

The Cornerstone Campaign

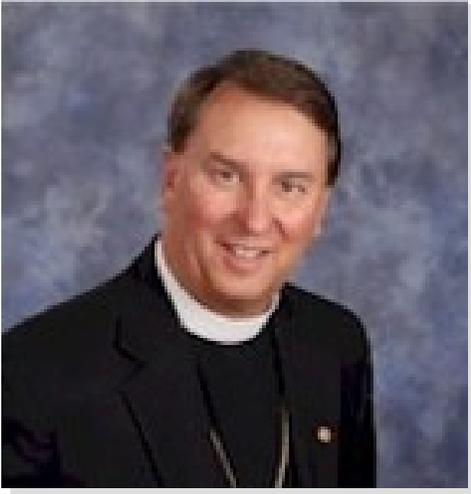


St. Mark's Church
Capital Stewardship Campaign

Our Cornerstone Prayer

Almighty Father and everliving God, we give thanks for the 150 years of worship, community, teaching, and mission that you have provided through St. Mark's parish. Source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with us in our Cornerstone Campaign for the renewal and purpose of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Send your Holy Spirit to guide us to discern what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue and the grace to accomplish your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.





I am excited to be a part of the St. Mark's family at this wondrous time. I believe we will look back in the years ahead with great thanksgiving as we reflect on God's presence in our midst during this Cornerstone Campaign.

Father Mark Tusken

The creation of adult education and community outreach spaces will make possible a more effective ministry to God's people, for God's people, and by God's people. This in turn will draw more seekers and believers to the church. I am very excited by the prospects.

Pastor Claudia Nalven



List your own personal thoughts on the

Celebrating the Past, Looking to the Future

St. Mark's origins go back to the earliest days of Geneva. In 1830, James and Charity Herrington made their home available for Christian worship. Episcopal services were held in their log house, which stood at what is now State Street near River Lane. These Christian gatherings were the first religious services held in Geneva.

On May 21, 1855, wardens and vestry were elected. The parish ledger reads, "We whose names are hereunto affixed, deeply sensible of the truth of the Christian Religion, and earnestly desirous of promoting its holy influence as in our own hearts and those of our families and neighbors, do hereby associate ourselves under the name of St. Mark's Parish in communication with the Protestant Episcopal Church. The church building was constructed in 1868.

100th Anniversary

In 1968, the St. Mark's Church building marked its 100th anniversary. The Rector Thomas A. Vanderslice wrote, "The wise man does not discard his heritage out of hand. Neither does he, with no reference to present and future, cling to the past . . ."

1986 Expansion

Building on our Heritage was the expansion capital steward campaign for 1986. Attendance had increased beyond the capacity of the chapel. The church was actually turning people away on some Sunday mornings for lack of space. And the Christian education space was inadequate. With God's help St. Mark's conducted a successful capital stewardship campaign which resulted in our current buildings, church, and undercroft.

Heritage 2000

The new millennium marked the beginning of another chapter in the heritage of our wonderful church. This campaign allowed for expansion and redesign of the office area, addition of the parlor, nursery rooms, a kitchen and large fellowship area, and building more Christian education space in the large undercroft. This expansion required relocating the rectory a few feet southeast on the property, which also allowed for additional youth space in the basement of that building.

Cornerstone Campaign

St. Mark's seeks to be a cornerstone in the lives of the parishioners and the community. Being able to offer space for adult education and for smaller groups is instrumental to our desires and enables us to fulfill our mission.

St. Mark's Mission

We are a Christian community that worships God in the Anglican tradition, engages the historic teaching of the church, and participates in Christ's mission.

◆Christian Community◆

It is impossible to flourish as a Christian apart from community. Community is where our souls are nurtured and our hearts are trained to look up to God. We tend to one another's needs, form meaningful relationships, and discover together how God is with us and leading us. We discover our gifts and are empowered to be ministers in Christ's church and in the world.

◆Anglican Worship◆

Worship is at the heart of our life at St. Mark's. We are committed to the Anglican liturgy shaped by the Book of Common Prayer. In the powerful combination of Word and Sacrament, Jesus Christ speaks His truth to us and pours out His life for us. God transforms those whose lives are centered around worship.

◆Historic Teaching◆

The Holy Scriptures and the Creeds ground our belief and practice. The Scriptures are God's revelation that was passed on through the apostles and embraced by the Church down through the ages. They provide us with timeless wisdom that can reorient our lives - our minds, our hearts, and our actions - as we engage in our world.

