

An aerial photograph of a grassy field with several large white chalk circles drawn on it. In the upper left, three people are standing and talking. In the middle right, a woman in a grey hoodie is looking at a clipboard, with two dogs on leashes nearby. In the lower right, two men are looking at papers. The overall scene suggests an outdoor activity or meeting.

# 2020

SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL, SEATTLE



ANNUAL REPORT  
PRESENTED AT THE  
ANNUAL MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2021

## FROM THE DEAN



### ON THE COVER:

The St. Francis Outdoor Liturgy with Blessing of the Animals, October 4, 2020. See p. 6. Photo by David Wagner.

Photos not otherwise credited are by Gregory Bloch.

▼ In January of 2020, before the arrival of the pandemic, the cathedral was attacked with hateful graffiti. The weather was too cold to immediately repaint the wall, and so a banner was used to obscure the vandalism instead.

A clergy colleague of mine in Texas calls 2020 “a dog year.” You know, a year in the life of a dog is like seven years of human life... and oh, how we lived a lot in 2020! It seems like we shoved seven years’ worth of experience into one year, and life has brought so many twists and turns. Adaptability has become an important marker of resilience—for individuals, and for our church community. Yes, there have been challenges—lots of them—and losses along the way. And we are not yet at a point where we can see fit to relax in the thought that it is all coming to an end. But I am so gratified by the ways this community has found ways to be together, to support one another, creatively changing the ways we “do” Church, and I have this keen sense that we are changing in ways that will bear fruit for years to come.

As I reflect on the year, I am mindful of the beautiful and courageous ways this community responded to the hardships of pandemic and social strife and racial injustice and isolation. A whole new lexicon burst forth into common parlance— words and phrases like: Zoom, livestream, covidtide, BLM, defund, decentering, boogaloo, Q-Anon, sedition, insurrection, and “you’re on mute, Steve...”

I cannot sing the praises of the cathedral staff enough for all the ways they adapted in the past year, rose to the occasion in taking on new roles, adapting their work patterns to meet the needs of the congregation they so gracefully serve, and doing so while

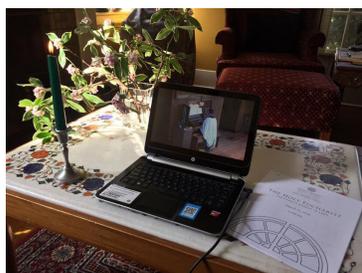
juggling all the stressors the year brought to bear in their own lives. I am deeply grateful for them.

I shed tears as I stood several times in an empty cathedral nave early on Sunday mornings, before others arrived, just praying for those who would worship with me that day although I would not see their faces. I shed tears when the BLM protesters passed by our home, peaceful and full of hope for change, only to have a few turn to violence by our kitchen window and beat a man who shouted obscenities in their direction. I shed tears of joy, too, on seeing a beloved 98-year-old member on Zoom for Tuesday Bible Study, and for the shattering of glass ceilings in an election.

My heart aches for those whose loved ones died in 2020 and could not have a full funeral to mark the liminal moment. We adapted with graveside services, and prayers for immediate family members, and long for the day we can, as a full community, gather to celebrate the lives of these loved ones. Weddings and baptisms were disrupted, too, but we have found ways to do these safely. The Eucharist remains our communal sacrament of thanksgiving, even as those joining virtually have had to partake as “spiritual communion.” The shape of pastoral care has changed also (hospital visits by clergy are still not allowed), but phone calls, emails, texts, and Zoom chats have bridged the gap, and it has been heartwarming to hear how many of you have reached out to one another—the Body of Christ in full swing!

The Vestry adopted its strategic mutual ministry goals at its annual retreat in February, and a commitment to Creation Care as a central element of the Cathedral’s missional responsibility. Part of that is a goal to have the cathedral campus net carbon zero by the year 2030. That is an audacious goal and





◀ A selection of photos taken by community members while watching cathedral liturgies via livestream. These photos were shared in the Saint Mark's Community Facebook Group.

will take some capital investment to convert some of our infrastructure. A carbon footprint analysis was commissioned by Solarc, and their reports are guiding us in picking off some “low hanging fruit” in these first years of the decade. I am delighted for the ways that a revitalized Creation Care ministry team has formed in the last year—more than forty persons actively participating in a variety of ways—and they bring a wealth of expertise and visionary leadership which will serve us well.

It is also important to note the solemn commitment made by many in this community to take seriously the sin of racism in this country, and in the Church, and to acknowledge our complicity and desire for real change. New learning, self-reflection, conversations on privilege and decentering, institutional reforms, and so much more marked the last year with an indelible sense that we are pivoting into a new era which might pave the way for reparations, healing and reconciliation. Time will tell, but we re-

main committed to this important work.

While the financial reports included here by Treasurer Phil Lloyd and Junior Warden Peter McClung provide a conclusion that is positive, the play-by-play of 2020 church finances was a bit more of a roller coaster. Early on in the pandemic, the loss of rental income and much of the plate offering cast a challenging shadow, and then we obtained a PPP loan as part of the CARES relief act, enabling Saint Mark's to keep the staff fully employed, even if it has required adjustment in work responsibilities for some. But the real headline of the story is the remarkable generosity of the Saint Mark's community and all the ways you responded to the appeals to help others in their moments of need and in support of the church's mission and ministries. And that generosity has translated into an increased pledge base to support ministry in the coming year. So thank you!

Speaking of generosity, I want to highlight the landmark gift by Laura Ellen and Bob

Muglia in the fall when they contributed their share in the St. Nicholas property LLC which was purchased in 2003. Their gift represents the largest single gift in the history of Saint Mark's. This is the sort of legacy gift that frames the mission of a church across generations, and for that we are exceedingly grateful.

Lastly, let me say that while virtual worship and community gatherings are by no means ideal, the Spirit has continued her work in our midst. People have found their way into this community during the last year that, in some cases, have never stepped foot into the cathedral. A surprise gift of this virtual connection is that Saint Mark's Cathedral has become a spiritual home for people across the region, the diocese, and the nation. There are some who worship regularly

with us from Canada, Latin America, Africa, Europe and Asia, and we are the richer for their being a part of this wonderful community. Time will tell what "being church" will look like in the post-pandemic world, but this much I know: Saint Mark's Cathedral stands resiliently ready to embrace the future, and I count it my great privilege to be serving as your dean in this most remarkable time.

Gratefully yours,



The Very Reverend Steven L. Thomason  
Dean and Rector

## FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN



The primary responsibility of the Vestry of Saint Mark's Cathedral is to oversee the facilities and finances of the Cathedral and the spiritual growth of the parish.

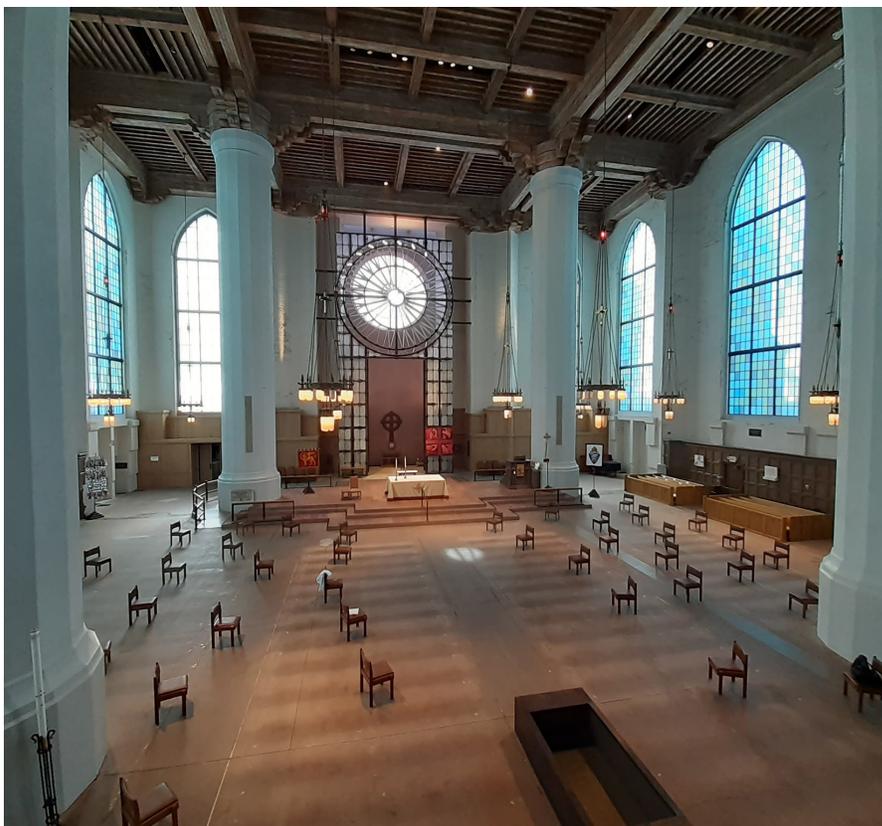
The Vestry began 2020 with a retreat, during which we participated in Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) training with the Canon to the Ordinary, The Rev. Canon Arianne Davison. As an outgrowth of this, we committed to setting aside time at each Vestry meeting to intentionally notice and name intercultural dynamics in our work and discussions.

Some of the highlights of the past year include:

- ◆ Authorizing the purchase and installation of new security cameras
- ◆ Reaching out individually to members of the congregation to maintain connections
- ◆ Participating in and in some cases facilitating small group work, such as The Radix Project and *Taking Up Our Responsibility for Racial Justice*
- ◆ Authorizing paying off the outstanding mortgage on the St. Nicholas building, so that the Cathedral would own it outright, due to our LLC partner gifting us their share
- ◆ Adopting and publishing a statement modeled after one made at General Convention, asking the President and Congress to explore a moratorium on the production of new nuclear arms
- ◆ Signing a letter in support of the Hibakusha community on the 75th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings
- ◆ Nominating two candidates for Postulancy to ordained ministry.

- ◆ As a Jubilee Congregation, signing a petition to the International Monetary Fund urging cancellation of debt and expansion of aid to bolster health care for countries affected by the pandemic
- ◆ Signing a letter supporting Malcolm McLaurin's Candidacy for Ordination to the Diaconate
- ◆ Approving the use of part of the cathedral parking lot by Tent City 3 from mid July to mid September
- ◆ Engaging Meriwether Advisors to provide consultation and to advise on possible redevelopment of the St. Nicholas building; and beginning an exploratory process for same
- ◆ To reflect our commitment to achieve a net-zero Carbon footprint by 2030, dedicated funds were allocated to the operating budgets of both the Cathedral and the St. Nicholas building; also, Vestry members agreed to sign up to the Episcopal Church Caron Tracker track as individuals
- ◆ Beginning the process of adopting language acknowledging that the cathedral sits on Duwamish land and committing to paying Real Rent
- ◆ Committing to the purchase of equipment to further expand our digital connectivity, in recognition of the fact that, in the near future, the entire parish will likely employ a hybrid model meetings that are simultaneously in-person and virtual
- ◆ Authorizing the installation of a new video monitor system for the organ console
- ◆ Authorizing the creation of The Cathedral Archives (made possible by a generous memorial gift) and hiring an intern from the University of Washington to begin work on it

In spite of the challenges of 2020, the Vestry has been active and involved, not just in



the “nuts and bolts” of the Cathedral’s facilities and finances, but in the spiritual and community life of the congregation. I am so grateful for Vestry members’ commitment to and love for St. Mark’s. I am also proud of the way Vestry members formed solid and loving bonds with each other under extraordinary circumstances. None of what has been accomplished this year would have been possible without the incredible leadership of the Dean, clergy, and staff, and the hard work and dedication of many volunteers.

Finally, as I retire from Vestry, and as Senior Warden, please know that it has been my honor to serve you. It has been a privilege to see and experience “up close” all that goes on here. I have been supported by so many—Vestry, Dean, clergy, staff and congregation. Thank you.

—Julia Logan,  
Senior Warden

▲ Photo by Michael Perera.

# PRAYER, WORSHIP, & LITURGY

## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

With the transformation of how our community gathers for worship during the pandemic and cathedral closure, the way in which our liturgical ministries are active has changed as well. Some ministries are on hiatus until we are able to gather in person again, and some ministries continue to be active, though in changed ways.

The lector ministry is one of the main ministries that continues to be engaged in our worship life. We have been alternating between having lectors read in person in the nave, and having lectors pre-record their readings and then playing those videos during our services. This has been a wonderful way to continue to visibly engage people from the parish in worship.

