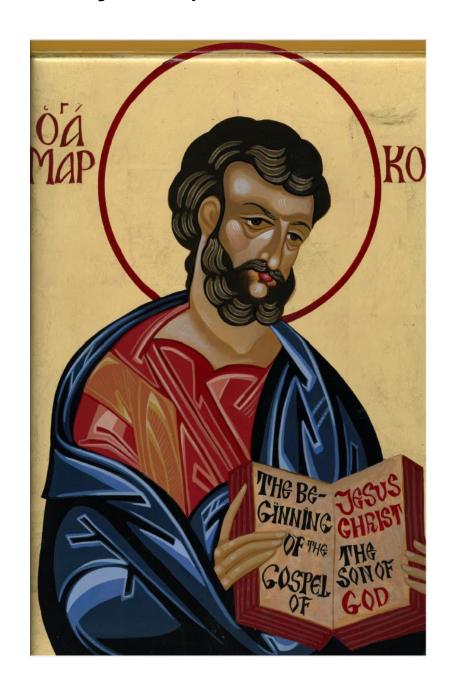
St. Mark's Episcopal Church 2021 Annual Report

January 23, 2022



Rooted in baptism. Growing in faith. Branching out into the world.

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Cover art: St. Mark, Evangelist, Joseph Maltham, Icon Writer 2013. This original icon of St. Mark was commissioned by the Wes Hookham Memorial Fund. The icon came into the collection of the church in the fall of 2013. Joseph Malham is a Chicago area artist and iconographer who has significant knowledge and spoke to the parish twice during the Icons in Transformation' speaker series in July, 2013.

<u>Agenda</u>

Rev. George Smith

Opening Prayer Rev. George Smith

Appointment of Bob Ulrich as Clerk of the Annual Meeting

Rev. George Smith

Review and Approval of the Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting

Please see pages 45 and 46 of this annual report for the minutes of last year's meeting

Cake Auction

Appointment of Senior Warden and Junior Warden Rev. George Smith

George Churchill and Kate Marsh

Appointment of Youth Representative to Vestry

Rev. George Smith

Caden Gowans

Cake Auction

Recognition of Outgoing Vestry Members, Youth Representative,

Lynn Dornblaser

Sr. Warden, and Treasurer

Steve Gross, Juanita Jimenez, Kate Marsh, Joshua O'Shea, Kim Toliver,

Jim Treleaven, Cara Oates, Lynn Dornblaser, Steve Sedall

Voting Lynn Dornblaser

Election of Vestry Candidates

Cake Auction

Reports

2021 Year End Results Steve Sedall

Cake Auction

2022 Budget Jim Treleaven

Cake Auction

Senior Warden's Report

Lynn Dornblaser

Questions and Answers

Rector's Report for the St. Mark's annual meeting on Sunday, January 23, 2022

In 1897, William McKinley was sworn in as the 25th US President and war with Spain was on the horizon. In 2022, a worldwide pandemic rages on and war in Europe is on the horizon. On more than one occasion during conversations about life and the world with my father-in-law, he would say, "The world has been going to the dogs for a long time." His point was that as bad as the news can be, this is nothing new and has been and will always be part of the ups and downs of the human condition. I'd like to take his wisdom to heart, but it isn't easy these days. It does seem that the world is really and truly going to the dogs. Consider a recent opinion piece by New York Times columnist David Brooks titled, "America is Falling Apart at the Seams." He cites a litany of evidence that we have entered a grim period in our nation's history, a malaise at best, but more like a breakdown in our society. To wit, there is more reckless driving as evidenced by a 20% rise in motor vehicle deaths in 2021 over 2020 (adjusted for less driving during the lockdown in 2020). Bad behavior is occurring on airplanes where alterations are way up. Drug use and alcohol consumption are on the rise. The murder rate is up in all cities. Nurses and teachers are reporting more abuse from patients and students. Hate crimes are up, including more incidents of anti-Semitism and a 50% rise in reported attacks against Black people. Altruism is suffering. Giving to charity has decreased from 66% of households in 2000 to 49% in 2018. Inter-family estrangements and cut-offs are increased along with depression and suicide. Church membership has dropped below 50% of the population.

Why is this happening? Brooks points to some of the usual suspects including social media and rotten politics. Added to these are also economic upheaval and the concentration of money and privilege in a tiny slice of our population. Perhaps it is that we are having a hard time adjusting to and keeping up with change that is occurring all around us. Walk out the front doors of St. Mark's, and glancing to your right you won't be able to miss the hulking Apex 400 apartment complex nearing completion, a visual transformation of downtown Glen Ellyn.

In 2022, St. Mark's will mark its 125th year since its founding as an Episcopal witness in Glen Ellyn. This is a critical moment in our history. Having been through nearly two years of the Covid-19 pandemic, St. Mark's, like all churches, is facing a future that is not a return to pre-pandemic life. In the coming year, assuming the Covid-19 subsides, will people come back to in person worship with the frequency they did before the pandemic? Not a few individuals and families have not been participating in the life of this church since early 2020. Will they come back? Certainly, Zoom is here to stay, which allows for anyone, anywhere to be part of worship, classes and meetings. Zoom is one of the silver-linings of the pandemic which is now widely adopted and enables flexibility, ease and options for people to gather. We can now claim that on Sundays, we are a worshipping community without walls as we gather in person and in front of screens both locally and in other states and countries. In terms of being a slick production, St. Mark's cannot complete with the resources and polish of the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. and other cathedrals and mega churches. Some members of St. Mark's have been drawn to those options. But church, in its truest sense and in its root word, "ekklesia" means the gathering of the people in the flesh. Religion literally means "the ligaments coming together." Being Church over the long-term is not a spectator sport and finds its meaning not in taking in a performance but in people being together, people of all sorts and conditions, praying, singing, listening, responding, wondering, learning and being sent back to their homes with hope, identity and purpose as the people of God.

As we come out the pandemic, churches like St. Mark's have a once in a generation opportunity to self-examine and emerge with renewed purpose and mission. To fail to do so could surely mean that a steady decline will continue, one that the Episcopal Church as a whole has been experiencing for the past thirty years. The pandemic has accelerated this decline. Certainly, one of the reasons for our nation's malaise is the state of religion, specifically Christianity in the United States. St. Mark's, in our little corner of the world, has a responsibility to respond clearly and confidently to what ails the society around us. We have right in front of us and in us what the world needs as it goes to the dogs, which is the absolute message and reality of God's infinite love, mercy, forgiveness and reconciliation that is for all people.

Instead of focusing on the Jesus who proclaims the year of the Lord's favor and good news to the poor, broken hearted and those who are captive to disease, injustice and scorn, churches have lost sight of Jesus and gone off track, some turning inward, closing themselves off to the outside world in order to maintain purity, certainty and control; others have sought self-preservation through strict control and countless requirements where eternal punishment is perceived as a constant threat. Other Christian groups have been intoxicated with numeric growth powered by big auditoriums, stages, light shows and messages of success and prosperity. Many Christians have been taught that a correct "belief," meaning having the right thoughts about God, will lead to a reward, namely going to heaven when you die. Other Christians are in houses divided, fighting among themselves over issues of human sexuality and reproductive rights. Episcopalians are not exempt. We have focused on proper liturgies and observance of rubrics, on our beautiful but aging and expensive buildings. Episcopalians have hidden behind intellectualism and created a culture of superiority. While Jesus says, "Come to me all who are hungry" (John 6:35), we exclude people from receiving communion. You can fool and control some of the people some of the time, but not all of the people for long. That is why millennials and the other end of the alphabet named generations are not members of churches. Control, guilt, entertainment and conflict are not in the long-run life and meaning giving, and with other choices to make, people are choosing to spend Sundays at home, in the park, playing sports, exercising, reading books, playing video games, going to museums and sleeping in.

The opportunity before St. Mark's and other churches is to get back on track and recommit to how the God of the universe is revealed in Jesus, who gets up in front of the people in his hometown of Nazareth and wakes them up, taking their safe, comfortable and familiar Scripture and showing them that is anything but comfortable and safe. Jesus proclaims that the Kingdom of God has come near, and although it sounds nice, what it really means is shocking and radical as we see his ministry unfold. In Nazareth, the people are expecting blessing and praise but Jesus holds before them criticism and rebuke. And like others who are offended by Jesus, they seek to destroy him.

Perhaps at this key moment in history, it is time for a new Creed to accompany the Nicene and Apostles Creeds that puts the universal love of Jesus back in the center of what we claim.

- We believe that belief isn't about agreeing with a set of statements but means working to orient your life in body, mind and spirit on love and service.
- We believe that there is one human family, where every human being is unique and of infinite worth.
- The God of all is present in all places and all times, with all people and all of creation; for in this God we live and move and have our being.
- The God of the universe is revealed in Jesus who stands upon the foundation of Judaism and proclaims peace, non-violence and the dignity of every human being.
- Jesus reveals and proclaims the infinite love, mercy, forgiveness and reconciliation of God for all people.
- The mission of the church is to proclaim God's love to all people, all ages, races and abilities through worship and service, seeking to bring comfort and healing to those who are suffering, excluded and alone.
- The suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus reveals a destiny of humanity's ultimate reconciliation and eternal life in God.

Any Creed or written statement is worthless without a living, dynamic community that not only professes it but lives it. The signs of a church that centers itself on Jesus would likely be these: unconditional welcome, generosity, curiosity, service, learning, the gifts and talents of everyone encouraged, put to use and appreciated.

As the community of St. Mark's seeks to grow in love, faith and service in the coming years, a look back at the past year offers hope and lessons. **Several key highlights include:**

On Sunday, February 22, eleven months after the beginning of sheltering in place, a service was held at St. Mark's with 22 people in attendance. Observing many safety precautions including wearing masks, maintaining distances

and requiring reservations and keeping a list of everyone in attendance, in person worship resumed. Slowly but steadily, more people began returning to the church building for Sunday worship. Meanwhile, St. Mark's adeptly transitioned to a "hybrid" format so that worship included simultaneously both those in person and those on Zoom. There were a few challenges to overcome with sound and Wi-Fi, but fortunately, St. Mark's had the infrastructure in place to offer a high-quality experience for everyone. A built-in projector displayed the Zoom audience on the wall above and to the north of the pulpit was one of the lynchpins in the set-up. A lesson, psalm or Prayer of the People could be led either by someone in person or on Zoom, where the person or couple on Zoom could be heard and seen by everyone. Eventually, microphones were set up in the organ loft so that those on Zoom could hear clearly the organ playing and then later, choir singing. After starting with one iPad as a camera, another was added and then a third so that multiple views of pulpit, altar and congregation were available to Zoom participants. We received wonderful compliment from a sound and video professional who works with many churches and said that St. Mark's had one of the best solutions he has seen. On Easter Sunday, over three services, 250 people attended church in person with an equal number on Zoom. Over the summer and into the fall, the numbers continued to grow slowly with over 200 in person on Sunday, December 12 for the Christmas pageants at the 10:30 am and 1 pm services. The four Christmas Eve services at 3 pm, 5 pm, 8 pm and 10 pm were wellattended with between 60 and 100 people at each. But with the surge of the Omicron variant, in person attendance has decreased with an increase on Zoom. I consider Zoom to be a Covid shock-absorber and am thankful for this marvelous set-up every Sunday!

In 2021, St. Mark's was blessed with a talented and committed vestry, wardens, clerk, chancellor and treasurer. The six members of the vestry are completed their terms at the annual meeting are **Steve Gross, Juanita Jimenez, Joshua O'Shea, Kim Toliver, Jim Treleaven, and Kate Marsh. Cara Oates** is completing her one-year terms as youth representative to the vestry. **Lynn Dornblaser** is finishing the second of a two-year term as warden. **Steve Sedall** is finishing his term as treasurer. Each of these people have committed themselves to the three-fold gift of stewardship of time, talent and treasure.

For 2022 and to be confirmed at the annual meeting to serve on the vestry are: **Kara Ward, Chip Johnson, Lois Sheridan, Kirsten Dineen, Mark Lukas, Uziel Hernandez and Karen Hill. Kate Marsh**, who has served as a member of the vestry for four years becomes the junior warden. **Jim Treleaven** assumes the role of treasurer and **Caden Gowans** will serve as the youth representative.

Continuing on the vestry are Carrie Gowans, Chris Carter, Michelle Roman-Garcia, Brian Shallcross, Rick Quoss, Brian Shallcross and John Zelman. George Churchill begins his second year as a warden and Bob Ulrich continues as clerk of the vestry. Elizabeth Lewis serves as the chancellor to the vestry.

The usual pattern is that four new vestry members each January resulting in a three-year cycling for the 12 total vestry. But because of several vestry members relocating out of the area in the past several years, the cycle is front loaded for 2022. With several of the new vestry serving for two-year terms, the plan is that at next year's annual meeting, we will be back to nominating and welcoming four new members to the vestry.

If change is the only constant, then St. Mark's was no exception in 2021. Highlights of transitions include:

- In the front office: **Dellana Mote**, having run the operations of the St. Mark's front office for ten years, looked for a new challenge, which she found at our sister congregation in Downers Grove, St. Andrew's, as their office manager. **Laura Waterman** took up the reins and kept everything running smoothly until we welcomed **Ida Butler** as our new office manager in June.
- We celebrated the ordination of **Jo Ann Lagman** to the diaconate at St. Mark's in March and then her ordination to the priesthood at Church of the Ascension in Chicago in October. With Jo Ann's reputation as an excellent preacher and leader, it was no surprise when St. David's in Aurora called her to be their priest-in-charge, a role which she begins at the end of this month. Over the years, St. Mark's has welcomed

- and sent forth many clergy servants, and Jo Ann continues in that special role that St. Mark's has a place of training, nurturing, preparation and sending-forth.
- After five years together, St. Mark's and our director of music, **Daniel Segner** parted ways in November. Daniel joined St. Mark's in 2016 having served as Principal Organist for the Chicago Temple. He led the St. Mark's choir with skill and energy while growing in his expertise as an organist and musician. We can look forward to seeing how and where Daniel offers his gifts and talents to the church and the world in the coming years. In the current time of transition between directors of music, a search committee has formed and has had a first meeting. Members of this committee are **John Zelman**, **Elizabeth Lanzillo**, **Patti King**, **Jerry and Tanya Carey**, **Deacon Miguel Briones**, **Hal Stratton and Joyce Fletcher**. We also have welcomed **David Bolthouse** as our interim music director. David is a graduate of Wheaton College with a Bachelors of Music in pipe organ. His skills as a musician compliment his work in Information Technology which has led him to projects on five continents. David welcomes everyone in the St. Mark's community to get involved in our music ministry by participating in the choir, playing a music instrument and offering a joyful voice during our worship services.
- Melissa Gonzalez set her sights on a work- travel opportunity in Europe and completed her work as our director of communications. Melissa was both behind and in front of the scenes in her role, updating the web site, creating the bulletin and worship announcements and hosting Sunday Zoom worship with a smile and cheerful voice. Laura Waterman stepped in with her own enthusiasm and uplifting spirt as our Zoom host not only on Sundays but also for funerals, weddings and the ordination and confirmation services. Wes Clay-Anderson took over as our webmaster and creator of weekly and other special Constant Contact e-News.
- Deacon Tom Craighead, having served at St. Mark's for two years, discerned a call to provide pastoral care beyond the confines of one congregation in a diocesan-wide ministry. Tom was a leader of one of the St. Mark's Sacred Ground groups, gave sermons and led Compline services on Zoom in conjunction with several other congregations. In his work across the diocese, expect Tom to reappear at St. Mark's from time to time.
- We thanked **Lydia Pendleton** for leading our youth ministry during the depths of the pandemic as she finished her work at St. Mark's to focus on her full-time job at Farmers Insurance and to prepare for her wedding in September 2022.
- **Diane Hessinger and Gina Wood** swapped roles as leaders in our children's ministry program with Diane becoming a volunteer assistant and Gina taking on the role as the director. Diane welcomes Preschoolers to room 101 on Sunday mornings at 10:15 am while Gina leads a gathering for children in Mahon Hall with a presentation of Godly Play.
- We mourned the passing of members and friends of St. Mark's, including **Catharine Phillips**, an Episcopal priest, member of St. Mark's, spiritual director and poet; **Dolores Dunnet**, whose 100th birthday we celebrated in March 2020; also **Anne Hacker**, **John Horn**, **Peggy Heilig**, **Gloria Patinos and Doug Armantrout**.

