

The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 13, November 2006



Mid prayer and 'shalom,'
Katharine Jefferts
Schori invested as
Episcopal Church's
26th Presiding Bishop

[Episcopal News Service]
The gates at the west doors
of Washington National
Cathedral opened shortly

after 11 a.m. on November 4 and Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori stepped fully into her new ministry as the Episcopal Church's 26th Presiding Bishop, calling all members of the Church into deepened service and "shalom."

After Washington Bishop John Chane and Cathedral Dean Samuel Lloyd opened the cathedral's doors in response to Jefferts Schori's three knocks, Jill Beesley, outgoing president of the Diocese of Nevada's Standing Committee and her successor, the Rev. James Kelly, presented Jefferts Schori as their diocese's "bishop, chief pastor, and sister in Christ" and sent her forth to be the Presiding Bishop.

"Katharine, Bishop in the Church of God, we have looked forward to your coming with great joy. In the name of Christ, we greet you," replied 25th Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold. "I hope to serve among you in Christ's name and in the joy of the Spirit," she said.

The approximately 3200 people present promised to uphold her in her ministry. As she came up the aisle from the west doors to the altar in the Cathedral's crossing, the congregation sang "Holy, Holy, Holy," and applauded loudly.

Jefferts Schori is the first woman in Anglicanism's five-century history to serve in this capacity. (The

Anglican presence in North America dates to April 26, 1607, the date of the first landing in Virginia.) She served as bishop of Nevada from 2001 until October 25 of this year. A former university professor, Jefferts Schori is an oceanographer and airplane pilot. She and her husband, Richard Miles Schori, a retired theoretical mathematician, have one daughter, Katharine Johanna Harris, 25, who is a first lieutenant and pilot in the U.S. Air Force.

During her homily, Jefferts Schori called the Church to her vision of "shalom."

Shalom "doesn't just mean that sort of peace that comes when we're no longer at war," she said.

"It is that rich and multihued vision of a world where no one goes hungry because everyone is invited to a seat at the groaning board, it's a vision of a world where no one is sick or in prison because all sorts of disease have been healed, it's a vision of a world where every human being has the capacity to use every good gift that God has given, it's a vision of a world where no one enjoys abundance at the expense of another, where all enjoy Sabbath rest in the conscious presence of God," she said. "Shalom means all human beings live together as siblings, at peace with one another and with God, and in right relationship with all of the rest of creation."

"That vision of abundant life is achievable in our own day, but only with the passionate commitment of each and every one of us," she said to applause. "It is God's vision of homecoming for all humanity."

Jefferts Schori said that the scripture can be fulfilled in our hearing "in the will to make peace with one who disdains our theological position – for his has merit, too, as the fruit of faithfulness. In the courage to challenge our legislators to make poverty history, to fund AIDS work in Africa, the distribution of anti-

continues page 2 –

malarial mosquito nets, and primary schools where all children are welcomed. In the will to look within our own hearts and confront the shadows that darken the dream that God has planted there. "That scripture is fulfilled each time we reach beyond our narrow self-interest to call another home. That scripture is fulfilled in ways both small and large, in acts of individuals and of nations, whenever we seek the good of the other, for our own good and final homecoming is wrapped up in that."

She called the Church to "a deep and abiding hope" and "a hope that has the audacity to join Jesus in proclaiming the fulfillment of the scriptures and "join the raucous throngs in creation, the sea creatures and the geological features who leap for joy at the vision of all creation restored – restored to proper relationship, to all creation come home at last."

Ending her sermon, Jefferts Schori said, "Shalom, chaverim, shalom, my friends, shalom." The assembly responded with "Shalom."

Before the service began music filled the cathedral. Echoing Jefferts Schori's nearly six years as bishop of Nevada, the Blindman brothers, two Oglala Lakota-Paiute Indians from Wadsworth, Nevada, drew the assembly together with drums and chants. Smudgers, enacting a tradition of Native Americans which promotes healing and unity, offered sweetgrass, sage and cedar incense to prepare the cathedral for worship.

From the east, the drummers and the Omega Liturgical Dance Company of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City led Griswold,

Impressions from Rev Helen – an Awe Inspiring Event

Helen and Rob were still in Washington DC when this Newsletter went to press. On a Cell phone conversation from the base of the Washington Monument Helen shared her impressions of the awesome event of which she had just been a part.

The amazing broadness of the Episcopal and Anglican Church - The Native Americans and African Americans, the Hispanic Americans and those of European decent all gathered together with people from across the world in celebration and sharing in the beautiful liturgy.

Rev. Helen administered a chalice in the celebration of communion. There was an estimated 3000+ in attendance so the sharing in communion was an enormous and awe inspiring undertaking.

Nevada was well represented. Both as part of the formal liturgy and among the congregation.

Rev. Helen enjoyed reconnecting with folks she'd had the pleasure of knowing and working with in the past. She felt great pride in the work of the Episcopal Church and the amazing people that it is made up of.

