

Rector's Corner

Community
Thanksgiving
Eve Service
and Pie Social

November 23
6 p.m.

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Friends in Christ,

One of the most enjoyable parts of my job happens when I get to dream with people about the future of St. Mark's. This past winter, the Vestry and I did some dreaming about the four pillars of our shared life—children's formation, adult formation, service/outreach and beautiful worship. More recently, I've been dreaming with the Stewardship Committee about what we would like to accomplish next year and for what we are raising funds.

Both of these dreaming sessions shared something: unbridled enthusiasm for our future. There is nothing that the people of St. Mark's cannot accomplish for the kingdom of God in the world. Our members are in the streets advocating for justice in our city, they are giving aid and succor to those in need, they are wrestling with the great questions of life and faith. This small, committed group of people is dreaming big. And why shouldn't we? I see no reason why this parish should not be the most vibrant in the city. And I certainly see no reason why a group of people with this kind of passion for ministry can't impact this world to the good.

I appreciate that there are some obstacles. We need our basement to be in excellent working order so that it can launch our mission and ministry. At the moment it's a bit of a mess. We need to continue our vision for a truly accessible physical plant so that each member—regardless of ability—can access every offering this community has to offer. At the moment, only our main floor is accessible to all. We need to partner with firms who can help us

get our passion for God broadcast into the community. At the moment, our communications strategy is decent but not excellent. All of these dreams take time, expertise and money.



That should cause no fear whatsoever. Christians have been funding mission work in the world since the very first Christians came into existence. Money is easy. Passion and vision are hard. And we have passion and vision in abundance, thanks be to God. God will resource God's vision. It has always been that way in the church, and St. Mark's will be no different.

So, dream with me. Think about what is possible. Pray over this community of faith. And listen to where God is leading us. There are people in this city who will want to partner with us in our vision, who will want to share our passion. And I've been seeing some of their faces already on Sunday mornings. We are in a good position to answer God's call, and I could not be more excited to do more dreaming with all of you.

Your priest,
Fr. Burch
(Ian+)

Deacon's Corner

The pumpkin patch at St. Mark's has been once again a community event for the East Side. All of October saw pumpkins in great array over the west lawn of the church. I want to thank everyone who helped sell pumpkins to raise money for the many community organizations that St. Mark's supports.

I don't know of any other activity the church puts on that has more impact in the community. Each year we see folks and families return to get their pumpkin and to get a "good feeling" that they have also helped those in need. It's what we call a win-win.

It is also a win-win for the parish in that every year we step up to the plate to volunteer and become pumpkin sellers and ambassadors to the neighborhood. Each year I look at all the slots we have to fill to staff the booth for a full month

and feel a little overwhelmed. But then each year, I see how it magically seems to fill up with all of you faithful parishioners. And you always seem to enjoy it to boot!

I love traditions. And this one seems to be one that St. Mark's will be upholding for many years to come. So I toast all of you, with my pumpkin spice latte from Starbucks, and say again, "Thanks, we couldn't have done it without you."



~Michelle Mooney

Quilters Wanted

Some of you may not know that we give blankets and pillows to every infant and young child who is baptized at St. Mark's. And like most efforts similar to this, it is not done by magic fairies who settle in at the church once in a while.

Rather, these quilts and pillows are made by a group of women, though of course men are welcome too, who get together on Saturdays to create them. Anyone of any skill level can participate. There are plenty of skilled and experienced hands to show you the way. Tasks vary from rather skilled planning of the designs to really very simple ones such as cutting out the fabric pieces.

We will be meeting on Saturdays, generally the third week of the month, from 9-11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. A specific calendar for the rest of 2016 and into 2017 will be available soon. Please check the Sunday bulletins, eblasts, and *The Lion*

for dates. Anyone interested can contact me for more information.

We are a great team, and we have a lot of fun and creative satisfaction. New members, including those of middle school and high school age, are encouraged to join.

If you are interested but not quite sure if quilting is really for you, come one Saturday and check it out.



~Michelle Mooney

Donors Needed for Advent Greens and Roses

The Flower Guild would like your help decorating St. Mark's for Advent.

You are welcome to donate any amount to go toward purchasing greens for the season of Advent. We use greens to make bouquets, adorn the Advent wreath, and decorate the roof of our crèche with fir. We will list donor names in the service bulletins.

Rose Sunday, December 11, is available for the usual donation of \$50. We purchase pink roses to include in the bouquets and the Advent wreath. For Rose Sunday, your name and the occasion you would like to have recognized will appear in the service bulletin. You may sign up on the flower chart in the Parish Hall near the Library doors.

