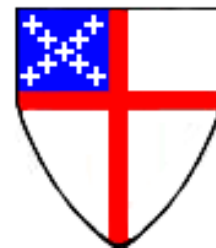




# Saint Mark's Messenger

Beaver Dam, WI    Maison Yaroch, Newsletter Editor    December 2022



Fr. Mike Tess, Rector

[frmiketess@gmail.com](mailto:frmiketess@gmail.com) | 608-354-2866

Blessed Advent and Merry Christmas to you St. Mark's!

This is the last Lion's Wing of 2022! The year has flown by and I am so very much looking forward to this Advent and Christmas with you. Advent is a special time in the church year when we prepare for the birth of Christ, and it's a time slow down a little when given the chance to reflect, pray, and prepare.

With family expectations, Christmas concerts, and other gatherings making us feel even more spread thin, this may seem impossible. I am not asking us to do tons more, nor am I asking us to cut out a bunch to make time for reflections. I am suggesting that we take small sips from the cup. A quiet moment, a short break, where you offer a prayer or a verse from scripture. Maybe in the morning or before you end your day, to keep you going or to allow you to stop, breathe, and rest.

There will be several opportunities this Advent to help with our preparation for the birth of Christ the King. Such as:

1. **Advent Stations:** We will be again doing the Advent stations of the cross on Wednesdays during Advent with a brief Eucharist. On Thursdays, we will be having soup and bread starting at 6 p.m. If you are willing to provide the soup and or the bread, please sign up in the Narthex. This will be followed by a discussion about the Living Compass Advent study.
2. **Nativity:** We will also have our new Nativity set which will be out off the circle drive in front of church this Advent through the Christmas season.
3. **Special Services:** Our Christmas Eve service will be at 7pm on Saturday December 24 and we will have Christmas Day service on Sunday at 9 a.m.

I believe if we focus our hearts during Advent, it makes Christmas even more powerful.

God bless your Advent and Christmas and I look forward to journeying into the new year with you!

- Fr. Mike



**Church Phone: 920-356-5132**

**Facebook: [St. Mark's Episcopal Church | Beaver Dam WI](#) | [Facebook](#)**

**Instagram: [St. Mark's Episcopal Church \(@stmarksbeaverdam\)](#)**

## **Christmas Stocking Project**

These are some of the Christmas stockings we create here at St. Mark's. Each one is made according to the buyers wishes, such as color palette, sports interests, jobs, hobbies, etc. What makes each one unique are the jewelry additions. There are lots of beads and sequins but it's the jewelry that can't be duplicated. If you're doing spring cleaning this year and run across broken bracelets or a lost earring or things you no longer want would you consider donating them to the stocking project? We have been doing these since the 1940's and haven't duplicated one yet. You can talk to Linda Zamzow or Jody Langfeldt about it. you! ~**Linda Zamzow**



We will again be hosting a Christmas cookie walk at St. Mark's. The difference between a cookie walk and a cookie sale is the presentation. At our cookie walk customers are presented with a box and a glove. As they walk around the banquet tables in the fireside room they are able to choose whatever cookies they want. Once their box is full it is brought to the counter and weighed. The price and their name is written on the box by the weighers. After they have filled as many boxes as they want, they take their already priced boxes to the cashier and make payment.

A few details that make this sale so successful are: we collect your cookies on Friday and put them out on the trays so all that needs to be done on Saturday is to remove the covers. We put the boxes together on Friday so no one has to wait for a new box on Saturday morning. If needed, we assign a parishioner to walk with a customer to hold a box for them. We have people available to help carry boxes to cars. We have music for the early birds. All of this takes many hands to put together and we hope there will be many from St. Mark's willing to work together to make it a big success. Another upside is that this is a fast fundraiser. The customers are in and out in one hour and after cleaning and putting tables back in place we too are done by around 10 am. If you can get into the church you can bring cookies a day or so earlier. Someone will be at church on Friday to collect your cookies between 9am and 5pm. The church will also be open on Wednesday and Thursday evening for services if that is more convenient. On Saturday December 10, we arrive at church at 7am to finish setting up, and open the doors for the early arrivals. Kevin Luebke has graciously offered to come at that time to play violin music for those waiting in the narthex. I am coming at that time just to hear him play.

