



## CHURCH SCHOOL CELEBRATION & ALL PARISH PICNIC – JUNE 10

On Sunday, June 10, at the 10 a.m. service, we will celebrate the end of another wonderful year of Church School. Come and join us in recognizing the hard work of all our church school teachers who prepare and lead our children in learning about God at all age levels. We will also recognize our youth and children on that Sunday.



The All Church picnic will follow immediately after the service so the celebration can continue. Come one, come all and help us kick off summer in style. Bounce house for the kids, live music, fellowship and food! So make sure to attend this end of the Church School Year celebration. How Can You Help? Please see Mallory LaBonte, Sue Schneider or the sign up sheets in the Great Hall for food donations and the list of items/volunteers needed.

## GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY, JUNE 17 AT 10AM

**FUN**  
**BRAVE**  
**PATIENT**  
**HERO**  
**WISE**  
**CARING**

On Sunday June 17 at the 10am service not only will we give thanks for fathers, we will also recognize, celebrate, and pray for our graduating seniors.

Come and be part of this special day!



## PARTY FOR NANCY GAGNE – JUNE 24



Our Minister of Music, Nancy Gagne's last Sunday with us before her retirement will be June 24. We are planning to show our appreciation for the many years she has led the choir and congregation on Sunday mornings with punch, cake and, of course, speeches!

Mark your calendar now so that you can join in this very special tribute to Nancy!

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

St. Mark's is called to serve all people in greater Springfield, MA. as a guiding light and a spiritual home where Jesus' spirit is known through inclusive, joyful worship, spirited formation, thriving ministries of service, and powerful outreach. Christ welcomed all, we welcome you.

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**

One Porter Road  
East Longmeadow, MA 01028  
413.525.6341

Email: [office@stmarksma.org](mailto:office@stmarksma.org)

Web: [www.stmarksma.org](http://www.stmarksma.org)

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm

**Sunday Worship: 8am & 10am,**

**Wednesday Worship:  
12:00 p.m. Eucharist**

Rector- Rev. Peter Swarr  
Sr. Warden - Sue Schneider  
Jr. Warden - Peter Fairman  
Director of Music - Nancy Gagne  
Parish Administrator - Diane Chandler  
Good News Editor - Diane Chandler  
I.T./Webmaster - Lester Sill, Ryan Schneider

The *Good News* is published monthly by St. Mark's Church. The deadline is usually the **3rd Tuesday of every month** unless otherwise noted.

**Next deadline is  
Tuesday, June 19th**



Submit articles to:  
Diane Chandler, Good News Editor  
[office@stmarksma.org](mailto:office@stmarksma.org)

## SOMETHING IS GROWING IN THE BACKYARD OF THE CHURCH...COME AND LEARN ABOUT THE NEW RAINBOW COMMUNITY GARDEN!



How and why did the Rainbow Community Garden come into being? What does it have to do with our faith and with being a follower of Jesus? During the summer and fall The Rainbow Community Garden and Adult Formation will be offering monthly conversations to learn and answer questions.

The brief forums will be held on Sundays, following the 10:00 service, in the Great Hall.

\* JUNE (June 24<sup>th</sup>) How did this start? Were there other gardens at St. Mark's? Why are Bhutanese people gardening here? How did other churches get involved?

\* JULY (July 22<sup>nd</sup>) Bhutan101 Christ Welcomed all, We welcome you! Who are our neighbors and friends and how can we make them feel welcomed? Learn a bit about Bhutanese heritage and culture and even learn a few words of Nepali. By the end of this forum you WILL know where Bhutan is located!

\* AUGUST (Aug. 19<sup>th</sup>) **All Saints**, the movie. – Based on a true story, a salesman-turned-pastor Michael Spurlock of a tiny Episcopal church in Smyrna, Tennessee is ordered to shut it down. He attempts to save the church, as well as a group of refugees from Karen State, Myanmar in South-east Asia. This movie may well have a great parallel message for St. Mark's.

\* SEPTEMBER How do we build a community despite all of our differences? Why is Christianity able to help people from all kinds of backgrounds, races, and cultures, come together? Explore ways to begin this valuable and rewarding work.

