

The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

Newsletter

Vol. 3, Issue 2

March - April 2007

Annual Meeting and Vestry Retreat

Our 2006 Annual Meeting was conducted on Sunday, January 28, 2007, after the 10:00 A.M. service. Minutes of the meeting can be found on our website. Three vestry members were elected to replace outgoing Bert Van Houten, Connie Barlow and Jim Koehn. Jack Blenk and Tom Wolch were elected to three year terms, and Elsa Torgerson was elected to a one year term. Our thanks go out to Bert, Connie and Jim for their years of service to Epiphany. The congregation approved the following mission statement as defining who we are and what we do:

The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany is a growing Christian community inviting all God's people to live and worship with us in the Anglican Tradition.

We provide Christian education, fellowship, spiritual growth, outreach and liturgical worship.

The new vestry conducted its annual retreat on Friday evening and Saturday, February 16 and 17, 2007. Thanks to our landlord, Sansone Properties, for letting us use their conference room.

We approved this as our goal: **By January 31, 2009, to grow Church of the Epiphany to a community of 200 weekly service attendees who share our common goals of worshipping Christ and seeing Christ in one another.**

Terri Trompak reviewed results of the congregation survey. This list provides the foundation of the Vestry's efforts to recruit parishioners to help with the many jobs and activities which need to be done.

Three new committees were formed: **Care and Calling, Hospitality and Newcomers.**

Vestry meetings will take place on the first Monday of every month at 6:45 P.M., with the first 15 minutes reserved for prayer. In September, because of Labor Day, we will meet on the second Monday, September 10. Parishioners are welcome to attend these meetings.

Bill Kohn was elected Senior Warden, Jack Blenk was elected Junior Warden, Judy Koehn was elected Clerk, and Jim Koehn was elected Treasurer (Jim is a non-vestry member). The following leadership and committee appointments were made:

Rev. Mike Annis - Care and Calling and Stewardship. Jack Blenk-Jr. Warden - Worship and Liturgy and Care and Calling. Jim Koehn - (non-vestry member) Treasurer. Judy Koehn - Clerk, Newcomers. Bill Kohn-Sr. Warden - Marketing and Long Range Planning, Rev. Helen McPeak - Stewardship. Elsa Torgerson - Hospitality. Terri Trompak - Education. Tom Wolch - Facilities. George Yao - Care and Calling and Stewardship.

We ask you to support your Vestry and to volunteer your time, talent, energy and treasure to grow and move Epiphany forward.

Bishop's Search Committee Progress

The Diocesan Profile, which is a current snapshot of the entire Diocese of Nevada, is now available on our PROFILE WEBSITE:

www.nvdiocese.org/profile

You can visit and read the Diocesan Profile online, or you will find a paper copy of the Profile at the Parish Office. If you are unable to

access the website directly, you can get a photocopy of the parish's paper version. Both nominations and applications for Bishop of Nevada are now open.

If you know of anyone who you think would make a good Bishop for our Diocese, please encourage him or her to apply. Applications and nominations will be accepted until April 19, 2007. The wider the field of nominees and applicants, the more successful our search will be for the best person to become our next Bishop.

Nomination and application materials are also available at the website in .pdf format for printing or can be obtained from the parish office. Post cards available at the church office with the Profile Website address on them serve as a reminder or can be sent to anyone you know who should be considered for election.

Thanks to everyone who participated in one of the focus groups, or who answered the focus group questions by e-mail. The input of people from around the diocese was critical to being able to produce a diocesan profile that reflects who we are now as a diocese and where we hope to go in the next decade. We encourage your reading of the Diocesan Profile to see the breadth and depth of the ministry and mission projects in which the people of our Diocese are engaged. You will be proud of what we are doing together – and you might even find your picture there as well.

