
The Christ Bearer

Newsletter of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Vol. 16, No. 7

July 2010

From the Rector:

It's an auspicious event that the first Sunday in July this year falls on the Glorious Fourth, the anniversary of our country's struggle for independence from being an aggregate of Crown Colonies to forming a united country of separate states. My enthusiasm for this convergence of day and date is shaped by the experience shared by all who went on the Anglican Heritage Tour to Scotland and England last month when we visited Saint Andrew's Cathedral in Aberdeen. It was through Saint Andrew's that Samuel Seabury finally achieved consecration by Scottish bishops to become the first bishop of the newly independent Episcopal Church of the United States in 1784 after the conclusion of the American War of Independence.

As many of you already know, Seabury, Rector of Saint James in New London, Connecticut, traveled to England where he spent more than a year negotiating with the English bishops to receive the laying on of hands for consecration without the necessity of swearing allegiance to the English Crown as was (and still is) required in the Church of England. Unsuccessful in this project, he then traveled north to Scotland where, on November 14th, 1784, he was consecrated by the Primus Bishop Kilgour of Aberdeen, Bishop Petrie of Moray, and Co-adjutor Bishop John Skinner, the Rector of Saint Andrew's, Aberdeen, of the Episcopal Church of Scotland. Seabury thereby became the first bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States, and with the Scottish Episcopal Church, established the groundwork for today's Anglican Communion.

For our visit to Saint Andrew's on Sunday, June 6th, the Provost of the Cathedral, The Very Reverend Richard Kilgour, invited Deacon Melissa Wafer Cross and me to assist at the principal service at 10:45 AM. Melissa read the first lesson and then read the Gospel from the Bible held by Provost Kilgour in the center aisle. Following his sermon, Provost Kilgour guided me to my place beside him at the High Altar to assist him at the celebration of the Eucharist. As a special courtesy to our delegation from Saint Christopher's and to acknowledge our visit, he had arranged that the very chalice which was used at Bishop Seabury's consecration be used for the service, and both Melissa and I handled that chalice in the course of the celebration. He also brought the elements of the bread and the wine in Seabury's chalice to a special communion station in front of the altar so that everyone from Saint Christopher's took communion from that special vessel. It was a most moving experience, to say the least, and so typical of the courtesy and hospitality that we received everywhere we went.

I truly feel that we have new friends of Saint Christopher's in Aberdeen, Provost Kilgour, Margaret Buyers, Sacristan, and Athol Jermiesen, People's Warden, all of whom, along with the congregation of Saint Andrew's, made us feel so welcome. We share a historic legacy and continue in a special relationship in the worldwide Anglican Communion.

Edson+

As members of St. Christopher's, we seek to act as a part of the body of Christ in response to God's love and grace by:

- praising God together in Christ-centered worship
- providing opportunities for education and spiritual growth for all
- loving and supporting each other in our life together, and
- reaching out to our community and larger world in love and service.

The Christ Bearer

a monthly publication of
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

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Weekly Services
Sunday - 8:00, 10:00 Holy Eucharist
Wednesday - 5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist
w/ Holy Unction

Rector - The Rev. J. Edson Way
Deacon - Melissa Wafer-Cross
Deacon - Les Jackson
Deacon - Kathleen Borsch



Income & Expenses
(through May 31, 2010)

	Budgeted	Actual
Plate	\$ 10,416.69	\$ 6,453.61
Pledge	78,272.94	86,900.79
Other	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>2,400.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 91,689.63	\$ 95,754.40
Expenses	\$ 91,689.53	\$ 95,824.96
Balance: Inc.-Exp.	\$ 0.10	\$ (70.56)

Vestry Highlights - May

- Fr. Way reported that attendance numbers are down slightly for the Sunday and Wednesday services, and only 2 - 3 attend the Morning Prayer services.
- Doug Cashell's discernment committee - Kara Wischmeyer, Dave Bartl and Frances Lohmann-Smith will continue to meet with Doug through the summer.
- Donnie Evans, Sr. Warden, reports that computer repairs are needed; virus protection was installed. A new charcoal cooker for the church is available in the back. He and Jan have spoken with Jamie Reynolds about investments in the trust accounts.
- Junior Warden John Edwards indicated several areas that need repair. The vestry approved a bid for roof repairs.
- Treasurer Jan Kireilis reported that \$35,000 was reinvested with Edward Jones.
- Linda Lawson will work with Claire Randolph on Godly Play for the children's Sunday School.
- Missy Ratcliff reported that the ECW will offer a parish barbeque on July 18 to support Happy/Promise Camps. The first order for the pew pens is for 60. Her CPR class will likely happen in July. The graduate luncheon is scheduled for May 22.
- The vestry charged the Facilities Use Committee to establish procedures for authorization and scheduling of facility use of the church building.
- Dave Bartl will work on dates and arrangements for a possible parish retreat at Quarterman Ranch.
- Book plates were printed for the new Prayer Books
- A bid for expansion of the columbarium



On June 17 we received the

news of the death of Lowell & Keri Richey in a plane crash at Ruidoso. Lowell was the son of LaRue Parramore and Keri was the daughter of Alvin Parramore. The couple's two sons, Alexander and Kristopher were critically injured in the crash.

