

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
330 E. 16th Street
Upland, California 91784
113th Annual Meeting
January 29, 2023

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AGENDA

Welcome & Call to Order	Rector
Introductions	Rector
Appointment of Clerk	Vicki Levario
Declaration of Quorum <i>(Minimum of twenty-five members in good standing)</i>	Clerk
Minutes of the 112th Annual Parish Meeting <i>(May be dispensed with by a majority vote of those present)</i>	Clerk
Wardens' Reports	Carol Morgan, Senior Warden Kimberly Cortner, Junior Warden
Financial Report	Marcia Godwin, Finance Chair
Rector's Report	Rector
Elections Vestry: Gail Dean, Kathy Osterkamp Convention Delegate: Kathy Walker	Rector
Remembering	The Rev. Sally Monastiere Discerner Rodney Hume-Dawson Daughters of the King
Adjournment & Dismissal	Rector
First meeting of New Vestry	

The annual meeting takes place within the context of the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Reports by the rector and members of the vestry replace some of the lessons. The election replaces the sermon and symbolizes the response by the community to the Good News of Jesus Christ. Remembering—of passages like baptisms, weddings, and deaths—enhances our Prayers of the People.

MINUTES OF THE 112TH ANNUAL MEETING

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Annual Meeting
January 30, 2022

The 2022 Annual Meeting was held in session with the Sunday service to accommodate safe distance and seating.

Introductions by Rev. Keith Yamamoto. All current vestry members were acknowledged and introduced.

Appointment of the clerk: Vicki Levario, clerk

Declaration of quorum: The attendance requirement of at least 25 members was met.

The reading of minutes of last year's meeting was dispensed with.

Senior Warden's report given by Kay Alexander focusing on 2021. Rev. Keith's accident impacted the church. Junior Warden Julia Warren established our Digital Ministry to keep the services going. Then the pandemic hit and affected the ability to keep the school open. We restarted in-person services in June but continue to have virtual services. Many of our ministries continue to be active and vital in their work. We have had several in person gatherings for events and memorial services. We continue to support Foothill Family Shelter and TOUCH. New church management software was purchased and is now in use. Beautiful church services occurred on holidays.

Financial report was given by Marcia Godwin. Ken Drew was recognized as the outgoing finance chair. Congregational giving has maintained throughout the pandemic. The first PPP loan was discussed, nearly \$384,000 received and was totally forgiven due to closure of the K-8 school. The second PPP loan was for \$238,000 and officially ran from mid-May to the beginning of November and now we are in the process of applying for loan forgiveness. With the closure of the school this put the financial burden on the church finances. This year we are looking at a significant financial burden. The loan payments are \$7,000 per month. We were able to make a significant payment on the loan due to a large anonymous donation. The preschool budget is a stand-alone budget paying their salaries only.

Elections of vestry members and convention delegates: All candidates came forward for introduction. Nick Adams, Kimberly Cortner, Karin Brown, and Barbara Nalbach each spoke and are candidates for vestry. Kathy Walker, Carol Morgan, and John Flasher are candidates for convention delegates. All candidates were voted into their various positions.

Rector report was given by Rev. Keith Yamamoto. He thanked all the people who have continued to keep the church functioning during the pandemic and all the changes that occurred throughout the previous year. St. Mark's has entered into negotiation with San Bernardino County to open a Head Start program. It is important that our preschool families and staff get the information that the preschool will close in June, 2022. Thanks to the devoted

teachers and staff who have served for many years as well as the preschool board members and Jackie Wilds as Interim Director. The loss of St. Mark's Preschool will leave a loss that will not be replaced. Looking forward to an exciting year of changes. This has not been an easy decision to make, the vestry has not rushed into this. We listened to multiple sources to provide information to make this decision.

Outgoing vestry members were acknowledged and given a gift for their service.

Submitted by Vicki Levario, Clerk

VESTRY CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

GAIL DEAN

Gail Dean has been a member of St. Mark's since 1997. Over the years she has participated in various ministries at Saint Mark's Church including assisting with the Sunday School and child care during Sunday services, as well as hosting coffee hour. She is currently active as a Daughter of the King and serves as the Secretary of our Santa Sophia Chapter. She also participates in the birthday card ministry and other letter writing outreach efforts to offer support and comfort to parishioners during times of need. Gail appreciates the fellowship and spiritual connection she receives as a member of our St. Mark's community. She has been married to Bill for 47 years; they have three daughters and three granddaughters. Gail's community involvement beyond St. Mark's includes volunteering at her daughters' and granddaughters' schools, including leadership roles in the PTA. She has also been active as leader and co-leader in the Girl Scouts for many years. Gail has happy memories of raising her family at St. Mark's and looks forward to serving on the Vestry.

KATHY OSTERKAMP

Kathy Osterkamp has been a member of St. Mark's for four and a half years. She previously worked as a soloist and choir section leader at St. Mathias Episcopal Church in Whittier. It was there that she grew to love and respect the liturgy and traditions of the Episcopal Church. In addition to our liturgical traditions, Kathy loves the open, caring, accepting and prayerful community at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. She is an active member of St. Mark's adult choir, handbell choir, and Newcomer Ministry. She also is serving as a member of the Music Director Search Committee. Kathy taught elementary school for 20 years and retired in 2016. In addition to her skill and experience in vocal music, Kathy has a passion for animals and currently works part time at a goat dairy, assisting in cheese making and wrapping specialty cheeses. Kathy looks forward to extending her service as a member of the Vestry to give back some of the love and joy she receives from the St. Mark's community.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Kathy walker

I have been at St. Mark's since 1987, I was an Aide at the school for several years and have served on many committees. I am currently on the Buildings and Grounds committee, St. Fiacre (the garden guild), Liturgical Arts, the Altar Guild; I sing in the choir, I am the music librarian; in addition I assist the head of security, I maintain the archives for the church, and I am a counter.

I have several hobbies: gardening, astronomy, fly fishing, reading, and knitting. I love opera and most types of music. I hike in the local mountains and like to travel.

I have been a delegate to convention for many years and have enjoyed the opportunity to serve St. Mark's in this capacity immensely. It is a wonderful experience because you get a deeper sense of the larger church, and you meet people from all over the diocese. I love how this diocese is changing, and I want to be a part of the change. I find a deeper sense of spirituality when and after attending the convention. I would love to serve St. Mark's as a delegate to convention again and again.

