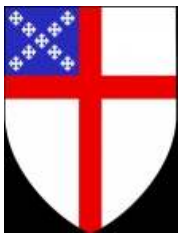


Phone: 360-249-3281

Website: www.stmarksmonte.com



Rev. Lorraine Dierick, Priest
Rev. Bonnie Campbell, Priest
Rev. Dorothy McMeekin, Deacon
Rev. Joyce Avery, Deacon
Corby Varness, Preacher
Jim Campbell, Preacher
Sarah Monroe, Seminarian

Worship
Sundays at 10 a.m.

Adult Bible Study
Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

St. Mark's Sermons

All of the sermons preached at our Sunday worship services by our ministers and preachers are placed on our website to be read and studied further within a couple of days of being preached on Sundays.

Visit our church website and look for and click on Recent Sermons on the middle right of our Home Page.

St. Mark's Bishop's Committee Minutes

All of our BC meeting minutes are found on our website.

Look for and click on Administration on the middle left of our Home Page, then click on BC Meeting Minutes and on the right side of the page. A list of all meeting minutes from 2009 on is found below the Upcoming Meeting Agenda.

This newsletter is also found on our church website: look for and click on Newsletters on the middle left of our Home Page.

ST. MARK EPISCOPAL CHURCH
124 NORTH SYLVIA STREET
PO BOX 533
MONTESANO, WA 98563

St. Mark Episcopal Church Newsletter November-December, 2011

Continuing Activities

Weekly Bible Study, Wednesdays, 10:00AM at St. Mark's

Our weekly Bible study generally uses the weekly Lectionary readings used in the Sunday worship services—no preparation is needed! Please join us for this study each week from 10:00-11:30AM at the church.

Feed Your Spirit Book Club--Monthly on Third Mondays, 12 Noon

Our monthly book club meets on the third Monday each month. We read a new book each month and discuss each one for an hour (or more as some might feel led to do, over your brown bag lunch).

Invite your friends and neighbors to join us! The next meetings and books are:

November 21, 2011--"**Ornament of the World**", by Maria Rosa Menocal

December 19, 2011--**TBD**

The webpage is at: <http://www.stmarksmonte.com/article.php?id=193>

St. Mark's History Books for Sale

To purchase a copy, please contact Jim Campbell at jbcmonte@comcast.net or by phone at 360-612-0205. Webpage is at: <http://www.stmarksmonte.com/article.php?id=167>

Upcoming Events

Kids Halloween Treats (10/31/2011), 5:00PM at St. Mark's Please gather treats for this event again. This has become a great reach out to the community, as we are THE local church that greets and treats the kids and also provides coffee and restrooms for all in this evening of fun in our neighborhood.

All Saints Celebration (11/6), 10:00AM at St. Mark's

All Saints Day, on November 1 each year, will be celebrated during the Sunday worship service on November 6 this year. We will have a table for displaying pictures of those loved ones who you would like to remember during the service, and some candles to light also as you pray for them. Invite a friend to share in this celebration.

Decorating for Christmas and Christmas Service Planning at St. Mark's

We will decorate the church for service in two parts. The outside lights and the Christmas tree and stairway decorating will be done on **Sunday, December 4th** before the Montesano Festival of Lights later that week. Decorating of the worship space will be done after the worship service on **Sunday, December 18th**. Our **Christmas Eve** service will be on **Saturday, December 24th at 5:00PM**, with a festive communion service with Christmas hymns, and refreshments and fellowship afterwards.

Rural Ministry Course (July-November, 2011)

We are participating "online" with a course on rural ministry from Episcopal Divinity School. The goal is through storytelling and discussion to prepare a short video that tells about us and what we do at St. Mark's. Another small church (St. Alban's) near Kamloops in British Columbia is also doing this course. We worked on a St. Mark's story timeline—to add our stories and what strikes us most about St. Mark's. From these stories and history, we are building a short video about us. The hope is this video can be hosted on our website for visitors to look at and find out all about us.

