

Services for the Week of June 7, 2014



Saturday, June 7, 2014

10:00 AM COMMUNION

Chapel of The Holy Child

RR Gene Savoy Jr.

Lector: RR Sean Savoy

Cantor: Rev. Robert Roy

Reader: Rev. Amanda Buchanan

Sunday, June 8, 2014

5:22 AM NEW DIVINE SERVICE

Church of New Pentecost

Leave: 4:30

Gate: 5:05

Sunrise: 5:37
RR Gene Savoy Jr.
Concelebrant: RR Sean Savoy
Assistants:
RC Roger Weld
RC Ted Staver
RM Carol Ann Crabb
Organist: RC Gary Buchanan

OPEN-AIR COMMUNION

Church of New Philadelphia	RC Robert Petrovich
Church of New Qumran	RC Elizabeth Reece
Church of New Bethany	Rev. Barbara Whitney

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

12:00 N COMMUNION

Chapel of the Holy Child

Rev. Francine Petrovich

Friday, June 13, 2014

9:00 AM PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP

Chapel of the Roses

Rev. Vickie Hewlett

Bishop Savoy Delivers Memorial Day Invocation



Bishop Gene Savoy Jr. With
Brigadier General Ondra Berry
at Mountain View Cemetery
Memorial Day Ceremonies

Bishop Gene Savoy Jr. delivered the Invocation Prayer at the Memorial Day Ceremonies held at Mountain View Cemetery in Reno on Monday, May 26th, 2014.

Services for the Week of May 31, 2014



Saturday, May 31, 2014

10:00 AM COMMUNION

Chapel of The Holy Child

RR Gene Savoy Jr.

Lector: RM Rebecca Willis

Cantor: Rev. Michael McIntyre

Reader: Rev. Robert Anderson

Sunday, June 1, 2014

5:23 AM NEW DIVINE SERVICE

Church of New Pentecost

Leave: 4:30

Gate: 5:05

Sunrise: 5:38
RR Gene Savoy Jr.
Concelebrant: RR Sean Savoy
Assistants:
RC Roger Weld
RC Ted Staver
RM Carol Ann Crabb
Organist: RC Gary Buchanan

OPEN-AIR COMMUNION

Church of the Races of Man	RM Carol Ann Crabb
Church of the Golden Age of Light	RM Rebecca
Willis	
Church of the Universal Theocracy	Rev. Ben
Hubbard	

Wednesday, June 4, 2014
12:00 N COMMUNION
Chapel of the Holy Child
Rev. Ben Hubbard

Friday, June 6, 2014
5:23 AM NEW DIVINE SERVICE
Church of New Pentecost
Leave: 4:30
Gate: 5:05
Sunrise: 5:38
RR Gene Savoy Jr.

Concelebrant: RR Sean Savoy

Assistants:

RC Roger Weld

RC Robert Petrovich

RM Rebecca Willis

Organist: RC Gary Buchanan

Friday, May 30, 2014

9:00 AM PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP

Chapel of the Roses

RC Gary Buchanan

Canon Rebecca Willis **Appointed Matriarch**



Reverend Mother Rebecca Willis PHOTO:

Stephan Fuelling

The Reverend Canon Rebecca Willis was appointed to the Holy Order of Matriarchs on Second Advent Easter, April 18, 2014 by Bishop Gene Savoy Jr. Her title henceforth is Reverend Mother. Congratulations on your appointment, Rebecca!

Annual Report from the Office of the Head Overseer



May 11, 2014

Jubilee Sunday

Since we have recently completed the Easter Season, and as we move on towards Pentecost, I feel it a good time to send you this message. You will see by looking at our Community Calendar that many dates this year align with Sundays (the 12th

day of Christmas on January 5th; February 2nd, the Birth of the Sun of Righteousness, which also was a Jubilee Sunday; the birth of The Child, Jamil, on March 16th; and the birthday of The Man – today – on May 11th, another Jubilee Sunday). As prophesied, 2014 is a very auspicious year, one that represents an important 52-year cycle which we have emphasized several times before.

