

Carillon

St Barnabas Episcopal Church



Our Mission: To Share the Love of Christ / Compartir el amor de Cristo

Borrego Springs, California

August 2005

Volume 8, No. 8

Reflections from the Desert

Respect and tolerance. Respectively, these words are at the center of an address by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, and at this month's column by John Drum, People's Warden.

Quoting from the archbishop's address: "This confluence of events (the news of the July 7th bombings in London and his arrival at that very time in West Yorkshire for a day of visits to local Islamic institutions and meetings with clergy involved in interfaith dialogue) proved an 'extraordinary opportunity' to underscore the importance of respect for, and attentiveness to, the needs and concerns of others - even those with whom we seem to have most striking differences. But why not think of respect as loving attention? To give time to following through why another believes and acts as they do, to treat this as a serious vocation, to assume that what is humanly significant for me is not going to feel completely different from what matters to my neighbor - this is a form of love, surely."

**"...think of respect as
loving attention..."**

Wasn't it Rodney Dangerfield who constantly complained: "I get no respect?" Would you agree that one of the deepest longings of the human person is for respect? Implicitly there is an ongoing unvoiced plea: "Please respect me for who I am, not for where I'm from, what I do/have done, whom I know, or anything else that is exterior to me."

Jesus looked down on no one. In fact, the Gospel stories portray Him as treating everyone only with respect. Unlike the Pharisees who grumbled: "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." "Surely if this man were a prophet, he would know what manner of woman this is," Jesus began by looking at the person's heart. "Let whoever is without sin cast the first stone." "Is there no one to accuse you?" "Go and sin no more." After Jesus demonstrated respect to whomever came to Him - to their satisfaction - after they were ready to listen, then Jesus proclaimed to them the Good News of God's unconditional love for everyone.

Speaking on tolerance, our People's Warden reminds us that "the words 'tolerate' and 'toleration' are interesting to explore and apply to everyday practice in our community and our church family." A common mistake is to equate "tolerate" with "condone," "agree with" or "support" an idea or action with which we disagree.

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Sunday Worship

Editor's note: We thought you'd enjoy reading Nancy's sermon from Pentecost Sunday as we continue our focus on "gifts".

Gifts of the Spirit

Today Christians throughout the world celebrate Pentecost and the gifts of the Spirit. This is one of the major feast days of the church year when we recall the day that God's Holy Spirit was poured out upon all people, as was promised through the prophet Joel.

Yet, it strikes me that for all our talk about the gifts of the Spirit, and how they create, uphold, and sustain the church as a whole, we often miss the full significance of just what God has given to us... to you and me personally. I think we miss it because we fail, in all our talk and in all our listening, to take the time to reflect on how we, as individuals have been gifted by God.

As many of you know, Alex+ is in Texas today visiting his Mom and sister. And as I was driving home from San Diego on Friday I was remembering a true story about another man in Texas who owned a sheep ranch. Perhaps you have heard this story too.

It was during the depression and he didn't have enough money to continue paying on the mortgage... in fact he was forced, like many others, to live on government subsidies. Each day as he tended his sheep he worried about how he was going to pay his bills. Sometime later a seismographic crew arrived at his door. They told him that there might be oil on his land and asked to do some test drills. After a lease was signed they went ahead. At 1,115 feet a huge oil reserve was struck... then subsequent wells revealed even more oil than the first.

This man owned it all. He had the oil and mineral rights. Here he had been living on subsidies and yet he was a millionaire. He owned all that oil with its

tremendous potential, but he had not realized it.

Which makes me wonder... how often are we like that man... poor and helpless... unaware of the extraordinary power that we have available to us...lying just below the surface of our minds and our hearts? Each one of us here has been given by God our own special day of Pentecost... a day on which God imparted to us the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

When we were given God's Spirit in baptism, we were given more than strength, support, teaching and comfort... those things we normally identify with God's presence. We were even given more than joy, peace, patience, and kindness, those things which we call the fruits of the Holy Spirit. God also gives us a set of gifts. These gifts are designed for the building up of the body of the church, for the individual ministries to which we are called, and for our own spiritual life.

