



St. Mark's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

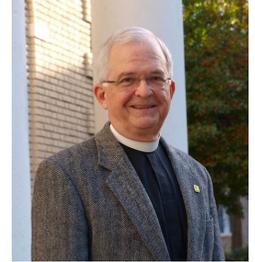
RE:MARK'S

OCTOBER 2019

Dear Ministry Partners,

How much do you make? The following story might help you answer the question.

Two men crashed in their private plane on a South Pacific Island. Both survived. One of the men explored the island and declared, "This island is uninhabited, there is no food or water. We are going to die!" The other man leaned back against the fuselage of the wrecked plane, folded his arms and answered, "No we're not. I make over \$250,000 a week."



The first man grabbed his friend and shook him. "Listen, we are on an uninhabited island. There is no food, no water. We are going to die!" The other man, unruffled, again shook his head no and responded, "No, I make over \$250,000 a week." Mystified, the first man, taken aback with such an answer repeated, "For the last time, I'm telling you we ARE doomed. We are going to die a slow death."

Still unfazed, the first man looked the other in the eyes and said, "Do not make me say this again. I make over \$250,000 per week...and I tithe. MY PASTOR WILL FIND US!"

How much do you make? Once again it is time for us to consider our hands and God's work. On the first three Sundays of October we'll hear how mustard seeds, lepers, and a widow teach us to be faithful, thankful, and prayerful. Then, on the fourth Sunday, we'll celebrate Reformation Sunday as 2019's Consecration Sunday. We will offer our 2020 estimates of giving for the ongoing ministries in and through St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

October offers a time for each of us to prayerfully consider growing our financial gifts by 1% of our personal income in support of God's work. It will be a time to look at how much you make, determine the percentage of your income you're giving this year, and consider raising that amount by 1% of your annual income for 2020.

The Biblical standard of the tithe suggests that we give 10% of what we make. The tither in the story gives \$25,000 per week based on his \$250,000 per week income. I give thanks that we do have some tithers at St. Mark's. My prayer is that their number will increase. I invite you to grow toward tithing—step by step in 1% increments. I also invite you to consider tithing not as a ceiling but rather as a floor for your generosity.

So, you don't make \$250,000 a week? Neither do I. The point of the story is that there needs to be a direct relationship between how much you make and how much you give. Between now and Reformation Sunday, October 27th, pray that God will show you how to grow in this relationship.

Pastor Trexler

COUNCIL UPDATE

The Church Council has been very intent to represent the members of St. Mark's in the important business matters facing us. At our September meeting we received and approved motions concerning the renovation building contract and the loan agreement to finance the construction project. These motions have subsequently been voted on and approved by the congregation at the special meeting on September 22.



A LOT of time, discussion, collaboration and decision making went into the development of these actions. We owe a debt of gratitude to the building committee, the finance committee, the staff and many others who have been instrumental in bringing us to this point of accomplishing the building renovation.

Now we anticipate the disruption the renovation will bring. Let us be patient, flexible and amenable to the changes we face.

The next special congregational meeting is set for October 13, to vote on a new pastor and the compensation package being offered. It is an exciting and opportunistic time for St. Mark's. Together, we are preparing for new ways to continue our mission as disciples of Christ in Asheville and in the world.

Mark Fritch
President, Church Council

BUILDING TEAM UPDATE

What's Next for the Building—

Following the Congregational vote held Sunday, September 22, 2019 to proceed with St. Mark's renovation project, John Yurko, our architect, will submit our plans to the City to obtain necessary building permits. Once the permits are in hand, Carolina Cornerstone (under Scott MacAlister) will proceed with the renovation project.

During the project there will be limited access to several areas of the building. However, during services and other programs, appropriate emergency and handicapped access and exits will be maintained for safety.

Stay tuned for continued updates.



In lieu of a Ground Breaking at St. Mark's, we ask you all to participate in the **Wall of Appreciation**. Everyone is invited to draw something, write a well wish, or prayer. This can be for the workers, the building, or the project as a whole. Your choosing.



The wall is across from the church offices.

