

ST. MARK'S HEADS TO SOUTH DAKOTA! THE ROSEBUD MISSION TRIP BEGINS



On July 1 at 4:45am twelve members of St. Mark's (Mallory LaBonte, Jessica Lister, Russ and Mary Desroiser, Lynda Lemanis, Rob Fitzpatrick, Meg Galbreath, Ellie Otto, Marj Bruns, Dan and Sue Schneider, Fr. Peter) head to Bradley Airport to begin the journey to Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota. This mission, where they will learn about the Lakota people, work alongside people on the reservation, rebuild from the recent flooding, and prepare for the harsh winter by splitting cords or wood, is NOT simply the team's mission. It is a mission of St. Mark's.

Together this congregation helped raise well over 5,000 dollars which will support work and programs on the Reservation. Each member of St. Mark's is part of this trip. Through your annual giving to the church, funds were also given by the outreach ministry to help support this trip.

Throughout the trip which lasts until July 10, the team will be sending home updates on our service and learning. Be sure to be at church on Sunday, July 7 when a full update will be shared by our Junior Warden, Peter Fairman.

Please hold the team in your prayers during this time. And pray for the people of Rosebud Reservation as we live in community with them and seek and serve Christ in them.

BISHOP'S VISIT, JUNE 9, 2019



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

Web: www.stmarksma.org

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm

Sunday Worship: 8am & 10am,

**Wednesday Worship:
12:00pm Eucharist**

Rector- Rev. Peter Swarr
Sr. Warden - Sue Schneider
Jr. Warden - Peter Fairman
Director of Music - Susan Matsui
Parish Administrator - Diane Chandler
Good News Editor - Diane Chandler
I.T./Webmaster - Ryan Schneider

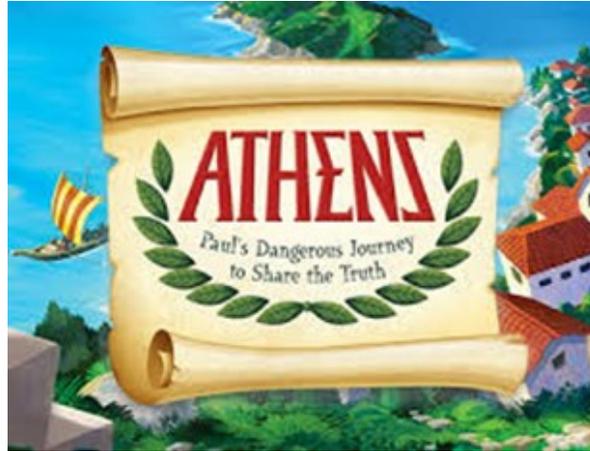
The *Good News* is published monthly by St. Mark's Church. The deadline is usually the **3rd Tuesday of every month** unless otherwise noted.

**Next deadline is
Tuesday, July 16, 2019**



Submit articles to:
Diane Chandler, Good News Editor
office@stmarksma.org

Free Summer "Trip" to Athens for Children and Youth!



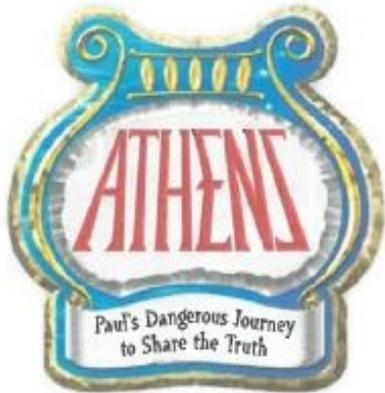
Vacation Bible School 2019

Imagine a place where children pre-school through 5th grade could come together, learn, sing, make friends, play games, and learn about the love of God. Well that's exactly what Vacation Bible School is and it is coming to St. Mark's and East Longmeadow this summer!

All children grades Preschool (potty trained) through 5th Grade are invited to spend **Monday, July 22 to Thursday, July 25 from 9:00am-noon** at St. Mark's with our trained volunteer staff which includes nurses, teachers, parents, and faith leaders.

