

GETHSEMANE CATHEDRAL CALLER

Inviting people to experience a transforming relationship with Jesus Christ.

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CATHEDRAL CALLER FOR June/July 2009

GETHSEMANE EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

The Very Rev. Dr. Steve Sellers, Dean
Fargo, ND

www.gethsemanecathedral.org

OUR CONTINUING ATTEMPT TO UNRAVEL AND UNDERSTAND THE MYSTERY OF THE AGES

Dear Friends in Our Lord Jesus:

For more than 5,000 years, a single mysterious topic has baffled the world's greatest thinkers.

From the birth of recorded history, when the first scribe stabbed a stick into a clay tablet and drew the first hieroglyph, down to the present age of instantaneous worldwide communication, humans have thirsted insatiably for its elusive elixir.

Hammurabi sought it. Noah heard it.

Abraham followed it. Socrates questioned it.

Aristotle diagrammed it. Paul of Tarsus

bowled down to it.

Over the centuries, philosophers have wrestled with it. Theologians have agonized over it. Emperors have longed for it. Poets have sung about it. Artists have struggled to depict it.

To those who are oppressed, it always offers hope and peace. To those who oppress others, it always promises justice and amelioration.

It is, in point of fact, more of a riddle than a subject of investigation.

And here is why: Books alone will never convey it. Tests alone will never prove it. Years of struggle will never accomplish it. Sheer willpower will never sustain it. And bold determination will never replenish it.

The strongest grip cannot grasp it. The strongest arm cannot reach it. The strongest mind cannot sustain it.

In a word, it is called Wisdom.

Wisdom. But even when we call its name, we find ourselves searching for it in the wrong places.

Hundreds of illustrations come to mind, but here is a little story that merely proves the point.

In the spring of 1996, a 17-year-old high school senior from Fremont, California, made national news when she did the unthinkable. She made perfect scores — 800's — on both sections of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). And she also made a perfect score of 8,000 on the rigorous University of California entrance exam. The young student was known as "wonder woman" by her friends, primarily because she was able to figure out questions and problems that stumped even the wisest of her teachers. And even though she aced the California university exam, she decided to enroll in Harvard University.

But here is where her story gets interesting . . . and perplexing.

As she was being interviewed by a battalion of reporters from the print and electronic news media, the young woman was asked all sorts of inane and ridiculous questions. But she always had an answer. She always had an explanation. She always had something to say.

And then one enterprising reporter decided to sum up the mass interview by asking one final question. "What is the meaning of life?" the reporter asked.

The young girl's face went blank. She shrugged her shoulders, looked glaringly at the TV cameras, and replied: "I have no idea."

Precisely.

There are, in fact, certain things that earthly knowledge will never answer. And the "meaning" of life is one of them.

To find THAT answer, we have to turn to God. As the Bible tells us: "To be wise, you must first have reverence for the Lord. If you know the Holy One, you have understanding" (Proverbs 9:10).

St. Paul puts it this way: "Let no one delude himself. If anyone thinks he is wise in a worldly way, he had better become a fool. In that way he will really be wise, for the wisdom of this world is absurdity with God" (I Corinthians 3:18-19).

After all, it's not WHAT you know that counts. It's WHO you know.

— **The Very Rev. Dr. Steve Sellers+**



WHATEVER ELSE YOU DO THIS SUMMER, AVOID SAYING THIS ONE SIMPLE EXPRESSION OF EMOTION!

Most children learn the hard way that the worst thing to say during summer vacation is this: "There's nothing to do. I'm bored!"

I learned that lesson a long time ago. And most of you adults did, too. That one simple expression of boredom was an express ticket to pull weeds, or clean the bathroom, or dry the dishes, or vacuum the floor, or fold the laundry, or bathe the dog.

Now, we should be willing to help with all of those things ANYWAY . . . but there are other tasks we can set before ourselves (and our children) this summer to spread the joy and the love of the Lord. Things that are NOT boring. Things that can bring a smile to others.

Consider this Top Ten list of things to do as a family this summer:

- (10) When you're out of town, make a few phone calls and visit a few churches during the week.
- (9) While on vacation, make a special effort to attend mid-week worship services as well as Sunday services.
- (8) Make home-made cards and art projects for a nearby nursing home, assisted living, or retirement center. And then make an appointment to drop them off. (Always call ahead of time.)
- (7) Make home-made cards and art projects for police, fire, and emergency medical staff. And then make an appointment to drop them off. (Again, always call ahead of time.)
- (6) Buy a children's song book and teach your children or grandchildren a new song each week. (There are hundreds of good song books with a Christian perspective.)

