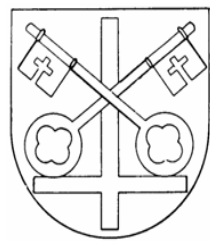


# Crossed Keys



May, 2008

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Dear Family and Friends of St. Peter's,

This is a month dedicated to completing; completing courses of life and ministry begun since December of 1992, and in some cases since June of 1988. I write "completing" where I originally thought to write "finishing." But in most cases, my relationships with our diocese, community and parish will continue in the future. They will not be finished, but they will be changed, and in order to affect that change, there must be completion.

On the diocesan level, it has been meaningful for me to receive correspondence from The Very Rev. Marilyn Engstrom, The Rev. Bob Eldan, and The Rev. Ann Fontaine, three of my earliest colleagues in the diocese. Marilyn and I played together on the flag football team of Trinity seminary, worshipped together, and began our ministries in Wyoming one year apart. Bob was my first supervisor in ministry. Ann was one of the first diocesan leaders I met at my first of 21 conventions at Rock Springs in 1988. All three have been great encouragers to me.

Since the 1940s, the ministry of St. Peter's has extended to Birney, Montana, and it has been my great pleasure to share in that ministry. The church and the people gathered there have become part of my heart, and it will be difficult to complete my relationship with a service there on May 11 at 3:00 p.m. The friends in Birney have extended an invitation to any of you who might wish to join us for the service and carry-in super at the FL Ranch, hosted by Nan Carrel.

The youth community has been central to my life at St. Peter's, and of course May is the month for celebrating our graduates, first with our graduation banquet (Sunday, May 18, 6:00 p.m.) and then our Graduation Sunday celebration (May 25, 10:00 a.m. service).

With Naomi a part of the graduation celebration, all of our family will be in Wyoming for her graduation, and for that reason my commissioning as a naval officer will take place while they are all here.

I would like to extend an invitation to you all to attend the commissioning at St. Peter's on Tuesday, May 27, at 7:00 p.m. It is my great desire to be "sworn in" in the context of the worship of our church family. I invite all active duty, reserve and retired military personnel to wear uniforms to the service. A reception will follow in our parish hall.

My last vestry meeting as Rector of St. Peter's will be at 5:00 p.m. on the same day as the commissioning. This meeting will complete a long and wonderful relationship with the leadership of our church. As will all other vestry meetings, anyone is welcome to attend.

Sunday, June 1, will be my last Sunday as the Rector of St. Peter's. I will complete this ministry by sharing my perspective of our parish in light of Scripture and our time together. I hope to see you all there, to share my heart with you, and together to complete a blessed journey, begun and directed by the Lord.

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that **he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.** (Philippians 2:3-6)*

Peace+

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## KEVIN'S CORNER...

Dear St. Peter's Church Family,

It's been quite a busy month in the wake of Fr. Dave's recent announcement. I have had the opportunity to speak to many of you who are wondering what is going to happen to St. Peter's and what will become of me. I would like to use this occasion to share with you some of my thoughts and plans for the future.

When Fr. Dave steps down as of June 1, my official title will remain Associate Rector. I will continue to serve the congregation as I normally would anytime Dave is away on mission or vacation.

The vestry will then begin a discernment process in conjunction with the Bishop's office. It is apparent to me that the vestry is doing excellent work in the wake of Dave's upcoming departure. I am fully confident that they will be able to accomplish all that is necessary and asked of them by the Bishop's office while they follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. In turn, they will make every step known to you as those steps become increasingly clear.

Normally, a bishop would not allow a congregation to consider their Associate to become the next Rector. There are several very good reasons for this policy. Some of these include the notion that once an individual has served as an Associate at a particular place, he/she is always seen in that light. Breaking out of that mold can be a difficult chore. A second reason is that a new leader often has the opportunity to initiate a handful of directional changes that he/she feels would be helpful and healthy for the congregation. The mindset is that this same opportunity wouldn't necessarily carry over to an Associate because that individual is seen as a continuation of the previous leadership. These are just a couple of the reasons why Bishops often forbid a congregation's Associate from applying to become their next Rector.

Bishop Caldwell, however, has indicated that he would not automatically veto me. He has

stated that he is interested in the vestry undergoing a process in which they will evaluate leadership (both past leaders, as well as what they believe they will need in the future). His concern is to honor the voice of this congregation.

