



## 2018 Parish Profile





*Mission: To know and celebrate God and to care for others in Christ's name*

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For additional information about St. Mark's parish life and operations, please see the Position Description Outline as posted with The Episcopal Diocese of Newark.

## **Who We Are**

Welcome to St. Mark's! We are a small and welcoming church in the heart of historic Mendham. We gather on Sunday to hear the word of God and relate this to our everyday lives and works, celebrating the Holy Eucharist in our historic church and through our familial spirit.

Membership seems to be equally divided among four areas – families with children, empty-nesters, seniors and singles. Each Sunday, following our service, the majority gather in the church hall for good food and conversation. Our respect for Anglican traditions is nurtured by several congregants from Great Britain, and we look out for each other not just when we come together to worship, but in everyday life and needs. Our community reflects the beauty and diversity of our ample space. We have a deep appreciation of our intimate, historic church; a large, comfortable church hall; a big, modern kitchen from which stems our hospitality; and several offices and classrooms which function as multi-purpose spaces. Next to the church is a large, historic restored rectory with a large fenced yard and plenty of space to garden.

Several years ago, in an effort to bring our parish community together for fellowship and informal learning opportunities, we began monthly suppers on the first Friday of the month, called Good Company. Parishioners who are able to provide a shared pot-luck style supper, which has evolved into culinary themes, and though we do not charge people to attend, there is a basket available for donations. In the past, our Rector has provided brief informal programs which have ranged from a Godly Play lesson, conversation questions for each table, watching a short video with a discussion following, Dwelling in the Word, and others. These evenings are very positively received, and give us the opportunity to gather and learn inter-generationally. We usually have about 20-25 people in attendance, and have also included sisters from the Community St. John Baptist and Grace Lutheran Church. In the future, our Envisioning Team plans to invite other groups or organizations from the Mendham community to join us as well.

For the past several years, we have enjoyed a collaborative partnership with Grace Lutheran Church in Mendham, with our relationship still evolving. We have shared services during Holy Week and also on low Sundays (Memorial/Labor Day Sundays). During the summers, St. Mark's hosts three "Evensong and Ice Cream" with the Pastor of Grace Lutheran participating and members of their congregation joining us. We have had children from St. Mark's play in Grace's bell choir, and other music ministry collaborations. In the summer of 2017 we experimented with having alternate services at each church, and in the fall received feedback from some members of St. Mark's that it was too much and several voiced discomfort with having St. Mark's doors closed when we worshipped at Grace. Many from St. Mark's enjoy the collaborative relationship, and others are not as enthusiastic. Yet, we do see this collaboration as important and hope to continue exploring how it can positively impact our church community.

Earlier this year we began participating into the diocesan Joining God in Shaping Our Future initiative, which is a first step in our realization that church going forward is very different than the church of the past. The work of this group is being done by a team that is comprised of Vestry members and congregants. In the recent past, much of the forward-thinking work has been done

by the Vestry, but we are now trying to convey an atmosphere that it is going to take everyone's involvement to keep St. Mark's at its best.

Children are a vital part of the culture at St. Mark's. We have about a dozen school-aged children, the largest group being teens. We offer a one-room schoolhouse approach to Sunday School, and at a parent meeting we had earlier this year, we said that we wanted to identify experiential opportunities for the youth, such as trips (CSJB Labyrinth, outdoor Stations of the Cross, Sight and Sound Theatre, etc.). We also try to focus on intergenerational opportunities, as our Good Company suppers are opportunities for all our people, no matter the age. Children are welcomed and appreciated, with kids also participating in our music ministry by playing an instrument. On Christmas Eve, our children and youth take the lead in all the lay rolls, and also share their musical talents as well.

Our dedication to coming together to receive and act upon the word of God is reflected in our ministry to each other and the greater community, with active outreach to our local food pantry, a local animal shelter, a special needs school, and support of wider initiatives within and beyond the Mendham-area. As we continue to evolve, we are open to new opportunities that allow us to nurture and grow St. Mark's and the ministries around us.



## What We Seek in Our Next Priest

Although lively and vibrant, St. Mark's is a small parish, with all the challenges - financial and otherwise - that this entails. In 2018, we have begun a process of defining who we are and what the future holds for St. Mark's. Primarily, we seek a priest-in-charge with the Spirit-led wisdom and energy to help guide this ongoing process of discerning our place in the wider spiritual and secular communities.

Our next priest should also have a warm and approachable personality and an extraverted style of ministry. St. Mark's is known for its radical hospitality, and we would like our new leader to nurture these gifts while displaying a passion for good company and the sharing of ourselves in community. Experience and comfort with all ages would be welcome, too, as ours is an age-diverse congregation, spanning toddlers to seniors and all generations in between!

