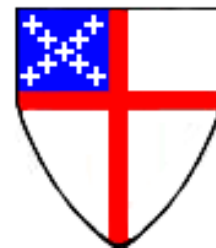




Saint Mark's Messenger

Beaver Dam, WI Maison Yaroch, Newsletter Editor December 2023



Fr. Mike Tess, Rector

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**Fr. Mike had covid and Maison had the flu (extended edition)
so there is no article and this is late. Clearly. Sorry!!**

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Facebook: [St. Mark's Episcopal Church | Beaver Dam WI | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stmarksbeaverdam)

Instagram: [St. Mark's Episcopal Church \(@stmarksbeaverdam\)](https://www.instagram.com/stmarksbeaverdam)



Prayer Requests

Prayer requests for the Saint Mark's Prayer Chain can be made to Vanda Wiegert at 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 & Dave, Pam, Rod, Mandy, Bruce, Viola, Cordelia, David, Marie & Jerry Frank, Joyce, Barbara, Erin Weirough, Dick, Harrison, John, Rich, Ita, Steve B, Steve S, Barbara, Amy, Lorraine, Jackie, Phil, Phil's uncle Steve, Ernie R, Tammy, Brian, Megan, Junie & Bob, Frank & Mary, Mike

Our Men & Women in Service: Dennis Adams, John Bahler, Barry Hilbert, Matt Hoffman, Anthony Kuenzi, Brian Lampert, Christopher Schoebel, Jon Weirough, Noah Hornbacher, Trevor, Nick Bures, Trace Olsen, Robbie Mantle, and Isaac Garside.

Dear St. Mark's,

It is fall and harvest time. It is also stewardship time.

We will, in early November, be asking once again for you to consider giving your pledge of time, talent, and/or treasure to God and St. Mark's. I'm starting my third year as your Rector and I am so grateful for all the generous gifts of time and talents, as well as monetary treasure, that you so generously share.

It is nothing new for St. Mark's to run a tight financial budget and be working hard to pay our bills as well as keep ministry available. I would like to encourage you to take some time to pray and consider your gift for 2024. Your pledge would help us finish the year as financially strong as possible.

I realize for many families it is not possible, and you will never be judged for that, but if you are able it would be so greatly appreciated. You help this church run, and you help me help others, with your gifts. The last two years have been an amazing walk together of faith and trust and powerful ministry and witness. I am humbled to be your Rector and honored to continue our journey of faith together. I can't wait to see what God has for us in the coming year.

Thanks for your prayers and your thoughtful consideration.

God bless,

Fr. Mike

St. Mark's Quarterly Adventure November 19th, 2023





DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS, BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES, AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

*DID I MISS ANYONE?? please let us know by emailing (disastercas@hotmail.com).
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, John Greene
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

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.

DECEMBER 2023 LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

3-Dec	
ACOLYTE	Jim Merrill
ALTAR	Gayle Elbert/Betsy Lampert
CHALICE	Fred Ellis
COUNTERS	Kevin Luebke/Carol Star
INTERCESSOR	Deb Kuenzi
READER	Kevin Luebke
USHER	

10-Dec	
ACOLYTE	Betsy Schulter
ALTAR	Kevin Luebke/Carol Star
CHALICE	Jim Merrill
COUNTERS	Jim Merrill/Joyce DeZarn
INTERCESSOR	Christine Merrill
READER	Julie Sherwood
USHER	Jerry Frank &

17-Dec	
ACOLYTE	Kevin Luebke
ALTAR	Joyce DeZarn/Sue Hilbert
CHALICE	Jim Merrill
COUNTERS	Cori Drexler/Linda Zamzow
INTERCESSOR	Julie Sherwood
READER	Linda Zamzow
USHER	Ken Peters/Bob Zamzow

24-Dec	
ACOLYTE	Fred Ellis
ALTAR	Linda Zamzow/Tracy Behmer
CHALICE	Kevin Luebke
COUNTERS	Kevin Luedke/Carol Star
INTERCESSOR	Joann Ellis
READER	Amy Diebaren
USHER	

30-Dec	
ACOLYTE	Betsy Schuelter
ALTAR	Linda Zamzow/Tracy Behmer
CHALICE	Jim Merrill
COUNTERS	Kevin Luedke/Carol Star
INTERCESSOR	Deb Kuenzi
READER	Amy Diebaren
USHER	Bob & Linda Zamzow

