



SAINT MARK'S

EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

— *Minneapolis* —



2023 ANNUAL MEETING

*Our*cathedral.org

📍 519 Oak Grove Street | Minneapolis, MN 55403 📞 612.870.7800

2023 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

Bishop's Message

Dear People of Saint Mark's,

Over the last year, as the world emerged from the challenges and restrictions of the pandemic, one particular gift for me was spending a lot more time with all of you. At several points during the year, I even managed to be at Saint Mark's multiple times in one week (God bless your wonderful staff for tolerating that!).



As a cathedral church, Saint Mark's plays a critical role in the life of a diocese. As the host of important diocesan liturgies, it is an icon for the common identity we share as Minnesota Episcopalians. As a flagship of spiritual vitality, it is an important model for what it means to be a local community of disciples. Part of how you follow Jesus together is extending warm, loving, and extravagant hospitality to both the city and the diocese. Partnering with all of you around events like confirmations and ordinations is a joy. Being with you for the high holy days of Christmas and Easter, as well as Lessons and Carols, is an extraordinary gift.

I am especially excited by and hopeful for the commitment you made this year to a Saturday evening Eucharist in Spanish. This is an investment not only in our neighbors Jesus lives and draws close to, but in the future of our beloved church, which thanks be to God will continue to grow more diverse in every way.

I know a thing or two about cathedrals, having spent some of the best years of my ministry as a dean. Thank you for being a great cathedral. Thank you for the support and welcome you constantly extend to me. Thank you for all the ways you challenge and inspire me to be a more faithful follower of the way of Jesus. I am so proud and grateful to be your bishop.

The Right Reverend Craig Loya
Bishop of Minnesota

Dean's Annual Report

Dear Saint Markans,

Epiphanytide greetings to each of you!

I pray this annual report finds you and yours well, still pondering the meaning of this new Life born among us at Christmas – a new Life that asks us to believe amazing things and to do hard things for the sake of the world.



This is now my ninth annual report to you, and in each of those reports I aim to remind us of the dreams to which we aspire, both implicitly and explicitly, and to communicate how many of those dreams are, in fact, taking shape in the Life we share here at Saint Mark's Cathedral.

When I was called to Saint Mark's in 2014, the identified goals, articulated in the search profile, were the following:

- To grow the congregation's numerical metrics: membership, attendance, and financial giving;
- To strengthen the congregation's programmatic focus on new members and rising generations; and
- To reimagine the congregation's efforts to engage the wider community and address human suffering.

To that end, I initiated a significant staff restructure in 2015, adding a part-time Liturgical Coordinator, a part-time Family Ministry Associate, and a full-time Dean's Assistant & Chief Air Traffic Controller, and worked with Canon Mary Lusk to focus her primary efforts around new member incorporation. A year later, we created a part-time Community Engagement Coordinator position, working together with a newly-deployed Deacon to facilitate the hard, important work of reimagining our relationship to the larger network of community service providers. We soon sent our first team of Saint Markans to begin the two-year College for Congregational Development program in the Diocese of Chicago, which reinforced our own redevelopment efforts in the areas of Gather-Transform-Send (collective) and Pray-Study-Serve (personal). And through all these early years, and up to the present day, our Cathedral Foundation has generously supported the participation of a team of Saint Markans at the annual Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes – CEEP (now the Episcopal Parish Network – EPN) Conference, which trains in best practice related to congregational stewardship. Through these early initiatives, Saint Mark's was able to realize the growth in both breadth and depth it sought. But, of course, growth brings with it inevitable 'growing pains,' which brings us to 2019.

In the fall of 2019, your Cathedral Council and Cathedral Foundation developed a collaborative vision for funding continued growth through the growing pains. A few key pillars of that collaborative vision are worth remembering:

- Hiring a full-time Canon Pastor to manage the internal business operations of the Cathedral, ensuring our members and major donors credible and transparent business practice;
- Providing the Canon Pastor a budget with which to build a facilities team to increase our ability to expand congregational and community programs and to better monetize our campus assets;
- Contracting with a professional communication consultant to increase internal coherence and external visibility/accessibility; and
- Contracting with a professional development consultant to strengthen internal practices related to the annual pledge campaign and to guide the Foundation in their commitment to grow the Cathedral endowment.

The 2019 vision included a funding arc of three years (FY2020-2022), underwritten by the Cathedral's commitment to increase the pledge base and the business revenue *and* by the Foundation's commitment to strategic funding beyond the standard 4.5% annual draw, titrating over three years. During this window of time, while the Cathedral was to grow its pledge and business revenues, the Foundation was to grow its endowment base, so that, when we aimed to return to a standard 4.5% draw for FY2023, that 4.5% draw would be on an endowment corpus some 3-5x the current corpus. The vision was solid and all hands were on deck, and then March 2020 arrived, pandemic in hand. To say the pandemic hampered the Foundation's work would be an incredible understatement. Not only were development efforts stalled, but the existing corpus also took significant hits from market factors outside our control.

This brings us to the 4th quarter of 2022, from which we're looking out across our next three years and the funding arc thereof. The *goals* from the 2019 vision remain the same – the Cathedral will continue to increase its pledge base and business revenues and the Foundation will begin its work to build the endowment base. The *challenge* is that, absent a renewed and regenerated three-year funding arc from the Foundation, neither the Cathedral nor the Foundation will have the resources necessary to accomplish their respective goals. It's for that reason that your Cathedral Executive Team has worked closely through the holidays with Foundation leadership to seek a mutually-beneficial solution – one that is clearly extraordinary, but also one that reflects both our faith in God and God's provision and our faith in YOU and the future we aim to build together.

Saint Mark's continues to bear witness in this community to a God who is Good, who is Loving, who is Wise, and who is wildly Inclusive. Spiritually hungry and thirsty pilgrims continue to make their way through our doors to see if what they hear by word-of-mouth and what they see online is, in fact, true in the flesh. Many of these pilgrims pursue the process of becoming Cathedral members, thereby sharing with us both the rights and responsibilities of the Children of God to deepen our roots and to broaden our reach. While we've been here for a little over one hundred years, current Mainline Christian metrics indicate there's absolutely no reason to assume we'll be here for one hundred more. While we're not consigned to future demise, we have to be honest with ourselves that we're nonetheless swimming upstream against it.

The future is, at least in part, ours to define. I know *my* life and *your* life and the life of the *community* around us would be sadly diminished were Saint Mark's work and witness not a vital part of it. As the September pledge campaign letter asked, Will we press forward through this growth or Will we shrink back in decline? All signs indicate a vocation of continued growth, aligning our 'deep gladness' with the world's 'deep hunger.'

To that end, I pray you'll join me and your Cathedral Staff, Clergy, and Council in putting your shoulder to the plow in 2023 – generously committing your time, talent, and treasure in a meaningful way to strengthen the good work God is doing among us. Already, a small steering team is working to develop a draft vision statement for the next 5-10 years, which you will be invited to review and to offer comment. With incredible members, sufficient resources, and clear vision, Saint Mark's will be poised to launch boldly into its next hundred years.

And to our major donors, a reminder of the broad development needs of the Foundation, aiming to match our amazing campus infrastructure with an equally amazing financial infrastructure, finally maturing beyond the pattern of limping from one crisis to the next because we finally have a corpus of resources that allows us to plan beyond the current year.

As noted in the September pledge letter:

In a healthy and sustainable Cathedral budget, the annual endowment draw (at 4.5%) would equal the annual pledge base. The Cathedral pledge base is currently ~\$1M/year. The Cathedral endowment draw (at 4.5%) is currently ~\$200k/year, generated by a \$4.2M investment corpus (though it should be noted we've been forced to draw beyond the base 4.5% for the past three years in order to invest in strategic growth initiatives). To generate \$1M/year, the endowment would need to be quintupled to \$22.5M. The only way to preserve the current endowment corpus is to either cut overall spending, and thereby shrink from our current trajectory, or grow the endowment to generate more revenue. The Cathedral Council is working closely with the Cathedral Foundation to initiate a major gifts campaign in the very near future. The Dean has identified four major gift categories, seeking \$5M each: Music Department, Dean's Office, Buildings & Grounds, and Next Generations. 'Endowing' these budget categories would enable us to close our long-standing structural budget deficit and properly fund both positions and programs to strengthen our mission and ministry, both internally and externally. If you'd like to know more, please contact Dean Paul.