You may know that some weeks ago, I journeyed to Mexico, the land of my birth, to contemplate and celebrate the birth of The Child, Jamil. The trip was divided into three parts. First, to meet with Consociates in northern Mexico who are in the process of translating our Cosolargy material into Spanish. The purpose of the meeting was to insure the continuation of those translations but also to work on establishing a legal structure for our Community in Latin America. In addition, a goal was set for the establishment of a satellite Community and retreat center somewhere near Puerto Vallarta. Having been born in Mexico and working with our Community members in that nation, there are several advantages we have, especially that of being able to *own* coastal property. Second, I went to the Yucatan, where my father and The Child lived for a period of time. I visited various Mayan sites and pyramids, including Chichen-Itza and Tulum, which I had not been to before. The city of Merida is beautiful and is referred to as the “Paris” of Mexico. (I highly recommend it for anyone wanting to visit that part of Mesoamerica). The third portion of the trip was on the Carribean and had more of a personal nature, which included contemplating how to better grow our Community, and provided some much-needed rest.

Before leaving to Mexico, I called a meeting of our Community family here in Reno. The purpose of the meeting was to reiterate the importance of this year, 2014, and to explain certain circumstances which The Community faces. It was a candid conversation unprecedented in our 55-year history. The

first part of the meeting had to do with our financial situation as affected by the continued economic situation worldwide. I explained that the success of the Church has been due to (1) the paying off of debt incurred before the economic decline, (2) good management of finances, and (3) the ongoing support of dedicated Community members. However, in order to grow and continue, we must also take into consideration these factors: (1) continually enrolling new students in The Academy, (2) expanding various business ventures through the Community Guilds structure, and (3) people remembering The Community in their wills and trusts and also bequeathing or otherwise endowing The Community.

[A report can be found at the Community Communique website](#) which will give you more details about the meeting. I made a comparison between the Church's financial position and that of the City of Reno. Fifteen years ago, in 1999, Reno's debt was approximately \$60 million. Today it is more than \$560 million. Fifteen years ago, the Church's debt was over \$1 million. Today it is at about \$400,000. So as Reno has increased its debt by over 400{1fa2ef75e2e78439128d99df03acfe1d8ee3047374abe3d4676fe3470ff8b909}, The Community has reduced its by 65{1fa2ef75e2e78439128d99df03acfe1d8ee3047374abe3d4676fe3470ff8b909}. In addition, operating expenses have decreased in the last two years by \$50,000. This is something we should be proud of! We have many resources upon which to build: (1) real property holdings, (2) water, (3) intellectual property, and (4) most importantly, the creativity and knowledge of our people. We must be enterprising and use these assets to our advantage. We have made great strides in the past few years: accomplishments at the Sanctuary with regards to securing our water rights and the building of a new residence; the continued healing work at Steamboat Hot Springs, which is increasing its public image; the thriving of the Community in Japan; the possibility of a new Community Center in Mexico; our Project X seminars and tours, one of which will be held in

Peru later this year; the possibility of a seminar/conference later this year in Australia and/or New Zealand. We are making progress. Let's ensure that the trend continues!

One of the other topics I brought up at our Community family meeting had to do with our ongoing struggle for property tax exemption at the Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary. You may recall that in the early 1980's, when we purchased the Sanctuary, we were initially granted property tax exemption. Unfortunately, that was later revoked, and the Church sued Washoe County in district court. We were successful. However, the County appealed to the Nevada Supreme Court and the decision was reversed in 1990. So over the past 35 years, we have paid in excess of \$400,000 in local property taxes and assessments. Perhaps this is not too much money for General Motors, but for us it is. So the good news is that a lobbying/law firm has taken interest in our case. They believe they can propose an amendment to the law that would grant us property tax exemption on the Sanctuary. This does not involve a lawsuit or the courts. It is simply talking to the powers that be and gaining their support. Two weeks ago, this firm, on our behalf, spoke with representatives of Washoe County advising them of our intent, i.e., to seek an amendment to the law which would grant our Sanctuary a tax exemption. The representatives of the county were supportive and said they would not oppose us making a change to the law. This is a major step forward! Our friends at the firm visited the Sanctuary for the first time earlier this week and were extremely impressed. They will now be making appointments to speak with legislators and the Governor's office for the change to the law, which will be presented in the state legislature before the end of the year. But, of course, they do require some compensation. They have made us a bare-bones offer: \$2500 per month for four months to set the stage – \$10,000 all together. **So I must ask you for your support, please!** This is extremely important and an opportunity we have been awaiting for many decades. If we are able to secure an

exemption for our Sanctuary, it will be a vindication of our long struggle for religious equality under the law.

