



SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A LION'S SHARE

NOVEMBER 23, 2024

Happy Thanksgiving!



Saint Mark's Episcopal Church

LET'S JOIN OUR

FOOD DRIVE

Now thru Nov. 24

Spread The Love!

To Benefit Families of WHB Elementary School


Let's come together to share the blessings and make a meaningful impact on the lives of those in need.




ITEMS NEEDED

- ✓ Canned Food
- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Peanut Butter
- ✓ Dry Cereals

Drop-off Location:

Saint Mark's Church 
40 Main St., WHB, NY 11978

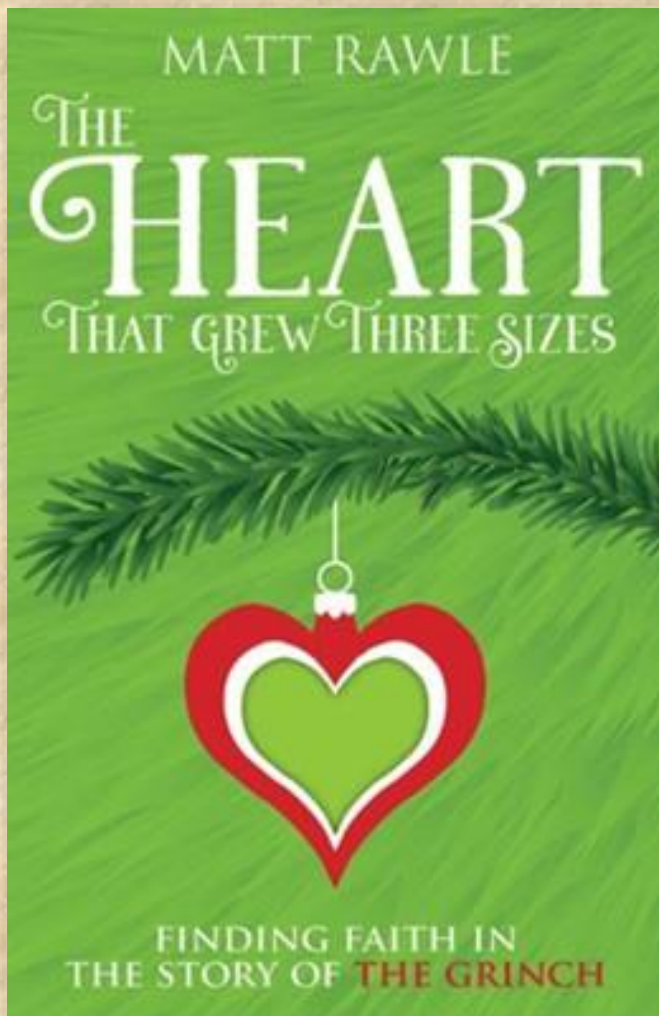
For More Info

Visit Our Website 
www.stmarkswhb.org

Advent Study 2024

Thursday, December 5, 12, 19

10:00 a.m. in-person and via zoom



The Heart That Grew Three Sizes: Find the True Meaning of Christmas in the Grinch

Rediscover the gift of Advent that comes without packages, ribbons, and bows. We don't know why the Grinch hated Christmas. We just know he did. In this new Advent study, Matt Rawle explores the faith themes in the Christmas classic, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* including, how did the Grinch's heart grow three sizes come Christmas morning? How did Christmas save the Grinch? Could it be that the very thing we think we hate is the one thing that changes our lives? This Advent and Christmas season, look at a familiar classic through the lens of faith and see how Christ speaks to us through our culture.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5697969237>

Meeting ID: 569 796 9237

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,5697969237# US (New York)



Holiday Market

HANDMADE GOODS - ART - CLOTHING
JEWELRY - SPECIALTY FOODS - BAKED GOODS
FARMERS MARKET & MORE



SATURDAYS

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 28

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

SHOP SMALL - SHOP LOCAL

VISIT THE HOLIDAY MARKET ON
SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 30
BRING YOUR LOCAL MERCHANT RECEIPTS
TO RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY GIFT

