

St. Mark's

Episcopal Church
Glen Ellyn, Illinois

Annual Report for 2012



February 10, 2013

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Agenda

Opening Prayer Rev. George Smith

Appointment of Clerk of the Annual Meeting

Karen Doran is appointed Clerk of the Annual Meeting

Rev. George Smith

Review and Approval of the Minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting

Please see the last pages of this handout for the minutes of last year's meeting

Rev. George Smith

Appointment of Senior Warden and Junior Warden

Paula Zwiebel and Eric McAlpine

Rev. George Smith

Appointment of Youth Representative

Theo Grant-Funck

Rev. George Smith

Recognition of Outgoing Vestry Members, Youth Representative

Sr. Warden, and Convention & Alternate Delegates

Jerry Carey, Danna Gross, Reeny Linstrom, Ben Maxson, Cynthia Mote, Scott Bednas, Bob Bernero, Dianne Hunter

Paula Zwiebel

Voting

Election of Vestry Candidates:

John Campen, Brian Thompson, Patty Weaver

Paula Zwiebel

Election of Diocesan Convention Delegate Candidates:

Jay Madary, Kristin Margaglione

Reports

Finance Committee Report

2012 Year End Budget Report

2013 Budget

Steve Webster

Senior Warden's Report

Scott Bednas

Rector's Report

Rev. George Smith

Questions and Answers

Rector's Report for the St. Mark's Annual Meeting February 10, 2013

The annual meeting gives us an opportunity to pause and look back at the year just ended. It also gives us a chance to dream, hope and plan for the year ahead. I recently heard a wonderful quote from poet Tracy K. Smith, author of "Life on Mars" who said, "Hope is not about receiving, about being the beneficiary of some nebulous good fortune, it's about putting desire into action. Hope is an idea with an engine." I have seen many definitions of hope, and this is one of the best. I think St. Mark's is all about this kind of hope – ideas with engines. We test out ideas, invite leaders to lead in an environment of welcome and encouragement and then see what happens. The result is that there are many engines running full steam ahead. This past year was a banner year by many measures – worship attendance, financial support, Preschool and PDO enrollment, outreach and service to the community, and pastoral care through our meals ministry, Stephen Ministry and visitations. I invite you to read about the ministries of St. Mark's in the pages of this annual meeting packet. Then offer a word of thanks to those who are leading our programs and ministries; let that tug on your heart lead you to lend your time and skills to something that we are doing here at St. Mark's; lastly, let your imagination and interest be an engine of hope for something new.

Without a doubt, one of the most exciting things that has and is happening at St. Mark's is our ministry to the Latino community. The centerpiece is the 1 p.m. Sunday service. Launched on December 11, 2011, attendance at the Spanish language service grew throughout 2012. I have watched on Sundays as the number of vacant pews diminishes week by week, with only five or six in the very back of the church remaining empty. It is a good problem to have, but I wonder what we will do when all of the pews are filled and there is standing room only. A particular recent highlight was the celebration of the Guadalupe in December. Over 300 people attended an evening Eucharist and festivities in Mahon Hall. Fundraising paid for a mariachi band, decorations and a statue of the Guadalupe which resides in the chapel. Whether regular Sunday attendance stabilizes or continues to grow, none of this would be happening without the extraordinary, capable leadership of Victor Conrado. He is welcoming and joyful, and he practices and preaches the Gospel of inclusion and healing. But Victor will be the first person to tell you that a sustainable, healthy faith community must not hinge its success on a priest. This is why we have worked hard to develop leaders at the 1 p.m. service and to forge connections between the Anglo and Latino members of St. Mark's. There is still much work to do. The language and cultural divide that exists in our community is enormous. This divide doesn't simply disappear when people enter a church. Without intentionality and determination, a church setting could deepen divisions. Fortunately, I don't see that happening at St. Mark's, but we cannot rest on our laurels. We will need to continue to experiment with ways to cross-cultivate worship, formation and service. You may want to join an Introduction to Spanish class at St. Mark's this spring. ESL (English as a Second Language) classes were held at St. Mark's during 2012 and will continue in 2013. In ministry, St. Mark's is sitting on a gold mine. Perhaps Glen Ellyn isn't the most obvious location for a well-attended service in Spanish. But the census shows that Latinos make up approximately 10% of the Glen Ellyn population, with similar statistics for Wheaton, Lombard and our other neighboring communities. The opportunity as we have seen is enormous, and people have come to St. Mark's because we have a central location, a welcoming personality and sacramental, liturgical worship that is familiar. Everyone is welcome to come and see the 1 p.m. service, whether you speak Spanish or not. You will see for yourself why people keep coming and telling their friends about a church that "feels like home" – as one person told me last Sunday.

The St. Mark's Preschool is another example of an "idea with an engine." The idea was to create a small, Episcopal preschool at St. Mark's guided by what is known as the "Reggio" approach to early childhood learning. The engine with this idea is our fantastic Preschool board and teachers. Meghan Kaplan, the Preschool director since 2010, relocated to Indianapolis last fall. A search committee has worked for several months to find a new director to lead our growing school. Announced just recently, we will welcome Andrea Cocke as the new director. She will arrive this summer and comes to us from the Philips Brooks School in Menlo Park, California. She has extensive experience teaching in preschools and with the Reggio philosophy. The Preschool board has also decided to expand the Preschool program to two morning classes, with an expected total enrollment of forty children. The Preschool brings life, creativity and energy to St. Mark's, and even in its start-up years has not been a financial drain

on parish resources. Special thanks goes to Cindy Flynn, who has been the interim director, to Rachel Alcorn, president of the board and to the teachers, Holly Pelsor and Beth Figler. All have devoted countless hours and their gifts of leadership to the school.

An example of an exciting idea that includes but also reaches beyond St. Mark's is the OneChurch Project. The three Lutheran and two Episcopal churches in Glen Ellyn have been experimenting with ways to cooperate in ministry and outreach. Examples in 2012 included a pulpit swap, joint worship services on Good Friday and Thanksgiving, a combined vestry/council meeting, and the Fourth of July Shopping Cart Brigade which collected food at the Glen Ellyn parade for the Food Pantry. These efforts will continue in 2013. We are already planning a joint Pet Blessing service on Saturday, August 17 at Lake Ellyn Park. The point of all of this is that together we can do more than we can do as individual congregations. The Scriptures and Creeds remind us that there is One Church, although for too long denominations and individual congregations have acted separately, ignoring each other. The religious landscape is shifting, and the OneChurch Project is an opportunity to take advantage of walls that are crumbling and attitudes that are opening up to new possibilities for ministry and faith.

Meanwhile, I am excited about St. Mark's affiliation with DuPage United. St. Mark's became a dues-paying member of DU in 2012. DuPage United is an inclusive, non-profit, non-partisan organization whose members are civil society institutions including churches, mosques, synagogues, non-profit agencies, and associations. These institutions have come together to form public relationships and to act together to improve the quality of life for individuals, families and communities. Our association with DU strengthens St. Mark's internal structure as leaders are trained and the principles of building a culture of relationships becomes a priority. For example, the St. Mark's Giving Campaigns for 2012 and 2013 used one-on-one conversations to deepen relationships and discover what is really on people's minds. On November 4, twenty-five St. Markers joined four hundred people from other DuPage United affiliates at the Annual Assembly at Faith Lutheran Church. A goal for the coming year will be to form a "core" ad hoc group to become an engine for continuing and expanding this work at St. Mark's and our involvement with DuPage United.

An important part of St. Mark's vision is that we are a community of artistic creativity and opportunity. This is evident in our music program (choirs, instrumentalists, pipe organ, concert series), children's programs (Preschool chalk drawings and art displays as well as VBS and Sunday School art projects), and adult forums (sessions on poetry and art). This coming summer, St. Mark's has the opportunity to push our artistic side to its limits by hosting an exhibit called Icons in Transformation. The work of a Russian painter, Ludmila Pawlowska who finds inspiration from traditional Orthodox icons, has traveled through European cathedrals and now is touring the United States. The Chicago location for the exhibit will be St. Mark's, from June 22 through July 31. The manager for the exhibit enjoys working with Episcopal churches and cathedrals and approached St. Mark's because of its combination of space (Mahon Hall and the sanctuary) and central location. Icons in Transformation will put St. Mark's on the artistic map this summer and provide us with the opportunity to introduce people to the beauty and power of icons, both traditional and modern. We will offer lectures, receptions, tours and worship services oriented around the icons. The icons will be for sale, and many of the churches hosting the exhibit have more than covered their expenses. If you are interested in being part of the "engine" of this idea, please let me know.

St. Mark's finances are in their best shape in a decade. We have exceeded the Annual Giving Campaign goal of 250 pledges and are close to the dollar goal of \$600,000. Meanwhile, the building and rectory mortgages continue to be paid down. These debts will fall to under \$1 million in 2013. A crazy but necessary idea with an engine was conducting a Capital Campaign for "St. Mark's - the Next 100 Years" in 2009/2010. The timing was challenging - the depth of the Great Recession. Thanks to the generosity of many of our members and a matching loan by the Diocese of Chicago, we have paid down the mortgage by \$1.3 million. Commitments to the Capital Campaign continue to be paid, and we welcome new gifts at any time. A reduction in our debt service combined with strong annual giving means that we expect to achieve a balanced budget in 2013, the first since 2005. St. Mark's was very fortunate to have been the recipient of a bequest by Lillian Campbell. Ms. Campbell was a member of St. Mark's for many years. By her extraordinary gift, The Campbell fund has enabled St. Mark's to offset operating deficits

over the past several years as we have worked to build our programs and membership. The timing is a blessing because just as the Campbell fund is nearing its end, we are at the point of balancing the budget.

St. Mark's outreach efforts are all about hope - many engines with ideas. From the annual Pumpkin Patch, which again in 2012 netted over \$6,000 for PADS, to the Blues Night for the Glen Ellyn Walk-in Ministry to the weekly collection of cans and dry goods for the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry, each is possible because of the hard work and commitment of leaders backed by the parish as a whole. Tim Dorgan, the vestry liaison to the Outreach Committee, has brought together a core team to oversee, coordinate and assist our outreach efforts. Helping our parishioners act on their interest, skills and commitments to helping meet the needs of the world around us is the goal of this committee. An engine that has been running for eight years continues to build the relationship between St. Mark's and San Marcos in Mexico. The cake auction at the annual meeting will help raise funds for the eighth annual trip to Nigromante which is open to those entering the 9th grade and older. In the planning stages is a youth and adult trip to Kentucky this summer to assist with home remodeling and building in an impoverished community.

As long as St. Mark's continues to be a welcoming church, I am certain that it will continue to attract visitors and new members. As St. Mark's grows, a key challenge to the vestry, staff, ministry leaders and every parishioner will be to help each other and new members move beyond the welcome to more involvement and greater connection with other members and our ministries. How do people meet each other at St. Mark's? How can we be sure that people visiting coffee hour feel truly welcome? How do we know what people care about? How do people gain a sense that they are part of St. Mark's? These questions are challenging because St. Mark's recognizes that one size does not fit everyone. Some people attend worship every Sunday, while others are in church once or twice a year. All are welcome as some move in and out of orbit. The Episcopal Church is anchored in worship, not lock-step doctrine. We need to create a relational culture where a generous diversity can also be woven together. That is the challenge that never ends, which fortunately is the story of our Scriptures and the Gospel message.

St. Mark's is blessed with committed and dedicated leaders. I want to thank Scott Bednas for his leadership as warden for the past two years. He has somehow managed to make it look easy to balance family, career and church service. I am grateful that he will continue to serve on the Finance Committee and as a leader of Boy Scout Troop 44. Eric McAlpine is slated to become junior warden as Paula Zwiebel transitions from junior to senior warden. Retiring vestry members are Jerry Carey, Ben Maxon, Danna Gross and Reeny Linstrom. Each has offered strategic thinking and action over their terms of service: Jerry in worship and music, Ben in outreach, Danna in fundraising (Late Night Catechism) and children's formation and Reeny in adult formation and her yoga class. I also wish to recognize Cynthia Mote who has served as the Youth Representative on the vestry.

I mentioned Victor Conrado at the beginning of my report. All of the staff deserve our thanks for their hard work and commitment to their ministries. In September, we celebrated Charles Snider's 25th anniversary as our organist and choirmaster. We continue to keep him in our prayers as he recovers from foot surgery and an infection. Jill Bednas brings creativity and energy to our children's programs. Elizabeth Molitors oversees the junior high program and Confirmation class as well as our high school groups in addition to all of the other work as a priest associate. Dellana Mote is our office manager / wizard. All things relating to bulletins, communication and hundreds of miscellaneous tasks pass through Dellana's radar. Robin Currie edits the PostMark, leads Preschool Chapel and book time, preaches and is always willing to assist with any number of projects. Walter Dunnett preaches and assists with adult formation. Julian Mendoza shovels snow, opens and locks the building on Sundays, does set ups, makes coffee, changes light bulbs and cleans as needed. St. Mark's is welcoming because of the work of all of these people.

As we give thanks for the blessings of the past year, may St. Mark's continue to be a holy place of an expansive welcome, where connections are made and the world healed. May it be a place where ideas with engines are the hope God has given us.

Yours in Christ – George+



Vestry and Diocesan Delegate Nominees

We are pleased to announce the list of candidates selected by the Nominating Committee for the 2013 election to St. Mark's Vestry. We have a total of four openings.

Senior Warden

Paula Zwiebel

Junior Warden

Eric McAlpine

Three-year Terms

John Campen, Brian Thompson, Patty Weaver

Youth Representative

Theo Grant-Funck

Candidates for Diocesan Delegate and Alternate

Jay Madary, Kristin Margaglione

For Senior Warden

Paula Zwiebel



My husband, Bud, and I have been married for 26 years and have lived in Glen Ellyn for 25 years. We have been members of St. Mark's since the early '90s. Our children, now young adults, grew up in this parish. It is definitely home for us.

I work part time at Loyola Medical Center as a registered nurse in the Outpatient Clinics. About half of my time is spent with a pediatric nephrologist (kidney doctor) and the other half with an internal medicine physician. I get the joy of being with children and the interest of talking with people who have lived longer, interesting lives.

Since coming to St. Mark's, I have been involved in a number of activities. I have been on the PDO board and taught Sunday school. Currently, I coordinate the usher ministry and worship commission and am a member of the Daughters of the King.

I was a member of the vestry a few years ago and found it to be an interesting and rewarding experience under Fr. George's calm and capable leadership. St. Mark's has grown and become a remarkable, vibrant place. I am honored to serve in the role of senior warden with our wonderful clergy and the people that make St. Mark's a living testament to God.

For Junior Warden

Eric McAlpine



Our family (including my wife, Caroline, and our children - Will, Anna and Katie) have been attending St. Mark's since 2007. I previously served as a member of the vestry, as well as on the finance committee and on St. Mark's visioning committee, and Caroline is active with the women's ministries. We are also active with the children's activities at Lincoln Elementary and the community. I am a senior counsel at Groupon, leading its global intellectual property practices. We have found St. Mark's and the Episcopal church to be a great community for raising our family. I am honored to be nominated to be a warden, and hope to serve as the congregation continues to grow, and to continue our traditions of worship, education and service to the parish and the wider community.

For Vestry—Three Year Terms

John Campen



I have been involved with the St. Mark's community since the early 2000's. After spending a couple of years in New York City, I returned to the area and have been active in the choir ever since Charles Snider sent me a well-timed email asking if I was around and would I be interested in coming to sing with the choir again. I immediately replied in the affirmative and have been grateful for the opportunity to get reconnected to everyone at St. Mark's after my time away.

My church background is a varied one. I was baptized in an African-American Baptist church at twenty-one, though I spent much of my childhood attending a wide range of denominations.

My college years were spent at Wheaton where I focused my studies on music and theater. From there, I went on to pursue performance opportunities in Chicago and New York. Since moving back, my professional life has been a combination of stage work, teaching voice, voice over gigs and the hospitality industry. I currently live in Chicago where I continue to teach, create and work in the hospitality industry. I make the trek out to Glen Ellyn every week to be a part of this community because I find it is where I feel most at home.

