



# THE ELECTRIC EPILOG

## Our Mission

Christ Church Episcopal is a family called by the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit to grow spiritually, to share our life with others, and to make God's love known through word and deed.

## Christ Church News

July 1, 2010

### Prayer for Preparation and Support of the Upcoming Search Process

Lord our God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – be present with our search committee, our vestry, and our congregation in the search and selection of a rector for Christ Church. With Your sacred presence, give us the wisdom, discernment and judgment to make the proper call of a priest and pastor to serve the many needs of our congregation and to continue faithfully your ministry at Christ Church. Amen.

**Please be involved in the search process by saying this prayer daily.**

### This Week's Inspirational Thought

To die for God is easier than to live totally for God.

**Parish Assessment Schedule**  
Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am – 3:00pm &  
Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00am – 3:00pm  
Tentative Schedule  
**More Details to Follow**

## The Numbers

Attendance at Saturday, June 26  
Sunday, June 27

5:00 pm      **will resume in September**  
7:45 am      60  
9:15 am      28  
10:45 am     93  
6:30 pm      99

Pledge Receipts

\$ 7,207.86

Alleluia Campaign Receipts

\$ 923.00

## This Week at Christ Church

Thursday	7/1			
Friday	7/2	6:00 pm	Class Room #3	Neurotics Anonymous
		7:00 pm	Board Room	FFIP
Saturday	7/3	8:45 am	Board Room	Bible Study
		6:30 pm	Chapel	American Catholic Church
Sunday	7/4	<b><u>PLEASE SEE THE WEEKLY SERVICE SCHEDULE BELOW</u></b>		
		9:15 am	Guild Room	Christian Formation
		12:00 pm	Board Room	Cursillo Group Reunion
		12:30 pm	Main Church	Romanian Orthodox Church
Monday	7/5	<b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED for July 4th</b>		
		6:00 pm	Class Room #3	Neurotics Anonymous
		7:00 pm	Parish Hall	Alcoholics Anonymous
Tuesday	7/6	9:00 am	Sunday School #2	Arts and Crafts
Wednesday	7/7	9:00 am	Rector's Office	Clergy Meeting
		10:00 am	Sunday School #3	Bible Study
		12:05 pm	Chapel	Holy Eucharist
		4:30 pm	Parish Hall/Kitchen	Amazing Grace Dinner
		6:00 pm	Class Room #3	Neurotics' Anonymous

## Service Schedule

### Wednesday

12:05 - Holy Eucharist

### Saturday

**Our Saturday Evening Eucharist, Jazzus Ecclesiastics, is off for the summer and will resume in September.**

### Sunday

7:45 am - Rite I Eucharist in the Church

9:15 am - La Misa en Espanol (The Mass in Spanish) in the Church

10:45 am - Rite II Eucharist in the Church

6:30 pm - La Misa en Espanol (The Mass in Spanish) in the Church

Also, Christian Education for children, youth and adults is offered in Spanish twice on Sunday at Christ Church.

## Notes of Thanks

A special thanks to the folks who sent in stamps and checks for the mailing of the E-Notices. Also, a big thank you to those who sent checks made payable to Nevada Energy. Please look into your hearts and wallets and consider sending a little extra to defray the energy bills. We are now holding our own but could easily go upside down again with the summer energy bills. I know it is a tough economy, for you and for the church, but any little extra you can send to help offset the electric bill will be a very appreciated and special gift and help Christ Church get through these sparse times.

## Vestry News

The Vestry of Christ Church held its monthly meeting on June 21, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. with Fr. O'Neill offering the opening prayer.

**Vestry Members Present:** Spencer Adams, Jr. Warden, Paul Bell, Sheryl Bell, Dennis Kesner, Sr. Warden, David Martin, Fr. Vince O'Neill, Rector, Sharon Rogers, Marsha Tart, Gail Smith, Peter Steinbrenner, Steve Wilkinson and JoAnn Roberts Armstead, Vestry Recording Clerk.

**Vestry Members Absent:** Pete Falger, Bill Rosado, and Bob Spencer.

**Staff Members Present:** Fr. Bernardo Iniesta-Avila, Priest, Fr. Bob McNaul, Associate, The Rev. DeLaney Armstead, Deacon, and The Rev. Bonnie Polley, Deacon,

**Guest:** Gustavo Sanchez, Artist

### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. with a prayer led by Fr. O'Neill.

### **II. Determination of a Quorum**

Dennis Kesner, Sr. Warden announced the presence of a quorum.

