

The Parish of Saints Peter & Paul Episcopal
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Leadership of Saints Peter and Paul

Bishop of Oregon	The Rt. Rev. Johncy Itty
Rector	The Rev. Kurt B. Neilson
Deacon	The Rev. Tracy LeBlanc
Priest Associate	The Rev. Lindsay Warren
Priest Associate	The Rev. Phillip Ayers
Parish Mission Facilitator (interim)	Michael Benson
Organist/Choir Director	Larry Bishop
Senior Warden	Maureen McKenzie
Junior Warden	Steve Johnson
Treasurer	Alice Reese
Sacristan	Dena Summerfield
Newsletter/Webmaster	Judy Bishop

*On pilgrimage with Christ
Welcoming all as Christ
Reaching out in Christ*

Reflections of the Spirit

EASTER
May 2007

SAINTS PETER & PAUL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

An Interview with the Presiding Bishop

The following is an interview with The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori after her address to the graduates of the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas. The Presiding Bishop spoke with Eileen Flynn, religious reporter for the American-Statesman newspaper. In addition to the challenges, the Presiding Bishop reflected on the work of the Church, and what doesn't make the headlines. She spoke about her view of smart church growth and why this is the "most exciting time to be an Anglican in generations."

Eileen Flynn (EF): I realized on my way over here I didn't prepare any questions about what it's like to be the first woman to hold this job. I think part of that is maybe we've come to a place where we're not as surprised.

Presiding Bishop (PB): My sense, though, is, for women who grew up without female role models in the church, it's a big deal. For children, who are growing up with more egalitarian models of leadership, it's not likely to be such a big deal. I'm aware that I represent something because of who I am, my gender. That's important to some people. It's certainly not a focus of mine.

EF: I want to ask about that transition from the Roman tradition (attending a Catholic school) to the Anglican. I know you were young, so your faith wasn't fully formed, but how did the transition affect you?

PB: I had the gracious experience of going to a convent school directed by the Sacred Heart order, an order of French nuns. They were very structured but also willing to play. It was an experience of ordered freedom, which is something that Anglicanism takes quite seriously. So it's a consistent theme in my life. On feast days, we went to school and put on our gym suits instead of our uniforms. And I have vivid memories of these nuns in their full black habits gathering up all their skirts to run down the field to play kickball with us. So there was some real grace in that.

The Episcopal Church for me was a very different kind of church experience (from the large-scale Roman Catholic Latin Masses). It was an intimate community where people knew each other, where we knew the priest. He became a friend of my parents, and it was a place where people were invited to question, to ask questions, to wrestle with their faith.

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CALENDAR

MAY

Thursday, **May 24**, 7:00 PM: Episcopal Peace Fellowship Meeting at Trinity Cathedral, Morrison Room. Beth Poteet of Witness for Peace will speak about their work in Central & South America and the New Sanctuary Movement. Please come! Contact: Deacon Marla McGarry-Lawrence, 503-284-7141 or MarlaML@stmaa.org.

Sunday, **May 27**: Feast of Pentecost! Also, the last day of Church School

JUNE

Saturday, **June 2**, 12-4 PM: Emerging Church learning cohort.

Sunday, **June 10**: Feast of Saint Columba observed at both Masses.

Saturday, **June 16**, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM: Parish Leadership Training Workshop at St. Timothy, 3295 Ladd Ave. NE, Salem. Anyone in parish leadership is welcome. \$15.00 registration includes lunch. Contact Janice Lusk: 503-636-5613, janicel@diocese-oregon.org.

Thursday, **June 28**, 7:00 PM: Patronal Celebration and Bishop's Visitation, with table Mass.

Thanks are due to ...

The Church School staff and children's chapel leaders, for faithful and creative ministry in 2006-'07!

A special thank-you and tribute to Marci Welch, who ends seven years of directorship of the Church School.

Marci's time has been characterized by great creativity, energy, and faithfulness. We thank her, and she shall be missed!

Father Phil Ayers, for faithful priestly service especially to the Thursday morning Mass community.



Welcome newcomers!

On the Feast of Pentecost, we welcome to our midst these pilgrims who choose to be among us.

- Russ Fields
- Malcolm Heath
- Michelle Harvey
- Fern Rice
- Tom & Judi Webb and children
- Alice & Yoshi Kanaka and children
- Cory & Rencira Eddy
- Donna Glanschnege & Mildred Johnson
- Jeronimo Pena

Methodist Church, Portland Area of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference. Details of the memorandum, once it has been signed, will be provided to all churches in the diocese in time for planning the summer camping season of 2008.

