



O C T O B E R 2 0 2 0

# The Call



*May the words of our mouths and the mediations of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight oh Lord our strength and our redeemer.*

## A Monthly Newsletter

October 2020

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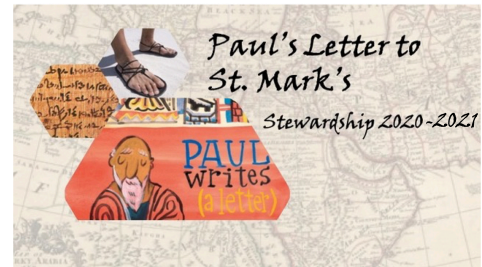
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### Stewardship

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## A Church Paul Would Recognize: We belong to...



In a typical year, St. Mark's would have celebrated the beginning of the school year and the church programming year with Rally Day. In a typical year, I would have handed out Stewardship packets in the library. In a typical year, Rev. Sarah would have outlined the plans for Christian Formation for the year.

This is not our typical year. This is not how any of us envisioned 2020. Our church is going through both a major building project and a transition in spiritual leadership; either one of those alone could overwhelm a congregation. This is not to mention the global pandemic that is preventing our members from gathering together to lift ourselves in communal worship and prayer. Our vestry and church leadership team have done yeoman's work to keep the congregation connected through internet and email. It has not been an easy task and we all owe them our gratitude.

Conducting a stewardship campaign during 2020 is a daunting endeavor. With so much uncertainty before us, pledging funds for the next year takes a leap of faith. Or does it? This year, the Stewardship campaign is challenging St. Mark's to remain a church Paul would recognize. Paul wrote letters to the churches he knew, extolling their virtues and admonishing their errors, yet always teaching them. His key lessons centered on faith in Christ's message and support of fellow believers. Our church on the hill has been a place of faith and fellowship since 1884. The faith and fellowship of St. Mark's has sustained our church family across centuries and that faith and fellowship will sustain our church family in the future.

Paul wrote to the Corinthians,

What I mean is this: that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," "I belong to Apollos," "I belong to Cephas," "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you, or were you baptized in Paul's name? It is because of God that you are in Christ Jesus. -

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 1:11-12

When someone says, "I belong to Paul," and someone else says, "I belong to Apollos," aren't you acting like people without the Spirit? After all, what is Apollos? What is Paul? They are servants who helped you to believe. Each one had a role given to them by the Lord. - 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 3:4-9

Paul's letters reminded early congregations that it was not institutional leadership that made the church a home or made a congregation a body; it is the faith and fellowship of the church members that creates the church. This message is just as important today. We have been blessed with amazing spiritual leaders who taught, nurtured us, and helped guide our congregation, but that leadership is not St. Mark's identity. As those wonderful leaders said, we know who we are *and* who's we are: We belong to God. St. Mark's will continue to gather together and grow for the glory of God because of the faith and fellowship our beloved members.

Paul sent letters to early Christians who were feeling isolated in troubling times, encouraging them to care for one another and have trust in God's grace. He called for fearless discipleship during those trials, and expected that discipleship to spill over into all areas of believers' lives. His letters asked that people be inclusive, joyful and quick to forgive. Lastly, Paul charged the early church members to recognize those gifts they have received from God and to share selflessly.

St. Mark's is a church that Paul would recognize and will remain a church Paul would recognize. I ask you all to keep our faith and fellowship in your hearts while you discern your pledge offering for the coming year.

With love and a joyful heart,

Libby James

**1 For those of you, like me, who need a refresher on Paul, here is a helpful link to Britannica.**  
**<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Saint-Paul-the-Apostle/Mission>**

**STEWARDSHIP PACKETS ARE HERE!**

**All members should have received their 2021 Stewardship Packets in the mail last week.**

**If you have not received your packet please notify the church office.**

**Pledge cards can be returned to the church by mail, on Sunday mornings or**

**online pledge cards can be completed through the link below.**

**<https://stmarksepiscopal.breezechms.com/form/b8503b27>**

O C T O B E R 2 0 2 0



VESTRY WOULD LIKE YOUR INPUT AS WE  
PREPARE TO SEARCH  
FOR A NEW RECTOR  
Now is the time for your voice to be heard.