### **III. Adoption of the Agenda**

### **IV. Comments From Visitor**

- a. Sr. Warden, Dennis Kesner introduced Gustavo Sanchez to the members of the Vestry. Fr. Bernardo joined in for the introduction. Gustavo Sanchez is a renowned artist with art displays in major cities throughout the United States, Mexico and Europe. Gustavo circulated two portfolios which contained art work by Gustavo and his credentials. A model picture of our Lady of Guadalupe, done in fiber glass and mosaic tiles was presented to the Vestry. There was a group discussion regarding the size of the statue, the location where it would be placed in the courtyard and compatible décor. Sharon Rogers moved to have the Vestry commissioned art work by Gustavo to be placed in the courtyard of Christ Church at no cost to the church. Seconded by Marsha Tarte, **MSC**. A committee is being formed to act as a liaison with Gustavo and the vestry. The committee will include two accomplished artists who are active members of the congregation.
- b. The Rev. Bob McNaul gave a report on the last Southern Mission District Meeting. The Southern Mission District meets quarterly on Saturday morning at selected locations in the South. Depending on the topics, the meetings are coordinated and facilitated by Bishop Dan Edwards and/or Tom Walsh, the current convener. Tom Walsh from Epiphany Church in Henderson filled the position as convener previously held by the Rev. Ed Lovelady, All Saints. Fr. Bob addressed who should attend the Mission District meetings; Clergy, Priests, Deacons, Church Wardens, Vestry Members, Diocesan Convention Delegates and Parishioners. Some of the ongoing agenda items include parish involvement highlights, successful educational and spiritual programs, the diocesan budget, diocesan convention, cross-fertilization among churches and good fellowship.

To obtain additional information on future Southern Mission District meetings, please contact Tom Walsh at 702-476-9150.

**V. Reading and Approval of the May 17, 2010 Minutes**

Steve Wilkinson moved to affirm the minutes as corrected. Marsha Tarte seconded the motion, **MSC**.

**VI. Review of Action Since Last Meeting**

The Vestry went into a closed session at 8:15 p.m.

**VII. Report of Officers**

a. Rector's Report

1. The rector's written report which highlighted Christ Church and Diocesan activities through November 2010 was distributed.
2. The Saturday 5:00 p.m. Eucharist is discontinued until September, 2010.
3. The new Sunday schedule is doing fine. Archivist, Rusty Fortier provided Fr. O'Neill with the following statistics for both services: 2008 – 281 in attendance, 2009 – 392, and 2010 – 359 to date.
4. Greeting cards by Maria O'Neill – The Vestry welcomed Fr. O'Neill's report that Maria made the decision to provide artistic beautiful handmade greeting cards to the Christ Church Gift Shop. Recipients of Maria's cards praise the art work and feel that the sale of the cards will be very profitable for the parish.
5. Summer Fun for Christ Church Children – Fr. Bernardo gave an overview of the games that will be enjoyed by children once a month from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm in the courtyard. The scheduled dates are June 26, and July 24, 2010.

b. Senior Warden's Report

1. While in office, Senior Warden, Steve Wilkinson had opened dialogue regarding Christ Church's back asking payments to the Diocese. In his December 8, 2009 correspondence to the Standing Committee he explained that the payment of back asking placed a heavy burden on Christ Church and its congregation. Further, he believed that was not the intent of the agreement. In this letter, Christ Church asked the diocese to consider forgiving the debt, declare a "Jubilee" year and wipe the slate clean. On May 6, 2010, the Standing Committee sent a letter to Dennis Kesner, Senior Warden, in response to the request for forgiveness of Christ Church's back asking obligation to the Diocese. The letter was positive and two members of the Standing Committee met with Christ Church's leadership. The meeting and correspondence resulted in the back asking not being forgiven but payments are deferred for 18 months.
2. Additional reporting from the Sr. Warden, regarding personnel issues, was done in a closed session.

c. Treasurer's Report

1. Spencer Adams reported that our income exceeded our expenses by \$380 for May. This year to date income however is behind our expenses by approximately \$43,000. Steve Wilkinson moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Seconded by Sheryl Bell, **MSC**. The entire report is available in the office for review.

**VIII. Reports of Committees**

- a. Building and Grounds – Paul Bell provided detailed information on the South Property. The tenants in Suite 8 (Chiropractors) can comfortably pay the monthly lease payments and the occupancy (utilities) fees. However, due to the state of the economy the tenants can no longer pay for the lease on Suite 9 nor can they afford the occupancy fee. A motion was made to conclude the lease

on Suite 9 which will no longer be used by the chiropractors. Moved by Paul Bell and seconded by Steve Wilkinson, **MSC**.

