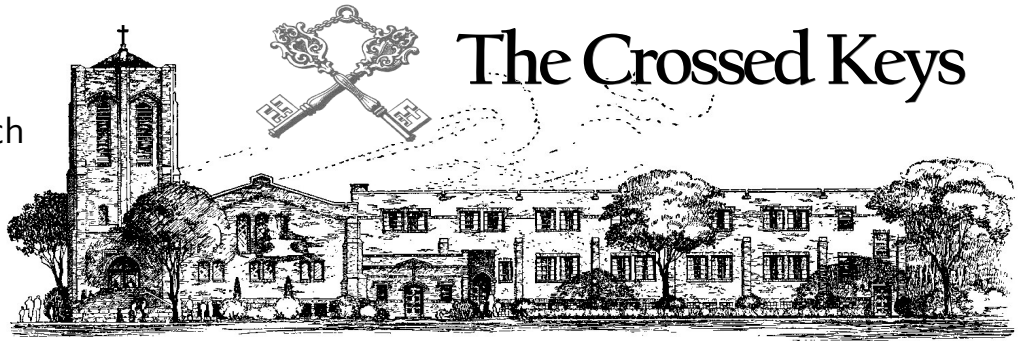


St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
1 South Tschirgi  
Sheridan, WY 82801



# The Crossed Keys

*A word from Fr. John Inserra*

Email: frjohn@stpeterssheridan.com Cell: 763-3220

**The 2015 Annual Meeting of St. Peter's will be Sunday January 25th, 2015  
after the combined 9:00 am service.**

The Annual meeting serves 5 purposes for a parish.

### 1. Elect new members to the Parish Vestry

The Episcopal Church is not a congregational church, in the sense that every decision made has to be voted on by the entire congregation. The structure of the leadership in the Episcopal Church is representative (much like the US government), meaning that the parish elects members of the Vestry to serve as their representatives in parish leadership, and entrusts them to make decisions on their behalf. Each year 4 people are elected to a 3 year term on the Vestry. This year the nominating committee (the members who are leaving the Vestry) and the rest of the Vestry have prayed, discerned and talked with people in the congregation who have expressed interest and have 4 names for your consideration for Vestry this year.

- Donna Kuehne
- Rick Thompson
- Patrick Henderson
- Suzie Schatz-Benson

I would ask you to pray for and encourage the candidates for this year's Vestry. Per our bylaws, nominations from the floor can be made but I would encourage anyone interested in Vestry to speak to me, or Senior Warden Sharon Bedard, before that time as serving on Vestry is a ministry that should be prayerfully considered and not a whim.

### 2. Elect delegates to the Annual Diocesan Convention

Each year we use the annual meeting to elect delegates to the annual Diocesan Convention. It is hard to forecast who will be available and able to attend Diocesan Convention in October this far ahead, but this is the procedure our bylaws call for. This year the Convention will be in Evanston on October 2-4. I would ask that any member wishing to serve in this capacity please let me know or Karon in the church office. This year we need 3 delegates and 3 alternates willing to serve.

### 3. Present the Parish Budget to the Congregation

It is ultimately the responsibility of the Vestry (as the elected leaders of the parish who are entrusted with this responsibility) to construct and pass a budget for the parish. In the interest of financial transparency that is our mandate as the Body of Christ, the budget is presented to the congregation in order that questions may be addressed and issues be clarified so that everyone can know what we are doing with what God has blessed us with.

.....Continued on page 1

Fr. John's article from page 1

Our goal this year is to have the budget available for you to study/peruse by January 18th, 1 week before the Annual Meeting.

4. Hear/read reports from various ministry and committee heads

Again, in the interest of transparency and openness, the Annual Meeting is a time to hear/read what has been going on in the various groups and committees around the church. If you are a Committee Head, please have your report into Karon in the church office by Friday January 17th.

5. Propose revisions/amendments to the parish bylaws

Although this year there is no revisions or amendments to the parish by-laws up for consideration, this would be the venue where that would be done. Sometimes as times change, and National and Diocesan canons develop, parish by-laws need to be amended to remain current.

