



SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

the EPISTLE

A Monthly Newsletter of Saint Mark's, Columbus

August 2025 • Issue 314



Food Collection for NNEMAP

August 3 - Peanut Butter

August 10 - Tuna Fish

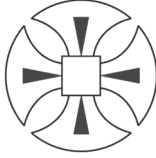
August 17 - Canned Soup

August 24 - Canned Chicken

See article for details



NNEMAP
food pantry



SAINT MARK'S CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Vicki Zust, Rector

rector@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Dr. Matthew Bester, Director of Music

directorofmusic@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Michael Schreffler, Organist

organist@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Gary L. Garber, Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus

emeritusmusic@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Bill Silliman, Head Verger

headverger@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Darien McCoy, Children's Formation Assistant

darienmccoy@gmail.com

Melanie Jacobs, Office Manager

officemanager@saintmarkscolumbus.org

SAINT MARK'S VESTRY

Cheryl Boop, Senior Warden

seniorwarden@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Kevin Fix, Junior Warden

juniorwarden@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Alex Reed, Youth Warden

Dwight Anstaett—*oxford4234@aol.com*

Michael Bowman — *mrbowman979@gmail.com*

Steve Brindza — *sbrindza@sbcglobal.net*

Norman Jones—*nwjones13@gmail.com*

Bill Lange—*langebass@gmail.com*

Ted Meyers — *theodore.h.meyers@gmail.com*

Mary Beth Smith—*m.b.smith@icloud.com*

Melanie Tepley—*mwilliams.tepley@gmail.com*

Dan Verrilli—*dan.verrilli@gmail.com*

John Wilson—*john.wilson10434@gmail.com*

Park Zimpher—*czimpher@att.net*

Phil Glandon, Treasurer

treasurer@saintmarkscolumbus.org

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 deadline for submissions is the fifteenth day of the preceding month. Send photos, announcements, or story ideas for inclusion in the Epistle to: communications@saintmarkscolumbus.org.

MUSIC

Canterbury Choir and Choir Camp

Canterbury Choir is starting its season with Canterbury Choir Camp in early September.

Canterbury Choir is open to children ages 7 to 14 and offers training in choral singing and music theory. It is open to all members of the community, regardless of religious affiliation. There is no cost to participate, and no musical background is required.

Rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. The choir sings for the 10:30 a.m. service on the first Sunday of every month, from September to May.

The season begins with choir camp on Friday evening Sept. 5 and Saturday morning and afternoon Sept. 6.

If you have questions or if your child or a child you know might be interested, you can get more information or to sign up by contacting Dr. Matthew Bester directorofmusic@saintmarkscolumbus.org



FOOD COLLECTION FOR NNEMAP

We mention NNEMAP a lot around Saint Mark's. NNEMAP is the Near Northeast Material Assistance Program. It is located on 11th Avenue, just across from the back gate of the State Fairgrounds.

Saint Mark's has been a supporter of NNEMAP for more than three decades. One of the centerpieces of NNEMAP's services is the food pantry that serves people from all over Columbus and includes pick-up lockers and even delivery services within a 10-mile radius.

Summer is a difficult time for food pantries. Donations drop, but the need continues and even increases because children don't have access to breakfast and lunch at schools.

This August we are doing a targeted collection effort for NNEMAP. Please add an item to your grocery shopping each week. You can bring the items to church and put them in the baskets located at the Outreach station between the front doors and the parish hall.

Sunday, Aug. 3: please bring peanut butter.
Sunday, Aug. 10: please bring tuna fish.
Sunday, Aug. 17: please bring canned soup.
Sunday, Aug. 24: please bring canned chicken.

You can drop donations for NNEMAP in those baskets any Sunday. Saint Mark's folk who volunteer at NNEMAP will make sure that they get there.

If you want to make a monetary donation to NNEMAP or find out about volunteering, you can learn more at nnemappantry.org. If you want more information about NNEMAP, get in touch with Bill Karl at mrbill.karl@gmail.com.

Diapers & Spices: Our next diapers and spices packing day is Wednesday, Aug. 13 at 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall. We will bundle diapers and make spice pouches. Many hands make light work, so come and join the fun if you are available. No experience required! Please contact Marilyn Karl with any questions mjkarl@yahoo.com.



