



**Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral  
Annual Parish Meeting  
Sunday, January 24, 2021  
Sunday, January 31, 2021  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

**Call to Order, Prayer, Review of Agenda**

*Dean Thomason*

The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, Dean and Rector of Saint Mark's Cathedral Parish, opened the meeting on January 24, 2021 with prayer and called the first session of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Annual Parish Meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

**Introduction of Secretary and Chancellor**

*Dean Thomason*

The Dean introduced Barbara Erickson, Vestry Clerk and Recording Secretary, who will take the meeting minutes. Chancellor Re Knack was appointed Parliamentarian for the business meeting. Executive Assistant Erik Donner was acknowledged for all his work behind the scenes.

**Minutes of 2020 Annual Parish Meeting**

*Dean Thomason*

The minutes from the 2020 Annual Parish Meeting were available on the Saint Mark's website and were reviewed and approved by the Vestry at the March 2020 meeting.

**Elections**

**Election Rules**

*Re Knack, Cathedral Chancellor*

Re stated: "Parish Communicants in good standing" are eligible to vote. These are baptized persons who are faithful in corporate worship, have received the Sacrament of Holy Communion at St. Mark's at least three times during the previous year, unless good cause prevented, are 16 years or older, and are recorded contributors to the support of Saint Mark's with money or with personal service. The pandemic is sufficient good cause to have prevented a Parish Communicant from receiving Holy Communion at St. Mark's at least three times this last year.

Parish Communicants in Good Standing are to vote using the electronic link that will be included in the Zoom chat during the reconvened Annual Meeting on Sunday January 31, 2021 at approximately 10:00am. A Parish Communicant in Good Standing who has limited internet or computer access or knowledge, who will join the meeting by phone, or who has any other concerns, can vote by calling Erik Donner in the Cathedral office at 206.323.0300 x 217. Erik will record your vote anonymously and keep your vote strictly confidential. You must call between Monday January 25 at 9 a.m. and Friday, January 29 at 4 p.m., to have your vote counted. Voting will remain open until the closing of the 11:00am Holy Eucharist on January 31, 2021, approximately 11:50 a.m.

Each ballot will list the candidates for Convention Delegate/Alternate and for Vestry. There is a slate of 12 Convention Delegates/Alternates for 12 openings. There are eight candidates for the Vestry, from which voters should choose four. A ballot with votes for more than four Vestry candidates will not be counted.

The ballots will be counted by persons selected by the Chair of the Nominating Committee (and the results reported to the Dean and Senior Warden prior to announcement).

The Chair of the Nominating Committee will announce the results of the election.

The names, but not the votes, of the four candidates elected to the Vestry will be announced.

### **Nominating Committee Report**

*Lynne Markova, Nominating Committee Chair*

Recognized the members of this year's Nominating Committee for their extraordinary job: Carrie Davis, Michael Perera, John Selberg, Junior Warden Peter McClung, Senior Warden Julia Logan, and Dean Steve Thomason, ex officio.

**The single slate of candidates for Diocesan Convention Delegates was presented: Marc Aubertin, Libby Carr, Nancy Cleminshaw, Russ Crosbie, Jenny Donner, Shannon Gould, Ruth McRee, Roberta Nestaas, Amanda Osenga, Pam O'Sullivan, Tim O'Sullivan, and Mary Segall.**

### **Nominations from the Floor**

Nominations from the floor were entertained and no other nominations were put forth.

***A motion was made to close nominations from the floor for other candidates for Diocesan Convention Delegates and was approved by the parish.***

**A motion was made to elect the slate of 12 Delegates to the Diocesan Convention by acclamation and was approved by the parish.**

Instructions were then given by Chancellor Knack on how to conduct the vote if you did not have internet access. For your vote to be counted, you must contact Erik Donner between Monday, January 25 at 9 a.m. and Friday, January 29 at 4 p.m. to be counted.

**The eight candidates for the Saint Mark's Vestry were introduced by Lynne: Carmen Brady, Russ Crosbie, Wayne Duncan, Scott Kovacs, Kathy Minsch, Maris Olsen, Chris Rigos, and Olivier Santos.** Nominations for additional candidates from the floor were entertained and no other nominations were put forth.

