

SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

the EPISTLE

A Monthly Newsletter of Saint Mark's, Columbus

February, 2024 • Issue 298

LENT AT SAINT MARK'S



Fast

•

Pray

•

Give



SAINT MARK'S CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Vicki Zust, Rector

rector@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Dr. Matthew Bester, Director of Music

directorofmusic@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Michael Schreffler, Organist

organist@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Gary L. Garber, Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus

emeritusmusic@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Dr. Michael Murray, Organist Emeritus

emeritusorganist@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Bill Silliman, Head Verger

headverger@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Melanie Jacobs, Office Manager

officemanager@saintmarkscolumbus.org

SAINT MARK'S VESTRY

Cheryl Boop, Senior Warden

seniorwarden@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Kevin Fix, Junior Warden

juniorwarden@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Anna Markwardt, Youth Warden

Martha Belury – *belury.1@osu.edu*

Michael Bowman – *mrbowman979@gmail.com*

Steve Brindza – *sbrindza@sbcglobal.net*

Betsy Gillespie – *betsygillespie@icloud.com*

Brenda Hammersley – *b.hammersley@yahoo.com*

Jodi Hess – *jodiwhess@gmail.com*

Bruce Johnson – *michelebrucej@hotmail.com*

Julia Johnson-Davis – *juliajohnson.1999@yahoo.com*

Barb Keyes – *bkeyes25@gmail.com*

Ted Meyers – *theodore.h.meyers@gmail.com*

Roman Skoracki – *roman.skoracki@osumc.edu*

Andi Waller – *waller.andi@gmail.com*

Phil Glandon, Treasurer

treasurer@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Jody Porreca, Clerk

jodyporreca@gmail.com

Vestry meetings occur every first Tuesday of the month in the Canterbury Center. Meetings are open to parishioners. Meeting minutes are available online at: www.saintmarkscolumbus.org/vestry-meetings.

The Epistle is the monthly newsletter of Saint Mark's Episcopal Church. The deadline for submissions is the fifteenth day of the preceding month. Send photos, announcements, or story ideas for inclusion in the Epistle to: communications@saintmarkscolumbus.org.

Cover Photo: Courtesy of Saint Mark's Photo Archives

Annual Meeting - February 11

Saint Mark's Annual Meeting will take place after the 10:30 service on Sunday February 11 in the Parish Hall. The meeting will be hybrid. You may join in person or you will be able to zoom in. Make sure you are getting the This Week e-news, that is where we will put the zoom link.

The annual meeting will feature reports on what happened in 2023, some previews of things coming up in 2024, discussion of the budget and elections for leadership. We will be electing:

- Four vestry members for 3-year terms
- One senior warden for a 1-year term
- One junior warden for a 1-year term
- One youth warden for a 1-year term.
- Two delegates and two alternates to Diocesan Convention (the senior and junior wardens also serve as convention delegates).

The Annual Meeting is always interesting and occasionally funny. We will be providing Canterbury Choir subs to nibble on during the meeting and promise to get you home in plenty of time for your Super Bowl party.

See page 9 for more information including candidates and photos.



MUSIC AND WORSHIP



Saint Mark's Choirs at Bishop's Ordination

Both the Saint Mark's Choir and the Canterbury Choir are pleased to be taking part in the ordination service of bishop-elect Kristin Uffelman White on Saturday, February 17, at 11 a.m. at the Columbus Convention Center. The Saint Mark's Choir has been asked to help lead the large diocesan choir, which will include singers from across the diocese. The Canterbury Choir has been invited to sing two anthems by themselves for the service, representing the youth of the diocese.

Super Bowl Subs Supports Canterbury Choir

The Canterbury Choir is now taking orders for its annual Super Bowl Subs! The Italian-style subs will be made fresh and ready for pickup on Super Bowl Sunday (Sunday, February 11), from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the church. They are wonderful heated up or cold, and make a perfect meal for your family and friends on Super Bowl Sunday. We are taking orders until Feb. 4th. The

cost is just \$7 per sub. Please contact George Reed at gwrpowell@outlook.com and let him know how many you would like. Payment can be made by Venmo, PayPal, cash, or check, either at time of order or at pickup.

Proceeds from this fundraiser help to support local and national enrichment activities. Past outings have included the National Cathedral in Washington, DC, and Trinity Cathedral and Severance Hall in Cleveland.



LENTEN MUSIC AND REFLECTION

Choral Evensong - March 3

At 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 3, the Saint Mark's Choir will lead a service of Choral Evensong for the season of Lent. Music will include choral works by Edward Bairstow, Egil Hovland, and Kenneth Leighton. Admission is free. Donations will be gratefully received in support of the music program at Saint Mark's. A reception will follow. Please join us for this beautiful and inspiring service, and be sure to invite some friends!

Icons for Reflection

A chance to take a moment to pause and reflect.

