



The Lion's Roar

St. Mark's on the Campus Episcopal Church
NOVEMBER 2006



St. Mark's on the Campus

1309 R Street

Lincoln, NE 68508

Phone: 402.474.1979

Fax: 402.474.2435

Web site: stmarks-episcopal.org

Holy Eucharist Schedule

Sunday — 8:30 & 10:30

Tuesday — 12:30 (LJC)

The Rt. Rev. Joe G. Burnett Bishop
The Rev. Jerrold Thompson Rector
The Rev. Sidnie White Crawford . . Priest
Associate
Christine Grosh Deacon
John Flint Senior Warden
Susan Musick Junior Warden
Richard Toren Treasurer
Suzi Lore Assistant Treasurer
Kurt Knecht Music Director
Natalie Shepard . . . Christian Education
Ben Carlisle. . . Administrative Assistant

*St. Mark's on the
Campus strives to be a
Eucharistic Community of
reflection and action,
acceptance and growth,
Gospel and world.*

From the Rector

By Father Jerry Thompson

Dear Friends,

A couple of months ago, I joined a group meeting each week to reflect on our prayer lives. I've talked before about Ignatian spirituality, based on the work of Ignatius of Loyala, a sixteenth century priest whose work has been influential in the intervening centuries as a path to a prayer life that leads to deeper communion with God, and hence with each other.

In fact, "God in all things" is one of the tenets of Ignatian spirituality, and I have been struck during the last months by how right Ignatius is in perceiving the relationship between our interactions with one another and our interaction with God. Repeatedly, we in the group are asked to watch our relationships with those around us as a path to better understanding our relationship with God. Once again, Ignatian spirituality is becoming a great gift in my life, a gift for which I'm profoundly grateful, and a gift that I hope that I'm indirectly sharing with all of you.

Very soon we'll enter a season in which the giving of gifts will be on our minds. I find myself aware this year of how the most critical gifts are ones that we can't purchase in stores — although I also confess that I'm delighted with my new Ipod Nano that my family bought me for my birthday! The best gifts, though, are ones that come out of our sense of being loved by God, all of us equally, and that we want to love others in the same incredible way because we understand that life is to be found in doing so.

At this writing, I'm not sure how that reality will inform my Christmas gift-giving this year. But what I do know is that the reality of God's immeasurable love informs the gifts I give every day to the people around me, at least when I'm being faithful. I guess I could think of it as a little bit of Christmas in every day. Certainly God gifts me each day with the immeasurable love we celebrate on December 25 — so why not share it every day, too?

God in all things. Indeed. Indeed!

In Christ's Peace,

Fr. Jerry +

St. Mark's on the Campus

STUDY LOUNGE

Want a quiet, friendly place to study? Try our Study Lounge on Thursday and Sunday nights from 8 pm to midnight.

Want to help staff the Study Lounge or spread the word about it? Contact the Office at 474-1979 or smoc.office@stmarks-episcopal.org.

Book Club: 2006-07

November 19th: *Wind in the Door* (and/or) *The Irrational Season*, by Madeleine L'Engle, host - Julee Lowe

January 21st: *Gilead*, by Marilynne Robinson, host - Mary Jane Humphrey

February 18th: *The Unexpected Universe*, by Loren Eiseley, host - TBA

March 18th: *Veronika Decides to Die*, by Paulo Coelho, host - TBA

April 15th: *Blindness*, by Jose Saramago, host - TBA

The Book Club meets 3rd Sundays at 3 pm at the home of the host. Please refer to the parish directory for the address or call Andrea Nelson at 423-0663.

Adult Forum

On **November 5th and 12th**, Deacon Grosh will continue the discussion of "**Heresy.**" Starting on **November 19th** and through **December**, Bob Stock will discuss the movie, "*The Chronicles of Narnia.*" He urges people to read the C.S. Lewis book upon which it is based, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe.*

If you have ideas for future **Forum** subjects, bring them to the **Forum** or send them to Andrea Nelson (423-0663) or Susan Steinegger (488-8064). Our emails are in the parish directory.

Everyone is welcome. Just come to the church lounge, Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Mark-Us Notes

Potluck on Sunday, Nov. 5th, after the 10:30 Eucharist!

Sunday Early Arrivals

Looking for a place to hang out when you arrive early for church? Join us in the library next to the Lady Julian Chapel in the basement for coffee and conversation at 9:30 or whenever you arrive.

Good with numbers?

