

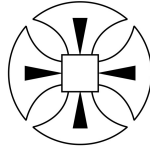
SAINT MARK'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ANNUAL PARISH  
CELEBRATION



SUNDAY,  
FEBRUARY 11,  
2018





## THE RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace. That's the Prayer Book definition for sacraments: outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace. Last year, in his annual address, Paul used these words to describe a vision for what it means for us to be the Church. As the year went on, that vision manifested itself in many different ways. Outside of Paul's annual address and maybe one or two other sermons, you may not have heard us talk a lot about outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace last year, yet that idea was at the core of our thinking as major projects happened in and around our building. We made some changes to our physical space that were to be the outward signs of the inward grace found in the Beloved Community we have been called to build here in Columbus, Ohio.

It began with an altar. Two altars, really. A memorial gift, in the form of a new altar, now sits in our chapel. With that new altar, we have rearranged the space to make it more "open" and allow the chapel to be a place wherein we can more easily deepen our relationship, not just with God, but also with one another. The altar that used to be in the chapel now serves as our "Welcome" table, holding Saint Mark's mugs with information about our church that could be of use to guests and visitors. Outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace. Recognizing God's presence through welcome and relationship.

Moving furniture has not been the only change we made in 2017. We also had two separate Eagle Scout projects to enhance our lawn on the Tremont side of our campus. One of those projects created a wonderful stone path through the lawn. The other project brought in beautiful plants to place around that same area and made spots for benches. Both of these projects subtly invite the community around us to find on our property a space to simply be. A place to find rest and beauty, even if they have no intention of walking through our door. Yet more outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace. For those of you what are wondering, the benches that will complete the second project are here. We are just waiting for the weather to cooperate so they can be installed.

These changes in and around our building, however, were not the only things we did last year. We celebrated the tenth anniversary of Paul's call to serve Saint Mark's as Rector. Some of us went to Guatemala on a mission trip. We've welcomed eleven new members into our worshipping community. We welcomed six people to the household of God through the waters of Baptism. We've said prayers for those we love but see no longer. We have spent countless hours rejoicing in each other's happiness and weeping in each other's sorrow. We, the literal flesh and blood of the Church, have been outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace to one another, to our community, and to the wider world around us. That trend will not stop.

While we do not yet know whether we will be able to make another trip to Guatemala this summer, we are still committed to bearing the light of Christ beyond our immediate surroundings. In October, some of us will be going on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, walking in the places where Jesus walked. This pilgrimage will not only be an amazing opportunity for those who make the trip. Those of us who remain here will also be enlivened when they come back and share their experiences with us.

In 2018, we will see the benches I mentioned just a few moments ago installed. We will also see a playground for our youngest members put in, just outside the doors to your right. We have already received a donation to cover the costs of that project from a parishioner who wants us to have an outward and visible sign of inward and spiritual grace, the kind of grace that can only be found in the joy of children at play. We have also received a donation to continue the vision for finishing the nave, bringing the paint and trim you see here in the chancel moved throughout our worship space and into the narthex.

The very space that surrounds us will be an outward and visible sign of inward and spiritual grace. A place of welcome. A place where anyone who is seeking God's presence may find and be found by God. A place we can all gather around a common table and receive Christ's Body and Blood. A place that encourages us to seek and serve Christ in every single person, to love our neighbors as ourselves. A place that empowers and emboldens us to go out into an unjust world, seeking justice for those who cannot seek it for themselves. A place we can call our spiritual home until that day God calls us to our great reward. A place where we can be reminded that we all will one day return "to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia."

We are, indeed, a sacramental people. Outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace. That is who and what Saint Mark's was in 2017, and who and what Saint Mark's will be in 2018.

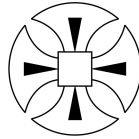
*Almighty God: We give you thanks for the fellowship of those who have worshipped you in this place, and we pray for all of those who will worship you in this place. May all who seek you here find you, and be filled with your joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*



## 2018 Annual Celebration Agenda



1. Opening Prayer
2. Approval of 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes
3. Introduction of Current Wardens, Vestry, and Convention Delegates
4. Recognition
  - Outgoing Vestry Members
5. Presentation of the Nominating Committee Report
6. Election:
  - Junior and Senior Warden
  - Youth Warden
  - Vestry Members
  - Convention Delegates and Alternates
7. 2017 Financial Report
8. Presentation of 2018 Budget
9. Senior Warden's Address
10. Celebrating What's New on Saint Mark's Website
11. Introduction of Saint Mark's Staff
12. Discussion for the Good of the Parish
13. Closing Prayer and Adjournment



## Report of the Nominating Committee

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2018

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF OUTGOING VESTRY MEMBERS,  
AS WELL AS THE CLERGY AND WARDENS WHO SERVE EX-OFFICIO.

