

A stylized graphic of a flame or fire, composed of overlapping, teardrop-shaped petals or leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and red, with green leaves at the base. The graphic is positioned behind the text.

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
2023 ANNUAL PARISH REPORT

Rekindle  
the gift  
of God  
that is  
within you.

ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 28, 2024

2 Timothy 1:6

## Rector's Annual Report for 2023

"For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you..."  
~ 2 Timothy 1:6

Beloved of God,

St. Mark's continues to be a blessing beyond words in life and that of my family. I'm grateful to the community of St. Mark's for creating such a vibrant, healthy and encouraging place to serve as a priest and to grow in the Christian life together. This past summer Maren and I were able to get away for a few weeks of vacation thanks to the encouragement and loving care of many in the parish who looked after our home and family in ways that still overwhelm us when we remember that kindness. I'm blessed to work with a very gifted and hard-working staff that truly love what they do and care deeply for the well-being of the community of St. Mark's. I am also deeply grateful for the leadership of both of our wardens, Lucy Sinkular, Senior Warden and Ty Camp, Junior Warden.

This past year at St. Mark's where was one of new vitality and gathering strength. High points for me included a moving Holy Week with a beautiful **Passion Play and festive Easter Vigil** with several baptisms one by full immersion. It was a fantastically strong **Summer of Conversation** as the level of engagement and commitment was high and the deepening of community and relationships evident through our cultivation of the practice of intentional one-on-one conversations. In addition, we continue to engage in a patient and thoughtful process aimed at renewing our liturgical space with an eye toward accessibility, flexibility, maintaining the Episcopal tradition, a strong focus on the sacraments, enhancing our music ministry and capacity and doing all of this with an eye toward beauty and powerful worship. For more detailed information see the **Building Renewal Committee** Report in this publication. As a community we continue to work hard on Widening the Welcome through our relational culture, the warmth of community and our hard work of shaping our space in ways that make it more hospitable, connective and inviting.



## SMMS New Director

This past summer we said goodbye to our Director of St. Mark's Montessori School, Tricia Morton and her family as they relocated to Bismarck North Dakota to be near family. It was very hard to see them go after many years of their deep engagement and care for this faith community.

With joy, we welcomed a new Director of our St. Mark's Montessori School, Ms. Caitlin McGuire who was already a vital part of our Montessori staff. Ms. Caitlin is a natural leader and a very able administrator. We are grateful for her hard work and relational capacity as St. Mark's Montessori school continues to thrive and grow under her thoughtful care and organizational strengths.

## Rekindling the Gift of God

In the coming year, it is my hope that as a community we will continue to grow deeper in our Christian faith, "rekindling the gift of God" that is within each of us. As our baptismal covenant reminds us we are all called to, "continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers. "Rekindling the gift of God within us," is then and invitation to worship, community building, life-long learning of our tradition and practices faithfulness in prayer.

### Some Dreams for Rekindling the Gift of God.

First, I am hoping that St. Mark's will continue to be a place where the richness of our offerings: classes, book studies, film discussions, outreach efforts, and service opportunities are determined by the agency and the creativity of the community itself. We have much to teach each other and more to learn alongside one another. I want to encourage the people of St. Mark's to take the risk to offer opportunities that are ways for you to "rekindle the gift of God with in you."



Second, I am hoping that we will work toward having a renewed ministry of Creation Care at St. Mark's. I know that there are many who are interested in this area of work and devotion. It is my hope that we will kindle in each other a deeper care and respect for the earth through teaching, green projects, and reading and learning about simple ways for us to respond to the climate crisis that affects all of us.

Third, St. Mark's Outreach Ministry Team is beginning to grow in partnership with St. Mark's Montessori School, Church Unbound, ABQ FaithWorks, La Mesa's Thanksgiving Feast of Friends and more. In the coming year, we plan to kindle more opportunities to serve in our community with the love of Christ in our hearts.

Fourth, I hope to see St. Mark's deepen our life of prayer. Did you know that there is a contemplative sit at 10:30 on Thursdays just before Eucharist in the Bp. Stoney Chapel? Have you been to a contemplative prayer quiet day with Fr. Michael Jupin? What about going to morning prayer and movement with Mother Sylvia in the mornings for a season? Might you join the intercessory prayer team that lifts up the needs of our community throughout the week?

## Sabbatical Plans Taking Shape

After more than 23 years of ordained ministry I will take my first sabbatical during the spring and summer of this year (April – July). I will be spending time resting, gardening, bee-keeping, fly fishing, reading on creation care and learning how to preach more thoughtfully about the Christian life and care of the earth. For some time now, I've wanted to create more wildlife habitat in our yard and incorporate more native plants into our garden so that will be part of my sabbatical joy. I also plan to do some retreating at Christ in the Desert Monastery and hopefully at SSJE in Boston. Maren and I plan to travel to see our daughter Sofia in Copenhagen, Denmark and also to take the opportunity to visit several other places on our dream list. I leave the parish in the capable hands of Mother Sylvia and Deacon David, our wardens, Lucy Sinkular and Ty Camp, and our parish staff, but also with a deep trust in the people of St. Mark's to step up into whatever opportunities for leadership and service present themselves.

This past year we lost a number of our faithful members. Candy Porter, Ken Eberhard, Derek Swinson, Tom Minard and most recently Charles "Mark" Hendrick. St. Mark's celebrated the lives of each of these beautiful people with their families and friends. The sudden unexpected loss of Charles "Mark" Hendrick has been a great sadness in the life of St. Mark's. We were his family and we will celebrate his life on Saturday February 10<sup>th</sup> with a funeral and Mardi Gras Party in his honor. We also celebrated the lives of several of our member's parents Dick Gouge – Sherry Reeder's father, Omer Lee Meadows – Richard Meadows Father and will celebrate later this year the funeral of JoAnn Marksbury – Lin Marksbury's mother.

As we move into this new year at St. Mark's I am extremely grateful and hopeful about life and future of St. Mark's. We continue to be a vital, warm and welcoming community. We continue to attract new members and find new ways of being church. We are not afraid to try new things, to take risks and to understand ourselves as a church with a future. It is my prayer that this coming year at St. Mark's is an opportunity for you to "Rekindle the gift of faith within!" I'm looking forward to a sabbatical full of rest, reading, reflection and some time to "rekindle the gift of God within" myself after many years of ministry. It is my hope that I will return to St. Mark's renewed and ready to serve, teach, preach and encourage each one of you to find ways to "Rekindle the Gift of God within you." Together we are building something beautiful for God in our Neighborhood.

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

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## Order of Worship and Annual Meeting Agenda January 28, 2024

The 2024 Annual Meeting is integrated into our normal Eucharistic Worship. This emphasizes that caring for the business of the church as we celebrate the previous year and look forward to the coming year is an act of worship for the whole community.

<b>Prelude</b>	Jeremy Wirth, Music Director
<b>Welcome</b>	The Rev. Christopher McLaren
<b>Opening Hymn</b>	<i>#135 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise</i>
<b>Opening Acclamation &amp; Collect for the Day and Annual Meeting</b>	
<b>The Lessons</b>	
The First Reading	Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Sequence Hymn	<i>#567 Thine Arm, O Lord</i>
The Gospel	Mark 1:21-28
The Sermon and Rector's Report	Fr. Christopher McLaren
<b>The Nicene Creed</b>	
<b>Prayers of the People &amp; Concluding Collect</b>	
<b>Confession of Sin and Absolution</b>	
<b>The Peace</b>	
<b>Stewardship Finance and Budget Reports</b>	Miranda Eastham and Ken Reese, Treasurers
<b>Offertory Anthem</b>	<i>Maria Walks Within the Thorn</i> by Hugo Distler, St. Mark's Choir
<b>Doxology</b>	
<b>The Holy Communion</b>	
Communion Hymn	<i>#874 Precious Lord, Take My Hand</i>
<b>Post Communion Prayer</b>	
<b>Leadership and Elections</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call to Order</li> <li>• Appointment of the Secretary of Annual Meeting      Clerk of the Vestry Deb Bluestone</li> <li>• Election of New Vestry Members and Delegate by ballot</li> <li>• Acceptance of FY 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes, January 29, 2023</li> <li>• Acceptance of Financial Reports and Leadership Reports as Printed</li> <li>• Senior Warden's Report – Lucy Sinkular</li> <li>• SMMS Director's Report – Caitlin McGuire</li> </ul>	
<b>Election Results - Lucy Sinkular, Senior Warden; and Laurel Leisher-Cabral, Junior Warden</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1st Ballot</li> <li>• 2nd Ballot (if necessary)</li> </ul>	
<b>Adjournment of Annual Meeting</b>	Lucy Sinkular, Sr. Warden
<b>Blessings &amp; Announcements</b>	The Rev. Sylvia Miller-Mutia
Mardi Gras Announcement	
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	<i>#493 O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing</i>
<b>All Parish Coffee Hour and Community Meal</b>	

## Senior Warden's Report

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

As our year together as a parish family draws to a close, I am struck by just how full these last months have been at St. Mark's! Several new folks have blessed us by their joining, we have begun new adventures together and we have said farewell to beloved members some who left New Mexico and still others who moved on to the larger life in Christ. While it's true that working as your Senior Warden means keeping an eye on business and details, this year showed me the greatest blessing of the job has always been you people. Thank you for sharing bits and glimpses of yourselves with me as we have worked together.

