



The Shamrock

SEPTEMBER 2009

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- Shamrock
Festival Highlights
and Kudos

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From the Pulpit Rev. Doug Neel

It was almost exactly one year ago that I started my new ministry at St. Patrick's. What a first week! People were everywhere, pitching tents, cooking food, sorting books and all in preparation for the parish Shamrock Festival. And what a magnificent festival it was. Best of all, the money that was raised was used this last year to support those in our community who needed assistance. My thought at the end of that first week: "What a marvelous parish family. I will never make it if every week is this intense."

History repeats itself. We have just completed another Shamrock Festival. Once again, the days and weeks of preparation were amazing. It was exciting to watch so many people work together for a common cause – provide a wonderful evening of fellowship and raise money for our outreach ministries. Like my first Shamrock experience, this one was a marvelous success. We had 120 people buy tickets to the dinner. Joanne Irons prepared a delicious Italian meal, including Chicken Marsala and tiramisù. The

children of the parish with reinforcements from Junior Rotary, served as waiters. The silent auction was fun; many beautiful things were donated and purchased.



Close to one hundred people bought books at our used book sale. Five thousand raffle tickets were sold for a remarkably beautiful quilt. All in all, the fellowship was wonderful and, once expenses are paid, we raised over \$14,000 for charity. Well done!

Big kudos to Sabra Miller, Connie Sue O'Donnell and Chantelle Kay for chairing this year's festival; Bonnie Brooks for supervising the Book Sale; Joanne Irons for catering the meal; Mark Devoti and the band for the great dinner music; the quilt ministry for creating a

beautiful quilt; the women of the church for selling tickets and helping wherever needed; the men of the church for setting up the tent, tables, chairs and tending bar; many generous parishioners for helping where needed and making and donating valuable and beautiful items for the auction; and for the youngest wait staff in history. This parish family is the best!

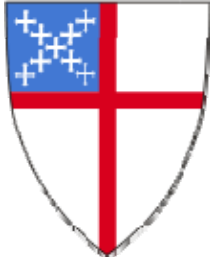
I'm still loving St. Patrick's,

Did you know ...

The large wooden crucifix hanging over the front door was donated to the church by Marianne Barber and her family. The crucifix was inherited by Marianne's father, Johann Waltenberger, from his aunt. She was a housekeeper for a Roman Catholic priest for most of her adult life and inherited the cross when he died. It was the priest's personal crucifix. The piece likely dates from the late 1700s or early 1800s.

Look over your head the next time you walk into our church building and admire this beautiful piece of religious art.

(Continued on page 2)



Our Ministry

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

Reverend Doug Neel, Rector

Becky Dorian, Senior Warden

Jim Vierbicher, Junior Warden

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Mission Statement:

**St. Patrick's is God's House, open to all;
a Community called to love and serve the Lord by
God's grace with joy and gratitude.**

Sundays	9 am Christian Education, 10 am Church Service
Wednesdays	11:30 am Healing Service, 12 noon Bible Study
Thursdays	2 pm Prayer Quilters, 4 pm Choir Practice
Sun. Sept. 6	9 am Sunday School Starts
Sun. Sept. 13	11:30 am Youth Car Wash 5 pm Sunday Night Unplugged
Mon. Sept 14	Noon ECW Dutch Lunch Meeting, Boss Hoggs
Wed. Sept. 16	4 pm DOK Meeting, 6-8 pm Inquirers' Class
Sat. Sept. 19	8:30 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast Meeting 10:30 am Spiritus
Sun. Sept. 20	11:30 am Vestry Meeting
Wed. Sept. 23	6-8 pm Inquirers' Class
Wed. Sept. 30	6-8 pm Inquirers' Class

(From the Pulpit, Continued from Page 1)

Christian Education for Children

Sunday school for our children starts on September 6 at 9:00 a.m. Our teachers have exciting plans for the children of St. Patrick's Church. Please contact Connie Sue O'Donnell (731-5849) or Fr. Doug (731-5801) If you would like to help teach once or twice a month or would like to try your hand at being an assistant. Our kids need you!!!

