

St. Mark's History at a Glance

1880–1945

The Church's One Foundation

- 1881** —Parson Hogue opened St. Mark's doors on E. 2nd Ave..
1883 —St. Mark's became a parish.
1890 —Fire destroyed the wooden church on E. 2nd Ave. Only three things were saved: the small organ, the Bible, and the cross.
1892 —St. Mark's on E. 3rd Ave. had its first service.
1900 —We have our first record of a St. Mark's choir.
1930s —This is our first record of a church library.
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1945–1977

The Peacock Window

- 1945–1964** —Philip Hawley, Vicar/Rector. In his first ten years, there were 129 baptisms, 110 confirmations, Sunday attendance doubled, Sunday school grew from 7 to 78, and we built the Parish Hall. Fr. Hawley died while rector and parish gratitude resulted in the commemorative Peacock stained glass window.
1957 —St. Mark's completed the Parish Hall addition.
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1977–1995

The Lion's Roar

- 1977–1988** —Don Warner, Rector. During his years, both adult and children Christian Ed. grew, there was parish-wide evangelical/charismatic renewal, liturgical dance was a part of Sunday worship services and he taught the parish to sing.
1982 —The order of the Daughters of the King was established at St. Mark's.
~1990 —The first LEMs received training and began services at Four Corners.
1992 —The Lion's Book Corner (church bookstore) opened in the Parish Hall.
1993–1994 —Matt Rowe was hired as our first assistant priest. He worked mostly with youth and was responsible for the user-friendly service leaflet with all Prayer Book readings included.
1993 —St. Mark's restored the sanctuary, the stained glass windows, and added a Schudi tracker organ under the direction and workmanship of David Lamb.
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1995–2004

The Star of David

- 1995–2011** —Andrew Cooley, Rector, a leader in social-justice issues, an advocate for inclusivity, ecumenical, baptized 112, and built St. Mark's into a welcoming congregation. The Labyrinth is dedicated to him.
1999–2001 —Roman Krafezyk, Youth Pastor. He took youth on several service trips.
1999–present —Godly Play, a Montessori-style curriculum, is used for children's Sunday School.
~2000 —The library expands, a testimony to the fact that we are a parish of readers.
2003 —St. Mark's was divided after the election of a partnered gay bishop for the Diocese of New Hampshire. Fr. Cooley estimated 30 people left the parish.
1996–2000 —Har Shalom, the San Juan Jewish Congregation, met in St. Mark's Parish Hall for several years. Our door still has the Mezuzah. In return, for years they have provided child care for our Christmas Eve service.
2002–2008 —Rev. Mary Hardy semi-retired here and left a strong legacy of feminine spirituality.
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2004–2011

The Dancing Cross

- 2004** —St. Mark's restored both floors of the Parish Hall building, adding the two Dancing Cross stained-glass windows upstairs, and moving the Hawley Peacock window to its present Parish Hall location.
2004 —Scott Hagler was hired part-time as Minister of Music Nov. 1.
2006–2008 —Minister of Music and Parish Administrator are contracted full time.
2009 —An "Emerging Church" conference (Rohr & McLaren) was attended by a number of parishioners and vestry.
2005–present —Parish support of the arts grew substantially, a testimony to our understanding of the centrality of the arts to our spiritual awareness.