



A Voice in the Wilderness

ST. ANDREW'S IN THE PINES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Volume 10, Issue 3-4

March/April 2005

The Rector's Remarks



Wes Shields

As we move into March we are finishing up Lent and moving into the joyous season of Easter. Easter is

a time of joy and celebration. Unlike Lent, Easter is a time to shout from the roof tops and let the world know that the Lord is risen and has done great things for each of us. It's a time to stand up and let people know about our Lord and savior.

I have recently received a prayer, four or five times, about a Pastor who really went out on a limb. Minister Joe Wright was asked to open the new

session of the Kansas Senate, everyone was expecting the usual generalities, but that's not what they heard. Pastor Wright asked God to forgive them for the wrongs that he felt had been committed. He spoke about hot button issues such as abortion, parenting, politics, and welfare. In short, he brought up many of the things that the people in that room felt very strongly about on one side

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Check it out!

- REPORT ON JANUARY WOMEN'S RETREAT
- ECW MOVING ALONG
- PHOTOS FROM MARDI GRAS
- CENTERING PRAYER COMES TO PINEDALE!

Senior Warden's Report



Gail Randall

Greetings and happy winter to everyone! They say spring is a long way off but, who knows, maybe it will come early this year.

In my role as Senior Warden I am striving to enhance our outreach, both local and worldwide. We are called

by God to take care of our brothers and sisters in all ways. St. Andrew's has the means and the talented people to have a very good outreach/mission program. We will decide, through our meetings, how to go about this. I feel we should pick some missions to support around the world and do that in whatever way is needed whether it be monetarily or something else.

I am sure the people of the Town of Pinedale, for all its money, have needs also. For example, the Food Basket is working

diligently to keep needy people in food and supplies and could use our help. I know that through the outreach meetings by putting our heads together, we will reach many deserving needy people and organizations.

I wish to thank St. Andrew's for giving me the privilege of acting as Senior Warden for the coming year. Please let me know your concerns, criticisms, suggestions or accolades. I promise to listen.

Love and peace,
Gail

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A Voice in the Wilderness

ECW News, Laura Shields

Thank you, Coralee, for hosting Bunko in February at your home. We had a light crowd, but enjoyed the fellowship and hope for more bunko enthusiasts on a less busy weekend next time!

March 16th was the final Lenten dinner at the church. ECW provided the meal this night. A BIG thank you to everyone who helped cook, set-up and clean-up. ECW

has shown a wonderful response for this.

April 17th...Mark your Calendars... ECW will meet after church to assemble and install cushions in the hymnal racks on the pews. This will help decrease distracting noise during our services. ECW is historically a strong supporter in the church in areas such as this and we hope you will consider this ministry opportunity. We need folks

to help cut fabric and foam, assemble the pieces, sew and install. Hopefully, two or three people can be on each "station" and the project will be completed in about 2 hrs. If you have questions, please see Barb Wise or Madeline Murdock.

May 14th...Save the Date...End of Year Party & Celebration...more details to come!

The Rector's Remarks, Continued

(Continued from page 1)

or the other. Now I certainly didn't agree with every thing he had to say, but that's not the point. The point is that this man stepped out for his faith, whether I agree with him or not, he stood up for what he thought was right.

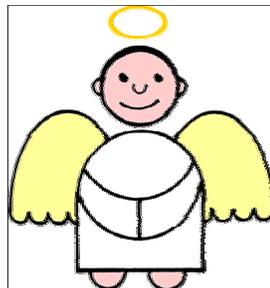
The point of sharing this with you is to encourage us to live out our faith in our lives. Pastor Wright took a chance and said some words that were not easy to hear. Each and every one of us has opportunities to make a difference in our everyday lives. Our stories may never be as

public, but the impact that we can have on the world around is just as real. We can stand up for those less fortunate and we can strive to show others what loving the Lord with all our heart, soul, and mind and loving our neighbor as ourselves really looks like. Don't be afraid. Let the joy of Easter ring out from the hilltops so that the world may come to know the love and peace of God.

Mission Statement: "St Andrew's strives to provide a welcoming, diverse and inter-generational fellowship of worshippers, united in the Anglican tradition, serving the body of Christ, and committed to personal responsibility in our ministry.

Vestry of St. Andrew's
Senior Warden, Gail Randall
Junior Warden, Randy Belton
Treasurer, Sam McClure
Outreach, Sarah Hixon and Gail Grubb
Communications, Cally McKee
Hospitality Juli James
Newcomers/Evangelism Fred Petersen
Christian Education, Fran Milde and Shane Costello

Allen and Mary Ruth-erfoord Ferguson donated funds for the printing of this news- letter. Thank you both!



