



ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



The Crier

April 2008

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St. Nicholas Episcopal Church
 7227 Penn Avenue South
 Richfield, MN 55423
 612-869-7551
www.saint-nicks.org

May issue deadline
Tuesday, April 15th
 Put in Crier box in office or
 email to kathy@isd.net
 Please put iCrier in subject.



ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



St. Nicholas Episcopal Church
7227 Penn Avenue South
612-869-7551

Sunday Service

8:00 am Eucharist
9:15 am Adult Education
9:45 am Child/Youth Education
10:30 am Eucharist



Ministers **All Parish Members**
Priest **The Rev. Thomas Eklo**
Deacon **The Rev. Judy Conn**
Senior Warden **Todd Oliverius**
Junior Warden **Martha Chambers**
Director of Music **Charlotte Grantier**
Crier Editor **Kathy Cummings**



Vestry Members

Pam Banks **Alfred Jaryan**
Ed Kariuki **Dick Kohout**
Tom McConnell **Bill Mills**
Helen Mudgett **Victor Owuor**

Treasurer **Rich Makela**
Vestry Clerk **Jill Aicher**

Reflections from Tom

Easter Greetings to each and every one of you! While that may seem an odd proclamation to those of you who know all too well that Easter Sunday was March 23rd, the liturgical season of Easter continues for fifty days, culminating in the feast of Pentecost in the month of May. During this season of Easter we read the stories of Jesus' varied appearances that follow his resurrection and we read the stories of the early apostles from the book of Acts that speak of their certainty and boldness in proclaiming a risen Lord. Both of these sets of stories leave us with a sense of comfort on the one hand, but they can also be baffling if you stop and think about them for too long, for they don't make a whole lot of sense on the surface.

Much of the action surrounding the post-resurrection Jesus seems contradictory. Jesus tells Mary Magdalene on Easter morning that she must not touch him until he has gone to be with the father. A bit later in a room with other disciples, Jesus instructs the disciple Thomas to thrust his hand into his wounded side. Jesus seems to be recognized from time to time, and then there are those times (the road to Emmaus) when persons who spent time with Jesus and should have been able to readily recognize him, fail to do so. He seems to have a physical presence but then there are times he walks through walls and doors as if a ghost or an apparition. There are times he sits down to eat a meal and then there are times when the food is placed on the table and he suddenly vanishes. All of it seems confusing, at best, for those of us who prefer a little order and consistency in our lives. I think all of us would like to have a clearer picture of what this post-resurrection life looks like and feels like, and Jesus doesn't seem to help us out a whole lot. In fact, Jesus doesn't give us a very clear picture at all.

But then I ask myself, why should I be surprised? Jesus and the writers of the gospels who chose to chronicle his life have filled the pages of our Scriptures with a Jesus that not only confounded those of his day but continues to confound you and me as well. We tend to get stuck with the obvious as untenable and miss the message. The message of the post-resurrection appearances is that something dramatically different has occurred with the

resurrection. Something has happened that defies tidy explanation. It is virtually impossible to put all of the pieces together. We are left with the reality that Jesus is both friend and stranger - someone we can't touch because the Jesus we have clung to no longer exists, yet someone who invites us to touch as a tangible sign of presence. Someone who is a stranger until suddenly there is a revelation of his presence, and then just as suddenly the revelation is gone. Filled with a sense of love and wonder, we run to tell others of what has happened. We want to know the details, and what we are given is a simple message ñ Resurrection changes everything.

The apostles were transformed by that message. With boldness they proclaimed Jesus as the living Lord in a world in which there was only one Lord worthy of worship ñ Caesar. It was a risky, profoundly subversive proclamation that we too often fail to appreciate. ìThere is a new way of being, of living,î they said, ìand the lord of that life is not Caesar, it is Jesus, who lived and died and rose again.î Alleluia.

