

a voice in the  
wilderness

A u g u s t 2 0 1 3



Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

- Hebrews 11:1

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**ST. ANDREWS**

IN THE PINES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## PASTOR'S PEN

***"For in hope we are saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."***

*Romans 8:24*

The preaching theme for the month of August is Christian Hope. Hope is one of the signs of God's grace in a person's life because to hope is to believe in the certainty of a favorable future; it is the opposite of worry, fear, and despair. If we consider our life as an adventure, a voyage of discovery, a journey – then what sustains us as Christians are faith and hope, sure that we are moving towards a final and complete communion with love at the heart of all things.

That is big talk, brave talk and I'm sure valuable talk, and it helps me to take some time to assess my life in regard to my faith and hope. One exercise we did at the recent Stephen Ministry Leader's training was to listen to a presentation on the signs of God's grace and then fill out both a sliding scale and a grid indicating where we thought we were in our own life with reflecting these signs of grace. The extremes for Faith were ***"I never worry because I am always sure that God is caring for me."*** to ***"I'm always worried and I never take risks because I can't trust God or others."*** The scale for Hope was ***"I'm sure the future will be positive because God is in charge."*** to ***"I fear the future and feel despair at my inability to control it."*** Like me, you are probably somewhere in between those end points.

However, if our life unfolds as a journey; the encouragement – admonition even from God and Jesus is that we are to spend our time growing in our spirituality and maturity. And I believe it is that thread of hope that leads us to greater joy, love, connections, healing, and wholeness.

I recently was gifted with a book titled ***"There's No Place Like Hope."*** Here are some thoughtful quotes from the book.

***"Hope is the voice that God uses to speak to our hearts instead of our heads."  
"God gives us hope when He gives us life. When we are newborns we hope to be picked up, changed, and fed. What we hope for will change a thousand times throughout our lives, but with the very last breath we draw we still will be hoping."***

***"Hope costs nothing to give and is priceless to have."***

So for this next month, at least, let us focus on our growth as people of hope.

Thanks be to God.

*Pastor Jami*



Looking for a daily meditation? Look no further: Forward Day By Day is the place for your daily prayer and meditation. Just go to:  
[http://  
prayer.forwardmovement.org  
/forward-day-by-day.php](http://prayer.forwardmovement.org/forward-day-by-day.php)  
to see what's in store for each day. You can see motivational Christian books for purchase at their parent site  
[ForwardMovement.org](http://ForwardMovement.org)

Take a look!



If you would like to volunteer in the nursery, for refreshment duty, or another ministry, please let Pastor Jami or Betty know and you will be added to the ROTA. Thank you!

## Stewardship

When Jami contacted me and said my name had been forwarded as a possible vestry candidate last winter, I gave the matter considerable thought. As a single, working mother, this was just "one more thing" to add to the "to do" list. Yet, what kept coming up in my consideration was this. Over the last 17 years, St. Andrews has been there for me in good times and bad. One doesn't get to pick times of joy or hardship as a matter of convenience, so it is perhaps only right that one does not pick times of service based on convenience either. At the vestry retreat, we were asked what committee we wanted to serve on, and I choose stewardship. Here's the funny thing—I choose it not because it is my passion, but because I dread it.

I hate talking about money. It makes me squirmy putting a price tag on faith. Living in Africa, I saw Peace Corps and USAID funds not used wisely. I saw the BoBashi (street children) use their begged coins to buy glue to sniff, rather than food to eat. I would rather pick up a hammer and help build someone a house than give someone money to build it. Yet, a church does not survive on faith alone, so this was my personal challenge. Could I approach stewardship, delve into it's necessity and find a way to be a good steward that made me "less squirmy"? I am guessing that Jami hopes so!

When the Bishop visited, he mentioned a sermon he had heard years back. While I can't remember it exactly— the idea was to look at the basic structural form of a stool. For it to stand and support the weight, there are 3 legs necessary. He was talking about faith in general, but I remember thinking it could be used more specifically to represent St. Andrews. First of all, we need faith— without faith there is no church. Faith is the reason we walk in the doors Sunday mornings, faith is what brings us together. Without faith, there is no need for a church. Second, we need action: worshipping, choir, baking bread, acolyting, volunteering, bible studies, youth group, church functions, lay readers, altar guild, nursery, snack makers, etc, etc. And then there is that third, but necessary leg: support. St. Andrews would not be what it is without the pastor that leads it, and all of the hard work she puts in making our community wiser and spiritually richer. It would also not be what it is without the log building on Pine Creek that houses it and all of the upkeep and maintenance that requires. Outreach also is essential—we are doers at St. Andrews not just worshippers. And yes, that last essential leg requires funding. So, you will be hearing more from me on the topic of stewardship. I hope all of you can help me in this journey, and I hope I am up to the challenge!

