



The Gryphon's Roar



February, 2008



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
3100 Murfreesboro Pike
Antioch, Tennessee 37013
P.O. Box 741
Antioch, Tennessee 37011-0741
615-361-4100

**“We at St. Mark’s are on a journey seeking God in you,
ourselves and all creation”**



Weekly Schedule

Sundays	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist
	9:15 AM	Sunday school
	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist
2 nd Sunday	9:00 AM	Breakfast – Sept. - May
Wednesdays	6:30 PM	Centering Prayer
	7:00 PM	Choir
Fridays	8:00 PM	AA Meeting
Saturdays	8:00 AM	Centering Prayer

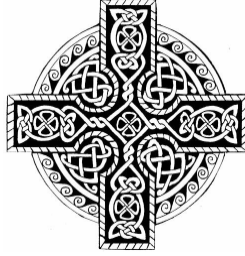


The Rt. Rev. John Bauerschmidt	Bishop of Tennessee
The Reverend Battle Beasley	Rector
Frank Brannon, M. Div.	Pastoral Care Coordinator
George Kurz	Senior Warden
George Noren	Junior Warden
Charles Cross & Les Worsley	Treasurers
Vacant	Clerk of the Vestry

Next month deadline for submissions is Sunday, February 17, 2008
Gryphon submissions to: submitgryphon@aol.com

St. Mark's Vestry:

Jim Hall, Suzanne Lindsey, Judy Robnett	(2010)
Suzie Abrahamson, Jim Johnson, George Kurz	(2009)
Mary Ann Campbell, George Noren, Cheryl Walker	(2008)

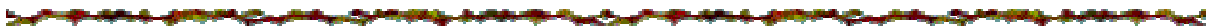


Dear People of God,

It was pointed out to me recently by Jim Hall, that our children are not only the "church of tomorrow", that they are very much the church of today! When we baptize folks we welcome them into the "family". In a very real sense those who join together in worship are family. So how are we doing as far as recognizing the children who worship with us as fellow pilgrims on the way. I'm not sure I do a good job. The Christian Ed Committee got together and began to look at ways in which we can tangibly focus on our children as a part of the church of TODAY!

We are going to invite all of us to write letters to our children about our faith walk together. 3 times a year we have in the church calendar Ember days. Those are days in which those seeking Holy Orders must write their Bishop and give an accounting of their spiritual life. The next set of Ember days falls on February 13th, 15th and 16th. So we invite you to choose any one, or more, of our children to write a letter to. It doesn't have to be long or very profound, we are simply encouraging each other to share God's love.

Peace,
Battle+



It is God to whom and with whom we travel, and while He is the End of our journey, He is also at every stopping place. Elisabeth Elliot

Contact us:

St. Mark's Website – <http://www.stmarksantioch.org>
The Reverend Battle Beasley via email:
stmarksrector@bellsouth.net or
pathwayspartners@yahoo.com

THE GRYPHON

The Gryphon is the newsletter of St. Mark's Episcopal Church and as such welcomes articles and suggestions from ALL parishioners. This is your venue for expressing thoughts you would like to share, important events in your families' lives, suggestions you might have to make our parish life better. Please do not hesitate to use it.
Lorna

Prevention of Sexual Misconduct Classes

Below, you will find the dates and locations for upcoming prevention of sexual misconduct classes. These classes are open to all, but there are some people who are required to attend. All adults who are teaching a children's Sunday school class or are working in the nursery are required to attend one of these classes. Also, all members of the Vestry are also required to attend. You can call the diocesan office (251-3322) to sign up.

