

# THE LION

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Issue 2

## *Curate's Corner*

Fr. Randall Russell



Among all the beautiful stained glass windows that can be seen at St. Mark's there are four windows that are each dedicated to one of the four evangelists: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. But how can we tell one evangelist from another? Well, that's easy! We know which evangelist is which by his specific Gospel symbol. For example, in the June/July 2018 issue of our church newsletter it was pointed out that St. Mark's Gospel symbol is a lion because the Gospel of Mark begins with John the Baptist roaring like a lion in the wilderness, telling the world to repent. And in the August/September 2018 issue of our church newsletter it was pointed out that St. Matthew's Gospel symbol is an angel because after a long genealogy Matthew's Gospel begins with an angel appearing to Joseph in a dream, telling Joseph to not be afraid to take Mary as his wife. And in this issue of our church newsletter it will be pointed out that St. Luke's Gospel symbol is a bull because the Gospel of St. Luke both begins and ends at the Temple in Jerusalem where bulls were regularly sacrificed.

In fact, not only does St. Luke's Gospel begin and end in the Temple, but it also is the only gospel to tell us about Mary's purification at the Temple as well as our Lord's pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem when he was only twelve years old. Therefore, Luke's Gospel symbol is a bull and we know that the picture of the stained glass window on the left is of St. Luke because we can see a bull, St. Luke's Gospel symbol, peeking out from behind St. Luke's left elbow. It is a lot harder to see in a black and white photo, but hopefully you can make it out by looking at the enlarged photo of the bull's head on the right side of this page.



You may also notice that unlike all of the other evangelists' stained glass windows, St. Luke does not have a pen or a scroll or a book in his hand. All four evangelists are often depicted with some kind of writing tool or book in their hand to show that they wrote a Gospel, but not in this case. No, instead St. Luke is seen holding some leaves or herbs in his hands and this is because St. Luke was not only an evangelist but also a doctor. In Colossians 4:14 St. Paul writes, "Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings." Church tradition also often refers to St. Luke as a doctor and the Gospel of St. Luke is often filled with various medical terms that would have been well known by many in the medical community at that time. For example, the evangelists Matthew, Mark, and Luke all record that Jesus said, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God." However, the Greek word which St. Luke uses to describe the needle is that of a surgeon's needle whereas the Greek word both St. Matthew and St. Mark use is that of a domestic sewing needle. Therefore, whenever one sees a picture of an evangelist holding some leaves or herbs in hand one might rightly assume that the evangelist is none other than the good doctor St. Luke using the leaves or herbs to make some medicine.

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*Curate's Corner - Continued*

Unlike the stained glass windows of St. Mark and St. Matthew, neither of the windows for St. Luke or St. John can be found up by the altar. Instead, both of the stained glass windows for St. Luke as well as St. John can be found in the side bell tower chapel. To the right of St. Luke's window there is a plaque which reads, *The Parish Window of St. Luke the Evangelist*. According to the plaque this particular window was purchased in loving memory of Frances "Pat" Tibbits; in memory of Rt. Rev. Norman A. Stewart; in memory of the George Walton Family by Dale Walton Ritchie; in memory of the William Ritchie Family by Dale Walton Ritchie; given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Graham W. Stikelether, Sr. by Michael and Debbie Kannehl; given in loving memory of John Arthur Fiske by his family; given in loving memory of Sue and Page Bussells by Susan B. Dickson; given in memory of Jewel Crittenden Martin by Calvin and Canda Brown; given in honor of Rick Trimble, Kim Smith, and Jacob Smith; given in honor of Philip S. Dickson and Susan B. Dickson, given in honor of Cassandra D. Larson, her family, and Caroline Dickson; given in memory of Mary Pratt Boyd by the parish of St. Mark's Church.

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## ***Mark Your Calendars!***

### St. Mark's ReMarkable Treasures Sale

**January 26, 2019** will mark the FIFTH Annual St. Mark's ReMarkable Treasures Sale. Please remember that this is the ONLY fund raiser that the Anglican Church Women (ACW) of our parish undertakes on a yearly basis. Did you know that every woman in this parish is a member of the ACW automatically? We are now calling out for all your help!

Beginning **RIGHT NOW**, please gather items in good working order that you would like to donate. We will be accepting clothing, jewelry, appliances, kitchen items, lamps, furniture, gadgets, tools, glassware ... anything you would buy yourself would be suitable to donate. Talk to family, friends, neighbors, co-workers to encourage donations and participation on that day too.

**Sunday, January 20, 2019** – Four Men are needed to help set up the tables and chairs after the 10 AM service.

**Wednesday, January 23, 2019** – Drop off donations at the church from 10 AM to 11:30 AM ONLY.

**Thursday, January 24, 2019** – Drop off donations at the church from 8 AM to 12 noon ONLY.

**PLEASE NOTE** that Wednesday 10 -11:30 and Thursday 8 AM to noon are the ONLY days we can accept donations. Many hands will be needed to accept donations, sort items and arrange goods. If you cannot deliver your items on those days, all is not lost, as we have volunteers to pick things up for you! Contact Ann Dozetos or Priscilla Reilly for alternate arrangements. AGAIN, no donations can be accepted after Thursday at noon. Thank you.

