



# THE LION'S TALE

**ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
THE REV. DR. PETER VAN HORNE, INTERIM RECTOR  
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FEBRUARY 2012

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Dear Friends:

As 2012 moves along, it is hard to believe that already it is February! Christmas and New Year's were barely a month ago, yet already they seem farther away! The pleasant weather we have been enjoying has become known as June-uary, yet we know there probably is cold weather waiting for us before spring arrives.

On January 29 St. Mark's held its Annual Meeting, and our thanks to all who attended and who brought wonderful food for the pot-luck brunch. John Carroll, Matt Cashen and Cindy Schroeder were elected to the Vestry for three-year terms. The Vestry held its organizational meeting immediately after the Annual Meeting, and Kevin Tracy was elected Senior warden, Jeff Smith was elected Junior Warden, and Kim Jungemann is the Vestry clerk.

At the Annual Meeting Allen Porter was presented with a framed resolution thanking him for his longer-than-usual term as Senior Warden, and a standing ovation from the people of St. Mark's showed Allen how much everyone appreciated his service to the congregation.

The Search Committee reported that the Rector Search Process is moving along with interviews of candidates almost finished, and that will be followed by site visits. It is good to know that your time of transition between Rectors soon will come to a close, and the next chapter in the life of St. Mark's will begin.



**Seeking Our Past  
Creating Our Future**

*from the Dismantling Racism Commission*

There are two diocesan events I want you to know about, and each is important. The first is a workshop on February 11 designed to promote dialogue and actions toward racial healing and reconciliation.

On Saturday, February 11th, the Dismantling Racism Commission debuts a new program resource for diocesan parishes--***Seeking Our Past, Creating Our Future***. This is being held on the anniversary when we celebrate the ministry of the Rev. Absalom Jones (1746-1818) of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was born into slavery, married a slave, and saved the money to buy her freedom so that their children would be born free. He late was able to purchase his freedom. He was an active member of

the Methodist Church, and attracted many blacks to his congregation. He succeeded so well that the white members needed more seating in their worship space so, one Sunday, the blacks were told they must sit in the balcony, often referred to as the *Slaves Gallery*. He and a friend, Richard Allen, would not do this, so they left the Methodist Church. His friend went on to found the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and Jones and his friends went to the Bishop of Pennsylvania and petitioned to become a congregation in the Episcopal Church. Jones was ordained deacon and priest, Allen was ordained a Methodist elder, and both were the first black Americans ordained in any denomination.

Here is the schedule for the day's events:

**Saturday Feb. 11-Christ Church Cathedral**

8:30-8:50 a.m. - Registration

8:50-9:15 - Welcome, Opening Remarks and Prayer

9:15-10:15 a.m. - Dr. Ernest "Rip" Patton-*Revisiting our Past* (Dr. Patton was a "Freedom Rider" in the early days of the civil rights movement)

10:15-10:30 - Break

10:30-11:00 a.m. - Scripture: Genesis 50:15-21 and Q&A (or debriefing)

11:00-Noon - Presentation of the *Seeking Our Past, Creating Our Future* Packets

12:00-12:15 p.m. - Breakout of Congregational Teams

12:15-12:30 p.m. - Reporting back and Closing Prayer

RSVP (encouraged but not required) to Tracy Grigsby, Offices of the Bishop, 314-231-1220, or [tgrigsby@diocesemo.org](mailto:tgrigsby@diocesemo.org)

The next important diocesan event is the following:

**Leadership Conference  
March 3<sup>rd</sup> at St. Martin's, Ellisville**

Standing Committee announces that this year's **Leadership conference** returns to its roots, with sessions on core functions of parish leadership.

Sessions include:

*You're the Warden Now!* Workshop for all wardens;

*Show Me the Money*- Treasurers and financial reporting;

*Red Card, Green Card*- Convention delegates 101;

*Call to Order*- How to run a good meeting;

*Follow the Trail*- Vestries interaction with Standing Committee, Diocesan Council, Insurance, Misconduct, Audits; and more.

The conference will be held Saturday, March 3, at St. Martin's Church in Ellisville. Conference fee will be \$20 per person, which includes lunch, and more detailed registration information will follow shortly.

I will lead one of the workshops. This promises to be a great event, and I hope many St. Mark's people will attend.

Faithfully yours,



(The Rev. Dr.) Peter E. Van Horne, Interim Pastor



## WHAT'S COMING UP?

**SUNDAY, FEB. 5<sup>TH</sup>** Trinity Lunch  
**TUES. FEB. 7<sup>TH</sup>** Election Day  
**WEDNESDAY, FEB 8<sup>TH</sup>** IFCLA Dinner and Discussion  
**FRIDAY, FEB 17<sup>TH</sup>** Movie Night  
**SUNDAY, FEB. 19<sup>TH</sup>** Vestry Meeting 11:15 a.m.  
**TUESDAY, FEB. 21<sup>ST</sup>** Pancake Supper  
**Wednesday, FEB. 22<sup>ND</sup>** Ash Wednesday  
**SUNDAY, FEB. 26<sup>TH</sup>**  
 ~St. Louis Fashion Doll Club  
 ~Trinity Lunch.



