

COMMUNITY COMMUNIQUE

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Winter Weather Woes

Winter in the Sierra Nevada has been cold and wet this year – not unlike the heavy winters we experienced back in the early 1980s.

While we are always grateful for the much needed moisture that replenishes our desert water table, the blanketing of ski slopes up at Lake Tahoe and Incline Village, the later meltdown that aids our Spring gardening – the ongoing rains, snows, winds and ice have on several occasions made it quite difficult, if not impossible, for us here in northern Nevada to get to Church and observe our regularly scheduled services. In the city roads have often been dangerous and covered with black ice; whereas, north of town around Lemmon Valley and the Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary many of the highways and country roads have simply been impassable.

As a result, during the winter months five of our thirteen Sunday sunrise Divine Services were suspended, and Ministers and Consociates had to privately observe sunrise devotions at home. Fortunately, even with the heavy snows the sun usually comes out.

On a few Sundays when we were able to drive to the Sanctuary, after sunrise Ministers were still unable to make their way to nearby outdoor churches for “second services.” Out of thirteen Sundays, ministers were only able to celebrate open-air Communion Services on seven. Even one of those was a simple prayer service held at site of the southland campanile – not a full Communion Service, as such.

Nevertheless, we persevered! And, we were always together, no matter the weather. As we hold regularly scheduled services on Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, many of us are assembling all the time for worship. This is especially true during the Christmas-Epiphany season when we celebrate two weeks of sunrise services in a row, plus host the Children’s Tea and Epiphany Eve celebrations at the Rectory-Abbey.

In addition, Saturday evening Pannuches Meal Rites were held at the Chapel of the Holy Child on December 1 and January 20. Thus, it may truly be said that we assembled for worship, fellowship, and services more during the Winter months than most other times of the year.

Other events during the winter season discussed in this issue include a great deal of interfaith activity led by the Head Bishop, the Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr., including leading a special delegation to the Department of Cultural Affairs in Carson City to establish a monument to Mohandas Gandhi at the state capitol, participating in the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service at Reno’s Trinity Episcopal Church, and helping organize and speak at an event sponsored by the Nevada Clergy Association honoring Swami Vedananada from Marin, California.

Also, on December 11 a special reception was held to celebrate the Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr.’s consecration and installation as the second Head Overseer-Bishop of the International Community of Christ.

Finally, there is inspiring missionary work being accomplished by our Consociates and Ministers in Japan under the direction of the Reverend Yukinori Matsushita. You will find a report on the Japanese mission in this issue’s Spectrum. We will continue to cover the expanding activities in Japan in future editions of the *Community Communique*. ❖

COMMUNITY COMMUNIQUE

FOUNDED IN 1957



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Twenty-seventh Anniversary of Epiphany Observed

Christmas-Epiphany Vigil Held at Consecrated Sanctuary



STEPHAN FUELLING

A view of the triune cross-tower of the majestic Cathedral Church of the Americas with the snow-clad Hungry Mountains behind.

The resident congregation, ministers, and visiting Consociates celebrated the traditional thirteen-day vigil of the 2007-2008 Christmas-Epiphany season with daily sunrise services at the Church of New Epiphany, Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary. Due to heavy rains, snows, and ice some of the services were suspended. At such times, Ministers and Consociates observed private services at their parsonages at the Steamboat Hot Springs Priory, the Rectory-Abbey, the Red Rock Chapter House, and at private homes.

Beginning on Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25, 2007, and continuing through the morning of Sunday January 6, 2008, Epiphany Day, services were scheduled at the open-air church of New Epiphany in the South Sanctuary of Prophecy.

Officiating each morning at the Sanctuary was the Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr., Head Bishop of The Church, assisted by the Right Reverend Sean Savoy and Canons of The Church assigned in rotation.

Each year, traditional Christmas is observed by The Church on December

25, but this is just the beginning of the Twelve Days of Christmas to also be observed. While the annual vigil is initiated with a Divine Sunrise Service at the Sanctuary on December 25, daily sunrise services continue, with ministers, seminarian students, local members, and visitors from abroad in attendance. It is always a period of high devotion for all concerned and is blessed with special manifestations in the solar orb, as recorded in the *Prophecy of the New Covenant*, published in 1982, which describes the Epiphany manifestations of 1980, 1981, and 1982.

A Christmas Message

On Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25, 2007, The Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr. delivered a sermon in the Chapel of the Holy Child. The following excerpts are from that pulpit presentation.

“Merry Christmas. Feliz Navidad. Joyeux Noel. Froiliche Wienacht. Mele Kelekemaka. Happy Epiphany. There are many ways to say ‘Merry Christmas.’

“Those of us gathered together in this Chapel dedicated to the service of God are drawn together from many faiths, but we are all one in the family of God. We celebrate today as the birthday of the man Jesus. For twelve days, we of the Second Advent Church celebrate the Christmas Season, which culminates on the thirteenth day, that being January 6, Epiphany. There has been some confusion lately as to what Epiphany is and why we celebrate it, so I’ll try to clarify some points today.

“In the ancient Church, that is the pre-Nicene Church [Council of Nicea in A.D. 325], January 6 was the day that commemorated Jesus’ baptism at the Jordan by John.

But, in describing that event, a very important line has been deleted from the books of both Matthew and Luke – one which is substantiated by other ancient scriptures more authoritative than Matthew and Luke. The line reads: ‘Today (or This day), I have begotten you.’

“Let’s read this again: ‘You are my son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased. *This day, I have begotten you.*’

“In the ancient Christian Church, just as in Buddhism, this divine event – this ‘appearance,’ or ‘epiphany’ – was a manifestation of Jesus’ immortal nature. The day commemorated the incarnation of Jesus as Christ, the moment when God appeared in Divine Light and ordained Jesus His son in spirit. Thus, Jesus was given a new birth by God the Father. So we know that Jesus was not ‘born’ the Son of God, but became a Son of God when the Word, the Logos, incarnated within him, giving him new life of spirit. This was a fundamental concept in the First Advent Church: that Jesus became Christ incarnate.

“I make the reference to Buddhism

Continued on next page

because while Buddhists celebrate the birthday of Siddhartha Gautama on April 8, the day of his 'enlightenment' – the day when he became the Awakened One – is honored on December 18. And, of course, we do this in the Second Advent Church. We honor the birth of the man Jesus on December 25, the old Roman festival of the Unconquered Sun, but more importantly, we celebrate Jesus' spiritual birth – the day when the Word of God entered into him and he assumed the Office of Christ. This we do on January 6 as a promise of the spiritual rebirth we are all heir to in the Second Advent of God's Appearance.

"The word *epiphany*, as we know, comes from the Greek, meaning 'appearance' or 'manifestation.' In Hellenistic times, an epiphany of the divine in a person was a common theological concept. The celebration of Epiphany originated in the Ancient Church, where it later included a commemoration of Christ's physical birth in the Eastern Church. In Rome, however, by the middle of the fourth century, Christ's physical birth was being celebrated on December 25, according to the Philocalian calendar.

