

2017 Annual Meeting Packet

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Finance

The Funds of the Church

Churches and other not-for-profit organizations utilize Fund Accounting. In practice, the transactions for each bank account in the church's name is accounted for in a Statement of Receipts and Disbursements, which summarizes the financial activity that occurred in an account during the year.

Churches often establish multiple bank accounts to serve different purposes. At St. Mark's we have a number of cash accounts that fulfill the ongoing funding needs of the various ministries of our parish, as well as funds held in reserve for future, specific purposes. To help you better understand and get acquainted with the funds that exist at St. Mark's, we have provided a description for each below. They are separated into two categories: Operating Funds and Restricted Use Funds. A comparative Statement of Receipts and Disbursements comparing 2016 and 2015 for each fund can be found in this packet, as well as a 2017 Budget, where appropriate.

Operating Funds

General Fund – This is the main operating fund of the church. Through it we process most of the income and expenses necessary to operate our church. It includes contributions from our parishioners, income from the Thrift Store, and from other sources like rents. Out of it we pay direct operating expenses and overhead such as payroll and related costs, insurance, utilities, supplies, office and administrative expenses, ministry expenses, maintenance, etc. It is the largest fund and the account we most often report on to you.

Samaritan Fund – This is also known as the Rector's Discretionary Fund. These are funds, established under church canon, to be disbursed under the direction of the Rector to help people in need. At St. Mark's we use these funds to help those who live in the nearby community to pay essential living expenses. The fund derives its income from loose plate collections on the first Sunday of each month and individual contributions designated by the donor to this account.

Food Pantry Fund – This fund is under the direction of our Food Pantry ministry. Cash contributions and grants from individual donors and charitable organizations are received into the account and disbursements are made for the purchase of food and other necessary expenses of the ministry.

Thrift Store Fund – This account is under the direction of our Thrift Store. Proceeds from the sales of merchandise and payments for the operating expenses of the store are processed through this account. Profits are transferred to the General Fund monthly and used to help pay our Diocesan Mission Share.

Vestry Discretionary Fund – In 2012, the remaining funds of our former Episcopal Church Women chapter at St. Mark's were given over to the control of the Vestry for future use as they determine. In the years since, some of the funds were used to provide scholarships to children in our parish to attend summer camp at Chapel Rock, the Episcopal Church camp of the Diocese of Arizona.

Restricted Use Funds

Capital Improvements Fund – This is a reserve fund which has been designated by the Vestry to be used for large, unbudgeted, and unexpected property improvements, building and grounds maintenance, and replacement of mechanical equipment. The account is funded from undesignated gifts made by donors to the church and cash gifts designated for this purpose.

Endowment Fund – This is a reserve fund account for gifts made by donors that have been designated for future ministry. St. Mark's is in the process of writing the documents which will govern the use of these funds.

General Operating Fund

Statement of Receipts & Disbursements Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

	2016	2015	Over/(Under)
Cash Receipts:			, , ,
Giving Income	\$201,655	\$190,952	\$10,703
Thrift Store Income	7,250	12,900	(5,650)
Other Income	<u>5,520</u>	<u>3,842</u>	<u>1,678</u>
Total Cash Receipts:	214,425	207,694	6,731
Cash Disbursements:			
Personnel Expenses	91,349	89,356	1,993
Ministry Expenses	5,579	7,813	(2,234)
Admin. Expenses	22,842	23,731	(889)
Facility Expenses	51,779	44,802	6,977
Diocese Mission Share	<u>33,187</u>	<u>33,202</u>	<u>(15)</u>
Total Cash Disbursements:	<u>204,736</u>	<u>198,904</u>	<u>5,832</u>
Net Cash Surplus	\$9,689	\$8,790	\$899

Summary of Budget Variances:

Giving Income: Giving income increased from 2015 to 2016 in every category. Thank you parishioners!

Facility Expense: The increase was due to numerous air condition repairs, refurbishing of the floor in Knight Hall and higher electricity costs in 2016.

Thrift Store: Sales declined by 44%, reflecting fewer hours that the store was open and the continuing problem of volunteers for this Mission.

General Operating Fund Budgeted Statement of Receipts & Disbursements Year Ending December 31, 2017

Cash Receipts:	
Giving Income*	\$189,372
Thrift Store Income Transfer	4,200
Other Income	<u>1,060</u>
Total Cash Receipts	194,632
Cash Disbursements:	
Personnel Expenses**	105,123
Ministry Expenses	6,750
Admin. Expenses	23,800
Facility Expenses	46,617
Diocese Mission Share	<u>30,574</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	212,864
Budgeted Cash Surplus / (Deficit)	\$(18,232)

Note: A detailed budget by general ledger category is posted on the bulletin board outside Knight Hall each month. Copies are also available in the church office.

^{*}Includes Pledged Contributions, Non-Pledged Contributions, and Loose Plate Cash.

^{**} Net of Diocesan reimbursements for our Vicar's compensation package.

Pledge Summary Comparison 2015 to 2017

Annual Pledge	Nmbr of Pledgers 2015	Total Pledge \$ 2015	Nmbr of Pledgers 2016	Total Pledge \$ 2016	Nmbr of Pledgers 2017	Total Pledge \$ 2017
Range Over \$5000	5	\$39,570	6	\$45,100	5	\$39,440
\$3000-\$5000	13	45,376	13	48,464	15	53,172
\$2000-\$2999	15	35,620	13	31,380	9	22,360
\$1560-\$1999	10	16,580	9	15,980	8	14,520
\$1200-\$1559	8	10,100	8	9,800	10	12,200
\$780-\$1199	9	8,390	11	9,490	6	5,610
\$600-\$779	7	4,420	3	2,020	5	3,394
\$520-\$599	4	2,162	1	572	6	3,172
\$260-\$519	7	2,270	14	5,396	10	4,014
\$1-\$259	2	350	5	1,050	1	240
Totals	80	\$164,838	83	\$169,252	75	\$158,122

	2015	2016	20)17
Average	\$2,060	\$2,039	\$2,	108

<u>2017</u>	<u>#'s</u>	<u>\$ AMT.</u>
New Pledge	9	9,804
Increased Pledge	16	40,260
Decreased Pledge	10	23,118
Same Pledge	40	84,940
	75	\$158,122

