

Carillon

St Barnabas Episcopal Church



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

Borrego Springs, California

April 2007

Volume 11, No. 4

Reflections *From the Desert*

The Great Vigil of Easter

Dear friends in Christ: this is how we are addressed because this is who we are: curious visitors, people of faith. What an appropriate greeting to those who will be gathered in the dark (7:30 p.m.) in our Friendship Circle to begin the Great Vigil of Easter on Holy Saturday evening (April 7th)! For the most important Christian celebration of the year, we gather as friends to honor our common Friend.

We begin by lighting the fire from which with a taper we light the Paschal Candle which signifies Jesus, the light of the world. In the light of that very tall candle we make our way into the darkened sanctuary to listen to the joyful Easter proclamation. Before our very eyes we see the light of Christ dispel the physical and the spiritual darkness in our lives.

Why have we come? **On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer.** The Pass-over is the annual Jewish feast of

remembering God's powerful act of liberating Jewish slaves from Egypt and leading them over a very long period of time into their own land. This exodus occurred only after the angel of death passed over the houses of the Jews and slew the oldest son in the homes of the Egyptians.

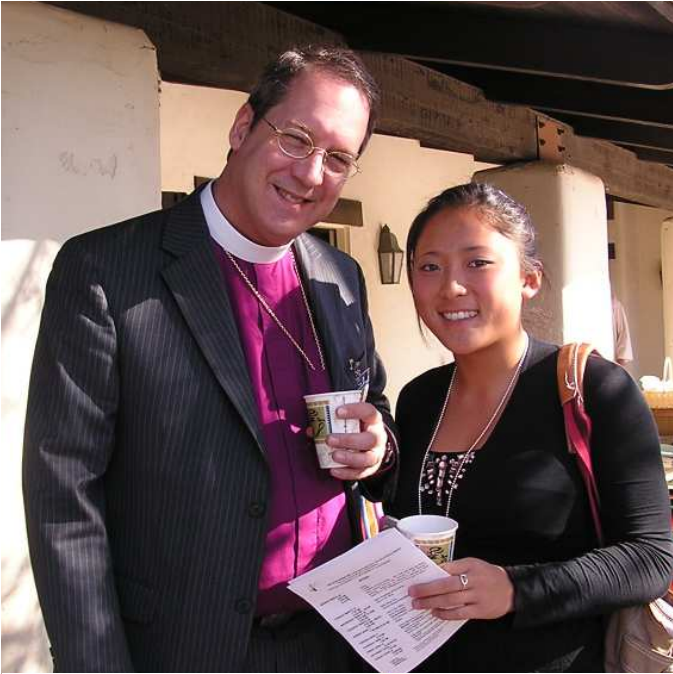
During our time of vigil and prayer, we begin by retelling the passover of the Jews. We then retell the passover of Jesus which is from his death to life. The most important miracle which Jesus experienced was being raised from the dead: his Resurrection from the dead and the enjoyment of the fullness of life. That act was God's vindication of the faithfulness of God's beloved Son in whom He was well pleased.

For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death. Consequently we hold a vigil, not one which lasts all night until sunrise, but for about an hour. We listen to the story as recorded in the Hebrew Scriptures of

Alleluia. Christ is risen!
The Lord is risen indeed.
Alleluia!

continued on page 2

Bishop James Mathes visits



Bishop James Mathes and his daughter Sara share a moment during the Bishop's third annual visit to St. Barnabas.

Reflections, continued from page 1

the journey from oppression to liberation. We then renew our baptismal covenant — our baptismal vows. We then celebrate the Holy Eucharist — our share in the foretaste of everlasting life.

Our celebration with sparkling cider, champagne and hot cross buns continues in the Parish Room where we offer Easter greetings to all.

***“Alleluia. Christ is risen!”
“The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!”***

Sincerely,
Alex+/Nancy+

“Dear friends in Christ: on this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.” BCP p. 285.

Bishop Jim came to St. Barnabas Sunday, March 25. He said he was pleased to return for the third consecutive year of his annual visitations. He was accompanied by his daughter Sara.

The Bishop sang his way through the service, over which he officiated. In the stately process of which, he confirmed Wendy Quinn, as well as receiving her and Leslie Bellah into the Episcopal Church.

Bishop Jim's homily was based on the three Bible readings for the day, from Isaiah, Philippians and Luke. The lesson he took from each reading — Luke, in particular — was that coercive actions of any kind have no place in the Christian definition of a fruitful life.