From the pulpit, we are accustomed to preaching that is solidly grounded in the Scriptures, applying theology to modern times and to lessons for everyday life. Our next priest should have a broad

perspective on the issues of the day, while respecting the wide sweep of political opinion out in the pews.

Above all, we pray for a priest who immediately feels “at home” at St. Mark’s, in the same way that so many of our parishioners have down the years.

## About Mendham, New Jersey

St. Mark’s Church is located in the center of the historic district of Mendham, a suburban residential community thirty-five miles west of New York City in New Jersey’s north central Morris County. Mendham consists of two municipalities. The Borough is known for its rich historic charm and quaintness exemplified by noted landmarks such as the Phoenix House and the Black Horse Inn. The Township is more rural: streams thread through hilly landscapes of early houses and tree-lined roads. Each municipality has its own police, volunteer fire and first aid squad, elementary schools, library and recreational services.

The Mendhams measure twenty-four square miles with a combined population of eleven thousand, a figure that has risen greatly since World War II. While most of the residents live in single family homes, there is a three hundred unit town house complex, a thirty-five unit rent subsidized senior housing community and two clusters of affordable apartments. Several preschool programs, St. Joseph Roman Catholic School and Mendham High School draw from both municipalities, as well as Chester Borough and Township.

Six Protestant churches and St. Joseph’s Catholic Church are located in the Mendhams as well as two convents, the Episcopal Community of St. John Baptist and The Sisters of Christian Charity, Mallinckrodt Convent. Both communities offer directed retreats, spiritual programs and workshops throughout the year. The Mendham Interchurch Committee involves clergy and laity in joint outreach and inter-denominational worship.

Morris County abounds in educational, recreational and cultural opportunities for Mendham residents. Drew and Fairleigh Dickinson Universities are in nearby Madison while the County College of Morris and the Morris County School of Technology are just a few miles away. The Morris County Park Commission maintains over thirty parks and sites including golf courses, swimming and riding facilities. Jockey Hollow National Park has miles of wooded trails for hikers, cyclists and cross country skiers. The Morris Museum, the Mayo Performing Arts Center and the New Jersey Shakespeare Theatre head the list of numerous cultural treasures.

The Morristown National Historical Park commemorates the headquarters of George Washington and the encampment of the Continental Army during the winter of 1789-80. Mendham shares that history as has St. Mark’s Church during its one hundred and forty years on Main Street.

St. Mark’s Episcopal Church is located in the heart of Mendham Borough’s historic area, which features quaint antique stores, eateries and specialty shops. Many town events take place within walking distance from our doors, including summer concerts in the park, the annual Harvest Hustle community run and fundraiser for the public schools, Labor Day Parade and Carnival.

## Church History

The first services of St. Mark's were held in Mendham in 1867, officiated by the rector of St. Peter's Church in Morristown, the Rev. Robert W. Merritt. At that time Mendham was largely a summer colony for city dwellers vacationing near the hill-country lakes. The fledgling congregation met in various locations, frequently in the rooms of Mrs. Dodd's school, a building that stood on the site of the present church.

In 1870, The Rev. Edward Boggess, a circuit-riding priest, began renting the schoolrooms for church use. In 1871, an assisting theological student, Ethelbert Talbot, arranged for the school building to be moved to the adjoining lot, freeing the original site for our first church building. The school later became the town library and is now part of our parish hall.



The first St. Mark's Church was built in



1872, from original plans used fifty years earlier for the construction of Grace Church in Jersey City. St. Mark's Church is wood-framed in the Carpenter-Gothic style typical of the period, with board-and batten siding, simple but elegant leaded glass windows, and a quaint belfry—a small, boxy cupola rather than a steeple. For the most part the original church has been preserved, including the original windows.

The church has, however, been altered and enlarged from time to time. In 1926 the larger stained glass windows were added, incorporated well into the building. At Christmastide of 1944, the church and sacristy were damaged by fire. In the subsequent repairs rows of small dormer roof windows and a characteristic trim of gold stenciling on the interior sanctuary walls were lost. In the 1970's both the nave and the sanctuary were enlarged by lengthening the structure. An arched-groin chancel heightened the space above the altar, two sacristies were added, and the Lady Chapel was repositioned.

St. Mark's was a summer-only church, a mission of the Diocese of Newark, until 1908, and continued after that as a mission of the Diocese. On December 7, 1956, under the leadership of Father Elwood Boggess, St. Mark's became a parish church of the Diocese of Newark. The silver sanctuary lamp holder, located next to the reserve sacraments behind the altar, was given in memory of Fr. Boggess, in gratitude for his ministry at St. Mark's.