Blessings,

Tom



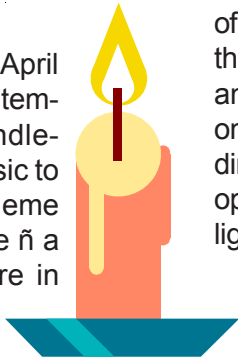
ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



Friday Night Contemplative Service

Join us Friday evening, April 18th, for our second Contemplative Service of candle-light, readings, and music to quiet the soul. The theme for this service is peace ñ a peace that finds nurture in our own lives and moves on, infusing the relationships of our everyday world. The service begins at 7PM and lasts for about 50 minutes followed by a time of fellowship and an unbelievably delicious dessert. Come find out what it is all about.



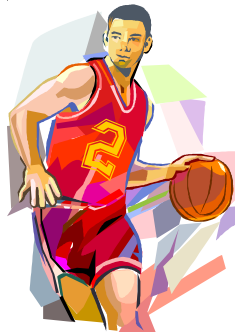
Ì WARM-UP THE SPACEÎ

At their March meeting, the Vestry voted to accept the proposal to ìWarm-Up The Spaceî of the Fireplace Room.† The project includes the installation of a gas insert in the fireplace, an area rug in front of the fireplace, and color on the walls.† Blue Moon has agreed to coordinate the fundraising activities.† Watch for opportunities to participate.† ìCome on Baby light our fire!î



Announcements in Worship

It would be greatly appreciated if you could get your announcements into the bulletin each week before the bulletin is printed (usually Wednesday) for Sunday. Getting them into the bulletin gives everybody a chance to read them so that they are not missed because of amplification issues or because it may be verbalized in one service and not the other, etc. It can also take up an inordinate amount of time during our primary focus of coming together to worship. If you need to make an announcement during the welcome and announcement time, please let Tom know before the service so that he can call on you.



Congratulations, Alfred Jaryan, Jr.

On Monday evening, March 24th, Alfred Jaryan was named as one of the ìAthletes of the Weekî by KARE11 News. His team leadership and excellent scoring were instrumental in leading the Bloomington Kennedy basketball team to victory in the finals of their region as they moved on to the state basketball tournament. Congratulations, Alfred on being honored for your hard work and achievement.

Those who need our prayers....

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Tom Frick | Jill Aicher | Laurice Anderson |
| Ted & Mavis Spernick | Betty Cope | Jean Ogden |
| Sue Bennitt | John Buckley | Pat Peterson |
| Deb Tsuchiyaís brother-in-law, Bruce Husbands | Marilyn Thomasson | |
| Todd Oliveriusí sister, Daphine Gilmore | Famoduís friend, Yemi Olateju | |
- For peace and vision among the people of Kenya and the Men and Women of our Armed Forces



ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



Spring Recycle Sale

This sale will be a challenge to St. Nicholasí congregations, not only for their, contributions, but for people to work setting up and selling. A few hours here and there will do it. Men are welcome! They might even enjoy the experience. (There is usually good food available.)

Look through your belongings for things that will bring in more \$, especially household items. Anything soiled or in disrepair will be discarded. Letís make this sale memorable and fun.

Our success depends on you.

Maxine Parsons 612-861-2541

PRICING GUIDELINES

CLOTHING

CHILDREN

Baby clothes	25¢ - \$3
Blouses, shirts	50¢ - \$1
Coats, jackets	50¢ - \$5
Dresses	\$1 - \$5
Jeans, pants	50¢ - \$2
Robes	50¢ - \$1
Sleepwear	50¢ - \$2
Sweaters	50¢ - \$3
Sweats	25¢ - \$1
T-shirts, underwear	25¢ - \$1

MEN, WOMEN

Blouses, shirts	50¢ - \$2
Coats, jackets	\$1 - \$10
Dresses	\$1 - \$5
Formals	75¢ - \$3
Jeans, slacks	\$1 - \$5
Robes	75¢ - \$2
Skirts	50¢ - \$5
Sleepwear	50¢ - \$2
Suits	\$1 - \$10
Sweaters	75¢ - \$4
Sweats	50¢ - \$4
T-shirts, underwear	25¢ - \$1

