



ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



The Crier

September 2009

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Resume Two Sunday Services
September 13

Rally Sunday
September 20

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

October issue deadline
Tuesday, September 15th
 Put in Crier box in office or
 email to kathy@isd.net
 Please put "Crier" in subject.

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

Sundays

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

REFLECTIONS FROM TOM

When I was on vacation this past August in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, I tried my hand at something I have never tried before. I went kayaking. I have wanted to try kayaking for some time, and this seemed to be the perfect opportunity. I felt fairly safe signing up for a three hour kayaking tour with a guide. I was assured that we would be in the harbor for the most part, in waters more placid, not subject to the strong winds that can quickly make Superior a rough sea.

The “group” met in the evening down by the harbor and the guide began to describe how to paddle forward and in reverse, how to turn, etc. Then he got to the stuff about what to do “if” the kayak capsizes, rescue procedures, etc. I am a good swimmer, but there was a part of me that began to feel the chill of hanging upside down in a kayak in a cold Lake Superior either numbed or just plain forgetful of everything I had been told about what to do if the kayak capsizes. I was suddenly feeling very comfortable with two feet firmly planted on good old mother earth.

But eventually my turn came to get into the kayak, and into the kayak I went. I was told to “get a feel” for the boat and then just relax with it, letting the tensions subside. Actually, pretty sage advice as one is only four to six inches from the surface of the water. We started out and it was not long before I (and the guide) realized I had an uncanny ability to paddle my kayak in circles rather than a straight line. With a smile on his face the guide quipped, “Looks like you have the left turn mastered.” Well, with the help of the guide’s advice and a little more practice, I began to feel like I was settling into it – getting the knack of it. We were led into hauntingly beautiful rocky coves only accessible by kayak and then out onto Lake Superior to take in the setting of the sun – a fireball slowly disappearing into the lake – an experience and a perspective that I never could have had standing in the safety of the harbor.

My kayaking experience raised some questions in my mind. I wonder why we prefer the safety and security of the known rather than risk the possibility of experiencing something that changes our perspective of

life? What is there about fear that always takes us to those scenarios and places we dread, and why do we let it paralyze our ability to imagine and dream of other possibilities? Why do we insist on going around in circles in this life when there are those who are willing to give us the help we need to begin to learn to move on?

These are questions that frame our lived experience as humans, but they are also questions that frame our experience as a community of faith called to follow the leading of God’s Spirit. How willing are we to try new experiences? Can we identify our fears for what they are and still have the courage to move into the unknown and uncharted waters that provide new perspectives of God and our relationship with God? Are we willing to reach out and listen to others as we journey when things don’t seem to be going the way they should? Are we open to being surprised, amazed? It’s hard work, and like kayaking, it takes a lot of practice.

Blessings,
Tom





An Afternoon of Friendly Chit-Chat, Delicious Treats and Harmony . . .

Please join Blue Moon on October 18 at 3:00 as they present their fifth annual "Tea For You and Blue Moon Too." An assortment of sandwiches, treats and beverages await you, followed by a short musical program "Celebrate the Seasons." Can you imagine a better way to spend an hour on a fall afternoon! All are welcome: family, friends and neighbors.

Adventures in Spirituality...

...will begin again on Friday, September 11th. Please join us in the gathering space for a wonderful program, treats, coffee and tea at 10:00 a.m. You will receive a September/October calendar on that Friday. Everyone is welcome.

Be Amongst The First . . .

Be amongst the first to sign up your act for this year's Extravaganza! The festivities will be ON St. Nicholas day, December 6, at 4:00 pm, followed by one of the best potlucks in town! Look for the sign-up sheet on Rally Sunday, September 20. Additional opportunities will be provided later this fall to reserve a spot for your act if you miss this chance in September. Remember that we are trying to keep the length of the show to about an hour. It is important to keep all acts to three minutes or less so everyone who wants to participate is able to do so.



VEAP Back to School Collection Results



As Elaine Clybourne Barber said in her sermon on August 9th, "You are a very giving congregation." We exceeded almost all items that we were challenged to provide for students this season.

	VEAP challenge was:	We collected:
Folders	500	601
Loose leaf paper pkgs.	350	155
Glue bottles	100	106
Backpacks	30	36
Erasers	100	134
Plus other items		336 pencils
		27 pens
		6 rulers

Thanks so very much to all who contributed. The supplies were taken to VEAP Monday, August 17, 2009.