The deadline for donating toward Advent greens is Sunday, November 20. You may pay by check (mark "Advent greens" on the memo line) or electronically (click DONATE on our website, stmarksmilwaukee.org, and choose "Advent greens"). As usual, all donations are fully tax deductible.

Thanks for your help from all of us on the Flower Guild.

~Judy Young



Quick Notes

- We've just received our **third quarter giving statements**. Please take this time to review your progress toward your yearly pledge.
~Barbara Costanzo, Treasurer
- There will be a **Communications Meeting** on Sunday, Dec. 11, at 11 a.m. Ministry Leaders, please come ready to discuss dates through Easter, April 16.
- We are collecting small gifts that **Eastside Senior Services (ESS)** will deliver to its clients during the month of December. We will set up a wrapping station where everyone can help wrap the presents at Coffee Hour on December 4. The items most requested by the clients are gift cards to local businesses, nonperishable foods, gloves, hats, scarves, small pine trees, wreaths, and greeting cards/stationery with postage stamps. You may drop items off at the church office. Thanks!
- On Sunday, November 20, we will gather to give thanks to God for the generosity of St. Mark's members as we conclude our **2017 Stewardship Open Doors + Giving Heart Campaign** with a Wrap-Up Party during Coffee Hour. If you did not receive a pledge packet yet, please contact Sara in the office, sara@stmarksmilwaukee.org. Pledges may be mailed to the office, placed in the box in the Parish Hall, or submitted electronically by clicking DONATE on our website (stmarksmilwaukee.org).



Our Downer Avenue Pumpkin Carving Contest entrant, carved by Simon Eichinger

Celebrations



Birthdays

11/7 Barry Eichinger
11/7 Michael O'Hear
11/10 Don Green
11/13 Helen Brewer
11/15 Kristen Babe
11/26 Steve Holt
11/27 Joan Kuehl
11/27 Ron Tunis

Anniversaries

11/12 Janice Rhodes and
Greg Burce
11/15 Norm and Elaine Reynolds

Upcoming Dates

All Diocese All Saints' Day Service—November 1 (All Saints' Cathedral)
Bishop's Visit—November 6
Thanksgiving Eve Service—November 23
Advent Lessons and Carols at St. John's on the Lake—December 4
St. Mark's at the Movies—December 8
Christmas Eve Services—December 24, 4 p.m. and 11 p.m.
Christmas Day Service—December 25, 9:30 a.m.



Riverwest Pantry Wish List Items

- Brown or white rice
- Whole-grain, low-sugar cereals
- Flour, sugar, and other baking ingredients
- No-added-sugar canned or dried fruits
- Olive or canola oil

We are always grateful for egg cartons, reusable bags, and for the continuing generous donations for the hungry in our community!

Art Gallery

Featured art in the St. Mark's Gallery for November and December will come from area artists who have joined together to become *Fine Art Montage*. Many of the Fine Art Montage artists have won awards throughout the state. Different styles, different media, and varied subject matter will be featured in this exhibit. The art will be available to view and to purchase online throughout the exhibit. The link to that exhibit is: <http://www.fineartmontage.com/ShowStMarks.html>.

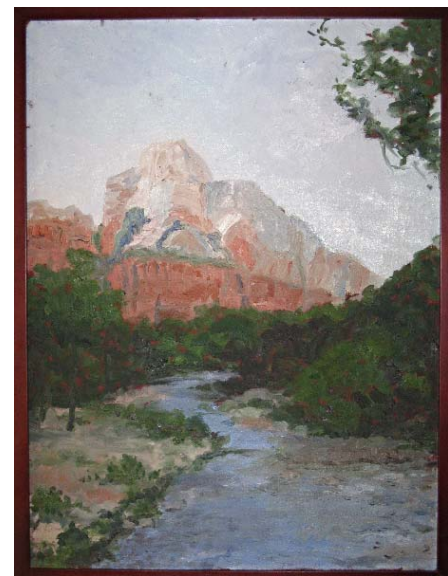


Tangled up in Green
Janet Hudachek

Art will also be available for purchase on Sunday, November 13, from 11:30 to 2 p.m. at the exhibit reception. Questions about Fine Art Montage or sales should be directed to Janet Hudachek at 262-424-1570. Any artwork that is purchased should remain in the gallery until the end of the exhibit. However, if you are purchasing art as a holiday gift, the artist will try to make arrangements to replace the sold piece with a new painting for the gallery.



Sitting on the Dock by the Bay
Chris Sommerfelt



Zion
Tom Smith

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.

