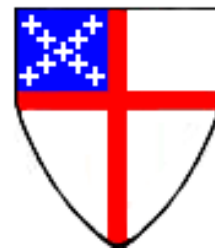




Saint Mark's Messenger

Beaver Dam, WI Maison Yaroch, Newsletter Editor February 2023



Fr. Mike Tess, Rector

frmiketess@gmail.com | 608-354-2866

Holy Lent, St. Marks -

The year is marching on and February brings us into Lent.

We had an amazing annual meeting and wonderful potluck, and I am so grateful for the leadership of St. Mark's: those who are stepping off the Vestry, those who are joining, and all who do so many ministries around St. Mark's. We'll be starting the new vestry's time with us with a group retreat before we hit the ground running and planning. The energy is kinetic around church and I am so excited for the next year.



Settling in and moving through the Christmas season leads us, first of all, to Lent. There will be a number of opportunities for education and faith exploration.

- Ash Wednesday service will be at 6:30pm with the distribution of Ashes
- Wednesdays during Lent, starting with March 1st, will have 5pm soup and bread. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you are willing to bring the soup or the bread. We will be discussing Rowan Williams' book about being disciples during our soup supper.
- Following that at 6:30pm we will have stations of the cross and Eucharist.

Thursday February 23rd will be our next home Eucharist and potluck. There is currently nobody signed up to host so we will once again be meeting at church. Eucharist starts at 6pm, food to follow. Meat of the month is whole oven roasted chicken.

It is an ancient Christian tradition to do a spiritual work or sacrifice during Lent – what we traditionally know as “giving something up for lent”. I highly encourage you to adopt a spiritual practice or sacrifice for Lent. Additionally, an under used sacrament in the Episcopal church is the sacrament of confession. Personally, I try and go to confession at least twice a year. It's a good chance to clear the slate and start anew. I am available by appointment to hear confessions any time of the year, but especially during this Holy season.

God bless your February and God bless your lent.

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. ~Linda Zamzow



Prayer Requests

Prayer requests for the Saint Mark's Prayer Chain can be made to Vanda Wiegert at imvanda.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, Ben, Mandy, Charley, Jim & Ann, Clayton & Nancy, Rita, Rebecca, Ken, and the Harmon family

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.

Dodge County Food Pantry

We all are aware of increasing costs for goods and services- higher utility, gas, and food costs especially. Our local food pantries need your help more than ever. Please remember to donate to a food pantry. To donate to the food pantry at St. Vincent's bring your non-perishable foods and/or money to church and put it in the collection basket in the narthex. We will deliver all donations for you.

~ Deb Kuenzi



FEBRUARY 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*

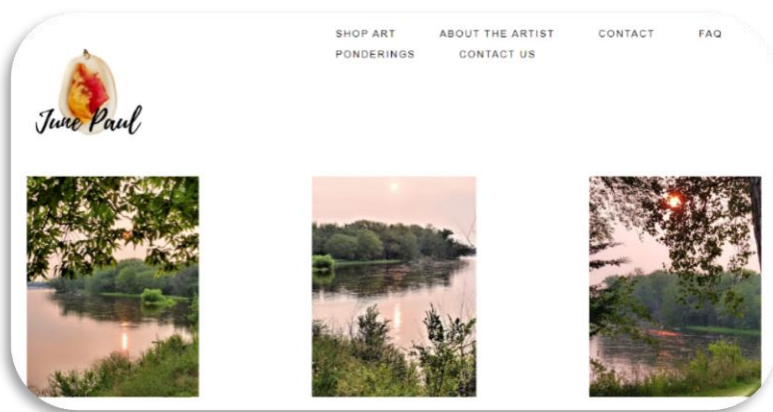
Birthdays

1 – June Harmon
2 – Peter Panzer
8 – Jena Clark
9 – Millie Garside
14 – Cori Drexler
17 – Sue Hilbert
19 – Erin Weirough
22 – Isaac Tess
24 – Dan Hilbert
25 – Meredith Harmon
26 – Gerry Foster

Baptismal Anniversaries

3 – Julie Sherwood

Wedding Anniversaries



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 for more and support a local artist today :)

More Fundraising at St. Mark's!