Restricted Use Funds

Statement of Activity Year Ended December 31, 2016

Capital Improvement Fund

Beg. Balance 1/1/16	\$85,002
Deposits: Carillon Funds Interest earned	0 (1,200) 25
Ending Balance 12/31/16	<u>\$85,827</u>
Endowment Fund	
Beg. Balance 1/1/16	\$12,256
Interest earned	4
Ending Balance 12/31/16	<u>\$12,260</u>
Vestry Discretionary Fund	
Beg. Balance 1/1/16	\$1,022
Revenues-Parishioner Donation	<u>\$10,000</u>
Expenditures-Chapel Rock Camp Scholarships	(1000)
Ending Balance 12/31/16	<u>\$10,022</u>

Samaritan Fund
Statement of Receipts & Disbursements
Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

	2016	2015
Cash Receipts:		
Loose plate cash & donations	\$4,579	\$3,384
Funds for Minimum Bank Balance	<u>500</u>	
Total Revenues	5,079	3,384
Cash Disbursements:		
Rent Assistance	4,419	3,491
Utility Assistance	665	438
Parishioner Assistance	1,010	530
Bank Fees	0	325
Other	<u>317</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>6,411</u>	<u>1,543</u>
Net Cash Surplus (Deficit)	\$(1,332)	\$(1,400)
Number of families/individuals	26	22
receiving assistance		

^{*}The Samaritan Fund receives income from unidentified cash contributions to the collection plate on the first Sunday of each month, funeral honorariums for the Rector's services, and other cash gifts.

Food Pantry Fund
Statement of Receipts & Disbursements
Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

Cash Receipts:	2016	2015	Over/(Under)
Donations	\$13,733	9,310	4,423
Total Cash Receipts	<u>13,733</u>	9,310	<u>4,423</u>
Cash Disbursements:			
United Food Bank Purchases	1,185	943	242
General Supplies	2,261	2,837	(576)
Other Purchased Food Items	4,337	3,699	638
WiFi Access	544	0	544
Repairs	0	326	(326)
Administrative Expenses	<u>1,756</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>1,496</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>10,083</u>	<u>8,065</u>	<u>2,018</u>
Net Cash Surplus	<u>\$3,650</u>	<u>\$1,245</u>	<u>\$2,405</u>

Food Pantry Fund

Budgeted Statement of Receipts & Disbursements Year Ending December 31, 2017

Revenues: Donations	\$7,000
Total Revenues	7,000
Expenses: Other Purchased Food Items United Food Bank Purchases General Supplies Administrative Expenses Equipment Maintenance and Repairs	3,500 2,000 700 300 <u>500</u>
Total Expenses	7,000
Cash Surplus (Deficit)	\$0

Thrift Store Fund
Statement of Receipts & Disbursements
Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

Cash Receipts:	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	Over/(Under)
Sales Funds to Maintain Minimum Bank Balance	\$7,970 500	\$12,600 0	\$(4,630) 500
Cash Disbursements: Transfers to General Fund -Mission Share	7,250	12,900	(5,650)
Supplies Equipment Signs Shipping Advertising Bank Fees	12 25 0 0 0	35 25 0 0 0	(23) 0 0 0 0 0
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>7,287</u>	12,960	(5,673)
Cash Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>\$1,183</u>	<u>\$(360)</u>	<u>\$1,543</u>

Thrift Store Fund

Budgeted Statement of Receipts & Disbursements Year Ending December 31, 2017

Cash Receipts: Sales	\$4,200
Cash Disbursements: Transfer to General Fund for payment of Diocesan Mission Share	4,200
Supplies Equipment Advertising	0 0 <u>0</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	4,200
Cash Surplus (Deficit)	\$0

Summary of Fund Balances

December 31, 2016 and 2015

	<u> 2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Operating Funds:		
General Fund	\$37,090	\$31,340
Samaritan Fund	1,028	2,361
Food Pantry Fund	18,021	19,266
Thrift Store Fund	1,246	63
Savings account	<u>508</u>	<u>508</u>
	63,725	98,658
Restricted Funds:		
Capital Improvement Fund	83,825	85,002
Endowment Fund	12,260	12,256
Vestry Discretionary Fund	<u>10,022</u>	<u>1,022</u>
	<u>106,107</u>	<u>98,280</u>
Total Fund Balances	\$169,832	\$151,818

Annual Ministry Reports 2016

Acolytes

Paige Stalcup, Ministry Leader

We are in need of Acolytes during the Rite II Service. Adults and children 9 and older may participate. It is a wonderful way to contribute to your St. Mark's home. It is as simple as carrying the cross at the beginning and end processions and the Gospel. This is a wonderful service that needs to grow and is greatly appreciated by parishioners. We ended 2015 with a horseback party and luncheon that was attended by acolytes and their families. There were not enough participates for a party in 2016. Please help me build this important and necessary component of St. Mark's in 2017. It is a wonderful way for adults and our children to be active members of our parish while nourishing their spiritual growth. Please contact me if you are interested in this wonderful service. Paige Stalcup: cell 480-227-4166 or email at paige.stalcup@cox.net. Please become a part of our special service group.

Altar Guild

Terry Gordon, Ministry Leader

The Altar Guild's mission is to serve at the discretion of the Priest to create continuity in all Church services by setting up the Altar on Sundays, Wednesdays, and at all special services including weddings, funerals, and baptisms.

We are a small group of nine women who are responsible for not only setting up the altar but cleaning up after each service, making sure that everything is cleaned, put away, and/or set up for the next service. The Altar Guild does a general cleaning of the sanctuary once a week, fills the candles with oil, and cares for the altar linens. We also clean and polish the brass and silver several times a year. In addition to our Altar duties, we share in the responsibility of hosting the Lion's Den and one of the Lenten Soup Suppers.

We meet every other month on the third Saturday from 10:00 am - 11:30 am. This past year, was again an active year with Christmas and Holy Week being the busiest. We enjoyed a lovely luncheon at the Mesa Country Club, arranged for us by Dorothy Tibshraeny. To make the day even more special, both Winnie Jackson and Dorothy were able to join us.

We all hope to grow spiritually as we continue to work as Altar Guild members in our service to our God and our church. New members are always welcome: men, women, young adults, and winter visitors. You may call the church office at 480-964-5820, leave your name and number and a Guild member will get back to you. Or you can speak to a member at church - you will recognize her by the blue smock she wears.

