



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

April 2022

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My beloved friends.

As you know, my time as senior warden of the vestry at St. Mark's has come to an end. The past three years have been the most spiritually fulfilling time in my life. And surprising though it may be, the past year and a half have also been the most rewarding. Leading a group of people like the Vestry and congregation of St. Mark's is an amazing adventure, filled with twists and turns and highs and lows and all the wonderful things in between. Most of all, it is the chance to walk beside some of the most generous, spirit-filled people you'll ever run across. As I step down, here's what I will take with me about this special place and its people:

We are resilient.

Where else could you take away a rector, deacon and youth minister within the span of two months during a pandemic and not have the place collapse in on itself? Truth is, we never came close to collapsing in on ourselves or otherwise. We picked ourselves up, dusted ourselves off and marched forward, doing the work God calls us to do. We built a new fellowship hall, launched a ministry, started a business and called a new leader, all without missing a beat. Well, mostly without missing a beat. The key? We trusted in God and sought guidance from the Holy Spirit. Whenever we began to quiver, we leaned on each other – and on prayer – until things were steady again.

We are resourceful.

Whenever St. Mark's needs something, someone in the congregation steps up. Never was that more clear than in the past year and a half. From the Barn Swallows and Haymakers, who helped make The Rafter a success from the get-go; to the chefs and pastry chefs of Flyin' Lion Ministries, who have fed and cared for us and the students they bless with their love and their hands; to our committee leaders, who continued their tireless work in difficult times; to Sarah, Cindy and Scott, who collectively are a Godsend; to Allison, whose example made us all believe; to my fellow Vestry members, who stepped up time and time again to calm nerves, hold hands, dry tears, smooth conflicts and work their tails off to find the right next Rector.

We love, love, love Jesus.

Every time anything began to falter, the prayers of our people set it right again. When we worried about getting sick, we turned to Him and He responded. When we encountered division and strife, we answered His call to love one another. When one of us was in pain, we answered His call to care for one another. It should be true of every church, it is more than true of ours: Our faith in Christ and our commitment to follow Him are what make this congregation special. We are a resourceful bunch because we know there's only one place to turn for whatever we need.

We love each other as Christ loves us.

This is our superpower, my friends. I've belonged to a handful of churches in my life, including another Episcopal church. Not one of them made me feel as loved, for exactly who I am, as St. Mark's has and does. And I'm not alone. Our beautiful church on the hill welcomes *every one* of God's beloved, in every state and condition, sinners and saints alike, into His kingdom, no questions asked.

After this, I plan to reflect and pray, to breathe deeply and talk with God about where I belong next in the work of St. Mark's. Thank you for the honor of serving you and our beloved church. I will treasure my time as senior warden for all of the days of my life.

with love,

Beth Hunt



**Holy Eucharist takes
place at
8:30am and 10:30am**

Masks are now optional and congregants no longer need to sign up for attendance.

Services will still be live streamed on
Facebook Live at 10:30am

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarksepiscopalnc>



Christian Formation

For ALL ages

9:30am

Adults will meet in the Rafters

Kids in the Old Rectory and

Youth in the downstairs of Founders Hall.

During Lent

**Matt Kerlin will lead the adults on Sunday mornings
at 9:30**

**Father Garry will offer a Wednesday night program
in the Rafters at 6:30.**



Palm Sunday 4/10	Holy Eucharist 8:30 and 10:30	(No Christian Formation)
Wednesday 4/13	Lenten Supper and Program	6:30pm Final Program
Thursday 4/14	Maundy Thursday	7:00pm Foot washing
Friday 4/15	Mass of the Reserve Sacrament	7:00pm
Saturday 4/16	Children's Service/Rafters	10:30am Service, Butterfly Release, Egg Hunt, Lunch
Sunday 4/17	Easter Sunday Holy Eucharist	6:30am Sunrise Service 8:30 am and 10:30am No Christian Formation



KIDS EASTER SERVICE

Join us on Saturday April 16th
at 10:30 am in the Rafters
for a kid friendly service followed
by a butterfly release,
Easter egg hunt and lunch.



If you would like to participate in the egg hunt
Please bring 2 dozen eggs for each child you have participating.

Please feel free to bring a friend.

