

# 2021

## ANNUAL REPORT



ST. MARK'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



*"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you..."*  
 – Philemon 1:3-7

His opening from Paul's letter to Philemon is an appropriate introduction to a very different kind of annual report. We will of course have all of the relevant numbers to capture some of what has happened in the year 2021. How we are financially and programmatically is an important reflection of the strength and health of our community. And I am grateful to celebrate with you just how strong that witness has been.

But numbers don't paint a full picture of how the community of St. Mark's has continued to share love and a strength of faith that goes well beyond traditional reporting. We've encountered and shared yet another year of disruptions — from a global pandemic and a very local reconstruction effort. It is important to take a moment to engage in some real reflection about the blessings and challenges of this time.

We have a wonderful compilation of different witnesses to the good that has been done on behalf of Christ during this time. There are moments of joy and sorrow, challenge and resilience, and most importantly real encouragement in love. It will be a long time before the full impact of this time on our history will be known. This report begins to record the story of how we have experienced it.

We know from our Scriptures that being people of a common story is part of the very glue of community life. One of the hardest parts of the isolation of these two years is the loss of that common thread. It will take us awhile to catch up with one another and start to hear what the challenges, gifts, and graces of this time have been. This report is part of sharing that story, and my hope is that it will elicit your own reflections and a sharing of how we have experienced our walk of faith during this time.



Personally, I imagine I have experienced this time in much the way you have. Some good days. Some challenging days. Days when I felt I was at my best, and days when I was grateful for others who could help to sustain me. Like many, I have a loss of memory and ability to keep track of just what we have done when. There have been times when I felt utterly grounded in my faith — and days when it was your witness that carried me through. It is the true gift of community to know that we are called to be supported and to provide support.

All the spiritual practices I've been working on for over twenty years entered the advanced testing level during this time — and yet they have

held. To know myself grounded in a rule of life that forces me to acknowledge the very depth of my reliance on Jesus Christ is both humbling and a great comfort.

We have experienced so many moments of surprising grace in places I could have never imagined. It has shown up on the faces of tiles on my computer screen as we have continued to study scripture together. It has happened as we have moved services indoors and outdoors, online and in person. It has been palpable when we were able to sing with one another and there even when we could not.

Two experiences of graceful community come to mind when I think of the past year. One was on Palm Sunday. Amidst the creativity and pivoting of the staff we had planned to hold the full service in Travis Park. We had assembled extra palms, a stage, and many chairs along with constant checks on the weather. As I began to drive to church that morning, it started to rain unexpectedly. Equipment was quickly covered, and we made the decision at the last minute to move inside. People had already started to gather, so the palm procession quickly became an all-hands-on-deck situation with community members and staff carrying large potted palms and necessary materials into the nave. For those who were watching on our streaming platforms, they got to witness something akin to the Keystone Cops as we quickly got everything into place. Later that week, our youth minister, Meredith Rogers, edited that film, accelerating the speed and adding the Benny Hill theme music. It was one of the funniest things I've ever seen and the laughter was a welcome reminder that the Holy Spirit had been at work even in all the chaos.

The second moment of graceful community that I remember was when we had the opportunity to serve at the San Antonio Food Bank. After so many months of not being able to safely serve as a group, it was thrilling to see so many from our community come together to help feed San Antonio with real food.

There were all ages there, the work felt tangible and gratifying, and as we sat outside eating our box lunches, I was overcome with gratitude. Hope and faith were tangible in the faces of all who had come, and once again I felt encouraged.

Christian hope and faith are thankfully able to transcend the tyranny of our very real emotional fatigue. We know from the witness of all the saints who have come before that we continue to believe in that which we cannot always see and trust in that which we cannot always imagine.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the sacrificial giving and witness of our staff. It is impossible to express my gratitude to them for all they have done, often behind the scenes and without recognition. I am also so grateful for our wardens and vestry who have continued to help guide us as we've discerned what God was calling us to next. Our lay leaders have worked tirelessly in support of our community life, thanks particularly to our outgoing leaders,

Brooks Englehardt, senior warden, and Lisa Uhl, treasurer.

Each one of you is an incredibly important part of the Body of Christ that calls St. Mark's its spiritual home. Your generosity and faithfulness have been an inspiration. I trust and believe with my whole heart that there is an exciting next season on the horizon for us.

When I first arrived at St. Mark's there was a palpable energy that was ready to step outside of ourselves and share the good news. As we anticipate the completion of a not-so-anticipated time of rebuilding, I'm starting to see that

same energy emerging around the edges. We are tired and there will need to be a time of sabbath to regain our bearings. This is important and will allow the many seeds that God has been sowing during this time to take root and spring forth. We are people of the resurrection and I give thanks that new life is already beginning to break forth. To God be the glory.

Peace,

*Elizabeth C Knowlton* +

The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton  
Rector



Beth pictured with George Spencer (2022 Sr. Warden), Cindy Stephens, and Brooks Englehardt (2021 Sr. Warden) at a St. Mark's Food Bank service day.

## CORE VOCATION

Feeding San Antonio with the Bread of Life

Feeding the hungry with real food.

Feeding those who are hungry for knowledge and meaning.

Feeding those who are hungry for beauty and creativity.





**I** thank God daily for leading me to the St. Mark's Choir and allowing me to find a church home while renewing my spiritual connection to Christ. That's why the pandemic was especially difficult for me when that sense of community went on hiatus for an indefinite period—the music, camaraderie, and collaboration, all gone because of a respiratory virus of which we knew nothing. Combined with “a million pounds of scaffolding” disrupting normal choir operations, the pandemic suffocated my reason for attending church and created a space in my heart. It was almost as if the crumpled metal falling on our Parish House was the weight of the world on my chest.

However, I will always admire Beth, Ann, Matt, Jon, Sam, and the rest of the vestry and church staff for their indomitable spirit to keep St. Mark's relevant and active during a time in which its

parishioners needed it the most. Thursday Zoom Choir Happy Hours, live-streaming church services on personal iPhones, singing masks – who would have thought the things we didn't know we needed were what we needed at that exact time? God did, and God helped us find the mute button on Zoom. And while the “church” may have physically left the building, we have always been the church and will always be.

Now I often reflect on how our world feels different now as we return to what in many ways feels the same. Am I thankful for in-person singing through masks? Yes. Is it highly challenging to breathe and sing through a mask for hours on end? Ask our talented staff singers! But those pieces of cloth and interwoven fiber allowed us to buy time so that scientists and vaccine developers could find ways to return to safer, in-person worship and collaboration as a community.

And as the world, in general, begins to resume normal operations, I am optimistic that our parish will be stronger than ever.

I often use the analogy of being “forged in a fire” with my students and how the heat and stress of a forge, combined with the blacksmith's hammer, can help shape metal into whatever they wish it to be. Undoubtedly, the pandemic and scaffolding collapse placed St. Mark's into a forge, and the innumerable challenges brought on by these situations beat us relentlessly, creating uncertainty and chaos in our lives. But like our own baptisms, the cooling waters of God's grace and kindness chilled the hot metal and shaped us forever. I hope that through being forged in this fire, St. Mark's can find peace, strength, and discernment for our path as we advance out of these most challenging times.