Bishop's Committee

Kevin Nunez, Senior Warden

We welcome 2017 into our midst with open arms.

Once again take pause and reflect on the many gifts we have been blessed with over the past year. Throughout 2016 the Bishop's Committee has worked diligently on the routine day to day requirements and operations of the Church. In addition, the committee has been engaging discussion on the current and future programming and vision of our journey together. In the past year, the committee has welcomed guest presenters, Rev. Canon Timothy Dombek, to discuss "Planned Giving and Money Management" and Rev. Canon Morrison to discuss "The State of Changing Demographics in Arizona". Both of these presentations included good resources and tools that can be incorporated into our programming in the months and years to come.

We are excited about what 2017 will bring us and look forward to our life together as we move into the future,

Seek God + Serve Others + Transform Lives.

Christian Formation—Children's and Youth Group

Deb Cannon, Licensed in Children's Ministries and Dianne Nunez, Ministry Leaders

The Church School classes meet between our two English Sunday services. The school includes kids from ages two to eighteen. Our teachers are extremely dedicated, often writing their own curriculum as well as providing snacks and craft materials. We focus on two areas: teaching our children about being Christian, and serving others in Christ's name.

Our Children's Chapel, which teaches about our worship and traditions, is attended by the youngest class and involves loud and fun singing with Music Director Chris Perry. The children are taught with song and story, and are responsible for lighting candles, serving the elements of the Agape meal (goldfish crackers and juice), and collecting "Chapel Coins" and canned goods which go to help our neighbors. This year our youngest kids helped with prayer blankets, and also prayed over brightly colored scarves for the residents of Good Shepherd Assisted Living Home.

The classes of the older kids continue to study different religions, with an emphasis on our Episcopal faith and traditions. The Youth Group had fun with various activities, such as a sleepover, a movie night, and Zoolights. They are active in our services every month during Youth Sunday, and they also were in charge of our Christmas Eve pageant. Our angels and shepherds ran around the room with joy as they raced to the stable to greet baby Jesus.

Vacation Bible School was held in the summer by Director Dianne Nunez, and our theme of Cave Quest meant that the Parish Hall was decorated to look like a giant cave, complete with stalactites and stalagmites! The kids "walked on water" and made snakes, spiders, bats, and owls as they explored this wonderful underground portion of God's creation.

Communications

Kathy Cheatham and Mary Lou Burgess, Ministry Leaders

The St. Mark's Communication's Committee is responsible for facilitating and enhancing communication in the church through several avenues:

- Monthly newsletter publication titled "St. Mark's Remarks" where upcoming events are posted as well as recapping the ongoing events of our church family. Great pictures and informative articles entertain and teach our readership. If you are not receiving a newsletter and would like to, contact Mary Lou Burgess.
- www.stmarksmesa.org -our website highlighting our church's mission, ministries and services updated weekly thanks to Anali Perry. Check out the calendar, read previous newsletters and explore the pictures and stories of our church.
- Bulletin boards in the courtyard are filled with pictures from the fun filled activities at our church. Take a look. You might find yourself among your many friends.
- Press releases are sent out for publication in our local newspapers, the Arizona Diocese newsletter, and on K-Love Radio's website.
- Facebook which has been growing rapidly over the last year thanks to our FB friends who keep us informed about each other and the latest and greatest with St. Mark's activities. Find us at: St. Mark's Episcopal Church-Mesa, Az. And yes, St. Mark's even has a twitter account: @stmarksmesa

Thanks to Bobbie D., Diane N., Maureen D., Gloria M., Jeanette R., Monica L., Caleb C., Fr. Gerardo, Viviana B., Ray and Barb H., and all who continue to support St. Mark's with updated news and pictures besides the behind the scenes duties. We welcome new members and fresh ideas. Come join us.

The Communication Committee's Goals for 2016 were met as follows:

- A). New and updated Parishioner's Directory with photography in January and a mid spring publication with updated contact information.
- B). Wallet size Emergency St. Mark's Parishioner's ID cards were produced as requested.

But St. Mark's communications goes beyond this committee. Parishioners send each other Get well wishes, Birthday greetings, Welcome strangers at our front door or at The Peace, catch up at the Lion's Den over coffee and pray for each other all week long. Communicating God's Word is the responsibility of all of us which begins with a simple smile and grows to heart felt love and concern for each other. "Let your speech always be gracious." Colossians 3:6

Parishioners are encouraged to follow and post their latest pictures and comments about St. Mark's ministries on Facebook at St. Mark's Episcopal Church-Mesa, AZ.

If you've had an address change in the last year, please notify the office. If you are not currently receiving our newsletter and would like to, please contact Mary Lou at MBurg37114@aol.com. If you would like to be a part of the Communication's Committee or have suggestions for our group, please contact Kathy at Kathy_Cheatham@hotmail.com.

Cursillo

Monica Larsen, Ministry Leader

"...Christ's... gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry...." *Ephesians 4:11-12*

Cursillo is

- an opportunity to grow in faith and in spirituality
- a deeper understanding of the teachings of Jesus and how we can serve Him.
- an experience of living and sharing with others in a loving and caring Christian community and realizing that this can be extended into our own environment
- a continuing community that gives support and encouragement to help Christians carry out their Baptismal Vows.

Members of the Cursillo Ministry are parishioners, as well as vicars (such as Fr. Gerardo), priests, deacons (The Rev. Donald Twentyman), bishops (The Right Rev. Kirk Smith), and Presiding Bishop (The Most Rev. Michael Curry); all serve in social ministries and servers at the altar; as leaders in environments far and wide – home, neighborhood, church, workplace, play-place.

Highlights for 2016:

- February 27: Sally Worthington and Monica attended a Fourth Day Reunion "Weave Us Together", a one-day retreat held at All Saints in the Desert, Sun City.
- April 9: Charles & Jean Carter and Monica attended Ultreya at St. Stephens, Phoenix.
- August 13: Our Group at St. Mark's hosted Cursillo's Grand Ultreya, Annual Meeting and General Elections of Officers.
- October 20-22: Monica attended the Cursillo Ministry National Conference held in Long Island, NY.
- November 12: St. Mark's Cursillo Group held our annual Ultreya.
- Miscellaneous:
 - Pam Mack has been making Afghans and taking them to a shelter.
 - Our Group has been working on a Cursillo Banner.

