

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2022 ANNUAL PARISH REPORT



Widening our Welcome

Administration ♦ Community Care ♦ Worship ♦ Formation

ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 29, 2023

Rector's Annual Report for 2022

*Blessed be God the Word, who came to his own and his own received him not - for in this way
God glorifies the stranger. O God, show us your image in all who come to us today,
that we may welcome them and you. ~ Prayer of St. Gregory's*

First, I want to express my deep and continuing gratitude for the gift and blessing to serve as the Rector of St. Mark's. I am in my 12th year of ministry at St. Mark's and continue to feel called to ministry here in this place and energized by the opportunities that are in front of us as a community of faith. I'm blessed to work with a very talented and dedicated staff that love what they do, are extremely creative, and care deeply for the well-being of our faith community. I am also deeply grateful for the loving care this congregation has shown and continues to show toward my family. We treasure St. Mark's and are so happy to be part of this community and to share in its life and ministries.

I am grateful for the two talented vestry wardens Lucy Sinkular and Laurel Leisher-Cabral who have helped to guide the vestry through the challenging times of Covid and kept us productive and moving forward. Lucy Sinkular has been a very dedicated Sr. Warden and will continue in the coming year to serve in this capacity. She is not only organized and hard-working but is deeply grounded in her faith and loves the church. She is passionate about helping others to find places of service that fit their gifts for ministry and it is a joy to work alongside her at St. Mark's.

I do not want to pretend that it has been an easy year "rising to the challenge" of regrouping after two years of Covid shutdowns and stresses. However, I am so pleased that we have found ourselves growing and vital after some pretty challenging times. There are so many people to thank for this year's success and I cannot list them all and would be afraid to leave someone out but I am thankful for all of those who offered hospitality to this community on Sunday mornings including coffee teams, greeters, ushers, altar guild, lectors, eucharistic ministers, choir, AV desk volunteers, acolytes and other servants of worship. It takes a great many people to make Sunday morning Eucharists and coffee hour happen but more than that it takes awareness and initiative toward the stranger and the newcomer to Widen our Welcome of St. Mark's. I'm grateful for everyone's efforts on behalf of the whole community.

This past week I quietly celebrated my 22nd Anniversary of Ordination to the Sacred Order of the Priesthood. What a blessing to be serving in a place full of life and vitality where I feel not only supported but also encouraged and challenged to keep growing and moving deeper into the life of faith. Thank you for this opportunity to serve in this fabulous community. As I look toward the next 10 years at St. Mark's, I see great opportunities ahead as we continue "Building Something Beautiful for God in our Neighborhood."

First, a quick look back. Rising to the Challenge.

We did in fact **Rise to the Challenge** of 2022, regathering our St. Mark's community and welcoming many new households into our midst along the way. We've grown this past year in numbers (our weekly attendance is now approaching our pre-covid levels), worship is robust and powerful and our financial life is stronger than ever. St. Mark's is an amazing parish and I'm grateful that so many of you have stepped up to help where help is needed. Many of you have offered classes for our adults and for youth, continuing the strength of our formation programs here at St. Mark's. We've learned many new things about worship in a hybrid context and about how to reach out to one another from our isolation and back into connection. This past fall we welcomed our Diocesan Bishop Michael Hunn for Confirmations (5), Receptions (3) and Reaffirmation of Baptismal vows (4) in a joyous liturgy that demonstrated the ongoing vitality of St. Mark's.

...Reconnecting with Joy.

We are still joyfully welcoming long-time members who are returning to church after the broken rhythms of covid are finally overcome. This past summer we enjoyed our 10th Summer of Conversation initiative at St. Mark's, during which well over 300 one-on-one relational meetings took place that deepened the communal

life of this parish and built lasting connections between our members. We desire to be a parish marked by a “thick network of relationships and loving care,” rather than a loose collection of anonymous worshipers. I’m grateful for the verve and intensity that St. Mark’s showed in Reconnecting with Joy this past summer and beyond.

...Reaching Out in Love

Clearly St. Mark’s is called to serve the world in Christ’s love. This is abundantly clear when you talk to our members and the ways that they are involved in the community whether it be tutoring kids, delivering meals, sponsoring refugee families, or providing transportation. St. Mark’s continues to reach out in love through our St. Mark’s Montessori School, our largest outreach program. It serves more than 40 pre-k students each day and offers quality education and spiritual formation each week. This past year we’ve become more involved in ministry with Asylum Seekers and have found a place of outreach to our unhoused neighbors through Church Unbound, a weekly Episcopal Worship service on Sunday afternoons sponsored by the Diocese of the Rio Grande. We continue to open our building to numerous 12-step groups and other community-based organizations that do the most important work of helping people stay healthy and to heal. I’m also very grateful for the ongoing outreach ministry of Take Them a Meal that enables our own parishioners to take care of others who are going through a crisis and could use a prepared meal and some loving care.

Widening our Welcome

Our theme for this coming year of 2023 is **Widening our Welcome**. What do we mean by this?

First, we are expanding our outreach budget and planning to develop an Outreach Ministry Team to not only designate where we will give funds but also to help us get more involved personally with outreach in our Albuquerque community. If you are interested in helping to provide leadership for outreach, please let one of our clergy know.

Second, for many years we have recognized the need to renew our own liturgical space, take care of our pipe organ, work toward full accessibility for all our members and attend to deferred maintenance issues in our worship space.

With the purpose of renewing and renovating St. Mark’s worship space and environs in our 75th year, the Rector and Vestry of St. Mark’s has commissioned a Building Renewal Committee to carry out a process of discernment and design guided by gifted sacred space consultant Robert Habiger. We are working to widen our welcome and upgrade our facilities in a way that strengthens our connection to God and each other for generations to come.

- **Purpose Statement:** As a vibrant and growing faith community the time is now for us to work together to determine how best to sustain, modify, and transform the physical structure of Saint Marks to meet our growing internal needs and our increasing role in service to the larger community and the diocese. We are passionate about our work to “Widen our Welcome” of St. Mark’s and upgrade our facilities in a way that strengthens our connection to God and to each other for generations to come.

- See page 15 for more detail.

Third, we desire to keep growing as a faith community, to welcome all who walk through our doors into a loving and supportive community where they can explore their faith and find resources and relationships to encourage their hearts and minds. We hope to expand our Newcomer ministries in ways that help us to connect better with newcomers and to invite them into the journey faith with the people of St. Mark’s.

Fourth, one of the ways we want to Widen our Welcome is by demonstrating that we are caring for the earth as God’s beloved creation. With this in mind we hope to renew our Creation Care Ministry this coming year with a group of motivated parishioners who will help to identify needs on our own campus and in our life

together while at the same time encouraging each of us to care for the earth as individuals in our own homes and lives with more intention and care. We are wanting to do some beautifying of our grounds, greatly enhance our recycling efforts, begin a parish composting program, start preparing for a new solar array and covered parking area with EV chargers, look for efficiency projects and more. If you are interested in being part of our emerging Creation Care Ministry, please let Fr. Christopher or Ken Reese know.

Fifth, We plan to use this 75th Year of Ministry for St. Mark's Episcopal Church to discover new ways of being a church and to build on our rich and progressive history as a leader in the Diocese of the Rio Grande. Over the year we will celebrate our history and look toward our future together.



This coming year I'm looking forward to how St. Mark's will **Widen our Welcome:** by reaching out in love more and more as a community as we expand our outreach efforts, by planning for more beautiful and intimate worship space that is accessible to all, by improving our welcome of newcomers to our parish and involving more members in this ministry beyond just Sunday morning, and by re-energizing our efforts at Creation Care. The coming year will be one of growth, learning and joy with God's grace and our faithful efforts to be God's people in this place. Together we are Building Something Beautiful for God in our Neighborhood.

In God's Abundant Love,
Fr. Christopher McLaren †

QR Code Building
Renewal Committee
Initial Survey



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Order of Worship and Annual Meeting Agenda

January 29, 2023

The annual meeting has been incorporated into worship this year. The agenda matches the Order of Worship, with an official Call to Order at the end of the service for the election.

