



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



**In this issue...**

Reflections from Tom ..... 2  
 Adventures in Spirituality ..... 3  
 Fresh, the movie ..... 3  
 In your prayers, ..... 3  
 Spring Plant Sale Report ..... 3  
 Bishop Prior's Regional Meetings 4  
 Mission-shaped Meetings ..... 4  
 The Blessing of the Bikes... ..... 5  
 Word Search Puzzle ..... 6  
 Vestry Minutes ..... 7  
 St. Nick's Calendar ..... 8  
 Birthdays & Anniversaries ..... 8

**The Crier**  
**June 2010**



**enjoy the "Son "shine**

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

**July issue deadline**  
**Tuesday, June 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 Summer Service

9:00 am Eucharist



Ministers **All Parish Members**

Priest **The Rev. Thomas Eklo**

Deacon **The Rev. Judy Conn**

Senior Warden **Dick Kohout**

Junior Warden **Mary Gleason**

Director of Music **Charlotte Grantier**

Crier Editor **Kathy Cummings**



## Vestry Members

Carol Barthelemy Gretchen Eichhorn

Terry Houle Tom McConnell

Andrea Oliverius Maxine Parsons

Treasurer **Rich Makela**

Vestry Clerk **Bill Mills**

# Reflections from Tom

REFLECTIONS FROM TOM

Welcome to summer!! As I write this, we are already getting a good dose of summertime heat and humidity (and it is not even officially “summer”). While I begrudgingly welcome (or at least expect) such heat and humidity in the later part of July and August, I am not quite as welcoming of its presence in the later part of May. We are sometimes a fickle crowd.

Summer is the time when we traditionally take a break from the routines of our lives throughout much of the rest of the year. School is out, the lake beckons, vacations are on the agenda, and we find the time to do those outdoor activities that a warm evening and longer days afford us. I, for one, love the smell of freshly mown grass, the smell of a barbecue cooking dinner, the smell of lilacs and other flowers blooming. There is the chance to get on our bicycles once again, to set sail on our favorite lake, to walk around the lakes or spend some time in a nature preserve or botanical garden. We hear the songs of birds that seem silenced in the long months of winter. It is a time to sit on the deck or the front stoop with a glass of iced tea or lemonade and reflect upon the events and stories that frame our lives and the desires and dreams we hold in our hearts. It is a wonderful season of the year, and we typically relish this short season of warmth and light.

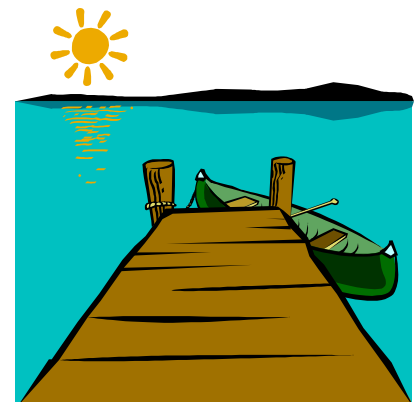
Summer means a change in our church schedule as well. Instead of two services, we move to a single service on Sundays. There are two reasons why we go to a single service. The first is perhaps an obvious one. Because there are so many on any given summer Sunday who are gone for one reason or another, there are simply not the numbers present to justify two services. The second reason is that the earlier service time for the 10:30 crowd gives everyone the chance to enjoy the leisure of our long, warm Sundays of summer. The unintended benefit of the

single service of summer is that we all get to worship together as a community. I am always amazed at how many people are not familiar with the newer names and faces of those folk from the “other” service. Our time together as a single community allows us to worship and develop bonds with others that create a stronger and more cohesive sense of community as a whole, and that is very important.

One change this summer is the creation of some additional learning opportunities for those who wish to participate. Terry Houle will be presenting a film called “Fresh” on June 6th following the Sunday morning service. It is a film about our food sources – how they are produced and processed in our convenience minded culture, and methods of producing food that create a healthier lifestyle and sustainable land use. We will also have some sessions during the summer to discuss the book recommended by our bishop – “The Present Future” by Reggie McNeal. The subtitle of the book is “Six Tough Questions for the Church”, and they are tough questions, indeed. He takes the key questions we typically ask in the church, says they are the wrong questions and then gives us a suggestion as to the questions we should be asking. It is provocative for some because it shifts our view of the meaning of church and its mission in the world. There are copies of the book in the gathering space for you to check out and read. I hope you will do so. We will have more information available on this in the weeks to come. It is my hope you will be able to participate in some of these sessions. It is important and timely material.

