

St. Mark's Annual Report Addendum July 12, 2020

Update from the Treasurer ~ John Edwards

St. Mark's Finances – 2020 Update

A lot has happened in 2020 since the Annual Report was prepared – here is a brief update of our current financial health:

First, some good news:

- A significant portion of our Endowment has been released from collateral against our Extended Vision line-of-credit due to continued payment of Extended Vision pledges, and as of July 1 the value of the Endowment has completely recovered to the levels prior to the economic downturn.
- St. Mark's received a Payroll Protection loan as part of the CARES Act, which covered all personnel costs, utilities and mortgage interest for April and May, as well as Yoga & Dance Studio personnel costs for April thru June. The \$105,000 amount we received meets the criteria to be entirely forgiven, equivalent to a grant (i.e., we do not have to pay it back).

The shutdown of our facilities and in-person communal activities has, however, taken some toll on our budget, which the Vestry and Finance Committee are continuing to manage in various ways:

- The Finance Committee has developed a budget forecast to guide us through the shutdown, which we update on an ongoing basis as each month's financial reports come in.
- The current budget forecast anticipates some significant revenue losses, primarily in pledge & plate income (~19%) and rental income (~73%).
- The forecast anticipates expense reductions in various areas, primarily in extending the vacancy in our Assistant Rector position and reduction in our Diocesan Pledge down to its 2019 level.
- Outreach and personnel expenses have been prioritized as being central to our parish mission, so we are not currently forecasting any significant reductions in those areas.
- Our accumulated budget surpluses from previous years and existing Parish Reserve are currently forecast to cover the larger anticipated year-end deficit, though that also depends to a great extent on our parish community continuing to give what they can toward existing 2020 pledges. The more we can sustain our level of annual giving, the less we will deplete our Parish Reserve, which may yet be needed if the current slowdown continues into 2021.

From Ryan, Senior Warden.

I am so excited that we are finally able to hold our Annual Parish meeting, to take a look back at our year and look ahead to our next. As we do this, we celebrate our community, and I hope that we pause to feel and think about how special it is. I know that St. Mark's means something different to each of us. What does it mean to you?

Also at this time, some of us step out of positions they have held and help us as a community to lift up new leaders within the parish. This past Monday, the Vestry thanked our outgoing members, Jim Brooks, Tracy Councill, and Alix Pereira. They served on the Vestry for four extra months! We are so grateful for their service to us on the Vestry over the last three years, and we are thankful for Cecilia Monahan's three

years serving as diocesan delegate. This Sunday we will elect three new Vestry members and a new diocesan delegate to represent us at General Conventions along with Peter Nye and Caitlin Frazier.

These elected positions are incredibly important to keep St. Mark's moving forward, but they are not alone sufficient. We rely on so many people who lead us in subtle ways and in obvious ways, by quiet means and by more boisterous. One of my biggest hopes for St. Mark's is that we share this leadership: that we are supportive of those who want to grow into a role or try something new and of those who want to take a sabbath. Please consider how you feel called to lead. Perhaps you are exactly the person we need in one of the roles below?

Vestry Counsel: *This is from Rosemary Harold, who has been a tremendous help to me and to St. Mark's in helping to ensure we are aware of legal implications. She has helped us successfully navigate very sensitive legal situations and those more common occurrences where our bylaws have left us with ambiguity or do not address. She has been a source of both great wisdom and comfort for the Vestry. Rosemary is stepping down as of the Annual Meeting and we are seeking someone to take on this role.*

From Rosemary Harold, Vestry Counsel

"If you are a lawyer, serving St. Mark's as Vestry Counsel is more than just fulfilling — it's even . . . fun, at least most of the time. If it weren't, I don't think I would have served for two separate stints since 2005, nor played unofficial paralegal for my husband, Michael Knipe, who was Vestry Counsel between my times in office.

Part of the attraction is the opportunity to work directly for a small entity with many different legal needs, from the predictable (such as advice on contract or employment law) to the surprising (such as guidance through the thicket of local liquor regulations). You'll get a chance to stretch your knowledge base, and you'll have more resources to draw upon than just online legal databases. The St. Mark's community has plenty of lawyers who collectively cover many specialties, and they often are happy to help on one-off projects. Michael and I are among them, of course, but we also would enjoy coaching the next Vestry Counsel as he or she learns the ropes generally. That includes making introductions to the in-house counsel for the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, Don Crane, and the volunteer counsel who assist him. If St. Mark's (or any parish in the diocese) needs expert representation on a long-term basis, EDOW will help us to connect with a D.C. firm on a pro bono basis.