Recent News

Diocesan Convention at Lynnwood, Washington (10/21-22/2011)

A whirlwind trip to the Lynnwood Convention Center and back on Friday and Saturday by Lorraine, Bonnie, John, Jim and Martha for the 101st Convention was undertaken. A 2012 Diocesan budget reduced by 6% from 2011's budget was ratified, along with approval of a ½ pt reduction in the assessment to 17% for 2013. Two new deacons for the church were ordained during the Convention Eucharist, fitting with the Convention theme being "Living the Eucharist". A resolution for a canon

change for Diocesan Council to have one lay and one clergy rep from each of the 10 regions passed. The Bishop's address focused on the future of our Diocese and the work of mission together—using our resources wisely and efficiently. All-in-all, a quick and successful time together. More time for visiting old church friends around the Diocese would have been nice, though.

Blessing of the Pets Sunday (10/2/2011)

It's always a fun service, and it was again this year! 12 dogs and a bird were blessed, as well as all of us humans, with treats for everyone afterwards. We received over \$200 in donations to give to Aberdeen PAWS and Freedom Tails (a training dogs ministry in the local prison). Pictures are at: <http://www.stmarksmonte.com/article.php?id=280>.

Episcopal Retirement Communities (ERC) Foundation Presentation (9/25/2011)

Christy Hamrlich, the director of development for this organization, met with us and presented the story of the ERC. This is an area most Episcopalians know little about, and Christy changed that for us!

Summary of St. Mark's Finances—10/17/2011

Net Operating Year to Date—+\$1,125.39 (last month--+\$1,062.04)

Proceeding well tracking to the overall budget. Paid for the registrations and Saturday lunches for convention (\$185), and for a gift for the Varness grounds services this past summer (\$400). Also paid for a 2nd fair linen for the altar (\$160). Overall normal expenses are still low, especially utilities, usually until at least November.

Total Operating Expenses--\$19,076.47 (last month--\$17,574.80)

- Highlights—Current on all bills.
- Outreach to Date--\$3,967 Diocesan Assessment Required/Paid--\$2,825

Total Operating Revenues--\$20,201.86 (last month--\$18,636.84)

- Tracking closely, in plate/pledge areas, to the budget plan!

Non-Operating Revenues--\$10,614.85 Non-Operating Expenses--\$10,243.48

Net Non-Operating Year to Date— +\$371.37

Net All Operating and Non-Operating Year to Date-- +\$1,496.76

Funds Summary—Total is \$18,029.26 (last month--\$18,015.71)

- General/Designated Checking Account—\$4,009.45 (last month--\$3,946.12)
- General/Designated Savings Account--\$518.18 (last month--\$518.16)
 - Operating Fund (General)--\$4,961.61 (last month--\$4,898.26)
 - History Book Fund (Designated)--\$-683.98 (last month--\$-683.98)
 - Seminary/Education Fund (Designated)--\$250.00 (last month--\$250.00)
- Memorial Fund/Savings Account--\$984.70 (last month--\$984.29)
- Diocesan Investment Fund--\$12,031.59 (last month--12,031.59)
- Clergy Discretionary Fund/Checking Account--\$485.34 (last month--\$535.34)

Update from Sarah, Our Seminarian

Hello everyone,

I have been so busy this past month and a half that I have not taken the time to update you all about how things are going for me this second year of seminary. I think about you all often and am so grateful for all your support. I am juggling many different things this year-- I am taking classes, doing field ed, working with a professor on campus, and volunteering. I am also trying to take time for self care too!!! :-)

I realized this year that I needed to focus on required classes, so I am taking a class on Episcopal History and Polity, a class on Voice and Leadership, and a class on Ecumenism. The voice class has been really helpful for me--as you all know I could use some work developing my speaking/voice skills! It's been a lot of fun and a lot of work. For the fun of it, I also signed up for an online class at a

Lutheran seminary on rural ministry. It is very little work, but nice to have a place to talk about what interests me with other people going into rural ministry.

