The old saying goes: “Please pardon the dust” - while there are so many areas at Saint Mark’s where this applies this Fall.

This article will be devoted to showing you some of the completed projects—and some in progress. As I write this the pipes in the boiler room are being welded—so no pictures from there.

But the following are areas of rot in the exterior about to be replaced, a rotten interior beam coming out tomorrow, and the beautiful new “Underbury” created by Diane Hartney, Lynn Glandon, Leslie Winters, Bill Ryan, under the Canterbury Center—and made water resistant with a new sump pump installed by Dave Yeager.

It is amazing to think that these projects have been made possible by special gifts of both time and memorial funds. The Holy Spirit has been very busy in our midst!

Roof work is also underway, and we will restore the choir room as soon as that is complete. One casualty there is the humidity—NOT a leak—has cracked the sound board of the piano. Would anyone like to donate a baby grand Steinway or Baldwin to the church? Just thought I would ask…

Many thanks to our wardens, Dave Yeager, Colin Wheeler, and Bill Ryan for all their help in making all this work. More restorations will begin soon!

Enjoy the pictures (at least the nice ones) and hope to see you at a special event in the Underbury for our film series or at a Presidential Library Dinner soon!
I have been spending a lot of time lately thinking about unity, especially as we were collectively remembering the attacks on September 11, 2001. I heard multiple times from multiple people a desire to “go back” to the unity our country had on September 12 (obviously without another event like 9/11 precipitating it). The more I have thought about it, though, the less I think that kind of “unity” should be our goal. A large part of that feeling comes from reading our Catechism, which clearly lays out what our goal should be in this regard.

Q. What is the mission of the Church?
A. The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.

Q. How does the Church pursue its mission?
A. The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love.

Q. Through whom does the Church carry out its mission?
A. The church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members.

(Book of Common Prayer, p. 855)

Unity should be about a restoration of togetherness with our creator and one another, not to some idealized past and not to be against something or someone. That’s where my biggest hang up comes in relation to the “unity” we had on September 12, 2001. First, we were “united” in being against something/someone. Second, “we” were exclusive of people we perceived as being the enemy (even if they harbored no ill will toward “us”). Third, we were notoriously bad about identifying who or what we were against. What started out as being against the people who carried out the terrorist attacks and those who supported them quickly evolved into being against Muslims and again into being against all people who “looked” Muslim.

That’s the problem with being united against something. It is all too easy for the lines to blur and the “cause” to shift into something more insidious. When our focus has to do with being for something or someone, however, blurring the lines leads to us being even more inclusive in our endeavors. We find ourselves seeking justice for people we had not thought to before. We end up promoting peace in places we never would have imagined. We come to realize we are capable of loving much more than we ever thought possible.

That is what the mission of the Church is all about. Every time we come together in support of one another, we come one step closer to that Heavenly City where God calls us each to dwell in unity with our creator and one another. May God continually inspire us to be united in search of that Beloved Community.
New Choir Season Has Begun

The new choir season got off to a wonderful start on September 8, with both choirs present for Startup Sunday. During the service, we were pleased to commission Hannah M. and Alexander S. as Head Choristers of the Canterbury Choir for the upcoming season. Each choir offered an anthem at the service, and they joined together to sing the psalm in Anglican chant. It was a beautiful service, filled with inspiring music!

Both choirs are pleased to welcome new members at any time. Interested singers or parents are encouraged to contact Matthew Bester, Director of Music, at directorofmusic@saintmarkscolumbus.org.

Choral Evensong and Concert for All Saints’ Sunday on November 3

The Saint Mark’s Choir will join forces with the outstanding choir from First Congregational Church, Columbus, for a service of Solemn Choral Evensong for All Saints’ Sunday on Sunday, November 3, at 4 p.m. (organ voluntary beginning at 3:45). Music will include the Evening Service in A by Ohio native Stephen Caracciolo, Preces and Responses by Stephen Caracciolo, and anthems by William H. Harris and Charles Villiers Stanford. The service will be followed by a concert presentation of Ralph Vaughan Williams’s beautiful Mass in G Minor. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted in support of the Saint Mark’s Special Music Fund. A reception will follow. Be sure to invite some friends!

I hope that you will save the dates for the following special events later in the fall:

Choral Eucharist for the Feast of Christ the King
Sunday, November 24, 10:30 a.m.
Saint Mark’s Choir

A Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 8, 4 p.m.
Saint Mark’s Choir and Canterbury Choir
OUTREACH MINISTRY MEETINGS

The Outreach Ministry meets every second Sunday to discuss our ongoing projects, to consider new ideas to serve, and to be aware of our budget. Anyone and everyone in the congregation is welcome to attend—we meet in the Canterbury Center after the 10:30 Service. We seek to support local, regional, national, and international needs, and your input would be valuable.

