



# The Gryphon's Roar



## July 2007

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
3100 Murfreesboro Pike  
Antioch, Tennessee 37013  
P.O. Box 741  
Nashville, Tennessee 37011  
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 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday | 9:00 AM  | Breakfast – Sept. – May |
| Wednesdays             | 6:30 PM  | Centering Prayer        |
| 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                    |
| The Reverend Rob Courtney      | Priest Associate          |
| Frank Brannon, M. Div.         | Pastoral Care Coordinator |
| Andrea Tucker                  | Senior Warden             |
| George Noren                   | Junior Warden             |
| Charles Cross & Les Worsley    | Treasurers                |
| Judy Robnett                   | Clerk of the Vestry       |

Next month deadline for submissions is Sunday, July 22, 2007  
**Gryphon submissions to: [submitgryphon@aol.com](mailto:submitgryphon@aol.com)**

#### **St. Mark's Vestry:**

Suzie Abrahamson, Jim Johnson, George Kurz (2009)  
Mary Ann Campbell, George Noren, Cheryl Walker (2008)  
Steven Failor, Herb Sievers, Andrea Tucker (2007)



Dear People of God,

Several Sundays ago Father Rob said as he began his sermon how "blessed" your clergy are to be here with you, I agree! Blessings are in Christian understanding a part of God's Grace, totally undeserved but given all the same. I do feel blessed to be at St. Mark's because I feel there is such a strong commitment to those beyond ourselves. That is to say I think most of us "get it" at some level of our being, that we are "graced" by God's gifts and are called to pass that "Blessing" on. As I have begun to take parts of my sabbatical this year traveling around the country I am reminded by my experiences how much being aware and thankful for that "Grace", that "Blessing" I am called to be and how often I neglect to name that thanks to all of you who make it most evident to me. So with Rob I say thank you, and may God continue to Bless all Her children.

Peace,

Battle+



**Contact us:**

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



St. Mark's Abbreviated Financial Report  
May 2007

|                | Budgeted    | Actual      |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Receipts | \$12,416.67 | \$10,946.42 |
| Total Expenses | \$12,416.67 | \$13,654.16 |

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Account Balances:  |             |
| Operating Account  | \$49,756.45 |
| Designated Funds   | \$33,091.70 |
| Memorial Endowment | \$3,593.65  |

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 Charles Cross, Treasurer

Dear friends,

Please keep Hannah and Gideon in your prayers.

Hannah, who is less than a year old, has had two seizures, seemingly without any cause (such as fever, illness). She went to the emergency room today and will see her pediatrician tomorrow. Her parents are very young and very frightened.

They all need our prayers.

Childhood polio left Gideon with very little use of one leg. A couple of weeks ago, he fell and suffered severe breaks in his "good" leg. The injury and his post-polio condition have left him in a great deal of pain.

Thank you.

Peace and love,

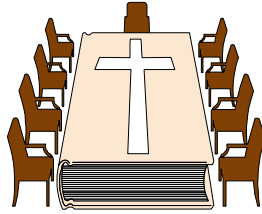
Marcia

Notes from God's pals (primary age learners)

We have been busy this Pentecost season learning about the Holy Spirit and the symbols associated with the Spirit. On Pentecost Sunday we made "Fruits of the Spirit" jello salad and talked about ways we can show love to God and love to others. Except for the Sundays of July 1 and July 8, we will be having Sunday School class this summer meeting at 9:15 in Reynolds Hall (and sometimes going outside).

Projects for the summer include our work painting the playground equipment and building birdhouses for the trees of St Mark's. Toward the end of July, we plan to have a car-wash to benefit Ecuador. We will let you know more about the car-wash when we decide on a date.

Sunday School lessons for this summer focus on how the lives of *Saints of the Church* are examples of the "Fruits of the Spirit" as we continue to learn what it means to be members of the Church as the "communion of saints" and as we find our place in the community of St. Mark's.



