

St Mark's E-News - February 17, 2019



Happy Valentine's Day everyone! These cards were made by our parish children to send to our shut-ins. See last pages for more photos from last Sunday.



The Rev. Thomas James Brown was elected to become the 10th Bishop of the Diocese of Maine at a Special Electing Convention in Bangor February 9, 2019.

One of five nominees, Rev. Brown, is currently serving as Rector of the Parish of the Epiphany in Winchester, MA. He was elected on the 3rd ballot, receiving a majority of clergy and lay delegate votes representing 60 year-round congregations and 20 summer chapels. For more photos from the Convention, see below. More info at bishopquest.org

An Ecumenical Gospel Celebration

FEBRUARY 17TH
ECUMENICAL CHRISTIAN CHAPEL

Our preacher will be the Rev. Dannita Stewart-Lofton. Our choir will be the Gospel Residency choir, under the direction of Mr. David Dupree and Mr. Rob Loper.

Come make a joyful noise with members of the Colby community, Benton Falls Congregational Church UCC, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Waterville, Waterville United Church of Christ, Winthrop Congregational Church UCC, and Winslow Congregational Church.

LORIMER CHAPEL, 11 AM

Please join us this Sunday as St. Mark's joins with five other area churches and the Colby College Dept. of Religious Studies in an Ecumenical Gospel Celebration. This is sure to cure you of cabin fever!! More info on parking and shuttle bus below.

Sunday, February 17, The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
8:00 AM, Holy Eucharist, Book of Common Prayer, Rite II
Rev. John Balicki's Sermon Title, "The Way of Love".

No Adult Education, No 10:15 Service, No Coffee Hour.

11:00 AM Ecumenical Gospel Service at Lorimer Chapel, Colby College

Meet by 10:30 at St. Mark's if you would like to carpool from church.

Parking in the Eustis and Mary Low lots on campus with shuttle bus service to the chapel from there.

This week we pray for the parish lectors who are scheduled to read the first or second lessons at the Sunday services. Over 20 people are assigned to the regular schedule but we can always use more. If you'd like to give this a try, let John Balicki know.

We have raised half of what we need! At the Annual Meeting it was mentioned that we are trying to solicit additional funds, an approximate total of **\$2,500, to install an industrial strength humidifier** in the church sanctuary near the organ. This humidifier has long been desired by many involved with the music ministry of the church. The humidifier will help to preserve the organ as very low humidity in the winter is not good for it. The reduced dryness will also help the choir's voices in the winter as well – and the congregation's – low humidity isn't good for anyone. These donations will combine with what was already donated before Christmas to make an additional repair and improvement as well. If you would like to donate, please make out a check to St. Mark's and put "organ" in the memo line. If you have questions about the humidifier, please see John Balicki or Don Kerr. **We are trying to close this campaign by Sunday, Feb. 24.**

Gospel residency. February 16th and 17th, Colby College and the Waterville/Winslow Interfaith Council welcomes back David Dupree, assistant director of the Young Adult Choir at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden, MD for our Gospel Residency. Come make a joyful noise with a top-notch Gospel artist. Again, all are welcome – staff, faculty, students, and members of the surrounding community. No previous experience necessary.

Rehearsals are on **Saturday February 16th. 9:30 am - 3:30 pm (Lorimer Chapel)** with lunch and breaks provided. The performance will be during the community-wide **Ecumenical Worship on Sunday, February 17th at 11am, also in Lorimer Chapel.** People with ADA passes can park at Lorimer. If you've limited mobility, we can arrange for temporary parking.

Here's the link to sign up to sing: <https://goo.gl/forms/SIESLwwDsOEqgd0I2>

Sunday, Feb. 24, Adult Education, 9 AM. We begin our seven-week series exploring The Way of Love: Practices for a Jesus-Centered Life. We will reflect on one practice each Sunday in Adult Education and in our liturgy.

Feb. 24 we begin with Turn: Pause, listen and choose to follow Jesus. Like the disciples, we are called by Jesus to follow the Way of Love. With God's help we can turn from the powers of sin, hatred, fear injustice and oppression toward the way of truth, love, hope, justice and freedom.

We are recommending a Lenten devotional guide written on this theme, "Living the Way of Love: A 40-Day Devotional Guide by Mary Bea Sullivan. These are available in print and electronic copies. Let us know if you would like us to order you one. Cost is \$10.00

We will also have two Lenten Quiet Days featuring all seven practices of the Way of Love in two sessions. These will be held **Sat. March 16 and Sat. April 6 from 9 to 12.**

Sunday Feb. 24 we will be baptizing Maggie Rafuse at the 10:15 service.

