



D E C E M B E R 2 0 2 2

The Call



May the words of our mouths and the mediations of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight oh Lord our strength and our redeemer.

A Monthly Newsletter

December 2022

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Watch, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, nor at cock crow, or in the morning, lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. Marks 13:35-36

The season of Advent begins our church year and it's a time that we as Christians look at the year that has passed and look forward to the greatness of the future. Thanksgiving is now behind us, but this past Thanksgiving there was so much to be thankful for. Reuniting with family, loved ones and giving God all the thanks and praise. This is so true but we cannot just sit on these blessings. God is still asking so much of each and everyone of us as his children.

St. Mark's, you sit as a beacon here in North Carolina. Your achievements have transcended a small church family into an envy of many. The achievements of your ministries, the Flyin' Lions and Rafters, La Escuelita San Marcos and Ranson Middle School and the proposed re-development of our slave cemetery. These are just a few of your accomplishments that spell love for community service.

As your Rector and leader I am blessed to be surrounded by such an awesome team. In the new year we have some amazing Christian sacraments to celebrate. Our new Assistant Bishop Jennifer Brooke-Davidson will be joining us on March 19th 2023. This will be our time for confirmation and the acceptance of new members who have joined the church. Confirmation Classes will begin on January 15th, 2023. If you are discerning whether your child should be confirmed please reach out to Brandy or Father Garry for further guidance. Adults who have joined the Episcopal church and would like to be confirmed or received please contact Father Garry. This is an exciting time for our church so let's give thanks for our many blessings.

Lastly I would like to take a moment to thank two awesome employees who have left us. We would be remiss not to acknowledge their great contributions to the growth of St. Mark's church. Let's pray for God's continued blessings for Cindy Thrower and Sarah Milholland as they embark on new journeys in their lives. Cindy and Sarah we humbly thank you. St. Mark's family may you have a blessed and peaceful Advent Season.

Your Priest in Love,
Father Garry

FIRST ADVENT to NEW YEARS DAY

Please join us through the month of December as we
prepare for the birth of Christ.

First Sunday of Advent	November 27th	8:30 & 10:30am
Second Sunday of Advent	December 4th	9:30am
Third Sunday of Advent	December 11th	8:30 & 10:30am
Forth Sunday of Advent	December 18th	8:30am
Nativity Pageant	December 18th	10:30am
Christmas Eve	December 24th	4:30 pm & 10:30pm
Christmas Day	December 25th	9:30 am
New Years Day	January 1st	9:30am



*Join us for
St. Mark's Luminaries
Preparing the Way
10:30am December 24th*



If you would like to
order Poinsettias for
Christmas

in honor or memory of
someone please let the
church office know.

**The Service Orders will have a request form
that can be
filled out and submitted with payment.**

Poinsettias are \$20 each and must be
requested by

Sunday December 18th

You may also contact the church at
life@stmarksnc.org to place your order and
drop a check off or mail it in.

Please let us know who the poinsettia is
given for



Confirmation Classes
will begin January 15th 2023

If there are any youth
or adults that would like to be
confirmed or received
please let Father Garry
know before Christmas.
ejohngarry@stmarksnc.org

The Bishop will be with us on
March 19th 2023.



Join us on December 18th
at the 10:30 service
for a
Nativity Pageant

Rehearsals:

December 4th after the single service at 9:30am
December 11th during the Sunday school hour

All children and teens are encouraged and welcomed to participate. It will be an easy nativity script, such that children can show up only at 10 a.m. on December 18 and still participate, so please do not worry too much if you can't make the rehearsals.

If possible, sing the first verses of Away in the Manger, O Little Town of Bethlehem, Silent Night, and We Three Kings with the kids at home. For costumes, I will be digging through the old costumes, but may send out some links/requests for certain items.

- Links to Music
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2ULTkNmIEY>
 - Away in the Manger
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2vc4CexxIX8>
 - O Little Town of Bethlehem
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qZ_VwaUOCck
 - Silent Night
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jBwL3y-Wlms>
 - We Three Kings

Please contact Libby James with any questions
libby.James@offitkurman.com



Thank You!
For all your support this year
in making the Escuelita Dinner and Silent Auction
A Great Event





Birthdays

Linda Amidei	12/5
Cora Stein -	12/5
Jackson Rhinehardt	12/6
Natalie Engel	12/7
Pryor Rhinehardt	12/9
Jackie McWhorter	12/9
Debbie Leisey	12/10
Nancy Harding	12/13
Robert Gambill	12/14
Patrick Wiley	12/14
Audrey Boyle	12/15
Bridget Vanevenhoven	12/16
Nancy Whitehead	12/18
Elizer Griffiths	12/23
Nancy Tatom	12/23
Lesli Kathman	12/24
Homer Sanford	12/24
Andrew James	12/26
Trulyn Rhinehardt	12/26
John Southwell	12/27
Eric Brown	12/29
Stephen Evans	12/29
Vivian Mach	12/30

Anniversaries

David and Laura Fahey - 12/17
TJ and Johanna Tatlow - 12/29

Prayers for Continued Healing

Martha Ann Springer
Mary Beth and Richard Masline
Marion Johannsson
Paul and Michelle Cravetz,
Milt Sullivan



DECEMBER WINE
Women in Need of
Entertainment
Will be in the Rafters
December 19th at 6:30pm

Bring a festive dish to share and or a bottle of wine or beverage of your choice.

We will also have our annual ornament exchange.

Bring a wrapped ornament if you want to participate.

If you have never been to WINE this is the one time of year you won't want to miss.

