
The Christ Bearer

Newsletter of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Vol. 15, No. 6

June 2009

From the Rector:

The month of June begins and ends with dates of considerable personal importance to me. June 6th, the first Sunday of the month, is the First Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity Sunday. The last Sunday of the month, June 28th, the Feast of St. Irenaeus, is the first anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood! For me they are like bookends.

When I first began the tortuous path to ordination, being newly accepted as an Aspirant for Holy Orders in the Diocese of the Rio Grande, I was assigned Trinity Sunday to preach for the very first time in the pulpit at the Church of the Holy Faith in Santa Fe. I discovered later that this is a favorite prank or "rite of passage" commonly employed by Rectors who have a "newbie" under their supervision. This is also the most common Sunday on which to invite seminarians to preach in a congregation. The reason for this custom is the perennial difficulty that preachers have in conveying the theological concept of the Trinity clearly, annually, in twelve to twenty minutes. So, it is easier, and sometime fun, to fob it off on the new, enthusiastic, and inexperienced...

Being all of the above at that time, I tackled the job joyfully, and in a flash of inspiration drawn from my time as Director of the Natural History Museum in Albuquerque, I devised that I would invoke the model of the "water cycle" in our arid land as the metaphor through which to convey the concept of the Trinity. God the Father, I preached, is like the water table, invisible but present everywhere. God the Son, Jesus, is like a lake or stream, visible in a precise location and time. God the Holy Spirit is like a cloud, drifting across the landscape, perceivable but untouchable, and sometimes sending beneficial rain and shadow. Each is different but of the same substance.

The sermon worked. I liked it. People told me that at last they understood. Only later, in seminary, was I informed that I had preached the most common heresy, "Modalism," closely related to another non-Trinitarian heresy, "Sabellianism," named for Sabellius who was excommunicated by Pope Calixtus in 220 a.d. for just such teaching! Modalism is considered a theological error concerning the nature of God, I was told, in which God is said to appear in different modes at different times: God the Father/Creator, followed by God the Son, who then sends down the Holy Spirit after the Ascension. The heresy, I was told, is in the denial of the coeternal coexistence of all three persons of the Trinity, as made obvious in the opening of the Gospel of John. I decided that my critic, a theologian, a Virginian, didn't understand the water cycle... Back there, who needs to? So, I still think that as a metaphor, it works pretty well, especially here in the Southwest! But maybe I won't preach it that way again. We'll see.

Edson+

The Christ Bearer

a monthly publication of
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

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.

2807 42nd Street
Lubbock, TX 79413
806)799-8208
website:www.stchristophers.org

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 April 30, 2009)

	Budgeted	Actual
Plate	\$ 3,360.00	11,712.16
Pledge	54,348.36	54,651.00
Other	<u>3,900.00</u>	<u>4,570.88</u>
Total Income	\$ 61,608.36	\$ 70,934.04
Expenses	\$ 61,608.60	\$ 59,565.65
Balance: Inc.-Exp.	\$ - .24	\$ 11,368.39

Vestry Highlights - April

- Bishop Mayer has issued a "refund" from the apportionment due to the economy. Financially, St. Christopher's is doing well.
- Fr. Way will be attending an ecumenical conference in Phoenix, AZ from April 27 - 30. He will also be gone May 18 - 21 to take care of some family business. He plans to take his last 2 weeks of vacation some time in August.
- Carole Wolf reported that Linda Swartz was hired to replace Jamie and has been working for 2 weeks. Jamie's last week will be the end of April or the 1st week of May.
- Jane Barnes has the revised directory ready to print and will produce them in the next few weeks.
- Diane Aycok will take over coordinating the printing of the newsletter.
- The Trustees (Fr. Way, Carole and Podi) will meet in May to discuss the CD's that are about to mature.
- The deacons will meet with the vestry regarding their covenants according to the following schedule: Les in May, Melissa in June, and Kathleen in July.
- Jr. Warden Donnie Evans stated that the smell in the basement is from solid foods being put into the garbage disposal. The holding tank that the disposal feeds into may have to be cleaned. Signs will be made to be put in the kitchen to remind people not to put food down the drain.
- Donnie will arrange for bids to have the parking lot patched, sealed and new lines painted.
- Christian Education director Claire Randolph will have a meeting in May with parents to discuss Sunday School options for the summer and a special summer



* Dennis Fullingim died on May

9 following a long illness. We send our condolences to her husband, Worth and to all who loved her. Services for Dennis were held at St. Christopher's on May 15.