The size and the beauty of the National Cathedral is awe inspiring. The pomp and circumstance of the Episcopal Church pulling out all the stops for this event was awe inspiring and the elegance with which the service was crafted was awe inspiring.

Lastly she was struck by the frequency the congregation erupted into applause. There was true joy among the attendees to welcome Katharine as their Presiding Bishop.

Anderson, Chane, Lloyd and the rest of the Welcoming Party, including Canon to the Presiding Bishop and Primate Carlson Gerdau, and 24th Presiding Edmond Lee Browning, to the west doors outside of which Jefferts Schori waited. After the welcoming party greeted her and led her to the Crossing as the assembly sang "Christ is made the sure foundation," Jefferts Schori received the symbols of her ministry.



Jefferts Schori received a Gospel book, water as the symbol of baptism, and bread and wine as the symbol of the eucharistic life of the Church from people connected with her previous ministries. Oil, the symbol of healing and reconciliation, was presented by Azizah Y. al-Hibri, a law professor at the University of Richmond; Njongonkulu W. H. Ndungane, the Archbishop of Capetown and Primate of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa; and Myra Soifer, rabbi of Temple Sinai, Reno, Nevada.

News from The Diocesan Convention

“The world is near you, on your lips
and in your heart” (Romans 10:8)

This scripture was the theme of the thirty-sixth Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada, which met in Fallon, Nevada October 6-8, 2006.

Epiphany’s delegates to the convention were the Rev. Helen McPeak, Bert Van Houten, Senior Warden and his wife Pat, Judy Koehn (delegate) and Jim, Tom Wolch (delegate), Natalie Wolch (delegate - Youth) and Nancy Knox (alternate delegate) and Bob Knox.

The convention started Friday, Oct 6 with an Opening Prayer followed by Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori introducing the Rev. Dr. David Gortner, CDSP, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology, Director, Center for Anglican Learning & Leadership. Dr. Gortner’s lectures were enlightening as well as entertaining. He set the topics for our workshops. There were no tests or grades (thank goodness) but we participated as parishes and found the workshops challenging, profound and in some cases humbling. Rev. Helen was our facilitator. (She’s cool)

At 7:00 pm Bishop Katharine celebrated Eucharist and presided at the Ordination of Daniel Lediard, Susanne Methaven and Sherryl Metzler to the Diaconate.

The convention formally opened with our Bishop Katharine presiding. After establishing a quorum, some announcements and introduction of guests the house rules and agenda were adopted. Nominations from the floor were in order. Candidates were introduced and their resumes distributed. An open hearing on resolutions of policy was discussed in preparation for Saturdays voting.

Saturday, Oct 8. - A glorious and long day. Bishop Katharine’s stamina was unfaltering. This Lady is the most focused and grounded person I have ever encountered. When you talk with her you have her undivided attention, she listens and at the moment you and she are the only people in the world. If she is ever unnerved, it doesn’t show.

Her main thrust is “The Millennium Development Goals”:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve mental health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

Elected to the following committees were:

Standing Committee

Clergy, Elizabeth Tattersall (St. Stephens - Reno) and Lay, Lawrence “Larry” Kirk (Trinity - Reno)

Diocesan Council

Clergy, Dan Lediard (St. Paul’s - Virginia City) Lay, Shirley Morgan Smith (Trinity - Reno) and Jeff Robertson (Trinity - Reno)

The following bodies were nominated by the Bishop and affirmed at convention:

Commission on Ministry

Ecclesiastical Court

Board of Trustees of Galilee Episcopal

Youth Retreat Fun for all Involved

Epiphany's sanctuary was the sight of sleeping bags and stuffed animals for the first ever youth retreat and sleepover. There were movies (Narnia) and games (church knowledge bingo), yummy snacks (pizza from T-Bird), dancing (Mannie was the instructor), thought provoking work (beautiful Prayers of the People that were read the following Sunday), a midnight Eucharist, and a warm breakfast in the morning. Thank you to all the folks that gave of their time and talent to make a valuable and memorable evening for the kids: Rev. Helen for planning and conducting the retreat, Rebecca Dixon and Mike Sieczka for chaperoning, Mary Alice Rassmussen and the T-Bird for donating the evening food, Mannie Makhathini for the dance instruction, Dale Apel and Betty-Jean Cousins for preparing and serving breakfast and Erin Barlow for preparing a quiz on Narnia for the kids



Women's Retreat

Saturday October 14 was a morning filled with threatening black clouds. At 7:30 the sky opened and torrents of rain and even hail pounded for about a half an hour. But that did not keep away the women of Epiphany. By 8:30 the church was full of friendly faces. Shawn had prepared a wonderful breakfast spread with the help of Linda Blenk and her delicious homemade pastries, coffee and tea was warming everyone up. The morning unfolded with sharing time and physical exercise (in the form of body respecting yoga and learning the liturgical body prayer done at convention), a delicious lunch was shared with a presentation from Daughters of the King, then we learned a method of bible study, created Anglican Rosaries, and revisited some of the physical exercise. It was a wonderful day.