Dating from the 6th century AD, the icon of Christ Pantocrator from Mount Sinai is a perfect example of early Christian art and the oldest known icon of Christ in existence. A replica of this icon is on display throughout the season of Lent in the Chapel.



THE SEASON OF LENT

Lent is a time of preparation for Easter. For more than 1,000 years Christians have spent the six weeks before Easter in special study, prayer and fasting in order to be prepared for the most holy day of the Church Year – Easter Day. Learn more at : www.saintmarkscolumbus.org/lenet.

Shrove Tuesday - February 13

The Mark's Men will be serving up an All-Parish Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on Tuesday, February 21 at 6:00!

Shrovetide is a pre-Lenten period that culminates on Shrove Tuesday, which is the day before Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of the season of Lent. It gets its name from the old English word 'shrive,' which means "to confess" or "to impose penance." Traditionally viewed as a day of repentance, Shrove Tuesday has become regarded as the last day for celebration and feasting before entering the Lenten season of spiritual discipline, reflection, fasting, penance, and prayer. It was also a time to use up foods of indulgence, such as meat and sugar and foods with fat like milk, butter, and eggs, which would otherwise spoil. (This is why some refer to Shrove Tuesday as Fat Tuesday, or it's French translation, Mardi Gras.) Pancakes were seen as an easy way to use up milk, butter, eggs and sugar in one meal.

So, however you like your pancakes: - with lemon juice and powdered sugar or maple syrup and loads of butter, Nutella, whipped cream, or all of the above -- come and celebrate this pre-Lenten tradition! There is no charge to attend, however, donations to cover costs will be accepted. Note: The nursery will NOT be staffed as we have great high chairs and we love kids and kids love pancakes!

Ash Wednesday - February 14

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday – this year Ash Wednesday is February 14. On Ash Wednesday we impose ashes – made from blessed palms- on the forehead as a reminder that we are all mortal and that we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

We will have three services on Ash Wednesday: 8 a.m., Noon and 7:30 p.m.. The 7:30 p.m. service will be livestreamed. If you wish to have ashes sent to you to use during the livestreamed service, please let the Parish office know.

We will also be participating in "Ashes to Go" this year. If you wish to receive Ashes and are unable to attend any of the Ash Wednesday services, you can come to the vestibule by the red doors from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. or 4 – 6 p.m. Fasting or Giving Something Up

Giving something up for Lent is a traditional type of fast. People usually pick something that is an extra and give it up for the 40 days of Lent. Often giving up an extra is accompanied by giving the money that would have been spent on that item to charity. Sundays are feast days and not part of the season of Lent so many people do not fast on Sunday. Some common things that people give up are: chocolate, ice cream, red meat, alcohol, and eating out.

Prayer, Reflection and Bible Study

Many people add daily prayers, Bible reading or time for reflection to their schedules during Lent. Prayers can be added at the beginning of the day, at noon, in the early evening or at the end of the day or any of the above. In the arched bookcase in the Parish Hall you will find the following resources to use at home:

Forward Day by Day which is a small book of daily short reflections on the daily office readings.

A booklet of theological reflections – one for each week of Lent.

A booklet of short prayer services to use at home.

40 Stories from Mark Every Christian Should Know. This is a list of the stories in Mark the Gospel from which our Sunday morning readings are taken this year.

SHROVE TUESDAY

Pancake Supper

FEBRUARY 13 @ 5 P.M. | PARISH HALL



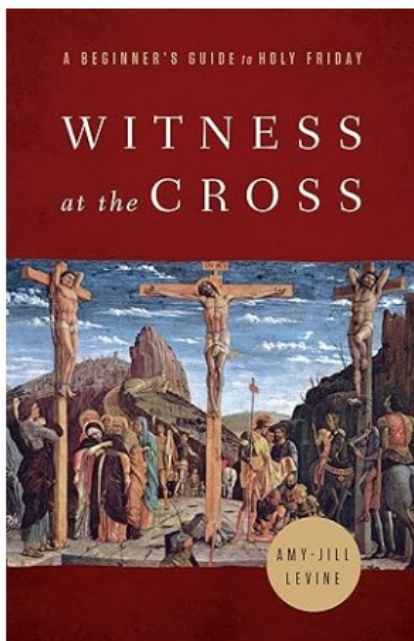
All are Welcome!

 Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
The Marksman

There is no cost to attend -
Donations are gratefully accepted.

DEDICATED TIME FOR REFLECTION AND RENEWAL

Book Study



Many people add study to their Lenten Practices. This year we are reading the book *Witness at the Cross* by Amy-Jill Levine. It is a good, and easily accessible book that looks at the people who were present at the Crucifixion. There is a study guide for the book in the arched book case in the Parish Hall. We will have an in-person gathering to discuss the book on

the Wednesday of Holy Week, March 27 at 6 p.m.

