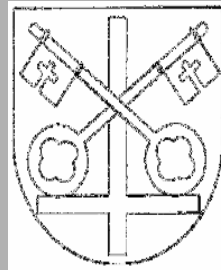


# Crossed Keys



July, 2007

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Dear Families and Friends of St. Peter's,

Our work as priest is largely centered in dialogues with parishioners and community members. Their dialogues often begin with a starting place of a sermon or event, and often have much to teach us. Below is one such dialogue.

Dear Dave,

After attending funerals this week for two women who have touched my life in both childhood and adulthood, and you did such a great job bringing out their characters. I thought how sad a person does not know how much people care about them while they are alive! And you are the very person who can encourage us all to do so! Thank you for your comforting services. I know the services offered comfort to many who do not attend a church on a regular basis. I heard that comment a lot today at Arline Wood's services. I was so proud of St. Peter's outreaching as ever to the community. Thank you for your devotion of time and energy to bless all the people who needed the assurance that Jesus Christ is our Savior and Kind.

May the Peace of our Lord be with you.

Vesta Gale

Dear Vesta,

I would like to include this note of yours in my next Crossed Keys article. May I include it as written? I think it would be great to pass along. Thank you, as always, for your grace and encouragement.

Peace,  
David+

Dear Dave,

O( course you may use it however you wish. I do not mind your using my name. I do not do well getting up in front of

others, expressing my thoughts, but I can write like crazy! I knew you would be able to do something god with it. In fact, I believe you did something similar in one of your sermons when you had us zero in on a fellow parishioner, and think of how they may have influenced us, and pray for that person. I zeroed in on a special friend, remembering the influence both she and her mother had on my life, and in fact, I went one step further and wrote her a note, telling her how much she and her mom had been an influence on my life.

So, I guess you really planted the seed last year. I just had to have back-to-back services to bring the thought back.

Thanks,

Vesta

What a wonderful reminder of the importance of appreciating the lives of one another. Have fun making those phone calls, writing those cards, and taking advantage of the slower pace of summer to enjoy an iced tea with a dear friend or family member. Bless them with your words and presence, and bless them in the name of the Lord.

*John 15:9-13 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.*

Peace,

David+

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From the Vestry

Mail Cover



**Our 2007  
Vestry Members**

**Rick Rossa**  
**Sr. Warden**

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

**Dan Alsup**  
**Maria Black**  
**John Chase**  
**Mike Evers**  
**Penny Hoffman**  
**Tina Mediate**  
**Cara Nicholls**  
**Shari Peddicord**  
**Mary South**  
**Randy Stout**

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

**KEVIN'S CORNER...**

Dear St. Peter's Church Family,

I got a puppy for Father's Day. I wouldn't necessarily recommend buying a puppy for Father's Day, unless you clear it with the Father of the new puppy first. My family did clear it with me first, so this new puppy is good for us. In fact, Liam keeps telling me, "I think this puppy is going to be a great thing for our family." I think he's right.

He's a yellow Lab. If you've ever seen a yellow Lab puppy, you'll know that he's got the cute thing down. He's actually a beautiful dog, complete with the supersized puppy feet, the sad puppy eyes, the chew-on-everything-puppy-attitude. But I've noticed something about him that has really humbled me over the past few days.

I've taken to walking him in the mornings and in the evenings. He's a little too small for a leash right now, so I just walk. The amazing thing, to me, is that he just follows right behind me. He keeps his eyes on me, he doesn't get ahead of me, and when I stop he sits down at my feet and looks up at me (and sometimes he whines a little bit while staring at me.) This is what I want him to do when he's older, walk right alongside me and sit when I stop, so every time I stop and he sits, I scratch his head, rub his nose with mine, and tell him what a good boy he is. Then I start walking again.

Last night he started to get a little distracted, wandering off when he smelled something interesting in the grass. But when I called him and whistled, he immediately looked up, saw I was a little far, and he ran over to catch up. Again, when he did this, I petted him and praised him.

OK, so here's my analogy. I think we're a lot like my puppy, when it comes to our spiritual life. Jesus referred to us as sheep. I'm thinking we're a lot like puppy bird dogs. I know that, like Hobie, I'm prone to wandering off, getting distracted and heading out on my own. And while sometimes it is definitely inten-

tional, sometimes it's simply the result of me discovering. I pick up a scent and I start to follow it. Before long, I'm far away from where the Lord is heading.