I am doing my field ed at Ecclesia Ministries, an 'outdoor church' that meets near the Boston Commons and whose membership is largely homeless or low income. It is a very challenging field to do ministry, but also so rewarding. I chose it for many reasons; one, because I wanted to see ministry done differently. I have found amazing mentors in the people I work with there! I work Sundays with the church service and bible study and Wednesdays with a program called 'common art' that provides space for people to come together to do art and share a meal. As I settle into this work, I have been so blessed to share in people's stories. The end of the month, a group from the congregation will be going on a pilgrimage, walking from downtown Boston to Emory House, a monastic house in northern MA. I will be going with the group on part of this walk. I have been deeply touched by the depth of spirituality in this community, where many people live such tragedy and pain. I have been able to use my Spanish skills too.

I am working with one of my professors, Susie Snyder, to develop resources on campus around immigration and immigrant rights. We just held our first resource day on Oct. 10th, which is one reason I have been too busy to do anything else! We had around 65 people show up and had a panel of speakers and workshops. It was a lot of work, but it was wonderful to see it come together. I am taking a break from this for a bit so I can catch up on the rest of my life.

I am also limiting my volunteer work more than I originally wanted to. I have been working with the Boston New Sanctuary Movement supporting the local immigrant community and have stepped back from some of the work for this year. I will continue to work with them on a limited basis, but am finding that I need to take this space in seminary to reflect, write, and continue discernment. This is a good thing! I am also staying on the periphery of the Occupy movements (I have visited both Boston and NYC's Wall Street) and am working on some theological reflections around economic issues.

And, yes, I am finding space to have fun! I went with a group of seminary friends to New York City over the last weekend and have got out of the city a few times (I went kayaking for the first time!). I also am cultivating space to just take walks, read novels, and visit with new friends. Tomorrow I am looking forward to going to a talk by Wendell Berry.

I will be coming back to my wonderful peninsula for Christmas. I will be in the area from Dec. 15-26. I will hope to see you all then!!! While there, I will complete the required psychological exam. I am looking forward to applying for candidacy this spring.

I hope you are all doing well. You are in my thoughts and prayers!!

Many blessings,
Sarah

Reasons to Be Episcopalian (from the book of 101 Reasons, compiled by Louie Crew)

71 Our roots in the past bear fruits in the present. *Alice Haugen, Diocese of Iowa*

72 Christ has no hands on earth but ours. We need you to help us bless the world. *Meg Carter, Diocese of California*

73 I am so appreciative of the way the Episcopal Church, with its Benedictine roots, keeps me grounded in real life, real relationships, real encounters. Ours is a very incarnational church—insisting on the importance of the Spirit's embodiment in the ordinary events of each day, and reminding us over and over that God can be found in the most difficult and improbable places. *Norvene Vest, Diocese of Los Angeles*

74 Jesus said, "Feed my sheep," but he didn't specify that they be fed a narrow and rigid diet. Our Episcopal/Anglican approach to the sacrament of Penance is a good example: "All may, some should, none must." *Dean George L. W. Werner, Diocese of Pittsburgh*

75 In a global family, like the Anglican Communion, the voice of prayer is never silent. *Canon James Rosenthal, Diocese of Canterbury, England*

Other Articles on Faith and General Religious Information

(Different commentaries from the website Episcopal Café in the past few weeks, all written by contributors referencing other web articles they have read recently. Episcopal Café is linked on our own website Home Page, or go directly to: <http://www.episcopalcafe.com/>)

7 Weeks of Advent!?

Do you feel that Advent gets lost in the Christmas hype that now begins in late September? Why don't we go to the medieval roots of Advent when some folks in Europe practiced Advent for 7 weeks!?

Prayers for a 7-week Advent

From the Rev. Canon Frank Logue of the Diocese of Georgia and his "[Loose Canon](#)" blog-- Victoria and I crafted Prayers of the People for a 7-week Advent that plagiarize freely from the four scripture readings for each of the seven Sundays before Christmas in the Revised Common Lectionary. This ties the prayers closely to the text.

A Seven-Week Advent?

