

The Desert Wind

SPIRIT OF THE DESERT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

873 D Coyote Gulch Circle Ivins, Utah

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We are Spirit of the Desert, an inclusive, Christ-centered faith community in the Episcopal tradition, dedicated to knowing Christ and to make Christ known. We practice Christ's unconditional welcome at Spirit of the Desert.

"Spirit" Reaffirms Mission and Vision

At Spirit of the Desert we strive to be a "Life-Home" in Christ for all. We believe that each person is created by God with value and purpose and that together we are better than we are alone. We invite you to discover your purpose in a community of friends and experience inspiration and spiritual connection.

We are committed to making a difference in our community and in each others lives. We invite you to come and make a difference with us. Deep and meaningful friendships have grown and are nurtured through our worship services, our outreach in the community and our daily intercessory prayer group.



Spirit's Mission:

As an inclusive, Christ-centered, faith community in the Episcopal tradition, we are called to bring God's presence to a waiting world; to be an instrument of God's liberating love, joyful presence, and redeeming compassion; and to welcome the faithful, the seeker, and the doubter.

In response to our core values and mission we are moved to:

- **SEEK** God's will in all that we do;
- **WORSHIP** God as a Eucharistic community grounded in the Bible and The Book of Common Prayer and committed to liturgy steeped in the tradition of the church that speaks to people in the post-modern world.
- **NURTURE** one another in all stages of life through prayer and healing, education and study, pastoral care and action, and Christian fellowship;
- **REACH OUT** to the community to serve, sharing the gifts God has given to us, and;
- **INVITE** others to faith in Jesus Christ as Lord by bearing witness to God's love for all and sharing experiences of God's work in our lives.

Spirit's Vision:

Spirit of the Desert will be a vital, growing, Episcopal Church where the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer are central. It is our vision that Spirit will be a dynamic and welcoming community church where we will come to know Christ and make Him known through prayer, study and service. We will be shaped through prayer and guided by the Holy Spirit. Through study we will strive

continually to embrace our faith. We will express and witness our faith through committed service and loving mission to our community and the world.

Spirit and the Church's "Five Marks of Mission":

Spirit fully embraces the belief that the "Mission of the Church is the Mission of Christ" and subscribes to the Five Marks of Mission adopted by the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion of which it is a part:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom;
- To teach, baptize and nurture new believers;
- To respond to human need by loving service;
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society;
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.





The beautiful Desert Rose Labyrinth offers a "sacred space" for quiet meditation and prayer for members of Spirit and the Kayenta community.

Desert Rose Labyrinth Offers "Sacred Space"

We are blessed and privileged to be a part of Kayenta. Our small church is housed in the community meeting building. All around us are art studios, galleries and outdoor sculptures reminding us of the beauty of this area. A short distance from our church is a path that leads to the Desert Rose Labyrinth. It is a place where we can go for prayer, fellowship and moments of silence.

Labyrinths have been around for over 4,000 years and are found in just about every major religious tradition in the world. The oldest existing Christian labyrinth is probably the one in the 4th century basilica in Orleansville, Algeria. During the time of the Crusades, seven cathedrals were designated for pilgrims. These cathedrals had labyrinths usually laid in the marble

floor. The labyrinth marked the end of a difficult journey and a promise of entry into the Heavenly Jerusalem. The most famous Labyrinth is found in Chartres, France.

Dedicated and opened during the fall of 2004, the Desert Rose Labyrinth is a product of the vision and labor of many community members from Kayenta. An eleven-circuit labyrinth and adjoining sculpture garden provide an oasis of quiet for contemplation and reflection, as well as pleasure and enjoyment for everyone who visits.

People in the Pews:

Profiles of People of Spirit

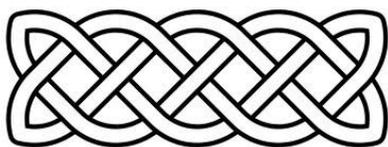
Katie Mays

In each Spirit Newsletter we like to introduce you to one of our parishioners. Our next featured member is Katie Mays. She was born in Fort Dodge, Iowa, and grew up in Lincoln, Nebraska. She attended the University of Nebraska, and taught music in grade school for seven years. Katie also worked in St. George for twenty years at Intermountain Health Center in the Psychiatric Department rounding out her professional career. Her husband Bob was a journalist and they moved to Salt Lake City when he became employed by the Salt Lake Tribune. He also taught English at the University of Utah. They had three

children: Melanie, Jennifer, and Bob. After twenty-nine years of marriage Bob passed away.

