

The Steeple Bell of St. Barnabas Parish



June 2008

An Episcopal Community since 1891

Issue #2008-6

STEWARDS FOR LIVE— A ST. BARNABAS CHALLENGE

Some time ago St. Barnabas parishioners, including Janet Manning and Pat and Wills Long, formed a church group to promote environmental stewardship. We would like to follow in their footsteps and encourage St. B members and friends to “think green” and to take action to help preserve our beautiful planet and its resources for future generations.

Former parishioner, Diana Flahive, recently emailed friends a number of energy saving tips. Several are reprinted below:

Recycle Aluminum

- Recycling aluminum cans saves 95 % of the energy required to make the same amount of aluminum from its virgin source, bauxite.
- Buy recycled aluminum foil, which requires just one-twentieth the energy of non-recycled foil. Recycle it when you're done!

Pass on Paper or Plastic Bags

- More than 380 million plastic bags are thrown away in the U. S. annually. Plastic bags can take up to 1,000 years to biodegrade in landfills. And while paper bags do eventually biodegrade, an estimated 14 million trees a year have to be cut down to make 10 billion bags.
- Use cloth bags that can be washed and re-used. To buy a hemp bag, go to www.planetflahive.com.
- And recycle your current supply of paper and plastic bags to carry groceries and other items, to wrap valuables, and to use as a receptacle for dog poop.

Denver Recycles: Your Ultimate Source of Information

Denver Recycles, a website provided by the City and County of Denver—www.denvergov.org/denverrecycles. The site provides extensive information on the City's various recycling programs. Residents can learn about the city's residential recycling program, the household hazardous waste program, seasonal pick-up programs and organics programs. The site also offers a recycling directory for various drop-off locations, an email reminder program for recycling days and information on how you can reduce waste altogether. Being green couldn't be more simple!

Free Recycling for Compact Bulbs

If you're using CFLs in your home you've made an energy-wise choice. CFLs do have a small amount of mercury. To help the environment and ensure that the mercury in your fluorescent bulbs don't end up in our soil or groundwater, recycle them through Excel Energy's new partner, **Ace Hardware**.



A Visitor's Experience

The following letter was emailed to our Rector Paul Garrett on May 5, the day following visitor Ben Hines attended a service at St. Barnabas. Paul was so pleased that he wanted to share this letter with the congregation.

Dear Folks of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church,

I wanted to write and share with you what a warm and wonderful experience I had worshiping with you all yesterday. I had been in Denver on a business conference for a few days and wanted to find a local parish in which to share worship before my flight returning to Washington, DC that afternoon. Happily, I stumbled across your very snazzy looking website (lots of pictures--kudos!) and was intrigued by your architecture & decor. How glad I am that the photos of your unusual nave lured me to Vine Street yesterday!

Upon entering the church, I was delighted by the sunlight flooding the space and the cool, easy nature of things as folks murmured their friendly hellos before the service. Settling into a seat near the back, I took in the marvelously creative arrangement of your worship space. The banners behind the altar which had grabbed my attention from the first seemed to proclaim unabashedly: "In case you had forgotten it is STILL Easter. The tomb is still decisively and we as a community are flowering forth in that continuing reality!" Glorious... just glorious.

Worship was splendid--the choir is to be commended for the great gift of praise they offer to God on behalf of and with your community. You may be sure that I have already regaled several of my dearest friends with the tale of hearing nearly an entire sermon delivered by a priest in a pink cowboy hat. Bless you for reminding me of the ways in which God's sometimes garish presence is to be relished and anticipated, particularly as we approach Pentecost.

At the peace, I was greeted by many smiling faces and warm exchanges. I am here to tell you that a woman named Velinda, who insisted on hugging the peace of Christ into me, is among the chiefest of your ministerial resources. She demonstrated a

delight at my visiting presence that reminded me of nothing but the absolute, organic, and radical welcome of God. In short, by the time the celebrant announced that all were welcome to the Table of Christ, it felt self-evident in your community. I can not imagine something more beautifully redundant.