### St. Mark's Rector Search Survey

Your voice is important as we refine the search for our next Rector.  
This survey is one method of hearing and understanding the congregation's  
needs and desires.

The Vestry wants your input as we discern God's will for St. Mark's in the calling  
of our next Rector.

Every member is invited to respond at the link below

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdinZ7eTDeiqlnku3meZcf9Y7jJNfh1bbEBm3gMq4NdIvpIMQ/viewform>

We need your input no later than October 16.

We also welcome spontaneous insights, so please share your prayers, aspirations,  
anxieties or questions by e-mail to, [vestry@stmarksnc.org](mailto:vestry@stmarksnc.org). or by letter to  
8600 Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road, Huntersville, NC 28078.

O C T O B E R 2 0 2 0

*Worship offerings are listed below.*

*New in person options coming soon.*



## **Sunday Worship Services**

**New in person offerings coming soon.**

**Additional information to follow.**

**For now we continue at 9:30 am**

**via Facebook Live**

**<https://www.facebook.com/stmarksepiscopalncr> watch at a later time by accessing the video on our facebook page.**

## **Join us for In Person Worship**

**(new in person offerings coming soon)**

**For now, join us at 10:45am for outdoor worship.**

**See details and Sign up at the link below**

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054ca4a7238-worship>**

**Service orders are being sent via E-blast each Thursday afternoon**

## **Morning Prayer**

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday**

**8:30am**

**Join via zoom link below  
(passcode 654321)**

**<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7047478893?pwd=UUpYb3QrK01oTzU4MSsyZ0NXajl0QT09>**

**You can access the service order with the link below**

**<https://conta.cc/2vRUtpl>**

**FACEBOOK FRIDAYS with JORDANA**

**Look for Jordana's Friday Reflections during the day.**





## **Blessing of the Animals Drive through Edition**

**Join us on Sunday October 4th  
from 4-5pm  
For a drive through animal blessing.**

**Bring your feathered, furry and scaly friends  
up the hill to St. Mark's for a blessing.**

**You and your pet will stay safely in your car. Roll down your window and from a safe distance,  
Father Jim will offer a blessing and pet-loving goodies."**

## **Christian Formation**

### **FOR ALL**

While we will still have Christian Formation it will begin a few weeks later.

More info on how we will gather to come.

For now:



### **Children's & Youth Christian Formation**

Until we can gather again for formation the Youth and Children are invited to create outings.

The youth have already met outside at member's houses. Other opportunities are being created and discussed among the youth. If you have an idea that you would like to organize please let us know so we can help you communicate.

Parents of the children's program are invited to do the same. If you have questions about how to facilitate this or make it happen please contact Sarah Milholland @ [sarahmilholland@stmarksnc.org](mailto:sarahmilholland@stmarksnc.org)

### **As for Adult Formation.**

We are working on some offerings and ways to offering them.

We ask for everyone's patience as we work out the details of what we can offer and how.

St. Mark's Family,



I hope this letter finds you well on this day in God's Kingdom. Please know that you are being deeply prayed for each and every day.

For more than 10 years, St. Mark's has shaped me into the minister and person I am today. St. Mark's gave me a chance when no one else would. I was hired as a part-time youth minister, out of seminary with very little experience, and look at the journey we have shared. I quickly grew to love the Episcopal Church, and especially you, the community of St. Mark's.

When I started 10 years ago, I couldn't have imagined this journey would bring me to where I find myself today, a transitional deacon to be ordained a priest in December. Look how far we have come together! We have laughed many laughs together. We have also cried together. We have traveled the world together, all the while following God's guidance in discerning what I believe to be one of the most important aspects of our Christian faith journey; how to know Christ and make Him known to all those we encounter. From trips to Costa Rica, long hot days at Episcopal Outreach Camps, and many great Sunday morning conversations, we have grown together to more deeply love God, embrace beauty, and live life to the fullest.