Paul lists some of the gifts that God gives and explores with the Corinthian congregation how those gifts can be used and abused. I read a book some years ago that listed twenty-seven gifts of the Spirit. They included - the gift of teaching, the gift of discernment, - the gift of exhortation - the gift of hospitality - the gift of intercession - the gift of the word of wisdom - the gift of faith - the gift of administration - the gift of helping - and the gift of mercy.

...spiritual gifts can transform an apparently untalented person into someone who has a remarkable ability to minister to others.

Each of these gifts are spiritual gifts, gifts to be distinguished from the natural talent we are born with, because spiritual gifts can transform an apparently untalented person into someone who has a remarkable ability to minister to others.

What gifts do you have? What set of gifts has God poured out upon you so that you might love and serve God and all people in the way God intended?

I want you to think about that. Try to identify within yourself what God has given to you so that you can help in bringing about God's desire... that all people live in harmony. It is a profitable exercise. It forces us to think about what God wants to do through us. It forces us to think about what God has done through us in the past, and it gives us pause to discern just where we feel God is leading us now. When we do this we activate the Spirit within us... we bring the power of the Spirit to the forefront of our lives

When we use our gifts and put them at the service of others, not only are we transformed but our church and the world become closer to what God intended.

So what gifts has God given us? Discovering the answer to this question is so profitable an exercise that I suggest you consider doing it. It is a way of honoring God that I have done myself and I've helped others on retreats to do it, too. Together with family at home or with other Christians you know - sit with a piece of paper and pen and have each person list one or more of your strengths, your qualities, then move on to the others involved. It is a powerful experience... one in which you begin to see what God has done and is doing in your life.

It is similar to what happened with the man in Texas... someone helped him to see what lay beneath the surface...and he discovered that he was a rich man. His life of poverty and desperation was transformed into a life of abundance and of generosity. He found what had always been there, he used it, and it changed his life.

And that is what the Holy Spirit is about, what spiritual gifts are all about. They are there to be used in the work of God, a work to which we are all called. When we use our gifts and put them at the service of others, not only are we transformed but our church and the world become closer to what God intended.

So now, before we come to the Table of the Lord, in communion with each other and all Christians around the world, let us take the next 60 seconds to begin thinking about the ways we glorify God by being a gift to others. Identify some of the ways that God ministers through you. Then rejoice in these gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Nancy+



Vestry Report

by Alex Nagy+

July Vestry

L. Louise Jee, Kathleen Killman, Mary Levine, Alex+ and Lynn Wilderson gathered for prayer, business and fellowship for the July Vestry meeting.

We prayed in thanksgiving for the successful surgeries of Martha Mitchell and Cathy Oswalt.

Lynn, rather than the outside CPA firm, prepared our monthly financial statements. They will continue to be available to us on an as needed basis.

Kathleen noted that for 2005 we have realized 83% of our Stewardship goal.

L. Louise Jee is working with the Bell Foundry on a new pew plaque. Due to a "once in a 100 year" flood, many of their records were lost. She sent them our specifications again.

Mary Levine will lead Morning Prayer on August 7th when Pastor Robb from the Methodist church will come to reciprocate a pulpit exchange which Alex+ did for them in June.

Richard White and Alex+ will initiate a conversation with De Anza Concrete company about resurfacing our parking lot with deconstructed gravel.

The Vestry will not meet in August but Lynn will provide us with month-end financial statements.

CLASSIFIEDS:
Classy church newsletter seeks brief ads for items that may be of use to parishoners. For sale, trade or gift. Let's recycle. Ad space free.

The People's Corner

by John Drum, The People's Warden

Tolerance

The words "tolerate" and "toleration" are interesting to explore and apply to everyday practice in our community and our church family. Probably most Episcopalians consider themselves tolerant people. The acceptance of the social practices of parishioners is liberal and quite different from some denominations in the Christian faith. We pride ourselves in being able to assimilate widely varying ideas, concepts and practices.

The one question that comes to mind is, "Are we tolerant of the intolerant?" Can we accept and tolerate the hard-nosed attitudes of those who are so set in their ways that their beliefs and practices are the only ones acceptable?

Maybe it is not so easy to be tolerant. Maybe we have to work at it, or at least think about it.

In essentials,
unity,
in non-essentials,
diversity,
in all things,
charity.