Remember that the theme we use for this sale is, "the more we bake, the more we make". If you need help with purchasing supplies you can talk to Fr. Mike about a gift card. Please help make this a GREAT cookie walk.

~ **Linda Zamzow**

## Prayer Requests

Prayer requests for the Saint Mark's Prayer Chain can be made to Vanda Wiegert at [invanda.w@gmail.com](mailto:invanda.w@gmail.com). Please keep her updated as to when they can come off the prayer chain.

**We ask for prayers of comfort, healing, and strength for:** Cori & David, Lila & Dwayne, Marsha, Doris & Jan, Steve, Derek, Cheryl, Pattie, Sandy, Linda, Marie, Rod, Brett, Erin, Debbie, Larry, Paula, Jack, Jody and her dog Oscar, Ben, Mandy, Charley, Jim & Ann, Clayton & Nancy, and the Harmon family

We especially remember Ozzie, a friend of the Ellis family, who passed last week

**Our Men & Women in Service:** Dennis Adams, John Bahler, Barry Hilbert, Matt Hoffman (deployed), Joshua Kent, Anthony Kuenzi, Brian Lampert (deployed), Christopher Schoebel, Jon Weirough, Noah Hornbacher, Nick Bures, Robbie Mantle, and Trevor.



### SSS is coming!! This will be the Advent Soup Supper and Study

Our Advent Study will be using the Living Compass booklet. The theme for the 2022 Advent season is ***Practicing Simplicity with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind.***

Life and ministry can be incredibly complex. Our prayer this Advent is that we all benefit from slowing down enough that we are able to reflect on how we can listen to the Spirit's invitation to practice simplicity.

The Living Compass booklets are here and available for pick up on the Narthex Table. This year's Advent Study will be held on

**Thursday Evenings** beginning with a simple soup and bread supper @ **6:30 pm** in the Fireside Room. We will then move up to the Narthex for a discussion of each week's readings. We hope you will be able to join us!

Living Compass is offering weekly 60-minute sessions during the four weeks of Advent at two different times. Please feel free to join as many as your schedule allows. See below for dates, days and times. Once you register, we will send you a Zoom link via email. We hope you will be able to join us!

- WED at 10-11:00 am CST - Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21
- THURS at 7-8:00 pm CST - Dec. 1, 8, 15 & 22

### [Register for Advent Reflection & Conversation](#)

If joining us for Soup Supper at St. Mark's please be sure to sign up for a week to bring soup (two or more may prepare soup for each session). The cooks will need to know how many to prepare soup for!!

~ Submitted by Joann Ellis



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS, BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES, AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

*DID I MISS ANYONE?? please let us know by emailing (office@stmark-beaverdam.org). If your Birthday, Baptismal Anniversary or Wedding Anniversary is not listed, if your name is spelled in-correctly, or your special day is missing HELP US*

### **Birthdays**

7 – Sue Kuhn  
9 – James Merrill Jr.  
10 – Sophia Wesener  
11 – Bambi Tischer  
15 – David Nehls  
20 – Bruce Strieff  
22 – Holly Strieff  
27 – Deb Jenson, Barbara Panzer

### **Baptismal Anniversaries**

5 – Summer Helmer  
20 – Bob Zamzow  
24 – Carter Scott Beaudry Merwin  
27 – Bambi Tischer

### **Wedding Anniversaries**

21 – Julie Sherwood & Amy Diebaren

### **Your Music Committee Joann Ellis and Ken Peters**

St. Mark's is blessed to have become the recipients of a beautiful electronic piano gifted by Ken Peters in honor of Robin Peters. We will begin singing once a month starting in September. The songs have been chosen and recorded for those who wish to practice. If you are interested in being part of the choir, please contact Ken Peters @ 920-210- 2936 or email: af16889327@yahoo.com

### **Reception of Wine at Holy Eucharist**

We have returned to mostly normal Eucharist! We still cannot allow anyone to drink from the cup, but everyone is now able to intinct.