Please sign up by April 11th so we know how many to plan for

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054ca4a7238-kids>

Lunch Menu: Mac and Cheese Muffins, Turkey Sliders and Fruit

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A Taste of Barbados

SATURDAY
APR 30, 2022
3PM - 8PM

**St. Mark's
Episcopal Church**

8600 Mt. Holly
Huntersville Road
Huntersville, NC 28078

Tickets: \$30
704-399-5193

Don't miss:

Barbadian Cuisine
Barbadian Rum cocktails
Live Steel Pan music

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A P R I L 2 0 2 2



FLYIN' LIONS

Celebrates their 1 year anniversary
this April.

In the coming months you will meet the different people that make
this happen.

This month meet the Instruction Staff

Kristen Leighton- Lead Culinary Instructor



Mother, teacher, writer, and passionate baker. Kristen has over twenty-five years of experience as a yoga practitioner and teacher of yoga as therapy (working with physical therapists to rehabilitate sports injuries, limited range of motion, cancer, chronic fatigue, scoliosis, and back/neck pain). Kristen's heart-centered approach to healing has influenced a diverse group of students and seekers from prison service projects to addiction recovery, as well as cancer and prenatal care for underserved communities. She descends from a long line of women who love to feed people and studied baking at the side of her grandmother in her home kitchen from the age of eight. She earned an

MFA in Creative Writing from Bennington College in 2015. As a writer, she developed an award-winning food blog and has published short-fiction. She lives in Davidson with her husband, Brian, and an aging rescue dog who loves the word "dinner" as much as she does.



The Instructors

Malinda Bivens



I developed a passion for cooking and baking at a young age. My dream job was to be a Home Economics teacher. After receiving a Master's Degree in Home Economics Education, I started my teaching profession. My first teaching assignment was teaching vocational and life skills to developmentally disadvantaged high school students. I did that for a year and then taught 8th grade Home Economics for 8 years. After 9 years of teaching, my career led me into the not-for-profit world where I was in Program and Volunteer Management. Now that I am retired, I find myself back to my passion for cooking and baking. As a member of St. Mark's, I am very proud that I am able to support the Flyin' Lion Ministry. I find joy working with our students and teaching them new skills.



Rosanne Wright is the newest member of Flyin Lion Ministries. She has a passion for baking sourdough bread. When she's not in the kitchen, she enjoys spending time with her grandson Marshall.



Linda Stuart

Saint Mark's Church has been my church for over 70 years although I've been away for about 50 years; it is a touchstone for my experiences and community. Now that I've retired and have moved back to the area, I'm fortunate to have the opportunity to come back and contribute to our community. Most of my work experience has been in food and hospitality, from dishwashing to management. When asked if I'd be interested in joining the the Flyin' Lions I said yes. Since then I have learned more about service to the objective of teaching and helping others toward a higher quality of satisfaction in life.

As we as a group have learned, this service is multidimensional and it is my hope to expand the learning environment to growing food and herbs, with flowers too, and ultimately teach that good food is health and medicine.



Birthdays

Ian Milholland - 4/5
Corinne Zinno - 4/5
Debbie Siegel - 4/8
Annie Marie Pope - 4/10
Justin Zinno - 4/10
Lynn Cavanaugh - 4/12
Bob Chandler - 4/12
Tony Herrin - 4/13
Kay Knosby - 4/16
Brandon Kathman - 4/17
Marlene Bandis - 4/19
Elaine Reilly - 4/20
Doris S. Blythe - 4/21
Elizabeth Havens - 4/21
Eileen Lampro - 4/22
Elliott James - 4/24
Betsy Lloyd - 4/25
Elizabeth Weeks - 4/27
Jack Lloyd - 4/29

Anniversaries

Ed & Kathy Reade - 4/5
Alan & Bridget Vanevenhoven - 4/5
John Calabrese & Lee Shubert - 4/9
Larry & Debbie Leisey - 4/21
Milton & Candice Sullivan - 4/21
Sean & Kelly Pope - 4/23
Chaytor & Bob Chandler - 4/24
Philip & Betsy Lloyd - 4/30

Prayers for continued healing:

**Saunders Black
Martha Ann Springer
Richard & Mary Beth Masline
Jim Woolley
Marion Johannsson & Betsy
Elaine Reilly
Paul & Michelle Cravetz
Gloria Harper**

New Members:

Marc & Cindy Gies



WELCOME

Hello all! I'm thrilled to be the new Welcome Chair for our church family.