Prelude

Jeremy Wirths, Music Director

Welcome

The Rev. Christopher McLaren

Opening Hymn

#574 "Before Thy Throne, O God We Kneel"

Opening Acclimation & Collect for the Day and Annual Meeting

The Lessons

- The First Reading
- Sequence Hymn
- The Gospel
- The Sermon and Rector's Report

Gather #659 "Blest are They"

Fr. Christopher McLaren

The Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People & Concluding Collect

Confession of Sin and Absolution

The Peace

Offertory

Stewardship Finance and Budget Reports

Miranda Eastham, Treasurer

Offertory Anthem

"The Beatitudes" by Camille Saint-Saens

Doxology

The Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

#316 "This is the Hour of Banquet and of Song"

Post Communion Prayer

Leadership and Elections

- Call to Order
- Appointment of the Secretary and Clerk of the Vestry, Deb Bluestone
- Election of New Vestry Members and Delegate
- Acceptance of FY 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes, January 30, 2022
- Acceptance of Financial Reports and Leadership Reports as Printed
- Senior Warden's Report - Lucy Sinkular
- SMMS Director's Report - Tricia Morton
- Introduction of Building Renewal Committee
- Introductions and Rollout of Survey

Election Results - Lucy Sinkular, Senior Warden; and Laurel Leisher-Cabral, Junior Warden

- 1st Ballot
- 2nd Ballot (if necessary)

Adjournment of Annual Meeting

Lucy Sinkular, Sr. Warden

Blessings & Announcements

The Rev. Sylvia Miller-Mutia

Closing Hymn

#556 "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart"

Pancake Breakfast

Senior Warden's Report

Dear Fellow Members of the St. Mark's Family,

The second year of my service as your Senior Warden has come to its close. Those who are old hands at all things Episcopal will know the Senior Warden job is one of some organizational importance. Those of you newer to our faith tradition may like to hear a bit more. As the Senior Warden, I am the "chair" for the Vestry meetings, and I do my best to see that things keep moving along in an orderly fashion, that no important business is left undone and that we focus on what is most important in service to you. There is another facet to the job, though, and it is the more important one in my opinion. I try to organize things such that Fr. Christopher has what he needs to minister to all of us, to meet our spiritual needs and to be as effective and fulfilled in his job as our Rector as is possible.

I am very grateful that service on Vestry includes a strong focus on the spiritual health and growth of the members. We don't just show up at meetings and get down to business, like a secular board of directors might. We begin our meetings with a period of fellowship and conversation. Then, Fr. Christopher leads us through a time of spiritual formation when we study and pray together. This time brings us a clearer sense of our shared purpose, and the prayers and questions also open our hearts and eyes to see what God may be calling us to do. Christ is at the center of all our work as your Vestry!

I would like to highlight a few important accomplishments of our Vestry this last year. We continue the important and ongoing task of oversight for the parish's finances. This takes time and attention each month, but it is time well spent as we begin new efforts. Last January we began the process to find a liturgical design consultant to assist the community as we consider building renewal. We were blessed to find and hire Robert Habiger for this important role, and I'm sure you will read and learn more about him during Annual Meeting and in the coming weeks.

In March we formed a small committee to develop guidance for the functioning of St. Mark's committees and ministries. This resulted in the vestry passing a policy in September whereby committees are all urged to begin their meetings with prayer and spiritual focus. Then committees will provide notes of decisions they make whenever recommending the Vestry take a certain action. This communication from committees to the Vestry will help ensure Vestry makes decisions based on the input from the lay people directly involved in a committee's particular work.

Vestry members supported the Summer of Conversation by undertaking one on one conversations with parishioners, new and old alike. We support this strong ministry which makes St. Mark's a real community and not just a bunch of people gathered under a roof each Sunday.

The work of the Building Renewal Committee will be ongoing and span the terms of successive Vestry members. For this reason, the Vestry looked well beyond its current members and worked with Fr. Christopher to draw participation of diverse parishioners as committee members. That important work will reach to the future through the decades as the renewed space provides a gathering and worship space for the next generations of St. Mark's members.

In June the Vestry voted to support work on classroom remodel in our St. Mark's Montessori School. The school is the church's largest outreach ministry and serves a vital role in the lives of families in our area. The school staff provide youngsters a high quality, early childhood educational experience and also provide the children and their families with dynamic spiritual instruction as they reflect God's love to these small scholars.

The Vestry assisted in welcoming Bishop Michael Hunn this Fall for the occasion of baptisms, confirmations and receptions. Other work in the Fall included support of the stewardship volunteers in planning and implementing this year's campaign. The Vestry adamantly supported the use of financial resources to ensure staff is fairly paid in this high-inflation economy. Our staff (ordained and lay people alike) work hard ministering to our members and to the larger community. We want to take care of them and ensure they know we see and appreciate every one of them.

We are a diverse group at St. Mark's! I am so proud to serve as the Senior Warden in this community where all people truly are welcome. I hope you each will consider how God may be calling you to participate in the life of the church. How do you see yourself contributing to the work of our Faith Community? Let's talk about that!

Respectfully submitted,
Lucy Sinkular, Senior Warden
lucy.sinkular@gmail.com

Administration

Tending the organizational and physical structures that support the worship, work, and life of our faith community.

Vestry Members and Delegates

2020-2022 Term

Laurel Leisher-Cabral
Aric Elsenheimer
Melanie Peterson

2022-2024 Term

Diane Ball
Ty Camp
Blythe Clark

2021-2023 Term

Barry Hogge
George McJimsey
Lucy Sinkular

Executive Committee of the Vestry

Rector	The Rev. Christopher McLaren
Sr. Warden	Lucy Sinkular
Jr. Warden	Laurel Leisher-Cabral
Treasurer	Miranda Eastham
Clerk	Sherry Reader (most of 2022) and Deb Bluestone (current)

Delegates to Diocesan Convention and Deanery Representatives

Delegate 1 Mary Beth Libby	Term 2020-2022
Delegate 2 Sherry Reeder	Term 2021-2023

Vestry Nominees



Dave Aley

I grew up in southwest Missouri, but I've lived in New Mexico since 1987 when I moved to Socorro for college. I didn't grow up in a church, but I began attending St. Mark's in 2003. I was baptized and confirmed here soon after, and I've been a member ever since.

I work as an engineer for a manufacturing plant in Belen, where I do industrial controls and machine design as well as manage capital projects and major maintenance. I'm also a hot air balloon pilot, and I can be found floating through the skies over central New Mexico during Balloon Fiesta and many other weekends

throughout the year. I live in Albuquerque with my wife Ashley, and we have three children, aged 20, 19, and 18.



Darcie Farrow

I have attended St. Mark's for many years, volunteering in youth Sunday school and altar guild and working in the nursery when Eric was a baby. I have two boys, Eric (15) and Thomas (10) and I am married to a guy named Matt who also appreciates this community because of your care for us, even though he does not attend church. I currently work at Sandia National Laboratories as a line manager. Outside of church, I love to travel with family, run while listening to audiobooks and rock climbing with friends in New Mexico.



Amanda Wright

My family (Jon (spouse), Zechariah (7) and Almerine (3)) and I have attended St. Mark's for the past five years. From the moment we stepped through the doors of St. Mark's, we knew we found our spiritual home. We couldn't be prouder to raise our children learning God's grace in such a vibrant and welcoming community. I would be both humbled and honored to serve on the vestry to continue to grow, serve, and develop relationships within the community of St. Mark's.

I was raised in the United Methodist Church in the small town of Edgefield, South Carolina where my parents are still very active members. After leaving home, I attended UMC and Episcopal churches while receiving my higher education and working from coast to coast. I received my bachelor's from Clemson University and my M.S. and PhD from the University of Florida. Before becoming enchanted with New Mexico, I visited D.C. regularly and lived in the Bay area of California. After serving the agricultural community for 15 years, I am now a Research Scientist at Sandia National Laboratory.

Some of my hobbies include discovering the New Mexico landscape by hiking, biking, and floating in the Rio Grande with my family. I also enjoy cooking/baking, and all things gardening and canning related. When I am not busy playing with my children or trying micro brews with my husband, I do enjoy curling up with a good book in the evenings.

