

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Annual Report**



**for the year  
2012**

## **St. Mark's 2013 Annual Meeting Agenda**

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Determination of a Quorum
4. Adoption of Time Allotment / Speaking Rules
5. Reading of 2012 Annual Meeting Minutes
6. Appointment of Tellers
7. Report of the Nominating Committee
8. Opening of Polls (open for 30 minutes)
9. Clergy Report
10. Committee Reports
  - a. finance & budget
  - b.
11. Closing of Polls
12. Report from the Tellers
13. Old Business
  - a. update to Code of Regulations (Bylaws)
  - b.
14. New Business
15. Closing Prayer
16. Adjournment

### **St. Mark's Episcopal Church Annual Meeting Minutes January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012**

Father Dustin Berg opened the meeting with a prayer following the 10:00am service at 11:29am. He determined that a quorum was present, and that the agenda order could proceed.

**Minutes-** The minutes from the 2011 meeting were reviewed by the congregation. With a few minor spelling corrections, Geoff Gordon made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Louise Moore seconded. Motion carried.

**Vestry Nominations:** Mike Mozingo, nominations chairman, reported on the nominating process. There will be 4 candidates elected for a 3-year term.

Father Berg discussed the time frame of the by-laws, and who can vote:

- Voting members must be 16 years old, a member of the parish and have participated in Holy Communion at least 3 times during the past calendar year.
- There will be 30 minutes of discussion.
- Attendees can vote to add more time, and state how many additional minutes needed for discussion.
- Speakers must approach the microphone in the middle of the isle, and state their name.

Judy Hixon made a motion to approve the rules as written on the easel. Louise Moore seconded. Motion passed.

The polls were opened for voting, and ballots were passed out.

### **Reports of Rector, Organizations and Officers:**

Father Berg urged all to read the reports printed in the Annual Report. He gave thanks to all Vestry members, committee heads and servers. These parish ministries serve inward and outward, and stand ready to serve. He reiterated that he is very pleased to be serving at St. Mark's. He reviewed the categories of the Vestry, and the importance of these ministries. Father Berg challenged the congregation to face changes and support them as a way of making our parish grow. He urged everyone to participate in Christian Formation groups being offered. In keeping with the new year, Father Berg is setting goals for St. Mark's, and is encouraging all to get on board and stand strong as a parish to implement these goals.

Signature Outreach- The ministry of St. Mark's must go beyond our doors, and extend into the community. Along with the Vestry, the congregation will be searching for ways to put our individual stamp on a specific community outreach,

### **Retiring Vestry Members:**

The following members are retiring after their service to the Vestry:

Pam Clark  
Scott Walton  
Tony Keenan  
Ron Brookes  
Teri Hockman

Father Berg presented each with a gift thanking them for their faithful and loyal service to this parish.

### **Finance Report:**

Scott Walton gave an overview of the finance report. He explained the two budgets being presented to the congregation. Budget A has no proposed reductions. Budget B, approved by the Vestry at its December 2011 meeting, has several cutbacks in the areas of: administrative assistant, print media and snow plowing. The spending reductions for Budget B total \$ 25,832.24. There was an actual loss of \$39,625 for the 2011 calendar year. There will be a continual effort to pare down expenses.

**Old Business:** Update to Code of Regulations (Bylaws)

**New Business:** Ron Brookes asked for help in keeping up the parish grounds. Jane King encouraged people to attend the Wednesday morning Communion service and Bible study.

Charlie Kiesling urged the parish to volunteer for the Habitat Project. They will be needing people in spring and summer. He will have specific dates and sites as the time draws closer.

Pat Sigley- Wesson asked how long the parish could sustain itself with a deficit. Scott explained it would depend how much has to be taken out of the reserves.

After 30 minutes, the four new Vestry members were announced.  
They will serve a three-year term:

Bert Heisser  
Sue Little  
Carol Popovich  
Barrie Thorp

Father Berg thanked the congregation for their votes. He especially was appreciative of those members who allowed their names to be placed on the ballot.

Still under New Business, several in the parish raised question and regret about the departure of long-time administrative assistant, Sherry Ackerman.

There being no further business, Louise Moore motioned to adjourn the annual meeting. Emilie Korosi seconded. Father Berg closed with a prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Grace Giammarco  
Clerk of the vestry

## **Update to St. Mark's Code of Regulations**

from St. Mark's Vestry – Code of Regulations (Bylaws) – from page 7 as adopted on January 8, 2012

### **Section 6. Banking and Audit.**

(a) All funds and all securities of whatsoever kind or nature belonging to any Parish, Mission or Diocesan organization shall be deposited with a Federal or State Bank or Trust Company, or federally insured Savings and Loan Association within the limits of such insurance, or a Diocesan corporation, subject to the withdrawal there from, in whole or in part, only on the written order of two persons authorized by a governing body of the Parish, Mission or Diocesan organization; or deposited in a safe deposit vault, access to which shall only be had by two persons authorized as herein provided. Records shall be made and kept of all trusts and permanent funds showing at least their source and date, the terms governing the use of principal and income, to whom and how often reports of conditions are to be made, and how the funds are to be invested.