Many other our ministries have adapted how they are serving during the pandemic closure, including the Flower Ministry, Altar Guild, and Eucharistic Visitors. Those ministries that have been mostly inactive during the pandemic closure include: ac-

olytes, bread bakers, Eucharistic ministers, oblation bearers, Sunday evening sacristans, and vergers. Circumstances have required the creation of a new ministry role: the Hospitality Ministers. This new ministry combines the role of usher and greeter, along with new roles health screening, registration verification, and seat assignment for pre-registered worshipers. Hospitality Ministers have already played a critical role at the handful of in-person outdoor liturgies in 2020, and they will become even more vitally important when the day that we are permitted to reopen comes upon us.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported the continued engagement of our liturgical ministries in new and creative ways. And to those ministries who have not yet been able to serve since we closed last March: we look forward with hope to the day when you will be actively engaged in your ministries once again!

—*Michael Seewer,*  
*Cathedral Sacristan & Head Verger*

▼ At the St. Francis Outdoor Liturgy with Blessing of the Animals, October 4, 2020, circles were made with chalk on the grass to assist with physical distancing. Photo by David Wagner.



## PRAYER CHAIN (PARISH INTERCESSIONS)

Every day, more than 100 people offer prayers on behalf of the Saint Mark's community and beyond. Some are in thanksgiving for births, blessings, or experiences of healing. Some are prayers for those who suffer in body or mind or are grieving a loss. Others are for the newly departed and their families. In 2020, with COVID restrictions and stay-at-home orders, some of the content of the prayer requests changed, but the commitment of the prayer chain only increased.

As always, anyone can make a prayer request by emailing the information to [prayers@saintmarks.org](mailto:prayers@saintmarks.org). This prompts two actions: an email to those prayer chain members whose prayers surround the ones named, and the inclusion of these names in the Prayers of the People during Sunday services and on the Parish Prayer List on the cathedral website (and in *Sundays & Beyond* when it is being printed) each week. This is a robust and long-standing ministry which brings comfort and an experience of our profound interconnectedness to all who participate. If you'd like to join the prayer chain and actively pray for others, please send an email to one of the clergy or Erik Donner at [edonner@saintmarks.org](mailto:edonner@saintmarks.org).

—*The Rev. Canon Jennifer King Daugherty*

## CENTERING PRAYER

Centering Prayer is a method of meditation used by Christians, placing a strong emphasis on interior silence. A small but vibrant Centering Prayer group meets every Monday night at 7:15 p.m. in Thomsen Chapel... at least we did until March of 2020. As the virus shut the Cathedral down, the leaders of the group had to decide if it could be moved to Zoom. The sad, final decision was the Centering Prayer practice was not suited to Zoom, and the group would need to go on hiatus. We have remained on hiatus ever since, but hope to roar back in 2021.

—*David Eicke*

## THE DAILY OFFICE (MORNING & EVENING PRAYER)

The Daily Office at Saint Mark's has been a vibrant part of our parish life for over 20 years, primarily in the form of Evening Prayer, offered every weeknight in Thomsen Chapel. When the Cathedral abruptly closed in early March this past year, the Worship Leaders of Evening Prayer, working with Cathedral Sacristan Michael Seewer, immediately moved the liturgy to Zoom. That service of Evening Prayer, Monday through Friday at 6:30 p.m., continues to flourish.

In addition to Evening Prayer on Zoom, we began offering Morning Prayer once a week on Zoom as well, Thursdays at 7 a.m. This service has been led by those who were formerly regular participants in the Thursday Morning Eucharist that was offered in Thomsen Chapel each week at that time. Morning Prayer continues to be offered 7 a.m. Thursdays to this day.

Many thanks to the Worship Leaders whose dedication has allowed us to continue offering Evening Prayer via Zoom, especially Sue Tait, Jo Ann Bailey, Michael Murphree, and Cheri Thompson. Many thanks also to those Worship Leaders who continue to ensure Morning Prayer is offered every Thursday at 7 a.m., especially Sarah Elwood, Br. Paul Dahlke, and Pamela Taylor. With our existing services of The Daily Office continuing to have sustained and growing attendance, we will soon be offering an additional service of Morning Prayer each week, likely on Wednesday mornings at 8:30. More information to come on that soon! And if you haven't yet joined us for Morning or Evening Prayer, please do! The Zoom link is now posted on the Cathedral website, and all are welcome, no matter your level of familiarity with The Daily Office.

—*Michael Seewer,*  
*Cathedral Sacristan & Head Verger*

## LIVESTREAM HIGHLIGHTS

On a typical Sunday, an average of 270 screens are watching the morning livestream worship on the cathedral website, along with 26 on Facebook.

The Diocesan Ordination liturgy was watched live on 383 screens.

The "O" Antiphons Service was watched live on 480 screens across the website, Facebook, and YouTube.



▲ Altar decorations for Christmas 2020, created with input from Flower Ministry members observing remotely.

### EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS

As 2020 began, Eucharistic Visitors continued the call of the ministry of sharing the gifts of the table with those unable to gather with us at the cathedral. Little did we know that that would soon be all of us! Even prior to the official State lockdown, some care facilities were restricting visits, and later in March, of course, all visits stopped. However, Eucharistic Visitors have maintained contact with our fellow “shut-ins” through phone and mail greetings, and where and when allowed, occasional personal visits (minus communion). We are also meeting monthly via Zoom to provide mutual encouragement and to hear updates from Canon Jennifer regarding our “visitees.”

Meanwhile, like all others, we look forward to the time when we can visit our fellow parishioners again, going “two-by-two.” If you feel led to investigate and discern your involvement in this ministry, please don’t hesitate to contact Kevin Johnson or The Reverend Jennifer King Daugherty. We are always open to new members who wish to join us for a “Mini Saint Mark’s” time of blessing.

—Kevin Johnson

### FLOWER MINISTRY

Like all other aspects of life in our Cathedral community, the Flower Ministry’s work has been impacted by the pandemic. Since we are unable to enter the Cathedral building as usual, and since live services are currently not possible, our regular practice of creating live flower arrangements for each Sunday’s services has been curtailed. Despite this, we have been able to help enliven the livestreamed services by periodically delivering silk flower arrangements (and occasionally live ones) which are then placed with the able help of Cathedral staff. For Christmas, we were able to supply the poinsettias and remotely help the staff with their placement. Ray Miller created a beautiful Advent wreath using material collected on the cathedral grounds and in the Greenbelt. With rearrangement and occasional additions to the silk flowers, we hope to continue to brighten the nave as long as livestreaming is necessary, symbolizing the hope we all have for a renaissance of cathedral life in the months to come.

—Beatrix Roemheld-Hamm

### MUSIC

Until March 11, 2020 Saint Mark’s Cathedral continued robustly to exercise its musical ministries as described in the 2019 Annual Report. Highlights of the first ten weeks of 2020 include:

- ◆ Lessons and Carols on the Eve of the Epiphany, offered by the Evensong Choir.
- ◆ *The Play of Daniel*, offered by the young singers of the Saint Mark’s Choir School alongside the world-famous Boston Camerata, in a joint presentation between Early Music Seattle, and Saint Mark’s Music Series.
- ◆ The work of a Choir School Advisory Committee which discerned a strategic vision for the Choir School.
- ◆ The development by Dr. Jason Anderson and Canon Kleinschmidt of a new performing edition of Peter Hallock’s 1983

Easter anthem, *Ye choirs of New Jerusalem*, which The Cathedral Choir was planning to perform on Easter Sunday, 2020.

Because singing together in traditional configurations is a particularly effective way of spreading SARS-CoV-2, our work moved into the digital realm from March 11 onward. Video conferencing, audio-visual recording and editing software, and livestreaming platforms became essential partners. The learning curve in this transformation was steep and at times alienating for volunteers and staff alike.

After a period of experimentation, Saint Mark's choirs settled into weekly meetings via Zoom for vocal maintenance, musical education, faith formation, and fellowship. In addition, the Choir School offered two week-long "Quarantined Quire Camps" in the summer. For more information about the Choir School, see the report of the Associate Musician and Director of the Choir School.

From March 15 through November, quartets and octets drawn from the choirs sang in livestreamed liturgies to provide vocal leadership for those worshipping from home. At the end of November, further limitations on singing imposed by the Governor and Bishop allowed singing by one soloist at a time, with one accompanist.

Long-time choir members Peter Garbes and Dr. Heather MacLaughlin Garbes generously embraced the challenge of producing "virtual choir" videos, which allowed many choir members to continue to offer their gifts in worship. Each video was the result

of hours of work on the part of Heather and Peter. Their elegantly produced series of videos culminated in a rendition of *O come, O come, Emmanuel* to which the entire congregation, not just choir members, was invited to contribute. In the end, more than 130 community members can be seen joining their voices in the video—a profoundly moving highlight of the 2020 "O" Antiphons liturgy.

After careful consideration of what needed to be canceled or postponed, Saint Mark's Music Series offered concerts for free via livestream. It is a mark of the spirit of generosity that flows through the cathedral community that the number of Friends of the Music Series doubled this year. For more information, see the report of the Music Series Manager.

Profound thanks to the music staff, all singers, Choir School families, concert hosts, Friends of the Music Series, and other volunteers who give generously of their time, talent, and treasure to ensure the vitality of Saint Mark's musical ministries.

—Michael Kleinschmidt,  
*Canon for Cathedral Music*

▼ An image from the virtual choir video of *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*, featuring more than 130 community members from across the country and around the world.



## THE CHOIR SCHOOL

The Choir School was off to a roaring start at the beginning of 2020. Mid-January brought the much-anticipated collaboration of the cathedral's upper elementary, middle school, and high school choristers with the internationally acclaimed Boston Camera-ta. Presented by the Cathedral Music Series and Early Music Seattle, the staged performance of the thirteenth-century liturgical drama, *The Play of Daniel*, was the fulfillment of seven months of preparation on the part of the choristers, who memorized not only the monophonic Medieval melodies, but also the lengthy texts in French-Latin.

By late February, rehearsal rooms were being sanitized and choristers were washing their hands for the length of a sung Sanctus as prevention against the novel coronavirus. Within weeks, "choral singing" became dirty words in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Choir School schedule of weekly rehearsals moved to an online format and the Royal School of Church Music musicianship training has continued through individual tutoring sessions and online testing. Our families now negotiate a massive amount of required screen time for their children, and some have elected to take periods of leave from choir to reduce that screen time for their kids. Even so, choir rehearsal attendance has remained remarkably strong.

In fall of 2020, fifty choristers— including eight brand new choristers!—enrolled for the "weirdest Choir School year ever." What commitment! Several choristers graduated to new choirs, and we even said farewell to the soprano voice of one of our teen boys while welcoming his deepening baritone. During our shortened weekly rehearsals, choristers are listening to great choirs and great music from

around the world, sight-reading new music with recordings, prepping virtual choir repertoire, and digging into the study of scripture and liturgy, particularly as it pertains to the Sundays and seasons of the Church Year.

Choristers were invited to participate in numerous virtual choir videos, in which the burden was shared between the choristers, who vulnerably stared into a camera to sing all by themselves, and their parents, who took on the new role of tech guru to crop and upload the final take. Tremendous thanks to Peter Garbes and Heather MacLaughlin Garbes for their work of digitally gathering our voices into unique virtual performances—videos that will provide an enduring reminder of our Saint Mark's choral offerings during pandemic.

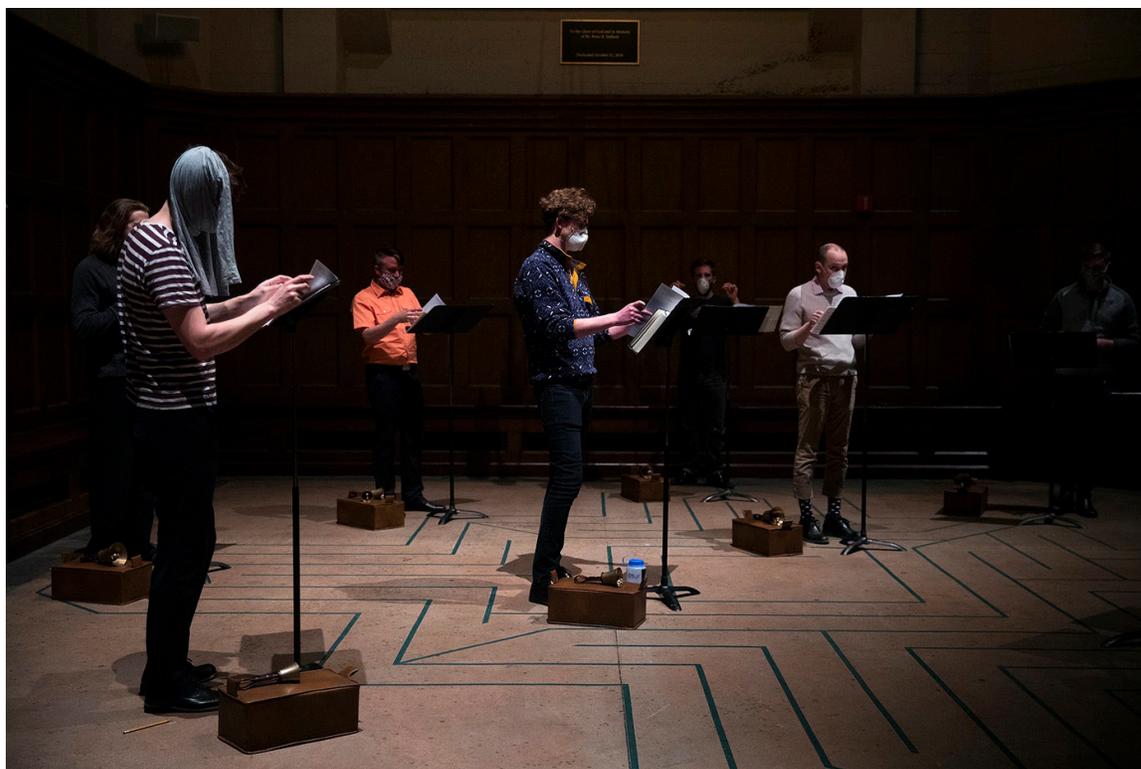
Our annual summer choir camps looked very different this summer when virtual "Quarantine Quire Camps" were held for our Schola, Senior Choristers, and graduating Junior Choristers. For one week each, these choirs met over Zoom to play musical Jeopardy, sing daily prayer services, prepare for the virtual choir renditions of Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus* and Farrant's *Lord, for Thy Tender Mercy's Sake*, and weight-lift some serious music theory and ear training exercises.

