

## Dear Companions on the Way...

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This summer is an important time for the Episcopal Church in that the Lambeth Conference is to be held July 16 through August 4. The Lambeth Conference is the gathering of all the bishops of the Anglican Communion (well, almost all – more later) held every ten years in England at the palace of the Archbishop of Canterbury (Lambeth Palace). This conference was first held in 1868 and is the most visible manifestation of a term we are fond of referring to as the Anglican Communion.

To understand the Lambeth Conference is to make the phrase “Anglican Communion” more understandable and accessible. The Anglican Communion is often a rather vague and nebulous concept that has some passionate and vocal defenders, but is sometimes hard to see or understand its importance for us. The Episcopal Church is an autonomous and self-governing church with several dioceses, each with its own bishop. Our history, doctrine and practice all draw from the Church of England. There are 37 churches like this around the world, often defined by national boundaries and identity, but others extending into larger regions, especially where there may not be many congregations. These 37 autonomous church bodies share a number of common features such as worship guided by a prayerbook rooted in the historic Book of Common Prayer, a structure that holds the role and office of Bishop very important, and a strong emphasis on the sacraments. These 37 bodies are called Provinces.

The bonds that hold us together are not necessarily defined or constitutional. The phrase “bonds of affection” is often used by us to describe our link. The other focus of our link is in the person and office of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams. Yet when we describe the Archbishop of Canterbury (ABC), the first sentence is “but he’s not a pope.” The ABC does not have authority to define doctrine or even settle disputes. He can call meetings and appoint commissions which can produce recommendations, but it is principally the gathered leaders who together will attempt to discern the mind of Christ.

This is why the Lambeth Conference is so important; this is the first time in ten years that so many leaders will have gathered together like this. Last week there were some press releases regarding the format of the Lambeth conference that revealed that there will be no legislative sessions. The group will not be voting on resolutions as their primary activity, rather they will be doing Bible study together and engaging in work designed to strengthen and equip the

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bishops' ministry as an enabler and encourager of God's people in their purpose and mission.

Even so, there will be (and has already been) lots of politics. Most significantly has been the invitations themselves; Gene Robinson, the bishop of New Hampshire, was not invited to be part of the formal gathering. This was recommended by the Windsor Report and was thus not a surprise, but is a disappointment to me. Also, the ABC did not invite the bishops consecrated for Nigeria and other provinces to serve those American churches who have renounced their affiliation with the Episcopal Church. I have also been asked about other "Anglican" churches who claim to be part of the Anglican Communion. Their bishop(s) have not been invited either; so I don't know by what bond they can claim to be part of the Anglican Communion.

The ABC has communicated to the bishops coming that work will be done toward developing an Anglican Covenant. There is a proposed draft called the "St. Andrew's draft" that is the most recent proposal (it is 20 pages long). You can find it by googling "St. Andrew's Draft Anglican covenant" or typing in the following site:

[http://www.aco.org/commission/covenant/docs/st\\_andrews\\_documents\\_2008.pdf](http://www.aco.org/commission/covenant/docs/st_andrews_documents_2008.pdf)

I'll be spending quite a bit of time trying to become expert in it over the next few weeks. If any of you do look at it, let me know your thoughts.

There's been some renewed attention in the

news media now that Lambeth is approaching, and it will certainly grow. I just read "Turning away from Jesus: Gay rights and the war for the Episcopal Church" by Garret Keizer in the May Harper's Magazine. The title is unfortunate and doesn't really indicate that the work is a much more broad and personal essay and not really a work of reporting facts. It is well written and thoughtful, however, and did give a good picture of the situation the church finds itself in today. I would also encourage you to go to the official website of the Lambeth Conference for more information: [Lambethconference.org](http://Lambethconference.org).

Let me close with a request for prayer. There is a heavy burden of expectations and anxiety about the conference from many quarters. All will be served by prayer. The conference itself has published a number of prayers, one of which follows:

*Pour down upon us, O god, the gifts of your Holy Spirit, that those who prepare for the Lambeth Conference may be filled with wisdom and understanding.*

*May they know at work within them that creative energy and vision which belong to our humanity, made in your image and redeemed by your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Shalom,



Andrew

# Sign Up Now for Vacation Bible School

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Please mark July 21–23 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on your calendars for Vacation Bible School. Join Larry the Cucumber, Bob the Tomato and the Pirates Who Don't Do Anything, for our fun-filled Bible adventure. The theme is "Calling all Heroes!"

