

Saints Alive News

July

August



THE MISSION OF ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH IS
TO PROVIDE A CARING PRESENCE IN THE
COMMUNITY AND TO SHARE BY WORD AND
ACTION THE LOVE OF CHRIST WITH ALL PEOPLE.

2010

Volume VII, Issue IV

The Rt. Rev. Robert O'Neill
Bishop of Colorado

The Rev. E.J. Rivet
Priest-In-Charge

The Rev. Nancy Angle
Deacon

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Highlights

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- *Notes from Nancy*
- *A Face in the Pew*
- *Legacy Society*

Psalms 100:3

Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Pastoral Ponderings . . .

Summer, 2010

During the first days of June, I took part in a spiritual renewal event known as a Cursillo. Several friends invited me to attend, not as a priest, but as a Christian seeking to deepen my experience with Jesus. Since my return, I have been asked: *What exactly is a Cursillo?*

First, it is an *opportunity* to escape, for awhile, the hectic pace of the world; and, enter a retreat environment filled with singing, praying, and praising God. Cursillo exists in an atmosphere of a *loving and accepting* Christian community where personal stories are shared (though never forced), confidences are honored, grief is comforted, joys are celebrated, and hearts are healed. It is a time of being freely and lavishly *served* in ways that deepen one's *appreciation* for the family of God.

I listened to a number of talks, called rollo, which are given by *lay leaders* and clergy. They emphasize piety, study, and action. A connection is made between the realities of the human heart experience to biblical principles. Most of all, they provide a means for connecting with other Christians for the purpose of *encouraging* the growth of a healthy, spiritually centered lifestyle.

So, what happens when it ends? As a mountain top experience, one must, in time, return to the valley and the realities of daily life.

The 'Fourth Day,' that's what happens! Fourth Day is a way of saying that after three days of mountaintop encounters with the Holy Spirit, the Cursillo experience doesn't come to an abrupt end—just a new phase. The cursillista heads back into an ordinary life with a new sense of grace, vision, and spiritual sensitivity. The "Fourth Day" is the rest of your life, lived in *partnership* with God and strengthened by the *fellowship* of believers.

I'd like you to look back at the words which I have highlighted in *bold italic* print. They indicate that I experienced an opportunity to be served by others. I learned to appreciate who I am in the Body of Christ and how to accept the loving presence of other members of the Body. Indeed, I received encouragement on my spiritual journey through knowing that I'm not alone. I have partners along the way who connect me to a fellowship of believers who count on Christ; and, who are counted on by Christ. I invite you to join us!

De Colores,

Father EJ

Notes from Nancy . . .

Summer, 2010

Summer has come – finally! Winter seemed to drag on for a long, long time, then Spring waved hello for a minute or two. Now the warmth and the many hours of daylight of Summer are with us. These are the days that make my heart glad. I was raised in a part of the county where I don't remember owning a winter coat until I went away to college, this is the time of year I love. However, since I am an imperfect – and ungrateful – human, I'm sure it won't be long until I forget how much I longed for winter to be over, wishing for "hot weather." I will, like so many others, complain that "It's too hot" and head indoors for air conditioning.

What is it about us that makes humans so willing to overlook the many wonderful gifts God has given us? We live in one of the most beautiful spots in the county – then complain about, too much wind, cold winters, hot summers, etc. The great majority of people in the world would look at our lives and see great luxury – secure, warm/cool places to live, safe drinking water at all times, consistent medical care, plenty (even too much) to eat, etc. About one-sixth of the world's population has none of these things. And yet, we often seem disgruntled, envious, discontented, and impatient for more. How can I get better at remembering to say, "Thank you, God" over and over again every day?

I'm a gardener. This is the time of year when the area around my home is full of life and beauty. Bunches of reds, pinks, purples, yellows, and golds are bursting out around me. Surely, I've done a bit of work, but I must remember that the world's Creator is the source of all that beauty. What a beautiful world we've been given! God could have created us to just survive in this world – perhaps like canines being only able to see in black, white, and shades of gray. Instead, we've been given senses to see the wonderful colors, hear the birdsongs, smell the flowers, taste the fruits, and hold those we love close to us. As the psalmist sang, "*This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.*" (Ps 118:23-24) Thank you, thank you, thank you, God!

