

mark my words

ST MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GASTONIA

june & july 2011

Inside this Issue:

Greetings from Greg
Summer Schedule
Come to the Table VBS
Thank you
Camp Henry Update
Service Men/Women Pix
Future Playground



Grace and Blessings to you all. I am very excited and thankful for the opportunity to come live and work and serve among you. When I arrive in June one of the things I am looking forward to most is getting to know everyone better. I look forward to meeting those of you whom I did not meet when we visited last March and to seeing again those of you whom we did meet. Thanks again for your incredible hospitality during our visit. What I am really looking forward to, though, is hearing your stories—the sacred stories of your lives. I honestly believe it is through sharing our stories with one another that we find meaning, beauty, and honesty in our own personal lives and in our common life together. It is how we connect with one another. Stories can be a powerful way of seeing and experiencing the Christ light in one another. And so with this in mind, I would like to share with you some of my own story. It is just an outline, and not an exhaustive one at that, but I would like you to know a little about me as I arrive. Hopefully we will seek each other out and find opportunities to share more of our stories in the weeks, months and years to come.

I was born in Athens, Georgia. My parents, who are still in Athens, actually lived about twenty miles away in Commerce, Georgia at the time. I lived in Commerce through middle school before we moved into Athens where I entered high school. I grew up an Episcopalian, attending a small church in Winder, Georgia. During the summers I would go to Camp Mikell, the Episcopal camp for the Diocese of Atlanta, and it had a profound impact on me.

After high school I put off going to college right away. I remember being a little restless and tired of school. I think I knew I would be attending the University of Georgia in Athens at some point, but I also knew I needed to be in control of the terms on which I would go there. So I wandered around the country for a few years and worked in a bike and ski shop outside of Seattle, Washington, and on commercial fishing boats in Alaska. I was a ski bum for a while in Colorado and I did some hiking on the Appalachian Trail. Then I was ready for college.

I did end up going to UGA and while there I met my wife Kathleen. We had actually gone to high school together but she was a couple of grades ahead of me. After college we moved to Black Mountain where I served as an Assistant Director at Camp Rockmont. We began attending St. James in Black Mountain and then, by the grace of God, I went to work at Camp Henry, first as Assistant Director and later as the Director. I also served as youth minister at St. James in the off-season. At Camp Henry I got to know some of the St. Mark's crowd since more staff came from Gastonia than any other town besides Asheville.

For many years, perhaps even when I was a teenager, I felt a pull towards the priesthood. Not long after I started attending St. James I began the active discernment of that notion which took several years. I even took time away from the discernment process while I was at Camp Henry. Finally, my life aligned itself in such a way that seminary became the next step. By this time Kathleen and I had two children, Gracie who is now six and Andrew who is three. He was nine months old when we moved to New York City to attend The General Theological Seminary.

Seminary has been good for us and it has been hard on us. It has stretched us in many ways. We have been living in the big city, but we are not really big city people. Actually our kids might be at this point, I don't know, but Kathleen and I are looking forward to heading home to the South and to more natural surroundings. I am very glad to be done with school at this point. And I eagerly await a new life with all of you. In many respects, as I look back over the landscape of my life, I have been moving precisely towards this time with you, just as we all have been moving towards this point where our lives will intersect in mysterious, fun, interesting, and loving ways. Until we meet, may God's Peace be with you.

Greg McIntyre +



weekly schedule

sundays

HE Rite I - 8:00 am

HE Rite III/Family Service
- 9:30 am in Parish Hall

Adult Sunday School Class
- 9:30 am in Adult Class

HE Rite II - 10:30 am with
Nursery

Daughters of the King - 1st
Sun after church, Balthis

Brotherhood of St. Andrew
3rd Sunday 8:30am, Adult
Sunday School Room

Vestry - 3rd Sunday after
church, Vestry Room

Suspended for summer:
Breakfast, children's Sun-
day School, Children's
Chapel, Prayer Shawls,
Choir Rehearsals, and
Covenant Circle Meeting

mondays

ARC Kamp Kaleidoscope -
Monday-Thursdays 9-3
June 27-August 4

Gastonia Glee Club - 6:30
pm, Choir Room & Church

AA Meeting - 8:00 pm, PH

wednesdays

Bible Study - 4:30 pm
Balthis

HE II - 6:00 pm Sanctuary

thursdays

Care Givers' Support
Group - 1st Thurs, 6:00
pm, Balthis

Order of St. Luke HE &
Healing - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, &
5th Thurs 7:00 pm (4th
week at All Saints)

PFLAG Meeting - 3rd
Thurs 7:00 pm, Balthis

"Come to the Table" Vacation Bible School

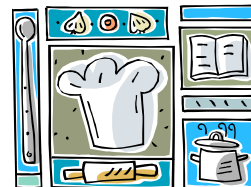


JUNE 20 - 24, 2011

**9:00 AM through 1:00 PM Daily
A Joint Venture of St. Mark's &
All Saints' Episcopal Churches**

To Be Held on the All Saints' Campus

**Applications for children and adult vol-
unteers are outside Polly's Office.
Registrations are due NOW.**



A Hospitality Theme!

