

EVANGELIST

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St. Mark's Altar Guild — Champions of Christ's Table by Lindsay Atkins

"...That with truly thankful hearts, we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service." - Book of Common Prayer

Through love comes blessings, through blessings comes gratitude, and through gratitude comes service. Service to God, above all else, is the catalyst that sparks the members

of our beloved St. Mark's Altar Guild to this charge. We proudly dedicate ourselves to providing for all the needs of the clergy and the care and functioning of the altar for the purposes of celebrating Eucharist, baptisms, weddings, and funerals.

"Altar Guild work goes on quietly behind the scenes. The work is often not noticed because in normal circumstances average worshipers do not think about the familiar scene in front of them as long as it is familiar. The Altar Guild shoulders a wide range of other responsibilities, such as making or purchasing vestments and linens; managing flower monies and orders as well as arranging flowers; replenishing (even making) the supply of bread, wine and candles; creating objects of art of various kinds for use or decoration: teaching church school classes, acolytes or others in the use of the church; participating in special ceremonies such as stripping and redressing the altar." [Barbara Gent and Betty Sturges, "The

New Altar Guild Book," Morehouse Publishing, 1996.]

At the physical heart of our Altar Guild is the sacristy, a sacred room adjoining the church where the Lord's sacred vessels, liturgical books, altar hangings, linens and the body and blood of Christ are housed for use in worship. Upon stepping into

our St. Mark's sacristy, one can feel the direct, loving presence of our Lord.

St. Mark's Altar Guild Directress, Rebecca Bryant says, "I wanted to serve the Lord by serving the body of Christ. I wanted to get to know (and serve with) some of the beautiful women of the church. And, I love to polish silver! I have learned so much about

the services, elements, and calendar of the church. The more I understand, the deeper my appreciation is for all of those who work to make it flow."

Our Altar Guild derives this sense of duty from Margaret, Queen of Scotland; she is the patron saint of our St. Mark's Altar Guild. Queen Margaret wed King Malcolm of Scotland in 1070. King Malcolm, a rough and uncultured man was made most virtuous by his wife, Margaret. She made it her constant effort to obtain good priests and teachers for all parts of Scotland, forming an embroidery guild among the ladies of the court to provide vestments and church furniture.

Just as Queen Margaret rallied for the upkeep of churches in Scotland, so too do our members of St. Mark's Altar Guild, some of whom are quoted here:

"I found it a great honor to serve as directress of the St. Mark's Altar Guild. I would want people considering joining

the Altar Guild to know the following: The St. Mark's Altar Guild is a wonderful way to engage deeper in ministry at our Cathedral as well as to better understand the meaning of the sacred items we use to celebrate the Eucharist and their significance to our Episcopal traditions. The members of this close group are

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 am, 10:30 am, & 6:00 pm Sunday Holy Eucharist

SEPTEMBER 4, 2022 The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Philemon 1-21 Psalm 1

Luke 14:24-33

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 32:7-14 Psalm 51:1-11

1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 am Holy Eucharist & Baptism

Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113

1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13

SEPTEMBER 25, 2022 The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 6:1a, 4-7 Psalm 146

1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31

Weekday Worship at the Cathedral Wednesday 7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Chapel Fridays 5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist Chapel (The 5:30 service is an option for those who cannot attend Sunday _ worship.)