We are excited Rooted in Faith is moving forward and walls will soon be coming down!

ST. MARK'S HAPPENINGS

7th Annual World Communion Sunday

Ecumenical Service Sunday on October 6th at St. Paul's! Deacon Katie Rivers is preaching, and all three choirs will be raising a joyful noise to the Lord together.



8:30 Regular Worship at St. Mark's followed by Faith Formation. No 11am Worship at St. Mark's.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 223 Hillside Street

Faith Formation on World Communion Sunday



On Sunday, October 6th we will celebrate World Communion Sunday at St. Paul's United Methodist Church with God's people of St. Paul's and St. Mary's Episcopal.

So that there is enough time to get over to St. Paul's for 11am Worship, Faith Formation will end at 10:30 on October 6.

OFFICIAL NOTICE—Pastoral Candidate Update:

There will be a Special Congregation Meeting on **October 13th at 9:45am** to vote to extend a call to the primary candidate for the Senior Pastor at St. Mark's.

There will be a **Meet & Greet** with the candidate on Saturday, October 12th at 3pm in the Fellowship Hall. The candidate will give a devotion at 3:30.



New Adult Faith Formation Class beginning October 6!

And Some Names are Forgotten ! Stories of women in Scripture - During our five sessions together we will explore triumphs and tragedies of at least 5 women in Scripture who are rarely in the spotlight. Our discussions will compare social, economic and ethical issues in their time and ours.

This class, taught by Kari Warren and Susan Denne, will meet in the Commons.



Affirmation of Ministry of Word and Service – Sunday, October 13th

On Sunday, October 13th we will have an Affirmation of Ministry of Word and Service for Deacon Katie Rivers at both services.

At the Church wide Assembly in August, the ELCA voted to change the Entrance Rite for Deacons from Consecration to Ordination. Previously, deacons (and deaconesses, diaconal ministers, and associates in ministry before the unified roster of Ministers of Word and Service in 2016) were consecrated or commissioned into their ministry in the Church. They were still considered lay people, but gave leadership in the church's mission to witness to God's love through both words and actions.

Ministers of Word and Service, or Deacons, will now be ordained as they begin their ministry in the church. Whether one serves as a pastor or a deacon, ordination affirms the call of the church, commits the individual to carry out faithfully their responsibilities, and affirms the commitment of the church to accompany and support these ministers as they live out their public ministry. Deacons are called to work alongside ministers of Word and Sacrament (Pastors). Their roles are distinct, but complementary, and work together as partners in ministry. In addition, the term ordination is easily recognizable by, and can strengthen conversation and collaboration with global and ecumenical partners. This change from consecration to ordination does not change Deacon Katie's role or scope of ministry, with sacramental ministry still being the role of a pastor. Since Deacon Katie was consecrated in January 2017, the service of Affirmation of Ministry of Word and Service will celebrate her ministry together with St. Mark's, and affirm her as ordained to do God's work!



ST. MARK'S HAPPENINGS

Youth Group-

Sunday, October 13th @ 12:15pm

We will continue to work on preparations for the Youth Concert.
Lunch: Kari Warren



Sunday, October 27th @ 12:15pm

We will have a quick lunch at St. Mark's, and then head downtown to "Breakout"!
Lunch: David and Devika Penland

YAGM Presentation — Andrew Webb

Join Andrew Webb on Sunday, October 20th at 12:15 in the Fellowship Hall as he talks about his year in Senegal as a Young Adult in Global Mission.



Last year St. Mark's prayerfully and financially supported Andrew during his ministry, and he is excited to thank his church family and share his experience with us. A light lunch will be served.

Breakfast with WNC Baptist— Saturday, October 26th 9:30—12

St. Mark's will host breakfast with WNC Baptist where we will enjoy sharing a meal together, fellowship and discussion with our brothers and sisters from WNC Baptist Fellowship.



Save the Date! St. Mark's Youth Concert

Sunday, December 1st @ 4pm

St. Mark's Youth Group will present a concert and share their love of music and the many gifts that God has given them with their church family. This concert will be a fundraiser to make it possible for the Youth Group to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in 2021. Stay tuned for more information!



