



# 2024 Annual Report

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**saint mark's**  
episcopal church



# The Interim Rector's Report

Beloved,

Grace and peace to you in our risen, reigning, and returning redeemer, Jesus.

As I ponder the past year of ministry at St. Mark's, of what I know of your faith, and the transition you've begun, I give thanks to God for the honor of serving with you. At this point, you'd be excused for thinking there are only a handful of priests in the Episcopal Church who play a game of tag: Nikky+ swapped places as she started at St. Tim's, and I came on board for a brief time as Interim Associate, Nancy+ tagged me out as she became your Associate Rector, and of course I tagged back in as your Interim Rector with the Matt's+ decision to retire. That is a lot of change in leadership in a short amount of time for this church (not to even mention the election of a new Bishop, featured in the Diocesan Delegation report)!

And when we widen our view, we know change is the consistent work of God's people throughout the scriptures who long to connect and follow their unchanging God. From the first moments of calling for Abram and his family, the question of faith is *how people will respond* to the movement of God both *life-wide* and *soul-deep* as the great epic unfolds.

St. Mark's recent history strikes me like the unusual reigns of the southern kingdom of Judah in the era of divided rule in Israel's history. Most of the kings were not so great, just as God had warned, but occasionally not only would Judah have a good king, but one that would serve for a few decades. It is exceptionally rare in today's church for a priest to have a good and long tenure in a parish. You have celebrated and indeed given thanks for Matt's time with you, even as you mourn and as you realize like the best kings, the best rectors lead through the gifts of the people, trusting in God's faithfulness and not their own ability.

Now, lest you think we are doomed to Judah's fate of oscillating good and less good (or even evil) leaders, the church in its wisdom has helped us see the value of transition without a rector or king, because after all, *you are the Body of Christ*, all of you, and Christ is the head, scripture tells us, even if transition can sometimes feel very much like you're the *body of a chicken running around with its head cut off*.

For others of you, this time of transition feels more like exile, where we find ourselves wondering with the psalmist: *how will we sing the song of the Lord in a foreign land?*. And sure, we haven't changed the *where* or the *what* of most things here at St. Mark's since I joined you in August, but there is inevitably a change in *how* and obviously a change in *who*, and that can feel like foreign territory or even exile.



My hope and invitation for us at St. Mark's is to join the prophet Isaiah in today's reading, giving voice to how this moment of transition, *whatever you're feeling*, connects with *the larger and better story* of God's redemptive and loving grace in the midst of change. It isn't easy. Try saying to a people mourning and toiling in exile, "Have you not known? Have you not heard?" and you'll find some sympathy for Isaiah and perhaps even for interim rectors, (prophet though, I am not).

If we have ears to hear, what Isaiah has for us is a beautiful connection or reconnection to the God who chooses us for the sake of the kingdom come, *on earth as it is in heaven*. And God hasn't left us alone: your staff, your wardens, your vestry, ministry leaders are all committed to you in this transition, and like you they are so wonderfully gifted and faithful in their ministry.

Soon, your Search Committee will form and start listening for the new song that will emerge among us this year: the song of hope, the song of joy, the song of the saints of St. Mark's, and we'll sing that song so loud that some priest will start to hear it, the one who will want to sing it with you in and beyond this season of transition.

And so, beloved, my encouragement and my message for you this Annual Meeting is to give thanks to God that however we feel about it right now or at any moment, we stand together with a cloud of witnesses who have responded faithfully to the change and transition of their own journey with God and show us the way we can respond confidently in our own day.

