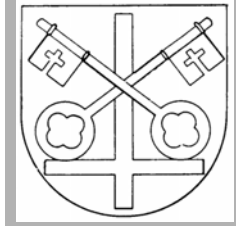


CROSSED KEYS



SEPTEMBER 2008

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Kevin's Corner . . .

Dear St. Peter's Church Family,

On July 22nd a great many of you gathered in the parish hall to celebrate the conclusion of our self-reflection process. We enjoyed a great barbeque and then shared the findings of the interviews which were conducted throughout June and early July. By now, you have most likely read Tina Mediate's letter indicating the findings of the interviews, as well as the vestry's intention to call me to be your next rector. The entire process has been extremely humbling for me. It is with profound joy and gratitude that I have wholeheartedly accepted this call.

The last few months in the wake of Dave's resignation have been a bit of a blur. It was great to see the amount of people who were able to participate in the Appreciative Inquiry process as we examined more fully who we, as a church, have been and what character traits we hope to carry with us into the future. Transitions can be difficult, but this one really has been remarkably seamless. There are a number of people we must thank for helping us in this process. First of all, Bishop Caldwell has been extremely supportive of both the vestry of St. Peter's and of me, personally, in this process. I am thankful for his

Secondly, your vestry has done an outstanding job of stepping up and making things happen. Often the process for a church to find and hire a new rector takes 18 months or more. Because of the diligence, commitment and hard work of the vestry here, we are already moving ahead and are now in the process of searching for a new assistant. It's conceivable that we'll be able to have a full staff team in place by the one year mark of Dave's departure from us.

Finally, I need to thank all of you who have offered kind words to me throughout this transitional period. I have felt absolutely overwhelmed by the support and encouragement which has been extended to me by numerous members of our congregation. Your embrace of me here has made this the place where I want to serve our Lord. Thank you.

So, on October 8th, Bishop Caldwell travels here to install me as your next Rector. I ask you to join us in the church that evening at 7:00 P.M. I'm sure we'll have a fantastic time together in worship and celebration.

As the fun-filled summer begins to turn to fall, we strike up our regular calendar

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officially announce the kick-off of our new **Sunday Night Service**. We have experimented with the new service all summer and now feel confident that we have most of the kinks worked out of it and are ready to officially launch it! We will do that on **September 7th at 5:30 P.M.** with a fellowship barbeque immediately following the service. If you haven't had the opportunity to join in one of our Sunday Night Services yet, this may be a great time to come and try it, meet some new friends, and stick around later for some dinner. It is a more relaxed, child-friendly service which lasts roughly an hour. Hence we expect to be eating shortly after 6:30. Circle that date on your calendar and plan on joining us!

The **Alpha** course will officially begin again in September as well. We are planning to start Tuesday, September 16th. We will begin with dinner at 6:00 p.m. and will be finished with the evening by 8:00. Alpha is a great way to explore what exactly it is that we believe as Christians, why we believe it, and how you can continue to grow in your spiritual life. If you have never been to Alpha, have some questions about the Christian faith, are new to St. Peter's, or know someone that you think would benefit, please come. If you'd like more information, don't hesitate to call me at 674-7655. I have to say that every year I look for new and exciting things to keep me stimulated and growing in my faith. Alpha is one of the best things I've found at pumping life and vibrancy into my walk with Christ.

Back in March around 20 of us gathered at the church on one Saturday to spend some time in prayer. We had a few hours of guided meditations and followed that up with a luncheon. It was a great time so we decided we'd try to do that a couple of times per year. Since the initial prayer retreat was near the vernal equinox, we

September 20th from 9 A.M. to noon at the church. We'll gather in the parish hall and begin with morning prayer and finish with lunch around noon. If you have never done that kind of thing before, I'd encourage you to give it a try. It is a great chance to spend some time listening to God, pouring out your heart, or just in quiet contemplation. The Lord spoke to many of us during that day in March. My expectation is that he's longing to meet us again in September.

We are also planning another Juarez missions trip. This one is tentatively slated for October 19th through October 24th. If you are interested in coming on this trip, please contact me soon so we can reserve a spot for you. Our hope is to do at least two trips per year. The need there is great, and Casas por Cristo has struggled this year with a number of churches having cancelled due to the increase in travel costs and other concerns. I'd love to bring you along.

Once again, thank you for making St. Peter's a place that is open to the Lord's guidance and leading. It is truly a joy and a privilege to be involved in the gospel ministry which is going on here, shoulder to shoulder with you.