***A motion was made to close nominations from the floor for additional Vestry candidates and was approved by the parish.***

Steve explained that the ballot for the vestry will be prepared for the election on Sunday, January 31. Lynne explained how the voting would take place using the SurveyMonkey software link that would be provided. Households with multiple members may vote by closing the ballot once they completed voting and then the ballot window can be opened to allow the other member to vote.

Lynne announced that the regular Virtual Coffee Hour today, following the 11 a.m. service, will have the Vestry candidates available for you to meet and talk with.

Steve highlighted the following Zoom events:

- Sunday, January 24 at 7 p.m. – Plenary session to open the Radix series.
- Wednesday, January 27 at 7 p.m. – *The Doctrine of Discovery: The Episcopal Church, Indigenous Peoples, and the Necessity of Decolonizing Christianity* with The Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton.
- Friday, January 29 at 7:30 p.m. – Organ recital in Thomsen Chapel with Associate Organist John Stuntebeck.
- Link to annual report: [2020 Annual Report • Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral](#)

**Recess:** Steve recessed the meeting until 9:45am on Sunday, January 31, 2021.



**SAINT MARK'S**  
EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

Annual Parish Meeting  
Sunday, January 31, 2021  
Sessions 2 and 3 Virtual Meeting via Zoom

**Call to Order, Prayer, Review of Agenda**

*Dean Thomason*

The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, Dean and Rector of Saint Mark's Cathedral Parish called the second session of the Annual Parish Meeting to order at 9:45am and opened the meeting with a prayer. Steve welcomed and reviewed expectations for today. Session 2: election of new vestry members and hear reports from some of the parish leaders, then attend service, and resume with session 3: election results, awards and recognitions, and the celebration of our common life together.

**Elections**

*Re Knack, Cathedral Chancellor*

**Election Rules**

Re Knack, Cathedral Chancellor, read the election rules. "Parish Communicants in good standing" are eligible to vote. These are baptized persons who are faithful in corporate worship, have received the Sacrament of Holy Communion at St. Mark's at least three times during the previous year, unless good cause prevented, are 16 years or older, and are recorded contributors to the support of Saint Mark's with money or with personal service. The pandemic is sufficient good cause to have prevented a Parish Communicant from receiving Holy Communion at St. Mark's at least three times this last year.

Parish Communicants in Good Standing are to vote using the electronic link included in the Zoom chat this morning. Parish Communicants in Good Standing who have limited internet or computer access or knowledge, who are joining the meeting by phone, or who have any other concerns, voted by calling Erik Donner in the Cathedral office this last week. Erik recorded those votes anonymously and will keep those votes strictly confidential.

Voting today will remain open until the closing of the 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist this morning, approximately 11:50 a.m.

Each ballot will list the candidates for Vestry. There are eight candidates for the Vestry, from which voters should choose four. A ballot with votes for more than four Vestry candidates will not be counted.

The ballots will be counted by persons selected by the Chair of the Nominating Committee (and the results reported to the Dean and Senior Warden prior to announcement).

The Chair of the Nominating Committee will announce the results of the election.

The names, but not the votes, of the four candidates elected to the Vestry will be announced.

**Nominating & Leadership Committee Report** *Lynne Markova, Nominating Committee Chair*

Lynne Markova, Nominating Committee Chair provided the instructions for voting using the SurveyMonkey link in Zoom Chat. Households with multiple members can vote by closing the browser after the first vote is completed and opening the browser to another ballot window. The Zoom meeting will be open and monitored during the 11 a.m. service in the event questions about voting arise.

The Vestry members completing their terms are Senior Warden Julia Logan, Carrie Davis, Kari Nasby, and Michael Perera.

## **Reports**

### **Senior Warden**

*Julia Logan*

Julia Logan provided a brief idea of what the Vestry has done this past year. Began with our retreat in February which included the Intercultural Development Inventory training with an outgrowth that at each vestry meeting, time would be set aside to intentionally notice and name intercultural aspects in our work and discussions.

Begun the process of adopting language that acknowledges that the Cathedral sits on Duwamish land and to explore the possibility of payment of real rent as reparation.

Vestry members participated in and helped facilitate small groups in the "Taking Up Our Racial Responsibility" series.

