



Worship
St. Martin in the Fields
Episcopal Church

Community
Faith building
Outreach

The Mission

July, 2008 Volume 3, Issue 7

Connecting with the Rector

Fr. Jim Gilchrist

Have you taken the time to watch the clouds drifting by? You know, just lay back in the grass and watch the clouds, looking for shapes, images and potential day-dreams? It is summer and the time is right to do a little cloud watching.

There have been several articles lately, mostly on TV, chastising us—yes, that is all of us—for being over scheduled and over-worked. Our youth are especially over scheduled: between sports, arts, scholastic endeavors, TV and computer time, there is little time left to be just a kid (and that goes for us adults, as well; we need to be kids too).

There is a good reason for all of us to have dream time, time to let our minds just be free. I call it God time. I have often heard the old adage—prayer is when we talk to God, quiet time is when we listen. Have you listened to God lately? When we live a life so structured that we rarely have time to daydream, we hardly have time to listen to God.

One of my more favorite scriptural passages is when Elijah is hiding in a cave in the desert after fleeing from Jezebel. (1Kings 19) As Elijah was hiding, an angel of the Lord told him to eat and travel “to Horeb the mount of God.” There Elijah slept in a cave until the word of the Lord told him to go stand on the mountain for the Lord

wind, but the Lord was not in the wind. There was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. Then there was a great fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. However, after the fire was a sound of sheer silence—sometimes referred to as a small still voice—the voice of God.



God is speaking to us, to our hearts and to our souls, all the time. We are just not usually quiet enough to hear.

Down time, time away from the constant hustle and bustle of everyday life, is often frowned upon in our society, because it seems to be non-productive. Our jobs and our own personal goals drive us to expect more production, more earnings, **more stuff**. Just what we need in our lives—**more stuff!!!**

Actually, what I suspect we could all use more of is God time, time to sit back and listen for the “small still voice of God.” You might be surprised at just what you hear.

So, my recommendation for the rest of the summer is to find some time, some God time. Kick back and watch the clouds go by, relax and hear the wind. Lie in the grass a few times and feel the vibrations of the earth. Mostly, ask God “What’s up?” and wait to hear the answer—it might surprise you.

God’s Peace,
Jim+

Inside:

Page 2:
Bulletin Board
Raymond Letter
Outreach
Coffee Hour

Page 3:
Children’s Chat
C.O.R.E. News
Adult Bible Study
Birthdays &
Anniversaries
Paypal

was about to pass by. You know this passage, it is the one where there was a great

CELEBRATION POTLUCK BRUNCH

SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2008
FOLLOWING 10:15 A.M. SERVICE

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE FR. JIM’S FIRST YEAR AS OUR RECTOR.
BRING A BRUNCH DISH TO SHARE.

PLAN TO COME – IT WOULDN’T BE A CELEBRATION
WITHOUT YOU!

Dear St. Martin in the Fields Family,

I am writing this letter to you with fond memories of my growing up as a member of St. Martin's. While my journey has been full of surprises, I have held on to the foundation of Christian education and formation I received through middle school and high school. I would like to share with you what Elizabeth (my wife) and I are doing as a part of God's work in the Episcopal Church.

Following our graduation from CU-Boulder in May, we have decided to take a step beyond the ordinary. Jobs, bills, loan payments, houses, and graduate school can all wait. We are going as missionaries to Taiwan and Hong Kong. . . and we are asking you to join us as a *partner in mission!*

From August 2008 to August 2009, we will be working in Taiwan and Hong Kong as missionaries of the Episcopal Church's Young Adult Service Corps (YASC). If you would like to find out more about this program of the Episcopal Church, go to our blog at <http://sethandelizabethtaiwan.blogspot.com> and follow the links.

We are responding to a call in Taiwan to work in education and church ministry. Elizabeth will be working at the Episcopal Cathedral in Taipei, teaching English and music to a kindergarten class. Seth will be helping establish an Episcopal campus ministry at Taiwan National University and two other universities in Taipei.

If this sounds like too big of a job for two people, you are right! This mission can only succeed with your prayers and financial support. By supporting us in these ways, you will be joined in the mission of the Episcopal Church, equipping young adult leaders around the world, and spreading the Gospel.

Becoming a *partner in mission* is as simple as pledging to pray for us on a consistent basis for the coming

Calendar
Today: Potluck Brunch to celebrate Fr. Jim's 1-year anniversary as rector.

CORE Events:
 July 12-13: Lock-in
 Aug. 10: "Faith Day with the Rockies"
 Aug. 17: Fun Day Out at Elitch Gardens

Adult Bible Study
Sundays, 9 a.m.
 July 13: The Parable of the Seed Growing Secretly and the Mustard Seed
 July 20: The Parable of the Sower
 July 27: The Parable of the Wedding Feast

year. Your prayers will certainly be felt and needed as we learn a new language, adapt to a new culture, and serve others.

