

## Monthly Calendar for March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">2</a> <a href="#">10:00AM</a> <a href="#">Worship Team</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">3</a> <a href="#">10:00AM Bible</a> <a href="#">Study</a>	<a href="#">4</a> <a href="#">Noon AA</a> <a href="#">7:00PM</a> <a href="#">Gamblers Anon</a>	<a href="#">5</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">6</a> <a href="#">Noon Women's</a> <a href="#">AA</a>
<a href="#">7</a> <a href="#">10:00AM Holy</a> <a href="#">Communion</a> <a href="#">Easter Sunday</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">8</a>	<a href="#">9</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">10</a> <a href="#">10:00AM Bible</a> <a href="#">Study</a>	<a href="#">11</a> <a href="#">Noon AA</a> <a href="#">7:00PM</a> <a href="#">Gamblers Anon</a>	<a href="#">12</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">13</a> <a href="#">9:30AM TCM</a> <a href="#">Retreat @ St.</a> <a href="#">Chris. Westport</a> <a href="#">Noon Women's</a> <a href="#">AA</a>
<a href="#">14</a> <a href="#">10:00AM Holy</a> <a href="#">Communion</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">15</a>	<a href="#">16</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">17</a> <a href="#">10:00AM Bible</a> <a href="#">Study</a> <a href="#">6:30PM Bishop</a> <a href="#">Committee</a>	<a href="#">18</a> <a href="#">Noon AA</a> <a href="#">7:00PM</a> <a href="#">Gamblers Anon</a>	<a href="#">19</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">20</a> <a href="#">Noon Women's</a> <a href="#">AA</a>
<a href="#">21</a> <a href="#">10:00AM Healing</a> <a href="#">Service</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">22</a>	<a href="#">23</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">24</a> <a href="#">10:00AM Bible</a> <a href="#">Study</a> <a href="#">6:30PM Potluck</a> <a href="#">Meal</a>	<a href="#">25</a> <a href="#">Noon AA</a> <a href="#">7:00PM</a> <a href="#">Gamblers Anon</a>	<a href="#">26</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">27</a> <a href="#">Noon Women's</a> <a href="#">AA</a>
<a href="#">28</a> <a href="#">10:00AM Holy</a> <a href="#">Communion</a> <a href="#">Palm Sunday</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">29</a>	<a href="#">30</a> <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">31</a>			

### Birthdays:

John McMeekin 3/8  
 Sarah Monroe 3/14  
 Jim Campbell 3/16  
 Caleb Williams 3/18

Anne Williams 3/23  
 Robert Dierick 3/25  
 Tessa Fry 3/31

### Anniversaries:

Kevin & Corby Varness 3/25

## Monthly Calendar for April 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<a href="#">1</a>  <a href="#">Noon AA</a>  <a href="#">6:30PM Maundy Thursday/Meal @ St. Luke's</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM Gamblers Anon</a>	<a href="#">2</a>  <a href="#">12:00 Noon Good Friday Service</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM Good Friday Ecum Service</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">3</a>  <a href="#">Noon Women's AA</a>
<a href="#">4</a>  <a href="#">10:00AM Holy Communion</a>  <a href="#">Easter Sunday</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>		<a href="#">6</a>  <a href="#">10:00AM Worship Team</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">7</a>  <a href="#">10:00AM Bible Study</a>	<a href="#">8</a>  <a href="#">Noon AA</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM Gamblers Anon</a>	<a href="#">9</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">10</a>  <a href="#">Noon Women's AA</a>
<a href="#">11</a>  <a href="#">10:00AM Holy Communion</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>		<a href="#">13</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">14</a>  <a href="#">10:00AM Bible Study</a>  <a href="#">6:30PM Bishop Committee</a>	<a href="#">15</a>  <a href="#">Noon AA</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM Gamblers Anon</a>	<a href="#">16</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">17</a>  <a href="#">Noon Women's AA</a>
<a href="#">18</a>  <a href="#">10:00AM Healing Service</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>		<a href="#">20</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">21</a>  <a href="#">10:00AM Bible Study</a>	<a href="#">22</a>  <a href="#">Noon AA</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM Gamblers Anon</a>	<a href="#">23</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">24</a>  <a href="#">Noon Women's AA</a>
<a href="#">25</a>  <a href="#">10:00AM Holy Communion</a>  <a href="#">12:00 Noon 100th Anniversary Celebration</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>		<a href="#">27</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	<a href="#">28</a>  <a href="#">10:00AM Bible Study</a>	<a href="#">29</a>  <a href="#">Noon AA</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM Gamblers Anon</a>	<a href="#">30</a>  <a href="#">7:00PM AA</a>	