Vestry Meeting Minutes

September 17th, 2023

Members Present: Linda Zamzow, Jody Langfeldt, Christine Merrill, Maison Yarocho, Fred Ellis, Carolyn VonRuden, Deb Kuenzi, Mark Brehmer, Fr. Mike Tess, Dave Drexler (left early), Ken Peters (left early)

Missing Members: Kevin Luebke

Meeting Started: 10:38AM

Fr. Mike opens with prayer

Carolyn motions to accept minutes

Chris seconded

All say aye

Treasurers Report

Checking Account – \$79,409

a. Stocks sold

b. Deposit \$30,000

410 – Current Pledge Contributions – \$5981.60 over budget

412 – Giver of Record – \$335.03 over budget

413 – Loose Offerings – \$2.25 under budget

563 – Flowers – \$319.15 over budget

440.2.2 – Outdoor Nativity – \$1,000

440.92 – Church Excursions – People paid in for these, shows out on line 549

513 – Rector's Health Insurance – \$4,999.97 under budget

514 – Rector's Travel – This will appear goofed up until next year because we're putting the travel into Fr. Mike's paycheck now

515 – Supply Priest – \$600 under budget because we haven't needed one in awhile

519 – Misc (Snow/Lawn) – \$404.97 under budget mostly because there is now snow yet

530 – Diocesan Assessment – \$820 over budget because

a. We owed for last year

b. Due to bad internet we didn't get the bill so we had to double pay to catch up

542 – Heat/Lights/Water – \$188.01 overbudget

568 – Ads & Advertisements – \$378.84 over budget

575 – Seminarian Support – \$8.03 over budget because Kevin had to have a psych eval

615 – Other Payroll Expenses – We have a second Karen, our tax lady. We have implemented first Karen's raise

611 – Organist – \$762.50 under budget

612 – Administrative Assistant – \$828 under budget

554 – Property Insurance – \$608.97 over budget but this is paid quarterly, so it will even out

Audit Report – We do have a counting policy, despite what the audit said

Discretionary – \$535, is what Fr. Mike has of the spent discretionary income

1. Will be looking into getting a better program than QuickBooks, as QuickBooks is complicated and adds additional numbers to totals making them wrong
2. Jody suggests there be more discussion on the audit next month

Linda makes a motion to accept report

Correspondence

- a. We now have malicious attack protection (for computers)
- b. Got a letter from St. Vincent thanking us for our gift of \$165 dated December of last year

Old Business

Silent Auction – In progress, we have multiple gifts

- a. Carolyn is going around looking for donations
- b. Fr. Mike suggests finding another way to get people in the door while the silent auction is going on. Carolyn suggests cookies and coca, Fr. Mike says doing that in the past has limited success, but we can try again

Alter Guild Booklet – Finished, waiting for approval from Linda

Outreach Recipient for Fundraising – We're going to pull names out of a hat. It was Kevins idea. We are aiming to start this next month (October)

Coffee Money – Is still kept in the kitchen fund, it does not have its own line yet. Fred is going to keep it there for the time being

Little Library – Remaining on the agenda so we don't forget about it

Tech Committee – Progress is finally being made.

- a. Fr. Mike says he has had more meetings with Subsplash in the last two weeks than we have had in the last 2 years. The lack of meetings prior was the fault of Subsplash.
- b. Chris has joined the committee because "she has a great talent for bridging geek talk with regular human talk" according to Fr. Mike
- c. Our livestream program is now switched over
- d. We'll be running 3 cameras eventually
- e. New email addresses for the church will be coming via Google Suite

Icon Class - Working on it

Dementia Training – Has to be postponed, the trainers dad was badly injured

Major Projects List – Mark will get the childproof gizmos, otherwise we will have to look at a new fridge, wiring for cat6 is moving along

Dialogue – There is a group making a counter proposal, which will make the process longer

- a. Jody questions what we would do if we get "too big for one diocese" and Fr. Mike points out that there are other states that only have one and it does work - there is a precedent for it

New Business

Over the Counter Narcan – Linda asked if we should get it for our first aid kit, it will be considered, we want to find out the price - 44.99\$ at Walgreens

- a. Fr. Mike suggests EpiPen, but they are expensive and expire quickly (according to Jody)
- b. Fr. Mike is going to see if there's some kind of grant for something like this.
- c. Carolyn suggests we go right to the company.
- d. Deb brings up that we would need to have a policy

Diocesan Evangelism Grants – Apply so we can get accessible bathrooms

Schedule the Blessing of Animals – It has been decided the blessing will be done on both the 1st and 4th

Health Ministry Sub-Committee – This is something Fr. Mike would like to start

Rector's Report

Necrology – Maison is working on it

Joyful Noise – The committee for this event keeps meeting.

