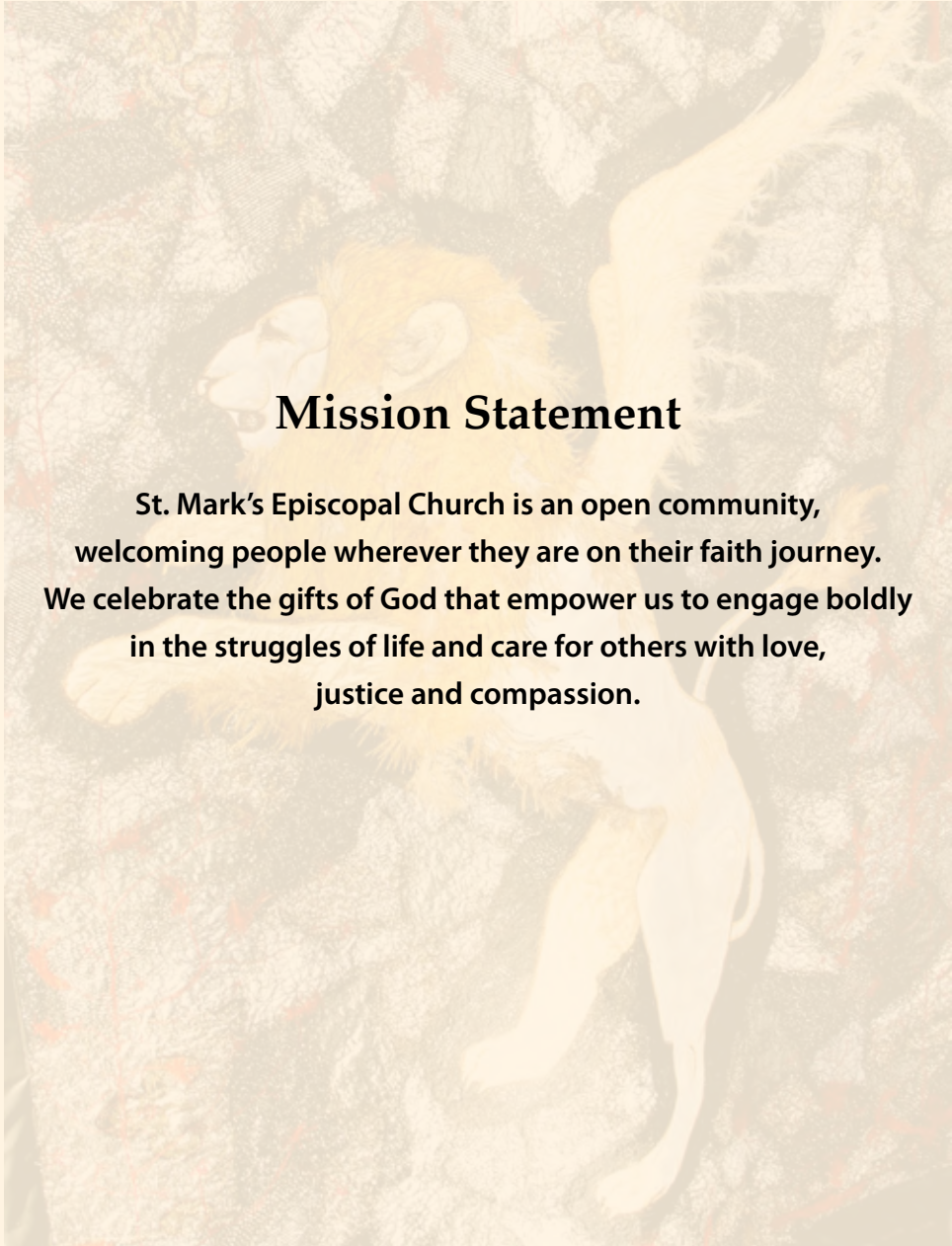


In Search of the Twelfth Rector

The Profile of
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Washington, DC

