



2018
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 2017 and 2016 for each fund can be found in this packet, as well as a 2018 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.

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, 2017 and 2016

	2017	2016	Over/(Under)
Cash Receipts:			
Giving Income	\$194,238	\$201,655	\$(7,417)
Thrift Store Income	4,200	7,250	(3,050)
Other Income	<u>5,445</u>	<u>5,520</u>	<u>(75)</u>
Total Cash Receipts:	203,883	214,425	(10,542)
Cash Disbursements:			
Personnel Expenses	106,403	91,349	15,054
Ministry Expenses	4,371	5,579	(1,208)
Admin. Expenses	23,756	22,842	914
Facility Expenses	63,119	51,779	11,340
Diocese Mission Share	<u>29,747</u>	<u>33,187</u>	<u>(3,440)</u>
Total Cash Disbursements:	<u>227,396</u>	<u>204,736</u>	<u>22,660</u>
Net Cash Surplus	\$(23,513)	\$9,689	\$33,202

Summary of Budget Variances:

Giving Income: Giving income decreased from 2016 to 2017 primarily due to parishioners leaving St. Mark's.

Personnel Expense: Rose \$15,000 due to raises in 2017, coupled with a reduction of Diocesan reimbursements.

Facility Expense: The increase was due to numerous air condition repairs that total \$12,900.

Thrift Store: Contributions declined by 42%, 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, 2018

Cash Receipts:

Giving Income*	\$180,600
Thrift Store Income Transfer	6,000
Other Income	<u>2,904</u>

Total Cash Receipts	189,504
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Cash Disbursements:

Personnel Expenses**	113,606
Ministry Expenses	4,640
Admin. Expenses	23,060
Facility Expenses	53,781
Diocese Mission Share	<u>29,188</u>

Total Cash Disbursements	224,275
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Budgeted Cash Surplus / (Deficit)	\$(34,771)
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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 2016 to 2018

Annual Pledge Range	Nmbr of Pledgers 2016	Total Pledge \$ 2016	Nmbr of Pledgers 2017	Total Pledge \$ 2017	Nmbr of Pledgers 2018	Total Pledge \$ 2018
Over \$5000	6	\$45,100	5	\$39,440	5	\$37,310
\$3000-\$5000	13	48,464	15	53,172	14	50,578
\$2000-\$2999	13	31,380	9	22,360	11	25,120
\$1560-\$1999	9	15,980	8	14,520	4	6,900
\$1200-\$1559	8	9,800	10	12,200	12	16,220
\$780-\$1199	11	9,490	6	5,610	7	6,790
\$600-\$779	3	2,020	5	3,394	6	3,972
\$520-\$599	1	572	6	3,172	1	550
\$260-\$519	14	5,396	10	4,014	5	1,360
\$1-\$259	5	1,050	1	240	-	-
Totals	83	\$169,252	75	\$158,122	65	\$148,800

	2016	2017	2018
Average Pledge	\$2,039	\$2,108	\$2,289

2018	#'s	\$ AMT.
New Pledge	8	11,620
Increased Pledge	30	86,530
Decreased Pledge	5	7,300
Same Pledge	22	43,350
	65	\$148,800

Restricted Use Funds

Statement of Activity

Year Ended December 31, 2017

Capital Improvement Fund

Beg. Balance 1/1/17	\$85,827
Deposits: Schalk Donation	10,000
Air Conditioning repairs	(12,926)
Samaritan Fund Minimum Balance	(500)
Interest earned	24
Ending Balance 12/31/17	<u>\$82,425</u>

Endowment Fund

Beg. Balance 1/1/17	\$12,260
Interest earned	<u>4</u>
Ending Balance 12/31/17	<u>\$12,264</u>

Vestry Discretionary Fund

Beg. Balance 1/1/17	\$10,022
Expenditures-Air Conditioning Repairs	<u>(10,022)</u>
Ending Balance 12/31/17	<u>\$0</u>