Regardless of the decisions which will be made in the future, I feel it is important for you all to know that I consider it a great honor to serve here in Sheridan. Your vitality and desire to grow in your knowledge and love of the Lord have been an inspiration to me from my first day here back in December of 1999. I have been moved by your compassion, driven by your faithfulness, and humbled by your grace. My prayers for you are filled with joy, hope, and faith in the God who has been so faithful to St. Peter's. I am certain that he will guide this church in the coming transition.

In the meantime, let us turn our collective attention to saying goodbye to Fr. Dave. It will be very important for us to do this well, both for our best interest and for his. I know that I am profoundly appreciative for his input in my life. He has been an invaluable mentor to me, a fine man to partner with in the ministry of the gospel, and a good friend as well.

This is an exciting time for St. Peter's. We have the opportunity to send off one of our own to serve our country! While changes are in our future, my sense is that the Lord, who has always been faithful to St. Peter's, will continue to demonstrate that faithfulness in leading us in the coming months. In the meantime, we'll continue to pray for the vestry and leadership of St. Peter's to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading and guidance.

By Grace,

Kevin Jones

### Our 2008 Vestry Members

**Tina Mediate**  
**Sr. Warden**

**Marcus York**  
**Jr. Warden**

**Gary Benson**  
**Maria Black**  
**John Chase**  
**Debbie Ebia**  
**Mike Evers**

**Jack Fritz**  
**Penny Hoffman**  
**Theresa Miller**  
**Cara Nicholls**  
**Randy Stout**

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

**To the Parish family from the Senior Warden, Tina Mediate:**

Change is inevitable in life, as it is in the life of the church. What we must keep in mind, that will not change, is why St. Peter's was built in the first place, and that is to glorify God!

When a change in clergy occurs, the Episcopal Church has a process for the Vestry to follow. Which is where we are now...meeting with the Bishop, learning our options, listening to you, gathering information, sharing information, and praying that we may follow God's plan with careful discernment.

With this change, do not fear, for that is what comes when we take our focus off of God and his plan for this church. With the task ahead, we will face challenges and it is up to us to face them with the promise of a new beginning. I know I'm not telling you anything that the clergy of this church has not already shared, but only reminding you of what we have learned from them. For we all know you cannot grow in a continual place of comfort. Let myself be an example of that; when you take the call of serving on the Vestry you never know what it will bring. I have to admit I'm finding myself spending more time in prayer and reading my Bible since I began serving. I have found that your spiritual life will take on a whole new meaning in the process (but that's a different article). For now, we need to hire a new Rector. We do have a tremendous undertaking ahead, but let me say that a change is required on both sides. We simply cannot put our own agenda's and expectation's on a new Rector that will not allow that person to do what he is called to do and that is to serve God and His church.

St. Peter's is very blessed with the clergy we have, and when you have such love and respect for all of them emotions have a tendency to run high during times like this. Father Dave's leadership has been nothing but awe-inspiring! And, as we prepare to help him celebrate his new calling, it is with a roller coaster of emotions. *"Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:7-8* We owe much to Father Dave who has taught us the word of the Lord and has "fed us our spiritual food" in our Christian walk.

So as we embark on this new adventure I ask you for your prayers and to keep an open mind in this process of changing leadership, and at the same time remembering our baptismal covenant... (BCP, pg. 304)

The Vestry that is currently serving this church is a group of diverse opinions, personalities, and gifts, but the thread that binds us together is the love of this church *"as we work for the common good"* (1 Corinthians 12:7). We will not pretend to have all the answers, but together we will work to seek them. *For the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone (Exodus 18:13-27)*. St. Peter's has 12 Vestry members that are willing to give their time to listen to you. I encourage you to be in contact with us to share what is on your heart.

In Jesus' Precious Name,

Tina Mediate

P.S. The names, addresses, phone numbers and email information to all our Vestry members are listed for you on page 8.

# Here's what's happening!

This month Dorothy Goodwin and I are teaming up to write about teenagers and working. Below is a poem describing the work of two teenagers from our youth group.

## **Easter Vigil**

**Two boys, warm, in the dim-lit barn,  
Listen to blizzard blasts against the walls,  
Watch at midnight over two new calves,  
One just pried loose from frozen ground,  
Trying now to live,  
One opening the heifer's womb,  
Trying now to come.  
New life struggling to be born.  
They watch, and doze, drink 3 pots of coffee, and hope.**

**by Dorothy Goodwin  
April 2008**

Do you have something around your place that needs some extra attention? This summer EYC is heading back to the Sonshine music festival in Willmar, MN. Many of our students are too young to get a job and are looking for opportunities to pay their way. Give me (AnDy) a call @ 751-5625 and I will get one of these students out to your place. Depending on the type of work and the quality they give I would recommend giving between 6-10 dollars an hour.

