

June 25, 2021

St. Marks Episcopal Church
Called into community to do God's work.

BETWEEN THE LIONS

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Vestry Leadership Board

- Amy Van Dell - Co-Warden
- Melissa Read - Co-Warden
- Russ Montal - Treasurer
- Cheryl Dunnington - Clerk
- Eric Bridgham
- Tracey DeLeskey
- Tina Shinnick
- Christine Smith
- Rebekah Zabinski

Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
11:00 am to 2:00 pm

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Contact us at office@stmarksfx.org

Pastoral Care: If you or anyone you know is in need of help please call or email Father Ed at priest@stmarksfx.org or 508 261 4066 or Pat Dent at pjdent@verizon.net or 508 404 6550.

You will indeed go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

- Isaiah 55:12

Word from the weather forecasters is that this is one of the hottest Junes ever--and that caught me a bit by surprise, because judging by our lawn and garden, I don't recall ever having a more green and lush June. The lawn is a rug of emerald green and the plants are blooming in full. Usually with hot weather, everything seems to shrivel up and turn brown.

I tend to notice the heat because I am not a big fan of it! So what happened this year that my attention skipped the heat and focused more on the beauty unfolding out my window? One possible answer is I've tried to make an effort to stop being cooped up indoors and to spend more time outside. It is a simple change, but it has really made a difference for me. It's also been really nice celebrating Sunday Service outside with you all.

A couple of questions for you, as we turn into summer and escape the malaise of being cooped up with COVID--are you noticing anything different? Are you having new experiences? What are the ways you connect to God through the shifts in light, weather and nature? How can this be a source of healing and comfort for you?

Peace,
Fr. Ed



We're so happy to welcome everyone back to St. Mark's and celebrate our recent graduates! The weather has been very cooperative, but with the increasing temperatures, we remind you to be mindful of the weather and bring sunscreen, hats, and water and perhaps an umbrella to shade from the sun.

Thank you to everyone who has made the service possible, both behind the scenes and those attending. We will continue to live stream our services on Facebook Live, so even if you are unable to join us in person, we look forward to you joining us online!

Ministry Spotlight

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee provides local, regional, and global outreach and encourages members of the parish to participate in these activities. We work with the Foxboro Food Pantry, Hockomock YMCA, the Foxboro Discretionary Fund, and Episcopal Relief & Development as well as other community organizations. We encourage parishioners to contribute food and household items which are presented at the altar and delivered to the Foxboro Food Pantry and the Hockomock YMCA.

St. Mark's also participates with our deanery partners in One Family, a monthly program for needy families in the area. Twice annually, St. Mark's sponsors a breakfast providing food for our guests and we also committed to supply laundry detergent throughout the year. Youth members from St. Mark's, including the current confirmation class, have participated in this activity. In the past, St. Mark's members have provided support for the morning's entertainment.

Other outreach efforts include Annual Back to School Backpack and Supply donations (see announcement below), Annual Christmas Giving Tree, Holiday Luncheon at Normandy Farms, and contributions to disaster relief through the Episcopal Relief and Development.

The Outreach Ministry has been busy during the pandemic distributing the tremendous amount of food items donated during this difficult time. A portion went to the Attleboro regional YMCA, to the hard-hit communities of Chelsea and Everett as well as local families in need. These donations also continue to stock St. Mark's 24/7 Food Pantry. We have recently begun delivering our donations again to the Foxboro Discretionary Fund as their Covid protocols have eased.

Your donations have helped enormously! We are very grateful to everyone who has contributed. Food insecurity continues to be a growing concern in our area, so we hope you will continue to help provide for our neighbors in need by bringing at least one non-perishable food item when you attend services-or as you are just passing by St. Mark's! A weekly donation suggestion is included in the Sunday Bulletin if you are wanting an idea for a contribution. Again, Outreach is deeply thankful for your support of this essential mission!

Outreach is a principal ministry of our church. We continue to seek ways to expand our support of those people in need in our community. The Outreach team welcomes collaboration with other community agencies to expand our ministry. We encourage your ideas and can contact Hayden Hawthorne (hhawth@aol.com) if you would like to join our team.

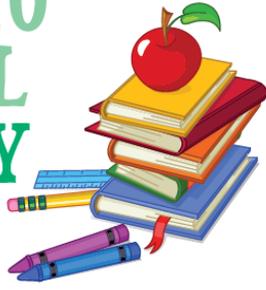


Ladies Group

We are ready to start regrouping and looking forward to catching up with everyone! I will send an email for next steps. If you would like to be added to the email list and join us, please email Sandy Esmond at sjesmond@comcast.net with your contact information. I am ready for a Bunko get together but will need a reminder of rules after all these months! Hope everyone's summer is going well.

Fondly, Sandy Esmond

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



Backpack and School Supply Donations Needed!

After a break last year because of COVID-19, the Foxboro Discretionary Fund is resuming their Fresh Start Program, an annual summer collection of backpacks and school supplies for Foxboro students in need. The items collected will be distributed in mid to late August.

The items most needed are:

- **New, full size backpacks**
- **Ear buds (wired, not wireless)**
- **3 hole punched folders**
- **binders (any size)**
- **Highlighters**

Many stores begin their Back to School sales soon, so keep an eye out for an opportunity to take advantage of discounts on these items. We have placed a large red and black waterproof box near the front door of the church for collection of your donations. Please contribute to this annual appeal as generously as you can!

Many thanks!



Shop Amazon and Help St. Mark's

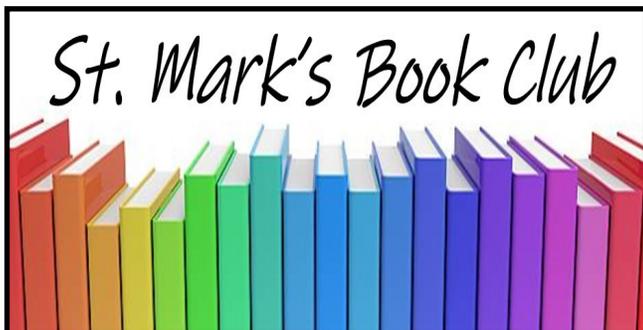
Every time you shop on Amazon, you could be making a donation to St. Mark's! In the first quarter of 2021, these donations added up to over \$80. With your help, we can continue to grow this source of revenue and raise \$500 this year to help support our programs and ministries!

To sign up, please use this link after you log on to Amazon: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2623515> or scan the QR code with your phone.



Your purchases will support St Mark's with .5 cents (1/2 a penny) for every dollar spent - it definitely adds up! This program is year-round so we can earn money throughout the year.

Happy shopping and thank you!!



Our next selection is *The Lost Girls of Paris* and our gathering will be held on July 17 at Deb Burke's house in Dartmouth MA – near the beach- on a Saturday. When we get closer to the date, you can RSVP and indicate if you are a driver or rider (for carpooling).

Please email Katherine at kwharton9@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the Book Club email list and for more info and questions.

Hope to see you there!

Between the Lions is a bi-weekly newsletter of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Foxboro. If you would like to submit an announcement or information, please email office@stmarksfx.org. Deadline for submission is the Tuesday before the Friday distribution.