- Jeanne

## RANCH MASS



## STEPHEN MINISTRIES NEWS

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6 : 2

Stephen Ministries St. Louis is a not-for-profit, transdenominational, religious and educational organization founded in 1975 by the Rev. Kenneth Haugk, pastor and clinical psychologist. As a pastor, he found there was no way that he alone could meet all the needs for care in his congregation and community, so he equipped nine members of the congregation as the first group of Stephen Ministers. That was as far as he intended to go, but other churches became interested in the program, and asked (demanded?) to be trained to use Stephen Ministry in their own congregations.

How I wish all of you could have experienced the amazing week that Jami and I just spent in Dallas. I have never attended such a well organized conference. Each morning started with a prayer service, and then right into classes, including several evening sessions. We received 50 hours of training to equip us as Stephen Leaders, and we look forward to using the acquired skills to train Stephen Ministers this fall. Already, several people have stopped me to ask about the conference, and to let me know that they are interested in becoming Stephen Ministers.

Over 600,000 Stephen Ministers have been trained since 1975 in 164 different Christian denominations. Until I attended this training, I had no idea there were that many denominations! At our session, there were Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, UCC, Catholics and Episcopalians. I'm fairly certain there were other denominations, but representatives of the above groups were the people I worked with in small group activities. During the entire week I did not hear one word of criticism about an individual or a different church. Those already trained as Stephen Ministers were happy to share their experiences and knowledge with those of us who were just getting started and were generous in their encouragement. There truly was a pervasive spirit of Christian caring, and putting into practice the belief that no one should have to bear his burdens alone.

Thank you for allowing us the privilege of representing St. Andrew's and receiving this training.

MADELEINE MURDOCK



Madeleine and Pastor Jami with friends from the Stephen Leaders training. They shared a table with Methodists, Roman Catholics, and Baptists and had a great time!

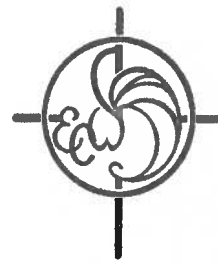
## Farmers Market

Many thanks to all who helped to make the pie sale a success. We had a booth at the Farmer's Market on July 18 but the Farmer's Market has diminished so much this year that I didn't feel the customer traffic justified continuing. I welcome all your ideas on other fundraisers for ECW, although we are in fairly good shape financially thanks to the pie sale and our one Farmer's Market.

- Sukey

# Safeguarding God's Children

On **August 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-9:00 p.m.**, Trent Moore from St. John's in Jackson will be here to offer the Safeguarding training to both St. Andrew's and St. John the Baptist folks. This training is **required** for all Vestry members, and all people who have regular contact with our children. The training is to be taken every 2-3 years by anyone in youth ministries. This summer the training replaces our August Vestry meeting and will be the only offered in this county this year.



ECW NEWS

As most of you know, we sponsor an orphan at Our Little Roses Ministries, Honduras. Our Little Roses sponsors little girls only. Their deadline for mailing Christmas presents from the U.S. is October 5th. If you would like to donate clothing, shoes, school supplies, toys, or books (in Spanish,) for girls aged birth to high school, please leave items in the Undercroft by that date. They should be unwrapped since they will go through customs. Items should be new or really good quality used. Please call me if you have any questions.

- Sukey

THE SECRET TO  
JOY IS TO KEEP  
SEEKING GOD  
WHERE WE DOUBT  
HE IS.



**THANK YOU! MANY THANKS!  
AND THANKS AGAIN!!**

The Rendezvous Pie Sale was a success due to the efforts of dedicated pie bakers and the worker bees selling the delicious varieties of home baked pastries.

The amount of funds raised for outreach was approximately sixteen hundred dollars!

**NEW !!** Do you have an exciting event or announcement you'd like to have printed in the newsletter? A wedding, birth, or other cause for congratulations? Please let me know and we'll get them printed. Send in any newsletter submissions to: [tpalmonris@gmail.com](mailto:tpalmonris@gmail.com) . Please be sure attachments are exactly as you would like them printed. Thank you!



Audrey Morris

# St. Andrew's in the Pines Vestry Meeting

June 17, 2013 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Sheryl Boroff

Attendance: Van Huffman, Cody Saxton, Sarah Hixson, Angie Thomas, Jami Anderson, Sheryl Boroff, Phil Washburn, Jeanne Raney, Jay Harnack, Barb Wise and Julie Maxam  
Absent: Aaron Arne and Sue Holz

Formation- The belief statements from the May meeting were reviewed and the discussion continued with why we are significant and what are we about as a church. What is our mission statement and if not practiced is the mission statement valuable?