### **Dodge County Food Pantry**

The holidays are coming, Thanksgiving and Christmas. After talking to a head of the food pantry at St. Vincent's I can suggest these products for their holiday baskets. Frozen turkeys and chickens. Boxed or bagged stuffing mix, canned potatoes, yams, cranberries. Any kind of canned veggies, for casserole or buttered. Packaged dinner rolls, breads, and desserts. They can always use the non-holiday food also. Canned fruits, cereal, boxed potatoes, pancake mix, syrup. If shopping isn't your thing, a monetary donation is also appreciated. Thank you for "feeding my sheep".

~ Linda Zamzow

**St. Mark's Official Store is Finally Open!**

<https://saintmarks2022.itemorder.com/shop/home/>



## Advent Stations of the Cross



We will be offering *Advent Stations of the Cross* at our Wednesday evening services for the four weeks of Advent on the Wednesdays of **November 30, December 7, 14, & 21 at 6:30 pm.** The Advent Stations of the Cross consists of a short Scripture Reading and a Prayer. We will also have Holy Eucharist at this Wednesday evening service.

If you didn't have an opportunity to join us last year, consider adding this wonderful midweek service to your schedule this Advent.

~ Submitted by Joann Ellis



### Letter from Père Moise

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your 40 years of continuing to support the Jeannette community through St. Marc Parish. Despite difficulties of all kinds, your Diocese always keeps its promises. Thank you. I would also like to congratulate you for taking the time to reflect on this best way to honor our long history together, and for making the decision to renew your commitment to us, this time through the Haiti Partnership. My sincere thanks to you for making this new step with us. I am very happy to become part of this solid partnership and make the success of this laudable project a reality, according to the will of our Creator God.

Your brother in Christ,

Pere Jeane Moise Dorceus, Parish Priest, St. Marc Jeannette

### Please Help Support our Foundational Outreach Ministry to St. Marc School and Clinic Today

You may donate through the Giving Portal on our website (be sure to select Haiti Partnership from the drop-down) menu. Or you may write a check, made payable to the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee, with Haiti or Haiti Partnership noted in the memo line. Please mail to: Diocese of Milwaukee Haiti Partnership, 804 E. Juneau Avenue, Milwaukee WI 53202

# More Fundraising at St. Mark's!

## Raise Right

Did you know that **Raise Right** (*scrip cards*) can be done from an APP on your phone? Ask Joann.

## AmazonSmile

**Did you know when you buy items from Amazon you can support St. Mark's Rector's Discretionary Fund?**  
**All you need to do is log into Amazon Smile:**

### **What is AmazonSmile?**

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop with AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. You can choose from over one million organizations to support.

**Select:** St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Beaver Dam as your charity of choice

Current Stats are:

Your current charity

**Saint Mark's Episcopal Church**  
has received

**\$308.15**  
as of June 2022

You can also purchase AMAZON scrip cards and load them into your Amazon Smile account. If you do you have doubled our earnings!

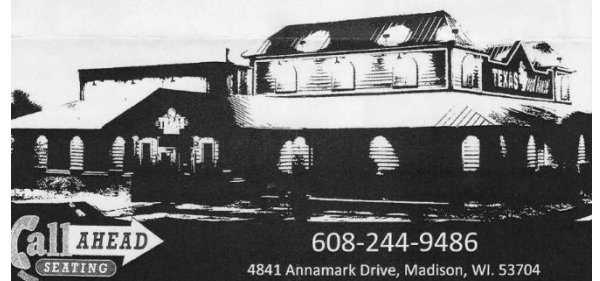
## Texas Roadhouse

Texas Roadhouse is another great way to earn extra monies for St. Mark's. You take your Sunday Bulletin to Texas Roadhouse on Sunday. When you pay your bill, hand your wait staff your bulletin and they will donate a percentage of your bill to St. Mark's. Remember you can also purchase Texas Roadhouse Scrip Cards before you dine. Just another double savings!