**Friday, January 25, 2019** – Many volunteers will be needed to re-sort, tag, price, and organize / refine donations on tables.

**Saturday, January 26, 2019** – 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM volunteers will be needed to work the crowds and to make this sale a HUGE success. Anything that is not sold will be packed up for the good people at Habitat Restore. Afterward wine and cheese will be provided for all of the volunteers as they celebrate what is sure to be another successful Treasures Sale.

Sign-up sheets will be provided at the church the closer we get to January 26. Please mark your calendars now! Thank you.

## *Mark Your Calendars Yet Again!*

### St. Mark's Annual Men's Outing

The St. Mark's annual Men's Outing will take place next year on Saturday, **February 9!** All of the men of the congregation are invited to come. More information will be provided as the date draws near.

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## *The Acts of the Apostles*

Fr. Randall Russell

If you're like most Christians then chances are you are probably already familiar with most of the events surrounding our Lord's life. Events such as our Lord's birth, some of the miracles He performed, and, of course, our Lord's death and resurrection are fairly well known by most Christians. But what isn't as well known are the events which occurred shortly after our Lord's death and resurrection; and that's where Book of Acts comes in!

The Book of Acts (*also known as The Acts of the Apostles*) is a particularly interesting book of the bible because it shows us how the Church continued to function immediately following our Lord's ascension fifty days after Easter. The disciples didn't all just stand around waiting for our Lord to return. In fact, they were even told NOT to do that! (*See Acts 1:11*) After all, there was important work that needed to be done and still needs to be done even today.

Since the beginning of September we have been studying the Book of Acts in the adult bible class on Sunday morning. Only our adult bible class is no longer just an adult bible class, but it is now a joint adult / youth bible class for all ages. Every Sunday morning we read aloud a chapter from the Book of Acts. If you have never gone through the Book of Acts then I would encourage you to attend this class. It only requires forty five minutes of your time and I guarantee that if you stick with it and regularly attend you will know the Book of Acts very well.

Because the class involves children as well as adults various memorization tools and different forms of media are used to help teach the class. For example, for more visual learners PowerPoint slides are often used to correspond with each week's particular lesson. Sometimes online videos are also used at the beginning of class to help everyone better visualize the events of a particular text. And every class begins with the children (as well as some of the adults) reciting a simple rhyme to help everyone remember what each chapter in the Book of Acts is about.

The rhyming word for Acts chapter one, for example, is SON because it is in Acts chapter one that we learn that the SON ascended into heaven. The rhyming word for Acts chapter two is DO because it is in Acts chapter two that disciples receive the power to DO the work of ministry; they received the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. Acts chapter three is KNEE because the Apostle Peter healed a crippled man and so on.

The actual idea to have a joint bible class came about after a discussion Father Mike and I had regarding possible divisions that exist within the Church as a whole today. In many churches the division between the adults and the children is often deliberate. Sometimes churches even encourage such division not only through separate Sunday morning bible classes, but also through completely separate worship services as well. However, Christ's Church is for all and this joint youth / adult bible class is an attempt for the children of the congregation to get to know the adults of the congregation better and for both groups to encourage one another to grow in the faith.

So if you would like to encourage the youth of our congregation to grow in their faith and if you have never really studied the Book of Acts or are just looking for a refresher course then I strongly encourage you to take a look at what's happening at our church at nine o'clock on Sunday mornings. Thank you and I hope to see you there!

## *Music Notes*

Kathleen Knott, Music Director / Organist

### *A Hymn of Harvest and Thanksgiving / #291 1982 Hymnal*

During the season of Autumn we will sing this hymn which celebrates harvest and reminds us to be thankful. The poem which formed the foundation of this hymn was written by Matthias Claudius (1740-1815), and was first published as a peasant song in 1782. Claudius grew up in Germany in the home of a Lutheran minister. He forsook the faith in his 20's, but returned to his childhood faith during an illness in 1777.

During his illness he wrote Christian poems and this poem which has 17 verses was based on Psalm 144. As the poem evolved into hymnbooks the verses were cut down and the 3<sup>rd</sup> verse which starts with "We plow the fields and scatter" was often selected to begin the hymn. The text was set to music by Johann Shulz in 1800. Jane Montgomery Campbell translated the hymn from German to English in the 1860's and taught the hymn to the children of the parish school of her father's Anglican church in London. The chorus of this hymn is an affirmation we should remember every day:

"All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;  
Now thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love."

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## *Upcoming Holy Days*

Please note: for the safety of everyone, all Prayer Book Holy Day services are henceforth cancelled until the completion of the roof project or until further notice. Thank you.

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## **St. Mark's Anglican Church**

**Rev. Canon Michael L. Ward, SSA**  
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