

St. Mary's News

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Mary-Anne Friday 662-3424

Secretary:

Ev Southwood 662-3422

Stewardship:

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Georgina Kimber 662-2973

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Building:

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Newsletter:

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Ways & Means:

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St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

Summer

Tom Magnusson

The other day a friend asked me what Linda and I were doing this summer. That got me thinking about our congregation, what were their plans for the summer.

I began imagining what they will be doing. The younger kids will spend the summer outside playing with their friends and that is all they will want. The older kids may be looking for a summer job possibly or making plans with their friends. Those graduating will be looking into courses to take at college and discussing this with their friends. The parents with school age kids will be trying to plan a summer trip of some sort, maybe with some friends. They may also be worrying, along with their friends, about how they will pay for their kids college education. Those of us with no kids at home

Summer Services:

(July 4—Sep 5, 2010)

10:00 Holy Communion

The fourth Sunday of every month is a contemporary service followed by soup, sandwiches & fellowship.

Visitors always welcome!

will be free to do what we want when we want, possibly with our friends. Then there are those that are older yet and have no thoughts of traveling. They are thinking about coping with the summer heat and the mosquitoes and making plans with their friends.

As you can see we all have plans for a busy summer. I would remind you as you embark on your summer adventures not to forget your church. The cost of operating the church does not go on vacation and our ongoing support is required. You can also remind your friends, if you like.

Rector's Ramblings

As many of you know my head is full of music, and the smallest thing can bring a song to mind and start me humming. Over the past few weeks I have been stuck with a continual flow of water songs, from "Raindrops keep falling on my head" "I see raindrops on my window" "I Love a Rainy Night" all the way to the "Arky Arky" song. I am quite sure that I am not alone in saying enough is enough, but no matter how much we complain, we really have no say in the matter. Actually, although many in our parish have suffered financial woes because of the rain and snow, we are some of the fortunate ones. Farmers throughout Central and Eastern Saskatchewan and Manitoba are all facing emergency situations because of flooding and the inability to put a crop in the ground. I urge all of you to please continue to pray for those whose livelihoods are threatened by this ongoing problem. While we are not all farmers or ranchers, here on the prairies whatever affects the agricultural community affects all of us.

I don't know how many have been following the working of the General Synod 2010 for the Anglican Church of Canada, but for the past ten days there has been a gathering of Anglicans from across the country in Halifax to examine the workings of our church and to set the directions for the future of our church. Believe it or not, little has changed in the three years since the last Synod, and little is

likely to change before the next one. We are still in full communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church and studies are underway to enhance this relationship. Talks are going on between the Anglicans and the United Church of Canada to enhance our relationship. The issues surrounding human sexuality, marriage and blessing of same sex unions, and the ordination of homosexuals are still under discussion, and will continue to be discussed well into the future. Work is being done to enhance our relationships with other Anglican communions around the world. Across the country active membership is down, but there is a renewal in the church from the 30-40 year olds, many of whom have little or no previous contact with the church. We hope that this trend will continue. In the meantime the Anglican church continues to carry on, despite the drop in membership and the controversies we are facing.

Closer to home, a lot of work has been going on a Camp Harding this spring. The bunk houses have all been repainted inside and out, new flooring has been put in them, and the old steel bunks have all been replaced with wooden bunks fastened to the wall. Over the past few years our attendance has gradually been increasing, and it is important that we keep the camp in the best condition possible in the hopes that this trend will continue. However, we



are facing a staffing problem again this year. We have been asked by some of our older youth to hold a camp for older teens, and plans are coming together for that camp but (always a big but) we need at least one female on staff for the camp, and a female counsellor for the week. (at least 20 years old). Please check your schedules, ask your friends and neighbours, help us make this camp a success. If we don't have at least one female on staff I'm afraid we cannot run this particular camp. We do a lot talking about keeping our teens involved with the church, but we need to do more than just talk about it. This is our chance to show that we mean what we say. We also need a cook for three weeks in July. (or three cooks for one week each). Our cook has severe family problems that she needs to deal with, and so has had to back out. Please help us out or there will not be a camp this summer.

