

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
330 E. 16th Street
Upland, California 91784
112th Annual Meeting
January 30, 2022



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AGENDA

Call to Order	Rector
Welcome	Rector
Appointment of Clerk	Vicki Levario
Declaration of Quorum <i>(Minimum of twenty-five members in good standing)</i>	Clerk
Minutes of the 111th Annual Parish Meeting <i>(May be dispensed with by a majority of those present)</i>	Clerk
Vestry Elections	Rector
Election of Convention Delegates Kathy Walker, Carol Morgan, John Flasher	
Highlights of 2021	Kay Alexander, Senior Warden
Rector's Report	Rector
Financial Report	Ken Drew, Finance Chair
Remembering	The Rev. Sally Monastiere
First meeting of New Vestry	

MINUTES OF THE 111TH ANNUAL MEETING

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Annual Meeting
January 31, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Keith Yamamoto at 10:50 AM.

Opening prayer was given by Sr. Warden Kay Alexander.

Welcome and introductions by Rev. Keith Yamamoto.

Appointment of clerk – Vicki Levario

Declaration of quorum – Vicki Levario

Minutes of 2020 Annual Meeting approved. Reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

Vestry Election: Dean Billman, Sharon Muehlbacher, Carol Morgan, and Marcia Godwin were elected to the Class of 2024 Vestry. M/S/A

Election of Convention Delegates: Kathy Walker, Kimberly Cortner and Carol Morgan were elected. M/S/A

Highlights of 2020: Kay Alexander reviewed the events of the year and thanked the vestry members retiring and thanked those coming on board.

Rector's Report: Rev. Keith Yamamoto acknowledged Kimberly Cortner's role in the racial justice movement. This group is called Voices for Reconciliation. Page Turners is a new group meeting under the direction of Andrea Flasher. Capital Campaign CCS fund raising with the dioceses will be starting. Diocese is hoping to raise \$40,000,000. St. Mark's will decide what role will be played with this undertaking.

With the vaccine being given there is planning for the return of on-campus gatherings.

Keith thanked the church staff, the vestry, Rob Garretson, Preschool staff, Blane Abernathy for music, digital ministry team, Kate Flannery for Readiness Planning Task Force, and all not mentioned that have continued our ministries. Rev. Dr. Pat McCaughan for her support and caretaking related to his accident.

Kay Alexander will be staying on in her role as Sr. Warden.

Financial Report: Ken Drew is Finance Chair, Derek May is Treasurer, and Marcia Godwin is stepping into support finance. Budget reviewed. Building fund received a large donation to pay the principal down on the building loan. The school closed causing all expenses to shift to the church. The Preschool is functioning, but attendance is low due to COVID-19. The Preschool does not pay for any expenses other than direct costs. Marcia Godwin reviewed her role with finances. PPP loan taken out and hopefully the church will qualify for a second loan. The Stewardship Committee is transforming to a year-round functioning committee to include the 1910 Legacy Society, gift giving, pledges, and estate planning.

Remembering: The Rev. Sally Monastiere read the names of those who were lost in death this year.

Closing Prayer: Julia Warren, Jr. Warden gave the closing prayer.

Submitted by,
Vicki Levario, clerk

VESTRY CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

NICK ADAMS



I was raised in the Greek Orthodox church. I joined the Episcopal Church and St. Mark's when my wife Morgan and I were married here on January 3, 1997. St. Mark's is my church family. I was welcomed warmly when I joined the church. I've been given opportunities to grow in my faith and as a leader. This is the church to which I always find myself returning.

Beyond just attending Sunday services, I first developed a deeper bond when I joined the handbell choir. I played handbells on and off for almost twenty years. Later, at the invitation of the late Lee Harris and Loyal Nixon, I served for two years as the Vestry Clerk. It was there that I began to develop a greater understanding of the leadership of the church and management of parish affairs. My two children attended St. Mark's Preschool and the school. I began attending the Men's Breakfast group and eventually chaired that group. I also joined the choir and still enjoy singing with them when my schedule permits me to.

I am also a member of the Kiwanis Club of Ontario-Montclair. Kiwanis is an international service organization dedicated to serving the needs of youth in the community. I was a member of their high school organization, Key Club, and it opened my eyes to the need for volunteerism and community service. I have been a Kiwanis member since 2002.

I have no great gift to give other than myself. I enjoy people and consider myself very social. I have an interest in re-imagining and reactivating the Men's Breakfast Group and continuing to maintain a strong relationship with the preschool, both of which serve to broaden the larger St. Mark's community.

I am looking forward to serving the parish and helping St. Mark's grow and thrive, and I thank you for this opportunity.

KARIN BROWN



I was baptized Episcopal as a baby but grew up and was confirmed in the Lutheran Church. I joined the Episcopal church in 1990 after Jim and I got married. He was raised Catholic, and after we got married, we both agreed to join the Episcopal church to raise our children under one faith/denomination. We became a member of St. Marks in 1996 when we moved to Alta Loma from Santa Monica. Prior to joining St. Mark's, we were members of St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Westwood for six years.

I love the fellowship of our faith community at St. Mark's. I also appreciate the liturgy and am moved by the knowledge that I am part of a worship community that extends back in time (a long history) and across the world in present time (the collective energy of corporate worship). I am also very thankful for the spiritual leadership and guidance of Rev. Keith. I am willing to serve on the vestry again to support him and our parish.

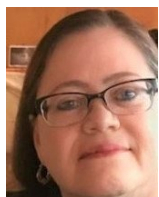
I have been an active member of St. Mark's since I joined our Church in 1996. When our kids were small, I taught Sunday School and served on the "founding board" of the Preschool. I

have served on the hospitality committee (coffee host) for over 20 years and continue service in this ministry. I formally served on the flower guild and baked communion bread for several years. I previously served on the Vestry for a three-year term. Currently, I am a member of Daughters of the King and serve as Vice President, previously I served as the DOK secretary. I also serve as a LEM and a reader. In terms of the broader Church, I studied for four years with Education for Ministry (EFM) with a group at Trinity Church, for my own spiritual edification. I recently served on a discernment committee to support a fellow parishioner on her spiritual path. I am also active in the Cursillo community and currently serve as a member of the Secretariat.

I have been in academia for over 30 years and have a dual doctorate in Psychology and Social Work. I was a professor and taught for 16 years and have been in administration for 14 years. I taught courses in institutional racism and poverty, psychosocial assessment, family therapy, social work practice with groups—to name of few subject areas. I conducted research and published in the areas of psychosocial adjustment to childhood cancer, social support and chronic life stress, and health disparities. I currently serve as Associate Vice President and Dean of Graduate Studies. My clinical MSW practice experience was as a medical social worker and preventive caseworker for public child welfare. I am willing to use my practice, research and administrative skills to benefit St. Mark's, as needed.

I have been married to James R. Brown MD for 30 years. We have three young adult children, Lauren, Oliver (wife Becca) and Natalie.

KIMBERLY CORTNER



I began attending St. Mark's in the spring/summer of 2006 and was confirmed in the Episcopal Church the following year. I was raised Seventh-day Adventist and was baptized at the age of ten. I had spent about 15 years away from any faith practice or church affiliation when I started searching for a church. The Episcopal Church seemed to be the best fit because of its support of women clergy, lay ministry, the LGBTQ+ community, and its "three-legged-stool" foundation for belief. I have been an active member since my first week of attending St. Mark's.

In addition to what I stated above, I love St. Mark's in particular for its energy and atmosphere—the warmness of the people, the opportunities for all to minister in some way, the music, and the beauty of its sanctuary. These things appealed to me from the first week. Over the years, my appreciation for all this has increased, and I have a great admiration for the work of the clergy and lay leaders. I love worshipping at St. Mark's, care deeply about the welfare of church, and serve faithfully and joyfully.

At St. Mark's I have sung in the choir and helped with Taizé services, served at coffee hour, been on the Altar Guild, been an acolyte and LEM and Visiting Eucharist Minister, helped with both Christian education and communications—including leading confirmation classes and regular quiet days and writing or editing some of the internal publications. I am a Daughter of the King and served one term as President of the Sancta Sophia chapter. I now assist in the office one day a week and am coordinator for ushers and greeters. I also traveled to Haiti in

2013 with a group from St. Mark's. Last year, I helped found the Commission for Racial Justice and Equity and have gone through both the My Work to Do and Sacred Ground programs.

