



St. Mark's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

RE:MARK'S

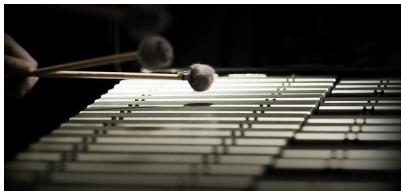
JANUARY 2019

Congratulations! You made it through Christmas, 2018. Of course, if you are reading this before January 6, it is still Christmas — yes, you may sing the Boar's Head Carol *one more time*. But now that the stockings have been unstuffed, the fruitcakes packed away for next year, and hordes of carolers no longer threaten the safety and tranquility of our fair city, hopefully you will have a chance to take a deep breath, relax, and give thanks to God for all the wonderful things he has done for you this year past. This newsletter is a little lighter than the past few months', but there are still plenty of exciting things happening at St. Mark's in January. Read on to find out about all that's happening at your church this month!

Please note that this is Cantor David's last month pretending he knows how to put together a newsletter; the eminently capable hand of Scottie Miller will soon be back at the helm. Cantor David thanks you for your help and patience over the last three months. Happy Epiphany!

ST. MARK'S HAPPENINGS

Jazz Concert



Tuesday, January 15
6:30 pm

Join us at St. Mark's for a performance by the Stephen Lynerd

Group from Chicago, Illinois! The group consists of vibraphone, drums, piano, and bass, and plays a variety of favorite hymns in jazz style, as well as some original compositions. SLG performed to great acclaim in Asheville last year; be sure to come hear them this month! No admission. A donation will be accepted to support music at St. Mark's, and a tithe will be given to ABCCM.

Steadfast House

The January collection for Steadfast House is feminine hygiene products or money to purchase them. Please leave donations in the wooden bins by the playground doors, or mark your check "Steadfast House." Thank you!



Bunco Bonanza

Do you want a little fun and fellowship after church? Or maybe you have a bone to pick with Vicar Matt from the Halloween event?! Either way, you are invited to accomplish both on Sunday, January 27, in the Fellowship Hall, right after the 11:00 service. Please join the Evangelism and Hospitality Team for an afternoon of luck and laughs during our **Bunco Bonanza!** A light lunch will be provided before the games begin, and everyone is encouraged to invite a friend. See Sign-Up Central for details. "Come onnnnnnnnn, BUNCO!"

WELCA Women

Come join us at 10:00 am January 9 in the library for coffee and goodies. We will have an inspiring program and plenty of chatter and stories of our Christmas experiences. Please come! All women are welcome.



Yarn Workshop

Attention all children and youth! On Saturday, January 12, the Yarn Angels are hosting our second annual Yarn Workshop. Starting at 10:30, we will offer many activities using yarn that will challenge your creativity, bring lots of smiles and “yesses”, and just allow for a great time with family and friends. Yes, we encourage you to bring parent(s) and friends — all the more to enjoy a morning of FUN! We had a good turnout last year and hope to have even more of you on the 12th. Please contact Barbara Ulrichs at (910) 620-2245 or burichs8@gmail.com or if you have any questions.



New Adult Faith Formation Class

Christianity and Culture

I want to be a good American, I want to be a good Christian; are they the same thing? Are they opposed? Do they overlap? This class will deal with these questions and more. Begins January 6 in the library; taught by Doug Johnson.