*Have you not known? Have you not heard?*

*The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.*

*God does not faint or grow weary;  
whose understanding is unsearchable.*

*God gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.*

*Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;*

*but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,*

*they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.*

*Amen.*

Pax,

*Nick<sup>†</sup>*

*The Rev. Nick Roosevelt, Interim Rector*



## Wardens and Vestry Report



# Financial Reports

## Treasurer's Report

### St. Mark's Episcopal Church Statement of Financial Position

	December 31, 2024	December 31, 2023
<b>Assets</b>		
Operating Cash & Investments	867,128	695,581
Receivables		
Endowment Trust Cash & Investments (1)	1,571,135	1,314,809
564 Colorado Corporation	93,260	93,260
Real Property	7,837,760	7,837,760
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>10,369,283</b>	<b>9,941,410</b>
 <b>Liabilities</b>		
Current Liabilities	129,251	93,378
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>129,251</b>	<b>93,378</b>
 <b>Net Assets</b>		
Operating Fund	402,246	328,208
Designated Operating Funds	335,631	273,996
Property Fund	7,931,020	7,931,020
Endowment Fund	1,571,135	1,314,809
<b>Ending Fund Balance</b>	<b>10,240,032</b>	<b>9,848,032</b>
 <b>Liabilities &amp; Fund Balances</b>	<b>10,369,283</b>	<b>9,941,410</b>

**Notes:**

1. Endowment Trust is valued as of September 30, the fiscal year end; the 1 year return was +24.5%  
The prior 1 year return was 14.8%; the 5 year return was 8.8%



## Treasurer's Report (cont.)

### St. Mark's Episcopal Church Statement of Activities Operating Fund

	Year Ending 12/31/24		Year Ending 12/31/23
Revenue	Budget	Actual	Actual
Pledge Contributions (1)	671,050	695,137	721,310
Gifts (2)	11,000	34,669	17,450
Space Use Fees (3)	110,000	110,000	110,067
Rental Unit Income	34,400	29,365	33,243
Interest & Dividends (4)	56,000	20,000	42,135
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>882,450</b>	<b>889,171</b>	<b>924,205</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
Personnel (5)	596,054	522,711	538,355
Diocesan Assessment	118,312	113,793	101,733
Property	105,024	103,167	110,700
Administration	35,500	33,376	34,152
Christian Formation	6,000	3,631	1,582
Worship	14,260	27,403	10,812
Communications	5,700	9,410	4,510
Membership/Stewardship	1,600	1,642	-
		-	-
<b>Total Expense (6)</b>	<b>882,450</b>	<b>815,133</b>	<b>801,844</b>
<b>Excess Revenue Over Expense</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74,038</b>	<b>122,361</b>

#### Notes:

1. We not only received additional pledges past the deadline, but we also experienced unprecedented low default rate, which usually reduces pledge revenue from the deceased or from those who move away during the
2. There is a growing number of non-pledge recurring gifts which may have been reported as pledges in prior years. This was an important component of revenue that significantly contributed to the 2024 surplus.
3. Space Use Fees surpassed the budgeted amount due to the unexpected increase mid-year with the renting of the former nursery classroom by iSing. The Vestry voted to allocate the surplus income to the B&G Reserve.
4. Actual Interest & Dividends excludes the Colorado Corp Dividend that was allocated to the B&G reserve
5. Personnel was 12% below budget or \$73,343, due to departure of Debie, a one-time pension adjustment, and underutilized staff time in program and administration
6. Total Expense was below budget by 8% or \$67,317 due primarily to personnel

7. In addition to Operating Expenses, the following expenses were funded through designated funds:

	2024 Revenue	2024 Expense
Property	212,892	157,129
Outreach	36,512	35,493
Christian Formation	22,375	22,248
Worship	29,323	16,398
Personnel & Sabatical	3,000	11,590
<b>Total</b>	<b>304,102</b>	<b>242,858</b>



