

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church

2022 Annual Report





“Saint Mark’s is a place that is taking the light of Christ into our world in a huge variety of ways and places.”





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2022 Staff, Vestry, Delegates, and Trustees

Staff

Rector	The Rev. Vicki Zust
Director of Music	Dr. Matthew Bester
Organist	Michael Schreffler
Office Manager	Melanie Jacobs

Vestry

Senior Warden	Mark Drew
Junior Warden	Leslie Winters
Youth Warden	Lukas Skoracki

Class of 2023	Anice Ellis Judith Grant Bill Mayr
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Class of 2024	Irina Reed Cheryl Boop Julia Johnson-Davis Roman Skoracki Jodi Hess
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Class of 2025	Martha Belury Betsy Gillespie Bruce Johnson Barb Keyes
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Treasurer	Phil Glandon
Secretary (Clerk)	Barbara Hyre

Delegates

Convention Delegates	Mark Drew (ex officio, Sr. Warden) Leslie Winters (ex officio, Jr. Warden) Cheryl Boop Betsy Gillespie
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Convention Delegate Alternates	Dave Yeager <i>Vacant</i>
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Trustees

Chair	Dot Yeager (ex officio, Immediate Past Sr. Warden) Phil Glandon (ex officio, Treasurer) Elizabeth Anstaett Kevin Fix Jay Wilcox
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Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
Annual Parish Meeting
February 12, 2023

Meeting Agenda

1. Opening Prayer & Call to Order
2. Introductions of Staff, Wardens, Vestry and Convention Delegates
3. Approval of the 2022 Minutes
4. Discussion and Vote of Proposed Revisions to Saint Mark's By-Laws
5. Recognition of Retiring Vestry Members
6. Nominations and Election
7. Reports
 - A. Rector
 - B. Wardens
 - C. Treasurer
8. Discussion for the Good of the Parish
9. Closing Prayer and Adjournment





2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Annual Parish Meeting
February 13, 2022

The 2022 annual meeting was held in person and virtually via Zoom following the 10:30 AM worship service. The Reverend Vicki Zust called the meeting to order at 11:55 AM with an opening prayer. Upon *motion, duly seconded and passed*, Zoom participants were voted to be fully included in the meeting.

Vicki introduced the Staff, Vestry and Trustees.

MINUTES of the 2021 annual meeting were, upon *motion, duly seconded and passed*, approved as written.

VESTRY SLATE

Vicki recognized and thanked the retiring Vestry members (Rachel Dwyer-Markwardt, Jay Iams, Marilyn Karl, Henry Markwardt, and Sam Slee). In appreciation for their service, Vicki presented them each with a book, *Songs My Grandma Sang*, and a Saint Marks tote bag.

The Nominating Committee was made up of retiring Vestry members and Vicki. The committee brought forth the following slate of candidates for the 2022 Vestry and Convention Delegates:

Vestry Nominations

Senior Warden – Mark Drew

Junior Warden – Leslie Winters

Youth Warden – Lucas Skoracki

Vestry Class of 2025 – Martha Belury

Vestry Class of 2025 – Betsy Gillespie

Vestry Class of 2025 – Bruce Johnson

Vestry Class of 2025 – Barb Keyes

Mid Term Vacancy, Vestry Class of 2024 – Jodi Hess

Diocesan Convention Delegates

Betsy Gillespie

Cheryl Boop

Convention Delegate Alternates

Dave Yeager

Up to four Convention Delegate Alternates can be elected or appointed by the Vestry. There were no nominations from the floor. The nominations were *closed and by motion accepted, seconded, and passed*. The nominees were elected by unanimous acclamation.

2021 FINANCIAL REPORT AND 2022 BUDGET

Phil Glandon gave the financial report, referring everyone to the Annual Report for additional details (hard copy or on the Saint Mark's web site under the Annual Meeting tab). Expenses in 2021 were lower than expected, in part because Saint Mark's was without a Rector. The Diocesan mission share was also under budget, but facilities were more expensive than planned. On the income side, Saint Mark's had a good year in the stock market and our PPP loan was forgiven. With income over budget and expenses under budget, Saint Mark's was blessed with a positive cash flow and a surplus at year end.

For the 2022 budget, Vicki wanted Vestry to delve more deeply into the budgeting process, and to use a slightly different method for planning. In addition to forecasting income and expenses based on previous years, Vicki wanted the budget to be informed by parish, staff, and Vestry's vision for Saint Mark's. Phil assumed that traditional expenses will be a little higher next year as we (hopefully) begin to use our facilities more. Phil pegged income at about the same



2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

level as 2021. However, in keeping with this new approach to the budget, some additional expenses were also included. Staff were given raises, items usually funded by special gifts were included in the Outreach budget, and higher than normal facility maintenance costs were planned for. These and other aspirational expenses resulted in a deficit budget for 2022. Without any unexpected windfall gifts, the budget deficit is planned to be about \$75,000 and will be funded with the part of the previous year's surplus. Phil is confident that 2022 is the right time to make a leap of faith in our budget, and expressed his gratitude to Vicki for implementing this new approach to budgeting.

Phil thanked the Finance team for their hard work and dedication, including Gloria Wylie, Barb Wisemen, Jay Wilcox, Lynn Glandon, and Dave Yeager.

WARDENS' REPORT

Mark Drew gave the Wardens' report. The year 2021 was most unusual. Saint Mark's welcomed a new Rector, said goodbye to our organist, and persevered through the second year of the pandemic. With their knowledge and historical perspective, Dot Yeager and Phil Glandon helped Mark and Leslie Winter step into their new roles as senior and junior warden. Mark and Leslie have been gratified to find that their skills complement each other, and take the fact that there are so many different people are involved with Saint Mark's as a sign of the parish's strength. Mark highlighted a couple of accomplishments that he is especially proud of, including increasing transparency by putting Vestry minutes on the web site and adopting a Vestry covenant. Mark concluded with a quote from Louis Pasteur "Chance favors a prepared mind". The parallel for Saint Mark's is that we are blessed to be in a location that is growing and to have a Rector that is eager to lead the parish into the exciting opportunities this growth may present.

RECTOR'S REPORT

Vicki began her report with thanks to Rev. Chris Thompson for his work as Interim Rector and for being so generous with his time during the transition. Vicki also extended her thanks to the Selection and Welcoming committees. In her first few months at Saint Mark's, Vicki has worked to link up with the greater community, connected with the parish youth, worked with the Outreach Committee to plan an intergenerational activity on the first Sunday of each month, searched for and called a new organist, worked with the Property Committee to develop a facility plan, provided new name tags, and scheduled a welcome brunch for new members. When Franklin county Covid rates get to the level of "moderate community spread", we can again make masks optional and eat indoors. Vicki reminded everyone that Saturday, April 30th has been set for the New Rector celebration. We will combine the New Rector installation with a celebration of the feast of Saint Mark's.

Vicki expressed her gratitude to all the people who help out at Saint Mark's. While time doesn't permit her to thank everyone who deserves to be thanked, she makes a practice of thanking seven individuals each year for their outstanding contribution to the church. Seven is a somewhat arbitrary number, chosen in part because, in Hebrew, the word for seven sounds like completeness. This year's seven honorees were Gloria Wylie, Roberta Morton, Steve Bigley, Joanne Drew, Dave Yeager, Cindy Anderson, and Phil Glandon.

Finally, Vicki reported that she has begun the process of identifying and building consensus on where Saint Mark's wants to be in the next 4-5 years. This time frame coincides with the 75th anniversary of Saint Mark's as a parish. Vicki has been talking to groups and individuals, posing the question "If money were no object, what direction should Saint Mark's take?". Some major themes are beginning to emerge from these discussions, and Vicki's goal is to have the vision for our future ready when the Bishop visits on April 30th for the celebration of new ministry.

DISMISSAL

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 PM with a prayer from Vicki.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Hyre (Recorder)



2022 Parish Statistics

Membership	2022	2021	2020
Increases - includes Transfers, Baptisms	39	7	14
Decreases - includes Transfers, Deaths	(4)	(3)	(24)
Membership Increase (Decrease)	35	4	(10)

Communicants in Good Standing

Adults (Age 16 and Over)	203	282	278
Youth (Under Age 16)	49	80	82
Total	252	362	360

Attendance

Average Sunday Attendance	106	92	142
Easter Attendance	345	114	+

Number of Services

Sunday Eucharist	102	80	27
Weekday Eucharist (Public)	7	18	7
Private Eucharist	3	3	8
Other Sunday Services - In Person only	0	2	12
Other Sunday Services - Online/Hybrid	8	5	+
Other Weekday Services - Online/Hybrid	7	18	13
Marriages	0	1	0
Burials	2	5	11
Baptisms	5	0	1
Confirmations/Receptions	7	9	0

+ Data not available



Gift Acceptance Policy

The Vestry adopted a gift acceptance policy at the December 2022 meeting. The reason for this is to make the policy on gifts clear and so that we have a policy in place before any kind of unusual or potentially problematic gift is proposed. If you have any questions about the policy please speak to Pastor Vicki, Phil Glandon or any member of the Vestry.

SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH GIFT ACCEPTANCE POLICY

(Adopted by the Vestry December 2022)

To fulfill the mission and benefit the programs of Saint Mark's Episcopal Church (Saint Mark's), the Vestry has established the following policy to guide and direct the acceptance of gifts to this parish.

