

The Oregon Trail Evangelist

a diocesan edition of Episcopal Journal



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EASTERN OREGON

APRIL 2013



At Trinity, Bend

Moving past grief, focusing on resurrection

It will be a year, at least, before the parish of Trinity Episcopal Church in Bend can get back into their historic 1929 building, extensively damaged March 6 by an arson-set fire.

The Rev. Roy Green, Trinity's interim rector, said it's hoped that restoration of the sanctuary at St. Helen's Hall, across the street from Trinity, will be completed by mid-June. The heat from another arson fire set there was so intense that organ keys and light fixtures melted; the badly charred roof beams must be replaced.

Unofficial estimates of the fire damage to the Trinity campus total \$2 million--\$1.5 million for Trinity, \$5 million for St. Helen's. Insurance

should cover the cost, Green said.

Members of the displaced parish continue to grieve. "There are a lot of memories in this place," the rector said.

He added, however, "I think this is going to be a gathering for us. It's going to bring us together. We're going to come through stronger."

The first Sunday after the fire, services were held at Bend United Methodist Church, which shifted its 9 a.m. services to another meeting room so Trinity could worship in the sanctuary there.

Until the St. Helen's sanctuary is available, Trinity is holding a single Sunday worship service at 9 a.m. at the old St. Francis Catholic Church.

The Catholic parish, which has relocated to a new church, "have the

"At its core, church is the people of God. We need buildings, but the church is people."--the Rev. Roy Green, quoted in the Bend Bulletin.

space reserved for us through August," Green said. "They have bent over backwards to make us welcome."

The entire Bend community has been generous and supportive, said Green, who's had people stop him on the street to tell him how sad they are about the fires. A number of other churches also called to offer space or assistance.

The good fortune in a bad situation is that the north half of St. Helen's, connected to the sanctuary by a breezeway, escaped mostly unscathed. The Family Kitchen, a community ministry that prepares and serves upwards of 4,500 meals a month out of St. Helen's, was back in business there six days later, with volunteers seeing that the meals were served uninterrupted in the interim.

Church offices relocated into St. Helen's, and Green said a lot of activities held at Trinity either have moved to St. Helen's or to parishioners homes. Most of the groups that met at Trinity, including AA, now are meeting at St. Helen's.

Although the fire destroyed the roof over Trinity's sacristy and altar guild room, items stored there did not burn. It's hoped they can be restored. Other areas in Trinity's west wing did not fare as well, and there is widespread water damage throughout the building.

"Both the AA groups that meet here and the homeless people that come to Family Kitchen have gotten very protective of this place," Green said. "They come up and say, Reverend, we're listening. We'll get this guy. I feel like the people we've served are gathering around...They are feeling the loss too."



The Rev. Jim Mosier of St. Matthew's, Ontario got in the spirit of Mardi Gras with this festive headgear, which he wore to the parish's Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. Vicki Mosier, laughing in the background, co-chaired the event, which raised almost \$1,000 for Ascension School scholarships.

Council ratifies same-sex blessings policy

In a unanimous vote, Diocesan Council and Standing Committee on March 16 ratified as diocesan policy the blessing of same-sex relationships, acting on a resolution passed at the 2012 General Convention.

"Within that resolution it says if there are churches and rectors who don't feel comfortable [with same-sex blessings] they don't have to, but I think it would really be important that we take a stand, particularly if we're portraying ourselves as inclusive as a diocese," said council member Kim McClain, a member of Trinity, Bend.

"If that's a motion, I would second it, in the spirit of open table," the Rev. Dan Gardner said, referring to the unsuccessful EDEO resolution at General Convention that sought to open Holy Eucharist to everyone.

Regarding the same-sex blessings vote., Gardner, vicar at St. Thomas, Canyon City, said "My comment is, it's about time, we've been messing with this forever."

Before authorizing a same-sex blessing, Bp. Nedi Rivera said, she will require everything she requires before marriage rites, including baptism and connection to a church.

Visiting the Diocese of Wau

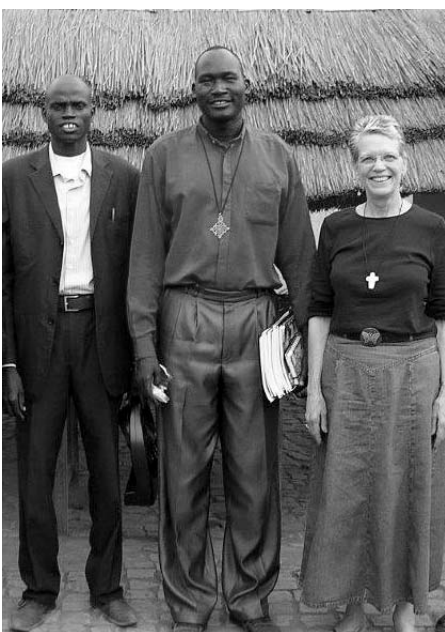
From Feb. 23 to March 6, Bp. Nedi Rivera was in the Diocese of Wau in South Sudan with a group from the Deanery of Poole in the Diocese of Salisbury, England. Poole has a long-standing partnership with Wau. Below, excerpts of her emails from So. Sudan, and a few photos.

