



SAINT MARK'S  
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

**Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral  
Annual Parish Meeting**  
Sunday, January 29, 2017  
Bloedel Hall - 12:45pm

### **Call to Order**

The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, Dean and Rector, called the Annual Parish Meeting to order following a potluck meal. Steve opened the meeting in prayer and introduced Judy Andrews, Diocesan Chancellor, and Sharon Ferguson, Vestry Clerk and recording secretary. Judy is standing pro tempore for John Hoerster, Cathedral Chancellor, who is away this weekend.

### **2016 Annual Meeting Minutes**

Dean Steve Thomason

Last year's minutes for the 2016 Annual Meeting were approved by the Vestry in February 2016 and are available online.

### **Elections**

Chancellor Judy Andrews

#### **Election Rules**

Judy reviewed the election rules: any Parish Communicants in Good Standing (giving members who have taken the Eucharist at least three times in the past year) are eligible to vote; voting by proxy is not permitted. Everyone will get one paper ballot; once votes have been counted, there will be a consultation with the Senior Warden and the Dean before the results are announced.

### **Nominating and Leadership Committee**

Dean Thomason

Steve acknowledged and thanked the members of the Nominating Committee and co-chairs Jo Ann Bailey and John Selberg for their leadership. The other committee members are Barbara Erickson, Mary Lonien, Lynne Markova, Mary Mullen, Walter Stuteville, The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, and Gerry van Wesep.

There is a single slate for the Diocesan Convention delegates. Nominating committee co-chairs, John Selberg and Jo Ann Bailey, introduced and asked the candidates for Diocesan Convention to stand. They are Neshia Alaovae, Marla Dittloff, Mel Flannery, Michael Garrett, Tamara Kincaid, Vinnu Komanapalli, George Moore, George Pro, Brian Sellers-Petersen, Sandra Smith, Doug Thorpe, and David Wagner.

Steve asked for additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none, the slate of nominations was closed. Steve asked the vote for the Diocesan Convention delegates be taken by acclamation in the form of applause. All approved those nominated.

There is a double slate of candidates for the Vestry. John Selberg introduced the candidates and asked them to stand. They are Dr. James Buskirk, Andrew Himes, Amanda Davis, Ginger

Minugh, Kelly Moody, David Thompson, Joe Wright, and Robert Wright.

Steve asked for additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none, the slate of nominations was closed. Ballots for the Vestry elections were distributed; each person is permitted to vote for four candidates. Any ballots with more than four names or with more than one vote for one person will be discounted.

### **Senior Warden Report**

Lynne Markova

Lynne noted that in the last year, the parish has seen some wonderful areas of change and growth. The work that the Vestry has done this year includes:

The Capital Campaign and Living Stones Construction Projects are progressing; the Major Gifts Committee worked hard this year to procure more gifts along with Dean Thomason and Bishop Rickel. The Diocesan phase began at the end of 2016 and is continuing through this spring. We have hired Turner Construction to be the general contractors. Groundbreaking will take place on April 17. The Vestry will be hosting an informational Sunday Forum on March 19.

Facilities milestones this year have included a new oven and stove for the kitchen, rekeying the west doors of the Nave, and the lighting upgrades in the Nave and Thomsen Chapel. The Urban Garden was expanded, an apiary was established, and an extensive renovation of Leffler House was completed to house the Seattle Service Corps.

In the area of communications, the Rubric has been significantly expanded, and another issue has been added to the yearly cycle. Our Google analytics have been improved so that our website comes up more prominently when searched, and our Facebook presence has increased. Communications Director Liz Bartenstein has been proactive in initiating the live-streaming of Cathedral Commons and other events; the Vestry has authorized the purchase of videography equipment for the Nave so that we can live-stream liturgies.

The Listening Process for political initiatives and other endorsement requests was streamlined and simplified by a task force.

In December, the Vestry unanimously adopted the Renewing of Our Covenant: “A Statement of Commitment and Action” position statement after a prayerful and thoughtful conversation.

### **Strategic Plan 2017-2019**

Ms. Markova

Lynne chaired the committee whose work was to update the Strategic Goals. The mission, vision, and values that were created only three years ago were not changed. In addition to Lynne, the committee members were Dean Steve Thomason, Canon for Operations Maria Coldwell, Junior Warden Cara Peterson, Clara Berg, Kathy Elkins, Michael Garrett, Re Knack, Karen Knudson, and Joe Wright.

