

making our steps secure. He has heard our cry and lifted us out of the desolate pit. (He has given us a two-week vacation from the “everydayness” of our job, and helped us save the money to take this trip!)

God’s gift of a vacation does put a new song in our mouths. Praise His name!

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7; Psalm 54; Galatians 3:15-22; Matthew 14:22-36

Anniversaries: Nick & Amy Freese

Birthdays: Charlie Rusch, Kelloryn Kalwa, Daniel Beier

Friday’s Calendar:

Summer Office Hours Begin: 9:00 am- 1:00 pm

7:00 am Hour of Power AA

9:30 am Life Group

8:00 pm AA Friday Nite Young People

Today’s Ministry: Coffee Hour Ministry

Saturday, June 8

Psalm 55 *Cast your burden on the LORD and He will sustain you.* (v.22a)

It is wonderful news that God does not ask us to carry heavy burdens to prove our love for Him. He actually invites us to throw our heavy loads on Him, and then promises to sustain us.

We ask Him to give ear to our prayers and know that He will save us. No burden is too heavy for our Lord.

From our friends in Alcoholics Anonymous we learn some important truths: “Let go and let God” and “One day at a time.” So many times, I want to see the end result immediately. Now I try to trust God for just today!

David felt betrayed by his former friend; fear and horror overwhelmed him. He complains and moans. He cries out to God and He listens morning, noon, and night. And God saves David because he put his trust in the Lord.

It is so great that we can come to God with all the garbage of our life—the bad and ugly as well as the good and joyful. We do not need to stuff the feelings or try to drown them with food or drink or gambling or shopping. Our God will deliver our souls in safety as we cast our burdens on Him.

Ecclesiastes 5:8-20; Galatians 3:23—4:11; Matthew 15:1-20

Birthdays: Jean Corson, Loretta Kaes, Lois Folino

Saturday’s Calendar:

7:00 am Hour of Power AA

9:00 am Shepherd Group

10:00 am Bible Study ONLINE

8:30 pm Not Alone Group

5:00 pm Holy Eucharist Rite II

Today’s Ministry: Communications Team

Reflections by Jacqueline Littleford

Used with permission from the BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP

PO Box 380, Winter Park, FL 32790

www.biblereading.org



St. Mary's Episcopal Church

“Growing into Jesus - Reaching out with Love”

The Clergy

The Rev. Joseph Shepley, Rector - frjoe@stmarys-stuart.org

The Rev. Christian S. Anderson, Vicar of Operations -

christian@stmarys-stuart.org

Affiliated Clergy

The Rev. Tom Hartley

The Rev. P.J. Woodall

Lay Staff

Tom Winter, Director of Finance- tom@stmarys-stuart.org

Ashley Guzi, Director of Administration - ashley@stmarys-stuart.org

Brandon Glick, Director of Music & Liturgy - brandon@stmarys-stuart.org

Malinda Fritz, Youth Director - malinda@stmarys-stuart.org

Justin Breese, Director of Facilities & Events - justin@stmarys-stuart.org

Kate Abate, Administrative Assistant - kate@stmarys-stuart.org

Pat Channing, Praise Band Director - the2ndmousestudio@gmail.com

Robert Mancuso, Mary’s Closet Manager - robert@stmarys-stuart.org

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church

623 SE Ocean Blvd. | Stuart, FL 34994

Phone (772) 287-3244 | www.stmarys-stuart.org



ST. MARY’S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Good News Daily

Volume XXIV

June 2-8, 2024

Number 22

Sunday, June 2

Luke 11:1-13 *“And I tell you, Ask, and it will be given you; seek and you will find.”* (v.9a RSV)

Ask for what you need! Our loved ones are not mind readers. We need to say the words: “Please let’s go out to dinner Friday night.”

The phone company urges us to “reach out and touch.” Are we willing to ask our fellow Christians to pray for us or help us with a problem or give us their insight?

Luke reminds us that, if a son asking for a fish or an egg will not be given a serpent or a scorpion by his earthly father, how much more will our generous Heavenly Father give us the things for which we ask.

So often I spend hours worrying, fretting, and stewing, seeking answers but often in all the wrong places. Then when I turn to my loving Heavenly Father in prayer, I can trust that He will give me the wisdom I need and the courage to keep on asking and seeking.

Jesus gave us his example of spending all night in prayer, of drawing into solitude to pray and of praying in the Garden of Gethsemane for strength to face the cross.

Mark 11:24 tell us, “whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” Praise the Lord!

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11; Psalms 63, 98; Acts 8:26-40

Birthdays: Edward Morgan, Cecil Worley, Ray Smith, Taylor Higgins, Beth Sutor

Sunday’s Calendar:

7:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite I

9:00 am Contemporary Family Worship

10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

2:00 pm Overeaters Anonymous

Today’s Ministry: AV Team

Monday, June 3

Ecclesiastes 2:1-15 *Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had spent in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun.* (v.11)

It is said that no one ever says on his death bed, “I wish I had spent more time at the office.” But how many people wish they had spent more time with their children and spouse!

We work hard to get more things to try to fill that God-shaped vacuum within us but, as St. Augustine said, our hearts are restless until they find their rest in Him.

The teacher/preacher writer of Ecclesiastes said he made a test of pleasure saying: Enjoy yourself. But it was vanity. He said of laughter “it is mad” and of pleasure “what use is it”? He made great works, building houses and planting vineyards, making gardens and parks, gathering silver and gold—but it was all vanity and striving after wind.

How many busy CEOs cannot remember their children’s birthdays and hobbies—and perhaps not even their names? Sadly, some of us can even get so busy with church activities that we have no time for our families.

