

June-July 2009

St. Timothy's
Episcopal
Church

THE EPISTLE

Reaching Out

Centennial, CO
"To celebrate and
proclaim Jesus'
love"

Summer is like no other season of the year. The long evenings give us more daylight time after work, and many people take vacations. The mountains beckon while the weather is mild and flowers are blooming. Working in our gardens keeps drawing us outside. Harkening back to memories of long school breaks, there's a sense of freedom and adventure in the air.

To say that summer is "set apart" from the rest of the year is another way of (literally) saying that it is "sacred." The point is not simply to have more fun or drink more beer, but to deepen our sense of connection with creation and our Creator. It's not so much a question of what we do but how we do it. If we can maintain a sense of awareness of the beauty of the earth and thankfulness for the opportunities we have to enjoy it, our spirituality will deepen in the process.

The Apostle Paul, that lover of complex theological statements, saw the "book of nature" as a way of understanding God. "Ever since the creation of the world (God's) eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made." (*Rom 1:20*) Knowing God is not simply an intellectual activity, but comes from every aspect of our engagement with the world around us.

In addition, the Fourth Commandment directs us to "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy." (*Ex 20:8*) Not only should we stop working for a day every week, but our summer vacations can be seen as extensions of the weekly Sabbath, chances to ground ourselves more deeply before re-entering our busy lives.

As your pastor I encourage you to take advantage of the unique opportunities that summer brings. Make good use of the long days and take advantage of chances to step away from your busy schedules. Try to keep your mind and heart focused on God during these times, and remember to be thankful for all of your blessings.

Michael+

FROM OUR ASSOCIATE PRIEST

“A missional church is as imaginative as it is bold. And missional leadership is courageous and willing to try new things and risk all if necessary for the Kingdom to come.” ---THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME, Alan Hirsch and Michael Frost

Of all the reading assignments for Church Development Institute the last two years (10 books), this book suggested to me as supplemental material by Canon Missioner, The Rev. Canon Lou Blanchard, was by far the most exciting. It made it possible for me to imagine the Episcopal church becoming a viable instrument of energy and healing and influence in the future of the Kingdom of God during our brief lives here. This book is about how missional church looks and acts. I predict we will hear a lot more in the future about missional church. The Episcopal Diocese of Colorado seems to be committed to it. The Mission Shaped Leadership Workshop for vestry and clergy Saturday, May 15 (which Ann Pontius and I attended) was titled “Mission Shaped Leadership.” The buzz words at this workshop were *“attractional church/missional church”*. The thesis is that the attractional church can work hard to make itself a place of attraction, but that doesn’t always seem to be working so well in the world today in cataclysmic change. It is the missional church that goes out there where the ACTION IS and where the PEOPLE ARE that will give the church new life and clout in God’s Kingdom to come. This is, of course, easier said than done. May 13 Convention Conversations at St. Timothy’s facilitated by Jeff Spahr, with input from Joyce Culwell and others gave us an idea of what living into missional Millennium Development Goals might look like. We learned how that vision is driving the Anglican Communion these days. And I insist, each of us can use our imaginations and our calls to be missional in our own back yards. Being missional and attractional should not be mutually exclusive. But emphasis on the missional church seems to be an idea whose time has come. So stay tuned. It just may be the tide into the future --- which when taken at the flood -- will lead on to fortune. (My apologies to William S.) ---- Rev. Sandy Blake

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

We are privileged to have Bishop O’Neill visit our church twice in early June. Don’t miss the opportunity to hear from the leader of our diocese as he preaches on June 7. And the Bishop will meet with the Vestry and church staff on June 3. I look forward to this time of sharing of ideas, discussion of our new purpose statement and celebration of our commitment to mission!

I am grateful for all of the parishioners who helped make Samaritan Saturday such a success! I know that the House of Hope, the Jubilee Center on 32nd Avenue, the Denver Inner City Parish and the Animal Rescue for Cats all appreciated the time and effort spent by our church in reaching out into the community that surrounds us. A special thanks to Mary Schwarz, who organized this service opportunity!

Flowers are blooming at our house, and tomatoes and cucumbers are growing, thanks to the Stewardship Committee and its flower sale! We purchased high quality flower baskets and vegetables, at a bargain price. Best of all, the proceeds benefited St. Tim’s! Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the flower and plant sale possible.

I found the recent series on the Anglican Communion to be very informative and energizing. I particularly appreciated the discussion of issues that unite us, such as addressing poverty in the world, and not just the divisive issues that seem to attract so much attention. Thank you to Father

Michael, Jeff Spahr and the two delegates to the General Convention that addressed interested members of the congregation.