Faithfully submitted, in this Epiphanytide of 2023, I remain yours,

In Christ,
Paul+

The Very Rev. Paul J. Lebens-Englund, Dean VII
Dean of Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral



Senior Warden Brian Childs

Looking ahead at 2023, the Cathedral finds itself at a crossroads that is both financial and programmatic. Financially, we will need to raise significant sums of money in both the short and intermediate terms if the Cathedral is going to persist to operate as it has historically. Programmatically, Cathedral governance is focused on refining priorities that will guide important work shaping Cathedral leadership.

A quick primer on cathedral finances. Saint Mark's is sustained – as cathedrals are generally – by three primary sources of income: (1) pledged; (2) earned; and (3) endowment-transferred. I am advised (by people who know more about these matters than I do) that most cathedrals in the United States strive for roughly equivalent amounts of income from these sources.

Saint Mark's has benefitted from strong pledged support from its members for years and, consistently with this trend, has received stout commitments for pledges in 2023. Pledged support in 2022 was \$950,000, which represented a 4% increase over 2021. Although the Cathedral has not realized 100% of 2022 pledges, it has received considerable support on this front. For 2023, members have pledged \$940,000. Pledged income at the Cathedral is strong – and a testament to the deep reservoir of commitment that persists among its membership.

With respect to earned income, Saint Mark's could do better, and it is working concertedly to improve. Although the pandemic limited the Cathedral's capacity to host events in its spaces, the Cathedral's underutilization of this capacity pre-dates

the limitations visited by COVID. If there is good news on this front, it is that Cathedral staff and Council recognize the need to improve performance in this category and are working concertedly to achieve it. To wit, the 2023 operating budget reflects event income over 300% higher than that earned in 2022. Additionally, rental income is projecting up year-over-year by over 50%. Still, event and rental incomes are projected to be only about \$230,000 in 2023, and the Cathedral needs to improve materially here if it wants to sustain operations that resemble those of recent history.

In my judgment, the Cathedral's endowment is where much of our focus should be in 2023, and beyond. The endowment is managed by the Cathedral's Foundation, and the Foundation is, in turn, managed by a board comprised Saint Markans. The Saint Markans who currently manage the Foundation are among the most dedicated and principled people I've had the privilege to work with anywhere.

Among other things, they interact with the endowment's investment professionals, and they interact with Cathedral principals, including the Senior Warden, the Treasurer, and the Dean.

In recent years, the Foundation has elected – after difficult and careful deliberation – to support the Cathedral financially in amounts that exceeded earnings on the endowment's investments – and that therefore reduced endowment principal. (In the past three years, investment earnings of the endowment have been \$578,000, and the Foundation has distributed just over \$1,381,000 to the Cathedral's operating budget). Absent such support from the Foundation, the Cathedral would not have been able to operate normally and would have suffered especially during the pandemic.

At the same time, the amounts of the Foundation's transfers to the Cathedral in recent years – while generous, and while sacrificial of endowment-principal – still fell short of pledged income. This circumstance highlights what I see as the primary – and perhaps the only – path forward for sustaining Cathedral operations on par with those of recent history. We need to grow the Foundation's endowment materially so that transfers of income from the endowment to the Cathedral do not reduce the Foundation's principal. We need a significant fundraising campaign in support of the endowment. Please expect to hear about this.

Meantime, Council is proposing an operating budget for 2023 that, in its view, responsibly engages the financial strain the Cathedral currently faces. The budget features no new expense lines over 2022. Incremental increases for existing expenses have been almost entirely eliminated. Strategic, modest reductions in personnel expense have been effectuated. And projected expenditures on marketing have been reduced by over 90%.

Although we are trimming operating expenses where we can, with respect to capital expenses, the Cathedral's physical plant requires maintenance that we can no longer afford to defer. The Cathedral must have a new chiller; the current one could leave us without air conditioning this summer. This replacement will cost approximately \$350,000, after rebates. Work on the exterior of certain parts of the Cathedral is necessary to maintain its structural integrity and to cease water intrusion that has, in certain places, begun to occur; this work will cost about \$250,000. And we will likely need to replace our creaky elevator soon, at an approximate

cost of \$170,000. These immediate expenses, as well as others identified in a professional, third-party property assessment that the Property Committee commissioned in 2022, total well in excess of \$1 million. Many hundreds of thousands more will be necessary in 2024 and 2025 to protect the Cathedral's structure and infrastructure.

As noted above, the crossroads at which the Cathedral finds itself is also programmatic. Currently, a group of Saint Markans is working with the Episcopal Church in Minnesota to clarify the Cathedral's foremost values and needs. Early results from this work will be discussed at the Annual Meeting on January 29, 2023. Then, later in 2023, it is anticipated that this work will help to clarify the gifts, interests, and abilities desired for prospective Cathedral leadership.



Canon Pastor Rev. Tim Kingsley

Every day, as I hold the people of Saint Mark's Cathedral in my prayers, I give thanks for the creative, faithful, humorous, and wise people of this community, who lead, and help our ministries thrive and carry our work out into the world. I'm especially thankful this year, in a post-pandemic reality. None of us imagined the past couple of years and how we would be challenged, how we would grow and be changed. I am truly blessed to walk alongside you.

It has been a year of loss, of grief, of frustration. It has been a time of insight and imagination, new friendships, and surprising grace. A time of need, and generosity. And for me, a time of significant gratitude.

Were I to name all those who offered their fervent prayers, their willing hands, their professional expertise, and their hope-filled can-do spirit, and who continued to engage in their ministries under new and sometimes very challenging circumstances, I would fill many pages. I give thanks for each of you, what you have offered this year, the things known and celebrated, the quiet works known to few, and those things you have done that will never be known.

Even as life was turned upside down, we continued with the work and worship. We held weddings, funerals, baptisms, confirmations, and ordinations. And, we planned for the future. Recognizing some aging major mechanical systems on campus, we engaged McGough Construction, and in collaboration with the Climate Justice Task Force, studied the

campus and are now well-informed of its needs and able to develop a capital improvement plan. We worked hard this year to identify new updated ways of marketing, to invite people to our beloved Cathedral. Working with Studio 2 Design + Digital, our 2022 brand marketing firm, we reimagined our brand identity and e-communication strategy with involvement from staff and members through focus groups and surveys. With a new fresh look, marketing tools and support, we are the better positioned to engage, invite and imagine new relationships. In the invitation, perhaps new sources of revenue will be identified as well.

2023's operations focus will be on promoting a welcoming invitation to the City of Minneapolis, our Diocese and the visitors of our beautiful state. Saint Mark's Cathedral is a radically hospitable and beautiful center for the arts, weddings, meetings and events. We are so pleased to have started this year with something new — a successful partnership with Candlelight Productions —showcasing our Nave with beautiful acoustic music by candlelight, a new and creative way of honoring sacred space.

I am proud of where we have been together, and tremendously hopeful for our future.

"For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope"

Jeremiah 29:11



Canon Community Developer Mary Lusk

I am indeed blessed to be a part of Saint Mark's community: to sit in the pews with you, to pray and to sing with you, to learn together with you, to share a meal together! This brings me joy! As Canon Community Developer my work is to support you - to allow you to grow in the love of Jesus and to help you build the firm foundation that will best prepare you to share God's love with others. That foundation begins with worship – it's where we gather to get acquainted with Saint Mark's as a worshipping community.

We Gather. During this past year, our Sunday morning 10:30 worship has regularly included 20-25% "visitors," meaning those who are new or who have attended only a few times. Many of the visitors sit in the back half of the Nave. If you typically sit in the front half, then I invite you to join me any Sunday in the back and meet new folks. The first connection is simply a greeting from others in the pews! Something has invited the visitors to Saint Mark's, perhaps pulled them inside, and it is the role of each of us to offer a warm welcome into our church home.

