

St. Mark's

Episcopal Church

Glen Ellyn, Illinois

Annual Report for 2014



January 25, 2015

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Agenda

Opening Prayer

Rev. George Smith

Appointment of Clerk of the Annual Meeting

Tim Sullivan is appointed Clerk of the Annual Meeting

Rev. George Smith

Review and Approval of the Minutes of the 2014 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

Edna Heatherington and Peter Vagt

Rev. George Smith

Appointment of Youth Representative

Jocelyn Briones & Will Delany

Rev. George Smith

Recognition of Outgoing Vestry Members, Youth Representative, Sr. Warden, and Convention & Alternate Delegates

Eric McAlpine, Tim Dorgan, Caroline Arlasky, Arturo Rubio, Sawyer Hill

Edna Heatherington

Voting

Election of Vestry Candidates:

Kim Lloyd-Eichenauer, Jim Grotelueschen, Scott Shorney

Edna Heatherington

Election of Diocesan Convention Delegates:

Beremundo Damian, David Fletcher

Reports

Finance Committee Report

2014 Year End Budget Report

2015 Budget

Sandy Allison

Senior Warden's Report

Eric McAlpine

Rector's Report

Rev. George Smith

Questions and Answers

Rector's Report for the St. Mark's Annual Meeting

January 25, 2015

During the coming year, most of the Gospel readings on Sundays will be from the Gospel of Mark, with its distinctive urgency and brusque style. Just two weeks ago, we heard from Mark that when Jesus was baptized, “the heavens were torn apart...and a voice came from heaven, **“You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”** (Mark 1:10-11). On that Sunday, I spent the morning at Grace Lutheran Church as part of the **OneChurch** pulpit rotation. My sermon focused on the dramatic image of the heavens being torn apart and to whom and what the voice from heaven said. The heavens were not just opened. They were torn apart, ripped open, in an act that changed the relationship between heaven and earth forever. The voice from heaven descended not just upon Jesus but upon the whole earth, the entire creation, going to every nook and cranny. According to the Psalmist, “the voice of the LORD is a powerful voice, it shakes the wilderness and strips the forest bare.” (Psalm 29).

“You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” In this one sentence, we have the essential message of the Good News of our faith. With and in Christ at his baptism, God has declared his unconditional, permanent love upon all humanity, all creation, past, present and future. It is a personal and universal declaration of love. You are beloved of God; I am beloved of God; our neighbors are beloved of God; the person on the other side of the globe is beloved of God; our enemies are beloved of God. How easy it is to forget this. In its arrogance and blindness, the Church has often forgotten this truth and turned it around so that many people have heard a message that has made them feel unworthy and unworthy of God's love. At St. Mark's, we are called to be bearers of the Good News: we are beloved and worthy of God's love. We are also called to participate in the unfinished work of reconciliation of brother and sister to brother and sister, among all humankind. How have we been doing? At the annual meeting, we reflect on what has happened over the past year and look to the coming year with hopes and plans. We are guided by the St. Mark's vision statement: Rooted in Baptism; Growing in Faith; Branching out into the World.

Although it is not possible to fully describe 2014 in a report, the highlights that must be mentioned include:

We ended 2014 with a budget surplus of \$22,812. Let me repeat: budget surplus! After many years of deficit budgets, which were trending toward balance, we are finally in the black. The generosity behind this result is widespread, and we see momentum into 2015. As of last week, we have received 278 pledges (versus our goal of 300) representing \$619,000 (versus a goal of \$635,000). Based on previous pledging and giving between January and mid-year, we will reach and likely exceed these goals.

In December, we marked the third year since the start of the Sunday 1 p.m. service in Spanish. Attendance at this service averages well over 100 people, and there are newcomers every Sunday. Slowly and steadily, **St. Mark's has become a bilingual, multicultural congregation.** As a once predominantly white / Anglo congregation, we have made a clear statement to the Latinos in our community: “Bienvenidos/as - You are the Beloved...Welcome....Be with us.” St. Mark's has stepped out into unchartered territory, taken a risk and demonstrated that it is possible to create a healthy and dynamic multicultural Episcopal church. We are a living laboratory, still learning and figuring out how to create and enrich connections and develop shared leadership. There are few precedents and fewer answers. As we learn, we are sharing our experience with others. It is clear to me that Victor Conrado is a linchpin in our story. His gentle, wise and caring personality has inspired me and everyone who knows him. Victor is a blessing to our church. And of course, he is supported and we are blessed doubly by his wife, Lucia and their children David and Daniel.

Our building and its contents are an asset and a resource. **We have made several visible investments in our property**, which include two new grand pianos, wi-fi throughout the building, a large screen TV display in the office parlor and a large screen TV in the library. We refinished the floors in the office and office parlor, and we have just replaced obsolete drinking fountains on the first level. The grand piano purchases are part of a larger investment in

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the music program at St. Mark's, which will include completion of the Walker pipe organ this coming summer and funding for a special dedication concert in the spring of 2016. There are important investments that are less noticeable, such as regular maintenance to the heating and cooling systems. Meanwhile, the St. Mark's Green Team is working on ways for all of us to be better stewards of electricity, heat and water and how to reduce our contribution to the waste stream.

All churches are **called to respond to the needs of the poor and the needy, locally, regionally and internationally**. In 2014, St. Mark's continued a strong commitment to DuPage Pads and its mission to end homelessness in DuPage County, through staffing and cooking for monthly Pads shifts. We had a record net profit in our Pumpkin Patch. We have been collecting socks and toiletries for the Pads guests. We adopted more people than ever for the Cathedral Shelter Christmas baskets, collected money for UNICEF and the worldwide efforts of the Episcopal Church through the United Thank Offering. For the second year, a team from St. Mark's traveled to Appalachia to build and renovate homes through the ASP program.

A personal highlight in 2014 was my **three month sabbatical** between May and August. On the surface, my sabbatical sounds busy. I spent two weeks in Queretaro, Mexico in an intensive language immersion, traveled to Texas and Minnesota, flew to England and drove into the Scottish Highlands, and had a week in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. It wasn't all go-go. In between and during these trips, I had time to rest, sleep, read, run and spend time with my family. I never worried or lost sleep thinking about St. Mark's because of the capable leadership of Victor Conrado, the clergy, vestry and other leadership. I returned to St. Mark's at the end of August refreshed, relaxed and renewed. It was a needed gift; I am grateful for your support and the opportunity to have had such a varied and full sabbatical.

In June, we celebrated the ordination of **Judy Jackson** to the diaconate at St. James Cathedral, who was a deacon long before she knew it, and diligently continues her call to work in the areas of pastoral care, outreach and worship ministries. We said goodbye to the Bednas family who moved to Michigan. Finding a replacement for **Jill Bednas** was no small task, but through God's good grace, **Kristin Margaglione** has taken over as director of our children's ministries and continued down the excellent path of her predecessor. We have welcomed the **Rev. Clint Moore** to our clergy team who presides and preaches from time to time. He hangs his full-time hat at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, where he is employed as the clinical ethicist.

The Visual Arts Committee has been at work throughout 2014 and now into 2015, bringing an outstanding series of art exhibits to St. Mark's, including icons, prints, photographs and drawings. A picture is worth a thousand words and maybe a thousand sermons. The walls in the nave are ideally suited for displaying art, and we have enriched our worship experience and outreach to the community through this ministry.

The only constant is change, and when it comes to leadership, change is a sign of health. At the annual meeting, we will thank **Eric McAlpine** for serving a two year term as warden. Eric has managed to commit his time and talent to St. Mark's while keeping a full-time job at one of the country's best known Internet companies (Groupon), undertaking a house remodeling project and, most of all, being a husband to Caroline and father to three young children. **Tim Dorgan** is completing a three year term on the vestry and as liaison to the Outreach Committee. **Caroline Arlasky** and **Arturo Rubio** served as the youth representatives to vestry in 2014 and are completing their service. **Sawyer Hill** and **Eric McAlpine** are completing their terms as delegates to diocesan convention. Lastly, today **Dick Anstee** will formally transfer the gavel of Treasurer to **Bill Novak**. Dick has served as treasurer for ten years, navigating and leading St. Mark's through some of the roughest financial rapids. Under his leadership, St. Mark's bank loans were managed and renegotiated, we obtained the matching grant from the Bishop and Trustees of the Diocese of Chicago, and now, this year, we have achieved a balanced budget. He has given countless hours to the complex and steadily expanding scope of our treasurer's office. Most importantly, he hands the reins to Bill of an office that is well-organized, efficient and backed by a strong finance committee and growing team of knowledgeable volunteers. Thank you Dick Anstee – and God bless you for your talent and invaluable contribution to St. Mark's! And thank you Bill Novak for stepping into this key position.

In 2015, St. Mark's will be as committed as ever to sharing the Good News of God's love to those in our community and beyond. Some of the highlights of the coming year include:

Reading The New Testament Together is a church-wide reading of the entire New Testament in eight weeks, beginning on Monday, January 26. A complimentary copy of the New Testament is available for everyone at St. Mark's, thanks to publisher Biblica. Following a daily reading schedule, getting through the New Testament is not a dauntless task but something that can be achieved by reading 10 pages a day for eight weeks. Here is an opportunity for everyone to "Grow in Faith" – one of the legs of our vision statement. Part of the program is meeting once a week in small groups to discuss the material that has been covered the previous week. I hope that everyone will take advantage of this opportunity to gain an overview of the bedrock of our faith, the New Testament.

Campaign for Music Fund and completion of the Walker pipe organ. Last June, St. Mark's signed a contract for the completion of our Walker pipe organ. When the organ was installed in 1991, we were not able to afford all of the stops called for in the original design. As a result, we installed a majority of the stops, but left room for some additional ones to be installed later. Last year, with the encouragement of Tanya and Jerry Carey, as well as a very generous gift from them, the vestry approved **undertaking a capital campaign in the spring of 2015** for the purpose of raising the funds needed for several things: the completion of the organ (which will include a complete overhaul and cleaning), grand pianos for Mahon Hall and the nave, and funds for a four-part recital series. On top of the wonderful generosity of Tanya and Jerry, now another donor has offered to match every dollar that is contributed to the campaign. A successful campaign is within our reach. A request for your participation will be made this spring under the leadership of Ellie Dunham and a special fundraising committee.

In June, a group from St. Mark's will travel to our companion parish, San Marcos, in Nigromante, Mexico. This will be the **10th consecutive trip from St. Mark's to San Marcos**. Our partnership with San Marcos was instrumental in leading us to begin our 1 p.m. Sunday service and the first step on our path to becoming a multicultural congregation. I can't imagine that we would be planning at 10th trip without the commitment, hard work and dedication that **Kim Reed** has given to this relationship since it began. Our relationship with San Marcos is based on respect and commitment. We have gained so much from getting to know the people of San Marcos. We have seen babies grow up, children become teenagers and go to college, changes in clergy, new leaders, the establishment of a bakery, beloved family members pass away, all within an unchanging context of hospitality, openness and generosity to those who visit from far away Glen Ellyn. Nine years ago, I audaciously suggested that we plan for a ten year relationship with San Marcos. Now we are there. Regardless of how many times we travel in the future to Nigromante, we are now intertwined in prayer, relationship and destiny.

In 2015, the **St. Mark's Preschool** will take another step forward by expanding the number of enrollment days from three to four and by adding a fifth "bonus" enrichment day on Fridays. The Preschool was launched in the fall of 2010 with 9 students. Today there are 43 children in two morning and one afternoon class. Next year, we will add another afternoon class and increase the capacity to 55 children. The growth and stability of the Preschool reflects strong leadership in the board, chaired by **Patty Weaver**, and in the work of director, **Andrea Cocke**, assistant directory **Holly Pelsor** and the preschool teachers.

The St. Mark's PDO (Parents' Day Out) program continues full-strength, with a waiting list for spaces and plans for summer programs. PDO is a 20+ year St. Mark's outreach ministry to the greater Glen Ellyn community. The success of the PDO program, like to Preschool, reflects the competence of its board, led by **Joan Nicholas**, and director **Kathy O'Rourke**.

New leadership: As I mentioned, the only constant is change, and today we welcome brave souls into new leadership positions, including **Peter Vagt** as Junior Warden; **Jim Groteleuschen**, outreach liaison on vestry; **Kim Eichenauer**, newcomer ministry liaison on vestry; **Jocelyn Briones** and **Will Delany**, youth representatives to vestry; and **Beremundo Damian** and **David Fletcher** as delegates to diocesan convention. Please join me in

thanking all of these people for volunteering their time and talents to leadership in the work we do together at St. Mark's.

There are many others to thank for their contributions – including **Dellana Mote**, our office manager, **Ginnie Judd**, who compiled this annual report, updates the database, sends out Constant Contact e-mails and handles space and parking requests, **Julian Mendoza**, who keeps St. Mark's clean, set-up and welcoming, **Robin Currie**, who puts together the monthly PostMark, teachers confirmation and communion classes, preaches, presides and keeps many things organized, **Marsha Webster**, who not only teaches our children to sing, plays the organ and piano, but is always on hand to help with any task, **Charles Snider**, in his 28th year at St. Mark's. And as I usually end my report, a final thank you to my wife, **Cecilia**, and our three children, **Lydia**, **Frances** and **Geo**, for their unconditional love and support for me and the mission of St. Mark's.

May God continue to bless St. Mark's in 2015 as we give thanks for the work we have been given to do and for the message of God's unconditional love to share with the world.

Yours in Christ, George+



Warden, Vestry and Diocesan Delegate Nominees

We are pleased to announce the list of candidates selected by the Nominating Committee for the 2015 election to St. Mark's Vestry. We have a total of three openings.

Senior Warden

Edna Heatherington

Junior Warden

Peter Vagt

Vestry

Kim Lloyd-Eichenauer, Jim Grotelueschen

Youth Representatives

Jocelyn Briones, Will Delany

Candidates for Diocesan Delegate

Beremundo Damian, David Fletcher

For Senior Warden:



Edna Heatherington: Having retired to Glen Ellyn in 2008 to live near my son, I joined St Mark's in the following year. I participated in such parish activities as I particularly enjoy. As Junior Warden in the past year, I have tried to participate in a wider variety of parish activities, and to become more widely acquainted in the congregation.

Taking on the responsibility of attending at least monthly to parish business is occasionally daunting, but most often during 2014 has brought the pleasure of being together with others in planning actions, and facing and resolving questions and problems. I hope to serve St Mark's well as Senior Warden in 2015.

For Junior Warden:



Peter Vagt: In 2007, we were invited by friends to St. Mark's glorious Lessons and Carols service. Virginia and I loved the service and felt at home. So we started attending. The warm St. Mark's welcome we received, and the vibrancy and sincerity of congregation and clergy, made us want to become regular attenders, to become part of things, and to join in to parish life.

During the past eight years I've continually appreciated what feels to me to be the St. Mark's "way." I've heard others say this and I agree: St. Mark's is a nurturing parish. At St. Mark's I find myself experiencing God's love and peace as we worship together, as we see others serving and want to serve with them, as we reach out to each other, to our community and beyond, as our lives and our faith grow together, and as we become friends.

My lifelong vocations in science and in photography enter in to ways I've been able to join in and serve at St. Mark's: on the Adult Formation Committee, on two of our giving campaigns, contributing photography to our parish life, as a member of our new Art Committee, leading several adult forums and high school classes on science and faith topics, and discussing art and faith in *Beyond Words*.