Tomorrow, May 12, I journey with Companions of The Way to Japan. This is my annual sojourn to the Land of the Rising Sun. We will be visiting Hokkaido in the north, the place where the ancient Ainu people live – people who once were in contact with ancient Peru and who also have roots in ancient Israel. Among other things, I will be discussing with our bishop in Japan, Yukinori, the possibility of holding the Spiritual State of the World Conference in that nation next year in 2015. I believe we will be able to attract a large group from not only Japan but Korea, Taiwan, Australia, and New Zealand as well.

Otherwise, my dear friend in the Light, things continue. We progress day-to-day, not only in this world but in our spiritual work. I know that you have not only communed with the Light but that you have been transported beyond the physical to the Divine. Our minds may sometimes not be able to comprehend, but that does not mean it isn't so. Our work is unending, never ceasing. We continue with new outreach using the tools of social media. Soon, it will become evident as new people come to us. We will be publishing our material online, in e-books and other formats. We have started an important project for the older people in our Community – a place owned by the Church where our members may retire in peace and tranquility without losing their spiritual base. The enclosed form offers you the opportunity to be part of this wonderful project, the concept of which has already put many people's minds at ease.

Finally, I remind you to keep The Community in your thoughts and prayers as you reflect each day. Remember to endow The Church in your wills and trusts. Upon my return from Japan, I will send another report to you. I am very excited about where we are going, what we have accomplished together these many years, and what the future holds for us. My personal blessing

is with you.

In the name of The Child, I am always your servant in The Light,

□

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

If you realize the importance of obtaining property tax exemption for our Sanctuary and would like to donate towards this cause, contact the Church Charisticary and pledge your contribution. (Remember, all contributions to the Red Rock Sanctuary fund are 100% tax deductible.)

If you would like to know more about The Community's retirement home, or if you are interested in bequeathing and/or endowing The Community in your Will or Living Trust, contact someone on the Chancellery staff and let them know that you would like further information.

Services for the Week of May 24, 2014



Saturday, May 24, 2014

10:00 AM COMMUNION

Chapel of The Holy Child

RR Gene Savoy Jr.

Lector: RC Ted Staver

Cantor: Rev. Francine Petrovich

Reader: Dr. Thomas Lee

Sunday, May 25, 2014

5:27 AM NEW DIVINE SERVICE

Church of New Pentecost

Leave: 4:30

Gate: 5:10

Sunrise: 5:42

RR Gene Savoy Jr.

Concelebrant: RR Sean Savoy

Assistants:

RC Roger Weld

RC Robert Petrovich

RM Rebecca Willis
Organist: RC Gary Buchanan

OPEN-AIR COMMUNION

Church of New Philadelphia
Church of New Qumran
Church of New Bethany

Rev. Herman Aggenbach
Rev. Dorothy Kubiak
Claudia Grady

Wednesday, May 28, 2014
12:00 N COMMUNION
Chapel of the Holy Child
Rev. Barbara Whitney

Friday, May 30, 2014
9:00 AM PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP
Chapel of the Roses
RM Rebecca Willis

“Head Bishop Gene Savoy Jr.

Calls a Meeting of the Community Family in Reno"



PHOTO: Stephan Fuelling

On March 2, 2014 the Ordained of the Reno Community gathered at the Rectory-Abbey on Carmel. Head Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr. thanked the 30 members of the Order in attendance for their many years of service and dedication to The Community.

Two topics were presented for consideration: an opportunity to resolve the issue of property tax on the Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary and a discussion of the financial condition of the Church.