Since when does Advent have seven weeks you may ask? For centuries of unbroken tradition in the Orthodox Church which keeps the Nativity Fast for the seven weeks before Christmas as it keeps the seven weeks of Lent before Easter. More on the nascent move to recover this tradition in the west is found online here: [Rediscover the Seven Sundays of Advent](#).

Posted by [Peter Carey](#) on October 19, 2011 8:00 PM |

Before there was a Hitler, how did we talk about evil?

There was a time when people turned to the Bible--Pharaoh or Judas Iscariot-- or more locally specific figures--like King George III or Abraham Lincoln--in their search for a universally understood symbol of evil.

[Brian Palmer at Slate wonders](#) how people shorthanded their discussion of evil before there was a Hitler: ESPN dropped singer Hank Williams Jr. from its Monday Night Football telecast after he publicly compared President Obama to Adolf Hitler on Monday. Today, the Führer is universally recognized as the embodiment of evil and the most convenient example of a truly terrible human being. Before World War II, who was the rhetorical worst person in history?

The Pharaoh. In the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries, many Americans and Europeans had a firmer grasp of the bible than of the history of genocidal dictators. Orators in search of a universal symbol for evil typically turned to figures like Judas Iscariot, Pontius Pilate, or, most frequently, the Pharaoh of Exodus, who chose to endure 10 plagues rather than let the Hebrew people go. In *Common Sense*, Thomas Paine wrote: "No man was a warmer wisher for reconciliation than myself, before the fatal nineteenth of April, 1775 [the date of the Lexington massacre], but the moment the event of that day was made known, I rejected the hardened, sullen tempered Pharaoh of England for ever." In the run-up to the Civil War, abolitionists regularly referred to slaveholders as modern-day Pharaohs. Even after VE Day, Pharaoh continued to pop up in the speeches of social reformers like Martin Luther King Jr.

Generally speaking, hatred was more local and short-lived before World War II. Nineteenth-century polemicists occasionally used Napoleon Bonaparte as shorthand for an evil ruler—they sometimes referred to "the little tyrant" rather than name the diminutive conqueror—but those references were rare. There is little record of oratorical comparisons of political leaders to Genghis Khan, Attila the Hun, or Ivan the Terrible. Even Adolf Hitler himself once commented on history's tendency to forget the sins of bloody dictators. In 1939, the Führer asked rhetorically, "Who still talks nowadays of the extermination of the Armenians?" (The authenticity of this quote is disputed.)

In the absence of a universal boogeyman, different regions latched on to a particular person as the personification of evil at different historical moments. Yet genocide and murder were less likely to earn a man universal revilement than treason or other forms of disloyalty. During the Civil War, for example, some Southerners spoke of Abraham Lincoln in vaguely Hitler-like terms. Upon Lincoln's assassination, for example, the editor of the *Texas Republican* wrote, "the world is happily rid of a monster that disgraced the form of humanity." (Some Confederates called Lincoln a "modern Pharaoh.") Part of this scorn was based on their view of Lincoln as a traitor—both of his parents were Virginians, and Lincoln was born on slaveholding soil. Northerners, for their part, focused their ire on the traitorous assassin John Wilkes Booth. In fact, 52 years after Lincoln's assassination, some Americans compared Woodrow Wilson to Booth, because he betrayed his country by leading the United States into war.

Posted by [Andrew Gerns](#) on October 14, 2011 6:00 PM |

Giving as percentage of income at new low

Donations to mainline Protestant churches as a percentage of income is at its lowest level in at least 41 years, according to an RNS report [published in the Huffington Post](#).

Parishioners gave about 2.38 percent of their income to their church, according to "The State of Church Giving through 2009," a new report being released Friday (Oct. 14) by Empty Tomb inc., a Christian research agency in Champaign, Ill. Just over 2 percent of income went toward congregational finances, such as operating costs and building expenses. Only 0.34 percent of parishioner income went to what Empty Tomb calls "benevolences," such as charities and seminary training beyond the four walls of the church. Those are new lows, at least going back to the first report in 1968.