Let us see that wisdom excels folly as light excels darkness and pray for godly wisdom.

Psalms 41, 52; Galatians 1:1-17; Matthew 13:44-52

Anniversaries: Richard & Mary Donovan, Andrew & Valerie Larosa

Birthdays: Eva Lippincott, John Norris, Chris Gerbino, Luanne Dwyer

Monday’s Calendar:

7:00 am	Hour of Power AA
10:00 am	Praying Hands (1 st & 3 rd Mondays)
3:00 pm	Daughters of the King (2 nd Mondays)
5:45 pm	ACOA

Today’s Ministry: Backpack Buddies

Tuesday, June 4

Psalms 45 *Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows.* (v.7b)

The month of June is the time for much gladness: graduation, weddings, the beginning of summer, Father’s Day, and vacations. Yet our generous God can give us joy and gladness all year long.

The knowledge that our sins are forgiven because of Jesus’ death and resurrection give us that deep-down peace that passes all understanding that can make a difference in how we greet the world each morning.

Our iniquities are forgiven and our sins are covered (Romans 4:7) and we are part of God’s “forever-family” so we can share with the world the joy in our hearts by random acts of kindness.

We are told that it takes fewer muscles to smile than to frown. Certainly, Christians can share their smiles and enthusiasm for life to add pleasure to someone else’s day.

One of the ways God puts joy in my heart and shows His love and compassion to me is through the hugs I receive from my sisters and brothers in Christ when we pass the peace, and the touches on the arm or

shoulder when my fellow members of the body of Christ return from Communion. The power of touch is so great and, as a single person, sometimes Sunday mornings are the only time I have the luxury of Jesus’ physical touch through my church family. It anoints me with the oil of gladness!

Ecclesiastes 2:16-26; Galatians 1:18—2:10; Matthew 13:53-58

Anniversaries: David & Carol Seidel, Bonnie & Brent Moser

Birthdays: Judy Chamberlin, Evi Flaugh, Kathy Day, Danielle Alba, John Waterman

Tuesday’s Calendar:

7:00 am	Hour of Power AA
9:30 am	Women’s Bible Study
12:10 pm	Healing Service

Today’s Ministry: Bible Study Groups

Wednesday, June 5

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 *For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.* (v.1)

“Is God really in control?” my doubting friend asks me. “Why do the innocent suffer? Why do non-believers seem to get ahead more easily than believers?”

The teacher/preacher writer of Ecclesiastes says: Yes, our just and loving God is in charge, and life is a set of ordained appointments which open the windows of eternity to us.

The slogan is certainly true that God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life!

We need that God-centered worldview in our world where racism and poverty and abuse and crime and wickedness seem to be everywhere.

There is a time to be born and a time to die...a time to weep and a time to laugh...a time to seek and a time to lose...a time to keep and a time to cast away. God has made everything beautiful and put eternity into people’s minds (v.11).

We are not puppets; He has given us freedom of choice. God will eventually judge the world and assert His control. We can be assured of that as we sing in the great spiritual, “He’s got the whole world in His hands.”

Psalms 119:49-72; Galatians 2:11-21; Matthew 14:1-12

Birthdays: Elizabeth Belville

Wednesday’s Calendar:

7:00 am	Hour of Power AA
9:30 am	School of Prayer
10:00 am	Life Group
4:30 pm	Mary’s Kitchen
5:30 pm	Daily Reflections AA

Today’s Ministry: Chalice Bearers

Thursday, June 6

Psalms 50 *For every beast of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.* (v.10)

Why do we worry about finances and our future? All of creation belongs to our Abba Father. Scientists using the Hubble telescope discovered that there are 40 billion more galaxies in the universe than previously believed, and each galaxy contains 50 to 100 billion stars. I cannot even comprehend that many galaxies, let alone stars!

Our God has all the riches of the universe to share with us—why do we worry? Jesus reminds us: Consider the lilies of the field—even the great king Solomon in all his glory was not dressed like one of them (Luke 12:27).

We must be good stewards of what God has given us. It is suggested that after we give our tithe we put 10% in savings and then live on 80% of our salary. It is important that we not get sucked into the advertising hype and over-spend or charge more than we can pay back without financial trouble.

As the psalmist says, “Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and pay your vows to the Most High” (v.14). Then He invites us to “call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

Ecclesiastes 3:16—4:3; Galatians 3:1-14; Matthew 14:13-21

Anniversaries: Ernie & Libby Peixotto, Matthew & Emily Gallo

Birthdays: David Dye

Thursday’s Calendar:

7:00 am	Hour of Power AA
7:30 am	Men’s Bible Study
9:30 am	Life Group (Zoom)
10:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite II
4:30 pm	Life Group
5:00 pm	Life Group
5:30 pm	East Ocean Group AA
5:45 pm	ACOA
7:00 pm	Al-Anon- Stepping Stones

Today’s Ministry: Choir

Friday, June 7

Psalms 40 *He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.* (v.3)

One of the great joys of vacation time is the chance to experience more of God’s beautiful creation: the mountains, lakes, forests, plains, canyons, rivers, deserts, oceans, caves, and all the flora and fauna of planet Earth—our island home. And praise Him for eyes to see His gorgeous gifts!

Let us also remember to appreciate the family and friends with us in the car, plane, bus, train, or ship as we travel. And if our vacation includes hiking or biking or camping, thank Him for health and vigor to engage in these activities. We can double our pleasure by moving through the day with thanksgiving to our Creator.

The psalmist reminds us that God has set our feet upon a rock,