Blessings to each of you this summer!! Take the time to refresh. Take the time to learn something new, read something new, experience something new.

Tom



## Adventures in Spirituality

Adventures in Spirituality is now on its summer schedule. We will meet the second Friday of June, July, and August. We are going to try to take a tour and/or do a service project each month. June 11th we will meet at the church at 9:30 to carpool to St. Edwards Episcopal Church in Wayzata. We will tour the labyrinth inside of the sanctuary and see the new kitchen as well. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board after June 1st. The entire congregation is invited to attend but we need to know how many are coming. We will be gone from approximately 9:30 to 12:00 noon.

## Spring Plant Sale Report

The checks are in and the grand total profit to the General Fund is \$1035.00. The sale also bought \$110.00 worth of plants for our St. Nicholas gardens.

Thanks to everyone for both purchasing and getting orders from friends and family. Working together we can make a difference.

Thanks also to all of the helpers who put orders together:

Betty Miller  
Maxine Parsons  
Daisy Druhl  
Karen Bessler  
Andrea Oliverius  
Helen Mudgett  
Yvonne Lokken  
Dick Kohout  
Jan Kohout



*New thinking about what we're eating.*

A film by ana Sofia joanes

FRESH is a documentary featuring best selling author, Michael Pollan, and Will Allen and Joel Salatin which celebrates the farmers, thinkers and business people across America.

FRESH is more than a movie, it's a gateway to action. Our aim is to help grow FRESH food, ideas, and become active participants in an exciting, vibrant, and fast-growing movement.

When I write we, I don't mean our small team (officially two of us, with lots of amazing helps from our interns and volunteers) but I mean YOU. All of you. FRESH is a grassroots efforts for a grassroots movement. It's been tremendously exciting to see the movie catch on and spread like wild fire, being used all over the country as a platform to raise awareness and connecting people to the solutions available in their community.

The Wholeness Ministries will be showing the movie, Fresh, which is a documentary about our food and where it comes from. It describes a Grassroots effort involving farmers, thinkers and business people across America.

It will be the first in a series of events throughout the summer. It will kick off after the service and be held in the Fireplace room on June 6, 2010 at ~ 10:15 AM. The running time is 72 minutes so please mark your calendars.

*On your prayers, you are asked to remember....*



Percy Hughes	Clint Bristol	Tom Frick	Betty Cope
Jill Aicher	Mary Phyllis Meyer	Gretchen Eichhorn	Marge Stwora
Daisy Druhl	Bill Mills	Marie Peterson	Dorothy Reese
John Nelson's mother, June Kestner		Jill Aicher's friend, Marlene Slavik	
Terry Houle's brother-in-law, Jim Brandl		Charlotte Grantier's father, William A. Howard	
Sharon Nelson's close friend Judy Brown		Daisy Druhl's friend Janet Benson	
The people of Haiti and Chile		The family & friends of The Rev. Jan Wilner	
And the men and women of our armed forces.			

## Bishop Prior's Regional Meetings

*By Terry Houle*

On Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 I attended Bishop Prior's Regional meeting at Trinity Church in Excelsior. I had never been at Trinity before and it is a very nice church. They did have an issue with parking as only on-street and a city lot with time restrictions were available, but apparently not an issue for them. Also noted that more of the churches I am visiting have chairs and this one also had independent footstools underneath.

I would guess about 100 people attended the meeting. I met Bishop Prior who is a very engaging man and younger looking than I expected. If he needed another career he could maybe be a comedian with a lot of humor interspersed. It was about a 4-hour event with a working lunch.

The meetings around the state are focused on Engaging God's Mission and how we transform our community, how we develop followers of Jesus, and how we prepare for the future.

A suggested reading is the book "The Present Future" by Reggie McNeal of which I was about 2/3 through when I attended. The sub title of the book is, Six Tough Questions for the Church. And indeed they are six tough questions as it was kind of turning my world upside down as I read it. It was challenging many of my traditional thoughts on what it means to be the church.