We authorized paying off the outstanding mortgage on the St. Nicholas Building so that we would own it outright due to our LLC partners generous gift of their share of the building. An exploratory committee was formed to investigate the possibility of the development of the building and that work is ongoing.

The Cathedral Archives has been created and an intern from the University of Washington has been hired to begin the initial work of the organization of our valuable documents and artifacts.

As part of our commitment to achieve a Net Zero Carbon footprint by 2030, Vestry members have individually signed up to Episcopal Church's Carbon Tracker program. Items were added to both the Cathedral and St. Nicholas building operating budgets to work toward this goal.

Vestry members participated and helped facilitate Radix groups. We reached out with calls, emails and cards to members of the congregation and participated in programs that maintain and foster connections when we could not meet in person.

We nominated two candidates to the Postulancy, formally gave our support to Malcolm McLaurin's candidacy for ordination to the Transitional Diaconate.

Grateful for hard work, dedication, love, and the way the vestry has functioned under extraordinary circumstances. Heartfelt thanks to Dean Steve Thomason for his outstanding leadership, the clergy, and staff and to the many volunteers who give so much to this place. Julia closed with "as I retire from Vestry, please know what an honor and privilege it has been to serve you."

### **Stewardship Ministry**

*Lynne Markova and Robert Stevens, Co-Conveners*

Lynne Markova and Robert Stevens, Co-Conveners provided a summarization of all their work. Robert read the Stewardship's Mission Statement: "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."

This year's theme, "One Body, A Cloud of Witnesses," emerged from early conversations emerged from those conversations and from our shared belief that God has knit us together into our common life and calls us to be faithful stewards of our community.

Thank you to those who shared their stewardship stories: Heather MacLaughlin Garbes and Peter Garbes, Elizabeth Hawkins, Amanda Osenga, Olivier Santos, and Walter Stuteville. We are especially grateful to Bishop Greg Rickel and the Bishop's Office for creating his stewardship video, "The Stance of Stewardship."

Current statistics:

435 household commitments/pledges for 2021

51 new commitments and 220 commitments increased over 2020

Considering this all occurred during a global pandemic, with many people struggling with economic hardship, this is truly remarkable.

Thank you to committee members:

Dean Steve Thomason

Senior Warden Julia Logan

Vestry Member Clara Berg

The Rev. Cristi Chapman

Ralph Ermoian

Greg Simon

Greg Bloch, Cathedral Staff

Erik Donner, Cathedral Staff

Finally, we would like to thank all of you in the congregation, both near and far, who were part of our Annual Campaign this year. Your generosity, your prayers, and your presence were a gift to our whole community. Thank you.

### **Cathedral Foundation**

*Phil Haas, President*

Phil Haas reported that 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 limited resources for maintaining and transforming Cathedral House, Leffler House, and the St. Nicholas Building.

There are four sources of funds for the Cathedral's buildings and grounds:

- Annual campaigns: Your pledge to the Cathedral's annual campaign covers its operations and programs and is analogous to your checking account.
- Capital campaigns: Major projects are funded with capital campaigns from time to time; the most recent one was the Living Stones campaign in 2016-18.
- Capital reserve fund: The Foundation maintains this fund to cover some of the Cathedral's unbudgeted buildings and grounds expenses when requested by the Dean. We are currently soliciting gifts to grow this fund beyond its current balance of \$ 119,116 because the Foundation's board of directors has a policy to maintain a minimum balance of \$ 100,000 for emergencies and disasters. This fund is analogous to your savings account.
- Planned gifts: The Foundation has investments totaling \$ 1,640,294 held in the Diocesan Investment Fund and disburses approximately 4% of this balance annually to

the Cathedral. Because this amount is insufficient to meet the Cathedral's many immediate and long-term facility needs, the Foundation encourages planned gifts to provide long-term funding for the Cathedral's buildings and grounds. This fund is analogous to your retirement accounts.

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 and long-term impact on our Cathedral community and our buildings and grounds.

### **St. Nicholas Redevelopment Process**

*John Hoerster, Chancellor Emeritus*

John Hoerster provided the following report: Commending the hard and good work of the St. Nicholas Exploratory Committee and grateful that they work well together. Members of the committee can be found in his written report.