This parish at St. Mark's has given so much over the past several years. I'm excited to have an opportunity to give back by serving as part of the vestry team.

Brian Thompson



I moved to Glen Ellyn eight years ago with my wife, Cathryn, and we have been going to St. Mark's for about 5 years. We have one daughter, Chloe (4).

We have been recipients of God's love through St. Mark's in many ways, including being welcomed as new parishioners, ongoing fellowship activities, having meals delivered to us on the arrival of our daughter, and Father George's visit when I woke from an unscheduled surgery to fix a broken leg. We look forward to returning those kindnesses and see being active at St. Mark's as an excellent opportunity for doing so.

Most of my career has been with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in surface water quality programs. My interests include bicycling, walking, hiking, camping, gardening, and music. I spend most of my free time with Cathryn and Chloe exploring the many children's venues in the area.

I am thankful for the nomination to serve on the Vestry and will do my best if elected.

Patty Weaver



I moved here with my husband, Jake, and our twin 6 year old daughters just over 2 years ago. My husband and I have different religious upbringings, I am Catholic and he is Methodist, and we had struggled in the past trying to determine what church to attend. Wherever we went, one of us usually felt that something was missing. St. Mark's is the first church where we both feel fulfilled.

I truly enjoy being part of this community and having a place for my family to retreat to in times of need, praise and fellowship.

I am thrilled to be nominated to serve on the vestry. My background is in accounting and finance and I have experience managing small teams within large organizations. I currently stay home with my 2 children and manage our active family life.

Youth Representative to the Vestry

Theo Grant-Funck



My family and I have attended St. Mark's since I was about three and a half years old. I've served as an acolyte since second grade. I'm currently a junior at Wheaton North High School where I play soccer, run track and play cello in the orchestra. I am honored to serve as youth representative on the vestry and appreciate our church as a welcoming community of faith in the suburbs.

Diocesan Convention Delegates

Jay Madary



James “Jay” Madary and his wife Jill, live in Glen Ellyn with their four children, Jake (13), Jack (10), Julia (9), and Jenna (7). Jay was born and raised in Glen Ellyn and was confirmed at Faith Lutheran Church. After college, Jay’s career relocated him to South Bend, Indiana, where he joined the Episcopalian Church and met his beautiful wife, Jill. In 2002, they moved back to the western suburbs and joined Grace Episcopal Church in Hinsdale. After building a home in Glen Ellyn, Jay and Jill joined the St. Mark’s congregation in 2009. Jay is President and CEO of JVM Realty Corporation in Oak Brook. JVM is a property management and investment company that owns and manages apartment communities throughout the Midwestern United States. Professionally, Jay is a member of the Chicago Chapter of the Young President’s Organization and is on the Rush Associates Board for Rush University Medical Center. Personally, Jay enjoys spending time with his family and is involved in Cub Scouts as his son’s den leader.

Kristin Margaglione



Born and raised in the Methodist faith, my husband and I joined the Episcopal church in 1996 about a year before we married. We celebrated 15 years of marriage this October. Our two children, Alex (11) and Claire (8) bring us a lot of joy and keep us busy!

Volunteering for their schools in many capacities has kept me involved in their educations. I was First Vice-President of the PTA for two years, room-mom for four, reading helper for three years, among many other roles, including starting up a chess club. I just began volunteering with my daughter's Brownie troop as well. I also was active in our former parish, serving on the committee running Sunday School for two years, ran the high school youth group for one year, and helping in various capacities with children. I have been helping teach Sunday School for the last year now, first with preschool and now in the third grade room, as well as helping with the Christmas pageant this year and last.

I received my bachelors at the University of Illinois in Champaign and masters at Northern. Professionally, I have been employed as a teacher for all of my career. I taught 11 years, 9 of them in Wheaton. I have been substituting for the last six years part-time, more so now that the children are in school.

Wheaton has been my home since 1994, but I have spent my entire life in the western suburbs of Chicago. We began attending St. Mark's in November 2011 and love the energy here! I would be honored to represent St. Mark's.

Senior Warden's Report

I am extremely grateful and honored for the opportunity to serve as a warden of St. Mark's for the past two years. In reading the ministry reports in these pages, it is clear that 2012 was a time of vibrant growth and continued commitment to faith for St. Mark's. A few select accomplishments include:

- Spanish Language Ministry Growth – What started as an idea in 2011 has grown to a ministry where over 110 people attend the 1:00 pm service each Sunday. We are blessed to have Victor as an Associate Rector, as well as the many volunteers that support this ministry. We are thankful for the financial grants that provide support in the early years.
- Charles Snider's 25th Anniversary Celebration – We are truly blessed to have such a talented musician on our staff. We are grateful for our musicians, choir and staff that enhance our worship with exceptional music.
- St. Mark's Preschool Growth – In only the third year, our preschool has doubled in size with the addition of an afternoon class. As an encore, the preschool staff plans to add a third class in the fall of 2013.
- Financial Stability – For the first time since 2005, our operating budget is balanced. The finance committee is accepting suggestions on how to spend the surplus of \$8.00.
- Capital Campaign Success – Our annual interest expense was reduced by over \$100,000 with contributions that far exceeded our goals. If you have the wherewithal, please consider an initial or additional contribution to the long-term goal of a debt free balance sheet.
- Dynamic Clergy – The breadth and depth of sermon topics offered by George, Elizabeth, Victor, Walter and Robin provides something for everyone and maintains a fresh and inviting environment for our worship. It is clear that our extraordinary leader, George Smith, our delightful staff, our devoted vestry and our countless committed volunteers all worked tirelessly to contribute to the blessings of 2012. We deeply appreciate our clergy, staff and volunteers who serve St. Mark's both visibly and quietly behind the scenes.

I end my term as warden comforted by the knowledge that Paula Zwiebel and Eric McAlpine will utilize their vast talents in working with our clergy, vestry, staff and volunteers to continue the tremendous work of St. Mark's. As I think of new ways to contribute to the ministries of St. Mark's, I ask that we all consider how we may be more involved with our parish as we remain rooted in baptism, grow in faith and branch out into the world.

May God continue to bless St. Mark's, its ministries and its people.

Scott Bednas

PROPOSED 2013 OPERATING BUDGET

Revenues	2012 BUDGET	2012 ACTUAL	2013 BUDGET
Current Year Contributions			
Pledge Payments	\$ 555,000	\$ 541,362	\$ 600,000
Open Plate	45,000	62,227	58,000
Special Collections	1,000	375	1,000
Fund Raising Events	10,000	4,649	10,000
Gifts to Outreach	6,400	4,352	7,500
Prior Year Pledges	4,000	280	1,000
Diocese Grant	2,500	2,500	-
Usage Income	5,000	5,742	5,000
Other Income	5,000	7,734	5,100
Spanish Lang Service	61,900	69,357	65,000
St. Mark's total revenue	<u>\$ 695,800</u>	<u>\$ 698,578</u>	<u>\$ 752,600</u>
St. Mark's Pre-school	45,000	50,079	55,000
PDO Cost Reimbursement	<u>60,000</u>	<u>65,021</u>	<u>65,000</u>
 Total Revenue	 <u>\$ 800,800</u>	 <u>\$ 813,677</u>	 <u>\$ 872,600</u>
 Expenses			
Clergy Payroll (incl Benefits)	\$ 212,585	\$ 212,522	\$ 221,292
Other Expenses:			
Programs	14,870	22,481	17,600
Music			
Staff	63,212	62,231	66,140
Program	3,500	5,853	6,500
Administration			
Staff	25,836	25,486	29,163
Program	21,000	21,473	20,300
Buildings & Grounds			
Staff	12,918	15,673	16,148
Program	209,400	197,472	198,414
Our Children			
Staff	27,235	24,608	28,552
Program	5,900	5,326	4,800
M&O	51,454	50,435	57,822
Spanish Language Service			
Staff	53,800	52,120	56,711
Program	8,180	13,010	10,000
Rectory Expenses	19,150	13,256	19,150
St. Mark's total expenses	<u>\$ 729,040</u>	<u>\$ 721,949</u>	<u>\$ 752,592</u>
St. Marks Pre-School	45,000	51,125	55,000
PDO Expenditures	<u>60,000</u>	<u>64,992</u>	<u>65,000</u>
 Total Expenses	 <u>\$ 834,040</u>	 <u>\$ 838,065</u>	 <u>\$ 872,592</u>
St. Mark's Net Total	<u>\$ (33,240)</u>	<u>\$ (23,371)</u>	<u>\$ 8</u>
Transfer from Campbell	\$ 25,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -
Transfer from M&O Reserve	\$ 3,400	\$ 1,074	\$ 3,400
Transfer from B&G temp restricted	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,389	\$ -

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Balance Sheet Analysis
Closing Month 2012

Accounts	Current Balance (Last Year)	Current Balance (This Year)	
Assets			
Operating Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
1101.00 - Checking Community Bank	\$16,635.99	\$23,541.74	
1103.00 - Capital Campaign - Community Ba	\$80,159.01	\$34,913.33	
1106.00 - DK Checking	\$2,262.52	\$2,274.54	
1107.00 - PDO-Checking	\$10,518.72	\$7,342.62	
1109.00 - St. Mark's Preschool checking	\$24,553.21	\$21,173.27	
1110.10 - Memorial MMKT-Community Bank	\$7,803.08	\$7,810.91	
1115.00 - Rector's Discretionary Community	\$8,167.72	\$8,218.09	
1117.00 - Molitors Discretionary Account	\$1,487.33	\$1,488.82	
1118.00 - Conrado Discretionary Fund	\$881.84	\$1,319.15	
1125.00 - Restricted Funds CD	\$48,887.54	\$44,019.85	
1135.00 - M & O Reserve Fund CD	\$35,126.60	\$35,198.94	
1150.10 - Thanksgiving Chkg-Community Ba	\$3,368.05	\$2,807.92	
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$239,851.61	\$190,109.18	
Investments			
1201.00 - Diocesan Foundation	\$8,770.14	\$10,369.97	
1209.00 - Wayne Hummer-Operating	\$3,505.44	\$410.34	
1211.00 - Wayne Hummer Lillian Campbell T	\$51,602.56	\$31,566.98	
1215.00 - Wayne Hummer - Lewis	\$204,477.46	\$218,108.02	
Total Investments	\$268,355.60	\$260,455.31	
Total Operating Assets		\$508,207.21	\$450,564.49
Non-operating Assets			
Property and Equipment			
1701.00 - Church Buildings	\$6,098,900.00	\$6,098,900.00	
1705.00 - Furniture and Fixtures	\$703,000.00	\$703,000.00	
1710.00 - Computer Equipment	\$1,139.51	\$1,139.51	
1715.00 - Stained Glass	\$163,000.00	\$163,000.00	
1720.00 - Rectory	\$473,000.00	\$473,000.00	
Total Property and Equipment	\$7,439,039.51	\$7,439,039.51	
Total Non-operating Assets		\$7,439,039.51	\$7,439,039.51
Total Assets		\$7,947,246.72	\$7,889,604.00
Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
2140.00 - Rental transmittal	(\$1.00)	\$0.00	
2141.20 - Rectory Security Deosit	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	
2150.00 - Wedding Transmittal	\$0.00	\$700.00	
2151.00 - Funeral Transmittal	\$608.23	\$0.00	
Total Current Liabilities		\$2,607.23	\$700.00
Long Term Liabilities			
2172.00 - Building Mortgage Payable	\$1,128,646.67	\$910,987.19	
2173.00 - Debt Reduction loan -Diocese of C	\$547,844.00	\$593,261.92	
2701.00 - Rectory Mortgage Payable	\$125,291.33	\$119,078.47	
Total Long Term Liabilities		\$1,801,782.00	\$1,623,327.58
Total Liabilities		\$1,804,389.23	\$1,624,027.58
Fund Balance			
3100.00 - General Fund Balance	\$1,302,245.63	\$1,489,459.13	
3200.00 - Investment in Property & Equipmen	\$4,384,014.98	\$4,384,014.98	
Excess Cash Received	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total Fund Balance and Excess Cash Received		\$5,686,260.61	\$5,873,474.11
Restricted Funds			
Total Temporarily Restricted	\$252,119.42	\$173,994.29	
Total Permanently Restricted	\$204,477.46	\$218,108.02	
Total Restricted Funds		\$456,596.88	\$392,102.31
Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds		\$7,947,246.72	\$7,889,604.00

Update on The Second 100 Years Capital Campaign

It was in March of 2010 that we kicked off our Capital Campaign, The Second 100 Years, with the goal of cutting our bank mortgage debt in half. At the time, our debt totaled more than \$2.4 million. As a result of the Campaign, we received pledges of more than \$800,000. Since the kick-off, we have received contributions of more than \$750,000 and, with the help of the Diocese of Chicago's interest free, open ended loan of \$600,000, we have paid down our mortgage by \$1,290,000.

Our monthly mortgage expense in January 2010 was \$15,309.57 per month. In January of 2013, our mortgage payment was \$6,459.54, which saves us over \$100,000 each year! We have about \$58,000 left outstanding from the original pledges, which we hope to receive by March of this year, and about \$35,000 in the bank at the end of 2012. We will put that money, plus all we collect this year, toward reducing the mortgage even more.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this campaign. It has truly made our Second 100 Years much brighter.

Dick Anstee

2013 Giving Campaign

The ministries and activities of St. Mark's are funded primarily by the regular contributions of our members. Each autumn, we hold a giving campaign to solicit pledges for the coming year. These pledges enable the Wardens and Vestry to create a responsible budget for the coming year.

This year, as of January 31st we have received commitments of \$568,390 towards our goal of \$600,000. This is up from \$521,000 at this time last year. And thrillingly, we reached a record number of pledges again this year – 245, exactly matching our goal! (Up from 220 this time last year.) We greatly appreciate all the parishioners who support St. Mark's as they truly show "who we are" and where our hearts lie.

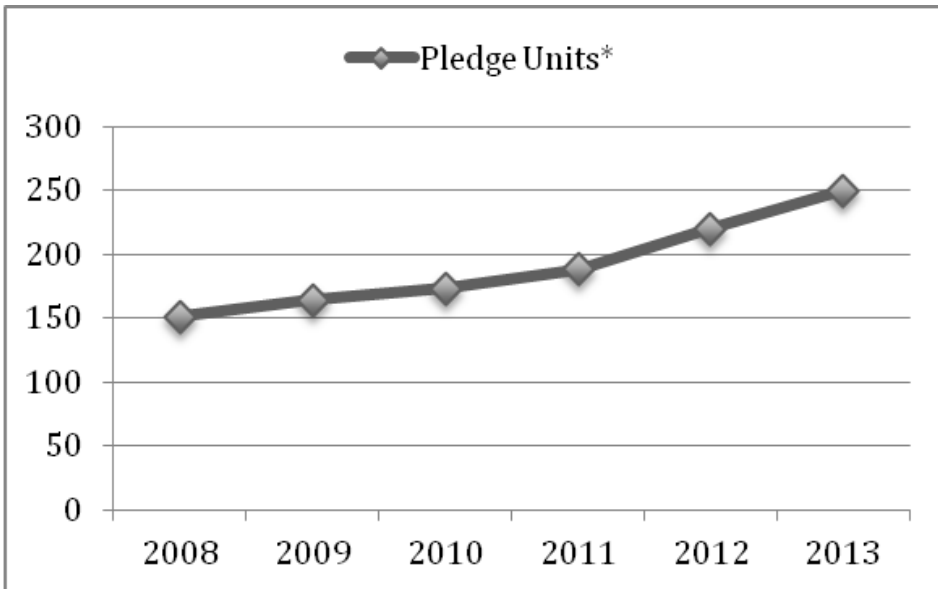
The Giving Campaign Committee built on the strengths of past years' work to run an efficient and effective campaign. Javier Valdivia and Nancy Gier again created stunning brochures, artwork, and written material for our theme, which emphasized that "We are/Somos St. Mark's: Growing, Giving, Welcoming." Great photos by Peter Vagt showed off St. Mark's parishioners to wonderful advantage. Fr. Victor Conrado and Michelle Roman helped produce pledging materials in Spanish.

