

**Two Services begin
Sept. 11
Worship:
9:30 & 11:00
Church School: 9:30**



SEPT 18
GUEST PREACHER ON
SYRIAN CRISIS



WORLD COMMUNION
SUNDAY
OCT 2

SAINT MARK



Saying Grace from Pastor Roy

For most of us September means the beginning of a new year. There is promise in the air as school starts, giving a fresh start to new possibilities. That promise is often accompanied by fears. The fear is normal; it's a signal that something new and important is taking place. I call the place where faith and fear meet a *sweet spot*. It is the often the place of deep learning and spiritual growth into maturity. This is true for all ages even if we experience it or talk about it differently. When Jesus calls the disciples, they experience this life faith and fear. Overcoming their fears, they follow him in faith, trusting his promise. This remains true for us, as we seek to follow Jesus faithfully in a world filled

with reasons for fear. September begins a new season of promise, but there will be many reasons to fall into fear rather than walk in faith. I hope you will find strength, faith and courage by participating in the life of Christ at Saint Mark. Join the bible study on Monday nights, come to worship and bring your children, participate in the serve with your friends. This is how our faith grows and with it our courage to follow Christ in a broken and fearful world.

Not going on the retreat? Come to church!

Worship will still happen on Sunday, Sept. 4.

Reverend Karen Chamis, Associate Presbytery for Mission of National Capital Presbytery, will be our guest preacher. Karen gives guidance to our congregations in missional engagement as well as re-development and new development. Ellie Hagner, John Hagner, and Angele Kokovi will preside with Karen during Holy Communion and Mike Lutz will be lay leader. The rest of the congregation will be on retreat at Meadowkirk. One Body, one Spirit in two places.

What's Happening: September & October

Sept 4- One service @ 10:00, ministry teams meet

Sept 11, 18, 25- Two Services

9:30 & 11:00 with Christian Education at 9:30

Sept 18- Dr. Mary Mikhael, guest preacher (at both services). Dr. Mikhael is the representative with National Evangelical Synod of Syria & Lebanon in meetings with the PC(USA)

Sept. 18-24- Shelter Week meals

Oct. 2- World Communion Sunday!

One service @ 9:30, ministry teams meet

Bring your donations for Manna Food Center

Oct 9, 16, 23, 30- Two services, 9:30 & 11:00. Christian Education at 9:30.

Adult Education, 9:30 on Sundays, Room 105

GROW together with your fellow Saint Mark members in what promises to be an excellent start to the year. The theme for adult education this fall is *Prayer & Listening to God*. September's sessions will focus on identifying God's work in our lives and listening for God's call.

September 11: What is Vocational Discernment and why should I care about it?

Appalachia Service Project June 19-25



Montreat Youth Conference
July 10-16



September 18: Listening for God's call in my life Part I
 September 25: Listening for God's call in my life Part II
 Rev. Jocelyn Cadwallader, a pastor in our presbytery and pal of Pastor Shelby's, will lead the class. J.C. is a graduate of McCormick Theological seminary (class of 2008, MDiv) and a minister member of the Nat Cap Presbytery. Most recently, she served as the interim associate at Western Presbyterian Church for the last three years - concluding her service there just last month.

Chancel Choir

Chancel Choir rehearsals will resume on Thursday, September 8, and **all are welcome**. We meet each Thursday evening for rehearsal from 7:30 to 9:00 PM. We also meet each Sunday morning at 10:30 AM in the choir room, to rehearse for the 11:00 AM service, except on Spirit & Service Sundays, when we sing at the 9:30 a.m service. This is a great time of the year to join the choir, as we start anew after the summer break. The current members enjoy this fun, rewarding time of praise and fellowship; perhaps this is the time for you to consider this vital ministry. Please contact Jeff Doenges if you have any questions.

Youth Group Schedule

- Sept. 11- Kick-off party at Cabin John Park
 - Sept. 18- Saint Mark Shelter Meals, make food and bag lunches
 - Sept. 25- Terrapin Adventure Park
 - Oct. 2- Volunteer @ A Wider Circle, Silver Spring, 12:00-3:00
 - Oct. 11-12- Camping Trip
 - Oct. 16- Youth Group Family Sabbath
 - Oct. 23- Serve with Interfaith Works
 - Oct. 30- Butler's Orchard Pumpkin Festival (corn maze, hay ride and much more)
- If you are in 6th-12th grade and want more information about the Saint Mark youth group, contact Tamra Hutton at huttonfamily@verizon.net.

Want to learn more about the Bible?

Do you want to learn more about the Bible and its relevance for your life? Do you have questions you would like to explore with others, along with a hope to grow closer to God? Join us at the table!
 The *Covenant Bible study* group begins on Monday night September 19 at Saint Mark from 7 - 8:30 PM. The classes will be led by the pastors.
 If you want to learn about the Bible , explore your questions with

others and grow in faith, **contact Pastor Roy Howard. No prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary.** All questions are allowed and everyone is invited.