The committee agreed to follow the same approach they did three years ago, using a similar four-question framework to gather input from the congregation. This was done with group meetings, two parish forums, and an online survey. Once the data was collected, Cara and Lynne sifted

through it and created a rough draft. The Strategic Planning Committee, Executive Committee, and the Vestry reviewed the draft. The final version was approved at the December 2016 Vestry Meeting and is now available online and as a handout provided today.

### **Stewardship Ministry**

Tom Jacka and Greg Simon, Chair of the Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee's work for 2016 included an Easter season celebration of gratitude; monthly stewardship messages during the spring and summer; a fall program of weekly reflections; and a festive meal with an ingathering celebration.

As of early January, 417 commitments or pledges have been received, including 55 new commitments and 162 increased commitments. The Committee has discussed recognizing people for their time and talent as part of stewardship. The Committee members included Tom Jacka, Janet Miller, Jon Olson, Roland Yancey, Rick Hodsdon, Greg Simon, Kathy Sodergren, Dean Steve Thomason, and Joe Wright.

### **Cathedral Foundation Report**

Steve Reid, Cathedral Foundation Treasurer

Since its founding in 1995, the Cathedral Foundation has provided over \$2 million in funding to help maintain and enhance the buildings and grounds at Saint Mark's. During 2016, the Foundation has provided \$72,435 in funding for maintenance expenses and substantial facilities upgrades and an additional \$30,000 disbursement in November to help cover several unbudgeted major facilities expenses. In addition, two \$500,000 gifts were given to the Living Stones Capital Campaign. A complete summary of the Foundation's activities is available in the Annual Report. Bill Broesamle is the Chairman; other members include Susan Knirk, Maria Coldwell, Steve Reid, Heather Hodsdon, Mary Dickinson, Virginia Lenker, Josh Hosler, and Patricia McGuire.

### **Financial Report**

Phil Lloyd, Cathedral Treasurer

Financial highlights for 2016 and the 2017 operating budget can be found in the Annual Report, along with charts showing the operating budget history from 2007 through 2017. We ended the year with a surplus of \$40,000. Notable items in the 2017 budget include a line item for debt service for the Living Stones Project, which is included as we look for potential commercial lenders; proving that we can shoulder that debt is part of the application process. There has also been a cost-of-living adjustment made for the staff. Steve acknowledged Phil for his commitment and service to Saint Mark's.

### **Dean's Remarks**

Dean Thomason

As the Diocesan Phase of the Capital Campaign continues, we have received commitments of support from several congregations around the diocese. We currently are at approximately \$7,800,000 in total gifts and pledges. This past week, we received word that the Living Stones Project has been awarded \$500,000 from the Norcliffe Foundation, thanks to the work of Maria Coldwell, who wrote the grant, Marshal McReal, who walked the grant through the process, and Father Michael Ryan from Saint James Cathedral, who has a good relationship with the Norcliffe Foundation and put in a good word.

We are in the planning stage for construction. On Sunday, March 19 at 10:10am there will be a special Sunday Forum in which representatives from Turner Construction, Spectrum Development, and Saint Mark's leadership will provide updates for the congregation. Construction is scheduled to officially begin on Monday, April 17, and should be completed in time for Christmas Eve liturgies.

Maria Coldwell is chairing the 2030 Visioning Committee. The 2030 Plan will address campus use possibilities. We are in the midst of that process and we will report back to the parish in late spring.

Alan Davidson has investigated in detail the early history of Saint Mark's from its founding in 1889. He has documented the history through the first ten years; this history is fascinating and Alan is hoping the book may be published later this year.

The Wisdom School was launched this past year, with great feedback from Saint Mark's participants and also from the broader community. We have three offerings coming up:

1. *Spirituality and Leadership* on Wednesday evenings from February 15 through April 5;
2. *Embracing the Enneagram as a Map for Spiritual Unfolding* on March 10-11; and
3. *Trinity: The Soul of Creation* on April 6-8, a Richard Rohr and Cynthia Bourgeault webcast.

