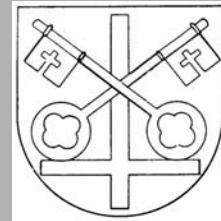


# Crossed Keys



February, 2007

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Dear Families and Friends of St. Peter's

## The Rev. Canon Raymond H. Clark—our Lifelink

In the middle of the extensive obituary commemorating Fr. Ray's life, there was a very small note that he was instrumental in starting Lifelink. Not only did he begin the program that was Lifelink, he was a Lifelink in himself.

I remember speaking to Billie Sollars many times about the beginnings of the Lifelink program, and her involvement in that program with Ray. It was something of which both these saints were very proud.

My stepfather, Fr. Peter Tomkins, has a Lifelink service contract, and he uses it! For those of you who are not aware of the service, it provides a beeper, worn 24 hours per day on a necklace, which the person may press at any time when help is needed. The idea is that if a person with limited mobility were to fall, most of the time they would be beyond arm's reach of a telephone. Many times people can remain in this lonely (and sometimes painful) place for hours (or days) until someone finds them.

Occasionally I receive a phone call from Lifelink. I am the first person on Fr. Peter's call list. Usually it means that he has fallen, and often I only need to spend a few moments picking him up and placing him back in bed, or in his chair, or on his scooter. My few minutes prevents hours of frustration and isolation.

I quote now from the history of Lifelink, written by Billie Sollars: "A lifeline system seemed to be the answer. The system has two major mechanical components, a base unit which is the heart of the system and is located at Dome Communications, and the home units which are installed in each subscriber's home.

The first problem for this undertaking was as usual—money.

This problem was temporarily solved through a donation of \$5,000.00 from St. Peter's Church at the request of Ray and Mark Clark. Ray was retiring as the Rector of St. Peter's at the time and asked that the church donate the base unit in lieu of a retirement gift to the Clark's." Wow. Then, subsequent to the installation of the system, and ever since, St. Peter's has offered outreach money to pay for new subscribers' installation costs when those persons cannot afford to pay for the system. They began with 3 home units and now there are 210 clients in the Sheridan area.

Ray was keen on metaphors, and this whole concept is a symbol for Ray's role in our community. This program he helped begin conveyed his whole intention for us; to be our Lifelink to whatever form of help we needed; to professionals in the community, to volunteers, to church, and most especially, to God.

He was the button that so many people pushed during his 57 years at St. Peter's. The morning I was to have surgery, Ray walked into the pre-op area, anointed me and prayed over me. I didn't even know that we, clergy, were allowed in that area! Not only did he minister to me, but he opened a new vista in my hospital ministry. Through the deaths of my brother and my mother, and all other major events in my life, Ray has been there as a Father in God to me.

Here's to Ray Clark. He was a Lifelink to us. Thanks be to God!

Respectfully submitted, in the love of Christ,

The Rev. David L. Duprey, Rector

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## KEVIN'S CORNER...

Dear St. Peter's Church Family,

I have recently completed my seventh year as your Associate Pastor. As I consider the life and ministry of our beloved Canon Ray Clark, I have taken the opportunity to reflect upon the ministry at St. Peter's- past, present, and future.

**Past**—Under Ray's tenured leadership, St. Peter's became a spiritual leader in our community. His labors stretched far beyond the bricks of I S. Tschirgi and his impact will be felt in our community for generations to come. Sheridan County Memorial Hospital, the Senior Center, and Lifelink (to name a few community organizations) have been shaped and marked by the tireless efforts and deep compassion of Ray Clark. His model of serving all is summed up in one of the most memorable quotes I heard from him, "No one ever suffered from receiving too much love."

Because of his leadership St. Peter's gained a reputation as being a place which would welcome anyone, regardless of their need or situation, and provide whatever we could to help them in their growth. Ray's flexibility enabled him to adapt to the changing culture and continue to have a place in the spiritual lives of the members of our community. His example has been and will continue to be an inspiration to Dave, myself, and I believe countless others who minister here.