Property Tax on Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary

When the Sanctuary was acquired in the early 1980's it was initially granted tax exemption on the 1200 acres but the election of a new District Attorney resulted in the exemption being revoked. The Church initiated legal action which went all the way to the Nevada Supreme Court. The Supreme Court

ruled that the current property law exempts church buildings but not "open land." In the more than 20 years since that ruling the Church has paid a total of more than \$300,000 in property tax. Although grounds exist for additional legal action in Federal Court such a case would be very costly and would risk creating enemies in Washoe County. We have worked hard to establish ourselves in a positive light in the local region and do not wish to undo the good that has been accomplished.

We have been presented with the opportunity to work with a law and lobbyist firm with offices in Reno, Carson City and Las Vegas. The firm has taken a personal interest in our cause and believes it can assist us. Members of the firm point out that in addition to serving as a religious retreat the Sanctuary is an educational campus and a wildlife park. Each of these uses qualify for tax exemption in Nevada so an excellent case can be made to obtain exemption through a new law specific to the Sanctuary. The firm proposes that a bill be presented in the state legislature granting exemption due to the Sanctuary's unique combination of characteristics. Many well known organizations, such as the Boy Scouts and Masonic lodges, have obtained tax exemption on their property in Nevada through special legislation.

The firm Kaempfor, Crowell & Renshaw has presented a very reasonable proposal to us whereby for \$2,500 per month for four months they will pursue meetings with various governmental officials to determine the best approach and begin lobbying state legislators and crafting the proposed legislation. This is a fraction of the cost of any type of action in Federal Court (which was estimated twenty years ago to be in excess of \$100,000) and is exceptionally reasonable for lobbying by a firm with their experience and contacts in government. The assembled members voted unanimously to proceed with this project.

Reasons for Financial Concern

The church has been affected by the economic downturn just as have individuals all over the world. The financial health of The Community depends on six factors:

1. Paying off the debt incurred before the economic decline.
2. Good management of Church finances.
3. Ongoing support of the Community members.
4. Expanding various business ventures through the Guild structure.
5. Continually enrolling new students in the Cosolargy Academy
6. Members remembering the Community in their wills and trusts and bequeathing property and otherwise endowing the Church.

Bishop Savoy cited these interesting statistics:

- Fifteen years ago the long-term debt of the city of Reno was approximately \$60 million. Today it is upwards of \$560 million.
- Fifteen years ago the Community's debt was over \$1 million. Today it is about \$400,000.
- Reno has increased its debt by over 400{1fa2ef75e2e78439128d99df03acfe1d8ee3047374abe3d4676fe3470ff8b909}. We have reduced ours by about 65{1fa2ef75e2e78439128d99df03acfe1d8ee3047374abe3d4676fe3470ff8b909}.

According to Bishop Gene, "The numbers still do not add up. There is not enough revenue to cover projects beyond basic operating expenses." A vote of the local Ordained in attendance indicated they do not wish to give up any of the Church's valuable property, and all agree the Church cannot function with any decrease in staff. Our long term debt is secured by the Rectory-Abbey and all agree on the importance of this building in the life of the Community and the need to

protect it.

In spite of the financial pressures, we can be very proud of our accomplishments: securing our Sanctuary and its water, building up Steamboat Hot Springs Healing Center, and establishing our Japanese Community. Bishop Savoy said, "We have some great assets: our land and its water and infrastructure, our intellectual property, and our people. We must be enterprising and use our assets to our advantage to promote future growth."

We can no longer simply rely on our student base and contributions from members for the financial support of our Community. We need to develop alternative business ideas, such as developing more guilds, expanded marketing for new students, developing our on-line school, developing funding programs at the Sanctuary through social media and websites, developing the wildlife park and day-use with contemplation paths, and the Monument of Human Spiritual Rights.

Some other fund-raising suggestions included:

- Steamboat: offering classes and weddings, expanding Sonatherapy, selling water.
- Develop a Cosolargy center in Mexico.
- A seminar in Australia (an invitation has been received)
- Residential facility for care of elderly.
- Publishing photos from our archives, publishing e-books.
- Project "X" Tours.