Next Sunday, my home congregation of Washington National Cathedral will celebrate Pentecost with enormous fanfare and joyful splendor. But for all the majesty of that building and in the midst of those wonderful people with whom I share my spiritual journey here, please know that you all will be very near in my heart. After all (and no better illustrated than on Pentecost), the breath of the Spirit that breathes in us all makes us one.

And so, Folks of St. Barnabas--who I am happy to call family in Christ, bless you all. Blessings especially to the young ones who ran toward the altar with eagerness and jumped up on the kneeling cushions, heedless of proper convention or 'reverence'. How powerfully I was reminded by the Spirit of our loving God that my response to Christ's banquet invitation ought to be joy above all other emotions.

May God pour out his own Spirit on you all this Pentecost with much red, much noise, and above all much joy.

Peace be with you all,
-Ben



AN ARTS ON VINE APPRECIATION

ARTS ON Vine is a self sustaining outreach program of St. Barnabas.

Thank you to our wonderful artists and faithful volunteers for making the 2007-2008 Arts on Vine season so successful. According to Elizabeth Hepp, AOV Co-Chair, volunteers are already beginning to plan the upcoming 2008-2009 season. You are invited to participate. Share your ideas for potential artists and programs with Elizabeth. Contact her at ehopp1154@comcast.net or 303-322-9084. Elizabeth welcomes volunteers, whether you wish to serve on an AOV committee, or volunteer several hours to help set-up, serve or clean up the weekend of an AOV event. In addition to entertaining our church community, Arts on Vine offerings enhance the charm of our city neighborhood, demonstrate St. Barnabas' welcoming spirit, heighten the link between creativity and spirituality and attract newcomers to the church. Highlighted on this page are some activities of the 2007-2008 AOV season.



Mary Erickson prepares to provide the piano accompaniment for Frank McGovern's presentation of "Face on the Barroom Floor."



Kathy Brady, Stories on Stage Outreach coordinator and DCTC actor, accepts the applause of St. Barnabas audience following a "Stories on Stage" reading.



Young Master Spencer Mize shows off his lego sculpture at the all-parish AOV show.

Doris Stutz reads an excerpt from her memoirs to an appreciative audience.



Miracle Observed in St. Barnabas Garden

St. Barnabas himself would probably have appreciated the appearance of our grounds on Sunday, June 8, when we celebrated his patronage. In fact, with a bit of poetic license, we would like to think that the day before he made an appearance of his own as "the stranger in our midst".

Just as we were getting started, putting out tools, rakes, wheel barrows and the like, a stranger appeared who needed money to help with his rent. He wanted to take a rake and work for his pay, quoting from the next day's Gospel that "the laborer is worth his hire". He ended up spending some time cutting the dead wood out of our bushes and raking up compost and spreading it around the front entrance to our church.

Before he began working, he spoke with two of our "guests" who had just spent the night on our front porch on 13th Avenue, learned that they would like to pray, and organized us into a small, perhaps motley, group with our arms around one another's shoulders. We asked God for the blessings of forgiveness,

hope and love. The group broke up, with our "guests" going, we suppose, where they usually go during the day.

Our prayer leader finished his work, and, his dignity preserved, received a small contribution toward his rent and disappeared. He will probably appear again some time. Miracles tend to happen at St. Barnabas.

Now that is one way of saying that thanks to the work of a number of people, the gardens and lawn of St. Barnabas ended up looking very good. Sean Middleswart mowed and trimmed the grass; Bobbie Siersma provided her expertise; and Elizabeth Izant and Kent Mueller, with their children, Annika and Preston, pruned plants, spread compost and planted daisies and strawberries. All of this made possible by the wonderful giving spirit that imbues St. Barnabas. and the sense of our patron's presence.



Problem Solved

By Jim Schefe

What on earth is that green cage-like thing that sits along our wall along Thirteenth Avenue? It really is called a "cage", and it covers the back-flow valve for our sprinkler system. When Woody Johnson, our sprinkler person, came out to turn the system on for the summer, he discovered, oops, that somebody had stolen the back-flow valve we had. It has value for its brass and connecting copper pipes. The estimate to replace the valve and protect it with a cage was \$600 for the valve and \$350 for the cage, plus labor. Why bother with without the cage we could expect usual Spring maintenance would

"To dig I am not able, to beg I ply. An unknown parishioner digging a 27 cubic foot hole for concrete mold and embed the cage valve will have to work for it.