Closer to home, many of you will have heard about our steeple problems. The wood structure around our steeple is rotting out after nearly one hundred years of suffering the abuse of nature. NO, it is not in danger of falling over in the next large storm, but we have

Ramblings cont.

found pieces of it on the ground outside of the church and it will need repairs in the near future. I feel like Chicken Little at times when we discuss it, but if we don't start we will never do anything about it. We have started a fund to repair the steeple, but it is a huge undertaking and will require a lot of professional work. While

we appreciate the money that has been donated to the steeple fund, and we will continue to fund raise and encourage people to help with it, please don't let this take the place of your regular giving. The steeple is over and above (pun intended) the rest of the church, and must not be seen as taking priority over our regular church affairs.

God's blessings on all of you as you enjoy the summer months. Please be careful if you are traveling, working or just relaxing at home. Don't forget that our Sunday Service is at 10:00 am from July 4 until September 5. Colleen and I will be here for most of the summer this year and look forward to seeing you in church. Fr. Dick✕

Summer Reflections

Will Gill

With summer upon us it is difficult to imagine the cold winter months that we went through only six months ago. But that was the reason for our stewardship letter last November and I wanted to give everyone an update on the new furnace and the impact of moving into the hall for January, February, and March. With new seasons come new challenges for our church, our focus has changed to restoration of the steeple and as always the general state of our church's finances.

Last November a letter was sent to our congregation discussing the cost of heating the church, proposing moving into the hall for the three months associated with the highest heating costs, and the cost of a new furnace to save energy and money long term. Our heating costs for January to March were half of what they have been for the same time over the past two years. I would call our move into the hall for the short term a success since it saved us significant money this past winter until a new more efficient furnace could be installed. Speaking of a furnace, donations as a result of the November letter to the congregation, especially one donor who wished to remain anonymous, enabled us to purchase two new furnaces and have them installed this spring. We replaced two older furnaces with two high efficiency models that can heat the same space. I anticipate a noticeable savings on energy costs this winter.

I am sure all of you are aware of the state of

our steeple and the need for it to be repaired. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lana Major for jumping on this issue as soon as it was talked about and being a driving force behind three of the four fundraising events held this spring. Thanks Lana for getting us started. The building committee is still looking into how much the steeple is going to cost to fix, but everyone seems to agree it is not going to be cheap. Lana has spearheaded fundraising this spring and the church is looking into grants to help with the cost, but in all likelihood it will require contributions from our congregation as well. Please remember our upcoming cost of repairing the steeple in your gifts to the church.

On a general note summer is always a bit of a lean time for the church. So much is happening and people are so busy that our attendance drops significantly in the summer. So do our finances. Less people coming every week means it is more difficult to pay our everyday bills at the end of the month for July and August. Post dated cheques for the summer, or really for any time of the year is a great way to help the church even when you know you won't be able to attend.

Before we break for the summer it is a great time to look back at our accomplishments in energy saving over the past year and think ahead to how we can keep improving the state of our church. Please keep the church and especially the steeple in minds as we move into summer.

St. Mary's Bell Tower Restoration

Kirsten Gill

When I met Lana Major four years ago I liked her instantly. You always know where you stand with Lana. She doesn't mind saying what she means. I have also realized that when she believes something can be accomplished she will roll up her sleeves and make sure it happens. Now, Lana is adamant that we must save St. Mary's Bell Tower. The bell tower is a wonderful part of the heritage of not only St. Mary's, but Maple Creek as well. In it is the symbol of our past and our future. At this moment, though we stand to lose part of the church unless we can raise \$60,000 for repairs. Most people would roll their eyes and say, "It's never going to happen." Not Lana. In two months Lana has been instrumental in orchestrating four fund raisers for the bell tower. First on May 22nd, there was the musical evening at the church which raised over \$400. The rain helped highlight the importance of the cause as a constantly dripping at the back of the church accompanied our musicians. Then on May 26th there was an Epicure Party organized by Sally Chant and hosted by April Bauer. Between a lot of laughter and sampling of goodies, the ladies raised another \$300.

