



St. Mark's MISSION:



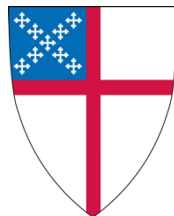
To grow an inclusive community centered in Christ that nurtures loving relationships with God, each other, and the world.

St. Mark's VISION:



*We strive to be a dynamic community that is welcoming, inclusive, joyful, and loving.
We desire to grow our relationship with a loving, merciful, and just God.
We seek to embody the teachings and example of Jesus in our lives, in our parish, and in the world around us.
We work to unlock our best selves through worship, study, and the creation of meaningful relationships while supporting our neighbors and our environment.*

The MISSION of the Vestry of St. Mark's:



Ensure effective planning and operation of St. Mark's missions in word and deed, while managing the church's resources and finances.



THE VESTRY COVENANT

***WE WILL SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST IN EACH OTHER
&
BE AN EXAMPLE TO THE CONGREGATION BY BEING:***

- **SPIRITUALLY-CENTERED. WE WILL:**

- ◆ *Keep the work of the Vestry & the congregation in our daily prayers.*
- ◆ *Read the Mission/Vision Statement at the beginning of every Vestry meeting.*
- ◆ *Engage in meaningful spiritual deepening at every Vestry meeting.*
- ◆ *Live out our Mission and Vision with each other, our congregation, and the community.*
- ◆ *Attend to ongoing personal & collective spiritual deepening.*
- ◆ *Model generosity, engagement, thankfulness, and hope for new life through Christ.*
- ◆ *Serve as agents of reconciliation in the church.*

- **RESPECTFUL. WE WILL:**

- ◆ *Respect each other's opinions by listening and seeking first to understand and be open to change/discernment.*
- ◆ *Respect each other's time by being punctual at meetings, turning in reports/agenda items and preparing for meetings ahead of time.*
- ◆ *Silence all electronic devices at the start of Vestry meetings.*
- ◆ *Limit Vestry meetings to two (2) hours in duration by being time-sensitive during discussions.*
- ◆ *Remember that email is useful for setting up meetings and sharing information, but not in dealing with conflicts and complaints.*

- **TRUSTWORTHY. WE WILL:**

- ◆ *Maintain strict confidentiality of issues discussed concerning personnel, medical/mental health of members/staff/congregants.*
- ◆ *Balance confidentiality with transparency to the congregation as appropriate.*
- ◆ *Be transparent about the work of the Vestry through regular communication/posting Vestry Minutes.*

- **COMMITTED. WE WILL:**

- ◆ *Maintain a working knowledge of community needs and act on those needs ("Go out into the world").*
- ◆ *Attend the Vestry meetings, be available for phone consultation, and serve on at least one committee/team.*
- ◆ *Participate in strategic planning and other means of providing for our future.*
- ◆ *Fundraise for St. Mark's needs.*
- ◆ *Pledge (income/situation proportionate) prior to the start of the stewardship campaign, with goal of 100% Vestry participation.*
- ◆ *Ask the hard questions and work towards solutions.*
- ◆ *Keep Stewardship as a focus year round.*
- ◆ *Support the final decisions agreed upon by the Vestry even if we disagree.*
- ◆ *Participate in worship, education and parish events.*

- **NURTURING. WE WILL:**

- ◆ *Keep a servant's attitude, recognizing that the Vestry's role is that of serving God and God's church.*
- ◆ *Get to know each vestry member intimately: stories, gifts, professions, family, etc., in order to build a "family" team and community cohesion.*
- ◆ *Support the staff and encourage them to grow professionally and personally.*
- ◆ *Encourage each other to grow as mission-focused leaders.*

- **WELCOMING. WE WILL:**

- ◆ *Be a true host to all visitors.*
- ◆ *Be gracious to all parishioners and visitors at Vestry meetings and Parish events.*