Of these visitors, I am guessing the average age to be 35-50, with no children; often identifying as LGBTQ, with various religious backgrounds. Some of this we hear later at monthly Newcomer gatherings, offered on the second Sunday of each month. Many people have attended worship only once or twice and are intrigued to stop in to find out more! Preaching and the welcome they receive from people in the pews, along with the beautiful liturgy and

worship space, offer a strong positive impression.

During the year, we welcomed 24 people as new members, most participating in the twice-yearly celebration around the baptismal font. (The process for membership includes attending a Newcomer gathering, participating in the Episcopal 101 series, joining a small group, discovering a ministry to participate in, and giving as able in support of the life of this faith community.)

We are Transformed. Our lives together include a regular rhythm of prayer, worship, and program offerings. We aim to offer a balance: large group presentations, small group conversations, prayer opportunities every day of the week, conversation time when people are together. This past fall, we introduced Discipleship Groups as a follow up to a spring survey that showed "people like to talk in small groups." These groups are for a short time period, with a very specific topic, including plenty of time for group members to communicate with one another. Discipleship groups are offered three times during the program year, to allow many choices and many people a chance to participate.

Sundays remain a time to get re-acquainted and share in fellowship. With one Sunday a month set aside to learn about a pertinent topic, other Sundays are open for mingling around the coffee! Weekdays follow a regular rhythm to enhance prayer life, with Wednesday Eucharist, and Thursday Contemplative Prayer complemented by online Morning Prayer and online Compline each week. If you haven't tried those yet, consider that as a new practice for Lent.

Round Table has returned as an in-person 3-week opportunity, with 3 sessions a year.

This dinner and discussion series is an easy way to get acquainted with many in our community.

A Seasonal Lecture, offered online and focused on listening and learning rather than small group discussion, is also scheduled at the end of each Round Table series as we begin a new liturgical season.

We gather - in worship, in prayer groups, in programs. We are transformed by engaging together in these experiences. In this new year, please consider a new way to expand your life as a disciple by trying one of many options we offer and by connecting with people who may be new to you.

We are not meant to stand on our own, but to be joined with others in a structure that is greater than its individual parts. We must be joined together if our lives are to have meaning. (From the Society of St. John the Evangelist)

With peace and prayers for you,
Mary Lusk, Canon Community Developer

Why Saint Mark's? Roger Larson

The motto imprinted on the green cloth bags handed out following Epiphany 1 service—"Guests Expected, Skeptics Encouraged"—reminded me of a line from a book on Anglican spirituality read years ago: "[Anglicans are] suspicious of all conceptions of Christianity that know too much, whether through the unwary pride of enthusiasm or the unwarranted hubris of the intellect."

I am familiar with and have begged forgiveness for both "transgressions," having been raised a Baptist and having worshipped the past 40 years at a UCC Congregationalist church in St. Paul. There, I often heard a story shared by friends about their beloved professor/mentor at Yale Divinity School, Paul Holmer. Struck by his silence during an animated discussion of a recent gloss on the "feeding of the 5000," the students badgered Holmer into finally weighing in. "I was just thinking," he responded quietly, "that if Jesus could feed all of those hungry people, perhaps he can feed me."

That's the kind of spiritual hunger (and humility) I have seen expressed and addressed at Saint Mark's since arriving here in late 2019. It's why I feel called to Saint Mark's, called in the way Frederick Buechner suggests when he writes: "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." My prayer—my hope and faith—is that the loaves and fishes broken here at Saint Mark's may multiply and feed many in body, mind, and spirit in the coming years.

GATHER

It is my privilege to be the GATHER Council Member for Saint Mark's. GATHER brings people to the Cathedral and welcomes them, TRANSFORM includes the many programs conducted at Saint Mark's, and SEND is work done in the community. I am continually amazed by the many amazingly dedicated people at Saint Mark's who contribute their time and resources to welcoming people to our wonderful home. Ushers, greeters, welcome desk, programming, hospitality, to name only a few. I feel very fortunate to be counted among them!

I am proud of the diligent work done by Saint Mark's staff and lay leaders to create a welcoming and inviting environment despite this year's challenges.

David Albrecht
Gather & Send Commission Chair

Marketing & Communications

It has been an honor to work with the team at Saint Mark's on communications and marketing since April of 2022. While being external to Saint Mark's allows us to see the organization through the eyes of the newcomers we'd like to attract, we are also thankful for the input provided by staff, volunteers and members to guide the work we're doing.

In addition to ongoing communications to the Saint Mark's community, a key project in 2022 was creating the new logo and branding with the following goals: convey the vibrancy of the spaces and people that make up Saint Mark's, help to identify the Cathedral via its iconic tower, and align with The Episcopal Church and ECMN in a classic yet fresh way.

A second major project in 2022 was creating a new website. With new quick links to frequently used content, reorganized pages, a robust events calendar and more helpful information for newcomers including a new "What to Expect" page and an expanded "What we Believe" page, we hope current members and newcomers will both feel more connected.

As we move into the new year, our priority will be to improve how we tell the story of Saint Mark's and its people externally through social media and other channels. Another goal for 2023 is monetizing spaces on campus, and that's where you can help! We encourage you to check out the new "Plan an Event" section of the website and spread the word about spaces and services offered at Saint Mark's for meetings, weddings, funerals, music, performances, and other events. Not only will hosting events and leasing spaces generate income to support the operations and mission of the cathedral, but they will also help people experience the beautiful, sacred spaces and welcoming culture, encouraging them to make Saint Mark's their church home.

Laura Opsahl
Studio2 Design + Digital

Mens Ministry, John Horchner - member

2022 saw the relaunching of the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew in Minnesota. The Brotherhood of Saint Andrew originally started in 1883 in Chicago, in what is now at Saint James Cathedral. It quickly filled a need among men who arrived to earn a living in that large and perhaps frightening city. A Minneapolis chapter was formed just three years later, becoming the 37th in the country. Membership grew nationwide and then worldwide, and today, the brotherhood continues to be the primary men's ministry for the Episcopal Church. Relaunching our local chapter called for determining an initial set of members and officers, and achieving recognition by the national organization as the Minneapolis chapter.

What purpose does the organization serve?

Gathering is the first goal. So far, most meetings have been less than a mile from Saint Mark's on the second Thursday of each month from 6-8 pm at Brit's Pub on Nicollet Avenue.

There, we exchanged stories about things like saving for a vacation, catching a big fish and completing a degree overseas. Topics came up both in sporadic and in a few guided conversations, and meetings offered a forum for discussion of a wide range of interests.

Service projects, both within and outside of the church, are next. The group completed one service project for the church this year and plans to complete three in 2023.

We'd love to hear your story. Join us when you can. Look for the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew sign on one of the tables at Brit's Pub or register online to join us for this or a service event by filling out the form on the Saint Mark's Connector page on the church's website.

Pride Weekend 2022

Leading up to 2022 Gay Pride Weekend, we painted a Rainbow Flag on the sidewalk and stairs leading to Saint Mark's front doors. Imagine the power of those 11 colors, and the message of love that we were able to send to our GLBTQ+ community. That we will celebrate you. That we will care for you. That we will love you. That we will keep you safe.

And imagine the message of this Cathedral, helping people realize that we will let you be as intended: a beautiful, beautiful child of God.

Tracy Jones, LGBTQ member

PS: Saint Mark's stairs were one of the most photographed locations that weekend!



Newcomers' Connection

Six in-person newcomers' gatherings were held in 2022 following the 10:30am service. The Newcomers' Connection enables people who are new or returning to Saint Mark's to meet other newcomers as well as members of the Cathedral clergy, leadership and staff. Many are eager to get involved, and this is often their first chance to connect with people who can help them find an area that fits their interests and gifts. It is exciting to see people who are new to Saint Mark's soon serving as lectors, welcomers, in Sunday morning hospitality, and in outreach ministries. Lois and John Satterberg and Mary Lusk regularly serve as hosts for the gathering, and various members of the clergy and church leadership attend as they are able.