CONVENTION DELEGATE REPORT 2022

This year's Convention took place on November 11th and 12th at the Riverside Convention Center. It is always a pleasure to return to Riverside. Good food and shopping! A lot of exhibitors returned and so did many friends. It is always a nice time to see friends and catch up with the news.

I urge you to go to www.diocesela.org and click on News to get the full story. While you are there check out the pictures.

Following opening prayers, we heard reports from the various committees that help the business of convention be correct.

Bishop Taylor's address was about the vision of the Diocese of Los Angeles as a "new Jerusalem where no one is left out." Where everyone comes together by Divine Magic. He had five important points. 1 Broadening and polylingual competency. 2 Reorganizing the diocese around shared ministry and mutuality. 3 Financial Transparency, 12% assessments, and a review of past spending. 4 The need for permanent supportive housing for our unhoused neighbors. 5 the need to create a 30- to 40-million dollar endowment to help sustain the Diocese. Please donate to the One Body One Spirit Appeal. And so much more during his address which you can watch on the Diocese website.

Canon of the Ordinary Melissa McCarthy, who urged us to let go of daydreaming about the church of the past and instead focus on exciting changes. Like the shared clergy and resources of churches and partnerships of some congregations and congregational collaborations in Deanery 6, this is "a very interesting place to be right now."

Saturday we began with Holy Eucharist, and it was a wonderful and moving experience to see a full procession with accompanied by music. A lot of the music during the convention was familiar music that we had sung at the school.

Mary Tororeiy the vicar of St. Paul's Shepherd of the Desert Episcopal –Lutheran congregation in Barstow preached at the Morning Eucharist. Rev. Tororeiy spoke about the hope amid challenges "like the hope that filled us during Covid, and we kept going and discovered we could do church at home and through Zoom."

Anglican Archbishop Hosam Naoum of Jerusalem delivered the keynote address. He talked about hope and reconciliation and about how these things are very much needed. Seeking or extending forgiveness means "we are really at the heart of the Holy One. We are at the heart of God." He invited delegates to visit Jerusalem to come and see for yourself, to be with our sisters and brothers. Living and traveling in the Middle East is challenging, navigating military check points and borders. In order to make pastoral visits outside of Israel he has to apply at least three weeks for a visa. There are 28 congregations and 35 hospitals and schools and other institutions in Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan.

In other business, delegates unanimously approved a \$4.55 million mission share fund budget. Delegates elected officers for diocesan offices and deputies to general convention. And reports from several organizations. Three resolutions were approved to establish diocesan compensation for clergy, and parity among lay and ordained employees. Also, environment related resolutions as a guideline for diocesan policy and a second encouraging Diocesan Council to identify and implement practical cost effective measures to address climate change day to day. Three resolutions referred from the 80th General Convention A031 Amended the Constitution and Canons relating to Mergers of Dioceses. A059 Amended Article X of the Constitution of the Episcopal Church. A157 Article 1 section 7 of the constitution be amended. The full text of these can be read online at www.diocesela.org.

Thus endeth the lesson,
Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Walker

DEANERY 6 ANNUAL MEETING

Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles
Deanery Six Annual Meeting
Sunday, October 29, 2022, 11:00 AM

Those present: Rev. Jessie Smith St. Ambrose, Rev. Liz Kronenberg St. John's La Verne, The Very Rev Keith Yamamoto St. Mark's Upland, Rev. Susan Scranton Grace Community Glendora, Mother Judy everywhere, Dale Biggs St. Mark's Upland, Susan Payne St. Ambrose, Carol Morgan St. Mark's Upland, Kelly Piatt St. Paul's Pomona, Bryan Bennett St. Paul's Pomona, Randall Walker St. John's La Verne, Anne Henderson St. Paul's Pomona, James Donaldson St. John's La Verne, Kathy Walker St. Mark's Upland, Francis Cain, Tammy Ouellette.

The meeting was called to order by President Dale Biggs at 11:10 AM

President Dale Biggs welcomed everyone.

The Very Rev. Keith Yamamoto said the opening prayer

The minutes from last year were approved.

Susan Payne gave the Treasurers Report there were no question and it was approved as presented.

President's report Dale Biggs thanked everyone involved in the Red Cross Blood Drives. It is a very important activity for the Deanery to be involved in. He said that last year during Holy Week that he services he attended at different churches in the Deanery were very good and he hoped that this would continue this year.

Reverend Liz Kronenberg reported on the work of The Program Group on Missions. In the past year, the committee worked on changes to the procedures and carefully reviewed Mission Funds. This was done by site surveys. The Diocesan budget reduced the share amount available. This year there was a cut back on the requested funds. The committee is now discerning how to move forward creatively. The committee has finished reviewing the Mission Share and grant requests and these have been recommended to Bishop Taylor. Gary Hall chairs the committee.

Rev. Jessie Smith reported from Diocesan Council. A review of MSF and a progression of funds were proposed for the 2023 Diocesan Budget.

Clericus Report a collaborative Holy Weeks is in the planning. A Quiet day is planned for Dec. 3rd at Christ Church Ontario. Time to be determined. Also in the planning is a rotation for Advent Dinner Soup Suppers to take place on Wednesday evenings. The program to be based on the writings of Richard Rohr. Advent Lessons and Carols to take place on Dec 18th at Holy Trinity Covina.

Lili Edison will be the youth representative to Annual Convention from Deanery 6. Lili is from St. Ambrose Claremont. Motion to approve Lili. MSC

Mother Judy had many kind words for this Deanery and Rev. Keith.

Laundry Love:

Motion from Deanery 6 Executive Council to the Deanery Assembly regarding Laundry Love funds currently held at St. John's La Verne: Disbursement of funds as follows. Total of 5256.72 to be deposited in the Deanery 6 account. Then send \$4000 to a nearby operational Laundry Love such as Laundry Love in Riverside at All Saint's. \$1256.72 to be reserved in Deanery 6 account for a period of one year. These funds must not be used for any other purpose except as seed money for another Laundry Love. These funds are to be reviewed at Clericus meetings. If after that year has passed and the funds haven't been used, the funds will go to a nearby operational Laundry Love. MSC

Discussion about elections. Three members of the council are up for reelection next year, President Dale Biggs, Treasure Susan Payne, and Recording Secretary Kathy Walker. Please ask your congregations if anyone is interested. Dorina Green does not want to continue as Lay Representative on Diocesan Council. We need to find a replacement.

