



ST. NICHOLAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA



The Crier

January 2010

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Sunday, January 24th
One Service at 9:00 am
followed by the
Annual Meeting
with Continental Breakfast

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



February issue deadline
Friday, January 15th
Put in Crier box in office or
email to kathy@jsd.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 Eichhorn **Ed Kariuki**
Dick Kohout **Tom McConnell**
Bill Mills **Andrea Oliverius**

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

Reflections from Tom



The dawning of a New Year is always a time for reflection regardless of the tradition from which that New Year emerges. Whether a person keeps the cycle of time by the Gregorian calendar or the Chinese calendar or the Jewish calendar, or some other calendar that speaks to the traditions of a particular culture, there is the sense that the New Year gives us a time and a place to stop and reflect upon the past and look forward to new beginnings.

All of us are aware of those lines of demarcation in our lives. There are specific times and circumstances that we can look back upon in our lives that reflect profound change of direction, change of attitude, change of vision, etc. They are etched into the fabric of our lives with vividness for they mark those points of transition and transformation in our lives. For some, perhaps, there is sadness around those seismic shifts in life. For some, there is a sense of resignation that what happened was perhaps for the best of everyone involved. For others, there is a sense of joy in knowing that what has been and what will be is filled with promise and hope. What is true about each of these very human reactions to the transitions and transformations of life is that they are ultimately tied to the wonder of life itself. In other words, none of them are bad or good in and of themselves. Each of these reactions is emblematic of what it means to be human in the fullest sense of the term.

There is always a tendency to want to divide our lives into the sacred and the secular, the spiritual and the physical. My problem with that tendency is that it flies in the face of much of what we proclaim to believe in our scriptures and in our liturgical language and movements. We are an incarnational people, which means that we hold to the belief that the physical world has been infused with the divine. God has come among us in the person of Jesus and has proclaimed redemption not only for our souls, but for all of God's creation. Christ invites us to be fully human, and in that fullness of humanity is the spark of our divinity. Whether we consciously acknowledge it or not, our lives speak a sacred truth in our secular dealings. Our lives speak a spiritual truth in the physical world in which we live and breathe. We can no longer categorize our lives into nifty little realities that separate out the image of God that is embedded into the very core of our being. There are no God-forsaken moments or persons. We are always on "holy ground" and always encountering "holy people."

I invite you as we stand upon the cusp of a new calendar year to stop for a moment and look back upon your life this past year. Look for those movements in your life and see if there is a sense of the presence and movement of God – new directions, challenges, affirmations, passion, a compassion for others, a love that was not there before, a letting go, tears, a joy, a better understanding of self, a humbling experience, a job well done. These, my friends, are earmarks of our humanity, and the spark of the divine alive and well in our lives. Rejoice and take them with you into this New Year. Thanks be to God!

Blessings,
Tom



Missions Committee Shares

At the beginning of December the Missions Committee met and decided to send money to the following organizations: Second Harvest Heartland \$200.00, Richfield Meals on Wheels \$350.00, Emma Norton House \$50.00, and Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People \$750.00. We also sent a beautiful basket of wine to the VEAP Holiday Party for others to bid on and purchase, estimated value was \$120.00. Your generosity has allowed us to contribute and make a difference at these organizations. Thank you for supporting Mission projects throughout the year.

Jan Kohout, Missions Chair



Recognizing that the Holy Spirit can speak to us through our dreams, a group began meeting in January 2009 to explore our dreams together. The group meets once per month. We discuss our dreams from a perspective of what the messages we receive in our dreams may be calling us to do in our lives as Christians. The group leaders are Richard and Betty Miller. Richard and Betty have been participating in dream work groups in the Episcopal church for about 7 years. Richard and Betty have received significant guidance from the Holy Spirit by paying attention to their nightly dreams.

The next dream group meeting will be on January 16 from 10 am to 12 noon in the Gathering Space. All people are welcome to attend. You don't need to have previous experience with dream work to participate in our group. If you don't remember your dreams, you are still welcome to attend. The act of participating in a dream group helps each one of us to increase recall and understanding of our dreams.

For further information about Christian Dream Work, you can contact Betty Miller at eamiller50@comcast.net or at 612-655-2631.



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



- | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|
| Arthur Finnell | George Wilner | Laurice Anderson |
| Jill Aicher | Mary Phyllis Meyer | Betty Cope |
| Daisy Druhl | Dee Hughes | Betty Miller |
| Tom Frick | Kerry Banks | George Wilner's mother |
| Mary Phyllis Meyer's sister Virginia | | The Rev. Jan Wilner |
| Karen Bessler's niece, Lisa | | Mary Phyllis Meyer's niece, Luisa |
| John Nelson's daughter, Sonja Kane | | Karen Bessler's brother-in-law, Warren |
| Terry Houle's brother-in-law, Jim Brandl | | Gayle Ticen's sister, Shirley Hagenbuch |
| | | Janice Fraser's nephew, Jonathan Leoffler |

And the men and women of our armed forces.

2009 in Review

Were you there?









2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 27 8:00 AM Eucharist 10:30 AM Eucharist	Dec 28 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31 New Year's Eve	Jan 1 New Year's Day	Jan 2
Jan 3 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Ed - Adult 9:45 AM Christian Ed - Children & Youth 10:30 AM Eucharist	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6 7:30 PM Choir	Jan 7	Jan 8 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	Jan 9
Jan 10 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Ed - Adult 9:45 AM Christian Ed - Children & Youth 10:30 AM Eucharist	Jan 11 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom	Jan 12 7:00 PM Finance Committee	Jan 13 7:30 PM Choir	Jan 14 7:00 PM Vestry	Jan 15 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality Crier Deadline	Jan 16 10:00 AM DreamWorks Workshop
Jan 17 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Ed - Adult 9:45 AM Christian Ed - Children & Youth 10:30 AM Eucharist Wellness Fair	Jan 18 Martin Luther King, Jr.	Jan 19	Jan 20 7:30 PM Choir	Jan 21	Jan 22 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	Jan 23
Jan 24 9:00 AM Eucharist 10:30 AM Annual Meeting	Jan 25 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom	Jan 26 7:00 PM Vestry	Jan 27 7:30 PM Choir	Jan 28	Jan 29 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	Jan 30 12:00 PM Free Lunch
Jan 31 8:00 AM Eucharist 9:15 AM Christian Ed - Adult 9:45 AM Christian Ed - Children & Youth 10:30 AM Eucharist	Feb 1	Feb 2 Groundhog Day	Feb 3 7:30 PM Choir	Feb 4	Feb 5 10:00 AM Adventures in Spirituality	Feb 6

birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 4 Sharon Mills | 16 Tami Hoyle |
| Mary Thompson | Rich Makela |
| Clint Bristol | 18 Maggie Ingalls |
| 5 Jan Lasserud | 19 Jack Lyon |
| 9 Tom McConnell | Nancy Rowley |
| 12 Arthur Finnell | 27 Sally Parsons |

anniversaries

- | |
|-----------------------------|
| 11 Ijeoma & Lazarus Abasiri |
| 15 Kathy & Ken Cummings |
| 27 Mavis & Ted Sperrick |