Review: St. Nicholas was acquired in 2003 from Cornish College of the Arts with the goal to eventually turn it into a Parish Life Center. 18 years later, we know this would cost in the multi-millions because of the need for new roofing, mechanical upgrades, seismic retrofits, improved accessibility, potential hazardous material abatement, and extensive remodeling of the space. The Vestry engaged Meriwether Advisors to do a strategic site assessment. Meriwether concluded that the highest and best economic value would come from using the site for market rate townhomes and condominiums. Last September, Steve and I announced that with the assistance of Meriwether, Saint Mark's would market-test this assessment.

One potential development partner has been offered an opportunity to conduct due diligence on the site for 120-day period. This is still being negotiated and is subject to Vestry approval. The due diligence period will not obligate us to either pursue residential use of St. Nicholas or to proceed with this developer.

This has taken longer than expected, but we want the best answer, not the quickest. The Committee and Vestry are committed to a transparent process with ample opportunities for input from the congregation. As we move forward, our goal is not to achieve the highest and best economic value for St. Nicholas; our goal is to best advance the Cathedral's mission and ministries.

We welcome your questions or input at any time, please address them to John or Steve or any of the Committee members.

### **Treasurer**

*Phil Lloyd*

Phil Lloyd reported 2020 turned out to be a good year financially despite concerns about pandemic issues, rental and plate income, but the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) from the Federal Government helped provide financial relief and we exceeded our budget in Gifts and Grants and in pledge income. We are showing \$200,000 to the black in our operating account which is an incredible achievement and gives us in a good cushion going into 2021.

We received the largest gift in our history – Laura Ellen and Bob Muglia, our LLC Partners, gifted their 50.5% interest in the St. Nicholas Building to Saint Mark's. We now own the building, and recently paid off the nearly \$500,000 mortgage.

Wrapped up the Living Stones Campaign and we can stop and reflect on its beginning in 2013, since then our net assets have increased by \$11,700,000.00. We also have \$250,000 more cash in the bank. Thank you to the Finance Committee members – Robert Stevens, Phil Haas, Maria Coldwell, Neil Gavin, Ana Badell, Lynne Cobb, Roberta Nestaas, Greg Hamm, and Marc

Aubertin – all incredible partners, and chair Junior Warden Peter McClung was a great convener as well as the “master of the yellow highlighter.”

Director of Operations Jim Pannell was welcomed and thanked for taking an active role, Dean Thomason was acknowledged for his managerial and administrative skills, Bookkeeper Stephen Eddy and Executive Assistant Erik Donner for all of their efforts, and Greg Bloch for his converting of data into beautiful documents.

### **Racial Reconciliation**

*Jennifer King Daugherty and Nancy Ross*

The Rev. Canon Nancy Ross reported that the Annual Report contains information about Racial Justice and Sanctuary work in the cathedral. Ministries around Anti-racism and Racial Justice are continually evolving. The Sanctuary ministry addresses racism and xenophobia. We continued our relationship in support of Casa Latina, Seattle, and Team Brownsville – migrant tent city serves Brownsville, Texas, and Matamoros, Mexico. We stand with Jaime Rubio and his family in sanctuary here at Saint Mark’s. We look with renewed hope for his case this year under the new administration. Last summer in the wake of George Floyd’s murder we experienced a renewed call to take up our personal and blessed responsibility – vacation time, personal accountability, prayer, and action. More than 150 people participated in the series – *Taking Up Our Responsibility for Racial Justice* – engaging the works of activists, academics, theologians, and writers and almost all were People of Color to confront our inner work – ignorance, blind spots, complicity, and injustice. Our work continued in the Fall, where we had a Watch Party and discussion of a powerful documentary, 13<sup>th</sup>, and a follow up discussion on Presiding Bishop Curry’s *Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times*.