She met and married Dan Mays. They really enjoyed life; traveled in their motor home, hiking and viewing the beautiful surroundings. They built their home in Kayenta in 1993 settling down to enjoy the good life. They were married for twenty-three years unfortunately he became ill after seventeen years. After a long, debilitating illness, Dan passed away in July. We remembered him in our prayers for many, many months. There will be a celebration of Dan's life. He had visited the Kayenta Desert Rose Labyrinth during a walk and announced to Katie that this is what he would like in his honor at the proper time. So, a walk around the labyrinth will be offered to all his friends and family on Saturday, September 29 at 3:00 p.m.

Katie is one of the original members of Spirit of the Desert and is another "cradle" Episcopalian. Very importantly, Katie is one of our faithful Altar Guild members and is the founder of the Prayer Shawl ministry. We so appreciate all she does for our precious little church.



SPIRITS TRAVEL NEAR AND FAR

Oriole Coller

There was no way to tell what this trip would mean to Oriole Coller, our devoted church member. She knew it would be much more than finding a lost friend and finding themselves. You see, Oriole lost contact with her dearest girlfriend, Margie Gassman, from her school days. Margie and she meant everything to each other. They hadn't seen each other in 68 years. Margie's last location was in 1954 at an address in Bellwood, Illinois. Oriole's daughter Kim told her she would do some research on Ancestry.com. She was pleased to find an address and a phone number in Berkeley, Illinois, right next door to Bellwood. To get the ball rolling Kim called and spoke first to the husband, as Margie was at the beauty shop. When she came home he told her to sit down as he had some fantastic news for her. And so these two girlfriends were reunited again. After many phone calls they decided that an April trip to Chicago and Berkeley was in order and plans were made. Oriole found out quickly that Margie's husband had attended the same grammar school as they did but she had never met him. There was non-stop talking and laughing as they recalled shared memories and incidents.

They spent a couple days in Chicago seeing the sights, staying at The Talbott Hotel, bringing each other up to date on those lost years and spending time with Margie's family members. Then it was off to Berkeley.



Oriole Coller and life-long friend Margie Gassman.

One thing that Oriole always remembered over the years was the thoughtfulness of Margie's mother who helped her make arrangements for her grandmother's funeral and burial. Oriole recalled the cemetery being out in the "middle of nowhere". She had the documents with the



Headstone placed at the grave site of Oriole's grandmother, Ellen Boyle.

grave site number but she was unable to have a headstone placed.

Daughter Kim contacted the cemetery and told them of Oriole's upcoming trip. She wanted a headstone placed but was told there was no way to do it that quickly, much to Oriole's disappointment. Unbeknownst to Oriole her family was not accepting this denial.

A visit to the cemetery took place on a dark, rainy day. Oriole was surprised to see how beautiful and well cared for it was, so unlike her recollection. She was overcome with joy at seeing a beautiful marker for BELOVED GRANDMOTHER ELLEN F. BOYLE 1860 - 1944. Oriole says "it had been raining all morning until they got to the grave site and then SUNSHINE! We were in the company of angels." And so it was....back to Chicago after 68 years to reunite with a friend and honor a grandmother.

Great Grandmother's Visit

In our last Newsletter we told you about the angel we've adopted in our hearts. She is Mia Foutz, Oriole's great granddaughter, living in Arizona. Oriole hadn't been able to visit her for over a year so in April she finally did on the first leg of her trip to Chicago. The improvement in Mia's condition since her surgery and treatments for brain cancer was wonderful. This young lady is walking

with the aid of a walker, is swimming and has not lost her wonderful attitude and positive outlook. That is a lot for a little gal who just turned six on the first of July. We were so pleased to remember her again with a birthday present.

