

Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



Online Tidings

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, July 18, 2010

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, July 25, 2010

Image of the Week



The combined Vacation Bible School, with children from Grace and St. Stephen's and First Christian churches, followed the story of Joseph in Egypt, tracing themes of hope, redemption and forgiveness as he moved from jail to the highest levels of Pharaoh's government. The children explored an Egyptian marketplace (including, on the final evening, a live menagerie of sheep, goats, a donkey and a camel), learned about mummies and pyramids, sang songs, and had conversations with Joseph each evening. Thanks to Helen Hazelton, Tammy Lenz (pictured), Tammy Ekholm, Gilbert Ekholm, Carol Neel and a long list of adult volunteers who provided such a rich and memorable experience for our youngest members.

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McWilliams House Garden Party



On Sunday, **July 25th** from noon to 3:00 pm, all members of the parish are invited to a summer garden party in honor of McWilliams House. Light Victorian refreshments will be served, and guests may tour the interior of the late Victorian/Queen Anne-style house built in 1899. The building was designed by the prominent local architect Augustus J. Smith, who also designed the original El Paso County Courthouse, buildings on the Colorado College campus and residences in the downtown neighborhoods.

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The project architect, a historic restoration specialist, and a master gardener will be on hand to describe plans for rehabilitating the exterior of McWilliams House. Its sagging two-story porches, Ionic columns and other exterior features will be restored in a project to start this month, thanks to funding from the parish, the [Colorado Historical Society](#), the [Colorado Springs Downtown Development Authority](#) and private donors. In case of rain, the reception will be held in the parish hall.

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Prayer of the Week

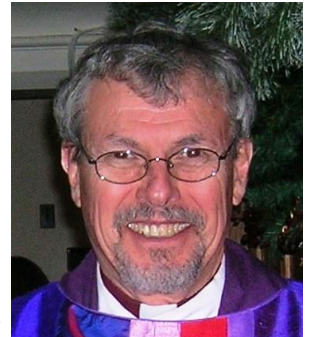
Saint Mary Magdalene

Almighty God, whose blessed Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of body and of mind, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: Mercifully grant that by your grace we may be healed from all our infirmities and know you in the power of his unending life; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer, Page 242

From Father Marty

I decided early this summer to expand my pond. I like the sound of the small waterfall. It's quite relaxing. Having done the digging and the lining and the rockscaping, I was quite pleased with my efforts. I filled it with water and turned on the pump. It was delightful. I made a trip to the store to get some goldfish to give color and life to this water feature. Perfect!



It was just a few days later that I noticed that the water was starting to turn murky. I went to the internet and researched the issue. I applied the recommended solutions but without any real success. The waters got cloudier. (Where does all this stuff come from?) Today I was out to feed the fish and discovered that I now have a garter snake that likes to swim in the pond and lie among the rocks. As long as he doesn't try to eat the fish, I guess he can stay; otherwise, I will have to sic the cat on him.

So why am I telling you this? I guess it's because I see this as another lesson in God's never-ending schoolhouse of life. My plan was good, and the work all went well, but the final result is not as I had expected. Lesson: I am not as in charge as I like to believe. The pond and waterfall sound delightful, but the water is still murky, so I only see the fish when they come up to feed. God's streams are much clearer than my little pool. I am reminded that only God creates - I/we are imitators.

Also, when I built this pond I imagined all sorts of birds enjoying it. They do, and so also do the neighborhood squirrels. I never imagined that a snake would find it so attractive. But the snake is also part of God's creation and plays its part in

dealing with some garden pests. I am reminded that God's plan is always more comprehensive than mine.

So, I am enjoying the pond as it is. I will drain and fill it sometime so that I can watch the fish a bit more, but I am getting used to the fact that it will cloud up again. And I am enjoying all the critters that are attracted to it. It is summertime, and I do have to learn to "chill." In the great scheme of things none of this is important, but I sure do enjoy the small pleasures of life. I hope that you do, too. And may God teach you lessons and give you surprises in this (hopefully) slowed-down time of the year.

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Tidings Publication Schedule in August

Please note that there will be a single edition of *Tidings* in August, to be published on August 20th. Committee chairs and regular contributors should plan ahead so that events in the first part of August can be included in the July 30th edition (deadline July 28th). The deadline for the August edition will be August 18th.

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Sunday Christian Education

A summer Adult Education series, *Christ in Culture*, will meet as a single class on the third Sunday of the month through the summer:

- On Sunday, **July 18th**: Conni Eggers, *The National Cathedral, Washington, DC*
- On Sunday, **August 15th**: Marianna McJimsey, *The Galbraith Brass Rubbings: Their History*



The class in July will be held in the adult education room upstairs in the education wing. August's presentation will be in the parish hall, where the Galbraith brass rubbings are displayed.

Please note that there are no children's Sunday School classes or Breakfast Club in July or August.