Inquirer's Classes

Do you want to learn more about the Episcopal Church? Why do our clergy wear vestments? Do all Episcopalians have communion every Sunday? Are you intrigued by the history of our church? Fr. Doug leads a series of Inquirer's classes designed to answer these and many other questions. There are eight classes and they begin on September 16th at 6:00 p.m. Classes are designed for everyone, including new church members and lifelong Episcopalians. In addition, for those who want to be confirmed, these Inquirer's Classes will also qualify as adult confirmation classes. Plan to attend and bring your questions.

Father Doug

Shamrock Quilt Raffle

By Cherlyn Gwin and Teri Sullivan

An exceedingly special thank you to the talented ladies of St. Patrick's Church who created an extremely popular quilt for this year's raffle. Thank

you also to the church members who sold raffle tickets and those who bought tickets. Again this year, Bonnie Brooks is our top salesperson with over 1,000 raffle tickets sold.

The lucky winner of this year's quilt is a very happy Cathy Duggan of Bayfield, a neighbor of Father Bob and Alice Pope.

Our quilt raffle raised more than \$4200 for St. Patrick's Community Outreach Program. Your support and participation in the raffle is greatly appreciated by our local not-for-profit organizations that will be the recipients of the raffle proceeds.



Balancing the Budget Jim Vierbicher, Jr. Warden



Football season is starting. Children will soon be back in school. Labor Day is almost upon us. The 2009 Shamrock Festival is history. Summer must be almost over; Fall is around the corner. The cycle of life continues.

The “cycle” continues at St. Patrick’s too. Sunday School begins as does a new Inquirer’s class. The regular programs, Adult Education, Choir, ECW, Men’s Fellowship, etc perhaps become a bit more robust as

vacations become less pervasive. Sadly, many of our summer visitors will be returning to their “other” homes.

Another “rite” of fall is planning in more detail the upcoming months’ programs and developing the 2010 Budget. It appears that we will complete 2009 pretty much on Budget, or perhaps a little better than planned. Unfortunately that will still mean a deficit, not unexpected, of \$35,000 - \$40,000. The long range plan is to reduce that deficit considerably in 2010, perhaps by half, and then balance the Budget in 2011.

How do we do that? Of course,

increased contributions is one possibility. Another is to cut any non-essential spending from our Budget. What are your priorities for St Patrick’s? What would be your approach to these Budget questions? We will have an aggressive Stewardship program this fall (not just financial giving, but our whole life style as it pertains to our church). You will have ample opportunity to share your thoughts and concerns. Certainly any of the Vestry or Financial Committee would also welcome your comments.

St. Patrick’s is your church. How do you see it fulfilling its mission?

“The long range plan is to reduce the deficit considerably in 2010, perhaps by half, and then balance the Budget in 2011.”

Stewardship Focus 2009 Linda Altman, Stewardship Chair

I was asked recently to define Stewardship so let me share these thoughts:

“WHAT I DO, WITH ALL I HAVE, AFTER I SAY “I BELIEVE.”

“USING THE GIFTS GOD HAS GIVEN US TO DO THE WORK GOD IS CALLING US TO DO”

In these troubled economic times, money certainly is in short supply for many and time comes at a premium as we juggle work, family and community commitments. Yet in such times, our willingness to “step up to the plate” is more critical than ever.

In September, you will receive a mailing that will explain this year’s program in detail. As has become our custom at St. Patrick’s, all pledges remain between you and the Lord. Pledge cards are simply a tool to assist everyone with the process. Also in this mailing will be a terrific little booklet, “Finding Hope in Hard Times”. It is short and to the point, full of wonderful biblical references and well worth the time to read as a family.

Further, the focus this year is 100% PARTICIPATION, asking all who participate in our Church life to also participate with a personal money and time pledge for 2010.