By Grace,

**ST. PETER'S
EDUCATIONAL FUND**
Interest-free loans are available (up to \$5,000) for members of St. Peter's pursuing college or trade-



**VESTRY MEMBERS
2008**

**Tina Mediate
Senior Warden**

**Marcus York
Junior 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
members and
for their
ministry to St.
Peter's.**

**THE VESTRY
MEETS ON THE
4TH TUESDAY
OF THE MONTH**



FROM THE VESTRY . . .

During the Appreciative Inquiry interviews, when I thought of the experience I felt most engaged at St. Peter's, Wednesday mornings popped into mind. As you enter, the place is humming. Kevin is in and out, on the phone, on the computer, or counseling. Shannon is answering phones and dealing with a steady flow of people. Gail is everywhere-multitasking-keeping the building at its best, doing books and helping everyone who is there. Jeannene is practicing the organ and the Library ladies are gathered taking care of books. Upstairs the craft ladies have been busy all year with glue gun and needles in hand. You are always welcomed with fun conversation, flavored coffee and homemade goodies. Downstairs the Red Door ladies are going through boxes and sacks preparing for the big day on Thursday. Outside, Marcus York and "crew" are landscaping around the Hornbeck Memorial. It is now a serene and lovely area, a tribute to a wonderful lady. During the school year, the Women's Council meets to plan, give, and help. There is an amazing amount of energy, cheerfulness, and goodwill. You always leave a better person and have a better day. And this is just Wednesday mornings! These Wednesday people are just a part of the "army" of volunteers at St. Peter's. We've been blessed with so many talented and giving people. I always feel the entire Church is lit up with God's grace as I leave. God's work is being done in touching, reaching, healing and helping so many people.

In September, the activity picks up even more. We will be celebrating the Bishop's arrival to install Kevin as Rector, and the Hornbeck Memorial will be ready to dedicate. Thanks to Nan Wertman's generosity, cushions have been ordered for the pews.

A new era will begin at St. Peter's under the leadership of Kevin. We will grow and expand in the things we do best. I think everyone feels the future looks bright for us. God Bless you, Kevin!

Peace,
Penny Hoffman

FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN . . .

Sadly, the willow tree on the Chapel lawn needs to be removed. It is split, and recently a large portion of it was lost in a wind storm. The removal will take place in the near future.

FROM THE YOUTH:



What you are looking at is one of my favorite pictures from our Sunshine trip last month. Like Sam, many of the students spent the warm, muggy Minnesota nights outside of their tents until the sun and music woke them. This particular night I woke up around four or five in the morning to the sound of rain hitting my tent, which continued for a few hours.

As I got out of my tent, I noticed many of the kids had retreated to their tents except for a few of the boys who had pulled their sleeping bags under a sun canopy that we set in the middle of the camp site. It was only few minutes before the whole campsite was up and talking about the rain and how they managed to keep dry.

The guys who were under the sun canopy next pointed at sleeping Sam and told me how he had spent the night in the rain. I asked the guys “Why didn’t you guys wake him up? He’s got to be soaking wet by now!” A few of them pitched in right away telling me that they tried multiple times to wake him up. Not only did Sam respond to them but looked up into the sky and decided to lie back down. Once again they tried to get him to move under the canopy, but their attempts were useless.

It was at this point that Sam woke up and told the group that he must have had a bad dream that night because the inside of his sleeping bag and pillow were wet from sweating.

We could not stop laughing.

