



THE LION'S TALE

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE REV. DR. PETER VAN HORNE, INTERIM RECTOR
4714 CLIFTON AVE, ST LOUIS MO 63109
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WWW.SAINTMARKS-STL.ORG

JULY 2011

Rector Search

Dear Friends:

The Rector Search Committee has been formed, and on July 28 they will receive formal training on how to conduct a Rector Search Process. After that, the Process will pick up the pace as the Search

Committee works with the congregation on the next steps that will lead to the call of the next Pastor of the parish. These steps might include the research and self-study that will lead to a Parish Profile that will tell the story of St. Mark's and its aspirations for the future, and also a Rector Profile that will identify the characteristics being sought in the next Rector.

The members of the Rector Search Committee are:

Ellen Jeffery, Chair
Kelly Borowiak
John Carroll
Matt Cashen
Rita Mauchenheimer (Vestry)
Barb Raedeke
Tom Smith (Vestry)

First of all, please keep the Search Committee and the Search Process in your thoughts and prayers. I recommend the following from the Book of Common Prayer:

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Secondly, I want to remind everyone that the work of the Search Committee is absolutely confidential because, among other things, they will be working with the names of clergy who are being considered for the position. Those clergy will not want their congregations to know that. So, please do not ask the Search Committee for details about their work. They will report regularly on their work, giving us information that is not confidential. Please do not expect any more than that.

I might be speaking to the choir right now, yet it is better to speak a few words of wisdom rather than assume that everyone knows them. My words of wisdom, counsel and advice are these: do not assume that the next Rector of St. Mark's will have all the answers to the challenges the congregation is facing. You as the members of the parish will have the best knowledge of the congregation and how it works (and where it does not work so well!). You and the next Rector can work together to tackle many things, so do not leave everything on the shoulders of the new Pastor and step back and wait for the miracles.

Therefore, I have some homework to suggest to all of you. First, read "<http://saintmarks-stl.org/AlbanItsYourChurch.pdf>" this article from the Alban Institute. As the collect in the Prayer Book says, "read, mark [which in the old usage means 'take note of', but mark it up with a pen if you prefer!], learn, and inwardly digest." Trust me, the next Rector will be delighted that you have done this homework!

The next bit of homework will be to read the attached flier from the Offices of the Bishop concerning the *2011 Making Disciples Conference* on Saturday, August 27. The subject is, **Love Heals: Rediscovering God's Promises**. There are two topics for the day, and I think you will find each one to be helpful. (see flyer on page 4)



My final suggestion for homework is to consider attending **The Magnetic Church Conference** on November 11 and 12, 2011 at Grace Episcopal Church, Kirkwood. I have attended these workshops by Andy Weeks, and I can guarantee you will come away energized and enthusiastic about how to do practical evangelism for the 21st century. (See flyer on page 5)

Plan on recruiting a goodly number of people to attend these events. The larger the number from the parish, the more ideas you will have about the next steps for St. Mark's.

Faithfully yours,

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



WHAT'S COMING UP?

- SAT. JULY 2ND** – Hall Rental
SUN. JULY 3RD Confirmation Class
THURS, JULY 6 Endowment Meeting (see p.4)
SUN. JULY 10TH Hall Rental
SUNDAY, JULY 17TH Vestry Meeting
SUNDAY, JULY 24
 ~Confirmation Class
 ~St. Louis Fashion Doll Club
MON. JULY 25TH New Line Theatre Group
 Rehearsals Begin in Parish Hall
THURS. JULY 28TH Search Committee
 Meeting
SUN. JULY 31ST Confirmation Class

FEED MY PEOPLE

St Mark's is participating in Feed My People's Meal A Month program. Each month a suggested shopping list of 5 items is provided which helps provide a complete meal for a family. Donation bags are available at the back of church and envelopes for those who would prefer to make a cash donation. Donations may be brought to church any time during the month. Any donations are welcome; the list is just a suggestion. All donations are greatly appreciated. Please contact Marti Robards with any questions.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

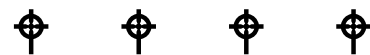
The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the Proehl Building to discuss investment strategies and possible changes to the endowment investments. All are invited to attend.

COFFEE AND ICED TEA in the Parish Hall after the 10 a.m. service. Please sign up to host.

St. Mark's Parish History Project



On our website at www.saintmarks-stl.org under "Search Process" there is the final version of the Parish History Project, the gathering together of your notes and comments on the parish time line. My thanks to all of you for your participation in the project. I am certain that the Search Committee and clergy candidates for the position of Rector will find your comments and insights very helpful as part of the Search Process. A personal observation: any errors in what you read should be considered my responsibility, errors that might be the result of my trying to decipher handwriting that sometimes was difficult to read. If you have corrections to offer, we can always make the changes.



Also if you haven't looked at it yet "The Parish Member Questionnaire Report" is also available on our website under "Search Process", so that you may read it and discuss it.



