

## EfM for Everyone

by Gary Love

Our eleven person EfM (Education for Ministry) group just completed its 21st weekly seminar meeting for year one of the EfM program. Some describe the EfM program as a study in practical theology. We aren't training to be ordained ministers or biblical scholars, but learning to examine and live life each day through a theological lens of faith so when faced with making an ethical choice we may better answer the question "How do I know this is a faithful way?" This program acknowledges that as Christians each of us are called to minister to one another in Christ's name as we live our daily lives. How has EfM helped me in responding to this call to minister? EfM is helping me move towards a life of wholeness. EfM is also helping me assume responsibility for my spiritual maturity.

Spiritual wholeness, I think, means living life without spiritual judgment (as contrasted to spiritual belief and conviction) on the choices of others. Whether these be choices of individuals, a community or society at large. The easy path for me is to say that something or someone made a wrong choice and then just label that choice as not worthy of thought or further consideration. The EfM structure

creates an environment that encourages listening and hearing the perspective of others. This applies to the group and the bible readings we've encountered. Thus far, the biblical study portion of EfM has focused on the old testament (Genesis through 2 Kings and several

of the works of the Prophets). These books are replete with stories of violence against others, abusive and unequal treatment of woman and the display of baser human emotions and responses as an extension of their faith. The practices and ways of interacting in eighth and seventh century B.C. seem very out of place with how we live today and how we perceive God. This creates a sense of ambiguity in connecting to these Old Testament offerings. What do these offerings mean to me?

The first response to this is an observation. As a boy and young man, Jesus studied the same texts we are now reading in our first year of EfM. The Gospel from this past Sunday (Fifth Sunday after Epiphany) makes it clear that he did not come to abolish the Old Testament law, but to bring out the real meaning (Matthew 5:13-20).

*(continued on page 2)*



EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY



THE  
FORTY  
DAYS  
of LENT

### Lenten Daily Eucharist

Our 7:00 a.m. daily Monday-Friday Eucharists run through April 9. Please join us in the Chapel and make this special service part of your Lenten journey.



### Easter Memorials

It is the custom at St. Mark's at Easter to invite our parish family to make a contribution to the Glory of God and in memory or honor of a loved one. This is not only an appropriate way to honor those who have gone before us, but these gifts make it possible to decorate the Cathedral in a festive manner. If you wish to make a donation please send your check along with the name or names you wish to commemorate to **Becky Deverts** in the Cathedral office **no later than Friday, March 27.**

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 am, 10:30 am & 6:00 pm Sunday  
Holy Eucharist  
*Holy Unction offered at 8:00 am,  
10:30 am and 6:00 pm*  
5:30 pm Friday  
Holy Eucharist (uses the Sunday Propers)

#### MARCH 1, 2020

##### *The First Sunday in Lent*

Genesis 2 :15-17 ; 3 :1-7      Romans 5 :12-19  
Psalm 32      Matthew 4 :1-11

#### MARCH 8, 2020

##### *The Second Sunday in Lent*

Genesis 12 :1-4a      Romans 4 :1-5, 13-17  
Psalm 121      John 3 :1-17

#### MARCH 15, 2020

##### *The Third Sunday in Lent*

Exodus 17:1-7      1 Romans 5 :1-11  
Psalm 95      John 4:5-42

#### MARCH 22, 2020

##### *The Fourth Sunday in Lent*

Samuel 16:1-13      Ephesians 5:8-14  
Psalm 23      John 9:1-41

#### MARCH 29, 2020

##### *The Fifth Sunday in Lent*

Ezekiel 37:1-14      Romans 8:6-11  
Psalm 130      John 11:1-45

(continued from page 1)

As Alston put it, many Old Testament actors were focused on observing the externality of the Law of Moses without being transformed within by the Spirit of Law. As a first year EfM participant reading the entertaining but seemingly inconsistent Old Testament, I find we are still searching for the same thing that Jesus spoke about and lived out over 2,000 years ago – transformation of our hearts. Recognizing that we are reading and studying the same passages as Jesus did is immensely uplifting and empowering.

