

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# NEWS

LENT 2012

## Discernment 2012

The early followers of Jesus Christ were not called people of “right doctrine,” or the people of “moral values,” or even the people of “the church.” They were called the people of “the Way.”

What was this way? It was the path of life, a path towards transformation of self and society. More than just individuals who had a changed religious position, they were now a new people, a new community embarking on a new way of life based on Jesus’ central commandments of loving God and neighbor.

We are those people, and we are on the Way. We need to understand where we

are going, to map things out, to consider the direction and ministry of the whole congregation. This year we will join one another to discern God’s will, to identify ways to enliven our ministries and prepare and support people for their travels. Please attend the three workshops that will help us get ready for the journey. Each will be after the service on Sunday, lunch provided.

March 4 – Formation and Worship

March 25 – Administration, including building and maintenance and finances

April 29 – Inreach and Outreach

### *More from the Glossary*

**Lent**—A season of penitence and fasting in preparation for the Paschal feast, lasting forty days in imitation of Christ’s fasting in the wilderness. In the western church the forty days of Lent extend from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday, omitting Sundays. Christians are invited “to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word” (BCP, p. 265).

**Shrove Tuesday**— The Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. The term is derived from shriving, which means confessing and absolving. The Tuesday before the beginning of Lent was a traditional day for hearing confessions. It is also commonly known as “Mardi Gras” or “Fat Tuesday.” Because of the Lenten fast, the day before Ash Wednesday was a day to consume animal fat. It has been to custom at St. John’s and many other Episcopal Churches to celebrate with a pancake supper.

## ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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THIS NEWSLETTER  
IS ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT  
POWELLEPISCOPAL.COM

**Ash Wednesday**— The first of the 40 days of Lent, named for the custom of placing blessed ashes on the foreheads of worshipers at Ash Wednesday services. Ashes are used as a sign of penitence and a reminder of mortality.

**Maundy Thursday** The Thursday in Holy Week. After washing our hands and celebrating the Eucharist, the altar is stripped and all decorative furnishings are removed from the church. A prayer vigil begins immediately, following Jesus' plea to "stay here and keep watch with me." You are encouraged to sign up for a time to be with Christ through the night. You may pray and sit with a partner; the outside doors will remain locked through the night so each person will allow the next

one in at the appointed time. Meditative music will be provided to help with your journey inward, if you choose. The vigil will continue through the night and morning until the Good Friday service at noon.

**Good Friday** is the solemn remembrance of Jesus' death on the cross. The liturgy of this day is marked by austerity and silence, and includes a unique responsive prayer called the Bidding Prayer.

**Holy Saturday** is the Saturday before Easter, the last day of Lent and is the day when Christ's body lay in His Tomb.

**Easter** is the feast of Christ's resurrection. Easter Day is the annual feast of the resurrection, and the season continues for 50 days, or a week of weeks.

Our prayers are with **Bill Hassler** as he recovers from successful shoulder replacement surgery which took place in Billings on January 12.

An **Adult Formation** class during Lent will center on author and Bible scholar Marcus Borg in revisiting Christianity's most fundamental questions: Who is God? What does salvation mean? What place does Jesus hold in contemporary Christian faith? In this five-session, faith-formation resource, participants enjoy the rare privilege of witnessing Marcus in dialogue with a small, diverse group of adults

as they confront the big questions and work together toward authentic answers. Each session includes a 10-minute presentation by Marcus Borg followed by interaction with the group. The study addresses fundamental questions that adults struggle with as faith matures. The five sessions include: God, Jesus, Salvation, Community, and Practice. The group convenes Thursdays during Lent, March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room at St. John's. Please sign up with Megan Nickles.

Thanks to the members of the Vestry for a successful annual meeting, and

especially to **Laura Greathouse** for her years of service to the group. Congratulations to **Steve Nickles** and **Nick Morris** who were elected to the Vestry, and to **Mary Dillivan, Carol Bendick, Genny Bettger** and **Sue Woods** who were elected to attend convention this fall.

