

# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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Image by Thomas Sean Kelleher

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Our Mission: God is calling the people of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Wayne, Pennsylvania to follow Jesus' teaching to love God with all our hearts, souls and minds; and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Therefore we love and embrace each other, friend and stranger alike in worship, service and prayer as we seek to live in and share God's Word.

– Adopted by the St. Mary's Vestry, May 2015

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# MEETING AGENDA

Annual Parish Meeting Agenda

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Wayne, Pennsylvania

A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania – A Diocese of the Episcopal Church

February 23, 2025 – 11:45 A.M. – Father Greene Room of the Parish House

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Appointment of Secretary

Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

Rector's Report and Opening of Polls

Introduction of Nominees for Vestry

Election of 6 Vestry Members

Introduction of Nominee for People's Warden

Introduction of Nominees for Diocesan Convention Deputies and Deanery

Election of 3 Deputies

Rector's Warden Report

Treasurer and Financial Report

Final 2024 Report

Presentation of 2025 Budget

Reports of the Vestry Commissions

Buildings and Grounds

Outreach

Fun and Fellowship / Invite Welcome Connect

Christian Formation

Communications

Diocesan Ministries

Stewardship

Reports of the Ministry Groups

Noah's Ark Thrift Shop

Altar Guild

Women of St. Mary's

Music Ministries

Q&A

Closing Prayer

## RECTOR'S REPORT

As I sit down to write this report, it's hard to believe that it's only been five months since I began as rector of St. Mary's. I can say that it has been a wonderful experience, and at least once a day I look around and realize how fortunate I am to serve here. I look forward to many, many more years to come.

I also realize that when a new rector comes in it can create some uncertainty and anxiety. Someone is new, and it takes time for you all to get used to the way I like to do things, and for me to learn and understand the various ways St. Mary's operates. That is all to be expected. But to help move things forward, I thought I would share a little bit about how I prefer to function, and what that might mean for our mutual ministry.

One thing I can say is that I like to make decisions slowly and deliberately. In doing so I'll often have conversations with the people affected, just to find out if there's anything I overlooked, or if there's some piece of wisdom that hasn't risen to the surface yet. Aside from being a management practice however, I feel there is deep spirituality to running a community this way. By asking for feedback, you communicate to other people that you care about them, that we are striving to love one another as Christ loved us (John 13:34) and that we are trying to be one, just as Jesus and the Father are one (John 17:21). This kind of love in community is something sorely needed these days, and can be a beacon of hope in a world that has become increasingly fractured and contentious. 1500 years ago a man named Benedict of Nursia did just that – developed communities of love in the waning years of the Roman Empire. As their political landscape was rapidly changing, Benedict crafted a rule that guided monastic communities so deeply into mutual love for one another that the same rule is used and applied to communities around the world today. At the heart of the rule is stability, listening, and careful change. Starting from a place of stability, the community would listen deeply to one another, and discern where the Holy Spirit was leading them next. I find that ancient wisdom so helpful today that it guides a lot of how I approach parish leadership.

One of the ways this is showing up involved our shared ministry and partnership with Liberti Church. They have enjoyed and appreciate the relationship we have, and have grown considerably over the years they have been with us. On our end they have contributed around 10% of our overall budget, allowing us to make substantial repairs and maintain our campus. At the same time, they have started to outgrow the Fr. Greene room here, and approached me about possibly moving back into the Church. However the 12:00 time slot they once had doesn't work well for them, and asked if we would consider going at either 9:00 or 11:00 and they could use the other time slot. (7:45 would remain the same.). Rather than make a quick decision, I've been working with the vestry to do deep listening in the Benedictine style – carefully trying to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us. If you haven't already, you should receive a survey via email where you can share likes, concerns, and wishes regarding the options before us. This is no light decision, and certainly not something I expected in my first year. But I am confident that if we approach it together as a community, we can find a solution that works, and follows God's call for us.

Community life is never simple, which is why careful, disciplined listening is so important. I am so glad to be here as your new Rector, and I look forward to our years together, listening, and moving where the Holy Spirit leads us.

Fr. Conor Alexander, Rector  
*frconor@stmaryswaynepa.org*

## RECTOR'S WARDEN REPORT

Our past year can be symbolized by the Rood Cross. It serves as a reminder of all that we can overcome with determination and God's help.

