

# Carillon

St Barnabas Episcopal Church

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

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Borrego Springs, California

September 2008

Volume 11, No. 9

## WHAT DO WE KNOW?

### Part I

It isn't an idle question. We as a congregation need to know what we've accomplished since 2001, maybe for a variety of reasons but especially because we're about to choose a new rector.

It's so easy to fold changes into our daily routines that it soon seems as though nothing has changed. Except us and almost certainly, the context in which we have been living, say, for the past seven years.

But what about the next candidate for the office of rector? The prospective rector needs to know what he/she, is getting into. What kind of congregation are we? What have we done in the past seven years under Alex Nagy's certain hand. What do we want the church to be, say, in the next 7-10 years?

Those are questions you might want to give some thought to. Have you been satisfied with what we've done or failed to do in the past seven years? If so, and even if not so, what should we have done? What should be we doing now and in the future?

Are there people we would like to include in the

St Barnabas community and, if so, how might we do that? Are there programs that we have missed and would like to see reinstated? What, in short, should a church like St Barnabas be doing in a community like Borrego Springs?

In early November '08, there will be a chance to give your views when we get together formally to decide what kind of a rector we want. That information will be shared with the representative of the bishop's office, and only then can the process of seeking a candidate actually begin.

Important to note, that process will not begin before the fully assembled members of the church have the chance to give their views.

In the meantime, I anxiously concede that all I know is what I've seen, heard, been and done in the past seven years. I ask you to do the same. Take some time to think about it. Try to establish what your views are. Ask yourself, in the most specific sense, what you want of St Barnabas and what do you definitely not want.

*Continued on Page 2*

For myself, I think back to what I've learned since 2000, when Mary and I joined a small contingent of the nucleus of the current St Barnabas community. What we found, as have so many others, was an instant place of refuge and delight at St Barnabas and in the summer services then underway in the Parish Room.

And I wonder now what I'd tell a rector's candidate about what has changed, how I'd describe who and where we are, compared to the last time we sought a new leader.

St Barnabas was a mission church in 2000 under the half-time direction of +Ron Shepherd, the retired Bishop of British Columbia. +Ron followed in the footsteps of another Canadian pastor, Canon Horace McClelland.

Throughout that period and almost a year into the tenure of Alex Nagy, the new, full-time pastor, St Barnabas remained a mission church.

As such it was formally a diocesan entity under the control of the bishop of the San Diego Diocese.

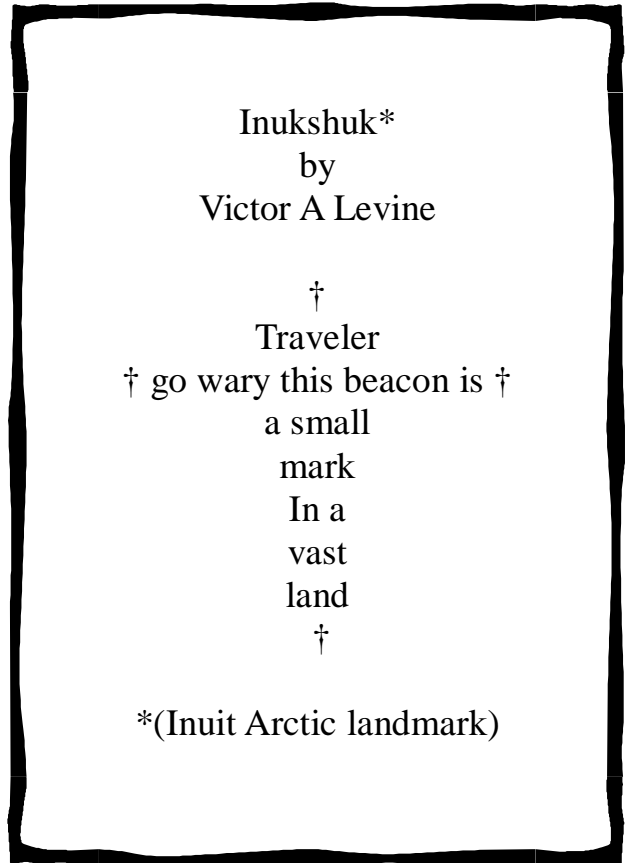
Unlike some mission churches, St Barnabas was founded by the diocese on initiation by several families in Borrego. An important provision was that It was not in debt and therefore would not need to be subsidized by the diocese.

