

IDAHO IDYLL* - NOVEMBER 2006

**Idyll: A simple descriptive work in poetry or prose that deals with rustic life or pastoral scenes or suggests a mood of peace and contentment.*

AROUND THE DIOCESE

➤ PARADISE POINT CAMP CONVERSATION SCHEDULED

Please plan to join us for a diocesan-wide conversation about Paradise Point scheduled for Saturday, December 9, from 10:00am to 2:00pm at Church of the Ascension in Twin Falls.

Will Northrop, a non-profit consultant with Talent Focused Consulting, has been selected to facilitate. Will has lived in the Wood River Valley for the past 11 years and is a member of St. Thomas Episcopal Church (and a past member of the Vestry). His company specializes in strategic planning, facilitation of retreats, board governance, and fundraising development. After meeting with Bishop Harry and Wicky MacColl, Camp Director, Will put together some questions to focus our thinking prior to the discussion.

What does the community need Paradise Point to be?

How do we make Paradise Point a greater instrument of the Diocese's mission?

How do we define success?

How can a Committee be of the most value to Paradise Point?

You won't want to miss this important conversation, so please contact the Diocesan Office if you or any member of your congregation plans to attend (208/345-4440 or joyz@idahodiocese.org). **Reservations are important** in order that we may have an accurate count for the catered lunch. There is no registration fee, but a free-will offering will be taken to defray the lunch cost.

- **St. Thomas Church, Ketchum** is partnering with Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church to present the Sun Valley Liturgy Conference (The Body at Worship: Reclaiming and renewing our living tradition) on January 5 & 6, 2006. This experiential workshop is intended to stimulate renewal of the worship life of our churches and to give contemporary expressions to the gospel in changing times. Workshop presenters will be Marty Haugen and Susan Briehl. Workshop sessions will provide practical ideas to enhance the worship experience in almost any setting and will include such topics as: The Heart of the Matter; Re-memorizing the Body; The Word Enfleshed; Singing Down the Bones; Liturgy with Legs. Additional workshop information as well as conference registration forms can be obtained by contacting St. Thomas Church at 208/726-5349
- **Holy Trinity, Buhl**, is again offering booklets of Father Tom Kennedy's sermons. *"The Courtship"* has sermons on redemption, salvation by faith, sin and forgiveness and the Trinity (total of 5 sermons). *"The Love Feast"* contains sermons on the institution of the Eucharist, the nature of God and reconciliation (total of 4 sermons). If you did not have a chance to get your copy at Convention, or if you weren't at Convention, you can contact The Rev. Marilyn Butler at 208/543-4995 or cbutler@hughes.net. The booklets are \$2.00 each, with free shipping. Father Tom's short autobiography, on the inside back cover of each booklet, proves to be almost as interesting as his sermons!

PREACHED A GOOD SERMON LATELY?

All preachers – bishops, priests, deacons and laypersons – are invited to submit one sermon for Virginia Theological Seminary's John Hines Preaching Award. Sermons should reflect the prophetic voice that characterized the sermons of John Hines, Presiding Bishop 1965-1974.

The sermon must have been delivered in the Episcopal Church to a congregation between I Advent 2005 and the last Sunday after Pentecost 2006. The sermon must be received by the John Hines Preaching Award Committee by December 15, 2006. For further information, contact The Rev. Rosemari Sullivan at VTS (800/941-0083 or rsullivan@vts.edu).

CENTERING PRAYER RETREATS BEING OFFERED

Two centering prayer retreats are being presented by the Monastery of the Ascension in Jerome: Introduction to Centering Prayer on December 1-3; and 11th Step Centering Prayer Retreat on December 7-10. Registration information can be obtained by contacting Br. Selby Coffman at the Monastery (208/324-2377x215). You can also visit the website of the Contemplative Outreach Organization at www.centeringprayer.com for more in-depth information about the Centering Prayer method.

GIFTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING (*please announce and/or put in your newsletter*)

In this season of giving, when we celebrate our abundant gifts from God, please consider gifts to eliminate extreme poverty in the world. Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) publishes a Gifts for Life Catalog which suggests alternative gifts you can give friends and relatives. Consider funding a fish farm, buffalo, goats, a flock of chickens or clean water, drought-resistant seeds, mosquito netting etc. When you make a contribution, ERD will send a gift card that describes the gift which you can send to your loved ones. They will value this symbol of your love much more than the toy or clothing which wears out so quickly. You can find the '06 or '07 catalogs in church racks or through the ERD website (www.er-d.org). Harry and I have found that this is a powerful way to reach out to our loved ones in this season of giving. - Kit Bainbridge

ANTI-RACISM TRAINING EARLY NEXT YEAR

Anti-Racism training, facilitated by the Peace & Justice Ministries of the National church, will be held February 2 & 3, 2007 at Church of the Ascension in Twin Falls. The training runs from noon Friday until 3 pm Saturday. Attendance at a training is required in 2007 for diocesan clergy who have not previously had the training and strongly urged for diocesan committee members and congregational leaders. A registration fee of \$35 covers meals and materials for the event. You may contact the diocesan office at 208/345-4440 (or carrolk@idahodiocese.org) to register. Space is limited.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 23-24	Thanksgiving Holiday - Diocesan Office Closed
Dec 9	Paradise Point Conversation (10am-2pm), Ascension, Twin Falls
Dec 10	Idaho Episcopal Foundation Legacy Sunday
Dec 15	Standing Committee (2-5pm), Boise
Dec 16	Eastern Deanery Clergy, St. Luke's, Idaho Falls
Dec 25-29	Christmas Week - Diocesan Office Closed