



May 2019

the Lion's Roar

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Basking Ridge, New Jersey

My sheep hear
my voice. I know
them, and they
follow me. I give
them eternal life,
and they will
never perish.

John 10:27



For the last year I've been trying something a little new for Adult Education: I've been recording the class content on video. During the Sunday Forum (at 9AM in the Heritage Room on most Sunday mornings) I then play the recorded video, and when the video is over we have a general discussion.

Of course, it's a little more work on the front-end. I have to figure out what I'm going to say in a condensed version, find the time to video myself, and then edit the video - overlaying pictures and graphics as necessary.

But, I find this new process is helpful in two ways. First, it condenses my "teaching time" during the actual class - because on the videos I can't just go off on a tangent! So, it allows for more discussion, which I think is the best part of the Sunday Forum.

But, second, it all allows the content to "live" beyond the class session. We post it on the website (and sometimes even on Facebook) so that people can access it later. I've heard stories from parishioners who watch the videos regularly, parishioners who catch up on a class they missed, and parishioners who listen to the session while commuting to work. And, because they are uploaded to YouTube, they are available for anyone in the world to check out.

I know that Sundays are becoming increasingly busy for people, and so doing adult education in this format helps provide some of the content for people who can't make it in person, or who can't make it regularly.

This year we've completed two courses, one on Prayer, another on the Way of Love, and we're in the middle of a final one on the Trinity.

If you've been "tuning in" - great! If not, you might want to check it out, and see if there isn't something to help you grow in your spiritual life.

Peace,
Rick

A CALL TO ACTION:

Check out one video from one of the courses we've done this year, and see if it fits for you.

- Come. Grow. Here. -

St. Mark's is a place to grow. It's a place to grow closer in our connection to God. It's a place to grow closer to the needs of the world, which God places on our hearts. It's a place to grow among and with other people, from diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS:

Don't forget to mark your calendar... Sunday, 02 June 2019 at 10:00 AM - Please join us as we honor our Rite 13 students who will be making their passage into next year's J2A class. For the past two years these students, under the dedicated leadership of Kristen Hauser, have faithfully worked to this day. The Youth Group staff and students are honored to have been part of this journey and look forward to joining everyone in wishing them abundant blessings as they continue their walk with Christ. _

Sunday, 09 June 2019 at 10:00 AM - Please join us as welcome our Confirmation class into the Church! It is with great joy that Jeff West and I have served these past years learning and fellowshiping with these truly inspirational group of young adults. We are both so proud and honored to be a part of their Confirmation day. We look forward to celebrating this special day with them, their families and all of you!

ASP SPRING PLANT SALE 2019

Make your home beautiful with our gorgeous plants and help families in Appalachia. High quality plants with great prices: flowering hanging baskets, pots of vibrant flowers, veggies and herbs. They'll be ready just before Mother's Day. This year we have some exciting new plants from Ace Greenhouses in Flemington. Your participation helps our youth and adults from St. Mark's in Basking Ridge and St. Martin's in Bridgewater to serve the Appalachian community.

Have fun choosing your plants, complete the form, and make checks payable to St. Mark's, memo: ASP plant sale.

Please return to the St. Mark's office or Jenny Phillips

Any questions: jrpw26@gmail.com or 908-451-9638

**DEADLINE FOR PLANT ORDER:
MONDAY APRIL 8, 2019**

PLANT PICK UP and PLANT SALE:

Sat, May 4: 9:00am – 11:00am
Sun, May 5: 11:30am – 12:30pm

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Parish Hall
140 S. Finley Ave
Basking Ridge NJ 07920



ASP
Appalachia
SERVICE PROJECT®

Birthdays

May 2 Sandy Lazo
 May 3 Gerald Creighton
 May 4 Sophie McDonnell
 May 6 Colin Buesser
 May 8 Amelia Kendall
 Donald Kress
 Susan Richardson
 May 9 Charles Knill
 May 11 John Lazo
 Jim Martucci
 Owen Glass
 Meg Lunny
 May 13 Jeff Heiner
 May 14 Brit Vaughan
 May 15 Jensen Vaughan
 Bill Wilmer
 May 16 Madeline West
 May 18 Alex Corson
 Brett Sinofsky
 May 20 Claudia Hughes
 Doug Post

May 23 Megan Taylor
 Cindy Campbell
 Roger Conover
 Hannah Creighton
 May 24 Avery Grace Licata
 Kyle Winter
 May 26 James Finger
 May 28 Mark Iantosca
 May 30 Bernard Jewson
 May 31 Christina Creighton

Anniversaries

May 6 Laura & Tom Mooney
 May 7 Marty & Mary Urbas
 May 14 Jack & Connie Smythe
 May 18 Lois & Ron Buesser
 May 24 Mark & Ann Rosenblum
 May 27 Rich & Christine Thoma



UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Sermons & Readings

May 5 - In one of the most tender resurrection appearances, Jesus cooks breakfast on the beach for his disciples.