Contact Allison Rhinehardt with any questions.

allibrett@gmail.com

Cookies for Christmas



Flyin' Lion Ministries will be offering a cookie sale for Christmas.

This year we will offer one size box. for \$15.00.

Orders will be taken through December 6th

Samplers include a selection of iced sugar, white chocolate cranberry, gingerbread and chocolate peppermint.

Merry Christmas to a neighbor, teacher, mailman, friend or yourself.

Orders can be picked up on December 11th or December 18th.

Please order through the link below

<https://stmarksepiscopal.breezechms.com/form/014015>



Thirstday Thursday

Will break for the month of December

See you in January.

Please contact David Fahey with any questions

704-562-7587

Annual Meeting

December 4th

One Service at 9:30

with a brunch and meeting to follow

Please read the vestry bios on the pages that follow. We will vote for three new vestry members while we thank the three rolling off: Alan Kathman, Mandy Self-Sparrow and Candice Sullivan

Our 2023-2025 vestry candidates were asked the following questions.

How long have you been at St. Mark's?

. Where have you served at St. Mark's or what have you been involved in?

What unique skills do you have that will enhance Vestry?

Where do you feel the Holy Spirit is calling us and how would you support that in this ministry?

Dawn Michael



I have been a member of St. Mark's since Feb 2007, 15 years. I was baptized at St. Mark's on Epiphany Jan 2008, married at St. Mark's in May 2008, and confirmed at St. Mark's April 2016.

St. Mark's is the only church I have ever attended. Jeremy grew up Episcopalian and this is where we have vested our faith as a couple and as parents - both Brooke and Blake were baptized at St. Mark's - Nov 2011 and Nov 2013. I have served at St. Mark's as a greeter, usher, chalice, and nursery coordinator. I am very organized, collaborative and balanced like a true Libra. I am a great listener and also quick to take action. I am passionate about people and believe I can serve others well. I believe the Holy Spirit is calling us to continue to take care of those in need. Our current outreach is valuable to our community and with the gift of time, treasure and talent, St. Mark's can provide life altering support to many. Our church family will grow as we continue to spread our good faith with those around us, where they feel like St. Mark's is their home.

Andrew James



We've been at St Mark's since the early 2000s. I was on vestry approximately a decade ago, previously treasurer. I am currently a LEM, and previously a Children's Chaplain. My background is engineering and business, so I approach most things from a pragmatic perspective. I also have plenty of jokes. I've managed budgets for a couple of groups including St Mark's.

I believe it's important to ensure that St Mark's blessings are available for each successive generation. I want to preserve the fun, family-oriented experiences that first drew us to this church for our kids so that their church experience keeps them engaged as parents.

Scott Hundertmark



I am not exactly sure how long I have been at St. Mark's, but at least 12 years. I currently acolyte, LEM, and usher. I serve on the social committee and also help with the La Escuelita and taste of Barbados fund raisers.

I have been told many times I am a good listener and non-judgmental. I communicate well and am not afraid to voice my opinion. I have worked over 30 years within corporate America. I believe the Holy Spirit has already called us to what we do, help people and community. I feel we need to continue and build on the fantastic work we already do with the Flyin' Lions, Ranson Middle School, and La Escuelita San Marcos as well as continue to build our church community, so we can continue to support our good work.

Robin Conchola



I have been at St Mark's for one year, beginning with the First Sunday in Advent 2021. I've been involved with Flyin' Lions, packaging cookies and helping at the Huntersville Farmer's Market as well as the Alpaca Fiesta. I have also been a server at a few Rafter's events. I'm on the Coffee Hour Team and am fairly new to Pastoral Care and Worship Leaders. I don't know that I have any skills that are particularly unique. I'm a friendly and sometimes curious person, relatively outgoing, I enjoy engaging in conversation, and I am willing to pitch in and help as I'm able.

I feel the Holy Spirit is calling St Mark's to continue and even strengthen our current ministries while we look around at how we can engage with our neighbors who worship differently than we do or don't worship at all. We've already got a whole lot going on around here at St Mark's. Maybe we can explore some new ways to get the word out.

Kevin Wilson



I am a lifelong Episcopalian and began attending St. Mark's with my family when I was nine years old. At age 16 I was confirmed at St. Marks' and have had the opportunity to see many changes. Growing up in the church I've had experience serving as an acolyte, a lector, an usher, and now as a Lay Eucharistic Minister. I have also assisted with annual audits, helped with several events including food and beverage preparation, as well as parking. I also regularly perform audio/video duties for the church by recording the services on Sunday mornings. With a professional and educational background in accounting and filmmaking I have a wide variety of professional skills that I can bring to the table. I also have a background as a General

Manager of a small business with strong customer service skills. It is my feeling that the Holy Spirit is calling on us to grow as a parish as we build membership and move forward. With my spiritual and professional background as well as my lifelong connection to the church I can provide sound guidance and wisdom as a member of the Vestry.

TJ TATLOW



I've been attending St. Mark's since the summer of 2018 when Johanna and I moved to Charlotte. I am involved in our music ministry and in coordinating our youth services. I am a human resources consultant for Bank of America and have expertise in both management and human resources. I have a deep love of our hymnal and love playing our hymns at home and at church. I am versed in both church governance and our liturgy. St. Marks is a space where we all experience the grace of Christ through hearing His Word and participating in the sacraments. I believe we are being called to sustain that through wisely managing what we've been given, while also expanding our offerings to growing families, adult education, and fellowship outside of Sunday morning.

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