As pandemic restrictions eased up in 2021, the level of activity at St. Mark's began to pick up. Both of our weekday programs for children, Parents' Day Out and the St. Mark's Preschool, were in session and at or close to capacity for most of the year. Directors **Kathy O'Rourke (PDO)** and **Kristine Osmond (Preschool)** have been models of calm, dedication and caring for the children in their programs and their families. During 2021, a typical week at St. Mark's began to resemble pre-pandemic life with support and recovery groups meeting on a regular basis; choir rehearsals resumed; the bridge players dealt their cards on Thursday afternoons and an intermediate level Spanish class met on Wednesday evenings. The Glenbard West Madrigals presented two concerts in the sanctuary in December and the Anima Singers gathered at St. Mark's for Halloween and Christmas caroling. This year's celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 11 filled the sanctuary with dancing, prayer, music and joy, which continued with tamales, champurrado and more dancing in Mahon Hall. Other highlights include:

- We had another successful garden plant sale for the Appalachia Service Project trip. Thanks to organizer **Cindy Glavin**, this fundraiser has brought in thousands of dollars over the past years while bringing beauty to our gardens.
- The St. Mark's Pumpkin Patch for DuPagePads had record sales and result for Pads \$10,500, bringing the fifteen-year total to over \$105,000. **Phil Adler** is a genuine Great Pumpkin who had helped organize this outreach event since it began in October 2007.
- More mums and more outreach! This year's mum sale was another success with 700 mum plants selling out in one day. An increase in price from \$10 to \$12 per plant didn't hurt the sales. Thanks goes to Rick Quoss, John Zelman, Wes Clay-Anderson and David Dornblaser for organizing this outreach event that benefitted the Glen Ellyn Walk-in Ministry, the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry and Shelter-4-All.
- Zoom continued to be a tool of connection, convenience and ministry. Some St. Mark's groups continue to meet exclusively on Zoom, including the Tuesday Men's Group, the Tuesday Bible Study, the St. Mark's Book Club and the Daughters of the King. Sunday adult formation, vestry and staff meetings have shifted to hyrid in-person and Zoom, with the St. Mark's library an ideal location with its set up of a large screen TV, laptop and "snowball" mic which works well and provides a high-quality experience. Now if someone is out of town or can't make it an in-person meeting, the Zoom option makes it possible to participate. Many agree that the Zoom option is one of the silver-linings of the pandemic.
- The St. Mark's Sunday morning adult formation program brought outstanding presenters under the theme "Who is My Neighbor." These included St. Mark's members **Chad Alcorn, Wes Clay-Anderson and Sophie Lopez** and guests from the community such as Rabbi Steven Bob, Nancy Payne and Naazish Yarkhan.
- The Black Lives Matter sign facing Main Street withstood a variety of reactions as well as weather until a windstorm knocked it over in early December. With **Josh O'Shea and Steve Gross** convening and leading upcoming discussions, we will have a plan for the coming year, which may include a series of signs. In the meantime, a banner with the St. Mark's lion offers the message that "All Are Welcome!"

With 125 years of history, faith, growth, challenges and service, St. Mark's has a deep reservoir of blessings to tap into for the year ahead. Perhaps more than ever, to be a congregation that places the love of God revealed in Jesus at the center of our mission will require the prayers, participation and input of every member. As were the first Christians, we are called by God to engage with the world around us, warts and all, with hope and creativity. The fact that change is a constant doesn't make it easy. As is often said, all change is loss. This means that we are called to minister to each other with listening and compassion while at the same time find the strength and passion to meet change with courage and confidence. What are some of the possibilities in 2022?

- After several years of discussion and planning, hiring a priest or pastor to serve jointly between Calvary in Lombard and St. Mark's.
- With feedback from the congregation and new leadership, our music ministry will flourish with choirs, instrumentalists, congregational singing, recitals and exposure to a wide variety of music that assists and enhances our worship, connections to each other and praise of God.
- Conducting a feasibility study for a capital campaign for St. Mark's that could result in paying off debt that was originally incurred in 2002 and funding needed improvements to our historic and well-used facilities.
- Continuing the work of the Sacred Ground groups that may lead to Land Acknowledgement commitments, anti-racism training and the strengthening of relationships and bonds within the multi-cultural St. Mark's community.
- A trial Sunday service that is based on the Episcopal liturgy but offers a fresh format appealing to seekers and newcomers and families with children and also all ages.
- A refreshed and useful church library collection, which is already underway with the efforts of **Fuad Saba**.

- The nursery room doubling as a weekday Preschool classroom, providing our Preschool experience to those families on the waiting list. DCFS has already given approval for this space.
- A St. Mark's meals ministry serving hot lunches on Saturdays, in cooperation with the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry and other partner congregations. **David and Lynn Dornblaser** are leading the planning on this outreach initiative.

As I approach my 16th anniversary as serving as rector of St. Mark's in February, I am both humbled and filled with gratitude for the people and community that is St. Mark's, its members, newcomers, friends, staff, clergy and everyone who steps into the life of this community. In particular, Lynn Dornblaser and George Churhill have so generously and sacrificially given their time and counsel during early morning Zoom calls and all other times. The St. Mark's vestry members, all of them, have served with deep dedication and faithfulness. Vestry member **Rick** Quoss as head of Buildings and Grounds has responded to numerous urgent and needed repairs and projects, including leaks, clogs, potholes, cracks and more, always with a positive attitude and can-do spirit. Steve Sedall, our treasurer, has worked closely with Chris Ponstein, our church accountant, to monitor our church finances and guide the vestry in its decision-making. Julian Mendoza, our sexton, with unfailing cheerfulness keeps St. Mark's a welcoming and inviting place to be, starting at 7 am on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. Office volunteers Karen McLaughlin, Judy Johnson, May Anstee and John Mueller are providing an extra hand with mailings and projects and a continuity of welcome. Gretchen Kenower prepares abundant flower arrangements to add beauty to our altar. Laura Waterman is a true servant of God who combines humor, seriousness and joy to a multitude of tasks and responsibilities, in the office, with technology, visitors and vendors and on Zoom. And a constant companion in the day-to-day challenges and joys of ministry is my wife, Cecilia Lad Smith. Her faith in me and the work I do seems to me to be super-human as she encourages me always to be myself and hold fast to the conviction that God is love, for all people, without exception.

The world has been going to the dogs for a long time. And now in this moment, more than ever, may we remember that no matter how challenging our lives may seem, God's love is sure, and we are strong. May God bless us, renew us and give us inspiration for the year ahead as we mark 125 years as a congregation with roots at the corners of Main, Phillips and Hillside.

Yours in Christ,

George+

Wardens, Vestry, and Diocesan Delegate Nominees

We are pleased to announce the list of candidates for the 2022 election to St. Mark's Vestry.

Senior Warden

George Churchill

Junior Warden

Kate Marsh

Youth Representative

Caden Gowans

For Senior Warden:



George Churchill: George and his wife Deirdre have been members of St. Mark's since 2008 and George has been active in Children's Ministry all those years, teaching ages from kindergarten to high school. They have four children (Ethan, Elliott, Julian, and Maeve). George grew up and attended Grace Episcopal Church in Newton MA. After heading to California for college a parishioner at Grace Church offered George a job in Chicago at a Technology Strategy consulting company he was starting. 26 years, four million airline miles and a few corporate mergers later and George still has the same job. He spends his work time helping companies think about the impact of new technology on their business and customers

and helping them design and build new products or services that allow them to evolve as technology changes. When not working, George enjoys spending time with his kids, boating, running, riding his bike and struggles with sitting still.

For Junior Warden:



Kate Marsh: I joined St. Mark's as an adult in 2016, after moving back to Glen Ellyn with my husband Lennie and our daughters, Lily (11) and Hannah (7). But I first attended the church while I was in middle school and attended until the time I left for college. I have enjoyed deepening my understanding of the workings of the church through 4 years on Vestry as well as time with the Outreach committee, Children's Ministry and the Finance committee. In addition to the church, I also volunteer time with a local school district / PTA. I appreciate and am looking forward to the opportunity to serve the St. Mark's community in this capacity.

New Vestry Members:



Kara Ward: Kara was raised in Glen Ellyn and until recently lived in her childhood home. Kara attended local schools and was an active member of the Lutheran Church. Kara and her husband Bob have been part of the St. Mark's community for nearly twenty years. Kara and Bob taught high school and raised two grown children, Conor (Lexie) and Kirsten. Kara has served in various ministries inside and outside the church: Bible Study, PADS, the Food Pantry, teaching Sunday School, Pastoral and Senior Care, Lay Reading. Kara is currently in year three of EfM. Kara has an undergraduate degree in Finance and a Master's Degree in Psychology. Outside of a passion for

education and ministry, Kara likes to swim, run, attend Barre classes. Kara welcomes the opportunity to serve St. Mark's on the vestry, hoping to serve the Church as we navigate our ever-changing reality.



Karen Hill: Karen and her family have been members of St. Mark's since 2008. She was raised Catholic and met her husband, Oo Thein Maung, while serving as a Catholic Lay Missioner in Thailand. Oo was born and raised in Burma and is a practicing Buddhist. While raising her children, Izana (18), Mahla (15) and Kai (14) at St Mark's, they have been active as ushers, acolytes, readers, and PADS volunteers. When her kids were young, Karen was a Sunday school teacher, helped with the Christmas pageant, and VBS. Karen's career has been in

fundraising for non-profits. She was the Development Director at PRC, Major Gift Officer at United Way, and has been fundraising for Oncology at Northwestern Medicine for the past 7 years. Karen is honored to volunteer and serve as a St. Mark's vestry member.



Kirsten Dineen: Kirsten's journey with St. Mark's began when she was baptized here as an infant. Her grandparents had been members for decades and her grandma had been very involved in the church throughout those years. Kirsten grew up in Michigan and fondly remembers visiting St. Mark's with her grandma. Years later Kirsten moved to Chicago for work where she met her husband, Tim. After marrying they moved to Glen Ellyn and have been members since 2015. They welcomed twin boys, Owen and Everett, in 2017. The boys

spent time in the nursery with Miss Norma and attended PDO. Nowadays they're in Sunday School and are loving preschool here at St. Mark's. Kirsten is passionate about helping to continue the wonderful work of the Children's Ministry.



Lois Sheridan: As a resident of Wheaton for sixty years, I've taught high school, served as Director of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of DuPage, Executive Director of the Care and Counseling Center and retired as the Director of Volunteers and Community Education at Marianjoy Rehab Hospital. While my husband, an attorney and I raised our four children I was active in PTA'S at every level, on the board and president of Wheaton Jr. Women's club, an initial member of the Board of Directors of the Northern IL Food Depository, Education

Chair and voter registrar for the League of Women Voters. I've worked on many political campaigns and am currently a member of Indivisible of Wheaton/Glen Ellyn. Our four children have blessed us with fifteen active grandchildren; two are college graduates and six are currently in college. It's truly an honor to be nominated to the St. Mark's vestry. I've been a member of this wonderful, welcoming church community for five years and I am part of the Wednesday meditation group, book club, Sacred Ground and recently enjoyed involvement in Las Posadas.



Uziel Hernandez Martinez: Uziel was born in Tabasco, Mexico and is the eldest of three children. He moved to the United States along with his family in his early teens to the area of Tennessee, where he lived there for ten years before moving to the Chicago area to pursue higher education. Uziel is married to Andrea Martinez Cabrera, originally from El Salvador, C.A. Currently, they do not have any children but are the owners of two wonderful dogs named Ly and Brownie. Both Uziel and Andrea come from Protestant Catholic Christian

traditions. In 2018, Uziel had a personal encounter with La Virgen Guadalupe at St. Mark's service dedicated to La Virgen de Guadalupe. Since then, Uziel has been participating at St. Mark's by reading the scripture on the 1pm Misa both in person and online. He is a regular participant at the Thursday's Bible Study with Deacon Miguel and participated in the "Introduction to the Episcopal Church" course with Father George in 2019. Uziel received his bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Religion in 2011 from the University of Tennessee Southern. He holds a master's degree in Divinity from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (2014). Currently, he is pursuing going to medical school and become an orthopedic surgeon. He is a student at Northern Illinois University taking premed courses. His spouse, Andrea is currently a bilingual clinician in the mental health field (LPC, QMHP) and works in the Humboldt Park area working with underserved communities across the Chicago area both in the nonprofit and private sectors. Both Uziel and Andrea enjoy traveling and exploring new places, trying out new restaurants, spending time with friends and family, playing soccer, watching movies and spending time with their dogs in the parks or national parks as much as they can.



Mark Lukas: I primarily worked in Association Management, culminating in serving as CEO of Lions Clubs International, which operated in 200 countries with a membership of 1.4 million members. As a result, I was able to visit Anglian Churches, in numerous countries, over a period of 18 years. I have been an Episcopalian for over forty years and a member of four Parishes, all of which I served on the Vestry. I have been a parish Treasurer and a member of a Discernment Committee, for a future Priest. I was also active in the Pads program, in a neighboring Parish. In retirement, I have been volunteering at the Glen Ellyn

Historical Society and presently serve on their Board of Directors.



Chip Johnson: I am the youngest of a family of three children who all grew up in Loves Park, IL which is a small town just north of Rockford. After attending Beloit College and receiving a Master of Science in Geology from Southern Illinois University I lived in several areas in central and southern Wisconsin until transitioning to Chicago in late 2000. Since then, I have worked for the accounting firm, EY, as part of the Climate Change and Sustainability Services practice. I have one daughter, Aleksandra, and we have both been members of St. Marks since arriving in Wheaton in 2007. Since joining St. Mark's, I have

had the opportunity to assist in our Sunday School programs, act as our coffee hour steward (in pre-COVID days, endowment committee, and participate in our Saturday morning men's group. I am honored and excited about being allowed the opportunity to serve in our vestry and advance our mission and outreach.

Continuing Vestry:



Rick Quoss: My wife Beth and I have been residents of Glen Ellyn for approximately 45 years raising our family of two daughters, Sarah and Liz and two sons, Matt and Adam. We have been blessed with four grandchildren - three boys, Sam, Tim, and Carson and one new (born November 24, 2020) and already spoiled granddaughter Lennon. After many years of attending St. Petronille, we were introduced to St. Marks by two of our friends and neighbors - Jan Langford and Susan Shivas. We joined the church in early 2019 and have found it to be all we desired and more. As we are both retired, we have the time to actively support the church. I have been serving on the Building and Grounds and Outreach Committees. I really enjoy doing

handyman projects and look forward to being the liaison for the Building and Grounds Committee.



