



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



# The Crier

## May 2009



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**Saturday, May 2 - 8:30 am**  
Spring Clean up

**Friday, May 8 - 7 pm**  
A Celtic Vision  
contemplative service

**Saturday, May 9 - after 12 noon**  
Flower Sale pick-up

**Sunday, May 31 - after 9 am service**  
Summer Ethnic Picnic

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

**June issue deadline**  
**Friday, May 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  
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 **Karen Bessler**  
Junior Warden **Dick Kohout**  
Director of Music **Charlotte Grantier**  
Crier Editor **Kathy Cummings**



### Vestry Members

**Pam Banks**      **Carol Barthelemy**  
**Gretchen Eickhorn**      **Ed Kariuki**  
**Dick Kohout**      **Tom McConnell**  
**Bill Mills**      **Andrea Oliverius**

Treasurer **Rich Makela**  
Vestry Clerk **Bill Mills**

# Reflections from Tom

The liturgical season of Easter is seven Sundays and takes us through the end of May. The season of Easter is a time for us to once again engage with the scriptures that speak of the risen Christ in relation to God, the Holy Spirit, and those who choose to follow. It is also a time when we read the story of the witness of the early church concerning Jesus, whom all thought to be dead, but is declared to be alive by his followers.

What I find most intriguing about this Easter season are the post-resurrection appearances of Jesus to his disciples and others. These apparitions confront us with a Jesus that we struggle to make sense of and leave us, for the most part, in a state of confusion, or perhaps, disbelief. We are confronted with a Jesus who warns Mary she cannot touch him, and then invites Thomas to put a fist into his wounded side. We are confronted with a Jesus that walks through doors and walls and yet sits with the disciples to eat. We are confronted with a Jesus who is there one moment and then gone the next. We are confronted with a Jesus that is unrecognizable, and then suddenly known. We are confronted with a Jesus that is both stranger and friend.

Part of our problem, I think, is that we get stuck trying to come to terms with a resuscitated body. That tends to be how we understand resurrection. The truth is, we are confronted in Scripture with an empty tomb and an embodied, risen Jesus, but nowhere does Scripture suggest that the risen Christ is simply a resuscitated body. God has done something dramatically new in raising Jesus, and we are left with an inability to put it into our need for tidy definitions. If you stop and think about it for a moment, the biblical accounts of the encounters with the risen Christ almost always begin as an encounter with a stranger. They don't know who Jesus is. The reality of the risen Christ shifts our understanding from one of recollection to one of encounter.

The void of the tomb and the unrecognizable face of the risen Christ both speak of the challenge of Easter. The Lordship of Jesus is not constructed from a recollection but experienced in the encounter with the

one who evades our surface desires and needs. Rowan Williams, in his book *Resurrection*, says the following. "The church is not the assembly of the disciples as a 'continuation' of Jesus, but the continuing group of those engaged in dialogue with Jesus, those compelled to renew again and again their confrontation with a person who judges and calls and recreates. The church may be Christ's body, the place of his presence; but it is entered precisely by the ritual encounter with his death and resurrection, by the 'turning around' which stops us struggling to interpret *his* story in the light of *ours* and presses us to interpret ourselves in the light of the Easter event."

The disciples were radically changed and emboldened by their encounters with the stranger, the risen Christ. Our readings from *Acts* on these Easter Sundays tell their compelling story. Are we willing as individuals and as a community to stop struggling to interpret his story in the light of our own? Are we willing to risk it all in continuously encountering the one who promises life? Are we willing to truly interpret ourselves as a people shaped by resurrection reality? It is my daily prayer.

Blessings,  
Tom



## SPRING CLEAN UP



Saturday May 2 is planned for spring clean up day. It will be from 8:30 AM until approx 12:00 noon. A light breakfast/brunch will be provided. Mostly outside clean up and possibly window cleaning is the objective. Please come for whatever amount of time you can.

Bring rakes, gloves, blowers, etc.  
Rain out day will be May 9.

Thanks For Your Help:  
Building & Grounds.

## Christian Dream Work



Our dream group will continue to meet on the third Saturday of each month from 10 am to noon in the Gathering Space. The next meeting dates are May 16, June 20, July 18 and August 15. If you are interested in learning how to listen to God speaking to you in your dreams, please join us. If you don't remember your dreams, you are still welcome to join us. Participating in a dream group is helpful in developing an ability to remember dreams. You are also welcome to join us even if you don't want to share or talk about your personal dreams. If you have questions you can call me at 612-655-2631 or email at eamiller50@comcast.net. Betty Miller

## It's Almost Picnic Time



We will be having a Summer Ethnic Picnic on May 31<sup>st</sup>. We will be having one service at 9am with the picnic following the service. Brats and Hot Dogs will be provided and bring a summer ethnic dish to share. Sign up sheets will come much later, just a heads up for now.

