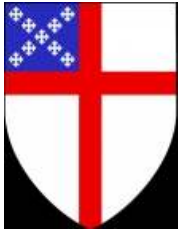


Phone: 360-249-3281

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, Transitional Deacon

[Worship](#)
Sundays at 10 a.m.

St. Mark's Newsletter

Click on Newsletters in the middle left of our Home Page.

St. Mark's Church Video

Click on St. Mark's Video in the upper right of our Home Page.

St. Mark's Sermons

All of the sermons from our Sunday worship services are placed on our website to be read and studied further within a couple of days of being preached on Sundays. Click on Recent Sermons in the middle right of our Home Page.

St. Mark's Bishop's Committee Minutes

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

[Adult Bible Study](#)
Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

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

St. Mark's Episcopal Church Newsletter

July-August, 2013

Continuing Activities

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

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

Feed Your Spirit Book Club—Monthly on Second or Third Mondays, 12 Noon

Our monthly book club meets on the second or 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 webpage is at:

<http://www.stmarksmonte.com/article.php?id=193>

Upcoming Events

Montesano Ecumenical Childrens' Bible Camp at St. Mark's (7/8-12-13/2013)

It is a wonderful 5 day program for local Montesano kids, preschool through 6th grade, sponsored by the Montesano Ministerial Group. There were 180 kids last year, largest camp ever. St. Mark's hosts the preschoolers again.

Annual Rummage Sale at St. Mark's

After some so not friendly events at last year's sale, and in reviewing the large event needed for a small result, it was decided to discontinue our rummage sale. We are looking at other options which could raise outreach funds without having to put the extraordinary efforts we've had in the past.

Back to School Supplies Drive at St. Mark's (Month of August/2013)

We collect emergency/extra supplies for the local Montesano school kids each year. Thanks to all for your help and generosity!

Annual Church Picnic at St. Mark's (late August or early September)

We have it here at church! The service and the "picnic" are inside, so who cares if the weather cooperates. There is sure to be plenty of food and lots of stories and fellowship! Invite friends and those we know in the St. Mark's "family". Continue to check our website or talk to others from church to find out the specific date we will have the picnic.

Recent News

Update on Our Beautiful Maples Trees

We were really fortunate that our city of Montesano saw things like we did--that these trees should be saved if they were healthy. They asked the PUD to trim them thoroughly but leave them unless they were dying. Results--five very much trimmed trees! Pictures are at:

<http://www.stmarksmonte.com/site/1/docs/The%20Trees%20of%20St%20Marks%20After%20Trimming.pdf>

Our Beautiful Maples Trees Are In Real Need of Trimming--Or Worse!

These Nordic Maples appear as rather small saplings in a 1909 pic of St. Mark Episcopal Church in Montesano, WA. I include these photographs from May 19, 2013 because we expect Asplundh to come in any day now and do some major trimming. We will see if we have all five at the end of the process. The trees are really beautiful right now but they have grown again way into the power lines. Well, it will certainly reduce the amount of leaves to rake up this fall. As we await their fate, pictures over the years are at: <http://www.stmarksmonte.com/site/1/docs/Trees%20of%20St%20Marks.pdf>

Our Pancake Day Griddle is Indeed Dead!!

Our griddle used since the mid 1950s for making pancakes for our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day event

each year is officially kaput! An repair man came last week to check it out, after it failed at the start of this year Pancake Day, and said that it is done. The issue is in the griddle surface part itself and there are no replacement parts available for a 70 plus year old device. So, it was removed, and the church is looking at its replacement options and also maybe some changes in our kitchen at this same time.

We'll keep you posted. Meanwhile, information about this once super reliable device can be found [here](#). (No one knows for sure but we think St. Mark's might have obtained this griddle from a local restaurant after it closed in the early 1950s. A place called the Goodie Garden once was used for our Pancake Day event from the late 1930s to the early 1950s, before the main parish hall and kitchen was built in 1954.)

***He who works with his hands is a laborer.
He who works with his hands and his head is a craftsman.
He who works with his hands, his head, and his heart is an artist.
--St Francis of Assisi***

Summary of St. Mark's Finances—6/15/2013

Net Operating Year to Date-- \$2,674.08 (Last--\$380.63)

Total Operating Expenses-- \$10,566.25 (Last--\$9,215.03)

Highlights—All bills are paid current.