The Rev. Philip S. Watters began his ministry here in 1963, and in 1975 began improvements to the buildings, including the enlargement of the nave and sanctuary. The parish continued to grow under the leadership of The Rev. Carr Holland (1986-1995). During the tenure of The Rev. Scott Hoogerhyde (1995-2011), a major renovation of the parish hall took place allowing space for St. Mark's preschool and Sunday school. St. Mark's Preschool operated from 1998 to 2014, and it closed due to diminishing enrollment. The Rev. Shawn Carty (2014-2018) will be remembered for introducing the parish to intergenerational learning opportunities.

## Parish Facilities

St. Mark's complex consists of the church, the rectory, and St. Mary's Parish Hall. The buildings stand together on a parcel of land fronting on Main Street, in the center of the Mendham Historic District. All three are included in the listing of the district on the National Register of Historic Places and the New Jersey register as well. The church in particular is designated as one of the eight "key" buildings—out of 140—to be recognized in the register.

The church has permanent pews for approximately one hundred worshippers and temporary seating for an additional twenty-five. Though a loft above the entry can accommodate a choir of ten, the choir is positioned around the piano in the sanctuary. A new-to-us organ, donated by Mrs. Ingrid Williams, was installed and dedicated in 2013.

Adjoining the church are the Lady Chapel, sacristy, vesting room, and meeting room. The church has three entrances accessible by stairs, one entrance at ground level, and an elevator from the ground-level atrium to the narthex. The atrium provides an architectural transition between the old church and the new parish hall.

Illumined by multiple windows, the atrium opens onto the front and back gardens, and is an ideal crossing to welcome those arriving for worship.

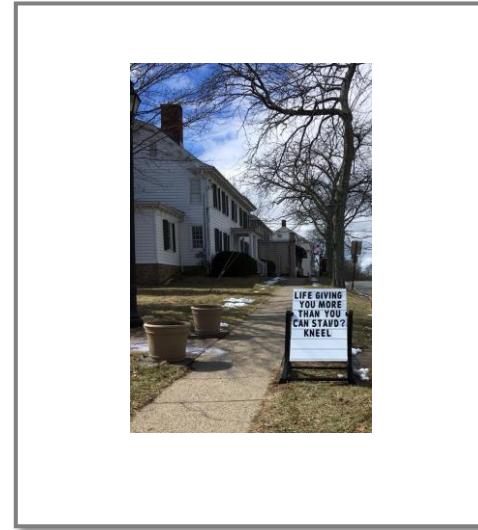
The Main Street entrance to St. Mary's parish hall is through the historical Mrs. Dodd's Schoolhouse. The parish hall includes a large multipurpose room with an adjacent kitchen. Five sunny and well-equipped classrooms and two lavatories provide ample space on the ground floor. There is one office on this floor, most recently being utilized by our Rector, and one of the classrooms is currently being used by our parish



administrator and as a meeting room. Upstairs are two more offices and a lavatory; one of the offices is currently being rented by a counselor and the other has been used by parishioners in need of office space. The parish hall provides a well-lighted space for Sunday's coffee hour, potluck suppers, meetings, and events. Various organizations in Mendham, including Alcoholics Anonymous, a local dance school, Girl Scouts, meet in the parish hall. We are currently exploring rental and other opportunities to maximize utilization of our abundant space.

St. Mark's rectory is described in the Borough's records as "the best preserved example of late Federal architectural style in the History District." The house's central portion has a large entry hall, two parlors, a dining room, and a small study with bathroom. Both parlors have wood-burning fireplaces, in working order. Upstairs are four bedrooms with one and a half baths. The rectory's "keeping room" wing dates from around 1800. It includes a kitchen that has its original cooking hearth and back stairs that lead up to a fifth bedroom. Enlarged in the mid-twentieth century, the kitchen has been recently updated.

The center hall and the kitchen open onto a deck, looking out over a large lawn and the church. The gardens of both the rectory and the church are well tended, with mature trees, shrubs, and flower borders. Between the rectory and the church is private parking for the rector's use, and there is an ample backyard. The front lawn of St. Mark's is graced by its traditional copper beech tree, roses and rhododendrons, and two memorials given by parishioners: a tree and a statue of the Blessed Mother. The Memorial Garden, dedicated in 2011, is in the back garden, overlooked by the Lady Chapel. Also at the rear of the church is a large fenced playground for the children of the church school.