An exciting part of my life and faith formation (speaking of that) has been underway during the past three years. Being a part of St. Mark's as we experience becoming a multicultural and multilingual parish means a tremendous amount to me. This adventure is one I didn't know was coming. All the more reason why it's changing my life and opening it up in good, good ways.

It's an honor for me to be nominated for Junior Warden. This month I transition to semi-retirement after a thirty-year career as a principal hydrogeologist for large environmental projects at MWH. I'm thankful for the meaningful work I've had, for our clergy and congregation, for new opportunities to serve together, to grow, and to deepen our friendships and make more new friends, at and through St. Mark's.

For Vestry:



Kim Lloyd-Eichenauer: I was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana but spent most of my childhood here in Glen Ellyn. After graduating from Miami University and Northwestern Business School, I lived in Chicago where I met my husband, Scott. We moved to Glen Ellyn after we were married in 2003.

I am currently a stay-at-home mom to our daughter Sofie who is three and a half. Prior to this (by far my most rewarding role) I spent several years in a leadership role at Arc Worldwide--a marketing agency headquartered in Chicago. Before I left to stay home, I was a global brand strategist at McDonald's corporation.

To say that St. Mark's has served an important role in my life is an understatement. After having been baptized at an Episcopal church in Fort Wayne, I celebrated my First Communion and Confirmation here. And, while I attended Church of Our Savior while living in the city, Scott and I came back to St. Mark's to be married.

I've had the good fortune to meet many of you at the coffee hours as I currently serve as a coffee hour minister; and I've met more of you through the preschool which Sofie now attends (and loves).

I would be honored, if elected, to serve as a member of the Church Vestry. Thank you so much for your consideration.



Jim Grotelueschen: Jim and Kit Grotelueschen have been members of St Mark's for 2 years. Jim is joining the vestry as the Outreach coordinator. He has a MS in Electrical Engineering from Marquette University and an MBA from the University of Chicago. Following 30+ years in the wireless industry, he does technical and business consulting thru The Grotelueschen Solution. Jim and Kit have two sons; John, 30 and Michael, 27. Kit and Jim were active in Boy Scouts for 15 years and have been active in the Food Pantry and PADs programs. Jim is looking forward to serving on the vestry and expanding his activity in the Outreach programs at St. Mark's.



Scott Shorney: I have been attending St. Mark's with my wife, Susan, and our boys, Charlie now 10 and Roger now 6, since 2007. Susan and I both grew up in Wheaton where we still live, myself as a Presbyterian and Susan in the Catholic Church. We have found a nice common ground at St. Mark's. I have served on the Buildings and Ground Committee the last couple years. Since Cheryl Olsen stepped down last year I have helped coordinate the numerous volunteers and contractors who collectively keep our church in such outstanding physical shape as the vestry liaison for B&G. I hope to continue in that role, helping to keep up the high standards Cheryl established as well as to keep a close watch on our budget. During the week I am lucky to be part of the 4th generation of Shorneys to run Hope Publishing Company, a church music publishing company.

Youth Representatives to the Vestry:



Jocelyn Briones: My name is Jocelyn Briones and I am 19 years old. I have been a member of St. Mark's for almost 17 years. Currently I am attending College of DuPage and plan on becoming a bilingual/special needs early childhood education teacher. I will be the youth representative for the Spanish service. I am also the middle school group leader alongside three others, which meets every 2nd Wednesday of each month. I currently am the nursery supervisor at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church. I also help my mom, Norma, in the nursery when I can throughout the week. St. Mark's has been like a second home for me.



Will Delany: My name is Will Delany, and I have been part of the St. Mark's Community for as long as I can remember. I was confirmed in 2012, and I have served as an acolyte, and I now serve as a subdeacon. I play football, wrestle, and run track at Glenbard West High School, and I am also involved in Fellowship of Christian Athletes, as well as the Ultimate Frisbee Club and the Glenbard West Orchestra. Outside of school, I am an Eagle Scout in Troop 41, and still active in Scouting.

Diocesan Convention Delegates:



Beremundo Damian: My name is Beremundo Damian. I was born and raised in a small town called El Paraje Nuevo, Guerrero, Mexico. I arrived to the United States in 1982 and in 2000 my wife and two kids came to live in the United States with me. Two years later, my third child was born and three years after that my wife and I had our last kid. We now have 4 wonderful children, a young lady and three boys. My family and I have been members of St. Mark's Episcopal Church located in Glen Ellyn, IL for almost three years now. We have been part of the Spanish service since the very first day that there was a service offered in Spanish, which if I remember correctly was back in December of 2011. Ever since then, my family and I have been involved in many activities at St. Mark's and we have enjoyed every minute of it. St. Mark's is a wonderful church and I am glad my family and I decided to be part of such a great community.



David Fletcher: David Fletcher and his wife Joyce have been active at St. Mark's for over 14 years and have been Episcopalians for 34 years. He has been on the vestry and serves currently as a lector and subdeacon. He has worked with Adult Forum and is our contact to arrange St. Nicholas's annual visit. He also writes a column on liturgy for the Postmark. David teaches philosophy at Wheaton College and is on the ethics committee of Central DuPage Hospital. David and Joyce live in Wheaton. He would be delighted to serve St. Mark's as an alternate convention delegate.

Senior Warden's Report

2014 was an active and exciting year for St. Mark's. We continue to be guided by and live up to our mission statement: "Rooted in Baptism. Growing in Faith. Branching out into the World".

The parish was fortunate to have a strong supporting clergy and staff that kept the church running smoothly during Father George's sabbatical this summer. Thanks to Victor, Robin, Walter, and Miguel, as well as additional support from Suzi Holding, Clint Moore and Catharine Phillips during this time. We also give a special thank you to George for all of the work that he does and for coming back to us. I also thank our vestry for their leadership during this time.

Kristin Margaglione stepped in as Director of Children's Ministry as Jill Bednas and the Bednas family moved back to Michigan. Kristin and Jill did a fabulous job of making the transition seamless right at the beginning of the school year. Under their strong leadership, St. Mark's offerings for our children continue to expand, including Sunday School, Parent's Day Out (PDO) and Pre-School.

Kim Reed agreed to become our formal Director of Youth Ministry (she formerly was serving as Interim Director). Kim has done a great job expanding youth activities, particularly with the 1PM service and opportunities for multicultural experiences for all of our youth. St. Mark's again had two mission trips for youth. It was the 9th trip to our sister parish in Nigromonte, Mexico and the second time for the Appalachia Service Project. Please see how wonderful these trips were in the respective reports.

We marked the third anniversary of our 1PM service and our Latino/Hispanic experience in December. The number of people attending has continued to grow and the level of involvement and leadership is taking root. There are too many good things happening here to list, thanks to the continued integration of our multicultural congregation and the support and encouragement of our clergy, staff and dedicated parishioners. Please read Father Victor's report for a better description of this ministry.

St. Mark's was very active this year with music and art. We signed a contract to begin completion of our pipe organ and purchased two grand pianos (in Mahon Hall and the sanctuary, respectively) that have already been put to good use. Thank you to our generous benefactors, as well as the leadership of Charles Snider and Marsha Webster. We held multiple art installations in St. Mark's this year, including by our upcoming junior warden, Peter Vagt.

St. Mark's financial health continues to be solid. We continue to improve our communication to the parish regarding our financial activities. Our talented and gifted treasurers and finance committee members continue to work at decreasing our debt and make wise use of the generosity of those who give monetarily to St. Mark's while still expanding our activities. We ended 2014 on good financial footing and will again have a balanced budget for 2015.

I continue to be impressed by the caliber and dedication of the clergy, staff, and vestry of the church, as well as the diversity of people willing to dedicate their time and resources to St. Mark's and its ministries. I was honored to serve as warden for the last two years. Next year will present more challenges and more opportunities to serve God and His people. I am confident Senior Warden Edna Heatherington and Junior Warden Peter Vagt will continue the good work of St. Mark's.

Eric McAlpine

2015 OPERATING BUDGET**Proposed**

Revenues	2014 BUDGET	2014 ACTUAL	2015 BUDGET
Current Year Contributions			
Pledge Payments	\$ 610,000	\$ 627,520	\$ 630,000
Open Plate	\$ 62,000	\$ 53,450	\$ 68,000
Special Collections	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,395	\$ 1,000
Fund Raising Events	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,739	\$ 5,000
Gifts to Outreach	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,050	\$ 7,500
Prior Year Pledges	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,715	\$ 4,000
Usage Income	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,593	\$ 7,500
Other Income	\$ 14,200	\$ 13,716	\$ 10,100
Spanish Lang Service	\$ 35,000	\$ 37,215	\$ 35,000
St. Mark's total revenue	\$ 745,200	\$ 758,391	\$ 768,100
St. Mark's Pre-school	\$ 76,000	\$ 91,165	\$ 76,000
PDO Cost Reimbursement	\$ 67,000	\$ 82,153	\$ 67,000
Total Revenue	\$ 888,200	\$ 931,708	\$ 911,100
Expenses			
Clergy Payroll (incl Benefits)	\$ 229,754	\$ 226,726	\$ 233,732
Other Expenses:			
Programs	\$ 20,300	\$ 22,838	\$ 20,700
Music			
Staff	\$ 62,775	\$ 62,434	\$ 65,140
Program	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,739	\$ 6,500
Administration			
Staff	\$ 35,403	\$ 35,219	\$ 36,122
Program	\$ 21,000	\$ 25,612	\$ 21,000
Buildings & Grounds			
Staff	\$ 17,762	\$ 19,312	\$ 19,915
Program	\$ 199,335	\$ 199,621	\$ 201,335
Our Children			
Staff	\$ 52,081	\$ 48,012	\$ 53,173
Program	\$ 6,500	\$ 4,707	\$ 6,920
M&O	\$ 63,962	\$ 62,666	\$ 73,370
Rectory Expenses	\$ 17,570	\$ 19,206	\$ 17,570
Spanish Language Service			
Staff	\$ -		\$ -
Program	\$ 12,000	\$ 9,333	\$ 12,000
St. Mark's total expenses	\$ 744,942	\$ 742,425	\$ 767,477
St. Marks Pre-School	\$ 76,000	\$ 88,808	\$ 76,000
PDO Expenditures	\$ 67,000	\$ 74,595	\$ 67,000
Total Expenses	\$ 887,942	\$ 905,827	\$ 910,477
St. Mark's Net Total	\$ 258	\$ 15,966	\$ 623
Transfer from Campbell			
Transfer from M&O Reserve	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	3500
Transfer from operating temp restricted	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	40000

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Balance Sheet Analysis, December 2014

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St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Balance Sheet Analysis
December 2014

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Accounts	Current Balance (Last Year)	Current Balance (This Year)
Assets		
Operating Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
1101.00 - Checking Community Bank	\$41,517.50	\$47,274.22
1103.30 - Money Market Acc't - Community B	\$38,866.34	\$50,643.30
1106.00 - DK Checking	\$3,838.00	\$4,318.43
1107.00 - PDO-Checking	\$8,073.25	\$13,141.14
1109.00 - St. Mark's Preschool checking	\$27,751.66	\$38,809.42
1110.10 - Memorial MMKT-Community Bank	\$7,078.49	\$10,287.41
1115.00 - Rector's Discretionary Community	\$6,701.75	\$6,559.97
1118.00 - Conrado Discretionary Fund	\$571.54	\$2,103.21
1119.00 - F/A for Immigrant Solidarity DuPage	\$1,097.04	\$40.81
1125.00 - Restricted Funds CD	\$44,019.85	\$44,803.31
1135.00 - M & O Reserve Fund CD	\$35,198.94	\$29,116.00
1150.10 - Thanksgiving Chkg-Community Ba	\$1,827.26	\$1,894.12
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$216,541.62	\$248,991.34
Investments		
1201.00 - Diocesan Foundation	\$11,521.26	\$12,728.31
1209.00 - Wayne Hummer-Operating	\$2,008.84	\$1,989.07
1215.00 - Wayne Hummer - Lewis	\$228,694.94	\$241,713.80
Total Investments	\$242,225.04	\$256,431.18
Total Operating Assets	\$458,766.66	\$505,422.52
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	\$0.00	\$372.00
1715.00 - Stained Glass	\$163,000.00	\$163,000.00
1720.00 - Rectory	\$473,000.00	\$473,000.00
Total Property and Equipment	\$7,437,900.00	\$7,438,272.00
Total Non-operating Assets	\$7,437,900.00	\$7,438,272.00
Total Assets	\$7,896,666.66	\$7,943,694.52

Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
2140.00 - Rental transmittal	\$100.00	\$0.00
2150.00 - Wedding Transmittal	\$3,150.00	\$1,000.00
2151.00 - Funeral Transmittal	\$1,025.58	\$0.00
2160.00 - F/A for Immigrant Solidarity DuPage	\$1,097.04	\$40.81
2162.00 - Organ Completion Fund	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$20,372.62	\$1,040.81
Long Term Liabilities		
2172.00 - Building Mortgage Payable	\$836,074.54	\$804,310.83
2173.00 - Debt Reduction loan -Diocese of C	\$585,856.00	\$575,475.04
2701.00 - Rectory Mortgage Payable	\$115,065.31	\$111,067.06
Total Long Term Liabilities	\$1,536,995.85	\$1,490,852.93
Total Liabilities	\$1,557,368.47	\$1,491,893.74
Fund Balance		
3100.00 - General Fund Balance	\$1,567,839.86	\$1,606,144.88
3200.00 - Investment in Property & Equipmen	\$4,384,014.98	\$4,384,014.98
Excess Cash Received	(\$13,374.63)	\$29,388.42
Total Fund Balance and Excess Cash Received	\$5,938,480.21	\$6,019,548.28
Restricted Funds		
Total Temporarily Restricted	\$172,123.04	\$190,538.70
Total Permanently Restricted	\$228,694.94	\$241,713.80
Total Restricted Funds	\$400,817.98	\$432,252.50

Accounts	Current Balance (Last Year)	Current Balance (This Year)
Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds	\$7,896,666.66	\$7,943,694.52

Designated Memorial Funds

There are a number of designated St. Mark's memorial funds under these names: Ida Hanson, Bruce Mahon, Jean Lattan, Philip & Dru Carter, Rachel Dinse, John Schmuck, Fred Dinse, Marion Hesterman, Peggy Schopinski, Dorothy Peterson, Keith Schoen, Jan Novak, Wick Goodspeed, Gary Leid, Jeannine Mahon, with a combined balance totaling \$53,599 as of 12/31/14. The amounts in the designated memorials are included in the temporarily restricted total in the balance sheet.

2015 Giving Campaign

Once again, serving on the Annual Giving Campaign was a rewarding and inspiring experience. Our committee this year chose to emphasize the rich tapestry that is parish life at St. Mark's -- a tapestry woven of our people, our gifts, and our experiences together.

Each August we begin our planning with the knowledge that, for St. Mark's to be a thriving congregation and serve many, regular contributions are needed from all of us. And, as every year, we know that the Wardens and Vestry need to hear from all of us, in the form of pledges, in order to make a responsible budget that will support the ministries and congregational life of St. Mark's.

We gathered a group together in the summer to brainstorm new approaches -- as usual Javier Valdivia came up with lovely graphics and our overarching theme -- the tapestry. As we weave together the different interests and passions of our parishioners, and more fully form the strong, whole cloth of our multilingual, multicultural community, the theme of a colorful tapestry seemed especially resonant.

Meanwhile, we have switched to a new pledging envelope system, whereby pledging envelopes arrive by mail multiple times a year, in order to regularly remind pledgers of their financial commitment to the church. This also gives us additional opportunities to communicate all sorts of good news to our members.