During this pandemic period of closure, young choristers of the Choir School have served as readers on the Saint Mark's *Prayer Podcast for Children and Families*, readers and intercessors for livestream services, and cantors for outdoor youth Vespers services. While the loss of singing together is profoundly painful during this time, the tight chorister community, built on past singing and worshipping together, has undergirded a special sense of camaraderie, as we all struggle with the events and changes of 2020. Our prayer life together has reached new heights, and our voices have not been silenced.

—Rebekah Gilmore,  
Director of the Choir School

▼ The full cast of *The Play of Daniel*, including singers and instrumentalists of The Boston Camerata and choristers of Saint Mark's Cathedral Choir School.





◀ Members of the Compline Choir, masked, rehearse for the Easter Sunday Compline Service. Photo © Megan Farmer/KUOW, used with permission.

## COMPLINE

The Compline Choir, called into beloved community with one another, performs and records liturgical and religious music for men’s voices; promotes and perpetuates ancient, traditional, and contemporary forms of worship; and ministers to the spiritual needs of the community. It is in this beloved community that we attempt to live out Christ’s command to “love God with all our heart and mind and soul and strength” and to “love our neighbors as ourselves.”

After the pandemic closed the cathedral and forced choir members to remain at home, members continued to meet weekly via Zoom to check-in, share concerns, sing, and pray the office. Every Sunday, we continued to offer Compline at the cathedral with 24, 15, 8, 4, and finally two persons—always following guidance issued by church leadership and public officials. We adapted the Compline “Seattle Rite” to embrace what was permitted, not lamenting what was prohibited. We experimented with different virtual formats, including a technology-intensive hybrid rehearsal scenario as well as an easier scenario currently in use.

In the summer, we again welcomed a quartet of women under Rebekah Gilmore’s leadership to sing Compline. Twice in the autumn, small groups of eight and ten members gathered in the Saint Nicholas courtyard—masked and distanced—to sing Compline together as we watched the sun set.

Despite the board proclaiming 2020 a “sabbath year,” the governors met regularly, adopted a 2020–2023 strategic plan (now surely pushed well beyond 2024), replaced the equipment that enables the weekly radio broadcasts on Classical KING-FM 98.1, authorized video livestreams of Compline in Lent and Eastertide (thanks to a grant from the diocese and the technical prowess of Layne Benofsky, Gregory Bloch, and Chris Brown), formed a COVID-19 Team that serves to advise the Director, transferred intellectual property rights of Peter R. Hallock’s unpublished compositions from the choir to the Institute bearing his name, and entered into a joint agreement with the Hallock Institute enabling monetary compensation for the Director for the first time in 65 years. There are not many

**COMPLINE EACH WEEK IN 2020, BY THE NUMBERS**

Estimated weekly listeners via KING-FM radio or internet stream . . . . .	9,000
Actual weekly podcast clicks, interactions, and downloads . . . . .	1,248
Actual weekly streams, downloads, and purchases of digital music. . . . .	655
Estimated weekly listeners via KING-FM’s SoundCloud archive . . . . .	244
Average weekly reach (sum of above):. . . . .	<b>11,147</b>

nonprofit choral organizations that have accomplished this much in such a terrible year!

The board of governors includes Jeffrey Ricco, James Wilcox, Kenneth Pendergrass, René Marceau, Fred McIlroy, Vernon Nicodemus, Phil Lloyd, and *ex officio* members Brenda Barnes, Jason Anderson, the Very Rev. Steven L. Thomason, and the Rt. Rev. Gregory H. Rickel. If you have questions about The Compline Choir, please contact Jason Anderson at [director@complinechoir.org](mailto:director@complinechoir.org).

—Dr. Jason Anderson,  
Director of the Compline Choir

vices of a web designer, and launched an e-commerce website. For the first time, the Institute made available for sale several previously unpublished works by Peter Hallock, the largest of which is The Compline Psalter, a mammoth collection of 52 one-of-a-kind psalm settings for men’s voices, edited by Jason Anderson and others. The Psalter and other works are available for purchase at [hallockinstitute.org](http://hallockinstitute.org). The Institute also joined OneLicense as a member publisher, enabling collection of royalties and fees related to use of Peter Hallock’s music in worship services, livestreams, and podcasts.

In addition, the board established an “allied director compensation fund,” initially funded through a three-year descending grant from the cathedral and diocese, combined with sustaining funds from the Institute and The Compline Choir. This fund makes compensating the Director of the Compline Choir possible, for the first time, in 2021. This is momentous! However, maintaining this compensation is predicated on successful future fundraising by the Institute and The Compline Choir, as the grants from the cathedral and diocese end after 2023.

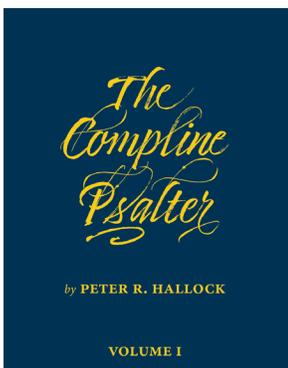
The board of directors includes Jason Anderson, Maria Coldwell, Gerard van Wesep, Kathy Crosier, John Henson, Joel Matter, Robin Ethridge, the Very Rev. Steven L. Thomason, and the Rev. Dr. Ann P. Lukens (the bishop’s designee). If you have questions about the Hallock Institute, please contact Jason Anderson at [director@hallockinstitute.org](mailto:director@hallockinstitute.org) or Maria Coldwell at [mvcoldwell@hotmail.com](mailto:mvcoldwell@hotmail.com).

—Dr. Jason Anderson

**THE HALLOCK INSTITUTE**

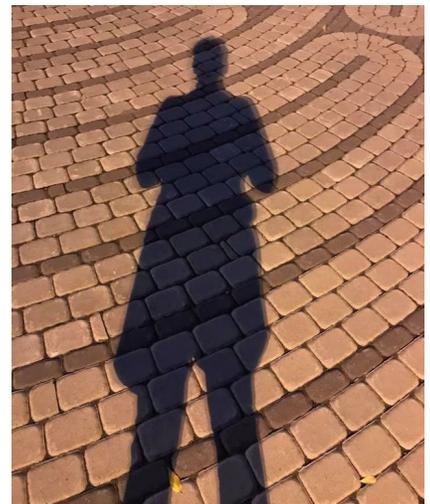
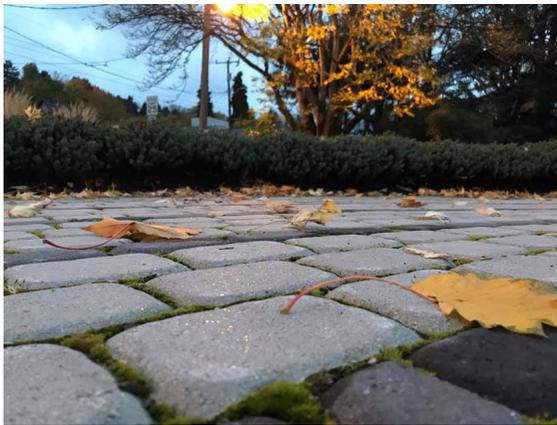
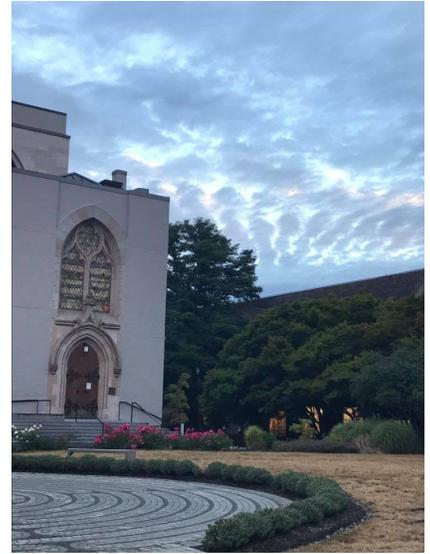
The Hallock Institute, a ministry of the Diocese of Olympia, oversees an archive of the music and papers of Peter R. Hallock; creates editions of Hallock’s unpublished works; advocates, publicizes, and broadens the audience for Hallock’s music and liturgical innovations; makes small grants to support the performance of his music; presents workshops and educational symposia, and manages the assets of the Institute

The board met via Zoom five times in 2020. The board worked to acquire for the Institute intellectual property rights for those works by Peter Hallock that had been published by Walton Music, as well as rights held by The Compline Choir for unpublished titles. The Institute now holds rights to nearly 200 titles by Peter Hallock. The board also adopted a revised 2020–2022 strategic plan and budget, retained the ser-



▲ *The Compline Psalter* is the Hallock Institute’s first publication, containing psalm settings written by Peter Hallock for the Compline Choir between 1978 and 2009.

Even when the cathedral building is closed, the outdoor labyrinth on the front lawn remains open and available around the clock, and many community members made walking the labyrinth a regular spiritual practice. Sarah Elwood made a habit of snapping a photo every time she visited, and posting the photo to the Saint Mark's Community Facebook Group, documenting both passage of time and the changing seasons, as well as the stability of a regular spiritual discipline.



All photos by Sarah Elwood.

# JUSTICE MINISTRIES

## THE CREATION CARE MINISTRY

The Creation Care Ministry of Saint Mark's Cathedral strives to faithfully address the ongoing global crisis of climate change. As stewards of the life-giving goodness of God's creation, we work with the Saint Mark's and broader world communities to educate ourselves and take meaningful action together to preserve our shared planet and sustain life for the generations to come. The ministry prompted the Vestry to set a goal for the cathedral and its congregation to have a net-zero carbon footprint by the year 2030. As we work to achieve this goal over the next 10 years, we hope to serve as an example to other faith communities, our neighborhood, and our city.

We hope to help our Saint Mark's community understand the deep connection between the care for creation and our faith. We have sponsored forums and suggested ways to reduce household carbon footprints, and then to be aware of opportunities to donate to carbon offset programs. We look for ways to connect the importance of creation care to other social justice issues such as racial injustice, immigration, and health. The efforts of the Creation Care Ministry aim to overcome our fears and sense of powerlessness about the climate crisis. We strive to do this work in collaboration with other Saint Mark's ministries when possible.

Saint Mark's facilities staff has already begun to make improvements to the campus in areas where the carbon footprint could be easily reduced, and that work continues. Larger projects—with larger price tags—will be undertaken in future years. To reach the goal of a net-zero carbon footprint for our congregation members by 2030, it is helpful to understand the carbon footprint of each parish household. We ask all Saint Mark's households to go to

[www.sustainislandhome.org](http://www.sustainislandhome.org) and measure their carbon footprint. (Easy instructions may be found on the Creation Care page of the Saint Mark's website.) Then, take some of the suggested actions suggested on that site to reduce your household's footprint. And finally, consider offsetting your remaining carbon footprint by donating to the carbon offset fund at Saint Mark's, which then transfers those donations to the Diocese of Olympia's Carbon Offset Cooperative Mission or to Carbon Offset To Alleviate Poverty ([COTAP.org](http://COTAP.org)) When we measure, reduce, and offset collectively, as a Saint Mark's community, we are energized to see the difference our individual actions make when taken together.

Much of the Creation Care Ministry's work in 2020 has been inspired by the "Awakening the Dreamer" series offered by The Pachamama Alliance ([connect.pachamama.org](http://connect.pachamama.org)) and by excellent resource material at Project Drawdown ([drawdown.org](http://drawdown.org)). These sources are free and easily available. Ministry members have also participated in local and global webinars and other programs through Earth Ministry/Interfaith Power and Light ([earthministry.org](http://earthministry.org)).