This is to be a report, however, and not a sentimental missive, so I will highlight a few important accomplishments of your Vestry in 2023. 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 while working within the limits of our shared resources.

This year the BRC (Building Renewal Committee) shared ideas, plans and challenges with the Vestry as they gathered the congregation's hopes and dreams for this place and learned more about architecture, zoning and liturgical space. Vestry members made some independent inquiries reaching out to former church clients of the BRC recommended architect, Groth Design Group. Ultimately those conversations combined with the BRC's own information gathering on the architect resulted in the Vestry's approval of a contract to hire Groth as our project architect.

In February, Father Christopher invited each Vestry member to select an area of ministry for his or her special involvement and responsibility. We are working to become a Vestry who are better, more active partners with our clergy in taking care of the many aspects of community life. This is not only important for continuity during Fr. Christopher's sabbatical but also beyond that time. We want these efforts to contribute to strengthening St. Mark's as a truly welcoming church home.

In April the Vestry officially requested that all St. Mark's clergy please take their vacation time. This action was in response to the knowledge that the larger we grow, the more needs we place on our clergy. Their spiritual, mental and physical health must be a priority for the



best care of the whole congregation. Once again, Vestry members participated in the Summer of Conversation with you and enjoyed deepening relationships. This summer the Vestry voted in support of Fr. Christopher's ability to appoint me to a fourth year as the Senior Warden to provide continuity of lay leadership during his sabbatical.

Ty Camp, your Junior Warden, implemented the St. Mark's Facility Tracking spreadsheet cataloging projects and contractors involved in our building maintenance, repair and improvement. In addition, Ty helped with a new ministry involving Stretch Cole and others who work to complete various projects around our physical space.

This year St. Mark's reaped the reward from a project approved by an earlier Vestry when the "New Energy @ St. Mark's LLC" dissolved. Dissolution of that corporation means that we now receive the solar energy without payment to the corporation. That former Vestry acted boldly to benefit both the environment and the finances of our church, and we are grateful. Other financial matters of the year included approval of funding to upgrade AV throughout our building. The Vestry recognized the importance to so many people of remote attendance at services and classes through our online platforms as well as the importance of audio assistance for hearing impaired parishioners.

The Vestry approved a new relationship as St. Mark's became the sponsoring organization for Cub Scout Troop 990. Just as our Montessori school serves young scholars and their families, the Vestry recognizes the value of scouting to young people and their families. This Fall your Vestry supported the stewardship team implementation of this year's campaign. The Finance Committee's development of the 2024 budget required creative solutions as our parish is growing, but many people's finances are stretched thin by the state of the economy. The Vestry assisted in welcoming Bishop Michael Hunn in November for the occasion of baptisms, confirmations and receptions.

The Episcopal Book of Common Prayer tells us that the ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to **take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church**. I look forward to this coming year and pray we will all be open to finding our place in the life, worship, and governance of God's holy church.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lucy Sinkular, Senior Warden

## Administration

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

## Vestry Members and Delegates

### 2021-2023 Term

Barry Hogge  
George McJimsey  
Lucy Sinkular

### 2023-2025 Term

Dave Aley  
Darcie Farrow  
Amanda Wright

### 2022-2024 Term

Diane Ball  
Ty Camp  
Blythe Clark

## Executive Committee of the Vestry

<b>Rector</b>	The Rev. Christopher McLaren
<b>Sr. Warden</b>	Lucy Sinkular
<b>Jr. Warden</b>	Ty Camp
<b>Treasurer</b>	Miranda Eastham
<b>Clerk</b>	Deb Bluestone

## Delegates to Diocesan Convention and Deanery Representatives

Delegate 1 Sherry Reeder	<b>Term 2021-2023</b>
Delegate 2 Laurel Leisher-Cabral	<b>Term 2022-2024</b>

## Vestry Nominees



**Deb Bluestone**

I was born and raised in Oregon's Willamette Valley, and have lived in New Mexico for over forty years. My son, Gabriel, is a graduate of The Rhode Island School of Design, and lives and works as a graphic designer in Brooklyn. My academic studies in music performance, anthropology, and sociology, were followed by a Bachelor's degree in Business and Information Systems, and I have worked in publishing, journalism, broadcasting, and education. Highlights include interviewing over 900 artists, writers, actors, photographers, museum curators, and historians for radio broadcast, and for many years, my work focused on computer literacy while teaching gateway software courses at Santa Fe Community College. For the last ten years, I have worked as the national rental coordinator for Robertson & Sons Violin Shop in Albuquerque and, until recently, I played violin and viola for church services and as an Irish and Scottish fiddler with my folk band, The Thrifters. Mine was not a church-going family, but after arriving in New Mexico, I explored a variety of churches before finding a home at St. Mark's, where I was confirmed in 2022. I am also in my second year of Education for Ministry, a four-year small-group formation program of the School of Theology at the University of the South Sewanee (Tennessee), which is based on study and practice in theological

reflection. By God's gracious hand, the warm welcome, relationality, learning, liturgy, music, iconography and art, and endless opportunities for ministry and community service at St. Mark's have anchored me here, where I hope to grow, serve, and love ever better in the years to come.



Steve Hayden

I started attending St. Mark's in 2019 with my husband, Ron Hanks. We previously attended San Gabriel the Archangel Episcopal Church in Corrales, NM, where I served as Senior Warden. Prior to becoming Senior Warden, I was San Gabriel's treasurer. Unfortunately, the doors of San Gabriel closed, so we began visiting the Albuquerque area Episcopal churches in search of our new church home. From our first visit to St. Mark's, we felt that this church embodied the spirit and love of San Gabriel but on a grander scale. We especially love the many outreach opportunities that are available at St. Mark's.

I was born in Grand Island, Nebraska, but my family soon moved to New Mexico where I grew up on the Navajo reservation in Shiprock. I have a bachelor's degree in accounting and a master's degree in finance. When not at work as the controller of a local building material distributor, I enjoy volunteering with the following organizations: Oasis Tutoring Program and the Dismas House Transitional Program. Steve and Ron are the proud parents of two Miniature Schnauzers, GiGi and Juno.



Sherry Reader

I grew up Methodist and was confirmed into the Episcopal Church in 1999. My wife, Miranda Eastham, and I have attended St. Mark's for the last 13 years. Even our various pets have attended church here during the annual Blessing of the Animals service! I have served God and St. Mark's in various ways including coordinator of the Coffee Hour Hospitality Ministry for 7 years, Vestry (my term ended 5 years ago), Sr. Warden, and am now the coordinator of the Take Them A Meal ministry. I am an EFM (Education for Ministry) graduate and participate regularly in the interesting adult Christian Education classes at St. Mark's.

Professionally, I have a bachelor's, master's and doctorate in nursing and executive leadership. I believe my experience in hospital leadership will contribute to the work of the Vestry, particularly in this time of forward movement at St. Mark's. If elected, I will also bring a deep sense of pastoral caring and appreciation for our St. Mark's family. I would also work with the other members and clergy to seek God's will for our parish through prayer, study, discussion, and action.

Outside of church, some of my life's joys include spending time with family and friends, beekeeping, hiking in the mountains, reading, doing art, and playing Rumikube.

## 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



Scott Sinkular

Scott Sinkular was raised in the tradition of the "military protestant chapel" as the son of an Air Force member. After marrying Lucy, he was confirmed in the Episcopal faith. During the many years of military moves around the world, Scott served in various roles at the Episcopal churches the Sinkular family called home, including as a vestry member, Sunday School teacher, eucharistic minister and acolyte. Scott attended the 2023 Diocesan Convention as your alternate and would like to serve as a delegate in 2024.

