

The Vessel

A Publication of St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

A Community Celebrating and Sharing God's Love

July 2006

St. Mary Magdalene
Episcopal Church
4775 Cambridge Street
Boulder, CO 80301

Rector

Rev. Mike Houlik

Associate Rector

Felicia SmithGraybeal

Deacon

Rev. Rhoads Hollowell

Children's Minister

Dennis Mulcare

Youth Minister

Kim Hollowell

Administrative Assistant

Kim Freymiller

Saturday

5:00 pm Eucharist Service

Sunday

8:00 am Eucharist Service

9:00 am Adult Forum

10:00 am Eucharist Service

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Summer Office Hours

Monday 2 - 6 pm

Tuesday -Friday 10 am - 2 pm

From the Rector:

Following are some reflections about our mission trip to Juarez that I didn't have time to share Sunday:

- ✠ One of the most inspiring things for me about the trip was our worship, and specifically, our singing. We sang Holden Evening Prayer (alternating with compline) in the evenings and had hymns at our eucharist on Friday. Holden was new to the people from Loveland, but singing it for 15 years at St Mary Magdalene has borne some fruit. Our young people (and adults) know it inside out, and they sang with joy and feeling, and it lifted our hearts and was beautiful in its simplicity. We not only sang hymns like 'Kyrie Eleison', 'St Teresa's Prayer', and 'The Servant Song', but we also reflected on the words of the hymns and their relationship to what we were doing in Juarez. Our worship helped sustain us and set the tone for the work we were doing.
- ✠ One of the rules of the trip was not to touch any animals. No sooner had the bus arrived in Juarez than one of the team found a kitten in the street. It was brought into the compound, given food & water & a bath, and became the trip mascot. Another team member had the bright idea to see if one of the families for whom we were building a house might like a pet, and sure enough, on Friday morning when we went to bless the houses & give the keys to the new owners, the kitten, 'Gato' was presented (along with some bags of cat food) to one of the families. We went to Juarez to build some houses--to help some identified families have the opportunity for a new & better life, and here was an unexpected opportunity to do the same thing with an animal.

We have such a fine group of young adults, and we're fortunate they're getting some of their formation and direction from someone like Kimmie Hollowell, and I'm grateful to all of you for your generosity that makes mission trips like this one possible.

God Bless,

Mike

From the Associate:

History was made on June 18th, 2006 when the Episcopal Church's General Convention elected Katharine Jefferts Schori, a woman, as its next Presiding Bishop. When the election results were made known in the House of Deputies reports say that some gasped, and other cheered, demonstrating the diversity of opinion on this election.

The General Convention also debated and voted on various resolutions produced by the Special Legislative Committee of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion, assembled specifically to address the recommendations found in the Windsor Report. One resolution from this committee called for a moratorium on the election and consent to the consecration of any candidate to the episcopate who is living in a same-gender union until some new consensus in the Anglican Communion emerges. Another resolution supported the process of developing an Anglican Covenant to aid in our communion as Anglicans. Another resolution called for repentance in the action taken at the 2003 General Convention is ratifying the election of Gene Robinson as bishop, an openly Gay priest in the diocese of New Hampshire.

The 2006 General Convention of the Episcopal Church made obvious the division and disagreement present in our pews. As some have said we are not of one mind on many things. The future is uncertain; in this uncertainty fear usually consumes us as we anxiously await the unknown. It is not a comfortable space to be but comfortable or not it is where we are.

Richard Rohr, author and priest, names this space, "the space of betwixt and between", as liminal space. Limina is Latin for threshold. "Liminal or sacred space is when you have left the tried and true but have not yet been able to replace it with any thing else and as Rohr states, "it is a space where human beings hate to be but where the biblical God is always leading them. "

When Jonah was in the belly of the whale he was in liminal space. When Israel was wandering around in the desert for forty years they were in liminal space. When Joseph was thrown into the pit by his brothers he was in liminal space; a unique spiritual position where one is finally out of the known, out of the way, out of control. It is not a desirable place to be. But amazingly, because we are out of the known, out of control, and out of the way, God can resume God's rightful place, arouse the winds of the Holy Spirit to blow across our little lives and create something authentically new for us to behold. As believers in God we can take confidence in knowing that this is always a possibility.