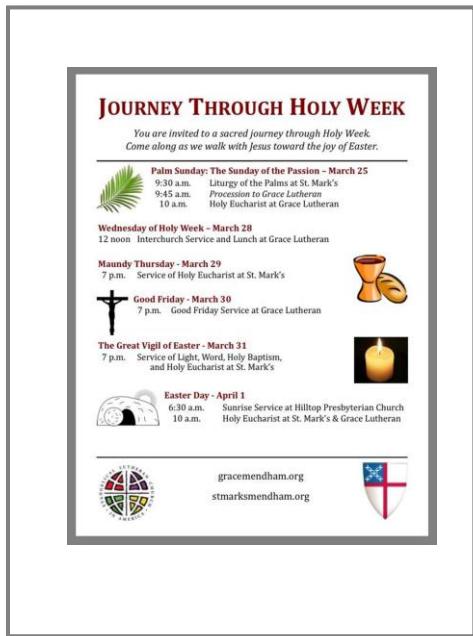
## Worship



The life and ministry of St. Mark's springs from the worship of God as known to us in Jesus Christ. As we come together in the reverent beauty of the liturgy, we find inspiration, community, and strength to bear witness to the Gospel in daily life and to serve our neighbors wherever we can.

In the Anglican tradition, we seek to preserve the best of Catholic and Reformed worship as found in *The Book of Common Prayer*. The recent history of the parish has included an emphasis on Anglo-Catholic, “high-church,” practice: ceremony, vestments, incense, etc. More recently, our worship has moved toward what is known as “broad church,” a way of worship that accommodates those high-church elements while tending toward a balance of Word and Sacrament, the simplicity of prayer, congregational hymns, and an emphasis on preaching.

Members of the congregation serve in leading our worship each Sunday. Parishioners of all ages take part in the liturgy as acolytes, Eucharistic ministers, lectors, greeters, and ushers. We have a small choir of women, and expect to search for a new organist in August 2018. Singing hymns is an important part of our worship. To support this, and through the generosity of an in-kind gift by Mrs. Ingrid Williams, the congregation dedicated a new-to-us organ in 2013. We also have a grand piano in the sanctuary as well as two pianos in the classrooms. Our youth who play instruments often accompany the choir.



There is one Sunday, Holy Eucharist at 10 (Rite II), and Morning Prayer on Thursdays during the program year. Following the calendar of the church year, we keep not only the holy days at Advent/Christmas and Holy Week/Eastertide, but also such occasions as St. Mark’s Day, All Saints’ Day as well as the annual Blessing of the Animals. The Stations of the Cross are in the Church, and a labyrinth is nearby, at the Convent of St. John Baptist, also on Main Street in Mendham.

We are open to new ways of celebrating God and our community, and in recent years have enjoyed offering “Evensong and Ice Cream” during the summer months and an annual Blessing of the Animals. As a community we are open to explore new and different ways to be church, and have enjoyed a collaborative relationship with Grace Lutheran Church in Mendham, especially with shared services during Holy Week and Christmas.

St. Mark’s Altar Guild provides for our worship, preparing the altar for each service and working with the Rector in support of our liturgical life. A member of the Vestry has responsibility for worship. In the past there has been an active worship committee to assist the Rector in planning for the days and seasons. The Church itself, a place of serenity and beauty, with wonderful acoustics, is a great asset as we gather for the most important thing we do, to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

## St. Mark's Christian Community

St. Mark's is a community of devoted and caring people who worship together, help each other in time of need and enjoy getting together for fun and fellowship. Our congregation currently numbers 143 (from the 2017 Parochial Report). There are 20 pledging households (up from 11 in 2011) giving \$115,768, and in 2017 the Average Sunday Attendance was 44. In the past several years we have had more congregants relocate from the area than we have had new people join us in serving God and each other. We seem to have an equal amount of congregants from the following four categories – families with children, empty-nesters, singles, and seniors.

The people of St. Mark's are given to hospitality, and derive strength from actively living out a life of Christian Community. The social coffee hour on Sunday is a weekly event, with excellent food and lively conversation. We've been told that no one offers a better spread for coffee hour than the people of St. Mark's, and that shows with our active attendance. Members of St. Mark's enjoy

being together. Parish events which include our monthly Good Company suppers and social events are well attended, and a first-time wine-tasting event is being planned for the fall of 2018 to help draw new people into our parish hall. During the annual Labor Day Parade, we offer hospitality and refreshments to the parade-goers. A sandwich board with weekly inspirational or invitational messages sits attractively on our Main Street front lawn. In the recent past, we've held an annual Chili Cook Off, and in the Summer of 2016, the parishioners helped celebrate the nuptials of two of our members by offering their wedding guests abundant hors d'oeuvres following the church ceremony and before the reception.



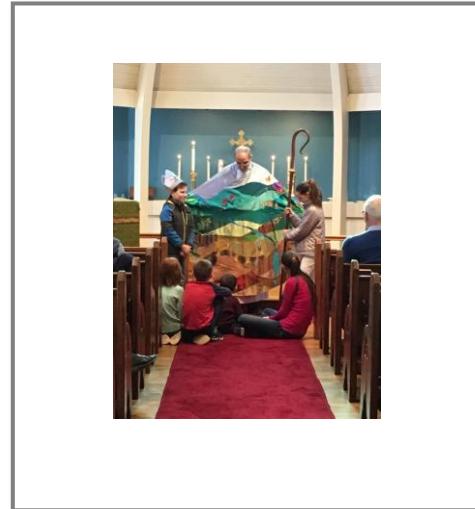
We have an active Envisioning Team that is working on opportunities for St. Mark's to have more personality in the community, and members of this team are also participating in the diocesan *Joining God in Shaping our Future* process.