Two weeks later, Lana was hard at it again and planned back to events. The first was a dessert and loonie auction on June 4th in the Church. This time, Lana, MaryAnn and I tried our hand at auctioneering, and thanks to a forgiving audience we managed to earn \$600! The following day found Lana and Ev Southwood serving hot dogs outside the Co-op and raising another \$300.

To date, the bell tower fund has raised almost \$1835.00! When I congratulated Lana on her hard work she was quick to remind me that success to date was due to the wonderful support of the St. Mary's community, whether through volunteering to help or through their generous support of this wonderful cause. Please stay posted as I have a feeling Lana is not done yet and we will, I am sure, be raising the \$60,000 necessary to save our bell tower.

Ways and Means

Erna Peters

The Rodeo Lunch, after the parade, was well attended despite the rain and the snow in some areas. The sun shone for the parade and everyone was anxious for pie and coffee as well as beef-on-a-bun.

Our big summer venture is our Garage Sale to be held on August 6th and 7th. Glenn and Coralee Wiebe are your contact people. Let's make this sale another success.

I would also like to extend thanks to my many wonderful helpers.

ACW Report

Linda Magnusson

The ACW had another successful Easter Tea and Bake Sale. Draw winners were: Easter arrangement – Bertha Nuttal, Easter lily – April Bauer, Food hamper – Carol Anhorn, and Chocolate tray – Kay Eccelston. Special thanks to the Juniors for serving at the tea.

The Diocesan ACW meeting was held in Regina this year. Those in attendance reported excellent speakers and a good day. Next year the Diocesan meeting will be held in Moose Jaw.

The Deanery ACW meeting was held in Swift Current and was enjoyed by all in attendance. The 2011 Deanery meeting will be hosted by Maple Creek.

Monthly ACW meetings will start up again in September. Ladies are reminded that ACW meetings are held in the Parish Hall at 7:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month. ACW monthly luncheon is held the Wednesday following each monthly meeting. All ladies are welcome; contact any ACW member for more information.

Stewardship Tip

Summer is here!

Did you know St. Mary's accepts **post-dated cheques**? A great way to continue giving over the summer months or anytime throughout the year.

CAMP HARDING IS CALLING YOU!

Boys and Girls Ages 6 to 18yrs of age
Come enjoy the Cypress Hills Park!

Enjoy activities such as:

- Mini Golf
- Horseback riding
- Camp fires
 - Hikes
 - Crafts
- Fun & Interactive Bible study
 - Swimming
 - Beach activities
 - Canoeing/ Kayaking



Organized & supervised by
experienced camp directors and counsellors

Summer Schedule 2010

Sr. Teen Camp July 4th to 10th
Ages 16 yrs to 18 yrs
Teen Camp July 11th to 17th
Ages 12 yrs to 15 yrs
Intermediate Camp July 18th to 24th
Ages 9 yrs to 12 yrs
Junior Camp July 25th to 31st
Ages 6 yrs to 9 yrs.

All camps are \$150.00 for the week.
\$15.00 of this is non-refundable.

Any questions contact

Fr. Dick Kennedy

stmarysmc@sasktel.net

OR Camp Harding Committee

Box 1568 Maple Creek, Sk.

S0N 1N0

Our Website is www.campharding.ca

Registration Inquiries: Lee Perrin

(306)662-2494 or rl.perrin@sasktel.net

Staff Inquiries: Kirsten Gill at

(306)662-4964 or kirsten@gillfarm.com

All Camps are Co-ed. Campers are to be of age as of
the starting date of the Camp attending.
So plan to come with some of your friends or come to make
new long-lasting friendships.

SEE YOU THERE!

