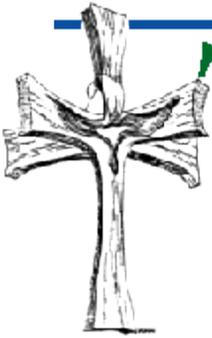




The Episcopal Church IN ALMADEN



THE SHAPE

July 2001

From Nolan

Summer Time!

Dear Family in Christ,

Yesterday was the longest day of the year and summer has officially arrived, I'm willing to settle for a little less heat however.

In mid-June I had the pleasure of attending a conference put on by the Episcopal Church Pension Fund at a beautiful setting north of Houston called Camp Allen in Navasota Texas. The pension fund has decided to get directly involved in clergy wellness and intends to sponsor events like these three times over the course of a clergy person's ministry. My group was an experimental program for "old geezers" and I was selected on a random basis. Setting flattery aside for being chosen for this select group it turned out to be a wonderful experience.

The purpose of the program is to help clergy examine their lives and ministry in four areas, spiritual, vocational, financial and health, to develop a plan to strengthen and improve them. The good news is that in all areas things are in pretty good shape for the most part. I'm even healthier than I imagined, according to the wellness survey, a recent physical and lab work. Except in one place.

There is something unsettling about seeing the words "morbidly obese" in bold print on my assessment form. And there is something very comforting about the way I and we (about 40% of those attending, they could have called us "the portly old geezers") were encouraged to deal with it. I was helped to see that there is a need for balance in my life and that all things are connected. Weight management is part of a balanced approach to wellness that involves all of these elements. Good stuff!

At the close of the event it was suggested that it would be good for us to come home and share with our intentions with our support system. In that regard, I welcome your prayers to help me keep on my plan. I'd love to be shed of both of those unsettling words in particular while I'm discovering the balance that will keep me centered in all parts of my life and ministry.

Have a great summer; mine has started off wonderfully well.

In Christ's love,




Shine

Is any among you sick? Let her call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over her, anointing her with oil in the name of the Lord;

James 5:14

July Healing Service

We are gathering again for a special healing service for Ann Redman and Jody Moore, July 27, Friday evening at 7:30 pm at church. The Reverend Ray Hess will be officiating, and Andy Kerr is working on the folk music. Newly ordained Dori Torrey will be assisting and Pat Fox who is gifted with a healing ministry will be there. Please come for this community gathering.

- Sandie Mueller

Joint Venture Round Robin Bridge

We are now taking sign-ups for the group starting in September. The pairings per month

will be made out in July. This is Chicago-style scoring.

Call ECA-Jody Moore, Amy Griffith, or UCC-Ruth Breseke. The final party is a potluck dinner in May or June.

Winners this year were George and Claire Steeley, 1st; Robb and Jody Moore, 2nd; and Amy Griffith, 3rd.

- Ruth Breseke

Ultreya, Ultreya , Ultreya

The next Ultreya will be held at ECA on Saturday, July 21 at 7:00 pm. Please come and bring your smile, your instrument if you play one, finger food to share and a friend or, if you intend to sponsor a candidate for the September weekend, bring your candidate. Please pass the word to Cursillistas from other parishes.

We could use some help in setting up and cleaning up (minimum amount of clean up), so please call Frances Steitz if you can help. Baby sitting will be provided. Witness speakers will be Jody Moore, Anne Redman & Ginger Redman. See you there.

- Francis Steitz



House



How to be a good Squeaky Wheel

You always year that the squeaky wheel gets the grease - but what is no one hears the squeak? When there is a problem with the Church building - who do you tell? Telling your friends in Coffee hour doesn't always work does it? The Joint Venture Board has the responsibility to maintain the building in good shape for both churches - that's our job. We want to hear from you. Since we're not omniscient we'd like your help. If you see something that:

- Need Repair
- Needs Cleaning
- Could be improved

We'd like you to write us a note. We have created a "Cleaning / Repair Request Form" that is available on the Joint Venture Bulletin board. (They're goldenrod color - just a ½ page long)

We'd like to know when and where the problem is and a description. A general complaint is difficult to solve. "They should dust better" is not as helpful as "the window sills in the choir room are dusty and there are spider webs in women's bathroom."

After filling out the form please put the form in the mail slot labeled "Cleaning / Repair Requests" outside of the office. We'll take it from there. If you'd like us to get back to you with the resolution - give us your phone # too. If you have a suggestion for a solution - add that too.