## Treasurer's Report (cont.)

### ***St. Mark's Episcopal Church 2025 Budget Summary***

	<b>2024 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>2025 Budget</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Pledged Giving (1)	695,137	671,050	623,000
Non Pledge Gifts & Memorials	34,669	11,000	29,000
Space Use Fees (2)	110,000	110,000	150,000
Rental of Church Apartment (3)	29,365	34,400	-
Endowment General Fund Draw (4)			6,000
Interest & Dividends	20,000	20,000	20,000
564 Colorado Corp Dividend		36,000	48,000
<b>Total Revenue (6)</b>	<b>889,171</b>	<b>882,450</b>	<b>876,000</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
Personnel (5)	522,711	596,054	581,790
Diocesan Assessment (6)	113,793	118,312	118,650
Property	103,167	105,024	107,260
Administration	33,376	35,500	32,100
Christian Formation	3,631	6,000	6,000
Membership /Stewardship	1,642	1,600	2,800
Worship	27,403	14,260	20,100
Communications	9,410	5,700	7,300
<b>Total Expense (7)</b>	<b>815,133</b>	<b>882,450</b>	<b>876,000</b>
<b>Excess Revenue over Expense</b>	<b>74,038</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

#### **Notes on 2025 Annual Budget:**

1. Pledge units are steady year over year with revenue from increased and new pledges not overcoming pledges lowered by attrition.
2. Led by iSing's rental of the former nursery classroom, space use rental revenue has significantly increased from strong demand
3. The Office Apartment is now a component of the Sexton's compensation
4. The draw is from the Cook legacy gift
5. Includes Diocese Cost of Living increase of 3.2%
6. Calculated assessment based on 2023 expenditures
7. Overall budget decrease of less than 1 %



## Treasurer's Report (cont.)

### ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2025 Budget Detail

	2024		2025	
	Actual	Annual Budget	Annual Budget	Increase
<b>REVENUE</b>				<b>(Decrease)</b>
<b>Weekly Offering</b>				
1 Pledged Gifts	695,137	671,050	623,000	(48,050)
2 Non Pledge Gifts	30,399	7,000	25,000	18,000
3 Weddings and Memorials	4,270	4,000	4,000	-
4 Space Use Fees	110,000	110,000	150,000	40,000
5 Endowment General Fund Draw			6,000	6,000
6 Office Apartment Rental	29,365	34,400	-	(34,400)
7 Interest & Dividends	20,000	20,000	20,000	-
8 564 Colorado Corp Dividend	-	36,000	48,000	12,000
9 Total Revenue	889,171	882,450	876,000	(6,450)
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
<b>Personnel</b>				
10 Rector Salary	101,574	107,746	122,184	14,438
11 Associate Rector Salary	102,000	102,000	110,016	8,016
12 Administration Salaries	59,905	70,968	68,640	(2,328)
13 Program Coordinators Salaries	27,619	61,000	44,000	(17,000)
14 Music Director Salary	56,387	53,712	68,640	14,928
15 Organist Supply	3,000	7,500	2,100	(5,400)
16 Section Leader	14,379	12,554	13,200	646
17 Nursery/Preschool Care		3,600	5,000	1,400
18 Sexton Salary	25,099	26,288	10,300	(15,988)
19 Tech Support	10,107	15,200	600	(14,600)
20 Clergy Pension and Benefits	86,924	102,177	102,870	693
21 Lay Staff Pension and Benefits	32,712	29,709	30,040	331
22 Supply Clergy	1,081	2,600	2,000	(600)
23 Worker's Compensation	1,924	1,000	2,200	1,200
24 Diocesan Assessment	113,793	118,312	118,650	338
<b>Property</b>				
25 Utilities	44,827	49,000	50,000	1,000
26 Insurance	23,603	22,605	25,760	3,155
27 Landscaping Service	17,721	12,819	12,000	(819)
28 Janitorial	1,065	2,000	1,200	(800)
29 Building & Grounds	10,930	10,000	10,000	-
30 Rectory Maintenance	86	3,000	3,000	-
31 Taxes	2,799	2,600	2,800	200
32 Supplies/Janitorial	2,135	3,000	2,500	(500)
<b>Administration</b>				
33 Lease Copier	8,068	7,200	8,000	800
34 Office Supplies	1,564	2,000	2,000	-
35 Telephone	5,356	6,500	3,300	(3,200)
36 Administrative/Bank Fees	7,138	6,000	7,500	1,500
37 Postage	643	800	800	-
38 Travel	1,357	1,500	1,500	-
39 Continuing Education	2,605	4,500	4,500	-
40 Vestry/Leadership	3,645	4,000	4,500	500
41 Sabbatical Reserve	3,000	3,000		(3,000)
<b>Christian Formation</b>				
42 Children's Christian Formation	1,834	3,600	2,000	(1,600)
43 Adult Christian Formation	1,797	1,200	2,000	800
44 Youth Ministry	-	1,200	2,000	800
<b>Membership</b>				
45 Advertising	826	1,200	1,000	(200)
46 Membership	1,040	600	800	200
<b>Worship</b>				
47 Worship and Special Event	7,328	3,300	9,000	5,700
48 Music and Organ Maintenance	18,110	7,960	8,000	40
49 Altar Guild	927	1,400	1,500	100
50 Agape Supplies	1,038	1,600	1,600	-
<b>Communications</b>				
51 Software	7,124	4,000	6,100	2,100
52 Web/Graphics/Media	1,461	500	1,200	700
53 Stewardship	602	1,000	1,000	-
54 Total Expense	815,133	882,450	876,000	(6,450)
<b>EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENSE</b>	<b>74,038</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>