We also tried to strongly encourage electronic giving and online giving options, to help keep the church balance sheets more even and steady throughout the coming year, with regularized incoming monies.

Pledges have come in a record number (275 compared to 263 a year ago by January 15) and pledges have also arrived in a record amount (\$615,000 compared to \$595,000 by January 15 a year ago).

Thank you, everyone, for your participation in the 2015 Giving Campaign. If you haven't been able to return your pledge card yet, there's still time and our goal is in sight!

Your 2015 Giving Campaign Team,

Javier Valdivia, Andrew Dorn, Ellie Dunham

And special thanks from us to George Smith, Victor Conrado, and Dellana Mote for all their help, and to Michael Boskovic for the great printing.

Report on the Latino/Hispanic Experience at St. Mark's

Annual Meeting 2015

Report on the Latino/Hispanic Ministry at St. Mark's Glen Ellyn

In the Gospel according to John 1:29-42, there is a simple conversation that is at the same time critical to the health of the whole church and very rare. It's short, it's sweet, and at first glance, it doesn't look to be that hard. Here it is, just near the end of the reading, as two of John's disciples ask Jesus where he is abiding and, in response, Jesus says three simple words: "Come and see." This invitation, since then, has unleashed a realm of events, invitations and many conversations in our communities of faith and families, conversations to which we have been invited to actively participate.

In looking at the past year in our parish community, I can say that we have had many of these invitations that have led to a variety of conversations. I reflect, in this report, upon some of these invitations and conversations using the three moments that define the Evangelization/Proclamation of the Word in a missionary context. These three moments are: NOTICE – SHARE – INVITE.

NOTICE – Where did we see/feel the presence of God in the world and our lives?

God's presence was seen/felt during this year in the invitation to move away from our comfort zones and come together as a bilingual and multicultural parish community. We are now into our fourth year of active presence as Latinos/Hispanics at St. Mark's and we have been very intentional in helping members in our parish community, in our Diocese of Chicago and in the community at large, notice that we are NOT two separate congregations. We are ONE parish family that happens to worship and organize its life in two languages so that we can reach out further into our community. Many more Latino/Hispanic newcomers have joined this journey because they noticed and because they heard about this experience. One common comment that many who come for the first time to St. Mark's have is that they feel welcomed, accepted, and invited to participate in the local and wider community. It is important for us that newcomers notice this because this is what St. Mark's wants to communicate to them. During this past year we can say that life has been given abundantly to many in many different ways.

It has not been an easy task because we want to still see and feel God's presence in what we consider similar to us in our traditions, customs and religiosity. We have seen that something new has been born here at St. Mark's and it has been noticed in our Diocese of Chicago and in the community at large.

SHARE – Where and how do we share what we have noticed?

It has been a transformational year for the 1:00 p.m. parishioners. We have shared the experience of being a bilingual and multicultural parish within our own parish as well as within the deanery and the diocese. We have shared this experience using social media, printed materials, and word of mouth. We have also had the opportunity to participate in local and national events.

This is where we share in our Parish Community:

- Parish Events: Women's Retreat, Mexico Mission Trip, Art Exhibition, Parish Picnic, Men BBQ, All-in Sunday, Pumpkin Fest, Arts-Beats-Eats, Cinco de Mayo, and Taco Lunch Sunday.
- Worship: Easter Vigil, Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve and 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day services.
- Programs: Wednesday Bible Study, Children and Youth Programs.
- Volunteer Opportunities: PADS, Church clean-up day, Pumpkin Patch and sales.

There were other events that helped assert and share our culture and traditions as Latino/Hispanic. These included Novena and Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Rosca de Reyes, Posadas, Taste of Latin America. We had seven baptisms, two weddings, and five quinceañeras celebrated during the year. We had a total of 33 children, youth, and adults who celebrated their first communion and 16 who were confirmed. Each week we average 3 to 5 first time attendees in the 1:00 p.m. service. Our average attendance of Sunday is 100 people. These events show that we are a multicultural and bilingual parish ready and able to welcome everyone.

In sharing who we are at St. Mark's, we have been invited to be generous with our TIME, TALENTS and TREASURE. We have seen this year how many volunteers offered their time and talents to organize the event on All-in Sunday as well as other celebrations like the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, etc. I want to applaud these volunteers for taking these events and organizing them from their own initiative. This is huge and encouraging for many years to come.

We are happy to announce that this year with the help of Kristin Margaglione and Kim Reed, we continued to have a well-organized Sunday School program for our children and youth. This is helping us to offer better Christian formation to them and to expose them to a variety of experiences in our church and community. We now have five trained teachers in the catechesis program of Godly Play. They have taken the responsibility of Sunday school teaching on Sundays.

We are represented on the St. Mark's Vestry by Rosio Barrera and Mauro Hernandez as well as our youth representative Arturo Rubio. This year we will have Jocelyn Briones. We have a diocesan delegate, Beremundo Damian. This area of identifying, preparing and accompanying leaders has been challenging. We have many great women and men leaders that want to commit but due to other responsibilities they are not able to do so. Fear of commitment is another important aspect that prevents them from participating.

Thanks to the great motivational and creational work of Marsha Webster, we have seen a lot new young people join the choir on Sundays. We also have adults expressing a desire to join the choir. We appreciate the efforts and energy that Marsha has placed, from the beginning, in the variety of people and music for the 1:00 p.m. service. We thank Bob Lundin for his commitment to this service. He has blessed us, not only with his music, but also by welcoming us at his house during the Novenas for Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Another important point to note is that we have seen more and more 1:00 p.m. parishioners feeling at home at the different services offered on Sunday. Cultural and language challenges have been placed aside and they now enjoy the sacredness and beauty of each other's ways of worship.

This year we have been able to participate in the different meetings of the Glen Ellyn Religious Leaders and the One Church Project. We were able to attend and represent St. Mark's at PADS and we have had a presence at different ecumenical gatherings related to Immigration issues and present realities of the Latino/Hispanic population. We have had a presence during DuPage United Delegate's Assembly as we share the experiences and limitations of being the voice of many who are voiceless in the community due to their immigration status. We want to bring this issue to be part of who we are as St. Mark's to many decision-making venues.

In our Diocese of Chicago, we have been able to share our experience during our Diocesan Convention, deanery meetings, and in being active members of different committees and task forces. We want to challenge the present ways that we, as a Diocese, understand our present parish and/or mission systems, mainly when we want to explore how we can work together as Latino and Anglo congregations.

After facing many obstacles, we were able to organize a one day workshop on sharing our experience of St. Mark's with some parishes and missions that are interested in starting Latino/Hispanic Ministry. This workshop will take place here at St. Mark's on Saturday, January 24, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. We hope to welcome 30 to 40 people to this workshop. The center of this workshop will be to share and listen to our experiences and especially to hear from St. Mark's parishioners about their own day-to-day experience of being a bilingual and multicultural parish.

Nationally, we participated in two important gatherings, the first one called New Community, was in Kanuga, North Carolina, a venue in which we shared, in one of the seminars they offered, our experience with members of the Episcopal and Lutheran Church representing minority groups. The second gathering was Nuevo Amanecer, a conference organized by the office of Latino Ministries of the Episcopal Church. I shared our experience and listened to others about the creation of multicultural communities.

INVITE – How do we invite other to come and see what God is doing at St. Mark's?

We want people to invite people to understand and live this experience at St. Mark's. We are NOT two different congregations because we are ONE parish family. This is why we want to continue actively inviting people personally to come and see what the Lord is doing through many individuals and families here at St. Mark's. At the same time we want to strengthen those who are already living this experience. Our focus of formation last year as well as this year is IDENTITY. To do this we want to implement the following program:

- Adult Formation:
At the moment we have adult formation every Sunday from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This is open for everyone, but especially we invite parents of children who are in catechesis or in preparation to receive a sacrament. In addition to this class we are going to open an Inquirers Class. We want to invite these candidates to formally be received into the Episcopal Church in the month of October. Our central topic is the Baptismal Covenant. This has allowed us to bring different topics such as Executive Immigration Action and SCARCE. We want to invite people to think and live their faith outside of the box.
- Bridge Group:
We want to invite other St. Mark's parishioners to attend our bi-monthly Bridge Group Meeting. This is still a great space for both Anglo and Latino/Hispanic to understand and learn more about each other.
- Children and Youth Formation:
We have a total of 46 children for Communion Celebration this year and 11 for confirmation. Their formation will be centered in the Baptismal Covenant.
- Stewardship:
We will continue our invitation, formation and motivation for members of the 1:00 p.m. service to pledge. I have created a different approach to the way we have distributed the materials to parishioners. This year's campaign was centered on handing out materials during the service and explaining to parishioners what it means to make and keep a pledge to St. Mark's.
- Diocesan Involvement:
We want to have a Learning Opportunity here at St. Mark's where we share our experience of being a multicultural and bilingual parish with parishes that are interested in opening their doors to our Latino/Hispanic sisters and brothers. We want to organize a second learning opportunity day as well as to publish articles reflecting on this experience.

This work has been made possible because of the people who have invested their time and talents and have sacrificed family and work to be present. Some of them are: George Smith, Robin Curie, Miguel Briones, Marsha Webster, Kim Reed, Judy Jackson, Juanita and Abraham Jimenez, Juan Camacho and Itsel Carmona, Lucia Conrado, Kristin Margaglione, Mauro and Alejandra Montes-Hernandez, Felipe and Laura Lopez, Bob Lundin, Alejandra Rubio, Julio Reyes and Angeles Perdomo, Francisco and Belen Barrera, Michelle and Rafael Garcia, Daughters of the King, Beremundo Damian, Edna Heatherington and our youth leaders Alma and Isabel Barrera, Omar Lopez, Arturo Rubio, Abraham Jimenez Jr., and Jocelyn Briones. We are blessed to have them in our parish.

I thank God for the life and ministry of my wife Lucia and my sons David and Daniel. 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 means to love someone.

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

Yours in Christ,

Victor H. Conrado+

Reunión Anual – San Marcos 2015

Reporte del Ministerio Hispano/Latino de la Parroquia Episcopal de San Marcos.

En el Evangelio según San Juan 1: 29-42, hay una conversación simple que es, al mismo tiempo, crítica para la salud de toda la iglesia y muy rara. Es corta, dulce, y a primera vista, no parece ser tan difícil. Aquí está, sólo cerca del final de la lectura, ya que dos de los discípulos de Juan preguntaron a Jesús donde él mora y, en respuesta, Jesús dice tres simples palabras: "Venid y lo veréis". Esta invitación, desde entonces, ha desatado una serie de eventos, invitaciones y muchas conversaciones en nuestras comunidades de fe y familias, las conversaciones a las que nosotros hemos sido invitados a participar activamente.

Al mirar el pasado año en nuestra comunidad parroquial, puedo decir que hemos tenido muchas de estas invitaciones que han llevado a una variedad de conversaciones. Reflexiono, en este informe, en algunas de estas invitaciones y conversaciones con los tres momentos que definen la Evangelización / Proclamación de la Palabra en un contexto misión. Estos tres momentos son: NOTAR - COMPARTIR - INVITAR.

NOTAR - ¿Dónde hemos visto/sentido la presencia de Dios en el mundo y en nuestras vidas?

La presencia de Dios fue vista/sentida en este año en la invitación a alejarnos de nuestras zonas de comodidad y unirnos como una comunidad parroquial bilingüe y multicultural. Ahora estamos en nuestro cuarto año de nuestra presencia activa como latinos/hispanos en San Marcos y hemos sido muy intencional en ayudar a los miembros de nuestra comunidad parroquial, en nuestra Diócesis de Chicago y en la comunidad en general, a ver que no somos dos congregaciones separadas. Somos una familia parroquia que celebra y organiza su vida en dos idiomas para que podamos llegar más lejos. Muchas personas se han unido a este viaje porque han oído hablar de esta experiencia. Un comentario común de las personas que vienen por primera vez a San Marcos dicen es que se sientan bienvenidos/as, aceptados/as, e invitados/as a participar en la comunidad local y en general. Es importante para nosotros que los recién llegados se percaten de ello, porque esto es lo que San Marcos quiere comunicarles. Durante este último año, podemos decir que la vida se le ha dado en abundancia para muchos/as de manera diferentes. No ha sido una tarea fácil, porque queremos aún ver y sentir la presencia de Dios en lo que consideramos similar a nosotros en nuestras tradiciones, costumbres y religiosidad. Hemos visto que algo nuevo ha nacido aquí en San Marcos y se ha notado en nuestra Diócesis de Chicago y en la comunidad en general.

COMPARTIR - ¿Dónde y cómo compartimos lo que hemos notado?

Ha sido un año de transformación para nosotros/as. Hemos compartido la experiencia de ser una parroquia bilingüe y multicultural dentro de nuestra propia parroquia, así como dentro del decanato y la diócesis. Hemos compartido esta experiencia en el uso de medios sociales, materiales impresos, y el boca a boca. También hemos tenido la oportunidad de participar en eventos locales y nacionales. Aquí están algunos ejemplos:

- Eventos Parroquiales: Retiro de Mujeres, México Misión Inspiración, Exhibición de Arte, Picnic Parroquial, BBQ de hombres, Tod@s Junt@s en domingo, Festival de las calabazas, Arte-Sonido-Comida, Cinco de Mayo, y Taco almuerzo del domingo.
- Adoración: Vigilia de Pascua, fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, Nochebuena y las Servicios día de Navidad.
- Programas: Estudio de la Biblia, programas infantiles y juveniles.
- Oportunidades de Voluntariado: PADS, jornadas de limpieza, venta de calabazas.

Otros eventos que ayudaron a afirmar y compartir nuestra cultura y tradiciones como latinos / hispanos incluyen Novena y Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, la Rosca de Reyes, Posadas, El sabor de América Latina. Tuvimos siete bautizos, dos bodas y cinco quinceañeras se celebran durante el año. Tuvimos un total de 33 niñas/os, jóvenes y adultos que celebraron su primera comunión y 16 que fueron confirmados. Cada semana tenemos un promedio de 3 a 5 nuevas personas. Nuestro promedio de asistencia de los domingos es de 100 personas. Estos eventos comparten que somos una parroquia multicultural y bilingüe lista y capaz de dar la bienvenida a todos.

En el intercambio de lo que somos en San Marcos, hemos sido invitados a ser generosos con nuestro tiempo, talentos y tesoros. Hemos visto este año el número de voluntarios que ofrecen su tiempo y talento para organizar eventos importantes en nuestra parroquia. Quiero aplaudir a estos voluntarios/os para tomar estos eventos y organizarlos de su propia iniciativa. Esta es enorme y alentador para nuestros próximos años.

Hemos contado con la ayuda de Kristin Margaglione y Kim Reed, que siguen teniendo un programa de Escuela Dominical bien organizado para nuestros niñas/os y jóvenes. Esto nos ayuda a ofrecer mejor formación cristiana para ello/as y para exponerlos a una variedad de experiencias en nuestra iglesia y comunidad. Ahora tenemos cinco maestras capacitadas en el programa de catequesis de Jugar Junto a Dios. Ellas han tomado la responsabilidad de enseñar en la escuela dominical.

Estamos representados en la Junta Parroquial de San Marcos por Rosio Barrera y Mauro Hernández, así como nuestro representante juvenil Arturo Rubio. Este año vamos a tener Joseline Briones. Tenemos un delegado diocesano, Beremundo Damian. Esta área de la identificación, preparación y acompañamiento líderes ha sido un reto. Tenemos muchas grandes mujeres y hombres líderes que quieren comprometerse, pero debido a otras responsabilidades no han podido. Miedo al compromiso es otro aspecto importante que les impide participar.

