

Crossed Keys



March, 2007

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Dear Families and Friends of St. Peter's

Angelica

A moment in close touch with my mother. I could feel her. In fact, I could feel something very specific about her. I'm almost too shy to write it, but even the thought of it again causes the eternal font of the soul to well up again. I felt, most profoundly, sobbing in my surgical garments, cleaning my instruments, that she was there, and that she was proud of me.

Donated glasses

One of the most common ways in which people can be in touch with our medical missions. So easy to give, so easy to analyze, catalogue, and transport to those in need. After my mom died, one of the easiest decisions to make was in regard to her several pairs of glasses. When I had them analyzed and marked with the exact prescription, I asked Laura Galloway to mark each of them with a special note, inside a rubber band. The note reads: *When you give these glasses away, Father Dave would like to meet the recipient, as the glasses belonged to his mother. Please note that the sunglasses attach magnetically to the glasses.*

I had forgotten about them. On our last mission I had all but ruled out dispensing bifocal lenses, because of concern that they would be very difficult for people in ultra-rural Mexico to grow accustomed to them. Not wanting bifocals to be discarded as strange and obtrusive, we have simply dispensed two pairs of glasses; one for far vision, and a second for near vision. We've come close to culling out all our multi-focal lenses and circulating them back through the Lions Clubs to other missions.

On this mission I was behind the closed doors of the eye surgery all through each day. Paradoxically, I was never more patient-focused in my heart, yet I never had less communication with the patients, as I cleaned, sterilized, then redistributed the fine surgical instruments to the surgeon, answering whispered one-word cues.

Wexel and RB, please. Irrigation and One-point-twos. Cystatome. Karatome. Wecott Sissors. Irrigator. Phaco. Kansas. I.A. Lense, please, with smooth forceps. Sinsky. Kenalog. Irrigator.

Complicated surgeries required more communication, but almost never in complete sentences, requiring nurse DuAnne Diers and I to dance this quiet, intense, response to terms and requests as yet unknown.

Resting, cleaning between surgeries, a knock came at the door, with a request for me to come out. "The lady is here who has received your mother's glasses," said Gary Benson. "You wanted to meet her?"

She was presented as Angelica. Perhaps of fifty years, she was from the neighboring, bustling town of Puerto Angel, explaining her comfort at the use of the bifocals, and indeed they fit and appeared beautifully.

We didn't share many words, more the next day after we removed a cataract from her daughter's eye, but for this moment we expressed only enough to establish the clarity of connection between the glasses and my mother. It was obvious, by both her emotion and mine, that we both understood perfectly the power of the moment. We exchanged the customary kiss of Adios and "Que Dios le bendiga," and I retreated to the small room to spend a few moments allowing my castle walls to be breached by the flood of vulnerability.

Then she was just there. Closer to me, perhaps, than at any time since she died. I don't know. I don't often feel her within me. I imagine her waving at the doorway when I say goodnight to Fr. Peter and head for home. I understand her wisdom. I miss her. But I don't often feel her. I felt it was somewhat contrived.

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**Our 2007
Vestry Members**

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Penny Hoffman
Tina Mediate
Cara Nicholls
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Shari Peddicord
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**Please pray daily for
our Vestry and for
their ministry to
St. Peter's.**

KEVIN'S CORNER...

Dear St. Peter's Church Family,

Going back to the second century the Christian rite of confirmation has been practiced by those within the church. In the 2nd to 4th centuries those desiring to profess their faith in Christ entered into the catechumenate, which included the sacrament of Baptism and ended with the Easter Vigil. This included anointing of the forehead for the gift of the Spirit—similar to what we do at confirmation.

In the fifth century Baptism and Confirmation were separated. The Peace of Constantine in 313 led to a tremendous growth in Christian communities around Europe. It became exceedingly difficult for Bishops to preside over Easter Vigil services, because of the explosion in the number of believers. Priests were allowed to perform baptisms, but it was expected that confirmation and the laying on of hands by a bishop to confer the Holy Spirit would take place for new believers either in the cathedral church or when the bishop made his visit to the local parish.

In confirmation, the vows taken on behalf of the candidate during baptism by the sponsors/parents are taken and owned by the confirmand. Part of the liturgy includes these exchanges:

Do You renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: I renounce them

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer: I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer: I do.

Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer: I do.

These are serious and profound statements to be made only by those who are pledging themselves to a life of service, worship and obedience to God, recognizing the Lordship and supremacy of Jesus as God's one and only son. Not something to be done as a formality.