John Satterberg,
Newcomer Connector

Round Table 2022

The popular Wednesday night Round Table gatherings survived the pandemic! The winter virtual series focused on "Becoming the Beloved Community." Using Zoom, short videos and a presentation preceded our breakout group discussions and Compline. The book by Stephanie Spellers, *The Church Cracked Open*, was background reading material. The spring sessions, planned by Mary Ramsbottom and the Racial Equity and Justice Team, were a powerful four-part series on "Stepping Toward Racial Healing."

The Fall Round Table program returned to the usual in-person format allowing for a social time and a soup supper to precede the program. The theme was "Life in Community: Belonging, Believing, and Behaving." Participants, grouped at round tables in the Cathedral Community Room,

shared conversation on the topic of the night, made new friends, and deepened relationships.

Too many talented people to mention make this Adult Formation opportunity a time to learn and grow. Why not join a session in 2023?

Lois Satterberg
Leader of the good work behind the scenes

SAAGES - Spiritually Active Adults: Growing, Exploring & Serving

For SAAGES, a group of Saint Mark's semi-retired and retired persons, 2022 was a year of emerging out of the pandemic. In connection with the Transfer of Memory exhibit in the Saint Mark's Gallery, we hosted one of the featured Holocaust survivors who told his powerful story. We continued our outdoor picnics, book exchange, and book discussions. Intriguing programs for 2023 are already planned. Need further information? Contact SAAGES@ourcathedral.org.

Christine Slater
SAAGES Lead



TRANSFORM

All of us together create, strengthen and impact the wonderful community of Saint Mark's. As a community, we gather, experience possibilities of transformation, and are sent out into the world to share God's love near and far. You may read more about how we Gather and how we Send in other parts of this report. This section focuses on "Transform" and includes ways that lives are changed, ways that lives are transformed through worship, music, events, relationships, and much more – with God at the center.



CRADLE TO CAREER REV. BRYAN BLISS

More than a few times since I started at the Cathedral this past July, I've had somebody stop me and ask, "What exactly does your title...mean?" Admittedly, it's a lot of words that you don't normally hear together—Associate for Cradle to Career Ministry.

I usually explain it as being a mixture of something both familiar and an exciting work in progress—something that, I hope, will be developing over the next several years (and I'll detail a little bit further down in this report.) Essentially, though, Cradle to Career ministries is the way the Cathedral welcomes, forms, and continues to support children, youth, young adults, and families at all ages and stages of their lives and spiritual development.

Traditionally in the church this has looked like children, youth, and other programs—and we will continue to have those programs. In fact, so far this year we've had a robust and vibrant return of the youth and children's ministry, including **Sunday**

Morning Gatherings that follow Gospel Based Discipleship, which connects conversations in the youth room with what happens in worship. Throughout the year, we've also had confirmation classes on Sunday mornings, with five confirmands working through the Confirm Not Conform curriculum. We've also added a monthly **Youth Group** on the second Sunday each month, which has been a great opportunity for in-person fun and fellowship with events like an escape room, Chipotle and Movie Night and, of course, a lock-in. We've also hosted three different **All Together Family Events**, including a bonfire at a local park, an advent Godly Play story, and an Epiphany event which was co-hosted by Abbey Way. Additionally, the **nursery** has been up and running with paid workers—adults and teens from the community—since September. (I would also encourage you to check out all the wonderful things happening in **Godly Play!**)

However, if we think about forming people from cradle to career, we are not simply talking about programs. We're also making a commitment to a way of being a community that is rather unique. It says that—no matter what age or stage you arrive among us—we have thought deeply about how you will fit among us. We have prepared a place and a space for you. With this in mind, part of my work moving forward is developing a portrait of a disciple—sort of like a map—that helps detail what a person who is born in our community, one who spends their childhood and adolescence with us, and then returns in young adulthood, might receive at Saint Mark's through our worship, fellowship, service, and programming. What might they look like? What might they take with them? Who might they become? These are hopeful questions, questions that are ultimately rooted in the words that we speak at our

baptisms. And it's a bold vision for how we can do church as a cathedral.

As I look forward to doing this good work, I hope to accomplish the following in the next year:

- Complete Portrait of a Disciple plan with various "on-ramps" for different ages and stages of child, youth, and young adult development
- Robust Catechumenate/baptismal formation, not only for baptismal candidates and families—but for anyone who is interested in deepening their faith.
- Cathedral Youth Ministry. Partnering with Dan Miglets-Nelson and other local parishes to offer our space as a metro-centric hub for larger youth ministry events and activities.
- Robust Acolyte Training, for both in-house and Diocesan-wide trainings.
- Continue conversations about getting a chorister or some sort of children's choir/music program as a part of the Cradle to Career ministry program.

Submitted with deep appreciation for all of you,

Rev. Bryan Bliss
Ministry Associate - Cradle to Career

Why Saint Marks?

God and the Holy Spirit are very present in the services, activities, and people of Saint Mark's. Because I live in Bemidji, I am fortunate to be able to partake in many Cathedral activities online.

Saint Mark's provides online opportunities to worship, attend musical events, join groups, learn, and more. Even remotely, there is a welcoming feeling in a beautiful setting.

I am proud to be an online member.

Johannas Jordan, Cathedral Member



Godly Play Monica Kruger

Godly Play resumed in-person gatherings in Fall 2022, alternating them with ongoing online gatherings. At Saint Mark's, children enjoy entering the Godly Play Room to share in a story, play, prayer, and feast. Godly Play parents and volunteers help create a warm atmosphere where parents introduce themselves and visit in the hallway. Online, people from Saint Mark's, other churches, Lutheran pastors, an ASL interpreter, and Godly Play practitioners reflect on stories that are heard and seen in each of their homes from a storyteller's dining room. Some children enthusiastically hold drawings up to the camera, and everyone enjoys sharing things that connect them with biblical stories. There is delight in community, sacred stories, and play!

Here is a reflection from parent, John Zheng:

This year's Godly Play program has been a mix of virtual and in-person sessions. The in-person sessions are a reminder of how much we missed the in-person interaction at church. As parents, we could see how much our boys enjoyed the physical and sensory experiences of the in-person sessions, such as handling the well-crafted teaching materials and interacting with Susan and Monica and the other children in the class. As before, Godly Play provides a strong sense of community and connection for families with young children. As our boys are getting older, we can see how the program is providing them with opportunities to engage with and learn from others outside of their immediate family.



Helen Hansen Pastoral Ministry

Community of Hope

The Community of Hope Circle of Care meets monthly to study the Rule of Saint Benedict, debrief pastoral care visits and encounters, and plan for future programming. Considerable progress has been made in enriching skills in end-of-life care and strengthening follow-up to requests and referrals for pastoral care. Community of Hope at Saint Mark's, along with Saint David's Episcopal Church in Minnetonka and Saint John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church in White Bear Lake, has received a grant from ECMN to help fund the offering of Community of Hope training February through May of 2023. As our ranks have become smaller, we look forward with excitement to the formation of a new cohort of pastoral ministers.

Encouragement for Caregivers

The Saint Mark's Encouragement for Caregivers Group is in its fourth year. It meets via Zoom two Mondays per month at 10:30 am. In 2022, fourteen people participated in the group. Through the sharing of their stories, participants become aware that they are not alone on the often-lonely journey of caring for a loved one. Helpful resources are shared with each other. Scripture readings, prayers and devotional materials are also shared to give encouragement and hope, and to remind us that being a caregiver is part of our call to follow Jesus. Anyone who finds themselves in the role of caregiver is welcome to join the group at any time.

Eucharistic Visiting

Eucharistic Visitors made over 100 visits in 2022 to people in all kinds of circumstances and in all manner of places: homes, apartments, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and hospice care. Eucharistic visits often include not only the communion liturgy, but Psalms, poems, prayers, and anointing. Most Eucharistic Visitors make regular visits to a number of parishioners who are permanently homebound and unable to attend worship services.