(b) Books of account shall be so kept as to make accounts and securities available for satisfactory accounting at any reasonable time. All accounts shall be audited annually by a certified or independent public accountant or by such an accounting agency as shall be permitted by the Department of Finance of the Diocese. A certificate of audit shall be forwarded to the Bishop not later than July 1 of each year, covering the financial reports of the previous year.

(c) Treasurers and custodians other than banking institutions shall be adequately bonded, except treasurers of funds that do not exceed \$500 at any time during the fiscal year. All Buildings and their contents shall be adequately insured. Only ~~three~~ individuals **designated by the Vestry** may disperse monies including the treasurer, administrative assistant, ~~and the senior warden,~~ **and up to three additional persons, as the Vestry shall designate.** Two ~~out of the three~~ persons must sign for monies.

**The Episcopal Diocese of Ohio**      [www.dohio.org](http://www.dohio.org)

Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth

Assisting: The Rt. Rev. David Bowman, The Rt. Rev. Arthur Williams,  
The Rt. Rev. William Persell

**St. Mark's Vestry**

Bruce Hixon, Senior Warden  
Rhonda Warren, Junior Warden  
Grace Giammarco, Clerk  
Anne Coen  
Susie Hines  
Kirk Bletzacker  
Derek Gordon

Charles Kiesling  
Barrie Thorp  
Mike Mozingo  
Bert Heisser  
Sue Little  
Carol Popovich

**Staff and Ministry Leaders**

W. Robert Morrison  
Sue Little  
Donna Brookes  
Louise Moore  
Craig Hockman  
Bruce Hixon  
Gary Giammarco  
Gary Mull  
Kirk Bletzacker  
Sandy Paradis & Jan Hudson  
Carol Popovich and Susie Hines  
Judy Hixon, Teri Hockman, Linda Deuble, Sharon Ryan,  
Pamela Clark, Livvy Mull  
Derek & Emily Gordon, Kate Mozingo  
Kelli Mossgrove  
Stephanie Stallman

Organist/Choirmaster  
Episcopal Church Women President  
Altar Guild President  
Assistant Altar Guild President  
Head Usher  
Head Lay Reader  
Acolyte Advisor  
Treasurer  
Building and Grounds  
Puppet Directors  
Wedding Coordinators  
  
Sunday School Committee  
Youth Ministry Leaders  
Financial and Bookkeeping Assistant  
Office Assistant

## **2012 Parish Services – Statistics:**

### *Attendance –*

Sunday liturgies	5825	
Weekday liturgies	714	
Easter	211	(included in above <i>Sunday</i> total)
Christmas	195	(included in above <i>weekday</i> total)

Average Sunday Attendance (ASA): 112

*Note: This ASA puts us in the top 32% of all Episcopal parishes, across the country.  
(Source: <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/current-featured-research>).*

Marriages: 1  
(Caroline Giammarco, Thomas Orlando)  
Funerals/Memorials: 3  
(David Leavenworth, Polly Cook [columbarium internment only], Roman Todoran)

## **REPORT FROM FATHER BERG**

*We seek to know the Lord, Jesus Christ and to make him known as central in life to others in word and deed. We seek to worship in a manner that honors our traditional Anglican heritage.  
–St. Mark’s Mission Statement*

Greetings to the saints of God at St. Mark’s!

As we recap 2012 and look forward into 2013, I want to first thank you for your grace and support through my entry into fatherhood this past year. Welcoming our twins Elijah and Kailani has been an incredible adventure and joy, and for your regular well-wishes, care, and interest, Heather and I are most grateful. As Sunday mornings with twins becomes more manageable (!), we hope to be bringing them to church more often!

Two large events stand out among our work in 2012. With the organizational oversight of Pam McCarthy and many other volunteers, we hosted the internationally acclaimed organist Hector Olivera in concert, in April. This event saw nearly a full church and raised around \$6,000! Then, in June, we hosted the annual Bishop’s Bike Ride, on one segment of its journey across our diocese. Many thanks are due to Scott Walton, Sue Little, and Carol Popovich, among many others, for this generous act of hospitality.

In our formational life, we spent the weeks of Lent working through some of the changes that the church as a whole is facing, with Phyllis Tickle’s video conversation series, *Embracing Emergence Christianity*. Along with the video series, we gathered in fellowship around dinner and offered centering prayer and Evening Prayer together.

Beginning in the fall, nine young people began their journey toward Confirmation. Meeting on Sunday mornings between services, we discussed some of what makes us Christian and Episcopalian, using the video series *re:Form*. Also, Sunday morning Bible studies began to be offered on the scriptures appointed for worship, facilitated by Brad Kaustinen.

