



THE CURATE



June 2011

Rector's Corner

Holy Land Journal

First of all, I want to thank all of you for the prayers for our safe journey. Thanks be to God, your prayers for safe travel were answered. Like all journeys, this one wasn't perfect, but in my opinion, it was pretty close. Hopefully, at some point, we will be able to consolidate all of our photographs and put together a program for you to see, but for now, I want to give you just a few reflections on the trip.

We began our pilgrimage on a very rainy morning in Dallas, the day after we got the news that Osama bin Laden had been killed. I'm sure that everyone thought at least a little about possible retribution, but everyone hung in and, after a long layover in Newark and a ten-hour flight, we were greeted in Tel Aviv by our guide, Lazarus. Believe it or not, his last name is Kevoorkian. He assured us that he is not related to "Dr. Death." Lazarus is an Armenian Christian whose family has lived in Jerusalem for centuries. Before he was a guide, he was a policeman who worked in intelligence so he was very sensitive to any potential trouble in the Arab areas that we were visiting. Lazarus had a great knowledge of the Bible and of the history of Israel. What I really liked about him was that, unlike other guides that I have encountered, if he didn't know something, he said so. Also, he had a great sense of humor, and it was fun to watch him laugh at his own jokes.

Our guide in Jordan was also very friendly and very competent. His name is Zaid, and he also has a very good knowledge of the Bible even though he is Muslim. The thing that impressed me the most about Zaid was the way that he dealt with the little boys who were at all of the historical sites selling postcards. These precious children were dropped off at the historical sites and given a quota of postcard sales for the day. They could be really aggressive, sometimes interrupting the guides as they spoke to their tour groups. Zaid was very gentle with them and spoke to them in a kind way. He took very good care of our group while we were in Jordan.

Several people have asked me about highlights of the trip, and that is a difficult question. To some degree, I am still processing everything.

The best that I can do right now is to give you a few brief observations. First of all, I was very impressed with Israel in general. The last time that I was there was in 1978, and in the intervening 33 years, the development of the country has been nothing short of spectacular. The roads are well-maintained, clean, with flowers everywhere. There are many public parks and beautiful memorials and public buildings all over the country.

One of the spiritual highlights of the trip for me came in Jordan. On Sunday morning, May 8, we visited the site on the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist. Our guide, Zaid had found a pavilion for us to celebrate the Eucharist, right beside the Jordan. We renewed our Baptismal Vows with water from the Jordan, and to experience the presence of Jesus in the bread and the wine at the very place where he was baptized was an incredible experience. To add to that, there was a group of Korean Christians worshipping in a pavilion near us. As we were worshipping, they were singing hymns (in English) such as *How Great Thou Art*. It was beautiful. Afterward, we exchanged hugs with them and greeted each other even though they didn't speak English and our Korean was a little lacking.

Another moving experience was on Mt. Tabor, one of the places suggested as the site of the Transfiguration. Lazarus arranged for us to celebrate the Eucharist in one of the chapels in the Church of the Transfiguration. The Church is managed by the Franciscan Order of the Roman Catholic Church as are most of the Christian Churches in the Holy Land. Lazarus escorted me into the sacristy of the Church where a Franciscan priest was preparing for the Mass in several chapels. It made me think of the St. Philip's altar guild and how efficiently they manage the services at our church. The priest gave me everything that we needed to celebrate the Mass as he chased tourists out of the sacristy, telling them, "priests only." To worship on that Holy Site was a special blessing.

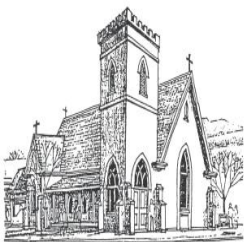
The Galilee was one of my favorite places because you could get a better idea of how things looked when Jesus walked the earth. Most of the Holy Places now have churches or some sort of structure built on them. One morning we traveled to a place near Tiberius called the Valley of the Pigeons. We had Morning Prayer on a path that Jesus must have walked on, because it is the only route between Nazareth and Capernaum. Also in Galilee, we took a trip on one of the so called "Jesus Boats."



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St. Philip's Episcopal Church
106 East Crawford



Rector's Corner Continued

I knew we were on the right boat when they raised the American flag and played the National Anthem. We had prayer on the boat, Gospel singing, and then some Middle Eastern singing and dancing.

Getting the opportunity to look across the border into Lebanon, floating in the Dead Sea, the stark landscape of the Judean Desert, looking from Mt. Nebo into the Promised Land, watching the sun rise over the Sea of Galilee, watching the lights of Jerusalem come on as we drove back from the farewell dinner in Bethlehem are all things that I will never forget. The wonderful thing about God's love for us is that whether we are in Jerusalem or Palestine, Jesus is with us. Time and distance make no difference to him. In Matthew 28:20 Jesus says, "And surely I am with you, to the very end of the age."

Yours in Christ,

Ted +



On the Jesus Boat



Our Korean Friends



The Baptismal Site



Our Group at Caesarea Philippi

Treasurer's Report

Norwood Brenneke

	<i>April</i>	Year-to-Date
Beginning Balance	44,947.77	39,944.82
Total Income	27,269.37	93,799.12
Total Expenses	18,153.52	79,992.20
Ending Balance	54,063.62	54,063.62

Altar Guild

Beverly Beck

The Altar Guild is anticipating the close of the Easter Season on June 11. The celebrations and Services have been inspiring, causing introspection and a deeper devotion to the Savior. As we prepare ourselves, and as the Lord prepares us, we look to Pentecost. As the longest Season on the Church calendar, ending on November 26, Pentecost focuses on the completion of the Trinity, the giving of the Holy Spirit to the Church. The Day of Pentecost features red altar hangings, representing the tongues of fire that descended on the disciples that day. The Season of Pentecost is represented by the color green, symbolizing the life and work of the Church.

