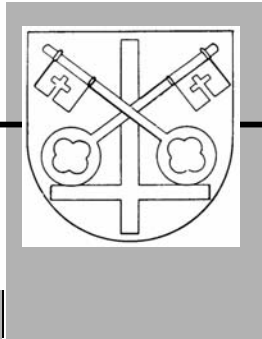


Crossed Keys



September, 2006

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Dear Families and Friends of St. Peter's

I love the line in "The Servant Song," written by Richard Gillard, which sings:

*I will weep when you are weeping;
When you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
'Til we've seen this journey through.*

I think of this verse often as participate in the life, joy, and grief of one another in the Body of Christ.

I would first like to make a pastoral confession, followed by a plan for an adult education class beginning on September 10.

The confession is this: I would like to do more, and constantly find myself falling short of my expectations of what I would like to share with the members of our parish and community. I see a church full of grief, loss, and transition, and just when I think, "I would really like to follow up with that person and see how they are doing after their recent loss," yet another crisis hits a church member which requires my immediate attention, then another. As a consequence, I spend much time helping people to prepare to die; helping families prepare to let a loved one go; helping to prepare and carry out plans for funerals and memorial services. Yet, alas, I then find the day spent, the time past, and all my best intentions of follow-up care left undone.

This is true not only for crises, but also for celebrations. I spend much time preparing couples for marriage and planning services, but rarely call a couple five years after officiating at a service just to say: "How are you? How is your marriage? Is there anything I can do to encourage you?"

This is my dilemma. It will probably always be my dilemma. And I will probably always be dissatisfied with it. Yet my dissatisfaction drives me to action, and not complacency. I want to do something about it.

So I see a church full of grieving people, want to follow up with each one, and find myself falling short. I have visited with both Kevin and Beth Bisbee about their grief support group from last spring, and I have agreed with them to get more involved. I would like to invite our parishioners and community members who have experienced loss or transition to gather with me and with Beth Bisbee for a class/study/conversation beginning Sunday, September 10, during the 9:00 a.m. Sunday School hour, and continuing for 12 weeks, ending November 26. Running concurrent with this class, Beth will continue with her bi-weekly evening support group, Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. beginning September 21, as an opportunity to reach out to more people as well as to provide further time for the members of our Sunday class to share their lives and encourage one another.

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KEVIN'S CORNER...

I have some friends who lead an annual summer missions trip to Kenya. They take a group of college students with them and then send the students out to various locations throughout their 7 week stay. Some students end up working in slums in the city, others work with AIDS patients, while others find themselves in more rural areas working with pastors who minister to tribal communities. Last night Brian and Debbie Lee stopped by my house on their way home to Missoula from a conference in Colorado.

A handful of years ago, another couple we knew from our days of campus ministry, spent the summer in Kenya with the Lees. During that summer both Colleen and Debbie were struck by the plight of the orphans in the slums of Nairobi. They agreed to pray about doing something to help these children. Now, less than 5 years later, Colleen and her husband Dave have adopted 2 African boys.

Last summer while the Lees were in Africa they began conversations with a friend who is a pastor about starting an orphanage. Although the pastor and his wife are in their 60's and have raised their four biological children, they felt God calling them to do something more. They began to pray about starting a new orphanage in Nairobi.

When Debbie returned home that summer she called Colleen and they began to derive some ideas for raising money to fund the orphanage. Debbie has since started a business selling jewelry out of her home with the profits going towards the orphanage, while Colleen has been making jewelry from beads Debbie brought back from Kenya. Again, the profits go towards meeting the monthly expenses of the orphanage.

I was moved by their story as well as by their commitment to remain involved in Kenya. I have been to India a few times and I understand the overwhelming feeling one gets from seeing such intense poverty on such a grand scale. The degree of human suffering they have been eyewitnesses to is staggering. Yet, though they know they can't solve it all, they are committed to doing what they can, not fretting about what they can't. Our conversation left me with a sense of hunger to get onboard and help in any way I possibly could.

Well, after I bought two necklaces and the matching earrings for Chris (who was out of town last night), I decided that perhaps there was still more I could do. The bottom line is that there are now some samples of Colleen's work in the Church Mercantile in the parish hall. The name Colleen has settled on for her jewelry is Pamba 'Toto, which is KiSwahili for "adorn a child".