**Submitted by Brett Richardson**  
**Director of Bands and Associate**  
**Professor of Music, University of**  
**the Incarnate Word**  
**St. Mark's member since 2017**  
**Pictured with wife Jacquelyn**  
**Matava**





As I reflect on 2021, this second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, I realize that it has largely been defined by Bob Cratchit's words in *A Christmas Carol* (as interpreted by the immortal Muppets):

"Life is made up of meetings and partings; that is the way of it."

One of the hardest partings for me was this year was the loss of my beloved friend Jan, whom I have known since I was thirteen. For years, we met every Sunday for the 7:45 service at St. Mark's and breakfast afterwards at La Madeleine, where we would laugh until we wept (Jan had an absolutely wicked sense of humor), share stories, talk about life and theology, and swap books. One of those irreplaceable friendships that was like a beloved song where we both knew all the words.

The year brought many unexpected blessings as well. In my pediatric practice, telemedicine, an odd gift of the pandemic, has become one indispensable alternative to meet with patients. I now get to meet

everyone's pets (who inevitably crowd around the screen, too), and I also get to stay connected with patients who are not in San Antonio anymore. The look of relief on the face of a college student far from home and in need of help when they see someone familiar has been extraordinary.

Another blessing has been our "pandemic babies" – little ones who have shown up "trailing clouds of glory" despite our dire circumstances as a society. True to human nature, they are mostly healthy, noisy, and happy – a living reminder that the human journey is rarely easy, and that our remarkable biology makes us capable as a species of responding to even the worst trauma with joy and exuberance.

Some of our patients have experienced the most difficult parting of losing a parent, grandparent, sibling or beloved teacher. The San Antonio Express-News stated today that 5.2 million children worldwide have lost a parent or other caregiver to COVID-19.

The threat of such loss has also

caused anxiety and depression in children to explode in my practice and around the world. In October 2021, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Children's Hospital Association, and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry declared the mental health crisis among children a national health emergency.

St. Mark's has been an ever-present support in this harrowing year. One of the gifts of 2021 for me has been the call to be part of the St. Mark's vestry. The vestry retreat on Mustang Island in January was a "meeting" in the best sense of the word. It included good food, coming to know my fellow vestry members, walking by the ocean, and engaging in meaningful discussion. We focused on Tod Bolsinger's book *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*. The book examines the adjustments Lewis and Clark had to make when they came upon the Rocky Mountains and realized they were going to require very different equipment and resources than they had brought with them for their journey.

Loss, and a changing landscape, can lead us into a place of real confusion and loneliness. I find comfort in the words of theologian Henri Nouwen that "by slowly converting our loneliness into a deep solitude," we can create a sacred space where we can ask God where we go now.

**Submitted by Lindsay Irvin  
Pediatrician and member of St.  
Mark's since 2004**

**Pictured with husband Lennie and  
son Lawrence**





Good intentions and hopes sat at the start of 2021 like the pair of 8-pound weights I set on the hearth. I'll feel better, stronger. I eyed those orange-coated dumbbells and saw the toddler cruising around the room. Better move those before he gets to them, I thought, and then he got there first. His toe was broken. We were in the pediatrician's office at the close of the day, being sent to the emergency room. I steeled myself for the rush-hour drive to the ER, wished I'd packed more substantial food in the diaper bag. The toddler resisted getting dressed again and, with tears threatening, I asked the nurse for help. When she scooped up my little one, tears did come. This was the first adult aside from my spouse and myself who had held him since the earliest months. This has been lonely.

Spring brought courage, community, absurdity. With the knowledge that outdoor activities were significantly lower risk, the indomitable Kathy Kelly

offered to move the children's choir rehearsals from Zoom to an outdoor space at St. Mark's. Wedged between construction fencing and idling buses, Ms. Kelly and her choral scholars Christina Fisher and Eleanor Bird led masked and distanced singers in the Pecan Street courtyard. Whether they could hear a note, who knows. Parents sat cross-legged on the lawn, savoring the chance for casual conversation, adult company. Siblings cartwheeled and sprawled. *Surely we were lying down in green pastures.*

The information that flows in and through the reception desk that Ruby Merrill sits in has probably always been more than meets the eye. With the main parish house entrance moved to Gosnell Hall as construction dictated, the vast space surrounding that desk became a staging area for contractors, items coming in and out of storage, goods collected for sharing in the community. Gosnell held this visual noise, ever changing around Ruby and all those

who shared the work of staffing that desk for long days. Deliveries, phone calls. Not much place for eye or ear to rest. *The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in.*

We planned a Lunch & Serve day at Good Samaritan Community Services; Shea Pollom organized outdoor improvements, activity kits to be put together. Meredith Rogers rallied youth to serve and repair a picnic table. Cathy Villani led an activity for the children. We ate sandwiches, shared sunscreen, pulled weeds. People from different parts of the parish worked and talked and sweated happily, water bottles emptied and cups running over.

In the fall, the Rev. Matt Wise and I sat down to get some records in order. Since the start of the year we'd had worship online only, or in the church with reservations, plus impromptu Ash Wednesday from the Rector's sunroom due to ice and power failure; sometimes live-streamed with music indoors and no congregation in the building while a parallel outdoor liturgy took place with real people in Tucker Courtyard; Palm Sunday planned outdoors and moved inside at the last minute when rain came; an Easter Vigil in Travis Park with the light of Christ having a hell of a time in the unfriendly wind.

Matt and I had paper calendars, online calendars, notes to self, each with plans penciled in like good intentions. I had a physical response to wading into that task, a flood of overwhelm at what turns we had taken as a community seeking to draw near to God and one another.

What actually happened sometimes bore no resemblance to what we'd written. Plans fell weightily with an uptick in virus numbers or construction setbacks in our parish house (internet's out again), improved with vaccinations and construction gains, adjusted according to what our community was ready to participate in.



A stack of notes from my home office formerly known as a bedroom revealed a similar range: caring connections that happened as parishioners called to check in on one another, pastoral challenges, diagnoses, death. *The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.*

For all that felt undone and insufficient, there were also glimpses of resiliency and faithfulness, longing sometimes delayed but also realized in part.

I resist drawing a conclusion, creating a fixed narrative of what 2021 held or withheld. I'm drawn instead to acknowledge that making room for all these things, the crushing and fulfilling alike, must be our work as the church embodied: seeking and sharing encouragement with one another, in Christ who makes all things new.

**The Rev. Ann Fraser**  
**Associate Rector for Outreach,**  
**Pastoral Care, and Parish Life**  
**Pictured with husband Andrew,**  
**and children Robert, Susanna, and**  
**Eleanor**



I'm almost embarrassed to say this, but the last few years have been really good for me and my family. Sure, they were hard in many ways, but we were also very fortunate. We moved to San Antonio for my husband's job in June of 2019, and we quickly found a church home at St. Mark's. We had plans to visit several Episcopal churches in town, but after our first Sunday at St. Mark's, we were hooked. Even through the pandemic we were able to maintain relationships with our new St. Mark's family, and I'm so glad we had a church home through those first few months of panic and uncertainty. Ryan and I were married at St. Mark's in September of 2020, and it was the perfect wedding in every way.

I work as a therapist in a behavioral health hospital, and 2021 was a tough year for mental health professionals. We saw a huge increase in people seeking help for depression and anxiety, and much of it was attributable to the pandemic. I started the year working with adult patients, and we were overwhelmed with people seeking help. Later in the year, I accepted a

position working with adolescents in the hospital's residential treatment center. I'm now working with teens who are with us for two or three months. They spend their days in intensive therapy and even go to school at the hospital. The work is hard, but it's also rewarding. These kids have been through a lot, and I love getting to see them transform into better versions of themselves.