Dean's report: Rev. Keith highlighted things that happened over the past year. Clericus meetings once a month. Fr. Mark Hallahan's retirement. He talked about some of the transitions in the Deanery and how Mother Judy and Fr. Rob have been helping out as supply priests when needed. He thanked everyone who work together for the good of all. He reported that Fr. Gigi was out of the country so he couldn't attend this meeting.

Bryan Bennett from St. Paul's said that St. Paul's is in transition and the sharing of services was wonderful and anything that he or they could do please let them know.

Closing Prayer Mother Judy
Adjournment 12:03
See you at Convention!
Respectively submitted,
Kathy Walker

RECTOR'S REPORT

Recent times have been trying for St. Mark's Episcopal Parish as we deal with the closing of our beloved schools. Many of us have reacted to this change with disbelief, anger, and grief. We hope that sharing this history will be a step toward understanding, courage, and mutual support for our community of St. Mark's.

When St. Mark's Episcopal Elementary School (K-8) closed in 2020, we had hopes that St. Mark's Episcopal Preschool could be the foundation for a new Episcopal elementary school, perhaps growing one grade each year as it had originally under Bishop Bennison in 1982.

We were quickly learning that the parish was truly a sum greater than its parts of church, school, and preschool. The three entities were physically, spiritually, and administratively intertwined. The image of an ecosystem is a helpful way to explain how the absence of the elementary school changed the way our whole system had worked to maintain our financial stability. With one of the three entities missing, we began to experience a financial imbalance and realized the need to redesign our parish's administrative operations.

Historically, around half of our preschool families came in anticipation of their children being able to continue on at our elementary school. So, although the preschool remained open to serve essential workers during the lockdown, the enrollment dropped once the elementary school was gone.

Finding a suitable outside partner to use the elementary school classrooms, library building, and field proved to be a challenge. These facilities were designed to be an elementary school. Trying to use them for any other purpose would require extensive and costly renovations.

We received several inquiries from other schools about renting our spaces. However, some balked when they found out what partnering with an Episcopal parish meant. Our Episcopal identity makes us committed to strive for justice and peace among all people and to respect the dignity of every human being—that is, to not discriminate based on a person's gender, sexuality, or religion. Unfortunately, this was a challenge for some of the groups interested in our facilities.

We were approached by the County of San Bernardino, who inquired about a possible partnership with a Head Start Preschool. We did not seek out this relationship, but we accepted the county's invitation to explore the idea. We investigated the possibility of both preschool programs cohabitating on our campus. However, only the preschool area was designed specifically for early childhood education. The county, though, had a vision for utilizing the whole building, including the upstairs. They would use the downstairs rooms as preschool classrooms and renovate the upstairs for administrative office space, a parent education classroom, and a staff break room. Rooms 29 and 30 will be used for food preparation. The county's proposal includes over \$1.2 million in renovations along with the purchase and installation of new playground equipment that will be owned by St. Mark's. Also, San Bernardino County would be a stable tenant, especially compared to other potential renters.

We investigated other Head Start programs that have partnered with churches and found their relationships to be positive. Head Start is not a babysitting service. Their program offers parent education classes, continuing education for staff, competitive compensation, up-to-date teaching methods, and increased student capacity. Head Start has been a generational game changer since 1965, serving those people who need them the most across the country. It is an excellent program that has all the important qualities of a good Episcopal preschool, except for one: it is not Episcopal, and it never will be. However, St. Mark's or any church would be proud to have a partner like Head Start.

This assessment of Head Start is not a value judgement against our own preschool, its staff, director, or educational program. Many resources are needed to effectively operate any preschool: direct financial contributions, participation of members on the preschool board, administrative support, as well as ongoing fundraising and marketing efforts. Even if our parish were able to provide all this, we would still have needed to launch a major capital campaign just to catch up on long-deferred maintenance and facility needs, let alone bringing the facility up to current preschool standards.

We know that Head Start is not a replacement for our St. Mark's School and Preschool. However, hosting this program will allow us to continue our legacy of serving our neighbors and educating children. This ideal was at the core of the founding of our preschool when it was first called Upland Preschool, without mention of a church affiliation so that all would feel welcome to come and learn, no matter their faith. St. Mark's Preschool has always prided itself on serving the broadest range of students. We cannot imagine a better partner than Head Start to continue and expand upon this legacy.

The contract process with the county has been frustratingly slow. Working with a government entity is not a speedy process. But if things go as now planned with Head Start and the diocese—who both must approve the final agreement—then in 2023 we will begin a relationship with a new partner in ministry that will carry us through the next ten years.

Head Start will rent the classroom building as well as rooms 29 and 30 and also reimburse for their utility expenses. We will work together to minimize any conflicts about space and usage. As in all relationships with vital partners, we will revisit our negotiated agreement on a regular basis.

Our partnership with Head Start will not be a replacement for robust year-round stewardship by our parishioners. We have other spaces on our large campus that can be utilized for ministering to our community and bringing in additional revenue streams. We are currently exploring the possibility of partnering with an event planning company that has successfully worked with St. George's Episcopal Church in Laguna Hills where my wife serves as vicar. We hope that this company will assist us in renting out rooms and outdoor spaces for community events.

It is essential to remember that the presence of the Head Start program at St. Mark's will not replace the need for our continuing commitment to love our neighbor and to serve others through our various ministries. This partnership with Head Start will increase our capacity for ministry to members, the neighborhood, and beyond.

At the end of these next ten years, St. Mark's parish leadership will reexamine the vision, mission, and legacy of the campus, buildings, and grounds. We want them to find the buildings to be well loved, well used, and ready for the next renovation with a new generation of partners in ministry. Let's give our future leaders a healthy model of partnership, resources to meet their challenges, and a continued legacy of loving our neighbor.

With gratitude for 60+ years of service to the community, St. Mark's Episcopal Preschool will close on January 31, 2023. We understand that this decision may come as a surprise to some in our community, and we hold the grief of this message with you. At the same time, we are encouraged. The Christian message teaches us that life is changed, not ended. It is our hope and determination that the spirit of the Preschool will live on in the new Angels Academy with the continuing families, students, staff, and teachers, led by Director Jackie Wilds. Most importantly, St. Mark's Preschool lives on in each of our graduates with the positive impact they make in their communities and the world.

In this current climate of scarcity, fear, and division, we are called to generosity, love, courage, hope, and grace. May our baptismal covenant provide us the courage to understand resurrection and new life. May the Spirit grant us a curiosity about what is possible and what might emerge. May God's abiding love guide our collective actions to create more just and heart-centered futures.