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Choir Camp Bake Sale

Summer is here, and the choristers in the St. Nicholas and St. Cecilia choirs need your support. Choir camp will be the first week of August, and to help defray the costs of attending camp, the annual bake sale will be held **July 18th** and **July 25th**. We need bakers and we need buyers! Please email Linda Balcom at lrbalcom@hotmail.com to donate baked goods. In addition to the traditional bake sale format, a few high-demand items (such as Lani Hinkle's famous key lime pies) will be sold in a silent auction this year. That way everyone has a chance to be the lucky purchaser. So, bring your sweet tooth and your checkbook. Monetary donations are also welcome - just put "choir camp" in the memo line of your check.

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Jazz in the Garden July 23rd



The next *Jazz in the Garden* concert will be on Friday, July 23rd at 7:00 pm and will feature the Jerry Teske Trio with special guests playing jazz standards. The concert is free and open to the public. Picnics are encouraged. Beer, wine and soft drinks will be available. Bring your friends to experience a relaxing evening in the lovely setting of the church garden. In case of rain the concert will move into the parish hall.

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First Christian Concert: Ray Killian

On Sunday, **July 18th** at 3:00 pm First Christian Church will host the Colorado recital debut of its music director, Mr. Ray Killian, with *American Anthem*, a concert of vocal music to benefit the [Interfaith Hospitality Network's](#) outreach to homeless families in the Colorado Springs community. Rev. Chuck Blaisdell, senior pastor of First Christian, said, "We thought it was very fitting to celebrate Ray's gifts and his commitment to our community and those in need in a unique musical fashion," as he completes his first year of music leadership at the historic downtown church. The occasion will also celebrate the 21st anniversary at FCC of Carol Wilson, the church's organist, who is known to music lovers all over the Colorado Springs area.

July 18 is also Colorado Springs Pride Day, and the concert will include gay composers who "have used their gifts to bring beauty and thoughtfulness to our world," says Mr. Killian. Included in the program will be art songs by Aaron Copland, Ned Rorem, Samuel Barber and renowned lyricist Gene Scheer, who wrote the libretto for the opera, *An American Tragedy*. In the second half of the program Mr. Killian will perform songs by John Denver and others, accompanied by guitar and piano.

Ray Killian has performed as soloist with Sir David Willcocks, Robert Shaw, Joseph Flummerfelt and Don V. Moses. He has performed in Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, France and throughout the mid-Atlantic states. His choral groups have been recognized for their "choral felicity" (WashingtonPost). Mr. Killian notes: "I am so pleased to be able to share this new program with the Colorado Springs community. Living here has inspired me. As a child, I heard John Denver speak about how music can change the world. That perspective stuck with me and informs me to this day."

Accompanying Mr. Killian on the piano is Carol Wilson, organist at FCC, who is known to music lovers all over the Colorado Springs area. A celebration of Ms. Wilson's 21st anniversary with the church will also be included.

There is no admission charge, but a freewill offering for the Interfaith Hospitality Network will be collected. Please bring a non-perishable food item. All are invited to a reception following the concert.

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Faith, Fellowship and Baseball

Summer fellowship activities continue with Faith Night at the Sky Sox baseball game on **August 8th**. The Sox will be playing the Oklahoma Red Hawks at 5:05 pm. Last year's game was so much fun that most who came stayed through both games of a doubleheader - in the rain!

Members of the fellowship committee will be selling tickets in the parish hall after each service on July 18th. You may also [email](#) or call the office at 328-1125 to sign up. Tickets in our block will only be available through Friday, July 23rd. Admission is \$5.00 per person, and you may pay when you sign up. If you prefer to send a check, please note "Sky Sox tickets" in the memo line. Join fellow parishioners for a great evening of faith, fellowship and baseball!

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Legacy Society Update

Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Colorado Springs, CO

Legacy Society

The Grace and St. Stephen's Legacy Society held a kickoff luncheon on June 26th in Taft Hall with 23 guests in attendance. Father Zimmerman addressed the importance of legacy giving to the long-term future of Grace and St. Stephen's. Anita Sanborn from the [Colorado Episcopal Foundation](#) described the benefits of an established legacy society and discussed some of the history of the foundation and the services it provides.

The committee is planning an informational meeting in the fall regarding planning and decision-making for your own giving. That program will feature experts who can talk about best practices for legacy giving and answer any questions that you may have.

More than a dozen parishioners who have indicated their desire to be charter members of the society. Enrollment for charter membership will continue through the end of the year. Enrollment forms are available from the [church office](#) or from members of the committee: [Amy Duell](#) (chair), Jordan Fields, Dorothy Kipp, Karl and Eloise Ross, Larry Gaddis, David Watts, Brenda and Gary Whitlock and Barbara Yalich.