April 12, 2008, 9am-3pm, St Paul's Murfreesboro
June 21, 2008, 9 am – 3 pm, Holy Trinity

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Feb 5 Shrove Tuesday - Pancake supper 6:30 p.m. in Reynold's Hall (Pancakes & sausage)
- Feb 6– Ash Wednesday (begin Wednesday Lenten schedule) 6:30 p.m.
- Feb 8 – Room at the Inn
- February 9 - Directory photos taken (if all time slots taken, then we will make appointments on Friday, 8 Feb)
- Feb 13 – Soup Supper and Compline 6:30 p.m.
- Feb 16 – Vestry Retreat
- Feb 20 – Soup Supper and Compline 6:30 p.m.
- Feb 21 – Vestry meeting 6:30 pm
- Feb 24, 4:00 – 6:00 PM - "Pot of Ideas" Spaghetti dinner for parents of children & teenagers for Christian Ed. Program (this was not reviewed by the Vestry - due to the later meeting by the teachers on Saturday)
- Feb 27 – Soup Supper and Compline 6:30 p.m.
- March 5 – Soup Supper and Compline 6:30 p.m.
- March 12 – Soup Supper and Compline 6:30 p.m.



"Pot of Ideas" Dinner for Parents & Children/Teenagers

When: February 24, 2008, Sunday, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join teachers, parents and all members interested in the children and youth programs at St. Mark's for Spaghetti Supper and fellowship with discussion about upcoming plans, events, and ideas. The teachers would like to hear from you about your expectations for Sunday School for your children and to share our thoughts and ideas about the overall Children and Youth C. E. Program at St. Mark's. This will be an opportunity for teachers, parents and leaders, all faithful and loving adults, to join together and discuss future plans and events. Please come and join us on Sunday, February 24 from 4-6.

Second Harvest News

The Second Harvest Satellite at Hamilton United Methodist Church has new volunteer leadership: Bill (and Betty) James. There is great need for more volunteers. The site is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4 to 6 pm and on Saturdays from 9 am until noon. If you can serve even one day a month, please contact Bill to learn more.

Bill introduced himself to the volunteers in an email:

"Hello everyone,

I believe I know most of you, for those of you I do not, I intend to make every effort to visit and meet you. As Kathy has informed you, after 4 years of doing a wonderful job of coordinating 2nd Harvest at Hamilton United Methodist, she has decided it is time for someone else to take a turn. I just happened to standing at the right place, at the right time and it was decided it should be my turn. Actually, I have had very little experience doing work in the church. I had a job with long hours, and that was a pretty good excuse for 34 years, for just attending Church and giving my donation. Now I only work 40 hours and felt the urge to do more, so here I am. . .

Thank you all in advance for your service to this ministry, I believe it touches many people in our community and offers a helping hand to people that are stumbling in life and just need to know there are people that care about them."

To contact Bill:

Cwjir2003@aol.com

Home phone: 941-1226

Cell phone: 568-9725

Dear St. Mark's Congregation,

Thank you for your consideration in providing a quiet atmosphere before the beginning of worship this Sunday. Prior to our meeting last week, several people commented to me and other vestry members that there have been previous weeks when the sound level (from conversations) had made the beginning of worship difficult for them. We all agreed to ask you, the congregation, to make a change. With our present facility, people make the difference - there is little that we can do as far as structural changes at this time. Please continue to think about this when you enter the church prior to worship. We are told that God speaks in a quiet voice - not a hurricane. Therefore, I hope that we all will contribute to an atmosphere so that all may hear every Word from Him.

Faithfully,

George

Father, God bless all my friends in whatever it is that You know they may need this day! And may their lives be full of your peace, prosperity and power as he/she seeks to have a closer relationship with you. Amen.

A POINT OF VIEW

February 6 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season of forty days (excluding Sundays). Traditionally, Lent has been seen as a time when one “gives up” something, although some years ago clergy began encouraging parishioners to “take on” something, such as Bible study or charitable work of some sort, etc.

Humans, being what they are, didn’t take long to develop a spirit of competition, so that one could boast that he/she gave up two meals a day while someone else only gave up a piece of chocolate cream pie, or showed how much more ascetic he could be by sitting atop a twenty foot pole longer than anyone else. And so it went.

There are a number of good reasons why one should give up something for Lent, and one of the best, ministering, I like to think, to the psychological, spiritual, emotional, and physical aspects of our being, is that it demonstrates that we are not letting some entity control us, but that we control it. Perhaps one of the most egregious examples of losing control of oneself is the drug addict. So, if there is something that I can’t give up, it has control of me instead of vice versa. One could even make the point that it has become an object of worship in violation of the first two commandments.