The Altar Guild continues to need new members. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity of service to the Church.

St. Mary's Guild

Marian Raney

St. Mary's Guild wishes everyone a great summer ! Please remember we will resume our meetings September 19th so please plan to join us. More details later!! Marian Raney

Cursillo

Cursillo group meetings are now every Tuesday afternoon at 5:30 p.m. in the parlour. The men's group continues to meet at 8 a.m. on Friday mornings at the Subs and Dogs. Thanks, Martha Polasek



The Prayer Shawl Ministry continues to actively place shawls. We welcome anyone who would like to participate.

Altar Flowers:

To give altar flowers on a certain date, please call Francis Williams at 903.729.5743 or call the church office. All altar flower donations are very much appreciated. Checks for altar flowers should be made out to the **St. Philip's Altar Flowers Fund** and mailed to 106 E. Crawford Street, Palestine, TX 75801.

DOK

Kathleen Smith

Daughters of the King will continue to meet during the summer. See you on Thursday, June 9, at 5:30 in the Parlor.



ECW

Katherin Wardlaw



In lieu of a regular monthly meeting, the Episcopal Church Women enjoyed a special program on May 10 given by guest speaker, Barbara Stewart. Ms. Stewart's presentation was entitled "Art as a Reflection of World View". Drawing on her educational experience as a graphic arts major, Ms. Stewart shared a wealth of information on how the relationship of the extant world view determined styles of art, beginning in early Christian history. Hostesses were Pam Denson and Maxine Barnette.

The next ECW meeting is scheduled for September 13 with Jeanette George and Mary Kolstad as hostesses. John Tanner, Director of Air Land Emergency Rescue Team, will present the program. All St. Philip's church women and their guests are invited to attend.



Barbara Stewart

These are some pictures Katherin Wardlaw brought back from the Holy Land trip:



These pictures were all taken at Caesarea



These were also taken at Caesarea

**These were taken in and around
Tel Aviv and Caesarea**



I will continue posting pictures from the Holy Land Trip in the Curate as space allows. If any of the members who went on the trip have pictures to share please send them to me.

Tom Prater at tomprater@yahoo.com

I wish to thank Katherin Wardlaw for allowing me to use her pictures for the Curate

June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10a Bible Study 5:30p Evening Prayer	2	3 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	4
5 7:30a Euch Rite I 8:45a Christian Ed 10a Euch Rite II	6 6p Vestry Mtg	7 9:30a ECW 5:30p Womens Cursillo Group	8 10a Bible Study 5:30p Euch/Heal	9	10 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	11
12 7:30a Euch Rite I 8:45a Christian Ed 10a Euch Rite II	13	14 5:30p Womens Cursillo Group	15 10a Bible Study 5:30p Euch/Heal	16	17 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	18
19 7:30a Euch Rite I 8:45a Christian Ed 10a Euch Rite II	20	21 5:30p Womens Cursillo Group	22 10a Bible Study 5:30p Euch/Heal 6:30p Choir	23	24 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	25
26 7:30a Euch Rite I 8:45a Christian Ed 10a Euch Rite II	27	28 5:30p Womens Cursillo Group	29 10a Bible Study 5:30p Euch/Heal 6:30p Choir	30		

Anniversaries

May 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- 1 Al & Betty Holmes
- 6 Jon & Tome Nell Gregg
- 8 Bill & Audrey Tatum
- 8 Frank & Martha Polasek
- 15 Alan & Marie Mills
- 16 David & Sandy Mettauer
- 18 Don & Cathy Summers

Birthdays

June 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1 Melissa Winkler | 6 Mallory Winkler | 10 Joann Evans | 15 Nancy Waggoner | 18 Kathy Thomas | 26 Marie Mills |
| 2 Scott Gorby | 8 Mark Davis | 11 Sylvia Steen | 16 Sandy Mettauer | 20 Maxine Barnette | 27 Muriel Mizell |
| 3 Mary Kolstad | 9 Tim Cornwall | 13 Ann Welty | 16 Jane McConnell | 24 Tom Prater | 29 Sara Norton |
| 6 Luckett Kolstad | 10 Don Summers | 14 Kay Chapman | 16 David Mettauer | 26 Charles Bennett | |

CHURCH INFORMATION

St. Philip's Staff

Parish Office Hours

Rector Ted Welty
 Church Administrator Kelan Eckerman
 Organist/Choirmaster Clarissa Delany
 Sexton Chris Rogers

Sparky Kolstad (Senior Warden)
 Curt Winkler (Junior Warden)
 Norwood Brenneke (Treasurer)
 Cynthia Dickey (Vestry Clerk)

Bob Blackwell Kay Chapman
 Frank George David Sullivan
 Marian Raney Martha Styner
 Charlie Nichols Albert Holmes
 Bob Beck Joann Evans

Monday -Thursday 9a-5p

Friday 9a-12p

Closed Federal Holidays

Phone: (903) 729-4214

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Church: kelan@stphilipepiscopalchurch.org
Administrator: stphilipsalastine@embarqmail.com
Website: stphilipepiscopalchurch.org
Curate: tomprater@yahoo.com

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

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