In the broader church, I am now serving as Diocesan President of the Daughters of the King. I have attended General Convention and been a volunteer page in the House of Deputies, attended and volunteered at a number of Diocesan Conventions before becoming a lay delegate for St. Mark's for the past two years.

In the local community, I have supported the Foothill Family Shelter by volunteering in their children's reading room and donating annually for Thanksgiving baskets and family-to-family Christmas gifts. I have contributed to and volunteered my time to TOUCH ministries and, with the Daughters of the King, helped fill and distribute bags of hygiene products to Laundry Love clients. I have helped in whatever way I can when I can.

I believe I have been blessed with some of the seven-fold gifts of the Holy Spirit as well as several of the spiritual gifts listed in the New Testament, such as administration/leadership, teaching, and hospitality. I have skills in the areas of music, writing/editing/designing, computers and technology, organizing events, and facilitating small groups. Through the Stillpoint organization, I have been trained and certified as a spiritual director/companion for both individuals and small groups. I have been on their faculty for over six years as facilitator and coordinator for the one-year Spiritual Journey program. I have completed the first year of EfM and the requirements—classes both audited and taken for credit—for a certificate from Bloy House in spiritual education and formation. I will graduate in 2022. I sang for over fifteen years in the Mountainside Master Chorale. I am active with the Celebrate Recovery program hosted at Hillside Community Church in Rancho Cucamonga. Now serving as one of their ministry leaders, I have just finished co-leading a year-long women's 12-step study group. I am a certified facilitator and hold workshops in making SoulCollage® cards and Touchstones through A Window Between Worlds. I attend many in-person and online retreats, including those offered by Stillpoint, Spirituality & Practice, Abbey of the Arts, the Center for Spiritual Renewal in Santa Barbara, and Ghost Ranch in New Mexico. My background includes being a college English teacher for over 25 years at several area colleges and universities, both public and private. I have BA degrees in music and English, an MA in English, and completed PhD coursework, passed qualifying exams, and advanced to candidacy at the Claremont Graduate University. I have also held full-time professional positions in public relations and communications for La Sierra University and Simi Valley Hospital, and part-time administrative positions for academic departments. I am a certified reading instruction specialist and have tutored dozens of students, including quite a few over the years who were students at St. Mark's. I am energized and fed by travel, music, literature, art, and nature.

Over the years of 2011-2012, I was led through the discernment process with a parish committee at St. Mark's. I was discerning whether the call I felt was for ordained or lay ministry. Though I was supported by my committee to continue the process toward ordination to the diaconate, I was not approved by the vestry. At the time, I was a functional alcoholic, and it was a providential grace and blessing that I did not proceed along that course. The result of going through the discernment process was that my lay ministry at St. Mark's and beyond has been greatly expanded and enriched. Also, I will celebrate my four-year sobriety date early in

2022. God has led me on an extraordinary personal spiritual journey, and I am thankful for God's grace, forgiveness, and purpose for my life. I will try to serve the St. Mark's vestry honestly and faithfully, committing my time and talent to help lead our church into a bright future. I am particularly interested in the areas of communications, membership, and hospitality.

BARBARA NALBACH



I began attending the Episcopal church in 1973 when I met David Nalbach. We were married at

Christ Church in 1974. When we moved to Claremont, I became a member at St. Ambrose and when we moved to Rancho Cucamonga, I became a member of St. Clare's. When St. Clare's closed in 2015, I became a member of St. Mark's.

I love the warm, family feeling I see here at St. Marks and the way people work together to get things done.

At St. Mark's, I am a member of the choir, the praise band, the lector's guild, the flower guild, the Daughters of the King, a volunteer in the office on Tuesdays, and I share leadership of the Fiber Arts Guild with Edwina Golightly. I have attended the diocesan convention as a delegate or an alternate at various times. I have served on the vestry at St. Ambrose and on the Bishop's Committee at St. Clare's.

I worked as a volunteer, teacher's aide, substitute, and teacher in California schools from 1970 to 2009, so I have skills I have acquired there. My mind and my voice are my gifts and I have some fluency with generating solutions to problems.

I try to listen for messages from the Holy Spirit.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION

CONVENTION DELEGATE REPORT 2021

Yay! Back to Riverside for the 126th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Los Angeles on November 13, 2021.

This year's theme was Truth and Love, drawn from Paul's letter to the Ephesians. "Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ."

This was a one-day hybrid (in-person and via Zoom, with about half of the attendees in each category) convention beginning at 9 AM and ending about 6 PM with a Holy Eucharist. The day was packed with all the reports that are usually done over two days. Bishop Taylor acknowledged that the convention center is located on ancestral lands of six different Native American tribes. Unfortunately, the treaties the US made about the land were not honored.

Bishop Taylor's address highlighted "Amazing Episcopalians" the late Bishop Jon Bruno and Bishop Suffragan Diane Bruce. He talked about Bishop Bruno's ministry and the "the almighty 'Yes'". He said Bishop Bruce was a "five-tool bishop." Bishop Taylor also said that we are the light we shine and that we should show the "abundance of our community at the Eucharistic table." This is a very small amount of Bishop Taylor's address which can be viewed online at www.diocesela.org.

This was Bishop Diane's last time with our diocese as she leaves to become the Bishop Provisional of Western Missouri, and as usual, her address brought smiles. She spoke of her time in the Diocese with her feet dangling when she sat in the big presider's chairs or the effect of "Kilroy was here" when she served behind tall altars. We wish her well in her new ministry.

Canon Andy Tomat presented the delegates with a balanced 2022 budget with no capital used from Corporation Sole or the Corporation of the Diocese. Delegates approved this budget.

Delegates approved a resolution asking General Convention to add Suffragan Bishop Barbara Clementine Harris to the calendar of saints known as Lesser Feasts and Fasts. Note that Bishop Harris preached at St. Mark's before she was a bishop, at the ordination of the Rev. Canon Nan Arrington Peete, our curate in the 1980s.

Our companion relationship with the Diocese of Jerusalem was reaffirmed, and a resolution to General Convention to begin working to include Juneteenth as a Lesser Feasts and Fasts also passed.

Mary Nichols, an environmental attorney and climate change activist, delivered the Margaret Parker lecture.

We heard a report from Camp Stevens by director Kathy Wilder. The camp will celebrate 70 years of operation next year.

As usual, there were a few rounds of voting for elected offices within the diocese. What was unusual was that the hybrid Convention provided for voting in person with "clickers" and

voting on screen with the Zoom voting feature. The two sets of votes were seamlessly brought together, and almost instantaneous results were available.

I urge you to go to: <https://diocesela.org/news/diocesan-convention-2021-report> to read all of the reports and resolutions in full. A convention booklet is available in the Narthex

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Walker, Delegate

DEANERY 6 ANNUAL MEETING

Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles
Deanery Six Annual Meeting
Sunday, October 24, 2021, 4:00 PM on Zoom

Present

The Very Rev. Keith Yamamoto, St. Mark's Upland, Dean; Dale Biggs, St. Mark's Upland, Deanery President; Susan Payne, St. Ambrose Claremont, Deanery Treasurer; Kimberly Cortner, St. Mark's Upland, (Acting Deanery Secretary in the absence of Kathy Walker); the Rev. Fennie Cheng, St. Thomas' Hacienda Heights; the Rev. Mark Hallahan, St. Paul's Pomona; the Rev. Liz McQuitty, St. John's La Verne; the Rev. David Grant Smith, St. Peter's Rialto; the Rev. Jessie Smith, St. Ambrose Claremont; Tom Anderson, St. Ambrose Claremont; Miles Bresee, Grace Glendora; Kathi Ferris, Grace Glendora; Janese Grady, Grace Glendora; Dorina Green, St. John's La Verne; Janice Lee, St. Thomas Hacienda Heights; Jean Lo, St. Thomas' Hacienda Heights; Greg Marshall, St. Ambrose Claremont; Sandra Martinez-Moore, St. Paul's Pomona; the Rev. Sally Monastiere; Carol Morgan, St. Mark's Upland; Kelly Piatt, St. Paul's Pomona; Susan Scranton, Grace Glendora.