### Staff List

The Rev. Christopher McLaren  
Rector

[Redacted]  
(505) [Redacted]

The Rev. Sylvia Miller-Mutia  
Associate Rector

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

The Rev. David Martin  
Deacon and Director of Christian Education

[Redacted]  
(505) [Redacted]

*(see next page)*



New Staff in 2023: Caitlin McGuire and Laura Blum

Jeremy Wirth  
Director of Music

[REDACTED]  
(505) [REDACTED]

Caitlin McGuire  
Director, St. Mark's Montessori School

[REDACTED]  
(505) [REDACTED]

Laura Blum  
Business Manager

[REDACTED]  
(505) [REDACTED]

Erin Wesner  
Communications Coordinator

[REDACTED]  
(505) [REDACTED]

Jennifer Lind  
Parish Administrator

[REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Leo C' de Baca  
Facilities Manager

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## Associated Clergy (Non-Stipendiary)

The Rev. Billie Anderson  
Pastoral Associate (Retired)

The Rev. Robert Clark  
Pastoral Associate (Retired)

The Rev. Carolyn Huff  
Pastoral Associate

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

In our first full year out of COVID, St. Mark's had a solid year. Our budget for 2023 called for a surplus of \$1,375 and we ended the year with a balanced budget (no surplus or deficit). Thanks to the continuing generosity of our community, our overall income exceeded the budget. The 2023 budget called for a draw from the investment accounts of \$24,386, but we only needed \$8,731 for church operations. The investment accounts have done quite well showing a gain of \$53,000 after dividends were accrued and draws were made.

On the Financial report page, you will see a section referring to Designated Funds. These are funds that people have contributed to in addition to their pledges. These funds also include fundraising efforts of the School and Church. These funds in total had a small deficit of \$4,700 after the expenses attributed to specific ministries.

St. Mark's budget for 2024 is a reflection of our community's strong commitment to improvement and growth. Our giving goal has been increased over last year from \$560,000 to \$590,000. In the budget we were able to give raises to all of the staff to keep pace with cost-of-living increases. We were also able to make adjustments for the expected continuing costs of inflation. The current 2024 budget results in a surplus of \$300 and uses a draw of \$21,000 from our Investment Account for operations. This draw is less than the predicted dividend earnings for the year.

For the 2024 Stewardship season we have received \$584,074.96 in pledges from 135 families. Our goal is to have 145 families make a pledge. One of the markers of vitality at St. Mark's is not only the dollars involved, but also the number of pledges we receive. A pledge is an indicator of our personal commitment to being good stewards of what God has given us. Every gift is important as St. Mark's strives to become a sustainable congregation for years to come. If your budget is tight as many are, why not consider a small pledge of \$5.00 or \$10.00 per month? 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 (2018-2024)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Average Sunday Attendance	166	176	75	107	137	150	
Christmas Attendance	338	332	120	232	143	281	
Easter Attendance	329	391	363	240	341	370	
Children in Sunday School	54	62	69	50	40	38	
Outside Groups-Facility Use	20	26	22	14	14	19	
Number Pledging Households	141	139	133	129	137	147	135†
Total Collected Pledges	\$342,480	\$396,680	\$403,629	\$469,409	\$488,126	\$561,303	\$584,075†
Total Income	\$406,279	\$488,469	\$495,718	\$558,478	\$579,736	\$666,743	\$731,801
Total Expense	\$410,567	\$493,502	\$495,406	\$532,326	\$571,597	\$666,743	\$731,457
Income – Expense	\$(4,287)	\$(5,033)	\$312	\$26,152	\$8,139	\$0	\$344
Total Draw on Net Assets	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$22,040)	(\$17,214)	(\$24,465)	(\$25,049)

\*2024 figures reflect those that are known at the time of printing on 1/25/24.

† These figures are based on projected pledges.

## Church Financial Summary

## Church Operating Budget Summary

	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			
Current Year Pledges*	\$ 560,000	\$ 561,303	\$ 590,000
Other Offerings	\$ 40,500	\$ 42,817	\$ 48,500
Admin Income	\$ 51,000	\$ 53,893	\$ 57,558
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 651,500</b>	<b>\$ 658,012</b>	<b>\$ 696,056</b>
*Number of pledging households		147	*131
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Personnel Expenses	\$ 390,371	\$ 381,708	\$ 421,921
Subtotal Church Administration	\$ 59,370	\$ 65,658	\$ 72,026
Building & Grounds	\$ 69,720	\$ 64,543	\$ 67,170
Church Worship, Formation & Ministry	\$ 26,050	\$ 30,687	\$ 34,850
Church Outreach	\$ 10,650	\$ 5,694	\$ 10,650
Greater Church	\$ 118,350	\$ 118,454	\$ 124,840
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 674,511</b>	<b>\$ 666,743</b>	<b>\$ 731,457</b>
<b>TRANSFERS</b>			
Income from Investment Accounts	\$ 24,386	\$ 8,731	\$ 20,985
Transfer from Sabbatical Account	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,760
<b>Total Transfers</b>	<b>\$ 24,386</b>	<b>\$ 8,731</b>	<b>\$ 35,745</b>
<b>EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 1,375</b>	<b>\$ (0)</b>	<b>\$ 344</b>

\*currently \$576,875

## Designated Fund Summary

	Balance 12/31/2022	2022 Retained Earnings	Income	Expenses	Transfers	Balance 12/31/2023
Temporarily Restricted	\$ 17,164	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ (1,430)	\$ 25,734
Outreach	\$ 32,957	\$ -	\$ 23,527	\$ (21,759)	\$ 4,612	\$ 39,338
SMMS	\$ 53,928	\$ (25,692)	\$ 36,831	\$ -	\$ (36,707)	\$ 28,361
Capital Improvements	\$ 128,604	\$ 8,139	\$ 31,696	\$ (2,932)	\$ (34,411)	\$ 131,096
Reserve for Sabbatical	\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 36,000
Worship & Ministry	\$ 14,067	\$ -	\$ 16,837	\$ (25,444)	\$ 5,998	\$ 11,457
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 276,719</b>	<b>\$ (17,553)</b>	<b>\$ 118,891</b>	<b>\$ (50,135)</b>	<b>\$ (55,937)</b>	<b>\$ 271,985</b>

## Investment Account Summary

	Balance 11/1/2022	Additions	Withdrawals	Dividends	Cap Gain/ (Loss)	Balance 10/31/2023
Episcopal DFMS Accounts	\$ 517,180	\$ -	\$ (24,465)	\$ 30,582	\$ 46,792	\$ 570,089

## School Budget Summary

	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
<b>INCOME</b>			
Tuition	\$ 443,304	\$ 394,529	\$ 563,523
Other Income	\$ 33,605	\$ 29,624	\$ 28,000
Grants	\$ 117,721	\$ 111,182	\$ 12,830
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 594,629</b>	<b>\$ 535,335</b>	<b>\$ 604,353</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Personnel	\$ 501,539	\$ 466,297	\$ 528,422
Classroom	\$ 8,000	\$ 21,078	\$ 11,000
Administration	\$ 7,675	\$ 6,896	\$ 9,662
Facility	\$ 42,300	\$ 42,065	\$ 54,741
Covid	\$ 2,900	\$ 68	\$ -
Depreciation	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ -
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 570,414</b>	<b>\$ 544,402</b>	<b>\$ 604,025</b>
<b>EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 24,215</b>	<b>\$ (9,067)</b>	<b>\$ 327</b>

## Building/Physical Environment

We continue to maintain our large facility, almost 30,000 square feet, with the help of our facilities staff person Leo C' de Baca and other part-time staff members Chris Montgomery and Angel Sisneros, as well as various volunteers and our emerging Fix-it Team.

Key projects this year included:

### AV Upgrade Phase 1 –\$1500

We completed our AV Upgrade in the Church by purchasing additional T-Coil hearing headsets.

### AV upgrade Phase 2 - \$11,279.22

- Upgraded AV in the church including Narthex monitor for visual announcements
- Improved Audio/Visual System in Parish Hall for ease of use and sound with new amplifier and speakers (front and rear), larger automatic scree and centralized controls.
- T-Coil, Hearing loop is now installed in the Parish Hall for those who need some hearing assistance.
- New 27" Monitor in Stoney Chapel for use as an overflow space in worship and for presentations.

