St Mark’s
Episcopal Church
Glen Ellyn, Illinois

Annual Report for 2010

February 13, 2011
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Agenda

Opening Prayer

Rev. George Smith

Appointment of Clerk of the Annual Meeting

Rev. George Smith

Sarah Adler is appointed Clerk of the Annual Meeting

Review and Approval of the Minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting

Rev. George Smith

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

Appointment of Senior Warden and Junior Warden

Rev. George Smith

Fiona Miller and Scott Bednas

Appointment of Youth Representative

Kris Baier

Joseph Lanzillo

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

Fiona Miller

Joyce Fletcher, Joe Campagna, Eric McAlpine, Perry Knutson, Lydia Smith, Kris Baier, Danna Gross, Brett Baker

Voting

Fiona Miller

Election of Vestry Candidates:
Dianne Dinse, Nancy Gier, Judy Jackson,
Roby McGovern, Shawn Somerville, Scott Taback

Election of Diocesan Convention Delegate Candidates:
Horacio Chavez, Virginia Vagt

Reports

Eric McAlpine

Finance Committee Report

2010 Year End Budget Report
Restricted Funds Report
2011 Budget

Senior Warden’s Report

Kris Baier

Rector’s Report

Rev. George Smith

Questions and Answers
Rector’s Report at the St. Mark’s Annual Meeting, February 13, 2011

It seems incredible to me that February 26th, 2011 will mark my five-year anniversary at St. Mark’s. That is the fastest five years I’ve ever experienced! Early on in 2006, I remember saying that I was looking forward to a long honeymoon. Five years is what I had in mind. And that is how I would characterize the past five years – a honeymoon. It has been an exciting, joyous and fruitful time of mutual support, discernment and collaboration. Our many accomplishments are owed to God’s faithfulness and blessing. Now after five years, it is time for the beginning of a new phase of relationship. You know me, I know you and we are ready for greater maturity and depth. What this means is that you might be more daring, more opinionated, more creative, more outspoken about the direction that St. Mark’s is headed in. This is all for the good, and I look forward to the energy and new dynamic that we will share.

To be sure, the end of a honeymoon cannot be marked with an exact date. In fact, 2010 was a transition year in every way. It was an exciting and pivotal year for St. Mark’s with a number of outstanding and significant accomplishments. First and perhaps by far the most important was the Campaign for St. Mark’s 2nd 100 Years. Planning for it began in 2009, and the Campaign was officially launched in March. Thanks to the hard work and generosity of so many, we not only achieved but also exceeded our fundraising goal by nearly $200,000. In particular, I want to thank Dick Anstee and Julie Carson for co-chairing the campaign. Deserving recognition are Rebecca Boskovic, Jeff Linstrom, Ellie Dunham and Andrew Dorn who chaired the first and second phases of the campaign. Ginnie Judd compiled the results and helped keep everyone on task with their responsibilities. With matching contributions from the Diocese of Chicago, we have already paid down our building mortgage by $1 million! This delivers positive results to the bottom line every month. Our payments to the bank have been reduced by 40%, which will help us reduce our deficit spending and achieve a balanced budget by 2013.

The second major accomplishment of 2010 was the opening of the St. Mark’s Preschool in September. After more than two years of planning, we enrolled nine preschool-age children in a three-day a week program. Inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach to education, we involve parents, children, teachers and the community to form a partnership that values the insights, curiosity and direction of the children. A key part of the curriculum involves documenting the exploration and learning that goes on. You can see an example of this now on display in lower level hallway with the “Foot Show.” Cindy Flynn, Kim Reed, Jan Novak, Elizabeth Lewis, Jill Bednas and Rinda Allison were members of the team that formed the vision for a preschool and brought it to reality. There is now an active preschool board that supports and guides teachers Megan Kaplan, Savannah Steward and Holly Hanson. Registration for the 2011 school year is underway with 13 applications in hand for 15 spots.

A third significant development in 2010 was the addition of a 9:15 a.m. service to our Sunday morning worship schedule. After a great deal of planning and preparation, this new service was launched in August at the beginning of the 2010-11 program year. It has been seven years since St. Mark’s last had a three-service schedule. I believe we will continue to grow into the new schedule, but it will require some patience and time to develop. There will undoubtedly be more adjustments and tweaks going forward. The goal continues to be to offer three liturgically robust services with differing personalities. The 8 a.m. service features the traditional language of Rite I as well as a few hymns and music performed by instrumentalists from our parish. The 9:15 a.m. service is a one-hour liturgy featuring children’s choirs, hymns and a variety of musical expressions. The 10:30 a.m. service is a traditional Rite II liturgy with an adult choir and a sung Eucharist. These three services which offer different times, personalities and expressions bring more options to our membership. So far, combined attendance has increased over last year, when we offered only the two services. I want to thank our associate rector, Elizabeth Molitors for her work in planning and implementing our new service schedule. Our readers, ushers, chalice bearers and acolytes are scheduled using a software program that Elizabeth discovered and has been using since last August. The Daughters of the King deserve special mention for being so accommodating and responsive to the new schedule. Their dedication, precision and care continues behind the scenes every Sunday at every worship service.
Other significant achievements during 2010 include the launch of the “One Year, One Book” adult forum that takes place on Sundays at 10:15 a.m. This series offers a cover-to-cover walk through the entire Bible over the course of one program year. We have lined up a series of excellent topics and presenters to make the Bible relevant and accessible to a wide audience. Reeny Linstrom, the adult formation vestry liaison has been particularly supportive and helpful in this project. We also have an excellent adult forum series that meets during the 9 o’clock hour – which has featured topics such as the interplay between science and religion. Myrna Grant and the adult formation commission have brought truly outstanding formation offerings to St. Mark’s.

The past year marked the fifth year of our relationship with Iglesias San Marcos in Nigromante, Mexico. Seventeen St. Mark’s parishioners traveled to San Marcos in June where they offered a Vacation Bible School, painted offices and shared meals and lives with our brothers and sisters in Christ across the border. Through our fundraising efforts, we are underwriting a portion of their priest’s salary and providing scholarships for children of the parish who would otherwise be unable to continue their studies.

One very visible accomplishment of the Buildings and Grounds committee was the replacement of the library-office kitchen. Thanks in large part to a very generous gift from Paula and Bud Zweibel, we installed new cabinets, countertops, a dishwasher and a refrigerator. This new kitchen is both functional and attractive and it offers a warm welcome to visitors and guests to St. Mark’s. Our thanks goes to Ryan Dunham for providing design and construction services as well as Perry Knutson and Kris Baier who helped plan and advise the project.

The 2010 St. Mark’s Pumpkin Patch again lit up the corner of Hillside and Main with a mass of orange pumpkins and golden bales of hay. Record revenues and a final contribution to PADS of over $6,000, the largest contribution in four years, matched the good looks. “The Patch” has generated over $22,000 for PADS since 2007. This effort has only been possible through the involvement of dozens and dozens of volunteers, who unloaded the pumpkins, staffed the selling tent and cleaned up when it was all over. Our pumpkin VIPs were once again Phil Adler, Joe Campagna and Scott Rooke. Please join me in thanking them early and often.

A wonderful thing is happening on Sunday mornings at St. Mark’s. We have a consistent gathering of high school students who meet for an hour with leaders Chad and Rachel Alcorn and Seth and Kelly Allison. I am grateful for the commitment that these leaders have made to our senior high youth. They provide a comfortable and relational space where issues and concerns relevant to our youth can be discussed with humor and honesty. Very few churches have been able to gather their senior high youth on a consistent basis. We have a good thing going, and I hope that it will continue to gain strength and popularity.

In my sermon last Sunday, February 6 (which you can read on-line through the St. Mark’s web site), I discussed the turbulence in religion in America. Church attendance is declining in every denomination, even at the large mega churches such as Willow Creek in Barrington. Fortunately, the membership at St. Mark’s is stable and growing. But we are not immune from the rapid changes occurring in our society. The question is how a church like St. Mark’s can be relevant in an environment where going to church on Sundays is no longer a custom, where sports for children and adults are offered on Sunday mornings, where people are exhausted from a long and grueling work week, and where everyone is conditioned to be entertained in almost every activity. For many, worship can seem boring and tedious and has become a third or non-option. The good news is that the “Good News” of the Gospel is as powerful and relevant as ever. It is our task to share the good news of God in Christ in our worship, formation, prayer and outreach, being authentic, accessible, welcoming and dynamic. Adding video screens and loud music is not the answer. Nor is the solution having easy, black and white answers to today’s difficult questions. Words from the prophet Jeremiah come to mind: “You, O Lord are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name” (14:9). The Kingdom of God is in our midst, and we are called to share this good news with the world around us. Available to everyone is a life that is meaningful and abundant, or as Jesus would say, “eternal.”

Like the engine of a car or the heart of a body, worship is what powers and gives life to St. Mark’s. It is through worship that people find orientation, priorities that are correct and transformation that leads to justice, peace and
courage in the world. In short, a meaningful life is discovered and nurtured through worship. In the coming years, it will increasingly important for us to articulate the importance and power of liturgical worship and redouble our efforts to involve people of all ages in it.

The decline in church-going in America is not all bad. It is an opportunity, especially for the Episcopal Church and St. Mark’s. Since its beginning two thousand years ago, the church has been a work of the Holy Spirit, which is always moving and calling us in new directions now. One of the most exciting developments in today’s information and technology world is the “Open Source” movement. Linear command and control organizations have been outflanked by the emergence of those with open and shared participation. After hiring the brightest minds and pouring millions of dollars into it, Microsoft pulled the plug on its Encarta Encyclopedia. Wikipedia, an open source project, relies on the contributions of thousands of people, none or very few of whom are paid for their efforts. Wikipedia is now the largest and most accurate compilation of information the world has ever known. The Holy Spirit moves with an “open source,” calling everyone to the reality of God in our midst. I believe that St. Mark’s can become more of an “open source” church, where contributions and participation are expanding freely and widely. We may accomplish this through our web site, Facebook, meetings, ministries and groups. The days of saying “we’ve always done it that way” are over. There must be a tolerance and expectation for risk, trial, success and failure. In Baptism, we are all called to ministry – vocations of various kinds. These can be marriage, partnership, parenthood, our paying jobs, and a host of ministries in the church such as pastoral care, teaching, outreach, advocacy, music and even ordained ministry. The church is a place for everyone to examine his or her vocations with new energy and focus.

As we look to the coming year, I am exploring the possibility of adding yet another Sunday service. This would be a service in Spanish offered in the afternoon, perhaps at 1 or 2 p.m. The church is typically empty on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. This is a window of opportunity to offer worship and the Good News of God to a population that is not being attended to in our area. The costs for adding a service would be relatively minor, and there could be many exciting opportunities for building bridges of language, culture and ministry between English and Spanish-speaking groups.

Another exciting development in the coming year is that our sexton and seminarian, Miguel Briones will complete his studies at the Lutheran School of Theology in Hyde Park and be ordained to the diaconate and then priesthood. Miguel has answered the call to ordination that will lead him to serve the large Mexican immigrant population in our region. Although he will leave St. Mark’s, I have no doubt that we will see him often and that his ministry will be visible to us and a significant blessing to the diocese as a whole. You will be happy to know that Miguel’s wife, Norma, expects to continue to work at St. Mark’s in our nursery and for the Parent’s Day Out program.