NNEMAP Food Pantry Mural (photo from *The Mural Man*)

PARISH LIFE

Herb Garden

We are growing some herbs in the garden box just outside the office door. There are a couple of varieties of parsley and basil as well as sage and chamomile. On each side of the box is a container with small plastic bags and some scissors. Through the summer you are invited to cut some herbs to take home with you for your summer cooking.



Pub Theology

Pub Theology on Tuesday, Aug. 19. We will meet at Pastor Vicki's house, 3324 Kioka Ave in Upper Arlington. Part of the conversation will be deciding on a new long-term location since Littleton's is now too busy for us.

Pastor Vicki will have a conversation starter, and then the conversation goes from there.



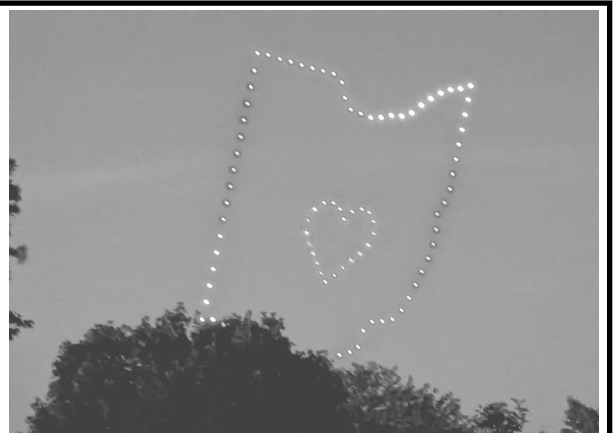
Workday Save the Date

Save the date for the Fall Workday on Saturday, Sept. 6.

We will gather at 9 a.m. and divide up the tasks to be done to get our church and campus ready for Fall Kick-Off.

There will be work for all ages and all abilities. We will wrap up the work by noon at the latest.

Upper Arlington's Fourth of July celebrations included a drone light show.



PARISH LIFE

Welcome Canon Day Hearn

On Sunday, Aug. 17 we will welcome the Rev. Canon Meredith Day Hearn as preacher and celebrant at both services.

Canon Day Hearn is the Canon for Congregations of the Diocese of Southern Ohio. She oversees a team that provides resources and assistance to the congregations of the diocese.

Canon Day Hearn is coming to get to know Saint Mark's and get a better sense of who we are and how the Diocese of Southern Ohio can be a partner in our ministry.



Rainbow UA Clothes Closet

Saint Mark's is hosting Rainbow UA's Teen Closet Back-To-School Event.

Rainbow UA will use the parish hall on Saturday, Aug. 2 and Wednesday, Aug. 6.

The Clothes Closet will run from 3 to 6 p.m. each day. Rainbow UA will be in the parish hall from noon to 7 p.m. setting up and cleaning up.

The Teen Closet is a program of Rainbow UA that provides teens with gender affirming clothes and advice.

Cub Scouts

Saint Mark's sponsors a Cub Scout Pack. All kids from kindergarten through fifth grade are welcome to become a part of the Cub Scout Pack.

The Pack meets on Tuesday evenings at Saint Mark's, with den meetings some weeks and full pack meetings on others.

The Pack will be having an open house on Tuesday, Aug. 26 and will have a table on the patio during the Farmers Market on Wednesday, Aug. 20.

If you want more information about the Pack or have a kid who might be interested, you can email the Cubmaster, John DeWitt at [johndewitt23@gmail.com](mailto: johndewitt23@gmail.com), for more information.

PARISH LIFE

Bruce Smith Honored by Seminary

At its May meeting the Board of Directors of Bexley Seabury Seminary based in Chicago elected the **Rev. Bruce Smith** to be a Director Emeritus of the seminary. Bruce served on the Bexley Seabury Board of Directors for nine years. Prior to the merger of Seabury-Western Seminary and Bexley Hall Seminary, Bruce supported the ministry of Bexley Hall during its years in the Columbus area on the campus of Trinity Lutheran Seminary. Both our Rector, Vicki Zust, and the Rt. Rev. Kristin Uffelman White, our Bishop, are alumnae of Seabury-Western. Bruce serves our diocese as a supply priest in the Columbus area and as one of two coordinators of the Chaplaincy to Retired Clergy in our diocese.



