

SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
LIVING IN FAITH. GROWING IN LOVE.

# the EPISTLE

A Monthly Newsletter of Saint Mark's, Upper Arlington

September 2022 • Issue 281

## Pastor Vicki's First Year

A year ago, parishioners were just beginning to get to know the Rev. Vicki Zust, as she took up her post as 7<sup>th</sup> rector of Saint Mark's last Sept. 1. Pastor Vicki in an interview recently reflected on the past year and future challenges and opportunities for Saint Mark's.



*How was the first year?  
Any big surprises?  
Unexpected challenges?*

**Pastor Vicki:** I both can't believe it's been a year already and can't believe that it is only a year. I knew that the Saint Mark's community was made up of remarkable people, but I am continually surprised by how many gifts and talents the people of Saint Mark's have and how willing they are to share those gifts, and their time. The Upper Arlington community has been welcoming and interested in having Saint Mark's increase

our presence in the community; that has been great.

Not exactly an unexpected challenge, but the amount of time that the building takes has been a challenge. We have, knock on wood, dealt with the ice dam issue in the Nave and the leaks from the skylight, but there are a lot of building issues, including the Bell Tower, which is leaking every time it rains; the basement of the office building, which flooded, not to mention just the day-to-day keeping up with a campus as large as this without a sexton.

*What are some of the accomplishments of the parish year?*

There has been a lot accomplished this year. The vestry has been amazing, stepping into more hands-on roles in budgeting, running events and setting the tone for the congregation. The youth group is meeting regularly. Adult formation has a plan for the coming year that is exciting and engaging. The children's formation program is rebuilding in person after being completely on-line during the pandemic. The choir residency in Wells was a huge success. The first Sunday Outreach programs have been engaging, informative and fun. Michael Scheffler has added so much to Saint Mark's as our organist. The Pentecost Picnic was so much fun and that same day we were present at UA Pride as the only church who sponsored the event, which was great.

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SEPT. 11

## 22/23 PROGRAM YEAR FALL KICKOFF

Sunday, September 11, marks the start of the 2022/2023 program year in which many Christian education, music programming, formation group ministries, and parish life activities resume after summer break. There are a lot of things involved in that celebration:

### Sunday Worship Services -

**8 am Eucharist**, Rite I will continue outdoors, weather permitting

**10:30 am Eucharist**, Rite II will continue in the sanctuary with livestream services

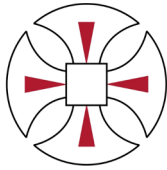
**Adult Formation** - will begin at 9:30 am. The topic for the September 11 session will be "How the Episcopal Church works."

**Children's Formation** - will we gather for Stories & Songs at 9:30 in the Education Wing. During the ministry fair, we encourage you to join us for an open house to see the space especially designed for Saint Mark's littlest parishioners to grow in faith and love. The Ark Playground and Butterfly Garden will also be open for adults to gather and children to play.

**Music** - We look forward to a new music and both The Saint Mark's and Canterbury Choirs will sing at the 10:30 am service.

**Blessing of the Backpacks, Bags, and Briefcases** - Children and Youth are invited to bring their backpacks to church and adults are invited to bring something they use in their work or their volunteer service. We will bless all of these at the 10:30 service and hand out a symbol we can all carry with us through the year to remind us of God's love.

**Ministry Fair** - During Coffee Hour following the 10:30 am service there will be a Ministry Fair. We will highlight some ministries of Saint Mark's and how you can get involved.



## SAINT MARK'S STAFF

**The Rev. Vicki Zust, Rector**

*Rector@saintmarkscolumbus.org*

**Dr. Matthew Bester, Director of Music**

*DirectorOfMusic@saintmarkscolumbus.org*

**Michael Schreffler, Organist**

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## SAINT MARK'S VESTRY

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*SeniorWarden@saintmarkscolumbus.org*

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*JuniorWarden@saintmarkscolumbus.org*

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Barb Keyes – 614-314-7630

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Phil Glandon, Treasurer – 614-486-5806

*Treasurer@SaintMarksColumbus.org*

Barbara Hyre, Clerk – 614-488-1567

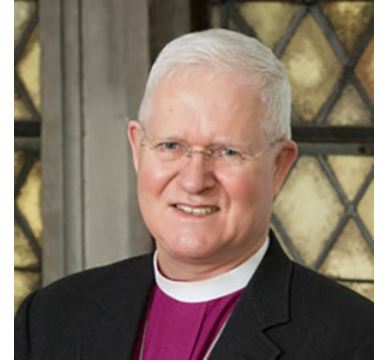
Vestry meetings occur every first Tuesday of the month in the Canterbury Center. Meetings are open to parishioners. Meeting minutes are available online at: [www.SaintMarksColumbus.org/vestry-meetings](http://www.SaintMarksColumbus.org/vestry-meetings).

**The Epistle** is the monthly newsletter of Saint Mark's Episcopal Church. The rolling deadline is the third Monday of the preceding month. Send photos, announcements, or story ideas for inclusion in the Epistle to: [Communications@saintmarkscolumbus.org](mailto:Communications@saintmarkscolumbus.org).

