

The Encourager

The Mission of St. Barnabas Church is to live and spread the Gospel of Christ as disciples making disciples.

Saint Barnabas Church
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August 2015

A Message from Father Jim

When our grandsons, Jacen and Sam, spend any length of time with us at some point Barbara will with some exasperation announce to them, ***“Not everything is a competition.”*** As is the case with most children today they ***“have to win”*** at whatever they do. No one wants to be seen as a ***“loser.”*** I have seen young children break into tears or throw temper tantrums if they don't win a simple child's game. And whose fault is this? It is our fault – we adults engender this competitiveness in our children. I see older children participating in organized sports browbeaten by parents who often ridicule them if they lose. We are setting our children up to see themselves as less than perfect if they don't win at everything. It is nothing short of a terrible tragedy that so many of our young people are growing up to believe that losing at something makes them failures.

Not too long ago in a children's sermon I showed the kids a shadow box that contains wrestling medals I earned in high school. I sure didn't like to lose a match, but what I felt was most important was whether or not I competed as hard as I could to the best of my God-given ability. I did quite well wrestling, winning 53 matches in three years. But I knew there were other young men out there who might be stronger than me, more skilled than me, better coached than me, and that I could not win every match, and indeed I did lose five times over those three years. But as long as I tried as hard as I could there was no way that I would ever think of myself as a failure. I simply met someone who was better than I was.

The older I get the more jaded I get about youth sports leagues. I just wish kids would gather in a field some place and play “disorganized” baseball or chuck a football around or shoot baskets in someone's back yard or play hockey on the local ice pond full of bumps and twigs frozen in the ice. I wish they would just play these sports for the sake of “playing” and having fun – win or lose.

I beg you parents to let your children know that doing their best is what is most important and losing does not make them failures. We cannot win at everything all the time. It is a fact of life that we all need to learn to accept and deal with. Help them learn to enjoy games or sports simply for the sake of playing. If they have a God-given talent that lets them excel in all they do, help them to learn to be humble and thankful for the gift they have received.

Jim+

Father Jim on Vacation

Father Jim will be away until August 25th. The Rev. Susan Wrathall will be covering for him in the event of a pastoral emergency. You may contact her directly at the church office 737-3127 during the day – after hours call 617-0380. The Parish Administrator and the Wardens will also be checking our answering machine and will contact her if necessary.

A Synopsis of the 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church



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This year the 78th General Convention met in Salt Lake City, Utah from June 25th to July 3rd. The General Convention is the governing body of The Episcopal Church that meets every three years. The Convention is a bicameral legislature that includes the House of Deputies, composed of clergy and laity from every diocese, and the House of Bishops. During its triennial meeting deputies and bishops consider a wide range of important matters facing the Church.

Perhaps the most newsworthy actions of this General Convention were:

- The election of the Rt. Rev. Michael B. Curry as the next Presiding Bishop of our church. Bishop Curry is the first Presiding Bishop elected on the first ballot and the first African-American Presiding Bishop of the church. He will begin serving his nine-year term in November.
- With racial tensions seeming to be boiling in our country the General Convention earmarked \$2 million for racial justice and reconciliation work in the next triennium.
- In the wake of the June 26th U.S. Supreme Court ruling legalizing same-sex marriage for all Americans, General Convention followed suit on July 1st with canonical and liturgical changes to provide marriage equality for Episcopalians. The House of Deputies concurred with the House of Bishops' approval the day before of a canonical change eliminating language defining marriage as between a man and a woman and authorizing two new marriage rites with language allowing them to be used by same-sex or opposite-sex couples. Each diocese may, however, choose to not allow same sex marriages according to conscience.
- General Convention 2015 took a step toward revising the 1979 Book of Common Prayer and The Hymnal 1982, directing the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to prepare plans for revising each and to present them to the next convention in Austin, Texas, in 2018.
- Three resolutions were passed on the issue of alcohol and drug abuse in the wake of the tragic incident involving then Bishop Heather Cook who killed a cyclist while she was driving under the influence of alcohol and texting. They recommend that Ordinands should be questioned at the very beginning of the discernment process about addiction and substance use in their lives and family systems; acknowledged the church's role in the culture of alcohol and drug abuse; and created a task force to review and revise policy on substance abuse, addiction and recovery.
- While not a legislative act, about 1,500 General Convention participants joined a Bishops United Against Gun Violence procession in Salt Lake City the morning of June 28th. The prayerful procession walked the half-mile from the Salt Palace Convention Center to Pioneer Park while marchers sang hymns and prayed. Members of Utah anti-gun violence groups and civil rights organizations joined in.

If you wish to read more about General Convention you can google the Episcopal News Service online.

Be Here to Bid Farewell to the Beaudreau Family on August 30th



You know that Ed Beaudreau was admitted as a Postulant for Holy Orders for the priesthood. He is spending some time this summer at Nashotah House, one of the Episcopal seminaries, to do a bit of course work. Then in September he is beginning his first “seminary” placement at St. Elizabeth’s Church in Hope Valley so he and Kerin, Rachel and Tim will be leaving us at the end of this month.

Raising someone up for ordination is bittersweet for any parish. It’s sweet because there is a sense of excitement in knowing that as a parish we supported and helped someone discern a call to do God’s work. It is bitter because those raised up for ordination are usually those who are most active and involved in the life of the parish.