Guided by conversations with many parishioners and surveys completed at the end of the summer series, The Rev. Canon Jennifer King Daugherty continued her report. All activities are being driven by lay leadership as they were last year, so if any interest, please reach out Nancy or Jennifer. Learning from the work of The Rev. Canon Walter Brownridge, Saint Mark’s Theologian-in-Residence – define discipleship in the context of anti-racism; continue opportunities with inner work and outer actions; the Doctrine on Discovery; Real Rent to the Duwamish Tribe; beginning a land acknowledgment and continuing a long-term commitment to build relationships with the Duwamish people; remote anti-racism training through the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing in Atlanta, Georgia with follow-up at Saint Mark’s. Study and discuss books by Kelly Brown Douglas and Howard Thurman, watch parties with short documentaries about the history of Seattle’s Black community, civil rights, book and film study and discussion on indigenous people, intentional Lenten reflection on repentance – repentance for complicity and commitment to change, and as we can be more mobile, the formation of small groups to explore Saint Mark’s role in social justice issues – related to anti-racism including voting rights, reparations, educational inequality and food insecurity. Thank you to everyone who participated and to the facilitators.

Lynne Markova was asked to review the Election Process before the recess for the 11AM service.

### **Recessed at 10:25 AM.**

Meeting is recessed until after the 11:00 AM worship service.

## **Call to Order**

*Dean Thomason*

The Very Rev. Steve Thomason, Dean and Rector of Saint Mark's Cathedral Parish reconvened the Annual Parish Meeting at 11:50am for the third session. Closing of the Election Polls at 11:52AM.

## **Video Greeting from Bishop Rickel**

Bishop of Olympia Greg Rickel extended greetings to everyone in attendance: In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. One of the blessings of this brave new world we are now part of, I cannot believe it is annual meeting time again, and the world has so drastically changed since our last one, but here we are. Separated still but still together in spirit. Annual meetings tell us a lot about who we are as a community, a collective of different people, living and working together. Part of community is learning to live together well, even with differences. I wanted to make this video mostly to tell you how grateful I am to all of you, so our buildings have been closed, our church is still very much open and alive, and growing. That's true because of all of you. You have even in separation continued to be the church – to be the body of Christ in the world – housing people, feeding people, pastoring, and caring for people. You have inspired me deeply and I want to thank you.

At our most recent convention, serious work was accomplished even though virtually. Carefully review all the important resolutions passed at Convention – especially those put forward by the Circles of Color. Those resolutions are the outline of some of the most important we have ever done and outline the work that is before us. Passing them was great work, the real work, the toughest work starts now. It is my vow to keep us focused on them this next year and or until we all feel we have reached the goal. It will take work on all of our parts, be painful at times, but nothing that is truly worth it comes without some of that. I know we can do it. Through these pandemic months you all have been shining examples of Christianity. The church's real role in the world. I can report that the Diocese as a whole is quite healthy and has weathered these months well. This is due to all of you, truly believing and living into us being in this together. I believe we are even more of the church at this moment than perhaps we have been in a long time. The church shines most when it is living in strife and tension when it's being challenged. We have risen to that occasion and I wish to share my deep gratitude for that to you. I hope that even in separation you will have a rich and productive annual meeting and perhaps even some fun. Thank you for letting me be a part of it, thank you for being who you are, as a community and as individuals. I am so very blessed to be on this mission with all of you. Blessing to each and every one of you.

## **Certification of Election & Announcement of Election Results**

**Election results were certified by the Dean and Senior Warden. The Dean then called on Lynne Markova to announce the four elected to the Vestry. They are Carmen Brady, Scott Kovacs, Kathy Minsch, and Chris Rigos.** The Dean and Lynne thanked Russ Crosbie, Wayne Duncan, Maris Olsen, and Olivier Santos, for being willing to stand for election and being called for other ministries. All eight are leaders in our midst and we are all grateful for their presence. The Dean acknowledged and gave thanks to Lynne, Nominating Chair and committee members Michael Perera, Peter McClung, Carrie Davis, John Selberg, and Senior Warden Julia Logan who served capably and developed a wonderful slate for vestry as well as the Diocesan Convention delegates and we are very grateful for all of their great work.

## Dean's Remarks

I have completed my eighth year as your dean and rector last August with a lot of pandemic challenges and opportunities. As I said in my homily this morning, I truly believe spirits are moving in this place. The generosity of spirit found here and the way you go about sharing good will and caring for one another; I am overwhelmed with gratitude by the ways I have noticed how you reach out to one another, writing notes to one another, making calls to one another, crossing generations in those relationships, connecting via Zoom, the encouraging words that have also come from you and to the staff members as we sought to serve you in these peculiar times. We have received a remarkable number of notes of gratitude from folks joining the Livestream from the world over – different states, different countries, as well as cities in Washington State.