Youth Group & Alumni

Pool Party & Overnight

Friday, Aug. 1 – Saturday, Aug. 2

Rising 6 – 12 graders and alumni

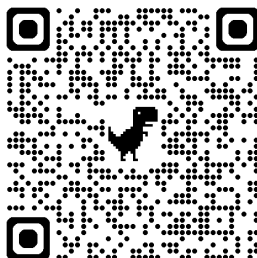
Swimming, Snacks, Games and Goodie Shoppe donuts for breakfast.

Drop off at Saint Mark's at 7 p.m. on Friday

Pick up at Saint Mark's at 8 a.m. on Saturday

We need everyone coming to sign up and we need parent help.

Scan here for details and to sign up



TECH TIP

Why We Want to Keep Hackers Out of Our Email Accounts

Email is one of the most important tools we use every day. It's how we stay in touch with friends and family, get bills and receipts, log into websites, and reset passwords. But because it's connected to so many things, your email account is also a prime target for hackers.

If someone breaks into your email, they can quickly take over other accounts by requesting password resets. From there, they can access your bank, online shopping, or social media — sometimes without you even knowing until damage is done.

Hackers can also impersonate you. They might send messages to your contacts asking for money, gift cards, or personal information. These emails often sound convincing, and it's easy to fall for them. Churches are frequent targets — many members have received fake messages claiming to be from pastors or other trusted leaders.

Fortunately, protecting your email doesn't require advanced tech skills. Here are three simple things you can do:

1. Use a strong password. Make sure it's long and unique — avoid names, birthdays, or anything easy to guess.
2. Enable two-step verification. This adds an extra layer of security by requiring a code sent to your phone when logging in.
3. Be cautious. If an email seems strange or urgent, don't click any links. When in doubt, ask someone you trust.

It's always better to be safe than sorry. If you're unsure how to take these steps or just want some guidance, consider reaching out to a trusted IT service provider — like CMIT Solutions of Downtown Columbus. We help individuals and businesses stay secure, one step at a time.

Tech Tip is an occasional column written by Daniel Maldet from CMIT Solutions. CMIT Solutions are Saint Mark's technical consultants, helping us with our digital infrastructure and security.

OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE

In Our Own Backyard – First Year Wrap-Up

The “In Our Own Backyard” ministry is finishing up its first program year. Thanks to Leslie Winters and Ellen Dickhaut for their leadership and service. Our adoption of Tremont Elementary School arose out of our involvement in the Tri-Village Packers Program. Saint Mark’s agreed to provide snacks to the school to be given to those children who came to school without breakfast or were otherwise going hungry during the day. About every two weeks, Outreach members provided a supply of breakfast bars, pretzels, goldfish, yogurt and other snacks to the school. The school guidance counselor and office staff took responsibility for distributing the snacks and letting us know when more were needed. The school staff repeatedly expressed their appreciation of our partnership and what was being done for their students.

Following discussions with school administrators, we agreed to pilot a program providing snacks to six families over the summer months when school was closed. Starting the week school let out in May, Outreach members began delivering a bag of food to these six families each week. As the summer went on, the families got to know us better, with some of the children answering the door with enthusiastic eagerness when we pulled up on Friday afternoons. Delivery bags included such things as cheese sticks, yogurt, peanut butter, jelly, bread or muffins, goldfish or pretzels, breakfast bars, granola bars, popcorn, oatmeal and cookies, among other items. A lot of time was spent scouring the weekly grocery ads for deals!

When school starts in a few weeks, this summer program will end and we will go back to providing the bins of snacks to the Tremont Elementary guidance counsellor.

If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please contact Leslie Winters at [**mslesliewinters@gmail.com**](mailto:mslesliewinters@gmail.com).

Vinton County School Backpacks— Wrapping Up

Throughout the month of July we have been collecting school supplies for families in Vinton County. Following the 10:30 service on Sunday, Aug. 3, we will be packing the back packs and on Sunday, Aug. 10, we will load them into cars for delivery the next day. Volunteers will be needed for both activities in the parish hall.