Together with the Vestry, I am committed to moving forward in our new ventures with transparency and intentionality. Over the next few months, we will provide updates to the community on the progress being made. We sincerely invite you to join us on Sunday, March 5, at 12noon for a closing ceremony of thanksgiving for the ministries of our School and Preschool.

The Very Rev. Keith Yamamoto, Rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Parish

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

We have had a very busy year at St. Mark's, facing some challenges but enjoying many accomplishments in this post-COVID time. Beginning with our financial progress in 2022, we were able to pay off the remainder of our mortgage (building loan) thanks to a generous anonymous donation and dedicated funds. This eliminated \$85K per year in loan payments. We also received forgiveness for our second federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan. Overall, we have tried to increase the transparency the Finance Committee's work through regular reports to the congregation and by implementing our new church management system, Breeze, which allows parishioners to look at their own contributions record.

Working to maintain our campus facilities, we completed the re-roofing of the flat portions of the church building, thankfully before our massive rains this last month. Seeking to best utilize our buildings, we continued to develop a partnership with the County of San Bernardino's Head Start Preschool program.

Coordinating with Rev. Keith, several vestry members worked this year to streamline parish policies for finance, human resources, and organizational management. In the spring, we successfully recruited and hired our new Parish Administrative Assistant, Rose Barraza, who replaced several faithful volunteers and long-time office staff, Natalie Dunlap and Barbara Harris. In July, with Blane Abernathy's leaving, a Search Committee embarked on a prayerful journey to select our new Music Director.

Sunday worship has been enhanced through the ongoing efforts of a team of transitional and substitute musicians, including our own band and choir members. We added a vestry welcome and a moment for silent contemplation at the beginning of the 10 AM service. A small but dedicated group of greeters and ushers have continued to provide welcome to all each Sunday. The Christian Education group resumed offering in-person Sunday School classes for all children nearly every week.

Our Digital Ministry team expanded their work this year, moving into their own studio and recruiting a team of tech engineers, who have livestreamed Sunday services as well as a few special services. A newly formed Communications Committee, working with the Junior Warden, look at ways to improve how we communicate with our members and the community. This team completely redesigned our St. Mark's website, giving it a fresh look and easier-to-use menus.

Fellowship events and community service continued in 2022. We held our well-loved Ice Cream Social, which drew a good attendance from both parishioners and preschool families. Through a very successful rummage collection fundraiser, our Fellowship Committee cleared over \$1,000, which went to the purchase of a new full-size freezer for the church kitchen, a necessity for keeping our supply of communion bread and frozen treats for summer events. The Newcomer Ministry coordinated a family movie night in September, hosting 100 people with 30 parishioner volunteers, which was financed by the proceeds from four Dine-Out fundraisers. The Trunk or Treat event also returned. Church members and friends enthusiastically opened 25 car trunks, offering candy to nearly 300 neighborhood guests.

Two community recovery ministries, Al-Anon and Compulsive Eaters Anonymous, again began holding their meetings in person on our campus. And many parishioners gave clothing, non-perishable food items, hygiene products, toys, and the ingredients for seven Thanksgiving baskets for our community outreach partners, the Foothill Family Shelter and TOUCH Ministries. Even though we may sometimes feel that we are struggling to return to "normal" after the COVID pandemic, St. Mark's has continued to grow and thrive in our mission to serve our parishioners and the community. I thank all of you who have made these accomplishments possible.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Morgan, Senior 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, Kate Flannery, Bob Mattus, Sharon Muehlbacher, Kathy Walker, and Chris Watson; as well as the rector, Rev. Keith Yamamoto and Senior Warden, Carol Morgan. The committee is responsible for the management and maintenance of the church property, as well as the maintenance of the rectory. The committee has also spent a lot of time this year monitoring the progress of our planned partnership with Head Start, with emphasis on maintaining optimal usage of our facilities while having a new tenant on the property.

Buildings and Grounds projects completed this year include:

Removal of the soffit windows on the south side of the church and re-roofing the flat portions of the church building, as well as the shed on the east patio off of the parish hall. These projects have solved the leakage problems in the church building which is fortunate given the recent rainfall.

The Guild Room is now equipped with first aid equipment and the defibrillator has been installed in the parish hall outside the Guild Room.

A committee led by Susan Mackall and Connie Williams raised money and have purchased a badly need new freezer for the kitchen.

We have repair and upgrade projects highlighted for 2023. Currently the most pressing needs are: re-piping the rectory, repair/re-roof of the Christian Education Building, and a solution to the leakage/seepage problems in Room 29. The Buildings and Grounds Committee is also looking into ways to reduce landscape water use, and the possible addition of solar panels to lower our electricity costs.

Community outreach has restarted this year with Al-Anon and Compulsive Eaters Anonymous meeting weekly on our campus.

The Red Cross blood drives continued with events on January 13th, April 4th, July 29th, and October 7th. Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped with those events.

A big thank you to Bob Mattus and his Digital Ministry Team for their work which has provided quality streaming of our weekly services, as well as other events on campus as requested. Dale Biggs and Kathy Walker have continued in their service of maintaining our beautiful campus. Thank you, Dale and Kathy!

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Muehlbacher, Vestry Member
Buildings and Grounds Liaison

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Combined the two classes into one meeting in room 18 because of volunteers and attendance.
- Updated Nativity Play

COMMUNICATIONS

Many thanks to all who worked to communicate the vision and mission of St. Mark's in 2022, including all church members and the following people who served on the new Communications Steering Committee: Rose Barraza, Serena Beeks, Joel Bolton, Christine Budzowski*, Marcia Godwin, Carol Morgan, Guen Vinnedge, and The Very Rev. Keith Yamamoto.

*Our partner from Trinity Web Consulting who migrated and designed the new website.