I remain optimistic that St. Tim's will prosper despite challenging economic conditions. Thank you for your talent, time and financial support!

Bob Fullerton

VESTRY NOTES

Summary of May 26, 2009 St. Timothy's Vestry Meeting

- Father Michael reported that the newly renovated nursery is being kept busy with many families with young children, including the Hecksher triplets. And with this, St. Timothy's is celebrating a record number of baptisms.
- Senior Warden Bob Fullerton reported that the recently held Samaritan Saturday was very successful, with more than 30 people participating in a variety of activities benefitting the community.
- The Treasurer's Report showed that pledges were down during the month of April. It is expected that this shortfall will be made up during the course of the year.
- In an effort to provide Father Michael with some guidelines regarding fundraising opportunities at St. Timothy's, a written policy was adopted by the Vestry. This policy is designed to encourage coordination among St. Timothy's many ministry groups, and to invite community involvement.

Prior to Bishop O'Neill's visit to St. Timothy's on Sunday, June 7th, the Bishop will be meeting with the staff and the Vestry on June 3rd. Among the topics to be discussed will be the recently adopted Purpose Statement and proposed action plan, as well as the upcoming Diocesan and National Conventions.

NEEDED: DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATES

The 2009 Diocesan Convention for the Diocese of Colorado will be held October 1 – 3, 2009 at the Pueblo Convention Center. St. Timothy's is entitled to have 6 lay persons represent the parish at the convention and we need volunteers who feel called for this purpose. The only requirements to be a delegate are:

1. Be a baptized, adult member of the parish
2. Be available to attend the full convention from Thursday evening Oct 1st through Saturday evening, October 3rd.
3. Be willing to prayerfully represent St. Tim's in any vote taken at the Convention

Please contact Bob Fullerton if you are interested but have questions about the Convention and the responsibilities of being a delegate. If you don't have questions but are moved to serve the parish and the St. Tim's family in this manner, please email or call Lindsay. We would like to have our 6 delegates identified prior to the June Vestry meeting on June 23rd so we can file the Convention paperwork before the July 3, 2009 deadline. Thank you for considering your participation in this ministry to St. Timothy's!

Karin Sugarman

CHOIR NEWS

Have I mentioned before that I direct a choir? If you know me personally, you would know that I direct a choir because I talk about it a lot, but I don't believe I have blogged about it.

I direct the St. Timothy's Choir, (<http://www.Sttims.net>) who are an awesome bunch of singers—some have professional training and some don't read music at all. We present choir shows that bring the house down and are rewarded by raising a lot of money. We have performed with the Choir for the Consecration of the Bishop of Episcopal Diocese of Colorado, and I have led the worship music for the Diocesan Summit, which had attendees from 15 states, (www.coloradodiocese.org). In my spare time I give private voice lessons, piano lessons and teach a drum class (joyceculwell@msn.com). (Pretty cool how I got all those links in there.)

So, after shamelessly plugging the choir and my directing, how does this relate to you? We want you to come test the atmosphere. We want you to sing with us. Try it for a Sunday, a season, a year or become a life time member. No, there is no fee for music or robes; and, we do not pay you. It is all in the service of the Lord!

We rehearse so we can learn the music on Thursday nights 6:30-8:30 pm. We strive to offer our best to the worship service. Sometimes we have birthday parties and sometimes we have big fellowship, fun, and food for seasonal celebrations. We strive to use all our talents Lord has given us. And, if you need childcare, let us know ahead of time and we'll set it up.

Remember those links and the email address for information and contact purposes. Oh, yes, and I am Joyce Culwell.

SHOWING OUR BEST FACE

When visitors come to St. Timothy's, what are their first impressions? Very often they are warmly welcomed and remember the folks who made them feel at home. But even before those first conversations take place, there's the impression our facilities make.

We have a beautiful worship space, but sometimes the lobby (or narthex) looks pretty cluttered. There's no focus in the decorating scheme, with a variety of disconnected items and pictures scattered around the room. In several recent conversations among the staff and vestry, people have suggested that we redecorate with visitors in mind. (This applies to the lower lobby as well as the upper one.)

I'd like to appoint a small committee to take on this task. If you are interested, please let me know. I won't be able to choose everyone who volunteers, but I would like to know your ideas. Drop off a note or send me an email with your suggestions, so the committee can take them into consideration.

We're good at personally welcoming people—let's see what we can do to make our facilities more inviting.

Rev. Michael

ASK MICHAEL

Why do we use incense in our worship?

The New Dictionary of Sacramental Worship describes a variety of purposes for the use of incense in the ancient world. Underlying religious and cultic uses was the practical need to mask unpleasant smells in hot climates.