Purpose

Saint Mark's receives current and planned gifts from individuals and other entities to support its mission and growth. The purpose of this policy is to set forth guidelines to govern the acceptance of gifts and provide guidance to prospective donors and their advisors when making such gifts, including the conditions under which gifts may be accepted and the uses to which the gifts may be put. This policy shall apply to all gifts received for any program or service. This policy further outlines the decision-making authority within the parish for gift acceptance, use and administration.

What Donors May Advise

Donors may advise the Vestry that their gift is either unrestricted or restricted to an approved purpose as described below. At their option donors may also memorialize a loved one through a gift. The final decision to accept any gift always rests with the parish Vestry which may seek the advice of the Finance Committee in making a final determination.

Gifts

Unrestricted gifts are those for which the donor has not designated a specific purpose. All gifts received in response to the parish's annual stewardship campaign are unrestricted. An unrestricted gift may be used for any purpose that furthers the ministry of the parish as determined by the Vestry.

Restricted gifts are those for which the donor has designated a specific, parish-related purpose. In restricting a gift's usage, donors may designate one of the following purposes:

- Worship including the funding of sanctuary improvements, Flower Guild and Altar Guild supplies, communion vessels, all manner of vestments and paraments, etc.
- Formation including the funding of the nursery, church school, youth group and adult education.
- Outreach and Missions which funds activity to alleviate human suffering and to proclaim the gospel in the parish, the wider community, and the world.
- Music, which includes the Special Music Fund, Canterbury Choir and Gary Garber Scholarship Fund, as well as permanent improvements to the church musical instruments (organ, piano, etc.)
- Trinity Guild which includes the construction, improvement and maintenance of the parish's buildings and grounds.
- Memorial Garden, which funds the improvement and maintenance of the Memorial Garden, the final resting place for ashes of parishioners and their families.
- Endowment Fund, which invests for the long term and provides net income from investments for the church's annual operating budget

Memorial gifts to honor or remember a loved one are also welcomed. Such gifts will be pooled with the memorial



Gift Acceptance Policy

gifts of others. At least once a year the Vestry will cause to be published within the parish the names of those in whose memory funds have been received that year along with a summary of the uses to which the Memorial funds were put during that year.

Gifts donated to place flowers on the altar for a specific Sunday or as a part of the Easter or Christmas flower collections will be handled and recognized by the usual procedures of the Flower Guild.

Gifts given as part of an approved fundraiser, collection or free will offering will not be subject to this policy but will be used for the stated purpose.

Should gifts be solicited by the parish for a specific project, after the completion of the project, any remaining amount will be transferred to Saint Mark's Operating Fund, or such other purpose as the Vestry may designate.

In rare instances where a would-be donor wishes to offer a gift with restrictions altogether different from any of the alternatives described above, the Vestry has the sole and final authority to accept, decline or propose to the donor an alteration in the terms of the proposed gift. When the restrictions associated with a proposed gift do not conform to one of the categories described above, the Vestry's acceptance of the gift requires an affirmative vote by a two-thirds or greater majority of the Vestry.

Costs Associated with Gifts

When a gift is given which results in a cost for accepting or properly documenting the gift, those costs are generally the responsibility of the donor. This could include a Phase 1 Environmental Assessment in the case of a gift of real estate. If the Phase 1 Environmental Assessment indicates that environmental problems exist, an additional assessment or remediation may be required.

In the case where an appraisal is needed, a credentialed expert must be consulted. Neither the donor nor a representative from Saint Mark's Episcopal Church may serve as an appraiser for the purposes of calculating gift value for non-cash gifts. The cost of the appraiser's services, if any, are the responsibility of the donor.

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church reserves the right to seek an appraisal for organizational purposes. In such circumstances, the cost for said appraisal is the responsibility of Saint Mark's Episcopal Church. Saint Mark's Episcopal Church may choose to share the appraisal with the donor.

The parish Treasurer, in conjunction with the Rector, will develop procedures to implement this policy.





Proposed Revisions to Saint Marks' By-Laws

BY-LAWS OF SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Upper Arlington, Ohio

(Amendments presented to the Annual Meeting, February 2023)

1. The Annual Election

- (A) The Vestry shall consist of fifteen qualified voters of the parish, not more than one of whom may be under twenty-one (21) years of age who shall continue in office until their successors are duly elected. An election of members of the vestry and delegates to the Diocesan Convention shall be held prior to the end of the month of February in each year, on a date fixed by the Vestry. The following members of the Vestry shall be elected by ballot.
- (1) A Senior Warden and a Junior Warden to be elected, in succession, and by separate ballot to serve for one year each.
 - (2) One person (1) of high school age to be elected by a separate ballot and to have the title of Youth Warden, to serve for one year. Or two persons of high school age may be elected to share the position of Youth Warden, to serve for one year.
 - (3) Twelve members of the Vestry. Each year four shall be elected to serve for three years beginning with the Annual Meeting in 1993. Thereafter, elections shall be held for successors to those whose terms expire, each to serve for three years. ~~Members of the Vestry may be elected to specified positions, as the Vestry may direct and the Nominating Committee may provide.~~
- (B) Two delegates and ~~four~~two alternates to the Diocesan Convention shall be elected by ballot to serve terms of one year each. The Senior and Junior Wardens shall be ex-officio delegates.
- (C) Any member of the Vestry who has served on the Vestry for three consecutive calendar years shall not be eligible for reelection to the Vestry for one year after the expiration of ~~his~~their final year in office except as provided in section (D) below. Any vacancy occurring in the Vestry shall be filled by the remaining members of the Vestry, by the vote of a majority of them. A vacancy occurring in the office of Senior Warden or Junior Warden may be filled only from members of the Vestry. A member of the Vestry elected to fill the vacancy shall serve only for the remainder of the term of the member of Vestry replaced.
- (D) Any person may serve as a Warden for a total of three consecutive one-year terms regardless of previous service on the Vestry, except that no Warden shall be eligible for re-election to the Vestry after for one year after expiration of ~~his~~their final year in office as Warden.

2. Election – Time for, etc.

Proposed Revisions to Saint Marks' By-Laws



Meetings for elections shall be held at the Parish Church and the Secretary of the Vestry or Wardens shall cause notice of the hour to be announced at the morning services in the church on the two previous Sundays; also, ~~by mail in the parish~~ publication for two previous issues publications preceding the meeting.

Twenty-five qualified voters of the Parish shall constitute a quorum at such meetings, but if that number shall not be present, a lesser number shall be competent to adjourn the meeting to a later date not exceeding fourteen days from the original date of the meeting. If a quorum is not then present, further adjournments may be made from week to week until a quorum can be obtained. For the purposes of establishing a quorum, those attending the meeting by audio, video, or other remote means shall be counted as part of the quorum.

3. Election – How Held

The Vestry shall annually appoint a Nominating Committee, not less than 60 days prior to the Annual Parish Meeting, to prepare a slate of nominees for Vestry offices and Diocesan Convention delegates. The Clergy Rector and Wardens shall be ex-officio members of the Nominating Committee.

At least one week before the election, at the Annual Meeting, the list of nominees shall be published in ~~the parish~~ publication publications. Opportunity shall be given for additional nominations from the floor during the Annual Meeting, but consent of all people put in nomination must be secured in advance.

To be elected to any office a candidate must receive a majority of the ballots cast, unless by a two-thirds vote the Annual Parish Meeting rules otherwise.

In the case where the number of nominees equal the number of positions, the election may be held by acclamation.

4. Qualification of Voters, and Officers

Every member of the Parish, sixteen (16) years of age or over, who has contributed, by subscription or otherwise, to the support of the Parish, shall be a qualified voter of the Parish. The Senior and Junior Wardens shall be qualified voters twenty-one (21) years of age or over of the Parish and communicants in good standing of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Delegates to the Diocesan Convention shall be qualified voters of the Parish and communicants in good standing of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

5. Presiding Officer and Secretary

The Rector shall preside at Parish meetings and, in ~~his absence~~ the absence of the Rector the Senior Warden; and in ~~his absence also the absence of both the Rector and the Senior Warden~~, the Junior Warden; and in case of the absence of these three, the meeting shall choose a chair. The Secretary of the Vestry shall, ex-officio, be the Secretary of the Parish, and shall keep a proper record of the proceedings of the Parish meetings in a suitable book; and carefully preserve all records, documents, and papers pertaining to ~~his~~ the office, and shall deliver the same to ~~his~~ their successor. (If the Vestry Secretary is absent, the presiding officer may choose a Secretary pro-tem.)



Proposed Revisions to Saint Marks' By-Laws

The Secretary of the Vestry and the Parish Treasurer shall be elected by the Vestry ~~at its first meeting in each calendar year~~ at its meeting preceding the Annual Parish Meeting.

6. Special Parish Meeting

Special meetings of the Parish may be called by the Rector or by the Vestry. And special meetings shall be called by the Vestry upon the request in writing of ~~fifteen~~ twenty qualified voters of the Parish. Notice of all special meetings shall be given ~~by publication in the parish publication in the parish publications~~ at least ten days before the date of the meeting and by announcement from the chancel during ~~a regular service at all Sunday morning services at~~ least one week before the meeting.

7. Vestry Meetings

The Vestry shall hold at least six regular meetings each year, and as many more regular meetings as it may prescribe. The time and place of regular meetings shall be fixed by the Vestry and, at all Vestry meetings, regular or special, a majority of the number of members of the Vestry then in office shall constitute a quorum.