In addition to those who I have already mentioned so far, I want to thank a number of people who have served the parish in the past year in extraordinary ways:

- Those who are concluding their terms on the vestry: Joe Campagna, Joyce Fletcher, Eric McAlpine and Perry Knutson. In addition to his pumpkin duties, Joe has delivered welcome notes and baked goods to countless newcomers to St. Mark’s. Joyce “tablecloth” Fletcher has been the ingredient that puts life in our parish life activities and efforts. Her help with coffee hour, special events and all aspects of hospitality has been invaluable. Eric has offered his keen eye and sound wisdom to the parish finances. Along with our treasurers, Eric has helped track our money and develop a sound budget for the coming year. Perry “the hammer” Knutson, led the Buildings and Grounds work for two years, and during that time encountered and mastered many unexpected challenges. He oversaw the paving of our parking lots and the replacement of the flat roof over the library.

- Kris Baier is concluding two years as warden. Kris has offered consistent support to me and clear leadership to the vestry especially throughout the Capital Campaign and other major accomplishments discussed in this report. I am looking forward to continuing to work with Fiona Miller who now rotates to the position of Senior Warden as Scott Bednas becomes Junior Warden.
- Those who give freely of their time and handiwork to our beautiful and sometimes temperamental building – especially Michael Benich and Dick Mylander. Whether it is repairing a leaky toilet, installing an Internet cable, fixing buckling paneling in Mahon Hall or putting in a new sound system, these men have been willing and able to do all of it.

- As the new chair of Buildings and Grounds, Cheryl Olsen has overseen numerous repairs to our mechanical and safety systems. She is putting together a plan that will bring in more volunteers, spread the responsibility of the task and by doing so, will keep our building safe, well-maintained and equipped so that it will continue for many years to be a valuable resource for the entire community.

- Behind every party, there is a great master of the kitchen and details. This person at St. Mark’s is Joan Eorgoff, who just last week, was dashing around in the kitchen while people enjoyed the sounds of Blues and dined on gourmet food from CABS Bistro, all while raising needed funds for the PRC. Thank you Joan!

- The staff of St. Mark’s who give so much of their time and talents to their work and responsibilities: Elizabeth Molitors, associate rector; Dale Byrnes, our office manager; Charles Snider our Organist and Choirmaster; Marsha Webster, Director of Children’s Ministries and Associate Director of Music; Norma Cid, Nursery Supervisor; Robin Currie, Associate Pastor and editor of the PostMark; and Walter Dunnett, Associate Rector, author and our in-house Bible scholar.

- Dick Anstee and Bill Novak who as the treasurers keep our finances running like a Swiss watch.

- And most of all, Cecilia, Lydia, Frances and Geo, for their on-going support, love and understanding of the non-traditional work that I do that is never 9-5 and brings many interesting conversations to the dinner table.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. George D. Smith

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**A Vision for St. Mark’s**

*Adopted by the Vestry in 2009.*

St. Mark’s is a vibrant, growing, inclusive community rooted in our shared baptismal covenant and secure in the promise that baptism marks us as Christ’s own forever.

Respecting the dignity of all people, we welcome all, embrace differences, foster creativity, and nurture the unique gifts of each person.

We join together in worship drawing on our ancient liturgical traditions enriched by newer expressions.

We come together to learn and grow in our faith, welcoming questions, inviting dialogue, and forming the whole person in Christ.

We joyfully carry our faith into the world, sharing Christ’s love through our actions towards each other, our community, the Diocese of Chicago, and the world.

We worship, learn, and serve, proclaiming our commitment to understand and follow Christ’s challenging Gospel.
Vestry and Diocesan Delegate Nominees

We are pleased to announce the list of candidates selected by the Nominating Committee for the 2011 election to St. Mark's Vestry. Because several vestry members have had to step down before completing their terms, we have a total of six openings instead of the usual four. Two of these openings are for one year terms and the remaining four openings are for full three year terms. The by-laws of St. Mark's stipulate that, in addition to candidates presented by the Nominating Committee, additional nominations can be made by the parish at large. Any nominations from the parish needed to be submitted in writing to the Rector, signed by at least 20 parishioners, at least 15 days prior to our Annual Parish Meeting on February 13, 2011.

For Senior Warden

Fiona Miller

I am a relative late-comer to the Episcopal Church: Growing up in England, I was a member of the Methodist church, and I joined the Episcopal Church soon after moving to the United States a little more than twenty years ago. I have been a member of St. Mark's since moving from the New York area 11 years ago with my husband, Richard, and daughters, Kristin and Gemma. We were welcomed into our new church family, and my church life became an important part of the transition to the Midwest. Some of the people who have become my closest friends were found in our pews, for which I am truly grateful.

Since coming to St. Mark's, I have served on a number of ministries including a term on the vestry during a turbulent period in our history. For the past 8 or so years I have served on the Mission and Outreach Commission, and as a Chalice Bearer and Sub Deacon. I was manager for Lions 'n' Lambs gift shop for the last two years of its operation; I have worked with some of the women’s ministries and have helped in the planning several of the Women's Retreats. I have had an active role in some of the fund raising activities for our Mexico mission trips; serve as “Shepherd” to our Acolytes; am a Daughter of the King and a member of the choir.

Under George's leadership with the ongoing support of Walter, Elizabeth, Robin, and the staff and volunteers, St. Mark's is seeing remarkable growth and a renewed excitement and involvement of its parishioners. I have benefited this last year from the guidance of Kris Baier and Fr. George and I am honored and excited to serve as your Senior Warden and look forward to working with everyone to further the work of St. Mark's in the local, national, and global communities, as well as tackling any challenges that lie ahead.

For Junior Warden

Scott Bednas

It is an honor to be called to the position of Junior Warden. I am excited for the opportunity to serve this amazing community. As you may know, 2010 was an interesting year for the Bednas family. I am forever grateful for the love, support, and generosity that our parish bestowed upon my family last year. I am hopeful that my service as Junior Warden will pay back a small portion of the emotional and spiritual debt owed to the St. Mark’s community.
I am a cradle Episcopalian, and my family joined St. Mark’s shortly after we moved from Michigan to Glen Ellyn in 2003. Jill and I will celebrate our 10th wedding anniversary this year as we continue to enjoy the blessings of our boys Pierce (7) and Reece (3).

I had the pleasure of serving on the vestry from 2006 through 2008. Currently, I serve as a lay reader and one of four Sunday School teachers of the kindergarten and first grade class. I look forward to working with the clergy, staff, and vestry as Junior Warden. I will strive to serve the parish to the best of my ability as we continue to grow in faith and branch out into the world.

For Vestry—Three Year Terms

Dianne Dinse

Dianne has served on the Vestry this past year, filling a one year vacancy. She has agreed to stand for election to a full three year term this year.

Hi, I'm Dianne Dinse and I think I would fulfill the role of "older" parishioner on the vestry. That is probably true in more than one way. I have been a member of St. Mark’s for 50 years! It's hard to imagine . . . Many of you were undoubtedly not even born! In all that time there have been many rectors and many vestries. I have been through: the bazaars, rummage sales, ECW, women's guilds, and many wonderful and effective ministries . . . in their time!

But times change, and the reason I feel privileged to be asked to run for vestry at this time is the positive, enthusiastic, effective and generally uplifting church that is St. Mark’s now. I attribute these values mainly to Fr. George's arrival. To quote my son, Eric, who served as a member of George's search committee, "My best contribution to St. Mark’s in my lifetime was to participate in the calling of Fr. George to St. Mark’s."

Of course, I heartily agree with my son and that is why I would feel honored to work for George's ministry at St. Mark’s as a vestry member.

Nancy Gier

Nancy has served on the Vestry this past year, filling a one year vacancy. She has agreed to stand for election to a full three year term this year.

Richard and I have been members of St. Mark's since 1990, the year we settled here in Illinois. I'm originally from Chicago, but I had left this area for about 13 years. Our two sons, Witt and Darian, served as acolytes and were confirmed here at St. Mark's. I find the Episcopal Church, and St. Mark's in particular, inviting and inclusive, something which is very important to me. In recent years, I have become more involved in parish life. I have served on a discernment committee, and presently I am part of missions and outreach, and I help out with communications. I see so many people at St. Mark's living their faith and what Christ has taught us, and I love being a part of that. I think that time will show us that, as a parish, we've entered a renewal and growth period. The physical church is also part of what attracted me to St. Mark's. I love the church's Gothic architecture and the traditional beauty of the sanctuary, especially the stained glass windows.
Shawn Somerville

Our family lives in Wheaton, and we joined St. Mark’s just over a year ago after moving to the area from Minneapolis. We were saddened to leave our former church where we were very active. This was also the church where Joanie and I were married and our children (Parker, age 8 & Carly, age 7) were baptized. We feel blessed to have chosen Wheaton as our home and to have found St. Mark’s.

I am employed at William Blair within the Municipal Bond Department and commute into the city each day. I am currently Vice President of our neighborhood’s homeowners association. Joanie is active at Pleasant Hill Elementary School and St. Mark’s where she is involved with Coffee Hour Ministry, Newcomer’s Brunch, and recently has agreed to chair Parish Life.

Raised in the Catholic Church, I attended the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN, firmly establishing my faith. Joanie and I decided to join the Episcopal Church when we were engaged, finding its theology and structure to match well with our beliefs.

I would like to expand my participation within the St. Mark’s community and be considered for the Vestry. I look forward to serving.

Scott Taback

Scott grew up in Lancaster, Pennsylvania attending and acolyting at Zion Lutheran church. His family has been members of Zion for close to 100 years. His grandparents sang in the choir for over 50 years. Scott made his way to Chicago 15 years ago with his bride, Penny, from Philadelphia. They moved to Glen Ellyn 5 years ago from the city and have attended St. Mark’s ever since. Scott worked for Morgan Stanley and just recently left IBM after 10 years to start his own business. T-Shape Solutions is a consulting and marketing firm partnering with companies to embrace the power of social media and the web. This is a dream come true for him. Another goal was to have a family; having been 1 of 4 children, Scott appreciates the comradery of siblings. Scott is an amazing father to Kathleen, 8, Scotty, 6 and Bryce, 4. All the children have attended Parents Day Out and Bryce now attends St. Mark's Preschool. Scott has a great sense of family, business and community. He would be honored to be a part of St. Mark's Vestry.
For Vestry –One Year Terms

Judy Jackson

I was baptized Presbyterian, confirmed Methodist, and confirmed Episcopalian by the time I was thirteen. During my adult years, I chose a church to attend dependent upon whether I wanted high church or low church or upon whom I was missing. When I retired from 35 years of teaching English at York High School, I sought avenues of serving. I served dogs through the county animal shelter, I served children in Northern Uganda through a not-for-profit organization established by retired teachers from York High School, and I served students through tutoring. I followed my passion for photography, reading, writing, the North Woods, and my dogs but something was missing. So, I sought a home church. In November of 2008, I decided to check out St. Mark’s and in doing so discovered a church home. As I have continued to venture into St. Mark’s through participation in weekly Bible Study, singing in the choir, teaching in Children’s Worship, serving through pastoral care and Daughters of the King, and assisting in worship as chalice bearer and sub deacon, I found answers to my questions, clarification of my doubts, and faithful purpose to serve. I found liturgy that sustained the beauty of worship, families that treasured their children, and clergy that walked their talk. I found a passion to serve within the church that enhanced my service outside the church. In essence, I found an expansion of my desire to serve beyond what I had imagined.