* Billie Becknal's sister-in-law, Sue Becknal, died on May 4 in Canyon Lake, TX. Billie, we offer you our sympathy.

* Condolences to Kathleen Borsch whose step-father, Frank Mikesell, died on May 6. Kathleen and Rebekah will be traveling to Oregon in a few weeks to join their family in honoring Frank's memory.

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



Our Food Pantry is requesting the following items for June:

- Tuna or Hamburger Helper
- Canned mixed vegetables
- Muffin mixes

Please pick up a few items in these categories when you shop and place them in the basket at the church entrance.

Thank You!

Valinda and I want to express our gratitude for all the prayers, calls, cards and visits during my recent illness. We are truly blessed to be surrounded and supported by such a loving and caring community. Thanks to each and every one of you.

Deacon Les Jackson

We appreciate the many supportive cards sent from our church family during Bob's illness and upon his death. We were touched by the wonderful attendance and participation at Bob's memorial service, with the outstanding meal that followed. We will always be grateful and feel sure that Bob was pleased with his service.

Sawyer Swords & Podi

Stofel

Vestry Highlights, continued

- There will be an ECW meeting and lunch on



Deacon's Corner

GRUB – What image does that word bring to mind? Do you think of creepy pale plump larvae that ruin your lawn? Or do you think about down home cookin', as in "I'm starved. Let's go get some grub!" (I have no idea how those two things got the same name, and I don't want to know....) So here's a new one: GRUB is an acronym for "Growing Recruits for Urban Business", the program the South Plains Food Bank uses to teach young adults ages 14-21 life and job skills using the five-acre Carolyn Lanier Youth Farm located at 76th and Avenue B., as well as their off-site apple orchard at 56th and MLK. Their work includes garden planning, soil preparation, maintaining an irrigation system, planting, nurturing, harvesting, and marketing the produce. Seeking to develop the whole person, GRUB has an educational component with topics such as horticulture, nutrition, and money management. The dedicated staff nurtures and educates the youth, even welcoming "at-risk" teens. Numerous inspiring testimonials from participants will tug at your heartstrings. Youth are selected to participate during the school year, and GRUB offers summer employment to hard-working participants.

So it's a program that helps youth with life skills AND provides food for the South Plains Food Bank. What a great combination! What a multi-dimensional way to carry out the gospel message of loving your neighbor.

How you can become involved:

- **Buy a share -** The Farm sells distribution shares early in the year, and shareholders receive generous amounts of the locally-grown produce each Friday, beginning in June. (The rest of the produce goes to the Food Bank.)
- **Volunteer –** Youth from schools, churches, and other groups are encouraged to volunteer, and I'm sure they will find a place for adult volunteers as well.
- **Visit –** The friendly staff would love to give a tour of the Farm to any group if you call ahead for arrangements. In fact, I will see if I can arrange a tour for this summer.

The staff members at the Farm – Jenifer, Debbie, and Roy – are a friendly team. They care about the youth who work with them. They care about eradicating hunger. They care about the earth. For more information, call the Farm at 748-4800 or Jenifer Smith at 535-4470.

This was the third of my four-part series on the South Plains Food Bank. Sure, it's not very religious and theological on the surface, but it's part of the vision of really living out the Gospel of Christ.

Kathleen



During the summer months there will only be one Sunday School class for all ages of children. They will continue to meet downstairs during the first part of the 10:00 service. The Christian Education Director promises there will be some really interesting activities that children of all ages will enjoy.

The Christian Education program is not planning a traditional Vacation Bible School this year, but at some point, probably in early August there will be a Summer Celebration activity that will provide some learning and entertainment for our kids. Watch this newsletter and listen to the announcements in church for more details. Contact Claire Randolph if you'd like to help her with this program - 797-0359.

Sundays & Wednesdays & Holy Days in June

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.



Wednesday, June 3, The Martyrs of Uganda
Hebrews 10:32-39 Psalm 138 Matthew 24:9-14
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00

Trinity Sunday, June 7

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17

Wednesday, June 10, Ephrem of Edessa
Proverbs 3:1-7 Psalm 98:5-10 Matthew 13:47-52
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00

Sunday, June 14 - Proper 6

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13
Psalm 20
2 Corinthians 5:6-17
Mark 4:26-34

Wednesday, June 17, Joseph Butler (transferred)
Wisdom 7:7-14 Psalm 1 Luke 10:25-28
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00

Sunday, June 21 - Proper 7 (Father's Day)

1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49
Psalm 9:9-20
2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Mark 4:35-41