### Current Saint Mark's Vestry

**SENIOR WARDEN:** Jill Hinton

**JUNIOR WARDEN:** Dot Yeager

**YOUTH WARDEN:** Mary Drobny

CLASS OF 2018	CLASS OF 2019	CLASS OF 2020
Dwight Anstaett	Bruce Johnson	Bex Barker
Ted Meyers	Laura Skoracki	Ellen Berndt
Scott Milburn	Leslie Winters	Joanne Drew
		Julie Moll
		Bryce Sullivan

## 2018 Annual Meeting Elections

### SENIOR WARDEN

Dot Yeager

### JUNIOR WARDEN

Scott Milburn

### YOUTH WARDEN

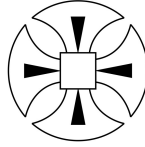
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### DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATES (2)

Barb Keyes  
Craig Zimpher

### DIOCESAN CONVENTION ALTERNATES (2)

Ted Meyers  
Dave Yeager



## Saint Mark's Parish Statistics 2017

**NUMBER OF SERVICES:** Sundays 115 (2016 – 119)  
Weekdays 82 (2016 – 121)

**TOTAL ATTENDANCE:** 2017 – 9,297 (2016 – 10,052) (2015 – 12,744) (2014–12,322)

<b>SPECIAL DAYS:</b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>
<b>FIRST LENT:</b>	158	166	154	188	179	192
<b>EASTER:</b>	459	438	505	487	442	494
<b>PENTECOST:</b>	174	243	188	162	277	237
<b>CHRISTMAS:</b>	411	468	465	497	473	490

### AVERAGE SUNDAY ATTENDANCE:

**JANUARY – MAY:** 202 (2016 – 178) (Does *not* include Easter)

**JUNE – AUGUST:** 135 (2016 – 126)

**SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER:** 182 (2016 – 181) (Does *not* include Christmas)

**OVERALL AVERAGE:** 162 (2016 – 167) (Does *not* include Easter and Christmas)

**BAPTISMS:** 6

**NEW MEMBERS:** 11

**WEDDINGS:** 1

**BURIALS:** 5

**CONFIRMATIONS:** 0 (There was no Episcopal visitation in 2017)

**TRANSFERS OUT:** 4

**MOVED TO INACTIVE:** 16

**TOTAL MEMBERS:** approximately 791

**ACTIVE COMMUNICANTS:** approximately 373





# 2018 VESTRY NOMINEES

## SENIOR WARDEN DOT YEAGER



Dot has served as junior warden for the last year, after having served as Saint Mark's Treasurer for the previous twelve years. Dot also helps with ushering, altar guild, and whenever possible, St. John's Street Church, and loves the chaos of the Blessing of the Animals. Dot has recently become involved with Sacred Conversations and social justice-related activities. After growing up in the Roman Catholic church, Dot and spouse Dave were received into and married in the Episcopal Church in 1989 (Church of the Redeemer in Pittsburgh, PA). Upon relocating to Columbus, from Charleston, West Virginia, they, with son Tom, joined Saint Mark's in 2003. Dot's mother, Dorothy, also became a member in 2013, when she relocated from Florida. In her professional role as the Chief Business Officer for the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Dot is very blessed to have the opportunity to help make a difference.

## JUNIOR WARDEN SCOTT MILBURN



Scott has served on Saint Mark's vestry as Stewardship co-chair for the last three years. Scott Milburn and his wife, Stephanie, have attended Saint Mark's since relocating to Upper Arlington in 2010 from the Washington, DC-area. They previously attended St. George's in Arlington, Virginia, where Scott chaired the Stewardship Committee. Scott was raised in the Southern Baptist and United Methodist churches, and he and Stephanie began attending the Episcopal Church when they were married 19 years ago. Scott works in state government and Stephanie works at The Ohio State University. They have two boys, Peter and C.J., who attend Greensview school.

## VESTRY NOMINEE DAVID BOOP



My extensive background includes work experience in the non-profit, regional government, and higher education sectors of the economy. The majority of my vocational experience has been spent in collegiate career development. Over two decades in higher education, I improved the effectiveness of three different college career centers. The culmination of my formal educational journey led me to earn a doctorate in Higher Education from the University of Georgia.

I have successfully coached college students and alumni of all ages to reach career fulfillment. My success in working with clients stems from my desire to develop an understanding of the unique talents each person possesses. I feel a great sense of joy when I know I have guided a client to career realization.

My background in the Strengths Development/Positive Psychology movement began over twenty years ago. I was one of the first 200 people worldwide to complete the process to become a Gallup-Certified Strengths Coach in 2014. My coaching practice includes services as a keynote speaker, workshop facilitator, and individual coaching. My practice includes work with individuals and teams. Recently, I taught a graduate-level Positive Psychology course at a university in Ohio.

In an era where life-long learning is essential for career success, I continually invest time and energy to upgrade my knowledge to benefit my clients. In addition to being a Gallup-Certified Strengths Coach, I am certified as an International Protean Career Coach and a Dependable Strengths Articulation Process Facilitator. In my spare time, I enjoy running, swimming, church activities, and playing vintage baseball.

## VESTRY NOMINEE JAY WILCOX



Jay and his wife, Barbara, joined Saint Mark's in 2013 and find it to be a vibrant and welcoming church community with a top-flight music program. Jay was received into the Episcopal church in 2003 at Saint Paul's of Doylestown, Pennsylvania. He grew up in NE Ohio, earning an undergraduate degree from Miami University in Oxford, and an MBA from Kent State. Following his 2011 retirement from the aerospace /defense industry, Jay and Barbara moved from Leesburg, Virginia to Westerville, where they enjoy having family nearby – all three of their children and six grandchildren live in Clintonville and Grandview Heights. Jay serves as a Saint Mark's usher, works with the treasurer on financial record-keeping, and looks forward to service on the vestry.

