

E-Notices July 22, 2008

A tribute from the Rector

Molly Aline Williams

***“All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we
make our song Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia”***

Molly Williams was formed as a Christian in Christ Church. Her first memories of the faith and knowing the love of God came from many of you. Since her tragic death Molly and her family and his friends have experienced a great outpouring of love from the Christian community, friends, students from her school, members of the Acolyte Guild and Church School, the *Thunder Down Under* and Louie Anderson and people all over. Countless people have revealed the love of Christ keeping Vigil over this period of time. Molly is in the hands and arms of her savior and we all need to lean into those same loving arms.

Lean into Jesus

What happened was horrible. It was Godless. As a priest and a minister of the Gospel of Christ, I need to remind you and to remind me that God is present in all circumstances and particularly the ones where we feel God seems to be absent. The most horrible and senseless thing that happened in this world was on a Friday... on Calvary where the Son of God was crucified. And you know what? God was there. God was present, bringing about new life!

***Trampling down death by death
Giving life to those in the tomb.***

On Easter Sunday Jesus Christ opened the Kingdom of Heaven to all who believe in him saying:

***Come, O blessed of my father
Inherit the kingdom prepared for you.***

Molly Williams is known by her faithfulness to her family and friends, her free spirit, her joy and commitment to service at Christ Church. All of this faithfulness was the result of her formation as a Christian at Christ Church and in her home. This tragedy was horrible and senseless—it was not a call home! However, Molly went home and she met God, and not as a stranger. Because she had followed Jesus, the love of God was known to her in the lives of family, friends, and untold numbers of people. Let us lean into Jesus, into his hands and arms. And into those loving hands let us together commit to God

Molly Williams

***a sheep of God's fold
a Lamb of God's flock
a sinner of God's redeeming
knowing that Molly is in the arms of mercy
in everlasting peace and in the glorious company of the
saints in light.***

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*The Rev'd Kent Belmore, Jr., VIII Rector of Christ Church in the city of Las Vegas
July 21, 2008*

This week at Christ Church...

Wednesday

This years Lobster Fair is set for October 18th. The Lobster Fair Committee will organize tomorrow Wednesday, July 23, 5:30 pm in the Guild Room. This meeting will last one hour. Everyone is welcomed to come, volunteer or just listen. We need many people to continue on our success.

Also on Wednesday, Fr. Bob's Bible Study on Revelation beginning at 10:30. The Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 12 Noon. Amazing Grace Ministry serves Dinner for the housed and homeless at 5:30 pm.

Saturday and Sunday Holy Eucharistic Celebrations

Following each service Pie and Ice Cream will be served.

At the 10:30 Mass, Jim Geffert and friends will provide Choral Music for the prelude, postlude, offertory and during communion. These talented musicians have been providing music at our Vigil Mass on Saturday afternoon. Do not miss this wonderful offering.

Can you believe summer is in full swing and we're already getting started with our Sunday school planning for 2008-2009 school year? To make this the best year yet, we need your support and help! There are lots of places for you to fit into the Sunday school picture and we hope that you will choose to be part of the fun and excitement.

Following the late service this Sunday is a meeting of the Christian Education Committee in the Guild Room.

For more information, please call the Revd Buck Belmore or Graci at 735.7655

Ongoing each week...

Monday through Friday 10 to noon: Food Distribution to the working poor. During the same hours on Thursdays, Matthew Closet, a ministry of Bishop Gorham High School and Christ Church, distributes free clothing.

Treasure House is opened Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday 10:30 am to 3:00 pm.

Community Ministries News

Three Square, the Las Vegas Community Food Bank, in a competitive grant process, awarded two energy efficient upright freezers to *Christ Church's Epicenter on the Parkway*. These new freezers will replace two energy hogs that need periodic de-frosting. They will also increase our capacity and when frozen items come available at 9 cents a pound we can buy, store, and then distribute to the working poor of the valley. This past week we purchased 4 tons of food for distribution! We still could use extra hands on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10-Nonn. Contact John Maloney at 735.7655 or Deacon Polley @ 250.9125.

I am but one...

The Christ Church Daughters of the King wonderfully donated the money to purchase bottle water during the extreme heat of summer. This fulfills the Daughters' motto: "*I am but one and can not do everything but I can do something...Lord, what would you have me to do today?*" This motto is appropriate for all Christians to ponder. Thank you Daughters!