## A Letter From Bishop Smith: The Time Has Come to Move Ahead

Dear Friends in Christ:

As I come to the halfway mark in my ministry as your Bishop Provisional, it is time to turn toward the election and ordination of the Tenth Bishop of Southern Ohio. This letter comes to you alongside a word from the Standing Committee, who have primary oversight for this transition and all its details.



There are a few matters, however, that I want you to hear directly from me. Not least of these concerns arises from Standing Committee President Scott Gunn's sudden and serious illness. The Committee and I have depended on Scott's abundant gifts and energies, both of which we will miss sorely in the short term, and we pray daily for his return to health. It might be tempting to defer the start of an election process; the Standing Committee and I are resolute in moving ahead, because the time has come.

I also think that the Diocese is on a clear trajectory toward well-being and wholeness. Together we have worked toward addressing addiction and its effects on Southern Ohio. The staff at Diocesan House is in good shape. Morale there and throughout the Diocese is improving. We have addressed issues of isolation, both geographical and emotional. We have become both more confident and more careful in facing the effects of COVID on the Church's life, although the disease still wears on us all. We continue to uncover the effects of systemic racism in the life of this Diocese and the culture around us, and we struggle to address its caustic reality. We are trying, faithfully, to become the Beloved Community whom God desires.

The work remains incomplete in every one of these matters—and so it will be. It is my judgment, and that of the Standing Committee, that we have nonetheless come to the right moment to move toward election and ordination.

You should know that I am willing to consider an extension in my agreed-to time as Bishop Provisional, past the original end date of August 2023. I can imagine continuing in my current role through the time of an election, and then in a scaled-down role until the ordination. The timeline proposed by the Standing Committee sees an election in September 2023 and an ordination in February 2024. There are details aplenty to sort out with the Presiding Bishop's office, with the Church Pension Fund, and with the Standing Committee. I see nothing insurmountable, however, in any of the likely details.

And know that I remain blessed to be your bishop, during a season of transition.

The Rt. Rev. George Wayne Smith  
Bishop Provisional  
Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio

## ***In & Around Saint Mark's***

### ***Pastor Vicki's First Year, Continued from Front Page***

Fireworks on the lawn on the Fourth of July was a great gathering and the Embroidering Faith exhibit was amazing and a good first event for us. The discussion of Bishop Owensby's book and the Lent Programs (Pysanky eggs, compline, and book discussion) were great. The Outreach Committee has continued our support of NNEMAP and has coped with changes to St. John's feeding programs and the Layette Ministry in Vinton County with resiliency and grace and have found several new ways to meet needs in our community. This summer we started Compline in the Park and a summer reading group, which have been fun. We got a small matching grant from the Diocese to help us enhance our social media presence and reach new people. I'm sure I'm forgetting a lot.

**"I am so excited about both the present and the future of Saint Mark's.  
It is fun to be in a place that is building on a strong foundation,  
with a vision for the future."**

### **What are some goals for your second year?**

Coming up with a sustainable way to manage the buildings and grounds of our campus. Continue to build the children, youth, and adult formation programs. Continue to build our relationship with the community, both the UA community and the greater Columbus community. Build on our foundation as a center of excellence in music to be a space for the arts more broadly in our community. Build on the work we did on social media this year to continue to reach out to our neighbors and invite people to join us in events and in worship.

### **What are some areas where you say, "Gee, we have to work a little harder on that."**

One of the things that came out of the visioning process was an interest in having more intergenerational events, so creating spaces where the whole congregation can come together is a priority. We need to move the Saint Mark's website to a new platform which will mean redesigning the website. Hopefully along with that will come an easy way for all the groups in the congregation to get events on the calendar and in our various publicity vehicles. We have a great front lawn that is basically in the center of UA, which we don't use very often -- exploring how to make that an asset for us and something that our community sees as a place where things are happening is a major challenge.

### **What else is on your mind regarding the parish?**

Saint Mark's is in a wonderful place as a congregation. We have a lot of people checking us out and joining us right now. This is wonderful. The challenge will be to continue to pay attention to how we welcome people, but more than that, how we help people move from visiting us for worship to being a part of the congregation, and that will take everyone. We all need to introduce ourselves to people we don't recognize and invite people to participate in events or activities that we are participating in.

We are in the wonderful and challenging place that we are set up to grow both numerically and spiritually, but in order to do that we need to behave as if we are a slightly bigger congregation than we are right now, which will mean that we all need to give a little more of our time and skills and, yes our money, too, so that we can stretch to be able to meet the potential of what Saint Mark's can become. Our 75th anniversary is coming soon (2026). We need to find ways to celebrate all that Saint Mark's has been through the years and get ourselves ready to become who God is calling us to be in the next 75 years.

### ***Bishop Smith Visit - Sept 18***

The Bishop will preach and celebrate at the 10:30 am service. Confirmation and reception into the Episcopal Church will be a part of the 10:30 am service.

The Bishop will lead a discussion and answer questions about the Episcopal Church and the Diocese at 9:30 am in the parish hall. This will be for people of all ages, children, youth and adults.

