

St. Mark's messenger

October 2009
ten(ten)

From the **RECTOR**

The Rev. Kelly O'Connell

When did "change" become a dirty word in church? I sometimes wonder if Jesus had as much trouble with seating arrangements as we do. I suspect that the disciples bickered over where each of them would sit until Jesus just wanted to throttle them. No wonder he was always sneaking off for some alone time.

We encounter regular and constant change in all areas of our lives, much of it completely outside of our control. So, perhaps, church feels like one of the few places where there is little change. It is essentially the same week in and week out barring great feast days or something unusual. We get set in our ways and settle into the routine. It is familiar and there is comfort in that familiarity. Unfortunately, it also means that we are at risk for getting stuck, believing that there is only one way to do something, the old adage "but we have always done it that way" comes to mind. Our creativity gets

stifled and there is no room for growth because the only way to grow is to change.

St. Mark's is sitting at the crossroads with some serious choices to make. They essentially boil down to - we can change, embracing all that might mean and grow or we can choose to not change as take our chances that asking the same questions will miraculously bring different answers. The choice is up to each one of us because we are a community. It will take each and every member to commit to making a change, doing something different and being open to the possibilities for St. Mark's to grow and, yes, to change. It is the only way.

If it feels frightening. It is easy to allow the fear to overwhelm us and keep us stuck and that is not God's vision for us. God imagines us as a vibrant, thriving, faithful community. We need to embrace and recognize that change brings life as we are looking to bring new life to a new St. Mark's. God is leading us in a new way we just need the courage and belief to embrace it.

Blessings,

Kelly

ECW	2
UTO	2
Stewardship	2
Diocesan Convention.....	3
Blessing of Pets.....	3
Giving Store... ..	3
Small Groups.....	3
Bike Co-op.....	4
Sr Warden's Corner.....	4
Fellowship Offerings.....	6
Shrine Making.....	6
Coffee Hour.....	6

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN NEWS

St. Mark's ECW met on September 9th. Next meeting will be **Wednesday, December 9** at 12:30 pm in the Schilling Room. All are welcome. Please bring a lunch. Business will begin at 1:00 pm. Should the need arise before then, a special meeting will be called after church on a Sunday. As always, we are "on call" whenever there is a need, such as receptions after funerals.

UTO INGATHERING

Our fall UTO ingathering will be Sunday, November 11. The gifts from the ingathering go to support the work of the Episcopal Church Women all over the world. Please give generously.

STEWARDSHIP

What a hard year this has been! Slightly better than last but not much better. The financial and employment news has continued to go up and down depending on the day and place. One thing that has not changed is St. Mark's need for our financial support. We have worked hard in the last year to control our costs but we continue to spend too much of our endowment to support the operations of the church. We have two choices - spend less money or increase our revenue. I think that we need to be doing both in the coming year.

Fran and I are increasing our pledge for 2010 by 10-20%. I hope that you will join us in supporting our community in the coming year. It is about all of us joining together, giving what our community needs for life and growth. How is God calling you this year to share your wealth with St. Mark's?

OCTOBER CALENDAR

October 3 – Potluck, bonfire
October 4 – Blessing of the Pets
October 10 – Bike Co-op Dinner
October 18 – Fleitz Pumpkin Farm
October 18, 25 – Shrine making
October 25 – Community Meal

LOOKING AHEAD to November
November 11 – UTO Ingathering
November 13-14 – Diocesan Convention
November 29 – Community Meal

DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Our Diocesan Convention this year is November 13 and 14 in Cleveland. This year's Convention will begin with a service project on Friday afternoon followed by all the legislative work on Saturday. All information about Convention can be found at www.dohio.org.

