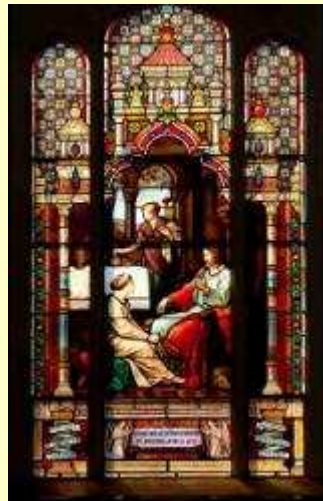


# eNewsletter of the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada

Issue # 36

July 29, 2009

## Mary and Martha of Bethany



Mary and Martha of Bethany, with Lazarus their brother, are described in the Gospels according to Luke and John, as close and well-loved friends of Jesus. In Luke, Martha is described as a symbol of active life and Mary as a contemplative. John's Gospel tells the story of Jesus arriving at their house after Lazarus' death, and the deep trust that Martha had in his power to heal and restore even after death. The exchange between them in this Gospel evokes Martha's deep faith and acknowledgement of Jesus as the Messiah (John 11:21-27). John's Gospel also tells the story of the supper at Bethany at which Mary anointed Jesus' feet with fragrant ointment and wiped them with her hair. The devotion and friendship of Mary and Martha are an example of fidelity and service to the Lord. Their hospitality and kindness show us the beauty of human friendship and love at its best.

*O God, heavenly Father, your Son Jesus Christ enjoyed rest and refreshment in the home of Mary and Martha of Bethany; Give us the will to love you, open our hearts to hear you, and strengthen our hands to serve you in others for his sake; who lives and reigns with you and*

*the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen*

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## Calendar of Events

If you would like to see your event listed here, please email [Clelia](mailto:Clelia). If you would like to see your event listed in the [diocesan calendar](#), please email [Barbara](mailto:Barbara).

### SAVE THE DATES

**Aug 3, DEADLINE FOR DESERT SPIRIT ARTICLES.** If you have something you would like published please email your submission to [hallie.murphy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hallie.murphy@sbcglobal.net)

**Aug 8, SOUTHERN DISTRICT MISSION MEETING 10:00 AM** for all Mission District clergy, wardens, and Diocesan Convention delegates. All Saints', Las Vegas

**Aug 12, DEADLINE FOR "EARLY BIRD" REGISTRATION FOR DIOCESAN CONVENTION.**

**Aug 16, ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**, Pahrump, 10:30 AM. Bishop Dan will lead the congregation in this joyous celebration. Reception with lunch will follow the service. **Please join us!!!**

**Sep 3, CHRISTIAN BASICS: An Outline of the Faith (found in the Book of Common Prayer)** offered by the Frensdorff School beginning Sep 13 at St. Peter's Church in Carson City. This class is open to anyone seeking educational formation into baptismal discipleship. The class will meet twice monthly on Sunday afternoons from 1:00 - 4:00 PM. The first semester (Sep - Dec) will follow the theme "A Community of Revelation." The second semester (Feb - May) will continue with the theme "A Community of Reconciliation." The class facilitator will be Chuck McCray. Please contact [frensdorff.school@gmail.com](mailto:frensdorff.school@gmail.com) for more information.



**Sep 5-6, THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAM; Animal Stories for the Soul, presented by William Miller**, Christ Church, Las Vegas. Saturday 5:00 PM - Sermon; Sunday 8:00 AM - Sermon; 9:15 AM - Lecture: *A Conversation with Dog*; 10:30 AM - Sermon. Book signing to follow. For information call 702-735-7655.

**Sep 20, CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES BEGIN** for Kindergarten - 5th Grade, 10:15 AM, All Saint's, Las Vegas

**Sep 27, A SPECIAL MULTI-CULTURAL WORSHIP SERVICE WITH BISHOP DAN PRESIDING at the Ending of a Pastoral Care Relationship and Rector's Retirement Celebration**, 2:00 PM, All Saint's Las Vegas

**Oct 3, SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY OF THE EUCHARIST AND ITS PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS: A Roving Workshop by Bishop Dan, St. Paul's Church, Elko.** No Charge. [For Additional Information](#)

Oct 22 - 25, DIOCESAN CONVENTION: I Love To Tell The Story; Keynote Speaker: Fr. Jake aka Fr. Terry Martin. Harvey's Resort & Casino, Lake Tahoe Area. [For Reservations](#)

YOUTH WEEKEND AT CAMP GALILEE DURING THE CONVENTION - Ages 7-18; all types of camping activities. Fee for the weekend is \$100. Please contact [stuartcampbell66@gmail.com](mailto:stuartcampbell66@gmail.com) for information, or to register your children.