For the first time in my life, I feel like I'm doing what I am supposed to be doing, and I am so thankful for that.

St. Mark's has played a huge role in my life the last few years. Without it, I don't think Ryan and I would feel as settled as we do in San Antonio. We bought a house here in 2021, and we want to plant roots in this city and at St. Mark's. We are so thankful for this community!

**Submitted by Webb Morgan**  
**Behavioral therapist and member**  
**since 2019**  
**Pictured with husband Ryan Holt**





**2021** may have not been the most ideal year for some people but, for musicians, globally and within our walls at St. Mark's, it was an attestation of hope and transformation. However, before I can reflect about 2021, I must say out loud, 2020 was perhaps the worst year for everyone, and I'm positive it was THE year most have tried to erase from their memories if possible. It was the year we quickly learned about the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus by spreading aerosols through speaking and, even worse, singing. Choir rehearsals and congregational singing came to an abrupt halt, and Sunday worship was reduced to online streaming with bare-bones liturgy: one priest, one organist, and one staff singer.

The adult choir met weekly for choir socials on Zoom because it was practically the only way to continue some community engagement since singing was no longer an option. I was lost because I didn't know what to do about the choristers; they, too, had lost their community of singing. I knew we had to do something fun with the kids to make choir meaningful since most of us struggled daily to remain somewhat sane and healthy. After all, people of all ages, first and foremost, attend choir for the pure joy of singing, making music together, not alone. The choir participated in a handful of virtual choir projects, so I must thank Jessie Lopez again for his willingness and expertise in producing such projects. And I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge and thank our very talented assistant organist, Samuel Gaskin, for his amazing endeavors with filming and editing liturgies! It was all very hard and NEW work for everyone involved, and now seems like an eternity ago.

With the arrival of 2021, COVID vaccines had just become available. Vaccinations were the ticket for the choirs to rehearse again and, ultimately, the resumption of congregational singing. With spring and daylight saving time on the way, I knew these were hopeful signs of assembling our choirs outside. In the fall of 2020, I had begun meeting with the treble and youth choirs outside for 45 minutes each week to regain some momentum and to assign a few goals so our time together had purpose and meaning. I was so thankful for this time with the youth, and I knew it would be the remedy for the adults and younger children in the music program.

Kathy Kelly exuberantly rose to the occasion of meeting with a robust group of Novices and Junior Choristers outside each week, while I was able to begin alternating sopranos/altos and tenors/basses every other week in Tucker Courtyard. This didn't come without its challenges, since we then had to juggle our outdoor spaces carefully to coordinate several ministry schedules, and the other "C" word, construction.

By the time June arrived, I was utterly joyful because we had finally restored congregational singing, and that was the official welcome back for the full choir in our Sunday liturgies who had been sorely missed for 15 months. During the absence of the full choir, the staff singers led music in various capacities as soloists, quartets, and octets. I must extol them because they deserve hearty thanks for their perseverance and flexibility every single week leading up to June 2021.

The summer allowed for construction to forge ahead with great anticipation of the newly expanded choir room, upgraded vesting rooms, and chorister rehearsal space. When we officially resumed the new choir season in late August, we used the church as our rehearsal space until Christmas Eve; that was our first time to rehearse in the choir room since the scaffolding fell in September 2019. That Christmas was truly special because it was the symbol of new birth for the music program as we make our journey into this next chapter at St. Mark's. Never in my wildest dreams would I have imagined surviving my first year as your Director of Music, a scaffolding event, then six months later a global pandemic.

Three and a half years later I'm still here, and time marches on. There have been mixed blessings in all these life-changing experiences for me.



I'm thankful for the Rev. Beth Knowlton's wisdom; as she recently commented to me, "Jon, my hope for you is to experience the best St. Mark's has to offer, to live into the life of this place, realizing your fullest potential in ministry here." That meant the world to me that day, and I'm still reflecting on it because what it really says to me is the good work has only just begun. I'm grateful for the community of St. Mark's and to serve among you as your Director of Music.

**Jon Johnson**  
**Director of Music & Organist**

**2021** was a year of transition for me: moving to a new city on my own, starting a new job, and doing it all during this enduring pandemic.

Although I experience change frequently as a soldier, uprooting my life every three years never gets easy, and this year was no exception. I attended St. Mark's for two months in 2018 when I was briefly here for Army training. When I knew that I was returning to San Antonio for a longer time, I was eager to become more involved with St. Mark's. Thankfully, this church re-entered my life at the perfect time, becoming a haven and home for me during this chapter.

Being a new and temporary resident of San Antonio, I appreciate that St. Mark's almost immediately provided me with "family." Within the first couple of months in San Antonio, while at a St. Mark's event, I met someone that I now consider a lifelong friend who introduced me to the beautiful diversity that San Antonio has to offer.

This parish also presented me with opportunities to grow spiritually, learn more about Episcopal traditions, and volunteer in a variety of meaningful ministries. I have enjoyed serving as an acolyte, intercessor, lector, and Eucharistic minister at the 7:45 am service. These roles have appeased my curious mind by teaching me more about the church's customs. St. Mark's has also given me ample volunteer opportunities where I have loved supporting the missions of the San Antonio Food Bank, Good Samaritan Community Services, and Haven for Hope.

I came to St. Mark's in the middle of the pandemic, and apparently in the middle of a construction effort due to the scaffolding incident, so I am blissfully ignorant of how these challenges have affected the parish. Even with these



significant, potentially debilitating challenges, St. Mark's has been able to completely fulfill my spiritual needs.

Since I have witnessed this church thrive over this past year of growth, I am excited to see the impact on the community this next year during a period of full vitality.

2022 will be another year of personal transition. I will leave my position at work and begin a dual master's degree program which will move me into the second half of my Army career. I will endure this while my closest San Antonio friend moves on to tackle a lifelong dream. I am hopeful that during another year of transition, St. Mark's will remain the constant that will see me through this enduring season of change.

**Captain Marjorie Lutz**  
**Commander for Bravo Company,**  
**232nd Medical Battalion**  
**Active at St. Mark's since 2021**



Right before we went into “hibernation,” I had the opportunity to take two wonderful trips with long-time good friends. I arrived home from the second one on Ash Wednesday, and about two weeks later we went into lockdown. I think we all thought it would be for a month or so, and that didn’t seem so bad. We could do that! One of my dear friends, John McClung, came to the homes of each of the participants in our reflection group and set us up on Zoom, which turned out to be my lifeline and made an incredible difference for someone who lives alone.

St. Mark’s quickly got the weekly offerings up and running on Zoom and I tuned in. The clergy were wonderful, taking time to check in with each person and allow us to share our joys and concerns. It has helped me make some new friendships, which are much deeper; we know each other so much better than if we had just walked into a classroom together.

Of course, high on the difficulty list is the fear of the illness and being reminded, practically hourly, that since I am very mature (translate: elderly), I am in an extremely vulnerable group. That meant being cut off from everyone and everything that I loved and was used to. The most heart wrenching was not being able to be with my children, grandchildren, and dear friends. I am a people person, a hugger! Being cut off from being with folks was such a difficult thing for me.