There is also the generosity of financial support as you came together as a community to help those who experienced the loss of income. You stepped up to fund the Clergy Discretionary Fund in response to urgent ways unapparelled in the history of Saint Mark's, the increase of pledges and additional gifts, knowing others may not be able, we grew in 2020 – we added more members, some close by, some far away who have never set foot in the Cathedral. Bob and Laura Ellen Muglia's gift of their interest in the St. Nicholas properties – a truly legacy gift that will serve for generations. While we were not prepared for pandemic, we tapped into years of planning that we had no idea would come in handy.

- Livestream ministry which had been flourishing since 2017 with Chris Brown as our professional videographer has made a huge difference. Thank you, Chris, Greg Bloch, Michael Seewer, and all who have had a hand in this work.
- Adapted communications to meet the challenges of the times with more video messaging and Zoom. Greg Bloch as led with us capably as Communications Director, along with a host of folks.
- Clear commitment to worship as the centering experience for us guided by Sacristan Michael Seewer, Canon for Cathedral Music Michael Kleinschmidt, Compline Choir Director Jason Anderson, and a host of clergy and lay staff and other ministers.
- Radix - Small group gatherings launched a year ago this month is a lifeline to intergenerational people to have small group connections.
- Education for Ministry groups now meeting virtually, the Bible Study group continues to gather and do their work.
- Renewed work with anti-racism with Canon Daugherty and Canon Ross, and our Theologian-in-Residence, The Rev. Canon Walter Brownridge.
- Creation Care is another key part of our Mutual Ministry and key strategic focal point under the able leadership of Marjorie Ringness. 60 people are involved in this ministry and you are encouraged to take the Creation Care survey that can be found on the website.
- Music is critical to our worship and here at Saint Mark's the legacy of music is so rich. Choral singing has been constrained and we are adhering to the Governor Inslee's guidelines as safety is our priority. We will continue to find safe ways to sing, as we know it speaks to our souls. We hope that wherever you are, you are belting out joyful "noise" to the Lord as well. "Noise" is just another way of saying "singing the praises" as an opportunity for all to do that day by day in our lives.

- The work of Social Justice remains an indelible marker as we find creative ways to do the work. Jaime Rubio Sulficio remains in sanctuary and we continue to support him and his family and actively participate in the sanctuary network.
- Homelessness and hunger ministries have continued and thrived as Tent City 3 returned to our campus in 2020, St. Brigid's Banquet and the Teen Feed and Community Lunch continue, our continued our partnership with Lowell Elementary where a fourth of the student body, just a block away, are experiencing homelessness, the Discretionary Fund has generated thousands of dollars through our partners in the city and the region to address homelessness and hunger. The Threshold Fund has received \$85,000 in its first two years to move families into safe housing through our partnership with Catholic Support Services.

### **Staff Acknowledgements**

Dean Thomason acknowledged the good energy here and the many good reasons, by recognizing the staff and the clergy who have done remarkable work in all the ways they have dealt with own challenges and families yet have shown up to continue to work with this community together.

Called them alphabetically and at the end, recognized them with dancing hands:

*Dr. Jason Anderson*, Compline Choir  
Director

*The Rev. Emily Austin*, Deacon

*Greg Bloch*, Director of Communications

*Christopher Brown*, Event Support &  
Facilities Associate

*Adam Conley*, Seattle Service Corps  
Director

*The Rev. Canon Jennifer King Daugherty*,  
Canon for Congregational Life

*Erik Donner*, Executive Assistant to the  
Dean

*Stephen Eddy*, Bookkeeper & Scheduler

*Rebekah Gilmore*, Associate Musician &  
Choir School Director and Interim Director  
of Youth Ministry

and Associate Clergy: *The Rev. Mark Miller*, *The Rev. Dr. Dennis Tierney*, and *The Rev. Edie Weller*