### New Child's Bathroom in Classroom #2 - \$36,132

SMMS added a bathroom and changing area to the Classroom #2 in the St. Mark's Montessori School enabling the enrollment of younger children into a 2nd classroom. This was funded by the NM Child Care Supply Building Grant which we received for \$124,450 in 2023.

### Chairs for Parish Hall - \$6,717

We purchased additional chairs and rolling storage racks for the parish hall to improve hospitality for both inside and outside events. We now have 100+ chairs easily available for events in the Parish Hall.

### New Gallery Space in Library – \$ 2,145.70

We developed a new art gallery space for single person shows in the Library by installing a new gallery hanging system around the room. This was paid for by a grant from The Sacred Art's Guild. We also improved the gallery hanging system for icons on the south wall of the Nave.

### New Energy Solar LLC sells Rooftop Solar Array to St. Mark's for \$0.

Eight years ago, St. Mark's installed a 38-kW solar system on the roofs of the church. The cost of the solar system was \$109,000, and this investment was made possible through the creation of New Energy @ St. Mark's LLC. The LLC was made up of sixteen St. Mark's families who contributed the cost of the solar system. Because the LLC was a taxable partnership, the members of the LLC were able to take advantage of tax credits and deductions that were unavailable to the church as a non-profit. The LLC also entered in a Power Purchase Agreement with St. Mark's, essentially selling the power generated by the solar system to St. Mark's at a rate lower than PNM. The plan was to leave the LLC in existence until the LLC members were able to recoup their initial investment. That day has arrived! On Sep 1, 2023, the LLC officially transferred the solar system over to St. Mark's. By no longer having to pay the LLC for solar power the church will be saving ~\$6000 per year. The savings are even higher if we had to pay PNM for the power generated by the panels. The solar system should have many, many more years to generate clean energy for St. Mark's. What new green initiatives should St. Mark's undertake next?

### Utilization of Space by Outside Groups

This year we experienced growth in the use of our building by outside groups. Currently we have 12 monthly or weekly groups, and many other occasional use groups (several times per year or less).

One of our new rental groups this year is ABQ Choir Magic, a community choir group that meets on Monday evenings at 6:15 PM. Choir Magic invites "all voices to learn by ear in 3-part harmony, joyfully singing world music, spirituals and contemporary music." To get involved with this fun choir, call Arana Kalwaic at (505) [REDACTED] or email [REDACTED]

In addition, we regularly offer our building to two community groups at no charge. In 2023, we welcome Cub Scout Troop 990 on Tuesday evenings. Rev. Carolyn Huff is our liaison between the Cub Scouts and the church. The troop had three service days at St. Mark's to date; they participated in our regular Church/School Work Days and helped us remodel the storage room off Parish Hall with new shelving, greatly improving accessibility to this room.

We also regularly offer our space for immigration document workshops in collaboration with the New Mexico Immigrant Law Center and ABQ FaithWorks. We provide a few English/Spanish fluent volunteers to work with immigrants, the parish hall meeting space, volunteers for set-up/clean-up/greeting clients and finally a simple meal for both the volunteers and for the clients working on applying for their asylum and work permits. If you want to get involved in these workshops, call St. Mark's office to discuss opportunities and future dates.



### Free Little Pantry Outreach

In honor of Tricia Morton, prior Director of St. Mark's Montessori Preschool, St. Mark's installed a Free Little Pantry on the east side of our campus near the school entrance gate last fall. Parishioner Stretch Cole built the Little Pantry. This outreach is available to anyone who needs items found in it, like food staples, soups, diapers, hygiene products, pasta, sugar, mac-n-cheese and more. It is wonderful to see our school families adding to the pantry with your young children alongside, learning how to give and be generous toward others. Please support this outreach by bringing an item with you to church and placing it in the pantry on your way into worship on Sundays.



Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Lind, Parish Administrator and Fr. Christopher McLaren, Rector  
Kenneth W. Reese, Tom Blueher, Jim Fitting, LLC Management Committee

## Building Renewal Committee

*The Rector and Vestry of St. Mark's commissioned a Building Renewal Committee to carry out a process of discernment and design guided by gifted sacred space consultant Robert Habiger in 2022.*

### **Why are we engaged in a process to Renew our Building and Liturgical Spaces?**

We are here because we have real concerns that need to be addressed. We have a wonderful pipe organ this is slowly failing and needs to be addressed in real ways if we are to have a quality music program for years to come. We have many accessibility concerns that we have inherited and we want to widen the welcome for people and to create a space that is gracious, beautiful and inviting to another generation of followers of Jesus. We want to hand on a sacred space that is capable of adaptation to new demands and new desires while maintaining the beauty of our traditional liturgy and music.

This is a challenging task that requires us to balance what we like and are familiar within the current structure and what we need to do to ensure the continued ability of the congregation to meet the changing needs of future generations.

In response to all of this, St. Mark's created the Building Renewal Committee to aid the clergy staff and the whole congregation as we negotiate the way forward. The committee members were chosen to represent a wide range of backgrounds and opinions. The members of the Building Renewal Committee are: Liz Reardon, Heather Gaume, Jeremy Wirth, Maribelle Ogilvie, Stretch Cole, David Hardy, Stephanie and Marcel Varoz, Laurel Cabral, Lucy Sinkular, and Tim McIntire.

**So where are we in this critical work?** It might seem to be going slowly, but in reality, much has been accomplished over the past year and a half.

The committee working with the clergy and in discussion with the whole community has

1. Established the core values and needs that will illuminate the way forward
  - a. Accessibility
  - b. Flexibility
  - c. Centrality of music and maintaining the organ as a key element
  - d. Balancing continuity of tradition with needs for the future
  - e. Ensuring beauty
2. Begun the work to define options within these broad areas
  - a. Hired a liturgical advisor – Robert Habiger who has ably guided us and taught us much about our own worship.
  - b. Hired an architect – Paul Barribeau who has inspired us and loves our building and has a wealth of experience and a passion for renewal of liturgical spaces.
  - c. We have begun investigating a range of options for organ replacement/renovation and there is still much important work to do as our existing pipe organ is deteriorating and in poor repair. We cannot ignore this reality.
  - d. Hired an acoustician to ensure that both music and the spoken word are of the highest quality.
  - e. We've begun interviewing AV contractors as well that will help to integrate technology into the space in effective and attractive ways.

With our architect, Paul Barribeau, we are working on Master Planning for our entire campus. This work has meant taking our existing building and putting it into auto Cad, creating programming

documents (understanding how each space is currently used) and beginning to create a Master Planning document. This has included considering structural issues, accessibility, restrooms, musical placement, liturgical action and devotional spaces.

We have primarily focused on changes to the worship space (Nave, Choir loft and Altar area) as the first step to be addressed within that Master Plan. But our review has helped us to understand many other issues and opportunities that our current building offers.

Over the past year, we have held two Congregational presentations and conversations as we continue to understand the challenges and possibilities our current structures offer. The conversations and work have been extremely challenging and extremely exciting, both can be true at the same time.

We are a long way from a finished design or concept but we are making remarkable progress and we desire and need your input and ideas. In the coming months we will be working toward conceptual drawings for changes to the liturgical space that will help us to consider how best to accomplish our goals as a community. Our original purpose statement and objectives continues to guide our process and inform our work.

- **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. Mark's community and our larger community outside of St. Mark's (conferences, concerts, lectures, outreach, gathering place for larger community, etc.)
  - **Music** – To maintain organ music as central to St. Mark's 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.

Together we are building something beautiful for God in our Neighborhood.

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

Church Unbound was developed to establish Christian worship service without walls (we have a tent and a trailer) for those experiencing homelessness in the International District of Albuquerque. We believe that to address spiritual needs on the streets of Albuquerque, we meet people where they are. We attempt to live the Gospel of Matthew 25.

We celebrated our one-year anniversary in July 2023. We had our first baptism this summer and Bishop Hun visited and gave the sermon in November.

St. Mark's provides a sack lunch each month. We serve the lunches on the Second Sunday of every month. We make lunch the Saturday before and store the lunches in the undercroft (basement under the choir loft). The biggest challenge is bringing the items upstairs!

**Where:** Church Unbound meets in our *new permanent location*, ACROSS the street from the new library in the International District. We meet in the parking lot of the Albuquerque Inn at 7640 Central SE.