Gracias a la gran labor de motivación y creacional de Marsha Webster, hemos visto una gran cantidad de nuevos jóvenes en el coro dominical. También tenemos adultos que expresan la necesidad de formar parte del coro. Apreciamos los esfuerzos y energía que Marsha ha puesto, desde el principio, en la variedad de gente y la música para nuestro servicio. Damos las gracias a Bob Lundin por su compromiso con este servicio. Él nos ha bendecido, no sólo con su música, sino también por darnos la bienvenida en su casa durante la Novena a la Virgen de Guadalupe.

Otro punto importante a destacar es que hemos visto más y más feligreses se sienten en casa en los diferentes servicios que se ofrecen en domingo. Desafíos culturales y lingüísticas se han colocado a un lado y ahora disfrutan de la santidad y la belleza de la liturgia.

Este año hemos podido participar en las diferentes reuniones de los Líderes Religiosos de Glen Ellyn y el Proyecto Una Sola Iglesia. Hemos sido capaces de asistir y representar a San Marcos en PADS y hemos tenido una presencia en diferentes reuniones ecuménicas relacionadas con cuestiones de inmigración y las realidades actuales de la población latina / hispana. Hemos tenido una presencia en la Asamblea de Delegados de DuPage al compartir las experiencias y las limitaciones de ser la voz de muchos/as de los que no tienen voz en la comunidad debido a su estatus migratorio. Queremos llevar este asunto a ser parte de lo que somos como San Marcos a muchos los lugares en donde se toman estas decisiones.

En nuestra Diócesis de Chicago, hemos sido capaces de compartir nuestra experiencia durante nuestra Convención Diocesana, reuniones de decanato, y en ser miembros activos de diferentes comités y grupos de trabajo. Queremos desafiar las actuales formas en que se entiende un trabajo en conjunto como congregaciones latinas y anglosajonas.

Después de enfrentarnos a muchos obstáculos, hemos sido capaces de organizar un taller de un día en compartir nuestra experiencia de San Marcos con algunas parroquias y misiones que están interesados en iniciar Ministerio Hispano/Latino. Este taller se llevará a cabo aquí en San Marcos en Sábado, 24 de enero 2015 de 9:00 a.m. a 03:30 p.m. Esperamos dar la bienvenida de 30 a 40 personas a este taller. El centro de este taller será el de compartir y escuchar nuestras experiencias y sobre todo saber de los feligreses de San Marcos sobre su propia experiencia en el día a día de ser una parroquia bilingüe y multicultural.

A nivel nacional, se participó en dos reuniones importantes, la primera llamada Nueva Comunidad, en Kanuga, KC, en donde compartimos nuestra experiencia con los miembros de la Iglesia Episcopal y Luterana. La segunda reunión fue Nuevo Amanecer, una conferencia organizada por la oficina de Ministerios Latinos de la Iglesia

Episcopal. He compartido nuestra experiencia y escuchaba a los demás acerca de la creación de comunidades multiculturales.

INVITAMOS - ¿Cómo invitar a otros/as a venir y ver lo que Dios está haciendo en San Marcos?

Queremos invitar a experimentar y vivir San Marcos. No somos dos congregaciones diferentes sino una sola familia parroquial. Es por esto que queremos seguir invitando a la gente activamente y personalmente a venir y ver lo que el Señor está haciendo a través de muchas personas y familias aquí en San Marcos. Al mismo tiempo queremos fortalecer los que ya están viviendo esta experiencia. Nuestro enfoque de la formación el año pasado, así como este año es IDENTIDAD. Para ello queremos poner en práctica el siguiente programa:

- Formación de Adultos: Por el momento tenemos la formación de adultos todos los domingos de 11:45 a.m. a 12:30 p.m. Este está abierto para todos, pero especialmente invitamos a los padres de los niñas/os que están en la catequesis o en preparación para recibir sacramentos. Además de esta clase vamos a abrir una clase de indagadores. Queremos invitar a los candidatos a formalmente ser recibidos en la Iglesia Episcopal en el mes de octubre. Nuestro tema central es el Pacto Bautismal. Esto nos ha permitido presentar diferentes temas como la Acción Ejecutiva de Inmigración y tener un taller de cuidado del medio ambiente.
- Grupo Puente: Queremos invitar a todas/os en San Marcos a asistir a nuestra bimensual Reunión del Grupo Puente. Esto sigue siendo un gran espacio para comprender y aprender más unos de otros.
- Niñas/os y Jóvenes en Formación: Tenemos un total de 46 niñas/os para Celebración Comunión este año y 11 para la confirmación. Su formación se centrará en el Pacto Bautismal.
- Mayordomía: Continuaremos nuestra invitación, formación y motivación de los miembros del servicio de 1:00 pm sobre este tema tan importante. La campaña para este año se ha centrado en la entrega de materiales durante el servicio y explicar a los feligreses lo que significa hacer y mantener una promesa anual en San Marcos.
- Participación Diocesano: Queremos crear un espacio de aprendizaje aquí en San Marcos donde compartimos nuestra experiencia de ser una parroquia multicultural y bilingüe con las parroquias que están interesados en abrir sus puertas a nuestros hermanos latinos / hispanos. Queremos organizar otro taller, así como la publicación de artículos de reflexión sobre esta experiencia.

Este trabajo ha sido posible gracias a las personas que han invertido su tesoros, tiempo y talento y han sacrificado familia y trabajo para estar presentes. Algunas/os de ellas/os son: George Smith, Robin Curie, Miguel Briones, Marsha Webster, Kim Reed, Judy Jackson, Juanita y Abraham Jiménez, Juan Camacho e Itzel Carmona, Lucía Conrado, Kristin Margaglione, Mauro y Alejandra Montes-Hernández, Felipe y Laura López, Bob Lundin, Alejandra Rubio, Julio Reyes y Ángeles Perdomo, Francisco y Belén Barrera, Michelle y Rafael García, Hijas del Rey, Beremundo Damian, Edna Heatherington y nuestros líderes juveniles Alma e Isabel Barrera, Omar López, Arturo Rubio, Abraham Jiménez Jr., y Jocelyn Briones. Tenemos mucha suerte de tenerlas/os en nuestra parroquia.

Doy gracias a Dios por la vida y el ministerio de mi esposa Lucía y mis hijos David y Daniel. Han sido de gran apoyo y me han ayudado a estar presente en la comunidad. Me han ayudado a vivir y entender lo que significa amar a alguien.

Démonos cuenta de la gran invitación de "Ven y verás" y para salgamos de nuestra zona de confort y sintámonos vulnerable, caminando juntas/os con los brazos abiertos para recibir a todas/os las personas que entran por nuestras puertas. Con la ayuda de Dios, podemos hacerlo.

Suyo en Cristo,

Victor H. Conrado +

Deacon's Report

In January of 2014 I was midway through my internship at Calvary Episcopal Church in Lombard. While I there, I developed and taught an eight-week adult forum exploring the passions of Christ, not the suffering but that about which he was passionate and how those passions impacted his final week. I worked with the lay eucharist ministers who took communion to the homebound members of Calvary, visited homebound parishioners, and participated in Calvary's Thrive project. And I preached and served as much as I could in a training role as a deacon.

While I was at Calvary, Catharine Phillips and I went to Florida for training and certification as Stephen Ministry leaders, training to guide others to strengthen and use their listening presence, their skills of reading between the lines, the abilities to discern appropriate support and resources while in a one-to-one relationship with an individual going through a life transition. I have met with several parishioners interested in developing the Stephen Ministry at St. Mark's and hope to begin training in February of 2015.

I completed my written and oral exams followed by a day of candidacy interviews, all of which resulted in being granted candidacy for ordination. After almost four years of discernment and education and training, my ordination into the vocational diaconate occurred June 28, 2014.

I returned to St. Mark's as a deacon day after ordination and serve at the four Sunday services during which I read the Gospel, set the altar, and dismissed those in attendance to go forth to love and serve the Lord.

During the summer I attended training for certification as an EfM (Education for Ministry) leader which allows me to lead others into a way of looking at the world through a theologically informed lens by reading and discussing the Bible over the course of four years.

In October I attended a four-day leadership Living Compass wellness small-group ministry training at the Cathedral Center with Jane Moore and Elizabeth Lanzillo. We experienced the meaning and implications of wellness within the church on many levels including but not restricted to the physical health of church members and visitors. In the spring of 2015 we hope to initiate that ministry at St. Mark's by offering a variety of wellness small group opportunities.

I have had the opportunity to serve at all four Sunday services, to read the Gospel, to set the altar, and to dismiss those in attendance to go forth to love and serve the Lord.

One of the learning components in becoming ordained as a deacon or as a priest in the Diocese of Chicago is to participate in Clinical Pastoral Education. I did my training at Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove where I experienced life as a chaplain weekends and evenings and overnight for six months. I was offered a position as a registry chaplain which is kind of like a substitute teacher in that I am asked to work when the board certified chaplains can't. I serve primarily in the Emergency Department and the Critical Care Units. Serving at Good Samaritan has been an important part of my ministry throughout 2014 and I look forward to continuing my presence in that ministry for years to come.

I look forward to building Stephen Ministry by teaching others to become active listeners, to develop the skills as a listening presence, in order to become a sounding board for those facing a life transition.

I look forward to assisting Living Compass's wellness ministry to become a ministry that serves not only those inside but also those who have not stepped inside the church.

I am grateful to the prayerful support of St. Mark's throughout my journey toward and through ordination, a prayerful support that remains a part of my ministry and my being.

Rev. Judy Jackson

January, 2015

Children and Youth Formation

Children's Ministry: Nursery through 5th grade

Christian Education

St. Mark's offers several faith formation opportunities for children, nursery age through elementary school. We are fortunate to have a large number of volunteers who commit their time and talents to be with the children.

Children's programs include Sunday school, JAM ("Jesus and Me", formerly Children's Worship), Nursery Care, Vacation Bible School and many other family events. Highlights from each area are as follows:

Nursery

Norma Cid supervises our nursery and has been with us for 17 years. She relies on a rotation of adult and teen volunteers who keep our nursery running smoothly during the 8:00, 9:15, 10:30 am and 1:00 pm services, as well as the 11:30 Sunday School. Norma and her daughter Jocelyn stay until 2:30 pm on Sunday afternoons to offer childcare. We average 14 children in the nursery each Sunday.

Sunday School

At 10:15, Sunday school classes are offered for children age 3 through fifth grade. This Sunday School group are using year one of our online accessible curriculum called "Weaving God's Promises" that was developed and written exclusively for the Episcopal Church. It offers suggested activities and crafts by 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 7 this year and will go through May 17. We have a 3-4 year old class, K-1 class, 2nd grade class, 3rd grade class and a 4-5th grade class. We average 9-10 children per class each Sunday.

A new class added this year at 10:15 is geared for children with special needs, called Allies. This class currently serves three children. They use both Godly Play materials and "Weaving God's Promises" to enhance their instruction.

We added one more class this year at 12:00. We now have one afternoon Spanish Languish Service Sunday School class for Kindergarten through second grade, one for third grade, and one through fifth grade. Both the K-2 class at 12:00 and the 3rd grade class are taught in Spanish using Godly Play. The 4th-5th grade is using "Weaving God's Promises." Attendance has been growing. The K-2 class averages 7 students a week. Prior to making the new class, we were averaging 11 students a week in the 3rd-5th grade. One week we even had 18!

We are so fortunate to have so many wonderful volunteers. At 10:15 Sunday School, we have the following volunteers:

Preschool 3s and 4s: Heidi Ruskusky, Alison Roberts, Roshana Pusateri, Alice Plutko, Brooke Bass, Heather Luttington, Deirdre Churchill, Rachel Alcorn, Patty and Matt Haffner

Kindergarten-First grade: Lesley Arlasky, Nancy Lincoln, Kelly Gross, Amanda Cyzen, Jennifer Johnson, Denise Joyce, Carney Noonsie

Second: Patty Weaver, David Greengas, Rebecca Boskovic

Third: Anne Marie Cudzillo, Penny and Scott Taback, Jodee and Ryan Dunham, Beth and Todd Treleven, Dave and Ellen Brannegan

Fourth-Fifth: Rich Janney, Amy Kaminski, Megan Dyser, Betsy Miller, Steve Hess, Kelly and Steve Gross, Beth and Todd Treleven, Bill Kalbfleisch

Allies: Katie Tebrugge, Darcie Lambert

At 12:00, we have the following dedicated volunteers:

K-2nd: Lucia Conrado, Itzel Carmona

3rd: Laura Lopez, Alejandra Montes, Fanny Perez

4th -5th: Ellie Rubio, Alejandra Rubio, Tomasa Casas

Jesus and Me (JAM) – Formerly Children’s Worship, this class offers the Godly Play approach on Sunday mornings during the 9:15 a.m. service for our youngest members, ages 4 -8 years old. We average 7-8 children per Sunday during the school year. Many thanks to Melody Mordini who organizes and assembles the story baskets and figures each week.

Storytellers: Sarah Adler, Laura McGovern, Jen Chavez, Kim Rothwell

Greeters: Melody Mordini, Maureen Isphording, Becky Martin, Sawyer Hill, Anne Soto

Vacation Bible School

“Jungle Safari” was the VBS theme this year. Caroline McAlpine kicked off early registration in 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 14-18th, and we were filled to capacity this year with 68 children age 4 through fourth grade. We offered a special session called “VBS Week PDO” for 2 & 3 year old siblings to offer more flexibility to parents with children of multiple ages. We had an outstanding group of adult leaders: Caroline

McAlpine, Sarah Adler, Rachel Alcorn, Heidi Hoppe, Heidi Ruskusky, Patty Weaver, Carnie Noensie. Thank you to all the other 30+ volunteers who guided children and taught classes.

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

St. Mark’s Superstars Drama Camps– St. Mark’s hosted 21 children (third grade through eighth grade) to a one day camp early January 2014, and again 17 in a week long morning camp held in Mahon Hall in early June. Local School District-41 Drama teacher Gina Corrado instructed the children in all areas of performance, including acting, singing, and movement. Our goal is to grow together as a faith community supporting each other as a team, and to build confidence and self-esteem in their abilities as performers by making the experience fun. The class shared a short performance on the last day.

There was also a drama camp held Jan 2nd 2015. The morning group of 4-6 year olds had 10 excited participants and there were 30 in the afternoon group of 7 year olds and older.

Author Visits – St. Mark’s Kindergarten-high school were lucky to have a visit from Bob Raczka, author of many books. He walked the children through the process authors go through while writing. He presented his latest book, Santa Clauses: Short Poems from the North Pole.

Then, Jack and Cathy Stockton, creators, illustrator and author presented their book to Kindergarten-second graders, as well as talked about Advent traditions on the first Sunday of Advent.

Advent Wreath Making – Offered on the first Sunday of Advent at 11:45 in Mahon Hall. Families and individuals could make their own wreath out of the supplies we brought in such as pine roping, several dozen metal rings, candles, fishing line, wire and ribbon. Each wreath was unique and special to its maker. Jack and Cathy Stockton stayed for this event to meet parishioners and sign their book The Advent Book.

Christmas Pageant – We enjoyed using the script written by parishioner/playwright Robert Lundin again this year. Amber Lemar directed the flawless pageant to a full house. “St. Mark’s Christmas Pageant 2015” was presented on December 21 during the 10:30 service. 62 children were cast in the production and did a wonderful job. We had a wonderful core team of volunteers: Marsha Webster – Music, Ellen Dickey—Director’s Assistant, Megan McGuire—Director’s Assistant, Karen Hill—Costumes, Stephanie Toppen—Angel Mom, Susan Shorney—

Shepherd Mom, Kristina Roth—Shepherd Mom, Rachel Alcorn—Sheep Mom, Patty Hafner—Sheep Mom. Many others stepped in and out to help make the pageant a success.