At first, we thought it would last through March, and then word came that it would go on until May. Fiesta, our wonderful celebration, which I dearly love, was postponed. When things like that started happening, I think we all realized the severity of the situation and that our lives had radically changed for longer than we first thought.



I love to garden and started a container vegetable garden during our lockdown. It really helped to have something to take care of, with chores that had to be done. It also was a good feeling to reap the rewards of my labors and to share them with my children and neighbors.

I have had a hard time with a lot of our whining, mine included, that has gone on because of our inconveniences. I was 7 years old when World War II ended. Each of the men in my family went into the service. One uncle was killed, two were students at Texas A&M in their 20s, and they enlisted. One was shot down and in a German prison camp for two years, and we didn’t know if we would see him again. I remember blackouts and ration books, so when I lay that over what we went through in the pandemic, it pales by comparison. Unfortunately, with what is going on in the world, we may be facing some more difficult times.

Although I attended church each Sunday online, I longed to be in our beautiful sanctuary in person, surrounded by sweet friends, being able to receive the precious sacrament at our altar. The first Sunday I could return, I remember a giant hug with Stephanie Pollom (which was probably a no-no) in the narthex, each of us with tears in our eyes!

I think what it has brought home to me BIG TIME is how important my community is to me. My Zoom classes got me through because I had a community and looked forward to being with and hearing from each person in our groups.

In each of his letters, St. Paul offers ways to build a stronger community with each other and God. My favorite is Philippians 2:1-5 *“If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.”*

*“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.”*

**Submitted by Martha Steves**  
**Active in ministry at St. Mark’s and**  
**the broader San Antonio community**  
**Member since 1966**  
**Pictured with granddaughter Estee,**  
**son Albert and daughter-in-law Tricia**



The beginning of 2021 marked the end of my first semester of college. Throughout the year, I would continue to search for a balance between school and work and running and friends. A lot would change, but my mornings would always start with a bowl of overnight oats, prepared the night before.

I was constantly faced with new challenges, but most were self-created. For example, finding a summer job was much more stressful when I worried that no one would want to hire me. Of course, I was totally wrong. Within a week of the search, I found a weekend job making and delivering pizzas, which allowed me to continue to tutor during the week, meet new friends, and gain new skills. A similar challenge that I faced this year was made worse by worrying. After my plan to live with a friend in the fall was erased, I still had to find a place to live with only a month before school started. I searched online, jumping from social media app to social media app, and eventually came across a transfer student from UNT who needed a roommate to share a West Campus apartment. We FaceTimed, found we did not share much in common, but still decided to live together. (As I write this, I am still living with this roommate and we have become good friends!)

Another challenge that I faced was mostly physical: the San Antonio Rock 'n' Roll Marathon. The race was scheduled the weekend before final exams in the fall. To me, the marathon represented one last obstacle to mark the completion of my third semester at college. I thought if I could conquer 26.2 miles, I could conquer any test. On the morning of race day, after finishing my usual bowl of overnight oats, I underestimated the challenge. The first part of the race flew by—the excitement of the crowd and support from family made me feel energized. But by mile 20 my pace had dropped by 3 minutes



and my legs felt like cinder blocks. I asked God to help me push forward as my body protested each step. By the time I reached the final stretch, my legs felt less heavy. I crossed the finish line feeling proud and grateful. Finishing the marathon provided me with the assurance that I could get through any trial.

I hope that I will continue to learn and grow throughout college and after I graduate—by looking to God and not dwelling on illusory obstacles. The challenges that I faced in 2021 made me realize that I need to let go of my worries and have faith in God, because, like overnight oats, God is reliable and constant amid the unpredictability of life.

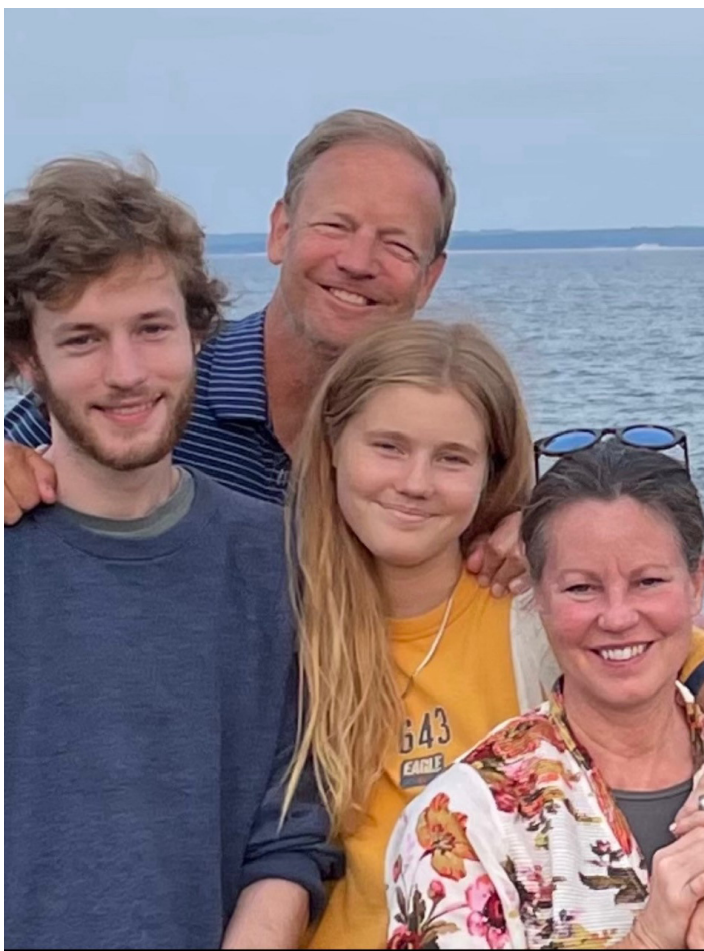
**Ally Lozano**

**Freshman at The University of Texas**

**Member since birth**

**Pictured with parents Sarah and Jaret**





Reflecting on 2021 is difficult and reassuring – all in the same moment! It was the best of times and the worst of times, as Charles Dickens famously wrote.

I have thought about stress and anxiety – kids with interrupted school schedules and impossible-to-pin-down summer travel plans. Will they go back – when will they go back – in person or online? Jack and Lucie are thankfully in college now, but I cannot imagine how hard, how exhausting this time has been for parents of young children who could not rely on the structure and routine of a school schedule. Some positives also came out of the past couple of years: caregivers are the angels that walk among us. I was able to be with my father for the last few weeks of his life last year, to work along side his care team. I am in awe of these selfless professionals and appreciate all they do for so many of us. I'm thankful they're receiving much-deserved recognition. Mental health is having its moment. I know a few local therapists who have never been busier. Let's hope emotional well-being continues to be part of our conversation. Kari and I are more aware of and speaking about self care with friends and family.

I am thankful the current labor shortage has forced a spotlight on living wages and driven newfound appreciation for the team checking us out at HEB, serving our meals, etc. I am thankful the current supply-chain disruptions have also made me consider doing more with less, sustainability, and buying local.

I feel fortunate to have been called to serve the St. Mark's team. I know I have grown spiritually over the past couple years. Being able to spend time with the clergy, staff and vestry has selfishly also enabled me to meet and better know more wonderful community members than ever possible.