I discovered that being a part of St. Mark's, in a community of faith-based people, a community of acceptance and growth, a community of intellect and compassion- that being a part of that makes me feel alive and connected and me. I want to be a part of the energy and love and faith that is growing in this church. Being a part of the vestry would give me the opportunity to offer what I can to continue the intimacy and the growth of what God has in store for us. I look forward to the opportunity of serving on the St. Mark’s Vestry.

Roby McGovern

Roby likes to think of himself as an experienced Christian. That is, he’s experienced many Christian faiths and seems to have enjoyed them all. He was born and baptized Roman Catholic in Monroe, Michigan. At three, his mother, brother, brand new sister and newly acquired father moved to the Chicago area. Being way too young at that time to make his own decisions Roby was brought over to the Lutheran faith where most of his boyhood life was spent.

While attending Engineering College at UIC, Roby met his future wife Laura. She too was an engineer. After graduation, Roby left for California to work for the Dept. of the Navy. Laura soon followed, they were married and there they started a family. Once again Roby was unable to make his own decision and was brought back to the Roman Catholic faith by Laura. Both of their children, Maryrose and Matthew, were born in California, and they came to like living out there, however, they felt their home was back in the Chicago area.

So, 14 years ago, Roby and Laura moved to Carol Stream. Soon upon moving into the area, Laura decided she wanted to try the Episcopal faith at the Church of the Incarnation in Bloomingdale and Roby and the kids came along. They stayed for about ten years and they really enjoyed Incarnation, but they found that it did not provide the full spiritual experience they were searching for. So, Church shopping they would go once again. Only to stumble into St Mark’s Glen Ellyn, where they’ve been ever since.

My family and I really love this church and I would be honored to be part of the vestry.
Youth Representative to the Vestry

Joseph Lanzillo

I am a junior at Glenbard West. I am an member of soccer team and I am an active Boy Scout. I've been coming to St. Marks for my entire life and have been an acolyte and a lay reader. I am happy to serve the church on the vestry this for 2011.

Diocesan Convention Delegates

Horacio Chavez

Horacio grew up in the south side of Chicago, IL where he graduated from Curie Metropolitan High School in '92. He enlisted in the US Navy that summer and served a tour in the Persian Gulf his first year. When his enlistment expired he returned home and joined the Navy Reserve where he is actively serving. He enrolled at Morton College in Cicero and graduated with his Associates in Applied Science in Computer Aided Design. Horacio currently works as an Environmental CADD Technician for HuffnHuff of Oakbrook, an environmental survey company. He is also involved with the San Marcos of Nigromante annual trip and with the Basement Boys youth group. He also volunteers at the People’s Resource Center in Wheaton as a Computer Literacy Instructor. Horacio is married to lifelong parishioner Jennifer Chavez Anstee and is the father of three beautiful girls, Alexandra, Carmen and Lucy.

Virginia Vagt

Virginia Vagt loves being a parishioner at St. Mark’s, Glen Ellyn. She enjoys supporting our Christian formation ministries through various projects such as writing and directing our 2009 Epiphany pageant, drama coaching for this year’s pageant, leading the Psalms class in One Year, One Book, leading a Women’s Retreat session, Sharing Words, Sharing Life, serving as a Nursery volunteer and helping with Vacation Bible School. She and Jan Novak served as Prayer Chairmen for St. Mark’s 2010 Capital Campaign, and for two years Virginia was part of St. Mark’s weekly prayer ministry. Always dedicated to building parish community life, she serves on St. Mark’s Coffee Ministry Team, the Women’s Retreat committee, and she and her husband Peter love St. Mark’s Supper Bowl Shuffle. She also volunteers at Administer Justice, a legal ministry for low income individuals. Virginia has a BA in history and an MBA. For five years she was Director of Research at Christianity Today, has written articles for national magazines, and with Christine Field she has written two parenting books, Seasonal Savors and Accidental Learning. She and her family have been at St. Mark’s Glen Ellyn for three years. At St. Mark’s Geneva she served on the vestry and she and Peter taught the high school Sunday school class.
Report from the Senior Warden

The dictionary defines faith as a firm belief in something for which there is no proof, often synonymous with a belief not resting on logical proof or material evidence. The Bible in Hebrews 11:1 states “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

When I accepted George’s call to serve as Warden 2 years ago, I had many ideas about what the position would require of me. I assumed a great amount of time and effort would be required on my part. But I had no idea about what I would receive in return. I had no idea that my faith would be so deepened through this service—my faith in the greatness of God and God’s community at St. Mark’s.

Even before our January Vestry meeting in which we reviewed the events of 2010, I began thinking about all that has transpired this past year. Top on the list was the Capital Campaign. I admit to having reservations about the wisdom of this undertaking given the financial times. I was not sure that we could be successful even while I was sure that we had little choice but to try. We assembled a truly fantastic team headed by Dick Anstee and Julie Carson and assisted by too many wonderful parishioners to name and plowed ahead. At our official Kick Off dinner, I was blown away when it was announced that we had already exceeded our goal before we even officially began. Surely God’s greatness was at work here.

Next on my list was the opening of St. Mark’s Preschool in September. Again, a great team headed by Kim Reed and Cindy Flynn and assisted by many more had been working for quite some time to get this off the ground. By summer they were ready to go, but could not officially register students because of DCFS rules. We had hired staff, bought furniture and equipment and were ready to go, but would we have enough students to open the doors. Well, we did and the school opened as scheduled in September. Registration began this January for the fall of 2011 and they now have full enrollment. Again, I see God’s hand in this great success.

Another great success this year was the transition to three services. In a national climate of declining church attendance, we stepped out in faith to expand our worship opportunities so that we could accommodate and welcome more people. While we continue to work out all the kinks, we have seen a continued growth in Sunday attendance against all odds. Perhaps this is because of the character of God that we portray at St. Mark’s as George said in his January Postmark article, a God known in Jesus who cares for the poor and the suffering with compassion, healing and joy.

There have been many other less visible successes this year which each have deepened my faith in God and our community—the spectacular success of our Pumpkin Patch, the completion of the kitchenette remodeling, the growth of our Men’s Ministry, the continued expansion of our Women’s Ministry, and our deepening relationship with San Marcos in Nigromante Mexico. All of these have taken a considerable effort from a large number of parishioners. We are told daily how busy people are; yet our members continue to step up and take on God’s work and do it so well. Few positions in the church afford a better view than Warden of all the hours and talents it takes to make St. Mark’s a success. We are all “ministers” here and help to complement our dedicated staff and clergy. George is an outstanding leader and a faithful minister of God’s word. We are truly blessed that God chose him to minister among us. Elizabeth has brought a wonderful energy to us and I especially appreciate her ability to see God everywhere, even in the movies. Walter and Robin are also invaluable resources for us all and I thank God that they are with us.

The next year promises more challenges and more successes and our new Senior Warden, Fiona Miller is more than up to the challenge. With the assistance of our new Junior Warden, Scott Bednas, I have faith that God will lead us through any obstacle and on to bigger and better things for the Kingdom of God.

May God continue to bless St. Mark’s.

Kris Baier
## ST. MARK’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### OPERATING BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCOUNTS</th>
<th>2009 BUDGET</th>
<th>2009 ACTUAL</th>
<th>2010 BUDGET</th>
<th>2010 ACTUAL</th>
<th>2011 BUDGET</th>
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## ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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February 2011
Page 15
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## Accounts

### Assets

#### Operating Assets

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**
- 1101.00 - Checking Community Bank: $25,610.54
- 1103.00 - Capital Campaign - Community Bank: $114,555.17
- 1106.00 - DK Checking: $3,393.75
- 1107.00 - PDO Checking: $16,559.80
- 1109.00 - St. Mark's Preschool checking: $3,648.17
- 1110.10 - Memorial MNKT-Community Bank: $294.20
- 1115.00 - Rector's Discretionary Community: $10,843.51
- 1117.00 - Molitors Discretionary Account: $1,710.78
- 1125.00 - Restricted Funds CD: $58,358.08
- 1135.00 - M & O Reserve Fund CD: $34,772.43
- 1150.10 - Thanksgiving Chkg-Community Bank: $4,563.70

Total Cash and Cash Equivalents: $274,856.13

#### Investments

- 1201.00 - Diocesan Foundation: $8,893.42
- 1209.00 - Wayne Hummer-Operating: $976.62
- 1211.00 - Wayne Hummer Lillian Campbell Trust: $64,632.46
- 1215.00 - Wayne Hummer - Lewis: $197,278.86

Total Investments: $215,147.56

#### Total Operating Assets: $596,334.09

#### Non-operating Assets

#### Property and Equipment

- 1701.00 - Church Buildings: $4,535,250.00
- 1705.00 - Furniture and Fixtures: $417,000.00
- 1710.00 - Computer Equipment: $584.65
- 1720.00 - Rectory: $305,765.91

Total Property and Equipment: $5,288,670.56

#### Total Non-operating Assets: $5,288,670.56

#### Total Assets: $5,825,004.65

### Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds

#### Liabilities

#### Current Liabilities

- 2110.04 - Due to Other Organizations: $505.00
- 2140.00 - Rental Transmittal: $928.99
- 2141.20 - Rectory Security Deposit: $2,000.00
- 2150.00 - Wedding Transmittal: $19,478.50
- 2151.00 - Funeral Transmittal: $1,375.00

Total Current Liabilities: $15,186.89

#### Long Term Liabilities

- 2172.00 - Building Mortgage Payable: $1,562,599.71
- 2701.00 - Rectory Mortgage Payable: $131,912.45

Total Long Term Liabilities: $1,694,512.16

#### Total Liabilities: $1,709,699.05

#### Fund Balance

- 3100.00 - General Fund Balance: $1,048,464.02
- 3200.00 - Investment in Property & Equipment: $2,547,634.05
- Excess Cash Received: $5,626.03

Total Fund Principal and Excess Cash Received: $3,601,724.10

#### Restricted Funds

- Total Temporarily Restricted: $316,302.64
- Total Permanently Restricted: $197,278.86

Total Restricted Funds: $513,581.50

#### Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, & Restricted Funds: $5,825,004.65
## ST MARK’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
### 2010 Summary of Restricted Accounts

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<tr>
<th>MEMORIAL FUNDS</th>
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| Lewis Trust Fund            | 9101.10                     | $183,192.40       | $21,132.39       | ($7,045.93)              | $197,278.86            |
| Lillian Campbell Fund       | 8440.15                     | $214,445.33       | $25,185.11       | ($155,000.00)            | $84,630.44             |
| Memorial Fund CD 1/9/2011   | $57,284.22                  | $1,073.86         | $460.09          | ($2,368.00)              | $4,563.34              |
| Mission & Outreach CD 1/9/2011 | $34,132.58                  | $639.85           |                  | $34,772.43               |
| Pelham Fund Diocesan        | 8430.10                     | $8,368.57         | ($1,032.06)      | ($510.21)                | $8,890.42              |
| Pelham Fund                 | 8430.20                     | $5,135.07         | $753.77          | $5,888.84                |
| Thanksgiving Fund           | 8440.10                     | $6,471.25         | $460.09          | ($2,368.00)              | $4,563.34              |
| **TOTAL**                   | $525,785.00                 | $53,878.41        | ($171,698.26)    | $407,965.15              |

| Memorial Fund Balance 12/31/2010 | $6,289.11 | $2.51 | ($5,997.42) | $294.20 |
The Second 100 Years

On March 14, 2010, St. Mark’s celebrated one of the most significant events of the year, and perhaps in several years, with the “Kick-Off” Dinner for our Capital Campaign, “The Second 100 Years.” Bishop Lee joined us for dinner, where it was our privilege to announce not only the kick-off of the Campaign but also the achievement of our fund raising goal. In an amazing show of support, the Parish had pledged over $600,000 toward reducing our debt before we even “officially” started! To cap the evening, Bishop Lee presented us with a $200,000 check as the first installment of the Diocese’s commitment to match our fund raising efforts.