Delegates for Deanery and Convention

Once each year, usually in the fall or winter, the Diocese of the Rio Grande holds its annual Diocesan Convention where it conducts its essential business, like running elections for offices, approving a budget and talking about plans for the coming year. Diocesan Convention is part business meeting, part family reunion, part worship and part spiritual inspiration. Often the talks given or workshops offered are engaging and helpful to each parish in their ongoing life and ministry. This is a large event with people coming to a single place from all over New Mexico, West Texas and often Navajoland.

St. Mark's sends delegates to represent us at Diocesan Convention. Our Delegates are the Senior Warden, Jr. Warden, the Clergy active and retired as well as two elected Delegates to Convention from our congregation. If you would like to be a part of Diocesan Convention, consider running for Delegate in a future year. Recently, the convention has also allowed visitors to attend much of the program whether you are an elected delegate or not. This has enriched the church and broadened the appeal of this annual event.

The Deanery structure is an attempt to make the diocese smaller and to offer a way for churches in a given geographical area to work together, share resources and learn together. Recently the North West Deanery of which we are a part has offered trainings and continuing education opportunities for all members of our deanery. Churches generally take turns hosting the deanery meetings which consist of a business meeting, Eucharist and meal. Those normally invited to attend deanery meeting are the clergy of the parish and our elected diocesan delegates. If you would like to part of the Deanery Meetings, consider running for Delegate in a future year and reach out to Deacon David Martin about involvement in the Deanery.

Delegate to Convention Nominee



Laurel Leisher-Cabral

I'm a native of Albuquerque with a deep love of all the diversity in our state. My husband and I started attending St. Mark's 9+years ago while I was going through a health crisis. We got married here in 2014, and have seen the church grow and begin to thrive in the time we've been here. I have served as Jr. Warden, Head Greeter/Leader of the Welcome Ministry, the Clerk for the Vestry, a Coffee Team member, on the Summer of Conversations team, as a member of the Stewardship ministry, a Counter on Monday mornings, and all-around helper-outer where I can. I'd love to continue to serve in this new capacity.

Staff List

The Rev. Christopher McLaren
Rector
christopher@stmarksabq.org
(505) 331-4638

The Rev. Sylvia Miller-Mutia
Associate Rector
sylvia@stmarksabq.org
(510) 932-1315

The Rev. David Martin,
Deacon and Director of Christian Education
edu@stmarksabq.org
(505) 231-1354

Jeremy Wirths
Director of Music
music@stmarksabq.org
(505) 358-6729

Tricia Morton
Director, St. Mark's Montessori School
tricia@stmarksabq.org
(505) 554-8823

Ken Reese
Business Manager (Volunteer)
finance@stmarksabq.org
(505) 966-6676

Associated Clergy (Non-Stipendiary)

The Rev. Billie Anderson
Pastoral Associate (Retired)

The Rev. Robert Clark
Pastoral Associate

The Rev. Carolyn Huff
Pastoral Associate



Erin Wesner
Communications Coordinator
communications@stmarksabq.org
(505) 262-2484

Jennifer Lind
Parish Administrator
stmarks@stmarksabq.org
(505) 262-2484 (505) 975-8358

Leo C' de Baca
Facilities Manager
telnetsource@aol.com
(505) 366-4985

The Rev. Michael Jupin
Pastoral Associate (Retired)

The Rev. Rhonda McIntire
Pastoral Associate (Retired)

The Rev. James Porter
Pastoral Associate (Retired)

Finance

Treasurer's Report

2022! The world was just beginning to recover from the Pandemic. And still, St. Mark's continued to thrive. Our budget for 2022 called for a \$13,000 deficit and we actually ended the year with a surplus of \$8,000.00! This outstanding outcome was a result of the overwhelming generosity of our community. Expenses were down in a large part because of our exceedingly generous Business Manager, Ken Reese, who volunteered his time to do the job in 2021 and 2022. I can't thank Ken enough for moving into the position and doing such an amazing job. He will be stepping down this spring and his will be very difficult shoes to fill.

The budget for 2022 included a draw from our Investment Account of \$22,500, but that money was not needed for operations. For the last two years, the Vestry has been envisioning improvements that could be made to our facility. To that end, it is likely that some of the surplus from 2022 and also the budgeted draw from 2022 will be used to add to our new capital fund called Worship and Facility Planning.

St. Mark's budget for 2023 is a reflection of our community's strong commitment to this year's theme for Stewardship; Rising to the challenge, Reconnecting with Joy and Reaching Out with Love. Our giving goal was increased over last year by \$80,000 and was met and then exceeded! In 2023 we are increasing the budget for outreach, giving cost-of-living raises to all of the staff and also hiring a new assistant organist to continue to grow our blossoming music ministry. After all of these additions the budget shows a surplus of \$1,375.00.

This community offers encouragement, support, love, fun and the sharing of our lives with one another. It is unapparelled in its vibrance, welcome, and spiritual support. Our pledges support all that we do together and are also an indicator of our personal commitment to being good stewards of what God has given us. We have received 136 pledges for 2023 and we'd like to see that number grow to 150. Every gift is important as we strive to become a sustainable congregation for years to come. I personally urge you to prayerfully consider turning in a pledge if you have not yet done so.

Respectfully submitted,
Miranda S. Eastham, Treasurer

Key Statistics at a Glance (2016-2023)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Average Sunday Attendance	166	162	166	176	75	107	137	
Christmas Attendance	306	337	338	332	120	232	143	
Easter Attendance	294	379	329	391	363	240	341	
Children in Sunday School	45	45	54	62	69	50	40	
Outside Groups-Facility Use	22	19	20	26	22	14	14	
Number Pledging Households	117	115	141	139	133	129	137	136*
Total Collected Pledges	\$267,000	\$294,515	\$342,480	\$396,680	\$403,629	\$469,409	\$488,126	\$564,032†
Total Income	\$349,000	\$368,890	\$406,279	\$488,469	\$495,718	\$558,478	\$579,736	\$675,886†
Total Expense	\$364,000	\$368,912	\$410,567	\$493,502	\$495,406	\$532,326	\$571,597	\$674,511†
Income - Expense	\$(15,000)	\$(22)	\$(4,287)	\$(5,033)	\$312	\$26,152	\$8,139	\$1,375†
Total Draw on Net Assets	\$21,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$22,040)	-	(\$24,386)

*2023 figures reflect those that are known at the time of printing on 1/26/23.

† These figures are based on projected pledges.

Church Operating Budget Summary

Church Operating Budget Summary

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
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INCOME

Current Year Pledges*	\$ 480,000	\$ 488,126	\$ 560,000
Other Offerings	\$ 40,700	\$ 50,629	\$ 40,500
Admin Income	\$ 45,020	\$ 40,981	\$ 51,000
Income from Investment Accounts	\$ 22,495	\$ -	\$ 24,386
Total Income	\$ 588,215	\$ 579,736	\$ 675,886

*currently \$564,032

*Number of pledging households

137

*136

EXPENSES

Personnel Expenses	\$ 347,366	\$ 326,159	\$ 390,371
Subtotal Church Administration	\$ 53,305	\$ 51,660	\$ 59,370
Building & Grounds	\$ 66,296	\$ 64,733	\$ 69,720
Church Worship, Formation & Ministry	\$ 25,330	\$ 23,414	\$ 26,050
Church Outreach	\$ 4,650	\$ 4,902	\$ 10,650
Greater Church	\$ 104,986	\$ 100,730	\$ 118,350
Total Expenses	\$ 601,933	\$ 571,597	\$ 674,511

EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	\$ (13,718)	\$ 8,139	\$ 1,375
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Designated Fund Summary

	Balance 12/31/2021	2021 Retained Earnings	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Balance 12/31/2022
Temporarily Restricted	\$ 9,821		\$ 12,334	\$ (1,711)	\$ (3,280)	\$ 17,164
Outreach	\$ 35,957		\$ 15,152	\$ (17,846)	\$ (306)	\$ 32,957
SMMS	\$ 56,264	\$ 11,512	\$ 3,888	\$ (1,329)	\$ (16,407)	\$ 53,928
Capital Improvements	\$ 119,880	\$ 22,038	\$ 18,397	\$ (2,962)	\$ (28,749)	\$ 128,604
Reserve for Sabbatical	\$ 24,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 30,000
Worship & Ministry	\$ 32,417	\$ 1,488	\$ 18,606	\$ (39,153)	\$ 709	\$ 14,067
TOTAL	\$ 278,338	\$ 35,038	\$ 68,377	\$ (63,001)	\$ (42,033)	\$ 276,719