Outreach

Glen Ellyn Food Pantry - Children donate food (by Sunday school class) to the food pantry. We are doing this on a quarterly basis during the school year to keep it simple.

Trick or Treat for UNICEF— An annual outreach activity, children and 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 3rd annual pumpkin decorating contest during the 11:45 coffee hour during our All In Sunday in October. In total we raised \$265 for UNICEF.

St. Nicholas Luncheon - This annual luncheon was held on December 7, and Mahon Hall was full again this year. Participants raised hundreds of dollars in gift cards, cash, and toys for the Peoples Resource Center. Brynn Wulf organized the decorating and Kathy Kelly arranged a lovely warm meal. David Fletcher (our very own St. Nicholas) brought great stories and treats to the children. Thank you to Tom and Stephanie Toppen for managing the registration table. Thank you also to Jean Tschampa, Katherine Littlefield, Maggie and Nola Gross, Portia Noonsie and Claire Margaglione by entertaining the crowd by playing piano and offering live music to the luncheon. Other important helpers for the luncheon were Sarah Adler, Beth Treleven, Carney Noonsie, Pamela Rojc, AnneMarie Cudzillo, Meg and Mark Dyser, Lisa Baker, Anne Soto, Eden Shadis, Rosio, Alma and Isabelle Barrea, Alex and Claire Margaglione, Stephanie and Jack Toppen. It is a wonderful St. Mark's tradition which has been happening for many years.

St. Mark's Preschool and Parents Day Out – I serve on the board of the PDO program and am in regular communications with both the Preschool and the PDO to keep synergy between the groups. Our preschool was full this year and is expanding and will offer 5 days next year. PDO is also full and operates 5 days a week.

Kristin Margaglione

2014 Youth Ministry Report

At St. Mark's, we strive to help as many youth as possible feel connected to the St. Mark's community. We encourage youth to participate in the life of our parish and in the Church, and we try to model for them and teach them how to live out the Baptismal Covenant. Below is a summary of what we offer.

- We have two offerings of **Sunday School** classes for youth. At 10:15, we have 6th grade, 7th & 8th grade, and a high school class. Then there's an 11:30-12:00 first communion/confirmation class that serves a wide range of grades/ages for the 1:00 p.m. service. At noon, these students feed into Sunday School classes, organized by grade. For youth, there's a middle school class and a high school class. Teachers for youth Sunday School classes are: Graham Smith, George Churchill, Nancy Purcell, Dan Kelly, Will Dunlop, Steve Webster, Chad Alcorn, Cynthia Mote, Rosio Barrera, Michelle Roman, Virginia Vagt, and Pastor Robin Currie.
- Cynthia Mote is our **college intern**. Cynthia, a long-time parishioner, is a sophomore at Elmhurst College. She replaces Mitch Steed who graduated from Wheaton College last May. Cynthia helps teach the two high school classes on Sundays, helps lead the Youth Bridge Group, and assists with other youth events.
- We offer a **Middle School Youth Group** that meets the second Wednesday of the month during the school year and is led by college students Jocelyn Briones and Lizzie Gonzales, assisted by Teresa Norris, a former middle school teacher. **Highlights:** the OneChurch Retreat to Etz Chaim and the Christmas Dinner Party.

- Twice a month, on the first and third Wednesdays, we have the **High School+ Youth Group**. “Plus” because we have a few students recently out of high school who would like to be included. This group is led by Myles and Jess VanCamp. **Highlights:** in addition to the Summer Parking Lot Cookout and the Christmas Potluck, in November, High schoolers went to Laser Quest, followed by dinner at Portillo’s, and concluded with a worship service at Kathy and Dan Kelly’s home. The home worship was new and very well-received!
- **Confirmation** will be at St. Mark’s on Sunday, April 26, 2015 at both the 10:30 and 1:00 services. We will confirm those currently in 8th grade and older. Many of our 7th and 8th graders are currently meeting with mentors and attended a retreat in November to talk about confirmation. There will be a similar retreat offered for those in high school (and older) who would like to be confirmed in April. Twelve youth were confirmed at St. John’s in Naperville in May 2014 and two (one youth and one adult) at the Hispanic Liturgy at St. James in October 2014. **NEW:** Marsha and Steve Webster opened their home to the parents of 7th and 8th graders during the November Confirmation Retreat, so the parents could have fellowship and talk about confirmation.
- **Youth Bridge Group** continues and was moved to the first Sunday of the month to coincide with St. Mark’s Sunday with PADS, so we can make PADS lunches during this time.
- **Youth have been asked to participate in worship** as acolytes, ushers, subdeacons, chalice bearers, music performers, and readers. There was a youth-led Taize service in September, coordinated by Marsha Webster with help from Amy Joyce. **NEW:** For *All-in Sundays*, the last Sunday of the month, we have encouraged youth to attend and participate in worship (there is no Sunday School for youth on those Sundays).
- **Youth are volunteering** at PADS, serving dinner on the first Sunday of the month. They also help at the People’s Resource Center’s Food Pantry. St. Mark’s youth and Boy Scout Troop 44 participated in Sleep Out Saturday in November to raise money for Bridge Communities. Youth also helped with St. James Cathedral’s Sandwich Sunday this past year, including those who participated in “A Night at the Cathedral” retreat last January.
- This fall, there was a **parent meeting** held at the home of Julie and Hunter Walor to discuss youth opportunities at St. Mark’s.
- **Two youth served on Vestry in 2014:** Arturo Rubio and Caroline Arlasky. Arturo has been involved with Diocesan events and was a co-rector for a Middle School “New Beginnings Retreat” in the fall. Caroline was a **youth delegate** at the **Diocesan Convention** along with Nathan Littlefield (his second year in a row). The two youth representatives for the 2015 vestry will be Jocelyn Briones and Will Delany.
- **Mexico Mission Trip:** Thirteen youth and adults traveled to Nigromante in June, continuing the relationship that began in 2006. During the visit, we pledged to help fund San Marcos’ renovation of a space adjacent to the church in order to create a basic efficiency apartment that would allow Padre Senobio to stay overnight. This year, 2015, we celebrate our 10th visit to San Marcos! Fundraising and planning are ongoing.
- **Appalachia Service Project (ASP) Trip:** Six St. Markers, four youth and two adults, went to Martin, KY for the second year to help repair homes of needy families. The group raised funds with a flower sale that helped offset the cost of the trip for the individuals going, and then they paid for the van and gas with their “The House That St. Mark’s Built” fundraiser.

- **Jr. High Mission Camp:** St. Mark's offered a Jr. High Mission Camp with Grace Lutheran and First Methodist Church of Glen Ellyn. The theme was "Taking Care of God's Earth" and included visits to SCARCE, Testa Produce, and The Plant in Chicago.
- **Hispanic Youth Event:** Jocelyn Briones, with the help of other St. Mark's youth, helped organize activities for this Diocesan-wide event, which took place in Lake Villa.
- **St. Mark's and Diocesan Retreats:** Youth participated in St. Mark's retreats and those sponsored by the Diocese. **NEW:** In January 2014, we led a group of high schoolers to Chicago to stay overnight at St. James Cathedral for "A Night at the Cathedral."
- **Summer College Intern Program (NEW):** We had four college interns help out at St. Mark's this summer: Molly Toliver, Cynthia Mote, Julia Dorn, and Frances Smith. They helped with Children's and Youth Ministries and assisted the office manager and music associate.

St. Mark's is blessed by its youth and their families!

Kim Reed, Youth Ministry Coordinator

Boy Scout Troop 44

Boy Scout Troop 44 has been affiliated with St. Mark's Episcopal Church since 1919. We are currently a Troop of 15 boys. Most of them are still in grade school, so we are considered a young Troop. Our job as Troop leaders is to train these young men to become leaders with upstanding character, morals and ethics. We try to accomplish this mission through our activities. Some of these activities include camping, day trips and service projects. We use mentoring and leading by example as our means for training. We treat each boy with respect and provide them the opportunity to be responsible and contributing members of the Troop.

In the past, the Troop declined in membership. We are currently in the process of rebuilding the Troop. The boys we have recruited are active along with their parents. This year the boys have planned a year's worth of activities. During January they have gone skiing and volunteered at PADS. This coming weekend they will be going to Starved Rock and at the end of the month they will be running a station at the Klondike Derby at Cantigny. As you can see, we are becoming very active and our actions will help to keep the church in a positive light.

Debora L. Felsenthal
Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop 44

Adult Formation

Adult Forum meets Sundays during the school year from 9:30 to 10:30 in the Library. It is a great opportunity to hear presentations on very interesting topics, engage in fascinating discussion, and get to know other parishioners. In 2014, we had a variety of great speakers, many of whom are from St. Mark's. In 2015, we hope to explore new topic areas, learn more about local ministries, and invite more people to attend the Forum.

Brian Thompson

Music

Charles Snider

January of 2014 opened with a wonderful service of the music of Taizé which was held for the beginning of one of the parish's fine art exhibits. I'm very grateful to Marsha Webster for putting that event together, as well as the Taizé service she did with the youth in March. That same month we were treated to a wonderful recital by Cathryn Wilkinson, one of our resident organists. Also in March, Tanya and Jerry Carey presented a special recital as a prelude to the Lenten Evensong. Then much later, in June, we enjoyed a visit from a student cello ensemble lead by Tanya Carey. Their presence and offering of music in the worship services were gratefully received.

Of significant importance was June 11th. On that most blessed day we signed a contract with J. W. Walker & Sons, Ltd. of England to finish our pipe organ! I couldn't possibly be more excited and pleased. The instrument will now be completed in time to observe the 25th anniversary of its installation in February of 2016.

In July we hosted two special choral music events, a performance by the local group, Anima (the Glen Ellyn Children's Chorus), and another one by a touring British youth choir. Then in August we accepted delivery of our new 7-foot Baldwin grand piano for Mahon Hall. It is a truly fabulous instrument which will be enjoyed for many years to come.

In September the choir made its annual retreat to Green Lake, Wisconsin to enjoy the awesome hospitality of Bob, June, and Ginnie Judd. The choir got a lot of work done as well as enjoyable relaxation, wonderful meals, and time for worship. We are so very thankful for the Judds and their willingness to host us every year. As we began the season we had a record 28 people listed on the choir roster for the fall. As well, in September, Marsha once again put together another wonderfully meditative Taizé service with the youth of the parish.

Then in October we formally welcomed our new piano with a program of music held in Mahon Hall. In addition to myself, performers included Amelia Benich, Marsha Webster, Katherine Littlefield, Marilyn Justus, Cari Dinglason, Amy Joyce, John Campen, and Tanya and Jerry Carey. It was an incredibly diverse program, reflecting the enormous amount of talent we have in this parish. Later in October we hosted a performance by the New York based group known as The Thirteen. This fantastic professional ensemble of *a cappella* singers arrived for lunch that day and spent about 3 hours consulting and working in a masterclass setting with the top choral ensembles from three of the four Glenbard high schools. Later that evening some 70 students joined with The Thirteen to sing one selection on their program. The performance was very well attended, the singing was phenomenal, and the entire day was a smashing success.

In November we observed the Feast of All Saints with an Evensong featuring the music of Herbert Howells. Then in December there were a series of three delightful organ recitals with music for Advent performed by organist Cathryn Wilkinson. People were invited to come for music at noon and bring a lunch for afterwards. A wonderful service of Lessons & Carols was held on December 14 including Jerry Carey as well as the Madrigal Singers of Glenbard East High School directed by Brandon Catt. Afterwards there was a fine reception put together by Joyce Fletcher with Katherine Littlefield playing Advent music on the piano. We then welcomed a second new grand piano, a 6-foot Baldwin, which was placed in the church nave just in time for the annual Christmas pageant on the 21st. Then on Christmas Eve for the first time we added the brass quintet to a third service, the 5:00pm, and we enjoyed having Tanya Carey accompany the Adult Choir with cello on their anthem that evening.

All in all it's been an exciting year, and I am most grateful for the many people who help to make our music program a success. I am especially thankful for my associate, Marsha Webster, whose constant help and attention to detail, not to mention her excessively cheerful demeanor, are a continuous benefit and boost to everything we do. May God continue to bless our every effort in the new year!

Charles Snider

Marsha Webster

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

I visit the preschool Sunday School class when it is in session. The children sang in church on Mother's Day, as well as the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Chorister Choir – Kindergarten through 3rd Grade

The Choristers follow the school year calendar, rehearsing on Wednesdays, 4:15 – 5:00. We sing once a month during the 9:15 service. This year we visited the clients at the Esse Center twice. The first time was in May, when we finished the school year. We returned on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving to sing again, this time with our new class of kindergarteners. With the support of St. Mark's, I attended a Mid-Winter Conference of the Choristers Guild in Dallas last January. I picked up many new ideas and techniques, which have proven quite successful with the Choristers, as well as my other two choirs. This year we have 6 new and 8 returning members in the Choir. A new favorite song in our rehearsals is "What's in the Box Today," which serves to teach them about the symbols of our faith. I owe huge thanks to Marilyn Justus and Cathryn Wilkinson for accompanying the Chorister Choir.

Music for Youth – 4th Grade through Senior High

The Treble Choir resumed rehearsals in September with a pizza party. We meet on Sundays, 11:15 – 11:45, with the goal of singing monthly in worship. This year we have 9 singers, including representation from the 1:00 p.m. service. We sang 8 times during the last program year and thus far in 2014-2015, we have sung 3 times. The commitment of parents is key to the success of this group. There are many distractions for families and I truly appreciate the encouragement parents provide to keep their kids involved with this choir.

A Choir for the 9:15 service

The 9:15 choir is in its third year, providing music leadership for the 9:15 service once a month. We have a loyal group of 8 singers who rehearse a "hymn anthem" at 8:45 on the morning we sing in worship. Music and mp3 files are often sent in advance to help choir members prepare. Newcomers are always welcome and I am in regular contact with those who express an interest in singing at St. Mark's.

Special musicians – Summer, 8:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. services

I worked with a number of youth and adult musicians from the congregation, who provided a special solo or ensemble piece of music each Sunday while the choir was on summer break. Several musicians also contributed their talents for the 8:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. services through the program year. These included, but are not limited to: Elise Olsen, flute; Parker Somerville, French horn; Ismar Cabrera, violin; Amelia Benich, violin and piano; Isabel Bergmann, violin, Sarah Delany, bass; James Van Camp, guitar; Andrew Dorn, tenor; Claire Castelli, soprano; Katherine Littlefield, piano; Cari Dinglason, soprano; Rebecca Sandrok, violin/viola; Amy Joyce, soprano; Nancy Purcell, soprano; Eric Dinse, guitar; Tanya and Jerry Carey, cello and flute; Ken Kramer, trumpet; Geo Smith, trombone; Anna and Molly Creech, piano; Maggie Gross, piano; Abigail Bergmann, piano. I apologize to anyone who was inadvertently left out.

While many churches struggle to find or employ an organist, St. Mark's is blessed to have 3 organists in the congregation. Though not employed by St. Mark's, Cathryn Wilkinson provides valuable assistance as a substitute organist for the 9:15. This year she also played a special mid-week Lenten organ recital, as well as a series of 3 "Sounds of Advent" recitals on Fridays at 12:15 p.m. The Advent series was a new idea and was successful in attracting an average of 16 attendees each week, including many who are not St. Mark's members.