I remind you all that the Annual Meeting need not be long or boring, but can be a time where we come together for one service (one of the 3 times a year we do so) share a meal together and discuss in respect the church we love.

The Annual Meeting is January 25, 2014. We will have one service at 9am with the meeting over brunch following the service.

Your Priest,

  
John+

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## Vestry

Meeting: The January Vestry meeting has been changed to January 14, in preparation for the Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held in the conference room at 6:00 p.m.

The Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 25, following the only service (9:00 am).

### **The Women of St. Peters Christmas**

**Bazaar:** The efforts from this year's bazaar made a net profit of approx. \$10,000. The women were able to distribute funds in the area of \$33,000 into our community, to state, national and international organizations!  
What great news!

### **Christmas Families Outreach:**

A great big Thank You to the generous people of St. Peter's Church. You provided a lovely Christmas for three families who would otherwise have gone unnoticed. Your generosity brought cash donations of over \$1,000. (all of which I did not spend). Gifts of elk and deer meat for all three families, gifts of bread, jam and jellies for all three families, a whole bag of stocking stuffers for all three families. I cannot tell you how grateful these families were, it was a heartwarming experience. Fr. John and I will sit down soon to decide what to do with the remaining monies. If you liked this program this year, please let one of us know. If you would like to do it again next year, let one of us know. Thanks, too, to the wrappers who made the packages look so lovely. St. Peter's family, you are the best. God Bless each one of you, may your new year generously bless you. Thanks again!

Sandy Tharaldson



# The Story at St. Peter's – January, February, and March: Sunday 9am & Thursday 4:30pm

## January – Review and Catch Up

Week of January 4 and Week of January 11 – No meetings Sunday or Thursday, New Years and Fr. John away

Sunday January 18 and Thursday January 22

The Story Review – From Adam and Eve to King Solomon.

What does it mean for Christians to read the Old Testament? What questions are raised? Where have we been so far? Where are we headed?

Sunday January 25 – Annual Meeting – One service at 9am – No study this week on Sunday

Thursday January 29 – Catch up week – Chapter 13: The King Who Had it All

## February and March - Old Testament Part 2– The Fall of the Kingdoms, the Rise of the Prophets, Israel's Exile and Return

February 1 and 5, 2015 – Chapter 14: A Kingdom torn in two

February 8 and 12, 2015 – Chapter 15: God's Messengers – the Prophets

February 15 and 19, 2015 – Chapter 16: The Beginning of the End

February 22 and 26, 2015 – Chapter 17: The Fall of the Southern Kingdom

March 1 and 5, 2015 – Chapter 18: Daniel in exile

March 8 and 12, 2015 – Chapter 19: Return Home

March 15 and 19, 2015 – Chapter 20: Queen of beauty of courage

March 22 and 26, 2015 –Chapter 21: Rebuilding the Walls

### Holy Week

March 29 and April 2, 2015 –Holy Week - No study

April 5 and 9, 2015 – Easter Week – No study

## A New Season

This past Sunday was the last installment (for now) of the family worship service. I would like to say a little bit here about why that service is ending, what I've learned in the process, and what I plan to do going forward.

The original intent for the family service was to provide a shorter, more casual, and more "user friendly" service as an entryway into the church for those who were on the fringes or entirely outside of it. I especially had families with young children in mind. Many of the families here with young children have enjoyed the service and the way their kids have been able to participate and follow what is going on. We have also had some new families that have tried out St. Peter's as a result of the service.

There are a few things, however, that have caused me to carefully consider whether it might be time to try something different. For one thing, the numbers at the family service have often been smaller than I had expected and made up of families that would probably be here even if the 10:00 service were the only one on offer. It isn't that numbers are the most important thing, but that resources of time are limited and putting together the family service each week absorbs a significant amount of time that could be put to use in other ways. In addition, the general absence of the kids and their families from the 10:00 has had an impact on the feel of that service that many have noted. Related to this is the concern I have heard from people both in the 10:00 and the family service that this arrangement has made it more difficult to sustain a sense of community between the two groups. A third thing is that my involvement in the family service has meant my lack of involvement in the 7:30 and the 10:00, which affects my ability to connect with those who attend those services. Finally, I realized that the most significant fruit of the family service was happening in the Sunday school time following the service rather than in the service itself. In consideration of these things, and with much prayer and consultation with the leadership of St. Peter's and the families involved, I have decided to make this transition.