(Continued from page 1)

supportive, welcoming, and eager to share their personal experiences of serving our church and our Lord with anyone who wants to participate. It is a fulfilling ministry where one is able to experience a rare, precious intimacy with our Lord while setting His table, as the glory of His light shines thought the incredible stained glass and a whispered prayer brings you closer to His mercy." - Pat Viser

"Having been raised in the Baptist church, we only celebrated the main seasons of the church. I joined the Altar Guild because I was curious about all the seasons the Cathedral celebrated and the meaning of each. Once I learned more about each season, I also discovered the meaning of changing of distinct colors of the hangings. It is truly one of the most rewarding ministries I could have chosen. I learned so much and it introduced me to a wonderful, dedicated group of other members. It will always be a part of my soul and I highly recommend this ministry to everyone." - Connie Emmons

"I joined our Altar Guild to learn more about the Episcopal church, since I grew up in another denomination. Truly this has been very fulfilling. It has been a wonderful opportunity to work with a large group of persons getting to know them better as we set up and take down services and other duties. COME JOIN US AND LEARN!" - Patsy **Fitzgerald**

"I consider my service in the Altar Guild a calling to serve my God, the church, and our church community at large. Friendships developed through my membership have been a special blessing. I have acquired a better understanding of church sacraments, the church calendar and the liturgy." - Bettie Hastings

"When I began my work in the Altar Guild over 35 years ago, I viewed it as a giving ministry, giving of my time to care for the altar and its furnishings and performing duties to prepare the sanctuary for worship. But I have long since realized that learning the meaning behind what we do, and its practicing has greatly enhanced my worship experience. The received blessings have far surpassed the effort required." - Sherry Skrivanos

"I joined AG to serve God, the clergy, and the congregation of St. Mark's. In doing so I find that I have been served spiritually more than I ever imagined." - Joy Ratcliff

"Serving in God's house." - Marletta Eddy

"I really love the Altar Guild. I enjoy setting up the 7:00 am service when you are alone, and our God is so near. You can feel His Presence!" – Marybeth McVie

"Joining the Altar Guild has been a gift to me. I have loved getting to know fun ladies, having many learning experiences, and serving my church." - Mary Walmsley

"I joined the Altar Guild because two of my dear friends had joined, and I did not want to be left out! I had also just joined St. Mark's and thought this was a good way to get to know others." - Jan W. Briscoe

"Altar Guild is one of the most rewarding experiences of my church life. Lindsay Atkins, my daughter, asked me to join her after she had been a member. It took a bit of time for me to make a decision, but I am so glad I did. Learning what I have about Altar Guild is due to the thoughtfulness of such a group of kind and caring women. There is a friendship that develops over time that I did not know existed. Serving God and the church through the Altar Guild is a wonderful and fulfilling way to increase your faith life." – Cindy Mack

"The Father, Faith, Fellowship and Friendship." - Lindsay Atkins

Teach us, Good Lord, to serve Thee as Thou deservest. To give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for any reward save that of knowing that we do Thy will, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

If you or someone you know are interested in joining the St. Mark's Altar Guild, please contact Directress Rebecca Bryant at (318) 458-8046, or Co-Directress Lindsay Atkins at (318) 347-0178.

Children's Christian Formation

9:15 a.m. — 12:30 pm Nursery (newborn to K3 - 3 years old by September 30th) First floor of Parish building next to Catechesis Atriums

9:30 – 10:30 am Sunday school (4th – 5th grade)
Second floor of Parish building in the old nursery location

9:30 am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (K-3 – Kindergarten) First floor of Parish Building- Rooms 105 & 106

10:30 am Children's Chapel (1st – 5th grade)

Second floor of Parish building in the old nursery location

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I & Level II Atriums (Children Ages 3-8 years old)



