



Saint Marker

St. Mark's strives to be a community of healing, fellowship and inspiration, sharing love with joy in Jesus Christ and challenging all to life anew.

December 2002

Advent and Christmas Events

Family Christmas

December 15 at 4:30 p.m.

Come and help decorate Langley Hall, pack food boxes for the needy, visit with St. Nicholas, sing carols, and enjoy fellowship during the spaghetti supper!

Advent Lessons and Carols

December 22 at 10:00 a.m.

Family Eucharist & Christmas Pageant

December 24 at 4:30 p.m.

Festive Holy Eucharist

December 24 at 10:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

December 25 at 10:00 a.m.

Epiphany Service

January 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Worship Schedule

Sundays

Holy Eucharist 8:00 AM
and 10:00 AM

Church School 11:00 am

Weekdays

Morning Prayer
Monday-Friday 9:00 AM

Healing Service
Tuesday 10:00 AM

Reconciliation and other Sacraments

by Appointment with the Clergy

Highlights

Advent and Christmas
Events

Outreach

Holiday Bazaar

Episcopal Church
Women Groups

Every Member Canvass

Did You Know...

Advent is the first season of the church's liturgical year, from the fourth Sunday before Christmas (Advent Sunday) until the first Eucharist of Christmas. Advent is a season of preparation for remembering Christ's incarnation at Christmas and for the fulfillment of his promise to return in power and great glory. This accounts for the emphasis in many of this season's biblical readings on the end time and on God's promises for the people of Israel and the church of Christ. Advent has received renewed emphasis in recent years as the church has sought ways to counter the secularization of Christmas as a cultural holiday characterized by conspicuous consumption. The liturgical color is blue (or in some places purple).

The Advent Wreath is a circle, usually covered with evergreen foliage, with four candleholders. Candle colors may vary: four purple or white, or three purple and one rose or pink. A purple candle is lit on the First Sunday of Advent and each day thereafter until Christmas. A second purple candle is lit on the Second Sunday of Advent, and so on until all four candles are lit on the Fourth Sunday of Advent. If a rose or pink candle is used, it is first lit on the Third Sunday, reflecting the tradition that the lessons for the Third Sunday are more celebratory than on the other Sundays. A recent development in Advent wreaths is the Christmas Candle - usually a larger white candle in the center of the wreath, lit on Christmas Eve midnight services. While large Advent wreaths are used in churches, smaller versions can form the focus of family devotions during the season.

Advent Outreach

Mitten and Cap Tree

Please remember St. Mark's Mitten Tree. The tree will be in the Information Center hallway beginning the first Sunday in Advent (December 1) for you to decorate with your warm hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and earmuffs. Your gifts will go to inner-city school children. The tree will be in place throughout December.

Angel Tree

St. Mark's Angel Tree will be ready for you to select an "angel" on Sunday, December 1. These gifts will go to underprivileged children at Lincoln Elementary School, 930 E. Main St., and our Sudan boys. The child's name, age and sizes will be noted on your paper angel. It is important for you to attach this angel to your wrapped gift when it is returned at the Family Christmas Celebration on December 15. Please remember to sign your name on the line by your angel's name.

For your convenience, our youth have offered to wrap purchased items. They will also shop for your Angel gift if you would like them to. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities, please call Debbie Glenn (339-0146) for information.

Food Boxes

We will pack 15 food boxes for UCHM at our Family Christmas Celebration on December 15. These food boxes will be distributed during the holiday season. If you would like to contribute money to help purchase food items, please make your check payable to "St. Mark's Episcopal Church", noting that it is for food baskets, and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the parish office.

Epiphany of Our Lord

The name "Epiphany" is derived from a Greek word meaning "manifestation" or "appearing." The Anglican Prayer Books interpret the word with an alternative title, "The Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles." The last phrase, of course, is a reference to the story of the Wise Men from the East.

A Christian observance on January 6 is found as early as the end of the second century in Egypt. The feast combined commemorations of the visit of the Magi, led by the star of Bethlehem; the Baptism of Jesus in the waters of the River Jordan; and Jesus' first recorded miracle, the changing of the water into wine at the marriage in Cana of Galilee - all thought of as manifestations of the incarnate Lord.

The Epiphany is still the primary Feast of the Incarnation of the Eastern Churches, and the three-fold emphasis is still prominent. In the West, however,

including Anglican Churches, the story of the Wise Men has tended to overshadow the other two events. Modern lectionary reform, reflected in the current Prayer Book, has recovered the primitive trilogy, by setting the event of the Baptism as the theme of the First Sunday after the Epiphany in all three years, and by providing the story of the Miracle at Cana as the Gospel for the Second Sunday after the Epiphany in Year C.