The Steering Committee met four times during 2022 to consider the overall communications profile of St. Mark's and completed the following specific projects:

- New Connect Card for pew racks
- Supplementary indoor and outdoor signage
- New general information flyer for members and visitors
- Transfer to a new web hosting partner (Trinity Web Consulting)
- Major redesign of the church's website

Every member and ministry is involved in the widespread group project that is communications for St. Mark's. Rose Barraza processed Connect Cards and made name tags. Rob Garretson programmed the electronic marquee. Guen Vinnedge posted to the church's Facebook page and Instagram account. Barbara Harris added memorial photos to the Facebook page. Dave Nalbach maintained our memorial book in the Narthex. Andrea Flasher created the Advent and Christmas posters and flyers. Betty Farrell designed the stewardship board in the Parish Hall. The Fellowship Committee, including Susan Mackall, Betty Farrell, and Kathryn Barbour, publicized specific events such as the Ice Cream Social, Trunk or Treat, St. Nicholas Dinner, and the rummage collection fundraiser. Melissa Diaz designed the flyer and promoted the Family Movie Night. Craig Gillette, Gisele Tackoor, Guen Vinnedge, Chris Watson, and others took photos. Dale Biggs promoted the Red Cross Blood Drives. Bob Mattus and the Digital Ministries team produced the live-streamed Sunday Services for our Facebook page and YouTube channel. John and Vicki Levorio helped with Stewardship materials. Volunteer special consultant Karina Carretero coordinated communications for Drive-Through Ash Wednesday. And, of course, Rev. Keith, with the assistance of Rose Barraza and others, produced the *Good News* and Sunday bulletins each week, as well as seasonal letters to parishioners. Rev. Keith was even interviewed on a local television news program.

Through this combined effort, St. Mark's stayed in touch with parishioners, attracted new members, and reached out to spread God's love to our neighbors.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Cortner, Junior Warden and Communications Committee Chair

FELLOWSHIP SOCIAL EVENTS

- Mini Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt
- September Mini Ice Cream Social after a 10 AM Sunday service
- September through November 19 Fundraiser for the purchase of a new freezer (bought and delivered in January 2023)
- October Trunk or Treat Event
- December St. Nicholas Dinner
- December Deanery Advent Soup Supper and Program
- December Toy Drive for TOUCH

Submitted by Susan Mackall

FINANCE

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.

The above paragraph is repeated from last year's report and is even more appropriate now. Unlike many churches, we have had steady support for St. Mark's programs and outreach through the pandemic years. While we have more than our fair share of challenges, we accomplished the following in 2022:

- Paid off the last \$350,000+ of the building loan, thanks to a generous anonymous donation and dedicated funds. Eliminated \$85,000 per year in loan payments.
- Received forgiveness on our second federal PPP loan (\$238,440).
- Raised over \$1,000 each for the first Family Movie night and to replace the kitchen freezer.
- Replaced the leaking flat-roof portion of the sanctuary and parish hall ahead of this season's storms.
- Increased financial transparency: new stewardship board in the parish hall, Good News updates, fall budget forum, and parishioner access to their contribution information through the Breeze system.

Thank you for participating in our 2023 stewardship campaign! We accept pledges and revised pledges at any time.

The church operating fund ended the year with a deficit of about \$156,000, not including PPP loan forgiveness. We are continuing to restructure our operations, including not renewing contracts as they expire and renegotiating other services. However, we are not immune from inflationary cost increases. We are also applying for a federal Employee Retention Credit for parts of 2020 and 2021. This program was retroactively extended to nonprofits and PPP recipients like St. Mark's.

The church operating fund budget for 2023 shows a deficit of about \$125,000. It assumes the same level of giving and some reductions in expenses. This does not yet reflect anticipated Head Start and event income.

The building fund is mostly funded by designated pledges. There are several major projects for the first part of 2023, all related to water leaks: rectory plumbing, Christian Ed roof, and repair/sealing of the east library wall. The budget has a preliminary estimate of those costs. They could be higher. We also have a number of deferred projects.

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

St. Mark's 2023 Adopted Church Budget

Description	2021 Actual	2022 Actual (Unofficial)	2023 Budget
Income			
Church Pledge Income	\$290,133.15	\$282,097.47	\$282,000
Designated Funds	\$13.23	\$210.80	\$4,030
Other Income	\$14,653.91	\$12,417.21	\$8,650
Total Income	\$304,800.29	\$294,725.48	\$294,680
Expense			
Rector	\$112,006.53	\$125,242.76	\$119,085
Other Staff Costs	\$132,871.67	\$111,093.18	\$89,547
Outreach	\$29,815.35	\$32,922.68	\$34,816
Office Supplies/Srvcs	\$37,317.33	\$40,933.62	\$32,630
Membership Incorporation	\$3,490.18	\$3,126.78	\$3,550
Worship	\$2,359.02	\$8,629.10	\$8,060
Parish Life	\$2,818.94	\$1,082.19	\$3,100
Christian Education	\$639.79	\$1,013.24	\$1,600
Maintenance/Utilities	\$105,338.84	\$92,323.37	\$93,996
Finance & Stewardship	\$27,957.07	\$34,057.40	\$33,600
Total Expense	\$454,614.72	\$450,424.32	\$419,984
Net Income*	-\$149,814.43	-\$155,698.84	-\$125,304

*Does not include income from 2020 and 2021 PPP loans forgiven in 2021 and 2022. 2023 totals may not exactly match due to rounding.

St. Mark's 2023 Building Fund Budget

Description	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
Income			
Pledge Revenue	\$37,094.78	\$20,470.00	\$35,000.00
Transfers In/Other	\$50,000.00	n/a*	\$0.00
Rental Income - Facility Use	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$87,094.78	\$20,470.78	\$35,000.00
Expense			
US Bank Loan*	\$28,224.38	\$5,746.36	\$0.00
Reserve PPRRM Account	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Repairs & Maint.**	\$4,506.63	\$87,309.97	\$85,000.00
Total Expenses	\$32,571.01	\$93,056.33	\$85,000.00
Net Income	\$54,343.77	n/a	-\$50,000.00

*Does not include all payments paid through other funds for final loan payments in 2021 and 2022.

**Primarily roof repair paid through St. Clare's Corp Sole funds.

NEWCOMER MINISTRY

The Newcomer Ministry has a goal of moving St. Mark's from a focus of maintenance to a mission of transformation. This goal includes changing our direction outwards to our community, neighbors, and visitors. We are following the guidelines of the Invite Welcome Connect ministry to realize our goal. Many thanks to our committee members: Kay Alexander, Karin Brown, Kimberly Cortner, Melissa Diaz, Edwina Golightly, Carol Morgan, Barbara Nalbach, and Kathy Osterkamp. Rev. Keith also attends our meetings regularly.

The Newcomer Ministry had a very busy year last year. Committee members learned how to really listen to newcomers to determine what they are looking for in a faith community and how to share our own stories of our faith journey. We initiated use of the Connect card placed in the pews to gather information from newcomers and update our information from current parishioners. We assisted with Newcomer Classes held during Lent and Advent. We assisted with the new member introduction ceremony for those who completed the newcomer class during Lent.