**A Year of Upheaval.** The Creation Care Ministry was just recently revived in late 2019, with plans to participate in the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day in April, 2020. Many of those plans were scrapped as COVID changed everyone's world. However, like many, we quickly adapted to Zoom and continued our work virtually, including hosting a 2-part forum in May and a second pair of forums in September. About a dozen people continued to meet monthly on Zoom. That platform was actually advantageous for some who would normally find traveling to the Cathedral for a meeting inconvenient.

▼ Photo by  
neighborhood resident  
Lucca Timmerman,  
October, 2020.





Many of us also discovered how convenient various webinars can be, and participated in events that we may not otherwise have been able to.

**Looking ahead to 2021.** We continue to bring awareness to our Saint Mark's community about the climate crisis and how our faith calls us to act. We plan to host more forums (online or otherwise) and participate in events offered by outside partnering groups. We continue to look for ways to collaborate with other ministries at Saint Mark's. In cooperation with the Dean, we will continue to develop the 10-year plan to achieve a net-zero carbon footprint by 2030. If you are interested in taking an active role in the work of the Creation Care ministry, please contact Marjorie Ringness at [marjorie@ringness.org](mailto:marjorie@ringness.org)

—Marjorie Ringness

#### **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

The Saint Mark's Habitat for Humanity crew assisted with renovations to the Carriage House early in 2020, but then, due to COVID restrictions, we were on hiatus for the remainder of the year. But we hope to be back in action as soon as possible in 2021!

—Jacquelyn & Gordon Miller

#### **HOMELESS ADVOCACY MINISTRY**

When Dean Thomason announced, in a message to the parish, that Tent City 3 would be returning to the Saint Mark's Cathedral Campus, the parish was excited. We had hosted Tent City every summer for 12 years in a row, 2001–2013, and, while we decry and lament the continuing crisis of homelessness in our city, we were delighted to be able to welcome them back in these extraordinary times. The cathedral has been blessed by their presence in many ways.

The encampment is somewhat smaller now than in previous years—while the city allows up to 100 people, in summer 2020, Tent City 3 housed 40–50. The cathedral provided water and electricity, although no one from Tent City was allowed to enter the cathedral building. Living in a tent is not the secure, permanent housing that everyone deserves. However, for some of those for whom such housing is inaccessible, a Tent City can be a better situation than more traditional homeless shelters, because it allows mixed-gender couples to live together, and the residents are not bound to restrictive curfews, which removes a significant barrier to employment. (Most residents of Tent City are employed full-time.) Learn

▲ Tent City 3 in the process of moving in the cathedral's lower south parking lot, July 30, 2020.

more about Tent City 3, including their current location, requests for donations, and information about providing meals for the community, at: [www.sharewheel.org](http://www.sharewheel.org).

Saint Mark's Threshold Fund, a partnership with Catholic Community Service, has continued. In 2020, the fund enabled 13 individuals to move out of homelessness into a safe secure home by providing the security deposit, first month's rent, and application fees.

—David Wagner

### **HUNGER OFFERING**

During the first three months of 2020, the Hunger Ministry deployed collection boxes and an information table at services on Sundays in Saint Mark's. We had planned to continue these activities, as we received robust donations to help alleviate hunger. When services were canceled due to the coronavirus, we had to completely suspend the collection practices. We did still continue to exist, and some people donated to Hunger Ministry online via Saint Mark's website.

We do not have plans for 2021 at this time, because so much of our donation activity took place during the morning liturgy in the Sanctuary at Saint Mark's. Going forward, we will still have a presence on Saint Mark's website and may still receive donations. Only God knows when we will be able to resume our in-person presence in the cathedral building.

—Vicky Greenbaum

### **INTERFAITH DIALOGUE GROUP**

This ministry emerged from discussions around *Renewing Our Covenant*, the document released in response to the presidential election of 2016. It focuses on commitment #8: to defend religious liberty, specifically for Muslim communities. We look for opportunities to meet others of different faiths, and closed 2019 with ob-

servances of prayers at Idris Mosque, a visit to a Sikh community center, and an event co-hosted with the Mideast Focus Ministry where Uyghur Muslim guests spoke about ongoing oppression in China. These types of activities came to a halt in March. We were planning a visit to Temple de Hirsch Sinai for a Shabbat service, which was indefinitely postponed.

There won't be much activity in this ministry until a vaccine is widely distributed and people of faith being to gather again. Even after houses of worship reopen, it may be some time before communities will be ready to welcome groups of guests.

—Brett Bowton-Meade

### **LOWELL ELEMENTARY VOLUNTEERS**

At the beginning of 2020, several volunteers from Saint Mark's were tutoring and lending support at our neighboring Lowell Elementary School, where many students are homeless or live in shelters. With school closure in the pandemic, families without resources faced immense hardship. Volunteer supporters of Lowell School opened an ongoing connection with the social worker, and at her request, early on in the pandemic, Saint Mark's provided grocery cards and board games for families stuck in place. We then provided art supplies in the summer, more grocery cards at Thanksgiving, and finally, at Christmas time, 326 Target gift cards for Lowell School parents for gifts and needs. (Gift cards replaced the physical Christmas presents that Saint Mark's members have presented to Lowell in years past, since it was impractical to acquire and delivery them safely.) Lowell volunteers hope school will be able to reopen in Spring 2021 and provide more connection for these wonderful families.

—The Rev. Canon Nancy Ross

## MIDEAST FOCUS MINISTRY

The Mideast Focus Ministry has three goals: (1) sponsor or support a major event to educate others about the issues concerning the lives of Palestinians and Israelis; (2) offer a film series; and (3) provide resources to organizations working for peace and justice in the Holy Land—in 2020 these included Friends of Sabeel North America and Tent of Nations, Daoud Nassar’s farm outside Bethlehem.

Our 2020 Film Series, the theme of which was “Coping with Occupation” began as planned. On Sunday February 16, at 10 a.m., an introductory event was held in Bloedel Hall, featuring a live performance of a play by Ed Mast and Yusef Mahmoud titled *Where I Grew Up*. Later that same week, the film series began, as usual, with a well-attended catered reception in Bloedel Hall before the screening of the comedy *Tel Aviv on Fire*. The evening was hosted by playwright Ed Mast.

But before we could show our second film, we experienced the sudden shut down of all public events because of the pandemic. We discussed what to do, and decided to attempt to convert the entire remainder of the film series to a “virtual” online offering. To do this we had to contact all the sources for the films and arrange for a new form of delivery, and plan Zoom-based community conversations after each screening, with the director, writer, or other expert in atten-

dance. Thanks to the work and know-how of our member Richard Gilbert we were able to do this. It was not one simple switch; unique arrangements had to be tailor-made for each film. Some films were made available to be watched on-demand at the viewers convenience, before gathering for a conversation, others could only be shown online at a single scheduled time.

The films presented online were:

- ◆ *Hurdle*, a documentary about young men in Bethlehem who cope with occupation through the dangerous art/sport of parkour, followed by a discussion with filmmaker Michael Rowley
- ◆ *Voices Across the Divide* hosted by the filmmaker, author, and physician Dr. Alice Rothchild;
- ◆ *Gaza Fights for Freedom*, with a short film by Farah Nabulsi, *Nightmare of Gaza*;
- ◆ *Imprisoning a Generation*, paired with another short by Nabulsi, *Today They Took My Son*, and hosted by former Congressman Dr. Brian Baird and Alice Rothchild;
- ◆ and finally, *The Lobby—USA*, a compilation of four documentaries by Al Jazeera, paired with a third Nabulsi film, *Oceans of Injustice*, and followed by a discussion with former U.S. Attorney John McKay, who has worked for the government in Ramallah.

This virtual series worked so well, and the pandemic is still with us, so we will present

▼ Walking the Stations of the Cross together on March 8, 2020. This photograph captures one of the final public liturgies inside the cathedral of 2020. The cathedral building was closed three days later. Photo by Kevin Johnson.



the 2021 series in the same way, starting in mid-February. For further information, contact Mary Segall, chair, at [mesegall@icloud.com](mailto:mesegall@icloud.com).

—Mary Segall

### NOEL HOUSE SHELTER

For over 20 years, Saint Mark's Cathedral has opened its doors to 30 women each night of the week. They have slept in Bloedel Hall and received an evening snack and light breakfast. Our dedicated volunteers have cooked soup, sewed holiday bags, shopped for groceries, picked up and delivered donations from Food Lifeline, tended the vegetable garden, and served meals in the evenings and mornings. Then, when COVID-19 required the cathedral to close to the public, the women moved to various other emergency shelters set up by the city.

Then, in September of 2020, wonderful news: all the women who had been hosted in Bloedel found a permanent home in the Central area of Seattle. The building where they are housed is a former day care center named the Bunny Wilburn Home, in honor of a woman who spend decades advocating for quality child care and family services. Each woman has her own bed and space to keep belongings. They do not have to leave in the morning. Operation Sack Lunch is providing breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and a full time case manager is on-site.

With this wonderful news, the Noel House Ministry at Saint Mark's has come to end. The volunteers from the Saint Mark's com-

munity will treasure the memories of the women they were blessed to be able to serve over the course of so many years. When it is safe to gather again, we will plan an event for volunteers to meet and tell stories and reminisce.

—Norva Osborn

### SANCTUARY

Sanctuary at Saint Mark's stands with Jaime Rubio Sulificio, who has been living here in Sanctuary since March 2019 while he pursues a legal path to keep his family together. The pandemic has slowed any movement on his case, and so 2020 has been a year of tense waiting, even as Jaime's family lives their fullest possible life together.

Jaime himself, a skilled carpenter, has done extensive work around the cathedral, for which we are immensely grateful. His wife Keiko Maruyama is an ardent gardener who volunteers with the Saint Mark's Garden Ministry, and has grown a glorious vegetable garden for her family on the cathedral grounds (and shared its bounty widely). They are remarkable people.

The Sanctuary Ministry continues our committed partnership with Casa Latina, a leading immigrant and worker rights organization in Seattle, supporting their Workers Relief Fund that provided critical support when jobs for day workers ceased, leaving families were in dire need. As Christmas approached, the Saint Mark's community provided 262 Target gift cards for groceries and Christmas gifts for the children of Casa Latina families (in lieu of the physical gifts given from Saint Mark's in years past, which this year could not have been delivered safely).

In January, Saint Mark's Sanctuary volunteers Dee Cappelletti, Melinda Kmitta, George Moore, and Maris Olsen, along with Canon Nancy Ross, joined a team of Episcopalians from around the country witnessing the realities and meeting refugees and asylees, some 2,000 strong at that

▼ Jaime Rubio, our guest in Sanctuary, has lent his professional expertise as a contractor to many projects on the cathedral campus, including the stripping and refinishing the organ loft's floor..





time, all camped in a squalid tent city at our southern border dividing Brownsville, Texas, and Matamoros, Mexico. Most have been waiting months for a chance for an asylum hearing. We continue our support of Team Brownsville who provides for their needs, and we continue building connections in the McAllen/Brownsville area in border ministry.

Several Saint Mark's Sanctuary volunteers also participated in the 2020 Border Ministry Summit out of San Diego, virtual this year.

—*The Rev. Canon Nancy Ross*

#### **ST. BRIDGET'S BANQUET: ST. MARTIN DE PORRES SHELTER**

Despite the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, the Saint Martin de Porres meals ministry continued to provide warm, nutritious meals twice monthly to the shelter for homeless men over 50 on Alaskan Way. The outbreak of the pandemic in April required that the Cathedral's kitchen be closed. The ministry responded with a program of providing frozen lasagna dinners and fresh food twice a month, as well as serving two dinners to the Tent City 3 residents while they were in residence at Saint Mark's. A dedicated team

of cooks, shoppers, and drivers was able to continue the ministry thanks to the continued leadership and financial support of Saint Mark's and the Hunger Offering.

—*Chris Rigos*

#### **ST. BRIDGET'S BANQUET: TEEN FEED**

In 2020, Saint Brigid's Banquet team members from Saint Mark's continued to provide hot, nutritious meals every other month to homeless youth in the University District through the UW Teen Feed program. As the need in our community increased, we were asked to provide meals to approximately 90 guests—almost double the number served per meal in 2019. Although pandemic restrictions made assembling and delivering these meals challenging, we were able to offer sloppy joes, frozen lasagna, homemade enchiladas, or purchased pupusas and beans to hungry kids on schedule. Thanks to the faithful ministry of St. Brigid's Banquet and financial support from Saint Mark's and the Hunger Offering, over 500 dinners were provided this past year to homeless youth in our community.

—*Maris Olsen*

▲ Canon Jennifer King Daugherty presides at an outdoor liturgy of Baptism on All Saints' Day, November 1, 2020.

► Members of the Compline Choir met outdoors behind the St. Nicholas building to share fellowship and chant the office of Compline together.