What appalled him, he said, was the violence that lay at the heart of Christ's parable of the murderous wine-tenders, which told how the land-owner tried to assert his authority by sending his servants, and finally his son, to collect his due. The upshot was an unnecessary death caused by the failure of both groups to resolve a civil dispute.

The wrongful application of power, the Bishop defined as the attempt to attain an objective by coercive action, rather than by dialogue and mutual concession. Implicit in the formulation was that the use of force against a perceived weaker opponent is too often the way of the current world.

But, as he pointed out, the world in Christ's time was no different. Violence as a tool of resolution was widespread and the situation, despite His presence — then and now — has continued through the present day. Implied in Christ's words is the clear suggestion that all kinds of coercion (whether intended or not) are not only self-destructive but run contrary to civil peace.

Violence in its broadest sense, Bishop Jim said, he defines as all actions which injure human beings. He was talking about the damage done to the sick, the impoverished and all the unfortunates of the world

continued on page 3

Bishop's visit (continued)



Bishop James Mathes after confirming and receiving Wendy Quinn and receiving Leslie Bellah to the Episcopal Church. From left to right are Bob Cassidy, Leslie, the Bishop, Wendy, Mary MacDonald.

caught up in personal, economic and state-sponsored violence — in short, the violence of the strong against the weak. He especially focused on the violence inherent in the deaths of more than two million children every year from diseases, like malaria, which are avoidable in both political and economic terms.

Bishop Jim concluded his homily with the suggestion that the only way out of the cycle of violence — and the lives of forced submission and death which so often result — is characterized by divine action and especially by the model of Christ's life and resurrection.

Following the end of the service, Bishop Jim complimented the choir on its rendition of his favorite hymns. He stood for photos afterward with the St. Barnabas choir. The photographer was our staff photographer, Faye Dorsey.

At the conclusion of the coffee hour, the Bishop adjourned for lunch at De Anza Country Club with Reverend Alex and members of the St. Barnabas vestry.

Bishop James Mathes (right) during his third annual visit to St. Barnabas Church. The Bishop spoke against violence whether personal, economic or state-sponsored, and said the solution is divine action, especially by the model of Christ's life and resurrection. The Bishop (in the middle of the choir, below) complimented the choir on its renditions of his favorite hymns.



Interfaith Relations at Work

Recently when Alex+ and I attended our monthly clergy day it was different than usual. This time we met in a United Methodist Church, with clergy from the Methodist Church, in Mission Valley. This event was sponsored by our Diocesan office of Ecumenical in Interfaith Relations.

Since Alex+ and I are also part of the Borrego Springs Ministerial Alliance, we invited Robb Fuesler, pastor of the Borrego Springs Community United Methodist Church to join us.

At the 2006 General Convention, The Episcopal Church officially entered into a relationship of interim Eucharistic Sharing with the United Methodist Church (as we've already done with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America). The two, Methodists and Anglican, have been in dialog here in the United States since 1960s within the context of the multilateral conversations of the Consultation on Church, and since 2002 in a church-to-church bilateral dialog. Too, Anglicans and Methodists in Great Britain have been in dialog since the 1970s, and in 2002 the Church of England and the British Methodist Church entered into a 10-year covenant process leading to full, visible unity.

In addition the 1990s saw a major international Anglican-Methodist dialog sponsored by the Anglican Communion Office and the World Methodist Council, which issued an agreed theological statement, *Sharing in the Apostolic Communion*. In 1998 the Lambeth Conference of Bishops commended this document for study by the provinces of the Communion and encouraged the formation of local Anglican-Methodist dialog.

It felt good to have already put into place some sharing events with our neighbor, Pastor Robb, e.g the monthly meetings as clergy, the covering for each other when one is out of town, exchanging pulpits for different occasions and participating together in the Easter Sunrise and Thanksgiving Service.

But what will this new relationship look like under the Interim Eucharistic Sharing?

Well, both churches/denominations have agreed that:

- 1) the two churches acknowledge one another to be members of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church;
- 2) the official teachings in each church on the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist and Baptism are sufficiently compatible to enter into Interim Eucharistic Sharing, and
- 3) they will enter into a second round of dialog to focus on issues which are in need of further discussion. In the United Methodist-Episcopal Dialog, this will include the historic episcopate and the ordering of ordained ministries within the apostolicity of the broader church.