The cost is \$25 for 24 weeks which covers all study materials including your participants guide. (Scholarships available upon request.)

Guest Preacher and Speaker: Dr. Mary Mikhael-September 18

Dr. Mikhael Saint Mark welcomes Dr. Mary Mikhael, a representative of the National Evangelical Synod of Syria & Lebanon, as a guest preacher on Sunday, September 18 at the 9:30 & 11:00 services. Join the congregation in fellowship immediately following the 11:00 service for a potluck and hear first-hand knowledge of the impact of the conflict on Syrians and how the church is responding. She is an eloquent speaker, preacher and advocate for peace and reconciliation.

Dr. Mikhael is the point person for her church’s response to internally displaced Syrians and Syrian refugees in Lebanon and is an important mission partner for PC(USA) in those countries. She is visiting the United States to meet with PC(USA).

Shelter Week

The Local Mission Ministry is organizing meals for the homeless women at the Wilkins Avenue Women’s Assessment Center. The homeless women residing in the Center have agreed to undertake rehabilitation tasks that will lead to stable, long-term housing.

The meals begin with dinner on Sunday, September 18 and conclude with lunch on Sunday, September 24. There are ample opportunities take part in this service activity by providing food items, helping hands, and money as indicated in the signup genius website.

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0E4BAAAE22A46-saint1

Dick Pavlin and Ray Mountain are ready to answer questions.

Want to help with worship? Join the A/V team!

The Audio-Visual team is looking for one or two people to join them. Following an agreed schedule, the main responsibility is to operate the AV desk during Sunday services, controlling the microphones and projector and recording the sermon. Previous experience with AV equipment is a bonus but definitely not required and training will be given. Adults or responsible students 16 years and over are invited to apply. Please speak to Joe Piff, Erik Laurila or Guy Roberts if you can help us. Thanks!

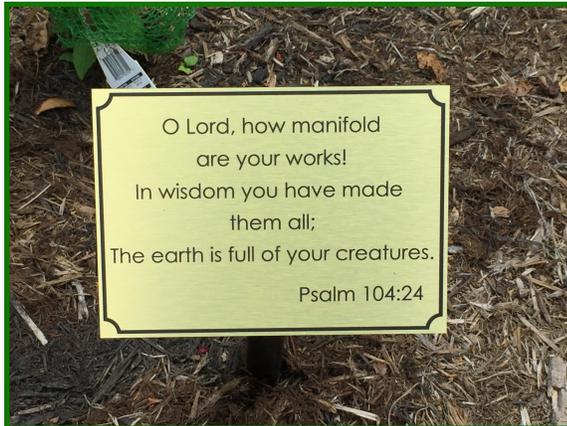
Broad Street Ministry

July 31-August 4



Booklovers- The Saint Mark book club

Saint Mark's book group meets once a month on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. Everyone is welcome. Join us at Saint Mark in the parlor! You can find the book list here: <http://www.saintmarkpresby.org/ministries/christian-education/library/book-lovers-discussion/>. September 12 will be **My Beloved World** by Sonya Sotomayor.



Butterfly Garden

We welcome a new plaque to the garden as we say a sad farewell to Carol Wood, who has played a key role in the creation, development, and care of Saint Mark's Butterfly Garden.

Carol is moving to Arizona to be near family.

Quill of the Clerk

At the Session Meeting August 16, Session approved motions as follows:

- Guest preacher the Rev. Karen Chamis, Associate Presbyterian of National Capital Presbytery to preach and serve Communion on September 4.
- Guest preacher Dr. Mary Mikhael on September 18.
- Service of Communion at the Congregational retreat September 4.
- A donation of \$10,000 to Interfaith Works Clothing Center in order to build a handicap access ramp. This comes from Saint Mark House funds.
- A contract to replace carpeting in the offices and parlor of the education building.
- Approval of an additional two weeks of continuing education leave in 2017 for Pastor Roy to minister along the Camino in Spain.
- A disbursement of \$500 for expenses associated with Pastor Roy's mission trip to Israel with Interfaith Partners for Peace in November.
- In addition, we heard an update from Dick Pavlin of the Stewardship Ministry team on electronic giving.
- Wilson Gunn presented an overture regarding changing language in the Book of Order for our consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Casper, Clerk

Saint Mark Prayers

Betsy Weingarten and family- Betsy's father, Murray, died in Howard Country Hospital after a very long illness.

Carol Wood- Carol moved to Arizona at the end of August. Please keep Carol in your prayers during this transition. We will miss you Carol!

Stewart Edwards & Diane Wirono- Stewart had to have emergency surgery on July 31.