May 12 - (Mother's Day) - Jesus in in Jerusalem for the Festival of the Dedication, or what we usually know as Hanukkah.

May 19 - On this day we look back to the events of Maundy Thursday, when Jesus gave us a "new commandment": Love one another.

May 26 - As we get closer to Pentecost, we hear Jesus tell his disciples about the coming gift of the Holy Spirit.

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Worship:

8am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 10am Holy Eucharist, Rite II & Sunday School
 9am Wednesday in Post Chapel
 Saturday Evenings, 5pm in Post Chapel

May 2

Ridge Oak, 10am
 Fellowship Village, 11am

May 7

Holly Manor, 10am
 Fellowship Village, 11am

May 20

Holly Manor Bible Study, 10am

Meetings:

May 13 Wardens & Finance
 May 20 Vestry Meeting



OUTREACH

Easter Food Bank Donations

Thank you to all who donated to the food bank for Easter. In total St. Mark’s parishioners donated 39 hams and 4 turkeys.

Keansburg

Keansburg is now switching over to the summer menu. In the summer, St. Mark’s volunteers grill. Check out the link every other week to see the summer needs including mandarins, watermelon, pasta salad and chips.

Ross Farm God’s Giving Garden

While the weekday work sessions over the summer may vary due to garden/harvest needs, we are planning to have a consistent Saturday am session every week this summer, weather permitting, from 9:30-noon and it will continue through final harvest. Make it a weekly family event whenever you can!

Look for news of the Veteran’s Memorial Day collection!

CHARTER DAY—SATURDAY, MAY 18

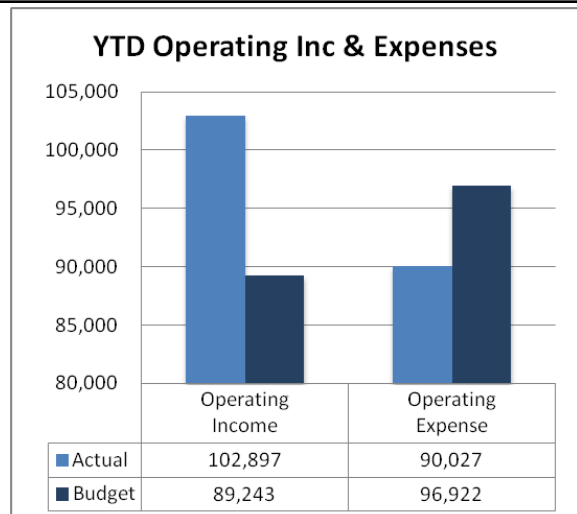
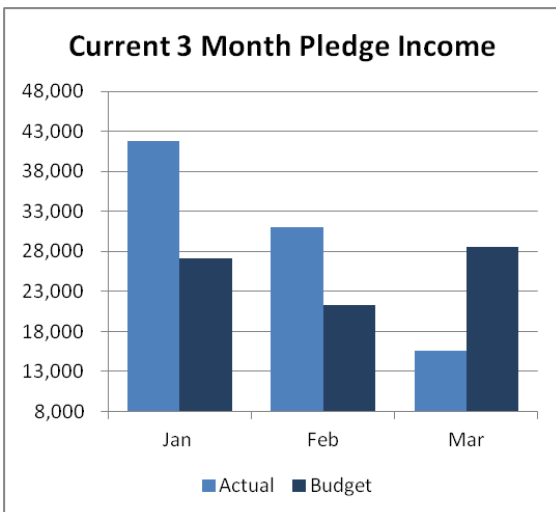
This year we will be taking advantage of the crowds on Charter Day to welcome people into our newly renovated Post Chapel for tours of our historic building. Please contact Marcie Hanhart if you are available to lend a hand as a tour guide.

FINANCE REPORT— February YTD Results

March YTD Operating Net Income is \$103K. The strong Operating Income is due to higher donations and timing of the received pledged income.

