

# St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church

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



Sunday Worship, Holy Eucharist 10:00 AM

## Gathering at Big Springs

Getting together with the other Episcopal churches in the Basin for worship and a picnic was a tradition that hadn't taken place in a few years. People remembered it fondly, but somehow it had seemed too difficult to organize. Even Bishop Hayashi's offer last fall to attend and cater the event didn't get things going.

Then, in a Bishop's Committee meeting this spring we finished our business in an hour and had some time left for brainstorming. In response to the question, "What more could we do to serve the community?" a number of ideas came up. Expand our youth activities, develop a religious education program for children, start a vegetable garden.

Some of these things were already under way—they all remain as goals for the future.

But Becca Gardner had an immediate priority: reviving the three-congregation gathering this summer. The B.C. members were clear that it should be at Big Springs Tribal Park and that we should prepare the food ourselves.

From that point it was a team effort. Becca did the food shopping while Greg Quinn and his sons reserved the site and moved the tables. Mick Richman and his father did the barbequing while Raycita Quinn organized the setup and cleanup. Becca and Raycita visited the other congregations to talk up the event and I put up signs and balloons to mark the route. Tom Elder from St. Paul's organized a music group, Leo Tapoof offered a sweetgrass blessing and Bishop Hayashi preached a wonderful sermon.



Best of all, lots of people came. Folks from all three churches and the wider community sat together in the shade in their folding chairs, singing and praying and sharing communion. The food was abundant and delicious, and it seemed like everyone had a good time. Rev. Sonny Beacham, who's connected with all the groups, said it was "the best gathering ever."

Remember when we were reading from Acts of the Apostles last spring? "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses..." (*Acts 1:8*) I can't remember a more Spirit-filled event, from the organizers to the people attending, to the power of the place where we gathered. When the Spirit guides the church, good things happen.

Michael



## ARTS-KIDS & ARTS-TEENS FALL SERIES

WEDNESDAYS SEPT. 19 to OCT. 24  
4:15 PM to 6:45 PM  
ALL YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 6-17 INVITED

## Arts-Teens Salt Lake City Trip



Two weeks after Summer Camp nine of the Arts-Teens and four adults took a three-day trip to Salt Lake City. We stayed at a retreat center downtown and had a number of city adventures: shopping at the huge Harmon's grocery store, watching the Pioneer Day parade, visiting the Aquarium, going to a Powwow, watching fireworks at the state Capitol, walking up City Creek, working at a food pantry, doing an art project, having dinner at a mall, and spending time in the Cathedral. Each young person was given a journal, and twice each day we spent quiet time writing and drawing in them. We began and ended each day with a Talking Circle at which we checked in with one another, shared out high and low points, set and reviewed our intentions.

It was a fun and busy trip that sometimes stretched us as we adapted to living together under unfamiliar circumstances. We tried to balance having lots of adventures with downtime, when we worked in our journals, watched movies, ate snacks and got on our phones. When the young people

were asked what they liked best on the trip they named a number of the activities, with going grocery shopping together the only one chosen by more than one person. Doing some things that others enjoyed was part of the process of growing together as a group.

Like last year, volunteering at a downtown food pantry had a big impact on the young people. The ones who worked directly with the clients reported having great experiences: "It made me appreciate and be grateful for everything." "It makes me happy and want to help other people who don't have what I have, and to be thankful." Others found it difficult to work in the heat of the back room trying to keep up with stocking unfamiliar shelves. There were also comments about how the trip helped them with "coping," by "spending time with my cousin" or that "It helped me knowing to write in a journal."

Working in our journals regularly was a major part of the trip, giving us a chance to

reflect in the midst of the activities. Several of the young people said they appreciated this: “It helped me cuz I could write down my feelings each day.” “It let me let everything out or it let me express how I felt.” They also commented on drawing in their journals, as one adult said: “It brought out the creative art in me. I didn’t only write I drew and it was something new.”

One of the youth said that journal writing “made me feel good to remind myself about good things and bad things,” which referred to sharing our highs and lows in the Talking Circles. These reflective elements are at the heart of what makes an Arts-Teens trip unique and hopefully equips the young people for dealing with challenges in their lives.

Michael



## September Events

**The Bishop Is Coming!** Bishop Hayashi will be visiting St. Elizabeth’s on Sunday, September 9 at 10:00 am. Please come for the service and enjoy a festive potluck afterwards. It will be a very special day for baptisms, and the Bishop will offer Special Blessings to people who renew their baptismal promises. Call or text Rev. Michael at 823-1559 if you’re interested.

**Welcoming Folks from Park City!** On Saturday, September 22 people from St. Luke’s, Park City will be visiting Forrest Cuch’s ranch for a get-together. Besides a picnic lunch and time for fellowship, everyone can explore the ranch environments and experience the healing powers of Forrest’s horses. We hope to put up the church tipi in ceremonial fashion (with prayer songs) near Forrest’s sweat lodge. What an opportunity for us to grow closer to our partners from Park City.

**Suicide Prevention Workshop!** Sadly, we all know how prevalent suicide is in our community and how important it is for us to take action. Did you know there are simple things any one of us could do that might save someone’s life? Stick around after refreshments on Sunday, September 23 for a workshop with Robin Hatch called “Anxiety, Stress, Suicide: We Need to Talk.” Let’s commit ourselves to helping to change the negative patterns that lead to suicide.

## Our Annual Audit

This may not sound like a newsworthy item, but it was big for us. Over the last year we’ve tried to make our financial reviews more transparent and to have greater safeguards in our spending process. At Greg Quinn’s suggestion last year we stopped signing checks to give to our Bookkeeper. Instead, members of our Bishop’s Committee review every invoice for amounts over \$300 and for the credit cards used by our Vicar and Deacon, as well as reimbursements to them.

In addition, the Bishop’s Committee spends time at every month’s meeting reviewing financial statements, credit card bills, and bank deposit records. If their questions can’t be answered on the spot, the Vicar finds out the information and gets back to them.

Auditor Richard McRae had high praise for these efforts, saying that the improvements in our procedures this year are “phenomenal.” He said that we have a “very tight system” for using our credit cards and that conversations in the Bishop’s Committee are “remarkably more transparent.”

We’re thankful for all your donations and for the generous support we receive from the Diocese of Utah. Hopefully these improvements in our financial procedures will give you confidence that your donations (and support) are being directed to the areas where they’re most needed.

Thanks so very much!

## September Birthdays



Michael Carney (1)  
 Adelbert Tavashutz (4)  
 Keenan Taveapont (6)  
 Dream Us Black (11)  
 Arick Cotonuts (12)  
 Willy Ridley (14)  
 September Gardner (14)

Harriet Vasquez-Luna (14)  
 PePe Fagata (15)  
 Vincent Quinn (16)  
 Constance Judd (16)  
 Rev. Sonny Beacham (20)  
 Ambie Redfoot (24)  
 Bruce Pargeets (28)



## 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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