



St. Patrick' Shamrock

A Newsletter of
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
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NOW, LORD?

Here are the Cliff Notes: Jesus comes out of nowhere and beckons a ragtag bunch to follow him as he goes around showing off signs of the impending Kingdom. Eventually, he earns the wrath of the churches because he's cutting into their business, so they conspire to trump up some charges against him and turn him over to the state for trial and execution. The whole time, his followers give lip service to his exhortations, but *really* expect him at any minute to launch an all-out political and military offensive against the Romans.

Didn't happen. But now something weird has happened. He's baaack! And all bets are now officially off. So maybe he waited until *now* to launch that offensive! Hence, the question, "*Lord, is this the time when you'll restore the kingdom to Israel?*"

As far as Jesus was concerned, the question was expected. After all, he had told his disciples about the Kingdom of God entering the world and being in their midst and they *still* didn't want anything to do with it. That's not what they wanted. They wanted the whole mess to be *over with* — *NOW!* They wanted Jesus to return, to rid the landscape of Romans, to restore Israel to its former greatness, and to make everything hunky-dory.

It's rather like the problem *we* have in living life. Most of us want to live life cautiously so that we can safely die. Rocking the boat or changing things or, worse, having to *adapt* to a different world is too daunting to consider. It's ironic (but not surprising) that we've even taken this impatience into our religion.

Look how we've switched it around: God becomes flesh, dwells among us in order to transform us *right where we are*. So what do *we* do? We play our cards close to our collective vests, with all of our attention focused on getting our ticket punched to some afterlife. George Allen didn't mean it this way when he said, "*The future is now,*" but it certainly has its applications....

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Dennis Peacocke, an evangelist whose style had focused on the end times, was jogging one day, when it seemed God spoke to him: *"Dennis, you and I are going in opposite directions. I'm moving more and more to get ON the earth, and you're waiting to get off it."*

Tom Sine, a futurist and writer, observes that almost overnight *"we have moved into a new neighborhood and virtually no one in the church seems to have noticed."* Much of the religious world is archaic rather than futuristic; it abjures innovation, mourning the moment, and caressing the *status quo* or the *status quo ante*. It has no interest in powering the future with anything but the past. There are now *corporations* who have more desire to change the world for good than the church does. [Leonard Sweet]

Jesus existed in time. When Jesus incarnated God, God didn't just enter human history. God entered the creation story. God entered the history of this planet, as well as the history of its people. God was willing to submit Himself to cultural conditions — that's the Incarnation.

And we aren't?

God so loved the world...

And we can't?





An Everflowing Stream

Amos 5:24

In our baptismal vows (BCP p.305) we respond affirmatively to the question, "... strive for justice and peace among all people..?" Let us prayerfully live out these vows. The Rev Jim Kelly, President, Standing Committee.

Protecting God's Creation

General Convention Resolution: B002-Affirms that Global Warming threatens the future of God's creation, especially the poorest and most vulnerable and supports efforts to reduce Global Warming.

Statistics regarding Global Warming are everywhere and not all agree that it is an imminent danger, a human exacerbated problem, or a periodic natural occurrence. This article is offered as motivation for each of us to take BIG and little steps to do our part in grateful response to our Creator for the wonders which are ours to enjoy day after grace-filled day.

little things: Buy recycled paper products - toilet tissue, facial tissue, paper towels, computer paper. Some sources of recycled paper - Best Value, Cascades, Doucelle, Marcal, Natural Value, Pert, Planet, Seventh Generation, Whole Foods. Recycle your own used paper and security shredded paper.

Recycle every possible item including grocery bags and use canvas grocery bags which most environmental organizations will provide for a modest donation. Especially recycle plastic beverage bottles and aluminum cans. Save money by eliminating bottled water from your grocery list. Wash your own water bottles in the dishwasher and fill them with tap water or filtered water from your own system.

Buy organic foods whenever possible, even though it costs more, to protect your health and to encourage more organic agriculture, thus eliminating the poisonous pesticides now prevalent in our food chain.

BIG THINGS: Buy a fuel efficient vehicle or save for the next innovation of hybrids or alternative fuel options. Buy ENERGY STAR appliances and take advantage of any rebate incentives offered. Consider and install solar panels when feasible. Research GREEN building practices if planning a new home or office.