## "A Celtic Vision"

A contemplative service of readings and music

Friday, May 8

7PM



## Electronic Sign Update

**Great News!!!** We have the city permits in hand for our new electronic sign. The sign has been ordered and should be installed within six to seven weeks. Some of you have asked whether you should resume making contributions toward your pledge for the sign. The answer is – yes. If you have questions about your pledge or its status, please let Tom Eklo, Dick Kohout, or Dan Greimel know, and we will get that information to you. Thanks for your patience and your continuing interest through all of this.

## In your prayers, you are asked to remember....



Tom Frick	Jill Aicher
Mavis Spornick	Betty Cope
Marge Stwora	George Olsen
Jan Pepperdine	Annie Baldwin
John Nelson's mother	June Kestner
Roslyn Gantt-Simmons father	Roscoe Gantt
Judy Conn's granddaughter	Rebecca

Pat Peterson	George Wilner
Sue Bennitt	Daisy Druhl
Dorothy Reese	Kristin Cummings
Laurice Anderson	Kerry Banks mother
Mary Helms	Sallie Parsons cousin
Melanie Spears	and the Men and Women of our Armed Forces

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Apr 26</b> 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Ed - Adult 10:30 AM Eucharist	<b>Apr 27</b>	<b>Apr 28</b>	<b>Apr 29</b> 9:30 AM Gospel-based Discipleship 7:00 PM Gospel-based Discipleship 7:30 PM Choir	<b>Apr 30</b>	<b>May 1</b> 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	<b>May 2</b> 8:30 AM Spring Clean up
<b>May 3</b> 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Ed - Adult 9:45 AM Christian Ed - Children & Youth 10:30 AM Eucharist	<b>May 4</b>	<b>May 5</b>	<b>May 6</b> 9:30 AM Gospel-based Discipleship 7:00 PM Gospel-based Discipleship 7:30 PM Choir	<b>May 7</b> 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom	<b>May 8</b> 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality 7:00 PM "A Celtic Vision" Contemplative Service	<b>May 9</b> 12:00 PM Flower Sale Pickup
<b>May 10</b> 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Ed - Adult 9:45 AM Christian Ed - Children & Youth 10:30 AM Eucharist <i>Mother's Day</i>	<b>May 11</b>	<b>May 12</b> 7:00 PM Finance Committee	<b>May 13</b> 9:30 AM Gospel-based Discipleship 7:00 PM Gospel-based Discipleship 7:30 PM Choir	<b>May 14</b>	<b>May 15</b> 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality Crier deadline	<b>May 16</b> 10:00 AM Christian Dream Work <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
<b>May 17</b> 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Ed - Adult 9:45 AM Christian Ed - Children & Youth 10:30 AM Eucharist	<b>May 18</b>	<b>May 19</b>	<b>May 20</b> 9:30 AM Gospel-based Discipleship 7:00 PM Gospel-based Discipleship 7:30 PM Choir	<b>May 21</b> 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom 7:00 PM Vestry	<b>May 22</b> 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	<b>May 23</b>
<b>May 24</b> 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Ed - Adult 10:30 AM Eucharist	<b>May 25</b> <i>Memorial Day (Observed)</i>	<b>May 26</b>	<b>May 27</b> 7:30 PM Choir	<b>May 28</b>	<b>May 29</b> 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	<b>May 30</b> 12:00 PM Free Lunch
<b>May 31</b> 9:00 AM Eucharist Pentecost Summer Ethnic Picnic - following the service	<b>Jun 1</b>	<b>Jun 2</b>	<b>Jun 3</b>	<b>Jun 4</b> 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom	<b>Jun 5</b> 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	<b>Jun 6</b>

## birthdays

- |                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Dorothy Davis  | 9 Arbie Johnson       |
| 2 Craig Kettleon | 15 Ginny Olsen        |
| John Buckley     | 18 Madeline Lazier    |
| 3 Helen Mudgett  | Diane Hoyle           |
| 4 George Olsen   | 20 Alfred Jaryan, Jr. |
| 5 Jim Brunn      | Mia Hoyle             |
| 6 Dave Newman    | Deweh Yuoh            |
| Laurie Brown     | 26 Peter Taylor       |
| 8 Leo Bruhl      | 27 Ariel Banks        |

## anniversaries

- 6 Barb & Tom McConnell