"As I said, December 25 was an old Roman festival marking the birth of the 'unconquered sun,' the *natalis solis invicti*, which celebrated the winter solstice and the lengthening of days. It was also observed as the birth date of the god Mithras – the 'sun of righteousness' and patron god of the emperors – who, five hundred years before the birth of Christ, was born of a virgin in a cave. We know it was also connected in the Roman world to the saturnalia, a time of merrymaking and the exchange of gifts.

"In the old Christian calendar, November 28 through January 6 was observed as the Festival of Lights, a vigil for the birth of the Cosmic Christ. Japanese Shintos honor the sun goddess Amaterasu on December 22. In ancient Egypt, December 21 to December 25 was the festival commemorating the birth of the god Horus by the goddess Isis; and in the Hopi nation, December is celebrated as a time of purification and renewal. So we can see that this

time of year is universally recognized as a time when we come out of the darkness into light.

"The contradiction between the Greek and Roman churches led to a great debate in the fourth and fifth centuries, which culminated in the Eastern Church accepting the 25th of December as Christ's birth and the Western Church celebrating Epiphany as the day the Magi visited the infant Jesus.

"In the Second Advent Church, we honor both days and celebrate the Christmas-Epiphany Season from December 25 through January 6. We commemorate Christ's birth in physical form, but, as we have said, more importantly, we solemnize his spiritual rebirth.

"Therefore, the message of the season is life of spirit. That was the essence of Christ's teaching. And this is what the Christmas Season represents: life, birth, and rebirth.

"The lights and trees we display this time of year have always been symbols of everlasting life. In ancient Egypt, China, Israel, and the Celtic lands, evergreen trees, wreaths, and garlands were symbolic of eternal life. To us in the Second Advent Church, they also represent the True Light of God and the Tree of Life.

"We are all both mortal and immortal beings. And as we feed our physical bodies we must also feed our spiritual bodies. Listen to the message conveyed by these words from the Odes of Solomon [Ode 38] that we recite at Christmastime:

I rested in the spirit of the Lord:
and the spirit raised me on high. And made me stand on my feet in the height of the Lord, before His perfection and His glory, while I was praising Him by the composition of His songs.

The spirit brought me forth before the face of the Lord: and although I was a son of man, I was named the illuminate, a son of God. For according to the greatness of the Most High, so He made me: and like His own newness He renewed me, and He anointed

me from His own perfection. And I became one of His neighbors; and my mouth was opened, like a cloud of dew. And my heart poured out as it were a gushing stream of righteousness.

And my access to Him was in peace; and I was established by the spirit of His kingdom. And I went up to the light of truth which preserved me. And it became to me a haven of salvation and set me on the arms of immortal life.

"Love begins in our family life, reaches out to our friends and embraces our neighbors. Like a seed it must be planted before it can grow. If we can, each and every one, express love as we do at Christmastime throughout the whole year, we will begin to live the life exemplified by Jesus.

"From what has been said, let us each examine our heart. The world and our mortal natures take away our ability to love one another at times. This inability harms the spirit. Each one of us must rise above the limitations of the physical world and embrace the spirit, which is expressed by love. By so doing, God comes to each of us, adopting us as His son or daughter; for we are all children of God.

"In lighting the candles today in remembrance of those who have gone on to another life, let us place our trust in God who is the author of our spirit and soul. When death claims our physical bodies, it is the spirit and soul that endure and go on to a higher world if we can but experience the rebirth of spirit the we celebrate on January 6. But if we not love, our spirits and souls fade like a flame, ultimately going out. Love kindles and brightens the spirit and soul. By loving we are made eternal, for God is love. Love binds us to those departed, to those about us while we live, and it binds us to God. For if we do not have love, compassion, and kindness in our hearts, how can we ever hope to know God? There is no enmity so hard that goodness cannot melt.

"Therefore, on this day commemorating the birth of Jesus, we should all

Continued on next page

exemplify what he taught. To quote a line from one of the late Bishop's previous Christmas sermons: 'All men and women everywhere may shine forth as the Sun of Righteousness if they but live and exemplify the love of God in their daily lives.'

"Allow me to close this Christmas message with these words from the Gospel of John:

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love.

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

[John 15:9-15]

"I wish you all a very merry Christmas, a happy Epiphany, and a joyous new year, filled with God's many bountiful and beautiful blessings. Let us go forth from this place with renewed resolve to take the message of the Second Advent to all the world in greater power and glory, each of us shining like the Sun of Righteousness."

Traditional Holiday Activities

The annual Children's Tea and Blessing was held at Bishopstead on Monday, December 24, 2007, at 2:00 PM. The officiating minister was the Right Reverend Ileana Isfan assisted by the Right Reverend Elizabeth

Reece.

The afternoon event began with the prayer and blessing delivered over the children and their parents and guardians in attendance. After a brief communion and anointing with the aspergillum, the children assembled for tea and sandwiches in the Rectory dining room. Following lunch all the children participated in the breaking of the piñata and later disassembling the gingerbread house, as is the annual custom.

On Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25, 2007, a public Communion Service was held in the Chapel of the Holy Child at 11:00 AM – this following the earlier annual Divine Sunrise Service at Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary. For the late morning service the Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr.,

harp, and members of the Jamilian Hand Bell Choir. The sacred antiphon "So Is My Joy the Lord," was sung by the congregation led by the Reverend Bruce Kanzelmeyer. In addition to the reading from the Odes of Solomon by the Rt. Rev. Robert Petrovich, all participated in the traditional lighting of the Candles of Remembrance as well.

Epiphany Eve Celebrated

The annual Epiphany Eve assembly of candle-lighting, fellowship banquet, and the traditional visit of Santa Claus was held at the Rectory-Abbey on Saturday evening, January 5, 2008, beginning at 7:00 PM.

Most of the ministers and families of The Church were in attendance; however, the extremely heavy snowfall not only prevented several members from attending but also created road conditions that mandated cancellation of sunrise Divine Service at the Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary that morning and on the following morning as well. Fortunately, all those attending were able to safely return to their homes later, and ministers were encouraged to observe special sunrise services at their homes.

The Epiphany Eve activities commenced with a welcome to Bishopstead by the Head Bishop followed by the playing of "The Assembly" on the piano

and harp by the Right Reverends Gary Buchanan and Elizabeth Reece, respectively, while all present lit the Candles of Remembrance. After being seated for dinner, everyone sang the standard hymn of The Church, "Grant Life unto Me."

After dinner, as tables and chairs were removed, the younger children were escorted to bedrooms where they awaited the arrival of Santa Claus. The

Continued on next page



STEPHAN FUELLING

Children and youths of The Community gathered at the Rectory-Abbey for the annual Children's Tea and Blessing. All the children in attendance received blessings as bestowed by the Right Reverend Ileana Isfan and then partook of tea, followed by the breaking of the "solar" piñata designed by the Reverend Barbara Whitney and the gingerbread chapel created by the Right Reverend Elizabeth Reece and visiting Deaconess Shinobu Uwataki.

Head Bishop of The Church, officiated, assisted by the Lector, the Right Reverend Cardinal Bishop Sean Savoy; the Cantor, the Reverend Carol Ann Crabb; the Reader, the Reverend Deaconess Rhys Andrews; and the Scriptural Reader, the Right Reverend Robert Petrovich.