Chris Carter: I was born in Minneapolis (the oldest of four children) and lived there for thirty years. My family is still there. I have two adult sons and four ACTIVE grandchildren. After moving to Illinois, I taught English as a Second Language for thirty-one years in Wheaton-Warrenville CUSD 200. As a junior in high school, I was fortunate to live in Torreón, Coahuila, Mexico for the summer to improve my Spanish. The wonderful family with whom I lived spoke no English, thus giving me the opportunity to "live the language" I grew to love. My husband Andy and I became members of St. Mark's in 2004 and I joined the St. Anne's Chapter of

Daughters of the King. I can't express how much the ministry and the camaraderie of fine women has enriched my life. I am grateful to be a member of St. Mark's vestry and will do my best to represent our church community.



Michelle Roman-Garcia: My family and I have been attending St. Mark's for nine years. We were looking for a church home when we stumbled upon St. Mark's. We simply fell in love with St. Mark's welcoming atmosphere and immersed ourselves in Parish Life almost immediately. I have been a Chalice Bearer and Eucharistic Minister for the 1:00 pm service and was a part of the Social Justice and Jazz Night committees. I also helped to organize the 1st Annual Night of the Opera, volunteered for the Taste of Latin-America and taught Sunday School for high schoolers and Confirmands at the 1:00 pm service for six years. Most recently, I served on the steering

committee for CREO, a non-profit organization housed at St. Mark's dedicated to breaking down the barriers that impede Latinx students from going to college. This past summer, I received my certificate for (EfM) Education for Ministry, a four-year program in theological education based upon small-group study and practice sponsored through the Episcopal Church. Professionally, I have been in higher education for the last 28 years at both private liberal arts colleges and public two-year institutions. However, it is in the community college sector that I found that my time and talent were best suited as community colleges are gateway institutions to many who are poor and underprivileged and who otherwise could not pursue post-secondary education. After working at College of

DuPage for 10 years in various capacities, I became the Director of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs (OMSA) at Joliet Junior College, where I have worked for the last 14 years. In this capacity, my team and I lead the college's recruitment and retention efforts for multicultural and underrepresented student populations, providing continuous advocacy and academic support. This will be my second year serving on the Vestry and have found this past year of service during this crazy pandemic and turbulent political time a lifeline to community, hope and servant leadership.



Brian Shallcross: I first started attending St. Mark's in 2018 when my daughter, Claire, expressed an interested in being confirmed. Since that time, Claire and I, as well as my son Henry, have become heavily involved in many of the wonderful programs and ministries at St. Mark's. Although our time here has not been as long as some others, we are already deeply rooted and feel very much at home at St. Mark's. Prior to attending St. Mark's, I attended services at St. John's Episcopal Church in Naperville and Church of the Ascension in Chicago. I have a deep love for Anglican history and liturgy. My long-time interest in Episcopal worship came to full

fruition last spring when Claire and I were confirmed together by Bishop Lee. Henry is enjoying going through the confirmation process in 2020. Since coming to St. Mark's, I helped launch the very successful Saturday morning Men's Group, which regularly draws 8 to 12 men of different ages and backgrounds for relaxed conversation and fellowship every week. I am also part of the Morning Prayer rotation that leads a short service in the chapel every Friday. Additionally, I am serving on the Worship Committee and the Giving Campaign. All of these things have been very enriching for me, and it is my pleasure to be of service to our parish in any way possible. As such, I consider it a very special privilege to serve on the Vestry at St. Mark's. I have been a licensed attorney since 2005 and understand the importance of paying attention to detail and being thorough and deliberate in planning and decision making. It is my hope that I can help St. Mark's continue to grow and succeed in the coming years.



John Zelman: I have been attending St. Mark's for about three years and am very happy to have found a church that is so welcoming. I'm a middle school social studies teacher at a public school in Villa Park, a career I've had for 32 years. My two children are Natalie, who finished her MA in ceramics last year, and John who is a sophomore at North Central College. I'm involved at St. Mark's in choir and the PADS ministry, and I attended the youth mission trip last summer. My interests include running, triathlon, baking, and gardening.



Carrie Gowans: Carrie and her family have attended St. Mark's since 2010. Carrie volunteered on the St Mark's Preschool Board, with Vacation Bible School, in the Nursery and raised funds for various church initiatives. She is a District 41 Substitute Teacher and the Operations Manager at The Learning Specialist firm. Carrie volunteers with the PTA, Bear Necessities Pediatric Cancer Foundation and is a Board Member of the Glenbard Parent Series and Glenbard West Boosters. Her son was part of the first St. Mark's Preschool class and both sons serve as Acolytes. Carrie, her husband, Cameron, two sons and dog reside in Glen Ellyn.

For Youth Representative to Vestry:

Caden Gowans: I have been a St. Mark's member for 12 years and am following my mom's footsteps of serving on



the Vestry. I currently serve as an acolyte. My other church volunteer roles have included children's chorus, Vacation Bible School counselor, nursery volunteer, helping unloading/selling pumpkins and volunteering at the People's Resource Center. I am a Junior at Glenbard West High School where I am a member of the Marching Band, Forensics (Speech) Team, Target Success Program and Reality Teen Board via The DuPage Department of Health. I am a Boy Scout and plan on finishing my Eagle project this summer and work part-time at Ace Hardware. I

have been an active volunteer with Bear Necessities Pediatric Cancer Foundation for 8 years and volunteered at the Glen Ellyn Public Library and Camp Invention. I look forward to being a youth voice on the Vestry to offer a different perspective and deepening my role within St. Mark's. Thank you.

Delegates to Diocesan Convention:



May Anstee: Married to Dick Anstee for 52 years. We are blessed with three children and seven grandchildren. I have a bachelor's degree in Education from University of Maryland (1979) and a master's degree in Library Science from Rosary College, now Dominican University (1986) and worked as a librarian from 1986 to 2006. Raised Roman Catholic; joined the Episcopal Church in 1979. Have attended services at St. Mark's since 1980. Have served on Vestry twice. Have served as Sunday School Superintendent and as a teacher throughout the years, and on Altar Guild for 20+ years. Active member of Daughters of the King serving at the Parish, Diocesan and

Provincial levels. Currently serving as Diocesan Secretary for Episcopal Church Women (ECW). Having attended many Diocesan Conventions through the years both as a delegate, and as an observer, I look forward to serving as a delegate again.



Mauro Hernandez: My family and I moved to the United States several years ago, after living in different places of Mexico all our lives and since then we have attended St. Mark's. My family is comprised of my wife Alejandra, my son Mauro and my daughter Paola. I am an Engineer currently working for an Electronics firm in Woodridge, IL. At St. Mark's we have found not only spiritual peace, but also a family a thousand of miles away from home. Since the first day we have felt supported by the community and we know that we can count on them. We would like to give back a little of all what we have received from St. Mark's and its people and let everybody know that can count on us. I am privileged for the invitation to become a member of the Vestry. I will

do my best to serve and be helpful.



Barrett McRay: Barrett and his wife Sydney have been attending St. Mark's for about 3 years. They have 3 children (Mitchel, 25; Matthew, 21; and Skyler, 16). Barrett teaches at Wheaton College in the Christian Formation and Ministry department and is also a Clinical Director and psychologist at Alliance Clinical Associates.

Senior Warden's Report for Annual Meeting 2022

A year ago, my first words of the warden's report was "what a year." It feels fitting to start out this year's warden's report exactly the same way. WHAT a year.

Thankfully, 2021 was quite different from 2020. We took what we learned in 2020 about remote and hybrid worship and built on our successes. We expanded the number of people allowed in the sanctuary, we enhanced our audio and video capabilities, and continued to expand and experiment with new ways to worship and enjoy music (we SANG!). We also brought back our 8am service (although not on Zoom). Sunday School and Adult Formation resumed, providing learning and fellowship across generations. We saw kids back in our in-person services again, including a modified (yet still smile-inducing) Christmas pageant. We celebrated the life of our congregants, with baptisms, marriages, and memorial services. The fall and winter surge in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, especially right now with the latest more contagious variant, has slowed down some of our back-to-church movement, but it has not stopped us. We instituted regular vaccination clinics to help get our congregants and community protected from the virus.

The vestry did its monthly hard work of navigating the life and finances of the church. We received a second PPP loan, and both loans were forgiven. The vestry also surveyed the congregation to gain insight on what works and where the opportunities may lie, refined the church's vision and mission statements, started discussions about an upcoming capital campaign, and began giving careful thought to new signage outside the church to send a message to the community as to who we are and what we stand for.

Every year always brings changes, some expected and some not quite as expected. We welcomed new congregants and new staff, and said farewell to others. Some of us were honored to attend the ordination of JoAnn Lagman, who left us to answer a call as the sole priest at another church.

My personal thanks goes to the entire vestry for all its thoughtful hard work, especially Rick Quoss for handling all the buildings and grounds issues that seemed to pop up every month, Kate Marsh and Jim Treleaven for their laser-beam focus on the budget and expenditures, Cara Oates for her wisdom far beyond her years, and "the Georges" (Smith and Churchill) for the difficult, productive, and sometimes fun discussions every month. The vestry will have a record number of new members in 2022, and I feel confident the remaining vestry will help this new group navigate the inspiration and the challenges the year ahead will bring.

Lynn Dornblaser, <u>ldornblaser@me.com</u>

OPERATING BUDGET

Revenues	202	1 BUDGET	202	1 ACTUAL	202	2 BUDGET
Current Year Contributions						
Pledge Payments	S	601,000	\$	562,259	\$	580,000
Unpledged Donations	\$	31,000	\$	97,688	\$	90,000
Open Plate	S	15,000	\$	16,855	\$	18,600
Special Collections	\$	8,500	\$	9,161	\$	11,250
One Time Gifts	\$	5,000	\$	20,155	\$	10,000
Donations (Music, Flowers, Landscape)	S	6,800	\$	26,148	\$	10,600
Prior Year Pledges	S	10,000	\$	3,787	\$	14,000
Usäge Income	\$	92,300	\$	106,317	\$	110,145
Youth Activities Income	S	2,000	\$	1,662	\$	1,650
Other Income	\$	25	\$	260	\$	10
Buildings & Grounds Transfers	S	5,000	\$	4,415	\$	5,890
Lillian Wells Foundation	\$	30,000	\$	30,000	\$	-
Diocesan Foundation - General	S	2,000	\$	2,600	\$	2,000
Release/Transfer from Restriction	\$	-	\$	-	\$	4,554
SBA/PPP Loan Forgiveness Income	S	-	\$	190,769	\$	-
St. Mark's Total Revenue	\$	808,625	\$	1,072,075	\$	858,699
		475.000				
St. Mark's Pre-school	\$	175,000	\$	231,012	\$	230,000
PDO Cost Reimbursement	\$	65,000	\$	120,314	\$	120,000
Total Revenue	\$	1,048,625	\$	1,423,401	\$	1,208,699
Expenses						
Clergy Payroll (incl Benefits)	s	240,881	s	239,769	\$	229,158
Other Expenses:	-				-	
Programs	S	29,876	S	25,901	\$	39,852
Music				-		-
Staff	S	59.805	S	54,098	S	62,275
Program	S	5,800	s	7,005	s	7,000
Administration	-	-,		-,		
Staff	S	111,304	S	109,706	\$	100,345
Program	s	50,886	Š	53,078	s	63,135
Buildings & Grounds					-	
Staff	S	27,191	S	22,933	\$	28,871
Program	s	199,995	s	211,551	s	207,261
Our Children					-	
Staff	\$	78,135	S	51,547	s	70,571
Program	Š	6,350	Š	5,320	Š	13,350
M&O	\$	36,200	\$	34,692	\$	41,200
	_		_	45.000	_	
Rectory Expenses	\$	6,775	\$	45,678	\$	4,480
St. Mark's total expenses	\$	853,198	\$	861,278	\$	867,498
St. Marks Pre-School	s	175,000	s	206,948	s	230,000
PDO Expenditures	Š	65,000	š	98,491	Š	120,000
Total Expenses	\$	1,093,198	\$	1,166,717 256,684	\$	(8,799)
St. Mark's, Pre-School, and PDO Net Total	•	(44,573)	•	236,664	•	(0,133)
Breakout						
St. Märk's Net Total	S	(44,573)	\$	210,798	\$	(8,799)
St. Märk's Pre-School & PDO Net Total	\$	-	\$	45,886	\$	-
St. Mark's Restricted Accounts Activity (See Support Detail)	\$	_	\$	54,627	\$	_
Total Excess Cash Received	\$	(44,573)	\$	311,311	\$	(8,799)
Land from Pinners	_	500 440	_	500 440	_	400.040
Loan from Diocese	S	506,419	\$	506,419	\$	498,919
Building Mortgage	S	544,971	\$	541,998	\$	499,872
Rectory Mortgage	3	79,199	\$	-	\$	-

St. Mark's Episcopal Church Summary Financial Report December 2021 Year to Date

Receipts		
Pledges	562,259	
Unpledged Donations, Open Plate	114,543	YTD Operating Net
Usage Income	106,317	80,000
Other Income	98,188	
St. Mark's Total Revenue	881,306	60.000
Expenses		40,000
Salary & Hourly Compensation	493,031	
Clergy Programs	10,922	
Music Programs	7,005	20,000
Administrative Costs	53,078	
Buildings & Grounds	257,228	
Children & Youth	5,320	Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
Mission & Outreach	34,692	(20,000)
St. Mark's Total Expenses	861,277	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Net St. Mark's Revenue/(Exp)	20,030	(40,000)
	-	
		(60,000)
PDO and Preschool Operations:	\neg	(44)
Parent's Day Out Program		fra and
Net PDO and Preschool	45,886	(80,000)
THE TOTAL THE STATE OF THE STAT	10,000	2021 Actuals >>>>> 2020 Actuals ==== 2021 Budget
Cash		
Cash Available for Church Operations	218,606	YTD Pledge Receipts
Cash Available for Restricted Activities	245,006	
Total Cash	463,611	700,000
Total Gasti	100,011	
Diocesan Foundation - Lewis Trust	351,187	600,000
Diocesan Foundation - General	85,378	300,000
Diocesan Foundation - Carey Trust	49,250	500,000
Diocesan Foundation - Music Education	12,970	400,000
Wintrust - Operating	12,570	
Total Investment Accounts (Restricted)	498,784	300,000
Total investment Accounts (Nestricted)	430,704	
Short Torm Lightlities		200,000
Short Term Liabilities SBA/PPP2 Loan	0	
	_	100,000
Other Total Short Term Liabilities	(27,249)	
Total Short Term Liabilities	(27,249)	0 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
Lang Tame Linkilisian		the total ten to the total
Long Term Liabilities:	/E44.000\	
Building Mortgage	(541,998)	7074 (44-4)
Debt Reduction Loan - Diocese	(506,419)	2021 Actual >>>>> 2020 Actual == 2021Budget
Total Long Term Liabilities	(1,048,417)	