Investment Account Summary

	Balance 1/1/2022	Additions	Withdrawals	Dividends	Cap Gain/ (Loss)	Balance 10/31/2022
Episcopal DFMS Accounts	\$ 721,391	\$ -	\$ (24,825)	\$ 21,517	\$ (200,903)	\$ 517,180

School Budget Summary

	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
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INCOME

Tuition	\$ 312,155	\$ 308,274	\$ 443,304
Other Income	\$ 22,775	\$ 28,144	\$ 33,605
Grants	\$ 74,550	\$ 86,683	\$ 117,721
Total Income	\$ 409,480	\$ 423,101	\$ 594,630

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$ 344,176	\$ 396,244	\$ 501,539
Classroom	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,224	\$ 8,000
Administration	\$ 5,405	\$ 5,721	\$ 7,675
Facility	\$ 38,520	\$ 30,072	\$ 42,300
Covid	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,532	\$ 2,900
Depreciation	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
Total Expenses	\$ 406,601	\$ 448,792	\$ 570,414

EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES	\$ 2,879	\$ (25,692)	\$ 24,216
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Building/Physical Environment

We continue to maintain our large facility with the help of our Facilities Manager, Leo C'de Baca, and various volunteers that we are grateful we can rely on when needs arise.



St. Mark's completed the following major repairs in 2022:

- Chair Lift \$14,593
- New crown molding and Gallery Hanging System for the icons on the north wall of the Nave and Loop Hearing System installed \$10,000
- New Palatino Conservatory Grand Piano \$9,000
- New HVAC Unit for Offices. \$11,864
- New Classroom space and Improvements to the school \$16,406
- New Lawn in Fish Garden \$4,800

We have seen a reduction in outside groups meeting at the church, but this allowed us to complete a sponsorship with Cub Scouts Pack 990 which will begin meeting in our facility by February. We also were able to allow several diocesan groups to meet in our facility this year that had not taken place in the past.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Lind, Parish Administrator and Fr. Christopher McLaren, Rector

Looking Ahead: Building Renewal Committee

With the purpose of renewing and renovating St. Mark's worship space and environs in our 75th year, the Rector and Vestry of St. Mark's have commissioned a Building Renewal Committee to carry out a process of discernment and design guided by gifted sacred space consultant Robert Habiger. We are working to widen our welcome and upgrade our facilities in a way that strengthens our connection to God and each other for generations to come.

- **Purpose Statement:** As a vibrant and growing faith community the time is now for us to work together to determine how best to sustain, modify, and transform the physical structure of St. Mark's to meet our growing internal needs and our increasing role in service to the larger community and the diocese. We are passionate about our work to "Widen our Welcome" of St. Mark's and upgrade our facilities in a way that strengthens our connection to God and to each other for generations to come.
- **Objectives:**
 - **Sustainment** - To identify, prioritize and address the elements of the present physical structure that require urgent repair or replacement.
 - **Accessibility** - To have a space that (a) allows for all people to participate in the worship service and have easy access during communion, (b) provides greater connection of the clergy to the congregation, (c) that is welcoming as one enters the worship space and (d) allows participation of all the people in all other church activities outside of worship
 - **Flexibility** - To have a space that (a) can be easily configured to meet a range of worship needs in terms of intimacy, connection, size and spiritual practices and (b) that can be configured to meet needs outside of worship of the St Marks community and our larger community outside of St Marks (conferences, concerts, lectures, outreach, gathering place for larger community, etc.)
 - **Music** - To maintain organ music as central to St Marks worship and to have a space that intimately integrates music (choir, organ, soloist, instrumentalists, etc.) with the congregation and worship.
 - **Beauty** - To have a space where the placement and presentation of liturgical and religious symbols enhances the worship across the range of spiritual practices.
 - **Balance** - A space that respects present and traditional configuration and modes of worship while addressing the needs of worship space for the future.

Members of the Building Renovation Team: include: Maribelle Ogilvie (co-chair), Stretch Cole (co-chair) , Liz Reardon (secretary) , Heather Gaume , Lucy Sinkular, Laurel Leisher-Cabral, Stephanie and Marcel Varoz, Tim McIntire, Jeremy Wirths, Christopher McLaren.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Christopher McLaren, Rector

Community Care

Deepening our care and connection with other members at St. Mark's, with the wider community, with those in need, and with all of creation.

Community Outreach

Homelessness & Church Unbound

In August of 2022, the Diocese of the Rio Grande and St. John's Cathedral launched a collaborative ministry to help address the spiritual needs of our neighbors experiencing homelessness in the International District of Albuquerque. Several clergy and lay members of St. Mark's are actively involved in this ministry, including the Rev. Billie Abraham, the Rev. Sylvia Miller-Mutia, Amy & Larry Malick, Joan Camera, and Eli Crowley. **Church Unbound** was developed to establish a Christian worship service without walls for those without and with shelter. We believe that to address spiritual needs on the streets of Albuquerque, we meet people where they are by engaging in mutual relationship building and practical hands-on ministry.

WHEN: We meet every Sunday, rain or shine.

1:30pm to 2:00pm Pre-service fellowship

2:00pm to 2:30 Worship Service w/ Communion

WHERE: Central and Chico/ Charleston and Chico (parking)

(International District, by the former Caravan Dance Hall and the new public library). Look for signage and the blue tent.

CONTACT: church_unbound@yahoo.com

Anyone who feels called to minister or participate in worship services with the unsheltered and displaced (for example, musicians, greeters, lay readers, prayer partners, preachers, etc.) is welcome! Onsite training available.

Respectfully submitted,
Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia, Associate Rector

Immigration/Asylum Seekers

St. Mark's is committed to welcoming the stranger. We are working on becoming a regular and organized presence to help immigrants and asylum seekers who come to Albuquerque - both those passing through on their way to a permanent location and those who are attempting to make our city their new home.

Albuquerque Asylum Seekers Welcome: St. Mark's parishioners are assisting people who arrive in our city as a layover before heading to another, and hopefully final, destination. Asylum seekers are helped with paperwork and given food, clothing, temporary housing, and other social services. If you are interested in helping with this organization, please contact Pauline Artery at arteryp@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Deacon David Martin

Re-energizing Creation Care Ministries

This year we hope to re-energize our Creation Care Ministry at St. Mark's by re-establishing a team of interested parishioners and getting to work on some tangible projects. St. Mark's has a history of environmental stewardship in projects like the 38-kw solar array installed in 2015 and lighting efficiency project as well as other energy saving decisions.

We hope to look for new ideas and to make plans to implement better recycling, energy efficiency and look toward building more solar as well as EV charging stations.

If you are passionate about taking care of God's creation and you would like to help both your parish church and the membership take tangible steps in this direction, please contact Ken Reese (505) 966-6676 or Christopher McLaren (505) 331-4638.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Christopher McLaren, Rector

Sacred Arts Gallery

As with many programs at St. Mark's, the Sacred Arts had to take a sabbatical during the pandemic. Happily, we are back to our normal rotation of 4 shows per year which have been well received.

As the arts world is slowly recovering, we still hope to see a resurgence of the Hollyberry Fair for arts and crafts. This requires someone with a lot of energy. Several ideas have been explored and we hope to have a renewal in the not-so-far future.

We welcome any and all with an interest in the arts to join our group.

Respectfully submitted,
Audrey Minard and Anne Gordon Fritz
Sacred Arts Guild

LGBTQ+ Ministry of the Diocese of the Rio Grande

In the Episcopal Church we believe that everyone is a beloved child of God. In our baptismal vows we pledge that we will strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being. The LGBTQ+ Ministry of the Diocese of the Rio Grande is supported by our Bishop. The goal of this ministry is to have visible and participatory offerings for members of the LGBTQ+ community and their allies. The ministry wants to help everyone know that they, no matter how they identify, are welcome, loved, and accepted. Another goal is to help those who have been hurt by religion in the past heal from those wounds.