**SHROVE  
 TUESDAY  
 FEBRUARY 21,  
 2012**

## PANCAKE SUPPER

5:00 –7:00 p.m.  
 Adults \$4.00, Children \$2.00  
 \$12.00 max per family  
 The Parish Life Committee will be serving up pancakes and all the trimmings.

*“Shrove Tuesday” is the English version of the custom Mardi Gras, a day of indulgence before the self-denial of the Lenten season.*

## NEW DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

Copies of the new directory (which also contains the birthday list) are available at the back of church. Also if you did not get a copy of the Annual Report from the Annual Meeting, there are extra copies at the back of church.



**ASH WEDNESDAY  
 FEBRUARY 22nd  
 HOLY EUCHARIST &  
 IMPOSITION OF ASHES  
 NOON AND 7:30 P.M.**

## THE INTER-FAITH COMMITTEE ON LATIN AMERICA

A dinner and Round Table Discussion on “The Rise of Indigenous Leadership in Bolivia” will be here at St. Mark’s this Wednesday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 pm. For more info or to RSVP go to [ifcla@ifcla.net](mailto:ifcla@ifcla.net) or call 314/721-2977.



## TRINITY LUNCH

St. Mark's will be doing the Trinity Hot Lunch twice in February and your helping hands and extended shopping lists are needed. We will be serving lunch on both February 5, 2012 and February 26, 2012. The Central Reform Congregation (CRC) hot lunch crew graciously took our Christmas Day assignment so that we could all attend Christmas Services. Sign a thank you card for CRC and sign up to bring food or serve on February 5th after the service or at coffee hour. Thanks for your continued loyalty and support for this ministry. ~Carey Tisdal and Amiya Thompson.



THE NEW ISSUE OF “SEEK” from the Diocese of Missouri is available for pickup at the back of church or may be read online at [www.diocesemo.org](http://www.diocesemo.org)



## NOTES FROM THE JANUARY 15<sup>th</sup> VESTRY MEETING

**Financial:** Sue Healey reported that the General Fund is at the smallest negative balance it has been for several years.

**Clergy Concerns:** The annual meeting is January 29 after the 10am service. Reports should be in by Monday, Jan. 23. The interim rector has been working on the parochial report. The average Sunday attendance (ASA) has increased the past year from 63 to 68. The details about this report can be found on the national website as well as other information.

**Member Concerns:** Kittie informed us that the closet on the outside of the kitchen containing garden supplies needs to be cleaned. Allen suggested that perhaps we can work on it during the annual meeting. Rita asked if her group, Safe Foods, could meet in the Parish Hall occasionally. Times will be arranged. Tom asked if St. Mark's has a defibrillator? Allen will look into the availability of a unit and training. Allen mentioned helping parishioners with food needs.

**Old Business:** Stewardship: Sue reported that 43 pledges have been received. This is down from 58 received in 2011. The amount pledged is \$98,850 for 2012.

**Search Process:** The process is moving along. There will be phone interviews soon.

**Annual Meeting:** Sunday Jan. 29. Potluck with the vestry providing. The slate of new vestry candidates will be put in the bulletin.

**New Business:** The vestry went over the proposed budget for 2012. The budget was completed with and without rector expenses. It was approved and will be recommended to the annual meeting knowing we cannot predict how circumstances may change.

**Reports and Updates:** Buildings and Grounds: A final check was sent to Kuhn Construction for the concrete patio. Two bids were received for refinishing the old wood floors in the Proehl Center. A bid will be selected and approved by e-mail. The vestry approved to spend up to \$500.00 to repair the church furnace from Property Maintenance. Estimates will be requested from Vogel.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Macke

For the St. Mark's Calendar, please visit our website [www.saintmarks-stl.org](http://www.saintmarks-stl.org) and click on the calendar tab.



## RESOURCES DURING LENT

### 2012 LENTEN MEDITATIONS

A booklet provided by Episcopal Relief & Development will be available during Lent at the back of church.

### JOIN THE JOURNEY THROUGH LENT 2012

Join the Lenten journey with this helpful "road map" of simple devotions and thoughtful meditations from Shrove Tuesday to Easter Day. Jay Sidebotham's cartoons and text help uncomplicate the meaning of the Easter season. Calendar posters will also be available at the back of church.



### THE NEXT FREE MOVIE

**NIGHT** is Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the parish hall. Watch the bulletin and/or "The Markings" for movie info.

### COFFEE HOUR IN PARISH HALL

Coffee hour after the 10:00 a.m. service. There is a sign up sheet in the parish hall for those who would like to host.



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

April 1	Palm Sunday
April 5 <sup>t</sup>	Maundy Thursday
April 6	Good Friday
April 7	Easter Vigil
April 8	Easter Sunday