### MISSION TO SEAFARERS

The Mission to Seafarers is a world-wide Anglican ministry, which offers hospitality and practical support to mariners locally in the ports of Seattle, Tacoma and Everett. Cargo ship chaplains visit ships, and supply mariners with necessities such as SIM cards, and other items ranging from Bibles, devotional literature, rosaries, and prayer cards, to newspapers, seafarers magazines, local maps, and greatly appreciated issues of *National Geographic*. Occasionally, chaplains offer rides into the city or to shopping malls. In the Christmas season, chaplains bring ditty bags with basic supplies, including hand-knitted watch caps.

Ship visitors from Saint Mark's include members of the Seattle Service Corps and Deacon Earl Grout. Deacon Earl focuses his visits on the Port of Tacoma, and occasionally visits ships in Seattle. The Service Corps members concentrate their efforts mostly on Seattle. In serving the seafarers, volunteers bring God's love to often forgotten sailors, who work in difficult conditions

far from their homes. Saint Mark's has several summer drivers.

In a normal cruise ship season, volunteers would shuttle crew members from Pier 91 to downtown Seattle and back. This year, due to the pandemic, cruise ships did not visit Seattle, effectively suspending this part of our ministry.

Ship visits were suspended entirely in mid-March, when most of the terminals in Tacoma and Seattle closed to visitors. Although most of them now admit visitors, we will only resume our ministry activities when it appears safe to do so.

—*The Rev. Earl Grout*

### UCEF

Saint Mark's contributes to the United Churches Emergency Fund, which provides rent and utilities assistance. They are an agency that focuses on prevention from eviction and have a cost-effective model for needed services.



◀ Members of the Saint Mark's Singers and the Cathedral Choir met on the front patio for a brief outdoor prayer service with hymns.

At a Saint Mark's forum on March 1, we heard a presentation from Randall Lucas, the treasurer of UCEF, and we made up some snack packs. We delivered the snack packs a few days later on what happened to be the last day their office at UCC was open to the public.

They have continued to provide assistance in a remote fashion during the Pandemic. Their Director, Jo Gustafson, mentioned they had provided more funds in September 2020 than ever before: 36 grants totaling \$7,200. She said it was the first time that landlords themselves made inquiries to get their tenants some help.

This is a great organization that is worthy of additional support—find out more at [ucef-seattle.org](http://ucef-seattle.org). We have not scheduled more informational activities since the forum in March—we hope to do more when we are able to meet together again.

—Brett Bowton-Meade



◀ One of the signs made for the "Altar in the World" event, November 14, 2020, during which participants made a mini-pilgrimage around the cathedral campus. At each stop along the route, a sign presented an invitation to reflection, prayer, and gratitude.

# FAITH FORMATION

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation quickly pivoted to all virtual offerings, and Saint Mark's "Online Community Life" content became the connection bulletin. From making home altars for Holy week, to online discussion with Dean Thomason on Walter Brueggemann's, *Sabbath as Resistance*, the cathedral community experienced formation, worship, ministry and social connection with new breath and breadth.

In January 2020 Saint Mark's had launched **The Radix Project: Small Groups/Deep Roots**. "Radix," which draws from the Latin word for root, brought together groups of 6–8 people to share their stories, reflect on Holy Scripture and sacred art, and pray for one another with intention. More than 150 people in 18 small groups met weekly for six weeks. This offering was perfectly suited to make the transition to virtual meetings, when meeting in person became unsafe just a few weeks later. Participants found community and connection during the precipitous pandemic closure with two further Radix Project series in 2020, one starting in April and one in October.

Leveraging virtual platforms enabled many events to continue and expand. **The Inquirers' Class**, *Living the Questions*, launched with 21 participants in the Spring and 12 more in the Fall, a number of whom were not from the Seattle area, indicating the wider reach of the cathedral community during the pandemic. **Wednesday forums** brought topics such as spiritual practices, and new groups formed to discuss weekly Lectionary readings. **Education for Ministry (EfM)** cohorts continued to meet weekly. **Weekday Evening and Thursday Morning Prayer** saw new participants join who may not have been able to attend in person even

prior to the pandemic. The **Spirited Women** group continued their commitment with "mini-retreats" by gathering virtually to connect, reflect, create, and pray. The long-standing **Tuesday Bible Study**, which each week engages with the scripture texts for the following Sunday, is going strong, and grew considerably during COVID. Moving to a Zoom format allowed new participants to join, including some outside Saint Mark's community.

With the murder of George Floyd, we were once again violently confronted with long-standing racial injustice in our nation. As individuals, and a faith community, we grappled with bedrock questions: What do I need to learn? How must I, and our church, respond? Out of these questions, **Taking Up Our Responsibility for Racial Justice** developed as a four-week study and discussion series in the summer, starting from the premise that the responsibility for change lies with white people. We examined the theology, history, and presence of racism in our lives today, and discussed ways to move forward toward justice while continuing doing our own inner work for change. This ongoing work continued in the fall with a watch party and discussion of the seminal documentary *13th* and a discussion on Presiding Bishop Curry's most recent book, *Love Is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times*.

With travel on hold, the **pilgrimage to Iona** and the Celtic missions of northern England and Scotland planned for August of 2020 was postponed, then postponed again. (It is now scheduled for Summer 2022.) But we are reminded that pilgrimage involves prayer, preparation, and an openness to be changed by experiences—and with that mindset a pilgrimage can unfold even closer to home. Spring 2021 programming for

**Wisdom School** has also been postponed until we can assemble in person again, and will resume with a hybrid model that allows for participants to also join virtually.

Renowned interspiritual teacher **Mirabai Starr** returned to Saint Mark's in December, albeit virtually, to offer a "Blue Christmas" workshop on loss, grief, and hope through poetry and contemplative reading, deep dialogue in small breakout groups, writing exercises, and a closing liturgy. She shared teachings from the mystics of various traditions that illuminated the connection between loss, spiritual longing, and re-framing the future.

While not physically together, the cathedral community built on existing connections and found new ways to engage in spiritual growth that will continue to shape how we gather together in the years to come.

We are looking forward to learning from and working alongside the Rev. Canon Walter Brownridge, who will serve as Saint Mark's Theologian-in-Residence in 2021. He will engage our cathedral community at periodic intervals as theologian, priest, preacher, teacher, and ministry consultant.

—Emily Meeks

### THE RADIX PROJECT

The year 2020 was the birth of a new, original faith formation offering of small group study called The Radix Project. In its first six week series, which began in January, 150 people participated in weekly small groups for six weeks to build community, study scripture, and pray for one another. These small groups connected parishioners across 3 different Sunday services within the Cathedral, and served the unique role of creating spaces for lay-led Bible study and fellowship to flourish. A second, original series was planned and adapted to a Zoom format for the spring. The spring series in-



involved 85 people in a study of the Resurrection Narratives in the gospels. A third six-week series in the fall engaged 81 people by Zoom, some of whom began attending Saint Mark's via livestream for the first time during the pandemic.

Radix groups will continue on a quarterly basis in 2021 for six weeks each series, and serve as a wonderful connection point for newcomers to build relationships and explore their faith with others in the community.

—Kelly Moody,  
Associate for Spiritual Formation

▲ Esther Morse watches the livestream of the Baptism of Lydia McNary Crosbie, November 15, 2020. Photo by Rebekah Gilmore.



▲ The Alleluia banner displayed for Easter 2020 incorporates the “alleluia scrolls” made by the children of Saint Mark’s at the Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras celebration, and then symbolically buried for Lent. Shrove Tuesday was just two weeks before the closure of the building due to the pandemic. The banner was constructed by Pam Grey.

## CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

In January of 2020, the Saint Mark’s staff formation team, consisting of The Rev. Canon Cristi Chapman, Nicole Silvernale (youth ministry) and Kelly Moody (CFM) traveled to Atlanta, Georgia for the annual Episcopal FORMA conference, also hearing William Barber, Bishop Curry, and The Rev. Kelle Brown Douglas preach and teach at the Historically Black University, Clark Atlanta University.

In March, CFM leaders were prepared to participate in the diocesan-wide formation event, *Better Together*, and were looking forward to hosting Episcopal formation legend Sharon Ely Peterson for a workshop on Faith at Home, when COVID-19 closed our doors.

In April, we began offering Godly Play, older elementary Sunday school, and parent connection groups by Zoom. Additionally, we committed to providing original, interactive, formation content twice a week via newsletter. Highlights included Holy Week preparation videos, voice message recordings, and the launch of the *Prayer Podcast for Children and Families*.

Our favorite summer formation event for all ages, *Eat, Play, Love*, was suspended, and a faith at home advisory team was gathered to advise on the needs and bandwidth for online programming.

Thanks to a generous gift from a parishioner, we had the opportunity to create “worship at home” kits for all Saint Mark’s families with children. These were assembled and delivered in August, and included favorites like Big Dipper Waxworks beeswax candles, an olive wood cross, The Parable of the Good Shepherd storybook, a candle snuffer, and a Book of Common Prayer.

On a Saturday in November, the entire cathedral community was invited to a safe outdoor experience on the cathedral campus. Called *Altar in the World*, participants performed a “mini-pilgrimage,” walking between stations set up around the cathe-

dral property, creating “manna bags” (containing items of use to people living outside or without stable safe shelter) to be given away, and invited into prayerful reflection. The event ended with a brief service of Noonday Prayer around the labyrinth.

In the fall, weekly Church School programming was coordinated with the release of weekly podcast episodes to follow the chapters of *The Path*, an easy-to-read Bible organized by stories, suitable for all ages. In December, the podcast shifted to support Cathedral-wide “Advent at Home” efforts to engage parishioners of all ages in daily evening prayer.

In 2021, we look with hope to the return of *Eat, Play, Love* in the summer, and continue to innovate our at-home opportunities for prayer, worship, and playful study of scripture.

—Kelly Moody,  
Associate for Spiritual Formation

## BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

In January of 2020, on the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, the Cathedral community witnessed three elementary-aged children and one baby receive the sacrament of Baptism: Calvin and Mae Holland, Lewis Gosline, and Jackson Terwilliger.

Five baptisms were planned for the Easter Vigil, but all baptisms were suspended until All Saints’ Day, November 1, 2020, when Owen Wang and Brian Kapski were baptized in a special outdoor service on the labyrinth, carried out in accordance with COVID gathering guidelines. Lydia Crosbie, unable to participate on November 1 at the last minute due to possible virus exposure, was subsequently baptized in the nave during the Sunday morning service on November 15.

Already in 2021, we welcomed two adults to receive the sacrament of Baptism, according to COVID protocols, on the 2021 Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord: Cayla Cocanour

and Aaron Highlands. The next opportunity for baptism will be at the Easter Vigil Service.

—Kelly Moody,  
Associate for Spiritual Formation

### THE WISDOM SCHOOL AT SAINT MARK'S

Wisdom School programming began the year with a well-attended workshop on the Enneagram, and a Lenten series on Vulnerability got just one session in before the Cathedral closed due to the pandemic. Plans for a Men's Retreat in the spring and the Pilgrimage to Iona and the Celtic Missions were scrapped, and we have these rescheduled for 2022 at this point. The Wisdom School planning team developed a fine curriculum for the 2020–2021 program year, centered on the theme of *The Spirituality of Desire*, only to see these offerings postponed one by one as well. We did have Mirabai Starr offer a Zoom-based workshop on grief and hope in December, and look to welcome her again in 2021. Indeed, all the speakers and facilitators previously scheduled have committed to returning when it is safe to do so, and we look forward to that time.

—The Very Rev. Steve Thomason

### YOUTH GROUP

Pandemic quarantine is not ideal for youth group togetherness but togetherness in Christ has nonetheless happened among the youth of Saint Mark's Cathedral. During the early months of 2020, the youth met weekly for "Donuts and Discussion" on Sunday mornings, monthly for service projects or fellowship, and assisted in the Mardi Gras celebration just two short weeks before the pandemic closure.

In June of 2020, Nicole Silvernale departed as Youth Minister, and Associate Musician and Choir School Director Rebekah Gilmore, was asked to become the Interim Youth Minister as well. The youth group currently

meets monthly for a variety of online and in-person activities from Zoom cookie bakes and movie watching parties, to leaf raking blitzes and Vespers services on the outdoor labyrinth.

When activities are online, we get to visit each other's kitchens and enjoy youth group in our pajamas. As the world is discovering, conversations can be very deep using an online platform but we grieve the loss of full body language in conversation and the touch of another's hand during prayer. To be able to look each other in the eye, we have twice gathered, masked and distanced, at the cathedral to light candles as the sun went down and pray ancient and contemporary words of hope for our world and light in our darkness. While together in person, we cared for the cathedral campus by raking autumn leaves and we made a pilgrimage around the campus using a walking meditation and reflecting on the experiences of the past year.