Ed has certainly been involved, serving on the vestry, as a lector and a Eucharistic minister. But Kerin, Rachel and Tim have also been an integral part of the parish family working with Ed to organize the white elephant room at the Holiday Bazaar; Kerin serving as Sunday school leader, teaching the older class and working hard to make the vacation bible school such a success; Rachel and Tim serving as acolytes and helping out with the younger children in church school and at the vacation bible school.

I (Fr. Jim) have asked that the Beaudreaus be here on the last Sunday in August (my first Sunday back from vacation) so that we can have special prayers for them in church at the 10 a.m. service and a farewell coffee hour downstairs in the parish hall following the service. I hope you will make every effort to be here to bid Godspeed to this family who has been so much a part of the fabric of the St. Barnabas parish family.



Singing and music play an important role in our culture. You’ll find music present in many aspects of our lives: theater, television, movies, holidays, family celebrations, parades and civic celebrations. But none is as important as how music can influence the lives of children. In particular, how music helps to educate and develop a child’s faith and spiritual life.

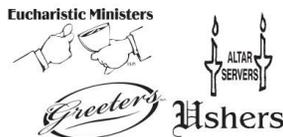
As a parish community, it is an important question to ponder how our children are developing their faith by the music they experience in church. I am not necessarily speaking about music in worship needing to be at the level of a preschooler or even the need to develop a children’s choir – although these things have great value in having children feel a part of a worshiping community. I am speaking about how we as adults approach music in worship.

I feel it is very important for children to see how adults and older children participate in worship. Adults holding a hymnal and singing out loud model for children what music and worship is all about. Having a full choir – made up of a variety of ages – gives children, who are musically inclined, something in which to aspire. Incorporating music into parish education programs and supporting a child’s experience of the music of the church, helps them to grow and appreciate the world of sacred music. By encouraging singing and listening to the music in worship will deeply add to their faith and remain a source of strength and comfort throughout their lives.

With the month of August now upon us, it’s not too early to be thinking about school – even if we do not have school-age children in our homes. As a parish community, our mission as baptized disciples is to *teach* all that Jesus has commanded. Music is an excellent tool for this task. We have a strong, faith-filled parish community at St. Barnabas and we are blessed with a vibrant population of youth and children. Music can enrich and enliven the faith of our children and ours as well.

Ted Platt
Director of Music

Who are the Ministers of the Church? You are the Ministers of the Church!!



Perhaps you think that the only minister of the church is Fr. Jim or others who wear a clerical collar around their necks. Actually, the catechism in the *Book of Common Prayer* states that the ministers of the church are, in this order, laypersons, bishops, priests and deacons. One of the many ways in which you can be a minister of the church is by volunteering to take part in one of the following ministries that are integral to our Sunday morning worship at either the 8 a.m. or 10 a.m. service:

- **Altar Guild:** Members of the Altar Guild prepare the Eucharistic vessels for each service, help keep the sacristy and sanctuary clean, and wash the Eucharistic vessels and linens after each service. Altar Guild can be a very rewarding experience and members are crucial to the worshiping life of any congregation. If you would be interested in becoming a member of the Altar Guild please speak to Joan Schofield.
- **Lector and/or Intercessor:** Lectors and Intercessors read the lessons and lead the Prayers of the People at each service. If you are interested in this ministry but would like some training or coaching before doing so please speak to Fr. Jim. If you would like to do this and want to go on the schedule, please speak to Stan Schofield.
- **Eucharistic Minister:** Eucharistic ministers administer the chalice at each service of Holy Eucharist. Anyone wishing to be a Eucharistic Minister must be trained by Fr. Jim who will then apply for a license from Bishop Knisely for you to carry out this ministry.
- **Greeters:** Being a greeter on Sunday morning is an extremely important ministry as greeters are the first person a visitor to St. Barnabas will see. Greeters welcome people to the church and give them a service bulletin and, on occasion, operate the elevator for those who need it to get into church. All you need to have is a friendly smile and the ability to be at church about 20 minutes before the service begins. If you would like to be a greeter, please contact Bill Barker.
- **Acolytes:** Being an acolyte is a very important ministry. Any child at least 8 years of age or any adult is welcome to be an acolyte. You lead the procession into and out of church and serve the priest at the altar in various ways. We will train you in what to do and the more who take part in this very important ministry of the church the lighter the work load. We especially need to get some new acolytes as we have lost five because of families moving away. If you are interested please speak to Fr. Jim or Emily Seddon.

Ice Tea and Lemonade in the Park

Each Sunday morning after the 10 a.m. service we are serving ice tea and lemonade in the park, weather permitting. If it is raining it will be served in the parish hall. Please join us.

Please Note There Will Be No Healing Service or Dinner and a Movie in August.

Please remember to keep up your pledge during the summer months. You may be away on vacation, but the church still needs to meet its financial obligations. Thank you.

Bazaar Organizational Meeting

Sunday August 23rd there will be a brief organizational meeting for the bazaar in the Guild Room following the 10:00 service. Anyone interested in helping is encouraged to attend. If you can't make the meeting but would like to take part in the Bazaar please contact Heidi at HJSeddon@GMail.com or at 401-241-1983.

August 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10 Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	3 7:30 pm AA Meeting	4 7:30 pm AA Meeting	5	6	7	8
9 11 Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	10 7:30 pm AA Meeting	11 7:30 pm AA Meeting	12	13	14	15
16 12 Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	17 7:30 pm AA Meeting	18 7:30 pm AA Meeting	19	20	21	22
23 13 Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	24 7:30 pm AA Meeting	25 7:30 pm AA Meeting	26	27	28	29
30 14 Pentecost 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	31 7:30 pm AA Meeting					