Outreach Spotlight: Milwaukee Guest House Helps the Homeless



This mural, painted 30 years ago by one of the shelter guests, hangs at the Guest House.

On any given night in Milwaukee, 1,400 people are homeless—men, women and children.

This number is depressing, even shameful. Isaiah tells us, “Share your food with the hungry; and give shelter to the homeless.” (*Isaiah 58:7*) How do we do that here, in Milwaukee, in 2016?

One nonprofit group, the Guest House of Milwaukee, has a unique approach to ending homelessness. The Guest House helps people move off the streets and into safe housing. The next step is more challenging. The Guest House strives to provide people with the tools and services they need to stay in their new housing permanently and to transform their lives.

The mission of the Guest House starts at 13th and Highland. Up to 86 homeless men live there in the emergency shelter. The Guest House has case managers to work with each person individually. The Guest House runs a substance abuse and mental health clinic on site so guests can readily access treatment.

Beyond the walls at 13th and Highland, the work of the Guest House expands to include women, children and families. Guest House case managers support about 400 families and individuals living in apartments throughout the city.

The Guest House serves about 1,000 people yearly. In order to do this, the number of case managers has grown to around 20. The annual budget has doubled over the last ten years to around \$4 million. Just last month, the Guest House opened an 8,000 square foot addition to its main building, providing more space for case managers, treatment, programming, a larger dining area, and a new commercial kitchen. The ultimate goal of the work at Guest House is to help each person find permanent housing and permanent employment.

We at St. Mark’s are supporting the work of the Guest House right now. In your name, St. Mark’s has donated money to the Guest House for over ten years, most recently with gifts of \$1,000 annually. The money comes from the special fundraising we do together as a church—the Flower Sale, the Corn Roast and the Pumpkin Sale. Providing shelter for people in need is a key element of St. Mark’s Outreach Ministry.

~Jan Rhodes



Last month the Guest House celebrated the completion of an 8,000 square foot addition (on the left in this photo). The new construction and renovations to the original building cost \$2.8 million.

Common Ground at St. Mark's

Jennifer O'Hear has been named to the Executive Committee of the governing board of Common Ground. We are very proud of her and her accomplishments in working in the education area of the organization. Her latest efforts have been in helping found and grow Parent Cafés in both Milwaukee city and suburban locations.

Parent Cafés help parents understand and advocate for their children in a safe and supported environment. They empower parents to see the ties between their children's problems and the larger community. They allow parents the ability to share with others as they seek help and support.

The cafés have been employed across the country and have received high praise from both parents and those who work with school age children for

their effectiveness. Anyone interested in Parent Cafés should contact Jennifer O'Hear (jenniferohear@gmail.com) or go to the Common Ground website for more information.

~Deacon Michelle



Community Thanksgiving Eve Service and Pie Social

Sponsored by Lake Park Lutheran and St. Mark's Episcopal Churches

Wednesday, November 23, at 6 p.m.

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church
2618 N. Hackett Ave.**

We will be hosting a Pie Social following the service. Please contact Jackie Adams (jadams3559@yahoo.com) if you would like to contribute a pie or help serve for the event.

Prophets for Our Times Adult Education for November



The November Sunday Adult Forums will continue with discussions sparked by viewings of Old Testament Scholar Walter Brueggemann's DVD, "Embracing the Prophets in Contemporary Culture: On Confronting Today's Pharaohs." Sessions will be held Sunday mornings after the service and Coffee Hour, at approximately at 11 a.m., in the Library.

Brueggemann on the Prophets – November 6, 13, & 20

Please note that, due to some sort of election occurring in November, Theology Pub will meet on **Tuesday, November 15, at 6:30 p.m.** Theology Pub will return to its regularly scheduled date on the second Tuesday of the month in December. We will continue to meet at Paddy's Pub, 2339 N. Murray Avenue. Weekly Bible Study is also available in the St. Mark's Library at 4 p.m. on Wednesdays.

~John Hickey



Theology Pub will be held Tuesday,
November 15, at 6:30 p.m., this month.

Events at All Saints' Cathedral

You are warmly invited to All Saints' Cathedral on Tuesday, November 1, at 7 p.m., for the service for the Feast Day of All Saints'. Bishop Miller will be presiding and preaching. Choral musical leadership will be provided by the Milwaukee Children's Choir.

In December, All Saints' Cathedral is offering an Advent program based on Benedictine spirituality. This is open to the diocese and the public. It is also our hope that the people who attend might be interested in forming a Benedictine guild of clergy and lay people in the coming year.

