

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

513 NASSAU STREET SOUTH ♦ VENICE FL 34285-2816

# THE MESSENGER

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 7

JUNE 2017

I've had the opportunity to hear Bishop Michael Curry preach on numerous occasions before he became the Presiding Bishop. One of my favorite sermons was at the closing of the Episcopal Youth Event in 2014. Bishop Curry, in giving the final address of the triennial gathering of Episcopal Youth, told them "When God is about to change the world, he tells somebody to go." He used examples of Noah, Abraham, Moses and, of course, Jesus. He told the 1500+ young people in attendance that "the reason we gather together week by week to break bread and to teach is so we can **GO!**" We should also not be fearful in this commission because "God is about the business of helping us who follow in the footsteps of Jesus to be people who will go into this world to change and transform it from the nightmare it often is, into the dream that our God intends for all of God's children."

In the summertime that is exactly what our youth do: We **GO!** As a group our youth venture out on service-learning trips. The purpose of our summer service learning trips is to go into the world and to be the hands and feet of Jesus. But they are doing more than just going into a broken place and pretending that, for the week we are there, we can solve all of the problems alone. They are learning about living in community with each other and with the people we meet on our mission.

In June our high school youth will head back to Futuro Lleno de Esperanza, Santiago, Dominican Republic. There they will sleep on the floor of the school which sits at the foot of the town landfill. There is no air conditioning, the faucets do not provide drinkable water (when there is water available), and the school sits on a grid for rolling blackouts, which means no electricity on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It is not my intention to brag about how resilient our young people are (even though they are). But it is important to note this reality because our young people asked to be there. They asked to be part of the community, to go out and play with the children in the streets of the town, to go visit the homes of the people whom they have grown to know and love, and to learn about their needs.

While in Santiago our young people will be working to help undo the damage done by countrywide flooding. They will also renovate the school playground, for they know how important it is for the children of the community to have a safe place to play. To accomplish these goals they will work with the teachers, students, and local families. They will also visit friends and preach the Gospel through their actions.

In August, our Middle School Youth will be heading to Washington, DC to work with an organization called YSOP (Youth Services Opportunities Project). They will explore the different or sometimes similar needs and challenges that people in an urban setting face. They will be working closely with various organizations to learn how those needs are being addressed in DC, as well as how they can be addressed right here in our own backyard. They will go there with little background in urban living; and they will live, learn and work in community.

Our young people are fully equipped to go out into the world, to change it, and to allow God to speak through those experiences and to be changed by them. But they aren't the only ones. Like Bishop Curry said, because we gather together weekly to share, learn, and commune together we are all equipped to go out and make disciples, just like Jesus calls us to do. It doesn't mean you have to give up air conditioning, or refrigeration, or beds, it just means you have to meet people where you are, and where they are.

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The summer is starting and we are all “going.” Our northern friends have headed to their other homes; we head away on family or personal vacations; a number of our young people head off to camp, or college, or away from college into the working world. But one thing remains: We are part of a beloved community and we are called to go and make disciples of ALL people.

This summer as you “go,” we want to see what you are up to! We will be joining with other Episcopal Churches around the country in the “Flat Jesus Project.” This is just like the story book and Flat Stanley project by Jeff Brown. Included with your newsletter is a “Flat Jesus.” Feel free to color him in and cut him out! Take him with you on your summer travels, snap pictures and email them to St. Mark’s at [youth@stmarksvenice.com](mailto:youth@stmarksvenice.com). Let us know what you are up to and where you are taking Jesus with you this summer. We will share Flat Jesus’ travels on our Facebook page and on the youth bulletin board so our whole community can share with you!

We are excited to **GO** and as well as to come HOME this summer, and we hope you are too!

In Christ,  
Jackie Overton  
Youth Director

You can hear Bishop Curry’s 2014 EYE address by searching it on YouTube.

*We know you know, but it’s worth repeating...*

**Divine Consign** is a ministry of St. Mark's generating sales with slightly used clothing, furniture and art work through donations and consignments. **All monies are returned to the community as assistance for the needy, scholarships and other outreach programs.** So you’re not just shopping, you’re supporting the community around you.

The main store on 203 Miami Avenue sells clothing, art, and bric-a-brac and a limited inventory of furniture. It’s open Monday-Saturday 10-2 (summer hours). Appointments required for consignments. Call **488.3219**.

The furniture showroom at 170 James St. has high quality furniture and art at reasonable prices. It’s open Tuesday-Saturday 10-2. No appointment required, but please call first **485.3366**.

**Help keep the church office current.** If you are going to be away for the summer, we can have your church mail follow you. Make sure we have your northern address and the dates you’ll be gone. The dates enable the computer to pull your correct address at any time as long as we have input them properly. It is also a great help to clergy and office staff if we have your most current information such as email address, local and northern addresses, phone numbers, etc. Whether you stay in Florida or go away for the summer, we pray you have a safe, healthy and happy experience. While away you can stay in touch and contact the church office via our website: **www.stmarksvenice.org**. If you don’t receive the newsletter by mail, you can read it online.