As of December 31, 2021, St. Mark's YTD operating surplus was \$20,030, significantly favorable to budget by \$63,243. Actual pledges received of \$562,259 were below budget by \$38,736. Unpledged and open plate donations were significantly above budget by \$67,505. St. Mark's cash position continues to be relatively strong, with \$218,606 available for current operations - an increase from November of \$35,597. The strong cash position is also supported by St, Mark's receiving \$135,875 in a second round of PPP funds in February. St. Mark's still has significant long term liabilities - the Church Building Mortgage and the Diocesan Loan. If there are any comments or questions, contact Jim Treleaven at jbtreleaven@yahoo.com. The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 8th at 7:30 pm (online) and is open to all of St. Mark's.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church 2020 Annual Report Comparative Balance Sheet December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2021

in US\$

Operating Assets		Current Year Change	
Cash and Cash Equivalents:	Dec 31 2020	Inc/(Dec)	Dec 31 2021
Operating Checking	155,365	31,969	187,334
Schwab Fund	100,808	10	100,819
Daughters of the King - Checking	4,202	(456)	3,746
Parent's Day Out - Checking	1,375	22,427	23,801
St. Mark's Preschool - Checking	110,866	23,459	134,326
Rector's Discretionary Fund	7,985	3,166	11,151
Associate Rector Discretionary Fund	2,336	100	2,436
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$382,937	\$80,674	\$463,611
Investments:			
Diocesan Foundation - General Endowment	60,356	25,021	85,378
Diocesan Foundation - Carey Music Fund	40,637	8,613	49,250
Diocesan Foundation - Lewis Trust	289,978	61,209	351,187
Diocesan Foundation - Music Director Education Fund	10,700	2,269	12,970
Total Investment Accounts	\$401,672	\$97,112	\$498,784
Other Assets:			
Prepaid Expenses	2,138	(2,138)	0
Rectory Utilities Receivable	657	72	729
Other Receivable	0	600	600
Receivable from PDO - For PPP Loan	22,984	(22,984)	0
Receivable from St. Mark's Pre-School - For PPP Loan	28,936	(28,413)	523
Total Other Assets	\$54,715	(\$52,863)	\$1,852
Total Operating Assets	\$839,324	\$124,922	\$964,247
Non-operating Assets			
Property and Equipment:			
Church Buildings	6,098,900	0	6,098,900
Furniture and Fixtures	703,303	0	703,303
Computer Equipment	593	0	593
Stained Glass	163,000	0	163,000
Rectory	473,000	0	473,000
Total Property and Equipment	\$7,438,796	\$0	\$7,438,796
Total Non-operating Assets	\$7,438,796	\$0	\$7,438,796

St. Mark's Episcopal Church 2020 Annual Report Comparative Balance Sheet December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2021

(con'd)

0	4,000	4,000
379	(379)	0
39,309	(22,824)	16,485
0	5,000	5,000
4,010	(2,247)	1,763
\$43,698	(\$20,449)	\$27,249
584,971	(42,973)	541,998
513,919	(7,500)	506,419
84,199	(84,199)	0
\$1,183,089	(\$134,672)	\$1,048,417
\$151,700	(\$151,700)	\$0
\$1,378,487	(\$306,821)	\$1,075,666
2,087,083	(23,263)	2,063,820
4,384,015	0	4,384,015
(25,641)	336,953	311,311
\$6,445,457	\$313,690	\$6,759,147
52,505	16,942	69,447
401,672	97,112	498,784
\$454,177	\$114,054	\$568,231
\$8,278,121	\$120,923	
	379 39,309 0 4,010 \$43,698 584,971 513,919 84,199 \$1,183,089 \$151,700 \$1,378,487 2,087,083 4,384,015 (25,641) \$6,445,457 52,505 401,672 \$454,177	379 (379) 39,309 (22,824) 0 5,000 4,010 (2,247) \$43,698 (\$20,449) 584,971 (42,973) 513,919 (7,500) 84,199 (84,199) \$1,183,089 (\$134,672) \$151,700 (\$151,700) \$1,378,487 (\$306,821) 2,087,083 (23,263) 4,384,015 0 (25,641) 336,953 \$6,445,457 \$313,690

Note 1

Effective for 2019, St. Mark's changed its accounting method for recording prepaid pledges. Rather than recognize 2022 prepaid pledges as revenue in the year received (i.e., 2021), 2022 prepaid pledges of \$16,485 were recorded as deferred revenue (in current liabilities) and will be recognized as revenue in January 2022.

Note 2

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan established in 2020 by the US Federal Government's **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act** (CARES Act) and administered by the Small Business Administration (SBA). The PPP Loan program was designed to help small businesses, including nonprofits, to keep their workforce employed during the Covid-19 crisis. The PPP Loan proceeds could be used for payroll costs, mortgage interest, rent, and utilities (i.e., eligible expenses). The PPP Loan is eligible for forgiveness (and essentially becomes a grant) if it is used to pay eligible expenses. St. Mark's used it PPP Loan proceeds to pay its payroll costs during April through June 2020. The loan was forgiven by the SBA in 2021 and recorded as extraordinary/grant income in the income statement.

St. Mark's Endowment Fund

In November 2017, the Vestry of St. Mark's voted to establish the Endowment Fund of St. Mark's Episcopal Church ("Trust") to "benefit St. Mark's for so long as it operates as an Episcopal church for the benefit of Glen Ellyn and its surrounding communities." The Trust is intended to exist in perpetuity and there is an expectation that the Trust will grow over time through parishioners' donations. Under the Trust Instrument, three Trustees are appointed by the Vestry to fill staggered three-year terms. The Trustees appointed by the Vestry for 2021 were Chip Johnson, Elizabeth Lewis and Leo Lanzillo. Karen Hill was appointed to replace Elizabeth Lewis starting in 2022.

The Trust documents establish a perpetual trust fund and allows the addition of "designated purpose funds" (including those heretofore made to St. Mark's). The assets of all designated purpose funds and other Trust assets shall be commingled and invested by the Trustees. Combining our various investment accounts in this way allows the Trustees to achieve better investment results and simplifies management and record keeping. The Trustees have selected the Common Fund of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, commonly known as the "Diocesan Foundation" to hold the Trust funds. Founded in 1952, the Diocesan Foundation is a collective investment vehicle currently serving more than 35 parish and group investors. At the end of 2020, its net asset value topped \$36 million, and more information is available on the diocesan website.

St. Mark's established four fund accounts with the Diocesan Foundation. The General Endowment Fund is a perpetual trust account. The Lewis Trust Fund, the Carey Music Fund, and the Augusta Pahnke and Mary Peck Fund are designated purpose funds. As mentioned in last year's report, the Trustees approved the recommendation of the Finance Committee to move \$10,000 from the columbarium fund to the General Endowment Fund, such transfer to be completed by December 31, 2020. In June of 2021, the Trustees approved a similar columbarium transfer of \$8,000.

The annual distributable amount for the General Endowment Fund is 4% to 5% of the fund balance at the end of the prior year. Those funds are paid annually to the St. Mark's Treasurer in February and can be used for: (1) "the purchase, construction, installation, and repair of its capital improvements, (2) outreach and missionary projects and (3) special one-time projects (and not for usual and ordinary expenses and maintenance of St. Mark's)."

The Carey Music Fund is subject to the same distribution as the General Fund (4% to 5% per year) with the designated purpose of providing regular tuning, servicing, and maintenance of St. Mark's Episcopal Church's pianos (including replacement as necessary) and the Walker Organ.

The distributable amount of the Pahnke/Peck Fund is 90% of income received during the year. The amount is paid annually to the St. Mark's Treasurer and can be used for musical education, training and professional education of the Director of Music and other musicians at St. Mark's.

The quarterly distributable amount of the Lewis Trust Fund is the income received during the year, but not capital gains. The applicable income is paid quarterly to the St. Mark's Treasurer directly by the Diocesan Foundation and can be used only for "the purchase, construction and installation of its capital improvements (and not for usual and ordinary expenses and maintenance of the Church)."

The chart below shows the summary of the church's investment accounts. Any questions about the endowment fund should be addressed to the Trustees.

ST. MARK'S INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS SUMMARY FOR 2021

FUND	OPENNING BAL (as of 9/30/2020)	DEPOSITS	DISBURSEMENTS	YEAR-END BALANCE (as of 9/30/2021)
General Fund	\$50,356	\$18,000	\$2,600	\$75,692
Lewis Trust Fund	\$289,978		\$6,694	\$336,717
Carey Music Fund	\$40,637		\$1,144	\$46,963
Pahnke/Peck Fund	\$10,700		\$300	\$12,367
TOTAL ENDOWMENT	\$391,672	\$18,000	\$10,738	\$459,372

2022 Giving Campaign

Looking back over the year, we were surprised and uplifted by how the church and its members adapted and grew in response to the pandemic and the resilience, creativity and commitment of our community.

- Community embrace of Online and blended in-person services
- The reconnection to each other and to God
- Continuation of traditional Pumpkin Sale, Mums Sale, and today's Cake Sale!

The message for this year's campaign is:

With all your heart...

Moving Forward with **Faith.** Connected with **Hope** Giving with **Gratitude**.

So we are asking you, our St. Mark's community, to **Give with Gratitude** this year, and be part of this annual tradition of gathering the church community's resources to support St. Mark's and all it provides its members and our community.

Looking ahead, the continuing challenges St. Mark's will face this upcoming year include:

- ongoing support for DuPage Pads, the Appalachian Service Project, our companion parish in Nigromante, Mexico and missionary services in East Africa and Madagascar
- salary adjustments for staff to meet cost of living expenses
- maintenance to the church building
- MORE community activities and fellowship

If you have not pledged for 2022, please do so as soon as you read this letter! It will not only help our church chart a financial path but also determine how much positive reach this church can give to others.

To pledge for 2022 please click on this link.

http://stmarksglenellyn.org/giving/make-a-pledge/

Thank you for choosing St. Mark's and choosing to GIVE.

Yours in Christ,

Co-Chairpersons: Jeanne Tschampa Lopotko and Andrew Wassef

Committee: Melissa Gonzalez, Brian Shallcross, Andrew Dorn, Wade Kennedy, Mauro Hernandez

Graphic Design: Javier Valdivia

Treasurer: Steve Sedall

Finance Committee Chairman: Jim Trelevan

Rector: George Smith †

Ministerio en Español

Los desafíos siguen, la determinación no se detiene.

Con el lema "El Edificio está cerrado la Iglesia sigue abierta" iniciamos la transición del año 2020 al 2021. Los desafíos de la pandemia siguen presentes; pero Nosotros estamos determinados a lograr nuestros propósitos.

En el 2021, abrimos el programa de formación para la primera Comunión y Confirmación, compartiendo las clases de forma virtual. Pero en Marzo de este mismo año dimos un paso adelante reabriendo el edificio y nuestros programas de formación desarrollándose en forma híbrida. Involucrando más activamente los esfuerzos de los equipos de tecnología y maestras, las desempeñaron todos un papel extraordinario, gracias por su esfuerzo.

Siguiendo las recomendaciones de mitigación implementadas por el estado, por la Diócesis Episcopal de Chicago y por Nuestro comité de la reapertura de San Marcos. Durante el verano se realizaron la celebraciones de las Primeras Comuniones en grupos pequeños (4-5) en el servicio de la 1:00 p.m. en Español, donde más de 30 niños y niñas que ya habían completado su formación pudieron celebrar su primera comunión.

En este tiempo también se mantuvo de forma virtual el Estudio Bíblica en Español cada jueves y en Septiembre se continuo en forma virtual y presencial.

En Septiembre se reanudaron dimos inicio al nuevo curso de primera comunión y confirmación bajo la coordinación de Gina Wood Directora de misterio de niños, el equipo de ministerio hispano y profesoras en forma presencial, y en forma virtual para aquellas familias que así lo deseen. También iniciamos la clase de formación para adultos en Español.

En el mes de Septiembre con la presencia de nuestra Obispa Asistente Chilton Knudsen confirmo a más de 25 jóvenes recibieron el Sacramento de la Confirmación en nuestra iglesia. Dentro de toda esta realidad que vivimos hemos continuado brindando a la congregación las oportunidades de celebrar bautismos, quinceañeras, matrimonios, funerales, presentaciones de niños y niñas que han cumplido Tres Años y proporcionándole asistencia pastoral a las familias y a toda persona que lo han necesitado.

En el mes de Octubre celebramos la tradicional Kermés dentro de las actividades del mes de la Herencia hispana. También en Octubre se preparó el altar para rendir homenaje a nuestros difuntos (ofrendas a los muertos) un altar que fue preparada y exhibida en el salo Mahon Hall, está elaborada por un grupo de mujeres hispanas de la Iglesia Episcopal de San Marcos.

Ya en diciembre y con él las celebraciones tradicionales tales como la Celebración en honor a Nuestra Señora la Virgen de Guadalupe que incluyo un programa que inicio con una profesión con la imagen por la calle principal iniciando en la Avenida Roosevelt y concluyendo en la entrada de la Iglesia, así como representación de las apariciones de la Virgen a Juan Diego seguido de la celebración de la Santa Eucarística con la participación por primera vez de las danzantes mujeres y niñas del servicio de la 1:00 p.m. hubo también canciones tradicionales con un cantante con música de mariachi y concluyendo con una convivencia en el Salón Mahon Hall para celebrar todos juntos.

Del 16 al 23 de Diciembre celebramos las tradicionales posadas con una participación promedio de más 55 personas en cada una de ellas. Queremos agradecer a Paty King, por acompañarnos con el Chelo y la guitarra tocando villancicos así también agradecemos profundamente al el grupo Sacred Ground (Tierra Sagrada) quienes fueron anfitriones de una de las posadas después del servicio de la 1:00 p.m. lo cual fue una experiencia maravillosa para todos, gracias por su interés y generosidad para conocernos mejor y para caminar juntos y fortaleciéndonos como una comunidad.

Spanish Language Ministry

The challenges continue, the determination does not stop.

With the theme "The Building is closed...the Church is open" we began the transition from 2020 to 2021. The challenges of the pandemic are still present, but we are determined to continue our ministries with faith and confidence.

At the beginning of 2021, we offered classes preparing for First Communion and Confirmation online on Zoom. In March, we took a step forward by offering a hybrid of in-person and Zoom classes. Thanks goes to the teachers (Laura Lopez, Itzel Carmona, Angeles Perdomo, Maria Torres and Uziel Hernandez) and staff (Laura Waterman and Irma Solorzano) for their time and efforts to make this a success.

Following the pandemic mitigation recommendations by the State of Illinois, the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago and the St. Mark's reopening committee, First Communion celebrations were part of the 1:00 pm Sunday services. In total, 30 children who had completed their formation were able to celebrate receiving communion.

The Thursday Bible Study continued on Zoom for the first half of the year and then transitioned to hybrid format, with in-person participation in the St. Mark's library.

In September, First Communion, Confirmation and adult formation classes were started with the leadership of Gina Wood, Director of Children's Ministries, Deacon Miguel Briones, Father José Arroyo and volunteer teachers, both in person and online.

With the return of in-person gatherings, we were able to celebrate baptisms, Quinceañeras, marriages, funerals and presentations of children who had reached their third birthday.

In October and in connection with Hispanic Heritage month, an outdoor Kermes fundraiser with delicious food and beverages for sale raised over \$1,000 for St. Mark's general operations. Also, in October an "ofrenda" altar was set up in Mahon Hall by Laura Lopez, Itzel Carmona, Maria Torres, Angeles Perdomo and Guadalupe Lopez to honor the deceased and as part of the traditional "el día de los muertos" or "day of the dead" custom.

A celebration in honor of Our Lady the Virgin of Guadalupe was held on December 11 and included a procession with the statue of the Virgin Mary on the sidewalk from Roosevelt Road to the entrance of St. Mark's and a reenactment of the appearances of Virgin Mary to Juan Diego. A celebration of the Holy Eucharist followed which included a traditional line dance with indigenous costumes. The music was led by a mariachi singer who continued singing at the "convivio" in Mahon Hall.