Becoming a *partner in mission* might also mean supporting us financially. For as little as \$35, you can support us for a day in Taiwan. We would like as many of our friends and family to join us as possible. For each \$35 dollars you are able to donate, we would like you to designate a "pledging day." This could be a special day such as your birthday or anniversary.

As a *partner in mission* you will receive weekly email updates as well as links to our blog and the blogs of other young adult missionaries.

Our total fundraising goal is \$20,000 and millions of prayers. We only need \$7000 more to meet this goal. Please pray about this mission and how you might join us in this wonderful opportunity to serve God and the entirety of God's church.

God's Peace,
 Seth and Elizabeth Raymond
sethandlizmission@gmail.com
 720.273.2201

Outreach

The Loaves and Fishes Ingathering in the diocese will be Sunday, Aug. 3. Watch for more details on what and how the St. Martin faith community will participate.

The Food Bank of the Rockies website reports that: about 14.5 % of Colorado children live in poverty, as do 7.4 % of seniors (65 years & older); 12 % of Colorado households are "food insecure or food insecure with hunger."

Loaves and Fishes helps to restock local food banks which have seen a much greater need lately.

Coffee Hour Hosts

July 13: Potluck Brunch—Celebration of Fr. Jim's 1st anniversary as rector
 July 20: Sue Richardson

Thank you to all those who have hosted coffee hour.
More volunteers are needed for July and August. If you can help provide that fellowship for a Sunday, contact S. Gilbert.

Children and Youth Ministries

Children

Sue Richardson

Adult Bible Study

Thor Nelson

Children's Chat

Summer.... laid back, peaceful and relaxed are the adjectives that come to mind when I think of that word and season. It is time to take a well-deserved break for some of us. But, it is also a time to plan. What will next year look like? Will people bring their children to Sunday school this year? How many teachers will we need? Will all those darling baby boys be playing happily in the nursery soon? Will enough folks volunteer in there as well? Children's ministry is where we lay the ground work of our faith. It is where our children learn about God's love in a place outside their homes. It is our desire, our privilege and our duty to help our children learn about our faith in a loving, safe environment. But we cannot do it without you! Yes, you! We will be recruiting teachers for Sunday school and Children's Chapel as well as helpers for both those programs and the Nursery. Training is provided, and is easy. Helpers work with children on arts/crafts projects, read to children, or help direct games and activities. Please prayerfully consider if you are able to help the Children's Ministries. Contact Fr. Jim, S. Richardson, J. Skinner or L. Philippe

Peace,
—Sue

Youth Bryan Shallanberger/Kristi Koltiska

C.O.R.E. Youth Group will have a Fellowship Lock-in and BBQ at the church July 12-13. This is a great chance for our incoming youth to bond with our older C.O.R.E members as well as meet our friends from a youth group in Oklahoma.

All youth members going into grades 6-12 and their families are invited to join out C.O.R.E. youth for "Faith Day with the Colorado Rockies" on Aug. 10, and our fund day out at Elitch Gardens on Aug. 17. To RSVP for tickets or ask questions please contact K. Koltiska via email at kristikoltiska@yahoo.com or call at 303-667-6005.

—Kristi



St Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church

4740 S. Buckley Rd., Aurora, CO 80015

303-680-6376

web site: www.st-martins.net

e-mail address: office@st-martin.net

The Parables of Jesus

The study of the parables is going along very well. So far we have had wonderful discussions on the parables of drawing the net, the laborers in the vineyard, the prodigal son, the faithful servant, and the good Samaritan. The schedule for the rest of July is as follows:

- July 13 - The Seed Growing Secretly and the Mustard Seed (Mark 4:26-32).
- July 20 - The Sower (Matthew 13:3-23)
- July 27 - The Wedding Feast (Matthew 22:1-14).

All adults and teenagers are welcome to join us at 9 a.m. each Sunday for prayer, fellowship, and study.

—Thor

July Birthdays:

July 7: Chuck Tice
July 8: Michael Stidham
July 10: Jordan Hendrickson
July 11: Brandi Tillman
July 17: Alec Revelle
July 20: John Sullivan
July 21: Bethany Tice
July 24: Lauren Hartung
July 26: Noah Sullivan
July 26: Bryan Shallanberger
July 29: Violet Smythe
July 30: Mike Shallanberger
July 30: Sharon Hoidahl

July Anniversaries:

July 8: Dave & Becca Dooley
July 10: Bruce & Michelle Raymond
July 29: John & Jo Cunningham

As You Go Did you know you can donate on the St. Martin website via paypal / credit card? This may provide you a way to keep up to date on your pledge in the midst of summer trips.

..... Also, if you stay in hotels which offer complimentary lotions, shampoo, conditioner and soap, please bring those items back to donate to the St. Frances center.