

THE LION'S TALE

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE REV. MARK A. KOZIELEC, RECTOR
4714 CLIFTON AVE
ST. LOUIS, MO 63109
314/832-3588
WWW.SAINTMARKS-STL.ORG

JANUARY 2020



The Annual Meeting of St. Mark's Church will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2020 after the 10:00 a.m. service.

Thank you to our retiring vestry people: Susan Goen, Kris Smith and Kathy Watts for their years of faithful service.

We will elect new members of the Vestry to replace those whose terms are expiring. Nominees for vestry are Carol Hohenberger, Brian Stujenske and John Trelloggen for three year terms. Please watch the Sunday leaflet and the weekly Markings for more information on the candidates, including short bios which will be coming soon. We also will need to elect an alternate delegate to a 1 year term. Our delegates who currently serve are Jeanette Schoenberg and Ellen Jeffery.

The agenda also will include the presentation of the 2020 budget as adopted by the Vestry and the Rector's Report. Of course, there will be other reports on the life and work of St. Mark's Church during the previous year, and a look ahead to plans for 2020.

Refreshments will be provided so that hunger doesn't impair our concentration on this important business session.

Childcare will be available, including care for babies.

Journey through Epiphany

The Season of Epiphany begins with a journey—those wise men leaving their homes in the eastern regions of the known world to find and pay homage to the birth of Light and Love in a world of foreboding darkness. And the Season ends with another journey, as Jesus, following his pyrotechnic meeting with Moses and Elijah on the top of a high mountain, leads Peter, James and John down from the mountain and onward towards Jerusalem—his final journey to Jerusalem.

As I've been thinking about Epiphany and the notion of being on a journey—or perhaps the several different journeys that help to define one's life: personal, professional, spiritual, etc.—I am remembering a poem by Jan Richardson that speaks to Epiphany and Journey much better than I. And so I share it with you here—as I remind you that no matter where you are with the journeys of your life, you have a place here at St. Mark's... Epiphany Blessings!

Mark+

For Those Who Have Far to Travel

A Blessing for Epiphany

If you could see
the journey whole,
you might never
undertake it,
might never dare
the first step
that propels you
from the place
you have known
toward the place
you know not.

Call it
one of the mercies
of the road:
that we see it
only by stages
as it opens
before us,
as it comes into
our keeping,
step by
single step.

There is nothing
for it
but to go,
and by our going

take the vows
the pilgrim takes:

to be faithful to
the next step;
to rely on more
than the map;
to heed the signposts
of intuition and dream;
to follow the star
that only you
will recognize;

to keep an open eye
for the wonders that
attend the path;
to press on
beyond distractions,
beyond fatigue,
beyond what would
tempt you
from the way.

There are vows
that only you
will know:
the secret promises
for your particular path
and the new ones
you will need to make
when the road
is revealed
by turns

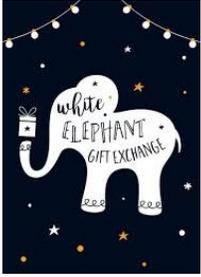
you could not
have foreseen.

Keep them, break them,
make them again;
each promise becomes
part of the path,
each choice creates
the road
that will take you
to the place
where at last
you will kneel

to offer the gift
most needed—
the gift that only you
can give—
before turning to go
home by
another way.

—Jan Richardson,
from *Circle of Grace*





**On the 12th day of
January, ECW gave to
me...
A post-Christmas
Party!**

All the women of St. Mark's are invited to gather on Sunday, January 12 at 1 pm here at St. Mark's Parish Hall for lunch, fellowship, a game of rob your neighbor, and a chance to talk about the upcoming year's events. We will bring in food and have a White Elephant Gift Exchange. Cost is \$15 per person. Bring a wrapped White Elephant gift (something you received for Christmas that is just not your style or something fun) to exchange. Please sign up by January 5th on the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall, or contact Susan Goen (314-374-2152) or Karen Watts (314-313-3212). Episcopal Church Women (ECW) empowers the women of The Episcopal Church to carry out Christ's work throughout the world. All women of St. Mark's are automatically members of ECW. Please come join us!

