



ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



The Crier

September 2008

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Important Dates

September 14

Bishop Jelinek will be conducting an Education Forum at 9:00AM on his experiences and reflections as a participating Bishop at the Lambeth Conference.

He will also preach and celebrate a single service at 10:00AM.

September 21

We will return to two services - our usual times - 8AM and 10:30AM.

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

October issue deadline
Monday, September 15th
 Put in Crier box in office or
 email to kathy@jsd.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

September is upon us. Most notably perhaps, September is the beginning of another school year for families with children in school. Summer vacations are over, and the busyness of schedules begins to once again encroach upon our lives. Somewhere in the third week of September we officially welcome the beginning of the fall season, and in this part of the country the trees begin to transform into a resplendent show of color as they prepare for the season of winter (the rest of us prefer to live in denial for a bit longer). We hear it often, but it does seem to be true in many respects – the three months that we typically call summer seem to go by very quickly.

September is also the month that we begin our fall programming here at the church. Adventures in Spirituality will once again commence on Friday mornings. Plans are underway for the monthly contemplative liturgies that invite us to a time of quiet and contemplation in our busy lives. And we are looking forward to the return of some favorites – evening prayer/animal blessing in early October, and an Ethnic Dinner in November.

Something new that I would like to introduce to our fall programming is an encounter with the Scriptures called Gospel Based Discipleship. Gospel Based Discipleship is not a Bible Study per se nor is it a theological discussion. There is no preparation required. Gospel Based Discipleship is an encounter with the Gospel and a chance to reflect upon the impact of that Gospel in our lives.

Here is how it works. A gathered group opens with prayer and the reading of a Psalm. The Gospel lesson for the coming Sunday is then read by an individual. Following the reading, the question is asked – “What word(s), idea(s) or sentence(s) stand out for you in the Gospel reading?” There is then time for those of the group to share their response to that question if they choose to do so. There is no right or wrong answer. The Gospel is read a second time. Following the second reading, the question is asked – “What is Jesus (the Gospel) saying to you?” Again there is time for those who wish to share to do so. The Gospel is then read a third time. Following

the third reading, the question is asked – “What is Jesus (the Gospel) calling you to do?” The session ends with prayers and the saying together of the Lord’s Prayer.

I like Gospel Based Discipleship because it forces me to engage with the Scriptures on a very personal level. It isn’t about what the church believes or what someone else believes or what a well known or favorite theologian happens to believe. It is coming face to face with the Scriptures and asking the questions of how the Gospel impacts my life and what it is calling me to do.

I am hoping to have two sessions each week on a regularly scheduled basis. One session would be during the day for those who prefer to not drive at night, and one session would be in the evening for those who are not available during the day. Stay tuned. There will be more information forthcoming. I hope you will give it a try.

Blessings,
Tom





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Adventures in Spirituality

We will once again have classes in spirituality on Friday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30. We will begin on September 5th with the topic "Finding Our Holy Ground". We will have coffee, tea, treats and discussion. You will be given your September/October calendar on the 5th. We are excited about getting together again.



Sunday School

Sunday School will be starting in October. We will have Sunday School 3 Sundays a month. Pam Banks will be teaching the 3-6 yr olds and Ann Wilner will teach the 7-11. Diannah Robertson and Sharon Mills will be leading Childrens Chapel again during the first part of the service. Sunday School will start at 945a-1015a with the Chapel part starting at 1030a.

Building and Grounds Committee

The Building and Grounds Committee is one of the oldest committee's at St Nicholas Episcopal Church. This Committee is fully responsible for the daily up-keep of the church and its surroundings. The main objective of this committee is to keep the church environment clean and presentable to all members as well as the general public.

Membership to this committee is open to all members of St. Nicholas Church.

At present, it has a membership of 11. Its strength is not the size of its core members but the dedication and contribution of each member as well as the entire church.

This committee undertakes numerous projects at the church which include but not limited to, spring and fall cleanup, outside painting, inside painting, lawn care, trim trees, flowers, mechanical components, etc.

All meetings of the committee are held at the church and the core group meets 5 times a year. These meetings are scheduled based on the input of its members and current needs. The meetings last for about two hours usually at evening hours.

Once again, everyone is invited to join this committee to make St. Nicholas a better environment for worship. We hope you join us soon.

Respectfully,
Building and Grounds Committee



Those who need our prayers....

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Tom Frick | Jill Aicher | Laurice Anderson | Pat Peterson |
| Mavis Spernick | Betty Cope | Jean Ogden | Hoyt & Carm Oswald |
| Judy Conn | Maggie Ingalls | Sue Bennitt | Kay Popko |
| George Olsen | Marilyn Thomasson | Yvonne Lokken | Martha Chambers |
| Carol Barthelemy's son | Chad Barthelemy | Gayle Ticen's sister, | Shirley Hagenbuch |
| and the Men and Women of our Armed Forces | | | |

What is Souls4Soles?

Why do we have their box in the Gathering Space?