The Empty Tomb report is based on data from mainline churches -- Lutherans, Presbyterians, Episcopalians and others -- because data was not available for evangelical or Roman Catholic churches. Still, authors say the trends in the mainline are broadly representative of all U.S. churches.

Not necessarily the economy.

At first glance, the lagging economy would appear to be a primary culprit. Edith H. Falk, chair of Chicago-based Giving USA Foundation, indicated this summer that the biggest drops in more than 40 years occurred in 2008 and 2009, as the recession took its greatest toll. The Empty Tomb report also pinpointed 2008 as the greatest year-to-year drop since the first report was compiled in 1968. But Sylvia Ronsvalle, Empty Tomb's executive vice president and the report's co-author, said previous research identifies no clear pattern that shows donations dropped during past recessions. In other words, the recession is only partly to blame, if at all. "What we did find is giving tends not to decline in recession years, though it might in fact have declined in years around recessions," she said. This is the second consecutive year that Ronsvalle's report has shown a drop in total contributions and tithing. More alarming, she said, is an ongoing decline in benevolence spending.

Posted by [Andrew Gerns](#) on October 14, 2011 4:00 PM |

Warning: Bible reading may make you more liberal

Reading the Bible can make you more liberal. So says a survey reported by [Christianity Today](#).

More accurately, frequent Bible readers will, over time, tend to care more about the welfare of people, issues of social and economic justice. Some of the most interesting findings relate to moral attitudes. "How important is it," the survey asked, "to actively seek social and economic justice in order to be a good person?" Again, as would be expected, those with more liberal political leanings were more likely to say it's very or somewhat important. And those who read the Bible more often were more likely to agree. Indeed, they were almost 35 percent more likely to agree at each point on Baylor's five-point scale. That may be bad news for Glenn Beck, who last year told believers to leave their churches if they hear "social justice" language being used. Likewise, contrary to liberal media stereotypes, those who are most engaged in their faith (by directly and frequently reading its source material) are those who are most supportive of social and economic justice. A reading, politically conservative literalist is only slightly less supportive than a non-reading, politically liberal non-literalist.

Likewise, the survey asked whether one must consume or use fewer goods in order to be a good person. Political liberals and frequent Bible readers are more likely to say yes. A conservative Bible reader might not be as prone to say yes as a liberal non-reader, but think of it this way: Ask an evangelical who is politically conservative, has some college education, has an average level of income, is a biblical literalist, and does not read the Bible, and you'll have only a 22 percent chance he or she will say reducing consumption is part of ethical living. Ask the same person, only now they read the Bible, and you'll have a 44 percent chance they'll say so. It's still not a majority, but the swing is dramatic.

Evangelical and biblical literalists tend to read the Bible more frequently, and they also tend to, be more conservative. But the more they read the Bible, the more likely it is that their views will change. Why does this happen? One possible explanation is that readers tend to have expectations of a text prior to reading it. Given the Bible's prominence in our society, it's little wonder that many people think they know what's in it before they open it up. But once they start reading it on their own, they are bound to be surprised by something, and this surprising new content is then integrated and grafted on to the familiar. Beliefs do change with the addition of new information.

But it doesn't have to be unfamiliar content to surprise the reader. It just has to be personally relevant. Frequent Bible readers may have different views of biblical authority, but they tend to read it devotionally, looking for ways in which Scripture is speaking directly to them. They will read until struck by something that sticks out in the text. Even if the reader thinks the Bible has some error or needs a lot of interpretation, this thunderbolt moment can take on tremendous personal significance.