The Seattle Service Corps is another new ministry this past year; thanks to the Habitat for Humanity Crew who renovated Leffler House as a home for the Service Corps members. Steve recognized the Service Corps members and Malcolm McLaurin, the Program Director.

In December 2016, the Vestry formally adopted *Renewing Our Covenant: A Statement of Commitment and Action*, a position statement in response to the alarming rise in hate crimes and discrimination. An email will be sent out to the congregation soon with ways to get involved in community service with regards to the Position Statement.

The Ministry to Refugees and Immigrants is a wonderful group that came together to support the Syrian family that Saint Mark's began sponsoring in 2016. This work is changing given the current circumstances and there is still much work to be done in the realm of refugee support and immigrant advocacy.

### **Announcement of Election Results**

The four nominees elected to the Vestry were **Amanda Davis, Andrew Himes, Kelly Moody, and Joe Wright** for three-year terms. Their terms will end in January 2020. Steve thanked all eight candidates for their service.

### **Community Recognitions**

Dean Thomason

Steve asked the congregation to acknowledge and thank the members of the Cathedral Staff: Barbara Martin, Child Care Center Director; Cam Jarvis, Music Series Coordinator and Choir School; Chris McPeak, Worship Coordinator; Earl Grout, Deacon; Erik Donner, Executive

Assistant to the Dean; Gaye Scott, Cathedral Shop Manager; Glenn Sands, Facilities and Events Manager; Greg Bloch, Shop Associate and Liturgical Assistant; Ian Ford, Sexton; Karen Komoto, Bookkeeper; Jason Anderson, Compline Choir Director; Liz Bartenstein, Communications Director; Malcolm McLaurin, Canon for Youth and Young Adults; Maria Coldwell, Canon for Operations; Michael Kleinschmidt, Canon Musician; Rebekah Gilmore, Associate Musician and Choir School Director; Nancee Martin, Cathedral Canon and Associate to the Rector; Nancy Ross, Curate; Jennifer King Daugherty, Cathedral Canon and Associate to the Rector.

Emily Austin has been appointed as a Deacon in Training, and is a postulant to become a vocational deacon. She began working with us today and will be working with Deacon Earl Grout.

Cristi Chapman has been appointed by the Bishop as our curate; she will be ordained a priest in June. She begins her 2-year appointment at the beginning of September.

Steve recognized the Associate Clergy: Mike Jackson, Marda Steedman Sanborn, Cabby Tennis, Pat Taylor, and Rich Weyls. Rich has been called as the new Rector at Saint Andrew's Parish, Seattle, and will begin that work in March. A celebration and farewell is being planned.

The Vestry were thanked for their work in the past year, and Steve expressed particular gratitude for the outgoing members: Roland Yancey, Timi Vann, Betsy Bell, and Ruth Mulligan.

Marshall McReal was recognized for his work on the Capital Campaign, particularly on the Major Gifts Committee.

Last fall, the Vestry identified a way to recognize the works and service of John and Carol Hoerster, who have both served Saint Mark's in various capacities including but not limited to serving on the Vestry, each serving as Senior Warden, and John being the Cathedral Chancellor. With that in mind, the Vestry has decided that the new elevator annex will be named the Hoerster Annex in thanksgiving for the Hoerstes' work and dedication.

Alice and Steve Reid, who are soon moving to Florida, were recognized for their commitment to Saint Mark's. Both have served in many capacities (Alice on the Vestry and Steve on the Foundation Board) and have been energetic in the Capital Campaign.

### **Pro Christo Awards**

Dean Thomason

The Pro Christo et Ecclesia Award is presented to individuals who have distinguished themselves in Christian service to this community and beyond.

### **Lynne Markova**

Lynne has been a devoted member at Saint Mark's for nearly twenty years and has grown considerably in her ministry, as lector, Eucharistic minister, intercessor, musician, and on the Vestry, of late as Senior Warden. We are grateful for her ministry.

**The Rev. Pat Taylor**

Pat Taylor has faithfully exercised her role as a minister of Christ in this community through the years with grace and a lively spirit; from her volunteer hours in the front office to her work as an associate priest, and from her kindness and willingness to listen to her deep wisdom, Pat has played an indispensable role in our midst.

**Closing**

Steve closed the annual meeting in prayer and offered a blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Ferguson  
Recording Secretary and Clerk

Erik Donner  
Executive Assistant