Rest eternal grant to them O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.



Food Pantry Requests for July

corn bread & muffin mixes

Thank You!

I want to thank everyone who helped feed the Happy Campers and give them a good send-off on Monday, June 14. A special thank you to Missy Ratcliff for organizing everything and having lunch for the helpers, too. A BIG THANK YOU to the Sunday School children who decorated sacks for the lunches for the campers.

I think we need to say thanks, also, to all the folks, especially Fr. Charles Bowyer, who kept things going while the Anglican Pilgrims from St. Christopher's were on our trip.

Carole Wolf



Josh Rodriguez has a new mailing address:

Joshua Rodriguez
145 East Rock Rd. Apt. #6
New Haven, CT 06511

(Vestry Minutes, continued)

was received for \$23,000 from Gill Construction.

- Deacon Kathleen's plans for departure are not final at this point. Deacon Les also is in the process of making plans for moving to Austin.
- The Anglican Heritage Tour leaves June 2.



Deacon's Corner

I was glad when they said unto me; Let us go to the house of the Lord. Psalm 122

Go into the houses of the Lord we did on our pilgrims' journey through Scotland and England: cathedrals, abbeys, minsters, parish churches, priories. Each place called to us in a different way; some buildings were just that—a building; while other places felt like “thin places.” To the Celts a “thin place” is where the line between the ordinary and the holy is thin, where the veil between this world and the next is lifted. I experienced one of those “thin places” at Coventry Cathedral; it took me off guard as I typically am drawn to the Gothic wonders of Salisbury Cathedral and the pink ruins of Melrose Abbey.

At Coventry Cathedral we encountered the bombed-out ruins of the old cathedral that was destroyed by a German bomb attack in 1940; the ruined cathedral is now a public space that stands as a remembrance and an emblem for reconciliation. Next to the ruins rises a modern cathedral; the soaring back wall of the cathedral is made up of huge glass panels. The panels are etched with images of apostles, prophets, and angels; the remnants of the old cathedral are reflected in the glass of the new.

During our tour of the cathedral, I noticed a photograph of the reflection of old cathedral in the windows of the new and decided to try to take one of my own. Anxious to see if my photo had turned out as I had hoped, I had a surprise when I opened the file at home. There in the photo I found the reflection as planned, but at the top, above the etched images, is the face of Christ from the huge tapestry that hangs over the altar. In the lower right-hand corner is me, with camera poised. With the image of Christ rising above apostles, prophets, and saints, His face soaring above the destruction and embracing the rebuilding, I remember that we are all called to the ministry of reconciliation, even the little figure in the corner holding a camera.

Melissa

Braggin'



Congratulations to Wendell & Diane Aycok on the marriage of their son, Daniel, to Kate Vance on May 22 in New York City. The ceremony was in a park overlooking the East River and the Brooklyn Bridge, and the service was performed by a “very nice” young Episcopal priest.

* Blanche Todd's grandson, Read Trammel, was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa honor society on June 1. Read is a junior at Denver University.

* As she was searching for ways to help provide more clothing to the HOPE Community of Shalom, Deacon Melissa Wafer-Cross, became aware that departing students at Texas Tech toss copious amounts of their belongings into the trash each year. Melissa worked with groups at Tech to organize the project, “When you move out, don't throw it out,” to donate unwanted items to local charities. The South Plains Food Bank was selected to receive food donations, Family Promise was given furniture donations, and HOPE Community of Shalom received the clothing donations. This May the equivalent of 159 large lawn bags of clothing was collected from five dormitories! Many of these items were jeans, the most popular clothing item and casual clothing of all types. What an idea, Melissa!

Good-bye to Les and Valinda and Thanks!

Sunday, July 4 will be the last day Deacon Les Jackson and Valinda will be with us prior to their move to Austin where he will attend seminary. We wish God speed to both Les and Valinda. You've meant much to this parish over the past years, and we know many good things lie ahead for you both.

Sundays & Wednesdays in July

You will get more out of our worship together if you take a little time beforehand to look at the Scripture lessons and think about our special prayer intentions.