**Present**—We strive to emulate the model Ray handed to us. We do this through continuing to look for opportunities to be involved in our community. Personally, this was reflected in my decision to apply to be a member of the Sheridan Center for Vital Communities' Team of 24 programs this past year. I had the opportunity to spend a week with 23 others from the community as we received some excellent training in how to be a leader in our community from the Blandin Foundation. This training counted for my one of my weeks of continuing education. The relationships, which were developed and strengthened during this experience, have served to strengthen my desire to impact Sheridan in a positive way for Christ.

In addition, St. Peter's continues to attract newcomers through a variety of ways. Weddings, funerals, and births and baptisms all offer occasions for us to serve non St. Peter's members from our community. In so doing, they allow Dave and me to meet new people and begin developing pastoral relationships with people from our community who may or may not have a church home. Oftentimes these life-changing occasions are the doorway through which Jesus invites us to play a larger spiritual role in our community. This was also modeled by Ray.

The past year gave us the opportunity to re-introduce the Alpha Course at St. Peter's. Between 20-45 members and guests joined together weekly throughout the winter and through Lent in 2006 to learn more about Jesus and his call on our lives. This was a wonderfully enriching time for those who came. I hope that we will be able to make this a regular part of our Adult Education and Outreach.

We continue to offer a variety of Adult Education Sunday School courses, along with regular Bible studies that meet during the week. I am convinced that the Bible is the chief manner through which God chooses to mold our character, strengthen us spiritually, and speak to us. In order for St. Peter's to continue to be a spiritual leader in our community we must continue to grow and develop in our commitment to regular and faithful study of God's word and apply it to our daily lives.

**Future**—I have been challenged through my recent trip to Kenya with the notion that while the needs of the world can feel overwhelmingly oppressive at times, we can all do something, and we must do whatever it is we can to be the Light of our Lord Jesus Christ to our world. With respect to doing what we can do, I want to make myself available to anyone in the congregation who would like to explore what their personal gifts and strengths are, as well as potential avenues in which to serve through those gifts.

Along those lines some opportunities I see for us in the coming year include our continuing relationship with Casas Por Cristo. This past year a group of women from the church (and Bill Campbell) went to Juarez, Mexico to build a house through Casas. This was noteworthy because this was the first time a layperson has led a group from our church on a mission trip like this. I'm committed to continuing to help us grow in the area of missions and hope to see another house build trip happen in 2007.

Another opportunity has to do with the possibility of expanding our children's Christian education. I am exploring what interest there is in our congregation for a mid-week children's program. While I understand that many children have extremely busy schedules already, if there is enough interest in developing a program like this, I believe we need to pursue it.

I am proud to be on the staff here at St. Peter's. I am proud of the legacy Ray Clark has built and passed on here. I look forward to continuing to help St. Peter's be a place where people know the love of Christ is real because they see him alive in us.

I have said before that my main ambition is to fall more in love with the God I have discovered in love with me. I hope that we as a congregation continue to grow in our knowledge of God's love for the world expressed through the life, death, and resurrection of his one and only son Jesus. As we grow in this way, my prayer is that we will also grow in our capacity to express that love we have received to the world around us.

By Grace,



Kevin Jones  
Associate Rector

### Our 2006 Vestry Members

Bill Doughty  
Sr. Warden

Rick Rossa  
Jr. Warden

Peg Parkison  
Donna Kuehne

Dave Nicolarsen  
Shari Peddicord

Mary South  
Dan Alsop

Tina Mediate  
Penny Hoffman

Marcus York  
Mike Evers

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

## An Excerpt from the History of the Birney Church

*...Our present minister, Reverend Raymond H. Clark, came to Sheridan in 1949. Reverend Smith was serving in the war as a Chaplain. The Birney services continued as they had with Mr. Ed Robinson helping out as assistant to Reverend Clark. They took a great interest in this small community and new interest grew. Many times has Reverend Clark driven the 130 mile round trip to give a graduation address, officiate at a wedding, christening or a funeral. There were times when he was never sure just what his duties would be. There was one funeral when he officiated far beyond the call of his secular training. He personally carried the casket in his station-wagon, helped prepare the grave, delivered the service, led the singing and helped with the internment. He is truly a part of us all and it is always enjoyable to visit with him at supper which usually follows the service held at one of the ranch homes...*