Music for the service was provided by the Music Director, the Right Reverend Gary Buchanan at the organ, the Right Reverend Elizabeth Reece on

children were then later led out onto the interior landing overlooking the living room to hear the reindeer and sleigh arriving on the outside balcony then to spy Santa carrying large bags of presents into the living room and placing them in front of the fireplace. All the while red-nosed Rudolph's head was peeping through the sliding glass doors to the outside.

At the conclusion of delivering all the gifts, Santa was cheered by the children as they shouted their good-byes, and rushed downstairs to receive their presents. Each year on Epiphany Eve this fun ritual is observed at the Rectory-Abbey. We were most fortunate this year in that – no matter the inclement weather and dangerous road conditions – all the children of The Church were in attendance.

Remembrance of The Child Vigil Instituted

On the evening of January 29 at 7:00 PM and the morning of January 30 at sunrise a new observance was observed in the Chapel of the Holy Child and at the Church of New Epiphany. Its title is: "Remembrance of The Child Vigil, Communion Meal of the Rabban Order and Sunrise Divine Service."

As related in The Community's book *Jamil: The Child Christ*, The Child returned to the Worlds of Light following an illness in Yungay, Peru, at midnight January 29-30, 1962.

The new service has been established as a memorial to The Child's passing and in conformity with that fixed date in the cycle of The Church's Sacred Calendar. The institution of the vigil also follows the wishes of the late Head Bishop, the Most Right Reverend Gene Savoy Sr., who had held a similar observance in years past and who had requested that such a service eventually be reinstituted with more suitable liturgy.

The participants in the evening service were as follows:

Officiant, the Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr., Head Overseer-Bishop; Concelebrating Minister and Scriptural Reader, the Right Reverend Sean Savoy, Cardinal Overseer-Bishop; or-

ganist, the Right Reverend Gary Buchanan; vocalist, the Reverend Dorothy Kubiak (alto); assisting ministers, the Right Reverends Robert Petrovich and Elizabeth Reece, Canon Overseers; acolytes and candle lighters, Miles Walters, Marie Walters and Brittany Rodriguez; and candle lighters Sonya Savoy, Sabrina Savoy, Sophia Savoy, Zoe Wand-Mansfield and Halla Wand-Mansfield.

ORDER OF SERVICE:

1. Processional, Music: "Hymn of the Covenant."
2. Homily, Music: "Adagio for the Child Christ."
3. Introduction of Remembrance
4. Song of Remembrance by the Rev. Dorothy Kubiak.
5. Candles of Remembrance with Scriptural Reading: "Hymn of Thanksgiving – We Give Thanks to Thee, O Child of Light"; Music: Antiphon, "To See the Sunrise."
6. Scriptural Reading: *Jamil: The Child Christ*, chapter 23; Music: "Song of the Children."
7. Communal Meal, Communion Prayer: *Jamil: The Child Christ*, from chapter 20; Music: "Homage to The Child of Light."
8. Final Blessing & Recessional, Music: "Hymn of the Covenant."

Especially beautiful during the evening service was the candle lighting by the children of The Community and the song composed and performed by the Reverend Dorothy Kubiak.

Pannuches Meal Rites Observed

During the winter of 2007-2008, Saturday evening Pannuches meal rites were observed in the Chapel of the Holy Child.

The 37th observance was held on December 1, and the 38th observance took place on the evening of January 19. Each Saturday evening service was followed the next morning by a Jubilee Sunrise Divine Service at the Church of New Epiphany, Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary (on Sunday, December 2 and Sunday, January 20).

Officiating at both services was the Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr., assisted by the Right Reverend Sean Savoy.

The Pannuches observances are private services celebrated by members of the Jamilian Order. The Jubilee cycle of seven weeks—i.e., forty-nine-day periods—correspond to the Last Supper of Jesus; we know that as a Master Rabban of the Essaei Order Jesus and his Disciples were actually observing the sacred ritual of the Essenic Community of Light, which followed the solar calendar and was opposed to the lunar cycles used by the Temple priesthood in Jerusalem. In other words, the

Pannuches Meal is not the traditional Passover meal of the lunar calendar.

Both the New Testament and the books of The Community discuss and make clear that the core of the Christian communion is the Essene ritual, celebrated every fifty days (forty-nine days plus one, which begins the new cycle), and that this rite, later known to the Nazoreans, Ebionites, Gnostics, and others, is clear evidence of the indelible imprint of the Essaei origins upon early Christianity. ✱



Sophia Savoy, 2, is assisted in lighting a candle during the Remembrance of The Child service held the evening of January 29, 2008.

ROGER WELD

Installation of New Head Bishop Celebrated

Special Reception Held at Bishopstead to Honor Gene Savoy Jr.

On Tuesday, December 11, 2007, a reception to celebrate the consecration and installation of the Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr. as the second Head Overseer-Bishop of the International Community of Christ was held at the Rectory-Abbey of The Church on Mt. Carmel, beginning at 5:30 PM and continuing throughout an extended evening of activities. In addition to members of the International Community of Christ, the public, leaders from the interfaith community, local and national government officials were invited.

Following hors d'oeuvres at 5:30 PM, a welcome, followed by a first round of congratulatory messages commenced at 6:00 PM.

The Right Reverend Sean Savoy's welcoming remarks were followed by remarks from the Reverend Bill Bartlett, a Buddhist priest and Christian minister; Dr. Tom Butler of Sparks United Methodist Church; Chief Michael Poehlman, Reno Police Department; and The Most Reverend Randolph Calvo, bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Reno.

At 6:30 PM more congratulations were offered by Sister Maria, OCD, Carmel of Reno; the Reverend Onie Cooper of the Second Baptist Church; Mr. Navgeet Zed representing the Hindu Community of Northern Nevada; Dr. Clair Earl, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; Mr. Ismail Ozdemir, The Sierra Foundation; and Sister Mary Kieffer, OP, Dominican Sisters of San Rafael.

Presentations and final remarks began at 7:00 PM with Ms. Susan Lisagore, regional representative for the Honorable Harry Reid, United States senator; the Honorable Dave Aiazzi, councilman, City of Reno; the



The Honorable Dave Aiazzi (left), councilman for the City of Reno, addresses the Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr. and guests during the reception at the Rectory-Abbey to celebrate Reverend Savoy's installation as the second Head Bishop of the International Community of Christ.

Right Reverend Robert G. Petrovich, International Community of Christ, on behalf of the Honorable Jim Gibbons, governor of the State of Nevada.

Messages were also received in absentia – along with certificates and letters similarly presented to the new Head Bishop. The latter documents included a Certificate of Congressional Recognition from Nevada congressman Dean Heller; a Senatorial Certificate of Congratulations from United States Senator John Ensign; a Certificate of Special Recognition from Nevada Governor Jim Gibbons; a Certificate of Commendation from United States Senator and Majority Leader Harry Reid; and a Proclamation from Robert A. Cashell, Sr., mayor of the City of Reno, declaring Tuesday, December 11, 2007, as Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr. Day.