So, in order to live into a deeper relationship during this period, the two churches agree to intentionally share in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. In the future, we at St. Barnabas, after preparation and education, can look forward to shared communion with our sisters and brothers from the Community United Methodist Church.

This is indeed good news as we all grew up praying "that they all may be one."

Nancy+

We meet our goal

I would like to thank you, our fantastic congregation, for the tremendous support that you have given to the stewardship campaign this year. You have pledged more than \$105,000.00 so far and that was our goal.

Now we are looking forward to the "Additional Investment in St. Barnabas" to give Alex+ and Lynniss a well-deserved pay raise. I know we can do it.

Bill Walker
Peoples' Warden/Stewardship Chairman

Vestry works with fewer members

Our numbers were slightly diminished at the March 26th meeting. Poor Jill Bennett back in hospital, Bill Walker and L.Louise Jee out of town.

In Treasurer Margaret Orenyak's absence, David Leibert was good enough to walk us through the financial report. He recounted some serious questions that had arisen over the charges for plumbing/septic work at the rectory. Happily, he has the expertise required to evaluate these mysteries and then act to right them! As agreed at the last meeting, the Smith Barney capital account will pay for the sealing of our walkways. Brad Tidwell completed that job in good time and added the panache of some lovely coats of varnish on our doors and other exterior thirsty wood.

Edd Davis has once again given us a springtime gift of clean windows both inside and out — no cob-

webs to drape our Easter bonnets! Mary Levine recounted the calendar for Holy Week and the Altar Guild told of its plans for same.

Ann White reported concern for +Jim Mathes. He showed signs of stress we felt. Certainly understandable after last week's meeting in Texas with other bishops! His first years as our leader have been most difficult. As a symbol of our caring, and a salute to his ability to prioritize and look upward and outward, Alex+ will take him a copy of the book Bill Walker recommends to us all, *Younger Next Year*.

Of course, this meeting was filled with work and plans that you will hear about soon, but we cannot resist sharing Haddon Salt's latest quip, "Indecision is the key to flexibility."

Nancy Bye

Thanks for Talents and Treasures



Shoppers examine the treasures and talents whose sales will benefit St. Barnabas Church. Contributions of art, crafts and other treasures helped make the event more than worthwhile, with more than \$450 earned for the church. The sale was held after each service on a sunny Sunday. Faye Dorsey said she especially wanted to thank the persons who made the Talents and Treasures sale such a success and so much fun: Kathleen and Frisbie Killman, Kitty Phelps, Ann and Richard White, Irene Foster and John Visser, Judy Settle, Chuck and Mary Bennett, Shirley Vialpando and Peggy Brown. Faye Dorsey helped organize, contributed her note cards with her own beautiful photographs then took pictures of the event.

'Tis Better To Give

Members of the Women of St. Barnabas work diligently during the year to raise money.

From sales of cards, "treasure and talent", and their bake sales they pile up revenue, then in early spring, give it back to the community.

This year the ladies have given Horizon Hospice \$300, with the proviso that the funds be used here in Borrego Springs. Another \$300 has been donated to our own St. Barnabas Retreat Center. We have also donated \$300 to Deacon Catherine Dowdle, a seminarian in our diocese, to help cover her tuition expenses. She will be presented with a check when she comes to the April 4th meeting of the Women of St. Barnabas. We also plan to give a scholarship for a week at Camp Stevens, and have enlisted the aid of the school to help us identify a student deserving of the campership.

In the fall of 2005 a meeting of bishops announced, in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, an initiative called "We Will Stand With You." Alex+ and his vestry immediately began a long-term partnership with Trinity Church in Pass Christian, Mississippi, destroyed by an enormous wave during the hurricane. We collected contributions from three services on December 18, 2005, and in the spring of '06 those monies (plus donations from WOSB and the altar guild) enabled us to send Trinity more than \$3,000.

Now the WOSB and Altar Guild will each send a donation of \$300 to our beleaguered sister parish. In a recent thank you letter to us they recount their continuing struggles to rebuild.

Later in 2007 we will have another "We will stand with you..." day and hope to bolster this relationship of hope, love, courage and financial help.

Nancy Bye

Letter from Horizon Hospice

Dear Women of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church,

Thank you very much for the financial gift for Horizon Hospice patients and/or volunteers in Borrego Springs.

Your Bake Sale proceeds are a blessing for many. When I accepted the gift I felt overwhelmed by the love and commitment that you have to your community to caring for individuals in the final phase of life. Your support for the volunteers to learn and in their endeavor to serve the terminally ill is very much appreciated.

