



# St. Patrick's Shamrock

A Newsletter of  
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church  
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## LIVING IN TRANSCENDENT HOPE

Jesus' primary message was not self-referential; he didn't *first of all* say, "I am the Son of God—look at me!" He wasn't one of those itinerant preachers described by Celsus, who were still turning up in the 3rd century A.D. with the claim, "I am God. I have come. Blessed is he who has worshiped me now!" Instead, Jesus subordinated himself to the cause he represented. And what WAS that cause? Jesus' cause was the cause of God in this world. He talks about the approaching Kingdom of God.

\*But it was not the theocracy that Zealot revolutionaries wanted to set up by force. Rather, it was the unrestricted rule of God over the world, to be anticipated without recourse to violence.

\*Neither was it the ascendancy of an elite of the perfect like that envisioned by the Essenes. Rather, it was the glad tidings of God's infinite goodness and unconditional grace, especially for the abandoned and destitute.

\*Nor was it a kingdom to be constructed by human beings through their strict obedience to a higher morality. This was a construct invented by people with an illusory view of their own goodness. Rather, it was a kingdom to be created by God's own free actions.

Instead, it would be a kingdom where God's name is honored, where God's will is done, where abundance is the order of the day, and where sin is forgiven and evil, overcome. It would be a kingdom where the poor, the hungry, those who weep and are downtrodden would finally see salvation, where pain and suffering would be no more.

Even Jesus couldn't describe this kingdom in words. He used the similes of New Covenant, seed springing up in good soil, ripe harvests, great banquets, a triumphant coming home again. It would be, in Jesus' terms, our *absolute future*.

Even so, this kingdom is not *entirely* futuristic. The Kingdom of God is not just in the future because by it we're initiated into the present. If we are given a vision of our absolute future, then we're forced to interpret the *present* in those terms. You see, Jesus wasn't passing on *information* about the end times; he was issuing a call for us to *change* our attitudes in light of them.

So here's the upshot for our work together at St. Patrick's Church: we have won the day (or strictly speaking, *Jesus* has won the day). We are living into a future where love is not a hope, but *the* reality, *the* currency. We have, accordingly, much to do.

We'll be practicing how to live forever, together.

Jim Beebe



# ST. PATRICK'S 2006 PLEDGE DRIVE KICKOFF

PLEASE JOIN US FOR DINNER  
AND  
TO CELEBRATE THE ARRIVAL OF  
OUR NEW RECTOR AND HIS WIFE,  
JIM AND DEBORAH BEEBE.



THE REV. JIM BEEBE WILL SPEAK ON  
"WITH AN EYE TO OUR FUTURE"

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4th, 6:00p.m. TO 9:00p.m.  
At THE REYNOLDS (PARASOL) BUILDING  
948 INCLINE WAY

AGES 11 AND UP  
Suggested donation \$10 at the door  
Please RSVP to Steve Barney: 832-5058 or  
[sabarney@mindspring.com](mailto:sabarney@mindspring.com)

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## *BLESSING THE ANIMALS, OCTOBER 2nd, 2005*

This year at St. Patrick's we will honor all of God's creatures on October 2nd, following the 10:00a.m. service. This joyful event is open to the public and all are welcome. A vessel has been placed at the baptismal font at the entrance to the sanctuary to receive prayers, photos, tags, and other remembrances of pets that cannot be with us. Please put these articles in an envelope with the pet's name written on the outside as they will also receive a blessing. Items can be collected afterward. Anyone wishing to help and/or offer suggestions please contact Dave Mussatti at 831-1418, stop by the church office, or contact him by email, [dmussatti@tahoeepiscopal.org](mailto:dmussatti@tahoeepiscopal.org).





## 2006 Stewardship Campaign

The word "future" can be ominous. No one can predict how it will be. We can only judge our future by our past, and as Christians, by our faith in God. If we look at our past, as individuals and as a church family, and then consider where we are today, we should be overjoyed with all of the possibilities for our future. If we continue to call on God, worship Him, and live our lives as God would like us to live, we can be confident that God will take care of us, and give us the strength to face anything that is put before us.