At the end of the evening, the Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr. addressed all present with deep gratitude and humorous and inspiring remarks.

The event was reported in an article by local Hindu leader Rajan Zed, ap-

pearing in the *Reno Gazette-Journal* on Saturday, December 15, 2007, under the heading "Religious leaders, city officials celebrate bishop's consecration: Savoy, Jr. was installed at area church on Tuesday."

That brief coverage led to another article published in the *Gazette-Journal* on January 5, titled "Church follows ancient tradition," penned by Carla Roccapriore in which numerous lovely photographs of the New Divine Service at the Cathedral Church of the Americas were included. Ms. Roccapriore had actually attended a sunrise service the previous Sunday, participating in the service and fellowship afterward – interviewing various members of the clergy and congregation. Statements from those complimentary interviews also appeared in the article.

Thus, the installation and consecration of our new Bishop has been acknowledged and celebrated by all members of the International Community of Christ, local clerics, and government officials of northern Nevada and the nation. ✚

Administration

As of November 30, 2007, both the International Community of Christ and the Andean Explorers Foundation & Ocean Sailing Club are able to accept Discover Card in addition to MasterCard and VISA.

Andean Explorers Foundation & Ocean Sailing Club

On December 4, 2007, at 3:00 PM, AEF & OSC president Sean Savoy attended the 2007 advisory board meeting of the Latino Research Center (LRC) at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). Savoy has been a member of the advisory board of the LRC since 2005. The mission of the LRC is to "serve as a focal point for research, advocacy, educational efforts, and outreach on issues related to the Latino community within the State of Nevada and the Nation."

At the meeting, Savoy agreed to serve as acting vice-chair of the advisory board, assisting LRC director Emma Sepulveda-Pulvirenti, a professor of foreign language at UNR and leading community advocate.

Over the years AEF & OSC, Young Explorers International, and the Foundation Orchestra Association have all sought, in various ways, to support Latino students and their cultures, primarily through the Chabuca Granda Memorial Award presented to outstanding Latino music students and in the promotion of Latin American and Peruvian culture in particular, including the performance of numerous Latino compositions and arrangements in annual concerts and on recordings and videos.

Ecumenical & Interfaith

GANDHI MONUMENT A POSSIBILITY

On November 19, the Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr. led a delegation of clergy to meet with Michael E. Fischer,

director of the Department of Cultural Affairs in Carson City, seeking to establish a Mohandas Gandhi monument near the state capitol complex.

The Gandhi monument council delegation included, as well as Bishop Savoy, Hindu leader Rajan Zed and the Reverend Alan Dorway, associate pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Carson City.

In a memorandum to Fischer, the council requested state help for land, funding, design, planning, and promotion. Around 41 religious leaders from



Left to right: The Reverend Alan Dorway, Hindu chaplain Rajan Zed, Bishop Gene Savoy Jr., and Michael E. Fischer.

throughout Nevada have signed the petition for the project.

The focus of the council is to commemorate Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence, world peace, and helping the downtrodden.

THANKGIVING CELEBRATED WITH INTERFAITH SERVICE

Leaders of the northern Nevada multireligious and multiethnic faith communities came together at the 22nd Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service held in the sanctuary of downtown Reno's Trinity Episcopal Church on Wednesday evening, November 22.

The service included thanksgiving worship in the form of prayers, dance, music, and readings.

Open to the public, the well-attended event began with a procession of clergy belonging to various religions and denominations dressed in an array of religious garb walking in unison, with devotion and mutual respect.

Some of the more prominent clergy participating included The Church's own Head Bishop, the Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr., the Reverend Derrill E. Peabody of the First Congregational Church; Father George Bratiotis of St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Church; Rabbi Myra Soifer of Temple Sinai; Buddhist priest the Reverend Bill Bartlett; and the Reverend William Millsap of Trinity Episcopal Church.

Readings from scripture came from the Rig-Veda, the Quran, the Book of Mormon, and the New Testament. Musical selections included works from the Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox repertoire, an Islamic invocation, Psalm 145 in Hebrew, a traditional Vedic prayer and "Ave Maria" in Sanskrit, and even a liturgical dance and text: "Giving Grace," performed by L. Martina Young, noted Nevada dance and choreographer of several decades standing.

Bishop Savoy's homily, "Giving Thanks in a Challenging World," was central to the service and spoke of the power of thought and intention as the "highest expression of prayer," and that by coming together ecumenically and "by changing our thoughts – by elevating them – we can not only change ourselves, we can change the world. And in so doing, we are expressing the greatest prayer of all." He went on to explain resonance theory and the energy of projected morphic fields, which expand and extend indefinitely through space and time. He explained that this has been the purpose and effect of the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service for 22 years.

The Bishop concluded his com-

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PHOTO COURTESY M.L. BATES

From left to right: Imam Abdul Barghouthi of the Northern Nevada Muslim Community; Fr. Charles Durante, pastor of Saint Theresa of Avila Catholic Community of Carson City; Ismail Ozdemir, president of the Sierra Foundation; Hindu chaplain and Indo-American leader Rajan Zed; the Rt. Rev. Gene Savoy Jr.; the Rev. William Millsap, and church organist Art Johnson, both of Trinity Episcopal Church.

ments by emphasizing the new Light of Christ, of Consciousness, and by blessing all present with the words, "May you and your families be blessed this Holiday Season, and may you walk in the Spirit of God, giving thanks for the spiritual gift of Life."

Other representatives of the Second Advent Church in attendance were the Right Reverends Ileana Isfan, Robert Petrovich, Sean Savoy, and Rebecca Willis; Reverends Ben Hubbard, Steve Larson, Michael McIntyre, Robert Roy, and Barbara Whitney.

HINDU MONK VISITS RENO

On December 1, about 80 people attended a lecture and participated in a question-and-answer session by Hindu monk Swami Vedananda of California at Yoga Loka in southwest Reno.

The swami's visit was hosted by the Nevada Clergy Association and organized by Reno's Hindu chaplain, Rajan Zed. Welcoming Swami Vedananda was the Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr., Head Bishop of the International Community of Christ and president of the Nevada Clergy Association.

Bishop Savoy's welcome focused on the importance of interfaith relations and emphasized the new condition manifesting in the world; i.e., the Sun of Righteousness. He spoke of the New

Sun and its impact in raising Consciousness. He also touched upon the difference between religions of Light versus religions of blood.

In his address Swami Vedananda spoke about the nature of reality, the final emancipation from the cycle of birth and death, the nature of Brahman (the supreme being), and its relation to the world and the individual soul.

HEAD BISHOP ATTENDS SERVICE FOR HOMELESS

The Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr. attended the Fourth Annual Homeless Persons Memorial Service at noon on Friday December 21 at the First United Methodist Church in downtown Reno. He gave the closing prayer as well.

The annual event is held to honor

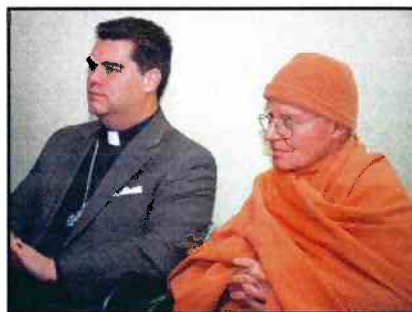


PHOTO COURTESY M.L. BATES

The Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr. and the celebrated Swami Vedananda of the San Francisco Vedanta Society.