As I reflect on the past year as Rector's Warden, I am proud of all that you, the community of St. Mary's have accomplished together and I am deeply grateful to be part of this church community.

Through the efforts of all our committees and their sub committees, the community of St. Mary's has made our campus inviting and welcoming for our new Rector, Father Conor Alexander, his wife, Reverend Samantha Alexander and their son, Joshua.

2024 saw physical changes, many seen and some unseen around St. Mary's that have propelled the Spirit of St. Mary's to a fever pitch of anticipated excitement to receive Fr. Conor and for what the future holds.

The future of St. Mary's is bright and bold!

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Rector's Warden for the past three years. It has been an enlightening journey and an honor.

Neal Fulton, Rector's Warden  
*[lcharge@yahoo.com](mailto:lcharge@yahoo.com)*

# TREASURER'S AND FINANCE REPORT

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
Statement of Financial Position  
December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023

	2024	2023
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash	\$ 75,808	\$ 84,574
Investments	1,380,460	1,331,420
Certificates of Deposit	-	-
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$ 1,456,268</u>	<u>\$ 1,415,995</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 20	\$ 3,226
Security deposits/advance rentals	0	0
Advance pledges	4,000	4,250
Note Payable - Diocese Loan	0	0
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>\$ 4,020</u>	<u>\$ 7,476</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted net assets	\$ 410,115	\$ 435,820
Temporarily restricted net assets	365,199	341,187
Permanently restricted net assets	676,849	631,511
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u>\$ 1,452,162</u>	<u>\$ 1,408,518</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<u>\$ 1,456,183</u>	<u>\$ 1,415,995</u>

# TREASURER'S AND FINANCE REPORT

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
**Statement of Activities**  
**For The Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2024**

	2024 Actual	2024 Budget	Variance
<b>Revenue</b>			
<b>Operating Revenue</b>			
Plate contributions	\$ 4,267	\$ 4,000	\$ 267
Pledge contributions	277,311	304,000	(26,689)
Non-pledge contributions	56,853	44,000	12,853
Investment withdraw used for operations	74,885	59,890	14,995
Facilities rental income	48,340	60,000	(11,660)
Other contributions and support	20,246	4,300	15,946
Total Operating Revenue	<u>481,902</u>	<u>476,190</u>	<u>5,712</u>
<b>Non-Operating Revenue</b>			
Capital fund contributions	109,930	-	109,930
Columbarium fund contributions	500	-	500
Other fund contributions	35,856	-	35,856
Income on investments not used for operations	2	-	2
Net unrealized and realized gains on investments	57,874	-	57,874
Total Non-Operating Revenue	<u>204,163</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>204,163</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>\$ 686,065</u>	<u>\$ 476,190</u>	<u>\$ 209,875</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Diocese gifts	\$ 29,198	\$ 31,825	\$ (2,627)
Personnel compensation and benefits	254,666	240,739	13,927
Office administration and supplies	19,333	21,300	(1,967)
Property insurance, maintenance and utilities	118,877	123,426	(4,549)
Ministry and program costs	46,626	42,450	4,176
Other expenses	21,015	16,450	4,565
Total Operating Expenses	<u>489,715</u>	<u>476,190</u>	<u>13,525</u>
<b>Non-Operating Expenses</b>			
Capital fund expenses	104,797	-	104,797
Columbarium fund expenses	409	-	409
Other fund expenses	4,408	-	4,408
Management investment expenses	9,688	-	9,688
Total Non-Operating Expenses	<u>119,303</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>119,303</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>\$ 609,018</u>	<u>\$ 476,190</u>	<u>\$ 132,828</u>
<b>Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<u>\$ (7,813)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (7,813)</u>
<b>Net Non-Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<u>\$ 84,861</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 84,861</u>
<b>Net Consolidated Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<u>\$ 77,048</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 77,048</u>

# TREASURER'S AND FINANCE REPORT

## 2024 IN REVIEW

- **Transition & Transformation:** In 2024, we successfully implemented our Transition & Transformation capital improvements to welcome our new Rector. Through generous donations and a vestry approved withdrawal from our endowment funds, we paid for these capital improvements which were in excess of \$100,000.
- **Cash Flow Challenges:** Throughout 2024, one financial obstacle that we needed to overcome was sporadic cash-flow to meet ongoing operating expenses. Our pledge receipts were down versus prior years, and we did need to exceed the planned withdrawals from our investment accounts to support operational expenses. Our 2025 Stewardship Campaign, however, was successful and generated higher pledge totals over 2024.
- **A Positive Market :** Despite both the Endowment T&T withdrawal and the extra investment funds that were needed to support operations, the church's investment accounts still showed an overall increase in value.

