



The Good News

Sunday, September 4, 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.

Baptism, September 11

To all the Faithful in Christ Jesus throughout the World: Peace be with You!

Be it known unto you that our beloved in Christ, Madison Rose Schinler, daughter of Michael and Laura Schinler, will be baptized with water and the Holy Spirit, on the 11th day of September, at ten o'clock ante meridiem, in the midst and witness of Godparents Rachel Marie Elmore, Lisa Vanessa Ponce, Anthony Ponce and the faithful at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Upland, California.

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 Monday, Sept 5 for Labor Day.

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 from the website at <https://www.stmarks-upland.org/morning-prayer>.

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.

WORSHIP

Update on Music Director Search

The search committee wishes to thank all those who participated in the seven listening forums held between July 24 and August 7. About 40 people attended (including committee members). Also, there were 51 responses to the emailed survey and another 10 handwritten forms returned, for a total of 61 respondents. A full report of the survey results and a summary of comments from the forums is yet to come. For now, please know that the search committee is actively working to digest all the input received from the congregation and to discern what type of music director will be a good fit for St. Mark's. The timeline agreed upon by the committee calls for us to begin

reviewing applicants in mid-September. We appreciate that this must be a thoughtful, prayerful process if we are to discern the best path forward for worship music at St. Mark's. In the meantime, we will continue to enjoy the talents of guest and in-house musicians as we praise God each week with music. Please reach out to any committee member with your ideas, concerns, suggestions, or questions to be conveyed to the whole committee. Thank you for your prayers and patient support of this process.

Music Director Search Committee

Nick Adams, Lisa Drew, John Flasher, Marcia Godwin, Barbara Nalbach, Kathy Osterkamp, Michael Schinler, and Kimberly Cortner, Chair

Prayer Cross

Jesus said, "Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple."

The Easter Flowering Cross will be available to receive prayers. This tool for prayer echoes the Western Wall in the Holy Land where over 100,000 people visit daily. Prayer is responding to God, by thought and by deeds, with or without words. The prayer cross involves images, words, and the form of the cross to help focus our intention and prayers toward Jesus' way of love. Write or draw your prayers and roll and insert them in the openings or attach them with the provided clips. When more room is needed and when the prayer cross season is finished, prayers will be removed and reverently burned. They will not be read when collected, however, please be aware that these prayers are not confidential. Please feel free to experiment with the prayer cross as part of your weekly prayer practice.

Offertory Plates

For your convenience, the offertory plates are located by the baptismal font as you enter and by the front pews as you approach the altar for communion.

COMMUNITY & FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Fellowship Ministry Meeting, September 4

Fellowship ministry will be meeting on Sunday, Sept 4, in room 18 from 11:15 am to 12:30 pm. We will review Trunk or Treat event Oct 22 and the caterer for the St Nicholas Dinner. If you are interested in these activities, please come and contribute to the conversation.

Preschool Fall Enrollment Open

Fall Enrollment for St. Mark's Episcopal Preschool is open. Because of later than anticipated starting dates for renovations at both St. Mark's and at the new location and because a four-month gap for families would be a hardship the preschool will continue at St. Mark's through the end of the 2022 calendar year. Contact Jackie Wilds at (909)565-9285 for more information. Your continued support of the preschool and St. Mark's is appreciated.

St Mark's Book Club, September 17

The club will meet on Saturday, September 17, 10:00 AM, at the home of Betty Ward. We will be reading the book, *Their eyes were watching God* by Zora Hurston. Please let Betty know if you plan to attend. It promises to be another great discussion so we hope to see you then.

Trunk or Treat, Saturday, October 22

Join us for a Trunk or Treat Halloween event. If you are interested in decorating your car's trunk for this event, please contact Susan Mackall at fellowship@stmarks-upland.org with your name and contact information. If you are able to help decorate, set up or clean up, please click here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4CAFA92AA2FCC16-halloween>

Calendar of Events

We will be adding our events calendar to the Good News at the end of each month for the following month. In addition, we will add a hard copy in the parish hall. If you would like to add or edit an event, please submit to parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org.