SUNDAY DIVINE SERVICES

RED ROCK CONSECRATED SANCTUARY

Officiating Minister
The Right Reverend
Gene Savoy Jr.

Concelebrating Minister
The Right Reverend Sean Savoy

Assisting Canons*
The Right Reverends
Reano Castell, Peter Foust,
Ileana Isfan, Robert Petrovich
and Roger Weld

Music Director-Canon
The Right Reverend
Gary Buchanan

2007-08	Church	Time*
Nov. 4	New Epiphany	6:16
11	(NSH)	
18	New Epiphany	6:35
25	New Epiphany	6:43
Dec. 2+	New Epiphany	6:50
9	(NSH)	
16	New Epiphany	7:03
23	New Epiphany	7:06
30	New Epiphany	7:08
Jan. 6	(NSH)	
13	(NSH)	
20+	New Epiphany	6:59
27	(NSH)	

* Indicates service time, not sunrise time.

(NSH) = No Services Held. The 2007-2008 winter weather was extremely harsh, with heavy rains, deep snow, and icy roads, making travel to the Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary dangerous and difficult, if not impossible, especially in the pre-dawn hours. Thus, on certain Sundays, services were canceled or suspended.

+ Jubilee following Pannuches Meal Rite.

As of August 2007, assigned Canons of The Church began assisting in rotation at the Communion Table with the Head Bishop and Cardinal Bishop.

the homeless who have passed away and to remember them. This year the service was sponsored by Family Promise, the Reno Police Department,

Continued on next page

SPECTRUM From previous page
and the First United Methodist
Church.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HONORED

The annual celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. was observed by the northern Nevada Interfaith Community on Sunday January 20 at 3:00 PM at the Second Baptist Church of Reno.

The theme of the event was "Keeping the Dream Alive, Remembering the Past, and Forging Toward the Future." The keynote speaker was Dr. Angie Taylor.

On Monday, January 21, a Memorial Caravan was begun at the Second Baptist Church at 11:00 AM.

Guilds

A new guild is being considered for the International Community Guilds, a subsidiary of The Church. For now, the new guild is called the Medical Guild. Under the management of the Reverend Ben Hubbard, the guild's general purpose is to order medical equipment for clients and bill Medicare, Medicaid, and other insurance entities for the benefit of those in need of certain medical interventions. The Rev. Hubbard is working in collaboration with the Rev. Dr. Steve Larson and American Medical, Inc.

Library, Archives & Records

Consociate Jalayne Grady, daughter of the Reverend JoAnn Hainline, is assisting the Right Reverend Sean Savoy at the Chancellery with cataloging and organizing records, formulating historical logs, and generally helping with the various tasks of the Department of Library, Archives and Records.

Liturgy

With the institution of the new Remembrance of The Child Vigil on January 29-30, 2008, a great many new prayers, scriptural readings, and musical selections have been added to the litany and liturgy of the Second Advent Church.

Continued on next page

COMMUNION SERVICES

APOSTOLIC CHANCELLERY

The Chapel of the Holy Child

Saturday

10:00 AM

Officiating Minister

The Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr.

Concelebrating Minister

The Right Reverend Sean Savoy

2007	Assisting Ministers	2008	Assisting Ministers
Nov. 3	Robert Petrovich (L) Ted Staver (C) Amanda Buchanan (R)	Jan. 5	Gary Buchanan (L) Michael McIntyre (C) Gabriel Kanzelmeyer (R)
10	Ileana Isfan (L) Robert Roy (C) Rhys Andrews (R)	12	Roger Weld (L) Larry Coesens (C) Stephan Fuelling (R)
17	Roger Weld (L) Nola Slevin (C) Shane Grady (R)	19	Elizabeth Reece (L) Vickie Hewlett (C) Jalayne Grady (R)
24	Sean Savoy (L) Michael Tamburello (C) Jonathan Kanzelmeyer (R)	26	Ileana Isfan (L) JoAnn Hainline (C) Jonathan Kanzelmeyer (R)
Dec. 1	Reano castell (L) Michael Spohn (C) Jalayne Grady (R)		
8	Sean Savoy (L) Ted Staver (C) Claudia Grady (R)		
15	Peter Foust (L) Barbara Whitney (C) Stephan Fuelling (R)		
22	Elizabeth Reece (L) Amanda Buchanan (C) Michael Tamburello (R)		
29	Rebecca Willis (L) Frank Burkitt (C) Rhys Andrews (R)		

(L) = Lector, (C) = Cantor, (R) = Reader



The visiting Japanese Ministers in Reno during the 2007 Convocation. From left to right: The Reverend Deaconesses Shinobu Uwataki, Shoko Ohba, Eriko Ueno, and Miyuki Okayama, the Reverend Yukinori Matsushita and the Reverend Deacon Koshu Kawahara, standing behind the Reverend Deaconesses Yaeno Sanada and Keiko Inoue.

PHOTOGRAPH BY

SUNDAY OPEN-AIR COMMUNION SERVICES

RED ROCK CONSECRATED SANCTUARY

Sanctuary of Revelation & Sanctuary of Prophecy

2007-2008		Church	Time	Officiating Minister
Nov.	4	New Mt. Tabor	9:00	Roger Weld
		New Mt. Carmel	9:30	Peter Foust
		New Mt. Hebron	10:00	Stephan Fuelling
	11	(NSH)		
	18	(NSH)		
	25	New Ephesus	9:00	Ted Staver
		New Smyrna	10:15	Michael McIntyre
		New Pergamos	10:45	Gary Huss, Sr.
Dec.	2	Races of Man	9:00	Amanda Buchanan
		New Covenant	9:30	Francine Petrovich
		Americas	10:00	Mary Foust
	9	(NSH)		
	16	New Smyrna	9:30	Michael Tamburello
		New Easter	10:15	Herman Aggenbach
		New Ephesus	11:15	Greg Klinedinst
	23	Golden Age of Light & the Nation of Nations	9:00	Elizabeth Reece
		Universal Theocracy	9:30	Barbara Whitney
		Christian Churches	10:00	Vickie Hewlett
	30	New Ephesus	9:00	Peter Foust
		Races of Man	9:30	Roger Weld
		New Covenant	10:00	Gary Buchanan
Jan.	6	(NSH)		
	13	(NSH)		
	20	Campanile at South Sanctuary	9:00	Amanda Buchanan
	27	(NSH)		

(NSH) = No Services Held. The 2007-2008 winter weather was extremely harsh, with heavy rains, deep snow, and icy roads, making travel to the Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary dangerous and difficult, if not impossible, especially in the pre-dawn hours. Thus, on certain Sundays, the open-air communion services were canceled, suspended or held at alternate locations more easily accessible.

SPECTRUM From previous page

Along with the New Divine Service, begun on August 1, 2007, the Right Reverends Gene Savoy Jr., Sean Savoy, and Gary Buchanan have continued to amplify the sacred rites, observances, and services of The Community.

