

WAY OF LOVE: GO EVENT



Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Psalm 96:3

On Sunday, August 4th we will be GOING downtown to join the congregation at Church without Walls.

After our 10:00a service we will be carpooling to Court Square , where we will celebrate the Holy Eucharist together and share a wholesome lunch with our brothers and sisters. We should be returning to St. Mark's at around 1:30p, or sooner. This is for all ages, families are encouraged to attend!

ST. MARK'S HEADS TO NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EAST LONGMEADOW



On Tuesday August 6 from 5-8 pm St. Mark's welcome ministry will be heading to the high school fields to take part in **National Night Out**.

Along with our friends from the United Methodist Church here in town we will be spending a few hours with our neighbors getting to know them and offering them a reusable St. Mark's shopping bag (now that Big Y is no longer offering plastic bags).

Come and stop by and spend a little time with our Welcome Team.

Get to know a few of your neighbors. Help the welcome of St. Mark's reach beyond our walls.

See you there!

BIG E - SEPTEMBER 13TH THROUGH THE 29TH, 2019.

St. Mark's is once again teaming up with the Vermont Maple Sugar Makers' Association to provide volunteers for their booth in the Vermont building at the Eastern States Exposition.

We provide them with volunteers for the days and shifts specified. They pay us the wages that they would otherwise pay their own staff.

This has been a mutually beneficial arrangement since 2012.

More information to come. Announcements will be made and sign up sheets will be posted soon.

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

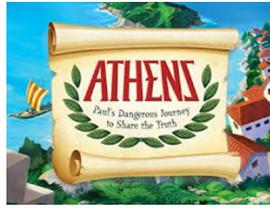
Rector- Rev. Peter Swarr
Sr. Warden - Sue Schneider
Jr. Warden - Peter Fairman
Director of Music - Susan Matsui
Parish Administrator - Diane Chandler
Good News Editor - Diane Chandler
I.T./Webmaster - Ryan Schneider

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, August 20, 2019



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



Many thanks to the 35 members of St. Mark's who helped make VBS July 22-25 a wonderful success.

Together we helped share the truth of God's love and grace with children from throughout the community and made connections and friendships which are a blessing.

Here are a few fun photos from VBS.



YES! WE HAD FUN!



St. Mark's is excited to be seeking a part time staff person to help oversee and support our Christian Education program for children and youth. This part time position, fully funded by diocesan grant money, will help us strengthen our program, support our teachers, and form our children and youth in the way of Jesus.

While parishioners cannot apply for this job, due to diocesan policy and vestry policy, take a moment and look over the job description and see if you know someone who might be a good fit.

Consider sharing it with them and encouraging them to apply.

**St. Mark's Church, East Longmeadow
Christian Education Job Description**

Job Title: Christian Education Administration and Special Project Coordinator

Compensation: Grant funded position \$20/hour average of 17 hours per month

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 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/touch base 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 weeklong Summer Programming (such as VBS)
- Church School Registration and Orientation – September
- Christmas Pageant- December

Requirements:

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

Contact St. Mark's Church for more information or to apply for this position at 413-525-6341 or office@stmarksma.org

ST. MARK'S GOES DIGITAL: YET ANOTHER WAY OF WELCOMING ALL

St. Mark's says, week in and week out, Christ welcomed all, we welcome you. But what if coming to church is something you can't physically do? What if the idea of coming to a new church creates a sense of worry and anxiety? What if your work schedule doesn't give you the time? Well, St. Mark's still says, Christ welcomed all, we welcome you, and we are trying to make that welcome more real and more tangible through digital broadcasts of our service.

Beginning this fall St. Mark's is preparing to livestream (broadcast video over the internet) elements of our worship services. This will provide our members with the opportunity to participate in the spiritual life of our community, either in real time or on-demand, while on vacation, traveling for work or homebound due to illness. Streaming also gives us the opportunity to introduce our community to those who have never entered a church building yet are searching for a spiritual home. Broadcasting our worship services provides a non-threatening introduction to our community for those who explore their faith digitally. It provides seekers a powerful glimpse into what we already know.