Welcoming Guests and Keeping the Community Healthy

Please allow guests with mobility issues the option of parking in the north/front parking lot. Please be aware of strong/distracting colognes/perfumes. If you feel ill or are presenting any symptoms, please stay home and join us online. Please let us know if we can bring Holy Communion to you. Please wash your hands, wear your mask, mind your space, and get boosted.

Updating Your Contact Information

Did you know that you can update your contact information? Both Breeze and Constant Contact allow you to update your own profile. Please note that they are two separate and independent systems, so updating one does not change the information with the other. The e-mail addresses in Constant Contact determine who gets the church newsletter, the Good News. The mailing addresses in Breeze determine who gets the seasonal letters from the church (e.g., Christmas, Easter, Stewardship, and special announcements). Please feel free to call the church office if you have any questions.

Church Ministry Groups Check In: Chairs, Calendars, Questions

If you are a leader of a church ministry group, please be sure to introduce yourself (via e-mail is fine, in-person encouraged) to Rose in the church office. If you have an event you would like posted in the church calendar, please let her know. And please let us know how we can help you.

Into Eternal Life: Heber Becker

The Becker Family is planning a family committal service on Saturday, Oct 8, 2022, in the memorial garden. At an upcoming Sunday, they will provide a gracious flower arrangement to celebrate his life with the broader St. Mark's community. Heber will be memorialized via his name plaque in the garden and All Saints Sunday.

Rest eternal grant to Heber, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him.

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

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

DOK Open House, September 11

The Sancta Sophia chapter of the Daughters of the King are sponsoring an Open House for all women interested in learning more about becoming a Daughter of the King. It will be on Sunday, September 11, 11:30 AM in Room 16.

Confirmation 2023

St. Mark's is scheduled for a bishop's visit next year in 2023. (The exact Sunday is yet to be determined.) Please let the office/clergy know if you are interested in making a mature affirmation of the baptismal vows made on your behalf by parents and godparents. This is also the time to be received into the Episcopal denomination from another faith tradition. And finally, a person may re-affirm their baptismal vows as an adult. Confirmation is one of the requirements for serving on the vestry.

Prayer Requests

Please send your prayer requests to prayer@stmarks-upland.org. Or complete the prayer request form at <https://www.stmarks-upland.org/prayer-requests>

OUTREACH

Foothill Family Shelter Collection through September 11

The Daughters of the Kings will be collecting items for the Foothill Family Shelter through Sunday, September 11. Please place your donations in the plastic container in the Narthex. Shelf stable food, such as canned vegetables, pasta, and soups are always needed. School supplies are also needed year round, such as:

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| wood/mechanical pencils & lead refills | rulers |
| highlighters | calculator (basic) |
| protractors/compasses | ballpoint pens (red, blue, and black) |
| sharpeners | index cards |
| glue (sticks and liquid) | binders (.5", 1", 1.5", and 2") |
| crayons | colored pencils |
| washable markers | tab dividers |
| scissors (blunt-tip /regular) | white out (tape, pens, liquid) |
| carry cases/boxes | 8 gb usb drives |
| pocket folders | construction paper |
| sticky notes/page tabs | |
| spiral & composition books (wide-ruled and college-ruled) | |
| loose-leaf paper (wide-ruled, college-ruled, and graphing) | |
| and of course, backpacks! both for elementary-ages and through high school | |

Red Cross Blood Drive, October 7

Our next blood drive will be held on Friday, October 7 from 1-7pm. Sign up to donate at redcrossblood.org. The 12/2 drive is being rescheduled.

Recovery Ministries at St. Mark's

Compulsive Eaters Anonymous meets in room 30 on Saturdays, 9-10:30am.
Al-Anon meets in room 30 on Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm.

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/>.

T.O.U.C.H. Ministries

T.O.U.C.H. Ministries provides clothes, food, and bedding, and welcomes your donations. Especially needed at this time of year are tarps, socks, gloves, beanies, and always Walmart or fast-food gift cards. For more information, contact Dave Nalbach or Cheryl Hunley. Email touch@stmarks-upland.org.