For anyone interested in knowing more about Cursillo there are brochures in the Narthex, and/or you may contact Fr. Gerardo, or Monica Larsen. Our Group meets every Wednesday at 11:00 A.M. in the Conference Room and you are welcome to join us. Adult members of St. Mark's needing more information about the Cursillo Ministry may contact Monica Larsen at 480-621-8158, or e-mail me at mlarsen498@aol.com.

Daughters of the King

Marge Fountain, Ministry Leader

The Daughters of the King is organized as a religious order. The Chapter at St. Mark's is the Hilda of Whitby Chapter. Each Daughter pledges herself to a lifelong program of prayer, service, and personal evangelism, and is dedicated to the spreading of Christ's Kingdom.

We pray daily using the names of people on the prayer list. If you need prayers, please speak to a Daughter and she will pass your request to the other Daughters. You can identify a Daughter by the special silver cross she proudly wears. In addition to our daily prayers, we are to serve our church and our Vicar.

The Daughter meet on the second Wednesday of the month following the 10 am healing service. We continue to share with the other inistries by hosting The Lion's Den, Lenten Soup Supper, and helping with the April Book Fair. We clean and organize the kitchen as needed.

In September, 2016, we sponsored the Christian Mediation Workshop led by Sally Worthington and look forward to hosting more in the future.

Please speak to any Daughter if you wish to join this ministry.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

Jeanette Rogers, Ministry Leader

The Episcopal Church Women is an organization which is part of the National Church. The Diocesan ECW is a part of Province VIII which encompasses the Western States. However the Diocese has incorporated all of the women's organizations under one umbrella designation as "Women's Ministries" instead of ECW. We invite every woman to become involved with the Episcopal Church Women. We devote ourselves to worshipping God, helping with the work of the parish as well as others and enjoying a wonderful love and friendship with each other. However, there may be a change in our name! We meet on the second Sunday of each month after the 11:00 service. The men's group meets at the same time and we just may put our groups together and be Episcopal Church People! The women are good at decorating and organizing and the men always support us by doing the heavy stuff. Kathy Smith serves as our Treasurer and Mary Lou Burgess is our Secretary.

Hazel Buehlman commented that she believed we should donate the pennies which we collect at each meeting to the United Thank Offering. UTO boxes were requested and sent to us by the Diocese.

We took on the responsibility of the Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday this year as well as hosting one of the Lenten Soup Suppers. Also in March we hosted the Susan Shaw Harris Celebration of Life and we did the same for the Dot Johnson Celebration of Life. In April, Mary Twentyman was in charge of a Saturday Book Fair which was held in the Parish Hall. First graders from Edison School were invited as well as their parents and siblings. A puppy theme was carried throughout all parts of the fair and it was a tremendous success as well as contributing to "Helping Children to Read." 75 children participated and 450 books were given out. We hosted the Lion's Den on Father's Day and honored the Fathers and other men with special food and a special candy bar.

One of the original pews from the Pepper Street Church had been refurbished by Monty Fox and then donated to St. Mark's and it was decided that a plaque be attached to the pew and we would pay for that plaque.

After some thought, we published a Purpose Statement which is: "The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) is a ministry of St. Mark's that supports the mission of the parish through promotion of ongoing programs focused on children and family endeavors within the parish and its neighbors."

We funded one campership for a child to attend Chapel Rock's summer program and agreed that we would fund additional camperships in the future if there was adequate money in the treasury. We also donated money to buy supplies for the campership care packages.

We are working on guidelines for funeral and wedding receptions and established a Hospitality Committee to assist the vicar in planning and hosting various receptions at the church. Judy Hossack is the leader of that committee.

A card shower, cake and punch was held in the Lion's Den to Honor Father Knight's 104th birthday which was on July 23rd. A very successful fund raising event was held on October 8th. A spaghetti dinner with a wine bar was held followed by a wonderful concert in the church featuring the East Valley Harmonizers. The Harmonizers also serenaded the dinner guests. UTO (United Thank Offering) boxes were distributed on All Saints Day and a presentation was given to explain this ministry and the reason for the boxes. Also in October we participated in the Trunk or Treat event for Halloween.

We ended the year with a lovely luncheon at Garcia's and included husbands and friends. We are looking forward to 2017 and pray that we can further assist our church to grow, prosper and to help others. We are told to "Love One Another" and that is what we try to do and we encourage all women (and men) to join us in our mission to fully support St. Mark's in all ways

Episcopal Church Women's Prayer

Almighty God, we pray that you will bless our work in mission and ministry in the world. Help us pray fervently, labor diligently and give liberally to make known the power of your love, given through your son, Jesus Christ. Let us not forget the lessons from the past or fear the challenges of the future. Anoint us with your grace and shine in our hearts as we reflect your light throughout the world. Amen.

Anyone interested in joining ECW should contact Jeanette Rogers at gramjay-ro@aol.com.

Food Pantry

Penny Place, Ministry Leader

St. Mark's Food Pantry has operated since March 2008 distributing food and other necessities to economically distressed families in Mesa. To date the Food Pantry has distributed over 18,000family food units, representing over 88,000 receiving individuals. St. Mark's Food Pantry served 1,693 families in 2016, a decrease of about 13% compared with 2015. Since we began operation in 2008 and through 2014, the average client family size has been about five family members. However, in 2015 and 2016, the average client family size has been about four family members.

We have continued to receive generous donations from East Valley Friends and Neighbors as well as generous financial and "in-kind" donations from three individuals which together should allow us to sustain our activities through 2017. In November, anticipating Thanksgiving, we received a food donation valued at \$1,000.00 from the Bishop's Warehouse in Mesa.

Starting in late 2015, St Mark's Food Pantry was asked by United Food Bank to begin providing client data to an internet-based computer program called "PantryTrak". Food Pantry volunteers formed a team to learn how to use PantryTrak and input client data. PantryTrak collates client data, and its results will assist United Food Bank, as well as other food banks, in finding funding for the purchase of additional food and operate various programs. Mesa United Way generously offered to provide funding to implement PantryTrak within the City of Mesa. We submitted a grant application to Mesa United Way and received a \$1,500.00 grant for computers and accessories. Using the grant funds, three computers were purchased.