The **October Men's Fellowship Breakfast Gathering** is Saturday, October 19th.

We will meet again in the private room of the Happy Hill Restaurant on Patton Avenue at 8 AM. After the business meeting we will be continuing the Bible series about the pressures men face. The Bible passage is John 5:1-15-- "Dealing With My Health"---Jesus Heals a Long Sickness.

All men of St. Mark's are invited and welcome
~George Kroncke



Halloween Trunk or Treat AND Chili Cook-Off—Saturday, October 26th @ 4pm

So you think Halloween is just for candy consumption? NO! St. Mark's Evangelism Team thinks it's the perfect way to open our arms to the community and invite folks to church for a family friendly event! And we need your help:



- Sign up to decorate your car's trunk in a spooky or funny or fancy way for local trick or treaters
 - Sign up to cook your best batch of chili!! First, second, and third prizes will be given out. The competition is fierce, people! (but really all in good fun)
 - Sign up to help with set up or clean up
 - Help navigate folks and cars the day of the event
- Dress up in your favorite Halloween costume and have fun!! The costume part isn't necessary, but the having fun part is!

When: Saturday, Oct 26, 4:00 - 6:00pm

Where: St. Mark's parking lot and fellowship hall
See Sign-Up Central for more information

ST. MARK'S HAPPENINGS

Calling All St. Mark's Hikers— Friday, Oct 11th



Please join us for a guided hike in the North Carolina Arboretum on Friday, October 11 at 1:00 pm.

The hike will be led by an experienced volunteer of the Arboretum, who will tell us about the trees and other plants and animals found in the beautiful Arboretum. There is a cost of \$5 per person. The optimal group size is 12-14 persons. If more than 15 people are interested, we'll request a second guide.

Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board at Sign-Up Central as soon as possible, so we'll have time to try to line up another guide, if needed.

Note that there is a \$14 per car fee for entering the Arboretum, unless someone in the car has an Arboretum membership. If you are a member and are willing to allow others to ride with you, please indicate that on the sign-up sheet. We'll meet at the church at 12:30 pm to carpool to the Arboretum. See you then!

Questions? Contact Linda Kinsinger #919.306.5832

Special Quilting Day—Tuesday, October 29th



The ladies of the Tuesday quilting group extend a cordial invitation to the men of the church and any other men (or women!) who wish, to join us on Tuesday October 29 for a morning of quilting.

Wouldn't it be fun to see what the ladies have been doing all these years? We make quilts to send via Lutheran World Relief all over the world, and also donate others to local homeless shelters.

If you can cut, secure a safety pin, or tie a square knot, you can help make a difference in people's lives. In fact, perhaps, even if you can only put tables and chairs away, we would be excited to have your help.

The quilters meet in the fellowship hall 8:30 AM until 11:30 AM every Tuesday morning; come join us for the whole morning or perhaps only for an hour or two. Refreshment break is at 9:45, and the food is always great! We hope to see you there.

All Saints Sunday—November 3rd

November 3rd is All Saints Sunday, when we remember our loved ones who rest in the Lord. It is a solemn day as we recall those who have died, yet also a joyful occasion to celebrate the great heritage of faith we have been given.



This year, you are invited to bring pictures of your loved ones to be displayed in the chancel during worship. Please bring pictures to the church in the last week of October.

Pastor Trexler's Last Sunday—November 3rd

We have been so blessed having Pastor Trexler over this last year. We have been changed by his wonderful leadership and we think he has changed a bit too.

Please join us on Sunday, November 3rd at 9:45 to wish him farewell—and so he may finally enjoy his retirement! Breakfast will be served.



HOW ST. MARK'S IS INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY... GET INVOLVED

Steadfast House October 2019

Donations

It's "SOCK-TOBER!"

The ladies and children at the Steadfast House are going through some hard times as they transition (hopefully) into permanent housing. Let's add some laughter to their day by giving them a pair of FUN, GOOFY, and WARM SOCKS! All sizes are welcome, so whatever you or your kids would wear is what we are looking for!