OPERA AGAIN! We are going to Turandot at Union Ave Opera on Sat July 9, 8pm let me know if you wish to join us. We only need 10 people to get a group. Prices are \$32 for (General Admission), \$30 for Seniors (age 64), or \$20 for a Group. Please contact: Mary Feldmeier



Episcopal School for Ministry
DIOCESE OF MISSOURI

Invites you to the Making Disciples Conference 2011
“Love Heals: Rediscovering God’s Promises”

8:30 am—3:00 pm

Saturday, August 27, 2011

Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri

Does a community help love heal? Does reading scripture in community change how we hear it? Can it change how we live in the world?

The morning session will be led by Becca Stevens, an Episcopal priest, author, and founder of Magdalene/Thistle Farms, communities for women who have survived lives of violence, prostitution, and addiction. Two graduates of Magdalene will join her to explore ways we can develop a context of community that allows love’s healing power to take root and grow.

The afternoon session will be led by Jeff Moore, D. Min., Ph.D., and Sr. Minister of Webster Groves Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), who has worked with Contextual Bible Study groups in the United States, Africa, Central America, and the Caribbean. Contextual Bible Study is a group process that takes seriously the history and complexity of Scripture while honoring the importance of who we are, when and where we live as readers and interpreters. Our afternoon time will include an introduction to Contextual Bible Study, and an opportunity to reflect upon the important issues raised by Becca Stevens and her colleagues during the morning session.

Cost: \$20 per person. Congregations may send a group of 10 persons for \$100

To register, send the following registration form and a check for \$20 made payable to the Episcopal School for Ministry, to Debbie Wheeler, c/of the Cathedral Bookstore, 1210 Locust Street, St. Louis, MO 63103.

Questions? Contact Pamela Dolan (pdolan@emmanuelepiscopal.org) or Beverly Van Horne (beverly.vanhorne@gmail.com) for more information.

Name _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

Name of your parish _____ Vegetarian Lunch? _____ Yes _____ No



FRIDAY CONCERTS IN FRANCIS PARK

Eagle Bank joins the St. Louis Hills Neighborhood Association in sponsoring the following Friday Concerts in Francis Park:

JULY 15 - PRESENTATIONS (Rich Guzman, Band Leader)
AUGUST 19 - SAMURIOT (Nathan Golomski, Band Leader)
Concerts will be held by the tennis courts in Francis Park from 7 - 9 pm. Come enjoy these concerts with neighbors and friends. Bring your own chairs/blankets.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

iSeek is the weekly news from the Diocese of Missouri and is emailed on Wednesdays. If you would like to sign up for it or to read it online go to diocesemo.org/aboutus/thisweeksnews.htm.

Buildings and Grounds Improvements



Several weeks ago Rita Diekemper presented the congregation with some proposals for plants and trees to add beauty to the church grounds. There are still more plants that can be donated with a gift ranging from \$30 to \$35. Additionally, one feature she suggested is a sturdy metal

bench for the church's accessible entrance, a bench similar to the one pictured here. We are about half-way to the \$1400 cost of the sturdy, durable bench. If you would like to contribute, this would be a thoughtful way to give a memorial gift to honor someone, or a gift in thanksgiving for how God has touched your life.

For the St. Mark's Calendar, please visit our website www.saintmarks-stl.org and click on the calendar tab.

THE MAGNETIC CHURCH



If you build it, they will come,
If you live it, they will stay.©

A Conference Presented by
Andrew D. Weeks
Friday Evening Nov. 11 &
Saturday Nov. 12, 2011

**PRACTICAL EVANGELISM TO HELP YOUR OWN CHURCH
ATTRACT, WELCOME AND RETAIN NEW MEMBERS**

If You've Been Asking Yourself

- ✓ How can we make our church communications, signs, buildings, property, website and worship more inviting and welcoming?
- ✓ How can we make visitors want to return to our church and stay?
- ✓ I'm private & reserved; how can I 'do' evangelism in my church?
- ✓ Many members of my church are uncomfortable with 'evangelism' and are resistant to change; how can I motivate and interest them?

THEN PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS EVENT !



A gifted lay evangelist and humorous, inspiring speaker, Andy invites *everyone*, not only lay leaders and clergy, to participate in this **spiritually** based, **fun** exploration of **practical, non-confrontational** evangelism. Using over 200 PowerPoint slides, he will challenge and encourage us to embrace new and creative **ministries**, not to take on more **tasks**. For details on how to register, fees, and '**what to bring**', please check the companion event brochure.

KIDS!

JOIN US THIS SUMMER FOR

GROWING IN GOD'S GARDEN



Hear Stories of

- The Garden of Eden
- The Mustard Seed
- The Garden of Gethsemane
- The Parable of the Sower
- The Workers in the Vineyard & More!
- PLUS Work in Our Own Garden of Eatin' Community Garden

SUNDAY SCHOOL
JUNE 5-SEPTEMBER 4

Join Us on Sundays During the 10:00 a.m. Service

Children over 10 years old can volunteer as helpers.