We mailed out most materials to parishioners, and in addition to the usual pledge brochure, card, and return envelope, we also included our shiny new church directory – filled with updated member information and all those great photos of our church families and individuals. We were excited to share this visual of who "We are / Somos"!

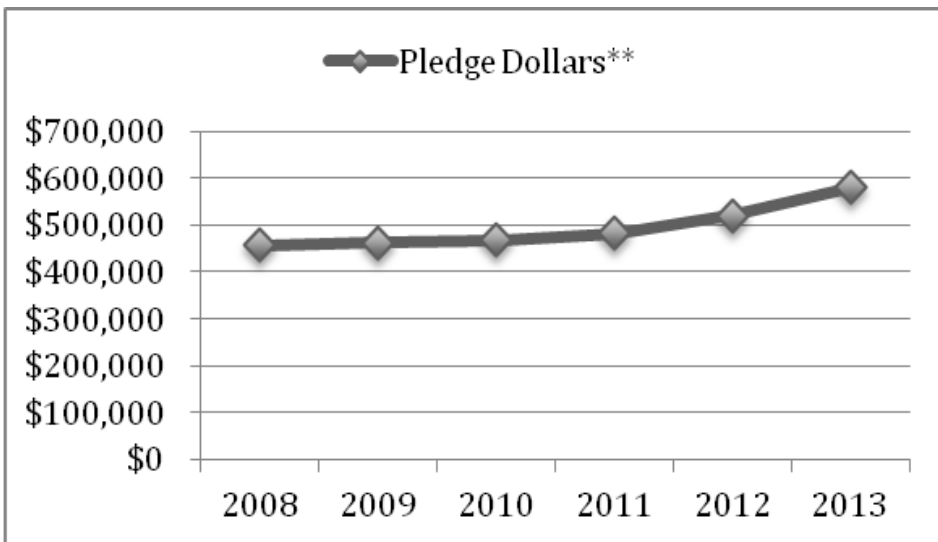
Ted Figler coordinated our Consecration Sunday bread gift to parishioners, and assisted with pledge card production; Dellana Mote and the office volunteers again did a super job organizing all our materials, labels, and envelopes; the finance committee worked hard at creating our budget and Fr. George and Fr. Conrado provided support and energy throughout the Giving Campaign.

Our success is a reflection of the wonderful parishioners at St. Mark's. The Giving Campaign Committee thanks you for your encouragement and support.

Ellie Dunham and Greg Olsen



*Pledge units as of Annual Meeting date of each year.



**Pledge dollars as of Annual Meeting date of each year.

***Average Pledge Gift as of Annual Meeting date each year.

Spanish Language Service

God is love and love is always reaching out. This is what we contemplate in the life of Jesus. What he tried to leave his disciples with was a clear mandate to love God with all their heart, mind and soul and their neighbors as themselves. This love could not and will never be contained. It is always looking for ways to bring more and more people in. An image comes to mind at this moment: it is of God being a nomad always on the go, searching for better pastures and water for his/her sheep.

In the year 2012 we have become even more missionaries, being those that loving like God loves us, expanding ourselves and reaching out to those who have been given to them. Those that have been excluded or that could not find a place where they could feel welcomed, accepted, loved. God became a nomad for love, leaving His/Her heavenly dwelling, becoming a person and walking the roads of Palestine. So also did St. Mark's become nomads and leave its place of comfort to meet others.

I want to share with you what we have accomplished and the challenges we have found in this journey. I want to do that by looking at three dimensions of this experience. These dimensions are: Parish, Spiritual, and Pastoral Care.

Parish Dimension

It is important to remember after more than a year of existence that the people that come to the 1pm service are welcomed as St. Mark's parishioners. This is not a separate experience or mission. This is how many of the Spanish-speaking member have felt this year. There is a great appreciation and thankfulness for the opportunity. This has been one of the reasons we now have over 110 people coming to participate in the Sunday service. With this in mind it is good to look at some of the important moments in this year.

- Bridge Group: This is group consisting of Anglo and Spanish-speaking members of the parish. We have met most of the last Sundays of the month in 2012 with the sole purpose of looking for concrete ways to become more and more integrated.
- Service opportunities together: People have come together to clean and help organize events like Cinco de Mayo, Pumpkin Fest and Pumpkin Patch. We have seen people bring food every Sunday to share and welcome new families in the parish. We have seen the children and youth want to be part of the service and help in different parish activities.
- Coming to experience how the other worship: We have seen how members of the morning and afternoon services come to experience the way the other celebrates and keeps his/her traditions. We are grateful to see how many of the Vestry members by invitation of the Senior Warden Scott Bednas participated in the 1pm service. This was one of the many ways the community felt welcomed and appreciated.
- Exchange of ministries: This year we celebrate the fact that Judy Jackson, Kim Reed and Karen Doran have assumed worship and teaching responsibilities. We have seen how the experience is communicated and motivates members of the 1pm service to do the same.
- Participation in diocesan events: We participated as St. Mark's with members of the morning and afternoon services in the Hispanic Liturgy. It was a great opportunity to see that we are not the only Hispanics in the Diocese as well as a learning experience for many. It was St. Mark's presence in the Diocese.
- Vestry Member: A way to continue welcoming is by opening spaces of leadership in the parish. Having a member from the 1pm service serving in the vestry will help the new parishioners feel that they can participate in the decision making realm of the parish.
- Increase in pledges: We have seen a significant increase in pledges in the 1pm service. We have moved from 6 pledges in 2011 to 43 and counting in 2012.

Spiritual Dimension

We are blessed to offer the opportunity for our new members to come and have a worship space and a way to have and continue a spiritual journey. Even though many people are still doing their mental, physical and spiritual transitions from whatever other tradition they came from, they have felt that St. Mark's has become a safe place. We have celebrated life and death together in the different sacraments.

- Sacraments: Being a sacramental community has helped many to feel at home. We celebrated four baptisms, Sunday Eucharist and other important religious traditions from the different countries people come from. We had our first Communion Celebration and Confirmations. It was a blessing to see how people respected the other's traditions and saw it as an opportunity to grow. We have now 32 children for Communion celebration and 27 for Confirmation. We are offering the sacrament of reconciliation to many. We celebrated our first sacrament of Marriage. It is important to say that a gesture of a welcoming community has been the invitation for everyone to receive communion. We have seen many tears when people had received the sacrament after many years of feeling excluded. We have celebrated a total of 5 Quinceaneras. It has been a blessing to be part of this moment for their families.
- *Bilingual Services*: We had celebrated two bilingual Eucharist services this year with a good response from the parish. Both of these moments had helped us get in touch with members from other services as well as with a sense that we are celebrating the same even though the language is different.
- Sacraments on the go: We have gone out to celebrate the Eucharist in people's houses. This has been a great chance to let others know that we care for what is important in their lives as individuals and families.
- Prayer moments: From the start, we have offered adult formation, a prayer and Bible study group. People feel that they have the opportunity to learn and participate in their own formation. These moments helped them make the transition to the Episcopal Church. We need to encourage more people to come and join us. People felt that they can bring their prayer intentions to us. The healing Sunday has become a powerful moment of healing and restoration to many.

Pastoral Dimension

We have been witness to life and death in our community. Something important about this is that people feel more and more that they can tell us about what is important and about their needs. They feel blessed to have a parish where they have found people that listen and care, people that are generous with their time, talents and monies as well as people that just want to take a meal and be part of whatever moment others are living.

- Home visits: They are an extension of our Sunday coffee hour (convivio). We are blessed to be invited to their homes. This has been a great moment of happiness and vulnerability for many. These visits have changed the perception that many people have of priests. The occasions have been many: birthdays, newborn babies, sickness, home blessings, listening sessions, etc.
- Hospital visits: They are becoming more and more frequent and have proved to be a new way of interaction and hope. The church on the go. We are inviting people to let us know of any family member or friend that is in the hospital for whatever reason so that we can go and visit them.
- Meals and flowers: We are grateful for the ministry of Lisa Baker and Dianne Dinse. They have made possible for people to experience the love of God in a tangible way. We have seen grateful people.
- ESL Classes: Thanks to COD we have ESL classes at St. Mark's and thanks to Michelle Roman who made the contact. We have seen people who come from different walks of life, parishioners and not who have benefited from this program. It has been a blessing to the community.
- Legal Clinic: We are blessed to offer this service to the community. Elizabeth McGuan, a lawyer, has helped us make this possible and now we are able to have people come and be helped in any immigration or family law matter. It has expanded now to the community and hopefully to other Episcopal parishes with an immigrant population.

- Zumba Classes: We have started to offer free of charge Zumba Classes every Tuesday and Thursday under the coordination of Lucia Conrado. We have seen a big response on the side of parishioners as well as from other members of the community.
- Connection with our deanery, other organizations and agencies, local businesses, other churches: This year we have had participated in different events in the local community like the ones organized by DuPage United. We have made sure that people from the 1pm service know that they are part of a deanery that is supporting this ministry. We keep in touch with local businesses that serve the Hispanic population like La Rosita, Los Burritos and others in the area. We are in contact with local food pantries and organizations that are serving the immigrant population in these areas like Immigration Solidarity DuPage and World Relief. We had offered the building space for many of their events and participated in them. We are conscious that we do not want to duplicate what is already in the community. We want to be a bridge so that people can have access to their services and be of service to the community as well. We are involved in a discernment group formed of different religious groups with Hispanic population. We want to invite them to come and other moments for reflection at St. Mark's.

This work has been possible because of the people who had invested their time and talents and that have sacrificed family and work to be present. I want to mentioned some of them here: George Smith, Elizabeth Molitors, Marsha Webster, Julio Reyes and Angeles Perdomo, Kim Reed, Francisco and Belen Barrera, Karen Doran, Juanita and Abraham Jimenez, Judy Jackson, Michelle and Rafael Garcia, Daughters of the King, Don Sutherland, Beremundo and Yolanda Damian, Edna Heatherington, Gloria Romero, Virginia and Peter Vagt, Isabel Morales, Magdalena Astudillo, Candelaria Arroyo, Veronica Blanco, Ani Solis, Maribel Grande. We are blessed to have them in our parish.

I welcome as well the deacon Rev. Miguel Briones in our midst. He comes eager to serve and willing to help and be helped by the community of St. Mark's.

I thank God for the life and ministry of my wife Lucia and my son David. They have been of great support and have helped me be present in the community when I have been needed. They have helped me live and understand what it is means to love someone.

As we continue to realize and be aware more and more of our call to be nomads and to go out of our comfort zone and feel vulnerable, let us walk together with our arms open to welcome everyone that comes through our doors. With God's help, we can do it.

Rev. Victor Conrado

Reporte del Ministerio Hispano de la Parroquia de San Marcos

Dios es amor y el amor está siempre de salida. Salió de su eternidad para crear al mundo y al hombre y salió, encarnándose en el seno de María, para salvarnos. Jesús nos mostró cómo era Dios y por Él supimos que Dios más que poder concentrado en sí mismo es amor que se entrega. Dios, lo aprendimos de su Hijo, no se queda quieto, es un nómada, listo siempre a partir para encontrarse con el ser humano, con todo ser humana.

Esa es la espiritualidad de la misión que estamos realizando aquí en la Parroquia de San Marcos. Siento que durante este 2012 nos hemos hecho misioneros, siendo aquellos que amando como Dios está siempre de salida y que dilata su corazón para alcanzar a los más lejanos, para traspasar barreras, superar fronteras, ir siempre más allá. Salir impulsados por el amor de Dios que se nos ha graciosamente participado. Si Dios se hizo nómada por amor, dejando su cielo, viniendo a la tierra, recorriendo los caminos de Palestina, también por amor su amor nos hacemos nómada.

Esta es mi reflexión a la víspera de esta Junta Anual 2013 en la que miramos lo que hemos dejado atrás para ser mas manifestación del amor de Dios y lo que hemos alcanzado.

Que hemos dejado?

Puedo decir que esta año 2012, hemos dejado nuestra zona de seguridad y nos hemos arriesgado mas a entrar en el terreno de la otra persona. Después de una año de presencia hispana en la parroquia nos hemos sentido mas en casa para participar y compartir nuestros dones a toda la parroquia. Siempre, estaremos agradecidos con todos los parroquianos de San Marcos por su constante y siempre actual bienvenida.

Que hemos alcanzado?

Quiero responder a esta preguntan enfocándome en tres áreas de crecimiento y de retos. Ellas son: Parroquial/Comunitaria, Sacramental/Espiritual y de Cuidado Pastoral. Les invito a que celebremos lo que hemos alcanzado y sigamos trabajando por seguir creciendo juntos como individuos, familias y como comunidad parroquial.

Aspecto Parroquial

Después de un año de existencia en la parroquia hemos alcanzado un crecimiento significativo. Hemos pasado de tener 80 a 110 personas en cada celebración dominical. Todas estas personas son recibidos como parte de la Parroquia de San Marcos. Se ha experimentado también un crecimiento en Promesas anuales (de 5 a 43 promesas hasta el momento). Los siguientes son otros puntos a resaltar:

- Grupo Puente: Sigue siendo un espacio importante para discutir como parroquia formas y experiencias que nos ayuden a integrar mas y mas al resto de la parroquia. Necesitamos recuperar nuestro compromiso de reunión mensual y de participación en ella.
- Servicio voluntario a la parroquia: Muchos miembros de la misa de la 1pm participaron de la jornadas de limpieza de la parroquia, organización de la fiesta del Cinco de Mayo, venta de calabazas, fiesta de las calabazas, organización de la fiesta de la Virgen de Guadalupe y de las Posadas.
- Convivio dominical: Estamos muy agradecidos por todas las familias que nos han contribuido para que este momento sea posible cada domingo. Este ha sido un gran espacio para dar la bienvenida a otros parroquianos de los servicios de la mañana y a nuevas familias. Agradecemos a Gloria Romero, Magdalena Astudillo, Candelaria Arroyo quienes nos ayudaron a comenzar y ahora a Ángeles Perdomo y Verónica Blanco quienes se encuentran actualmente coordinando este grupo.
- Servicio a los parroquianos: Hemos abierto espacios para ayudar a la formación, información y cuidado de la salud para los parroquianos. Tenemos clases de ESL en la parroquia gracias a la labor constante de Michelle Román que hizo los contactos con College of DuPage. Contamos con clases de Zumba que motivan Lucia Conrado y Kim Reed. Hemos comenzado con la Clínica Legal que esta bajo la responsabilidad de la licenciada Elizabeth McGuan.
- Nuevo Miembro en el Consejo Parroquial: Durante nuestra reunión anual elegiremos a nuestro primer miembro de la misa de la 1pm. Esperamos que esta persona nos represente en nuestra en esta esfera de decisión de la parroquia.

Estamos invitados a tomar mas responsabilidades en los diferentes ministerios de la Parroquia y de no limitarnos únicamente a los que se ofrecen a la 1pm. Agradecemos a Julio Reyes quien nos ha ayudado a organizar los lectores de cada domingo y a Francisco y Belén Barrera y Isabel Morales por ser los ujieres. Quiero agradecer a Beremundo y Yolanda Damían y toda su familia por su ayuda constante.

Dimensión Espiritual

En este primer año de ser miembros de la parroquia hemos podido tener no únicamente la celebración de la misa dominical sino durante otros momentos litúrgicos importantes como la navidad, semana santa y momentos especiales como la celebración de la Virgen de Guadalupe en la que pudimos reunir mas de 300 personas, las posadas y otros tradiciones especiales. Ahora contamos con la presencia permanente de la imagen de la Virgen de Guadalupe en la parroquia.

Quiero resaltar el papel que ha jugado últimamente Judy Jackson en ayudarnos a preparar a los niños/niñas y jóvenes para el servicio del altar como acólitos. Para ellos y ellas un agradecimiento muy grande por continuar con su compromiso bautismal.