Have a bit of spare time after the 10:30 service? We need more Tellers; the current Tellers are often working twice a month to make sure that all of the finances are in order after the Sunday services. Please contact the office if you are interested in this ministry. Thank you!

Thanks for Your Wonderful Support

With many generous donations from St. Mark's on the Campus members, I was able to raise more than five times my original fundraising goal for the American Cancer Society's *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer* walk on October 22. I turned in \$527, adding to the thousands raised by a record number of walkers at the event. Your prayers and contributions touch many lives. Thank you all.
-- Peg Sheldrick

Bible Study

The Rev. Sidnie White Crawford is leading a Bible Study after the 10:30 am Eucharist at St. Mark's on the Campus, downstairs in the Lady Julian Chapel. This fall the topic is the Book of Daniel and the the Gospel of John will be the topic next spring.

Help Preserve Canterbury

Canterbury Cathedral, the "home church" of the Anglican Communion, is in need of 50 Million Pounds of preservation, some of it immediate. An international fundraising campaign has begun. More information is available at <http://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/fundraising>. Checks can be sent directly to Development Office, 11 The Precincts, Canterbury, CT1 2EH or submitted marked for this purpose in the offering plate and SMOC will send one check to the Cathedral Development Office.

EFM Aftercare

The EFM Aftercare group will meet at St. Mark's on the Campus on Thursday, November 16th at 7:00 p.m. to discuss Common Lesson 2—Theological Reflection.

Religious Experience on Campus

Students are invited Sunday evening, Nov. 12th, 5-7 p.m. for supper and conversation about religious experiences on campus. Anita Bowman and Abbie George will talk about Navigators and Campus Crusade for Christ. Questions? Call or email Christine Grosh: 486-3259 or cgrosh@windstream.net.

Sermon Copies

Sermons presented at St. Mark's on the Campus are always available as hard copies in the Narthex and on our Web site, stmarks-episcopal.org.

As you know, Kurt Knecht began his tenure as our church's Music Director this summer. Kurt and his family moved here from Tampa, where Kurt and his wife Jennifer were raised. This semester, he began work on his doctoral degree in composition. We hope you'll enjoy getting to know a little more about Kurt and his family.

Please tell us about your family.

I am married to the beautiful and frightfully intelligent Jennifer Rosenblatt. We have two children. Zachariah is 14 and a freshman at Lincoln Southeast. He is interested in drama and is on the debate team. He also plays piano and guitar. Avi is in 6th grade at Irving. Avi plays the piano and composes. He likes math and soccer.

Would you mind telling us about the music you compose?

The best thing to do is to listen. Some of my choral stuff is on my website. www.kurtknecht.com Other than that, I have never limited myself to a particular musical style. So, I have written in styles that could be called neo-classical, 12 tone, jazz, neo-romantic, etc.

What contemporary composers do you believe we should be familiar with?

Mostly I think that the idea of an "important" composer is pretty much dying along with the rest of Western culture. So, I believe that we should revert back to a 17th century conception and start searching out our town musicians. I think composers should write music for the people around them and fully expect that when they die that their compositions will be packed up and stored in a back room of the church.

You're a practicing Episcopalian. Were you raised one? If not, how did you become one?

I was raised simultaneously in the Missouri Synod of the Lutheran

Church and various charismatic churches. After working one year in the Episcopal church, I left for a better job. The church I served gave me a prayer book and hymnal as a parting gift. I missed the Episcopalians, and so I started saying Morning Prayer everyday. After about six months of Morning Prayer, I woke up one day, and I was an Anglican. I even let the bishop put his hands on me.

Music is an important part of worship in many religious traditions. Why do you think this is? How is our experience of God different through music than say, spoken prayer or scripture?

Part of the answer to this question lies more in the issue of how God experiences us in music rather than how we experience God. I mean that when the Scriptures talk about God "hiding" and we don't "experience" God's presence, the fault is with us and not God. God is always with us. We just aren't always present to God. Music helps us to be present.

I can't answer the whole question right now, but I'll write about one aspect that I think is overlooked too often. In the Jewish tradition, the Scriptures are divided up in this way. Torah is God speaking to humans. The Prophetic books are more interactive. Books like the Psalms are humans speaking to God. Because we know that the Psalms were sung, they are of particular interest to musicians.

What I think most interesting about them is that they provide

the opportunity for saying things that are theologically incorrect. We can pray with the Psalmist, "O God, be not far from me" even though we know that it is not God that is far away but us. In our musical prayer life, we can also give full expression to the things we are feeling even though they might be theologically shaky. It is our opportunity to question and struggle.