Last year I had a conversation with a student about his music collection. He had decided to trade out his secular hard rock music for a Christian music collection. This was a big decision since he had a large music collection and had spent a lot of money and time finding rare CD's. It was because of the Sonshine festival he was able to find many other bands that have a positive Christian message.

Thank you,

AnDy Menth

**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.



To the family and friends of Ted Buckley, Barbara Hufford and Dave Parker.

**Perseverance**

The confrontation between a river and the surrounding rocks will be won by the river—not because of its strength, but because of its unwavering constancy.

**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

**The Crossed Keys**

is the monthly publication of St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

Articles and ads are due by the 15th of the month.

1 South Tschirgi Street  
Sheridan, Wyoming 82801  
Phone: 307/ 674-7655  
Fax: 307/ 674-0867  
Sandy Collins, Editor  
[stpeters@fiberpipe.net](mailto:stpeters@fiberpipe.net)  
The Rev. David L. Duprey,  
Advisor  
[www.stpeterssheridan.com](http://www.stpeterssheridan.com)



*Congratulations to the young members of our congregation who are graduating! No doubt they look forward to the next phase of their lives with excitement, anticipation and perhaps a little apprehension. We hope these words, adapted from Phillips Brooks, will serve graduates well as they embark on their journeys:*

***“Do not pray for an easy life; pray to be a stronger person. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers but for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you will be the miracle. Every day you shall wonder at yourself and the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of God.”***

**A Mother's Prayer**

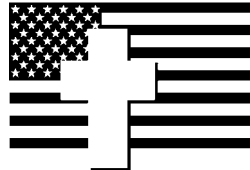
***Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of my children. Help me rely on you for guidance, patience and even-temperedness throughout my days. I want my children to love you, worship you and serve you as best they can. Grant me the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives. Prevent me from provoking my children to anger and from manipulating or nagging them. Fill our household with abiding love and respect, and help us all be united in purpose to do your will. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen***

***“My mother had a great deal of trouble with me, but I think she enjoyed it.”***  
**—Mark Twain**

**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

**MEMORIAL DAY**



One Memorial Day, some children were asked what the holiday meant to them.

“That’s the day the swimming pool opens!” answered one eager boy. What he didn’t realize or appreciate was that he can freely go to the pool because more than one million people have put their lives on the line to preserve American’s democracy. Many of them have died so citizens of other countries might also enjoy the privileges of political, social and economic freedom.

Memorial Day is our opportunity to pause and remember the sacrifices of many of America’s best citizens. They made the supreme sacrifice on our behalf, so please remember to honor these heroes on May 26th.

**Remember to Remember**



2008

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*

June 2008							1	2	3			
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	7:00 am HE Ascension Day (Memorial Chapel)	7:00 am HE St. Philip and St. James	Violet Show Friday and Saturday			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8:00 am DOK					
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	7:00 pm Jr. EYC 7:00 pm Bible Study (Library)					
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR					
29	30						7:00 pm Choir Practice					
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	7:30 am HE 9:00 am SS/AE 10:00 am HE 7:00 pm Sr. EYC	10:00 am HE Healing Service (Memorial Chapel)	9:00 St. Nick's/ Women's Council	10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR	7:00 pm Choir Practice	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10:00 am HE Healing Service (Memorial Chapel)	9:00 St. Nick's 7:00 pm Jr. EYC 7:00 pm Bible Study (Library)	10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	7:30 am HE 9:00 SS/AE 10:00 am HE 7:00 pm Sr. EYC	10:00 am HE Healing Service (Memorial Chapel)	9:00 St. Nick's 7:00 pm Jr. EYC/ St. Margaret's 7:00 pm Bible Study (Library)	10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR	7:00 pm Choir Practice	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	7:30 am HE 9:00 am SS/AE 10:00 am HE 7:00 pm Sr. EYC	<b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> 	10:00 am HE Healing Service (Memorial Chapel)	9:00 St. Nick's 7:00 pm Jr. EYC 7:00 pm Bible Study (Library)	10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR	7:00 pm Choir Practice
		5:00 pm VESTRY	7:00 pm Commissioning of Rev. David Duprey				7:00 am HE The Visitation of The Blessed Virgin (Memorial Chapel)					

# A HEART FOR Mom

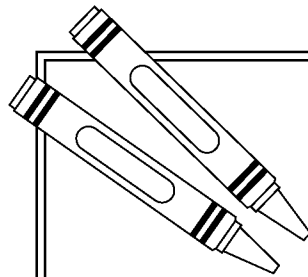
Show Mom how much you appreciate all she does for you with this "heartfelt" craft. Give it to her on Mother's Day.