A computer system had to be developed that would record serving 75 clients within one and a half hours in real time. The principal difficulty we encountered was obtaining a sufficiently fast internet signal. We were finally successful at our second September distribution. Fr. Gerardo and Kevin Nunez were very patient and helpful in obtaining an internet signal fast enough for our purposes.

Fr. Gerardo has continued to be enthusiastic in his support of the Food Pantry, and we have been able to interest additional St. Mark's parishioners to volunteer. The following St. Mark's parishioners volunteer regularly at the Food Pantry: Don Twentyman, Mary Twentyman, Barbara Brichta, Sandi Konija, Mary Ortega, Barbara Haug, Ray Haug, Marion Marshall, Rick Coller, Robbie Coller, Monica Larsen, Kay Kohler, Mike Krueger, Penny Place, Barry Place. Also a number of members of other churches regularly volunteer on both preparation and distribution days. In addition, the Sprinzl/Murphy Volunteer Group still generously participates on our distribution days with an additional 15 to 20 volunteers. We have also received regular volunteer support from Elders and Sisters of the Mormon Church.

In addition to providing food for client families, St. Mark's Food Pantry continues to provide material support and advisory services. Don and Mary Twentyman still manage a free book table for clients and their children. Carol Stoutberg, a public health nurse, manages a table where clients can receive information about medical care and child safety (for example: free child car seat availability) in the Valley.

The Food Pantry hours are every second and fourth Tuesday, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Clients are asked to bring photo identification showing they are residents of Mesa, Arizona. There is an attempt to include in the family food unit a grocery bag of canned and boxed food and in addition available bread and pastry items, produce, and frozen meat. In addition, clients can obtain toiletries, pet food, and diapers. The administra-

tive infrastructure also includes referrals to other community services including other food banks. Many of the clients need to talk about themselves and their situations. We offer spiritual sustenance by trying to be good listeners.

We would like to thank St. Mark's parish members, and ministries such as Tai' Chi, for their generosity in their individual donations of school supplies, food, and money and also for approval of facility usage. We would especially like to thank Kevin Nunez for his time and effort in helping us get our Pantrytrak computer system operational. This year, United Food Bank chose not to distribute turkeys for Thanksgiving. Consequently, the Food Pantry decided to distribute \$10.00 gift cards to clients during the Thanksgiving-Christmas season. We are also very grateful for the financial and "in kind" donations we receive from individuals and volunteers from the local community, religious and community organizations such as East Valley Friends and Neighbors and the Bishop's Warehouse, and companies such as Food City and Alpine Valley Bakery.

For additional information about the Food pantry, talk to a Food Pantry volunteer, or visit St. Mark's web site at http://www.stmarksmesa.org . Choose "Get Involved" then "Food Pantry/Thrift Store". If people are on facebook, they can visit us: St Mark's – Sprinzl/Murphy Food Pantry. Alternatively you can find us at: http://www.facebook.com/StMarksFoodPantrymesa .

Greeters Ministry Judy Hossack, Ministry Leader

First impressions are important for all of us and this is especially true with new visitors here at St. Mark's. We want to convey to all our members and visitors that we value their attendance and participation.

Every Sunday, members of the Greeters Committee are in the narthex welcoming established members and new visitors to St. Mark's. Our goal is to try and make everyone feel welcomed, informed and appreciated. We provide visitors with a packet of information on St. Mark's and try to obtain as much information about their interest in St. Mark's as we can without being intrusive. We ask our visitors to fill out the newcomer's card found in the back of the pews, if they choose. The information provided goes to the office for processing and follow-up contact.

We have lost several members of the Greeters Committee over the past year. We are looking for new members who want to make a difference and participate in this important ministry. We especially need a greeter for our Spanish services. If you would

like to be one of those people who demonstrate the love and caring we share at St. Mark's and create that special first impression, please contact Judy Hossack at 480-641-4682.

Liturgical Arrangements Viviana Brambila, Ministry Leader

The ministry of Liturgical Arrangements enhances our worship by means of beautiful and reusable ornamental and floral displays in the church.

The arrangements are made using high quality silk floral pieces and repurposed objects. On selected occasions these arrangements reflect the narrative or theology of the weekly Scripture readings, and at times will mirror the color of the liturgical season. These liturgical arrangements are visual aids which help us to encounter God in worship, through their creativity and beauty.

In so many different occasions we also have natural fresh flowers, by request and according to specific church dates and celebrations, such as poinsettias at Christmas and lilies at Easter.

For the past several years we have been building our inventory of flowers and other elements. In 2017, we are adding a private collection of flowers and ornaments in hope to continue to expand our offerings of high-quality arrangements.

We would very much like to involve creative people in the parish, mainly the Altar Guild and some others who have an interest in sharing their ideas to help us put together new arrangements. If you have an interest, please contact Viviana Elena Zuniga at viviana_z@hotmail.com.

MarkDowns Thrift Store

Sally Worthington, Ministry Leader

This past year has been a busy one. We are in need of more volunteers in order to keep the store open. We had to reduce the hours the store is operating due to the lack of volunteers. Just a few people are giving their time and they are all very faithful. I appreciate all the work that they all do.

Someone stole the sign on the back wall and Glenn Gordon painted a beautiful sign for us that Kevin Nunez hung on the wall. I am thankful to both of them. We are so blessed to have such wonderful members that help wherever it is needed.

The people who receive food from the Food Bank are our best customers along with members of our congregation. It is heart warming to help others. We are providing a service to the community along with extra funds for the church. Those of us that work in the Thrift Store also buy a lot of merchandise. Thank you to all of them.

Also to be thanked are all of you that continue to donate. The store could not continue without your donations. Thank you so much!

Those who volunteered in 2016 are: Marge Fountain, Terry Gordon, Glenn Gordon, Mayra Alvarado, Cyndi Armstrong, Paul Breuinger, Bobbie Degnon, Sandra Eiker, John Wilson, Donna Kelly, Susan James, Deborah Larkins, Monica Larsen, Kathy Smith, Cheryl Storrs, Judy Warinner, and Chris Bright. Hopefully, I did not forget anyone.

We need you! Volunteer!! For more information you may contact Sally Worthington by email at sworthington1@cox.net.