**When:** We meet at 1:15 every Sunday, rain or shine, snow, sleet, high winds... to set up the tent, chairs, altar, and fellowship table. We serve coffee and hot cocoa, and any other donations we receive. Fellowship runs until 2:00 PM. At 2:00 we have our service.

**How to help:** If you feel the call to serve the least of our brothers and sisters, join us for the Sunday service at the Albuquerque Inn. We offer on-the-job training and security is provided by our friends at La Posada, a men's half-way house.

Or join us on the Saturday before the second Sunday of every month in the Parish kitchen to help make the sack lunches.

Or help us carry the lunches upstairs after Sunday school on the second Sunday of the month.

This fall/winter St. Mark's had a blanket and warm clothing drive. Thank you for your donations. My favorite part of this outreach has been watching our friends shop the donations and leave with something they need.

St. Mark's contact for Church Unbound is Joan Camera. You can reach Joan by email at

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Camera

### Sacred Arts Gallery

In 2023, the Sacred Arts Guild (SAG) continued its mission of supporting St. Mark's ministries and community presence through art. We featured four multi-artist shows in the Parish Hall this year on a three-month rotation schedule. In June, we added single artist shows in the library with each exhibit lasting one to two months depending on the artist's availability and schedule. In total, the SAG raised \$899.75 from these shows which is used to support St. Mark's initiatives and outreach activities. We are thankful for the support and interest shown by members of the St. Mark's community.

#### 2023 Sacred Arts Treasurer's Report reported by Ken Reese

Beginning balance	5,631.55	
Sales	9,619.34	
Paid to artists:	(8,719.59)	
Retained	899.75	
Purchases	(2,145.70)	Hanging system hardware & installation of icons in Sanctuary Hanging system hardware for Library gallery
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>4,385.60</b>	

We are also seeking ways to expand the artistic community at St. Mark's. For example, the last show of the year included beautiful artwork created by St. Mark's Montessori School students. SAG member, Heather Gaume, shared her talents with the students to coach them in their artistic endeavors. We are also identifying ways to work with art-focused groups that serve unsheltered and at-risk community members, such as ArtStreet. After all, art and creativity are pathways to nurture humanity and spirituality in us all. We also reimagining the popular Hollyberry Arts and Crafts Show for 2024. More to come on that.

This has been a year of change. In May, Audrey Minard transitioned the group coordinator role to Lisa Newell to focus on family matters. The SAG is very grateful to Audrey for her continued presence and support.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Newell

### ABQ FaithWorks

St. Mark's is a sponsoring parish for ABQ FaithWorks, a charitable organization which helps our neighbors with many different types of needs including people who are unhoused and asylum seekers. There are many facets of ABQ FaithWorks with which one can get involved.

ABQ FaithWorks helps asylum seekers who are planning to make Albuquerque their permanent home or are passing through to a final destination with acquiring proper documentation, social services to help acclimate them to a new location, rides to appointments and court hearings, housing, and food.

One can volunteer like Mary Beth Libbey [REDACTED] and Maren McLaren [REDACTED] to be a family liaison to help families navigate a new life in a new country.

Through the organization, Mary Catherine Casey ( [REDACTED] ) helps with immigrants get proper state identification at weekly ID Clinics.

St. Mark's hosted the very first clinic outside of the Law Center in 2023, and we are scheduled to host the first clinic in 2024. NMILC reported to us that the clinics resulted in 100 completed I-589s and 93 EADs last year! In addition to allowing FaithWorks and NMILC to use our space, volunteers have provided food, welcomed, and assisted with the form process (in Spanish). Contact Odalys Marquez at [REDACTED] or Delaney Swink at [REDACTED] at NMILC for information the next upcoming clinic.

ABQ FaithWorks needs front desk volunteers to answer and direct phone calls. Contact Abbey Reed [REDACTED]

You can also help with food distribution to those in need. Contact Cheryl and Bill Foote [REDACTED]

ABQ FaithWorks is also looking for new board members. Contact Jane McGuire [REDACTED]

This amazing organization does so much good and needs a lot of our help. There is no shortage of opportunities to help our community and the world.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Martin

## Congregational In-reach

### Take Them A Meal Ministry

Take Them a Meal is an important ministry of hospitality, nourishment, and pastoral care within our community.

If you are willing and able to prepare or purchase delicious food and deliver it to households that are experiencing a time of pastoral need, please contact Sherry Reeder via email

[REDACTED] or cell (phone or text [REDACTED]) You have control over how often and when you would like to contribute, but by contacting Sherry, you'll be added to the contact list when a need arises.

The ministry is organized via email and a very helpful website called [Take Them a Meal](https://takethemameal.com/) (<https://takethemameal.com/>). This ministry allows us to reach out to our very own community in loving care when they need a little help. It allows people to commit to a particular moment to serve when they are available. Our community has many gifts within it and cooking is one of them. We want to thank you for being willing to share this tangible sign of Christ's loving care for each of us.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sylvia Miller-Mutia, Associate Rector

## Pastoral and Eucharistic Visits

As planned, St. Mark's restarted our Eucharistic Visitor Ministry this year. The launch was not without problems, as scheduling visits has proven to be trickier than it was before the pandemic, kept us from making these visits. We are now looking at a schedule where those who receive a Eucharistic Visitor on a regular basis will have the same Sundays assigned to them each. Different visitors will see them each time, but a permanent schedule will help everyone know what to expect and when to expect it.

Eucharist Visitors are given a kit with the elements of bread and wine at the end of our worship service on Sunday mornings. Some people receive Eucharistic visit each month as the person cannot attend church. But there is also a need for temporary visits when someone is sick or can't make it to church for any reason.

These visits are pastoral in nature – bringing warmth and friendship to people who are not able to get out into the world as often as they would like. As a community, we are also able to determine special needs of those we visit and can help when it is needed.

If you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Visitor, please contact Deacon David at

Respectfully submitted,  
David Martin

## 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.

In 2023 our congregational commitment to this practice continued to grow. We kicked off the 2023 Summer of Conversation with a Sunday Morning "nametag initiative", where worshippers were invited to add to their nametag three topics that they'd love to have a conversation about, which sparked all sorts of unexpected coffee hour connections and conversations.

In 2023 we also deepened our congregational commitment to make space to talk about "hard things" at church. This past year our members began taking brave steps to share some of their more painful stories with other members of the congregation. In August (as part of our annual "Safe Church" training) we had a series of conversations in which members had an opportunity to share their personal experiences of sexual harassment and sexual abuse. In response to these stories, Mother Sylvia and St. Mark's member Marcie Holland (a licensed mental health counselor and survivor of abuse) offered a four-session series to offer participants additional tools, practices, and resources to support healing in a safe and supportive environment.

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. A great example is St. Mark's member Else Tasseron, who has continued to schedule weekly "one-on-one" conversations year-round to get to know other members of St. Mark's every Sunday morning before church. 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.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Miller-Mutia, Associate Rector

## Christmas at St. Mark's

In 2023 we experimented with a new schedule for Christmas Eve at St. Mark's with resounding success. We celebrated two Christmas Eve services (Holy Eucharist for all ages with glorious choral music) at 5 pm and 8 pm, with a "Jingle Mingle" (a festive New Mexican Christmas dinner and celebration) between the two services. Enthusiasm and participation in the "Jingle Mingle" far exceeded our expectations, and we look forward to expanding the "Jingle Mingle" in 2024 to include special holiday music and a visit from St. Nicholas.

We bookended our Christmas Celebrations at St. Mark's with our annual Christmas Pageant and Potluck (on the third Sunday of Advent) and our annual Christmas Carol Sing & Potluck (on December 30th.) In 2024 we look forward to effectively welcoming even more friends, neighbors, family, and community members to join us in celebrating Christmas at St. Mark's.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sylvia Miller-Mutia, Associate Rector

## Funerals & Receptions

A team of wonderful folks, many of whom have recently experienced losses of their own, have banded together to staff the funeral receptions at St. Mark's. These parishioners set-up tables and chairs (with Leo's help!) and dress them with tablecloths, meet the caterers, re-plate refreshments on our own silver and glass platters, make the drinks, greet the family, refresh platters if needed, box up leftovers for the family to take home, do some basic clean-up (although Leo washes the dishes), and take turns laundering the tablecloths and returning them to the parish hall closet. This ministry to bereaved families is very satisfying and doesn't require a huge commitment because groups of two to three folks take turns hosting these receptions. Generally these happen during the mornings or early afternoons and require about three hours of your time. Contact either Jo Ann Swinson at [REDACTED] or Heather Gaume at [REDACTED] if you feel called to this ministry. This is a great way to get involved without a lot of responsibility and the current members are really a fun group with whom to hang out.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Gaume

## 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 continued their faithful service to the parish, building on the tradition established and cultivated by generations of musicians before us. 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. This year the choir expanded its service on Christmas Eve, leading both the 5:00 and 8:00 Eucharists.