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*We Wish the following a Very Happy Birthday!*

**JULY - AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

|                   |      |                  |      |
|-------------------|------|------------------|------|
| Julie Metcalf     | 7/15 | Shirley Adams    | 8/2  |
| Ray Barbour       | 7/20 | Shannon DePriest | 8/2  |
| Amanda Hofferbert | 7/24 | David Witt       | 8/4  |
| Jesica Harrison   | 7/28 | Kendall Witt     | 8/4  |
| Scott Pankow      | 7/30 | Father E. J.     | 8/15 |
|                   |      | Bill Wright      | 8/18 |

*Reminders . . .*

Fishes & Loaves - Sunday July 11th - Bring non perishables for Lift-Up.

Bluegrass Festival - Saturday September 25th - Save the date!

*Doug Saxton . . .**A Face in the Pew*

Doing for others is a strong part of Doug's personality. He and his wife Sandi have lived in Battlement Mesa since 2004, moving west from East Aurora, NY. When they arrived, All Saints' was in the final stages of its building project. Soon, he was involved in pulling wire through the rafters of the church, helping to lay tile, and painting. Doug has never shied away from getting involved.

Doug became an Episcopalian at Christ's Episcopal Church, Lockport, NY in 1975. He joined the church for the sake of his children. However, he soon came to joyously embrace the prayer book and the liturgy within it. According to Doug, he picked his church before they picked their home in Willow Creek. During his first service at All Saints' at the Christian Church in Parachute, Doug told his wife, "This is my church!"

Doug claims to have done everything from 'soup to nuts' as a member of three different congregations; Acolyte, Lay Reader & Chalice bearer, Vestry Member, Junior Warden, and most recently Bishop's Warden at All Saints' from 2007 to 2010. While he may have forgotten to include church construction worker, he is definitely a willing servant who offers himself obediently.

After receiving his degree, a BA in Sociology, from Binghamton University; he served in the Peace Corps during 1967 in Iran. Following the Peace Corps, he taught high school English for a year, then for three years served as a social worker in Lockport.. He later earned an MA in Educational Administration.

Doug is a lifelong learner who found a way to bring his love of continuing education into a career setting. He has served as a project director, an academic dean, and a placement director. He also held the titles of Director of Corporate Training, and Regional Planner for Occupational Education. He began his career at the State University of New York at Buffalo. From there he went to Erie Community College in Buffalo where he served in various positions at two of its three campuses until his retirement in 2000. He then filled the position of a part time project director for another three years.

Writing and study are important parts of Doug's daily life. He has been doing genealogy research for years and has recently begun writing his family history. Just before moving here, he completed a biography of an educational leader in Buffalo, commissioned by his widow. Doug graduated from the Education For Ministry program in 2002, a four year program out of Sewanee, the University of the South. In it, Doug enjoyed developing relationships with fellow students while learning about scripture, church history, and theology.

The most recent of Doug's church activities has been the establishment of a Legacy Society at All Saints'. He is adamant about keeping the church financially healthy; thus, he views end of life giving as part of the whole that is congregational stewardship. Elsewhere in this issue of **Saints' Alive**, you will read a letter prepared by our current Bishop's warden, Betsy Leonard.. In it, she paraphrased words often spoken by Doug, "*of the three aspects of financial stewardship - regular giving, exceptional giving, and planned giving - until now, we have made no provisions for planned giving.*" Doug has become for All Saints' the champion of planned giving. The Saints' Forever Legacy Society was born through his vision for the future of our church.

