

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

The Highlight of My Summer

In every Arts-Kids and Arts-Teens Talking Circle, we invite the young people to name their high and low points. Summer Camp was definitely the high point of my summer!

The neighborhood kids started gathering on Sunday night, coming over to ask for drinks of water and balls to play with. They couldn't wait for camp to begin, and when Monday morning came they turned out in force. We sat in one huge circle by the playground in the shade of a cottonwood tree, listening to every

person check in and hearing Michelle Chapoose describe the art project we'd be doing that week. "Every one of you is amazing," she said, "and you're going to have a chance to show that in your work."

Over the next two days they painted canvas boards, pasted on photos of themselves and added "I Am" statements: "I Am... a good friend... an athlete... brave and strong... just right the way I am... an awesome daughter... always going to be OK." When they were



finished each one brought their work to the Circle and shared some of the statements with the other young people. At the end of the week they took their creations home to hang on the walls of their rooms.

All that happened in the midst of typical camp fun: playground time and impromptu football

games and playing volleyball and kickball. A highlight was the tug of war, which the girls won by dragging the boys into the wading pool. When the art project was finished halfway through the week, they all worked together to create murals of their drawings. The large group of teens, gathered in a shady corner of the yard, made a giant set of



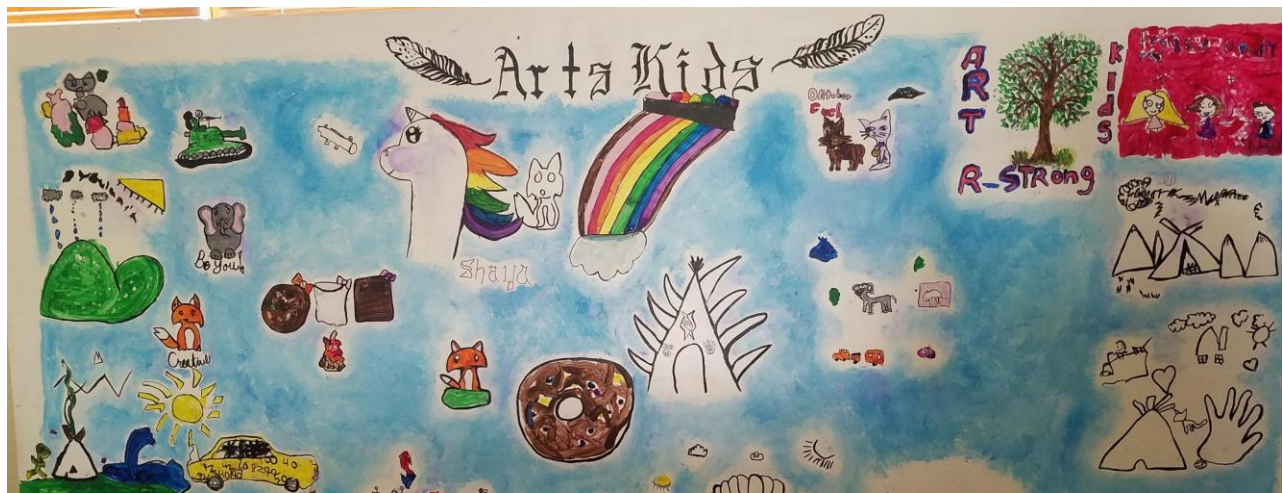
interlocking puzzle pieces to illustrate what each one of them meant to the group.

My thanks go out to our awesome adult leadership team: SueAnn Cotonuts, Ginny Chimburas, Angelica Quinn, Becca Gardner, Melanie Cesspooch and Mick Richman. Artists Michelle Chapoose and Shelby Chapoose-Goble were amazing themselves, offering visions for the work and patiently helping the young people make their own unique creations. The Ute Tribe fed us every day and provided a bus to go to the park on Friday, where we played for an hour before enjoying a picnic lunch provided by Chad Mortensen of

Marion's Variety. We're also thankful for the generous financial support of Newfield Oil Company and Paragon Oilfield Products, which made it possible to carry out this program.

We finished the week in the Roosevelt pool enjoying the refreshing waters, watching the young people play in the Lazy River with their new-found friends. Remember having moments like that as a kid? It just doesn't get any better than Summer Camp in Whiterocks.