Lent Madness

Lent Madness is a fun and popular activity that is disguised as a competition, but it's actually an online devotion and a great way to learn about Saints while giving to a good cause. It is a tournament, like March Madness. Each day during Lent participants from around the world cast their votes among competing saints. The saint with the most votes is crowned with the "Golden Halo."

Saint Mark's will have a Lent Madness pool. To join, fill out a bracket (available at www.lentmadness.org or in the arched bookcase) and submit it - along with \$5 - to Pastor Vicki by February 14. The winner of the Saint Mark's pool will be get to decide where to donate the funds.

Go to www.lentmadness.org to learn about the Saints, cast your vote or just follow along. Lent Madness is a program of Forward Movement. www.forwardmovement.org.



Wednesday Evenings at Saint Mark's

On Wednesday evenings in Lent we are offering a three part program. You can choose to participate in one, two, or all three parts.

5:30 p.m. – Simple Supper. Gather for a simple Soup & bread supper. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall so folks can take turns providing soup and bread each week.

6:15 – 7:15 p.m. – Pysanky Egg Workshop. Pysanky is the art of applying wax to eggs and then dying them. It is a multi-step process and ends with beautiful eggs ready for Easter. Join us in the Parish Hall.

7:30 – 7:45 p.m. – Compline. Compline is the night prayer of the church. It has been prayed by Christians for over 1000 years. We will gather in the church for Compline.

The Wednesday evening program will be held: February 21, 28 and March 6, 13, and 20.

Helping Hands

Helping others is a big part of Lent. This year we are collecting personal care items. We will be doing two things with these products. We will be making Grooming Bags for mothers in Vinton County through our partnership with Help Me Grow. We will also be donating them to NNEMAP where there is always a need.

There are two ways that you can help:

1. Make a \$20 donation to purchase everything for a Grooming Bag
2. Bring any of the following to church during Lent (please bring full size items)

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| • Shampoo | • Toothbrush |
| • Conditioner | • Toothpaste |
| • Body Wash | • Deodorant |
| • Hand Soap | • Disposable Razors |



Life Transformed: The Way of Love in Lent

THE EPISTLE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Reflections from "Living the Way of Love" by Mary Bea Sullivan (Church Publishing, 2019). Used with permission.	Feb 14 Pray Take 20 minutes in contemplative prayer today. Matt. 4:18-22	15 Turn Today, intentionally listen devoutly to another person. Mk. 4:23	16 Go Where can you go and intentionally provide kindness? Matt. 5:4	17 Worship How does community help or hinder your growing in Christ? Jn. 1:12-13	18 1st Sunday of Lent	
19 Bless Who has taught you to live a Jesus-filled life? Who have you taught? 2 Cor. 4:16	20 Rest How do you incorporate rest into your life? Jer. 6:16	21 Pray Go for a walk today and pray with your feet, each step with intention. Is. 2:3a	22 Rule of Life How do others experience the love of Christ you bring? Gal. 5:22-23	23 Go Where are you being encouraged to "show up"? Matt. 25:44-45	24 Worship What is most meaningful to you in worship? BCP, pg. 281	25 2nd Sunday of Lent
26 Bless Notice the pattern of your breathing. Pray for awareness of blessings. Gen. 2:7	27 Learn What passage of scripture is important to you? Why? Is. 40:8	28 Pray Listen to the Daily Office today at missionstclare.com . Ps. 55:17	29 Turn How did you turn back toward God's love when you made a big mistake? Lk. 15:18	Mar 1 Go Where can you seek and serve Christ in someone unlike you? Jer. 30:22, 31:4-5	2 Worship In your prayers today, what new words or thoughts touch you? Phil. 4:6	3 3rd Sunday of Lent
4 Bless Intentionally smile at least ten times today. Phil. 4:4	5 Rest How might you connect with others in the spirit of renewal? 1 Kings 19:11-12	6 Rule of Life How can you build pauses into the day to reflect on the work of the Spirit? Jn. 15:5	7 Turn What relationships do you need to mend? Is. 55:6-8	8 Go Create a prayer representing how you seek to serve God and follow Jesus. Matt. 5:15	9 Worship What seminal moments have informed a need to return to Christ? Ps. 51:10	10 4th Sunday of Lent
11 Bless What challenges are you facing today? Job 11:18	12 Learn How is the Jesus who walked the earth beckoning you to meet him? Mk. 10:46-52	13 Pray Try praying with Anglican prayer beads. Lk. 18:1	14 Turn Where do you find joy and passion? Lk. 24:32	15 Go Where might God be asking you to take your great love into the world? Is. 48:6b	16 Worship How do you want to prepare people to remember you? 2 Cor. 1:3-4	17 5th Sunday of Lent
18 Bless When you reflect on financial giving, are your palms open? Matt. 12:43-44	19 Learn Who might you have a conversation with to learn about God? Ps. 119:105	20 Pray What are you thankful for? 1 Chron. 29:15	21 Way of Love Where do you see the seven practices of the Way of Love in this story? Lk. 5:19	22 Rest How do your creative outlets impact on taking rest? Gen. 1:1-24	23 Learn Practice lectio divina with this scripture: Lk. 15:17-24	24 Palm Sunday
25 Rest What can you say "no" to so you can say "yes" to prayer, rest, and joy? Lev. 23:3	26 Learn Slowly read this passage aloud. How does this passage speak to the world today? Matt. 4:8-22	27 Rule of Life Who can support you in living a Jesus-centered life? 2 Cor. 3:6	28 Turn How might you share what brings you great joy with others? Rom. 12:6-8	29 Rest How can you incorporate rest from technology today? Matt. 11:28	30 Rule of Life How has this Way with God impacted your experience of God? Jn. 7:38	31 Easter Day

