



The Good News

Sunday, November 27, 2022

St. Mark's Episcopal Church: A Community of Grace

We spread God's word, love like Jesus, enjoy worshipping together, and help our neighbors.

Happy Thanksgiving

Week at a Glance at St. Mark's

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 9 AM to 3 PM (closed for lunch 12:30–1 PM); Friday 9 AM to 12 PM

Please note: The office will be closed on Friday, November 25.

Sunday 8 AM and 10 AM Holy Eucharist. Both in-person and streaming online on YouTube and Facebook. Go to <https://www.stmarks-upland.org/services/in-spirit-worship/>. Bulletins are available at church, by e-mail, and on the website. Hymnals are available for home use.

Monday–Friday 9 AM Zoom Morning Prayer and Bible Study.

Go to <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/93780545256>. Download prayer sheets <https://www.stmarks-upland.org/wp-content/uploads/November-2022-Morning-Prayer.pdf>

Wednesday 9 AM St. Peter's Guild. Card games and other activities in person. For info, email stpeters@stmarks-upland.org.

Wednesday 10:30 AM Men's Coffee Fellowship. Meet at Bad Ass Coffee in Rancho Cucamonga. For info, email menscoffee@stmarks-upland.org.

Church Calendar: All meetings/events must be scheduled through the church office. If you don't see your event, email parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org. Or call the church office at 909-920-5565 to schedule a date and time to reserve the rooms that are available.

Into Eternal Life: Patricia Drew, Mother of Ken Drew

It is with care that we inform you of the passing of Pat Drew, the mother of Ken Drew. Pat, 92, passed away at home on Tuesday, November 22, 2022. She is survived by her husband Marvin, son Ken (Lisa), grandchildren Sam and Peter, two great grandchildren, and daughter Jody. A memorial service is being planned at their home church. Please keep Ken and family in your prayers.

Rest eternal grant to Pat, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon her.

May her soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

WORSHIP

Contemplative Prayer: Use an Advent Word

To help focus attention, consider using a word from #AdventWord (Nov 27's word is "Walk") or from the Way of Love: Worship, Go, Learn, Pray, Bless, Turn, and Rest.

Gratitude Challenge, now to Thanksgiving

Once a day, name something you are thankful for.

Once a week, express your gratitude through words or action.

New Start Time for Prelude Music – 9:55 AM

During lockdown it became the custom to begin the worship service at 10AM. This included the pre-recorded prelude music. When we returned to the building for worship this custom continued as we were accommodating our remote congregation. On Sunday, November 27, we will begin the prelude music before the service—at around 9:55 AM—with the intention of finishing as close to 10AM as possible for the welcome. If you attend the live-stream service and value the real-time simultaneous community experience, please adjust your schedule accordingly. For those watching the rebroadcast, this should not affect your worship experience. Thank you for your flexibility.

Loving Our Neighbor: Masking

Masking is strongly encouraged. Masks are worn by those serving people face-to-face in close proximity—for example, hospitality hosts, ushers, greeters, Sunday School teachers, and Eucharistic ministers. Masks may be removed at the lectern, altar, or presiders' chairs. Unvaccinated persons and those who are immunocompromised are especially encouraged to wear masks indoors, particularly when in a small room with minimal air circulation.

COMMUNITY & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Show Your Appreciation for our Preschool Teachers

We are saddened that our St. Mark's Preschool will be closing in December, but we are thrilled for the staff that they will be moving and opening Angels' Academy at a new location in January. To show our appreciation for their long and faithful service and to assist them in their new venture, we are collecting gifts from the parish. Please place your gift of cash in an offering envelope marked "Preschool Teachers" or write that on the memo line of your check. Your gift of any amount will be added to others received and go directly toward their personal and professional expenses. Thank you for your generosity.

Children's Sunday School: November 27

Sunday school will continue focusing on the prophecies of Isaiah. Please have your child join us in room 18 in the Parish Hall at 9:50 AM. They will rejoin you at 10:40 AM in the church for communion.

Haiti Partnership

Our partner church and school, St. Andre in Trianon, Haiti, will celebrate its patronal festival on St. Andrew's Day, November 30. We will celebrate with them in spirit on Sunday, December 4, and we will have various Haitian arts, crafts, and other items for sale in the Parish Hall, with all proceeds to benefit our partners. Please be generous! We are able to include several professionally framed ready-to-hang Haitian paintings at this time which will be available by silent auction, with the bidding to end December 19. Each painting will also have a "Buy it Now" price which will allow you to take it away for a donation slightly above its value. (Check out "Indigo Arts" and "Myriam Nader Gallery" online for price comparisons.) Come by and see what we have for your Christmas shopping needs!