Seeing behind the curtain, witnessing all that goes into the day-to-day, the programming, etc., is humbling. The St. Mark's team makes the insanely hard look easy. I am so appreciative of how creatively they have navigated the past and look forward to this summer's sabbatical season for more fun examples of their innovative spirit.

I am thankful for our Rector's consistent messaging over the past few years. In times of crisis, we are taught to communicate early, often, and with a simple clear voice. In reflecting on 2021, I remember Beth's consistent chorus, "We have what we need." Amen!

**Brooks Englehardt**

**Senior Warden**

**Member since 2012**

**Pictured with wife Kari, and children Jack and Lucie**

In 2021, for the first time since late 2019, the Parish House was being put back together instead of being taken apart. We were finally past all of the mitigation, demolition, and investigation needed for the construction project. Plans were drawn, schedules were implemented, timelines were issued, and an improvements package was finalized. Work was truly underway, everywhere from the roofs to the basement. The building was buzzing with activity and the noises of construction throughout the entire year.

In contrast to all the construction activity, our regular programming was still in flux due to COVID. Programming started outdoors in the courtyards, then moved back into undamaged areas of the Parish House, and eventually into newly completed rooms. Each iteration of programming had different needs, and I couldn't be more thankful to the rest of the facility team for their flexibility with constant location and setup changes.

Keeping people safe during the pandemic, while managing the logistics of using a building under construction, we really had to learn how to do programming all over again. That would not have been possible without the constant communication and the willingness of Ruby, Derek, John, Chuy, Richard, and Janet to go far beyond their normal job duties.

In August we regained use of newly completed areas on the second floor, primarily Jerusalem Chapel and the reconfigured multi-purpose room 212. As a staff, I think we all remember the early days after the scaffolding when Children's Chapel was being held in the bell tower. So it was nice when Jerusalem Chapel turned out to be one of the first areas finished, and the children got their space back. Room 212 became a space for formation classes, choir rehearsals, Bible studies, and vestry meetings. It was



two years to the day of the scaffolding collapse when 212 was first used for a formation class on Sunday, September 19th. There was a mix of nostalgia and accomplishment for me to be behind a soundboard again for a formation class, especially on that particular day.

The kitchen was given priority and tasked with being completed in time for use in Advent. We accomplished that goal thanks to Guido Construction's efforts and the unpacking, cleaning, and processing of 133 boxes of kitchen wares.

In mid-November we cooked our first meal in the new kitchen: breakfast tacos for members of the construction crew. Soon after, casseroles were being made again for Advent, and the walk-in freezer and cooler were filled with items for Christmas to the Street. Advent was a busy time. More programming started and additional spaces were being completed in the parish house. Bethlehem Chapel was used for the first time after completion to host Advent Quiet Evening, and the newly enlarged choir room held its first practice on Christmas Eve.

As the parish house continues to be put back together and programming fills up the spaces that earlier in the year were nothing but metal studs and concrete

floors, things feel like they are returning to a sense of normal.

Construction and COVID have been two different problems the St. Mark's staff and community have had to face simultaneously. It's taken a remarkable number of people; from all the engineers to the daily construction workers, tradesmen, and the entire Guido team. Also, everyone on staff and the volunteers who help with the changing COVID guidelines, and the parishioners who still come to services and programming with changing room availability and hybrid options, all handled the situation with patience and grace.

During a time when so many people are feeling disconnected, this has been the most collaborative project I've ever been a part of. Construction wasn't finished in 2021, but the completion is in sight. In the coming months Gosnell Hall will be finished, soon to be followed by Gish Hall. It will have been a long journey, and much like the pandemic, not one anyone had expected.

**Eric Nelson**  
**St. Mark's Operations Manager**  
**Pictured with facility staff: Derek Shively, Richard Maldonado, Sonya Holguin, Janet Carrizales, Ruby Merrill**





At first, “challenges” loomed by far the largest. Among the normal challenges of living life and keeping going in my later years, there were three major ones: the months of isolation and disruption of COVID-19 for the past many months; the challenge of being one of three managing partners of my family’s historic ranch in Coleman County and keeping our 140-year-old endeavor functioning in the modern world; and then the surprise, totally out of the blue, of my beloved son-in-law’s diagnosis of an inoperative fast-moving brain tumor.

I began to ponder. Challenges? Yes, aplenty. Gifts???

The first to come to mind was my deep gratitude for the gift of the vaccine and the blessing of belonging to my own caring family and also to a church family that took very seriously and consistently the onerous job of keeping us all safe and still in contact with one another as the Body of Christ. At first we had to go to church on the computer. Go to church on a computer at my age? I did my best. Now I give thanks that I can worship at St. Mark’s in person in that beautiful space where everyone there is wearing a face mask, knowing that we are truly caring for one another. The mask has become for me a symbol of how much we love each other, a gift; and

we are connected by computer to those who still need to worship “virtually.”

Meanwhile to the ranch, we will continue to run it, three generations of us hanging in there together, by the grace of God and a lot of patience and perseverance. The gift is that we have it and that we have each other and that God has brought us down these many years so far. We can count on Him!

Now to the dealing with terminal illness as we had to do at the end of 2021 and continue to do. The two younger generations in my family have done a most admirable job of lovingly caring for my son-in-law, this person we all love so much, and it is my job to let go and trust them and God into the future and to love and to pray.

For me prayer is not easy. I am growing in it and hope to continue to learn and to grow. The challenges lead to gifts, and the more I ponder, the closer I see the connection between challenge and gift. For me challenge brings me in my need and weakness to communal prayer, Sunday worship, and Communion during the week if possible. It also brings me to individual prayer each morning which I have had to take a serious look at and be much more regular about.

I have lots of spiritual books of great importance to me, chief of which is the Bible, which I have studied and read in groups for years and now in the middle of the night when I wake up by myself. By now I know a lot of words, and I hope all that study has osmosed into my soul; but as I grow older I have fewer words and fewer answers. Silence has become important to me, just sitting in the early morning in the presence of our loving God who does have the answers.

To quote my daughter, we are playing “the long game,” which is played in Christian family and community. The long game is played in HOPE. Hope offers a vision of God’s Kingdom now together on earth and later in His Realm of Love which never ends. For today, in hope, we put one foot in front of the other on into 2022.

**Lillian Morris**

**Active in ministry at St. Mark’s and the broader San Antonio community**  
**Member since 1959**

I've been resisting writing this reflection for several weeks now. And I'm not fully sure why. I'm not sure I'm ready to process last year or the year before. I'm not sure I can confidently distinguish between what happened in 2020 and what happened in 2021; they bleed and blur together too much.

There have been plenty of moments when I felt like I was running on empty, longing to find or carve out some space to reset and refill my own tank before trying to teach a class or lead a Bible Study. I imagine we've all felt that way quite often during the last two years; felt like there hasn't been enough time, energy, or headspace to do things with the level of excellence and intentionality to which we have become accustomed. Raising two kindergartners in the midst of the pandemic has had its own level of anxiety and stress as well. Decisions that used to be insignificant took on much more weight and importance, and led to further exhaustion in their constancy. As you well know, there are countless examples of events, classes, and gatherings that we've planned for our community that we've had to alter, reschedule, or cancel, sometimes at the last minute. We have held liturgies in so many different configurations that when it was time to piece together our parochial report for the Diocese, it took Rev. Ann and me a few hours to just to recreate the timeline of when we did what. And yet, looking back, I know that in those instances I was doing the very best that I could. I imagine that's also true for you. Now, with a little more distance on it, the invitation may be to reflect on how faithful God is in utilizing whatever I can offer, even when it's very little.