The other takeaway is that the search for God in the 7th century B.C. was just as important then as it is today. Like us, in many cases, the Old Testament characters fell victim to their own human weakness and looked to God for guidance. The Old Testament figures were simply trying to understand God and how God could bring meaning and purpose to their lives. At times, Old Testament authors characterized God's response as one of anger or vengeance or some other lesser reaction of human nature. Rather than dismiss this characterization, EfM helped me realize that the authors were human. And as such, the Old Testament authors were faced with the fundamental limitation of human speech when trying to describe God. Unlike us as modern Christians who have the benefit of the teachings of Jesus, those ancient authors really had no better way to imagine God than in the likeness of human beings. Whether it be a recitation of the seemingly archaic actions of the seventh century Israelites or a review of random 21st century twitter postings of ordinary U.S. citizens, understanding the perspective of the subject is critical to ministering to the person. Acknowledging this wholeness means listening to that person and their story.

In EfM our first efforts at really listening have been with each other. In listening, hearing, agreeing or disagreeing with each other, we are taking the first steps to minister. In our listening we are both ministering and being ministered to.

EfM is also helping me assume responsibility for my spiritual maturity. One condition of participating in the seminar is agreeing to be responsible for reading the materials and reflecting on how the reading amazes, bothers, confuses and delights each of us. For meaning to flow from the weekly meeting, each participant commits to proper preparation. By each of us agreeing to offer thoughtful responses, we are accepting responsibility for our own and each other's spiritual maturity. Each week a different person is responsible for leading the group worship time. The intentionality of these commitments and acceptance of individual and group responsibility helps bring an awareness of the daily need for of ministry. Each of us are already minsters. The question that EfM helps answer is whether we will be intentional or unintentional in that role.

## Weekday Worship at the Cathedral

### **Weekdays except Wednesdays:**

7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

### **Wednesdays:**

7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

### **Fridays:**

Noon

Holy Eucharist  
& Healing service  
5:30 p.m.

Holy Eucharist

(The 5:30 service is  
an option for those  
who cannot attend  
Sunday worship.)



### Birthday Card Ministry

This year, we launched a birthday card ministry to celebrate all of our parishioners. If you find yourself wanting to serve but needing to do it on your own time, please consider this meaningful ministry. Materials are provided. For more information, please contact **Lauren Ewing** at **550-1743** or **lauren.ewing@me.com**.



A full-color version of *The Evangelist* is on our website! Go to "About Us," then "News."

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### March 1

Patsy Stroud

2

John Hyatt  
Johnette Huguley  
Lee Grigsby  
Taylor Weir

3

Emily Merckle  
Wade Culbertson  
Christopher Marsalis  
Mae Horn  
Ava Burch

4

George Head  
Judy Werner  
Phil Lattier  
Robert Russell  
Cherie Sealy  
Jane Thomas  
Cook Dourhitt

5

Ted Hardtner  
Rowena White  
Matt Snyder  
Scott Grayson  
Mimi Hedgcock

6

Nicholas Pavlick  
Bay Moss  
Mary Brown

7

Lois Montelepre  
Susan Young  
Trisha Q=Petersen

8

Austin Rhodes

9

Marissa Hill  
Mark Florsheim

10

Bob McVie  
Joshua Knicely  
Matt Coady

11

Beverly Powers  
Susan Strother  
Ben Walker  
Caitlyn Martin

12

Harriet Evans  
Robinson Humphrey  
John Ewing

13

Mary Baldridge  
Sherry Anderson  
Dorothy Shemwell  
Claire Williams  
John Irion

14

Nan Stewart  
Alec Van Hook  
Ty Alley  
David Newtown  
Caroline Bartle

15

Don Walter  
Michelle Williams  
Judy Kane  
Victoria Culbertson  
Ella Horne  
Sam Johnson

16

Cameron Jones  
Reiley Arnold

17

Kit Cooper  
Stephen Koruna

18

Doug Rountree  
Nicole Tiedge

Julia Smith

19

Roxanne Williams

20

Stacie Henagan

21

Peggy Shemwell  
Grayson Clarke  
Sadie Aaron

22

Sherry Paschall  
Patrick Bicknell  
Jason Thomas  
Christie Schimpf

23

Chris Stoll  
Chuck Harris  
McCord Coleman  
John Baxter Atkins  
Anna Watt

24

Dewey Corley  
Mike Harter  
Jim Himes  
Jack Brown

25

Pete Treat

Cammie Goodall  
Olivia Buttermann

26

Robert Grand  
Alison Byrd  
Lisa Nelson  
Frazier Horn

27

Susan Roberts  
Pat Caraway  
Clarissa Martin  
Suzy Nelson  
Linda Vozzella  
Rebecca D'Anna  
Jon-Christian Stewart  
Andrew Treiman  
Chase Henagan  
Mary Megan Sealy