Hemos también celebrado los sacramentos del bautismo, comunión y confirmación de mas de 50 niños/niñas y jóvenes de la Parroquia. Se han celebrado también con un profundo respeto de la persona y las tradiciones de cada una de ellas. Hemos brindado el estudio bíblico durante la semana y hemos podido ofrecer el sacramento de la reconciliación de forma regular. Se han celebrado quinceañeras en la parroquia y en las casas de las personas que lo han pedido.

Con esto hemos alcanzado como gran logro la celebración de las fiesta de la navidad por dos años consecutivos y que ahora cuenta con una misa bilingüe la víspera de navidad; celebramos juntos la primera eucaristía bilingüe durante la vigilia pascual en la que bautizamos a Elida Evangelista, nuestra primer bautismo hispano en la parroquia; pudimos organizar nuestros grupos de catequesis para primera comunión y confirmación con la colaboración la Sra. Juanita Jiménez y Azucena Olivia. Ahora contamos con la presencia de Kim Reed y de Karen Duren quienes tienen los grupos de Confirmación y de Primera Comunión respectivamente. Muy pronto Rosio Barrera se unirá a este grupo para ayudar con un nuevo grupo para Primera Comunión. Queremos continuar con la formación de adultos, sobre todo de los padres de los jóvenes que se encuentran preparando para la confirmación. Esta ha sido y continuara siendo un espacio para aprender mas sobre la Iglesia Episcopal.

Hemos contado con un espacio para un grupo de oración y estudio bíblico todos los miércoles. Esperamos recibir a mas personas interesadas. Le agradecemos mucho a la Alejandra Montes por su perseverancia y compromiso a este momento semanal.

Muchas personas nos han confiado sus intenciones especiales. Las seguimos recibiendo. Damos gracias también por el domingo dedicado a orar por sanación. Este nos ha ayudado a ser mas concientes de lo que tenemos.

Dimensión Pastoral

Hemos sido testigos de momentos de vida y de muerte en nuestra parroquia. Nos hemos alegrado con muchas de las familias que han tenido bebés. Han sido un total de 6 nuevos bebés a quienes muy pronto recibiremos en el sacramento del bautismo. También hemos tenido parroquianos quienes han perdido a familiares cercanos pero lejanos físicamente. Hemos orado con estas familias y les hemos brindado mucho cuidado pastoral. Este es un llamado para que demos a conocer nuestras alegrías y tristezas de esa forma serán presentadas en el altar.

He tenido la oportunidad de visitar algunas de las parroquianos en sus casas. Ha sido una bendición muy grande el ser recibido en sus hogares. También hemos visitado a algunos de nuestros parroquianos en el hospital. Hágannos saber de sus necesidades para acompañarlos.

Pudimos ayudar a algunas familias en los tiempos importantes de navidad. Le damos gracias a Juanita Jiménez por ayudar a organizar un grupo de señoras que hicieron realidad los sueños de algunas familias en necesidad de la parroquia.

Hemos estado en contacto con agencias, instituciones y programas de nuestra área con el fin de ser puente para los servicios que ellos ofrecen y hacerlos conocer a nuestra comunidad. Estas son grupos como Solidaridad Inmigrante

DuPage, DuPage United, Glen Ellyn Food Pantry, The Walk-in Ministry. Estas agencias han ayudado mucho a personas de nuestra parroquia que han mostrado alguna necesidad.

Queremos seguir apoyando a nuestra parroquia hermana que se encuentra en Nigromante, Veracruz. Le hemos apoyado al ser parte de grupos y eventos que van para su beneficio.

Estamos también orando por nuestros parroquianos que se encuentran prestando un servicio a este país en las fuerzas armadas.

Los jóvenes que se encuentran preparando para la Confirmación mandaron unas tarjetas a la Diócesis de Connecticut en donde sucedió la masacre de los niños/niñas de la escuela primaria.

Todo este trabajo realizado a lo largo de este año ha sido posible gracias al compromiso de muchas personas que han sacrificado su tiempo y familias para ayudarnos a darle forma a esta nueva experiencia en la parroquia de San Marcos. Muchas otras personas se encuentran orando por nosotros.

Le quiero dar gracias al P. George Smith, nuestro párroco, por apoyar este momento tan hermoso que vivimos y por confiar en nosotros. También le queremos dar las gracias a los miembros del Consejo Parroquial, quienes han participado de una u otra forma en lo que estamos celebrando hoy.

Queremos darle también la bienvenida a nuestro diacono Miguel Briones. El estará colaborando directamente en nuestros servicios y diferentes momentos de formación. Sintamos el llamado al servicio y a la proclamación del Evangelio, así como nuestro diacono se ha consagrada para hacerlo.

Especialmente le quiero dar gracias a Dios por el regalo de mi esposa Lucia y de mi hijo David. Ellos han sido un pilar de fortaleza, paciencia y oración para mi en este ministerio.

Que Dios nos siga regalando el deseo de salir de nuestra zonas de tranquilidad y nos ayude a ver que hay muchas otras Epifanías que presenciar. El mismo nos dará a entender el momento en que estaremos listos para recibirlas.

Con mucho aprecio me despido sabiendo que el Señor nos da la fortaleza para continuar con esta obra buena que ha iniciado en San Marcos.

P. Víctor Conrado

Children and Youth Formation

1. 6th Grade

- Responsibility for the 6th grade moved this year from Children's Ministry to Youth Ministry.
- Sunday school teachers: Paul Sexauer, Leo Lanzillo, Rev. Dr. Robin Currie. Sunday school meets in Room 103 (old senior high room).
- Curriculum developed by Robin Currie, with focus on the Bible – navigating scripture, major figures and stories.
- Opportunities for service include volunteering for dinner shifts at First Congregational PADS site; assistance with St. Nicholas Day brunch, Christmas pageant, Easter Egg hunt, other St. Mark's activities; working at food pantry at Peoples' Resource Center.
- Opportunities for fellowship include monthly OneChurch middle school youth events (rotates between St. Luke's Lutheran, Grace Lutheran and St. Mark's), Holiday Progressive Dinner and other scheduled events.
- Participate with the group Sunday school (approximately quarterly – those weekends when low Sunday school attendance is expected).
- The St. Mark's database shows 12 students in grade 6; 50% participate in a worship-related ministry (acolyte, instrumentalist, reader, choir, etc.)

2. 7/8th grade

- Sunday school teachers: Kim Reed and Cindy Flynn.
- Curriculum is based on the J2A (Journey to Adulthood) model and focuses on baptismal covenant in preparation for Confirmation.
- Youth are paired with adult mentors who meet periodically with their confirmand, and join in activities scheduled throughout the program year specifically for confirmands, parents and mentors (October meeting with the bishop, luncheon presentations, preparation for confirmand recognition Sunday).
- Opportunities for service include volunteering for dinner shifts at First Congregational PADS site; assistance with St. Nicholas Day brunch, Christmas pageant, Easter Egg hunt, other St. Mark's activities; working at food pantry at Peoples' Resource Center; packing lunches for PADS (3rd Sunday of the month).
- PADS lunches are coordinated by Leslie Delany and Graham Smith.
- Opportunities for fellowship include monthly OneChurch middle school youth events (rotates between St. Luke's Lutheran, Grace Lutheran and St. Mark's), Holiday Progressive Dinner and other scheduled events.
- Participate with the group Sunday school (approximately quarterly – those weekends when low Sunday school attendance is expected).
- The St. Mark's database shows 16 students in grades 7 and 8; 75% participate in a worship-related ministry (acolyte, instrumentalist, reader, choir, usher, sub-deacon/chalicer, etc.)

3. Senior High Youth

- Sunday morning group discussion leaders: Rachel and Chad Alcorn, Kelly and Seth Allison, Mitch Steed, Virginia Vagt and Steve Webster.
- No set curriculum – group discussion leaders choose and present a topic of particular interest, that fits with their passions and expertise (past topics include science and faith, knowing yourself, current events and the bible).
- Wednesday night mid-week group (new this year) meets every Wednesday night from 7:30-9pm. Group leaders are: Darian Gier, Martha Sexauer, Jess Tschampa, and Myles VanCamp. The group began in September, and includes a core of about 8 youth, with average weekly attendance of 4-5 youth. The mid-week group is a blend of discussion/reflection and fellowship.
- Opportunities for service include volunteering for dinner shifts at First Congregational PADS site;

assistance with St. Nicholas Day brunch, Christmas pageant, Easter Egg hunt, other St. Mark's activities; working at food pantry at Peoples' Resource Center.

- Opportunities for fellowship include Wednesday night group, Holiday Progressive Dinner and other scheduled events.
- Senior high youth are eligible to attend the annual Southeast Mexico mission trip in June. A work/mission trip to eastern Kentucky through the Appalachia Service Project group is being planned for July 2013, to offer a more local/regional mission trip alternative.
- The St. Mark's database shows 45 students in senior high; 55% participate in a worship-related ministry (acolyte, instrumentalist, reader, choir, usher, sub-deacon/chalicer, etc.)

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Elizabeth Molitors

Children's Ministry

Christian Education

St. Mark's offers several faith formation opportunities for children, nursery age through elementary school. These are made possible because of the large number of volunteers who commit their time and talents to be with the children. Children's programs include Sunday school, Children's Worship, Nursery Care, Vacation Bible School and a mix of other family events. Highlights from each area are as follows:

Nursery

The Nursery is staffed by supervisor Norma Cid who has been with us for 15 years. The remainder of the schedule is a rotating staff of adult and teen volunteers who keep our nursery running smoothly during the 8:00, 9:15 and 10:30 am services. This past year Norma and her daughter Jocelyn stayed on until 2:30 pm on Sunday afternoons to offer childcare during and after the 1:00 pm Spanish Language service. We average 7-8 children in the nursery each Sunday. Additionally, the nursery was staffed on Thursday mornings by Carrie Pihl, Nicole Krueger and Carrie Gowans for "Move into Winter" exercise programs.

Sunday School

The Sunday school classes are offered for children age 3 through fifth grade. Responsibility for 6th grade was moved from Children's Ministry to Youth Ministry since 6th grade is middle school, it seemed natural to include them with other middle schoolers. We are using year two of our online accessible curriculum called "Weaving God's Promises" that was developed and written exclusively for the Episcopal Church. It can be tailored to each class based on age and covers topics on the Holy Scripture, the church and basic Christian principles. The fall program year kicked off on September 9 with the Sunday School hour at 10:15 – 11:15 am. We continue to have new families join St. Mark's and our attendance is increasing. We average 7-9 children per grade each Sunday. The preschool 4's class met in the Children's Worship room for the fall to accommodate the St. Mark's Preschool Art/Storage room and recently moved into room 114 adjacent to Preschool 3's to allow combining for stories, music, and a safer and more convenient bathroom situation.

Outreach

Children donate food each week (by Sunday school class) to the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry. We are doing this on a monthly basis during the school year by class to keep it simple and reminders are sent bi-weekly.

Children's Worship

We continue to offer Children's Worship (Godly Play) on Sunday mornings during the 9:15 a.m. service for our youngest member, ages 4 years – 1st grade. I hired an instructor to come in last August and give us a refresher course on Godly Play, and it was also a mini-retreat for teachers. We worked on streamlining our processes and strengthening our storytelling skills. We average 4 children per Sunday during the school year (higher in the summer months). Many thanks to Melody Mordini who organizes and assembles the story baskets and figures each week.

Sunday school classes and teachers are as follows:

- Preschool age 3 - Heidi Bridenstine , Lucia Conrado, Ann-Marie Cudzillo, Kathryn Hackman
- Preschool age 4 - Bryn Wulf , Merrilee Hall, Cathryn Wilkinson
- Kindergarten - Patty Weaver, Scott Bednas, David Greengas , Sue Mylander
- First grade – Beth & Todd Treleven, Karen Hill, Beth Figler
- Second grade - Kathleen Leid, Rich Janney
- Third grade - Kelly & Steve Gross, Kristin Margaglione, Kristeen Peiffer
- Fourth grade - George & Deidre Churchill
- Fifth grade - Jennifer Grant, Danna Gross, Gil & Bob Long, Martha Pfefferman

Vacation Bible School

“Adventures on Promise Island” was the VBS theme this year. Caroline McAlpine kicked off early registration in early April with a decorating and craft party in Mahon Hall. We set up stations and got a jump on making all the props and decorations needed for VBS. The actual VBS morning camp was held July 23-27. We were filled to capacity this year with 65 children ages 4 through 5th grade. We offered something new and held a special session called “VBS Week PDO” for 2 & 3 year old siblings of children going to VBS. This was a great success as it offered more flexibility to parents with children of multiple ages. We catered classes to age groups and had an outstanding group of adult leaders: Caroline McAlpine, Sarah Adler, Rachel Alcorn, Patty Weaver, Bryn Wulf, Kristin Margaglione, Kelly Gross and Holly Hampson. Thank you to all the other 30+ volunteers who guided children and taught classes.

Other Educational Opportunities & Family Events at St. Mark's

- **Summer Music & Drama Camp** – St. Mark's hosted 15 children and youth (ages 3rd through 8th grade) to a new week-long morning camp held in Mahon Hall in mid-August. Parishioner and performer John Campen instructed the class through a games, vocal and theatrical activities designed to introduce them to their creative side and to each other. It was a great week and we plan to hold this camp again this summer.
- **Trick or Treat for UNICEF**– An annual outreach activity, children & their families are encouraged to take home boxes and trick or treat for UNICEF who supplies food and medicine to children in need around the world. The Sunday School classes participated in our 2nd annual pumpkin decorating contest during coffee hour in October. In total we raised \$324 for UNICEF.
- **Advent Wreath Making** – Offered on the first Sunday of Advent as a “do it yourself” activity in Mahon Hall. A Special Thank You goes to Dick Mylander who transformed a piece of an old church pew into several advent wreath bases.
- **Christmas Pageant** – Presented on December 23 during the 10:30 service, over 70 children were involved in the production of “Good News of Great Joy” who performed for a full house. It was directed by Judy Jackson and a wonderful core team of volunteers: Karen Doran, Marsha Webster, Marilyn Justus, Kristen Margaglione, Karen Hill, Susan Shorney, Ilona Helin, Ian Grant-Funck, Lina Benich, Christine Castelli and Sarah & Will Delany (our sheep dogs). Many others stepped in and out to help make the pageant a success.
- **St. Nicholas Luncheon** - This annual luncheon was held on December 5, and Mahon Hall was full again this year. Participants raised \$350 in cash and toys for the Peoples Resource Center. Kathy Kelly & Joanie Somerville arranged a lovely warm meal, while David Fletcher (our very own St. Nicholas) brought great stories and treats to the children. Marsha Webster, Henry, Will and Charlie Figler, and Marilyn Justice entertained the crowd by playing the piano and offering live music to the luncheon. It's a wonderful tradition.
- **St. Mark's Preschool and Parents Day Out** – I serve on the board of both the St. Mark's Preschool the PDO program and am in regular communications with both groups to keep synergy between the groups view broader children's activities as a whole.
 - Thank you to the Parent's Day Out (PDO) Program for funding replacement of the flooring and several windows in the undercroft.
 - Thank you to PDO and St. Mark's Preschool for funding the overhaul of the playground. This summer we contracted a landscaper to regrade the playground so it is a flatter, safer surface, build a retaining wall and install new mulch. They dug out the sandbox and put in a series of drains to keep it sandy, not muddy, and installed stone steps so the entrance is safer and easier navigate. We replaced the broken benches with large seating stones for the teachers to sit upon, which require no maintenance and will last a lifetime. All elements are more natural and in keeping with the aesthetics of the church. This project benefits all children who come to St. Mark's.

Jill Bednas

Adult Formation

Last spring, the Adult Forum Committee asked Virginia Vagt to prepare a survey regarding Adult Education. We want to thank Virginia for the great job she did! We also want to thank all of you who responded! We learned a great deal about what you value. We have tried to implement your ideas and suggestions.