Yesterday, after a long morning of meetings, I hit that familiar afternoon wall. Another cup of coffee wasn't going to cut it, so I decided to take a brief walk. It was a beautiful and warm afternoon, and I needed some fresh air



and sunlight. About three blocks into my journey, it suddenly hit me that it had been over two years since I walked around downtown. That realization slowed my pace, as I sought to be intentional about taking in the sights and sounds. A handful of my favorite restaurants (places where I've met many of you for lunch meetings) now sit vacant with "For Lease" signs in the windows. Another handful of new restaurants and bars were buzzing with pre-spring break business. I couldn't help but sing a line from the new Jason Eady song, "Whadda we do when we get back to normal/and we find we're somewhere we ain't never been?"

I don't know the answer to that melodic question. I believe we will discover that together. It feels like we are on the cusp of something, though. A turning point up ahead that's bigger than all of us.

Sacred Ground circles are opening our clenched eyes and challenging our perspectives. Construction crews are no longer banging and hollering outside my office windows. Our twins are trying on their choir vestments again. My ashen thumb tip just helped type out the online order for palm branches, and our sabbatical planning team is about to meet to talk about this summer's opportunities. The view

on the horizon seems to be coming a bit more into focus. And though I'm still a bit ragged and worn thin from all these last two years have brought, I'm also hopeful. It will take some time and some practice to re-orient ourselves to what comes next and to remind ourselves of who we are and whose we are. In the introduction to her latest book, *Practically Divine*, The Rev. Becca Stevens (our guest speaker at the Bookstore Luncheon on May 5) speaks to some of this:

"There is no secret formula for experiencing the sacred in our lives, it just takes practicality and discipline. The deep truth of our lives and the fullness we are striving for don't happen with someone giving us a code or some kind of "4 C's" that are going to solve all our problems....Practice might not lead to perfection, but it will lead us closer to love. When we cultivate our ability to see the divine in the midst of our days, slowly we can trust that deep within us lies the same love that was woven into creation."

**The Rev. Matthew Wise**  
**Associate Rector for Liturgy,**  
**Formation, and Family Ministries**  
**Pictured with daughter Sawyer**





*"Encourage one another and build each other up, as indeed you are doing."*

– 1 Thessalonians 5:11

The above verse was chosen by Bishop Reed as the theme for the 2022 Diocesan Council, and I do not think he could have chosen better. Paul the Apostle was onto something... If ever we needed encouragement from one another, it's been through the last few years. For me, it was especially during 2021, and as I reflect on the year, I realize that the people of St. Mark's have always followed the direction of St. Paul.

With my husband's deployment, my daughters and I spent seven months of 2021 without his physical presence in our lives. We missed him during holidays, birthdays, camping trips, family dinners, and morning coffee. However, it was the mundane encounters – which we as humans tend to take for granted – which proved to be the most profound times of feeling his absence. It was those times when my St. Mark's community recognized those needs and filled a void.

At the risk of my children reading this (sorry, kids), I'll share that 2021

presented me with some parenting challenges I was not prepared to navigate. Adolescence is hard work. Parenting adolescents is even harder work. When I took the train to Parenting Panic-Ville, it was my St. Mark's family who gave me a first-class ticket back to reality and reminded me that these processes are normal, and that with my unconditional love (like that of God), my kids will be all right and exactly who they are meant to be.

As an adult, I've struggled with depression and anxiety. Understanding that I have these tendencies and being able to recognize triggers, it never became something I couldn't reign in on my own – exactly until it was something I couldn't reign in on my own. I spent a number of months feeling very unlike myself and I was incredibly frightened by my inability to control it. It might shock some that I'd be so open about my mental health, but being vulnerable and sharing this is a large part of my healing and recovery.

Every second of that time was uncomfortable, and I certainly do not wish to relive it, but in many ways I am grateful.

I learned a lot about forgiveness and reconciliation. I learned about bravery and courage, and most importantly, I learned (and truly believe) that I am not alone on this journey. I didn't fully understand that until my St. Mark's family showed me.

The community of St. Mark's has always been and continues to be:

In front of me, sharing wisdom and guiding me to Christ's light.

Behind me, cheering me on, and challenging me to walk in His love.

Next to me, like Jesus, as my confidants, my peers, and my friends.

**Laura Sellitto-Wickham**  
**Junior Warden**  
**Member since 2017**  
**Pictured with daughter Nat**



Here's what I've learned again... God uses everything if we let him. And it turns out we really are not in control. Of course we know this intellectually, but still the pandemic and family health issues taught me these lessons in a powerful way yet again. The ups and downs of 2021 taught us all a lot about sitting lightly and trusting God. On staff, the pandemic taught us to recalibrate weekly along with the virus, seeking to be mindful of the needs of the whole community. We were made to remember how precious we all are and that, despite our separation from each other, we would do our best to care for one another.

It was not a comfortable year. It was full of challenges, sometimes too many. We experienced grief and trauma and anxiety. But it was also a time of generosity and grace. Personally, I found that members of the St. Mark's community and the worship experience, even virtually, helped me to trust that we would weather the challenges together. And I was reminded that we do our best when we make room for God to do God's work of walking alongside us and revealing gifts and opportunities along the way.

We've used the scaffolding event to rethink the spaces that were no longer serving us as well as we'd like in the parish house, particularly the choir room and Gish Hall. Just a handful of years since the founding of our more flexible Horizon Endowment, we've made use of earnings to pay for improvements that will better support our ministry needs without compromising our initial goal of a \$6 million endowment. This was possible due to the generosity of members remembering St. Mark's in their estate plans.

We've made the transition to hybrid offerings of worship, formation classes, and meetings. While essential during the

pandemic, this will continue to allow more of our community to join us regardless of health challenges and travel plans. Where some were previously isolated, now they are connected. Through our streamed services, we continue to attract new members to our offerings and beautiful sanctuary.

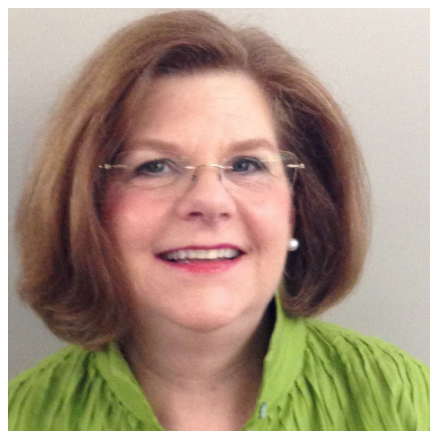
On Sundays, an average of 140 joined us in person and another 240 watched online. Household giving remained strong and we fulfilled 100% of our pledges. What I take from this data is that we remain a faithful community, committed to our Core Vocation.

Everyone who was asked to contribute to this collection of reflections for the annual report said "Yes." Some tentatively, some more readily. What I keep learning from all of you is that we are open to the invitation. This must surely bode well. I can't wait to see what we do next.

We've seen a broad range of experiences during this pandemic. My hope is that we stay knit together, despite differing perspectives, caring for one another with humility in the midst of increasing polarity. May we remain the broad tent, welcoming all, accepting all, and loving all as God loves each one of us.

