

Saints Alive News

November
December



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 VI

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

The Rev. E.J. Rivet
Vicar

The Rev. Nancy Angle
Deacon

Betsy Leonard, Bishop's Warden

Ed Rosendale

Bonnie Smeltzer

Dale Leonard, Sexton

Dickie Calvert, Clerk

Dickie Calvert, Interim Organist

Jo Darnall, Daughters of the King

Jo Darnall, Treasurer

SAINTS ALIVE

Jane Rivet, Co-Editor

Dickie Calvert, Co -Editor

All Saints' Episcopal Church

150 Sippelle Drive

Battlement Mesa, CO 81635

Telephone 970-285-7908

fej@allsaintsepiscopal.info

<http://www.allsaintsepiscopal.info/>



Highlights

- Vicar's Viewpoint
- Notes from Nancy
- All Saints' Feast Day -Nov 1st
- Our New Labyrinth

John 20:16

A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."

The Vicar's Viewpoint . . .

November, 2010

The Church is the body of Christ; it is the assembly of believers throughout the world. Anywhere members of the body of Christ are, that is where the Church is. The Church is not a building that can be "hopped" to or from! The church is not somewhere you go, but rather something you "are."

These words come from Gregg Raben, an internet blogger. In his essay on "Church hopping" he writes, "So you see, one cannot "hop" from church to church, because there is only ONE church. You are either a member of this Church or you are not; there is no middle ground." Then, he closes with a wonderful tag line, "**Don't just Go to church; Be the church.**"

As I reflect on these words, I can't help believe that someone might ask, "How does one 'Be the church'?" The answer comes through the first phrase of the opening sentence above; the Church is the body of Christ. Here we come to the understanding of what it means to Be the church. Individually and collectively, we must become the body of Christ on earth. Here and now is the time for us to engage 'being' the church. Raben concludes that "most of the so called 'church hoppers', are not members of this true church" for they apparently are unable to forego judgment of another and truly forgive.

Each of us is challenged by the act of foregoing judgment. It seems that we find ourselves continually offended by others. These offences overcome our ability to be happy. The Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church, Katharine Jefferts Schori states, "None of us can be truly happy unless all are happy." In the reign of God, when God rules, when all are in right relationships, we will find the greatest happiness." Her words came as she took part in an interfaith summit, "**Understanding and Promoting Happiness in Today's Society.**" The offenses we perceive from others causes suffering in our lives; yet, Jefferts Schori and others on the panel agree that happiness does not preclude suffering.

We are taught by Christ that we must endure the pain of suffering so that we might recognize the many blessings we receive. It is in finding the blessing that comes through suffering that we understand true happiness. The Dalai Lama, also at the summit, declared, "When I see problems and great tragedies I always look for something positive that may come out of it. True happiness comes from within." As Christians, when we bear Christ within ourselves, we become empowered by Christ to endure all forms of pain.

We are the Church. We bear Christ to all whom we meet along our daily journeys. Christ is the seed within us that bears the fruit of happiness. It is through Christ's teaching that we discover the joy of encountering God in ourselves and in others. The Church exists wherever we are, at home, at work, at play. Every moment may bring us joy or sorrow. In either case, our response must remain the same.

To God be the glory. Amen.

Father EJ

Notes from Nancy . . .

Fall, 2010

Not quite a year ago, I came to All Saints' as a newly ordained deacon – happily assigned as your deacon. This has been a blessed year in my life, and I thank you all for including me so fully into your church family. Sometimes it's difficult that I don't live in the Parachute/Battlement Mesa community, especially when there are local events I can't be a part of. And yet, I have never felt like an outsider here. In his letter to the Ephesians, Saint Paul called those in the early church to be "imitators of God, as beloved children, and to live in love, as Christ loved us." That call is still pertinent for us today. As members of the Church, the Body of Christ, we must indeed do our utmost to live in love – with one another and with the world. Thanks again for including me in your love.

We have been told that we are created in the image of God. What does that mean? Since God is Love, perfect Love, I think being created in His image means that we were created to love. Jesus calls us to love. As we hear in John's Gospel, at his last earthly meal, shared with the disciples in a Passover Seder, he said farewell. Among the things he told them (which we still hear him saying to us today) were these two sayings. First he told them, "Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do. . . . If you love me, you will keep my commandments." A bit later he told them, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." In the next two months, as we get busier and busier with the coming holidays, we must always remember to love, and, luckily, there are many opportunities to do so.