In its inaugural year, the Envisioning Team is ramping up our presence at the annual Labor Day Parade, hosting a water station at Mendham's Harvest Hustle, giving more structure and purpose to our already well-attended monthly Good Company suppers, and is helping organize a wine-tasting event for the Fall of 2018. For the *Joining God in Shaping Our Future* process, members of the committee are interviewing parishioners and inviting feedback to help guide St. Mark's next steps as a community.

St. Mark's commitment to outreach and support to Mendham and the surrounding area over the past 5 years includes – two outreach ministries (Interfaith Food Pantry, Randolph Animal Shelter), and two ministries to strengthen our worshipping community (altar flower program and The Lion newsletter). We also remain active in our support to the Community Soup Kitchen in Morristown.

Mendham is nestled between Randolph, Morristown and Chester, and a number of families live in Randolph and Chester. In Randolph, there is no Episcopal Church in this community of 25,000, and for most of the population St. Mark's is the closest Episcopal parish. There are at least six Episcopal churches in the immediate area, and St. Mark's could be a logical choice for people in Randolph.

This is a busy and energetic congregation. Most of the parishioners are employed, and many have children in school who are involved in athletic and community activities of the town and its surroundings. Parishioners not only commute to work in northern New Jersey and New York, but several travel out of the country on business. The people of St. Mark's take in the cultural offerings of the metropolitan area, and there is considerable travel around the country and abroad. As our congregation politically is comprised of equally passionate conservatives and liberals, we go out of our way to avoid conversations of political nature. Though the congregation has declined in number, it is clear that a dedicated and able core remains. The Vestry of eight men and women are devoted and competent, and our long-time parish administrator staff is committed to help. There is a consistent spirit of cooperation among the leadership, backed up by a congregation that exhibits unity. This is palpable on Sunday morning, as people gather joyfully, sing lustily, and listen attentively for the Word of God.



## **St. Mark's Church School, Childcare and Adult Education**

The mission statement of the Church School is: Joining hands and hearts in the spirit of Christian unity through study, celebration, friendship and outreach. We are the Church together, and together we can inspire our children to embrace the lessons of God's love and peace.

Kids are welcome at St. Mark's and we do well in nurturing their talents. We have a strong tradition of encouraging children in all that we do and offer at St. Mark's, giving them an opportunity to grow. We are transitioning leadership of our Church School and involving our older youth to help in the planning and leadership of a one-room schoolhouse program that centers on prayer, bible stories, service projects and serving during our Holy Eucharist. We have had a core group of 10 children who consistently attend, though it is uncommon to have all 10 at one time. Earlier this year, the parents of the Church School children met to talk about offering experiential opportunities and intergenerational faith formation opportunities, as we feel the traditional Church School on Sundays models is evolving.

In 2017, one of our very active youth members was sent-off by the congregation as she began her college studies. Upon her arrival in her new collegiate city, this young woman immediately sought out an Episcopal church and joined its choir. The strength of our Church School and opportunities for youth within our congregation is evident in the role of children in our worship. It has often been noted that many of our children motivate their families to be active in St. Mark's. Children and youth are active in Sunday Services and especially the Christmas Eve Service.

In addition to Christian education for our children, both our former Rector and The Rev. Sister Barbara Jean of The Community of St. John Baptist have recently conducted confirmation classes. In April 2017, St. Mark's was pleased to add five new confirmands to our parish (4 youth and 1 adult), and welcome their active role in our congregation.

St. Mark's provides childcare during the 10:00 AM service from September through early June for the youngest members of our congregation. A high school student who is a church member oversees the scheduling of teens providing childcare.

St. Mark's has a strong tradition of providing opportunity for adults to explore their faith and deepen their relationship with God and one another. During the past four years, this opportunity has been realized through a series of conversations held between 9 and 10 AM every Sunday. Each series explored a specific theme--such as the interpretation of a book of the Bible, the role of art as a form of religious expression, a non-Christian view of Jesus, the relationship between science and religion--guided by readings agreed to by the participants. The conversations were most often moderated by the Rector, but each participant played a strong role in setting the direction of the discussions.



