



April 2022



### Notes from the Rector

April is once again bringing us through the end of Lent to Holy Week and Easter. Our readings so far have been focused on journeys: Abraham's journey into covenant relationship with God; Moses' journey to become the deliverer of the Hebrew slaves from Egypt; Joshua's journey as leader of Israel into their life of freedom as God's people in a new land; and, of course, Jesus' journey from his baptism and temptation by Satan to becoming a living example of God's love for us and how that can be lived in the world.

In the next few weeks we will watch Jesus do his final miracles and enter the gates of Jerusalem as crowds cheer the new king and messiah; we will witness him put on trial, condemned and tortured; we will see him carry his cross to the place of execution and stripped naked before the crowds; we will watch him die in agony; we will see his body laid to rest in a tomb; and, we will bear witness to his resurrection on the third day after his death.

We make a similar journey every year, with different stories for the stops along the way, but each time having the same ending: Jesus' betrayal by those he loves, his brutal death, and his triumphant victory over everything that stands in the way of the love of God. Fear, greed, selfishness, and death itself have all been shown to be empty threats in the face of the power of God's love for us and the love we are to have for one another.

On Palm Sunday we acknowledge the painful truth that we too possess the two faces of the crowd: we are those who hail Jesus as the king who will completely change the world, and we are those who revile Jesus as the one who fails to change it into what we desire. We shout hosannas and wave palm branches to welcome our savior; soon after we cry "Crucify him! Crucify him!" because he has brought, not the fulfilment of our worldly ambitions, but a call to sacrificial giving and love.

On Maundy Thursday we reenact the mandated sacrament of John's gospel: the washing of feet. It is just as difficult for us today as it was for the disciples, because we too feel that it is embarrassing and shameful although for different reasons. For them it was becoming as the lowest slave to demonstrate the true strength in love; for us it is allowing others to see and touch parts of ourselves that we feel we need to hide. Jesus asks us to be vulnerable in each other's presence, allowing love and trust to drown out our anxieties and lead us to the place where just as we are—without one plea—is enough.

On Good Friday we again experience Jesus' trial, crucifixion and death. We are the crowd and his disciples; we are the soldiers and his family; we are Herod and Pilate and Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. We walk from station to station remembering the pain of each point that leads to the end of Jesus' life. We wander the labyrinth's winding path that takes us back and forth, twisting back on itself, ending at the foot of the cross. And we feel the pain of death winning.

On Holy Saturday we sit with Jesus' death, not leaping ahead to resurrection, but staying with our grief for his death, for the deaths of those we love and see no longer, for our own deaths that lie ahead of us. We allow it to be real, we let ourselves feel the fear and anger and pain that letting go of life raises in all of us. And we know that it is okay to feel those things. God is with us and loves us.

On Easter Sunday we celebrate! Life and love are victorious over death and fear! We are those disciples who, even though they were told repeatedly what was to happen, could not really believe it until it happened. Now everything has changed, and our journey of new life has begun. Alleluia!

Melinda+

**The Bishop is coming to St. Andrew's** on Saturday and Sunday, April 2 and 3 for his visitation. On Saturday Bishop Paul-Gordon Chandler will be getting to know the vestry at 5 pm; everyone is invited to join him at the Taizé service at 6 pm and the Soup, Salad and Bread (and dessert) Potluck Supper to follow around 6:30 pm. Bishop Chandler will be presiding at the 9 am service Sunday, April 3 and joining us for Coffee Hour. Mark your calendar!

**Bridges out of Poverty is starting their next 16-week Getting Ahead Class**, and they are looking for a babysitter, as well as people to bring 8 meals for the members of the classes and their children. The class will be on Mondays and Thursdays. Please contact Sarah Murdock at 307-231-2431 or [sarahsmurdock@gmail.com](mailto:sarahsmurdock@gmail.com) if you're willing to help.

**The Community Bak Pak Program needs your help!** More packs are needed to ensure all kids who need food for the weekend will get it. If you have "nearly new," or "gently used" backpacks, or string bags that you could donate to the program, please drop them off at one of the SCSD#1 school offices. Let the secretaries know they are for the Community Bak Pak Program. Or drop them off at St. Andrew's in the box in the narthex/entryway, or text JJ at 307-749-2522 to arrange a pick-up. Thank you for helping kids!

**Summer Camp at Thunderhead Episcopal Center.** Every faith community across Wyoming and South Dakota is invited to prayerfully consider sending your youth this summer to camp at Thunderhead Episcopal Center! All youth under the age of 18 are encouraged to take advantage of this life-changing experience that is also a lot of fun! And those who are college-aged, are invited to serve as a camp counselor. If you are a parent or grandparent, we strongly encourage you to register your youth for Camp as soon as possible! Registration is on their website, <https://episcopalchurchsd.org/thunderhead-episcopal-center>.