Wednesday, June 24, Nativity of St. John the Baptist
Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85 Acts 13:14b-26 Luke 1:57-80
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00

Sunday, June 28 - Proper 8 (Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons)

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
Psalm 130
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43

Wednesday, July 1st, St. Peter and St. Paul (transferred)
Ezekiel 34:11-16 Psalm 87 2 Timothy 4:1-8 John 21:15-19
Service of Holy Eucharist & Unction at 5:30 pm - Agape supper at 6:00

School's out for the supper, so why not try something different for a change. Come to the Wednesday evening service & supper. Bring a dish that will serve 4 - 6 people (double that, or bring 2 dishes, if you are bringing for 2 people),

Notes from the Senior Warden

Eucharista

Let's remember what Eucharist is—thanksgiving, and let's celebrate the thanksgivings we have to offer each other. They are part of loving each other. Here are some for this month—not all—but some. In the future, please offer the thanks you know about for the newsletter each month, and let's show each other that we notice and appreciate each other's gifts.

Thank you to:

Jane Barnes for continuing to serve as our communications coordinator

Jane Ann Wilson for her continued service to us and for bringing other musicians to us such as Sue Baer, Brian Gum, Lynn Ledbetter, and Roy and Sarah Wilson

Charles Bowyer for his continued service to us as supply priest and musician

All the parish family members who helped to celebrate the lives of Bob Mayer and Dennis Fullingim by serving as readers and ushers and by bringing and serving food

Karl Walker for preparing briskets for the Mayer celebration to help us, his other church family

Karen Barrington, Martha Walker, and Susie Broome for coordinating the food for these bereavement services

Debbie Maines for coordinating the food ministry to St. Benedict's mission

Steve Maines, Jan Kireilis, and Paula Purkeypile for three years of service on the Canterbury Board

All the women who are participating in preparing sandwiches and tea for St. Benedict's

Jane Seaver for coordinating efforts to collect fans to donate to Hope Shalom

Melissa Wafer-Cross for collecting clothes from Tech dorms to donate to Hope Shalom and for representing us on an upcoming trip to Guatemala

Kathleen Borsch for collecting cans to turn into cash to send kids to camp

Jan Kireilis for facilitating our efforts to offer Happy Camp opportunities to Wheelock students and for transferring files to the computer that Wendell & Diane Aycock donated

Nancy O'Clair & Susie Broome for providing Happy Camp applications to our Food Pantry clients

Les Jackson for continuing to offer the icon class

Frances Lohmann-Smith for manning the phone on most Monday afternoons

Doug Cashell for joining Mel Barnes on the Audit committee

Nancy McReynolds for her work as Deputy to General Convention which will meet in July of 2009 in Anaheim, CA

Carolyn Jones who, as diocesan UTO Chairperson, will represent us at the national UTO meeting as part of the Triennial Meeting of ECW

Fr. Edson Way for representing us in Phoenix at the conference where the Episcopal Church's response to Native Americans was addressed

Jamie Zinsmeyer for her service to us as administrative assistant

Elaine Howard and Linda Swartz for their work with us as administrative assistant and bookkeeper

Annie Cashell for attending an insurance seminar for us

To ALL of YOU!

Carole



May Luncheon

The annual May Luncheon for the women of St. Christopher's will be held Saturday, June 6, at the home of Karen Barrington at noon. This is when we usually honor girls and women of the parish who are graduating from high school or college. If you know of someone who will be graduating this year, please let Debbie Maines know. Everyone bring a salad or a



Environmental Stewardship

EC* FOR SC?!

Isn't it a blessed and wonderful thing that everyone who drinks coffee at St. Christopher's does so out of a mug? What a great beginning of *Environmental Correctness for our part of the Body of Christ!

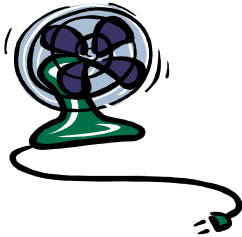
Several members of St. Christopher's have expressed an interest in taking further steps to "green up" the church, so a soup and salad supper is planned for early June to discuss ideas for accomplishing this task. Watch and listen for announcements as to the exact date and time. We hope any and all can attend, and bring ideas for moving forward. Child support will be provided, so no need to find – or pay – a baby sitter!

All views are needed at this meeting – the wisdom of the ages and ideas of those younger folk who may be more informed on the latest greening efforts than some of the rest of us.

There is a sign-up sheet in the upstairs kitchen, so let us know you will be there, and how many children will be with you.