What have I learned? The most important thing I already wrote about last month (so go have a look at your old Crossed Keys if you would like to see a fuller explanation), and that is the central importance of Christian community. Going forward, I plan to be very intentional about using the Sunday school time and other occasions to continue to build this community that the family service has helped to establish.

I have also come to appreciate the importance of finding ways for our children to enter into worship in a form that is accessible to them. One of the conversations John and I (and some others) have already started having is how to provide a venue for this. One possibility is to design a time of worship for the kids that would happen in the chapel during the beginning of the 10:00 service. If you are interested in taking part in this conversation, I'll be having an informal meeting right after the 10:00 service on January 18th. Please come and share your thoughts.

Continued top of page 5....

Dr. John Milliken ( A New Season) continued...

There is always a danger of discouragement when something new is tried and does not succeed in the way we hoped it would. I hope you don't feel that way and want you to know that I certainly don't. Though the family service did not accomplish what I expected it to, it accomplished something else--the formation of community--that I actually think is more important. I am very positive about the future of St. Peter's and excited to see what God will build in our midst.

God bless,

John

Operation Christmas Child

For January Operation Christmas Child will be receiving Reusable Grocery Bags and Synch Sacks (draw strings).



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The Women's Bible Study: The Good and Beautiful Community study begins Tuesday, January 6th, from 12 Noon to 1:00 p.m. (held in the church library). For book order information contact the church office. No Child Care until summer.

**Pledge Cards:**

If you haven't turned in a pledge card please consider doing so. The Budget Planning Committee will be meeting on the January 14th to plan for the coming year.

Your giving is appreciated!

Did you know that Wyoming is #1 per capita in the United States for suicide rates? We experience 29.6 deaths per 100,000 residents and exceed the US average by nearly 2.5 times the national rate of 12.6 deaths per 100,000(CDC: 2012 data). In Sheridan County alone there were 13 deaths by suicide in 2013.

The Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming has dedicated efforts to join the national, state, and local community response to preventing suicide.

QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer. Join others in a free 2 hour educational class enabling you to identify at risk people and becoming part of the solution towards saving a life.

(RSVP to St. Peter's at (674-7655) or Sydney Rowe, LCSW at (307)620-9995



## St. Peter's Ministry Schedule

December Vestry Greeter: Cara Nichols

	Lay Readers	LEM's	Ushers	Acolytes
January 4 Lessons & Carols	7:30 Asmus's 10:00 One: L. Greenough Two: J. Eisenach Three: S Peddicord Four: S Peddicord Five: Jim Bedard Six: Sharon Bedard Seven: Fr. Meyer	A: Juanita Smith B: Jeannene McKnight C: Juanita Smith D: Peggy Sorvik	Carolynn & Rick Dowdy Dorothy Goodwin Frank Smedley	Bobby St. John Maria Black Joe Eisenach
January 11 First Epiphany	7:30 Sharon Bedard 10:00 Linen Greenough Lynne Outlland	A: None B: Linen Greenough C: Juanita Smith D: Peggy Sorvik	Anne & Darracott Vaughan Karen Ferguson Geri Roth	Nate Haworth Joe Eisenach Maya Fritz
January 18 Second Epiphany	7:30 The Clarks 10:00 The Vaughans	A: None B: Darracott Vaughan C: Juanita Smith D: Donna Kuehne	Sandy Tharaldson Mary Lee Stopka Stan & Shari Peddicord	Bobby St. John Joe Eisenach Maria Black
January 25 Third Epiphany	9:00 One Service & Annual Meeting Laura Galloway Isabel Wallop	A: None B: Juanita Smith C: Juanita Smith D: Donna Kuehne Westview: Phil Dorsch	Cara Nicholls Sarah Mentock Liz & Rick Rossa	Quinn Heyneman Kate Alsup Joe Eisenach

For any questions or changes contact Juanita Smith at 673-4928.