CATCH COURT

We make and take lunch and stay for this Franklin County Rehabilitation Court every second Thursday of the month. The work that the previously trafficked, addicted, and prostituted women are doing to turn their lives around is awe-inspiring! If you wish to help or attend Court, please call or e-mail the office (614-486-9452 or OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org). Our next visit is October 10th.

UTO - TIME TO PICK UP YOUR UTO BOX

Follow your nose to the aroma of Bishop’s Blend Coffee and other goodies to the Parish Hall. Look for the United Thank Offering display - the one with the cornucopia - and pick up your offering box. Daily or frequently fill it with money as you thank God for your many blessings. Remember that this can be a family activity as well as for one person. The Ingathering of boxes will take place on Sunday, November 17th, when Saint Mark’s contributions will be added to those of the other parishes across the country to support programs for people in need.

NNEMAP

Golf Outing Fundraiser

We are excited that a group of supporters and golf enthusiasts have created a day of golf at the Pinnacle Golf Club, one of the finest courses in Central Ohio. Join us on Monday, September 30th at noon for an 18-hole scramble and dinner. We need foursomes and we need hole sponsorships which start at $250! Contact Roy Clark at director@nnemappantry.org.

Harmony For Hunger

We are set for Friday, November 15th at 7:30 for our next benefit concert to be held at Stonybrook United Methodist Church. Our featured talent will be the Columbus Children’s Choir. We have heard tremendous things from those who have heard them. We are very excited about this concert. Your Choir Directors have been contacted over the summer for possible participants in this years’ concert! And Macy’s is giving us $1500 worth of gift cards for those lucky attendees who purchase their gift bags! Tickets will be available at your churches and at the door!

Current Needs in the Pantry: Toilet paper, dog food, cat food, cereal, and peanut butter.
Note: Other hygiene items are always low! We always need dental items, razors, and shampoo. We can also use feminine hygiene items.
ST. JOHN’S DINNERS

Fall already? St John’s dinners are coming! Wednesday, October 23rd & November 6th! We are in need of workers who can help set up & prepare (4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.) and serve & clean up (6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.). Please contact the office if you can assist with these 2 dates! Thank you, Sally & Cullie Rechner

DONATIONS

Saint Mark’s has received thank-you notes from Habitat for Humanity, Women Affirming Women (Respite), and NNEMAP for donations of $1000 each from your Saint Mark’s Outreach Ministry. Brian Canavan from Habitat commented, "We are so thankful for the ongoing support you provide to help us achieve our vision of eliminating substandard housing in central Ohio, one family at a time." Judy Ketterer, of Respite, said, "We understand that by serving the women, we in turn are serving the entire community. There is a positive effect on their children, families, schools, churches, and communities." Roy Clark of NNEMAP, thanked us, and said, "We truly appreciate your recognizing the importance of helping the hungry and less fortunate members of our community."

LABOR DAY BAKE SALE

It certainly takes a village to accomplish a task. That was so evident in our annual Help Heal Hunger bake sale held on Labor Day. From stuffing bulletins, sweeping the walk, moving tables and chairs, baking, pricing, and putting up signs, selling, making our famous popcorn and giving out water the village was at work! It was an incredible experience to watch this unfold and come together. Together we raised $1315.00 for the NNEMAP food pantry! People were talking about the variety of baked goods and other goodies, the friendliness of everyone who greeted them and the beauty of our church. Labor Day the village was out in force and accomplished wonderful things. There is simply no way to name all the people who helped make the bake sale a success so we'll simply say thank you Saint Mark’s. Your village is a beautiful place to be! The Bake Sale Team

MCAFARRO, OHIO LAYETTE MINISTRY

This is our regional ministry to the poorest county in Ohio, Vinton County. For insight into some of the life there, read a novel called The Essay. In partnership with Trinity Episcopal Church in McArthur, we are helping to provide layettes to young families having their first babies. We will sponsor a McArthur Layette Shower on October 20 after church. See the insert for more information.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - 2019 BUILD IS UNDERWAY

The first volunteer build date was September 12th for a house in North Linden. This build is for Farhiyo Abdi and Abdirahman Guure and their 6 children: Mohamed, Fovuzi, Yonis, Yakub, Muna and Fartuun. There is also an event called Rock The Block on September 28th during which sponsoring organizations and homeowners in North Linden will work together to clean up the neighborhood. Activities usually include flower bed work, lawn mowing, trash pickup and minor repairs. If you are interested in volunteering or know someone who is, please contact John Fisher (614-306-8664).