We have seen several transitions in 2012, largely in staff and volunteers. Since November, our office is now staffed by Stephanie Stallman – on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. If you have not already done so, please introduce yourself to her – she is happy to assist you! We also welcomed Kelli Mossgrove as financial and bookkeeping assistant (in February) and Jenny Bierman as nursery attendant in November. Finally, we recall with gratitude the many years and countless hours given in service to St. Mark's by Scott Walton, and pray God's continued blessings on him and his family on their departure from St. Mark's and in their new worshiping community.

2012 also saw shifts in the way we communicate parish news. *The Lion's Tale* is now published on our website; and the *Lion's Pause* emails keep us updated on a weekly basis. Also, we continue to expand our reach through our Facebook page.

Looking ahead into 2013, we face a number of what some might call challenges. I prefer to call them opportunities, because they give us occasion to discern and to be deliberate in being the kind of church God would have us be.

In 2013 our new vestry will need to continue its diligent work with our finances. We are far from alone among other Episcopal churches in declining involvement and shrinking budgets. However, a church is not *the* Church that continues to cut budgets in order to “maintain”. Instead, the Church **grows**. It steps out in faith for the sake of growing the kingdom of God, for our world and specifically in this corner of it. Even as we face shrinking resources, we must expand. We must find creative ways to grow in depth of spiritual vitality, involvement, participation, and, only *after* focusing on these things, numbers. Our Growth Committee has begun to take a look at these opportunities, and what a growing church does – namely, participate in God's redemptive work. You can read more about it elsewhere in this report.

Soon you will also begin to hear about identifying strengths of our parish and plans to make use of them through a program designed to do just that. Your clergy and others are working on putting in place a small group of persons who will meet regularly for a period of about three months to pray, discern, and listen, for God to guide our vision. What emerges will help us take some larger steps toward a strategy for our parish. We give thanks especially to Derek Gordon for his commitment and enthusiasm with these efforts.

Some of these risks we will need to take will make us uncomfortable. They will force us to be creative. One of those risks/opportunities is identifying the “nones” and beginning to be able to speak their language. (“Nones” refers to those who no longer identify with *any* religion. On surveys that ask religious affiliation, they check the box for ‘none’.) Speaking the truth of our faith to this segment of the world requires our own fluency with the faith and the ability to “translate” it! “Nones” also, in general, want to see the church in action, making a difference in the world.

Telling our story through word and action is one of the best ways to meet this set of opportunities. I encourage you to pray for opportunities to do so. And pray for the heart of our church, that it may be drawn closer to the heart of God through everything that it does. In worship, in events in our community where we can tell that story, in shining the light of Christ to those in life’s transitions... take a risk, even a small one, in asking ourselves how we can *even better* serve those around us. Share the good news in 2013 of a church family that loves and cares for one another. Invite one of the “nones” to join us in making a difference in God’s world.

Maybe you have an idea, or a passion, or a prodding from God to take one of those risks for growing his kingdom. Be part of the work of God. Instead of thinking (or saying), “*Someone should do something about that...*,” say, “***I*** can do that. ***I*** can serve.”

We have many opportunities before us. I hope you will take them up together with this family of God, your Church.

Faithfully,  
Fr. Berg+

### **Senior Warden’s Report**

One would expect the Senior Warden's Report to recap the past year's events. But I am not interested in rehashing the past. My concern is the future. Where is St. Mark's headed? What is our vision for the future? There is no standing still, no status quo. We will either decline or we will grow.

We have all heard the coffee hour conversations about how the Episcopal Church as a whole is dying; about young people not being interested in our kind of worship; and how there is really nothing we can do to combat this reality. If this is the attitude we wish to adopt then our path for the future is clear; it is a path of declining membership, growing debt and eventual death. Is this the path you choose for St. Mark's? If your answer is yes then the path ahead is wide and easy, demanding nothing from us but resignation and

apathy. If your answer is no, then we have a lot of work to do and each and every one of us needs to roll up our sleeves and get it done!

I believe that to every trend there is an exception, and I see no reason why St. Mark's cannot be that exception.

To begin with we have a larger congregation than most of the churches in the Diocese and despite our current budgetary problems we are still well funded. We have time to grow this church, but we must begin now. We have a congregation with above average intelligence and a wealth of talent. We have nothing to fear but our own lethargy. So how do we begin? First we need to set goals for 2013, and we need to plan to achieve those goals. This will be the big challenge for this year's Vestry. We also need a long term goal, a definition of who we want to be, and how to get there. To that end we will be forming a Strategic Planning Committee to define the direction for St. Mark's as we move into the future. What the outcome will be I do not know, but without a goal, a vision for the future, we cannot grow. I am asking you to support the efforts of this group, whose members are yet to be named, and to pray that their efforts will bear fruit for this congregation and for the service of our Lord.

Second we have a Growth Committee already organized and functioning. Their challenge is to breathe new life into St. Mark's by suggesting new programs and activities. It is not the purpose of the Growth Committee to implement and administer these new programs, but to identify people in the congregation who have the talent and ability to do so. When you are asked to serve I hope you will step forward and accept the opportunity for service to St. Mark's, because it is through our actions that we answer the question of our Lord: "Who do you say that I am?"