Centered around food, Eucharist, & welcoming!

Activities:

- Bread Baking and Eating
- Learning Manners & Etiquette
- Meal Prayers & Grace
- Music, Art, and Play
- Aprons and Chef Hats
- Bible Stories involving meals
 - Abram & the 3 Visitors
 - Feeding the 5000
 - The Last Supper
 - The Road to Emmaus
 - Resurrection Seashore Appearance

HOW CAN I HELP?

Want to help but maybe not in person? Speak to Polly for how. Cash donations can always help keep Bible School a no-cost event for everyone. Mark any cash or checks for VBS. Thanks!

Children ages 4—4th grade

"and they were filled with the Holy Spirit"



This has certainly been an interesting spring, with reports of the Rapture and all the cataclysmic storms in the South and the Midwest. When I add an Easter date that is as late as it is possible to be and the celebration of Pentecost after Sunday School is long over, it has set me thinking about being ready - ready for whatever God has planned next. Scripture tells us (and many people said this as the end of the world was being talked about) that we will not know the hour when the end will occur, we just need to be ready for Christ to return. So how do we know if we are ready for Christ? I can only speak for myself when I say, "I am not sure we can know." But I think it is important, for me anyway, to keep trying to pattern my life after what I think is God's plan for me. This spring I became part of a women's Disciple Bible study group that meets once a week. We are using the series *Invitation to the Old Testament* and are focused on looking at God's promise to Israel and to us as God's people on earth. What we do and say matters because God knows it all and sees what kind of people we are, even when we think we are alone. Sunday School can be an important part of our spiritual growth, but it is not the only thing. Formation is the constant way we learn and grow and change each and every day. Our bodies change and grow, sometimes in ways we don't want. When that happens, we work to get back to better eating habits or to more exercise. The same is true of our spiritual growth - we have to work to stay healthy and strong and change when that is needed. That is my message for this summer to everyone who is looking to have a stronger relationship with God. Find a way to make your spiritual growth a true journey with God. Look for a book read that will help you grow, or a group to meet with regularly for Bible study. Join the Adult Class that continues its Bible study lessons through the summer at 9:30 each Sunday. Or just take a few minutes each day to be still and listen for what God might be saying to you through that "still small voice" in your head. You might just find a new calling and a new passion for something. Then come and share what you have learned with others and help them to grow in their relationship as well. I look forward to hearing about what is happening in your lives.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



Many thanks to the dedicated men and women who help lead our Sunday morning classes each week:

3-5 year olds - Polly Redd, Marcia Thrower
K-1st-2nd - Trish Anderson, Carol Fezell, Jeanna Tiller
3rd & 4th - Rebecca Adams, Olivia Anderson, Christi Jolley
5th, 6th, 7th - Kristin Major, Liz Willett
8th through 12th - Pat Cheshire, Walter Hobbs, Duane Pendleton
Adults - David Burns

Thank you to these six men and their helpers for their "culinary" efforts with breakfast each Sunday. Delicious!!

John Anderson
Greg Dills
Travis Fezell

Don Miller
Jim Redd
Dale Ward

Comings & Goings



Salvation Army Team C fed 70 people on Tuesday, May 10. Jim Barber, Carol Barker, and Fred Hadfield served a dinner of ham, green beans, potato salad, peaches, rolls, and assorted desserts. Food was provided by them and Tracey Buzzeo, Anne Carriel, Jean Eaddy, Candy Grooms, Ann Jordan, Eleanor Martin, Elizabeth Seabrook, and Betsy Steketee.

CPC's Miles of Pennies: Bring your change throughout the summer to put in large container by the door for our Miles of Pennies collection to provide children's printed materials around the world. A mile is \$844.80 and we have our first mile.