Men's Fellowship Glenn Gordon, Ministry Leader

The Pride Men's Ministry is presently in a transistion phase. We are still meeting on the second Sunday of the month after the 11 o'clock service in Knight Hall. All the men of the parish are invited to attend. We need new ideas & projects. We have worked closely with the ECW this past year and hope to continue to do so. Anyone wishing to participate in this ministry should contact Glenn Gordon at ttsgordon@gmail.com.

Music Ministry

Chris Perry, Director of Music

In 2016, the music ministry at St. Mark's continued it's efforts to elevate our worship services with music and song. As always the members of the St. Mark's Music Ministry also provide special music for various special occasions, including funerals, memorials, parties, Cursillo, and other events. In 2017 we will continue to work to grow and improve all our musical endeavors at all three Sunday services. As the director, I also seek to be open-minded to new musical ideas.

There are two non-worship musical groups that rehearse at St. Mark's Episcopal church. The East Valley Harmonizers, a local barbershop group with more than 30 members, has made St. Mark's their home. They rehearse every Thursday night from 6-9pm in Knight Hall. In October they performed a fundraising dinner/concert on behalf of our ECW ministry. While guests from our parishes dined on spaghetti, a quartet of singers strolled around the dining room and serenaded everyone. We are glad they are a part of our parish life. For more information about the East Valley Harmonizers, visit their website at: http://www.evbarbershop.com. Also, continuing from last year, the East Valley Pops Orchestra continues to call St. Mark's their home. I am the associate conductor and we rehearse every Monday afternoon from 1-3pm in Knight Hall. Aside from performing around the East Valley, we held a charitable concert at St. Mark's at the end of November. At that concert we raised money which we give to local needy schools for their music program. We also shared 10% of that money with St. Mark's church. For more information about the East Valley Pops, visit our website at www.silveridgepopsorchestra.org.

All of the musicians involved in the Music Ministry at St. Mark's are interested in performing music for the sake of God's will. We give our music and talents as an offering to Him, and by serving the congregation of St. Mark's we are fulfilling His will. We pray that through this offering we can help the St. Mark's community better worship God and grow closer to Him. Anyone interested in joining any of these groups or in obtaining more information about music at St. Mark's should contact Chris at chris_perry@me.com .

Office Angels

Gloria McManus, Ministry Leader

The Office Angels' mission is to provide clerical assistance and a presence in the front office for visitors to our church. Angels answer telephones, greet visitors, make copies, file, assemble service bulletins/booklets, and various other office projects under the direction of the Vicar and Ministry Leader, Gloria McManus. Angels generally work one morning shift. Currently, there are two Office Angels, Carl Burgess and Jeanette Rogers, although throughout the year there have been some additional volunteers who assisted: Terry Gordon, Allyn Evans, Kylie Marks.

Working in the office is a great opportunity to expand one's knowledge about the inner workings of the church and to learn more about everything to do with St. Mark's. Angels also serve the community regularly as they quite often help those that come in for food or financial assistance. Office Angels serve the mission of the church by taking care of the necessary administrative duties that facilitates and supports all the ministries and activities of St. Marks. Anyone interested in becoming an Office Angel can contact Gloria McManus in the office at 480-964-5820 or email office@stmarksmesa.org.

Pastoral Care

Elaine Austin, Ministry Leader

Members of the Pastoral Care Committee have a desire to serve God through being present and available to the community of St. Mark's in times of need. Our Eucharistic Visitors (EV) provide visitation and comfort to those in the parish who are hurting physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Our EV's bring the sacrament of Holy Eucharist to those who are unable to come to church. Members regularly visit parishioners in hospitals, hospice, long-term care facilities, and in their homes. We extend emotional and spiritual support to them, reassuring them that they are not alone. When appropriate, we refer their needs to the Priest. A part of this ministry is meeting the needs and concerns of the dying or the bereaved, and supporting persons in circumstances surrounding end-of-life issues. Monica Larsen sends cards to persons who are ill and makes well-check phone calls.

This year, we continued our ministry of visiting numerous ill and homebound parishioners. It is a very rewarding and uplifting experience to offer the sacrament to those in need and offering them hope. It's a time too, to be a friend and lend a listening ear. The members of our group feel that they receive far more than they give.

Our group operates year round and meets periodically in the church office. This ministry is a very rewarding experience. We are sure there are others who have the spiritual gifts to make this commitment. If interested in becoming a part of this very important ministry, please contact Elaine Austin at eaustin10@cox.net.

Scriptorium

Deb Cannon, Ministry Leader

Without the Medieval Monks we would not have one of the most treasured and precious pieces of literature created. Without these monks we would not have the Bible. These men of old would sit for endless hours, in dark rooms, painting and bringing us the collective accounts of Christ. Within each page would be a painting that we call "illumination". Literally bringing light to the words they had written, bringing understanding to the meaning, making the page beautiful or portraying the words themselves in art. What an amazing thing they did for the love of God! Sadly their art has passed in time as they have.



St. Mark's Episcopal Church is happy to bring the scriptorium back to the church!

The members of St. Mark's Scriptorium have chosen to create an illuminated manuscript of the Book of Genesis, studying the text and choosing decorations to enhance the beauty of these written words. After more than three years this work is almost complete. The resulting work of art will be offered as a gift to the parish of St. Mark's Church.

Spanish Ministry

Padre Gerardo Brambila+ Vicar

We had a wonderful year in 2016, full of challenges that together we transformed in beautiful opportunities to serve God, and God's community in our surroundings. We are very excited welcoming in the New Year 2017.

We continue worshiping in Spanish at 12:30 pm, every Sunday and our church family has grown with a few new members and some other families that were here before started to coming back to our services. I believe that with a better time frame in the future, we will be able to attract more members from our neighborhood and grow our multicultural church membership.

Last year we were able to sponsor and send some families and couples as well, to different Diocesan retreats. We were present as a Hispanic ministry of St. Mark's in our booth at the Diocesan annual convention. In 2016 we were blessed with the opportunity once again to send some children to our diocesan summer camp, with many great experiences shared among them.

We celebrated a couple of baptisms, and we focused our big annual celebrations during the year on making ourselves a more visible, friendly and welcoming church in our neighborhood. We managed to do several activities involving not only our own parishioners but many friends and neighbors as well.

We celebrated, El Día de Los Muertos, Thanksgiving, La Virgen de Guadalupe, y Las Posadas, among many other church and laity feasts.