I believe that St. Mark's is a special place, a thin place where we may glimpse another dimension, where we may be still and know the presence of God. I believe in this congregation. I believe we have a future, not of despair and decline, but of life and joy and growth in His service. But what I believe is not worth a hill of beans unless **you** believe it too, and are willing to give, not just financially, but more importantly, of your time and talent. Ultimately the future of St. Mark's lies with Jesus Christ our Lord. As Christians we are His body on earth, we must do the work.

What future do **you** want for St. Mark's?

Bruce Hixon

## **Acolytes**

The ministry of acolyte is very old, dating back to at least the third century A.D. These early acolytes had functions similar to those of modern day. They assisted the bishop and clergy during liturgical services and helped lead and define the tone of worship for the community. Like today, these early acolytes gave strong witness to their Christian faith and were dedicated to the worship community.

Acolytes at St. Mark's Church include the Crucifer (Head Cross), who processes with the cross, directs the other acolytes in preparation of the altar at offertory, and acts as chief acolyte for the team serving that day. Torch bearers, process with the torches, and assist the Head Cross at offertory. The Gospel Bearer, processes with the Gospel Book; and the Second Cross make up our acolyte group each Sunday at the 10am service. At the 8am service, there are three acolytes: the Head Cross and two Torch Bearers. The acolytes serve funerals and other special services as needed.

We have a total of 19 acolytes: 6 adults and 13 young adults. This assembly of acolytes takes their individual positions each Sunday very seriously and looks forward to complimenting the church service. In the past year, our acolytes served the Holy Saturday service and read lessons for our Lessons and Carols Sunday. We expect to increase our number of acolytes due to the number of children completing Confirmation. At St. Marks, we are fortunate to have such a great group of people.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary L. Giammarco  
Acolyte Advisor

## **Lay Readers Report 2012**

St. Mark's continues to be well served by a dedicated group of laymen and laywomen serving as Worship Leaders, Eucharistic Ministers and Eucharistic Visitors and we always have room for more.

Any member of the congregation, high school age or older who is looking for an opportunity to utilize their talents in the service of the church, should talk to Father Berg or Bruce Hixon about becoming a member of this group.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bruce A. Hixon  
Head Lay Reader

## **E.C.W. 2012 Annual Report**

The Episcopal Church Women is composed of all the women of the church. You are welcome to become involved at any time and we welcome you to do so. Visibly, we may

not appear strong; however the women of the church come together when the need arises or when called. Feel free to come forward and volunteer.

For over 25 years we have donated Easter baskets to the Y.W.C.A. homeless shelter. This entails providing baskets for 42 women and their custodial children plus possibly a husband if they are living in the Y's four-unit apartment building. The E.C.W. bought the baskets. Money and desired items were donated by our congregation in order to purchase food and personal care items for the women. The children's baskets were customized according to gender and age.

Our annual Christmas raffle and luncheon was held on Sunday, December 2, following the 10:00am service. We served pork barbecue sandwiches, homemade chicken noodle soup, salad, punch and cookies. All present enjoyed themselves.

We have paid our Fair Share to both the Diocesan E.C.W. and to the Mission Area E.C.W. We donated to our Central East Mission Area to help pay for bed sheets sent to a hospital in Africa, and we are supporting Maddie Thomas's trip to Ecuador in March.

The E.C.W. Mission Area collected women's and children's underwear and t-shirts for Haiti. The box to be sent weighs 33#. I do believe that at least half of the items were donated by St. Mark's, Canton. The box will be taken to Agape Air Flights in Venice FL by Wayne and Sandy Paradis and Agape will fly the box to the Rev. Kasner Ajax in Haiti.

We are also collecting Box Tops for Education that we send through our E.C.W. Mission Area to Lillian Valley School, and Episcopal school located on the Blackfoot Indian Reservation in Blackfoot, ID.

Our knitting group is small, however we welcome women who would like to learn to knit to join us. We knit items for the Seamen's Church Institute ([seamenschurch.org](http://seamenschurch.org)), knit for our own pleasure, and are starting to knit prayer shawls. The first shawl was given to Nancy McPeck.

Sue Little,  
ECW President

### **Community Christmas**

We adopted 6 families of 4 persons. Plate cash and checks designated "Community Christmas" in the memo line was collected for three Sundays. Volunteers were given money to shop for the needed gifts and food vouchers were purchased.

The list of parishioners who marked "Outreach" on their Stewardship forms for 2012 were notified of help needed to wrap and box the gifts. There was a favorable response and all gifts were wrapped, boxed, and delivered to the collection point.

In the weeks following this community outreach, several families expressed their gratitude through thank-you notes to the parish. These notes are now posted on the bulletin board in the lobby for your viewing.

Sue Little

**United Thank Offering** is a uniquely Episcopal, worldwide response to God for our blessings and those of family and friends. Our giving is a reflection of our daily prayers and thankfulness. Ingatherings are held twice a year. Grants are awarded that address compelling human need and/or expansion of mission and ministry. 100% of the collected offering is granted. UTO Committee expenses are supported entirely through earned income from dedicated trust funds.

