

Monthly Calendar for September 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>12pm</u> Church Picnic @ Averages <u>7pm AA</u>	30	31 <u>7pm AA</u>	September 1 <u>10am</u> Bible Study	2 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon	3 <u>7pm</u> AA	4 <u>12pm</u> Women's AA
5 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>7pm AA</u>	6	7 <u>10am</u> Worship Team <u>7pm AA</u>	8 <u>10am</u> Bible Study	9 <u>12pm</u> Book Club <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon	10 <u>7pm</u> AA	11 <u>12pm</u> Women's AA
12 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>7pm AA</u>	13	14 <u>7pm AA</u>	15 <u>10am</u> Bible Study <u>6:30pm</u> Bishop Committee	16 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon	17 <u>7pm</u> AA	18 <u>12pm</u> Women's AA
19 <u>10am</u> Healing Service <u>7pm AA</u>	20	21 <u>7pm AA</u>	22 <u>10am</u> Bible Study	23 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon	24 <u>7pm</u> AA	25 <u>12pm</u> Women's AA
26 <u>10am</u> Morning Prayer <u>10am</u> AA Awareness Sunday <u>7pm AA</u>	27	28 <u>7pm AA</u>	29 <u>10am</u> Bible Study <u>6:30pm</u> Potluck Meal	30 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon	October 1 <u>7pm</u> AA	2 <u>12pm</u> Women's AA

Birthdays:

Loni Crass 9/1 Sandy Marr 9/6
 Brad Fry 9/28 John Fry 10/3
 Stan Fry 10/8 Julie Dierick 10/16
 Debbie Fry 10/25 Shirley Johnson 10/28
 Gilbert Johnson 10/30

Anniversaries:

None

Monthly Calendar for October 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 <u>10am</u> Morning Prayer <u>7pm</u> AA	27	28 <u>7pm</u> AA	29 <u>10am</u> Bible Study <u>6:30pm</u> Potluck Meal	30 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon	October 1 <u>7pm</u> AA	2 <u>12pm</u> Women's AA
3 <u>10am</u> Special Service <u>10am</u> Pets Blessing <u>7pm</u> AA	4	5 <u>7pm</u> AA	6 <u>10am</u> Bible Study	7 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon	8 <u>7pm</u> AA	9 <u>9am</u> Pre-Con Meeting <u>12pm</u> Women's AA
10 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>7pm</u> AA	11	12 <u>7pm</u> AA	13 <u>10am</u> Bible Study	14 <u>12pm</u> Book Club <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon	15 <u>7pm</u> AA	16 <u>12pm</u> Women's AA
17 <u>10am</u> Healing Service <u>7pm</u> AA	18	19 <u>7pm</u> AA	20 <u>10am</u> Bible Study <u>6:30pm</u> Bishop Committee	21 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon	22 <u>7pm</u> AA	23 <u>12pm</u> Women's AA
24 <u>10am</u> Morning Prayer <u>7pm</u> AA	25	26 <u>2pm</u> Birthday Party @ Monte Health & Rehab <u>7pm</u> AA	27 <u>10am</u> Bible Study <u>6:30pm</u> Potluck Meal	28 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon	29 <u>1pm</u> Diocesan Convention <u>7pm</u> AA	30 <u>12am</u> Diocesan Convention <u>12pm</u> Women's AA
31 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>5pm</u> Treats for Kids <u>7pm</u> AA	November 1	2 <u>7pm</u> AA	3	4 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon	5 <u>7pm</u> AA	6 <u>12pm</u> Women's AA

Please continue to pray for our Deacon, The Rev. Dorothy McMeekin, as she recuperates from surgery recently for heart valve replacement and arteries bypass/stents. She is convalescing in Olympia. Your continued prayers and thoughts are welcomed.

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.

St. Mark's History Books for Sale

St. Mark's has published a 90 page full color history of their ministry in Montesano, at their 100th anniversary of becoming a mission church of the Diocese of Olympia. The books are 8 1/2" x 11" full size paperback style, and are only \$15 each. To purchase a copy, please contact Jim Campbell at jbcmonte@comcast.net or by phone at 360-612-0205.