Thank you for your support of our Vinton County Ministry! If you have questions, please contact Lynn Glandon at [**lsglandon6@gmail.com**](mailto:lsglandon6@gmail.com).

Labor Day Bake Sale

The Saint Mark’s annual Labor Neighbor Day Bake Sale to fight hunger is scheduled for Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 1. Donations of shelf-stable baked goods and other homemade treats like jams or candies are needed.

Pretty packaging in small quantities is much appreciated, but we will have volunteers to break down and package larger quantities. You can drop your baked goods off on Sunday, Aug. 31 or before 9 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 1.

If you aren’t a baker, we could use small bottles of water that we hand out throughout the day to people as they come and go from the sale. Volunteers are needed to make this event a success, including help with setting up, staffing the sale tables, and take down/clean up at the end of the day. A Sign-Up Genius will be posted on the Saint Mark’s website and a sign-up sheet will be in the parish hall for volunteers.

Mark Your Calendars!

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| • School Supply packing | Aug. 3 |
| • School Supply loading | Aug. 10 |
| • Diapers and Spices packing
for NNEMAP | Aug. 13 |
| • St. John’s Street Church | Aug. 31 |
| • Labor Day Bake Sale | Aug. 31 - Sept. 1 |
| • Migration Ministry Meeting | Sept. 23 |

OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Public Policy Advocacy

The Columbus Deanery recently formed a public policy advocacy group. If you're interested in learning about the Episcopal church and how members are living into their baptismal promises: *to persevere in resisting evil, to strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being*, here are some resources you might find helpful:

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/social-justice-advocacy-engagement/>

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheEPPN>

Periodically, we'll have a table in the Parish Hall following the 10:30 service staffed with members of the Deanery group to answer your questions. For more information, contact the Outreach Administrative Committee at

Outreach@SaintMarksColumbus.org

St. John's Street Church Meals

Thanks to all those who helped with our June 29 meal and especially those who traveled downtown to serve.

Our next Street Church meal commitment is on Aug. 31. If you are interested in either shopping, preparing, packaging or serving, please contact Roberta Morton (notvmorton@gmail.com, or 614-268-7021).

We also are looking for volunteers to provide fruit for the fourth Sunday of the month starting in September and going through December. This involves purchasing 75 servings of fruit (reimbursement available) to augment the meal on those Sundays. If you are interested in that ministry, please contact Sara Warren (sarawarren@gmail.com).

Migration Ministries

Saint Mark's partners with Community Refugee & Immigration Services (CRIS), a non-profit organization that serves the refugee and immigrant populations in Central Ohio, for the Saint Mark's Culture and Artisans Fair and other activities. Attending CRIS Good Neighbor Training is the first step to becoming a CRIS volunteer and also a good way to learn more about refugees and immigration. Good Neighbor Training is a two-hour information session led by CRIS staff members that is offered both in-person and virtually. Topics covered include the refugee process, challenges refugees face after resettlement, services provided by CRIS, and a brief explanation of ways to get involved with CRIS. For more information or to sign-up, please click this link: <https://www.crisohio.org/gnt-registration>

If you want to get involved in Migration Ministries or have ideas of projects for Migration Ministries, our next meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 23 at 7p.m. via Zoom. Please contact Elizabeth Anstaett (Oxford4234@aol.com) for more information or to be sent the Zoom link.

Habitat for Humanity – New Project

The Northwest Partnership for Habitat, of which Saint Mark's is a member, has begun construction on a new home at 1493 Arlington Ave. in the Linden area.

If you're interested in working on the house, contact the Outreach Committee and we'll put you in contact with the appropriate person at Habitat (Outreach@SaintMarksColumbus.org)

Saint Mark's is scheduled to periodically provide lunch for the Habitat volunteers. If you would like to learn more or get involved with this ministry, please contact Marilyn Karl at mjkarl@yahoo.com or 614-562-1942.

Outreach Contact Information

The Outreach Administrative Committee members are: Leslie Winters, George Knight, Ellen Berndt, and Melanie Tepley, in addition to the Rector. The Vestry liaison to Outreach is Steve Brindza.