Begun in late November 2020, nine of our youth are pioneering a new, year-long, confirmation class shaped by the Early Church's catechumenate process of initiation and a curriculum entitled *Confirm Not Conform*. Four outstanding lay adult guides are partnering with the Youth Minister and priests in this process inquiry, faith formation, and self-examination for our youth.

—Rebekah Gilmore,  
Interim Director of Youth Ministry

▼ The Youth Group prayed a candlelight vespers service together around the labyrinth on October 18, 2020, one of just two in-person youth events since the closure of the building. Photo by David Wagner.



## COMMUNITY LIFE



### BEEKEEPING MINISTRY

▲ Rob Reid, with Yoshi and Jaime Rubio, opens one of the cathedral beehives on the roof of Bloedel Hall. The Rubio-Maruyama family has helped with the maintenance of the hives throughout 2020. Photo by Penny Reid.

We started the year with no bees because our previous hives had not survived the winter. We ordered two nucs (boxes of bees), each with a queen. We installed the bees in May in the existing empty hives on the roof of Bloedel Hall. A big discovery: somehow we lost a queen in one of the hives so we moved some new eggs from the other hive. This allowed the bees to groom a new queen—Success! I was amazed that the colony would actually do this. Both hives were doing well at that point. Then we did some tests and discovered the hives had varroa mites. These mites are a major cause of hive loss. For the first time, we treated the hives in a manner that doesn't significantly harm the bees, but kills the mites. Another success! Now, one of the hives is thriving

and surviving the cold, wet weather. We are refraining from disturbing our bees during the winter, another new strategy. Bees are very adaptable to the cold; moisture is more of a concern.

Thanks to help from Jaime, Keiko and Yoshi (our sanctuary residents), the bees are checked more frequently than in the past. This year of COVID has not significantly impacted the bees themselves but, unfortunately we have not been able to allow many visitors. As I observe the bees, I strive to do what allows the bees to survive not only in our hives but in nature. I look forward to sharing these stars of Creation who have been pollinating and making honey for millions of years.

—Rob Reid

### THE CATHEDRAL FOUNDATION OF THE DIOCESE OF OLYMPIA

The Cathedral Foundation of the Diocese of Olympia was incorporated in 1995. Its mission is to raise and manage endowment and capital reserve funds to preserve and enhance the buildings and grounds of Saint Mark's Cathedral. In 2018, the Foundation contributed \$ 1,250,000 to the Living Stones Capital Campaign for the East Façade and the Celtic Cross. In 2020, the Foundation contributed \$ 54,357 in distributions from endowments toward covering some of the enormous costs of planned upkeep and maintenance of the Cathedral's buildings and grounds and an additional \$ 17,925 in specific requests from the capital reserve fund.

The Cathedral's campus is a treasured asset of our Cathedral parish, the Diocese of Olympia, and our community. There are seemingly infinite needs but extremely lim-

ited resources for maintaining and transforming Cathedral House, Leffler House, and the Saint Nicholas building. The funds available for this work include the Annual Campaign (which covers the Cathedral's annual operations and programs), future capital campaigns, and the Foundation's assets which include as of January 12, 2021:

- ◆ Investments totaling \$ 1,640,294 in the Diocesan Investment Fund (DIF). The Foundation disburses approximately 4% of the endowment fund annually to the Cathedral but this amount is insufficient to meet the Cathedral's many immediate and long-term facility needs.
- ◆ The capital reserve fund totaling \$ 119,116. The Foundation makes annual disbursements from this fund to cover some of the Cathedral's unbudgeted building and grounds expenses when requested by the Dean. The Foundation board of directors has a policy of maintaining a minimum balance of \$ 100,000 for emergencies and disasters but will reassess this policy during 2021 if unable to raise sufficient funds to meet the Cathedral's current needs.

As you consider your many options for charitable contributions and planned giving within your church and community, we hope that you will consider both the Cathedral and the Foundation as resources to help you make a meaningful impact on our Cathedral community and its buildings and grounds.

The COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions resulted in:

- ◆ Cancellation of a Life Planning Workshop on Celebrating Life in the Resurrection at Saint Thomas (Medina) on March 14, 2020
- ◆ Cancellation of Cathedral Days scheduled for May 9, 2020 and April 25, 2021
- ◆ Postponement of a major planned giving initiative until pandemic-related restrictions are lifted

—Phil Haas

## COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

The Communications team of Saint Mark's oversees all the ways that the cathedral tells its story—to ourselves, to our neighbors, and to the world. This includes printed material, from service leaflets to banners to *The Rubric*, the cathedral website, social media, electronic communication, video, event promotion and advertising, press releases and media relations, branding and visual identity across platforms, and responding to miscellaneous inquiries of every description.

We began the year 2020 with a number of goals, including improving procedures for keeping the website up to date, refreshing and standardizing the look of the cathedral's printed informational brochures, addressing interior and exterior signage, and implementing a digital asset management system for photographs. The cathedral received attention in local media and the Episcopal News Service after it was vandalized with spray paint in late January.

But when the pandemic arrived in March, activities of the Communications office changed dramatically, both in the work that needed to be done, and what that work meant. Suddenly, the communications channels that has previously served to *facilitate* the physical gathering of the community, instead themselves *became* the means by which the community could gather. The email version of the cathedral's weekly newsletter, which for years had been a sort of appendage to the print version, became not just the only newsletter, but the principal means of communicating to the congregation. Saint Mark's social media presence on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube had been decent in recent years, but never felt like a core part of the mission of the parish until the moment it became one of the few remaining "places" that the parish could connect with itself.

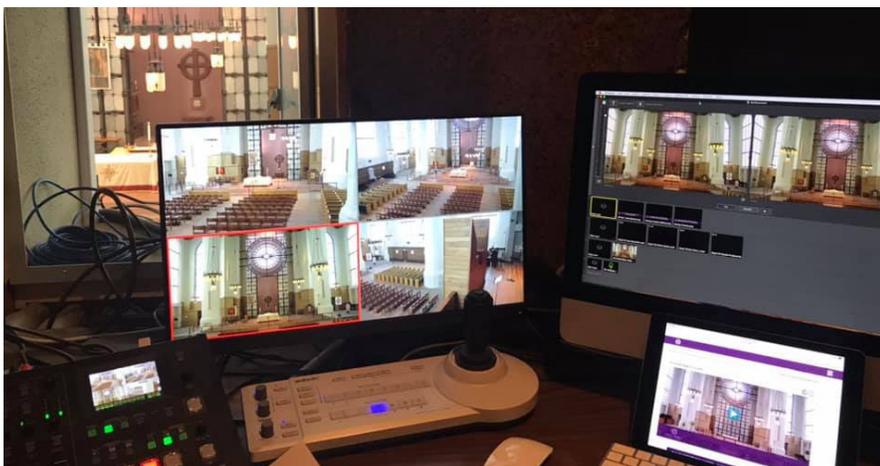
Saint Mark's began livestreaming video of its liturgies beginning on Easter Sunday,

**2020 CATHEDRAL COMMUNICATIONS BY THE NUMBERS**

New sign-ups to the cathedral email list in 2020 . . . . .	498
Net change in Facebook followers in 2020. . . . .	+587
Net new subscribers to Saint Mark's YouTube channel in 2020 . . . . .	+1,007
Unique viewers on Vimeo, June-Dec. 2020 . . . . .	6,740
Total YouTube views in 2020 . . . . .	151,800
Total YouTube watch time in 2020 . . . . .	97,659.7 hours

2017. It cannot be emphasized frequently enough what a brave and far-sighted decision this was. The equipment and installation required a substantial initial outlay of money, as well as on ongoing commitment to staffing and maintenance of the system, even though for almost three years the services were seen live online by only a few dozen viewers each week. However, the moment the building was closed to public worship, Saint Mark's found itself in a better position with respect to livestreamed liturgies than almost any other Episcopal church in the nation—not only because we had a functioning system of professional remote-controlled cameras and microphones already permanently installed in the nave, but, even more importantly, because we had in Christopher Brown a staff videographer with years of practice making our liturgy look and sound great, fluently editing audio and video in real time, but never calling attention to how difficult and sophisticated his work behind the scenes truly is. As a participant located outside Seattle

▼ The video booth, where the livestream cameras are controlled and the video is edited in real time.



commented on Facebook in those very early days, “I think because they do this regularly, it’s not slapped together!”

But it was not enough to continue the livestream as it had existed since 2017. Beginning very soon after the closure of the building, Christopher was already valiantly learning new skills, implementing new strategies, and responding to new challenges. These ranged from simple innovations, like putting words on the screen, to entirely unfamiliar projects like streaming liturgies from outdoors or “dropping in” prerecorded videos. To meet our new needs, we changed not only the streaming service provider (from Dacast to Vimeo), but also the software Chris uses to manage the stream (from Wirecast to LivestreamStudio), requiring him to become an expert in the use of an entirely new software tool from scratch in the midst of all the other challenges of the pandemic. This software change had the added benefit of making it possible to easily stream live to Facebook and YouTube in addition to just the cathedral website, bringing Saint Mark's offerings to new and more distant participants.

In addition to the livestreamed liturgies and events, the cathedral began to use internet video in entirely new ways. Starting in Lent 2020, Dean Thomason began recording video messages to parish. Ministry leaders recorded video introductions to their ministries, which were posted on the cathedral website. Canon Kleinschmidt began a weekly live video introduction to the hymns chosen for that week's liturgy. “Virtual choir” videos were created for inclusion

in Sunday liturgies, but went on to have a life of their own as YouTube uploads. And of course, the Zoom teleconferencing platform took over so many aspects of cathedral life, from one-on-one conversations, to the Daily Office liturgies that were able to continue uninterrupted, to online special events attracting hundreds of participants from across the country.

The organization and function of the cathedral website needed change in both obvious and subtle ways. A new page, “Online Community Life,” was created, where announcements and messages of all kinds could be conveniently collected together. Publications that were primarily printed pieces in the past, such as the cathedral’s magazine *The Rubric*, the Ministry Directory, and even the service leaflet itself, were either adapted to work better on the web, or completely reinvented as web publications.

Social Media also took on an entirely new salience when other ways of being together became unsafe. One of the first Communications initiatives after the closure of the building was the creation of a Facebook “group” called “Saint Mark’s Community Life during the Closure.” This group is “closed,” meaning that members need to request permission before being able to see the content, and this degree of semi-privacy created a space where members of the community of Saint Mark’s (old and new, and near and far) could both respond to prompts and postings from the cathedral leadership itself, as well post their own content, finding ways to use the group that the leadership never anticipated.

Special thanks are due to Amanda Osenga and Sarah Elwood, who along with many others have made the Facebook group the vibrant space it has become; Kevin Johnson, whose beautiful photography continues to make almost everything that the Communications office produces more beautiful and expressive; Barbara Erickson, who has continued to make preachers’ sermons available each week; David Wild, whose



◀ Robert Stevens and Canon Nancy Ross participate in a community Zoom conversation following the livestreamed liturgy for the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6, 2020. Photo by Michael Seewer.

professional video experience and advice have been a priceless resource; and Michael Perera, who not only served as Vestry liaison for Communications, but also took primary responsibility for the cathedral’s Instagram presence and its podcast, *Cathedral Conversations*. Among the staff, special thanks go to Adam Conley, who edits the content of *The Rubric*; Kelly Moody and Rebekah Gilmore, who (among their many other children/youth communications initiatives), created the fantastic *Prayer Podcast for Children and Families* during 2020; and Christopher Brown, Madeleine Stephens, and Michael Seewer, whose contributions to cathedral Communications are too numerous to list.

As we enter 2021, the Communications team will play a large role as the building gradually reopens for public worship, requiring the timely dissemination of new guidelines, new web tools, new signage, and more. The website, the email newsletter, and the livestream will see continual improvements and refinements. Please contact Communications Director Gregory Bloch with feedback about any of the cathedral’s communications channels, or if you’d like to become more closely involved.

—Gregory Bloch,  
Director of Communications

## FACILITIES COMMITTEE

As Junior Warden for Facilities and chair of the Facilities Committee, I often remind people that Saint Mark's encompasses more than just the Cathedral structure. Our church campus also includes Leffler House, Saint Nicholas school, Carriage House, Deanery, and several acres of landscaped grounds. Each of these assets, all well over 75 years old, require regular inspection and ongoing maintenance—a large task to be sure. It is the responsibility of the Facilities Committee to manage these assets by identifying projects requiring deferred maintenance, monitoring current work, and forwarding recommended major initiatives to the Vestry for approval.

During the past year, the Cathedral facilities staff has tackled projects large and small in an effort to preserve and maintain this iconic place of worship we cherish. In an unexpected silver lining to the dark cloud of the pandemic, some of these projects were only possible because the closure of the building minimized any disruption to the cathedral's normal functioning. I'm pleased to share highlights of those accomplishments here.

