

ST ELIZABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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

SUNDAY WORSHIP, HOLY EUCHARIST 10:00 AM

Just as we're going to press, The Rev. Phyllis Spiegel was elected to serve as the twelfth Bishop of Utah. She's passionate about Care of Creation and Becoming Beloved Community, showing her creativity in helping the parish she serves to live out those callings. We're thrilled that Rev. Spiegel will be consecrated as our bishop this coming September—look for more about her in our next newsletter.



Holy Week Resurrected



After years of disruption caused by the pandemic, Holy Week returned this spring with renewed power. It's tempting to skip right to Easter, which was fabulous, but every step along the way added to the impact. We cried out, "Hosanna in the highest!" in our Palm Sunday procession, and a dozen voices joined in reading the Stations of the Cross narratives. Sharing Communion at the Last Supper meant a lot, and people who'd stayed in their seats for two years helped to strip the altar.

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Art Empowers

You'd think that having the first week of our recent program series postponed by a snowstorm would have dampened our spirits, but it didn't turn out that way. Once the snow melted, the kids and youth turned out in force, and we enjoyed being together, working on art projects and playing outdoors. Many thanks to Becca Gardner, Sadie Santio and SueAnn Cotonuts for their leadership, to Ute Tribe Transit and its drivers for providing a bus, and to all the families of the young people.

Along with drawing and other arts and crafts which the kids enjoy so much, we introduced some traditional elements. The youth took turns smudging each other in our Talking Circles, as Becca explained how to cleanse ourselves to prepare for the day's activities. A high point of our programs was Geraldina Selestewa and her son Oakley introducing us to Handgame, very popular at Pow Wows and other gatherings. (Oakley inspired a new generation of drummers and singers!) Sadie Santio led the kids in a simple basket-weaving project and helped the youth get started with beading. "I wasn't going to come today," one of the older boys said, "but I'm sure glad I did!"



We're grateful to all the donors who make these programs possible, especially the Eccles Foundation and the Episcopal Diocese of Utah. We were blessed to serve more than forty young people and we look forward to more excitement in the Spring after-school series and in our Summer Camps. We can see the impact on the young people—it's just as the name implies: Art Empowers.

Youth Group

& OUTREACH MINISTRY



The month of March had a lot of firsts for youth group, it was also a busy one for us. We had our first elder for our Elder of the month program. Ginny didn't have a whole for a us to do, but we took her staple groceries every other week, also making her and her sister dinner once a week. Youth group had our first field trip of the year, and it was to the dinosaur quarry, where we played games, icebreakers, journaling, even took a mini hike. And just got to sit and enjoy all of God's creation. That day we had to take both vans which were filled with 15 teens. On April 9, we took 7 of our teens out to SLC on a special Tour of the University of Utah. It was special and very inspiring because it was given by two of our very own former youth group members, Pepper and Maria Alanis. We are all so proud of them and all the hard work they're doing. After the tour was done, I asked, "Ok so who's all going to college?" and all the teens raised their hands. It was such an amazing blessing to show them they too can attend the U of U.

Back in November of 2021, I came up with the idea of St. Elizabeth's having a Clothing room and a Food room in our Parish Hall. I wanted St. Elizabeth's to be the church that people on the reservation could come to when or if they need clothing or food. Last year this was all just a dream, one that I thought I was in over my head with. But anyone that knows when I say I want to do something, it's in the making. So, with donations and a little bit of time, we at St. Elizabeth's now have a clothing and a food room. We are always in need for donations for both rooms.

— Becca Gardner, Youth/Outreach Project Coordinator

Holy Week, continued from page 1

The reader's voice trembled at the prayer of Jesus in the Garden, and the wood of the cross felt harsh and rough when we touched it on Good Friday.

And then... it all broke loose on Easter morning! People poured in by the dozens; every pew was filled. Kids were EVERYWHERE, making pictures, sitting up front for the baptisms, playing rhythm instruments, gathering Easter eggs. The church was filled with New Life as the baptismal promises were made: to turn from darkness to light, from evil to good, from Satan to Christ. Water gathered by Leo Tapoof at Big Springs was blessed again as it changed the lives of two adults, two kids and two babies. When the prayers and singing were finished, a feast began, and just for a moment, it felt like we'd never had a pandemic. A new morning, new life, new possibilities for the future. Alleluia, Christ is risen!

-Michael



Signs of New Life

Elaina James was delighted to welcome her newborn daughter Scarlett to the little flock of boys in her home. One of the joys of Easter was celebrating all their baptisms as they grow together as a family of faith. Donci and William enjoy being part of Art Empowers: as the younger one asked after his first day, "Can we do this again tomorrow?" Congratulations and blessings to you, Elaina!



Photo Gallery



Teen Table



Easter Feast



Smudging for Talking Circle



Youth Group!



Becca and the clothing closet

Remembering Leo Tapoof

On March 6, our beloved brother Leo Tapoof passed into eternal life. As the family said in his obituary, “Leo led a spiritual life. He loved tradition and brought his Tribal and church beliefs together in unity. He was a Sundancer and singer, and he was a flag-bearer at the pow wows.” Leo was one of a kind and is dearly missed.

Looking back, it’s no coincidence that the news of his death came during a Sunday worship service. Michael was preaching when his phone started buzzing, and eventually he read one of the texts to the congregation. After a few shocked moments, we prayed the Last Rites together and shared Communion, fitting ceremonies for a man of such deep faith. Leo’s funeral brought together Traditional and Christian prayers as we witnessed to his inspiring life.



Congratulations to Adam and Azra

For the second year in a row, Adam Twiss won a medal for welding sculpture in the statewide Skills USA competition. The piece honors Adam’s Uncle, William Tallbear, an important supporter in his youth and his inspiration to take up welding. Adam and his daughter Azra spent Easter on a school trip to Greece, celebrating her upcoming graduation from Uintah High School. She’s been accepted at Utah Valley University, and we’re very proud of both of them!



ST. ELIZABETH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OCCUPIES AND OPERATES UPON
THE ANCESTRAL AND TRADITIONAL LANDS OF THE UTE INDIAN TRIBE.