(5) Take a "nature walk" every day and spend time talking about the marvels of God's glorious creation. Ask your children or grandchildren if they can "see God's fingerprints."

(4) Take an extra 30 minutes a week and attend our 5:30 p.m. Wednesday service of Holy Communion.

(3) Follow the four little services called "Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families" in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP, pp. 136-140). And then talk about it.

(2) Read a chapter a day from the Bible — with your children or grandchildren — and then TALK about what you read.

(1) Spend an additional 10 minutes a day in prayer, with your children or grandchildren, and let THEM say what they are thankful for and what they would like to pray for.

Need more suggestions? Just call us in the Cathedral office (232-3394) and we will be happy to suggest other summertime projects!

— Fr. Steve Sellers +

BICYCLISTS FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE COMING TO GETHSEMANE CATHEDRAL ON JUNE 30

A group of nine bicyclists from St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire, will arrive in Fargo on Tuesday, June 30, and will spend that night at Gethsemane Cathedral.

The group is riding cross-country to raise money for cancer research. The high school students and their adult sponsors have made this trip before, and stopped at Gethsemane several summers ago.

If you would like to help us during their overnight stay — preparing and cooking breakfast for them and providing a light meal when they arrive — please let us know in the Cathedral office.

We are also looking to borrow some cots or air mattresses . . . to make their sleeping arrangements a bit more comfortable

A SPECIAL THOUGHT FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS

Some people said the young girl was wasting her time. Others said she was throwing her life away.

Still others shook their heads in disbelief.

Historian David Porter had these comments about the young girl:

“Born Agnes Boyaxhiu to Albanian parents, she went to India in 1929 as a member of the Loreto Order of nuns. There she taught for many years and became headmistress of a school. In 1946, she received her ‘call within a call’ to work with the poorest of the poor.

By 1948, she had received permission to leave her Loreto order

and trained in the nursing skills needed to carry out her calling.”

The story continues:

“She prayed, ‘Oh, God, if I cannot help these people

in their poverty and their suffering, let me at least die with them, close to them, so that I can show them your love.”

Wasted time and energy? Wasted effort?
You decide.

The young girl who was born Agnes Boyaxhiu started an effort

that now includes almost 5,000 sisters and brothers, 755 homes, and 1,369 medical clinics that serve more than 130,000 people around the world.

We know Agnes today as Mother Teresa of Calcutta.



100TH BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR WARNER MCNAIR!

Please join us after the 10 a.m. worship service on Sunday, June 7, for a special 100th BIRTHDAY PARTY for Warner McNair. Everyone is welcome to help Warner and his family celebrate this incredible milestone!



SPECIAL TWO-MONTH EDITION OF THE CALLER

This edition of The Cathedral Caller will cover the months of June and July. For late-breaking events during this time, please consult the weekly edition of Extra! Extra!



TRAVELING OUT OF TOWN? LET US KNOW!

As you travel this summer, before you leave, please make a special telephone call to the Cathedral office (232-3394) . . . so we can put your name on our travel prayer list

OUR ‘MAKE-UP MASS’ CONTINUES ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS THROUGH THE SUMMER MONTHS

Seasons come and seasons go . . . but our Wednesday night service of Holy Communion continues at 5:30 p.m. every week in the Cathedral Chapel. Over the years, this refreshing, upbeat, and SHORT (30-minute) service has become known affectionately as our “make-up Mass.” If you miss a Sunday, please remember that we’re still here for you during the week!

Fall Dates to Remember



MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR FALL SCHEDULE

The Fall 2009 Cathedral schedule is starting to fill up, so here are some important dates to mark on your calendars:

- * Sunday, September 6 — Last day of summer worship schedule.
- * Monday, September 7 — Office closed for Labor Day
- * Sunday, September 13 — MINISTRY FAIR and RALLY DAY! Fall worship services return: 8 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., with Ministry Fair at 10 a.m. (and throughout the morning).
- * Tuesday, September 15 — Men's Bible study resumes at 7 a.m. with a study of the Book of Revelation.
- * Wednesday, September 16 — 6 p.m. Wednesday evening dinners resume for the Fall; Fall CONFIRMATION CLASS begins at 6:30 p.m.
- * Saturday, September 19, 3 p.m. — Pre-convention meeting for Southeast region clergy and delegates (Jamestown).
- * Sunday, September 20 — Christian education classes resume at 10 a.m.
- * Friday, October 2 — Diocesan EVANGELISM CONFERENCE and DIOCESAN CONVENTION (Radisson Hotel, Bismarck). Convention continues through Saturday, October 3.
- * All Saints Sunday, November 1 — In-gathering for the United Thank Offering.
- * Sunday, November 15 — Bishop Michael's visitation and CONFIRMATION SERVICE at 11 a.m.



THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH GOING-AWAY PARTY FOR DR. MARK RING ON MAY 30

We would like to say THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the going-away party for our organist-choirmaster, Dr. Mark Ring. We were a small, but enthusiastic, group! Notes can be sent to Mark and Gretchen at St. George's Episcopal Church, 4715 Harding Rd., Nashville, TN 37205. He begins work there on June 15.

THREE SPECIAL WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES COMING THIS FALL: LIFE, DEATH, LIFE AFTER DEATH

Three special Wednesday night classes will be taught this Fall by Dr. Steve Sellers on the subjects of death, dying, and life after death. The classes will be held once-a-month, in October, November and December, following the 6 p.m. Wednesday night meal.

The classes will look at a variety of spiritual approaches to death and dying, but will focus primarily on what our faith as Christians says about these subjects.

The classes will be as follows:

- * Wednesday, October 21, 6:30 p.m. — "Why is life so difficult?"
- * Wednesday, November 18, 6:30 p.m. — "What is death?"
- * Wednesday, December 16, 6:30 p.m. — "What happens after death?"

Each class is designed for youth and adults, and the nursery will be open for children under the age of 5. Further details will be available after the summer.



June/July Birthdays



Harvey, James	06/01
Hochstatter, Tara	06/01
Clapp, Edwin	06/04
Dosland, Vicky	06/05
McNair, Warner	06/05
Foss, Janet	06/07
Gokey, Mary	06/08
Hensch, Don	06/08
Simonson, Hunter	06/10
Weisser, Cathy	06/10
Cunningham, Mitch	06/11
Gnahn, Mary	06/12
Oboh-Weilke, Riwo	06/12
Robley, Lindsay	06/12
Simonson, Darcy	06/13
Dady, Caroline	06/14
Olson, Michael	06/14
Olson, Steven	06/14
Towers, Bruce	06/14
Spaeth, Claire	06/16
Bailly, Richard	06/20
Herman, Sarah	06/20
Simonson, Abbey	06/20
Cotton, Donna Rae	06/21
Corwin, Betty	06/23
Fisher, Barbara	06/23
Golding, Chris	06/23
Hegg, Lauren	06/24
Mitchell, Jeffrey	06/26
Sheets, Paula	06/26
Huesmann, Zachary	06/27
Jacobs, Symone	06/27
Reichert, Kathy	06/27
Watson, Brita	06/27
Petersen, Blake	06/28
Rosenfeldt, Brianna	06/28
Bach, Bradan	06/30
Bjerke, Nancy	06/30

Hochstatter, Adam	07/01
Kost, Gretchen	07/01
Gokey, Snyder	07/02
Lontz, Frances	07/02
Colquhoun, Tom	07/03
Overbo, Ashley	07/03
Candor, Ann	07/04
Herman, Doug	07/04
Bailly, Margaret	07/05
Simonson, Carrie	07/05
Odney, Nancy	07/06
Simonson, Jared	07/07
Malula, Sokiri	07/08
Nemer, Matthew	07/10
Hill, Georgia	07/11
Bailly, Nicole	07/12
Howland, Bruce	07/12
Johnson, Handers	07/13
Robinson, Madeline	07/14
Starkweather, Mark	07/14
Fitzgerald, Edward	07/16
Kanuch, David	07/17
Footitt, Michael	07/19
Nemer, Kierstin	07/19
Candor, Judy	07/20
Stevens, Jessica	07/20
Tiongson, Chris	07/21
Schmidt, Landon	07/23
Vollmer, Jason	07/23
Weisser, Jenna	07/23
Haakenstad, Grace	07/24
Hill, Diane	07/24
Morlan, London	07/24
Nemer, Rachel	07/26
Odney, Justin	07/26
Alsop, Richard	07/28
Johnson, Barb	07/28
Wendel, Alexander	07/28
Anderson, Scott	07/29
Hochstatter, Duane	07/29
Myhra, Douglas	07/30



THE CANON'S CORNER

*The Rev. Canon Kevin Goodrich O.P.,
Southeast Canon Missioner*

The Canon's Corner

The Rev'd Canon Kevin Goodrich O.P.