## Historical Building



In 2016 St. Mark's applied for and received a grant from Morris County Preservation Fund Trust for a historic preservation study of our buildings. The Morris County Freeholders approved the funding for \$29,000 and St. Mark's provided the remaining 20% to the consulting firm Dennis Bertland Associates who performed the historical study. The plan details how the building could be responsibly restored. In the past year, the State of New Jersey deemed public funds of religious buildings as unconstitutional and the matter is currently in the appeal process.

## **Former St. Mark's Preschool**

St. Mark's Preschool operated for 15 program years between 1998 and 2014. The Preschool closed in 2014 due to a decline in enrollment which made it impossible to run without a deficit.

## **Current Outreach**

*The Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown*

*Crop Walk for World Hunger*

*Interfaith Food Pantry*

*Animal Welfare (collect pet food and supplies for Randolph Animal Shelter)*

*Sponsorship of the Mendham annual Harvest Hustle*

*Interfaith of Mendham Community Outreach*

*Support to missions in Africa and the Good Shepherd orphanage*

*Matheny School and Hospital*

St. Mark's is active in outreach for a parish of its size with a large portion of the congregation participating in some aspect of outreach. There are three main branches to our outreach. The first and most important are the local food based projects. The second group could be considered monetary based projects and the third is the group involvement community focused projects.

The food projects reflect our knowledge that even in the 21<sup>st</sup> century there are people who do not have enough to eat. The Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown is located in the larger city next door to Mendham. It serves over 75,000 meals a year. Parishioners are able to help in three ways: they can serve food where they are able to meet and talk with the guests, they can work in the kitchen (after they have taken a short food handling course), or they can participate in the Hunger Walk where participants get sponsors and then walk a 5k. We also collect food for the Interfaith Food Panty in Randolph and for the Randolph Animal Shelter. Our goal is to donate 100 pounds of food a month or 1,200 pounds annually.

One of the monetarily focused projects is support for the Convent St John Baptist, the Episcopal convent 2 miles west of our church. Many members of St Mark's are Associate Members of the convent. We also help support the Good Sheppard Home in Cameroon Africa, an important ministry also supported by the convent. It is an orphanage and school that houses and educates over 150 children. It has been recognize by the Government as one of the most outstanding orphanages in the country. In addition to our support from the congregation as a whole, individual parishioner support students, a member serves on their board, and members have traveled to the site to do work projects.

The final area of focus for our projects is where we can combine church fellowship and outreach. This fall we will be offering free coffee and scones at the annual Labor Day parade which passes in front of the church. We have St. Marks branded shirts and hats that parishioners will be wearing while serving. The shirts and hats will be put back to use 4 weeks later when we will be manning a water station at the Harvest Hustle, a 5K race in town, and we will also have a booth in the finishing

area that will welcome and invite athletes and spectators to learn more about St. Marks and its work in the Mendham community.

The Matheny Hospital and School outreach project is co-sponsored with St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Gladstone. The Matheny School is for children and adults with medically complex developmental disabilities. On the third Tuesday of each month we co-lead a worship service on site. Participants and parishioners leave refreshed. It is definitely one of the most spiritually rewarding services in which you will ever have the chance to take actively participate. We also have developed a close relationship with Grace Lutheran church in Mendham. It started with shared services during Holy Week, as well as, our monthly evensong and ice cream services during the summer months. There is the potential for more outreach to the community events if we can partner with the larger Grace Lutheran congregation.

We continue to look for community partners to use or rent our space, not only as an alternative source of income for St. Mark's, but also to invite people to appreciate and pique curiosity about our ample and exceptional space. Currently we host a weekly AA meeting, and monthly tenants include a counselor and an Irish dance school.

St. Mark's active outreach programs offer something for everyone, and we are always open to trying new things.

## **Finances**

The income for St. Mark's operating expenses is derived primarily from pledge income as a result of the Every Member Canvas each fall. Full financial data are available to candidates who interview with St. Mark's Church.

### **2018**

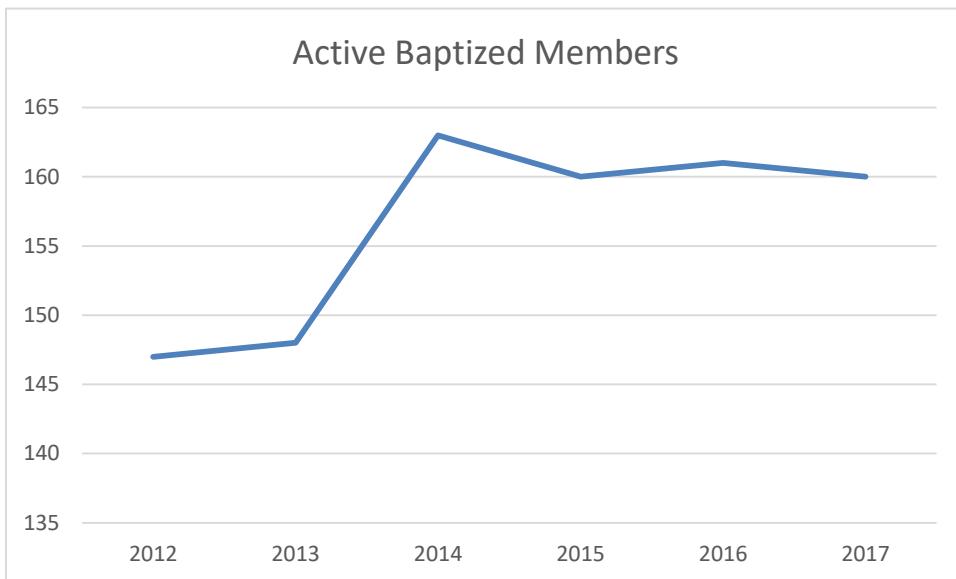
20 pledging units  
Total amount pledged \$ 115,768