PASTORAL CARE - STEPHEN MINISTRY

Saint Mark's Active Ministry of Compassionate Listening

By Michele Johnson

Saint Mark's Stephen Ministry Leader

You may not know much about our Stephen Ministry because it is a “quieter” but active ministry in the church. Phil Glandon, one of our long-time Stephen Ministers, feels that this ministry is “one piece of Saint Mark's warm blanket of pastoral care”. All of us at Saint Mark's share care and concern with our church family in many ways, and our pastor Vicki provides us with her counsel and leadership. In addition, our Stephen Ministers provide individual members of our congregation with one-to-one Christ-centered care. They become listening companions for those who are experiencing a new and/or difficult situation in their lives.

Stephen Ministers are equipped with caring ministry skills through several months of training.

Our Stephen Ministers do not provide answers but instead are compassionate listeners and companions. They typically have one care receiver at a time and meet with that person on a regular basis to listen to thoughts and concerns and to help the person feel God's love and presence. The caring relationship lasts as long as the need exists, and all meetings and information shared are kept confidential. We have found that Stephen Ministers and their care receivers often become friends and continue their friendship even after the Stephen Ministry relationship is no longer needed.

The Stephen Ministry program was founded in 1975 by The Rev. Kenneth Haugk, a clinical psychologist and Lutheran pastor who saw a need for lay ministers to provide regular caring visits to parishioners in their churches who were experiencing a difficult time of life (examples: a move, loss of a job, a family death, loneliness, illness, or a family crisis). The ministry has grown throughout the world and now includes over 13,000 congregations in over 30 countries. At Saint Mark's our ministry was started 24 years ago and has continued since then. We currently have seven Stephen Ministers and three Stephen Leaders.

Pat Barton continues as a Stephen Leader and mentor to all. Michele Johnson and Dianne Silliman are our

other Stephen Leaders. Our current Stephen Ministers include: Dan Morton, Roberta Morton, Craig Tuthill, Jodie Hess, Joanne Drew, Phil Glandon, and Barb Wiseman.

We have all found this ministry to be one way to carry out Christ's commandment to “Love one another as I have loved you.” The ministers feel privileged to “walk with others” and share Christ's love through just listening and being present with someone in a time of need. A parishioner may only want to meet with someone for a short time, and there is no set time for sharing God's love.

“Stephen Ministry is one piece of Saint Marks' warm blanket of pastoral care.”

-Phil Glandon

We would like to begin a new training class for Stephen Ministers in the near future. If you

have questions or are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, please talk with Pastor Vicki (614-486-9452), Pat Barton (614-457-8055), Dianne Silliman (614-581-8599), or Michele Johnson (614-406-2233) or one of our Stephen Ministers. If you or someone you know might be helped by the Stephen Ministry, you can also contact the members listed above.



FORMATION

Adult Formation

During the month of February, the Adult Formation program will be looking at various translations of the Bible into English. We'll explore how they are different and the same and how they all came to be.

Adult formation takes place in the Parish Hall from 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.



On Sunday February 4 at 9:30, we will take a look at the service for ordaining a bishop and what it tells us about the ministry of bishops in the Episcopal Church.

On Sunday March 3 we will have our First Sunday Outreach program in place of Adult formation. This will be held from 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall and will include a discussion about Saint Mark's Outreach Ministries and how you can get involved.

**Children's Formation**

This month Children's formation will meet February 11, 18, and 25. Children gather in the Education classrooms from 10:30 to 11:05, a.m. then join their adults in the sanctuary to participate in Holy Communion.

On Sunday February 11 we will have a Mardi Gras-themed celebration with all things purple, green, and gold! We'll have party food, party games, party music, and party fun!

This year's Lenten project will be a deep dive into the Apostle's Creed. After Jesus came back from 40 days alone in the desert, he very deliberately chose twelve people, and he gave them a very important assignment.

More information, including activity pages is available at www.saintmarkscolumbus.org/children-and-youth-formation.

The Apostles Creed Project

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

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 4 members elected each year. At its first meeting in each calendar year, the vestry appoints a treasurer and a clerk. The treasurer and clerk are not voting members of the vestry by virtue of being appointed to office.