Every Member Canvass

The Every Member Canvass for the 2003 budget year has been a success. Compared to the same date last year, we have raised \$15,000 more than last year and received nine more pledges. There are still 29 pledges we have not received. To date, we have received 117 pledges for a total of \$273,596.

To date, St. Mark's has received 15 new pledges for 2003, and one-third of those who pledged last year have increased their pledges for the coming year.

With regard to time and talent pledges, St. Mark's received commitments from four times as many parishioners for 2003 than we received for 2002. The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the 2003 Every Member Canvass for helping make this year's campaign a success.

Holiday Bazaar

St. Mark's Holiday Bazaar will be held on Saturday, December 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Buy your Christmas gifts here and support your church women's group. Proceeds are used for St. Mark's and local outreach. Among the numerous items we offer are the Louisville, Alabama, pecans for \$6.00 per pound; various sizes in cutlery; kitchenware; baked goods; white elephants; and crafts made by local vendors. We will also raffle a lovely queen-size quilt and a girl's bike. Santa will be here from 10:00 a.m. to noon; pictures will be made for \$3.00 each. Hotdogs and chili will be served at reasonable prices

If you would like to volunteer to help, please sign up in the Information Center.

ECW--Episcopal Church Women

Just a friendly reminder that all women of St. Mark's are by definition members of the Episcopal Church Women. Here at St. Mark's we have three different women's groups in which women and "men" may become involved.

The daytime ECW meets the second Tuesday of every month, September through May, at 11:00 a.m., usually at St. Mark's. Most meetings are lunch and a speaker. Other activities of ECW include the annual Holiday Bazaar; the sale of pecans at Christmas; the ECW Gift Shop; and various outreach programs. One outreach activity that ECW does is providing lunch for the students at the U of L Ecumenical Center twice a year. Our own Mark Feather is chaplain at the Center.

The EWG--Evening Women's Group--meets monthly in the evening. Meetings may go to bi-monthly next year. EWG activities include working at the Holiday Bazaar; Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner; and the Candlemas Service in February.

The Busy Fingers group meets every Monday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at St. Mark's. The primary purpose of Busy Fingers is to make craft items for the annual Holiday Bazaar and for the ECW Gift Shop. However, these very talented ladies are often called upon to do a wide variety of tasks here at St. Mark's. Any woman who enjoys doing crafty things but who cannot attend these Monday sessions is welcome to work on projects at home and then contribute them to Busy Fingers.

With these three groups in place, there is something for everyone. I encourage all women to get involved in one or more of these groups and enjoy the fellowship of the other women here at St. Mark's.

For further information on any of these groups you may contact Susan Schueler (426-2818), co-president of ECW and Busy Fingers member, or Joyce Martin (412-8881), Evening Women's Group.

ECW News

The December ECW meeting will be Tuesday, December 10, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mark's. Jan Ward will provide a Christmas musical program, and lunch will be provided at a nominal cost. Please sign up in the Information Center if you are planning to attend. It is hoped that all women of the parish will attend this wonderful social activity to enjoy the fellowship of the Christmas season with other women of St. Mark's.

Evening Women's Group

St Mark's Evening Women's Group will hold their Annual Christmas Gathering on Tuesday, December 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the home of Joyce Martin, 3016 Freys Hill Rd. (RSVP 412-8881). All St. Mark women are invited to join us for an evening of fun, food and fellowship. Please bring a \$5.00 gift to exchange and a can of food for the United Crescent Hill Ministries' food pantry.

United Thank Offering

The Fall UTO Ingathering was again another tremendous success at St. Mark's. To date, \$561.00 has been turned in. If you have not already done so, you may still turn in your UTO envelope to the church office. All monies must be forwarded to the Diocesan office by December 8. Again the generous spirit of St. Mark's has been demonstrated. Thank you for your generous giving.

Cathedral Happenings

Rededication Events December 2002

December 1, 5:00 p.m. - Evensong - A service of Choral Evensong with Jack Ashworth and the Collegium Musicum from University of Louisville.

December 6, 12:00 Noon - Noontime Revival - Performance Luncheon - "The Leopard Percussionist" - Martin Luther King School. A brown bag lunch will be available for \$5.00.