Prayer Station

Five pastoral ministers serve at the Enmegahbowh Prayer Station during the Sunday morning 10:30 am worship service and occasionally for other services. We aim to resume Prayer Station ministry in 2023. In this very intimate space, we have the privilege of listening and praying with others and offering blessings and anointing.

Card Ministry

Five Saint Markans sent out nearly 165 cards to parishioners to communicate support, provide encouragement, and to acknowledge special concerns, losses, and needs in difficult situations.

Circle of Prayer

The Circle of Prayer is made up of ten pastoral care members, who pray daily and confidentially for those who have requested private prayers. People who request these prayers often share more personal information about their needs for intercessions or petitions.

Pastoral Care is a ministry of all Saint Markans. Many Cathedral members provide support to each other by writing cards, making phone calls and visits, participating in the Circle of Prayer, assisting folks with health care visits, alerting the pastoral care team or clergy about congregants who need support, reaching out to the bereaved, entering into personal conversations, and, so importantly, welcoming the stranger and listening with the ear of the heart. With time our "culture of care" will continue to grow.



Rev. Siri Hustad Liturgy & Worship

Anytime I write this report I remind the reader that “Liturgy is the work of the people.” Not the few, the PEOPLE. And as we gather and re-meet each other in person, and reaffirm our commitment to our Baptismal promises, we are unified as children of God. This faith community is a cathedral. We are a space for the few and the many, the church and the unchurched (whatever that means), the seekers, the firmly ingrained, and the visitors who say “I love your architecture!” Sometimes it is difficult to wear so many hats.

We are the Home of the Bishop and we have had the privilege, and will continue to do so, to bring the many cultures and communities of ECMN together for worship.

We are a destination for weddings and a sacred space for those who grieve and celebrate their loved ones.

We are a learning space for those interested in Ministry, whether as newly ordained or contemplating.

We are a discerning space for ministries of the people, like the Eucharistic Minister who assists at the Eucharist with the chalice, the Lector who reads the scripture, the Intercessor who reads the prayers of the people, the Altar Guild member who cares for our “Holy Hardware”, the Thurifer and/or Acolyte (young and not so young), Ushers and Greeters. Members who have offered their gifts in these roles for decades or just a few weeks share their spirit with the Body. All these tasks need to be provided by the people.

Whether you need to fill your cup with music/choir and prayer (Sunday Eucharist at 10:30am, Evensong on Sundays at 5pm), experience God with the few (Noontime Liturgy on Wednesdays), worship in your first or a new language (Spanish language Eucharist on Saturdays at 5:30pm), enjoy Rite I language (more thee’s and thou’s, 8am on Sundays), or participate in prayer and discussion online throughout the week....

Come and explore your gifts with us!!
Siri Hustad, Associate for Liturgical Coord.



Music at Saint Mark's Raymond Johnston

We began 2022 with services being sung by just eight singers, and my thanks go to Liz Pemberton, Kristi Bergland, Sue Druck, Rachel Farhi, Steve Pearthree, Thore Dosdall, Rick Moon, Charles Hackman, Ryan Werdon, and Dan Wanamaker, who did such a fine job, not just this year but since the beginning of the pandemic.

Music is a thriving ministry and an integral aspect of our worship at Saint Mark’s, and I was delighted to be able to welcome back the full Cathedral Choir in April to offer the finest music from the Cathedral repertoire.

Two of our other singing groups took a break during the pandemic – the Cathedral Choral Society and the Cathedral Choristers – and I hope to get those up and running again during the course of 2023.

There were many highlights during the year – the Advent and Christmas carol services, Music Series concerts, Easter and Holy Week services to name just a few--but the most rewarding aspects are the commitment of those who participate in

the choirs and choral society and the enthusiasm and appreciation of those who hear and are moved by our work.

The Music Series events have been very enjoyable, and huge thanks go to the performers, the A/V team, and those who choose to listen to our offerings. Your support, financial and otherwise, means so much to us all.

This coming year it is my hope that we will continue to sing and play, to move those who listen, and to draw in those who do not yet know who we are. If you have never attended an Evensong or a concert, why not give it a try? If you have – bring some friends with you!

Thanks to you all for your support and encouragement.

Ray Johnston
Canon Musician



Sacristan Report Rev. Terry Erickson

Spirit filled liturgy is the result of the preparation of many ministry team members including the liturgists, musicians, priests, deacons, vergers, acolytes, Altar Guild, ushers, and sacristan. We all do our part to make each liturgy meaningful to those attending the service either in person or by livestream. Our ministry team members are dedicated to the ministry of rendering, with grace, a worship service that is at the center of our Christian faith.

The year 2022 has been, for me as sacristan, a time for rebuilding and reorganizing our

lay ministry teams. It has given each of us the opportunity to reimagine and discern our call to this ministry.

I am happy to say that this year we have eight new Altar Guild members that have discerned a call to serve. To be an Altar Guild member means caring for and preparing our sacred spaces and objects for worship. It is the duty of Altar Guild members to make every effort to provide for everyone participating in worship, as a time that brings each of us present, closer to God. The duties of the Altar Guild include preparing the Sanctuary, sacred vessels, linens, and vestments for all worship services. Most importantly, the Altar Guild serves the needs of the clergy and congregation as discreetly as possible in preparing for all worship services.

As a member of a ministry team, you learn the value of communal prayer. You learn the importance of liturgical elements in worship. You are a welcoming presence to those entering our sacred space. You learn about the lectionary cycles, the liturgical calendar as well as the history of our sacred objects and the history of Saint Mark's Cathedral.

There are many opportunities to serve at Saint Mark's. Please consider joining one of our ministry teams such as Altar Guild.

Reverend Terry Erickson
Sacristan and Deacon





Hispanic Ministry Rev. Neptali Rodriguez

We started our beautiful Hispanic ministry at Saint Mark's four months ago and have enjoyed many moments of blessings serving God through this community of faith. We have lived and celebrated the love of God through a Eucharist service every Saturday at 5:30 p.m., and through special events for the Day of the Dead and the Virgin of Guadalupe. We also celebrated our first baptism during our Christmas service on December 24th.

I look forward to growing our ministry in 2023.

Thank you to the community of Saint Mark's for your support.

Padre Neptali



Abbey Way Jan Bros, Pastor

In the Benedictine monastic tradition, there is a common saying: "And so we begin again." This phrase acknowledges the activity of grace within and among those committed to a communal vowed life. In its simplicity, it captures an intentional way of being that expectantly waits and responds to the invitations of God.

Abbey Way--an independent community of faith that leans into Benedictine principles and practices--has met in Saint Mark's Whipple Chapel on Sunday mornings since September 2021. We have experienced the

hospitality of the Saint Mark's community both in the use of its space and the willingness to explore new opportunities for shared ministry. The relationship between and among has been fruitful and full of God's fingerprints.

Looking back over the past season at the Cathedral, the significant shared ministry has occurred in gatherings during Monday Gospel-Based Discipleship, Wednesday night formation, and Sunday morning Godly Play. Notably, Transitional Deacon Sarah Hoch is on staff part-time at Abbey Way as a Pastoral Leader as she also serves as a deacon and Shared Ministry Team member at Saint Mark's. We are hopeful for the future as conversations between Abbey Way and Saint Mark's continue to reveal ways to mutually support each other as congregations, while growing deeper in their relationship with God and each other.

Rev. Jan Bros, Lead Pastor
Abbey Way



SEND

It has been my privilege to be the SEND Council Member for Saint Mark's. GATHER brings people to the church and welcomes them, TRANSFORM includes the many programs conducted at Saint Mark's, and SEND is work done in the community.

An exciting SMEC program now being expanded is the "Mission for Student Success" led by our own Rachel Babbitt. Minneapolis College, right across Loring Park, is our neighbor, and supporting their at-risk students is a great way for us to positively affect the community. Volunteer opportunities will be available in 2023 including tutoring, volunteering in the food shelf and meal programs, and helping in other ways.