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Our Treasurer, Lisa Uhl, served her last of a three-year term in 2021. She was a steady presenence during an unprecedented time. Her grace, friendship, and expertise have been a great gift to the St. Mark's community and the Finance Committee. It seems that every Treasurer starts their term



wondering what projects or issues they will be taking on. We often cannot anticipate the challenges ahead. Lisa reminded us all about how to be a non-anxious presense as those unexpected events reveal themselves. Thanks, Lisa!

**Submitted by Dina Aboul Saad**  
**Director of Advancement**  
**Pictured with husband Chuck and daughter Hannah**









First row: Shea Pollom, Priscilla Briones, Janet Carrizales, Cathy Villani, Jon Johnson, Marsha Kimura, Kathy Kelly.  
 Second row: Samuel Gaskin, Eric Nelson, Dina Aboul Saad, Rev. Matthew Wise, Rev. Beth Knowlton, Rev. Ann Fraser, Meredith Rogers, Tracie Andrews  
 Third row: Richard Maldonado, John Aranda, Ruby Merrill, Chuy Mendoza, Derek Shively



	Actuals	Budgeted
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Pledge Revenue	\$1,689,516	\$1,690,810
Non-pledge and Open Plate Offerings	\$281,568	\$235,000
Seasonal Giving	\$23,130	\$20,000
Other (parking lot, wedding, etc.)	\$494,096	\$485,084
Endowment/Fund Revenue	\$397,783	\$352,192
Total Revenue	\$2,886,091	\$2,783,086
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Children's Ministries	\$29,131	\$36,533
Christian Education	\$1,288	\$2,000
Fellowship and Support	\$36,825	\$43,800
Youth Ministry	\$5,377	\$15,000
Music Ministry	\$75,735	\$78,250
Liturgy	\$2,720	\$2,500
Outreach and Apportionment	\$543,209	\$561,644
Food Services	\$12,258	\$3,850
Promotional	\$41,654	\$34,410
Administration	\$81,957	\$83,300
Insurance	\$67,340	\$68,520
Salaries and Benefits	\$1,329,777	\$1,386,658
Parish House	\$433,420	\$444,429
Use of Facilities	\$13,195	\$12,500
Total Expenses	\$2,673,887	\$2,773,394
Total Revenue Over/(Under) Expenses	\$212,204	\$9,692

The Total Over/Under balance reflects strong December giving and careful financial management throughout this unprecedented year. Budget/Actual variances were due to lower expenses during construction and changes to programming due to the pandemic. your vestry approved the following allocation of the ending balance of \$212,204:

\$135,000 carried into the 2022 budget

\$15,000 added to community engagement/outreach

\$8,500 to a one-time staff bonus

The remaining overage will improve our cash flow during the summer months in 2022.

Thank you for your generosity and steadfastness!

## St. Mark's By The Numbers

Households at St. Marks	611
Sunday Worship Services	101
Average Sunday Attendance In-Person*	140
Average Sunday Attendance Online*	240
Daily Offices and Weekday Eucharists*	366
Baptisms	11
Confirmations*	0
Weddings	3
Burials	4
St. Cecilia Concerts	11

\* liturgical rhythms impacted by pandemic

*The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.*  
- Hymn 645

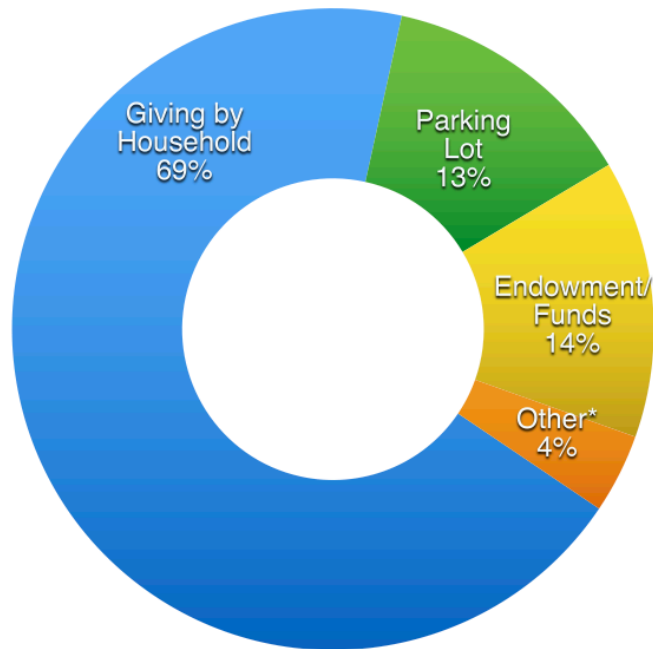
Our stewardship theme reminds us that we follow a Shepherd who has radical compassion for us when we feel lost.

Our Lord's love for us is so profound that he feels our aches; our suffering and pain are his. This means that all the challenges we are experiencing have grafted us only closer to Jesus, who loves us without condition.

What is our faithful response? Love for God. Love for neighbor as we love ourselves.

Our attentiveness to generosity is an intentional choice as a community to look for what is being abundantly placed before us, despite the challenges to our routines and ways of being the church.

## 2021 Actual Revenue



\* Weddings, columbarium, facility rental, and net income from previous year.

Average Pledge  
\$5,700

30% of Pledgers Give  
≥ \$5,000

Median Pledge  
\$3,000

First-Year Average  
\$1,500

### First-Time Pledgers

Making a first-year pledge of \$100/month or more will help you develop a deepening sense of gratitude and belonging.

### Renewing Pledgers

Prayerfully review the 3%, 5%, and 7% increases calculated for you on your pledge card. With this commitment from all pledgers, we will be well positioned to act on your commitment to ministry, outreach, and formation, while exploring a deeper connection with each other and our neighbors.

Pledge cards are available at the front desk and online at [stmarks-sa.org/give](https://stmarks-sa.org/give).

Contact Dina Aboul Saad ([dsaad@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:dsaad@stmarks-sa.org)) or Priscilla Briones ([pbriones@stmarks-sa.org](mailto:pbriones@stmarks-sa.org)), or call us at 210-226-2426 for information on pledging, scheduled giving, and giving by text.



# The Everett Jones Legacy Communion

is made up of parishioners who have designated St. Mark's in their estate documents or made lifetime gifts to the endowment. We are grateful to those who have already shared their intent with St. Mark's.

By sharing your thoughts and intentions, you allow the church to prepare for your community's future.

We invite the opportunity to share information about the management of and use of our endowment and other funds as you consider your giving plans.

Unrestricted gifts are most helpful to St. Mark's, enabling us to meet the needs of the church over time. By growing our endowment and preserving strong annual household giving, we will keep pace with the escalating fixed costs associated with ministering both inside and outside our walls.