The ministry hosts a monthly liturgy/worship service in the Albuquerque metropolitan area on the second Sunday of each month. The location of the service changes each month as different parishes around the city welcome the ministry into their physical buildings. The worship is followed by dinner and fellowship.

When the pandemic forced these gatherings to go online, the ministry realized how important it is to reach all places in our large diocese. It is now the goal to create an online gathering so everyone, no matter where they are located, can participate. This idea is in the formative stages and may take the shape of a conversational forum, book group, or Bible study.



It is the goal of the LGBTQ+ Ministry to help each city which has a LGBTQ+ Pride event take part in celebrating the diversity of the queer community, and letting everyone know the Episcopal Church welcomes them as a beloved child of God.

Since the beginning of this ministry in 2016, Deacon David has been instrumental in its operation and outreach to the wider church. If you are interested in helping with the

LGBTQ+ Ministry of our diocese or want to be included on the mailing list, please contact Deacon David.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deacon David Martin

ABQ Faithworks

St. Mark's is a sponsoring parish for this organization. ABQ Faithworks helps those with many different types of needs including people who are unhoused and asylum seekers. St. Mark's parishioners are involved helping asylum seekers who are planning to make Albuquerque their permanent home. ABQ Faithworks assists people with proper documentation, social services to help acclimate them to a new location, rides to appointments and court hearings, housing, and food. If you are interested in helping with this organization, please contact Sarah Camp at campsk@gmail.com.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deacon David Martin

Congregational In-reach

Take Them a Meal

It is hard to estimate the value of a delicious meal delivered to your door when you most need support. **Take Them a Meal** is a Pastoral Care and Outreach program at St. Mark's that enables parishioners to take meals to families or households that are experiencing crisis, change, hardship or are just in need of support.

The ministry is coordinated by Deacon David Martin (505) 231-1354 using a well-developed and easy website called **Take Them a Meal**.

If you enjoy cooking and would like to be part of this very hands-on tangible way to take care of others in our faith community, please let David know. One of the brilliant things about this ministry is that you sign-up to participate when you can but there is no obligation to take a meal each time a member in our community is in need of meals. You get to decide when and how often you will serve.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Christopher McLaren, Rector

Summer of Conversation

One foundation of the vibrant community of St. Mark's is our diligence in the spiritual practice of initiating intentional "one-on-one" conversations with others in the community. For many years, we've commissioned a team of members at the beginning of each summer to initiate these conversations and relational meetings with other members of St. Mark's as part of our "Summer of Conversation."

In 2022, we decided to broaden responsibility for the success of this community building initiative by commissioning the ENTIRE congregation-adults, youth, and children-to participate in the Summer of

Conversation. The results were fantastic. A “Summer of Conversation” Bingo card, two Summer of Conversation Training Sessions, sample Conversation Starter Cards and a series of Sunday Morning “Conversation Cafes” helped motivate even the more introverted among us to get involved. Over the course of the Summer, members of St. Mark’s engaged in 200+ intentional “one-on-one” conversations.

While our intentional conversations are by NO means limited to summertime, we find that making a communal commitment to an intentional season of conversation each year helps energize and equip us for more meaningful connections with others in the community all year long. Begin thinking now about what your commitment to this year’s Summer of Conversation might look like. Consider how the Spirit might be nudging YOU to stretch and grow as together we strive to nurture strong, authentic relationships that will support both personal and communal growth and transformation both within and beyond the walls of St. Mark’s.

Worship

Welcoming the full participation and gifts of all of our members to sustain a robust worship life that nourishes souls and glorifies God.

Music

The musicians of St. Mark’s served the parish faithfully and well in 2022.

The St. Mark’s Choir led the music of every Sunday liturgy during the year. The Choir also sang in numerous special liturgies, including Ash Wednesday, Tenebrae, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Christmas Eve, and many others. The Choir was especially proud of the music prepared for Bishop Hunn’s visit in October. Other special events included the Ralph Vaughan Williams’ Magnificat during Advent with soloist Jacqueline Zander-Wall.



The Choir continues to grow and flourish. The choir welcomed numerous new members this year and seeks to provide a warm welcome and helpful resources to new singers. Among those resources are complimentary introductory lessons with Hannah Stephens. During 2022 the choir resumed wearing robes and began to participate in liturgical processions, both of which had been paused during COVID. Several soloists from the choir sang psalms and other liturgical music in various services.

St. Mark’s musicians also provided instrumental music throughout the year. Asher Barreras and Rowan McJimsey played the piano in liturgies, coffee hour, and other events. Deb Bluestone played the viola on Christmas Eve and other occasions. A brass group played loudly on Easter morning. Other special offerings included wonderful solos by the students of Jacqueline Zander-Wall at the Christmas Eve children’s service. These are only a few examples of the wonderful music provided by many musicians throughout the year. In the coming year the parish will welcome John Garlisch as Assistant Music Director. John will lead choir rehearsals and play the organ primarily in Jeremy’s absence, but on some occasions Jeremy and John will lead services together.

A new Palatino grand piano was purchased in September 2022 and has been a fabulous addition to the music of St. Mark’s. The Reuter organ continues to function reasonably well, despite significant disrepair. The pipes of various ranks play unevenly and do not hold a tune. Some stops do not play at the correct pitch level and others are not the sound named by their stop tab. Some stops have “dead notes” that don’t play, so pieces must be played in keys that don’t require the dead notes. An organ technician from Texas, Jason Alden, examined the organ in late 2022 and discovered that many of the pipes currently in the organ are not the original pipes but rather were made for other instruments by companies other than Reuter. This is a

mystery. As the parish continues to plan a possible future renovation, careful consideration will need to be given to the future of the instrument.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeremy Wirths, Director of Music

Digital Ministry & Communications

The Communications area continued to do the weekly Messenger electronic newsletter, returned to hardcopy “refrigerator” schedule cards for Lent/Easter and Advent/Christmas in the hope that parishioners would have multiple ways to be aware of happenings around the parish. Postcards for the Great Vigil of Easter, Christmas Eve Liturgies and for stewardship’s Celebration Sunday were created and mailed. We also sent parish-wide text messages for reminders on Bishop Hunn’s visit, Gathering of the Greens, Luminaria bag cleanup, and the Caroling Party & Potluck.

Scammers were on the rise this year. There were several communications, both hardcopy and electronic, that went out to parishioners this year to warn of possible scams and how to not be a victim, and what to do you if you are. We take security seriously.

All Stewardship materials (pledge card, graphics-design, posters, giving envelopes, postcard mailing, companion-area of the website, etc.) were all crafted in-house.

The church and school websites’ maintenance continued. We are hoping to utilize the “Home” page of the church website more effectively in 2023 - so that people won’t need to sift through the website to find upcoming events.

Respectfully submitted,
Erin Wesner, Communications Coordinator

Looking Ahead: Flower and Altar Guild

The Ministry of Altar Guild is one of the most important in the church. Working behind the scenes, often unseen, altar guilds prepare the church for worship, an essential task each week.

St. Mark’s Altar Guild is a vibrant and growing ministry with many newer members since in-person worship resumed post-COVID shutdowns. Altar guild members fill candles, take care of linens, prepare the hymn board, set out vessels for Holy Eucharist and a host of other things. There are jobs large and small for a wide range of ages both before and after worship on Sundays and Thursdays and special liturgies. You will be surprised how much goes into serving on the Altar Guild and why being part of team really matters.



St. Mark’s Flower Guild is an emerging ministry that is being led by Brett Braud. If you have interest in learning how to arrange flowers for the altar area, enjoy decorating spaces for seasonal beauty and are available occasionally to purchase flowers and build arrangements with coaching this might just be the ministry for you. It is a ministry of beauty and remembrance as we have flowers when there are dedications in memory of events, people and relationships.

If you want to get involved and be part of this satisfying work on either the Flower Guild or Altar Guild, contact Fr. Christopher for more

information.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Christopher McLaren, Rector

Audio-Visual Team Ministry

During the year, the AV Team made sound and visuals available for those attending outside our walls. We did a total of 116 live streams, with 87 of those streaming sessions casting to both YouTube and Facebook. In April, we implemented a tool, Restream.io, which allowed the AV Team to stream to both Facebook and YouTube at the same time. The church's Facebook followers went from 694 at the beginning of the year to 744 followers by December 31. YouTube saw similar growth, in that we went from zero to 42 subscribers over the year. We have a regular following on both Facebook and YouTube.