9:30 a.m. C.S. Lewis, The Screwtape Letters Ministry Center Garden Room

Music & Worship



Services of Choral Evensong will be presented by the St. Mark's Cathedral Choir on **Sunday, October 2.** Please join us for this beautiful and contemplative service. Choral Evensong begins at 5:00pm and immediately precedes the 6:00pm Eucharist.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER 1 Eydie Comeaux Anabelle Wood Rowan Arnold 14 Casey Payne Judy Austin Chandler Weir 20 **Brooks Glover** Mason Allen Lyla Hall Ella Poole Rex Tamplin Katy Wagner Eliza Storer Harrison Hilario Wayne Crank **Jake Noble** Allie Torrans Lola Herndon Betty Birmingham Stephen Burnett Knighton Clarke Jason LeBleu Jackson Reeks Charlotte Baldridge Wyatt Brooks 26 Richard Turnage Jennifer Thomas Cole Cooper Cindy Jones Scott D'Anna Lila Knicely Robert Jackson Rebecca Hargrove Missie Poindexter Charlotte Brown Jamie Hardtner Karrington Carter Matthew Williams **James Stroud** Catherine Evans 16 Kathleen Hill Becky Brown Gloria Smith Ellen White Kelsi Lofton Brown Humphrey Kathleen Jackson Cheryl Foster **Grace Crooms** Mary Harter Renee Torrans Allison Falloon Ashley Sutton Nick Noble Holden Kowalewski **Brent Weir** Melinda Sprayberry Field Baber Steele Fritze 28 Patsy FitzGerald Marilyn Davis Landry Reeks Frances Comegys Sheryl Ostendorff Priscilla McLean Gayla Hargrove Harriet Destiche Marjorie Hodges Cole O'Neal Vernon Hastings Elise Patin Nathan Marak John Paschall Robert Rembert Cecilia Hilario **Emily Milner** Todd Blanchard Robert Hunter 29 Timothy Coleman 6 Jeremry Knicely Vanderberg Gigi Corley Carol Crooms 18 Catherine Dickson Adriana Beruvides Cara Smith 13 Jim Reeves 24 Roger Kalmbach Bill Sanders James Storer Jim Anderson Dez Hill Bill Trickett Darcey Pavlick Gloria Powers Debbie Grand Jim Mitchell Sarah-Ruth Ponder Laura-Ashley Overdyke Cece Parker Angie Waltman MaryElla Crawford Kelli Cook 19 Alice Sample Kathryn White 25 Annabelle Jones Bill Deupree Jacki Kennedy John Prince Emma Fargerson Aidan Gilchrist Julie Jacobus Osme Benedict Ashley Davis **Bobby Nichols** Hailey Young Ryan Herrington Val Irion Hannah Clarke

GC8o: "Intense, Exciting, Tedious, but Sacred at Its Core"

by Thomas Nsubuga

Unlike the past two General
Conventions I have attended
which were a depiction of a festive
Episcopal Church, this year's 80th
convention was just the opposite
– no packed exhibition hall, no
elaborate banquets, and no multiple
social gatherings. In fact, it was
shortened to four days, had one-tenth the
number of attendees because of COVID19.

BALTIMORE As you may be aware, the General Convention is conducted in a parliamentary fashion, where decisions are made through debate, persuasion and voting following the rules of order. This time the parliamentary process, meant to arrive on the truth through contestation was curtailed because of the short stay. And in that respect there was a sense of building up the episcopal unity and peace by limited time on the mic. The convention was punctuated by intermittent pauses where deputies shared openly and honestly as a family. Usually, there would be legislative meetings and hearings during the 14 days when the convention is in session, this time most of the work was done prior and via zoom. This process created a spread sheet that tracked over 400 resolutions that were placed on what is called the "Consent Calendar." As a rule, everything on the consent calendar is passed undebated. Because of the intensity of the work in such a short period of time, the delegates voted "yes" to almost all the consent calendars, something that has been criticized as "folly" because many substantive resolutions were passed without any serious discussion.

The convention began with unexpected challenges. Because everything was digital, we had to be trained to vote with our iPads. When all the 800 plus deputies and alternates logged in, everything came to a screeching halt as the network crashed. Despite the glitch in technology which made the convention even more "intense, exciting, frustrating, tedious, on the whole, the convention turned out to be efficient, celebratory, compassionate, hurried and sacred at its core. So many passionate personalities, perspectives and agendas collided, all with the intent of getting our work done in a finite (and abbreviated) number of days. There was a mixture of politics and the Holy Spirit, and love of the Church. Tears were shed, anger was expressed and attention to some ego was intermittently sought at the mic.