## CATHEDRAL (INTERIOR)

- ◆ Nave floor concrete cleaned and sealant applied
- ◆ Organ gallery floor complete restored—sanded to bare wood and refinished with multiple coats.
- ◆ Altar platform ramp repainted following the installation of new handrails

## CATHEDRAL (EXTERIOR)

- ◆ Several decaying and dangerous trees removed from the front of the cathedral
- ◆ Memorial benches installed around the labyrinth on the front lawn
- ◆ Rear driveway guardrail repaired and repainted
- ◆ Insulation and finish applied to exterior envelope (left unfinished by the contractor in 2018)
- ◆ Concrete planters installed to enhance the north side of the Cathedral and provide protection for the newly installed envelope finish

## CATHEDRAL HOUSE

- ◆ Hallways and common spaces repainted with an updated color palette

▼ Thanks to a generous memorial gift from The Rev. Pat Taylor, the cathedral has begun the daunting task of organizing and storing its huge quantity of historical documents and artifacts in a new dedicated archive in the crypt. Alexa Minasian, a graduate student in the University of Washington Information School, has begun the work, both of processing the material itself, and formulating policies and procedures for the archive.



- ◆ Bloedel Hall received a complete refresh, with new paint, waxed floors, and the addition of a new coffee station.
- ◆ New washer and dryer installed for use by the Altar Guild
- ◆ Choir room refreshed with windowsills, a new coat of paint and new light fixtures
- ◆ Restrooms on Level 5 completely remodeled as all-gender restrooms

#### **LEFFLER HOUSE**

- ◆ New washer and dryer installed upstairs for use by the Seattle Service Corp
- ◆ Front porch decking thoroughly cleaned and sealant applied
- ◆ Back stairs entirely replaced

#### **CARRIAGE HOUSE**

- ◆ Restroom remodeled
- ◆ Storage closet built for the Quilt Ministry

#### **DEANERY**

- ◆ Gutters repaired and the exterior trim repainted.

#### **ST. NICHOLAS BUILDING**

- ◆ Extensive repairs made to the HVAC system to enhance creature comfort and improve energy efficiency

#### **CREATION CARE INITIATIVES**

- ◆ Downlights in the nave ceiling, which have been mostly non-functional for many years, replaced with new energy-efficient fixtures and LED bulbs
- ◆ New bike rack installed
- ◆ Electric vehicle charging station installed in the south parking lot (scheduled completion February 2021)
- ◆ New HVAC controls project currently underway (scheduled completion June 2021)

The majority of these projects have been undertaken and completed by our on-site facilities staff. This has avoided dependency on contracted services and provided substantial financial savings.



◀ Photo by Sarah Elwood.

David Wagner, facilities manager, oversees the operation, maintenance, and upkeep of all campus buildings. He is joined by Chris Brown, facilities assistant, with volunteer assistance from Jaime Rubio and Ray Miller.

—Walter Stuteville,  
*Junior Warden for Facilities*

#### **GARDEN MINISTRY**

The Saint Mark's Cathedral Garden Volunteers have been caring for the Great Lawn of the Cathedral for many years, organized as a ministry in the early 2000s. We meet the 2nd Saturday of the month, February through November, 9 a.m.–noon.

We were busy during the year in spite of the restrictions caused by the pandemic. Wearing of masks and keeping our distance from each other was easy to do in the outdoor space. In March, compost was spread on the lawn. A towering grass and its huge root ball were removed at that time and later in the year, a Japanese maple was planted in the space. At the November work party, four Crepe Myrtle trees were planted close by the labyrinth benches. In addition, 200 tulip bulbs were planted around the labyrinth to add to the ones planted in 2018.

On an ongoing basis, our work involves the very basics of good gardening: weeding, pruning, watering. The result of these routine chores is the beauty that we see through each season of the year.

We welcome all to join us, green thumb or not. Just bring your gloves and a water bottle. We have extra tools. And there are always fresh cookies to enjoy!

—Norva Osborn & Kathy Sodergren



▲ The farewell quilt made by the Quilt Ministry to be presented to The Rev. Cristi Chapman on her final Sunday at Saint Mark's.

#### **MEDICAL EQUIPMENT RESOURCE CENTER**

The Medical Resource Center has two goals. First, to make medical equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and canes, available to those who need it, both within the community of Saint Mark's and beyond. Second, to maintain first aid kits and medical emergency response equipment in the cathedral buildings.

We have received more donations of medical equipment than were requested, so early in 2020 we were able to respond to the requests from Salaam Cultural Mission for equipment for Syrian refugees in Jordan. We worked closely with Rita Zawaidah ship the equipment to Jordan via container, where it was distributed to Syrian refugees who were fleeing the brutal war.

Donations of medical equipment are always welcomed. And if you have a need, the equipment is available to be borrowed—send an email to Mary Segall ([mesevall@icloud.com](mailto:mesevall@icloud.com)) for further information. .

The first aid kits that are distributed in 13 different locations across the Saint Mark's campus are restocked in collaboration with Dr. Kristen Austin.

—Mary Segall

#### **QUILT MINISTRY**

The Quilt Ministry was able to meet three times in 2020 before the Cathedral closed. But that did not stop the work, as members continued to create quilts at home. Just before closure we were almost set up in our new workspace in the Carriage House. Special thanks to the Saint Mark's Habitat for Humanity crew for the skilled and lovely construction of a storage closet for our fabric and quilting supplies.

Comfort quilts, with prayers for healing, were given to Maria Do and Matt Briggs. A farewell quilt was presented to The Rev. Cristi Chapman on her last Sunday at Saint Mark's. Also, seven bed-sized quilts were completed for the Seattle Service Corps. Each fall, for the past few years, the Quilt Ministry has provided a quilt for each Service Corps member. The quilts are theirs to keep when the year of service is complete. Late in August we gathered, appropriately distanced, in Carol's lovely patio to finish tying these quilts and get them ready for placement on each bed as a sign of welcome to the Corps.

Like everyone else, we are looking forward to gathering together again. In the meantime, we continue to work individually and maintain our supply of quilts. We welcome others to join us in this ministry of fellowship and love. We will teach you to sew if you wish and we have machines available. For information, contact Carol Green at [cgreen@uw.edu](mailto:cgreen@uw.edu), or Jo Ann Bailey at [joannb415@gmail.com](mailto:joannb415@gmail.com).

—Carol Green

#### **SAINT MARK'S MUSIC SERIES**

Like so many aspects of life in 2020, the Music Series was drastically affected by the pandemic. Concerts March through May were canceled or postponed, including Tchaikovsky's *Divine Liturgy* with Cappella Romana and the Pacific Youth Choir; Messiaen's *Quartet for the End of Time* (post-

poned to March 2021); the Cathedral Trio; and All-Bach on the Flentrop Organ with Alex Weimann (postponed to May 2021).

Before the building was closed in March, the Series offered two successful concerts: the magnificent *Play of Daniel* with the Boston Camerata and the children of the Choir School; as well as *Vehicles for Variation*, a program of beloved Chaconnes played by Saint Mark's friends Jennifer Caine Provine, Emilie Choi, Alex Grimes, Page Smith, and Michael Kleinschmidt. *The Play of Daniel*, produced in conjunction with the Boston Camerata and Early Music Seattle, entertained a full house, while *Vehicles for Variation* welcomed an intimate 75 attendees seated "in the round," with the performers in the center of nave. Although the remaining concerts of the season were canceled or postponed, May's annual All-Bach Flentrop Concert was held as a livestreamed event, instead featuring cathedral organist Michael Kleinschmidt in a finale to the abbreviated season. As of this writing in January 2021, the video of that concert now holds an astounding 11,465 views on YouTube.

The 2020–21 season began in the fall with a new commitment to offer free, livestreamed concerts to all throughout the course of the pandemic. This commitment is made possible due to an abundance of local talent, Saint Mark's established livestreaming capabilities, and the generosity of donors and Friends of the Music Series.

Michael Kleinschmidt once again kicked off the season in October with a concert of Widor's *Symphonie Romane*. He was joined by Compline Choir singers Jason Anderson, Gregory Bloch, and James Wilcox, presenting the Gregorian chants on which the work is based. During the recital 174 viewers tuned in live, and the video on YouTube now has 640 views.

November featured local World Flute Artist Gary Stroutsos performing songs from Zuni, Dakota, Hopi, Mandan, and Navajo Nations. Mr. Stroutsos is especially known

for his work studying with Native Tribes in the Southwest, and donated half of his artist fee to the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. Saint Mark's recognizes that Mr. Stroutsos is not of Native descent himself and we apologize for not reaching out to the local Indigenous community in our diocese for input on programming this artist. We commit to more critically examine our programming in the future, and will consult Indigenous members of our community in these choices.

The Music Series will continue offering free, livestreamed concerts of local performers through May, in hopes that in-person audiences can return for the fall opening of the 2021–22 season.

—Madeleine Stephens,  
Music Series Coordinator

▼ Parishioner and filmmaker David Wild filmed Sacristan Michael Seewer in the nave as part of his contribution to the 2020 "O" Antiphons Liturgy—a short film to accompany Peter Hallock's processional anthem, *Let My Prayer Come Up as the Incense*.



### SEATTLE SERVICE CORPS

The 2019–2020 Seattle Service Corps cohort bravely completed their commitments to service and intentional community at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, adjusting in March to the final months of their program year in restricted conditions. Six members completed the program in July 2020.

The fifth program year (2020–2021) of Seattle Service Corps was imperiled by COVID-19. Extensive conversations with cathedral leadership—clergy, vestry, wardens, staff, and SSC Advisory Board members—ensued in spring 2020 to gauge the feasibility of launching and sustaining a safe and viable program during a pandemic. After researching and drawing up extensive COVID-19 infection control and safety protocols, the seven young adults who had already accepted offers to participate in the 2020–2021 program year recommitted, with a pandemic addendum to their original covenants. All agreed to abide by rigorous quarantine, COVID-19 testing, and infection

control protocols for the duration of the ten-month program year.

Upon arrival in August 2020, the seven young women of the cohort quarantined for 14 days at St. Andrew’s House on Hood Canal before ever setting foot on the cathedral campus. They were joined by SSC Director Adam Conley and board member Hannah Hochkeppel for socially-distant formation, orientation, and early community bonding. It quickly became evident that a gift of this originally unplanned “quarantation” experience was a foundation of deep connections and rhythms of prayer that would buoy the entire program year. It was also a wonderful opportunity for the director to forge relationships and build trust before shifting to Monday formation days restricted to Zoom calls.

Four corps members serve as essential workers on the front lines of the pandemic. All corps members are engaged in meaningful work, many serving vulnerable communities. SSC has contracts with two new partner organizations this year—Real Change

▼ The 2020–21 cohort of the Seattle Service Corps. Although the seven young women of the SSC live together (as a “pod”) in Leffler House, they have been inside the cathedral building only a handful of times since arriving in August 2020. Photo by Adam Conley.



and Mercy Housing Northwest. Returning partners include The Diocese of Olympia, Edible Hope, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, Immanuel Community Services, and Church Council of Greater Seattle.

Seattle Service Corps is grateful to the Saint Mark's Community for their support of resources and prayers, particularly in this season of pandemic. Please follow @SeattleServiceCorps on Instagram and "Seattle Service Corps" on Facebook!

—Adam Conley,  
Service Corps Director

### STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

Stewardship Ministry at Saint Mark's is a faith-based ministry with the core belief that God has gifted us abundantly in every aspect of life. As stewards of God's gifts, we are all called to look inward and live prayerfully into our biblical call to give back generously from God's abundance. Our mission as a ministry is to provide opportunities for our community to share experiences and communicate stories in ways that invite each parishioner to cultivate a sacramental relationship between following Jesus Christ and sharing generously of their time, talent, and resources

The 2020 Annual Appeal, *One Body—A Cloud of Witnesses*, celebrated what knits our parish together into one community, one common life. Over the last year, we worshiped and gathered both physically at the Cathedral and through livestream. During the Annual Appeal, we were fortunate to have fellow parishioners make videos in which they shared their stories about Saint Mark's and what the parish means to them, their families, and the world we all share.

Individuals and households continue to be generous increasing average pledges over last year and have made financial commitments to support the Cathedral's mission and ministry for 2021; more commitments

will be made in the coming weeks. As we look to the future, the Stewardship Ministry will continue to focus on what it means to live generously and with a deep sense of gratitude.

Numbers and percentages are interesting and helpful, but stewardship is about much more than metrics. Rather, our primary focus is to create opportunities throughout the year for everyone to recognize generosity in their midst and to live more fully into that generosity. Through that, and working together with other Cathedral Ministries, the Stewardship Ministry supports the mission and vision of Saint Mark's as the Cathedral strives to create a faith community that is full of love and acceptance, in which the Gospel values of justice and reconciliation are proclaimed, and where all can gather in times of crisis, sorrow, or celebration.