There will be a reception for the Bishop following the 10:30 am service.

There will be no separate adult or children's formation on September 18 so that everyone can attend the time with the Bishop at 9:30 and be present for the whole Confirmation service.

### ***Parish Work Day - Sept 10***

In preparation for Bishop Smith's visit and the Fall Kickoff celebration, we will have a parish workday on Saturday, Sept. 10.

We will gather at 9 am in the parish hall to divide up the tasks. Donuts from the Original Goodie Shop and coffee will be ready.

We will work until noon when we will take a break, have a cook out lunch while we watch the beginning of the OSU game. We will finish up the tasks in the early afternoon (while keep the game on for updates).

There are tasks for people of all ages and abilities.

This is a chance to polish up our facilities and start the program year off with a fun and useful event.



## PASTORAL CARE

### Grief Support: What Does it Mean to Make Meaning After Loss?

By Brenda Hammersley

*"I have been trying to make the best of grief and am just beginning to learn to allow it to make the best of me."*

-Barbara Ascher

"Making meaning" is an awkward phrase that you might want to change to "creating meaning." Yet, for persons who are grieving, there is a distinct difference in making versus creating meaning after a death. For example, as you live your life you create meaning actively and proactively when choosing a career, choosing a life partner, choosing to be or not be a parent, or choosing where to work and live. These are actions you take to ensure your life has a direction consistent with your goals and you have choice when taking them. Making meaning

died but why we lived (David Kessler, Finding Meaning: The Sixth Stage of Grief).

We work to reach a point somewhere out in the future where we will be able to acknowledge and accept that we are not the same person as before the loss. The death of a loved one is not a lesson, but we do learn from our grief by exploring our individual assumptions about life and our purpose on earth. We learn to develop and use supportive relationships to form a new identity that expands our involvement in life and results in a deeper appreciation of life itself.

We reflect on the question "How have I changed since the loss?" and pay attention to how our answers evolve as years go by after a death. We consider how our lives could reflect a positive trait or value of the person who died as a way to

honor them. We ensure ongoing recognition of the importance of our loved one's life and death while building for ourselves a hope filled future.

We use our best coping skills and develop new ones to make meaning in a world that is deeply challenged by very painful loss. We view our lives like a story – death disrupts the storyline and our understanding of who we are. We learn how to accept that the story continues and step into a future that we didn't plan or want with a feeling of purpose and engagement instead of isolation and despair.

As David Kessler says, "Loss is simply what happens to you in life. Meaning is what you make happen." Making meaning is one of the topics we explore together at Saint Marks' Grief Support Group sessions.



For more information contact Brenda Hammersley at [b.hammersley@yahoo.com](mailto:b.hammersley@yahoo.com) or 614-330-1436.

"Making meaning after a death is not so much about choice as about what to do when life has handed you lemons and you don't like lemonade."



after a death is not so much about choice as about what to do when life has handed you lemons and you don't like lemonade. Because the death of someone you care about can wreak havoc on your routine, life plan, finances and self-assurance you may find that you have a lot of lemons to juggle – and that's where the concept of making meaning comes from. The lemons are not something you chose...they were imposed on you.

In grief we work hard to make meaning after a death because doing so is essential for healing the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual wounds of grief. It's important to understand that the goal of making meaning is not to be happy about the death or to understand why it happened the way it did. The idea is that by making meaning after a death we shift its impact, so that grief eventually affects our lives with less pain and more purpose.

How do you create meaning when someone dear to you has died? We start by taking a hard look at the important questions that come to us after a death. To make meaning we consider questions such as "How can we feel safe in this world if such losses are possible? Who are we now after this loss? Why are we here? What meaning can we bring to the rest of our lives? What meaning can we find in those who are living?" These questions don't provide an answer to why the loss happened but instead teach us how to live without the answer. The "why" we answer is not why our loved one

## MUSIC & THE ARTS



A new program year is upon us. I encourage you to mark your calendars for the special choral services noted below, including our various services of Choral Evensong and our beloved Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols on December 4. All are welcome! Please consider inviting some friends to these inspiring events.

### 2022/2023 Choral Music Services

#### Solemn Choral Evensong for All Saints' Sunday

Saint Mark's Choir  
Sunday, November 6, 4 p.m.

#### Choral Eucharist for the Feast of Christ the King

Saint Mark's Choir  
Sunday, November 20, 10:30 a.m.

#### A Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols

Saint Mark's Choir and Canterbury Choir  
Sunday, December 4, 4 p.m.

#### Choral Evensong

Saint Mark's Choir  
Sunday, March 5, 4 p.m.

#### Choral Evensong

Canterbury Choir  
Sunday, May 21, 4 p.m.

#### Choral Matins with Holy Eucharist for Trinity Sunday

Saint Mark's Choir  
Sunday, June 4, 10:30 a.m.

Both choirs welcome new members for the start of the upcoming season. The Canterbury Choir is for youth ages 7 to 14. No musical background is required, and children do not need to be members of Saint Mark's in order to participate. The adult choir is for adults and high school-age singers. Some background in choral singing and sight reading is recommended.