It is in continuing this call to love God, to know Christ, and make him known that I announce to you today I have accepted a call to become the next Associate Rector at St. Francis, Greensboro. My last day with my St Mark's family will be Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.

I am very certain I leave you all in good hands and with deeply prayerful folks. Your vestry has been and will continue to do good work in guiding St. Mark's as a leader in its calling to love God and one another in the community and the diocese. I look forward to seeing what is in store for my St. Mark's family and all who will be blessed by you all following in Jesus' teachings.

May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, & Holy Spirit be with you all now and forever.

The Rev. Matt Addington



## **HOT DOG SATURDAY FAREWELL GATHERING FOR THE REV. MATT ADDINGTON AND HIS FAMILY**

**Please join us on Saturday October 10th from 5pm - 7pm  
on St. Mark's Grounds**

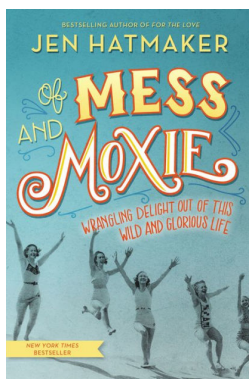
**While this is a parish wide gathering we would love to see as many youth past and present and we  
take an opportunity to wish Matt well on his new journey.**

**Bring a chair and a beverage of your choice.**

**Grab a hot dog, space yourselves a part and join us in sending the Addingtons on their way.**

**Please RSVP on the sign up genius so we know how to prepare  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054ca4a7238-hotdog>**

**If you have questions or want to help please contact Sarah Milholland [sarahmilholland@stmarksnc.org](mailto:sarahmilholland@stmarksnc.org)**



## St. Mark's Weekly Book Study

### Of Mess and Moxie

The book club will meet at 7pm Wednesday evenings through

October 14th at the home of Mandy Self-Sparrow and/or by zoom.

Contact Mandy Self with any questions.

The zoom link can be found here

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7047478893#success>

Don't worry if you missed the first meeting or two we would still love to have you.



## Gatherings During Covid

Many of us have been missing each other during this pandemic.

Some of us have been trying to find safe ways to connect with each other in person on our own time.

We invite our members to continue to find safe ways to connect that follow the Governor's guidelines.

If you have a creative idea that you would like to coordinate, is inclusive and meets the Governor's guidelines with social distancing (masks indoors or no masks outdoors with 6 feet of separation) the church office would be happy to help you communicate your offering to those in our committee.

Please send your plan to [sarahmillholland@stmark-snc.org](mailto:sarahmillholland@stmark-snc.org) so that we can help you communicate your socially distanced connections.



## SAVE THE DATE PIE SALE THIS NOVEMBER

Our brand new Flyin' Lion Transition to Work Ministry will be hosting a pie sale fundraiser as we get closer to the holidays.

Pre orders will be necessary.

More information about types of pies, pricing and how to order coming soon.





SAVE THE DATE  
Annual La Escuelita Dinner and Silent Auction  
Are Still Happening.

Mark your calendars for November 14th  
There will be a drive through diner and virtual auction  
More details to follow





O C T O B E R 2 0 2 0



THANKS TO ALL WHO CAME TO OUR  
RAISE THE ROOF DRIVE BY

While you are making your regular pledges  
please also remember your New Building Pledges.

The building is moving along at a fast pace. We need to make sure we are keep-  
ing up with our building pledges at the same time.

Please remember that:

You can give online at

<https://stmarksepiscopal.breezechms.com/give>

or

by sending checks in the mail or dropping them by the church office

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
8600 Mt. Holly Huntersville Rd.  
Huntersville, NC 28078