Church Stewardship started for me with my first allowance at age 7. It has been a life long journey of faith partnering with God to return to him whatever measure of blessing it has been my privilege to receive. Please join me in that journey.

Treasurer’s Report - July 2009

Operating Budget	June	Year-to-Date
Giving	\$11,111	\$81,674
Other Income	(\$142)	\$1,367
Total Income	\$10,969	\$83,041
Expenses	\$16,161	\$104,736
Expense Over Income	(\$5,192)	(\$21,695)



St. Patrick

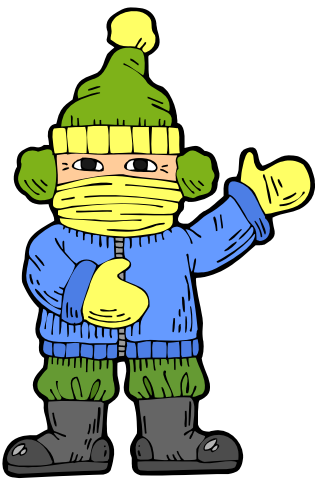


THANKS TO....

EVERYONE who helped out to make the Shamrock Festival a success, especially to our coordinators this year: Connie O'Donnell, Chantelle Kay and Sabra Miller, Joanne Irons and her crew for providing the delicious Italian dinner, everyone who supported this event through the Book Nook, the Silent Auction and the dinner, and volunteers who helped set up and clean up, and the Men's Group for arranging and getting

the tent, and thanks to all parish and community donors of items for the great Silent Auction! Thanks to Bob & Kathy Pohly for providing a sumptuous brisket potluck which was thoroughly enjoyed by all! A special note of appreciation for our Loaves & Fishes volunteers who work so hard all year long to provide our community lunch each month. Thanks to everyone for helping to get the newsletter out, and all who volunteered to cover office duties while Dinah was on vacation!

Clothing Give-Away October 24th 8-11 am St. Patrick's



Each October, St. Patrick's proudly hosts a clothing give-away. We help ensure the good people of Pagosa have the opportunity to come and pick out warm clothing for their families.

This is not a normal year and we anticipate a much higher need this year. So please, start sorting through closets and set aside items for this important event. Or, place them in garbage bags and bring them to church. We will be collecting items up until October 22.

We accept all types of clothing, except underwear, unless it's brand new. We also collect linens (blankets, sheets, towels, pillows, etc.). We ask that all items be clean and in good quality.

We have a special need for clothing for infants, youths, and teens. Warm coats, gloves, and boots for all ages are also in great demand. If you have questions regarding the clothing give-away, please call Teri Sullivan (731-2590), or Becky Dorian (731-9878), or the church office.

Book Nook Bonnie Brooks



Thank you to everyone who buys and donates their gently read books. As a result the Book Nook has been very successful raising funds for the Quilt Ministry and the Food Bank. The books are now categorized by type and in alphabetical order by author most of the time.

The Book Nook is open year round and there is a box for dropping your quarters and dollars as you find a book to your liking. We work on a honor system here. We always need book donations so please remember the Book Nook and leave a book or two in the narthex the book elves will file them away.

Thank you for your support.

Insight

Prayer is a wish turned upward.
-- American Proverb

Prayer is the language of the heart.

Support St. Patrick's Youth

St. Patrick's Youth Group will return to Genesis Youth Retreat at Frontier Ranch in Buena Vista in mid-October. Genesis weekends are designed to provide a fun, non-intimidating environment in which young people can discover and grow in their understanding of the Christian Gospel. This fall's theme, "CRASH," invites us to crash into Jesus through a study of Paul's letters. A September 13 fund-raising car wash will help defray our registration costs.

Last year four young men attended the Genesis Retreat accompanied by sponsor, Sally High. The boys joined a couple of hundred Colorado Episcopalian teens for three days of rockin'

good fun, live music, and games and activities designed to deepen our faith and broaden our fellowship.