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Baby equipment	\$2 - \$9
Baskets	25¢ - \$2
Bedding, pillows	25¢ - \$3
Bedspreads	\$1 - \$10
Crafts, fabric, etc.	25¢ - \$2
Dishes, glassware	10¢ - \$1
Drapes per panel	50¢ - \$2
Electric appliances	\$1 - \$5+
Furniture	\$2 - \$25+
Jewelry	50¢ - \$5
Knick-knacks	25¢ - \$2
Linen, towels	25¢ - \$2
Luggage	50¢ - \$3
Pans, bakeware	25¢ - \$2
Pictures, frames	50¢ - \$2
Rugs	50¢ - \$3
Seasonal items	10¢ - \$1
Sporting goods	50¢ - \$10+
Tablecloths	\$1 - \$4
Tools	50¢ - \$5
Toys, games	10¢ - \$3
Utensils	25¢ - 50¢
Vases, planters	25¢ - \$1



Spring 2008

Thursday, June 5

8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Friday, June 6

12:00 NOON - 7:00 PM

Saturday, June 7

8:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

DROP-OFF TIMES

Thursday, May 29ñMonday, June 2
 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM





ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



The Search for the IX Bishop of Minnesota

Search and Transition Committees now being formed†

At its January 2, 2008 meeting, the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota received a letter from Bishop Jelinek advising them that his effective date of resignation as Bishop of Minnesota would be on the day of the consecration of IX Bishop of Minnesota. In accordance with Canon III.11.2 of the National Church Canons, Bishop Jelinek asked the Standing Committee for its advice and consent to the Bishop's call for a Convention in 2009 for the election of a successor Bishop Diocesan.

The Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota officially received the letter from Bishop James Jelinek, dated January 2, 2008, and accepted the resignation of Bishop Jelinek effective in 2010 on the day of the consecration of the IX Bishop of Minnesota. The Committee also consented to the election of a bishop diocesan in accordance with Canon III.11.2 and agreed to direct and oversee the search and transition processes.

A Theological Reflection on the Search for the IX Bishop of Minnesota

When the Apostles needed to choose a new member, they prayed for the guidance of God and cast lots, and the lot fell on Matthias (Acts 1:24-26). In today's church, when a diocese needs to choose a new bishop, we do not cast lots ó but we do pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and we do believe and trust that the Spirit works through our search and election processes to bring us a person who is both qualified and called to be our bishop.

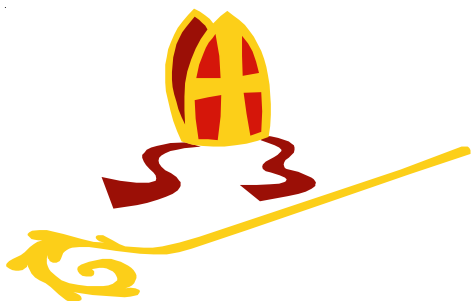
The bishop is called to be a sign of unity for the church, both locally and globally, and to empower the whole people of God for ministry and mission in the church and in the world. The bishop is called to be a bridge-builder, connecting past and present, tradition and creativity, the faith of the ages and the wisdom needed for the journey ó connecting people with each other and with their mission in Christ.

As a diocese, we are called to work faithfully through these discernment processes, showing love and care for all the participants, praying without ceasing that the Holy Spirit will form us as people-and-bishop together.

Let us be in prayer together as we move through this challenging and hope-filled period in the life of our diocese.

Gracious God, you give light and life to your people. You guide us in pathways of renewal and transformation. Light the way before us now, as we discern and choose the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Minnesota. May we find a pastor who will lead us in hope, challenge us to ever greater faithfulness, and equip us with love for mission and ministry in the church and in the world.

We pray in thanksgiving for your guiding presence and your grace, in the Name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.



Theological Reflection: The Rev. Dr. Paul S. Nancarrow
Canon Theologian, Diocese of Minnesota

Prayer: The Rev. Devon Anderson, Chair
The Rev. Lydia Huttar Brown, Vice Chair
Commission on Liturgy & Music, Diocese of Minnesota



ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



Vestry Minutes, February 9, 2008

The February Vestry meeting was held on Saturday, February 9, from 12:00-3:00. Lunch was provided by Todd and Andrea Oliverius. The four new Vestry members ñ Andrea, Bill, Tom and Dick were welcomed into the group. Todd called the meeting to order at 12:35.