Missionary

Our congregation in Japan, led by the Reverend Yukinori Matsushita, began holding Sunday sunrise Divine Services on December 2, 2007. That morning, members of the Japanese congregation met early and traveled from Kurume to the Kyoseki Megalithic Park – about a 40-minute drive. In the park there are, in addition to numerous temples and shrines, a great many huge stones surrounding a towering mountain.

The group began climbing the mountain at 5:30 AM in the predawn darkness guided only by a torch. After about 40 minutes they arrived at their destination, Eboshi-Dake, or Old Emperor's Hat Peak. On a nearby ridge, 350 meters above sea level, they found an opening where they could stand together and await the rising sun. Just before sunrise at around 7:00 AM, the Reverend Matsushita read an excerpt from the Japanese translation of The Community's book *Jamil, The Child Christ*, chapter 27, verses 10-13.

After the service on the heights, the assembly moved to a rock called Kaeru Iwa (Frog Rock) where they celebrated a simple Communion of bread and water. (Kaeu also means "return to the origin.") The Communion was accompanied by the prayer used by Ministers of The Church each Sunday at the Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary's southland churches of Prophecy. Our Japanese members reported, "We felt we were in the Red Rock South Sanctuary."

The ancient area visited is the legendary home of solar adepts, and some say they can still see them sitting and meditating on the rocks.

After descending the mountain, the worshipers visited some of the nearby shrines and temples followed by a light

Continued on next page

COMMUNION SERVICES

APOSTOLIC
CHANCELLERY

The Chapel of the Holy Child

Wednesday 12:00 Noon

2007-2008 *Officiating Minister*

Nov. 7	Roger Weld
14	Francine Petrovich
21	Rhys Andrews
28	Reano Castell
Dec. 5	Robert Petrovich
12	Ileana Isfan
19	Michael McIntyre
26	Ted Staver
Jan. 2	Elizabeth Reece
9	Gary Buchanan
16	Gene Savoy, Jr.
23	Vickie Hewlett
30	Sean Savoy

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES

STEAMBOAT PRIORY

The Chapel of the Roses

Friday 9:00 AM

2007-2008 *Officiating Minister*

Nov. 2	Ileana Isfan
9	Ben Hubbard
16	Robert Petrovich
23	Amanda Buchanan
30	Elizabeth Reece
Dec. 7	Frank Burkitt
14	Gary Buchanan
21	Reano Castell
28*	Mary Foust
Jan. 4*	Roger Weld
11	Michael McIntyre
18	Michael Tamburello
25	Rhys Andrews

*Service held at 9:30 AM due to the Christmas-Epiphany vigil of sunrise services.

SPECIAL REPORTS

From the Archive

WINTER 1997-1998

Compiled by Robert Petrovich

The building of the Feathered Serpent III neared completion in early November 1997, and the crew began preparations for departure from Peru.

On November 17, the ship was lifted by crane at the shipyard and eased into the water. Everything went as expected. The launch ceremony was held on December 4 at the Naval Academy at La Punta with five hundred persons in attendance, including ambassadors from several countries and President Alberto Fujimori of Peru. On December 13, the people of Callao paid tribute to the captain and crew for their efforts toward preserving the antiquities of Peru with a grand parade and public reception.

The Grand Ophir Sea Expedition commenced from the port city of Callao, Peru on December 17. The first leg of the expedition took the ship and crew to the Hawaiian archipelago after forty-two days at sea. They made landfall at Hilo on January 28, 1998.

SPECTRUM From previous page

lunch, then participated in a three-hour study-lecture on Second Advent theology at a local civic center. Rev. Matsushita said that they spent the entire day together in contemplation and fellowship and that they are developing a schedule of future Sunday services.

Priory

A new ecclesiastical body to oversee all operations at the Steamboat Priory, including the International Community Guilds and the Healing Center & Spa has been formed by the Apostolic See.

Its members are the Right Reverend Sean Savoy, who was appointed president of the board; and the Right Reverends Gary Buchanan, Peter Foust, Ileana Isfan, Roger Weld, Rebecca Willis; and the Reverend Ben Hub-

In December 1997, the Most Right Reverend Gene Savoy Sr. begins the process of appointing clergy as Rectors and Deacons of the Sanctuary churches.

Work crews in January removed the remaining steel cable fence surrounding the upper part of the New Mt. Zion property to prepare for the sale of the property's upper parcels.

Insight

**The Divine Code of Life:
Awaken Your Genes and
Discover Hidden Talents by
Kazuo Murakami. English
translation 2006 by Cathy
Hirano. Beyond Words
Publishing, Hillsboro, OR, 1997.**

By Ileana Isfan

If you think your macroscopic body is complex and busy and very, very smart, you're right, but don't credit your brain primarily for keeping things running. In this small book Dr. Murakami explores the wonders and beauty of a special entity, you. Special, yes! To begin with, you are the result of

Continued on next page

bard. The new board held its first meeting on November 14, 2007.

The Right Reverend Gary Buchanan received a one-year appointment as Prior of the Order at Steamboat Hot Springs.

The Reverend Ben Hubbard has been appointed manager of the Steamboat Hot Springs Spa.

Youth & Family

The Religious Studies Program for primary students and Acolytes of The Church resumed on Saturday, November 10, 2007, at 1:00 PM in the meeting room at the Steamboat Hot Springs Priory. Regular classes, which had been suspended for some time, are now continuing under the direction of the Reverend Barbara Whitney. ✚

70 trillion, give or take a few, possibilities or possible combinations of genes. Then, once the “miracle of life” occurred, trillions of cells began growing; roughly, about one trillion per kilogram (2.2 pounds) of body weight, about 132 pounds. You carry around approximately 60 trillion cells, and, with a few exceptions, each cell contains the same genes. The cell nucleus contains deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA), a combination of four chemicals – adenine, thymine, cytosine, and guanine—called, for short, A,T,C, and G. A single human cell contains 3 billion of these “letters.” These chemicals are paired: A with T and C with G, and form the “rungs” that connect the strands which make the “spiral ladder,” or double-helix, known as DNA, our genes. The blueprint written on our DNA comprises the genetic “code,” which is a set of instructions for making proteins, the foundation of life. That is, the genetic code is believed to contain all the information for the conditions of physical life to exist.

What astounds researchers is the microscopic size of the DNA that contains this immense volume of genetic information. Our lives literally depend on information. The information in all of our 60 trillion individual cells is the same! We still do not understand how, in the process of cell division from a fertilized egg, cells arrive at some form of agreement among themselves about who gets to grow into what. (We could learn more about unity and cooperation from our own cells.) And, of course, genes do much, much more in the life process than grow new cells, and that is in itself a very complex, demanding job, especially considering the lightning speed at which they must work to replace several billion per day.

About 50 years ago it was discovered that all living things – plants, animals, humans, bacteria, fish, etc. – use the same genetic code. Over 90 percent of human genes are identical to plant genes. Genes seem to function according to common principles. Evidence seems to indicate that once life originated in one cell, the information was coded into such a perfect order that Mother Nature decided to use that per-

fect information and allow a great (infinite) variety of forms to develop. (Who really invented mass production?)