I think this is fairly common. It was for the disciples back in their day. Jesus' direction and our direction are vastly different, UNLESS we make the conscious and deliberate decision to keep our focus on the Master.

Luke records this interaction between Jesus and the disciples in Chapter 16.

*21 Then Jesus made it clear to his disciples that it was now necessary for him to go to Jerusalem, submit to an ordeal of suffering at the hands of the religious leaders, be killed, and then on the third day be raised up alive.*

*22 Peter took him in hand, protesting, "Impossible, Master! That can never be!"*

*23 But Jesus didn't swerve. "Peter, get out of my way. Satan, get lost. You have no idea how God works." 24 Then Jesus went to work on his disciples. "Anyone who intends to come with me in the driver's seat; I am. Don't run from suffering; embrace it. Follow me and I'll show you how. 25 Self-help is no help at all. Self-sacrifice is the way, my way, to finding yourself, you true self. 26 What kind of deal is it to get everything you want but lose yourself? What could you ever trade your soul for? 27 "Don't be in such a hurry to go into business for yourself. Before you know it the Son of Man will arrive with all the splendor of his Father, accompanied by an army of angels. You'll get everything you have coming to you, a personal gift. (From Eugene Peterson's The Message)*

Continued from page 2.

No one wants to suffer, at least no one in his/her right mind. So the Disciples' hesitancy here is completely understandable. Yet, our reception of Jesus' promises to us depends upon our letting Jesus lead us (as Peterson puts it). We belong to him and ultimately we know that his leading will end up in our best interest. This might mean some suffering in the short term, but it absolutely means life, peace, fullness, and so much more in the long term. We can't be followers of Christ and refuse to take his direction.

It's pretty simple, really: Followers follow. Period.

I'm learning a lot from my puppy: how easy it is to wander away, how necessary it is to follow closely at the Master's heels, how good it feels to receive love from the one you want to please.

Seems like God had lots more in store for me for Father's Day than just a puppy. Makes me wonder who's really going through obedience school.

Have a great summer.

By Grace,



Kevin Jones

### "Cinco de Junio"



The annual dinner and silent auction to raise funds for the next house building trip to Juarez, Mexico, was once again, a huge success! Thank you all for the donations given and thank you to the bidders and especially a huge thank you to Mary Carson who fed the group incredible Mexican food! Approximately \$2500 was collected for the next mission. If you are interested in making the next trip, call Fr. Kevin at the church for answers to your questions.



We are still hoping for someone to spend a bit of time working in the flower beds along the sidewalk. A little effort in this ministry would make a huge difference so if you have a love for things green, (except those pesky weeds), your efforts would be appreciated.



## YOUTH GROUP

Around six months ago some of the youth pastors in town and I started a podcast called Y-PUC, (Youth Pastors United in Christ). A podcast is an internet based radio show that can be downloaded and listened to on your computer or mp3 device. We decided to do the podcasts as a way to unite our youth groups and the kids in the community. It is a fun show we host, talking about current teenage issues. Some of these issues have included: teenage drinking, being “two faced”, the benefits of snowboarding compared to skiing, cutting and other self-abuse issues, Chuck Norris, Myspace and other dangers of the internet and many other random topics. We also have a devotional time set aside where we encourage the students to grab their Bibles and take part in a study based on the topic for the show. Each podcast show is about an hour long and students are encouraged to email in questions and topics they would like to hear discussed.

This last month had some big changes to our line up. All of the other Youth Pastors that were creating the momentum in the podcasts moved out of Sheridan. Also all of the podcast equipment left with the completion of our last show. Because of all the excitement and energy we have received from the kids, I didn't want to end the podcast. So, I recruited Ray Berig, the music pastor from First Baptist Church, to join. Together we will be recording our first podcast here in the next few weeks. This is only possible because of the generous donation for recording equipment from the Women of St. Peter's. A giant thank you to them for supporting and encouraging our youth ministry!

This last week we made listening to our podcasts even easier. If you have internet, then check out our web site <http://web.mac.com/ypuc>. At this site you will find information and directions about how to listen to the show. If you would like to email us any questions or comments please do at the following address [ypuc@mac.com](mailto:ypuc@mac.com).

Thank you for all your support.

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.



To the family and friends of Ruth  
Rader and John Tracy.