The senior warden opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes: The May minutes were reviewed. Cody Saxton moved to approve the minutes with Jay Harnack seconding the motion. The motion was approved.

Treasurers Report: Julie Maxam reported on the current financial status with financial statements reviewed. The mortgage was officially paid off on May 9, 2013. Sarah Hixson moved to accept the financial statements and Angie Thomas made a second to the motion. The motion was approved.

Senior Warden: Van Huffman asked vestry members for comments concerning the announcement of the Neely property sale. An announcement will be made in July by the senior warden regarding the property sale and property sale information will be published in the next newsletter.

Junior Warden: Cody has been keeping the grounds mowed and fertilized.

Rector Report: Jami Anderson received the official Stephan Ministry certificate which is now posted. The Stephan Ministry training will be held July 14<sup>th</sup> through July 20<sup>th</sup> with Jami and Madeleine Murdock registered. Jami reported the ECW retreat was a success with 20 women participating. Jami shared her future vacations plans with the vestry. Jami planned vacation days for June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, and July 7<sup>th</sup>. One week of continuing education will be used for the Stephan Ministry training conference. Jami mentioned the availability of a grant from the City of Pinedale through the Main Street Program for beautification projects promoting Pinedale's appearance. She also asked vestry members to think of valuable ideas for outreach which could be sponsored by the Foundation for the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming. Jami distributed a sample directory data base by Sukey Hohl for vestry members to review. Photographs can be incorporated into the data base. Sarah Hixson will contact Tara Bolgiano concerning the pictures taken by Blushing Crow Photography and Sukey Hohl. Jami will contact Life Touch regarding photography and directory costs.

Old Business: Team assignment reports were given. Hospitality representative Sarah Hixson reported a picnic will be scheduled for late summer. Sheryl reported Angie Thomas hosted a fun filled Happy Hour for newcomers and vestry members May 31, 2013 at her home. Stewardship representative Jeanne Raney suggested a wish list be posted for future church needs or wants.

The Tithe amount for the month is \$164.72. Jeanne Raney made a motion to donate the tithe amount to the ECW to help with pie sale expenses. Sarah Hixson made a second to the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The vestry felt this donation appropriate as the majority of pie sale proceeds go towards outreach.

Highway Signage- A discussion was held concerning the placement of future St. Andrews signs. Sublette County has space available near the Pole Creek turnout. Jeanne Raney offered her property for a St. Andrews sign. Phil Washburn will contact Larry Proud and the FFA chapter on sign building.

New Business: Van Huffman reported on the top priority items needing repairs. The gutter and railing are of top priority due to safety issues. Cody Saxton made a motion to replace the existing gutter. Jay Harack made a second to the motion. The motion passed. Church volunteers will remove the existing gutter and a new seamless gutter will be installed. Van also presented options for the carpet. The worn areas could be replaced in a systematic pattern without the necessity of replacing the entire carpet. Kate Grimes with the Main Street Project will be contacted for possible matching grant funds.

Investment of profit- Julie will collect interest rates on potential investments and bring the information for the next meeting.

.Summer service time for Big Piney- The Big Piney congregation wants a morning service time for the summer months. Jami proposed an 8:00 A.M. service time with Eucharist and Morning Prayer alternated between St. Andrews and St. Johns. Sheryl made a motion for alternate services for the two churches. Jeanne made a second to the motion which passed unanimously.

Open Discussion:

July 28<sup>th</sup> is the date for the ranch mass held at Jim Roscoe's place at 11:00A.M. The house blessing at Sarah Hixson's is scheduled for Wednesday June 19<sup>th</sup>. A guest preacher is on board for July 21<sup>st</sup> as Jami will return from the Stephan Ministry conference Saturday evening July 20<sup>th</sup>. Van Huffman distributed informational brochures for the vestry members.

Jeanne Raney made a motion for the meeting to adjourn with Angie Thomas seconding the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.



# Music Notes

Ranch Mass was the big event on our musical agenda recently.

