



The Messenger of St. Mark's



1908 Central Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001

January 2009

This Sunday, January 18 – One Worship Service/Annual Meeting

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Annual Meeting and Pot-luck Brunch

We invite everyone to attend this weekend. Remember, we will have only one worship service at 9:30 a.m. followed by our annual meeting and pot-luck brunch. The normal service times of 8 and 10:30 a.m. will resume the following week.

New Church Pictorial Directory

If you haven't heard yet, we are going to have a new church directory! If you have not signed up for your photo session with Olan Mills yet, be sure to sign up for a spot on the roster in the parish hall or online at www.signup.olanmills.com or go to the church website at www.stmarkscheyenne.org and click on Olan Mills listed in the links section. For taking part in the photo shoot you will receive a free church directory, a free 8 x 10 portrait (\$20 value). Olan Mills offers immediate viewing of video proofs, option to purchase photo packages. There are price lists on the display table in the parish hall.

This is the last week you will be able to sign up for our new pictorial directory. If you have not reserved your time for photography, please do so immediately. We want our pictorial directory to include everyone in the church. It simply won't be complete without you.

Newcomers and Adult Education

Newcomer Lunch and Rector Meet

Sunday, February 8

Following the Second Service at 12:15 p.m.

Please RSVP to the Church Office by Wednesday, Feb. 4

Child care will be provided upon request!

Next Membership Class

Begins Sunday, February 15

Between services at 9:15 a.m.

In the Rector's Office

RSVP to the Church Office

If you are interested in becoming a member of Saint Mark's, be sure to sign up for this four week class with the Rector starting Sunday, February 15. If you are interested in Baptism or Confirmation, this would be the appropriate class to attend.

New Adult Class – Beginning February 1 at 9:15

Prayer and spiritual growth will be the emphasis for the next adult class – a continuation of the summer class which focused on the Myers-Briggs personality types and prayer. This class will focus on spiritual growth using the Enneagram as the primary tool. We will be using the book *Enneagram Spirituality: from Compulsion to Contemplation*, by Suzanne Zuercher, O.S.B. The Enneagram helps identify the compulsions developed as we mature, but also the gifts that are within the compulsions. Norm Peterson will be leading the class.

Vision

(A picture of the future that produces passion)

C²

Compassion to the Power of ²

C r e a t i n g A C u l t u r e o f C o m p a s s i o n

Com*pas"sion\, n. [F., fr. L. compassio, fr. compati to have compassion; com- + pati to bear, suffer. Literally, suffering with another; a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is stricken by misfortune, accompanied by a strong desire to alleviate the suffering.

St. Mark's is a community grounded in **C²**, or Compassion to the Power of ². In receiving the ultimate compassion from God in Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit, we then share this compassion with the world where all people and all of creation is cared for and served both inside and especially outside the church. All of our worship and ministry prepares us for this radical compassion.

Imagine a community, a world, where every person is cared for, loved, and supported. Imagine a community where every person has an advocate who is truly looking out for them, trying to alleviate their suffering and fulfill their needs. Imagine a community where every person would receive God's ultimate support and love, and know God's ultimate advocate, Jesus Christ, both in this world and throughout eternity.

Join our **C²** Community as we continue to grow and practice Compassion to the Power of ².

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort; who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

Mission

(The Overall Purpose Of The Church)

To restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. (BCP 855)

Core Values

(Core Ideology)

as found in the word **G.R.A.C.E**

G = God

- First and foremost, a **C²** community is centered in their faith in God, who has first given and shown us perfect compassion through the grace and unconditional love of Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. Everything flows from this relationship with God, in Christ. We celebrate this each and every day. This is the base of our Baptismal Covenant.

R = Rely on Each Other

- In a **C²** community, we honor the concept of Shared Ministry, where people are challenged to serve with at least one other person in any ministry. We depend on each other for Christian mission and fellowship, and invite everyone to participate according to their gifts.

A = Accepting of all people.

- In a **C²** community, by entering the doors of our church, you become part of our family. Saint Mark's Episcopal Church welcomes all people, celebrating our diversity.

C = Caring for All Creation

- In a **C²** community, we seek to serve and care for all of God's creation. We believe in the 50/50 approach, where at least half of everything we do is focused on serving beyond our church walls.

E = Excellence

- In a **C²** community, we strive in our walk with God and in our mission to do the best we can, so that all of God's creation would be served in life changing ways.