As a result, we have more sessions dedicated to panels and discussion, more sessions focusing on social justice, and more sessions utilizing the parishioners of St. Mark's. We are pleased to note that attendance has been strong most Sundays and that the audience has expanded. This semester, we are continuing to use your suggestions in order to provide sessions that engage us in new ways and provoke rich discussions.

Bruce Benson
February 2013
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Music

First Sunday monthly Evensongs resumed in February, leading us eventually to the solemnities of Ash Wednesday, then through the path of Lent, and finally into our celebration of Easter with another wonderful brass ensemble. In March we hosted a concert by the Vivaldi Strings, and toward the end of May we hosted a recital presentation offered by Amelia and Mary Caroline Benich.

Once the full schedule resumed in September we prepared for our annual choir retreat, but an unusual confluence of schedule conflicts prevented a large number of choir members from attending, so the retreat was canceled. However, the month of September ended on a most memorable note for me with a celebration of my 25th anniversary at St. Mark's. A fabulous recital was presented on Saturday night with many fine musicians involved in the program, including a surprise visit from Bruce Neswick of Indiana University and the Madrigal Singers from Glenbard East, followed by a beautiful reception. On Sunday morning there were guest musicians at the services, including several former choir members, and I was given the privilege of offering the sermon. Following the service there was another delightful reception and moving presentations in Mahon Hall. Special thanks to Jane Zaccaria and the people who worked with her and made this event so impressive and successful. I was completely overwhelmed by the scope and quality of the festivities, and deeply moved by the generosity and good wishes of so many people in this parish. Is it any wonder why I've stayed this long?

Monthly Evensongs continued in October, including a special choral observance for All Saints's Day. The Adult Choir also sang for the Spanish service on the Sunday when Bishop Benito made a visitation, and were joined by some of Spanish service choir members.

So many people in the parish have given freely of their time as musicians to play for various services and occasions, and the well of talent from which we are able to draw is deep indeed. I am most grateful for their wonderful contributions.

During the month of October I developed a problem with my left foot. My podiatrist decided to put me in a full contact cast and boot in order to heal that problem, which it did. During that time, though, I developed some additional problems as a result, I believe, of the cast. Because of this I missed, for the first time, the Holiday Concert at the high school and decided to stay home beginning December 13, also having to miss the Lessons & Carols service. These problems covered the majority of my foot, including my podiatrist's recommendation to remove part of one of my toes. For this I went to CDH on December 20. In seeking a second opinion it was decided the toe would recover, but the rest of the foot was in serious shape. On December 27 I went to Wynscape rehabilitation for IV antibiotics and a chance to stay off the foot as much as possible. My doctor is a wound care specialist and also a personal friend. She has done a remarkable job for me, going far above and beyond what anyone has the right to expect. The healing is working, and I'm very lucky, but the process is slow and simply must be endured.

Endurance. That brings me to my next topic.

There are few people in my life for whom I am more grateful than Marsha Webster. She was thrown into the deepest end of the pool, thrusting into her care the Lessons & Carols service, Christmas Eve, the vast majority of services, all the rehearsals, and she has yet to even bat an eye. She has been nothing but helpful, agreeable, pleasant, even cheerful – qualities which have been known to elude me – and I am continually reminded to thank God for her work in this parish. In addition, Cathryn Wilkinson has stepped into the fray and been gracious enough to help out with the service playing on Sunday mornings as well as the Evensongs, for which I am very thankful. Besides all that, all of the clergy and the members of the Adult Choir have been so very supportive, patient, and cooperative. Again, who wouldn't want to work here?

Getting back to work is what I'm looking forward to immensely. Please let me thank the entire parish for your prayers and support during this past year, and may God grant us much success on his behalf and in his name in the next.

Charles Snider

Music Programs – 9:15am Choir, 1:00pm Service

Choir for the 9:15 service

After attending "Everybody Sings!" 2012 Cranbrook Consultation on Liturgy and Music I determined the time was right to develop a choir whose work would be geared for the 9:15 service. In October we began a schedule of once a month rehearsals. A loyal group of 9 singers comprises this choir. We meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. to rehearse and share a light meal together. We sing at 9:15 on the third Sunday of the month. Childcare is always provided. I hope to develop this group further in 2013. We especially need men to join our lone bass, Ted Figler!

In addition to the 9:15 choir, I worked with a number of youth and adult musicians from the congregation, who provided a special solo or ensemble piece of music for worship throughout the year.

Música por Santa Misa Parroquia de San Marcos

It is a privilege to be able to play the piano and work with our Spanish congregation on Sunday afternoons. Padre Victor selects our weekly hymns, which often remain the same week after week, and I lead the singing during worship. We continue to try to develop a choir, and many of the congregants – children, youth and adults- assist in worship by playing the drum, tambourine and maracas. In the fall, the St. Mark's adult choir assisted with worship on the Sunday in which Bishop Benito was present. John Campen and I also led a Sunday School class focused on singing for the youth in the confirmation class.

Music Programs for Children and Youth

Cherub Choir – Preschool 3s and 4s Sunday School Classes

"Come and join the circle, come and take my hand, come and join the circle, come and be my friend. Gather round and see what the world can be, come and join the circle, come and share God's word with me." Words and Music: Bernadette Farrell ©1999 OCP all rights reserved; reprinted with permission. Licensing #621144

This is just one of many songs the preschool children have learned through weekly singing during Sunday School. The children are learning to use their voices and bodies to sing, count rhythms and praise God through song! The Cherubs sang at Christmas and on Mother's Day.

Chorister Choir – Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

The Chorister program continues to attract enthusiastic young singers. In September a record number 16 children joined Choristers. They come for the love of singing, of being together, and to earn tickets, which they redeem for prizes after singing in worship! We sing mostly simple and repetitive Bible songs, and our rehearsals also allow time for some liturgical and elementary music study. We participate in worship monthly.

Music for Youth, 3rd grade – Senior High

This year it has been most effective to recruit youth singers for short rehearsals following Sunday School. We rehearse for a few weeks, then sing on an agreed upon Sunday, usually at 9:15. In the winter and spring, 2012, several senior high girls sang as an ensemble regularly. This past fall, a younger group of youth (3rd – 7th grade) rehearsed and prepared a song, which was sung during the Christmas pageant and on Christmas Eve.

Marsha Webster

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Usher Ministry

The ushers do the visually obvious tasks at the worship services, such as handing out the bulletins, collecting the offering, and releasing the congregation for communion. They also offer assistance to anyone who might need it, directions or assistance with finding classrooms or restrooms, or help with seating at heavily attended services. Another important aspect of being an usher is greeting people as they enter church. This is often the first impression of St. Mark's for newcomers.

Confirmands, families with children, singles, and couples have participated in this ministry. We are happy to have their help and welcome any one who would like to join this important ministry.

Paula Zwiebel

Lay Readers

Lay Readers (also called Lectors) read lessons and prayers at all regularly scheduled Sunday services and also at special mid-week services like Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Thanksgiving, etc. Readers are committed to conveying to the congregation the wonderful words of the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer as meaningfully as possible. Readers attend meetings with the clergy and others to learn how to do this and how to fit smoothly into the services they are part of. There is always something new to learn for even the most experienced readers.

At this time we are blessed with a large number of readers, with more joining our ranks all the time. Young people are welcome, as are older and in-betweens! Contact a member of the clergy or Rinda Allison if you would like more information. Please let the readers know how much you appreciate their hard work.

Rinda Allison

Daughters of the King

St. Anne's Chapter

St. Anne's chapter was chartered in August of 1931, and has served St. Mark's continuously for 80 years. Daughters of the King is an international order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the Historic Episcopate. Members are committed to prayer, service and evangelism.

At St. Mark's we meet in the church library on the third Monday of every month except July and December. You will most easily recognize us by the distinctive silver cross we wear. Daughters serve St. Mark's by acting as the altar guild, by preparing receptions following funerals, decorating the church for Christmas and Easter and by acting as liaisons for weddings. In addition, many Daughters serve individually. They bring flowers to parishioners, they work in the nursery, they bring communion to the homebound, they volunteer in the office, they wash dishes in the kitchen, they teach Sunday School, they serve on the vestry, they take responsibility for Buildings and Grounds, they even serve as wardens at the request of the rector.

Despite all of this activity, Daughters of the King are not called to do, but to be. We desire to align our lives more closely to God's will, and in order to more effectively achieve this goal we meet, pray and study together as a group.

Are you a woman who feels that your spiritual life is in disarray or is in need of direction? Would meeting, praying and studying with others who feel the same way help you in your spiritual journey? All women of the parish are welcome to attend our monthly meetings. For more information contact Kris Baier, Chapter President, or talk to any woman wearing the cross.

Kris Baier



Wedding Ministry

The Wedding Ministry at St. Mark's is designed to provide assistance to the officiating clergy and the bridal party during what can often be a very busy and detail-laden time. During the months and weeks before the wedding, we are available to the bridal party to answer questions, provide suggestions and support them in any way possible. On the day of the rehearsal and actual day of the ceremony, we provide a welcome to St. Mark's for any visiting clergy, the bridal couple, family and guests. We also provide an experienced guide through the whole process. Many mothers of the brides and visiting clergy have written to us after the wedding to tell us how invaluable was our help and presence. 2012 was a very busy year for us. We had eight weddings celebrated at St. Mark's, including our first Spanish Language wedding officiated by Victor. Additionally, George officiated at one off site wedding at Prairie Landing.

2013 looks to be another busy year as we already have four weddings scheduled. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please give me a call. I promise you a fun and rewarding experience.

Kris Baier

Worship Commission Report

The purpose of the Worship Commission is to assist in reviewing, monitoring, and evaluating the various aspects of worship at St. Mark's in order to honor God, to promote spiritual and physical growth of the parish, and to meet the needs of the community. The management of the four-service Sunday schedule is ongoing, meeting challenges as they arise. Adjustments from the various areas (listed below) are constantly being made and, to the credit of all involved, all running smoothly. Whatever the need, all involved have been willing to do whatever is necessary with enthusiasm.

September 2012 marked the second anniversary of the three-service schedule and the addition of a fourth service, a Spanish language service under the direction of Victor Conrado. The Worship Commission meets quarterly. 2012 meetings were held in January, April, August, and November.

A few quarterly meetings in 2012 included reading and discussion of Ian Markham's Liturgical Life Principles. May Anstee gave us an excellent outline-with-notes of the book to guide our discussion with the idea of utilizing the salient points to share with the congregations to enhance their worship experience.

The following people are responsible for securing volunteers in the various areas which constitute the Worship Commission — acolytes, bulletin production, chalice bearers, chapel intercessors, clergy, Daughters of the King, liturgist, music, subdeacons, and ushers:

Fiona Miller/Fiona White	Acolytes, Subdeacons, Chalice Bearers
Kris Baier	Daughters of the King
Charles Snider and Marsha Webster	Music
Rinda Allison	Readers
Paula Zwiebel	Ushers
David Fletcher	Liturgist
Ginnie Judd and Dellana Mote	Bulletin

Jerry Carey

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care Commission seeks to provide support to parishioners who would be comforted by caring church members reaching out to them. We bring altar flowers weekly to people who may be in need of “cheering up” or are celebrating an event in their lives. For those unable to attend church we offer in-home Eucharist. We provide rides to parishioners otherwise unable to attend our services. Our young people from middle school have made lovely cards that are sent along to shut-ins on appropriate holidays.

Our Prayer Ministry has eight active members who pray for those on our St. Mark’s prayer list. These are people who may need comfort at difficult times in their lives. The prayer group meets monthly before the noon Eucharist to make sure the prayer list is updated and no one is overlooked.

The Food Ministry has provided 63 meals in 2012 to meet the needs of those with new babies, those recovering from any illness or surgery, or those enduring a tragic loss or going through a move to a new home. There are 23 active cooks now but more volunteers would be welcomed! Please contact Lisa Baker if you would like to volunteer to make a meal or if in need of a meal.

An important part of Pastoral Care is our Stephen Ministry. We have five active Stephen Ministers now and four who are beginning training. These ministers are paired with a parishioner who needs some help/support during a difficult time in their lives.

An added plus this year is Elizabeth Molitors who provides a monthly Eucharist to those Episcopalians at Beacon Hill, a nearby retirement community. These people are unable to attend church and are very grateful to have an Episcopalian clergy person presiding at a monthly Eucharist.

Pastoral Care gives financial support to local agencies such as Glen Ellyn Youth and Family Counseling Service, Central DuPage Pastoral Counseling Center and NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness).

If any of these ministries appeal to you please contact Dianne Dinse.

Dianne Dinse

Church Tellers

I want to thank each of the Church Tellers, who counted the weekly offerings, every week last year. Your accuracy was appreciated, not only by me, but also by Dick Anstee and Bill Novak in the Treasurer’s Office.

A special thank you to: Sandy Allison, May Anstee, Doug Armantrout, Bob Cardwell, Barbara Colombo, Karen Evans, Bob Judd, Gretchen Kenower, and Barbara Stephani who were responsible for the weekly counting.

Dave McCarraher

Fundraising

Late Night Catechism

Late Night Catechism is an interactive one woman show run by Nuns for Fun. Our committee members were Lynn Wollstadt, David and Joyce Fletcher, Martha Sexauer, Marylou Olsen and Lisa Baker.

Approximately 160 tickets sold between \$50 and \$30, primarily to church members, friends and family. We had help from outside of the church for the night of the event (family members). Youth group helped with ushering and concession.

Concession sales included wine, beer, soda, water and cheese plates. There were cake pops for sale that incorporated a chance to win a door prize. We also conducted a split the pot raffle that net approximately \$300.

The net for the event was about \$4,700. With a bigger marketing effort a similar type of event could be repeated in two years and have an increase in sales.

PumpkinFest

This year's PumpkinFest was a collaborative effort between the OneChurch Project churches, sponsoring the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center. Given the multiple church formats we decided to make this a charity event rather a fundraising effort for the five Glen Ellyn churches that make up OneChurch.

We changed the format of the event from last year allowing festival attendees free admission to the festival to drive more attendance. We provided kids games, ethnic food prepared by our Spanish-speaking congregation, food and beverages from Tap House, wine, beer and music.

At the peak of the festival Father George made a comment that I believe defined the reason we held the festival: "It was a small glimpse into the Lord's kingdom."

The Pumpkin Patch also benefited from PumpkinFest. We had our biggest selling day of Pumpkins with over \$3,000 raised throughout the course of the day.

Although we were not successful in exceeding our costs with this year's format we are going to give PumpkinFest one more shot in 2013 and take a much more focused look on the right mix of raising money and expenses.

Scott Taback

St. Mark's Outreach Committee

In 2012 there continued to be a wide range of Outreach activities led successfully by passionate individuals within the St Mark's congregation. In addition, the Outreach Committee provided support to the following causes:

- Walk-In Ministry \$1,800
- Support of the mission to SE Mexico \$1,500
- Holy Family School children's music program \$1,000

The summary below provides a snapshot of overall outreach activity of St. Mark's.