Saint Nicholas Dinner Will Be Saturday December 3 at 4pm

The dinner will be catered by California Cookout. Make your reservation now. Seating is limited.

Fellowship Events Ministry Meeting: Sunday December 4

The Fellowship Events group will meet at 11:15 AM in room 18. This will be an important meeting. We will discuss the result of the fundraiser for a new refrigerator/freezer unit for the kitchen—reviewing

models, prices, uses, and ensuring that the funds will be available. This is the time to take advantage of the sale prices. Please attend.

Nativity play: Sunday, December 18

The Nativity play will be held during the 10 AM service. We need volunteers of any age. Please come to the Parish Hall, room 18 at 9:30 AM if you are interested in participating in the play.

Vestry Discernment Meetings

Leadership in our parish is so vital. We are offering several Vestry Discernment meetings this Fall. We invite you to attend one of them to determine if you may have a call to serve on the Vestry beginning in 2023. Please come with your interests, concerns, or questions. The discernment sessions will be held after 8 AM and 10 AM Sunday services on Dec. 4 with more to follow. If you have an interest, please let the rector or a vestry member know, and we will be pleased to talk with you about our Vestry experience.

Positive Covid Test Announcement

Please be aware that a parishioner who was in attendance at the 10 AM Sunday Service on Nov 20, 2022, has since been diagnosed with Covid. There is no cause for alarm, shame, or fear. They are receiving appropriate medical and pastoral care. And they have informed those who were in close contact with them. For more information, please contact a medical professional or visit <https://covid19.ca.gov/>. Do not hesitate to reach out to clergy with any pastoral concern or issue. Please know that at St. Mark's we are trying our best to meet the pastoral needs of the community and abide by the diocesan guidelines for Covid which include notification, confidentiality, and information. Thank you for your continued support.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

You are invited to walk on Sacred Ground – Beginning in January 2023

Sacred Ground is a dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity. The 11-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories. We will be offering this course on Zoom from January through May 2023 as a joint project between St. Mark's and St. George's, Laguna Hills. Meetings will be held every other Tuesday evening, beginning on January 3. Space is limited. An interest list is forming now. Please contact Rev. Keith Yamamoto or Kimberly Cortner for more information or go to <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/>.

Inquiry and Membership Class Starts November 27 at 9 AM

If you are interested or have questions about how to become a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, please join us for Sundays in Advent—November 27, December 4, 11, and 18, at 9 AM in Room 16 just off the Parish Hall. We will be using the book *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices* by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe. This class is open to those who have questions for a friend, want a refresher course, are deconstructing their faith, or are interested in a safe space to share their spiritual journey.

Prayer Requests

Please send your prayer requests to prayer@stmarks-upland.org.

OUTREACH

Our Biggest Outreach

There are many benefits to being a member of a global network like the Episcopal Church—pooled resources, diverse perspectives, and outreach that is both international and local. When a person gives to St. Mark's Upland, they also contribute to ministries in prisons, schools, shelters, at the border, in the Holy Land, for neighbors affected by severe weather, and more. Learn more about how your pledge makes the world a better place by subscribing to The Episcopal News: https://visitor.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=001U6LRkZXdbYIJYqZISzrkmzyU5rq8tIFsR8BjwSn3O58_hHc2JrChp-KcyslzbqSkVNdH9ycQVDkxdkw6GHWYTkWEmwUTJb

Attention: Toys for T.O.U.C.H. – Until Sunday December 11

Children's Sunday School, Fellowship and Outreach ministries are asking for your help in collecting unwrapped toys for the children that T.O.U.C.H. assists. A box will be in the Narthex to collect donations beginning Nov 20th. Look for an information flyer.

Recovery Ministries at St. Mark's

Compulsive Eaters Anonymous meets in Room 30 on Saturdays, 9-10:30 AM.
Al-Anon meets in Room 30 on Tuesdays, 6:30-8 PM.

Episcopal Relief & Development Supports ACT Alliance Response to Crisis in Ukraine

Donations to Episcopal Relief & Development's Ukraine Crisis Response Fund will help the organization and its partners continue to provide assistance to people displaced by the crisis in Ukraine. Donate here: <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/product/ukraine-crisis-response/>.