Special meetings of the Vestry may be called by the Rector, or in ~~his or her~~ their absence, by the Senior Warden, and in the absence of both by the Junior Warden. Special meetings shall also be called by the Secretary of the Vestry on request of any ~~two~~ four members of the Vestry. All such requests for special meetings shall be in writing, addressed to the Secretary of the Vestry, and shall specify the purpose of the meeting, which purpose shall also be stated in the notice of the meeting sent out by the Secretary and no other business shall be transacted at any special meeting so called.

When any Vestry member is absent from more than half of the regular Vestry meetings in any calendar year ~~his~~ their office may be declared vacant by the remaining members of the Vestry, who shall thereupon appoint a successor to fill such vacancy.

Attendance at regular and special meetings of the Vestry by audio, video, or other remote means shall be considered attendance at the meeting.

If necessary, and with the consent of the Rector and at least one of the Wardens, the Vestry may vote by email. The results of votes taken by email to be recorded in the minutes of the subsequent meeting of the Vestry.

8. Amendments

These by-laws may be amended or replaced at any legally constituted Parish Meeting by the concurrent vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided a quorum is present.

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Nominating Committee Report



Saint Mark's 2022 Vestry. Front row (left to right): Bill Mayr, Martha Belury, Anice Ellis, Junior Warden Leslie Winters. Back row (left to right): Roman Skoracki, Youth Warden Lukas Skoracki, Betsy Gillespie, Jodi Hess, Rector Vicki Zust, Barb Keyes, Cheryl Boop, Bruce Johnson, Judith Grant, Irina Reed, Julia Johnson-Davis. Not pictured: Senior Warden Mark Drew (who is behind the camera).



The vestry is the governing body of the parish and consists of 15 members of the parish who are elected by the congregation. It is the vestry's responsibility to be the final decision-making body that hires the rector, approves the parish budget, makes parish policy decisions, and spends the parish's money on mission, ministry, and maintenance.

The vestry consists of a senior warden, a junior warden, and a youth warden (high school age), each of whom are elected by the parish for a 1-year term. (Wardens may serve up to 3 consecutive 1-year terms.) The other 12 members of the vestry are elected for 3-year terms, normally with four members elected each year. The vestry appoints a treasurer and a clerk, who are not voting members of the vestry by virtue of being appointed to office.

The rector presides at meetings of the vestry, which are held on the first Tuesday of the month. In the absence of the rector, the senior or junior warden presides.

The Nominating Committee is made up of retiring vestry members, the senior and junior wardens, and the clergy. This year's nominating committee included Mark Drew, Anice Ellis, Judith Grant, Bill Mayr, Irina Reed, Lukas Skoracki, Leslie Winters, and Vicki Zust.

Saint Mark's is entitled to send four delegates each year to the annual Diocesan Convention. Two of the four delegates are served by the Senior and Junior Wardens, ex officio. The other two delegates are elected at the annual meeting. Delegate alternates are also elected at the annual meeting, in the event the delegates are unable to attend Convention.



Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee brings forth the following slate of candidates for the 2023 Vestry and Convention Delegates to be elected by a majority vote at the annual meeting.

2023 Vestry Nominees

SENIOR WARDEN 1-YEAR TERM (1 TO BE ELECTED)

Cheryl Boop

JUNIOR WARDEN 1-YEAR TERM (1 TO BE ELECTED)

Kevin Fix

YOUTH WARDEN 1-YEAR TERM (1 TO BE ELECTED)

Anna Markwardt

VESTRY MEMBER 3-YEAR TERM (4 TO BE ELECTED)

Steve Brindza

Brenda Hammersley

Ted Meyers

Andi Waller

VESTRY MEMBER MID-TERM VACANCY* (TO SERVE THE REMAINING 1 YEAR OF A 3-YEAR TERM)

Michael Bowman

CONVENTION DELEGATE 1-YEAR TERM (2 TO BE ELECTED)

Michael Bowman

Anice Ellis

Dot Yeager

CONVENTION DELEGATE ALTERNATE 1-YEAR TERM (2 TO BE ELECTED)

TBD

Judith Grant

*Position being vacated by Cheryl Boop who is nominated for Senior Warden.

Respectfully Submitted by the Nominating Committee: Mark Drew, Anice Ellis, Judith Grant, Bill Mayr, Irina Reed, Lukas Skoracki, Leslie Winters, and Vicki Zust.



2023 Vestry Nominees

SENIOR WARDEN 1-YEAR TERM (1 TO BE ELECTED)

Cheryl Boop



Cheryl Boop has been making her voice heard since arriving at Saint Mark's in 2013 by singing in the choir. And she has taken leadership roles by serving on the vestry and the Stewardship Committee.

As a result, she said, "I believe I have a good understanding of our church, the current state and where we parishioners want to see us be down the road. Saint Mark's is very important to me, and I am excited about who we are and what we can become! Our vestry is full of wonderful people who all have the same goal - but have very different viewpoints about how to achieve it. The wardens have the awesome responsibility to keep the big picture in mind while attending to the everyday issues affecting the church and congregation.

"I have experience in my national and state professional organizations in leadership positions similar to Senior Warden, and I look forward to using my skills and experience at Saint Mark's. I love the people of Saint Mark's. I'm reminded of the children's song with the words 'The Church is not a building, the Church is not a steeple, the Church is not a meeting place, the Church is the people.' The caring, honest, giving congregation -- the incredible music program; the forward-thinking vestry; and the energetic, fun, thoughtful, and creative priest -- this is what I love about Saint Mark's."

JUNIOR WARDEN 1-YEAR TERM (1 TO BE ELECTED)

Kevin Fix



Kevin Fix said he wants to help Saint Mark's grow into its future. "I love this parish, and Sunday worship and fellowship are an important part of my life and faith. I believe Saint Mark's is having a positive impact on the community at large and has a bright future ahead. So many people have contributed to where we are today, and I simply want to do my part.

"Saint Mark's is a very welcoming and inclusive community. It is a comfortable place with deeply rooted traditions, but a place that also challenges me to pursue faith and discipleship in ways I have not done before."

He serves as a vergers and a trustee for the parish's Endowment Fund, plus helps out with St. John's Street Church and with Marksmen events. Kevin has served on community boards in Upper Arlington and he thinks those experiences will help him as Junior Warden.

YOUTH WARDEN 1-YEAR TERM (1 TO BE ELECTED)

Anna Markwardt



Anna Markwardt sang in the Canterbury Choir for eight years until she aged out of the group. She has participated in the parish youth group and has served as an acolyte. "I would like to be a youth warden because I value Saint Mark's and I would like to be active in the vestry. I have been in leadership positions in (high-school) theater before and I enjoy them. (Anna is a 10th-grader at Thomas Worthington High School.) My brother was a previous youth warden, and I think I would do a good job of representing the youth because I've been involved with Saint Mark's since I was five," she said.

Anna said she enjoys being part of Saint Mark's. "I like the community of people at Saint Marks, I like how many opportunities there are for youth here, and all the ways that youth can get involved in worship. I enjoy being able to participate in services, and I also really like the hymns."



2023 Vestry Nominees

VESTRY MEMBER 3-YEAR TERM (4 TO BE ELECTED)

Steve Brindza



Steve made an observation about Saint Mark's: "The parish can be whatever you need it to be to strengthen your own walk in faith. This church allows one to feel appreciated and recognizes contributions big and small." Steve contributes to the parish in diverse ways: an usher for the 8 a.m. service, a parish website designer "in the early days of the Rev. Paul St. Germain" and a baker of breads for the Labor Day bake sale. In addition, "I've also been shown the best, optimal way to work the giant coffee maker by both Mark Drew and David Boop.

"Vestry is a significant area of service with Saint Mark's, and my prior stint in 2010-2012 helped me get through both an expected downsizing and a happy term in business school. Saint Mark's expects good utilization of time and talents from the parishioners, and now that I am in a job where my hours are more controlled by me, I can devote some time toward edifying and building up the church community and the church building itself. Additionally, I look at financial data daily, so revenue/expenditure/budget sheets make sense to me.

Steve says he has pride "in our historical/liturgical church. I've had several visitors tell me how good the music is; how poetic the texts are; and how nice the people and facilities are. And most have never known this building had so much Christian love within. I try to get the word out."

Brenda Hammersley



"Since coming to Saint Mark's I've found many outlets for my time, talents, and treasures," Brenda said. She participates with the Outreach and Migration ministries and provides grief support for individuals and groups as a personal ministry. She also serves on the Altar and Flower guilds.

She says her diverse career in healthcare "from bedside nurse to health system strategic planner to nursing faculty to executive over online operations for a large university" has given her experience helping people and organizations "work toward shared outcomes including improved financial performance. I bring a goal-oriented and analytical perspective to the table and want to offer my skills in whatever way will help Saint Mark's build a thriving future.

"I like the heart of Saint Mark's, which is the parishioners. I've met so many amazing people - some who've attended for decades and others, like me, who are relatively new to both the Episcopal Church and Saint Mark's."

Ted Meyers



Ted joined Saint Mark's in 2005 and like many parishioners has kept busy within the congregation. For Ted that includes singing in our choir, serving on the 2008 capital campaign, participating in Guatemala mission trips, and serving as a lay reader, chalice bearer and helping with St. John's Town Street Dinners. He has previously served two terms on vestry.