The Deacon's Desk

I have written about the liturgical colors of our church year. Talked about Advent, Christmas and The Epiphany. Over the last few months we have had a few baptisms, so I thought it appropriate that I give some information about why baptisms take place at certain times.

The tradition of the Episcopal Church goes back to early Christianity. In early times Christians would stand in water and the water was poured over the upper body and infant baptism is as old dating to the 3rd century and would remain universal until the Protestant Reformation. There is a long history, theology and tradition that would take pages to write about. So in a nut shell the following is the Episcopal rite of baptism, which is one of the most important parts of our ancient Anglican way. Baptism is considered a sacrament and may be administered not only by the Bishop but also by the priest or deacon, (or lay folk under special circumstances, see B.C.P. 312-14).

It is important to know those special feast days on which baptisms take place, and they are: -

Easter Vigil – This is one of the greatest liturgical services, it is the central rite of the entire Christian year. It is the service of lessons from the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), which trace the history of God's people. We renew our baptismal vows or baptize candidates and celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter. A very appropriate time to get baptized.

The Day of Pentecost: - The day in which the disciples receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

All Saints Day (or the first Sunday after the 1st November):
- This feast day is when we remember the communion of saints, known and unknown. That wonderful cloud of witnesses to the faith.

The Baptism of our Lord (The First Sunday after the Epiphany): - We not only celebrate Christ's baptism by John but we proclaim Jesus as Savior to the whole world and we are the new people of God.

As you can see by these special feasts, we reserve these dates for our own Baptisms. There are acceptances when the Bishop visits or an emergency. I trust this very short explanation helps in your understanding as to why we have special times for baptisms.

May our Lord hold you in His hands this New Year of 2009.

The Rev. Anne Adams-Harris. dcn +

February Birthdays

Feb 3 Doris Lucas
Feb 4 Katherine Mullett
Feb 5 Katherine Champlin
Feb 6 Abby Stewart
Feb 7 Shirley Flynn
Feb 10 Jackson Homar
Logan Homar
Feb 11 Roxanne Homar
Betty Lee
Feb 14 Elizabeth Taggart
Jennifer Gray
Feb 16 Foy Jolley
Feb 18 Mike Hehr
Feb 21 Sheri Voycheske
Feb 22 Nancy Whalen
Preston McMinn
Feb 23 Brooks Hinkle
Feb 24 Bobbi Gard
Feb 26 Alice Ruble
Jenny Hall
Judy Weickum
Feb 28 Pete Schiel
Chaisley Smith



If your birthday was missed please notify the church office at 634-7709.

Birthday Invitation

To Our Friends at St. Mark's,

You are invited to attend the "**First Annual Grace Gasson 90th Birthday Shindig**"

Where: Activity Room

Sierra Hills Assisted Living Community

4006 North College Drive

Cheyenne, WY

When: 3:30—4:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 31, 2009

Note: Cards only, please!

If you have any questions call Grace's son,
Walt Gasson at 630-7398



The second and fourth Wednesdays in February and March (the 11 and 25 for both months) Linus blanketeers will be busy in Read Hall starting at 1:00 and finishing @ 2:30. We had 34 blankets blessed on December 7. We contributed 73 BLANKETS from St. Mark's blanketeers for distribution in 2008! We exceeded our goal, thank you to all who've contributed, through body, mind and spirit to our group! If you have a bit of time, come join us for fun and working for those in need.

And [John the Baptist] would answer and say to them, "Let the man with two tunics share with him who has none, and let him who has food do likewise." Luke 3:11



Mission Statement:

It is our mission to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans lovingly created by volunteer "blanketeers."

Spiritual Direction

If you would like to meet with either a clergy person or with our trained spiritual director, Norm Peterson, please contact the church office at 634-7709.

News from Parish Life

Parish Life is the ministry which acts in several areas of the church: 1) we set up and clean up after fellowship times following each worship service; 2) we serve at receptions following funerals, ordinations and other special events; 3) we assist at many of the other activities which involve the kitchen.

Those who serve on one of the three Parish Life teams will work the fellowship times every third month for a total of four months per year. Other events during the month are coordinated by the duty team, but other teams often assist. Since many of those who serve on Parish Life are active in other ministries, their availability is sometimes limited. Weekday events are staffed by members who are available, since many members are employed fulltime.