Having said that, it should be noted that the age range for those being confirmed has varied over the years. While Queen Elizabeth I was confirmed at 1 week of age by Archbishop Cranmer, John Wesley was 8 years old when he was confirmed. Now, most from the Anglican tradition (like Elizabeth and John) who were baptized as infants are in their early to mid teens when they are confirmed, although the mysterious "age of discretion" rule (which means that period when they are able to make reasonable and rational decisions, not the age at which they become "discreet". Big difference) applies. Thus, if you

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Thus, if you are at least 12-ish and you want to make a conscious decision to follow Jesus as your Lord and savior, then confirmation might be for you. (I am relying heavily upon info gathered from the websites <http://www.standrew-cfc.org/youth-and-young-adult/confirmation/brief-history-of-the-sacrament-of-confirmation/> as well as <http://www.katapi.org.uk/ChristianFaith/LVI.htm>).

This year Dave will once again be leading a newcomers /confirmation class. This Sunday School class will be held at 9 a.m. upstairs in one of the classrooms. If you would like to be confirmed, are new to St. Peter's or to the Episcopal church, would like to be received (having been confirmed previously in another denomination), or, we want you!!! Classes will run through April and Confirmation will be Sunday, May 6th with Bishop Vernon Strickland during the 10:00 service.

Juarez!!

It's official. We're planning another house building trip in conjunction with the ministry of Casas por Cristo. We will leave here on Saturday, May 5th and return either the following Thursday or Friday (depending on how long it takes us to complete the project). I'm currently receiving applications from interested parties. I chose to go in May because it will be cooler than in the summer months (and a cooler laborer is a happy laborer). If you are interested in coming along with us 1) get your passport ready 2) call me so I can reserve a spot for you. All are welcome (until I fill the vans...)

By Grace,



Kevin Jones





Who is your favorite band? Do you have a group that you have to get their next CD? Yesterday on her lunch break, Sarah (who had been waiting for three months) went to Roosters to pick up Toby Mac's new album. It was just one of those she had to add to the music library and I didn't mind since his new album, Portable Sounds, is amazing!

Today we have endless opportunities to fill our souls with trash. Television, movies, magazines, newspapers, internet and music are some of the major examples of the media that we can choose from. We cannot expect to watch, read and listen to anything we want without it influencing our outlook on life and the way we communicate with each other. One of the phrases I say to our students constantly is "Garbage in, garbage out." The more garbage we choose to fill our hearts with the more garbage will flow from our hearts.

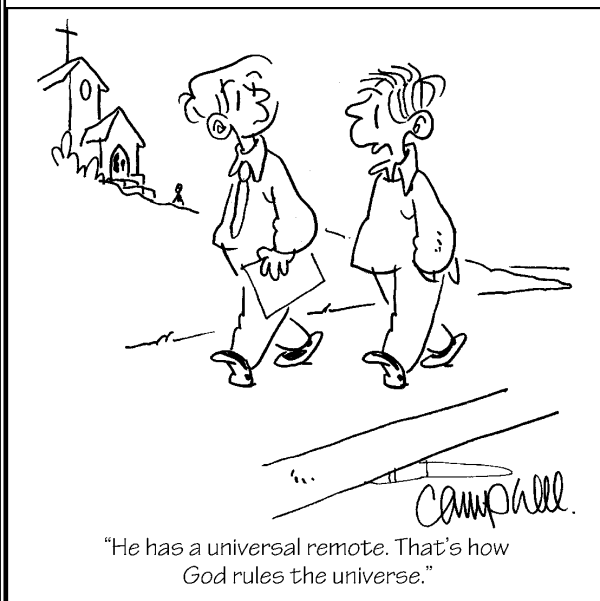
There have been many opportunities to talk to students about lyrics and the affect they have on our thoughts. The lyrics on radio right now are shocking. Sex, drinking, drugs, violence and racism are just some of the common themes in many of the songs.

Below is a list of some of my current favorite Christian CD's. I like these bands for both their musical talent and lyrical content. If you are interested in hearing samples of these groups, please feel free to stop by my office and I'll make you a sampler disc. Another way to check them out is to go get a cup of coffee at Roosters and check out their music. They have a scanner and a pair of headphones that are connected with all the music in their store. It's a great way to get out of the house for a while and find something to groove to.

ROCK: **Delirious?**- *The Mission Bell*, **Jars of Clay**- *Good Monsters*, **Leeland**- *Sound of Melodies*, **Mat Kearney**- *Nothing Left to Lose*, **Mutemath**- *Mutemath*, **Newsboys**- *Go*, **Switchfoot**- *Oh! Gravity*, **Jonny Lang**- *Turn Around*, **Tobymac**- *Portable Sounds*

RAP:
Soul P, Lecrae- *After the Music Stops*, **Pettidee**- *Thug Love*, **KJ-52**- *Behind the Musik*, **KJ-52**- *Remixed*

HARD ROCK: **Decyfer Down**- *End of Grey*, **Disciple**- *Scars Remain*, **Kutless**- *Hearts of the Innocent*, **Pillar**- *The Reckoning*, **Red**- *End of Silence*, **Underoath**- *Define the Great Line*, **Demon Hunter**- *The Triptych*, **Falling Up**- *Dawn Escapes*, **Flyleaf**- *Flyleaf*, **Skillet**- *Comatose*



Continued from page 1. Angelica

The feeling of her was certainly brought about by the simple emotion of the moment, but then it quickly cycled forward, where the feeling of her brought on yet more emotion, until I allowed myself to sob with her presence. The team left me alone for those few moments, as I imagined her observing, knowing what I was now doing with my life.