Be informed and participate in constructive change. Some Resources: The Episcopal Public Policy Network at www.episcopalchurch.org/eppn; Natural Resources Defense Council at www.nrdc.org/land/forests/tissue.asp or www.SaveBioGems.org.

These suggestions are not new; there are dozens and dozens more; they've been drummed for years and years. But are we doing them? Or are we waiting for the "rapture" to rescue us from the mess we've made? We owe it to ourselves, our neighbors around the globe and our gracious Creator to tread lightly on this fragile Earth, Our Island Home.

(This article was written by Midgene Spatz, social activist, member of Christ Church Episcopal, Las Vegas, Nevada. If you are interested in being a member of the Nevada Social Justice Committee please email millsr007@aol.com)



Meet Your 2008 Vestry Members!

Emy Gurowitz, Senior Warden

Emy has lived here for 12 years and has attended St. Pat's for nearly 11 of those years. She attends the 10 a.m. service, and her church leadership interests are in fundraising, finance, and fellowship. In her professional life, she is a licensed real estate/mortgage broker and 1031 exchange coordinator, and she also has a BA in Home Economics and music! She is married and has 4 children and 3 granddaughters. Her personal interests include gardening and flowers, cooking, and travelling to other countries where she loves being in new cultures with their unique lifestyles. She says, "I love working with people!"

Bob Skidmore, Junior Warden

Bob has vacationed in the Incline area since 1983, has been a part-time resident since 1995, and has lived here full time since 2005. He attends the 10 a.m. service and can frequently be spotted up front as a lay reader. His primary church leadership interest is in maintaining the church property. Retired now, Bob is a graduate of the College of Mortuary Science, and he spent 44 years as a funeral director in Fort Lauderdale, Florida where he was a partner in a firm that conducted 4,000 funerals each year! On a personal level, he is interested in antique cars and says, "I am blessed with 4 children and 7 grandchildren and of course Connie!"

Chuck Meyer, Treasurer

Chuck and his wife Laurean have lived here for 16 years and their son and daughter are graduates of Incline High. They attend the 8 a.m. service and have been St. Pat's parishioners for 6 years. His leadership interest is in bringing financial discipline and strategic planning to St. Pat's. Chuck was graduated from UC-Davis with a mechanical engineering degree. Professionally he spent 30 years in various manufacturing positions for Procter & Gamble and PepsiCola International, and he currently works in residential construction. "I love my church family," he says, "and look forward to helping lead the effort in 2008 to retire the mortgage debt once and for all."

Caroline Cutler

Caroline has lived here for 27 years, attending St. Pat's 26 of those years. She attends the 5:30 p.m. Saturday night service, and her leadership interests are in Christian Education and St. Patrick's Cultural Arts. She attended the University of Alabama and currently serves as the Postmaster in Tahoe City, CA where she enjoys problem solving and being helpful to others. Her hobbies include painting with watercolors and oils, hiking, snowshoeing, reading, and salsa dancing. About to become a grandmother in July, she says, "My life is very full of wonderful family and friends. It would be great to squeeze in a mission trip with my youth group at St. Patrick's. They are great kids!"



Joe Gareffa

Joe and his wife Marilyn have lived here and attended St. Pat's 8 a.m. service for 10 years. They have two grown sons, Tony and Greg, who live in Ohio. While he has a BS in psychology from the University of Utah, he spent his professional career as Captain, flying first for the US Navy and later, beginning in 1969, for United Airlines. For several years he represented the Airline Pilots Association in various capacities, serving on the Retirement and Insurance Committee and as Chairman of their Volunteer Employees Benefit Association. He also served as Secretary Treasurer and later Vice Chairman of United's Master Executive Council. For fun, he enjoys biking, skiing, tennis, golf, and finance!

Judy Morrison

Judy and husband Don had a second home in Incline in 1990 and moved here permanently in 1997, joining St. Pat's in 1998. She attends 5:30 Saturday Night Alive and teaches Godly Play with Deb Beebe after the service. In a leadership capacity, she enjoys working with children and serving on the Christian Education Committee. A graduate of Central Connecticut State, she has a BS in Elementary Education and a BA in Reading. She was an elementary school teacher (grades 4-5) and also taught Montessori education in Cincinnati. She likes tennis, working out, golf, reading, and working with kids. "Writing corny poetry occupies some of my time," she says, "and keeps me out of trouble!"