The religious use of incense was widespread in early Judaism, mentioned in the books of Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers. Psalm 141 refers to the image of smoke carrying prayers upward to God, “Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.”

Early Christian leaders were reluctant to use incense because of its association with Roman Emperor worship. In the 4th century it became more widespread in churches, first to express a sense of triumph in funeral processions, then to venerate saints and holy places. By the Middle Ages incense was well-established in both the Roman and Eastern churches, and complex rituals evolved for its use.

From its beginning the Church of England was divided between its Catholic and Protestant branches. The latter abolished many of the ceremonies of the medieval church, while for Anglo-Catholics the use of incense remains an important element of worship. Our liturgical inheritance as Episcopalians may come from either of these traditions, and local churches differ widely in their practices.

Entering into my ministry at St. Timothy’s, I’ve tried to learn about and respect the congregation’s local traditions. People who appreciate the use of incense have been vocal about it, and I agree that it adds a sensory element to worship and sets apart our festival services.

But it’s also become clear that there are a number of people in the congregation for whom the use of incense is a barrier to being in worship, due to respiratory challenges. One person recently described trying to come to a service with incense by staying on the side near an open window, only to fall sick with pneumonia for a week. “I just don’t come to those services anymore,” he said.

I’ve made a couple of responses and hope to get some feedback in regard to possible next steps. First, we limit the use of incense to festival days (Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, All Saints), and only when there is an alternate service with no incense. For example, we will not use it during the Bishop’s visit, because we only have one service that day.

Second, we’ve started announcing these plans ahead of time in the bulletin, and I’m collecting names for an email group so people can personally receive that information. If you’d like to be added to that group, please let Lindsay or me know.

Continued on Next Page

Finally, one of our members is making arrangements for opening windows and using a fan to keep the seats behind the organ relatively incense-free. That won't work for everybody, but it may be helpful for some.

After two and a half years at St. Timothy's, it's still not clear to me how many people appreciate the use of incense and how many are physically bothered by it. I invite your comments one way or another, by any convenient means. You can see that I'm not in a hurry to make changes, but I have in mind Paul's caution to the Christians in Corinth to "take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block" for others in the community. (1 Cor 8:9) Please help out by letting me know your reaction to these questions.

Rev. Michael

NEW EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY CLASS

Starting in September

Do you like extra learning opportunities? Interested in looking deeper into Scripture and the Church? Want to share some great discussions on how current events affect our own beliefs? We are starting a new Education For Ministry class this Fall and would love to have you join. This isn't a class for becoming an ordained minister - it's a class where you deepen the foundations of your own faith, and anybody can join.

As the University of the South (Sewanee, TN) describes the program, every baptized person is called to ministry. The EfM program, from Sewanee, provides people with the education to carry out that ministry. During the Service of Confirmation we ask God to "Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at Baptism. Send them forth in the power of the Spirit to perform the service you set before them." EfM offers an opportunity to discover how to respond to the call to Christian service. We dig deeper into our Christian faith, studying the Bible, Church history and theological ideas and reflect on connecting faith with life experiences.

Good Shepherd is fortunate to be able to offer the EfM program at our church. Our classes meet once a week for 3 hours, from September through May. Our Monday night class is full, so find six or more friends and help start a new group which will meet on a different day.> Watch for an Orientation session in June or July, and see Lisa Wynn (303-850-9670) or Karen Henwood (303-770-4509) to sign up.

Karen Henwood

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

From time to time you've noticed that we "send out" lay ministers at the end of the service, to take communion to members who are not able to be present. This ministry is a blessing both for those who receive the Sacrament and for those who bring it. People who can't get out of their homes or rooms are always grateful to maintain their connection with the church.

Would you like to help out with these visits? You could begin by going along with an experienced minister, and training would be provided. Please consider prayerfully whether you'd like to participate, and get in touch with me if you feel called.

Rev. Michael

Anglican Communion Conversations

Thanks to everyone who was part of this series of conversations. It's good for us to be informed about what's happening in our world communion and at the Episcopal General Convention this July.

These days it's easy to keep up with this kind of information through the web. On St. Timothy's website (www.sttims.net) you'll find links to the Anglican Communion news service (<http://www.anglicancommunion.org/acns/>) and the Episcopal News Service (<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/ens/>). Both those sites will lead you to information about specific groups and issues.

Jeff Spahr made a wonderful presentation on world mission, and here are some of the websites he suggested: un.org/millenniumgoals, er-d.org (Episcopal Relief & Development), and http://www.coloradodiocese.org/01_whoare/ministries.html#jubilee (Diocese of Colorado Jubilee Ministries). Jeff also highly recommends taking in the Archbishop of Canterbury's speeches at youtube.com/lambethpress.