Members present: Tom Eklo, Martha Chambers, Todd Oliverius, Andrea Oliverius, Pam Banks, Bill Mills, and Tom McConnell.

Members absent: Victor Owuor, Alfred Jaryan, Victor Owuor, Dick Kohout

Opening Prayer: Tom opened the meeting with prayer

Meditation: Todd provided us with a musical meditation.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Pam and seconded by Tom M. to approve the January minutes as written. The motion carried.

Old Business

Regional 8 Meeting

Martha gave us a short summary of the recent Regional 8 Meeting. She indicated that the discussion revolved around the Bishop's Commission on Mission Strategy report. It was suggested that regular regional meetings be held at which time the region would brainstorm ways to assist in implementing the BCMS. It was suggested that meetings be held at different churches through out the region as a way for getting to know each other better.

Bishop Jelinek will be stepping down as Bishop in 2010. Since a new bishop will be installed in February of 2010, there is much work to be done in the interim. A search committee and a transitions committee must be created with one person from each of the regions on each of these committees. On February 26, St. Nicholas will host a meeting for those interested in being a part of the search committee for a new Bishop.

New Business:

Approval of Rector's Housing Allowance

Tom advised the Vestry that \$24,000 is the amount he needs for his housing allowance. A motion was made by Pam and seconded by Bill, that the Vestry approve \$24,000 for Tom's 2008 housing allowance. The motion carried.

Vestry Monthly Meeting Dates

Todd suggested that we discuss the possibility of changing our monthly meeting day to another evening since some vestry members are unable to come on Thursday night. After some discussion, a motion was made by Martha and seconded by Tom M. that we meet the **3rd Tuesday of every month from 7-9 beginning on March 18** for the 2008 year. The motion carried.

Sign Team

Tom gave a brief update on the sign situation. He indicated that he had a conversation with the Mayor of Richfield. It is a given that we will need to apply for a variance since we don't meet code. The Mayor indicated that there will be some favorable changes to the ordinance after the City Council makes some revisions to the original ordinance. It was suggested that St. Nicholas should not file for any kind of variance at this time until the new code is in place.

Bill, Tom and Todd volunteered to be on the Sign Team. Todd will set up and facilitate the team's first meeting. Parish members other than Vestry will be encouraged to participate on this team also.



ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



Committee Assignments

The following committee assignments were agreed upon by the Vestry ñ with the Vestry acting as liaison to the various committee members:

- Finance ñ Martha Chambers
- Missions ñ Bill Mills
- Building and Grounds ñ Tom M
- Inviters/Welcoming ñ Todd Oliverius
- Social ñ Andrea Oliverius
- Education & Formation ñ Pam Banks
- Communications ñ Dick Kohout
- Music & Worship ñ Martha Chambers

Goals for 2008

There was some discussion on setting goals for Tom and the Vestry. It was decided that the members should review the goals that were suggested last October, and then the majority of the March Vestry meeting will be dedicated to establishing 3 or 4 significant (measurable) goals for both Tom and the Vestry for 2008.

Committee Activities

Bill asked if it might be possible to publish information about committee activities in the Crier occasionally so that the congregation is more aware of what is going on. Vestry members thought this was a great suggestion.

Tomís Comments

Tom indicated that Debbie Goettel, Richfieldís Mayor, will be the guest speaker at St. Nicholas for the 10:30 service on March 2, 2008.

He also reminded everyone of our first alternative service which will be held on Friday, February 22 at 7 p.m.

Tom brought up the idea of planning a ñgrowth seminarñ for St Nicholas Church parishioners in order for all of us to do some brain-storming on ñhow do/can we grow our parish.ñ This is something that will be revisited after the Easter season.

Next Vestry Meeting

The next Vestry meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 18, 2008 at 7 p.m.** Remember, all parishioners are welcome!!!