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Diocesan Events

The 123rd annual [Diocesan Convention](#) will be held at the Marriott Tech Center (Denver) on October 7th, 8th and 9th. Grace and St. Stephen's is allotted six delegates. The vestry and wardens have appointed Amy Duell, Jim Hinkle, Jan Malvern, Sue Stoner, Chuck Theobald and David Watts to represent the parish, along with alternate Marti Lindberg. Any legislation or resolutions to be considered will be announced in *Tidings* in September, with links provided to the actual text. A convention summary will be provided in *Tidings* at the conclusion of the convention.

The annual diocesan gathering of the Episcopal Church Women will be held at the new Cathedral Ridge Conference Center October 22nd-24th. For more information or registration contact [Kay Todd](#) or [Robin Sumners](#).

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Grace Garden Notes

Sue Stoner

The gardeners' group had a busy, exciting week at Grace recently. All three sprinkler systems (McWilliams House grounds, the central lawn, the memorial garden and the grass along Monument Street) were completely overhauled and updated. We have reduced our environmental impact and are state of the art! The improvements should be noticed immediately:



- Rain sensors have been installed to automatically turn off the sprinklers when it rains.
- We should have lower water bills from now on, since all of the leaks and inefficient watering have been corrected.
- Over 100 new sprinkler heads and valves have been installed to replace broken, damaged and missing ones.
- We now qualify for rebates from the Colorado Springs Utilities, since we have completely upgraded the systems.
- We no longer will be watering the streets, the sidewalks and the sides of the buildings!

The cost of this major overhaul will be shared between the restoration fund and the garden fund, so no money from our operating budget was used. From these expenses our garden fund is quite depleted now. If you were planning on donating to the fund this year, this would be a good time.

Our next big project will be redoing the McWilliams House property, so we need to replenish the garden fund soon. We are going to create a wonderful Victorian garden at McWilliams next year, to enhance the beauty of the restored exterior. Your contributions will make all of this possible. Thank you for your past generosity, and I hope you are pleased with the steps we are taking to make Grace a remarkable place of beauty and refuge in our bustling city!

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July Vestry Meeting

A regular vestry meeting for July has been scheduled on Thursday, **July 22nd**, gathering at 6:15 in Blaik Library. The major agenda item is to review the project manager's recommendation for the McWilliams House contract, scheduled to be awarded on Friday, July 23rd.

All regular vestry meetings are announced and open to members of the parish. Please plan to attend if you would like to hear more about the bidding evaluation process.

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Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

This week we remember Christ Church in Denver, the Church of St. John the Baptist in Granby, the Church of the Nativity in Grand Junction and the High Plains Region of our diocese.

Next week we will remember Epiphany Church in Denver, St. Aidan's Church in Boulder, St. Andrew's Church in Cripple Creek, St. Paul's Church in Steamboat Springs and our diocesan standing committee.

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Two-Week Calendar

Saturday, July 17	Men's Bible Study	7:15 am
	Grace Gardeners	9:00 am
Sunday, July 18	<i>Choir Camp Bake Sale following each service</i>	
	Holy Eucharist with Hymns - Rite II	8:00 am
	<i>Christ in Culture Adult Forum: Conni Eggers - The National Cathedral, Washington, DC</i>	9:30 am
	Choral Eucharist - Rite II	10:30 am
	<i>ESM: Canned pork and beans</i>	
Tuesday, July 20	Holy Eucharist	10:00 am
	Bible Study	10:40 am
Thursday, July 22	<i>St. Mary Magdalene</i>	
	Healing Service	Noon
	Vestry Meeting	6:15 pm
Friday, July 23	<i>Jazz in the Garden: Jerry Teske Trio and Guests</i>	7:00 pm
Saturday, July 24	Grace Gardeners	9:00 am
Sunday, July 25	<i>St. James the Apostle</i>	
	<i>Choir Camp Bake Sale following each service</i>	
	Holy Eucharist with Hymns - Rite II	8:00 am
	Choral Eucharist - Rite II	10:30 am
	McWilliams House Open House	Noon
	<i>ESM: Boxed macaroni and cheese</i>	
Tuesday, July 27	Holy Eucharist	10:00 am
	Bible Study	10:40 am
	Brown Bag Lunch	Noon
Thursday, July 29	<i>Mary and Martha of Bethany</i>	
	Healing Service	Noon
Saturday, July 31	Men's Bible Study	7:15 am
	Grace Gardeners	9:00 am
Sunday, August 1	Holy Eucharist with Hymns - Rite I	8:00 am
	Choral Eucharist - Rite I	10:30 am
	Outreach: Acacia Meals	11:00 am
	<i>ESM: Canned soup</i>	

All committee and vestry meetings are held at the church or in McWilliams House and are open to the congregation.

To see this in a printable calendar layout, click [here](#). Printed monthly calendars are available from the ushers.

Provisional Mission Statement

To accept God's grace and bear witness to his grace in the world.

**Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church is a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado
Church at the corner of Tejon and Monument in downtown Colorado Springs**

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