The General Convention meets every third year, and you can learn more by looking at www.episcopalchurch.org/gc2009. You can also subscribe to email updates if you choose. As Diocesan Communications Officer Beckett Stokes asked me, "How much information do you want to get?"

St. Tim's home page will also link you to the Diocese of Colorado website (<http://www.coloradodiocese.org/>), where you can get information about the General Convention by clicking "News and Events" and then "General Convention 2009." I understand that members of our delegation will be posting their reflections at www.coloradodeputies.blogspot.com, and you can email them at deputation@coloradodiocese.org.

Rev. Michael

DID YOU KNOW ST. TIMOTHY'S HAS A LEGACY SOCIETY?



Have you considered including your church in your will, or as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy? Did you know that you can benefit Saint Tim's, acquire a lifetime of income and get a deduction on your taxes by purchasing a charitable gift annuity?

Over the next several weeks, information on the church's Legacy Society will become available. Stay tuned for more information on how you can leave a lasting legacy, and reflect your values in your will!



WE PRAY FOR



Those with Birthdays in June

- | | |
|--|---|
| 2 Brenda Clagett, Nan Fullerton, Mark Bruner | 17 Marybelle Potter |
| 3 Patricia Jackson | 19 Ann Pontius |
| 6 Ann Barthrop | 20 Bob Ogden |
| 7 Jennifer Perry, Jennifer Sneden | 21 Maddy Cravens |
| 8 Lisa Zimmermann, Stuart Blois, Joelle Kemble | 22 Stanley Dial, Samantha Posey |
| 10 DeDe Holmes, Robert Bruner | 23 Jim Ault, Nancy Minerly, Anna Newby |
| 11 Bruce McCrea | 24 Andrew Bolei |
| 12 Joan Lamb, Christina Ott, Connor Posey | 25 Greg Velisek, Amanda Chisholm |
| 14 Aidan Perry | 28 Dixon Cravens |
| 15 Jennifer Stroud, Megan Pike | 29 Betty O'Neill, Art Patton, Hassell Wright,
Leslie House, Max Gair |

And July

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Roberta Denham | 14 Lindsey McBee, Sarah Breyfogle |
| 2 Mark Zoller, Cliff Gagnon | 16 Samantha Plattner |
| 3 Jim Pike, Samantha Sharp | 17 Marcy Key, Kerri Bolei, Augie Gagnon, Lauren
Packard, Bryan Mussato, Tyler Johnson |
| 6 Kyle Mussato | 19 Sally Atchison, Josie Wallingford |
| 7 Katlyn House | 25 Quinn O'Melia |
| 8 Reid Fudge, Branden Zimmermann, Timmy
O'Neill | 27 Steven Paulukovich |
| 9 Jim Hook, Ken Scott | 28 Seth Newby |
| 10 Sandy Muysato | 29 Steven Heckscher |
| 11 Kevin McCrea | 30 Lynn Zoller |
| 12 Karen Henwood, Thomas House | 31 Ben Wallingford, Kris Eadie, Kathy Davidson,
Alex Perry |

Those with Anniversaries in June

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 Stanley and Jean Dial, Larry and Lucy
Newnam | 13 Greg and Shanda Velisek |
| 4 Jerry and Cynny King | 15 Mark and Christine Sneden |
| 5 Loy and Gail Holman, Harry and Alice Young | 20 Cecil and Priscilla Franklin, Claude and Julie
Watson |
| 6 Paul and Karin Sugarman | 22 Jeff and Kathi Rudolph |
| 8 Bill and Margaret Utter | 23 Jim and Liz Ault |
| 9 Bill and Barb Riedell | 24 Dick and Lyn Zolman |
| 10 Ray and Lois Bartusiak, Marty and barb
Chambless, George and Jane Fosdick | 25 Bill and Val Hargreaves |
| 11 James and Kimberly Moore | 26 Rick and Trish Ingraham, Bruce McCrea and
Karen Littlefield |



WE PRAY FOR



Those with Anniversaries in July

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Steve and Kris Eadie | 20 Darrell and Brooke Nickerson |
| 4 Steve Oelrich and Jane Dickinson | 21 Eric and Valerie Seale |
| 7 Cliff and Patricia Gagnon | 25 Jeff and Jennifer Spahr |
| 17 Barry and Mary Schwarz | 28 Kent and Holly Wagner |
| 18 Robert Bruner and Mary Carr | 29 Mark and Lynn Zoller |
| 20 Keith and Pamela Chisholm | |

Those in the Military Service

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.