Música por Santa Misa Parroquia de San Marcos

It continues to be a privilege to be able to play the piano and work with our Spanish congregation on Sunday afternoons. This service was also recently enhanced by the "new to St. Mark's" Baldwin grand piano. Bob Lundin, is now well into his second year of playing guitar every week. His commitment to our 1:00 congregation is humbling. Michael Wroble also assisted as a bass player earlier in the year, but had to resign due to his work

schedule. Currently Isabel Barrera, a youth musician, plays bass. Several youth at the 1:00 service participate by playing the tambourine, maracas and djembe drum. Their presence truly enlivens our music.

Taize and Other Special Services

- In 2014 we held three Taize services, in January, March and September. The March and September services were led entirely by youth.
- The Carey Consort also provided a wonderful recital prior to Evensong in March, and Tanya Carey continues with her three year project to perform all of the unaccompanied cello suites by J.S. Bach, using Baroque bowing as prescribed by Anna Magdalena Bach.
- On behalf of St. Mark's, I coordinated music for the October OneChurch Pet Blessing service. James VanCamp led a small music group.
- Last, I convened and led two meetings with musicians from the OneChurch partners. These meetings provided a forum for an exchange of ideas and a way to brainstorm ways of working together on future OneChurch events.

Marsha Webster

Usher Ministry

Usher Ministry

Ushers provide a visible and valuable contribution to services every Sunday. Often the first person that a newcomer or parishioner meets and greets is an usher. They assist with recording attendance, taking the collection, and bringing the communion elements to the altar. After the service they take a few moments to make sure the pew area of the church is ready for the next service. Ushers also handle requests for information and directions. This is a key job that helps make the service go smoothly.

During the last year about 40 people worked to provide this valuable contribution to our Sunday services. We should also acknowledge that several people helped us on short notice when an usher spot needed filling at the last moment. As in the past, several of our ushers were recruited from the confirmation class, with many of them serving with their parents. The efforts of all those who contribute as ushers are appreciated.

Bob Olsen

Lay Readers

Lay Readers (also called Lectors) read lessons and prayers at all regularly scheduled Sunday services and also at certain mid-week services like Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Readers are scheduled by a computer program that takes into account their service preferences and the worship activities of other of their family members.

Readers are committed to conveying to the congregation the wonderful words of Scripture and of the Book of Common Prayer as meaningfully as possible. As an aid to their efforts, they attend meetings with clergy and others to learn or improve reading technique and how to fit smoothly into the services they are a part of. There is always something new to learn, even for the most experienced readers.

Currently we are blessed with a large number of readers, but more are always welcome. Young people, older people and in-betweens are all invited to join our ranks. Contact a member of the clergy or Rinda Allison if you would like more information. And please let the readers know how much you appreciate their hard work.

Rinda Allison

Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King has been an Order here at St. Marks for 84 years. Members take a vow to live a life of prayer and service for their parish and also for their community and the world. Our DOK work involves preparing the altar for all communion services, decorating the church for Christmas and Easter, overseeing many of the activities of those seasons, coordinating weddings and overseeing receptions for confirmations, baptisms and funerals. We meet the third Monday of every month at 7:30 in the library to pray, study, and work together. We provide each other a supportive community for our spiritual growth and encouragement during difficult times. Individually we also teach Sunday school, teller, oversee the grounds, usher, read, train acolytes, sing in the choir, visit the sick and homebound, provide rides for parishioners no longer able to drive, deliver meals, chair the worship commission, make up much of the monthly Prayer Group, participate in the Pastoral Care committee, and at times serve on the vestry. We are active and consistent participants in many of the aspects of the church life.



This last year has been both fun and productive. We have added five new members, developed a new altar duty training hand book, translated many of our training materials into Spanish, and set up a system to provide support services for those members no longer able to get out by themselves. We invite all women in the parish to join us at our monthly meeting to meet and learn more about us and the commitment we have made to be part of a community within the Church. If you have any questions or would like to attend a meeting, please contact Karen Evans, President: karen.evans@menta.com or (708) 642-2601.

Karen Evans

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. 2014 was a very busy year for us.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please give me a call. I promise you a fun and rewarding experience.

Sarah Adler

Worship Commission Report

Statement of Purpose:

The Worship Commission exists to serve the parish and provide opportunities for parishioners to anchor their relationship with God and one another. St. Mark's is inter-generational and seeks to involve people of all ages, reflecting a 2000 year-old tradition of Christian liturgy that has continually changed and developed by incorporating diverse styles of music, prayers, and artistic expressions. The Worship Commission is dedicated to support all worship services and other opportunities for parishioners to worship based on their individual special interests and abilities through the efforts of Daughters of the King, Lay Readers, Music Ministry, Usher Ministry, and Acolytes.

Key Goals:

- Plan to complete the pipe organ in 2015 with a 25th anniversary celebration in 2016
- Establish a unique, vibrant identity for the 9:15a.m. service with a growing attendance
- Create an adult leadership team for the acolyte program
- Start/ continue a search for a new acolyte leader/s
- Work with Kristin Margaglione to recruit 3rd graders to shadow 4th grade acolytes – Fiona Miller to train and ask parents to help
- Support a House Church concept
- Complete 1pm Service Acolyte Training
- Identify opportunities to provide availability of Spanish/English translation
- Conduct a survey with parishioners to ensure we are meeting the worship needs and expectations of the parish

Members:

Paula Zwiebel – Worship Commission Chair
Amy Joyce – Vestry Liaison
Rinda Allison - Lay Readers
Charles Snider - Music
Marsha Webster - Music
Bob Olsen - Ushers
Fiona Miller – Acolytes Trainer
Ginnie Judd – Ministry Scheduler
Gretchen Kenower
Karen Evans - Daughters of the King
George Smith - Clergy
Victor Conrado – Clergy
Judy Jackson - Deacon

Amy Joyce

Pastoral Care

Prayer group from Judy Jackson: Currently eleven parishioners pray for the individuals and families on the St. Mark's prayer list on a daily basis. Updates are sought to offer the prayer providers with specific information to include in their prayers. The Prayer Group meets the first Wednesday of each month at 11:00 to receive individual updated prayer lists of 6-8 prayer requests. The members of the group take turns being in charge of the monthly meeting which includes offering an opening prayer, distributing individual prayer lists, providing a presentation and/or discussion on an aspect of prayer, and closing with prayer. The prayer group continues in the Wednesday noon Eucharist by raising up the names of the people for whom they pray during the Prayers of the People.

Pastoral care alerts sent by e-mail to pastoral care network: Front desk, George, Victor and other clergy seem to be doing a great job of receiving and delegating calls and needs.

Prayer list in Sunday bulletin: These are handled by the front desk, George, Victor and Judy. Prayer requests come from pew cards or phone calls, occasionally emails. The prayer list is now inserted in the Prayers of the People portion of the Sunday bulletin.

Clergy visits: George, Victor, and Robin (who fills as she can and with some advanced notice). Bruce Clements also assists, particularly at Beacon Hill. The number of visit requests continues to rise as the needs and size of our

congregation has increased. Bruce has begun to do what we lovingly refer to as 'pill bottle prayer commitments.' The elders he visits agree to pray for short term prayer needs of younger parishioners. The requests are attached to their daily pill boxes/bottles. Bruce keeps them updated as to the status of the family or person they are praying for.

Lay chaplain and Eucharistic minister visits: Clergy assign lay ministers to continue to make visits as needed for those in need. This is sometimes a challenge. Some of those being visited really want a priest to visit them. The needs for visits are increasing as our community increases and ages.

Meal ministry from Julie Walor and Renee Hughes: "Since June of this year, we have provided meals for six families. It is possible to get many requests in one month and we process them in the order they come in, however, the numbers appear to average out to be one per month since we became co-chairs of the Meals Ministry in November 2013. Once we receive the request from one of the members of the clergy, we make contact with the family in need of the meals to see how many people are in the family, any dietary restrictions and when would be the best possible days and time to receive the meals. We send out a request for meals via a website called Food Tidings and when a parishioner on our list responds to make a meal we then convey this information to the original family."

Prayer shawls: One of our PCC 2014 goals is to reintroduce the creation and distribution of prayer shawls. At this point, there are prayer shawls ready for distribution. A list of names has been gathered for shawl creators, and our hope is to have the ministry active in the fall. Questions: Could these shawls be blessed during the Litany of healing on the third Sunday, and could parish members request a shawl for themselves or a loved one?

Stephen Ministry: Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one ministry for those with a listening countenance to be present for those experiencing a transition in life. St. Mark's has been involved in this ministry with First Congregational Church for four years. This past January Catharine Phillips and Judy Jackson attended a six-day leadership training in order to train parishioners to become Stephen Ministers.

Currently St. Mark's has three Stephen Ministers. This is down from the 8 we had active this past summer. Training for more Stephen Ministers will begin after the first of the year which will allow for the needs of those parishioners in transition to partner with someone who will be their sounding board, their confident. This ministry does not take the place of working with a therapist with psychological issues or long-term concerns. Stephen Ministry offers a safe place to speak in confidence and be heard, to vent without remorse, to be present and move forward.

There are currently no Stephen ministers from the 1:00 service. There is no curriculum available in Spanish for training at this time.

Spiritual direction: Catharine Phillips: "This has been a very full month for me and for all my clinician friends. For example, I have ten sessions scheduled for next week. Four new clients in the last three weeks. Lots of illness going around. I understand the flu vaccine is not working with the current flu. December is most always busy, but this seems more so than usual."

Baby baskets: Elizabeth Lewis: "I believe I have made 2 or 3 since June - I have never kept track. I estimate we have 4-8 a year, just based upon when I replenish supplies"

Living Compass: Judy Jackson: Living Compass offers a place to journey toward wholeness with all your heart, soul, strength and mind. There is a deep, life-giving connection between faith and wellness. Our faith acts like a compass to help us check our bearings while at the same time providing ongoing direction for our lives.

In October of 2014 Elizabeth Lanzillo, Jane Moore, and Judy Jackson attended a four-day Living Compass leadership training. What emerged from that training is energy for the renewal of the Mom's Ministry (Elizabeth) and the initiation of a personal and family wellness ministry (Jane and Judy). The initial goal has been accomplished, that of establishing a Wellness Council to oversee the needs and the meeting of those needs of the St. Mark's

Community. The Wellness Council, Lynne Chandler, Dan Kelly, Jane, and Judy will work to identify the wellness needs and concerns of St. Mark's and have set a goal of starting a four-week Living Compass small group experience in early May.

Altar flower deliveries: Diane Dinse is the primary deliverer of flowers. In the past, a portion of the Pastoral Care budget has gone to support this effort. \$200 of our budget is allocated for reimbursement for her expenses.

Car rides: The establishment of a ride ministry was a goal for 2014. This ministry has been developing organically. It would be great if there would be one or two individuals who would be willing to serve as organizers to track names and geographical areas of congregation members who are willing to occasionally drive parishioners in need to services or other church events. However, people have stepped up to provide rides when needed, to both our AM and PM service attendees.

Prayer shawl ministry: will begin again in January! The creating of prayer shawls will be a part of the 'Crafting Group', which will meet weekly.

In addition to the above, Key Goals for 2015:

- To raise awareness of Stephen Ministry and be consistent in promoting—training in 2015, Judy Jackson is spearheading this. The Stephen Ministry currently has no plans for translating their materials into Spanish. Would St. Marks want to spearhead this?
- Reintroduce postcards mailed to all household, blessed at the Wednesday Eucharist—Reinstated
- Add members to pastoral care committee from the 1 p.m. service.
- A representative from each ministry will write a short description and invitation to become a volunteer in the Postmark over the course of 2015.
- We would like to update the prayer cards before the next printing so more accurate information is available to the committee and the person filling out the card. Victor has provided samples from his travels...Also perhaps to provide scribble pads in the receptacles so not so many cards are used for that purpose.
- Explore the possibility of a 'Ride Ministry'
- Praying the names of the St Mark's family perhaps in the fall of 2015
- Focused funding of external agencies who provide needed social services from the pastoral care budget.
- Pastoral Care Ministry will create a receptacle in the back of the church near the entrance where prayer requests can be deposited.
- Increase parish participation in both requesting help AND volunteering for pastoral caring through monthly articles in the Postmark and announcement from the altar.

Carolyn Faivre, Vestry Liaison

Church Tellers

2014 was the fifth consecutive year that most of the same people have counted weekly Church Offerings. I want to thank each of the Tellers who counted last year. Your accuracy is 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, Karen Evans, Bob Judd, Gretchen Kenower, Barbara Stephani, and Brenda Laws who are responsible for the weekly counting.

Dave McCarraher

St. Mark's Outreach Committee

As in previous years, the congregation of St. Mark's continued to bring passion, creativity and commitment to a wide variety of traditional and new Outreach ministries in 2014. The base of involved parishioners continued to represent a wide cross-section of the St. Mark's family...with each Outreach initiative attracting a blend of supporters who contributed their creativity, energy and enthusiasm to causes that benefitted the homeless, the hungry, the young and many other needy groups...locally and in communities well beyond our own.

The list that accompanies this report provides a work-in-progress summary of many of the activities supported by St. Mark's and its parishioners. Noteworthy was the record-setting fund raising performance of the Pumpkin Patch...with pumpkin sales yielding a \$7600 contribution to PADS.

The Outreach Committee focused its efforts in 2014 on allocating the St. Mark's Mission and Outreach budget to the following important causes:

- Walk-In Ministry
- Companion relationship with San Marcos
- Appalachia Service Project
- Glen Ellyn Youth and Family Counseling Services
- Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center

As I end my tenure as Committee chairman, the committee has begun to refocus its going-forward mission statement to provide annual targeted support, in the way of communications and mentoring, to parishioners interested in participating in a targeted Outreach mission for each calendar year. For example, in 2015, a possible objective could be to focus on creating awareness and action in support of homeless youth in DuPage County, with the committee providing important information on this cause via bulletin announcements, adult forums, etc. A dedicated fund-raiser could also be the result of this effort with the Committee providing mentorship to parishioners with a passion for this cause.

If you have interest in hearing more about or participating in the Outreach Committee's activities, please contact Tim Dorgan at tdorgan@gmail.com.

Thanks to all of you for your commitment to Outreach and for all you did in 2014...and for all you will do in the months and years ahead.