A Care Givers' Support Group meets the first Thursday of the month from 6 to 7 PM, followed by the Healing Service at 7:00 PM for those who wish to stay. Using the book "A Caregiver's Survival Guide: How to Stay Healthy When Your Loved One is Sick" by Kay Marshall Strom, the group focuses on supporting those in the role of care giver for another. Anyone is welcome to attend. Contact Shawn for more information.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry makes prayer shawls to wrap those in need with prayer. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, speak to Nancy Brewbaker about how to get started. She is taking a break for summer but can easily give any one directions. To date the group has made 19 prayer shawls for parishioners and others.



We would like **pictures of the men and women in the armed forces** we are praying for each week for a display. Please get a 2 1/2 x 3 1/2 picture of your family member to the church office or to Brenda Gilbert. Thanks.



ARC returns to St. Mark's: ARC's summer Kaleidoscope Kamp program returns to St. Mark's Monday through Thursday beginning June 27 through August 5. A list of items needed for these special students' summer program is posted near the kitchen. Volunteer help is also welcome. Speak to Terri Williamson about helping in any way.



Items with the St. Mark's Logo are in the front hall cabinet at church and at the St. Mark's Online Apparel Store linked through our webpage. Be sure to click and see all the great shirts, hats and bags available. Thanks to the Brotherhood of St. Andrew and the hard work of Greg Montgomery and Russ Tiller for these "goodies".

St. Mark's offers Red Cross Certification Classes in Infant/Child First Aid and CPR and Adult CPR and Use of our Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). If you are interested in having a class to be better prepared for summer emergencies with your children, speak to Dan Gilbert and he will schedule an "early summer" parents class. Classes cost \$20 (a great rate reduction from Red Cross) which covers the rental of class materials. We must reserve and pay up front for materials so if you sign up, make every effort to attend.



A New Church for a New Time: The Annual Diocesan Ministry & Mission Conference is Saturday, June 4 from 8:45 to 3:55 at First Baptist Church, Asheville. The keynote speaker for this event is Canon Bonnie Anderson, President of the Episcopal Church's House of Deputies and an active lay minister. The day includes lunch and a wide variety of workshops on areas of ministry, plus a fabulous bookstore and display. Members of the staff and vestry are planning to attend and all parishioners are welcome. Cost is \$25 and registration forms with more information are posted in the hall near the nursery. Speak to Kevin Knight if you want to go.



Lenten Hope Chests/Mite Box Offering has been totaled and sent to Episcopal Relief and Development for aid where needed around the world. Our total was \$251.00. Thank you so much to those who dropped coins in their boxes and returned them at Easter. If for some reason you forgot to bring back you Hope Chest, you can still bring it in to Polly and we will send off any additional moneys. Thank you also to Kevin Knight who counted all that change.



Episcopal Relief & Development
Healing a hurting world



UTO ingathering was May 22nd. If you missed church that day or forgot your Blue Box, bring it by the church office soon so it can be counted in this spring's totals. Margaret Beveridge is in charge.

EfM is an intensive Biblical and Church history study and hopes to form a group in the fall. Speak to either Pete Brake or Shawn for more information.



CAMP HENRY THIS SUMMER

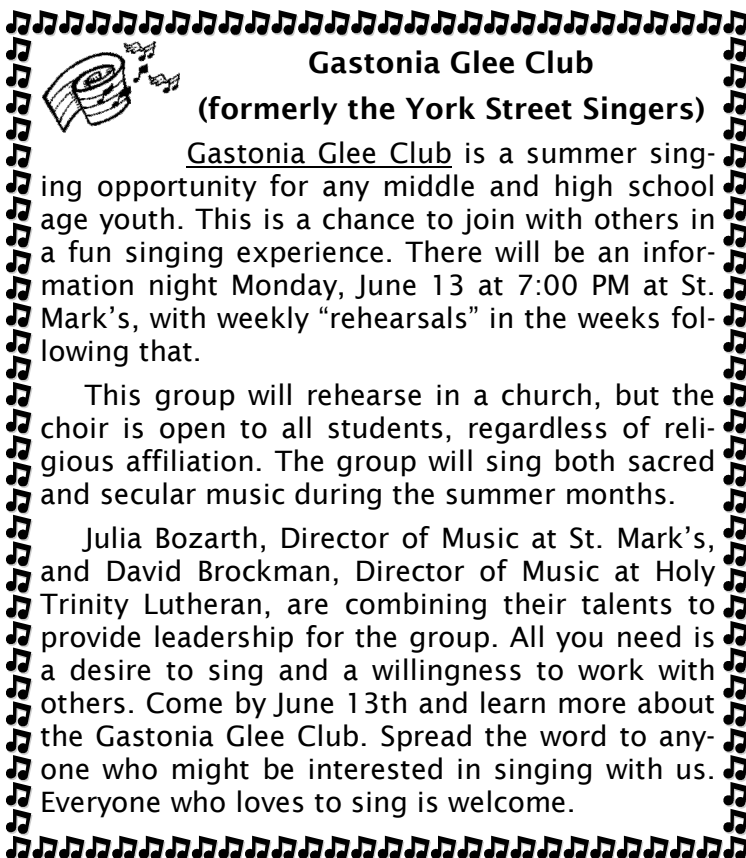
9 children from St. Mark's have signed up for Camp Henry this summer. They include several who have been regulars at camp, some 1st-timers, and even some going to the shorter "Mini Session". When Ian visited us at St. Mark's in May, he told us sessions are filling up rapidly, but there were still openings.