### Birthdays:

Jamie Dierick 4/3	Mary Dierick 4/15
Bill Brumfield 4/10	Kim Dierick 4/16
Kevin Varness 4/11	Callee Madrid 4/18
Kristy Fry 4/12	Brad Creamer 4/22
Aaron Williams 4/12	Denny Dierick 4/28

### Anniversaries:

Frank & Mary Venske 4/7
Jim & Rev. Bonnie Campbell 4/15

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

Our weekly Bible study during the Lenten season will use the book--*Dining in the Kingdom of God*, and focus on 10 different meals from the book of Luke. Please join us for this study each week from 10:00-11:30AM at the church.

### **Discernment for Next St. Mark's Ministry Circle and Personal Futures**

Our discernment class, which started in November, continues for those who chose to participate. The class now meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 6:30pm in the church. We are working with Sarah Monroe's discernment toward traditional ordination through seminary, and also discerning our future leader roles in our church using the TCM model.

### **Easter Season Events at St. Mark's:**

- Palm Sunday Communion Service: March 28<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM—reading of the passion story and blessing of the palms
- Maundy Thursday Communion Service: April 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:30PM at St. Luke's, Elma—includes foot washing like Jesus did for his disciples, and a meal after the service
- Good Friday Service: April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12:00 noon at St. Mark's
- Good Friday Ecumenical Service: April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00PM at St. Mark's
- Easter Sunday Communion Service: April 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:00AM—celebration of the risen Christ (plus baptisms of anyone who would like this). Contact Rev. Lorraine Dierick or Rev. Bonnie Campbell if you would like more information.

### **St. Mark's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration—April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at St. Mark's**

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010 is the date to celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a mission church of the Diocese of Olympia. We will have a special Holy Communion worship service on this Sunday at 10am, followed by a lunch event to meet old friends at 12 noon. We expect to have several displays of pictures, news articles and other memorabilia from the past, and a history booklet available for purchase. Contact anyone on the Bishop's Committee to express your interest and support for this event, so you can help make this event great.

## **Reasons to Be Episcopalian**

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

21 Pregnant Priests! Celebrating! *The Rev. Deborah Galante Seles, Diocese of Chicago*

22 I love Anglicanism for its basic humanity, its sense of decency and order, its freedom of thought, and its insistence of the corpus of faith, "those things necessary unto salvation." I love for its tradition and for the women and men of faith who have been lights of the generations in whose company we worship. I love it for its quirkiness, its untidiness, its comprehensiveness, and for its ability to receive, accept, alter or jettison new things, while being always merely and astoundingly the Church. *Father Tony Clavier, Diocese of South Dakota*

23 It's a church where you can come in without leaving your brain at the door and then have the opportunity to love all of those who managed to come in with their "wrong" ideas. *The Rt. Rev. Leo Frade, D.D., Diocese of Southeast Florida*

24 We belong before we believe. *Joanna Wragg., Diocese of Southeast Florida*

25 Where faith is God's gift to us, not our gift to God. *Louie Crew, Diocese of Newark*

## **St. Mark's 100<sup>th</sup> Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day Celebration—February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

On a bright sunny day, the good people of St. Mark's served the Montesano community (as they have for 100 years now) over 1000 wonderful pancakes, plus ham, applesauce, and beverages, while raising over \$1,000 for Coastal Harvest Food Distribution Center and Haiti Relief efforts. Bishop Greg Rickel attended and encouraged us in our efforts. This year, especially, many of our visitors ate their meals and stayed for long periods to meet with their friends and neighbors. Thanks to our friends from St. Timothy, Chehalis for their work this day with us, too.

### **Church Annual Meeting at St. Mark's (2/21/2010)**

This meeting was held following the Sunday morning Holy Communion/Healing Prayers service, in the Parish Hall. Attending were: Rev. Lorraine Dierick, Rev. Bonnie Campbell, John Tennefoss-Senior Warden, Jim Campbell-Junior Warden/Treasurer, Natalea Brumfield, Rev. Dorothy McMeekin, Chris Boardman, Brad & Yo Creamer, Mary Venske, Wanda Wahl, Corby & Kevin Varness, and Sarah Monroe.