In view of our early success, the Committee challenged the Parish to an even higher goal of $735,000, which included completely paying off the mortgage on the Rectory. We also set a goal of 180 pledges.

The Campaign concluded with 177 pledges for a total of $795,553.58.

Since many of you paid all or major portions of your pledge up front, as of the end of the year, we have already collected $450,000, which the Diocese has matched, to allow us to pay off $900,000 of our mortgage. This reduction in our debt will allow us to reduce our dependence on the Campbell Fund by more than $45,000 in 2011.

We were blessed to have great Campaign Team Leaders and Support people. All of the Campaign materials were developed and produced by St. Mark’s members. The social functions were superbly arranged and Ginnie Judd was voted the Campaign Administrator of the Year.

Julie Carson and Dick Anstee

2011 Giving Campaign

The ministries and activities of St. Mark’s are funded primarily by the regular contributions of our members, and each fall we hold a giving campaign to solicit pledges for the coming year. These pledges are important, as they allow the Wardens and Vestry a clear view of the resources available in planning our budget.

As of January 31, we have received commitments totaling $483,466 towards our goal of $520,000 for the 2011 budget. We have 188 total pledging families compared to our goal of 200. We greatly appreciate all the parishioners who support St. Mark’s. While we are short of our goal, we have exceeded last year’s commitments by $16,500. We are happy that we continue to grow our pledging base, having received 15 new pledges this year even as the unsettled economy is still having an effect.

Coming fast on the heels of our very successful Capital Campaign in the spring, our Fall Annual Giving Campaign could have been a challenge. The great efforts of past Giving Campaign committee members made our job much easier, as St. Markers have been well educated on the importance of Annual Giving pledges for the day to day workings of the church. With the help of Javier Valdivia’s gorgeous graphic design work, Nancy Gier’s excellent writing skills, and Jan Novak’s thoughtful prayer leadership, our committee was able to build on past successes.

Over the past four years, pledging has grown from 151 pledging families/members three years ago to 164 two years ago and 173 last year; as of January 2011, we have 188 pledges. We emphasized participation this year, and tried to encourage people to commit to regular giving as a measure of their regard for St. Mark’s, without regard for the size of gifts. In light of our struggling national economic scenario, it’s parishioner commitment that truly counts, and we have truly been blessed.

Many thanks to Father George for his support and energy throughout the Giving Campaign. Also, a special thank you to Dale Byrnes and all the office volunteers for their efforts in supporting the needs of our committee.

The 2011 Giving Campaign Committee
Ellie Dunham, Andrew Dorn, Javier Valdivia, Jan Novak, & Nancy Gier
Children and Youth Formation

Basement Boys and Blythe

The Blythe and Basement Boys groups provide a time of fellowship, fun and service for youth in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades. The groups meet twice a month during the school year, on Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30pm. Newcomers are always welcome, and St. Mark’s youth are encouraged to invite friends from outside of the church.

Activities this year include a Bigger/Better food collection for the Peoples’ Resource Center, working a shift at the Pumpkin Patch and decorating pumpkins, participation in Sleep Out Saturday to benefit Bridge Communities, making Christmas and Valentine’s cards for shut-ins, yoga with Reeny Linstrom, and working at Feed My Starving Children. Other evenings are less structured, and are spent playing games and getting to know one another. Adult leadership of Basement Boys is provided by Jacob Ayers, Horacio Chavez, Matt Gillespie and Leo Lanzillo. The Blythe leaders are Meghan Daly Ayers, Marylu Olsen and Bryn Wulf. If you are an adult who is interested in participating in the leadership of Blythe or Basement Boys, please contact the Rev. Elizabeth Molitors.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Elizabeth Molitors

Youth Formation

The core of St. Mark’s youth formation is Sunday mornings. From 10:15-11:15 a.m. during the program year (September thru May), the youth gather in one of the downstairs classrooms (7/8th grade in room 101; high school youth meet in room 103) to share, learn, and grow as a group. They are also encouraged to attend and participate in one of the Sunday morning Eucharist services.

The time that the 7/8th graders spend together on Sunday is framed by the Rite 13 program, which uses stories in scripture, both Old and New Testament, to help the youth discover what it means to be made in the image of God, valuing the way God has made them, and how to be and grow in relationship with God. Preparation for Confirmation is also woven into this time, and the youth are invited to meet and talk with the clergy, and make a decision in the spring of their 8th grade year, whether they wish to be confirmed. The youth also participate in various service and social activities, including work at the People’s Resource Center; packing lunches for PADS; volunteering at a PADS site; serving as ushers, readers and acolytes; participation in Sleep Out Saturday and Crop Walk, and social activities including laser tag and the Christmas (Semi) Progressive dinner. Special thanks and recognition go to the adult leaders of the 7/8th grade youth on Sunday morning, Kim Reed and Paul Flynn, for their continued dedication and commitment to this program and these kids. They make the 7/8th grade room a great place to come each week. We ask and invite parents of youth and others in the church to serve as leaders for the other activities throughout the year.

The Sunday morning program for the High School youth is called J2A (Journey to Adulthood), and focuses on an exploration of the “self” – who you are, how you are connected to others, what it means to be authentic, how individuals can connect to form community – and, ultimately, how that self can grow into being a healthy adult. As the J2A program materials put it, “the focus is placed on the acquisition of skills and vocabulary which prepare and empower the young person to be able to someday fully participate in the adult community as a competent and faithful individual.”

Besides their time together on Sunday mornings, the group comes together for different social and service activities, including volunteering at a PADS site, participation in Sleep Out Saturday and Crop Walk, the (Semi) Progressive Christmas dinner, playing laser tag and paintball, preparing and serving dinner after the monthly Evensong service, and serving as ushers, readers and acolytes. The adult leaders of the High School youth on Sunday morning are
Rachel and Chad Alcorn, and Kelly and Seth Allison. Their professional backgrounds, and their passion for this age group, make them terrific facilitators who can effectively engage the high school youth.

As with the 7/8th grade youth, we ask and invite parents of youth and others in the church to serve as leaders for the other activities throughout the year. If you are approached, please say ‘Yes.’ We need the help of everyone in the St. Mark’s community to help our youth grow into the vibrant, faithful and caring people that God made them to be.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Elizabeth Molitors

Children’s Ministry

Children: Nursery Age through 6th grade

Christian Education

St. Mark’s is blessed to offer a number of faith formation opportunities for children, beginning with the nursery and continuing through elementary school. These are made possible because of an ever-increasing number of volunteers who have committed their time and talents to be with the children. Our programs for children include Sunday School, Worship, Nursery Care, Vacation Bible School, and Music. 2010 highlights from each area include the following:

Sunday School

Classes are offered for children, beginning at age 3, through 6th grade. The fall program year kicked off on August 29th, with a new hour for Sunday School: 10:15 – 11:15. Average attendance, even with the worship schedule change beginning in September, remains similar to the year before, at 44 children per Sunday. It took a few weeks of adjustment, but classes are running smoothly and keeping our staff of 20 volunteer teachers busy. The preschool and K-1st grade classes experienced the largest increase in enrollment as a result of the new time schedule. Thanks to Bud and Barbara Stephani for painting the 2nd grade room (204) in July. As part of our outreach, the children are involved in a weekly gathering (by class) of food for the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry.

Worship – We continued to offer two age appropriate worship experiences for our youngest members: Children’s Worship (Godly Play) – Ages 4 – 1st grade, and Lamb’s Chapel – Ages 2-3. The Sunday morning worship schedule change resulted in these two ministries moving from 10:30 to 9:15 a.m. In September, a Lamb’s Chapel open house and leader training was offered to help enhance parent understanding of the Lamb’s Chapel concept and to bring the teams of volunteer leaders together at one time. More recently, a Godly Play workshop was offered to introduce parents to this approach to Bible learning for young children and to further galvanize our teams of Children’s Worship volunteers.

Many thanks to the church for fixing the crumbling wall in the Children’s Worship Room and for re-painting it. Thanks also to KaiLonnie Dunsmore and Cindy Flynn and family for helping to “spruce up” the Lamb’s Chapel to better facilitate children “graduating” from nursery care to this program for 2 and 3 year olds.

In addition, I am thankful for KaiLonnie Dunsmore and Mark Engelsman who took over the maintenance of the cloth worship bags to help children navigate the “adult” worship service.

Nursery – Norma Cid and her staff of rotating volunteers keep our nursery service running smoothly. We average 6 children in the nursery over the course of the morning each week. Additionally, the nursery is staffed during the week by Carrie Pihl, Tara Schoen and Nura Tomain for NOVA and the winter Yoga offering.
Vacation Bible School - ReNew: the Green VBS was the theme for our annual offering, which was held Aug. 2 – 6, 2010. This year’s enrollment reached 65 children, who were shepherded and taught by 16 youth leaders and 20 adult leaders. Special thanks goes to Caroline McAlpine for leading the decorating team with her marvelous backdrops. During VBS we collected gently used books and recyclable crayons for SCARCE in Glen Ellyn.

