

One Service: Summer Schedule

ONE SERVICE @
10:00



JUNE 12

CHURCH
PICNIC
FOLLOWING
WORSHIP

bring a dish to
share!

SAINT MARK



Saying Grace from Pastor Roy

I've been thinking a lot about hope; real hope that contains both the cringe and smile. And right now hope seems under threat everywhere. In the face of increased violence and other concerns, fears are spreading like a contagion for which there is not antidote.

The good news is: there is an antidote. It's called hope. Saint Paul speaks of Christian hope in the fifth chapter of his letter to fledgling congregation in Rome. It all begins with the experience of being accepted by God; what Paul calls *justified*. Acceptance means that God is always for you and

never against you. This acceptance is based only on God's love for you. It means that whatever suffering you endure, God remains on your side. What sustains us in suffering through endurance to character and eventually hope is a personal conviction that God has accepted us in Jesus Christ and even more poured into our hearts love. Not just any sentimental love, but the very love of God which is undaunted by the fierce assaults of this world. Christian hope that is sustained by God's love in our hearts is what enables us to see a future that beyond the wickedness of the present.

Christian hope is rooted in faith that God's promise of a new life is real. Such hope keeps us yearning (and working) for what is not present but still to come. As Saint Paul puts "therefore we do not lose hope because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." This love keeps us alert and active, always seeking in common life what is pleasing in God's sight.

What's Happening: June & July

June 5- Honoring graduates and teachers, 10:00 worship
Holocaust museum visit with Beth-El, 2:00 pm

One Room Church school begins

June 5 is Food First Sunday. Last month we collected 64 pounds of food, let's double it this month!

June 12- Worship @ 10:00 am, Church picnic to follow

June 19, 26- Worship @ 10:00 am

June 19-25- Appalachia Service Project high school mission trip. Participants will lead worship on June 26.

June 27- July 1- Vacation Bible School

July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31- Worship @ 10:00 am

*In the summer time we have an informal coffee hour called "Lemonade on the Lawn." Click [here](#) to sign up!

Summer choir

If you'd like to sing in the choir, but can't commit to weekly rehearsals, then perhaps you'll consider summer choir. We only meet briefly before the 10am service each Sunday to rehearse for that service. We won't sing an anthem, but rather, help teach new hymns, or add harmony, or simply provide strong leadership for the congregation.

Confirmation Sunday: May 15

We celebrated the festival of Pentecost on May 15 and confirmed four new members into the church. After a semester of study and prayer, George Casper, Olivia Kaufmann, Noah Lee and Matthew Manik all joined the church by affirmation of faith. You can read their statements of faith that they wrote [here](#) our website.

Pentecost + Confirmation Sunday May 15, 2016



Wear Orange for Gun Violence Awareness

June 2 is National Gun Violence Awareness Day. The color orange symbolizes the value of human life. Hunters wear orange in the woods to protect themselves and others. In 2013, teens on the South Side of Chicago asked classmates to honor their murdered friend by wearing orange. That simple call to action has grown into a national movement - and orange is becoming the symbol of gun safety. Find out more at <http://wearorange.org>.

Summer @ SMPC

Just because it's the summer time doesn't mean there isn't a lot going on at SMPC!

Here are some ways to get involved:

Come to the picnic.

Teach a one room church school class.

Volunteer for a day at VBS.

Get some church members together for a Nats game.

Host lemonade on the lawn.



Congratulations, graduates!

On June 5 we will honor Saint Mark-ers who are graduating in the class of 2016!

High School Graduates

Darien O'Brien, granddaughter of Steve and Kathy O'Brien
Henry W. Grady High School
Atlanta, GA

Max Piff

Walter Johnson High School

Paige Shoemaker

Blake High School

College and beyond...

Michelle Caskey, daughter of Barbara and Jim Caskey
University of South Carolina School of Medicine - Greenville

Church Picnic!

Mark your calendars for the Annual Saint Mark Church Picnic which will take place on Sunday, June 12 immediately following the 10am worship service. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and food to share and come enjoy fellowship and kick off the summer with your Saint Mark family. We hope to see everyone there!

One Room Church School starts June 5

One Room Church School is returning for another summer. Starting June 5th, our younger worshippers (ages 4 to 3rd grade) can gather together in a Sunday School room downstairs for their own special lesson during the sermon. We are in need of volunteers to teach a simple lesson once or twice this summer, with very little preparation needed. If you are interested in helping, please sign up at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0E4BAAAE22A02-onerom> Feel free to contact Stephanie Lai with any questions (laifamily2002@gmail.com or [301-204-1581](tel:301-204-1581)).

Thank you, Chancel Choir!

The following members of the Chancel Choir this past year have lead the congregation and provided beautiful anthems each

Sunday morning, as well as attended weekly rehearsals. As we begin our summer hiatus, we thank them for their dedication: Alison Bennett, Angeline Butler, June Colilla, Wira Dwijati *, Audrey Frieberg *, Pat George Houser, Kay Haynes, Lee Hinkle *, Karl Kaufmann, Rachel Kaufmann, Wanda Koch, Mike Lutz, Bill Merritt, Mary Jo Mountain, Margaret Schweitzer, Carl Shea, Jessica Sillers, Pat Simmons, Marybeth Verchot *, Kathy Whitelaw, Bryan Whitney

* section leader

Vacation Bible School- we still have room! Invite your friends!

We still have space available on our Vacation Bible School roster for 2016! Do you have a neighbor, family member or friend who would love to join us for a week of singing, playing and studying God's word? Share this link with them! <http://2016.cokesburyvbs.com/SaintMark2016>

VBS is June 27-July 1, from 9:00-12:00, Monday-Friday. It is appropriate for children 4 years old through 5th grade. Older children are welcome to come and volunteer!

Finance Ministry Team Update

Through April 30th, we have received \$184,171 (or 33%) of the amounts pledged for 2016. That is on target with the straight line monthly plan. Please continue to fulfill your 2016 pledges. The Finance Ministry Team would also like to remind members of our request to help offset the cost of the per capita payment we make each year to National Capital Presbytery. The cost is \$37.50 per member. The Session appreciates your giving amount in addition to your regular pledge.

The Legacy II Fund

As we enter into the summer holidays, here is an update on our pledges to the Legacy Continues II campaign. \$574,216 has been pledged so far, and \$406,320 (71%) has been contributed as of May 24. The campaign runs through Spring 2017. Please keep your payments current over the summer. Thanks so much.

Saint Mark Prayers

- Emmett Barkley as he adjusts to his new home and experiences the challenges of dementia
- The family of Bryan Whitney: David Todd, Bryan's sister Leisa Todd, and their children.

Piano recitals

Come and hear talented, prize-winning students from Dr. Dmitri Nazarenko's Studio. If you missed the recent studio recital, there are 2 more opportunities: Thursday, June 2, 7 pm and Sunday, June 12, 4:30pm, both in our sanctuary.

The recital on June 12 will feature 3 students ages 13, 16 and 17 who will perform works by Bach, Beethoven, Haydn, Brahms, Liszt, Chopin, Rachmaninoff and others.