The Nominating Committee is made up of retiring vestry members, the senior and junior wardens, and the clergy. This year's Nominating Committee included Cheryl Boop, Kevin Fix, Jodi Hess, Julia Johnson-Davis, Roman Skoracki and Vicki Zust.

Saint Mark's is entitled to send four delegates each year to the annual Diocesan Convention. Two of the four delegate slots are filled by the senior and junior wardens, ex officio. The other two delegates are elected at the annual meeting. The 150th Diocesan Convention will take place November 22-23 at the Roberts Centre in Wilmington.

2024 VESTRY SLATE

The Nominating Committee brings forth the following slate of candidates for the 2024 vestry and convention delegates to be elected by a majority vote at the annual meeting.

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

Cheryl Boop



After one year serving as senior warden, Cheryl is upbeat and enthused. "It's going well. We have an amazing church. We have people who want to be doers – upfront doers and behind-the-scene doers. We're able to do the things we need to do. To me this shows the grace of God."

There have been surprises: "The biggest surprise is the (physical) church building, all the physical needs, what it takes to keep everything running." Also, 'regulars' at the 8 a.m. Sunday service are becoming more active and the online streaming of church services, started in the early days of Covid, continues to attract viewers. Saint Mark's has become more active in the community and in turn is attracting new members. Now the challenge is to help the new members become involved in the many activities Saint Mark's offers; "we have to do a better job explaining what's out there," Cheryl said. "It's

an exciting time for us."

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

Kevin Fix



For Kevin, 2023, his first year as junior warden, was a learning experience. "I knew coming in that the junior warden did a lot with facilities and grounds, but I did not expect to see everything from the bell tower to the roof of the education wing to the boiler rooms in the basement. I have a new appreciation for what it takes to maintain our campus.

"I'm thankful for the camaraderie and teamwork we have on vestry, and the very capable leadership of Pastor Vicki and Cheryl. A highlight for me was serving as a delegate to the Diocesan Convention, especially the election of our bishop-elect, Kristin White. It was an experience I'll never forget."

ANNUAL ELECTIONS

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



Anna Markwardt

"Vestry has been going really well for me," Anna said after her first year. "I wasn't quite sure what to expect coming in, but I've found the meetings have given me a deeper understanding of the workings of the church. Since I didn't know anything about the logistics or finances of the church beforehand, this has been very interesting for me, sort of like 'seeing backstage.'"

"One thing that I've especially enjoyed is helping to start a larger social media presence for the church. I'm looking forward to running for re-election," Anna said.

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



Dwight Anstaett

Dwight served on the vestry from 2015 to 2018. He joined Saint Mark's in 1987 and he and his wife, Elizabeth, were married in the church that year. He served on the rector search committee that led to the hiring of our previous rector Paul St. Germain. "I would like to serve (on vestry) again because I want to find a positive way to serve the church and get more involved with its members, its clergy and vestry leadership.

"I believe my previous experience will be invaluable. I am familiar with the important roles and responsibilities of a vestry member. If elected, I look forward to working with Reverend Zust and the other members."



Michael Bowman

Michael last year completed an unexpired term on the vestry and now is seeking election to a full term. "Serving this last year has been a great experience that has helped me to see just how varied and extensive the ministries of Saint Mark's are and the great amount of unsung work that goes into making everything run smoothly.

"Saint Mark's is such a friendly and welcoming community and I enjoy doing my part to contribute to its continued success," he said.



Norman Jones

Norman, his wife, Heidi, and their son, Riley, joined Saint Mark's in 2022 after moving here from Mansfield, where they all had been active at Grace Episcopal Church. Among other roles, Norman served on Grace's vestry and on the diocesan search committee for a new bishop for the Diocese of Ohio. "I've always found it rewarding to volunteer for such roles at church because it helps me better understand how the church works and how I can most effectively support it.

"We are thrilled to be able to claim Saint Mark's as our home parish and we expect to be here for the long haul. We also are big music fans, Heidi, Riley and I, so the music program at Saint Mark's is a treasure for us. When I was invited to consider putting my hat in the ring to serve on vestry, it was an easy decision to say yes."

ANNUAL ELECTIONS



Park Zimpher

Park previously served on vestry about 14 years ago. Why serve? “It’s an opportunity to contribute to our parish,”

she said. “I would like to contribute to the continuation of building a strong, vibrant Saint Mark’s community.

“In my 34 years at Saint Mark’s, I have participated in many groups and activities. The most meaningful that come to mind are a long-term venture with teaching Sunday school and many years preparing and serving dinner at St. John’s Town Street. I’m currently helping Bruce Johnson in the Memorial Garden and I enjoy it very much.

“I like that Saint Mark’s is a supportive, nurturing community of fellow Christians. I have met many people at Saint Mark’s who have become very important in my life. I also look forward to being a part of a team to assist our clergy in moving our parish forward.”