Scrip Information

The scrip program has been a fundraiser for the church for a number of years. Started by Juli Johnson, it has grown from humble beginnings, where parishioners could purchase Fred Meyer scrip, to a full-fledged operation with dozens of grocery, retail, specialty stores, and restaurants. Every scrip purchase is free money for the church. Here are a few examples:

If you spend \$200.00 a month for groceries, that results in a profit of either \$6.00 or \$8.00, depending on the store. Safeway also has an e-scrip program where each time you purchase using your Safeway Club Card, a percentage is credited back to the church. If you haven't already, be sure to register your card in the church's name. You can register online or have me do it for you. The information you provide is quite benign: name, address, and phone number. No one should feel they are compromising vital financial information.

Do you dine out? If so, the scrip program may have a gift card for your favorite restaurant. We keep a few popular restaurants in stock and others are easily ordered.

If you spend \$40.00 at the Olive Garden using scrip the church earns \$3.20!

Do you like a Starbucks mocha or latte in the morning to get going? Use a gift card. A \$25.00 card returns \$1.50 to the church.

Need to buy a power tool or appliance from Sears? A \$50.00 certificate brings in \$2.00.

Do you shop at Macy's? Every purchase is worth 10% of the total.

J.C. Penney returns 4% and you can use it to pay your monthly bill!

Did you know that a \$25.00 Lloyd Center gift card is available year round and may be used at any store in the Mall?

What about postage stamps? If you purchase them at a Fred Meyer checkout, the church makes 31 cents. Doesn't seem like much? Well, every penny counts.

Do your friends and family eat and buy things? Mine do. Bring up the idea that they could help maintain a positive presence in our neighborhood by registering their Safeway card in the church's name or buying the occasional gift card.

In the years the scrip program has been in existence, it has returned thousands of dollars to us. With broader participation from the parish, friends, and family we could raise many thousands more!

The scrip program is a total win/win situation for the church and you.

Dean Bishop

in the past two years.

The summer camp attendance ratio is 1 camper per 55 “active” church members. In comparison, the ratio of Sunday School students to “active” church members is 1:9. The attendance ratio necessary to fill the camp is 1 camper per 22 “active” church members.

At full camper capacity, expenditures would still exceed revenue.

The total diocesan cost contribution, including capital costs, per camper in 2006 was \$2,000.

Why can't we just restart Triangle Lake?

We have estimated that a well resourced camp for 2008 would require \$169,000 start-up investment and an on-going operations budget of \$519,000.

Projections for 2008 program budgets exceed estimated income by \$230,000. Attempting to restart Triangle Lake in 2008, and funding Triangle Lake in future budgets, would significantly impact our diocese ability to fund missions and ministries.

It would take an endowment of \$8 million to provide TLC camping at appropriate service and resource levels.

What is the diocese doing to assure that our children will have Christian camping

experiences in the near future with an Episcopal emphasis?

After months of investigation, the Triangle Lake Task Force has recommended that the diocese pursue a camping partnership with the United Methodist Church. The Methodists have made major investments in their camping ministry since the 1940s, and today have a multi-camp, self-sufficient program under a central office in Portland, running a separate non-profit corporation (see www.gocamping.com). There are five camps in Oregon. Two of the larger camps are run year-round as is the conference center. The camps and locations are:

- ◆ A.L. Collins Conference Center: 31 miles from Portland
- ◆ Latgawa--smaller camp 15 miles north of Medford
- ◆ Magruder--larger camp 14 miles north of Tillamook
- ◆ Suttle Lake--size is similar to Triangle Lake: located 3 miles from Sisters
- ◆ Wallowa--smaller camp, 7 miles from Joseph

The United Methodist camp system can accommodate a specifically Episcopal camping experience and is willing to do so.

Negotiations are currently underway to provide an Episcopal camping experience for 2008 through the United Methodist camp program. The diocese is working on a memorandum of understanding with Resident Bishop Robert T. Hoshibata of the United

About the Parish Family

Prayers and blessings

Jerrita Mack sustained a fall outdoors last week while watering her plants and fractured her hip. Jerrita had surgery at Providence Hospital and expects to transfer for rehabilitation on Sunday, May 20. Her son, Daniel reports that her spirits are good, that she is walking, and looking ahead to her recovery.

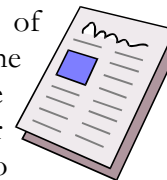
Since Jerrita will move to a different facility soon, speak with Fr. Kurt or Dickie Carpenter to find out about visiting.

Happy Birthday!

Dickie Carpenter’s family is planning a special birthday party for Dickie in June. Dickie extends an invitation to the parish to join in the celebration. Check out the flyers posted at the church or speak to Dickie for details.

Newsletter changes

I am resigning as editor of “Reflections” effective with the next issue in June. I have been editor since October 2003 and find that it is time to move on and focus my energy on new pursuits. If you have ideas for the future or feel called to this ministry please talk with a Vestry member or to Fr. Kurt.