We will be talking about different Biblical heroes each day with lessons tied in with singing, crafts, snacks, and games. All children age three to those entering third grade are welcome. They do not have to be church members to attend, and there is no charge. If you would like for your child to attend, please fill out the registration form and send it to the church. If you have any questions, please call Trisha Rickey at 247-0817.

## St. Mark's Vacation Bible School Registration

**Monday, Tuesday Wednesday, July 21, 22, 23**

**9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

*Children who are age three\* to those entering third grade  
may register for Vacation Bible school.*

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Child's age at start of VBS \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, what grade will your child be attending next year? \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parents'/Guardians' names \_\_\_\_\_

List any food or other allergies your child has \_\_\_\_\_

Specific medical needs or accommodations \_\_\_\_\_

Will your child be attending VBS every day:  Y  N

If no, which days will your child be attending? \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact names and numbers \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Additional information about your child \_\_\_\_\_

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*\*Younger children must be potty trained.*

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

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- June 1 . . . . . Summer Sunday School resumes  
June 1 . . . . . Haiti Project meeting  
June 1 . . . . . Trimble Lane Clean-up  
June 4 . . . . . Food for the Soul begins  
June 6 . . . . . St. Mark's day at  
                    Manna Soup Kitchen  
June 11 . . . . . Summer Blood Drive  
June 18 . . . . . Mirabai Concert  
June 20–21 . . . . . Relay for Life  
June 22 . . . . . Meat & Greet  
June 25 . . . . . Jennifer Carr, mezzo-soprano,  
                    with C. Scott Hagler and  
                    Nan Wagner  
July 4 . . . . . St. Mark's day at  
                    Manna Soup Kitchen  
July 21–23 . . . . . Vacation Bible School  
August 3 . . . . . All-church picnic and rafting  
August 22–24 . . . . . Choir Retreat  
Sept. 12–14 . . . . . Parish Retreat

## Haiti Project Meeting: June 1

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Sunday, June 1 at 12:15 there will be a meeting for persons interested in going to Haiti or helping to plan a summer fundraiser. The Haiti Project is planning a silent auction to raise funds for travel money for the Haiti trip. If anyone has items to donate, or are willing to help with obtaining items to donate, contact Jill Carlson, Mary-Catherine McAlvany or Luri Owen. Details will be announced later.

## Sunday School Resumes: June 1

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The Summer Sunday School program for pre-school through fifth grade children will resume on Sunday, June 1 at the 10:30 a.m. service.

## Trimble Lane Clean-up: June 1

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St. Mark's will be cleaning Trimble Lane on Sunday, June 1. Most will go out after the 10:30 service, but you can pick up an orange bag, let Cheryl or Ginna know which section you will clean, and do it on your own schedule. Please take your bag home or back to the church dumpster to dispose of it. The county is asking all of us to sign new waivers, which will be available with the orange bags at church. We need at least six volunteers to get this done; the "bag ladies," Ginna Harbison and Peggy Glasco, can't do it alone!

## Food for the Soul: June 4

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On the first Wednesday of each month at 6:15 p.m. (following Soul Break), we are offering a meal, time to get to know one another, and an interesting conversation starter. June 4 is the kick-off for this new fellowship opportunity.

## St. Mark's Blood Drive: June 11

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St. Mark's will hold our summer blood drive Wednesday, June 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Blood is especially needed in the summer due to travel schedules of regular donors. You can donate either one pint of whole blood or two units of red blood cells. Sign up in the Parish Hall.

## Do you have any of our linens?

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Several of our round and cream-colored tablecloths are missing. If you have them (or have taken any of our laundry home to wash), please bring them back soon or call the office and let them know what you have.

## Relay for Life: June 20–21

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The Relay for Life Cancer Fundraiser will be held at Fort Lewis College June 20–21. If you would like to be a team member for St. Mark's, please call the church office. Those who will not be walking on the team can support the team members by sponsoring them. Other ways to contribute are to purchase luminarias or yellow bricks. If you would like to be a sponsor, please sign-up in the Parish Hall. For more information, visit [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org).