Liturgy, singing and community life continue to draw him to the church. He has been instrumental in Stewardship, leading a capital campaign here called "Bridge to Our Future." After completing a pre-postulancy experience years ago, he decided that God had more need for him as an active lay person than as a priest. Much of Doug's faith development, he says, was a result of his Cursillo experience in the late 70s. Once terrified of public speaking, he decided that God wanted him to get over it and become a lay reader. Doug has influenced others to become lay leaders in the church, among them a director of Episcopal Charities in the Diocese of Western New York. His daughter, Andrichelle Tilmann, serves as a consultant for the Episcopal Church Foundation. Doug has served as a volunteer and board member of LIFT-UP of Garfield County and as an employee has managed the Thrift Store and Food Bank in Parachute for the past several years. He coordinates the Kiwanis annual food drives to benefit LIFT UP.

Outside of church, Doug and Sandi relish time with six children and their six grandchildren. He and Sandi enjoy golf. Once in a great while, he loves golf - when golf loves him back! When you next see Doug at church, ask him about his hole- in -one!

## **Fire Pit for Flag Burning**

Members of local VFW Post 5485 identified a need for a place to properly and safely dispose of damaged or worn American flags. Several members of the post are also members of All Saints', among them Jack Blankenship. Jack contacted Dale Leonard, All Saints' Sexton. Dale's efforts resulted in a flag-burning area near the corner of the All Saints' parking lot, consisting of a gravel entrance and a dirt floor lined by rocks on three sides. The entire area is dug into the hillside to provide some shelter from the wind.

The new facility was inaugurated on Friday morning, June 11. Approximately a dozen flags were burned by VFW members, including Jack Blankenship, Adjutant; Bob Campbell, Quartermaster; and Les Wood, Chaplain. VFW members John Daly, Al Baker, and Fred Goldhardt also attended, along with Father E.J. and Jane Rivet, Betsy and Dale Leonard.

The new facility is open to any individual or group in the Parachute/Battlement Mesa community who has a damaged or worn-out American flag that needs to be reverently and properly disposed of when it is replaced by a new flag. Any person or organization who needs to dispose of American flags can contact members of VFW Post 5485. Flags can also be dropped off at the Parachute Senior Center, the Sheriff's Auxiliary, or at All Saints' Episcopal Church. In the meantime, take a walk out to the end of the parking lot and admire Dale's hard work. Good work, Dale!

## **Highlights of the Bishop's Committee held June 13, 2010.**

Treasurer's Report - Jo distributed the May Treasurer's Report and first draft of the 2011 Proposed Budget Forecast.

Father E. J. and Deacon Nancy talked about programs they are organizing for the fall season. Father E.J. is planning meetings with small groups to discuss the "state of the church." He also will conduct a confirmation class for the 2011 confirmations.

Sexton Dale presented a detailed report on all the tasks he has completed around the church building and the grounds. He also summarized and responded to the Safety Review Recommendations presented by the insurance company. He advised that the American flag is now flying on the new pole with the Episcopal flag. Total cost of the project was borne by contributions from Jean Proud and Dale.

Dale has also completed the fire pit to be used by the VFW for burning retired American flags. It is adjacent to the labyrinth, which is still under construction.

Jean Proud and Dickie are researching new window coverings and ceiling banners for Moncrieff Hall. These items will be designed to improve acoustics in this room.

Jane Rivet is preparing to get started with the Church Cookbook, which input must be done by September in order to be available for sale by Christmas.

Dickie advised that plans are under way for the Bluegrass Festival on September 25. Musician Danny Agajanian will be with us again this year.

Deacon Nancy will be offering Lector Training in July or August. She will also be seeking more personnel for the Sunday Ministries schedule.

Father E. J. will be taking some vacation late August / early September. Deacon Nancy will lead Morning Prayer while he is away.

Agendas will be posted on the Bulletin Board in advance of each Bishop's Committee Meeting, so parishioners will be aware of items to be discussed.

The next Bishop's Committee Meeting will be held on June 27, as a joint meeting with St. John's Bishop's Committee. The next All Saints' regular meeting will be held July 25.

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## A Message from the Bishop's Warden . . .

Dear Members of All Saints',

We continue to rejoice in the spirit which we have here at All Saints'. I see many of you participating regularly in all the opportunities for service provided by the church. Our community breakfasts offer hospitality to others outside of our congregation. Our Wednesday evening program welcomes visitors from other traditions. We continue to provide outreach through our involvement with LIFT- UP. We are blessed to have a Deacon, Nancy Angle, who serves along with Fr. E.J. Our hearts are truly filled with God's love for us!

