



The In Touch

Volume 50, Issue 6

Our Mission: To Seek, Know, Love and Serve Christ in all Persons and in all Creation

Ramblings from the Deacon....

OUTSIDE OF THE CHURCH WALLS

ECMN Bishop Prior invited author Sara Miles to speak at this year's clergy conference. She inspired us and as a result I read two of her books, *City of God* and *Take This Bread*. That led me to the discovery of another book by Gregg Garrett- *My Church Is Not Dying-- Episcopalians in the Twenty^{1st} Century*.

He wrote, "I'm tired of reading articles, posts, and polls about the decline of the Episcopal Church. My own experience and the experience of the many other Episcopalians and Anglicans I've met over the last decade is that whatever may be happening culturally in Christianity, the gifts of the Episcopal tradition remain vibrant and valuable. This book is my attempt to give voice to all of us who believe that the Episcopal Church has much to offer a world filled with division, hate, ignorance, and despair. *My Church Is Not Dying* isn't another book about how to save the Church; it's a book about how the Church has been a force in the vital work of saving many of us, and how it might continue to be so in years to come."

"My Church is not dying. I don't care if it never again has as many Episcopalians on the rolls as in the glory days. What matters is what we Episcopalians now are doing and how we are reaching out into the world and working to build the Kingdom of God." With those ringing words of affirmation Garrett offers his readers an antidote to pessimism, a cure for despair, and a vision of the future for one of the nation's oldest Christian traditions. The book tells the story of The Episcopal Church through the eyes of those who love her, and describes a tradition with a distinguished past, a vibrant presence, and a bright future. Sustained by its worship, rich in spiritual depth, and reaching out in new ways, Garrett describes a church that is not dying, but learning "to touch people all week long." With engaging stories, first hand testimony, and wise analysis, Garrett urges Episcopalians not to fear the future, but to embrace it.

This book is about evangelism for a world that hates evangelism, but needs the church. The unfolding vision of a church stepping into the future, instead of dwelling in the past "The old way of being church measured by political influence, money, and congregants in the pews may indeed be vanishing, but it is being replaced by something new and beautiful for

those with the eyes, ears, heart, and soul to experience it. Garrett reminds Episcopalians of the many gifts that our tradition can offer a doubting and hurting world. He reveals a church that values intellect, beauty, diversity, and community, and promotes thoughtful engagement with questions of faith, ethics, and community. This church espouses a generous orthodoxy, welcoming left and right, mystic and doubter. It values education, social justice, and engagement with literature and culture. And in opposition to the radical individualism espoused by most of American Protestantism, it offers the unique gift of a tradition shaped by English culture that believes the individual is a part of her or his community not in opposition to it." "

The Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor said, "You can read this book to learn more about a vibrant church that is one of America's best kept secrets, or you can read it to remember the improbable promise at the heart of Christian faith: that when things fall apart, God uses the breakage to make a new thing. Greg Garrett is one of the Episcopal Church's most engaging evangelists. If you're weary of hearing bad news about the church's demise, here is an alternate vision full of reasonable and buoyant hope.

Garrett quotes the Reverend Dr. Samuel Lloyd who said, "--being faithful today is not about setting out a predetermined meal and asking people to eat it. It is, instead, about asking them what they need and orienting the church to be present where they need presence. It is about asking where God is moving, and running to get in line with that.

Greg Garrett is the Austin, Texas author of twenty books of nonfiction, memoir, translation, and fiction. BBC Radio has called Greg "one of America's leading voices on religion and culture," and former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams calls him "one of the most searching and honest of Christian writers today."

Submitted by,

Lee Grim

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- 6/1 ~ Caryn Noland
- 6/2 ~ Shane Mattsen
- 6/3 ~ Edith Jenkinson
- 6/6 ~ Riley Wright (daughter of Alan & Kate,
granddaughter of Georgeann & Andy)
- 6/9 ~ Connor Weir (son Tara Rud &
grandson Cindy Cassibo)
- 6/11 ~ Erik Strand
- 6/14 ~ Doug Tanem (Mavis son)
- 6/21 ~ Mark Grim (son of Lee & Carol)
- 6/23 ~ Tara Johnson (daughter of Byrne &
Carole Johnson)
- 6/24 ~ Carly Toder (Olga Reuter's
granddaughter)
- 6/27 ~ Jeannie Strand
- 6/27 ~ Jon Reuter (son of Olga)
- 6/28 ~ Glenn Walls (son of Bill & Karen,
grandson of Donna Day)
- 6/30 ~ Helen Fichuk



- 6/11 ~ Diana Russiff (Day)
- 6/16 ~ Laura Smith (Menefee)



- 6/10 ~ Samantha Crossley & Jim
Yount
- 6/21 ~ Ladd & Lucy Corrin
- 6/22 ~ Bruce & Cindy Cassibo
- 6/25 ~ Brent & Lisa Schlieff
- 6/26 ~ Dale & Sara Kennedy

June 2015 Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities

Dates	Celebrants	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
7 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Samantha Crossley Rev. Lynn Naeckel Deacon: Melanie Mattsen	Sasha	Mike & Tricia Brennard	Mike & Tricia Brennard
14 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Lynn Naeckel Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim	Felicia	Georgeann & Andy Wright	Gary & Carolyn Davison
21 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 4 th Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Samantha Crossley Rev. Lynn Naeckel Deacon: Melanie Mattsen	Xander	Kay Herman Melanie Mattsen	Wilber & MaryAnn Tveit
28 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 5 th Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Samantha Crossley Rev. Lynn Naeckel Deacon: Lee Grim	Lee Grim	Ragna Godtland Tessa Walls	Donna Day & Karen Walls



June 2015



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Altar Guild
						Mavis Tricia
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.		 9:30am Coffee Landing Team meeting 6 pm				Mavis Tricia
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	Vestry 7:00pm					George Donna
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Altar Guild
Father's Day Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.		Newsletter Deadline	Messy Church 5-7 pm			George Donna
28	29	30				
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						