2019 Altar Flowers

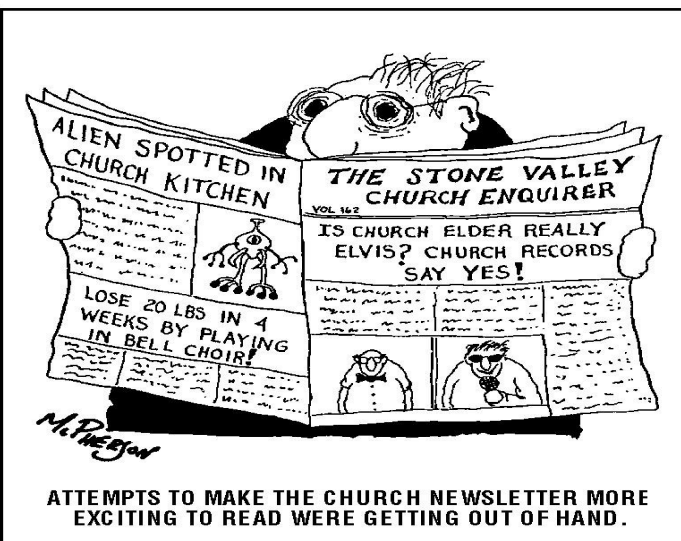


The Altar Flower chart for 2019 is posted on the Sign-Up Central bulletin board. Choose your special date and take an envelope to make your payment (\$35). Please indicate on the envelope what you would like printed in the bulletin that Sunday and if you would like to take the flowers after the services or have them delivered to shut-ins.

Christian Discipleship Center Class

The Gospel According to John: Gospel of Symbols
January 24—February 28, 2019

The Gospel according to John, is marked by rich imagery and symbolism. Images such as light, dark, water, and bread are not merely ways of telling the story of Jesus but deeply theological statements about who Jesus is and what he is about. This course will explore the symbolism of John’s account of the Gospel of Jesus and help the participant better understand what John is trying to tell us about Jesus. Led by Rev. Dr. Brent Norris, at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church; 1:30-3:00 on Thursdays. To register please send your name and phone number to christiandiscipleshipcenter@gmail.com, or call (828) 230-8818. **Deadline is 1/21/19.**



- 1 Heather Nance, Jacob Fink, Jaya Penland
- 2 Natalie Haynes, Carolyn Bradley
- 3 Chris Kidd, Christopher Sawyer
- 4 Gail McWithey
- 7 Ronnie Shoe
- 10 Trey Doss, David Webb
- 11 David Moore, Sharon Ross
- 14 Kirstin McKeel
- 18 Janet Hanson, David Schuetze, Jeremy Kemper
- 20 Steve Doane
- 21 Alexandria Gilbert, Jeff Lamm
- 24 Bud Rainey
- 25 Juliet Dixon, Nina Otterness
- 26 Rose Boblak
- 27 Barbara Bassler, Hildie Polasky, Matt Volk



- 6 David & Cindy Muse

ST. MARK'S HAPPENINGS

SUNDAYS IN JANUARY

January 6 Epiphany

- 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Communion
- 9:45 Faith Formation

January 13 Epiphany II

- 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Communion
- 9:45 Faith Formation

January 20 Epiphany III

- 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Communion
- 9:45 Faith Formation

January 27

Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe

- 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Communion
- 9:45 Faith Formation

The Racial Healing Team is looking forward to 2019 as we continue to grow our friendships with our brothers and sisters at WNC Baptist and deepen our own exploration of ourselves in this broken and divided world.



Each of us comes to racial reconciliation and loving our neighbor on a different path. A year ago I joined the RHT, started attending WNCBF services and special events, and made a commitment to myself to learn about the black experience in the US, understand my white privilege, know how to be a useful ally, and be aware of the realities the black community faces in Asheville. I made this commitment to myself because I realized that if I continued to look away, to ignore, to not take part in the hope to end racism that I was not following Jesus. All of Jesus' teachings have led me to this path and today I feel more whole with myself, at one with my God, and in harmony with my neighbors. I know I still have a long way to travel. I invite you to join me and the members of the RHT. Below are the future dates we have set already in 2019. All the RHT members are ready to answer any questions you may have about how you can get involved. Ask us!

—Tracy Schmidt

Sunday, January 13, 3:00 pm One Youth at a Time MLK Celebration at WNC Baptist Fellowship Church. Contact Tracy Schmidt if you have questions.

Saturday, January 19, 10:00 am MLK Prayer Breakfast at the Crowne Plaza. If you're interested in attending, please contact Barbara Bassler.