For more information, contact Matthew Bester, Director of Music ([directorofmusic@saintmarkscolumbus.org](mailto:directorofmusic@saintmarkscolumbus.org)), or visit [www.SaintMarksColumbus.org/music](http://www.SaintMarksColumbus.org/music).

### Raphael--the Power of Renaissance Images: The Dresden Tapestries and Their Impact



#### Tour the Tapestries with Saint Mark's - Sept. 25

The Columbus Museum of Art is hosting an exhibit called Raphael – The Power of Renaissance Images.

The exhibit features six tapestries designed by Raphael. The tapestries were woven in the 16<sup>th</sup> century to hang in the Sistine Chapel.

We have arranged a tour of the tapestries for Saint Mark's on Sunday, Sept. 25 at 2 pm.

We will head over to the Museum after church and have lunch at the café there. If you want to have lunch on your own, you can meet us at the Museum by 1:50.

The cost for Museum entrance on Sundays is \$10. The Museum of Art is located at 480 E. Broad St.

We have to let the Museum know how many people to expect. There will be sign-up genius and a paper sign-up available by mid-September. You can also email Pastor Vicki ([rector@saintmarkscolumbus.org](mailto:rector@saintmarkscolumbus.org)) to be put on the list.

More information about the exhibit is available at: [www.ColumbusMuseum.org](http://www.ColumbusMuseum.org)



Mortlake manufactory (after designs by Raphael) St. Paul preaching at Athens, After 1625. Tapestry. Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden, Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister



## EDUCATION & PARISH LIFE

### Adult Formation

The Adult Formation program in September will focus on the Episcopal Church.

**Sept. 11** the topic will be How the Episcopal Church Works.

**Sept. 18** Bishop Smith will be here and he will talk about what is going on in the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Southern Ohio and answer questions. This session is for everyone of all ages.

**Sept. 25** we will look at some things that came up at this summer's General Convention of the Episcopal Church; What might be coming up at our Diocesan Convention this fall and the election of the next Bishop of Southern Ohio.

Adult Formation meets between 9:30 and 10:15 am in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

### Children and Youth Formation

In Godly Play and Children's Chapel, children ages pre-K through fifth grade learn the language and symbols used in the Church through art, song, and storytelling.

We tell Bible stories to children to encourage them to enter in to the stories and relate them to their personal experience.

This fall we will focus on the parables of Jesus in tandem with the Adult Formation curriculum.

Please consider volunteering your time to help out in Children's Formation! You do not need to be a theologian or biblical scholar to make a difference in the lives of our youth. All you need is to want to be around children and learn from them! To give you an idea, these are our principles for Children's and Youth Formation:

- Teachers are guides. They do not need to have all the answers.
- Children have much to teach adults who take the time to listen.
- Children are encouraged to do the work of finding their own answers.
- When a teacher takes time to listen to and observe a child, the teacher can find more effective ways to lead the child into new discoveries.

For more information, please contact,  
Pastor Vicki ([rector@saintmarkscolumbus.org](mailto:rector@saintmarkscolumbus.org))  
Joanne Drew ([jdrew627@gmail.com](mailto:jdrew627@gmail.com))  
Laura Skoracki ([lgatsos@hotmail.com](mailto:lgatsos@hotmail.com))



## WELCOME BACK TO Church SCHOOL!

### KICKOFF SUNDAY (SEPT. 11)

9:30 - 10:15 AM

DURING WORSHIP

DURING COFFEE HOUR

CHILDREN'S SONGS, STORIES & CRAFTS

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS, BAGS, AND BRIEFCASES

OPEN HOUSE AND PLAYTIME ON THE PLAYGROUND

### SUNDAYS (BEGINNING SEPT. 25)

9:30 - 10:15 AM

10:30 - 11:15 AM

CHILDREN'S SONGS, STORIES & CRAFTS

GODLY PLAY & CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Children join their families for the Eucharist

### FIRST SUNDAYS (BEGINNING IN OCT.)

9:30 - 10:15 AM

10:30 - 11:30 AM

NOON - 1:30 PM

FIRST SUNDAYS OUTREACH PROJECT

ALL ATTEND SERVICE IN THE SANCTUARY

Child Friendly Homily  
Music by Canterbury Choir

YOUTH GROUP LUNCH & ACTIVITIES



## EDUCATION & PARISH LIFE

### **Evening Knitting Group - 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays**

Do you knit? Do you want to learn how to knit? Do you enjoy getting together with others to chat and build relationships? Do you enjoy doing something to help others?

If any of those describe you, then the Evening Knitting Group might be for you.

We are going to try an evening knitting group at Saint Mark's. It will meet on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 pm beginning on Sept. 12 in the Canterbury Center.

You don't have to have any experience knitting. We will have some needles, yarn, and simple patterns for beginners.

If you are a knitter, bring your current project (or yarn and needles to pick up a new one).

We will knit and chat and get to know each other until 8 pm.

### **Parish Family Dinners - 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays**

One of the things that we heard in the process of talking about Saint Mark's Past, Present and Future last year was an interest in more intergenerational events that bring different parts of the congregation together.

