



# THE WAY

The Newsletter of  
St. Mark the Evangelist  
Episcopal Church  
1612 W. Genesee St.  
Syracuse, NY 13204  
315-488-8511  
[www.stmarkssyracuse.com](http://www.stmarkssyracuse.com)

## September 2023



Parishioners from St. Luke Episcopal Church in Camillus once again joined St. Mark's women of Circle V for its monthly lunch meeting and stayed to help fill up bags of personal items for our neighbors in need. *If you want to help by donating personal items, please visit [www.stmarkssyracuse.com](http://www.stmarkssyracuse.com) for a listed of what is needed.*

# A Word ...

It's September and you know what that means, the official beginning of pumpkin spice season, formerly known as the season of Autumn. Besides anticipating all things pumpkin flavored, I noticed the other day that the stores were beginning to put out their Halloween wares, and surely by month's end we'll be seeing Christmas decorations.

Our consumer-focused culture is always ready to point us towards the next round of stuff to buy. As Christians though, Christ challenges us to think about the ways that we participate in the culture around us. In fact, that's what this long season of the church year between Pentecost and

Advent is all about; discerning how we are called to follow Jesus today. Figuring out how the church can be Christ's body, his hands, his heart, his feet, and his lips to a world sorely in need of love, grace, and mercy.

Our gospel readings this month revolve around issues of forgiveness, inclusion, and Jesus' call to be a counterweight to a culture of exploitation and complicity. We are meant to see the glory of creation, to understand it's goodness, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. While we are meant to accept people as their true selves, the Christian journey is also about personal transformation and the effort to emulate Christ in our own lives. There is a distinction to be made between seeing the world as a blessing and blindly blessing all the choices the wider world offers.

So, as we enter into this fall season - err... I mean pumpkin spice season, take time to revel in all the joys that fall offers and to seek the face of God in others and let us be thoughtful about the ways we engage with and participate in our wider culture so that our choices align with the glory of God's will for us and for all humanity.



Peace,  
*Jon*

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## Bible Study Returns

Fr Jon will resume his Monday night Zoom Bible Study on September 18, 6-7pm.

We will begin this year's study with the Book of Revelation.

Each week we read a chapter (or two if they're short) and explore the themes, look at the historical context, uncover the connections to other scriptural books, and try to discern what the Spirit might be saying through the Scripture.

If you'd like to go deeper into the scriptures, please join us. There will be link to join the Bible study in each week's email announcements.



# NEWS FROM



# THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF CENTRAL NEW YORK

## DIOCESAN REVIVAL

Make plans to join with people from across Central New York in Syracuse on December 1 and 2 for our Diocesan Revival. The diocese is hoping that the Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry is expected to be here but details and plans will be forthcoming. You won't want to miss it so mark your calendars now!

## FALL MINISTRY GRANT CYCLE

Have an idea to begin or grow a ministry? The diocesan board offers small grants to help with parish ministries that further the goals of the whole diocese. Applications for the Fall cycle of Diocesan Ministry Grants are due Friday, September 29, 2023. Grants need to be approved by the Rector and Vestry, so if you have an idea, please see Fr Jon as soon as possible to get started. Check out the diocesan website at [cnyepiscopal.org](http://cnyepiscopal.org) for more details.

Ministry grants are awarded in the following categories:

- ▶ Ministry in Congregations
- ▶ Raising up Lay Leaders and Clergy
- ▶ Increasing Connections between Congregations and Empowering Interfaith Ministry
- ▶ Addressing Racial Justice & Reconciliation
- ▶ Creation Care
- ▶ Creating a Welcoming, Nurturing Environment for New Americans

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARK...

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### Porter Elementary need

Shopping for school clothes for kids or grandchildren? Would you pick up a package of socks or underwear for children at Porter School? The nurse and social worker will distribute them as the need arises.

Sizes needed are for both boys and girls ages 5 thru 9.

Packages may be left on side cupboard in the parish hall.



### Return to Sanctuary

Our last service in the Undercroft will be Sept 3rd and we will resume worship upstairs in the Sanctuary the following Sunday, Sept 10. If you can help bring up books, etc. after the service on Sept. 3, it would be appreciated.

# Summer 2023 sees record Food \$en\$e numbers

While July saw a record 85 orders, the August Food \$en\$e delivery set another record for us...94 units. Fortunately, despite the appearance of chaos, we were able to unload, fill the 94 boxes (thanks, Shadybook Liquors), and get them to the families who had ordered. This was the first month of being able to order on-line using a credit card on the Food Bank of CNY's website ([foodsense.foodbankcny.org](https://foodsense.foodbankcny.org)) and it is becoming a popular option for folks as they do not need to come in to pay ahead.

We will continue have the customary in-person ordering for those who wish to use cash or an EBT card. We were again able to provide each individual with a bag of Pepperidge Farm bread. (Note: This is not a part of the Food Bank's Food \$en\$e program.)

We have also promoted Food \$en\$e at two school events – the Bellevue Elementary School Back to School Carnival on Saturday, August 26th, and one at Solvay High School, Thursday, August 31st.



Photos courtesy of Christina Root, Access CNY, and Parishioner Nancy Morrison.



