

A Voice in the Wilderness



ST. ANDREW'S IN THE PINES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JANUARY 2007

The Rector's Remarks

Wes Shields



This is a letter that was received by Jon and Sheryl Boroff from one of Kristen's college friends who now works at Our Little Roses home for girls in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. This is one of the places that Marilyn and Betty visited while they were in Honduras and it is a facility that our diocese helps to support. We thought you might be interested in hearing more about what goes on down there.

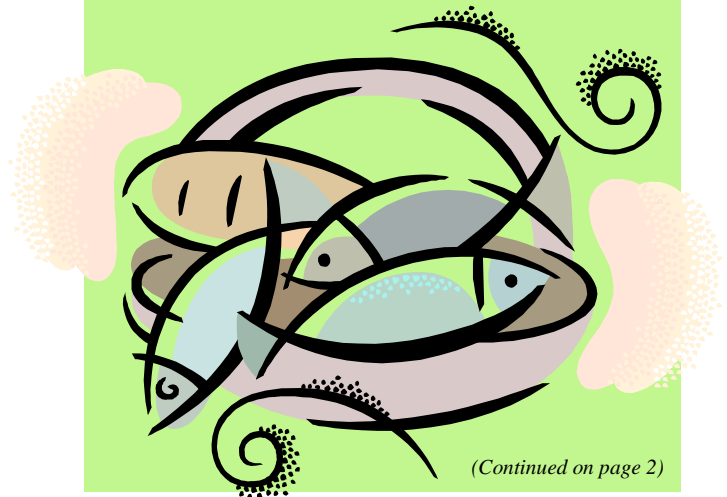
Dear Mr. and Mrs. Boroff,

Malnutrition and the absence of love can change the entire appearance of a person and especially a child. Nearly two months ago, Our Little Roses was given a little girl named Heidi. She will be two-years-old in December but when she came everyone assumed she was still an infant. She was pale, ghostly white and her bleach-blond hair was falling out. She could not speak, but rather cried – for hours. She rolled around on the ground because she lacked the ability to walk-and cried. Her mom had left her shortly after she was born and she was raised by her father who did not have enough resources to keep himself alive and healthy, let alone a baby girl.

The changes Heidi has undergone in the last two months have been enough to inspire me to want to stay here longer, and watch more miracles. Past the physical improvements she has made, I have also been able to watch the care and love of all the other girls of the Home have given to her. They took this crying baby off of the ground and showed her the love and respect they were shown when they came to Our Little Roses. The older girls made sure there was always someone with her, playing with her, singing to her, feeding her, making her feel loved. And now, as a result, the little, pale, crying thing has turned into a fully functioning two-year-old. She can walk, run and play on her own now. She sits and eats at the table in the dining room with the rest of the girls and is having the same silverware difficulties as the average little one. Her hair has begun to grow back and seem fuller and her skin tones have evened, making her resemble less the malnourished ghost-like girl of several months ago. Heidi is now like any healthy girl of Our Little Roses.

This is one of the most visible changes I have seen since I have been here, but there are so many other; subtler ones. Katherin, little girl I have written about before is now in third grade in bilingual school, confident and speaking English like a native. She came here about one and a half years ago as a shy girl who had had little to no formal education and was going to enter bilingual school. Because of the love and support the Home provides, Katherin was not only able to go to first grade in the school here, but excel so much this year she skipped second grade and is now one of the top students in the third grade. I will always marvel at what the Home has done for these young women, and marvel what it has done for me.

While in Wyoming February is typically the hardest month to be



(Continued on page 2)

A Voice in the Wilderness

Rector's Remarks (cont.)

in school – in Honduras it's November. The rainy season has started, but instead of bringing cooler weather the sun is simply evaporating the rain in mid-air, creating a heavy blanket of humidity and smog. I once heard an analogy that it was like walking through dog's breath and I think it is surprisingly accurate.