Family Promise

Our hats off to, Sandee and Bill Leonard, Ted and Kathleen Quasula and Daniele Johnson They answered last week E-Notice to help with *Family Promise* guests. They will be providing hospitality and dinner on Wednesday and Thursday this week. Thanks also to, Carol Mittwede, Marsha Tarte and Deacon Polley who did last week.

Treasure House

We give thanks to the wonderful volunteers of *Treasure House*. Because of their commitment we are able to provide quality clothing and household goods to the working poor year round. Treasure House then funds Epicenter, gives camp scholarships, and provides funds for special projects for Christ Church and other Episcopal churches in the valley including our Alleluia Centennial Capital Campaign.

In the month of June these volunteers provided 336.5 hours of service. This brings a total for the year of 2,189.5 volunteer hours.

The Vestry last month provided additional storage and staging area adjacent to the retail space. Please don't discard clothing and things. Please donate them to this marvelous ministry. This is a wonderful example of God's economy... a gift keeps giving.

Outreach Summit

On Saturday August 2 between the hours of 10 and noon, the volunteers, staff, and boards of Epicenter, Treasure House, parish leaders together with the clergy will gather for an Outreach Summit. This is an opportunity for us to evaluate what we are doing and how we can improve our services and ministry.

Be an Acolyte

Deacon DeLaney Armstead is assuming the training of the Acolytes. We will be meeting on the last Sunday of each month in the “Teen’s Lounge” at 12:30. There will be lunch served, Acolyte training, and monthly schedules made. These meetings are very important and needs to be attended by all serving at the Altar. More Acolytes are needed to serve each Sunday, included adults. If you are interested in becoming an Acolyte please join us at the monthly meeting, or call Graci Vargas at 735.7655.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE GETS A FACELIFT

As you know, we have a Saturday night 5:00 pm service each week at Christ Church; but what you may not know about, are the many innovative features of this “Vigil Mass”. All clergy celebrate and preach on a rotating schedule.....there is great singing, usually out of the LEVAS Songbook....and special liturgies. And we also have several great vocalists! (More music will be coming soon, including songs from the beautiful and contemplative Taize Liturgy.)

After almost every service, there’s a variety of food, such as barbecues, chips ‘n dip nights, or light suppers. We also have Ice Cream Socials were you build your own Sundaes.

So come and join us – share in worship, renewal, fellowship and song.

Father Bob McNaul

July Vestry Meeting

The Parish Vestry met last evening, June 21 and here are the highlights.

- I. The financial statements of the Parish were presented and income and expenses are better than anticipated through the first six months of the year! Thanks to all of you who are keeping up with your pledge during the summer months.

- II. Vestry received information from Sandberg and Salemm Design Group, our architect, concerning the organ and loft project. The architect is working with the organ builder, engineers, our HVAC contractor and electrician. The initial design of the loft has been approved. If the permitting process and other investigation of soils goes well we will be able to select a contractor and begin construction in the late fall. The choir loft and organ will not need to be supported by the north and south walls of the church, a super structure will be built in the interior.

- III.
- IV. Our architect is working with Sun Ports, Inc., the vendor of the shade structure, to secure final city permitting. Once the city issues a permit the fabric will be ordered.

- V.
- VI. Property Maintenance Issues: the Palm Trees in the Courtyard are being stripped and the area behind the altar rail will be painted in a contrasting color and the exterior painting of the church continues.

- VII.
- VIII. Vestry directed that the new HVAC for the Parish Offices be paid from the Alan Root Restoration Fund. (\$13,953)

- IX.
- X. The Vestry approved opening an account with Fidelity Investments; Fidelity will distribute our assets to 6 or 7 FDIC accounts at various banks under \$100,000 to fully insure our cash assets.

- XI. Approved a recommendation to change our Property and Liability Insurance from the Church Insurance Corporation to Guide One, the largest insurer of churches in the United States. The coverage is superior to our existing coverage and Christ Church will realize an annual savings of \$5,000. (\$17,500 to \$12,500)
- XII.
- XIII. The Vestry received reports from Outreach, Christian Education Epicenter, and the Alleluia Capital Campaign Committees.
- XIV.
- XV. The vestry had conversation concerning the continuing “greening “of Christ Church.