Roger and Lois Moritz

Lois & Roger traveled to Hawaii in late June where they spent a wonderful week with their daughter, son-in-law, and two teenage grandchildren in Honolulu. Although they saw many sights, the highlight was the tour of Pearl Harbor....for the teenagers, it was Waikiki beach! At the end of the week they went to The Big Island, visiting Volcanoes National Park, rain forests, waterfalls, and a coffee mill. A perfect ending to the trip was a fireworks display on July 4th, at Hilo Bay, just a short distance from the balcony of their hotel.

Don and Sue Miller

Don and Sue and their three "fur kids" drove to Eugene, Oregon, in May to trade in their motor home for a new one. After two days of paperwork and transferring all their belongings from one RV to the other they were off to Bend, Oregon. You haven't lived until you've spent four days in a Super 8 motel with a dog and paperwork and transferring all their belongings from one RV to the other they were off to Bend, Oregon.

You haven't lived until you've spent four days in a Super 8 motel with a dog and two cats. They had to do this as the carpeting was being removed in the new RV and matching tile installed. Then it was a three-day journey back home. Don swears this will be their

last RV; it is the fifth one in the ten years they have been married. Sue doesn't believe him for a minute but time will tell.

In mid-July they were off again for a one-month stay in South Lake Tahoe, CA. Sue was able to visit with her daughter Stephanie and granddaughter Chandre and the many friends she had while living there for twenty two years. What Sue says she missed the most was being with Spirit of the Desert each Sunday. It's hard to be away from her other "family" for so long.

Bishop Visits Spirit, Plays a Mean Guitar

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Scott B. Hayashi, the 11th Bishop of Utah devoted an entire day to the people of Spirit of the Desert during his annual visit on July 29. He brought his guitar with him and played duets with our resident troubadour, John Marschall. The music inspired the congregation to ring out the familiar hymns!!

Following the service, Ellen and Don Tadken graciously opened their magnificent home in Kayenta for a reception honoring the Bishop. A pre-planned menu produced a wide array of dishes provided by the congregants. Tables and chairs were set up in three different rooms and Bishop Scott made the rounds, getting to know Spirit members. It was a perfect afternoon, and everyone enjoyed becoming better acquainted with everyone - even those who thought they knew each other!!

Intercessory Prayer Group Prays Daily for Healing and Comfort

Intercessory Prayer meetings were held on May 24, June 21, July 12, and August 23. The September meeting will be held on September 20. A faithful group of eight ladies meet each month to pray together. During daily prayers sometimes as many as thirty people are remembered as we lift them up to God for His healing grace.

It was with sadness that the group learned of the passing of Kathy Wayman a homebound member of Spirit. Ric and Kathy visited Spirit of the Desert when Kathy was able, and Lee often brought Holy Communion to their home after our service. Kathy had been ill for many years and was confined to a wheelchair.

She passed away on July 29. Her services were held in Ogden, Utah, with Rev. Lee officiating. We extend our sincerest sympathy to Kathy's husband, Ric, and to members of Kathy's family.

Spirit Undergoes Financial Review

Spirit of the Desert had their first financial review on June 9th. Lisa Jones, from the Utah Diocese, met with Lois Moritz, our treasurer, and Lee Montgomery, our priest. Lisa did a thorough review of all our financial information. In her official report she stated that she "had reviewed the financial records of Spirit of the Desert and found them to be well maintained and in order." She made some suggestions for improvement, which we will attempt to implement as time goes on. Thanks to Lisa for the helpful and informative review. A special thanks to Lois for her record keeping skills these past years. What would we do without her?



Spirit's Priest Directs Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

The Rev. Dr. Lee Montgomery, Priest in Charge of Spirit, helped bring a taste of Broadway to the people of Cedar City in early June when he directed "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at Cedar's Heritage Theater.

Boasting a cast of more than sixty men, women and children the musical story of Joseph and his jealous brothers from the Book of Genesis came alive on the Cedar City stage. The production was attended by a number of Spirit congregants who were amused to witness Lee dressed as a "hairy Ismaelite" push a makeshift camel across the stage.