School is beginning to drag, the students are less motivated and the teachers don't seem any more so. For the volunteers though, it's the three to our month itch. The newness has rubbed off or the honeymoon period is over and really adjusting to living here is not yet a reality. The excitement of living in a new and different country has worn away and the process of actually living in a developing country has begun. Last night one of the volunteer's showers broke completely off from the wall, leaving her with the prospect of no shower for possibly weeks. While I didn't see any tears, I don't think they were far away. Our internet is broken for some reason, the company says they know why and are "fixing it", and our kitchen sink broke this morning, spraying water as high as the ceiling.

What all of this seems sometimes to mean for the six new volunteers, is a time of feeling unloved and unappreciated. I watch them and remember how I felt this time last year. Lonely and hot. In the process of figuring out how to cheer them up and help them realize this is simply a stage, I have begun to realize more about myself and my mission here. I certainly didn't foresee using my time last year to guide people this year, but in retrospect. Maybe that is why God wanted me to come back for a second term.

I know ultimately I alone will not be able to make a lasting impression on the girls, but I can help in the continuum of volunteers at OLR. If I can make the lives of the present volunteers a little better, they can do their jobs a little better, and the girls will have that many more people working to help make their lives happier and better. If the volunteers can work, they can take some work off of the caregivers, who then have more patience with the girls who then have more patience with each other. If we all do our part here, and our part to the fullest, then girls like Heidi and Katherin will have not only a chance to succeed, but will improve. As a result, in this month of rain, stink, and frustration, I can hopefully help the other volunteers to realize they are part of what makes this organization the miraculous place it is.

Sincerely,
Christine



ALPHA COURSE, Phil Washburn

Since mid-September, approximately thirty people have gathered at St. Andrew's on Tuesday evenings to participate in an adult education series called the Alpha Course. This group joins an estimated eight million people from around the world who have participated in the Course over the last seven years. Alpha Course was developed by an Anglican priest, Nicky Gumbel, in London and it has been embraced by a wide range of Christian denominations.

The Tuesday sessions follow a comfortable format that starts with a light supper. This is followed by a video presentation that examines a particular topic or theme such as "Who is Jesus", "Why Did Jesus Die?", and "How Can I Be Sure of My Faith?". After the video, the group breaks into smaller groups to discuss the topic, using Biblical references and personal perspectives. Each of the topics reflects a question, or challenge, that all Christians face in their personal spiritual growth. In the videos, Nicky Gumbel provides insights from his study and reflection, laced with a healthy dose of humor.

While the majority of our Alpha Course group members are from St. Andrew's, there are a number of participants from other Pinedale church families. As we have learned from and about each other over the last ten weeks, the group has achieved a comfort level and openness that make each of us look forward to the next Tuesday.

JANUARY 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Retirement Center Service 8 10:45 am Vestry Mtg. 7:00 pm	2 Prayer Hour 12-1:00 pm	3 Youth Group Church 10 7-8:30	4	5	6
7		9 Prayer Hour 12-1:00 pm	10 Youth Group Church 17 7-8:30	11	12	13
14		16 Prayer Hour 12-1:00 pm	18	19	20	
	15 Retirement Center Service 10:45 am		24 Senior Appreciation Dinner hosted by Youth 6:00 pm @ St. Andrew's	25	26	27
	21 Mary Caucutt's Installation Christ Church Cody	22 Retirement Center Service 10:45 am ECW Cribbage Tourney 6:00 pm @ St. Andrew's				
	29 Retirement Center Service 10:45 am	30 Prayer Hour 12-1:00 pm	31 Youth Group Church 7-8:30			
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A Voice in the Wilderness

ECW Notes, Laura Shields

Event Shuffle...Please Take Notice Cribbage swapped for Health Night!

Cribbage Tourney This Month

When: January 22nd @ 6pm

Where: St. Andrew's Parish Hall

No Cribbage Experience Necessary!

Seasoned Players Invited!