Let us look forward to this time of breaking bread, exchanging ideas and, as always, great fellowship!

Karen Hodges



FAN NOTICE

During May, the Episcopal Church Women began collecting fans for people in our community who live without air conditioning. At this writing, some St. Christopher's members have heeded the call, but we would like to be able to present many more fans to Hope of Shalom and the Bridge of Lubbock (faith-based organizations who reach out in heroic ways to the poor). Therefore, we have elected to continue the collection through June. Please search your garage, attic, storage rooms and closets for working fans you no longer use, and bring them to church. Small box and oscillating fans can be purchased inexpensively at Wal-Mart, so if you than do that – great!

There is a huge need out there, so let's come together and bring some cool air to the many families and senior citizens who otherwise might have none!

Who's Knocking?

A nurse on the pediatric ward was checking out 4-year-old David with a stethoscope. To put him at ease, after listening to his heart, she put the disk on his chest and the earpieces in his ears, "Listen," she said, "What do you suppose that is?" David wrinkled his eyebrows and apparently recalling a verse learned at Sunday School, answered, "Is that Jesus knocking?"

Remember this? "Here I am, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me."



A Reader's Corner

Conversations with St. Francis. By James C. Howell. Nashville, TN: Abington Press, 2008. (107p)

There's nothing like a trip to Assisi and a meeting with St. Francis in the spirit to open one's mind and heart to new and joyful possibilities. Once met, this author encouraged friends, family and even an enthusiastic group of teenagers, to explore the life and teachings of St. Francis by walking the path that he walked over 800 years ago. This book is a result of "conversations" with himself, with his daughter, with his friends, and with those teenagers, about how St. Francis would respond to certain questions posed to him: what is the will of God? where does prayer happen? what is the value of our possessions? is there hope for a divided family? what about the church, and prayers, and reading the bible literally? Francis was a true believer in following the gospel, the importance of prayer and in trying to emulate Christ while loving all of God's creations. His "answers" to all of these questions (and more) reveal a gentle saint who loved God and from whom we can learn (and be inspired) to walk a more loving gospel path.

A prayer of St. Francis (as quoted, p.2) -

Most high
glorious God
enlighten the darkness of my heart
and give me, Lord
correct faith,
firm hope,
perfect charity,
wisdom and perception,
that I may do
what is truly your most holy will.

James C. Howell is senior pastor at Myers Park United Methodist Church in Charlotte, N.C. He has published several other books and numerous articles. He was given the Francis Asbury Award (1999) for work with college students.

There are many books on St. Francis. Two biographies that I recommend are: *St. Francis of Assisi: a Biography* by Omer Englebert (1979, an old standard), and, *Reluctant Saint: the Life of Francis of Assisi* by Donald Spoto (2003). If you'd like to read more on Franciscan spirituality, Murray Bodo offers good beginnings.

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).

**Come
&
Eat!**

OUTREACH LUNCHEON - Everyone plan to stay for lunch after church on May 31. The Episcopal Church Women will be serving a great meal - Mexican Stack, and the proceeds will go to help support Happy Camp and Promise Camp, special camps for children who



EMERGENCY RESPONSE: In it for the Long Haul

When it comes to emergency response, Episcopal Relief & Development takes the long view. When disaster strikes they not only provide the supplies, expertise and volunteers to help communities cope, but they also help develop strategies to prepare for future disasters and promote recovery and development. That's why they're still hard at work in places like the Gulf Coast some 3 1/2 years after Katrina hit.

ERD is taking the same long-term approach in communities along the Mississippi that are still struggling to recover from last summer's floods. When high waters overwhelmed low lying communities, they ERD quickly responded to requests from local parishes for emergency supplies. They also provided support for those displaced by the flood to rent housing. Though they can't keep back the rising tide, Episcopal Relief & Development can help ensure that a family in need has a roof over its head.

That's what they're doing for the Wood family after the floods in Iowa last spring. When the levee downriver from the Wood's home was breached, the Rev. Patrick Genereux and others from Christ Church in Burlington, Iowa helped them evacuate. The Woods are struggling to raise their young granddaughters, and they were overwhelmed by the prospect of leaving their home. They managed to salvage some clothes and food from the house, but the building was so badly hit that the Woods weren't allowed back in to survey the damage until months later.

Fr. Genereux reports that thanks to the efforts of their local parish, caring neighbors and ERD, the Woods and so many others in the area are doing well. They are bolstered both by the help they have received and also by the knowledge that we are all part of something bigger than ourselves -- the loving and connected community of Christ.