Posted by [Andrew Gerns](#) on October 14, 2011 9:00 AM

November 2011 Monthly Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 10am Holy Communion 11am Potluck Meal 7pm AA	31 5pm Halloween Treats for Kids	November 1 9:30am Worship Team 7pm AA	2 10am Bible Study 12pm Monte Ministerial Association Meeting	3 12pm AA 7pm Gamblers Anon	4 7pm AA	5
6 10am Holy Communion 7pm AA	7	8 7pm AA	9 10am Bible Study	10 7pm Diocesan Cursillo 12pm AA 7pm Gamblers Anon	11 7pm AA	12
13 10am Holy Communion 7pm AA	14	15 7pm AA 7pm Monte Ecum Thansgiving	16 10am Bible Study	17 12pm AA 7pm Gamblers Anon	18 7pm AA	19
20 10am Healing Service 7pm AA	21 12pm Book Club	22 2pm Birthday Party @ Monte Health & Rehab 7pm AA	23	24 12pm AA 7pm Gamblers Anon	25 7pm AA	26
27 10am Holy Communion 11am Potluck Meal 7pm AA	28	29 7pm AA	30 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Bishop Committee	December 1 12pm AA 7pm Gamblers Anon	2 7pm AA	3

Birthdays:

John Fry—13th Wanda Wahl—18th
Eric Heikkinen—25th

Anniversaries:

Robert & Rev. Lorraine Dierick—4th
Gilbert & Shirley Johnson—20th

December 2011 Monthly Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 10am Holy Communion 11am Potluck Meal 7pm AA	28	29 7pm AA	30 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Bishop Committee	December 1 12pm AA 7pm Gamblers Anon	2 7pm AA	3
4 10am Holy Communion 7pm AA	5	6 7pm AA	7 10am Bible Study 12pm Monte Ministerial Association Meeting	8 12pm AA 7pm Gamblers Anon	9 7pm AA	10
11 10am Holy Communion 7pm AA	12	13 7pm AA	14 10am Bible Study	15 12pm AA 7pm Gamblers Anon	16 7pm AA	17
18 10am Healing Service 11am Potluck Meal/Decorate Church 7pm AA	19	20 7pm AA	21 10am Bible Study 10am Blue Christmas Service	22 12pm AA 7pm Gamblers Anon	23 7pm AA	24 5pm Christmas Eve Service
25 10am Holy Communion 7pm AA	26	27 2pm Birthday Party @ Monte Health & Rehab 7pm AA	28 10am Bible Study	29 12pm AA 7pm Gamblers Anon	30 7pm AA	31

Birthdays:

Corby Varness—5th Rev. Dorothy McMeekin—9th
Elaine Olsen—14th

Anniversaries:

John & Mary Linth—10th

Draft Letter

October 27, 2011

To All In Our St. Mark's Church Community,

In 2011, we continued with another year of worship and ministry opportunities at St. Mark's. Your energy and commitment to our mission moves it ahead with the grace of God.

Our facility continues to be used not only for our weekly worship services, Bible studies, and other special functions, but also by several Alcohol and Gamblers Anonymous groups, and is available for weddings, funerals and receptions. Our worship space furnishings have a new look, and there are several new items, too—including a new altar table, and several new stands & tables for the Gospel book and flowers. Many other pieces have been stripped and refinished—all to create a lighter look in the sanctuary part of our worship space. Our bell and steeple were blown off the roof in December 2010, but have been rebuilt and replaced solidly by March this year.

We celebrated our 101st Pancake Day celebration in March this year, our 60th or so Rummage Sale, and several church calendar events, including sharing worship services and Friday lunches during Lent with other local churches. And, we have started a monthly spiritual book club, which just completed its first year in October.

Our church website continues, with added content/information for those who read it, both in and outside of our church. You can and should use this site for all of your church informational needs. Look at our site at: www.stmarksmonte.com

Sarah Monroe, our seminarian, was selected as a postulant early this year, and continued her work into her 2nd year at Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts near Boston this fall. St. Mark's financial support for Sarah included paying for her health insurance (about \$1800) for the 2011-12 school year, and some funds for travel back to school.

Our worship experience on Sunday morning continues to be refined, with a variety of services each month, and we thank the ministry team for their consistent efforts to make the services meaningful each week. We thank everyone at St. Mark's for your generosity and commitment to do all of the everyday ministries that make our community vital and healthy.