Our church family has faced many trials over the past few years. We have survived them in a big way. Our family has come closer together, taken up the call to do the work that God needs us to do, and we have been blessed by the unanimous calling of our new priest, Jim Beebe. We are ready to face the future in a way that St. Patrick's has never been able to do before.

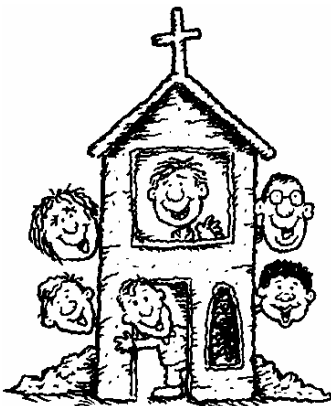
October 1st is the Kick-Off date for our 2006 Stewardship Drive. Steve Barney and I are the chairpersons for this drive. We have planned a dinner for October 4th at the Parasol Building where we will welcome Jim Beebe, and his wife Deborah to St. Patrick's and to Incline Village. Jim Beebe will address us on the subject of our future together. By the time that you read this article, you should have received your invitation to this dinner. Please do not miss this opportunity to meet Jim and hear him speak. Cherry Barney has graciously agreed to plan and produce a wonderful meal for us.

It has taken me nearly 30 years of being an active Christian at St. Patrick's to finally realize what this church means to me. During those 30 years, I have always thought that if I did my small part, that it would be OK with God, and someone else in the church would pick up the slack. It was not until this year, when I thought about the "What If" possibilities that I realized that I needed to do more. What if there was no St. Patrick's here in Incline? What would my life be like? There would certainly be a big void and a huge loss. Perhaps I would find a different church to attend. But I know that my church family and my spiritual experiences would never be the same. All of the wonderful ways that God has spoken to me in the past 30 years is a result of my experiences at St. Patrick's. I have been blessed.

We all know what a philanthropic town this is. It amazes me to see the money that people can and do give for their golf memberships, their condominium dues, their schools, their pet buildings, their alma maters, and their wine clubs. We at St. Patrick's need to take care of our priests, our building, cover our expenses, and do more of God's work in the community, but we seem to hold tight to our purses when it comes to God. It should be time for God to come first in our lives rather than receive the leftovers. We need to ask ourselves, "What is important in my life, and what can I do about preserving it?"

A central concept of the spiritual life in our Christian faith is generosity. Please be generous this year with your talents, your money, and your time. They are all needed to insure the future success of St. Patrick's.

Sharon Kirby  
Co-Chairperson  
Stewardship Committee





# Hurricane Katrina



The Collection taken the last two weekends totaled \$2600.00 which we will send to the Diocese of Mississippi for St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Long Beach, Mississippi. Episcopal Relief and Development will continue to monitor the situation. For updates visit the website [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org) or call 800-334-7626 ext. 5129. You can still mail contributions to Episcopal Relief and Development, c/o US Hurricane Fund, P.O. Box 12043, Newark, NJ 07101.

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## GOOD SAMARITANS

*Serving*



OTHERS

Did you know that when members of St. Patrick's come into a time of need, a group of church members called the Samaritans are ready to help? If someone is sick or has a family emergency, the Samaritans are available to provide meals, rides for medical services or other needs, and to phone the church community.

If at any time you are in need, let the clergy or church office know. You may also get in touch with the people who coordinate the Samaritans. We stand ready to help. In the summer (May through October) call Cherry Barney (832-5058). In the winter (November through April) call Joannellen Slocumb (831-4984).

We have a good number of volunteers, but more are always welcome. Please call me if you'd like to participate.