The Choir continues to grow and flourish. The choir welcomed several new members this year and seeks to provide a warm welcome and helpful resources to new singers. Several soloists from the choir sang psalms and other liturgical music in various services. Members of the choir also provided solos on Christmas Eve and other occasions. The choir was especially proud of their performance of the *Magnificat* of Antonio Vivaldi during Advent. Taylor Spence served faithfully as Choir Librarian.



The parish welcomed John Garlisch as Assistant Music Director. John leads some choir rehearsals and plays the organ primarily in Jeremy's absence, but on some occasions Jeremy and John lead services together. John has also played at a variety of special parish events.

While welcoming several new members, the choir said goodbye to two notable members. Alex Klebenow passed away very suddenly early in 2023. Christine Squire retired from the choir after singing for several decades and is missed by all choir members.

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. 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.

The Reuter organ continues to decline, suffering from significant disrepair. This year the Rocky Mountain Organ Service, managed by Roman Uskovits, began to provide care for the pipe organ. They have been able to make the organ play better in turn and more consistently. Hopefully in a future year the organ will be renovated or replaced.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeremy Wirth  
Director of Music

## Confirmations, Receptions and Re-Affirmations at St. Mark's

On Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of All Saints, St. Mark's welcomed Bp. Michael Hunn for a Sunday visitation. Bp. Hunn spent time at the parish during the week experiencing children's chapel, meeting with staff and vestry and taking a bike tour of our neighborhood as well as presiding over Confirmations: Thomas Russell, Darcie Farrow, Receptions: Maria Montoya-Chavez, Gerald Carlin, Paul Holzman, Kristina Czuchlewski, Robin Connell, Jere Kelly and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Promises: Pat Catlett.



Respectfully submitted,  
Christopher McLaren, Rector

## Digital Ministry & Communications

The Communications Specialist for St. Mark's is a staff position that has many facets. Every ministry at St. Mark's touches the Communications area to help get the word out.

In 2023, we continued to prepare and send out the weekly Messenger electronic newsletter and Coffee Hour emails. We also created three hardcopy and electronic versions of the "refrigerator" schedule cards for the year: Lent/Easter, Fall Season and Advent/Christmas/Epiphany. We commissioned a special watercolor image from Heather Gaume (parishioner, office volunteer and artist at St. Mark's), for our Holy Week folded-card mailing to mix it up a bit (from the usual postcard for the Great Vigil). Postcards for the Christmas Eve Liturgies and for Stewardship's Celebration Sunday were created and mailed. We also increased our parish-wide text messages for special event reminders for nine separate events (and one cancellation).

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

The church and school websites' maintenance and updates continued throughout the year. We were also able to change the "Home" page of the website temporarily during the Christmas season so that those needing quick access to our liturgy offerings were able to easily find it. The school website added a gallery feature with a donation form that connects to PayPal for people to donate Montessori-specific materials to the school.

We added two TV screens to the parish – one in the narthex and one in Stoney Chapel. The Chapel TV will be used as overflow seating and those sitting in the Chapel will be able to view the liturgy from within the Chapel. The TV monitor in the narthex is used as a reception-area slideshow to advertise events and daily happenings around the campus.

The Communications area also acts as office IT support. In that vein, we procured and installed the operating systems and software for the Finance Manager laptop, Narthex Reception Computer, Mo. Sylvia's MacBook, and the MacBook Air for the AV Desk.

Social Media became a larger focus during the second half of 2023, with adding Instagram to the mix of Facebook and YouTube. We are hoping to create marketing plans that will schedule social media posts in advance, so that the post structure can be set and basically forgotten until the event is near.

Respectfully submitted,  
Erin Wesner, Communications Coordinator

## 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 120 live streams, all of which were cast to both YouTube and Facebook. The church's Facebook followers went from 744 at the beginning of the year to 781 followers by December 31 (a roughly 5% increase). YouTube saw similar growth; in that we went from 42 to 70 subscribers to the channel over the year (67% increase). We have a regular following on both Facebook and YouTube. With Instagram, we kicked this off in the autumn months and ended the year with 42 followers.

We have roughly 8-10 people who attend weekly services online while watching the liturgy live. On YouTube, we have an average of 34 viewers each week (including post-live views). The largest viewed worship livestream was for Easter Sunday at 52 views.

Looking ahead, we are hoping to add new AV Team members and get them trained and rotating tasks throughout each month.

Respectfully submitted,  
Erin Wesner for the AV Team

## Altar Guild



The year 2023 was one of transition for St. Mark's Altar Guild as Karen McDaniel stepped down from her role as leader of this ministry. Karen's legacy comprises decades of dedicated service and commitment to the preparation of all weekly worship services, and to the patient, good-natured training of her Altar Guild colleagues. Indeed, Karen has been instrumental in guiding the team that now takes her work forward. We thus thank Karen McDaniel not only for her past service but also for establishing the firm foundation upon which the current Altar Guild now stands.

St. Mark's Altar Guild is a vibrant and growing ministry with many newer members. It has a key role in preparing the altar for liturgy services. Altar guild members fill the oil-based 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, Thursdays and for special liturgies. You will be surprised how much goes into serving on the Altar Guild and why being part of team really matters.

We want to thank current Altar Guild members for their time and dedication to making St. Mark's liturgy run smoothly: Alicia Sisneros, Karen Pound, Doreen Gonsalves-Givens, Sarah Camp, Darcie Farrow, George McJimsey, Cleo Ochs, Katey Breen, and Taylor Spence.

If you want to part of this satisfying work, contact Fr. Christopher at [REDACTED] or George McJimsey at [REDACTED] for more information.

Respectfully submitted,  
George McJimsey

## St. Mark's Flower Guild

Created less than a year ago, the St. Mark's Flower Guild is thriving. Our goal is to celebrate the beauty of flowers in order to enhance the worship experience of this beloved congregation. The clergy, staff and members have been very responsive to our efforts as we move forward.

With that said, we are hoping to expand our team. Perhaps you've wondered if this is a ministry you could be a part of. We are eager to train new volunteers as either a designer or an assistant. No prior experience is required. And it's just a few hours each month.

For more information, please contact Heather Gaume at [REDACTED] or Brett Braud. Please remember that fresh flowers are only made possible by the donations of parishioners. The sign-up poster is located in the narthex or you can sign up on the Forms page of the website.



Respectfully submitted,  
Brett Braud  
Flower Guild Director

## Formation

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

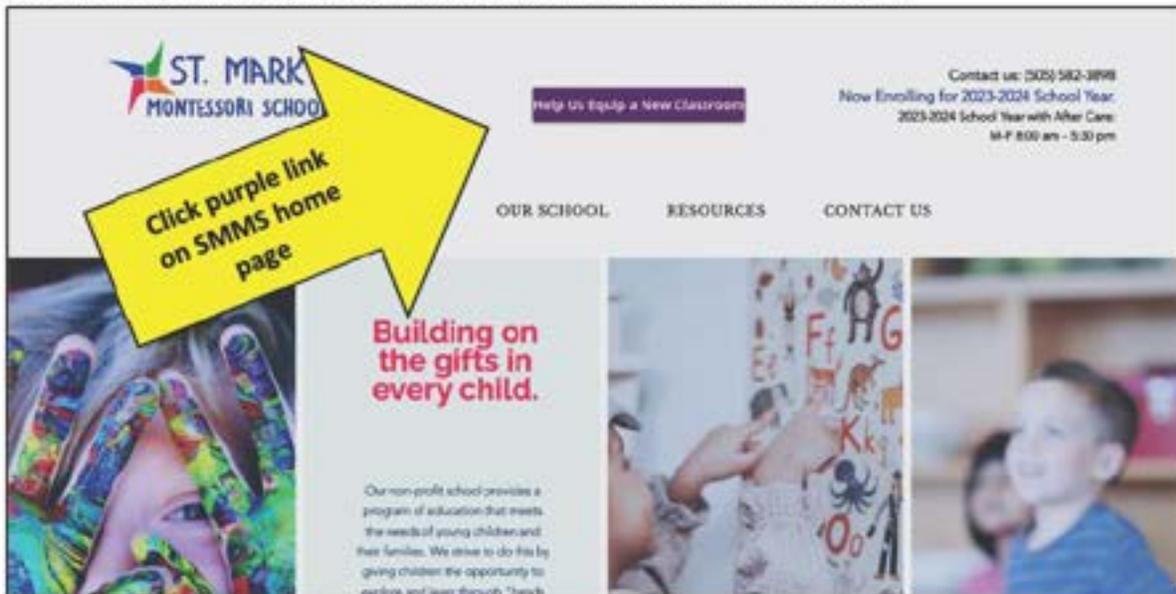
### St. Mark's Montessori School (SMMS)



St. Mark's Montessori School serves children ages 18 months to 6 years of age and currently have about 50 students enrolled. We provide an environment that is safe and engaging for the children to explore. Our teachers monitor for sensitive periods for the student's growth and interests. True to Dr. Montessori's method, we are always looking for new ways to encourage curiosity in our students.