In early April, the Spring Rummage Sale brought in \$13K! This important fundraiser will be included in next month’s financial numbers, I wanted to highlight and thank all the volunteers who worked so hard making this a success.

March YTD expenses of \$90K are slightly favorable to budget. The favorability is the result of timing of several variable expenses.



WARDEN'S CORNER

I hope you've noticed how nice our historic Chapel now looks. I'd like to thank the Buildings Commission, led by Jeff Hooper, and our sexton Martin Hale for all their work over the past year on the Chapel. And thank you to those whose financial contributions made this work possible.

This project began last year with excavation around the exterior in the front of the Chapel. Drainage issues were identified as well as some structural deficiencies, particularly under the entranceway. The structural and drainage issues were fixed last fall, but as you may remember, we had to delay the final repairs of the shingling and the painting until this spring. This has now been completed. In addition, the final grading in front was done and the area seeded.

Our Chapel is a wonderful space, fostering contemplation and spirituality. It connects us with the many members of the St. Mark's family who came before us. And it continues to be used frequently today.

By the way, we will be offering guided tours of the Chapel during Charter Day in Basking Ridge on Saturday, May 18th. Please let Marcie Hanhart know if you'd like to participate as a tour guide.

Jim Lunny, Senior Warden

SPRING 2019 RUMMAGE SALE THANK YOU

We would like to thank the St. Mark's community for another successful Rummage Sale. It was our best Rummage Sale ever, raising \$13,000! We appreciated everyone's involvement in achieving such a great result. During the week we had lots of fun and shared wonderful fellowship. So congratulations everyone on a job well done! Thank you again for another successful fundraiser for St. Mark's.

Harry Woods, Kit McLaughlan and Annabelle Wilmer

Fellowship & Stewardship

Spring Gathering of the Women of St. Mark's Thursday, May 16th at 6:30 we will meet at the home of seasoned hostess Martha Winter. Sign up sheet is in the Link or contact Carol DeCoste, 766-0408, or g.decoste@yahoo.com.

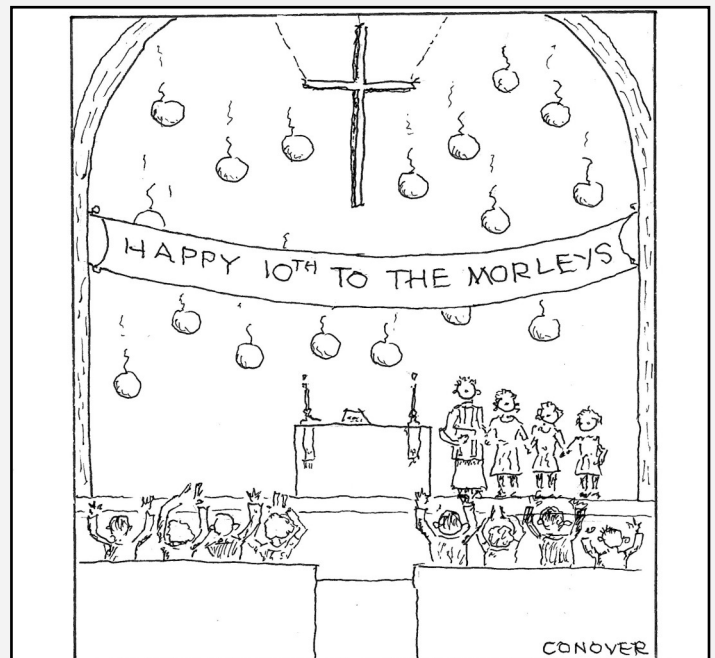
LAUGHTER IN THE PEWS

2019 VESTRY

Rector: The Rev. Richard M.C. Morley
Senior Warden: Jim Lunny
Junior Warden: Joan Graff
Grounds: Pete Kocek
Buildings: Jeff Hooper
Outreach: Lea O'Shea
Finance: David Taylor
Stewardship: Gerald McDonnell
Christian Education: Laura Mooney

Youth Ministry: Tammy Young
Comm. / Evangelism: Eileen Barna
Membership: Marcie Hanhart
Fellowship: Betsy Coffin

Non-Vestry Positions:
Warden Emeritus: Jim Nishimura
Recording Treasurer: Doug Post
Sunday School Director: John Lyga
J2A Activities Coordinator: Tammy Young



Father Rick, a modest man, wanted no recognition for his 10th anniversary as priest here. However, his parishioners would have none of it.