We're hoping to take more than four youth to the retreat this year. Father Doug will be the boys' sponsor and Sally High will serve as work crew. Support St. Patrick's Youth Group by signing up early for the Sunday, September 13, car wash. We'll be washing cars after church for your donations. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the narthex. Call Fr. Doug or Sally High for more information or visit www.coloradodiocese.org/03_faithformation/youth.

Choir Notes Sally Neel



We have enjoyed a great summer at St. Patrick's, with some really

wonderful music, both in the morning services and at our Sunday Night Unplugged services. Our thanks are extended to Christine and Bryan MacNeil for their offerings of praise music, and to Robert Neel, Larry Elginer, and Rada Neal for their offerings to Sunday Night Unplugged. We have also enjoyed the voices of several summer members who

have contributed their talents to Sunday morning worship. Thanks to ALL who fill our church with song!

Many have asked about the absence of the organ in the services. The organ had a part that malfunctioned and had to be sent away to be repaired. Unfortunately, the instrument has not been usable for the past month. We look forward to having it back up and running soon.

Join the Choir!

The choir needs more members! Choir rehearsals are only one hour on Thursday afternoons at 4 p.m. There is no audition or special requirement to become a choir member. Simply show up, ready to learn and ready to sing! The choir also meets at 9:15 on Sunday mornings to review what they will be singing for the service. Please prayerfully consider being a part of this very important ministry. Feel free to call me or email me if you have questions. I can be reached at 946-6458, or at sneel1@sbcglobal.net.

**Show off
your
talent
and have
some fun!**

Fine Arts Show and Reception

Attention all budding artists, photographers, sculptors and woodworkers! We are planning a Fine Arts Show for sometime in either January or February at the church. The idea is to showcase all the talents in our church and community and hopefully raise a little money for special projects in the

church. Plans are just being formulated but this is to give you a heads up so that this fall you can start getting your artwork together. This will not be a juried show; just a come look and perhaps buy if the artist is willing to sell. If the artwork sells, twenty percent will go to the church. There will

be a special area for children's work too, so parents, please encourage your children to participate.

More information will be available as plans are formalized, but if you have questions, please contact Lynn McCrudden at pagosagirl@yahoo.com

Habitat for Humanity Gala

Saturday, September 19th Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County will be hosting its primary fundraiser for 2009. It will be a Gala celebrating 15 years held at the Community Center, with a silent and live auction and music and dancing by the Lead Foot Ruthie. Hors d' oeuvres will be

served. There will be a cash bar. Doors open at 7 PM. Tickets are \$30 per person in advance, or \$35 at the door. For more information, tickets, or how you can support this effort contact Jim Vierbicher, Cindi Galabota or any of the other Habitat Board members.



Gala for a great cause!



- Food
- Fellowship
- Community Outreach

*Want to get in touch with your spirituality while gathering with friends and community?
Join us.....*



Housekeeping Items

Pot Luck Dinner

We do not have a host for the September potluck dinner, which would be scheduled on Friday, September 11. If anyone is interested in hosting it, please call the church office. If no one volunteers, the next pot luck will be in October. **October Potluck Dinner** – Gina Willis has offered to host our October 9th Potluck Dinner at the Coyote Hill Lodge! This will certainly be a special treat for all. Watch for a sign-up sheet next month.

Baby Items on Loan



St. Patrick's has a loaner crib (including sheets) for parishioners needing to borrow one for visiting children/grandkids (donated by Lynne & Michael McCrudden). We also now have available items donated by Barbara and Angelo Saladino including a high chair, small foot stool, umbrella stroller, a soft playpen, a bathtub and a car seat. Our thanks for having these items available! To reserve an item and arrange to pick it up, call the church office to put you on the Check Out list.

ECW

ECW September's ECW meeting will be a luncheon at Boss Hogg's on Monday, September 14th, beginning at noon. A brief meeting will be held following the luncheon. Please plan to join us and sign up at church, because the restaurant will need to know how many are attending. We will be ordering off the regular menu, separate checks will be used, and a gratuity will be added to each bill.