## VESTRY NOMINEE

PAM THURSTON



Pam's family joined Saint Mark's when they first moved to Columbus in 1985. At that time son Timothy was a preschooler, and David was not yet a twinkle in his dad's eye. Pam joined Saint Mark's Choir right away, and both boys joined the Canterbury Choir when they became old enough to read the hymnal. The family were involved in various activities at Saint Mark's over the years, from stewardship campaigns to campus clean-ups to the Triduum prayer vigil. Of course much has changed in these 30+ years. Pam's "boys" are grown, married and far away, and Pam finally left her law firm job as "oldest living associate" to join the young advocates at Ohio Justice & Policy Center, a non-profit law-firm striving for evidence-based criminal justice reforms. One thing has not changed, however: Pam tells anyone who will listen that St. Mark's was and still is her family's "village." Her perspective is voiced in Psalm 122, as interpreted by Isaac Watts, via Alice Parker, via the Melodious Accord Musicians on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVpg8XQfrwE>.

### CONVENTION DELEGATES

Barb Keyes

Craig Zimpher

### CONVENTION ALTERNATES

Ted Meyers

Dave Yeager

Respectfully submitted,

*The Nominating Committee*

*Dwight Anstaett, Ted Meyers, Scott Milburn, Jill Hinton, and Dot Yeager*

*The Rev. Dr. Paul St. Germain*



# Summary of Financial Information

SUBMITTED BY PHIL GLANDON, SAINT MARK'S TREASURER

## 2017 Operating Results

- Revenue exceeded our budget by \$17,430 primarily due to a significant number of members who supported our ministry with donations but did not pledge last year.
- Expenditures were \$1,300 below budget. We had over \$5,000 of unexpected costs to repair our Redding Road property after the last tenant's lease was not renewed, but that was off set by extremely low snow removal requirements and lower than expected cost in several areas.
- The Endowment Fund grew during the very strong market by \$19,761. That appreciation however is not available for operations.

## Staff Christmas Gifts

- An appeal was made in December for donations to a Staff Christmas Fund. It was very successful and resulted in an unexpected but well-deserved gift to our five staff members averaging over 5% of their annual compensation. About 65% of the pool was split evenly. 35% of the money donated was designated to specific staff members and we followed the donors wishes with that portion of the pool. Funds were collected through the first few days of January and held until they were paid in a special payroll on Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>. There is no effect on the 2017 income statement for this payroll.

## Operating Budget for 2018

- **REVENUE** - Pledged income as of this writing appears to be about \$3,000 lower than last year, and we feel it is prudent to conservatively budget unknown support from non pledging members, so we are budgeting \$7,800 less in contributions for 2018. Fund reimbursements are lower because staff funds available are \$9,500 less than in 2017.
- **EXPENSES** - We are budgeting our 2018 expenses to be flat when compared to 2017. Staff payroll will go down as we will have a full year of the Director of Music's reduction in hours and compensation. That savings will be offset partially by a projected increase in health insurance. We are unable to propose pay raises again this year. Hopefully we can establish a tradition of Christmas gifts to supplement our staff's compensation with unbudgeted funds again at year end. We held all other expense budgets flat as well which will require some creativity from our committee chairs. The Diocese has continued to lower the mission share. For 2018 it was reduced to 13.23 % of operating revenue from 13.48% in 2017.

## Endowment Fund

- The Endowment Fund held by the Columbus Foundation grew from \$214,689 to \$234,539 due to the exceptional results of the market in 2017. In addition, the fund distributed \$4,652.53 in dividends and interest to the operations of the parish.

## Capital Expenditures and Organ Completion Loan

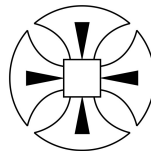
- The church released the final \$5,000 retention payment for the \$700,000 organ completion project to Casavant Freres this year, completing that project. \$62,061 is outstanding on a loan from the Endowment Fund which will be repaid using \$24,919 in the Organ Fund, about \$20,000 in outstanding pledges, and \$17,150 in additional fund raisers and donations through 2022 when the loan is due.



### Summary of Dedicated Fund Balances at December 31, 2017

Canterbury Choir	\$ 11,473
Choir England Trip	\$ 4,214
Flower Guild	\$ 7,453
Funeral Receptions	\$ 1,191
Gary Garber Scholarship Fund	\$ 4,075
Major Projects Fund - Cols. Found.	\$ 23,060
Mark's Men	\$ 321
Memorial Garden	\$ 14,187
Memorial Gifts	\$ 10,796

Organ Fund	\$ 24,919
Outreach Restricted Gifts	\$ 21,490
Special Music Fund	\$ 9,878
Staff Fund	\$ 5,000
Trinity Guild	\$ 30,226
Unrestricted Gifts	\$ 2,000
Vacation Bible School	\$ 1,399
Verger Guild	\$ 1,051
Youth Mission	\$ 3,166



### Endowment Fund

#### Annual Meeting Report from the Endowment Trustees

The Trustees of the Endowment Fund during 2017 were: Dan Morton (chair), Phil Glandon (treasurer), Jeff Porterfield, Pat Iams and Craig Zimpher.

