

## ***Greetings Sunday School Teachers, Youth Group Volunteers, Youth & Parents!<sup>1</sup>***

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As always, I encourage you to periodically check the diocese's youth website: <http://episcopalmarylandyouth.weebly.com/> If you see something there you feel should be here, then let me know.

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**HEY GEEKS!\*** Do you like tech? Like the idea of sitting behind a soundboard keeping things audible? Like being the cool roadie who runs the wires on stage and does the sound-checks? Like having something to do in church besides annoy your little brother? We have an interesting opportunity for you to serve St. Margaret's. We are trying to put together a Tech Team to help out on Sundays and possibly other events as well. If this "sounds" (get it?) like it is up your alley, let Jenelle or me know. P.S. You don't *have* to be a youth!

*\*Said in the kindest, most respectful way possible!*

### **MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY EVENTS**

There are a number of events sponsored by a wide variety of organizations that are going to take place on MLK Day, January 16<sup>th</sup>. **I am really pushing the third option below!** A sampling:

1. In Baltimore, there is the **Martin Luther King Jr. March** sponsored by the Diocese.

*January 15-16, Sunday at 7:00 PM through Monday at 3:00 PM*

*Cost: Free Deadline is January 3rd.*

Join us for a lock in that celebrates the life and heart of Dr. MLK Jr.! We will have an evening focused on racism as a sin, a film, and discussion. There will also be time for fellowship and food. On Monday we take time to create posters and march in the parade alongside [Memorial, Bolton Hill!](#) Please join us as we march for the Jesus Movement!

- [Parental Consent Form](#) [PDF]
- [Adult Consent Form](#) [PDF]
- [What to Pack & Bring!](#) [PDF]

If you are interested in going, please let me know.

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<sup>1</sup> I use this e-mail as a rolling calendar. Things will fall off and things will be added, but until an event happens, I will keep it in the e-mail so you always have the information should you need it. Rest assured I review each of these items each week and update them as necessary, as well as adding new things that crop up. If you have any questions at all about something you see in this e-mail, or **don't** see, contact me!

2. A little south of us, in Sunderland, there will be an interesting day of discussion and interaction at an **Upcoming interfaith community dialogue: “Compassion for Our Neighbor: Standing with Refugees Here and Abroad”**

**Sunday January 15, 2pm  
Mt. Hope Community Center  
104 Pushaw Station Rd (right off Rt. 2)  
Sunderland, MD 20689**

Interfaith leaders from Anne Arundel and Calvert Counties invite all youth and adults to a community dialogue: “Compassion for Our Neighbor: Standing with Refugees Here and Abroad” on Sunday, January 15 at 2pm.

A panel features Muslim, Jewish, and Christian leaders as well as experts on the international scope and Maryland context for refugees:

--Casey Leyva, Associate Director of Resettlement, World Relief

--Shahnaz Baten, Chair, Montgomery County Interfaith Refugee Resettlement Neighbors

--Pat Shannon Jones, Director, Immigration Outreach Service Center

Local youth will meet young refugees living in Maryland. Youth and adults will discuss problems and solutions, asking: What will we want to have known and done now when we think back to this present moment decades into the future? What is a collective next step toward a future this generation can be proud to pass on to the next?

This interfaith coalition has created a space for those whose hearts have been moved, or whose curiosity or concern has been provoked by the swirl of images, rhetoric, concern, and controversy regarding: “Who’s in, who’s out? Who’s welcome, who’s not?”

If you are interested, I have a little bit more information.

3. **And now, for the “most doable” in my opinion:** Closer to home, on Monday Jan 16<sup>th</sup> youth in grades 6-12 from across the Broadneck Peninsula are joining together for a **Martin Luther King, Jr Day of Service**. It will begin at 11am at Broadneck Baptist Church and end at 3pm at [Cape St. Claire United Methodist Church](#). There will be a prayer walk, packing backpacks for the Backpack Buddies, delivering cookies to the Cape St. Claire Firehouse, creating banners of hope, and of course eating PIZZA together. **This is a terrific opportunity for us to interact with our neighbors here on the Broadneck Peninsula. We already have five youth signed up!**

This is a community event and we are encouraging all youth who are able to attend. I need to get numbers to the other organizers soon, so please get back to me or Jenelle if you are interested. We’ve been working to build connections with other churches on the Broadneck Peninsula and this is a wonderful activity that will help do that as well as a great day of service to our community. Below is the schedule of events:

11am - Meet at Broadneck Baptist Church 257 Hilltop Drive, Cape St. Claire

1145 - Make Banners promoting peace and justice  
1:00 - Pizza lunch (bring \$5.00)  
1:30 - Walk to Cape St. Claire UMC picking up trash and talking about the needs of the community  
2:00 - Arrive at Cape St. Claire pack backpacks for the backpack buddy program and bake cookies for the Fire Department  
2:50 - Prayer time, hang banners and deliver cookies.

