Veni Emmanuel (O Come, O Come Emmanuel) is one of the most beloved Advent hymns, and conjures up images of history, expectation, and a future rooted in looking toward our salvation. Our Wonderful Wednesdays adult formation series will feature Dan Morton leading us through the history of the hymn, and the chronicle it tells and foreshadows.

If you stop and ponder this for a moment, even the charming images of the Christmas pageants embody these truths – as members of our own future tell the story of our past and look extremely charming while participating in sense of drama that is indeed the story of us all.

The pageant will take as usual on Christmas eve during the 5:00 service. Meanwhile, enjoy some joyful memories of pageants past taken by Nigel Bruce.
I have been thinking a lot about story telling lately. Specifically, I have been thinking about telling a story by telling a different story. By this I mean something along the lines of Aesop’s Fables. These short stories convey a specific, moral message by telling a completely different story in which some character(s) learn that message. I’ve been thinking about how to convey a longer, more complex story through telling another story that’s only slightly related to it.

Why have I been thinking about this? It seems to me that there are a lot of complex messages we need to hear but find ourselves too personally involved to do so. We end up becoming defensive of our self/worldview/loved ones/etc. instead of actually hearing the message. I say this not as a condemnation and not as pointing the finger at someone else. I am very much guilty of doing this as well. This is a pretty typical human reaction. We hear something that seems to go against some belief or idea we’ve already determined to be true, and we immediately want to defend ourselves from a perceived attack. This makes delivering difficult messages that much more difficult. These messages still need to be heard, though. So what is a messenger to do?

I take inspiration from the prophets. In particular, I turn to the prophet Nathan, who had to deliver a message to King David after the king had “displeased the LORD.” Instead of going to David and telling him that God is displeased because of this specific thing David had done, Nathan decided to tell David a story with no preamble. He simply shows up and starts talking. He tells a story about a rich man and a poor man, and how the rich man grossly mistreated the poor man. He doesn’t even get to the point of asking David how he feels about the story. David is so enraged at the actions of the rich man that he blurts out, “As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; 6 he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.” (2 Samuel 12:5b-6) Only then does Nathan reveal that David is the rich man.

There is such power in the telling of stories. They can evoke emotional responses like David’s and can help us gain understanding by taking ourselves out of the equation. While we cannot say for sure, it is entirely possible that David would have a very different reaction had Nathan come in and directly accused David. David may have even had Nathan put to death (similar to what he had done to Uriah the Hittite, which is what got him in this whole mess in the first place).

All of this to say that I hope that, when we find ourselves in the position of feeling the need to deliver a difficult message, we find ways to convey them in ways that can be heard. In ways that do not condemn or belittle one another. In ways that speak truth while still respecting one another. I also hope that we can learn to open our ears to hear the messages we do not want to hear or simply cannot hear right now. In all things, let us always live in a way that pleases the LORD.
As I write this, Thanksgiving is fast approaching, and the choirs are busy preparing for our annual Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 8, at 4 p.m. As many of you know, our service of Lessons and Carols is modeled on the annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at King’s College, Cambridge, held every year on Christmas Eve. A perennial holiday favorite, the King’s College service is broadcast live throughout the world, and for many it is an essential part of the Christmas observance. I encourage you to seek it out this year if you have never done so before. This year ought to be particularly interesting, for it is the first service of Lessons and Carols under the direction of their new Director of Music, Daniel Hyde, formerly of St. Thomas, Fifth Avenue, in New York City. Check it out if you can!

A Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols on December 8
The Saint Mark’s Choir and the Canterbury Choir will come together to lead our beloved Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 8, at 4 p.m. An annual parish favorite, the service of Lessons and Carols alternates Advent-themed lessons with beautiful and inspiring music, all in preparation for the Christmas season. Music will include works by Jacob Handl, Simon Lindley, Boris Ord, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, Bruce Saylor, Mark Sirett, Healey Willan, and Charles Wood. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted in support of the Special Music Fund. An elegant reception will follow. Please join us for this uplifting event, and be sure to invite some friends!

Canterbury Choir Caroling at Tremont Center on December 17
On Tuesday, December 17, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., the Canterbury Choir will perform Christmas carols as part of the annual Christmas by the Clock celebration at Tremont Center (across from the church). Come out and support our young choristers as they represent Saint Mark’s for this fun community event, which features sleigh rides, live reindeer, treats from the Goodie Shop, and an appearance by Santa Claus.