2015



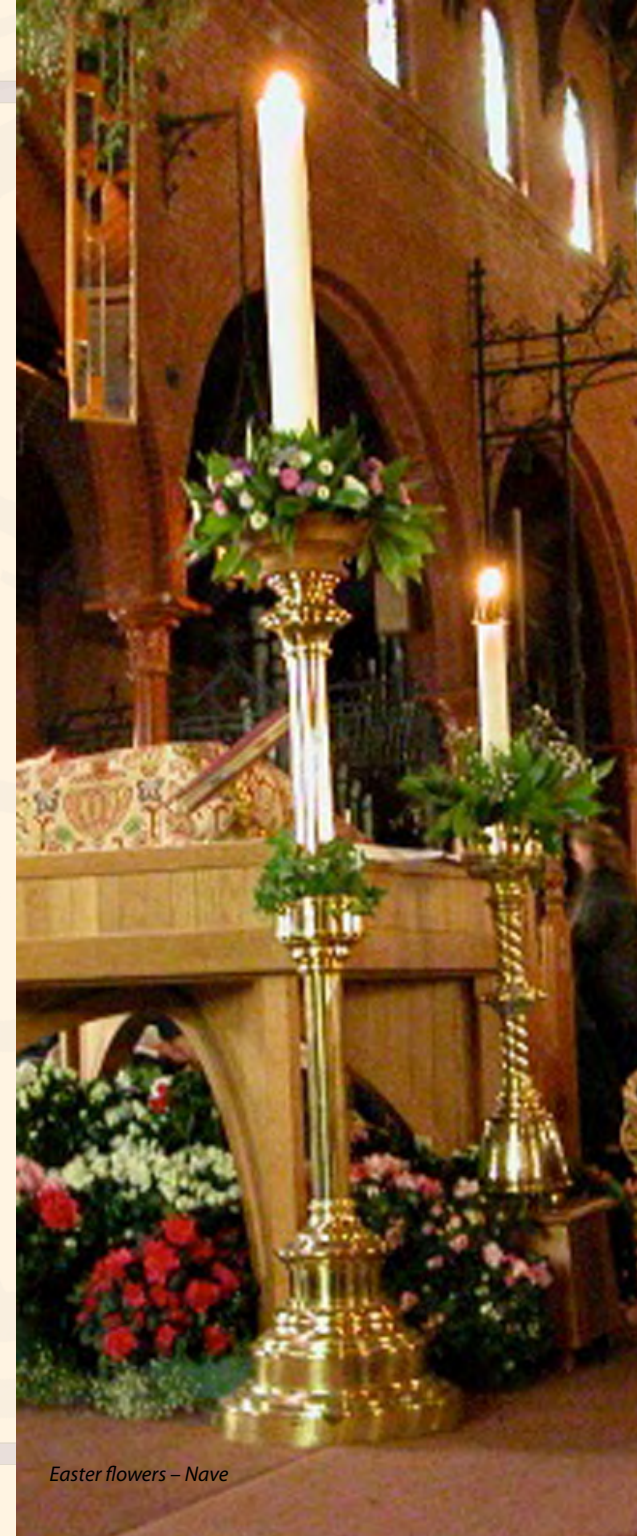


Mission Statement

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church is an open community,
welcoming people wherever they are on their faith journey.
We celebrate the gifts of God that empower us to engage boldly
in the struggles of life and care for others with love,
justice and compassion.**

Table of Contents

Mission Statement	2
Who We Are and the Rector We Seek	4
Beliefs About Believing	4
History	5
Shared Leadership and Governance	7
Programs – The Pillars	8
The Arts	8
Christian Education	10
Outreach	12
Parish Life	13
Worship	14
Youth and Family Ministries	16
Our Building – Our Neighborhood	17
Finances and Parish Demographics	19
Acknowledgments	21



Easter flowers – Nave

Who We Are and the Rector We Seek

St. Mark's Episcopal Church is a progressive Christian community. We are open to people of all faiths or none. We are committed to inclusiveness, radical hospitality and social justice. We value our community as a place that helps us to live these values and form strong ties of friendship, learning and service. We like to think of ourselves as an oasis for those seeking a spiritual home that is different from traditional churches. We question the dogmas and certainties that have become stumbling blocks for so many.

We are searching for a Rector of keen intelligence and a mature faith, with a capacity to express this faith in the pulpit, in classes and in ongoing relationships with us in the many areas of our community life. We seek an effective teacher who can communicate the essence of the Bible and Christianity and empower each of us in our spiritual development. We look for a prophetic leader both within and outside the walls of our parish to inspire us to live out our commitments, one who will both challenge and support us in these efforts. We want our rector to be a faithful pastor and friend who will engage fully in our communal life with grace and humor and compassion. Finally, we are a big parish with many programs and a big new space. We desire a Rector who is energetic, passionate, and can help keep this lively enterprise organized!

Beliefs About Believing

For decades, St. Mark's Episcopal Church has been a haven for people of evolving faith who value questions as well as answers in their quest to make sense out of life. We are interested in facing the realities of our lives in the world and in seeking God's presence in ways that are life-giving. Our members define God in many different ways, for example, God as the presence and power of love in creation, and some do not believe in God. We pray in a variety of ways, often not to a deity or being as such, but to a God who is an underlying presence, power and love.