Police – Asked Fr. Mike for help with a lady that needed to be put up at Grandview for a time. She has a job but can't afford a place to live yet. Our discretionary was used for this.

Family Bathroom – The universal bathroom

- a. They will be changed into single use
- b. Adapting the bathrooms to be more functional
- c. Making sure we get koala cares for both bathrooms, or a dresser for short term
- d. Getting rockers / gliders for nursing moms was suggested

Nelson Hicks Grant – We'll be applying for this in the new year to accomplish

- a. The bathroom adaptation
- b. Getting a chair lift to the upper floor

Home Eucharist – None in September, picking it up again in October

Ministerium – Only 3 people were in attendance so a redo lunch will maybe be attempted in October

Funeral Planning – Fr. Mike is working on an updated document

Recovery Group – Christian version of AA but not overwhelmingly evangelical. It's looking to start closer to, or in, the new year. It will be run by Breanne Vanloo, as she is trained to run this program, and Fr. Mike would be involved in some but not as much

Neighbor Garbage Request – Due to our lack of a dumpster, some members of our parish asked the neighbor if we can throw our garbage in his trash can. He agreed, and in exchange he can park his truck in our parking lot until he sells it. We're talking about giving them a gift card or something in return

Pre-Convention – Will be done tomorrow on zoom. The convention is October 21st in Madison

Rotary Lights – St. Marks will be purchasing a tree with a sponsor sign for the Swan Park Christmas season. Cost is \$275 and it will be taken out of Evangelism (line item 257.8)

Mark moves to accept

Carolyn seconds

All say aye

Fr. Mike Schedule – Will be gone October 8th & 9th for back-to-back weddings and podcast will not be here for 9 AM service. He has asked Fr. Gary to step in.

- a. He has not taken a sabbatical in years (since his work at Good Shepard), and for this reason has said he will probably ask to go on one in his 5th year instead of his 7th
- b. They can be anywhere from 6 weeks to 3 months, he thinks his will be "a month or a little longer"
- c. We will have to pay for the expense of him being gone, however Fr. Mike pays for his sabbatical

Diocesan Fund "moon grant" – A priest rest and recreation fund of up to \$10,000 for something you would not do otherwise for you and your spouse. Fr. Mike is getting a grant to go to Spain to see holy places and visit his daughter

Parish Nurse – Jody is in the process of completing a course to become our parish nurse.

- a. Fr. Mike would like to start a Parish Health Sub-Committee that would assist Jody
- b. Her tasks as parish nurse would include things like organizing conversations on being healthy, flu clinics,

taking blood pressure, organizing coffee hours to talk about relevant concerns, be available for consultation.

c. Course is through Concordia. Jody paid for the course herself, but we will be reimbursing her. What line to take the \$400 cost from is a conversation that has been tabled for the time being.

Noise Complaints – Fr. Mike is going to make an announcement about the noise level before service starts due to several complaints. We will be going back to closing the doors between the sanctuary and the narthex until service starts

Jr. Warden's Report

Tables – The rest of the tables will be going this week. There are about 10 to go

Next Project – Will be working with Jim Merrill on setting up the cameras

a. If anyone sees anything that needs to be done, please let Ken know

b. Fr. Mike will putting a new seal on the fridge to see if it will fix it

Scrip - \$120.20

Vestry Meetings

Next Meeting - October 22nd

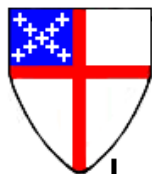
Fr. Mike does closing prayer

Mark motions to adjourn meeting

Meeting Ended:: 12:30 PM

Minutes Submitted 10/20/23

Maison Yaroach, Clerk of Vestry



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Faith, Family, & Sacrament

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