Camp Harding is affiliated with the Diocese of Qu'Appelle, Anglican Church of Canada

COME ONE, COME ALL!



TO THE CO-OP GROCERY STORE PARKING LOT.
HAVE A BBQ SMOKIE WITH A POP FOR \$3.00 IN
SUPPORT OF CAMP HARDING ADOPT-A-
CAMPER FUNDRAISER.



JUNE 25TH, 2010
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



COME HELP SPREAD THE SMILES!

Seder Supper

Coralie Wiebe

Approximately 40 people attended the Seder Supper at St. Mary's, Maple Creek on Maundy Thursday narrated by Coralie Wiebe. Will and Kirsten Gill were the lead father and mother and along with their children sat at the lead table. A empty chair and place setting was also set at this table for the prophet Elijah.

This meal celebrates the deliverance of the people from slavery in Egypt. After a moment of silence and a short prayer, the mothers (Ann Lawrence, Colleen Kennedy and Ev Southwood) lit the festive candles. The fathers (Eric Lawrence, Fr. Dick Kennedy and Glenn Wiebe) then blessed the meal and washed the hands of all those seated at their table.

Seder means "order", which refers to the meal's symbolic

liturgy, prayers and prescribed order of special foods. The celery dipped in salt water reminds us of the greening of spring and the salt water represents the tears shed by the Jewish slaves. The Matzoh (unleavened bread) serves as a symbol of the Messiah who is expected. The roasted lamb bone serves as a reminder that God passed over the homes of the Israelites that were marked with lamb's blood, when God killed the firstborn of the Egyptians. Moror which means bitter herbs (horseradish) reminds us that the Egyptians embittered the lives of the slaves. Haroset is a mixture of apples, cinnamon, nuts and wine. A small sandwich was made out of the matzoh, moror and haroset. The hard boiled egg is a sign of mourning. Also,

at four different times during the meal, the fathers poured and blessed a small glass of wine (grape juice) for each person to drink. This recalls the four phrases in the Exodus story which describe God's action in rescuing the Israelites: "I brought you out...I delivered you...I redeemed you...and I will take you..." (Ex 6:6-7). The act of sharing the wine from a common pitcher symbolizes the unity of the people. The Gill children had the chance to ask their father questions about the Exodus story.

A festive pot luck meal was then served. At the end of the meal, the children were invited to search for a piece of matzoh that had been hidden. Once it was found, treats were given to all of them. The meal was followed by the closing prayers.

The Reverend Peter and Helen Walley from the Diocese of Lichfield will be visiting our diocese from July 3rd to 16th. Peter Walley is the Diocesan Chaplain to the Bishop of Lichfield. They will be visiting St. Mary's in Maple Creek on the afternoon and evening of **July 11** for a service of Sung Evensong at 7:00 pm with a presentation and time of fellowship to follow. Please join us as we welcome Peter and Helen to our Community.

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Thanks to Shirley Ostrander

01-15-2004

HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN ANGLICAN PARISH

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stmarymc@sasktel.net

We're on the Web!
stmarysanglican.net

The **next** newsletter comes out
September 11, 2010

The **deadline** for submissions is
September 8, 2010

Please send your submissions to
Tom Magnusson - tlb.magnus@sasktel.net

VOLUNTEERS WANTED**ST. MARY'S NEEDS YOU!**

as a

Visiting Volunteer

for

Sick, Shut-ins and Anyone Needing a Visit

Call Georgina

662-2973

GARAGE SALE AT ST. MARY'S!**AUGUST 6TH & 7TH, 2010**

Our Church Garage Sale will be held on August 6th & 7th (Friday & Saturday) starting at 9 am at the Parish Hall.

Pricing and set up will be on August 5th (Thursday) starting at 9am. All donations can be dropped off at the Parish Hall anytime Thursday.

We also need lots of people to help with the set up or at the sale. Please contact Glenn or Coralie Wiebe (662-2830) or sign up on schedule in the church bulletin board. Thanks!