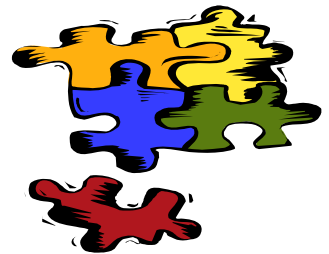
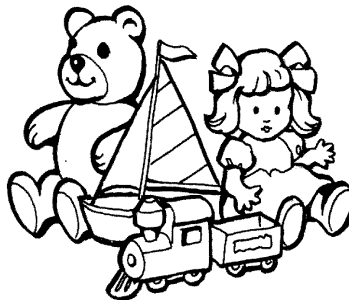
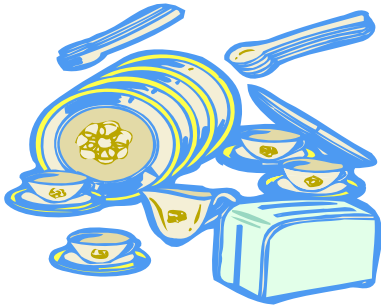
The pre-Convention meeting will be on Thursday, October 29 at 7:00PM at St. Timothy's Church in Perrysburg.

BLESSING OF THE PETS

We will celebrate the Blessing of the Pets on Sunday, October 4 at the 10:30AM service. All well-behaved pets are welcome. Pictures or stuffed pets are also welcome.

THE GIVING STORE

The Giving Store is not accepting clothes at this time. We are in need of housewares, games and toys.



SMALL GROUPS

Work on small groups continues. We lost our small group leader trainer mid-summer and have gotten back on track to get ourselves prepared and organized for small groups to begin. There is still time to sign up if you are interested in joining a group. Cards can be found on the table in the back of church. Leave them in the collection plate or send them to the office.

TOLEDO BICYCLE CO-OP

October 10th 6-9

3rd Annual Lots of Pasta dinner

Sponsored by the Toledo City Bicycle Co-op.

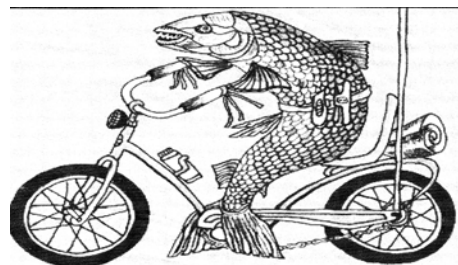
\$10.00 admission

Kids under 12 are Free

Tableside Magic by Martin Jarret and **Music** by Jason Quick.

Proceeds to benefit Toledo City Bicycle Co-op and St. Mark's Church.

For tickets contact: Mark Hienzer 419-509-6319, the Co-op 419-386-6090, or Robert Hannon 419-243-8772



JR. WARDEN'S CORNER

I AM EXCITED!

First I would like to thank those of you that participated in our planning session for the "New St. Mark's" and look forward to working together to developing this new and exciting church. I hope that new members were one of the discussion topics during your small group meetings on Sunday. This is one way that we can insure the future of St. Mark's. I keep thinking about a "Bring a Friend to Church Sunday" and have come to the conclusion that we don't need a special day set aside, that every Sunday should be bring a friend to church day. St. Mark's is such a great place to be that we don't need to set aside a special day, everyone is made to feel welcome, no matter what Sunday it is. Although, I do think that we need to work on making them feel a part of the church once they have decided to make St. Mark's their church home. I am looking for volunteers to help me with a parish life committee. My vision of the committee would be to have a new parishioner dinner with a historical and current program presentation of the church. Another objective of the committee would be to promote social opportunities as a community. We do a great job with our outreach committee, but we very seldom gather as a community just to be together. If you are interested in helping with this committee, please contact me by phone (419-320-0728) or by e-mail (rem766662@yahoo.com).

On to another very important topic, pledges. The finance committee reported at our last vestry meeting that pledges were down about 10%. Not surprising, considering the economic down turn that we have experienced and continue to experience. I will be the first to tell you that I am behind, and going to work as hard as possible to make up as much as possible. I would ask each of you to evaluate your budget and see if we can make this deficit as small as possible. This will require less strain on our endowment.