Samaritan Fund

Statement of Receipts & Disbursements

Years Ended December 31, 2017 and 2016

	2017	2016
Cash Receipts:		
Loose plate cash & donations	\$6,611	\$4,579
Funds for Minimum Bank Balance	<u>0</u>	500
Total Revenues	6,611	5,079
 Cash Disbursements:		
Rent Assistance	4,984	4,419
Utility Assistance	1,339	665
Parishioner Assistance	313	1,010
Gas or Food	520	0
Other	<u>0</u>	<u>317</u>
 Total Disbursements	7,156	6,411
 Net Cash Surplus (Deficit)	\$(545)	\$(1,400)
 Number of families/individuals receiving assistance	23	26

*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, 2017 and 2016

	2017	2016	Over/(Under)
Cash Receipts:			
Donations	\$10,509	13,733	(3,224)
Total Cash Receipts	<u>10,509</u>	<u>13,733</u>	(3,224)
Cash Disbursements:			
United Food Bank Purchases	1,674	1,185	489
General Supplies	3,154	2,261	893
Other Purchased Food Items	4,280	4,337	(57)
WiFi Access	1,090	544	546
Repairs	499	0	499
Administrative Expenses	<u>481</u>	<u>1,756</u>	<u>(1,275)</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>11,178</u>	<u>10,083</u>	<u>1,095</u>
Net Cash Surplus	<u>\$(669)</u>	<u>3,650</u>	<u>\$4,319</u>

Food Pantry Fund
Budgeted Statement of Receipts & Disbursements
Year Ending December 31, 2018

Revenues:

Donations	\$13,000
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Total Revenues	13,000
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Expenses:

Other Purchased Food Items	2,500
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Toiletries/Personal Necessities	4,300
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Thanksgiving / Christmas Food Fund	2,000
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WiFi Access	1,100
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United Food Bank Purchases	1,600
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Administrative Expenses	500
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Equipment Maintenance and Repairs	<u>1,000</u>
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Total Expenses	13,000
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Cash Surplus (Deficit)	\$0
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Thrift Store Fund
Statement of Receipts & Disbursements
Years Ended December 31, 2017 and 2016

Cash Receipts:	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	Over/(Under)
Sales	\$6,684	\$7,970	\$(1,286)
Funds to Maintain Minimum Bank Balance	0	500	(500)
Cash Disbursements:			
Transfers to General Fund -Mission Share	4,200	7,250	(3,050)
Supplies	119	12	107
Equipment	360	25	335
Signs	60	0	60
Shipping	0	0	0
Advertising	0	0	0
Bank Fees	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>4,739</u>	<u>7,287</u>	<u>(2,548)</u>
Cash Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>\$1,945</u>	<u>\$1,183</u>	<u>\$762</u>

Thrift Store Fund
Budgeted Statement of Receipts & Disbursements
Year Ending December 31, 2018

Cash Receipts:

Sales	\$6,000
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Cash Disbursements:

Transfer to General Fund for payment of Diocesan Mission Share	6,000
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Supplies	0
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Equipment	0
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Advertising	<u>0</u>
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Total Cash Disbursements	6,000
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Cash Surplus (Deficit)	<u>\$0</u>
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Summary of Fund Balances

December 31, 2017 and 2016

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Operating Funds:		
General Fund	\$26,507	\$37,090
Samaritan Fund	858	1,028
Food Pantry Fund	22,239	22,917
Thrift Store Fund	3,191	1,246
Savings account	<u>508</u>	<u>508</u>
	53,303	62,789
 Restricted Funds:		
Capital Improvement Fund	80,425	83,825
Endowment Fund	12,264	12,260
Vestry Discretionary Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>10,022</u>
	<u>92,689</u>	<u>106,107</u>
 Total Fund Balances	 \$145,992	 \$168,896