Cherry Barney

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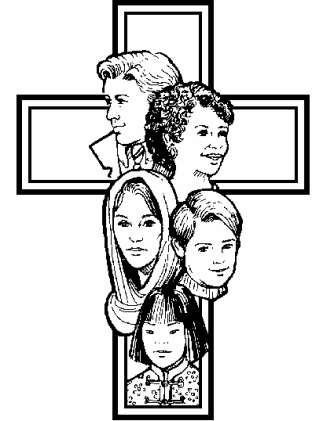
## A Great way to help in the Community !

**Presbyterian Women's Thrift Shop is in need of volunteers 2 hours a week. What a wonderful opportunity for reaching out to help others in our community!**

Proceeds from the Thrift Shop sales go to help local charities such as Project MANA, Young Life-Nevada, Reno Gospel Mission, Tahoe Women's Services, Prison Fellowship, Incline High School Baccalaureate, Campus Crusade, Wycliffe Bible Translators, missions, and churches (including St. Patrick's!). Funds were also recently sent to help Hurricane Katrina survivors through the Salvation Army. Contact Sherry Gray at 832-0424 or Pat Collins at 831-7232 for volunteering information. The thrift shop is open 11:00a.m.-3:00p.m., Monday thru Saturday, and is located at the corner of Southwood and Mays Boulevards, in the upper Village Shopping Center.



## MOVING AHEAD



At this time of Jim and Debby Beebe's arrival, we can look back at many accomplishments as we as a congregation have grown into a true Total Ministry Parish. In the last newsletter I reflected on the fact that we have learned how energized we have become, particularly in "Feeding The Five Thousand", both concretely and spiritually. Also, we have become truly transparent in our dealings with the congregation. And, we have become significantly more involved in the Diocese of Nevada, and with our sister congregations in the Northwest Mission District. We are ready now to really take off and become the parish that God intends us to be.

On the Bulletin Boards in the hall by the office are three displays. The first shows where we have come from: The family room in the old Rectory on Village Blvd., to the A-frame that we built ourselves on the corner of Village Blvd and College Ave., and the new Church where we now worship. Of course, it's not the building that is the "church," it is the people. Now we are ready to step forward "with an eye on the future" under the leadership of Jim Beebe into an exciting future of worship, spirituality, and outreach. We must look forward to a future of great opportunities to be stewards for the work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and stewards of the God given creation that surrounds us here at Lake Tahoe.

You will also find on the bulletin boards pictures of the ordination of Jim Kelly as a priest, joining Jim Beebe and David James Mussatti in ministering to our congregation. Also you will find a Camp Galilee display. One of our parishioners made a significant donation to Camp Galilee which triggered matching funds to renew the exterior of Frensdorff House, which was given to the camp ten years ago. St. Patrick's continues to be a strong supporter of Galilee, our Episcopal Camp on the East shore of Lake Tahoe at Glenbrook. We are certainly well on our way to fulfilling the Divine Commission given to us by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Dave Mussatti

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### Northwest Mission District Meeting at St. Peter's Episcopal Church

On Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> Dave Mussatti, Jim Kelly, Emy Gurowitz, Barbara Edwards and Connie Skidmore were among the 40 people attending the late summer NW Mission District meeting held at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Carson City. It was great to see so many people from the various churches in our district and get to share ideas and concerns with them.

The agenda included:

- (1) An upbeat report by the district youth who had attended the Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) in Berea, Kentucky during the summer;
- (2) A photographic journey entitled "The Beauty of the World" by Jeff Paul, rector of St. Peter's, which showed people and places on his sabbatical to New Zealand earlier this year;
- (3) An overview by Diocesan Council representatives Ruth Edsall and Lisa Young on the proposed Diocesan budget to be presented at the upcoming Diocesan Convention in Sparks;
- (4) A report by Kim Morgan, St. Peter's, on their Education for Ministry (EFM) *(Continued on page 7)*



## *Community Knitters Guild News*

*Do you love to knit, or want to learn?  
Come join the Knitters Guild, which meets every  
Wednesday from 1-3 p.m. in the church library.*

We are busy making warm garments to be given this autumn to those families in Incline Village and Kings Beach that need them. We also make afghans and lap robes for hospice patients and chemo caps for cancer patients.