If you are interested in camp for your child, get your registration off immediately. Forms are available in the church office or you may register online at www.camphentry.net. A non-refundable \$150 deposit is required with each registration. Scholarship help for the remainder of the cost is available from St. Mark's. We are blessed to have donations from the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, the Episcopal Church Women, the Lefty Carroll Fund, and several other members of the parish who help send our kids to camp. If you would like to also help in some way, speak to Shawn.

Camp Henry Wish List

- Game Equipment, indoor and out
- Craft Supplies, any kind
- Costume Items
- Fishing Gear
- First Aid Kits for Cabins
- Cleaning Supplies
- Staff Snacks, healthy snacks for all summer long
- Porch Chairs for Cabins
- Facilities Work to repair Gazebo, build trails, etc.

There are many ways to help. A full list is outside the nursery door. Contact Ian Williams, Camp Henry Director at iangreywilliams@gmail.com to see how you might help.



Gastonia Glee Club

(formerly the York Street Singers)

Gastonia Glee Club is a summer singing opportunity for any middle and high school age youth. This is a chance to join with others in a fun singing experience. There will be an information night Monday, June 13 at 7:00 PM at St. Mark's, with weekly "rehearsals" in the weeks following that.

This group will rehearse in a church, but the choir is open to all students, regardless of religious affiliation. The group will sing both sacred and secular music during the summer months.

Julia Bozarth, Director of Music at St. Mark's, and David Brockman, Director of Music at Holy Trinity Lutheran, are combining their talents to provide leadership for the group. All you need is a desire to sing and a willingness to work with others. Come by June 13th and learn more about the Gastonia Glee Club. Spread the word to anyone who might be interested in singing with us. Everyone who loves to sing is welcome.

Transitions In Our Parish Family

Baptism: Mason James McCarey, son of Morgan & Jeremy McCarey Zachariah Marshal May, son of Joyce May

Baptism: Alexandra Young, daughter of John Young and Natela Ivanova, a local Russian Orthodox family

Marriage: Mary Catherine Ellis & William Joseph, in Charleston, (sister of Cookie Rudisill)

Transfer Out: Frances Difatta to St. Luke's, Lincolnton



CALLING ALL GOLFERS!!

Wanted: A new person to coordinate the annual fall St. Mark's golf tournament.

If you would like to consider doing this "job" this fall, contact Judy Hobbs and she can fill you in on what is involved.



This picture was taken in the early 1940's. It is a picture of the men of St. Mark's Episcopal Church at our church when it was located on West Long Avenue.

In our worship service we often talk about the communion of saints, saints which go all the way back to the first apostles. However, I think sometimes it is important for us to see things in a more concrete way. For us, our communion of saints directly descends from these men, from their families that started our parish in 1877 and who made it possible for our first place of worship to be built in 1903.

I want you to take another look at this picture and I want you to think about how proud those families would be today if they could see what we as a Christian community have become. These families invested their whole being into building the Church of God in their part of the world. They gave of themselves to invite others to a place they believed was the foundation of family and community life. They made St. Mark's a place of welcome and inclusiveness. They invested in the future of our parish both emotionally and financially.

We are blessed today because those who came before us were thinking about both us in the present time and those who will come after us. We have at St. Mark's an Endowment Fund that helps our parish provide for the ministry and mission of our future. I invite you to seek out Steve Campbell for more information about setting up donations to ensure the future strength of our congregation.