"Saint Mark's is an incredible community of caring people from diverse backgrounds. The term 'ancient faith, open minds' rings very true here: we follow a common, traditional liturgy filled with very thought-provoking words and music that activates the Holy Spirit within each of us. I love that we're excited to share this with the wider Columbus community through our increased involvement in community events. I have seen wonderful transformation at Saint Mark's in the 18 years since I first walked through the doors. Through my service on vestry, I've been part of that journey. Through serving on vestry again I look forward to seeing, and being part of, how Saint Mark's will continue to grow, adapt, and flourish over the next 18 years."



2023 Vestry Nominees

Andi Waller



Andrea Waller (Andi) has been a member of Saint Mark's since 2003. She was a member of the Vestry during an early transition time, thus serving under three priests and overseeing the Hospitality Committee and continuing that ministry via Coffee Hour for many years despite never liking coffee! During her time on Vestry she also participated in the Diocesan convention held in Cincinnati. Andi was extensively involved with the Guatemalan mission trip, having visited five times and made sure ample pairs of children's shoes and other necessary items were collected for each trip and remains in contact with friends made there. Currently Andi participates in Diapers and Spices and has been a Stephen's Minister for six years.

Andi retired from Nationwide Children's Hospital several years ago to care for her parents in Connecticut for multiple years in case you don't remember her face. Outside of St Marks she served on the board of CASA (court appointed special advocates), was a member of the Junior League and worked on fundraising for *She Has a Name* as well as The OSU then-Botany Department. She and her husband Kelly have three grown children and are currently also busy with a 2 year old grandson. Andi looks forward to reconnecting with Saint Marks by serving on the Vestry. She fully embraces Hebrews 13:2.

VESTRY MEMBER MID-TERM VACANCY (TO SERVE THE REMAINING 1 YEAR OF A 3-YEAR TERM)

Michael Bowman



Michael serves as a Saint Mark's usher and is looking for other areas of the parish to participate in. "At my previous church, All Saints in New Albany, I helped to coordinate the Sunday School program and other children's events, served on the Altar Guild, and helped with the Outreach Committee," he said.

"I am currently in discernment to potentially be ordained a deacon and joining the vestry will provide a great opportunity to get a greater understanding of all the activity going on at Saint Mark's and what goes on in operating a parish. While all aspects of Saint Mark's have been fantastic, perhaps the best part has been the great people that call it their parish home and the great sense of community that they create. The 'church' properly refers to the people, those 'called out,' and I hope as a member of the vestry to continue to cultivate and grow this resource."





2023 Convention Delegate Nominees

CONVENTION DELEGATE 1-YEAR TERM (2 TO BE ELECTED)

Michael Bowman



Michael said he wants to serve as a convention delegate because “I think it is important for all parishes to make sure their voices are heard in the governance of the diocese. I am also currently in discernment to potentially be ordained a deacon and participating in the diocesan convention will provide a great experience in better seeing how the diocese operates and the issues affecting it.”

Michael, who also is seeking a term on vestry, serves as a Saint Mark’s usher. “At my previous church, All Saints in New Albany, I also helped to coordinate the Sunday School program and other children’s events, served on the Altar Guild, and helped with the Outreach Committee.”

Anice Ellis



Anice’s service to her church includes serving on vestry three times, serving on two rector-search committees, being a chalice bearer and a lector. She and her late husband, Michael, founded the Supper Group. She also has participated in Sisters in Faith, the Book Group and the Flower Guild.

“I would like to attend Convention because it’s a way to attach myself closer to the diocese at this time of transition” as the diocese seeks a bishop.

Dot Yeager



Dot has served as Senior Warden, a member of the Finance Committee and an Endowment Fund trustee. She has served as a chalice bearer and usher; she participates with the Contemplative Prayer Group, Sacred Conversations, Altar Guild, and Supper Group.

“It is important for Saint Mark’s to be connected to the rest of the Diocese of Southern Ohio to fully serve Christ in our larger community,” she said. “Diocesan Convention offers opportunities to not only become aware of areas of need, but also to learn about new ministry ideas and compare notes with others who have faced similar questions and challenges. This year’s convention has particular importance, given that the Diocese expects to call a new Bishop. If elected, I would look forward to building on current relationships throughout

the Diocese and making new ones

CONVENTION DELEGATE ALTERNATE 1-YEAR TERM (2 TO BE ELECTED)

Judith Grant



Judith is completing a term on vestry. She also participates in the Contemplative Prayer and Knitting groups.

“I am eager to participate in the leadership of the church on a local level, as well as on a diocesan level,” she said. “I feel that I could do a good job representing Saint Mark’s, as well as Episcopalians throughout the diocese. I am also interested in learning more about how the diocese operates and bringing the knowledge back to Saint Mark’s.”



Rector's Report

Does it seem to anyone else that this last year has flown by?



I imagine, at least in part, that it seems so because we had a lot going on at Saint Mark's in the last year.

We are discovering what it looks like to live in a world where COVID continues to circulate and we have to make decisions about how to live with it. Just to remind you, as long as the CDC COVID community level in Franklin County is low or moderate then masks are optional; we can do inside events with food and we will share the chalice at communion. Should the community level go to high (as it did this past summer for a few weeks), masks will be required; food will only be served outdoors and we will go back to communion in one kind only. You are always welcome to wear a mask and we will continue to have them on the table in the foyer for you.

I started with that because we have begun to resume activities and figure out what our community life looks like in the later pandemic world.

We had a wonderful and glorious Holy Week and Easter celebration and a week later a great Celebration of New Ministry when Bishop Smith came and celebrated our ministry together. As I think about our ministry together, I think about the goals that we discerned through the fall and winter of 2021. You can see them right at

the entrance to the parish hall.

We talked about wanting to have events that drew us together as a congregation and a chance to build relationships with each other.

My goodness did that happen this year. Just to name a few, the Pentecost Picnic, the Artisans Without Borders exhibit, the Evensongs and the receptions after them, the wonderful Lessons and Carols service and reception, the First Sunday Outreach programs, the Spices & Diapers program that draws as many as 20 people here once a month to help our neighbors, the meals we do for CATCH Court and Street Church, the Lent education program, Compline in the Park this summer, the Cookie Walk, Fall Festival and Labor Day Bake Sale, Father's Day root beer and brats and the High Tea in May. I know that I've forgotten a lot.

As you can see, we are a busy place with lots of ways to get to know people and engage with others for all kinds of things; for spiritual growth; for fellowship and to help others.

Just one thing I want to highlight is the number of hours that Saint Mark's folk spend making all of these things and many others happen; we are a generous congregation with our time and our talents. The Outreach Committee did a rough calculation of the total number of hours that were spent on Outreach Projects this year. The rough estimate was 12,000 hours. If you multiply that by \$15/hour those hours have a value of over \$175,000 just in the time that people have given just to Outreach projects. That doesn't include any of the other areas of the life of our parish.

We talked about wanting to be a place that supports our children and youth; has engaging programs for them and where they want to be.

The youth group is meeting monthly and we are working with other Episcopal congregations in our area to develop some regional activities, including a Mission Day Camp this summer. We also have a combination pilgrimage and mission trip to Hawaii in the summer of 2024.

The Canterbury Choir continues to offer wonderful music the first Sunday of the month, at the Christmas pageant, at Christmas at the Clock at the Tremont Center and at their Evensong in May. The reception after the May Canterbury



Rector's Report

Choir evensong was one of the most fun events of the year.

The Children's Formation team is offering wonderful programs on Sunday mornings and is working with the Adult Formation team to have similar topics offered at a variety of times during the year. By the way, Saint Mark's will host regional Godly Play training at the end of February. If you are interested please let me know and I'll help you get signed up.

Saint Mark's is sponsoring a lot of activities that our kids are involved in. We have sponsored the UA Marching Band, the Jones Middle School musical, UA Crew, the Tremont Elementary School Not So Silent Auction, the UA High School Orchestra and the Thomas Worthington High School theater season. If your children or youth are involved in something please let me know. I go to concerts and sports events and activities and Saint Mark's will sponsor activities our kids are involved in.

We talked about wanting to reach out to our community, both being an active and visible presence in our community and welcoming people and including them in the Saint Mark's community.

We did Compline in the Park at the Quarry Trails Metro Park this summer and fall and there is interest in resuming that in the spring.

The Canterbury Choir sang at the Christmas at the Clock event at the Tremont Center. We sponsored the Artisans Beyond Borders exhibit last spring and are hosting a Culture and Artisans Fair this May. We did a coordinated social-media campaign through the fall and winter, including videos featuring several Saint Mark's folk who told their stories about Saint Mark's.

— [] —
“None of this would be possible without all of you, and your willingness to jump in, help, and try new things.”

I was featured on the cover of the Tri-Village magazine and on the City of Upper Arlington's podcast. Our livestream is expanding our reach in remarkable ways. In 2022 our average weekly in-person attendance was 113 people. Our average weekly digital attendance was 109. Looking just at September – December 2022, our average weekly in person attendance was 130 and our digital attendance was 105. Almost as many people are worshipping with us digitally as are here in person on any given Sunday. One of the things we will be working on this year is how to make sure that there are opportunities for our digital congregation to engage with the life of the congregation in meaningful ways.