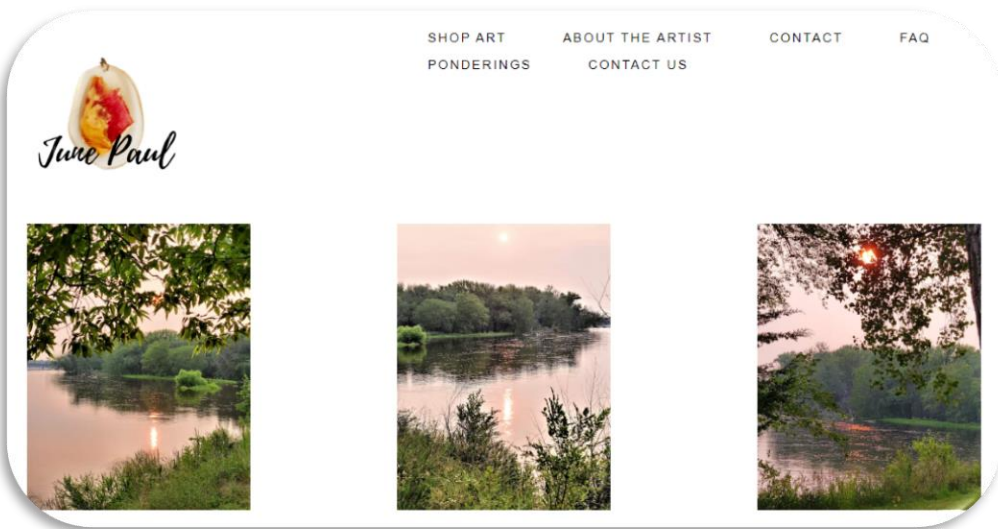
### **Texas Roadhouse LOVES Churches!**

#### **10% Donation EVERY Sunday!**

Come in every Sunday between 11:00am – 9:00pm to support your church! Present a copy of your church bulletin to your server and Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of your total food purchases back to your church!







This isn't a fundraiser, but it is an awesome way to support a member of our church! Please consider checking out **June Paul Creations** if you're in the market for, or are a lover of, beautiful paintings and photography! Go to [www.jgpaulcreations.com](http://www.jgpaulcreations.com) for more and support a local artist today : )

## Home Eucharists

There will be **no** home eucharists in November or December due to the holidays.

They will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month starting again in January.

Currently there is nobody signed up to host in the new year and, while we can have them at church should we need to, it would be nicer to continue to have them at people's homes. It's a fun and relaxed time of prayer, fellowship, and food.

The sign-up sheet to host is on the bulletin board by the Lion's Den.



## Liturgical Scheduling

Scheduling is done by Joyce DeZarn. If there is an issue, please let Joyce or Maison know. If you won't be here on a day you are scheduled or you need to switch tasks it is **your** responsibility to find a sub and let Maison in the office know as soon as possible.

4-Dec	
ACOLYTE	JOANN ELLIS
ALTAR	GAYLE ELBERT/BETSY LAMPERT
CHALICE	FRED ELLIS
COUNTERS	JIM MERRILL/JOANN ELLIS
INTERCESSOR	DEB KUENZI
READER	AMY DIEBAREN
USHER	DAVID GEREREAUX

11-Dec	
ACOLYTE	JOANN ELLIS
ALTAR	LIBBIE KACUBA
CHALICE	FRED ELLIS
COUNTERS	KEVIN LUEBKE/CAROL STARR
INTERCESSOR	LIBBIE KACUBA
READER	DEB KUENZI
USHER	BOB & LINDA ZAMZOW

18-Dec	
ACOLYTE	JIM MERRILL
ALTAR	JOYCE DEZARN/SUE HILBERT
CHALICE	
COUNTERS	JIM MERRILL/LIBBIE KACUBA
INTERCESSOR	JULIE SHERWOOD
READER	JODY LANGFELDT
USHER	JERRY & MARIE FRANK

24-Dec	
ACOLYTE	ANN TESS
ALTAR	LINDA ZAMZOW//TRACI BREHMER
CHALICE	EMILY TESS
COUNTERS	JIM MERRILL/VANDA WIEGERT
INTERCESSOR	CHRISTINE MERRILL
READER	JULIE SHERWOOD
USHER	DAVID GENEREAUX

25-Dec	
ACOLYTE	ANN TESS
ALTAR	LINDA ZAMZOW//TRACI BREHMER
CHALICE	EMILY TESS
COUNTERS	CAROL STARR/LINDA ZAMZOW
INTERCESSOR	KEN PETERS
READER	BOB WEIROUGH
USHER	BOB & LINDA ZAMZOW