New Activities

Feed Your Spirit Book Club, Monthly on Second Thursdays, 12 noon at the Library

This new monthly book club is forming, and will be meeting at the Montesano library. The first meeting will be Sept. 9 from 12 - 1 (but the room is reserved from 11:30 - 1:15 to give us time for set up and clean up.) Next meetings are: Oct. 14, Nov. 4 (there were scheduling issues with the other Thursdays in Nov.) and Dec. 9. The first book will be Traveling Mercies by Anne Lamott - there are a couple of copies available at the library. Rev. Joan Niemann (from St. Luke's) will be leading us at this first meeting. The idea is to 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 bug lunch). Invite your friends and neighbors to join us!

Upcoming Events

Annual Church Picnic (8/29/2010), 12 noon at the Averages'

We will have our worship service at 10am at St. Mark's, with the picnic at around 12 noon at Lee and Joyce Avery's house on the Oaksridge Golf Course. Bring a dish to share—we'll figure out the drinks and other fill-in items! Bring a friend, bring your neighbor, bring your relatives! All are welcome! We're also sending off our seminarian Sarah Monroe to Episcopal Divinity School near Boston—come to wish her well on this next step of her call to ministry!

Blessing of the Pets Sunday Service (10/3/2010), 10:00am at St. Mark's

We celebrate our 7th or so annual event of this fun service blessing the pets of our own community's people. Bring your pet and enjoy the fun seeing the pets receive their annual blessing and also get treats after the service. It's fun to visit with friends from our community, too.

Halloween Treat for Kids (10/31/2010), 5:30pm at St. Mark's

We will be giving out treats for the kids on Halloween again this year, and having our parish hall open for coffee for the parents, the restrooms for a break (as needed), and a chance to get warm. Start buying up those treats to get ready for this fun time seeing all of the local kids dressed up for Halloween.

Back to School Supplies Drive at St. Mark's (will end in early September)

We will be collect supplies again for the local Montesano school kids again this year. Look for those bargains and get your supplies to help the teachers have the supplies they need when kids are unable to get their own, or get other items such as hand cleaners, Kleenex, etc. for their classrooms.

Recent News

Annual Rummage Sale at St. Mark's (8/7/2010)

It was a grand event, and very successful again! We raised over \$930 to use in our local outreach program, and provided a lot of merchandise to our local community for really low prices. The funds received were sent to the Union Gospel Mission in Aberdeen and the Coastal Harvest food distribution center. Thanks for everyone who worked to make this one of our best sales ever. A few pictures from the event are <http://www.stmarksmonte.com/article.php?id=186>.

Montesano Ecumenical Childrens' Bible Camp at St. Mark's (7/12-16/2010)

It was a wonderful 5 day program for local Montesano kids, preschool through 6th grade, sponsored by the Montesano Ministerial Group. There were in excess of 170 kids this year, largest camp ever. St. Mark's hosted the preschoolers again, about 30 signed up and 20 or so came each day of the event. Corby and Lorraine did a great job leading the preschoolers program again. Pictures from the event are posted <http://www.stmarksmonte.com/article.php?id=187>.

Summary of St. Mark's Finances—8/16/2010

Net Operating Year to Date—\$2,657.40 (Previous month—\$2,915.16)

Even after paying out the first funds for the display cabinet (\$400), and funding of sound system upgrades (about \$900), and sending \$3500 to the DIF, we still are keeping up with our surplus this year. Through October our normal operating expenses will be continue to be fairly small.