The Bishops Search Committee

Provincial Youth Council

Natalie Wolch reports. During the weekend February 15-18, 2007 Deb Beebe, from St. Patrick's in Incline Village, and I attended the provincial youth council meeting at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, Utah. The main focus of the weekend was to share ideas about youth leadership and youth programs from throughout the province, to share what works and what doesn't, and to start preliminary planning of the Provisional Youth Event (PYE), set for July 17 -

22, 2007 in Salt Lake City. The Dioceses in attendance were Nevada, Utah, Olympia, Los Angeles, San Diego, Northern California, Idaho and Alaska. We got lots of ideas on new programs such as, SEARCH and high school youth conferences, and we brought back lots of ideas about organizing and using youth council within our Diocese. It was an informative and fun event.

We also made lots of plans regarding PYE2007. We decided on a theme of "choosing the better part" relating to the Mary and Martha Bible story. The week will include forms, workshops, a carnival, talent show, worship, concert, dance and team building. If you are currently a high schooler or an adult interested in attending the event, please contact me or Deb Beebe.

Deb and I will be taking these ideas back to the Diocesan Youth Meeting on February 23 and 24 so we can use them to help our own Diocese which is in the process of developing our Youth Council that will hopefully be in place by May of this year. If you have any questions regarding PYE or youth programs throughout the Diocese, call me, **Natalie Wolch at 435-6765** or contact me at church on Sunday. Toodles!

Lay Eucharistic Ministry

Who is a Lay Eucharistic Minister (LEM)?

A Lay Eucharistic Minister is a Lay Person licensed by the Bishop to administer the consecrated elements of the Eucharist. Lay Eucharistic Ministers may be licensed to administer the concentrated bread and wine at any celebration of the Eucharist in the absence of a sufficient number of priests and deacons to assist the celebrant. They may also be licensed to go from a Sunday Eucharist or other principal celebrations of the Eucharist to share the sacrament with members of the congregation who were unable to be present at the celebration because of illness or infirmity. Lay Eucharistic Ministers may be licensed for either or both

ministries. This ministry is understood to be an extraordinary ministry; it is not intended to take the place of the ministry of priests and deacons concerning the administration of the Eucharist. Prior to the current lay ministry canons, specially licensed lay readers administered the chalice at the Eucharist and were known as “chalice bearers”.

Three lay Eucharist ministers are available at Epiphany. They are Jack Blenk, Nancy Knox and Janet Revis. If for any reason you are unable to be present at the Eucharist to share the sacraments with the members of the congregation and would like to have the sacrament brought to you, please let us know. We ask that you call the Junior Warden, **Jack Blenk at 953-9771** and let us know your needs.

If you would like to know more about this ministry or feel that you are called to this ministry, please also let us know.

Altar Guild Work Day

The Altar Guild will meet at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, April 7th, to clean up and vest the church for Easter.

Anyone interested in being a member of the Altar Guild, contact **Elsa Torgerson - 837-2416**.

Small Groups

In the near future we start forming small groups of eight people or so to strengthen fellowship and have fun. For more information this budding ministry, please call **Sally Hansen - 281-8215 or Dale Apel - 435-6108**.

Third Annual Epiphany Easter Egg Hunt

Our Easter Egg Hunt will take place immediately following the 10:00 A.M. service on Sunday

April 8th. Right after the service a caravan will drive to the park in the neighborhood directly across from our office park. Children of all ages are welcome to hunt for eggs. If you aren't searching for eggs, please come watch the little ones.

We have been talking to the children about the symbolism of the Easter Egg.

Did you know?

-Since ancient times, the egg has been considered a symbol of fertility and new life.

-In the early days of the church, eggs were forbidden food during Lent. With the ending of Lent, people were so glad to see and eat eggs again that they made it a tradition to eat them on Easter Sunday.

-Early Christians saw the egg's shell as a symbol of protective darkness of the life giving tomb, a hatching chick represented the risen Christ emerging from the tomb on Easter morning.

-Easter Eggs rolled downhill are a symbol of the stone being rolled away from the tomb where Jesus was laid.

-The eggs shape, with neither beginning nor end, is a symbol of eternal life.