There is no cost for this program. Just fill out a paper application form (see page 3) and leave it in the church office or complete the online form located at <https://www.stmarksma.org/events>

Please invite family, friends, and neighbors to take part in this wonderful multi-age event. If you are interested in volunteering to help work at this years VBS, please let Fr. Peter know in person or via email (rector@stmarksma.org)



ATHENS
REGISTRATION FORM
ST. MARK'S CHURCH
JULY 22-25, 9:00-12:00

Name: _____ Age: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____

E-mail Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Last School Grade Completed: _____

Emergency Contact: _____
(Name and phone number)

Parent/Guardian: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Name of Authorized Pick-up Person(s): _____

Allergies or Other Medical Conditions you would like us to be aware of: _____

Name of special friend your child might like to be with: _____

Photo Release Form

I grant St. Mark's Episcopal Church, its representatives and employees the right to take photographs of my child, named above, in connection with its Christian formation program. I authorize St. Mark's, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use and publish the same in print and/or electronically.

I agree that St. Mark's Episcopal Church may use such photographs of my child with or without name for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.

I have read and understand the above.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed name: _____

THE EXPLORATION INTO CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM IS HELPING BRING A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION AND SPECIAL EVENTS STAFF POSITION TO ST. MARK'S

Sue Schneider and Fr. Peter have been offering the Exploration into Christian Leadership program to not only St. Mark's church but also other parishes throughout the Diocese. Since the time commitment is significant for each of the ECL cohorts conducted, the Diocese provided a grant funding to support their work with the ECL program so that they can continue and expand the offering throughout the Diocese.

In order to ensure that St. Mark's is adequately supported, Sue and Fr. Peter have chose to use a portion of the funding to provide support for the time Fr. Peter is away from the church. Fr. Peter has identified that the administrative tasks and the special event planning would be a key area that would benefit from an additional staff person.

St. Mark's Vestry has reviewed and approved the proposal and proposed job description. Since this position will be grant funded, the Vestry is fully aware and willing to abide by the Diocesan policy of not hiring parishioners for staff positions.

Before moving forward in the search and hiring process, Sue and Fr. Peter have met with members of the Christian Education Ministry Team so that their input and ideas can be considered in the

creation of the job description and responsibilities. Additionally, it should be noted that this grant funded position is guaranteed for only one year (at this point) and is projected to be paid at a rate of \$20/hour with an average of 17 hours per month of work.

A team of Vestry members, teachers, the Rector, and parents will oversee the search process for this position.

A general overview of the position can be found on page 5.

*Happy
Birthday*

JULY

*Happy
Anniversary*

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
06/23 Teal Lipinski
06/25 Linda McComb
Kegan Druckenmiller
06/26 Keith Trombly
06/27 Karen Dufresne
06/28 Lily Mitus

06/01 Bruce & Cris Rockwell
06/06 Dan & Doreen Tapper
06/13 Carl & Ellie Otto
06/21 Peter & Angela Swarr
06/25 Michael & Barbara Derosé

St. Mark's Church
Christian Education Job Description

Job Title: Christian Education Administration and Special Project Coordinator

Job Tasks:

Administration:

Annually

- Develop and distribute Church School Calendar
- Convene Teacher Orientation Meeting
- Update Teacher Contact Lists
- Upkeep of Safe Church Training documentation
- Convene teachers for mid-year review and check-in

Monthly

- Conduct church school supply inventory
- Purchase necessary school supplies
- Create and submit at least one Church School article for the St. Mark's Newsletter including upcoming lessons (if available)
- Interface with the Rector about plans and events

Weekly

- Send weekly reminder emails to teachers
- Send reminders to parents and students (as needed)
- Oversee arrival of teachers and students on Sundays with scheduled Church School Classes (9-10:30 AM)
- Arrange for coverage of any absent teachers
- Inform Rector of any pertinent information

Special Projects

Oversight of planning and implementation of the following yearly events:

- Hands on Holy Week- March or April
- Involvement in Week long Summer Programming (such as VBS)
- Church School Registration and Orientation – September
- Christmas Pageant- December

Requirements:

- Undergo Safe Church Certification
- Undergo CORI and Background checks
- Trained with Microsoft Office, Google Docs and Windows
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills & flexibility
- Experience with project and personnel management
- Comfort with Christian Formation and Education preferred

WHAT'S NEXT IN THE WAY OF LOVE?