Annual Ministry Reports 2017

Acolytes

Paige Stalcup, Ministry Leader

We are in need of Acolytes during the Rite II Sunday 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. Please help me build this important and necessary component of St. Mark's in 2018. 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 is a small group of seven women; their mission is to serve at the discretion of the Priest to create continuity at all Church services. They set up the Altar on Sundays, Wednesdays, and all special services including weddings, funerals, and baptisms. Additional duties include a general cleaning of the sanctuary once a week, filling the candles with oil, and caring for the altar linens. We also clean and polish the brass and silver several times a year. The Altar Guild also shares in the responsibility of hosting the Lions Den and Lenten Soup Suppers. We meet every other month on the third Saturday from 10:00 am - 1130 am.

We had our annual Christmas luncheon at the Mesa Country Club, once again arranged by Dorothy Tibshraeny. This year we honored Dorothy with a certificate for her many years as a member.

Bishop's Committee

Terry Gordon, Senior Warden

As we look back on 2017 let us remember that this passed year has been full of many new and exciting changes. The biggest of these changes is the service time, instead of three services we went to two, 8:00 am and 10:00 am. This change has increased the attendance at the Spanish service and also help reduce our utility charges. The establishment of the Parishioner Liaison has lead to a few changes that make our services

better, these include lifting the lights as so not to block the screen and changing the font and color on the screen to make it easier to read. Your Bishop's Committee is listening and responding. The formation of a Ministry Council has helped with communication between groups and Parish Administration,

In November we held a Strategic Planning meeting with Canon Megan Traquair; an additional meeting is planned for March. A Gifts Workshop will be held in the spring, this workshop will be for the whole parish. Aside from two rather expensive AC repairs things have been going well, our numbers continue to grow, plans are being formed to do some needed repairs and improvements. We are also exploring ways to reduce our carbon footprint.

We are looking forward to 2018 and the exciting changes it will bring as we
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, com-

plete 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

Communication leads to community, that is, to understanding, intimacy and mutual valuing. Rollo May

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

- ♦ Monthly newsletter publication title “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. In late summer of 2017, we began distributing the Newsletter via e-mail which substantially reduced our costs of printing and mailing - leaving open the option of parishioners to receive a hard copy via us mail if desired. Currently we distribute over 200 copies of the newsletter to parishioners and guests. If you are not receiving a newsletter and would like to, contact Mary Lou Burgess;
- ♦ www.stmarksmesa.org is our state-of-the-art website which highlights our church’s mission, ministries and services. The website is updated on a weekly basis by Anali Perry and is boosted on Facebook every week by Dianne Nunez. Website traffic has grown substantially throughout the year and has brought forth new parishioners as well as guests. It provides members with a plethora of information including, but not limited to, the church calendar, weekly bulletin announcements, policies, photo album, a thumbnail sketch of our ministries, hosting and serving schedules and a link for online donations;
- ♦ Facebook and Twitter, social media platforms, have become an integral part of St. Mark’s communication design and has enhanced communication between parishioners who share needs, prayers, inspiration as well as events through posts and pictures;
- ♦ Members of the Communication Committee attended a “Communication and Social Media for Churches” Workshop in 2017 presented by the Diocese of Arizona and gained valuable information on digital media and the use of technology. On Social Media Sunday #SSM, committee members presented an awesome demonstration on how digital technology at St. Mark’s is truly a wonderful gift of God that enables us to become that “one great fellowship on earth” by expanding our communication horizons;

- ♦ Bulletin boards in the courtyard, and now also in Knight Hall, are filled with pictures, flyers and coordinated materials of events and activities at our church;
- ♦ Press releases are sent out for publication in our local newspapers, the “Arizona Episcopalian” and on K-Love Radio’s website; and
- ♦ The Committee maintains a comprehensive membership directory along with the availability of wallet sized emergency ID cards for parishioners. If you are not currently receiving a Newsletter or you would like an emergency card, please contact Mary Lou Burgess at mburg37114@aol.com.