*"We are a parish,
historic and innovative,
reverent and
rambunctious,
welcoming of
new people and new
ideas and firmly
set in our ways.
We are both wealthy
and fiscally challenged.
We seek someone who
can take the reins
of this churning,
roiling enterprise and
guide us on the way
into new faithfulness
and growth."*

– A parishioner

We also embrace a broad spectrum of beliefs about Jesus - from human prophet and teacher to divine Son of God. Many of us look to Jesus as God's incarnation of "Godself," revealing God as present in our humanity, in all of us, and not just Jesus.

More important than the exact content of our various beliefs is our commitment to openness to all who come to us, wherever they are on their faith journeys. We welcome traditional believers, agnostics, skeptics and atheists as well as those from other faiths. We see faith and skepticism as necessary to one another, enriching our spiritual growth. We believe that the way we live out our faith, the way we treat others, both close to us and far away, is the best expression of our beliefs and values. St. Mark's is an open, inclusive community – questioning, seeking, participating and speaking our minds.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church is a progressive Christian community that embraces its Episcopal heritage and values its ties with the diocese and the larger church. We honor the Anglican appreciation of the centrality of communion and of common worship in our life together. Along with many other Episcopal churches, we provide a welcome middle way for those who have fled either Roman Catholicism or Christian fundamentalism.

History

From its founding as a mission church in 1867 until today, St. Mark's has had a pioneer spirit. We seek new ideas, and we welcome a wide-range of beliefs and debate as we quest for meaning.

The Reverend William M. Baxter, who served as Rector from 1954 to 1966, came to a small dying congregation, a church about to close. He thought "the church was too beautiful to be empty. It needed active, living, faithful people." To save it from closing, Bill Baxter took action. He converted it to a "church in the round" with no pews. He adopted the theology and methodology of Charles Penniman's "Functional



Communion at the morning service



Men and Boys Choir, 1886

Education" program and began a chancel drama series with other Capitol Hill churches. In 1958, Bill Baxter invited Verna Dozier, an African American teacher and Biblical scholar, to join St. Mark's. These initiatives became part of St. Mark's regeneration and are still reflected in the St. Mark's ethos.

The Reverend James R. Adams, Rector from 1966 to 1996, expanded St. Mark's from a pastoral into a program sized church. Through his sermons and teaching, Jim Adams deepened our theological and biblical understanding and institutionalized the experiential Christian Education program. He created important collaborations with Capitol Hill clergy and forged long-standing ties to Lichfield Cathedral in England. He encouraged and valued strong lay leadership throughout our parish life. The inclusion and blessing of same-sex couples was a significant turning point during his tenure.

The Reverend Paul Roberts Abernathy, our first African American Rector, led St. Mark's from 1998-2015. During his tenure, with significant lay leadership, he led the congregation through a multi-year process that began with dream-catching, building and community engagement exercises and culminated in Vision 2020, our most recent and successful capital campaign.

The goals of the Vision 2020 project were to preserve our historic property, implement sustainable systems and make our spaces more welcoming. Through individual gifts, the sale of Baxter House, and some borrowing, the \$5.5 million goal was reached for a three-floor building and restoration project. On September 28, 2014, St. Mark's welcomed the Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, Bishop of the Diocese of Washington, to dedicate and consecrate our new space.

Paul Abernathy encouraged more interaction and dialogue around racial reconciliation and led the congregation in deep consideration of "the other" in our search to be people of love and justice. He wrote creative and contemporary liturgy and guided us to greater openness to the community.



Former Rector Bill Baxter visits for Pub Lunch



Jim Adams and Warden Verna Dozier



Paul Abernathy preaching

Shared Leadership and Governance

Historically, at St. Mark's we have treasured a collaborative style of leadership between clergy and laity. This involves a spectrum of shared authority, with the Rector chairing vestry meetings. The Rector is responsible for staff, worship and general oversight, but with strong lay leadership integrated into governance at all levels.

We have a nine-person vestry serving staggered three-year terms, and a Senior and Junior Warden each elected annually for no more than two consecutive terms. Vestry elections are usually from a contested slate, and members represent all of our three Sunday services.

Our current staff consists of a full-time Associate Rector serving as Priest-in-Charge, with an Interim Rector expected by midyear, a full-time Director of Music, a Director of Youth and Family Ministries, hired in 2015; a Parish Administrator for Finance and Membership, a Parish Administrator for Programs and Facilities, and a Bookkeeper and a Maintenance crew on contract.

Parish programs are grouped under five "Pillars." Each Pillar is chaired by two lay members. These Pillars have autonomy within the limits of their delegated authority, and they work closely with Vestry liaisons. The five Pillars are Arts, Christian Education, Outreach, Parish Life, and Worship. Youth activities, except for Sunday School (under Christian Education) are under the aegis of the Youth Director and not part of the Pillar structure.



*Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde,
Bishop of the Diocese of Washington*



Lay leadership in procession

The Pillars

The Arts

Creative expression in all its forms is an essential ingredient in our lives at St. Mark's. We find solace in the beauty of our worship space and spiritual inspiration in the music, dance, drama, and poetic language of our liturgy.

Music

Jeff Kempskie, appointed Director of Music in the fall of 2010, has brought a variety of high-quality choral and instrumental music to St. Mark's. His goal has been to create an engaging music program that supports the liturgy and provides creative opportunities for children and adults of all ability levels to participate. Under his leadership, the music program is vibrant and inspiring to members and visitors alike.

The 40-member Chancel Choir offers musical leadership each week in addition to singing at the annual Advent Lessons & Carols, occasional Evensong services, and other events. Among the group's highlights from the past few years were the singing of Ike Sturm's "Jazz Mass" accompanied by New York City jazz musicians and performing Paul Winter's "Missa Gaia" (Earth Mass), a contemporary instrumental/choral work that incorporates recorded animal sounds.

The Boys & Girls Choir, led by an experienced volunteer director, sings once or twice per month at the 9:00 a.m. service. The group continues to develop and expand. Two children attended the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) camp last summer, and we hope for more participation in future years. Our goal is to foster a love of music while promoting discipline, cooperation, and high standards of music making.

The Handbell Choir, founded in 2013, plays several times each year and is the newest way for parishioners to be involved in music. The St. Mark's Music Studio has given



Choir rehearsal



Boys and Girls Choir



Piano recital

parishioners and community members the chance to study piano and voice for the past 26 years.

Each year St. Mark's hosts several sing-alongs such as *Beer & Hymns* and *a Carols & Cocktails* to build community, to get people singing, and to bring new and younger people to St. Mark's. We also host Washington Early Music Festival concerts and other musicians throughout the year who seek the beauty and excellent acoustics of the St. Mark's nave. The church is home to a 3-manual, 42-rank Holtkamp pipe organ and 6-foot Yamaha grand piano.

The visual arts at St. Mark's are embedded in our Sunday school classes and have provided a special focus for several of our Functional Education activities. For example, our "Beyond The Frame" Workshops create a venue for making visual art together, inspired by guided interaction with historical and contemporary artistic and cultural expressions in the world around us. Celebrating our beautiful new space, we look forward to expanding our offerings to include classes and workshops that encourage creative expression in many forms, combining visual arts with dance and movement, poetry and writing, music and drama.

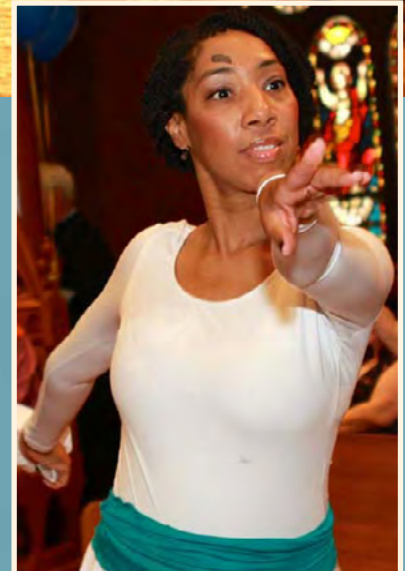
The following programs are run independently, with St. Mark's blessing, using St. Mark's space.

The Dance Studio, started in 1963, has always created a way for people to express themselves artistically and spiritually. It offers ballet, jazz and modern dance classes for all ages. A Dance Company performs in church services at St. Mark's and other churches in the area. Under the direction of Rosetta Brooks, Artistic Director, both children and adult students give an annual recital in the Nave. With the St. Mark's Players, The Dance Studio now participates in an Open House with the St. Mark's Players, musicians and visual artists from the church. Most recently, the Dance Studio helped celebrate and dedicate our new building at the September 2014 service.

The St. Mark's Players have been a thriving community theater company producing three shows a season for a wide audience throughout the community



*St. Mark's Players
in a scene from
"Cat On A Hot Tin
Roof"*



*A member of the
Dance Studio*

for over 25 years. The Players maintain strong ties with the church by involving church members in the productions or as audience members. Show choices are linked to the St. Mark's liturgical calendar, and scenes from these plays are presented during services or Pub Lunch. On those Sundays, the clergy utilize themes from the production to launch the sermon. Productions planned for the 2015-2016 season include *"The Philadelphia Story"* by Philip Barry; *"Sweeney Todd: the Demon Barber of Fleet Street"*, by Stephen Sondheim, and *"Guys and Dolls"*, by Frank Loesser.

