



**ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



# The Crier June 2008

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**Memorial Service  
for  
Ann Rutherford  
Saturday, June 7  
1:30 pm**

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St. Nicholas Episcopal Church  
7227 Penn Avenue South  
Richfield, MN 55423  
612-869-7551  
[www.saint-nicks.org](http://www.saint-nicks.org)



**July issue deadline**  
**Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Put in Crier box in office or  
email to [kathy@isd.net](mailto:kathy@isd.net)  
Please put "Crier" 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**  
**Andrea Oliverius**              **Debi Tsuchiya**

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

## Reflections from Tom

I recently ran across a story in the newsletter of the Church of the Heavenly Rest in New York City, and I would like to share it with you.

When the great Rabbi Israel Baal Shem-Tov saw misfortune threatening the Jews it was his custom to go into a part of the forest to meditate. There he would light a fire, say a special prayer, and the miracle would be accomplished and misfortune averted.

Later, when his disciple, the celebrated Magid of Mezritch, had occasion, for the same reason, to intercede with heaven, he would go to the same place in the forest and say: "Master of the Universe, listen! I do not know how to light the fire but I am still able to say the prayers." And again the miracle would be accomplished.

Still later, Rabbi Moshe-Leib of Sasov, in order to save his people once more, would go into the forest and say: "I do not know how to light the fire, I do not know the prayer, but I know the place and this must be sufficient." It was sufficient and the miracle was accomplished.

Then it fell to Rabbi Israel of Rizhyn to overcome misfortune. Sitting in his armchair, his head in his hands, he spoke to God: "I am unable to light the fire and I do not know the prayer; I cannot even find the place in the forest. All I can do is tell the story, and that must be sufficient." And it was sufficient. God made humankind because God loves stories. *(Hasidic tale told by Elie Wiesel)*

Stories. Stories are the essence of our lives. Get a group of people together, whether they are family, friends, or new acquaintances and stories begin to be told. Stories define our understanding of identity, place and history. The telling of stories works because a part of your story may be related in some way to my story, and stories ignite and kindle that reaction of remembrance in each of us.

The biblical literature is a series of stories. The Hebrew Scriptures tell the story of God's relationship with humankind and the formation of a people after God's own heart. Jesus preferred to teach in the form of stories –

parables – the prodigal son, the Good Samaritan, the owner of the vineyard, among others. In each case, the story was a way of referring the experiences of the people to the larger reality of the providence and love of God in a way that struck a cord of understanding that simple (or complex) theological statements often miss.

As you begin your summer, I would encourage you to take some time of leisure and ask yourself about the stories that frame the experience of your life. Where is God in those stories? We may not be able to light the fire, we may not know the prayer, we may not even know the place in the forest that we must go, but we can tell our stories of God's presence and movement in our lives, and that is sufficient.

A blessed summer to each of you.

Tom





# ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



## Do you...

- have a warm handshake?
- have a friendly smile?
- like to meet new people?

## Greeters needed

Contact Jean Ogden or any of the current greeters

## Now the fun begins!

Blue Moon wanted to redecorate the Fireplace Room to make it warm & welcoming for their fall tea (which had outgrown the Gathering Space) and for other parish events. The Vestry accepted the proposal and gave permission to begin fundraising. A memorial gift gave us the gas insert for the fireplace. An anonymous gift gave us the richly-colored area rug. A color consultant gave us ideas for color and design. Parish family and friends donated \$570.61 via two bake sales and a creative “car wash.” Now the fun begins! A meeting will be held in early June to make decisions regarding paint colors, wall hangings, and furnishings. Please stop by the Fireplace Room to see the samples. All interested persons are welcome to attend the meeting. If you can’t attend, but have an opinion you wish to share, please contact any Blue Moon member.