We have roughly 8-10 people who attend weekly services online. One pledging parishioner, Eileen Cook, said: *"Online worship brings me into the St. Mark's community in a meaningful way. I love how St. Mark's is inclusive in welcoming all at the Lord's Table, unlike my fundamentalist upbringing. Even though I'm not attending in person, I feel a part of the live and vitality of St. Mark's. I'm learning so much!"*

Looking ahead, we are continuing to look for ways to make the AV Team experience more straight forward, less complicated, and with better sound and video quality for our online participants.

Respectfully submitted,
Erin Wesner for the AV Team



Formation

Creating diverse opportunities for people of all ages to teach, learn, explore, connect and grow spiritually.

St. Mark's Montessori School (SMMS)



Our largest outreach ministry is St. Mark's Montessori School (SMMS). We are currently serving 41 children, an increase from the 34 students in our spring and summer programs. In response to the growing need in our community for high quality preschools, we remodeled our Primary (ages 3-Kindergarten) classroom, so that we may grow our ministry to include more families.

Since our founding in 2013, we've provided a high quality, affordable Montessori education to our community. At our school, children have opportunities to learn and explore through a wide variety of "hands-on" experiences, encouraging their imaginations and inner creativity. We've created this environment through a combination of Dr. Maria Montessori's philosophies and her methodology. Our students are further nurtured by the School's Spiritual fellowship with our Church's dynamic clergy.

During this last calendar year SMMS began several new programs. We started a new literacy program with Ms. Ann Baneck to add additional reading support for our students and other children in our community. We began having Montessori professional development at the school from Mr. Seth Stambaugh. We also started facilitating team building events with our staff, and any staff members who elected to participate were blessed by Mother Sylvia. These events and a 23%+ pay increase have helped staff continuity. Nationwide, 2022 is known as the Great Resignation, and staff retention heavily impacted the childcare industry. Our role as an outreach ministry is to provide a service to help fill a need right here in our neighborhood.

The pandemic has brought some help in ways we had not encountered pre-pandemic, such as grant funding. We were awarded \$86,683.00 in NM state and federal grants and are awaiting additional grant funding for further classroom updating this summer. Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham last spring announced family-focused initiatives eliminating costs for child care for most New Mexico families, increasing capacity for child care services in areas lacking access, and supporting early childhood professionals. This dramatic expansion of cost-free services builds on prior work to deliver affordable child care to more New Mexico families, supporting tens of thousands more families across the state by doubling previous family eligibility for the state's Child Care Assistance Program. Our School has been able to increase our Child Care Assistant contracts from one student to 14 students.

Special thanks to Ken Reese for all of his volunteer work as our finance manager. Also, to Pat Catlett for her donations of two beautiful original art pieces to the school. Additionally, we would like to thank all of the school board members and teachers for all of their hard work this year. Lastly, we'd like to extend our gratitude to all of the staff of St. Mark's for their work in supporting our school throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia Morton, Director

St. Mark's Montessori School (SMMS) Treasurer Report

The school had a challenging year financially, ending 2022 with a deficit of \$25,692. Fortunately the balance of \$53,928 in the school's "rainy day" fund is more than sufficient to cover this deficit. The reason for the 2022 deficit is almost entirely due to growth in personnel costs which were \$50k higher than budgeted. Due to inflation and the tight job market, we had to significantly raise our pay to be able to attract and retain quality teachers. To remedy this going forward, the school is planning an increase in tuition rates this summer and fall as well as pursuing grant funding. One grant in particular, the NM Childcare Supply Building Grant, will hopefully provide the funding to remodel our Classroom #2 to add a bathroom. This will allow us to more than double our capacity for students under 3 years old, an age group for which we always have a waiting list. Our current total enrollment sits at 40 students which we hope to grow to at least 48 students by the fall.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Reese, SMMS Treasurer

St. Mark's Montessori School Board Members

Voting Members

Maribelle Ogilvie, Chair
Kenneth Reese, SMMS Treasurer
Robin Hammer, Legal Advisor
Nancy Hilton
Maren McLaren
Jesse Murray, Secretary
Karen Pound

Non-Voting Members

Rev. Christopher McLaren, Rector
Miranda Eastham, SMEC Treasurer
Tricia Morton, Director

St. Mark's Montessori Children's Chapel



Children's Ministry doesn't only happen on Sundays at St. Mark's! Each week, Deacon David and Mother Sylvia actively minister to between 30 and 40 children, ages 1.5-6 (and their teachers) as part of St. Mark's Montessori School (SMMS) Chapel Program. Each Wednesday St. Mark's clergy lead three "Children's Chapel" classes for SMMS: one toddler class (ages ~1.5-3 years) and two primary classes (ages ~3-6).

In SMMS Children's Chapel, we seek to nurture children's innate spiritual capacities for curiosity and wonder, reverence and awe, care and carefulness. "Peace" is the golden thread that runs through everything we do in Montessori chapel. Our regular weekly sequence of rituals, exercises, and songs help children learn to "get ready" for a lifelong spiritual practice as they begin

to own and internalize essential tools for soothing their own nervous systems, calming their own bodies and minds, and creating peace both within themselves and in the world around them. A variety of Sacred Stories, usually shared in the Montessori method of Godly Play, invite children to make connections between their own personal experiences and the rich spiritual traditions of our ancestors both within and beyond the Jewish and Christian traditions. We close each session by passing a candle around the circle while we sing. (We use an LED candle with the Toddlers, and a real candle with the Primary classes). Through this simple practice we embody our values of carefulness, gentleness, reverence and sharing-the building blocks of a healthy spiritual and community life.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Sylvia Miller-Mutia, Associate Rector

Small Groups: Anglican Rosary, Thursday Bible Study, Sunday Storytelling, Song Circle

Small groups support our spiritual growth by offering safe spaces where we can share our lives, prayers and spiritual journeys with others.

Our **Anglican Rosary Group** meets Tuesday mornings at 10am (Mountain Time) on Zoom, and includes local members of St. Mark's, as well as "out of town" friends from as far away as Florida. We begin each session by sharing our prayer requests. Members of the group then take turns leading prayers using the Anglican Rosary. After we've prayed 4-5 cycles of prayer together (~30 minutes) we enjoy a "check in" and conversation. Each gathering lasts ~45-60 minutes. Visit <https://www.mothersylvia.com/prayer-beads.html> to learn more about the use of prayer beads/rosary in the Episcopal Church.

Our **Bible Study Group** meets Thursdays at Noon (Mountain Time) in the chapel of St. Mark's AND on zoom. In 2022 we studied the Gospel of Luke (First Nations Version) and the Beatitudes, as well as Peaceful Communication and Simplicity as Spiritual Practices. We are beginning 2023 by studying the Gospel of Matthew (First Nations Version), then we'll see where the Spirit takes us from there! To explore some of the resources we enjoyed during our study of the Beatitudes last summer, visit: <https://www.mothersylvia.com/beatitudes.html>

Our **Storytelling Group** meets on Sundays at 11:15am in the Library at St. Mark's. Together we learn, share, listen, and tell stories inspired by Holy Scripture and the Lives of the Saints. In 2022 we began exploring stories from the Hebrew Scriptures, with "Sordid Tales of Kings and Queens: Stories of the Davidic Monarchy". In 2023 we will begin by exploring stories of unusual saints (in Epiphany and Lent), followed by stories from the Acts of the Apostles in Eastertide. This is an excellent small group for people who long for

an imaginative way to enter more deeply into holy texts, for people who are interested in developing their own skills as a storyteller, and for people who just love to hear a good story!