Judy Bishop

Church Grounds Maintenance

The appearance of the church property says a lot to the neighborhood and visitors about how much we care about our parish home. Thank you to the faithful few, including Steve Johnson, John & Dena Summerfield, Russ Fields, and others who have been quietly attending to the church grounds.

As spring turns to summer please remember the church grounds. Stop by and spend a little time – even an hour or two, weeding or planting a small area with your favorite colorful annuals. It all makes a difference!



Happy June Birthday to...

- 2 Marci Welch
- 4 Ian Summerfield
- 11 Dickie Carpenter
- 12 Beth Blair
- 13 Ron Tosi
- 16 Doria Summerfield
- 21 Jessie Doig



Happy June Anniversary to...

- 12 Bob & Gloria Cockburn
- 12 Bob & Carolyn Spielman

Continued from the cover page

EF: I want to talk about your commencement address. These people are about to go off into the world representing the Episcopal Church with all the knowledge they gathered from this seminary. What do you think is the most important thing they need to understand?

PB: I reminded them that they will give thanks for the things they have learned here, but they will soon discover they haven't learned everything they need to know, that we only learn a lot of that by doing it. Much of that has to do with learning to love the people God puts around you. In all their diversity and challenge and blessing. I talked, as well, about my recent trip to Honduras and what leadership looks like there, leadership that's willing to bless the seeds that are already planted, to see the possibility in people who have almost nothing, to identify that and name it and encourage it to grow. That people are competent once they're challenged to be competent.

EF: Let's talk about Bishop Akinola. You sent a letter to him asking him not to come to the U.S. and set up alternative episcopacies that would not recognize the Episcopal Church. He replied that it's ironic that you would ask him to follow custom when in fact your province has violated scriptural teachings on issues like homosexuality. Is there possibility for dialogue beyond this?

PB: I think the possibility for dialogue with him in particular is a challenge. The reality is that we have changed our scriptural understandings about all sorts of things, including sexual ethics. We teach something different about contraception than we did 50 years ago. We permit remarriage after divorce, despite what Jesus said about it. Homosexuality is the most recent in a long series of challenges. Bishop Akinola is arguing that we've changed our understanding. Yes, we have, but not wholly.

It's a challenge to many people who don't want to talk about sexuality in public. If you look at attitudes toward sexuality in general, and homosexuality in particular, what they were like in this country 50 years ago, and compare it to what they're like in Nigeria today — pretty similar.

EF: You are leading a denomination that is aging. It's not growing overall here (in the U.S.). How can you invigorate the church and keep it vibrant and relevant?

PB: Part of our challenge is to see the people who are around us, who may not be Anglo, who may not be primarily English-speaking, and say: "Here is a field ripe for harvest, even though we might not have done work as a church there before." The most rapidly growing parts of this church as a church are in some of those overseas dioceses like Haiti and Honduras and Dominican Republic. More forward-thinking dioceses are looking at the demographics and focusing their efforts on people who are there, not the people they wish were there or the people they're

There's a young priest in Virginia who's starting a congregation. He talked about his way of gathering people to begin that conversation. He said, "One of the things I do is go to Starbucks and I sit down at a table and I put out this little paper tent that says 'Tell me your stories about God.' " It speaks to the reality of spiritual hunger of folks who may not have any experience with church at all. It means going out and speaking good news or listening to people and then offering news that fits. News that addresses the bad news that they're talking about.

EF: Are you meeting any resistance to this?

PB: I think some people expect that the church should look like the church did when they were 15. The reality is, the church doesn't live unless it continues to change. And it's struggled with who's in and who's out from the very beginning. The first great controversies were about whether or not gentiles could be followers of Jesus. Do they have to be circumcised? Do they have to follow the dietary laws? We have struggled over and over again in this country with the place of slaves, African Americans, the place of immigrants, the place of women in the church. Today it's about the place of gay and lesbian people. There will be another group next. I don't know who it will be, but it's our human nature to say (we want) people like us.

f

"O God, you prepared your disciples for the coming of the Holy Spirit through the teaching of your Son Jesus Christ: Make the hearts and minds of your servants ready to receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit, that they may be filled with the strength of his presence..."

Prayer Book p. 819

Triangle Lake Update

The Board of Trustees released the following "Frequently Asked Questions" concerning their May 1 decision.

What facts led to the recommendation and subsequent decision to sell Triangle Lake and Conference Center?

For the past seven years, the diocese has funded the deficit in income for Triangle Lake Camp and Conference Center. This amount has averaged \$170,000 annually.

The diocese is not in the financial position to continue this level of subsidy.

Campership and use of the retreat center has historically been low. For example, campership in 2006 was only at 41 percent and only 32 percent in 2005. The retreat center was utilized at a mere 4 percent in 2006 and 6 percent in 2005.

Only about 27 percent of congregations have sent campers from their churches to TLC