Our community outreach for this year will be about \$4,800 out of our 2011 annual operating budget of about \$24,000. Ministries funds distributed to so far in 2011:

*Coastal Harvest (GH Food Dist Center)
Episcopal Relief & Dev. (Japan & Haiti Relief)
Willapa Region Ministry*

*Union Gospel Mission
Domestic Violence Center
Nursing Home Birthday Cakes*

*Good Friday Offering
Camp Michael
Montesano Food Bank
Montesano Adopt a Tree*

*Montesano-Elma Food Bowl
Children's Advocacy Center
Montesano Community Center
Jail Ministry Bibles*

*Other special offerings collected for outreach: (about \$1400)
PAWS & Freedom Tails (Blessing of Pets Sunday Plate Offering)
Rhonni LaCroix Kenya Mission Trip
Water for Haiti St. Vincent Children's Hospital
Ash Wednesday & Lent Lunch Offerings to Ministerial Assoc. Fund*

Future building maintenance—we plan to move about \$1,500 into our long term savings reserve (Diocesan Investment Fund) at year end.

We ask you again to think and pray about how God has blessed you and what St. Mark's church and its community of people mean to you, and decide to commit (either for the first time, or to continue and maybe increase your commitment) to St. Mark's and its work for Christ in this community for 2012. Our Bishop Greg Rickel has stated that it is very important that each person who professes they are a member of a church to sign a card expressing that commitment, regardless of the \$\$ amount they might decide to pledge. At St. Mark's, we hope you will consider this carefully and officially commit to support our ministry here. Any \$\$ commitment can be changed if needed during the year, simply by contacting the treasurer.

The commitment card that follows this letter makes it very easy to show your commitment; we will be gathering these cards and giving thanks for all commitments at our worship service on November 27th, just after Thanksgiving Day. (Print out the card, fill out and bring in—or ask for one when at the church.)

We believe we are blessed by God, and we pray and hope to continue to serve this community well with our money, time, and talents in 2012.

Your St. Mark's Bishop's Committee

John Teneffoss, Sr. Warden
Jim Campbell, Jr. Warden & Treasurer
Martha Krug, Clerk of the Bishop Committee
Mary Venske, Bishop Committee
Natalea Brumfield, Bishop Committee
Kevin Varness, Bishop Committee
Rev. Lorraine Dierick, Priest
Rev. Bonnie Campbell, Priest

Time and Talent Commitment

Please write your first name and last name (especially in the case of couples or families) to indicate ministries of interest to you.) *We will contact you as soon as possible after pledge cards are tallied.*

Acolyte or Eucharistic Minister _____
Altar Guild _____
Usher/Greeter/Assist Newcomers _____
Children's Church/Sunday School _____
Host Coffee Hour/Provide Treats _____
Pastoral Care/Visits _____
Prayer Request/List _____
Building/Grounds Maintenance _____
Newsletters/Event Advertising _____
Website Support _____
Bible Study _____
Worship Planning _____
Bishop Committee _____
Convention Delegate/Alternate _____

Thank you for your support of St. Mark's through your contributions of time, talent, and treasure.

Treasure Commitment

This financial pledge is used to support St. Mark's Operating Budget.

Name (s) _____

I/We will give a total of \$ _____ to next year's operating budget.

I/We will honor this commitment as indicated below:

Check enclosed for \$ _____
One Payment on _____ (date) _____
Weekly Payments of \$ _____
Monthly Payments of \$ _____
Quarterly Payments of \$ _____

I have included St. Mark's in my estate planning.

(This pledge may be changed or cancelled upon notice to the church treasurer.)

The treasurer will remove and retain the treasure portion of this form; your pledge of time & talent will be gratefully shared with the Bishop Committee and Worship Team.

What does “stewardship mean?”

- It’s about listening to God and reflecting on what we hear...
 - It’s how we respond to God’s abundant gifts to us...
 - It’s a part of thoughtful and proactive choices we make for the future of our church...
 - It’s part of who we want to be as a community of Christians...
- And, in its best sense, it is both thanksgiving and celebration.

Stewardship is: “All we do, with all we have, all of the time!”

St. Mark Episcopal Church



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www.stmarksmonite.com

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