Respectfully submitted
Tim Dorgan

...St. Mark's Outreach 2014 Summary "Work In Progress"*

Event	Date	Key Sponsors	Beneficiary	Notes	Amount Raised	
					2014	2013
UTO Blue Boxes	Lent	Elizabeth Lewis	UTO		\$750	\$750
Cake Auction	Jan	Kim Reed	SE Mexico Trip		\$2000	\$1700
Mother's Day Rose Sale	May	Evelyn Cabrera	SE Mexico Trip		\$800	\$800

Event	Date	Key Sponsors	Beneficiary	Notes	Amount Raised	
					2014	2013
Cinco de Mayo Dinner	April	Kim Reed	SE Mexico Trip		\$3400	\$3200
SE Mexico Projects/Support Scholarship	Fall	Outreach Gift	SE Mexico Trip		\$1,000	\$1,500
Crop Walk	Spring	Don Sutherland	Church World Service		\$3,030	\$2570
PADS Shelter	Year round	David Dornblaser, Don Sutherland, Dan Kelly	PADS	St. Marks commitment extended to year round	Continued strong participation	Continued strong participation
Holy Family School	August		School supplies		School supplies	School supplies
Relay For Life	September	Leslie Delany April Sedall	American Cancer Society		individual pledges	\$395
Pumpkin Patch	October	Phil Adler			\$22,664 (\$7908 to PADS)	\$17,000 (\$5400 to PADS)
Sleep Out Sat.	Nov	Kim Reed	Bridge Communities		Individual pledges	Individual pledges
Unicef	Nov	Kim Margaglione	Unicef Pumpkin Decorating Contest		\$264	\$250
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
Christmas Baskets	Dec	Ginnie Judd	Cathedral Shelter		\$16,665 (79 families served)	\$13,170 (75 families served)
St Nick's Brunch	Dec	Kristen Margaglione	PRC		21 Toys	\$600
Andrew White	Dec	David Fletcher	FRRME		\$500	\$1095
Glen Ellyn Food Pantry	Sept-May	Tricia Benich Joyce Frawkley	GE Food Pantry	Sunday School classes rotate weekly donations	Well supported with food donations	\$150 Well supported with food.
PADS Lunches	Oct-May	Leslie Delaney, Graham Smith,	PADS – First Cong Site		Well supported with food donations and volunteers	Well supported with food donations and volunteers.
Annual Support	All Year	St Mark's	Chicago Diocese		\$56,000	\$52,000

Event	Date	Key Sponsors	Beneficiary	Notes	Amount Raised	
					2014	2013
GE Walk-In Ministry	All Year	Bob Bernero	GE Walk-In Ministry		\$4800	\$4,000 (Outreach gift)
Appalachia Service Project	August	Cindy Glavin			*	\$1420
Glen Ellyn Youth and Family Counseling Services	Ongoing	Don Sutherland	GEYFCS		\$300	\$250

*Still awaiting input on 2014 activity.

Thank you to St. Mark's for all your support of our parish's outreach efforts in 2013!

Submitted by Tim Dorgan, Outreach Vestry Liaison

St. Mark's Visual Arts Group

In this past year the St. Mark's Visual Arts Group has continued its work to curate, install, and host exhibits in the nave, the narthex, and Mahon Hall. Work comes from both within and outside the parish. We evaluate and promote work that has a religious base and can enrich our worship and our everyday lives.

In 2014 we hosted the following exhibits:

- **The St. Mark's Collection;** an exhibit of work owned by the parish and normally on display throughout the buildings, brought to the nave with descriptions of each piece.
- **Stations of the Cross by Dick Rush;** these pieces are owned by St. Mark's and will be displayed annually during Lent.
- **Luminous Spring by Peter Vagt;** in the church, a series of landscape photographs taken at the Arboretum, and in Mahon Hall, a series of water surfaces taken on the Chicago River.
- **Trinity Icons by Joseph Malham;** icons in the traditional Greek style.
- **Consider the Lilies by Janice Skivington;** large floral paintings inspired by scripture.
- **Saints on Paper by Cecilia Lad Smith;** intaglio prints, lithographs, and drawings about saints, prayers, and scripture.
- **Advent wreaths;** simple grapevine wreaths owned by the parish and displayed annually during Advent.
- **Historic and Holy Places;** a collection of European prints loaned to the parish by an anonymous collector.

Exhibits have included receptions, artist talks, and other special events like a field trip to the Arboretum and a Gong Healing Service by Marion Kraus. The group also created a successful art auction for the Arts, Beats, and Eats event last year. Unfortunately, time and resources are not available for involvement this year.

We enjoy our work, have had extremely positive feedback from the congregation, and look forward to sharing the exhibits that are planned for the coming year. All are welcome to join the committee; please contact Pat Sullivan or Cecilia Smith if you are interested.

St. Mark's Green Team

St. Mark's Green Team was born on October 15th, 2014, following a presentation by Faith in Place on why people of faith should care for the earth. The Green Team is open to all; its mission is to be better stewards of the earth at church and at home by educating ourselves and others, changing our purchasing practices, changing our behavior.

Green Initiatives Accomplished at St. Mark's in the last 10 years:

- Implemented recycling program
- Labeled all light switches with “please turn out lights when room is not in use”
- Conducted comprehensive Energy Audit of church building and Rectory 2013
- Conducted St. Mark's thermostat inventory and created a report on implementation of programmable thermostats 2014
- As a result of energy audits of the church building and Rectory: In 2013, switched from incandescent to LED and compact fluorescent light bulbs; changed T-12 fluorescent tubes to T-8s; insulated steam pipes; in Rectory, replaced incandescents with CFLs; installed low flow shower heads and aerators in sinks; did air-sealing; added insulation.
- Implemented church-wide use of Fair Trade Organic Coffee
- Discouraged use of polystyrene cups/encouraged use of reusable mugs enabled by new kitchen by office.
- Discouraged use of bottled water for church functions; replaced water cooler (which used delivered 5-gallon jugs of water) in 2013 with water cooler connected to our water supply, eliminating water purchase, use of fossil fuels to transport water by truck, and BPA-containing 5-gallon containers. Payback: 15 months.
- Created article for church publications on alternatives to using coal-tar-containing sealcoating 2014.
- Created rough specs for proposed future solar roof panel project 2014
- Organized Green Audit of church building by SCARCE, a step towards qualifying for SCARCE's Earth Flag certification. December 2014, which has presented us with more info and ideas for us to implement.

Areas of opportunity for us at St. Mark's:

- Re-start, revamp our recycling program
- Additional energy reduction initiatives, such as turning off computers, printers, monitors, and anything that draws power when not in use that does not need to be left on
- Improve indoor air quality: e.g., source and use only non-toxic cleaning supplies, eliminate aerosols and air fresheners.
- Source more of our paper from responsibly managed forests, recycled content
- Implement waste-free coffee hours
- Thoughtfully source supplies to avoid over-packaged goods or items that are hard to recycle (e.g., #6 disposable cups)
- Solar panels to generate electricity and reduce our use of carbon-fueled electricity to reduce air pollution
- Reduce our garbage output to reduce landfill
- Food scrap collection for commercial composting
- Permeable paving for sidewalks and parking lots for better storm water management
- Educate, educate, educate, through bulletins, PostMarks, education programs, signage throughout the church
- And so much more!

We need your participation! Please join us on St. Mark's Green Team.

Have questions? Talk to Edna Heatherington, Judy Jackson, Ginnie Judd, Jan Langford, or Brian Thompson.

Ginnie Judd

Mexico Mission Trip and Companion Parish Relationship 2014

St. Mark's is returning to San Marcos for our TENTH visit this June, celebrating nine years as companion parishes!

St. Mark's made its 9th visit to San Marcos in Nigromante, Mexico, this past June. There were 13 of us, seven returning (Molly Toliver, Olivia Vanderlei, Geo Smith, Omar Jimenez, Pedro Damian, Victor Conrado, and me) and six going for the first time (Geovanny Hernandez, Molly Hughes, Arturo Rubio, Kenney Toliver, Anna Stephan, and Will Stephan).

We first visited San Marcos in June 2006. George Smith, in his first year at St. Mark's, led a group of nine youth and adults. We were looking to establish a companion parish, similar to the companion relationship our Diocese has with the Diocese of Southeast Mexico. We liked the idea that we would share the same name: St. Mark's/San Marcos, but we had no idea what this relationship would look like or how it would unfold.

Each year since 2006, we've sent a group of 10 to 17 youth and adults to Nigromante. Through fundraising, we've helped San Marcos establish a bakery and a computer lab, and we've supported scholarships for children and youth. We built a playset; we repainted the roof and the inside of the church; we installed fans in the sanctuary and air-conditioning in the sacristy; we helped with new flooring. We continue to help pay for the salary of the priest, and we've assisted him with some emergency health care costs and car repairs (note: Padre Senobio is responsible for three churches, each a mission church and many kilometers apart). We hold VBS and a community dinner every year, both highlights of our visits.

We stay in homes of parishioners, which has allowed us to get to know each other in ways we wouldn't otherwise. This is key because we have come to realize that no matter how much money we give or whatever project we do, the relationships we build are what really matter most and are what enrich us. We are housed, fed, and treated as beloved family guests. We share our cultures and our lives. And after nine visits, this sharing feels like family, the family that Christ must envision for us.

During this last visit, Victor and I attended two congregational meetings. San Marcos is now seeking to grow beyond a mission church status, and in order to do that, they need Padre Senobio to spend more time in Nigromante. For that to happen, they need to provide a space where he can stay the night in the community on a more regular basis. Currently, he and his family live in another town. San Marcos owns a small storeroom adjacent to the church. They would like to renovate that space into a room where they could board Padre Senobio as well as other guests (visiting doctors, the Bishop, etc.). This will help them to grow their programs and their parish and hopefully allow them to raise money by future pledges that would come from a growing congregation. Currently, they cannot afford to do this on their own, and the Diocese does not have funding to help them, so they would like St. Mark's to help cover the cost of this renovation. We have committed to give them 40%, which would be about \$4,000, over the next year. Victor and I have asked the youth who went on this trip to help us come up with some new fundraising ideas to help make this happen. They held a bake sale in October and raised over \$400.

We continue to be grateful for the generosity of our parish and especially for those individuals who made designated contributions to provide scholarships for youth who would otherwise be unable to go on this trip.

We were excited to host Padre Senobio who made his first visit to the US to attend November's Diocesan Convention. Thank you to the families who welcomed him into their homes and for those who came to hear about San Marcos and the Diocese of Southeast Mexico at a dinner held in the library for Padre Senobio, Bishop Benito, and his wife, Anjelica, following Convention.

Mission trip plans are now underway for our 10th visit in June 2015! Please continue to support the Mexico Mission Trip's fundraising efforts: the Cake Auction and Bake Sale, the Cinco de Mayo Dinner and Silent Auction, and the

Mother's Day Rose Sale. Contact me if you are interested in going on the 2015 mission trip or in helping out with the fundraisers.

Kim Reed, Youth Ministry Coordinator

Appalachia Service Project

The Appalachia Service Project (ASP) provides life-changing, short-term Christian mission trip opportunities – bringing youth, adult and college volunteers into rural Central Appalachia to make homes warmer, safer and drier for families in need. ASP believes that safe, affordable, sanitary homes are a basic human right. With those guiding principles, youth and adults are sent to locations in Appalachia to help repair homes of those who cannot afford to do it themselves.

St. Mark's sent six youth and adult volunteers to Warfield, KY on the 2nd annual ASP trip in July of 2014. Petra Peterson and Dave Dornblaser participated along with youth volunteers, Lauren Glavin, Caroline Arlasky, Kendall Arlasky and Matt McGovern. They worked hard and had the time of their lives! Not only did they fulfill the ASP mission of making homes safer, warmer and drier, the real joy of the trip was the relationships they developed with each other and with the people of Kentucky.

The ASP trip dates for 2015 are: Saturday, July 11 thru Saturday July 18. ASP holds two fundraisers, the first, is a flower sale - flowers will be sold in February for delivery in May, just in time for mother's day. The proceeds from the flower sale helps each volunteer earn a portion of the ASP participation fees. The second fundraiser – “The House that St. Mark's Built” raises money to subsidize the transportation costs associated in getting to Kentucky.

The ASP trip is open to adults and youth who will be entering 9th grade in the fall of 2015. It is not necessary to be a member of St. Mark's. Prior experience is not needed, just a willingness to work! You'll raise roofs, fix floors and build a whole new you! If you would like more information about ASP, please contact Cindy Glavin.

Come on and join us, you'll never regret it!

Cindy Glavin

Communications

Pictorial Directory

Several meetings took place between the leadership and administrators of St. Mark's and LifeTouch (photography company) to organize the portrait taking for a new pictorial directory.

The purpose, dates and logistic of the event was communicated in different occasions to the parishioners during the services, banners, posters and the Sunday bulletin.

Events

Parishioners have been invited to participate in the periodic events that St. Mark's handles, such as the pumpkin festival, the Virgen de Guadalupe celebration, art exhibitions and others.

Giving Campaign

Mechanisms have been enabled to ease the parishioners to pledge as part of the annual giving campaign. Among others, the St. Mark's webpage offers now a format that allows online contributions. Additionally, telephone calls were given to thank and encourage participation.

Website

The website remains as an important communication tool to inform the community of services and programs offered by St. Mark's. The page contains a section in Spanish for our Latino members. A very valuable effort has taken place to keep the website up-to-date with news, events and pictures.

Mauro Hernandez

Newcomers Committee

During 2014, the newcomer ministry was active in a number of ways, including hosting a Sunday morning breakfast in the spring; delivering baked goods to newcomers; and through assigned greeters, offering a welcome to those who come to church through the front doors on Sunday morning for the 10:30 a.m. service. The chair of the newcomer ministry transitioned from Lea Forsman to Gil Long. Then in July, Gil and her family relocated to Houston. We are blessed that Kim Eichenauer has put her name forward to serve on the St. Mark's vestry and that she will be focused on the newcomer ministry. A newcomer breakfast is already schedule for Sunday, February 9 at 9 a.m. in Mahon Hall.

Parish Life

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

Parish Life hosted four successful all parish events this year.

- Parish Annual Meeting: January 26th – organized by Heather Luttenton and Joanie Somerville
- Lenten Supper: March 19th – organized by Joanie Somerville and Kathy Kelly
- All-Parish Picnic: June 15th – organized by Joanie Somerville
- Kick-Off Sunday: September 7th – organized by Kathy Kelly

A change was made to the Lenten Suppers. Instead of 4 weekly suppers, one Lenten Supper was held. This was well received.

The division of the organizing of Parish events has taken a burden from them being the responsibility of only one person. We will continue to recruit new volunteers to keep this effort going.

Marilyn Justus, Kathy Kelly, Martha Sexauer, and Susan Shorney continue to serve as coffee hour ministers, with Kim Lloyd-Eichenauer, Joanie Somerville and Virginia Vagt serving at substitutes. Coffee hour ministers assist members of the parish who provide food and greetings during the post-10:30 service coffee hour.

Kathy Kelly

Men's Ministries:

The St. Mark's Men's Group had another active year. Once again, we hosted the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, and again, we had a great turnout for the Annual Barbecue, this time at the home of the Sutherlands. The twice-monthly Saturday morning DVD/discussion sessions continue, where we have been working through sessions on the Old Testament. The Men's Group continued to support activities around the church, including the mulching, the Pumpkin Patch and a variety of setup/cleanups. We welcome you to join us on the second Tuesday of each month, when we gather for breakfast. We also enjoy the occasional "spiritual

refreshment” at local establishments. Men of any age: you are welcome to join us at any of our activities, or to contact us at mensgroup@stmarksglenellyn.org.

Leo Lanzillo

Women’s Ministries:

Women’s ministries had several events in 2014:

In February, we hosted a Saturday creativity workshop that was open to the public, for women to have fellowship while undertaking hands-on projects under the supervision of three artists. Proceeds from the event supported Glen Ellyn Children’s Resource Center.

The Annual Women’s retreat took place in March at Lake Geneva.

We gathered for a June Summer salad supper at the home of Susan Shorney.

This year our Traditional Christmas Ornament Exchange was hosted off-site, at the home of Elizabeth Lanzillo.

The St Mark’s Women’s ministry is in need of a new leadership committee to plan for 2015. The former steering committee members are all willing to support and mentor new leaders. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Kathy Kelly (Vestry Liaison for Parish Life) at dankath@sbcglobal.net.

Elizabeth Lanzillo



Parents’ Day Out Ministry

Parents Day Out (“PDO”) is a ministry of St. Mark’s to provide once or twice-a-week day care for children in our community between the ages of 2 and 5. Every day is open to all ages. The program is in session five days a week and is operating at capacity with nearly 90 children from more than 65 families and substitute lists. PDO has a committed following in our community.