We welcome new members, and we can help you if you would like to learn to knit or if your skills are a bit rusty. Please call Peggy Harrison at 831-9402 for further information.

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## **THANK YOU — ALL!**

Many thanks to the artists and to all who worked on the Arts & Crafts Festival that was held at St. Patrick's August 14th! Co-Chairperson, Peggy Harrison was outstanding! Our sincere appreciation and thanks to those who visited the artists ahead of time; and to our chairpersons: Betty Iftiger, Tom Harrison, Jackie Kilcoyne and Susan Deatherage who prepared food and beverages; Judy Morrison with the Children's Chalk Art; Marilyn & Jim Johnston and Mindy & Ron Young who helped with the Consignment Table; Fran Paxson who was in charge of the Donation Tables; Merdene Hess, Sharon Kirby, Nancy Joslin, Barbara Edwards, Emy Gurowitz, Lora Kelly, and Bill Slocumb as Cashiers; Patti Clark in charge of the Raffle—and to the many artists who donated their artwork for the Raffle; to Barbara Edwards and the North Lake Tahoe Lions Club who helped with the Bulletin Board; and to all those who helped so beautifully without our knowing.

Joanellen Slocumb  
Arts & Crafts Festival Co-Chairperson

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### **The position of a Church Publicity Chair has been filled!**

Marsha Tejada has graciously volunteered to be in charge of the publicity needs for St. Patrick's. She can be contacted through the church office, 831-1418. Thank you, thank you Marsha for volunteering your help!

**The Altar Guild is still in need of assistance.** If you would like to serve on the altar guild or be the Director, please talk to our Senior Warden, Emy Gurowitz. This work is a quiet and enjoyable way to serve the Lord.



## MISSION DISTRICT NEWS

(Continued from page 5)

courses presently in progress and their Episcopal Church Women (ECW) projects this year.

(5) The debut of a new program entitled "Fresh Start" for congregations in transition presented by Helen McPeak, the coordinator for this program in the Diocese. This program looks at transitions in congregations as opportunities for growth, a chance to tell our stories to one another, and puts emphasis on how we exit and enter our relationships especially at times of change in our churches.

Your St. Patrick's representatives shared that they were well aware of some of the problems and concerns encountered at times of transition having just spent two plus years going through the process. Several of the other NW Mission District churches are beginning or are in their transitional phase now.

Connie Skidmore,

St. Patrick's Representative to the Northwest Mission District of Nevada Diocese

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### FUND RAISING OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUE:

You're hearing how we need to shore up the parish finances. Here's a painless way to help, AT NO COST TO YOU, WITH NO TIME COMMITMENT!

- \* Raley's Quality Card
- \* eScrip

**Raley's Quality Card:** At the end of 2004, we had 72 active cards, with the church receiving \$550.66 in 2004, (with only 33 cards actually being used).

What you can do to sign up:

1. Get a card, if you don't already have one, at the church office between 9:00a.m. 2:00p.m. weekdays. If the card hasn't been activated, go on-line to <http://www.raleys.com/lifestyle/qualitycard.jsp> to activate it.
2. Use your card. Yes, we all forget from time to time, but reach for your card before you reach for your money.

**eScrip:** This program has great potential! Twelve are participating, and in the last year (twelve months), St. Patrick's netted \$103.04.

What you can do to sign up:

1. Go to <http://www.escrip.com/>,
2. Register your credit cards.

Privacy and security concerns might cause you to hesitate to sign up. **Privacy:** Be assured that eScrip uses card numbers and purchase activity solely to process the contributions. Purchase detail is not sent to eScrip. They do not sell or rent any personal identifying information to any third parties. **Security:** [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) is a VeriSign Secure Site. All information sent to the site is encrypted, which protects against disclosure to third parties. You can always get information and find these links on our Web site, [www.tahoepiscopal.com](http://www.tahoepiscopal.com). Just click **Our Scrip Programs** on the left navigation pane. If you can any questions call me (Karen Barney) at 833-9156 or send me email at [pizzazz@pyramid.net](mailto:pizzazz@pyramid.net) (or just click the little mailbox on any page of our Web site).

