

A Voice in the Wilderness



ST. ANDREW'S IN THE PINES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

APRIL 2008

The Rector's Remarks

Wes Shields



I want to thank you all for your prayers and support these past few weeks with our new baby girl Emma. Your excitement has meant a lot to Laura and me and it really helps remind us what a church family is all about. The whole experience from getting the phone call, to the hospital, meeting the birth mother, and bringing her home has been different than I expected. We have felt the presence of God's grace throughout this process and I'm not sure what I expected to feel, but what I have felt is gratitude. Gratitude to God for this precious life he has given us and the incredible blessings that we have in general. Gratitude to the birth mother for making what had to be a very difficult decision. Gratitude towards the adoption agency and the hospital for being so easy to work with and last, but not least, gratitude to my family and especially to Laura for being by my side. I know I'm sort of rambling, but my point is that I expected one thing, but God had something else, something better in store for me. For whatever reason I was willing to listen this time. I was willing to accept God's grace and it was poured out on me in abundance. That's my simple message. God wants to give us good things, incredible things, but we have to be willing to listen and accept them.



Senior Warden's Report

Roz Leslie

We all remember the prayer we used to say as little kids--"God is great, God is good, let us thank Him for our food, AMEN!" Well let us say it for Elizabeth Miller and Jocelyn Moore who've decided to lead the ECW, at least through 2008 and Emma Sherry Shields, Wes and Laura's new bundle of joy! So here it goes--"God is great, God is good, let us thank Him for Elizabeth, Jocelyn, and Emma AMEN! Please support the ECW with your time, talent and prayers. The first 'event' is tentatively scheduled for April 21st--a baby shower for Laura and Wes. We have 'new' women members in our congregation who may need direction and support as they embark on their spiritual journeys and the ECW could play a vital role.

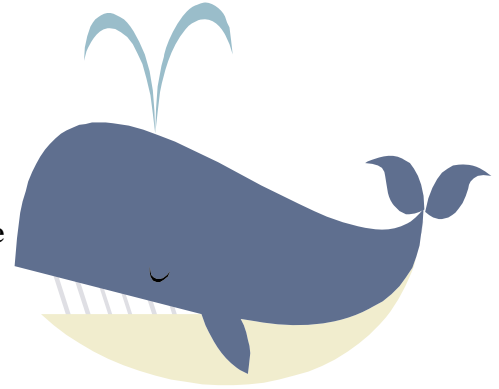
Roz Leslie

Remember me with favor, O my God.--Neh. 13:31

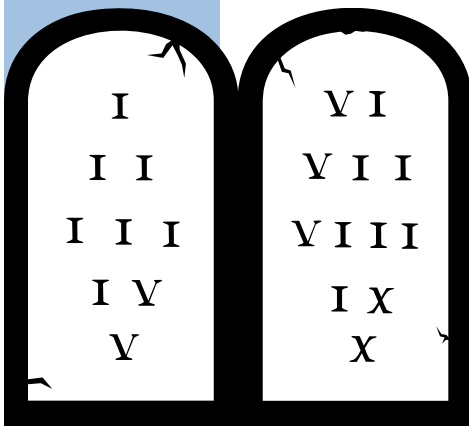
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7 Reasons Not To Mess With Children

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, 'When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah'. The teacher asked, 'What if Jonah went to hell?' The little girl replied, 'Then you ask him'.



A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, 'I'm drawing God.' The teacher paused and said, 'But no one knows what God looks like.' Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, 'They will in a minute.'



A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to 'honour' thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?' Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, 'Thou shall not kill.'

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, 'Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?' Her mother replied, 'Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white.' The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, 'Momma, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?'

The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture. 'Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say, 'There's Jennifer, she's a lawyer,' or 'That's Michael, He's a doctor.' A small voice at the back of the room rang out, 'And there's the teacher, she's dead.'

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, 'Now, class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face.' 'Yes,' the class said. 'Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?' A little fellow shouted, 'Cause your feet ain't empty.'

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray: 'Take only ONE. God is watching.' Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, 'Take all you want. God is watching the apples.'