## Vestry Profile – Suzie Abrahamson

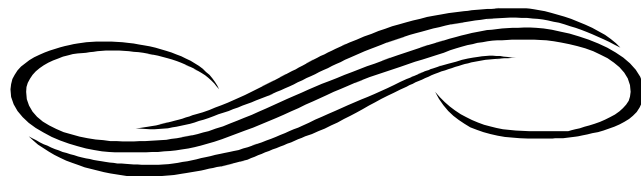
Almost 9 years ago, August 1998, I accepted a position in Nashville to work with a man who had previously hired me in 1990. My husband, Gary, and I moved to Antioch from Cleveland, TN. Gary and I were raised as Methodist and joined the Episcopal Church through my brother's affiliation in Leeds, AL. Upon moving to Antioch, Gary and I immediately started attending St. Mark's and moved our membership within the year.

When you change jobs, your insurance also changes and Gary & I had to choose and visit a 'Primary Care Physician'. Ultimately, this was the beginning of a "very close" relationship with our St. Mark's family. Gary's prognosis in early 1999 was lung cancer. Chemo, surgery, more chemo and radiation were part of our lives and yours for the next 3 years. We were never without the caring, the compassion and the love of our new found family! In 2002, Gary had a seizure and the result was that his lung cancer had metastasized in his brain. Two surgeries and much radiation later, Gary gave it up to go home in June of 2005. Through all of this, so many of you walked that path to heaven with us and I am eternally grateful!

Your support and friendship to me has continued and I have committed to "try" to give back. I'm honored to serve on the Altar Guild and most recently as a Vestry member.

In January of this year, I changed jobs again (every 8 ½ years....next time I get to retire). The decision was hard....being single now with a secure job, why would I do that??? Well, your prayers and words of encouragement said "Go For It"! I am now, for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time, working for the man that brought me to Nashville....a great boss! Friends say either he "hasn't learned his lesson" or "his confidence in me is obvious"! It's hard taking those giant steps. I really appreciate those that pushed me....I'm so happy with that decision!

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your lives!! I pray I am worthy to represent you, my St. Mark's family, in our journey!





# Best o' Fall Fest o' Fall


Celebrating St. Mark's Community


Saturday, September 29  
8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.  
Plan Ahead NOW!


While much work will be done closer to the Fest o' Fall date, you can be involved right away and help make this event a great success! Here are some things you can do RIGHT NOW!

 VOLUNTEER! You will have many "volunteer opportunities" offered to you on Rally Day (August 19). Please don't wait until then to get involved. Contact Pauline Hall [941-1467] or Marcia Williams [MamBNA@Comcast.net] or any member of St. Mark's Daughters of the King to let us know where you would like to serve.

 Remember the Fest o' Fall when you gather blackberries, blueberries, peppers, cukes or any of the other wonderful summer produce. Plan to contribute your best jams and jellies, pickles, relishes, salsas . . . whatever your specialty.

 Root cuttings of your favorite plants and grow them to a nice size by late September! Plant a few extra herbs to be sold in pots or dried in little bunches or bags. How about a wreath or string of your own hot peppers?!

 Start knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching, painting, sculpting, sewing – whatever your skill – and make something beautiful for the Fest.

 White Elephants! Originally something very lovely but expensive to maintain, it has become the term applied to something really useful and desirable – but NOT to you! Check your closets, attics, basements – give yourself more space and get rid of something you haven't used in several years. Put it aside for the Fest - and take a tax deduction! We will have a PODS (Portable On Demand Storage) unit at the church beginning on September 1, so you can begin to bring your items then.

# Formation for Contemplative Outreach Service

## *Including* **Presenter's Training**

Hosted by  
Contemplative Outreach of Atlanta  
**Ignatius House Retreat Center**  
Atlanta GA

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**Sunday, August 11**  
*(Registration starting at 3:00 pm)*  
**To**  
**Saturday, August 18, 2007**  
*(Following lunch)*

*"But when you pray, go into your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret.  
And your Father,  
who sees in secret, will reward you.  
Matthew 6:6*

### Details for Registration

Please mail this form and your check with deposit (or greater amount), payable to  
**Contemplative Outreach of Atlanta** and mail to:

Contemplative Outreach of Atlanta  
C/O Kim Kolesnik  
1344 Oakengate Drive  
Stone Mountain, GA 30083

#### PLEASE PRINT

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, \_\_\_\_\_

State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

How will you be arriving? \_\_\_\_\_  
(car or plane)