Sunday, July 4 (Independence Day)

Proper 9

2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
Galatians 6:1-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Wednesday, July 7

Psalm & Lessons "For the Nation", p. 930, Book of Common Prayer
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper following service

Sunday, July 11

Proper 10

Amos 7:7-17
Psalm 82
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

Wednesday, July 14

Readings of the previous Sunday
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper following service

Sunday, July 18

Proper 11

Amos 8:1-12
Psalms 52
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

Wednesday, July 21 - Feast of Mary Magdalene (trans.)

Judith 9:1, 11-14 *Psalm 42:1-7* *2 Corinthians 5:14-18* *John 20:11-18*
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper following service

Sunday, July 25

Proper 12

Hosea 1:2-10
Psalm 85
Colossians 2:6-19
Luke 11:1-13

Wednesday, July 28 - Mary & Martha of Bethany (trans.)

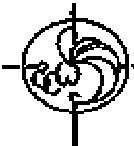
Romans 12:9-13 *Psalm 36:5-10* *Luke 10:38-42*
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper following service



Notes from the Senior Warden

We keep improving things around the church, not only structurally, but in what we do as a church family. I am always amazed at how folks reach out to others in times of need. Debbie Maines attended our Vestry meeting the first of the year and explained the outreach of Saint Benedict's. We have folks from Saint Christopher's preparing food and taking it to Saint Benedict's every Sunday morning, so that folks who are a little down on their luck enjoy a meal. Melissa Wafer-Cross talked about a gentleman who was extremely grateful for fresh strawberries one Sunday. Melissa's sermon was done in a manner that exposed the simple pleasure that most of us take for granted, and yet some take as the most incredible thing that has ever been done for them. Since Debbie attended the Vestry meeting, we have dedicated outreach to this organization. I have not offered one minute to this cause, but have received so much from the sermon regarding the gratefulness of one man. Thank you Debbie for introducing this ministry to us, and thank you Melissa for bringing us this story.

Donnie



The Episcopal Church Women

Many thanks to all the loving folks who made sandwiches and helped entertain the exuberant Happy Camp children as they awaited the bus to camp on Monday June 14, and a very special thank you to the Sunday school children for decorating the lunch sacks!!!

Don't forget --- ECW Outreach Luncheon after the 10:00 am service on Sunday, July 18. Everyone --- men and children included --- is included. Proceeds will go to Happy Camp and Promise Camp.

An Overview of the Anglican Heritage Tour

There are so many churches and cathedrals in Scotland and England, and your intrepid group of pilgrims did its best to explore as many as possible during the nine days we had to actually visit. Our sojourn began with a day on the island of Iona, off the Northwestern coast of Scotland. We visited the ruins of the nunnery and the restored Benedictine abbey. There, with flocks of sheep grazing nearby, many of us experienced a truly "thin place."

Next, we traveled to Edinburgh, where we visited Edinburgh Castle, atop an ancient volcano core, and there was time for shopping on the Royal Mile. That evening we experienced a "Ghost Tour" of old Edinburgh's lower regions, and we witnessed the "hanging" of Fr. Edson.

On Sunday, June 6, most of the group traveled to St. Andrew's Cathedral in Aberdeen where we worshipped at the site of the consecration of the first American bishop Samuel Seabury. Deacon Melissa and Fr. Edson assisted at this service.

The next day we visited Melrose where some of the group toured the ruins of the Melrose Abbey. Then we went on to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne for a tour of St. Cuthbert's original priory that was destroyed by the Vikings in the 8th century.

In the following days we visited Durham Cathedral, York Minster, both the ruins of the old Coventry Cathedral and the magnificent new Cathedral of St. Michael. We made a stop in Stratford-Upon-Avon to tour Shakespeare's birthplace and Holy Trinity Church where he is buried. We visited Salisbury Cathedral, Canterbury Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and the Tower of London. I regret that space doesn't permit an elaboration of any of these visits, as each place holds special memories for every one of us.



A Reader's Corner

Made for Goodness: And Why This Makes All the Difference, by Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu. New York: HarperOne, 2010. (206p.)

A good friend who is a fan of retired Anglican Archbishop Tutu's books recommended his new book to me. Being "retired", it seems, has given him even more time to write another inspiring book (all to our good!), this one in collaboration with his daughter, Mpho, an Episcopal priest in Washington, D.C.

It is difficult to imagine a person who has gone through what he has (at the wrong end of apartheid in South Africa) and seen what he has (acted as head of South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission) that he would write, with such joy and compassion, about the basic goodness within us all. Yet, it is because of those trials that he struggled, questioning his anger and despair at man's inhumanity to man (inhumanity [anti-humanity?] = great word actually, in light of his insistence on man's basic goodness) while at the gentler end of the spectrum, recognizing his own frailties in his relationships with loved ones. It is with that and with his ultimate faith in and love for God and, yes, for all humankind, that he is able to offer his wisdom and hope to us, his readers.

