



The Gryphon's Roar



May, 2009



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
Wednesday	7:00 PM	Choir Practice
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
Gilbert Russ	Junior Warden
Charles Cross & Les Worsley	Treasurers
Currently Vacant	Clerk of the Vestry

Next month deadline for submissions is Sunday, May 17, 2009
Gryphon submissions to: submitgryphon@aol.com

St. Mark's Vestry:

Greg Noren, Cindy Fahnestock, Kate Granger	(2011)
Jim Hall, Suzanne Lindsey, Judy Robnett	(2010)
Suzie Abrahamson, George Kurz, Gilbert Russ	(2009)



Father Battle's sermons are now available on the St. Mark's web site.

Dear people of God,

Happy Eastertide! The Easter season is full with the Good news of our reconciliation with God. Once more we are restored to our right relationships one with another and thus to God. Our acknowledgement of this empowers us to carry out this ministry of reconciliation to the whole world. We now have the business of restoring broken and wounded relationships between all people. Of course this business of ours begins first within ourselves and with those we are in deepest relationship. But it doesn't end at our doorsteps, no, you and I are called to seek out those who are estranged from God's love and bring them into the knowledge of God's great redeeming Love for them. I believe it was St. Francis who said, the only Gospel some might read is you! Live the Gospel good news. What a challenge and then again what a gift: to be able to respond to others in Love knowing that it is God who loves first last and always. What a gift to be able to offer ourselves as images of the Risen One to those who have yet to understand how deeply God cares for them. Happy Eastertide and happy gift of reconciliation. Let us be about our business of making known the renewing Love of Christ.

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

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

Dates to remember

- May 10 – Mother’s Day – Breakfast provided by the men of St. Mark’s
- May 10 – Second Sunday for Second Harvest
- May 21 – Vestry meeting
- May 23-24 – Memorial Day weekend
- May 31 - Pentecost - pot luck lunch (possible service outside - weather permitting)
- To be announced - Work day - mostly outside (fence, garden prep, remove brush, remove mowing hazards, prep planter areas in parking lot, painting)

Vestry person responsible for Sunday lock up:

5/3/09 – J. Robnett

5/10/09 – K. Granger

5/17/09 – S. Abrahamson

5/24/09 – Fr. J. Hall

5/31/09 – G. Kurz

Time to Celebrate

May Birthdays

Cindy Page	3
Jim Hargrove	10
Ann Honig	15
Ginger Maxwell	16
Cheryl Banner	19
Melanie Pafford-Failor	22
Jordyn Elkins	23
Ryan Garcia	28
Kim Tantaris	29
Kathy Larson	30



May Anniversaries

Karen & John Seufert	02, 1987
Arwen & William Wagers	10, 2006
Dave & Debbie Colvin	27, 1978
Herb & Shirley Stewart	27, 1955



Mother's Day (May 10th) Breakfast

In honor of Mother's Day and with special recognition and thanks for the women of St. Mark's Church, the men of the church will prepare the 2nd Sunday Breakfast on May 10th. For starters, the Sr. Warden will prepare his special "International Eggs" - representing Italy, Poland, Mexico, and Texas. (He will not be allowed to make biscuits after his previous disgraceful performance with that task at the last work-day.) Other items will be added to the menu as plans are developed. Shy male chefs - we know who you are and we will be contacting you - so you may as well volunteer now.



Hooray, Hooray, the Month of May, Time to have another Spruce-up Day!

We will have another work-day in May. This should be perfect weather for some of our outside chores. We need to prep the vegetable garden, and the two planter areas (cut-outs) in the parking lot. Also, we will string the fence along the back property line before it gets too overgrown to work in that area. The picnic tables (and possibly other items) need painting, the broken window in the barn needs a replacement, and the soil needs to be raked back at the edge of the new pavement. Brush needs to be trimmed and mowing hazards removed. A date will be announced at the Sunday Service and emails will be sent as well.

Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost Sunday is the week after Memorial Day. We will celebrate this feast with a pot-luck lunch. There is a portable shelter disassembled in the barn, so - weather permitting - we may be able to eat and worship outside. Get your red outfits ready! If you are interested in making music during lunch, please contact Fr. Battle.