Genes are the blueprint of life, and they make it possible to “transmit” life from one generation to another. Genes are also infinitesimally small – all the DNA from the world’s 6 billion people would weigh about as much as a single grain of rice. Apparently, information weighs much less than matter. The information contained in our genes is said to be equivalent to 3 billion of the “chemical letters” that make up the genes and if printed in book form would fill three thousand volumes, each one thousand pages long.

Interesting as all the physical information about genes is, Dr. Murakami discovered a number of subtle effects of information that have so far been overlooked or that have been rejected as invalid. These effects should be of particular interest to Cosolargists in the study of eugenics and the effects on a person from the environment (which includes personal, mental, psychic, psychological, spiritual, etc.) as well as from attitudes, expressions of love and gratitude and experiences of inspiration and enthusiasm. Our genes are not fixed. They can be switched on and off and can change in response to various factors, especially mental attitudes. You have positive, negative, selfish, and unselfish genes; however, you cannot just credit your ancestors for all of your problems or good fortune.

You can and do interact with your genes, whether you know it or not. Considering that only 5 to 10 percent of the human genome is supposedly functioning at any time and that genes can be activated or deactivated, our genes can make so-called impossible things possible. “We are born with the potential to become living miracles,” according to Dr. Murakami. Genes do not age, and they work in perfect harmony. To him, such superb order could not occur by mere coincidence, and therefore “Something Great” must be behind the harmony of the world.

While studying the life and characteristics of genes, Dr. Murakami also learned valuable lessons about the characteristics of the owners of genes

and the inevitable effects upon each other as well as the effects transmitted to other people and all living things around us. Genes play definite roles in character disposition, intelligence, etc., and there is also the potential to affect life through gene therapy. Although some people may worry about the risks involved in genetic engineering and therapy from the standpoint of ethics and religion, genetic modification occurs naturally in the world of nature without human intervention and is not per se an unnatural act. Nature is governed by strict laws, and technology cannot easily break its fundamental rules. Genes are the blueprint, the design, rather than the reality of life – they are not synonymous with life.

When Murakami learned from agronomist Shigeo Noyawa (who developed the hydroponic method of cultivating plants) that plants have the potential far beyond what is normally expected, he wondered what could be achieved if the same philosophy were applied to humans.

In the latter part of the book Murakami discusses factors inhibiting the development of human potential – negative thinking, lack of harmony with nature, self-gratification, lack of gratitude, the concept of give and take rather than give and give.

Factors that contribute to positive development of human potential are summarized as (1) having noble intentions, (2) living with an attitude of thankfulness, and (3) thinking positively. We can learn much that is relevant to both society and our way of life from understanding our genes and the way nature chooses symbiotic coexistence for growth and survival rather than competition and negative thinking. ✚



Sunrise at the Red Rock Sanctuary.

STEPHAN FUELLING

During the Winter season, the Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr. delivered several sermons and homilies from the pulpit in the Chapel of the Holy Child. Three of those presentations are briefly recounted below.

From Saturday, December 1

A Pannuches Meal Message

Bishop Savoy stressed to those assembled that they need to continually be aware of negative influences during "this new cycle"; that is, the period following the passing of Bishop Savoy Sr. and the further reorganization of the Church of the Second Advent. However, he also stated, "In order to grow, we must learn to be open and welcoming of those who will come to our door. It is not acceptable to be judgmental or critical of anyone in this congregation that God has 'placed in our tender care.' We must not be exclusive, but realize that we are on the verge of a new era. Our intention must be for the healing of the people as well as for their enlightenment. In other words, we do not build the Church by building things; rather, we build the Church by building people."

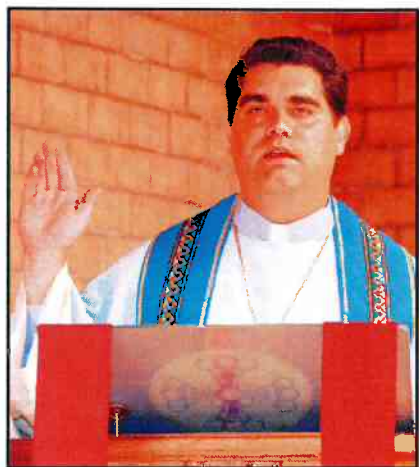
From Saturday, December 22

A Saturday Morning Message

In a morning sermon Bishop Savoy gave an update of recent events:

"We should congratulate ourselves on the work we have accomplished this year; for example, over the summer and during the annual Convocation in October. There have been a lot of accomplishments since the last Christmas-Epiphany cycle.

"We have taken care of a lot of problems, or 'messes.' We have begun publishing the *Community Communique* again after a lapse of eleven years. We have reinstituted the Children's Religious Studies Program – similarly, after a lapse of several years—and we have increased our regular participation in interfaith activities here in northern



The Rt. Rev. Gene Savoy, Jr., Head Bishop of The Church.

ROGER WELD

Nevada, such as the Thanksgiving service at Trinity Episcopal Church, our support of the Gandhi Monument movement and visit to the State Legislature in that regard, and our meetings with various religious leaders such as Swami Vedananda of the San Francisco Vedanta Society . . . and others. Perhaps some of these clerics will become interested in our Sacred Teachings of Cosolargy.

"Our press exposure has been good for public relations, and the official Bishop's Installation Reception we held at Bishopstead on December 11 was well attended by many local, state, and national representatives, including clerics, civil servants, and political entities. Our institution can no longer be belittled or labeled – as was the case when we first came here in the 1970s.

"In terms of outreach, we are now poised for a campaign unlike anything before. We have been reviewing the workshop held during the Convocation, beginning to implement many of those ideas, and have decided that our outreach will also include the local area. For example, we will begin advertising public sunrise services and get our message out. We will be presenting public lectures, as well.

"As part of our restructuring, we have made new appointments; the Finance Council meets weekly and monthly; the Steamboat Board covering the Priory, Guilds, and Healing

Center & Spa has been established; and we would like to congratulate the Right Reverend Ileana Isfan who now heads the Order of the Matriarchs. The power and importance of women in this Community of Light cannot be underestimated. There needs to be a balance of male and female in The Church, metaphorically, like the Image and the Word.

"Also in regard to Steamboat Hot Springs, we should congratulate the Right Reverend Gary Buchanan as the newly appointed Prior at that facility. We will be further discussing the Prior's exact duties and defining the responsibilities in maintaining unity, community, and harmony at Steamboat, especially as we have more Cosolargists located there than anywhere else. Steamboat must be an example of and for the Order; disciplines must be adhered to, with proper attitudes and under a work ethic. Gary's initial appointment is for one year.

"Similarly, we should congratulate the Reverend Ben Hubbard, the newly appointed interim Spa manager. Ben will work for one year organizing and providing [former Spa administrator] the Right Reverend Rebecca Willis an outlet for more creative activities in The Church.

"At the Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary we have undertaken new water projects – working on the reservoir and streams, and providing better irrigation at the lower Sanctuary area. We are planting more trees, and they will need this water.