Our **Music that Makes Community Song Circle** meets monthly on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. We initiated the group as an opportunity for people who participated in the Music that Makes Community retreat at the Norbertine Abbey in October of 2022 (as well as others in the ABQ area who feel drawn to the practice of community singing) to gather regularly for fellowship and music making. Participants include members of St. Mark's, as well as members from other congregations and communities throughout the ABQ area. We **rotate locations** and responsibility for "hosting" among interested participants. We focus on teaching, learning, and sharing songs together in an "oral tradition" style of music-making. We sing songs from a variety of traditions as well as songs of our own creation. We lean heavily on musical forms that lend themselves to learning by ear and singing from the heart, including: simple melodies, rounds, simple songs with layered harmonies, echo songs, and "call and response" songs. We take risks. We experiment. We make mistakes. We laugh. We learn. We encourage one another. We sing. We welcome you to join us!

If you feel called to initiate a new small group at St. Mark's, please contact a member of St. Mark's clergy. We'd love to help you get it started! Our dream is for every member of St. Mark's to belong to a small group that encourages, challenges, and strengthens their spiritual life!

Respectfully Submitted,
Sylvia Miller-Mutia, Associate Rector

Inquirers & Confirmation

We believe that Christian Formation is life-long and ongoing for every Christian. There is always more to learn, always more ways to grow into the "likeness of Christ." One of our primary tasks as Christians is to help each other understand and embrace the Christian life and faith. We do this by learning about the way of life that Jesus taught and endeavoring to lean into the habits and practices of a cross-centered life. Each year, usually in the fall, St. Mark's offers classes that helps newcomers and long-time members alike to learn more about the Episcopal Church and to enter more deeply into its spiritual life of worship and service.

The classes often focus on the basics of the faith, the Bible, The Book of Common Prayer, Holy Eucharist, The Sacraments, Spiritual Gifts, Stewardship, Service and more. The classes are meant to be formative for all in our community no matter what stage of life you are in. As a possible outcome, one might choose to be Confirmed as a member of the Anglican Communion by making an adult profession of faith in the Episcopal Church. If one has already been Confirmed in one of the other catholic traditions Roman Catholic or Orthodox, one may choose to be Received into the Episcopal Church as member. One can also Re-Affirm their Baptismal Covenant at the end of the course of study if they have been baptized and would like to do so. These official actions take place when a Bishop, our own Diocesan bishop or another invited bishop visits St. Mark's for the purpose of welcoming new members deeper into the Episcopal Church through Confirmation, Reception or Re-affirmation and making a visitation to our Parish.



Over the last 3 years we've done a whole variety of things to prepare for Confirmation, Reception and Re-affirmation. We've read both *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices* by Scott Gunn and *Melody Wilson Shobe*. We've read *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans. We also watched some very short but provocative videos from Animate as well as from ChurchNext that lead to a great deal of lively discussion and learning.

More recently we enjoyed a series of classes offered to our community by Professor Bruce Redford entitled *Devices and Desires: The Book of Common Prayer and its Literary Legacy*.

In the coming months, if you are interested in being Confirmed, Received or Re-Affirming your baptismal covenant there will opportunities for learning and preparation. If you would like to be part of planning these classes and experiences or teaching some of the courses, please reach out to Father Christopher at christopher@stmarksabq.org.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Christopher McLaren, Rector

Diocese

Remembering that we are part of something bigger and actively contributing to the life of the wider church and world through the Diocese of the Rio Grande.

Vocational Discernment

In the Episcopal Church we believe that all baptized people are called as ministers in Christ's church. As baptized people, we all share a common duty to come together weekly for corporate worship, and to work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God. In the Episcopal Church we organize our shared ministry according to several "orders": The Order of the Laity, The Order of Deacons, The Order of Priests, and The Order of Bishops. A small number of both lay and ordained ministers in the Episcopal Church are called to exercise their vocations as members or associates of religious orders or monastic communities.

For the past several years, Mother Sylvia has served as the chair of the Commission on the Ministry of the Baptized in our Diocese, and has overseen the development and implementation of a new vocational discernment process designed to support *any* member of the Episcopal church in our diocese (those called to lay ministries, as well as those called to ordained ministries) as they strive to discern and grow in their unique vocations as children and servants of God.

Each year's discernment cycle begins each Lent with an online [Vocations Course](#), Wednesday evenings during Lent on Zoom. Some participants may elect to continue their exploration through participation in a [Diocesan Discernment Group](#) that meets monthly on Zoom May-December. The annual discernment cycle concludes with participation in a New Year's Discernment Weekend/Vocations Retreat. Learn more at <https://dioceserg.org/vocations>.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Sylvia Miller-Mutia, Associate Rector

LGBTQ+ Ministry of the Diocese of the Rio Grande – See page 17

St. Mark's Ministry List

OPEN- denotes an opportunity for calling a new leader.

If you are interested in any of our Ministries, please contact the person listed. We are always excited to welcome new members to our Ministries!

LEADERSHIP		
Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
Vestry	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Lucy Sinkular lucy.sinkular@gmail.com
Deanery/Convention Delegates	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Laurel Leisher-Cabral lmleisher@icloud.com
Finance	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Miranda Eastham meastham@unm.edu
Stewardship	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Lucy Sinkular lucy.sinkular@gmail.com
Office Volunteers	Jennifer Lind, Parish Administrator	Heather Gaume heathergaume@gmail.com
Montessori School	Tricia Morton, Director	Maribelle Ogilvie Maribelleo17@gmail.com
BUILDING/PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT		
Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
Building Renewal Committee	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Maribelle Ogilvie Maribelleo17@gmail.com Stretch Cole jt.cole@hotmail.com
"Fix-It" Group	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Stretch Cole jt.cole@hotmail.com
COMMUNITY CARE – OUTREACH		
Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
Homelessness/Church Unbound	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Joan Camera jcamera333@gmail.com
Immigration/Asylum Seekers	Deacon David Martin	Pauline Artery arteryp@gmail.com
Creation Care	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Ken Reese reese kennethw@gmail.com
Gardening Group (nascent)	Fr. Christopher McLaren	OPEN
Sacred Arts Gallery	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Audrey Minard aminard42@msn.com Anne Gordon Fritz annegordonsilks1@gmail.com
DRG LGBTQ+	Deacon David Martin	Irene Wainwright irene.wainwright77@gmail.com
Faithworks	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Sarah Camp campsk@gmail.com

COMMUNITY CARE – IN-REACH

Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
Summer of Conversation	Fr. Christopher McLaren	OPEN
Newcomer Welcome & Follow-Up	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	LeeAnna Sacoman leeannasacoman@gmail.com
Coffee Hour	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Pauline Artery arteryp@gmail.com
Pancakes	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Aric Elsenheimer aric225@hotmail.com
Big Parties (Mardi Gras, Easter Vigil)	Fr. Christopher McLaren/ Deacon David Martin	OPEN
Small Parties (Pool Party, Potlucks)	Fr. Christopher McLaren / Deacon David Martin	Aric Elsenheimer aric225@hotmail.com Rachel Ribeiro rribeiro101@hotmail.com
Take Them a Meal	Deacon David Martin	OPEN
Funeral Receptions	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Heather Gaume heathergaume@gmail.com
Eucharistic Visitors / Pastoral Visits	Deacon David Martin	-
Intercessory Prayer List	Deacon David Martin	-
Bereavement & Grief (Rosaries, Gift Bags)	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Donnel Miller-Mutia donnelmillermutia@gmail.com
Online Community Fellowship, Formation & Care	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	OPEN

WORSHIP – LITURGY

Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
Greeters	Fr. Christopher McLaren	LeeAnna Sacoman leeannasacoman@gmail.com
Ushers	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Mark Hendrick mhendrick67@yahoo.com
Altar Guild	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Karen McDaniel karenmac1@aol.com Karen Pound kspound@mac.com George McJimsey gmcjimsey@sandiaprep.org
Flower Guild	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Brett Braud brettbraud@hotmail.com
Acolytes	Fr. Christopher McLaren	-
AV Team	Fr. Christopher McLaren	OPEN
Lectors	Deacon David Martin	-
Intercessors	Deacon David Martin	-
Communion Bread Bakers	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Lynette Cole lynettebill@gci.net
Funerals	Fr. Christopher McLaren	-
Contemplative Prayer	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Stephanie and Marcel Varoz peace2u@comcast.net