Outreach to Date--\$2,110 Diocesan Assessment Required/Paid--\$1320

Total Operating Revenues-- \$13,240.33 (Last--\$9,595.66)

Continued great start to the year! \$542 from All Saints is in the DIF until later in the year for use with Montesano High School. Another over \$2,000 in DIF increase since the start of the year. Pledges and plate are basically on track.

Non-Operating Revenues--\$2,552.31 Non-Operating Expenses--\$683.75

Net Non-Operating Year to Date--\$1,868.56 (Last--\$1,423.41)

Net All Operating and Non-Operating Year to Date-- \$4,542.64 (Last --\$1,804.04)

Funds Summary—Total is \$27,316.11 (last--\$24,577.51)

- General/Designated Checking Account—\$4,148.08 (last--\$1,854.65)
- General/Designated Savings Account--\$518.51 (last--\$518.49)
 - Operating Fund (General)--\$5,320.57 (last--\$3,027.12)
 - History Book Fund (Designated)--\$-653.98 (last--\$-653.98)
 - Seminary/Education Fund (Designated)--\$0.00 (last--\$0.00)
- Memorial Fund/Savings Account--\$985.94 (last--\$985.92)
- Diocesan Investment Fund--\$21,289.40 (last--20,806.27)
- Clergy Discretionary Fund/Checking Account--\$374.18 (last--\$412.18)

The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult and left untried.

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>

Sarah Monroe, Our Seminarian, Now Deacon, and Heading Toward Priest

Sarah was on track to be ordained a priest in June 2013, but in discussions Sarah initiated with Bishop Rickel decided to wait a year and do some more discernment about her ministry focus. Sarah has completed her seminary work and graduated in June 2013.

Other Articles on Faith and General Religious Information

7 Rules of Life

- 1. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.**
- 2. What others think of you is none of your business.**
- 3. Time heals almost everything, give it time.**
- 4. Don't compare your life to others and don't judge them. You have no idea what their journey is all about.**
- 5. Stop thinking too much, it's alright not to know the answers. They will come to you when you least expect it.**
- 6. No one is in charge of your happiness, except you.**
- 7. Smile. You don't own all the problems in the world.**

Signs of Christian Privilege

Even in a society that is increasingly secular, are Christians still privileged over other religions? Here is one answer from Sam Killerman who created a list of 30 or more indicators of Christian privilege at the blog "It's Pronounced Metrosexual."

Following is a list of privileges granted to people in the U.S. (and many western nations) for being Christian. If you identify as Christian, there's a good chance you've never thought about these things. In response to the ever-increasing "War on Christianity" headlines, I thought it prudent to create this list...

- You can expect to have time off work to celebrate religious holidays.
- Music and television programs pertaining to your religion's holidays are readily accessible.
- It is easy to find stores that carry items that enable you to practice your faith and celebrate religious holidays.
- You aren't pressured to celebrate holidays from another faith that may conflict with your religious values.
- Holidays celebrating your faith are so widely supported you can often forget they are limited to your faith (e.g. wish someone a "Merry Christmas" or "Happy Easter" without considering their faith).
- You can worship freely, without fear of violence or threats.
- A bumper sticker supporting your religion won't likely lead to your car being vandalized.
- You can practice your religious customs without being questioned, mocked, or inhibited.
- If you are being tried in court, you can assume that the jury of "your peers" will share your faith and not hold that against you in weighing decisions.
- When swearing an oath, you will place your hand on a religious scripture pertaining to your faith.
- Positive references to your faith are seen dozens of times a day by everyone, regardless of their faith.
- Politicians responsible for your governance are probably members of your faith.

Episcopal Café, Posted by [Andrew Gerns](#) on June 28, 2013

God's Grace

There once was a man named George Thomas, preacher in a small Texas town. One Sunday morning he came to the Church building carrying a rusty, bent, old bird cage, and set it by the pulpit. Eyebrows were raised and, as if in response, the Preacher began to speak. . . .

"I was walking through town yesterday when I saw a young boy coming toward me swinging this bird cage. On the bottom of the cage were three little wild birds, shivering with cold and fright.

I stopped the lad and asked, "What do you have there, son?" "Just some old birds," came the reply.

"What are you going to do with them?" I asked. "Take 'em home and have fun with 'em," he answered. "I'm gonna tease 'em and pull out their feathers to make 'em fight. I'm gonna have a real good time."

"But you'll get tired of those birds sooner or later. What will you do then?" "Oh, I got some cats," said the little boy. "They like birds. I'll take 'em to them."

