Our Core Values

Relying on the grace of God, we the people of Saint Mark seek to be a community where spirit and service come together.

With faith in God through Jesus Christ we honor these core values.

- **Commitment:** We offer ourselves, our time, our gifts and our resources to the service of God.
- Community: We are a caring family of faith, honoring the gifts of all people and celebrating our life together.
- Compassion: We care for all God's children, responding to those in pain and nurturing one another in love.
- Hospitality: We welcome everyone to share with us in the community of Christ.
- Mission: We listen and respond to the needs of the world, reaching out to serve others in our community and throughout the world.
- Spiritual Growth: We grow closer to God through the disciplines of prayer, study, service and worship.



SAINT MARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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The APNC is positively delighted to introduce Shelby Etheridge to the congregation. We believe that she is the person whom God is calling to our congregation to work as Associate Pastor with children, youth and families - and to serve alongside our Pastor to further strengthen the ministry of the congregation. Shelby recently completed her Masters of Divinity at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA. where she received the President's Award, the highest honor bestowed upon a graduate.

She came to Richmond from the Asheville area of Western North Carolina. Shelby grew up in Florida and earned a Bachelors of Science in Journalism at the University of Florida. Upon graduation she began an internship at Montreat Conference Center, spending a year working in the Center for Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

She has served as a small group leader and planning team member for the Montreat Youth Conferences, a support staffer for Montreat College Conference and the Blaze, a conference for youth leaders, and she has participated in other youth programs in the Presbytery of James (in Richmond, VA). Shelby is on the Montreat Youth Conference Planning team for 2014. She also served as an intern at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church in Richmond.

Shelby loves to run and swim, see live music, hike or do anything in the mountains, cook with friends and cheer on the Florida Gators in every sport (Shelby has agreed not to push this, particularly when the Gators are playing the Florida State Seminoles where Roy has multiple degrees). She mentions walking across a rope bridge 120 ft. off the ground in the canopy of a rainforest in Ghana being the scariest thing she's ever done. Shelby grew-up 2 miles from the ocean but now prefers mountain living.

While she has loved exploring Richmond: going to farmers markets, running all over the city, seeing concerts and eating all kinds of food, she is excited to explore the Washington, DC area a lot more! Shelby spent the summer of 2012 living on Capitol Hill while working as an intern chaplain at Sibley Memorial Hospital.

Her ministry interests include helping youth to grow in faithful discipleship, learning with people of all ages and life circumstances, and working with scripture to determine God's call for the future of the church. She is convinced of God's call on our lives to be good stewards of the earth and our resources. She loves exploring creative ways to worship God which help us discover different ways to be in relationship with God and with one another.

In Shelby's words:

"I believe I am gifted to serve the Church because I am gifted with a faith that grows in community. As Christians we are fed when we meet Christ at the Lord's Table, and we are also fed when we gather around simple meals at potlucks and in Bible studies, just as Jesus did with his disciples and Paul did with the people in the early church.

My dedication to discipleship begins within. It is in my commitment to my spiritual disciplines that I am filled with God's light, so that I can bring that light out to world. As I go out in my ministry, I seek to continue to feed neighbors, enemies and friends, acting on my spiritual disciplines, which lead me to discipleship.

I am very excited to learn, laugh, grow and serve with the members of Saint Mark Presbyterian Church."

We are delighted to welcome her to Saint Mark and look forward to our ministry together.