Smile at a stranger and mean it. Hold your tongue when harried or impatient. Hug a friend or family member, even if you're grumpy. Buy extra food at the grocery to put into Food Bank collections. Help bring Christmas to children who may not have much of one. Do not be so ready to judge others who are not like yourself (that is, perfect)! Send money to Episcopal Relief and Development for Haiti relief or for malaria nets. Forgive, and love, yourself when you fail. Call a friend or family member who is alone, or from whom you have been estranged. Bring an extra \$10 bill to church on the 2nd Sunday of November and December for Fr. E.J.'s ministry fund. Put more than pennies, nickels, and dimes in Salvation Army collection kettles. The possibilities are endless – just use your imagination and open your eyes for opportunities to love. Before we can go to the altar to worship the new born Savior at Christmas, we all must practice seeing the face of Jesus in every person we meet and loving him or her as a fellow child of God. Shalom.

e

~~~~~  
We Wish the following a Very Happy Birthday!

**November - December**

|                |       |                    |       |
|----------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| Debra Streit   | 11/3  | Rachael Pankow     | 12/3  |
| Alexa Dunnahoo | 11/6  | Dottie Scott       | 12/7  |
| Martha Hubbs   | 11/13 | Dominique Harirson | 12/11 |
| Gordon Jones   | 11/13 | Jean Proud         | 12/15 |
| Fred Goldhardt | 11/24 | David Scott        | 12.16 |
| Brian Larison  | 11/29 | Richard Nipper     | 12/18 |
|                |       | Susan Locke        | 12/26 |



## Introducing The Classical 7 Circuit labyrinth As a Tool for Prayer



All Saints' offers visitors to our grounds a beautiful tool for prayer and spiritual growth: a labyrinth. A labyrinth is not to be confused with a maze. A maze is a puzzle with many confusing paths. In a labyrinth, there is only one path. We have created a 7 circuit labyrinth, also known as the Cretan Labyrinth, for your use.

It is the assurance that you cannot lose your way that makes the labyrinth a wonderful tool for prayer and self-examination. Labyrinths can be thought of as symbolic forms of [pilgrimage](#); people can walk the path, ascending toward salvation or enlightenment. Many people can not afford to [travel](#) to holy sites and lands, so labyrinths and prayer are substituted for such travel. Many newly made labyrinths exist today, in [churches](#) and [parks](#). Labyrinths are used by modern [mystics](#) to help achieve a contemplative state. Walking among the turnings, one loses track of direction and of the outside world, and thus quiets the mind. It is a path which you walk in the presence of God.<sup>2</sup>

The labyrinth provides focus for ones prayer as it is walked. The simple path is traveled without need for worry in finding the way out. Here is the real message of the labyrinth, for as we pray, God is always there guiding us to the next place in our lives. There is no need to worry or fear that which comes next, around the corner, or down the road we take, for God is always present for us. Walk in Peace,

Father E.J

### ***Suggestions for prayer while walking the labyrinth***

*At the entrance: Prepare. Perhaps simply greet God or invite the Holy Spirit's guidance.*

*On the inward path: Letting go. Let go of things that impede your prayers. Free yourself from thinking of the obstacles to growth; deliberately lay aside each obstacle in order to open yourself to the Holy Spirit.*

*At the center: Rest in God's presence. Await his voice. Be at peace whether God speaks or not. Let His presence be His gift to you.*

*On the outward path: Consider an action God is directing, or a commitment to which God is calling, or a choice God asks of you.*

*At the exit: Give thanks for God's presence and voice in your life. If you have made a commitment or reached a conclusion about your prayer concerns, speak your decision to God and internalize your experience.*

*Depart in thanksgiving to serve the Lord.*

## The Keys to the Kingdom . . .

Let's think about stewardship on a positive note. The up-side potential for good in U. S. Christian giving is immense, almost unimaginable. If American Christians were to give from their income generously—not lavishly, only generously—they could transform the world, starting immediately. Think of it, change can happen with us! We can be the change we seek. It takes courage; it takes grace. We can do it! How? --By sharing our stories. These stories, reports, and worship experiences break down the walls of silence over money. With stewardship, we want the text of God's Word to reveal the condition of our heart and what we must do to enjoy a deeper connection with God's heart. We are in the throes of our stewardship campaign; in fact, it is nearly completed.

*They gave themselves first to the Lord . . . They pleaded for the privilege of sharing. . . . They gave as much as they were able and even beyond their ability. . . . Out of [their] severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. . . . See that you also excel in this grace of giving. 2 Corinthians 8:5, 4, 3, 2, 7*