Thank you from the staff of Horizon Hospice,
Patricia Thompson, MSW, LCSW

What do you think?

What do you think about having a White Elephants' Box in the Carillon?

This would be a place to "advertise" items we have for sale or those we would like to give away.

Let us know if you think it would be a good idea to offer white elephants every month in the Carillon, starting next month.

Please direct your questions or comments to Victor Levine at 767-7746.

Cookbook progress

Recipes keep coming in and they are getting typed, but we're not close to finishing our fall cookbook. We still need more main dish recipes to round out our selection.

Please bring your favorite recipes to St. Barnabas and leave them in the box in the parish room or you can e-mail them to Leslie Bellah at ferretti@uia.net.

We plan to have the cookbook ready by fall and it will be a great solution to all those we want to remember at Christmas.

Wonder, Love and Praise

Soon you will find that every pew has a green book in addition to the red prayer book and the blue Hymnal, 1982. This supplement to the Hymnal, 1982, begins with hymn 721 since the last hymn in the hymnal is 720. The name of the green book is "Wonder, Love and Praise," the last phrase of *Love Divine All Love's Excelling*.

The mandate of the Standing Commission on Church Music (+Gethin Hughes was a member) included the task of providing additional texts and tunes written since 1982, additional service music as well as inclusive language. Today many in our churches have their theology formed by our hymnody.

As you begin to use the green book, many of the hymns will be familiar and hopefully will become your new "old favorites." These will probably include *Taste and See, You who Dwell in the Shelter of the*

Lord (Eagle's wings), *Here I am Lord* and *The Desert Shall Rejoice*.

Last Sunday when the Bishop was here, the choir sang *O Wheat Whose Crushing Was for Bread, Stay With Me, Bless the Lord My Soul* and *O Lord Hear My Prayer*. The choir also has sung *As We Gather at Your Table, Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus* and *Canticle 9, The First Song of Isaiah*.

Wonder, Love and Praise is inspirational for us the music leaders in our Church. Dr. Carl Haywood, the Service Music Editor, combined Gospel-style refrains with simplified Anglican Chant in a number of wonderful selections. *O Wheat Whose Crushing Was for Bread* is a beautiful example of a faith that seeks to understand.

Let me know what new hymns inspire you.

Bonnie Walker, Organist

Alison's Almost in Africa



Parishioner Alison Royle is on her way to spend three months working at Mission Namibia in St. Mary's Mission. As we receive her messages, we will print them in the Carillon.

The following, and the photograph at left of a mother and her child at Mission Namibia, was part of a message she sent to let us know she is on her way.

Dear friends,

Tonight is the last night before my flight to Africa.

I can't thank you all enough for the support that you have given us in this exciting endeavor. Mission Namibia is on a roll.

With love and God's blessings,

Alison, Almost-in-Africa

Mark Your Calendar

APRIL

April 1-7 — Holy Week

April 1 — Palm Sunday processions with palms begin at the palapa at 7 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

April 3 — Seder at the RoadRunner Club at 5:15 p.m.

April 4: Women of St. Barnabas meet at noon at the home of Irene Foster.

April 5 — Maundy Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Eucharist.

April 6 — Good Friday private prayers from noon until 3 p.m. in Church.

April 7 — Easter Vigil begins in the courtyard at 7:30 p.m. Following the service, there will be a reception in the parish room consisting of sparkling cider, champagne and hot cross buns.

April 8 — Easter Sunrise community celebration begins on the hill behind the Methodist church followed by Holy Communion; 9:30 am Festive Easter Holy Eucharist.

MAY

May 5 — Memorial Service for Frank Pettit at 11 a.m.

May 6 to October 7 — One service each Sunday at 8:30 a.m.

St. Barnabas Carillon

Editing and design:
Leslie Bellah
ferretti@uia.net
760-767-0650

Production:
Lynnis Wilderson and Bob Cassidy
Newsletter Committee:
Nancy Bye, Victor Levine, Lynnis Wilderson,
Alex and Nancy Nagy+, Faye Dorsey, photography

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church
2680 Country Club Road
P.O. Box 691
Borrego Springs, CA 92004-0691

Church office: 760-767-4038
Rectory: 760-767-3620
Alex's e-mail: nagy@cableusa.com
Nancy's e-mail: revngn@yahoo.com
Website: <http://www.stbarnabasborrego.com>