***If your youth is interested, please email me or Jenelle back as soon as possible so we can get an accurate count.***

### **WINTER RELIEF**

We can keep this one really simple this week. **Put it on your calendars now! February 18<sup>th</sup> we will serve dinner to our Winter Relief guests.** As we get closer in time, we will discuss what we are going to serve, and sort out all of the logistics. I will get more details out to you all soon. Stay tuned!

And, as I mentioned last week, the Missions Commission is holding three (3) sequential Monday evening Adult Formation events just prior to Winter Relief. The purpose of these sessions is to educate the congregation on elements contributing to homelessness in Anne Arundel County, what the County is doing, and what the church, either as a congregation, or as individuals can do to assist in these efforts:

- On **January 23**, Justin Bieler, Anne Arundel County Homeless Coordinator, will discuss homelessness, trends, and County programs to address homelessness.
- On **January 30**, the Director of Programs for the Housing Commission of Anne Arundel County will discuss low income housing development, and qualification of homeless individuals and families for this program.
- **February 6**, the Director of Programs for Pathways, located at the Anne Arundel County Hospital, will discuss substance abuse.



If we have youth interested in any of these presentations, I encourage them to go. I am pondering having at least the High School group attend the presentation on homelessness in the County. It fits right in with everything we have been discussing this year. I'll keep you posted.

**AND AS I ALSO MENTIONED LAST WEEK**, St. Margaret's partners with St. Phillips during Winter Relief. St. Phillips is the host church the week prior – 6-12 February. There are already some youth who will be volunteering to help there as well. Let me know if you are interested in this, too.

And now,



***New York City Nightwatch*** February  
10-11 2017

*Friday at Noon - Saturday 6:00 PM*

**NOTE: THIS MEANS YOUR YOUTH WILL BE GETTING  
OUT OF SCHOOL EARLY ON THE 10<sup>TH</sup>!**



***I have paperwork and checks from many of you. Those of you who have not gotten me your***



**paperwork and check, please do so NLT this coming Sunday (the is NO Youth Group Monday evening). I plan to turn everything in to the Diocese early next week! So, get me your paperwork and your money and get excited!**

*An overnight pilgrimage to the largest Gothic Cathedral in the United States. Be a part of a special evening of NY style pizza, candle lit meditation, history, and seeing God through art and architecture. We will also spend some time on Saturday going to Central Park, St. Mary's, and Times Square! An awesome urban adventure.*

**This is a biggie, and I am going to stress this.** Everyone I've ever known who has participated has always said that they got important insights and had moving experiences at this event. This really should not be missed. It is for grades 6-12, and goes from Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> at noon until Saturday about 6pm. I STRONGLY encourage the youth to participate. The Diocese will provide the transportation *if we get organized quickly!*

COST: the cost is \$75.00 per. However, because Jenelle and I feel so strongly about this, the Youth Program is going to subsidize 50% of the cost, so it will really be **\$37.50 per youth**. Please make your checks out to St. Margaret's and note in the Memo that it is for Nightwatch 2017. I am hoping to keep things simple between the church and the diocese and just give one check. *(And again, we never want anyone to miss out on something because of cost, there is ALWAYS scholarship money available.)* We still need to sort things out like where and what time we will meet in order to meet the bus from the Diocese, but we will get those things sorted out, have no fear.

Below are links to the various forms necessary for this trip. Please fill these out and return them to ME! I will consolidate everything and forward it as a package to the Diocese. If anyone needs an excused absence form for school on Friday, let me know ASAP. I can get them from Kate Riley at the Diocese, and they are signed by the Bishop

- [Parental Consent Form](#) [PDF]
- [Adult Consent Form](#) [PDF]
- [What to Bring](#) [PDF]

**All the other stuff:**



1. **January 15<sup>th</sup>: Confirmation Day**. Just a reminder **THIS SUNDAY** is confirmation Sunday and that means a visit from our Bishop, Rt. Rev. Eugene Sutton. He will be visiting each Sunday School class for no more than 5 minutes. **High School and Middle School classes:** it would be helpful if you came up with ONE question at the beginning of class or just discuss with the class what you might like to say to him to prepare for your 5 minutes of Bishop Fame!

