

# The Newsletter

*The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Northwest Texas*

Number 206

July 2009

## ***Diocesan Convention Registrations in the Mail***

Registration forms for the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention of the Diocese have been mailed. If you are a delegate or wish to visit the convention and have not received a registration form, please contact M.J. Coats at 806.206.7347. Registration begins Friday, September 11 at 4 PM at the Ambassador Hotel. Holy Eucharist and the Ordination to the Diaconate of Todd Baxley begins at 7 PM at St. Andrew's Church followed by a reception. The business session of convention begins Saturday, September 12 at 8:30 AM at the Amarillo Civic Center and a dinner dance at the Amarillo Club follows at 7 PM. The business session will continue Sunday, September 13 at 8:30 AM in the Nave of St. Andrew's Church followed by Holy Eucharist at 10 AM. Blocks of rooms have been reserved at the Ambassador Hotel (near St. Andrew's), 800.817.0521, and the Ashmore Inn and Suites (near the Civic Center), 877.374.3344 - refer to "Episcopal Diocese Convention" for group rates. Deadline for group rate is August 19. The deadline for convention registration is August 11.

## ***Diocesan Youth Coordinator Position Created***

Renee Haney of St. Paul's, Lubbock, has been named by Bishop Scott Mayer to serve in the newly-created diocesan staff position of Diocesan Youth Coordinator. Renee will support and promote diocesan youth programs and camps, serve as a resource for congregations, and provide networking and training opportunities for adults who work with young people. Renee is a native Texan, born in Fort Worth. She moved to Northwest Texas in the first grade and grew up in Ralls, Levelland and Lubbock. She has also lived in Amarillo, Lockney and Quanah as well as Houston, Chicago and Wichita, Kansas. She has been married for almost 25 years to the Rev. Jim Haney, Rector of St. Paul's, Lubbock, and is the mother of a 12 year-old daughter and 14 year-old son. Renee served for six years as Christian Education Coordinator at Good Shepherd, Wichita, and was the Chair of the Children and Youth Committee for the Diocese of Kansas. You may contact Renee at 806.445.3667 (cell) or 806.368.0705 (home) or [nwtxyouth@suddenlink.net](mailto:nwtxyouth@suddenlink.net).

## ***General Convention 2009***

The NWTX General Convention Deputies and Bishop Mayer are winding down their duties at the General Convention in Anaheim and will head home the end of the week. For a comprehensive view of the General Convention log on to our web site at [nwt.org](http://nwt.org). There you will find photos of our deputation and an overview of the General Convention as seen through the eyes of our deputies and triennial delegates as well as links to everything General Convention. Special thanks to our Web Minister, Jim Liggett, for his continued ministry in bringing the General Convention to all of us.

## ***Deacon Formation and Discernment***

The 2009-2010 Deacon Formation and Discernment Sessions will begin Friday evening, September 25 and Saturday morning, September 26 at St. Christopher's Church, Lubbock, with the topics of the Impact of General Convention and a Liturgical Practicum and Preaching Workshop. The reading for the first session is The Liturgy for the Ordination of a Deacon, BCP 537. If you are interested in discerning a call to the diaconate, visit with your priest and Bishop Mayer, and join the first-year discernment sessions. Other topics include the Gnostics in Early Christianity, Theology, Ethics and Hospital Visits, Classical Spirituality and Mysticism, *The Gospel of Thomas and the Early Church* by Henry Chadwick, The Church Fathers, What is Anglicanism, and *The Once and Future Church* and *The Great Emergence*. Classes continue each month through May. Contact the Rev. Jim Liggett at 432.694.8856 or [stnicks@stnicksmt.org](mailto:stnicks@stnicksmt.org).

## ***Judge in Good Shepherd, San Angelo Case Dies***

The Rev. Celia Ellery, Rector of Good Shepherd, San Angelo, reports that District Judge Weldon Kirk, 83, who was to have made a ruling in the next few weeks in the court case regarding the Anglican congregation now occupying the Good Shepherd buildings, died of cancer on July 9. It is anticipated that the case will be on hold until another district judge is appointed. Celia requests continued prayers for all concerned, especially the family of Judge Kirk.

