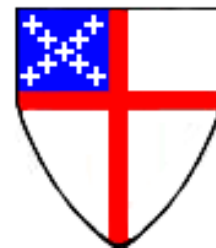




# Saint Mark's Messenger

Beaver Dam, WI    Maison Yaroch, Newsletter Editor    November 2023



**Fr. Mike Tess, Rector**

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

Blessed November St. Mark's,

I am sitting looking out at the leaves covering my backyard and am reminded that we now enter into a very Holy and busy season in our lives and our church life.

Fall is harvest, a time of thanksgiving which peaks with the Feast of Thanksgiving that runs into Advent. We celebrate All Saints and All Souls Nov 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. These are two very special days in the church life and year. All Saints celebrates those who have walked before us and have found a way through their human experience to love and serve God at the next level. We call these people Saints and we are all called to seek this level of relationship with God; to live in holiness with God. All Soul's is celebrating all those who we remember that have gone before us and who we wait patiently to see again with God in our own deaths. These two days reconnect us every year with the cloud of witnesses, the holy people who blaze a path and example for us.

November is also the last month in our church year. December brings the four weeks of Advent and the beginning of the new church year. So I challenge us, in a new and deeper way this November, to live this month in thanksgiving. Celebrate the holy people who have been set apart and who inspire us, lead us, pray for us and who wait for us. Reflect on the abundant, the love and grace that God pours on us, and celebrate our relationship with each other and with God. Live this month in thanksgiving for all of God's grace.

May this month be blessed and may All Hallows Eve (Oct 31<sup>st</sup>), All Saints Day (Nov 1<sup>st</sup>), and All Souls Day (Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>) be holy, blessed, and special. All Saints Day liturgy will be on Wednesday November 1<sup>st</sup> this year at 6:30 PM right at church and I hope to see you there.

If we live November with gratitude and thanksgiving, I believe it will prepare us well for Advent in December and lead us to our best Christmas ever.

God bless.

I am thankful for you,  
Fr. Mike



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

**Office Email:** [disastercas@hotmail.com](mailto:disastercas@hotmail.com)

**Website:** [St. Mark's Episcopal Church - WI - Home \(stmark-beaverdam.org\)](http://stmark-beaverdam.org)

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

**Instagram:** [@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](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 & 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, 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



# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS, BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES, AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

*DID I MISS ANYONE?? please let us know by emailing ([disastercas@hotmail.com](mailto: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**

6 – Kelly Jenson & Myron Cramer  
7 – Katelyn Kopmeyer  
8 – Dan Kuhn  
9 – James Cleary  
10 – Marsha Horne  
11 – Sara Eaton & Bob Zamzow  
13 – Ken Peters  
15 – Tom Wiegert  
20 – Linda Zamzow  
25 – Carolyn Vallarta

## **Baptismal Anniversaries**

7 – Kirah Rose Kopmeyer  
9 – James Cleary  
11 – Darcy Mosher  
24 – Brian Tuel  
30 – Dustin Streiff

## **Wedding Anniversaries**

The ingathering for **United Thank Offering (UTO)** is **November 5th**.

UTO is a ministry of the Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Individuals are encouraged to embrace a daily practice of recognizing gratitude and blessings in their lives. In thanks to God for these blessings, people are encouraged to place an offering in their blue UTO boxes. These offerings are collected for use to support mission and ministry throughout the whole Episcopal Church.

So show your gratitude for God's blessings in your life by generously making offerings in your blue box and placing them in the collection plates on Nov. 5th



## GRATITUDE

UTO invites individuals to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. For gratitude resources, events, and information, visit our gratitude page.



## GRANTING

UTO distributes 100% of thank offerings made to the Ingathering to ministries throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.



## LEADING

UTO is made up of a collection of lay and clerical members across the world, and our organization is made possible through this wonderful, grass-roots leadership.

## 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.

5-Nov	
ACOLYTE	Jim Merrill
ALTAR	Gayle Day & Betsy Lampert
CHALICE	Fred Ellis
COUNTERS	Kevin Luebke & Carol Starr
INTERCESSOR	Deb Kuenzi
READER	Jody Langfeldt
USHER	Dave & Cori Drexler

12-Nov	
ACOLYTE	Betsey Schlueter
ALTAR	Kevin Luebke & Carol Starr
CHALICE	Jim Merrill
COUNTERS	Jim Merrill & Joyce DeZarn
INTERCESSOR	Christine Merrill
READER	Julie Sherwood
USHER	Jerry Frank & Helper

19-Nov	
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

26-Nov	
ACOLYTE	Betsey Schlueter
ALTAR	Linda Zamzow & Traci Brehmer
CHALICE	Kevin Luebke
COUNTERS	Kevin Luebke & Carol Starr
INTERCESSOR	Deb Kuenzi
READER	Amy Diebaren
USHER	Bob & Linda Zamzow

### **Vestry Meeting Minutes**

**August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Members Present:** Chris Merrill, Deb Kuenzi, Linda Zamzow, Jr. Wardens: Ken Peters, Dave Drexler,