St. Mark's Montessori School has expanded our school capacity, installed a new bathroom, and saw Ms. Tricia leaving for her new chapter in North Dakota. I began my work as Director over the summer and have been implementing shifts to further implement the New Mexico preschool FOCUS program. We recently received the Top 5 Montessori School in the City Award by Albuquerque the Magazine. Our mission is to continue to provide an outstanding environment for children and teachers to work in together.

Parishioners can get involved with St. Mark's Montessori School through sharing their skills! If you are an artist, musician, artisan, scientist, performer, community helper, health professional, educator, or skilled professional, we would enjoy you sharing your skills and knowledge with our school! Please reach out and we can coordinate with what you would be interested in sharing. Crafters or artisans can help us repair well-loved materials, books, and furniture. Parishioners can also support our school through monetary contributions to our Montessori Material Registry. By sponsoring new materials, you directly impact our classrooms and support our student's education.



Respectfully submitted,  
Caitlin McGuire, Director

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

The school had a pretty good year financially, ending 2023 with a modest deficit of \$9,067. Fortunately, the balance of \$28,360 in the school's "rainy day" fund is more than sufficient to cover this deficit. The primary reason finances weren't stronger was because of low enrollment earlier in the year. The school hired a new Director this year, Caitie, McGuire, who has overseen a steady increase in enrollment. This year, the school was awarded \$124,450 from the NM Child Care Supply Building grant. In addition to helping the school financially, this grant also significantly helps with our enrollment. The grant provided the funding to add a bathroom to our Classroom #2, which allowed us to more than double our capacity for students under 3 years old (an age group for which we previously always had a waiting list). Our current enrollment is 50 and we expect to see that to increase to ~55 by fall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kenneth W. Reese, SMMS Treasurer

## Sunday Morning Children & Youth

Sundays find a dedicated crew of volunteers caring for and sharing Bible stories of faith and courage in three classes, Godly Play (preschool-3<sup>rd</sup> grade), Bible Stories and Art (Grades 3-6) and Holy Trouble Makers (Middle School). Thirty-eight children and youth enliven all aspects of life at St. Mark's from worship to service projects to Christmas & Easter drama productions.

If you have interest in helping with any of the youth programs, please contact Deacon David Martin at [REDACTED] or Heather Gaume at [REDACTED]

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Gaume



## Small Groups

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. Visit [www.mothersylvia.com/prayer-beads](http://www.mothersylvia.com/prayer-beads) to learn more about the use of prayer beads/rosary in the Episcopal Church. Contact Anne Fritz: [REDACTED]

Our Bible Study Group meets Thursdays at Noon (Mountain Time) in the chapel of St. Mark's AND on zoom. In 2023 we read the Gospel of Matthew (First Nations Version). We will kick off 2024 by reading the Gospel of Mark (First Nations Version). This is a quirky, curious, authentic, vulnerable, radical, welcoming spirit-filled group...and you are welcome to join us anytime! Contact Mother Sylvia: [REDACTED]

Our Storytelling Group is convened by master storyteller and teacher Harriet Cole. We learn the tools for crafting, learning, and sharing stories—from scripture, history, and our own lives, then we practice sharing those stories with others. In 2023 we explored the Prophets, Lectionary Based Gospel Stories, and the Acts of the Apostles. In 2024 we look forward to experimenting with a new format for our storytelling group, including seasonal Saturday morning workshops and the opportunity to tell stories for congregational gatherings. Contact Harriet Cole: [REDACTED]

Morning Prayer: In 2023 Mother Sylvia led online Morning Prayer on Wednesdays, and online morning devotions daily throughout the season of Lent. In 2024 we will be experimenting with gathering online and in person for Morning Prayer and Yoga, Tuesday-Thursday at 7am throughout the Season of Epiphany. Contact Mother Sylvia: [REDACTED]

Centering Prayer meets each Thursday in Stoney Chapel from 10:30-10:50 AM. We gather to sit together in a prayerful silence, supporting each other's communion with our Creator. This past year, 4-5 people sat together most Thursdays to silently lift up our hearts to God together before the Mid-week Eucharist service. All are welcome to join us!

2023 Seasonal Small Groups, Classes, and Book Studies included:

- Grace Can Lead Us Home (A Christian Call to End Homelessness, Lent 2023)
- Breathing Underwater (Spirituality and the 12 Steps by Richard Rohr, Fall 2023)
- Way of Love: Practices for a Jesus Centered Life (an introduction to the Episcopal Church, Fall 2023)
- Sharing our Gifts (a series of community conversation of stewardship of various gifts including time, children, health, community, and more Fall 2023)
- Low (an Advent Devotional by John Pavolovitz, Advent 2023)
- "The Chosen" (Seasons 1 & 2, Fall 2023).

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

## 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.*

### 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.

Within the Albuquerque metropolitan area, the format of the LGBTQ+ Ministry's gatherings is changing. Instead of meeting for worship and a potluck every month, the ministry is trying new ideas to gather people in community. Last November, the Ministry gathered on a Sunday afternoon to watch a movie at the Cathedral of St. John. In December, the Ministry went to the New Mexico Gay Men's Chorus Concert together and met for a lunch sponsored by St. Mark's beforehand. The ministry's February offering will be a Zoom meeting to discuss the book "Beyond a Binary God: A Theology for Trans Allies" with the author, Rev. Tara Soughers, the new rector of Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Silver City. The ministry is also reaching smaller areas in the diocese. Deacon David traveled to Raton to help Holy Trinity Church celebrate Pride there. He also helped Las Cruces plan their first Pride worship service this year. Deacon David joined St. Stephen's church in Espanola at the Northern New Mexico College's National Coming Out Day celebration. He is also working with churches in the Big Bend area of Texas to have an LGBTQ+ event down there.

It is the goal of the LGBTQ+ Ministry to help each city which has a LGBTQ+ Pride event take part - both to celebrate the diversity of the queer community, but also to let 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 at [REDACTED]

Respectfully submitted,  
David Martin



## 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 [REDACTED]
Deanery/Convention Delegates	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Laurel Leisher-Cabral [REDACTED]
Finance	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Miranda Eastham [REDACTED]
Stewardship	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Lucy Sinkular [REDACTED]
Office Volunteers	Jennifer Lind, Parish Administrator	Heather Gaume [REDACTED]
Montessori School	Caitlin McGuire, Director	Jesse Murray [REDACTED]
Building/Physical Environment		
Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
Building Renewal Committee	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Maribelle Ogilvie [REDACTED] Stretch Cole [REDACTED]
"Fix-It" Group	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Stretch Cole [REDACTED]
Community Care – Outreach		
Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
Homelessness/Church Unbound	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Joan Camera [REDACTED]
Immigration/Asylum Seekers	Deacon David Martin	Pauline Artery [REDACTED]
Gardening Group (nascent)	Fr. Christopher McLaren	OPEN
Sacred Arts Gallery	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Lisa Newell [REDACTED]
DRG LGBTQ+	Deacon David Martin	Sherry Reeder sherryhome@comcast.net
ABQ FaithWorks	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	OPEN