2. **January 16<sup>th</sup>:** No Youth Group (No Faith & Fellowship)
3. **January 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Youth Group resumes at 6:45 pm
4. **January 30<sup>th</sup>:** Youth Group at 6:45 pm.
5. **February 6<sup>th</sup>:** Youth Group at 6:45 pm.
6. **February 10-11<sup>th</sup>:** Nightwatch NYC. **ONLY *four* WEEKS AWAY!** Time is fleeting! See the big announcement above for all of the details!
7. **February 13<sup>th</sup>:** No Youth Group (No Faith & Fellowship)
8. **The week of February 13<sup>th</sup>:** WINTER RELIEF.
9. **February 18<sup>th</sup>:** Serving dinner to our Winter Relief Guests. Details to follow.
10. **February 20<sup>th</sup>:** Youth Group resumes at 6:45 pm
11. **February 25<sup>th</sup>:** Bishop's Bash. This is a Saturday night party for youth and adult leaders, from 7-10pm at St. John's in Ellicott City, and it only costs \$5. It sounds like a lot of fun. See me for more details.
12. **NEW!** **February 26<sup>th</sup>:** On the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month the Asbury Broadneck United Methodist Church (ABUMC) youth run the church service. Jenelle and I want to take any of our youth interested to that service in February. It will mean missing our own service and Sunday School as their worship service starts at 10:00. This is part of our effort to forge stronger ties with our Broadneck neighbors. Please let me or Jenelle know as soon as you can if you are interested. We will orchestrate transportation, but we need a head-count soon.
13. **March 10-11<sup>th</sup>:** Lenten Nightwatch. The Maryland Diocese is sponsoring its own Nightwatch at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Baltimore. "For the first time, we are bringing Nightwatch to Baltimore! A program of hands-on prayer stations and learning more about the Lenten season at the [Cathedral of the Incarnation](#). Join us for this spectacular one-night program to be a great step in your journey through Lent. Transportation is the responsibility of attendees". This would be a great opportunity for those youth that couldn't make the NYC trip the previous month. It is for grades 6-12 also, and is a little bit shorter in duration and certainly closer. The cost is \$30.00 per, but again, *money will never be a reason we can't send a youth to one of these events*. It runs from 7pm Friday to 10am on Saturday.
14. **March 31 – April 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Happening #10. Running from Friday at 7:00 PM through Sunday at 3:00 PM, for a cost of \$75, "Happening is a national program designed, staffed, and run by Episcopal

youth. This weekend will deepen your relationship with Jesus and connections with those on similar spiritual journeys. This retreat is similar to New Beginnings for middle schoolers and Cursillo for adults. Happening #9 is being held at [Claggett Center](#) in Adamstown, MD. Retreatants are responsible for personal transportation to and from the Claggett Center.”

15. **April 10<sup>th</sup>:** **No Youth Group (No Faith & Fellowship)**
16. **April 17<sup>th</sup>:** **No Youth Group (No Faith & Fellowship)**
17. **April 23<sup>rd</sup>:** **Serving Dinner at the Light House Shelter.** Details to follow.
18. **April 24<sup>th</sup>:** **Youth Group resumes**
19. **April 28-30<sup>th</sup>:** **New Beginnings #4.** From Friday at 7:00pm through Sunday at 3:00pm at a cost of \$55.00, this is the dioceses’ annual retreat for middle school youth (Grades 6-8) at [Camp Wright](#) in Stevensville, MD. Previous New Beginners that have reached high school are the designer team and staff for the weekend. This makes for a perfect sense of what it means to be a part of the community. Campers are responsible for personal transportation to and from Camp Wright.
20. **July 10-14<sup>th</sup>** **[Episcopal Youth Event \(EYE\)](#).** Located at the University of Central Oklahoma, Edmonton, OK. The Total Cost: \$1,000 per person (*This cost is immediately offset by a \$350.00 scholarship by the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office. It is our hope that the remaining amount will be covered by the attendee and their parish to keep out of pocket costs low. Fundraising opportunities will be available in the spring.*) This is a gathering of over 1,500 young Episcopalians that only happens once in a triennial! Each diocese throughout the church is invited to send youth and adult attendees.

**AN ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:** A constant challenge is keeping our contact information up to date. Please make sure we have correct, current e-mail addresses for you. ALSO – we would like to collect cell phone numbers as well. This will allow Jenelle and me to connect with you via text messaging. This will become more important as we start doing more things away from campus. It will allow us to communicate changes of plans, pick up locations, etc. Please consider sharing your number with us.

*And, as ever, because you made it this far...*

