

Phone: 360-249-3281

Website: [www.stmarksmonte.com](http://www.stmarksmonte.com)



**Rev. Lorraine Dierick, Priest**  
**Rev. Bonnie Campbell, Priest**  
**Rev. Joyce Avery, Deacon**  
**Corby Varness, Preacher**  
**Jim Campbell, Preacher**

**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, 2015**

### **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. (We're also looking at some interesting videos for part of our time each week to enhance our Bible learning experiences.)

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

Our monthly book club generally meets on the second or third Monday each month. We read a new book every other month and also discuss other books people have read 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>

#### **Worship Information—Sundays at St. Mark's**

*Readings*—shared, people volunteer just before the start of the service for the Old and New Testament readings. *Flowers*—provided by the Worship Team most Sundays. However, if you want to supply them for a specific Sunday (maybe to remember a loved one or celebrate an important event), this can be arranged in advance—just make it known to the Altar Guild folks. *Prayers for Healing*—3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, just before the Peace. Anyone can come to the altar rail and request laying on of hands and prayers for themselves--or for anyone else named. Prayers do work!! And the anointing oil used smells good!

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Annual Church Picnic (TBD—Sometime in August/2015) at St. Mark's**

We have it here at church! Inside!! We know not to test mother nature!

#### **Back to School Supplies Drive at St. Mark's (Month of August/2015)**

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

#### **Montesano Community Bible Camp (7/27-7/31/2015)**

Always a fantastic ecumenical Bible Camp week! St. Mark's will have the pre-kindergarteners again.

#### **Other Ongoing Activities at St. Mark's (in Calder Hall)**

Sundays 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous  
Tuesdays 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous  
Thursdays 12 noon Alcoholics Anonymous  
                  7 pm Gamblers Anonymous  
Fridays 7 pm Alcoholics Anonymous

### **Recent News**

#### **Graduation Sunday at St. Mark's: (6/7/2015)**

We had a nice celebration for four nice and talented young men graduating from MOnTESANO HIgh School this year: Jeff Varness, Brandon Creamer, Donovan Wargo, and Daniel Hansen. Plenty of treats, and gifts of expandable coolers for each of the boys.

#### **Pentecost Sunday at St. Mark's: (5/24/2015)**

There was lots of Red--vestments, with some of the many flowers, on the old altar and ambo, and worn by most of the people. And red balloons this year! And then lots of treats!

## **Summary of St. Mark's Finances—6/15/2015 (Last--5/17/2015)**

### **Net Operating Year to Date-- \$1,559.15 (Last--\$518.17)**

We are getting well ahead for the year at this time. We should run more ahead each month until November, based on planned expenses. Upcoming expense--heat pump system checkup.

### **Total Operating Expenses-- \$11,494.20 (Last--\$10,021.42)**

Highlights—All bills received are paid current, no regular ones left for June.

Outreach to Date--\$1,649 Diocesan Assessment Required/Paid--\$1,693

### **Total Operating Revenues-- \$13,053.35 (Last--\$10,539.59)**

Overall, total revenues for the year are very well and as expected.

### **Non-Operating Revenues--\$980.99 Non-Operating Expenses--\$439.81**

### **Net Non-Operating Year to Date--\$541.18 (Last--\$515.18)**

### **Net All Operating and Non-Operating Year to Date-- \$2,100.33 (Last --\$1,033.35)**

### **Funds Summary—Total is \$29,233.40 (last--\$28,166.42)**

Operating Fund (General)--\$3,999.29 (last--\$2,857.31)

General/Designated Checking Account—\$3,480.47 (last--\$2,338.50)

General/Designated Savings Account--\$518.82 (last--\$518.81)

Diocesan Investment Fund--\$24,567.59 (last--24,567.59) (Update not received for May yet)

Memorial Fund (part of DIF)--\$1,084.36 (last--1,084.36)

Clergy Discretionary Fund/Checking Account--\$666.52 (last--\$741.52)

## **Other Articles on Faith and Other Things**

### **Episcopal Church Elects Michael Curry, Its First Black Presiding Bishop**

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Episcopal Church elected its first African-American presiding bishop, choosing Bishop Michael Curry of North Carolina during the denomination's national assembly Saturday. Curry was elected by a landslide in a vote at the Episcopal General Convention, the top legislative body of the church. Curry earned 121 of 174 votes from bishops on the first ballot. The other three candidates had 21 votes each or less. The decision was affirmed on an 800-12 vote by the House of Deputies, the voting body of clergy and lay participants at the meeting.