Now, this part of our musical life is not the only thing we do in the liturgy. All of that questioning and risky expression would be completely inappropriate during something like the communion liturgy. There we are dealing with mystery and beauty and confession and celebration. The music is there to help us engage in those aspects of the worship service and to (hopefully) keep us from getting cold hearts.

Father Jerry has said that I can have some space in the *Roar* to write about musical aspects of the service, so look for that in the future.

Your wife and children are Jewish. I would think that having two spiritual traditions in one family could be a very enriching experience. Is there interaction and exchange between the two? Would you be comfortable talking about the way they compliment each other?

I attend Shabbat services on Friday night and Saturday on most weekends before coming to church on Sunday. By the time

Continued on the following page...

Kurt Knecht, continued...

church is over on Sunday, I am incredibly holy. All joking aside, I love going to shul at Tifereth Israel. I love living out the Jewish/Christian dialogue with my wife. I could not even imagine practicing Christianity apart from Judaism.

Scholars tell us that the early Christians went to Synagogue on Friday and Saturday and then started meeting on Sunday for "church", so what I do does have a historical precedent. Also, for my personal spiritual life, going to synagogue is great because I don't have to *do* anything. I can just go and pray. As a church musician, my top priority on Sunday morning is the worship experience of the congregation. I try to sneak in some praying here and there during the service, but most of my spiritual life has to take place during other times.

Occasionally, it has been quite interesting to live in two spiritual worlds. I remember a Sunday when my children were at St. Catherine's in Tampa. Before they were going to receive communion, I noticed that they were crossing themselves in the strangest fashion. After services, I went to them and said, "What were you doing before communion? I need to show you how to cross yourselves the correct way." "Oh," they responded, "we weren't crossing ourselves. We were making a Jewish star." They then proceeded to show me how they were tracing two inverted triangles in six points. I think that is really beautiful.

Who can join the choir?

Just about anyone can join the choir. We have people of many

different levels of ability and training. We especially need more tenors and basses right now. If you've ever felt like trying it out, just come and talk to me after church one day.

Have anything else to add?

It's always strange when a congregation and a music director have to get to know each other. First, there is the flirting and initial infatuation. Now that we have been on a few dates, I am starting to develop some thoughts. I always think it's important to get along with the parents. Father Jerry is a wonderful priest. He's a good boss. He can maintain friendship and still have enough

wisdom to know when I need him to be my friend and when I need him to be my priest. St. Mark's is very blessed. Next, I like



to see if the person I am dating is psychologically healthy. St. Mark's is to all appearances a very healthy congregation. I am so happy to be here. I am having a fantastic time with the choir. I haven't bought a ring yet, but I'm thinking about it.

From the Treasurer

1/1/06 to 9/30/06

INCOME	Actual	Budget
Plate	15,409.95	10,947.00
Pledge	134,697.40	138,942.00
Diocese	15,374.97	15,372.00
Miscellaneous Income	3,694.38	2,700.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$169,176.70	\$167,961.00
EXPENSE	Actual	Budget
Diocesan Asking	20,803.50	20,799.00
Outreach	2,052.51	2,251.00
Salaries & Benefits	124,226.00	116,691.00
Utilities	7,022.27	8,248.00
Property & Insurance	7,843.77	7,854.00
Travel	1,200.00	1,389.00
Office	9,905.09	8,752.00
Altar & School Supplies	4,630.16	4,686.00
Congregational Life	5,033.80	5,594.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	157.35	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$182,874.45	\$176,264.00

For September expenses were as expected, but September income was again behind budget. We are now short of where we should be for this time of year.

Sincerely,

Richard Toren, Treasurer

As reported at the Annual Meeting in January, the Vestry approved for 2006 a "faith" or deficit budget with a deficit of \$8,665.00. Our current deficit is about \$13,700 which means we are about \$5,000 behind budget. We have a little over 2 months to close the gap and see if we can at least get back on budget.