## THE YEAR AHEAD AND BEYOND

- **Insurance Renewals:** Before our Insurance Renewal in June 2025, we need to undergo a thorough review of our existing coverage types and policy limits. Insurance costs across many/all business lines are significantly rising. St. Mary's has seen large increases in our insurance premiums over the last several years. If any members have prior experience or expertise with insurance coverages, the vestry and finance committee would gladly welcome input. A small working group will be needed to review the coverages and seek out the most competitive proposals from what is a limit insurance market.
- **Diocese Grant:** In 2024, we were awarded a \$30,000 GRANT from the Diocese for our campus improvements. These funds were received in early 2025 and deposited into our Capital Account. Unlike previous years, we start 2025 with a "cushion" of @ \$35,000 in our capital fund which will help our campus facilities continue to age.
- **New Treasurer:** St. Mary's is currently looking for someone to take over as Treasurer. I transitioned into this position in 2021. Please see Fr. Conor if you have any interest.

Craig Hoogstraten, Treasurer  
*cahoog@gmail.com*



## BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

To the Members of St. Mary's,

Buildings and Grounds accomplishments over the last year speak for themselves.

Rectory: Basement waterproofing, lolly columns replaced, interior painted, downspout replaced, new roof ridge cap, kitchen cabinets painted and repaired, new backsplash tile, new kitchen floor, floors sanded and restained, new washer and dryer, central air conditioner repaired.

Parish House: Fire exit roof and columns replaced; Father Greene Room windows rebuilt and a new security system installed.

Church: Entrance ramp repaired.

Thank you to our congregation for all of your hard work and support!

Bob Mickel  
*robertmickel27@gmail.com*



Fall Cleanup!

# OUTREACH

*“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)*

At St. Mary’s, our mission is rooted in Christ’s call to serve with love and compassion. Throughout 2024, our Outreach Commission has continued to extend a helping hand to those in need, offering food, clothing, shelter, and hope to our neighbors near and far. Through the dedication of our volunteers, we have strengthened existing ministries and embraced new opportunities to be a light in our community.

As we reflect on the past year, we give thanks for all who have contributed their time, talents, and generosity to our outreach efforts. Whether through Noah’s Ark, Free Pantry, Good Works, or Refugee Relief, each act of service has been a testament to God’s love in action.

Looking ahead, we hope to expand our outreach, engaging more volunteers, and deepening our impact. We invite you to join us in this mission as we continue to live our faith and serve with love.



### Good Works

St. Mary’s supports Good Works, a Christian nonprofit organization, dedicated to repairing homes and restoring hope for low-income homeowners in Chester County.



### St. Gabriel’s Christmas Meals

St. Mary’s provided 50 very full bags containing the makings for a beautiful Christmas meal and a \$25 grocery gift cards to supplement.



### Noah’s Ark Thrift Shop

Dedicated St. Mary’s volunteers continued to serve the needs of the Wayne community and beyond by selling donated clothes and household items.



### Little Free Pantry

Our little free pantry is very well supported and used by the community and continues to be a blessing to many by providing non-perishable items to the community of Wayne, 24/7.

## St. Mary’s Helping Others In 2024



### Unity in the Community

St. Mary’s participated in a block party event to have fun with our neighbors and donate bookbags for the upcoming school year.



### Water Is Life Kenya

St. Mary’s hosted Water is Life Kenya, a faith-based nonprofit dedicated to helping the Maasai in southern Kenya to provide clean water and community development.



### St. Mary’s Chester Food Cupboard & White Gifts

St. Mary’s volunteers delivered large bags of donated food and Christmas “White Gifts” to St. Mary’s Episcopal Church and the community of Chester, PA.