### **2017**

29 pledging units  
Total amount pledged \$ 111,414  
Amount received \$ 113,602

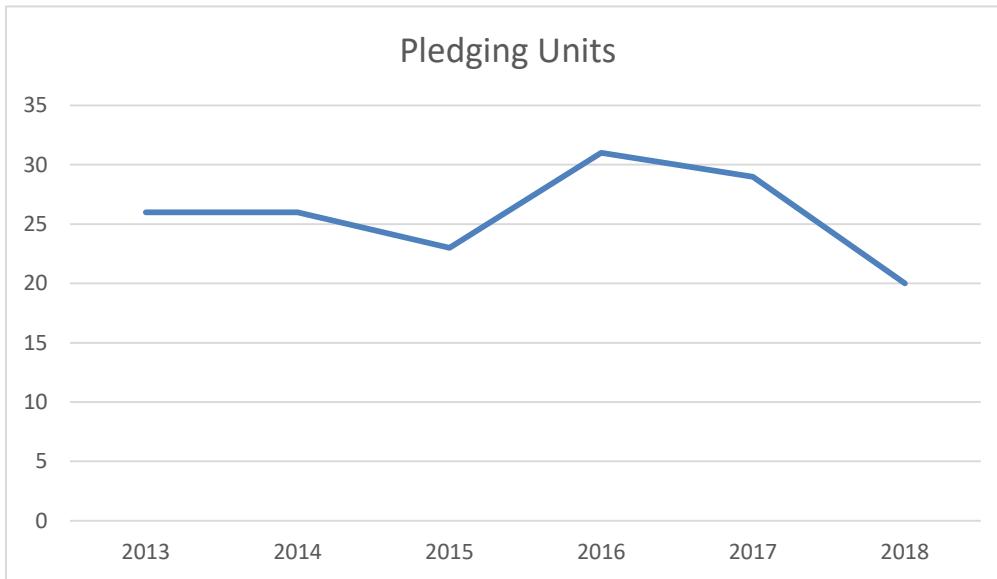
## **Summary of Membership and Finances: 2013 - 2018**

The number of active baptized members of St. Mark's at the end of each calendar year is shown in the graph below.



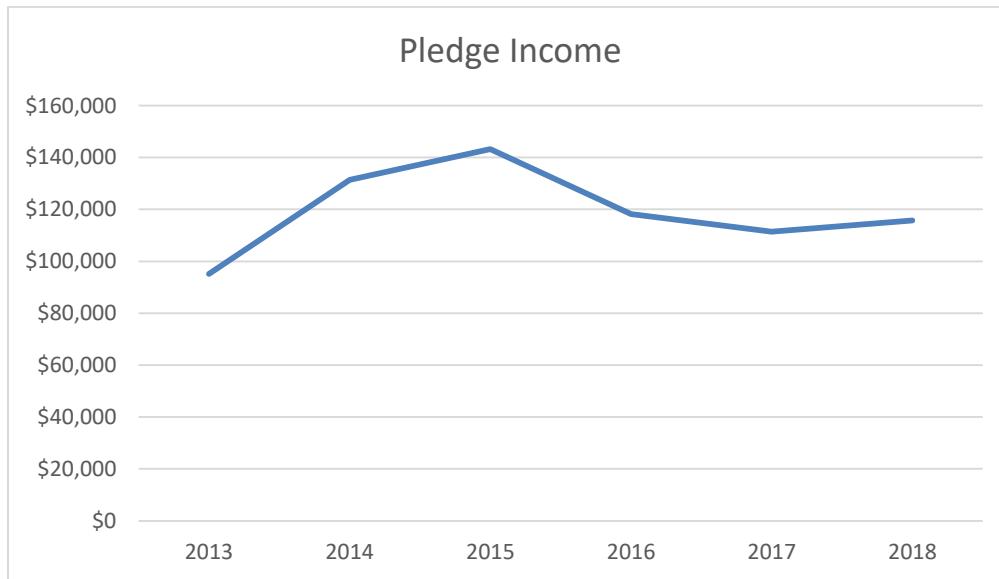
Membership grew slightly (from 148 to 163) during the year that Father Carty became rector and has been stable at approximately 160 for the last four years.