RaiseRight
Formerly ShopWithScrip

NEW PRODUCTS & UPDATES

Product Update: New Kwik Trip/Kwik Star Grocery Only Card

In addition to the existing Gas & Gift card that earns 4%, Kwik Trip has also introduced a new Grocery Only Card with 10% earnings, providing more ways to earn with all your Kwik Trip/Kwik Star purchases.

- **NEW Grocery Only Card:** Earn 10% when you buy or reload these new cards from RaiseRight. These cards can be used for in-store products only*, no fuel purchases.

- Gas & Gift Card: Earn 4% when you buy or reload these existing cards from RaiseRight. These cards can be used for fuel and in-store purchases.

*Convenience store items not eligible for purchase with the new Grocery Only card include tobacco, alcohol, fuel, gift cards, lottery/lotto, and stamps.

Product Update: Walgreens

\$25 and \$100 eGift cards are now available from Walgreens—your go-to for pharmacy, health & wellness needs. Physical gift cards will be back in stock as soon as possible, providing multiple ways to earn 5% with Walgreens.

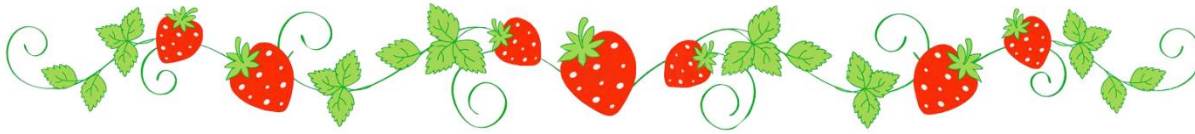
New Brand: McDonald's

Now available, earn 2% with McDonald's gift cards. Stock up now and start earning for your organization with breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Available as physical gift cards in \$10 and \$25 amounts. Eligible for delivery to your organization only.

"We wanted to let you know about an upcoming change to our fees. Effective January 9, 2023, the transaction fee for orders placed by participants using their bank account will increase from \$0.15 to \$0.29 per order so we can continue to enhance our gift card catalog and develop new features to grow your organization's earnings. We have not adjusted this fee since 2011 and remain committed to keeping our fees as low as possible.

This change will be reflected in the mobile app and on RaiseRight.com during checkout when selecting Bank Account as the payment option.

*Thank you,
RaiseRight*



Fresh Strawberries!

The Mayville Agriculture Students and FFA Members are selling Fresh Strawberries from Florida. All funds raised from the strawberry sale are going to support Mayville Agriculture Students who are visiting Ireland as part of a 10 day Agriculture in Ireland experience in the summer of 2024.

Jake Cramer, the Mayville Jr/Sr High School Agriculture Teacher and FFA Advisor, is traveling with 25 Mayville Agriculture Students and FFA Members who are taking advantage of this opportunity to get hands-on educational experiences related to all areas of agriculture in Dublin, Kilkenny, the Cliffs of Moher, and Galway. Student will learn about organic and sustainable farming practices, impact of climate change on traditional food production, and engage in hands-on projects at dairy, potato, shellfish and/or sheep farms.

Strawberries are either in a:

-Full Flat (8 - 1 lb containers) for \$25

-Half Flat (4 - 1 lb containers) for \$16

*payment is due when you get the strawberries.

Strawberry Order Forms will be left at St Marks starting Sunday January 29th, Jake needs your orders by

February 19th. If you are unable to order at St Mark's call or text Jake (608.931.9866) or Karissa (608.333.8687).

Fresh Strawberries will be coming in the week of March 13-17th, more details for pickup at St Marks will be available in the weeks leading up to pickup.