Deanery President Dale Biggs called meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

New delegates introduced themselves: Sandra Martinez-Moore and Kelly Piatt, both from St. Paul's Pomona.

Rev. Mark Hallahan offered an opening prayer.

Rev. Keith showed minutes from the 2020 Annual Meeting of Deanery Six

Mark Hallahan so moved, Tom Anderson seconded, carried to approve minutes as written.

Treasurer Susan Payne stated that beginning balance was \$4,397.09. Ending balance is \$3,397.09. Two contributions were made: \$500 to One Body One Spirit and \$500 to ECW. She reported that our bank raised the minimum required balance from \$1,500 to \$2,000.

Rev. Keith offered congratulations to the Rev. Jessie Smith and the Rev. Liz McQuitty on their new ministries at St. Ambrose Claremont and St. John's La Verne, respectively. He also welcomed the Rev. David Grant Smith from St. Peter's Rialto to Deanery Six Clericus.

Rev. Keith noted that Clericus has discussed how to be more intentional about pursuing opportunities for collaboration among congregations in the Deanery, especially since the Laundry Love ministry in Pomona ended.

Rev. Jessie Smith, the Deanery Six Clergy Representative to the Diocesan Council, had nothing to report but noted that *Episcopal News* has been covering this news well. Dorina Green, Lay Representative, noted that it has been privilege to be on Diocesan Council.

Old Business

Last year the Deanery approved new Bylaws, which were sent to the Diocese for signature. We have not yet received a signed copy of the new Bylaws. The Rev. Jessie will help Kathy Walker, Deanery Secretary, to get a signed copy back from the Diocese.

New Business

The Rev. Fennie Cheng, Deanery Six Representative to the Diocese for the Program Group on Mission Congregations, has held the position for three years. She asked that someone else take this position starting next year. The Rev. Fennie Cheng moved that the Rev. Liz McQuitty be the new Deanery Six Representative. The Rev. Sally Monastiere seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Requests for assistance to the Program Group on Mission Congregations have been approved by the Program Chair, the Rev. Canon Kelli Grace Kurtz, for the following missions: St. Thomas, Hacienda Heights, St. John's, La Verne; and St. Peter's, Rialto. These requests will be sent to the Diocesan Convention in November for final approval.

The position for Youth Delegate to Diocesan Convention is currently open. The Rev. Jessie Smith has someone in mind. This item is tabled for now. The Rev. Keith Yamamoto recommended that the clergy present communicate through group email to make a nomination and do this very soon.

Motion from Clericus committee to contribute \$600 for Deanery Quiet Day, Christ Church, Ontario. The Rev. Liz McQuitty explained that this Quiet Day is intended to expand the interparochial ministries of Deanery Six. The Quiet Day will be held on December 11. The Rev. Marianne Zahn will lead the 5-hour event about Hildegard of Bingen. Susan Payne asked about the budget for the whole event. The Rev. Liz McQuitty stated that a \$500 honorarium would go to The Rev. Marianne Zahn. The motion passed.

Announcements

Dale Biggs indicated that Kathy Walker does not want to continue as secretary. Anyone interested should let him know. Susan Payne noted that it is her fourth year of a three-year term. Her position will be open for a new nominee. It was noted that Dale Biggs is Deanery President for the first year of a three-year term.

The Rev. Jessie Smith gave a closing prayer.

With no other business put forward the meeting was adjourned by President, Dale Biggs.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Cortner

SR. WARDEN REPORT

Good morning and welcome. I'm Kay Alexander and I have been Sr. Warden for the past two years. My report is focused on 2021, but I would like to go back and also touch on 2020. We started 2020 with Rev. Keith's accident. We were very fortunate that Rev. Sally stepped up to accept liturgical duties and we had a great Jr. Warden, Julia Warren, and vestry members to help carry on the workings of the church. But then the Pandemic hit, and we could no longer have in-person worship. Julia took a big step forward and developed our wonderful in-spirit services and we were able to continue with our services. That effort has developed into a talented tech team.

Rev. Keith made a great recovery but then we had another disaster looming. The Headmaster of St. Mark's School, along with the school board and vestry had been struggling to keep the school going, but unfortunately the Pandemic was the last straw. It became evident that we could no longer support the school, and so the school board and vestry made the very difficult decision to close the school.

Fortunately, early in 2021, vaccines became available. We had a very knowledgeable Readiness Task Force, led by Kate Flannery, who worked diligently to determine how best to get us back into the church. In June, we were able to return, but we have also continued with live streaming for those who are unable or not ready to return to in-person services. The vestry had presentations and discussions on, how best to have hybrid services. This is the future of the church, and our hope is to update live streaming from using iPads and iPhones to better audio and actual cameras.

The good news is that even through these trials and tribulations, St. Mark's continues to be a vibrant, faith-filled community. Blaine Abernathy, the St Mark's choir, bell choir, and band have all continued to enhance our services with great music, and the choristers are meeting online. The Daughters of the King continue to take on the daunting task of praying for everyone on the prayer list. We have had several Zoom parties and even an in-person St. Nicholas dinner. The book club, Men's Coffee Fellowship, and St. Peter's Guild (card players) still meet. We continue to have blood drives. We've had in-person memorial services, one of which was live streamed so family as far away as England could attend. Sunday School has resumed. The Preschool is in operation. We've continued to support Foothill Family Shelter and T.O.U.C.H. The Breakfast Baggers and Girls Friendly Society are active. The Stewardship Committee is hard at work. Taizé is meeting in person and is live streamed every Wednesday. We have Morning Prayer every morning, Monday through Friday, on Zoom. The Building and Grounds, Finance, and Worship committees continue to meet and take action. We have new Church Management Software called Breeze. Thanks to Carol Morgan for getting it up and running and populating it. If you haven't tried it and updated your profile, please do so. Help is available if you need it. Breeze also acts as a people-to-people directory. And liturgically, we had beautiful Easter, Advent, and Christmas services. What would we have done without Zoom, Facebook, and YouTube, as well as being able to be back in the church?

Thank you to everyone who has made these past two years so exceptional in spite of all the difficulties. And thank you for your continued financial support. It is truly appreciated. If we can

accomplish all of this under these circumstances, I believe we are capable of even greater things in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Alexander, Sr. Warden

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The Buildings and Grounds Committee held meetings on zoom throughout the year on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. The committee consists of Dale Biggs, Kathy Walker, Chris Watson, and Kate Flannery, as well as the Very Rev. Keith Yamamoto, Rector, and Senior Warden, Kay Alexander. The committee is responsible for the management and maintenance of the church property, as well as the maintenance of the rectory.

Projects completed this year include a fence enclosure and gate for the memorial garden, storm drain and gutter cleaning, scalping and reseeding the grass, and repair of the air conditioning unit and associated damage to the ceiling in the sanctuary.

We are considering many more repair and upgrade projects for 2022. At the top of the list will be roof repair of the flat portion of the church building and repair around the air conditioning unit on the school roof. Both of these areas have leaks brought on by the heavy rains this fall. We also plan to do much needed interior painting of the rectory.

Most of the community and outreach use of our facilities have not restarted. However, our sports field is currently being used by 1st- through 4th-grade soccer teams from St. Peter and St. Paul School. We had several funerals and memorials, as well as one large wedding in 2021. The Red Cross blood drives continued with events on April 30, July 9, and November 2. Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped with those events.

A huge job completed by Kathy Walker was the sorting and organizing of school materials and furniture and finding new homes for all of it. Some items were sold to local schools and others donated to worthwhile charities.

We had a very successful workday on November 20. The Guild Room was cleaned out and is now ready to be used for emergencies or if someone just needs a quiet place to rest. The Guild Room will be stocked with emergency supplies and equipment. The Parish Hall tables were cleaned, Room 20 and the storage rooms were cleaned out, we recycled a large amount of e-waste, and the sanctuary was cleaned of cobwebs and thoroughly dusted.

