

Monthly Calendar for November 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00AM Holy Communion 7:00PM AA	2	3 10:00AM Worship Team 7:00PM AA	4 10:00AM Bible Study	5 Noon AA 7:00PM Gamblers Anon	6 7:00PM AA	7 Noon Women's AA 1:00PM Revise
8 10:00AM Holy Communion 7:00PM AA	9	10 7:00PM AA	11 10:00AM Bible Study	12 Noon AA 7:00PM Gamblers Anon	13 7:00PM AA	14 Noon Women's AA
15 10:00AM Healing Service 7:00PM AA	16	17 7:00PM AA	18 10:00AM Bible Study 6:30PM Bishop Committee	19 Noon AA 7:00PM Gamblers Anon	20 7:00PM AA	21 Noon Women's AA
22 10:00AM Holy Communion 7:00PM AA	23 2:00PM Birthday Party @ Monte Health & Rehab	24 7:00PM AA	25 10:00AM Bible Study	26 Noon AA 7:00PM Gamblers Anon	27 7:00PM AA	28 Noon Women's AA
29 10:00AM Holy Communion 7:00PM AA	30					

Birthdays:

John Fry 11/13
Wanda Wahl 11/18
Eric Heikkinen 11/25

Anniversaries:

Robert & Lorraine Dierick 11/4
Gilbert & Shirley Johnson 11/20

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

Our weekly Bible study starting in November will be around the weekly Lectionary series used in the Sunday worship services. Please join us for this study each week from 10:00-11:30AM at the church.

Halloween for Kids, October 31, 5:30pm at St. Mark's

We'll have the church yard decorated, the parish hall open to get warm, treats for the kids, and coffee for the adults again this year for Halloween. This event will be from about 5:30 to 7pm. Your donations of treats and any help onsite help for this event are welcome.

All Saints Day Service, November 1, 10:00am at St. Mark's

This year All Saints Day falls on Sunday, and we will have our normal Sunday worship Holy Communion service, along with special prayers to honor those who have gone before us. You are invited to bring pictures and other mementos to place on a table along with some votive candles to light to honor these loved ones.

Worship Space Remodel and Sunday Worship Service, November 7-8, at St. Mark's

We will be making some more changes on Saturday, November 7 (starting at 1pm) and then using these changes in the Sunday worship service on November 8. These changes include moving the communion rails forward along with removing the old rails and the pulpit, moving the altar down nearer to the people in the pews, moving the organ to the front left of the sanctuary and moving smaller items around to support the communion service. The Rev. Janet Campbell will be back to help us set up this remodeled space, and then preach and preside over the worship service on Sunday and share with us information related to these changes and their meaning.

Stewardship Ingathering/Blessing Sunday, November 29, at St. Mark's

We will be gathering the 2010 commitment cards and blessing them at our service on November 29th. Please consider carefully your commitment to St. Mark's for 2010 and either bring in your commitment card, or mail it in before this service. Thank you for your continued support to the ministry of this church.

Discernment for Next St. Mark's Ministry Circle and Personal Futures, Starting in November

We will be starting a discernment class in November for anyone who wants to find out more about themselves and their future ministry. This will lead to starting new ministry circle next year, for those who decide to participate. We will be using a book called *Listening Hearts, Discerning Call in Ministry*. The book comes with an accompanying study plan that takes about 6 sessions to complete. We have ordered and are receiving 10 slightly used books (generally like new) for this class, to be paid for with our education budget funds. We may also use some spiritual gifts tests and psychological profile tests, like Myers-Briggs for this class. The participants group will decide the best day and time of the weeks and how often to meet. (This class will work best with several participants, even if all do not become part of the follow-on ministry circle. Your help with discernment helps everyone do the best job at their own, and yours too.)