## FELLOWSHIP

*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.  
– I Thessalonians 5:11*

Fun and Fellowship are important to our faith. When we come together to enjoy each other's company, we have opportunities to support one another and experiences that help us to learn and grow in faith.

The website has become ever more important in our communications with our members for engaging in meaningful fellowship, connecting with each other and encouraging one another. With the improvements made this year by Tom Kelleher and Nicole Marie to our web-site, it has become even easier to keep in touch online.

We hosted several outdoor/indoor picnics last summer. In September, we joined with Liberti Church in welcoming folks back to church with lunch after our services brought by food trucks. The Women of St. Mary's Harvest Food Festival in November was a great success as we enjoyed meeting with old friends and new. The resurrection of the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper hosted by the Merry Men was very welcome and appreciated. We have been blessed with in-person Coffee Hours, every week we are drawing a good crowd and we've found a great new way to encourage folks to host Coffee Hour: draw a date from a colorful hat and sign-up on a sheet to host on that date, with the promise of a mentor to dispel any mystery about how it's done. Within a short time of that being set out, the sign-up sheet was full to Easter!

I believe Jesus is calling us to go deeper. We need to trust Him more – and possibly change the way we engage our community to share the Good News. In a world that seems to be distancing it-self from religion, it is even more important that we find meaningful ways to share with others how God is working in our lives, and to help others develop their faith. We shouldn't simply go through the motions . . . We need to prayerfully seek God's will and prayerfully discern His calling to seek the best path forward.

Capitalizing on our location and other strengths, I look forward to many exciting opportunities as we prayerfully consider how we can best serve God. –My dream for the future? This year I still believe our dream with Fun and Fellowship at St. Mary's ought to be to leverage our two key assets: our members and our buildings and grounds, in order to spread the word of our Lord through our open and welcoming hospitality and fellowship. Our 2025-2026 goals are to grow our children's church school program with more events for children and youth; invite college age young people into fellowship, possibly with a monthly Sunday dinner; and continue to maintain and grow the Merry Men of St. Mary's, Coffee Hours, the Harvest Food Festival and other existing events.

Kathy Buckley, People's Warden  
*kbuckley@buckleyco.com*

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Christian Formation at St. Mary's Church has several components all of which are open to all, although they have traditionally had age-based audiences. The Sunday morning Adult Forum classes are held before the 10am service in the Navajo Room except on the first Sunday of the month. Over the last year; Erlis Wickersham and our clergy, Mother Lucy Ann Dure and Father Conor, have led two four-week long series on the parables found in the New and Old Testaments, and The Eucharist. Another topic was a multi-week discussion on the ethical writings of St Thomas of Aquinas. During January and into February, the group read under Fr. Conor's leadership *The Anatomy of Peace* by the Arbinger Institute. The next focus will be a close look at the Book of Common Prayer led by Bridget Lanouette.

On Mondays, the 11am Zoom Bible Study group has read, with Mother Lucy Ann and Fr Conor's help, the last twelve books of the Old Testament, the lesser prophets (Hosea through Malachi) and is turning its attention to Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel.

Children's Chapel remains the program that children attend on Sundays at St. Mary's. The children leave the Church for Chapel in the Parish Hall's Children's Chapel before the Gospel procession and return for Eucharist with their parents. It is a time for worship and learning. As is the case every Lent, we buried the flowers from the altar on the last Sunday of Epiphany as a reminder that the flowers will come back after Lent. We also made a Hosanna Banner which was draped on the Paschal Candle on Easter Sunday. We spent several months talking and learning about Noah's Ark which is the Bible story depicted in the stain glass window in the Children's Chapel. Not only did we learn by listening and discussing but we built an ark, made props, learned a song, and presented the song to the congregation in May. Since September, we continue to gain understanding of the Bible and the Liturgy we follow in the Church service. Advent was a busy time for the children as they prepared for the Birth of Jesus with two performances, one on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, *The Gentle Beasts*, and the Pageant on Christmas Eve. There are songs we sing and learn throughout the year. We are currently learning "Thy Gospel Jesus We Believe" which we hope to sing before the Gospel in Church this Spring.