None of this would be possible without all of you, and your willingness to jump in, help, and try new things.

I particularly want to thank the staff of Saint Mark's: Melanie Jacobs, Matthew Bester and Michael Scheffler, who are huge gifts to me and to the ministry of Saint Mark's. I also want to thank the outgoing vestry members: Anice Ellis, Judith Grant, Bill Mayr, and Irina Reed for all their work over the last three years.

Barbara Hyre has served as vestry clerk for 18 years. She is stepping down to explore new ways of serving Saint Mark's. We thank her for her many years of service as clerk.

A special thank-you is due to Leslie Winters and Mark Drew, who served respectively as junior and senior warden for the last two years. Serving as warden is a big job in the best of circumstances and a global pandemic and clergy transition at the same time are not the best of circumstances. Mark and Leslie ensured that Saint Mark's is a strong, healthy and growing congregation and made the transition to a new rector as easy and seamless as possible. They will both be missed on the leadership team, but fortunately, both will continue to be a part of our congregation and community. As I hope you can see, Saint Mark's is a place that is taking the light of Christ into our world in a huge variety of ways and places. Thank you all for all that you contribute to making the presence of Christ visible in this place and time.



Senior Warden's Report



Positive Growth: A Most Wonderful Year

Activity and growth were apparent in 2022 at Saint Mark's. During our first full year with a new rector in place, positive energy was seen in many ways. New faces, new habits, and a renewed sense of spirit are hard to miss. Coffee after the 8 o'clock service, why not? Intergenerational First Sunday outreach projects before the 10:30 a.m. service, a great idea! Wednesday evening Compline in the Park, let's go! Livestreaming the Adult Formation, why yes!

The past year has seen many new things at Saint Mark's. Many may become long-standing traditions for us, and possibly a few will fade. But, without the continual investment of passion and energy, trial and error, positive growth at Saint Mark's would not be the expected outcome. This positive energy comes out in many forms. Energized service on committees such as building, communications, outreach, and audio/video/networking that meet frequently to deliberate and discern a wise path forward. Leadership on projects such as Lukas Skoracki's building of a new storage shed and our A/V team's work on the new Parish Hall technology, are but a few noteworthy examples of our healthy lay- and clergy-leadership efforts that are moving us forward.

Engaging: Within and Beyond our Walls

If one word could be used to describe a theme of the past year at Saint Marks', engagement would be an excellent choice. We continue to engage our members (see First Sundays, committees, and projects, above). Each week we also welcome and engage new faces with our greetings, activities, and attitudes. We engage our virtual worshipers by delivering our beautiful music and worship, some tuning in to check us out before coming in person, and some tuning in because they can join and worship with us despite health, weather, vacation, or retirement.

We also engage the residents of our geographical parish and beyond. Saint Mark's support of local events such as Rainbow UA, youth events, and community efforts are not unnoticed by those around us. The aforementioned Compline in the Park is a great example. Another was the vestry-approved donation toward the construction of Litchford Plaza. We open our doors throughout the year to support groups, AARP tax assistance, The Girl Scouts (and soon to come Cub Scouts). Our annual bake sale has become an expected part of the UA Labor Day Arts Festival. Further reaching, our choir's trip to England took our voices abroad, and our worship livestream services were watched by people from over 33 countries. These are examples of how we engage our community and beyond. Not only do we simply care deeply about those beyond our walls, but we stretch and engage them by sharing God's love in many ways.

Financial Care: Good Work and Big Faith

We are blessed with a thoughtful and responsible vestry and talented financial stewards that put hard work, passion, and care into what they do for our parish. We also are blessed with the belief that we don't have the ultimate authority over how things pan out. Good work and big faith are what we can do, and our financial stewards are doing these two things quite well.

From a financial perspective, our Finance Committee, Endowment Trustees, and Stewardship Committees continue to deserve our gratitude for their responsible oversight of the fiscal health of Saint Mark's. Like the vestry, these groups keep the financial health of Saint Mark's on their minds throughout the year. The Finance Committee continues to be led by Treasurer Phil Glandon and also includes Julia Johnson-Davis, Jay Wilcox, and Dot Yeager. This committee met regularly this year with the wardens and Pastor Vicki, and should be thanked for their service. Likewise, our Endowment Trustees (Dot Yeager, Phil Glandon, Jay Wilcox and Elizabeth Anstaett) welcomed Kevin Fix. Our Stewardship efforts this year were led by vestry members Cheryl Boop and Julia Johnson-Davis whose hard work, along with Pastor Vicki, helped Saint Mark's realize a significant increase in our pledged giving for the coming year.

With respect to the budget, there is justifiable concern in proposing a deficit budget for the second straight year.



Senior Warden's Report

Yes, it is technically a deficit budget, but it is again an investment of unspent surplus toward a well-founded vision and effort for growth. Two questions might be: "Will this investment in our building, infrastructure, and programming pay off?" and "Will we grow to match our financial needs?" If this past year represents the start of a trend, the answers would be yes and yes. We grew in numerous ways, including an increase in giving and worshipers, and ended the year at less than half the projected deficit due to responsible spending and generous giving. Financially speaking, there are tangible signs of growth at Saint Mark's.

It Takes a Village: Many Hands, Goodbyes, and Hellos

It is worth noting that much of the hard work involved in our parish goes unrecognized. Other hands and hearts, too many to name, go into aspects of helping Saint Mark's thrive from week to week; from the flower arrangements on Sundays to the mission provided by outreach committees. From a Warden's perspective, our staff of Vicki, Matt, Melanie, and Michael bring a spirit of hard work and excellence to their days at Saint Mark's. A few other individuals need to be singled out for their support throughout the past year as well. Gloria Wylie continues to be the "Best Bookkeeper Ever" and it is bittersweet to see our Vestry Clerk of 18 years, Barb Hyre, step aside. Steve Bigley has worked tirelessly throughout the year to support our parish's excellent networking and audio-video infrastructure. Our outgoing Junior Warden, Leslie Winters, has been a passionate steward of our building. Vestry members Cheryl Boop and Julia Johnson-Davis stepped up and volunteered to co-chair the year's stewardship campaign. One of our vergers, Kevin Fix, has contributed his financial talents through his service on both our finance committee and as an Endowment Trustee. As mentors, Phil Glandon and Dot Yeager have been invaluable in their ready knowledge and caring advice as both past treasurers and senior wardens. I have also been blessed to work with Rev. Vicki Zust this past year. Her vision of growth and engagement for Saint Mark's is only matched by her tireless effort and her sincerity of hope, to bring the joy of Christ to all.

Most of all, the vestry has been a highlight for me. Yes, meetings are sometimes long, at times a bit uncomfortable, and emails can be frequent, but yet, a spirit of good intention (mixed many times with appropriate joviality) pervades each time we get together. A big thank you must go out to the vestry members I've served with. Each of them has been dedicated, attentive, enthusiastic, and when needed, patient in their service to Saint Mark's.

Finally, Saint Mark's has lost, and gained, members over the past year. Though some have moved and some called to the nearer presence of Christ, these past members of our laity remain with us in our hearts. We are blessed with the addition of a significant number of new faces. As we begin this new year, we look forward to sharing the love of those who have come before us with those we are just beginning to know. We truly are a blessed family.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Drew, Senior Warden





Junior Warden's Report



I write this as my last official act as your Junior Warden. It has been a busy two years, and I thank you for the opportunity to serve in this position. It was a wonderful opportunity to fully understand the workings of the parish, particularly considering the fact we had the opportunity to call a new rector during my tenure. It was also a great opportunity to really get to know and appreciate both our new rector and my fellow vestry members. While there is a part of me that will be happy to be done with our facility issues, I will miss my regular interactions with this group.

A considerable amount of time during my tenure was spent coming to know our parish budget, and, in particular, the facilities budget. I want to thank both Gloria Wylie, Dot Yeager and Phil Glandon for answering all of my questions, repeatedly, about what was budgeted for what, and with whom we contract for services.

While we were unable to accomplish everything I would have hoped, over the last two years we did make a number of improvements to the campus. It no longer rains on the altar, but we are still getting leaks in the nave due to ice jams. We now have a facilities subcommittee of the Vestry to assist the Rector and Junior Warden with priorities and contracting. We also have a very part time facilities person to assist with basic maintenance. We have changed our landscaping company, so hopefully our grounds will look better. We painted our trim which looks nice and will prevent damage to the bare wood. The rector's office was renovated prior to her start date. The memorial garden is no longer overgrown, having undergone a complete refresh. Several really large projects remain which the congregation will have to address in the next few years, such as the bell tower and our aging HVAC systems. Our facility maintenance needs to be a priority for the parish. We are also going to have to make decisions about the cost of repairs versus replacement for some of our aging equipment.

The other big item that occurred during my tenure was the pandemic. When I first started, we were operating remotely, and our meetings were on Zoom. We came back together although we were all behind masks. Now we operate in a hybrid function, which seems to allow more people to easily participate. It seems that will continue as the new standard. Hopefully, soon we won't continually hear that someone isn't at a meeting as they are out with COVID.

I wish our incoming wardens and vestry members the best, and promise to be available for a transition. I look forward to watching Saint Marks continue to grow and flourish.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie A. Winters
Junior Warden





Treasurer's Report

Review of 2022 Financial Results

2022 was a much better year financially than expected, despite a 16% decline (\$62,737) in the market value of our endowment fund investments. Although we had budgeted a \$72,857 deficit from operations, we ended up with a true operating deficit of only \$27,872 when you exclude the unrealized “paper” loss in the Endowment Fund.