The other big benefit of the Vestry Counsel role is the opportunity to get to know the members of the Vestry, the clergy, and the other officers. They are smart and interesting people, and they ask good questions. Those traits have remained a constant over my time in office, even as the cast of characters has evolved over the years. They also are earnest and plainly dedicated to something beyond their own obvious self-interests. It makes for a very special attorney-client relationship. If you would like to know more about the post, please don't hesitate to contact me."

Parish Life: *This is from Julie Murphy, who has been the glue that keeps this community together while we have sprinted in twenty different wonderful directions. Her enthusiasm for community life and her support to the many groups that make up St. Mark's over the last couple of years has made this a fun and personal community I continue to want to be a part of. Julie is stepping down as of the Annual Meeting, and is looking to pass her role on to another and give the successor any guidance they might need.*

"I have been the Parish Life Manager since the spring of 2018. The Parish Life Manager for St. Mark's is the primary contact for a disparate group of parish activities that promote fun, mutual interest and support

within the parish. These groups include 1) affinity groups such as 20s & 30s or Lambda Lions, 2) support groups such as the Widows and Widowers group 3) social activities such as the all-parish dance or the parish fair and 4) ongoing parish services such as pub lunch and coffee-making. The Manager's responsibilities are to provide an overall vision for how we stay connected as a community, for support and guidance to these groups around budgeting and scheduling, and for communication to these groups and to the parish about Parish Life activities.

This position is a wonderful opportunity to promote belonging and connection to each other outside the pillars of Worship, Christian Education and Outreach. You can really make what you want of this position: you could choose to be a simple conduit of information and guidance to existing Parish Life groups or you could be more actively involved in expanding opportunities for fun and support.

I have enjoyed this role but would like to pass the baton. I would be happy to give my successor any needed guidance."

Outreach Co-Chair: *This is from Steve Dalzell, who I immensely appreciate for his tireless work to always look for the ways we as St. Mark's can make this world a more just and equitable place. Steve and others on the Outreach Board keep me always pointed toward the radical nature of the Gospel - that we are called to love one another and to demonstrate that love so that it is an active love. Through this action we are both transformed and transform the world. Steve is looking for a Co-Chair to share leadership.*

St. Mark's Outreach Board From Steve Dalzell, Co-Chair of the

"The last two years have been very "interesting" for the Outreach Board. In 2018-19 we had a chance to reset, and focused on engaging with most of the St. Mark's outreach activities and our primary partners outside our walls, like Everyone Home DC (formerly Capitol Hill Group Ministry) and the Bishop Walker School. We also renewed contacts with the Washington Interfaith Network, relying on individuals within St. Mark's to get involved in WIN's efforts and explore how our relationship might evolve. In the fall, we started applying what we had learned to reshape our Outreach budget, trying to think more on targeted areas of ministry than on specific partners.

As for most of us, the Covid-19 pandemic forced us to rethink our plans. We have focused on two tracks. First, working with the Vestry to determine how much money was available from our planned budget and how to prioritize donations to partners with the greatest immediate payoff in the current situation. Second (and this is still a work in progress) is sharing with the congregation ideas for how they can contribute their time and resources to groups helping the community during the pandemic. And now we are pivoting again to see how we can encourage and support a St. Mark's response to calls for overcoming race-related injustice and inequity.

Internally, this has also been two years of challenges. When I came on board as co-chair, there was no "co" – and we still have not found someone willing to share that light burden. I am committed to remaining co-chair for one more year, so this would be the ideal time for someone interested in justice and social welfare issues to join me and learn the players and processes before having to step up as the "senior co-chair." Additionally, the church has been relying for too long on the same group of dedicated parishioners to sustain the Outreach Board, and we are paying the price, having lost numerous stalwarts over the past two years. The lift is light if we have a full board, and the work mainly consists of being good stewards of our shared resources and good mentors for those trying to develop new ideas for outreach."