 Forward to a Friend

## Presiding Bishop's Letter to the Church on General Convention



*"Above all else, this Covention claimed God's mission as the heartbeat of the Episcopal Church. I encourage every member of this Church to enter into conversation in your own congregation or diocese about God's mission, and where you and your faith community are being invited to enter more deeply into caring for your neighbors, the "least of these" whom Jesus befriends."*

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori

These are the concluding remarks of Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori's *Letter to the Church on General Convention* issued on Saturday, July 2, 2009, directly following the conclusion on the 2009 General Convention. [To read the entire letter](#)



### Desert Angels Health Tip of the Week

There are numerous benefits to walking: managing your weight; controlling your blood pressure; decreasing your risk of heart attack; boosting "good" cholesterol; lowering your risk of stroke; reducing your risk of type 2 diabetes; lowering your stress level; improving sleep; and many more. A steady walking routine is the most important factor. Try to walk about 30 minutes a day, 5 or more days a weeks. Keeping a steady pace is important. Try not to slow down and speed up at random. Your walking time is also a time for solitude and a change of scenery. It is also a good time to look and listen, and to let the Spirit of God enter where He will. As you walk, try to notice your surroundings in a variety of ways, seeking God's presence in even the smallest elements of the world.



**Bishop Dan's Blog** - "Why are readers from Hong Kong, Canada, California, and Virginia commenting on Bishop Dan's blog? Check it out. <http://www.bishopdansblog.blogspot.com>

**I am an Episcopalian** - [Ministry Is What It's All About](#)

**Episcopal Recovery Ministries in Nevada** is in formation and will have its first meeting at Diocesan Convention in October. If you would like to participate in this ministry, or have questions, please contact Kathie Knutson Meier at [knutenote@cox.net](mailto:knutenote@cox.net) (702-684-6444 or 253-250-9531), or have a look at the home page <http://www.episcopalrecoveryministries.org>

**Diocesan Convention, Harvey's, South Lake Tahoe - Thursday, Oct. 22 - Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009.**  
**Theme: I Love to Tell the Story. Keynote Speaker: Fr. Jake, aka Fr. Terry Martin.** When you book your room online there is NO FEE. [Online Booking](#) **Coming Next Week: Convention Details**



**A Bus Trip to Lake Tahoe for the Diocesan Convention** in October will be sponsored by St. Matthew's, Las Vegas. For information, or to make a reservation, contact Thelma Northrup at (702)-889-3929; or email [stmatts@embarqmail.com](mailto:stmatts@embarqmail.com)

**Resolution Committee Formed** - The Resolution Committee for the Diocesan Convention 2009 has formed. The members are: Rev. Victoria Daniel Riley, Chair; Rev. Helen McPeak; Fred Lee; and Margaret Bouzek. All resolutions must be submitted to Rev. Riley not less than 90 days prior to the first day of the convention. Please submit resolutions via email to [vriley@nevadajustice.org](mailto:vriley@nevadajustice.org), or by U.S. mail to Rev. Victoria Daniel Riley, 2769 Wellington North, Carson City, NV 89703.

**Desert Angels - A Parish Nursing Program of the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada.** This is a new ministry whose mission is to bring health and healing to the parish communities of the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada. The group will have a booth and planning meeting at the October convention. If you are interested in learning more, or joining us, please contact Clelia Garrity at 775-253-5579.



**The Following Groups will meet during Convention** on Saturday, Oct 24 from 1:30 - 3:30 PM: Episcopal Recovery Ministries; Episcopal Church Women; Desert Angels: Health Care Ministries; Parish Treasurers; Mission Support Team; Ministry Development Commission; Green Team: Environmental Ministries; Faith & Visual Arts Ministries.

Bishop Dan encourages those interested in these ministries to attend even if they are not otherwise involved in Convention.

**Strategic Planning Committee maps the future for the Episcopal Church**

A newly formed Strategic Planning Committee is at work soliciting opinions from throughout The Episcopal Church. Among the areas addressed are: evangelism; multi cultural issues; worship; music and liturgy; youth and young adults; mission; leadership; advocacy; and social justice. **To access the survey:** [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Wu5175KPqOhmGku87xaL6a\\_3D\\_3D](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Wu5175KPqOhmGku87xaL6a_3D_3D)

**The Bishop Wes Frensdorff School of Christian Formation:** A new Education Venture of the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada. The school's mission is *To bring together all Nevada Episcopalians for Christian formation, empowering each other to live deeply into our Baptismal Covenant in our relationships, service in daily*

life, and witness to the world." To learn more [Contact](#).

**The Beauty of God's Holiness:** A Liturgical Art Exhibit at General Convention, Presented by the National Altar Guild. [For Further Information](#)

*Please submit your news briefs to Clelia at [garritycpg@gmail.com](mailto:garritycpg@gmail.com)*

#### Contact Information

eNews Chief: [Clelia](#)

775.253.5579 (cell phone: no solicitors, please)

#### Ministry Quick Links

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[Episcopal Diocese of Nevada](#)

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#### About Us

The Episcopal Diocese of Nevada embraces 6,000 members from communities throughout Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona in 34 congregations and 2 new faith communities. Our electronic newsletter service and print journal, The Desert Spirit, are provided to parishes and members free of charge.

Persons interested in the ministry of communications may contact [Barbara](#), [Hallie](#), or [Karl](#) to get involved.

Persons wishing to opt-out and not receive the electronic newsletter can simply unsubscribe by selecting the link at the end of this newsletter.

Changes to snail mail addresses for The Desert Spirit must be sent to the [Editor](#).

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