Thank you again, St. Mark's, for always doing God's Work with Our Hands.

THANK YOU

*Dear St. Mark's,
Thank you for your generosity during these last few months. I have undergone the 5-week treatment at Duke and am feeling much better. Thank you for the prayers, cards and quilt. It means a lot.*



*Blessings,
Al Seale*

Dear Congregation,

Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that children attend school, especially in places where their access is deprioritized, has even stronger results. School Kits contain essential supplies to help children – and in some cases, adults – continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities. Please donate little or lot, it will help a great deal of people. Boxes are under the sign-up central from **now until November 4th**.



Items that are needed are:

- 1* pencil sharpener
- 1* box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 1* 2 1/2" eraser
- 1* pair of **blunt scissors** (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)*
- 5* black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- 4* 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 1/2"; no loose leaf paper
- 1* 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- 5* unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band

Stretch your hearts and hands to help people in need.

Thank you,
Rose Boblak
WELCA

STEWARDSHIP

Consecration Sunday—October 27th (Reformation)

What time is it? It is October—a month of reflection and renewed commitment for **today's steward.**



What time is it? It is time to reflect on our **responsibility** to provide a house for the people of God. While we know the church as the people of God, we also call our presence at the corner of N. Liberty and Chestnut a church—our house. Our house is built on *one foundation, Jesus Christ our Lord*. Our house is where we gather and welcome, eat the bread and drink the wine. Our house is where we remember and celebrate our baptism and where we join with all the saints in communion. Our house is our gathering place on earth as we anticipate, as Jesus tells us, the place he has prepared for us.

What time is it? It is time to examine our **relationship** with our ministry partners. *He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things. The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers (Ephesians 4:10-11)*—and we might add: musicians, and support staff. We are also assured that St. Mark's mission will be continued and strengthened with the new pastor that God is preparing to be our shepherd.

What time is it? It is time to **measure** our **participation** in the vision of St. Mark's. We call it "God's Work; Our Hands." God is always opening new possibilities for us as we participate in the work of creation, redemption, and sanctification. *The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God love a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)*. It is our time and talent commitment that calls and enables each steward to share *the grace, the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8)* with others and to invite them into St. Mark's household of faith.

What time is it? On **Sunday, October 27, today's stewards** will bring our pledges to the altar of the Lord. It will be a time for us to present ourselves and our offerings to God for God to use *according to his will and purpose (Romans 12: 1-2)*.

A Brief History of Stewardship—Part Two



The Flowering of Stewardship 1945-1965

The second period connected stewardship with the Gospel and began to see money as only a part of a broader understanding of stewardship.

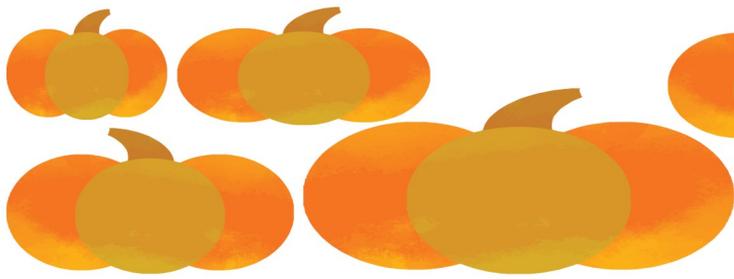
During the post WWII period, there was a religious boom. The US entered an era of unprecedented and increasing affluence.

American life was changed by suburbia, the interstate highway system, better automobiles and television. The situation was ripe for the church to respond to the needs of the people.

In contrast to the atheism of communist nations, Americans were "God-believing church goers" Church membership as a percentage of the total population grew from 49% in 1940 to 63% in 1960.

A renewed interest in stewardship brought forth the three 'T's – Time, Talent and Treasure. This elicited a positive response in campaigns.

Denominational loyalty was strong. In 1957, 96% of American cited a specific religious affiliation.