God bless,

AnDy

Jr. EYC meets at 7 p.m. Wednesdays

&

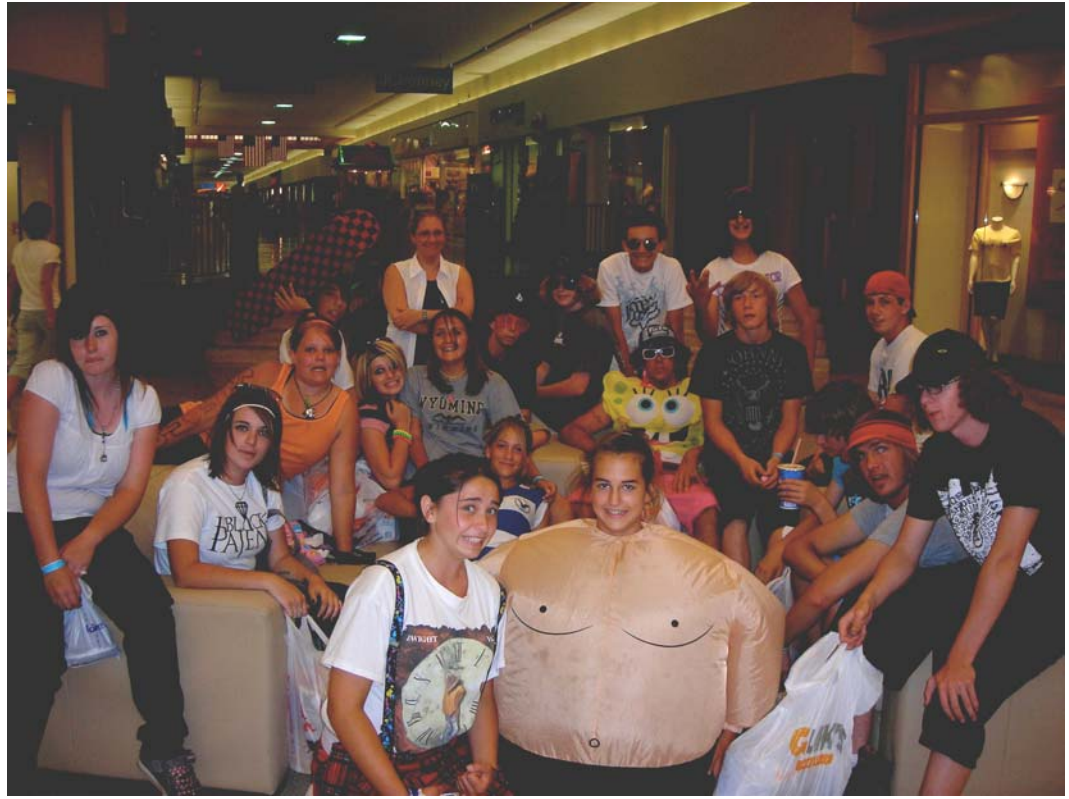
Sr. EYC meets at 7 p.m. Sundays
in the Parish Hall basement.

~

For more information, contact Andy
Menth at 674-7655.

**Hanging
out at
the mall
before
the
concert.**

**Notice
the giant
guy in
the
Sponge
Bob suit
and the
small
girl in
the
Sumo
suit.**



**Typical
Minnesot
a
Sonshin
e
mornin
g rain
storm.**



Crossed Keys

ST. PETER'S MINISTRY FOR WOMEN . . . Sarah Menth will be leading a new Bible study by Beth Moore: Jesus The One and Only. The study will run for 11 weeks in the parish hall beginning Monday, September 8th, from 7 P.M. to 8 P.M., and ending November 17th. The schedule for the remaining 10 Mondays is as follows:

6 P.M. to 7 P.M. - Showing of the previous week's DVD

7 P.M. to 8 P.M. - Showing of the current week's DVD

8 P.M. to 9 P.M. - Discussion in small groups

For more information, contact Sarah at 751-4933 or sarahmenth@yahoo.com.

BITS FROM BERT . . .

Hopefully by now, you've either seen blessed, heard about or perhaps even been a recipient of one of our first twelve Blessed Prayer Shawls made by members of this newer ministry of St. Peter's. Throughout the summer months, knitters and/or crocheters have been producing more shawls. A big "thanks" for all of your hard work, "Producers"! Watch in the near future for another Sunday blessing time as we have enough even now to "go public" again. **How can you help?** Continue to pray for this ministry. **Donate** washable, acrylic yarns you might have unused in your home and **contact me, Gail Boyer or the church office** if you know someone who has a need for a Blessed Shawl. They are a "hug" from God's people to someone who might need a tangible show of His Love! Lastly, if you would like to make a shawl for someone — unknown to you perhaps — don't hesitate to call me or even check out September's St. Margaret's meeting. Age (or even sex) is no barrier to learning how to knit or crochet. Perfection is NOT a requirement, and there is no deadline to have the shawls completed.

Have you sometimes wondered about how our church got to be as it is today, what our roots are in foundation, where did some of our liturgies come from, why do we do what we do, or even how did God begin with His people in worship? **Beginning September 7th, at 9 A.M.**, we can explore together some of these questions, and others, in a fall Sunday Adult Education Time. Drop in as you can to check it out. Bring your

ST. MARGARET'S GUILD will resume its monthly meetings on Wednesday, September 17th, at 7 P.M., in the Library. The program for that evening is "Summer Sharing and Fellowship," as well as small-group instruction for those interested in knitting or crocheting Prayer Shawls. Dust off those knitting needles and crochet hooks (supplies and extra "utensils" will be provided)! All are welcome.

ST. NICHOLAS GUILD . . . On September 17th, at 9 A.M., members of the Guild, and anyone else who would like to tag along, will meet in the church parking lot and proceed to Betty Harrison's beautiful mountain cabin for a day of Christmas bazaar planning, fellowship and lunch. Everyone going is asked to bring either a salad or a dessert. Betty will furnish the meat. For more information, contact Betty Harrison at 672-9414.

The **CROSSED KEYS** is the monthly newsletter of St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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Shannon Conraads, Editor

Rev. Kevin Jones, Advisor

OFFICE HOURS

9 A.M. to NOON

1 P.M. to 4 P.M.

WOMEN'S COUNCIL . . .