# Cleaned and polished...



In July, our Parish Hall floor received some much-needed TLC and rejuvenating. Spearheaded by Fr. Jon and Gary Neddo, the project involved an intense week of stripping, cleaning and polishing — and as you can see their efforts were rewarded with glistening tiles and a fresh look. Afterwards, the hall was reconfigured and organized to provide comfort and better flow.

Also a major part of the revitalization efforts were Bill Zimmer and Michael Honsinger. Thank you so much, gentlemen, for a job well done and very much appreciated!





*"Remember: Life is a rhythm between day and night, summer and winter. It is a continuous rhythm. Never stop anywhere."*

*~ Rajneesh*

The Vestry is also working in a continuous rhythm. We are honored to continue working to provide what we hope is the best for the parish.

Here are some notes from our August 21, 2023, meeting.

- ▶ Pat Dunn and Nancy Tucker are working to set up a committee for the annual internal audit, which is more extensive this year.
- ▶ Jim Miller provided many updates: he's visited Phil Buffham who continues to make slow progress, the street work needs to be completed before Allied Signs will place directional signs, online ordering of Food \$en\$e has increased the number of orders, and Barry Guinn and Jim have been battling ground bees on the property.
- ▶ Phyllis Honsinger reported that there were not enough Pride T-shirts sold to generate a profit. There are shirts available for purchase.
- ▶ The Craft Fair will be held Saturday, September 30. Crafters are still needed. Help will be needed Friday night to set up. We are also seeking donations for a bake sale and White Elephant Table. See Gail Manolescu.
- ▶ In September, we will return to presenting the elements. We will also be trying some chanting, starting with one of the Canticles.
- ▶ The St. Mark/St. Luke's picnic will be held on Sunday, August 27th. There will be one service at St Luke's at 10am.
- ▶ The third discernment meeting will be September 10th. During this session, different financial scenarios will be given to the groups. It is hoped that this will help the Vestry make decisions about the parish's future.
- ▶ Fr. Jon and Jackie Eberline have met with the Food Bank about the possibility of a partnership.
- ▶ Volunteers are still needed to help with the maintenance and cleaning of the parish. A sign-up sheet is available if you can help.
- ▶ A more defined evaluation process will be designed to assist with the future formulation of ministries.
- ▶ Kevin Ward continues to work on events for providing books to children either with a reading-to-dogs event or a book fair.
- ▶ A discussion was held regarding the collecting of funds for the Episcopal churches in Maui. The Episcopal Relief and Development will be used to extend our donations to Maui.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please feel free to see any Vestry member or Warden.

***Faithfully Submitted,  
St. Mark the Evangelist Vestry***



# september

## Happy Birthday

4 Joan Green  
 4 Victoria Austin  
 6 Anna Amaya  
 19 Carol Greis  
 26 Tate Lallier

## Happy Anniversary

29 Julie and Pat Dunn

If you would like to be added to the birthday and or anniversary listing, please contact Deb in the office.

## From the Treasurer...

Budget Report for January 1 thru August 29, 2023

	Budget for Year	Actual	Difference
<b>Income</b>	\$115,450.00	\$82,538.85	-32,911.15
<b>Expenses</b>	\$178,316.89	\$103,630.09	-\$74,686.80
<b>Deficit</b>	-\$62,866.89	-\$21,091.24	\$41,775.65
<b>Pledges</b>	\$53,000.00	\$32,176.00	-\$20,824.00
<b>Clothes Closet/FP</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expense</b>	<b>Difference</b>
	\$ 1,429.00	\$ 436.96	\$ 992.04
Balance of Account	\$ 1,735.35		

**Note: Food Pantry bank account has been opened and the balance remainder will be moved to that bank account. For 2024 there will be an income/expense line based on 2023.**

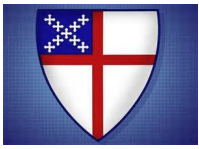
**Submitted by: Pat Dunn**



## Happening at St Luke's

### Weekly Eucharist

Every week St Luke's has Eucharist on Thursday mornings at 10am. Each week we commemorate one of the Holy Women and Men from the Episcopal Church's calendar of saints. If you aren't able to come on Sunday or would just like another opportunity for communion each week, come and join us.



# St Mark the Evangelist Episcopal Church

1612 W. Genesee Street Syracuse, NY 13204

TO:

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Save the Date for  
St. Mark's



Saturday **SEPT. 30** 9 AM to 3 PM

Interested Crafters Please Contact  
GAIL @ 315-450 4438 by Sept. 9

ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST  
CHURCH  
1612 W. Genesee St.  
Syracuse, NY 13204  
(Next to the Brooklyn Pickle)

Crafters ♦ Food ♦ Bake Sale ♦ White Elephant Sale ♦ and MORE!

We hope you have a  
blessed and relaxing



**LABOR DAY**

**Sundays**  
11 am—Holy Eucharist  
In-person and by Livestream  
*All are Welcome!*

**Office Hours**  
Tuesday & Friday:  
8 am to 2 pm  
Thursday:  
12:30-3pm

Mission Statement: The Church of St. Mark the Evangelist is a community of faith sharing the love of Jesus Christ with one another and the world.