October 2019



Sundays in October:

October 6th:

Pentecost XVII/World Communion Sunday
8:30 Worship at St. Mark's
9:45 Faith Formation
11:00 Worship at St. Paul's

October 13th:

Pentecost XVIII
8:30 Worship
9:45 Congregational Meeting
11:00 Worship
12:00 Youth Group

October 20th:

Pentecost XIX
8:30 Worship
9:45 Faith Formation
11:00 Worship
12:00 Andrew Webb—YAGM Presentation

October 27th:

Pentecost XX/Consecration Sunday
8:30 Worship
9:45 Faith Formation
11:00 Worship
12:00 Youth Group

- 1 Phillip Burnett
- 3 Linda Malkin
- 4 Blake Crownover, Forest Lamm
- 5 Eileen Cram, Evelyn Reinhold, Poppy Smithson
- 6 Bonnie Wheeler
- 10 Ken Clark, Mike Dawson
- 11 Zachary Hutson, Tee Conroy
- 12 Beverly Orr, Hudson Schneider
- 13 Dick Ross, Katherine Webb
- 16 Kathy Eison, Holden Miller
- 17 Keenan Fox
- 18 Warren Wheeler
- 19 Julia Johnson
- 21 Jay Queen
- 23 John Cartwright
- 24 Beverly Rauschenberger
- 26 Susan Badger, Paula Lindsay, Linnea Linton
- 29 Jason Jones, Linda Kinsinger
- 30 Jasmine Chandler
- 31 Diane Lawson



October Scripture:

October 6: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalm 37:1-9; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

October 13: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

October 20: Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 121; 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5; Luke 18:1-8

October 27: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22; Psalm 84:1-7; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

- 1 Pat Patton & Susan Reiser
- 7 Steve & Linnea Linton
- 8 Ken & Carol Carlson
- 12 Burton & Karin Doss
- 13 Matthew Roe & Erin Bonawitz
- Brant & Sara Niedenthal

NEWS AND UPDATES

FINANCIAL REPORT August 2019



Operating Fund	August	YTD
Income budgeted	\$41,407	\$333,920
Gifts received	\$34,789	\$333,302
Expenditures	\$37,096	\$317,676
Difference	\$ (2,306)	\$ 15,625

Building Fund	August	YTD
Gifts received	\$1,640	\$12,783
Amount needed	\$2,201	\$17,608
Difference	\$ (561)	\$ (4,825)
Loan balance 8/31/19	\$274,295	

Rooted in Faith:
Balance of funds as of 8/31/19: \$280,468

Israel & Turkey Trip Opportunity—2020



Christian Discipleship Center of Asheville Study tour of Israel and Turkey — September 19-28, 2020
Tour leader and chaplain: the Rev. Brent Norris, St. Mary’s Episcopal

Trace the life and ministry of Jesus through historic sites in Nazareth, Galilee, and Jerusalem. Then follow the spread of the Church into Turkey and tour the ruins of the early Christian communities in Ephesus, Smyrna, and Laodicea.

Included: round trip airfare, all lodging, daily breakfast and dinner, licensed tour guide and headsets, air conditioned ground transportation, all museum and entrance fees, service charges and local taxes.

Not included: Turkish visa fee, lunches and drinks, gratuities for drivers and guide, personal expenses and travel insurance.

Cost: \$3,590 (per person, double occupancy)
Deadline for registration: January 8, 2020
Deposit of \$200 due February 1, 2020
Balance due June 19, 2020

Informational Meeting October 24th @ 7pm
St. Mary’s—337 Charlotte Street.

See Deacon Katie for more information or contact Father Norris - rector@stmarysasheville.org

A LITTLE HUMOR



“Instead of a second collection, think of it more as a GoFundMe campaign.”

OCTOBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

DATE	ACOLYTES, CRUCIFERS, ETC.	LAY READERS	GREETERS	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS & ASSISTING MINISTERS	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD
6	8:30 A: Torin Linton	8:30 Ray Polasky	8:30 Debbie Layne, Becky Knight	8:30 AM: Connie Chaplin CA: Nancy Doderhoff	8:30 Wolfie Otto, Marvin Pope	8:30 Ken Clark
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY—11AM @ ST. PAUL'S						
13	8:30 A: Amy Zellers 11:00 A: Liam & Mason Frisella C: Zachary Hutson & Erick Smith	8:30 James Aydelotte 11:00 Anne Blackwell	8:30 Dan Dudde, JD Slater 11:00 Bob Taylor, Connie Koerner	8:30 AM: Katie Rivers CA: Jenny Simmons 11:00 AM: Katie Rivers CA: Natalie Haynes	8:30 Ronnie Shoe 11:00 Anne Blackwell, John Cartwright	8:30 Hildie Polasky 11:00 Susan Van Tassel, Stella Pagan
20	8:30 A: Lila Niedenthal 11:00 A: Ryan Hutson C: Cord Doss	8:30 Dan Dudde 11:00 Al Seale	8:30 Cathy Totman, Gloria Fritch 11:00 Stella Pagan, Elaine Key	8:30 AM: Amy Zellers CA: Mark Fritch 11:00 AM: Jessie Hodgson CA: Anne Sites	8:30 Ken Clark, Walter Hitch 11:00 Jason Jones, Josh Kersey	8:30 Debbie Layne 11:00 Paula Lindsay, Anne Blackwell
27	8:30 A: Nick Mueller 11:00 A: Heather Dixon C: Toby Schuetz	8:30 Connie Chaplin 11:00 Grant Millan	8:30 Vic Allwein, Patti Oppenheim 11:00 Bob Mihara, Diane Lawson	8:30 AM: Tim Owen CA: Mary Anne Allwein 11:00 AM: Dave Epley CA: Susan Van Tassel	8:30 Mark Totman, Pat Patton 11:00 Alice Silver, Bonnie Richards	8:30 Mary Anne Allwein 11:00 Anne Sites, Jean Castle

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 Pentecost XVII/World Communion Sunday 8:30 Worship 9:45 Faith Formation 11:00 Worship @ St. Paul's	7 1:30 Book Study 6:30 Christian Action	8 9 Quilters 11:15 Staff Meeting 12 Yarn Angels	9 9 Property Team 10 WELCA	10 5 Sonrise Singers 6 Handbells 7 Chancel Choir	11	12 3 Meet & Greet with Pastoral Candidate
13 Pentecost XVIII 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Congregational Meeting 12 Youth Group	14 1:30 Book Study 6:15 Council	15 9 Quilters 11:15 Staff Meeting	16 9 Property Team 12 Healing Service	17 5 Sonrise Singers 5:30 Racial Healing Team 6 Handbells 7 Chancel Choir	18 6 Shelter Meal	19 8 LMIM @ Happy Hill
20 Pentecost XIX 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Faith Formation 12 Andrew Webb YAGM	21 1:30 Book Study	22 9 Quilters 11:15 Staff Meeting	23 9 Property Team	24 5 Sonrise Singers 6 Handbells 7 Chancel Choir	25	26 9:30 Breakfast with WNC Baptist 10 Yarn Angels 3 Trunk or Treat/ Chili Cook-off
27 Pentecost XX/ Consecration Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45 Faith Formation 12 Youth Group	28 1:30 Book Study	29 9 Quilters 11:15 Staff Meeting	30 9 Property Team	31 5 Sonrise Singers 6 Handbells 7 Chancel Choir		

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
PO Box 8608
Asheville, NC 28814



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Phone: 828-253-0043
E-mail: admin@stmarkslutheran.net
Website: www.stmarkslutheran.net

STAFF:

Interim Pastor: Pastor William B. Trexler
Director of Discipleship & Faith Formation:
Deacon Katie Rivers
Cantor: David Anderson
Parish Administrator: Scottie Miller
Pastor of Caring Ministries:
The Rev. Linda McHenry
Facilities Manager: Eileen Cram
Custodian: Gage Hampton
Nursery Director: Ginger Dixon

Church Office Hours:
Mon.-Thu. 9am—4:30pm
Fri. 9am—12:30pm



OUR MISSION:

Making disciples by loving Christ,
growing in faith, serving all people

OUR VISION:

Transforming lives through God's grace as an
inclusive, intergenerational congregation
through Worship, Outreach,
Learning and Fellowship