Sunday, February 3, 10, 17, and 24 Adult Faith Formation at St. Mark's: "Cracking the Codes: Understanding White Privilege and Institutional Bias." This class takes us another step forward on our journey to end racism and to discover hidden biases in ourselves and our communities. Please join us for an eye opening and inspirational experience!

Saturday, February 2 WNC and St Mark's Joint Congregational Breakfast at St. Mark's. Share a meal, fellowship, and make plans and dreams for the 2019 Unity Service.

Sunday, June 2 Unity Service at Pack Square

TBD Other ad hoc social gatherings. Keep an eye out in Sign-Up Central as events come up.

The Racial Healing Team is Barbara and Jim Bassler, Tracy Schmidt, Hildie and Ray Polasky, Katherine Laveck, Debbie Layne, Pastor Jack McHenry, Joan Galvin, Anne Sites, and Henry and Judy McKay.

St. Mark's Holiday Hours

The church office will be closed beginning Monday, December 24th.

We will resume normal office hours on Wednesday, January 2. Pastor Trexler will be out of town during this time. If there is an emergency, please call Pastor James Aydelotte at (828) 707-6363.



Festival of Lessons and Carols

The Festival of Lessons and Carols is one of the most delightful gifts we have received from the Anglican tradition. Come out at **8:30 am** or **11:00 am** on **December 30** and join the herald angels in singing glory to the newborn King!



FROM PASTOR TREXLER

Dear Ministry Partners,

What is your greatest problem? Mother Teresa answers this question in terms of her vocation as a Christian. She says that her greatest problem is professionalism. Mother Teresa goes on to say that her Christian calling is to be a spiritual presence first. Her professional presence is second.

Young and old, rich and poor—people of all stripes are wandering in the world's wilderness. And many who are wandering are also searching for a spiritual presence. The gospel proclaims Jesus Christ as that spiritual presence: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth." (John 1:1)

A part of my ministry is to ask the spiritual questions. What difference does it make that we proclaim Christ crucified? What difference does it make that our congregation exists where it exists? What difference does my baptism make not only in my daily life but in the daily lives of those I touch?

I invite you to reflect on the following seven questions for spiritual self-examination. Their author Ken Carter graciously granted me permission to share the questions with you:



1. Have my most significant religious experiences been in the distant past? Do they seem disconnected from the present?
2. Does Christian faith shape my values, the way I spend my time and money? Do I see appeals for time and money as intrusions or invitations? Do I resent the poor? Is my life becoming one of increasing generosity?
3. Do I have regular occasions to have fun, to laugh, to smile, to celebrate? When did I last attend or host a party?
4. Do I expect others to serve me, to fulfill my spiritual needs or do I see myself as a servant? Can I do something for others that is truly anonymous and unselfish? Am I invested in the spiritual growth of at least one other person?
5. Are the amounts of time and energy that I devote to dieting and fitness in proportion to the amounts of time that I allot for prayer, study, and meditation?
6. Is faith an element of my most important relationships? Is faith essential to some relationships and not at all to others? Have I talked about my faith with those who are closest to me?
7. Have I reflected on the meaning of my own death? Have I grieved an important loss? Am I able to place my ultimate trust in God?

What is your greatest problem? Any problem becomes more bearable when seen in the light of Jesus Christ. I will be praying for the further awakening of spiritual presence in all of us!

Pastor Trexler

THANK YOU ST. MARK'S

Thank you to everyone who made our Christmas Eve services possible! Ushers, greeters, assisting ministers, communion assistants, acolytes, crucifers, altar guild, choirs, lay readers, bell ringers, and everyone who carries out their work cheerfully in public or behind the scenes — we couldn't do it **without you!**

ST. MARK'S PRAYER LIST

January 2019

Names will remain on the list for one month. To renew, please call the office.)