150 Days of Mission

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Christian Church is defined by mission, centered on mission and continuously called into new mission. Honoring the 150th anniversary of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, congregations and organizations around the diocese are engaging in 150 Days of Mission.



A Pair of Shoes Can Change A World

Right now, more than 300 million children are without basic footwear.

That's roughly the same number of American shoes that clogged our landfills last year alone. Donating shoes for re-use is an environmentally sustainable alternative to our throw-away society. And, while shoes don't cure cancer or alleviate hunger, having a pair of shoes can play a part in lifting the spirits of people struggling to improve their lives. Wearing shoes also prevents simple infections that without adequate medication can easily spiral into debilitating injuries. Owning a pair of shoes is a simple yet effective way to erase the stigma of poverty, stop puncture wounds, end scrapes and prevent burns to feet.

Shoes are something we all have, in abundance, lying around in our own closets.

The Power of 150 MN Episcopal Congregations and Organizations Working Together

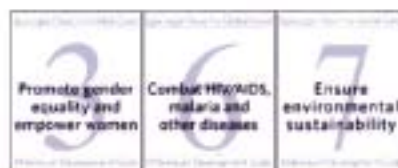
Imagine the impact if each of us donates just one pair of shoes.

The diocese is partnering with Soles4Souls, an international non-profit organization that collects and redistributes new and gently used shoes, to establish 150 collection sites in congregations and organizations throughout the state. By August 1, every congregation and organization in the diocese will receive a donation box and instructions for collecting new and gently used. Please plan accept donations throughout the fall and bring your overflowing box to the ingathering Eucharist at Diocesan Convention.



For more details, visit the website, www.episcopalmn.org or call the Episcopal Center, 612-871-5311.

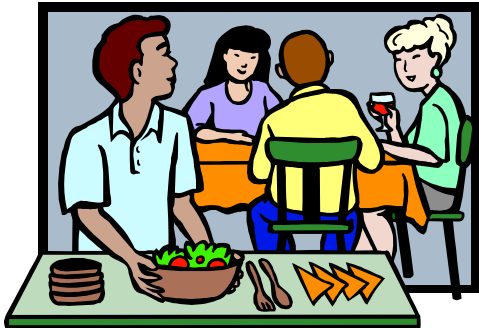
Visit also the prayer blog, www.episcopalprayers.wordpress.com.





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It's ba-ack....!

We are going to have a long overdue Ethnic dinner on November 8, 5:00 pm at St. Nicks.

Start thinking of yummy foods you grew up eating that you would love to share. Pam Banks is in charge of the dinner this year. Questions? Call Pam at 612-722-2139. And watch for the sign up at church in the future.

The VEAP Corner

Our summer food drive and our Back to School Collection was a huge success! We donated 255 pounds of food in July and August, great effort everyone.

The Back to School Collection totals are; 24 rulers, 60 packages of lined loose leaf paper, 45 packages of pencils, 15 backpacks, 1-\$15.00 gift card, 17 spiral bound notebooks, 36 folders, 11 subject notebooks. Thanks to your donations many children will be ready for another year of learning.

Thank you everyone.

Jan Kohout, VEAP Representative



The grass withers,
the flowers fade,
but the word of our God
stands forever.

Isaiah 40:8

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.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 31 9:00 AM Eucharist	Sep 1 LaborDay	Sep 2	Sep 3	Sep 4 7:00PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom 7:00PM Walking the Labyrinth	Sep 5 10:00AM Adventures in Spirituality	Sep 6
Sep 7 9:00 AM Eucharist	Sep 8	Sep 9 7:00 PM Vestry	Sep 10 7:30 PM Choir	Sep 11 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Sep 12 10:00AM Adventures in Spirituality	Sep 13
Sep 14 9:00 AM Bishop Jelinek - Reflections of Lambeth Bishops Conference 10:00 AM Eucharist - Bishop Jelinek, celebrant	Sep 15 Crier deadline	Sep 16	Sep 17 7:30 PM Choir	Sep 18 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Sep 19 10:00AM Adventures in Spirituality	Sep 20
Sep 21 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Education- Adult 10:30 AM Eucharist	Sep 22 Autumn begins	Sep 23	Sep 24 7:30 PM Choir	Sep 25 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Sep 26 10:00AM Adventures in Spirituality	Sep 27 12:00 PM Free Lunch
Sep 28 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Education- Adult 10:30 AM Eucharist	Sep 29	Sep 30	Oct 1 7:30 PM Choir	Oct 2 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Oct 3 10:00AM Adventures in Spirituality	Oct 4
Oct 5 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Education- Adult 9:45 AM Christian Education- Children & Youth	Oct 6	Oct 7	Oct 8 7:30 PM Choir	Oct 9 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Oct 10 10:00AM Adventures in Spirituality	Oct 11

Birthdays

2 Anne Wilner
3 Betty Cope
9 John LaFrance
11 Daisy Druhl
Carol Hocking
12 Pam Banks
14 Sara Woolley

Anniversary

16 Tom Frick
22 Becky Knoblauch
25 Gayle Ticen
5 Todd & Andrea Oliverius
10 Don & Nancy Rowley