## Finance Commission

### Who are we

Nick Roosevelt (Interim Rector), Beth Janopaul, Susan Pines (Treasurer), Maureen Kennedy (Treasurer Emeritus, 564 Business Manager), Jonathan Luk, (Jr. Warden, 564 President) Mary Murphy (Maintenance Funding), Paul Milo (Chair, 564 Director)

### Purpose

Meeting monthly, we review St. Mark's Episcopal Church's main financial investments and programs; review the annual budget recognizing income/expense exposures and make recommendations to Rector/Vestry; support the Treasurer in preparation of the St. Mark's Episcopal Church annual budget; review requests for funding from commissions and make recommendations to Rector/Vestry; create new programs to develop the overall financial strength and stability of St. Mark's.

### 2024 Highlights

Finance commission meetings continued to be an excellent forum for the rector and now interim rector, treasurer and members to review St. Mark's Episcopal Church's main financial programs and investments; review performance against our budget and just talk about financial issues and matters. Here are a few key items:

- Supported Treasurer in Development of St. Mark's Annual Budget that included revisions and a Special Planning Meeting
- Jonathan Luk continues as Vestry Liaison
- Supported 564 Colorado Corp Management that had full occupancy through 2024
  - Maureen continues as Business Manager
  - Increased dividend to St. Mark's from \$3K to \$4K per month for 2025
- Maintenance Funding: Mary provided timely monthly reports to Finance
- Report to Vestry completed and offered New Vestry Financial Training as needed
- Maintained a Balanced Budget by Effective Monitoring
- Completed quarterly reviews with Endowment Trust
- Monitored adaptation to a changing parish demographic and declining pledging units
- Planned Giving: David Kennedy continued to lead the initiative

### 2025 Objectives

- Adaptation to a changing parish demographic and declining pledging units
  - Propose alternate models, as appropriate, to meet changing needs of Parish
- Recruit one new member
- Analyze income/expense results; offer advice and suggestions to Rector/Vestry as well as financial leadership; support fiscal responsibility in budgeting and budget achievement with commissions.
- Review Maintenance Schedule and Funding Sources



- Quarterly reviews with Endowment Trust Lead Peter Kidder
- Monitor Donation Options: non cash alternatives, e.g. Paypal for donations
- Offer Finance Training of Vestry Elect and Leadership and Report to Vestry
- Maintain a Balanced Budget by Effective Planning and Monitoring
- Monitor trends and opportunities for Socially Responsible Investing
- Support Activities for Planned Giving Commission
- Legacy Society Promotion and Education
- New funding ideas: is present outreach ideal? Review at each Meeting

*Paul Milo, Chair*



# Endowment Trust

St. Mark’s Endowment Trust was established in February 1985 to provide an opportunity for members of St. Mark’s to contribute to a permanent endowment benefiting St. Mark’s. The Endowment Trust is separate from the operating funds of the Parish. In May 2007, the original trust agreement was updated and established two funds, the General Fund and the Major Maintenance Fund.