The Communication Committee is a large group of dedicated and helpful members – just to name a few and offer heartfelt thanks for all of your help throughout the year – Bobby Degnon for your excellent proof-reading skills, Sandy Eiker for your awesome writing skills, Maureen and Jim Davies, Monica Larsen, Caleb Collins, Quentin Gunn, Jan Northcutt, Dianne Nunez, Deb Cannon, Fr. “G” and Fr. “Steve”, Viviana Brambila and so many more for your outstanding photography and to all who continue to support St. Mark’s with updated news and photos. If you would like to be part of this committee or have suggestions for the group, please contact Kathy Cheatham and/or Mary Lou Burgess.

St. Mark’s communication goes beyond this Committee. Members send one another “Get Well” wishes, “Birthday” greetings, as well as “Anniversary” and “Condolence” cards and welcome guests as they enter the church and during the “Peace”. They catch up with one another during our fellowship hour in the Lion’s Den and pray for one another all week long. Members 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. Communicating God’s word is the responsibility of all of us which begins with a simple smile and grows to heartfelt love and concern for one another. “Let your speech always be gracious.” Colossians 3:6

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

What is Cursillo?

- ♦ 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.

Cursillo Ministry members are servants in social ministries and servers at the altar; as leaders in environments far and wide – home, neighborhood, church, workplace, play-place. Cursillistas meet on a weekly basis either in church, homes, in parks, or restaurants and discuss piety, study and action. Our group currently meet in the homes of members.

The next Cursillo Weekend is scheduled for July 19-22, 2018, at Franciscan Renewal Center, Phoenix, “at the beautiful campus on 25 acres.” Interested? Contact Monica Larsen at 480-621-8158/mlarsen498@ol.com, or Elaine Austin at 480-380-3441/austin10@cox.net.

Highlights for 2017:

January 15-22: Participated with a booth at St. Mark’s Ministry Fair.

March 23: Group attended the showing of the Movie “The Shack”, followed with a private discussion over coffee on the merits: forgiveness, God’s love.

April 22: Elaine Austin and Monica Larsen attended a Fundraiser at St. Stevens – provides scholarships for candidates to a Cursillo Weekend.

September 30: Monica assisted at Cursillo’s “booth” at the Diocesan Convention.

November 2: Members of our group attended the movie “Same Kind of Difference as Me” – inspirational and heartwarming true story of faith that embraces the beauty of the human race.

November: Our members agreed on making mats for the homeless of which Fr. Gerardo was quite supportive and encouraged us to include members of St. Mark’s.

December 3: Donated the first of six mats, made by members of our group and other church members, to Jacob’s Journey House, Mesa, for distribution to the homeless. We continue to make the mats.

December 2: We had our yearly Ultreya in Knight’s Hall – a gathering of Cursillistas in the diocese to eat, sing, listen to a witness talk, and in small groups, discuss our Christian life in the community.

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 purpose of the Order is evangelism. A Daughter continually reviews her baptismal vows to follow Jesus as her Savior and Lord, to work to pray, and to give for the spirit of his Kingdom. We pray daily for the people on the church prayer list.

This year we welcomed new Daughters Adrienne Bengtson and Michelle Griffin, also long time Daughter Judith Ricket who transferred into our Chapter.

Our study book this year was "Back to the Well" Women's Encounter with Jesus in the Gospels by Frances Taylor Gench.

Ministries included the following:

1. Icon Meditation Workshop
2. Helping with April Book Fair
3. Attending the Province Assembly
4. Advent Contemplative Retreat
5. Hosted the Lions Den
6. Making Mattress for the homeless

Speak to any Daughter if you have questions about the Order and are interested in becoming a Daughter.

The Motto of the Order

For His Sake
I am but one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything, but I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do.
What I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do.
Lord, what will you have me do.

