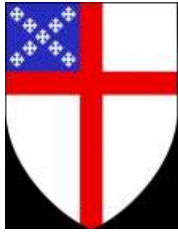


Phone: 360-249-3281

Website: 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

January-February, 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*--3rd 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

105th Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day Event (2/17/2015) at St. Mark's

Our 105th Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day event at St. Mark's (11am-7pm). Special thanks in advance to all the people who helped us make this happen. We raised a record gross total of almost \$1600 last year, and will likely give the net proceeds to charitable groups like the Monte Food Bank, Children's Advocacy Center, and Coastal Harvest. A lot of pancakes, lots of fellowship, and plenty of tired feet--but a lot of fun, too for this Montesano community that comes together each year for this.

Annual Contributions Statements (January 2015)--available very soon!

Recent News

Christmas Celebration (12/24/2014), 5pm, at St. Mark's

Decorating of the worship space was done in stages during Advent up until after the worship service on Sunday, December 21st. Our Christmas Eve service on Wednesday, December 24th at 5:00PM, was a festive communion service with several Christmas hymns (including the lighting of individual candles during "Silent Night") for everyone who attended--all 34 of them! And, there was wonderful refreshments and fellowship afterwards.

Pledge Sunday (11/30/2014 and on), at St. Mark's

We received and blessed our 2015 pledge commitments. Our pledges fund our ministries here at St. Mark's; we have no endowed funds for operating the church. This helped us finish the 2015 budget.

104th Diocesan Convention (11/7-8/2014) at the Seatac Hilton, Seatac

Rev. Lorraine Dierick, Rev. Bonnie Campbell, Jim Campbell, and Martha Krug attended for St. Mark's.

All Saints Celebration (11/2/2014), at St. Mark's

All Saints Day--we celebrated those who came before us. There was a combination of tables for displaying pictures of those loved ones who we remembered during the service, and candles to light as we prayed for them.

Summary of St. Mark's Finances—12/31/2014 (Last--10/15/2014)

Net Operating Year to Date-- \$1,249.96 (Last--\$2,052.75)

After December disbursements for Outreach we still completed the year with a good surplus.

Total Operating Expenses-- \$23,625.56 (Last--\$17,936.73)

Highlights—All bills received were paid current for the year.

Outreach to Date--\$6,310 Diocesan Assessment Required/Paid--\$2,500

Total Operating Revenues-- \$24,875.52 (Last--\$19,989.48)

Total revenues for the year were slightly more than expected.

Non-Operating Revenues--\$3,580.80 Non-Operating Expenses--\$-12,508.41

Net Non-Operating Year to Date--\$-8,927.61 (Last--\$-9,774.49)

Net All Operating and Non-Operating Year to Date-- \$-7,677.65 (Last --\$-7,721.74)

Funds Summary—Total is \$27,280.24 (last--\$27,236.15)

- General/Designated Checking Account—\$1,922.38 (last--\$2,843.21)
- General/Designated Savings Account--\$518.76 (last--\$518.72)
 - Operating Fund (General)--\$2,441.14 (last--\$3,361.93)
- Diocesan Investment Fund--\$24,127.01 (last--23,149.48)
 - Memorial Fund (part of DIF)--\$1,064.91 (last--1,021.77)
- Clergy Discretionary Fund/Checking Account--\$712.09 (last--\$724.74)

Other Articles on Faith and Other Things

The Christmas Pageant (from member April Collett)

My husband and I had been happily married (most of the time) for five years but hadn't been blessed with a baby. I decided to do some serious praying and promised God that if He would give us a child, I would be a perfect mother, love it with all my heart and raise it with His word as my guide.

God answered my prayers and blessed us with a son. The next year God blessed us with another son. The following year, He blessed us with yet another son. The year after that we were blessed with a daughter. My husband thought we had been blessed right into poverty. We now had four children, and the oldest was only four years old.

I learned never to ask God for anything unless I meant it. As a minister once told me, "If you pray for rain, make sure you carry an umbrella." I began reading a few verses of the Bible to the children each day as they lay in their cribs. I was off to a good start. God had entrusted me with four children and I didn't want to disappoint Him.

I tried to be patient the day the children smashed two dozen eggs on the kitchen floor searching for baby chicks. I tried to be understanding when they started a hotel for homeless frogs in the spare bedroom, although it took me nearly two hours to catch all twenty-three frogs. When my daughter poured ketchup all over herself and rolled up in a blanket to see how it felt to be a hot dog, I tried to see the humor rather than the mess. In spite of changing over twenty-five thousand diapers, never eating a hot meal and never sleeping for more than thirty minutes at a time, I still thank God daily for my children.

While I couldn't keep my promise to be a perfect mother (I didn't even come close!), I did keep my promise to raise them in the Word of God. I knew I was missing the mark just a little when I told my daughter we were going to church to worship God, and she wanted to bring a bar of soap along to "wash up" Jesus, too. Something was lost in the translation when I explained that God gave us everlasting life, and my son thought it was generous of God to give us his "last wife."