- 1. General Fund - earnings can be used for any activity of the parish, with sub-fund for specific uses designated by Vestry
  - a. All Souls Garden Fund - designated for perpetual memorial garden maintenance
  - b. Organ Fund - designated for the major organ maintenance
  - c. Undesignated Fund - any other funds in the general fund
- 2. Major Maintenance Fund - can only be used for non-routine maintenance of facilities

Contributions to funds, by a gift or bequest, are always welcome. If a potential donor wishes to direct the use of his or her gift more closely than described (i.e., start a sub-fund of the General Fund), the Vestry and the Trustees must agree to the proposed conditions prior to acceptance of the gift.

The Endowment is invested with the Episcopal Church Foundation’s Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society funds, which invests in equities, fixed income (bonds), hedge fund of funds, and real estate.

The Church received a legacy gift in the amount of \$415,000 which the Vestry decided to contribute to the General Fund (undesignated). As a Vestry Contribution under the terms of the trust agreement, all of these funds are available for distribution.

The DFMS portfolio performance over the 2024 Fiscal Year period was 24.5% (gross) as compared to its custom benchmark return of 24.9% (gross).

For the Fiscal Year 2024, the Trust assets increased by \$671,327 due to the Vestry Contribution and the appreciation in value of the investments which included positive equity and bond returns. No distributions were made during FY 2024.

	September 30, 2024	September 30, 2023
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,571,136</b>	<b>\$899,809</b>
<b>Trust Estate</b>		
Major Maintenance	\$772,888	\$629,281
Gen Fund - All Souls Garden	\$291,875	\$237,643
Gen Fund – Organ Fund	\$40,390	\$32,885
Gen Fund - Undesignated	\$465,983	n/a
<b>Distributable Amount</b>		
Major Maintenance	\$411,193	\$267,586
Gen Fund - All Souls Garden	\$152,232	\$98,000
Gen Fund - Organ Fund	\$26,232	\$18,727
Gen Fund - Undesignated	\$465,983	n/a



Four Trustees govern the Trust. Trustees may serve two consecutive four-year terms. Our Chair, Glen Kernick, is completing an extraordinary sixteen years of service to the Endowment Trust. Glen has provided remarkable leadership over many years. We will miss his service and are extremely grateful for all he has given to the Endowment Trust. The Endowment Trust will ask the Parish to confirm three new Trustees at the annual meeting.

**TRUSTEES**

Glen Kernick, Chair  
Peter Kidder  
New Trustee TBD  
New Trustee TBD  
New Trustee TBD

**TERM EXPIRES**

Feb 2025  
Feb 2026 (First Term)  
TBD  
TBD  
TBD

— *Peter Kidder, Trustee*



## 564 Corporation

### Purpose/Description

564 Colorado Corp. is a for-profit corporation that is 100% owned by St. Mark's Episcopal Church. All of 564's assets are invested in a Palo Alto home at 2727 Gaspar Court. The corporation has three directors: Paul Milo, Jonathan Luk, and David Kennedy, who are responsible for managing the corporation mainly by providing fiscal oversight and property management of 2727 Gaspar Court. Maureen Kennedy handles the financial and administrative work for 564. Paul Milo provides primary tenant management. A set of by-laws, on file in the church office, governs the activities of the corporation. 564 Colorado Corp. provides, subject to adequate cash reserves, a monthly dividend to St. Mark's Church.