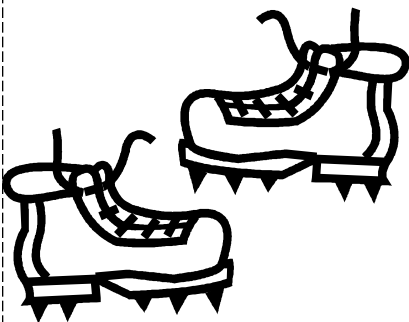
- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| The Reverend Carl Andrews | Gunnery Sgt. John Humphrey |
| Captain Damon Bird | Airman Alex Newey |
| 1st Lt. April Bowman | P.O. 2/C Grant Probst |
| 2nd Lt. Cody Comer | Joe Rice |
| Pvt. Kevin Comer | Sgt. Michael Simoni |
| Spec. J.T. Davis | Airman Andrew Simoni |
| Capt. Lance G. Curtis Fletcher | Seaman Appr. Benjamin Tolle |
| Private Stephanie Fowler | SR Brian Troutman |
| Ryan Frushour | Tim Weaver |
| Lt. Louis Greek | Robert |
| 1st Lt. Drew Hoskinson | Christopher |



Our Missionaries

- Esther Miller in Malawi
- Joanne LeClair in Africa
- Susan Craig in West Africa
- Audrey Ross and Mr. Bariago in Togoland

Summer Hikes



Celebrate summer in the mountains by joining with St. Timothy's members on either of two Saturday hikes. On June 13, Whitney and Ann Thomas will be our leaders—more information will be forthcoming as the date comes closer. Bob Fullerton will lead us on August 15.

Consider setting aside these times and inviting friends or family members. There will be options for different levels of challenge on the hikes, and it's always fun to spend the day in the mountains! You can contact the church office for more information.

BITS AND PIECES



The Ladies Out to Lunch Bunch will meet on Saturday June 6, at 11:00 am at St Tim's parking lot. Due to limited parking we will carpool to Merle's restaurant at 2609 W Main Street, which is on the corner of Littleton Blvd and Curtice. For reservations call Marian MacFarlane at 303-346-927. Since the 4th of July is a Saturday we will be skipping the Lunch Bunch for July.

King Soopers Gift Cards

Everyone might be interested to know the different places that King Soopers Gift Cards may be used so I will list them here. However, before I begin, you may be interested to know that the gift cards may be used as donations to various charities and especially food banks. Just tell the person selling the cards, which charity is to receive your donation and we will take care of the rest. You should note the charity on your check memo.

Now the places the cards may be used:

King Soopers Gift cards are accepted at most Kroger affiliated stores throughout the U.S. These include Kroger, Fred Myer, Ralph's, Fry's, and Fry's Market Place, King Soopers, Dillon's, Smith's Food and Drug, City Market, QFC, Food 4 Less, Owen's, Foodsco, Hilander, Payless, Cala-Bell, Baker's, JAYC, Fred Meyer Jewelers, and Littman & Barclay Jewelers. You can go most anywhere on vacation and use these cards. Don't forget the gasoline and prescriptions or event tickets at each of these facilities.

Please note that Loaf and Jug will not accept the cards.

Thanks for your support,
Elisabeth and Frank Mussato

FAITH DAY WITH THE ROCKIES

Sunday, August 23, 2009 at 1:10 pm - Deadline to Reserve Tickets is July 15th

Come worship at the ballpark! Watch a great game and then stay for the extras. There will be an after game concert with a worship band (We are pleased to announce that **MercyMe** will be this year's musical guest!) and two players will share their faith stories.

We have a block of 75 tickets - first come, first served! Our seats are on the First Base side, rows 9 through 16. Please let us know how many seats you would like. Tickets are \$20.00. Please put your check and ticket request in an envelope and leave it in the basket on Lindsay's desk. The sooner we get your request and money, the better chance you can all sit together and have the seats you want. E-mail sttims@sttims.net or call the office - 303-794-1565 with questions.

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

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The Epistle
June - July 2009

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**St. Timothy's embraces all people with the love of Jesus
through joyful worship rooted in tradition, ministries
for all generations and reaching out to those in need.**

**St. Timothy's Summer Celebration
Sunday, June 7 starting at 9:30 am**

**Bishop Robert O'Neill, Celebrant and Preacher
at a single, combined worship service**



Youth Confirmation and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

**Parish Picnic follows with potluck lunch
Music, games, and good times for all ages**

**Can you help? Please call or email the church office
(303-794-1565 or sttims@sttims.net)**