**Special Dates Ahead**

Independence Day      7/4  
Transfiguration        8/6  
St. Mary the Virgin    8/15  
St. Bartholomew       8/24

**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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The Rev. David L. Duprey,  
Advisor  
**www.stpeterssheridan.com**

***"Decomposing" Takes Time***

*Jesus, who often escaped to a deserted place with his disciples, knew that decomposition takes time. The making of good, rich, life-giving compost, for example, takes time. "You can't hurry compost for the same reason you can't hurry love and you can't hurry a soufflé," explains James Gleick, author of Faster. "The biochemistry has its own inherent pace." Likewise, grandchildren take time, learning a foreign language takes time, the testing of new drugs takes time, and vacations that truly enable us to rest, relax and recreate take time.*

*Disciples of Jesus today should recognize the need for the deserted place. It's a timeless place—a place in which long books can be read, epic movies can be watched, endless prayers can be offered, and deep thoughts can be pondered. It's a place of Sabbath-keeping and rest, renewal and relaxation, silence and inspiration. It's a place to be at ease, to become rich and fertile and mature.*

—Adapted from *Homiletics*

**Pastoral Appreciation**

A pastor was near a group of his church members when he overheard them talking about various ministers who had served the congregation. His ears perked up when he heard an older man say, "Whenever someone asks me, 'Which of our pastors did you like best?' my answer is always, 'The Pastor we have at any given time is my favorite.'"

The pastor who was listening in breathed a quiet sigh of relief.

God sends each pastor to us with his or her own set of spiritual gifts, and God works through each pastor's gifts to bring us God's blessings.

**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**

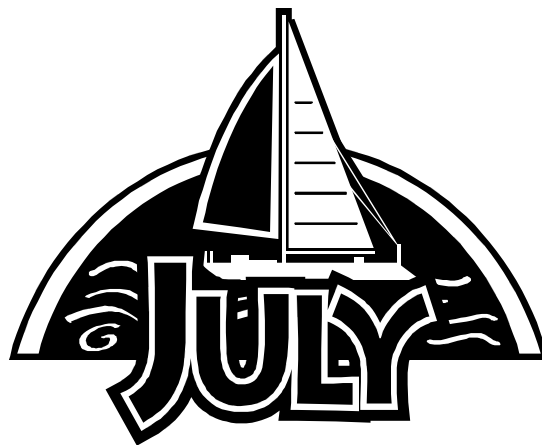


**Sacred Thirst by M. Craig Barnes, pg. 215**

When my daughter was a little girl, I took special delight in the presents she would give me. It didn't matter that she bought the gift with my money or used my wrapping paper to wrap it or rode to the store in my car to get it. I was still filled with joy to open the present and receive a symbol of her love for me. But the best part, every time, was looking into her eyes as she saw my delight. I delighted in her delight! So, too, it doesn't matter where we work, or with whom we establish a relationship, or how we try to package our lives—it all belongs to the Father anyway. It still gives Him enormous joy when we eat our food with joy and drink our wine with a merry heart, simply because He delights in our delight.

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



2007

*Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday*

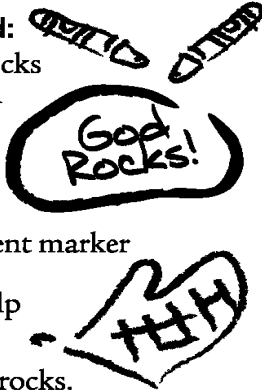
<p>1</p> <p>7:30 am HE</p> <p>9:00 am SS/AE</p> <p>10:00 am HE</p> <p>7:00 pm Sr. EYC</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1:00 pm DOK</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 am HE Healing Service</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00 am HE Independence Day</p> <p>9:00 am St. Nick</p> <p>7:00 pm Jr. EYC</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00-3:00 pm RED DOOR</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7</p>	
<p>8</p> <p>7:30 am HE</p> <p>9:00 am SS/AE</p> <p>10:00 am HE</p> <p>7:00 pm Sr. EYC</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 am HE Healing Service</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 am St. Nick</p> <p>7:00 pm Jr. EYC</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR</p>		
<p>15</p> <p>7:30 am HE</p> <p>9:00 am SS/AE</p> <p>10:00 am HE</p> <p>7:00 pm SR. EYC</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 am HE Healing Service</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 am St. Nick</p> <p>7:00 pm Jr. EYC</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR</p>	<p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p><i>CHASSEZ</i></p> <p>"Dad's 'Joy, joy, joy, joy down in his heart' turned out to be indigestion."</p>	
<p>22</p> <p>7:30 am HE</p> <p>9:00 am SS/AE</p> <p>10:00 am HE</p> <p>7:00 pm Sr. EYC</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 am HE St. Mary Magdalene</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00 am HE Healing Service</p> <p>5:00 pm Vestry</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:00 am HE Ember Day</p> <p>9:00 am St. Nick</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 am HE Saint James</p> <p>10:00—3:00 pm RED DOOR</p>		
<p>29</p> <p>7:30 HE</p> <p>9:00 am SS</p> <p>10:00 am HE</p> <p>7:00 pm Sr. EYC</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10:00 am HE Healing Service</p>				