As always, I am here to serve you. If you have questions or concerns, please call me.
Your brother in Christ,
Bob Morris

If you have any questions or suggestions about St. Mark's, please feel welcome to contact one of our vestry members:

Bob Morris, Sr. Warden ~ 419-320-0728 ~ rem766662@yahoo.com
Jessica Datta, Jr. Warden ~ 419-861-0944 ~ dattas@buckeye-express.com
Diane Polishuk, Clerk ~ 419-861-0369 ~ dmariern77@sbcglobal.net
Karen Cornwell ~ 419-861-3932 ~ kcornwell@hotmail.com
Bettye Jo Hansbarger ~ 419-534-2230 ~ bjh@glasscity.net
Terry Kahler ~ 419-382-5090 ~ drkahler@sbcglobal.net
Marj Monhollen ~ 419-662-7735 ~ marjm24@aol.com
Larry Scharf ~ 419-824-7823 ~ heidiandhans@hotmail.com
Bill Wray ~ 419-729-9312
Lourdes Santiago ~ 419-843-2010 ~ losamil101849@aol.com
David Bingham ~ 419-386-9991 ~ nursebingham59@aol.com
Ted Ligibel ~ 734-854-7990 ~ tedlig@verizon.net
Vestry meetings are usually the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm, except July and August, when meetings are cancelled.

SUNDAY FLOWERS

4 Mr. & Mrs. John Sanders in loving memory of his parents, Barbara & John Sanders, her parents, Elsie Jane and Johnathan Stinehelfer, and her brother, Jonathan Stinehelfer.

11 Dr. Joseph Henry and Kathleen Henry Clarke in loving memory of their parents, Kathleen & Thomas B. Henry.

18 Mrs. John Joseph Sr. & Family in loving memory of her husband and their father and grandfather, Mr. John Joseph, Sr.

25 Mr. & Mrs. Ray Squire in loving memory of their parents, Lee & Lucille Rynder and Edwin & Mabel Squire..

27 The people of St. Mark's in loving memory of those who have died.

For information on how you can provide Sunday flowers in memory of someone, or in honor of someone or some event, contact the Church Office.

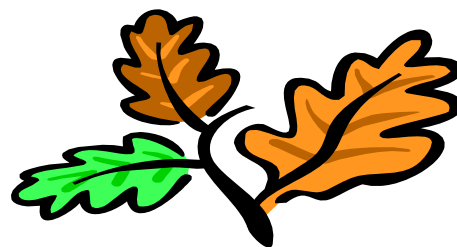
BIRTHDAYS

1 Gary Johns
3 John Sanders
5 Alex Schmidt
5 Clancy Yeager
6 Michael Tullis
7 Penny Tullis
8 Roger Southward
8 Russ Ely
10 Jacob Joseph
10 Brianna Joseph Abel
10 Chris Rizzo
12 Dolores Gulotta
17 Dave Beckwith
17 Dave Derminer
18 Marian Crooks
18 Lourdes Santiago
19 Daniel Wright
19 Kelsey Grefe
20 Isabelle Ravary
21 Benjamin McCullough-Campbell
22 Catherine Schultz
25 Linda Lehman
25 Susan Purviance
27 Mickey Volmer
29 Marj Monhollen
30 Scott MacEachern

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

6 Rick & Heidi Confer
6 Jeanne & Gary Johns
6 Jason Binder & Ron Novak
20 Dave Beckwith & Lindsay Potts
21 Jessica & Niladri Datta
23 Howard & Judy Irwin
30 Paula Rennels & Susan Thurston

Missing or incorrect birthdays or anniversaries? Let the church office know!



FROM THE LECTIONARY

Our Sunday readings come from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which is a collection of carefully selected Scripture readings for the church year, which repeats every three years. The RCL is used to varying degrees by many mainline denominations. For more information about the RCL and for it full-text online, see the Vanderbilt Divinity Library web page at <http://divinity.library.vanderbilt.edu/lectionary/> We're in Year B.)



October 4 Blessing of the Pets
Isaiah 11:6-9
Psalm 111
Matthew 6:25-33

October 18
Job 38: 1-7, 34-41
Psalm 104: 1-9, 24, 35c
Hebrews 5: 1-10
MRK 10: 35-45

October 11
Job 23: 1-9, 16-17
Psalm 22: 1-15
Hebrews 4: 12-16
Mark 10: 17-31

October 25
Job 42: 1-6, 10-17
Psalm 34: 1-8
Hebrews 7: 23-28
Mark 10: 46-52



FELLOWSHIP OFFERINGS FOR OCTOBER

The Children and Youth are sponsoring 2 events in October open to the whole congregation.