This fall we are going to try a Parish Family Dinner.

This is exactly what it sounds like, the Saint Mark's Parish Family gathering for dinner.

We are going to try these on the second Wednesday of the month beginning on Sept. 14.

Here's how it works:

Come to the parish hall at 5:30 pm on Wednesday Sept. 14. We will open with grace and then eat dinner. We will all help clean up beginning around 6:30 pm.

You don't need to sign-up. You don't need to bring anything. We will order food based on a best guess on how many people will come. If there is too much, we will send some home with you. If there isn't enough we will order a pizza to supplement.

There will be a basket for a free-will offering to offset the cost of the dinner, but no set amount (or any donation at all) required.

Come, have dinner, talk with other Saint Mark's folk, and maybe meet someone new.

### **Supper Group Annual Kickoff - Sept. 10**

Supper Group will start the program year with our annual kick-off dinner at 6 pm on Saturday, Sept. 10 in the Parish Hall and patio. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Gloria Wylie ([gawylie@att.net](mailto:gawylie@att.net)) or 614-738-1716.

### **Sisters In Faith - Sept. 19**

Sisters in Faith is a book group that meets monthly and discusses books that inform and challenge our faith and how we respond to the world.

The next meeting of Sisters in Faith is 7 pm on Monday Sept. 19 at 7 pm in the Canterbury Center. They will be discussing chapters 3 and 4 of James H. Cone's *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*.

All are welcome. If you would like more information about the group, contact Michele Johnson at [michelebrucej@hotmail.com](mailto:michelebrucej@hotmail.com).

### **The Marksmen Annual BBQ - Sept 28**

The Fifth Annual Marksmen Fall Kickoff BBQ Dinner will be held from 6 - 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 28 at the Drew's back patio. These have been quite well-attended in the past and are a great evening of sitting around a long table outside and enjoying good barbeque. All are welcome and encouraged to bring a plus one guest. For more information, contact Mark Drew at 614-301-2675.

**When:** 6 pm. Wednesday, Sept. 28

**Who:** You +1 (spouse/friend etc.)

**Where:** The Drew Residence, back patio – 2547 Wickliffe Road, Upper Arlington, 43221

**What to bring:** Beverages of choice, a side-dish or an appetizer, and an appetite. BBQ and dessert provided.

**How much:** Suggested donation of \$15/person to cover the 'cue, dessert, and miscellany.

**RSVP:** [thestmarksmen@gmail.com](mailto:thestmarksmen@gmail.com)

The Marksmen is a social group that meets on the fourth Wednesday night of each month. They also serve the parish by taking on the odd job, cooking the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, staffing the overnight cooking of the barbecue for the All-Parish Pentecost Picnic, and raising money for special causes.

### **Bake Sale - Sept. 5**

On Labor Day as the UA Arts Festival is going on across the street in Northam Park, Saint Mark's doors will be open for the 13th annual Saint Mark's Help Heal Hunger Bake Sale.

To make this day a success we need products including cookies, brownies, dog treats, jams, pies, cakes, quiches, and everything in between. Homemade donations may be dropped off in the kitchen Sunday, Sept. 4 after church or Monday morning by 9 a.m. We also need friendly people to greet our buyers and help them find something delicious. We also get to visit with other members and make new friends with visitors!

Please consider volunteering or giving a financial contribution. If you have questions please contact Julia Johnson-Davis at: [juliajohnson\\_1999@yahoo.com](mailto:juliajohnson_1999@yahoo.com) or by telephone: 614-397-4650.

## OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE

### **NNEMAP**

Thank you to everyone from Saint Marks who volunteered to park cars at NNEMAP during the fair. As usual, it was very hot, but despite the heat our volunteers helped make this fundraiser a big success for NNEMAP.

We will pack diapers and spices for NNEMAP on Sept. 14. We will meet at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

### **Help Me Grow**

Thank you to everyone who helped us with the school supply collection. In Aug. we delivered 48 toddler graduation bags to Vinton County Help Me Grow Program. The bags and the contents will help the toddlers move on to preschool. We also delivered 24 grade school bags for the siblings of some of the Help Me Grow participants. As a bonus, due to the generosity of a friend of Barb Keyes, we were able to deliver math instructional items to the teachers at Vinton County South Elementary School. They were thrilled.

We will return in October with our layette supplies for the new mothers.

### **Move to Prosper Expanding**

Last Spring, Saint Mark's began a partnership with Move to Prosper, an organization that helps children succeed by relocating their families into neighborhoods with good schools and community resources. They work with the children as they acclimate to their new surroundings, and they work with the mothers to learn the skills necessary for improved employment and financial independence. Traditionally, the program was only open to single mothers. As they start their next class of participants, they decided to include single men and couples with children in the program if they meet the income restrictions.

### **St. John Street Church**

St. John Street Church lunch on August 6 was a big success. Thank you to Mark Drew who roasted pork for barbeque sandwiches. They were a big hit. Thanks also to everyone who helped prepare the rest of the meal and for those who transported and served it. It is wonderful to see so many stay and help during coffee hour.