Archbishop Tutu's premise is that, as we are made in God's image, we are basically good and it is goodness that is at the core of our being. If we stray, it is a step away from that goodness. In his different chapters where he uses different Biblical stories as well as stories of people he has known, he writes of loving, the importance of listening (its healing qualities for those who tell their stories), how to pray, why we suffer, what failure can mean, and the importance of both compassion and forgiveness. He also writes of the gifts from God and how we, as Christians, are "called to be Eucharistic people...people filled with thanks: because we are always being given" (p.29).

At the end of each chapter are poems to lead us "into the stillness" where we can imagine listening "to God speak with the voice of the heart":

*Ask me any question.
My answer is love.
When you want to hear my voice,
Listen for love.
How can you delight me?
I will tell you:
Love.*

This book is an invitation to wholeness. A call to a better life. A book of hope.

An open invitation:

I would like to invite any reader or viewer to join me in this column. If you have read a book or seen a movie that you wish to recommend to other readers/viewers, please email me (candia.thew@ttuhsc.edu) with your suggestion. I can also submit a "guest" review or I can add an addendum to my own contribution by naming the book or movie (title) and recommended by (your name).



July 15
send information to
jambbarnes@suddenlink.net

This 'n That

- **SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY** - The Saturday Bible study class, "The Miracles of Jesus," will take the rest of the summer off. Please keep an eye out for notice as to when this study will begin again in the fall.
- **NEW PRAYER BOOKS** - You can still contribute to the purchase of new prayer books and have a nameplate placed in the front of the book with the name of the person you wish to honor. The cost per book is \$16. Be sure and put "Prayer Books" on the memo line of your check.
- **FELLOWSHIP REFRESHMENTS** - Sign up to provide snacks for the Sunday fellowship hours.
- **PRAYER REQUESTS** - Submit prayer needs via the Daughters of the King prayer cards in the pews. Put the cards in the offering plate or in the little box on the credence shelf at the back of the church.
- **WEAR YOUR NAMETAG!** If you need one - if you've lost yours or never had one, tell Karen Hodges, and she'll arrange for you to get one.
- **PRAYER SHAWL GROUP** - The prayer shawl group will meet on Monday, July 5, at 4:00 pm at the church. Please bring any shawls you have completed and plan to sit and knit or crochet a while.
- **CANS FOR CAMP** - Even though Rebekah and Kathleen Borsch are moving away, the Cans for Camp campaign will continue. You may continue to bring your sacks of cans to the church. If you have room to store the cans prior to sale, or if you have a pick-up and would be willing to help transport the sacks of cans to be sold, please contact Becky DelHotal, 792-0402.

St. Christopher's chapter of Daughters of the King will not meet again until August. Members should be reading the following two books during the summer break: *Stones to Schools: Promoting Peace With Books, Not Bombs, in Afghanistan and Pakistan*, by Greg Mortenson, and *Calendar of Saints* by The Rev. David L. Veal.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Ben Newcomb	July 1
Tom Rogers	July 1
Rachel Huffaker	July 2
Billie Becknal	
July 5	
Reagan Thomas	July 5
Kelly Randolph	July 6
Judy Bartl	July 10
Emily Crites	July 15
Chase Evans	July 16
Andrew Thew	July 17
Dannie Botros	July 18
Candia Thew	July 21
Worth Fullingim	July 24
Kathy Dean	July 26
Mel Barnes	July 29
Randy Davies	
July 30	
Nancy O'Clair	July 30

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Brian & Lynn Ledbetter Gum	July 3
Randall & Dolores Carpenter	July 9
David Faulkner & Allison Boye	July 17
Terry & Jan Kireillis	July 18
Orlo & Beth Sundre	July 21
Gerald & Kelly Trlica	July 28

Church Smiles

Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord,!" and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning!"

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note, "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't

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The Rt. Rev. J. Scott Mayer., Bishop
The Rev. J. Edson Way, PhD., Rector
Kathleen Borsch, Deacon
Les Jackson, Deacon
Melissa Wafer-Cross, Deacon

Elaine Howard, Administrative Assistant
Linda Swartz, Financial Assistant
Jane Barnes, Newsletter Editor
David Cross, WebMaster

The Vestry

Donnie Evans, Senior Warden
John Edwards, Junior Warden
Nancy McReynolds, Clerk
Jan Kireillis, Treasurer

David Bartl
Missy Ratcliff

Doug Cashell

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