



THE ST. MARK'S MESSAGE

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, New Britain

THE LION'S PAUSE with
Lenny Nelson, Senior Warden

VOLUME XCVII
ISSUE 6

JUNE 2021
ISSUE

Hello, and good day! Spring is in bloom and Summer is not far away. It is a time where we tend to coast and get into the lazy days of Summer. Fall comes and we begin to return again in earnest to the many tasks at hand. St. Mark's has many things to think about in the near future.

Among them are the replacement of our Priest-In-Charge, Father Shaw Mudge, who leaves us in February 2022. What is the process and, more importantly, what can we afford.

As I write this column, the sale of our Church at 147 West Main St. and accompanying property on Cedar St. is slated to close on or about July 12th. This will remove the so called Non-Operating Budget which includes all of the expenses of the Church building, as well as the salary of our Sexton. At this time the building is vacant and therefore there is no income being generated to offset the monthly expenses.

This leads to another issue to consider which is where will we worship in the future. At this time we are worshipping on Zoom but, hopefully, we will begin to meet in person. Which also brings up the matter which was left hanging in March of 2020, the possibility of merger with another parish.

These are all matters which will need to be addressed in the next 9 months or so. With this in mind, the Vestry has established the "St. Mark's Future Committee" to deal with these and whatever other matters concern our future. This will be a Committee of the Whole, which indicates all interested Vestry members would be included. I am also opening membership on this committee to other interested parish members. If this interests you, please contact me at len.marjola.nelson@gmail.com or 860-223-2905. Your thoughts and ideas are valuable to me and the rest of the Vestry.

Please think and react according to your desires with respect to these very important issues facing the future of the Church/Parish that we cherish. Have a great Summer and remember there is still work to accomplish!

Special points of interest:

- *The Lion's Pause by Lenny Nelson, Senior Warden*
- *Stop & Shop Community Bag Program*
- *ECCT Task Force*
- *Sleuthing Discussion - Thursday Night Group*
- *Safe Church Training Information*
- *Food Pantry*
- *Zoom Services and Meetings*
- *Parish Clerk's Corner*
- *A Word From Fr. Shaw*
- *June Calendar*
- *Save The Date*
- *Sunday Remembrances*



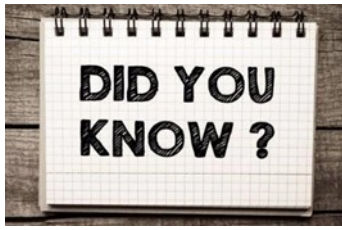
WHEN YOU BUY THIS BAG,
WE WILL RECEIVE A
\$1 DONATION!

COMMUNITY BAG
PROGRAM



GIVE BACK TO
YOUR COMMUNITY

Please visit the New Britain Stop & Shop. For every bag purchased during the month of June, St. Mark's Food Pantry will receive \$1.00.



Did You Know?

An invitation from the ECCT Reparations Task Force to learn more about the Task Force. Go to:

<https://episcopalct.blog/2021/04/19/meet-the-reparations-task-force/>

The church has always had topics that threatened to divide it because of differences of opinion or uncertainty of how to work through differences. The Apostle Paul wrote letters to the congregations that he founded. His letters are the earliest writings in the New Testament (written before any of the Gospels) and most of them address a conflict within the Christian community. He used the metaphor of the body to help people realize their interconnectedness in his letter to the Romans, Corinthians, and Ephesians. Read [1 Corinthians 12:12-31](#). How does this passage help you reflect on the topic of reparations?

Sleuthing Discussion Starting

Thursday Night Group will re-group via Zoom 958 0981 4572 at 7 pm. The text we will spring off from is Sleuthing for Slavery and Supremacy with a Saint Called Mark.

You have seen it in the Sunday Bulletin.

Call or email Barbara and she will send you the completed publication.

Safe Church Training

If you need to re-certify or take the training for the first time, please go to:

www.episcopalct.org/Find-Resources/General-Parish-Operations/Safe-Church-Resources/

Training Dates: (Some dates may have wait lists.)

Monday evening, June 7, 2021, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday morning, June 12, 2021, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Wednesday evening, June 16, 2021, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday evening, June 22, 2021, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

St. Mark's Food Pantry

Monthly Statistics:

April: Unduplicated households - 93
Children - 79
Adults - 85
Seniors - 47
Total Food Donated to St. Mark's - 818 lbs.

March: Unduplicated households - 113
Children - 92
Adults - 104
Seniors - 44
Total food from Food Share - 4,517 lbs.
Total Food Donated to St. Mark's - 1,055 lbs.