Refreshments Provided



ECW Health Night (Tentative Reschedule Date)

When: February 19th @ 6pm

Where: Patty Washburn's

(Go south in Tyler 1.7mi, right onto Remembrance Lane, first house on right past New Fork River Bridge)

Speaker: Marilyn Huffman

FUNDRAISER RESULTS



ECW raised just over \$300 on our St. Andrew's Merchandise fundraiser. Thank you to all who helped with the selling and thank you to those who purchased items. We will give a complete financial update for ECW in the next few months.

A Voice in the Wilderness

THANK YOU—THANK YOU—THANK YOU

THANK YOU Barb & Norm Pape!

Once again the ECW Christmas Party was a fun-filled night. Thank you to all who came out, and most especially to Norm & Barb for all of their hard work putting it on & to Coralee for leading our singing. Here are just a few thoughts & memories about the Pape ECW Christmas Party:

"The party I remember the most was in 2000. We had two Santa Clauses because the Christmas Party was also a wedding shower for Mary Caucutt. We knew she wouldn't show up if she knew it was a shower, but we knew she wouldn't miss the ECW Christmas Party! All of the gifts were for Mary, so we needed two Santa's to carry them all(Dave Lankford & Norm Pape)."
Member, 50 years



"The Christmas party was a great opportunity to meet and visit with others. Getting together at the Pape's was a great way to get into the Holiday spirit. My favorite thing about going to the party this year was the warmth generated by Barb and the ladies of ECW (especially warm when underneath a blanket!)"
Member, 2 years

"My fondest memory of the Pape's Christmas party is all the friends you can meet and all the food you can eat!! The ECW members can COOK! Honorable mention given to the 'game'..."
Member, 9 years



"It's hard to pick just one thing. I guess my favorite memory is Norm being Santa Clause and also Dave Lankford coming in his patrol car & uniform. The year he wasn't on duty & Tony had to drive him over was really funny. Tony just stood there looking at all of us Episcopalian women!"
Member, 29 years



"I was away from Pinedale for four years, and there wasn't a Christmas that went by during that time when I didn't think of the ECW Christmas Party and feel sad that I couldn't be there." Member, 17 years

Dear Women of St. Andrew's in the Pines

Thank you for your support of Episcopal Relief and Development. Your gift gives life and hope to many around the world and here in the U.S.A. Immediate needs following disasters are met and long term development give health and meaningful lives to those who suffer.

Blessings


Ann Fontaine
ERD - WYO



A Voice in the Wilderness

Youth Group, Katie McClure

SENIOR APPRECIATION DINNER



The Youth Group will be hosting a dinner for the "Seniors" of the church. You are invited!! Please call the church or Katie to sign-up or you can sign-up downstairs on the bulletin board.

Location: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church


Date: January 24, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

RSVP - Katie McClure: 537-5055

Church Office: 367-2674



ACOLYTE TRAINING



Acolyte Training will be held during Wednesday School on Jan. 17th, 24th, and 31st.

Training is open to all youth 3rd grade and above



A Voice in the Wilderness

Jokes and Laughs

A priest and a pastor from the local churches are standing by the road, pounding a sign into the ground, that reads:

The End is Near!
Turn Yourself Around Now
Before It's Too Late!