The preacher was silent for a moment. "How much do you want for those birds, son?" "Huh?? !!! Why, you don't want them birds, mister. They're just plain old field birds. They don't sing. They ain't even pretty!"

"How much?" the preacher asked again. The boy sized up the preacher as if he were crazy and said, "\$10?"

The preacher reached in his pocket and took out a ten dollar bill. He placed it in the boy's hand. In a flash, the boy was gone. The preacher picked up the cage and gently carried it to the end of the alley where there was a tree and a grassy spot. Setting the cage down, he opened the door, and by softly tapping the bars persuaded the birds out, setting them free. Well, that explained the empty bird cage on the pulpit, and then the preacher began to tell this story:

One day Satan and Jesus were having a conversation. Satan had just come from the Garden of Eden, and he was gloating and boasting. "Yes, sir, I just caught a world full of people down there. Set me a trap, used bait I knew they couldn't resist. Got 'em all!"

"What are you going to do with them?" Jesus asked. Satan replied, "Oh, I'm gonna have fun! I'm gonna teach them how to marry and divorce each other, how to hate and abuse each other, how to drink and smoke and curse. I'm gonna teach them how to invent guns and bombs and kill each other. I'm really gonna have fun!"

"And what will you do when you are done with them?" Jesus asked.. "Oh, I'll kill 'em," Satan glared proudly.

"How much do you want for them?" Jesus asked. "Oh, you don't want those people. They ain't no good. Why, you'll take them and they'll just hate you. They'll spit on you, curse you and kill you. You don't want those people!!" "How much? He asked again.

Satan looked at Jesus and sneered, "All your blood, tears and your life." Jesus said, "DONE!" Then He paid the price.

The preacher picked up the cage and walked from the pulpit.

I thank God everyday for my blessed life. I'm not rich, don't live in a mansion and don't have the nicest of material things, but, I have a roof over my head, clothes on my back, food on my table, a family that loves me and lifelong friends to get me through. I'd say I have a lot to be thankful for.

Scripture contains all things necessary for salvation. However, it does not contain all things. Furthermore, not everything in Scripture is about Salvation. What Scripture holds in the amber of time is due to the bonds of its cover. Its apparent beginning and end belies the ongoing human experience of the innovations of God and the transformative power of Love. Life is a Gospel yet unfolding. Let us be Good News.

--The Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton

Does your congregation resemble your neighborhood?

Yesterday I attended church at an urban parish that, like many Episcopal parishes, is sustained by members who drive at least a few miles to attend services. By chance I was present for a quietly momentous event: the baptism of a mother and her three daughters from the immediate neighborhood. Looking around the church, which I attend from time to time when I am traveling on business, I noticed that it had become somewhat more reflective of the neighborhood than it was when I first began to visit. Which is to say it was a little less affluent and a little more racially diverse.

One of the things that my business partner, Rebecca Wilson, and I speak about when we consult with parishes or give workshops on how to use the tools of contemporary communications for the purposes

of evangelism is the importance of developing a relationships with your immediate neighborhood—of having a sense of who people are, what forces shape their lives, what they hope for, what they are afraid of, where they are at various times of the day, how they spend their leisure time (assuming they have some). In the jargon of our profession, this falls under the heading of knowing your audience. But there is more to it than that, we say.

The mobility of our society notwithstanding, a parish church exists in part to be in relationship with people in a specific geographic area. And, as we begin to understand that the church that says “come and see” is giving way (of necessity) to the church that moves out from behind its walls and says “here we are,” cultivating relationship with your neighbors is more important than ever. So today, let’s have a reality check: To what extent does your congregation resemble your neighborhood? If it does not resemble the neighborhood, does this concern you? If so, what are you doing about it?

Episcopal Café, Posted by [Jim Naughton](#) on July 1, 2013

Diversity, change and imagination. These were three words that came to mind as I meditated on the nature of the God I have observed over all these many years. God's creation sings of diversity. That creation is constantly changing. To have made it so took boundless imagination. How ironic then that these three qualities are often the ones religions have the most difficulty embracing. We can fear diversity. We impede change. We struggle to allow people to think. Let us be more like the One we worship: welcoming, evolving, ever open to a new idea.