\* OCTOBER Stewardship of God's gifts and food preservation?!? No really, God has provided bountifully, now our job is to use it and preserve it wisely. Come explore how to preserve the bounty from our garden to carry us through the winter (you'll get new recipes too!).

To learn more please contact Meg Galbreath at [Meg.Galbreath56@gmail.com](mailto:Meg.Galbreath56@gmail.com)

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

You're invited to join us at the East Longmeadow United Methodist Church for  
**Rolling River Rampage Vacation Bible Camp!**  
**June 25-29th from 6-8 PM.**



For more information call/text Laura Kinney at (413) 348-7212, email

[laurakinney21@gmail.com](mailto:laurakinney21@gmail.com), or go to [rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/elongmeadowumc](http://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/elongmeadowumc).  
to register



## ECUMENICAL SERVICE & RAINBOW COMMUNITY GARDEN DEDICATION—MAY 27

It was standing room only at St. Mark's Sunday, May 27 when the East Longmeadow Methodist, Lutheran, Congregational and Episcopal Churches came together for our annual joint worship service. We also welcomed members of the Nepalese Salvation Church who sang, prayed, and worshiped side by side with us.



State Senator Eric Lesser, who has been a strong supporter and guide of our newly created Rainbow Community Garden, gave the sermon, welcoming our Nepalese sisters and brothers who will be growing food this summer in the garden. He told of his own family's history as immigrants coming from Italy and Russia and stressed how rich our community becomes when we embrace diversity.

During the children's sermon, Fr. Peter talked of God's love for us in providing the food we need. Each child was given a paper cup with soil and seeds to take home and plant.



After the service, the Rainbow Community Garden was formally dedicated by Pastor Enoch of the Salvation Church and Pastor Kelly Turney of United Methodist as the entire community looked on. The clouds could not compete with the light and love that shone upon the garden that Sunday.



## MUSICIAN SEARCH UPDATE

At the April Vestry meeting, a team of seven, to serve as the Minister of Music Search Committee, was appointed by the Vestry.

This committee is composed of Adam Lape, Sheila Bennet, Ginny Sill, Ryan Schneider, Tammy Najeebi, Peter Fairman, and Fr. Peter Swarr.

They held their first meeting on May 18 and looked at the results of the Church Music Survey. They began defining what they understand to be the preferences of the church as well as reflecting on the old job description and preparing to write a NEW job description for where St. Mark's finds itself in 2018. This committee hopes to have an updated job description posted this month and will begin creating an interview process in the near future.

Please join this committee in praying for this search for our next minister of music.

Here is a prayer you could consider praying along with the committee,

"O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven, we give you thanks for the gift of music, and for the many ways that your people use music to sing your praises. Assist the search committee at St. Mark's as they seek to discern your will for our next minister of music. Give them ears to hear, wisdom to discern, endurance to do the work, and enthusiasm to respond to you. May you bless their work and this search. We pray this for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

## CHRISTINE WHITEHEAD BEGINS SERVING AS A NEW WORSHIP MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

By Father Peter Swarr

Worship stands at the heart of who we are at St. Mark's and a huge number of parishioners help make it possible. We have **EIGHT** teams of people who help lead and assist worship; Acolytes, Choir members, Ushers, Lectors, Healing ministers, Altar Guild members, Eucharistic Ministers, & Counters all play an important role in the act of worship. All told well over 65 members of our church are connected to one or more of these teams!

As a result of the recent exploration into the Christian Leadership Program, Christine Whitehead has sensed a call to help call these teams together and intentionally work to build them up, offer support, and coordinate gatherings and trainings.

That's a lot of teams, and a lot of wonderful work. And it is often too much for our priest to oversee on a day-to-day basis. This means that while Fr. Peter will help with occasional trainings or answering questions, he rarely gets each group together for fellowship, education, and spiritual growth.

Already, Christine has facilitated the gathering of our Ushers in mid-May for a meal and training. Christine and Fr. Peter hope to do more before the summer is over. Please join me in thanking Christine for her willingness to serve in this new and important capacity as we seek to honor and invest in worship at St. Mark's.