I am proud of the diligent work done by SMEC staff and lay leaders to create an environment where community engagement is so readily available.

David Albrecht, Gather & Send Commission Chair

Mission for Student Success

The landscape of engagement work has shifted in the last few years. Building on existing partnerships, Saint Mark's wants to deepen our connection to Minneapolis College. The current partnership started eight years ago, with the Lionheart Scholarship program, providing financial scholarships to Minneapolis College students who have experienced homelessness and are registered for at least nine credits.

Learning from this partnership, Saint Mark's sees the needs of students and the challenges they experience in being successful and completing their degrees.

This is where the Mission for Student Success starts. We will be developing a group of Saint Markans interested in supporting this project, listening to students and learning how we can work alongside them to support their success, and looking at what gifts and passions Saint Markans have to share.

2023 is a year of discovery. We will try a few volunteer opportunities and assess how well they work within the congregation.

Ways Saint Markans can support this initiative include:

- Praying for our scholars and this project
- Discerning your capacity to support these efforts
- Donating to the Lionheart Scholarship Fund
- Attending an information session, to learn more
- Reaching out to Rachel Babbitt, project manager, if you have questions

Rachel Babbitt
Project Manager
Mission for Student Success

Minneapolis College - Lionheart Scholarship

In 2022, Minneapolis College awarded Lionheart Scholarships to 22 students in the amount of \$20,000. The qualifying students had been directly impacted by homelessness and/or were from the north Minneapolis area.

Since the partnership began in 2016, Saint Markans have contributed over \$140,000 to the Lionheart Scholarship Fund, benefiting more than 70 students. Most students were the first in their families to attend college, and for many students, English was not their first language.

Since the Covid pandemic began, Lionheart Scholars have continued to keep up with the challenges of coursework, raising families and employment. Many work in either full-time or part-time jobs. Each Scholar is doing their best to complete their degree to better themselves, their families, and the well-being of their communities. Some Scholars complete their degree in two years, and enter their chosen fields, while others transfer to four-year colleges for additional coursework and training.

In 2023 we will be looking to broaden our services to students through the Mission for Student Success.

For further information about the Lionheart Scholarship program and volunteer opportunities at Minneapolis College please contact The Rev. Lowell Johnson, Deacon for Community Connections.

Donations may be made to the Lionheart Scholarship Fund as directed from the Dean's Christmas Appeal letter, or during the year through the link on the Saint Mark's website.

Lowell Johnson
Deacon – Community Connections

Racial Equity and Justice Commission

In 2022, the Racial Equity and Justice Commission (REJ) developed multiple opportunities for congregational learning, reflection and engagement, all grounded in General Convention's 2022 affirmation that "every Episcopalian is called to a lifelong vocation of racial justice and equity and the dismantling of white supremacy." We sought deepening accountability – in mind, body, and spirit — for inequitable policies and unjust practices. We made recommendations to the Cathedral Council,

delivered REJ-focused curricula for two Gather Round series, recruited a new ACTION cohort, launched a Saint Mark's history working group, and posted weekly Connector notices of REJ opportunities.

Members include David Albrecht, Mary Beth Farrell, Lowell Johnson, Monica Kruger, Joan Olson, John Satterberg, Emmanuel Wilson and Mary Ramsbottom. Please join our team - we are eager to welcome new members!

Mary Ramsbottom, Chair
Racial Equity and Justice Commission

Action Project

Enlightenment. Transformation. In the SMEC ACTION Project, both nouns become action verbs. SMEC's Deacon Lowell Johnson and Dr. Douglas Tate facilitate 13 Cathedral members committed to the first year of a three-year intensive program of racial justice understanding, engagement and healing sponsored by the Minnesota Council of Churches. We meet online with another congregation and BIPOC presenters once a month; have access to weekly supplemental resources; and gather in our SMEC cohort for deeper discussion. We aspire to create pathways for our congregation in working toward not only racial healing but racial health.

(Participants: James Davies, Dana Dickson, Dan Ferber, Lowell Johnson, Monica Kruger, Betsy Lee, Susan Mallison, Ann Pannier, Russ Pannier, Mary Ramsbottom, Christine Slater, Doug Tate, David Vaughan)

Dr. Doug Tate, Team Lay Leader
Action Project

Align

Homelessness is America's "invisible" problem. If you live in the right area or take certain routes to work or social events you can be relatively unaware of its existence.

Consider some statistics: Of the approximately 600,000 homeless people in the United States, one-third are unsheltered (live outside). Half are white; one in four live in California. Nationally some 90,000 homeless are under 18 years; in fact, on any given night in the Twin Cities, 1,600 people under the age of 18 are living outside.

Align, where Saint Mark's is a member, tries to deal with these issues in the following ways:

EDUCATION. Align makes presentations to the 18 faith communities that are members. (This activity had to be sharply curtailed during the pandemic.)

ADVOCACY. Align members write to and appear before the legislature and other governmental organizations on issues regarding homelessness.

GOODS DRIVES. Through its members, Align fundraises for clothing, hygiene supplies, backpacks, etc. and delivers these goods directly to the homeless at various locations well known by the homeless community.

LISTENING TO THE HOMELESS. Align sponsors a group called "Street Voices of Change" made up of members of the homeless community who also join in planning activities.

EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE: Align receives applications from people being threatened with eviction notices and uses a fund to pay selected back rents.

New opportunities are emerging for Saint Markan's in these areas. Now that in-person meetings have been reinstated by Align, we can become better informed. And there is a

possibility, through our advocacy, that some of the State Budget surplus could be directed toward homelessness. We can continue to be helpful and effective in fighting homelessness through Saint Mark's active support of Align.

Contact John Cunningham
Align Leader

Community Aid Network MN (CANMN)

CANMN is a volunteer-led mutual aid program that has been operating at various locations in Minneapolis, MN since 2020. Originally conceived to address the immediate needs of underserved communities affected by the twin pandemics of COVID-19 and systemic racism, CANMN's continued objective is to provide the resources necessary to ensure that everyone has the means for dignified living. CANMN has been operating out of Saint Mark's since November 2021.

CANMN does not collect any personal information from community members, nor are they required to prove their residence, immigration status, or income to receive aid. The majority of recipients are people of color from low-income communities, including families with young children and multi-generational households.

CANMN serves close to 200 families per week, both in-person and through the delivery program. Items distributed include perishable and non-perishable food, baby supplies, personal hygiene supplies, and household supplies. In 2022, the total number of families served was about 7,150.

In addition to offering community distribution, CANMN also supports other local movements like labor rights and BLM by coordinating supply donations and recruiting volunteers.

Climate Justice Task Force

“Dear God, thank you for all that is good. For our creation and for our humanity. For the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth. For the gifts of life and of one another. For our congregation and our call to lead them in climate justice work. For your love which is unbounded and eternal. O thou, most holy and beloved, my Companion, my Guide upon the way. taku whetu marama i te po / my bright evening star”. *

Climate Justice is about the long-term quest to shine light in the shadows of our comfortable, energy intensive and often self-centered lives; and, to set some examples for others for “Loving, Liberating, and Life Giving” Choices. It’s about living out our values, our Faith driven goals, our 5th Mark of Mission at Saint Mark’s.

“Let the Butterflies and Bees Thrive”. Early last year, Dana Dickson and his wife Julie Dahl (a Minneapolis Master Gardener), Russ and Ann Pannier, and others in our group took a plan to convert some underused Cathedral Garden space to a Pollinator Garden. They were moved to share their knowledge of native plant gardening with our community. They obtained consensus with Property, Council, and others for the demonstration effort.

13 native pollinator plants were then planted in the garden by the Community Room entrance. 76 native pollinator plants were put in the garden by the accessible parking. There are 9 plots in this garden, spring blooming plants, summer blooming plants, fall blooming plants and all-season “especially for bees” plants. Seeds were saved at the end of the season and scattered to add to next year’s habitat and display. Seeds were also distributed at Saint Marks “St Francis” Blessing of Creation service in the Fall.