Totals from our Ingatherings are: Spring, \$826; Fall, \$1,034.

Respectfully submitted  
MaryAnn Kiesling

### **Wednesday 10:30 AM study group**

The study group continues year round at 10:30 every Wednesday. Together we choose something to read together and discuss. Sometimes it is a book of the Bible and sometimes another book. We try to choose a variety of books that may help us to understand our faith and grow in it. We enjoy being together and try to support each other and St. Mark's. It is a small group that keeps the welcome mat out for others who would like to join us any Wednesday morning. Just come, have a cup of coffee, and see what you've been missing.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Eloise Hochwalt

## **2012 Annual Report from the Music Director**

St. Mark's music ministry took some major steps in 2012. The April 15 appearance of world-renowned organist Hector Olivera was significant not only for the event itself (Pam McCarthy, chair) but for the addition to our organ of a sound module on which Mr. Olivera downloaded digital samples of famous organs such as Westminster Abbey, Notre Dame, adding altogether over a hundred new voices to our library of sounds. We had appearances by harpists Nancy Paterson (principal harp of Canton Symphony) and Kara Dahl Russell on Christmas Eve, oboe Susan Shaffer Bair for two outdoor services, flute Molly Murphy, piano Charles Reiman and Sandra Carnes, timpani John Gregory, violin Katie Hockman, soprano Catherine Dillon (as well as our own Sandi Kaustinen, Frances Swinehart, Ken Jaeb, Robert Karl Bortz, Dr. King) and a full-length cantata with narrator Don Lovgren. We have added Ron Brookes and Caroline Willoughby to our choir roster which also includes, in addition to those named above, Candy Wallace, Barbara Siegfried, Beck Rand (librarian), Louise Moore, Leslie Redmon, and Barrie Thorp. Our choir participated in a city-wide evensong at St. Paul's and joined with selected Canton Symphony Chorus members for Nancy McPeck's Memorial service. Our timpani are on loan from the Canton Concert Band. It is a privilege for me to be the parish musician in this portion of God's vineyard. I will be taking a seminar with Hector Olivera in February 2013 and your former music director Bruce Schutrum will be substituting.

Respectfully submitted,  
W. Robert Morrison

## **Trustees**

The Trustees of St. Mark's manage all endowment funds for the church. Endowment Funds are made up of bequests and donations which generous parishioners and friends have given to St. Mark's to ensure the longevity and well being of the parish. There are five Trustees who serve five year terms (maximum two consecutive terms) and who oversee the investment and distribution of the funds. Trustees for 2011 were Rick Werren (Chairman), Geoff Gordon (Treasurer), Marcia Kiesling (Secretary), Mark Nadel, and Bob Kocab. Assets are currently invested in equities, income funds, and money market funds. A small portion of the assets have been designated by the donors to use only the income for the church library and the church music program. The balance is available to be used for the benefit of the church, subject to request and approval of the Vestry.

Rick Werren

### **Lazarus Committee Report: Columbarium**

The Columbarium is a wonderful gift that present and past parishioners have given to the St. Marks Family. Many parishioners have reserved a place for themselves and their immediate families. The cost today is \$1000. This covers the niche, maintenance and the gold lettering. Not only is this considered a bargain in funeral costs, it eliminates much worry and expense for those who come behind us.

There are many spaces available and each niche is designed to accommodate both husband's and wife's ashes. All the rest are sold only as single units for one person. Engraving is a standard design for all niches and there are no variations.

A review of the columbarium agreement, procedures, and cost was completed in 2012.

Charlie Kiesling

### **The Wedding Coordinators 2012 Report**

The wedding committee assists with the preparation and the details of the wedding rehearsal and the ceremony at St. Mark's. At least two wedding committee members are needed to help with those events. At an initial meeting to gather information with those planning to marry, policies and procedures are clarified and a plan is made for any special preparation. Then we do what we can to complete and enhance the process for a successful event.

There was only one wedding this year at St. Mark's ---- but, it was glorious! Caroline Sarratt Giammarco, daughter of Gary and Grace Giammarco, wed Thomas Antonio Orlando on Saturday, June 9.

At present there are no known weddings scheduled for 2013. However, we are always looking for new committee members.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Popovich and Susie Hines  
Wedding Coordinators

### **Cluster Dinner Report for 2012**

Cluster Dinner Groups are a means of parish building through fellowship. They have involved about 30+ adults, singles and couples, for 2 years. Mostly gathering in homes for a pot luck supper, the participants have become well acquainted with each other, and therefore, are able to care about and for each other. For folks to open their homes is quite an act of giving/hospitality; and for folks to visit those homes is an act of receiving such

openness. Our Sunday sharing of the peace has become quite lively. One of the reasons could be our lively, sharing conversations and dining with each other!

