



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
THE LION'S PAUSE



Greetings!

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 22)

[Read This Week's Lesson](#)

Frankly *Speaking*

I don't know about you, but I receive periodic reminders of the Yiddish adage that humans plan and God laughs. Well this time God laughed a week before my vacation when I opened an email and learned that I had been appointed to the Episcopal Church's 18-member Standing Commission on World Mission. This group is charged with envisioning future directions for the Episcopal Church's global mission work and engagement, and collaborating with different church groups and organizations to facilitate world mission.

As I reread the email, I concluded that someone had made a mistake. In August, after prayerful consideration, I had applied for an appointment to one of the Church's interim bodies (meaning they do the work of the church in the three years between General Conventions) involved with disability, sexual harassment, and the Church's covenant relationship

with Liberia. These were areas I felt confident that I could make a difference. The Standing Commission on World Mission seemed too big a stretch so I did not apply for consideration.

Alas, there was no mistake. Once again I am reminded that God rarely calls us to do easy things within our comfort zones. While we may prefer to play it safe, God calls us to do that which seems impossible, improbable, and inconceivable. Thankfully, God also calls us to participate in community so that we need not depend simply on our own abilities. As believers on a shared journey starting with baptism, all our God-given and inspired gifts, experiences, and relationships meld together to create possibilities beyond the imagination and capacity of any one person.

We often read in scripture about Jesus's invitations to cast aside doubts and possessions to "follow me" and seek the kingdom of God. I wonder what invitations might be sitting in our inboxes right now?

*Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men [and women].
Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers. Pray for powers equal to
your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you
shall be the miracle.*

Phillips Brooks (1835-1893, Bishop of Massachusetts,
lyricist of "O Little Town of Bethlehem")

Notable *Music this Sunday*

Soloist Ken Jaeb will sing MacDermid's "Psalm 91" and the choir will offer "Whoever Would Be Great" of Ronald A. Nelson. The organ

prelude will be in memory of Virgil Fox (May 3, 1912-October 25, 1980) whose signature organ arrangement of Bach's "Come, Sweetest Death" will be played.

The hymn sing scheduled for Sunday October 21st has been cancelled due to illness. Please hold Dr. John Ferguson in your prayers. We are hopeful we can reschedule.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, October 15th:

Knitting, 1:00pm

Wednesday, October 17th:

Study Group, 10:30am

MOD (Men Out Dining) Squad, 6:30pm @Tim's Tavern

Casual Evening Prayer, 5:30pm

Causal Evening Prayer, 5:30pm:

1st and 3rd Wednesdays

Noonday Eucharist:

2nd and 4th Wednesdays

THE WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON will be on Tuesday, **December 18**, at the Massillon Woman's Club. Guests are welcome. Please mark your calendar now. More information will be available in November.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS DOWNTOWN- Holiday time of year is rapidly approaching. We will again be helping our Canton neighbors in need of food at Thanksgiving. We are collecting one item only: stuffing mix. Our window of collection is very limited. We must have stuffed the narthex **by the end of October**. Last year there were a thousand families in need of food. PLEASE DONATE THIS ONE ITEM!

THANKSGIVING BASKET "MOVING NIGHT"

We also will be helping on "Moving Night," Friday, **November 16th** as the filled baskets are moved upstairs to the St. Paul's Canton parish hall. Compline and a reflection will follow this work. The time will be announced. this is a great activity for junior and senior high school students and older "kids" too!

Save the Date:

Monday, November 5th: Election Eve Prayers, 7:00pm

Thanksgiving Day, November 22nd: Holy Eucharist, 10:00am
Christmas Eve, 5:30pm (family service) & 10:00pm
Christmas Day, 10:00am
December 30th: Lessons and Carols 10:00am

Puppet Gang

Puppet Gang Sunday Practices for the Christmas Show

October: 28

November: 11, 25

December 9: Dress Rehearsal

December 16: Show

Please respond to text reminders the Saturday before practice. For more information, please contact Sandy Paradis or Jan Hudson.



Thankful *Thursdays*

School has begun! This means the time has come to start collecting for Thankful Thursdays again. Please consider donating any of the items listed below to stock our pantry again. These items will be given to families in need at Canton City's Schreiber Elementary School. Donations can be placed on the designated white table behind the Sanctuary. Thank you in advance!!

Emily Gordon and Mandy Pelger

Pasta
Tomato or Spaghetti Sauce (no glass please)
Fruit (in plastic containers or cans)
Canned vegetables
Hamburger helper or similar
Boxed rice or rice meals mixes
Canned Tuna Fish or Chicken
Macaroni & Cheese
Boxed mashed potatoes
Peanut Butter
Jelly/Jam/Preserves (no glass please)
Oatmeal
Granola bars
Cereal
Applesauce (no glass please)
Monetary donations



PRAYER CONCERNS

Ken Pakenham, Joan Werren, Ron Hill,
Peg Hill, Ken McPeck, Conley Family, Tom Burns

Family and Friends: Susan, Johnny Willoughby, The Shafer Family (friends of the Gordons), Layna (friend of Boyds), The Moore Family (friends of Nadels), The Latora Family, Judy and Mark McIlvaine (Sandi Kaustinen's sister-in-law and brother), Erin, Allison & Family, Carol Morton, Barry (friend of Gordons), James McIlvaine (Sandi Kaustinen's father), Baby Hudson, Shirley Allen (friend of the Mulls), Michelle Garber (family of Geoff and Bobbi Gordon), Matt Gagnon, The Kesslers, Gabe Russo

(cousin of Katie Cerrone-Arnold), Mary Frech, John Helmkamp (friend of Ron and Cindy Brown)

For all those serving in the armed forces:

For all those who have died.

-Please share updates with Bobbi Gordon.-

PRAYER CHAIN:

St. Mark's has a group of prayer warriors who pray for specific needs of those on the prayer chain. If you would like to place yourself or a loved one on the prayer chain, please contact Bobbi Gordon at

ggordon24@sbcglobal.net

Please note, prayer requests may be placed on the Prayer Chain, in the Sunday bulletin's Prayer Concerns, or in both places. Please let Bobbi know your preference.



THE EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE OF OHIO

This Week's Bicentennial Prayer comes from:

St. Timothy's Church - Macedonia

Lord God,
source of all that is good,
join us in the Diocese of Ohio
and here, at St. Timothy's Church in Macedonia,
as we intentionally invite new people
into relationship with you.
Lend us a guiding hand as we welcome newcomers
into our spiritual community.

Grant us wisdom as we offer them connections
through worship, education, and fellowship
which we draw them into our shared life
and into deeper relationship with you.
All this we ask in your name.
Amen.

Upcoming *Servers*

Servers today Sunday, October 14th:

Acolytes, 8:00am: Susie Hines

Acolytes, 10:00am: Lesley Kiesling, Colin Jenkins, Lauren Hoot,
Justin Crawl, Marilyn Thorp

Eucharistic Minister, 8:00am: Sara Strattan

Eucharistic Ministers, 10:00am: Bruce Schutrum, Anne Coen

Ushers: Bob Kennedy, Derek Gordon, Ron Brown

Altar Guild 8:00am: Susie Hines, Carol Popovich

If you are unable to serve, please try to find a sub as soon as possible and notify the office. Thank you!

Yours in Christ,
St. Mark's Episcopal Church



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We seek to unite all people with God and each other in Christ through worship, fellowship, education, and service.

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