For those of you who are already participating: Bravo, keep it up!  
Karen Barney, Web Master



Mark Your Calendars Now!!!

**OCTOBER 16, 2005**

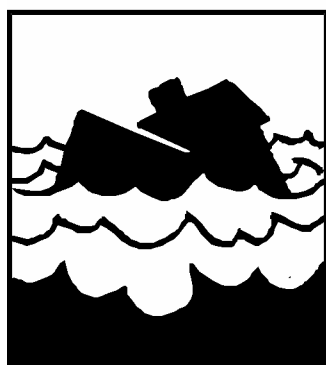
**FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT  
HURRICANE KATRINA  
REBUILDING EFFORTS!**

Dixieland Music -  
Dancing, and all that Jazz!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR DINING, DANCING  
AND ENTERTAINMENT AT THE CHATEAU

Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres  
from 5:00p.m. – 6:00p.m.  
Followed by a Three-Course Dinner

Tickets will be available at The Potlatch in  
Raley's Shopping Center, or from Viki Welling,  
Karen Barney, and Emy Gurowitz.



**Katrina  
Relief  
You Can Help!**

**Staff & Ministry Group Chairs**

*The Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori,  
Bishop of Nevada*

*The Rev. Dr. James R. Beebe  
Rector*

*The Rev. David J. Mussatti  
Priest Associate*

*The Rev. Jim Kelly  
Priest Associate*

*David H. Brock  
Director of Music and Organist*

*Monica Gruendel  
Parish Administrator*

*Emy Gurowitz\*\*  
Senior Warden*

*Rem Paul \*\*  
Junior Warden, Buildings and Grounds Chair*

*Jim McFarlin\*\*  
Treasurer*

*Jim Clark  
Finance Committee Chair*

*Sharon Kirby, Steve Barney  
Stewardship Co-Chairs*

*Susan Deatherage, Lainie McFarlin  
Shamrock Co-Editors*

*Bonnie Sills, Lora Kelly  
Memorial Committee*

*Barbara Edwards\*\*  
Volunteer Co-ordinator Chair, Clerk of the Vestry*

*Jackie Kilcoyne  
Social Committee Chair*

*Karen Barney  
Web Master*

*Laurie Meyer  
Outreach Chair*

*Eric Strotz\*\*  
Folk Mass Group*

*Joanellen Slocumb\*\*, Cherry Barney  
Good Samaritans Coordinators*

*Judy Morrison  
Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator*

*Nancy Joslin  
Columbarium, Search Committee Chair*

*Peggy Harrison  
Knitters Guild*

*Jack Barney  
Ushers/Greeters Coordinator*

*Mindy Young  
Landscaping Chair*

*Suzanne Gollery  
Minute Secretary*

**\*\*Vestry Member**





**On August 13th and 14th, Connie Skidmore gave a lay-address in place of the sermon. I was so impressed with it that I thought those of you who were not there would like to read it.**

Reverend Dave Massatti

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**Address by Connie Skidmore, August 14, 2005:**

“May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord.” (Psalm 19:14)



Good morning! Today I stand before you as a result of Kate's request and encouragement in June - and Dave and Jim's help and enthusiasm since then. I am honored to have been selected to do this address, and am hopeful my thoughts and comments on the readings will be of interest to you.

What a wonderful message we have this week from our scriptures!!! It is always remarkable to me that the very same radical message those people to whom Isaiah, Jesus and Paul were speaking relates so well to us 2000 plus years later - specifically this morning, that God desires all people to come to Him in faith - Jew, Gentile, Greek, heathen, outcast, women, men, street people, the sick and the well, the believer and unbeliever - everyone.