The number of pledging units within the parish has also varied within a narrow range (20-30) during the past five years. The most notable change has been the reduction in pledging units from 29 in 2017 to 20 in 2018. This is primarily due to active members and families who have moved away

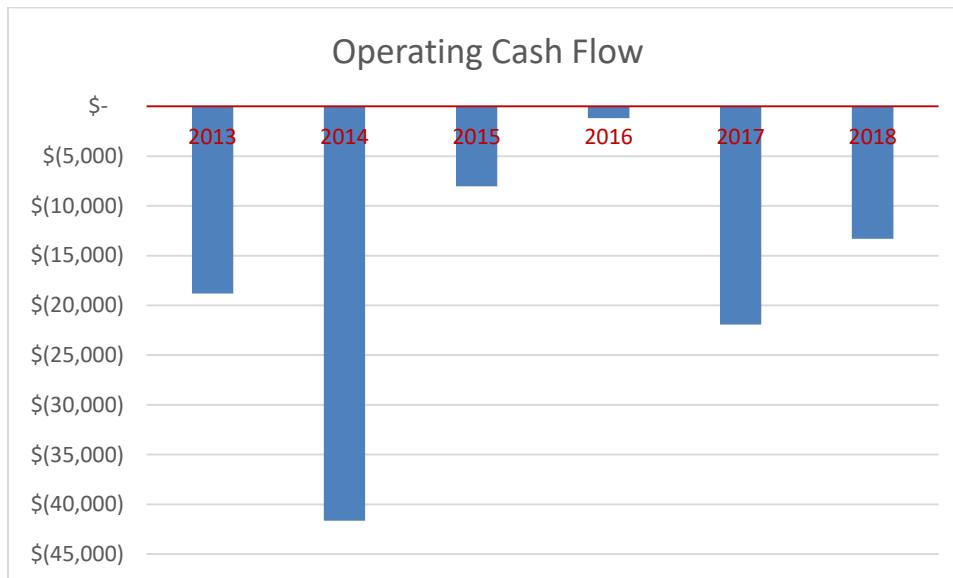


from Mendham and loss of pledges from individuals who attend services infrequently.

Pledge income has also been relatively consistent over the past five years. Its variations do not correlate with changes in the number of pledging units, primarily because the majority of pledge income is provided by a core group of pledging units that has remained constant during the last five years.



The most challenging aspect of our financial history is that our expenses have exceeded our income in each of the past five years and is projected to do so again in 2018.



There are generally clear reasons for the variations in cash flow (one-time costs associated with calling a new rector in 2014; need to bring the rector's housing equity allowance current for 2014-2017 in 2017). However, a significant underlying challenge for cash flow is that the cost of utilities

and other maintenance for our facilities is quite high, particularly considering our membership level and number of pledging units. Further, at the current time, the facilities are mostly unused by guests during the week and generate little income for the parish.

Because of the negative operating cash flow during this period, the parish has needed to expend a large fraction of its cash assets. At the end of 2018, we anticipate that the parish will have approximately \$65,000 to \$70,000 remaining in available cash assets.

## **Church Leadership**

Supply Clergy is The Rev. Sister Barbara Jean Packer, CSJB; she is also St. Mark's Priest Associate.

### **Staff**

Parish administrator- Elizabeth Scharfenberg Smith  
Office hours: Tuesdays, Wednesday, Thursdays 11am-2pm  
Organist- Tiffany Chung through mid-August

### **Vestry**

Karen Cerreta, Senior Warden  
Doug Pryblowski, Junior Warden  
Sarah Triblehorn and Doug Hager, Treasurer (Doug to succeed Sarah in August 2018)  
Matt Potter, Clerk  
Alexander Kraus  
Jim Laughlin  
Claire Bryan, Youth Representative

### **Additional lay leadership positions:**

Maddie Adinolfi, Claire Bryan, Alexandra Klotz – youth leaders of “The Pride of St. Mark’s” (Church School)  
Kathy Bryan and Jim Laughlin – Sunshine Committee  
Lynda Condie – liaison for Music Ministry  
Jonathan Dohnalek- liaison for Interfaith Food Pantry  
Gay Grier- liaison for Community Soup Kitchen  
Mary Hager – Envisioning Team Leader / Joining God in Shaping Our Future  
Matt Potter – editor of The Lion Newsletter  
Don Martin – coordinator of Coffee Hour  
Julie Maurer – Acolytes, Wine Tasting Event

Summer 2018