Jimmy Carter on Women and Religion

In an extensive interview with [Time](#), former president Jimmy Carter is asked if religion can be a force for women's rights instead of a source of women's oppression:

Well, religion can be, and I think there’s a slow, very slow, move around the world to give women equal rights in the eyes of God. What has been the case for many centuries is that the great religions, the major religions, have discriminated against women in a very abusive fashion and set an example for the rest of society to treat women as secondary citizens. In a marriage or in the workplace or wherever, they are discriminated against. And I think the great religions have set the example for that, by ordaining, in effect, that women are not equal to men in the eyes of God.

This has been done and still is done by the Catholic Church ever since the third century, when the Catholic Church ordained that a woman cannot be a priest for instance but a man can. A woman can be a nurse or a teacher but she can’t be a priest. This is wrong, I think. As you may or may not know, the Southern Baptist Convention back now about 13 years ago in Orlando, voted that women were inferior and had to be subservient to their husbands, and ordained that a woman could not be a deacon or a pastor or a chaplain or even a teacher in a classroom in some seminaries where men are in the classroom, boys are in the classroom. So my wife and I withdrew from the Southern Baptist Convention primarily because of that.

But I now go to a more moderate church in Plains, a small church, it’s part of the Cooperative Baptist fellowship, and we have a male and a female pastor...and of course the Episcopalians and other denominations that are Protestant do permit women or encourage women to be bishops, as you know, and pastors.

The complete interview is found in Time’s SwampLand.

Episcopal Life, Posted by [Kurt Wiesner](#) on June 26, 2013

July 2013 Monthly Calendar of Events

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|----------------------------------|---|------------------------|----------|
| 30 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>7pm</u> AA | July 1 | 2 <u>7pm</u> AA | 3 <u>10am</u> Bible Study | 4 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon | 5 <u>7pm</u> AA | 6 |
| 7 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>7pm</u> AA | 8 <u>9am</u> Childrens' Bible Camp | 9 <u>7pm</u> AA | 10 | 11 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon | 12 <u>7pm</u> AA | 13 |
| 14 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>7pm</u> AA | 15 <u>12pm</u> Book Club | 16 <u>7pm</u> AA | 17 <u>10am</u> Bible Study | 18 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon | 19 <u>7pm</u> AA | 20 |
| 21 <u>10am</u> Healing Service <u>7pm</u> AA | 22 | 23 <u>2pm</u> Birthday Party @ Monte Health & Rehab <u>7pm</u> AA | 24 <u>10am</u> Bible Study | 25 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon | 26 <u>7pm</u> AA | 27 |
| 28 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>7pm</u> AA | 29 | 30 <u>7pm</u> AA | 31 <u>10am</u> Bible Study | August 1 <u>12pm</u> AA <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon | 2 <u>7pm</u> AA | 3 |

Birthdays:

July

Jason Dierick—8th

Chris Stubb—8th

Chris Boardman—29th

Anniversaries:

Denny & Julie Dierick—27th

Jeff & Anne Williams—29th

August 2013 Monthly Calendar of Events

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|--|---|---|---------------------|----------|
| 28 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>7pm AA</u> | 29 | 30 <u>7pm AA</u> | 31 <u>10am</u> Bible Study | August 1 <u>12pm AA</u> <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon | 2 <u>7pm AA</u> | 3 |
| 4 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>7pm AA</u> | 5 | 6 <u>7pm AA</u> | 7 <u>10am</u> Bible Study | 8 <u>12pm AA</u> <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon | 9 <u>7pm AA</u> | 10 |
| 11 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>7pm AA</u> | 12 | 13 <u>7pm AA</u> | 14 <u>10am</u> Bible Study | 15 <u>12pm AA</u> <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon | 16 <u>7pm AA</u> | 17 |
| 18 <u>10am</u> Healing Service <u>7pm AA</u> | 19 | 20 <u>7pm AA</u> | 21 <u>10am</u> Bible Study <u>6:30pm</u> Bishop Committee | 22 <u>12pm AA</u> <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon | 23 <u>7pm AA</u> | 24 |
| 25 <u>10am</u> Holy Communion <u>7pm AA</u> | 26 | 27 <u>2pm</u> Birthday Party @ Monte Health & Rehab <u>7pm AA</u> | 28 <u>10am</u> Bible Study | 29 <u>12pm AA</u> <u>7pm</u> Gamblers Anon | 30 <u>7pm AA</u> | 31 |

Birthdays:

August
 Lee Avery—19th Bill Stewart—22nd Jeff Williams—23rd
 Shawn Dierick—28th

Anniversaries: