DECEMBER 2021



The Call



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

A Monthly Newsletter

December 2021

Pages 8 & 11

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HOPE PEACE OY

Psalm 145:16-17

Pages 2,4, & 10

"The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season. You open wide your hand and satisfy the needs of every living creature"

The season of Advent is upon us, a time for us Episcopalians/Anglicans to reflect on the year that has passed and look forward to the new church year, a chance to start fresh with new beginnings and to look forward with great expectations.

Covid-19 is slowly appearing in our rear-view mirrors and a sense of relief and hope is dawning. As we transition to this new expectation, we must therefore give thanks for the times past. We have all just celebrated Thanksgiving where we were able to come together as families for the first time in over 20 months. It's important that we give God all the thanks and praise for this humble blessing. It is because of God's grace all things are possible.

The preparation of the celebration of our Savior's birth is shortly upon us, but before we rush to get to Christmas let's journey through Advent with anticipation. This anticipation is highlighted by our main tenants of Advent. This is in the lighting of our Advent candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. As we experience this Advent season let these four staple words of Hope, Joy, Peace and Love bring serenity and calmness to our lives with great expectations to the future with God as our strength. May this season be filled with Joy and Love as we look forward to the new year with great expectations and promise. Our family salutes you all with God's great love and continued blessings for the New Year.

Peace and Blessings, Father Garry



Greetings, beloved friends.

I write today to let you know that, at the strong recommendation of Bishop Sam Rodman, the St. Mark's Vestry has voted to move our annual meeting and Vestry elections from December to this spring. St. Mark's has been through a fair amount of turbulence over the past year — loss of three beloved clergy and Covid separation chief among it. Things are settling down, as Father Garry takes the helm and leads us into a new era. Bishop Sam believes, as does the Vestry, that a few more months of leadership stability will ensure we complete the transition as smoothly as possible.

Once we complete the 2022 budget process, Vestry will set a date for the meeting and elections, and communicate it to the parish.

In the meantime, I have two requests:

- 1. Please consider running for a Vestry position. St. Mark's needs committed, engaged leaders as we continue to grow. You may be just who we need. (Talk to God. He'll tell you all the reasons why.)
- 2. Please be sure to make your pledge for 2022. This will be a rebuilding year, and we need everyone to be involved. Please remember, the amount we pledge is not the point. That we pledge, to help sustain and grow the church we all love, is what God asks of us. If you haven't yet made your commitment for 2022, please do so soon so we know how to plan for the year.

Thank you all for your love and support of St. Mark's. Our beautiful part of God's kingdom is mighty, indeed. Peace be with you. bzh



We are back to 2 services 8:30am and 10:30am

Sign up to attend so we have a head count. <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054-</u> <u>ca4a7238-worship</u> Or: Via live stream through Facebook Live at 10:30am <u>https://www.facebook.com/stmarksepiscopalnc</u>

> JOIN US ON DECEMBER 12th at the 10:30am Service as we gather for a youth led worship



Adult Christian Formation is Back on First Advent!

Sundays at 9:30am in the Rafters. Join us for The Church in Action, New Beginnings, with The Study of Acts of the Apostles Father Garry will lead us in this study and is looking forward to our

attendance.

In preparation for our class please read the Acts of the Apostles and let us know what bible you are using (NRSV, NKJV)



If you would like to order poinsettias for Christmas In honor or memory of someone Please let the church office know.

You can make your request through the link below <u>https://stmarksepiscopal.breezechms.com/form/09c99d</u>

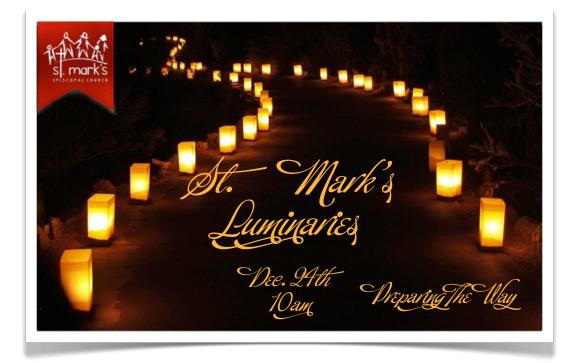
Poinsettias are \$20 each. Orders must be placed by December 19th You may also contact the church office to place your order 704-399-5193. Drop a check off at the church or mail it in. Please note "poinsettia" in the memo line of your check.

Please be sure to let Cindy know who the poinsettia is given for (in honor or memory of) and by whom it is given.

The Coming of Jesus

First Sunday of Advent				
Second Sunday of Advent				
Third Sunday of Advent				
Fourth Sunday in Advent				
Christmas Eve				
Christmas Eve				
First Sunday of Christmas				

11/28	8:30 & 10:30
12/5	8:30 & 10:30
12/12	8:30 & 10:30
12/19	8:30 & 10:30
12/24	4:00pm
12/24	10:30pm
12/26	8:30 & 10:30
	12/5 12/12 12/19 12/24 12/24



Angel Tree Update



This past summer we were able to send a handful of kids to Ranson Middle School We are grateful for everyone's generosity and the experiences we have been able to provide.

This year Outreach will be taking a different approach.

Since Jon Rochester is no longer with Ranson Middle School and Jemarion Young is no longer at the McCrorey YMCA we find ourselves in a rebuilding year. While we work to rebuild contacts in both places we will focus on two different initiatives this December and January.

DECEMBER DIAPER DRIVE

Please help us collect diapers for our Caterpillar Ministry babies. While this ministry has generous donations of food and Christmas toys,

diapers are often an item that is often overlooked.



Diapers may be brought to the Parish Hall. Sizes 3-5 are most needed.

Please reach out to Eileen Moreno with any questions.

eileenstackmoreno@gmail.com

January Cold Weather Clothes



In January we will be donating socks, mittens, gloves, hats and personal products (toiletries & feminine hygiene products)

These will go to any Caterpillar families that need them as well as homeless shelters.

Items are needed for ALL age catergories.

While you are out shopping please consider picking up an extra pair of any of these items for someone who truly needs them.

Items can be placed in the bins in Founders Hall. Please contact Liz Gail with any questions.

LGail16@outlook.com



CHRISTMAS COOKIES

ARE BACK Give a cookie gift to someone you care about! Cookie selection includes a dozen assorted cookies. Gluten Free Options are available. (Cranberry Vanilla Chip, Iced Sugar Cookies, Chocolate Peppermint)

Cookies are packaged in decorative holiday boxes and can be ready for pick up on Dec 12th or December 19th (In Founder's Hall at St. Mark's). Order by December 7th for pick up on Sunday December 12th (by 11:30am) or Order by December 14th for pick up on Sunday December 19th (by 11:30am) We are only able to prepare 75 boxes this year so order early at the link below <u>https://stmarksepiscopal.breezechms.com/form/b36f27</u> Please contact Debbie Heggen with any questions

Giving Tree Village



During Christmas in Davidson on the Town Green.

Each year the Rotary Club creates the *giving tree village* at Christmas in Davidson. Companies sponsor trees in honor of various ministries. This year Flyin' Lions will be one of the lucky ministries that is represented.

Our very own Flyin' Lion Students have worked hard making decorations for our tree in the giving tree village to let



people know about our ministry.

Thursday December 2nd through Friday December 10th

The community will have the ability to vote for various trees in the Giving Tree Village.

Voting will only take place online.

Entries are \$5 each. Flyin' Lions will receive funds for each vote they get for their

tree.

We invite you to cast your votes

https://www.givingtreevillage.com

The site will not be live until 12/2



D E C E M B E R 2 0 2 1









SAN MARCOS



Many Thanks to all who planned, cooked, purchased dinner and raffle tickets, made donations, set up, cleaned up and so much more.

> Our Escuelita Dinner was successful thanks to you.

With your support in dining, purchasing raffle tickets and making general donations we raised over \$8,000.

We could not have done it without everyone's support.







DECEMBER 2021



WORK DAYS Please Join Buildings and Grounds for our Upcoming Work Days. We will gather on Saturday December 4th from 10am-2pm We will be working on clearing the tree line. If you can join us we will need wheelbarrows, tarps and gloves. Grab and go snacks will be provided. The next work day is scheduled for January 15th

> Please contact Mandy Self Sparrow with any questions mandyselfsparrow@gmail.com





Stewardship Update Finding the Lost Sheep

R C H 131 Stewardship Packets for 2022 were mailed out, at the end of November we have received 69 pledge cards totaling \$253,486.00 making the average pledge \$3674

It's not too late to turn in your pledge card. This helps our church plan for the coming year! Fill out your card online at the link below or contact the church office for a paper copy

> Pledge Cards can be filled out at the link below https://stmarksepiscopal.breezechms.com/form/b8503b27

Please contact a member of the Vestry or Libby James if you have any questions or would like to have a conversation.