***Happy Camp and Promise Camp  
Enjoy Another Successful Year***

Eighty-seven young people enjoyed the fun and adventure of Happy Camp and Promise Camp this year. Katy Hoskins, Director of Promise Camp, and Todd Baxley, Director of Happy Camp, report that the many clergy, volunteers from around the diocese, counselors and Jamie Goldston, BQCC Director, were especially important to the success of the camps. Arthur Thompson again provided music and drums for the campers who also enjoyed yoga, outdoor games, swimming, and art projects led by the Deacon Roland Rose. Happy Campers attended a hayride and dinner at a dude ranch. Happy Camp and Promise Camp continue to be a major outreach ministry of the Diocese of Northwest Texas and are solely supported by donations from members of the diocese. Promise Camp was blessed to receive a \$1,000 grant from national Episcopal Church this year. Promise Camp now has a web site at [www.promisecamp.org](http://www.promisecamp.org) with photos from this year and the four previous years of the camp. Katy and Todd also report that they are filled with enthusiasm and new ideas for next year's camps and hope even more people will volunteer to be a part of the camps, even if for one day. It is never too late to send a contribution for the camps to 1802 Broadway, Lubbock 79401.

***St. Michael and All Angel's, Shamrock Celebrates  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***

Guests and members of St. Michael and All Angel's in Shamrock enjoyed a delicious Mexican food dinner at El Sombrero Restaurant on July 3, and remembered and celebrated the heritage of St. Michael and All Angel's on July 4 with the Holy Eucharist celebrated by Bishop Scott Mayer in a service which began with the bishop tapping his crozier on the front door. The processional was led by pipers David and Alex Fairbanks. Lew Carter of Heavenly Rest, Abilene, flew the Holy Spirit dove, and Bishop Mayer was assisted at the altar by the Rev. Bill Nix, retired, and Archdeacon Dana Wilson, who earlier served at St. Michael and All Angels. Tenor Devlin Jones of Amarillo, Rick Land and Russ Tap provided a rich music experience. Members of three of the founding families attended the celebration as well as guests from St. Peter's, Borger; St. John the Baptist, Clarendon; Trinity, Albany; and Oklahoma. The eucharist was followed by a delicious grilled hamburger luncheon at the U-Drop Inn which is a lovely old Route 66 Conoco station converted into a gathering place in Shamrock. The Inn was filled with dozens of beautiful bouquets of flowers which grow in the Panhandle. For photos of the event log on to [www.countystarnews.com](http://www.countystarnews.com).

***The Newsletter Deadline: August 10***

***Calendar***

***July***

12-18 Middle School Camp, BQCC  
7-18 +General Convention, Anaheim, CA

***Aug***

8 Michael Caldwell Ordination to the Priesthood,  
Trinity Church, Fort Worth  
18 +Budget Committee, HEC, 10 AM  
20 +Standing Committee, HEC, 10 AM  
22 +Executive Council, St. Paul's, Lubbock, 10 AM  
25 +Trustees, HEC, 10 AM  
30 +Installation of the Rev. Philip Ray as Rector of  
St. James', Dalhart

***Sept***

1 Fresh Start, HEC, 10 AM - 2 PM  
7 HEC Closed - Labor Day  
11 \*Standing Committee, 3 PM, Amarillo  
11-13 Annual Diocesan Convention, Amarillo  
18-20 ECW Conference, BQCC, Amarillo  
20 +St. Paul's, Dumas, Visitation  
22 +Canterbury Evensong, St. Mary's, Big Spring  
25-26 Deacon Formation, Lubbock  
27 +Emmanuel, San Angelo, Visitation

***Oct***

4 +St. Mark's, Plainview, Visitation  
+Canterbury, Lubbock, Visitation, 6 PM  
9 +St. Christopher's, Lubbock, Icon Class, 6:30 PM  
11 +St. Christopher's, Lubbock, Visitation  
17-18 +Phyllis Tickle, St. Nicholas', Midland  
18 +Holy Trinity, Midland, Visitation  
20 +Trustees, HEC, 10 AM

***Nov***

1 +St. Luke's, Levelland, Visitation  
6-7 Deacon Formation, Lubbock  
8 +St. Mark's, Coleman, Visitation  
15 +St. Matthew's, Pampa, Visitation  
22 +Good Shepherd, Brownfield, Visitation  
27 HEC Closed, Thanksgiving Weekend

***Dec***

4-5 +Deacon Formation, Lubbock  
13 +St. Barnabas', Odessa, Visitation  
20 +St. Mark's, Abilene, Visitation  
24-31 HEC Closed, Christmas Holiday

+indicates Bishop Mayer in attendance

***Carolyn Hearn, Editor - [diocese@nwtodiocese.org](mailto:diocese@nwtodiocese.org)***