Our 2006 Vestry Members

Bill Doughty
Sr. Warden

Rick Rossa
Jr. Warden

Shari Peddicord
Clerk

Peg Parkison
Donna Kuehne
Dave Nicolarsen

Tina Mediate
Mary South

Dan Alsup

Marcus York

Mike Evers

Penny Hoffman

Please pray daily for
our Vestry and for
their ministry to
St. Peter's.

Here is what her card reads, "As you adorn yourself with this jewelry, you are adorning an orphan with hope and love. Half of Pamba Toto's profits help fund Sanctuary of Hope, a children's home in Nairobi, Kenya."

If you are interested, please contact me or Linda Clark. The jewelry is fantastic, almost as good as the cause. Makes a nice gift...for someone here and for someone in Nairobi.

Alpha

Last spring we had the first Alpha at St. Peter's in many years. It was a terrific growing experience for those who attended and numerous friendships were begun and/or strengthened. We will be starting a new Alpha series on September 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the parish hall. (We'll expect to finish up just before Thanksgiving.) Alpha is a non-intimidating course designed to teach the basics of Christianity. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about what we believe as Christians and what it means to follow Christ, please show up on Tuesday, the 5th or call me for more information at 674-7655. We will have dinner together, hear a presentation on some aspect of our faith, and then have discussion in small groups. All questions are welcomed and no answers are forced.

Adult Ed

Also, a new season of Adult Education is set to begin on Sunday, September 10. There will be two Adult courses offered this Fall. Dave will be reading through C.S. Lewis' A Grief Observed, which is an autobiographical account of what Lewis experienced following the loss of his wife, Joy. I will be leading a Bible Study on the Gospel of John, one of my favorite books in the Bible. Come and join us for either of these two Sunday School classes and see what the Lord might be saying to you.

By Grace,



Kevin Jones

Parish Nurse/Health Ministries

For Christ is like a single body made up of different parts.



1Cor 12:12 We are beginning a new year in Health Ministries. Thank you for the support and encouragement. This community is incredibly fortunate and blessed to have a number of organizations to help a variety of individuals. This allows those of us who have chosen this ministry to broaden our availability. Within the entire state of Wyoming, there are but five (5) trained Parish nurses. This means that Health Ministers, non-nurses, are of the utmost importance to have a successful program.

Last year I visited with Rev. Ray Clark about the possible areas of improvement. He suggested that the church itself might not have as many needs as those who are unable to always come to worship. I have found this to be true. Though, the program itself is not intended to be home health care in it's truest sense, I have found it to be of help especially with the elderly who need a brief visit or home check, either for their peace of mind or that of the family. This, along with blood pressure checks once a month and research into pertinent health issues will be my focus.

Is there a topic you would like to hear about in the next issue?

Do you have someone you think would benefit from an in home visit?

Is there a class you would like to have brought to the church related to healthcare?

Healing comes in many forms-Blessings,

DuAnne Diers, RN,PN



Sunday School Start-up

Sunday School begins on September 10th.
See Theo Powers or Father Dave for more information.

JEWELRY SALE!!!!

Crafts and jewelry from African Team Ministries will be on sale in the Parish Hall on Oct 1st and 8th after each service. The items are all handmade by women in East Africa providing employment and benefiting the work of the church there. The church provides education for Ugandan orphans and an AIDS education and prevention program.

God's blessing on all that you do. Linda Clark

Youth Group Happenings!

Over this summer, we have been watching a Christian video series that is similar to many of the reality TV shows that are so popular today. Although the kids enjoy mocking the videos they also enjoy watching it on a weekly basis. So far these videos have brought up some great conversations.

Last week our Jr. High EYC group met. We had an odd mix of students; many were new and some were returning from weeks of vacation. Usually this means that it will be a night of reminders of how we do things and how to treat each other with respect. Instead we had one of our best nights that we've had all summer.

Here below are a few questions we discussed together from a video lesson dealing with how we encourage and criticize people. Take a few minutes to read these verses and ask yourself the following question...

Rate yourself on the Encourager---Criticizer Scale
Circle the number that best describes you.

Encourager 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Criticizer

Has the way you have been treated by others, affect how you rated yourself?

What do our "words" toward others say about us--and about our faith?

James 3:9-12 - With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be. Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? My brothers, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

Matthew 12:34-37 - For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.

This night was a great discussion night! We were able to spend some time discussing Matthew's passage and how the media can affect our hearts. **"Garbage in, garbage out"**. We can store up by choice what we put in our hearts including the choice of movies, music, television, magazines and whatever else we consume. What we store in our hearts affects others in the way we interact with them. Although they were reluctant to admit that some choices could really affect them they defiantly grasped the concept.