WOMEN’S RESPITE

Many, many thanks to all of Saint Mark’s parishioners who packed Birthday bags, baked yummy desserts and to Marilyn Smith, Pat lams and Paula Abel who came to serve those desserts. And special thanks to Jim Keyes who came to the Shrine to take the group picture. It was great! We served a wonderful group of very appreciative women and we all enjoyed doing so. Thanks for helping to make the 2019 Women’s Respite a success. Anice Ellis

STREET CHURCH

Many thanks to the following parishioners who helped in cooking and serving at the September 29th Street Church. Dianne Silliman, Joyce Acton, Marilyn Karl, Anice Ellis, Marilyn Smith and Roberta Morton made chili. The Hauswirth Family (Wendy, David, Charlie and Kate), Maggie Grosso, Pam Thurston, Dan and Roberta Morton all helped to serve the chili meal at Broad and Central. If you are looking for a ministry that has a huge impact on the lives of individuals, please consider joining the Outreach Committee in it’s support of our next St. John’s Street Church commitment on Sunday, December 29, 2019. Please contact the office (614-486-9452 OR OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org) if you have any questions or want to volunteer.
SHINING OUR LIGHT IN AND AROUND SAINT MARK’S

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY DINNERS
On Wednesday, October 2nd, Saint Mark’s will resume hosting weekly dinners in the Parish Hall, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to join us for food, fellowship, formation, and fun!

BISHOP CURRY INVITES US TO JOIN HIM IN THE WAY OF LOVE
Bishop Curry will visit Wheeling, West Virginia on October 5, to carry his message of the Way of Love. As the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement, we follow the Way of Jesus. His way is the Way of Love, and that love has the power to change lives and change the world. How will you grow more centered in Jesus and share his loving, liberating, life-giving way in the world? All proceeds will go to charity. [https://bit.ly/2YxquZi](https://bit.ly/2YxquZi). Link to Bishop Curry’s Facebook post: [https://bit.ly/2MqfxJ9](https://bit.ly/2MqfxJ9).

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
Plan to bring your pets to the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, October 6th. This service helps commemorate St. Francis of Assisi and his love for all of God’s creatures.

FLOWER GUILD PRESENTS
THE BASICS OF FLOWER ARRANGING
Saint Mark’s Flower Guild is having an evening of the basics of flower arranging led by Cindy Anderson. This is meant as a refresher for flower guild members and instruction for our newer members. If any of you are interested in joining the flower guild and would like to attend, please speak to Diane Hartney. This event will be held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, October 15th at 7:00 p.m.

MEMORIAL GARDEN COMMEMORATION
A service to commemorate those saints whose ashes are interred in the Saint Mark’s Memorial Garden will be held Sunday, November 4, at 9 a.m. Everyone is invited to join the clergy in the Memorial Garden.

WELCOME KNITTERS
(AND OTHER NEEDLEWORK ENTHUSIASTS)
The Saint Mark’s Knitting Circle meets the first and third Thursday of each month in members’ homes. We meet from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM to work on prayer shawls, baptism blankets and lap blankets for church members and others in need. We are also knitting scarves, hats, and other warm apparel to distribute to the community in the fall and winter. We welcome knitters of all ability levels including beginners! Anyone who is interested in this ministry, please contact the office (614-486-9452 or OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org) for further info.

SAINT MARK’S MEMBER CARE
Saint Mark’s Member Care ministry provides meals to parishioners who are in need of some help due to illness, recovery, or other situations. If you or someone you know could use some help with meals, please contact the office (614-486-9452 or OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org). We have a team of parishioners who are happy to serve in this way.

We also have a New Baby ministry which provides a welcoming rose and muffins to families with a new baby in the house. If you know of a family with a new baby, please contact the office (614-486-9452 or OfficeManager@SaintMarksColumbus.org) with this information. In addition, if you are interested in helping with either meals or the new baby ministry, please speak to Regan Bohnert.
SHINING OUR LIGHT IN AND AROUND SAINT MARK’S

CHRISTIAN FORMATION:
Saint Mark’s full Christian formation schedule for all ages is, in addition to our usual offerings, excited to announce this year’s Special Enrichment Series:

“Monuments in Time: A Tour of America’s Presidential Libraries”

Over the last decade Paul St Germain has visited every official presidential library in America, and a number of historical sites related to our presidents. This series will document those visits, recall how the eras of the presidencies are represented and evolve—”the hidden lives of the libraries” - and tell some truly remarkable and unique stories. It has been written that these libraries hold the “modern day relics” of a “civil religion” in a period when traditional religious expression is in decline. They also celebrate and help us remember remarkable leadership amidst challenging times.