**Join the Episcopal Church Women Spring Conference May 20-21, 2022, "LIFE'S SACRED LABYRINTH"** Guest Speaker, Lynne Chandler, will share the story of her spiritual journey from her childhood in Africa to life in the Middle East, experiencing the sacredness of life's deserts and detours. The conference will meet in Casper at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and Wyoming Ford Center (Formerly Casper Event Center). It will start with Registration Friday, May 20th at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm and continue on May 21st at Wyoming Ford Center from 10:00 am to 7:00pm. We are asking each Parish to bring a theme basket for a Silent Auction. The proceeds from the auction will go to Lynne's special project, which is Wyoming Hunger Initiative. The registration for the conference is \$60.00, which includes three meals, lunch and two dinners. If you have any special dietary needs, please note that on your registration. There is a block of rooms at Quality Inn & Suites in Casper for May 20th & 21st at the Diocesan rate of \$78.00. Their telephone number is 307-266-2400; ask for the ECW rate. There is also a block of rooms at Ramkota. The rate is \$89.00 plus tax. Their telephone number is 307-266-6000; ask for ECW rate. Scholarships are available; for information please contact Amy Mayes at 307-851-0631. Child Care will be available Saturday. We cordially invite ALL Clergy to attend this event. Hope to see many of you there on May 20 -21, 2022.

**Easter Lilies.** Contact Mary Lankford at 367-4820, if you would like to donate to the purchase of Easter Lilies "in Memory of" or "in Honor of" someone for Easter.

*Take your everyday, ordinary life — your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life — and place it before God as an offering.... Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You will be changed from the inside out. Romans 12:2*



Photo: Andrea Paulsen, Gray  
Heron, Green River, Utah



Photo: Andrea Paulsen,  
Golden Eagle, Pinedale.

## **IT IS NOT FINISHED**

My Lenten devotional this year is; "The Cup of Salvation". Now a cup is a cup which can hold water, java, wine, flour or sugar among many other things. It can be a metaphor for an abundance of spiritual things; like a cup of blessing, a cup of gratitude, a cup of thanksgivings or a cup of salvation.

Whenever I see a cup or use one, I think of the cupbearer in the Old Testament. His job was to taste the wine before serving it to see if it had been poisoned. He also kept an eye on the king to see if he needed anything. Sometimes the king would be interrupted with someone at the door with an urgent matter. The king would rise folding his napkin by the plate to signify he was not finished with the meal. If he was finished, he would crumple the napkin and toss it on the table.

"And the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying .with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself". John 20:7 NKJV. The folded handkerchief or the linen cloth that was around His head meant His ministry on earth was not finished. Yeah! Thanks be to God! PTL!

Even though Jesus had been convicted, crucified, died and buried; He still had work to do before He ascended into the clouds on Pentecost. The disciples had to be convinced that it was not the end. He settled them down, continued teaching them and preaching.

Aren't you glad that the linen cloth was folded and not crumpled to be put in the wash?

Pat Leidy

St. Andrew's in the Pines Episcopal Church  
PO Box 847  
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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

### UPCOMING DATES IN APRIL

**April 2:** Bishop's visit with vestry at 5 pm in the Undercroft.

**April 2:** Bishop's visit with congregation for Soup, Salad, and Bread Potluck Supper at 6:30 pm in the Undercroft.

**April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30:** Saturday Taizé services in-person and by Zoom at 6 pm.

**April 3, 10, 17, 24:** Sunday services in-person and by Zoom at 9 am.

**April 10:** Palm Sunday service in person and by Zoom at 9 am.

**April 11:** Vestry meeting in-person and by Zoom at 5:30 pm in the Undercroft.

**April 14:** Maundy Thursday service in person and by Zoom at 6 pm.

**April 15:** Good Friday service in person and by Zoom at noon; Stations of the Cross service in person at 3 pm; (Sanctuary otherwise available for individual Stations of the Cross.) Stations of the Cross Labyrinth Walk in the Lovatt Room at the Pinedale Library between 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm.

**April 16:** Holy Saturday service in person and by Zoom at noon, Easter Eve Taizé service in person and by Zoom at 6 pm.

**April 17:** Easter Sunday service in person and by Zoom at 9 am. Easter Sunday service in person at St. Hubert the Hunter in Bon-durant at 11:15 am.

**April 27:** Deadline for the May Newsletter at 5 pm. Please email submissions to Sukey at [sukeybook@gmail.com](mailto:sukeybook@gmail.com).

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Harlee Roberts	4/1
Cassie Johnston	4/4
Natalie Wise	4/12
Brennan White	4/13
William Bellis	4/14
Arlo Mansur	4/14
Angus Roberts	4/15
Aaron Belton	4/16
Hannah Liske	4/20
Logan Gelhausen	4/21
Braylee Kinney	4/22
Wes Hathaway	4/25
Cody Saxton	4/27
Coralee Petersen	4/28

Thanks to St. Andrew's for the generosity of the donations given for the Wyoming Rescue Mission at Christmas time. Within a few short weeks folks at St. Andrew's donated a pickup truck's worth of items needed at the Wyoming Rescue Mission, Wyoming's largest shelter for the homeless. The shelter hosts folks in need of shelter from *around* Wyoming (people who are homeless are often sent to the mission from other towns) since most communities don't have temporary housing available.