Respectfully submitted  
MaryAnn & Charlie Kiesling

### **The Growth Committee**

The Growth Committee has met 3 times since Oct, 2012. We are encouraged by outward signs of what looks like “a living church”, such as greeters; good attendance at Sunday brunches; social times at the soup cook-off, Cluster Dinners, and the women’s luncheons; work parties during autumn clean-up and Christmas decorating; 2 Bible studies; support for the Puppet Gang and Confirmands; and hiring a nursery attendant.

Among our goals is the identification of other programs, such as a prayer group that would meet one hour each week to pray for St. Mark’s. Another goal is to investigate our strengths and how to identify and focus on a signature outreach.

These programs are the basis of support to current members, as well as a spring board to welcome visitors and newcomers. We are counting on the continued willingness of our fellow parishioners to carry out these programs.

Respectfully submitted,  
MaryAnn Kiesling

### **Fellowship Committee**

The Fellowship Committee had 16 events in 2012 and assisted in 3 other church events. We had basketball, bicycle and golf outings, brunches, bake sales, picnic & Funfest outings, baby showers, Lenten & Easter events and a few other memorable events.

We made \$1,969.30 and paid out \$826.44. Our balance is \$1,142.86 for the year 2012. I am looking to have as many or more in the coming year.

I would like to thank everyone who gave their time, talents, and money to make 2012 a successful year and especially our parishioners who attended our events. I am looking forward to working with all of you to make 2013 a more profitable and better year!

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Popovich  
Fellowship Chairperson

### **Men's Prayer Group**

The Men's Prayer Breakfast Group meets the first Wednesday of every month at the Church. Applicable prayers are followed by interesting programs led by one of the Group members. The third Wednesday, the Group travels to visit former members who are in firm or distressed, and cannot attend meetings at the Church, for an informal program of Daily Devotions and fellowship.

St. Mark's men are encouraged to join us for either of these activities. Those who would be interested to receive a third Wednesday visitation are invited to contact us, whether they have been involved with the Group or not.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tony Keenan

### **The Lion's Tale and Lion's Pause for 2012**

The Lion's Tale, our monthly newsletter, has moved to our website. Once ready each month, an email containing the newsletter's link is sent to all subscribers. In 2012 it has seen a transition in editors, from Grace Giammarco, to Scott Walton, and now to Stephanie Stallman, our office assistant. Joining the monthly newsletter in 2012 was a weekly news bulletin, The Lion's Pause. While the Lion's Pause is for longer articles, reflections, etc., the Lion's Pause is meant to help facilitate more frequent and summarized communication about parish events, Sunday scriptures, and news.

Both the Lion's Tale and Lion's Pause are viewable at our website: <http://www.stmarks-canton.org/newsletters.html>. You can also sign up easily on the same page. Or, send a text message to 22828 that simply says, "Lion".

## **Puppet Gang Annual Report 2012**

The “Puppet Gang” is in its 14<sup>th</sup> year and still doing well. We have eleven members: Jeff Turner, Tim Turner, Evan Jenkins, Collin Jenkins, Nathaniel Clark, Ben Clark, Maddie Thomas, Morgan Wilson, Alexis Wilson, Rachael Walton and James Weaver. We practice the second and fourth Sundays from 9:45am to 11:15am. We perform two shows each year. We have a Christmas show and a Spring show.

Last Spring we did “Israel Icon” which is patterned off of “American Idol”. This Christmas we performed “Cowboy Christmas”. We had two performances, one for our congregation and one for the community. We had a full house for the congregation after the 10:00am service and thirty-eight people come for the community show. We had a donation box only which collected \$68.75. This was our first time to have the community come to St. Mark’s for the show. Other years, we went to other churches and to Episcopal Dioceses functions.

We supply materials for our shows by donations from the E.C.W. and St. Mark’s vestry. This year we also received a donation from the community. The donations enabled us to buy our new travel stage, new puppets and CDs for our puppet musicals.

We have had Michael Hudson, a puppeteer from the past, come to help direct when time permits from his school and job.

Much love,  
Sandy Paradis and Jan Hudson

## **Vestry Candidates for 2013:**

Alex Violand  
Emily Gordon  
Cody Popovich  
Tom Temelkoff  
Dick Croasdaile  
Maddie Thomas

## Vestry Candidates

*Alex Violand:*



I would like to help St. Mark's grow by offering a younger person's perspective. I am especially interested in building and grounds. I would like to help the outside of the grounds look even more vibrant.

*Emily Gordon:*



I would like the opportunity to be on the Vestry to rekindle my faith and to guide the church on a path of growth. My experience leading our youth group has made me more eager to engage in the development of the church. Their enthusiasm for growth and new ideas inspire me to get involved in the leadership of our parish.

*Cody Popovich:*



I'm 16 years old; I am an acolyte for St. Mark's. I run track and cross country for my school. I'm in all advanced classes and have a 4.0 gpa. I know what it takes to bring in the youth because I am part of the youth, I have a lot of great ideas that may help this church expand and have more members come to church. I work at Fazoli's as a cook, expediter, and cashier.