## "Meat & Greet": June 22

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After the 10:30 service on Sunday, June 22, come to the Parish hall and enjoy a time to meat (hamburgers on the grill) and greet your St. Mark's family! All are invited; bring your friends.

## Mid-week Faith Formation and Fellowship

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A faith formation and fellowship group is meeting on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall at St. Mark's. Bring your lunch and gather with other adults for some time to connect with one another and strengthen our faith. Child care is provided.

## Monthly Newsletter Changes Coming This Summer

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Rising costs of materials and postage and an increasing awareness of being good stewards of the environment are prompting St. Mark's to move forward with changing the way our newsletter is distributed. By the end of this summer we will only be

postal mailing your newsletters if you request to receive them this way, otherwise there will be three ways for you to receive the newsletter. You may receive it as a pdf by e-mail, pick up a hard copy at St. Mark's or view the newsletter online at [www.StMarksDurango.com](http://www.StMarksDurango.com).

We will be updating our e-mail database in the coming weeks and identifying your preferences so we can determine how many newsletters we need to print. Many of you have already contacted us with your e-mail addresses and we appreciate that. If you are a non-resident of the Durango area or a former member who has moved away and you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please send an e-mail with your name and current e-mail address to [CherylW@StMarksDurango.com](mailto:CherylW@StMarksDurango.com) and make a note in the subject line "St. Mark's newsletter." We will only use the postal service if you request it.

Not only will this change save St. Mark's a significant amount of money, it will also help us to be more timely in providing information to you about upcoming events. If you have any questions or would like further details, please speak with Father Andrew, Cheryl White or Tonya Wales.

## Godly Play Needs Volunteers

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If you would be interested in helping with Godly Play next fall, please contact Renée Knight at 259-6109.

## Bakers Needed

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We need volunteers to bake bread for communion. If you are interested in helping, please contact the church office. We'll compile a list of volunteers and contact you with additional information.

## New Books in the St. Mark's Library

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Thanks mostly to the book sale, these titles are new to the St. Mark's Library. You're welcome to stop by any time the church is open.

<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>FORMAT</b>
Francis de Sales, St.	<i>Thy Will Be Done: Letters to Persons in the World</i>	Classics/Mystics	book
Green, Thomas	<i>Prayer and Common Sense</i>	Reflections/Prayer	book
Hildegard of Bingen	<i>Praying with Hildegard of Bingen</i>	Reflections/Prayer	book
Julian of Norwich	<i>Julian of Norwich: Reflections on Selected Texts</i> (by Cooper)	Classics/Mystics	book
Keating, Thomas	<i>Crisis of Faith</i>	Christian Living/ Spiritual Journey	book
Keating, Thomas	<i>Invitation to Love</i>	Reflections/Prayer	book
May, Gerald	<i>Addiction &amp; Grace</i>	Christian Psychology	book
Naparstek: Health Journeys	<i>A Meditation to Promote Successful Surgery</i>	Healing	CD
Nelson, John	<i>The Little Way of St. Therese of Lisieux</i>	Classics/Mystics	book
Nouwen, Henri	<i>Here and Now: Living in the Spirit</i>	Reflections/Meditations	book
Rahner, Karl	<i>Prayers for a Lifetime</i>	Reflections/Prayer	book
Rohr & Keating	<i>The Eternal Now and How to Be There</i>	Christian Living/ Spiritual Journey	CD
Rohr & Sr. Chittister	<i>Prophets Then, Prophets Now</i>	Cultural/Social Issues	CD
Rohr, Richard	<i>Simplicity: The Art of Living</i>	Christian Living	book
Rolheiser, Ronald	<i>The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality</i>	Christianity, An Introduction	book
Willard, Dallas	<i>Renovation of the Heart</i>	Christian Living/ Spiritual Journey	book

## Coffee Hour Hosts and Ushers Needed

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Coffee hour hosts and ushers are needed at both Sunday services! These hospitality-oriented tasks are well-suited for those who enjoy greeting people before the service and those who would like to spread out a table of treats for coffee hour. Ushers are frequently a visitor's first contact with someone from St. Mark's and coffee hour encourages our members and guests to visit with one another, so both are important parts of our fellowship.