- b. Christian Formation –Sheryl Bell reported that Sunday School is out for the summer and will start up again on August 29, 2010.
- c. Parish Organizations – Sharon Rogers informed the Vestry that more members are needed for the four Altar Guild teams. The teams, being severely under staffed, have a negative impact on Sunday worship. The need is so great that Fr. Bernardo has offered his personal assistance every Sunday morning. In addition to personnel matters, Sharon addressed the need for more linens, training, and lack of supplies.
- d. In July, 2010, Gale Smith will be meeting with silversmiths to obtain a cost for straightening the cross.
- e. Community Ministries – Marsha Tarte is the coordinator for Hopelink (formerly HACA). Hopelink is a partnership of organizations serving the community. Christ Church is a member of Hopelink. The “*Henderson Back 2 School Partnership*” event takes place on August 21, 2010. Marsha will gather clothing packages from the congregation. On Sunday, June 27, 2010 Marsha will ask parishioners to sponsor a child.

The Rev Bonnie Polley reported that the Amazing Grace Fund Raiser held on June 5, 2010 realized a profit of \$3,500.

Family Promise – Christ Church hosted 13 families during the past week.

- f. Endowment Review Committee Report – Steve Wilkinson made available the minutes from the last Endowment Review Committee meeting. The revised Endowment document needs to have an ongoing contribution system. Protection of the funds must include: excess loss, poor investments, investments in those funds/stocks in violation of Diocesan or national church policy and realistic investment policy. Further, all committee members were asked to review the current trust instrument for changes. Jim Williams is President of the CCE Endowment Board.
- g. The Sprinkler System – On June 23, 2010 Steve Wilkinson met with the Las Vegas Fire Department and the City fire inspector to discuss the requirement by the City of Las Vegas to install sprinklers in the entire campus of CCE. This does not include the South Property. Christ Church will hire a fire safety consultant and the property will be surveyed to determine other ways to be compliant. Final inspection is pending.
- h. Search Committee – Marsha Tart reported that the next step in the search for a rector for Christ Church is for members to complete a computer survey called the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT). July 24, 2010 is the estimated start date for this survey.

**IX. Moved to Closed Session at 8:15 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Roberts Armstead  
Vestry Recording Clerk

## Fr. Vince's Biblical Limerick Corner

### **Genesis 32:23-33**

The authors of Genesis describe Jacob and God wrestling during the night, a symbolic moral struggle all of us go through many times in our lives.

Jacob wrestled with God through the night.

Most would think it was not a fair fight.

But we face the same stress

To offer God our full "yes",

Or we let darkness cancel God's light.

## PROCESS

### **FOR ALL THOSE PREPARING FOR—OR RECOVERING FROM—MEETINGS**

**If God were process oriented, the Book of Genesis would read something like this:**

In the beginning GOD created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void; so GOD created a small community. GOD carefully balanced the community vis-a-vis race, sex, ethnic origin and economic status in order to interface pluralism with the holistic concept of self-determination according to adjudicatory guideline. Even GOD was impressed, and so ended the first day.

And GOD said, "Let the Committee draw up a mission statement." and behold, the Committee decided to prioritize and stratigize. And GOD called that process empowerment. And GOD thought it sounded good. And evening and morning were the second day.

And GOD said, "Let the Committee determine goals and objectives, and engage in long range planning." Unfortunately, a debate as to the semantic difference between goals and objectives preempted almost all of the third day. Although the question was never satisfactorily resolved, GOD thought the "process" was constructive. And evening and morning were the third day.

And GOD said, "Let there be a retreat in which the Committee can envision functional organization, can be engaged in planning, and can be objective." "Let there be a retreat in which the Committee can envision functional organization, can be engaged in planning, and can be objective." The Committee considered adjustment of priorities and consequential alternatives to program directions. And GOD saw that this was good. And God thought it was even worth while supplying all the coffee and doughnuts. And so ended the fourth day.

And GOD said, "Let the Committee be implemented insistent with long-range planning and strategy." The Committee considered guidelines and linkages and structural sensitivities, and alternatives, and implementation models. And GOD saw that this was very democratic. And so would have needed the fifth day, except for the unintentional renewal of the debate about the differences between goals and objectives.

On the sixth day, the Committee agreed on criteria for adjudicatory assessment and evaluation. This wasn't the agenda GOD had planned. GOD wasn't able to attend the meeting, however, having had to take the afternoon off to create the day and night, and heaven and earth and seas and plants and trees and seasons and years, and sun and moon and birds and fish and animals and human beings,

On the seventh day, GOD rested and the Committee submitted its recommendations. It turned out that the recommended forms for things was nearly identical to the way GOD had already created; so the committee submitted its recommendations; so the committee passed a resolution commending GOD for implementing according to guidelines. There was, however, some opinion expressed quietly that people should have been created in the committee's image...and GOD caused a deep sleep to fall on the Committee.

(Submitted by: "Rusty" Fortier, Historian)