◆Christ's Mission◆

God is at work in all the world—in our families, our neighborhoods, our nation, and across the seas. We join God's work by serving people in practical ways and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Capital vs. Annual Campaign

- ◆ Capital giving takes place only when necessary.
- ◆ Payments are spread out over a three year period.
- ◆ There is an urgent need.
- ◆ The annual budget cannot cover these needs.
- ◆ Planned, sacrificial, and inspirational giving is required.
- ◆ Is over and above annual giving

Campaign Timeline

- ◆ Planning and general collection of ideas occurred in 2016 and included a Hopes and Dreams committee as part of the sesquicentennial planning.
- ◆ A steering committee of church members and leaders was established in 2017, including selection of committee members.
- ◆ Cornerstone printed materials will be made available to all members in May, 2018.
- ◆ During May, 2018 all church member will be provided an opportunity to make Cornerstone pledges that will include pledges for 2018, 2019, and 2020—a three year commitment.
- ◆ Everyone will be given many more details over the months ahead and members of the steering committee are always available to answer any and all questions.

Cornerstone Steering Committee

Rector: Fr. Mark Tusken

Senior Warden: Greg Gifford

Vestry Liaison: David Walker

Committee Co-Chairs

John & Amy Reynertson

Peter & Jane Whinfrey

Spiritual Emphasis Directors

Deri Gray

Mike & Kathy Simon

Finance Co-Chairs

David Gray

Ernst & Mary Louise Kohn

Celebration Plans

John & Nancy Mead

Bill & Ginny Spring

Kris Pasterak

Publicity

Jeffrey Willsey

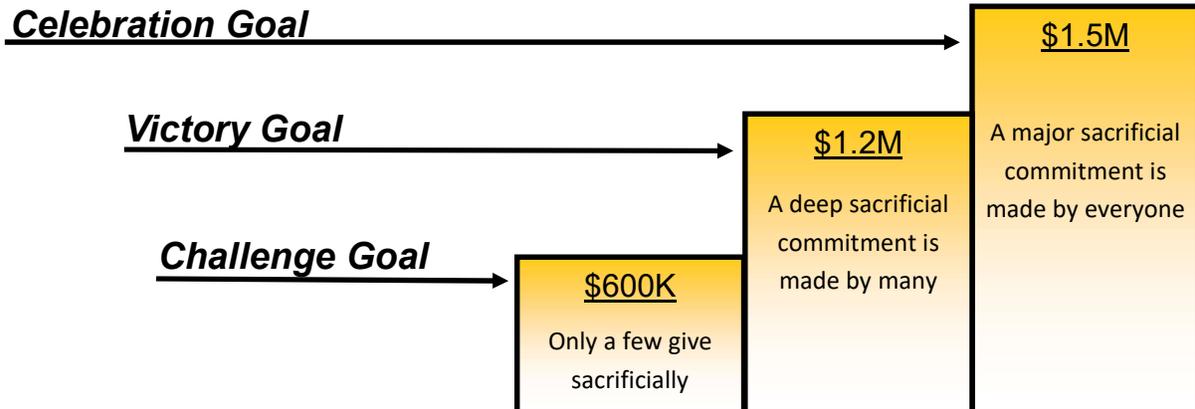
Beth Jaeger

Follow-Up

Carrie Bral

Our Goals

To fulfill the vision of Cornerstone the following goals have been set.



The *Challenge Goal* will allow us to start Cornerstone.

The *Victory Goal* will allow us to begin to build the shell.

The *Celebration Goal* will allow us the add usable space with minimum furnishings and some debt incurred.

Not Equal Gifts But Equal Sacrifice

Commitments you can make to Cornerstone

As with any financial planning process, St. Mark's will need to have solid estimates of what financial support is available from the congregation. Cornerstone stewardship plans must be separate and distinct from the normal church budget and funds. Each member or family will be given the opportunity to make a three-year financial commitment using a Cornerstone pledge card. Here are sample pledges.

	\$ Weekly	\$ Monthly	\$ Annually	\$ 3 Year Total
	13	56	667	2,000
	20	84	1,000	3,000
	27	112	1,400	4,000
	33	138	1,700	5,000
	66	278	3,400	10,000
	77	334	4,000	12,000
	97	417	5,000	15,000
	129	556	6,700	20,000
	162	695	8,400	25,000
	193	834	10,000	30,000
	258	1,112	13,400	40,000
	322	1,389	16,700	50,000
	481	2,084	25,000	75,000
	641	2,778	33,300	100,000
	1604	6,945	83,400	250,000

Concept Drawing–Rectory Renewal

West Elevation



Unless the Lord builds the house, the people labor in vain.