Other Educational Opportunities at St. Mark’s

- **Summer Sunday School** – During the summer a team of volunteers led a simple 6 week summer educational offering for school-aged children, which ran in conjunction with an adult offering on parenting. This was successful for those who attended, but unfortunately those numbers were quite small and the program did not attract any older elementary age children.
- **Trick or Treat for Unicef** – Children brought in boxes of change and currency totaling nearly $200 for the Unicef collection.
- **Advent Wreath Making** – Offered on the first Sunday of Advent as a “do it yourself” activity.
- **Christmas Pageant** – Presented on December 19th. 70 children and youth took part in this year’s production, “Good News of Great Joy,” which was directed by Judy Jackson and a wonderful team of volunteers.
- **Advent Devotional Booklet** – Contributions by parishioners made this a very special Advent guide.
- **St. Mark’s Preschool and Parents Day Out** – In October I gave the preschool children a tour of our organ in the sanctuary. I meet with the Thursday PDO group weekly for music time.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marsha Webster, Director, Children’s Ministry

**Adult Forum 2010-2011**

This year Father George and Rev. Elizabeth ably headed up the "One Year, One Book" project in the "Track Two" slot of Adult Forum which met at 10:15 in the library. Beginning with Genesis, week by week an overview or topic or theme suggested by successive books of the Bible was explored. Speakers came from the pastoral staff, our own congregation and guest speakers. "Track One" which met in Mahon Hall, at 9 a.m., presented Biblical topics in tandem with Track Two, beginning with "The Story of the Bible," "The Old Testament in Context," "The Hard Sayings of the Old Testament" and on into "Genres of the New Testament" ending with Father Walter leading us into a better understanding of "The Mysteries of the Book of Revelation." Attendance at both forums seemed to hold pretty much the same as last year in spite of the (expected) slight confusion with our new three service schedule. This Advent we were very pleased to have Dr. Buis of Wheaton College's conservatory return to lead us in a consideration of Bach's oratorio.

While the "One Year, One Book" 10:15 classes continue exploring the books of the Bible through May of 2011, Track One began an exploration of Science and Christianity led by fascinating lectures by our congregant, Dr. Peter Vagt. Guest lecturer, Dr. Derek Chignell will continue with a 4-week series on "The Language of God" which will examine spiritual implications of the human genome project as suggested by Phillip Collin's book. In Lent this year, in contrast to our last year's Lenten series "Seven Cardinal Virtues" we will consider, perhaps with more discomfort, "The Seven Deadly Sins." The 9 a.m. Adult Forum also enjoys the fellowship of the “coffee hours” (really twenty minutes) where coffee and snacks continue to be faithfully laid out before class by Julie Carson, a member of the Adult Forum Commission.

There will be a change in Adult Forum beginning in September. We will continue to have two "tracks" as always, but we will have the same topic and speaker for both sessions. It is not infrequent for a member of the congregation to express regret in having to choose between Adult Forums, or to miss the session they might have preferred because of the worship service their family or friends attend. We feel having the same topic and speaker for both sessions of Adult Forum will eliminate disappointment and will have a unifying effect on the congregation.
We continue to be grateful for the faithful 9 a.m. coffee ministry carried on singlehandedly by Julie Carson. As well we are blessed and thankful for the unflagging support, encouragement and advice in so many ways of St. Mark’s pastoral staff.

Respectfully submitted,
Myrna Grant, Chair
Bruce Benson, Julie Carson, David Fletcher, Reeny Linstrom, Lynn Wollstadt

**Music**

The cold of January brought with it the continuation of our monthly, first-Sunday Evensongs as we eventually embraced the solemnity of Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. The Holy Week and Easter services proved to be especially inspiring, and once again the parish generously supported our brass quintet ensemble.

In March, during the Wednesday night Lenten Suppers, we were fortunate to have a small performance of portions of Handel’s “Messiah” put on by Tanya and Jerry Carey in Mahon Hall. They brought in several of their professional musician friends and played arrangements of various choruses and arias, to the delight of those who were in attendance. We are very lucky to have two such talented and generous musicians in our parish.

Later that same month our second event of the season’s Recital Series was held for the first time in Mahon Hall with a unique performance given by Mark Brewer, harpist and Jason Deroche, guitarist. The location was an ideal venue for this one-of-a-kind concert, allowing for a more intimate atmosphere where the audience could see and enjoy the performers on stage.

The final event of the recital series for that season was held in May, our third annual New Orleans Jazz Night with the Elmhurst College Jazz Ensemble. This awesome group of amazing college players once again lifted the roof off of Mahon Hall with their renditions of jazz classics.

The first-Sunday Evensongs were suspended over the summer and resumed in September. The Adult Choir’s annual retreat to Juddland in Wisconsin was resumed after last year’s cancelation, and it was with great delight and anticipation the choir headed north to Green Lake for a weekend of relaxation, fellowship, and hard work. We are always so very grateful to Bob and June, and Ginnie and Gerrit for the phenomenal hospitality which they offer so freely.

In October St. Mark’s hosted a Deanery Sing event, directed by Dent Davidson from St. Paul and the Redeemer in Chicago. Dent works closely with the Bishop in providing music workshops throughout the diocese, and in this one we explored a great variety of song styles and service music options. Musicians and other interested folk from the western suburbs were encouraged to attend.

Then at the end of the month our new season for the Recital Series began with a unique and amazing performance given by Chicago organist, Dr. David Schrader. David graciously agreed to play “spooky” music from the repertoire in observance of Halloween, including an astounding improvisation based on two melodies: the theme from the TV show, “The Munsters”, and the hymn, “For All the Saints”. There were over a hundred people in attendance, and we received some publicity through the Glen Ellyn Patch online publication.

In November the first-Sunday Evensong was offered in a more expanded version with the Adult Choir singing the canticles and an anthem for All Saints’ Day. The Litany of the Saints was sung and past members and family members of the parish were memorialized in the liturgy.
Advent brought another celebration of Lessons & Carols with the Adult and Treble Choirs, and the Madrigal Singers from Glenbard East High School with their director, Brandon Catt. The service was, as usual, very well attended and a collection was taken to aid Father Andrew White and his ministry in Baghdad.

As we continue to learn what schedule works best, rehearsals for the Treble Choir were moved back to Wednesday afternoons, and toward the end of the year the decision was made to have Marsha Webster take a larger role in selecting and planning the music for the 9:15am service, since she always plays at that time.

The three-service Christmas Eve schedule was observed; the 4:00pm service having an emphasis on our children’s groups; 8:00pm with a first-time volunteer Hymn Choir and brass; and 10:00pm with choir, and brass. Again, I’m very grateful to the parish for their generous financial support for our guest musicians.

Lastly, I want to thank all the members of the music program, from the youngest to the oldest, for their contributions of talent and time. I’m also deeply grateful for the priceless contributions made to our program by my associate and colleague, Marsha Webster. Her cheerfulness and humor, not to mention talent and dedication, make for a wonderful addition to this music program, which simply wouldn’t be the same without her.

Charles Snider

Music Programs for Children and Youth

We offer 3 separate musical experiences for children and youth:

Cherub Choir – Sunday morning music for preschoolers, held at the beginning of the Sunday School hour. The Cherubs focus on learning to use their voices, having fun and very simple music skills. We have 10 – 13 Cherubs in class each week. They sang in May and December.

Chorister Choir – Mid-week music program for children in Kindergarten – 3rd grade. We began a “rebuilding” year in September, as several 3rd graders decided to pass on music for this year. The current group is very young, but a delight to work with. They are gaining strength in their voices and confidence with each week. There are 7 Choristers currently. We sing monthly or every 6 weeks.

Treble Choir – The Treble Choir serves students, 4th grade through senior high. We currently have 7 students, mostly late elementary age, singing regularly in the Choir. In September we moved our rehearsal time back to Wednesdays, 5:15 – 6:00 p.m. The Treble Choir has assumed increased responsibility for worship leadership and is now singing for the 9:15 service twice a month. In addition, the 2009-2010 Treble Choir attended TrebleFest at St. James Cathedral in February. This was a valuable experience for our group of singers.

Marsha Webster
Music Associate for Children’s Choirs

Usher Ministry

The ushers do the visually obvious tasks at the worship services, such as handing out bulletins and releasing the congregation for communion. They also offer assistance to anyone who might need it, directions or assistance with finding classrooms or bathrooms, or help with seating at heavily attended services. One important aspect of being an usher is greeting people as they enter church. For the newcomers, this is their first impression.

We have had several people join the group this year. We are all happy to have their help and welcome anyone who would like to join this important ministry.

Paula Zwiebel
February 2011
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Lay Readers

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

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

Do let the readers know how much you appreciate their hard work.

Rinda Allison

Daughters of the King

St. Anne’s Chapter

You recognize us when we wear our distinctive silver cross; you most frequently see us when we prepare the altar for Eucharist, prepare food for funerals, and help countless brides during their weddings. Despite all of this activity, Daughters of the King are not called to do, but to be. We desire to align our lives more closely to God’s will, and in order to more effectively achieve this goal we meet, pray and study together as a group. Most Daughters also give some tangible service to the parish: some in the visible activities described above, but many in quiet, hidden service, and all in prayer.

We are the members of St. Anne’s Chapter of the Daughters of the King which is an international order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the Historic Episcopate. We meet in the church library on the third Monday of every month except for July and December.

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

May Anstee

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. During 2010 we had 5 weddings at St. Mark’s, both parishioners and non-parishioners.

Kris Baier
**Lay Eucharistic Ministry**

This is a ministry that brings the Holy Eucharist to those who are homebound, hospitalized or in a nursing home. This brings them the comfort of being a part of the St. Mark's family though unable to attend services. This ministry is mutually beneficial as both participants feel the Lord's love from sharing the Eucharist. Please contact Father George if this is something you feel called upon to do.

Dianne Dinse

**Pastoral Care**

The Pastoral Care Commission seeks to provide support to parishioners who would be comforted by caring church members reaching out to them. For those unable to attend our services we offer Eucharist. We take them our beautiful altar flowers. We bring them poinsettias at Christmas and lilies at Easter. The Blythe girls have made lovely cards, which are sent along on appropriate holidays. We are providing rides to parishioners otherwise unable to attend church. The prayer shawl ministry, the prayer ministry and the meal ministry provide much needed caring for those who need comfort at difficult times in their lives. We give financial support to local agencies (Glen Ellyn Youth and Family Counseling Service and Central DuPage Pastoral Counseling Center). We welcome anyone who would like to join us in our very important ministry.

Dianne Dinse

**Meals Ministry**

During 2010 parishioners provided meals for families with new babies, those recovering from surgery or illness and moving to new homes. The meals ministry has 30 active volunteers. Thanks to all who have participated during the past year. Your help and home cooking were much appreciated. Please contact Liz Valdivia if you would like to be added to the meals ministry list or if you have suggestions for 2011.

Liz Valdivia

**Church Tellers**

I want to thank the Church Tellers who counted the weekly offerings every Monday during this past year 2010. Community Bank, which handles our checking accounts, remarked that our weekly deposits were always correct and they did not have a problem in balancing our accounts. A special thank you, to: Sandy Allison, Mae Anstee, Doug Armantrout, Bob Cardwell, Bob Judd, Gretchen Kenower, Bill Mark, and the two new members, Barbara Colombo and Barbara Stephani who were responsible for this weekly counting.

Dave McCarraher

**Amazon.com Sales Commissions**

If you look on the St. Mark’s website, under “St. Mark’s A-Z” you’ll find a link to Amazon.com. Click on the link to support St. Mark’s ministries by doing your Amazon.com shopping (books, CDs, toys, etc.) through that link. Proceeds from commissions benefit the ministries of St. Mark’s.
The total commissions for 2010 were $888.60. This is equal to a $17/week pledge.