Over three sessions—and three dinners reflecting the favorite foods of our nation’s First Families— we will take a trip through the life of our national culture. The presentation: “Ohio: The State of Presidents” was introduced by Patricia Williamsen, Director of The Ohio Council on the Humanities.

October 13: “Washington to Johnson”
November 10: “Nixon to Bush”

Presented by The Rev. Dr. Paul St. Germain from 5:00 to 7:00 in Saint Mark’s Parish Hall. If you would like to bring a “First Family Favorite” dish (not required), suggested recipes will be available in the Parish Hall on the first of every month for the next dinner. Mark your calendars now—and bring a friend!

For more information visit: http://saintmarks columbus.org/adult-formation/

FROM THE MAIL BAG

Thank you for your generous donation of $265.00 to St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church for the Tornado Disaster Relief Fund. This donation will continue to assist our church in providing needed resources and supplies for our community members during this stressful time. The members, the Vestry, and I are genuinely appreciative and send along blessings and best wishes for the kindness that you have shown.

Cordially,
Father Bejamin E. K. Speare-Hardy II
Rector

Dear Paul,
Once again, thank you for including me in your program yesterday evening. I appreciate the opportunity to meet your congregants. And I so enjoyed your presentation. Although I’ve visited most of the Ohio presidential sites, I learned more from your experiences than from my own!

Thank you,
Pat Williamsen
Director of The Ohio Council on the Humanities
We are excited by this year’s stewardship theme, “Shining Our Light.” That theme, taken from the fifth chapter of Matthew’s Gospel, speaks to us as individuals and as a community of faith. Individually, each of us is called to make sure we are letting God’s light shine through our work, our friendships, our service and our giving. We are called to be light bearers. It is a powerful calling.

As a faith community, Saint Mark’s must shine the light of Christ through our worship, welcoming, pastoral care, and ministry to the wider community. How we use our time, talents, and treasure determines how brightly we are shining our light.

At Saint Mark’s, we are often blown away by the various ways members of our church keep their light shining brightly. Some of us make sure the snacks at the coffee hour are delicious and abundant. Others participate in our worship either by singing in the choir or assisting in the service. Still others prepare the worship space with flowers or altar vestments. Many of us also represent the church in our participation of various community service programs around Columbus and Central Ohio.

While during this pledge drive, each of us is asked to make a generous financial pledge for the coming year, we are also grateful for the many gifts of time, food, and skills from virtually every member of this church.

We hope you’ll join us as we work together to shine our light in church, in our community and in our lives.

Faithfully,

Jay Wilcox and Ellen German Berndt, Stewardship Campaign Co-Chairs
These days seem full of “not-kind situations”. Friction, conflicts, tensions, divisions, isolation, stress. Income differences, education levels, skin colors, cultures – it seems as if there is more that divides us than unites us.

It is heartening, on the other hand, to raise up Saint Mark’s Outreach as it seeks to respond to society’s challenges.

Here’s the list of activities: volunteering at NNEMAP food pantry, serving dinner at Saint John’s Church’s Street Church, the layette ministry at Trinity Church in McArthur, Ohio, serving lunches at CATCH Court, My Brother’s Closet, Freedom a La Cart, Habitat For Humanity, Immigration Ministries, She Has A Name, Women’s Respite, Sacred Conversations, Becoming Beloved Community, and ministries in Guatemala.

Monetary support goes to United Thank Offering, Episcopal Relief and Development, Presiding Bishop’s Fund, and Episcopal Community Services Foundation.

Of course, there are many more groups and programs in our community seeking to help.

Still, tensions and selfishness remain. And it seems as if such feelings, indeed, are escalating.

But, what if kindness were to become more of our way of going?

What if, as happened in Massachusetts for a three-year-old boy shut in his home with cancer, some friends took their guitars to his front yard and sang songs to him?

Then, what if that little boy’s community fire and police departments visited his home and let loose with their sirens?

And then, what if the town’s high school marching band stopped in front of his home and played school songs?

And what if we were to just smile at each other and say “hello”.

That would be putting kindness between our neighbors and us. And that is the start of loving our neighbors as ourselves.