29

Alexandra Vozella

30

Sophie Q=Petersen

31

Art Carter  
Christina Stage  
Erin Holley  
Christina Powell

## Cathedral Coffee Time

9:00 - 9:30 am  
in the Parlor

## Music & Worship



Services of Choral Evensong will be presented by the St. Mark's Boys and Girls Choir along with the Evensong Choir on the following Sundays in March:

**Sunday, March 1 – Evensong**

**Sunday, March 8 – Evensong**

**Sunday, March 15 – Evensong**

Please join us for this beautiful and contemplative service. Choral Evensong begins at 5:15pm and immediately precedes the 6:00pm Eucharist.



**St. Mark's Physical Training**  
Monday-Friday 5:30 am at the Cathedral

## STMPPT (St. Mark's Physical Training)

meets at 5:30 a.m. every weekday morning in the field across from the parking lot.





## St. Mark's EYC News



Something that has been a huge gift to EYC since this Fall has been the addition of our young adult Mentor Team which meets with the Cathedral youth every Sunday at the Ministry

Center. I am probably starting to sound like a broken record in mentioning that, but simply put, I *cannot* thank them enough. Erin, Andrew, Laura, and Carson, all who attend St. Mark's and have committed to serving on our youth team for a year, have been a crucial part of this important ministry.

As you very well may know, churches, especially in this day and age, are constantly asking the question to themselves, "How do we get more young folks?" Many who minister in that field will say that one size does not fit all. And this is true. One strategy will work for every church setting. However, I think there is one thing that does "work", and that is keeping Jesus Christ at the center of all we do, and recognizing that how God meets all of us through Jesus Christ, is the ultimate purpose for any ministry, youth or otherwise.

Around last June, I was browsing through any resource I could find at the time about anything related to youth ministry, with hope of finding something that could be of service to what we do at St. Mark's. This is when I discovered *The Longer Haul*. It is a youth ministry podcast, with over a hundred episodes that can be accessed on Spotify, iTunes, or their website [thelongerhaul.com](http://thelongerhaul.com). The podcast is hosted by youth ministers and they bring all kinds of different youth ministers as guests to talk about a wide variety of topics related to youth ministry, from countdown of best youth games to generational studies. No other resource, book, web article, etc. came to me that was nearly as interesting or inspiring as this podcast. I encourage people who have any deep interest in what the church does (whether in the area of youth ministry or not) to take a listen to it.

In one particular episode, a youth minister named Alan Smith is interviewed about his book *Let's Go: Creating and Sustaining a Thriving Youth Ministry*. It is an honest look at the essentials of what makes ministry strong. He spent a great deal of time talking about one chapter in the book which he titled "It's not all about you." It was his personal account of the course his ministry took that led him to the important realization that he could not do it *all by himself*. In his first couple of years of ministry, he wanted to be "big up front" and "organize

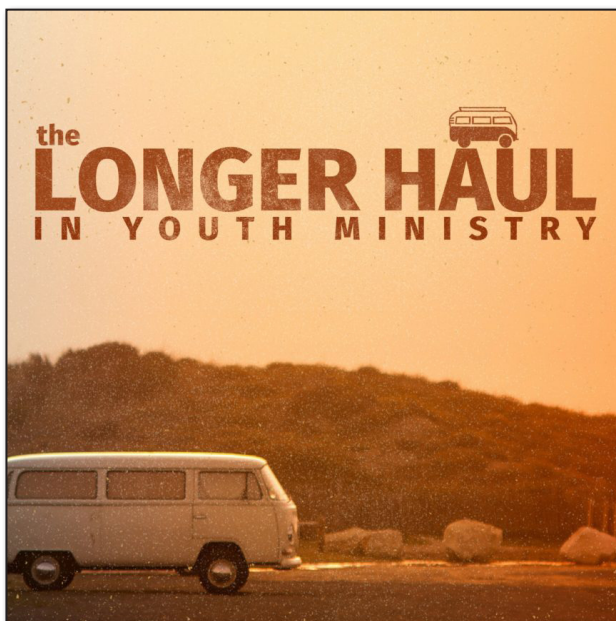
everything". But he soon found there was no way he could do everything that he needed to get it done. "No *one* person" can do all that, he said. When I listened to this episode recently, I thought of our current EYC Mentor team, especially when Smith says in the episode, "If you want to have a big impact on the kingdom, you need others alongside you."