We were a mission until things changed in 2002 when St Barnabas became a parish. That was accomplished in the twelfth month of Alex+'s arrival, following which St Barnabas moved from mission to parish status and Alex+ became rector.

The difference in status was fundamental. It meant that the St Barnabas, while retaining its membership in the diocese, came under the direct leadership of its congregation, vestry and rector.

TO BE CONTINUED.....

~Victor Levine



## VESTRY REPORT

**August 25, 2008** On this hot and muggy morning vestry members in attendance were Chuck Bennett, Cathy Gay Oswald, and Shirley Vialpando. Hence no quorum, no decisions, no movements or approvals. Cathy reported that visiting clergy have restored the general confession to some services and the exchange of peace to its usual place in the service—before communion. She reminds us that while the vestry runs the business of the church it is within the purview of new clergy to make final decisions on how the liturgy is conducted. She also asked that comments about our visiting clergy be forwarded to her before the next vestry meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Lynn delivered a report from Mary Levine about the activities of our pastoral care committee. These activities, while confidential, are increasingly important as our community ages. This is a ministry that could use some help—both in manpower and in finances. Contact Lynn or Mary as soon as you can to find out how you can help, and make a donation (mark check “pastoral care”) as soon as you can!

Chuck reports repair of a nasty leak under the concrete in the church courtyard. L. Louise, in attendance to take minutes reported no air conditioning in the sacristy—important because we store wine, wafers, candles and other perishables there. Work on renovations at the rectory continue. The roofing is done, the garage is being cleaned out, minor drywall repairs will be finished before painting. A general inventory of linens, cooking supplies, etc. will begin September 7.

Cathy has heard from Bill and Bonnie Walker that they will be here the end of September, and hopes that all vestry members will attend the next meeting. Jenny will be here from the diocese to help us begin steps on selection of interim clergy.

*~Nancy Bye for Sue Salt.*

## SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

I arrived back in Borrego the first part of August and my first day back at the organ was on August 10th. It felt good to be back at the bench and seeing all my good friends again. A special thanks from me to all of you who took care of St. Barnabas while I was away.

Our August Vestry Meeting was held today, however, since we did not have a quorum, we could not conduct any major business decisions but it was a good meeting anyway. I think we are on schedule for selecting an interim priest by the first part of October.

Until then  
Peace Be With You

Cathy Oswald  
Senior Warden

## WELCOME BACK SNOWBIRDS

Bring yourselves,

Bring a donation to cover the cost of your yummy chicken dinner,

BYOB.

Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>  
at 4:30 p.m.

in our lovely courtyard!

# SAINT OF THE MONTH

## September 5 Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)

Mother Teresa of Calcutta, the tiny woman recognized throughout the world for her work among the poorest of the poor, was beatified October 19, 2003. Among those present were hundreds of Missionaries of Charity, the Order she founded in 1950 as a diocesan religious community. Today the congregation also includes contemplative sisters and brothers and an order of priests.

Speaking in a strained, weary voice at the beatification Mass, Pope John Paul II declared her blessed, prompting waves of applause before the 300,000 pilgrims in St. Peter's Square. In his homily, read by an aide for the aging pope, the Holy Father called Mother Teresa "one of the most relevant personalities of our age" and "an icon of the Good Samaritan." Her life, he said, was "a bold proclamation of the gospel."

Mother Teresa's beatification, just over six years after her death, was part of an expedited process put into effect by Pope John Paul II. Like so many others around the world, he found her love for the Eucharist, for prayer and for the poor a model for all to emulate.