December 7, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. - St. Nicholas Day Celebration. This party is open to preschool through third-grade children. Stories, music, crafts and surprises are planned along with a visit from St. Nicholas.

December 8, 7:30 p.m. - Choral concert by the Indiana University Southwest Chamber Singers.

December 9, 7:30 p.m. - Madrigal Singers Concert.

December 14 and 15 - Bishop Geralyn Wolf's Homecoming. A dinner will be held in her honor on Saturday. Bishop Wolf will deliver the sermon at Christ Church Cathedral at the 10:00 service.

Please see the bulletin board in the Information Center for details on any of these events.

Stillness of the Night

--On Sunday evenings at 10:00 p.m., throughout the month of December, there is a place where time stands still.

At Christ Church Cathedral, people of various beliefs, or of none, gather to hear the singing of Compline, the final prayers of the day. The night prayer of Compline serves a new kind of worshipper. Through the singing of music that is centuries old, it serves not only as part of a daily cycle of prayers, but also as a sole point of calm in a hectic week.

Darkness and silence greet those who enter the Cathedral on Sunday nights. The high altar, illumined by a sea of candles, serves as the only light. People, in street or work clothes, walk slowly down the aisle; some genuflect, some simply stare. They seem to find the right distance from the light, the altar, and the door, from whatever is about to happen. Shortly before ten o'clock, church bells begin to ring, distant and discordant. And then an unseen choir begins to sing.

Come experience time stand still. Experience the ancient rite of Compline at Christ Church Cathedral on Sunday nights in December at 10:00 p.m.

Youth News

The Youth Group Lock-In on Friday, November 8, was a huge success. Fifteen rowdy youth joined Debbie Glenn and Laura Gill at Debbie's home for an evening of pizza, movies, music, dancing, talking and not a lot of sleeping. A big THANK YOU goes to Debbie Glenn for hosting all the shenanigans.

Many Thanks to...

Marlene Straughan, who has prepared the hymn board on a weekly basis for the past year.

Lola Spalding and Melissa Gill, who have agreed to share hymn board duty.

Susan Schueler, who designed and created the beautiful baptismal banners.

Congratulations to...

Michael Mahoney and Grace Ensenat on the birth of their son.

Epiphany Celebration

The day of Epiphany is Monday, January 6. We will be celebrating this special day with a festive Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m. The Ceremony and Ritual of the Liturgy will follow the Anglo-Catholic pattern: The Eucharist Prayer will be sung and incense will be used.



Christmas Poinsettia and Wreath Memorials



The giving of a poinsettia or wreath recognizes and remembers loved ones or acknowledges blessings and also assists the Altar Guild in decorating our church for Christmas services.

Deadline for placing orders is December 10.

Name: _____

Poinsettia(s):
(\$8.00 ea) _____

Wreath(s):
(\$15.00 ea) _____

Dedication: (In Memory of; In Thanksgiving for; or In Honor of)

(circle one)

- I would like to keep my poinsettia:
Y / N
- I would like my poinsettia delivered to the home-bound: Y / N
- I would like to deliver my poinsettia personally:
Y / N
If yes, poinsettia will be delivered to:

Parish Life

Birthdays

Martha Tierney	December 2
Carolyn von Almen	December 2
Ruth Alexander	December 4
Caroline Cronan	December 5
Richard Ruthers	December 5
Scott Shafer	December 9
Samuel Gray	December 9
Lynn Boone	December 10
Evie Day	December 11
Caryl Mack	December 11
Jack Gill	December 11
Cyrus Radford	December 16
Ann Davis	December 17
Frances Blackshear	December 18
Sarah Jones	December 18
Will Alexander	December 19
William Hawkins	December 21
Ann Courteau	December 22
Debbie Mercer	December 25
Kathy Scherer	December 27
June Richards	December 28
Paula Becker	December 28
Norma Lawrence	December 29
Nancy Levy	December 31

Anniversaries

Ken and Mary Ann Harvey	December 19
Bill and Ann Carrell	December 28
Frank and Virginia Hower	December 30

Prayers for Healing

Prayers are offered for a portion of the following list at each service on Sundays and the entire list at the Healing Eucharist on Tuesdays.