If you have any other good fundraising ideas for the Church, please get them to us as soon as possible. Email your ideas to gsavoyjr@communityofchrist.org, or mail them to: International Community of Christ, c/o Fund-raising Ideas, 643 Ralston St., Reno, NV 89503.

Thank you. And we look forward to hearing from you all soon!

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Barbara Whitney

Services for the Week of May 17, 2014



Saturday, May 17, 2014

10:00 AM COMMUNION

Chapel of The Holy Child

RR Gene Savoy Jr.

Lector: RM Carol Ann Crabb

Cantor: Rev. Bruce Kanzelmeyer

Reader: Rev. Michael Tamburello

Sunday, May 18, 2014
5:33 AM NEW DIVINE SERVICE
Church of New Pentecost

Leave: 4:45

Gate: 5:15

Sunrise: 5:48

RR Sean Savoy

Concelebrant: RC Robert Petrovich

Assistants:

RC Roger Weld

RC Ted Staver

RM Carol Ann Crabb

Organist: RC Gary Buchanan

OPEN-AIR COMMUNION

Church of the Races of Man
Church of the Americas

RC Ted Staver
Rev. Michael McIntyre

Wednesday, May 21, 2014
12:00 N COMMUNION
Chapel of the Holy Child
Rev. Vickie Hewlett

Friday, May 23, 2014
9:00 AM PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP
Chapel of the Roses
RR Sean Savoy

2014 Nevada Prayer Breakfast a Success



PHOTO: Stephan Fuelling

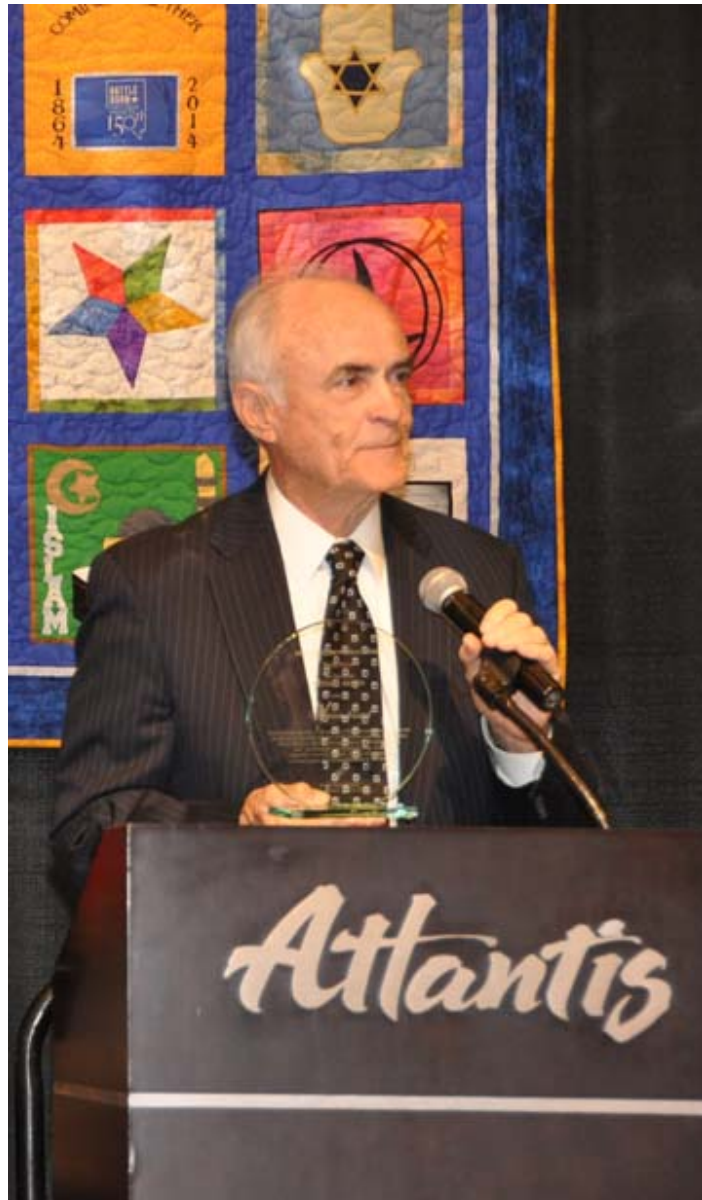
The 2014 Nevada Prayer Breakfast was held Tuesday, April 29th from 7:00-9:00 a.m. at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa's Paradise Ballroom. This year's event offered a varied program and was well attended.

