

A Voice in the Wilderness



ST. ANDREW'S IN THE PINES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

APRIL 2007

The Rector's Remarks

Wes Shields



I thought you all might enjoy this. Some of it sounds very familiar.

(Adapted from an essay by Garrison Keillor)

We make fun of Episcopalians for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese. But nobody sings like them. If you were to ask an audience in Des Moines, a relatively Episcopalian less place, to sing along on the chorus of "Michael Row the Boat Ashore," they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Episcopalians, they'd smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach!And down the road!

Many Episcopalians are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony, a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by put-

(Continued on page 2)



Senior Warden's Report

Gail Grubb

First I want to thank Wes and the congregation for giving me this opportunity to serve St. Andrews. I enjoyed my first two years on the vestry and saw some very important and exciting things accomplished. I regret that I won't be around in this capacity to see the building of a new facility on our beautiful piece of property. That was a leap of faith and the people of our church have not let us down. They have been wonderful in their support of this effort.

Spring has arrived, or so it seems, and this provides us all with the hope of a beautiful summer.

Thank you to Fred and his crew for all you do around the church grounds. They are always beautiful and a source of pride for us all. It takes all of us working together to make St. Andrews a successful operation: from the church school kids and their teachers, the altar guild, Coralee and her choir, the acolytes, and the people who continue to clean and organize the kitchen and public working areas we provide. The Lenten dinners and discussions have been a great way to spend an evening and learn about our church and the people who attend. Thank you Wes for all the opportunities you provide us all with.

Let's continue to care for and love one and another. God bless you all and have a wonder Easter season.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Grubb/ Senior Warden

A Voice in the Wilderness

Rector's Remarks (cont.)

ting your little head against that person's rib cage. It's natural for Episcopalians to sing in harmony. We are too modest to be soloists, too worldly to sing in unison.

When you're singing in the key of C and you slide into the A7th and D7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment. By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other.

I do believe this, people: Episcopalians, who love to sing in four-part harmony are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you are dying, they will comfort you. If you are lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you are hungry, they'll give you tuna salad!

Episcopalians believe in prayer, but would practically die if asked to pray out loud. Episcopalians like to sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas.

Episcopalians believe their rectors will visit them in the hospital, even if they don't notify them that they are there.

Episcopalians usually follow the official liturgy and will feel it is their way of suffering for their sins. Episcopalians believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate.

Episcopalians feel that applauding for their children's choirs will not make the kids too proud and conceited.

Episcopalians think that the Bible forbids them from crossing the aisle while passing the peace.

Episcopalians drink coffee as if it were the Third Sacrament.

Episcopalians feel guilty for not staying to clean up after their own wedding reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Episcopalians are willing to pay up to one dollar for a meal at church.

Episcopalians still serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color of the season and Episcopalians believe that it is OK to poke fun at themselves and never take themselves too seriously.

And finally, you know you are a Episcopalian when:

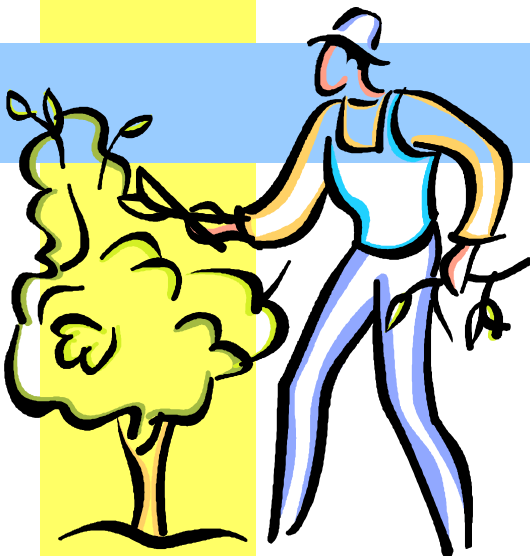
-It's 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.

