A Monthly Newsletter of Saint Mark's, Columbus

October 2023 • Issue 294

Rooted in Abundance

Saint Mark's Church is a visible symbol of the love of God in our community.

Our stewardship theme this year is Rooted in Abundance. We are inspired to give because so much has been given to us. Our gifts to the church are not a transaction: We do not give in proportion to how we feel we have benefited or suffered.

We give because of the love that we have experienced.

We give so that we can share that love with a world in need.

Saint Mark's is a visible symbol of the love of God in our community. We host immigrants and refugees and welcome all worshipers proudly with open arms. Our presence is felt through the support we show for our youth involved in arts and athletics and our participation in community events. We attract visitors seeking beautiful music and our space is open and welcoming to community groups of all ages and backgrounds. We feed the hungry, support new mothers in Appalachia, and help provide housing for families seeking security and opportunity. We gather to worship and learn, to play and eat. Saint Mark's is an important part of the community in Upper Arlington and beyond.



Saint Mark's Celebrates the Feast of St. Francis

St. Francis of Assisi is remembered as the patron saint of animals and the environment. Born in Italy in 1182, he was noted for his commitment to justice and deep love of all creation. Francis died on October 3, 1226 and the church celebrates his life and ministry each year on October 4.

Saint Mark's will celebrate the feast of St. Francis with a blessing of animals and prayers of creation on Sunday, October I.

Don't miss two opportunities to acknowledge the special relationship you have with your pet.

The first is a Saint Mark's tradition. Bring your pet with you to either the 8 or 10:30 service on Sunday, October 1. You can bring your stuffed pets too. You can also bring pictures of your pets, either those who won't do well worshipping in person or those who are no longer with us, who you would like to have remembered.

The second is for pets who are not well suited to attending an entire worship service. Pastor Vicki will be on the front lawn of the church from 9:15 to 10:15 Sunday, October 1. You can drop by with your pet for a blessing. The invitation is open to all, so be sure to invite your friends to bring their pets by for a blessing.



SAINT MARK'S STAFF

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Jody Porreca, Clerk
jodyporreca@gmail.com

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.

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



They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

Jeremiah 17:8

All of this is possible because our members give their time and expertise to make it happen. Sunday worship services depend on ushers, lectors, choir members, chalice bearers, acolytes, livestream producers and many more. Youth group depends on leaders. Outreach depends on many people being willing to help. Is there a ministry or program you are interested in or some skill or talent that you would like to use at Saint Mark's?

80 percent of our annual budget comes from pledges. We have about 110 households who pledged to Saint Mark's in 2023. To fund the worship, ministries and activities of Saint Mark's at our 2023 level, we will need \$500,000 in pledge income. In 2023 our budgeted pledge income was \$430,000. Everyone has a role to play in helping us meet the 2024 pledge income goal of \$500,000. Saint Mark's depends on your gifts. All our programs and activities depend on people giving their time to make them happen.

We will kick off the Stewardship Campaign on Sunday October 15. Look for a letter and pledge card in the mail the week before that Sunday. We will celebrate our abundance on Sunday, October 29 with a party after the 10:30 a.m. service. Please plan to return your pledge card by October 29.

Music

Choral Evensong for All Saints' Sunday November 5

At 4 p.m. on Sunday, November 5, the Saint Mark's Choir will lead a service of Solemn Choral Evensong for All Saints' Sunday. Music will include the beautiful Hereford Evening Service by Richard Lloyd, responses by Jaime Hitel, and anthems by Felix Mendelssohn and Tomás Luis de Victoria. Admission is free. Donations will be gratefully received in support of the Special Music Fund at Saint Mark's. Please join us for this beautiful and inspiring service and be sure to invite your friends!



FALL SPECIAL EVENTS

Choral Evensong for All Saints' Sunday

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

Choral Eucharist for the Feast of Christ the King

Saint Mark's Choir Sunday, November 26, 10:30 a.m.

Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols

Saint Mark's Choir and Canterbury Choir Sunday, December 3, 4 p.m.

Our Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols on December 3 will include the world premiere of an anthem by the Canadian composer Sarah MacDonald, commissioned for the Saint Mark's Choir in memory of Barbara Mayr.