You're Invited

St. Luke's Community House would like to invite you to the third annual Bishop's Breakfast on Wednesday, May 6 at 7:30 a.m. Bishop John C. Bauerschmidt will speak to us about "Mission and Ministry: Our Work at St. Luke's." Come enjoy fellowship, an inspiring message and a hot breakfast. No charge, guests welcome. RSVP by May 4 to Chris Sanders at 350-6936 or Christopher.Sanders@stlukescommunityhouse.org.

Message from Marcia Williams

Dear St. Mark's Family,

You can never know what your prayers and concerns have meant to me over the past several weeks of my "series of unfortunate adventures!" After a 4-day sojourn at Vanderbilt, I am now back to my temporary "home" at National Health Care to work on getting strong enough to truly go "home."

I miss you and also look forward to coming "home" to St. Mark's.

Your prayers have sustained me and will continue to do so.

Peace and love,

Marcia Williams

A POINT OF VIEW

The feast of Pentecost barely made it into May, coming as it does on the last day of the month. It is, of course, the day on which we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit in the form of fire on the disciples, empowering them to move out into the world with the Gospel, and the ability to speak the languages of the people to whom they were sent.

This was truly an inspirational event, for the word is rooted in the word "spirit", and means to be in-spirited, to experience the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Because some of the chief works of the spirit are creative and knowledge-imparting, I believe that whenever we are moved to creativity or to the discovery of knowledge of any kind, we are inspired by God's Holy Spirit. Consider, for example, that whenever we see a light bulb appear above someone's head in a comic strip as that person learns something, that light bulb goes back in a direct line to the fire of the Holy Spirit that sat upon the heads of the disciples, and transforming them into apostles.

It is important in all this to understand that God's Holy Spirit does not operate only in areas that we think of as religious, sacred, spiritual, or holy, as we define those terms. The Holy Spirit is involved in real life, and therefore was involved in the invention and/or the discovery of the wheel and the internal combustion engine just as much as in the Annunciation to Mary. All knowledge is God-given, whether it's the theory of relativity or the making of cornbread, and I am too awed by God's workings in the world to arrogate to myself the right to stratify, categorize, or evaluate the workings and gifts that ensue therefrom. Therefore, Praise God from whom ALL blessings flow.

Jim Hall

Santiago Apostole Update February 2009

Santiago Apostole Vestry Meeting Notes 2-3-09

Sr. Warden – Saulo

They also have a Jr. Warden, Secretary, and Treasurer. All members of the vestry attended this meeting.

General Feedback about how things are going:

Rev. Mariana Loor has been their priest for 2 years now. She feels good about the vestry and trusts them. The vestry says there has been more progress since Mariana came. They are happy to have her as their priest.

Activity Reports:

The church members have formed a **ladies' committee** with the Sr. Warden and Treasurer. They were able to get an altar cloth donated. They improved the Nativity Scene and ornaments. They sent St. Mark's their 2009 plan via fax. This plan started February 10, 2009.

Youth help teach the children for **Sunday School**.

There are 21 children for Confirmation on Dec. 12.

Typically the parents of the children in Confirmation do not come to church. Many children finish Confirmation and don't come back to church. Santiago Apostole has maintained the same number for attendance. They would like to involve the parents more and to have children to continue to attend church after Confirmation.

Novenario is Dec. 15 – 24. There are 9 days of prayer with the rosary. Miriam leads this. In 2008 they began with 30 people and ended with 100 or more for this activity. It has been successful to connect and include the community. After the 9 days of prayer, they go door-to-door to collect money.

Another **Novenario is in August or September**. They will carry the Virgin Mary statue outside and walk thru La Pila stopping at houses along the way to pray. Members of the community request to be one of the houses for prayer – it is an honor for them to be chosen.

July 25 – They will celebrate St. James' Feast with a worship service, parade, party, and dancing.

Seminary – There are 4 or 5 members who are interested in Seminary in the Manta/La Pila area. They have a copy of the hardback Prayer Books donated by St. Mark's. They assist Rev. Mariana in teaching and leading worship in each of her churches.

