



And What Did You Do on The Fourth? It Was His 84th, So He Was Parade's Grand Marshal

Oh, you shoulda been there! It was pure Americana. As simple as, well, as Fourth of July and fresh lemonade. Our **Mordecai Walker**, for xx years a resident of that charmingly bohemian hamlet called Driftwood, a neighborhood of twisting one-lane streets and Old Florida vegetation, was named Grand Marshall of their an-

nual parade. "Next year, the Rose Bowl!"

Marchers, drums, bicycles, a flag-draped Chow dog named Lord Byron, one riding lawn mower, and Sousa marches blaring from the car stereo. The finale: lemonade and birthday cake!



more from St. Augustine's

#138, Sunday, July 6, 2008

Gospel's Hope-bringers Die, But Not Hope

Visiting the Episcopal Church of the Philippines in June, Presiding Bishop, Katharine Jefferts Schori learned about clergy and lay workers who had been abducted and murdered . . . "acts of military leaders who are offended by the churches' work to empower and uplift the poor," she writes in the July issue of *Episcopal Life*.

"Why should we be concerned?" she asks and then answers with the following words.

"When one part of the Body of Christ suffers, all suffer. When one part rejoices, all rejoice.

"when Anglicans in Zimbabwe are beaten in church as they wait to take communion, when Sudanese Episcopalians seek to return to their homeland, long devastated by civil war,

"when the people of central China, some of them worshipping in churches build long ago by Anglicans, have had their earthly foundations shaken and destroyed,

"when Filipino Episcopalians are murdered for trying to live out the gospel, indeed the rest of the Body of Christ is being crucified.

"And perhaps when we begin to see the connections with other parts of this Church, we will find a greater compassion for those who are children of God but don't happen to be Episcopalians or Anglicans.

"As the rabbis long ago said about Pharaoh's soldiers who drowned in the Red Sea after Moses led his people through those waters, God wept.

"God is still weeping today...."

But "hope will not die," she asserts, "even as the hope-bringers of the gospel die, for the light of Christ continues to shine in the darkness."

Green's 'In' Here Too

"We should be seeing a little bit of green in a week or so." That was **Lewis Clowers** talking about the just-seeded lawn areas at the front of our church.

Nat Jones did the spreading last Thursday, using about 50 pounds of new Argentine Bahia seed that he laid over the the scars left when our old septic tanks were replaced with a new sewage system. Those rutted areas were somewhat leveled by afternoon rains, but then **Bobby Allen** arranged to have professionals roll all the scarred fingers of ground that crisscrossed our front property.

With more summer rainstorms each afternoon and some regular use of our sprinklers, the men believe that in a few weeks the only signs of all that excavation will be a small electric pole and a few sewage clean-outs. Weeks of grassy trauma will be smoothed over, they say, "just like a good plastic surgeon had been here."



Today **Darnesha Allen** turns 9.

Scripture for Next Sunday, July 13th

Genesis 25:19-34 Richard Smith

Psalm 119:105-112 Shirley Davis

Romans 8:1-11 Judy Krug

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 Deacon Bauknight

Prayers of the People Donna McRae

Also on Readers page at: www.staugstpete.org

* This newsletter might be seen as the first draft of our church's recent history. It is about recognition and spiritual attitude, candor, mixing hearsay, and unashamed cheer leading. Members Judy and Tom Krug are its co-editors and some 65 parishioners are essential to the effort. Issues are available each Sunday after our 9:00 service. We e-mail it to several dozen churches and supporters. It is also archived at www.staugstpete.org, our web site for church-shoppers.