In the days leading up to Christmas, December 16 to 23, we celebrated the traditional "Posadas" with over 50 people in attendance each evening. Many thanks to Patty King for accompanying us with her cello and guitar playing and to Beth Gemkow, Lois Sheridan, Jeff Diver, Ginnie Judd and other Sacred Ground participants who hosted one of the posadas. The sharing and learning about these traditions strengthens us a community and as the body of Christ.

Submitted by Miguel Briones miguel@stmarksglenellyn.org and José Arroyo Jose@stmarksglenellyn.org

Children's Ministries

The goal of Children's Ministries at St. Mark's is to provide a variety of opportunities for faith development for children birth to grade 5. The curriculum is staff-developed, based on the weekly Gospel, Godly Play stories, and children's Bible story books. In 2021, we were very pleased to be able to return to in person instruction at St. Mark's, while still including our Godly Play/Bible Stories for the entire congregation during services for in person and Zoom participation. Godly Play/Bible Stories are also recorded and uploaded on YouTube for sharing.

Sunday Education

Nursery

Childcare provided from 9:00 am - 2:30 pm and special events as requested.

Bible Stories/Sunday School at 10:15 am

Pre-K with Miss Diane

Age-appropriate story
Follow-up craft activity
Music instruction once a month
Friendship-building time in free play

K-Grade 5 with Miss Gina

Opening discussion with group participation, music, and prayer Bible Story/Godly Play presentation with wondering questions and responses Follow-up artwork, craft, or Lego Creations activities review and response

Our Allies team supports children with special attention needs in the classroom. Our dedicated volunteers support children in this essential ministry of inclusion headed by Darcie Lambert.

Historias bíblicas/escuela dominical a las 12:00 pm

Bible Story/Godly Play presented on screen in creative manner in Spanish
In person Bible Story/Godly Play with Miss Gina with wondering questions and response group discussion
Follow-up artwork, craft, or Lego Creations activities review and response
History and meaning of Eucharist

Vacation Bible School

In July, the children of St. Mark's and their friends and family returned for a fabulous week of fun and learning with in person Vacation Bible School (VBS)! Children Preschool age to 5th grade met for one week Monday-Friday mornings with a variety of ways of learning Bible stories and lessons through crafts, music and dramatic presentations. The children learned that we are God's special TREASURES with the "Treasured" VBS program. Each day we would gather with Miss Gina and Smiley (a grinning Crocodile) for our opening Bible point and songs. The K-5 students would rotate between story time with Sarah (and Kate!) Adler, snacks and video with Mr. Mark and Miss Julie, games with Miss Gina, and art projects with Dan (and Marina!)

Lobraco. Miss Diane headed up the preschool students' activities with art, snacks, music, crafts, and stories. All the children gathered for closing songs and sharing "God Sightings" treasures...and on the last day of VBS week, they performed for parents at pick up! Thank you to all our wonderful grade level group leaders including our fabulous Junior High and High School team leaders, and all our amazing set up and clean up volunteers! And another big thank you to Ryan Valdivia for our PowerPoint presentation and video and sound set up!

Other opportunities for learning

Palm Sunday visit from Molly the Donkey

Good Friday instruction with Easter Events including our Easter Egg Hunt

In person Christmas Pageant directed by Miss Gina

St. Nick Visit in Mahon Hall with refreshments and chocolate coins and a history of Saint Nicholas

Opportunities for service

Backpack in-gathering and blessing –generous donations of many backpacks, school supplies, and even a bicycle were collected and donated to Holy Family School

Pumpkin decorating and donations for UNICEF

It takes a congregation! None of these wonderful activities and opportunities would be possible without the help of many.

Staff and volunteers serving on Children's Ministry Team: Diane Hessinger & Gina Wood—Children's Ministry Director

Norma Cid – Nursery Supervisor

Jocelyn Briones – Nursery Assistant

Gina Wood – K-5 teacher

Diane Hessinger—Pre-K teacher

Megan McGuire, Diane Hessinger, and Gina Wood—Vacation Bible School Coordinators

Kate Marsh- Vestry liaison

Much appreciation and heartfelt thanks to the congregation of St. Mark's for making children a priority in your plans and prayers.

Blessings!

Gina Wood childrensministry@stmarksglenellyn.org Director of Children's Ministries

Youth Ministry Report 2021

Who are St. Mark's youth? They are both members and newcomers to St. Mark's who range in age from sixth to twelfth grade. Some have been part of the St. Mark's community since they were babies and others are just getting to know St. Mark's as teenagers. Some speak English at home, others Spanish. What they all have in common is that they are welcome and have a safe place at St. Mark's to come to, to worship, grow, have fun and experience the love of God. They are encouraged to attend and actively participate in Sunday worship and other worship services, to get involved in service and outreach projects and to attend the weekly Youth Night on Wednesdays. Youth in eighth grade and above prepare for Confirmation, which is a mature affirmation of baptism.

Thank you Lydia! In 2021, Lydia Pendleton led the St. Mark's youth program until May. Having finished her work at St. Mark's, she has been focusing her attention on her engagement to her fiancé, John (their wedding will be

on September 4, 2022, in Exeter, NH) and on her full-time job as an agency producer for Farmers Insurance. Under Lydia's leadership, the youth programming included meetings on Zoom and several in-person activities.

Thank you Justin! Justin Backstrom, who led the youth program in 2020, continued to help out in 2021 by leading meetings on Zoom for youth preparing for confirmation. When time permits during his coursework in chiropractic medicine, Justin volunteers at Youth Nights and other youth events.

Finally, confirmation! On October 23, 2021, 24 St. Mark's youth were confirmed by assisting Bishop Chilton Knuden who presided and preached at this bilingual English-Spanish service. The attendance of 150 filled every other pew with others joining via Zoom and YouTube. This was the first confirmation at St. Mark's since the beginning of the COVID pandemic and more than two years since Bishop Lee's visit in May 2019.

Confirmation planned for May 2022: With schedules still being worked on, the date for a spring confirmation is pending. Hopefully, Bishop Knudsen will be at St. Mark's toward the end of May, either on a weekday or a Sunday afternoon for a confirmation service. There are currently 24 youth who are preparing for this milestone.

Youth Nights! A big change in youth programming happened in the Fall of 2021 with the launch of St. Mark's Youth Nights on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. With input from parents and youth, the primary time for youth to meet was moved from Sunday mornings and afternoons to Wednesday evenings. Youth Nights are from 6:00 – 7:30 pm and includes games, activities, Bible-centered conversations and a closing prayer. In September and part of October, the Youth Nights started outside in the lower parking lot with pizza and activities. With the colder weather and earlier sunsets, we moved indoors to Mahon Hall and offered a snack to go. There have been over 20 youth at most of the Youth Nights along with four or five adult volunteers. One of the advantages of a mid-week youth group is that it is an opportunity for all youth to attend at the same time, whereas on Sundays there have been morning and afternoon groups, based on whether a family attends the 10:30 am or 1 pm service. The success of the Youth Nights would not be possible without the incredible adult volunteers, including Jen Bradbury, Joyce Fletcher, Darcie Lambert, Andy Waters, Olivia Vanderlei and Dan Lobraco.

Sundays! All youth are encouraged to be leaders at worship, including playing musical instruments, acolyting, ushering and reading lessons or leading in the Prayers of the People.

Thank you Cara Oates! Cara has served as the youth representative on the St. Mark's vestry for the past year. She represents the fifth generation of her family's involvement in St. Mark's and continues their tradition of service. A senior at Benet Academy, Cara's thoughtful contributions to vestry conversations reflect her commitment to her role and to St. Mark's.

The future of youth ministry! Youth ministry is central to the future of a vibrant St. Mark's community. In 2022, we will work to hire a youth leader to grow our youth ministry, to support and encourage our youth so that they always know they are welcome, have a safe place to come to and where they learn the love of God and the Christian way of respecting the dignity of all people.

George Smith, rector@stmarksglenellyn.org

Adult Formation 2021

The Adult Formation curriculum of 2021 began in January with an introduction to *Sacred Ground*, a program for racial understanding, healing, and justice put together by The Episcopal Church. Those who participated were introduced to the semester-long curriculum (10 weeks spread out over several months) in order to determine if they wished to commit to this eye-and-heart-opening series. *Sacred Ground* ran from February through June, meeting

approximately once every two to three weeks, in lieu of Adult Formation. It met on both Sunday mornings and Tuesday evenings, depending on the availability of the participants.

In the summer, Adult Formation switched from Zoom only to a hybrid In-Person/Zoom format, and participation grew. Father George led a series on *Surprised by Hope* by the former Bishop of Durham N.T. Wright. Following that, there was a series on faith and art, in which members of the congregation were invited to share their artistic talents and lead discussions about the intersection of art, experience, and spirituality.

During the fall and winter, the Adult Formation committee, led by Mother Jo Ann Lagman, created a series on loving our neighbors entitled, "Who Is My Neighbor? (Where is the Love?)" We listened to neighbors of different ages, races, religions, and sexual orientations and came to know our congregation and community better. The series was very rewarding for all involved.

Lindsey Paris-Lopez <u>lparislopez@gmail.com</u>
Father George Smith <u>rector@stmarksglenellyn.org</u>

Music

The music ministry at St. Mark's is in a time of important transition. After five years together, St. Mark's and Daniel Segner parted ways in November. Daniel joined St. Mark's in 2016 as a graduate of Valparaiso University and having served as Principal Organist for the Chicago Temple. He led the St. Mark's choir with skill and energy while growing in his expertise as an organist and musician. Daniel continued the St. Mark's tradition of Lessons and Carols and organized several concerts including a Choral Masterworks in 2018 and a Hymn Festival in 2019. At the start of the pandemic, Daniel helped St. Mark's make the transition to online and Zoom worship, with both live and recorded music, while working with the choir online. As Daniel pursues opportunities to serve other congregations and organizations with his many talents, I ask you to join me in wishing him well and to keep him and his wife Rachael in prayer. I also ask your prayers for the St. Mark's choir as it experiences this time of transition and its varied emotions.

I am grateful to a number of St. Mark's musicians who have already offered their time and talents to lead music in our worship services. A special thanks goes to Marsha Webster who plays both the organ and piano, has rehearsed the choir, and helped plan music for Sunday worship. Her help has been invaluable in this time of transition. On short notice, Grayson and James Van Camp organized our service of Advent Lessons and Carols held on December 12. Jeanne Tschampa, a member of the choir, has led music on the piano at a number of services. Patti King (cello), Morgan Pintarich (vocal and guitar), Bob Lundin (guitar) and Ryan Valdivia (trumpet) and Allison Yuknis (viola) have offered their musical talents as a gift to our community and its praise to God. In the weeks and month ahead, these and other talented musicians who are part of the St. Mark's community will be offering their gifts of music. If you or someone you know sings or plays an instrument and would like to participate in music at St. Mark's, please come forward!

Starting on January 13, 2022, we welcomed David Bolthouse to St. Mark's as our interim music director! David graduated from Wheaton College with a Bachelor of Music in pipe organ. He is a colleague of the American Guild of Organists and has played and conducted choirs mostly at Lutheran and Episcopal churches. His day job is in IT security for 37 years. He has conducted business on six continents. David lives in Palatine and is married with two children. You may contact David via email at music@stmarksglenellyn.org or TEXT him at 847-312-1345.

A search committee for a new director of music for St. Mark's has begun meeting. This committee includes John Zelman (vestry and choir member), Miguel Briones (deacon), Tanya and Jerry Carey (cello and flute), Patti King (cello), Elizabeth Lanzillo (choir) and Hal Stratton (vocal and piano). There are plans for a congregation-wide survey which will provide an opportunity to build our list of musicians and gather congregational feedback for the search process.

A vision statement for the St. Mark's Music Program was created in 2016 by the search committee at that time. This statement, presented below, will be a guide to the current search committee:

Music and the arts are means by which St. Mark's makes known the glory and presence of God, providing avenues for spiritual development and participation in ministry. Anchored by an experienced adult choir, choirs for young children, a two-manual J.W. Walker and Sons tracker organ and two grand pianos, the future of our music program will embrace our multi-cultural and inter-generational membership. We are a congregation that learns, knows how to sing, and enjoys singing a variety of music that represents our community and curiosity about the world. Collaborative, nurturing, and all-encompassing describe the foundation for our music program which is committed to the Baptismal Covenant and grounded in St. Mark's vision: "Rooted in baptism, growing in faith and branching out into the world."

As we work and pray together for the future of the music ministry at St. Mark's, I offer to us a prayer for musicians and artists found in the Book of Common Prayer (p, 819): "O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of our beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

I welcome your questions and help as we work together for the future of the music ministry of St. Mark's.

George Smith / rector@stmarksglenellyn.org

Acolyte Ministry and Usher Ministry

As the grip of the pandemic has lessened, St. Mark's has moved to a hybrid model of worship, with participants both on Zoom and in-person. This has reopened the opportunity for our youth to serve as acolytes, and they have embraced it. Their excitement has brightened our worship experience immeasurably. We normally have only one youth serve at a time, but at special services we had up to three. We have also begun to call upon our steadfast ushers again. Though we do not yet have a head of this ministry, our parishioners have stepped up, sometimes with very little notice, to pass the plate and hand out bulletins. The willingness to help reflected in this group of people is truly inspiring. If you would like to volunteer to be an usher or to serve as an acolyte, please contact

Laura Waterman at adminasst@stmarksglenellyn.org

Lay Readers

As our worship services have moved to a hybrid model, our lay reader program has continued to adapt and change. Now readers can choose whether to read in-person from the pulpit, or on Zoom from their homes. This has been a great blessing as the unpredictable nature of the variants has sometimes dictated these decisions on Sunday morning. With this expanded capacity, we have once again been able to schedule readers 3 months in advance, and St. Mark's readers have been wonderful about supporting each other through schedule changes. If you would like to volunteer to read during a service, please contact Laura.

Laura Waterman at adminasst@stmarksglenellyn.org.

Daughters of the King

Daughters of the King is an international order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the historic episcopate. St. Anne's chapter was chartered in 1931 and has served St Mark's continuously for over 90 years, supporting the clergy and parish through prayer and service.

Prayer is a major part of our ministry, keeping the church prayer list in mind, along with our own prayer requests. A devotional is part of every monthly meeting. Despite the continued pandemic and Zoom meetings, our prayer life has held strong. This year we added three opportunities for *Daughters* and members at large to participate in 30 minutes of quiet prayer and reflection, in person, in the chapel. A chance for us to slow down in the anticipation and waiting of Advent. We are hopeful that the end of the pandemic will allow us to bring back other prayer experience opportunities.

Daughters serve through various ministries. **Altar Ministry,** though a stand-alone ministry, is coordinated by DOK. I would like to emphasize that it is open to ALL members of the congregation, both men and women. We will be leading training sessions in the near future. Look and listen for information in the weekly bulletin and announcements.

Wedding Ministry assists in the coordination of weddings, guiding and supporting the wedding party and representing the church in its use and care. While the number of weddings has drastically reduced due to CoVid, we do have two dates scheduled so far this year and anticipate that number to increase going forward.

Our **Funeral Receptions Ministry** coordinates with families to host receptions before or after the funeral services, providing an opportunity for friends and family to share and reminisce.

Traveling Tea Parties Ministry is a ministry within DOK where two or three Daughters visit other Daughters who are ill or homebound. While in-person visits have been suspended, we have kept in touch through phone calls, texts and hand-written cards.

St. Anne's Chapter of St. Mark's meets once a month (the 3rd Monday) at 7:30 with social time about half an hour prior ... and of course following the meetings. In-Person is held in the library; however, we will continue meeting via Zoom for the foreseeable future. DOK is a great way to make the larger church a smaller and more intimate community, make new friends and serve our members and clergy of St. Mark's. If you have any questions and/or are interested in our ministries, please contact me.