The Trustees met twice during the year, in April and in September, to review the Endowment Fund investments. Additionally, at the April meeting, the Trustees named a chairman and appointed a treasurer.

At December 31, 2017, the principal balance of the Endowment Fund invested in the account at The Columbus Foundation was \$231,551.43. This account had realized and unrealized capital gains of \$19,761.14 during 2017. This account also paid \$4,652.53 in income to the parish during 2017. The Endowment Fund also holds a loan to the parish for the organ completion project in the principal amount of \$62,061.25 with interest accruing at the annual rate of 4.5%, which is to be repaid not later than December 31, 2022.

Thanks to each of the Trustees for their service this past year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dan Morton, Endowment Trustees Chair

# Saint Mark's Episcopal Church

## *2018 Approved Budget*

<u>Description</u>	<u>2018 Budget</u>	<u>2017 Actual</u>	<u>2017 Budget</u>
<b>INCOME</b>			
Member Contributions - Pledged	\$ 457,000.00	\$ 460,246.00	\$ 460,246.00
Member Contributions - non pledged	29,650.00	32,803.37	9,900.00
Plate & Other Contributions	21,500.00	22,903.71	24,000.00
Other (Rent, Endowment Income, Interest)	26,750.00	27,445.99	23,000.00
Self-Sustaining Fund Reimbursements	11,500.00	20,757.23	29,580.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 546,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 564,156.30</b>	<b>\$ 546,726.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
STAFF PAYROLL, TAXES & BENEFITS	\$ 325,425.00	\$ 328,006.12	\$ 330,057.32
ADMINISTRATION	43,850.00	41,573.86	45,323.64
FACILITIES	80,200.00	79,190.03	72,375.12
DISCRETIONARY OUTREACH	6,600.00	6,386.42	6,386.42
DIOCESE REQUIRED MISSION SHARE	73,200.00	73,800.00	73,699.00
CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION	3,275.00	2,774.05	5,131.35
FELLOWSHIP & HOSPITALITY	2,900.00	2,807.55	3,319.00
MEMBER CARE	100.00	-	50.56
MUSIC	2,400.00	3,314.17	2,400.00
STEWARDSHIP	350.00	387.85	313.00
WORSHIP	6,700.00	6,742.95	7,252.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 545,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 544,983.00</b>	<b>\$ 546,307.41</b>
<b>NET INCOME FROM NORMAL OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 1,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,173.30</b>	<b>\$ 418.59</b>
Endowment Fund Capital Gains (Losses)		19,761.14	
Net Income (Loss)	1,400.00	38,934.44	418.59

<b>Self Sustaining Funds in Budget include:</b>	<b><u>2018 Budget</u></b>	<b><u>2017 Reimb.</u></b>	<b><u>2017 Expense</u></b>
Staff Fund (Expense in Staff P/R & Benefits)	5,000.00	14,500.60	14,500.00
Flower Guild (Expense in Worship)	5,000.00	5,072.67	5,072.67
Altar Guild (Expense in Worship)*	-	140.00	1,113.40
Vac. Bible School (Expense in Christian Dev.)	1,000.00	796.43	796.53
Funeral Receptions (Expense in Fellowship)	500.00	247.53	247.53
	11,500.00	20,757.23	21,730.13

\* The Altar Guild Fund was zero at 12/31/17. Altar Guild budget of \$1,200 will come from general funds.

# Music Department's 2017 Annual Report



The year 2017 was another exciting and eventful year for music at Saint Mark's. The first half of the year saw the continuation of our parish celebration of the completed Casavant pipe organ. Recitals by Tyler Robertson in January and Kevin Jones in May capped off a thrilling season of celebratory events. Each concert superbly demonstrated the many improvements made to the completed instrument, including: a new, movable console with a third manual keyboard; the addition of a new expressive division; the filling out of our existing divisions, left incomplete in 1987; and the addition of several new reed stops, including our majestic new Tuba anglais. On a day-to-day basis, the completed organ has profoundly impacted the music ministry at Saint Mark's, significantly improving every aspect of liturgical music in our parish, particularly in relation to congregational singing and accompanying the choirs. We remain profoundly grateful to the many members and friends of the parish whose generosity made these improvements possible.

The adult choir, despite modest numbers and the loss of several key men, continues to sing at a very high level. Week by week, the choir sings cathedral-quality repertoire at a level that many cathedrals would envy. I am continually impressed by our choir members' commitment to excellence and by their sacrificial ministry to this church. I know of few other groups that put in such regular volunteer time for the good of our parish (nearly three hours of weekly rehearsal time on Thursday nights and Sunday mornings plus weekly ministry at services). I am unreservedly thankful for their hard work and dedication. I am especially grateful for the essential contributions of our section leaders (Margaret Wells, Heather Chute, Steve Barker, and Jacob Conrad), by whose leadership, artistry, and expertise our volunteer singers are empowered to sing at their very best. I also am exceedingly thankful for the collaboration of my friend and colleague Tyler Robertson, whose prodigious talents make it possible for the choir to sing the greatest masterpieces of the choral tradition at the highest level.

