



Vestry News March 2019

Vestry appointed Cathy Harrington to fill the remaining one-year term of Alison Samarias, who resigned vestry to become interim Director of Development for St. Mark's Church and School. Cathy, who was serving as clerk, has been worshipping at St. Mark's for several years and is a professor of pharmacy at Palm Beach Atlantic. Former Sr. Warden Monique Burns was appointed clerk of the vestry to replace Cathy. And, Ginny Coykendall was elected by vestry to a three-year term as vestry representative on the school advisory board. The advisory board is a "committee" of the vestry, which has ultimate responsibility for our primary mission of the church: St. Mark's School.

Jim also shared some brief reflections of his sabbatical and expressed gratitude for the leadership of the clergy, staff and vestry during his time away. He spent more than a month in Kenya building The Mama Ada Foundation relationships, but also spent quality time with family and friends here in Florida. He assured vestry that he returns energized and ready to go but also hoping a slightly new perspective will enhance his leadership role as rector of St. Mark's.

Since the finance committee did not meet in March, monthly financials were not presented. Ginny reported that the Cantus concert met its financial goals, netting more than \$10,000 of "profit," which is the goal for the concert in the annual budget. Ginny thanked the many hands that helped with the concert and also expressed gratitude for the many sponsors who helped underwrite the concert. Vestry continues to thank God for the support and commitment of so many parishioners to the life of this parish. Negotiations have also begun with Seraphic Fire to return to St. Mark's next December after a year away. The date will be announced soon.

Sr. Warden Charlie Schlumberger has asked retail manager Church Thomas to make a report to vestry about his staff position and the growth in our retail ministries at The Thrift Shop and in the Lion's Den. Charlie also told vestry he was going to be addressing the congregation this weekend (March 23/24) for the annual State of the Church and stewardship address. He expressed gratitude that the stewardship campaign was off to a good start with nearly 80 pledges already made for the new operating budget that begins July 1.

Jim asked the vestry to read *The Spirituality of Fundraising*, a small book written by Henri Nouwen, the renowned Roman Catholic priest, author and spiritual mentor who died in 1996 but left behind a treasure-trove of wisdom and teaching. Vestry read the book back at the start of the 2010 capital campaign and found it very helpful.

Jim also reminded vestry of [The Peace Lecture 2019](#) that takes place on Thursday, March 28, in Coleman Hall from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. [Just Tell Me How It Ends: Hope and Peace in the Book of Revelation](#) is the title of lecture delivered by the Rev. Dr. Barbara Rossing, a Lutheran minister and professor of New Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. She will offer a much less threatening perspective of a Biblical text that is misunderstood and misinterpreted by many who fear End Times and espouse theology that has found its way into the political discourse around the Middle East.

Financials

Monthly financials were not presented. For more information regarding St. Mark's financials, please call Ron McElhone, CFO, or Steve Eassa, treasurer. For questions about your pledges or gifts to St. Mark's, call our bookkeeper, Allison Dean, in the church office at 561-622-0956, ext. 233, or email adean@stmarkspb.org.

St. Mark's at a Glance

Did you know

Parishioner Charlotte Pelton was interviewed by the *Palm Beach Post* in a recent article regarding the admissions scandal in higher education? Not only is Charlotte a former senior warden at St. Mark's and the owner of a financial fundraising consulting firm, she also served as head of the Suncoast High School Foundation. Her daughter, Amanda, a St. Mark's School graduate, attended Suncoast, which is a top-rated national high school in Riviera Beach.

St. Mark's is filled with volunteers who give and give and give? Thanks to the event chairs and everyone who helped make Family Fun Day (Jeanne Murphy), the Cantus Concert (Ginny Coykendall), and the Saturday Morning Prayer Retreat (Mandy Frantz) such wonderful events.

Nearly 80 parishioners made pledges to the stewardship campaign during weekend services on March 16/17? *First Fruits of the Heart* will continue for the next four weeks. You can [watch a video](#) shared at services by going to the St. Mark's website at www.stmarkspb.org.

Fourteen St. Markans are joining fourteen members of Temple Judea for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in early May? Fr. Cook and Rabbi Yaron Kaptilulnik are leading the trip.

Janet Wilkins, a long-time member, was featured in the *Palm Beach Post*, holding some furry friends who visited La Posada?