An important part of our facility infrastructure is the equipment used to provide our online hybrid services. Bob Mattus and his audio/video team have done a fabulous job taking the work of Julia Warren and building on it. Bob has researched and procured additional equipment including cameras, microphones, and an upgrade to the amplifier. By March 1, the team should be operating out of the new Control Room—Room 5 in the office area.

Our buildings and grounds would not be as beautiful and well maintained if it weren't for the hours of work put in by Dale Biggs and Kathy Walker. A big thank you to them and to Yong Muhn who is always available to lend a hand.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Muehlbacher
Buildings and Grounds Vestry Liaison

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School has been updated by the efforts of Susan Mackall and Lisa Drew. It is open each Sunday, and the teachers have been provided with the components of the Program for the next age group.

It will be a goal in the year to come to provide for the students aging into the Youth Group. At this time, the upper floor of the Library has been set aside for these students.

I would like the St. Mark's community to know how much I recognize and extol the efforts of Susan Mackall, Lisa Drew, and the Sunday School Teachers who plan and extend the service of God to our children.

Respectfully submitted,
Edwina Golightly

COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The Social Media and Communications committee became its own entity in March 2021, separate from the Digital Ministry team. The committee's goals are to increase the online presence of St. Mark's and to publicize St. Mark's worship and fellowship events to parishioners and the greater community. Members of the committee facilitate communication via the digital marquee, Constant Contact email messages, and Facebook and Instagram social media posts.

Connecting Constant Contact to the social media accounts increased the avenues for people to see the Good News newsletter. Our social media presence was increased with series such as Worship Wednesdays, Fellowship Fridays, Meet the Vestry, and Advent Word. Volunteer special consultant Karina Carretero coordinated communications for Drive-Through Ash Wednesday and Curbside Christmas. We wish to thank Rob Garretson, Barbara Harris, Gisele Tackoor, Guen Vinnedge, and everyone who shares pictures.

Respectfully submitted,
Guen Vinnedge

FELLOWSHIP SOCIAL EVENTS

Though the committee has not met this year because of COVID, we have assisted in several events. For the 2021 drive-through Ash Wednesday event, fellowship committee members helped with organizing the takeaway bags filled with Preschool info, religious materials, and adult and child masks. We prepared Easter egg bags for St Mark's and Preschool children. We organized the St. Nicholas Dinner in December, following safety guidelines. Also, we helped

with Curbside Christmas by negotiating a donation from Starbucks so that we could serve coffee at the event. We also organized the toy drive for T.O.U.C.H. Ministries.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Mackall

FINANCE

The church operating fund ended the year with a deficit of \$149,814.43. This does not include the 2021 forgiveness of the 2020 PPP loan (\$383,937) nor the 2021 PPP loan of \$238,440. The deficit was much higher than in past years since the church is now paying all operating costs, including those previously shared with the school. The 2021 PPP loan provided financial resources to cover the 2021 budget deficit and we are preparing the forgiveness application now.

The church operating fund budget for 2022 shows a deficit of \$187,125.77. This is based on a budget that maintains the same level of services, but with a full year of in-person activities along with continuing digital ministry. The vestry approved the preliminary budget on January 9, 2022, and there may be some adjustments. The vestry expects to adopt a revised budget during the first part of 2022 to substantially reduce the deficit.

The building fund includes the building loan and building-related repairs. The 2012 building loan was refinanced in 2017. It paid for improvements for the church and school buildings. The current bank loan requires monthly payments of \$7,072.11 per month (\$84,865.32 per year). The loan principal was paid down by \$95,000 in 2021, using the majority of a very generous 2020 anonymous donation. There will be about \$325,000 remaining to be paid (a balloon payment) when the loan expires on May 15, 2022. There are dedicated funds available to further pay down the principal. The vestry is considering ways to pay off the remaining loan and the feasibility of refinancing. Therefore, the building fund budget presented here is tentative.

We appreciate the members of the congregation for their financial commitment to St. Mark's. The vestry, finance committee, stewardship committee, building and grounds committee, and others have devoted countless hours to navigating our budget, PPP loans, and church operations through uncharted waters. We are prayerfully making progress towards a sustainable and growing St. Mark's.

Thank you for participating in our 2022 stewardship campaign. We accept pledges at any time, and the new Breeze system literally makes it a breeze to access and update your records.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Godwin, Vestry Member and Incoming Finance Committee Chair

St. Mark's 2022 Church Budget (Vestry Preliminary Approval, Jan. 9)

Description	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
Income			
Church Pledge Income	\$293,450.00	\$290,133.15	\$294,250.00
Designated Funds	\$200.00	\$13.23	\$1,175.00
Other Income	\$2,350.00	\$14,653.91	\$5,650.00
Total Income	\$296,000.00	\$304,800.29	\$301,075.00
Expense			
Rector	\$117,252.77	\$112,006.53	\$117,858.77
Other Staff Costs	\$169,566.00	\$132,871.67	\$162,899.00
Outreach	\$33,948.04	\$29,815.35	\$32,848.00
Office Supplies/Services	\$27,780.76	\$37,317.33	\$22,000.00
Membership Incorporation	\$4,513.76	\$3,490.18	\$5,350.00
Worship	\$3,325.00	\$2,359.02	\$3,455.00
Parish Life	\$3,300.00	\$2,818.94	\$2,100.00
Christian Education	\$2,450.00	\$639.79	\$1,800.00
Maintenance/Utilities	\$104,994.67	\$105,338.84	\$108,010.00
Finance & Stewardship	\$27,510.32	\$27,957.07	\$32,080.00
Total Expense	\$494,641.32	\$454,614.72	\$488,400.77
Net Income*	-\$198,641.32	-\$149,814.43	-\$187,325.77

*Does not include 2020 and 2021 PPP loans.

St. Mark's 2022 Building Fund Budget (Under Vestry Consideration)

Description	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
Income			
Pledge Revenue	\$18,760.00	\$37,094.78	\$35,000.00
Transfers In/Other	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$325,000.00**
Rental Income - Facility Use	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$18,960.00	\$87,094.78	\$360,000.00

Expense			
US Bank Loan	\$84,865.32	\$28,224.38*	\$35,360.55
Loan Payment, Principal			\$325,000.00**
Reserve PPRRM Account	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance	\$35,000.00	\$4,506.63	\$25,000.00
Total Expenses	\$122,865.32	\$32,571.01	\$388,360.55
Net Income	-\$103,905.32	\$54,343.77	-\$28,630.55

*Does not include payments paid through church account.

**Loan expires May 2022. Vestry considering options for paying off loan and feasibility of refinancing.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

A new Membership Committee was formed in 2021. This committee is developing a Newcomer Ministry using the *Invite Welcome Connect* program. This ministry involves three parts – Invite (evangelism), Welcome (hospitality), and Connect (belonging). The committee members spent the year learning about this ministry and how we can introduce its concepts and actions at St. Mark's. The core members of the group include Kay Alexander, Kimberly Cortner, Carol Morgan, Kathy Osterkamp, and Rev. Keith Yamamoto. We extend an invitation to any parishioner who would like to join this important ministry. There are several roles that need to be filled. If you are interested, please contact juniorwarden@stmarks-upland.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Morgan, Jr. Warden, Committee Chair

STEWARDSHIP

The committee worked through the past year to improve the coordination with the pledging process, communication to parishioners, and the 1910 Legacy Society program. These will be ongoing issues for the committee to address and adapt new processes to improve outcomes. Communication remains a big part of this picture.

The committee started meeting monthly in 2021 and plans to continue doing so throughout 2022. We have looked at materials from other churches, attended seminars on fundraising and gift giving as well as the management of the processes within the church to identify needs and clarify our mission.

Some ideas we are currently working on include the eventual development of a perpetual plaque with a Haiti motif, but that has stalled a bit due to the conditions existing currently in

Haiti. Another is regarding improving the communication of the goals and vision of the church finances. This committee is also associated with the upcoming capital campaign which will be discussed much more in the near future.