St. Augustine

Editor's Note: Summer evenings and early mornings are perfect for exploring our labyrinth. This is part two of a three part series on the labyrinth.

The words below are excerpts from an article by Daniel H. Johnston, Ph.D. reprinted with permission. For more information on labyrinths as ways to explore them, visit www.lessons4living.com

A Timeless Design

This is the classical or seventh circuit labyrinth. Seven circuits refers the seven paths that lead to the center or goal. This is an ancient design and is found in most cultures. It is sometimes dated back more than 4000 years. Also known as the Cretan Labyrinth it is associated with the myth of Theseus and the Minotaur. This design was found on Cretan coins.



Labyrinths have most likely always been used in a spiritual manner. They can create a heightened awareness of the human condition and aid psychological and spiritual growth. To build a labyrinth is to create a sacred space. To walk a labyrinth is to imbue it with power and meaning. The more a labyrinth is used the more powerful it becomes as a symbol of transformation.

The classical labyrinth has an association with Christianity. A cross is the starting point used to construct this labyrinth. The cross at the center can become the focus for meditation and the experience of the labyrinth. The classical labyrinth design is found in many churches in Europe.

The Middle Ages showed a renewed interest in labyrinths and a design more complex than the classical seven-circuit labyrinth became popular.

This was an eleven-circuit design divided into four quadrants. It was often found in Gothic Cathedrals

but over time many of these eleven-circuit designs were destroyed or intentionally removed.

The most famous of these remaining labyrinths is at Chartres Cathedral near Paris,



France. The labyrinth at Chartres was built around 1200 and is laid into the floor in a style sometimes referred to as a pavement maze. The original center piece has been removed and other areas of the labyrinth have been restored.

This labyrinth was meant to be walked but is reported to be infrequently used today. In the past it could be walked as a pilgrimage and/or for repentance. As a pilgrimage it was a questing, searching journey with the hope of becoming closer to God. When used for repentance the pilgrims would walk on their knees. Sometimes this eleven-circuit labyrinth would serve as a substitute for an actual pilgrimage to Jerusalem and as a result came to be called the "Chemin de Jerusalem" or Road of Jerusalem.

In walking the Chartres style labyrinth the walker meanders through each of the four quadrants several times before reaching the goal. An expectancy is created as to when the center will be reached. At the center is a rosette design which has a rich symbolic value including that of enlightenment. The four arms of the cross are readily visible and provide significant Christian symbolism.

Labyrinths can be walked in many ways. Different images and metaphors can be used as an aid to the experience as well as to create rituals. A ritual is a structured experience designed to celebrate life. It creates a container in which we can learn more about ourselves and our relationships with others. A ritual deepens our connection to our psychological and spiritual center.

In our final installment, we'll discuss rituals and the labyrinth. -Editor

STAYING CONNECTED - Have you heard?

In this column, we'd like you to know some of the fun, the serious, the sad and the joyful which we have heard and would like you to know about certain parishioners at St. Barnabas. If you are a member, you will probably recognize many names - even if you do not immediately recall their faces: to do that, please consult your parish pictorial directory. If you are not yet a parishioner, we suggest you read this column with an eye to better know us through the lives of our members. If you would like to share something about yourself, and would like everyone to know, please communicate it to our editor, Joanie Cahill..

Fun, Traveling

Louise Burmester: Chicago, Pennsylvania
Richard/Nancy Bye: Norway, France, New York
Donna Gibb: China, Sweden, the Carribean,
Gary/Judy Haldeman: cruise to Alaska
Fred/L. Louise Jee: cruise to Alaska, S.F. Bay Area
Hugh/Joanne McLean: RV'ing to the east coast
Polly Mason: six months in Greece
Richard/Nohemi Mills: Honduras, Texas
Alex/Nancy Nagy+: Arkansas, Idaho, Washington
Richard/Ann White: Washington
Lynn Wilderson: Kansas

Recuperating

Martha Mitchell is recuperating from back surgery.
John Mommsen is recuperating from back surgery.
Cathy Oswalt is recuperating from triple heart bypass surgery.

Sad News

Bev Rensenhuse completed her earthly pilgrimage on June 29 at their home in Bend OR. Her ashes were interred at Lake Quivira, KS. We will have a memorial service in the Fall.