ECW
Installation of cushions in hymnal racks
April 17 after the service
Please join us for a meaningful and helpful task. Also, many hands make light work!

A Voice in the Wilderness

Vestry Minutes, Cheryl Essington

Vestry Meeting

February 15, 2005, 7:30

Present: Fr. Wes, Cheryl Essington, Fred Petersen, Fran Milde, Gail Randall, Gail Grubb, Sarah Hixson, Juli James, Randy Belton

The meeting was called to order and Gail Randall opened with a prayer.

Minutes of last meeting:

Randy moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting, Sarah Hixson seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

Rector's Report:

Father Wes' report consisted of an orientation for the new Vestry members. He explained his expectations, which were:

- ◇ Pray
- ◇ Be confidential
- ◇ Be present at church events
- ◇ Be on time and ready for meetings
- ◇ Work to make meetings efficient and productive
- ◇ Provide feedback for the group and Rector
- ◇ Deal with church issues through Rector and Vestry
- ◇ Respect each other's values and opinions
- ◇ Keep an open mind and be progressive in our thinking

Senior Warden's Report:

Gail explained that it is a privilege to be on the Vestry and that it is important to plan and to attend as many Vestry meetings as is possible. She also echoed Wes' expectations of new members. Gail noted at Senior War-

den she had high goals in outreach and mission.

Treasurer's Report:

Sarah made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report; Fran seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. Fred noted that we are already \$11,000.00 ahead after January. He felt this was a positive reflection of the year to come.

Others:

Fred has given the master list to Wes. He is now working on planned giving, the recruitment of new members and how we welcome guests to the church.

Old Business:

1. Committee Chairs- Hospitality: Juli James
Communications: Cally McKee
Newcomers/Evangelism: Fred Petersen
Outreach: Sarah Hixson, Gail Grubb
Christian Ed: Fran Milde and Shane Costello
2. Housing: Wes and Laura close on 2-17, and they will be out of the Rectory by March 1. Wes asked that the housing be set at \$22,000.00 for the IRS. This does not affect how much Wes is paid, it only designates the funds differently for tax purposes. Fran made the motion to accept, Shane seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed.

It was agreed that we hire a property manager who will have a contact person at the church. The property manager will be in charge of all late fees, maintenance issues, etc. The standard rate for property

management is 10%, and Allen Agency will be the manager. Juli made the motion to rent the Rectory, Fran seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. Randy Belton will contact Allen Agency and will be the contact person who will work with them.

3. Lenten dinners. The next dinner will be at 6:00 on February 23, hosted by the Worship Committee.
4. Credit Card. There is no news yet from Dennis on obtaining the credit card.
5. Chairs. The new chairs were supposed to be in last week, Wes attempted to pick them up in Idaho Falls, but they were delayed and should be in this week sometime.

New Business:

Seating: Seating has become an issue over the last four Sundays especially. There is overcrowding, people standing and some people choosing not to attend coffee hour. It was suggested that we take the couches out and allow for more seating. Shane made the motion to accept the suggestion; Fran seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed.

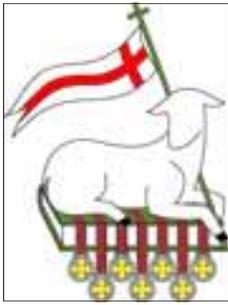
During open discussion Shane made some good points about our Christian Ed program and Wes expressed his agreement and thankfulness that Shane and Fran would now be working on those programs.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Announcements

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* * * * *
* 28 Mar – 2 April, church office closed *
* 10 April chalice bearer's meeting after church for 30 minutes *
* 15 and 16 April Centering Prayer Workshop *
* * * * *
* Wes and Laura's new phone/address is 537-3153, *
* 35 Meadow Lark Lane, Boulder, WY *
* * * * *





A Voice in the Wilderness

ECW Women's Retreat, Madeleine Murdock

Attendance: Julie Barnes, Wendy Bowman, Pat Coleman, Ana Cuprill & Sophie, Betty Golden, Gail Grubb, Sarah Hixson, Pat Jackson, Charlotte Keyser, Katie McClure, Claudie Meyer, Sue Meyer, Fran Milde, Madeleine Murdock, Ruth Noble, Barbara Pape, Coralee Petersen, Audrey & Jennifer Petersen, Gail Randall, Jeanne Raney & Ceili, Laura Shields, Donna Skinner, Irene Wherritt and Barbara Wise.

The Women's retreat on Symbols led by the Reverend Ann Fontaine was held in St. Andrew's in the Pines January 28th and 29th, and was organized by Laura Shields and Ana Cuprill. On Friday evening, the Retreat started with prayer in the church followed by supper in the undercroft—tasty chili soup and cornbread, and decadent ice cream sundaes prepared by Ana and her helpers.