Michael



An Honored Guest

In June we were blessed by a visit from The Rev. Bradley Hauff, our national Missioner for Indigenous Ministries and a member of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's staff. Brad made an epic journey to get to Whiterocks, never giving up when his plans were derailed by a forest fire, a cancelled flight and endless road construction delays. He arrived in Whiterocks in time to share dinner with our congregation and listen to the elders speak about the history of the congregation, Native traditions and the church, the programs we're proud of, and how peoples' faith has grown despite difficult circumstances. Everyone was moved by hearing these stories, after which we gathered in the Sanctuary where one of the youth led us in Evening Prayer.

We send our heartfelt thanks to Brad for making this visit happen despite all the difficulties you encountered. We're grateful to be part of the Episcopal Native Community and look forward to seeing you again!



Two Generous Hearts



The Children's Offering is a regular feature of Sunday mornings at St. Elizabeth's. It began to happen without any planning, as two girls started collecting coins to give away. "Where would you like to take them?" their grandmother asked. "To the church," they said, and they do that nearly every week.

In the middle of the service Aveah and Caley take a break from making pictures to bring the coins forward with the adults' offering. Since Christmas (when their coins provided gifts for two families) they've collected more than \$250, which was matched by a donor! They decided to support a project of the Arts-Kids leaders: sending a backpack of food home with every young person at Summer Camp.

When we honor them with applause at church, the girls are shy and don't show much reaction. They just keep on collecting coins—who knows what their next project will be? Sometimes we adults don't feel like we have enough (of whatever we might need) to make a difference in the world. Witnessing Aveah and Caley's steady generosity should remind us that in God's kingdom there's enough of what we need if we'll only share our gifts.

Update on Our Community Service

The June/July newsletter had a detailed article on how our Bishop's Committee has focused our efforts to serve the community. Our primary outreach programs are Arts-Kids and Arts-Teens, and as you can see we've been very busy in that area this summer. Summer

Camp was great fun and a huge success, and everyone enjoyed the Arts-Teens trip to Salt Lake City. The two programs will get back to their school-year routine with a six-week Fall Series on Wednesdays from September 19 to October 24.

Along with that we've been moving forward with our service in several ways:

- **Fellowship** It was our Bishop's Committee that came up with the idea of reviving the tradition of three-congregation Episcopal worship and fellowship in our area. Once we agreed with Bishop Hayashi to have this gathering on July 29, they invited the people from Holy Spirit, Randlett and St. Paul's, Vernal. Not only that, but the BC took responsibility for doing a barbeque for all those people, setting up the picnic grounds and other details. Look for a report on all of this in next month's newsletter.
- **Children and Youth** Because like all the Episcopal churches in Utah we knew there would be a 10% cut in our grant from the Diocese next year, we were concerned that it would be hard for us to make ends meet. But thanks to the generosity of our donors, our careful spending and the balance we've built up in our checking account, we were able to deal with that reduction. Not only that, but the BC found enough funds to hire a part-time (20 hours per month) Youth Leader beginning September 1. That's not a lot of time but it's enough to make a good beginning in expanding these critical programs.
- **Healthy Living** The new vegetable garden in the front yard of the Vicarage (outside the church office) is doing very well, and the harvest is just beginning to come in. As you can see from these photographs, the pumpkins the kids planted are escaping into the parking lot, the tomatoes are getting tall and setting fruit, and other veggies are growing up nicely. Everyone is invited to take home produce, which our members have also begun to bring to church to share with others.



Photo Gallery





Bishop Hayashi's Visit to St.
Elizabeth's: Sunday, September 9



August Birthdays

Eagleplume Poowegup (1)
SueAnn Cotonuts (6)
Dixie Redfoot (10)
Chet Ridley (13)
David Quinn (13)
Marsha Heron (18)
Shannon Gardner (21)
Rebecca Gardner (28)
Trinnan Taveapont (29)
Carl Jacobs (30)
Ginger Ridley (31)



St. Elizabeth's Mission Statement

Noochu (the people) of St. Elizabeth's welcome you to worship, share hospitality and grow in God's love to better serve the church and community.

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