

THE LION

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RECTOR'S CORNER

Friends in Christ,

One of the best things I get to do all year is teach Episcopal 101. It's always a lively group of new and not-so-new-comers who raise fantastic questions about the Episcopal church, St. Mark's, Christianity, and anything else that strikes them as important to a life of faith. If you haven't been to a session, look for the next one sometime mid-winter of 2019.

Invariably, someone in the class asks me about money. How do we pay our bills? How do we pay our staff? What happens when that little gold plate comes by me every week at worship? These are excellent questions. There was a time in the Episcopal church not too far in the past where talking about money was considered gauche or even offensive. I've never subscribed to that view. Instead, I see money as a tool for our mission to love God and love our neighbor. It's only important as long as it helps us do that which we are called to do.



Finances at St. Mark's are relatively simple. For some of you this will be a refresher, and for others it will be new information. As I tell the Episcopal 101 class, we essentially operate out of three buckets: operating, investments, and endowment. Our operating bucket pays for the light, heat, staff, communion bread, programs, cleaning supplies, and everything else you can think of to run a vibrant and growing parish. This bucket is funded by our annual stewardship campaign; when you're asked to pledge to St. Mark's each fall, this is the bucket into which your pledge goes.

Our investments bucket is a reserve fund that the Vestry may vote to draw on should a need arise. We use this as a rainy day fund, in a way. It's not entirely liquid money, but it is not terribly difficult to draw upon should something outside the operating budget require a quick infusion of funds (think leaking roof, sink hole, flooded basement, etc.). Our investment bucket is healthier than it's been in quite some time, and it's my hope that it can continue to grow in service of our parish's needs and mission.

Lastly, we have an endowment bucket. Our endowment is money that is for the future. The principle of the endowment is not allowed to be touched, and each year, the Vestry is given the choice to spend or to reinvest that year's earnings. Parishioners and friends of St. Mark's give to the Endowment in a special

occasion, in their wills, or sometimes as a one-time gift from a bonus or a retirement account withdrawal. They give knowing that the interest on their gift will fund St. Mark's for another 125 years.

That's it. Our finances — YOUR finances — are simple, healthy, and transparent. We are audited every other year per the rules of the diocese, and we keep meticulous financial records (thank you, bookkeeper Bill Davies, Treasurer Bruce Jacobs, and the Wardens and Vestry).

Money stuff in church is a little bit boring and certainly not the reason that we find ourselves worshipping God on Sunday mornings. But in this world of ours, money is fuel for ministry, and the wise parish learns facility and comfort talking about money.

So, in a few weeks, when you start to notice the 2019 Stewardship drive, and you begin to hear the stories of St. Mark's and its place in the world, remember that you are being asked to fund the mission of this place. Money isn't good in and of itself; it is only good for what it can do for the reign of God.

Blessings,
Fr. Burch
(Ian+)

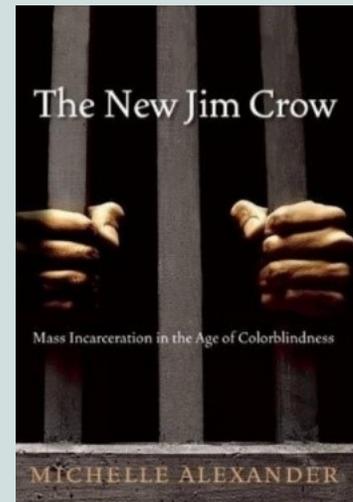
RECTOR'S READING GROUP

"Now and then a book comes along that might in time touch the public and educate social commentators, policymakers, and politicians about a glaring wrong that we have been living with that we also somehow don't know how to face. *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander is such a work"
— *The New York Review of Books*

This fall, anyone who would like is invited to read and study *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander. Several parishioners have told me they are interested in doing some more sophisticated reading around racism, poverty, the school-to-prison pipeline, and police brutality. This book is an exemplary introductory primer. It's heavy reading, and I imagine the conversation will be difficult — both academically and emotionally. There are several copies of the book in the office for purchase — \$15 each. Please RSVP to me, ian@stmarksmilwaukee.org, if you'll be joining us. The first series will take place four Mondays during the day, and if the series goes well, we will plan a second session for those with evening availability sometime in the mid-winter.