**SUMMER 2018 @ ST. MARK'S**

**Harvesting God's Gifts: A Children's Summer Program**

**Sundays @ 10 AM**

**Rainbow Community Garden**

**June 17 through August 26**

This exciting new program is designed to teach children about the blessings of God's creation through hands-on gardening, Bible lessons and activities during the first half of the 10 AM service. Advance signup is not required, simply come when you are able.



**St. Mark's Scavenger Hunt & Potluck Cookout**

**Sunday, July 29, after the 10 AM service**

Calling detectives of all ages! On this special day, we invite you to explore the grounds of St. Mark's to see who can collect the most items, ranging from the ordinary to the unexpected. You never know what will be on your list. Afterwards, enjoy a delicious potluck cookout with friends and family. A signup sheet will be posted in the Great Hall during the month of July.



**Fall Harvest Dinner & Cooking Event**

Join us as we celebrate the harvest and the collaboration and fellowship that has made this garden a reality. This dinner will include home-grown vegetables from the Community Garden, prepared by children and adults from the St. Mark's congregation. Date and details coming soon!



	<p>06/01 Karen Flygare 06/03 Debbie Taylor David LaBrie Jackie Butler 06/06 Misty Trombly Addison Lape 06/08 Brianne Boyd 06/12 Fran DeVall 06/16 Sam Tapper Ryan Dufresne 06/21 Michael Tami Lucia Rodrigo 06/25 Linda McComb Kegan Druckenmiller 06/26 Keith Trombly 06/27 Karen Dufresne 06/28 Lily Mitus</p>	<p>JUNE</p>	<p>06/01 Bruce &amp; Cris Rockwell 06/06 Dan &amp; Doreen Tapper 06/13 Carl &amp; Ellie Otto 06/19 Rick &amp; Laura Rollins 06/21 Peter &amp; Angela Swarr 06/25 Michael &amp; Barbara Derose</p>	
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## REFRESH THE GREAT HALL PROJECT

Here at St. Mark's Church, as we explore ways to be better stewards by more intentionally using our church facilities, we hope to fully live our mission as a "guiding light and a spiritual home where Jesus' spirit is known" and to provide a necessary income source to continue to pay down our church deficit. This year a group of more than 12 parishioners gathered to pray, dream and plan. The first step of the plan involves "Refreshing the Great Hall" so that it is warm and welcoming to all who enter. The group identified many necessary tasks. (See below & pg 7 for details)



### How can you be part of the "Refresh the Great Hall" effort?

- Volunteer to work on any projects? Please see Jen Banker or Ellie Otto
- Church members can participate in the selection of the paint color by voting in the "Pick your Paint Color" survey. Simply place your dollar(s) in the paint can with the color of your choice. The color with the most votes will be the color we paint the lower section of the Great Hall.
- Offer financial support for the projects. Please see the "Support the Refresh the Great Hall Project" area in the Great Hall to see the various ways!!

### Proposed Projects

#### **New Lighting**

**Issue:** The lighting is insufficient for many of the events that occur in the Great Hall making it difficult for many individuals to participate.

**Resolution:** Purchase light fixtures and attach them to the existing ceiling fans. The additional number of lights along with the use of LED light bulbs should greatly enhance the visibility in the hall.

#### **New Paint**

**Issue:** The paint on the walls is dirty and worn from daily use of the hall. The ceiling and walls all need a fresh color and coat of paint.

**Resolution:** We will purchase paint for the ceiling and walls, one for the upper portion of the walls and a second for the lower portion. Members of the church have offered to do the work which will most likely require the rental of scaffolding or a lift.

Cont'd on pg 7

## Proposed Projects (Cont'd)

### New Chair rail

**Issue:** With the great deal of wear and tear the Great Hall receives the lightly painted lower portion of the wall show the greatest amount of damage. To repaint those portions requires painting the entire wall.

**Resolution:** A chair rail will be installed which will allow us to paint the lower wall a darker color. Having a contrasting darker color will mask some of the wear and will allow us to “freshen up” the room periodically by only painting the lower sections of the wall.

### Signage

**Issue:** Walking into our building can be very confusing for newcomers and visitors. Having good signage would make all who enter our church feel welcomed.