This will be especially helpful in the fall when we start using a new maintenance company. We need to know what day of the week problems occur so that we schedule them to clean on the most effective days. Also with many other groups using the church it help us to know which ones may not be properly cleaning up after themselves.

- JV Board

Joint Venture Board:

ECA Members: Amy Griffith, Roger Hoyt, Vickie Jones, Ken Pitroff, Marilyn Wendt, Mary Leal, Nolan Redman.

AVUCC Members: Sandy Baldwin, Bob Gren, Dick Okumura, Diane Smith, Julianne Stokstad, Hilda Turner, Stan Yumen, Bruce Bush.

Currently the officers are:

Robb Moore - President

Dick Okumura - VP

Bruce Bush - Secretary

Mary Leal - Treasurer

Due to summer recess the next JV Board meeting will take place on September 10 Monday at 7.30 pm. Thank you and have a great summer

Christian Education

Thank You!

We have a wonderful year in Christian education thanks to all our teachers, adult and youth. Londa Larson, Melanie Click, Marion Henderson, Carolyn Dingman, Debbie Bishop, Mary McPherson, Susie Ferguson, Kim Petruzzelli, Katie McCormick, Sandie Mueller, Byron Henderson, Ron Howie, Tom Rose, Melinda Jennings, and Jean Shipe. Our congregations are very blessed to have you.

We had such a wonderful celebration on the tenth of June. Thank you to the folk choir, Julianne and Nolan. Thank you Jan and Al Day, Dorothy and Warren Willard, Jim Sabin for helping with the B.B.Q. Thank you to all who brought food, it was sooooo good. A quote from one attending - "This is the best pot luck we have ever had." Thank you to Betty Consorte who helped me with the flowers for our teachers and the clean up crew, Thanks be to God for bringing us all together under one roof We are truly blessed.

Thank you for the privilege of serving you and our God,

- Penny Sabin



A Special Insert to the Shape!

St. Mary and All Souls

Coldstream

JUNE/JULY 2001

27 May 2001

Dear Friends,

In May Alison and I had a short break near Ross-on-Wye, which some of you will know is roughly on the English/Welsh border. It is beautiful place with the sort of scenery you associate with the West side of Britain. We went to one or two places we have been to before and which we enjoy. One of them was Symmonds Yat, a small village on the side of the River Wye with as view of three counties, Hereford, Gloucester, and Gwent in (Wales). Sadly, because of the outbreak of Foot and Mouth we couldn't go up

to Symmonds Yat Rock with its panorama of the Wye and the countryside around. We did, however, go to the British Bird of Prey Centre in Newent near Gloucester. There we saw some wonderful birds. Examples of the exuberance of God in the creation of nature. I was particularly moved by the Red Kite which flies with such effortless grace and ease. Then there was the tiny Burrowing Owl which moves faster than any Owl I have ever seen.

I could go on describing the birds for a long time, but I wanted to contrast that scene with what we saw, or didn't see, as we drove back from Ross through the Lake District. It was the lack of live stock. If you drive that road often enough, as Alison and I have, you are used to seeing and hearing sheep and cattle. I think between Rydal, where we were staying in the Lakes, and Langholm in Dumfries and Galloway, we saw at the most twenty sheep. It was disturbing. It was only when we got to the East side of Langham that we began to see flocks of sheep and cattle again. I thank God we did not see any pyres.

Two thoughts have come to me. One is the apparently devastating slaughter of so much live stock, the livelihood of so many farmers. Often the result of a life's work. You cannot help wondering if it was all necessary. The second is the contrast between the simple joy of nature as we saw it in the birds at Newent and the emptiness of so much land. Where was God in all this? The only thought which helps me is that it is the actions of humans which has caused this situation to happen. Not farmers but people making decisions on our behalf. Perhaps with the best of intentions but sometimes without a thought as to the results of those decisions. Perhaps all we can do is to offer our support as best we can to farmers and their families, remembering the season of Lent through which we have just come, with its climax of Good Friday but with the crowning glory of Easter. I pray God the situation stops soon.

With love in Christ

Gordon

Women's Fellowship

The Fellowship met on Thursday 10th. May in Wester Park, the home of Rae and Ronnie Cryer. Thanks were recorded to Rae and Ronnie for welcoming the Fellowship and allowing them to meet there.

As well as the Fellowship, friends from the Parish church, and Branxton joined the meeting; forty seven people in all. A delightful cookery demonstration was given by Mrs. H. Morton which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. A buffet supper followed bringing a lovely evening to a close.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 13th. September at 7.30 in the Eildon Centre, when Mr. Harry Eadie will talk on garden and home furniture.