Save the date: **Bishop John Smylie** will make his annual visitation April 14-15.

Thanks to **Elaine DeBuhr** and **Robert Rumbolz** for organizing the January Powell Care Center Birthday Party with musical guest Mokkyung Jeon from South Korea.

**Powell Valley Loaves and Fishes** contributions are always needed and appreciated. There is a basket for Loaves and Fishes contributions in the Narthex for items that will be delivered to the Annex.

**The Rev. Megan Nickles** (754-4218) is available at any time. Please call to make an appointment or for any emergency.

## — *Events to Remember:* —

### Altar Guild:

February – Mary Dillivan and Dolores Woods  
March – Susan McEvoy and Jane Woods  
April – Jo DeWitt and Adele Doughty

### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 21

### ESL

Tuesdays at 9am and 7pm

### Vestry Meeting

Last Sunday of each month

### Thrift Shop Cleaning Day:

Monday, Feb. 27, 1pm  
Monday, March 26, 1pm

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

6 Hidee Urbach  
9 Sammy Haberstroh  
10 Scott Larsen  
11 Madelyn Morris  
15 Norm Meidinger  
16 Alma Seeley  
16 Isabell Urbach  
20 Tyler Foster  
21 Charlotte Patrick  
21 Danielle York  
22 Cynthia Garhart  
23 Ron Lytle  
26 Grant and Natalie Dillivan  
29 Carol Bendick  
31 Jennifer Jensen

### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

20 Jane Woods and Ray O'Brien  
31 Bill and Laura Greathouse

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

3 Nick Morris  
4 Annie Woods  
7 Katy Lytle  
9 Elaine DeBuhr  
10 Doug Greathouse  
11 Amy Lee Cabre  
15 Meagan Nickles  
24 Walter Johnson  
26 Chester Bettger

# *What we Believe*

- As Episcopalians, we are followers of Jesus Christ, our Lord, and believe in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- The Episcopal Church has members in the United States, as well as in Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Haiti, Honduras, Micronesia, Puerto Rico, Taiwan, Venezuela, and the Virgin Islands.
- We strive to love our neighbors as ourselves and respect the dignity of every person.
- The Episcopal Church is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion, and traces its heritage to the beginnings of Christianity.
- Our liturgy retains ancient structure and traditions, and is celebrated in many languages.
- We welcome men and women, married or celibate, to be ordained as bishops, priests, and deacons.
- We believe in amendment of life, the forgiveness of sin, and life everlasting.
- Lay people exercise a vital role in the governance and ministry of our Church.
- Holy Communion may be received by all baptized Christians, not only members of the Episcopal Church.
- We uphold the Bible and worship with the Book of Common Prayer.
- We affirm that committed relationships are lifelong and monogamous. Episcopalians also recognize that there is grace after divorce and do not deny the sacraments to those who have been divorced.
- We affirm that issues such as birth control are matters of personal informed conscience.
- We celebrate our unity in Christ while honoring our differences, always putting the work of love before uniformity of opinion.
- All are welcome to find a spiritual home in the Episcopal Church.

From *iamanepiscopalian.org*

## **Notes for Lectors**

Please contact Megan Nickles if you are unavailable for certain services.

Two lectors have been assigned for each Sunday, and the readings should be divided as follows:

Morning Prayer: Lector 1 reads the first lesson  
Lector 2 reads the second and third lesson  
Holy Eucharist: Lector 1 reads the first lesson and the Psalm  
Lector 2 reads the second lesson

The appropriate selection has been given for each Sunday (Proper 4, Proper 5, etc.), and we are currently in lectionary Year C of the Revised Common Lectionary. The complete readings are printed in the lectionary book at the lectern. The readings are also available on-line at <http://www.prismnet.com/~kellywp/> or you may Google Revised Common Lectionary and select the appropriate date.

St. John's is using the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) available on-line at <http://www.io.com/~kellywp/>. Other sites with the RCL can be reached through Google or any

other search engine, but this is the easiest site to navigate – just be sure to click the “RCL” link for the day, not the “BCP” which is the Book of Common Prayer Lectionary.