Pantry Help Needed

During the Pandemic we were very lucky to have 2 food pantry volunteers that were the backbone of our operation. Mark Giulietti and Migdalia Vasquez almost never missed a week and we were able to keep our pantry open.

We are anticipating reopening the food pantry to clients (to go into the building) within the next few months.

Please give Cheryl a call in the parish office if you can help us a few hours a week.



ZOOM SERVICES

**Zoom coffee hour 9:30 am; Zoom service 10 am;
Zoom coffee hour after the service.**

Zoom Meeting ID 500-865-037

or enter via the parish Web link at <http://www.stmarksnewbritain.org>.

**There is 1 service on Sundays: Zoom coffee hour 9:30 am; Zoom service 10 am;
Zoom coffee hour after the service. Zoom Meeting ID 500-865-037
Enter via the parish Web link at <http://www.stmarksnewbritain.org>.**



There is also a telephone number you could call on your phone to join the Zoom service:

1-646-558-8656 (phone charges may apply for the telephone call if you don't not have unlimited calling).

When dialing into services or meetings by telephone: Ben is in charge of muting everyone.

To unmute: when pressing the "star" (*) and then "6", first press the star, then take your finger off the "star", and then press "6" to unmute and take your finger off the 6. You have to press both the "star" and the "6" in that order. If you have been muted along with the video people, you may not be aware that you have been muted, so to be heard, please press the "star" and then "6" to unmute.

**If you would like the bulletin mailed to you for this service,
please let Cheryl in the parish office know.**

Please remember to turn your phone volume down slightly – this may help with the feedback sound. Please contact Cheryl in the Parish Office if you have any questions.

Allison's Parish Clerk News Corner

May 2021

Happy June! Warmer weather and increased Covid vaccinations are helping us reach a more relaxed lifestyle. The Episcopal Church in CT is still being cautious to protect the most vulnerable. St. Mark's continues with Zoom worship services and meetings.

News Bytes

1. Our Community Ministries Committee and the Vestry approved a \$1950 distribution from the Smith Fund to support a client at Pastor Dana Smith's Recovery House (New Life II Ministries) in New Britain.
1. St. Mark's Food Pantry received 250 pounds of food and \$200 from Farmington High School's food drive.
2. Thursday Night Group (TNG) is back in session! Everyone is welcome to join us weekly at 7 p.m. (Zoom ID: 958 0981 4572). We are continuing with "Sleuthing for Slavery and Supremacy with a Saint Called Mark".
3. We are active in what we are "comfortable with", but it is time to seriously consider our future as a parish. There are many moving parts.
 - a. First, we are nearing the sale closing for 147 West Main St. (July 12th estimated date). We are considering a final farewell worship service in the courtyard on July 11th.
 - b. The sale is for \$600K but our final proceeds will be less due to real estate agent commission, lawyer expense, possible renovations required for closing and care of the property without RightNow Ministries rental reimbursement.
 - c. The most important consideration is "Who Are We as a Parish"? What is St. Mark's Future? Our wardens are leading us in this discernment.

(See articles elsewhere in *The Message*).

God Bless you. We are traveling the path of Jesus to do God's mission and be embraced in God's infinite love. Let's spread the Good News!

Allison Penick



A WORD FROM FR. SHAW

Dear friends,

Welcome to June! Praise God, we made it!

1) As I write this (May 26, 10:30 am): based on interest this past Sunday in light of the recent changes in the CDC guidelines, President Biden's announcement, the Governor's plans over the past week or so, the drastic drop in positivities in Connecticut in the past week, and Bishop Ian's commending this past week, the Vestry meeting on June 8th plans to look at resuming in-person worship alongside and continuing with an online worship presence.

As I write this, New Britain is still one of the few remaining towns in the red zone in Connecticut (new map due out tomorrow, though), and as a person once said: "it's not over until it's over."

2) Switching gears.... the following commemorative dates are on the liturgical calendar for June. If there is a conflict with a Sunday, they move to a different date. Click on a link for the propers assigned for those days. The ones in brackets are conditional, pending review by the next General Convention.