Our next Street Church meal will be on Sept. 18. As that is the date of the Bishop's visit, the team is unsure what they will be doing for the meal. Watch the bulletin and e-news for updates closer to the date.

**September Collection-** Grooming Supplies, including soap, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrushes, or razors. Please help us supply some of these items that are not otherwise available through food pantries or food stamps.

### **CATCH Court**

In August, Jackie Nicol, Carolyn Pappas, and Pat Iams took pasta soup, 7-layer salad, and home-made cookies to lunch for 30 CATCH Court women. The women were talkative and grateful. Freedom a la Cart, the fund-raising, job training, social arm of CATCH Court, offered the women tattoo removal. They are often eager to remove the "brand" that the pimp has insisted on to make clear they are "his" property.

Three of the new women brought a child with her: an 8-year-old boy, a 3-year-old girl, and a 3-month-old girl. We worried about what the children were hearing in Court, but then realized that they have probably witnessed much more. Just by being there, each mother demonstrated some of her mothering skills. It is fortunate that the two-year CC program provides parenting classes. Two transgender women are in Court. We talked with them, and, at times, they offered frank advice to the other women. We speculated later about what suffering they have been through.

CATCH Graduation is Sept 8 at the Statehouse. If you wish to attend, please call Pat Iams at 614-582-5738.

We also need many more volunteers to make food and take it to Court. Our next lunch is Sept 15. Please let Pat Iams know if you have an interest in helping with the lunch preparations or attending court. She can be reached at 614-582-5738 or [pati51@aol.com](mailto:pati51@aol.com).

### **CATCH Court - A Personal Reflection**

by Melanie Jacobs

I had the opportunity to attend a recent session of CATCH Court. It's a powerful experience!

The women I saw who are part of the CATCH Court program have been through the ringer and they all want badly to better their lives for themselves and their families. I felt especially empathetic for a young mom who was stressed about stretching her paycheck to cover the cost of childcare on top of all her families' other expenses. Judge Jodi Thomas and her staff are amazingly committed to helping the participants in any way they can, and as they focus on each of the women independently throughout the session, they offer advice and referrals to help the women achieve their personal growth goals.

It made me I wish I had their expertise and energy! This is an inspiring program, and I would recommend a visit for anyone with an interest in or passion for social justice and empowering women.



## OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE

### **Sacred Conversations - Sept. 13**

Sacred Conversations is a collaboration of Central Ohio faith communities that seeks to engage one another in a deep and sustained dialogue, spiritual discernment, and productive action on the topic of race and racism and Becoming Beloved Community. The group meets monthly.

The Sept. speaker will be Philip Stinson. Philip Stinson, JD., PhD., is a professor of criminal justice at Bowling Green State University. Dr. Stinson's primary area of research is police behaviors, including police crime, police corruption, and police misconduct. He is the principal investigator on a research project funded by a grant from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) at the U.S. Department of Justice to study police crime across the United States. The grant has allowed him to create a national database tracking police who have been disciplined and/or terminated, yet been hired in another police district.

Prior to Dr. Stinson's project, there were no official statistics on crime committed by sworn law enforcement officers, and the public is generally without the ability to research the incidence and prevalence of police crime in their own communities. The Police Crime database is designed to fill that gap.

This meeting is at 7 pm on September 13 via Zoom. For more information, contact Nadya Richardson ([nadya19767@aol.com](mailto:nadya19767@aol.com)).

### **Praying and Learning Together: An Interfaith Event on Immigration and Reform - Sept. 27**

The Immigration Justice Task Force is an interfaith group working on issues of immigration and migrant justice.

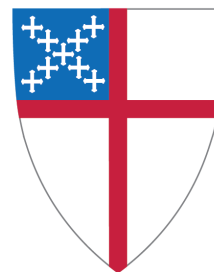
They are holding an event to explore current issues, actions and resources on these issues on at 7 pm on Sept. 27 at the Gloria Dei chapel at Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University.

This will be a chance to gather with lots of people from our region who are working on issues of immigration.

The Saint Mark's migration ministry group will be attending the event. Anyone who is interested in these issues are welcome to join us.

Watch for more information about the specifics of the event and details about carpooling later in the month.

INTERFAITH  
IMMIGRATION  
COALITION



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### **Blessing of the Animals - Oct. 2**

Sunday, Oct. 2 will be the annual Blessing of the Animals at Saint Mark's.

As is our custom, we will bless the animals at the 10:30 a.m. service. Your pets, stuffed pets and pictures of your pets are all welcome to the service.

We will also be offering blessings for pets from 9:15 to 10:15 am outside if the weather cooperates or right inside the red doors if it doesn't. We invite our community to bring their pets during this time. If you don't think your pet would do well attending an entire service, bring them for their blessing during this time.



Beloved St. Francis. By Jen Norton  
[www.JenNortonArtStudio.com](http://www.JenNortonArtStudio.com)

### **Women's One-Day Retreat - Oct. 8**

#### ***Becoming: Transformation from the Inside Out***

In our perpetual becoming, what is our role and what is God's? How do we embrace the circumstances of life in a way that keeps our hearts soft and open to transformation? Can we reflect on who we are without regret, look forward to who we will be with hope, and still remain awake to the Holy Spirit's invitation in the present moment?