# **Bishop Lee's Visit**

*Photos By: David Genereaux*



**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**  
**Vestry Meeting Minutes**  
**October 23rd, 2022**

**Members Present:** Fr. Mike, Fred Ellis, Joann Ellis, David Drexler, Linda Zamzow, Jody Langfeldt, Christine Merrill, Kevin Luebke, Maison Yarocho, Ken Peters

**Meeting Started:** 10:57 AM

Fr. Mike opened with prayer

Linda moved that the minutes from September be accepted

Christine seconds. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

1. Jody asked about 142 – Church/Parish Hall Contents – and whether all of our new things (electronics, stained glass window, etc.) have been taken into account. The answer is “not yet”

Horicon Bank - \$28,480.17

410 – Current Pledges Contributions – Under Budget \$17,928.85

412 – Giver of Record – Over Budget \$7,500

413 – Loose Offerings – Under Budget \$245.01

420 – Int.on Invest/Operations – Over Budget \$442.88

512 – Rector's Pension – Over Budget \$424.26

513 – Rector's Health Insurance – Under Budget \$0.01

514 - Reactor's Travel - Over Budget \$1,904.79

541 - Diocesan Convention

1. We've never budgeted for hotels before, only convention costs. Fred asked if we want to add it to the budget so we're prepared

2. Linda thinks that 100% should be covered otherwise you're never going to get anyone to go

3. Fr. Mike suggested we budget high. He doesn't want anyone to **not** run because they can't afford to. And nobody will complain about being **over** budget

4. Fred will add another \$1,000 to this section of the budget

542 - Heat, Lights, Water - Over Budget \$962.30

1. Fred asks Jr. Warden's if we should raise the budget another \$2,000, making a total of \$6,000. They said yes

544.4 - Internet – Over Budget \$4652.36, due to the new website

1. Ken has offered up a second computer he has but doesn't need. He's having it cleaned up and cleaned out and it will be put in Maison's office

611 - Organist - Over Budget \$300

612 - Administrative Assistant - Under Budget \$1,758.90

1. Ken asked if the cookie sale will go on this year's budget: Yes, it will

Kevin asks - regarding the Admin. Assistants - if we have a written-out description of what the Administrative Assistants do. Linda and Jody say that we do, Maison hasn't seen it, it will be looked for and hopefully found.

Christine moves to accept treasurer's report

Fr. Mike gets a raise at the beginning of the year, according to the Dioceses

Jody asks if we've heard anything about the audit. Nothing has been heard

## **New Correspondence - N/A**

**Choir Update** - still having trouble getting everyone together. there's 10 people.

**Altar Guild Booklet** - Linda has not met with priest since last meeting. Carol is interested in being an altar guild member & doing altar linens

**Advent 2022 Devotional** - Jody and Joann asked if we wanted to get some this year. We must buy a minimum of ten.

Fr. Mike thinks we should. Will fall under line item 570 - Church Education

Joann makes a motion that we order 10 of the books and she will write an article for the newsletter.

Linda seconds. Motion carried.

Jody motions to move the Jr. Warden's report up

Linda seconds. Motion carried.

## **Jr. Warden's Report**

**A/C Update** - it's in. Dave did check off air filter, which previously was not, but he will be covering that

**Stained Glass Lighting Update** - need 4 LED fluorescent lights, going to frame it in wood, want to sand it down a bit and paint it. should be done by the time the bishop comes. Dave thinks we should put something up with information on the window, like where it came from and the history

Fr. Mike's Fun Fact - The stained-glass window is called a "coke-bottle mosaic"

Found 4-foot statue of St. Mark, Ken could do all the touching up

Parking Lot - contacted two places. Trophy Asphalt Sealing total price came out to \$8,000. \$7,000 for paving, \$750 for painting. General Asphalt / Poblocki Paving total price came out to \$3,567. Price includes the painting.

Joann makes a motion to accept the Poblocki Paving contract

Kevin seconds the motion. Motion carried.

Snowplowing - Linda will be contacting someone she knows

Jody brought up that we used to have brochures that described all the stained-glass flowers and what they mean.