Unrealized gains and losses in the Endowment Fund move up and down with the market but have no effect on the funds available for our operations. The Endowment Fund had unrealized market gains totaling \$126,486 during the previous three years. We had realized income from interest and dividends during the year totaling \$12,902 from the Endowment Fund and \$5,821 from other investments that helped fund operations.

Our member donations were \$32,870 greater than our expectations and our expenses were \$15,655 lower than budget. The most significant savings relative to our budget was in our Diocese Mission Share. The Diocese reduced the assessment of all parishes by 1/12 in 2022. Our assessment was also lower because it is based on our expenses, which were under budget.

2023 Operating Budget

General: During the 2020 Pledge campaign, when we were in the middle of the COVID pandemic, our pledging dropped by about \$50,000. As a result, we cut our budgeted expenses by a similar amount. Although we only regained about \$8,700 in total pledges during the 2021 campaign, we decided to have faith and restore our expense budget to near the pre-COVID level, relying on a surplus that we had collected in the previous 3 years from some unexpected generous gifts and lower expenses. We had over \$150,000 saved from those years that could sustain us while we worked towards rebuilding our numbers. Thus, we approved a deficit budget of \$75,357 last year and as mentioned above only incurred a loss of \$27,872. We still feel we have sufficient funds to allow us to budget expenses that are greater than our anticipated revenue in 2023. The Vestry has approved a deficit budget of (\$58,070).

Income: There is good reason for the Vestry to be optimistic. We are seeing a number of new members not only show up for services on Sunday, but become active in the parish. A greatly expanded social media presence, live video streaming of our worship services, and friendly members who are greeting new people enthusiastically, have contributed to that success. Pledging was up \$23,000 in our fall campaign which was our largest increase in a long time. Non-pledged gifts are unpredictable but they have remained significant for past three years, so we have raised that budget amount by \$5,000.

Staff and Payroll Expenses: We have raised salaries for our four employees by 5% in 2023 and we raised our choir section leader compensation from \$40 to \$45 per practice session, service, or performance.

Administration: Our internet and communication costs are expected to go down as we eliminate some redundancy. We expect computer expenses to be lower and we feel we can reduce our marketing expense next year.

Facilities: We are budgeting higher utility costs for 2023 and have added a part-time property manager for 5 hours a week.

Outreach: We are continuing to raise our funding for outreach and felt a 20% increase was appropriate this year.

Mission Share: Our rate was reduced by the Diocese from 13.30% to 12.42% for 2023, but that rate will be applied to higher expenses and we don't expect to get the 1/12 reduction noted above in the 2022 Financial Results section.

Other Expenses: The remaining expense categories are budgeted in aggregate at 2022 levels.

Concluding Thoughts

The Vestry worked very hard developing the budget. Vicki, the Wardens, the Vestry and I are all focused on being good stewards of the gifts we receive and are confident that the Holy Spirit is watching over us as we seek to do God's work through this wonderful parish that we are blessed to be a part of!

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Glandon, Treasurer



Treasurer's Report

2022 Statement of Financial Activity & 2023 Budget

	<u>2022 Budget</u>	<u>2022 Actual</u>	<u>2023 Budget</u>
<u>INCOME</u>			
Member Contributions - Pledged	\$400,000	\$397,018	\$430,000
Plate & Non-Pledged Contributions	65,000	100,852	70,000
Earnings from Investments	20,000	18,740	15,000
Unearned Loss - Endowment Fund		(62,737)	
Rental Income	18,000	18,213	18,000
Misc. Other Income	5,000	3,086	2,500
TOTAL INCOME	\$508,000	\$475,173	\$535,500
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Staff Payroll & Expenses	\$281,034	\$279,712	\$297,002
Administration	65,861	66,848	62,994
Facilities	127,388	122,822	131,444
Outreach	10,000	10,000	12,000
Diocese Mission Share	77,165	68,275	72,000
Christian Education and Dev.	6,700	4,716	5,750
Fellowship and Hospitality	2,300	2,837	2,650
Member Care	1,000	433	600
Music	4,160	4,339	3,660
Stewardship	250	318	250
Worship	7,500	5,483	5,220
Total Expenses	\$583,358	\$565,782	\$593,570
Net Income Over / (Under) Expenses	(\$75,358)	(\$90,609)	(\$58,070)



Treasurer's Report

Designated Fund Balances at December 31, 2022

Canterbury Choir	\$20,001.77	Memorial Garden	\$5,228.94
Choir England Trip	\$4,666.60	Memorial Gifts	\$13,141.94
Flower Guild	\$4,535.09	Outreach Restricted Gifts	\$13,730.67
Funeral Receptions	\$778.99	Special Music	\$23,093.73
Gary L. Garber Scholarship Fund	\$3,937.70	Trinity Guild	\$51,941.63
Mark's Men	\$292.04	Vacation Bible School	\$2,194.95
Major Projects	\$193,561.98	Youth Mission	\$3,407.68





Endowment Trustees' Report

The Trustees of the Endowment Fund during 2022 were: Dot Yeager (chair), Phil Glandon (treasurer), Elizabeth Anstaett, Kevin Fix and Jay Wilcox.

The Trustees met three times during the year, in April, July and October, to review the Endowment Fund investments, which are held at The Columbus Foundation.

At Dec. 31, 2022, the total principal and income balance of the Endowment Fund invested in the account at The Columbus Foundation was \$310,361.36, compared to \$387,469.91 at Dec. 31, 2021. This account had capital losses, net of investment income and capital gains, totaling \$62,737.02 during 2022, representing a 16% decline for the year. Fees and expenses totaled \$1,469.53. Two distributions totaling \$12,902 were made from the Endowment Fund to the parish operating fund during 2022.

The national church has been a pioneer since the 1970s in efforts to “do justice” by using the church’s investments for social change. An Episcopal News Service article last fall provides good background on those efforts over the years and is found at this link: www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2022/10/18/executive-council-learns-about-moral-legal-responsibilities-as-managers-of-church-finances/

At the national church convention in July 2022, two resolutions around Faithful and Ethical Investing were passed, to encourage the larger church to live into those ideals. A report of the Theology of Money Task Force can be found here: www.episcopalarchives.org/e-archives/gc_reports/reports/2022/bb_2022-R044.pdf

The Trustees during 2022 discussed how the Endowment Fund might apply these concepts. The Columbus Foundation primarily uses Vanguard for investment management and the Trustees learned that Vanguard provides a Social Index Fund, which screens for environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria. Companies with significant interests in coal, oil, gas, weapons, etc. are not included in this fund. The Trustees plan to continue to explore how to transition some or all of the Endowment Fund assets to this fund option. However, given the current volatility in the stock and bond markets, such discussion was deferred until 2023 and times when more stability would allow for changing the asset mix without an adverse impact on the principal and income balance.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Dot Yeager, Endowment Trustees Chair

**Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
Endowment Fund Financial Statement
For the Period Ended December 31, 2022**

Fund balance 12/31/2021	\$ 387,469.92
<u>2022 Activity:</u>	
Investment losses, net of income	(62,737.02)
Income distributed to parish operations	(12,902.00)
Administration & Investment Fees	<u>(1,469.53)</u>
Fund Balance 12/31/2022	<u>\$ 310,361.37</u>



Music

The year 2022 was a year of excitement and growth for the music program at Saint Mark's.

In January, Saint Mark's was thrilled to welcome the parish's new permanent organist, Michael Schreffler, in culmination of a national search. Michael hit the ground running, impressing parishioners with his superb voluntaries while meshing quickly with the choirs. Before long, he was up to speed on many of the peculiarities of the Episcopal tradition, including Anglican chant and the beautiful liturgy of Choral Evensong.



For the choirs, the first half of 2022 was particularly satisfying for its return to relative normalcy, as it was the first winter and spring with a normal liturgical schedule since 2019. Highlights included a return of our Taizé service in January; services of Choral Evensong in March and April; a full complement of Holy Week services; and a season-ending service of Choral Evensong by the Canterbury Choir in May.

The first half of the year culminated in July with the Saint Mark's Choir's spectacular residency trip to Wells Cathedral, England. The choir spent much of the season preparing the repertoire for the demanding residency week, which included six services of Choral Evensong and a service of Choral Eucharist on Sunday morning. While in England, the choir also had time for sightseeing visits to London, Stonehenge, Salisbury, Glastonbury, and Bath.

In May, the Canterbury Choir bade farewell to six experienced choristers (four who aged out of the group and two more who moved out of town). Tempering this loss, the group was thrilled to welcome six new choristers to the group over the course of the fall. The new choristers have fit in quickly, and the group now sounds as good as ever. The Saint Mark's Choir also has enjoyed a growth in membership since the fall, including four former Canterbury Choir members who are now in high school as well as several singers from First Congregational Church, with whom Saint Mark's has collaborated on musical projects in the past.

Both the choirs had a very rewarding fall. The Saint Mark's Choir led a beautiful service of Choral Evensong for All Saints' Sunday and a stirring service of Choral Eucharist for Christ the King Sunday in November. Both choirs joined forces for a wonderful service of Advent Lessons and Carols in December, followed by a glorious pair of services on Christmas Eve.