If you have already included St. Mark's in your plans and have not

**14%** of our annual revenue comes from St. Mark's endowment and funds established by members.

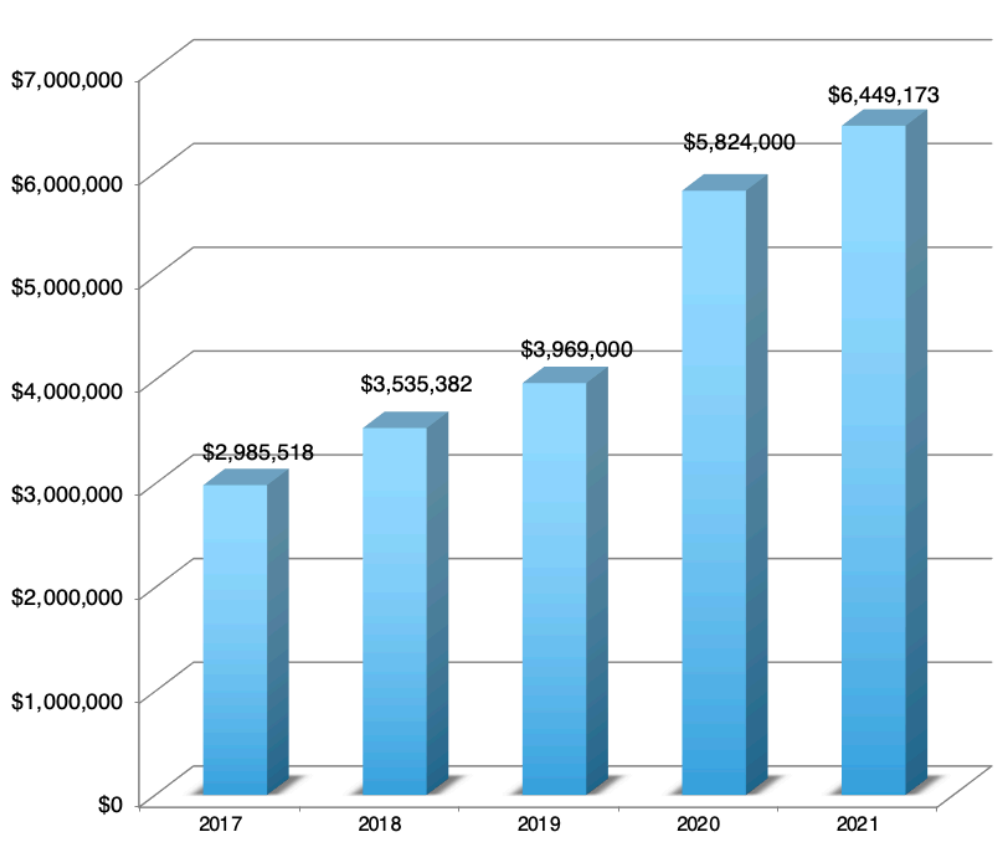
Lifetime gifts to St. Mark's endowment are needed to keep ministry on track.

yet notified us, please contact Dina Aboul Saad or clergy so that we may include you in the Legacy Communion.

## Healthy Endowment is Key

Our endowment ensures that we continue to thrive as a community.

Our endowment bridges the gap between annual giving and the funding needed to be creative and responsive to the needs of this congregation and to engage meaningfully with our neighbors.



## WAYS TO REMEMBER ST. MARK'S IN YOUR ESTATE PLANS

- Non-cash options: Name St. Mark's as a beneficiary of your will, bank account, 401K, or insurance policy
- In wills and trusts, consider indicating a percent of residuary assets as a legacy gift. This offers the benefit of adjusting your gift as your circumstances change over time without revisiting your estate documents.
- Use a Donor Advised Fund, Charitable Annuity, or other tool to meet tax and giving goals.
- Endow Your Pledge (annual pledge x 25 based on our 4% distribution rate).
- Consider an accelerated legacy gift now to maximize its impact for St. Mark's in the near term as well as the longer term.

*Thank you to all those who have named  
St. Mark's in their estate plans and informed  
the church.*

Margaret & Stephen Allison

Susan Bain

Elsbeth Blakeman\*

Beverly & Ken\* Bryars

Ruth Burink

Ruth & Richard Butler

Joyce & John\* Carothers

Betty Cavender

Kelly & Stephen Cavender

The Rev. Michael & Mrs. Paula Chalk

Pamela & Gary Chambers

Anna B. Coiner

Gillian Cook, O.P.

Kate Crone

Light Cummins\*

Barbara & Darin Digby

Michael Duffey

Mardi & Gordon Dunkley

The Rev. Mary & The Rev. Douglas Earle

Germaine & Charles Field

The Rt. Rev. James & Mrs. Sandy Folts

Marijane Gish

Virginia & Guy\* Halter

Madelyn Hauser\*

The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton

Allison Hays Lane

Billie\* & Robert LeClercq

The Rev. Dr. John Lewis

& Ms. Patricia Bridwell

Carolyn Lowery

Mary & John McClung

Carolyn & Jack Meyer

Marilyn Middleton\*

Sally & David Morgan\*

George Miller\*

Lillian Morris

Phillip Norman

Janice O'Brien

Dorothea Oppenheimer\*

Camilla & William\* Parker

Mary & Joseph Parker\*

Nancy Reed

Jeanne Reesman

Edwin Rieke

Susan Riordan

Emily & Harold Scott\*

Patsy Scott\*

Derek Shively

Betsy Simpson

George Hutchings Spencer, Sr.\*

Elsie Steg\*

Martha Steves

Antoinette Tiner\*

Leslie Todd



Jill & George Vassar

Adrianne & Michael Vaughn

Robin & Ralph Voight

Agatha & Charlie Wade

Barbara Ward

James Williams\*

Mollie & Henry\* Zachry

Holly & Brian Zook

*Thanks also to those who  
have shared their intent  
anonymously.*

\*Deceased

## ESTATE PLANNING HELP

Visit the Give page at [www.stmarks-sa.org](http://www.stmarks-sa.org) for a booklet designed to help you reflect on and collect your specific preferences related to your estate and financial affairs. Contact Dina Aboul Saad at the church to discuss your thoughts. Then consult with your certified financial planner or attorney. There are a variety of vehicles you can use to meet your philanthropic, tax planning, and estate planning goals to benefit St. Mark's.

## LANGUAGE FOR YOUR ESTATE PLANS

This guidance for naming St. Mark's Episcopal Church as a beneficiary of a bequest in a will or in a beneficiary designation is not intended to substitute for legal advice. It is intended to help you think about how you would like to specify your gift and provides a starting point for your financial or legal counsel.

"I give the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 315 E. Pecan Street, San Antonio, Texas."

"I give [my entire/\_\_\_% of my] residuary estate to St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 315 E. Pecan Street, San Antonio, Texas."





Brooks Englehardt  
Senior Warden



Laura Wickham  
Junior Warden



Emily Foster  
Class of 2021



Marisa Peterson  
Class of 2021



Trey Thompson  
Class of 2021



Chris Villa  
Class of 2021



David Byrd  
Class of 2022



Anne Schelleng  
Class of 2022



George Spencer  
Class of 2022



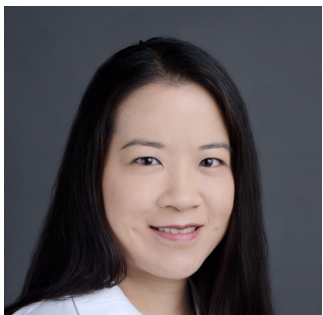
Lucy Wilson  
Class of 2022



Len Briley  
Class of 2023



Liz Casiano Evans  
Class of 2023



Cynthia Chi  
Class of 2023



Bill Fisher  
Class of 2023



Amy Phipps  
Class of 2023