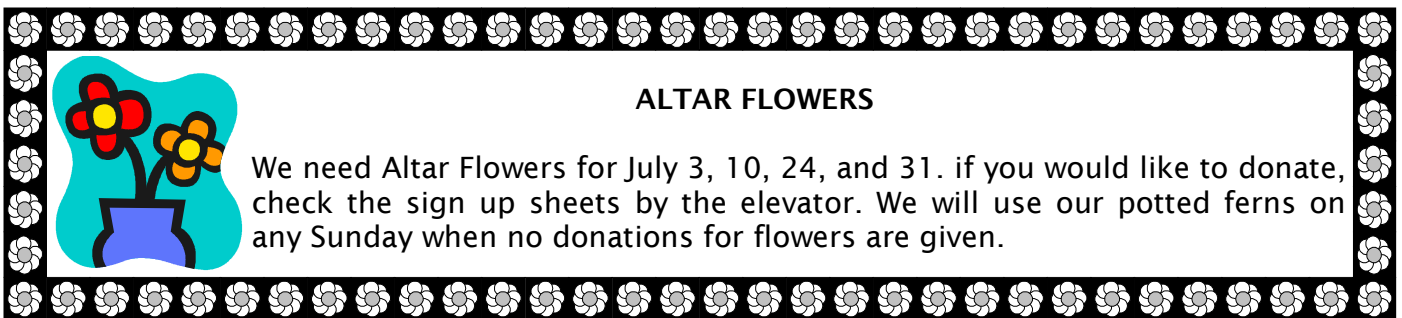
More importantly I want you to dream with us what St. Mark's will look like in 50 to 60 years. Our vestry sees a place where families find community with one another and where souls are transformed spiritually.


One way that we are moving forward is by building a playground in part of our parking lot. This playground is not just a place where our children will play and enjoy their time together. The playground will also be a place where parents will sit and visit, forming lasting relationships. New ministry ideas will be born there, the stories Greg spoke of on page one will be shared, and community will happen.

At the same time we are discerning and exploring what it would mean to our community and mission to move ahead with phase II of our recent building project. This phase would provide for a large gymnasium-size multipurpose room. Now is the time to consider this need, not when our current children are teens, because by then it will be too late. This addition would require us to comment to a capital campaign while continuing to support our ongoing financial needs, but I truly believe that with God's help it will happen.

Five families started our parish. Times were tough; they lived through the depression and went through two wars. What would have happened if they had been satisfied with their small building and part time priest? What if they had only looked at what they needed just at that moment? How many people would have died without knowing the love of God?

Can we be like those first families of St. Mark's? Can we set aside our own needs and personal desires and see a vision of the St. Mark's for our grandchildren's grandchildren? Do we dare dream and then, by the power of the Holy Spirit, find the courage to follow where God leads the way? Shawn+





ALTAR FLOWERS

We need Altar Flowers for July 3, 10, 24, and 31. If you would like to donate, check the sign up sheets by the elevator. We will use our potted ferns on any Sunday when no donations for flowers are given.

We are St. Mark's -A Christ Centered Church

• Touching Lives • Transforming Hearts • Teaching God's Word

June & July Schedules of Sunday Lay Servers

Vestry Person Responsible for June Lock-Up - Richard Martinez; July Lock-Up - Jay Barnes

June 5, 2011

7th Sunday of Easter (July 3rd Continued)

Summer Schedule Begins

Layreaders: 8:00 Jeff Bozarth, Judy Maloney; 10:30 John Anderson, Liz Domenico, Jeff Bozarth

9:30 Family Service Hosts: The Jolley Family

Ushers: Will & Marcia Thrower

Acolytes: Austin Biles, Jackson Cloninger, Ally Adams

Greeters: Chad Barker, Debbie Brake

Nursery: Kenna & Coralie Watts

Coffee Hour: Mary Stamey, Susan Stragand, Nancy Henley

June 12, 2011

The Day of Pentecost

Layreaders: 8:00 Ed Hoerning, Sharbel Pio; 10:30 Jay Barnes, Ann Jordan, Chris Christy

9:30 Family Service Hosts: The Travis Feezell Family

Ushers: Jim & Anne Carriel, Dan Gilbert

Acolytes: Stewart Butt, Valerie & Duncan Queen

Greeters: Richard Martinez, Celia Billings

Nursery: Brenda Gilbert, Candy Grooms

Coffee Hour: Jean Eaddy

June 19, 2011

1st Sunday after Pentecost

Father's Day - Trinity Sunday

Layreaders 8:00 Jeff Bozarth, Pat Townsend; 10:30 Ann Ward, Brenda Gilbert, Dale Ward