During Chapel we looked at the various artwork in the Chapel and identified the Bible stories and people depicted. The Noah's Ark stained glass windows allowed the younger children to find all the pairs although one of the rabbits was hard to find. Penny pointed out St. Francis and wondered why he has nail marks in his hands without being crucified like Jesus. There are several banners about Creation/Garden of Eden which got us talking about the might of God. I was happy that the banner with Mary and the Baby Jesus was pointed out so easily.



Edith Helms  
*edithclover@hotmail.com*

Flowering of the Cross

## WORSHIP

This past year has been a year of change in so many ways. Mother Lucy Ann led us through the interim period with grace, love, and perseverance. The dedication, devotion, and countless hours offered by the Search Committees resulted in Fr. Conor being called to St. Mary's as our current rector. St. Mary's is forging ahead. We are in a period of adjustment, full of patience, anticipation, and excitement. Father Conor is now guiding us along the next leg of our journey here at St. Mary's.

The worship services at St. Mary's have been a constant throughout this past year. The 10:00 Rite II Eucharist service has continued to provide the church with the worship service that St. Mary's has known for years. The 7:45 Rite I service continues to provide a core group of congregants with a service and time that they enjoy. Morning and Evening prayer continue to be offered Monday through Friday.

These services are not possible without the dedication and organization of so many people. A special thanks to those that act as acolytes, healing ministers, chalice bearers, readers, ushers, live-stream experts, the Altar Guild, those handling the memorial flowers, and the choir. Father Conor has just introduced "Ministry Scheduler Pro" to help him and Greg Kelleher schedule all these people. It also makes scheduling changes easier to perform.

Some of the special highlights during the more recent months included:

November 3rd: Choral Evensong

December 15th: Advent Lessons and Carol incorporated in the 10:00 service.

December 22nd: Children Nativity performance

December 24th: Christmas Eve Family Service at 4:00PM

December 24th: Christmas Eve Late service at 9:00 with Strings

February 2nd: Candlemas Celebration and Baptism

A special thanks to members of the Worship Committee: Mary Dixon, Janice Radford, Greg Kelleher, Christopher Hart, and Gordon Turk. A thank you to Father Conor, Nicole Marie, Frank Tatnall, and Gordon Turk for producing the Sunday Bulletins. And a thank you to Tom Kelleher for all his electronic wizardry throughout St. Mary's.

David Lander  
*dwlx2@aol.com*

## **MUSIC**

*“Lift every voice and Sing!”*

Dr. Gordon Turk will be speaking at our Annual Meeting.

## **NOAH’S ARK THRIFT SHOP**

Our mission is to serve the needs of the Wayne community and beyond by selling gently used, donated household items and clothing.

We continue to be open on Wednesdays and Saturdays, with increasing numbers of customers and amounts of donations. This increase can be attributed to expanding efforts with advertising on social media, word of mouth and returning customers.

We recirculate clothing and household goods by providing a place for donations and a welcoming environment for our customers to shop for affordable items.

We are able to provide funds, as well as goods, to several outreach organizations, including Episcopal Community Services, St. Gabriel’s Church, St. Mary’s Chester Food Cupboard, Church Farm School, Thistle Hills in Coatesville, Family Promise of the Main Line, American Red Cross, the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the National Federation of the Blind through Green Drop, Goodwill, The Wardrobe in Lansdowne, My Brother’s House and Planet Aid. We also continue to provide supplies for urgent requests. In addition, we also contribute to St. Mary’s.

Our volunteers are very much appreciated for their service and for being such great supporters of this important mission of our church.

Susan Huck  
*sbmhuck@aol.com*

## STEWARDSHIP

Thank you for your gifts of transformation and for giving your time, talent, and treasure to St. Mary's.

As we look ahead to 2025, we are thankful for the faithful generosity of St. Mary's parishioners who have made their annual giving pledge for the year. With your help, we have reached our pledge campaign goal, which will enable St. Mary's to thrive and to continue our mission to spread the gospel and serve our community. Your contributions of time, talent, and treasure make a difference in people's lives, and are gifts beyond measure – they are gifts of transformation. Once again, we have proven that the church is more than a building. We are a church family, and we need each other to be the church.

He replied to him, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” Pointing to his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.” - Matthew 12:48-50

Thank you again for your gifts to love and glorify our heavenly Father and for sharing your time and talents with us. Together, we can continue to answer God's call. Together we can be there for friends and neighbors with our missions, ministries, and programs and make a difference. Together we can embrace even more transformation.