Christmas Eve at Saint Mark’s
There are two evening services on Christmas Eve at Saint Mark’s. The 5 p.m. service includes music by the Canterbury Choir and features our beloved Christmas pageant with youth from the church school. The 11 p.m. service features the Saint Mark’s Choir and is preceded by a prelude of Carols for Choir and Congregation, beginning at 10:30 p.m. We hope to see you there!

A Service of Light in the Taizé Tradition on January 5
On Sunday, January 5, at 5 p.m., Saint Mark’s will present a special evening service with music from the Taizé tradition for the Eve of the Epiphany. For those who are unfamiliar with services in the Taizé tradition, the music consists of short, repeated melodies that are led by a cantor and instrument(s) and sung by everyone. The melodies are easy to learn, and repetition provides a frame for meditation on the divine. Taizé services also include an important visual element, with the presence of one or more icons illuminated by numerous candles. The contemplative style of Taizé is a wonderful way to begin the season of Epiphany.

A Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols
Saint Mark’s Choir and Canterbury Choir
Music by Handl, Lindley, Ord, Palestrina, Saylor, Sirett, Willan, and Wood
Sunday, December 8, 4 p.m.
Saint Mark’s Episcopal Church
Donations will be accepted
in support of the Special Music Fund
“There are no great things to be done, only small things to be done with great love.” Mother Theresa

OUTREACH MINISTRY MEETINGS
The Saint Mark’s Outreach Ministry meets the second Sunday of every month after the 10:30 service. Please join us to listen and participate. We welcome you!

ST. JOHN’S STREET CHURCH
Street Church is a Ministry in partnership with St. John’s Columbus. It is scheduled every Sunday at 1 p.m. at the corner of Broad and Central. During an outdoor service, parishioners from St. Mark’s join with residents of the vulnerable housing in the neighborhood and homeless from the Scioto River to celebrate a shortened Holy Communion, complete with bread and grape juice. After the service, St. Mark’s serves a meal. Our next visit is December 29th. Meet us after church at 12:30 to pack up the meal and travel together to Franklinton. Contact the office (614-486-9452 or OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org) if you would like to participate.

THE GIVING TREE
The Christmas Giving Tree for children of parents who are registered at the NNEMAP food pantry is located in the Parish Hall this year. You may choose an ornament with a gift suggestion on the back or if you have already shopped for your gift, unwrapped gifts may be placed under the tree until Sunday, December 8 when they will be taken to the NNEMAP Toy Room. If you have taken an ornament from the tree, please attach it to the gift. Any questions, please contact the office (614-486-9452 or OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org).

nnemap
NNEMAP is a food pantry located on the south side of the Fairgrounds. About eight parishioners volunteer at the pantry. As you know, St. Mark’s regularly collects food in the entryway of the church, and we periodically collect special items needed by the folks at the pantry: Personal Care items, Christmas gifts for NNEMAP children (via the Giving Tree). If you wish to participate, contact the office (OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org or 614-486-9452).

St. John’s Dinners
St. Mark’s Outreach travels to St. John’s regularly to cook and serve dinner to the Franklinton neighborhood. In 2020, we will go on 2/12, 3/11, 10/14, and 11/11. A shift for set-up and cooking starts at about 4 p.m., while a second shift for serving and clean-up starts around 6 p.m. Mark your calendar, and, if you are willing to help, contact the office (OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org or 614-486-9452). We serve between 50 and 100 people.

CATCH COURT
CATCH Court is a Franklin County Rehabilitative Justice Court, serving women who have been trafficked, prostituted, and who have battled addiction. They have chosen a two year parole of intensive training and healing to make a new life for themselves and their families. This Court is very unique; there isn’t another one like it in the United States. On the second Thursday of each month, we join these women for lunch. Our next visit will be December 12th. We will make lunch, then drive downtown around 11:20 a.m. We learn much more than we give!

contact the office (OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org or 614-486-9452) if you wish to be a part of this amazing ministry.
ANNUAL COOKIE WALK—BAKERS AND HELPERS WANTED!

It’s not too early to start planning, digging out recipes and shopping for ingredients for holiday baking. And while you are doing that please think about Saint Mark’s Cookie Walk on Sunday, December 15th after the 10:30 service. We have always been very successful in gathering a large variety of holiday cookies to sell. This year the profits from the sale will be sent to Freedom A La Cart, a program supported by the Outreach Committee. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact the office (OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org or 614-486-9452).