Our big event for the year was our first Family Movie Night. We held several Dine Out Fundraisers during the summer and raised nearly \$1,000 to pay the expenses for this event. We held the Family Movie Night for 100 people from the community and parish on September 30 including showing the movie *Encanto*, selling snacks, and offering games for the children before the movie began. Many thanks to the 33 volunteers from the parish who helped put on this major event. Thanks to the work of this group, we had a very successful year.

If you have an interest or passion in welcoming new people to grow St. Mark's, please contact Carol Morgan.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Morgan, Newcomer Ministry Chair

MUSIC DIRECTOR SEARCH

Many thanks to all who have served, assisted, and advised during the search process, including many volunteer musicians, members of the congregation, and the following committee members, who together represented the band, choir, handbells, and Taizé service:

Rector, The Very Rev. Keith Yamamoto
Chair, Kimberly Cortner
Nick Adams*
Serena Beeks***
Lisa Drew
John Flasher
Marcia Godwin
Garrett Kenehan**
Barbara Nalbach*
Kathy Osterkamp
Michael Schinler*

*Original committee member who had to resign

**New voting committee member invited to join after others had to resign

***New advising member invited to join after others had to resign

Search Process Timeline:

July 2022– committee of eight in addition to Rev. Keith met and crafted a covenant, agreeing to serve faithfully “in a manner consistent with our church’s vision and mission statements;” the congregation participated in a survey and in several listening forums

August – survey results and forum responses were compiled and analyzed

September – results were reported to the congregation both verbally and in writing; a position announcement was written

October – the position was advertised and the committee began screening applicants

November – the committee identified two leading candidates, who were interviewed on Zoom; the first was invited for an in-person visit, participated in a Sunday service, and met with Rev. Keith. (This person accepted a position elsewhere.)

December – The second candidate met with the Search Committee, the choir, and Rev. Keith; one additional new applicant was interviewed on Zoom. (This person was unable to meet with us in person at the time.)

January 2023 – The committee has made an offer to the candidate who met with the choir and Rev. Keith in December; negotiations are in process.

This has been a long but important process. Again, we thank all those who participated in the surveys, listening forums, and auditions. We pray that our work on this committee will lead to a rich and long relationship with our new Music Director and Organist.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Cortner, Search Committee Chair

STEWARDSHIP

Members: John and Vicki Levario, Carol Morgan, Marcia Godwin, Rev. Keith Yamamoto, Dean Billman, and Betty Farrell.

The Stewardship Committee meets every month by Zoom. The Legacy Society is entwined with this committee. There are plans to develop a perpetual legacy of those parishioners who have included St. Mark's in their will or trust. We are still working out the details of this, but it will have a theme from Haiti. Spreading the word about the Legacy Society is ongoing and Dean Billman is the main contact for the Legacy Society.

The work of the Stewardship Committee is to raise awareness of the need for supporting the church financially. We talk of donating your time, treasures and talents to support the various ministries of the church. During the fall season we have our annual pledge drive but pledging can occur throughout the year. There is a need to know what the church income will be so the vestry can do financial planning for the upcoming year. Your donations make it possible for the church to support the community, our ministries and our mission.

This past year we have tried to be more transparent and informative about the financial status of the church. There is a stewardship bulletin board in the Parish Hall where updated information is posted. This board will make information available to parishioners so they will be informed of the ongoing status of our finances.

Please contact any of the committee members if you have questions or ideas that support this effort.

Submitted by Vicki Levario, Co-Chair

WORSHIP

As St. Mark's entered into 2022, the Coronavirus Pandemic protocols set by the recently disbanded Taskforce continued to remain in effect; proof of vaccinations, wearing masks and gloves, no singing choir, and dual / hybrid services held simultaneously in-person and via digital online streaming through Facebook. The January 2022 Annual Meeting was incorporated into the Sunday Worship service.

Leading into Lent, the Ash Wednesday Drive-Through event was another major success in February. Also in February, the digital ministry team (originally lead by Julia Warren) became more formalized under Bob Mattus' leadership. In February two cameras were set up in the sanctuary and linked into the new media-studio room adjacent to the sanctuary. This enabled the services to be streamed online, in real-time for those who preferred or needed to participate in worship from home. A small team of individuals were trained to be operators for the new system. On Palm Sunday the digital ministry was able to live stream from outside the sanctuary for the first time as parishioners processed into the church from the front entrance on 16th Street. Several other services have been streamed live from outside of the sanctuary.

As pandemic health restrictions became more relaxed, so did our engagement in worship gatherings. Maundy Thursday April 14th, we were able to resume holding the overnight vigil with the holy elements in the chapel and the church was beautifully decorated and well attended for Easter Sunday. Distribution of consecrated communion wine was re-introduced using individual disposable plastic cups poured by LEMS in place of the common cup.

Choristers also began transitioning from on-line rehearsals to widely spaced and masked rehearsals in the choir loft. Unfortunately our beloved music director Blane Abernathy, who lead the choir, handbells, band and Taizé services accepted a new offer for a church in Escondido, CA. He held his last full service on Sunday June 26th. Marcia Godwin has graciously stepped forward to serve as acting music director and she has been leading a search committee for a new music director. As of September, small groups of choristers and band members resumed performing and singing live from the choir loft as guest organists have rotated through for our rich tradition of music.

Advent was slightly modified with a weekly rotation at different churches in the deanery on Wednesday evenings.

The sanctuary was again beautifully decorated for Christmas. The Children's Christmas pageant had great participation and attendance.

There were two Christmas Eve services and one Christmas Day service.

The worship program at St. Mark's has been supported by a few, very dedicated and devoted volunteers. Many of these volunteers are becoming exhausted serving in multiple ministries; LEM's, lectors, ushers, choir, band, altar guild, flower guild, liturgical arts, communion bread bakers, Children's Sunday School, digital ministry, coffee hour to name a few. With the passing of Lee Harris and the closure of the school, our previously robust acolyte program has become non-existent. In 2023 we will undertake a new effort to revive the acolyte program. We welcome all parishioners; young and old, working and retired, physically strong and not so strong, to volunteer and join one or more of these rewarding ministries of worship in 2023.

Dutifully submitted,
Jim Brown, Chair

MINISTRIES

BIRTHDAY CARDS

Coordinator: Lisa Drew

Card Ministers: Linda Collins, Gail Dean, Evangeline George, Sylvia Ochoa

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.