God Bless St. Mary's Family!

Elizabeth Morrill, Stewardship Chair  
*eamorrill@gmail.com*

*“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.”  
- Peter 4:10*



## ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild has several dedicated volunteers who do most of their duties “behind the scenes” to prepare the altar and in some cases entire church for Sunday and Thursday services as well as baptisms, funerals and weddings.

Our members are wonderful to work with: Enid Ball (Treasurer,) Laurie Buechle, Linda Burke, Aldys Davis, Susan Huck, Edith Helms, Tammy Lohmann, Elizabeth Morrill, Janice Radford, Joyce Randolph (Secretary,) Maria Steinhardt (Vice President) and Barbara Zimmer. This year we welcomed Linda Burke as a new member and are so happy to have her on the Guild.

We are very happy to have Fr. Conor at St. Mary’s and he has been very easy to work with. He is learning about some of St. Mary’s liturgical traditions, and we are happy to work with him on some new things he would like to incorporate into worship at various times.

As always we would be very happy to have others join us. Each of our four teams are responsible for one week each month, cleaning and setting up for Sunday and Thursday services. It is flexible and really not too time consuming. I think most of our members find it to be a rewarding experience. Please contact me if you would like to hear in more detail about what we do. Thank you.

Mary Dixon, President  
*Crossroadsmom1@verizon.net*





## WOMEN OF ST. MARY'S

Women AND Men are welcome to join the Women of St. Mary's. We host dinners and have speakers throughout the year to which the whole parish is invited. We also work with the Hospitality Committee to coordinate summer picnics and to welcome visitors with an informational "gift" bag. Many members of WOSM participate in church organizations including the Altar Guild, Noah's Ark and Coffee Hour. For many years, the Women planned and presented an annual Bazaar that featured homemade crafts, holiday gifts and delicious food. For the past three years we have worked hard to "update" and recreate the Bazaar with the theme of the Fall Food Festival. We cooked and sold frozen casseroles, baked goods and hostess gifts. The café had many return customers who came back for our German delicacies. Community neighbors, as well as parishioners and their families have made this "new" event a tradition. Next year we might bring back The Promise Tree! The money we raised has been given to local charities and women's organizations, including the Senior Center, the Women's Resource Center, the House and St. Mary's Free Pantry. Please note: WE NEED A SECRETARY to take minutes and help with correspondence! Please contact Linda if you are interested.

### PASTORAL CARE

Beginning this fall, we recognized the need to keep our senior and homebound parishioners "in the loop." Every month we send a card or small gift to those on our pastoral care list. Currently, we have 12 friends to remember. Please contact Linda Noll if you know of someone who would enjoy hearing from their St. Mary's family, or if you would like to help with this ministry. We welcome your participation.

Linda Noll, President  
[lindanoll390@gmail.com](mailto:lindanoll390@gmail.com)



## BY THE NUMBERS

### Weddings

*Jennifer Lyons & Samuel Dayton*  
*Kelly Zullinger & Sean Robertson*  
*Sarah McKay & Zachary Vigneault*  
*Meredith Henne & Andrew Hansen*

### Baptisms

*Maren Waldron*

### Burials

*Joan Bulley*  
*Audrey Smith*  
*Lisa Hart*  
*Mary Tatnall*  
*Jerry Jackson*  
*Dave Seavey*  
*Mary Lewis*  
*Jeff Alyanakian*

**65** Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)

**99** Sunday Eucharists

**53** Weekday Eucharists

**470** Daily Office (Services of Morning and Evening Prayer)



Baptism of Maren Waldron



Our Annual Staff Holiday Luncheon.

In this picture: Left to right:  
Masako Makihara, Toshi Makihara, Dr. Gordon Turk,  
Father Conor Alexander, Frank Tatnall,  
Nicole Marie and Joan McAndrew.

# LAST YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Wayne, PA**

**Minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting – March 3, 2024**

**In Attendance:** The Rev. Lucy Ann Dure, Neal Fulton, Craig Hoogstraten, Bob Mickel, Scott Scheidt, Kathy Buckley, Erlis Wickersham, Edith Helms, Gordon Turk, Pat McKay, Susan Huck, Jean Wetzel, Mary Dixon, Linda Noll, Greg Kelleher, Christopher Hart, Bob Stevens, Tom Kelleher, Paul Acton, Elizabeth Morrill, parishioners.