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

We celebrate a recent new members:
Mary Lou Guillory
Steve Bigley and Becky Roeder
Bill Train
Jim and Dee Vaigl

We offer condolences to:
The Comfort family on the passing of Dottie Comfort, longtime member of St. Mark’s. Dottie passed away Sunday, November 3, 2019 at the age of 94.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER is a new printed project to enhance communication among parishioners. It comes from a long standing tradition in the Church of England where certain public records were officially recorded in the great ledgers of their parish church. You can sign up for weekly email updates about Saint Mark’s on our website www.saintmarkscolumbus.org, click on “Join Our Mailing List.”

PARISH RELATED NEWS

Congratulations:
To Jane Krastel as she celebrates her 90th birthday!! Many more healthy years to you, Jane!

PARISH RELATED NEWS reprises the tradition at Saint Mark’s to share important information that may be of interest to members of the parish. If you know of the birth or marriage of someone related to the parish (but not a member as recorded in the parish register), a job change, retirement, achievement, student news, etc, we invite you to share it with us(and with the permission of the individuals involved, of course!) so we may pass along the good news. Information may be sent to Robbie Hurley at hurley.roberta@yahoo.com or to the Parish Office at 614-486-9452 or officemanager@SaintMarksColumbus.org.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Birthdays are not included in Saint Mark’s online version of this publication to ensure privacy of our parishioners.
SUPPER GROUP

Our Christmas Celebration will be on Saturday, December 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Hoping all members, subs, and anyone interested in joining our group will hold this date open. It is a great way to get to know one another better. A signup poster will be available in the Parish Hall on November 3rd. For more information please contact the office (OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org or 614-486-9452).

SAVE THE DATE:

“DREAM ON, JOSEPH” - The Joseph Saga in Genesis

April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 20, June 14 (No classes on May 31 – Pentecost and June 7 – Joseph weekend at Saint Mark’s)

Dear friends in Christ,

For some reason I keep seeing my name in The Epistle! Well, I was delighted and honored when Paul asked me to teach a course at Saint Mark’s early in 2020. When I heard that Saint Mark’s is going to experience Webber & Rice’s first musical, “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” I offered to lead a 6-session seminar on the Joseph Saga in the Book of Genesis.

The Joseph Saga is the last story found in the Book of Genesis (Chapters 37-50) and tells us how the Israelites ended up in Egypt. But there is so much more to this tale including the narrative about how a spoiled brat in the land of Canaan ends up as Prime Minister of Egypt! The story of Joseph also sets the stage for the events recounted in the Book of Exodus as Moses leads the Israelites out of Egypt back to the Promised Land that they had left generations earlier (think Charlton Heston and the epic film from the 1950s, “The Ten Commandments” - or not).

Shalom,

The Rev. Bruce Smith
Priest Associate, St. James Episcopal Church, Clintonville

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

It’s hard to believe that the year is nearly over, and it is time to put together our 2020 budget. As I review 2019, it looks like St. Mark’s will end up in very good shape financially. That is wonderful considering that we took a small leap of faith when putting together the 2019 budget. We assumed the Junior Explorers would continue to rent our parish hall all year and we would have a full year of rental income from our house on Redding Road. Both happened and I believe by year end our revenue will even exceed our optimistic expectations.

Our expenses, however, are also trending higher than anticipated due to:

• higher than expected building maintenance and utilities cost
• the need to increase our janitorial services to keep up with the Junior Explorers
• replacement of PCs in the offices.

I currently estimate that our total receipts will end up around $600,000 and total expenditures will be about $585,000. In addition to having an operating profit, we have the necessary financial reserves to complete the facility repairs that are in process around our campus, thanks to the very generous bequest from John and Lynne Muskoff.

Looking ahead to next year, my greatest fear financially for Saint Mark’s is the sudden loss of revenue from the Junior Explorers program. While we have no indication that they will discontinue to use the parish hall, they could leave on short notice.

Pledges for next year are still coming in. At this point we have collected pledges totaling $346,764 which is $111,173 less than last year’s final number. As of November 20th there were 33 members who pledged last year that have not yet turned in a pledge card for 2020. Those members pledged a total of $129,025 in 2019. If you are one of those and have not already done so, please turn in your pledge for 2020 as soon as possible!