CONVENTION DELEGATE (2 TO BE ELECTED)



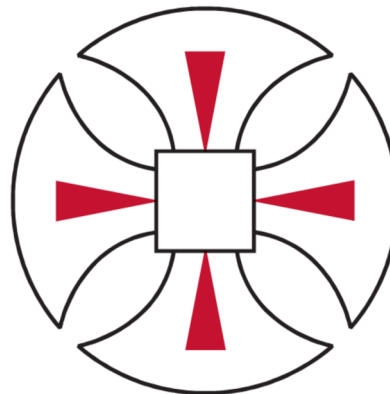
Michael Bowman

Michael was a delegate to the 2023 Diocesan Convention and participated in the election of our new bishop. “It was a fascinating look into how the diocese operates and the issues affecting it.” Because of the birth of his second daughter, he had to participate online. He said, “I would love the opportunity to attend in person this year.”



Barb Keyes

“The responsibility of a delegate is to represent people. I would be proud to represent Saint Mark’s interests at this year’s convention,” Barb said.



OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Habitat Lunch Adventure

It was a cold and snowy morning when we left Saint Mark's to take lunch to the Habitat for Humanity workers. When we arrived at Arlington Road in Linden, everything on the street was quiet except for the Habitat House, which was a beehive of activity. As we looked for parking, one of the workers was in the open doorway watching for us; they were excited lunch was on the way.

The house is framed, but there are no doors, windows or even a roof, so we set up lunch on a piece of plywood, and the crew quickly dug into the sloppy joes. One worker perched on a window frame on the open porch. Others just stood around the house. Another was shoveling snow from the floor in the master bathroom prior to grabbing lunch. While they ate, they told us about the progress they were making on the house. They also pointed out the open lots in the area that are owned by Habitat and eventually will hold new Habitat houses. Soon, lunch was over, and it was back to work for the crew. And our team headed home.

If you would like to help with the next lunch, contact Marilyn Karl at mjkarl@yahoo.com.

Lenten Outreach Activity

Lent is a time for us to pay more attention to our religious activity, giving to the poor or donating to charity. What better way to do that than by showing love and care for others. To help you do that, the Outreach Ministry is sponsoring a Lent outreach activity. Let's show those with less that we care about them by giving them grooming kits containing basic grooming items they so often lack. The first 25 kits received will go to the Help Me Grow mothers in Vinton County. Any additional kits will be delivered to the clients of NNEMAP.

For your convenience, beginning Wednesday, February 14, bags will be available in the parish Hall, each containing a list of the items to place in the bag. Fill the bag and return it to the Parish Hall by the end of Lent. Or, put \$20 in the bag and someone from Outreach will fill the bag for you. If you have questions or would like to help with this project, contact Barb Hyre at hyreb614@aol.com.

Diapers and Spices

The February packing of diapers and spices for NNEMAP will take place on Wednesday, February 14 at 10:30 a.m. as usual. However, the location will move to the Canterbury Center as our friends from the AARP tax-preparation program will be in the Parish Hall.

Outreach Summit

On a cold January Sunday, 40 new and long time Saint Mark's parishioners gathered to learn about our many Outreach ministries that focus on meeting the material needs of those who might otherwise go without. Pastor Vicki provided lunch while ministry team leaders shared an overview of their work in 2023 and their visions for 2024. An Outreach budget was presented and approved and folks were invited to share ideas about new opportunities for serving others. The meeting was recorded—Mark Drew has added closed captions to the Livestream and a link to the video is available in the This Week news and on our website: www.saintmarkscolumbus.org

There are many ways to get involved for an hour, a day, an event or as a team member. If you'd like more information, reach out to one of the Team Leaders below or send a message to outreach@saintmarkscolumbus.org

Street Church Meals for St. John's, Town Street

Roberta Morton, notvmorton@gmail.com

Diapers and Spices for NNEMAP Food Pantry

Bill Karl, mrbill.karl@gmail.com

Migration Ministries

Joyce Acton, actongroup@gmail.com

Appalachian Ministries for Vinton County

Barb Keyes bkeyes25@gmail.com

Habitat Lunches

Marilyn Karl, mjkarl@yahoo.com

Ideas for new projects

Marilyn Smith, marilynsmmith428@gmail.com

We will meet again in the Parish Hall after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday March 3rd for a brief check-in on the ministries. Everyone is welcome to attend this short meeting.

OUTREACH & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Migration Ministries

In early January, we received a notice from our community immigration partner CRIS (Community Refugee and Immigration Services) that a refugee family was relocating from Colombia to an apartment near Saint Mark's. This is a family of three, and like most refugees and asylum seekers, they arrived in the United States with only what they could carry in a backpack.

Our committee responded immediately to organize a collection of household furniture and other items to help CRIS get the family started in their new home. As always, you -- the parishioners of Saint Mark's -- responded to our call and, as a result, we were able to offer our message of welcome and help with their needs to give them a good start. Thank you!