All women of St. Peter's are invited to join the Women's Council. The Council meets on the first Wednesday of every month, September through May, at 9 A.M., in the parish hall. The first meeting for the new season is on September 3rd. Current officers are Waneta Thirlwell, President; Amy Bouley, Vice President; Pat Chappell, Secretary; and Linda Ernst, Treasurer. It is at its December meeting that the Council gifts most of its proceeds to many local, national, and international charities. Last year that amount totaled nearly \$25,000!

You are invited to join any of the other women's groups as well:

Wedding Guild. The wedding guild is the liaison between the Altar Guild, the bride and groom, and the rector. Its members assist at the wedding rehearsal, as well as before, during and after the wedding. Contact Vickie Farrington (752-6396) if you are interested in joining.

Teas and Receptions. This is an on-call group that hosts after-funeral luncheons, celebratory events, and consistory lunches, to name a few. Teas and Receptions is comprised of a few talented and hard-working women, and new members would be most welcome! If you are interested in helping, contact the church office.

St. Nicholas Guild. These ladies are the elves who supply the handcrafted items for the Christmas bazaar. They meet Wednesday mornings—winter, spring, summer, and fall—at 9 A.M. in the craft room located on the second floor of the parish hall.

St. Margaret's Guild. With the exception of the summer months, St. Margaret's Guild meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Library. the monthly meetings include devotions, an interesting program, dessert, and fellowship. For more information contact Connie Wilson (672-7388) or Karen Luszcz (672-5159).

The Red Door. The Red Door sells donated items inexpensively every Thursday all year long; it is a thriving enterprise! In addition to the ladies who tend to the cash register and customers on Thursdays, there is a group of behind-the-scenes ladies who sort and stock new merchandise. They work very hard to make The Red Door a favorite thrift shop in Sheridan. Weekly, the choir room is filled with new donations. Helpers are welcome. Contact Vickie Farrington (752-6396) or Barb Hansen (674-6855).

Prayer Shawl Ministry. This group of women knits or crochets prayer shawls, which are then blessed and given away. For more information contact Bert Thompson (674-8578).

Parish Hall Mercantile. The Mercantile sells Bibles, The Book of Common Prayer, and Christian jewelry, as well as many other items. All proceeds are donated to charity through the Women of St. Peter's. For more information, contact the church office.

Library. As well as the expected librarian duties, the ladies of the Library read, then sort and shelve the many books that are donated. All of the books are Christian based, whether they be works of fiction or books for research.

Daughters of the King. The Daughters of the King meet weekly to update their confidential prayer list, and they pray daily for those listed on the prayer list. If you would like to joining the group, or if you have someone you would like to add to the list, contact Donna Kuehne (672-5042).

Altar Guild. The Altar Guild is responsible for preparing the elements of the Eucharist every Sunday and on holy days. It is also responsible for cleaning the church and chapel altars, caring for altar linens and vestments, and ordering supplies and flowers. It decorates for special services and prepares the church for funerals. As well, the altar guild prepares candies and dozens of cookies for the Christmas bazaar.

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FROM FATHER DAVE . . .

Dear Family of St. Peter's,

After an unforgettable summer of preparation and time spent with family, I am now departing for Officer Development School (basic training for officers) and Chaplain School. My training will begin on September 1 and will conclude just before Thanksgiving. Those addresses are enclosed here. After concluding school I will report to my permanent duty station. I have been assigned to the II Marine Division, which is a division of the II Marine Expeditionary Force, which is based at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Information on II MEF and II Marines is readily available on the internet, if you would like to learn more.

I have thus delivered most of my furniture and belongings to a storage facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina, until I arrive. The remainder of my day-do-day possessions are kept in my car, which is waiting for me in Connecticut for my return there on August 31. I will continue to keep St. Peter's informed of my moves and deployments, and I certainly appreciate all your prayers, especially for the men and women serving in our Armed Forces.

I am honored to call St. Peter's my home church; my Zion; my Jerusalem; the Antioch Church from which I have been sent on this mission. You have seen me through many transitions, crises, and celebrations. You truly are a family to me. With utmost appreciation I hold you in my heart and pray God's richest blessings to be with you.

Sincerely yours in Jesus' love, David+

While at Officer Development School (Sep 1-Oct 3):

LT David L Duprey, CHC, USN
Officer Training Command, Newport
ODS Class 08070
291 Kollmeyer Street
Newport, RI 02841-1644

While at the Naval Chaplains School (Oct 6-Nov 21):

LT David L Duprey, CHC, USN
Naval Chaplains School
Class B09010
114 Porter Avenue
Newport, RI 02840