Fr. John Inserra and Dr. John Milliken will be out of the office from January 2nd -January 11th. For emergencies contact our Senior Warden, Sharon Bedard. Sharon's number is listed below.

Sharon Bedard Sr. Warden  
655-5761



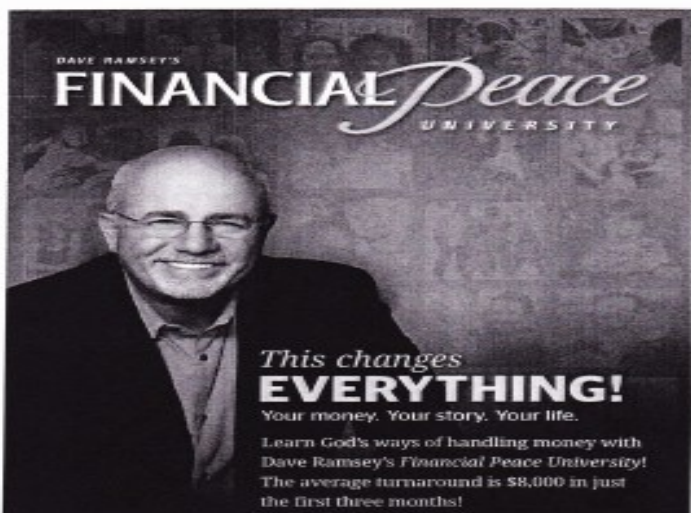
Cara Nicholls Jr. Warden  
672-6573



# Calendar Of Events January 2015

HE: Holy Eucharist \* HS: Healing Service \* SRS: Sugarland Ridge \* WBS: Women's Bible

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 7:30 HE 10:00 Christmas Feast of Lessons and Carols	5 No Handbell Practice	6 10:00 HS 12:00 WBS 1:00 SRS	7 Women of St. Peters 9am	8 Red Door 10-3 Choir 6:30 pm	9	10
11 7:30 HE 10:00 HE	12 Handbell Practice 6:30	13 10:00 HS 12:00 WBS	14	15 Red Door 10-3 Choir 6:30 pm	16	17
18 7:30 HE 10:00 HE	19 Handbell Practice 6:30	20 10:00 HS 12:00 WBS	21 Vestry 6:00 p.m.	22 Red Door 10-3 Choir 6:30 pm	23	24
25 9:00 One Service Annual Meeting	26 Handbell Practice 6:30	27 10:00 HS 12:00 WBS	28	29 Red Door 10-3 Choir 6:30 pm	30	31 QPR Training 9-11 am Referenced on Page 4



There will be two classes to choose from:  
 Tuesday, 12:30-2:00 pm, Jan 13-March 10  
 Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 pm Jan 14-March 11  
 Call 672-9779 to register or for information.

**Held at First United Methodist Church of Sheridan.**

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ONE SOUTH TSCHIRGI STREET  
SHERIDAN, WY 82801



**St. Peter's Staff**

Gail Boyer: Parish Administrator (674-7655)  
Karon Keahey: Parish Secretary (674-7655)  
Suzie-Schatz Benson: Music Coordinator (763-0525)  
Jeannene McKnight: Organist  
Kathy McNickle: Pianist

**Using Your Gifts and Talents** St. Peter's Choir & Handbell....The Music Ministry is a vital part of our 10:00 Worship Service. If you are interested in joining one or both contact **Suzie Schatz-Benson**.

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**St. Peter's Office Hours:** 9:00 am to 2:00 pm - Monday thru Friday

Generally someone is in the church until 4:00 pm. If the doors are locked a door bell is available at the main entry. Also, if you are not receiving your Crossed Keys or Sunday Bulletin via E-mail, please notify the office. Or, if you would like to sign-up for one or both call the office. Thank You!

Email: [stpeterssheridan@gmail.com](mailto:stpeterssheridan@gmail.com) Office Phone #: 674-7655