WORSHIP – MUSIC		
Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
St. Mark's Choir and Organist	Jeremy Wirths	-
Children's Music	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	-
Music that Makes Community (MMC)	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	-
Field Trips	Jeremy Wirths	Bruce Redford bredford@bu.edu
Music Library	Jeremy Wirths	Taylor Spence taylorspencephd@gmail.com
FORMATION		
Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
SMMS Board	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Maribelle Ogilvie Maribelleo17@gmail.com
SMMS Chapel	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	-
Children's Chapel	Deacon David Martin	Robin Hammer hammertz11@gmail.com
Sunday School - Godly Play	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Maren McLaren marencole@gmail.com
Sunday School - Upper Elementary	Deacon David Martin	Heather Gaume heathergaume@gmail.com
Sunday School - Middle School	Deacon David Martin	Rachel Ribeiro rribeiro101@hotmail.com
High School	Deacon David Martin	OPEN
Young Adults	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Kirk Landin kirklandin@gmail.com
Other (VBS, Camp Stoney, Pageant)	Deacon David Martin, Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	OPEN
Adult Ed (Sundays)	Fr. Christopher McLaren	OPEN
Newcomers & Inquirers	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Ty Camp tydcamp@gmail.com
Baptism & Confirmation	Fr. Christopher McLaren, Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	OPEN
Small Group Bible Study	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	David Duncan Davruddun@msn.com
Small Group Rosary	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Gretchen Batton
Small Group Contemplative Prayer	Michael Jupin	OPEN
Small Group Daily Office	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	OPEN
Icon Writers/School of Sacred Arts	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Lin Marksbury (505) 307-5230 marksburyl@yahoo.com
Couples/Relationships	Donnel Miller-Mutia	OPEN
Parenting	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	OPEN
DRG Discernment/Vocations Program	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	OPEN

Attachment 1: FY 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes, January 30, 2022

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

This year's annual meeting was incorporated into Sunday worship. The parish received the document "St. Mark's Episcopal Church 2021 Annual Parish Report: Reaching out in Love, Reconnecting with Joy and Rising to the Challenge" which included written reports on various ministries. This report is appended to these *Minutes*.

Meeting Within the Liturgy

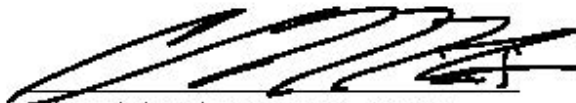
1. A special *Collect for the Day and Annual Meeting* was offered at the beginning of liturgy.
2. The Prayers of the People included special blessings and thanksgiving for all lay and ordained ministers involved in serving God's people in our Parish and beyond.
3. For the sermon, Fr. Christopher McLaren delivered the Rector's Report.
4. Following the Offertory, Miranda Eastham gave the Stewardship, Finance and Budget Report.

Business Meeting

5. Following Holy Communion and the Post-Communion Prayer, Senior Warden Lucy Sinkular called to order the business portion of the Annual Meeting. Parishioners remained in their pews in the sanctuary for the remainder of the agenda.
6. Sherry Reeder was appointed Secretary and Clerk of the Vestry.
7. The Annual Meeting Minutes for the January 31, 2021 were received, a committee of the Vestry having approved them at the May 2021 Vestry Meeting.
8. Election: Diane Ball, Ty Camp and Blythe Clark were nominated to fill three vacancies on the vestry for three-year terms. Receiving no nominations from the floor, the vestry candidates were elected by acclamation.

9. Senior Warden Report: Lucy Sinkular briefly addressed the congregation with a theme urging each member to find his or her place of belonging and contribution in Christ's work at St. Mark's.
10. Acceptance of Annual Report: The parish officially accepted all reports in the Annual Report as presented.
11. Adjournment: Following announcements Lucy Sinkular adjourned the meeting at 11:25 am.
 - Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia gave the final blessing.
 - The congregation sang "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation" for the closing hymn, then gathered in the parish hall for pancake breakfast.

Minutes approved by special committee consisting of Fr. Christopher McLaren and Lucy Sinkular, for presentation at January 19, 2023 Vestry Meeting.



Father Christopher McLaren, Rector



Lucy Sinkular, Senior Warden

Attachment 2: What Happened at St. Mark's in 2022

- We created Manna Bags for those in need
- Supported Asylum Seekers by donating blankets, shoes and more throughout the year.
- Celebrated Candlemas
- Continued to host "5th Sunday of the Month" Pancake Breakfast/Coffee Hour
- Offered Lenten Devotionals, study and prayer with "Animate" videos
- Offered Stations of the Cross
- Music Director, Jeremy Wirths, offered a two-part class on Haydn's, "*The Creation*." Part one was instructional; part two was to see the performance live
- February Asylum Seeker Shoe Drive
- Celebrated Shrove Tuesday with a traditional Pancake Supper; costumes, jazz music and merriment were offered.
- Hosted several LGBTQ+ Holy Eucharists/Potluck Dinners (LGBTQ+ Ministry from the DRG)
- St. Mark's lifted masking mandates in April, but continues to be mask-friendly.
- Held quarterly Rosary for Remembrance Rosary events.
- Started streaming to both Facebook & YouTube in April
- Cupcake palooza on Easter Sunday
- Wendell Berry class offered "A Timbered Choir"
- Annual Plant Sale at St. Mark's
- In May of 2022, SMMS celebrated kindergarten graduation in the nave and online with families, students, and teachers
- SMMS expanded its programming to extended hours and summer camp.
- Summer of Conversation took place at St. Mark's
- The parish gave clothing donations of men's clothing for asylum seekers
- Held "Call to Action" and prayer vigil for the mass shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde
- Beatitudes Bible Study was offered



students are now able to attend SMMS

- Pause & Pray on Wednesdays at noon during the summer - to pray for the end of gun violence
- St. Mark's gave \$1000 from Outreach Funds to give to the NM Wild Fire "All Together NM" relief fund
- Summer Choir - optional, low-commitment attendance for those who may want to sing during the summer, but don't have the time to devote to an entire fall through spring duration.
- Summer of Preaching Festival - Midweek preaching schedule with our plethora of retired priests
- Parish Pool Party was held during the summer
- SMMS turned 10!
- The Montessori school did renovations to expand classroom capacity by turning what was Anderson Chapel into an expanded classroom - 10 additional primary-room
- The parish brought non-perishable foods to help restock the Storehouse
- Back-to-school blessings took place

- Jesse Murray, parishioner, held a forum on “Ukraine and Russia: Common Roots, Contested History”
- Nursery Care survey went out to the parish
- St. Mark's offices waited 6 weeks during the heat of the summer, but a new air conditioner was finally installed
- Catechesis Program was offered
- Condensed Safe Church training was offered
- The youth of went on pilgrimage gave a talk on what they did and discovered while in Ireland
- New grand piano was purchased for the choir
- Rev. Michael Jupin & Fr. Christopher held a workshop on “How do Families & Groups Work? Family Systems Thinking”
- “*Game of Thrones Meets The Crown: Sacred & Sordid Tales of Kings & Queens*” - Biblical Storytelling class was offered in the fall
- “The Book of Common Prayer & its Literary Legacy” class was offered in the fall
- Wednesday morning prayer & “Video Visits” began in late September
- Bishop Hunn visited St. Mark's for the first time since being ordained in late October
- We built a beautiful ofrenda for All Saints' Day
- We offered Blessing of the Pets to honor St. Francis of Assisi
- Oktoberfest with brats, sides and beverages took place at St. Mark's - with a corresponding Hymn Sing
- Stewardship campaign: “Rising to the Challenge, Reconnecting with Joy, Reaching out with Love” had Celebration Sunday late October
- T-Coil Loop Hearing System put in place inside the Nave
- Parish group outing to see Santa Fe Desert Chorale “Ceremony of Carols”
- When Bp. Hunn visited, we had 7 confirmations, 3 received into the Episcopal Church, and 4 reaffirmations
- Return of the Common Cup happened in November
- St. Mark's did a food collection for Crossroads for Women
- Gathering of the Greens took place just after Thanksgiving
- Christmas outreach was to give gift cards and gift baskets to women and children staying in the Barrett House - St. Mark's raised \$1075 in gift cards and gave 12 gift baskets
- St. Mark's offered and Advent Quiet Day
- Advent Wreath Making was offered
- A Donkey's Christmas pageant was performed live
- St. Mark's Caroling Party & Potluck Dinner was held in the Parish Hall