October 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 11 a.m. in the Rector's Office.

~Ian



ST. MARK'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CHAPEL REFURBISHMENT 2018

The refurbishment and rededication of our chapel is one of the many ways we are marking 125 years of St. Mark's existence on the East Side of Milwaukee. When the Bishop comes for our Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 2, at 4 p.m., he will rededicate the chapel as the Bread of Life Chapel. This name, chosen by the Vestry, reflects the stained glass windows in the chapel. Join us for that celebration!



Chapel Use: The chapel, to the side of our main sanctuary, has been the home for weekday services, healing services, and the Maundy Thursday vigil for many years. Time and use have taken their toll on the space. As worship habits alter, we seek new ways to use this special space. Our current renovations and changes point towards ways to use it faithfully into the future.

A Vestry Request: The Vestry asked the 125th committee to review the condition of the chapel and come back with a plan to repair and update the space. We observed cracked plaster, peeling paint, pews that limited access and worship styles, an aging carpet, a broken pane in the doors between the chapel and the Bellevue entrance, and lighting fixture styles that didn't match. The committee was also asked to propose names for the chapel to the Vestry so that when the refurbishment was complete, the chapel could be rededicated as such.



Work-in-Progress: The committee responded with a multi-phased proposal that the Vestry accepted, and we are now in the midst of that work. Replastering and repainting are in progress once again. They were stopped to complete a roof repair, something that was necessitated by the deluges of August. Work continues with carpet and old tile removal, installation of a new subfloor, and finally, recarpeting. The altar rail and credence tables will be reinstalled, and the kneeling pillows with parishioner needlepoint covers will be retained. To complete the first phase of the work, we will replace the pews with new movable worship chairs in the chapel. These will allow a wider range of worship styles in the chapel and a wider range of uses it improve access for people with limited mobility.

Uncovered Treasures: When we removed kneeler covers from the old pews, we discovered notes from the women who created the needlepoint covers in the 1970s. These were found under the needlepoint on top of the original Naugahyde kneeler cushions. We have knelt on these notes for decades, and we look forward to honoring their work. The notes are being conserved for display in a later phase of the project, along with the beautiful handiwork they accompanied.

Work to Come: After this first round of repairs and changes, we will replace the blue plastic inserts in the side doors and transom with clear or seeded glass to improve visibility. Additionally, we will install new light fixtures that have a consistent style, and we will display the kneeler covers in an appropriate artistic setting.

~Vince Katter

ITEMS NEEDED THIS MONTH

- Whole Grain Cereal and Oatmeal
- Coffee and Tea
- Olive and Canola Oil
- Low Sodium Canned or Dried Black, Kidney, and Garbanzo Beans

Thanks as always for your generosity to our pantry community!



ADULT EDUCATION

OCTOBER SUNDAY ADULT FORUMS



MARK: A STORY THE GOSPEL AS LITERATURE AND ART

On Sundays October 7 and 14, the celebration of St. Mark's 125th anniversary continues with an exploration of the good news proclaimed by our namesake. At once the earliest and shortest account of Jesus, Mark is noted for its quick pace and no-nonsense style. In fact, the whole gospel can easily be read in one sitting. But do not fear — we will take two! Led by the rector, the Rev. Ian Burch, the sessions will also feature several classic artistic representations of Mark's stories. Classes will be in the library at 11 a.m.

CITY OF MAN, CITY OF GOD A THEOLOGICAL TAKE ON CITIZENSHIP

In anticipation of the upcoming November 6 election, the Adult Forums on October 28 and November 4, will examine differing Christian concepts of the duty citizens owe their political communities through the ideas of two towering Church Theologians — St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas. These sessions will be led by Dr. James South, Professor of Philosophy at Marquette University, and will begin at 11 a.m. in the library.

The Adult Forum will take a break on Sunday, October 21, for the Stewardship Kickoff Party.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 10/5 Melinda Davies
- 10/6 Mark Diliberti
- 10/9 Nick Katter
- 10/15 Michelle Mooney
- 10/16 Bill Davies
- 10/18 Sandy Boltz
- 10/19 Sharon Maier
- 10/27 Griffon Patnode
- 10/31 Nikki Domenget

Don't see your birthday or anniversary listed?