St. Mark's Yoga Center (SMYC) is the oldest continuously operating Yoga center in DC. The Center's seven teachers offer over 350 classes annually, with nearly 3,000 "student visits." SMYC offers occasional special events such as "Yoga for Grief" and "Yoga for Diabetes." Striving to keep its classes affordable, the Center serves the local community, nearby federal workers, and members of the St. Mark's congregation. SMYC hopes to expand its classes with programs for youth and seniors, as well as participate more fully in the holistic spiritual community of the Church.

Christian Education

In each class, the goal is to provide a safe, structured environment for folks to wrestle with the decisions and dilemmas of their lives together, to grow spiritually in their sense of God's presence, and to strengthen their ties with one another.

At the heart of our Christian Education program is an experiential approach known as Functional Education. Based on small classes, this has provided opportunities for people to talk about what is really important to them and to tell their own stories. The core class of this curriculum is the Life, Community and Faith (LCF) class, which is offered twice a year and lasts from 7-10 weeks, including at least one weekend away. This class grew out of what was known as the Adult Confirmation Class, and, over the years, both have served to bring people into St. Mark's and bind them closely with classmates



Senior High Sunday School



Middle School Sunday School

who have shared the experience. One of the clergy typically serves with 2-3 lay people on the teaching staff for this class. A variety of other shorter functional classes are offered, with or without weekends, with more specific foci such as relationships, parenting, forgiveness, and risk-taking. Teaching teams of 2-4 for these classes are comprised of lay people with training in Functional Education and may or may not include clergy.

Although many have found this kind of education to be life-giving, even life-saving, it is not for everyone, and we continue to explore approaches to make it accessible for newer and younger members. Despite some controversy about the future of Functional Education, many people who attended gatherings to discuss our life together named their experiences in functional classes, especially Confirmation Class and LCF as the chief factor in their sense of community at St. Mark's.

We also offer other educational opportunities such as Education For Ministry (EFM), Guild for Transformational Study classes, three Bible study classes, meditation groups, Baptism and Introduction classes plus additional retreats and workshops as interest emerges.

St. Mark's began using the Montessori-based Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program in 1996. Junior and senior high school young people attend lay-led classes using the functional approach described above and are encouraged to take responsibility early on for their own theological and spiritual questions and the faith that may grow out of them.

The Christian Education Pillar is led by two to three lay Co-Directors serving two-year terms who design the program, recruit teachers, oversee logistics and consult regularly with the clergy.



Baptism Class



Sunday morning Bible Class

Outreach

We leverage resources through our partner organizations and individuals to nourish and strengthen the larger community.

Our Outreach Pillar acts as a catalyst for social justice. Outreach at St. Mark's is how "we care for others with love, justice and compassion" by organizing projects that directly engage our members.

Outreach has been important at St. Mark's for decades. The Outreach board has been building on the work begun in 2009 by the Community Engagement Committee that identified strengths within our parish that could be used to help the Capitol Hill area become a more just and sustainable community. Outreach maintains partnerships with nonprofit organizations that work with our neighbors in need and who have a stake in specific issues that align with our own mission and dreams.

The following are just a few examples of St. Mark's parish projects:

The Green Lions: This group's goals and activities encourage the St. Mark's community to become better environmental stewards by acting in ways that sustain God's creation and model wise use of the Earth's resources to support a world in which all can thrive.

The Honduras project: Since 1989 St. Mark's has maintained a connection with rural communities in Honduras. Through teen and adult service trips and direct financial contributions, St. Mark's has left projects of permanent benefit to our host communities.

The Mid-East Working Group (MEWG): sponsors parish events designed to raise awareness about the challenges to peace and justice in the Middle East, particularly the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



Pilgrimage to Israel in 2013



Thanksgiving Baskets



Service trip to New Orleans

In partnership, we coordinate a summer shelter program with Capitol Hill Group Ministry (CHGM) where we assist in overnight accommodations and meals for homeless families. We donate the food we collect at the altar each week to Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington. St. Mark's youth and adult parish members make over 300 bagged lunches each month which are distributed to homeless men, women and children through the Salvation Army.

In the future, we plan to heighten parish awareness of both outreach opportunities and successes within the parish. Overall our hope is to have outreach more thoroughly woven into the fabric and ethos of the St. Mark's community.

Parish Life

We love to gather and talk in myriad combinations, sometimes with brows furrowed, sometimes aching with laughter. We are fond of one another, and it shows.