**Call to Order:** 11:50a

**Opening Prayer**

**Appointment of Secretary:** Elizabeth Morrill

**Approval of Minutes:** 2023 Annual Parish Meeting minutes will be located and distributed for approval at a later date.

**Rector's Report:** (The Rev. Lucy Ann Dure)

- Introduction of Nominees for Vestry.
  - Paul Acton
  - Edith Helms
  - Tom Kelleher
  - Elizabeth Morrill
  - Linda Noll
- Introduction of Nominees for People's Warden.
  - Kathy Buckley
- Introduction of Nominees for Diocesan Convention Deputies.
  - Christopher Hart
  - Pat McKay
  - Erlis Wickersham
- Introduction of Nominees for Delegate to the Deanery.
  - Christopher Hart
- Election Judges
  - Frank Tatnall
  - Pat McKay
  - Janice Radford
- The above slate of nominees was approved unanimously by a vote of acclamation.

# LAST YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

## **Rector's Warden Report: (Neal Fulton)**

- Appreciation and mention of:
  - The Rev. Lucy Ann Dure as our transition minister.
  - Growth of our Outreach program.
  - Successful Stewardship campaign.
  - Embarked on the search for our new Rector.

## **Treasurer's & Finance Report: (Craig Hoogstraten)**

- 2023 Operating revenue finished in the black.
  - Ended at approximately \$8,000.
- 2024 Budget was approved 12.18.23.
  - Total operating fund expenses are \$476,190.
- Need to develop a slush fund (additions to the capital account) to pay for additional Buildings & Grounds projects in advance of the new Rector's appointment.

## **Reports of the Commissions of the Vestry**

### **Buildings & Grounds: (Bob Mickel)**

- Many improvements and repairs to our buildings and grounds have been accomplished in the past year, through the hard work of the committee and volunteers, including:
  - Church boiler replaced.
  - Lancaster Avenue dead tree removed.
  - Fall grounds cleanup.
  - Parish hall ladies' room leak fixed.
  - Rectory basement waterproofed.
  - Nativity stained glass window repaired.
  - Nativity display platform removed.
  - Rectory third floor painted.
  - New landscaper engaged (lawn care and snow removal).
- 2024 list of projects includes:
  - Rectory basement lally columns need replacing.
  - Parish hall F. Greene room windows need to be repaired and re-leaded.
  - Emergency door portico needs to be repaired.

### **Outreach: (Scott Scheidt)**

- With the help of dedicated volunteers, outreach provides services to our local community and beyond, including:
  - Noah's Ark Thrift Shop.

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- Little Free Pantry.
- Water is Life Kenya.
- Unity in the Community.
- St. Mary's Chester Food Cupboard & White Gifts.
- Good Works of Chester County.
- St. Gabriel's Christmas Meals.
- 2024 Outreach goals include:
  - Outreach fair to engage new volunteers.
  - Identify new outreach opportunities.
  - Improve communication/publicity around outreach.

## **Fun & Fellowship:** (Kathy Buckley)

- In 2023 we improved and expanded the programs that allow us to enjoy our faith as a community through shared experiences, including:
  - Easter egg hunt.
  - Harvest Food Festival.
  - Coffee hour.
  - New member dinner.
  - Jesus' birthday celebration.
  - Shrove Tuesday pancake supper.

## **Adult Christian Formation:** (Erlis Wickersham)

- Adult Christian Formation brings us programs that help to improve the spiritual depth of our understanding. Highlights include:
  - Guest speakers at Sunday Adult Formation on subjects like Islam, Judaism, St. Theresa of Avila, and the Nicene Creed.
  - Monday morning Bible Study continues to engage in lively discussions of scripture.

## **Children & Youth Christian Formation:** (Edith Helms)

- Children & Youth Christian Formation offers classes for children of any age which will nurture their understanding of Episcopalian worship through reading, art, music, song, and drama. The children participated in the annual Christmas Pageant and The Lord of the Dance and have created a number of beautiful art projects including their own Stations of the Cross.