WINTER MARKET

WILL CONTINUE ON SATURDAYS THROUGH APRIL 26

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
40 MAIN STREET, WESTHAMPTON BEACH**

For more information please visit our website or email us at - info@whbcc.org



ORGAN CONSTRUCTION JOBS



Dear Readers,

Slowly, slowly there is progress. The picture below shows the manuals set in place. You will note that there are two keyboards or manuals and instead of pull stops there are pegs. Each of these can change the quality of the sound that comes out of a particular pipe. They can be made to sound like an oboe, violin or trumpet. Also note the very fine finish on the foot pedals. This is so that Stephen, wearing his special shoes, can slide easily between the foot pedals to play the right base notes.



But not everything looks so smooth. As I walked into the shop to prep this missive,

I saw the console control computer that will connect the wire to pipes, notes, and every, piece that in interconnected to make the notes. So the pictures below show this contraption and cartoons that describe my reaction.





**ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH INVITES YOU TO
OUR ANNUAL**

CHRISTMAS FAIR

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 7, 2024
FROM 9 AM TO 2PM**

165 Ponquogue Ave, Hampton Bays, NY 11946

Famous Cookie Walk
Handmade Holiday Items & Gifts, Ornaments,
Fresh Wreaths & Greens, Holiday Décor,
Jams, Pickles, Soups, Home-Baked Goods,
Hostess Gift Baskets & Raffle Baskets!

Christmas Storytime at 11:00am,
Santa Claus arrives at 11:30am!

ST. MARY'S HAMPTON BAYS
631-728-0776
STMARYSHB@OPTONLINE.NET



EAST END
HOSPICE

TREE OF LIGHTS MEMORIAL SERVICE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

at 2:30 in the afternoon

Shelter Island Public Library
37 North Ferry Road, Shelter Island

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

at 2:30 in the afternoon

The Cutchogue Village Green
Main Road (Rte 25), Cutchogue

Hook Windmill

42 North Main Street, East Hampton

Rogers Memorial Library

91 Coopers Farm Road, Southampton

The Gazebo at the Village Green

Main Street, Westhampton Beach



*Please join us as we gather outdoors to
remember our friends and loved ones on this special occasion.
We invite you to dedicate an ornament in memory of someone you love.*

Please note only the names submitted will be read during the service.

Contact EEH Development Office for more information at 631.288.7080 or email events@eeh.org