Psalm 127:1

Concept Drawing—Connecting Space

East Elevation



Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Hebrews 13:8

Some Details

As St. Mark's celebrates 150 years in this community, we recognize a persistent challenge has been the lack of sufficient meeting space for small groups. Our ability to support outreach to the local community and to introduce St. Mark's to new members has been limited by this. When we celebrated our centennial in 1968, there was no campaign in support of the church or its mission. The booklet published for the centennial had this comment:

“. . . we continue to struggle with how best to make this church more relevant and thus more helpful, and to provide spiritual strength to the people of this area.”

This current proposal is a significant step in moving forward the mission of St. Mark's.

The rectory is the most under-utilized asset at St. Mark's. It is not really suitable for family living, and not very functional for much else. And if we do nothing, the rectory will still consume dollars—it is in need of work and its upkeep is expensive. St. Mark's campus is essentially three pieces—the chapel and church, the rectory, and a big hole in between. We seek to unify the campus, while opening ourselves to the community and making St. Mark's more inviting and welcoming.

The first floor of the rectory would be renovated and converted into dedicated meeting spaces to support St. Mark's adult education and small group needs, as well as the needs of those we support in the community, such as Joshua Tree, Alcoholics Anonymous, and others. The second floor would be entirely renovated and modernized to be separate, self-contained living quarters with private and secure egress, an attached garage, and a porch entrance on Fulton Street.

The rectory basement, currently the junior high youth space, and the basement under the fellowship hall, which houses the children's ministry, would be joined. The garden would be filled in, raising it to street level, and a new narthex would be built to connect the fellowship hall and the back of the rectory. It would be accessible from both the parking lot and 4th Street, providing access to the meeting spaces at both the basement and ground levels in the rectory and church. Adult meetings currently held in the children's ministry area would be moved to the new meeting space on the first floor of the current rectory.

Other important Cornerstone Campaign projects for St. Mark's to address include fixing the heating and air conditioning in the nave and narthex, adding sprinklers to the chapel, and repair of the steeple. *We pray that the 150th Celebration of St. Mark's will be remembered as a time when we created a clear path for providing spiritual strength to St. Markers and our surrounding community.*



Dear fellow members of St. Mark's,

Please look carefully at the enclosed information packet which describes the upcoming 2018 Cornerstone Campaign. As we honor and celebrate 150 years of worship and fellowship in our beautiful chapel, let us take time to reflect upon how richly God has blessed each of us, especially in our life here at St. Mark's Church.

Our blessings vary one to the next, but we *all* share in the legacy we inherited from parishioners who came before us. They sacrificed, in many ways, their own time, treasure, and talents—from which we now enjoy the vibrant church community that is St. Mark's. We celebrate our growing life in Christ, as both adults and children gather throughout the week for worship, teaching, fellowship, and service to each other and our community.

It is our hope and prayer that the 2018 Cornerstone Campaign will encourage each member of our church family to make a renewed commitment to participate in the life of St. Mark's Church. We recognize that every member will not give the same level of financial contribution to this endeavor. As in previous campaigns, *the goal is not for equal financial giving, but rather equal sacrifice. We are asking that each member of the church prayerfully consider how God would have them contribute to the 2018 Cornerstone Campaign—and then to step out in faith and honor that commitment!*

Our plans to renovate and renew the chapel, main church property, and rectory—and to give a tithe to support the Madagascar ministry of Bishop McGregor—depend on *each of us seeking and responding to God's will for our lives as it relates to our pledge of participation. In Paul's first letter to the young Timothy, he urges him to counsel the Ephesians that "they are to do good deeds, liberal and generous, thus laying up for themselves a firm foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life."* – 1Tim 6:18-19

Let's join together in faith and sacrifice so that we may take our turn in laying the foundation to ensure that God's work will continue here at St. Mark's, in our local community, and beyond. We do this for our church family whom we know and love, and more importantly, for those believers whom our Lord will call through the doors of St. Mark's in the future—so that they, too, may take hold of that which is truly life in Christ Jesus.

May God Bless you as you consider the part you will play in the 2018 Cornerstone Campaign.

Your brothers and sisters in Christ –

John & Amy Reynertson
Peter & Jane Whinfrey

St. Mark's Church

320 Franklin Street, Geneva, Illinois 60134
630.232.0133, office@stmarks-geneva.org www.stmarks-geneva.org