During the year Kathy Kiehl resigned from this ministry and Linda Collins and Sylvia Ochoa joined our ranks. Linda, Gail, Evangeline, and Sylvia 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. If interested in being a birthday card minister, please contact me.

To update birthday information or to volunteer to be a birthday card minister, contact Lisa Drew at cards@stmarks-upland.org.

BOOK CLUB

Throughout 2022, Book Club met in person. We enjoyed each other's company while we discussed a wide variety of literature. We usually between 6-10 people in attendance. Those who have attended: 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 we enjoyed: Train go sorry. Gilead, Magpie Murders, The Memory of an Elephant, The stranger in the Lifeboat, The Dutch House, Tobacco Wives, Their Eyes Were Watching God, Slouching toward Bethlehem, and Orphan House.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Drake, Book Club Coordinator

BREAD BAKERS – STE. HONORÉ

Baking communion bread helps feed my spiritual life and keeps my mind focused on church. Our bread bakers provide bread for our Sunday services as well as other Eucharistic services throughout the year.

This year Barbara Harris stepped down and I took over the task as head of the bread bakers guild. Barbara Harris held this position for several years and is greatly missed. We continue to use the recipe passed down by Patsy Minney, who also led the bakers for many years.

Members of the guild include Connie Williams, Lisa Drew, Melissa Diaz and this year we gratefully welcomed Sally Drake. We always welcome new members, experienced or not, and are willing to train. If you are interested in becoming part of this rewarding ministry, please contact Connie Williams at breadbakers@stmarks-upland.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Williams

COUNTERS

This team of dedicated people give up their time to count the parish donations. We enter the donations to the various funds which you have indicated on your checks. If there is no note we are required to put the money in the Operating fund. We use a computer program which lets us know if we have made a mistake. It quickly shows us the transposed numbers or misplaced decimals.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Walker

DIGITAL MINISTRY

Digital Ministry serves approximately 15 to 20 individuals that watch the livestream broadcast each Sunday from a remote location. Digital Ministry has livestreamed 54 worship services (52 Sundays and 2 added Worship Services) and 24 Wednesday Taizé services (January to June). In addition, Digital Ministry added the capability to live stream the Palm Sunday outdoor celebration.

In addition to the regular Sunday services. during 2022, Digital Ministry livestreamed 2 memorial services and provided audio support for 2 funerals (not live streamed). During one memorial service, Digital Ministry added the capability to live stream from the Memorial Garden.

In January 2022, Digital Ministry moved from the temporary location in the choir loft to a permanent studio in the office section of the church building. In January Digital Ministry proceeded with the process of installing hardware and setting up a Digital Studio to improve the audio and video capability of live streaming. With receipt of a generous cash donation, Digital Ministry purchased two Video Cameras, a Video Controller, and a Video Mixer and upgraded the audio capability. The two digital cameras were installed in the sanctuary along with upgrades to the audio system. From the studio, Digital Operators can control the live stream broadcasts of all church services.

In April, an additional sound mixer and audio cables were installed for the choir loft to better control the audio mix in both the live stream and in the church sanctuary. Currently, one sound mixer controls all of Sanctuary and Hall audio and one sound mixer controls all of the loft audio.

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.

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

Plans for 2023: Two additional speakers have been approved for installation in the Narthex. When this is accomplished, all audio speaker controls will be centrally located in the studio. Additional cameras will be required to fully cover the Loft, Sanctuary, Memorial Garden, and other outside activities. Until additional cameras are available, the Digital Ministry Team will continue to use donated or borrowed iPhone or iPad cameras. Digital Ministry, in conjunction with the Worship Committee, is looking at how to enhance the use of digital technology at St Marks.

Members of the Digital Ministry: Live Stream Operators – Bob Mattus, Craig Gillette, Rob Garrettson, Dr Jim Brown, Alma Zook, and David Nalbach.

Bob Mattus
Digital Ministry Lead

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.

Submitted by Christy Hyder, Flower Guild Chair

FOOTHILL FAMILY SHELTER

It's here already... 2023! We need to take a few minutes to reflect on 2022, because what has happened this year has been amazing:

- 81 individuals were housed in our shelter (27 adults, 54 children)
- Our 120-Day units were completely filled for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began
- 8 families graduated into the 1-Year Housing Program
- 2 families graduated into the Extended Housing Program
- 15 families improved their employment with either a better position or increased pay (after receiving coaching, mock interviews, and improved resumé)
- All families received free therapy and case management services (led to individual improvement in goal setting, communication skills, and family dynamics)
- 22 L.E.A.R.N Life Skills classes; a requirement for all programs with topics that included budgeting, nutrition, stress management, parenting strategies, and more
- Over 9,000 requests for food and hygiene products were distributed through our Help Desk (10% of those requests were from families and individuals who identified as homeless)

It was a year of blessings for our shelter families and local families who received assistance thanks to the support of our community. We asked and you stepped up. Churches, service clubs, monthly contributions, and individual donations made the difference. We can't forget our fundraising events that brought financial resources. City grants and foundation grants also played a significant role in the general support of our programs. On behalf of our families, we thank you all!

Submitted by Rosalyn Foster

HAITI PARTNERSHIP

The political situation in Haiti has been deteriorating steadily over the past few years, eroding food security, public safety, health care, the economy, and the possibility of normal relations between Haiti and other countries. Those of us who have many friendships in Haiti have found it difficult not to be overcome with despair. One bright spot throughout has been continued functioning under very difficult circumstances of the small rural Episcopal schools such as our partners at St. Andre in Trianon. Despite everything, our students are in a stable situation during the day, continuing their education, and sometimes even getting a much-needed meal. Thank you so much, St. Mark's, for continuing to support the Haiti



Partnership. Your checks to St. Mark's with "Haiti Partnership" in the memo line go entirely to keep the doors open at St. Andre, a significant outreach to children and families in a little corner of Haiti.

Submitted by Canon Serena Beeks

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

LEMs assist the clergy at the altar each Sunday and at other services that include a Eucharist. They also participate at memorial services and weddings. It is a requirement by the diocese that all LEMs participate in the training program "Safe Church, Safe Communities."

Those serving at the 8 am service include Canon Serena Beeks, Dale Biggs, Dean A. Billman, Linda Gomez, Larry Shade, and Cheryl Ward. Edwina Golightly served at the 8 am service from January through May. Those serving at the 10 am service include Kay Alexander, Dr. Jim Brown, Karin Brown, John Flasher, and Craig Gillette. Joan Watson served at the 10 am service from January through April. Andrea Flasher, John Levario and Joan Watson continue to serve on an as-needed basis. Thank you all for your service to St Mark's.