The Webmaster's Observations:
1. Seems worthwhile to continue.
2. Some more promotion might increase this substantially. The range of items sold through the website is huge and includes clothing, books, electronics, toys, gift certificates, cameras, ink, dog food, software... I suspect that many people do not know of the huge variety of things they could buy at Amazon.com.
3. There is no special registration or code to fill in; just begin your shopping trip at St. Mark’s website.

Bob Cardwell

St. Mark’s Outreach Committee 2010 Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Key Sponsors</th>
<th>Beneficiary</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Amount Raised</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Uniforms</td>
<td>Lent</td>
<td>M&amp;O Committee</td>
<td>Diocese of Chicago</td>
<td>Nets For Life $2,100</td>
<td>$1,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cake Auction</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>Trey Buchanan</td>
<td>SE Mexico Trip</td>
<td>$2,250</td>
<td>$1,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>UTO Blue Boxes</td>
<td>Lent</td>
<td>Elizabeth Lewis UTO</td>
<td>UTO</td>
<td>$653</td>
<td>$570</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crop Walk</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Paul Flynn</td>
<td>Church World Service</td>
<td>$1,242</td>
<td>$1,090</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Plant Sale</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>Julie Carson</td>
<td>SE Mexico Trip</td>
<td>$880</td>
<td>Not held</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Jazz Concert</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Angela Adkins</td>
<td>St. Mark’s Preschool Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>$4,531 GE Walk-in Ministries</td>
<td>$1,965</td>
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<td>Mother’s Day Rose Sale</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Andrew Dorn</td>
<td>SE Mexico Trip</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cinco de Mayo Dinner</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Kim Reed</td>
<td>SE Mexico Trip</td>
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<td>$3,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PADS Shelter</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Brian and Cindy Stepien</td>
<td>PADS</td>
<td>Dollars estimated on 3 meals ($20 total) x 60</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,000 Well supported by parish</td>
<td>$17,673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Supplies</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>Don Sutherland</td>
<td>St Gregory’s</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>Not held</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Leonard’s Coat Collection</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>Don Sutherland</td>
<td>15 men’s coats</td>
<td>Not held</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pumpkin Patch</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>Joe Campagna, Phil Adler</td>
<td>PADS (1/3)/Native American Farmers (2/3)</td>
<td>Dollar amount: Approx 1/3 for PADS</td>
<td>$15,239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$17,673 Well supported by PADS</td>
<td>$6,066 to PADS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sleep Out Saturday</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>Elizabeth Molitors/Leo Lanzillo</td>
<td>Bridge Communities</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unicef</td>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>Marsha Webster</td>
<td>Unicef</td>
<td>$132</td>
<td>$186</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas Baskets</td>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>Ginnie Judd</td>
<td>Cathedral Shelter $ Estimated on $150 avg per family X 66 families adopted</td>
<td>$10,000 (70 families)</td>
<td>$9,900 (66 families)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Thank you to all at St. Mark’s and especially Brian and Cindy Stepfen, Outreach Committee chairpersons and all our event chairpersons for making the parish’s outreach efforts in 2010, so successful. For it is truly in giving, that we receive.

Submitted by: Cindy Flynn, Outreach Committee Vestry Liaison

**St. Mark’s 2010 Mission Trip to San Marcos**

By God’s grace, we experienced another amazing visit with our friends in Nigromante – our fifth! Of the seventeen who went, new travelers included: Chad Alcorn, Sawyer Hill, Maggie Hughes, the Rev. Elizabeth Molitors, Molly Toliver, Hunter Walor, and John Walor; the veterans among us were Lina Benich, Trey and Matthew Buchanan, Gemma Miller, Kim Toliver, Anna Zaccaria, Lane, Kim, Alex, and Elliott Reed.

We painted a space in the sanctuary where the religious statues will be displayed -- away from their position at the altar. Padre Daniel’s office also received a fresh coat. We bought locally filtered water from another parish in the diocese and reduced our use of plastic water bottles from previous years. We participated in VBS three of the days and brought music and musicians and beautiful crafts. We were able to honor at least twelve scholarship recipients who received funds to help with their education through the donations we gave last year. We presented the newly ordained Daniel with a stole, a guitar, and our most recent parish picture. We honored the dead in a ceremony and processed to the cemetery. We also worked with the women in preparing food. And most importantly, we played, talked, and just sat and visited with our old and new friends from Nigromante.

Our main goal was to continue to work on our relationship with the parishioners of San Marcos and the people of Nigromante. Here is what a few participants had to share about their experiences (read more from the “Reflections” online at www.stmarksglenellyn.org):

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From Elizabeth Molitors - In Nigromante, it was an honor – and an extremely humbling experience – to be welcomed so readily into peoples’ lives and into their homes, to find myself dependent and needy and not in control of my circumstances, depending instead on the generosity and grace of others.

From Gemma Miller - I like that we do not try to impose our ideals on them but simply learn and attempt to contribute. I had a lot of fun furthering our relationship with the community of San Marcos.

From Trey Buchanan - Before leaving this year, Father Smith reminded us that the real value of going was in building relationships, not in completing a project or activity. Being with the children and adults of Nigromante -- singing, preparing meals, learning about one another’s’ lives -- seemed more than enough to fill the time with meaning and purpose.

Thank you, St. Mark’s, for supporting this trip through your interest, your prayers, and by participating in our fundraisers, this past year’s Cake Auction, Cinco de Mayo Dinner and Silent Auction, and Mother’s Day Rose Sale! Not only do your donations offset some of the costs of the trip, but they also pay for the projects we do in Nigromante. Additionally, this year we were able to send $6,000 to the Diocese of Southeast Mexico to help with Padre Daniel’s salary and for scholarships for the children and youth of San Marcos.

Communications Group

As in 2009, communications needs expanded as St. Mark’s continued to grow and thrive. Charles Tupta, parish/project intern; Robert Cardwell, Webmaster; Javier Valdivia, Web designer; Judy Jackson, Web copyewriter and Nancy Gier, vestry communications liaison and St. Mark’s publicist were all part of the 2010 communications committee.

Internal Communications

Our thanks to Susan Shorney for editing the PostMark and for successfully passing the reins in 2011 to Robin Currie. The PostMark, St. Mark’s monthly newsletter, is sent by both US mail and email, and is also posted on our website. Ginnie Judd facilitates Constant Contact, a database tool that includes all of St. Mark’s email contacts. Information on parish events and services is sent to parishioners several times a week through Constant Contact.

Dale Byrnes is central in producing Sunday bulletins and helping with all of St. Mark’s email needs and other communication efforts. She and other office staff also keep the parish bulletin boards fresh with weekly updates.

Website

Under the leadership of Chuck Tupta and the hard work of Javier Valdivia and Robert Cardwell, St. Mark’s Website was updated and improved. There are now tabs for major initiatives such as children’s ministry, youth ministry, adult formation, mission and outreach, music, parish life, giving, and building and grounds. Biographical information on clergy, staff and members of the vestry is offered, as are links to other sites such as the Chicago Diocese. Progress was made on establishing a process in which parish leaders can supply content and ensure that program information is current and accurate.

It is the goal of the communications committee and the vestry that St. Mark’s Website clearly displays the welcoming message of the Gospel, and serves as a warm invitation to others to worship and explore the educational opportunities and fellowship that St. Mark’s offers.

Media Relations

Nancy Gier continues to maintain the list of media contacts and send out press releases on special services and events to which the public is invited. Ten press releases were sent out in 2010. Local newspaper reporters wrote articles on St. Mark’s pumpkin patch and on the fall 2010 opening of St. Mark’s preschool.
Creative visuals
St. Mark’s regularly uses posters and banners outside the church to inform the community of special services and special events. There are also signs inside the church, and outside signs are better illuminated.

Submitted by Nancy Gier

Newcomers Commission

The Mission of the Newcomers Commission is to welcome visitors, newcomers and our community to the St. Mark’s family by showing them warmth and graciousness, providing information, and integrating them into the St. Mark’s community.

The Newcomers Commission is made up of the following components.

A. Ambassadors
B. Greeters
C. Brunch Coordinators/Hosts

Ambassadors - The goal for this group is to visit all identified Newcomers within 2 days of their initial visit to St. Mark’s. The Ambassadors have assigned weeks (every 6th week at present). They will make an unannounced visit and bring a PostMark, contact sheet, goody bag (St. Mark’s coffee mug, brochures, etc), a baked good, and a personal note of introduction. Newcomers become known by filling out the card in the pew, registering at the office, or via interpersonal discussions with the rectors or others. Remember that as a member of St. Mark’s, you are also an Ambassador. Talking about our church community with friends and others you know casually and encouraging them to visit is one of the best ways to get new people to visit. We would like to continue to improve and try for 100% of Newcomers visited within 2 days of their initial visit.

Greeters - The main job of this group is to direct people to various places in the church (restrooms, Mahon Hall, Sunday School rooms, Lambs Chapel, etc.) and if someone IDs themselves as a new person or a guest to get them a Newcomers goody bag. The amount of time needed is brief, around 15 – 20 minutes before the start of the service. We currently need more people in this group, as having greeters at all 3 services has been discussed.

Brunch Coordinators/Hosts – Three Newcomers Brunches were held in 2010, the last on October 3rd. It was held at Sandy and Rinda Allison’s house. They deserve mention (and our gratitude) as they are gracious and willing hosts for these events. We invite all Newcomers to these events (held after the 10:30 service), with the idea of providing a low-key and less intimidating way of meeting new people in the parish. The clergy attends, as well as the coordinators and a few others (vestry, etc). These events will continue throughout 2011.

Respectfully submitted by Joe Campagna.
Parish Life

The Parish Life Committee provides an environment in which St. Markers live out our vision—welcoming all, embracing differences, fostering creativity, and nurturing the unique gifts of each person in our midst. We work to find opportunities to incorporate all into the life and fellowship of St. Mark’s.

During 2010, the Parish Life Committee, chaired by Jill Bednas and Joanie Somerville, coordinated coffee hours after each worship service, assisted with special receptions, and hosted special events. Highlights of the year include the following:

January
- Annual meeting luncheon, children’s lunch & activities, and babysitting

March
- Four Lenten suppers on Wednesday evenings in Mahon Hall

April
- Agape Feast held on Maundy Thursday prior to Maundy Thursday service
- Special reception following Easter Vigil

June
- Annual Church Picnic at Churchill Woods

August
- Sunday school kick-off Sunday featuring the Glen Ellyn “hot dog man” and festivities in front of church

September
- Started new Coffee Hour program. Six “Coffee Hour Ministers” guide assigned parishioners through the process of setting up and hosting coffee hour

October
- Supper Bowl Shuffle kick-off dinner and game night

December
- Special reception following Advent Lessons and Carols

Parish Life would like to invite you to join our committee. If you have gifts in organization, baking, decorating, kitchen work, arranging and moving tables and chairs, brainstorming, floral arrangement, or coordinating, we have a place for you!!! Please contact Joanie Somerville or Joyce Fletcher if you would like to join us!