SERVICES

JUNE

Sun 3 PENTECOST

8.30 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Family Communion [followed by coffee]
6.00 pm Evensong

Wed 6

11.00 am Service in Lennel House

Sun 10 TRINITY SUNDAY

8.30 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Communion and Sunday School

Sun 17 Pentecost 2

8.30 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Communion

Sun 24 Pentecost 3

8.30 am Holy Communion
11.00 pm Family Communion and Sunday School

Special events for June:

5th. St. Mary's Coffee - 78 High Street
Clergy Chapter - Galashiels
6th. 7.00 pm Border's Area Council Social
9th. Cursillo Meeting - Dundee
10th. Study Group - the Parsonage

JULY

Sun 1 Pentecost 4

8.30 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Family Communion [followed by coffee]
6.00 pm Evensong

Wed 4

11.00 am Service in Lennel House

Sun 8 Pentecost 5

8.30 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Communion and Sunday School

Sun 15 Pentecost 6

8.30 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Communion and Sunday School

Sun 22 Pentecost 7

8.30 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Communion and Sunday School

Sun 29 Pentecost 8

8.30 am Holy Communion
11.00 am Family Service

Special events for July:

3rd. St. Mary's Coffee - 78 High Street
Clergy Chapter with Norham Deanery - Kelso
8th. Study Group - the Parsonage
26th. Vestry Meeting - Church (or the Parsonage)

23rd. 3.00 pm Installation of Rt. Revd. Brian
Smith as Bishop of Edinburgh

Most Thursdays
11.30 am Holy Communion (at the Parsonage)

PRIEST - IN - CHARGE The Revd. Gordon Tams
St Mary's Parsonage, 47 Lennel Mount, Coldstream, 01890-882479

Bishop Brian

You will be interested to learn that our Bishop elect, Brian, is hoping to make a quick tour of the diocese as soon as possible after his installation. What he is proposing is to do is visit Area Councils to have lunch with the clergy members followed by a tour of the area to see churches, hospitals, schools, and other ministry contexts. There would then be an evening service and social gathering. I am not sure if the latter would also be for laity. I hope so!

Obviously he could not possibly visit everywhere in the Borders and there will have to be a meeting to decide where he should go on his tour. The visit is likely to be in August at a date and time to be decided.

Thanksgiving

We give thanks for St. Thomas
All we who have known
The darkness of unbelief,
The hollowness at the heart of Christmas,
The intolerable emptiness of Easter,
The grief of separation.

With thy great mercy thou dost enfold us,
The waverers, the aliens, who stood apart,
alone.

For the impoverishment of our barren
years
Thou wilt atone.

Sidemen's Rota

3rd. June & 1st. July Mr. Harry Temple

10th. June & 8th. July Mr. Cecil Taylor

17th. June & 15th. July Miss Fiona Maxwell

24th. June & 22nd. July Mr. Andrew Mossop

29th. July Mr. Peter Young

.....and finally

Now with the faithful company we bring,
 From depths of thankfulness
 Our adoration
 To thee,
 O Christ our King.

- Edith Forrester 20th. Century

The Harrowing of Hell

Love asks us to penetrate
 The hot dark place,
 The place of pain,
 From which the sons of light
 Hide their modest faces.

Love is allowed
 And oh! what a gnashing of teeth
 Among the demons
 Who thought it was their own!

- D.M. Lewis 20th Century

Something to Think About...

When we are on trouble or despair or have lost hope,
 we should do what David did: pour out our hearts to
 God and tell Him of our needs and troubles, just as
 they are.

- Hesychios of Sinai

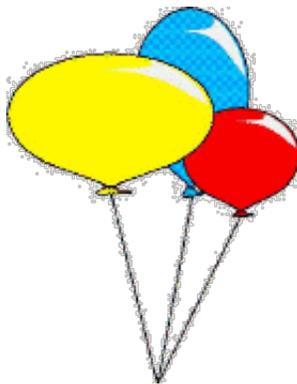
Greek abbot and spiritual writer of the 8th. Century

No medicine is more valuable, none more efficacious,
 none better suited to the cure of all our temporal ills
 than a friend to whom we may turn for consolation in
 time of trouble - and with whom we may share our
 happiness in time of joy.

- Aelred of Rievaulx (1109 - 1167)
 English monk and writer



*Happy Birthday
 and
 Happy Anniversary
 to those celebrating
 in July*



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