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

Kristin Cummings
Jill Aicher

George Wilner
Mary Phyllis Meyer

Laurice Anderson
Betty Cope

Marge Stwora
Dorothy Reese

Daisy Druhl

Dee Hughes

Tom Frick



Gayle Ticen's sister Shirley Hagenbuch

Mary Phyllis Meyer's sister Virginia Gaebe

Ann Wilner's sister Deb Exted

Ann Wilner's father's friend Sharron Miller

Mary Gleason" son-in-law Daryl

Karen Bessler's son-in-law Lisa Peterson

George Wilner's mother The Rev. Jan Wilner

And the men and women of our armed forces.



Coming Thursdays in October to St. Nicholas

What is it? Tai Chi is an ancient form of Chinese martial arts. But it has evolved over the years into a practice that seeks through physical movement to activate the energy (chi) within the body for maximum health benefit. Ideally, it seeks to balance this chi within the body. To this day, there are literally thousands who crowd the public parks throughout China on a daily basis practicing various forms of this exercise. For most of us who lack the perspective of an eastern mindset, an understanding or experience of energy fields within the body are foreign. But there are many who practice tai chi who will testify to its two primary physical benefits – a better sense of balance and a loosening of previously tense or painful joints and muscles. A certain form of the Sun Style of Tai chi has been approved by the American Arthritis Association as beneficial for those experiencing the pain and limitations brought on by arthritis. It is this form of Tai Chi that will be offered at St. Nicholas this October. It is easy to learn and involves 18 different movements (expandable to 32). Stay tuned for further information.



Word Search Puzzle

from www.geocities.com/lectionarypuzzles/
free to distribute for free with this notice
words in a straight line in all directions

D	L	I	S	T	E	N	O	T
E	D	E	V	O	L	E	B	G
S	C	H	O	S	E	N	F	O
I	I	O	H	W	O	R	L	D
M	S	R	E	H	T	O	R	B
O	F	A	I	T	H	O	S	E
R	M	Y	R	C	D	P	E	T
P	N	R	S	V	H	N	M	A
S	R	E	T	S	I	S	A	H
M	O	D	G	N	I	K	J	T

(James 2:5) Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? (NRSV)

Word List

PROMISED BROTHERS
SISTERS KINGDOM BELOVED
LISTEN CHOSEN WORLD
THOSE JAMES HEIRS FAITH
THAT RICH POOR NRSV
WHO NOT HIM HAS GOD
AND OF MY

2009 Recycle & Bake Sale

We hope you will all be pleased to know the fall sale is in the works. The success of the spring sale was mainly due to all of you who gave exceptional treasures. Just being able to add a dollar or so with each item makes a difference.

When this issue of the Crier is published, you will have about two months to get your donations collected and priced (with masking tape).

The bake sale will again be in business, so you have a variety of ways to help make \$ for St. Nicholas.

Drop off days are Friday-Monday, September 25-28 from 9:00-3:00.

Sale days are Thursday-Saturday, October 1-3, 2009.

A sign up sheet is posted outside the office.

Thanks for supporting St. Nicholas.



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





Vestry Minutes

July 21, 2009

Members Present: Andrea Oliverius, Dick Kohout, Karen Bessler, Rev Tom Eklo, Tom McConnell, Gretchen Eichhorn, Alfred Jaryan

Members Absent: Carol Barthelemy, Ed Kariuki, Pam Banks

Guests: Bob Aicher, Rich Makela

Rev Tom Eklo opened the meeting with prayer. This was followed with a meditation led by Dick Kohout who read from the book TOUCHSTONES.

Secretaries Report: The minutes of the June 16, 2009, Vestry Meeting was presented. Dick Kohout moved that these minutes be accepted as presented. This motion was seconded by Tom McConnell and was approved.

Finance Report: Dick Kohout presented the Finance Report as of the end of May, 2009. Before moving to accept this report, Bob Aicher talked about the financial audit which is required by the Diocese and the National church. He presented an Audit letter which outlined what is to be accomplished by the audit. Rich Makela also spoke about the required audit. After further discussion, Dick Kohout moved that the Vestry accept the Audit Letter of Acceptance, and that Bob Aicher be appointed as chairperson of the Audit Committee. Tom McConnell seconded this motion and it was accepted. The Clerk of Vestry signed the letter for the Vestry. Karen Bessler then moved that the Vestry accept the regular Finance Report. Gretchen Eichhorn seconded this motion and it was approved.