The Canterbury Choir continues to grow in its musical ability and leadership. The group routinely sings difficult anthems for treble choir, often in two or more parts, and they are a joy to work with. The choir has a strong peer leadership group, led by Head Choristers Susie H. and Henry M. I was particularly impressed with their service of Choral Evensong in May as well as their contributions to our Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols in December. I could not ask for a more supportive and engaged group of parents, led by our superb choir moms, Joanne Drew and Wendy Hauswirth. As Joanne prepares to step back from her role as choir mom, I want to take this opportunity to thank her sincerely for her years of outstanding service and leadership.

The year included numerous special events, including many special services and concerts. The choirs led a number of special services, including Choral Evensong in March, May, and November; Choral Matins for Trinity Sunday in June; Choral Eucharist for the Feast of Christ the King in November; our annual Festival of Lessons and Carols in December; and special services such as Ash Wednesday, the Holy Week liturgies, and Christmas Eve. Concerts included an organ recital by Tyler Robertson in January and an organ recital by Kevin Jones in May. For all these wonderful events, we have been blessed by the helpful assistance of hospitality volunteers (led by Joanne Drew and Julie Moll), ushers, readers, vergers, and acolytes, to whom I am very grateful for their essential contributions.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Bester

## Senior Warden's Report

The year began with an emphasis on welcoming visitors with the new Welcome Table just inside the Parish Hall filled with Saint Mark's mugs and informational pamphlets to be given by parishioners to welcome newcomers to our church. In late spring the Vestry retreat was held at Procter and Saint Mark's mission and vision were important topics. To assist in this work, a parish survey was made available in hard copy, online and on the church website, asking parishioners to think about what they are looking for in their church home, their goals for the parish and what is important at Saint Mark's. This work of reflecting on how the survey results align with the mission and vision is still ongoing.

Although we have a cleaning crew during the week, a volunteer cleanup day was held in July to do the odd jobs that need to be done periodically such as straightening the kitchen pantry, small painting projects, replacement of light bulbs, etc. More than 30 volunteers made the work go very smoothly.

At the time of the Capital Campaign ten years ago, plans were drawn by an architectural firm that included projects to enhance the exterior and landscaping surrounding the building. 2017 has been a year for reviewing and prioritizing the plans for the future. This past summer an Eagle Scout project involved the laying of a curving stone walkway through the front lawn facing Tremont Road. Donated trees were planted along the walkway and this spring, donated benches will be placed there as well. The Vestry is in the process of looking at ways to make the signage on the large monument sign more legible as well as updated lighting to highlight the front of the building in this area.

In December, a celebration was held in honor of Paul's ten years as Rector of Saint Mark's and his accomplishment of earning his Doctor of Ministry from Virginia Theological Seminary.

As I reflect on the past year at Saint Mark's, it is with much gratitude that I have come to realize how many people give so willingly of their time and talents to make Saint Mark's the vibrant, welcoming church that it is. It's been an honor to serve as Junior Warden for two years, this past year as Senior Warden and to work with the talented and committed members of Vestry. Thanks be to God.

*Submitted by Jill Hinton*



# Stewardship Report

We began 2017 with a review of past Stewardship programs, recognizing that Christian Stewardship is our grateful response to God for all of God's blessings given to us, and should be more than just an annual campaign to raise funds for the mission of the church. Consequently, we decided to attempt to direct some attention throughout the year to each of the Seasons of Stewardship which are nicely described on the [Saint Mark's website](#).

In the late spring we provided communications directed at Stewardship of "God's Good Earth." A number of Epistle articles were published on the topic of 'Reduce, Reuse & Recycle'. We also established a recycle center in the Parish Hall for used batteries and certain light bulbs which are classified as 'hazardous waste' and cannot be disposed of in regular trash collections. Many thanks to the parishioners who have agreed to occasionally check the recycle boxes and drive the contents to SWACO's hazardous recycling facility!

Over the summer, we once again organized five dinner gatherings for fellowship, but also to generate discussion around hopes and dreams for the future of Saint Mark's. We also scheduled monthly Enrichment talks at the 10:30 service to help communicate the personal impact of many of Saint Mark's programs on individuals and the community.

The financial stewardship campaign began in September. This year's theme, 'Journey to Generosity', was once again based upon materials provided by The Episcopal Network of Stewardship. As in prior years, Stewardship speakers delivered weekly messages of what Saint Mark's and Stewardship means to them and their families. We also worked closely with our Treasurer, Phil Glandon to make sure we were providing transparency with respect to the financial condition of the parish during the annual pledge campaign. We are most grateful to Phil for his time and dedication to Saint Mark's. We did have a number of favorable comments about our communications this year and welcome constructive feedback. Pledge ingathering was October 29 but pledges continued to be received up through the end of the year. As of January 31, 2018, we have received pledges from 125 Saint Mark's members for a total of \$457,703. This amount includes 53 members who increased their pledges from last year, and 7 new pledges.