United Thank Offering's Great EpisGOpal Races, Oct 14

The Great EpisGOpal Race returns Oct 14-23, featuring a partnership between the United Thank Offering and Episcopal Migration Ministries. This fundraiser offers multiple ways to participate and raise funds to support special ministries and missions. Registration is [open online](#) for the virtual race.

Proceeds will support both the 2022 United Thank Offering (UTO) Ingathering and Episcopal Migration Ministries' (EMM) [Neighbor to Neighbor program](#), founded through funding from a [UTO grant](#). Neighbor to Neighbor trains and provides supports to faith communities who serve as community sponsors for asylum seekers or Afghan arrivals.

Participants can register for \$15, choosing their preferred mode (run, bike, swim, hike, paddle board, martial arts, etc.), distance, and type of race, including a 1-mile fun run, 5K, 10K, half-marathon, marathon, and "choose your own adventure."

Read more [here](#).

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

St. Mark's 2021 Audit Completed

St. Mark's recently completed its church audit for 2021. A copy can be viewed in the parish hall next to the vestry minutes by the west wall. You can also view it on the St. Mark's website (About Us, Documents, Vestry Minutes). The last audit shows forgiveness of the 2020 PPP loan. The auditor recommended that St. Mark's update its inventory, but otherwise indicated that our financial management were done in accordance with generally recognized accounting principles. Regular audits are required for Episcopal parishes in our diocese.

Finances and Contribution Update

St. Mark's church income was \$155,851.82 and expenses were \$253,475.28, for a deficit of \$97,623.46 for the period of January 1 through July 31, 2022. We had a cushion at the beginning of the year due to our 2021 PPP loan and are working to reduce expenses. The building fund received donations of \$13,075, not including a previous anonymous donation that helped us to pay off the building loan in June. We are in the midst of the summer season when donations typically dip but expenses do not! Please prayerfully consider your donations to St. Mark's. We need your pledges and donations! We will be distributing and mailing contribution statements this week. Contributors can also check their donation history at any time in Breeze.



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](#), 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.

Keeping Cool

Because the HVAC units work together to cool the room, the "mode" function of the thermostats all need to be the same: on, off, or program. Please do not try to cool down the parish hall "just a little" by turning on just one unit – because then that one unit will burn out trying to cool the whole parish hall.

During church events, please be sure that all the thermostats in the parish hall (4) and/or sanctuary (6) are either all "On" or "Program." At the end of the event, all the thermostats should all be "Off" or "Program."

The preferred mode/setting is "Program." The sanctuary thermostats are programmed to kick on at 6am when the temperature is above 74F and to shut off at 11:30am on Sundays. The parish hall thermostats are programmed to kick on at 9am when the temperature is above 74F and shut off at noon.

Tl;dr: At the end of a church event no thermostat should be left "On."

This practice will keep us comfortable and make us good stewards of generous gifts.

DEANERY, DIOCESE, AND BEYOND

Family Fun Day at St John's, September 16

Come join the Deanery 6 family at St. John's Episcopal Church in LaVerne on Wheeler Ave on Friday, September 16, 4-8pm for an all-outdoor family fun day with live music, bounce house, food, games, and more.

My Work to Do

"My Work To Do" is an online affinity group designed to help white people build stamina for discussing racism, systemic injustice, racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in their everyday lives. New sessions always around the corner. For more information and to register:

<https://www.myworktodo.com/>

Sunday Bible Readings Discussion, Saturdays

Rev. Dr. Gianluigi Gugliermetto, Christ Church Ontario Rector & Director of Center for Spirituality, hosts an online meeting to explain, comment, and discuss the biblical readings assigned for the Eucharist on the next day. This is a free and open recurring event. The link is here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85742278997>

Celebrating 16 Years of Ministry of Fr. Mark Hallahan, September 10

Fr. Mark will preside at his final Mass at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Pomona, on Saturday, September 10 at 1PM. A reception celebrating Fr. Mark's Retirement will follow. All are invited.

RSVP: email admin@stpaulspomona.org.

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.