### **Birthdays**

Nathan Kendrick - 10/1  
Chaytor Chandler - 10/2  
Scott McWhorter - 10/4  
George Tatlow - 10/9  
Kali Michel – 10/10  
Lauren Savage – 10/12  
Tracy Tinsley - 10/12  
Annemarie Lafreniere - 10/13  
Myra Southwell – 10/16  
Rev. Cathie Caimano – 10/17  
Michael Thompson - 10/17  
Eleanor Walseman – 10/17  
Candice Sullivan – 10/18  
Roger Benskin - 10/19  
Kathy Reade – 10/21  
Dawn Michael - 10/22  
Penny Brett – 10/24  
Shannon Hunt – 10/25  
Amelia James - 10/26  
Korinna Mooney – 10/28  
Tyler Haas – 10/29  
Philip Lloyd - 10/29  
Doreen Mondlak - 10/29

### **Anniversaries**

John & Sarah Milholland - 10/4  
John & Myra Southwell – 10/4  
Eric & Lauren Savage – 10/5  
Scott & Jill Weaver – 10/5  
Scott & Jackie McWhorter - 10/10  
Ian & Liesel Doolittle – 10/22  
Sara Tinsley & Zach DeBoer – 10/23  
Vin & Sadie Perrotta - 10/28

### **Prayers for continued healing:**

Willard & Barb Osburn  
Saunders Black  
Martha Ann Springer  
Elena Michel and her family  
Richard & Mary Beth Masline  
Bob Chandler  
Jim & Patricia Woolley  
Joe Brown

### **Panera Bread Pick-Up**

**Andrew & Libby James – 10/2**  
**Alan & Lesli Kathman – 10/9**  
**Scott Hundertmark – 10/16**  
**Brent & Amy Sparks – 10/23**  
**Mark & Lacy Hamilton – 10/30**





## WINE



**Women in Need of Entertainment  
Monday October 19th @ 6:30pm  
at your own home via Zoom  
Link below.**



<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7047478893?pwd=UUpYb3QrK01oTzU4MSsyZ0NXajl0QT09>

**We will be having an online baby shower for  
Myra Southwell**

**Baby Boy Southwell is due November 25th  
They are registered at Babylist and Amazon  
<https://www.babylist.com/myra-southwell>**

**Gift cards or cash can also be dropped off at the church no later than October 16th  
to the attention of Tracy Tinsley who will collect and deliver to Myra**

**Please contact Allison Rhinehardt  
[allibrett@gmail.com](mailto:allibrett@gmail.com) with any questions**



## **"Thirstday" Thursday**

**Join the men of the church for  
an in person testosterone friendly answer to WINE**

**Thursday October 8th at 6:30 pm**

**We will meet in person at**

**Parry's Pizzeria at Northlake**

**We will meet outside**

**No RSVP required. For questions call  
David Fahey 704-562-7587.**

**Give it a try.**

## 2020 Stewardship Update

	2020 Budget	August YTD Actual
<b>Current Pledged Income</b>	<b>\$340,520</b>	<b>\$252,305</b>
<b>All other anticipated income</b>		
<b>Non-Pledge Offerings</b>	<b>\$22,000</b>	<b>\$13,278</b>
<b>Other Income (use of space by outside groups)</b>	<b>\$13,000</b>	<b>\$11,605</b>
Sales Tax Refunds		\$2,100
Daisy Shipp McCoy Foundation Trust Income	\$34,320	\$21,722
<b>Total Budgeted Operating Income</b>	<b>\$411,940</b>	<b>\$298,910</b>
<b>2020 Budgeted Expenses Approved by Vestry</b>		
Staff	\$272,235	\$171,492
Diocesan Support	\$42,605	\$28,403
Campus Maintenance & Utilities	\$49,780	\$26,875
Office Administration & Other	\$28,698	\$17,923
Youth & Christian Formation	\$10,190	\$6,170
Outreach & Escuelita Support	\$14,000	\$3,584
Parish Life, Pastoral Care, Stewardship & Parish Retreat	\$7,100	\$249
Worship & Music	2,765	\$3,050
<b>%4 pledges unfulfilled based on historical average</b>	<b>\$13,621</b>	
<b>Total 2020 Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>\$440,994</b>	<b>\$257,746</b>
<b>Current Excess/(Deficit) of receipts over disbursements (29,054)</b>		<b>\$41,164</b>

**2020 Pledge update 94 families for a total of \$340,520.00**

**YTD Pledge fulfillment 65%**