Matthew Bester, Director of Music

A Successful Kickoff Weekend

The choirs had a very successful kickoff weekend September 8–10. The Canterbury Choir had a fun and productive choir camp on Friday and Saturday, which included rehearsals, group meals, a movie (Pixar's *Ratatouille*), and a gathering at Graeter's. The weekend culminated with the 10:30 a.m. service on kickoff Sunday, with both choirs present. Some of my favorite services are the ones for which we bring both choirs together. It's inspiring to see all the choristers from both choirs gathered behind the altar. I especially enjoy hearing the soaring treble voices of the Canterbury Choir join the adults in hymnody while also adding their own anthem to the service. The next time both choirs will be present is for our annual Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 3.



FORMATION

Adult Formation

The October Adult Formation Group will be looking at developments in Anglican Theology in the 1600's and 1700's.

This period runs from the King James Bible through to the Industrial Revolution and covers the development of many of the foundations of Anglican theology (and the founding of the American Episcopal Church).

Adult Formation will meet in the parish hall from 9:30 to 10:15 on Sunday, October 8, 15 & 29. The sessions will be live streamed and available on the Adult Formation page of Saint Mark's Website.

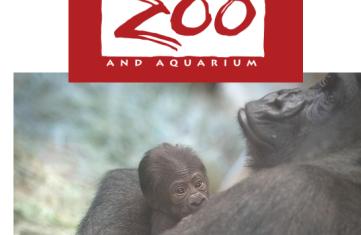
There will be no adult formation on Sunday, October 22 because of the Columbus Regional Pulpit Swap.

Youth Group

On Sunday, October I, the Saint Mark's youth group will take a trip to the Columbus Zoo. We will leave after the 10:30 service, probably around noon, and eat lunch at the zoo. We will spend a few hours exploring the zoo. Youth will be brought to their homes from the zoo. Parents are welcome to come along if you would like.

COLUMBUS

All youth grades 6 - 12 are welcome.



Sully, holding her newborn baby at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium in July 2023.

saint Mark's Episcopal Church Children's formation



Día de los Muertos Party - October 29

Preparations for Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) happen near Halloween but it is not about terror and tricks. Instead, it is a joyous celebration of life to honor and remember our loved ones. All children and youth are welcome to join us for party food, party music, and party fun!

Día de los Muertos Party Sunday, October 29 Children's Formation 10:30 a.m.

Bishop for A Day

In preparation for the Diocese of Southern Ohio's Bishop

election on September 30, Children in Children's Chapel learned about the organization of the Church, the role of a bishop (as well as some notable throughout bishops history), and some of the symbolism behind their vestments. Seen here is Veronica Warren wearing the Mitre she made. The mitre is worn by a bishop as a mark of their office.



Ten Things You Should Know About Saint Mark's

- 10. Nearly 80% of Saint Mark's annual budget comes from pledges.
- 9. IIO households made a pledge last year.
- Your pledges pay for the building, staff, and supplies that create space for worship, learning, and service to the community.
- Saint Mark's depends on financial pledges as well as gifts of time and talent.
- 6. You can give a gift of stock to Saint Mark's. This may give you some capital gains tax savings.
- 5. Our ministries are led by lay volunteers. Can you help with something additional this year?
- You can donate to Saint Mark's from your required annual distribution from you IRA or 401K.
- To fund the ministry of Saint Mark's at the 2023 level we need \$500,000 in pledged income - or \$4545 per pledging household. That is about \$87 per week per household.
- 2. Could you add \$20 per week to your pledge from last year?
- I. God Loves you. No Exceptions.

Fall Work Party A Shining Success!









OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Street Church

Saint Marks will be serving lunch at Street Church on October 29. Would you like to help with this ministry?

The plan is to serve a hot chili lunch. The Outreach Ministry is asking members of the congregation to make a pot of chili so that we can serve our community chili to the participants. A sign up sheet will be hanging in the parish hall starting October 1st. To make it as easy for volunteers as possible, the chili can be brought to church on the 29th ready to be served, or frozen and placed in the freezer ahead of time.

Volunteers are needed after the 10:30 service on the 29th to help assemble the meal prior to transport to Franklinton. Finally, 5 volunteers are needed to serve the meal. If you are willing to help with preparations, assembly or serving, please let Roberta Morton know (614-268-7021 or notvmorton@gmail.com).

Catch Court

CATCH Court is one of the Rehabilitation Courts in Franklin County. Through a two-year structured program, it serves women who have been trafficked, addicted, or prostituted. Our Ministry takes lunch for about 40 women once a month to provide a basis for their social interaction and our interaction with them. If you are willing to help make lunches, bake cookies, or go to Court in a small group, please call or text Pat lams (614-582-5738) for information. Our next visit to Court is October 12.