Episcopal Church Women & Men (ECW&M)

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 design-

nation as “Women’s Ministries” instead of ECW. We invite every woman to become involved with the Episcopal Church Women. However now that we do not have to follow the guidelines as in the past, we have included men in our ministry and are now ECW and Men. This change has been invaluable to our church. We meet on the second Sunday of each month following the 11 am service. 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. Mary Lou Burgess is our Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Kathy Smith serves as our Treasurer and Judy Hossack is our Chaplain.

We annually distribute Untied Thank Offering boxes to the Parish and collect them at the appropriate time. This year we were able to send on \$800.00 to the National Church.

We took on the responsibility of the Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday this year as well as hosting one of the Lenten Soup Suppers. We also helped the Sunday school by donating candy to their annual egg hunt and filling the eggs. One of our most successful projects was a Book Fair which was organized by Mary Twentyman. The first and second graders from Edison School were invited to St. Mark’s to participate in reading and craft stations. They were given books to take home and enjoyed a delicious lunch.

Our spaghetti dinners, Outback dinners and Valentine’s bake sale all were so successful that we were able to purchase a new phone system for St. Mark’s give a contribution to the Caledonian Pipe Band for new uniforms and sponsor a family for Christmas.

We have been hosts in the Lion’s Den, honored our fathers and mothers with special food and had a celebration for our beloved Fr. Harold Knight on his 105th birthday. He was not able to attend but he received birthday cake and a shower of cards.

When asked to do so, we prepare the receptions for weddings and funerals. This is a huge undertaking this year, we are sad to say, that we lost many of our beloved parishioners. This is truly a labor of love.

Our next big project is Dressed to a “T”. It will be an afternoon tea with delicious finger foods and will highlight fashions from our thrift store. Wonderful entertainment will be provided by the “Uptown Angels.” All models will be from our parish. We also plan to help with a birthday party for Fr. Gerardo. Episcopal Church Women and Men is a ministry of St. Mark’s that supports the mission of the parish through promotion of ongoing program focused on children and family endeavors within the parish and its neighbors.

We ended the year with a lovely luncheon at Mimi's Café and an ornament exchange.

We are looking forward to 2018 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 gramjayro@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 19,600 family food units, representing over 94,000 receiving individuals. St. Mark's Food Pantry served 1,632 families in 2017. Since we began operation in 2008 and through 2014, the average client family size had been about five family members. However, from 2015 to 2017, the average client family size has been about four family members.

The Food Pantry distribution 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 administrative 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.

In addition to the two distribution days, the Food Pantry operates three days during the month to receive food. On the first Tuesday of the month, the Food Pantry receives a shipment of free food from United Food Bank. This food is donated through The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), which is managed by the Department of Economic Security, an agency of the Department of Agriculture. In addition to "TEFAP day", the Food Pantry receives food on the second and fourth Monday of the month. Some of

this food is free, and some must be purchased at a cost of 12 cents per pound. To receive the TEFAP food, clients are only required to sign a form affirming that their annual income is less than 185 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. With PantryTrak, clients can sign electronically.

In addition to providing food for client families, St. Mark's Food Pantry continues to provide material support and advisory services. Mary Twentyman manages 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.

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. This year the following St. Mark's parishioners have volunteered at the Food Pantry: Mary Twentyman, Barbara Brichta, Sandi Konija, Mary Ortega, Barbara Haug, Ray Haug, Marion Marshall, Rick Coller, Robbie Coller, Monica Larsen, Kay Kohler, Mike Krueger, Brian Joedicker, Charles Vaughn, Penny Place, Barry Place. Some members of other churches also regularly volunteer on both preparation and distribution days. In addition, the Sprinzi/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. United Food Bank requested that we provide statistics on volunteering, and consequently we can report that an average of 39 unduplicated volunteers support the Food Pantry every month with an average of 240 manhours of support activity.

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 2018. In November, anticipating Thanksgiving, we received a food donation valued at \$1,000.00 from the Bishop's Warehouse in Mesa.