Old Business: Tom McConnell reported on the Pew Project. This started out as a project to shorten another pew to allow for more handicap seating and progressed into a study of replacing all of the pews with individual chair seating. Replacing the pews would make the sanctuary space more versatile so that it could be used for more than just church services. In conjunction with this, Tom M. checked with various vendors about the costs and chair configurations. Although the chairs should be stackable, some felt that the chairs should have arms. Tom M. will continue to look into this possibility. In the meantime, the Vestry will talk to people and get their opinion on the pew replacement idea.

Dick Kohout has been looking into updating our church kitchen. This study is just in the very early stages, and was prompted by the need to upgrade our dishwasher which breaks frequently. The Richfield Health Department has very stringent rules about what is required for differing kitchen accessories, and we want to determine what we can upgrade without getting into a full blown remodeling.

Rev Tom Eklo spoke about the Wellness Project. At this point, the committee assigned has not progressed further and do not have another meeting date set.

New Business: Several Vestry members spoke about the keys to the church doors. It was felt that there is no reliable record of who has keys, and perhaps who might have keys but do not need them. Karen Bessler will try to determine who presently has keys and to establish a key assignment program.

Because of date conflicts, it was decided that the next Vestry meeting will be held one week later than usual, on August 25, 2009.

Rev Tom Eklo said that he will be on vacation August 13 through 18.

All business being concluded, Dick Kohout moved that this meeting be adjourned. Gretchen Eichhorn seconded and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted

Bill Mills

Clerk of Vestry

St. Nicholas Financials

	July		Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Income	\$8,124	\$10,710	\$77,602	\$78,386
Expense	\$14,080	\$14,422	\$87,335	\$89,093
Net	\$5,956	\$3,712	\$9,733	\$10,707

Meet the Search Committee candidates for IX Bishop of Minnesota

After months of prayer and conversation, the Bishop Search Committee for the Diocese of Minnesota is pleased to offer three outstanding candidates for consideration as the IX Bishop of Minnesota:



The Rev. Mariann Budde

Rector, St John the Baptist Episcopal Church
Minneapolis, MN



The Rev. Bonnie Perry

Rector, All Saints Episcopal Church
Chicago, IL



The Rev. Brian Prior

Rector, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection,
Spokane Valley, WA

For more information about the candidates, including resumes, autobiographies and answers to essay questions, go to:
www.mnbishopsearch.org

Additional candidates were accepted through an open nomination process from August 1-14 and will be announced September 25. To learn more about this process, visit the diocesan website, www.episcopalmn.org.

What's Next?

From October 19-24 the candidates will meet the diocese in visits known as "Walk-abouts." The electing convention will be held from October 19-24 the candidates will meet the diocese in visits known as "Walk-abouts." The electing convention will be held October 31. The Ordination of the elected bishop will be February 13 at St. Mark's Cathedral, Minneapolis.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 30 9:00 AM Eucharist	Aug 31	Sep 1	Sep 2	Sep 3 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom	Sep 4	Sep 5
Sep 6 9:00 AM Eucharist	Sep 7 <i>Labor Day</i>	Sep 8 7:00 PM Finance Committee	Sep 9 7:30 PM Choir	Sep 10	Sep 11 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	Sep 12
Sep 13 8:00 AM Eucharist 10:30 AM Eucharist	Sep 14	Sep 15 Crier deadline	Sep 16 7:30 PM Choir	Sep 17 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom 7:00 PM Vestry	Sep 18 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	Sep 19
Sep 20 8:00 AM Eucharist 10:30 AM Eucharist Rally Sunday	Sep 21	Sep 22 <i>Autumn begins</i>	Sep 23 7:30 PM Choir	Sep 24	Sep 25 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	Sep 26 12:00 PM Free Lunch
Sep 27 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Ed - Adult 9:45 AM Christian Ed - Children & Youth 10:30 AM Eucharist Recycle Sale Drop-off 9:00-3:00	Sep 28	Sep 29	Sep 30 7:30 PM Choir	Oct 1 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom Recycle Sale	Oct 2 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	Oct 3
Oct 4 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Ed - Adult 9:45 AM Christian Ed - Children & Youth 10:30 AM Eucharist	Oct 5	Oct 6	Oct 7 7:30 PM Choir	Oct 8	Oct 9 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	Oct 10

birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 2 Anne Wilner | 12 Pam Banks |
| 3 Betty Cope | 14 Sara Woolley |
| 9 John LaFrance | 16 Tom Frick |
| 11 Daisy Druhl | 22 Becky Knoblauch |
| Carol Hocking | 25 Gayle Ticen |

anniversaries

- | |
|---------------------------|
| 7 Todd & Andrea Oliverius |
| 10 Don & Nancy Rowley |