**Members Absent:** Carolynn VonRuden, Mark Brehmer, Maison Yarocho

**Also Present:** Fr. Mike Tess, Sr. Warden Jody Langfeldt, Treas. Fred Ellis

Meeting opened at 10:40am with a prayer from Sr. Warden Jody

Minutes from the June 23,2023 meeting were read: Changes made were to remove Jody's name from those present, Kevin L. moved to accept minutes as corrected, second by Deb K. MC

### **Treasurers Report:**

1. Fred reported that although our pledges, givers of record and loose offering are all up we will be aprox. 20,000.00 in the red at the end of the year.
2. We have received \$400.00 so far this year as rental gifts for the use of our building by outside organizations. (line item #418.1)
3. Line item #563 (flowers) was changed to reflect a correct balance of \$90.00.
4. Discussion about keeping the bullion inserts as we are \$194.60 in the red as the minimum we can order is 75 per week. Will add more money in next years line item.
5. We are \$300.00 in the red already for heat and lights with 4 months left in the year due to the cold windy winter and the addition of air conditioning. Will raise the line item amount for 2024.
6. Motion was made by Deb K. to permit Fred to move money from the Future Projects Fund (money market) line item # into the general fund to cover the shortfall in bills. Second by Kevin L. MC
7. A meeting of the trustees will be held to address options we may have to find a longer term solution to the money shortfall.

### **Rectors Report:**

1. It was suggested that we consider raising Karen Pearson's salary from \$15.00 per hour to \$20.00 per hour. She has been our financial assistant for two years and hasn't had a pay raise. She does an excellent job and deserves one. Motion was made by Linda Z. and second by Ken P. to raise her salary by \$5.00 per hour. We need to talk to her about when she would like that to begin. MC
2. Fr. Mike has made out a list of the members who have passed away in the last two years and will send the necrology paperwork to the diocese.
3. Fr. Mike announced he will no longer be submitting a mileage bill to us for the miles he overlaps with his other job as they provide him with a van and gas. He has asked for compensation for the mileage he does accrue for us in the form of \$150.00 per month added to his comp package. It will be taxable thus increasing his pension. Motion made by Chris M. and second by Ken P. MC
4. It was brought up by Fr. Mike that St. Mark's purchase a Christmas tree from the Rotary to decorate and display at Swan Park during the Festival of Lights for \$225.00.
5. Fr. Mike suggested we look into putting an accordion door upstairs to separate the space into smaller rooms.

### **Junior Wardens Report:**

1. The parking lot has been resurfaced and striped. The drain is sinking a little bit causing a potential hazard for those who may drive over it. Dave and Ken will check it out.
2. The banquet tables have been purchased and a cabinet with a countertop has been built by Dave and Ken in the fireside room. It is beautiful. It will also be used as the dessert table for celebrations.
3. Tables and chairs donated by Fr. Mike and fixed up by Dave and Ken have been put upstairs to use for vestry and general meetings.

### **New Business:**

#### **Correspondence:**

1. We received a thank you from the family of Linda Schweitzer(Jerry and Marie Franks daughter) for the flowers sent for her funeral.
2. The tech committee is meeting to ascertain ways to hold Subsplash accountable for the contractual promises they made. Chris Merrill has volunteered to be on that committee. Next tech meeting will be on Sept. 13.
3. The ministerium will meet on 8/29 at St. Mark's to begin a dialog about working together to strengthen our church community.
4. Fr. Mike is interested to have St. Mark's included in a youth ministry trip to the Boundry Waters in July,



2024

5. Fr. Mike would like to purchase clings to put in our back car windows that says we are Episcopalians. The magnets and pens have been delivered.

### **Old Business:**

1. The discernment committee has unanimously voted to recommend to the vestry that Kevin move forward in his journey toward application for postulancy. The vestry has also agreed to endorse his journey as a motion made by Ken P. and second by Chris M. motion carried and Fr. Mike has filled out the necessary form and has sent it to the committee President of the standing committee at the Milwaukee Diocese.
2. Parrish nurse: Fr. Mike will contact Concordia for information about what it takes to qualify to become one and what the program will entail. Check to see if the fee for the course is still \$400.00 and investigate if there are diocesan grants available.
3. The Joyful Noise concert was deemed a success and the three churches would like to make it an annual event.
4. It was decided that our annual plant/bake sale will heretofore be held on the weekend after Mothers Day.
5. The dementia training will be held at St. Mark's on Sunday Sept 10 after services.
6. Silent Auction: Deb K. Printed a rule sheet template for silent auctions that we will use as we move forward in planning the event.
7. Family bathroom. Planning is ongoing to change men/women restrooms to two family restrooms by including a stool and urinal and changing table in each room. There will also be a lock on the door, making them single use facilities. They will be ADA compliant.
8. The dates for the vestry meetings for the rest of the year are as follows:  
September 17, October 22, November 12 and December 17, all after church on Sundays.

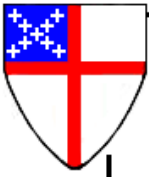
Meeting ended with prayer from Fr. Mike at 12:55pm

Motion to adjourn made by Chris M. MC

Minutes taken by Linda Zamzow



*Blessing of the Animals October 2023*



**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 Yaroch

[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.