A Note from the Treasurer

September 23, 2019

Fall is officially here, and that means the Stewardship campaign is just around the corner. I am sure many of you are interested in knowing about the financial health of Saint Mark’s. I am delighted to say that we are doing quite well. Below are a few comments about our finances.

Support from our members: Our support from members, both pledged and unpledged, is above budget and about $31,000 ahead of last year through the end of August. I anticipate that we will end up the year somewhere between $20,000 and $30,000 ahead of our budgeted donations from members.

Other income: The 2019 budget anticipated an additional $14,000 from the rent of our Redding Road house and from the Junior Explorers program for rental of the parish hall and classrooms. We are currently about $1,100 below budget for other income, but I expect we will finish the year right on target.

Expenses: Our year to date expenses are about $8,000 over budget. We are roughly $12,000 over budget due to increased facilities expense with virtually all other areas at or below budget. Facilities expenses are high due to a higher than anticipated increase in our janitorial expenses to keep up with the need created by the Junior Explorers, and significant building repair issues that will largely be reimbursed out of the funds received from the Muskoff estate. We have a long list of needed repairs, the majority of which will be funded from the $150,000 set aside for that purpose from that gift.

Summary: Overall, we are very blessed to have been able to increase our staff payroll by 3% this year and to have received a gift that will allow us to make critical repairs to our facilities. Our balance sheet is strong with no debt and adequate cash flow to meet our needs. We are truly blessed at Saint Mark’s!

Pledge statements: I plan to mail statements of donations and pledge status as of September 30th to all members before October 14th. Please review them and let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached by email at treasurer@SaintMarksColumbus.org

Blessings and Peace!
Phil Glandon
Treasurer
OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS
HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Birthdays are not included in Saint Mark’s online version of this publication to ensure privacy of our parishioners.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

We welcome the following into the Body of Christ through baptism:
Weston R., son of Tyler and Julie R., was baptized September 22, 2019. Welcome, Weston!

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER is a new printed project to enhance communication among parishioners. It comes from a long standing tradition in the Church of England where certain public records were officially recorded in the great ledgers of their parish church. You can sign up for weekly email updates about Saint Mark’s on our website www.saintmarkscolumbus.org, click on “Join Our Mailing List.”

PARISH RELATED NEWS

We celebrate the following good news:
Congratulations to Bill and Pat Train who will celebrate their 52nd anniversary on October 29, 2019! Many more wonderful years together!

Happy Birthday to Michael Ellis! Michael celebrated his 82nd birthday on September 24th. If you would like to send him a belated birthday card to let him know that you are thinking about him, please contact the office for his updated mailing address.

YOUTH

The Saint Mark’s Youth Group at a summer gathering.
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Click [HERE](#) to see the most up to date calendar
Part of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, Saint Mark’s held its first worship service in 1951 in a converted Methodist church in Grandview. Ground was broken in 1953 for the Parish Hall (now the Education Building) where services were held until the current Nave and Sanctuary was completed in 1958. Office space in an adjacent building was purchased in 1989. Major renovations of the entire facility occurred in 2004 and 2008 creating a campus today that empowers Christ’s ministry within and beyond our parish.
You Are Invited to a Baby Shower

For: The Layette Ministry for New Mothers in Appalachia that are in Need

Sponsored by: Outreach Ministry

When: October 20th after the 10:30 service

Where: Saint Mark’s Fellowship Hall

Bring: For the baby: Unwrapped new or gently used baby items such as clothes, books, toys, diapers, sheets, towels, blankets, pacifiers, diaper rash cream, shampoo, bathtubs or other layette items. For the mothers: toiletries for the mothers, nursing pads
Saint Mark’s Annual Special Formation Events:

A Film Series

Highlighting Upcoming Church Events and Discovering “Christ in Culture”

Celebrating Saint Mark’s new “Underbury Theatre” (below the Canterbury Center Conference Room)

Last Sunday of Every Month at 3:00. Popcorn!

October 27
Film: “Air Force One” starring Harrison Ford (rated R for violence)

November 24
Documentary: “In Their Own Words—the Life of Queen Elizabeth II”

December 29
Documentary: “The Queen’s Gardens”

January 26
Musical: Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

February 23
Film: “The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe” - based on the classic by C.S Lewis

March 29
Film: “The Return of the King” - part I—based on the classic by J.R.R. Tolkien

April 26
Film: “The Return of the King” - part II—based on the classic by J.R.R. Tolkien

May 31
Film: “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone” - based on the classic by J.K. Rowling