Committee Members are the Rev. Keith Yamamoto, Carol Morgan, Dean Billman, Barbara Harris, John and Vicki Levario

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Levario, Co-Chair of Stewardship

VESTRY AFFAIRS

The vestry welcomed new members Dean Billman, Sharon Muehlbacher, and Carol Morgan in 2021. Marcia Godwin was also elected to a 3-year term after having filled a vacancy on the vestry for 6 months. A New Member Orientation session was held on Zoom in February that all vestry members attended. Our continued learning was enhanced by a presentation each month by a vestry member. Some of the topics covered were Hybrid Church, Membership, and New Facts on Episcopal Church Growth.

The vestry attended a Mutual Ministry Review session on Zoom in November, which was facilitated by The Rev. Canon Thomas Quijada-Discavage from the LA Diocese Office of Formation and Transition Ministry. We discussed the strengths and opportunities of five different ministries within our parish: Welcoming Newcomers, Worship Services, Christian Education for Children, Stewardship and Finance, and Fulfilling our Mission. There are additional ministry topics that will be covered using the Mutual Ministry Review process during future vestry meetings in 2022.

It has been an honor to serve on the vestry at St. Mark's with such a dedicated group of leaders.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Griffin

WORSHIP

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, 2021 started as it had ended in 2020, with our worship services conducted online and "In-Spirit". Thanks to the excellent work of the Digital Worship Committee, led by Julia Warren, we were able to provide top quality worship services every Sunday on our parish's Facebook website.

The Readiness Planning Taskforce, led by Kate Flannery, continued to temporarily guide in preparing an eventual safe resumption of in-person worship when state and local public health restrictions would be lifted. Opportunities were created on various Saturdays to distribute consecrated communion wafers via multi-purpose drive-through events staged in the front and back parking lots.

On April 4th we held a unique and beautiful reservation-only outdoor Easter Sunday Sunrise Service on Drew Field. Consecrated bread was distributed at the end of this service as attendees exited the field.

On Sunday April 25th, the annual parish visit by Bishop Taylor was used to stage our very first indoor service in the sanctuary in over a year. It was an eagerly awaited moment that also became our very first hybrid service of the pandemic. The service was broadcast live on Facebook and was limited in attendance to clergy (Bishop Taylor, Rev. Yamamoto and Rev. Monastiere) and those receiving Confirmation (John & Vicki Levario, Sharon & Edward Muehlbacher), their sponsors, and a few vestry members.

After this event, enthusiasm in the parish was palpable. Around Pentecost Sunday (May 23rd), the Readiness Taskforce provided thoughtful and safety-minded guidelines for conducting grace-filled and compassionate worship once again in the sanctuary. At this point, the Taskforce transitioned into a consultant role on hiatus as leadership for planning worship was returned to the Worship Committee.

June 20th became the first Sunday after the State of California lifted restrictions on group gatherings. The St. Mark's Taskforce had already delivered a consistent messaging campaign to vaccinate, mask, and social distance for safe gatherings. Initially, self-screening forms in the narthex were required before entering the sanctuary. Currently, name badges with vaccination cards serve this purpose.

Live singing by the full choir has not resumed, and only consecrated bread is distributed by gloved clergy and Lay Eucharistic Ministers during communion. No wine is served.

The Readiness Taskforce officially disbanded in September.

Undoubtedly the pandemic has made a significant impact on the Worship Committee as a whole. The acolytes, ushers, LEMs, and altar guild have experienced reductions in membership and participation. Nevertheless, remaining members of these guilds and committees are lovingly fulfilling their roles with devotion.

In closing, we wish to thank the following members as they step down from their decades-long leadership on the Worship Committee: Joan Watson, Chair of Worship Committee, Lay Assists, and LEMs; Ann Porter and Kathy Walker, Altar Guild; Serena Beeks, Liturgical Arts.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Brown, Worship Committee Chair

MINISTRIES

ACOLYTES

Acolytes are the members of St. Mark's Parish, ranging in age from 8 years to adults, who assist with worship services. They serve as examples for worshippers, leaders of the congregation during the service, and assistants for the clergy and lay ministers. Acolytes participate in all aspects of the rites—most commonly by carrying the Processional Cross and Torches, the Gospel Book and banners, and by helping to set and clear the Altar for Communion.

This year's acolyte participation was stopped because in-person services were suspended due to the pandemic. Even when in-person services resumed, regular acolyte service was limited

due to physical distancing requirements. Despite all of the restrictions, St. Mark's provided a handful of opportunities for fully vaccinated acolytes to be present in the community.

For information regarding service as an acolyte or serving in a leadership position with the acolytes, please contact Nora Harris at acolytes@stmarks-upland.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Nora Harris

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild cares for the sanctuary and its furnishings and prepares the setting for the worship by providing the necessary materials needed for each service. The Guild attends to the bread, wine, silver, brass, linens, vestments, altar hangings, and candles. Each team works once every four weeks to prepare for the Sunday and other services. There are two work mornings a year (before Christmas and Easter) when all members participate together in polishing and cleaning the church and its furnishings. The ministry of the Guild supports the Saint Mark's Mission Statement by preparing a Eucharistically-centered setting for all members to embrace Christ as the center of our lives and by participating in a consistent stewardship effort to tend and beautify the church.

The 2021 Altar Guild was composed of the following four teams with one member assigned as a team leader: Team 1 – Kathy Walker (lead), Kate Flannery, Cheryl Ward, and Alma Zook. Team 2 – Ann Porter (lead), Sola Oduyemi, and Joan Watson. Team 3 – Judy Shather (lead), Connie Otis, and Connie Williams. Team 4 – Kay Alexander (lead), Cheryl Hunley and Chris Abernathy.

We are always seeking and welcoming new members. The only requirement for becoming a member is the willingness to help provide the above services. Since it is a team effort, members are assigned to a team and provided "on the job" training.

We would like to thank everyone—especially Edna Silver, Barbara Harris, and Nora Harris who recently resigned. We'd also like to thank Joan Watson who resigned as of January 1, 2021. Ann Porter and Kathy Walker have also retired as co-directors as of January 1, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Porter and Kathy Walker

BIRTHDAY CARD MINISTRY

The purpose of this ministry is to remember all church members on their birthday with a birthday card. Our ministry supports the mission and ministry of St. Mark's by strengthening inclusivity and a sense of belonging to the St. Mark's community.

Card Ministers in 2021 were Gail Dean, Evangeline George, Kathy Kiehl, Betty Ward. They took turns sending birthday cards to church members. We enjoy letting church members know that St. Mark's remembers them on their birthday. We need your help to keep our birthday list current, so please contact me if you are not receiving a birthday card.

Birthday card ministers are people with legible handwriting and time to sign cards, address and stamp envelopes, and mail cards over a month-long period. As Betty Ward resigned at the end of 2021, we need a fourth birthday card minister. To update birthday information or if interested in being a birthday card minister, contact Lisa Drew at cards@stmarks-upland.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Drew, Coordinator

BOOK CLUB

Throughout 2021, as part of St. Mark's fellowship ministries, the Book Club continued to meet regularly—sometimes in person, other times on Zoom. We enjoyed one another's company while reading and discussing both fiction and non-fiction books on a variety of topics. Attendance has been between six and ten, and the sessions we've held at one of our homes have included sharing delicious food. Those who have met with us include the following: Sue Andrews, Patti Brooks, Ava Capossela, Sally Drake, Rosalyn Foster, Marcia Godwin, Nancy Kinney, Yawen Li, Sharon Muehlbacher, Barbara Nalbach, Sallie Ringle, Maggie Vizio, Betty Ward, and Rev. Keith. Books read include: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* by Mark Haddon; *Oliver* by Stephen Carino; *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes; *Rise of the Rocket Girls* by Nathalia Holt; *The Course of Love* by Alain De Bottom; *A Bitter Feast* by Deborah Crobie; *Anxious People* by Frederick Backman; *The Salt Path* by Rayor Winn; *Talking to Strangers* by Malcolm Gladwell; *Eleanor Oliphant* by Gail Honeyman; *Big Lies in a Small Town* by Diane Chamberlain; and *Magic Hour* by Kristin Hannah.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Drake, Book Club Coordinator

BREAD BAKERS – STE. HONORÉ

The purpose of the Ste. Honoré Guild is to provide fresh-baked communion bread for our services. For the first seven months of 2021, we did not bake loaves due to continued COVID restrictions. In August we were able to resume baking loaves for Sunday and special services such as memorials and weddings. Members of the guild included Lisa Drew, Barbara Harris, Nora Harris, Connie Williams, and a new member, Melissa Diaz. We are always looking for new bakers, novice or experienced. Our bread recipe has been passed down from our wonderful mentor, Patsy Minney, who led the bakers for many years. This year I am particularly grateful to Connie and Lisa for their willingness to step in and cover the Christmas services. This year, I will be stepping down as head of the guild and confidently pass the torch to Connie Williams. If you would like to try your hand at this rewarding ministry, please contact Connie Williams at breadbakers@stmarks-upland.org. We will train!