481 Westhampton-Riverhead Road • PO Box 1048 • Westhampton Beach, NY 11978-7048

P: 631.288.7080 • F: 631.288.4943 • E: events@eeh.org • eeh.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27</p> <p>Pentecost 23 (Proper 25B)</p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Coffee Hour 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Early Voting 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Parish Office Closed</p> <p>St Simon & St Jude, Apostles</p> <p>10:00am Early Voting</p>	<p>29</p> <p><i>James Hamington, Bishop, and his Companions, Martyrs, 1885</i></p> <p>7:00am Early Voting</p>	<p>30</p> <p><i>Marvam of Qidun, Monastic, fourth century</i></p> <p>7:00am Early Voting</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Vigil of All Saints</p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing 12:00pm Early Voting</p>	<p>1</p> <p>All Saints Day</p> <p>11:00am Live Stream Presiding Bishop Investiture 12:00pm Early Voting</p>	 <p>All Souls Day 10:00am Early Voting</p>
<p>3</p>  <p>The Communion of Saints</p> <p>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</p> <p><i>Richard Hooker, Priest and Theologian, 1600</i></p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Coffee Hour 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Early Voting 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Parish Office Closed</p> <p>6:30pm Prayer Service for Peace and Harmony</p>	<p>5</p>  <p>8:00pm zoom prayer vigil—The Episcopal Church</p>	<p>6</p> <p><i>William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1944</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p><i>Willbroed, Archbishop and Missionary, 739</i></p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing</p>	<p>8</p> <p><i>[Ammonius, Hermit, c.403]</i></p>	<p>9</p> <p><i>[Richard Rolle, Walter Hilton, and Margery Kempe, Mystics, 1349, 1396, and c.1440]</i></p> <p>9:00am Men's Breakfast Group 10:30am Celebration of Life Service for Martin Burrows</p>
<p>10</p> <p><i>Leo of Rome, Bishop, 461</i></p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Coffee Hour 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>11</p> <p><i>Martin of Tours, Bishop, 397</i></p> <p>Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>12</p> <p><i>Charles Simson, Priest, 1836</i></p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p><i>Consecration of Smauel Seabury, First American Bishop, 1784</i></p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing</p>	<p>15</p> <p><i>[Herman of Alaska, Missionary, 1837]</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p><i>Margaret of Scotland, Queen, 1093</i></p>
<p>17</p> <p><i>Hugh, of Lincoln, Bishop 1200</i></p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:00am Coffee Hour 9:15am Choir Practice 9:30am Sunday School 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>18</p> <p><i>Hilda of Whitby, Abbess, 680</i></p> <p>Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>19</p> <p><i>Elizabeth of Hungary, Princess, 1231</i></p> <p>6:30pm Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>20</p> <p><i>Edmund, King, 870</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p><i>[Mechthilde of Hackborn and Gertrude the Great, Mystics and Theologians, 1298 and 1302]</i></p> <p>10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing</p>	<p>22</p> <p><i>Clive Staples Lewis, Apologist and Spiritual Writer, 1963</i></p>	<p>23</p> <p><i>Clement of Rome, Bishop, c.100</i></p>
<p>24</p> <p><i>[Catherine of Alexandria, Barbara of Nicomedia, and Margaret of Antioch, Martyrs, c.305]</i></p> <p>8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:15am Choir Practice 9:30am Sunday School 10:00am Holy Eucharist 2:00pm Annual Parish Thanksgiving Dinner</p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>James Otis Sargent Huntington, Monastic and Priest, 1935</i></p> <p>Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Break</p>	<p>28</p>  <p><i>Kamehameha and Emma of Hawaii, King and Queen, 1863 and 1885</i></p> <p>NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Break Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>29</p> <p>NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Break Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>30</p> <p>St. Andrew the Apostle 9:00am Holiday Market</p>

AQION'S SHARE

*The Weekly Newsletter of Saint Mark's Church
A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island*

ST. MARK'S CHURCH

40 Main Street
P.O. Box 887
Westhampton Beach, NY 11978

Phone: 631.288.2111

E-Mail:

kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org

Website: www.stmarkswhb.org

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday to Friday
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

WEEKEND SERVICES

Sun. 8:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist
Sun. 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist (Livestreamed)

THURSDAY SERVICES

11:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing



The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenzano
Bishop of Long Island

The Rt. Rev. Geryl Wolf
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Rt. Rev. Daniel Allotey
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Rt. Rev. William Franklin
Assisting Bishop of Long Island

The Rev. Christopher D. Jubinski
Rector

Email:

chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org

Cell: 410.253.3664



BULLETIN INSERTS

November 24, 2024 – Christ the King (B) Christ the King Sunday

Today, many parishes within The Episcopal Church celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. This feast day falls on the last Sunday of the liturgical year, the Sunday before the beginning of Advent. The feast is a relative newcomer to the liturgical calendar; it was first instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925, when he wrote the encyclical *Quas Primas*. Here, he lays out the different understandings of kingship that Jesus Christ possesses.

Pius XI also explains how Christians ought to live as a result of Christ's kingship: "He must reign in our minds, which should assent with perfect submission and firm belief to revealed truths and to the doctrines of Christ. He must reign in our wills, which should obey the laws and precepts of God. He must reign in our hearts, which should spurn natural desires and love God above all things, and cleave to him alone. He must reign in our bodies and in our members, which should serve as instruments for the interior sanctification of our souls, or to use the words of the Apostle Paul, as instruments of justice unto God." By the 1970s, the Feast of Christ the King had been more or less institutionalized throughout many Christian denominations and was fixed as occurring the last Sunday before Advent.