Pressed by the next surgery, the next question, the desire to retract the draw bridge, I tried to pull it together. Focus. Not quite. The formerly sterile and unused 3 x 3 gauze from the last case helped me clear my system, and as I did, the flood still came.

Then the autoclave bell sounded. The former case was cleared to the trash. Tables sterilized again, and we were "open" again for the next surgery. The next patient. Then next person. The next life. Changed.

"This is to my Father's glory," Jesus said, "that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now

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."

Special Dates Ahead

World Day of Prayer 3/2
Girl Scout Sunday 3/11
Daylight Saving Time 3/11
St. Patrick's Day 3/17
First Day of Spring 3/21

**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.**

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Annual Spring Conference of the Diocese of Wyoming - "Laughter is the Language of the Heart!" April 13-15 in Casper at the Ramkota Hotel. \$58/person. Child care available. Application forms are outside the church office.



The Red Door is searching for jewelry to accessorize the women's and children's departments. Please drop by your treasures and light up someone's smile.



Lunch Together is the week of the 19th—23rd. Please stop by the church hall and sign up for the day that suits you best. Dishwashers are always welcome, gentlemen.



Thanks for the joyful ministry of Gail, Linda, Bob and Mary! The kitchen and lights sparkle!



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





Sacred Thirst by M. Craig Barnes, pg. 112.
After Ernest Hemingway was wounded during WW I, the medical staff pulled 237 pieces of shrapnel out of his body. It was a formative experience for him as he waited through the long period of convalescence. During that time he observed that some of his fellow hospital patients were strengthened by this long sojourn through the stressful waiting, while others were shown to be shallow and immature. In every case the waiting brought out the true nature of the person. From this experience Hemingway developed the basic story line for his novels. He would put seemingly "good" people into difficult situations in which they were forced to wait —through times of combat, in anticipation of deadly bulls or during long despairing days adrift at sea. His thesis was that these scenes would enable us to see what people are really made of. The waiting does not break people, he claimed, but instead reveals them. In reality, this is precisely what waiting does—**it reveals character.**

IF THERE IS SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE 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	3
4 2nd Sun. in Lent 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 7:00 am HE 9:00 am SAINT NICHOLAS 9:00 am WOMEN'S COUNCIL 12:00 Noon HE 6-8:00 pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 pm JR. EYC	8 10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR 7:00 pm CHOIR PRACTICE	9	10 Change Clocks ! 
11 3rd Sun. in Lent 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 7:00 am HE 9:00 am SAINT NICHOLAS 12:00 Noon HE 6-8:00 pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 pm JR EYC	15 10:00 - 3:00 pm RED DOOR 7:00 pm CHOIR PRACTICE	16	17  St. Patrick's Day
18 4rd Sun. in Lent 7:30 am HE 9:00 am SS/AE CHOIR 10:00am HE 7:00 pm SR. EYC	19 7:00 am HE ST. JOSEPH 1:00 pm DOK	20 10:00 am HE HEALING SERVICE <i>Lunch Together</i>	21 7:00 am HE 9:00 am— SAINT NICHOLAS 12:00 Noon HE 6-8:00pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 pm JR EYC and St. Margaret's <i>Lunch Together</i>	22 10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR 7:00 pm CHOIR PRACTICE <i>Lunch Together</i>	23 <i>Lunch Together</i>	24
25 5th Sun. in Lent 7:30 am HE 8:30 am AG 9:00 am SS/ AE CHOIR 10:00 am HE 7:00 pm SR. EYC	26 7:00 am HE ANNUNCIATION 1:00 pm DOK	27 10:00 am HE HEALING SERVICE 5:00 pm VESTRY	28 7:00 am HE 9:00 am SAINT NICHOLAS 12:00 Noon HE 6-8:00 pm Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 pm JR. EYC	29 10:00-3:00 pm RED DOOR 7:00 pm CHOIR PRACTICE	30	31

A PRAYER REMINDER

Many times we fold our hands together to pray. Here is a "handy" craft that can help you remember what to include in your prayers.