The good news is that the amount of Woody's time saved and the additional help he received throughout the day resulted in substantial savings for St. Barnabas. His total bill was only \$890, including all the work it took to do the usual Spring maintenance. The estimated saving is over \$600. For the record, Woody knows his business and is an excellent person to work with. Thanks, Woody.

Editor's Note: Many, many thanks to the "unknown parishioner" who we spied digging a trench in the church yard on a sunny hot day in May.

Water for People Goal Achieved



Water for People representative, Lori Geres, accepts a check of \$12,000.00 presented by the Soup Group. Volunteers from left to right: Sher Mangan, Rhondda Grant, representative from **Water for People**, Elizabeth Hepp, Bobbi Siersma, and Irene Shepard. Many thanks to these volunteers and others including Lynette Emery, Bobbi Blanc, Tony Potter and her daughter Crystal, Mary Kelly O'Donnell, Janet Manning, Jan McPhail, Karen Hoffman, Burley Shepard, Jim Schefe, Jack Unruh and the many other volunteers who came to the church kitchen to chop, slice, season and stir....and to all those who exchanged donations for yummy soup.

The Children of St. Barnabas flanking Jane Schmitz, Family Ministry, present **Water for People** a jar full of money— more than enough to purchase a pump for a well in Malawi.

The children donated over \$ 200.00 to **Water for People**.



Our gratitude to the many people who donated dollars for soup to construct a well for villagers in Malawi. Around the world, 1.1 billion people do not have access to safe drinking water and 2.6 billion are without adequate sanitation facilities. **Water for People** helps people in developing countries improve their quality of life by supporting the development of locally sustainable drinking water resources and sanitation facilities. For more information, go to www.waterforpeople.com

Open Hearts, Generous Souls

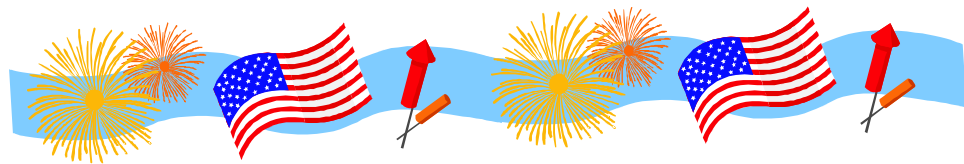
Volunteers take on many roles. In many cases it is hard to quantify the impact volunteers have on any particular program; however, in the Family Ministry program, it is crystal clear. The volunteers **are** the program. The 30 hours a week I put in could not accomplish all that we've done. St. B's volunteers: teach, design flyers, bring snacks, lead songs, help in workshops, step-in to substitute teach, offer their homes for meetings, help during ART Camp, etc. Our community is fortunate to have talented, generous people who are willing to give their time to enrich the lives of kids and families at St. Barnabas. The St. Barnabas community as a whole is very supportive of the Family Ministry program.

I am grateful for the help of numerous folks. They are, indeed, the body of Christ in the world. I want to especially thank the following people for their volunteer work (January - May): **Mary Kennedy, Beth Suter, Todd Trautman, Tristan Powers, Sean Powers, Janet Manning, Bobbie Siersma, James Lonnes, Ravel Richardson, Toni Potter, Helen Barron, Carol Anderson, Cindy Lindahl, Melanie Lindahl, Rebecca Czarneck, Faith Gregor, Brian Price, Jolene Whitney, Joe Bednarek, Tina Clark, Karen Burgess, Cindy Lees, Meg Sica, Jill Bednarek, Barbara Farley, Kerby Meyers, Meredith Wakelyn, Paul Kosempel, Celeste Richardson, Brian Reid, Tori Meyers, Hannah Schechter, Rick Angel, Jim Esten, Jen Lester, Coupar Lester, Mary Ellen Garrett.**

St. Teresa was right "Yours are the hands, Yours are the feet, Yours are the eyes, You are his body. Christ has no body now but yours."