More than 1,700 members of the Cedar community turned out for the show which was the inaugural production of the newly formed Cedar Valley Theatre Company. Lee, who has directed community theatre for more than 20 years called "Joseph" the "largest and most challenging production he has ever staged."

"I have never worked with a cast of this size before or staged a show in such a large theatre." he said. "It was a lot of work but I'm very pleased with the final result. The cast and crew worked so hard to make the show a huge success and the audience response was phenomenal."

The show was sold out for every performance of its four night run.

In addition to directing and appearing in the show, Lee constructed the sets and many of the props. Lee is currently at work on designing the set design for the community theatre's next production, "Annie," which will open in January. He hopes to direct "Little Shop of Horrors" for the community group next fall.



Lee appears as a "hairy" Ismaelite in his community theatre production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."



Ila Craig Shares Recipe for "Glorified Grahams"

This is more than just a recipe. It is another gesture from Ila Craig whose ministries include bringing delicious snacks on Sundays for our enjoyment. There will be another in our next issue.

Place 24 graham crackers on a cookie sheet. Cream together and dab on the crackers:

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter
1 cup brown sugar
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped nuts
1 teaspoon vanilla

Bake at 350 degrees until mixture bubbles slightly.

How could something so simple be so delicious. Try it yourself and you'll know.

Bishop Hayashi Issues Call to 107th Convention

It is with great pleasure and honor that I, as Bishop, perform my canonical duty and present this "Call to Convention" for the 107th Convention of the Diocese of Utah.

The Diocesan Convention will be held at The Cathedral Commons, which includes the historic Cathedral Church of St. Mark and the Episcopal Church

Center of Utah in Salt Lake City. The dates are October 12 and 13, 2012.

I have selected "Proclaiming the Gospel!" as the theme of the two-day convention as we are always mindful of the Bible as the foundation of our worship and of our understanding of the Lord.

I also stress that Diocesan Convention is NOT just for those elected to do the business of the Diocese. It is a time of learning, study, prayer, and fun for ALL.

The connections and fellowship that come when we all gather in one place is vital for our growth as a Diocese and as Episcopalians.

Visitors are encouraged to actively participate in workshops, table discussions at meals, and at Convention social events. I also encourage members to take an active role in the government and business of the church.

We are a democracy that relies on the prayer and wisdom of all within our congregations. Any communicant in good standing can submit a resolution and/or become a nominee for Standing Committee, Diocesan Council or other diocesan-wide positions.

Forms are available on our special Diocesan Convention website: (www.diocesanconvention-ut.org).

Please refer to that site for

continued updated information as we get closer to October 12th and 13th. Again, welcome to the 107th Convention of the Diocese of Utah!

Blessings,

The Rt. Rev. Scott B. Hayashi, 11th Bishop of Utah

Spirit of the Desert's delegates to the Convention, elected at our annual meeting, are Roger and Lois Moritz. Kim Montgomery will attend the Convention as an alternate. Our congregation will also be represented by Priest in Charge, the Rev. Dr. Lee Montgomery.

Church's General Convention Approves Same-Sex Blessing

Episcopal priests will be allowed to conduct services blessing same-sex relationships under a policy approved at the church's national convention in Indianapolis.

The convention's House of Bishops approved the provisional policy 111-41 with three abstentions clearing it for consideration by the House of Deputies.

The policy was approved in the House of Deputies, following more than an hour of debate, by 78% of the voting lay members and by 76% of clergy.

With the vote, the Episcopal

Church becomes the largest U.S. denomination to officially sanction same-sex relationships. The Episcopal Church has about 1.95 million members in the United States.

The service is not considered a marriage ceremony. It is intended to be a theological response to a monogamous, committed relationship. Marriage requires the additional involvement of civil authorities, and many states do not allow gays to marry.

The Episcopal policy calls for a three-year trial run of the blessing service, which is called "The Witnessing and Blessing of a Lifelong Covenant."

It will be accompanied by a review process leading up to the church's next annual convention in Salt Lake City. It's then that church leaders would decide whether to make the policy permanent. Bishop Hayashi's pastoral letter concerning the Blessing is available on the Diocesan web site at www.episcopal-ut.org.