Looking to Ephesians chapter 4, Smith emphasized that ministry is about equipping – equipping others to be the Body of Christ, growing in faith, growing in knowledge of Christ, and "attaining the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." Without this, no ministry (youth or otherwise) is going to go very far. (I remember elsewhere on the podcast, host Jody Livingston said "you can do student ministry without Jesus for about 2 years." That's roughly the time limit.)

So how do you do youth ministry *with* Jesus? Smith basically says two things: slow down and get buy-in, and cast a vision. Sure, that may seem vague. This also isn't going to look the same everywhere. But I believe in St. Mark's EYC, we have begun to get very serious about these two things. We have had great fellowship. We also have had a growing sense of vision and purpose (which isn't necessarily a slogan or tagline that we have to come up with, but something felt and believed by all who are involved).

Smith closed out the interview by saying that youth ministries that believe in this *will* make the time and they *will* figure out how. "We've got to go New Testament... it's not complicated but it's hard work with lots of prayer."

Fr. Drew+



The wedding of **Rev. Andrew L. Christiansen** and **Rachael Williams** is on **April 25th, 2020** at the Cathedral. For members of the congregation who plan on coming, please RSVP at [www.theknot.com/us/andrew-christiansen-and-rachael-williams-apr-2020](http://www.theknot.com/us/andrew-christiansen-and-rachael-williams-apr-2020)

## EYC SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Sundays 5:45 in the Ministry Center

\*no EYC on March 22 and 29 due to the EYC/St. Mark's School trip to the Dominican Republic

**St. Mark's Vacation Bible School this year will be July 6th-10th. There will be more details in the March Evangelist, and information on how to sign up your child and/or to volunteer.**



**Please check out the upcoming camps and retreats at Camp Hardtner open to Episcopal youth from the Diocese.**

**SPEND A WEEKEND WITH US!**

**CLEY**

GRADES 9-12, MAR 27-29

**EYE**

GRADES 9-12, JUL 7-11

DIOCESAN YOUTH EVENTS  
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN WESTERN LOUISIANA  
[WWW.EPIWLA.ORG](http://WWW.EPIWLA.ORG) / @EYCWLA

## Adult Christian Formation

9:30 am

**C. S. Lewis- Mere Christianity**

Taught by Dean Alston Johnson

Ministry Center Room 101

## Cathedral School News

by Rev. Drew Christiansen

[drew@stmarkscathedral.net](mailto:drew@stmarkscathedral.net)

February was a great month at St. Mark's Cathedral School: the Father & Daughter Dance, the 8th Grade SMCS float at the Highland Parade, the 2020 Talent Show, and several exciting boys' basketball games. We also started incorporating skits in the chapel life of the school based on lessons and themes from the *Friendzy*, a social and emotional learning curriculum recently implemented at St. Mark's. These monthly performances by our middle schoolers will be featured during our Family Chapel services on Friday.



St. Mark's School is now into the season of Lent. During Lent, SMCS students will be participating in their own version of "Lent Madness," which is an elimination-tournament where students will vote on certain days for Christian saints from different periods of history. The winner receives the "Golden Halo." This is adapted from a yearly Lent Madness that is put on by Forward Day by Day at [www.lentmadness.org](http://www.lentmadness.org). Also during Lent, all grades at St. Mark's will be collecting pennies for Providence House.

Also, if you wish to still buy tickets for FIESTA!, please do so soon. FIESTA! is an annual party and fundraiser for SMCS Parents' Club. It is on Friday, March 13th at the Remington Suite Hotel from 6:30-10 PM. Tickets can be purchased at [cbo.io/tickets/stmark/tix](https://cbo.io/tickets/stmark/tix)

St. Mark's EYC and St. Mark's School's Service Leadership Club are partnering for the Spring Break trip to the Dominican Republic this month. We will be working with 3MM, a school located in one of Cabarete, Dominican Republic's poorest communities. 3MM makes early childhood education accessible to families who are ready for change. 6 out of 10 students live in poverty and attend 3MM on full scholarship. This trip will be a cultural and spiritual immersion for our youth both from the Cathedral and the Cathedral school. We thank many of our generous donors from the Cathedral, the school, and outside of the Cathedral and school for your generosity in making this trip happen. We are still accepting items for donation (as well as luggage bags). The wishlist of items can be accessed at [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/329EVDJILKFBR?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/329EVDJILKFBR?ref_=wl_share)

Wishing you many blessings in this Season of Lent.

