

Address Correction Requested

Antioch, TN 37011-0741

P. O. Box 741

Antioch, TN 37013

3100 Murfreesboro Road

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church



THE GRYPHON'S ROAR

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

January 2007

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

Weekly Schedule

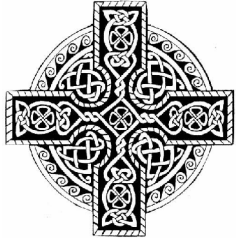
Sundays	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist
	9:15 AM	Sunday school
	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist
2 nd Sunday	9:00 AM	Breakfast – Sept. - May
Wednesdays	6:30 PM	Centering Prayer
	7:00 PM	Choir
Fridays	8:00 PM	AA Meeting
Saturdays	8:00 AM	Centering Prayer

The Reverend Battle Beasley
 Frank Brannon, M. Div.
 Andrea Tucker
 Steve Failor
 Karen Seufert & Les Worsley
 Judy Robnett

Rector
 Pastoral Care Coordinator
 Senior Warden
 Junior Warden
 Treasurers
 Clerk of the Vestry

Next month deadline for submissions is Sunday, Jan. 21, 2007

Gryphon submissions to: submitgryphon@aol.com



St. Mark's Abbreviated Financial Report
November 2006

	Budgeted	Actual
Total Receipts	\$11,921.50	\$ 12,716.34
Total Expenses	\$11,921.50	\$ 11,451.37

Dear People of God,

As you read this we will be entering into the season of Epiphany, the season of Light. The image of light shining in the darkness is one of hope and great comfort. Many children want a light left on so that if they wake up in the night they will not feel so alone in the dark. The image of light is also a cleansing image. Light illuminates things that have been hidden in the darkness, "brings them to light", so that they might be cleaned up. The image in the scriptures captures both these meanings. Our sins are illumined by the light shining into our darkness, which gives us hope of healing our sins and comforting us with the light of Love. In this season of Light let us find ourselves renewed and comforted by the Light that has come into the world, into our daily lives, bringing us the promise of God's great love for each and everyone of God's children.

Peace,
Battle +

Contact us:

St. Mark's Website – <http://www.stmarksantioch.org>

The Reverend Battle Beasley via email: stmarksrector@bellsouth.net or pathwayspartners@yahoo.com

Account Balances:	
Operating Account	\$43,505.79
Designated Funds	\$34,727.50
Memorial Endowment	\$3,437.99

A full financial report is on the bulletin board in Reynolds Hall. If you have questions, please speak to the Rector, Senior Warden, or the Treasurer.
Provided by Karen Seufert, Treasurer



IN THIS COMING NEW YEAR

Please remember to take time to:

WORK, PLAY, THINK

It is the price of success

It is the secret of perpetual youth

It is the source of power.

READ, PRAY

It is the fountain of wisdom

It is the conversation with God

LAUGH, LISTEN

It is the music of the soul

It is the pathway to understanding

DREAM, WORSHIP

It is hitching your wagon to a star

It is the highway of reverence

LOVE AND BE LOVED

It is the gift of God

A 92 year-old, petite, well-poised and proud man, who is fully dressed each morning by eight o'clock, with his hair fashionably coifed and shaved perfectly, even though he is legally blind, moved to a nursing home today. His wife of 70 years recently passed away, making the move necessary. After many hours of waiting patiently in the lobby of the nursing home, he smiled sweetly when told his room was ready. As he maneuvered his walker to the elevator, I provided a visual description of his tiny room, including the eyelet sheets that had been hung on his window.

"I love it," he stated with the enthusiasm of an eight-year-old having just been presented with a new puppy.

"Mr. Jones, you haven't seen the room; just wait."

"That doesn't have anything to do with it," he replied.