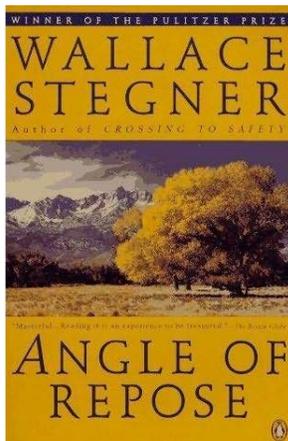
Send Sara an email with the details!

sara@stmarkmilwaukee.org

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 10/3 Kelly and Joe Glostott

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP



October Book Selection

The Women's Book Group will meet on October 29, at 7 p.m., in the home of Janet Martin at the Catholic Home (2462 N. Prospect Ave). Our book for discussion is *Angle of Repose* by Wallace Stegner. This book was written in 1971 about a wheelchair-using historian who had lost connection with his son and other family members. He decides to write about his frontier era grandparents. It won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 1972.

Books can be purchased at Boswell for a ten percent discount or borrowed from the library. All women of the church are invited. Guests are also very welcome. If you have questions, you may email Sara at the church office at sara@stmarksmilwaukee.org.

~Ellie Moseley

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY

RESPOND: YOUTH GROUP

All youth in grades 7-12 are invited to join RESPOND, our youth group! Join us right after church in the Gathering Room (2nd floor) every 2nd Sunday of the month until 12:30 p.m. as we share lunch, sing songs, play games, and respond to God's call for us to love and serve our neighbors.

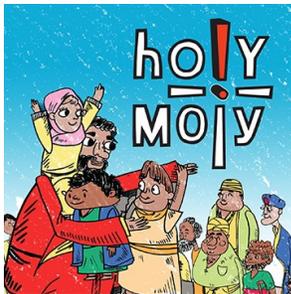
Our next meeting will be on Sunday, October 14. To register or to learn more about RESPOND, please email Matt Phillips (matt@stmarksmilwaukee.org) today.



HOLY MOLY | ST. MARK'S CHURCH SCHOOL

Church School resumes with our first day of Holy Moly classes on Sunday, October 7, at 9:30 a.m.

Holy Moly is our engaging, Bible-based church school curriculum, artfully uses scripture to invite young people to join in the life and faith of our church community while simultaneously teaching them what that means in a fun and exciting way.



Holy Moly students spend each Sunday engaging with a story from the Bible through videos, readings, crafts and discussion. This year, we'll begin in Genesis, where we'll learn about the Patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. We'll also learn about Ruth and Naomi, and Kings David, and Solomon before heading into the New Testament to learn about Christmas, Easter and Jesus's parables and ministry. Each week, students will leave class knowing a story they can retell to their family using a craft they created in class.

Our Church School classes will be divided into two levels:

- Primary: K4 through 2nd Grade
- Intermediate: 3rd through 5th Grade

St. Mark's Church School gathers every week for the first part of Sunday worship beginning at 9:30 a.m., and ends in time for students to join their families in church for Communion. Periodically throughout the year, we'll have special events in place of Church School, such as our Advent wreath making day (Sunday, November 25) and our annual Christmas Pageant (Sunday, December 16). To register or learn more about Holy Moly and our Church School, email Matt Phillips (matt@stmarksmilwaukee.org) today.

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS

We are still in need of Church School teachers for the 2018-2019 School Year. Not only is teaching Church School important, but it's easy, spiritually nourishing, and fun, too! The Holy Moly Curriculum is easy to follow as it gives step-by-step instructions on how to facilitate class each week; the students do the rest.

If you would like to volunteer to teach Church School for a four-week block this fall or this spring, please add your name to our sign-up sheet, located next to the kitchen in the Parish Hall, or email Matt Phillips (matt@stmarksmilwaukee.org) today.

The Choristers at St. Mark's Episcopal Church

The resident children and youth choir, The Choristers, is still looking for new members (grades 3 -12). No previous musical experience is necessary. Please contact choirmaster Daniel Koplitz for more details regarding the choir, auditions, and the curriculum at daniel@stmarksmilwaukee.org or 715-432-3256.