I continue to be grateful for all the volunteers in the choirs who make it possible to provide beautiful and inspiring music for services at Saint Mark's. I am also exceedingly grateful for the staff singers of the Saint Mark's Choir for their exceptional and essential musical leadership and for the Head Choristers of the Canterbury Choir for their outstanding peer leadership.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Bester, Director of Music





Adult Formation

Adult Formation tried several different things this past year.

We read the book *Looking for God in Messy Places* in February. We had the discussions hybrid, in person and on Zoom. The author, Bishop Owensby, joined us by Zoom for one of the discussions.

During Lent we did a multi-part program with a workshop on Pysanky Easter Eggs, Compline and a hybrid discussion of the book *Songs my Grandma Sang* by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. Some people came to one part, some to two and some to all three. We will do something similar again this Lent, adding a dinner of soup and bread before the Easter Egg workshop.

This summer we did a series of sessions in August on everything from favorite Bible stories, to praying in color and everything in between. This fall Pastor Vicki led a series on a quick view of the three great Abrahamic faiths and how they developed and changed over centuries. We beta tested livestreaming this program and it worked well.

In January we did a series on Lesser Known Bible Stories which was also livestreamed and available for watching later as well. We have been planning with the children's formation team so the January session on Lesser Known Bible Stories and the sessions for Lent and spring will have similar themes to what is being explored in children's formation.

There have been two quiet mornings, one at the beginning of Lent and another at the beginning of Advent. A third is planned for the first Saturday in March this year.

The arched bookcase in the parish hall is the center for formation materials for use at home. The materials rotate through the year from Advent calendars to home theological reflections for Lent to meditations for your walks for Rogation Days.

We are always looking for ideas for adult formation topics and people who are interested in leading an adult formation session. If you are, or know of someone who is, please let Pastor Vicki know.

Youth Formation

Youth group is for any youth in grades 6 through 12.

The group meets the first Sunday of the month after the 10:30 a.m. service. We have lunch and then do some activity together. The group welcomed a number of new members this program year, some aging into the group and some joining Saint Mark's for the first time. We have between 6 and 10 youth attending during a typical month.

We have visited an escape room, played hide and go seek, had conversations about spiritual topics and worked on getting the youth room into shape.

We are talking with other Columbus-area congregations about youth events, including one this spring focused on spirituality. We also are planning a month of work days this coming June, providing service outreach to a number of area organizations. Details on both projects are on the way.

The youth group is planning a combination pilgrimage and mission trip to Hawaii in the summer of 2024. We will raise money to help with the costs of this, and we are looking for some adults who want to come with us.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Vicki Zust



Children's Formation

Children's Formation is designed for children in preschool through fifth grade and includes a variety of programming on Sunday mornings as well as activities and special events throughout the year. Formation leaders include Joanne Drew and Laura Skoracki with guidance from Pastor Vicki and assistance of vestry liaisons Irina Reed and Betsy Gillespie. On Sundays we rely on Catherine Davis' assistance and warm presence and the musical talents of Jim Keyes.

In 2022 the vestry approved a budget of \$2,000 for Children's Formation. This was spent judiciously to improve programming and enliven our common space. Purchased items included: new children's hymnals, *My Heart Sings Out*, compiled and edited by Fiona Vidal-White; the purchase of *The Very Best Day, but Roger Hutchinson*, provided to households with children as a faith-at-home Lenten activity; craft re-supply, and fellowship activities such as bible games, puzzles, and bible character puppets. We also purchased items to replace worn Christmas pageant costumes.

Sunday Morning Schedule

Two Children's Formation sessions occur on Sunday mornings in the Christian education classroom area: Children's Gathering (9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.) and Church School (10:30 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.). Children are greeted by a stuffed animal friend accompanied by a letter from Pastor Vicki. The children look forward to this each week and enjoy bringing the animal with them into the sanctuary.

Children's Gathering: (Before Worship: 9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.) This is a flexible time in which children can either choose their own activity or participate in stories and special projects led by Laura Skoracki and Joanne Drew. This gathering is designed to offer fellowship activities and programming for children at a time that would encourage adults to participate in Sunday activities outside of the Sunday worship service, such as Adult Formation, Saint Mark's Choir, or committee work.

Church School: (During Worship: 10:30 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.) Church School takes place during the first half of the worship service from 10:30 to approximately 11:05 a.m. Children join their families in the sanctuary at the sign of the peace so they can participate in the Eucharist. While in Church School, children are grouped into age-appropriate sessions:

Godly Play: Children aged 3-5 years attend Godly Play led primarily by Laura Skoracki with assistance from Irina Reed. Godly Play is an intentional and highly structured program that presents parables and sacred stories using wooden figures, simple language, and liturgical action to help children become more fully aware of the mystery of God's presence in their lives. More information is available at www.godlyplayfoundation.org.

Primary Grades: Children in first through fifth grades are taught by Joanne Drew with assistance by Jim Keyes and Catherine Davis. (We are looking for a more creative name for this.) In winter and spring 2022 the curriculum was a Children's Chapel format (see below). Beginning in Fall 2022 the children's primary grade school curriculum content aligned with that of Adult Formation and focused on Parables of the Kingdom of God. These lesson plans and corresponding activity packets were created by Joanne Drew and are available on the website (www.saintmarkscolumbus.org/children-and-youth-formation).

Participation During Worship

Children's Formation does not take place on the first Sundays of the month. This is to encourage intergenerational participation in First Sundays Outreach projects at 9:30 a.m. and to allow children to experience the 10:30 worship service in its entirety. Notably, the children's chorus, Canterbury Choir, sings on the first Sundays of the month so children who attend church that Sunday who are not part of the choir are able to watch their peers participate in a Sunday service; and we encourage that. Parishioners of all ages particularly enjoy Pastor Vicki's Brown Bag Sermons in which she asks children to bring an item from home to place inside a brown bag. Each item is used as a part of an improvised sermon.

In addition to first Sundays, Church School children gather near the font to attend baptisms and, during the four Sundays in Advent, participate at the beginning of each service in a procession and lighting of the Advent Wreath.

Special Projects

Butterfly Brigade: This began as an activity in Children's Gathering but is now ongoing and open to everyone. Crayons and butterfly templates are available to keep little hands occupied during church. The butterflies are then



Children's Formation

turned into cards of love and inspiration for anyone to send to someone in need of a special note of encouragement, thanksgiving, prayer, or to keep in touch. The cards are free for the taking and are located at the back of the sanctuary.

The Lord's Prayer: A Book by the Children of Saint Mark's: In Lent 2021 during online-only programming, the children focused on a unit called The Lord's Prayer Project. In 2022, once we were back in person, this culminated in a book that is written and illustrated by the children and dedicated to Pastor Vicki for her installation ceremony. We plan future similar projects, which may include The Apostles' Creed and Eucharistic Prayer.

Lent: Throughout Lent children learned about the seven activities of Michael Curry's *The Way of Love* with a special curriculum and activity booklet based on *The Very Best Day: The Way of Love for Children*, by Roger Hutchinson. Copies of these books were given to families.

Advent: Jesse Tree: Joanne Drew built a Jesse Tree and purchased corresponding ornaments that was exhibited in the parish hall and used to illustrate the line of successive stories from Genesis to the birth of Jesus.

Children's Chapel: Children's Chapel is a lectionary-based program based on the series, *Living the Good News*, (Church Publishing Group, www.churchpublishing.org) and *Lesson Plans that Work* (The Episcopal Church, www.lessonplans.episcopalchurch.org) and is appropriate for children of all ages. It is a structured and intentional service that includes lighting altar candles, tolling of a bell, singing a hymn, and prayer. This is followed by an age-appropriate retelling of that day's gospel reading, an interactive discussion and, if time permits, an activity or craft. Our hope for Children's Chapel is to allow children to experience the beauty and joy of the celebration of the Word and encourage a conversation with their parents about what they heard in that week's liturgy.

Summer Programming: Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a vibrant camp-style program that has taken many forms in previous years, from traditional weeklong day-camp style to an afternoon/evening intergenerational program that includes a family-style dinner and adult programming. VBS was cancelled during COVID lockdown and remained on hiatus again in summer 2022. We look forward to re-imagining summer programming for Children, Youth, and Families for summer 2023.

Holiday & Special Events

Holiday and special events are popular and continue to grow as membership with children and families increase. Events in 2022 again included the Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween pumpkin carving, and Advent Wreath-making workshop. In addition to these, Children's Formation held a special All Saint's Day with Day of the Dead-themed celebration.

Christmas Pageant: One of the highlights of the church year for those of us who volunteer in Children's ministry is the Christmas pageant and 2022 was no exception. Thirteen children participated in the pageant this year.

We would like to especially thank Pastor Vicki for her guidance and support in advocating for a line item in the budget dedicated to enhancing children's programming. We would also like to thank Saint Mark's parents and grandparents who let us spend time with their children and take part in the growth of their Christian education.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Drew, Children's Formation Co-Leader
Laura Skoracki, Children's Formation Co-Leader
Irina Reed, Children's Formation Vestry Liaison





Outreach Ministry

The Outreach Ministry begins its report with a thank you to everyone who has helped with an Outreach Ministry project or fundraiser. Much of what is done by the ministry would not be possible without the in-kind help provided by the entire congregation. This past year you have bought our raffle tickets, baked for our fundraisers, bought cookies and baked goods, donated food for the food pantry, sewn and knitted for the layette, bought school supplies, bought gifts for the layettes, made chili and casseroles for Street Church, and provided labor for our projects and events. This just names a few of the many things you have done in the name of Outreach. While we have an Outreach Ministry Committee, our ministry could not do all that it does without the entire congregation, so thank you.