(The entire article is presently being framed and will be proudly displayed outside Father Dave's office.)  
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### **“And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year...it shall be a jubilee unto you.” (from Crossed Keys, 1993)**

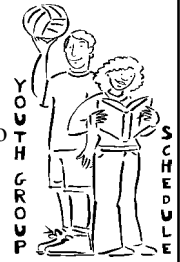
So says the Word in Leviticus 25:10, and so said St. Peter's Church when it hosted an open house on Sunday, November 21, to “hallow the fiftieth year” of The Rev. Canon Ray Clark's priesthood. Ray was ordained on November 21, 1943, in Pullman, Washington, by then Bishop Edward Cross, who once served St. Peter's as rector (1910-1916). Church folk and community folk alike turned out in big numbers for the occasion that day, and it was a jubilee indeed.

The little ones “blessed” Ray with hugs during the children's sermon; Ray reminisced about his early days of priesthood and 39 years at St. Peter's; and, following services, a reception was held for Ray and Mary in the parish hall. The women provided finger foods, cake, punch and coffee; the inimitable Dixie Dudes played, and presentations were made to Ray commemorating the special event.

St. Peter's presented a plaque, the Women of St. Peter's presented a check for \$150 for Ray's favorite charity (which, he quipped, was himself), and Lynne Outland presented a silver belt buckle, a gift from Rebecca Frazier, widow of the late Rev. Stuart Frazier, who received it on the 50th anniversary of his priesthood. The buckle was cast for the Rev. Frazier by Lynne's father, Dave Hammond, of Buffalo. Dave's unique design featured a cross and the numeral 50. The leather belt was crafted by The Rev. Dean Addington, former rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

The first wedding Ray performed was the marriage of Bunny and Bob Connell. (“He tied a good knot,” Bob, says.)

While in Pullman, Washington, Ray's first church, Ray told the service station manager he'd pump gas if Washington State lost its upcoming football game with Idaho; the station manager was to preach the sermon on Sunday if Idaho lost. Somehow newspapers around the world picked up the story, headlining it “It's Gas Either Way.”...



It's 2:30 in the afternoon on Sunday and right about now all I can think about is how much it would be nice to be taking a nap. After all, my wife is in the other room sleeping and the house is quiet. With youth group only four hours away I decide to pop in a Nooma video; these are the videos that we have been watching and discussing at youth group this winter. As I'm working on our lesson for Sunday night I get my usual two or three phone calls. "Hey, Andy, what are we doing tonight?" is the usual first question. These are the same kids that have called on a weekly basis for the last three years and they know the response is "Well, we're having youth group at seven o'clock but come at six fifteen if you wanna hang out." Which is followed by a "Yea, I know, but are we doing anything, you know are we going anywhere or doing anything fun?" To which I almost always respond, "Um yeaaa, I really can't tell you but you better get your butt down here." Which is followed by a, "You wanna go get some tacos early?" You see, kids are a lot like adults, except for that they have way more energy and wouldn't be thinking of taking a nap on Sunday. They want to know if their time at youth group is going to be worth skipping sitting on the couch flipping through QVC and old Chuck Norris movies. They want to know if they are going to be needed or missed. Oh, and they also want a free taco every once in a while.

**Well I can confidently say right now is that it is worth it. We have had a great year of youth group!** Last year I told you that we were trying to meet these goals.

- ◆ EYC will be a community that treats each person with respect, care, and compassion, is responsible with the resources God has blessed us with, is welcoming to new students and is a safe place for them to become themselves.
- ◆ EYC will offer students lively worship in praying for one another, sharing real life needs and concerns, examining the scriptures, and offering praise to God.
- ◆ EYC will be a place where students feel safe to invite their non-churched friends, will welcome each new student who comes, will provide opportunities for students to put their faith in Christ through regular and consistent meetings geared towards reaching out to non-members.

I can say with confidence that we have been meeting our goals! Thanks to all of our leaders on Wednesday and Sunday nights we have had consistency on a weekly basis meeting the above goals.