Born to Albanian parents in what is now Skopje, Macedonia (then part of the Ottoman Empire), Gonxha (Agnes) Bojaxhiu was the youngest of the three children who survived. For a time, the family lived comfortably, and her father's construction business thrived. But life changed overnight following his unexpected death.

During her years in public school Agnes participated in a Catholic sodality and showed a strong interest in the foreign missions. At age 18 she entered the Loreto Sisters of Dublin. It was 1928 when she said goodbye to her mother for the final time and made her way to a new land and a new life. The following year she was sent to the Loreto

novitiate in Darjeeling, India. There she chose the name Teresa and prepared for a life of service. She was assigned to a high school for girls in Calcutta, where she taught history and geography to the daughters of the wealthy. But she could not escape the realities around her—the poverty, the suffering, the overwhelming numbers of destitute people.

In 1946, while riding a train to Darjeeling to make a retreat, Sister Teresa heard what she later explained as "a call within a call. The message was clear. I was to leave the convent and help the poor while living among them." She also heard a call to give up her life with the Sisters of Loreto and, instead, to "follow Christ into the slums to serve him among the poorest of the poor."

After receiving permission to leave Loreto, establish a new religious community and undertake her new work, she took a nursing course for several months. She

returned to Calcutta, where she lived in the slums and opened a school for poor children. Dressed in a white sari and sandals (the ordinary dress of an Indian woman) she soon began getting to know her neighbors—especially the poor and sick—and getting to know their needs through visits.

The work was exhausting, but she was not alone for long. Volunteers who came to join her in the work, some of them former students, became the core of the Missionaries of Charity. Other helped by donating food, clothing, supplies, the use of buildings. In 1952 the city of Calcutta gave Mother Teresa a former hostel, which became a home for the dying and the destitute. As the Order expanded, services were also offered to orphans, abandoned children, alcoholics, the aging and street people.

For the next four decades Mother Teresa worked tirelessly on behalf of the poor. Her love knew no bounds. Nor did her energy, as she crisscrossed the globe pleading for support and inviting others to see the face of Jesus in the poorest of the poor. In 1979 she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. On September 5, 1997, God called her home.



# Women of St Barnabas Schedule

For everyone who will soon be traveling back to our little corner of the west, Godspeed to you all. We look forward to seeing you among us once again.

Greetings and God's Peace to all.

I hope the following will be of use to you as you organize your calendars for the next several months. Please look upon it as a proposal only and certainly not carved in stone. Any and all suggestions, and additions, will be most appreciated.

Here's what I've come up with regarding our meetings for this upcoming season. As always, I'm open to any and all ideas for change. Please note that we have numerous opportunities for hosting available. Call early to get the month of your choice!

**Wednesday, September 3 at 12:00 noon** at the Red Ocotillo Restaurant—(last chance before their relocation!)

**Wednesday, October 1 at 12:00 noon**  
NEED HOSTESS

**Wednesday, November 5 at 12:00 noon**  
NEED HOSTESS

**Thursday, December 11 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Parish Room, wrapping party

**Friday, December 12 from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** Bake Sale at Christmas Circle

**Wednesday, January 7 at 12:00 noon** traditionally a planning lunch at DeAnza, but we can discuss it!

**Wednesday, February 4 at 12:00 noon-**  
NEED HOSTESS

**Wednesday, March 4 at 12:00 noon**  
NEED HOSTESS

**Wednesday, April 1 at 12:00 noon**  
NEED HOSTESS

**Wednesday, May 6 at 12:00 noon**  
NEED HOSTESS

**Wednesday, June 3 at 12:00 noon**  
NEED HOSTESS

## And a reminder:

**due to Shirley's health issues the WOMEN OF ST. BARNABAS NEED A LEADER. This is an excellent opportunity for you to offer your service to the church and the community of Borrego Springs.**

~Lynn Wilderson for Shirley Vialpando

## PRAYER REQUESTS.....

Call Lynn at (767) 3914 or email [lynnisw@yahoo.com](mailto:lynnisw@yahoo.com) with Prayer Requests to be put in the Weekly Bulletins.....



