



The Circuit Rider

Life in the Big Bend Episcopal Mission – October 2005

Youth Club Holds First Annual Summer Camp

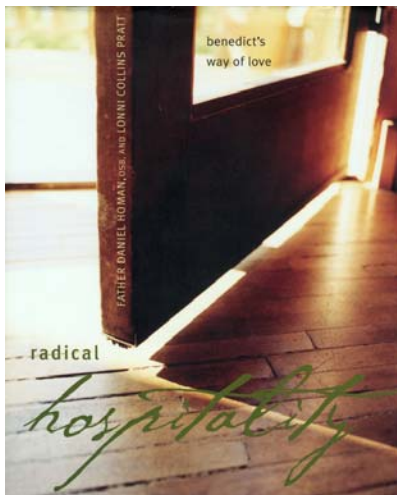
The first annual Big Bend Youth Club Maxine Haislip Memorial Summer Camp was a success. Nine campers participated in a week of activities at Terlingua Ranch, on the Rio Grande, and in the Big Bend National Park. In addition to staff members and



guides, the campers shown in the photo above from left to right are: Brissa Villanueva (12), Trevor Smith (13), Quintin LaFever (13), Mark Sexton (13), Roman Villanueva (9), Courtney Valdez (11), Mariah Smith (11), and Phelan Mitchell (12). The campers played team building and confidence building games, swam in the Terlingua Ranch pool, camped out on the river in Santa Elena Canyon, Visited the Hot Springs in the National Park, and explored Dugout Wells. Plans are in being developed for another camp next year. The time may be changed so that more youth can attend.

Marfa Study Group to Start New Book

The Thursday Discussion Group at St. Paul's in Marfa will be reading *Radical Hospitality, Benedict's Way of Love*, by Father Daniel Homan, OSB and Lonni Collins Pratt. Books have been ordered and will be available for anyone wishing to participate. The tentative starting date for discussion is Thursday, October 6th. Lunch is at noon for those who wish to bring their lunch and eat with the group. Discussion starts at 1pm and lasts until about 3pm. Anyone wishing to read the book and participate by email instead of attending the group may do so. Email your comments on the reading to auriewest@sbcglobal.net. *Comment from Seth: "Aurie West gave me this book. When I finished it, I started in again on page one and I'm reading it a second time. If you've been on the fence about whether to participate in this group, this is your chance. Go for it."*



Sign up for the Service of Lessons and Carols

A service of Lessons and Carols is planned for the first Sunday of Advent, November 27th, at St. James' Church. Voices from throughout the Mission are encouraged to participate in the choir.



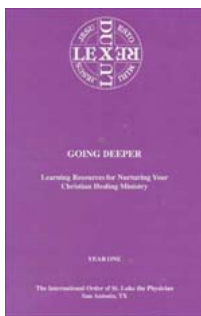
The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was first held on Christmas Eve, 1918, at King's Chapel in Cambridge, England. It was planned by the Rev. Eric Milner-White, Dean of King's, who also devised the Advent Carol Service in 1934. In the words of Dean Milner-White, "The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God . . . seen through the windows and words of the Bible." The service has been held at King's Chapel every Christmas Eve since 1918.

As it will come on the first Sunday of Advent, our own service will set the tone for Advent as a season of anticipation and preparation for the coming of Christ, not only into the world, but into our lives as well. Readings from scripture will alternate with a musical selections sung by the choir, by the congregation, or by both.

Bill Smith will prepare a recording of the carols to make learning them easy. Experience is not needed. A rehearsal schedule will be arranged.

Plan now to be present for this nearly century-old, very meaningful and beautiful service. Anyone wishing to participate in the choir should express their interest to Elaine no later than Sunday, October 9, 2005, or sooner, if possible.

St. James' Prayer Fellowship Contemplates New Direction



For many years the St. James' Prayer Fellowship has prayed for those in need in the Mission family and studied a variety of materials concerning the faith. They are currently completing a course of study called

Going Deeper: Learning Resources for Nurturing Your Christian Healing Ministry produced by The International Order of St. Luke the Physician.

The International Order of St. Luke the Physician is a world-wide interdenominational body of Christians who believe that the healing of the body, mind and spirit is a vital part of the total ministry of Jesus Christ. As a result of their recent study and some encouragement from Bishop Kelshaw during his visit last spring, a few members of the St. James' Prayer Fellowship are thinking about forming a local chapter of the Order of St. Luke. Participant Elizabeth McBride says: "We have pushed our boats out into the current, without knowing where this ministry will take us. Already, except for the occasional feeling of terror, we feel becalmed and blessed by the fruits of this discipline."

A local chapter would pursue monthly study and continue a healing ministry including praying for and visiting the sick. The requirements for establishing a local chapter are set out by the Order of St. Luke. The St. James' Prayer Fellowship meets on Tuesday afternoons at St. James' and welcomes new participants at any time. For further information, contact Thelma Hoyle at 432/827-2088 or for detailed information on the Order of St. Luke, visit www.orderofstluke.org.

Last Month's Question: What is Prayer?

Answer: Prayer is responding to God, by thought and by deeds, with or without words.

This Month's Question: What are the benefits which we receive in the Lord's Supper?

St. James' Gets New Storage Building



The new storage building is now in place behind St. James' providing much needed storage space for equipment and other items. Many thanks to all who helped with this project.

TOGETHER

Diocese of the RIO GRANDE

Visit the New Web Site for The
Diocese of the Rio Grande

www.dioceserg.org



During the Vicar's vacation, Seth and Judy spent a week attending a horse clinic at the Livermore Ranch outside of Ft. Davis. Have you been to an interesting vacation destination? Send some photos and details to The Circuit Rider at seth@equimax.com.



It's hard to be humble when you're perfect in every way. (photo - Harper Collection)

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