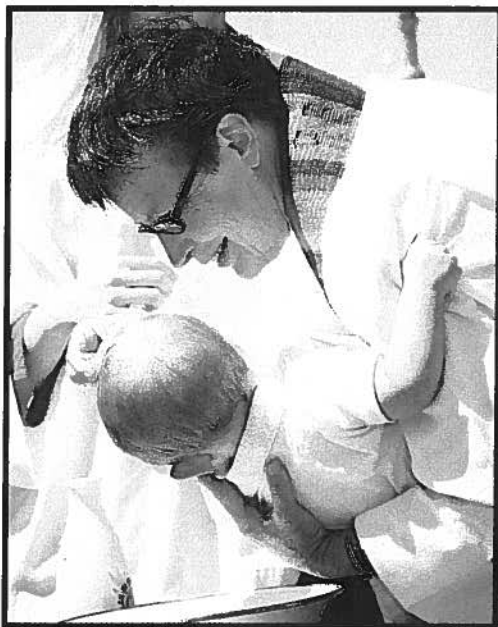
Choir met to rehearse on July 21 at the Petersen's, and of course, being good Episcopalians we ate, too - could not pass

up an opportunity for a picnic! Choir members always enjoy the mid summer get-together and this year we welcomed several "extras" who joined us to sing: Carolyn Case, John Anderson, Kari Comstock, and Mariah McKay. Regulars were Fred Petersen, Betty Golden, Hattie McKay, Barbara Ford, Lora Grinestaff, Lois Decker, Madeleine Murdock, and Maeve Poulson. So nice to have Mariah join us - hard to believe she has been away for 4 years. She has made good use of those years, graduating from UW with a degree in musical theater. This was probably the last time Hattie will sing with us for a while, since she leaves this month to begin her musical studies at The University of Puget Sound. Both sisters sang solos with the choir at ranch mass.

I realized as I was preparing music and contacting choir members in early July, that this was my 30<sup>th</sup> Ranch Mass. I know there are several members who can beat that number, but for me it is incredible to realize that many years have slipped by - how could that be?!

My personal thanks to all who participated to make it a memorable musical time, and to the "regulars" who are so faithful to give their time and effort to choir.

~ Coralee



Cody Frederick Peterson was Baptized on Sunday, July 28, 2013 at Ranch Mass. He is the son of Kenneth and Angi Peterson, and little brother to Tyler and Hanna. He has proud grandparents in Fred and Coralee Petersen, Sue and Gene Eversull, Linda and Shayne Gilmore, and Tom and Koreen Campbell. We look forward to supporting Cody as he grows in his faith and life!

## CONGREGATION CONGRATULATIONS

Kristopher Holmes and Tara Bolgiano tied the knot on July 6, 2013 in a beautiful, rainy, and rowdy ranch ceremony. We wish them a blessed and happy life together!



Photo courtesy of Janelle Rose Photography



# August Calendar

## ONGOING

### **Sunday Church Service Times**

St. John's - 6:00 pm

St. Andrew's - 8:00 am & 10:00 am

### **Retirement Center Service**

Mondays at 10:30 am

Sublette Center

### **Noon Day Prayer**

Tuesdays - 12:00 pm

### **Men's Breakfast Group**

Fridays at 7:00 am @ Stockman's

August 17

Pre-convention briefing via the VTC in Jackson for delegates

August 19

Safeguarding God's Children class

6:00 - 9:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's

August 20

Ordination of Bernadine Craft in Rock

Springs

August 26-27

Clergy Gathering at St. Thomas Center in Cody

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS:

Planning is underway for our Youth Programs during this next school year. Starting in September we will make some changes in what is offered for our younger children.

**Children's Chapel** will happen every Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. Children up to Kindergarten age will gather in the basement for a simple worship service similar to the service upstairs, but with age appropriate Bible stories and activities. The youth will still join us upstairs during the Peace. Together Sunday will still be on the last Sunday of each month. Becca Belton and John Anderson are looking for 2-3 other adult volunteers to help them.

**Wednesday School** is returning for children K-5<sup>th</sup> grade. This will happen on every Wednesday after school is out, approximately 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Julie Belton has volunteered to head up this program but will need 3-4 other volunteers to assist in a variety of ways. Please contact her at 367-2289.

**Youth Groups** for Middle School and High School kids will still happen on Wednesday evenings, every other week. We will continue with the Rite 13/J2A curriculum. This is the year for our High School youth to go on their pilgrimage and planning will start for that soon. Kris and Tara Holmes, Margaret West and Aaron Belton are willing to lead these programs.

**Adults:** Margaret West has offered to help coordinate the young adult gatherings but is looking for another 20-40 year old to help her with that.

Madeleine Murdock and Pastor Jami will be interviewing and lining up the first Stephen Ministry class during the fall. Dates for the training classes are yet to be determined.

Early this fall, Pastor Jami will teach a short course on "A NEW NEW TESTAMENT". This class will provide amazing insights into the development of our Bible and the addition of other readings to this historic and life-giving book.