Total Operating Expenses--\$16,348.00 (Previous month--\$13,363.36)

- Highlights—Overall expenses are running a little less than the budget plan to date. At this point we have still spent almost nothing in Continuing Education, Other Education, and Evangelism, and have held back some on Outreach spending. We have received over \$930 from the Rummage Sale, which we can distribute to local outreach needs right away. The only area we have spent much more than the original budget is for our sound system upgrades and for the new display cabinet (Property Maintenance), but this total cost is well within the overall budget expenses. All current bills are paid to date. Another \$1500 was sent in July to the DIF for savings/reserve, per the budget plan. We will be starting sending the scholarship funds for Sarah Monroe, our seminarian, to EDS soon.
- Outreach Given to Date--\$1,998 Diocesan Assessment Required/Paid--\$1,945

Total Operating Revenues--\$19,005.40 (Previous month--\$16,279.52)

- Highlights—All revenues are tracking roughly per the budget plan. We are overall slightly ahead on all Pledges received, as some have paid ahead or more generously than expected, and are well ahead on Plate Offering (due to 100th anniversary celebration revenues), and donations for use of the facility by outside groups.

Non-Operating Revenues--\$1,218.88 Non-Operating Expenses--\$2003.98

Net Non-Operating Year to Date— -\$785.10

The revenues are mostly made up of funds received from the sales of the history books (51 sold to date, 6 given away--\$770 received), and the first \$250 received for the Seminary fund. The costs are mostly from the expenses to print and ship the books (\$1559), and for some payouts from the clergy discretionary fund. For the rest of the year this will be a drain against the surplus we have in the operating account fund, but will be less each time we sell another book. The plan is to sell books at all events any of us go to around the Diocese, including the Diocesan Convention in October.

Net All Operating and Non-Operating Year to Date--\$1,872.30

Funds Summary—Total is \$17,037.38 (Previous month--\$16,291.45)

- Checking Account—\$5,433.50 (Previous month--\$5,541.14)
- Savings Account--\$517.82 (Previous month--\$867.82)
- Memorial Fund--\$980.05 (Previous month--\$979.63)
- Diocesan Investment Fund--\$9612.60 (Previous month--\$8,259.96)
- Clergy Discretionary Fund--\$493.41 (Previous month--\$642.90)

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

36 I love Anglicanism because the most stable seat, on rough ground, is a three legged stool. *The Rev. Selwyn Swift, St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich, Suffolk, England*

37 Our eighth Sacrament: Fellowship and Good Food. *Amanda Demers, Diocese of Texas*

38 Our theology is an art form, not a law book. *Paul Gibson, Diocese of Toronto*

39 From Miami to Manchester, from Lima to London, from Brisbane to Birmingham, Singapore to San Francisco, I can go to church and fit right in. *John F. Schwaller, Diocese of Minnesota*

40 I am an Episcopalian because it the one form of the tradition that enables me to still call myself a Christian. It allows me to think and to feel deeply in a life that is grounded in tradition and yet is open to change. I sometimes think of Anglicanism as the Zen Buddhism of the West. I love it because schism is a greater sin than heresy. I would much rather be with someone who loved me than with someone who could define love. *Alan Jones, Diocese of California*

Holy Cross Day--September 14

This feast is called in Greek "Υψωσις τοῦ Τιμίου Σταυροῦ (literally, "Raising Aloft of the Precious Cross"). In Latin it is called Exaltatio Sanctae Crucis (literally, "Raising Aloft of the Holy Cross". (The word "Exaltatio" is sometimes translated as "Exaltation", at other times, as in the 1973 ICEL translation, as "Triumph".) In some parts of the Anglican Communion the feast is called Holy Cross Day, a name also used by Lutherans. The celebration is sometimes called *Feast of the Glorious Cross*.

The True Cross is said to have been discovered in 326 by the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine I, Helena of Constantinople, during a pilgrimage she made to Jerusalem. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre was then built at the site of the discovery, by order of Helena and Constantine. The church was dedicated nine years later, with a portion of the cross placed inside it. In 614, that portion of the cross was carried away from the church by the Persians, and remained missing until it was recaptured by the Byzantine Emperor Heraclius in 628. Initially taken to Constantinople, the cross was returned to the church the following year.

The date of the feast marks the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in 335. This was a two-day festival: although the actual consecration of the church was on September 13, the cross itself was brought outside the church on September 14 so that the clergy and faithful could pray before the True Cross, and all could come forward to venerate it.