St. Andrew's folks donated: Coats, gloves, hats, mittens, sweaters, sleepwear, new shoes, undergarments, baby items, cleaning and sanitation supplies, new clothes, toilet paper, so much given in such a short donation-drive time!! THANK YOU!

The truckload of donations arrived just in time to be given to

people at the shelter during this winter's coldest time. Jenny, my staff contact at the shelter said folks at the shelter were incredibly grateful for our gifts, "Such perfect timing for your church's donations. Thank you so much! The staff were blown away when they got to work yesterday (and saw our large donation of needed items)."

When I arrived at the shelter and was given a brief tour, I smelled a nice dinner cooking and being served in the community kitchen. Faithful volunteers were dishing out a hot supper for men, women and children staying at the shelter, and

those just coming for the free meal.

Homelessness can happen for many reasons: because of illness: mental (including addiction) or physical. Others are escaping violent home situations and get to the shelter with only the clothes on their backs. Our donation will be used as the on-site supply at the shelter, so those in need can get some sort of wardrobe, when escaping a violent domestic situation. The Wyoming Rescue Mission has clean, decent, safe and separate quarters for women and children, something that many shelters don't offer.

While respecting their privacy during this tough period of their lives, it was apparent that those using the shelter were in need, and down on their luck.

Let's remember them and others displaced in this way in our prayers, for better days for all.

So, God bless St. Andrew's, "the little church that could," for its generosity to our brothers and sisters elsewhere in Wyoming!

Blessings,

Lauren McKeever, Organizer.



*Matthew 25:40: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."*

**Treasurer's Report****Joni Mack**

Please let me know if you have questions about the finances of St. Andrew's. I'm using new church-specific software which is cloud-based and available to us through the Diocese, and I'm still getting all the categories straight for our use.

<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>February 28, 2022</b>	<b>January 31, 2022</b>
Operating fund balance	22,346.81	24,746.67
Memorial fund	2,062.20	4,062.20
Flower fund	1,623.25	1,623.25
Building fund	1,876.80	1,876.80
Priest Discretionary	247.70	(196.02)
Associate Priest Discretionary	1,625.55	1,625.55
Suicide Prevention Funds	10,573.00	10,573.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>60,355.31</b>	<b>64,311.45</b>
CD – operating	20,000	20,000
CD – building fund	20,000	20,000
<b>Total CDs</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>
<b>Dedicated Funds</b>		
COVID Grant	2,409.47	5,867.44
Bozeman Trail Grant	16,750.61	16,750.61
Outreach Fund	1,455.80	1,332.25
Summer Lunch	718.00	718.00
Community Thanksgiving	165.00	165.00
<b>Total Dedicated Funds</b>	<b>21,498.88</b>	<b>24,833.30</b>

We had our Annual Meeting on February 27 and there were a few directives for me as your new Treasurer, which were done in March, so they're not showing up on this statement.

Open an account to keep the dedicated funds separate from Operating

Move \$1,000 from Flower Fund into Operating

Cash in operating CD at maturity (March 30) & place \$10,000 into Operating and \$10,000 into a savings account

<b>Budget Comparison - February</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Revenue	10,532.02	8,083.33
Expenses	11,277.27	8,917.56
<b>(Deficit) of Revenue over Expenses</b>	<b>(745.25)</b>	<b>(834.23)</b>

We had 3 months of overdue Diocesan Assessments to catch up on in February. Pledges are still coming in; if you haven't yet sent yours, it would be so appreciated as it helps me stay on top of finances. Thanks everyone who commented at the Annual Meeting for the well-being of St. Andrew's and all we do in the community!

St. Andrew's in the Pines Vestry February 23, 2022

Present: The Rev. Melinda Bobo, Rector; Joni Mack, Treasurer; Sheryl Boroff; Andrea Paulsen;  
John Lund, Sue Holz, The Rev. Randy Belton, Priest Associate. Jocelyn Moore

Call to Order: 5:45 pm

Due to time constraints, the vestry moved to financials for 2021

Treasurer's Report: We are now using the software that is being utilized by the Church. Joni went over the budget numbers and it will be presented to the members at church on Feb 27th. The current budget shortfall is \$10,000. It was felt that we should present this number to the members and let them decide how they want to proceed. We were reminded that some pledge cards have not been received.

The majority of time was spent discussing ways to come back to the programs that were in place prior to covid. The goal is to bring back ECW, Kids Youth groups, Book club, education committee, new comer functions, coffee hour refreshments, pastoral care, worship committee, finance committee, taco Tuesday in place of pancake dinner etc.

There was discussion about the repairs that will be needed in the future at the rectory, with the electrical being at the top of the list. This matter was shelved to a later date.

Suggested that Cody Saxton, and Sarah Hixson be given a gift for their service as Jr Warden and Vestry member respectively.

Andrea and Bob both declined taking on the position of Sr. Warden. John has been asked to be the Jr Warden.

We were reminded that the goal should be focusing on the teachings of the Lord and not on the bottom line.

Andrea Paulsen