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Aicher, Vestry Clerk

St. Nicholas Financials				
	January & February		Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Income	\$21,306	\$23,028	\$21,306	\$23,028
Expense	\$28,707	\$29,391	\$28,707	\$29,391
Net	\$7,401	\$6,363	\$7,401	\$6,363

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Mar 30</i></p> <p>8:00 AM Eucharist</p> <p>9:15 AM Christian Education - Adult</p> <p>9:45 AM Christian Education - Children & Youth</p> <p>10:30 AM Eucharist</p>	<p><i>Mar 31</i></p>	<p><i>Apr 1</i></p> <p>April Fool's Day</p>	<p><i>Apr 2</i></p> <p>7:30 PM Choir</p>	<p><i>Apr 3</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom</p>	<p><i>Apr 4</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Adventures in ..</p>	<p><i>Apr 5</i></p>
<p><i>Apr 6</i></p> <p>8:00 AM Eucharist</p> <p>9:15 AM Christian Education - Adult</p> <p>9:45 AM Christian Education - Children & Youth</p> <p>10:30 AM Eucharist</p>	<p><i>Apr 7</i></p>	<p><i>Apr 8</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Finance Committee</p> <p>7:00 PM Vestry</p>	<p><i>Apr 9</i></p> <p>7:30 PM Choir</p>	<p><i>Apr 10</i></p>	<p><i>Apr 11</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Adventures in ..</p>	<p><i>Apr 12</i></p>
<p><i>Apr 13</i></p> <p>8:00 AM Eucharist</p> <p>9:15 AM Christian Education - Adult</p> <p>9:45 AM Christian Education - Children & Youth</p> <p>10:30 AM Eucharist</p>	<p><i>Apr 14</i></p>	<p><i>Apr 15</i></p> <p>Crier deadline</p>	<p><i>Apr 16</i></p> <p>7:30 PM Choir</p>	<p><i>Apr 17</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom</p>	<p><i>Apr 18</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Adventures in ..</p> <p>7:00 PM Contemplative Service</p>	<p><i>Apr 19</i></p>
<p><i>Apr 20</i></p> <p>8:00 AM Eucharist</p> <p>9:15 AM Christian Education - Adult</p> <p>9:45 AM Christian Education - Children & Youth</p> <p>10:30 AM Eucharist</p>	<p><i>Apr 21</i></p>	<p><i>Apr 22</i></p>	<p><i>Apr 23</i></p> <p>7:30 PM Choir</p>	<p><i>Apr 24</i></p>	<p><i>Apr 25</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Adventures in ..</p>	<p><i>Apr 26</i></p> <p>12:00 PM Free Lunch</p>
<p><i>Apr 27</i></p> <p>8:00 AM Eucharist</p> <p>9:15 AM Christian Education - Adult</p> <p>10:30 AM Eucharist</p>	<p><i>Apr 28</i></p>	<p><i>Apr 29</i></p>	<p><i>Apr 30</i></p> <p>7:30 PM Choir</p>	<p><i>May 1</i></p> <p>7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom</p>	<p><i>May 2</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Adventures in ..</p>	<p><i>May 3</i></p>
<p><i>May 4</i></p> <p>8:00 AM Eucharist</p> <p>9:15 AM Christian Education - Adult</p> <p>9:45 AM Christian Education - Children & Youth</p> <p>10:30 AM Eucharist</p>	<p><i>May 5</i></p>	<p><i>May 6</i></p>	<p><i>May 7</i></p> <p>7:30 PM Choir</p>	<p><i>May 8</i></p>	<p><i>May 9</i></p> <p>10:00 AM Adventures in ..</p>	<p><i>May 10</i></p>

Birthdays

2 Judy Conn
4 Sarah Wilner
5 Ed Kariuki
6 Bob Aicher
8 Justen Lasserud
Kormassa Jaryan
11 Sachiko Slough
Lazarus Abasiri

Anniversaries

11 Blayon Yuoh
16 Jack Deger
25 Kerry Banks
28 Tim Slough
8 Evelyn & John Johnson
16 Mike Hass & Geri Finnell
21 Vergene & Tom Downs