If you are one of the many members who are unsure how much they have remaining on their 2019 pledge and want to make the payment before year end, please send me an email at pglandon@gmail.com and I will respond as quickly as possible. Thank-you!

Also, if you have had a better year than expected, please consider an additional year-end gift to Saint Mark’s. Donations to the staff Christmas gift fund are especially appreciated.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season, and very Merry Christmas!  Phil Glandon, Treasurer
2020 PRAYER RETREAT

Be Still and Know that I am God.
– Psalm 46:10

St. Mark’s will host a prayer retreat March 20-22, during Lent. The retreat will be devoted to the practice of “contemplative prayer.” Thomas Merton has described centering prayer as a method of meditation used by Christians that places a strong emphasis on interior silence. The goal of the retreat is to create a space for structured prayer and reflection where we may also gain knowledge about the practice to bring back to our regular church life.

The retreat will feature insights from four speakers who help us to investigate the broad range of options in a contemplative prayer practice. Speakers include:

- The Rev. Karl Stevens, an Episcopal priest and artist
- Episcopal Oblate, Suzanne Olmstead, the co-founder of the worldwide organization “Lay Cistercians,” which, among other things, does spiritual work with hospice patients.
- And finally, we will meet Lisa Bueche and Connie Frecker, for an “Introduction to the Enneagram” workshop. For more on this, go to www.Enneagram-ohio.com.

In addition to the speakers, we will have ample time to pray, and to discuss the role of prayer in Episcopal life and in our own personal lives. The experience promises to be an enriching and rewarding one.

The retreat is open to both men and women and will be held at the beautiful Transfiguration Spirituality Center (Episcopal) in Cincinnati, beginning with arrival at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 20 and ending after Eucharist and breakfast on Sunday, March 22. Each participant will be housed in their own single room in the facility’s newly renovated Beth-Anna building. All meals are prepared with locally grown, fresh ingredients including free trade coffee, snacks and tea throughout the day. The building features a peaceful ambiance appointed with shared baths, a full kitchen and dining room, a large living room with a working fireplace. The entire facility, including its gardens and labyrinth, is conducive to spiritual reflection and awareness of God. Here one can really feel the “peace which passes all understanding.”

Please bring a notebook and pen with you to the retreat. To register, please contact Judith Grant at judithcgrant@gmail.com or Dot Yeager, seniorwarden@saintmarks columbus.org. Cost is $200 per person, which covers two night’s lodging, speaker stipends and all meals. Checks may be made out to Saint Mark’s, Lent Retreat, and payment is requested at time of registration, on or before February 29, 2019. Space is limited. For more information about the center, see their website at: https://ctretreats.org/index.php

SAINT MARK’S MIGRATION MINISTRY
(THE 3M PROJECT)

The 3M Project?? While it’s not temporary, as the word “project” might suggest, the Committee for this Ministry hopes it will bring attention to, and raise awareness for, our call to welcome the stranger among us.

This Committee was born mid-summer as a result of an attempt to understand both the cause of the surge at our southern border and the inhumane treatment the migrants were receiving. Many were coming from Central America, including Guatemala, where Saint Mark’s has an ongoing relationship through our mission work in La Labor.

We have been considering how we might respond to Christ’s call for welcome to those seeking refuge and protection. Even though we are not a border state, we are actively working with our National Church’s Episcopal Migration Ministry, an organization established in the late 1800s and in the 1930s provided assistance to Holocaust victims fleeing Nazi Europe. We are also considering how we can support CRIS (Community Refugee and Immigration Services), a local organization serving our immigrant community.

The Committee meets on the 4th Sunday of the month following the 10:30 service in the Canterbury Room. Everyone interested in this ministry is welcome to join us. For more information, contact the office (OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org or 614-486-9452).
Saint Mark’s Christmas Pageant

Please note: we will send a link to a google doc to families to make signing up easier, but the dates below for in-person sign up will still be available!

Dates for Christmas Pageant sign-up and rehearsals:

**Sunday, December 1**
Sign-up immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service

**Sunday, December 8**
Sign-up during Sunday School (9:30-10:30 a.m.) or immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service

**Sunday, December 15**
Sign-up and scripts passed out during Sunday School (9:30-10:30 a.m.) or immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service

**Sunday, December 22**
Full rehearsal with Canterbury Choir immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service

**Tuesday, December 24, 3:45 p.m. Rehearsal**
(No need to wear your costume, but please be prompt so we can wrap up before people start to arrive). Children will have a chance to have a break/snack and change into their costumes after the Rehearsal.

**Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve Pageant at 5:00 p.m.**

Children and families may also sign up by contacting Irina Reed (irina.reed@yahoo.com). Every effort will be made to honor requested roles. Please contact Laura Skoracki (lauragatsos@hotmail.com), or Irina with questions. Volunteers are needed! If you can assist with costuming, backstage organization, snacks, or clean-up, please contact Irina or Laura, thank you!

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services at Saint Mark’s

**Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24**

- Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- Saint Mark’s Annual Christmas Pageant 5 p.m.
- Music by Canterbury Choir

**Solemn Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
11 p.m.

Preceded by

- Carols for Choir and Congregation
10:30 p.m.

Music by Saint Mark’s Choir

**Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25**

- Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:30 a.m.

Flower Memorials

We will soon be entering the season of Advent and Christmas. An important part of that celebration is the decoration of the church. Contributions in memory of or in thanksgiving for loved ones help defray the cost of decorating the church. In addition to flowers in the church, contributions to the Flower Guild provide some of the funds needed for outdoor planting around the church, and also for placing greens in the Memorial Garden and the outdoor pots. Again this year we will have special envelopes in the pews to receive your donations. The envelopes have an area on the back for you to write your designation. They can be placed in the offering plate or in the box in the Parish Hall. The envelopes will be in place on December 1st, 8th, and 15th. Contributions in any amount are welcome and very much appreciated. Please make your checks payable to Saint Mark’s with Flower Guild written on the memo line.
SHINING OUR LIGHT- THANK YOU!
(& REMINDER)

On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, Vestry and Clergy, we want to thank everyone who has participated in the 2020 Stewardship Campaign, “Shining Our Light”. We found it especially inspiring, uplifting and affirming to see so many people walk to the front of the church with their pledge cards on In-gathering Sunday.

As of November 11 we’ve received 88 pledges (vs. a total of 121 pledges received last year). Of the 88 pledges received, many are increases from last year and there are 8 new pledges! We will be sending a reminder to current members from whom pledge cards have not yet been received.

If you haven’t done so, please return your pledge card as soon as possible to allow our Treasurer, the Wardens and Vestry adequate time to finalize the parish budget for 2020. Your pledge truly does make a difference! Thank you.

YEAR-END TAX PLANNING

If you are looking for last-minute charitable contribution deductions, please consider making a gift to St. Mark’s.

If you are age 70½ or older and must take the required minimum distribution from an IRA, you can avoid income tax on any amount of the distribution that you direct to be paid from your IRA to St. Mark’s.

Note also that you can avoid the capital gains tax on a gift of appreciated stock if you arrange for the stock to be transferred directly to St. Mark’s. Otherwise, if you sell the stock first and gift your proceeds, you will incur the capital gains tax on the appreciation.

If you have questions or need transfer instructions, please contact our Treasurer, Phil Glandon at pglandon@gmail.com. You may also want to consult your accountant or other advisors on how these tax planning strategies may impact your specific financial situation.

PLEDGE ENVELOPES

If you are interested in having pledge envelopes for 2020, please turn in your pledge card with that request noted on the card by December 5th. The order will be placed on December 6th so that we have the envelopes by the first of January. Thank you!

God Moment #45

“What if . . . .”

A member of the James Cancer Center Victory Choir died recently. Her husband asked the group if we would sing at her funeral. The answer was, “Of course, we would.”

During the service, the minister invited family and friends to share stories about Susan.

The first of many was David, her nephew. He had some difficulties getting through his sharing. But he hung in there and made it all the way.

He shared that his aunt was a nurse. She had a Master’s degree. She also was an avid gardener and was involved in helping people create community gardens. She was a musician, a singer, played guitar, mandolin and piano. But here’s the thing: I sang with her for about two years and never knew anything about her music.

What if I had known about this? We might have collaborated on something for The Victory Choir.

She also was a founding member of the Columbus Folk Music Society. What if I had known about this? Now, I don’t know what might have happened. No one knows.

What if I had somehow taken a moment to chat with her and maybe discover her musical interests and skills?