**Registration Fee: \$650**

*Includes Room & Board - Single Occupancy only*

Enclosed is: (check one)

Check for \$100 deposit  
*(Balance due by July 15, 2007)*

Check for \$650 registration fee

*If you have not received a confirmation within 10  
days of your sending in your registration, please  
notify Kim or Roberta.*

*For information regarding the Formation Program or registration, please contact:*

Roberta Oster at [robertaoster@bellsouth.net](mailto:robertaoster@bellsouth.net)  
or 404-299-2670  
Or Kim Kolesnik at [gonnabk@aol.com](mailto:gonnabk@aol.com)

# CELEBRATE!!



## July Birthdays

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Becky Jackson    | 2  |
| Greg Noren       | 5  |
| Herb Stewart     | 5  |
| Gretchen Miller  | 8  |
| Linda Floyd      | 14 |
| Dale McDonald    | 20 |
| Linda Perry      | 20 |
| Toni Hall        | 23 |
| Thèrèse Sievers  | 25 |
| Beverly Sweeton  | 28 |
| Russell Campbell | 28 |
| Gene Gwyn        | 31 |

## July Anniversaries

|                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Don & Mary Ann Campbell | 24, 1957 |
| Lorna & Greg Noren      | 2, 1976  |
| Cindy & Steve Page      | 31, 1999 |
| Les & Pat Worsley       | 18, 1970 |

### Way to Go Judge

In Florida, an atheist became incensed over the preparation of Easter and Passover holidays. He decided to contract his lawyer about the discrimination inflicted on atheist by the constant celebrations afforded to Christians and Jews with all their holidays while atheists had no holiday to celebrate.

The case was brought before a wise judge. After listening to the long passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel and declared "case dismissed!"

The lawyer immediately stood and objected to the ruling and said, "your honor, how can you possible dismiss this case?"

The Christians have Christmas, Easter and many other observances. Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah... yet my client and all other atheists have no such holiday!"

The judge leaned forward in his chair and simply said, "Obviously your client is too confused to even know about, much less celebrate his own atheists' holiday!"

The lawyer pompously said, "Your honor, we are unaware of any such holiday for atheists. Just when might that holiday be, your honor"?

The judge said, "Well it comes every year on exactly the same date---April 1<sup>st</sup>! Since our calendar sets April 1<sup>st</sup> as "April fools day," consider that psalm 53 states, "the fool says in his heart, there is no god."

Thus, in my opinion, if your client says there is no god, then by scripture he is a fool, thus April 1<sup>st</sup> is his holiday! Get it?

Way to go, judge!

# July

| <i>Sun</i>                     | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i>                              | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i>                         | <i>Sat</i>   |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|---|------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>1</b><br>PENTECOST<br>V     | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b><br>Brain Club<br>11:00 – 2:00  | <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b><br>AA Meeting<br>8:00 PM  | <b>7</b><br>Quiet Day<br>8:00 AM -<br>Noon<br>AA Meeting<br>2:30 PM  |
| <b>8</b><br>PENTECOST<br>VI    | <b>9</b>   | <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b>                               | <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b><br>AA Meeting<br>8:00 PM | <b>14</b><br>Centering<br>Prayer<br>8:00 AM<br>AA Meeting<br>2:30 PM |
| <b>15</b><br>PENTECOST<br>VII  | <b>16</b>  | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b><br>Brain Club<br>11:00 – 2:00 | <b>19</b>  | <b>20</b><br>AA Meeting<br>8:00 PM | <b>21</b><br>Centering<br>Prayer<br>8:00 AM<br>AA Meeting<br>2:30 PM |
| <b>22</b><br>PENTECOST<br>VIII | <b>23</b>  | <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b>                               | <b>26</b>  | <b>27</b><br>AA Meeting<br>8:00 PM | <b>28</b><br>Centering<br>Prayer<br>8:00 AM<br>AA Meeting<br>2:30 PM |
| <b>29</b><br>PENTECOST<br>IX   | <b>30</b>  | <b>31</b>  |   |            |                                    |  |

**2007**



*St. Mark's Episcopal Church*



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Nashville, TN 37011-0741