Thank you for your support of my agriculture students and FFA members.

Notice:: If you have anything to email to the office or Maison please email disastercas@hotmail.com until further notice. Despite people's efforts, including several days of email and phone tag, our office email address is still not working. As soon as it gets figured out we'll let you all know

Home Eucharists

Home Eucharists are back! They'll be held the 3rd Thursday of the month.

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.



All sessions will be held at Waypost Camp in Hatley, Wisconsin

Senior (grades 9-12*): June 11-17

Middler (grades 6-8*): June 18-23

Junior (grades 2-5*): June 24-29

Kinder: (ages 4-7 & adult): June 29-July 1

*Note: Completed grades by the end of the 2022-2023 school year.

Save the dates now! Keep an eye out for more info in the new year! EpiscoWisco Camp is a cooperative ministry of the Episcopal Dioceses of Fond du Lac and Milwaukee.

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.

FEBRUARY 2023 LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

5-Feb	
ACOLYTE	Joann Ellis/Betsy Schlueter
ALTAR	Gayle Elbert/Betsy Lampert
CHALICE	Fred Ellis
COUNTERS	Cori Drexler/Joann Ellis
INTERCESSOR	Bob Zamzow
READER	Julie Sherwood
USHER	Dave & Cori Drexler

12-Feb	
ACOLYTE	Joann Ellis/Betsy Schlueter
ALTAR	Libbie Kacuba
CHALICE	Fred Ellis
COUNTERS	Kevin Luebke/Linda Zamzow
INTERCESSOR	Libbie Kacuba
READER	Kevin Luebke
USHER	Jerry Frank/Bob Zamzow

19-Feb	
ACOLYTE	Joann Ellis/Betsy Schlueter
ALTAR	Joyce DeZarn/Sue Hilbert
CHALICE	Fred Ellis
COUNTERS	Joann Ellis/Carol Starr
INTERCESSOR	Christine Merrill
READER	Linda Zamzow
USHER	David Genereaux/Ken Peters

26-Feb	
ACOLYTE	Joann Ellis/Betsy Schlueter
ALTAR	Linda Zamzow/Traci & Mark Brehmer
CHALICE	Fred Ellis
COUNTERS	Joann Ellis/Joyce DeZarn
INTERCESSOR	Ken Peters
READER	Mark Brehmer
USHER	Bob & Linda Zamzow

St. Mark's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting Minutes December 11th, 2022

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

Meeting Started: 10:50 AM

Chris moves to move the Jr. Warden's report up

Kevin seconds

Fr Mike opens in prayer

Jr. Warden's Report

- 1. Nativity** – Crèche is up, has power at night, mentioned putting a star on top
- 2. Women's Bathroom** – the heater is in, Ken just needs to build a frame around it as it could not be put in the wall
- 3. Glass Window** – Done, on/off switches are in
- 4.** Getting ice remover or salt today (12/11/22) for the sidewalk
- 5. Microphone** – Ken says the switch in the one we have now is shot, a new one is \$135
 - a. Joann motions we spend the \$135 + shipping for the microphone, take it out of line item 550?
 - b. Linda seconds this motion
- 6. Storage Loft** – go through it, clear out some stuff that we don't use
- 7. Fireplace** – on hold but Ken has already had people come up to him who would like to donate
- 8.** 16 new bulbs, 8 burnt out, we're using LEDs now
- 9.** Contract for paving was sent by Maison after the last vestry meeting
- 10. Candelabras** – Historically we put them around the poinsettias, but Linda asked if we want to move them to either side of the stained glass window in the narthex instead. Ken Peters is going to melt the wax off the candelabras and repaint.
- 11. John Mining** – says he has never done a contract for his plowing before, doesn't think it's necessary now. He will be doing the plowing though
- 12.** Stakes are up for the plow
- 13. New TV** – will be arriving for where the vestry meets next week (the week after this meeting)