2020 ST.MARK'S DIRECTORY

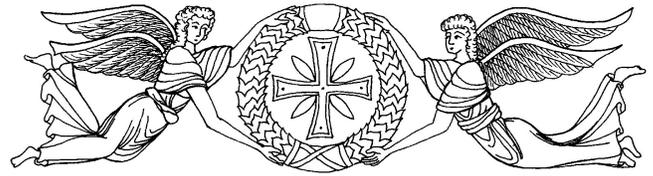
The new directory will be available after the Annual Meeting so all new vestry and delegate information can be included. There will be an opportunity at the Annual Meeting to check draft copies of the new directory to make any corrections to your address, telephone, email additions and/or other listings. You are also welcome to contact the office to provide any changes.

YOUNG ADULT SERVICE CORPS

There is a poster on the bulletin board in the parish hall with more information. Application deadline is Jan. 10th. Or for more info go to episcopalchurch.org/yasc.

THE OFFICE EMAIL IS BACK!!

Please return to using parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org. Please note that the rector's email remains working: mark@saintmarks-stl.org



Dear St. Markans,

We are sad to inform you that Andrew J. Kocot, Celeste Kocot's father, passed away on Thursday January 2nd after a long illness. Funeral arrangements are pending and when complete we will pass the information on to you.

NEWS FROM DOORWAYS

Mission Statement: DOORWAYS is an interfaith nonprofit organization that provides housing and related supportive services to improve quality of life and health outcomes for people affected by HIV/AIDS. In fiscal year 2019, numbers served increased 10%, reaching 3,200 men, women and children: 2,022 were clients and 1,178 were household members.



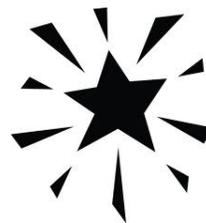
CURRENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

DOORWAYS is always seeking volunteers to better assist our clients and staff. We currently have opportunities in the following areas:

- Cooper House office hours (every Monday, answer phones and assist with administrative tasks)
- RED Volunteer Auction Spotter
- Special event volunteers
- Cooper House resident companions
- Bakers (provide special treats to residents)
- Activity Assistants (go on activities with residents)
- Administrative Volunteer (make phone calls, assist with mailings, etc.)

If interested in volunteering, please contact Patrick Young at 314-328-2707 or pyoung@doorwayshousing.org.

You can always go to their website www.doorwayshousing.org and sign up for their newsletter "The Doorways Dispatch"



NEW CHOIR ROBES

St. Mark's is grateful for the gift of new choir vestments and acolyte albs given by Carol Hohenberger in memory of her parents, Carl and

Charlotte Hohenberger and her brother Carl Hohenberger, Jr., which are being dedicated to the glory of God at the ten o'clock service on Sunday, January 5th.

VESTRY MEETING on Tuesday January 14th at 7:00 p.m. in the Proehl Conference Room.

FROM YOUR DEACON ...

During the first centuries of the Christian Era, the winter solstice was believed to be on January 6. So this day was chosen to celebrate the various manifestations, or epiphanies, of Jesus' divinity in opposition to pagan festivals held on the solstice. Epiphany was celebrated as the Feast of Lights as the celebration of the Son of God replaced celebration of the sun. It ties in to the star of Bethlehem, the visitation of the magi, and Jesus as the divine light of the world. Contemporary spiritual author Jan Richardson addresses where this light begins in this poem I would like to share with you:

WHERE THE LIGHT BEGINS

*Perhaps it does not begin.
Perhaps it is always.
Perhaps it takes
a lifetime
to open our eyes,
to learn to see
what has forever
shimmered in front of us –*

*the luminous line
of the map
in the dark,*

*the vigil flame
in the house
of the heart,
the love
so searing*

*we cannot keep
from singing,
from crying out
in testimony and praise.*

*Perhaps this day
will be the mountain
over which
the dawn breaks.*

*Perhaps we
will turn our face
toward what has been
always.*

*Perhaps
our eyes
will finally open
in ancient recognition,
willingly dazzled,
illuminated at last.*

*Perhaps this day
the light begins
in us.*

Indeed, this Epiphany season, let the light begin in us.