(Any old typists out there who recognize this type face? Besides me? –Sandy)

## Discussing Teen Suicide

by Ginger Pavlov, RN, MA, LPC, NCC\*

I have been honored to work with Jackie Overton on her program about teen suicide. At the suggestion of my teenaged grandchildren I watched the movie *13 Reasons Why*. I was shocked by the portrayal of the meanness the teens showed toward each other. But my five teenaged grandchildren assured me this is very much a reality in some circles.

I am aware that there are those who are against the idea of teens watching this film. But not being open about teen suicide can have a deadly outcome just as in this movie. Keeping secrets about suicidal ideation can have devastating results. Talking openly about this second leading cause of teen death has the power to heal.

One of my grandchildren has been suicidal for most of her senior year due to cyber bullying. Prior to this she was a happy, bubbly, strong person. It has only been through discussing this issue openly that she and her family have begun to recover.

Kudos to Jackie and St. Mark's for having open discussions for both teens and parents!

\* Registered Nurse, Masters in Counseling, Licensed Professional Counselor, Nationally Certified Counselor

Just a reminder to Ministry Leaders and Volunteers: It is imperative that we have your Safeguarding All God's Children certificate on file in the church office *before* you engage in any ministry activity. This is a simple, but worthwhile and educational path to navigate. It can be handled on your own time, at your own computer, in your own home. If you do not have computer access, we will sit you down in the church office and let you use one of our computers. No need to be intimidated. It's easy to do and we will be there to guide you. Call Sandy or Carlotta if you need to update your certification or if you need to take the class for the very first time. Note: God's children come in all ages..... cradle to grave. But if you'll be working in the preschool, contact Barbara Levesque about certification. She will need to keep your certification of completion in her office.



### Breaking News....

Men can serve on the Altar Guild. Shocking. While Altar Guilds can trace their roots to the women who cared for Jesus, at various times in the history of the Anglican Church, Altar Guilds have been composed exclusively of men or exclusively of women. Today anyone can be a member of the Altar Guild—men, women, young, old.

No experience necessary. Training will consist of hands-on instruction from experienced Altar Guild members. Join the Altar Guild and experience the satisfaction of preparing God's Table and House of Worship for all. No ironing. Interested? Call Rev. Maggie at 488.7714.



These dates are not available in the online version.

Coming this summer! (June July August)

**Monthly Wednesday Dinners and Programs**

Wednesday, June 21— *Dinner & Trivia*

Wednesday, July 12—*Indoor picnic and Concert with Eric Watters*

Wednesday, August 16, *Dinner & a Movie* (The Shack)

Coming this summer!

(June July August)

**Monthly**

**Friday Fish Fry.**

Watch for details.



**Fish Fry**

## SAVE THESE DATES!! EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

### TUESDAY MORNING MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

will continue meeting throughout the summer every Tuesday (except July 4 and September 5) from 8 to 9 a.m. in the Church Office Conference Room. All men of the parish are invited to join us when you can for coffee, sharing of blessings and concerns, and lively discussion.



The first General Membership Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women for next season will be Tuesday, October 3, following Holy Eucharist and the business meeting.

Watch for *ECW Handbook* published late summer. It will have all the information you need to plan.

HIGH TEA, Saturday, November 4. Taking reservations now! Call **Clover Webster** at 941.375.8127. This event is always a sellout. Get your reservations early.

Thank you to our Episcopal Church Women and all who supported honoring Jane Marcin with a Key Woman Award, bestowed Friday, May 5.

The regular meetings of the Mark's Men will reconvene in October. All men of the church are encouraged to participate. In the meantime, have a great summer and we'll see you in the fall!

Check with your individual ministry leader to see if you have meetings scheduled over the summer.

### MEMORIAL GIFTS

in memory of:

*Debby Apple*

*Charlie Cullen*

by

Gloria Artwohl & Susan Artwohl

Jane Marcin

Mary N. Kilgore



### EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN SCHOLARSHIPS

**To the 2017 graduating seniors of St. Mark's:** If you are going to college and plan to apply for an ECW scholarship award, please stop by the church office and pick up the application form as soon as possible.

The form along with (1) your final transcript, (2) letters of recommendation from two teachers and (3) a personal letter explaining your goals, is due back in the church office **NO LATER THAN JULY 1**. In fairness to all, ***there will be no exceptions***. You will also be given an application for a **Church Periodical Club** scholarship for books, which should be turned in to Fr. Jim at the same time.