A Cup of Friendship

“A Cup of Friendship”, our High Tea Fund Raiser is scheduled for May 19, 2007, 1:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. We encourage the ladies to dress up for this gala event. We are very fortunate to have a classical concert pianist in our congregation. Epiphany's own Ray Conley, will play for us. What a treat! A photographer will be on hand to capture your attendance at this elegant affair.

The price for the elegant tea is \$12.00 which will include an assortment of tea sandwiches, fruits and desserts and three door prize tickets. We are also having a 50/50 drawing with a prize of \$1,000.00. The price of the raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. These door prizes will be donated by local vendors. As of now, we have several, including two limited edition dolls which any young lady attending the tea would be delighted to win. We have a solicitation letter available to anyone who wishes to donate. Copies of these letters will be available after every service between now and the event. Tickets for the 50/50 will go on sale April 1st. We would like everyone to take one book (25 tickets) to sell to their friends and neighbors or co-workers.. They should be an easy to sell -- most people will take a \$1.00 chance on winning \$1,000.00. Your photo in a keepsake folder will cost \$3.00.

Along with the door prizes, we will also have a competition for best dressed table. We still have a few tables to hostess. Hostesses need not fill their table with people, they only need to decorate their table and make sure there is hot water for tea during the lunch. For the safety of the children, only adults should pour the tea. For more information or to sign up to hostess a table, please call **Linda Blenk, 953-9771**.

.Mark the dates and come be a part of our first "High Tea Fund Raiser".

Adult Education

Beginning Sunday, April 15th the Adult Ed Group will meet at 9:15 A.M. for book discussion. The first book will be "The Return of the Prodigal Son" by Helen J. M. Nowen. This discussion will be facilitated by Sally Hansen. Please contact Sally if you would like to buy one of the books she has ordered from Barnes and Noble, or you may purchase your own.. If you have the book before the 15th, please read the

prologue and introduction. Contact **Sally Hansen at 281-8215 or hanson.s@cpx.net**.

***Benjamin's Box* - by Jack Stockman**

Since the publication of this book, Episcopal churches have read the story and filled their treasure chest on Palm Sunday.

You ask why Palm Sunday? The story begins on *Palm Sunday* and ends on Easter Day!

Since Episcopal churches have no Church School during Holy Week, children miss the teachings of this. Hence **the tradition** began at Epiphany of making the treasure chests during Lent. The treasure chest was given to Benjamin by his grandfather and has only straw in it .(the straw represents the birth of Jesus) and the child (Benjamin) follows Jesus the last week of his life...the treasure chest receives many kinds of reminders of Holy Week.

This year the children in Ms. Terri's class read the story to the rest of the Church School and the children in Ms. Rebecca and Ms. Jill's class will drop reminders in the treasure chest as the story unfolds.

Don't forget to ask your child to share the story of Benjamin's Box with you. We make and hear this story every year. Each year the child may remember more and more items in the box and by the time they are in 3rd grade they can remember almost everything about Jesus' last days on this earth...UNTIL.....**Easter and the Resurrection!**

Ms. Betty-Jeanne

My Easter gift to you is I will be in my room on **Easter Day** during the 10:00 A.M. service (Ages 4 - 1st grade).

Birthdays and Anniversaries

We would love to acknowledge the birthdays and anniversaries of our members. Below are listed the birthdays and anniversaries of those we know. If you and your family are not listed, please call Judy Koehn at 617- 6469.

March Birthdays

Annis, Mike	3/1
Klausner, Mary Kay	3/6
Racicot, Jill	3/14
McPeak, Douglas	3/19
Drury, Robert	3/20
Koehn, Jim	3/22
Schramski, Mary	3/23
McGraw, Ginger	3/25
Schori, Katharine	3/26
Van Houten, Bert	3/28

April Birthdays

Kennedy, Joan	4/2
Erlanson, Patti	4/6
Springlar, Max	4/10
Kohn, Bill	4/11
Kincaid, Kelsey	4/12
Knox, Bob	4/24
Makhathini, Zavion	4/26
Moses, Lucina	4/30

March Anniversaries

Kincaid, Clark and Victoria	3/13
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April Anniversaries

Chan, Paul and Asun	4/4
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