For the entire year, we were able to operate our computer system and smoothly report Food Pantry distribution activity to the PantryTrak internet site.

A compressor on one of our freezers failed and had to be replaced. The compressor was covered under warranty, but the installation parts and labor cost almost \$450.00.

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. This year, United Food Bank again chose not to distribute turkeys for Thanksgiving. Consequently, the Food Pantry distributed 117 \$10.00 gift cards to clients during the Thanksgiving distribution. 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. We also receive bakery goods on distribution days from Food City.

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 – Sprinzel/Murphy Food Pantry. As an alternative, 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 2018, 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 vivi-ana_z@hotmail.com.

MarkDowns Thrift Store

Barb Haug, Glenn Gordon, Kathy Cheatham, Ministry Leaders

Since Mark Down's Thrift Store began in the spring of 2011 through December 2017, over \$108,600 has been raised through our thrift store. These funds support St. Mark's Church ministries and the Arizona Diocese Missions. This tremendous amount is because of your generous donations, shopping and the many volunteer hours in the thrift store. A huge thank you to our volunteers who work in the store and bless the shoppers and St Marks with their faithful giving of their time.

The monthly income has decreased as volunteers and hours have decreased. We can use volunteers who like to repurpose items and could show others how to DIY with the huge variety of items found in the store. Do you like to price items, set up displays, do general cleaning, or visit with the Thrift store guests? Please consider assisting with donations and your time for this this important ministry that brings dollars back into our church funds.

Don't forget to buy your "Dressed to a Tea Party" tickets. The afternoon of February 3rd will be filled with food, varieties of tea, a fashion show, silent auction and raffles, and a wine bar with entertainment by the "Uptown Angels" as our grand finale followed by shopping at Mark Downs. Tickets are only \$25.00 each which gives you a full afternoon of FUN and a \$5.00 coupon to shop at Mark Downs. ECWM and Mark Downs have joined forces to put on this event. Seating is limited so see Kathy Smith now to purchase tickets. Paypal is available.

In March, Mark Downs will assist in hosting a “Furniture and Yard Sale” in our parking lot. Drivers with pick ups and trailers will pick up any donated furniture items to bring to this sale and take away any unsold furniture at the end of the weekend. Fr. G is overseeing this project. Watch for more details to come.

Sally Worthington oversaw the Mark Down’s for 2 years before taking a break and Glen Gordon, Barb Haug and Kathy Cheatham agreed to co-chair this ministry. (Sally left some pretty big shoes to fill.)

Our goals are to not only increase the money coming into the store but to continue to bless others with the donations given to Mark Downs. We hope to bring PayPal to the our store in 2018 and to increase our volunteer group.

Check out our monthly sale calendar and take advantage of our Super Sunday Savings where all clothing is ½ off as a thank you to all our parishioners for your support of this ministry.

We need you! Volunteer!! For more information you may contact Barb Haug by email at norsk@cox.net.

Music Ministry

Chris Perry, Director of Music

Praise Ensemble • Chancel Choir • St. Mark’s Singers •

Spanish Service • Mariachi Band

In 2017, 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 2018 we will continue to work to grow and improve all our musical endeavors at all three services. As the director, I also seek to be open-minded to new musical ideas.

In December 2017 I formed St. Mark’s Mariachi Band. We first performed at the Dec. 10th Our Lady of Guadalupe Service and again at the Dec. 17th Posada Festival. In 2018 I will continue to develop this group and serve the St. Mark’s community with this unique and fun musical expression of Mexican worship and culture.

There are three non-worship musical groups that rehearse at St. Mark’s Episcopal church. First is the Mesa Caledonian Pipe Band, which has been at St. Mark’s for

many years and is managed by our parishioners, Chris Hossack and Dianne Nunez. They serve at events throughout the year, including Palm Sunday and other services as needed. The Pipe Band rehearses primarily on Friday nights in Knight Hall. For more information see www.mcpb.org.