In the O.T. passage Isaiah tells us that salvation and deliverance will come to all those who do what is right and who maintain justice including eunuchs and foreigners - those people outside the acceptable Jewish society. Jewish law had rules and statutes forbidding certain people entry into the Temple so they could not worship and pray there. Women were restricted to a certain area of the Temple. Isaiah tells the Jews that if these foreigners and eunuchs keep the covenants and believe in the Lord God, they will ultimately be brought to God's holy mountain and made joyful in His Temple - “for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples”.

Isaiah's words must have been a shock to the established order in Israel. To hear that God calls all people to obedience, worship and faithfulness regardless of social, political or racial position must have been extremely unsettling.

I don't know how many of you are familiar with the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. Who has been there? It is a most beautiful Episcopal cathedral of grand proportions, which stands on Mt. St. Albans, the highest hill overlooking our capital city. This Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul calls itself “a house of prayer for all people” and their ministry shows they fulfill this mission. Since its inception, the National Cathedral has been the site for daily devotions as well as special national and international events where many faiths have worshipped and fellowshiped together.

One such time was in 2001. Do any of you remember the National memorial service held there after 9/11? It was a living example of what this verse from Isaiah means - the coming together of all God's people to worship and pray as one body regardless of their nationality or faith. On that day in that (Continued on page 10)



## ADDRESS BY CONNIE SKIDMORE

(Continued from page 9)



glorious house of our Lord, Christians, Jews, Muslims and others joined in worship. Evangelist Billy Graham, A Rabbi and an Iman all spoke of their desire for peace and reconciliation of all God's people.

I was absolutely riveted to the TV wishing I could have been there in person to hear their healing messages and be among that body of prayerful people on that day.

In both of the N.T. readings today we see the same thread of inclusiveness as Isaiah's passage. Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome tells of his wish to see Jews who have neglected to open their ears to the Good News, follow the examples of these Christians who lead lives of faith and trust in God. Paul is disappointed that most of his fellow Jews have continued believing that salvation is gained through works and not through faith in a gracious God.

We know that Jesus throughout his ministry revealed God's love and mercy to all who came seeking. The story of the Canaanite woman and her request is short, yet full of lessons for the participants - those in the story and us, the readers throughout the ages. Jesus, as did Isaiah, turns the world upside down in this passage. At first, Jesus doesn't seem to want to listen to her. But the woman persists saying, "Lord, help me". Again we see the outcast being drawn into the circle - being accepted because of her faith, love of her daughter and her perseverance. Against this we see the disciples - embarrassed and anxious that the woman is loudly hounding Jesus. To them she personifies an enemy nation - the ancient and hated Canaanites, a gentile - which means she is an outsider and perhaps a pagan, and a woman - a person of little stature in the community.

As we read the Gospel, did you identify yourself with any of the characters? Do you see yourself as inclusive or exclusive? Jesus looked at people with great compassion and inclusiveness. He saw people as individuals of worth in their own right.

I can identify with the woman. I would do just about anything for one of my children should they be in trouble. That requires faith and courage, both qualities the Canaanite woman had.

In her time women were considered of little value other than to bear heirs and maintain a household. This continued to be so in most societies for centuries, with a few exceptions. Even in Christian countries change for women was slow. But within the last few generations so much has changed. Think of our own Episcopal Church. Within the last 30 years women have become members of the vestry, lay readers, lay Eucharistic ministers, delegates to church conventions, deacons, ordained ministers and bishops, well represented by our own Bishop Katherine. Twenty-five years ago St. Patrick's would have had no Priest-In-Charge named Kate Atkinson, nor would I be standing here doing a homily!

Jesus is one of those who helped break the barriers for the outcasts of his world - all were equal in his eyes. As Paul says in Galatians, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Therefore, let us all say "our house of God, St. Patrick's, is also a "house of prayer for all people".

AMEN

Propers: Isaiah 56:1-7, Romans 11:13-15, 29-32, Matthew 15:21-28