

St. Mark's is honored to host *Beyond Bridges*, a groundbreaking interfaith East-West contemporary art exhibition from **February 18 – March 12 in the Staluppi Center**. Organized and curated by CARAVAN, a peacebuilding, arts non-profit, *Beyond Bridges* features the work of 21 premier Arab, Persian and Jewish artists of Christian, Muslim and Jewish faith background. The artists focus on what they hold in common through their cultures and creeds. With the widening divide that exists between the faiths and peoples of the Middle East and the West, this exhibition calls for a whole new kind of movement: one that builds on what we hold in common.

Beyond Bridges was recently on display in the chapel at Duke University, Chicago, New York, Paris and London.



The Peace Chapel at St. Mark's is a place where people from all walks of life experience the love of God and the hope of everlasting peace. The simple design of the chapel creates an intimate space where prayer comes easily and God's presence feels close at hand. Affiliated with the Community of the Cross of Nails, an international peace movement that began in response to the World War II bombing of Coventry Cathedral in England, the Peace Chapel holds weekly prayers for the reconciliation and peace of all people and nations. Whether for peace within our hearts, for personal reconciliation with others or for lasting peace among the nations, prayers are offered amidst the quiet beauty of the chapel.

finding Peace through the arts

Artists, writers and musicians often produce their greatest works in times of great tumult and change. They speak a truth that transcends our words, and they invite us to connect with one another in creative and powerful ways. And in so doing, they lead us toward the mystery and power of God's healing and inclusive love.

The **2018 Peace Lecture Series** at St. Mark's explores how **art, music and literature unite people** of differing creeds and cultures into one fabric of humanity. For three Thursday evenings – February 22, March 1 and March 8 – we will hear from speakers who offer insight into how images, music and literature help to build bridges and tear down walls that separate us.



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Join us for the Fifth Annual Peace Lecture Series and leave feeling hopeful and inspired to see the beauty of God's world in new ways and to appreciate how the arts are a powerful channel of God's grace. The lectures are held in Coleman Hall in the Staluppi Center at St. Mark's Episcopal Church and School in Palm Beach Gardens. The lectures are free and open to the public. They begin each Thursday evening at 7 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m.

In Search of Prophet:

A Spiritual Journey with Kahlil Gibran

The Rev. Paul-Gordon Chandler

Thursday, February 22 | 7 PM - 8:30 PM

The life, approach and work of Kahlil Gibran touch on so many of today's critical issues: the need to bridge between creeds and cultures, care for the environment, equality for women, interest in spirituality as opposed to religion, immigration, status of refugees, conflict in the Middle East, the inclusive embrace of different faiths and the need to learn from the best in each. During this lecture, the Rev. Paul-Gordon Chandler, an Episcopal priest, and author of his new book *In Search of a Prophet: A Spiritual Journey with Kahlil Gibran*, will share how this poet-artist became a uniting figure between East and West. Chandler is an interfaith advocate, art curator, and social entrepreneur who has lived and worked in the Middle East and North Africa for many years. An authority on the Middle East and on Christian-Muslim relations, he is the founding president of CARAVAN, an international peacebuilding non-profit that uses the arts to build bridges between creeds and cultures.

Mishkhah:

The Art of Worship from East to West

Kate Eaton

Thursday, March 1 | 7 PM - 8:30 PM

Kate Eaton – musician, sacred artist and creative director – is founder of Mishkhah, an organization that explores the arts in worship. Her presentation, which will be held in the nave of St. Mark's Church, will include an experiential walking meditation, fusing ancient and modern sounds, sights and sacred writings that transport participants across centuries and continents into the beauty and wonder of cultures of the world. Persons of all faiths and creeds are encouraged to attend and learn how Kate's art can be a channel of prayer for all people of all faiths. Visit www.mishkhah.com to learn more about Kate's work.

Three Days in Damascus

Kim Schultz

Thursday, March 8 | 7 PM - 8:30 PM

Kim Schultz is a Chicago actress, writer and teacher who recently published *Three Days in Damascus*, a memoir about her three-year fight for an Iraqi man she loved through a war and refugee crisis. An American volunteer interviewing Iraqi refugees about the horrors of war, Kim falls in love with Omar, and thus begins her three-year odyssey. It is a love story set against the backdrop of a world tragedy: the plight of millions of refugees fleeing violence in the Middle East. It's a story of culture, devastation, redemption and hope, while helping us better understand the plight of roughly 65 million refugees worldwide being displaced from their homes and uprooted from their lives.