We in the Episcopal Church are in liminal space and although it is not a comfortable place to be my prayer is that we can stay there, out of the way, trusting that we are on the threshold of something new that God is doing. May we wait well and be in prayerful discernment with our brothers and sisters about our future.

Peace, peace, peace

Felicia

Youth Group News



Greetings,

We are newly back from our mission trip to Juarez Mexico and it was a wonderful trip. Four families have each received a new home and some necessities along with the love of Christ through our participants. Forty eight participants are closer in their relationship with Christ. One youth leader is extremely proud of her youth group, adult participants, and her congregation.

Every moment of every day I could look around and see Christ acting in someone. Everyone was very in tune with the Holy Spirit working in their lives. There really is nothing like leaving our environment and our comfort zone for us to realize what is important in our lives. Family, friends, and relationships make the top of the list. Modern conveniences are nice but we can do without them. Electronics are fun but were not missed. Pettiness was not present. Cooperation was the standard.

We only had 2 people stay home for one day apiece due to not feeling well. We had a minor inconvenience with the bus in the middle of the week but it was remedied without delay. We only had one strain to a wrist and the medical kits were only used for minor cuts and scrapes and headaches. This is many less than we have had in the past.

We are a different group than went down to Juarez. Our lives are forever changed. Please ask us questions about our experiences. We need you to help us process all we saw. This is a trip for the entire congregation and here is another way to help.

Next year's trip will take place the Saturday after school gets out for Boulder Valley, June 9-16. This is again Saturday to Staurday. Mark your calendars if you are interested.

Blessings
Kimmie

Summer Women's Gathering Wednesday, July 12 7-9 p.m.



All women of the parish are invited to a summer gathering on Wednesday, July 12th from 7-9pm. Please bring a flower from your garden to help make an arrangement for our table. There will be cool drinks and light refreshments served in the courtyard (weather permitting). The theme for the evening is Tending the Garden of our Lives. Bring a friend. Child Care will be provided. Please RSVP to Felicia on whether you plan to attend and whether you will need childcare.

Summer Godly Play Session July 31 – August 4 9 – 11:30 a.m.

We will be having a summer Godly Play session Monday July 31- Friday Aug. 4. We will study Bible Heroes such as David, Joseph, Ruth, Paul and Samson.. The program is open for children 3 yrs. old to middle school. It will run from 9:00-11:30. We need ten or more children to make this feasible. We also need adult volunteers.



Some Thoughts on Stewardship

Mark Christie, Outreach Chairperson

Growing up in a secular home, I had never heard the word stewardship. I believe my first exposure to the word or concept was in the early sixties when I read "Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson. Though I look back now and cannot find the exact word stewardship in her book, the concept of being responsible for our planet, our environment, our air, soil and water struck a strong chord then, as it does now. In that same secular household, the word used instead of stewardship was responsibility.

I think the two words (responsibility and stewardship) can be used interchangeably. Both the Webster's and the Oxford English Dictionary generally define stewardship this way: Root Word 'steward' both nouns, 1. One who manages or is responsible for another's property or financial affairs. 2. One who is in charge of or responsible for the household of another. 3. One who attends to or is responsible for the domestic concerns of persons on board a vessel. 4. The employees on a ship, train or airplane who are responsible for the comfort of passengers are commonly called stewards. I could go on but I hope my point is made.

So, are we not all called to be stewards of our families, our church, our communities, our nation and the world? Are we, am I, responsible for any of the groups? I believe we all know the answer in our hearts, if not our minds. Now, as an adult part of a church community I know about stewardship and that funny word tithe. I'm sure everyone can find the definition of tithe, and any of the clergy could direct us to the scriptural and gospel references that instruct us about tithing, so I won't bore you. I will be transparently honest and tell you that I don't tithe, yet, but I will. I liked what Andrew Harvison referred to as "Project Tithe" in his article last month. My project tithe has been going on for a few years and in a few more I will be successful. I can only encourage everyone to set goals and take whatever size steps necessary to reach that worthy goal.