Saturday, October 3 at 4:00 PM. Everyone is invited to Karen and Deb's home for swimming, potluck and bonfire. The pool is heated. Their address is 7653 Ginger Gold. Dr in Holland.

Sunday, October 18 after church head out to Fleitz Pumpkin Farm, 7133 Seaman St., Oregon for corn maze, hayrides, lunch and a great selection of pumpkins and squash.

SHRINES

Do you have someone you would like to remember this year? We will be creating small shrines again this year to remember those who we see no more. Materials will be provided on October 18 and 25 during coffee hour for shrine creation. The Shrines will be on display for All Saints' Day.

COFFEE HOUR



Several folks have asked lately why we don't seem to have food at coffee hour the way we used to. For me, coffee hour is a community activity enjoyed by most of the community so it is everyone's responsibility to help out. If you enjoy coffee hour, then please sign-up to host one this fall. You don't have to do it by yourself, get a friend to help. It doesn't have to be fancy just something simple. The coffee and tea water are already made for you. It is up to everyone to make coffee hour enjoyable.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

parish prayer list: petitions, intercessions, thanksgivings

We are all invited to pray throughout the month, asking for God's healing and comfort for those who have asked for it. We often do not know the people or what their prayer request is; we are invited, then, simply to open our hearts in prayer for them, asking for the fulfillment of what they need, and for God to extend blessings to them in any way God is able.

If you have a name you wish to have added (including your own), please call the office, remembering that if you want the name to be on the list longer than a month, please call to renew that request.

<i>Those in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity</i>	<i>In Thanksgiving</i>	<i>Homebound</i>
		<i>Recently Deceased</i>
Ryan Disher	Dawn Hubbell-	Jim Armstrong
Dick Entenmann	Staeble	Frank Moses
John Merriam	Wanda Jean	
Dennis & Carol Kanfield	Vogelsang	
Mark J.	Colleen Williams	
Billy Naumann	Ed Farlin	
Jeff Palicki	Pam & Tom	
Diane Klug	Ostermyer	
Chuck Lever		
Tyler Yoder		
Norene Monhollen		
Margaret Weber		
David Mayhew		

Others to Keep in Our Prayers

- ◆ Kelly, our priest; Bob Morris, our senior warden, and Jessica Datta, our junior warden; other members of the vestry, parish staff, and other parish leaders
- ◆ Bishop Mark Hollingsworth, his staff, and all parishes in the Diocese of Ohio
- ◆ The Episcopal Church; Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori; the Anglican Communion; Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams
- ◆ Servicemen and women serving around the world and in the US

Please pray also for those groups who find a welcoming space at St. Mark's:

Young People's AA, Monday, 8:00 pm
AA/LLL, Sunday & Wednesday, 8:00 pm
Rainbow Area Youth, Wednesdays, 7:00 pm
AA, Friday, 7:00 pm
SAA, Tuesday, 8:00 pm & Thursday, 7:00 pm
Dignity, Thursday, 8:00 pm

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL; PLEASE HANDLE PROMPTLY

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
2272 Collingwood Blvd.
Toledo, OH 43620
(419) 244-3707
stmarkstol@aol.com
http://www.stmarkstoledo.org

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Toledo, Ohio
Permit No. 836

____ Please check here and return this page if
you no longer wish to be on St. Mark's
mailing list or contact the church office.

St. Mark's

MISSION

St. Mark's is a diverse and inclusive Christian community,
welcoming all to common ground, to creatively grow in faith
and service to each other, our community, and a loving God.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:00 am** our intimate, meditative service
- 10:30 am** our larger service, with music and
singing; special homily for children

RECTOR

The Rev. Kelly O'Connell

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Christina Laberge

ORGANIST

Michael Gartz

OFFICE MANAGER

Marilyn McCoy

VESTRY OFFICERS

Senior Warden ~ Bob Morris
Junior Warden ~ Jessica Datta
Clerk ~ Diane Polishuk

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

The Rev. Kelly O'Connell

NOVEMBER

newsletter deadline:

October 15

mailto:stmarkstol@aol.com