Curry's election is the second consecutive historic choice for the New York-based church of nearly 1.9 million members. He will succeed Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori, who was the first female presiding bishop and the first woman to lead an Anglican national church. The Episcopal Church is the U.S. body of the Anglican Communion, an 80-million member worldwide fellowship of churches with roots in the Church of England.

At a news conference, Curry said his selection as the first black leader of the denomination was "a sign of our church growing more deeply in the spirit of God and in the movement of God's spirit in our world." He will be installed Nov. 1 in a service at the Washington National Cathedral, the day Jefferts Schori completes her nine-year term.

"We've got a society where there are challenges before us. We know that. And there are crises all around us. And the church has challenges before us," Curry told the assembly, when he was introduced as presiding bishop-elect. "We are part of the Jesus movement, and nothing can stop the movement of God's love in this world."

Curry was elected as the nation is grappling with the aftermath of last week's massacre of nine congregants at a historic black church in Charleston, South Carolina, and amid the Black Lives Matter movement over the deaths of black men in police shootings and in police custody.

The Episcopal Church, the faith home of many Founding Fathers and U.S. presidents, has been trying to confront its own history of racism. The church has asked dioceses to research their own links to

slavery because many Episcopalians were slaveholders whose donations were used to build churches, cathedrals and schools. In 2008, Jefferts Schori held a national service of repentance to apologize for the church's complicity with slavery, segregation and racism. "The truth is we are brothers and sisters of each other," Curry said. "The hard work is to figure out how we live as a beloved community, as the human family of God."

At the Salt Lake City assembly, deputies cheered and high-fived when the election results were announced in the convention hall. Norberto "Bert" Jones, 65, of Newark, New Jersey, hugged friends and marveled at being alive to see a black U.S. president and black Episcopal presiding bishop. "This is beautiful," said Jones, a lay deputy and African American. "God works awesome wonders man." Curry, 62, has been bishop of North Carolina since 2000, leading a diocese of 48,000 church members, 112 congregations and a network of ministries.

A Chicago native who has two daughters with his wife, Sharon, Curry grew up in Buffalo, New York, and graduated from Hobart College and Yale Divinity School. He was ordained as a priest in North Carolina, leading parishes there and in Ohio. He then served for 12 years at St. James Church in Baltimore, Maryland, which was established in 1824 as the third black Episcopal congregation in the U.S. Curry is known for his emphasis on evangelism, public service and social justice. Author of "Crazy Christians: A Call to Follow Jesus," he has said he prays "for a church passionately committed to making disciples."

He takes charge at a time when fewer Americans are formally affiliating with a particular religious group, contributing to steady membership declines in the Episcopal Church and other liberal Protestant groups, as well as some conservative churches. Membership in the Episcopal Church has dropped by 18 percent over the last decade.

Curry supports gay rights, speaking against North Carolina's 2012 constitutional amendment that banned same-sex marriage, which is now invalid, and allowing same-sex church weddings in the North Carolina diocese. Curry said the U.S. Supreme Court "affirmed the authenticity of love" Friday by legalizing gay marriage nationwide.

The denomination has emerged from a period of turmoil after the 2003 election of Bishop Gene Robinson, the first openly gay bishop in the Anglican Communion. Many Episcopal conservatives left or distanced themselves from the national church after his election, which strained relations in the Anglican world.

Brady McCombs reported from Salt Lake City. AP Religion Writer Rachel Zoll reported from New York.  
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### **Diana Butler Bass reflects on the ministry of PB Katharine Jefferts Schori**

Diana Butler Bass, popular Christian thinker and author, reflected on the career and legacy of outgoing PB Jefferts Schori for the Washington Post.

Bass notes that Jefferts Schori was elected just after the election of Bishop Gene Robinson, despite opposition from people who were opposed to a person who openly identified as gay serving as a Bishop. Bass sees this as a radical moment where the Church positioned itself in the midst of the debates concerning discrimination against women and LGBTQ rights and discrimination, and played an important role in American society and culture.

From the essay:

"In the 21st century, with declining numbers who identify as part of mainline religion, church elections are mostly a matter of inside baseball and of no great consequence to American society. Yet this cannot be fairly said of Jefferts Schori's tenure as the head of the Episcopal Church. In the last decade, the denomination became a sort of a laboratory in which to observe cultural and religious change.

Bass also notes the discrimination and challenges Jefferts Schori faced, and her refusal to be sidelined or relegated to a minor role, and suggests that her tenure has parallels with the upcoming ministry of Bishop Michael Curry.

Posted by David Streever June 29, 2015