Some of the things the Bishop talked about were: transformation, changing the world around us, networking, collaboration, how we share what we are good at, more of a more bottoms up organization of the Episcopal Church of Minnesota (ECM) with God's mission being at the top, having varied resources come together, resources we have vs. resources we need. The Bishop talked of setting up a resource-sharing tool that would be like a Craig's List for people to connect and network. It would be an interactive site.

The Bishop indicated some of the best-kept secrets of the ECM were: a lot of good clergy, a lot of competent lay people, very good congregations. But how do we share and be better. Bishop Prior summarized a couple things in the Q&A at the end when asked about any weakness he has seen. One perceived weakness is that Episcopal parishes don't share and are too isolated. He indicated a need for more shift to Mission and how we can function regionally.

Anyway those are just some of my thoughts on the conference which I thought to be very interesting and worthwhile.

There will be another nearby opportunity for us to participate this fall (September) at St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Sunfish Lake. It is important for our parishioners to participate in this key event and would encourage you to attend.

I have also ordered a couple copies of the McNeal book, and they are in the Gathering space if anybody would like to check out and read or review.



## Mission-shaped Meetings

### Detroit Lakes regional gathering upcoming

Join Bishop Prior on Saturday, June 12, 10 am to 2 pm, at St. Luke's, Detroit Lakes for an uplifting and practical conversation about how Episcopal faith communities can actively engage God's mission in their own contexts. If you are attending, please RSVP to the Rev. Dana Emery, [danakaren@arvig.net](mailto:danakaren@arvig.net), 218-847-6338, to reserve lunch and childcare.

If you cannot make the Detroit Lakes gathering, other events will be held in coming months:

- ◆ July 10, St. Luke's, Rochester
- ◆ September 25, St. Anne's, Sunfish Lake
- ◆ October 9, St. John's, Mankato (11 am to 3 pm)



**The Blessing of the Bikes...**

**...the Motorcycles...**

**...the Scooters...**

**...the Roller Blades...**

**...the Wheelchairs...**

**...the Walkers...**

**...the Skateboards...**

**...etc., etc., etc.**



**Sunday  
May 16<sup>th</sup>**

# Word Search Puzzle for Trinity Sunday

from [www.geocities.com/lectionarypuzzles/](http://www.geocities.com/lectionarypuzzles/)  
free to distribute for free with this notice  
words in a straight line in all directions

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

(John 16:12-15) “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. (13)  
When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his  
own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. (14)  
He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. (15) All that the Father  
has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. (NRSV)

## Word List

WHATEVER GLORIFY DECLARE BECAUSE THINGS SPIRIT REASON  
FATHER CANNOT TRUTH STILL SPEAK HEARS GUIDE COMES WILL  
WHEN THIS THEM THAT TAKE SAID NRSV MINE MANY JOHN  
INTO HAVE BEAR YOU SAY OWN NOW HAS FOR BUT AND ALL



# Vestry Minutes

---

**April 22, 2010**

**Members Present:** Andrea Oliverius, Tom McConnell, Dick Kohout, Mary Gleason, Rev Tom Eklo, Maxine Parsons, Gretchen Eichhorn and Carol Barthelemy. Terry Houle was excused.

Rev Eklo opened the meeting with prayer. This was followed with a devotional reading presented by Maxine Parsons. This was a poem Thoughts that Bless, by R H Granville.

**Secretaries Report:** The minutes from the March 18, 2010, Vestry Meeting were read. Mary Gleason moved that these minutes be accepted with no change. Maxine Parsons seconded the motion and it was approved.

**Finance Report:** Dick Kohout presented a report on the finances as of the end of March, 2010. Bill Mills moved that the Finance Report be accepted as presented. Gretchen Eichhorn seconded the motion and it passed.

**Old Business:** Name for the Gold Room There was some discussion among the Vestry members as what should be the official title of this room. Some of the names bandied about were the Media Room, Library or Nicks Nook. Maxine Parsons then took the bull by the horns and moved that the room should officially be referred to as the Library. Andrea Oliverius seconded the motion and it was approved. Kitchen Project Tom McConnell reported that all of the appliances have been installed, and that the only remaining work to be done is to touch up the walls where appliances had been. Sign Landscaping Some on the Vestry feel that the base of the electronic sign needs to be dressed up, perhaps with some plantings. It was decided that Jan Kohout will be asked for assistance, as the plantings will have to be hardy because of the winter road salt. Spring Clean The date for the Spring cleanup will be April 24, rain or shine.