Most of our sanctuary will remain out of the field-of-view of the cameras most of the time. Additionally, children will not be broadcast at anytime. Our intention is to create a comfortable environment while extending our community beyond our walls and our hope is that many people will take advantage of weekly broadcasts and special programming.

Stay tuned for more developments as we work to go live with these broadcasts

If you have any questions please contact Rob Fitzpatrick.

*Happy
Birthday*

AUGUST

*Happy
Anniversary*

08/02 Hana O'Brien	08/16 Raymond Antaya	08/01 Dan & Sue Schneider
08/05 Sandy Moore	08/18 Don Edwards	Tim & Mary L'Heureux
08/06 Zoey Lape	08/25 Rena Tarnowski	08/04 Jon & Marilyn Robichaud
08/10 Karen Russell	08/28 Bob Shaw	Dwayne & Teal Lipinski
08/11 Heather Hellyer	08/29 Cyndi Steinboch	08/07 Michael & Leslie O'Brien
Brooklyn Goodreau	Tammy Najeebi	Peter & Karen Dufresne
08/12 Lucas Villani	08/30 Christine Joenk	08/16 Adam & Sharlene Lape
08/13 Olivia Bostian	Kevin Wood	08/18 Michael Tami & April Knight
08/15 Bailey Gawron	05/30 Ginny Sill	08/19 Christopher & Laura Peteros
Ryan Dufresne		



Mark your calendars!

There will be a presentation on the Rosebud Mission Trip the last Sunday in August at the 8 and 10 services.

In an ongoing effort to relay information about the work of the church and its current financial standings to all in our congregation, please find both the monthly Vestry Minutes and the monthly Financial Summary immediately following.

Additionally, members of the Vestry will be available on the last Sunday of each month in the Great Hall from 8:45 to 9:30 AM to provide updates, information and answer any questions. All are welcome to attend.

**St Mark's Church
Monthly Financial Report
06/30/2019**

	Actual YTD 2019	Projection 2019	Budget 2019
Income			
Other Offerings	5,237	10,880	8,500
Pledges-current year	102,853	205,706	205,000
Endowments	3,847	7,694	7,682
Building Expense Recovery	7,746	15,492	16,600
Special Gifts	1,855	2,000	2,000
Fund Raising	2,184	10,500	10,500
Total Income	123,722	252,272	250,282
Expenses			
Outreach & Stewardship	14,268	27,122	27,116
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	72,457	147,938	149,166
Church & Rectory Utilities	13,807	25,680	25,440
Office Expense	4,701	8,710	6,875
Christian Education	2,559	5,345	4,815
Clergy Expense	1,683	3,366	3,200
Altar Expense	406	1,185	1,185
Music Expense	558	1,760	1,510
Welcome & Mutual Care	490	1,850	1,850
Buildings & Grounds	13,474	25,533	25,847
Debt Management	8,740	15,200	15,200
Total Expenses	133,143	263,688	262,204
(Deficit) Surplus	(9,420)	(11,415)	(11,921)

Minutes of the June 25, 2019 Meeting
St. Mark's Vestry

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

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.

Vestry members began the meeting with a Bible study and reflection.

Rob moved acceptance of the May meeting minutes as submitted. Peter F. seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Statement of Welcome

Sue said there are two issues with a new statement of welcome banner: getting and installing the sign and how to roll it out to the congregation.

Rich stated that town regulations are complicated, and vestry should decide placement, take a picture, and show it to town officials. Sue said a vinyl banner with grommets would cost \$86.72 at the local PIP printer. The vestry unanimously decided to take those funds from a recent special gift to the church. The vestry considered several locations for the banner. It was unanimously decided to place it on the exterior wall between the chapel and the corner of the church. The vestry also discussed the rationale for the banner and how to discuss it with the congregation. Nancy said the banner shows what acceptance means to us and how the church is changing with the times. Fr. Peter said it is an explicit message of our church and what distinguishes us from other churches. It was decided that a brainstorming group of Sue, Doreen and Fr. Peter would meet to come up with a communication plan in the hope that the banner will be rolled out on Homecoming Sunday in the fall.