Beth Quoss, bethquoss@hotmail.com

Altar Ministry

Those of us who serve on altar duty consider it a holy ministry, preparing the Table for every Eucharist service in the church. We wash, iron, and lay out the linens, pour the wine into vessels that we have polished, fill the candles with oil, put out the bells and books, order supplies, oversee the flowers and uncover the piano. Day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year, for over 85 years we have been a central part of the life of St. Mark's. Just as you prepare for cherished visitors in your home, we set our Lord's Table so that all may gather, eat and drink of his body and blood and be refreshed and comforted.

We touch your lives not only each time you take communion on Sunday. We prepare for baptisms, first communions, weddings, healings, and reverently, and in great hope and faith we set the table for funerals, laying out the pall and comforting the bereaved. It is a privilege to serve our Lord and our congregation in this way.

We invite all who would like to learn more about this beautiful ministry to join us. You will learn about the history and meaning of our liturgy and the work necessary for what most people take for granted. It requires only a few hours of training, and a willingness to commit to two hours of work each month. If interested in learning more about the Altar Ministry, please contact Christine.

Christine Carter, thechristine 53@gmail.com

Pastoral Care

The pastoral care needs of a congregation like St. Mark's are diverse and numerous. The St. Mark's clergy place a priority on responding quickly to requests for hospital visits, crisis intervention and all urgent situations involving loss and sudden and unexpected transitions. In addition to George, Father José, Clint and Deacon Miguel, other clergy in our deanery are available if and as needed. Pastoral needs are not confined to the urgent situations and include the challenges of everyday life we all experience, which seem even greater during the pandemic. While pastoral care is the work of the entire community, a variety of specialized ministries and avenues are in place at St. Mark's to provide care and support, including:

The St. Mark's Prayer List: St. Mark's maintains and updates a list of names that are prayed for on daily basis. This list appears in the Sunday bulletins for these concerns to be held in prayer by the entire community during worship and as a devotion at other times of the week. Some people ask for their names to be added to the list. Other names are added through requests by family and friends. There is no limit to the prayer list. To add a name to the list, please call or email the front desk or contact Fr. George (rector@stmarksglenellyn.org) or Joyce Fletcher who is a member of the pastoral care team at irfletch12@gmail.com.

The Pastoral Care Team: Members of the Pastoral Care team include Hester Bury, Patty Bergh, Jean Ostrander, Kara Ward, Lois Sheridan, Joyce Fletcher, Deacon Miguel Briones and Father George. These members of St. Mark's are trained to make in-person visits and telephone calls to those who are in need of pastoral care. This group has monthly check-in meetings and assists in follow-ups with those who are on the prayer list. This team invites anyone interested in this aspect of pastoral care to get involved. Please contact Fr. George if you have any questions.

Prayer Providers: The Prayer Providers is a group of St. Mark's members who pray daily for the names they are assigned from the St. Mark's Prayer List. This group meets on Zoom once a month for prayer, discussion and to review the updates we have for those on the prayer list. Members of this group include Carolyn Faivre, May Anstee, Dianne Dinse, Sue Mylander, Becky DeBlois, Bruce Clements, Cheryl Olsen, Karen Nicholson and Karen McLaughlin. Zoom enables those who have moved from outside of the area to remain part of this important ministry.

Meals Ministry: Jesse Como and Kristina Roth coordinate the Meals Ministry and its volunteers. This ministry can provide meals to those who have welcomed a new baby, are home from a hospitalization and those who have experienced loss of any kind. To volunteer, please contact Jesse at 612-387-1853.

Spiritual Direction: Spiritual direction is a form of counseling through which a spiritual director helps a client to discern how God is working in their life. Catharine Philips, an Episcopal priest and trained spiritual director, offered direction from her office at St. Mark's for ten years. Catharine's passing in 2021 was mourned by St. Mark's and many in the Diocese of Chicago. Spiritual direction is available in and near Glen Ellyn. For recommendations of directors, please contact Fr. George

Submitted by George Smith, rector@stmarksglenellyn.org

Church Tellers 2021

The tellers for St. Mark's work faithfully every Monday morning to open the giving envelopes and count the Sunday offering. Due to Covid restrictions, the tellers suspended their work from March 2020 until April of 2021. They have continued since then, providing the proper recording of contributions in the Church's accounting system and taking the deposit to the bank. Their efforts in this critical function are vital to St. Mark's financial process, and St. Mark's is blessed to have them serve so faithfully in this capacity.

Tellers that served during the year were May Anstee, Bob Cardwell, Jerry Carey, Karen Evans, Jim Grotelueschen, Gretchen Kenower, Bob and Susie Meehan, and Don Winkelman. Thank you all.

Dick Anstee, ranstee05@gmail.com

Outreach

Outreach has historically been a primary focus for St. Mark's. There are many programs that are embedded in the fabric of our church community and there are many components that make up our outreach program. Some of the most obvious are the Appalachian Service Project (ASP), the mission trip to Southeast Mexico, the annual Mum sale, and the Pumpkin Patch that helps support DuPage Pads programming in our community. We are engaged in local, regional, national, and international efforts to help to contribute while attempting to make a difference. Whether the programs are shared with us through the diocese or sponsored by the national church, are opportunities to contribute in international efforts in response to natural disasters, or are simply a response to local need; St. Mark's attempts to be present and is always looking for ways to be engaged.

Another aspect of our outreach mechanism here at St. Mark's is the Outreach Committee. Approximately \$20,000 of the 2020 budget was set aside to help us explore and engage in activities intended to help others. We received 13 written proposals from organizations within our church as well from service organizations within our community or area.

Each of the proposals received presented identified needs, what they would do with funds awarded, and provided answers to each of the questions given on our application form. The committee reviewed the applications received and made every attempt to support each organization on some level. Most of our proposals came from groups and organizations in which members of our congregation were serving either as volunteers or board members. In the end, allocations were made to all 13 groups/organizations. Allocations ranged from \$55 - \$3000. A total of approximately \$16,339 was committed and disbursed.

Those groups/programs/individuals initially receiving grant funds include:

- Walk-In Ministry Shared ministry supported by approximately 18 local churches that provides emergency support for residents of Glen Ellyn or members of participating churches with food certificates, gas vouchers, utility assistance, auto repair, transportation, etc.
- **Awakenings Project** Supports artists, poets, playwrights, and musicians afflicted by mental illness in the pursuits of their crafts.
- Family Shelter Service Offers services to victims of domestic violence in DuPage County.
- Faith in Place Works with people of all faiths to be leaders in caring for the earth (Green Teams).
- **Shelter for All** Not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing housing for the homeless in DuPage County.
- **People Reaching People** (Ministry of Bishop Todd and Rev Patsy McGregor) Madagascar Supporting children attending summer programming.
- Grace and Peace Chaplaincy Bringing God's word to area communities which serve our older adults.
- Glen Ellyn Youth and Family Counseling Service (GEYFCS) Supporting mental health for youth and families in the Glen Ellyn Area.
- Glen Ellyn Food Pantry Helping to fight hunger in the Glen Ellyn Area.
- **CREO** Pre-college counseling and tutoring for St. Mark's Latino/a youth; supporting this new ministry for Latino high school students with a focus on developing education opportunities beyond high school.
- **DuPage United** Supporting efforts in training volunteer leaders in the area.
- Love Inc. Christian Clearinghouse which helps connecting people with a variety of services available for those in need in DuPage County.

- **Teen Parent Connection** Supported the delivery of specialized programs and services for adolescent parents and their children who reside in and around DuPage County.
- Companion Parish in Mexico Provided support needed for compensating the parish priest in Mexico.

The Outreach Committee is in the process of determining how it will allocate its resources during 2022. Requests for funding have been submitted and we look forward to supporting agencies and programs dedicated to providing assistance in our area and beyond during the coming year.

If you would like to join the Outreach Committee, please contact Wes or John.

Wes Clay-Anderson, vcux2@me.com John Zelman, jzelman86@gmail.com

Backpacks for Holy Family School

A huge THANK YOU to all who so generously donated 25 backpacks and lots of school supplies for the children of Holy Family School. We received so many wonderful donations from backpacks to school supplies, even a bicycle!! Thank you so much for helping us help those in need!

Gina Wood, childrensministry@stmarksglenellyn.org

Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser

Every October since 2007, St Marks has conducted a fundraiser to sell pumpkins to the community to benefit DuPage Pads. It has provided us with friendship, fellowship and many compliments from our neighbors and community. Over the last 15 years we have unloaded approximately 35,000 bulk pumpkins, not to mention many boxes of mini- and softball-sized white and orange pumpkins and numerous types of other gourds. The community came out in droves to purchase pumpkins from the St. Marks Pumpkin Patch with total sales over these past 15 years of approximately \$315,000 and total donations to DuPage PADS of approximately \$108,925. In 2021 we saw a return to our typical pumpkin brigade of volunteers passing pumpkins from one to another to unload the truck. It was another banner year of sales, breaking the \$26K mark for the first time with sales of \$26,796 and our highest annual donation of \$10,500.00.

Philip Adler, padler66@gmail.com

Mums Sale

This past Fall St. Mark's completed its annual Mum Sale. This year the Outreach Committee made the decision to split the net proceeds and provide funds to the Glen Ellyn Walk-In Ministry, Glen Ellyn Food Pantry and Shelter for All. The mums were delivered and unloaded the morning of September 18th. The mums came from Sunrise Greenhouse, Inc. out of Grant Park, IL. This year we increased the amount we ordered from 500 to 600! Just as in 2020, the mums sold out quickly! Our net amount was \$3,999. What a wonderful accomplishment, especially during this pandemic! St. Mark's has been a long-time supporter of WIM, the Food Pantry and Shelter for All. Thank you for your support in this effort! St. Mark's has again shown itself to be generous and engaged in this outreach project.

Wes Clay-Anderson, vcux2@me.com & John Zelman, izelman86@gmail.com

ReVive Christmas Baskets

Thank you for your generous giving, especially in during this continuing pandemic. Thank you for being flexible to receiving the family info by email again this year instead of paper copies at church. We were allotted 60 families this year but learned that St. John's Episcopal in Naperville had received none, so we were able to share 12 of the larger families with them. That left us to sponsor 49 families: 48 from ReVive, and one very large local family who contacted Fr. George Smith for help. About 228 people comprised those families, 180 of them children. 42 households (St. Mark's and friends of St. Mark's) plus Daughters of the King and the St. Mark's Preschool took on the work of love to sponsor the families. A handful of volunteers loaded the 147 boxes of gifts from the church library to the waiting truck from ReVive. If you would like to donate an amount to ReVive to help defray staff and delivery costs or support their other ministries, you can visit their website at revivecenter.org

Ginnie Judd, ginniejudd@gmail.com

Covid Vaccination Clinics

On May 22nd, 2021, St. Mark's was able to host its very first vaccination clinic with the Johnson and Johnson vaccine in coordination with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) department of mass vaccinations. When the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna became available to their Community Partner Equity-Based Vaccination initiative St. Marks was one of the first in line and hosted our first clinic with all three vaccines on July 18th. We have hosted monthly clinics ever since then and added a second in December when the pediatric doses became available. St. Mark's has built a reputation as a safe, convenient place where people can get their vaccinations without needing to prove things like residency or insurance coverage. Our hope is that these vaccines will not be needed in the future, but our plan is to continue to provide this service as long as the need is there. If you would like to volunteer to help with these clinics, please contact

Laura Waterman at adminasst@stmarksglenellyn.org.

Blood Drives

In 2021, St. Mark's found even more ways to help our community by continuing to sponsor blood drives. Jack Stein and JoAnn Lagman worked with Versiti Blood Centers, a non-profit, blood donation organization. We held donation drives on Sundays, February 21st, June 6th and November 21st in Mahon Hall. We welcomed both appointments and walk-ins and, though never over-crowded, the donation chairs were always full. At the November 21st drive the Versiti team even brought in more donation chairs to accommodate the positive response from our generous parishioners and members of the community. These donations brought in over 100 units of blood and helped save many lives. If you'd like to donate blood in our future drives or volunteer to help with the drive itself, please contact

Jack Stein at jackstein 768@gmail.com

Walk-In-Ministry 2021

The Glen Ellyn Walk-In Ministry (WIM) was initiated in 1984 by the Glen Ellyn Ministerial Association. It represents a coordinated effort by local churches (approximately 17) to provide a source of compassionate assistance to individuals and families in need of emergency aid within our community. Examples of aid being

provided include food certificates, gas vouchers, utility assistance, auto repair, prescription assistance, and transportation vouchers. WIM relies on donations from individuals and member churches. Located in the library of the First United Methodist Church, this program provides opportunity for individuals to volunteer in covering the hours of operation and to serve on its governing board. St. Mark's is a founding member of this agency and continues to provide financial and volunteer assistance. WIM continued to see clients during the pandemic, but only over the phone and through the mail. Even through this, they were able to continue helping Glen Ellyn residents in need to the best of their abilities. WIM was able to assist 120 clients, totaling 410 visits.

Wes Clay-Anderson, vcux2@me.com

St. Mark's Visual Arts Group

St. Mark's exhibits the work of artists at the church each year. We seek work that enhances and engages with our worship, since the main display area is in the church itself. The congregation and artist find themselves in a mutually giving and receiving relationship that acknowledges the presence of God in our lives and in our abilities of expression. Some work that has been shown directly falls into the genre of spiritual art; other pieces reference the spiritual in a celebration of nature and personal experiences.

For the summer of 2021 we were able to install *St. Mark's in Motion*, an exhibit of 100 photographs by Peter Vagt, a photographic interpretation of the vibrant life of our church. We were thrilled to have so many visitors for Peter's reception and artist talk. At the reception we engaged in a lively conversation with him about his process and his 10-year visual story and experience of taking images of our amazing parish in action.

• For 2022 we are planning to exhibit Carolyn Faivre's paintings in the late spring or early summer. Date for reception and artist talk TBD.

The group welcomes new members and nominations for contributing artists. Please contact Beth Treleven if you have suggestions or would like to join the group.

Beth Treleven, <u>beth@tre2creative.com</u>

St. Mark's Green Team 2021 Report

The Green Team needs some invigoration! If you are interested in helping revive the Green Team, for learning together how to make St. Mark's a greener, more sustainable community, please contact Fr. George (rector@stmarskglenellyn.org), Ginnie Judd (ginniejudd@gmail.com), or Jan Langford (janlangford1@sbcglobal.net).

Pollinator Garden: We opted again to have the landscaping company do the early spring cutback of the dried plant material at the end of March. The good thing about native perennials that are well established is they can tolerate some neglect, so the garden did reasonably well with not much care in 2021. Some background on our garden: The Green Team took responsibility for the large garden at the northwest corner of the church property, at Main and Hillside, in Spring 2017, and has continued to tend it since then. The garden had been overgrown with lots of undesirables that were choking out the plants that provide food for butterflies, bees, birds, and other creatures, so the goal in 2017 was to identify what was growing there and remove anything that was hindering the beneficial plants. It was rewarding to see how many lovely perennials emerged once the turf grass and thistles were removed. Our big addition in May 2018 was a Fruit Guild – a permaculture garden (all edible perennials) centered around a Redhaven peach tree. We were fortunate that the polar vortex in January 2018 didn't kill the peach tree, but we

didn't get peaches that summer. There was a good crop in 2020 and in 2021, and we hope some of the community enjoyed some of the fruit. Let us know if you are interested in participating in garden maintenance. All ages welcome.