**New Business:** Green Proposal Terry Houle would like to produce a document outlining sustainability guidelines for purchasing goods for St Nicholas church. After discussion, the Vestry agreed that this would be a good idea. Terry Houle then moved that the Vestry approve the sustainability idea. Tom McConnell seconded the motion and it was approved. Parochial Report Rev Eklo said that the Parochial Report needs the approval of the Vestry prior to submission to the Diocese. Carol Barthelemy moved that the Vestry approve the Parochial Report. Tom McConnell seconded the motion and it was approved. The Clerk of Vestry then signed the report attesting to the action taken. Library The committee designing the Library said that the current air conditioner in that room needs to be replaced. This was not included in the original request for funds, so additional funds will have to be designated. It was decided that the committee should determine the proper size unit and the cost and present that to the Vestry for action at a later meeting.

**Rev Eklo's Time** Clergy Conference The dates for the conference are May 3,4 and 5. The Rev will be attending some of these events during that time. Blessing of Wheeled Vehicles The blessing of these items was well received last year, so Rev Tom wants to do that again this year. The date for this will be in May, and the vehicles will be two wheeled, not cars. Contemplative Service The theme for this service will be Native American, and will consist of Native songs and readings. It will be held April 23. Diocese Rev Tom feels that St Nicholas has not been fully engaged with the Diocese of Minnesota, and that we should attempt to be more involved. Service Times The summer change to a single 9:00am service will begin May 30. There is some thought that this service may extend later into the fall, as many people still travel and vacation later in the year.

All business being concluded, Mary Gleason moved that this meeting be adjourned. Maxine Parsons seconded the motion and it was approved.

The next scheduled Vestry meeting will be May 20, 2010.

Bill Mills, Clerk of Vestry

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 30 9:00 AM Eucharist	May 31 Memorial Day (Observed)	Jun 1	Jun 2	Jun 3 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Jun 4	Jun 5
Jun 6 9:00 AM Eucharist Wholeness Ministries will show the movie "Fresh" after the service	Jun 7	Jun 8 7:00 PM Finance Committee	Jun 9	Jun 10 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Jun 11 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Adventures in Spirituality - visit Indoor Labyrinth at St. Edward's Episcopal Church	Jun 12
Jun 13 9:00 AM Eucharist	Jun 14 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom Flag Day	Jun 15 Crier Deadline	Jun 16	Jun 17 7:00 PM Vestry 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Jun 18	Jun 19 10:00 AM Christian Dream Work
	Meals on Wheels	Team 2				
Jun 20 9:00 AM Eucharist Father's Day	Jun 21	Jun 22	Jun 23	Jun 24 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Jun 25	Jun 26 12:00 PM Free Lunch
Jun 27 9:00 AM Eucharist	Jun 28 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Springs of Shalom	Jun 29	Jun 30	Jul 1 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Jul 2	Jul 3
Jul 4 9:00 AM Eucharist Independence Day	Jul 5	Jul 6	Jul 7	Jul 8 7:00 PM Walking the Labyrinth	Jul 9 Adventures in Spirituality	Jul 10

## birthdays

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Lisa Tsuchiya         | 15 Somtochukwu Abasiri |
| 2 Jill Aicher           | 21 Francoise Moenkhaus |
| 6 Ijeoma Abasiri        | 22 Carol Barthelemy    |
| 7 Roger Nelson          | Denise Famodu          |
| 9 John Tsuchiya         | 24 Lew Cope            |
| 10 Jamie Oliverius      | 25 Jigbeh Jaryan       |
| 14 Dan Greimel          | 27 Jeff Theis          |
| 15 Roslyn Gantt-Simmons | 29 Cassell Wherland    |
| Karl Knoblauch          | Virtue Finnell         |

## anniversaries

- |                        |                                    |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 10 Deb & Paul Tsuchiya | 24 Diannah Robertson & Tom Harries |
| 12 Barb & Rich Makela  | Denise & Tnde Famodu               |
| Jill & Bob Aicher      | 28 Betty & Lewis Cope              |
| 21 Roz & Rufus Simmons | 30 Dawn & Dan Greimel              |