The next Seasons of Stewardship are: "Our Selves, Our Souls, and Bodies", and "Remember, Renew and Rejoice." We would be grateful for any suggestions or help in planning programs around these topics.

Many thanks to those who generously supported our work this year, including the Wardens, Phil Glandon, Pat & Jay Iams, Park & Craig Zimpher, Dot & Dave Yeager, Mark Drew, Bill Karl, Amy Keller & Bex Barker.

*Submitted by: Scott Milburn and Ellen German Berndt*





# Hospitality Committee

*Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.*

Hebrews 13:2

The Hospitality Committee was quite active in 2017, organizing a variety of events, ranging from a down home barbeque Pentecost picnic to Saint Mark's elegant Advent Lessons and Carols signature evening reception.

New for 2017 was a Mother's Day Tea to celebrate all of the loving mothers and grandmothers at Saint Marks. We also continued with the All Parish Pentecost Picnic. Again in 2017, Hospitality partnered with the organizers of Vacation Bible School and offered a week of evening meals inspired by the Holy Land for VBS campers and parents, and inviting the adults to then stay for formation hosted by Dan Morton. The Hospitality Committee also teamed up with the Outreach Ministry to help organize the annual Help Heal Hunger Labor Day Bake Sale, which raised approximately \$1,000 for NNEMAP.

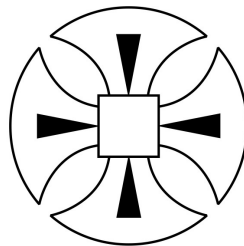
In support of our fantastic music program, we also hosted receptions after the All Saints and Taizé services.

Going forward it is our goal to identify ways we can advise groups within Saint Marks to conceive and organize events that create a dynamic and welcoming community inside and outside of our parish doors.

Hospitality is a ministry we are proud of. Our work is often behind the scenes. It is enriching and meaningful, and our hope is to facilitate a welcoming, community environment for our own parishioners, for those who may be visiting us from out of town, for those who may be looking for a new church home, and for those who otherwise might not have walked through our doors. We are constantly looking for new ways to achieve this goal and have a few new ideas up our sleeves for 2018.

We want to convey our great appreciation and thanks for the efforts and willingness of the many volunteers who readily planned, prepped, cooked, baked, set up, served up, cleaned up, and gave support in so many unaccountable ways. We certainly could not have done it without you!

*Submitted by Joanne Drew and Julie Moll*



## Communications Team

In 2017, communication at Saint Mark's included The Epistle (print and electronic), the website, and email. Saint Mark's also uses social media: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram to send its message to the parish and the community. We continue to offer the God Moments column in The Epistle. Communication has also taken the form of bulletin boards in the Parish Hall for various Saint Mark's groups.

*Bruce S. Johnson,  
Vestry, Communications*

## Enrichment Group Ministries

**Thank you!** If you are reading this, there's a high probability that you are active in one of Saint Mark's 30+ enrichment groups. Or, if you're not, there's the possibility that you've been touched by one of these groups. Perhaps you've undergone a surgery and a kindly parishioner from the Member Care Ministry has brought you a meal. Or you've recently given birth and have been presented with a lovingly knit blanket from the Knitting Group. Or you're going through a tough period and been visited by one of our Stephen Ministers. Maybe you're thinking "nope, not me" – consider our Sunday mornings at 10:30. If you've heard either of our fine choirs, you've been touched by an Enrichment Group.

Our Enrichment Groups also touch the wider Columbus community. Intrepid parishioners often brave the elements to assist at Street Church in Franklinton and serve meals to people who may not feel comfortable in a traditional Church setting but still feel the need to worship. Members of the same Knitting Group also make hats, gloves and scarves that are distributed to those in need at the NNEMAP Pantry. And let's not forget the annual service trip to Guatemala, far afield, where parishioners work with the communities, largely ignored by their government, in the fields of education and health care.

If you're new(er) to Saint Mark's, our Enrichment Groups are a wonderful way to meet people in our community. Consider our book group, which always entails lively discussions, softball team, cycling club or golf league to get a breath of fresh air in more temperate weather. The list of opportunities goes on, and can be found on the Saint Mark's website ([Ministries section](#)) or in the brochure at the newcomers' table in the Parish Hall.

I continually give thanks for the many people who contribute their time and talent to the many groups that make Saint Mark's the vibrant community it is. Again, thank you!

*Respectfully submitted,  
Ted Meyers*



# Formation, Children and Youth Report



## **Sunday School**

Sunday School for children in preschool through fifth grade meets at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday during the school year, except first Sundays. At 9:30 there is children's fellowship for children whose parents are involved in programming at this time. Bex Barker and Laura Skoracki are the vestry formation members.

### Preschool

Children aged 3-5 attend Godly Play. Godly Play presents parables and sacred stories using wooden figures, simple language, and liturgical action to help children become more fully aware of this mystery of God's presence in their lives. Children hear stories presented by Bex Barker and Laura Skoracki. Amy Keller fills in from time to time. There are six to eight dedicated students in the Godly Play class.

### 1st through 5th Grade

Children in the 1st through 5th grade are taught mainly by Joanne Drew with help from Cathy Utgard. The children have children's chapel first and are then led by their teacher in interactive, hands-on lessons. Lessons are from the Episcopal Network. There are 7-10 dedicated students in this class.