Sunday, March 3 is Last Epiphany and Alleluia Sunday.

Tuesday, March 5 is Mardi Gras: food, games and fun, 5 to 7 PM.

The fun begins at 5:15 with activities for children and a social hour for adults.

At 6 p.m. we have our musical parade into the Narthex and church, followed by a meal of pancakes, sausage, traditional Mardi Grad foods and DESSERTS!

Our evening concludes with our final singing of the Alleluia and burning of palms to prepare for Ash Wednesday and the Lenten Season.

Please see the sign up sheets in the Narthex or email Marti McFadden at mcfadden@beeline-online.net and let her know if you can help with the following:

- Set up tables and decorate Tuesday afternoon from 3-5 p.m.
- Food: Appetizers, Mardi Gras dishes like rice and beans, Hoppin John, Jambalaya or your specialty, and DESSERTS!
- Kitchen help during the evening, making pancakes and organizing the food.
- Clean up crew
- Provide an electric griddle for pancakes
- Provide a small grill like a hibachi to burn the palms to make ashes

No charge to attend Mardi Gras, but we will accept monetary donations to cover our costs.

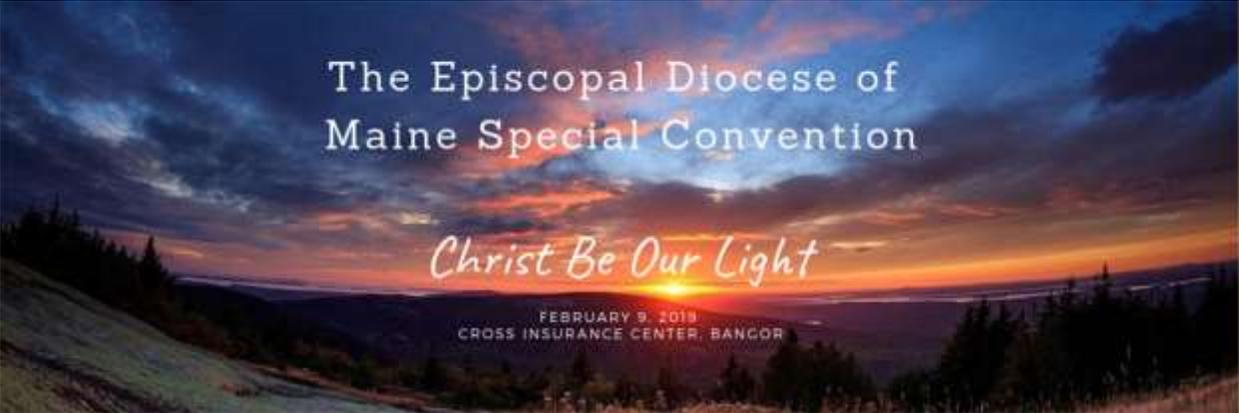
Interfaith News

Feb. 23, 9 AM to 2:30 PM, "Love of Chocolate and More" at Pleasant Street United Methodist Church. Lots of chocolate food items will be sold. In addition, crafters/vendors will be selling non-food items.

March 14, 6:30 PM the Interfaith Council is sponsoring a presentation by **Rev. Tara Soughers** at the new Chace Forum—a communal events space on the first floor of the Bill & Joan Alford Main Street Commons in Waterville. **Tara is author of "Beyond a Binary God: A Theology for Trans* Allies"**. Tara is a parent of a trans young adult as well as an Episcopal priest. What does it mean about God and about humans, that there is not a strict gender binary? How can we affirm and include what we have learned about the permeability of boundaries to affirm those whose path does not follow traditional cultural stereotypes, and how might the broadening help us to understand the God who is never two for Christians, but both one and three? What gifts does this broader understanding bring to the church?