# BITS & PIECES

## WHITE ELEPHANT COLUMN

is a revived column in the monthly Carillon. Its purpose, as a kind of classified section, is to ease your task of selling or acquiring worthy items no longer needed. For inclusion, or suggestions to help the column be more useful, call Victor at 767-7746 or drop him a line at

[ravok@nethere.com](mailto:ravok@nethere.com)

### REMEMBER.....

Unwanted items are welcomed by Ernie Loza.  
He distributes to .....

Slab City  
the orphanage  
the women's rehab in Brawley.

You can reach Ernie at  
760-445-5360.

## LOCAL MAN WANTS WORK ASSISTING ELDERLY AND DISABLED

Can do the following:

- 1) Water leaks & Energy savings
- 2) Cleaning ,Vacuuming ,Cooking
- 3) Dog walking
- 4) Planting, etc.

Available 8 hrs per week  
\$3.00 per hour Worker / Elderly and disabled Only/

Please call Tracey S. Alexander ( 767-9818 )

## P.S. I LOVE YOU

*“Yesterday we had some rain,  
but all in all, I can’t com-  
plain...”*

Remember that old refrain?  
Well, we need letters from  
you...news bits...comments.  
Where are you? What are you  
doing, reading, learning? We  
thought the last full issue (July)  
of the Carillon was nifty be-  
cause we had some different  
writers. Mary Levine wrote  
about the vestry, Kathleen and  
Frisbie Killman wrote about the  
anguish of losing a pet, and  
L Louise Jee wrote about the  
wonderful cruise through the  
Mediterranean and up to Lon-  
don they took with Chuck and  
Mary Bennett. It added fresh-  
ness and sparkle to our newslet-  
ter and made it, well—newsy.  
You can help. Drop us a line!

~ Nancy Bye

# OOPS.....

Correction, p. 3, Carillon, August 2008

In 'She Never Stands Still', the diocesan convention during which L Louise Jee displayed her banner was 2005 and not 2000.

Clarification, p. 1, Carillon, July 2008

In 'The New Lambeth—2008', the discussion of the creedal foundation of the Episcopal Church, should have referred to the slight difference between the respective formulations at Lambeth (1888) and Chicago (1886). The Episcopal Church's Chicago statement, adopted by the House of Bishops, settled on: 1) The Nicene Creed, 2) the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist, 3) the Holy Scriptures and 4) the validity of the Historic Episcopate. The Lambeth Conference added The Apostles Creed (the Baptismal Symbol) in its Resolution 11.

~Victor Levine

## A PAGE BACK IN HISTORY

Did you know?

September 14



On this day in 1814, Francis Scott Key, an Episcopalian and cofounder of the American Sunday School Union, was inspired to write "The Star-Spangled Banner" during the bombardment of Fort McHenry during the war of 1812. The song became the national anthem in 1931.

**Jesus as  
Friend**



To treat Jesus as a friend instead of just as God is to let him be a friend—and this is one way to grow in awareness of him as a friend.

*from [Reaching Jesus: 5 Steps to a Fuller Life](#)*

## REMINDER

**Hosts and/or hostesses are  
needed for Sunday morning  
coffee after service.....sign  
up in the Parish Hall**

## Mark Your Calendar

### September

September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. The Men of St. Barnabas  
@ Kendall's Café

September 3: Wednesday at noon The Women of St. Barnabas

**September 7: Holy Eucharist 8:30 a.m. with Rev. Julie Christian**

September 13: Saturday at noon Sarah's Circle @ Kendall's Cafe

**September 14: Holy Eucharist 8:30 a.m. with Rev. Victoria Hatch**

**September 21: Holy Eucharist 8:30 a.m. with Rev. Victoria Hatch**

September 22: Monday at 8 a.m. monthly Vestry meeting

**September 28: Holy Eucharist 8:30 a.m. with Rev. Julie Christian**



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