John Flint, Senior Warden

November 2006 -- St. Mark's on the Campus -- November 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SUNDAY SERVICES 8:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Holy Eucharist WEEKDAYS 12:30 pm Every Tuesday, Holy Eucharist in the Lady Julian Chapel			5:30 pm - Choir practice	8:00 to midnight - Study Lounge	11:30 am - Theology for Lunch @ City Campus Union "The Middle East" by The Rev. Fritz Lampe, Pastor of Lutheran Student Ctr. 12 pm - Recital, Jim Lytton, SPUMC	The Lion's Tailgate -- beginning at 9 am 11 am - Installation of new Presiding Bishop
All Saints Sunday 5 Baptism: Oriana Hawley 9:30: Sunday School 9:45: Adult Forum ~ 11:45: Pot Luck to celebrate 2007 Pledge Campaign ~ 11:45: Bible Study? 8 pm - 12 am: Study Lounge	5 pm - Financial Advisory Committee Meeting	12:30 pm - Holy Eucharist in Lady Julian Chapel	5:30 pm - Choir practice	8:00 to midnight - Study Lounge	11:30 am - Campus Outreach	
9:30: Sunday School 9:30: Adult Forum 9:45: Choir practice ~ 11:45: Bible Study 12:15: Vestry, in Lounge 8 pm - 12 am: Study Lounge		12:30 pm - Holy Eucharist in Lady Julian Chapel 4:30 pm - The Gathering Place	5:30 pm - Choir practice	8:00 to midnight - Study Lounge	Hastings Coll. Conv? 11:30 am - Immigration, by Darcy Tromanhauser from NE Applesced	7:30 - 9 am - Breakfast Group at Thompsons' re: The Wisdom of Forgiveness by the Dalai Lama Campus Outreach Gathering?
9:30: Sunday School 9:45: Choir practice ~ 11:45: Bible Study 3 pm: Grace Lutheran Advent Music Concert (Jim Lytton) 8:00 to 12 am: Study Lounge	November ROAR Deadline	12:30 pm - Holy Eucharist in Lady Julian Chapel	5:30 pm - Choir practice 7 pm - Thanksgiving Eve Eucharist	Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	The Lion's Tailgate -- 2 hrs before kickoff Office Closed	
9:30: Sunday School 9:30: Adult Forum 9:45: Choir practice ~ 11:45: Bible Study 12:30 - 2:30: Eucharistic Visitor meeting 8- 12 am: Study Lounge		12:30 pm - Holy Eucharist in Lady Julian Chapel	5:30 pm-- Choir practice	8:00 to midnight - Study Lounge	Dec 1	

Sunday Ministerial Assignments

Date	November 12th	November 19th	November 22nd Thanksgiving Eve	November 26th	December 3rd
8:30 Rector Helper/ Acolyte	Yolanda Rolle	Sara Toren	~~~~~	Todd Sneller	Yolande Rolle
10:30 Chalice Bearer/ Lay Eucharistic Minister	Todd Sneller	Shirley Mills	Don Gray	Don Gray	Jeanne Vannorsdall
Acolytes	Shirley Mills	Jonathan Cole	Michael Fairclid	Shirley Mills	Jonathan Cole
	Abbie George	Samantha Karas	Helen Pitts	Samantha Karas	Abbie George
Ushers	Don Gray	Susan Ugai	Roger Waite	Bob Kuzelka	Susan Rehn
	Jack Merritt	Dean Settle	Lisa Sutton	Bob Stock	David Sellmyer
Lector (OT)	Anita Bowman	Dick Boohar	Sarah Fairchild	Opal Doerr	Lyn Forester
Epistler	Steve Buhler	Burns Davis	Ray Lawther	Dean Settle	Cathy Sellmyer
Intercessor	Don Nelson	Todd Sneller	Dave Holmquist	Jeanine Jewell	Pippa Lawson
Greeter	John Flint	Mark Musick	Bonnie Quinn	Dennis Alfrey	Pamela Starr
Coffee Host	Opal Doerr	Nan Graf	Jim Karas	Don & Dorothy Nelson	Karen Krebsbach
Bread Baker	Laura Waldman	Margo Young	Loris Purtzer	Kathy Schmutte	Laura Waldman
Altar Guild	Kathy Schmutte	Janna Shrewsbury	Joyce Wagner	Opal Doerr	Don Gray
Tellers	Anne Puls	Leroy Svec	Michelle Waite	Stan Sipple	Larry Krebsbach
	Andrea Nelson	Shirley Mills	Karen Vogely	Anne Puls	Andrea Nelson

November Birthdays

1 -Kim Thomason	13 -Burns Davis	21 -Ellie Binder
3 -Emily Binder	14 -Rick Bales	22 -Kathy Schmutte
-Kelly Grey Carlisle	-Parker Durham	28 -Craig Lawson
7 -Bob Kuzelka	16 -Rebekah DeFusco	30 -Rachel DeFusco
8 -Ken Shepard	-Loris Purtzer	

Remember,
the December *ROAR*
DEADLINE
is **November 20**
smoc.office
[@stmarks-episcopal.org](https://stmarks-episcopal.org)

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