What if, in fairness, she had reached out to me? She knew I play guitar and have done so many times for The Choir?

Maybe we didn’t have the time. Or, worse, we just weren’t used to talking with others about ourselves.

At this point, I do not know exactly what to do about this void.

The God Moment is that now I am aware of the void. What if the phrase “beloved community” were to pop into our heads and we were to pursue it? I feel as if that would be a good start.

Jim Keyes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Preacher:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Associate Rector Out of Town</strong></td>
<td><strong>Rector Out of Town</strong></td>
<td><strong>Rector Out of Town</strong></td>
<td><strong>Rector Out of Town</strong></td>
<td><strong>Associate Rector Out of Town</strong></td>
<td><strong>Associate Rector Out of Town</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher C. Richardson</td>
<td>Paul St. Germain</td>
<td>Sunday School</td>
<td>Jr Explorer Club</td>
<td>Jr Explorer Club</td>
<td>Jr Explorer Club</td>
<td>Jr Explorer Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I</td>
<td>8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I</td>
<td>9:30 AM Adult Formation</td>
<td>4:00 PM Spiritual Direction Meeting</td>
<td>8:00 AM Jr Explorer Club</td>
<td>8:00 AM Jr Explorer Club</td>
<td>9:30 AM OA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Canterbury Choir</td>
<td>10:30 AM Adult Formations</td>
<td>10:30 AM Jr Explorer Club</td>
<td>12:00 PM Noonday Eucharist</td>
<td>12:00 PM Noonday Eucharist</td>
<td>10:00 AM Jr Explorer Club</td>
<td>12:00 PM Jr Explorer Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 AM Fellowship Hour</td>
<td>11:30 AM Adult Formation</td>
<td>1:00 PM Saint Mark’s Staff Meeting and Lunch</td>
<td>4:30 PM Canterbury Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>4:30 PM Canterbury Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>11:00 AM Holy Eucharist at First Community Village</td>
<td>11:00 AM Holy Eucharist at First Community Village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM Sunday School</td>
<td>12:00 PM Adult Formation</td>
<td>6:15 PM 12 Step Group</td>
<td>3:00 PM Canterbury Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>3:00 PM Canterbury Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>10:00 AM Epistle Folding &amp; Fellowship</td>
<td>10:00 AM Epistle Folding &amp; Fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 AM Fellowship Hour</td>
<td>11:30 AM Adult Formation</td>
<td>6:30 PM Spiritual Direction Meeting</td>
<td>5:30 PM Wednesday Evenings at Saint Mark’s</td>
<td>5:30 PM Wednesday Evenings at Saint Mark’s</td>
<td>11:00 AM Holy Eucharist at First Community Village</td>
<td>11:00 AM Holy Eucharist at First Community Village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM Cookie Walk</td>
<td>12:00 PM Sunday School</td>
<td>7:00 PM Vestry Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM Vestry Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM Vestry Meeting</td>
<td>1:00 PM Chair Volleyball</td>
<td>1:00 PM Chair Volleyball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 PM AA Groups</td>
<td>8:00 PM AA Groups</td>
<td>6:15 PM AA</td>
<td>6:15 PM AA</td>
<td>6:15 PM AA</td>
<td>8:00 PM AA Groups</td>
<td>8:00 PM AA Groups</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**December 2019**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preacher:</th>
<th>22</th>
<th>23</th>
<th>24</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>26</th>
<th>27</th>
<th>28</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul St. Germain</td>
<td>Christmas Eve</td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>Office Closed</td>
<td>Office Closed</td>
<td>Office Closed</td>
<td>9:30 AM OA</td>
<td>12:00 PM Altar &amp; Flower Guild Set-Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite I</td>
<td>Office Closed</td>
<td>8:00 AM Jr Explorer Club</td>
<td>8:00 AM Jr Explorer Club (Half Day)</td>
<td>9:30 AM Al-Anon</td>
<td>8:00 AM Jr Explorer Club</td>
<td>8:00 AM Jr Explorer Club</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM Adult Formation</td>
<td>8:00 AM Jr Explorer Club</td>
<td>9:30 AM Al-Anon</td>
<td>10:30 AM Christmas Day Holy Eucharist</td>
<td>1:00 PM Knitting Group</td>
<td>1:00 PM Chair Volleyball</td>
<td>8:00 PM AA Groups</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Saint Mark’s Choir</td>
<td>4:30 PM Canterbury Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>3:45 PM Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal</td>
<td>10:30 AM Christmas</td>
<td>6:15 PM AA</td>
<td>8:00 PM AA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM Sunday School</td>
<td>5:30 PM AA - Men’s Group</td>
<td>5:00 PM Holy Eucharist</td>
<td>with Christmas Pageant for Eve of the Nativity with the Canterbury Choir</td>
<td>1:10 PM</td>
<td>6:15 PM AA Groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 AM Fellowship Hour</td>
<td>7:30 PM Monday Night Book Group</td>
<td>5:30 PM Church Choir</td>
<td>with Christmas Pageant for Eve of the Nativity with the Canterbury Choir</td>
<td>8:00 PM AA Groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 AM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal</td>
<td>7:30 PM Saint Mark’s Choir Rehearsal</td>
<td>7:30 PM AA - Men’s Group</td>
<td>10:30 AM Christmas</td>
<td>10:30 PM Carols for Choir and Congregation</td>
<td>11:00 PM</td>
<td>8:00 PM AA Groups</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 PM AA Groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Preacher:**