Shut-ins

Polly Book (Mars Hill Retirement Center), Natalia Gohdes (Mtn Valley), Jean Hackerson (The Baptist Home)

Ill/recovering

Silas Noel, Ronald and Margaret Ackley, Pastor Linda McHenry, Bobbi Epley, Sheila Ray

In undergraduate college

Nicholas Dudde, Sierra Kindley, Julia Rhodes, Nancy Dodenhoff, Katherine Webb, Jamie Rhodes, Max Schmidt, Laura Van Tassel

Joys & celebrations

Blake Crownover has finished the Appalachian Trail. Vicar Matt and Samantha Gonzalez-Block are engaged.

Grieving

Beth Korb grieving for her mother, Betty Jane Stroup Korb. Family and friends of Karen Hermes, St. Mark's quilter and good friends with all of the ladies. Family and friends of John Rauschenberger. Family and friends of Dorothy Holzworth. The Silver family on the death of cousin Noel Wesley William Ward. Charles Kopp and families, grieving over the loss of Jeffery John Kopp, a son and nephew.

Relatives

Rev. Harold Miller, Carol Sturm's uncle, has lung cancer. Charles Lindsay, Paula Lindsay's father-in-law, diagnosed with leukemia, undergoing treatment. Kelly Wultz, Amy Zeller's sister-in-law, is struggling with alcoholism. Al Seale requests prayers for Jon Seale (son), Guili Seale (daughter-in-law), and Alex Seale (grand daughter), going through a divorce. Lisa Burnett's Dad (Dave Hash) was just diagnosed with cancer. Helen Barger, Carol Sturm's aunt, recovering at home. Rowan Groom and Maria Guarino, nieces of Cantor David. Beth Korb asks for prayers for Maureen and Dennis Parcey as her best friend Maureen faces her greatest challenge fighting brain cancer.

Special requests

The refugee crisis in Europe & the victims of terrorist attacks and their families. Our men and women serving in the military and their families. For racial healing in Asheville. The victims and families of mass shootings in the US and around the world. Grace Lutheran Church and all they are doing for the Latino community in Asheville. Hurricane Florence victims. People in Indonesia suffering from earthquakes. California families that have been made homeless by the fires.

Winter Weather Policy

1. Call the church. We will update the voicemail 2. Check our Facebook page 3. Check our website or 4. Visit wlos.com closing page. We will be in contact with them on our status. As always, your safety is the most important so please use your discretion on how comfortable you feel on the roads.



Choir rehearsals resume on Jan. 23 at 5:00 (8:30 service) and Jan. 24 at 7:00 (11:00 service). We are always excited to welcome new singers; no previous experience required! Please talk to Cantor David if you are interested in singing in either group.

FINANCIAL REPORT

November 2018



Operating Fund	November	YTD
Income budgeted	\$42,533	\$467,868
Gifts received	\$35,535	\$432,421
Expenditures	\$34,925	\$421,257
Difference	\$610	\$11,164
Building Fund	November	YTD
Gifts received	\$2,208	\$44,806
Amount needed	\$2,201	\$24,853
Difference	\$7	\$19,953

Rooted in Faith

Balance of fund	\$190,953
Bills paid to date	\$662,043
Loan outstanding	\$116,090

JANUARY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 Epiphany 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Faith Formation	7 6:30 Christian Action	8 9:00 Quilters 12:00 Yarn Angels	9 9:00 Property Team 9:30 Building Team 10:00 Kairos 10:00 WELCA	10 7:00 Evangelism Team	11 9:00 Library Team	12 Council Retreat 10:00 Yarn Angels Event
13 Epiphany II 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Faith Formation 3:00 One Youth at a Time Celebration at WNCBF	14 1:30 Book Study	15 9:00 Quilters 6:30 Concert: The Stephen Lynerd Group (Hymns in Jazz Style)	16 9:00 Property Team 10:00 Kairos 12:00 Healing Service	17 5:30 Racial Healing	18 9:00 Library Team 6:00 Shelter Meal	19 8:00 LMIM @ Happy Hill 10:00 MLK Prayer Breakfast
20 Epiphany III 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Faith Formation	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22 9:00 Quilters	23 9:00 Property Team 10:00 Kairos 5:00 Sunrise Singers	24 7:00 Chancel Choir	25	26 10:00 Yarn Angels
27 Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe 8:30, 11:00 Worship 9:45 Faith Formation 12:00 BUNCO BONANZA	28 1:30 Book Study	29 9:00 Quilters	30 9:00 Property Team 10:00 Kairos 5:00 Sunrise Singers	31 7:00 Chancel Choir		