Outreach Committee Restructuring

Over the last few months, and with stakeholder input, a restructuring process began for Saint Mark's Outreach Committee and its ministries. Our Outreach ministries have grown, and the hope is they will continue to grow, becoming one of the central components of all our lives in keeping with the church's teachings.

The Outreach Committee determined that continued growth of ministry projects would be enhanced with a smaller administrative committee to oversee the budget, coordinate resources and support communications for all ministries. At the same time, individual ministry projects will have leaders with an expanded role including controlling their projects and budgets. Those leads will also encourage congregants to participate in projects by soliciting new volunteers.

Rather than bring all Outreach Committee members together monthly for updates on ministry projects, the administrative committee will meet and work with project leaders and ensure regular communication to all. One of the new roles in Outreach will be an Encouragement Project Lead who will encourage congregation members to participate in outreach projects both at Saint Marks and in the community. Another project lead will coordinate the vetting of new outreach projects. And a third project lead will help obtain grants to assist in funding projects.

The details of all of this as well as the individuals filling each role, will soon be finalized. The Outreach Committee will continue to update the congregation as this moves along., but for more information or if you'd like to get involved, please reach out to Pastor Vicki.

Bake Sale Thank You

Thank you to everyone who baked or volunteered for the Labor Neighbor Day Bake Sale. We raised over \$1,800 for local hunger programs.

While the money raised was great (really great) it wasn't the only thing that was special about this Bake Sale. We had numerous individuals who had never participated in a sale bring in baked or canned items. We also had new volunteers assist with set up, sales and clean up. It was wonderful to see first time participants. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way. We were really happy to have your support and hope it was a good experience for you as well.

Volunteer Opportunities in October

- October 11- Spices and Diapers in the Parish Hall at 10:30 AM
- October 12 CATCH Court Lunch- contact Pat lams at pati51@aol.com.
- October 29 Street Church— contact Roberta Morton at 614-268-7021
- **November 5** Fall Fest contact Barb Keyes at 614-314-7630 if you would like to help
- **November 17** Harmony for Hunger Concert and Fundraiser for NNEMAP is at Saint Marks. Contact Bill Karl at *mrbill.karl@gmail.com* if you would like to help with the reception or to purchase tickets.

OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE

manh you!

from Hilliard Food Pantry

July 24, 2023

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church 2151 Dorset Road Columbus, OH 43221

Dear Saint Mark's Episcopal Church,

I am always thankful for donors like you, but your support takes on renewed meaning after the devastating fire at a warehouse adjoining the Hilliard Food Pantry on July 9. Your generous donation of \$1,000 means that we can continue to feed families in our community!

We are strategizing ways to ensure continuity of service to our pantry members until we can reopen our pantry. I am excited to share that we opened a temporary food pantry at Guide Church on Britton Parkway last week!

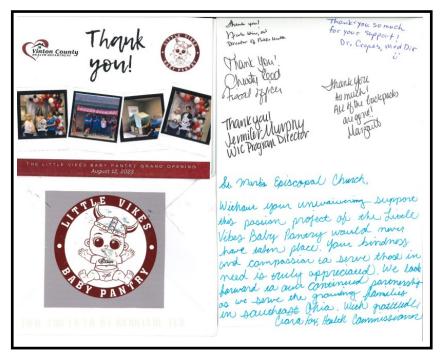
I am humbled by the outpouring of support from you and other Hilliard community members as we navigate the best way to move forward. Thank you for your steadfast support as we continue to serve the families who count on us each and every day.

With deep appreciation,

Eur West

Erin West Executive Director

from Vinton County Help Me Grow



The card was also signed by WIC Director, the Medical Director, the Help Me Grow Director, the Director of Public Health and the County Fiscal Officer.

Saint Mark' Is At Work



In The Community

Last month, the Vinton County Help Me Grow program opened a new facility, the Little Vikes Baby Pantry (the Vikes are the Vinton County Mascot). From this one centrally located facility, staff will distribute diapers, baby formula and food, baby clothing, sanitary products and grooming supplies to women in need. During our last visit to Vinton County, items donated by Saint Mark's could be found on the shelves.

The Thank You card pictured left reads:

Saint Marks Episcopal Church:

Without your unwavering support this passion project of the Little Vipers Baby Pantry would never have taken place. Your kindness and compassion to serve those in need is truly appreciated. We look forward to our continued partnership as we serve the growing families in Southeast Ohio. With gratitude, Clara Fox, Health Commissioner.

OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE

from Freedom al a Cart

Dear St. Mark's Episcopal Church,

I'd like to personally thank you for your recent donation of 2,000.00 to Freedom a la Cart's new Housing Program. With your donation, you're connecting survivors with safe, affordable, stable housing and helping them avoid revictimization as they reintegrate into the community. Through this new program, survivors will be assisted in obtaining and maintaining independent living while continuing to receive community connection, wraparound services, and resource management.

Last year alone, Freedom a la Cart provided 656 unduplicated local human trafficking survivors with supportive services or employment. Our mission of empowering survivors towards lives of independence would not be possible without generous community support like yours.

"Freedom has given me the courage to get back up and be proactive by never giving up on me. They help me unceasingly with sober support and services, their arms and doors are always open! I will forever be connected to Freedom." - Freedom a la Cart program participant

Thank you for walking with us alongside survivors as they build self-sufficient lives. We're grateful to have you as part of our family.

Better TOGETHER,

Paula Haines

CEO

Thank you for so generally supporting or survivors. You

Profile of a Refugee

She is in her fifties and has been in the US for just 3 months. In Africa, she owned a restaurant and managed many employees. She has an outgoing people oriented personality and shines when interacting with others. Since being forced to flee her home country, and during years in a refugee camp, she became increasingly ill and made worse by the stress of an uncertain future out of her control. But she has persisted and now is recovering her health while preparing to find a job in Central Ohio. One of her adult children is here with her. Her other child is in the process of being vetted prior to coming to the US.

Recently, she taught herself how to get around Columbus on the bus. This woman is resilient and focused on creating a new life. She speaks English very well and is learning idioms such as "hit the hay" and "foot the bill" with grace and humor. Her dream is to find a job that pays her bills and allows her to save money to start her own business. Although she has no formal education, her world knowledge and insight into cultural norms is impressive. She has the heart of a pioneer and will be an asset in our community.

Supporting individuals and families in journeys like this woman's is part of the Saint Mark's Migration Ministries Committee mission. If you'd like to expand your worldview without leaving home join us in our work. To learn more, contact Joyce Acton, actongroup@gmail.com, 614-560-9219.

IN AND AROUND SAINT MARK'S

Regional Pulpit Swap

Clergy from 11 Columbus area congregations are participating in the second annual Regional Pulpit Swap on Sunday, October 22.

The Pulpit swap is a chance for congregations to hear from a different preacher and to help build connections between the congregations in the region.

The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin, rector of Saint John's, Worthington will be at Saint Mark's.

Pastor Vicki will be at Church of the Epiphany, Urbana.

Knitting Groups

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? Do you have a project, other than knitting, that you are working on and would like to have company while you work on it?

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

Daytime Knitting Group meets the first and third Thursdays of the month from I to 3 p.m.

Evening Knitting Group meets on the second Monday of the month from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Both groups meet in the Canterbury Center.



Saint Mark's Migration Ministries

Our Mission

Saint Mark's Migration Ministries welcomes all newcomers to central Ohio by supporting refugees, asylum seekers, and immigrants through service, engagement, learning and education.

For more information, contact
Joyce Acton, 614-560-9219 actongroup@gmail.com



Halloween Coffee Hour

On Sunday, October 29 we will have pumpkins, carving tools and paint for decorating them.

During Coffee Hour after the 10:30 a.m. service, you will be able to carve or decorate a pumpkin. Weather permitting we will set that up on the patio.





LIVING IN FAITH, GROWING IN LOVE, CELEBRATING GOD'S PEOPLE.

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live:

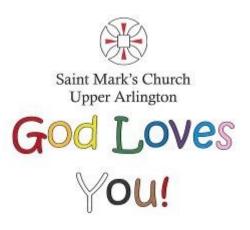
Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep,
and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.



We offer condolences to the family of **Marlo Tannous**, who passed away Monday, September 4, 2023 after a courageous battle with cancer. Marlo spent most of her career working as an attorney for the State of Ohio, where she was Chief Legal Counsel for the Ohio Department of Development and,

most recently, the Ohio Housing Finance Agency until she retired in December 2022. She was a member of Saint Mark's and involved in many other charitable and community organizations, including the Wellington School. A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, September 21, 2023 at Saint Mark's.

Father of all, We pray to you for Marlo and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May her soul, and the souls of all the departed, Through the mercy of God, Rest in peace.