DINNER & DIALOGUE 2ND AND 4TH WEDNESDAYS

St. Mark's is once again partnering with The Corner House to host Dinner & Dialogue events. All college students and adults in their 20s and 30s are invited to join an evening full of great food and great discussion about our faith and the world. Dinner & Dialogue meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 5:30 p.m., at The Corner House, (3074 N. Maryland Ave.) For more information, please email Matt Phillips (matt@stmarksmilwaukee.org).

MONTHLY CAMPUS MINISTRY EUCHARIST AND DINNER

Every second Sunday of the month during the academic year, students are invited to worship and eat together at St. Mark's, starting at 5:30 p.m. Join us as we celebrate Holy Eucharist Rite II, complete with music. Food and fellowship to follow!

Pillowcases for Milwaukee Women's Center



Do you have a sewing machine? Can you sew a straight line? Do you have half an hour to make a Christmas gift for a resident of the emergency shelter the of Milwaukee Women's Center (MWC)?

If so, on Saturday, November 3, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Judith Miller will hold a pillowcase making class in the Parish Hall for anyone interested. She will have her sewing machine there, but please bring your own sewing machine and one yard of a cotton quilting fabric. At the MWC December Christmas party, residents, both kids and adults, will select a pillowcase they can use and keep. The sewing goal is 60 pillowcases with a variety of colors and patterns to appeal to kids of all ages and their moms.

Please contact Judith at either jdthmlrmd@yahoo.com or 608-274-9288 with any questions and to let her know if you'll be coming.

A pillowcase may seem like a small thing, but for someone who may have fled home with nothing, it can be a bit of comfort and normalcy.

- The domestic violence emergency shelter provided comprehensive domestic violence services to 103 women and 127 children.
- 135 low-income homeless adults and 210 children received shelter and assistance through MWC's Family Support Center Emergency Shelter

~Judith Miller

GARDEN GUILD



Artifacts of Love and Tools for Faith: A report on St. Mark's Summer Reading Group

What use is Christian mysticism? Does the tradition have anything to offer women and men who want a fresh encounter with God while they raise families, build careers, and engage with the needs of the world? This summer, I convened fellow St. Mark's parishioners and friends to discuss these questions as we engaged various streams of Christian spirituality over the course of six sessions.



So what is mysticism, anyway? We pursued the topic along two questions. First, what is meant by “encounter with God”? St. Augustine wrote, “You have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in You.” From the start, we are curious about encounters in which we learn ourselves to be loved by God, and even to be objects of God’s delight, like Jesus at his baptism. We talked about experiences of both joy and malaise in the journey of faith, and how we had each learned to live in hope.

The second question was, what could we learn from the material culture — the artifacts — of encounter with God? In his *Course in Christian Mysticism*, Thomas Merton wrote, “The mystical tradition of the church is a collective memory ... of Christian living [that] forms and affects ... intellect, will, emotions, body, [and] skills under the sway of the Holy Spirit.” Mindful of this, we set ourselves to discussing our experiences with various “artifacts” of human encounter with the love of God, by considering poetry, prose essays, prayers, fiction, music, and visual art.

The motifs the group engaged included the Psalms, the Gospels, the Eucharist, Mary, the Holy Spirit, and the connection of action and contemplation. Together we read selections from the Scriptures, the *Book of Common Prayer*, the Rule of Benedict, Flannery O’Connor, Rowan Williams, Eugene Peterson, Julian of Norwich, and Thomas Merton.

Short-term reading groups are a great way to build new friendships in the parish, and to engage both classic traditions and contemporary issues in a warm and welcoming environment. If you would be interested in hearing directly about the next reading group on offer, or you wish to share an idea for a reading group, please write me at kyle.potter@gmail.com.

~Kyle



Pumpkin Sale

Starts October 5
Volunteer Sign Up
in Parish Hall



HISTORIC
DOWNER AVENUE
EASTSIDE

HAUNTED HALLOWEEN

Saturday,
October 20th
from Noon until 4pm

MKE
MILWAUKEE BREWING CO

HALLOWEEN ON DOWNER | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 20, at 12 to 4 p.m. St. Mark's will be participating in the annual Halloween on Downer event. We'll have a trick-or-treat station full of candy and other fun surprises for kids as your family celebrates one of the spookiest nights of the year. Be sure to stop by and show us your costumes.



OCTOBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Rector Away 3:30 PM UWM Healthy Foods 4:30 PM UWM Soccer 6 PM SWEATnDANCE	2 Rector Away 8 AM Yoga 8:15 AM Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander 10 AM-12 PM Thrift Shop 11 AM Zen Gen 3 PM CSA Pick-Up	3 Rector Away 4 PM Bible Study 4:30 PM UWM Soccer 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 6:30 PM UWM International 7 PM Choir	4 Rector Away 8 AM Yoga 11 AM Zen Gen 8 PM AA	5 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	6 10 AM-12 PM Thrift Shop
7 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist Church School 11 AM Adult Education 2 PM Blessing of the Animals	8 11 AM Rector's Read Group 3:30 PM UWM Healthy Foods 4:30 PM UWM Soccer 6 PM Common Ground Meeting 6 PM SWEATnDANCE 6:15 PM Finance	9 8 AM Yoga 10 AM-12 PM Thrift Shop 11 AM Zen Gen 3 PM CSA Pick-Up	10 4 PM Bible Study 4:30 PM UWM Soccer 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 6:30 PM UWM International 7 PM Choir	11 8 AM Yoga 11 AM Zen Gen 8 PM AA	12 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	13 Diocesan Convention 10 AM-12 PM Thrift Shop
14 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist Church School 11 AM Adult Education RESPOND Youth Group 5:30 PM Campus Eucharist/Dinner	15 11 AM Rector's Read Group 3:30 PM UWM Healthy Foods 6 PM SWEATnDANCE	16 8 AM Yoga 8:15 AM Breakfast Fellowship @ Hollander 10 AM-12 PM Thrift Shop 11 AM Zen Gen 3 PM CSA Pick-Up 6:30 PM Vestry	17 4 PM Bible Study 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 6:30 PM UWM International 7 PM Choir	18 Rector Away 8 AM Yoga 11 AM Zen Gen 8 PM AA	19 Rector Away Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	20 Rector Away 9 AM Men's Fellowship Breakfast 9:30 AM Quilting Circle 10 AM-12 PM Thrift Shop 12 PM Halloween on Downer
21 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist Church School 10:30 AM Stewardship Kick-Off 11:15 AM Adult Education	22 11 AM Rector's Read Group 3:30 PM UWM Healthy Foods 6 PM SWEATnDANCE	23 8 AM Yoga 10 AM-12 PM Thrift Shop 11 AM Zen Gen 1 PM Spirituality and Aging	24 Office Closed 4 PM Bible Study 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 6:30 PM UWM International 7 PM Choir	25 8 AM Yoga 11 AM Zen Gen 8 PM AA	26 Rector's Day Off 8 PM AA	27 9:30 AM Zen Gen 10 AM-12 PM Thrift Shop
28 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist Church School 11 AM Adult Education	29 11 AM Rector's Read Group 3:30 PM UWM Healthy Foods 6 PM SWEATnDANCE 7 PM Women's Book Group	30 8 AM Yoga 10 AM-12 PM Thrift Shop 11 AM Zen Gen	31 4 PM Bible Study 4:30 PM UWM Soccer 6 PM Midweek Eucharist 6:30 PM UWM International 7 PM Choir			

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, from a variety of 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
ian@stmarksmilwaukee.org
The Rev. John Hickey, Priest Associate
The Rev. Michelle P. Mooney, Deacon
Stephen Wolff, Director of Music
Matt Phillips, Director of Campus and Youth Ministries
matt@stmarksmilwaukee.org
Virginia Chappell, Senior Warden
Randy Miller, Junior Warden
Bruce Jacobs, Treasurer
Sara Bitner, Parish Administrator
sara@stmarksmilwaukee.org
Daniel Klopitz, Children's Choirmaster
daniel@stmarksmilwaukee.org
Bill Davies, Bookkeeper
bill@stmarksmilwaukee.org
Jyoti Bratz, Housekeeper
Skrauss, Sexton
Kiran-Joy Kuhn, *Lion Newsletter Editor*

Vestry Members
Bill Hunt
Tom Lacy
Ellie Mixer-Keller
Brooke Frizzell
Cheryl Johnson
Michael O'Hear
Georgia Cain
David Miyama
Ginny Schrag

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
2618 N. Hackett Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211
414-962-0500
stmarksmilwaukee.org

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