Scholarships: In keeping with our mission, we offer scholarships and flexibility to suit a variety of circumstances, and two children were able to enroll this year as a result of this scholarship opportunity.

Summer Session: Our program operates within the Glen Ellyn public school system calendar, as well as summer offerings in the months of both June and July, and enjoyed full enrollment and community support. As with our regular program, our summer care included fine and large motor skill activities, arts and crafts, songs and stories, as well as lots of fun play time.

VBS Session: As an additional summer session, PDO also offers 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.

PDO’s Gifts: The PDO VBS session earned enough to complete our playground improvements, the cost of which was shared with the Preschool. PDO also purchased a mountable classroom first aid kit for the undercroft. Due to enrollment in this beloved ministry, as well as strong fiscal management, PDO continues to cover its operating cost and provide cash and service benefits to St. Mark’s Parish. In addition to the playground funds raised, PDO gave **\$5000** to the Parish’s 2014 general operating fund.

Staff: 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, we wished Jill Bednas every success as she left our board related to a family relocation, and we are grateful to Kristin Margaglione for agreeing to join our leadership. Additional members of the PDO Board include: Kim Reed (Chair), Kelly Gross (Treasurer), Joan Nichols (playground representative), and Elizabeth Lewis (Secretary). This fall the Board reviewed PDO's bylaws, approved changes, and provided them for Vestry approval.

2015-16 Registration: Registration for the 2015 summer and fall programs will begin in April, with members of the parish receiving priority.

Elizabeth Lewis

St. Mark's Preschool

St. Mark's Preschool continues to provide a strong foundation for lifelong learning within our students using the Reggio Emilia project approach as inspiration. Led by an amazing administrative team of Andrea Cocke, Director and Holly Pelsor, Assistant Director, the school has experienced many successes over the past year. This past summer, the Preschool piloted two programs that focused on preschoolers new to our school and kindergarten preparation. Both programs were well received and will be offered again this upcoming summer. At the start of 2015, Marsha Webster began offering weekly music instruction for all of our classes. Our 2014-2015 programs are currently at full capacity and registration has recently started for the 2015-2016 school year. I am excited to share that class offerings for the 2015-2016 school year are expanding. In addition to 3 day class options (T-Th) and Lunch n Learn (T/Th), the Preschool will also offer 4 day class options (M-Th) and an optional Studio Arts Program on Fridays for students enrolled in the school. The members of the teaching staff consistently expand their own knowledge through professional development, which includes recently attending an Introduction to Reggio conference and also attending a Reggio-inspired conference about Art, Materials and Inquiry. In the future months, two of our teachers will participate in an opportunity on Handwriting Without Tears instruction and our administrative team will attend the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership 2015 National Conference. The Preschool has also contracted with Karen Haigh, professor of Early Childhood Education at Columbia College, to mentor us as we continue to learn and grow. Many thanks to the Board members for volunteering their time and talent to the Preschool, helping to ensure future success and growth. And many, many thanks to our teaching staff for all of their hard work this past year and their commitment to enriching the lives of the students and their families - Andrea Cocke, Holly Pelsor, Amy Kalten, Michelle Matalone and Lori Gapinski.



Patty Weaver, Preschool Board Chair

Buildings and Grounds

Ministry's Purpose: The Buildings and Grounds committee works towards supporting St. Mark's vision as a welcoming place for all by planning and carrying out the necessary functions to ensure all the church buildings, systems, rectory, grounds and parking lots are safe, clean and well maintained.

2014 - A year of transition

2014 was a year of transition for the Buildings and Grounds committee. Cheryl Olsen stepped down as our leader and Vestry Liaison near the end of 2013. We would like to acknowledge all the hard work and effort Cheryl put in

over the past few years. She spearheaded many important projects and did a fantastic job organizing a very complicated and diverse set of systems, vendors and volunteers. Thank you, Cheryl, for all you have done!

Our current committee is now made up of the following members:

George Smith – General Consultant

Scott Shorney – Vestry Liaison and B&G Coordinator

Gary Kreutz – Mechanical Systems Manager

Dave Rossi – Special Projects Manager

Cheryl Olsen – Grounds Manager

Michael Benich – Rectory Manager

Ginnie Judd – Green Team Manager

Dick Mylander, Jeff Hill, Dick Anstee, Edna Heatherington and Ryan Dunham – Committee Members

2014 B & G Budget and Donor Sponsored Improvements

The overall Buildings and Grounds budget for 2014, including the Rectory, was about \$235,000. We finished 2014 a bit less than \$5,000 over budget. This was mainly due to the way-above-normal snow-removal costs associated with the extremely harsh winter last year. The majority of our budget is in fixed costs, such as our mortgages, insurance policies, utilities, cleaning and custodial services and supplies. We actually have only about \$25,000 annually for general and unexpected maintenance, repairs and improvements, which we call discretionary.

Many of the improvements made in 2014 were funded by donors and did not come from our budget. These included the two new TVs in the library and outside the office, the complete installation of WiFi throughout the buildings, and the refinishing of the wood floors in the office and between the office and library. We are very grateful to those donors who made those projects possible.

2015 B & G Plans

For 2015 we have split our discretionary funds into 2 categories, funding for general and unexpected repairs and maintenance, and a reserve fund for improvements. Working with the Finance Committee on this year's budget we agreed to lower the discretionary portion of our budget from \$25,000 to \$18,000. At the same time we established the reserve fund for improvements. Any leftover monies from the discretionary account will be put into the reserve fund for the following year for improvements. This will enable us to fund improvements going forward with existing cash reserves. The Buildings and Grounds committee will review and prioritize the potential improvements to be made in the coming year. Possible projects and suggestions you may see come to fruition include, but are not limited to:

- Adding new carpet to the front of the sanctuary where the pews have been removed.
- Improved lighting in Mahon Hall.
- Permanent projection capabilities in the sanctuary.
- New masonry sign on SW corner of lot.
- Replacing concrete steps on west side leading into narthex.
- Numerous painting, refinishing of doors and windows, and minor ceiling repairs.
- Remodel narthex.

We are looking to fill the position of Keeping House Manager. This person will be responsible to coordinate various tasks and projects such as painting improvements, closet organization and de-cluttering, and other redecorating initiatives. We also may need a Grounds Manager to oversee the garden beds, tree-care, and flower pots. Cheryl Olsen has done a wonderful job with this, but may need to step down this spring. If you would like to take on one of these jobs, join our committee, or volunteer in any way, please contact Scott Shorney at scott@hopepublishing.com or at (630)730-6076. Thanks to our whole team for a great year in 2014, especially our managers Gary, Dave, Cheryl, Mike and Ginnie, and Julien for taking over the lawn care, leaf pick-up, shoveling and other daily grounds care, and our behind-the-scenes donors who made so many projects possible.

Scott Shorney

Parish Register 2014

Baptisms

Maeve Mullaney Brannegan
Mallory Karen Brannegan
Daniel Santiago Conrado
Robert David Lambert
Carson Joseph Rivera
Maxwell William Almond
Lauren Grace Petru
Nicole Denisse
Gonzalez-Moreno
Briella Zena Vargas
Kallie Rae Johnson
Wesley Christian Carlin
Julian Michael Boskovic
Natalie Marie Plumb
Christopher Flores
Adrian Hernandez
Emely Hernandez
Natalie Marie Plumb
Silvia Escorsia
Jenifer Escorsia
Melanie Ann Bertrand
Sarah Margarita
Romero Hermosillo
Marina Lizbeth
Romero Hermosillo
Caroline Mary Delack
Caden Patrick McGuire
Ethan Barry Ogren
Denny Robert Guare

Confirmations

Macie Rose Rodriguez
Raoul Castro Jr.
Jessica Favela
Saul Favela
Isabel Bryn Grant-Funck
Anthony Philip Collins Lanzillo
Matthew Renzi Pfefferman
Francisco Reyes
Lizbeth Reyes
Carolina Rosas
Kimberly Vallejo
Vanessa Perez-Castillo
Carolina Blancas

Funerals

Wesley Rose
Kenneth Lussie
Nancy Kopf
Thomas Henry Paduano-Wartell
Frances Flynn Figler

Marriages

James Michael & Ashley Peterson
Lauren Roman & Nate Erickson
Sara Rossi & Steve Statis
Michelle Vervynck & Dan Cull

2014 Average Sunday Attendance: 433

Minutes from January 26, 2014 Annual Meeting

Opening Prayer

George led us in prayer to open our meeting.

Karen Doran approved as Annual Meeting Clerk

Ice Breaker

Joyce Fletcher led us in a 2-minute get-to-know-your neighbor activity. After that, two participants won free cupcakes.

Discussion of Minutes from last year's Annual Meeting

Scott Bednas pointed out that under his report, since we don't include Charles's title, we should delete the reference to Marsha's. In addition, in the following paragraph "Steve" changes to "Scott."

Last Year's Minutes with edits unanimously approved.

Appointment of new Senior Warden and Junior Warden

Senior Warden will be Eric McAlpine, who was Junior Warden last year, and Junior Warden will be Edna Heatherington.

Appointment of Youth Representative

Caroline Arlasky and Arturo Rubio (who could not make this meeting because he is at a youth group retreat) are our new vestry youth representatives.

Cake Auction

Andrew Dorn and Ellie Dunham conducted this year's auction. They auctioned off the cakes throughout the meeting. Proceeds go to our upcoming Ninth Annual Mexico Mission Trip. Kim Reed told us that 15 people so far have expressed interest and we can take as many as 14 people, though we don't need them to commit for another couple of months. Our trip will be June 15-20 and it's open to 9th graders and older.

Recognition of Outgoing Vestry Members, Youth Representative, Senior Warden, and Convention & Alternate Delegates.

We recognized the outgoing vestry members for the wonderful work they did on last year's vestry, and George presented them with a Book of Common Prayer: Steve Webster, Nancy Gier, Dianne Dinse, Scott Taback, Theo Grant-Funck, Paula Zwiebel. Also recognized outgoing Diocesan convention delegates Horacio Chavez and Virginia Vagt.

We thanked Parish Life for this lovely lunch.

Voting

Election of Vestry Candidates: Veronica Blanco, Carolyn Faivre, Mauro Hernandez, Amy Joyce, Kathy Kelly, Hunter Walor.

Kim Reed asked whether High Schoolers could vote, and Eric affirmed that they could.

Election of Diocesan Convention Delegate Candidates:

Donald Sutherland and alternate, Leslie Arlasky, who has been a member since 1995.

All candidates were unanimously voted in.

Kudos to our Congregation

George pointed our attention to the lovely, colorful banners hanging from the ceiling in Mahon Hall and pointed out that Gretchen Kenower pulled these out of storage and Dick Mylander and Michael Benich put them up.

George gave Virginia Vagt a welcome mat in appreciation for serving as an alternate to the Diocesan Convention.

Financial Report (presented by Steve Webster)

Steve thanks the work of the Finance Committee who meets every month and the Treasurers.

Steve offered us a brief overview, pointing to the full report published in the Annual Report for 2013. He explained how it's laid out and what we are looking at.

2013 Revenues: we were off by quite a bit on meeting the amounts pledged, however we were able to make up for some of it, including with our open plate offerings and on the expense side.

2013 Expenses: we came way under with our clergy payroll because Elizabeth left in March and we had budgeted for her salary for the entire year. We were also surprised by our B&G budget coming in lower. Our children's ministry staff increased because Kim Reed stepped forward as staff after the loss of Elizabeth.

Looking at our total revenue and total expenses we missed the mark by \$11,458. We made it up, though, by the funds we had when we began the year – about \$20,000.

Going forward for our 2014 budget we are on track, though we are still looking for additional pledges. Without pledges we cannot budget for ministry. It's nice to see we're able to increase our budget for open plate giving, mostly due to our Spanish language service. Noting our budget for our Spanish service revenue, the drastic decrease has to do with the expiration of our MED grant, which ended at the close of 2013.

2014 Expenses: we are expecting to have to put in more money for Buildings & Grounds ("B&G"). Clergy payroll increases in part because of insurance. Our proposed budget is balanced with a \$258 overage.

One participant asked why we did not budget anything for our Spanish Language Service staff. Dick explained it's because we moved Victor under "Clergy Payroll."

We've continued to pay down on our mortgages.

Senior Warden's Report (presented by Eric McAlpine)

Paula couldn't make it today, so Eric presented her report. So many things happened to our church this year: two mission trips, we celebrate our second anniversary of our Spanish language service, our wonderful art exhibit over the summer. We've come so far in 5 years – paying down our mortgage, growth of our vibrant parish.

Thanks to the staff and volunteers to make our vision a reality.

Rector's Report (presented by George Smith)

George went over his report, pointing out that this month marks a decade since our church split. Since that time we have come a long way, growing in faith and supporting one another.

George recognized David Dornblaser as our parish Rookie of the Year. With his first question, "Can I get involved in this church," David has shown himself to be a wonderful asset to our parish. He has ratcheted up our PADS ministry from 5 times during the summer to a year-around ministry. David graciously accepted a gift from George and took a moment to tell us how much he appreciates this church as how welcoming we've been.

George recognized Cheryl Olsen for the work she's done on B&G. Though she's not here today he encourages us to thank her when we see her.

Cecilia Smith came up to tell us how lucky the Smith family feels to be a part of this church and have this be their church family.

Penny Tabak took a moment to share that she believes it's such a blessing to see what this church has done since her family started coming in 2006. George commented that it's families like the Tabaks that make our church so wonderful.

Andrew Dorn recognized Kim's hard work leading our Mexico Mission Trip. George also pointed out that Kim really stepped up when Elizabeth moved to take over our Youth Ministry.

Emily Sexauer wants a Talent Show this year. George asked her if she'd like to be in charge and she agreed!

Karen Doran, Clerk

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Bishops of Chicago

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the Rt. Rev. John C. Buchanan, *Assistant Bishop*

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the Rev. Victor H. Conrado, *Associate Rector*
the Rev. Dr. Walter M. Dunnnett, *Associate Rector*
the Rev. Dr. Robin Currie, *Pastor Associate*
the Rev. Catharine Phillips, *Priest Associate*
the Rev. Dr. Clint Moore III, *Priest Associate*
the Rev. Canon Suzann Holding, *Priest Associate*
the Rev. Miguel Briones, *Deacon*
the Rev. Judy Jackson, *Deacon*
Ms. Maureen Elliott, *Seminarian Intern*

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Mr. Charles H. Snider, Jr., *Organist/Choirmaster*
Ms. Marsha Webster, *Music Associate for Children's Choirs*
Ms. Kristin Margaglione, *Director of Children's Ministries*
Ms. Kim Reed, *Youth Ministry Coordinator*
Ms. Norma Cid, *Nursery Supervisor*
Ms. Kathy O'Rourke, *PDO Director*
Ms. Andrea Cocke, *Preschool Director*
Ms. Dellana Mote, *Office Manager*
Mr. Julian Mendoza, *Sexton*

Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Clerk of the Vestry
Treasurer
Chancellor
Vestry

Eric McAlpine
Edna Heatherington
Tim Sullivan
Dick Anstee
Bob Lewis
Caroline Arlasky, Rosio Barrera, Tim Dorgan, Andrew Dorn,
Carolyn Faivre, Mauro Hernandez, Amy Joyce, Kathy Kelly,
Arturo Rubio, Scott Shorney, Brian Thompson,
Hunter Walor, Patty Weaver



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