An important part of life at St. Mark's is the time we spend together in community, sharing meals, telling stories, and just having fun. We have a variety of social groups for people who share common interests, including the St. Mark's Reading group, the 20s/30s, the Lambda Lions (for gays and lesbians), and Woman to Woman. Some other examples include:

The Ad Hoc Committee to Have More Fun. Intrepid volunteers plan a Mardi Gras Dance, the Maundy Thursday Agape Dinner, the 4th of July Crab Feast given by the College of Crustaceans, the annual Parish Retreat weekend and the Parish Picnic.

The Caregivers group responds to requests for help directly from parishioners or the clergy. Twice a month, we offer the laying-on-of-hands ministry, provided by trained laity during communion.



Parishioners in discussion



5 p.m. service congregation getting ready for a barbeque

The Winged Lion Pub was introduced to St. Mark's after Jim Adams visited an English church with its own pub. The Pub is open for brunch and lunch on Sundays, and during other meetings and festivities.

Third Agers, our parishioners 60 and beyond meet three times a year for social interchange, a potluck lunch, and a program. Often St. Mark's musicians and their colleagues provide music from the Great American Songbook, suitable for dancing, singing, or simply remembering earlier times. Programs range from up- to-date information about estate planning, professional appraisals for prized objects (a la Antiques Roadshow), and tales from members about their experiences locally and abroad.

The annual lay-led parish retreat weekend usually held at the Shrine Mont Conference Center in Orkney Springs, Virginia, is a chance for parishioners to get away, renew acquaintances and make new friends. More importantly, it is a time to wrestle with significant themes to renew both the spiritual and the social fabric of the parish.

Worship

Our goal is to provide worship experiences that really reflect our sense of God in our lives and who and where we are as a congregation. Active lay involvement is part of our worship planning process.

Worship is one of the most important aspects of our life at St. Mark's, touching everyone who walks through our doors on Sundays. We offer services at 9:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on most Sundays with occasional combined morning services at 10:00 a.m. Average overall Sunday attendance is 269 people. Each service is different, but all offer open communion, inclusive language and a sermon, although the 9:00 a.m. service has the sermon after the liturgy as part of the 10:00 a.m. Sermon Seminar.



St. Mark's dance



Carrying the communion bread

There is also a small Children's Chapel service in the Craighill Dance Studio during the first part of the 9:00 a.m. service. This informal, friendly service is for children ages 3-8, along with their parents. On the second Sunday of most months, we offer a Family Service with participation from children as readers and choir members, and there is a Children's Sermon during that service.

The morning services include a choir and congregational singing. We use predominantly the 1982 Hymnal, but also "Levas II" and songs from "Wonder Love and Praise" along with a variety of other sources including progressive hymns and texts written by adjunct clergy.

The 5:00 p.m. service began several years ago and has attracted a steady, committed congregation. It is more contemplative and includes time for silence and meditation along with recorded music with occasional live instrumental or vocal offerings.

A particularly distinctive feature, treasured by the 9:00 a.m. congregation, is **Sermon Seminar**. The 9:00 a.m. liturgy does not include the sermon. Instead, it takes place at about 10:00 a.m. after a brief coffee break and announcements. The sermon is preached and is followed by about twenty minutes of responses from the congregation. People come to a microphone and share what the sermon evoked for them, sometimes including questions about or even critiques of the sermon. This is the time for the community to engage with the sermon and readings, and this input from the congregation often deepens and clarifies our understanding of the sermon.

Currently there is some tension in the congregation between our desire for innovative liturgies that directly reflect our progressive theology and our desire to stick more closely to the riches of the Book of Common Prayer and its more traditional language in our worship.



Acolytes



The annual Christmas Pageant

The longing for innovation is being met in part by our experimental use of non-traditional liturgies. During the last few years, we have used a number of alternative sources such as “The New Zealand Prayer Book,” “Enriching Our Worship” and “Prayers for an Inclusive Church.” During the last few years of Paul Abernathy’s tenure, liturgies written by him and occasionally other clergy have also been used for specific Sundays or seasons. We try to balance non-traditional forms with regular prayer book use on a seasonal basis, but each of these modes of worship can be a stumbling block for some.

A **Liturgy Planning Team** meets monthly to discuss seasonal themes and special worship events, with most of the details of each service being planned by the clergy and music director. We want to hold on to lay involvement in liturgy planning but are assessing the effectiveness of our current system. There is probably no “typical” Sunday liturgy. The variety can be either bracing and inspiring or unsettling and lacking in continuity from one Sunday to the next. For us, the “work of the people” is hard work indeed, but the energy around issues of worship reflects the high value we place on it and the difficulties of satisfying very diverse preferences and desires.

Youth and Family Ministries

We desire a faith community that fully embraces and intertwines all ages in our shared experience as members of St. Mark’s.