Jim Campbell led the meeting, which included a written reports package on the many activities of the church in 2009, the 2010 budget plan along with the 2009 budget actuals, and the 2009 year end funds summary. Also provided was a summary of potential costs for a congregation like ours if we had to pay for either a part time priest or supply priest, showing how much positive impact being a TCM style congregation has on our ability to do ministry which requires funding (like outreach).

Two new members were elected to Bishop Committee--Natalea Brumfield and Kevin Varness. The rest agreed to continue serving. The reps for the Convention will be the same as in 2009--John Tennefoss and Martha Krug.

We discussed possible projects for building improvements for this year: wireless microphones, a concrete pad for the handicap access parking space, cleaing and refinishing the back wall of the worship space, a handrail for the sidewalk leading to the church, and new letters for the reader board.

Presented was the idea of Sarah Monroe's discernment for ordination through seminary, and our church's unique opportunity and responsibility to support her in this calling.

Last, we discussed the upcoming 100th anniversary celebration on April 25th, and the plans so far. It was agreed that all would be working on this to make it a special and great event for everyone involved.

## **Easter and Its Season**

Easter (or Resurrection Sunday) is the day Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus the Christ from the dead. The early church saw his resurrection as the central witness to a new act of God in history and the victory of God in vindicating Jesus as the Messiah. This event marks the central faith confession of the early church and was the focal point for Christian worship, observed on the first day of each week since the first century (Acts 20:7; Sunday was officially proclaimed the day of Christian worship in AD 321). Easter

as an annual celebration of the Resurrection that lies at the center of a liturgical year has been observed at least since the fourth century. Even in churches that traditionally do not observe the other historic seasons of the church year, Easter has occupied a central place as the high point of Christian worship.

## Origin and Significance of Easter Observance

Prior to the fourth century, Christians observed **Pascha**, Christian Passover, in the Spring of the year. Adapted from Jewish Passover, Pascha was a festival of redemption and commemorated both the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus as the vehicle for God's grace. Many Gentile converts were hesitant to adopt the Jewish festival, especially since the Jerusalem Council had decided that Gentile converts to Christianity did not have to observe Jewish religious practices (Acts 15). Gradually by the fourth century, with an increasing emphasis on Holy Week and Good Friday, Easter moved into a distinctively Christian celebration of the Resurrection, with Good Friday commemorating Jesus' crucifixion and death.

Easter, like Passover, is a **movable feast**. That is, the date of Easter (and Passover) is not fixed but is determined by a system based on a lunar calendar adapted from a formula decided by the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. In this system, Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the Spring equinox (the day when the sun's ecliptic or apparent path in the sky crosses the equator, thus making days and nights of equal length). This usually occurs on March 21, which means the date of Easter can range between March 22 and April 25 depending on the lunar cycle. Much of the calendar of the Church year is determined by the date of Easter.

In the Christian church year, the two major cycles of seasons, Christmas and Easter, are far more than a single day of observance. Like Christmas, Easter itself is a period of time rather than just a day. It is actually a seven-week season of the church year called **Eastertide**, the **Great Fifty Days** that begins at sundown the evening before Easter Sunday (the Easter Vigil) and lasts for six more Sundays until Pentecost Sunday. These seven Sundays are called the **Sundays of Easter**, climaxing on the seventh Sunday, the Sunday before Pentecost Sunday. This is often celebrated as **Ascension Day** (actually the 40th day after Easter Sunday, which always falls on Thursday, but in churches that do not have daily services it is usually observed the following Sunday). Ascension Day marks not only the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, but his exaltation from servanthood to Ruler and Lord as the fitting climax of Resurrection Day (Eph 1:20-22).

Easter encompasses a time of preparation as well as a following period of reflection on its significance for the life of God's people. The season following Easter focuses on the church as the witness to the resurrection. In anticipation of this emphasis at Pentecost, the Scripture readings during the Sundays of Easter are different, with readings from the Acts of the Apostles replacing readings from the Old Testament. This emphasizes that the church, as empowered by the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, is the best witness to the resurrection and the work of God in the world in Jesus the Christ.