Christopher C. Richardson

**8:00 AM** Holy Eucharist, Rite I

**9:30 AM** Adult Formation

**10:30 AM** Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/ Saint Mark’s Choir

**10:30 AM** Sunday School

**11:30 AM** Fellowship Hour

**3:00 PM** Movie Series

**8:00 PM** AA Groups

**9:30 AM OA**

**12:00 PM** Altar & Flower Guild Set-Up

Please visit [http://SaintMarksColumbus.org/calendar/](http://SaintMarksColumbus.org/calendar/) for the most up-to-date calendar, as changes occur often!
From the Diocese of Southern Ohio

A fun, new initiative to better connect Episcopalians in Southern Ohio!

Playing connect the dots is something we all did as kids. It was fun, relaxing and a great way to keep a kid busy. As adults, we often forget the instructional purpose of the game – how dozens of pieces can come together to form a single picture.

Let’s go back to that fun activity of our childhood and connect the dots to form a single picture of our diocesan community! For the next six months, we want to “Connect the Dots” of what it looks like to experience life with others in authentic relationships and true community. And, we’ve set up a little healthy competition to entice you to participate!

Beginning November 17 (the day after diocesan convention) until May 30, 2020, we’re asking you to step out of the comfort of your own congregation and go and visit other churches in the diocese. We’ll help track your visits and the stories you learn along the way. Each visit will earn your congregation an entry into a drawing. The more you visit the more entries your church earns!

Then, during the first week in June, Bishop Breidenthal will draw the winning entry – that congregation will receive $1,000 to use toward an outreach project in their church! But that’s not all – they will also be able to nominate one of the churches they visited to also receive $1,000 toward their outreach ministries!

For rules and other details, go to http://dsoConnectTheDots.org/
AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE
2020 Civil Rights Tour for Education and Social Change
May 5 – 13, 2020

Highlights:

- Tour 10 Civil Rights museums and historic sites in Birmingham, Montgomery & Selma, AL; Jackson, MI; Memphis, TN
- Meet those who fought the struggle

Join Dean Gail Greenwell and cathedral member Dianne Ebbs as they co-lead the upcoming American Civil Rights Pilgrimage May 5 – 13, 2020. As Americans, we seem to have come to yet another cross-road in our long and complex history of slavery, segregation, and racism. Each day seems to present another story, or policy, or video that leaves us feeling more hopeless, and with a feeling of, “What can we do?” as these narratives increase. As Episcopalians, we can lean into our Baptismal Covenant to strive for justice among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.

Come along on this tour to inspire education and social change, as we visit historical locations in Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee, and engage in real dialogue with one another.

Interested persons can learn more and register for this pilgrimage by going to Wake Up Consulting, http://wakeup-consulting.com/.

Cost is $2,995. Scholarship assistance is available by emailing Dean Gail Greenwell (ggreenwell@cccath.org).
Part of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, Saint Mark’s held its first worship service in 1951 in a converted Methodist church in Grandview. Ground was broken in 1953 for the Parish Hall (now the Education Building) where services were held until the current Nave and Sanctuary was completed in 1958. Office space in an adjacent building was purchased in 1989. Major renovations of the entire facility occurred in 2004 and 2008 creating a campus today that empowers Christ’s ministry within and beyond our parish.