No Exceptions.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Collin Wheeler	10/1	Clay Hess	10/12
Lisa Copeland	10/2	CW Hess	10/12
Dale Hartney	10/2	Mary Clevenger	10/13
Linda Wheeler	10/3	Stacy McIntire	10/17
Nora Bensing	10/4	Leah Smith	10/17
Cassie Myers	10/4	George Hauswirth	10/20
Cecily Alexander	10/5	George Reed	10/21
Benjamin Leibowitz	10/5	Barbara Wilcox	10/22
Jackson McIntire	10/8	Brenda Hammersley	10/23
Virginia Tuttle	10/8	Charles Tuttle	10/30
Anice Ellis	10/9	Dixie Norman	10/31
Adam Parson	10/9		

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.

PARISH PRAYER LIST					
Alea	Dorothy	Lynn K.			
Asher	Eli	Lynn S.			
Barry	Ethel	Mercy			
Betty	Felicity	Michael			
Bob	Gary	Mike			
Charles	Glenn	Patrick			
Dan	Jill	Sandy			
Dave	John	Ted			
David	Judy	Timothy			
Debbie	Lisa	Tsomo			
Devin	Luke	Yangsi			

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Amen.

If you have a pastoral care concern or would like to add a name to the prayer list, you can do so by contacting Pastor Vicki at rector@saintmarkscolumbus.org, by calling the parish office (614) 486-9452. You may also add a name to our prayer list at www.saintmarkscolumbus.org/prayer-request.



Parish Calendar www.SaintMarksColumbus.org/Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
1 Eighteenth Sunday after	2	3	4	5	6 Rector's Day Off	7			
Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Pet Blessing 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Canterbury Choir 12:30 pm Youth Group 8 pm Sunday Night AA	10:30 am Staff Mtg 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 7 pm AA 7 pm NNEMAP Mtg	9:30 am Al Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Vestry Mtg	3 pm Farmers Market 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal	1 pm Knitting and Stitching 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	8 pm AA	5:30 pm Supper Group			
Ninoto anth Sunday offer	9	10	11	12	13	14			
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Adult Formation 10:30 am Children's Formation 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Saint Mark's Choir 8 pm Sunday Night AA	10:30 am Staff Mtg 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 6:30 pm Evening Knitting 7 pm AA	9:30 am Al-Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy 6:15 pm Contemplative Prayer 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Sacred Conversations	10:30 am Spices & Diapers 3 pm Farmers Market 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal	11 am CATCH Court Lunch 11:30 am Sacred Conversations 4 pm Exploring Loss & Grief 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	Rector's Day Off 10:30 am Flower Guild Mtg 8 pm AA				
15 Twentieth Sunday after	16 Epistle Deadline	17	18	19	20 Rector's Day Off	21			
Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Adult Formation 10:30 am Children's Formation 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Saint Mark's Choir 8 pm Sunday Night AA	10:30 am Staff Mtg 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 7 pm Lancaster Chorale 7 pm AA 7 pm Sisters in Faith	9:30 am Al-Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Lancaster Chorale 7 pm Outreach Committee	3 pm Farmers Market 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal	1 pm Knitting and Stitching 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	7 pm Lancaster Chorale 8 pm AA				
22 Twenty-First Sunday after	23	24	25	26	27 Rector's Day Off	28			
Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:30 am Children's Formation 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Saint Mark's Choir 2 pm Early Music in Columbus Board Mtg 8 pm Sunday Night AA	10:30 am Staff Mtg 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 7 pm AA 7 pm Monday Night Book Group	9:30 am Al-Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Migration Ministry	4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal 6 pm The Marksmen	6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	8 pm AA				
Columbus Region Pulpit Swap	20	24	November 1	2	3	4			
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Adult Formation 10:30 am Children's Formation Día de los Meurtos Party 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Saint Mark's Choir 12 pm Halloween Coffee Hour 1 pm Street Church 8 pm Sunday Night AA	10:30 am Staff Mtg 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 7 pm AA	9:30 am Al-Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	November 1 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal	1 pm Knitting and Stitching 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	Rector's Day Off 8 pm AA	5:30 pm Supper Group			



See inside for a full calendar of events and gatherings and visit www.SaintMarksColumbus.org.



October 22

The Great Columbus Pulpit Swap

10 congregations in the Columbus region will be participating in the Great Columbus Pulpit Swap.

The Rev. Gia Hayes-Martin, rector of Saint John's, Worthington will be at Saint Mark's.

Pastor Vicki will be at Church of the Epiphany, Urbana.

October 29

Pumpkin Carving

During coffee hour after the 10:30 a.m. service, we will be have pumpkin carving and painting going on.

Wear Your Costume

All children, and any adults who want to, are invited to wear your Halloween costumes to church.

Children's Día de los Muertos Celebration

A joyous celebration of dancing, music, and snacks at 10:30 during Children's Formation. All children and youth are Welcome!