SCARCE's Pumpkin Smash program: For the seventh year, we arranged for a dumpster to put the leftover pumpkins from the Pumpkin Patch plus be a site for the community to bring their pumpkins on the first Saturday of November. Jan Langford again provided great signage to direct the community to the dumpster in the Hillside parking lot. Between the cleanup of our own Pumpkin Patch and the 108 drive ups and walk ups from the community to bring pumpkins, we collected 5.95 tons of pumpkins! We had help from a Troop 44 member as well as many Cub Scouts from Pack 42 for clean-up and helping unload pumpkins from community members' cars. The contents were taken to a commercial composting site instead of being put into landfill. Keeping food/yard waste out of landfill means a reduction in methane gas production as well as capturing the nutrients and water contained in the plant materials for use in compost.

Ginnie Judd, ginniejudd@gmail.com

Companion Relationship with San Marcos in Nigromante, Mexico for 2021

St. Mark's has been in a companion relationship with San Marcos in Nigromante, Mexico since we first sent a group of parishioners led by the Father George Smith in June 2006. This relationship was inspired by and is an extension of our ongoing companion diocesan relationship with the Dioceses of Southeast Mexico and Renk in Sudan, established in 2001 and recently extended another year at the November 2021 Convention of the Diocese of Chicago.

History: Since that first trip in 2006, St. Mark's has sent parishioners, both youth and adults, to Mexico every year - that is until the Covid-19 pandemic interrupted plans in 2020. Many parishioners have participated in these trips, and parish-wide we have supported this relationship with fundraisers that have provided scholarships to keep children and youth of San Marcos in school, paid for half of Padre Senobio's salary each year, and supported microbusinesses and projects to help the church and community of San Marcos. These funds also helped offset the cost of the mission trip, providing assistance for some of our parishioners who otherwise would not have been able to afford the trip. Additionally, over the years, St. Mark's has welcomed the former bishop, Benito Juarez, and his family on their visits to St. Mark's and the Chicago Diocese. We even had the privilege of hosting San Marcos's Padre Senobio when he made his first visit to the United States.

Dental Trip: In December 2019, when St. Mark's last traveled to Nigromante, we took a delegation of dentists, hygienists, and a few parishioners on our first dental mission trip. We had hoped to return in January 2021, but because of the pandemic, we had to cancel those plans. Fundraising events were also canceled for 2020 and 2021 with the exception of the extremely successful Zoom 2021 Annual Meeting and Cake Auction which brought in approximately \$20,000 to be used for the next dental mission trip.

Plans: Our hope is to return to Nigromante once we are able to travel safely, maybe December 2022 or January 2023. St. Mark's dental team remains committed to return to Nigromante, and we will continue to discuss ways we can help with the dental needs in the community. We remain in contact with Padre Senobio and some of the parishioners from San Marcos, and last year, sent a box of toothbrushes, toothpaste, and greetings from St. Mark's, which were received in the spring, delayed because of the pandemic.

There is no doubt that our relationship with the Diocese of Southeast Mexico is a part of who we are at St. Mark's. We are so grateful for your continued support, and we ask that you remember the people of San Marcos, the Diocese of Southeast Mexico, and its new bishop, Julio Martin, in your prayers.

Appalachia Service Project

The Appalachia Service Project (ASP) provides life changing, short-term Christian mission trip opportunities – bringing youth, adult and college volunteers into rural Appalachia to make homes warmer, safer and drier for families in need. ASP believes that safe, affordable, sanitary homes are a basic human right. With those guiding principles, youth and adults are sent to locations in Appalachia to help repair homes of those who cannot afford to do it themselves.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we did not send work crews in the summer of 2021. We continued to raise funds for ASP with the flower sale. St. Mark's plans on sending a crew in the summer of 2022. The ASP flower sale will take place in February, to raise funds in support fees and scholarships for the 2022 trip. Flowers will be delivered Saturday, April 30, 2022. Look for the order form in February. We hope you will continue to support this worthwhile program.

Cindy Glavin will continue coordinate the flower sale, but John Zelman will coordinate the summer work group.

Cindy Glavin <u>ciglavin92@yahoo.com</u> John Zelman <u>izelman86@gmail.com</u>

Communications Report 2021

Melissa Sablack Gonzalez stepped down from her role as the Communications Coordinator and I took on the role in October 2021. Throughout 2021 the church continued to learn different ways of communicating with its members. St. Mark's continues to offer a hybrid church service (in-person and via zoom) at the 10:30 am and 1:00pm services while the 8:00am service is in-person. We continue to send out a weekly news email with all the information about St. Mark's and events that are scheduled. In 2021 we hired a website consultant to help bring the website up to date and secure. This is an on-going process and we look forward to seeing the end result. Special Thanks to Laura Watterman for hosting the numerous Zoom meetings for church services and special events.

Please reach out if you have any ideas to enhance the communcations at St. Mark's!

Wes Clay-Anderson, wes@stmarksglenellyn.org Communications Assistant

Men's Ministries

The Tuesday morning group meets every Tuesday at 8:00 am via Zoom. According to group coordinator Dick Anstee: "We are a social group, and our meetings have no agenda, program or study. We enjoy each other's company and talk about events of the day, family events, recent trips, and past accomplishments. We would love to have you join us and check us out. Unfortunately, you will have to provide your own coffee for a while longer, but we look forward to in person meetings at Glen Oak as soon as it is safe to meet. Hope to see you Tuesday on Zoom (Meeting ID 945 076 7777; passcode 8581020), or the Tuesday after that."

Dick Anstee, <u>ranstee05@gmail.com</u>

The St. Mark's Saturday Morning Men's Group gathers from 8:00 am to 9:30 am both in person at the Library (subject to valid protocols) and Zoom (meeting 548-285-210). Feel free to drop in! We have 8 - 12 participants join for a friendly, informal and agenda-free discussion and fellowship. We would love to see you there in person or on screen.

Cam Gowans, cbgowans@vahoo.com

Women's Ministry

Regular meetings of the St. Mark's Women's Group continued in 2021. After a summer patio party event in the backyard of Cecilia Smith, a meeting was held to discuss plans for the coming year.

The consensus was that all women of St. Mark's would be warmly welcomed, with increased efforts to include women who attend the 1 pm Spanish language service.

The women meet from 7:30 to 9:30 pm the first Wednesday of each month in Mahon Hall. Discussion topics and activities vary, often accompanied by refreshments furnished by members of the group. In September, the group kicked off the year by learning about Latin American independence day celebrations, with delicious Mexican food and a performance of traditional Mexican dancing. In October, the women were invited to learn more about how the Day of the Dead is observed in Mexico. They were invited to bring a photo of a loved one who is no longer with us and place it on the Ofrenda table in Mahon Hall. In November, fiber artist Ann Garvey led the group in making fabric ornaments. No previous sewing experience was required. The December meeting centered on the cherished tradition of exchanging ornaments. In January, the women participated in discussions to help set an intention for the new year, and embossed bracelets with a word representing that intention.

The group will continue to meet the first Wednesday of each month, with the next meeting on February 3rd featuring a delicious chocolate tasting.

Libby Wassef, <u>libby.wassef@gmail.com</u>

Parents' Day Out Ministry

St. Mark's Parents Day Out (PDO) offers care for children ages 2 to 4. PDO has had a strong community following since it began in the late 1980's. Both of our school year and summer care programs include fine and large motor skill activities, arts and crafts, songs and stories, as well as plenty of play time. Families register for one or two days per week during the school year, Monday through



Friday, from 9:00 am to 1:00 p.m. For a second year in a row, using federal and state guidelines as well as best practices for childcare settings, PDO modified its procedures to continue to operate safely. Currently, there are 68 children enrolled in the program for the 2020-21 school year. PDO has resumed its substitute list and is pleased to report that there were not any COVID-19 events disrupting our program in the Fall of 2021. Once again, PDO greatly appreciates the respect our families have shown one another and the program in trying to keep everyone healthy and safe during the pandemic.

Scholarships: In keeping with our mission, we offer scholarships and financial flexibility to suit a variety of circumstances. Please contact Director Kathy O'Rourke for more information.

School Year Calendar and Summer Session: PDO follows the Glen Ellyn D41 public school system calendar during the school year and offers a summer program on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in June and July, which fills up quickly. Stay tuned for summer registration information.

Vacation Bible School Session: PDO coordinates with St. Mark's Children's Ministries to offer care during VBS week for children not yet old enough to participate in VBS. This includes care for the young children of VBS volunteers.

PDO's Gifts: PDO is back to covering its operating costs as well as donating financially to St. Mark's. In addition to scholarships for children, PDO has resumed donating \$500 monthly to the parish's general operating fund and gave an additional \$8,000 this past year. The board was able to raise the salaries of its staff ensuring that no staff member would be making less than \$15.00 per hour. PDO is also grateful to parishioners Rick Quoss and Michael Benich for installing sound panels in the basement, which are a huge improvement. The cost of this project was covered by funds leftover from the basement renovation.

Staff: We remain extremely grateful to our wonderful and dedicated staff: Director Kathy O'Rourke, Norma Cid, Melody Mordini, Carrie Pihl, and Ofelia Bustamente. We thank them for their endless enthusiasm and devotion to PDO and its children. Thank you also to the PDO Board for continued guidance and Zoom meeting collaboration. PDO Board members are Kim Reed (Chair), Elizabeth Lewis (Secretary), Kelly Gross (Treasurer), Joan Nicholas, Kristin Margaglione, and the Father George Smith. Elizabeth Lewis will be stepping down this spring after many years of dedicated board service. She will be greatly missed. Her departure leaves an opening on the board.

2022-23 Registration: Registration for the 2022-23 school year will begin on Monday, April 4 for St. Mark's parishioners and St. Mark's Preschool families. New families can register on Monday, April 11. Summer registration will open on Monday, April 25.

PDO Board President Kim Reed, <u>kimreed178@gmail.com</u> PDO Director Kathy O'Rourke <u>pdo@stmarksglenellyn.org</u>

St. Mark's Preschool

The 2021/22 school year is St. Mark's Preschool's 11th as a part of the St. Mark's community. The Preschool is influenced by the Reggio Emilia project approach to teaching, which features child-directed learning. We continue to approach learning with the whole child in mind, first and foremost. The Preschool has grown from offering one class of nine children with two teachers its first year, to the current offerings of 3-day and 4-day classes, a Studio Arts Program, a STEAM program, Kindergarten Enrichment, and a Munch and Learn program. We also offer a morning summer camp program in June. Throughout the year, our seven-member staff serves 80 families.

The Preschool is DCFS certified and is a member of The National Association of Episcopal Schools (NAES) and the North American Reggio Emilia Alliance (NAREA). We follow the Glen Ellyn D-41 calendar and offer morning summer camp each June.

Continuing from last year, this school year, the heightened safety protocols of the pandemic presented challenges which we viewed as opportunities to expand our thinking about the possibilities for preschool programming. We are spending 75% of our time in outdoor classroom spaces and are beginning plans for fundraising to create more permanent outdoor classroom environments.

This fall we hosted an outdoor celebration of St. Mark's Preschool's 10th Anniversary with children's musician, Jim Gill, author Patty Toht, and a variety of activities. Preschool families past and present joined to celebrate our special preschool.

Preschool payroll and expenses, including a monthly payment to the church for operating expenses, are covered by tuition payments. Fundraisers are held each year to support our scholarship fund as well as to support program improvements like the basement project that was completed this year and the upcoming outdoor classroom

improvement project. The preschool has experienced budget shortcomings both last year and this year due to staffing challenges and lower enrollment throughout the pandemic. However, the preschool reserve fund as well as the support of PPP grants secured for the church and it's programs by Steve Sedal, Chris Ponstein, and team have made it possible for the preschool to continue to thrive.

We are so very blessed with the families and alumni that contribute to and participate in our preschool community. Partnerships with the parents and the community are a cornerstone of our philosophy. We are grateful the students and staff can explore their own community and be provoked and inspired by their surroundings.

Many thanks to Father George for his enduring support of the preschool and it's programming and the Preschool Board members: Ellen Dickey (Chair), Wes Clay-Anderson (vice-chair), Charlotte Watts (Secretary), Dan Lambert (treasurer), Katie Morgan, and Katy McBride for volunteering their time and talent to the Preschool, helping to ensure future success and growth.

Priority registration for the 2022-23 school year opens January 31 for church and PDO members. Applications are available in the Church office, Preschool office, or online.

St. Mark's Preschool Director Kristine Osmond, psdirector@stmarksglenellyn.org

Buildings and Grounds: 2021 Report

Ministry's Purpose: The Buildings and Grounds Committee works toward supporting St. Mark's vision as a welcoming place for all, by planning and carrying out the necessary functions to ensure all the church buildings, systems, rectory, grounds and parking lots are safe and well maintained.

2021 B&G in Review:

As the pandemic slowed during 2021 the usage of the church increased, although still not at pre-pandemic levels. As such, several services, such as cleaning and waste management, which had been cut back in 2020 were increased. Additionally, a number of the larger completed projects are listed below.

Church Projects Completed in 2021

- The blue stone patio at the Columbarium was rebuilt.
- Loose stones at the office entrance were shored up and re-mortared.
- Concrete steps leading to door #3 were repaired.
- A HVAC unit was replaced that services the school's office and several classrooms.
- Acoustical panels were built and installed in the Pre-School basement space.

Rectory Projects Completed in 2021

- The backyard patio was rebuilt.
- US Waterproofing installed a drain tile along the West basement wall and put in a new sump pump to address water issues.
- A new water heater was installed.
- A new HVAC was purchased and installed.

We welcomed a new tenant to our rectory in January 2021. They have just extended their lease through the end of this year.

2022 Buildings and Grounds Plans:

We are in the process of prioritizing projects for the coming year that will continue to maintain our physical assets while keeping in mind budgetary boundaries.

One major project which has been approved, is to repair our parking lots. This project will include patching, crack filling, seal coating and repainting of parking spots. This work is expected to be done once the weather allows.

As this was my first year in this position, I am very thankful for all the assistance supplied by a litany of parishioners including George Smith, Joanie Somerville, Gary Kreutz, Michael Benich, David Dornblaser and Scott Shorney. A special thanks to Ida Butler, Laura Waterman and Julian Mendoza for all the support and work they do.

Rick Quoss, rquoss@hotmail.com

Reopening Committee: 2021 Report

Ministry's Mission Statement:

We will provide Policies and Procedures for a multi-phase process of re-entering the St Mark's building as a House of God for the People of God. We will use guidance from ecclesial, medical, and governmental sources to encourage the flourishing of the Body of Christ in our local community. Uses include liturgical, ministerial, educational, and recreational purposes, for staff and the public. Our task is to promote the health and safety of each person who uses St Mark's building and grounds, to resume as many preplanned activities and uses as possible, and to encourage positive innovations and adaptations.

Our 2021 committee was made up of the following members:

Joanie Somerville - Reopening Committee Chair George Smith - General Consultant JoAnn Lagman Kate Marsh Christine Carter Laura Waterman Deacon Miguel Briones Kristine Osmond (Preschool) Kathleen O'Rourke (PDO)

2021 Reopening Committee in Review:

The committee has met monthly since March 2021 in order to continue to make thoughtful, careful decisions regarding the safety of the congregation, staff, Preschool and PDO. We have accomplished a great deal over the last several months, and in spite of the pandemic we have been able to allow our Preschool and PDO to resume, as well as in person worship and gathering. We have successfully transitioned into a Health and Wellness Committee.

Thank you to my committee for your dedication and hard work!