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Fletcher
Vestry Liaison to Parish Life

St. Mark’s Men’s Group

The St. Mark’s Men’s Group’s activities have been expanding. Once again, we hosted the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, and our Rector hosted a fantastic, if wet, barbecue. Throughout the spring of 2010, we continued with the DVD series, “First Light,” which is a study of the historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God. This past fall we began a new series titled “Christianity: The First Two Thousand Years.” And we have been mixing that with fascinating talks about “My Vocation” from members of our own community. Additionally, we have started a monthly 1st Tuesday Breakfast, and a 3rd Thursday evening “Spiritual Meeting” at the Tap House.

We welcome men of any age to join us at any of our activities, or to contact us at mensgroup@stmarksglenellyn.org.

Leo Lanzillo
Women’s Ministries

Women's Ministries at St. Mark's are loosely organized under the umbrella of Women to Women (W2W). We offer a variety of topics and activities appealing to a wide range of ages and life stages:

- W2W is an intergenerational fellowship group for all the women of the parish. Activities are designed to include women of all ages;
- NOVA (Nurturers Of the Very Active) meetings are aimed at those parenting young children;
- After Hours for Moms activities and meetings offer an opportunity for moms to connect who are not able to attend the daytime meetings.

In 2010, our programs began using Evite to get out the word about our events, track RSVPs and recruit helpers. If you would like to be added to any of the distribution lists for the above groups, please contact Caroline McAlpine at c_mcalpin@hotmail.com.

W2W

W2W activities for this program year included a range of activities. We held spring, summer and fall salad suppers. Our second annual Women's Tea was attended by 67 women. Cookie decorating with Caroline McAlpine, before Valentine’s Day, attracted such a large crowd that we held the event again in November. Participants decorated beautiful cookies that were donated to the People's Resource Center for their fundraiser and also donated cookies that were sold at St. Mark's to raise funds for our Women's Ministries. Our event was even featured in Glancer Magazine. We held our annual retreat in March at a new location, the Abbey in Lake Geneva, where we enjoyed fellowship, relaxation, and treated ourselves to the spa. We concluded the year with our ever-popular annual Dinner and Ornament Exchange, held this year at St. Mark’s.

All women of the parish are invited to attend the W2W activities. We are an evolving group; participation and input are always welcome.

NOVA

NOVA met every week this program year, alternating between a discussion for parents while childcare is provided for the kids and a playgroup or outing for parent and kids the next week. Some of the outings featured were visits to local parks, story time at the library, Morton Arboretum, Cosley Zoo, and crafts in Mahon Hall. Our programs for the parents included do-it-yourself birthdays, teaching kids about money, taking care of yourself: nutrition and assessing your spiritual gifts, just to name a few. During the summer we had weekly drop-in play dates at a local park. Any parents of young children are welcome to join us Thursday mornings at 9:30 am.

After Hours for Moms

This evening fellowship offers topics of interest to women who are raising children of any age. We expanded our program in fall 2010 to offer a meeting almost every month, with a speaker, discussion and fellowship. Programs spanned many topics including self care, spirituality in children, living with less, Advent family traditions, meal-time madness, cultivating contentment, stirring the volunteer spirit in kids and many others. Some of our speakers were widely known authors. Each month saw several new faces in our group. Our meetings are always on a Wednesday evening from 7-9:00 pm; check the parish calendar and bulletin for upcoming details. In the summer we gathered for relaxing evenings on the patio.

Yoga With Reeny

Once again, we began our year with a weekly gentle yoga class, attracting participants of all ages and levels, led by Reeny Linstrom. Attendance was up this year. In 2011 Yoga meets January 13 to March 25 at 9:15-10:30 am in Mahon Hall.

Submitted by Kathleen Leid with input from Caroline McAlpine and 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. The program is in session five days a week and is operating at capacity with substitute lists. The program includes fine and large motor skill activities, arts and crafts, songs and stories, as well as lots of fun play time. PDO has a committed following in our community, with the majority of participating children returning to the program again this year. Fifteen new 2-year-olds quickly settled in and are enjoying their social time together. As both a PR and organizational tool, each child was given a school bag with the PDO logo to welcome them on their first day.

Marsha Webster has provided enhanced instruction time for PDO children this year by introducing simple music and rhythm lessons, and PDO will purchase rhythm sticks to be shared by PDO and Sunday School classes.

Also offered for the first time this year, Leslie Arlasky provided unique and defining photos of PDO children, and if desired, their siblings, as a fund raiser and community building event. Not your average school photo, these photos are sure to be cherished by participating families.

On the technology front, the PDO established an email account via the church office which greatly facilitates communication between PDO director Kathy O’Rourke and participating and prospective families. A parent directory is also being developed to include email addresses to facilitate family to family communication for car pools, play dates and substitutes.

PDO continues to cover its operating cost and provide cash and service benefits to St. Mark’s. PDO generously provided $4,500 in funding, which was used over the course of the summer to renew the Rainbow Room and create another lovely entrance and reception area to our campus for parishioners and visitors. Painting, replacement baseboards, furniture, and cubbies were included in this project. Additional furniture is being donated. Further facility enhancements provided by PDO’s funding included painting the bathroom and maintenance of the playground.

We truly thank Kathy O’Rourke and her staff, Cindy Glavin, Melody Mordini, Beth Figler, Miguel Briones and Norma Cid, for their endless enthusiasm and dedication to these children. Current members of the PDO Board are: Kim Reed (Chair), Leslie Arlasky, Jill Bednas, Doris McCarraher, and Elizabeth Lewis (Secretary). Registration for the 2011-12 program will begin in April, with members of the parish receiving priority.

St. Mark’s Preschool

St. Mark’s Preschool opened its doors on September 14, 2010 with nine students, three teachers and one fish. Our classroom is a mixed age group of three and four year olds and meets three times a week from 9:15 to 11:30. Our program is inspired by the Reggio Emilia philosophy of early childhood education and is welcoming to children of all faith traditions.

Research and development of the program began in 2008 with an exploratory committee chaired by Kim Reed. In January 2009, the Vestry approved the committee’s request to plan and fundraise for a preschool operated by St. Mark’s. Committee work continued in 2009 with preschool site visits, fundraising and many meetings on program development. In order to further learn about implementing the Reggio philosophy, the committee developed a class in the fall for preschoolers called Creativity Corner.
The exploratory committee went into high gear in 2010 working on the lengthy process of obtaining a license from the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), continuing program development, purchasing equipment and furniture and preparing the office and classroom spaces. The Vestry approved the Preschool Board in March, a director/teacher and two additional teachers were hired and the Village of Glen Ellyn approved our necessary zoning permits. Staff training, curriculum development and marketing occurred over the summer. After receiving our DCFS permit in August, we began our formal registration process and our director visited all the homes of our enrolled students prior to the start of school. The Vestry approved the opening of the St. Mark's Preschool at their August Meeting and a bagpiper-led Blessing and Ribbon Cutting for the school kicked-off the school year on the Sunday prior to our opening.

During 2010, the Exploratory Committee, Friends of the Preschool and Preschool Board also devoted a lot of time and energy to three very successful fundraisers: three Saturday Drop and Shops, St. Mark’s Talent Show and the second annual Children’s Clothing Toy, Book and Sporting Goods Resale. In addition, we are very thankful to all who were involved in Jazz Night as proceeds from the evening helped support our Scholarship Fund.

We are very proud of our program and already have full enrollment for Fall 2011. Our students and teachers have worked very hard over the year on units and projects studying butterflies, fall, the body, feet, architecture, winter and bears. Keeping with the Reggio Emilia philosophy, our school day includes visits from members of the St. Mark’s community. Twice monthly chapel with George Smith and Elizabeth Molitors and our monthly guest musician visits have really enhanced our program.

We are grateful for the support of the entire parish for helping make St. Mark’s Preschool a reality. In particular, I would like to thank our staff Meghan Kaplan, Savannah Stewart and Holly Hampson; Kim Reed, and the members of the Exploratory Committee and the Friends of the Preschool; and our Preschool Board: Rachel Alcorn, Jill Bednas, Rebecca Boskovic, Jen Chavez, Deirdre Churchill and Penny Taback; and staff members: Miguel Briones, Dale Byrnes and Marsha Webster. I am also very grateful for the ongoing support and commitment to the preschool by our Vestry and George and Elizabeth.

Submitted by Cindy Flynn, Chairperson, St. Mark’s Preschool Board

Buildings and Grounds

As the 2009-2010 Building and Ground Chairperson for St. Mark's, I identified the many areas of service and repair required for maintaining both St. Mark's Church and the rectory. These services/repairs include: heating, air conditioning, plumbing, animal removal, stained glass repair, painting, etc. St. Mark's has a small team of four or five dedicated volunteers yet many professional services have required outsourcing.

On April 24, 2010, 17 St. Markers, "volunteered" to: landscape, organize supplies in the electrical room, clean and organize the storage area by the kitchen, organize the basement under the office, and complete a detailed inventory of church fixtures and supply items. A special thanks to: Bob Bernero, Bob Cardwell, Gerald Carey, Cameron Gowens, Judy Jackson, Gretchen Kenower, Kathleen Leid, Robert Lundin, Fiona Miller, Rev. Elizabeth Molitors, Bob & Cheryl Olsen, Bonnie Schwanz, Rev. George Smith, Jane Thomas, Brian Thompson, and Russ Vanderlei. During the past six months, I have overseen the completion of the following projects:
CHURCH
- Painting day care rooms
- Replacing three bathroom faucets
- Cleaning gutters
- Repairing heat in the library (not working for several years)
- Fixing broken pews
- Building and installing closet shelves in closet near kitchen
- Replacing a dirty, clogged refrigerator filter element
- Caulking closed a hole - a basement hole by the China closet
- Fixing a water leak in the upstairs bathroom by the office
- Repairing and configuring the heating and A/C systems through a new vendor

RECTORY:
- Replacing the garage doors
- Repairing a water leak in basement
- Cleaning the gutters
- Installing leaf screens over gutters
- Removing a tree branch that was touching roof
- Eliminating the ant problem
- Repairing the wood fence damaged by a snow removal truck

Most importantly, I created a database of all vendor contacts and contracts. It will be cost effective/time to enter into a heating and A/C maintenance program around $4,000 a year. This is less than the cost of repairs over the past year, plus the down time of the systems. The database of vendors will provide an easy transition for the next St. Mark's Building and Grounds Chairperson. I will be stepping down from this position as of September 2010.

Respectfully submitted,
Perry R. Knutson

Cheryl Olsen accepted the call to act as volunteer coordinator and contact for Buildings & Grounds in September. Perry Knutson helpfully transferred the information he had begun to organize.

A successful Fall Clean-up was held on September 18. Due to rainy weather most of the efforts were concentrated on cleaning and debridement of several indoor areas. A big thank you goes out to all who gave generously of their time and energies: Gerald Carey, Bob Bernero, Bob Olsen, Bob Cardwell, Dick Anstee, Catheryn Wilkinson, Brian Thompson, Don Pellico, Kris Baier, Paula Zwiebel, Ann Cardwell, Dianne Dinse, Fiona Miller, George Smith, Jane Thomas, May Anstee, Marsha Webster, and Miguel Briones.

The office building kitchenette remodel project planned earlier in 2010 was completed, and has been enjoyed by several groups. Special thank you to all those who assisted in the planning, to Ryan Dunham who supervised construction, and to Bud and Paula Zwiebel who initiated and helped fund the project.