< [Download a copy of the event program.](#) >



Rt. Rev. Sean Savoy, Chancellor, International Community of Christ & Chair of the Nevada Prayer Breakfast Committee, delivers opening remarks PHOTO: Stephan Fuelling

District Court Judge Peter Breen and wilderness advocate Marge Sill received the Nevada Clergy Association's Vision Award Tuesday at the group's annual Nevada Prayer Breakfast to celebrate the state's 150th anniversary.



The Honorable Peter I. Breen
PHOTO: Stephan Fuelling

Breen, a district court judge since 1974, is a designer of the state's specialty court system. Sill, known by some as the "mother of Nevada wilderness," is recognized for her pioneering work as an advocate for wilderness protection in the West.



Award recipient Marge Sill,
"Mother of the Wilderness" (right)
with award presenters PHOTO:
Stephan Fuelling

The Vision Award is given to Nevadans who have demonstrated unique and exemplary leadership and foresight in envisioning and creating a brighter and more unified community through their personal convictions, achievements and dedication.

The association also honored Nicholas Frey, former public relations officer for the Reno stake of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who died in July 2013, with a community service award for his dedication to the interfaith and Northern Nevada communities. He was a regular contributor to the Reno Gazette-Journal's Faith Forum.



Melissa Holland, Founder & Director of Awaken, delivers Keynote Address PHOTO: Stephan Fuelling

Melissa Holland, founder of Awaken – Communities united to end sex trafficking – delivered the keynote address. Representatives of the state's faith community will offer prayers and musical selections. Multi-faith participants include Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, Latter-day Saints, Second Advent, Baha'i, Jewish, and various Christian leaders. The Rev. Sean Savoy of the International Community of Christ, served as master of ceremonies.



Rt. Rev. Gene Savoy, Jr., Bishop, International. Community of Christ, delivers NCA President's Address PHOTO: Stephan Fuelling

Originally known as the Governor's Prayer Breakfast, the event was held for nearly two decades in Northern Nevada until 2001. It was re-established as the Nevada Prayer Breakfast in 2010.



Members of the dais and award recipients PHOTO: Stephan Fuelling

Nevada “Coming Together” Quilt Completed for Nevada Prayer Breakfast



Nevada “Coming Together” Quilt PHOTO:
Stephan Fuelling

Members of 14 faith communities pooled their talents to produce a symbol of unity for Nevada's 150th anniversary of statehood this year.

The Coming Together quilt is the product of members of the congregations involved in the Nevada Clergy Association. It was unveiled and presented on Tuesday at the association's annual Nevada Prayer Breakfast at 7 a.m. at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa.

In October, Patricia Meidell, public relations adviser for the local Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, came up with the idea for the quilt as a way to show culture and diversity in the faith community, and to celebrate Nevada's sesquicentennial (150th year).

Members of the Nevada Clergy Association were contacted, and 14 quilt blocks were assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, Meidell said. A 15th, center block, is dedicated to the state of Nevada and includes the state flag. Each quilt block represented a local religious organization.

< [Click here to download a PDF reproduction of the quilt and to read about the makers of each of the individual quilt blocks.](#) >

The quilt will be "traveling" to various churches in the community until the end of 2014 when it will be presented to the Governor's Office to be permanently displayed at the Governor's Mansion or the Nevada State Museum.

Follow this link to the Reno Gazette-Journal article "Multi-faith community members create Nevada quilt" posted online April 28, 2014:

<

<http://www.rgj.com/story/life/2014/04/28/multi-faith-community>

[-members-create-nevada-quilt/8111395/](#) >