As we retreat, we will explore the inner landscape of transformation – the ways we grow, the necessary ingredients of trust, surrender, intention, and letting go – through silence, journaling, guided discussion, and creative practice. Join spiritual companion and retreat leader, Christine Hiester, in a day of reflection and community.

**Where:** St. Patrick's Episcopal Church 7121 Muirfield Drive, Dublin 43017

**When:** October 8, 2022, 8 a.m. -4:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$30 Includes light breakfast, Freedom a la Cart boxed lunch, snacks, drinks, and all retreat materials. Scholarships are available.

**Contact for Registration:** Deby McGinnis 614-596-9311 or Val Pittsenbarger 419-733-0935  
Registration deadline is September 20.

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

We welcome Andrew, Courtney, Elise and Isabel Neckers who transferred from Trinity Episcopal Church, Columbus.

*We welcome the Neckers Family into the community of Saint Mark's to join us as we seek to love the Lord our God with heart and soul, mind and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We welcome and cherish their unique gifts and experiences as together we follow the Holy Spirit in transforming this community for the work and mission of Jesus Christ.*

(from The Book of Occasional Services, p117)

If you would like to share an announcement of a birth or marriage of someone related to the parish, a job change, retirement, achievement, student news, etc, please send information to Robbie Hurley at [hurley.roberta@yahoo.com](mailto:hurley.roberta@yahoo.com). or [Communications@saintmarkcolumbus.org](mailto:Communications@saintmarkcolumbus.org) or by calling



## FROM THE MAIL BAG

### Thank you from The Procter Center

Dear Mother Vicki and the good people of Saint Marks,

Thank you so much for the generous contribution to the van fund for Procter. Being able to get our local kids to day camp will be such a blessing. They are having a blast here this summer and are already talking about coming back next summer.

We are currently using our farm pick-up truck to take our goods to the Farmers Market in Grove City. We have to lift the meat freezer up to the tail gate to put it in, which is a challenge to say the least. The new van will help us get things to make it easier.

Thank you for the beautiful service, David and I enjoyed being in worship with you.

Peace, Amy Boyd



Engage with the Saint Mark's community on Facebook and Instagram for inspiration, information, and weekly e-news parish announcements.



## BIRTHDAYS



*Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (BCP, p. 830)*

Bill Silliman	9/1	Mason Evancho	9/10	Isabel Neckers	9/20
Gloria Wylie	9/1	Sue Barna	9/12	Annabelle Leibowitz	9/22
Judith Grant	9/1	Brooke Alexander	9/14	Marlo Tannous	9/24
Lauren Olmstead	9/2	Marilyn Smith	9/17	Darlene Sullivan	9/26
Marilyn Karl	9/4	Natalie Foss	9/17	Park Zimpher	9/26
Madalyn Ralley	9/4	Ella Foss	9/17	John Olmstead	9/26
Cy Hess	9/5	Bunny Johnson	9/19	Cameron Silliman	9/26
Patrick Iams	9/5	Betty Baker	9/19	Bill Mayr	9/27
Lynn Glandon	9/8	Barbara Fellows	9/20	Tom Utgard	9/29