“Hot. In a word hot...doesn't help that I didn't anticipate it and took some bad advice...However, the people are amazing. You won't be surprised to learn I love the spirited singing. I'm hugely impressed by the



ministry they do with so few resources: schools, hospitals, theological college. All this with almost no money, limited electricity and weak Internet.”

Yesterday the clergy among us preached at various services. I drew the Dinka service at the Cathedral. Many children. Morning prayer and lots of music. You would have recognized many of the tunes (eg., No Not One) of the hymns the missionaries



brought to Sudan. I shared a hymn-book with the deacon and murdered the words but she was thrilled that I tried.



After church we went back to the bishop's home...there was a lovely coda for me. I had been commenting on the gorgeous dresses of the women and Mary brought

me one. I love it! ***

I left some money to buy a bicycle for a farmer who has been a good farmer and wants to be a bigger and better one. Some time ago he brought his first fruits, his tithes to Bishop Moses to give thanks to God through the church for his successful crop.

After a conversation between them, Bp. Moses turned back the tithe asking the farmer to reinvest the money in a larger farm. The man needs an ox-plough to work a bigger farm and a bicycle to move it from farm to farm. (It can also become an income stream for him by his renting out the plough to others.) So I also left some money to help him buy the plough. It isn't enough but it is a start. Some of you may want to join me in this venture.

We have just returned from the Governor's office where we met the deputy governor. The offices are in a building built in 1909 which looks like something out of the Raj. There was even a monkey. Opulent curtains and furniture, trays of tea and treats, a beautiful veranda and garden. A very different South Sudan.

In the photos, clockwise from top right: Bishop Rivera in a coda, a Sudanese dress; the bishop with Joseph Mamer, principal of St. John's Theological College, L, and the Rt. Rev. Moses Deng Bol, bishop of the Diocese of Wau; Sudan structures.



Marcus Borg



John D. Crossan

‘Challenge of the Christian Bible’ is theme of June seminar in Bend

Well-known New Testament scholars Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan will lead a four-day seminar, “The Challenge of the Christian Bible,” in Bend June 18-21.

Bend-area resident Borg, professor emeritus at Oregon State University and former canon theologian at Trinity Cathedral in Portland, and Crossan, professor emeritus at De Paul University, are part of the controversial Jesus Seminar.

The sessions in Bend will include daily lectures from both men, as well as question and answer periods. Registration is \$250 per person before May 1, \$295 after that date; mail check to Borg-Crossan Seminar, P.O. Box 68, Powell Butte, OR 97753

ASCENSION 2013

Music Camp June 23-28 Grades 3-6

Worship Music Day Camp June 23-28 Grades 7-12

Discovery Camp July 1-3 Preschool-Grade 2 (with adult)

Sr. High Camp July 7-13 Grades 10-12

Beginners Camp July 14-19 Grades 3-5

Jr. High Camp July 21-27 Grades 7-9

Combined Camp July 28-Aug 2 Grades 4-6

Adult Ed Aug 1-4

Reunion Family Camp Aug 31-Sept 2
www.coveascensionschool.com

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Jeanie Senior, editor
541-386-2091 or 503-936-8835
evangelist@gorge.net

The Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon, founded as the Missionary District of Eastern Oregon in 1907, became a diocese in 1970. It includes all of Oregon east of the Cascade Mountains as well as Klickitat County, Washington—some 69,000 square miles. There are 22 parishes and more than 2,600 Episcopalians in the diocese.

The Rt. Rev. Nedi Rivera, Provisional Bishop

PO Box 1548
601 Union Street
The Dalles, OR 97058

541-298-4477
Fax: 541-296-0939
www.episdioeo.org
diocese@episdioeo.org

The Episcopal Church, organized in 1789, is a community of 2.5 million members in 114 dioceses in North America and abroad.

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop
Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Ave.
New York, NY 10017

The Anglican Communion is a global community of 70 million Anglicans in 37 member provinces around the world.

The Rt. Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury
London, England SE1 7JU

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Diocesan Calendar

April

- 5 Ascension School Board meeting, Cove
- EOEF Trustees meeting, The Dalles
- 5-7 Ascension School coordinators retreat Cove
- 6 Bp Rivera at St. John's, Hermiston
- 13 Safeguarding training for trainers, Redeemer, Pendleton
- 14 Bp Rivera at All Saints, Heppner

May

- 11 Diocesan Council online meeting 9 am
- 11-12 Bp Rivera at St. Paul's, Klamath Falls

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

April

- 7 St Mark's Episcopal/ Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Madras: Jan Kozak, Larry Mahon
- 14 St John's, Hermiston: Dan Lediard, Chuck Barnes
- 21 St Mark's, Hood River: Anna Carmichael
- 28 Church of the Redeemer, Pendleton: Alison Dingley, Jean Cupp

May

- 6 All Saints Episcopal/ Hope Lutheran, Heppner: Katy Anderson

News from EDEO parishes

All Saints Episcopal/ Hope Lutheran, Heppner

From the March *Shared Ministry News* of All Saints/ Hope: "We will again be distributing boxes of food to families who could use some help to make ends meet over Spring Break, when their children are home from school. We have again invited local churches to help us. This time, we've set a goal of 48 boxes.