Thank you to the women that planned and put on the women's retreat. Helen for being our leader, Rebecca for our wonderful poster, Linda for our delicious pastries; Lucina for getting our beads together for our rosaries. Connie for presenting the Yoga and a Big Thank You to Shawn for all the organizing and meal preparation.

Parents' Day Out Saturday, December 2 9:00

We are proud to announce that Epiphany will be offering a Parents' Day Out! Children from birth to fourth grade are welcome. Your kids will have a great time, while you get to take a few hours to yourself, during the busy holiday season.

We are planning games, activities, art projects and a movie for the children. Lunch is provided and will be served around 11:00.

Registration forms are available in the narthex. All registrations are due by November 19. It is extremely important that we provide a safe environment for your children. Therefore, no registrations will be accepted after the 19th.

This is a benefit for parishioners of Epiphany, only. We will not be able to accommodate cousins, neighbors, or grandchildren at this event. However, we do have the names of girls in our congregation who baby-sit, and we would be happy to share.

There is no cost for this event, but freewill offering will be accepted at the door.

Christmas Bazaar

The youth of Epiphany will be holding a Christmas Bazaar on Sunday, December 10, following the 10:00 service. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to shop for parents, siblings, and friends. All items will be handmade or homemade and nothing will cost more than \$5.00. The children will be working on jewelry, crafts, and ornaments in Sunday school. If you and your child have a craft that you would like to make for the bazaar, please talk to Terri Trompak. We are also asking for donations of homemade baked goods. If you are interested in donating Christmas cookies or candies, please sign-up on the sheet outside of the intermediate classroom. You will have the opportunity to shop for gift items and baked goods without fighting the crowds at the malls and shopping centers. Baked goods will be sold by the dozen. All proceeds from this event will support the Christmas Pageant and the youth events of the parish.

Christmas Pageant

Calling all Angels, shepherds and assorted farm animals... Epiphany will be presenting their first ever Christmas Pageant. Auditions and rehearsals are taking place through the months of November and December. There will be lots of opportunity for backstage help with costume fittings and props to be built for those too old to be in the cast. Part I of the Christmas story will be presented on Dec 24 at 10:00am. See Terri or Kristen about participating.

Volunteer Opportunities: *(Look for sign-up sheets outside the Sunday School Rooms.)*

*The nursery is in need of volunteers on a weekly basis. Please consider signing up once a month. We need two volunteers per week and one of the two must have the Safeguarding God's Children training.

*Many of the young families at Epiphany do not have extended family in the area. The Epiphany family would like to offer these parents the opportunity to get away without the kids for a few hours, knowing that their kids will be well cared for. Volunteers are needed for the Parents' Day Out on Saturday, December 2nd. This is the perfect opportunity to spend a morning with some incredible children. We need people to hold babies, play with toddlers, watch a movie, serve lunch, supervise art projects, and read stories. Please consider signing up! We will have a short meeting for all volunteers after the 10:00 service on November 19.

*Would you like to bake cookies, candy or fudge for the Christmas Bazaar? We are asking people to bring homemade goodies on December 10, to be sold at the Christmas Bazaar. Items will be sold by the dozen.

Epiphany is.....

the two young girls who requested a prayer shawl for their peer, who had just been diagnosed with cancer
the snowbird deacon and his wife who give so generously of their time
the young couple working four jobs to support their family, who volunteered to head up the Christmas pageant
the child who donated a week's allowance to contribute to the fund to buy a cross for the altar
the shy girl who shared her gift of song last Christmas
the father and daughter who shared a room at diocesan convention
the young girl who wishes parishioners a "Happy Halloween" while taking up collection
the Senor Citizen who keeps asking, "When will the children sing again?"

Terri Trompak

Newsy Bits:

Kinzie Trompak is the first student in Vanderburg Elementary history to complete the Great American Challenge. She did so this past September. To complete the challenge, fifth grade students must be able to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, the Star Spangled Banner, the Preamble to the Constitution, the Gettysburg Address, the states and capitals in alphabetical order and the US President's in order.



Clara Bates, Haden Trompak and Torie Trompak received medals for placing in the top 10 in their age group in the 1 Mile Fun Run at the Danny Gans Run for Children's Charities. Kinzie Trompak took third place in the 5K at the same event.

Making the trip to Washington to attend Katharine's investiture were Jim and Judy Koehn, Irv and Betty-Jean Cousins and Rob McPeak. Attending at the altar and administering communion was our own Rev Helen.

Rob & Helen McPeak are preparing to run the Las Vegas Marathon. Rev. Helen says her bathroom mirror has her daily running goals laid out for her. She needs to be up to 18 miles by marathon day. They say if you can do the 18 you can do the 26. Let's wish them luck and cheer them on.