Thank you one and all.

Blessings,
Jane Schmitz



4th of July Festivities

Kids Parade 10 a.m. Cheesman Park

St. Barnabas Parish Picnic 4 p.m.

B i r t h d a y s a n d A n n i v e r s a r i e s

- 1 Deb & Rick Angell
- 2 Lindsay Gates
Cheryl Blackwell
Kristin Feldkamp
- 3 Neil Hughes
- 5 Matt Disbrow
Rhonda Parker
Barbara Mattison
William Randy Cosby
- 6 Bobbie Blanc
Pat Gorham
Kathy Miles
- 7 Rachel Halliwell Martin
Robert & Connie Friesen
- 8 Sandy Ortiz & Tammy Giessinger
- 9 Bobbie Keables
- 13 Lodi Siefer
Ed & Judy Trujillo
Wendy Piburn
- 15 Michael Lacy
- 17 Bill & Kathy Miles
Hal & Celeste Richardson
- 18 Chris Weber
- 19 Tom Ward
- 22 Matthew Bartlett Cadol and
Sarah Bartlett Cadol
- 23 Kathy McCue
Ray O'Loughlin
Sheryl Stewart
- 24 Karen Hunter
- 29 Jim Hill
- 30 Lanny Dick
Jack & Bobbie Keables



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, June 17

Eucharist Services: 7:45 and 9:30 a.m.
Contemporary Service: 5:30 p.m.

Monday, June 18

Benedictine Way, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 20

Eucharist followed by Bible Study 10 a.m.

Sunday, June 22

Eucharist Services: 7:45 and 9:30 a.m.
Contemporary Service: 5:30 p.m.

Monday, June 23

Benedictine Way, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 25

Eucharist followed by Bible study

Sunday, June 29

Eucharist Services: 7:45 and 9:30 a.m.
Contemporary Service: 5:30 p.m.

Monday, June 30

Benedictine Way, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 21

Eucharist followed by Bible Study, 10 a.m.

Sunday, June 25

Morning Services, 7:45 and 9:30 a.m.
Blood Pressure Checks Following each Service
Contemporary Service, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 2

Eucharist followed by Bible Study, 10

Friday, July 4

4th of July St. Barnabas Picnic

To confirm event dates and times, check the monthly calendar posted on the St. Barnabas website. (www.stbdenver.org) Click on calendar on the upper righthand side of the home page.

Summer Fun

Auction Item	Sponsor	Date	Space Available?
POYC BBQ	Meredith Wakelyn	6/21/2008	Y
Cheese Bike Ride	Lynn & Karen Hoffman	6/21/2008	Y
Cocktails in the Garden	Janet Manning & Jody Will	6/27/2008	Y
Spirituals Project	Frank McGovern & Bill Lundgren	7/7/2008	Y
TAPAS Party	Elizabeth & Timothy Hepp, Kevin Lindahl, & Karen & Lynn Hoffman	7/12/2008	N
Mt. Arps Hike	Tom Ward & Fred Siersma	7/12/2008	N
Garden party	Sean Middleswart, Jim Matkin, Jan McPhail, & Mary Kelly O'Donnell	7/12/2008	Y
Think Green-Go Green	Roger & Barbara Mattison	7/16/2008	N
Bike Ride in Foothills	Roger & Barbara Mattison	7/19/08	Y
Beer n Brats	Bill & Dee Frazier	7/19/2008	N
Pirate Palooza	Warren & Becky Blanc	7/19/2008	Y
Day at the Races	Lynn & Karen Hoffman	7/20/2008	N
Games, Grub & Grapes	Andy Martin & Kristen Norden- holz & Velinda Varnado	7/26/2008	Y
Country in the City	Mary & Mike Erickson	7/26/2008	Y
Ceviche, Beer & Volleyball	Roger & Barbara Mattison, Timothy & Elizabeth Hepp, Chris Schmidt & Steve Fink	7/27/2008	Y

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

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Weekly Announcements' deadline is the end of the day Tuesday for Sunday publication.

Send information for The Steeple Bell and Announcements to Carol Anderson via fax, email, or snail mail.