"Happiness is something you decide on ahead of time. Whether I like my room or not doesn't depend on how the furniture is arranged. It's how I arrange my mind. I already decided to love it. It's a decision I make every morning when I wake up. I have a choice; I can spend the day in bed recounting the difficulty I have with the parts of my body that no longer work, or get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do. Each day is a gift, and as long as my eyes open, I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored away. Just for this time in my life. Old age is like a bank account. You withdraw from what you've put in. So, my advice to you would be to deposit a lot of happiness in the bank account of memories! Thank you for your part in filling my Memory bank. I am still depositing."

Remember the five simple rules to be happy:

1. Free your heart from hatred.
2. Free your mind from worries.
3. Live simply.
4. Give more.
5. Expect less.

Church Directory Update

It is time to update St. Mark's directory. Please review the information listed in the current directory for accuracy: spelling of names, addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers. Please make sure that your children's names are listed.

Please submit corrections and new information in writing to Pat Worsley, 3348 Country Way Road, Antioch, TN 37013, or email Pat at lhworsley@comcast.net. Your assistance in keeping this information accurate is much appreciated.

*** Bishop's Consecration ***

The Consecration of The Reverend John Bauerschmidt as the 11th Bishop of Tennessee will take place on Saturday, January 27, 2007, at 10:00 in the morning, at Christ Church, 15354 Old Hickory, Nashville (www.christchurchnashville.org).

ECUADOR FIRE TRUCK PROJECT UPDATE

As of December 17, 2006, we have raised \$5000 for the shipment of the fire truck to Montecristi, Ecuador!!! This will cover the cost to get the truck, 25 sets of fire gear (helmets, pants, jacket, boots), and 15 air packs to Ecuador. We are now raising an additional \$1000 for training for the fire fighters. Mutual Aid Americas is the nonprofit organization we are working with. You can find out more about them at <http://www.mutual-aid.org/about.html> This fundraising effort has been the result of the membership of St. Mark's, your contacts, our contacts, friends and family. This could not have happened without you!

The Episcopalian Rosary

An item that is becoming increasingly popular among Episcopalians is the Episcopal Rosary. The beads are very similar to the Catholic Rosary but smaller and were first designed by Rev. Lynn Bauman in the 1980's. The Episcopal Rosary is used for contemplative prayer rather than for meditation like the Catholic Rosary. The beads can be used for any manner of prayer: for joy, thank you, healing for others or yourself. You can design your own prayer structure for whatever your needs happen to be.

The beads are divided into four groups of seven each which are called weeks. Between each week is a single large bead called a cruciform which form a cross. There is an inventory bead between the wheel and the cross which brings the total number of beads to 33. The number 33 is the number of years in the life of Jesus before his crucifixion. When the rosary is prayed three times, it equals the number of the Divine names in the Middle Eastern tradition, 99. The crucifix makes the total 100. This represents the fullness of creation and the total of the Orthodox Rosary. Many prayers can be found on the internet to design the rosary to fit the need at hand. Here are the steps for using the rosary.

1. Hold the cross and say the prayer assigned to it.
2. Go to the invitational bead, say the prayer assigned to it.
3. Begin around the circle at the first cruciform bead and continue three times to represent the Holy Trinity adding the cross at the beginning or the end.

Before praying, find a quiet location and spend a time in silence becoming restful and still. End your prayer session with another time of silence and centering.

St Mark's Clothes Closet

St Mark's Daughters of the King will be conducting a community clothes closet one Saturday in spring 2007 (date and time to be announced). We will be selling used clothing that is clean and in good shape at nominal prices. As you transition your wardrobe from warm weather to cool/cold weather apparel, please set aside items to donate to the Community Clothes Closet.

We will be advertising the Clothes Closet in the Antioch area with a specific marketing focus to those individuals served by the Second Harvest Food Bank.

We hope you will help us by donating good, clean used clothing. If you have any questions, ask either Kathy Larson or Sherry Walker



Thank you

The Primary Age Learners at St Mark's say THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, for your generous support of our bake sale. Thanks to you we were able to feed 108 people a Thanksgiving Meal at the Nashville Rescue Mission. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Punctuation Marks

Recently I read a scholarly book on punctuation with the whimsical title “Eats, Shoots & Leaves.” Before finishing the book I was moved to think about the ? and the !, which led to the following.