If you are interested in checking out this video series go to uctahoe.com.

God bless,

AnDy



(Fr. Dave's article continued from Page 1)

We would like to create a unique aspect to this class and group by welcoming all persons who have experienced loss or transition of any kind.

I will be using and referencing materials by Dr. Alan Wohlfelt as well as "A Grief Observed" by C.S. Lewis in order to provide food for thought and structure for us to use on our journeys. Yet we want to acknowledge that there is more grief than is created by the loss of human life. We have friends who have experience the loss of spouses, parents, and children. But we also have friends who have experienced the loss of their own good health, loss of career, loss of marriage through divorce, and many other kinds of transition.

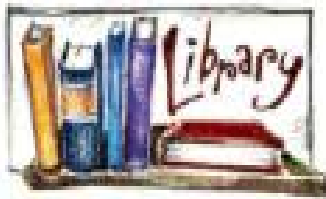
Our hope is that by including losses of any kind we will create a dynamic setting where those coping with loss of one kind might gain godly wisdom by listening to a completely different story, as well as by sharing with those who have experienced a loss similar to their own.

If you are interested in this class, please call the church office or my cell phone (751-4297) to let me know that you will be attending. By knowing roughly how many might be in attendance, I can properly prepare a space as well as materials for the class.

Also, please feel free to invite others outside of St. Peter's to attend the class or group. Perhaps God might call you to invite and come with a friend, even though you have not experienced the loss yourself.

Please feel free to call and discuss any questions with me, and I look forward to using this forum to spend time listening and providing support to you, as my friends; you who have walked my journey with me, and with whom I desire to walk, with God's help, 'until we see this journey through.'

Peace, David+



Margot Liberty has generously donated her newest novel to our church library. A Northern Chyenne Album is available in bookstores. Thank you, Margot.

From the Women:

The summer has been a hot one for sure! This has not hindered the elves of St. Nicholas Guild! They have a secret weapon against the heat...AIR CONDITIONING!

There is a lot of work to do before the bazaar in November. Remember them as you are making ornaments or making jellies or canning goodies! There is something for everyone at the Christmas Bazaar.

So take a trip to St. Nick's room upstairs and see what the elves have been up to. They are there every Wednesday from 9-noon.

The Women's Council will meet on Wednesday Sept. 6 at 9 a.m.

There are always treats and "girl coffee" to enjoy. Come join us. All women are welcome. (They will allow men, too!) St. Margaret's is beginning again the 3rd Wednesday of September @ 7:00 PM. They have wonderful speakers and fabulous goodies after!



Reminder!

Let the church office know if your address has changed.

Articles, etc.
due on the 15th for upcoming X-Keys!
storey@fiberpipe.net

Sunday Service hours change on Sept. 3rd.

7:30 a.m. HE,
Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. HE
Mark your calendar!

St. Peter's Educational Fund

Interest free loans are available (up to \$5,000) for members of St. Peter's pursuing college or trade-school educations! See Church Office for an application.

Office Hours

9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

VESTRY MEETINGS
4th TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

AN INVITATION TO THOSE WHO LIKE TO CREATE WITH WORDS!

"I sing a song of the saints of God..."
"They love their Lord so dear, so dear..."
They lived not only in ages past..."

Above is listed the beginning phrase of each stanza to hymn #293. We invite you to create a verse or verses with a focus on saints you know, saints who have encouraged you, saints who are your role models. You may leave your creation in the church office by the end of September. Please include your name and phone number. We're eager to include these new verses when we sing this hymn close to All Saints Day.

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Sue Storey, Editor
The Rev. David L. Duprey, Advisor







September

2006

IF THERE IS SOMETHING YOU FEEL SHOULD BE ON THE CALENDAR, PLEASE LET SUE KNOW.