You something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can.

Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee.

When you watch a Star Wars movie and they say, "May the Force be with you," and you respond, "and also with you."

And lastly, it takes ten minutes to say good-bye!



THANKS FRED!!!!

When you get a chance, take a moment to thank Fred Petersen and the crew from Petersen Landscaping for the great job they do with the church grounds. We all enjoy our beautiful yard and landscaping and they work hard over the summer months to make sure everything is trimmed, pruned, mowed, and weeded.

APRIL 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Palm Sunday 1	Retirement Center Service 2 10:45 am	Prayer Hour 3 12-1:00 pm	Youth Group Church 4 7-8:30	Seder Meal Maunday Thursday Service 5 7:00 pm	Good Friday Service 6 7:00 pm	7
Easter Sunday Brunch and Easter Egg hunt after service 8	Retirement Center Service 9 10:45 am Vestry Mtg. 7:00 pm	Prayer Hour 10 12-1:00 pm	Youth Group Church 11 7-8:30	12	13	14
15	Retirement Center Service 16 10:45 am	Prayer Hour 17 12-1:00 pm ECW Meeting 6:00 to 8:00 pm	Youth Group Church 18 7-8:30	19	20	21
22	Retirement Center Service 23 10:45 am	Prayer Hour 24 12-1:00 pm	Youth Group Church 25 7-8:30	26	27	28
29	Retirement Center Service 30 10:45 am					

A Voice in the Wilderness

ECW, Laura Shields

ECW, what's next?

In the last year ECW has had a Spiritual Gifts Retreat, a Summer Camp that consisted of service, spiritual, fundraising & outreach opportunities, attended a Russian Folk Ballet, distributed money raised thru the UTO boxes, provided Thanksgiving meals to the Food Basket, celebrated Christmas at the Pape's & held a Cribbage Tournament.


On Tuesday, **April 17th**, ECW will meet for a business meeting & first stage of our next service project (see ""Reach Out & Read").

Things we will do for the business part are:

- Develop ECW Mission Statement that will guide our decisions regarding fundraising, finance, outreach & spiritual enrichment opportunities.
- Coralee has agreed to chair the Pie Sale one more year so we will discuss issues related to this years' Pie Sale as well as its viability in the future. Do you want to donate all or a portion of the proceeds outside of our parish?

If so, please bring idea's for organizations we could support!

The table below contains a general summary of our financial activity in 2006. You are asked to prayerfully consider what you desire from ECW & how we can achieve those goals. A collective effort is needed to strengthen & energize this organization so that we may provide for the spiritual & financial needs of each other and those beyond.

 2006 ECW FINANCIAL ACTIVITY	Pie Sale Income	\$2287.45
	Pie Sale Expenses	\$583.05
	Parish Level Gifts	
	Mini-Storage/Trash PU	\$346
	Refreshment Supplies/Coffee	\$1189.23
	Flowers/Balloons for Parish members	\$207
	Cake/Food for the Confirmation Luncheon	\$126.52
	Food for lone's Appreciation Dinner	\$103.48
	Food for a Funeral Luncheon	\$29.90
	Local Level Gifts	
	Food Basket	\$600.00
	Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$686.23
	National/International Gifts	
ERD	\$1601.22	

A Voice in the Wilderness

ECW Service Project: Reach Out And Read!!

What is it?

Reach Out and Read (ROR) is a national non-profit organization that promotes early literacy during pediatric exams by giving new books to children and advice to parents about the importance of reading aloud.

Doctors and nurses know that growing up healthy means growing up with books. The ROR program provides the tools to help promote children's developmental skills and later school success.



Important
DATE!

ECW Business Meeting
& Service Project
April 17th
6pm-8pm
Parish Hall

Part 1

On April 17th, we will meet in the parish hall to:

Review the regulations

Prepare Book Drive boxes

The book drive boxes will then be taken to your places of work, volunteer or play for the duration of the book drive.