*Maddie Thomas:*



I am currently a junior at Jackson high school and I plan on majoring in early childhood education. I was baptized and have gone to St. Mark's my whole life.

*Tom Temelkoff:*

I have served on the vestry several times, both in Youngstown, Ohio at St. John's Episcopal Church and at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Canfield, Ohio. I have served as both Jr. and Sr. Warden. I became interested in the Episcopal Church in 1956 when my wife and I were married at St. John's Episcopal Church in Youngstown, Ohio. I have been an Episcopalian since our marriage. I am retired from a career in business, management and sales. My wife Vonda and I reside in North Canton, moving to this area from Canfield, Ohio.

*Dick Croasdaile:*

No photo/bio submitted

## Financial Overview

As you review the financial health of our parish, please be aware that while our budget sheet shows a loss of \$12,231.49, the actual loss was just over \$30,000. This is because we were forced to dip into our Designated Reserve funds to pay our expenses. We have reduced our shortfall by approximately 25% over the past two years through cost cutting and prudent budget management. However, the fact is that our pledges are stagnant, and some of the reductions we have made are not sustainable, especially in the area of office staffing. The outlook with current revenues and expenses is that we will continue to be in the red about \$30,000 annually for the foreseeable future.

### St. Mark's Episcopal Church 2012 Year-End Financials and 2013 Budget as of December 31, 2012

	Year 2009	Year 2010	Year 2011	Year 2012	Year 2012	Year 2013	
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	
<b>4000</b> Plate Offering	1,654.00	\$2,439.23	\$2,169.00	\$2,000.00	2168.1	\$1,500.00	
<b>4005</b> Pledges	238,557.00	\$196,637.94	\$205,343.00	\$174,404.00	\$178,628.90	\$175,000.00	<b>NOTE A</b>
<b>4010</b> Interest	512.00	\$32.43	\$16.00	\$20.00	\$2.50	\$0.00	
<b>4015</b> Misc Income					\$3,281.00		<b>NOTE B</b>
<b>4020</b> Special Offerings					\$9,725.38		<b>NOTE C</b>
<b>Income</b>	<b>240,723.00</b>	<b>\$199,109.60</b>	<b>\$207,528.00</b>	<b>\$176,424.00</b>	<b>\$193,805.88</b>	<b>\$176,500.00</b>	
<b>5000</b> Diocesan Assessment	29,078.00	\$36,148.68	\$27,864.00	\$24,137.00	<b>\$26,158.17</b>	<b>\$23,112.00</b>	
<b>5050</b> Seminary Pledge	0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
<b>5055</b> Salary Rector	25,000.00	\$42,725.00	\$59,171.00	\$62,100.00	<b>\$62,100.00</b>	<b>\$62,100.00</b>	
<b>5056</b> Supply Clergy				\$800.00	<b>\$882.00</b>	<b>\$700.00</b>	
<b>5065</b> Salary Organist/Music Dir	14,600.00	\$14,599.92	\$14,600.00	\$14,600.00	<b>\$14,599.92</b>	<b>\$14,600.00</b>	
<b>5066</b> Substitute Organist				\$0.00	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	
<b>5070</b> Salary Office	35,480.00	\$35,479.92	\$35,480.00	\$17,615.00	<b>\$12,159.77</b>	<b>\$13,698.00</b>	<b>NOTE 1</b>
<b>5071</b> Paid Nursery Attendant	1,910.00	\$1,875.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,040.00	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$1,040.00</b>	<b>NOTE 2</b>
<b>5075</b> Soc Sec & Payroll Tax	5,936.00	\$8,019.84	\$4,358.00	\$2,850.00	<b>\$2,529.08</b>	<b>\$2,565.00</b>	

