

St. Paul's Epistle



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Vernal, Utah

The Rev. Connie Gordon, Rector
The Rev. Sonny Beacham, Assisting

<http://www.stpaulsvernal.org/>



March/April 2008

Thoughts For Our Shared Journey By Connie Gordon



Greetings to all in the name of Christ, Jesus! As you receive your newsletter, by picking it up in church or receiving it by e-mail or by post, we may be in different seasons of the church year. The letter was written and sent in Lent: a season of reflection, a season of turning our lives around in whatever way is necessary to be more square with God. But very soon it will be the glorious season of Easter, the best season in the Church in which we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus!

During Lent, we have had a small but warm group on Wednesday evenings for Evening Prayer, soups and bread, and conversation. We've covered the history of St. Paul's', looking at some wonderful pictures. We've talked about what draws the people who love it, and finally we will talk about where we hope to be in the future. These may also be good conversations to hold informally on Sundays for those who aren't able to participate in the evenings. Do stop by and look at the timeline in the meeting room of the parish house. We would love copies of pictures you may have of the church at various times, and I would love to hear your stories and memories of the church - they don't even have to be old!

On Palm Sunday we will once again be meeting in Cobble Rock Park with the people of Kingsbury Community church for the blessing of the palms. Following the blessing we will each process back to our respective churches for the remainder of the service. I am looking forward to taking part in this tradition for the first time.

I find Palm Sunday to be such a powerful day - we start out singing festive songs, with the entire congregation processing with palms, ushering in Jesus in as royalty only to see the day turn dark with those participating in the pageantry shouting crucify him! Crucify him! And from this point we begin our procession through the events of Holy Week. As we move through these liturgies of Lord's last days we bodily recall the events and suspending, for a moment, the remembrance of the joy of Easter morning. The movement, the sounds, the songs, the foot washing and the institution of the Eucharist make for the most moving days of the Christian year, trumped only by the surprise and joy of His resurrection.

I look forward to seeing everyone this season. It is my hope that you have each found a little quiet time to spend with God. I encourage everyone to come and share the season with us - and bring a friend.

Yours in the Peace of Christ,

Connie+



Come and Watch Just one Hour

OR

Come and stay the night at the church!!

On Maundy Thursday we will be hosting **two** events in the middle of the night!
First, is the traditional hourly in the church in response to Jesus' request to his disciples, to watch just one hour.

The second is a watch geared for the youth of St. Paul's in which they are invited to a camp-in. Both events will begin following the Maundy Thursday services. A quiet watch will begin in the church and in the parish house the youth are invited to an evening with Pizza, conversation, games, and movies. When it is time to sleep, the kids will come into the quiet church with sleeping bags. - Hey even the disciples fell asleep.



So far, Stephanie and Connie+ will supervise the activity but all parents are encouraged to come with their kids to the camp-in. Bring your bedding and we'll provide the Pizza! Please sign-up so we'll know how many to plan for.



Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Palm Sunday - 10:00 meet at Cobble Rock Square for a blessing of the palms and procession to St. Paul's
Monday, noon prayers at the church
Tuesday, noon prayers at the church
Wednesday 7:30 am, Morning Prayer,
Thursday 6:30 pm, Maundy Thursday Foot Washing and Eucharist
Good Friday - services at Noon
Easter Sunday 6:00 a.m. Easter Vigil and lighting of the new fire
8:00 Breakfast and Easter Egg hunt
10:00 Holy Communion

Spring Weekend, 2008

Conference and Celebration with the Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church, The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori, Ph.D.
April 18 and 19, 2008

Please join the presiding Bishop and Episcopalians from the Diocese of Utah for a weekend of learning, fellowship, gala dinner and celebration for the whole family- including a special reception for young people ages, 12 to 18 years old Registration **Deadline is March 15** You may pick up a registration form at the church, or online at www.episcopal-ut.org or call 800-343-4756

Sonny is recovering

It is so wonderful to bring you the good news that Sonny+ has actually landed in his own home. Thanks be to God! Thank you all for your concerns, your staying connected, and especially for your prayers. Of course Sonny has a long healing process ahead of him. He has lost a great deal of strength when he lost all that weight. Merilyn is still staying home to care for him and to care for herself, as well. I'm sure they would appreciate people staying connected. If you are bringing food, Sonny cannot have vitamin K. That basically means nothing green.

Mail Call!

Dear St. Paul's Episcopal Church,

I want to thank you for keeping my son, LCPL Eli Todich, in your prayers when he was serving in Iraq as a machine gunner. It is pretty amazing and touching to have so many individuals in this community tell me that their church has been praying for him. I wholly believe that those prayers have brought him home safely. To update your congregation, Eli is stationed at Camp Pendleton outside of San Diego. He is currently preparing new Marines for their tour in Iraq or Afghanistan. His/their deployment is scheduled for Oct. 5th. My thanks again, Julie Todich



Electronic Newsletter

We will be offering the newsletter for downloading on the St. Paul's website and by email. If you would like to save on our mailing costs please email Connie+ and let her know that you prefer the electronic version of the newsletter. Please send your email address to raverill@bresnan.net if you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you.

**Best Wishes to all those who
celebrate a Birthday or
Anniversary.**



**Please send your information for the
newsletter:**

Parents, grandparents, friends and family if you have an item of interest to add to our Congratulations section please email the editor at raverill@bresnan.net so we can include the news each month in the newsletter.



March

Tracy Schriener, 3-2
Lillian Evans, 3-3
Judy Kurtz, 3-9
Ciera Dockins, 3-17-99
Kade Boren, 3-22-97
Darby Boren, 3-22-97
Mildred Tadlock, 3-23
Alex Riker, 3-25-98
Eddie Hoff, 3-27
Stephanie Stensgard, 3-29



April

Amanda Long, 4-14-94
Matthew Long, 4-20
Chris Webster, 4-20
Chris and David Webster, 4-26-86
Marilyn Beacham, 4-28



Be sure to mark your calendars to see Ciera Dockins who will be performing in the Annual Piner Academy of Dance Recital on April 26th at 7:00 PM at the UHS Auditorium.



Thank you to Val York and Connie Hoff for the lovely custom fireplace screen that they donated to the Parish House. The screen is so beautiful and really completes the room.



Congratulations To:

Cassandra Averill who has been selected as a performer in the Tony Award Winning Utah Shakespearean Festival. Also Congratulations Cassandra for your nominations as Female Role Model of the Year, Performer of the Year, Personality of the Year and Student of the Year at Southern Utah University.

Congratulations to Lynnette Averill for her selection as the Founders Day honor recipient of the University of Utah Alumni Association she will receive the Founder's Day Scholarship for 2008. Lynette was honored at a dinner in SLC on February 28, 2008.

SYMPTOMS OF INNER PEACE

Watch for signs of Peace. The hearts of a great many in our parish may have already been exposed to it. The following are but a few of the symptoms:

1. The tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than from fear based on past experiences.
2. An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
3. A loss in interest in judging others.
4. A loss of interest in judging oneself.
5. A loss of interest in interpreting the action of others.
6. A loss of interest in engaging in conflict.
7. A loss of the ability to worry.
8. Frequent, overwhelming episodes of appreciation.
9. Feeling contented and connected with others and nature.
10. Frequent bouts of smiling from the heart.
11. An increased tendency to let things happen.
12. An increased susceptibility to receive the love of others.
13. An increased desire to love others.
14. An increased desire to reach out and make a difference in the world.



If you have all or most of the symptoms above, be advised that your condition may be in the advanced stages of inner peace. It may now be contagious to others, proceed with enthusiasm.

The Episcopal Church
Welcomes You



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