**Resolution:** We plan to purchase new, easy to read, uniform, signage for all entry areas in the church. The signs will be strategically placed throughout the building to provide guidance to the major locations within the building regardless of your entry point.

### Sound Absorption

**Issue:** It is very difficult for people to hear one another speak in the Great Hall due to the height of the walls and the materials used on the floor and ceilings. This is a very frustrating situation and prevents many individuals from participating in events that are held in this room.

**Resolution:** After a professional reverberation study was performed (at no cost to the church), it has been determined that the best way to address the sound issue in the Great Hall is to install carpeting. Floor carpet tiles are the best option as stained or damaged tiles can easily be replaced. Installation of carpeting may also require the installation of some form of subflooring or leveling agent.

## OUTREACH MINISTRY NEWS:

Do you have a few hours to spend this summer lending a helping hand? The Open Pantry in Springfield is looking for volunteers to stock the shelves of the pantry and assist in the food distribution. Any and all help will be greatly appreciated. Let Claire Sygiel or Lori Decker know if you are interested and thank you!



Saturday, June 9, is the next date for us to make and serve a hot meal at the Open Pantry Community Kitchen at South Congregational Church in Springfield from 4 to 5:30 p.m. No experience needed and all are welcome! Carpooling from St. Mark's is available. Please let Mary Dunklee know if you are willing to help.



# St. Mark's Thrift Shop

**June Sale**

**Stop In For Bargains All Through  
The Month Of June  
50% Off Select Items In Shop**

## **Did You Know?**

**90% of Thrift Shop income goes toward future capitol maintenance  
and repairs in the church.**

**10% of Thrift Shop income goes toward Fr. Peter's Discretionary Fund.**

**Your Purchases Help Support St. Mark's**

**Shop Hours: Fri. & Sat. 10 - 1**



# Aging Gently

We are a group of gently aging elders who meet once a month to engage in conversation, prayer, and moral support with other gently aging elders.



## Book and Film Recommendations

Betty and Russ Rennell recommend: **The Power of Prayer**, by E. M. Bounds. Daily scripture reading, meditative thought and short prayer for every day of the year.

AARP recommends: **Disrupt Aging**, by JoAnn Jenkins, CEO of AARP. This book challenges people to change the conversation about aging by challenging our out dated beliefs and encourages us all to re think the negative stories we tell ourselves and each other about growing older.

## This Month

**We have exciting news !!!** The Families of Faith Library at St. Mark's has dedicated a shelf to the Aging Gently group. This shelf contains a communication folder where you can find copies of various handouts used at our meetings along with available book and film recommendations.

Betty and Russ sent an amusing hand out of "**Remember When?**" which was shared at our meeting.

Favorite movies were shared.

"Elder terms" were discussed and we found that it is not necessary to label folks, we prefer to remain individuals.

**Next Month** Let's have lunch, visit and catch up with each other.

## Upcoming

Next Meeting Date

**Weds, June 20, 2018**

Monthly Prayer Intention

**For Betty and Russ**

Golden Years, Golden Words

**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.**

**Hebrews 13:8**

**Note!** We meet on the third Weds. each month at 1:00 in the Williams Rm. at St. Mark's Church.

Lunch is provided or bring your own.

All are very welcome!

Questions? ask Marcia or Cathy [rcmstvn@verizon.net](mailto:rcmstvn@verizon.net) or 525-1295

June 2018

## St. Mark's Art & Craft Fair 2018

1 Porter Road, East Longmeadow, MA 01028  
Saturday, November 17, 2018 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

St Mark's Art & Craft Fair is a collaboration in which we bring together talent to showcase (and more importantly sell) their creations. In past years we have had a range of artists and crafters from hand knit sweaters to hand-turned wooden bowls and birdhouses, from homemade jam to ceramics and glassworks, and quite a range in between. The Art & Craft Fair offers a bake sale and lunch items such as homemade soups, chili and loaded baked potato for sale and Raffle of donated items that benefits St. Mark's Church (and helps to keep the cost of the space rental down).

