

OCTOBER

2022

NEWSLETTER

ST. MARK'S AND ST. JOHN'S

AN E.D.E.N COMMUNITY



**BE REAL.
BE HEALED.
BE LOVE.**

UPDATES

It is Stewardship Season! Join us in the celebration of areas of abundance as well as opportunities to grow through giving.

Empty Bowls is back!
Save the Date for
November 4th at
6:30 pm.

Special EDEN Garden Work Days are taking place this month! Join us Saturday mornings 10/1, 10/8, & 10/15

RECTOR'S NOTE

I hope this note finds you and those you love well. As I write, I am mindful that the devastation of hurricane Ian is just starting to be known. The loss of life and property is immense. For those who stayed as the high winds and torrential rain moved across Florida and South Carolina, the experience was terrifying. We hold our sisters and brothers in prayer, and in the coming days and weeks, we'll see what we can do to help. As storms continue to get bigger and more powerful and the earth protests through wind and water and fires - it is easy to feel powerless and overwhelmed. I am reminded of Martin Luther insisting that no matter how bad things seemed to get, Christians should go plant a tree - a sign of hope. We are called to keep our eyes, mind, and hearts open no matter what because we are people of the resurrection. We believe in the abundance of God and life and are called to live accordingly. In this newsletter, there are signs of Christ's abiding love and the eternal hope that springs forth from this love. As our community grows in every way, I invite you to find ways to say "yes" to the abundance in your life, even though you may be experiencing wind and rain. Embracing the love God has for you and finding ways for us to pay it forward is, after all, a gift to be able to provide during the storm.

SMSJ OPERATIONS & MISSIONS

A big thank you to everyone that has supported our E.D.E.N Mission Programs this month with your time and talents! September was full of continued abundance from our Gardens, and Farm Stand was able to close out with a season revenue of over \$1,000 to support our programs. We are grateful to have welcomed new volunteers that will be serving regularly, however the need for consistent volunteers for Food Shelf is still a need that remains. If you have been looking for a way to get involved, consider a regular commitment to this ministry!

As Maria continues to settle in, she is grateful to everyone who has offered help and guidance entering into this role!

SEPTEMBER HARVEST

Over 700 lbs of produce was harvested from the E.D.E.N Gardens this month for our neighborhood!

SEPTEMBER FOOD SHELF

We were able to serve over 250 guests this month by providing bagged food and fresh produce from the gardens!

EMERGENCY FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

It is no secret that the cost of food has increased for everyone. This increase has drastically impacted our Food Shelf distribution and the cost of our order from Foodlink each week. Help us close the gap by making an Emergency Food Fund Donation at stmarksandstjohns.org/give

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT SMSJ

Gardens

Food Shelf

Monday

4 pm - Denver Garden (2nd & 4th Week of the Month)
6 pm - EDEN 1199



Tuesday

5 pm - EDEN Parsells
5 pm - EDEN Merchants

Tuesday

Unload Foodlink Truck
Pack Distribution Bags

Wednesday

9 am - Church Garden

Wednesday

Distribution 10:30 am-Noon

Saturday

9 am-Noon, October 1, 8, & 15
(Locations TBD - RSVP to Maria)



FALL FAMILY FUN DAY

Thanks to all who joined us for Family Fun Day in September! We are excited to be back for more on Sunday, October 9th right after Worship. Come down to the Great Hall for pumpkin painting, hot cider, and doughnuts!

Save the Date for future events in 2022:

11/20 - Gratitude & Games

12/18 - Cookie Decorating



EMPTY BOWLS IS BACK

We are excited to bring back our Empty Bowls fundraiser this year! Join us on Friday, November 4th at 6:30 pm.

Tickets will be in limited quantity due to decreased capacity as a health and safety precaution - and a take out option will also be available! Tickets will go on sale Monday, October 10 at bit.ly/SMSJEmptyBowls.

INTRODUCING STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2023 - MORE THAN ENOUGH

We are approaching the time of year where it is upon us to make a commitment to the important act of stewardship. Beginning Sunday, October 23, members of our community will be sharing about what stewardship and giving means to them. We invite you to celebrate in an acknowledgment of our abundant gratitude before pledges are due on November 20th by adding to the "More than Enough" gratitude wall that will be going up in the Sanctuary later this month.



Giving to the church is important to me because it is what I do in response to what I believe in.

I know that God's love is unconditional and making a pledge brings me closer to God because it involves a real commitment on my part.

-Nancy, *Stewardship Committee*



Why I Tithe Money and Time: I have been abundantly blessed throughout my life but I am mostly thankful for the love and salvation given by God. Thanking God doesn't seem enough. In Matthew 25:40 Jesus says "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." I tithe to keep my church and its missions moving forward, to help the least of these.

-Michele, *Stewardship Committee*



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, 10/1 - 9:00 am-Noon

Special EDEN Garden Project Work Day
Volunteer groups from Nazareth College and University of Rochester

Sunday, 10/2 - 9:15 am

Sunday Worship and Visit with Bishop Lane

Saturday, 10/8 - 9:00 am-Noon

Special EDEN Project Work Day
Volunteer Group from University of Rochester

Sunday, 10/9 - 10:30 am-12:00 pm

Fall Family Fun Day - Pumpkin Painting

Wednesday, 10/12 - 10:00 am

Stewardship Committee Meeting

Saturday, 10/15 - 9:00 am-Noon

Special EDEN Project Work Day
Volunteer Groups from University of Rochester

Monday, 10/17 - 6:30 pm

Vestry Meeting

Saturday, 10/22 - 9:00 am-Noon

Fall Vestry Retreat

Friday, 10/28 - 9:00 am-Noon

Special EDEN Project Work Day
Volunteer group from Webster Central School District

Saturday, 10/28 - 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Community Resource Fair @ The Ryan Center

PRAY WITH US

Sunday Worship

9:15 AM

The laying on of hands and anointing with holy oil will be available during worship the second Sunday of the month, beginning 10/9.

Weekly Centering Time

Beginning in October, a healing prayer service will be posted online at noon on Wednesdays on our YouTube channel and Facebook page.

CONNECT WITH US!



Phone:

(585) 654-9229



Facebook:

@stmarksandstjohns



Instagram:

@stmarksandstjohns



Youtube:

@StMarksandStJohns



Website:

stmarksandstjohns.org