If you would like to become part of this ministry or want more information, about the challenges of immigration, contact Joyce Acton, 614-560-9219, or send an email to actongroup@gmail.com.



Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
Migration Ministries

International Night Fundraiser Tasting Event

**Saturday, March 2, 2024
5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall**

to support
Saint Mark's Migration Ministries
and upcoming Culture & Artisans Fair

Contact: Joyce Acton
actongroup@gmail.com



International Tasting Event

The members of Saint Mark's Migration Ministries Committee invite you to join us for an evening of good company with a chance to taste a variety of ethnic/cultural foods. We'll have discussions, information, and a few activities which will help us better understand the various circumstances that cause migration. We will learn about the rich cultures of those who have made the journey to the United States and we will have guests from CRIS (Community Refugee and Immigration Services) who will share their experiences with the agency's resettlement efforts.

Please let us know that you are coming so we can ensure there is plenty of food for all. Signup sheets will be available in the Parish Hall.

There is no charge to attend. A freewill offering basket will be available for your donations.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Beartique Opens at UA High School

Upper Arlington High School has opened a new free store, which aims to ensure that every student has what they need to succeed. Beartique has the feel of a boutique, designed to be both welcoming to students while also allowing them to discreetly obtain essentials. The shelves and drawers are stocked with clothing items, some purchased from the Bear Essentials school store; school supplies; toiletries; and more. All are available at no cost to the students.

Students are connected with Beartique through a network of teachers, school counselors and school staff members, who all work to ensure the privacy of those students. To make a donation to the Upper Arlington Education Foundation designated to the Beartique free store, please visit www.uaeducationfoundation.com.

PARISH LIFE

Tour of Asia

Our winter tour of Asia is underway. Anyone who is available is welcome to join us at one of the many Asian restaurants on Bethel Road. We meet at the restaurant at 6 p.m. without reservations and explore the tastes and spices of each cuisine while getting to try new restaurants and just get out of the house.

On Wednesday February 7 we will gather at India Bistro & China House at 2540 Bethel Road in plaza with Half Price Books and Walmart.

On Thursday February 29 we will gather at New India Restaurant at 5526 Bethel Center Mall, between Papa Giorgios Pizza and KPot Korean BBQ.

**Procter: A place to Reflect, Learn, and Grow**

February is the time to start signing up for summer camps! As you do, keep in mind the opportunities for children, youth, families, and seniors at Procter.

Procter Camp, a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio, is a place for children, youth, and families to grow in faith, sing, learn, play, and pray together.

Programs include Youth Camp for children entering 3rd-8th grade, Senior High Camp for 9th-12th grade, Family Camps for all ages, and Day Camp for 1st-6th grade. We'll end the summer with Silver Camp, for kids at heart, 50+.

At Procter, we learn, share, pray, and sing together every day. Campers and staff members of all (or no) faith backgrounds are welcome. We also swim, canoe, fish, have campfires, enjoy creative arts, spend time at Procter Center Farm, play sports and wacky games on our Sports Court, and explore the natural world around us.

For more information, including registration and pricing, visit: www.proctercenter.org/camp.

**Knitting Group**

Do you knit? Do you want to learn how to knit? Do you have a project you are working on, even if it isn't knitting? Do you enjoy getting together with others to chat and build relationships? If you answered yes to any of these, come join us for Knitting Group. If you want to learn to knit, we will have needles, yarn, and simple patterns for beginners. If you are a knitter, cross-stitcher, hand-quilter or needle pointer, bring your current project and enjoy working on it while in conversation with others.

Evening Knitting Group meets on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 pm in the Canterbury Center. The February meeting is Monday February 12.

Daytime Knitting group meets the first and third Thursdays of the month at 1 pm in the Canterbury Center. The February meetings are February 1 and 15.

THE EPISTLE

AROUND SAINT MARK'S



Top: During their January dinner outing, members of the Marksmen toasted Bill Silliman with some job retirement gifts.
Middle Left Habitat for Humanity worksite . Middle Right: Outreach Summit
Bottom Left and Middle: Parishioners put Christmas away for another year.
Bottom Right: Saint Mark's serves lunch to workers at Habitat for Humanity worksite.

LIVING IN FAITH. GROWING IN LOVE. CELEBRATING GOD'S PEOPLE.

*O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live:
Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep,
and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Ordination of New Bishop - February 17

The Reverend Canon Kristin Uffelman White will be ordained and consecrated in the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and Tenth Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Ohio.

Saturday, February 17, 2024
Eleven o'clock in the morning
The Greater Columbus Convention Center
400 North High St, Columbus, Ohio
Chief Consecrator:
The Rt. Rev. Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr.

The Saint Mark's Choir and Canterbury Choir will sing.
A reception will follow.
All are welcome to attend.