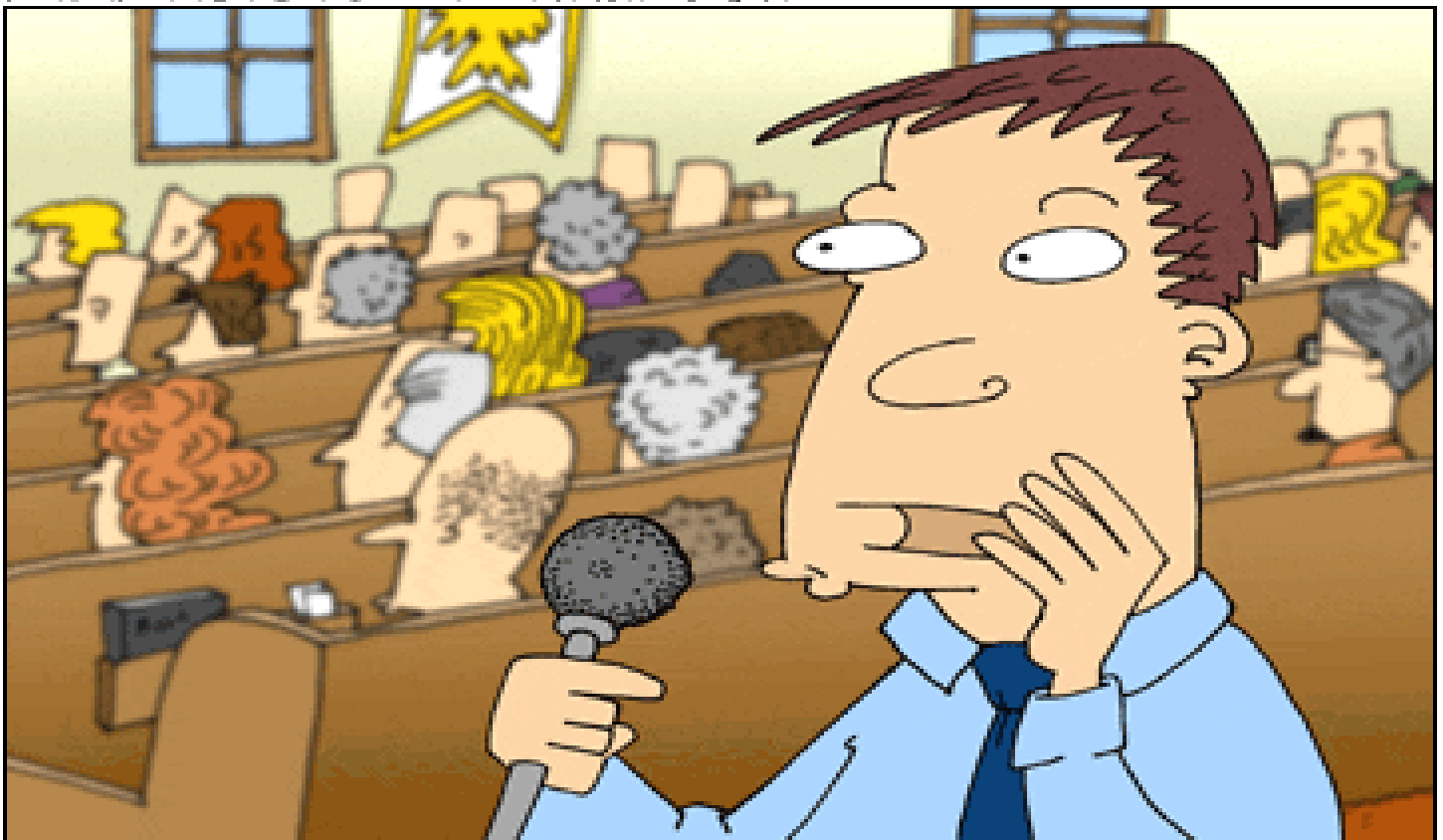
As a car sped past them, the driver yelled, "Leave us alone, you religious nuts!"

From the curve they heard screeching tires and a big splash.

The priest turns to the pastor and asks,..... "Do you think the sign should just say "BRIDGE OUT" ????"



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Thanks to Stephen Barkley

08-04-2004

WE'VE SECRETLY REPLACED THE COMMUNION
WINE WITH FOLGER'S CRYSTALS ... LET'S SEE
WHAT HAPPENS



ST. ANDREW'S IN THE PINES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JANUARY 2007

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Web: www.standrewsinthepines.org
E-mail: standrewsinthepines@centurytel.net



Dates to Remember:

**Jan. 8th @ 7:00 pm
Vestry Meeting**

**Jan. 21st @ 10:00 am
Mary Caucutt's Installation
Christ Church in Cody**

**Jan. 22nd @ 6:00 PM
ECW Cribbage Tournament
St. Andrew's**

**Jan. 24th @ 6:00 pm
Senior Appreciation Dinner
St. Andrew's**



The printing of this newsletter
generously supported by
Allan and Mary Rutherford Ferguson