How can you help? Visit www.er-d.org or send a donation to Episcopal Relief & Development, 815 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

Catherine Matthews and Sam Lanham will be married on May 30, and they want to invite everyone to a special reception to celebrate their marriage on Sunday, June 14, following the 10:00 am service at St. Christopher's. Please be present that day to join Catherine and Sam in this joyous celebration.



Braggin' Time

- Wendell Aycock was recognized as Teacher of the Year by the Honor College at Texas Tech recently. Wendell serves as Associate Dean of the Graduate School and is a Professor of English.
- Chase Evans, son of Donnie & Paula Evans, is a May graduate from Texas Tech University with a BBA in Accounting. Chase has accepted a scholarship from the Spanish government to teach English in Spain during the next year. After his time in Spain, he plans to further his career goals to become a lawyer. Congratulations, Chase! We wish you all the best.
- Josh Rodriguez graduated from Lubbock Christian University in May 2008 and has spent this last year in the Covenant Health System's Clinical Pastoral Education Residency program. He will complete this program in August and will then attend Yale Divinity School where he's been offered a full scholarship to work toward a Masters of Divinity with a Diploma in Anglican

This 'n That

- It's time for the annual St. Paul's Book Sale on June 6 - 14. All Episcopalians and their friends are invited to a preview reception on Saturday, June 6, 5:00 - 8:00 pm with wine and snacks. The sale features used books, music and art work.
- You still can sign up to provide flowers for the altar. The chart's in the Narthex.
- There is always a need for Coffee time hosts. Sign up on the lists in either kitchen.
- Save your aluminum cans to help send our young people to the summer youth camps at Quarterman Conference Center. Leave sacks of cans in the Narthex or give them to Kathleen or Rebekah Borsch.
- WEAR YOUR NAMETAG!!!!
- Remember, when you or someone you love has a prayer need, the Daughters of the King want to pray for you. Fill out one of the prayer cards in the pew and put the card in the little wooden box on the shelf at the back of the church.
- There's still room on the boards in the parish hall for more crosses. If your family would like to have a cross hung on the wall, give it to Claire Randolph or leave it on the little round table by the door. It would be nice to have your name on the back.



4th Day Fiesta

The 4th Day Fiesta is calling all Cursillistas back to the place where God showered you with His unconditional love and grace. Come to the Quarterman Conference Center August 21 - 23 and enjoy the keynote speaker, a choice of spiritually enriching workshops, healing and Eucharist, the Episcopal Parish Bookstore, BBQ and fellowship. Weekend price is \$95; Saturday only is \$45. Applications will be available soon. For more details, talk with



**NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

June 15

send all information to
jambarnes@suddenlink.net



JUNE BIRTHDAYS*

John Rische	June 1
Emily Finley	June 2
Jane Seaver	June 2
Charles Bowyer	June 3
Mandy Wylie	June 3
Kit Rogers	June 7
Gene Burnett	June 9
Kathleen Finley	June 9
Melissa Wafer-Cross	June 9
Paul Driscoll	June 10
Edie Rische	June 13
Brittany Jackson	June 14
Allison Crites	June 18
Vicki Punchard	June 18
Cindy Dorsett	June 19
Joy Lambert	June 23
Kyla DelHotal	June 25
Jane Garrett	June 25

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Alvin & Podi Stofel	June 3
Bob & Sandy Sherman	June 6
Robert & Kathy Dean	June 7
Chris & Lisa Morgan	June 10
Karl & Martha Walker	June 11
Scott & Joyce White	June 13
Randy & Kathy Davies	June 17
Ed & Debbie Crites	June 18
Roy & Jane Ann Wilson	June 19
John & Edie Rische	June 23
S.J. & Carolyn Perry	June 26
H.K. & Jane Garrett	June 29

*If your birthday or anniversary is missing, please let Jane Barnes know, as she is trying to be sure everyone is included.

St. Christopher's chapter of Daughters of the King will meet on Sunday, June 7, following the 10:00 service. The ladies will continue their discussion of *Take This Bread*, by Sara Miles. Any woman is welcome to visit this meeting.

At the last meeting, Bobbie Matches agreed to serve as President of DOK for the next year. Frances Lohmann-Smith will be



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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

Carole Wolf, Senior Warden
Donnie Evans, Junior Warden
Rebecca DelHotal, Clerk
Podi Stofel, *Ex officio*, Treasurer

Wendell Aycock
Jan Kireilis

Doug Cashell
Nancy McReynolds

Carolyn Jones
Jack Purkeypile

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