The most indicting thing in the four days was the emphasis on our common life together and our shared inheritance of the damage the Episcopal Church did to the Indigenous peoples of this country between the late 1800's up to the

current generation. Listening to a survivor of an Indigenous Boarding School talk about her experience there and hearing people talk about how the Episcopal Church had been part of that wounding and now has

Episcopal Church had been part of that wounding and now has an opportunity to be part of the truth telling that will lead to healing was needful. "We needed to hear it" one deputy said, "and move to acknowledge that the time for action is long overdue." There was a call to a fact find journey with the Native Americans for healing of the bodies and of the land. We were challenged

to embrace Ubuntu, "I am because we

are" and we not only need to listen to our brothers and sisters but we also need to conduct an inner dialogue to be healed. We agreed that we are in good position as the Episcopal Church to signal to the global world that we have healing work to do. The resolution on the Episcopal Church's complicity in racism and therefore a need to conduct a research into all entities that enslaved people from which the Episcopal Church is a beneficiary was a little daunting and convicting. Again, the objective was to know the truth and be healed. The challenge however was what to do with the information gathered and

the dollar amount attached to it.

The greatest question that emerged from the State of the Church was whether there will be young clergy who will replace the baby boomers approaching retirement. There was also a question on how to track church attendance on the internet and online evangelism. It was reckoned that that days of one parish one priest are over and there was a need to engaging lay ministry. The committee on the State of the Church also intimated that membership is no longer by baptism but by association with the body of Christ, especially in this time of virtual worship. The meaning of the word vitality as it related to the church was revisited and was to include all the stories that seem to happen outside the church walls, all the work done for the people outside the church. This is all mission work.

There were other resolutions of interest especially on racial reconciliation geared towards creating a beloved community. While the house was in full support of the resolutions, it was not in support of using endowment money to fund them. A question came up in the debate of what we mean by "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You." It was pointed out that we are not very welcoming, which was a challenge to all of us to review and rethink our hospitality habits.

Among the most important actions by GC80:

 Electing Julia Ayala Harris, the first woman of color, as President and The Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton, the first

- Indigenous woman, as Vice President of the House of Deputies.
- Prayer Book Revision, basically to set in motion a process that would give authority to our many trial liturgies (as addressed by Bishop Owensby on August 25, 2022 at 6pm in the Parish Hall), The convention moved to adopt the resolution that the book of Common Prayer is more than a tangible book but also those liturgical forms and other texts authorized by General Convention in accordance with the Constitution and the Canons of this Church. The BCP is intended to be communal and devotional book enriched by our church's cultural, geographical and linguistic contexts. The Book of Common Prayer shall contain both public worship and private devotion.
- Allowing the people of Navajo land to elect their own bishop.
- The reunion of the Diocese of The Episcopal Church in North Texas with The Episcopal Diocese of Texas was a mixture of pain and joy with the reunion of North Texas and Texas especially as Katie Sherrard, a Deputy from Texas spoke. With tears streaming down her cheeks she spoke of the hurt in 2008 when those who chose to stay in the Episcopal Church were left with 8 churches and 10 priests and the devastation once again in 2022 when the Supreme Court allowed ACNA to leave with all of their property, including their name. Her testimony was met with a standing ovation. Our hearts hurt for the people of Ft. Worth, but we stood in awe of their resilience and strength. It was a moment of the Church being the Church. Hundreds of us acknowledging the pain and fortifying Deputy Sherrard and all of the people of Ft. Worth with the love of Christ, we approved this reunion.

The highlight of the convention was the retirement of the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings. Listening to the speeches in her honor from both houses was moving and challenging. Standing ovation after standing ovation were given.

What was noticeable in this last convention was that it comprised of young deputies in terms of age and young bishops in terms of the number of years since their election. Some have argued that the attendance of young deputies could be attributed to a shorter convention that enabled the working deputies to attend. Whatever the reason, there is no doubt that a new generation of young bishops and deputies is about to take control of the future of the Episcopal Church.