The lessons for this day support the understanding of Christ as sovereign. Jeremiah writes, "The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land." The Song of Zechariah bridges the seasons beautifully as we hear the prophecy foretelling the ministry of St. John the Baptist, from whom we'll hear more very shortly. The Letter to the Colossians explains, "[The Father] has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." It is only in the Gospel reading that we see the most difficult aspect of Jesus' kingship: "The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'" We remember that Jesus' kingship is not distant and remote in some capital city thousands of miles away. His kingship is not detached nor aloof. No, he reigns for now in the very hearts of the faithful, freeing us and bringing us together under his most gracious rule.

Collect for the Feast of Christ the King

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen (BCP 236).



THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, 11/25	Church Office Closed
Wednesday, 11/27	7:30 p.m. Alanon Meeting – Atwater Room
Thursday, 11/28 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	Church Office Closed
Friday, 11/29	Church Office Closed
Saturday, 11/30	9:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m. Holiday Market in Parish Hall
Sunday, 12/01 <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing and Anointing 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice 9:30 a.m. Sunday School – Atwater Room 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing and Anointing 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Participants	
LEM	Sundy Schermeyer
Lector	Carol Jubinski
Usher	Tom Simson
Sunday 10:00 a.m. Participants	
LEM	Carol Fitton
Lector	John Kern
Ushers	Tim Feil, Steve DeCaro
Altar Guild	Diane Feil, Helen Horton
<u>NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS</u>	
Carol Fitton	11/07
Eleanor Kast	11/08
Peyton Feil	11/08
Geri Wyman	11/09
Barbara Pettus	11/09
Timothy Feil	11/10
Timothy Jurgielewicz	11/14
Carol Laube	11/15
Robert Laube	11/16
Kelly Pickering	11/16
Margaret DeCaro	11/18
Sundy Schermeyer	11/19
Janet Jurgielewicz	11/20
Jasson & Alicia Andria	11/23
Jeanine Graviano	11/24
Jock McLean	11/28
John Kern	11/30
<u>NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES</u>	
Peter & Lori Williams	11/06
Edward & Barbara Callahan	11/23
Arthur & Virginia Connolly	11/28

<u>Services</u>	<u>In Person</u>	<u>On Line</u>
11/17 Holy Eucharist	8:00 a.m. 22	
11/17 Holy Eucharist	<u>10:00 a.m. 62</u>	<u>47</u>
	Total 84	47

Bible Study 11/21 - 11
Mid-Week Healing Service 11/21 - 4

Please Pray for Your Parish Every Day at 12:00 Noon. And, remember the People of Israel, Palestine, Sudan, Armenia, Ukraine, Haiti, and the United States of America too!

The flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Catharine Nobiletti with gratitude for all her blessings and by Stephen Hunt in celebration of his daughter Isabella Hunt's birthday.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOOD COLLECTION for WHB ELEMENTARY-Today is the deadline for our collection of non-perishable food for families in need from our local elementary school. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

SAINT MARK'S ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER Today is our Thanksgiving Dinner in the Parish Hall at 2:00 p.m. Guests are welcome! Please bring a family favorite Thanksgiving food/beverage item to share.

NEW STUDY Starts Thursday, December 5 at 10:00 a.m. in-person and via zoom. We don't know why the Grinch hated Christmas. We just know he did. If we're being honest, there's probably something within the Christmas season celebration that awakens a Grinch within all of us. Maybe the gift we unwrap was all wrong, or memories that were supposed to be joyful never were. When everything seems wrong in the world, even joyful celebrations are much too loud. In this new Advent study, Matt Rawle explores the faith themes in the Christmas classic, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* This Advent & Christmas season, look at a familiar classic through the lens of faith. Books can be purchased through Amazon.