Holy Eucharist- HE
 Healing Service- H
 Sunday School- SS
 Youth Group- EYC
 Daughters of the King- DOK
 Morning Prayer- MP
 Adult Education- AE

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

					1	2
3 7:30 AM-HE 10:00AM-HE 7:00 PM SR. EYC	4  Labor Day Office Closed	5 10:00 AM HEALING SERVICE/ HE 6-8:00 PM ALPHA	6 9:00 AM ST. NICHOLAS 9:00 AM WOMEN'S COUNCIL 7:00 PM JR. EYC	7 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM RED DOOR 7:00 PM- CHOIR	8  Honoring Grandparents	
10 7:30 AM-HE 9:00 AM- AE, SS & CHOIR PRACTICE 10:00 AM-HE 7:00 PM- SR. EYC	11  1:00 PM- DOK	12 10:00 AM HEALING SERVICE/ HE 6-8:00 PM ALPHA	13 9:00 AM- ST. NICHOLAS 7:00 PM- JR EYC	14 7:00 AM- HOLY CROSS- HE 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM RED DOOR 7:00 PM- CHOIR	15 16	
17 7:30 AM -HE 9:00 AM-AE, SS, CHOIR PRACTICE 10:00AM-HE 7:00 PM SR. EYC	18 1:00 PM- DOK	19 10:00 AM HEALING SERVICE/ HE 6-8:00 PM ALPHA	20 9:00 AM- ST. NICHOLAS 7:00 PM- JR EYC 7:00 PM- ST MARGARET'S	21 7:00 AM- ST MATTHEW- HE 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM RED DOOR 7:00 PM- CHOIR	22  WOMEN OF FAITH	
24 7:30 AM-HE 8:30 AM ALTAR GUILD 9:00 AM-AE, SS, CHOIR PRACTICE 10:00AM-HE 7:00 PM -SR. EYC	25 1:00 PM-DOK	26 10:00 AM HEALING SERVICE/ HE 5:00 PM-VESTRY 6-8:00 PM ALPHA	27 9:00 AM- ST. NICHOLAS 7:00 PM-JR EYC	28 10:00 AM-3:00 PM RED DOOR 7:00 PM- CHOIR	29 7:00 AM-HE ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS 30	

Play a "Listening" Game

*Here is a game that
you can play by
yourself or with a
group of friends.*

You will need:

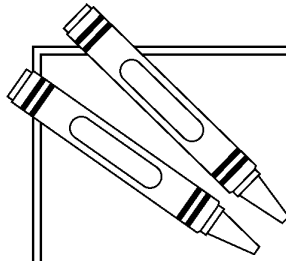
white paper
pencil or
markers or
crayons

How to play:

Draw a large ear on your
paper. Make it as big as
the paper! *Sit quietly.
Just listen.*



Draw all the
sounds that you
hear on your "ear."
Choose different places to
play. Set a time limit. If
you're playing with friends,
share what you heard.



Just for KIDS

Psalm 46:10

Sometimes our lives are so busy that we cannot seem to fit another thing into the day! But there is something very important that we need to do each day.

Find the answer using the code below.

A	B	F	G	K	L	O	R	U	V
D	1	H	2	M	3	S	4	W	5
E		I		N		T		Y	

W

5 1 3 5 4 4

4 1 3 3 4 4 2 4 1

1 3 1 3 2 4 4 1 3

2 4 4 2 4 1

"

1 1 4 4 2 3 3 1 3 1

3 3 4 5 4 2 1 4

2 1 3 2 4 1

"

We must talk to God and listen for God. "Be still, and know that I am God."



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Crossed Keys

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BAAAA BAAAA. How would you like to be one of God's sheep? Reflecting on the various outreach projects that each of us is involved in we can look at Matthew 25. "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Enter, you who are blessed by my Father! Take what's coming to you in this kingdom. It's been ready for you since the world's foundation. And here's why:

I was hungry and you fed me,
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,
I was homeless and you gave me a room,
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,
I was sick and you stopped to visit,
I was in prison and you came to me.'

"Then those 'sheep' are going to say, 'Master, what are you talking about? When did we ever see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you a drink? And when did we ever see you sick or in prison and come to you?' Then the King will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me-you did it to me.'

Our church encompasses each of these outreach principles and through each of us at St Peter's we carry out God's mission for his sheep. Being on the vestry for three years has made me aware that the hungry do come to our front door and are given help with no questions asked. They are fed, given a drink, a warm room and clothes (from the Red Door). This compassion stretches beyond borders and helps people injured in strife throughout our turbulent world, builds homes in Mexico and other areas, and provides medical help to villages that would otherwise never receive aid.

The hungry may also be in the pew with us and as a church family we can nurture each member. At some time in our life we all need to have a helping hand and God is always there to help out. All we have to do is ask. All you Wyoming cowboys can substitute cattle for sheep and it still works!!! MOOOO MOOOO

Dave Nicolarsen, Vestry