2012 Summary

Event	Date	Key Sponsors	Beneficiary	Notes	Amount Raised	
					2011	2012
UTO Blue Boxes	Lent	Elizabeth Lewis	UTO		\$923	\$1,080
Operation Bear Hug	Palm Sunday	Stephen Baker	Bishop Anderson House	New Project		\$150 plus Teddy Bears and stuffed animals
Blues Night	January	David and Patsy Kinney	Walk-In Ministry in 2012		\$4,300	\$4,100
Cake Auction	January	Kim Reed	SE Mexico Trip		\$1,500	\$2,000
Talent Night	March	Cindy Flynn	Pre-School Scholarship Fund			\$1775
Mother's Day Rose Sale	May	Andrew Dorn Evelyn Cabrera	SE Mexico Trip		\$736	\$853
Cinco de Mayo Dinner	April	Kim Reed	SE Mexico Trip		\$4,000	\$4,400
SE Mexico Projects/Support Scholarship	Fall	Outreach Gift	SE Mexico Trip		\$2,275	\$1,500
Crop Walk	Spring	Don Sutherland, Cindy Flynn	Church World Service		\$1,800	
PADS Shelter	Summer	Brian and Cindy Stepien, Don Sutherland, Dan Kelly	PADS	Dollars estimated on 3 meals (\$20 total) x 60	\$5,000	\$5,000 Strong participation
St. Michael's and All Angels	Summer	George Smith	Furnace and alarm projects	Rector's discretionary fund		\$150
Pumpkin Patch	October	Phil Adler			\$19,495 (\$6,317 to PADS)	\$19,216 (\$6,497 to PADS)
Pumpkin Fest	October	Scott Taback		One Church Event in 2012		
Holy Family School	October	Cindy Flynn, Don Sutherland	Children's Musical Instruments	Outreach Committee Funding)		\$1,000
Sleep Out Sat.	November	Elizabeth Molitors	Bridge Communities		Individual pledges	Individual pledges
Unicef	November	Jill Bednas	Unicef Trick or Treat & Party		\$305	\$240

Event	Date	Key Sponsors	Beneficiary	Notes	Amount Raised	
					2011	2012
Welcome and Warming Center	Winter	Ben Maxson	United Methodist Church Warming Center for the Homeless		Volunteers	Volunteers
Children's Book Drive	Nov-Dec	Ani Solis	PRC Children's Book Drive			Books
Bake Sale	December	Jen Grant	Pre-School Scholarship Fund			\$300
Christmas Baskets	December	Ginnie Judd	Cathedral Shelter	For 2012, approx. \$165 avg per family 73 families adopted	\$10,500 (70 families adopted)	\$12,045 (73 families adopted)
St Nick's Brunch	December	Jill Bednas	PRC		\$750 cash, gift cards toys	\$350 cash, toys
Andrew White	December	David Fletcher	FRRME		\$795	\$448
Glen Ellyn Food Pantry	Sep-May	Tricia Benich Sherry Rossi	GE Food Pantry	Sunday School classes rotate weekly donations	Well supported with food	Well supported with food
PADS Lunches	Oct-May	Leslie Delaney, Graham Smith, Elizabeth Molitors	PADS – First Cong Site	\$100 per month in donations X 8 months	\$800 Well supported with food donations	Well supported with food donations and volunteers
Annual Support	All Year	St Mark's	Chicago Diocese		\$50,804	\$51,454
GE Walk-In Ministry	All Year	Bob Bernero	GE Walk-In Ministry		\$2,951	\$2,500 (Outreach gift)

Going forward, the Outreach Committee has recast its charter to focus on expanding outreach opportunities among our congregation. The revised charter is as follows:

Mission Statement

The Outreach Committee is a planning and coordinating body that supports the St. Mark's commitment to reach people in need in our local, regional and global communities. By educating our parish, promoting our partner agencies, supporting parish initiated projects and fund-raisers, we are able to help improve the lives of individuals in crisis and transition. In keeping with the St. Mark's Vision Statement, we believe service transforms us as well as those we serve, so we work to promote an active parish culture of volunteerism.

2013 Strategies

- 1) Plan – Budget Allocation
 - a) Maximize impact of the 2013 Outreach budget by focusing on a selected group of ongoing and, potentially, new initiatives that support the overall outreach goals of St. Mark’s.
 - b) Specifically, provide continued support in 2013 for the Walk-In Ministry and the mission to SE Mexico while retaining some level of contingency funding for TBD initiatives.
- 2) Support – Provide marketing services to those running current Outreach programs in the form of counsel and communication support for recruitment, promotion and education efforts.
 - a) Create a communication “kit”, encompassing all available internal/external “touch points” that could be utilized to support any/all Outreach initiatives.
 - b) Make increased use of the Web site to recruit volunteers, and generally promote Outreach efforts.
 - c) Coordinate efforts with those organizing the annual Mission Fair.
- 3) Encourage – Solicit broader congregational involvement in Outreach
 - a) Create channels for individual parish members to express their interest/passion for specific current and/or prospective Outreach causes.
 - b) Provide “mentoring” services for those individuals who express interest in leading new outreach initiatives.
 - c) Connect potential parish volunteers with Episcopal Charities agencies that have volunteer opportunities.

St. Mark’s 2012 Mission Trip to Mexico: Branching out into the World

“When we arrived at the church and came out of the van, everyone was saying hello and all the little kids were so excited to see new and old faces. All of the kids were saying hi to me and giving me hugs without even knowing me...Every day I think about the kids and the church and am counting off the days till next year’s trip. I’m so glad that I was able to go on the trip, and anyone interested in going should most definitely go.” Vanessa C. (St. Mark’s High Schooler from the 2012 Trip)

Where did we go: To our companion parish, San Marcos, in Nigromante, a rural community of approximately 5,000 people located in the state of Veracruz near the border of the state of Oaxaca

When did we go: June 17 to 22, 2012 (our 7th visit)

Who Went: Eleven Parishioners--George Smith, Elizabeth Molitors, Victor Conrado, Horacio Chavez, Yesenia Barrera, Frances Smith, Vanessa Cabrera, Molly Toliver, Ben Vanderlei, Olivia Vanderlei, and Kim Reed.

Background:

- St. Mark’s has sent a group to Nigromante every year since 2006.
- We visit the same community each year.
- The primary focus is on our Companion Parish Relationship.
- But we also provide important Monetary Support – We raise and send up to \$6,000 annually, money that goes toward:
 - Scholarships (\$2,500): to help students from San Marcos, 3rd grade and up, pay for their school supplies and tuition. The goal is to keep them in school.
 - Priest’s salary (\$2,500): we pay half of Padre Senobio’s annual salary every year.

- Computer lab: this year we were able to purchase a long table, 8 chairs, a window air conditioner, and the wiring needed to transform that space into San Marcos's new computer lab. We arranged connections and purchased 3 months of internet service. We had the chance to see the computers up and in use before we left.
- Projects in the church and community, including VBS. We work together with the youth of San Marcos to put on VBS each visit.
- Provide and help with a Community Dinner in Nigromante every year.

Some of the Expectations for those who went on the trip:

- Paid approx. \$500 per person;
- Attended planning meetings;
- Participated in the planning and preparation and worked at fundraising events:
 - Cake Auction and Bake Sale at the Annual Meeting
 - Cinco de Mayo Dinner and Silent Auction
 - Mother's Day Rose Sale
- Donated at least one silent auction item or service for the Cinco de Mayo dinner;
- Remained open to and respectful of different culture, foods, and languages;
- Showed respect and appreciation for the hospitality of others.

In 2012, St. Mark's parishioners had opportunities to:

- Attend and participate in our three fundraisers: Cake Auction; Cinco de Mayo Dinner, and Mother's Day Rose Sale;
- Hear presentations and see a slide show about our visit at each of the services the Sunday following our trip;
- Attend the Taco Bar and Presentation in August for a free lunch and an opportunity to learn more about our companion relationship;
- Visit with Bishop Benito, his wife, and his son when they were at St. Mark's for a dinner for those interested in the Mexico Trip and then at the Spanish Language Service and convivio during their November trip to the Chicago Diocese for its annual convention;
- Read the Reflections written by every participant and printed in the August Postmark (<http://www.stmarksglenellyn.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/PostMark-Newsletter-Aug2012.pdf>).

Additionally, St. Mark's participated in regular meetings of the Global Ministry Commission Sub-Committee on the Diocese of Southeast Mexico.

Thank you to all who helped with the fundraisers, attended the events, donated food, goods, money, computers and supported this important ministry. It was so exciting and wonderful to have the addition, assistance, and participation of new parishioners from the Spanish Language Service! Also, thank you to the Outreach Committee for their allocation of a portion of the Squire Fund to the Mexico Mission Trip.

Plans are currently underway for the 2013 trip, our 8th!

Kim Reed

La misión de St. Mark's en México 2012: Conociendo otra parte del mundo

“Cuando llegamos a la iglesia y nos bajamos de la camioneta, todos nos saludaban y los niños se pusieron muy emocionados al ver tantas caras conocidas, y otras, nuevas. Todos los niños me saludaban y me abrazaban aunque ni siquiera me conocían de antes...Pienso en los niños y la iglesia todos los días, y estoy contando los días hasta el próximo viaje el año que viene. Estoy tan contenta de haber podido participar en la misión, y cualquiera que tenga interés en el viaje definitivamente debe participar.” Vanessa C. (jóven miembro de St. Mark's, participó en el viaje de 2012)

A dónde fuimos: A nuestra “iglesia hermana,” San Marcos de Nigromante, una comunidad rural de aproximadamente 5.000 habitantes, la cual está ubicada en el estado mexicano de Veracruz, muy cerca a la frontera con Oaxaca

Cuándo fuimos: Desde el 17 de junio 2012 al 22 de junio de 2012 (nuestra séptima visita)

Quiénes fueron: Once miembros de St. Mark's--George Smith, Elizabeth Molitors, Victor Conrado, Horacio Chavez, Yesenia Barrera, Frances Smith, Vanessa Cabrera, Molly Toliver, Ben Vanderlei, Olivia Vanderlei y Kim Reed.

Información general:

- Varios grupos de miembros de St. Mark's han viajado anualmente a Nigromante desde el 2006.
- Visitamos la misma comunidad cada año.
- Nos enfocamos en la relación que tenemos con nuestra “iglesia hermana.”
- Sin embargo, también brindamos importantes aportes económicos—recaudamos hasta \$6.000 anualmente, lo que va hacia:
 - Becas (\$2.500): para ayudar a los estudiantes de San Marcos, del 3er grado en adelante, a pagar los útiles y la matrícula. La idea es que no dejen de asistir a la escuela.
 - El salario del sacerdote (\$2.500): pagamos la mitad del salario anual del Padre Senobio todos los años.
 - Sala de computación: este año, proporcionamos una mesa larga, ocho sillas, un acondicionador de aire ventana y la instalación eléctrica para convertir el espacio en una nueva sala de computación. Arreglamos las conexiones y pagamos 3 meses de Internet. Tuvimos la oportunidad de ver las computadoras en marcha antes de irnos.
 - Proyectos pequeños tanto en la iglesia como en la comunidad, incluyendo una mini-escuela bíblica (Vacation Bible School, o VBS por sus siglas en inglés): cada año, coordinamos con los jóvenes de San Marcos para ofrecer una escuela bíblica para niños.
 - Todos los años, facilitamos (y ayudamos a servir) una cena comunitaria en Nigromante.

Algunas de las expectativas importantes para los que participaron en el viaje:

- Pagaron aproximadamente \$500/persona;
- Asistieron a las reuniones programadas;
- Participaron tanto en la planificación y preparación como en la realización de los siguientes eventos para recaudar fondos:
 - El remate de pasteles y feria de tortas durante la Reunión Anual de St. Mark's
 - La cena Cinco de Mayo y el “remate silencioso”
 - La venta de rosas para el Día de la Madre
- Contribuyeron al menos un artículo o servicio para ser incluido en el remate silencioso de la cena Cinco de Mayo;
- Procuraron estar siempre abiertos a y respetuosos de diferentes culturas, comidas e idiomas;
- Demostraron el agradecimiento y respeto debido por la hospitalidad y generosidad de sus anfitriones.

En el 2012, la comunidad de St. Mark's tuvo la oportunidad de:

- Asistir y participar en los tres eventos para recaudar fondos: el remate de pasteles; la cena de Cinco de Mayo, and la venta de rosas para el Día de la Madre;
- Escuchar una presentación y ver un pase de diapositivas sobre nuestra visita durante cada misa el domingo después del viaje;
- Asistir al "Taco Bar" y presentación en agosto para un almuerzo gratis y una oportunidad de aprender más de nuestra relación con San Marcos;
- Conocer al estimado Obispo Benito, a su esposa y su hijo cuando vinieron a St. Mark's para cenar con las personas que tenían interés en el viaje a Nigromante y cuando volvieron para la visita a la misa en español y el convivio durante su estadía en noviembre para el congreso anual del Diócesis de Chicago;
- Leer las reflexiones escritas por cada participante, publicadas en el "Postmark" de agosto (<http://www.stmarksglenellyn.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/PostMark-Newsletter-Aug2012.pdf>).

Además, St. Mark's participó en las reuniones programadas por el subcomité de Diócesis del Sureste de México como parte de la Comisión del Ministerio Global.

Muchas gracias a todos los que nos ayudaron con la recaudación de fondos, que asistieron a los events, que donaron comida, artículos, dinero y computadoras, y que apoyaron este ministerio importante. ¡La incorporación, asistencia y participación de muchos nuevos miembros de la misa de español de St. Mark's fue una bendición emocionante y maravillosa! También le agradecemos al Comité de Alcance ("Outreach") por asignar una porción del fondo "Squire" al viaje misionero a México.

¡Ya estamos planeando el viaje de 2013, el cual será nuestra octava visita a Nigromante!

Kim Reed

Communications

Website

St. Mark's website has remained vibrant and robust throughout 2012, offering information on services and programs in English and in Spanish.

Parishioner Deanna Ellison assumed the role of St. Mark's webmaster in 2012, the first full year that it was powered through WordPress. Paul Flynn created the new St. Mark's website using WordPress in 2011, taking over as webmaster from Bob Cardwell, who retired from the job after many years of service. Paul served as webmaster for a few months before moving to California to accept a new job.

Deanna updates the website monthly. Other updates are made directly by parishioners who chair events and committees. Deanna is putting together a list of everyone who makes updates and maintains pages, such as those regarding the women's ministries. WordPress is a flexible, user-friendly platform that allows multiple users to make updates.

Deanna enhanced the St. Mark's website this fall by adding a form that allows parishioners to make a pledge online. She works with photographer Peter Vagt, whose photos enhance the vitality and appeal of St. Mark's website. She and Peter are looking into using Google Plus to expand photos on the web and make them more accessible.

Media Relations

Nancy Gier continues to maintain the list of media contacts and send out press releases on special services and events, as well as pitch stories to local reporters. A press release on Charles Snider's 25th anniversary at St. Mark's resulted in a feature article on Charles written by Susan Dibble of the Daily Herald. It was published on October 11, 2012. Nancy was able to interest her editors at Triblocal on a feature about Elizabeth McGuan and the legal immigration clinic that began in late 2012 at St. Mark's. That story appeared in Triblocal, the local edition of the Chicago Tribune, on October 31, 2012. It was picked up by a national, online Episcopal magazine.

Internal Communications

Robin Currie is editor of the PostMark, St. Mark's monthly newsletter that is produced in both email and print form. Ginnie Judd facilitates Constant Contact, a database tool that includes all of St. Mark's email contacts. Information on parish events and services is sent to parishioners several times a week through Constant Contact.

Office manager Dellana Mote is central in producing Sunday bulletins and helping with all of St. Mark's email needs and other communication efforts. She and other office staff members and volunteers also keep the parish bulletin boards fresh with weekly updates.

Creative Visuals

Javier Valdivia continues to contribute to visual arts with his exceptional skills in graphic design. Javier designed materials for the 2012 annual giving campaign. He also helps with design and production of posters and banners that are displayed outside the church to inform the community of special services and special events.

Nancy Gier

Newcomers Committee

The Newcomer Ministry is alive and well. While some Churches have experienced a drop in membership, St Mark's experience has been a good one in that so many new families are being welcomed into our Church.

This is due, in part, to our Ambassador and Greeters programs, which are going strong because of a dedicated group of members who make these programs valuable and important ones.

The Ambassador Program contacts newcomers and potential newcomers who are visited and given a "goody" bag, which includes a St Mark's brochure listing all the various organizations available through St Mark's, a delicious baked item and, depending on the season, some fresh flowers.

Greeters welcome everyone who comes into the church, whether with a handshake or just a smile and a pleasant "good morning." They are also asked to direct visitors and to answer any questions.

The updates include a Newcomer Brunch that was held on October 21, 2012. Thirty invitations were mailed and we had a good response. Virginia Vagt prepared information on the March 2013 Women's Retreat that was distributed at the luncheon.