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Harris

COUNTERS

The counters are doing a great job keeping up with the changing COVID rules. It is hard talking through those masks. The counters are responsible for the counting of the monetary

collections of the various services throughout the year. They are tasked with balancing the spreadsheets and making the trip to the bank to deposit the funds. The counters are Chris Watson, Ken Drew, Barbara Nalbach, Ann Porter, Serena Beeks, and Kathy Walker.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Walker

DIGITAL MINISTRY

From the time that physical presence was allowed in the church, Digital Ministry has implemented a continuous service improvement program. In addition to live streaming each Sunday worship service and each Wednesday Taizé service, Digital Ministry has live streamed two memorial services and provided audio support for two funerals (not live streamed). In addition, Digital Ministry also supported a public forum.

In August, a 16-channel sound mixer was installed in the loft to better control the audio mix in both the live stream and in the church sanctuary. In October, Digital Ministry met with Building and Grounds to discuss a permanent location for a Live Stream Control Room. It was decided that Room 5 (previously, the Business Manager's Office) was the best location, and this was approved at the Vestry meeting. Digital Ministry is in the process of installing hardware and setting up a Digital Control Room to improve the audio and video capability of live streaming. This involves:

- Moving equipment, installing audio cables and hardware from the Loft to the Control Room
- Moving and installing a 2nd 16-channel mixer to the Live Stream Control Room. Once completed this is completed, one 16-channel mixer will control all Sanctuary and Hall sound and one 16-channel mixer will control all Loft sound.

A Digital Ministry User Manual has been written and is being updated as events/processes change. The plan is to have no single thread of process knowledge. This implies that at any given point every process has been documented and that someone can take the Process Manual and perform the process.

Plans for the first quarter of 2022 include the following: The Digital Ministry will purchase two cameras, a video controller, and a video mixer. Methods of funding this purchase (approximately \$2000) is under consideration. A generous personal donation and supplemental donations have provided partial funding. Additional cameras will be required to fully cover the Loft, Sanctuary, and Memorial Garden outside activities. A method for live-streaming memorial garden services is under consideration.

Until upgraded cameras are available, the Digital Ministry Team will continue to use donated or borrowed iPhone or iPad cameras. To augment the video capability one Apple iPad and one Apple iPhone have been donated. Other members of the congregation have stepped up to volunteer their service in setting up the control room.

Camera operators at this time are Kay Alexander and Craig Gillette. Live Stream/Camera Operators are Bob Mattus, David Nalbach, Rob Garretson, and Jana Garner. Recruitment and

training of Digital Ministry members continues. We are looking for additional volunteers to support the ministry!

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Mattus, Live Stream Upgrade Project Manager and Digital Ministry Lead

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS

Once again, this was an especially challenging year for Eucharistic Visitors due to the pandemic. We did manage to maintain contact with our church members who are in assisted living facilities or who are infirmed or frail—by sending cards, making phone calls, and offering prayers. We began making visitations once again during the final months of 2021. It is our hope that soon the current omicron surge will subside, and we will be able to resume regular in-person visits and home Eucharistic services with few restrictions. Those who serve as Eucharistic Visitors include John Flasher, Kimberly Cortner, Linda Collins, Edwina Golightly, and Rev. Keith Yamamoto.

Respectfully submitted,
Christina Abernathy and Andrea Flasher, co-chairs

FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild supports the Mission Statement of the Church by welcoming help from all parishioners who wish to donate their time and creative talent. Each year, the Flower Guild takes care of Sunday alter arrangements, several memorial service arrangements, the Advent Wreath, Christmas decorations, flowers for Mother's Day, school graduation service alter flowers, and a Blue Christmas arrangement. Also, we donate plants/flowers to fourteen shut ins twice each year.

It is our goal and desire to have sponsors for altar flowers all 52 weeks of the year. Usually there is a chart in the Parish Hall, and people sign up to honor a birthday, an anniversary, or to have another remembrance listed in the Sunday bulletin. We do not have a chart in the Parish Hall at this time because many members view services online. So, it is preferred that everyone contact the church office.

When a person signs up to sponsor the altar flowers—to commemorate a special person or event in their lives—we ask that they make a financial donation in the amount of at least \$100 to help cover the cost of the flowers and necessary supplies. Supplies include; oasis, vases, urns, baskets, pedestals, easels, Floral Life, spray bottles, watering cans, floral tape, ribbon, wire, shears, clippers, trash bags, storage containers, buckets, and a broom. We budget very carefully to have funds for all the support supplies and fresh flowers that have become increasingly expensive.

The planter to the west of the doors with the lion topiary is a future project to be planted with clippings from the east succulent garden

The only requirement for membership in the Flower Guild is a desire to participate in floral arranging and the enjoyment of decorating the church for special services. Additionally, one must be willing to donate time on occasional weekends and have the ability to go to the local

wholesale floral supplier to get the flowers, where we have established charge accounts. Any parishioners, male or female individuals or teams, are welcome to join this guild. Newcomers can train with existing guild members. There is no financial cost to be a member of the Flower Guild. We would love to have additional members. Current members of the Flower Guild are Serena Beaks, Natalie Dunlap, Myrna Dole, Christy Hyder, Sylvia Ochoa, and Barbara Nalbach.

Respectfully submitted,
Christy Hyder, Flower Guild Chair

FOOTHILL FAMILY SHELTER

The Foothill Family Shelter offers transitional housing to the Upland/Ontario/Fontana area with 120-day, 1-year, and extended housing programs. During 2021, Foothill Family Shelter housed thirty-four families including fifty-eight children, helped 6,177 people with food and clothing, distributed 1,011 Thanksgiving baskets, and gave out a multitude of Christmas gifts. One outreach the Saint Mark's participates in directly is the Family-to-Family Christmas. Saint Mark's gathers Christmas gifts for residents of the Shelter. Each resident completes a card with their clothing gift wish with such details as size, color, sometimes even the store when the item can be purchased. A Saint Mark's family chooses a card the week before Thanksgiving and returns the gift two weeks later to be blessed before they are distributed to those living in the shelter. This year we were able to help brighten Christmas for about forty-eight people.

Respectfully submitted,
Roslyn Foster and Kay Alexander

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

The Girls' Friendly Society (GFS) is part of an international, faith-based organization for girls and women. We are a community serving through Christ and affiliated with the Episcopal Church. We believe in the value of each human being and the richness of a diverse community. GFS welcomes all girls and women of any age, race, religion and nationality. The girls' study social issues, such as racism, ageism, and the environment and then put their understanding into action with community service projects. Meetings are every other Wednesday from 4:00 to 5pm in the Parish Hall. Our girls are ages 6 to 12. Nancy Kinney is an additional adult assistant.

Respectfully submitted,
Rosalyn Foster

HAITI PARTNERSHIP

Canon Serena Beeks preached about the Haiti partnership on two different Sundays. In the style of an Episcopal Sunday service in Haiti, extra time was added at the end of the Prayers of the People for people to give thanks, ask for help, and speak to God, either silently or aloud. Both days included a table in the Parish Hall offering more information, inviting people to sign up for the occasional Haiti news email list, and displaying Haitian art that was available to take home for a donation. A timeline of the St. Mark's partnership with St. Andre's in Trianon, Haiti, was displayed in the Parish Hall and on social media.