HOLIDAY MARKET - Vendors from the Farmer's Market will be selling holiday items here in our Parish Hall from Saturday, November 30 thru December 28 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

HOLIDAY TRAIN SHOW is cancelled.

ALTAR FLOWERS - If you would like to dedicate flowers for the Altara contact Laura Bott at 631-722-4749 or email her at Laura.bott17@gmail.com. There are vases available in December. Each vase is \$40. Please contact Laura if you sign up in the book.

COFFEE HOUR: Volunteers needed for Coffee Hour following both services the month of December. Contact Kate in the church office or use the sign-up sheet located on the table outside of the Parish Hall. Thank you to those who have volunteered!

PARISH SURVEYS: New members, please see Kate in the church office or email at kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org.

ORGAN HELP NEEDED: Stephen Hunt, our Music Director, **is in need of workers to help with the organ.** If you can spare some time, please contact him at stephenhuntmusic@gmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 15 - Rose Sunday - Holy Eucharist 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. (You are welcome to wear something pink or rose).

December 21 - Blue Christmas Service 4:30 p.m. - (Meditative Music starts 4:00 p.m.)

December 22 - Greening of the Church at 11 a.m.

December 29 - 9:00 a.m. service with Christmas Lessons & Carols & Holy Eucharist. Brunch instead of Coffee Hour.

We ask that you remember those for whom prayers are requested:

Kurt Andon (Req. by Sundy Schermeyer), **Aubrey** (Req. by Margie DeCaro), **Ridgie Barnett** (Parishioner), **Bentley** (Req. by Margie DeCaro), **Noah Berger** (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Stan Billie** (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Bishop Provenzano**, **Bridget** (Req. by Catharine Nobiletti), **Rich Cassavano** (Parishioner), **Deana Chiusano** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Abby Connett** (Req. by Nancy Connett), **Owen Foster** (Diane & John Stewart's grandson), **Nancy Fraser** (Req. by Ki Nobiletti), **Fred Rees Garcia** (son of Victoria Garcia), **Jason Gordon** (by Kate Gabrielsen), **Roberta Good** (Diane Stewart's Sister), **Max Gorman** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Elaine Hanes** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Barbara Ireton** (Req. by Carol Smith), **Gretchen & Jim Jubinski** (Fr. Chris' Parents), **Cole LoRusso** (Marj Kulesa's Nephew), **John & Anita Martinelli** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Earl Meyers** (Jinny Gilmore), **Jock McLean** (Parishioner), **Sean McLean** (Req. by Jock McLean), **Carol Marin**, (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Paul Oele** (Parishioner), **Cassie Panzarino** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Michele Parks** (Req. by Marjorie Kulesa), **Joan Petrella** (Parishioner), **Kenneth Reeves** (husband of Louise Reeves), **Betty Rose Richardson**, (by Victoria Garcia), **Jean Scopinich** (Parishioner), **Diane Stewart** (Parishioner) **John Stewart** (Parishioner), **Sarah Witters** (Req. by Victoria Garcia), **Stephen Wyman** (Req. by Sandy Wyman), **Victoria DiRocco** (Fr. Chris & Carol's daughter), **John Henwood** (Fr. Chris & Carol's Brother-in-Law), **Michael Rees** (Brother of Victoria Garcia)

(If there are any names that can be removed, kindly contact Kate in the church office 631-288-2111.)

We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces: Amanda E. Degener, Kyle M. Degener, George L. Degener, Jesse Fritz, Nicholas LoRusso, Joshua Rudd, Rob Scribner and James Mercready.

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2024, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

Members Present: Fr. Chris Jubinski, Diane Stewart, Tom Horan, Steve DeCaro, Diane Feil, Tom Hadlock, Marj Kulesa, Barbara Pettus, Steve Turner, Sandy Wyman, Tom Simson, Carol Fitton

Fr. Chris called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. He offered a prayer for the Poor and Neglected from the Book of Common Prayer.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Barbara, seconded by Tom Horan, to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the minutes from the September 17, 2024 Vestry meeting.