## The Colors of Easter

Color used in worship is especially important during the season of Easter. The changing colors of the sanctuary from the purple of Lent to the black of Good Friday provide

graphic visual symbols for the Lenten journey. The change of colors for Easter and the following Sundays helps communicate the movement of sacred time as well as personal faith journeys.

The Sanctuary colors for Easter Sunday and Ascension Day are white and gold, the colors of sacred days throughout the church year. For the Easter season, white symbolizes the hope of the resurrection, as well as the purity and newness that comes from victory over sin and death. The gold (or yellow) symbolizes the light of the world brought by the risen Christ that enlightens the world, as well as the exaltation of Jesus as Lord and King. The sanctuary color for the other five Sundays of Easter is usually also white and gold, although some churches use Red, the color of the Church, for these Sundays as well as for [Pentecost Sunday](#). During this time worshippers are called to celebrate God's ongoing work in the world through his people, and to acknowledge and reflect upon their purpose, mission, and calling as God's people.

## The Flowering Cross

This is an especially striking and beautiful way to symbolize the new life that emerges from the death of Good Friday. There are many adaptations of this symbol, but they center on a very rough-cut wooden cross, often of cedar since it easily retains a rough texture. This cross can be of various sizes but a full sized cross six to seven feet high is most impressive (and most expensive to decorate!). Some churches use a chicken wire mesh over the cross and have worshippers each place flowers on the cross as part of the Easter Vigil service or as they arrive at church on Easter morning. The entire cross is covered with the flowers and is placed prominently at the front of the church to greet worshippers as they enter the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The living flowering cross of Easter Sunday dramatically and visually represents the new life that they are celebrating as they witness the very instrument of death and endings transformed into life and new beginnings.



## Symbols of Easter

The origin of the English name "Easter" is not certain, but many think that it derived from the Teutonic or Anglo-Saxon goddess of Spring, *Eostre* or *Eastre*. This fact, and other aspects surrounding Easter observance such as eggs and bunnies, has generated considerable debate concerning the origin of some traditions used in Easter observance, mostly since the Reformation and especially among evangelicals and low church traditions. Some argue that Easter is little more than an adaptation of a pagan fertility festival and has little to do with Christian tradition.

There is little question that many symbols of Easter have been adopted from various cultures. But this is true for almost all Christian symbols, including the cross (the sign of

the fish is the most unique and original Christian symbol). But this has always been the case since the days of Abraham and Moses. That is, God's people have always used symbols with which they were familiar from the surrounding culture, and then infused them with new meaning to commemorate and worship God. In the process the symbols are radically transformed into a means to express faith in the only true God in spite of their "pagan" origins.

**Taken from The Voice, CRI/Voice Institute, Dennis Bratcher**

### **Summary of St. Mark's Finances—2/22/2010**

Total Operating Expenses--\$4,432.39 (Previous month--\$2,423.89)

- Highlights—Overall expenses are basically tracking per the budget plan. We have already paid our largest heating bills for the year, paid the full year property/liability insurance bill, and paid for the clergy conference registrations fees for our clergy--all which skew the overall expenses higher at this time. We have yet to pay out the net proceeds from the Pancake Day events--about \$1015, to Coastal Harvest and Haiti Relief. All current bills are paid to date.
- Outreach Given to Date--\$38 Diocesan Assessment Required/Paid--\$486

Total Operating Revenues--\$5,174.33 (Previous month--\$1,696.06)

- Highlights—All revenues are tracking roughly per the budget plan. We are slightly behind on pledges received.

Net Operating Year to Date—\$741.94 (Previous month—-\$727.83)

Once we pay out the Pancake Day proceeds we will have a slightly negative balance. After this our expenses should be smaller for several months.

Non-Operating Revenues--\$0.42 Non-Operating Expenses--\$125.00

Funds Summary—Total is \$12,796.70 (Previous month--\$11,594.52)

- Checking Account—\$3,906.90 (Previous month--\$2,414.37)
- Savings Account--\$867.60 (Previous month--\$917.60)
- Memorial Fund--\$977.61 (Previous month--\$977.19) (\$200 is for the Windows fund)
- Diocesan Investment Fund--\$6,277.08 (Previous month--\$6,392.85)
- Clergy Discretionary Fund--\$767.51 (Previous month--\$892.51)