The resolution on the choice State for the 82nd GC was incriminating of those States that have not been supportive of the minority groups and do not provide healthcare. The debate was postponed until the resolution on Kentucky as the next venue was considered. The next General Convention will be held in Louisville, Kentucky in 2024 and in this Biennial we will elect the Presiding Bishop.

Cathedral School News

by Dr. Chris Carter, Headmaster ccarter@smc.school

On August 17, the new academic year began with 307 Lions attending St. Mark's Cathedral School. The following day we had our first Family Chapel of the year with 1st-8th grades processing into the Cathedral behind their class banners.



We welcomed three

new teachers and three new teaching assistants to our faculty this year. Students and teachers alike have been excited and enthusiastic about the beginning of the school year, and we all have a sense of a return to normal, with field trips and special events once again appearing on our calendars.

Many of your will know that our school tag line in advertising is "Pray, Play, Learn," and I think this accurately captures the experience of what it means to be a student at St. Mark's. We pray every day, and Chapel is an essential aspect of our school. We recognize that young children learn through play and that all of us need to play – to have spontaneous and unstructured opportunities to interact with others and with nature – to be healthy and happy. We know God created us so that we could learn about Him and His purposes and that continuous learning is essential for all. And we know that these are not mutually exclusive activities – we can learn while praying and playing, and we can pray in our play and in our learning.

At St. Mark's Cathedral School, we are engaged not just in education, but in the formation of souls. We want to help each child have an awareness of his or her God-bestowed gifts and talents and then understand how to use them to serve God's world. Please hold this mission and our students and teachers in your prayers as we begin a new academic year!



St. Mark's Physical Training
Monday-Friday 5:30 am at the Cathedral

meets at 5:30 a.m. every weekday morning in the field across from the parking lot.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

September 4

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Aage & Adele Qvistgaard=Petersen, Morton Qvistgaard=Petersen, Michael Qvistgaard=Petersen, Elizabeth Hansard Qvistgaard=Petersen, Bridget Anne Campbell, Truman A. (Jack) Armstrong and Eleanor Thomas Armstrong.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jacquetta Smith Whisner, and in honor of Carol S. Clemons, Lee Morgan and Mary Helen Yancey.

September 11

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Thelma & Jack T. Williams, Evelyn & C.W. Broyles, and Edith & Joe Long.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Colby and Shelby Hamilton, Catherine and Elizabeth Corley & Jack, Will and Ben Murphy.

WEDDINGS

Those whom God has joined together, let no one put asunder.

Caroline Elizabeth Turnage & **Thomas Woodruff Buchanan**, on June 18, 2022.

Anna Virginia White & Jason Everett Weimar on August 17, 2022.

BIRTHS

John Peter Skeadas, IV on July 15, 2022. Parents are Mary Helen & John Skeadas. Grandparents are Pat & John Turnage.

Ruby Marie Hargrove on July 21, 2022. Parents are **Kelly & Billy Hargrove**. Big sisters are **Nola & Holly Hargrove**. Grandmother is **Lisa Hargrove**.

September 18

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Joseph Leonard Hargrove, Sr., and Martha Hargrove Glassell.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Emily Randolph Lewis and Tandy Giddens Lewis. Sr.

September 25

The flowers on the High Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Clarence & Irene Yancey.

The flowers on the Chapel Altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Geoffrey Westmoreland, Anna Westmoreland, and Lily Bourland.

BAPTISMS

William Proby Dulaney, IV, son of Lauren & William Dulaney, on August 21, 2022.

You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. Amen.

DEATHS

Rest Eternal grant to them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Susan McCreight Jones, on June 29, 2022.

Violet Jones Head, on July 23, 2022.

Kay Martin, sister of Bob FitzGerald, on July 26, 2022.