In Christ,
Deacon Jerre

TO THE PEOPLE OF ST. MARK'S

It has been another wonderful year, teaching and learning from the children at St. Mark's. Thank you for your generous gift. ~Celeste

Thank you, St. Mark's, for the generous Christmas gift! It was a privilege to make music with you during the Christmas season. Happy New Year to everyone!
~Barbara Raedeke

Thank you so much for the donation and gift of food from the Christmas Party. We are so thankful and it will go to good use.

~Kevin & Shelia at Karen House Catholic Workers

Thank you to the members of St. Mark's for the generous Christmas gift. Best wishes to all for a "Happy and Healthy New Year".

~Carol Eschbacher

WHAT'S COMING UP?

TUESDAYS 9:30 a.m. Al Anon Meeting

WEDNESDAYS 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting

THURSDAY, JAN. 8TH 6:00 pm Al Anon meeting in Parish Hall

SUNDAY, JAN. 12TH 1:00 P.M. ECW Post Christmas Party (see page 3)

TUESDAY, JAN. 14TH 7:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting in the Proehl Conference Room

SATURDAY, JAN. 25TH Hall Rental

SUNDAY, JAN. 26 Annual Meeting 11:15 a.m.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTING

Please see the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall to host Coffee Hour which follows the 10:00 service.



What's involved? Brewing a few pots of coffee, providing a small nibble or two, welcoming folks for a bit of fellowship, and placing used dishes in the sink (No need to wash: our cleaning folks do it). If you haven't hosted yet, why not give it a go.



1st Thursdays @ River's Edge Social
January 9 @ Noon Everyone Welcome!
Fellowship, Food & Fun

6997 Chippewa Street

Questions: Deacon Jerre jebirdsong@att.net

YOUTH EVENTS IN THE DIOCESE

Cathedral Youth Lock-In at Christ Church Cathedral

February 7-8 (7 pm-9 am)

Who: Any youth currently in grades 6-12

A night filled with food, fun, games, and prayer! A tour of the Cathedral, ring the bells, play Sardines at midnight, and worship on the roof on Sat. morning. Register online at tinyurl.com/cathedral2020.

Cost is \$10 per person.

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#### Province V Youth Event

February 28-March 1 at Bellwether Farm, Episcopal Diocese of Ohio, for Youth in grades 9-12. A weekend of workshops, games, worship and relationship building, all designed by youth of the province. Cost is \$100 per person. Online registration at [tinyurl.com/provincev](http://tinyurl.com/provincev).

For more info or either event contact the Rev. Canon Loren Lasch: [llasch@diocesemo.org](mailto:llasch@diocesemo.org)

## Winter is Upon Us!

And with it the dreaded "inclement weather"! As is our general practice, rarely do we cancel all worship services (sometimes one or the other) as the rector lives on campus. However, the rector expects that all members will make smart and informed decisions on whether to travel when we have snow/sleet/ice, etc. There is no need to risk your life and limb for church! (For Jesus, maybe--for church: NO!)



In the event that church is closed, we will communicate that through a message on our voicemail system, through our email-newsletter, the Markings (if you aren't signed-up, send an email to Carol at [parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org)) as well as on the TV Channels 2, 4 & 5 closings list. Be safe and know that you are always blessed!

## REPORTS NEEDED FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Also we will need the reports from leaders of all ministries, committees and/or groups ie. Hospitality, Property, Worship and/or Outreach, etc.

These reports do not need to be lengthy or incredibly detailed. A summary of what events were held, needed improvements to our church buildings, opportunities in the community for St. Markans, maybe something new that was tried in 2019 or discussions that were had. Writing a short report should not be something to fear or dread, but a chance to realize what indeed we have accomplished in the past year and to visualize what can be in the plans for the future.

If anyone needs a copy of last years reports for reference (it is always easier to begin with something, rather than a blank page) please let the office know. The easiest way to submit reports is to send by email to the parish office at [parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org) or drop off in the church office.

For the St. Mark's Calendar, please visit our website [www.saintmarks-stl.org](http://www.saintmarks-stl.org) and click on the calendar tab.