Fr. Drew+

## Children's Christian Formation

9:15 a.m. – 12:30 pm Nursery

(newborn to K3 - 3 years old by September 30th)

First floor of Parish building next to Catechesis Atriums

9:30 – 10:30 am Sunday school (4th – 5th grade)

Second floor of Parish building in the old nursery location

9:30 am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (K-3 – Kindergarten)

First floor of Parish Building- Rooms 105 & 106

10:30 am Children's Chapel (1st – 5th grade)

Second floor of Parish building in the old nursery location

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Level I & Level II Atriums (Children Ages 3-8 years old)

### NEW PODCAST!

*The Good Shepherd & The Child* podcast has just been announced. It is dedicated to exploring the spirituality of the child using the method of The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. You can visit <https://cgsusa.podbeam.com/> for more information.



The Kairos weekend is here again, March 19-22, at Wade Correctional Center, Homer, LA. You are invited to participate in many ways possible but particularly in prayers, in baking cookies, and financial donations. I have signup sheets for those who would like to pray for 10 minutes on Sunday, March 22 between 6-8pm, and I have instructions for those who would like to bake cookies. All financial donations are to be made to St. Mark's Cathedral, earmarked Kairos. For more information, please contact Fr. Thomas at [thomas@stmarkscathedral.net](mailto:thomas@stmarkscathedral.net). Thank you for your help.



— Thomas

## The Fasting Fund a St. Mark's Lenten Tradition



One of St. Mark's Lenten traditions is the Fasting Fund. The purpose is simple: We ask that you forgo one meal a week, and contribute a few dollars - what you would have spent on that meal - to the fasting fund. (Of course, you can forgo more than one meal a week if you wish.) Baskets are placed at the back of the chapel for the daily 7:00 a.m. Eucharist services and the base of the steps to the chancel for Sunday services to collect these offerings. This year, donations to the Lenten Fasting Fund will go to Jewel House. Please consider making the Fasting Fund a part of your Lenten observance. A simple fast of one or more meals a week can teach us a lot about the temptations Jesus faced in the wilderness and our own earthly journey. Join us.



## Oblationers Needed

Our Hospitality Committee invites parishioners (families, adult singles, siblings, friends) to serve as oblationers (gift bearers) at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. This is a meaningful way to serve the faith community. For more information please contact **Kathy Williams** at 469-9211.



## Expectant Moms of St. Mark's

If you are or know anyone who is expecting a child our committee is up and running and is looking for mommies to be. Please contact us at [bess@stmarkscathedral.net](mailto:bess@stmarkscathedral.net) or sign up on our website under family ministries. We hope to welcome mothers into our community. We look forward to hearing from you soon.



## Lost Anything at Church?

Or maybe you're just missing some item and have no idea where it might have gone. Drop by or call the church office and check into our lost and found! We have everything from sunglasses to scarves to cell phones to jewelry (including some very nice pieces.) Check and see what you're missing!



## Yoga

- Traditional Hatha Yoga (all levels)
- Every Tuesday and Thursday
- 8:30 am - 9:30 am
- Garden Room
- Cost: Free
- Bring your yoga mat and a change of clothes for traversing the building

St. Mark's Cathedral  
908 Rutherford  
Garden Room, Ministry Center

## MEMORIAL FLOWERS

### March 1

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ray A. Barlow, Ray Allan Barlow, Jr., John Wallace Lloyd, Pauline & Bill Barlow, and Nelle & Jim Aimer.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gene Rogers, Alan Rogers, Mr. & Mrs. H.E. Rogers, Mr. & Mrs. J.P. Baker and John Baker.

### March 8

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of James Buchanan Haynes, Jr., Katherine Haynes Sales, Mr. & Mrs. Albert Kennedy DeFrance, Mr. & Mrs. James Buchanan Haynes, Mr. Albert Kennedy DeFrance, Jr., and Nell Davidge Haynes.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Raymond Morgan, Catherine Tucker Morgan, and Herbert Tucker Morgan.