We hope that with the help of God and all our hard work, that this will be an even better year. On behalf of the Hispanic Ministry, we want to thank everyone for their support and collaboration. God Bless you all.

Seek God + Serve Others + Transform Lives.

Sunday Lay Ministries

Fr. Gerardo Brambila and Gloria McManus, Facilitators

Being a participant in our services of worship enhances the experiences of both the participant and the congregation. There are a number of ways in which a lay person can take part in our liturgical services, and we encourage each of our parishioners to consider offering themselves in service to God in one or more of these ways:

Readers/Lectors

Public reading of the scriptures is one of the oldest and most important of the aspects of the liturgy. "Lector," in fact, is the Latin word for "reader." As one of the worship leaders, along with the celebrant and preacher, the lector helps to guide the congregation in their worship.

Intercessors

Any time we pray for another, we show God our concern for them. This is known as intercessory prayer. Intercessors are those who lead the congregation in the intercessory prayers during the worship service.

Chalice Bearers

Chalice Bearers or Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs), as they are also known, serve the consecrated wine during services of Holy Communion.

Lay Ministers, formerly known as Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs), visit the sick/ill or home bounded, taking communion and blessings from the congregation.

The Vicar provides training for all of these lay ministries. There will be training workshops scheduled very soon. If you would like to become a Reader, an Intercessor, or a Chalice Bearer at St. Mark's, please contact Fr. Gerardo.

The other worship service ministries of ushers and music/choir are talked about in their respective ministry reports.

Tai Chi

Dee Greiner, Ministry Leader

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church Tai Chi Class consists of 3 to 10 members that meet every Saturday from 10:00 -11:00 am in St. Mark's Knight Hall. The class is directed and taught by Dee Greiner, a Tai Chi Chuan Instructor with nearly 15 years of experience and holder of over 35 medals from the Arizona Phoenix Senior Olympics and Chinese New Year Competitions.

The ancient Chinese exercise of Tai Chi improves balance and lowers the risk of falls. Tai Chi is a gentle exercise routine that includes sequences of slow movements coordinated with deep breathing and mental focus. Throughout the movements your body learns how to remain stable and upright while shifting weight. The gentle routine of Tai Chi will give benefits including becoming physically centered, boosting the immune system, giving you peace of mind, lowering blood pressure, relieving depression and increased flexibility. Often described as meditation in motion, Tai Chi promotes serenity through gentle, flowing movements. It will give you more energy and you will be surprised at how good you feel.

Tai chi is low impact and puts minimal stress on muscles and joints, making it generally safe for all ages and fitness levels. In fact, because tai chi is a low impact exercise, it may be especially suitable if you're an older adult who otherwise may not exercise.

Dee Greiner leads the students through form 24 several times during class. If someone has a question or needs to go over a certain part, Dee will take time to work with that person individually. If we have a person new to Tai Chi, part of the class will consist of Dee working with the newcomer while the rest of the class practices together on their own. We don't wear special clothes other than flat soled comfortable shoes and loose comfortable clothing.

Our class has anywhere from three to ten people. Right now the class is on the small side with plenty of room for more. Some students are members of St Mark's and some are not. In addition to exercise, this class gives us friendship and fellowship. No matter how many people are in class any particular Saturday, we have fun. After class on the last Saturday of the month we go out to lunch at a Vietnamese restaurant.

For the last several years, any willing students have entered the Tai Chi Tournament at the Phoenix Chinese Week. Dee competed in the Solo Women contest. Anywhere from 3 to 6 students entered a group contest. We then spent some time enjoying the Festival. We hope to compete again this year. If we don't have enough people to enter the group tournament, we can still enter the solo contest and get more medals. Dee has also competed in the Arizona Senior Olympics competitions and won medals.

Our class supports the Food Pantry. Students "pay" for class by bringing a food donation. Each year the Tai Chi class collects between 300 and 400 food items.

Tai Chi Chuan classes are free and open to all. A donation of canned, bottled or dry packed food item for St Mark's Food Pantry is appreciated, but not required. Join the class at any time to enjoy improved health and mental relaxation. (Enter at the door facing the Horne Avenue parking lot).

Ushers

Bob Cheatham and Kathy Smith, Ministry Leaders

Ushers and Greeters are the first people to meet parishioners, newcomers and visitors as they enter the door. A friendly smile, a warm handshake and a welcoming greeting make everyone feel that they are part of our church family. By representing Christ and opening our doors and hearts to all, we are serving the community as we make St. Mark's an inviting place to worship.

The duties of an usher include:

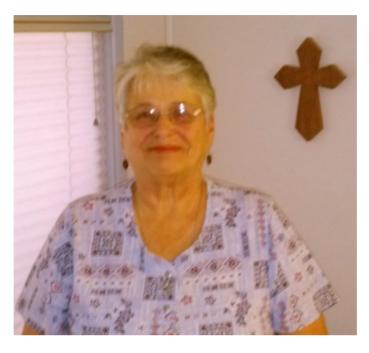
- Greeting and welcoming
- Answering questions or giving directions
- Passing out bulletins
- Collecting the offerings and bringing it to the altar
- Directing people to the altar for communion
- Counting and recording number of people attending and taking communion
- Informing clergy and escorting them to those unable to come forward for communion
- Opening and closing the altar gate as needed
- Replenishing pew supplies
- Giving welcome packets to newcomers
- Tidying up the pews after services
- Serving about 8 Sundays a year

Two teams of men and women serve as ushers at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. The first team, under the direction of Bob Cheatham, serves at the 8:30 am service. The second team, led by Kathy Smith, serves at the 11:00 am service.

We welcome any new ushers who feel called to serve in this ministry. Please contact Bob Cheatham at azslicksd@gmail.com for the 8:30 service or Kathy Smith at 1kathysmith@cox.net for the 11 am service.

2017 Candidatesfor Bishop's Committee

2017 Bishop's Committee Senior Warden—Terry Gordon



I have been a member of the Episcopal church for 50 years and a member of St. Mark's for 10 years. Previously I was a member of St. Andrew's, New Paltz and after a move, Holy Cross, Kingston. I have served on the Altar Guild, the Church Advisory Board and as Treasurer, taught Sunday School, was President of the ECW and co-chaired the Holy Cross Thrift Shop and St. Simon's sit down a weekend soup kitchen and food pantry. While at Holy Cross my husband Glenn and I became Licensed Lay Readers and Lay Eucharistic Ministers. At St. Mark's I attend the 8:30 service and the Healing Service on Wednesdays. I am the Director of the Altar Guild and a member of The Daughters of the King. I have taken and passed a course to be a licensed Food Service Manager so that St. Mark's kitchen could be certified by the Health Department.