Linda thinks she still has a copy of one (edit: It's suggested that maybe we bring that back)

## **Rector's Report**

**Stonehouse** - We're within 5 items of where Fr. Mike thinks it needs to be. He walked the vestry through it, showing the site as it is currently on his laptop. Fr. Mike, Andrea, Jim, and Maison will be having a meeting about the multi-media section of the site

1. Half of us don't have bios and/or pictures in
2. Fr. Mike wants a redo of his picture
3. He's also adding to the Involvement page. Asked if Meals and Wheels should be added as one of our outreach missions as there are a lot of members of St. Mark's involved.
4. Took out porch visits because we don't do them
5. Kevin suggests the Outreach Ministries page content be broken up more, possibly with pictures to make it "less jumbly"

Nativity & Sound System are the two things Fr. Mike still wants to work on this year

**Nativity** - 48in \$5,495 - fiberglass - we'd just buy the figures - it would have a "creche" (??) this year but we don't have to buy it - if it doesn't get build this year, it could be put on plywood for this year - on the outside of the church, on the bell side. Will be sitting down with the Jr. Warden's to figure out designing / placement. Fr. Mike suggested we get the figures this year

Linda motions to go ahead with buying the nativity

Kevin seconded it. Motion carried.



will come out of line item 553 – Misc.

**Paul Lampert's Window** - Betsy decided she doesn't want it near the big window, it will go behind the scrip table

**Ministry Grant Update** - we got the grants \$1,500 + and extra \$500 = \$2,000

**Tech Update** - Nov. 1sts metro sound will give us an estimate and suggestions on cameras, flat screen, sound system. It will be way more than we can currently afford but it gives us a direction for the future

**Online Store** - it was supposed to be up by Friday, it still isn't but Fr. Mike is staying on it

**St. Mark's Adventure** - 14 people signed up for the October 30th adventure. the date of the next one needs to be moved as it is currently planned for holy week

We are chamber members; they did grandfather us Oct. Nov. Dec. into next year. That's an extra 3 months for the cost of a year

**Mitch's Concert Update** - he loved being here and he wants to come back. 40 people attended, 100+ people watched online. we made \$400 out of \$900, the remainder came out of a discretionary. Fr. Mike wants to get other church's with us on it next year so we can have it at swan park

No new ministries / initiatives until into next year

**Two Person Prayer Team Idea** - tabled for next year

**Grief Group** - is over for the year, looking at coming back together in the spring because the group didn't want it to end

**Talent Auction Update** - depositing \$600 all on talent auction items, but still money is coming in. Fr. Mike guesstimates \$800 - \$900 range in the end. We'll do it again next year

**Stewardship** - We need to see the expenses but can't do anything yet. Around \$128,000 is the guesstimate Fred gave. Fr. Mike is the biggest expense we have. Pledge cards should be sent out as soon as we can get them out. Ideas for new pledge cards tossed around, one that would also allow people to sign up for Time, Talent, Treasure. Will need a line for them to sign their name. For Treasure there would need to be an amount line. Will go out with the proposed budget & a letter. Maison and Linda will work on these. We should mail it to everyone physically, and put it on the website, and have some in the narthex. Proposed budget - or just A budget - must be done first. Pledges are not designed to cover all expenses

**Cookie Walk** - updates tabled due to Andy Harmon's death, but it's Saturday, December 10th. Maison and Linda will be working on the cards to send out

**Scrip Update** - \$252.75 this month, had several people order online

Next Meeting - November 13<sup>th</sup>

Meeting After - December 11<sup>th</sup>

Pre-Annual Vestry Meeting - January 15<sup>th</sup>

Annual Meeting - January 29th

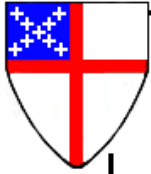
Fr. Mike closed with prayer

**Meeting Ended: 12:41PM**

Minutes Submitted 11/9/22

Maison Yaroach, Clerk of Vestry

with assistance from Jody Langfeldt



**St. Mark's  
Episcopal Church  
P.O. Box 126  
700 East Mill Street  
Beaver Dam, WI 53916**

[www.stmark-beaverdam.org](http://www.stmark-beaverdam.org)

Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee

<http://www.diomil.org>

Newsletter Editor, Maison Yaroach

[disastercas@hotmail.com](mailto:disastercas@hotmail.com)

## Faith, Family, & Sacrament

We welcome, support, and nourish the diversity  
in all people and treat everyone with  
dignity and respect.