The East Valley Harmonizers is a local barbershop group with more than 30 members. They rehearse Thursday nights in Knight Hall. Every year in the Fall they perform a fundraising dinner/concert for the ECWM. This past year's concert was very successful and was well-attended and received. For more information see www.evbarbershop.com.

The East Valley Pops Orchestra is a full orchestra with more than 60 members. I am the associate conductor and we rehearse every Monday afternoon from 1-3pm in Knight Hall. Each year we perform a charitable concert at St. Mark's in March and November. At these concerts we raise money which we give to local schools for their music programs. We also share 10% of that money with St. Mark's church and we are proud to represent our home at St. Mark's at all the venues where we perform. For more information see 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.

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. 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.

Spanish Ministry

Padre Gerardo Brambila+ Vicar

We had a wonderful year in 2017, 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 2018.

We are worshiping in Spanish at 8 am, every Sunday and our church family has grown with a few new members and some other families that were here before started to come back to our services. With this new schedule, it allows the children from the Spanish congregation to attend our weekly Sunday School. In addition, it encourages fellowship at Lion's Den with ALL parishioners of St. Mark's together as one family.

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 in a booth at the Diocesan annual convention.

We celebrated a couple of weddings and several 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 we will continue growing this coming 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.

Ushers

Kathy Smith, Ministry Leader

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 offering 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

Each usher works with a partner. Each pair of ushers serves for one month at a time. With five regular usher teams, each team ushers about two months per calendar year. We have several substitute ushers to fill in as needed. Additionally, ushers may be called upon to serve at special services, such as those occurring during the Christmas and Easter seasons.

We welcome any new ushers who feel called to serve in this ministry. Please contact Kathy Smith at 1kathysmith@cox.net to volunteer.

2017
Candidates for
Bishop's
Committee

Randy Rogers

*Candidate for
Junior Warden*



I was born and raised here in Mesa Arizona and a life long member of St. Mark's. I was married here to my wife Lori and we raised our daughter Kaitlin here. Following a 25 year career with the City of Tempe, I was employed by St. Mark's for over 10 years starting as the Sexton and moving up to the Parish Administrator. I have owned my own business for six years and now work in the same business as the manager. I have been a member of the Mesa City Band for 15 years and enjoy playing my trumpet in other groups also.

My experience in property management/maintenance and business along with my previous employment at the church will be a great help to me in the position of Junior Warden. I am honored to be considered for this position.

Maureen Davies
*Candidate for
Bishop's Committee*



My name is Maureen Davies, and my husband, Jim and I have been members of St. Mark's for over 9 years. We feel God led us to St. Mark's when we were searching for a church home. Not only have we found a church home, but we have discovered a loving church family. That's what makes St. Mark's so special. Jim and I became ushers right away. We love greeting our fellow parishioners. Service is very important to us. I especially love being a reader. I have also worked with our children's ministry by being a church school teacher and helping with Vacation Bible School. Additionally, I served as a delegate to the convention, which I found to be a very interesting experience. I've been a member of E.C.W. for many years, and am enjoying the updated E.C.W. & M with all our fun activities! It is always a pleasure working with such caring parishioners who want the best for St. Mark's. Jim and I truly consider St. Mark's our family. That's why I love taking pictures and putting our "family albums" on Facebook. I would be honored to serve on the Bishop's Committee and positively support our loving church home.



Barbara Guenther
*Candidate for
Bishop's Committee*

My name is Barbara Guenther, retired and single. I was born in El Centro, California in 1951 and attended St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and was active in the Choir and Youth Ministries.