BIRTHDAYS

Martha Belury	2/1	Gabe Ralley	2/16
Donald Trotier	2/1	Eleuteria Ibarra	2/18
Andrew Thompson	2/7	Regan Bohnert	2/19
Gary Garber	2/9	Ellen Dickhaut	2/21
Michael Galbreath	2/10	Amy Keller	2/21
Casie Iams	2/10	Lillian Smith	2/24
Jackson Moll	2/11	Julie Wolfe	2/26
Veronica Warren	2/13	Jean Gabel	2/27
David Park	2/14		

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Eva Barth	Lynn Klemesrud
Ashley Groholski	Jim Yeager
Patrick Hreachmack	

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.


Amen.



If you have a pastoral care concern or would like to add a name to the prayer list, you can do so by contacting Pastor Vicki at rector@saintmarkscolumbus.org, by calling the parish office (614) 486-9452. You may also add a name to our prayer list at www.saintmarkscolumbus.org/prayer-request.

FEBRUARY 2024

www.SaintMarksColumbus.org/Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 28 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Adult Formation 10:30 am Children's Formation 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II w/Saint Mark's Choir 8 pm Sunday Night AA	29 10:30 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 7 pm AA	30 9:30 am AI Anon 11 am AI Anon Small Group Meeting 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:00 pm Tour of Asia-Meshikou Ramen	31 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal	February 1 1 pm Knitting and Stitching Group 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Saint Mark's Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	2 <i>Rector's Day Off</i> 8 pm AA	3 5:30 pm Supper Group
4 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am First Sunday Program 10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II w/Saint Mark's Choir 12 pm Youth Group 8 pm Sunday Night AA	5 10:30 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 7 pm AA	6 9:30 am AI Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:30 pm Vestry Meeting	7 8:30 am – 4:30 pm AARP Tax-Aid 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal 6 pm Tour of Asia—India Bistro & China House	8 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Saint Mark's Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	9 <i>Rector's Day Off</i> 8 pm AA	10 8 am Pinewood Derby (Pack 180) 9:30 am Grief Support Group
11 Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Adult Formation 10:30 am Children's Formation Mardi Gras Celebration 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II w/Saint Mark's Choir 8 pm Sunday Night AA	12 10:30 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 6:30 pm Evening Knitting Group 7 pm AA	13 Shrove Tuesday 9:30 am AI Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy 5 pm Pancake Supper 6:15 pm Contemplative Prayer 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	14 Ash Wednesday 8 am Ash Wednesday service 8:30 am – 4:30 pm AARP Tax-Aid 10 am Ashes to Go 10:30 am Spices & Diapers 12 pm Ash Wednesday service 4 pm Ashes to Go 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm Ash Wednesday service 	15 <i>Epistle Deadline</i> 1 pm Knitting and Stitching Group 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Saint Mark's Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	16 <i>Rector's Day Off</i> 8 pm AA	17 11 am Ordination of New Bishop at The Greater Columbus Convention Center
The Season of Lent						
18 First Sunday in Lent 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Adult Formation 10:30 am Children's Formation 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II w/Saint Mark's Choir 12 pm Stephen Ministers Meeting 8 pm Sunday Night AA	19 10:30 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 7 pm AA 7pm Sisters in Faith	20 9:30 am AI Anon 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	21 8:30 am – 4:30 pm AARP Tax-Aid 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm Soup & bread supper 6:15 pm Pysanky Egg Workshop 7:30 pm Compline	22 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Saint Mark's Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	23 <i>Rector's Day Off</i> 8 pm AA	24 9 am Lent Quiet Morning
The Season of Lent						
25 Second Sunday in Lent 8 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Adult Formation 10:30 am Children's Formation 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II w/Saint Mark's Choir 8 pm Sunday Night AA	26 10:30 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm AA Men's Group 7 pm AA 7:30 pm Monday Night Book Group	27 9:30 am AI Anon 11 am AI Anon Small Group Meeting 1:30 pm Columbus Clergy 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	28 8:30 am – 4:30 pm AARP Tax-Aid 4:30 pm Canterbury Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm Soup & bread supper 6 pm The Marksmen 6:15 pm Pysanky Egg Workshop 7:30 pm Compline	29 6 pm Tour of Asia—New India Restaurant 6:15 pm AA 7:30 pm Saint Mark's Choir Rehearsal 8 pm AA	March 1 <i>Rector's Day Off</i> 8 pm AA	2 5:30 pm International Night Dinner for Migration Ministries
The Season of Lent						



SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2151 Dorset Road
Columbus, OH 43221

www.SaintMarksColumbus.org

(614) 486-9452

See inside for a full calendar of events and gatherings and visit www.SaintMarksColumbus.org.



Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024

Worship Services

with Imposition of Ashes

8 a.m.	Noon	7:30 p.m.
		with Livestream

Ashes to Go

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. & 4 - 6 p.m.



Saint Mark's Episcopal Church

2151 Dorset Road, Columbus, Ohio 43221 www.SaintMarksColumbus.org