The Advent series will be:

- December 1—The life of Benedict
- December 8—The Benedictine virtues of obedience, stability and conversion of life.
- December 15—The Rule of Benedict
- December 22—Taking 3–5 pieces of the rule and developing a “mini-rule” for the New Year.

The evening schedule will be:

- Evening Prayer at 5 p.m.
- Eucharist at 5:30 p.m.
- Simple supper at 6:00 p.m.
- Program at 6:45–8 p.m.

For more information, please contact the office at All Saints' (414-271-7719 or administrator@ascathedral.org).

~Dean Kevin Carroll



Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group will be meeting on November 14 at 7 p.m. at the home of Judy Young. This is our very important book selection night. Please join us with two or three recommendations for books. Please only recommend books that you have read. Books should be available in paperback or be titles of which the library has multiple copies. Also think about how discussable the book would be for the group. If you cannot attend the meeting, please email your suggestions to Jackie Adams (jadams3559@yahoo.com).

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

~Ellie Moseley



Music Corner

The choir invites any singers who are unable to make a long-term commitment to singing in the choir at St. Mark's to join us for the short period during which we prepare for the Advent Lessons and Carols, the Christmas Eve Eucharist, and Christmastide. If you're interested in offering gifts of music during this joyful season, please talk to Steve Wolff or call the church and leave a message, or just show up at the Choir Room. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. We start Advent and Christmas music on November 2. You will be most welcome.

~Steve Wolff



Turkey Chefs Needed



The Gathering Meal Program will serve Thanksgiving Dinner to 650–700 guests on Saturday, November 19, at three Milwaukee locations.



You can be a part of that celebration by cooking one of the 90 turkeys needed. St. Mark's will have 25 of these turkeys for volunteers to take home and cook available in the Parish Hall after the service **on Sunday, November 6**. Disposable pans, cooking instructions and zip lock freezer bags come with each turkey. We ask that you **bring them back to the church—cooked, deboned and frozen—on Sunday morning, November 13**. If you have never cooked a turkey before, or if you have cooked hundreds, this is a simple way to put your faith into action.

The Gathering also needs 110 freshly baked pies for the event. If you would like to bake a pie, please bring it to church on November 13 as well. It will be greatly appreciated!

For further information contact Ginny Schrag at vrschrag@thegathering.wis.org or at 414-803-1806.

Turkey pick up is Sunday, November 6, after the service.

November 2016 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:30 AM Yoga 8:15 AM Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM UWM: Contemporary Foods 7 PM All Diocese All Saints' Service (All Saints' Cathedral)	2 4 PM Bible Study 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 6:30 PM UWM: International Foods 7 PM Choir	3 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	4 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	5 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop
6 Bishop's Visit 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 11 AM Adult Formation Series	7 3:30 PM UWM: Healthy Foods 6 PM EfM 6:15 PM SWEATnDANCE 6:30 PM UWM: Healthy Foods	8 Elections All Day 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM UWM: Contemporary Foods	9 4 PM Bible Study 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 6:30 PM UWM: International Foods 7 PM Choir	10 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	11 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	12 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop
13 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 11 AM Adult Formation Series 11:30 AM Art Gallery Opening Reception	14 3:30 PM UWM: Healthy Foods 6 PM EfM 6:15 PM SWEATnDANCE 6:15 PM Finance Committee 6:30 PM UWM: Healthy Foods 7 PM Women's Book Group	15 7:30 AM Yoga 8:15 AM Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Vestry 6:30 PM Theology Pub 6:30 PM UWM: Contemporary Foods	16 4 PM Bible Study 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 6:30 PM UWM: International Foods 7 PM Choir	17 7:30 AM Yoga 3:30 PM Yoga 8 PM AA	18 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	19 9 AM Men's Fellowship Breakfast 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop
20 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Stewardship Wrap-Up Party 11 AM Adult Formation Series 5:30 PM Confirmation Class	21 1 PM CG Core Team 3:30 PM UWM: Healthy Foods 6 PM EfM 6:15 PM SWEATnDANCE 6:30 PM UWM: Healthy Foods 7 PM CG Healthcare Team	22 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM UWM: Contemporary Foods	23 6 PM Thanksgiving Eve Community Service 	24 Thanksgiving	25 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	26 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop
27 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist	28 3:30 PM UWM: Healthy Foods 6 PM EfM 6:15 PM SWEATnDANCE 6:30 PM UWM: Healthy Foods	29 7:30 AM Yoga 10 AM–12 PM Thrift Shop 3:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM UWM: Contemporary Foods	30 4 PM Bible Study 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 6:30 PM UWM: International Foods 7 PM Choir			

Our calendar is available on our website:
www.stmarksmilwaukee.org

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



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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**