—Robert G. Stevens & Lynne Markova,  
Co-Conveners

### 20S/30S GROUP

Young adults at Saint Mark's gather to connect, share their spiritual journeys, and build community, while exploring issues of faith, justice, ethics, and meaning.

At the start of 2020 we enjoyed gatherings in person, including connecting for Shakespeare Live and meeting monthly for Questioning Together over dinner.

We hoped to go a neighborhood stairway walk of Mt. Baker and visit St. Clement's in the spring, but this was postponed. A planned study of The Book of Revelation and other apocalyptic literature for March was paused and relaunched in the summer as an online offering. We learned about the history, context and interpretation of these scriptures as we examined what these scriptures meant for us as Episcopalians.

We tried Questioning Together over Zoom, but decided that there were too many video meetings in our lives already, and that we missed praying together. And so we began

to gather by phone for Night Prayer, sharing a liturgy from the New Zealand Prayer Book. Join us on the second and fourth Mondays of the month by contacting Canon Jennifer for call-in information and liturgy for the service.

In December, we sponsored a watch party and discussion of David Attenborough's *A Life on Our Planet* in collaboration with the Creation Care Ministry, and we considered more eco-friendly holiday actions and how these could become practices that open us to deeper spiritual connections. In January 2021 a viewing and discussion of *SACRED* was offered, an opportunity to consider how others outside of our tradition, and our country, experience faith and spiritual practice.

We hope that 2021 brings opportunity to gather and connect in person for prayer, scripture study and social gatherings.

—*Emily Meeks & The Rev. Canon Jennifer King Daugherty*

#### **AIDS CARE TEAM**

Our AIDS Care Team members were able to meet and support our care partners for a short time before the pandemic kept us at home. Early in the pandemic, one of our care partners contracted COVID-19 and died. His family came from Ohio to see him before he passed and we were able to assist the family with arrangements. The remainder of the year, we limited our activities to staying in touch with our remaining care partner and each other.

In August, Samaritan Counseling Service terminated the HIV/AIDS Care Team program which included our team. If our team continues as a Saint Mark's ministry, we will research possible venues and make a decision of where to serve as a team.

—*Sharon Ferguson*

#### **ST. NICHOLAS BUILDING EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE**

##### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

John Hoerster (Chair), Maria Coldwell, Julia Logan, Peter McClung, Roberta Nestaas, Jim Pannell, Rebecca Ralston, Nikisha Reyes-Grange, Walter Stuteville, and Dean Steve Thomason. Advisors: Gerry Johnson, Re Knack, and Phil Lloyd.

##### **BACKGROUND**

Last September, Dean Thomason and John Hoerster announced to the Cathedral community that the Vestry had engaged a development consultant, Meriwether Advisors, to help us explore potential uses of the St. Nicholas building and site that is north of the main Cathedral building, with the foremost goal of advancing the Cathedral's mission and ministries. That announcement is posted at <http://saintmarks.org/stnicholas> and provides detailed information about the issues and process, including the role of the St. Nicholas Exploratory Committee.

Later in September, Dean Thomason and members of the Exploratory Committee met with the parish about the planned process for exploring St. Nicholas possibilities. Finally, in October the community was able to thank long-time parishioners Laura Ellen and Robert Muglia for their extraordinary gift by which Saint Mark's became the sole owner of the St. Nicholas property.

##### **ACTIVITIES SINCE SEPTEMBER 2020**

As explained in the September announcement, Meriwether Advisors conducted a strategic site assessment of St. Nicholas and concluded that the highest and best economic value of the St. Nicholas site would be for multi-family residences and that it was reasonable to expect that the return from such a development would be sufficient to fund a new Parish Life Center and support Cathedral ministries and the Cathedral buildings and grounds. Since the September parish meeting, we have been focused on market-testing this conclusion.



◀ At a physically distanced celebratory event held October 25, 2020, Robert and Laura Ellen Muglia unveiled the plaque on the St. Nicholas building in honor of their extraordinary gift—the largest in the history of Saint Mark’s Cathedral.

The Exploratory Committee and Meriwether Advisors developed a detailed Request for Interest and Meriwether then solicited interest from over 7,000 potential development partners. After evaluating responses, the Committee decided to interview three developers interested in multi-family residential development, while continuing to explore other potential development partners and other uses of the St. Nicholas site.

Following the three interviews, the Committee was especially positive about the culture fit with one of the developers and decided to offer them an exclusive opportunity to conduct due diligence on the site for a 120-day period, with the due diligence being focused on the costs that will be necessary to address the condition of the St. Nicholas Building. These costs will be a significant driver of the economic valuation of the site for development purposes. As of the date of this report, the terms of this due diligence arrangement are being negotiated with the developer and will then be subject to Vestry approval. The due diligence arrangement will not obligate Saint Mark’s to either pursue residential use of the St. Nicholas site or proceed with this developer after the 120-day due diligence period; and, in any event the due diligence results will be available and useful to Saint Mark’s. In the

meantime, the Exploratory Committee will be refining its expectations and developing options for St. Nicholas that best serve the Cathedral’s mission and ministry.

#### **PARISH INPUT**

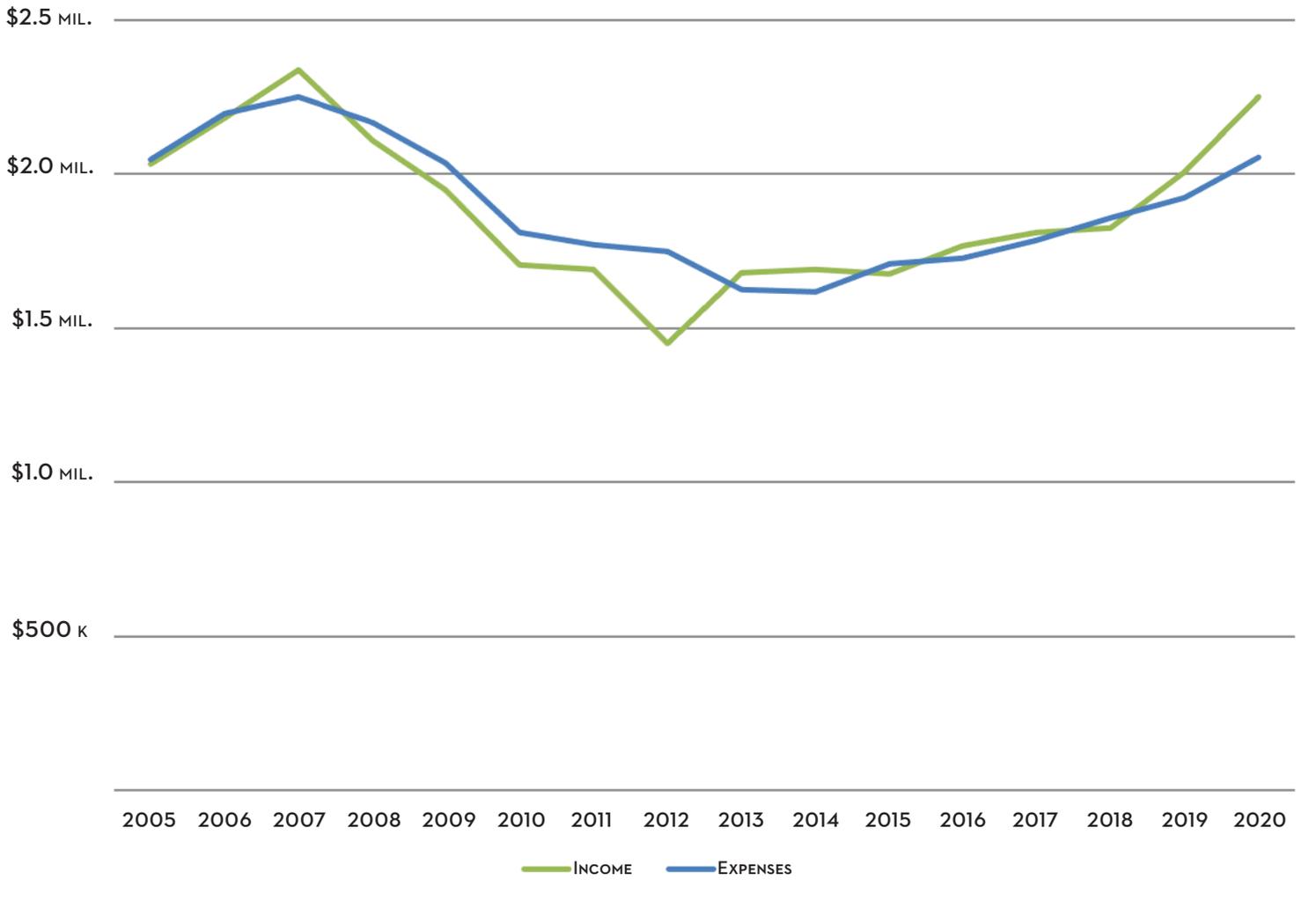
The process to date has taken longer than was expected at the time of the parish meeting last September, but that is okay. We are not compelled to move quickly, and want to get to the best answers, not the quickest.

The Exploratory Committee and Vestry are committed to a transparent process with ample opportunities for input. Together with other opportunities for input, we anticipate a parish/Exploratory Committee meeting at the end of the due diligence period to provide a briefing about the results, to discuss options for the St. Nicholas site, and to solicit input about whether to proceed toward a possible transaction. There also will be opportunities for input and visioning about the Parish Life Center and how best to advance the Cathedral’s mission and ministries.

If you have questions or comments at any time, please contact Dean Thomason ([sthomason@saintmarks.org](mailto:sthomason@saintmarks.org)) or John Hoerster ([john.hoerster@foster.com](mailto:john.hoerster@foster.com)).

—John Hoerster

## SAINT MARK'S CATHEDRAL OPERATING BUDGET HISTORY, 2005-2020



## SAINT MARK'S CATHEDRAL PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

### CATHEDRAL OPERATING BUDGET, 2011-2020

REVENUES	ACTUALS (IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)									2020 BUDGET	2020 ACTUAL
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019		
ANNUAL CAMPAIGN	1,108	967	1,002	1,087	1,116	1,235	1,286	1,341	1,468	1,545	1,610
PLATE OFFERING	88	107	124	117	110	104	106	112	108	103	62
GIFTS & GRANTS	93	18	103	50	98	66	48	48	48	49	364
SPECIAL EVENTS	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PROGRAM & SERVICE FEES	98	114	103	122	124	138	151	118	118	132	30
DIOCESAN OF OLYMPIA	94	104	208	111	65	46	71	68	58	41	25
CATHEDRAL FOUNDATION	43	38	54	127	93	102	106	72	53	68	67
INTERFUND TRANSFERS/MISC.	165	100	80	76	69	74	42	66	138	144	93
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$1,689</b>	<b>\$1,448</b>	<b>\$1,678</b>	<b>\$1,690</b>	<b>\$1,675</b>	<b>\$1,765</b>	<b>\$1,810</b>	<b>\$1,825</b>	<b>\$2,008</b>	<b>\$2,081</b>	<b>\$2,251</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>											
PERSONNEL	867	918	846	904	965	982	940	1,054	1,025	1,119	1,201
DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT	306	283	298	223	238	234	231	235	225	260	288
MISSION DISBURSEMENTS, OTHER	18	15	20	5	39	29	25	24	18	16	16
PROFESSIONAL FEES	95	88	43	50	22	26	52	46	59	41	55
SUPPLIES & MINOR EQUIPMENT	63	67	63	50	42	43	85	60	73	51	40
COMMUNICATIONS	32	25	18	23	29	30	37	37	24	29	19
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	105	59	71	70	88	67	87	46	49	86	104
EQUIPMENT RENTAL & SERVICE	84	114	94	104	103	112	95	76	94	90	107
UTILITIES	110	82	92	91	77	90	105	107	98	94	81
TRAVEL	4	1	2	6	12	4	3	5	2	2	3
HOSPITALITY	18	29	15	15	18	17	13	14	14	15	3
CONFERENCES & TRAINING	13	5	8	14	14	21	19	19	20	29	20
INSURANCE	22	26	23	26	23	27	34	37	26	26	27
DUES, FEES, & LICENSES	10	19	16	17	23	20	21	25	33	26	37
OTHER	22	15	15	20	16	25	38	72	164	197	54
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,769</b>	<b>\$1,747</b>	<b>\$1,624</b>	<b>\$1,618</b>	<b>\$1,709</b>	<b>\$1,727</b>	<b>\$1,785</b>	<b>\$1,857</b>	<b>\$1,924</b>	<b>\$2,081</b>	<b>\$2,055</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(\$80)</b>	<b>(\$299)</b>	<b>\$54</b>	<b>\$72</b>	<b>(\$34)</b>	<b>\$38</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>(\$32)</b>	<b>\$84</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$196</b>

updated 1/20/2021



SAINT MARK'S  
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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