*The Rev. Earl Grout*, Deacon

*Michael Kleinschmidt*, Canon for Cathedral  
Music

*Kelly Moody*, Associate for Spiritual  
Formation

*Jim Pannell*, Director of Operations

*The Rev. Canon Nancy Ross*, Canon for  
Cathedral Relations

*Michael Seewer*, Cathedral Sacristan &  
Head Verger

*Madeleine Stephens*, Music Administrator &  
Communications Assistant

*John Stuntebeck*, Associate Organist

*David Wagner*, Facilities Manager

### **Recognition of Retiring Vestry Members**

Dean Thomason recognized Carrie Davis, Michael Perera, and Kari Nasby as they retire from their terms on the Vestry. Gifts of gratitude for their service are in the mail and everyone was asked to express thanks.

Our wardens this year, a remarkable, capable, and wonderful grateful team – Peter McClung and Walter Stuteville were our Junior Wardens and Julia Logan was our Senior Warden. I have come to respect them tremendously, trust them implicitly, and am grateful for their wisdom, counsel, and will recognized them and ask that everyone does so as well. Julia is the fourth person leaving the vestry. Julia was awarded the Pro Christo last year, and she has a gift and was requested to now open the gift. She received a beautiful Waterford crystal cross.

Diocesan members of the Vestry Micah Kurtz, St. Columba, Kent; Karla Koon, St. Andrew's, Seattle; and newly appointed Katie Prettyman, Trinity, Everett were acknowledged. A shout out for the Canon to the Ordinary Arienne Davison, the Bishop's Representative, was requested.

### **Pro Christo et Ecclesia Award**

*Whereas Saint Mark's Cathedral Parish has a long-standing tradition of bestowing the Pro Christo et Ecclesia Awards to:*

**Sandra Lynn Smith** receives the award for "... has been a faithful member of this Cathedral community for several years, exercising ministry with loving affection, good will and generosity of spirit in a variety of roles, including assisting lay minister, Eucharistic minister, lector, intercessor, and most recently becoming licensed as a Worship Leader to serve as officiant for a new service of Morning Prayer on Wednesday mornings; and

Whereas, Sandy has modeled for us all with remarkable grace a life of discipleship in community, diving deeply into her spiritual journey as participant in an array of spiritual endeavors including Education for Ministry, Wisdom School, the Radix Project, and the rhythms of prayer in the Daily Office; and

Whereas, Sandy embraced the arduous training for chaplains by taking not one unit of clinical pastoral education but four, honing her gift of practicing presence in ways that generously bless those with whom she sits; and

Whereas, Sandy has served graciously as spiritual companion to many who call her a soul friend, as a chaplain on Saint Mark's Pastoral Care Team, and as a mystic to many including this dean who cherishes her wisdom and insights into the mysteries of life and death even when they are too profound for me to fully plumb because I trust that through them and through Sandy I come to see God more clearly, and isn't that really our vocation to one another after all?

*Therefore, be it resolved, that the Seventh Dean of Saint Mark's Cathedral, serving as Rector of the Parish, does hereby bestow... the Pro Christo et Ecclesia Award... Presented at the Annual Meeting of Saint Mark's Cathedral Parish on this 31<sup>st</sup> Day of January in the year 2021.*

### **Cathedral Cross Awards**

Since 1976, the Deans of Saint Mark's Cathedral have awarded 119 Pro Christo medals to faithful individuals who have distinguished themselves in ministry and service to this community and beyond. We give thanks to all those who are in that hearty fellowship. Some Pro Christo recipients continue as leaders in the Cathedral community long after they receive the award. There is a sense of indefatigable resolve and unrelenting commitment to the people among whom they serve that draws them onward in faithful work as ministers of Christ in this place where this vanguard, the Cathedral Cross Award, was created in 2018 to honor and celebrate their legacy of exemplary leadership and witness. Inspired by the unique design of the Saint Mark's Cathedral cross on the Cathedral east front facade, the Cathedral Cross Award is bestowed from time to time to former Pro Christo recipients whose ongoing contributions to the life of this community mark them for this consideration.

Today it is my great pleasure as Dean to award the Cathedral Cross to two persons whose ministries are so distinctive and abiding in the breath of blessings they share with us all.

