

A Voice in the Wilderness

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



MAY 2009

We WELCOME all our Newcomers ~ Fr. Spencer did a beautiful installation during the Easter Day service. We followed that with a lovely Brunch to send Fr. Spencer & Karla off on their 3 month sabbatical. For those who don't know, our Diocese requires this every 5 years.

Rev, Nina Stasser, a former member of this church as filled in the past 2 weeks.

May 3 ~ our own Rev. Catherine Volland is here for the 1st time since her ordination. No pressure their Catherine.

May 10 ~ Rev. Larry Donoghue. May 17 ~ Brother Robert Hugh.

May 24 thru end of June ~ Rev. Michelle Danson.

Cranmer Chapel will have Evening Prayer, May 3, 10 & 17 covered by our Lay Readers from the Fraser Valley. Do come out & support them. Holy Eucharist will return with Rev. Danson.

May 17th ~Newcomers Brunch. May 23, 24, 25 Missional Ministry at Windy Gap Reservoir. May 30th Rt. 34 Clean up.

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

Sr, Warden: Kathe Morck 887-3231 or Deacon Diane

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A Word from our Sr. Warden ~ Kathe Morck

High Dives and Senior Wardens

One of my parents favorite stories of me was that at 4 years old I would not only jump, but dive off the high board before I could really even swim. I would dive in, often coming up with a red face where I smacked the water, and dog paddle to the side of the pool. This story reminded me how I felt today, the first Sunday of Fr. Spencer's sabbatical. I think I've jumped off the high board without knowing how to swim. I retrieved the mailbox key only to get to the post office and not know what the PO Box # was. I was told to go "the bank" to sign a signature card so I could take care of any checks that might have to be paid during Lorie and Eric's vacation absences and head to repeatedly ask "what bank?" I was told I was to write this column and do announcements, not having a clue as to what that really entailed. My guess is that I will be dog paddling for the next three months. My only comfort is knowing I am surrounded by all of you who are much more competent swimmers and will jump in to save me should I start going under. And I think if God somehow chose me for this task, he will also give me the strength to get to the side of the pool.

That being said, the Vestry plans to remain active during Father Spencer's absence. Each of us are planning to attend an "Empowered Leadership" training given by the diocese in the next two months. We will continue to meet the first Sunday of the month to be updated on our committee's progress, plan social events, and take steps toward meeting our yearly goals. Stu Findley is planning a great family/picnic event June 13th at a beautiful spot along the Colorado River just below Shadow Mt. Dam. And a big thank you to Dan and Amy Zacek-Smith for planning the Easter Bon-Voyage Brunch for Fr. Spencer and Karla. It was a great send off for Spencer and Karla and they truly appreciated it.

We have a great "line-up" of fill in priests in Spencer's absence. Nina Stasser, one of our own "homegrown" ministers, was here for the last two Sunday's in April and gave us a great take on the mystery of the paschal Lamb. In May, we will hear fresh perspectives from the Rev. Katherine Volland, Rev. Larry Donoghue, Br. Robert Hugh, and the Rev. Michelle Danson.

Thanks for your patience as I "learn the ropes". I look forward to seeing you all in May and if I look like I'm sinking, please throw me a life preserver!

Notes about Ministries

Mark your Calendars:

Trinity Women's Group-May 15th: At noon on the third Friday of the month all women of St. John's are invited to gather at church for a brown bag lunch and stimulating conversation on a topic of interest.

Men's Bible Study: meets every Sat. am @8am ~ ALL men welcome to join in.

Newcomers' Brunch May 17th: Welcome to the Family! St. John's is growing and we will be welcoming our newest members at a Potluck Brunch on Sunday, May 17th after the service. Please sign up in the Parish Hall to bring your favorite brunch dish to share! Then come and celebrate the newest brothers and sisters among us.

Baccalaureate: Friday, June 5th at 7 PM at Middle Park High School. All graduating seniors, their families, and friends are invited to celebrate this important milestone in the life of a student. Please RSVP: Deacon Diane 970-887-2692.

Missional Ministry: will be hosting a booth at the Windy Gap Rest Area this May 23, 24 & 25. Free coffee, lemonade, iced tea and cookies will be offer to people traveling through Grand County on this busy weekend. The idea is to offer a "pick me up" and a moment of rest for the weary travelers. We will be asking the congregation to sign up to assist during 2-hour time slots throughout the weekend. Plan to come out & enjoy the camaraderie and opportunity to be of service to our fellow travelers. Details will follow. Stu Findley, Jr. Warden

Green Team: Road Clean Up time ~ Sat. May 30th, 9am meet @ St. John's to carpool.

Ministries' Fair: After the service on Sunday, June 7th, representatives from Grand County non-profits will be on hand to share information about their agencies as well as provide volunteer opportunities.

Church Picnic: June 13 @ Double A Barn just below Shadow mountain Spillway. Details next month.

ECW ANNUAL GATHERING: Oct. 16-18. Rev. Nina Stasser presenter. Theme: "Instruments of God". Further info later. Betty Clark

A Journey for Relief and Development: The Rev. Michael Mortvedt, Vicar of Trinity Episcopal Church, Kremmling, took a long bicycle trip this April 19-29 to travel to the Rocky Mountain Synod Assembly in El Paso, Texas. He took this journey to raise donations for Episcopal Relief and Development. From his parish in Kremmling to the site of the Synod Assembly in El Paso is approximately 650 miles.