"The items that the Shared Ministry is asked to contribute will depend in part on how many other churches respond to our invitation. At this time, we are asked to provide cold cereal, peanut butter, and funds for the purchase of fresh bread."

St. Mark's Episcopal/ Good Shepherd Lutheran, Madras

February 3 was designated Souper Bowl Sunday at St. Mark's and Good Shepherd. The congregation was reminded that while a million Super Bowl watchers were sharing food and snacks, "others will be wondering where their next meal will come from," and asked for donations.

"We were able to donate 106 pounds of soup and ingredients to our local food bank as the result of the soup drive," said Louise Muir. "For our small congregation I think we did quite well. This may be something they will decide to do again next year."

Transfiguration, Sisters

Church of the Transfiguration is close to breaking ground for an outdoor labyrinth and columbarium, which the Rev. Ted Rodrigues said he sees as "a continuation of our efforts to reach out and provide for our surrounding community."

Construction bid for the project is \$213,000, less than the original estimate of \$240,000. In early March, approximately \$57,000 remained to be raised.

Church of the Redeemer, Pendleton



Redeemer now is the Chartering Organization for Cub Scout Pack 745. Two Redeemer members, Dale Hilding and Rudy Uhlman (L and R of the rector) both Eagle Scouts, helped bring the pack to the church; Cubmaster is Gabe Garton, far L, also a parishioner. Below, pack members at the annual Pinewood Derby.

Photos by Bill Taylor



Friends said goodbye in February to long-time parishioners Dale and Barbara Brandt, (R, with the Rev. Alison Dingley) who have moved to Portland. At Redeemer they were involved with Helping Hand outreach and PFLAG; Dale served on vestry and also on diocesan boards.



Across the diocese, pancakes are a Shrove Tuesday tradition



All Saints Episcopal/Hope Lutheran, Heppner



St. Matthew's, Ontario

St. Peter's, La Grande



Redeemer, Pendleton



Eastern Oregon team makes a fourth visit to Haiti

By Diane Walworth,
St. Paul's, The Dalles
Eastern Oregon Haiti Project team
leader, 2013

Each visit to Haiti is unique and each offers opportunities to deepen our relationships and commitments and of course, to see changes.

During our February visit, the city was in a flurry of preparation for a national Carnival celebration to be held in Cap Haitien. Buildings were painted, roads repaired and paved, new traffic lights installed (and ignored by drivers!), and miles of viewing stands erected for the numerous parades of Carnival.

A week before the official start of Carnival there was a festive atmosphere about the whole city and the streets were crowded with people getting a head start on the party.

At the school we made significant progress on educational changes we have focused on for three years.

The traditional method of teaching in Haiti is "call and response" that requires only rote memorization by students.

In the primary grades no books are used (or available) for reading instruction. Instead the teacher writes words or sentences on the blackboard for students to read.

The university training teachers receive involves very little educational pedagogy or methods, but rather is more rote learning of additional content beyond the high school curriculum. So teachers have little knowledge about how to teach.

In the past we conducted seminars with the whole teaching staff and selected grade levels. This year Diane Walworth and Judy Thayer worked with four teachers in primary grades who we had met with last year. They taught them methods for teaching reading in small groups, especially for their students who have difficulty learning to read.

The team provided leveled books in French teachers could use for reading instruction. Each of the four teach-



ers taught two lessons, which Diane and Judy guided and critiqued. It was exciting to see students light up as they read their first books!

In addition to the work the team did with reading, Beth Spell demonstrated math lessons and Ann Marie Woolsey read to children in French and participated in morning activities. The team was blessed to have Ann Marie, who spoke fluent French.

John Adams observed in high school science classes and identified some ways to support secondary teachers. John noticed teachers haven't been taught how to plan lessons or how to demonstrate scientific concepts as part of their lessons.

The problems of Haiti are so overwhelming it is easy to become discouraged and wonder if we really make a difference. But Judy Thayer reminded the group of what it felt like to confront discrimination in the 1950s and 1960s. The problem was so entrenched and widespread it must have also felt overwhelming.

Each freedom rider, or each person like Rosa Parks, who just quietly said, "Enough" must have wondered if their work made any difference at all.

But the cumulative effect changed our society forever. I believe that our work with the Eastern Oregon Haiti Project combined with the work of countless others will and does make a difference.



Eastern Oregon Haiti team's February visit to Cap Haitien, Haiti: clockwise from top: team members John Adams, Diane Walworth, Beth Spell, Fr. Noe Bernier, priest at the Episcopal church and school where the team worked; Ron Fullmer, Ann Marie Woolsey, Judy Thayer; Children in the schoolyard; Ann Marie leads children in a song; Abacus in hand, Beth Spell teaches math to a class of five-year-olds.