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23

What's next in the Way of Love?



BLESSINGS, something wonderful to receive, something wonderful to give. We all have blessings to give and everyone needs a blessing once in a while.

On July 14th we will have a chance to share our needs and talents. During the service we will have the opportunity to request assistance and prayers. What might some of these requests be?

Water my garden plot while I am away
A ride to the grocery store
Some company during lunch
An hour or two of babysitting
I need some light housework

An hour, or two, can make an enormous impact on someone's life. If you feel you can fill someone's needs, you will be able make a "match" and pick up their tag on the display in the Great Hall. We will be offering this opportunity until the middle of August. If you have any questions please speak with Fr. Peter or myself.

*****and coming up:



We will *GO* to Church Without Walls on Sunday, August 4th.
Join us as we celebrate the Holy Eucharist and worship with the greater Cathedral community.

We will carpool from St. Mark's after the 10:00am service, worship in Court Square, and have a shared full lunch afterward. We will carpool back to St. Mark's in the early afternoon. More details, and sign ups, will follow. Stay tuned!

Meg Galbreath
Meg.galbreath56@gmail.com

MANY THANKS TO OUR WINE MINISTRY TEAM!
THE CABINET IS ALMOST FULL



Minutes of the May 28, 2019 Meeting
St. Mark's Vestry

Present: Fr. Peter Swarr, Sue Schneider, Rob Fitzpatrick, Claire Sygiel, Peter Fairman, Ellie Otto, Rich Bruns, Scott Conrad, Nancy LaBrie, Jon Robichaud, Doreen Tapper, and Jake Berry.

The meeting was called to order with an opening prayer at 7:00 p.m.

Vestry reflected on what types of things cause us to worry and what has helped us refocus on God. This was after reading Matthew 6:24 about not being able to serve two masters.

Jon made a motion, seconded by Ellie, to accept the April minutes as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Vestry members reviewed the information sheet about various activities in the parish. Fr. Peter reported that he met with Christine Whitehead and they will enlist volunteers from the worship ministry teams to learn about the fire safety protocols. Peter F. noted that the monthly celebrations of the various worship components brought some new volunteers for the worship teams.

It was noted that nearly six tons of clothing was collected for the Rosebud mission trip totally approximately \$2,500.

Under Discussion Items, Sue reported that the newly formed dinner ministry team is planning to hold four dinners per year, each with a different theme. It is a way to invite people into our church as well as being good stewards of the gifts and talents God has given us. The first meal will be held Saturday, October 5 with a Mexican theme, the second will be a chili and baked potato meal on January 11, the third will be Celtic night on March 7 and then the fourth will be a Polish meal with a date TBD. The team hopes that the proceeds from these dinners will offset the church deficit. A motion was made by Rob, seconded by Ellie to allow the dinner ministry team to go forward with the meals as planned. The motion carried unanimously.

Under Updates, Scott reported that no finance committee meeting was held last month but that the audit had begun with six people attending. Everything appears to be in order and hopefully the audit can be brought to vestry for its approval next month. He said the policies and procedures document was tremendously helpful. Scott noted the following recommendations have been made:

1. Set up of a transfer account for unknown funds that come in
2. Continue to move to full accrual process
3. Separate out the blue binders into disbursement and income

He noted that he has located the red binder that contains the information on the trustee accounts and endowments. Jon suggested the binders be stored in a fireproof container with backup.

Jon updated the vestry on Buildings & Grounds activities, noting that Mass Save has finished installing the LED lighting throughout the building (except the sanctuary) and that Rich will be on hand for the upcoming yearly town inspection. He said the estimates to upgrade the lighting in the sanctuary came in at almost double what vestry had earmarked. He will meet with someone he knows to see if we can get a 50% discount on the hardware needed.