March 16 5th Annual Tea Party and Fashion Show, 2 to 4 PM at Kennebec Valley Community College, Carter Hall. Tickets are \$20, to purchase visit www.shelterme.org or call 872-8082, **Proceeds will benefit the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter.**

More Photos from Saturday's Electing Convention



The Episcopal Diocese of
Maine Special Convention

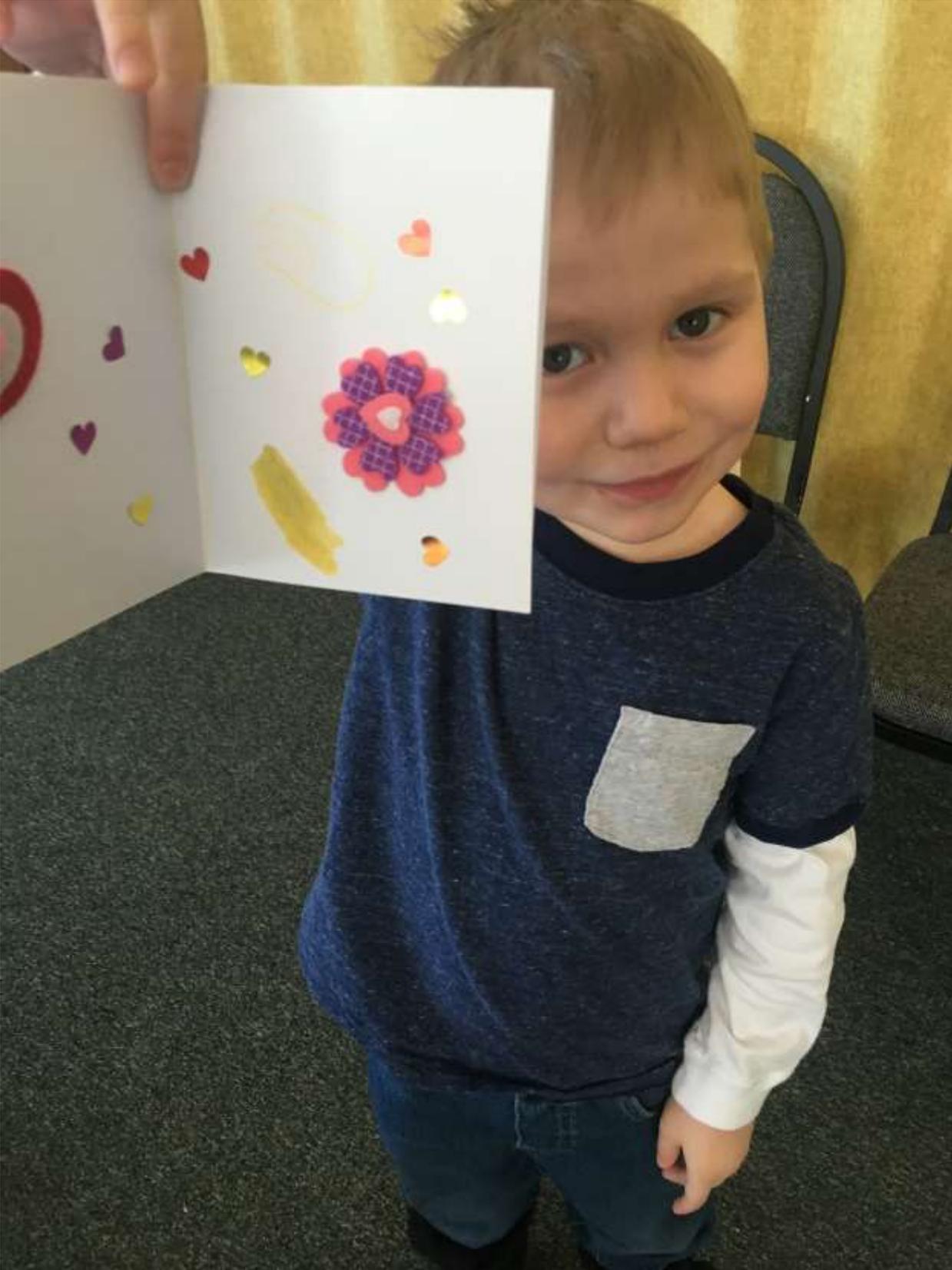
Christ Be Our Light

FEBRUARY 9, 2019
CROSS INSURANCE CENTER, BANGOR



MORE VALENTINE'S DAY PHOTOS





Dear children of St Mark,
you have no idea how happy
you make me with your
cards you send me. It is
always a lovely surprise when
I open the card and see it's
from all of you.

Blessings, love, health and
happiness always.

Hugs
Sonia Smith



Thinking of you with heartfelt thanks.

I want you to know
how much you're appreciated! for
your thoughts, prayers + cards.
I miss you all.

Love + Blessings

Laya