Beth Hunt, Mandy Self Sparrow, Amy Sparks Alan Kathman, Laura Fahey, Rick Stein Candy Sullivan, Kari Swogger, Kelly Pope Libby James







Birthdays

Linda Amidei - 12/5 Cora Stein – 12/5 Jackson Rhinehardt - 12/6 Jackie McWhorter - 12/9 Pryor Rhinehardt - 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 Lesli Kathman - 12/24 Homer Sanford – 12/24 Jan Sanford - 12/24 Andrew James - 12/26 Trulyn Rhinehardt - 12/26 John Southwell – 12/27 Eric Brown - 12/29 Vivian Mach – 12/30

Anniversaries

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

Prayers for continued healing:

Saunders Black Martha Ann Springer Richard & Mary Beth Masline Jim & Patricia Woolley Marion Johannsson & Betsy Elaine Reilly Mary Lou Blevins & her mom Paul & Michelle Cravetz Milt Sullivan

New Members:

Gloria Harper Jacob Turner & Jessica Borowski

Panera Bread Pick-Up

Scott Hundertmark – 12/3 Lacy Hamilton – 12/10 Ian & Liesel Doolittle – 12/17 Holiday-Christmas – 12/24 Holiday-New Years – 12/31



December W.I.N.E. (Women in Need of Entertainment)

Mark your calendars for Monday, December 20th at 6:30pm We will have WINE at the Rafters This is our annual ornament exchange that you won't want to miss. If you only attend one WINE a year this is the one! Bring a wrapped ornament. Bring your beverage of choice (adult beverages and non adult beverages) or a dish to share. This event is for ALL women. If you don't have time for either just bring yourself. **Contact Allison Rhinehardt with questions** allibrett@gmail.com

THINK GOD IT'S THINK GOD IT'S THINK STORE

Thirstday Thursday is Scheduled to take place on Thursday December 9th at 6:30pm

We plan to meet IN PERSON Harvey's in Vermillion 13812 Cinnabar Pl #2, Huntersville,

No RSVP necessary but texts welcome to David Fahey <u>david.fahey@carolina.rr.com</u> or text to 704-562-7587

Hostess opportunities will be available 2022



TASTE OF BARBADOS SUNDAY DECEMBER 12th DURING COFFEE HOUR

Join us at coffee hour for a mini taste of Barbados. Our own Joyce Hurst and Lisa Edwards will be preparing some treats for us to sample in celebration of Barbados Independence day.



	2021 Budget	October YTD Actual
Current Pledged Income All other anticipated income	\$296,642.00	\$246,861.67
Non- Pledge Offerings Other income (use of space by outside groups)	\$13,168.00 \$73,120.00	\$10,812.35 \$90,610.01
Sales Tax Refunds Daisy Shipp McCoy Foundation Trust Income	\$1,600.00 \$33,360	\$ 4,497.00 \$27,853.10
Total Budgeted Operating Income	\$417,890.00	\$396,451.82
2020 Budgeted Expenses Approved by Vestry		
Staff Diocesan Support Campus Maintenance & Utilities Office Admin & Other Youth & Christian Formation Outreach \$ Escuelita Support Hospitality, Pastoral Care, Stewardship,& Retreat Worship & Music 4% pledges unfulfilled based historic average	\$232,382.36 \$42,900 \$43,688 \$46,328 \$4,500 \$10,200 \$3,235.00 \$2,765.00 \$11,865.68	\$166,146.17 \$35,690.90 \$41,602.22 \$32,364.96 \$228.07 \$6,247.57 \$1,917.44 \$2,406.79
Total 2021 Budgeted Expenses	\$397.864.04	\$286,604.12
Current Excess/(Deficit) of receipts over disbursements	\$20,025.96	\$109,847.70



8600 Mt. Holly Huntersville Rd. Huntersville, NC 28078 704-399-5193 Life@stmarksnc.org Father Garry Edwards, Rector ejohngarry@stmarksnc.org