To learn more about each person, you might consider looking the person up in "Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018," the current liturgical calendar-proposed-revision and under review by General Convention; go to:

<https://extranet.generalconvention.org/staff/files/download/21034>

June

- 1 Justin, Martyr, c.167
- 2 Blandina and Her Companions, The Martyrs of Lyons, 177
- 3 The Martyrs of Uganda, 1886
- 4 [John XXIII (Angelo Guiseppe Roncalli), Bishop, 1963]
- 5 Boniface, Bishop and Missionary, 754
- 8 [Melania the Elder, Monastic, 410]
- 9 Columba of Iona, Monastic, 597
- 10 Ephrem of Nisibis, Deacon and Poet, 373
- 12 Enmegahbowh, Priest and Missionary, 1902
- 14 Basil of Caesarea, Bishop and Theologian, 379
- 15 Evelyn Underhill, Mystic and Writer, 1941
- 16 Joseph Butler, Bishop and Theologian, 1752
- 17 [Marina the Monk, Monastic, fifth century]
- 18 Bernard Mizeki, Martyr, 1896
- 19 [Adelaide Teague Case, Educator, 1948]
- 22 Alban, Martyr, c.304
- 26 [Isabel Florence Hapgood, Ecumenist, 1928]
- 28 Irenaeus of Lyons, Bishop and Theologian, c.202



Not on the Episcopal Calendar, yet of racial significance is June 19 (Juneteenth), the day that commemorates the waiting for the Emancipation Proclamation. For more on Juneteenth, you might check out this Website:

<http://juneteenth.com>

God bless you, and take care,

Fr. Shaw

JUNE 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:30 a.m. Zoom Staff Meeting	2 5:45 p.m. Exec. Committee Mtg 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Mtg	3 9:00 - 12:00 Food Pantry 7:00 p.m. Thursday Night Group - Zoom mtg	4	5
6 9:30 a.m. Zoom “Coffee Hour” Ante-Communion 10:00 On Zoom	7 9:00 - 2:00 Food Pantry	8 9:30 a.m. Zoom Staff Meeting 6:30 p.m. Vestry Zoom Meeting	9	10 9:00 - 12:00 Food Pantry 7:00 p.m. Thursday Night Group - Zoom mtg	11	12
13 9:30 a.m. Zoom “Coffee Hour” Ante-Communion 10:00 On Zoom	14 9:00 - 2:00 Food Pantry 	15 9:30 a.m. Zoom Staff Meeting	16	17 9:00 - 12:00 Food Pantry 7:00 p.m. Thursday Night Group - Zoom mtg	18	19 
20 9:30 a.m. Zoom “Coffee Hour” Ante-Communion 10:00 On Zoom HAPPY FATHER’S DAY!	21 9:00 - 2:00 Food Pantry	22 9:30 a.m. Zoom Staff Meeting	23	24 9:00 - 12:00 Food Pantry 7:00 p.m. Thursday Night Group - Zoom mtg	25	26
27 9:30 a.m. Zoom “Coffee Hour” Ante-Communion 10:00 On Zoom	28 9:00 - 2:00 Food Pantry	29 9:30 a.m. Zoom Staff Meeting	30			

**St. Mark's Episcopal
Church, New Britain**

**PO Box 1538
90 Main Street
New Britain, CT 06051
The Rev. Dr. Shaw Mudge,
Priest In Charge**

**Phone: 860-225-7634
Email: parishoffice@stmarksnewbritain.org
Website: www.stmarksnewbritain.org**

**PRAYER CHAIN: to activate the chain call
Barbara Campbell 860-673-7607,
Campbellba24@gmail.com**

**If you or someone you know is hospitalized,
please inform the clergy or call the parish
office.**

LABEL

***Open to God's Love -
Serving Our Neighbor***

**Due date for all articles for the May Issue of the
St. Mark's Message is
April 21, 2021**

Parish Office Hours.
Monday through Friday
from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Food Pantry
Monday: 9 - 12 & 12:30 - 2
Thursday: 9 - 12



**Weekly Parish Services:
During the COVID-19 crisis, services will be
held on Zoom (Go to page 3 or our website—
www.saintmarksnewbritain.org for
information on joining the service.)**

Pledges and Offerings

Please remember to keep sending in your
pledges and offerings to the parish. Mail in our
P.O. Box is picked up several times a week. Your
pledge payments are compiled at least once a
month and deposited.

The parish ministries to the community and
worship services adapt and continue, even in
these most challenging times.

Mailing address: St. Mark's Episcopal Church
PO Box 1538 New Britain, CT 06050-1538 or to
electronically send checks to the Church via your
bank.

St. Marks keeps going in God's way, God's time,
and to God's glory.

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, June 2nd – 7:00 p.m. – Finance Committee
Zoom meeting
Tuesday, June 8th – 6:45 p.m. – Vestry Zoom Meeting

Sunday Remembrances

**If you would like to have a loved one
remembered on any given Sunday, please give
Cheryl in the parish office a call or email. Let her
know the name of the person to be remembered
and the date you would like them remembered
on. There is no fee at this time.
Once we are back to “normal” the Altar Flowers
will be given in remembrance of a loved one for a
small fee to cover the cost of the flowers.**