### March 15

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Barbara Lanier Allison, Raymond Stewart Allison, and Elizabeth Wiggins Lloyd.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Randall R. Austin.

### March 22

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert Uhle Goodman, Edith Caskey Goodman, Uhle Slater Goodman, Knox Williams McGuffin, Burford McGuffin, and David Burford McGuffin.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in honor of Bob McVie on his retirement from LSU Health after 41 years.

### March 29

The greenery on the High Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Richard Thomas Chapman, Mr. & Mrs. Emil Henry Herzog, Ward Llay, III, and Chapman Carter Lay.

The greenery on the Chapel Altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. George Beach, Sara Schneider Botkin, Frederick Hall Schneider, Jr. Sara Ann Schneider Mott, Joseph M. Mott, Frederick Hall Schneider III, Frederick Miller Carmody, and Anthony Phelan Carmody.

## DEATHS

Rest Eternal grant to him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him.

**Richard Barnette**, brother of **Sheryl Ostendorff**, on February 4, 2020.

**Hugh Brown** on February 8, 2020.

**Diane Haddad**, sister-in-law of **Emaree Wallace**, on February 9, 2020.

**John Miles**, husband of **Ev Miles**, on February 10, 2020.

May his soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

## BAPTISMS

You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked at Christ's own forever. Amen.

**Mollie Catherine Kennedy**, daughter of **Lacie & Stiles Kennedy**, on February 9, 2020.

**Grayson Hollis Ameen**, son of **Laura & Michael Ameen**, on February 16, 2020.

**Anneliese Rose Giescke**, daughter of **Laura & Kevin Giescke**, on February 16, 2020.

**Deborah Elizabeth Hargrove**, daughter of **Rebecca & Clyde Hargrove**, on February 16, 2020.

## BIRTHS

**Margaret MacKay Gaiennie**, born February 25, 2020. Parents are **Sarah & Thomas Gaiennie**. Grandparents are **Kathryn & Cass Gaiennie**.

## Members of the Vestry of St. Mark's Cathedral

Lad Shemwell, Senior Warden – Bill Kalmbach, Junior Warden – Murray Viser, Treasurer – John Reeks, Chancellor

2019	2020	2021	2022
Melissa Flores	Matt Coady	Marilyn Kirkland	Ellen Alley
Jonathan Hardtner	Carol Anne Caraway	Lisa Love	Mike Ameen
Sanders Hearne	Bob Ewing	Cody Mayo	Oliver Jenkins
Dan Koruna	Brandy Griffes	William Weaver	Brad Massad
Doug Rountree	Debbie Hall	Bud Westmoreland	Emily Merkle

**The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby**  
(Bishop of Western Louisiana)  
bishopjake@epiwl.org

**The Very Rev. Alston Johnson**  
(Dean)  
abjohnson@stmarkscathedral.net

**The Rev. Thomas Nsubuga**  
(Sub-Dean)  
thomas@stmarkscathedral.net

**The Rev. Dr. Rowena White**  
(Canon)  
rowena@stmarkscathedral.net

**The Rev. Dr. Wayne Carter**  
(Associate Clergy)  
wayne@stmarkscathedral.net

**The Rev. Drew Christiansen** (Curate)  
drew@stmarkscathedral.net

**Bryan T. Mitnaul**  
(Canon for Cathedral Music)  
bryan@stmarkscathedral.net

**John Scheel** (Facilities Manager)  
john@stmarkscathedral.net

**Becky Deverts**  
(Financial Office Manager)  
becky@stmarkscathedral.net

**Bess Maxwell**  
(Administrative Assistant)  
bess@stmarkscathedral.net

**Jennifer Beruvides** (Coordinator for  
Events and Hands-on Outreach Ministry)  
jennifer@stmarkscathedral.net

**Cynthia Anderson** (Receptionist)  
cynthia@stmarkscathedral.net

**Beth Reeks**  
(Minister for Pre-K Children's Programs)  
preschool.beth@gmail.com

St. Mark's Cathedral (Episcopal)  
908 Rutherford Street  
Shreveport, LA 71104  
(318) 221-3360  
Fax: (318) 424-8427  
www.stmarkscathedral.net  
Address Service Requested

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