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

6 The Episcopal Church enables me to worship God with my mind. It doesn't install an idol like the Bible or the Pope as the source of ultimate authority. It has lived in the tension between ancient truth and living history and evolved into something fragile but beautiful, something that is worthy of being defended as it becomes a sign of the inclusive Kingdom of God. *The Rt. Rev. John S. Spong, Diocese of Newark*

7 Episcopalians see reality as existing in the tensions of paradox, ambiguity, and diversity. *Richard C. Milhon, Diocese of Kansas*

8 I'm glad to be a member of the Episcopal Church because it's evangelical, catholic, Pentecostal, and liberal. It is evangelical because it glories in the cross of Jesus Christ as salvation for all people. It's catholic in that it is a church that lives as resurrection people beyond the blight and bondage of death. We're Pentecostal because we trust in the supernatural empowerment of the Holy Spirit. And we're liberal because we yearn for the Kingdom of God in the world as it is heaven and labor in the hope that will make it so. *Bishop Alden Hathaway, Pittsburgh, Retired, Diocese of Florida*

9 Anglicans do good deeds to increase understanding of God, not out of fear or to earn admission to heaven. *Robert L. Neal III, Diocese of Chicago*

10 Asking questions about our faith is expected. In the Episcopal Church, God doesn't get upset if I wonder why some things are as they are. And God doesn't get upset if I suggest that some things should not continue as they are. *La Reverenda, Martha Sylvia Ovalle Vasquez, Diocese of Delaware*

Testimonials from Members on Supporting St. Mark's

Mary Venske—It is simply my love of the Father. All that I can do to help Him and the St. Mark's family. In doing this I learn of Him and His ways. This is how my love grows in Him so I may help His people and in doing this I give back what he gives me—Love!

John Tennefoss--Being received from the Lutheran to Episcopal tradition was a smooth and welcome introduction into a new way of thinking religiously. No mandates per se that you've got to do this or that, etc. My approach to God and the teachings of the old and new testaments, especially the Word made flesh, took on a different perspective for me. And I do believe that Total Common Ministry is the way for small intimate congregations to get their acts together. We're all slightly not the same but essentially are the same at the end. So it is with gratitude that I find myself a partner with Christ through St. Mark's and the Episcopal experience. As for giving to the church, my attitude is that within and without the walls of the religious experience there are many needs. I accept the responsibility to keep the physical plant going and in decent shape and I also remember the down and out and the original natives via monetary substance.

Jim Campbell—I am a long time Episcopalian (since age 5), but it was because of my wife Bonnie's solid stewardship background growing up that I learned about giving back to God in proportion and even tithing based on everything received. We try to tithe on our income and most of that is given at St. Mark's, with other offerings given as the needs are seen in the greater community of faith. I also feel strongly about giving of my time and talents in as many ways as I can, both at St. Mark's, to help the Diocese, and in our local community.

Summary of St. Mark's Finances—10/14/2009

Total Operating Expenses--\$17,709.60 (Previous month--\$15,761.60)

- Highlights—Overall expenses are tracking per the budget plan. Several areas will likely come in under budget for the year, while a few are overrun but are reasonable expenses that were needed. All current bills are paid to date.
- Outreach Given to Date--\$3,509 Diocesan Assessment Required/Paid--\$3,023

Total Operating Revenues--\$19,625.22 (Previous month--\$18,376.76)

- Highlights—All revenues are tracking roughly per the budget plan.

Net Operating Year to Date—+\$1,915.62 (Previous month—+\$2,615.16)

From now until year end we will basically be even with revenues vs. expenses in total.

Non-Operating Revenues--\$970.51 Non-Operating Expenses--\$592.00

Revenues--includes a gift to Memorial Fund, collection for Bishop's discretionary fund, additions to the Clergy discretionary fund, and collection for the Pets Blessing Day.

Expenses--includes outreach gifts from the Clergy discretionary fund, outreach for Bishop's discretionary fund, and outreach for PAWS and Pawfect Connections.

Funds Summary—Total is \$12,086.36 (Previous month--\$12,867.07)

- Checking Account—\$3,253.57 (Previous month--\$4,175.11)
- Savings Account--\$517.52 (Previous month--\$517.52)
- Memorial Fund--\$975.57 (Previous month--\$975.57) (\$200 for the Windows fund)
- Diocesan Investment Fund--\$6,192.23 (Previous month--\$6,051.40)
- Clergy Discretionary Fund--\$1,147.47 (Previous month--\$1,147.47)