The children and youth of St. Mark’s are a vital and visible part of our community. Through our youth and family ministry program, we seek to provide a safe and supportive place where families and children can embark or progress on their faith journeys and create a community of loving, trusting relationships among children and adult mentors. In 2014-15 about 110 children are registered for Sunday School classes from Pre-K through 12th grade and active in youth activities. Our young people serve as acolytes, occasionally read lessons and prayers during worship services, sing in the Boys’ and Girls’ Choir,



Teen service trip to New Orleans



Teen service trip to New Orleans

perform in St. Mark's Players productions, prepare bag lunches for the homeless and participate with their families in our June weekend parish retreat.

Our youth and family programs, supported by a youth director and active parental involvement, have blossomed in the last few years. They have built community for our children, enriched their spiritual lives, engaged their parents more fully in parish life, forged relationships among families and youth leaders, and provided an attractive feature for newcomers with children seeking a church home.

Some typical activities include the Annual Ski Trip, Teen Service Trips to Honduras, Panama, New Orleans and West Virginia with a Mardi Gras fundraiser, annual Easter Egg Hunts, Labor Day Weekend Parish Picnic & Games, the "Outreach Project to Support Unaccompanied Immigrant Minors" and the recent dinner and a play with visiting South African teens.

St. Mark's has recently completed a holistic review and re-envisioning of our youth and family ministry program to gain an understanding of how the position of director of youth and family ministries might evolve to reflect the future needs and desires of the congregation. We expect to have the new youth and family director in place in 2015. Over the next five years, we will increase the role of youth in all aspects of parish life, with an emphasis on the educational component of spiritual formation.

Our Building – Our Neighborhood

St. Mark's Episcopal Church is located on Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C. among historic buildings like the Library of Congress, the Folger Shakespeare Library and the Supreme Court, as well as beautiful row houses that make up the neighborhood. It is listed in the D.C. Inventory of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places.



South African teens visit for dinner and a play



Neighborhood row house

St. Mark's nave and the original parish hall were built between 1888 and 1894. In 1990-91, the area under the nave was excavated to create a full undercroft with classrooms, meeting rooms, the library and offices.

Our one-floor-high ceilinged 1926 parish hall was converted into a three story complex within its original envelope in 2014. Our 28,311 square foot building contains new offices for the staff, a new undercroft with meeting rooms, choir room, music studio, and a fully renovated parish hall and kitchen.

We were committed to being as sustainable as possible throughout construction and in our selection of HVAC and other systems and equipment, highlighted by our installation of solar panels on the south roof.

Through creative use of our space, St. Mark's extends our open and welcoming hospitality not only to our members but also to the broader Capitol Hill community and visiting groups from outside the Washington DC metropolitan area.

St. Mark's is part of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, which includes The District and Montgomery, Prince George's, Charles and St. Mary's Counties in Maryland. Under the leadership of the Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde, the first priority of the diocese is the renewal and revitalization of its congregations and its core ministries; our goal is to engage a changing world with the enduring Episcopal tradition. The diocese is blessed with rich racial and cultural diversity, including six Spanish-speaking congregations, numerous rural congregations, and a variety of urban parishes. The diocese includes in its mission the support of several international partnerships as well as seventeen Episcopal schools.