Jon noted that the repair of the rectory door will be completed within the week and that he repaired a sewer drain cap that had broken at the church and obtained a compliance letter from the town. Scott said the wiring in the basement has been completed and Rob said the last two storage units in the lower level would soon be completed. Fr. Peter said they are not permanent structures so do not need to be inspected. The B&G team was applauded for all their hard work.

Fr. Peter reported that the Rosebud mission team has met seven times with two more meetings scheduled. He said that if the Adopt A Mile program brings in the anticipated \$3,000, about \$20,000 would have been collected for the trip. \$10,000 may go towards expenses with the remainder to be brought to the reservation. On June 8, Bing Theater in Springfield will be showing "Neither Wolf Nor Dog" based on the book by the same name. Sue urged vestry members to purchase their t-shirts and sweatshirts quickly so that we can reach the minimum number of 75 items needed to complete the order.

Sue reported that there will be a meeting with Christian Ed teachers to get their input on the job description for the Christina Ed staff position. She noted that we need to make it clear to the congregation that this is a Diocesan-funded position and not coming out of our St. Mark's budget. She asked for ideas on how we should roll this out to the congregation. Rich said it should also be made clear that parishioners are not eligible for this position. It was decided that a letter, an email blast, Facebook post, and an announcement in church would be the ways this will be presented to the congregation.

Sue noted that we have a fall stewardship program for 2019 that will feature testimonials by people who have been impacted by our ministries, both inside and outside of our congregation. These will be presented along with financial information on our ministries on four Sundays and Wednesdays in September and October, ending with the Ingathering mid October. Rob has agreed to do the videotaping where needed.

Sue reported that we received a \$3,000 diocesan grant to continue the Way of Love program. Parishioners traveled to St. Andrew's Church for its Celtic service to **Worship**. And on Sunday, June 2 we will gather with the Salvation Church for a meal to **Learn** about their refugee experience. Fr. Peter reported on the upcoming **Blessing** experience in July, the **Go** meal preparation at Church Without Walls in August and the **Prayer** experience in September/October. Plans for the **Rest** component are on hold.

Under Discussion, Sue noted that Fr. Peter will be on sabbatical from May until August 2020 and she asked for vestry input on what, if any, actions we would like to take during his time away, noting that typically some parishioners fall away from the church during this time. She talked about all the activities that took place the last time he was on sabbatical and there was discussion on whether we wanted to follow that same path this time. Fr. Peter told the board that Libby Wade, a retired priest with 30 years experience as a rector, will be here every Sunday for the 8 and 10 am services but will not be available for pastoral care during the week. Fr. Devine will conduct the Wednesday services. At the end of the discussion, Sue charged the vestry with praying and thinking on what will serve the congregation best while Fr. Peter is away.

Also under Discussion, Rich will ask the building inspector and/ or town hall if erecting a "Statement of Welcome" sign/banner on the church building is permissible. Whether it can go outside the church or must be inside will determine the size and therefore cost of the banner. Scott noted that vestry allocated \$1,500 in reserve from the anonymous donation last month that could be used while Jon suggested donations could be sought.

Under Quick Action items, vestry voted to hold the July and August vestry meetings as scheduled. Fr. Peter noted that Bishop Doug Fisher will not be meeting with vestry when he comes on June 9 for confirmation and reception as is his usual practice but will instead meet with the board for about 45 minutes at our regularly scheduled September 24th vestry meeting.

Fr. Peter updated the vestry on pastoral concerns. Sue reminded vestry to arrive at church at least by 9:45 am when they are scheduled to be vestry person of the day.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Love Your
Neighbor

who doesn't

 Look like you

 Think like you

 Love like you

 Speak like you

 Pray like you

 Vote like you

Love Your Neighbor

No exceptions

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

One Porter Road

East Longmeadow, MA 01028-1348

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. Postage

East Longmeadow, MA 01028