Last night was a good example. I came to church at 6:15 and kids were trickling in; it's pretty relaxed and crazy at the same time. You could end up sitting and hanging out with the couch crowd asking about their weekends and right next to you is a crazy game of dodge ball happening with some of the baseball guys. Yea, it's just a nerf ball but not one that you'd want to accidentally get in front of. Seven o'clock hits and it's time to start our meeting. Exactly eleven guys and eleven girls means that we have a very balanced night for discussion and small groups. After the introduction we split for small group discussion. For about 30 minutes teens were able to share their hearts with their peers before we met for worship. With the candles lit, lights off, and the glow of the projector, kids come funneling downstairs for our video and worship time. We watched a ten minute Nooma video that presents the questions they had just discussed. Following the video we had a few minutes of silence followed by worshipping God with some of the same songs we sing during communion. What is so cool about worship time is that they truly want to be doing this. They know that if we have time left in the evening they will have game time, but they also don't want to cut short our time in prayer and worship.

Of course all of this wouldn't be possible without our leadership. Thank you to Jayne Barnes, Carol Bickel, Maria Black, Dorothy Goodwin, Lisa Nicholls and Sarah (my lovely wife). These are the people who make our program work! Without them we wouldn't be able to accomplish our goals and would probably have total chaos.

Although we have a great staff we could still use a few more. If you have a heart for kids and love Jesus please give me a call. You see adults are a lot like kids, except for that they have less energy and think about taking a nap on Sunday. They want to know if their time at youth group is going to be worth skipping sitting on the couch flipping through QVC and old Chuck Norris movies. They want to know if they are going to be needed or missed. Oh, and they also want a free taco every once in a while.

Thank you for all of your love and support this year, Andy

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**

This is the house of God!  
Welcome in the name of Christ.  
We gather to worship our Creator  
who is our refuge and strength.  
Lift up your heart and offer praise  
to the God of glory.



In memory of Rev. Ray Clark  
"Well done, thou good and faithful  
servant."

**Articles, News and Ads**  
are due on the 15th  
for upcoming X-Keys!  
[stpeters@fiberpipe.net](mailto:stpeters@fiberpipe.net)

**ST. PETER'S  
EDUCATIONAL  
FUND**  
Interest free loans  
are available for  
members of St. Peter's  
pursuing college or  
trade-school  
attendance.  
Applications are in  
the church office.

**The Crossed Keys**  
is the monthly  
newsletter publication of  
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1 South Tschirgi Street  
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4229  
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Sandy Collins, Editor  
The Rev. David L. Duprey,  
Advisor

**From the Women's Council of St. Peter's:**

The Women's Council meets the first Wednesday of each month (except June through August) at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Any woman who is a member of St. Peter's is a member of the Women of St. Peter's. All women are invited and encouraged to attend these monthly meetings to hear reports from each guild representative and committee chairpersons and participate in discussions. The officers for 2007 are:

- Waneta Thirlwell- President
- Amy Bouley- Vice- President
- Linda Ernst- Treasurer
- Pat Chappell- Secretary

The Women of St. Peter's help provide for the needs of our parish and our community. The women provide kitchen supplies, supplies for altar guild and the church library. Luncheons, dinners and teas and receptions are organized as requested by anyone in the parish or the community.

2006 was a phenomenal year for the Women of St. Peter's. The **Red Door** brought in \$23,570 and the **Christmas Bazaar** profited \$6546. We were blessed to give away a grand total of \$24,925.00 to various charities.

The Women of St. Peter's look forward to 2007 and the opportunities the New Year will bring us so that we may continue our work.

Respectfully submitted, Waneta Thirlwell

**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




Thank you, Sue, for all the help you've been to me, guiding me through the maze these last months. As you know, I have your number on speed dial. Thank you, also, to the wonderful people here at St. Peter's, who have welcomed me into this family. It is truly a blessing to be here in this house full of grace. St. Peter's is a bee-hive of activity. I'm a small part of a great team of ministers, vestry members, guild members and volunteers and I'm proud to do my part to keep this church buzzing. I welcome any announcements for this newsletter. Feel free to email them to me at [stpeters@fiberpipe.net](mailto:stpeters@fiberpipe.net). Sandy Collins

IF THERE IS SOMETHING YOU FEEL SHOULD BE ON THE CALENDAR, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE. 307-674-7655