St. Mark's Capitol Hill



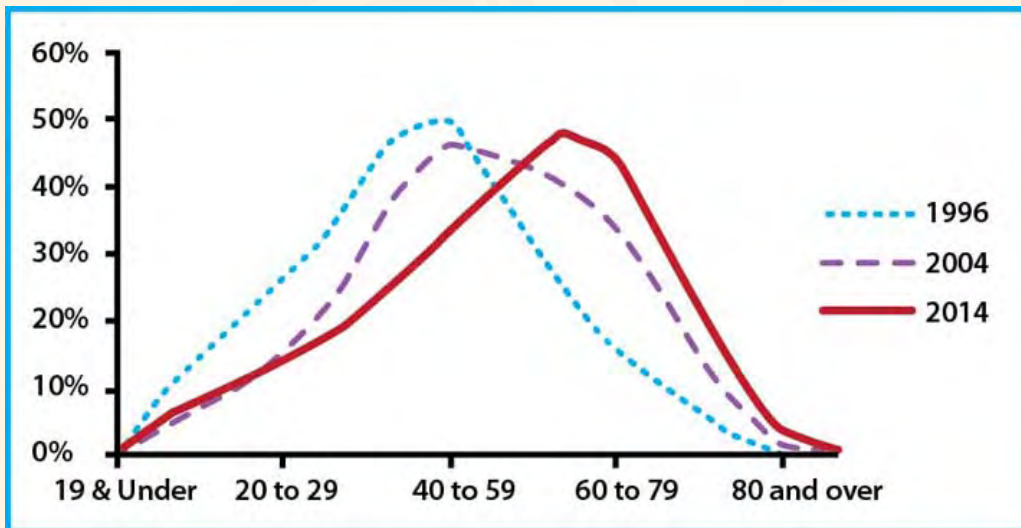
St. Mark's courtyard

St. Mark's is a member of Region I, one of six geographic regions in the diocese. Region I represents a portion of the District of Columbia. It includes both large and small parishes in both residential and commercial areas. This region's Episcopal communities are ripe for growth through innovation. They have robust outreach opportunities but also tremendous room for fresh expressions of ministry and community building. The diocese is particularly excited to have multiple parishes with an ability to flourish in and near the Capitol Hill neighborhoods.

Finances and Parish Demographics

St. Mark's Church is a thriving welcoming community of individuals. We are a strong parish of more than 900 baptized members, with almost 600 active adult members and 175 children under the age of 16. In 2014, our average Sunday attendance was 269, 80 percent of our parish attending a Sunday service two or more times a month. We are about 60 percent female; the majority of us are in relationships and employed; 63 percent have a household income of \$100,000 or more, and 11 percent are lesbian, gay, or bisexual.

Comparison of age distributions from 1996, 2004 and 2014 parish surveys.



Family friends

*St. Mark's Church
is a thriving
welcoming community
of individuals.*

While we are a diverse community in terms of social status, class, education, sexual orientation and race, we are a predominantly well-educated and white community with a large number of retired and long-time members. Nearly 60 percent of us are over the age of 60, 62 percent have been attending St. Mark's for more than 15 years, and 40 percent are retired.

Our community also includes a vibrant group of families with children and an energetic and active group of young professionals who are increasingly taking on larger roles in our leadership and liturgy. Almost half of our members live on or near Capitol Hill, and the remainder comes from neighborhoods across the larger metropolitan area of Washington, D.C., Virginia, and Maryland.

St. Mark's operating budget is supported almost entirely through the annual canvass, plate and special offerings from our members, friends, and visitors, and contributions from outside organizations that use our historic facilities.

St. Mark's – Operating Budget Review					
Revenue	2015*	2014	2013	2012	2011
Pledges	\$800,220	\$702,847	\$804,901	\$780,611	\$834,248
Plate	45,000	41,653	46,304	45,489	49,744
Other Income	29,000	49,890	22,653	17,706	27,316
Total Revenue	\$874,220	\$794,390	\$873,858	\$843,806	\$911,308
Number of Pledge Units		331	332	345	387
Expenses					
Payroll & Related	\$434,200	517,951	535,478	512,891	462,906
Parochial Ministry	40,700	22,712	21,709	28,778	26,728
Diocesan Pledge	40,000	46,113	39,122	36,670	40,000
Outreach	20,000	21,802	25,500	23,499	24,716
Administration	74,620	80,468	75,376	72,506	85,702
Property	264,700	199,162	225,024	195,269	205,198
Total Expense	874,220	888,208	922,209	869,613	845,250

* Budgeted



The St. Mark's banner

In 2014, \$703,000 was provided by 331 pledging units, over \$41,500 was provided through plate donations, and \$14,000 came from the use of our building by other organizations.

The majority of our operating budget is dedicated to compensating our parish staff, maintaining our beautiful 135 year old property, and supporting the numerous needs and activities of the parish. We honor our responsibility to support the diocese and strive to give generously to outside charitable organizations as well. During the construction of our new wing in 2013 and 2014 we experienced budgetary short falls, but were able to use our cash reserves to supplement our income during this period. Our recent Canvass has already received pledges of over \$800,000 for the present fiscal year (2015).

Outside of the annual budget, the numerous projects and programs of the parish generate significant income for individual activities. Over \$100,000 was generated and used in 2014. Finally, under a project-focused Charter and executed by an independent Board, the St. Mark's Endowment contained just under \$800,000 at the end of 2014.

For more information about St. Mark's Church, visit the Search Committee website at <https://stmarksdsc.wordpress.com/> and the St. Mark's Church website at <http://www.stmarks.net/>.

Discernment and Search Committee extends special appreciation to graphic designer Joe Guarisco and photographer Elizabeth Chomas. Additional photographs were provided by Steve Dalzell, Chuck Divine, Thia Hamilton, and Doris Burton, coordinator of the St. Mark's archives. Thanks to the St. Mark's Vestry and countless others for their assistance and support.

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*"Whoever we are,
from wherever
we have come,
whatever we believe
or don't believe,
we are all welcome
and invited to receive
at God's table."*



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
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