler Bass, Barbara Cawthorne Crafton, Phyllis Tickle, and others. The series will be held in the Library at 11 a.m., after the Sunday worship service.

In this “down time” for the church, we encourage you to sample this too often neglected part of faith. You may discover more about yourself and your faith and your community. And you may even discover that you actually like talking about God!



People in community feeding the hungry

THE 2016 GATHERING GOLF CLASSIC

Friday, June 10, 2016

Proceeds benefit The Gathering's Meal Programs for Milwaukee's hungry and homeless



N6246 US Hwy 12 Elkhorn, WI

Schedule

11:30 Registration/Raffle
12:00 Lunch
1:00 Shotgun Start
5:30 Dinner and Raffle

\$125 per golfer

(\$60 tax deductible)
Price includes lunch, golf cart, 18 holes,
2 drink tickets & dinner

Registration Information

You may register beginning April 1:
online at www.thegatheringwis.org, by calling
The Gathering at 414-272-4122 or
by e-mail at soulfood@thegatheringwis.org

June 2016 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #4a86e8; color: white; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: fit-content;"> The calendar is available on our website at the bottom of the page: www.stmarksmilwaukee.org </div>			1 6 PM Mass on the Grass	2 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	3 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	4 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop		
5 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:50 AM Bible Story Time 11 AM Adult Formation Series	6 Office Closed 6 PM SWEATnDANCE	7 Office Closed 7:30 AM Yoga 8:15 AM Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Vestry	8 1 PM Growing Old in America 6 PM Mass on the Grass	9 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 7 PM Outreach 8 PM AA	10 Rector's Day Off 4 PM Domenget/Martinez Wedding Rehearsal 8 PM AA	11 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 2 PM Domenget/Martinez Wedding		
12 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist/ Celebrate Graduates 9:50 AM Bible Story Time 11 AM Adult Formation Series	13 6 PM SWEATnDANCE	14 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga 6 PM Theology Pub 	15 1 PM Growing Old in America 6 PM Mass on the Grass	16 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	17 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	18 9 AM Men's Fellowship Breakfast 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop		
19 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:50 AM Bible Story Time 11 AM Adult Formation Series	20 6 PM SWEATnDANCE	21 7:30 AM Yoga 8:15 AM Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander 9 AM–12 PM Vacation Bible School 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Vestry	22 9 AM–12 PM Vacation Bible School 1 PM Growing Old in America 6 PM Mass on the Grass	23 7:30 AM Yoga 9 AM–12 PM Vacation Bible School 3:30 PM Yoga 6 PM Film Series 8 PM AA	24 Rector's Day Off 9 AM–12 PM Vacation Bible School 8 PM AA	25 Downer Classic/Corn Roast		
26 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:50 AM Bible Story Time 11 AM Adult Formation Series	27 6 PM SWEATnDANCE 7 PM Women's Book Group	28 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga	29 1 PM Growing Old in America 6 PM Mass on the Grass	30 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA				

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



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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

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: 414-961-0661

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

David Kiger

Susan Rohde

Jackie Adams

Marian Byers

Paula Wheeler

Tom Lacy

Ellie Mixter-Keller

Andrew Muriuki

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