



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



# The Crier

## August 2008

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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)

**September issue deadline**  
**Friday, August 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

In a recent article by the editor of The Christian Century, the Rev. James Buchanan writes about Holy Apostles Episcopal Church in New York City. It is a church that I visited many times in my three years at General Seminary. The church is a short six or seven blocks from the seminary. With concerns about a declining membership in the 1980's, they made the risky decision to be the church, reaching out into the community in hopes of being "something Christlike." After prayer and discernment, the church made the decision to embark upon a free-lunch program for the homeless people of the area. The first day of operation saw roughly thirty-five people show up for lunch. Within a few years, the church was serving almost 900 people a day. The spaces in the parish hall were being squeezed to the max as they moved toward different seating times in order to accommodate the crowds.

Then something happened. In 1990, while repairs were being made to the roof, a fire broke out that destroyed major portions of the church building. During insurance covered restoration while the pews were removed from the sanctuary, the church members came up with an idea. Why don't we leave the pews out and use the worship space Monday through Friday for the lunch program as long as it is not being used for worship? And so it is. Monday through Friday, the sanctuary is filled with tables to feed the almost 1,200 people who now come for lunch each day. On Friday afternoon, the tables are taken down, and comfortable chairs are set up for Sunday's worship. Week after week, this cadence of being the church is repeated by volunteers who are a part of this compelling community of faith.

What I find most compelling about the story of Holy Apostles is two-fold. The people of Holy Apostles believed (probably with a healthy dose of trepidation) that being the church means being the church even when the income statement and the balance sheet called for drastic reductions and a whole lot of hand wringing. They believed strongly that they needed to be the presence of Jesus even in the face of insurmountable adversity. If the church was going to die, it was going to die serving Jesus. Today they have a budget of 2.7 million, most of that going to support the free-lunch program.

The second compelling part of this story, and one of enormous significance in terms of it's theological statement, is the feeding of 1,200 people on a daily basis in the beautiful, bright, airy space of the church's sanctuary. It is a sacred space, and the significance of being the presence of Christ in the very place where we are fed by Christ's presence Sunday after Sunday sends chills up and down my spine every time I think of it.

Perhaps John Buchanan sums it up better than I ever could. "Maybe the world would find churches more interesting and compelling if they showed something of the love of Jesus in their lives and practices. Maybe there is no more important and **life-giving** strategy for every church than finding something Christlike to do.

Blessings,  
Tom





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## Adventures in Spirituality

Judy would like to invite everyone who attended the Adventures in Spirituality classes this year to meet with her on Friday, August 8, at 10:00 a.m. in the gathering space to review what was studied this year and plan for the beginning of next year to start in September after Labor Day. Please bring any ideas you have for the classes. Judy will supply coffee and tea and a treat. We should be finished no later than 11:30.



## Save the dates:

**October 19, 3:00 p.m.**, for the Fourth Annual **“Tea For You and Blue Moon Too.”** We will provide refreshments and a short musical program in our newly refurbished Fireplace Room. Please plan to attend!



**December 7, 4:00 p.m.**, for the Annual **St. Nicholas Extravaganza and Potluck.** Start planning your act. The show begins in a mere four months! If you have, or will have, any pictures you'd like in this year's slide show, please send them as a jpeg file to Dave Newman.

## Update

As most of you know, Jill Aicher broke her right arm and right leg. She has been discharged from the hospital to rehab at Gideon Pond. She would love to continue receiving cards from members of the congregation as she will be there for quite some time yet. Jill's address is Gideon Pond, 9889 Penn Ave So, Room 226, Bloomington, MN 55431.



Her phone number is 952-887-1470. If you are going over for a visit please call her first as she has a heavy schedule of physical and occupational therapy twice a day.

## Lost Item

The LCD Television/DVD Player combo that is used by our Sunday School cannot be found. We need your help! Even though there are not that many “cubby holes” around here, if you have seen or know where it is secretly hiding within the confines of the church, please let Tom know. If you have borrowed it from the church for one reason or another, it would be greatly appreciated if you could bring it back as soon as possible. There are a number of groups other than the Sunday School who also use that television, so please help us return it to its proper place.



## We Need Baseboards



The fireplace room has been repainted, but we realized that the baseboards needed replacing as well. We are trying to raise money today to cover the cost of the baseboards and for additional fabric for the back of the banners. Look for the basket on the table with the baseboard in the gathering space. We appreciate your donations.