Audit and Finance

Scott said the audit had been completed and everything is in order. Some changes need to be made, including the development of a policies and procedures manual. Fr. Peter moved to accept the audit as submitted. Nancy seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Scott said the Finance Team is developing a sheet to detail into which accounts donations should be placed. The sheet would help counters properly place any donations.

Buildings and Grounds

Jon said lights have been ordered for the sanctuary for the church to trial to see which technology works best. Scott said the council is beginning a room by room inventory of the contents of the church. Rob said the council is increasing the trash pick up schedule because there had been too many extra pickups. Jon noted that the church needs to decide what to do with recyclables.

Rosebud Mission Trip

Those serving on the mission trip will leave July 1 for South Dakota. Fr. Peter said Peter Courtney will provide Sunday coverage and Mike Devine will be available for pastoral needs.

Christian Education Staff member

Fr. Peter said a meeting will be held soon with the teaching staff to get input on a job description. A search team will be led by Peter F. It will be emphasized that this position if funded through a grant.

Stewardship

Sue said the annual stewardship campaign's theme will be Beyond Our Walls. It will emphasize how what we do impacts people outside our church. A group is continuing to meet to develop this plan.

Fr. Peter Sabbatical 2020

The vestry went into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Once out of executive session, Sue said that she, as senior warden, will handle many of the day-to-day tasks while Fr. Peter is on sabbatical beginning in May 2020. Vestry members brainstormed some ideas for keeping the congregation engaged in Fr. Peter's absence. Further discussion will be needed.

Building Use Fees.

The AA group that meets Monday to Friday in the Great Hall has requested to add a meeting on Saturday. A review of the donations made by the different AA groups showed that this group gives a proportionally smaller donation. Fr. Peter said he would discuss with the group's leaders a possible increase in their donation.

The vestry went into executive session to discuss pastoral needs. The meeting adjourned with prayer at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Doreen Tapper

STEWARDSHIP

The word "Tithe" is scary for most people. We tend to run away (mentally) when it is mentioned, especially around the yearly pledge time. I was that way.

A few years ago, after I had been giving my usual each week, I heard God speak with a suggestion of an increased amount to try. As the weeks went on, I found it was working.

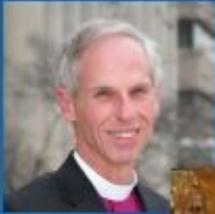
So my next year's pledge became the trial amount.

For the next couple of years the same scenario happened. As I traveled the road to tithing, I found myself happier and receiving many blessings. The greatest blessings being continued good health, love of family and friends, and the addition of Tom in my life.

"The generous prosper and are satisfied; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed." NLT

Sheila Bennett for the Stewardship Ministry Team

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**The Episcopal Diocese
of Western Massachusetts**
on a tour of the Holy Land



ISRAEL

Led by Bishop Douglas Fisher &
Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro
April 18-30, 2020

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- ▶ Discover Jerusalem, the modern capital of Israel, alongside the Jewish and Christian quarters of the historic Old City
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- ▶ Explore the origins of Christianity in Capernaum, Nazareth and Bethlehem
- ▶ Take a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee with time for prayer and reflection
- ▶ Visit Old Jaffa's landmarks such as St. Peter's Church and the House of Simon the Tanner
- ▶ Explore the history and foundation of Tel Aviv at Independence Hall and the Yitzhak Rabin Center
- ▶ Dig into the archaeological site at Beit Guvrin, unearthing remnants from Israel's ancient past
- ▶ Climb Masada to view the remains of King Herod's fortress and float in the healing waters of the Dead Sea
- ▶ Celebrate Israel's Independence Day

...and so much more!



Old Jaffa



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 Marc Savitt at 800-237-1517 x309.**

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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

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