There are four regions of the diocese and each has a diocesan staff person: a canon missioner. The canon serves as a resource for congregations and clergy – in addition to serving as one of the bishop's key advisers. Our congregation is located in the southeastern region of the diocese.

The liturgical calendar in June and July includes the following feasts: The Martyrs of Lyons (June 2), The Martyrs of Uganda (today), Boniface Missionary to Germany and Martyr (June 5), Bernard Mizeki Catechist and Martyr, as well as the feasts of several Biblical persons who were all killed for their faith in Christ (Saint John the Baptist, Saint Peter, Saint Paul, and Saint James). Throughout Christian history men and women have willingly endured for the sake of their personal faith in Jesus Christ.

The stories of these people: monks, nuns, old, young, house wives, teenagers, and husbands are always humbling to hear about. It gives pause for us to consider: what we would be willing to endure for the sake of our faith in Christ?

Most Christians in America tend to believe that martyrdom is a thing of history – something Christians use to face in centuries past. I wish this were so, but the cold truth is that there were more Christians killed for their faith in Jesus Christ in the 20th century than in all the previous centuries combined.

To learn about the difficult situations that our brothers and sisters face around the world please visit: <http://www.persecution.com/>

In the Trinity,
Father Kevin+



SPECIAL COMMUNION SERVICE FROM 1662 BCP SCHEDULED FOR 10 AM WORSHIP ON JULY 5

In honor of the July 4th holiday, our 10 a.m. service of Holy Communion on Sunday, July 5, will be taken from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer — the prayer book in use in “the British colonies” at the time our Declaration of Independence was adopted. The service will be identical to the one used in Anglican parishes in “the colonies,” with the exception that prayers for King George and his family will be omitted.

The 1662 service is strikingly similar to the Rite I service we use at our 8 a.m. service on Sundays, and it is very appropriate on the July 4 weekend since two-thirds of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were members of Anglican parishes. At the beginning of the service, we will read the preamble to the Declaration of Independence, followed by our processional hymn — “O God, our help in ages past.”

This one-time-a-year service — held with the permission of our bishop — is a great time to bring visitors and guests.

Mark your calendars NOW for this uplifting and patriotic occasion.

Would you like to receive The Caller electronically?

Please send an email to brandid@cableone.net to be put on the email list. This has benefits two-fold. First, you help the environment by saving paper and second, you will receive The Caller a day earlier!



June 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			7 am Morning Prayer 5:30 pm Eucharist			9:15am AA Meeting
	7-9 pm AA Meeting 1	2	3	4	5	6
8am Traditional Service 9:10am - 9:50 am Coffee Hour 10am- 11am Blended 11:30-3:30 - 100th Birthday party for Warner McNair 7	7-9pm AA Meeting 8	9	7 am Morning Prayer 5:30pm Eucharist 10	7:30 pm Book Club 11	12	9:15am AA Meeting 13
8am Traditional Service 9:10- 9:50 am Coffee Hour 10-11 am Blended Service 14	4 pm Finance Committee Meeting - 7-9 pm AA Meeting 15	16	7 am Morning Prayer 5:30 pm Eucharist 17	5:30 pm Chapter Meeting 18	Foyers Group 7pm 19	9:15am AA Meeting 20
8 am traditional Service 9:10-9:50 am Coffee Hour 10-11 am Blended Service 6:30 - 9 pm Boy Scouts 21	7-9pm AA Meeting 22	23	7 am Morning Prayer 5:30pm Eucharist 24	25	26	9:15am AA Meeting 27
8 am Traditional Service 9:10- 9:50am Coffee Hour 10-11am Bknded Service 28	7-9pm AA Meeting 29	Bicyclists from New Hampshire here - they will be spending the night at the Cathedral. 30				



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AHEAD TO JUNE

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays

8:00am Traditional Service

10:00am Blended Service

9:00am-10:00am Coffee Hour

Wednesdays

5:30pm Chapel Eucharist

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