Community Care – In-reach		
Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
Summer of Conversation	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Else Tasseron [REDACTED]
Newcomer Welcome & Follow-Up	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	LeeAnna Sacoman [REDACTED]
Coffee Hour	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Pauline Artery [REDACTED]
Pancakes	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Aric Elsenheimer [REDACTED]
Big Parties (Mardi Gras, Easter Vigil)	Fr. Christopher McLaren/ Deacon David Martin	Maribelle Ogilvie [REDACTED]
Take Them a Meal	Deacon David Martin	Sherry Reader sherryhome@comcast.net
Funeral Receptions	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Heather Gaume [REDACTED]
Eucharistic Visitors / Pastoral Visits	Deacon David Martin	Sara Johnson [REDACTED]
Intercessory Prayer List	Deacon David Martin	-
Bereavement & Grief (Rosaries, Gift Bags)	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Donnel Miller-Mutia [REDACTED]
Online Community Fellowship, Formation & Care	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	OPEN
Worship – Liturgy		
Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
Greeters	Fr. Christopher McLaren	LeeAnna Sacoman [REDACTED]
Ushers	Fr. Christopher McLaren	OPEN
Altar Guild	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Karen Pound [REDACTED] George McJimsey [REDACTED]
Flower Guild	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Brett Braud [REDACTED]
Acolytes	Fr. Christopher McLaren	-
AV Team	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Ty Camp [REDACTED]
Lectors	Deacon David Martin	-
Intercessors	Deacon David Martin	-
Communion Bread Bakers	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Lynette Cole [REDACTED]
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 Wirth	-
Children's Music	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	-
Field Trips	Jeremy Wirth	Bruce Redford [REDACTED]
Music Library	Jeremy Wirth	Taylor Spence [REDACTED]
Formation		
Group	Clergy/Staff Contact	Member Contact
SMMS Board	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Jesse Murray [REDACTED]
SMMS Chapel	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	-
Children's Chapel	Deacon David Martin	Robin Hammer [REDACTED]
Sunday School – Godly Play	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Maren McLaren [REDACTED]
Sunday School – Upper Elementary	Deacon David Martin	Heather Gaume [REDACTED]
Sunday School – Middle School	Deacon David Martin	Rachel Ribeiro [REDACTED]
Young Adults	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Marcie Holland [REDACTED]
Other (VBS, Camp Stoney, Pageant)	Deacon David Martin, Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	OPEN
Adult Ed (Sundays)	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Billie Abraham [REDACTED] Harrison Higgins [REDACTED]
Newcomers & Inquirers	Fr. Christopher McLaren	Ty Camp [REDACTED]
Baptism & Confirmation	Fr. Christopher McLaren, Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	OPEN
Small Group Bible Study	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	David Duncan [REDACTED]
Small Group Rosary	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	Anne Gordon Fritz [REDACTED]
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 [REDACTED]
DRG Discernment/Vocations Program	Mother Sylvia Miller-Mutia	OPEN

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## Attachment 1: FY 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes, January 29, 2023

### St. Mark's Episcopal Church Minutes of Annual Meeting Held January 29, 2023

This year's annual meeting was incorporated into Sunday worship. The parish received the document "St. Mark's Episcopal Church 2022 Annual Parish Report "Widening our Welcome: Administration, Community Care, Worship, Formation," 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. For the Sermon, Fr. Christopher McLaren delivered the **Rector's Report**.
3. 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.
4. Following the Offertory, Treasurer 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. Deb Bluestone was appointed Secretary and Clerk of the Vestry.
7. Election: Dave Aley, Darcie Farrow and Amanda Wright 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. Laurel Leisher-Cabral was nominated as the parish delegate to the Diocesan Convention, and Scott Sinkular as the alternate. Receiving no nominations from the floor, the candidates were elected by acclamation.
8. The **Annual Meeting Minutes for January 30, 2022** were received, a committee of the Vestry having approved them at the May 2022 Vestry meeting.
9. Acceptance of Annual Report: The Parish officially accepted all **Financial Reports and Leadership Reports** in the Annual Report as presented.
10. Senior Warden Report: Lucy Sinkular briefly addressed the congregation with a personal reflection, encouraging each member to find his or her place of belonging and contribution in Christ's work at St. Mark's.

11. **SMMS Report:** St. Mark's Montessori School Director Tricia Morton's report to the congregation included updates on the school's enrollment, funding, remodeling, new programs, and staff retention.
12. **Introduction of Building Renew Committee members** by Fr. Christopher McLaren.
13. **Introduction and Rollout of Survey** by Building Renewal Committee member Stephanie Varoz, who asked participants to complete and submit by February 12, 2023.
14. **Adjournment:** Following announcements, Lucy Sinkular adjourned the meeting at 11:25 am.
  - The Rev. Sylvia Miller-Mutia gave the final blessing.
  - The congregation sang hymn #556 "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart" for the closing hymn, then gathered in the parish hall for a pancake breakfast.

*Minutes approved by special committee, consisting of Fr. Christopher McLaren and Lucy Sinkular, for presentation at the February 23, 2023 Vestry meeting.*

MINUTES APPROVED:

  
Fr. Christopher McLaren, Rector

  
Lucy Sinkular, Senior Warden



## Attachment 2: What Happened at St. Mark's in 2023

- Held weekly a Thursday Bible Study
- Building Forums
- Building Survey
- Helped provide warm clothes and blankets to asylum seekers and those experiencing homelessness throughout the year
- Hosted 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month Pancake Breakfasts
- Little Rolling Library Implemented
- Held Strove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- Created Dignity Bags for Albuquerque Public Library (International District)
- T-Coil Loop with Headphone Receivers were installed in the Nave to help with those experiencing hearing difficulties
- Joined with NM Immigrant Law Center and Albuquerque FaithWorks: Asylum-Application and Work-Permit Clinics
- Put two different artist renditions of the Stations of the Cross on display in the Nave during Lent. Stations could be performed each Friday in Lent
- All-parish Campout returned to Bandelier (after a 4-year break for the pandemic to pass)
- St. Mark's connected with Church Unbound to help make and deliver sandwiches one Sunday a month to those experiencing homelessness.
- The parish baked up several dozen cupcakes for Easter Sunday
- We held parish-wide Spring & Fall Cleaning workdays
- St. Mark's "Passion Players" proclaimed the Passion according to St. Matthew in word, music, and dance, as translated by the First Nations Bible for Palm Sunday (inspired by the Thursday Bible Study group)
- Celebrated a joyous Great Vigil at Easter with three baptisms, one by full immersion, followed by a festive meal and dance into the night
- Held quarterly "Rosery for Remembrance" events
- First Meeting with the Architect (presentation/lunch/discussion) with the Parish
- Advance Care Planning Community Discussion/Presentation was held
- Climate Crisis Art Exhibit kicked off the return of our Sacred Arts Gallery
- Honored six graduates in May
- One-person Library Art Exhibit opened (aka "Mini Gallery")
- We hosted the LGBTQ+ Ministry of the Diocese of the Rio Grande in fellowship, Eucharist, and potluck dinner
- Summer of Conversation kicked off at Pentecost
- Had a "Summer Choir" for those wanting to test it out, but didn't require more than a week-long commitment
- A Sunday evening small group began around watching and discussing "The Chosen."
- Maryland State Boychoir visited and shared their talent with us during Sunday worship in July
- We said goodbye to Montessori School Director, Tricia Morton, and hired a new Director, Caitlin McGuire
- St. Mark's took part in the ABQ Pride Parade and helped procure the trolley
- Summer was filled with Coffee Hours full of "Convo Café's" to continue to build upon the Summer of Conversation one-on-one intentional conversations around the parish

- Had a BBQ/Pool Party at ABQ Tennis Club TWICE!
- Free Little Library was built and installed and is constantly being utilized
- We put on a Safe Church workshop for the parish
- The New Mexico School of Sacred Arts Master Class for Iconography started giving classes again (post-pandemic)
- Coffee Hour Teams reformed
- St. Mark's volunteered to assist La Mesa Presbyterian Church with the "Feast of Hope" Thanksgiving Dinner to help feed those in need.
- Connected with St. Michael's and All Angels Episcopal Church food pantry, "Casa San Miguel" with food, labor, and monetary donations
- Bishop Hunn visited St. Mark's and the parish baked savory and sweet pies to welcome him
- Put on a Garden Social & Pet Blessing Event
- Held an Oktoberfest and Hymn Sing with brats, pretzels and drinks
- Built a beautiful ofrenda in the Nave for All Saints' Day
- Special choir "sermon" of Vivaldi's *Magnificat* with St. Mark's Choir, soloists, and a guest orchestra
- Youth put on a Christmas Pageant & Cast Party
- We put on a "Jolly Mingle" in-between both evening liturgies on Christmas Eve
- Carol Hymn Sing & Potluck Dinner



### In Memoriam... a few of our new Saints in 2023