Questions about anything Outreach can be sent to the Outreach Administrative Committee at **Outreach@SaintMarksColumbus.org**.

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.*

BIRTHDAYS

William Pilotte	Aug. 2
Judyth Babcock	Aug. 4
Debbie Hodson	Aug. 6
Betsy Gillespie	Aug. 7
Ann Getz	Aug. 9
Johanna Lutz	Aug. 10
Elise Neckers	Aug. 10
Ross Bagby	Aug. 12
Judson Utgard	Aug. 13
Cora Hartranft	Aug. 15
Philip College	Aug. 16
Peter Milburn	Aug. 16
Gayle Granville-Wilson	Aug. 17
Mark Barno	Aug. 18
Zoe Evancho	Aug. 22
Dianne Silliman	Aug. 22
Stefanie Bester	Aug. 23
Cathy Utgard	Aug. 24
Barb Keyes	Aug. 25
Jose Benito	Aug. 26
Barbara Wiseman	Aug. 28
Susan Smith	Aug. 29
Nancy Slee	Aug. 30

*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

Stuart Brace	Sylvia Martin
Ted Carey	Dan Morton
Ron Catlett	Kevin & Bonnie Peck
Steven, Katie,	Kathy S.
Caroline & Holden	Frank Smith
Deliman	Don Trotier
Janet Dorman	The Webber Family
Anna Dougherty	Greg Wittwer
Shirley Haberstroh	Frank Zubovich
Patrick Hreachmack	Corinne
Joanne Hylton	Florence
The Ibarra-Benito	Jackie
Family	Joe
Lynn Klemesrud	Jonah
Robert Knox	

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,
or by calling the parish office (614) 486-9452.
You may also add a name to our prayer list at
www.saintmarkscolumbus.org/prayer-request.

Support Groups

Saint Mark's provides meeting space for AA and Al Anon in the parish hall on the following days and times:

Sundays, 8 p.m. AA Open Group
Mondays, 5:30 p.m. AA Men's Group
Mondays, 7 p.m. AA Open Group
Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. Al-Anon Group
Thursdays, 6:15 & 8 p.m. AA Open Group
Fridays, 8 p.m. AA Open Group

For details on all services, meetings and events go to:
www.SaintMarksColumbus.org/Calendar

Worship and Formation		
Holy Eucharist Rite I: 8 a.m.	Sundays	Sanctuary
Holy Eucharist Rite II: 10:30 a.m.	Sundays	Sanctuary
Sisters in Faith: Monday, 7 p.m.	Aug. 18	Canterbury Center
Saint Mark's Choir Rehearsal Resumes	Aug. 28	Choir Room
Rector's Day Off: all day	Fridays	
Parish Life and Vestry		
Youth Group Pool Party & Overnight	Aug. 1	Meet at Church
Vestry meeting: Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.	Aug. 5	Canterbury Center
Daytime Knitting Group: Thursday 1 to 3 p.m.	Aug. 7 & 21	Canterbury Center
Therapy Dog Meeting & Training: Saturday 10 a.m.	Aug. 2	Front Lawn
Pub Theology: Tuesday 7 p.m.	Aug. 19	Pastor Vicki's House
Outreach Ministries		
Assemble Book Bags for Vinton County	Aug. 3	After 10:30 a.m. Service
Diapers & Spices: Wednesday, 10 a.m.	Aug. 13	Parish Hall
Habitat for Humanity Lunch	Aug. 16	
Street Church	Aug. 31	
Labor Day Bake Sale	Sept. 1	
Community Events		
UA Farmers Market: 3:00—6:30 p.m.	Wednesdays	Dorset Road
Rainbow UA Teen Clothes Closet	Aug. 2 & 6	Parish Hall
Cub Scout Open House	Aug. 26	Parish Hall/Front Lawn

Visit saintmarkscolumbus.org for a full calendar of events and activities



SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2151 Dorset Road
Columbus, OH 43221
www.SaintMarksColumbus.org
(614) 486-9452



**Save
The
Date**

**Labor Day
Bake Sale**

Sept. 1

**Sign Up to
bake or help**