## What you need:

- Floral stem wire
- Dried cranberries (about 100, depending on the wire's length)
- Pliers
- Decorative ribbon (about 12 inches for each craft)
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Hole punch
- Crayons or markers

## What you do:

1. With an adult's help, thread cranberries, one at a time with no space between them, onto the straight wire.
2. Bend the wire into a heart shape.
3. With pliers, twist the wire together at the top of the heart.
4. Tie ribbon to make a loop atop the heart (so your mom can hang it up).
5. Fold the paper into a card, and write a message of love and gratitude to your mom. You might want to add a verse from Proverbs 31 that best describes her.
6. Punch a hole in the card. Attach it to the ribbon that's tied to the heart.



Just for **KIDS**

## A Mother of Noble Character

In Proverbs 31 (NIV), God provides the best example of a godly woman. Write the number of the sentence in the space next to the character quality it best describes.

- 1 "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies" (v. 10).
- 2 "She brings [her husband] good, not harm, all the days of her life" (v. 12).
- 3 "She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands" (v. 13).
- 4 "She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks" (v. 17).
- 5 "She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy" (v. 20).
- 6 "When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet" (v. 21).
- 7 "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised" (v. 30).

- |                 |            |               |
|-----------------|------------|---------------|
| ___ Caring      | ___ Godly  | ___ Prepared  |
| ___ Hardworking | ___ Hearty | ___ Priceless |
|                 | ___ Kind   |               |

Answers: 1. priceless, 2. kind, 3. hardworking, 4. hearty, 5. caring, 6. prepared, 7. godly

## Bible Quiz

Right after God granted Solomon his request for wisdom to govern, the wise king faced a dilemma about a baby. King Solomon ingeniously solved a dispute between two women who both claimed to be the child's mother (see 1 Kings 3:16-28).

But who was the mother of Solomon?

- A. Zipporah
- B. Abigail
- C. Queen of Sheba
- D. Bathsheba

(See 2 Samuel)



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**Tina Mediate**, 426 W. Mtn. View Dr. Sheridan 674-9498— [tina@thepowderhorn.com](mailto:tina@thepowderhorn.com)

**Penny Hoffman**, 7 River Rock Rd. Sheridan 672-2569— [basketb@fiberpipe.net](mailto:basketb@fiberpipe.net)

**Mike Evers**, 2055 Summit Dr. Sheridan 672-8104— [mevers9@bresnan.net](mailto:mevers9@bresnan.net)

**Marcus York**, 69 Decker Rd. Sheridan 672-2658— [marcusyork@wbaccess.net](mailto:marcusyork@wbaccess.net)

**John Chase**, 128 Canvasback Road Sheridan 752-2876— [jhchase@fiberpipe.net](mailto:jhchase@fiberpipe.net)

**Randy Stout**, 8 Peralta Drive Big Horn (82833) 674-6384— [stoutlog@gmail.com](mailto:stoutlog@gmail.com)

**Maria Black**, 1745 N. Heights Way Sheridan 674-7305— [mariab@bresnan.net](mailto:mariab@bresnan.net)

**Cara Nicholls**, 102 N. Linden Sheridan 672-6573— [caran@fiberpipe.net](mailto:caran@fiberpipe.net)

**Gary Benson**, 2121 W. 11th St. Sheridan 672-2140 [gbenson2@bresnan.net](mailto:gbenson2@bresnan.net)

**Theresa Miller**, 1330 Birch Street Sheridan 674-4194— [theresamhorton@hotmail.com](mailto:theresamhorton@hotmail.com)

**Debbie Ebia**, 565 W. Works Street Sheridan 674-8920 [debia33@hotmail.com](mailto:debia33@hotmail.com)

**Jack Fritz**, 183 Trail Drive Ranchester (82839) 655-9628— [jfritz@wwcengineering.com](mailto:jfritz@wwcengineering.com)