APRIL 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Prayer Hour 12-1:00 pm	2	3 Wednesday School 3:15 pm Adult Christian Ed 5:45 pm Middle/High Youth 7:00 pm	4	5
Vestry Mtg. 7:00 pm	7 Retirement Center Service 10:30 am	8 Prayer Hour 12-1:00 pm	9	11	12	
	13 Retirement Center Service 10:30 am	14 Prayer Hour 12-1:00 pm	15	16	18	19
	20 Retirement Center Service 10:30 am	21 Prayer Hour 12-1:00 pm	22	23	24	25
27	28 Retirement Center Service 10:30 am	29 Prayer Hour 12-1:00 pm	30	26		

A Voice in the Wilderness

March Vestry Minutes, Cheryl Essington

Present: Wes, Roz Leslie, Jon Boroff, Donna Skinner, Jordan Vana, Cheryl Essington, Barb Wise, Shane Costello, Gail Grubb

Action items listed in red.

Roz led the meeting in prayer. Jordan agreed to lead the prayer next month.

Minutes of the last meeting: Jon moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting, Gail seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The reports show that we are ahead of budget for the year. Shane moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, Barb seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Senior Warden: Gail was asked about the Watchguard offer. Gail was also contacted about Fred Petersen's landscaping work for St. Andrew's. She will be in touch with the concerned party to let them know that a thank you will be forthcoming. Jordan will make sure there is a thank you in the next newsletter.

Rector's Report: Big Piney is doing well and they are enjoying their Lenten Dinners on Tuesdays.

Others: Roz was in touch with Steve Smith regarding a crosswalk across Juanna. It will have to be presented before the Town Council and we would likely have to share the \$1,000.00 cost. She will discuss the particulars with Steve and the Vestry will make a decision next month.

Audit Committee: Gail will talk with Barb Pape again, and Roz and Shane will join the Committee this year.

Church Clean up: Jon suggested June, and will chose a convenient day to be discussed at the next meeting. Also the aisle carpet in the sanctuary is in need of repair. Jon will look at the carpet and will report back to the Vestry.

Old Business:

- 1. Dance:** Tabled until next meeting.
- 2. Website:** Cally continues to update the website.
- 3. Watchguard:** Jon will obtain more information.
- 4. Easter Brunch:** Cheryl will make sign up sheets. Jordan will cook one ham, Donna will cook the other two.

New Business:

- 1. Vestry Retreat:** Margaret Babcock is a speaker on congregational development and dynamics of congregations, this is set for May 6th at White Pine.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

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ECW Kick-Off Event!



You're Invited!

What: ECW is hosting a baby shower!

When: Monday April 21st @ 6:30pm

Where: St. Andrew's

For Who: Emma Sherry Shields

Please bring a dessert to share!

RSVP to Elizabeth by April 20th at 367-4261

Baby Shower!

Items Emma could really use:

Kids Books

Pack & Play

Formula—Similac Advanced

Diapers/Diaper Wipes

Backpack Diaper Bag

Basic Baby Toiletries: Lotion/Shampoo/Etc.



A Voice in the Wilderness

Emma Sherry Shields—Newest Member

**Born March 13th in
Cheyenne, WY
Weighed in at 6 lbs. 13 oz.
on March 19th**



Wes and Laura are ecstatic & so very thankful for the excitement, prayers & baby supplies everyone has given them!



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Youth Group, Elizabeth Miller



We have had a great last couple of weeks at Youth Group! We hosted a ski weekend and had a great time! Friday night we went to PAC and held a short prayer service. On Saturday we spent the day up at White Pine skiing, saw a movie at the theater, and watched Pay it Forward. Our weekend ended with the Palm Sunday Service. Thanks to everyone who helped serve, chaperone, and brought food! It was all greatly appreciated!

Adult Christian Education, Elizabeth Miller

Adult Christian Ed will be starting to read the book “The Purpose Driven Life” by Rick Warren. If you are interested, it’s not too late to join us! We will begin on April 9th. Please call Elizabeth @ 367-4261 with questions or to order a book.

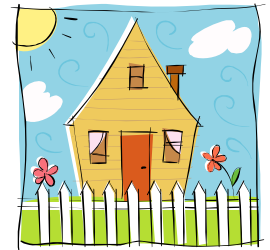


ST. ANDREW'S IN THE PINES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

APRIL 2008

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Dates to Remember:

Vestry Meeting
April 14th, 7:00 pm
St. Andrew's

Music Selection Group
Thursdays at 11:00 am
St. Andrew's

Prayer Group
Tuesdays at 12:00 pm
St. Andrew's

Retirement Center Service
Mondays at 10:30 am

Wednesday School
(4 years to 5th Grade)
April 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th
3:00-5:00 pm, St. Andrew's

Adult Christian Ed
April 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th
5:45 pm, St. Andrew's

Middle & High School
Youth Group
April 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th
7:00-8:00 pm, St. Andrew's