Likewise, thank you to everyone who made financial gifts to Outreach. As you will see below, the Outreach-designated gifts provide about half of the funding for our programs. Outreach could not do nearly as much without these gifts, and the Outreach Ministry is a group with big hearts who always want to take on more projects, so thank you for your gifts.

Budget

This past year, the Vestry approved an increase in the Outreach allocation in the parish budget to \$10,000 from \$6,600. This allowed approximately one-third of our projects to be funded through the parish budget. The remainder of the money used for projects and donations was funded using congregant donations earmarked for Outreach, including goodwill offerings at special events hosted by other groups such as the Marksmen or the Music program, and from Outreach fundraisers.

2021 Starting Carryover	\$15,918	Approx. Value In-Kind Labor	
Vestry-Allocated Funds	\$10,000	hours provided for projects	
Donated Funds	\$14,846	by the congregation*	\$179,000
Fundraisers	\$ 3,697		
Total Funding in 2022	\$44,371	Funds Spent on 2022 Projects	\$ 30,332
2022 Year-End Balance	\$14,039		

*12,000 hours at \$15 per hour

Projects Supported During the Year

The Outreach Ministry Has defined its Core Projects as those where we have members actively involved in the project as opposed to those where our involvement is limited to donations. This past year our Core Projects were NNEMAP, the Appalachian Children's Project, Street Church, CATCH Court, the Habitat for Humanity lunch program, and the Immigration Ministry.

One of our new projects this past year was a three-year financial commitment to Move to Prosper, a group that moves low-income families to housing in neighborhoods with better resources, and then helps them to leverage their move to increase the family income and improve educational opportunities. We had a change in our Layette Program when Trinity Episcopal decided to leave our partnership. Luckily, Vinton County Help Me Grow was willing to work directly with us. As part of that new partnership, we changed our school supply/backpack project to send the backpacks to Vinton County students. Due to the expansion of the program, we are now calling that project the Appalachian Children's Project.

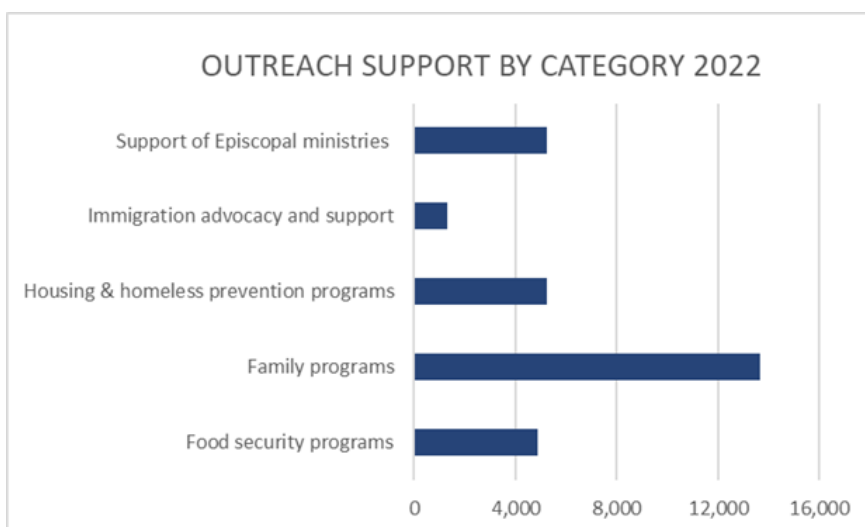


Outreach Ministry

We were approached by Proctor Camp to help them with the purchase of a van to be used for their respite campers. This was a diocese-wide solicitation to which we donated. Working with the Migration Ministries Committee, we assisted with the Embroidering Hope Project and donated to CRIS to help support refugees. Our Diapers and Spices Project has grown to a very active ministry with quite a few monthly volunteers. Both the diapers and the spice kits are appreciated at NNEMAP. Outreach hosted several First Sunday Projects, giving our congregation an opportunity to hear about the programs Saint Mark's supports and to participate in hands-on activities. We did things such as make first-aid kits for the homeless youth at Star House and assemble take-home snack bags for those attending Street Church.

Financial support projects broke down as follows:

Family Programs	\$13,672	45%
Appalachian Children's Project		
CATCH Court		
NNEMAP Diaper Program		
Housing and Homelessness Prevention	\$ 5,249	17%
Habitat for Humanity		
Move to Prosper		
Open Shelter		
STAR House		
Episcopal Ministries	\$ 5,228	17%
Episcopal Relief and Development		
Proctor Van for Respite Camper Program and Food Store		
Food Security Programs	\$ 4,863	16%
God's Pantry		
NNEMAP Food Pantry		
Street Church		
Immigration Advocacy and Support	\$ 1,320	4%
Artisans Beyond Borders		
CRIS		
Embroidering Hope Exhibit		



Respectfully Submitted,
Leslie Winters, Co-Chair, Outreach Ministry
Bill Karl, Co-Chair, Outreach Ministry



Communications

Communications efforts come in many forms at Saint Mark's, as the parish seeks to stay in touch with parishioners as well as the greater community. The Communications Team consists primarily of Pastor Vicki, Joanne Drew, Bill Mayr and Office Manager Melanie Jacobs along with gracious contributions from other members of the congregation.

Written communications include the Order of Service for Sunday services, the monthly *Epistle* and the Annual Report you are reading now. The *Epistle*, which we seek to make an enjoyable and informative publication, is the product of many hands, including Matthew Bester and Michael Schreffler (music), Leslie Winters (outreach), Joyce Acton (migration), and Brenda Hammersley (pastoral care). Pastor Vicki, Joanne, and Bill help with additional writing and editing while Joanne completes the work with her gifted design and graphics skills. A shoutout to Melanie and volunteers who print and mail the copies.

Electronic communication is increasingly important to Saint Mark's, with much of the work done by Pastor Vicki and Melanie. This includes *This Week at Saint Mark's*, the weekly email newsletter sent to subscribers (it's free!) Friday afternoons and posted on our website and Facebook pages as well as Sunday Reminders, emailed early Sunday mornings with information on that day's activities.

In the Social Media area, the parish hired Remember Marketing, using \$2,500 of parish money and a matching grant from the diocese, to produce videos featuring parishioners who shared why they came to Saint Mark's and what they like about the parish. Other videos promoted elements and activities of Saint Mark's such as the Blessing of the Animals, Christmas service times, children's formation and music. The videos were distributed to Facebook feeds targeted to people who live within a 5- to 7-mile radius of Saint Mark's but who may otherwise not be affiliated with the parish. We will continue to seek creative ways to reach out to the community via Social Media.

Pastor Vicki and Joanne routinely update the parish website. We have partly completed a new website that will be compatible with a new diocesan server. Please contact Pastor Vicki if you are interested in working on this project. Volunteers are welcome!

Livestreaming our Sunday services and other services and activities, which began as a necessity because of COVID, now is an important part of our parish. Livestream producers include Alex and George Reed, Peter Milburn, Mark Drew, and Steve Bigley, with help from Matthew Bester, who produces the weekly announcement slides accompanying the livestreams. Several dozen viewers watch a livestream service on a typical Sunday morning or view the recorded service later in the day, with viewership much higher for holiday services. Several newcomers have said they watched the Facebook videos or viewed livestreamed services before coming to the church in person.

Many people submit information or photos, and we are grateful. We welcome additional volunteers to help the Communications Team. If you wish to volunteer or submit material, contact us at communications@saintmarkscolumbus.org or contact Pastor Vicki.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Mayr, Communications Committee



SAINT MARK'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



2151 DORSET ROAD • COLUMBUS, OHIO 43221 • (614) 486-9452
info@saintmarkscolumbus.org www.saintmarkscolumbus.org

Staff:

The Rev. Vicki Zust, *Rector*
Dr. Matthew Bester, *Director of Music*
Michael Schreffler, *Organist*
Gary L. Garber, *Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus*
Dr. Michael Murray, *Organist Emeritus*
Bill Silliman, *Head Verger*
Melanie Jacobs, *Office Manager*

Ministers:

The Entire Saint Mark's Family

Mission Statement:

As a Christ-centered community, the people of Saint Mark's seek a world in which all people share the joy of loving God and each other by...

- *Celebrating worship together with inspiring words, music and traditions*
- *Serving all of our neighbors*
- *Engaging in fellowship and hospitality*
- *Encouraging people in their lifelong spiritual formation*
- *Being a beacon of Christ's presence in the world.*

Vestry Members:

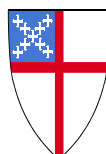
Mark Drew, *Senior Warden*
Leslie Winters, *Junior Warden*
Lukas Skoracki, *Youth Warden*
Martha Belury
Cheryl Boop
Anice Ellis
Betsy Gillespie
Judith Grant
Jodi Hess
Bruce Johnson
Julia Johnson-Davis
Barb Keyes
Bill Mayr
Irina Reed
Roman Skoracki
Phil Glandon, *Treasurer*
Barbara Hyre, *Clerk*



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.