### 2024 Highlights

2024 was a stable year for 564 Colorado Corp. with the tenant continuing, and minor maintenance needs for the property.

- The corporation provided a monthly dividend of \$3000 to St. Mark's.
- The corporation has a goal of, and has been able to maintain, a minimum of 3 months operating expenses in reserves.
- Property maintenance in 2024 included dishwasher replacement and minor plumbing work.
- The current tenant who moved in November 2021, continued with a term through May 2025.

### Hopes for 2025

To continue supporting the Vestry's strategic direction regarding the use of the 564 property. To maintain full rental occupancy and increase the rent if possible depending on the rental market. We will make every attempt to balance the financial needs of the corporation with being a compassionate landlord. We will attempt to complete all needed repairs and updates to the property while maintaining a minimum of 3 months operating expenses in cash reserves. We plan to formalize a strategy for major maintenance funding reserves.

## Building and Grounds Commission

### Mission

The Building and Grounds Commission assists in providing a clean, safe, attractive, and functional environment for worship and community activities.

### Membership



Nick Roosevelt (Interim Rector); Crystal Larson (Vestry Liaison); Marius Milner (Co-chair); Mary Murphy (Co-chair) Bruce Anderson; Burt Bell, Simon Binns; John & Maritza Frankfurt; Shelly Hatfield; Jane Pillar Wilson; Bruce Wilson; Ramesh Azariah, Gus Leveque-Eichhorn

## **Activities**

The commission oversees all major and regular maintenance and repairs with the rector, the staff, and the parish leadership. Also, the group manages the replacement of the facility assets, organizes three parish workdays, and supports the Membership Commission in organizing the Community Faire.

## **2024 Highlights**

- Replaced all Rectory window coverings.
- Replaced Rectory roof.
- Completed Solar Analysis-solar panels & meters are meeting expected goals.
- Explored possible keyless entry for parish rooms.
- Repaired water leak in Parish Hall and Basement.
- Acquired metal shed for storage of paint and hazardous materials.
- Reviewed the 2024 Reserve Analysis with Vestry and a funding plan is needed.
- Explored mold issues in church.

## **2025 Objectives**

- Upgrade acoustic treatment of Parish Hall.
- Research possible air-conditioning in Church.
- Add windows to office doors from insurance company safety report.
- Continue Evaluate/install keyless entry system for rentals.
- Replace all the Parish Hall doors.
- Update the 2025 Reserve Analysis; a funding plan is needed.

Respectfully submitted by Marius Milner & Mary Murphy



# Stewardship Commission

Our mission is to invite all parishioners to be good stewards, i.e., to tend to, or be caretakers, of our faith community.

To fulfill this mission, the Stewardship Commission's plan of activity includes three phases. First, we tend to, or care for, each member of the parish through a personal contact in August by phone if possible to check in and invite everyone to participate in the new church program year. This early phone call also allows us to update contact information and learn of any moves, etc. so that our parish roster is more accurate. Second, in late October through November, we invite all parishioners to care for the parish as a whole by making a promise of support in terms of time, talent, and financial resources for the coming year. Finally, in May, at the end of the year, we call once again to thank parishioners for being part of our community and to invite them to the annual church picnic to celebrate another year of blessings at St. Mark's.

## 2024 Activities and Results

In line with this time of transition to a new rector, the theme for 2024-2025 was "Grace in Action" With faith for a bright future, we lift each other up and come together to share a portion of our time, talents, and money so that our parish community remains strong and our outreach to the broader community can flourish. Our stewardship campaign is focused on gratitude for all that we receive from being part of the St. Mark's community. We seek broad participation among parishioners at whatever level of support is possible for each person. Every pledge, regardless of amount, is welcome as an important symbol of commitment to St. Mark's. A pledge of time, talent and treasure.