My proudest moment came during the children's Christmas pageant. My daughter was playing Mary, two of my sons were shepherds and my youngest son was a wise man. This was their moment to shine.

My five-year-old shepherd had practiced his line, "We found the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes." But he was nervous and said, "The baby was wrapped in wrinkled clothes." My four-year-old "Mary" said, "That's not 'wrinkled clothes,' silly. That's dirty, rotten clothes." A wrestling match broke out between Mary and the shepherd and was stopped by an angel, who bent her halo and lost her left wing. I slouched a little lower in my seat when Mary dropped the doll representing Baby Jesus, and it bounced down the aisle crying, "Mama-mama." Mary grabbed the doll, wrapped it back up and held it tightly as the wise men arrived. My other son stepped forward wearing a bathrobe and a paper crown, knelt at the manger and announced, "We are the three wise men, and we are bringing gifts of gold, common sense and fur."

The congregation dissolved into laughter, and the pageant got a standing ovation. "I've never enjoyed a Christmas program as much as this one," laughed the pastor, wiping tears from his eyes "For the rest of my life, I'll never hear the Christmas story without thinking of gold, common sense and fur."

"My children are my pride and my joy and my greatest blessing," I said as I dug through my purse for an aspirin.

A Muslim, Jew And Christian On What Jesus Means To Them

The Huffington Post | By Antonia Blumberg

Jesus plays a distinct role in each of the Abrahamic faiths. This time of year, when Christians celebrate Christ's nativity, his significance in faith traditions across the world is particularly potent. Rabbi Jason Miller, Imam Shamsi Ali and Fr. James Martin joined HuffPost Live host Caroline Modarressy-Tehrani to discuss what Jesus means to them.

"As a Muslim I do believe that Jesus Christ is one of the mighty prophets of God," Ali said. "In the Quran, he reminded the Muslims that 'Worship God and obey me' means that if you want to worship God then follow me in worshiping the almighty one, the almighty God." Ali noted that the one place where Christians and Muslims disagree is over the divinity of Jesus, as Muslims believe Jesus to be among five mighty prophets from God.

In Judaism, Miller noted, devotees typically do not "believe in" Jesus as the messiah but rather see him as historical figure who offered certain wise teachings that resonate for Jews. Miller added that Jews do feel utmost respect for "our Christian brothers and sisters" to whom Jesus' divinity is a central teaching.

Martin offered final words from the Catholic/Christian tradition: "Catholics believe all things that all Christians believe which is that Jesus is fully human, fully divine... For me, Jesus Christ is the center of my life."

Happy New Year!

May God give you...
For every storm, a rainbow,
For every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise,
And a blessing in each trial.
For every problem life sends,
A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh, a sweet song,
And an answer for each prayer.

January 2015 Monthly Calendar of Events

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

Birthdays:

Zack Fry—1st Keith Heikkinen—13th Lorraine Dierick—15th
 Martha Krug—20th Bob Fry—25th Charles Marr—31st

Anniversaries:

Bill & Natalea Brumfield—4th
 Steve & Loni Crass—25th

February 2015 Monthly Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February 1 <u>10am Holy Communion</u> <u>7pm AA</u>	2	3 <u>7pm AA</u>	4 <u>10am Bible Study</u> <u>12pm Monte Ministerial Association Meeting</u>	5 <u>12pm AA</u> <u>7pm Gamblers Anon</u>	6 <u>7pm AA</u>	7
8 <u>10am Holy Communion</u> <u>7pm AA</u>	9	10 <u>9:30am Worship Team</u> <u>7pm AA</u>	11 <u>10am Bible Study</u>	12 <u>12pm AA</u> <u>7pm Gamblers Anon</u>	13 <u>7pm AA</u>	14
15 <u>10am Healing Service</u> <u>11:30am Annual Meeting</u> <u>7pm AA</u>	16	17 <u>11am Shrove Tuesday</u> <u>Pancake Day</u> <u>7pm AA</u>	18 <u>10am Bible Study</u> <u>6pm Ash Wednesday Service</u>	19 <u>12pm AA</u> <u>7pm Gamblers Anon</u>	20 <u>7pm AA</u>	21
22 <u>10am Holy Communion</u> <u>7pm AA</u>	23	24 <u>7pm AA</u>	25 <u>10am Bible Study</u> <u>6:30pm Bishop Committee</u>	26 <u>12pm AA</u> <u>7pm Gamblers Anon</u>	27 <u>7pm AA</u>	28

Birthdays:

Christen Gavalis—3rd Steve Crass—7th Bonnie Campbell—18th
 Joyce Avery—21st John Tennefoss—27th Tyler Williams—27th

Anniversaries:

Stan & Debbie Fry--8th