I am a retired registered nurse. After leaving nursing I took the position of Director of Auxiliary Support at The State University of New York at New Paltz. My position included the overseeing of the ID/Meal plan Dept., student and staff access to all buildings, scheduling of all non-academic building use, and writing contracts for all summer conferences and sports camps.

I feel my experience at my former churches and at SUNY New Paltz make me a good candidate for the Senior Warden position. I look forward to serving at the call of our Vicar, Fr. Gerardo.

Bob Cheatham

Candidate for

Junior Warden



Beliefs, Views and Goals:

My comment on these is simple:

I believe in God and our Church

My views are love of family and friends

My goals are for the maintenance of our wonderful House of Blessing and our ability to grow our Church and our love for fellow man



John Caleb Collins

Candidate for

Bishop's Committee

My name is John Caleb Collins, and Ouidera is my maternal surname. I live in Mesa, Arizona along with five generations of my family in the greater Phoenix area. While having deep and cherished Arizona roots, I was born in California, lived in other states, and studied abroad in Spain and Romania for college. It was in college that I fell in love with the Episcopal Church. I joined Episcopal Campus Ministry at ASU in 2012 and transferred my membership to St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in 2013. Then, I graduated in 2014 with my Bachelors degree with a major in Political Science and a minor in both Spanish and Romanian. In 2015, I transferred membership to St. Mark's Church and have been so happy here in our new church family. I am proud to run as a young adult representative for St. Mark's Bishop's Committee. I have served as the student representative for ECM at ASU, as a delegate for ASU to Diocesan Convention in 2013, and again as a delegate for St. Mark's to Convention in 2016. I will use all this life experience to represent the values and desire for growth of St. Mark's Church with a young adult view and diversity.

Ron Gurnee

Candidate for

Bishop's Committee



I was raised in Appleton, WI as a Roman Catholic and attended Catholic school for 9 years where I served as an altar boy. After high school, I went on to complete a Bachelor's Degree at University of Wisconsin, then on to a Master's Degree in Secondary Education at Northern Illinois University. I was married two days after receiving my Master's Degree in 1963, and later served in the Army from 1963-1968. beautiful son and daughter during this marriage. After a divorce, I eventually relocated to Los Angeles, California where I met and married the love of my life, Elaine in 1971. After moving to San Diego, Elaine and I attended and were received into the Episcopal Church in 1999. We again moved, this time to Arizona in 2002, and began attending St. Anthony's of the Desert Episcopal Church. My wife passed away and I eventually landed at St. Mark's in 2010 after relocating to Mesa. I have participated with various church events (cooking meat for All Saint's and St. Mark's Day), and have been a member of The Pride Men's Club where I have participated in several of that ministry's events, such as the Mother's Day Brunch. I would like to find deeper ways to help with and participate within the organization of our church. I feel that my past experience of being a business owner, my sales capabilities, and working together with people can be an asset to the Bishop's Committee.



Judy Hossack

Candidate for

Bishop's Committee

I am Judy Hossack. I was married here at St. Marks 48 years ago. My children and grandchildren have been baptized at St. Mark's, and my son and my daughter both were married in our Sanctuary. My mother, father and father-in-law rest in our columbarium. In other words, St. Mark's is my home and I have tried to faithfully serve and honor our church for all these years. I have served on the Vestry and been a Convention Delegate many times. I am a Sunday School teacher, greeter and chalice bearer. I have been a member of ECW since I came to St. Mark's and also served on the Diocesan ECW Board. I love our wonderful church and would be honored if you would give me an opportunity to serve St. Mark's once more. Love and peace be with you all.



Anali Perry Candidate for Bishop's Committee

Six years ago, I found my first true church family at St. Mark's when I finally started attending with Chris and playing guitar in the Praise Ensemble. Since our children, Elmer and Arthur, currently keep me too busy during the service to make music, I feel the time has come for me to give back by volunteering for the Bishop's Committee. While I've never held a leadership position in the church, I am part of the Communication Committee as the webmaster for stmarksmesa.org.

In my professional life as a Scholarly Communication Librarian at Arizona State University, I have extensive experience in leadership positions in local, regional, and national professional library organizations. I believe my skills in project management and facilitation would be a useful contribution to St. Mark's. I hope you'll consider voting for me to join the Bishop's Committee. Thank you.

Charles Vaughn

Candidate for

Bishop's Committee



I was born in Ottumwa, Iowa and lived there until I joined the U.S. Navy in 1970. During my time in the Navy, I went to Vietnam, was a Navy Corpsman and served as a Surgical Physician Assistant. After four years, I came home, attended college, and got married to the Iove of my life, Denice. Several years later I re-enlisted into the Army. By this time we had two beautiful daughters. I was relocated by the Army to Arizona in 1989 then retired from the Army in 1996 and became employed by the Post Office. In 2014, I officially retired from the post office. In 1992, I began attending St. Andrews Catholic Church where I went through adult catechism. Later, I also taught adult catechism classes at St. Andrews. I am new to the Episcopal Church and began attending St. Mark's approximately one year ago. I enjoy the fellowship and inclusiveness of St. Mark's.

I feel that my military experience which involved various skill sets, will be an asset to the Bishop's Committee. I look forward to contributing many ideas and will enjoy a deeper level of participation for the good of our church.

Candidates for 2017 Convention Delegates

(Vote for only 5 candidates)

- ♦ Julia Coleman
- ♦ Caleb Collins
- ♦ John Ddamba
- ♦ Quentín Gunn

- ♦ Judy Hossack
- ♦ Sam Mungai
- ♦ Jeanette Rogers

The 2016 Bishop's Committee

Senior Warden: Kevin Nunez Junior Warden: Terry Gordon Clerk: Gloria McManus Treasurer: Al Rausch

Bishop's Committee Members:

Mayra Alvarado John Ddamba, Elizabeth Hernandez, Dudley Jans, Pat Mack, Jim Poulos, Paige Stalcup





Seek God + Serve Others + Transform Lives

Buscar a Dios + Servir a los Demás + Transformar Vidas