"We have decided to remove the three llamas from the pasture in front of the Chapter House and make better use of that area.

"We have purchased a large mower and will be concentrating more on agriculture and Sanctuary residence projects – with a view toward survival as a community there beyond events that may be in store by 2012, so to speak. Thus, our strong focus is now upon the Sanctuary, and we are now accomplishing projects there that could not have been attempted before.

Continued on next page

Confirmation

The Rite of Confirmation for Sonya Jeanette Savoy, eldest daughter of Bishop Gene Savoy Jr., took place on Saturday, December 8, 2007, in a private ceremony held in the Bishop's Chambers. The private ceremony preceded the public presentation of Sonya in the Chapel of the Holy Child. A reception was held in the vestibule following the service.

Births

A baby girl, named Carys Lyn, weighing eight pounds, was born Friday, December 7, just before 2:00 PM to Erica and James Wilsey III. Erica is the daughter of the Reverend Barbara Whitney.

A baby girl, named Kendra Jane, was born to Deacon Shane Grady and Consociate Claudia Grady on Monday, January 7, at 1:57 PM. Kendra weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 19 inches long at birth.

A baby boy, named Cyrus Yuphen, was born to Consociate John Zachary Jones of Wisconsin on January 30.

Consecration & Installation

A special public reception to celebrate the Consecration and Installation of the Right Reverend Gene Savoy Jr. as the second Head Overseer-Bishop of the International Community of Christ, Church of the Second Advent, was hosted at the Rectory-Abbey on Carmel on Tuesday, December 11, 2007, at 5:30 PM. (See Feature Story.)



Gabriel Kanzelmeyer (center) here with his parents, the Reverends Bruce Kanzelmeyer and Jo Ann Hainline, received first-degree ordination on December 29.

STEPHAN FUELLING

Reception

A private reception for the Right Reverend Elizabeth Reece was held at the Rectory-Abbey on Carmel on Saturday afternoon, December 22, following her return from a visit with family members in North and South Carolina and a week long sojourn in Portugal.

During the reception, which was planned and hosted by the Right Reverend Sean Savoy and Ms. Maeghan Moore, all those attending were treated to hors d'oeuvres and beverages and a slide show and discussion about sites the Reverend Reece visited while in Portugal.

Attending were Rhys Andrews, Barbara Whitney, Gary and Amanda Buchanan, Brittany Walters, Rebecca Willis, Ileana Isfan, Peter and Mary Foust, Robert Roy, Steve Larson, Ben

Hubbard, Shinobu Uwataki, Gene Savoy Jr., and Sonya Savoy.

Ordination

First-degree ordination for Gabriel James Christopher Kanzelmeyer, son of the Reverends Bruce Kanzelmeyer and JoAnn Hainline, took place on Saturday morning December 29, 2007, in the Bishop's antechamber following Communion of Fellowship service.

The rite of ordination was performed by the Right Reverend Sean Savoy. A congratulatory reception was held in the vestibule following the ordination.

Seminar

A Project "X" lecture tour and seminar to Greece, the Greek Isles, and Turkey is tentatively scheduled for May 7 through May 21, 2009. Sites to be visited include Athens, Delphi, Meteora, Crete, Samos, Patmos, Ephesus, and Istanbul.

All are invited to join Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr. on a historical, religious, and educational journey to experience mystic sites and to learn about ancient Hellenistic and early Christian solar teachings of these cultures.

For further information or to reserve your special place in the seminar and tour, please call (775) 786-7827 or e-mail Bishop Savoy directly at gsavoyjr@communityofchrist.org. ☩

PULPIT From previous page

"In conclusion, I look forward to opening the Christmas-Epiphany Season with you all with our Vigil extending from Christmas Day through the next thirteen days, and with all of our events, such as the Children's Tea and Blessing, which will include festivities for the children – as well as caroling for all!"

From January 19

A Pannuches Meal Message

"This is the end of the Liturgical Calendar; that is, it has been fifty years from 1957 to the end of 2007. Technically, it is the forty-sixth year of the Second Advent Calendar, dating from February 2,

1962.

"We have now celebrated 38 Pannuches meal rites since the practice was begun five years ago on February 1, 2003. Therefore, it is fitting, in my estimation, that we begin the practice of fasting once again in The Church.

"I would like to start the process by

Continued on next page

announcing that every Jubilee Sunday (every seventh week) Ministers and Consociates should observe a fast from sunrise to sundown. I understand that for some, because of work schedules or older age, this may not be possible, but I believe we should resume a discipline of a regular fast every seventh week.

"I should also like to announce that we will be instituting a new liturgy within the cycles of the Sacred Calendar, and this liturgy will close the liturgical year, as we prepare to welcome the new liturgical year.

STEPHAN FUELLING

“As we know, this will not be a matter of worshipping The Child, but drawing upon his angelic presence to help and guide us. So these services will begin in ten days time (on Monday, January 29 and Tuesday, January 30). As I said, they will close out the liturgical year in anticipation of the Advent Vigil, which, as you all know, is observed from February 2 through Febru-

“Let us now call on the Divine Presence to assist us in our Ministry as we celebrate this evening’s Pannuches.” ✠



The Chapel of the Holy Child

Nov.	3	Gerald Degerstedt	25	William Isfan
		Donna McWain		Bernice Carpenter
	7	Mansour Jahangiri	26	Rita Aggenbach
		Ivan Armstead		“Cheryl” (friend of John Bowd)
		Joseph Skinner	29	Madelynne Wand-Savoy+
		Kalen Earle		Michele Winston
	10	Mansour Jahangiri		Harry Woods+
		Ivan Armstead		“Cheryl” (friend of John Bowd)
		Joseph Skinner		
		Kalen Earle	Jan. 2	William A. Scruggs
	21	Steve Nichols		and his widow, Ruby
		Edmund Gremli	5	Steve Sharp
		Betty Whitney		William A. Scruggs
		Joeanne Bostick Ault		and his widow, Ruby
	24	Steve Nichols	9	Steve Nichols
	Edmund Gremli	12	Steve Nichols	
	Betty Whitney	16	Don Mason	
	Joeanne Bostick Ault		Valerie Mason	
28	Logan Meedom	19	Don Mason	
	Steve Nichols		Valerie Mason	
	Edmund Gremli	23	Theresa Andronis	
Dec.	1	Nick Nush	26	Ted Moore
		Logan Meedom		Mansour Jahangiri
	5	Nick Nush		Theresa Andronis
		Jenny Trisnan		Ted Moore
	7	“Cheryl” (friend of John Bowd)	+ In Memoriam	
	8	“Cheryl” (friend of John Bowd)		
	12	“Cheryl” (friend of John Bowd)		
	15	“Cheryl” (friend of John Bowd)		
	19	Pamela Hewlett Walker		
		“Cheryl” (friend of John Bowd)	*These appeals are made upon request.	
	22	Pamela Hewlett Walker		
		Bernice Carpenter		
	Dr. Steve Larson			
	Rita Aggenbach			
	“Cheryl” (friend of John Bowd)			

+ *In Memoriam*

*These appeals are made upon request.

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