## Those who need our prayers....

Tom Frick  
Mavis Spornick  
Sue Bennett  
Marilyn Thomasson  
Gayle Ticen's sister **Shirley** Hagenbuch

Jill Aicher  
Betty Cope  
George Olsen

Laurice Anderson  
Jean Ogden  
Yvonne Lokken  
Todd Oliverius' sister, Daphine Gilmore  
and the Men and Women of our Armed Forces



## ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



### Please Complete the IX Bishop Survey

protons of an article submitted by Bishop Search Committee members to Diocesan Weekly News for July 21

Your Diocesan Search Committee is excited to be working on the discernment process for the IX Bishop of Minnesota, who will consecrated on February 13, 2010. We are eager to have you join the discernment process by expressing your opinions about the talent and focus our next bishop should bring to the Diocese.

This is a wonderful opportunity for every member of the diocese to prayerfully consider the diocese and its people and to listen to God's voice through all of the voices across our diocese. To ensure that every voice is heard, the survey is being offered in English, Hmong and Spanish.

Surveys will be collected between July 20 and August 20, 2008, but please complete your survey as soon as possible. All survey responses are strictly confidential; your responses will be combined with others from across the Diocese and results will be reported at the 2008 Diocesan Convention.

(Use the following link to access the survey form online:  
Search committee blog:<http://mnbishopsearchepiscopal.wordpress.com/>)

Thank you for your thoughtful, prayerful responses to the discernment survey. If you have questions or concerns, please contact any member of the Survey Drafting Subcommittee of the Diocesan Search Committee at the e-mail addresses below:

- Scott Gregory: [sg17700@aol.com](mailto:sg17700@aol.com)
- Amy Simons: [amyloou.simons@gmail.com](mailto:amyloou.simons@gmail.com)
- LeeAnne Watkins: [rector@saintmarysepiscopal.org](mailto:rector@saintmarysepiscopal.org)
- Neil Willard: [nwillard@ststephens.com](mailto:nwillard@ststephens.com)
- Lucy YoungBlood: [luci@fallsnet.com](mailto:luci@fallsnet.com)



### VEAP Corner

The Back-to-School Program this year will be slightly different than in the past. VEAP has asked that we focus our collection on only **5 specific** school items. All donations must be new and in original packing. Our collection will continue until August 17. Items need to be at VEAP before August 19 to be sorted and distributed on Monday August 25<sup>th</sup>.

- School items requested:
- Rulers
  - Wide/College Lined Loose Leaf Paper (not spiral bound)
  - #2 Pencils (8-12 packs only)
  - Backpacks
  - \$15.00 Gift Cards (from Target, Walmart, Office Depot etc.)



With only 5 items on the list your shopping should go quickly! Thanks for your help in educating our young people.

Jan Kohout, VEAP Representative

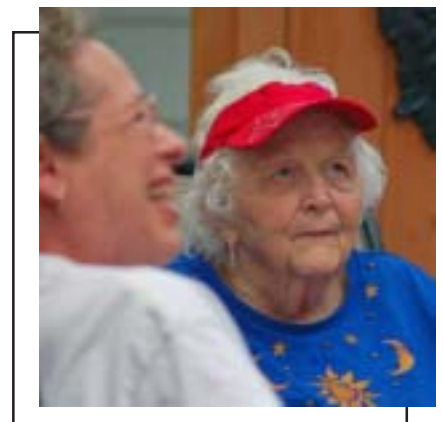


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RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



## 4th of July Pictures



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jul 27 9:00 AM Eucharist	Jul 28	Jul 29	Jul 30	Jul 31 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Aug 1	Aug 2
Aug 3 9:00 AM Eucharist	Aug 4	Aug 5	Aug 6	Aug 7 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom  7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Aug 8 10:00 AM -11:30 AM Adventures in Spirituality Review	Aug 9
Aug 10 9:00 AM Eucharist	Aug 11	Aug 12 7:00 PM Finance Committee  7:00 PM Vestry	Aug 13	Aug 14 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Aug 15 Crier deadline	Aug 16
Aug 17 9:00 AM Eucharist  Last day to bring VEAP Back-to-School Items	Aug 18	Aug 19  	Aug 20 IX Bishop Survey - last day to submit to search committee	Aug 21 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom  7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Aug 22	Aug 23
Aug 24 9:00 AM Eucharist	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Aug 29	Aug 30 12:00 PM Free Lunch
Aug 31 9:00 AM Eucharist	Sep 1 Labor Day	Sep 2 6:30 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Sep 3 7:30 PM Choir	Sep 4 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom  7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Sep 5	Sep 6

## Birthdays

12 Seth Hoyle	21 Don Rowley
14 Ted Sperrick	26 Paul Tsuchiya
17 Brian Anderson	Diannah robertson
20 Mary Jackson	31 Mary Jaryan
George Wilner	John Johnson

## Anniversaries

8 Nadien & Clint Bristol
12 Joyce & John LaFrance
13 Ginny & George Olsen
22 Jan & Dick Kohout
24 Mary & Alfred Jaryan