Collecting Data for 2022 Reports: Attention Church Ministry Leaders

Church ministry leaders, we are needing end of the year data for 2022 to complete the Parish Annual Meeting report and for the Parochial report which is submitted to the National Church via the Diocese. Please be aware of the following guidelines for reporting:

Number of volunteers involved; number of new volunteers this year (2022); and number of people served per month. All totals may be estimated.

Does the congregation donate space for this ministry? Yes or no.

Does the congregation make financial or in-kind donations for programs provided by others?

Also, please let us know who the active participants are in your church ministry. St. Mark's is asked to report how many active participants there are in each of the following age groups: Children (0-12), Youth (13-17), Young adults (18-34), Middle adults (25-64), and Senior adults (65 and better). Because we don't want to double-count and people are members of more than one ministry, it will be helpful to have names. The office will sort/count for the parochial report. A person's age will not be disclosed.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP



Your Generous Contributions are Appreciated

Thank you for keeping current with your pledge or donating to St. Mark's. Please send in your contribution to St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 330 E. 16th Street, Upland, CA 91784. Alternatively, you may wish to set up automatic "bill pay" or "online banking" through your financial institution. You may also make your donation through [PayPal](https://www.paypal.com), donations are being accepted through our email address, contributions@stmarks-upland.org. Please consider remembering Saint Mark's in your estate planning.

Breeze for Contributions

With our new church software come some changes in our contribution recording. If you are splitting

your donation between funds, please state that in the memo line of your check or note it in the memo in PayPal. All unmarked funds will be placed in the Operating Fund Account.

DEANERY, DIOCESE, AND BEYOND

Advent Soup Suppers Wednesday Evenings in December – In Person

“God loves things by becoming them. God loves things by uniting with them, not by excluding them.” —Richard Rohr

On Wednesday evenings in Advent (Nov 30; Dec 7, 14, and 21) join Deanery 6 congregations for fellowship, soup supper, and a lively discussion on *The Universal Christ: How a Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, and Believe* by Richard Rohr. Host churches—currently including St. Ambrose Claremont, St. John's La Verne, and St. Mark's—will be responsible for providing a simple meal of soup and bread. Make new friends around the deanery, explore different worship and fellowship spaces, and enjoy the variety of your Episcopal family. Dinner starts at 6 PM; program at 6:30. **St. Mark's will host Dec 14.**

Welcome Discerner Rodney Hume-Dawson

Dr. Rodney Hume-Dawson is an expert in Resilience Education, Inclusive Practices, Education and Disability Studies. He is a certified English Educator in Los Angeles, California. He holds a Bachelor's degree in English and Philosophy, a Teaching Credential in the Teaching of English, a Master's in Teaching and Curriculum. He completed his Ph.D. in Education with emphasis on Disability Studies at Chapman University. His dissertation was a phenomenological inquiry on the resilience of people with poliomyelitis. Rodney has written several book chapters including “A Spiritual and Transformative Perspective on Disability” that was published in a book edited by Wappett and Arndt, entitled: *Emerging Perspectives on Disability Studies*. Rodney currently teaches in the Liberal Studies Department and supervises Education Specialist Teacher Credentialed Candidates in the College of Education at Cal Poly, Pomona.

Rodney has lived with a physical disability almost all his life. He was diagnosed with poliomyelitis at the age of eighteen months old in Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa, where he was born and raised. The polio left him paralyzed from his waist down. In spite of his obvious disability, Rodney was raised to believe that with God all things are possible. His mother instilled in him a deep faith in God and that has been his greatest source of energy and inspiration since he was a child. His parents' determination for him to be educated and Rodney's own appetite for knowledge has led him to his research on the resilience of survivors of polio in particular and people with disabilities in general. In spite of his polio diagnosis, Rodney was a curious and energetic child. His parents and some relatives saw in him a potential to succeed despite the prevailing attitudes about disability in Sierra Leone. Although he was refused schooling in a private school that his mother wanted him to attend, he was able to gain acceptance in a government/public school through the persistence of his parents and other family members.

Rodney's intention, research, and teaching are mainly to educate, sensitize, and transform the human mind about what he refers to as the three Ds: Difference, Disability, and Diversity. His personal experience with polio and expertise in the field of disability puts him at a level where he can help the world realize that all three Ds are part of the human experience. His provocative lectures are aimed at changing the status quo, deconstructing ideologies about disabilities, and transforming people's attitudes about what it means to be human.

PLEASE NOTE:

The deadline for article submissions is every Tuesday and must be emailed to parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org.

Please do not send them via Constant Contact.

Good News articles will be published every Thursday afternoon.