Shamrock Deadline

The deadline for the October issue of the *Shamrock* is Sunday, September 20. Please give your articles to Dinah, fax to 731-5804, or email to: pohlyrobert@msn.com

Men's Fellowship

A very big thank you to all of the men who helped us with the Shamrock Festival. From erecting and taking down the tent, to setting up and taking down the tables and chairs for the dinner and the tables for the silent auction, your hard work is appreciated. A special thank you to Don Sullivan for hauling the tables and chairs in his trailer.

Our September Men's Fellowship meeting will be on Saturday, September 19 at 8:30 am. We will be discussing plans for the Steak and Stein dinner on October 21 and helping the ECW with the preparation for the clothing giveaway on October 24.

Directory Updates

- Swanberg, Virgil & Carolyn 620 Lakeside Dr. #16, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 , 731-1719 (cell: 956-642-7191)
- Mary Sickbert (Winter) 1697 Lee Rd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44118 (cell phone and email are unchanged)
- New: Henry & Mary Beckman, c/o Gen. Delivery, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 264-2947
- Ward, Barbara (old email is cancelled) NEW EMAIL: brbrward@aol.com
- Ferko, Jim & Joanne Email: vitoferk@qwest.net

September Sunday Worship Schedule - 10:00 am

September 6 - 14th Sunday After Pentecost - Rite I

Psalm 125 and Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 or Psalm 146 and Isaiah 35:4-7A; James 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17; Mark 7:24-37

Lector.....Bud Short
Chalicers.....Ken & Charlotte Jones
Ushers.....Jim & Becky Dorian
Greeters.....Jamie Dinkler & Charlotte Jones
Coffee Hosts.....Sally High

September 20 - 16th Sunday After Pentecost - Rite II

Psalm 1 and Proverbs 3:10-31 or Psalm 54 and Wisdom of Solomon 1:16-2:1, 12-22 or Jeremiah 11:18-20; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8A; Mark 9:30-37

Lector (1st Reading & Psalm).....Don Sullivan
Chalicers.....Tom Thorpe & Loretta Barker
Ushers.....Ken Rogers & Don McLeod
Greeters.....Joyce Ramberg & Teri Sullivan
Coffee hosts.....*

September 13 - 15th Sunday After Pentecost - Rite I

Psalm 19 or Wisdom 7:26-8:1 and Proverbs 1:20-33 or Psalm 116:1-8 and Isaiah 50:4-9A; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

Lector.....Bryan Sickbert
Chalicers.....Charlene Short & Jan Nanus
Ushers.....Bud & Charlene Short
Greeters.....Bob & Kathy Pohly
Coffee Hosts.....Bob & Kathy Pohly

September 27 - 17th Sunday After Pentecost - Rite I

Psalm 124 and Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22 or Psalm 19:7-14 and Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

Lector.....Don MacLeod
Chalicers.....Dick & Meg Boblit
Ushers.....Bill & Nancy Crouse
Greeters.....Becky Dorian & Linda Altman
Coffee Hosts.....*

*Please see the sign up sheets in the narthex. We need coffee hosts for Sept., so please sign up for a Sunday that you could provide a simple coffee hour by making coffee and bringing some cookies.



September Celebrations

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Ken Jones | 14 Sharry Newell |
| 3 Tom Altman | 15 Ken & Charlotte Jones |
| 6 Frank & Marlene Meiners | 15 Jim & Loretta Barker |
| 7 Tyler Greenly | 17 John Ramberg |
| 10 Jim & Becky Dorian | 17 Tom & Linda Altman |
| 13 John Gwin | 18 Roland & Ellen Seylar |
| 13 Jeff Versaw & Nancy Miquelon | 19 David & Bonnie Brooks |
| 14 Colton Lewis | 19 Ken & Dinah Rogers |