5074	Other Taxes				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$275.00	
5076	Profession Development			\$1,291.00	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$750.00	NOTE 3
5080	Pension	8,397.00	\$8,677.60	\$16,708.00	\$11,178.00	\$11,178.00	\$11,178.00	
5085	Medical Insurance	8,266.00	\$5,166.05	\$7,278.00	\$8,006.00	\$8,058.80	\$11,308.00	
5090	Fuel Power Water	29,054.00	\$16,586.19	\$21,544.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,338.10	\$18,000.00	
5095	Office Expense	6,966.00	\$5,307.87	\$6,080.00	\$3,000.00	\$5,038.05	\$3,000.00	NOTE 4
5100	Bank Service Charge	16.00	\$36.50	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$219.24	\$0.00	NOTE 5
5105	Housing Allowance	28,333.00	\$40,045.90	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
5110	Mileage Reimbursement	1,625.00	\$1,070.05	\$692.00	\$500.00	\$28.86	\$200.00	
5115	Utility Allowance	0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
5120	Discretionary Fund	386.00	(\$25.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
5122	Hospitality	1,240.00	\$636.01	\$708.00	\$500.00	\$534.69	\$750.00	
5123	Fellowship & Social	1,380.00	\$698.68	(\$102.00)	\$250.00	(\$1,142.86)	\$250.00	NOTE 6
5125	Telephone	1,870.00	\$1,604.77	\$1,377.00	\$546.00	\$662.62	\$800.00	
5128	Internet Service	720.00	\$832.78	\$999.00	\$1,308.00	\$1,405.85	\$1,440.00	
5129	Advertising				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$420.00	
5130	Altar Supplies	1,397.00	\$538.63	\$1,481.00	\$700.00	\$269.79	\$500.00	
5135	Music/Choir	2,575.00	\$2,815.74	\$1,867.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	NOTE 7
5140	Outside Maintenance	12,955.00	\$8,400.59	\$8,935.00	\$8,000.00	\$5,402.51	\$6,000.00	
5145	Envelopes/Prayer Books	1,234.00	\$667.51	\$315.00	\$500.00	\$539.41	\$300.00	
5150	Inside Maintenance	12,378.00	\$6,554.00	\$4,480.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,269.45	\$8,000.00	
5155	Misc	1,064.00	\$719.13	\$532.00	\$0.00	\$174.36	\$0.00	
5160	Christian Education	5,461.00	\$6,207.19	\$2,400.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,634.07	\$1,000.00	
5165	Furniture Fixtures	2,601.00	\$4,375.72	\$3,218.00	\$2,500.00	\$4,764.46	\$2,500.00	NOTE 8
5170	Church Insurance	5,205.00	\$5,773.00	\$6,117.00	\$6,729.00	\$6,281.00	\$6,500.00	
5175	Contract Maintenance	5,737.00	\$4,988.31	\$5,408.00	\$6,000.00	\$8,735.73	\$5,025.00	
5180	Robes and Cleaning	504.00	\$369.64	\$214.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	
5185	Youth Group	125.00	\$26.00	\$245.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	
5190	Evangelism	489.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	
5191	Dio Conv Expenses	183.00	\$270.24	\$60.00	\$200.00	\$45.00	\$200.00	
5195	Audit Expense	1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$3,301.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$2,000.00	
5200	Reserve for Cap	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
5205	Operating Reserve	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
5206	Columbarium Expense					\$0.00	\$0.00	
5212	Year End Gifts	300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
5214	Office IRA	2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	NOTE 9
5220	Cleaning Supp	3.00	\$452.51	\$317.00	\$450.00	\$1,451.20	\$450.00	
5221	Church Cleaning	8,620.00	\$8,140.00	\$6,980.00	\$6,500.00	\$5,330.00	\$4,500.00	
5300	Search Committee	2,645.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	<b>Total Exp</b>	<b>267,533.00</b>	<b>\$273,583.97</b>	<b>\$247,153.00</b>	<b>\$210,509.00</b>	<b>\$206,047.27</b>	<b>\$205,061.00</b>	
	<b>Assessment Expenses</b>		<b>\$237,435.29</b>	<b>\$219,289.00</b>	<b>\$186,372.00</b>	<b>\$179,889.10</b>	<b>\$181,949.00</b>	
	<b>Inc less Exp.</b>	<b>-26,810.00</b>	<b>(\$74,474.37)</b>	<b>(\$39,625.00)</b>	<b>(\$34,085.00)</b>	<b>(\$12,241.39)</b>	<b>(\$28,561.00)</b>	
	<b>*Total Rector Comp</b>	<b>53,333.00</b>	<b>\$82,770.90</b>	<b>\$84,448.00</b>	<b>\$82,034.00</b>	<b>\$81,336.80</b>	<b>\$85,536.00</b>	

\*Social Security Wages      54,290.00      \$53,954.84      \$53,280.00      \$35,255.00      \$28,959.69      \$29,338.00

**NOTE: Actual loss in 2012 was \$30,114.54 after adding in money spent from Designated Funds**

**Income Note A: Not all parishioners fulfill pledge, and some contribute more than pledge; includes member adds, member deletes, and persons who do not pledge but contribute on a regular basis**

**Income Note B: Income from unbudgeted sources; includes \$1500 from AEP to allow right-of-way clearance**

**Income Note C: From large one-time, non-recurring parishioner gift**

**Expense Note 1: Office was not staffed as per original budget**

**Expense Note 2: Nursery staffed by one volunteer family for first 10 months**

**Expense Note 3: Line item prepaid in 2012**

**Expense Note 4: Actual office higher (\$5,971.58), but offset by adjustment from restricted funds (see explanation);**

**Expense Note 5: Start up fees for bank switch to PNC**

**Expense Note 6: Fellowship self-supporting for past two years**

**Expense note 7: Actual music higher (\$1,501.95), but offset by adjustment from restricted funds (see explanation)**

**Expense Note 8: Includes \$1,301.00 for re-keying church; to be submitted to Vestry to fund from Reserve for Capital Improvement**

**Expense Note 9: Last year for this expense; based upon commitment to previous long-term office administrator**

## Saint Mark's Episcopal Church Annual Report for 2012

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
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