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*

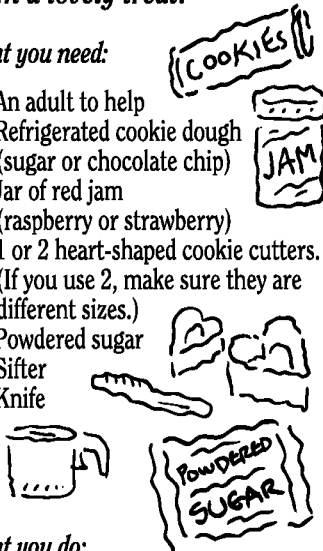
				1 10:00-3:00 pm RED DOOR 7:00 pm CHOIR PRACTICE	2 7:00 am HE PRESENTATION of JESUS in the TEMPLE	3
4 7:30 am HE 9:00 am SS/AE CHOIR 10:00 am HE 7:00 pm SR. EYC	5 1:00 pm DOK	6 10:00 am HE HEALING SERVICE	7 9:00 am SAINT NICHOLAS 9:00 am WOMEN'S COUNCIL 7:00 pm JR. EYC	8 10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR 7:00 pm CHOIR PRACTICE	9	10
11 7:30 am HE 9:00 am SS/AE CHOIR 10:00 am HE 7:00 pm SR. EYC	12 1:00 pm DOK	13 10:00 am HE HEALING SERVICE	14 9:00 am SAINT NICHOLAS 7:00 pm JR EYC 	15 10:00 - 3:00 pm RED DOOR 7:00 pm CHOIR PRACTICE	16	17
18 7:30 am HE 9:00 am SS/AE CHOIR 10:00am HE 7:00 pm SR. EYC	19 1:00 pm DOK	20 10:00 am HE HEALING SERVICE 6:00 pm Pancake Supper @ Methodist Church	21 7:00 am HE 9:00 am- SAINT NICHOLAS 12:00 HE 7:00 pm HE ASH WEDNESDAY/JR EYC/SAINT MARGARET'S	22 10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR 7:00 pm CHOIR PRACTICE	23	24 7:00 am HE ST. MATTHIAS the APOSTLE
25 7:30 am HE 8:30 am AG 9:00 am SS/ AE CHOIR 10:00 am HE 7:00 pm SR. EYC	26 1:00 pm DOK	27 10:00 am HE HEALING SERVICE 5:00 pm VESTRY	28 9:00 am SAINT NICHOLAS 7:00 pm JR. EYC	All Ash Wednesday services will be held in the main church.		

# LOVE TREATS

Show others love by baking them a lovely treat!

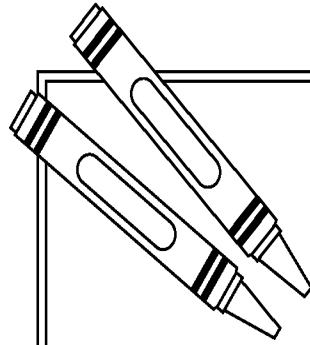
What you need:

- ♥ An adult to help
- ♥ Refrigerated cookie dough (sugar or chocolate chip)
- ♥ Jar of red jam (raspberry or strawberry)
- ♥ 1 or 2 heart-shaped cookie cutters. (If you use 2, make sure they are different sizes.)
- ♥ Powdered sugar
- ♥ Sifter
- ♥ Knife



What you do:

1. Follow the cookie dough directions for rolling out the dough.
2. If you are using one cookie cutter, cut out the heart-shaped cookies and transfer to a baking sheet. Try to have an even number of hearts when finished.
3. If you are using two cookie cutters, cut out the large hearts. Take half of the hearts, and cut out a small heart window in the center with the smaller cookie cutter. Now you have a heart inside another heart.
4. Have an adult help you bake the cookies according to the dough directions.
5. After baking, place the cookies on a cooling rack.
6. When the cookies are cooled, make cookie sandwiches by spreading jam onto the flat side of half the cookies, and then placing another cookie on top of each one. (If you made cookie windows, use those for the tops.)
7. Sprinkle powdered sugar over your heart sandwiches with a sifter.
8. Share the cookies with the people you love.