A final thought: if I can give up chocolate cream pie or ingesting something more deleterious for the forty days of Lent, why not eliminate it altogether?

...Jim Hall

February Birthdays

Thom Granger	2
Betty McKee	4
Frank Brannon	6
Laura Button	8
Justine Parker-Jones	8
Iva Kurz	11
Susie McEwen	13
Mary Ann Campbell	14
Clara Robnett	15
Ann Baker	17
Kristina Gray	19
George Kurz	24
Doug Baxter	25
Lesley Worsley	26

Transfers

Cynthia and Bruce Fahnestock have transferred their membership letter to St. Mark’s from All Saints, Smyrna. We welcome Cynthia and Bruce to our St. Mark’s family.

Condolences

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Maria Christensen. Maria passed away Friday, January 18th.

May her soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

February Anniversary

Don & Susie McEwen – 17, 1973

My Spiritual Journey
Suzanne Lindsey

I was born into a Irish Catholic, Southside Chicago working class family. At 13, spurred by common adolescent rebellion, embryonic stirrings of feminism, and the intellectual doubts aroused when I gave a speech on overpopulation, I left the Catholic church. However, I remained seated in the pews for several more years, as my father asserted his patriarchal authority.

At 14, I briefly flirted with fundamentalism, but only because all my friends were doing it and assured me that the youth ministry scheduled lots of fun events. This excursion into the realm of certitude did not end well. I quoted Walden to my Bible study group, challenging their interpretation of the book of Romans. Accused of being the voice of Satan, I left the group. I was 15. It was hard.

All my friends tried to win me back to the True Path by warning me of the dire consequences I risked. After all, if God would send pagans to hell who had never even heard of Him, what would happen to someone who had been given news of God, and then rejected Him? Surely, eternal flames awaited me.

This happened just before Easter, when my father insisted I perform the minimum union requirement of Catholicism—receive the sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion for one time that year. I recited the usual litany of venial sins to Father Gilligan, but just as he slid the privacy door shut, I blurted out “and I may have rejected God.”

Slowly the door opened. “What do you mean?” I explained what had happened. I remember to this day what he said next.

“Do you reject the search for justice? Do you reject your fellow man, and the peace and brotherhood you can find with him? Do you reject love, caring for the unfortunate, forgiving those who have done you wrong? Do you reject mercy and charity? Do you reject what God has given you—this beautiful planet, the joy of your friends and family? To reject God, you must also reject all He has given to us and all He asks of us. Do you reject these things?”

“No, Father, I do not.” “Then you should not be worried that you have rejected God. God is all of those things, and more, and you cannot embrace them without also embracing Him. Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.”

Spiritually, that was my last contact with the Catholic Church. I have always been grateful, that we parted with a touch of class.

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
February					1 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	2 Quiet Day 8 am -Noon
3 EPIPHANY V	4 Domestic Violence Intervention Group 6-8 pm Spanish Class 6:00 PM	5 6:30 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	6 Brain Club 11:00 – 2:00 Choir 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service 6:30	7	8 AA Meeting 8:00 PM Room in the Inn Photos for Directory	9 Centering Prayer 8:00 AM Photos for Directory
10 LENT I DOK 2 nd Sunday Breakfast	11 Domestic Violence Intervention Group 6-8 pm Spanish Class 6:00 PM	12	13 6:30 Soup & Compline DOK meeting after service Choir 7:00 pm	14	15 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	16 Centering Prayer 8:00 AM Vestry Retreat
17 LENT II	18 Domestic Violence Intervention Group 6-8 pm Spanish Class 6:00 PM	19	20 Brain Club 11:00 – 2:00 6:30 Soup & Compline Choir 7:00 pm	21 Vestry Meeting 6:30 PM	22 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	23 Centering Prayer 8:00 AM
24 LENT III “Pot of Ideas” Spaghetti Supper 4:00-6:00 pm	25 Domestic Violence Intervention Group 6-8 pm Spanish Class 6:00 PM	26	27 6:30 Soup & Compline Choir 7:00 pm	28	29 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	

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