Betty Potts, John Richards, James Altieri, Thom Holmes, Dennis Carlton, Ann Tate, Grace, Kennedy Helm,

Marjorie Carter, Ed Shannon, Lettie Shawler, Richard Gibson, Steve Howard, Jim Speed, Margaret Dick, Betty Collins, Ann Lamberton, Gordon Caldwell, Perry Collins, Susan Fox, Cleveland Fraser, Judith Semonin, Jane Wilson, Mary Deetsa, Bob Scherer, Joan Bickel, Mason Bennett, The Babcock Family, Diana Estes, Janice Wood, Bobby Townsend, Nina Radford, Vera Wallace, Marian Calvert, Dorothy Leason, Henry Bickel, Nancy Carlisle, Dick Day, Julie Jordan, Richard Dame, Lillian Yeager, Opal Cook, Mac Davidson, Sally Dupree

Parish Register

Death

Ethel Briney
October 28, 2002

Marriages

Braxton D. Dixon
and
Mary Wallace Sharp
November 7, 2002

Michelle Wellinghurst
and
Michael Bottorff
November 16, 2002

Transfers In

Lyle & Lola Spalding
Kathy Scherer
(all from St. Matthew's Episcopal)

Transfers Out

Robert & Nancy Webb
(to St. Thomas Episcopal)

Leslie, Courtenay & Helm Dobbins
(to Grace Episcopal, Chillicothe, MO)

Baptisms

Anne Lindsay Richardson
Emma Elizabeth Carlton
November 3, 2002

Parish Prayer List

◆
Anglican Cycle of Prayer

December 1 - Province I of the Church of Nigeria
December 8 - Province I of the Church of Nigeria
December 15 - Church of the Province of West Africa
December 22 - Church of the Province of West Africa
December 29 - Give thanks and praise to our Lord Jesus for the privilege of serving him in the twenty-first century.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

St. John's Church, Louisville

Parish Partners

St. Frances of Rome, Our Covenant Parish
The congregations of Crescent Hill United Ministries, especially
St. Leonard Catholic Church

Parish Cycle of Prayer

Week of December 1

◆
William Gossmann
Mary Jane Gossmann
David Gray
Susan Gray
Edward Green

Week of December 8

◆
Robert Gregor
Ralinda Gregor
Rachel Gregor
Richard Gregor
Katie Gullett

Week of December 15

◆
Fred Grimm
Stacy Grimm
Tyler Grimm
Tara Grimm
Sue Hazelip

Week of December 22

◆
Lynn Grise
Billy Hunt
Gloria Helm
T. Kennedy Helm, Jr.
Nell Helm

Week of December 29

◆
Charles Hawkins
Katherine Kingren
Elisabeth Hawkins
William Hawkins
Doris Hinnant

Prayer for Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

At Morning Prayer each weekday, we pray for the Church around the world including members of our parish. If you are unable to join us for Morning Prayer, please remember those listed above in your personal devotions this month.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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Website: www.stmarksepiscopalky.org



Staff

Charles Hawkins, Rector

Mark Feather, Curate

Barbara Rich, Parish Secretary

Gwen O'Dea, Pastoral Care
and Evangelism Assistant

Becky Blieden, Director of Education

Pat Elliott, Financial Secretary

Jan Ward, Choirmaster/Organist

Willie Bibbs, Sexton

Non-Profit Org.

US Postage

PAID

Masonic Home, KY

Permit No. 51

Mailing Address

Altar Flowers and Candles
are given to the
Honor and Glory of God...

Flowers

- December 1 by Mrs. William E. Oldham in loving memory of her husband, Dr. William E. Oldham; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Scott; her brother and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Scott, Jr.; and her mother-in-law, Mrs. Adela Oldham.
- December 8 by Mr. and Mrs. David Pearson in loving memory of his father, E. C. Pearson; her mother, Lena Hill; his brother, Lynn D. Pearson; and his nephew, John Scott Smith.
- December 15 by Mr. and Mrs. Houston Jones in loving memory of their parents, Marian and Otto Frank and Martha H. and Jess Jones; his aunt, Virginia Houston,; and Margaret & Sidney Park.
- December 22 by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gibson in loving memory of their children, Theresa, Norman and Richard, Jr.
- December 29 Poinsettias.

Candles

- The Eucharistic Candles for December by Scottye Ghent in loving memory of her husband, R. Mitchell Ghent; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Copher; her niece, Natalie Clarke Latino; and her sister, Phyllis Clarke.
- The Five Branch Candles for December by Mrs. Robert Lykins in loving memory of her husband, Dr. Robert Lykins, and her sons, David Allen Lykins and James Edward Lykins.
- The Advent Wreath by Shirley Elmore in loving memory of her parents, Irvin and Sallie Crouch, and her husband, Donald C. Elmore.