Nellie Mae Griffies, mother of **Joe Griffies**, on August 7, 2022.

Mike McAfee, father of Bob Ewing, grandfather of John & George Ewing, on August 6, 2022.

Dorothy Gates, mother of **Ben Gates** on August 19, 2022. May their souls, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Oblationers Needed

Our Hospitality Committee invites parishioners (families, adult singles, siblings, friends) to serve as oblationers (gift bearers) at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. This is a meaningful way to serve the faith community. For more information please contact **Kathy Williams at 469-9211**.

Lost Anything at Church?



Or maybe you're just missing some item and have no idea where it might have gone. Drop by or call the church office and check into our lost and found! We have everything from sunglasses to scarves to cell phones to jewelry (including some very nice pieces.) Check and see what you're missing!



Work Underway On Exterior of Cathedral

Our Vestry has realized and responded to a significant need to clean and seal the exterior of our Cathedral. Martin's Specialty Coatings has begun the project of installing joint sealant on the exterior of Cathedral where the mortar has deteriorated over time. Then they will wash the entire facility and seal it, which should protect the facility from deterioration and mildew for 20 years, with regular maintenance. This project will take 4-6 months. The workmen will have large equipment and scaffolding



on all four sides of the Cathedral at different times as they proceed. In that regard, there are times when we will be inconvenienced and might have to use a different door or parking lot to enter the Cathedral. We apologize in advance for any inconveniences, but please realize our need to maintain the integrity of our facility. If anyone has concerns or additional questions on this project, please contact Lisa Love at lisallove6203@gmail.com.

Birthday Card Ministry

This year, we launched a birthday card ministry to celebrate all of our parishioners. If you find yourself wanting to serve but needing to do it on your own time, please consider this meaningful ministry. Materials are provided. For more information, please contact Lauren Ewing at 550-1743 or lauren.ewing@me.com.



Expectant Moms of St. Mark's



If you are or know anyone who is expecting a child our committee is up and running and is looking for mommies to be. Please contact us at bess@stmarkscathedral.net or sign up on our website under family ministries. We hope to welcome mothers into our community. We look forward to hearing from you soon.



Members of the Vestry of St. Mark's Cathedral

Bill Kalmbach, Senior Warden – Lisa Love, Junior Warden – Murray Viser, Treasurer – John Reeks, Chancellor

2022	2023	2024	2025
Ellen Alley	Ellen Erwin	Clarence Babineaux	Karen Hardtner
Mike Ameen	Joe Jayroe	Rebecca Bryant	Chad Hill
Oliver Jenkins	Josh Knicely	Patrick Caraway	Claire Rebouche
Brad Massad	Theresa Meldrum	Mark Sealy	Jason Waltman
Emily Merkle	Joy Ratcliff	Lynn Yancey	Warren West

The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby (Bishop of Western Louisiana) bishopjake@epiwla.org

The Very Rev. Alston Johnson (Dean) abjohnson@stmarkscathedral.net

The Rev. Thomas Nsubuga (Sub-Dean)

thomas@stmarkscathedral.net

The Rev. Dr. Rowena White (Canon) rowena@stmarkscathedral.net

Derrick Meador

(Organist and Choirmaster) derrick@stmarkscathedral.net

Becky Deverts (Financial Office Manager) becky@stmarkscathedral.net

Bess Maxwell (Administrative Assistant) bess@stmarkscathedral.net

Priscilla McLean (Cathedral Calendar) priscilla@stmarkscathedral.net

Jennifer Beruvides (Coordinator for Events and Hands-on Outreach Ministry) jennifer@stmarkscathedral.net

Beth Reeks

(Minister for Pre-K Children's Programs) preschool.beth@gmail.com

Lisa Bingham (Financial Office Assistant Mgr.) lisa@stmarkscathedral.net

Mark Deverts (Sexton) mark@stmarkscathedral.net

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