Linda Has Questions About November Minutes - asks if the members who are absent should be listed, other members think yes

Chris moves we approve minutes of November meeting

Joann seconded

Motion carried

Treasurer's Report

Fr. Mike called Mark Brehmer at this point so he could be a part of the financial section of the meeting

410 – Current Pledges Contributions – Under \$21,977.19

412 – Giver of Record – Over by \$8,838

512 / 512.1 – Rector's Pension – Under Budget \$1,152.74 (this is a quarterly item)

513 – Health Insurance – Under Budget \$1,666.67

- 1.** Joann asks about **418 – Miscellaneous** – \$982.25 - "somebody paid for something" Fred doesn't remember what off the top of his head, but it was Ken
- 2.** Got \$50 today for flowers and some money came in last week
- 3. Flowers & Greens & Trees & Wreaths** – Before Covid was \$578.30

440.9.6 – Sympathy Loss of Loved One – \$715

a. Linda wonders if we have to ask those who gave the money if we can use it for specific things, like paying a little off on the nativity scene. Fred says it's up to the vestry.

b. Mark asks if we should use it towards Christmas decorations instead, decorations could be dedicated to family members.

c. Fr. Mike thinks it should go towards the Christmas trees & flowers. He asks if we want to move it into the Flower Fund. Joann asks if we should ask people first

d. Fr. Mike wonders where we should look for that information, Joann suggests asking Karen. We've had the money for a while so no one seems to know where it has come from or who to ask about it

1. Working on putting two line items together as quickbooks adds .1 lines where not necessary

2. Outreach was in the minutes for the last meeting

Jody asks if someone would like to accept the report

Linda accepts

Finance Committee Meeting – Pledge at \$44,000 – We got in over \$55,000

a. Two showed up in the office after the \$44,000 was announced

b. \$44,580 as of Wednesday night's financial meeting

c. \$55,680 ACTUAL PLEDGE MONEY

1. Joann asked if the budget amount should be raised. It is thought, initially by those in the finance committee, that we shouldn't. Mark suggests we raise it to \$60,000 as that is the "guesstimate" of what we'll end up getting

a. **413 – Loose Offerings** – left at \$1,000

b. **414 – Special** - left at \$200

c. **415 – Donations** – Donations and gifts cant be budgeted

d. **416 – Fundraiser** – upped to \$5000, Joann asks if we should up that more since we made so much at the cookie walk. Because of rising prices it is decided it should be kept the same

e. **417 – Flowers & Candles** – upped to \$500

f. **511 – Rectors Comp** – \$64061

g. **512 – Rector's Pension** – Percentage of Rector's compensation, projected \$11,531

h. **514 – Rector's Travel** – Already spent \$2643.06 so it was upped to \$3000

i. **515 – Supply Priest** – left at \$1,500

j. **Supply Priest Travel Allowance** – left at \$900

k. **518 – Workmen's Compensation** – Kept at \$350

l. **519 – Misc. (Lawn & Snow)** – Being charged \$20 more per time now, making it \$85, so the budget total was upped to ???

m. **541 – Diocesan Conventions** – Upped \$1000 as it cost us \$1183 this time

n. **542 – Heat/Lights/Water** – Upped to 6,000 as we spent \$4460 on these things this year

o. **543 – Telephone** – Kept at \$240, it costs \$20 a month with internet

p. **544.1 – Copier** – Lowered to \$1000, we're on an ink program and it's cheaper

q. **544.2 – Postage** – Haven't spent much on postage this year

- Jody presented a receipt for the postage used for cookie walk postcards

r. **544.3 – Stationary** – As Needed

s. **544.4 – Internet** – left at \$2500

t. **544.5 – Payroll Services** – Upped to \$350 as we are already at \$315 for the year