St. Mark's has felt like home for us since day one of attending seven years ago. I recall several St. Mark's friends not only greeting us, but genuinely taking interest in getting to know our family. We've been blessed to develop such treasured friendships over the years, some with the people who made first introductions to us on our early days of visiting St. Mark's. My hope is that we can continue this intentional ministry of inviting new neighbors into our church home, and reciprocate the warm welcome that I know we've all received.

Bridget Stein

We would like to start by building up our **Greeter ministry**. It is so important to have designated members available on a Sunday mornings to answer questions, give directions and to be a helping hand to Father Garry in the receiving line. We would like to have 4 greeters for each service. If you feel this is a place you are called to serve please let me know. The time commitment is low but so important.

We will go from there and get our **Newcomers socials** back under way. If you feel called to be a part of this social event that occurs twice a year we welcome your input and assistance.

If you would simply like to be a part of the Welcome Team we would love that as well.

Please contact Bridget with any questions or for more information.

bridgetstein22@gmail.com

A P R I L 2 0 2 2



EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

Donations are due by Sunday April 10th
Easter Flower Donations are being accepted.
Donations are \$20 and the flowers will be used for
decorating the church on Easter Sunday.
You may donate by check, cash or use PayPal.

Please send the following information to Cindy in the church office:

life@stmarksnc.org or 704-399-5193

Your Name and Phone Number

The person you are dedicating flowers to
In Memory of, In Celebration of, in Honor of or
In Thanksgiving of.



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

Mark your calendars for Monday,
April 18th at 6:30pm
We will have WINE
in the Rafters

Hosted by Jackie McWhorter and Candy Sullivan

Bring a dish to share and or your beverage of choice
(adult beverages and non adult beverages)

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

A few more hostess opportunities are available for
2022 if you would like to host either in your home or
at the Rafters.



Thirstday Thursday

Will break for the month of April.
Due to Scheduling Conflicts.

Men of the Church
Please plan to assist with
the Taste of Barbados.

We would specifically like your help with
parking and bar backs.

Please sign up through the sign up genius on
the eblast.



**Do you enjoy camping
Would you like some friends to camp
with?**

**A few of our St. Mark's Family
have taken to the road with their newly
acquired campers.**

**If you have an interest in being a part of a
camping club
please contact Chaytor Chandler and let
her know.**

chaytorbchandler@gmail.com



**Need some St. Mark's Swag?
Order shirts and more
through our Zazzle Link.**

**Pick a Polo Shirt, T-shirt, Hoodie, Onesie, Apron and
more**

Male and Female styles available

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**[https://www.zazzle.com/
stmarksshirts_polo_shirt-235768576923631995](https://www.zazzle.com/stmarksshirts_polo_shirt-235768576923631995)**

Please see Candy Sullivan with any questions.



BASEBALL IS BACK

**St. Mark's will be heading to Truist Stadium
on Friday May 20th at 7pm.**

**Tickets are on sale for \$21 each
(with a \$2 loaded food coupon)**

**Reserve yours on Sunday mornings beginning
April 3rd.**

	2022 Buget	February YTD Actual
Current Pledged Income	\$312,436.06	\$79,340.59
All other anticipated income		
Non- Pledge Offerings	\$14,569.00	\$2,023.49
Other income (use of space by outside groups)	\$145,885.04	\$14,275.00
Sales Tax Refunds	\$9,408.00	\$ -
Daisy Shipp McCoy Foundation Trust Income	\$33,360.00	\$6,000.00
Total Budgeted Operating Income	\$515,658.10	\$101,639.08
2020 Budgeted Expenses Approved by Vestry		
Staff	\$319,590.00	\$46,311.46
Diocesan Support	\$44,257.00	\$7,376.17
Campus Maintenance & Utilities	\$53,860.00	\$9,761.53
Office Admin & Other	\$40,508.00	\$5,307.48
Youth & Christian Formation	\$2,760.00	\$236.72
Outreach \$ Escuelita Support	\$9,104.00	\$-
Hospitality, Pastoral Care, Stewardship,& Retreat	\$5,400.00	\$76.29
Worship & Music	\$1,604.00	\$456.28
Rafters Loan Payment	\$100,708.20	
4% pledges unfulfilled based historic average	\$12,497.44	\$16,784.70
Total 2021 Budgeted Expenses	\$577,791.20	\$86,310.63
Current Excess/(Deficit) of receipts over disbursements	(\$62,133.10)	15,328.45

2022 Pledge update-83 families average pledge \$3,764.00

YTD Pledge fulfillment 25.39%

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Father Garry Edwards, Rector

ejohngarry@stmarksnc.org