## **Worship:** (The Rev. Lucy Ann Dure)

- Worship is the cornerstone of St. Mary's and there are many opportunities for worship, including:

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- Morning and evening prayer Monday through Friday.
- Holy Eucharist on Sundays.
- Healing service and Eucharist on Thursdays.
- Services to celebrate the major feasts of the church year.
- We also held the following special services:
  - Ascension Day.
  - All Saints' Day.
  - Service for All Faithful Departed.
  - 2 Advent Evensongs.

### **Music Report:** (Dr. Gordon Turk)

- Music is an integral part of our worship at St. Mary's, and we are blessed to have our dedicated and talented choir to enrich and lift up our services.
- Holy week will include performances, including:
  - 'The Crucifixion' on Good Friday.
  - Easter Sunday celebration which includes a string ensemble.

### **Stewardship Report:** (Pat McKay)

- Stewardship encourages all to give of their time, talent, and treasure in support of St. Mary's. Each one of our Ministry groups, Vestry commissions, our financial experts, etc. all contribute to our church and community.
- 2024 Stewardship Drive encourages all to pledge support of St. Mary's.

### **Reports of the Ministry Groups**

#### **Noah's Ark Thrift Shop:** (Jean Wetzel)

- An increase in donations from our parishioners and community has made Noah's Ark a success and allows us to offer clothing and household items at very affordable prices, as well as support other outreach organizations in the community.

#### **Altar Guild** (Mary Dixon)

- The Altar Guild teams are responsible for cleaning, setting up and putting away vestments, communion elements, candles, flowers, and linens for services on Thursdays and Sundays – as well as on special occasions like funerals, weddings, and baptisms.

#### **Women of St. Mary's** (Linda Noll)

- The Women of St. Mary's bring programs and social events to the church community. Highlights from this past year include the Harvest Food Festival – which was a resounding success.

# LAST YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

## Communications & Media (Tom Kelleher)

- Our live stream team makes it possible for those not able to attend services in person to view online.
- Tom has worked to redesign our website and improve user experience and accessibility – allowing St. Mary's to have a successful online presence.

## Search Committee Report: (Greg Kelleher - Chair)

- Members of the Search Committee include:
  - Susan Huck
  - Pat McKay
  - Barb Zimmer
  - Brook Hunt
  - Janice Radford
- The Search Committee will work with the Diocesan Canon for Transition Ministry, The Rev. Jane Gober, to vet and select a candidate to be submitted to the Vestry for approval as the next Rector of St. Mary's.

## Interim Rector's Report (The Rev. Lucy Ann Dure)

- Mother Lucy Ann focused on the miracles of faith at St. Mary's, including:
  - Marylu's survival and recovery has been a true miracle – and one that we all experienced as part of our St. Mary's family.
  - Our new Healing Ministry has been received with gratitude by all.

## Questions & Answers (The Rev. Lucy Ann Dure)

- Q: Who is Liam Reid?  
A: He is a friend of Nicole Marie's and the Media Manager for the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania. He created the video of Davis d'Ambly.
- Comment: Heartfelt thanks to Frank Tatnall for all his help with the bulletins and for helping Nicole during the transition from old to new parish administrator.

## Closing Prayer

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH WAYNE, PENNSYLVANIA  
A Community Church of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania

**St. Mary's Church Parish Staff**

**Fr. Conor Alexander**, *Rector* (frconor@stmaryswnepa.org)

For Pastoral emergencies please call Fr. Conor at 610-234-9948

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**Nicole Marie MFA**, *Parish Administrator* (nicole@stmaryswnepa.org)

**Toshi and Masako Makihara**, *Property Caretakers*

**Joan McAndrew**, *Nursery*

**Vestry**

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**WEEKLY SERVICES AT ST. MARY'S**

Sunday in the Church

**7:45** am Eucharist Rite I

**10:00** am Holy Eucharist Rite II\*

Daily Office: **9:30am and 5pm**

Thursday Healing Service: **12 noon**

\**Livestreamed at St. Mary's Livestream page*

<https://www.stmaryswnepa.org/livestream>

Weekly announcements and updates: [www.stmaryswnepa.org/echimes](http://www.stmaryswnepa.org/echimes)