Part 2

On May 22nd, we will again meet in the parish hall to:

Package books for shipping

What can you do?

Labor: Attend WORK DAYS!

Publicity: Take a box somewhere you frequent & pick up when the drive is over.

Dollars: We will need money to ship the books.

Prayerful commitment to this project & those whose lives will be enriched.

For more information, check out their website at:

www.reachoutandread.org

A Voice in the Wilderness



All smiles at the Lenten Dinner and Discussion



LENTEN DINNER UPDATE

By Barb Wise



Groundwork III

Groundwork III is the Lenten Guide being used this year as folks come together on Wednesday evening at 5:30 for soup, bread, study and reflection. The intent of the meetings is to encourage personal and congregational growth and change, to engage in serious and joyful learning about service and expanding our horizons of church life.

This is the third year for the Groundwork series. The group attending the Wednesday evening sessions has been very faithful and the questions,

observations, and interactions have been thought-provoking and generally upbeat and hopeful for the future of St. Andrew's as well as the church at large.

Lent is a time of prayerful consideration, a time to ask how we can try to order our thoughts, actions and lives to understand and take deeply into our hearts the incredible ministry, the tragic death and then the joyful gift of Christ's resurrection. Then we are armed with sacrificial love and never-ending grace to live and proclaim the Gospel, to invite others to share in the joy, to try to assuage the spiritual hunger that is a part of who we are as members of St. Andrew's, as citizens of a great, but troubled country and of an entire global community in need of peace.

Next time, take an hour and a half, eat soup and bread, study and pray that we may be more faithful and loving children of God. It's a good thing to do!

A Voice in the Wilderness

March Vestry Minutes, Cheryl Essington

Vestry Minutes
March 12, 2007

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 and thanking congregation members for their contributions.

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 Juana. 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.

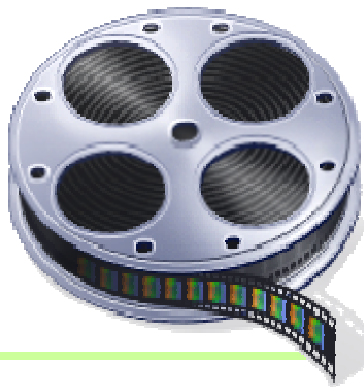
New Business:

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.

Youth Group, Katie McClure

Hope everyone had a fun and safe Spring Break and a joyous Easter!! St. Andrews High School and Middle School youth groups looked at the Easter Season through the view point of the movie Narnia. We watched the movie then discussed Jesus "trading" his life for our own sinful lives, much like the character Aslan did in the movie for Edmund. We also talked about the traits of the main characters and how we can relate to them. We discussed the character of the White Witch and if we encounter people like her in our lives. We wrapped up the month with a discussion about the Cross and what it means to us as Christians. Once again a big thanks to our leaders Sue, Jordan, Michelle and Wes for their continued support and commitment!



In April we will meet on the 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th. We will continue our Dare-2-Share

videos, and discussion about them. We also will be cleaning up trash somewhere in the community, if you have any suggestions pleas give Katie a call. As usual we will also have our fun nights. Anyone interested in joining us please call Katie at 537-5055 or Wes at 367-2674, we would love to have any new faces, adult or youth!





ST. ANDREW'S IN THE PINES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

APRIL 2007

St. Andrew's in the Pines Episcopal Church
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Pinedale, Wyoming 82941

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Dates to Remember:

March 28th
Lenten Dinner at 5:30 pm

April 1st
Palm Sunday

April 5th
Maundy-Thursday
Seder at 5:30 pm
Service at 7:00 pm

April 6th
Good Friday
Service at 7:00 pm

April 8th
Easter Service
Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt
following the service

April 9th
Vestry Meeting 7:00 pm

April 9th-13th
Church Office Closed

April 17th
ECW Business Mtg. &
Service Project
6-8 pm at the Church