DATE	ACOLYTES, CRUCIFERS, ETC.	LAY READERS	GREETERS	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS & ASSISTING MINISTERS	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD
6	8:30 A: Mae Reilly Mueller 11:00 A: Trey Doss C: Toby Schuetze	8:30 Susan Reiser 11:00 Lauran Mapp	8:30 Vic Allwein, Becky Knight 11:00 Chuck Kopp, Melissa King	8:30 AM: Tim Owens CA: Nancy Doderhoff 11:00 AM: Natalie Haynes CA: Susan Van Tassel	8:30 Wolfe Otto, Marvin Pope 11:00 David Schmidt, Dave Schuetze	8:30 Ken Clark 11:00 Tracy Schmidt Cindi Fridd Ali Schuetze
13	8:30 A: Torin Linton 11:00 A: Ryan Hutson C: Cord Doss	8:30 Philip Otterness 11:00 Susan Van Tassel	8:30 Dan Dudde 11:00 Bob Taylor, Connie Koiner	8:30 AM: Katie Rivers CA: Mary Anne Allwein 11:00 AM: Steve Doane CA: Bonnie Richards	8:30 Ronnie Shoe 11:00 Anne Blackwell, John Cartwright, Kohl Friery	8:30 Hildie Polasky 11:00 Susan Van Tassel Karen Puthoff
20	8:30 A: Nick Mueller 11:00 A: Liam Frisella C: Heather Dixon	8:30 Katherine Laveck 11:00 Anne Sites	8:30 Cathy Totman, Gloria Fritch 11:00 Martha Price	8:30 AM: Katherine Laveck CA: Mark Fritch 11:00 AM: TBA CA: Anne Sites	8:30 Ken Clark, Walter Hitch 11:00 David Neighbors, Jason Jones, Josh Kersey	8:30 Katherine Laveck 11:00 Paula Lindsay Anne Blackwell
27	8:30 A: Lila Niedenthal 11:00 A: Katie Rivers C: Zachary Hutson	8:30 Pat Patton 11:00 Natalie Haynes	8:30 Debbie Layne, Patri Oppenheim 11:00 Bob Miharara, Diane Lawson	8:30 AM: Amy Zellers CA: Diane Hughes 11:00 AM: Dave Epley CA: Anne Blackwell	8:30 Mark Totman, Pat Patton 11:00 Alice Silver, Paul Ram- sey-Smith	8:30 Mary Anne Allwein 11:00 Anne Sites, Jean Castle

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
PO Box 8608
Asheville, NC 28814

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

10 N. Liberty Street, Asheville, NC 28801
Mail: P.O. Box 8608, Asheville, NC 28814
828-253-0043 · admin@stmarkslutheran.net
www.stmarkslutheran.net

STAFF:

Interim Senior Pastor: The Rev. Dr. W. B. Trexler

Director of Discipleship & Faith Formation:

Deacon Katie Rivers

Cantor: David Anderson

Parish Administrator: Scottie Miller

Pastor of Caring Ministries:

The Rev. Linda McHenry

Seminary Intern: Vicar Mat Hoffman

Facilities Manager: Eileen Cram

Custodian: Gage Hampton

Nursery Director: Ginger Dixon

Church Office Hours:

Mon.-Thu. 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Fri. 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.



OUR MISSION:

Making disciples by loving Christ,
growing in faith, serving all people

OUR VISION:

Transforming lives through God's grace as an
inclusive, intergenerational congregation
through Worship, Outreach,
Learning and Fellowship