My family moved to San Diego and I earned a Bachelor's degree in Math at the University of California at San Diego. I moved to Flagstaff in 1976, working as the Senior Accountant assisting Native Americans establish enterprises after Congress ordered the Bureau of Indian Affairs to relinquish financial and income-producing oversight of the tribes. I moved to the Phoenix metropolitan area in 1980, married in 1981 and earned a Master's of Social Work at ASU in 1983. My son was born in 1984 and my daughter in 1987. I taught parenting classes for the Child Crisis Center, then became a Case Manager for the Mesa Sex Abuse Unit of Child Protective Services. I worshipped at St. Mark's from 1984 until 1999.

In my 40s, I wrote and taught federal children's policy and adoption policy. In my 50s until 2012, I was the Family Services Committee Research Specialist then a Policy Advisor for a political party at the Arizona State Senate. I attended and was active at St. Anthony on the Desert in Scottsdale from 1999-2012. I moved to San Tan Valley in late 2014-2016, then moved back to Mesa and rejoined the St. Mark's Parish.

Some of the previous ministry and church activities that I have been or am currently involved in are Education for Ministry (EFM), Cursillo, Treasurer, Episcopal Church Women & Men (ECW&M), Reader, Usher, Chalice Bearer, grant-writer, Delegate to the Ciocesan Convention, retreats, Desert Diners, Vacation Bible School and a 2-month mission trip to Rwanda.

Thank you for considering me for the Bishop's Committee.



Anali Perry
*Candidate for
Bishop's Committee*

I've been an active member of St. Mark's since 2011. I love being part of this church family, and appreciate this loving community to help raise Elmer and Arthur in Christ. I try to give back through participating in the music ministry and serving on the Communications Committee as the webmaster for our website at stmarksmesa.org.

Last January, I was elected as a member of the Bishop's Committee to fill an empty slot for a one year term. I feel like I'm just starting to get the hang of it, so I'd be happy to continue on for a full term.

Thank you,
Anali Perry

Jeanette Rogers
*Candidate for
Bishop's Committee*



I am honored to be a candidate for the Bishop's Committee! I was born in Colorado, lived in Wyoming and moved to Mesa when I was in high school. When we arrived on Labor Day, we soon realized that we needed hot weather clothing! We found a dress shop on Main Street owned by the late Iser Tibshraeny (an icon at St. Mark's) and told him we were Episcopalians. He replied, "Do I have a church for you!" I am a "cradle Episcopalian" and was born into a family who believed in service to church and community. The Baptismal Font at St. Mark's was given in memory of my parents. My children were baptized, confirmed and married at St. Mark's. After graduation from ASU I became an elementary school teacher and when I retired, I gave up my community work and devoted myself to St. Mark's. I have been blessed with wonderful health and energy and I promise to do everything I can for my extended St. Mark's family who has never let me down. I will do my best to never let St. Mark's down. I was director of Christian Education for many years and have also served as Senior Warden and Junior Warden. Presently I am an altar server, a lay reader, president of ECW, and an office angel. I truly believe that God's love is manifested in His people and I believe that relationships are characterized and nurtured by caring, respect, commitment and a positive approach to solving problems. If I am elected, I will serve the Bishop's Committee and the people of St. Mark's with my experience and with the love and devotion I have had for St. Mark's for many years. I can think of no better way to spend my time!

Candidates for 2018 Convention Delegates

Scheduled for October 19–20, 2018

Location: TBD

(Vote for only 5 candidates)

- ◆ Caleb Collins
- ◆ Quentin Gunn
- ◆ Judy Hossack
- ◆ Eric Hultquist
- ◆ Sean Jones
- ◆ Gloria McManus
- ◆ Chris Perry
- ◆ Jeanette Rogers

The 2017 Bishop's Committee

Senior Warden: Terry Gordon
Junior Warden: Bob Cheatham
Clerk: Gloria McManus
Treasurer: Al Rausch

Bishop's Committee Members:

Caleb Collins, John Ddamba,
Judy Hossack, Anali Perry,
Paige Stalcup, Charles Vaughn



Seek God ✝ Serve Others ✝ Transform Lives

Buscar a Dios ✝ Servir a los Demás ✝ Transformar Vidas