St. Mark's Art & Craft Fair runs from 9 am to 3 pm with set up times Friday 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. and Saturday 7 a.m. – 8:58 a.m. Please arrive prior to 8:30 a.m. Saturday, we lock the doors then to keep early shoppers at bay. The venue, located on a well-traveled road in East Longmeadow, offers two floors of 9+ spacious rooms and ample parking. Artisans MUST be ready for 9:00 am door opening and remain open until doors close at 3:00 pm, no exception.

Advertising includes Newspaper and online ads, lawn signs, local flyers, a Facebook page, as well as participant's own avenues & word of mouth.

St Mark's art & Craft Fair began in 2011 by a small group who have decades of art and craft experience including all aspects of running successful shows, as well as hands on experience in Arts and/or Crafts. We continue to learn and grow each year both from our own experience and from the feedback of participants and shoppers alike and have since doubled in size, while keeping our focus on quality, individuality and our shopper's experience. We are very much looking forward to hosting our 7th annual fair in November. Trying to give Artisans as much say in the use of their own space we are not juried, the only requirement is "handmade" with the occasional (committee approved) exception, such as the church raffle baskets and ever popular plant sale. We do require a description of your goods when applying to avoid an overabundance or competing art/craft and will limit as needed. This also helps when it comes to assigning spaces. We offer 3 different size spaces, if one is not enough you can combine the options to achieve the size space that will suit your needs, if less space is needed, we can accommodate that also. We are happy to speak with you about your specific set up needs.

An application is attached. We look forward to seeing you and your work in November. Please note, incomplete applications will not be considered. Email confirmations given to all applications received. St Mark's Church office does not have Art & Craft Fair info, contact listed below, please feel free to reach out.

Email: [StMarksArtCraftFair@gmail.com](mailto:StMarksArtCraftFair@gmail.com)

Tele: Jessica Lister 413-233-7076

Post: St. Mark's Church, 1 Porter Road, East Longmeadow MA 01028



**St Mark's Art & Craft Fair 2018**

**Saturday, November 17, 2018 9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**St Mark's Church \* 1 Porter Road, East Longmeadow AM 01028**

Email: StMarksArtCraftFair@gmail.com      Tele: Jessica Lister 413.233.7076

Set up Friday, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 - 8:00 pm and/or Saturday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 - 8:58 am

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Tele: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Handiwork (required): \_\_\_\_\_

**Space Requirement (please check):**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Small \$40:**

This space consists of one 8' Rectangular Table. Retail area is limited to the tabletop only with storage space under the 8' table only. No additional space around the table may be used with this option. A chair (or two) is provided for your convenience.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Medium \$50:**

This space consists of 8' deep by 10' wide floor space. Tables are NOT included. You may set up the 8' x 10' space as you wish, staying within its boundaries.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Large \$60:**

This space consists of 10' deep by 12' wide floor space. Tables are NOT included. You may set up the 10' x 12' space as you wish, staying within its boundaries.

*\*\*\*Additional smaller, larger & Odd shape spaces also available to suit your needs, call/email to discuss\*\*\**

**Table Rental \$8 each (for Medium or Large Spaces only - indicate # required):**

\_\_\_\_\_ **8' Rectangular**      \_\_\_\_\_ **6' Rectangular**      \_\_\_\_\_ **5' Round**

**Total Due \$\_\_\_\_\_.** Check payable "St Mark's Church" due with application.

**\*\* Space is limited and fills on a first come first served basis by genre to assure variety.**

**\*\* Cancellation Policy: Refund considered prior to October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**\*\* No-shows and/or negative behavior will not be considered for future events.**

By signing you agree to these terms, to sell only original work & remain open 9:00 am - 3:00 pm.

Signature (required) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Raffle Donation (optional)**- If you plan to donate a handcrafted item to the Raffle, please bring item with business card to display. Thank you in advance, your donation helps keep our cost low!!

**Description of item to be donated:** \_\_\_\_\_

Check if you require handicap accessibility \_\_\_\_\_

Check if you require access to electrical outlet \_\_\_\_\_

Do you prefer to be in the same location as last year? (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Info (if applicable):





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St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
One Porter Road  
East Longmeadow, MA 01028-1348

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage  
East Longmeadow, MA 01028