## THERE IS NO ROCK LIKE OUR GOD

Try this fun summer craft that transforms rocks into beautiful waxy jewels! This craft can remind you that "there is no Rock like our God" (1 Samuel 2:2).

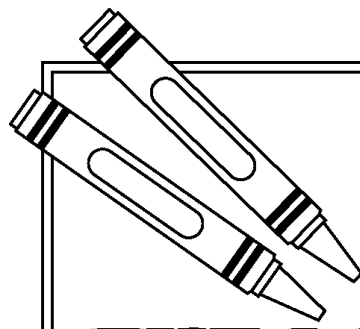
### What you need:

- Smooth flat rocks
- Aluminum foil
- Oven mitt
- Newspapers
- Old crayons
- Cookie sheet
- Black permanent marker (optional)\*
- An adult to help



### What you do:

1. Clean off the rocks.
2. With an adult's help, set the oven to 225 degrees and bake your rocks for 15 minutes on a foil-lined cookie sheet.
3. While the rocks bake, remove the paper wrappers from the old crayons.
4. With an adult's help, use an oven mitt to remove the rocks from the stove and set them on a pad of newspapers. The rocks will be VERY HOT, so be careful!
5. Draw on the stones with the crayons. The heat will melt the crayons into vibrant liquid wax. For a swirl effect, hold each crayon against the rock in one place to create a puddle of color, and continue to swirl the color around with the end of the crayon.
6. \*After the rock cools, use the marker to write "God Rocks," "The LORD is my Rock" or "My God is my Rock."



Just for **KIDS**

## THE LORD IS MY ROCK

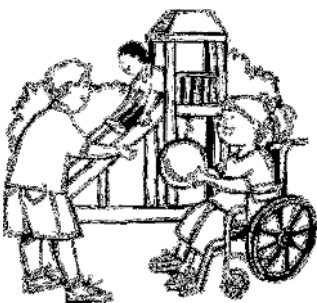
Skipping stones, rock climbing and hiking are all fun summer activities. What do they all have in common? Rocks! Look at Psalm 18:2 to see the strength in the ONE rock we can depend upon.

Search the puzzle for the **BOLD** words from Psalm 18:2, and circle them. The words **MY** and **ROCK** only need to be found once.

"The **LORD** is **MY ROCK**, **MY FORTRESS** and **MY DELIVERER**; **MY GOD** is **MY ROCK**, in whom I **TAKE REFUGE**. **HE** is **MY SHIELD** and the **HORN** of **MY SALVATION**, **MY STRONGHOLD**."

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

## GOD ROCKS.



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**Crossed Keys**

## **St. Peter's Church—More than just a Sunday Service**

The new buzzword that seems to be going around non-profit organizations is IMPACT. Impacting individuals can be defined as providing opportunities for individuals.

The opportunities include, but not limited to creating a sense of belonging, boosting self-esteem, creating confidence, etc. St. Peters impacts individuals through the gospel. Jesus impacted our lives and we as members of St. Peters can impact the lives of others.

Going back to the title "More than just a Sunday Service", St. Peters is open seven days a week, its impact on our congregation, community, and the world is demonstrated through the numerous ministries within the church. There is a prayer list in which each person is prayed for by someone every day, Andy's youth group is open to anyone who wants to attend, altar flowers are delivered to the hospital after every Sunday service, and the spiritual and financial outreach goes on essentially 24 hours a day. This is only a fraction of the impact St. Peters has on individuals and communities.

Being a member of St. Peters ties us in to all of these ministries that impact individuals. I encourage everyone to stop by the church during the day to see the activity going on. Remember, when you tell someone you are a member of St. Peters Episcopal Church, it does not mean that you just attend church on Sundays but that you are part of an organization that probably impacts or will someday impact, either directly or indirectly, the life of the person in front of you.

Dan Alsup  
Vestry Member

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