Joanie Somerville, joanie.somerville@att.net

Boy Scout Troop 44

Boy Scout Troop 44 has been affiliated with St. Mark's Episcopal Church since March 26, 1919, making us the oldest troop in the Glen Ellyn area that has been affiliated with the same charter organization since inception.

Troop 44 would like to thank St. Mark's Episcopal Church for sponsoring us and seeing the value in the Boy Scout program for over 100 years.

Our goals as Scouts are achieved through a variety of activities which include weekly meetings, camp outs, merit badge clinics, community service activities and fundraising activities. We also encourage our youth to work independently towards their rank advancements at home or within their immediate family circle. The troop also holds monthly merit badge clinics to help our scouts continue to explore and learn what the Boy Scout program has to offer.

2021 was a return to more traditional Scouting after 2020 was spent being unable to camp as a group and meeting mostly online. While we did continue to meet virtually this past year, we were also able to start meeting in person again, outdoors whenever possible, and socially distant indoors when the weather wasn't cooperating. We were also able to return to our normal monthly camping trip schedule. Some highlights this year include spending the night in the USS Cobia, a WWII era submarine at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, as well as a trip to the Harley-Davidson Museum in Milwaukee, where the Scouts were able to earn their Engineering Merit Badge. We were also able to take several day trips, including snowshoeing through James "Pate" Philip State Park, orienteering at Waterfall Glen and touring the Air Classics Museum.

Currently we have 11 scouts who meet on Monday nights. Our scout age group is from 6th grade through high school juniors. We are broken down into two groups, known as patrols. One patrol consists of the older scouts and the other patrol has the younger scouts. Each patrol has a scout that oversees leading their patrol for a 6-month period. We also have a scout who oversees leading the entire troop. We were able to welcome two new Scouts, Joshua and Clemente, and their families to the Troop this year and we hope to continue to grow. Recruitment has certainly proven challenging during the pandemic, with membership numbers being down across the nation, but we are working to continue to expand with new Scouts and leaders and continue the legacy of 44 with St Marks.

The scouting program is appropriate for both boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 18. Through our activities and guidance from our adult leaders, the scouts learn skills such as cooking, time management, first aid, communication, organization, and prioritization. Other skills are learned through earning Merit Badges. This more focused approach expects scouts to fulfill requirements that can take up to six months to accomplish. There are now 139 different Merit Badge skills ranging from Astronomy to Wilderness Survival (two of our most popular Merit Badges.) This year the BSA has added a new badge called Citizenship in Society, which teaches diversity, equity, inclusion, and ethical leadership. Additionally, our scouts have learned exciting skills such as Scuba Diving, Personal Fitness, Environmental Science, and Sustainability. The troop offers one merit badge per month, taught by our adult leaders, that the scouts can earn. The scouts can complete as few or as many as they desire. However, in order to attain the rank of Eagle, they must complete 14 (including the new Citizenship in Society) required merit badges and eight merit badges of their choosing.

Another important aspect of Scouting is for scouts to give back to the community. We therefore provide the opportunity to perform community service activities. This past year the scouts organized and collected food for the local food pantry, participated in St. Mark's pumpkin unloading and performed clean ups at Willowbrook Wildlife Sanctuary and Lake Ellyn. Also, one of our Scouts, Ronald, organized and completed his Eagle Scout Service Project, having built benches for the courtyard of a local nursing facility.

Looking ahead to 2022, the Troop is planning to return to Camp Tesomas in Rhinelander, WI for a weeklong summer camp, which will be the first time since 2019 we have been able to attend a long-term camp. We will also be visiting Warren Dunes State Park, Wisconsin Dells and Springfield, IL, as well as many others.

I believe our program is strong and the troop looks forward to another exciting and adventure filled year in 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Blaim, Troop 44 Scoutmaster Robin "Jolly" Martinson, Troop 44 Committee Chairperson troop44.chair@gmail.com

CREO DuPage 2020-2021

CREO seeks to provide resources and relationships to motivated Latinx students who have the potential to be the first generation in their families to earn a college degree. After a challenging 2020, we were able to host our first in-person gathering when we celebrated our two recent high school graduates at our End of the Year Celebration that was held at St Mark's in May. We spent the summer attempting to strategically gather people for social connections around picnics in parks, viewing the Frida Kahlo art display at COD, and other events for the youth to finally meet one another.



CREO and St Mark's were the beneficiaries of a Community Partnership Grant that was received in August from the Episcopal Charities Foundation. This grant will support CREO's ongoing efforts to reach more students, volunteers, and secure more donations for sustainability.

We were able to enjoy a day of team building at the Lincoln Marsh low-ropes course and three college campus visits to Benedictine, Elmhurst, and North Central College with our students and their families. At each school, we have enjoyed tours, bilingual presentations, meals, and meeting Latinx students, faculty, and staff who are excited to support CREO and welcomed us to their campus. We have 10 Seniors this year who are in the process of applying to colleges and universities and eagerly awaiting their decisions. CREO is growing, developing new skills, and thriving.

We are grateful for the support of St Mark's staff, vestry, and many volunteers who continue to pour out their support for Latinx students & families in CREO.

If you would like to find out more about CREO or how you can get involved, please contact CREO!

CREO busca brindar los recursos y las relaciones a estudiantes latinos motivados que tienen el potencial de ser la primera generación de sus familias en obtener un título universitario. Después de un año desafiante en el 2020, pudimos organizar nuestra primera reunión en persona cuando celebramos a nuestros dos recién graduadas de la escuela secundaria en nuestra Celebración de fin de año en mayo, en St. Marks. Pasamos el verano tratando de reunir a la gente para tener conexiones sociales alrededor de picnics en los parques, viendo la exhibición de arte de Frida Kahlo en COD y otros eventos para que los jóvenes finalmente se conocieran entre sí.

CREO y St Mark's fueron los beneficiarios de una subvención de asociación comunitaria que se recibió en agosto de la Episcopal Charities Foundation. Esta subvención apoyará los esfuerzos continuos de CREO para llegar a más estudiantes, voluntarios y asegurar más donaciones para la sostenibilidad.

Pudimos disfrutar de un día de trabajo en equipo en el curso de cuerdas bajas de Lincoln Marsh y tres visitas al campus universitario de Benedictine, Elmhurst y North Central College con nuestros estudiantes y sus familias. En cada escuela, disfrutamos de recorridos, presentaciones bilingües, comidas y reuniones con estudiantes, profesores y personal latino que están entusiasmados de apoyar a CREO y nos dieron la bienvenida a sus escuelas. Tenemos 10 estudiantes de último año este año que están en proceso de postularse a colegios y universidades y esperamos ansiosamente sus decisiones. CREO está creciendo, desarrollando nuevas habilidades y prosperando.

Estamos agradecidos por el apoyo del personal, la junta parroquial y muchos voluntarios de St Mark's que continúan brindando su apoyo a los estudiantes y familias latinas en CREO.

Si desea obtener más información sobre CREO o cómo puede participar, comuníquese con CREO.

¡También agradecemos a todos nuestros voluntarios y asociaciones por su trabajo y tiempo!

¿Quieren ser parte de CREO? ¡Comuníquese con Katerine Torres para saber cómo pueden contribuir a CREO!

Katerine Torres, <u>katerine.torres@creodupage.org</u>

Parish Register 2021

2021 Average Sunday Attendance: 135 in-person

47 per zoom service 46 views YouTube 97 views on Facebook

Baptisms

Nathaniel Elias Lambert	Fiona Pearl Bradley	Geraldine Acuna Rodriguez
Gael Jordan Marroquin	John Lagman Hanson	Luke Damian Diaz
Xaviann Duran	Annalee Duran	Gael Jordan Arrcaza
Marelin Arrcaza Guerra	Dulce Aleman Taylor	Mason Aleman Taylor
Dylan Taylor	Sneider Torres	Zachary Logan Mordini
Devin Ethan Glazier	Lennox Keirn-Whiting	Calliope Spencer-Harmon
Mylo Briones Sanchez	Maria Dolores Campos	Theodore Baker-Mills
Alan Cuahtlapantzi	Alex Cuahtlapantzi	Dayana Vazquez Tafoya
Caiden Joseph Smith	Ariana Izabela Barajas	Juan Israel Barajas
Liliana Barajas Ochoa	Itzel Miramontes Sanchez	Amelia Martina Morales
Mia Elizabeth Van Cleave	Callan John Van Cleave	Eathan James Guerrero
Patrick Crawford Rusthoven	Evelyn Marie McGinn	Wes Erickson Sedlak
Oakley Lukowicz	Mackenzie Ann King	Cora Remstad Marsh

Confirmations

Lesly Araos	Oswaldo Araos	Aaron Arguello
Liliana Balderas	Mireya Bautista Campos	Veronica Blanco
Joshua Chaney	Monserrath Chaney	Jacob Dorsey
Tiffany Dorsey	Jennifer Escorcia	Sylvia Escorcia

Jaridia Francisco	Jahira Francisco	Diego Lopez
Katherinne Martinez	Mersy Martinez	Marisa Medina
Yamileth Mendoza	Dayanora Perez	Adolfo Reynoso
Alexander Salmeron	Jesslyn Trujillo	Sherlyn Trujillo

Quinceañeras

Shayla Valero	Sherlyn Estrada Trujilo	Marisol Cano
Tiffany Dorsey	Jocelyn Torres	

Funerals & Commitals

Robert Judd	Andy Carter	Barbara Kohnhorst
Anne Hacker	Catherine Phillips	Harriet Bachanowski
Jose Lopez	Judith Ann Petrushka	Kathryn Lee Vorbau
Steven Hopper	William Patrick Gordon	Joe Droessler
David Rentauskas	Dolores Dunnet	John Horn
Peggy Heilig	Fred J. Schultz	Ronald Taylorson
Nancy Schmitt		

Marriages

Danielle Olsen & Keenan McAuliffe
Ashley Spencer & Michael Harmon
Evelyn Sanchez Rojas & Emilio Abril Cuellar
Krystal Remstad & Jacob Marsh
Keith Lavern Brickey & Louis Richard Pointon
Leslie Vuelvas & Anthony Pauda
Nicole Reichelt & Andrew Brandner

Minutes from January 24, 2021 Annual Meeting

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, January 24, 2021

The 124th annual meeting of the church was called to order by Fr. George Smith via Zoom at 11:50 am with a prayer.

According to the Zoom participation icon, 84 remote devices had logged on.

George started the meeting by introducing an artist, Spike (Carnell Newbill), who had agreed to create works of art (paintings) during the meeting to be auctioned off at the end of the meeting. In addition to Spike, Carolyn Faivre also donated two prints of the Christmas Madonna that she had created and framed. These were also auctioned off at the end of the meeting.

Bob Ulrich was appointed clerk for the meeting. This was followed by a reading of last year's minutes. After the reading, the minutes were approved, without any corrections.

In addition to the January 19, 2020 minutes, the 2020 annual report, committee reports and financial statements were all made available online.

Throughout the meeting 12 well-designed cakes were auctioned off. Andrew Dorn performed flawlessly as the auctioneer. The cakes raised \$9,589.00 for the next dental mission to San Marcos in Nigromante, Mexico.

Following an introduction by George, Lynn Dornblaser and George Churchill were introduced as Senior and Junior Wardens respectively for 2021. They accepted their duties, and their appointments were approved by acclamation.

Special thanks were given for those who were finishing their term on the Vestry. Those members were Bill Kalbfleisch, Joanie Somerville and Jeremiah Lanzillo.

Special thanks was also given to Jeff Hill who was finishing his term as Diocesan Convention Delegate.

Next was the introduction of the new Vestry members. They are George Churchill (Junior Warden), Cara Oates (youth ministry) and Rick Quoss (succeeding Joanie Somerville). Barrett McRay was also nominated as a Delegate to the Diocesan Convention (succeeding Jeff Hill). This slate was unanimously approved.

Steve Sedall took the congregation through the highlights of St. Mark's financial reports for 2020 as well as the 2021 budget. Steve started with an excellent explanation of the paycheck protection plan, and St. Mark's application and subsequent receipt of those funds.

Regarding St. Mark's 2020 financial reports, Steve noted that at last year's annual meeting, he had presented a balanced budget for 2020, but as Covid spread in March of 2020, there was a decrease in revenue. Although the 2020 budget had planned for \$894,500.00 in revenue, the actual revenue for 2020 was \$810,820.00 (\$83,680.00 below budget).

As a result, St. Mark's ended up with a \$62,628.00 operating loss for 2020. That was due, in part, to the Paycheck Protection loan still appearing as a loan on St. Mark's books for 2020. If the loan had been forgiven in 2020 (instead of in 2021, when it was forgiven), St. Mark's would not have shown a loss, but a gain of \$37,453.00.

Steve also pointed out that St. Mark's ended the year in a very strong cash position. On January 1, 2020, St. Mark's had operating cash of \$156,490.00. By December 31, 2020, that had increased by \$47,180.00, ending up at \$203,609.00.

Turning to the 2021 budget, Steve acknowledged that Covid had made the budgeting process more complex and more difficult than in the past. For example, the budget typically accounts for salary increases, but this year it did not. There were also budget cuts to some mission and outreach programs.

Even with the cuts, and other assumptions, the budget anticipates a \$44,573.00 deficit at the end of 2021.

Steve also mentioned that St. Mark's has applied for a second Personal Paycheck loan/grant for 2021 (approximately \$136,000.00).

Steve concluded his presentation by noting that 2020 was a challenging year, and by thanking Chris Ponstein, Jim Treleaven, Jim Grotelueschen, Fiona Miller, Leo Lanzillo, Dick Anstee and Lennie Marsh for all of their help. Steve also thanked Steve Webster for helping with various insurance issues that came up in 2020.

As senior warden, Lynn Dornblaser thanked the Vestry for all of their hard work and also thanked Bill Kalbfleisch, Joanie Somerville and Jeremiah Lanzillo for their service.

The meeting wound down with an art auction, starting with the artwork that Spike had created during the meeting and the two prints created by Carolyn Faivre.

Cecilia Smith closed by commenting on George's ministry and how much he enjoys being the Rector of St. Mark's.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 P.M.

Bob Ulrich Vestry Clerk January 31, 2021



A Vision for St. Mark's Adopted by the Vestry in 2009.

St. Mark's is a vibrant, growing, inclusive community rooted in our shared baptismal covenant and secure in the promise that baptism marks us as Christ's own forever.

Respecting the dignity of all people, we welcome all, embrace differences, foster creativity, and nurture the unique gifts of each person.

We join together in worship drawing on our ancient liturgical traditions enriched by newer expressions.

We come together to learn and grow in our faith, welcoming questions, inviting dialogue, and forming the whole person in Christ.

We joyfully carry our faith into the world, sharing Christ's love through our actions towards each other, our community, the Diocese of Chicago, and the world.

We worship, learn, and serve, proclaiming our commitment to understand and follow Christ's challenging Gospel.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church



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The Rev. Paula E. Clark, Bishop-elect

The Rt. Rev. Chilton Knudsen, Assisting Bishop

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Senior Warden Junior Warden Clerk of the Vestry

Treasurer Chancellor Vestry Lynn Dornblaser George Churchill

Bob Ulrich Steve Sedall

Steve Sedan

Elizabeth Lewis

Chris Carter, Carrie Gowans, Steve Gross,

Juanita Jiménez, Kate Marsh, Cara Oates,

Joshua ES O'Shea, Rick Quoss,

Michelle Roman-Garcia, Brian Shallcross,

Kim Toliver, Jim Treleaven, John Zelman

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