## **Nursery**

The nursery is a place bustling with the activity of infants and toddlers. Roberta Morton runs the nursery and makes the schedule with the help of several volunteer parents/grandparents and a paid teen-ager, Debbie Hodson.

## **Youth Group**

Children in grades 6-12 meet on most Sundays from 12-1:30 with Assistant Rector, Christopher Richardson. They have a biblical lesson, play games and socialize during this time. There are 2-7 youth in attendance on most Sundays.

### **Wednesday Night Dinners**

Dinners and fellowship take place every Wednesday night from 5:30-7pm during the school year. Dedicated dinners and fellowship for our congregation began this fall with the dinners provided by individuals and families who sign up and make a meal for the group. This began with the families of Canterbury Choir who have rehearsal immediately before this time; though it is open to the entire congregation with hopes of building it further. Assistant Rector Christopher Richardson organizes a game for the group on most evenings. There are approximately 6-12 adults and 5-9 children each night.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Vacation Bible School (VBS) was great fun this past summer. Roberta Morton led the planning with musical help from Jim Keyes and physical help and support from many parents and volunteers, especially Joanne Drew who worked to make inter-generational meals which provided a very bonding, cohesive environment. The theme was All God's Children Grow in Faith as the Church Family Gathers for a Very Blessed Summer. Roberta Morton did a fantastic job in her last year leading VBS, and formation is currently seeking a new leader for the 2018 program.

### **Christmas Pageant**

This year's Christmas pageant was a wonderful event under the direction of Irina Reed. Irina and Laura Skoracki met with Amy Keller, who had led the pageant for many years, and worked to gather volunteers to help get the children in the right places at the right time. Vicki and Ron Linville provided snacks and helped with direction of the young people backstage during pageant. The whole event went very well.

*Submitted by Bex Barker and Laura Skoracki*



# Outreach Ministry

*Matthew 25:35-36. "I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me water; I was a stranger and you invited me into your homes; naked, and you clothed me; sick, and in prison, and you visited me."*

It was a busy year for the Outreach Ministry who took on several new projects and made a conscious effort to provide more support to existing projects. Our committee, co-chaired by Pat Iams and Marilyn Smith, meets once a month, and has 15 to 20 regular members, many of whom chair individual projects, but we seek to involve as many parishioners as possible in the individual projects. The committee thanks everyone who participated in a project in any way. It takes many talents and many hands to provide the services we do. We are a small church with a very big heart and wonderful generosity.

The Outreach Ministry received several gifts from the congregation at the end of the year. The Committee would like to express its appreciation for these gifts and to assure the donors we will do our best to see that their gifts are put to good use.

To educate the entire congregation on the work of our partner agencies, Outreach worked with the Adult Formation Program to bring in speakers from the individual ministries that we support. This was done as part of an overall series on the church teachings that call upon us to perform or support charitable works. The speakers were well received. They provided valuable insight into their missions and clientele. A second series is scheduled for later this winter to provide opportunities for our remaining partners to present.

Outreach started a new program this year with the support of the congregation. Led by Mary Kirkey, we collected gently used business clothing for men returning to the workforce. The Columbus Urban League runs My Brother's Closet., and this is where the items we collected were donated. Going forward we will have a collection twice a year. The Columbus Urban League is thrilled to have us as a contributing partner.

Our ongoing efforts were as follows:

**Episcopal Relief & Development:** Provides care in crisis situations: hurricanes, tornadoes, and other disasters. We donated a \$1000 to their hurricane relief efforts.

**Guatemala Mission Trip:** Outreach designated \$2000 for scholarships allowing Melanie, our office manager and another parishioner to be part of our mission work in La Labor. We also collected books (in Spanish), dental supplies, band aids, and shoes to send with our volunteers who were making the mission trip.

**United Thank Offering:** Boxes were given to parishioners in September, and parishioners were asked to contribute daily to the boxes for the blessings which occur in their lives. The boxes are collected in November, and the funds are sent to a national committee of the church for distribution to people in need.

**Episcopal Community Services Foundation:** ECSF provides grants to Outreach programs in parishes throughout the Diocese. The programs are aimed at reducing poverty. The Grant's Committee studies and visits each site to identify those who are meeting their goals and to assist those who are not. Outreach made a \$1000 cash gift on behalf of Saint Marks.

**Habitat for Humanity:** Habitat is a collaboration of NW churches to build a home for an identified family. Throughout the year, outreach members prepared and served lunches at the job site for the workers. The committee would like to encourage participation in the building of the home, and is looking for a volunteer to organize members. The Outreach Ministry also provided Habitat with a cash donation to defray building material costs.

**Catch Court:** The Franklin County Municipal Court runs a program to rehabilitate women involved in human trafficking, prostitution, and drugs. The program takes two years to complete. During that time participants must stay drug free and away from prostitution or they are sent to jail. The program focuses on resolving traumas, dealing with emotional issues and educating the women on finances and workplace behaviors. It has been so successful that it has received national recognition. The Outreach team provides lunches to the women at the Court once a month. One member is serving as a mentor for one of the women participating in the program. Another member works regularly with Freedom At A Carte the catering company where many of the women are employed.