We are always looking for members to help with this ministry. The Parish Life budget is designed to purchase items such as paper goods, coffee and related supplies and cakes for special occasions. The baking, as well as the other work of coffee-time, often falls on the shoulders of Parish Life team members so we are always very grateful for donations of cookies and other treats to serve after services. These items may be home-made or store-bought. We are also glad for donations of juice, either bottled or frozen. There is a sign-up sheet in Parish Hall so that members may donate on for a particular Sunday and service.

Please consider serving as part of this ministry or by signing up to bring snacks.



A Lenten Service of Healing and Reconciliation

Sunday March 8, 2009 at 3:00p.m.

Healing of divided peoples, communities,
and nations and the healing of the earth
have their place alongside the healing of broken bodies,
hurt minds, and wounded hearts.

God's healing and sustaining love is available to everyone.

Monthly Healing Services will continue at 3:00 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month.

Mary Martha

Fellowship for Women

As the New Year begins to unfold, many of us have made a resolution to become more involved in the ministry of the church or community, the Mary Martha Fellowship for Women is a wonderful place to start.

Our goal is to inform, empower and support women in their lives and chosen ministries.

The advisory team for the Mary Martha Fellowship group has been busy planning an exciting and informative spring schedule. Our first speaker for the New Year on Friday, January 16 will be our own Peggy Coffman who's presentation "Don't have a clue, financial advice to women" will be very informative. On Friday, February 6th, a representative from the Davis Hospice Center will talk to us about life and death issues. Also in February, St. Mark's talented Lynne Swanson has kindly offered to share one of her wonderful presentations about a "mystery frontier woman". It is our hope to have Rev. Margaret Babcock join us in March. Virginia Sellner from the Coalition for the Homeless will also speak to us this spring. During Lent, we will read and meditate on the "Women of the Passion" And to finish off the spring season, there is talk of a nature walk presented by the Abbey of Saint Walburga in Virginia Dale, Colorado.

We invite all women of St. Mark's and the community to join us on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the each month at 1:00 in the Guild Room. The discussion sessions start at 1:00 run until 2:00 with fellowship until 2:30 Watch the Messenger, the bulletins and the e-group for more information and details.

As always, you may bring your own lunch to enjoy during the discussion. "Brown bags" are always welcome. And feel free to come and go as your schedule requires. Hope to see you there.

Report on African Team Ministry

The Outreach Committee would like to thank the parish for once again supporting African Team Ministry through sales of arts and crafts items created by people in East Africa. Total sales in Advent 2008 totaled \$808.00. Funds raised through this effort help support worthwhile health and education programs. We thank everyone that purchased items!

Eucharistic Visitors Needed!!

At the present time we are not able to take home communion out to all those that would like to receive it on a *weekly* basis. In addition, we have been invited by St. Christopher's to join them in providing Sunday services at Point Frontier (we currently work with them to provide weekly services at Life Care).

EVs often tell us that this ministry is one of the most spiritually rewarding things they have ever done! If you might be interested in joining our small but dedicated group of licensed lay (Eucharistic) ministers – to serve as an EV doing either hospital, retirement home or individual home communion services - please contact me.

Blessings,
The Rev. Carol Peterson +

New Members and Transfers

Transfers in:

John, Saralyn, Cole, and Cooper Feddersen

Transfers out:

Ken and Gay Flack

Baptisms:

Caroline Clontz

Porsha Clontz

Kasey Elsberry

If you have come to St. Marks recently and are interested in officially becoming a member please contact the church office at 634-7709.

Seeking Faith Stories

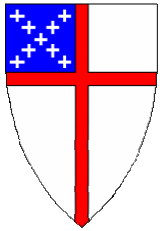
I am seeking your faith stories to be used in a performed evening--hopefully this winter. These stories can be anything about faith in your life:

When/how you discovered your faith, how faith sustains you during times of sadness, disappointment, anger, joy, etc. These can be stories of faith with humor, faith with joy, how you've seen, heard or felt the hand of God in your life. I would like stories that are highly personal and anonymous. The stories will be performed/interpreted by a small cast of St. Marksters.

Please send you're contributions-anonymously please- to Nancy Abraham, c/o Wanda at St. Marks.

Place calendar on this page

Place schedule on this page



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
1908 Central Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82001



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U.S. Postage

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Cheyenne, WY

Permit No. 28

Newsletter Articles are due the 2nd Monday of every month. The articles should be no larger than 1/4—1/2 page long.
Please email them to the office at stmark307_ad@msn.com.