Finance Report: Tom mentioned that this month's reports are very basic due to the recent software conversion from Church Windows to Aplos, but he hopes to have YTD comparison reporting next month.

Bright Beginnings: YTD September Tuition receipts, which comprise the bulk of Bright Beginning's Income, were \$600.7K, up 16.1% compared to \$517.4K YTD September 2023, while YTD September Income increased 33.6% to \$745.1K vs \$557.5K YTD September 2023. YTD September expenses were \$618.8K compared to \$619.3K YTD September 2023, a drop of 0.01%. Tom noted that salaries comprise most of the expenses and these were down 2.6% from \$530.4K in 2023 to \$516.4K in 2024. YTD September 2024 Net Income is \$126.2K vs -\$61.8K in 2023, a definitive turnaround. Tom noted that the \$65K loan from SMC has now been fully repaid.

SMC: Tom S reported YTD September 2024 Church Donations of \$129.6K vs \$179.9K a year ago, a drop of 27.9%. He mentioned that there was a major gift (approximately \$50K) in early 2023 that favorably impacted last year's Donations. Other Revenue increased to \$107.3K from \$16.9K in 2023, due mainly to rent from the Beinecke Building. For YTD September 2024, Salaries and Benefits Expenses were \$254.9K vs \$237.5K YTD September 2023, an increase of 7.3%.

Tom reminded us that while we have started receiving \$10K/month rental income for the Beinecke Building, the real estate commission (paid upfront) is being expensed over 12 months at \$8K/month, which means we will start receiving the income benefit of the full \$10K/month rent beginning next month. Until then, we will essentially have net rent from the Beinecke Building of \$2K/month.

Investment Committee: Barbara reported that since the balance is less than \$1mm (actual balance today is \$756,256), the funds have been moved into a money market fund (essentially a cash position), to avoid taking any negative market risk. The 7-day yield is currently 4.75% as a point of reference. The account remains at Fidelity, which continues to facilitate gifts of securities to SMC. With the move to a money market fund, Pam Sheiffer is stepping down as co-chair of the committee.

Stewardship 2025: Fr. Chris said the 2025 campaign theme is "Walk in Love". His letter introducing the campaign was emailed out today. Di and Tom Horan will be co-chairs of the campaign. Their letter will be going out at the end of the week. The campaign will run from October 20th through the Ingathering on November 24th, which auspiciously is also the date of the annual Parish Thanksgiving dinner. Diane asked the members of the Vestry to thoughtfully consider their pledges and to have them in by November 1, so an announcement can be made to the Parish that its Vestry has made their pledges.

United Thank Offering (UTO): Marj reviewed plans for our parish involvement in this year's effort, which brings back an outreach that SMC was last involved with seven years ago. UTO is an international effort started in the late 1800s to raise funds to support innovative mission and ministry in The Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion that church budgets could not cover. Funds collected support grants by deserving entities. This year's theme is

“Gratitude”, which can be acted on by specifically identifying the blessing(s) in your day and expressing gratitude by putting a donation in your UTO envelope (formerly little boxes). We are also encouraged to write down the blessing(s). The ingathering for each parish’s UTO offering occurs at the Diocesan Convention, this year November 15th and 16th. We are getting a late start this year, so hope to start next year’s effort in the spring.

Strategic Planning: Fr. Chris said he has now been here for 3.5 years! and much of that time has been spent working on facilities and infrastructure issues, which were necessary, but are hopefully now complete. This gives us an opportunity to begin to think about what we at SMC are called to do over the next year, 3 years, 5 years and longer, by developing a strategic plan. Fr. Chris asked Vestry members to think about the direction in which they want SMC to go and to think about possibilities for outreach, which will be discussed in detail in January.