When there are enough people in the rotation, coffee hour service happens about once every two months and ushering happens about once every four to six weeks. Scheduling volunteers is more of a challenge during the summer months since more volunteers are gone. If you are interested in ushering or being a coffee hour host, please let the office know or call for more details.

## Outreach for Women

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"Transformations," a fellowship group for women, sponsored by Women United in Christ, will have their June gathering at Arboles Baptist Church, 214 Cedar Dr. in Arboles on Saturday, June 14. The gathering includes a salad luncheon, worship, scripture teaching, a speaker and prayer. The speaker will be Vickie Janson who will share a powerful message about God's amazing grace. There is no charge. On the second Saturday of each month, WUIC will have their luncheon program at a different church. If you would like to attend the June gathering, please call Cindy Kelley by June 11 at 247-0310. For more information visit [www.womenunitedinchrist.org](http://www.womenunitedinchrist.org).

St. Mark's will be hosting "Transformations" on August 9, and we need your help. Please talk to Cheryl in the office, 247-1129, for details.

## Summer Recitals at St. Mark's

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### Mirabai Ceiba

**Wednesday, June 18 • 8:00 pm.**

Mirabai Ceiba is a musical project created by Angelika Baumbach from Mexico (vocal and harp) and Markus Sieber from Germany (vocal and guitar). They perform a compilation of original songs in Spanish as well as newly arranged chants from different traditions of the world. The name Mirabai Ceiba expresses the influences of both India and Native Latin America. The Ceiba is the sacred tree of Latin America, where these trees are never cut but are allowed to grow very tall. "We wish our music could be like that kind of tree, with roots deep in the Mother Earth and branches extending wide into Father Sky. Mirabai is for us the wandering, the devotion, the inspiration in all the different aspects of divinity." Angelika and Markus travel together as Mirabai Ceiba giving concerts and workshops ("The Voice, Expression of the Soul") in Europe, the United States and Latin America.

### Jennifer Carr, mezzo-soprano

*with C. Scott Hagler and Nan Wagner*

**Wednesday, June 25 • 7:00 p.m.**

Jennifer Carr is performing this summer for the Colorado Council for the Arts and Humanities, bringing "Music for the Spanish Peaks," a vocal/piano recital featuring the music Granados, Obradors, Rodrigo, Ginastera, and Latin American folk music, to rural Colorado. She will also join with long-time friend Nan Wagner for some fun American music. In addition to Durango, she'll perform in La Veta, Mancos, Paonia and Rifle. Proceeds from her concert at St. Mark's will go to the organ fund. Ms. Carr teaches voice at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. She is an active singer, vocal coach, accompanist, and choral director and resides in Fort Worth.

## Cathy Donahoe Update

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*Cathy Donahoe is a missionary with the South American Missionary Society. She is serving in the Dominican Republic as a physical therapist in San Pedro de Macoris at the Clínica Esperanza y Caridad. E-mail: cathydonahoe@sams-usa.org or cathyd@turbonet.com Snail mail: Apartado 587, San Pedro de Macoris, Dominican Republic.*

Your prayers are greatly appreciated and I feel your support in many ways. It's hard to believe I've been here a year! Thanks to God and to you!

I continue to deepen relationships with folks here in my church community and to grow in Christ with them. The "choir" here is all women and they sing by memory, either a cappella or with rhythm

instruments. Many of you know that I enjoy singing, but joining this group of women was not feasible while living in the apartment. Now that I'm "local," I can take time to swing by and practice extra with Iris. They were invited to sing for the ECW conference and have a couple of singing dates in the near future. I hope to join them soon, should my memory skills prove sufficient!

The renovations of the therapy space are still a work in progress which leads to some frustration on my part. I have one client who had surgery in his neck which left him partially paralyzed in all four limbs. It has been exciting working with him and helping him improve his independence with bed mobility and transfers. There is still a lot of work to do on both of our parts, but he is motivated which helps immensely.

**Deadline for the next issue is June 20, 2008.**

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