u. **544.7 – Paypal Fees** – Lowered to \$100

v. **544.9 – Office Supplies** – Kept at \$500 as we are already at \$362

- Fred says he has to get paper because Maison keeps using it

w. 545.1 – Audit – We haven't heard anything from the diocese, they haven't charged us

x. 545.2 – Software – Kept at \$300

y. 546 – Fundraiser Expenses – Spent \$200 so it is being kept at \$200

z. 549 – Special Events & Occasions – \$90

z² 551 – Building Maintenance – left at \$1000

z³ 552 – Major Improvement – Left at \$500

1. Reminder that we won't have to worry about a furnace fund next year since we have a furnace

a² 553 – Miscellaneous – Kept at \$500. It's currently at \$288.86 but Ken is going to go out and buy lights

b² 554 – Property insurance – Quarterly thing. That's all that was said.

c² 561 – Choir – Spent \$90 for new choirmaster book

d² 562 – Altar Supplies – Kept at \$500, we bought new vestment

e² 563 – Flowers – Kept at \$450, rely on donations

f² 565 – Bulletin Inserts – Kept at \$300

g² 566 – Books & Resources – Kept at \$100

h² 567 – Fellowship – Kept at \$250

i² 568 – Ads & Advertising – Spent \$144.03. It costs \$41 for newspaper advertising, falls under this line item or fundraising. Those in charge of the facebook will be "pushing" more adverts

j² 571 – Church School – Kept at \$200

k² 572 – Rector's Continuing Education – Spent 4375, left AT \$600

l² 573 – Evangelism – Left at \$100. It is currently over budget by \$900 because we had to pay Mitch McVicker

m² 574 – Adult Education – \$50

n² 575 – Seminarian Support – Left at \$1000

o² 576 – Stewardship – Left at \$50

p² 611 – Organist – Upped to \$10,000

a. Mark asks if that's a guess, Fred says yes because we don't know how many Sundays Lizzie is going to play. Fr. Mike wants to get somebody from Wayland so we have somebody aside from Lizzie

b. We already paid out \$7500 this year, there's only 3 weeks left says Mark, but Fred notes she's been here for services she wouldn't normally since they were special occasions (like bishop lees visit)

1. Joann asks if we're going to have another finance meeting before annual meeting. Fr. Mike thinks finance committee should meet before next vestry meeting

2. Getting an electronics technician was brought up

q² 612 – Administrative Assistant – Upped to \$9000

r² 600 – Childcare Provider – \$1000

s² 600 – Payroll expenses – \$1500

1. Jody asked when Fr. Mike is due for sabbatical because we need to cover the expenses. It is 5-7 years out, he's leaning towards 5

2. Joann thinks we should keep the current projected budget as is for now and look it over at the next finance meeting January 11th at 4:30PM. By then we should have all pledges in and all year-end finance information

Cookie Walk – \$1930, counting isn't finished at this point as not all money is in

a. edit: \$10 arrived during the meeting, making the current total \$1940

b. edit #2: two other payments were factored in, though we still have not received them as of this meeting, making

the total \$1973.05

c. Jody asks where the 10% from the cookie walk will go, no decision was made

d. Over all went exceptionally well. Joann and Fred left at 11:30, Fr. Mike was still selling cookies to the random stragglers that came in at that point

Correspondence

1. Got a check from Texas Roadhouse – \$15.55 (goes in discretionary fund)

2. Received paperwork to do tree of lights at beaver dam hospital, if we want to. They will take responses until December 31st. Vestry wasn't enthused with the idea

3. Anne Wilson Cook Book Received – Jody will call historical society and see if they want it, if not we'll keep it.

4. Episcopal Relief & Development – You can send them contributions

a. \$25 buys flock of chickens, \$20 per share buy a pig, etc.