Announcements / Upcoming Events:

Fr. Chris mentioned the following upcoming events:

- The Parish Hall will be using as an Early Voting location from October 26 through November 3
- SMC will be hosting a watch party for our neighboring Episcopal churches on November 2 to share in the Investiture of the new Presiding Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe. The program begins with the Introduction of the Diocese at 9:30, followed by the Installation service at 11 a.m.
- Fr. Chris will hold an evening service on November 4, the eve of Election Day.

Question and Answer Time:

- Is there a new date for the 100th Anniversary Celebration? Not yet as the Bishop’s schedule is not yet available, but likely to take place in early 2025.
- Status of organ construction? Cabinetry is the biggest job and it is coming along well. There is a solid small group that is working well together.
- Status of carillon? Originally the factory was scheduled to complete the work on November 1, but it now looks like they will be shipping it around October 25, which gives it a good chance of being installed in time for Christmas.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m. with the reciting of the Lord’s Prayer.

Next Vestry Meeting: Vestry meetings are normally held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The upcoming meetings are scheduled for: November 19, December 17 at the Rectory, January 21, February 18, March 18, and April 15. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Fitton, Clerk



Walk in Love The Offertory



Our Stewardship Committee is encouraging online giving through a QR code that is on our website and in our Sunday bulletin. This is easier for the accounting warden to keep more accurate records as well as other practical reasons to collect pledges.

But still, the ushers go throughout the congregation passing the brass plates for parishioners' donations. Fewer and fewer people put their envelopes in the plates as they are moving towards donating online.

Something is lost here. An empty plate, subtly ignored by many is carried by members of the congregation awkwardly through the congregation. What was an actual way of placing one's gift – oneself – in a collective contribution no longer means the same thing. Our treasures being taken up to the altar and being acknowledged was a moment of God's blessing. The plates were closely followed by the most important gift of all, bread and wine becoming Christ's body and blood. This is a walk of love!

Maybe something is missing in our service. Giving online is a private action. It does not involve your very self in the worship. We used to fumble for our envelope or search for that dollar to put in your child's eager hand. The online transaction now is between you, your phone, and your bank and this has replaced a sense of collective and humanly-felt giving.

The human emotions that are engaged on Sunday morning as we rush at home to find the checkbook or nod our head sheepishly at the passing plate saying "not today" and all the other human manifestations of our incarnation are lost in the QR code. | tens.org

Questions for Reflection:

What are options that we can share to take the next step in the ritual of the Offertory to bring our humanity to stewardship, a challenging and changing expression of our relationship to God?



Phoebe Griswold is the Stewardship Chair at St. Luke's in Germantown, Pennsylvania and has been leading people in the walk of love for many decades.







HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR 2024

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14
2-6 pm**

**Visit five Quogue houses festively
decorated for the holidays**

Cocktail Party 6-8pm

House Tour \$75 Cocktail Party \$75
House Tour & Cocktail Party \$125

Ticket information

- Purchase tickets online at www.quoguehistory.org/holiday-tour on or before December 13
- Call 631-996-2404 for ticket info
- Day of event tickets on sale 11am-2pm at Quogue Historical Society's Pond House, 114 Jessup Ave., Quogue

Rites of Passage

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

07 Carol Fitton
08 Eleanor Kast
08 Peyton Feil
09 Geri Wyman
09 Barbara Pettus
10 Tim Feil
14 Timothy Jurgielewicz
15 Carol Laube
16 Robert Laube
16 Kelly Pickering
18 Margie DeCaro
19 Sundy Schermeyer
20 Janet Jurgielewicz
24 Jeanine Graviano
28 Jock McLean
30 John Kern

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

06 Peter & Lori Williams
23 Edward & Barbara Callahan
23 Jason & Alicia Andria
28 Arthur & Virginia Connolly



On the Lighter Side...



Parish Office
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P.O. Box 887, WHB, NY 11978
Office Phone: 631.288.2111



Parish Office Hours
T—F 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
kate.gabrielsen@stmarkswhb.org
Kate Gabrielsen, Parish Administrator