Plans for a 2013 brunch and possibly a Pot Luck dinner are currently being discussed.

We are very much looking forward to a great 2013 and welcoming all new members into St. Mark's.

Lea Forsman

Parish Life

The Parish Life vestry position functions as the liaison between the vestry and the Parish Life committee, Women's Ministries, and Men's Ministries.

Parish Life:

Joanie Somerville chaired the Parish Life committee. Joanie organized and oversaw our four major all-parish events:

Parish Annual Meeting: February 12

Lenten Suppers: March 7, March 14, March 21, April 4

All-Parish Picnic: June 5

Kick-Off Sunday, September 9

Coffee hour ministers Kim Lloyd Eichenauer, Marilyn Justus, Kathy Kelly, Bob Olsen, Julie Rodriguez, and Susan Shorney assisted members of the parish who provided food and greetings during the post-10:30 service coffee hour.

Men's Ministries:

Leo Lanzillo chaired the Men's Ministries committee.

Men's Monthly Breakfast:

The men met at 6:30 a.m. at Glen Oak restaurant in Glen Ellyn, usually the first Tuesday of the month. For more information, contact Dick Anstee.

Bi-monthly meetings:

The St. Mark's men met on the second and fourth Saturdays in the Parish Library. The group viewed and discussed a church history video series by Marcus Borg. Contact Leo Lanzillo for more information.

Barbecue at the Rector's house:

On August 3, 2012 the St. Mark's men met at the home of George Smith for their annual barbecue.

Women's Ministries:

Elizabeth Lanzillo chaired the Women's Ministries Steering Committee which included Rachel Alcorn, Joyce Fletcher, Judy Jackson, Elizabeth Lanzillo, Caroline McAlpine, Laura McGovern, Fiona Miller, Martha Pfefferman, and Virginia Vagt.

The 2012 St. Mark's Women Ministries' events included:

Birth Order Revelations – January 18, 2012

Penny Taback and Martha Pfefferman organized an informative evening with Psychologist Dr. Maniaci who explored the influence sibling relationships have upon personality development.

Swap Party – February 15, 2012

Kathleen Chase and Jen Chavez chaired the efforts for this fun ladies' night out providing the chance to swap good quality accessories. All unclaimed items were donated.

Annual Women's Retreat – March 16-18, 2012

The annual retreat for the St. Mark's women provided a weekend of sisterhood, spiritual growth and rejuvenation at the Abbey Resort and Spa in Fontana, Wisconsin. The planners, organizers, and presenters included Rachel Alcorn, Joyce Fletcher, Laura McGovern, Kim Rothwell, Karen Schreck, and Virginia Vagt.

Spring Tea – April 28, 2012

The Women's Spring Tea was garden-themed and featured a presentation on container gardening. Women enjoyed scrumptious fare and lovely desserts prepared by Spring Tea. The event organizers included Bryn Wulf, Rachel Alcorn, Jill Bednas, Carin Fanter, Merrilee Hall, and Caroline McAlpine.

Summer Salad Supper

The St. Mark's women stayed connected through the summer with salad suppers hosted in June by Kim Toliver and in August hosted by Marsha Webster.

Kick-Off Salad Supper and Service Project – September 26, 2012

Cheryl Olsen, Paula Zwiebel, and Caroline McAlpine organized St. Mark's women's salad supper and the opportunity to wrap gifts for children to receive through the Children's Birthday Project, a program for underprivileged children organized by the Humanitarian Service Project.

Round Table Discussion: Finding Strength in Our Imperfections – October 17, 2012

Caroline McAlpine organized this opportunity for Jen Grant to identify the different emotions involved in crisis situations and to provide clarity to those who seek healing and restoration.

Cooking Class at Marcel's – November 14, 2012

Bryn Wulf arranged for a hands-on workshop with one of Marcel's chefs. Sixteen participants prepared and dined on the many specialties they created.

Girls' Night out at Cosmo's – November 29, 2012

Kim Rothwell organized an evening of pampering at Cosmo's. Women had the pleasure of getting a manicure and/or a pedicure while sipping on a beverage of choice.

Annual Ornament Exchange – December 19, 2012

Marylu Olsen planned an annual favorite, the Ornament Exchange. After sharing appetizers and desserts, Fiona Miller read the official rules and the "sharing" began.

Parent Coffee Time-out during Christmas Pageant rehearsal – December 22, 2012

Elizabeth Lanzillo provided a respite from the holiday busy-ness during the final rehearsal for the 2012 Christmas Pageant. Parents met in the church library for coffee, treats and a time-out.

NOVA, a biweekly Thursday morning fellowship group for mothers of young children, occurred in the spring of 2012 but was not continued in the fall. During the second half of 2012, planning was launched for MOMS, the Ministry of Mothers Sharing, an 8-week small group spiritual development experience to run during Winter 2013. MOMS will be facilitated by Elizabeth Lanzillo, Rachel Alcorn, and Lisa Baker. Enrollment for the group filled immediately in early December of 2012; therefore, plans are underway to offer another series later in 2013.

The credit for the success of St. Mark's ministries goes to those who organize and plan as well as to those who support and attend the events, events that remind us of the strength and spirit in being a part of God's community.

Judy Jackson, Parish Life Vestry Liaison

Parents' Day Out Ministry



Parents Day Out (“PDO”) is a 25 year ministry of St. Mark’s providing once or twice-a-week day care for children in our community between the ages of 2 and 5. The program is in session five days a week and is operating at capacity with more than 90 children and substitute lists. PDO has a committed following in our community, with the majority of participating children and/or siblings returning to the program again this year. Due to a higher than average number of two-year-olds enrolled this year, we would expect high enrollments numbers the next few years as these children age within our program. In keeping with our mission, we offer scholarships and flexibility to suit a variety of circumstances, and several families (four children) were able to enroll this year as a result of this scholarship opportunity.

We repeated our June month-long summer session and enjoyed full enrollment and community support. Our summer enrollment fee was adjusted up a few dollars in line with comparable child care costs in our community and to keep pace with our increasing staff salary and benefits costs. Our able staff welcomed students for some extra fun to start their summer. As with our regular program, our care included fine and large motor skill activities, arts and crafts, songs and stories, as well as lots of fun play time.

As an additional summer session, PDO for the first time offered a week of child care in conjunction with Vacation Bible School for those siblings not yet old enough to participate in VBS and for young children of VBS volunteers. This session was run by some PDO staff and some teenage assistants and was well received.

Due to enrollment in this beloved ministry, PDO continues to cover its operating cost and provide cash and service benefits to St. Mark’s Parish. PDO gave \$5,594 to the Parish for many necessary facility maintenance projects, including replacement of the windows in the downstairs ladies’ bathroom (thanks to parishioner Ryan Dunham!), installing new flooring in the Undercroft, significantly upgrading the landscaping, drainage and features of the playground, and other indoor maintenance and repair projects. The playground improvements were possible due to the cooperation and joint funding received from St. Mark’s Preschool, as well as a generous gift from the Nicholas family (PDO parent and parishioner).

PDO provides participating families with information about programs of potential interest at St. Mark’s. As a result, PDO families participated in both our Operation Bear Hug and Halloween UNICEF programs, as well as supported our PADS Pumpkin Patch by purchasing pumpkins. Lesley Arlasky again provided lovely portraits of smiling children in the patch for their families.

PDO continues to explore continuing education for its staff, and joined with St. Mark’s Preschool to fund our membership in the National Association of Episcopal Schools to take advantage of its programs and literature.

PDO maintains a high level of safety in its environment, although it is not a regulated state school program. Sharing its campus with St. Mark’s Preschool has enhanced our practices. PDO is pleased to report that its shared campus was included in the St. Mark’s Preschool DCFS surprise inspection and no issues were identified.

We are blessed by the continued service of our dedicated staff Kathy O’Rourke (Director), Cindy Glavin, Melody Mordini, Beth Figler, Carrie Pihl, and Norma Cid. We truly thank them for their endless enthusiasm and dedication to these children. Also this year, Lesley Arlasky transitioned off of the PDO Board, and we are grateful to Joan Nicholas for agreeing to join our leadership. Additional members of the PDO Board include: Kim Reed (Chair), Jill Bednas (Children’s Ministry Liaison), Doris McCarraher (Treasurer), and Elizabeth Lewis (Secretary). Registration for the 2012-13 summer and fall programs will begin in April, with members of the parish receiving priority.

Elizabeth Lewis

February 2013

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St. Mark's Preschool



This year found St. Mark's Preschool continuing to thrive and grow in many areas. Perhaps most importantly, the board and staff have met each new opportunity and challenge with a commitment to maintaining our Reggio Emilia-inspired approach and meeting the needs of our students and their families.

With the celebrated arrival of Assistant Director Savannah Stewart's son James, January found our staff creatively and effectively managing her maternity leave. We were thankful to have the assistance of Amy Kalten, M.A. over the winter and spring months with teaching duties and Director Meghan Kaplan was also able to step into the classroom as well. While Miss Savannah was of course missed, the entire staff did a marvelous job keeping consistency in the classroom. Marketing, information sessions, open houses and tours of the Preschool also took place in January and February as the board and staff worked to procure our enrollment for the 2012-13 school year. It is exciting to see each presentation and Information Night run more smoothly as we refine our format and learn better what prospective parents really want to know about our school.

Talent Night in March was again a huge success. Kim Reed, Cindy Flynn, Carrie Gowans and Cecilia Smith were instrumental in bringing the event together. Our talented parishioners put on a good show with wonderful art and food and the event raised \$1,775 for the St. Mark's Preschool Scholarship Fund!

Spring at the Preschool saw the return of Miss Savannah from her maternity leave for the final weeks of the year. Our largest class of graduates to date said goodbye to St. Mark's in May at our annual celebration (one each for the morning and afternoon classes) at Lake Ellyn Park. The staff did a wonderful job of celebrating each graduate and creating a special and festive day for all the students to close the school year.

Some staffing changes occurred over the spring and summer months. Savannah stepped down from her role as Assistant Director and Teacher to become the Atelierista for the start of the 2012-13 school year. The role of Atelierista is unique to the Reggio Emilia philosophy - it is in essence a studio art teacher who works with the students on special projects and extensions of their classroom learning. The continued use of Room 114 as a project and art room really facilitated the decision to have an Atelierista - the Preschool feels so fortunate to have a dedicated "Atelier" space - a rarity in other local school programs and a testament to the continued flexibility of St. Mark's staff in sharing space with the Preschool.

With Savannah stepping into the role of Atelierista, the search for a new classroom teacher began. Board Chair Cindy Flynn worked with Director Meghan Kaplan and teacher Holly Pelsor to interview many qualified candidates. After a rigorous interview process, our very own parishioner, Beth Figler, emerged as the best fit for the Preschool. With many years of teaching experience, a Master's degree in Education and an intimate understanding of our community, Beth was a super addition to the teaching team and we feel very fortunate to have her with us.

Thus the 2012-13 school year began in September with Meghan Kaplan as Director, Holly Pelsor moving into the Assistant Director role (along with her AM class Lead Teacher role) and Beth Figler as the new PM class Lead Teacher. Along with the addition of Savannah as Atelierista, we were also able to bring in Amy Kalten as our Handwriting Without Tears specialist. Over the summer, Amy attended an intensive training conference on this groundbreaking curriculum that incorporates writing readiness and handwriting basics into Preschool curricula. Amy visited each classroom over the fall for a few hours per week - her experiences as a Reggio Emilia teacher has been invaluable and the Handwriting Without Tears program has become an important component of our programming.

Also in September our Third Annual Children's Toy and Clothing Resale event was held. Penny Taback graciously spearheaded the event again and we had many volunteer parents from the Preschool who helped move, sort and sell the gently used items. Just over \$3,000 was raised to benefit the Preschool - a record thus far. In addition,

parishioner Melissa Creech was able to give much of the leftover clothing to her sister-in-law as she traveled to Ethiopia to distribute to children there. A successful event on many levels!

The start of the school year also brought with it the bittersweet news that Director Meghan Kaplan would be relocating to Indiana for her husband's career. Meghan was a founding staff member of the Preschool, and while all the board and staff were happy for her family's new opportunity, it was hard to see her go. With this major transition pending (Meghan's last day at the Preschool was just before Thanksgiving), much thought and energy was spent on the part of the board and staff over the fall months planning and preparing for next steps. A Director search was commenced by the Search Committee of board Chair Rachel Alcorn, Vice Chair Deirdre Churchill and Cindy Flynn. At fall board meetings, input was collected from parents, staff and board members regarding changes and additions to the Director role based on all we have learned over our first years as a school. Parent input sessions were also held to keep families informed about our Director search.

As candidates were interviewed and it became clear that a new Director would not be in place in time for Meghan's departure, the Search Committee worked to form a Transition Plan that would serve the Preschool until a new Director is hired. Relying heavily on the good administrative work being done by Holly in her Assistant Director role, the plan shares various Director responsibilities among all the staff - with oversight and additional leadership being provided by Cindy Flynn as the Interim Transition Director.

All of the staff - Holly, Beth, Amy and Savannah - have been so gracious and flexible in their willingness to work together creatively in a Director's absence. Indeed, many parents have commented on what an exceptional job they have done and the Preschool has continued to thrive in spite of the transition. Cindy Flynn has been instrumental in managing the many details and aspects of the Director search and Transition Plan, and St. Mark's Preschool truly owes her our gratitude for her selfless commitment of time and energy to the school. Additionally, Deirdre Churchill has been a constant source of professional educational input that has been immeasurably helpful. At the close of 2012, the Search Committee had interviewed seven candidates for the Director position, with a top candidate identified and plans in motion to present the candidate for board approval at the first board meeting of 2013.

Other highlights from the year include continued chapel visits from George and Elizabeth, walking field trips to the library and other community locations, a revamped and healthier snack policy, visits in the classroom from parents, an Eric Carle-themed Curriculum Night and many other wonderful efforts on behalf of our amazing staff and parents. We also continue to be financially strong and self-supporting.

Finally, many thanks to our wonderful Preschool board (Amy Kalten, Anne Abbruzzese, Beth Figler, Bryn Wulf, Ann-Marie Cudzilo, Deirdre Churchill, Elizabeth Molitors, George Smith, Holly Pelsor, Jen Chavez, Jill Bednas, and Laura Larrick) for their continued service to the Preschool on so many levels.

Rachel Alcorn, Preschool Board Chair

Buildings and Grounds

The Buildings and Grounds Committee is the volunteer ministry responsible for:

- 1) Safety throughout our property, including ensuring all fire and safety equipment meet inspection requirements.
- 2) Ongoing maintenance and repair of all building systems and structural components (including the rectory).
- 3) Ongoing maintenance of yards, trees and planted beds.
- 4) Cleanliness and a welcoming fresh appearance both inside and out.
- 5) Establishing and keeping up an accessible and transferable record system.
- 6) Responsible stewardship of the allocated budget.
- 7) Assessing facility needs and planning according.
- 8) Cooperating with office staff in procuring consumable supplies.
- 9) Maintaining open communications and building relationships with our parishioners, with other parish groups, and with our vendors.
- 10) Conducting spring and fall parish wide clean-up days encouraging parishioner participation.

Parishioner Participation

Maintaining our facility is an important aspect of stewardship in which every member of the congregation has a responsible role, whether it be respectful use of the buildings and grounds, reporting conditions needing attention, giving of personal time and talent, or considering the expense of maintenance when pledging or offering a designated monetary gift. We are to be responsible stewards of a resource that benefits the current community and future generations. Team building efforts include placing ads and short articles in the Sunday bulletin and Post Mark, announcements in church, in person conversations, following up on references by others and prayer. Current team members deserve our gratitude for their efforts in this ministry. New members are always needed and welcomed.