Our Faith - Caring for God's Creation - Opportunities in 2023

As part of our Climate Action plan published last year, we worked with Property in 2022 to complete an Energy Audit of Saint Mark’s Cathedral buildings. Several key opportunities were identified – including one where our Spiritual and Climate Goals are aligned with a key building need, and the opportunity to accept not only a \$75,000 grant from the City of Minneapolis, but a new 30% Federal Inflation Reduction Act benefit for non-profits supporting Heat Pump acquisitions.

As it happens, the Cathedral Building’s Air Conditioning is failing, and needs replacement within the near-term future. We have the opportunity to replace our failing unit proactively with an equivalent sized Heat Pump. (Heat Pumps are the most efficient means for building heating by a factor of 3-5X). The “out of pocket” cost for the Heat Pump that will provide an equivalent amount of both Heating and AC for significantly less than simply replacing the AC when it fails. Further, the energy saving results from installing the new technology will pay for the heat pump 2X over during its 30-year lifetime.

Of course, we must find a way to do the initial funding for the Heat Pump. The good news is instead of having to fund a replacement AC system, we can have the Heat Pump system (with the Minneapolis Grant and the Federal 30%) for a lower cost. Climate Justice members have volunteered to contribute individually funds for the project and to work with the Saint Mark’s Council and Property Committee to help and support the upcoming capital funds drive that is needed.

Climate Justice Advocacy.

As we all move into 2023, the Minnesota Legislative climate for Climate Action has improved.

We will be actively looking for opportunities to show our individual support for emerging legislation that's in alignment with our Care of Creation Mission.

Come Join us.

Our feeling is one of gratitude for the opportunity to serve God and His Community here at Saint Mark's. Our group includes Esther Agbaje, David Albrecht, Paul Anton, Dana Dickson, Daniel Ferber, Sandra Fevig, Ellie Fueling, Heidi Haner, Colleen Krebs, Mike Lonergran, Susan Mallison, David Vaughan, Greg McDaniels, Nancy McDaniels, Ann Pannier, Russ Pannier, Steve Gove, Robert Tredray, John Cuninghame. We hope many others will join us. Touch base with Joe Ward, Dana Dickson, or with any of us to get involved.

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow... Praise him all creatures here below... Praise him above the heavenly hosts... Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

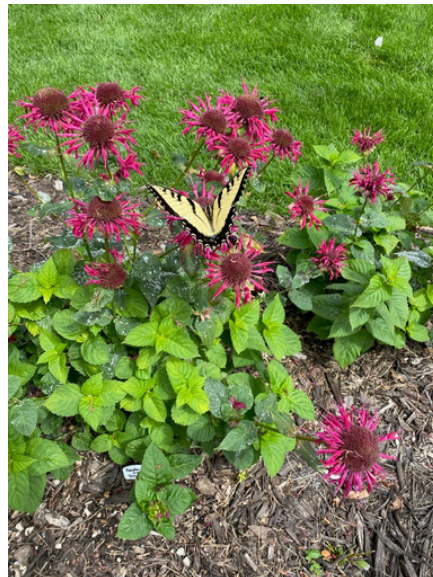
*. With thanks to Buff Grace for his inspiration.

Joe Ward
Saint Mark's Climate Justice Team Leader

Community Meal (formerly Sunday Night Supper)

A small group of committed St. Mark's volunteers gathers each month on the second Sunday evening of the month and provide a hot meal and other fresh and packaged items "to-go" style for individuals and families in need. In 2022, we distributed over 1,000 meals. As of September, St. Mark's is no longer funding this, so the money that is needed to keep this going now is being provided by Plymouth Congregational Church.

Michele Mandrich
Community Meal team



Administration

The Wells Foundation

Each November the Wells Foundation Board approves grants to local nonprofits who align with the foundation's mission. In 2022 we granted 22 non-profits (of 38 applicants) \$102,500. We also gave emergency support to House of Charity after a fire. In the past 11 years Wells has granted over \$875,000 to organizations helping homeless youth and families. Since 1970 the Wells Foundation has granted over \$3.9 million to our community partners! In May we displayed photos of our current grant recipients, a practice which we will repeat in 2023. Great history and additional information is available at WellsFound.org.

Martha Hoover
Wells Foundation Board president



The art is an homage to the wells memorial window in the cathedral.

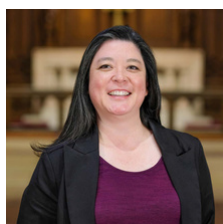
Property Committee

In 2022, the Property Committee worked with a consultant and finalized a physical assessment of the Cathedral property in the first half of the year. The assessment was comprehensive and includes many near and long-term capital investments. Work is underway on several acute issues, most significantly, repair of the stained-glass window in the Cathedral library. The Property Committee is engaged with other community stakeholders as well as the organization's leadership in an effort to prioritize future projects in a way that aligns with a comprehensive fundraising and capital plan for the Cathedral. We hope to have more significant projects underway in 2023. Stay tuned!

Finally, the Property Committee Chair would like to thank George Ewing, Martha Hoover, Kathy McGill, Marcia Morris and Sarah Nowlin for their generous contributions of time, talent and treasure in 2022.

Chris Kirwin
Property Committee Chair





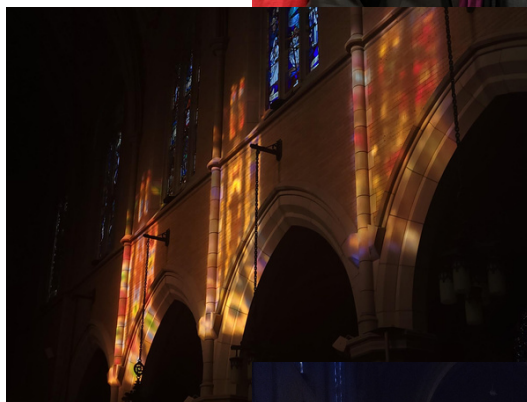
Welcome Center Campus Services

2022 was a year of incredible change and growth at Saint Mark's. Every person on the campus services team is new to the Cathedral, either during or post-COVID restrictions. We have spent many hours cleaning, maintaining and preparing us to truly be back together but honestly not knowing what that would look like. While my first year at the Cathedral was littered with restrictions, masks and limited people on campus, my second year has brought color, beauty and life back to the Cathedral in an amazing way.

When the day arrived in the fall when we could truly be together – mask-less, it was a beautiful sight. Handshakes, hugs, laughter and smiles filled our day!!! The campus is booming with life and is full of people almost daily and so began new routines, challenges and lots of opportunities, but campus services is finally able to do what we do best...radical hospitality to holy chaos.

It is sometimes a challenge to clean and maintain a building of this size and age, but we are working hard to not only do the daily tasks but be proactive in saving money, reducing waste and create strong relationships with Saint Markans, vendors and guests alike.

I am so grateful for all of you and the opportunity you give us to create lasting memories for everyone who walks through our doors, from baptisms to memorials, summer camps to a single meeting. Whether you have \$500 in your pocket or \$5, we strive to ensure that you feel welcome and comfortable at your Cathedral.



Foundation Report

Since the beginning of Saint Mark's, some of its members have made financial gifts to the Cathedral in their estate plans. Some have been specific gifts focused on a particular area of interest or concern, such as the music program or maintenance of the building. Others have been general gifts to be invested so that the earnings can support the general operations of the Cathedral.

In 1992, the Cathedral formed the Foundation of the Cathedral Church of Saint Mark's as a separate tax-exempt company to manage all special gifts and the endowment that had accumulated over the years. The Foundation is able to provide consistent oversight of all the special funds and makes sure that all of the assets are invested safely and in ways which provide consistent returns.

The Foundation supports the Cathedral in three main ways:

Annual Operating Distributions: Each year, the Foundation provides roughly 4.5% of its assets to help fund the operations of the Cathedral. The operation distribution was roughly \$180,000 in 2022.