## ...with your help!

Thank you all for your concern for my friend who is in litigation for a contested adoption. With your support added to that of many others, we were able to raise nearly \$9,000 to help with the legal fees. The next court date is set for mid-June. I'll keep you posted. And please keep praying for Jackie and her family. Thank you. Laurice Anderson

*Editor's note: This family has a child whose mother gave up her baby for adoption. Much later, the absentee father contested the adoption. These funds help the adoptive family, who has gone through their savings and borrowed what they can against their home, to cover their legal fees.*



## Those who need our prayers....

Judy Conn  
Pat Peterson  
Sue Bennitt

Tom Frick  
Mavis Spornick  
Marilyn Thomasson

Jill Aicher  
Betty Cope  
George Olsen

Laurice Anderson  
Jean Ogden

Todd Oliverius' sister, Daphine Gilmore

and the Men and Women of our Armed Forces



## ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



### Vestry Minutes, April 15, 2008

**Members present:** Tom Eklo, Martha Chambers, Todd Oliverius, Andrea Oliverius, Pam Banks, Bill Mills, Alfred Jaryan, and Dick Kohout

**Members absent:** Ed Karuki, Tom McConnell, Debi Tsuchiya

**Opening Prayer & Meditation.:** Tom opened the meeting with prayer and Bill lead us in meditation.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Pam and seconded by Alfred to approve the March minutes as written. The motion carried.

**Finance Report:** Dick Kohout reported on our finances. We are \$645 ahead of budget for our income contributions, and our total income is \$1,139 ahead of budget. Total expenses to date are \$39,977 which is \$1,831 less than budget. A motion to accept the finance report as presented was made by Bill and seconded by Alfred. The motion carried.

#### Old Business:

Fireplace Update

The Vestry was advised that the gas insert for the Fireplace Room has been generously donated to St. Nicholas by Jerry Black in memory of his wife, Lucy Black. The gas insert will be installed by Thursday, April 17.

#### New Business:

Spring Cleanup

Everyone who is able is encouraged to participate in St. Nicholas's spring cleanup on Saturday, May 3, from 8 a.m. to noon. As well as the cleanup of the grounds, there is some painting around windows that needs to be completed.

July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade

St. Nicholas will again participate in the Richfield July 4th Parade. Todd advised us that he has access to a trailer that we can ride on this year if we wish. No decision has been made regarding the "give-aways" for this year. A decision will be made at a later date

Goals for 2008

The topic of setting goals for the Vestry was addressed. Five goals were agreed upon by the Vestry. They are as follows:

1. To help Tom keep his goals.
2. Each Vestry member will write a goal for the committee for which they have volunteered to be the liaison, together with publishing an article about their committee in the Crier once during the year.
3. To convene a mutual review ministry committee to conduct a yearly review of the performance of the congregation and the priest.
4. To make sure that the decisions we make for this parish are always evaluated within the context of what have been identified as our core values – community, tradition, concern for and service to others.
5. To create a stewardship team that can help evaluate and develop a theological understanding of stewardship and implement programs and an emphasis throughout the year to encourage and honor stewardship to the Parish.

International Dinner

Pam has volunteered to coordinate the planning of an international dinner for this fall.



# ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



## Tom's Comments:

### Preaching Conference

Tom advised the Vestry that he will be attending a Preaching Conference from May 19-23 in Minneapolis with meetings being held at Central Lutheran and Westminster Presbyterian Churches. There is a \$270 registration fee. Half of the fee will be paid by the diocese as part of Tom's continuing education. A motion to have St. Nicholas pay the other half of the fee was made by Dick and seconded by Pam. The motion carried.

### Sign Update

An open meeting concerning the zoning ordinance is scheduled for April 24, 9 a.m. at Richfield City Hall. The zoning committee is looking for input on changes of the Richfield city ordinance concerning electronic signs. Anyone interested in providing suggestions, etc. is invited to attend.

### Using North Lot

Craig Kettleon has inquired as to the possibility of his neighbor using a corner of our North lot on Sunday through Thursday nights during the month of May for parking the Pilgrim Lutheran School Van. The driver will be searching for a permanent location. His request has been approved.