- This year's campaign piloted two new changes, meant to address recent challenges with the pledge campaign.
  - The first change was the addition of Pledge Consecration Sunday, held on November 24, wherein parishioners were invited to bring their pledges forward to be blessed. This change led to having ~80% of our pledge goal raised with 106 pledges in hand.
  - The second change was a formal deadline of pledges to be included in the parish budget of December 31, 2024. In years past, pledges would come in through the month of January and even into February, which took additional time and effort on the part of the commission, staff, and clergy. While pledges are welcome at any time of year, shifting our pledging habits to a year-end deadline allows the new year to start off with more energy and capacity for our ministry and program.
- In the fall, the Finance Commission, Vestry, and Clergy set a pledge goal of \$675,000, which represented a modest .5% increase over our pledge budget for 2024.
- Stewardship materials created by the clergy to provide clear and comprehensive information about the financial needs for 2025 were mailed in mid-October.
- Parishioner Marina Martin delivered an inspiring stewardship sermon where she shared her background and love of this community.
- The annual Stewardship Brunch was held on October 20, 2024 to kick off the stewardship pledge campaign, with time for questions and answers about the 2024 budget. Approximately 70 parishioners attended the brunch which was prepared and served by over 17 parishioners and six



vestry members. We again served soup and salad with some of the soup and the salad coming from a new, excellent caterer.

- Mego wrote the articles in the *Messenger* that appeared over the first five weeks of the stewardship campaign. Announcements were also made each Sunday with updates on progress and encouragement.
- Over 30 volunteers, vestry members, and stewardship commission members followed up by phone and email with each parishioner to be sure stewardship materials had been received and to answer any questions about the budget and stewardship process.
- Once again we leaned heavily on our office manager, Wenjing Li, to keep us up-to-date on the number of pledges and on progress toward our financial goals. Wenjing did an amazing job of learning the various databases, processing all of the articles and reminder messages included in the weekly St. Mark's *Messenger*, and sending email communications to the parish. We could not have managed the stewardship effort without her as an amazingly capable and cheerful partner.
- Thank you cards were created, then addressed by Anne Vosti and sent by Wenjing, to every parishioner who pledged.
- Our 2025 Pledge Campaign ended with 129 pledges totaling \$623,000 or 92.3% of our pledge goal. We also observed a trend toward increased regular non-pledge giving from 2024 that together with our pledged amount will help us achieve a strong budget for 2025. We expect that a few more pledges ultimately will be made. On another positive note, we received pledges from 21 new families and 61 parishioners were able to increase their pledges as a positive sign of the generosity of our parish. St. Mark's is truly remarkable in that a large percent of our active parishioners make some level of financial commitment each year. **We give thanks to everyone in the parish who pledged their participation in church activities and/or financial support for 2025.**

### **Volunteer Participation in Stewardship Activities**

Good stewardship requires the dedicated efforts of a large number of people. We deeply appreciate the efforts of everyone who participated this year. The campaign could not be done without their support, and we encourage everyone to become involved and share the responsibility for caring for the parish. It is a great way to minister to our community and to get to know others outside the comfort of your immediate circle of friends. In particular, we are looking for a co-chair of the commission for next year, and for someone to work on the management of various parish membership lists and the calling efforts. Please consider joining this team next year!

Thanks to everyone who pledged, preached, cooked and served, wrote, called and reminded. We are honored to have served on the stewardship commission.

*Mego Tracy, Carol Scott*

*Stewardship Co-chairs*



## Vital Statistics for 2024

### Baptisms:

~~Katherine Ann Kwiatkowski, Joy Kathleen Weller, George Peter Durkin, Elias Chambers~~

### Marriages :

~~Petra Dierkes and Pieter Versayet~~

~~Dayra Dyer and Simon Binns~~

### Memorials and Burials:

~~Edith Moore, Carl Ditmore, Andrew John Paisley, Barbara Ingram, Carol Cook, Gordon Vosti, Kenneth Nix, Jean Price, Donald Price, Nancy Liu, William Kirk, Isabel Walker~~