The complete readings are also printed in the Lectionary book at the lectern. These pages may be photocopied, if you wish to take them home for practice.

If there is a choice between two Hebrew Bible lessons (Old Testament), we will be using the first choice, which offers a loosely chronological narrative of stories of The Great Family. If the preacher decides to use other readings, you will be notified.

Sometime during the week before you read, you will get an email from Diana Anderson or Megan Nickles with a link to your reading – this is just to be sure we are all on the same page.

If you want to understand the context of your reading, there are many excellent websites that provide notes and background for each lection. Go to <http://textweek.com/> for quick access to these sites.

Complete notes for Lectors can be found at [powellepiscopal.com](http://powellepiscopal.com).

# *Schedule* Lent through Easter

	Feb 22	Feb 26	March 4	March 11	March 18	March 25	April 1	April 5	April 6	April 7	April 8	April 15
	Ash Wednesday 7 p.m.	Lent 1 10:30	Lent 2 10:30	Lent 3 10:30	Lent 4 10:30	Lent 5 10:30	Palm Sunday 10:30	Maundy Thursday 5:30 pm <i>Agape Meal</i>	Good Friday Noon	Holy Saturday 11 a.m.	Easter Sunday 10:30	Easter 2 10:30
<b>Year B</b>												
<b>Service</b>	Imposition of Ashes						Palms/ Passion		<i>Washing Hands</i>	<i>Solemn Collects</i>	<i>Liturgy of the Word</i>	
<b>Greeters</b>		Adele Doughty	Josephine DeWitt	Pete Chidsey	Martha Moewes	Rob Koelling	Grant Dillivan				Elaine DeBuhr	Susan McEvoy
		Susan McEvoy	Katy Lytle	Deb Chidsey	Jennifer Jensen	Deb Koelling	Natalie Dillivan				Carol Bendick	Katy Lytle
<b>Acolyte</b>		Deb Chidsey	Walter Johnson	Carol Bendick	Deb Chidsey	Walter Johnson	Carol Bendick				Deb Chidsey	Walter Johnson
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Megan Nickles	Mary Dillivan	Carra Wetzel	Laura Greathouse	Jan Lenhard	Diana Anderson	Robert Rumbolz	Diana Anderson	Carra Wetzel	Laura Greathouse	Robert Rumbolz	Jan Lenhard
<b>Lector 1</b>		Jennifer Jensen	Justine Larsen	Katy Lytle	Madelyn Morris	Carol Bendick	Susan McEvoy	*	Steve Nickles	Jane Woods	Steve Nickles	Scott Larsen
<b>Lector 2</b>		Jackie Cowell	Steve Nickles	Genny Bettger	Elaine DeBuhr	Rob Koelling	Deb Koelling	*	Carol Bendick	Dolores Woods	Elaine DeBuhr	Jennifer Jensen
<b>Preacher</b>		Diana Anderson	Charlotte Patrick	Carra Wetzel	Megan Nickles	Ron Lytle	Diana Anderson	*	*	*	Charlotte	John Smylie
<b>Intercessor</b>	Diana Anderson	Jan Lenhard	Robert Rumbolz	Mary Dillivan	Laura Greathouse	Carra Wetzel	Charlotte Patrick	*	Jan Lenhard	*	Diana Anderson	Robert Rumbolz
<b>Presider</b>		Megan Nickles	Megan Nickles	Megan Nickles	Megan Nickles	Megan Nickles	Ron Lytle	Megan Nickles	*	*	Megan Nickles	John Smylie
<b>Sound</b>		Sue Woods	Scott Larsen	Sue Woods	Scott Larsen	Sue Woods	Scott Larsen				Monte Nickles	Scott Larsen
<b>Coffee host</b>				Bettger		Dillivan	DeBuhr				Lyttles	
<b>Flowers</b>		Walter Johnson	Lytle and Doto	Lytle and Doto	Dillivan	Dillivan	Palms				Katheryn Becker	Katheryn Becker