Loans: In 2018, the Foundation loaned the Cathedral \$110,000 to make needed renovations to bring the 425 House up to saleable condition. The loan was repaid from the proceeds of the sale in 2019.

Grants: When the Cathedral has extraordinary needs, the Foundation makes grants to the Cathedral. In 2022, it made an emergency grant of over \$300,000 to Saint Mark's to help it deal with the unexpected financial stress caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant brought the total support provided by the Foundation to \$500,000 for that year.

The Foundation is governed by a Board of Saint Mark's members who oversee the

investment of its assets. The Board employs an investment advisor, RBC Wealth Management, a division of RBC Capital Markets LLC, to help them place funds with a broadly diversified group of professional investment managers and to periodically rebalance the portfolio as market conditions change. The Board chooses investment managers who have superior investment performance while investing according to the Board's policies regarding environment, social, and governance (ESG) policies.

Over the last decade the operating expenses of the Cathedral have grown but the assets of the Foundation have not grown commensurately, in part because the Foundation has made several special grants to the Cathedral. Hence, the annual operating distribution from the Foundation has become a smaller and smaller percentage of the Cathedral's operating needs. The Board has decided to embark on a campaign to double the size of the endowment over the next five years. This is a necessary step to maintain the Foundation's ability to support the Cathedral's yearly operations and to respond to extraordinary needs when they arise in the future.

The current membership of the Foundation Board is Paul Anton, President, Richard Helling, Vice-President, and Board Members Penelope Pate Greene, Paul Schelin, Ellen Archibald and Brian Myers. Dean Paul Lebens-Englund and Cathedral Treasurer Ted Sherman attend as ex officio members.

Saint Mark's Foundation closed the year with total assets of \$3,780,389, down from \$4,972,784 at the beginning of 2022.

Paul Anton
Foundation Board President

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is lucky to have Bill Carpenter, George Ewing, Sten Johnson and Iris Key as committee members since September. When we started meeting regularly in 2022, Saint Mark's was already in an operating deficit with some challenging decisions in front of us. We are grateful to have had the help and guidance of Ted Sherman, the good Treasurer, David Christopherson, our Saintry Internal Auditor, and Rev. Tim Kingsley, the all-too-patient Canon Pastor.

In September, we approved a new accounting software system that will update our current methods and accounts. This change, while creating a lot of work for the business office and Internal Auditor right now, will result in more streamlined accounting and less labor hours. We are hopeful it will also create more clarity in our overall accounting and bookkeeping. While primarily a software update, this step also has led us to review all our procedures and information while transitioning from one program to another. Overall, we are hoping this eases future transfers of institutional knowledge in the business office.

At the time of writing this we are still working on approving our 2023 budget. Challenges include--but are not limited to--our continued recovery from the pandemic, unavoidable capital expenses, discovery of new information, and years of deficit spending that has put pressure on the budgeting process. The Finance Committee has done the work of meeting with Cathedral Clergy, Administration and the Treasurer as well as with the Saint Mark's Foundation new President. We are trying to focus on both realistic and ambitious revenue goals. While it is tempting to present a balanced budget for the annual meeting, it is more realistic to expect continued budget shortfalls in 2023.

Moving forward we are hoping to communicate more with Saint. Mark's membership as to the responsibilities of the Finance Committee. Our goal over the next three years is to release information periodically about the current budget so that the community receives up-to-date information about the finances. The Finance Committee is excited to create a more transparent ethos around Cathedral finances. We hope this will create engagement and excitement about the work we are doing to balance the budget and to help increase our revenue over the next several years.

It is a pleasure to serve you, most especially with the great team surrounding Saint Marks' financial life. I am looking forward to a productive three years together.

Gina Christ
Finance Committee Chair

Treasurers Report

2022 was another challenging year from a financial standpoint, with an operating loss of approximately \$217,000. This was on top of an operating loss of \$163,000 in 2021. It should be noted that the Cathedral has experienced an operating loss in six of the last eight years, with cumulative deficits over the last four years (from 2019 to 2022) totaling over \$600K.

Members of Saint Mark's have continued to display incredible generosity, with ongoing strong stewardship and other contributions. The staff continues to be very diligent in managing Cathedral resources, watching expenses closely and expanding other revenue sources wherever possible and consistent with the Cathedral's mission and values.

The Foundation also displayed ongoing strong commitment to supporting the Cathedral's operations, with another year of extraordinary giving that prevented an even wider operating loss this past year. While the implementation of a long-term, sustainable financial model for Saint Mark's is a top priority for leadership, the Council and Cathedral staff are also focused on monitoring the short-term financial stability of the Cathedral, which warrants careful attention given ongoing operating losses and less-than-desirable cash positions and liquidity.

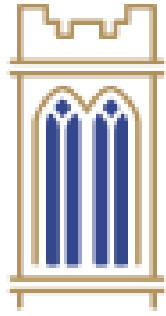
As noted previously, the Cathedral has adopted a three-year budget process, which is extremely helpful in our efforts to understand the financial performance of the Cathedral over both short-term and longer-term horizons. We are also in the process of implementing a new accounting system, which will provide a better long-term support model and allow for simpler financial reporting and processes.

In closing out the year, I would like to extend sincere thanks to Canon Pastor Tim Kingsley and Finance Committee Chair Gina Christ, and also to David Christopherson, who has been an invaluable resource to all of us as we work through these numerous issues and initiatives. David has once again made a significant contribution to all our work, from assisting in full implementation of a more robust budget process, playing a key role in the conversion to the new accounting system, and in acting as a trusted advisor to the entire finance and accounting team at Saint Mark's.

Ted Sherman,
Treasurer

	2021 Results	2022 Budget	2022 Results (Prelim)
Revenue	\$1,650,631	\$1,900,925	\$1,831,344
Expense	\$1,813,173	\$1,882,925	\$2,048,388
Operating Net	(\$163,542)	\$18,000	(\$217,000)





SAINT MARK'S

EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

— *Minneapolis* —

The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church
The Right Reverend Craig Loya, Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota

Cathedral Ministry Team

The Very Reverend Paul Lebens-Englund Dean of the Cathedral
The Reverend Tim Kingsley Canon Pastor
The Reverend Siri Hauge Hustad Priest - Shared Ministry Part-time Associate for Liturgical Coordination
The Reverend Neptali Rodriguez Misionero Hispano
The Reverend Bryan Bliss Deacon - Ministry Associate for Cradle to Career
Raymond Johnston Canon Musician
Mary Lusk Canon Community Developer
Monica Kruger Godly Play Coordinator
Tina Kraby Campus Services & Welcome Center Supervisor
The Reverend Terry M. Erickson Deacon- Shared Ministry; Worship and Pastoral Care & Part-time Sacristan

*Dr. Helen E. Hansen Shared Ministry - Pastoral Care Minister
*The Reverend Lowell B. Johnson Deacon: Shared Ministry - Community Connections
*John Satterberg Dean's Chaplain
*The Reverend Mary Beth Farrell Priest - Shared Ministry Team, Dean's Chaplain
*The Reverend Kent Rahm Priest - Shared Ministry Team
*The Reverend Sarah Hoch - Transitional Deacon, Co- Pastor-Abbey Way
*The Reverend Jay Phelan - Transitional Deacon
*The Reverend Tony Hunt - Transitional Deacon/Intern
*Non Stipendiary Ministry Team Members

Saint Mark's Council

Brian Childs Senior Warden
Denise Graber Junior Warden
Ted Sherman Treasurer
Melissa Lowe Clerk
David Albrecht Send/Gather
Chris Kirwan Property
Gina Christ Finance Chair

Subscribe to our email news & updates. @ ourcathedral.org, or text "ourcathedral" to 22828. Follow us on our official Facebook page @SaintMarksEpiscopalCathedral. and on Instagram @stmarksmpls.

**519 OAK GROVE STREET • MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55403 • 612 870 7800 •
OURCATHEDRAL.ORG**