The Preschool silent auction and dinner was a huge success. It was an enchanted evening enjoyed by all. We already have begun work in our Toddler Playground with a new Trex® deck almost completed. This week our synthetic turf is being installed in the Toddler Playground; new plants

are making their way in; the entryway has two beautiful palms to welcome all; new playground equipment will complete the enhancement and renovation. A huge thanks to the Buckley family for making it possible to totally transform our Toddler Playground. When it is completed we plan on a special blessing in thankfulness and appreciation of this gift to our children! Also, a big thank-you to many for the success of our “Gala in the Garden” Auction Dinner:



Thanks to our event sponsors *Hoskins Pest Control, Inc.* and *Royal Air Conditioning and Heating, Inc.*

Thank you to our many other sponsors and donors

Thank you to Paul Skulitz and his crew for an over-the-top delicious dinner

Thank you to Margie & Angelo DeMauro for continuing to be the best, gracious bartenders

Thank you to Edgewood Nursery for the donation of an abundance of beautiful plants

Thank you to Gold Coast Eagle Distributing, LP for donating beverages

Thank you to Sandy Albanese for designing and printing our invitations

Thank you to all the work of the preschool staff

Thank you to the preschool and afterschool children for making beautiful garden decorations

Thank you to our Auction Committee that included parents, teachers and staff

Thank you to Venice Print Center for designing and printing our booklet

Thank you to the volunteers who helped us the night of the auction

Thank you to the Youth Group and Jackie for being our servers and part of our clean-up crew



### Do you know this parishioner?

He’s a retired Presbyterian minister who spent most of his career as a Pastoral Psychotherapist and Marriage and Family therapist. He was a Diplomate in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and a clinical member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists. For thirty-five years he studied and taught at the Institutes of Religion and Health in New York City and served as their Director of Training. He also studied at Columbia University School of Social Work in their Homed and Family Life Department. He served in the New Hampshire legislature prior to his moving to Florida in 2007.

Steve Prichard, MDIV.

### How about this one?

Some clues: Rhode Island born and Rhode Island bred; great-grandfather's company (Providence Ice Cream Co.) was the first to commercially sell coffee ice cream; educated in Michigan, Florida and New York; has six children, 14 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren; was Executive Director for 30+ years of a NFP Economic Development Agency in NYC; was Adjunct Professor in the MBA program (NFP Management, Marketing and Entrepreneurship) at Wagner College in NYC; EfM graduate; serves as a Lay Eucharistic Visitor and Tidewell Hospice Volunteer; is visible in Interfaith Outreach Inc. and is also a Vestry Member.

Susan Stewart



***Take Jesus with you everywhere you go this summer!***

Color him in if you like; cut him out; take him with you!

Send photos back to the church so we can share with everyone on FaceBook and on the youth bulletin board. NOTE: You do not have to be a "youth" to participate. Everyone encouraged to join in!

Send photos to [youth@stmarksvenice.com](mailto:youth@stmarksvenice.com)

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513 NASSAU STREET SOUTH

VENICE FL 34285-2816

church located at: 508 Riviera Street

941.488.7714

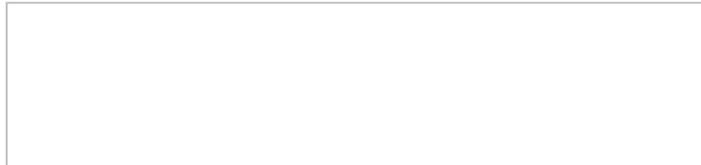
church fax: 941.484.0596

preschool: 941.484.8707

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Clergy: James H. Puryear (Rector), Maggie Sullivan (Assoc. Rector) John Lawrence (Assisting Priest), Judith Roberts (Assisting Priest), Len Brusso (Assisting Priest), Keith Backhaus (Deacon), Joyce Treppa (Deacon)  
Vestry: Susan Stewart (Sr. Warden), Bob Adams (Jr. Warden), Adam Kendall (treasurer), Joanne Beinner, Karen Dehne, Tom Gaines, John Haseltine, Linda Moore, Steve Plichta, Beverly Polk, Jane Rexinger, Kevin White, Debbie Pfender (clerk of the vestry)  
Church staff: Peter A. Madpak (Choirmaster & Organist), Jackie Overton (Youth), Lorna Stuart, MD (Parish Health Initiatives), Sandy Albanese (Parish Admin.), Carlotta Woolpert (Admin. Assistant), Maury Leman (Finance), Amanda Fronckowiak (Sexton), Jim Gietek (Assistant Sexton)

**We know all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. —Romans 8:28**



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.STMARKSVENICE.ORG

## St. Mark's Book Circle

**St. Mark's Book Circle** is taking the summer months off. We'll see everyone in September on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> when we discuss

*Ordinary Grace*

by William Kent Krueger

Sandra Underhill, facilitator.

Meet in Gray Hall Picture Room, 10-12. You are invited to attend, even if just to listen in or pick up the reading list for the rest of the year.

Until then,

happy reading!