Eric Strotz

Eric has lived here since 1993 and attended St. Pat's since 1994. He and his family, wife Joy and their 3 sons, attend the 5:30 p.m. Saturday service. The areas of leadership at St. Pat's that interest him are the survivability of St. Patrick's community through financial stability and the philanthropic effort outside the church. He has a BS in Aviation Technology from Purdue University, and professionally he is an airline pilot, aircraft dealer, and aviation consultant. He loves skiing, wakeboarding, boating, and "the rest of the typical Tahoe stuff!" he says. He values his strong ties to family and friends in Switzerland and enjoys being a member of the Diamond Peak Ski Patrol.

Marsha Tejeda

Marsha has lived in the area 31 years and has attended St. Patrick's for approximately 15 years, attending the 10 a.m. service. Her areas of leadership interest at St. Pat's are being a lay reader, chalice bearer, choir member and serving on the Vestry. She has a BA in music and theater from Dominican University and has done graduate work in computer science and library science. Professionally, she has been a middle school teacher for 30 years, teaching computers, publications (newspaper and yearbook), drama, and choral music. She also directs and produces the annual school musical. She loves to read, garden, travel, and spend time with her two children and grandson.

Gary Thomsen

Gary and his wife Mariel have lived in Incline and attended St. Patrick's for 10½ years. You'll see them most frequently at the 10 a.m. service. His leadership interests are in maintaining the church and operating it efficiently by lowering costs. He earned his BS from UC-Berkeley in Mechanical Engineering and his MS from Embry Riddle University in Aviation Science. He was a pilot in the US Air Force for 24 years, and then flew commercially for TWA and Southwest Airlines. He loves winter sports, sailing, hiking, photography, video editing, and computer activities. He especially enjoys traveling to Europe each year and going to Southwest Airline Domestic destinations. He also enjoys the EFM group.



KNITTERS GUILD OF INCLINE VILLAGE NEWS

Do you love to knit or crochet? Come join the Knitters Guild, which meets every Wednesday From 1—3 p.m. in the church library!



KNITTERS GUILD OF INCLINE VILLAGE NEWS

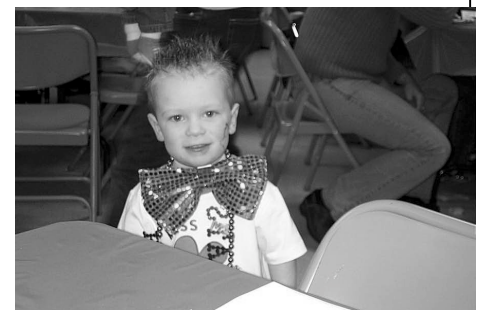
A display of the lovely handcrafted items created by the Knitters Guild members graces the church hallways. We hope you've had a chance to see the kinds of things that are made and given away to families in Lake Tahoe's North Shore communities! The exhibit will remain until mid-April, so if you've not had a chance to see it, do stop by and take a look. Some items may be purchased; if something in particular strikes your fancy, please call Peggy Harrison at 831-9402.

Weekly knitting classes are given at Incline Elementary School by several guild members. The Knitting Club, as it is called, has about 15 4th and 5th graders as members. In addition to small caps for premature infants, several of the young knitters have chosen to make little five inch squares which will be assembled into blankets. These will be given to some lucky children who need something to keep them warm. Wristbands and headbands are other popular things being produced. These small projects can be completed in a relatively short time; that gives instant gratification to the budding knitters!

New patterns and ideas are always being shared by the dedicated, creative women of the Knitters Guild. The camaraderie that is evident at our meetings is heartwarming. We welcome anyone who loves to knit or crochet, and we can help you if your skills need refreshing. The web site address for the group is [www.geocities.com/incline knitters/](http://www.geocities.com/incline_knitters/). Please call Peggy Harrison at 831-9402 for further information.

St. Patrick's Party!

What a great party Sat., March 15 (technically, St. Pat's Day is on Monday the 17th, but that's Holy Week, so we decided to have it a little early)! About 90 people attended, including many children for which we give thanks.