Several unavoidable expenses were incurred in the last four months of 2010. Two gas leaks were detected and repaired in the boiler room. Several pilots on the kitchen stove were partially plugged, with one not working at all, requiring service. While fall maintenance service was being performed on the boiler it was discovered that the main thermostat panel and a damper motor did not function. Both items required replacement. The fire alarm panel began malfunctioning, sending in false alarms. As the board would continue to degrade, and with the model and parts out of production, repair would be costly and unguaranteed. We chose to replace with a slightly upgraded
model that is compatible with all our fire peripherals. The elevator car panel began malfunctioning in December, and it was replaced by Otis at no extra cost per the terms of our service contract.

Routine events were scheduled and carried out. This includes monthly pest inspection/service. I'm happy to report no mice have been detected. (Maybe they are just more clever than us?) The backflow water valves in the boiler room passed inspection. The trap (from the kitchen drains) was cleaned. All 26 fire extinguishers were serviced with certification being completed on those needing it. The lighting for the St. Mark's stone sign north of the main entrance received an illumination upgrade. Light bulbs for the sanctuary Station of the Cross lights were replaced.

Our sexton Miguel Briones continues in seminary and has been working with limited weekend hours and functions. We need to plan for when he is ordained and called to a parish. Some functions have been, and more will be, delegated to contract service vendors. Many functions have fallen into the hands of volunteers.

This parish is indebted to both Michael Benich and Dick Mylander. These gentlemen are both my right and left hands, performing many hands-on general maintenance chores for the parish family. They fix running toilets, paint, reattach siding, clean, repair doorknobs, weather strip, repair pew prayer book holders and secure kneelers. They correct improperly spliced electrical wires. They identified and tested 51 exit signs and emergency lights. They will climb up on ladders and retrieve electrical cords wound around the sprinkler pipes. They are extraordinary volunteers!

Looking to project goals for 2011: We will first focus on meeting the latest fire inspection requirements. A new sanctuary sound system was researched by Michael Benich who will also be installing it. John Delany has been consulting with Father George on redesigning the altar lights to eliminate glare and reflection issues. New lighting will be purchased and installed by an electrician. Two very old (out of production) electrical circuit panels which have both safety and function problems will be replaced. We also need to research and obtain a heating/cooling maintenance service contract.

A harder goal to attain is to set in place a system that allows us to truly manage our physical plant assets. We will consider software or web-based asset management programs. We definitely need to identify all assets by age, value, and expected lifespan, determine what constitutes appropriate preventative maintenance, and develop a monitoring system. The goal is to extract an optimum lifespan from assets and to plan wisely for replacement. We need a system that is easily accessed, one where information does not get lost, and one that can be easily handed over to the next volunteer (or staff) buildings and grounds manager. Currently no such system exists at St. Mark's.

Please consider joining the Buildings and Grounds Team. Technical skills are not a necessity, but will always be welcomed. Indoor cleaning projects and yard work opportunities abound. Organization, computer, communication, and manual-compiling skills will be needed.

We are all called to be good stewards of this gift God has entrusted to us, so that it not only benefits us, but so that it continues to benefit all those that will come in the future.

Peace,
Cheryl Olsen
Parish Register 2009

Baptism

Samuel Wyatt Allison
Willa Rose Allison
David Ray Bass
Lucy May Chavez
Maeve Elizabeth Churchill
Grace Ryan Dorger
Natalie Jane Dunham
Mia Jeanne Fanter
Nola Frazier Gross
Steven Edward Gross
Patrick Christopher Guare
Samuel David Gantzer Hayes
Margaret Ann Moore
Thomas Stratton Moore
Marlena Lois Nicholas
Melanie Louise Nicholas
Theresa Marie Pleiman-Reed
Gavin Lee Reed
Jackson Paulo Reed
Theodore Bradley Rossignol
Avery Kay Schaffnit
Logan Thomas Unterfenger
Curtis Tyler Valluzzi

Confirmations

Jocelyn Briones
Nelson Curtis
Julia Leigh Dorn
Megan Elizabeth Glavin
Anna Michele Gorman
Theodore Andrew Grant-Funck
Sawyer Elizabeth Phillips Hill
Margaret Rose Hughes
Anastasia E. Kreiling
Caroline Grace Linstrom
John David Moore
Olivia Clair Ann Vanderlei

Marriages

Mary Louise Lassey
  and James Michael Looney
Rebecca Ann Derrico
  and Mario Ficarella
Renée Michelle Consoer
  and Matthew Kevin Begale
Eliza Ann Diamond
  and Mark Andrew Lockington Tainton

Funerals

Walter Peter Budzicz, Jr.
Todd W. Gillespie
Marion Whitelock Hesterman
Margaret W. Lundin
Dorothy Ann Marshall Peterson
Keith Robert Schoen
Peggy Jeanne Shopinski
Virginia Ann Whiting

Transfers In

(none)

Transfers Out

Susan Kerr

2010 Average Sunday Attendance: 255
Minutes of the Annual Meeting St. Mark’s Episcopal Church – Glen Ellyn IL 60137
24 Jan 2010 – 12:20pm-2:15pm

Presiding: The Rev. George Smith, Rector
David Funck, Senior Warden for 2009
Kris Baier, Senior Warden-Designate for 2010

Recording: Daniel Conaway

1. Opening: Fr. George Smith called meeting to order, led opening prayer, and announced agenda.

2. Appointment of clerk: Daniel Conaway was appointed clerk for the meeting.

3. Review and Approval of minutes from last year’s meeting: Zach Littlefield moved to accept the minutes from Jan2009 annual meeting; seconded and approved by voice vote, with one “no” vote.

4. Appointment of new Wardens: Kris Baier was appointed Senior Warden and Fiona Miller was appointed Junior Warden by Fr. George Smith.

5. Appointment of Youth Representative: Lydia Smith appointed Youth Representative to the Vestry.

6. Recognition: Kris Baier:
   - Outgoing Diocesan Convention delegates: Edith Jacobsen and Dick Anstee;
   - outgoing Vestry: Phoebe Benich (youth representative), Sarah Adler, Adrian Buchanan, Paula Zwiebel, and David Funck (outgoing Senior Warden);
   - special recognition and thanks to Marie Sutherland, who is rotating off M&O after 25 years.

7. Voting: David Funck:
   - Four parishioners are on the ballot for the four open Vestry seats: Gerald Carey, Reeny Linstrom, Danna Gross, and Ben Maxson;
   - Two parishioners are on the ballot for the one-year term-completions of two vestry seats vacated early: Dianne Dinse and Nancy Gier (these candidates will stand for re-election in one year);
   - Two parishioners are on the ballot for Diocesan Convention Delegate and Alternate: Dianne Hunter and Bob Bernero;
   - approval of the six (unopposed) vestry candidates is sought by voice-vote (approved unanimously);
   - election of the Diocesan Delegate and Alternate is sought by yes/no ballot vote;
   - Eric Dinse and Bud Zwiebel are appointed Tellers for the ballot voting.

8. Finance: Eric McAlpine: please see the balance-sheet on pg17 and accounts-sheet on pg18
   - we did well, better than expected: anticipated deficit of $100K but actual deficit only $69K: lower expenses, good expense-management, and fundraising exceeded goals;
   - expenses: payroll a little under plan, Parish Life a little above, Buildings & Grounds slightly above
   - 2010 budget similar to 2009
   - Elizabeth will be full-time, but expect to balance with Lilly grant
   - planning to reduce mortgage-expense via a capital-campaign
   - estimate deficit in 2010 of $73K.
   - question from floor: “preschool expense”? – new line item this year: this is expense, but will also be offset with tuition income and some fundraising
   - question from floor: “usage income”? – line item for rectory-rental income

9. Outgoing Senior Warden’s Report: David Funck:
   - this was a GREAT year: we accomplished many big things; StMarksOpoly beat our fundraising goal by 100% – thanks to Elizabeth Lanzillo and Danna Gross and their teams for all the hard work;
   - Pumpkin Patch grossed $15K – we LOVE what this does for our visibility in the community and for the parish; thanks to Phil Adler and Joe Campagna;
   - Visioning2 process: thank-yous to Jim Treleaven, Scott Shorney, and Joe Campagna
   - additions of the Cherub-Choir, and prayer-groups running every week now;
   - Newcomers Ministry is extending welcome to new attendees;
   - pledges are up, and vestry meetings are positive and active;
   - Elizabeth is here with us now and settled, and Marsha is doing an amazing job;
   - we need to be thankful to God for what we have here
   - we need to be mindful of our challenges going forward
   - we need to deliberate about building our community
   - we need to challenge our comfort-zone: talk to people, introduce yourselves, and VOLUNTEER!
This job has been challenging and rewarding, and our new wardens are going to be GREAT –
We are genuinely fortunate and blessed to have George here to lead us
Thank you ALL, individually, for all that you do as well – I treasure it!

10. Rector’s Report: Fr. George Smith:
- recognition for David, and my thanks;
- my report is inside the Annual Report – please read yourselves;
- the gift of this moment is this: Christ is Risen, and we have this place
- we are in a good position today to do what we need to do in the next few years.

11. Ballot results: Bob Bernero is elected Diocesan Representative; Dianne Hunter is Alternate.

12. Securing St. Mark’s Future: Kim Reed, Dick Anstee, and David Funck
   David: we need to make clear to everyone why and how we got here financially

12a: Recent History: Kim
- leadership here not ready to commit to upgrade buildings here in 1990s, and parish hall needed it;
- old rectory was too small for the Edgars, so we built a new rectory in 2000 for his family;
- parish hall still needed to be renovated: $1.7M project; $1.5M pledged, $1.3M collected
- architect came back and said renovation was not possible; new estimate $3.3M, actual $3.8M
- General Convention ratifying Gene Robinson became the start of “the troubles”
- much tension and division in the parish; 2004 annual meeting produced the 6-6 “split vestry”
- Chip left the parish one month later.

12b: Financial Projections: Dick
- please read the Annual Report; budget shows projections for fundraising in 2010

12c: Capital Campaign: David and Kris
- a perfect storm: new-building costs doubled, “the troubles”, and finally the departure of all our clergy
- the Diocese has tremendous faith in us – we can have no less faith in ourselves

13. Questions, comments, and announcements from the floor:
- What is impact of preschool? – George: we are moving forward; Sarah: will be largely self-funding
- Plans for use of Capital Campaign money? – George: Diocese will make matching payouts for our collected funds, and bank has agreed to allow principal-reduction on those payments
- How do we grow the parish? – George: all parishes (and all denominations) in the area are shrinking EXCEPT ours; we grow the parish one new parishioner at a time. We are also working to expand to three services, maybe starting this fall
- What is the debt-reduction net effect? – Dick: for every $1K reduced, get $80 back into the budget
- Have we considered selling the rectory? – Dick: yes, but would only return about $400-500K, and that cannot be used as part of the Capital Campaign totals – plus loss of a piece of valuable property

Kris: the Vestry will gather for a brief official meeting immediately after adjournment here.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.
Submitted:

<signed>

Daniel Conaway, Clerk