From an outreach viewpoint we all have a lot to be proud of. Because of the generosity of this community there are four families in Juarez, Mexico that have homes to live in that did not in May. Should we do more? Just ask anyone that went on the mission trip. Because of the willingness of this community to share God's gifts, an organization in Boulder that aids young woman can offer an air-conditioned place to stay while they prepare to bring their babies into the world. Should we do more? Just read the newspaper. Because of the love this community has for others, some children on a reservation in Idaho will have a new classroom at their Episcopal school this fall, and a group of I Have a Dream kids in Lafayette will have new scientific calculators and school supplies this fall. Should we do more? Just ask a child or a teacher that doesn't have a permanent classroom or the materials needed to learn. Because of this community's heart, an inner city kid in Denver is going to a church day camp this summer. Should we do more? Just watch the news most evenings.

Should we do more? Absolutely!
Could we do more? Without a doubt!
Will we do more?

I believe the answer is in our hearts, minds, prayers and reflections on "Stewardship", "Responsibility", "Outreach (Reach Out)", and all of God's gifts to us. I'll leave you now with a closing thought from a man who spent most of his early life an atheist but eventually found his faith in his thirties.

*"I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give.
I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare."*

C.S. Lewis

SMMOG News

St. Mary's Men Of God Mission: To serve God by fostering a men's community to learn, share and grow together.

Men's retreat – This year, our retreat will be a bit earlier than in the past. We've lined up the Messiah Mountain Retreat Center, just south of Morrison, for the weekend of August 19th.

On Friday, for those who can, we will offer a golf outing (organized by Father Mike) a motorcycle tour (organized by one of our bikers) a run or hike (organized by...) In addition, we will plan on having our Friday evening meal together on Friday night at the Retreat. The retreat will offer introductions and opportunities to experience Contemplative Prayer, lecto divino, praying with a mantra, and other forms of silent prayer. This promises to be a truly relaxing retreat and a wonderful opportunity to spend some time with God and the guys.

Men's hike – Terry McDanel is coordinating a special men-only hike for us on the morning of July 8th in the Lily Lake, Twin Sisters Mountain area of Rocky Mountain National Park. This hike will include both easy and advanced routes allowing two groups to meet up to share our lunch together. We'll leave Boulder bright and early Saturday morning; hike, have lunch and return to Boulder mid afternoon. This will enable some exercise, enjoying our beautiful mountains and each other through casual talk and sharing a meal.

If you have not yet participated in a SMMOG activity, these outings promise to be a great way to celebrate, share and grow together. Please let Bob Dodge, or Father Mike know if you have suggestions or questions.

Food Ministry

Suzanne Kiser is now in charge of our Food Ministry program. If you or anyone you know is in need of meals, you may contact Suzanne at: 303-530-7998 home 720-323-7998 cell or suzannek@nathab.com or call the church office. If you are willing to make a meal when needed there is a sign-up sheet at the kiosk.

A Note from Susan Greenwood...

Dear people of St. Mary Magdalene,

I am not sure that I can really tell you all how much I appreciate your inspiration and support over the years of my going through the Holy Orders process, but I am going to try.

You began by welcoming me when I first came to St. Mary Magdalene. I remember that at the time I was in a distrustful state regarding the ability of the Church to really function as the Body of Christ because of some conflict I had observed in another congregation. You all seem to be able to keep unity without demanding total conformity. It is your focus on being a community celebrating God's love. What a gift to all who come here!

You allowed me to share in ministry here, working with our children, reading, becoming a Daughter of the King. You joined with me in discerning my call. You have prayed for me week after week. You sent me monetary support in seminary. I loved being with you at Pentecost to see Dennis' wonderful Godly Play sermon, and to see once again how you love to worship together. And on June 10 it was glorious to see so many of you at the ordination. I was vested for the first time in the stole that Kim designed and so many of you signed for me. Mike presented me with your generous check.