When the human heart is filled with passion, it gives passionately. There are passions for God that motivate us to give. The **first of these is the passion of love**. Love is the deepest desire of the human heart: to love and be loved in return. Christ's love resurrected our dead hearts through forgiveness and cleansing and we were left with an unquenchable love for God. The **second is the passion of gratitude**. Regardless of how little we have, giving out of gratitude to Him, because He alone is our treasure, is a powerful motivation of the heart. The **third passion is obedience**. Giving begins as a discipline of obedience but ends as a grace of the Christian life. (2 Corinthians 8:7). The **fourth passion is compassion**. Because God cares for us, we are freed to care for others. Giving out of compassion is another imitation of the Father that pleases Him and draws the attention of others to Him. The **fifth passion is sacrifice**. This passion for sacrificial giving to advance the gospel appropriately complements the sacrificial gift of God at the cross of Christ. Finally, the **last passion is one of adoration**. The human heart was designed and created for worship—to recognize the God of glory in all His majestic power, holiness, love, and wisdom. The passion of an adoring, captivated heart is rightly expressed through giving in a spirit of humility and joy.

Jesus knew the day of outpoured grace could take the believer to higher heights of giving and deeper depths of intimacy with the Father than mere tithing could ever do. Let us rejoice! We understand saving grace as that expression of God's unconditional love for us. Praise the Lord!

Betsy Leonard

## Liturgical Ministry Training . . .

November 21

Are you interested in becoming a lector (that is, a reader), or would you like to brush up on your skills? Would you like to learn how to serve as an acolyte? Do you want to serve as a chalice minister at the altar during the Sunday morning Eucharist? If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, you're invited to attend a Liturgical Ministry Training for about an hour after the 10:30 church service on Sunday, November 21. The training will be led by Doug Saxton and Deacon Nancy. Everyone will meet as a whole group initially, and then you'll be divided into two groups. Those who complete the training with Nancy will (eventually) be certified as Eucharistic ministers by the Diocese.

---

## Important Dates to Remember . . .

**November 1st ~ Monday, All Saints' Feast Day**

**Eucharist and Festive Meal, 6 pm**

**November 7th ~ Sunday, Bishop's Committee Meeting, after service**

**November 13th ~ Saturday Breakfast, 8-10 am**

**November 21st ~ Sunday. Liturgical Ministry Training, after service**

**November 25th ~ Thursday, Thanksgiving Eucharist and Dinner, 3 pm**

**December 19th ~ Sunday, Advent 4 "Lessons & Carols" 4 pm**

**December 24th ~ Friday, Christmas Eve, St. John's, 6 pm, All Saints' 8:30 pm**

## Cookbook Update . . .

Continue to keep the cookbook on your priority list. We need your special recipes, past successes at All Saints' events, and your family favorites. The handout for recipe submission is below. Copy it and submit multiple recipes. Or just write down you recipe and it will be included in the format of the cookbook company. We welcome appetizers, salads, soups, main courses, desserts, snacks, kids meals, beverages, whatever. We will collect for a reasonable amount of time, and then we will ask you again, if we need more recipes. We hope to publish this in May 2011, just in time for the anniversary of the building of our church. We will have a tasting party and invite all, including the community, to sample some of the recipes.

## Cookbook Recipe Form . . .

**Name of Recipe** \_\_\_\_\_

**Category** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ingredients** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Preparations** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by** \_\_\_\_\_



Dear Partners in Mission,

Have you ever looked back over the years and seen a pattern of something evolving that was too slow in the day by day to really notice? Long term mission work allows missionaries to have that same chance at some perspective in their ministry. In my case, I have recently been looking at the past couple of years as the clinical practical situation has evolved. It seemed to take a ridiculous amount of time and finally started progressing after the gals had already started their clinical practicals in the capital. The original idea that I would work with the two students who work with me in San Pedro as their clinical supervisor in our clinic has not materialized. What felt like a closed door in August as we struggled with remodeling and excessive chaos in our department to even consider it being an educational environment, God used to open another and better door. There are 8 students doing their clinical practicals at the ADR in the capital and I am going there once a week to work with them. I am joining Jilmary, a dedicated Dominican Physical Therapist, in the effort to develop evaluation and critical thinking skills in the students. Where this shall go for the future and long term is hard to tell, but for now I am thankful for this opportunity. Please join me in praying for wisdom to see what the Lord is guiding me to do in this journey! May God bless and guide you in all you do!

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)

All Saints' Episcopal Church  
150 Sippelle Drive  
Battlement Mesa, CO 81635  
(970) 285-7908