St. John Town Street: We work with this parish on a number of projects. Four times a year we prepare and serve dinner to their members and community participants. Five or six times a year we prepare and serve lunch at Street Church, an outdoor celebration of the liturgy for the homeless and/or needy in the area. We have also provided financial supports to their projects.

NNEMAP: Our church partners with the Near Northside Emergency Material Assistance Program, a local food pantry. In addition to committee members volunteering at NNEMAP, picking up food from groceries for the pantry, and supporting their annual Harmony for Hunger fund raiser, Outreach coordinates monthly collections on behalf of the pantry. This year, as a congregation, we donated over a hundred filled book bags for the school children in the area served by the pantry, donated over 150 Christmas gifts to the NNEMAP Christmas store, donated over 100 grooming kits. Our monthly collections gathered much needed things such as soap, razors and baby food. All of the donated items were much appreciated by the recipients.

The Cookie Walk: A perennial favorite in early December, over \$650 was raised from the sale of donated cookies. All of the money collected was donated to Episcopal Relief and Development.

The Giving Tree: Our annual tradition during the Advent season, parishioners take ornaments off our tree and purchase the gifts listed on the ornaments. In the past the gifts were donated to the Homeless Families Foundation (HFF), This year the decision was made to partner with NNEMAP as opposed to HFF. HFF has a corporate sponsor to assist them. NNEMAP does not have a corporate sponsor. Additionally we are more closely aligned with NNEMAP so the move seemed to make sense. Our generous congregation donated over a 150 gifts. The project was a great success.

Labor Neighbor Day Bake Sale: The Outreach group participates in this project with the Hospitality Committee. On Labor Day we host a bake sale, pass out water, and give out popcorn. The sale raises money for one of our partner agencies, but also serves to elevate Saint Mark's presence in the community. The event has become very popular with our neighbors, many who look for us each year on the way to the Art Festival.

*Submitted by Leslie Winters*



# SAINT MARK'S

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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**PHONE** (614) 486-9452 • **FAX** (614) 486-4023

info@saintmarkscolumbus.org • [www.saintmarkscolumbus.org](http://www.saintmarkscolumbus.org)

Saint Mark's celebrates Holy Eucharist on Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 12 noon.

### Staff:

The Rev. Dr. Paul St. Germain, *Rector*  
The Rev. Christopher C. Richardson, *Associate Rector*  
The Rev. Dr. Mary Lynn Dell, *Priest Associate*  
The Rev. Michael Ellis, *Affiliate Priest*  
The Rev. Joan Maynard, *Deacon*  
Dr. Matthew Bester, *Director of Music*  
Tyler W. Robertson, *Organist & Assistant Director of Music*  
Gary L. Garber, *Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus*  
Dr. Michael Murray, *Organist Emeritus*  
Bill Silliman, *Head Verger*  
Bill Ryan, *Campus Manager*  
Melanie Jacobs, *Office Manager*

### Ministers:

The Entire Saint Mark's Family

### Vestry Members:

Jill Hinton, *Senior Warden*  
Dot Yeager, *Junior Warden*  
Mary D., *Youth Warden*  
Dwight Anstaett, *Onboarding/Welcoming*  
Joanne Drew, *Hospitality*  
Julie Moll, *Hospitality*  
Bryce Sullivan, *Communications*  
Bruce Johnson, *Communications*  
Leslie Winters, *Outreach*  
Ted Meyers, *Enrichment Groups*  
Scott Milburn, *Stewardship*  
Ellen Berndt, *Stewardship*  
Laura Skoracki, *Formation*  
Bex Barker, *Formation*  
Phil Glandon, *Treasurer*  
Barbara Hyre, *Clerk*

### Mission Statement:

*Saint Mark's seeks to be a Christ-centered congregation where people can come to understand and strengthen their relationships with God. We want everyone to feel included, to be nurtured spiritually and for our worship together to be a bond for Christian education and fellowship. As a caring community we strive to be faithful stewards of God's gifts, ministering to one another both within and beyond the parish.*

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS BULLETIN AT HOME  
OR IN THE BLUE RECYCLING BINS IN THE PARISH HALL.

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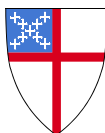
### Who We Are:



Part of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, Saint Mark's held its first worship service in 1951 in a converted Methodist church in Grandview. Ground was broken in 1953 for the Parish Hall (now the Education Building) where services were held until the current Nave and Sanctuary was completed in 1958. Office space in an adjacent building was purchased in 1989. Major renovations of the entire facility occurred in 2004 and 2008 creating a campus today that empowers Christ's ministry within and beyond our parish.



Saint Mark's is a member of the Episcopal Church in the United States – a community of 2.4 million members in 114 dioceses in the Americas and abroad. *Episcopal* means a church with bishops. Bishops are the leaders of the church and spiritual descendants of the apostles of Jesus Christ. We are also part of the worldwide Anglican Communion consisting of 82 million members in more than 160 countries. *Anglican* are those churches who trace their history to the Church of England.



Whoever you are, and wherever you may be on the journey of the Spirit,  
***The Episcopal Church welcomes you.***