I have been so blessed by your love and support. I will miss you tremendously, but I will always have your inspiration and example before me as I go now to other congregations. Thank you.

Con amor y cariño,
Susan Greenwood

T-Shirts For Sale!

Thanks to the design work of Lynn Mulcare and the business connections of Don Martinson we have a new St. Mary Magdalene T-shirt. They went on sale Sunday at the Kidfest and will be available all summer. The cost is \$10/shirt, there are two colors available, and all proceeds from the T-shirt sales will go toward making our Haiti goal.

Outreach News July 2006

The Outreach activity for the month of July is to collect (newly purchased) items on the lists below for the I Have Dream Foundation project in Lafayette.

Two points to note:

1. Since we sent a significant check to the Lillian Valley School for their School Room building project, we are not collecting school supplies for them this year – this is our only school supply project for 2006.
2. The Outreach Committee has sent \$500 to go towards scientific calculators already this year; our contributions below are in addition to that outreach. Just bring your items to church during the month of July and leave them in the window opposite the outreach bulletin board. Please indicate the items/quantities you are providing on the bulletin board list. (Add your quantity to that already indicated.)

Each Student needs: (Needed for each of 32 students)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 🍏 4 3-ring binders that are 3 inch rings | 🍏 \$5 for an Angevine Planner |
| 🍏 2 sets of 5 tab dividers | 🍏 Zipper Pouch to store pencils, etc |
| 🍏 20 pencils (preferably mechanical) | 🍏 20 pens |
| 🍏 5 highlighters | 🍏 Folders that have 3 hole punch on the left side |
| 🍏 1 ruler | 🍏 2 packs of notebook paper |
| 🍏 2 erasers | |

The After School Program Wish List:




- 🍏 poster boards & highlighters Gift certificates to eat out for kids - \$5 to Wendy's, \$5 to Subway, etc.
- 🍏 Sudoku books Certificates to grocery stores to buy healthier snack like carrots, apples, etc.
- 🍏 Board games: Brain teasers, educational AND recreational ones, Monopoly (classic OR a theme one), Cadoo, any of them
- 🍏 Dreamer Dollar store stuff: prizes from \$1 - \$25 – like things from the dollar store: magnets, make-up, purses, games, CANDY, glow-in-the-dark anything
- 🍏 stationary & stamps
- 🍏 colored pencils
- 🍏 Books of riddles
- 🍏 scotch tape, masking tape
- 🍏 paper towels & napkins
- 🍏 tissues
- 🍏 Movie tickets
- 🍏 two 3-hole punchers
- 🍏 healthy snacks for kids!
- 🍏 dish soap, disposable dish towels
- 🍏 dry erase board markers and erasers
- 🍏 permanent markers in different colors
- 🍏 books (novels or other) for 6th & 7th graders
- 🍏 soccer ball, football, volleyball, kick ball, dodge-ball


CROP WALK NEWS

St. Mary Magdalene will be the host site for this years CROP WALK in Boulder County. Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 8, 2006. The main purpose of the walk is to raise funds and awareness for the hungry in our community and around the world, with 24% of the funds raised are earmarked for Community Food Share. This years event will start and end at St. Mary Magdalene. Because we are the host for this years CROP WALK, there will be a number of volunteer opportunities (water stations, registration, recruitment, photography, event set-up...) for members of our congregation. More information to follow in the coming months. If you would like further information or have questions regarding this event please call Matt Driscoll at 303 652-8214. Let's make this the best CROP WALK ever!!!!