# SEPTEMBER 2022

## Parish Calendar

[www.SaintMarksColumbus.org/Calendar](http://www.SaintMarksColumbus.org/Calendar)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Aug 28</b> <b>Preacher: The Rev. Vicki Zust</b> 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Intergeneration Formation 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 12:30 pm Confirmation Class 8 pm Sunday Night AA	<b>29</b> 10:30 am Staff Mtg 5:30 pm AA Men's Group	<b>30</b> 9:30 am Al-Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy Bible Study 6:15 pm Contemplative Prayer 6:15 pm Saint Mark's @ The Clippers	<b>31</b> 6:30 pm Compline in the Park	<b>Sept 1</b> 1 pm Knitting and Stitching Group 6 pm Reading Group 6:15 pm AA 8 pm AA	<b>2</b> Rector's Day Off	<b>3</b>
<b>Preacher: The Rev. Vicki Zust</b> 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 8 pm Sunday Night AA	<b>5</b> <b>Labor Day</b> 9 am - 5 pm Labor Day Bake Sale 5:30 pm AA Men's Group	<b>6</b> 9:30 am Al-Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy Bible Study 7:30 pm Vestry Mtg	<b>7</b> 6:30 pm Compline in the Park	<b>8</b> 11 am CATCH Court 5:30 pm Stephen Ministry Mtg. 6 pm Reading Group 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	<b>9</b> Rector's Day Off	<b>10</b> 8:30am - 2:30pm Canterbury Choir Camp 9 am Fall Work Day w/ afternoon Cookout 5:30 pm Supper Group Annual Kickoff Dinner
<b>11</b> <b>Preacher: The Rev. Vicki Zust</b> <b>Program Year Fall Kickoff</b> 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Adult Formation 9:30 am Children's Stories & Songs 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Canterbury Choir 11:30 am Ministry Fair with Children's Formation Open House 8 pm Sunday Night AA	<b>12</b> 10:30 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 6:30 pm Evening Knitting Group	<b>13</b> 9:30 am Al-Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy Bible Study 5 pm Grief Support 6:15 pm Contemplative Prayer 7 pm Sacred Conversations	<b>14</b> 10:30 am Spices & Diapers 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm Parish Family Dinner 6:30 pm Compline in the Park	<b>15</b> 1 pm Knitting and Stitching Group 6 pm Reading Group 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	<b>16</b> Rector's Day Off	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b>Guest Preacher: The Rt. Rev. Wayne Smith</b> 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Conversation with the Bishop 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 1 pm Street Church 6 pm - 8 pm Sunday Night AA - Annual Celebration	<b>19</b> <b>Epistle Deadline</b> 10:30 am Staff Mtg 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 7 pm Sisters in Faith	<b>20</b> 9:30 am Al-Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy Bible Study 7 pm Outreach Mtg	<b>21</b> 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Compline in the Park	<b>22</b> 6 pm Reading Group 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	<b>23</b> Rector's Day Off	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> <b>Preacher: The Rev. Vicki Zust</b> 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Adult Formation 9:30 am Children's Stories & Songs 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 10:30 am Children's Formation 2 pm Dresden Tapestries Tour 8 pm Sunday Night AA	<b>26</b> 10:30 am Staff Mtg 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 7:30 pm Mon Night Book Group	<b>27</b> 9:30 am Al-Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy Bible Study 6:15 pm Contemplative Prayer 7 pm Migration Ministries	<b>28</b> 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal 6 pm Marksmen Annual BBQ 6:30 pm Compline in the Park	<b>29</b> 1 pm Knitting & Stitching Group 6 pm Reading Group 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	<b>30</b> Rector's Day Off	<b>Oct 1</b> 5:30 pm Supper Group





## SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2151 Dorset Road  
Columbus, OH 43221

[www.SaintMarksColumbus.org](http://www.SaintMarksColumbus.org)  
(614) 486-9452

### SPECIAL EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

#### **Monday, Sept. 5**

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. *Labor Day Bake Sale*

#### **Saturday, Sept. 10**

5:30 p.m. *Supper Group Annual Kickoff Dinner*

#### **Sunday, Sept. 11**

22/23 Program Year Fall Kickoff

8 a.m. *Eucharist, Rite I*

9:30 a.m. *Adult Formation*

9:30 a.m. *Stories & Songs for Children*

10:30 a.m. *Eucharist, Rite II*

*Music by Saint Mark's & Canterbury Choirs*

*Blessing of the Backpacks, Bags & Briefcases*

11:30 a.m. *Ministry Fair & Children's Open House*

#### **Sunday, Sept. 18**

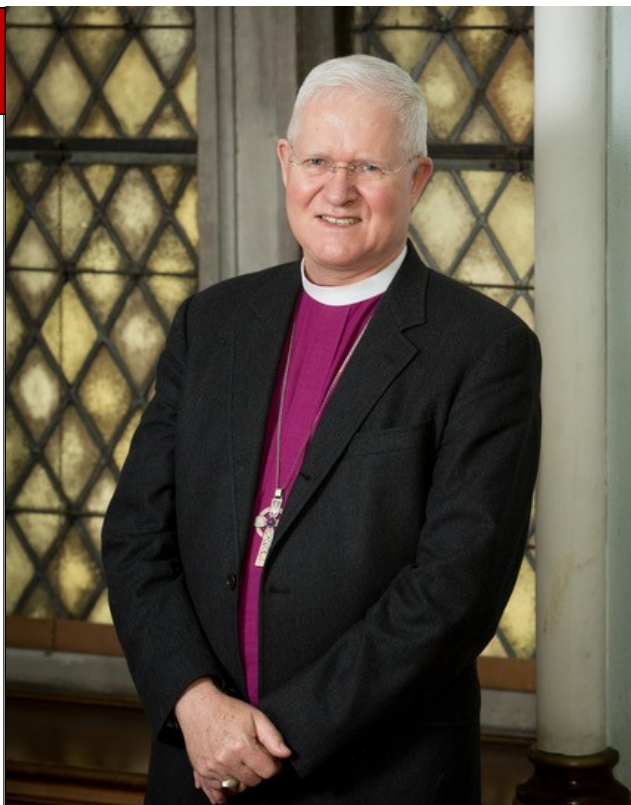
*Bishop Smith Visits Saint Mark's*

9:30 a.m. *Conversation w/ The Bishop*

10:30 a.m. *Holy Eucharist w/Confirmation*

#### **Wednesday, Sept. 27**

6 p.m. - 8 p.m. *The Marksmen Annual Barbeque Dinner*



Take part in the conversation with Bishop Smith, an inter-generational forum appropriate for all ages at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 18 in the Parish Hall.

See inside for a full calendar of August events and gatherings and visit [www.SaintMarksColumbus.org](http://www.SaintMarksColumbus.org).