Current team membership with assigned area of responsibility is as follows:

George Smith:	General consultant and PR.
Cheryl Olsen:	General Manager of both the buildings and the grounds, and overseeing all systems not otherwise assigned, including HVAC, electrical, plumbing, fire and safety equipment, cleaning, mowing and plowing.
Michael Benich:	Rectory maintenance contact, general handyman, audio system
Dick Mylander:	Emergency lights monitor, general handyman
Ted Figler:	Technology support, special projects
Jeff Hill:	Floor drains and grease trap
Dick Anstee:	Pest control
John Delany:	Lighting
Edna Heatherington:	Communications, organization
Ryan Dunham:	Special projects/construction consultant
Scott Shorney:	Special projects
Dave Rossi:	Handyman tasks as needed
Ginnie Judd:	Energy Management/Recycling

On call members:

Fred Mote:	Provides handyman services, technical support
Steve Hess:	Handyman, coffee maker repair

Garden volunteers:

Chris Castelli, Bob Beeching, Bob Bernero, Bonnie Schwanz, Carolyn Faivre, Gary Kreutz and George Smith.

Meetings

Two team meetings were held in 2012, one each in April and in September. Meetings are normally held on Saturdays at 9 A.M. Dates have been and will continue to be published in the Sunday bulletins. In 2013, the goal is to have at least three meetings as we anticipate planning special projects for implementation as monies become available. All parishioners are invited to attend, voice concerns, volunteer for tasks, and participate in the process.

Parish Wide Clean-Ups

Each year two clean-ups are held to catch up on a wide range of necessary interior and exterior chores and special projects. These events are extremely beneficial to the parish as many things get done, parish costs are minimized, and they present a great opportunity for a unique form of fellowship. There are chores for every age, teenagers and up. In 2012, chores included washing windows, scrubbing baseboards, cleaning refrigerators, vacuuming and mopping the boiler room floor and wiping off equipment, library books and shelves, pulling weeds, trimming bushes, planting perennials, mulching beds, raking, hauling out trash, searching for documents, repairing a door, and patching parking lot holes. We have not offered any childcare during the clean-up in the past, but this is something we will look into for our future events.

Thank you to all Spring clean-up volunteers. Those who signed in April 21, 2012 were:

Ted Figler, Victor Colorado, Michael Benich, Bob Olsen, Edna Heatherington, Dick Mylander, Julio Reyes, Julio Reyes Jr., Gretchen Kenower, George Smith, Beremundo Damian, Yolanda Damian, Pedro Damian, Bonnie Schwanz, Bob Bernero, Cris Castelli, Karen Doran, and Dianne Dinse. Lunch was provided by Cheryl Olsen with Brenda Lewis' and Jackie Tack's donation of a Pot Belly gift certificate.

Thank you to all Fall clean-up volunteers. Those who signed in September 29, 2012 were: Bonnie Schwanz, Bob Bernero, Karl Sandin, Rebeca Cuellar, Edna Heatherington, Jerry Carey, Elizabeth Molitors, Adolpho, Gaby and Maurin, Mauro Hernandez, Ted Figler, Ryan Luttenton, Brian Thompson, Karen and Abraham Jimerez, Azucena Moreno, Andres Olvera, Beremundo and Jose Damian, Teresa, Jovano, Roque and Karen Garcia, Bob Olsen, Bob Beeching, and Chris Castelli. Lunch was provided by Ted Figler and Cheryl Olsen.

Year Round Handyman Chores

Numerous "Handyman" chores have been accomplished, mostly by Michael Benich and Dick Mylander, but also Fred Mote and Steve Hess. They investigate reported situations and fix what they are able themselves. Chores completed in 2012 have included: tightening church kneelers, tree trimming, gutter and valley cleaning, battery replacement, repairing south stairwell landing gate, repair of broken columbarium step corners and stabilizing hand railing, cement repair to exterior bottom step to the office door, reattaching office building siding, reattaching door knobs, painting PDO/Preschool step railings, repairing playground equipment, assembling shelving/furniture for the preschool, replacing light timers, installing bulletin boards, building covey storage box for banners, replacing faucets, repairing coffee pots, fixing library door stopper, repairing columbarium door, unplugging drains, weatherstripping windows, reinstalling loose siding, repeatedly repairing coffee pots, installing directional traffic signs at Hillside and Phillips, repainting driveway direction arrows, pew removal for handicap seating, . . . the list goes on, and the value of these passionate servants is "priceless." Remember to thank them for their ministry to the parish family.

Budget Allocation and Expenses for Maintenance and Repair for 2012:

- \$37,500.00 budgeted for maintenance and repair. This was an increase over 2010 and 2011 budgets of \$25,000 each, both which were depleted each year by about June.
- \$38,276.86 expenses paid through December 31, 2012. (Note that this includes the 2013 Elevator Maintenance contract.) Listed below are more expense details.
- \$12,400.00 budgeted separately for outside cleaning contract expenses. Monthly rate is \$1,240. Non-contract items are extra.
- \$13,805.00 cleaning expense paid as of December 31, 2019.
- \$1,500.00 was budgeted separately for security/fire monitor services.
- \$1,841.25 expenses were paid as of December 31, 2012. This included replacement of a fire alarm sub-panel at \$903.00, certification and repair to other fire alarm equipment totaling \$722.25, and monitoring totaling \$216.00.
- \$1,389.00 Contributions received in 2012 for B & G special projects, of which \$420.00 was applied to ash tree removal and \$969.00 was applied to front door refinishing.

Part Time Custodial/set-up services by Julian Mendoza, paid at an hourly wage with no benefits, comes from the Staff Salary Budget. Please refer to the Treasurer's report for correct figures.

Notable Maintenance and Repair Expenses:

- \$3,525.31 Elevator Maintenance contract for 2012.
- \$350.00 Yearly state required elevator inspection.
- \$3,609.32 Elevator Maintenance contract for 2013.
- \$3,240.00 HVAC maintenance contract.
- 3,226.00 Total HVAC catch-up on years of various "deferred repairs," including rewiring of boiler control panel so all components now communicate, repairs to three-way valve mixer for radiant heat areas, bathroom exhausts, kitchen/hall make-up air unit. Repairs were also made to the choir loft and sanctuary's AC units located on the library roof.
- 6,899.88 Grass mowing, snow removal and salting lots at contracted rates, removal of fallen spruce and stump grinding, and delivery of bulk mulch.
- \$1,302.20 Diseased ash tree removal and trimming of storm damage to playground maple.
- \$975.00 Wild life pest removal and chimney repair.
- \$955.85 Pest control at contracted rates - The year for ants and mice!
- \$1,403.28 Consumable goods (paper products, soap, air fresheners, cleaning products, etc.
- \$1,033.39 Windows for women's bathroom off Lehman's Parlor.
- \$2,222.50 Front double door and decorative hardware refinishing.
- \$1,854.00 Grease trap replacement.
- \$302.45 New Kitchen coffee machine.
- \$454.99 Fire extinguishers serviced and certified.
- \$405.03 Repair of idle emergency generator with battery replacement.
- \$1,811.22 Electrical costs for outlet replacement, adding a circuit to upstairs offices, replacing three parking lot lights on office building, new ballast and bulb for church door carriage lamp.
- \$1,401.00 Plumbing costs for clogged drains, replacement of sump pumps in elevator pit and choir room, and water valve annual servicing and certification.
- \$649.87 Main ground water sump system diagnostics and repair.
- \$1,774.42 Misc. supplies for handyman work, light bulbs, cleaning supplies, etc.
- \$195.00 Painting
- \$125.00 Elevator pit concrete repair

Other Accomplishments of Worthy Note

- 1) A purple beech tree was planted on the northwest lawn as a memorial gift of the Gillespie family.
- 2) A butterfly garden was planted on the northwest lawn as a gift of Carolyn Faivre and Gary Kreutz.
- 3) The northwest stone sign garden was replanted with lower growing plants.
- 4) PDO and the Preschool worked together to redesign and pay for the playground (with a generous donation from a preschool parent) to correct drainage and wandering mulch. The old play structure will need replacing later this year.
- 5) PDO paid for the installation of hard flooring in their table area.
- 6) New windows were installed in the girls bathroom by Lehman Parlor.
- 7) An Energy Management workshop was attended by Cheryl Olsen and Ginnie Judd.
- 8) A pulpit side front pew as removed to accommodate our mobility challenged friends.
- 9) Victor and Lucia Conrado contributed landscape design and planting for the rectory.

Goals for 2013 and beyond

- 1) Continue to build the team to include more ownership in the process of caring for our facility. This may include adding someone to share leadership, possibly splitting management of the buildings and the grounds.
- 2) Continue to develop record keeping system, including implementing data entry into the e-file developed by Ted Figler, and establishing on site storage for the building's archival plans/documents.
- 3) Developing an overall plan for improvements to the Narthex, Library, and Lehman Parlor that can be implemented in stages as funds become available.
- 4) Investigate the possibility of replacing a classroom wall on the upper level with a folding wall to create more versatility for meetings/events.
- 5) Installation of a running clock on the emergency generator, and establish annual service maintenance contract.
- 6) Installation of new siding on the upper office building, and replacement of rotting eave and window frame wood.
- 7) Plan for the repaving of the lower parking lot.
- 8) Develop Emergency Fire/Safety Plan and implement a parish wide practice drill.
- 9) Complete the Diocesan required Energy Audit and establish a corrective action plan.
- 10) Paint the interior of the rectory.
- 11) Removal of diseased/dying oak tree from rectory back yard.

Cheryl Olsen

Parish Register 2012

Baptism

Giuliana Rose Hill
Katherine Johanna Boskovic
Elida Evangelista Cruz
Sophia Eleanor Risius
Brady Nicholas Vergara
Ava Lynne Vergara
Arno Vincent Curtis
Timo Leslie Curtis
Henry Kees Curtis
Virginia Roos Curtis
Sofie Clare Eichenauer
Lyla Jane Dinglasan
Chloe Jane Thompson
Evan Roderick Williams
Chloe Todd
Ethan Todd
Avery Katherine Bouchard
Brandon Noah Solorzano
Alexandra Jayleen Aguardo Solorzano
Darah Asiel Lopez
Javier Hernandez Castro
Michael Christopher Almond
Xavianna Cagriela Marino
Braden Peiffer
Brody Peiffer
Ikuvua Devon Coombs
Nicholas David Plumb
Margaret Hall Isphording
Keegan Cole Schaffnit
Trinity Jade Spencer

Marriages

Desiree Lorraine King & Donald Scott Heins
Sally Eva Stafford & Ross Harris Kramer
Ashley B. Arlington & Christopher J. Johnson
Jill Suzanne Raffensparger & Jeremy Lynn Grote
Gerold Richard Paduano & Thomas Henry Wartell
Stacey Jean Jensen & Paul Repiscak
Kathleen Susan Taylor & Michael Anthony Valiante
Alexandra Victoria Ellingwood & Daniel James Smith
Ruth Annette Shaffer & Spencer David Hausen
Tracy Sue Grekowicz & Michael Dean Sima
Kristine Ann Niemi & James Whitmore Switzer

2012 Average Sunday Attendance: 375

Confirmations

Steven Gerardo Astudillo
Andy Eduardo Astudillo
Amelia Benich
Vanessa A. Cielo
Jessica M. Cielo
Cooper Vail Clynych
Magali Cuautle
Arno Vincent Curtis
Erin Frances Delany
Sarah Lane Delany
William Michael Delany
Elida Evangelista-Cruz
Kailey Yatziry Franco
Carol Annesley Fry
Adam Gallegos
Ian Blake Wollstadt Gillespie
Lauren Malia Galvin
Ian Christopher Grant-Funck
Molly Elizabeth Hughes
Karen Jimenez
Julio Jimenez
Brenda Lizeth Lopez Carnalla
Natalya Noemi Marines
Daniel Mendoza-Bustamante
Caitlyn Louise Reick
Magdalena Halvorsen Schreck
Christina Marie Sedall
Emily Ann Sexauer
George Dresser Smith IV
Marin Elizabeth Walor

Funerals

Betty Nicholson
Bruce A. Lanham
Donald Hooper
Jozan Carlton
James H. Dunning
Gerrit Faber
Elizabeth Grant
Janet Novak
Wick Goodspeed
Karen Grygar
Daniel Frischmann
Glenn Cowdrey
Alice McPhillips

February 12, 2012 Annual Meeting Minutes

Karen Doran approved as Annual Meeting Clerk

Cake Auction

Discussion of Minutes from 2011 Annual Meeting

George Smith edit to #9: Change “father” and “pastor” to first names; Judy Jackson’s edits: Page 41 #4 extra space after Scott Bednas, #6 capitalize “Outgoing,” #7 bottom two bullets capitalized, third bullet from bottom add a semi colon, last paragraph add a period; p. 42 after Doran’s question delete space, Tanya Carey “paid off” not hyphenated, John Glavin “overpayments” one word.

Last Year’s Minutes with edits unanimously approved.

Introduction of Senior Warden Scott Bednas

Had been Junior Warden for past year; as customary he’s now senior; Paula Zwiebel will be Junior Warden.

Appointment of Youth Representative Cynthia Mote

Financial Report (presented by Dick Anstee)

Thanks for all the support from the Finance Committee and Dellana for paying the bills. Our committee chairman was Shawn Somerville, special thanks to him.

Highlights: Page 17 Capital Campaign – exceeded goal of \$600K, diocese fulfilled matching obligation, \$2.4 million down to \$970K. Big round of applause. This week we paid our first mortgage bill for 2012 which was \$15,800/month, but now is \$6,970. Big applause. Giving campaign update – the second appeal that went out a couple of weeks ago has been well-received, we now have 222 pledges (over 210 goal) with \$541K pledged (\$555K goal). We’re almost there! Still have \$15K to go.

Page 14 2011 highlights and 2012 operating budget – first line doesn’t account for the more than \$20K pre-paid pledges made in 2010.

Drive for increased pledge payment -- need \$27,500 less revenue from diocese because end of 2-year grant for Elizabeth’s ministry. Also, 2011 took usage income – most from rectory – now Victor and his family are in the rectory (\$24K revenue not coming in). Added new revenue line – Spanish language service. Increase in PDO and preschool budgets.

Thanks to our clergy for selecting medical spending account with high deductibles which saves us money.

B&G: 2011 lots of one-time expenses which increased maintenance costs nearly \$30K over budget. Drops 2012, mostly because of our reduction in mortgage payments.

Increasing our pledge to diocese, covenant to repay diocesan loan by increasing our pledge 12% per year. After 14-15 years we pay off our total diocesan loan.

Best news from last year's operating budget is that we only needed \$28K from the Campbell fund rather than the \$40K we had anticipated having to use. We're still planning on using about half of the Campbell fund – \$25,000 in 2012.

Question: Under “programs” what does it mean and why significantly more? Worship, fellowship, W2W, parish life, etc. Significant expense was adult education formation, outside programming. Additional spending in fellowship and parish life because we're big. We don't anticipate one-time things like outside programs happening for 2012, that's why it's not the same actual number.

Senior Warden's Report (presented by Fiona Miller)

Thanks to the vestry, there's been no contention, only agreement amongst the members.

Faith in action. Our vision statement will guide and lead us into the future. Looks forward to playing a different role in the future.

Rector's Report (presented by George Smith)

Encourages all to read the reports. He highlighted people's names in his report. All about people helping and taking up leadership. We are in a positive place. Mission statement presented 2009 – what we imagined 3 years ago is happening today. Spanish Mass – shows our leadership. Second year of preschool – enrollment from 9 to 26 children! Principal on our building mortgage is under \$1M. Our average attendance is over 300, putting us in top 5% of the Chicago diocese. Record number of pledges and pledge dollars. All thanks to our clear vision and army of volunteers under strong vestry leadership. Belonging, behaving, and believing. Recognizes and congratulates Charles Snider – 25th anniversary (Silver Anniversary). Thanks to Fiona and Scott for their leadership roles. Thanks to the vestry – both outgoing and incoming members. Continue to be guided by Gospel message and the Holy Spirit.

Lucia Conrado was introduced and thanked the congregation for making her and her family welcome.

<signed>

Karen Doran, Clerk