Old Business

Choir Update – N/A

Alter Guild – Move until after Christmas, but fun fact: Kevin will be on it now

Directory Update – Almost finished with the second draft, when it is complete it will be put down in the narthex so people can check their information. Hard copies will be emailed out when the final draft is done. A few copies will be placed in the narthex as well

New Business

1. Need to be looking for nominations for Sr. Warden, Jr. Warden, and two vestry members at least

a. replacing Erin was brought up, Jody will call and ask her if she wants to be removed

b. Joann timed out at 6 years, Chris has another year, Linda is on 2nd year of 3 year term.

c. Ken doesn't want to be Jr Warden after this year. He will continue to do the work he has been doing, but he will not attend the meetings.

d. Fr. Mike wants to get a Jr. Warden that will be able to attend entire meetings

e. We currently don't know where Dave Drexler sits on the matter of his seat, someone will talk to him

f. Several people were brought up as possibilities for new members, they will be reached out to by current vestry members

g. No suggestions for Jr. Warden yet

h. Maison was brought up but cannot be Jr. Warden because they are clerk of vestry

2. Annual Meeting – Maison does the agenda for the annual meeting, which they weren't aware of. Joann will help with this.

a. It was decided reports should be to Maison by the 12th of January. Any report that is late will not be included (So says Linda)

b. Stewardship Report – Linda & Kevin "I think Fr. Mike was in there somewhere"

c. ECW Report – Joann

d. Jr. Warden Report – (there were no Jr. Warden's at this meeting to decide)

e. Sr. Warden Report – annual minutes are done

f. Website Report – Fr. Mike

g. Columbarium Report – Dave Drexler usually does it but there's nothing to report yet as of 12/11/22

h. Fellowship Outreach Report – Fr. Mike, Joann will help

i. Deacon's report – don't need

j. Organ – nothing changed

- 3. Eucharistic Ministers** – James Cleary and Meredith Harmon were listed but haven't been to St. Marks in over a year. We need new ones
- 4.** We need acolytes and chalice bearers
- 5.** This entire topic has been tabled for next year (2023)

Rector's Report

- 1. Stonehouse Digital** – New website goes live on the 15th
 - a. Andrea will be working with us on the phone app
- 2. Paul Lampert's Window** – Tabled for next year
- 3. Use of Ministry Grant Update** – Waiting for metrosound to get back to Fr. Mike. Tabled.
- 4. Online Store** – open at the time of this meeting but is set to close the 26th. Fr. Mike will be calling to ask if it can be kept open through the new year.
 - a. We'll be opening it up for short windows of time as the company doesn't let their sites remain open continuously
 - b. It was suggested we keep it open through the first of year and then open it again somewhere in February or March
 - c. Items could be shifted depending on season / what people want
- 5. Nativity** – Company sent a new lamb, old one was cracked, so now we have two
- 6. Talent Auction Final Income** – Nobody seems to have any idea
- 7.** Mitch McVicker is going to send us a W9 because he has to
- 8.** Fr. Mike wants vestry to start pondering a vestry retreat, perhaps for some time in February after the new members are in
- 9.** Old Facebook will be deleted after the new site is up
- 10.** Fr. Mike would like the vestry to consider allowing him to do actual midnight mass next year

Fr. Mike read the House Allowance for 2023

Linda moved to accept the allowance

Joann & Chris second

Motion Carried

Scrip Update - \$344.17

Regularly Scheduled January Vestry Meeting and Pre-Annual Meeting – January 15th

Annual Meeting – January 29th

Vestry Retreat – February 12th

February – 19th

March – 19th

Fr. Mike closed in prayer

Jody motions to end the meeting

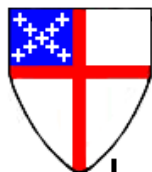
Joann seconds

Meeting Ended: 1:01 PM

Minutes Submitted

Maison Yaroach, Clerk of Vestry

with assistance from Jody Langfeldt & Linda Zamzow



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

www.stmark-beaverdam.org

Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee

<http://www.diomil.org>

Newsletter Editor, Maison Yaroch

disastercas@hotmail.com

Faith, Family, & Sacrament

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