9:30 Family Service Hosts: The Russ Tiller Family

Ushers: Janet & John Sarn

Acolytes: Bess Cleveland, Christina & Jackson Vaughn

Greeters: Jean Eaddy

Nursery: Rebecca & Ally Adams

Coffee Hour: Kenna Watts

June 26, 2011

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Layreaders: 8:00 Mike Janik, Mary Stamey; 10:30 Paul Johnstone Chad Barker, Joe Saunders

Family Service Hosts: The David Major Family

Ushers: Pat & Don Miller, Tina Queen

Acolytes: Elizabeth Vaughn, Sophia Varriale, Thomas Jolley

Greeters: Emelyne & Brock Wellon

Nursery: Jeanna & Russ Tiller

Coffee Hour: Jean Eaddy

July 3, 2011

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Layreaders: 8:00 Ed Hoerning, Judy Malina; 10:30 Jay Barnes, Liz Domenico, David Burns

9:30 Family Service Hosts: The Vince Varriale Family

Ushers: Rebecca & Greg Adams, Gary Brewbaker

Acolytes: Alex Campbell, Ally Adams, Sophia Varriale

Greeters: Judy & Walter Hobbs

Nursery: Price & Marcia Thrower

Coffee Hour: Liz Domenico, Debbie Scarborough

July 10, 2011

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Layreaders: 8:00 Liz Willett, Vicki Caudell; 10:30 Fred Hadfield, Jeff Bozarth, Joe Saunders

9:30 Family Service Hosts: The Chris Christy Family

Ushers: Steve & Trish Campbell

Acolytes: Coralie Watts, Thomas Jolley, Austin Biles

Greeters: Pam & Greg Dills

Nursery: Terri Williamson, Christi Jolley

Coffee Hour: Judy Hobbs

July 17, 2011

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Layreaders: 8:00 Jeff Bozarth, Pat Townsend; 10:30 Mike Janik, Ann Jordan, Chris Christy

9:30 Family Service Hosts: The Will Thrower Family

Ushers: Pat & Don Miller, Tina Queen

Acolytes: Bess Cleveland, Duncan Queen, Harry Tiller

Greeters: Jeanna & Russ Tiller

Nursery: Donna Taylor, Barbara Thymius

Coffee Hour: Janet Sarn, Tina Queen

July 24, 2011

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Layreaders: 8:00 Ed Hoerning, Sharbel Pio; 10:30 Claude Hueitt, Brenda Gilbert, Pete Brake

9:30 Family Service Hosts: The Miller/Queen Families

Ushers: Mike Stanley, Duane Pendleton, Dan Gilbert

Acolytes: Elizabeth Vaughn, Reynolds & Mary Lyon

Greeters: Don Howe, John Anderson

Nursery: Rachel & Sophia Varriale

Coffee Hour: Anne Carriel, Ruth Burns

July 31, 2011

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Layreaders: 8:00 Pete Brake, Mary Stamey; 10:30 Chad Barker, Russ Tiller, Alex Willilamson

9:30 Family Service Hosts: The King/Anderson Families

Ushers: Kevin & Peggy Knight

Acolytes: Stewart Butt, Jackson Cloninger, Clay Williamson

Greeters: Jean Eaddy, Debbie Brake

Nursery: Jeremy & Morgan McCarey

Coffee Hour: Pat Miller

mark my words

ST MARKS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
258 WEST FRANKLIN BLVD.
GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA 28052

The Diocese of W North Carolina

The Rt. Rev. G. Porter Taylor, Bishop

St. Mark's, Gastonia

The Rev. Shawn L. Griffith, Rector

The Rev. Gregory E. McIntyre, Assistant
Rector

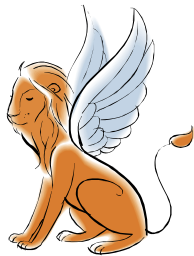
The Rev. G. Patterson Cheshire, Deacon

Mrs. Julia L. Bozarth, Director of Music

Mrs. Polly G. Redd, Director of Christian
Formation

Mrs. Trish G. Anderson,
Business Administrator

Mrs. Jean R. Eaddy, Church
Office Administrator



Vestry Leadership

Class of 2011

Ernie Adcock
Fred Hadfield
Kevin Knight (Senior Warden)
Cathy Young

Class of 2012

Jay Barnes
David Burns
Richard Martinez
Debbie Scarborough (Junior Warden)

Class of 2013

Michelle Jarbeau
Judy Maloney
Tina Queen
Russ Tiller

www.stmarksgastonia.org