# Just for KIDS

## But the Greatest of These Is LOVE!

God shows love to us every day and in many ways. Fill in the blanks below with the missing letters to see how God loves us perfectly!

“For God so lo \_ \_ ed the world,

that he g \_ \_ ve

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So \_ \_ ,

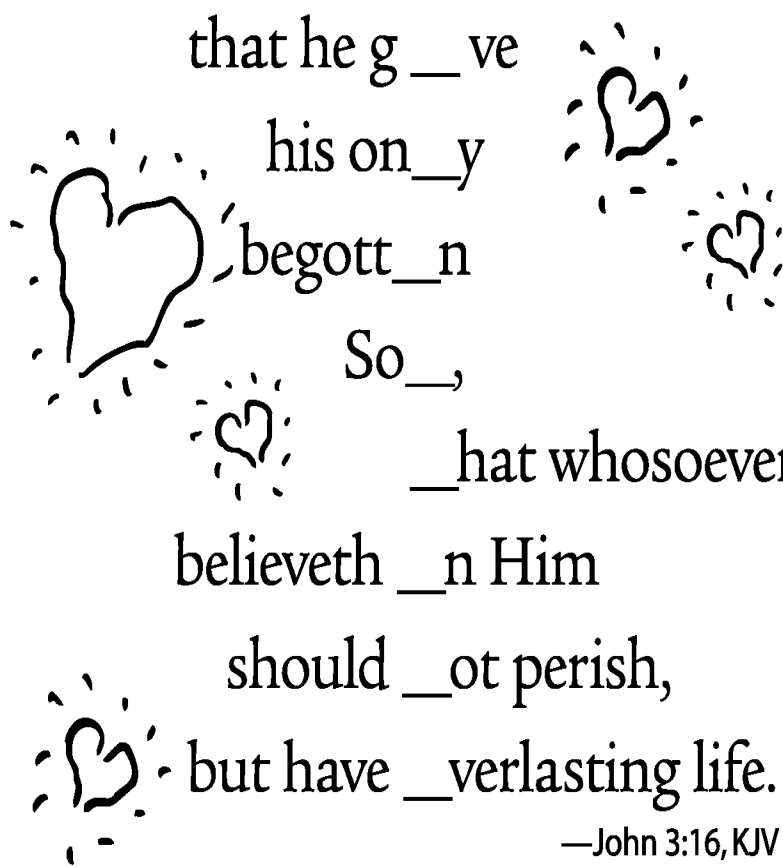
\_ \_ hat whosoever

believeth \_ \_ n Him

should \_ \_ ot perish,

but have \_ \_ verlasting life.

—John 3:16, KJV



Answer: valentine

ST PETERS EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
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Each Vestry member writes an article for the Crossed Keys during the year. I imagine that each of us has an idea of what he or she wants to share with you; I know that I have pondered a topic I thought would be pertinent. However, when Ray Clark passed away, my thoughts changed.

As I sat in church on the Sunday following Ray's service, I listened to the many people share what Ray had meant to them. I knew that this man had impacted countless lives and had lived as an example of what Jesus challenges us to be. Naturally, I thought of what this man had meant to me.

I had heard Ray Clark several times at military funerals. I listened to his words of encouragement to the bereaved. I heard him recite the liturgy for the deceased. But it was a little over a year ago that Ray Clark preached a simple, touching and truthful sermon. He talked about his boyhood days growing up in a big city neighborhood and how he looked forward to the various food vendors making their deliveries. The one he remembered best was the man who delivered fresh baked bread. We all could imagine that wonderful aroma!

His voice was weak at times and because his eyesight was somewhat poor, he lost his place a time or two. Then he began to weave his story together...how the bread man brought sustenance to the home...how bread is the staff of physical life. Then Ray told us about the true Bread of Life. He told us about Jesus. He told us about how God became a man and how He taught us how to live and how Jesus willingly died for us. He told us that if we have Jesus in our hearts and minds, we have eternal life.

As Ray finished his sermon, he picked up a small loaf of bread, held it above his head and said, "Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life." He broke the bread, giving us a visual image of what our God and Savior provided for all who invite Him into their life. In doing so, Ray Clark performed his greatest service to all of us. He preached the Gospel, the Good News of Christ.

Marcus York