In Roman Catholic liturgical observance, red vestments are worn at church services conducted on this day, and if the day falls on a Sunday, its Mass is used instead of that for the occurring Sunday in Ordinary Time, what some would call a Sunday after Pentecost. Until 1969, the Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday of the calendar week after the one in which 14 September falls were designated as one of each year's four sets of Ember days by the Church in the West. Organization of these celebrations is now left to the decision of Episcopal Conferences in view of local conditions and customs.

Dear People of St. Mark's,

As I get ready to leave for seminary in Cambridge, MA, I wanted to thank each of you from the bottom of my heart for all your love, support, and encouragement. My last year at St. Mark's has been one of the best in my life and you have all helped make it that way. I have been so enriched by the community that I have found here and for the love you have for each other.

I also want to thank you for the moral and financial support that has allowed me to go to seminary. I am deeply grateful. I look forward to this next adventure with God, as I pursue ordination and attend seminary at the Episcopal Divinity School. I am excited to get settled in Cambridge and start classes and will keep in touch with you all as I progress.

Each of you has touched my life in so many ways and I will miss you and keep you in my thoughts and prayers. Continue to be the light of Christ shining in Montesano!!

The peace of our Lord be always with you,

Sarah Monroe

Stewardship Definitions

Givers of Record: These are the people who give to the church in a way that enables the Treasurer to maintain a record of their giving. Almost all givers of record make a written financial commitment or pledge and then fulfill it with their regular offerings. Some, however, prefer to not make an annual financial commitment, but do give by check or in an envelope.

Random Dollar Givers: Individuals who make up their minds about how much they will give to their church for God's work in the world on the basis of a fixed dollar amount that "feels right." The determination of the amount has nothing to do with consciously considering the totality of what God has blessed them with.

Proportionate Giving: This is a way of giving that begins with the question, "How has God blessed me?" rather than "What does the church need?" Then the decision is made to return a proportion or percentage to God in obedience and gratitude.

Tithe: The tenth. It is referred to 67 times in the Bible. It is a proportion or percentage. On multiple occasions, the General Convention of the Episcopal Church has witnessed that the tithe is the minimum goal for Christian giving.

STEWARDSHIP QUOTES FROM CARL KNIRK, WITH HELP FROM THE EPISCOPAL NETWORK FOR STEWARDSHIP & THE BIBLE

Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Matthew 6:21

It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you. Yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand. Mother Teresa

You cannot command or compel people into holiness, you cannot increase their spiritual stature one cubit by any kind of force or compulsion. You can do it only by sharing your life with them, by making them feel your goodness, by your love and sacrifice for them. Rufus M. Jones in *The Double Search*

Each of you must give as you have made up your own mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. II Corinthians 9:7

Give away your life, you'll find life given back, but not merely given back—given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity. Luke: 6:38 from *The Message, The Bible in Contemporary Language*, Eugene Peterson

Lives based on having are less free than lives based on either doing or being. William James (1842-1910)

But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us – see that you also excel in this grace of giving. II Corinthians 8:7 (NIV)

There are three kinds of conversion. First is conversion of the head. Second is conversion of the heart. Third is conversion of the wallet. Martin Luther

Do We Look At Life From The Viewpoint Of Scarcity Or Abundance?

—A god is that to which we look for all good and in which we find refuge in every time of need. To have a god is nothing else than to trust and believe him with our whole heart. That to which your heart clings and entrusts itself is, I say, really your God. Martin Luther

There Are More People Who Act Their Way Into A New Way Of Thinking Than There Are Who Think Their Way Into A New Way Of Acting—People fail to understand that unless they are themselves willing to give, they will never receive. Norman Vincent Peale (1889-1995)

"I have found that the higher the level of secrecy the lower the level of giving." - M. Durrell

"Cutting the budget, scraping by, making last-minute appeals--no problem, we're used to all that. Now, if someone were to drop a million bucks on our church--that would be a real problem."