The first thing that I notice about ! is its rigidity. Note how upright it is. It stands tall, unbending, sure of itself, and implies that everything that precedes it is forceful and authoritative. There may be more than a touch of arrogance in ! Were it a tree it would be an oak, I’m sure.

? on the other hand has its head bowed, perhaps in humility. Its curvilinearity bespeaks flexibility rather than rigidity. Were it a tree it would be a willow.

I would guess that were we asked which of the two punctuation marks we would be if we had the choice, most of us would choose !. The Pharisees would undoubtedly make the same choice, yet these are the people with whom Jesus was constantly butting heads. They were righteous and they knew it and wanted everyone else to know it, too. This is all too often the moral state of those whose every utterance is closed with !, while ? Characterizes those who feel that their spiritual journey is a lifelong quest that extends even into eternity...note the first 3-1/4 lines at the top of p. 330 in the Book of Common Prayer.

We may like to think of Christmas as a time when God made an authoritative statement to the world through his Son, and ! is appropriate, but Christianity is never clear of paradox, and this is true here, for I see the heads of Mary and Joseph bowing in humble questioning when the announcement is made that Jesus is to be born of Mary. The ? is also appropriate in the experience of Zechariah and Elizabeth in the same first chapter of Luke’s Gospel.

These are thoughts off the top of my head. Perhaps you can come up with something better?

Jim Hall



Two versions of Anglican beads, the Episcopal version of rosaries, which were created in the 1980s and serve the same purpose as the Catholic rosary. H. Marc Larson/Press-Gazette

Celebrate!!

January Birthdays

Kayla Jackson	8
Journey Button-Hale	10
Parker ClenDening	10
Jeff Miller	16
Dean Meyer	17
Steven Failor	21
Donna Floyd	28

Birth Announcement

Congratulations to Dawn and Randall Williams on the birth of their son, Elijah, who was born Thursday, December 14th, at Centennial Women's Hospital. Elijah arrived early so will remain in hospital for a few weeks. Elijah weighed 2 lbs. 3 oz. and measured 14 inches. Dawn is at home and still on bed rest. Home cooked meals would be appreciated. Dawn's phone number: 793-8684.

The History of Epiphany

The day of Epiphany is January 6. It is the day that marks the end of the Christmas season and runs from January 6 to Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent.

The word Epiphany comes from the Greek word meaning appearance which is epiphaneia. Epiphany is celebrated by Roman Catholic, Anglican, and Eastern churches. The feast began as the baptism of Christ and is still recognized that way in the Eastern Church. In western churches Epiphany celebrates the revelation to the Gentiles that Jesus is the Savior. The feast is portrayed by the arrival of Three Wise Men at the stable where Jesus was.

In both Eastern and Western churches it has a secondary meaning that commemorates the wedding at Cana when Jesus performed his first miracle. Epiphany has always been considered a highly ranked festival dating back to before 194 AD. It is older than Christmas. The eve of Epiphany is called Twelfth Night and Epiphany is sometimes referred to as Twelfth Day.

In England at the chapel of St. James' Palace, gold, frankincense, and myrrh are offered to commemorate the holy day. In the Eastern Church, holy water is blessed in a ceremony much like the Holy Saturday in the Roman Catholic Church.



January 2007

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1	2	3 Brain Club 11:00 – 2:00 Choir 7:00 PM	4 EFM 6:00 pm	5 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	6 Quiet Day 8:00 am-Noon
7 EPIPHANY I	8	9	10 Choir 7:00 PM	11 EFM 6:00 pm	12 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	13 Centering Prayer 8:00 AM
14 EPIPHANY II	15	16	17 Brain Club 11:00 – 2:00 Choir 7:00 PM	18 EFM 6:00 pm	19 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	20 Centering Prayer 8:00 AM
21 EPIPHANY III	22	23	24 Choir 7:00 PM	25 EFM 6:00 pm	26 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	27 Centering Prayer 8:00 AM
28 EPIPHANY IV	29	30	31 Choir 7:00 PM			