I have taken over the scheduling for the LEMs from Joan Watson, who did an excellent job before me. We will develop a LEM training program for those interested in feeding God's people.

Respectfully submitted,
John Flasher, Scheduler of Lay Eucharistic Ministers

LECTORS

The Lector Ministry is well and good. At present, we have a total of 20 faithful parishioners who are participating – 5 at the 8am Sunday Service and 15 at our 10am Sunday Service.

Many thanks to:

Nick Adams, Jim Brown, Karin Brown, Kimberly Cortner, Sally Drake, Andrea Flasher, John Flasher, Rob Garretson, Linda Gomez, Brandon Hewgill, Greg Hewgill, Carol Morgan, Barbara Nalbach, Chris Watson, Alma Zook, Serena Beeks, Joseph Montanez, Larry Shade, Cheryl Ward, and Karen Winslow.

Submitted by Andrea Flasher, Coordinator

LITURGICAL ARTS

The principal expressions of liturgical arts at St. Mark's are carried out by the Altar Guild, the Flower Guild, and the musical groups of Band, Bell Choir, and Choir, coordinated by the Director of Music. An ongoing search for a new Music Director has meant that many parishioners and substitute musicians have filled the responsibilities for planning and producing music appropriate to each Sunday's liturgy and supporting congregational singing. Many thanks to the dozens of people who have made this happen. Many thanks also to the Altar and Flower Guilds who decorate the altar area and, for occasions such as Easter and Christmas, the rest of the church as well, enhancing our worship and creating another portal to a relationship with God, through the eyes. A presentation of the meeting of Mary and

Elizabeth during Advent and of course the annual children's Christmas Pageant gave the dramatic arts a turn to shine. The Building and Grounds Committee supports all sorts of efforts by all of these groups.

A set of pulleys in the church brought to a state of perfection by St. Mark's School graduate Chris Walker made the hanging of the stars for Christmas and Epiphany the safest it has ever



been! The concept was created by Robert Cunningham sometime 35-40 years ago, and until now, it has involved tall ladders and soffit-crawling by extremely brave installers over the years, including the late Rev. Lee Harris, Dale Biggs, and Yong Muhn.

Now the work is done entirely on the ground, and the pulleys do the tricky part!

So -- if you have an idea for a liturgical installation involving the part of the church high above our heads, please pass it along. You might be inspired by the installation "Les Columbes" (The Doves) at the National Cathedral:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3wRss0vQqZU> . A cloudscape? A plague of locusts? It's all possible!

Respectfully submitted,
Canon Serena Beeks

SAINT FIACRE'S GUILD

This team of dedicated people give up their time to count the parish donations. We enter the donations to the various funds which you have indicated on your checks. If there is no note, we are required to put the money in the Operating fund. We use a computer program which lets us know if we have made a mistake. It quickly shows us the transposed numbers or misplaced decimals.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Walker

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 2022 we held 10 meetings. The chapter currently has 24 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, Barbara Farr, Andrea Flasher, Rosalyn Foster, Edwina Golightly, Lynda Grauso, Andrea Griffin, Elizabeth James, Nancy Kinney, Bettie Lovekin, Carol Morgan, Barbara Nalbach, Sallie Ringle, Ellen Skivington, Alice Tokatly, and Susan Venzke. Lynda and Susan were just admitted to the Order in June of 2022. 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 – and 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 2021. We also participated in corporate worship on All Saints' Sunday. In June we resumed providing healing prayer following the Eucharist on the second Sunday of each month and coordinated five parish donation drives for the Foothill Family Shelter. 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 and generous support of our ministries.

Submitted by Lisa Drew

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- In the fall of 2022 we combined the two classes into one class.
- Updated the Nativity Play
- Because of donations we were able to add additional Godly Play materials.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Mackall

TOUCH MINISTRIES

TOUCH is a ministry to the local homeless people in the greater Ontario area. Touch provides food, clothing, toiletries, gift cards and occasional overnight housing. St. Mark's has been involved with TOUCH since 2016. Donated items are brought to St. Mark's and then delivered to TOUCH in Ontario. The tally for 2022 appears on the following page.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Nalbach

TOUCH Ministry Giving in 2022:

Date	Food	Clothing	Toiletries	Misc.	Fast food cards	Checks
1/28/22	18	50			5	\$70 \$143
2/8/22	38	2	41		1	\$80 \$162
2/15/22		18			2	\$20 \$90
3/3/22		100			8	\$35
3/10/22	4	16				
3/17/22	5	18			6	
3/21/22	3	12				\$60
4/1/22	19	4				
4/4/22	3	8	10			
4/22/22	3	4	4			\$60
4/29/22	24	8	35		6	
5/2/22			50		2	
5/13/22		4	18		1	
5/20/22	1	9	24		1	
5/23/22	18		16		1	
6/3/22		19	4		1	
6/10/22	3	20	4			
6/20/22		22			4	\$200
7/11/22	6	1	9		3	\$95
7/25/22	26	14	10		2	
8/1/22	20		95		2	
8/15/22	10	3			1	\$20
8/26/22		64			20	\$220
9/9/22	6	1	100		8	
9/12/22	10	1				\$110
9/26/22	5		19		5	\$110 \$220
10/3/22	8	4			4	
10/14/22	7	21			4	
10/17/22	3	20	10			\$500
10/31/22	14	37	35		2	
11/7/22	12	94	10		4	\$100
11/18/22	30	1			3	
12/5/22		48				\$60
12/19/22	6	45			2	\$45
Totals	302	668	494		98	\$1,562 \$1,135

2022 REMEMBRANCES

Baptisms

Madison Rose Schinler
Greer Ronny Hewgill

Burials

Roman "Roach" Foronda
Michael Watson
Virginia Granger
Jim Drake
Linda Monaghan
Marion Nichols
Karen Melvin
Bill Byles
The Rev. John Carl Keester
Cathy Norell
Andy Thompson
Margaret Luba Tasanyuka
William Dingle
Heber Becker
Florene Joseph
Pat Fettik
David Wilds
James Lewanski
George Way
Karen Hingson
Patricia Drew
Daniel Zimmerman
Marge Tydell
Eudras Ceus
Martha Benitez
Dorothy Jackson
Richard Vargas
Angela Vinnedge
The Reverend Joseph Erickson
Steven Graff
Pierre Tokatly
Peter Mow