St. Mary Magdalene Calendar of Events

July 2006

						1 5 pm Worship service
2 8am Worship 9am Adult Forum on General Convention 10am Worship	3	4 Independence Day  Church Office closed	5	6	7	8 5 pm Contemplative Service
9 8am Worship 9am Lectio Divina 10am Worship	10	11 6:30 pm Centering Prayer	12 7-9pm Women's Gathering in sanctuary 7-8:30 pm Godly Play Training - library	13	14	15 5 pm Holden Evenson service
16 8am Worship 9am Lectio Divina 10am Worship	17 7:00 pm Outreach	18 6:30 pm Centering Prayer 7:00 pm Vestry	19	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22 5 pm Worship service
23 St. Mary Magdalene Day 8am Worship 9am Lectio Divina 10am Worship	24	25 6:30 pm Centering Prayer	26 Camping Trip --	27 -----	28 -----	29 ----- 5 pm Worship service
30 8am Worship 9am Lectio Divina 10am Worship Camping Trip	31					

July	2	9	16	23	30
Greeter	8am Carol & Doug Ford 10am Bill & Beverly Sabin	8am Kathy Madsen 10am Sheila & Don Martinson	8am Carol & Doug Ford 10am Peter & Jerry Chandler	8am Kathy Madsen 10am John Thornbury	8am Carol & Doug Ford 10am Frank & Karen Lamb
Healing Prayer	8am Barb Houlik 10am Linda White RJ Harrington	8am Jane Carlson 10am Judy Nieusma, Linda White	8am CJ Jack 10am Jeri Chandler RJ Harrington	8am Barb Houlik 10am Judy Nieusma, RJ Harrington	8am Betty Frost 10am Jeri Chandler, Linda White
Lay Eucharist Minister	Jeff Nieusma	Bob & Lynn Dodge	Janet Poley	CJ Jack	Betty Frost
Ushers	Robin & Patti Guilford	Doug & Leslie Harvison	Neal & Kay Ingram	Dennis & Jenny Kapela	The Lillies
Lector/ Chalice Bearer	8am Janet Poley 10am CJ Jack, Hans L'Orange	8am Julia Taylor 10am Frank Lamb, Jeff Nieusma	8am Gete Bond 10am Debbie Royds, Kip White	8am Larry Burgess 10am Gete Bond, Peter Chandler	8am Bob Dodge 10am Joel Cooper
Acolytes	8am Joel Hyde 10am Joshua Chandler, Elli Crawford	8am Michael Sibley 10am Maddie McKee, Meg Thornbury	8am Patricia Hyde 10am Heidi & Megan Chandler	8am Alli Mulcare 10am Kelsey Gray, Chelsea Drummond	8am Emily Mulcare 10am Jon Morreale, Amanda Chandler
Altar Guild	8am Dickey Lee 10am Ann Eakins	8am Betty Frost 10am Karen Klana	8am Arlee Kachensky 10am Ann Eakins	8am Dickey Lee 10am Karen Klana	8am Jere Freeman 10am Betty frost
Coffee Hour 	Juanita & David Redfield	Danny Hummer	Chris & Eli Buzas	Judy Nieusma	Margaret & Joel McKee Cooper

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | | |
|----|--|------------------------|
| 1 | Kristen Seaberling | |
| 4 | Patricia Hyde | |
| 5 | Kelsey Park Gray, Jill Margolis | |
| 6 | Marissa Baker | |
| 7 | Stephanie Wilson, Tristan Begley | |
| 8 | Amy Sumerfield | |
| 9 | Matt Driscoll | 5 Amy & John Thornbury |
| 10 | Sue Wallingford | 14 Cindy & Chris Hill |
| 11 | Becky Nesbitt | |
| 13 | Logan Beaton | |
| 15 | Dennis Mulcare, John Thornbury | |
| 16 | Carrie-Jo Klena | |
| 18 | Matthew Ward | |
| 19 | Eric Tussey | |
| 20 | Crystal Hart | |
| 21 | Chris McNamara | |
| 23 | Adam Kapela | |
| 24 | Carol Ann Francis, Tina Fredo, Toby Shipley, Kevin Kiser | |
| 25 | Ian Andrews | |
| 27 | Dickey Lee Hullinghorst | |
| 28 | Robert Kiser | |
| 29 | Jim Faulk | |
| 30 | Jean Ingram | |



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