You are invited to donate to Episcopal Relief and Development by pledging on a per mile basis for the journey or for a set amount of your choice. Donations of any amount are welcome.

Please make your check out to Episcopal Relief and Development, note that it is in support of A Journey for Relief and Development and send it to Trinity Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 996, Kremmling, CO 80459. Thank you for your support of this journey!

P.S. Vicar Mortvedt's bike ride saves approximately 386 lbs. of CO2 released into the atmosphere compared to his driving alone in an average mpg automobile.

Worship Committee: under direction of Loretta McLaughlin is looking for addition people to be Acolytes and Lay Readers ~ if this is a ministry that you would like to participate in please contact her @ 726-4738.

Altar Guild: We Thank You for making the church so beautiful for Easter services and all year round. If you have an Honorarium or Memorial during the year it is only \$30. To have flowers on the Retable ~ there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. If this is a ministry you would like to participate in please contact Rae Wilson or Eleanor Holley.

For Mothers:

Mother,
Formed from the depths beneath your heart
You know us from inside out
No deeds or seas or others
Could ever erase that.

To Bless the Space Between Us John O'Donohue P. 8

Spiritual Direction: Awakening to the Presence of God

Where is God in your life? Being awake to God within us lets us be aware of God in the world around us. Through sharing and listening we interlace our life stories, experiences, feelings, and relationships. Probing what is meaningful in your daily life and connecting this with the sacred offers a close relationship with God. Woven between your past and present there is a vibrant force about how you are called to the future. Such is the essence of spiritual direction or spiritual companionship as it is sometimes called.

Some of the ways these things are explored in spiritual direction are;
Sharing God experiences. How did it affect you? What were the circumstances surrounding it? How did you feel? Did you discover anything in it? What do you think about it now? How has your prayer life changed as you have grown? Are there any

The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

Granby, Colorado

common threads? How did you learn to pray? How do you feel about your prayer life now?

Your relationship with God – how has this developed over your life? What kinds of things do you share with God? Do you talk or listen more? How do you respond to each other?

Consider your images of God. Have they changed since you were young? How and where do you feel God's presence?

How does God see you?

Search areas of your life needing discernment and decision-making. What are the repeated urges you are experiencing? How is God or how are others speaking to you about this?

Exploring these questions by your self can be beneficial; however more can be discovered by sharing them. These topics would not be covered in one spiritual direction session. In fact even one of them may take several sessions.

Most important in a spiritual direction session are God and the Holy Spirit. God is the real Spiritual Director speaking through the Holy Spirit with the human director as God's vehicle. Kaye Piper, Licensed Director

Meet our Guest Priests ~

Rev. Nina Stasser: Nina & Dick were members here for 25 years; living in Grand Lake where they were proprietors of the Kachina Trading & Eagle Dancer Trading Company of Winter Park. After Nina's ordination she served as Rector of St. Barnabas, Glenwood Springs and St. Paul's, Vernal, Ut. In 2007 she retired but remains passionate about small church ministry, and is currently working with a team of consultants to develop licensed lay ministries throughout the Diocese of Colorado. During the summer you can find them being campground hosts at Lucerne Marina on Flaming Gorge Reservoir

Rev. Catherine Volland: as owner of a home in Grand Lake Catherine has worshipped with us for several years. She was ordained by Bishop Rob O'Neill Jan. 2009. She currently serves at St. Thomas, Denver. Her primary areas of responsibility include church growth, children and youth faith formation, in addition to regular preaching and liturgical roles.

Br. Robert Hugh, SSF: Deacon Sally & Br. Robert have been friends for over 30 years. He was ordained by Bishop Micheal Ramsey in 1954. 10 years later he joined the friars of the Society of St. Francis in the UK. In '67 this order and the Order of St. Francis in America merged. He was asked to do a short term exchanged "about a year" and here I am 42 years later. During these years my ministry has taken me to all 50 states, Canada, Caribbean, Au & NZ.

1988 he becomes Diocesan Missioner for the whole of Lent including doing a Diocese Clergy Retreat and again in the '90's came back to do another Clergy Retreat in Colorado. Now in his eighties he still is actively doing these retreats throughout the west.

Rev. Michelle Danson: a native of Yorkshire, England and has lived in the US since January of '83. In 2002 she earned her M. Div. at Iliff School of Theology and went on to study Christian Spirituality at General Seminary, NYC. She has just completed 4 years as a Facilitator and Presenter with the Benedictine Spiritual Formation Program, Co. Springs. She has a private practice of Spiritual Direction called "Living Well" and is co-founder of the Contemplative Beehive of Boulder Valley where she lives.

May 2009

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
					1	2
						8 AM MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST * 5 PM EVENING PRAYER AT CRANMER CHAPEL
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9 AM HOLY EUCARIST *						8 AM MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST * 5 PM EVENING PRAYER AT CRANMER CHAPEL
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9 AM HOLY EUCARIST						8 AM MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST * 5 PM HOLY EUCARIST AT CRANMER CHAPEL
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9 AM HOLY EUCARIST						8 AM MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST * 5 PM HOLY EUCARIST AT CRANMER CHAPEL
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30
9 AM HOLY EUCARIST						8 AM MEN'S BIBLE BREAKFAST * 5 PM HOLY EUCARIST AT CRANMER CHAPEL