## Next Vestry Meeting

The next Vestry meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 20, 2008, at 7 p.m.** Remember, parishioners are always welcome at all Vestry meetings. Dick volunteered to lead the meditation as well as bring treats for the May meeting.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jill Aicher, Vestry Clerk

St. Nicholas Financials				
	April		Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
<b>Income</b>	\$8,117	\$11,719	\$41,538	\$44,001
<b>Expense</b>	\$12,836	\$12,511	\$52,813	\$54,319
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$4,719</b>	<b>\$792</b>	<b>\$11,275</b>	<b>\$10,318</b>



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Jun 1</b> 9:00 AM Eucharist	<b>Jun 2</b>	<b>Jun 3</b>	<b>Jun 4</b>	<b>Jun 5</b> 7:00 PM Daughters c the King - Springs of Shalom	<b>Jun 6</b> 10:00 AM Adventures in - . . . .	<b>Jun 7</b> 1:30 PM Ann Rutherford Memorial Service
<b>Jun 8</b> 9:00 AM Eucharist	<b>Jun 9</b>	<b>Jun 10</b> 7:00 PM Vestry	<b>Jun 11</b>	<b>Jun 12</b>	<b>Jun 13</b> 10:00 AM Adventures in - . . . .	<b>Jun 14</b> Flag Day
<b>Jun 15</b> 9:00 AM Eucharist <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Crier deadline</div> Father's Day	<b>Jun 16</b>	<b>Jun 17</b>	<b>Jun 18</b>	<b>Jun 19</b> 7:00 PM Daughters c the King - Springs of Shalom	<b>Jun 20</b> 10:00 AM Adventures in - . . . .	<b>Jun 21</b> Summer begins
<b>Jun 22</b> 9:00 AM Eucharist	<b>Jun 23</b>	<b>Jun 24</b>	<b>Jun 25</b>	<b>Jun 26</b>	<b>Jun 27</b> 10:00 AM Adventures in - . . . .	<b>Jun 28</b> 12:00 PM Free Lunch
<b>Jun 29</b> 9:00 AM Eucharist	<b>Jun 30</b>	<b>Jul 1</b>	<b>Jul 2</b>	<b>Jul 3</b> 7:00 PM Daughters c the King - Springs of Shalom	<b>Jul 4</b> Independence Day	<b>Jul 5</b>
<b>Jul 6</b> 9:00 AM Eucharist	<b>Jul 7</b>	<b>Jul 8</b> 7:00 PM Finance Committee  7:00 PM Vestry	<b>Jul 9</b>	<b>Jul 10</b>	<b>Jul 11</b> 10:00 AM Adventures in - . . . .	<b>Jul 12</b>

## Birthdays

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Lisa Tsuchiya</li> <li>2 Jill Aicher</li> <li>6 Ijeoma Abasiri</li> <li>7 Roger Nelson</li> <li>9 John Tsuchiya</li> <li>10 Jamie Oliverius</li> <li>14 Dan Greimel</li> <li>15 Roslyn Gantt-Simmons</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15 Somtochukwu Abasiri</li> <li>21 Francoise Moenkhaus</li> <li>22 Carol Barthelemy</li> <li>Denise Famodu</li> <li>24 Lew Cope</li> <li>25 Jigbeh Jaryan</li> <li>27 Jeff Theis</li> <li>29 Cassell Wherland</li> <li>Virtue Finnell</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

## Anniversaries

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 Deb &amp; Paul Tsuchiya</li> <li>12 Barb &amp; Rich Makela</li> <li>Jill &amp; Bob Aicher</li> <li>13 Sharol &amp; Bill Lehnertz</li> <li>21 Roslyn &amp; Rufus Simmons</li> <li>24 Denise &amp; Tunde Famodu</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24 Diannah Robertson<br/>&amp; Tom Harries</li> <li>28 Betty &amp; Lewis Cope</li> <li>30 Dawn &amp; Dan Greimel</li> </ul> |
|--|--|