The people responsible for such a special event were first and foremost the great COOKS: Don Morrison, Bob Skidmore and Stu Jed. The food was delicious and wonderfully presented. Kudos also for the most remarkable Judy Morrison who planned and coordinated the whole event including all the children's activities.

Many thanks also to Gennie Jed, Ruth Jervey, Connie Skidmore, Lenty Hagen, Marsha Tejada, Sharon Kirby, Vikki Welling and Deb Beebe for set up and clean up duty. And a special thanks to all who participated.



Pre-Plan for Peace of Mind!

Is there something you have been planning to do, but just haven't gotten around to it? *PRE-PLAN FOR PEACE OF MIND!* Yes, planning your final resting place. May I suggest our beautiful Columbarium?

Planning your inurnment now eliminates worry for your loved ones and assures your peace of mind that your wishes be followed. Decisions made *today* can save needless emotional stress and financial hardship *tomorrow*.

Remember, a substantial percentage of your purchase is tax deductible and each niche will hold the cremation boxes of two people without the need to purchase fancy urns. There is a one-time payment that includes the name plaque and any future name or date changes.

If you have never visited our Columbarium, stop by and see what a beautiful, peaceful place it is and then talk with your family. Don't put it off any longer. Call me for information and appointment:

Nancy Joslin, Columbarium Director
(775)831-2716

***Youth of St. Patrick's
Break New Ground***

You can tell how wonderfully talented our youth of St. Patrick's are. Their artwork was a delight! Thank you to the young people and their parents for helping this dream come true! We also see the young people participating in the services at St. Patrick's as readers, musicians, and acolytes. What a beautiful way to share our gifts from God !

My next goal is to encourage our youth to be active in the bigger picture of The Episcopal Church. There is a Diocesan Youth Council with 2 positions open. Please contact Jim Beebe or me if you are enlightened by this idea. On April 5, 2008 at the SNA service, St. Patrick's will be graced with the presence of two members of The Youth Council, Luke Sorensen and Maggie Davidson. They will update us on where youth activities stand in the diocese. There are plans for a Youth celebration in Elko that will coincide with diocesan convention.

Thank you,

Caroline



Ode to the Cooks

*Kudos to our cooks — there's Don, Bob, and Stu.
When cooking corned beef, they know what to do.
Hungry multitudes came — not just a few.
Seems like this crew fixed a savory brew.
Slaving all day, these guys, Stu, Don and Bob
Kept at it until they'd finished the job.
They just kept on feeding the entire mob.
Only laughter and belching were heard, no sobs.
And when they were finished and crowds were all gone
We all gave our thanks to Bob, Stu and Don.
I'm telling' you truthful now, not putting' on;
St. Patrick's is blessed with its own Leprechauns.*

Judy Morrison



Staff & Ministry Group Chairs

The Rev. Dr. James R. Beebe
Rector

The Rev. Dr. David J. Mussatti
Priest

The Rev. Jim Kelly
Priest

*Emy Gurowitz***
Senior Warden

*Gary Thomsen***
Junior Warden, Buildings and Grounds Chair

*Lainie Vreeland, Connie Skidmore,
Nancy Joslin, Peggy Harrison*
Shamrock

Lora Kelly
Memorial Committee

Suzanne Gollery
Clerk of the Vestry

*Deb Beebe, Caroline Cutler***
Lainie Vreeland
Art Committee

Karen Barney
Webmaster

*Eric Strotz***
Folk Mass Group

Cherry Barney
Good Samaritans Coordinators

*Caroline Cutler**, Kathy Vomund*
Youth Ministry Coordinators

Nancy Joslin
Columbarium

Peggy Harrison
Knitters Guild of Incline Village

Jack Barney
Ushers/Greeters Coordinator

Lainie Vreeland, Nancy Joslin
Library

****Vestry Member**

Please call or email any changes of your address, phone number and email address by contacting the Church Office at (775) 831-1418, or by email at office@tahoeepiscopal.org. Thank you!

Need Snow Removal or Building Excavation?

Call Mitch Jordan at 742-9406. Mitch has helped keep the parking lots clear of snow at St. Patrick's Church for years and recently excavated for the garage project at the Rector's house! Mitch operates a fleet of plows and loaders and is very economical.