Concerns:

The vestry is concerned about structural issues in the church building. There are cracks in walls for example. They plan to write letters to request help from the community.

See the fax for more info on projects/concerns.

Property Deed – (I am getting this translated from Spanish to English.)

The Ministry of Agriculture has designated the church property (and many other properties in the rural areas) as "Community Owned". This is the end of the process of obtaining a deed for the property. The church has a document stating the designation of "Community Owned" and the property cannot be taken from the church. With this designation, community businesses are donating to Santiago Apostole.

New Project:

Mariana has attended training about a new project called "Alpha Project". The Episcopal Church in Honduras is sharing this with the Episcopal churches in Ecuador. This project

involves small group meetings for 6 weeks. The focus is on how to pray and there are also topics on Jesus. There are lots of collaborators. Mariana is very excited about this project and will need help from Companion Churches to make it happen.

This program requires a projector for Powerpoint to present the information. **They would like to request one projector from St. Mark's** (and we might ask for help from the Church of the Good Shepherd) for use in the entire province. They will carry the one projector with them to each church and will borrow a computer at each one to connect it to the projector for the presentation. They plan to repeat this program every 6 weeks as long as there is interest through the province.

Mariana closed the meeting with a Prayer Net activity. She asked the vestry to commit to working together this year and to symbolize that commitment by coming forward and tying a ribbon onto the net. Saulo was the first to come forward and by the end of the time, everyone in the vestry had come forward to make this commitment.

NEEDS:

Projector for Powerpoint

Structural improvements

More hardback prayer books

Conversation with Rev. Mariana on 2-6-09

PreSchool –

There are 4 workers – one cook and 3 women who work with the children.

The government provides food and requires at least 10 children per teacher in order to continue that support. (I also think the government pays these teachers.)

Attendance is sporadic in the preschool and includes children of both working and non-working mothers. The non-working mothers are not sending their children to the preschool every day.

Rev. Mariana and the vestry plan to have a meeting with the parents of the preschool children and tell them that the preschool is for working mothers only in order to have a consistent attendance. This may cause them to decrease the number of teachers to 2 instead of 3.

The reason Santiago Apostole has decided to have preschool only is b/c they cannot compete with the public schools. The government provides everything for the public schools – computers, supplies, etc. – all is free to the public schools. SO, Santiago Apostole will continue with preschool only.

NEEDS:

They need rubber boots for the preschool children to wear in the rainy season – they wear flip flops now. Mariana will check on the price and email to us the amount & the number needed.

Communication with Mariana needs to be in Spanish. You can use the online translator, Alta Vista Bablefish or others.

Her email address is mariloor56@hotmail.com

And her phone is 011 593 5 262 2715.

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Pafford-Failor

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
May					1 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	2 Centering prayer 8:00
3 EASTER IV AA Meeting 5:00 PM	4 Domestic Violence Intervention Group 6-8 pm	5	6 Brain Club 11:00 – 2:00 Choir 7:00	7 Arwen's Dance Class 6:30 PM	8 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	9 Centering prayer 8:00
10 EASTER V Mothers' Day 2 nd Sunday Breakfast AA Meeting 5:00 PM	11 Domestic Violence Intervention Group 6-8 pm	12	13 Choir 7:00	14	15 AA Meeting 8:00 PM Ashmead- Perez Wedding Rehearsal	16 Centering prayer 8:00 Ashmead- Perez Wedding 11:00 a.m.
17 EASTER VI Healing AA Meeting 5:00 PM	18 Domestic Violence Intervention Group 6-8 pm	19	20 Brain Club 11:00 – 2:00 Choir 7:00	21 Vestry Meeting 6:30 PM	22 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	23 Centering prayer 8:00
24 EASTER VII AA Meeting 5:00 PM	25 Domestic Violence Intervention Group 6-8 pm	26	27 Choir 7:00	28	29 AA Meeting 8:00 PM	30 Centering prayer 8:00
31 PENTECOST Pot Luck AA Meeting 5:00 PM					2009	



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Address Correction Requested