What you need:

- 2 sheets of 8½" x 11" construction paper (different colors)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Crayons
- 1 piece of ribbon, yarn or string about 6-12 inches long
- Glue (white or glue stick)

What to do:

1. Trace your hand on one sheet of paper.
2. Cut out the traced hand.
3. Tie the ribbon, yarn or string around the pointer (index) finger.
4. Write a message on each finger:
(Pointer finger) God's guidance (pray for help to follow God's ways)
(Middle finger) Leaders in my life (teachers, pastors, etc.)
(Ring finger) Sick and old people
(Pinky finger) Myself
(Thumb) My family
5. Glue the hand onto the other sheet of paper.
6. Start with the ribbon finger and pray for God's help. Then pray for all the people on each finger.



Remember to Pray

There are many verses in the Bible that talk to us about prayer. Solve the puzzle below to see the lesson Paul teaches about prayer in Philemon 1:4. Think about your own life and your prayers.



Use the alphabet code to fill in the blanks, and then read Paul's message.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
 Z Y X W V U T S R Q P O N M L K J I H G F E D C B A

" R Z O D Z B H G S Z M P N B

T L W Z H R I V N V N Y V I

B L F R M N B K I Z B V I H"

... Philemon 1:4, NIV

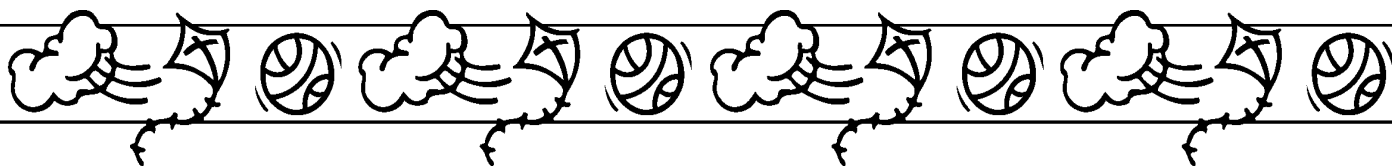
I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers.
 Answer:

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1 SOUTH TSCHIRGI STREET
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Crossed Keys

There have been many opportunities to talk to students about lyrics and the affect they have on our thoughts. The lyrics on radio right now are shocking. Sex, drinking, drugs, and young women are just some of the common themes in many of

FROM THE VESTRY

On April 24, 2006, our son, Tom, and his wife, Betsy, and her parents were in Dahab, Egypt, a village on the Red Sea, for a few days where they were victims of a terrorist bombing. It was a "spring break" type holiday for the Egyptians and the school in Cairo where Tom taught social studies to Egyptian teenagers was closed for the holiday.

Tom, Betsy, her father and step-mother had just arrived at Dahab and the beach area was crowded with tourists, mostly Egyptian families with children. They were hungry and were at a beachside café when the first of three bombs exploded. The blasts left over 20 people dead and nearly 100 seriously injured. All four of our family members were separated in the chaos of the screaming mob and all were wounded with Tom being the worst.

Back home, Bob and I were working late at my office that Monday evening. We recall being prompted to take a break to pray together for our kids. We arrived home around midnight to a phone message from Betsy's sister about the bombings. Many hours later we were informed that they had been taken to a small town hospital in the Sinai. We know it was only because of God's grace and guiding hand that they are alive. Now, after many surgeries in Germany and Denver, Tom is out of the hospital and into rehabilitation in Denver.

Bob and I want to extend our very sincere thanks to all of you who have supported Tom and Betsy, her parents, and our family in so many ways during the past 10 months. It is impossible to find words to express our gratitude for the out-pouring of compassion, for the prayers and financial help. I could add many pages to this Crossed Keys sharing with all of you the miracles and the pain and struggles. The need for prayer for healing continues as Tom has recently heard he has a very rare bacterial infection.

I would like to end this article with a portion of a letter Tom and Betsy wrote shortly before Christmas.

...Tom and I have given much thought to all that we have gone through since the night of the bombing, wondering how to write this letter. This past year can be seen as a mosaic of memories, thousands of moments both difficult and encouraging. This mosaic is made up of the many doctors, nurses and loved ones that stood over our beds with a comforting touch that let us know that it would be alright, that we would heal and overcome. It is made up of the incredible blessing of the right people showing up at the right time. It is made up of all the gifts, notes and prayers of encouragement that have sustained us. It is made up of the recognition that everyone has their own struggle and we are not alone in our own. It is made up of laughter shared, and also of inspiring stories of hope and strength. Most of all it is made up of the countless people that have come into our lives and the many acquaintances that are now, and forever will be, considered family. But just like a mosaic, you can only see the bigger picture from a distant perspective. When we step back to look at our mosaic, we see a beautiful scene of overwhelming gratitude.

With much love, Betsy and Tom South

Article contributed by Mary South, Vestry Member