Joyful News

Please welcome our newest parishioners

Shirley Vialpando who moved to Borrego as a full time resident. Before her retirement, among other accomplishments, she was the administrator at St. Paul's Cathedral in San Diego for 14 years. She bought Bob Cassidy's place when he purchased a condo at the Villas Borrego.

Rick/Myrtice Kuhs who bought a house beyond the Mendenhalls on Country Club Road. Rick has already moved in; Myrtice will join him shortly after the mercury dips. They have a cabin in Brightwood CA, 170 miles north of Borrego. They chose Borrego because of the driving distance to Brightwood.

Miscellaneous

The \$1.5 million State Park Visitor Center has been completely renovated. The project manager, **Joanie Cahill**, would be happy to answer any question you may have. It is available for your enjoyment in person or on our website: stbarnabasborrego.com. The grand opening is scheduled for October 7/8.

Gene+/Lois Holly responded with a very generous check for the water station project in the desert about which Nancy+ wrote in the July issue of the Carillon.

Frank/Diane Hydoski are in New Canaan CT for the last two years of their son, Joseph's, high school education.

After reading the July edition of the Carillon, our **Bishop Jim Mathes** wrote to Alex+/Nancy+ complimenting them on their article on the 13th Anglican Consultative Council's meeting.

Bob/Anne Mendenhall introduced their grandson, Jeremy Mendenhall, during his first time in Borrego to everyone at the Sunday morning coffee hour.

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Evelyn Parks has been playing the organ while Cathy was on vacation and now while she is recuperating from surgery. We appreciate her ministry of music.

John Richen is spending the summer in Montana with his staff renovating newly purchased buildings in Butte, one of which will be his summer studio.

A record number of 50 worshipers at St. Barnabas for Holy Communion on Sunday, July 3rd was matched by a record high temperature of 119 on July 13 (see the article "119 in Borrego" in The San Diego Union-Tribune, North Inland edition, July 14, 2005 page 1). With our air conditioned worship space, heat is no deterrent to Sunday morning worship.

Reflections continued from page 1

Rather, to tolerate means to give the other the respect by inviting them to express themselves and to share their outlook in their own words.

Respect and tolerance. Begin by offering the other loving attention and then strive, as Jesus, to see the heart of the other.

Sincerely,

Alex+/Nancy+

Erin

The child is beauty
At rest and motion
Sheer peace

Yes
But aren't the very young
All lovely and smooth
as buttercups

This one is special.
All I know
is that every mother so speaks

After gazing rapt at her child
Look again she says.
Do I have to?
Absolutely.

Well all right:
True, she chortles superbly
I like the set of her eyes
Blue now and ever



Petal-soft skin Within which folds
She yawns and yells wonderfully well
her world safe
clasped in hand

but ah the self-confidence
of the child arrayed
in certainty
the loose clothing

Erin Cahill celebrated her first birthday on August 8th. Her parents, Brian/Joanie, appreciate the prayers and love of their daughter's 100 grandparents aka the parishioners of St. Barnabas!

of a lifetime
that one slowly fills
as one evolves
into one's own place

until one day
the naysayer
looks again
he says yes well

I recall you back when
And I can tell you...
What?

That even then
you were
yes
some babe

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Mark Your Calendar

August

- Aug. 7th Methodist Pastor Rob Fuessler preaches at morning prayer.
- Aug. 14th/21st The Rev. Benedict Reid presides and preaches.
- Wed. 17th Men of St. Barnabas meets
- Sat. 20th Sarah's Circle meets at Kendall's at noon.

Sunday Service
8:30am only
May through October

Fellowship, Education & Support

Men of St. Barnabas meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6pm. Men of the parish and their guests invited

Women of St. Barnabas meets the first Wednesday at noon. All women of the parish and their guests are welcome.

Sarah's Circle meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6pm for a potluck and fellowship. All women of the parish and guests are invited.

Cursillo meets Monday morning in the parish room, 8am.

Alanon gathers in the parish room every Saturday at 8am.

Peace Meeting every Monday night, 6:30-8pm in the parish room. Meetings are non-political and non-sectarian.

St. Barnabas Carillon

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