To continue our ministry to the families at St. Andre's, a check of \$4,000 was sent in March 2021

to pay teachers' salaries at the school.

Members of the partnership are Serena Beeks, Guen Vinnedge, Kathy Walker, and any community members who have traveled to Haiti, prayed for our partners there, supported Haitian art, and/or kept current on the news out of Haiti.

Respectfully submitted,
Canon Serena Beeks

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

LEM's assist the clergy at the altar each Sunday. They also participate at memorial services and weddings. It is a requirement by the diocese that all LEM's participate in the training program "Safeguarding God's children."

Since we returned to in-person services in June 2021, those serving at the 8.00 am service include Dean Billman, Larry Shade, Cheryl Ward, Dale Biggs, Serena Beeks, and Linda Gomez. Those serving at the 10.00 am service include Jim Brown, Karin Brown, Kay Alexander, Craig Gillette, and Joan Watson. Thank you all for your service to St Mark's.

In December 2021 I retired after 38 years of service to St Mark's. John Flasher has taken over the scheduling for the LEM's, and Rev. Sally will continue the LEM training program.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Watson, Director of Lay Eucharistic Ministers

LECTORS

From early in 2020 through June 2021 there were no in-person services at St Mark's due to COVID, and many people took part in producing the live streamed services on Facebook, under the direction of Julia Warren. Since services in Church restarted in mid-2021, and continue to be live-streamed and recorded, there has been additional participation by readers beyond the reading of the Scripture readings and the Prayers of the People. Those readers who have been involved in the on-line, the 8.00am and the 10.00am services in Church over the past year include: Sue Andrews, Serena Beeks, Larry Shade, Phil Quaranta, Gisele Tackoor, Barbara Harris, Skip Arjo, Nora Harris, Edwina Golightly, Sue Derickson. Greg Hewgill, John Flasher, Kay Alexander, Bob Mattus, Larry Shade, Linda Gomez, Andrea Flasher, Aiyana Harris, Nick Adams, Rob Garretson, Carol Morgan, Barbara Nalbach, Alma Zook, Sally Drake, Margaret Vinnedge, Kimberly Cortner, Julia Warren, Laura Schinler, and Chris Watson.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Watson

LITURGICAL ARTS

In-person worship returned to St. Mark's on a slightly limited basis this year, so Liturgical Arts activities were relatively quiet. For some of our regular projects, we have invited members of the congregation to participate—for example, the hanging of the Christmas/Epiphany stars. New initiatives included the creation by Ken Andrews of a beautiful new wooden "ring" to hold the Advent and Christmas candles, replacing an unsightly plywood and plastic ring that had

to be hidden by all sorts of flower arranging strategies. Thank you, Ken! Also there has been some progress toward obtaining permission from the City to remove the out-of-date fire hose from the narthex, with the intent to replace it with another cabinet to display paintings and other pieces of art that are part of the parish story.

This year, St. Mark's participated in a community drive-through "Stations of the Cross" during Lent with churches of various denominations in Claremont and Upland. We were very pleased with the response.

The late Rev. Lee Harris's collection of animals and puppets which he used for many years to act out school sermons has spent most of the year in the cabinet with the Betty Davenport Ford Creche so that they may be enjoyed by all; at Christmas they journeyed to Bethlehem and joined the other animals around the manger in Lisa Drew's Haitian-inspired knitted Creche. Those efforts along with all of the different work listed above and below serve to amplify and complement the Gospel of the day and the season of the church year, so that the church may tell its ongoing story not only with words but through all of the senses.

Canon Serena Beeks, Dale Biggs, Kathy Walker, Ann Porter, Alma Zook, Yong Muhn, Connie Williams, Guen Vinnedge, and any other parishioners who wish to participate on any particular project are members of the committee. Five autonomous groups offer the vast majority of the liturgical art support to our worship: the Flower Guild, headed by Christy Hyder, whose work comprises the majority of our week-to-week visual liturgical art; the Altar Guild, headed by Ann Porter and Kathy Walker, whose setting of the Altar creates yet another visual story; Director of Music, Blane Abernathy, and the various ensembles who provide inspiration through music; the Building and Grounds Committee, headed by Dale Biggs and Kathy Walker, who work to make the church well-kept, comfortable, attractive, and inviting; and St. Fiacre's Guild, creating art outside with flowers, plants, and trees. For the Stations of the Cross, the technical details were created by Andrew Kilkenny and Julia Warren; the banners were designed by Connie Williams; and the "rigging" to attach them to the arms of the outdoor cross was created by Chris Walker and Yong Muhn.

Respectfully submitted,
Canon Serena Beeks

MUSIC MINISTRY 2021

I am nearing completion of nine years as church organist and music director for St. Mark's Episcopal Church, which will be on May 15 of this year. I had also completed over 5 years as chapel organist and music director for St. Mark's School at the time of its closure in July of 2020 due to COVID-19.

St. Mark's Band: A bit of recent history... I'm very thankful for the opportunity to work with the members of the St. Mark's Band. However, due to the pandemic, the group was not able to play together from March until August of 2020, when they were able to begin recording. The band then recorded and led music for worship services through Advent and Christmas of 2020 and beyond in 2021. Live, in-person worship began in September 2021 with Live Stream. Recordings consisted of anthems, solos, duets, and instrumentals. The recordings were very well engineered. The band's reflection music has been exceptional and added a lot to our "in

spirit" worship when following the spoken word. Many thanks to Andrea and Jim Griffin, Barbara and Lance Farr, Laura and Michael Schinler, Rob Garretson, Garrett Kenehan, Theresa Gillette, Barbara Nalbach, Jana Garner, Roman Foronda, and Greg Hewgill.

St. Mark's Handbell Choir: We began 2020 with a strong group and were able to ring a few beautiful pieces before COVID-19 struck in the middle of March. At that time, we began to meet over Zoom for our "practice" sessions every Wednesday. Before another uptick in the virus, we were able to rehearse together outside the church using sanitizer and masks and maintained an 8-foot distance between each ringer. We were able to move our rehearsals into the parish hall on June 1, 2021, and presented a Handbell Concert in St. Mark's Sanctuary early in July. In-person rehearsals resumed in September, and we "rang" in the Sanctuary for worship services in October and December. Many thanks to our current members: Kathy Osterkamp, Bob Mattus, Chris Watson, Carol Morgan, Edwina Golightly, Natalie and Charlie Dunlap, Yung Muhn, Janie Berch, and Rev. Keith Yamamoto.

Choristers: Choristers were about twelve members strong when COVID-19 forced the group to stop in late March of 2020. The group continued to make appearances in January and February in worship, singing in the loft in the first row in front of the choir. Choristers were not able to start up again before the closure of the school in July 2020. The group has continued via Zoom throughout 2021 as they could not sing in person, since vaccines for children under twelve were not yet made available. Approximately four to six children participated in Choristers during 2021. Hopefully, we can return to singing in person once the Omicron virus is contained. Meanwhile, we will continue to meet and sing together on Tuesday afternoons on Zoom.

St. Mark's Choir: There are currently about twenty active choir members. Sopranos include Kathy Walker, Kathy Osterkamp, Nora Harris, Betty Nelson, Lisa Drew, Julia Warren, and Sandra Robison. Altos include Margaret Vinnedge, Christina Abernathy, Canon Serena Beeks, Barbara Nalbach, and Alma Zook. Tenors include Ken Drew, Peter Drew, Young Muhn, Roger Geisler, and Barbara Harris. Basses include Chris Watson, Wole Adegoke, and Landon Abernathy. Once we were impacted by COVID-19 in March of 2020, we suspended rehearsals for a few weeks and then began practicing over Zoom. Rehearsals continued on Zoom through June 2021. The choir has recorded several anthems and hymns for services which have been broadcast via Facebook and YouTube from June through June of 2021. Live in-person rehearsals and services resumed in September 2021 with Live Stream, including special music during Advent, Christmas Eve Overture, Candlelight Service, and Christmas. I wish to give special thanks to our music engineers, Barbara Harris and Julia Warren, who have made all of our online recording possible. I also wish to thank Bob Mattus for managing the audio team and Live Stream in the Fall of 2021 through the present.