**Sue Tait** is a disciple of Christ whose devotion to community and its worshipping life is unparalleled. For decades she has served as stalwart sacristan, Altar Guild custodian of our liturgical life whose prayerful presence and unrushed support of worship before, during and after services and for countless hours during the week. Our spiritual practices often go unnoticed by

many precisely because she is so attentive to the work. Care of the linens, vessels, the supplies of bread and wine, paraments and vestments, Eucharistic Visitor kits, and much, much more, these are accoutrements of Sue's faithful ministry among us, her fingerprint with faithful care on these elements are sacral blessings on our common life. Her service in Christ's name does not end there. As officiant for Evening Prayer, she has for decades called people to Daily Prayer within the Cathedral Chapel and does so even now in virtual service during a pandemic that may have intervened on many a year's rhythm for a time but has not impeded Sue one bit of her grounding and daily prayer. Her work as Diocesan Resource Librarian is another way Sue serves faithfully. Curating the formidable collection with great and gentle evenness to share her love of learning to all who might prevail themselves of the continuum of resources that Sue stewards so well. For these and countless other ways, which I am deeply grateful. She inspires us all to consider what a legacy of faithful service means to this wonderful community.

*Therefore, serving as the seventh dean of Saint Mark's Cathedral and rector of the parish, I hereby bestow upon Sue Tait the Cathedral Cross Award with grateful acknowledgment of her faithfulness and devotion to Christ and to the Church for consistent care of this worshipping community and her remarkable tenure of ministrations and always to the Glory of God and for the benefit of God's people. Presented at the Annual Meeting of Saint Mark's Cathedral Parish on this 31<sup>st</sup> Day of January in the year 2021.*

**Ray Miller** is a disciple of Christ whose devotion to community and its common life is a rich blessing. An inventory of his role as minister among us is a litany of faithfulness – acolyte, lector, intercessor, Flower Guild, Altar Guild, and Compline greeter. The rhythms of liturgical seasons taught him to engage the delicate work of refreshing the Advent wreath, week by week, tending the candles of Tenebrae or the Stations of the Cross as we make our way on our Lenten journey, the contemplative and ancient practice of carving the cross in the Paschal candle to be placed in the service at the Easter Vigil, the care of the vessels for baptism the community has used through the years. Ray has served as volunteer Cathedral groundskeeper for a good while – watering and mowing with Benedictine patience or I might say, watering and mowing, watering and mowing, watering and mowing with Benedictine patience. Silently tending the gardens between monthly work parties – he has moved more rocks from the glacial till of our front lawn than one can count, securing new roles for them as borders for the garden beds. His attention to removing weeds – often on his hands and knees, offers an image of a gospel parable, who else but Ray is known to lead processions with a cloth on any given Sunday, a Shofar Horn on Palm Sunday, and an ordinal staff in the pageant's procession of the Magi. For these and countless other ways, Ray has embodied ministry among us and continues to do so. I am deeply grateful. He inspires us all to consider what a legacy of faithful service means to a community.

*Therefore, serving as the seventh dean of Saint Mark's Cathedral and rector of the parish, I hereby bestow upon Ray Miller the Cathedral Cross Award with grateful acknowledgment of his exemplary faithfulness and devotion to Christ and to the Church his consistent care of the Cathedral as a Commons and his remarkable tenure of service this in our midst and always to the Glory of God and for the benefit of God's people. Presented at the Annual Meeting of Saint Mark's Cathedral Parish on this 31<sup>st</sup> Day of January in the year 2021.*

For the good of the order, the Dean reiterated the remarkable sense of the spirit moving in this meeting, the generosity of the spirit in this meeting, and the good things we can expect of one another and of God working through us in the coming years.

- Vestry installation on Sunday, February 7 after the 11am service at the Coffee Gathering.
- Communal Blessing of Kelly Moody as she takes leave for her internship appointment by Bishop Rickel to St. Michael & All Angels, Issaquah on February 12.
- Former staff member The Rev. Cristi Chapman has been called to be Executive Director of Mission to Seafarers in Seattle.

**Closing Prayer and Blessing**

Steve gave the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 12:33pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara J. Erickson  
Vestry Clerk

Erik Donner  
Executive Assistant