<sup>2</sup>  
In the near future, we'll celebrate the end of Father E.J.'s third year as our priest. When he arrived, we conducted a capital campaign called "Bridge to Our Future." In addition, we have entered into a Mission Partnership with St. John's New Castle. All of you have been very generous with you time, talent, and treasure. Thank you! Over 90 percent of our regular attendees pledge, and stewardship continues to be a major emphasis in our church. However, of the three aspects of financial stewardship - *regular giving (pledges)*, *exceptional giving (the bridge)*, and *planned giving (a legacy)* - we have made little provision for *planned giving.*" The Colorado Episcopal Foundation calls this type of giving the Legacy Society.

At the All Saints' Annual Meeting on January 24, 2010, we approved the establishment of the Saints' Forever Legacy Society. Those who choose to remember the church in their estate planning will automatically become members of the Saints Forever Legacy Society, whether through a will, an insurance policy or annuity, a retirement plan, investments, or other gifts. An enrollment form and details were distributed earlier this year. Additional forms are available from the church. If you have already planned for such a gift, please use the enrollment form to let us know about arrangements you would like to make. Anyone enrolling by August 31 of this year will receive special recognition as a Founding Member of the Society.

Whatever your intent, we encourage you to make a will, if you don't currently have one. This is a way to practice responsible stewardship for the people and things that are special to you. The By-Laws and Policy of the Saints Forever Legacy are available in the Narthex. If you have questions about the Society, please contact Fr. E.J., Bishop's Warden Betsy Leonard, or Treasurer Jo Darnall. If you have general questions about planned giving, or wills in general, please contact the Colorado Episcopal Foundation at 303-534-6778 or through the Diocesan web site.

Yours in Christ,

*Betsy A. Leonard*



Dear Partners in Mission,

Greeting from the hot and humid island of Hispaniola! Your prayers and support are greatly appreciated, allowing me to minister here with the people of San Pedro.

Santa Fe has been experiencing an increase of violent activity and the local churches recently joined together to combat this. Denominations were ignored and the community of Christ met for a full day of prayer. One Saturday found folks praying to and praising the Lord for twelve hours together. Farre, one of the members of Santa Cruz, shared his testimony while I was there. The Lord has saved him twice, once 11 years ago when he was drinking in excess, paying the lottery and living fully in the world. Then in 2006 he became sick and the doctor sent him for a study. He waited a couple of days because he sensed the Lord telling him to wait. While he was in the study, he suffered a heart attack. The pain was intense and initially he felt as though he were dying. A stranger came into the room where he was and prayed with him, encouraging him that he wasn't going to die. He lost consciousness during the prayer but saw an intense glowing that assured him that he would survive. When he awoke 24 hours later he was in intensive care in the capital and ultimately came through ok. He felt the Lord with him every step of the way and feels this was the second time that the Lord save him. This event strengthened his faith significantly. He now serves on our vestry and is an inspiring example of a Christian in his daily life. Please join this community in prayer for a stop to the violence, a stronger presence of the Lord, and improvements in opportunities for the people of this area!

Thank the Lord! Your prayers for the Lord to show me the next phase of my ministry have been answered! I finally received a response from the director of the physical therapy program in the capital. We recently held a meeting together with the director of this clinic and the medical director of the ADR. Starting in August we will try a pilot program of clinical education here in San Pedro under my supervision! Ana and Raguel will spend that term here, half time as employees and half time as students. Please pray that the Lord guides our preparations for this throughout the summer!

I have been working on a webpage and it is now live. Please feel free to visit the page and see a bit more about the ministry at: [www.cathydonahoe.org](http://www.cathydonahoe.org)

In Christ,

Cathy

Cathy Donahoe is a SAMS missionary and physical therapist serving in the Dominican Republic. Donations: SAMS, PO Box 399, Ambridge, PA 15003. Email: [cathyd@turbonet.com](mailto:cathyd@turbonet.com)

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