Taizé Worship Ministry: Having begun Taizé Ministry on June 1, 2014, we are well on our way to completing 8 years at St. Mark's. Taizé gets its name from the ecumenical monastic community in Burgundy, France where this form of worship began several years ago. I'd like to thank Kimberly Cortner, Cheryl Hunley, and Chris Abernathy for their dedication and hard work in support of this ministry. Once again, I'd like to express my gratitude to the fine musicians who have given of their time and talents so graciously to Taizé ministry in 2021: Bob Mattus, Rob

Garretson, and Garrett Kenehan. I am also thankful for the many individuals who support Taizé ministry by reading scripture and prayers. Taizé services have been running continuously on Wednesday evenings throughout the year at 7:30pm except for a few Wednesdays near the holidays. Our services are once again live-streamed and in-person at St. Mark's. I am especially thankful for Julia Warren, our engineer, Bob Mattus, program manager, and David Nalbach, audio technician, who have all made the Taizé services possible up to the present time.

A Sincere Thank You: I'd like to offer my sincere thanks to Barbara Harris, Cheryl Hunley, Kimberly Cortner, Andrea Griffin, Nora Harris, Julia Warren, Lisa Drew, Kathy Walker, Dale Biggs, Rev. Sally Monastiere, Canon Serena Beeks, Chris Watson, Bob Mattus, and Rev. Keith Yamamoto for their kind assistance and support of music and worship at St. Mark's Parish.

Respectfully submitted,
Blane Abernathy, Organist/Director of Music

PARKING GUILD

Our 2021 year was not much different than the previous year. Since COVID arrived, we have not had much of an opportunity to host our big church services like Easter Sunday or Christmas. As we move into 2022, I hope we can bring back attendance like we did before. That is really when our parking guild helps out. We direct traffic for parking and, when the lot gets full, we hand out maps for offsite parking.

For our Easter Sunday sunrise service, we did get help parking from Larry Shade, Linda Gomez, Davis Nalbach, and John Flashers. Many thanks.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale Biggs, Parking Guild Chair

QUIET DAYS LENT AND ADVENT

For the past seven years, as part of our fellowship and Christian education ministries, we have held Quiet Days during Lent and in Advent. Last December, we joined the Quiet Day offered for the Deanery at Christ Church, Ontario, and did not have a separate Quiet Day for St. Mark's. In Lent, though, we met on Zoom and had about twenty people attend. We held a three-hour retreat, titled "Quiet Time with God." During the two sessions, we began with an opening circle for silence and centering meditation. Then we read together short excerpts from works by Howard Thurman, Barbara Brown Taylor, and Wayne Muller's book *Sabbath*. There was also a selection of short poetry and scripture passages to contemplate. In each session we took time for a guided spiritual practice and break-out rooms to reflect on and share about our experience. Thank you to all who participated. The next Lenten Quiet Day is scheduled for March 5, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Cortner

SAINT FIACRE'S GUILD

The gardening guild didn't get together this year. We did a few things separately. The roses and irises always need attention. If you are interested in helping out at any time, contact either Kate Flannery or Kathy Walker, and we can direct you to what needs doing.

A big thank you to Connie Williams who is doing a wonderful job in the Memorial Garden.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Walker and Kate Flannery

SAINT PETER'S GUILD

Enthusiastic Pinochle players gather on Wednesday mornings to enjoy sharing fellowship and the challenges of the cards. The "Pinochlers" are Kay Alexander, Bob Mattus, Larry Shade, Dale Biggs and Chris Watson

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Watson

SANCTA SOPHIA CHAPTER OF THE ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING®

The Sancta Sophia chapter of the Daughters of the King—part of an international and interdenominational order of women committed to prayer, service, and evangelism—holds monthly meetings on the second Sunday of each month to pray and study, share contemplative spiritual practices, and conduct chapter business. In 2021 we held ten meetings. The chapter currently has twenty-three members. The officers are Lisa Drew, president; Karin Brown, Vice President; Gail Dean, secretary, and Rosalyn Foster, treasurer. The Very Rev. Keith Yamamoto serves as our Chaplain. Other members of the Sancta Sophia chapter are Clare Bangao, Kathryn Barbour, Mandy Bennett, Linda Collins, Kimberly Cortner, Martha Estes, Barbara Farr, Andrea Flasher, Rosalyn Foster, Edwina Golightly, Andrea Griffin, Elizabeth James, Nancy Kinney, Bettie Lovekin, Carol Morgan, Barbara Nalbach, Sallie Ringle, Ellen Skivington, and Alice Tokatly. Two of our members are officers of the Los Angeles Diocesan Board of the Daughters of the King—Kimberly Cortner, President and Carol Morgan, Secretary. Several members represented our chapter at both the Spring and Fall Diocesan Assemblies held virtually on Zoom.

Our service to the St. Mark's community includes maintaining the St. Mark's parish prayer list, which is updated regularly. Daughters include this list in their daily individual prayers and those who are able meet every Thursday morning via Zoom to pray through the entire list. In October we sent hand-written letters to the families of St. Mark's members who had passed away since All Saints' Day 2020. We also held a corporate All Saints' Day worship service on Monday, November 1 in person and on Zoom. Various members assisted with Curbside Christmas by stuffing gift bags and volunteering at the event, and most of our members are active in a variety of ministries within and beyond St. Mark's. We wish to thank all in the St. Mark's parish for their continuing support of our ministries.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Drew

SEXTONS GUILD

For most of last year we were not in person for our Sunday services. That's really where an opening sexton is very helpful. Many thanks to Larry Shade for always being there to open up for just about anything needed. Once we started back to in-person services, we had the need for sextons. The opening sexton turns off the alarm for the building and turns on all the lights needed for Sunday worship. If doors need to be unlocked, they do that too. After Sunday services we have a closing sexton to close and check all doors, making sure that they are locked. All of the lights that were turned on need to be turned off and then they are done. At this time, an alarm code is not needed to be a sexton. If you feel that you would be willing to come a little early to open or stay to the end to be a closer, please let me know. So far, we have been low on this position.

Many thanks to our sexton guild!! Members are Larry Shade, Team Drew (Lisa & Ken), Team Kozaka (Stanley & Sally) and Christ Watson.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale Biggs, Sexton Guild Chair

SUNDAY SCHOOL

In 2021 the Sunday School Ministry was active. Because of a request from Rev. Keith, Sunday School volunteers participated during the church service in children's bible presentations from the last Sunday in May to the first Sunday in September.

Our volunteers working together have been developing a new curriculum using Godly Play materials for the 7- to 10-year-old program.

The vestry was consulted and approved the use of room 18 (formally known as the Art Room) for the program called Journey with God. The Vestry also approved the titles change for our 3-6-year-old program to Children of the Good Shepherd.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Mackall

TOUCH MINISTRIES

T.O.U.C.H Ministries serves the homeless in the Ontario/Montclair area by providing food, clothing, camping supplies, and gift cards. At St. Mark's, Dave Nalbach coordinates the ministry, and he is assisted by Cheryl Hunley and Arlene Lundergan. Our donations to T.O.U.C.H. this year included the following: 492 food items; 510 clothing items; 365 hygiene items; ninety-seven miscellaneous items; \$3,040 in gift cards; and \$725 in cash donations. In addition, the Curbside Christmas event collected three large boxes of toys.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Nalbach

2021 REMEMBRANCES

Baptisms

Alexa Lizarraga
Andrew Lizarraga
Leni June Rankin
Gavin Matthew Vaughn
Gracelyn Arlene Vaughn

Confirmations

Sharon H. Muehlbacher
Edward M. Muehlbacher
Jana C. Garner
John A. Levario

Reaffirmation

Victoria L. Levario

Weddings

Melanie Lauer and Ryan Olsen
Rebecca Claire Wright and Oliver Elliott Brown

Ordination

Jose Luis Garcia

Burials

Ed LeSaout
Cecilia DuVall McKnight
Betty Ashurst
Nicholas Hurey
Christopher Morales
Mary Elizabeth Harris
Lorraine Turner
Anna Neal