Ann Fontaine had asked each person to bring a small, easily handled object of personal significance. (Jeanne was asked if that was the reason she had brought her baby daughter, but she refused to pass Ceili around.) We then split into pairs, explained to each other the personal meaning of these objects and exchanged them. With the new object in hand, we formed different couples, repeated the story connected to that object and exchanged again. This pattern was followed until all the objects had traveled through the group,

whereupon we told the stories attached to the last objects we held. The owner added or corrected details as appropriate and claimed back her personal treasure. We learned to listen, share personal experiences and trust others with our revelations. Father Wes would have been impressed with our listening skills, but Katie McClure's and Pat Coleman's stories developed interesting twists. (Did y'all know that Katie used to be pure of heart? Or that Bob trusted Pat with a huge amount of money he sent her when he was out of the country?) After this exercise, it was easier to understand that symbols only have meaning when we know the stories behind them, and also, that the meaning can change over time or when adopted by a different culture.

Ann then sent us on a search through the building to list all the religious symbols we could find. As we recounted our discoveries, she explained the meaning and the history of the various symbols which stimulated further discussion among the group.

Friday evening closed quietly with prayer. Upstairs in the dimly lit church, Father Wes joined us with his guitar and led the singing during Compline. This very peaceful and comforting service was illuminated by the soft glow of the many small candles which covered the altar; I have rarely seen it more beautiful.

At 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, we gathered upstairs for Morning Prayer. After breakfast, Ann took time to answer questions and explain symbols which had not been addressed on Friday evening. To each of us she gave a gold star upon which a single word was printed. We are to consider the

many meanings of our words and incorporated these into our daily lives. We then studied a ten page handout of Christian acronyms, crosses, stars, doves, lambs, etc., many of which come from the Book of Revelation, and Ann asked us each to choose one as a focus and meditate in silence for half an hour. Small group discussion followed, where everyone had an opportunity to expound on the symbol chosen. In the handout was a page depicting shields of the early saints. Most were very simple, containing one to three symbols which usually represented their major life achievements, but in stark contrast the shields of St. Bartholomew and St. James the Less graphically illustrated the manner of their deaths. Ann had materials available for us to create our own shields, incorporating symbols which fit our lifestyles. This is a very creative group of women whose varied ideas were colorfully illustrated.

At 11:30 a.m. Ann celebrated Holy Eucharist. During this service, all participants displayed their shields and explained the symbolism. For some, this was an emotional catharsis as they exposed deep feelings. The shields were then laid in front of the altar as offerings.

The Retreat ended with a delicious and colorful pasta lunch, and Laura's gift of polished stones, incised with crosses for each of us.

During this time together, those involved grew in faith and understanding of that faith. We also drew closer as a family as we worked together, shared personal stories and communal memories of St. Andrew's, and shared chores, laughter and tears. Thank you Ann Fontaine and Laura Shields for providing us with this satisfying opportunity.



A Voice in the Wilderness

Youth and Children's Corner

J2A by Barb Wise

The J2A's are coming to the end of their two-year study about entering adulthood. We have talked about issues relating to Self, Society, Sexuality, and Spirituality. We will be exploring the concept of "Silence" and prior to Holy Week we will have a supper consisting of common Jewish foods that Jesus and his followers

would have eaten, including dates, figs, nuts, matzoh bread, goat's milk and "wine." This "supper" which we will eat on the floor, will be followed by exploring the concept of foot-washing which Fr. Wes will lead. The year will end with dinner and a worship service with students and their

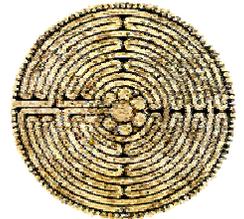
families. All of these young persons will become part of the all-high school youth group next fall. Almost all of the members of J2A are acolytes, and their faithfulness in this ministry is much appreciated. The leaders of the group are Mike Beard and Barb Wise.

The story of the labyrinth, Barb Wise

Weather prevented the J2A high school group from going to Salt Lake City to walk the Jordan River Peace Labyrinth. We hope to be able to do that before school is over for the summer. Walking a labyrinth is a deeply moving spiritual experience. Labyrinths are designed to allow you to get to the center and back out; with mazes there is only one way in and they are designed to trick or trap one inside. Many labyrinths are patterned after the famous labyrinth at Chartres Cathedral in France. This is the oldest surviving labyrinth and was laid in about 1220. The Rev. Lauren Artress of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco has been a vital force in spreading the word, and helping to create information about laby-

riths throughout the world. There are two labyrinths at Grace Cathedral. There are six labyrinths in Utah, all but two in the south part of the state.

Making a trip to walk one of these would be a good project for any of our church groups. If you are interested in knowing more about labyrinths, you may visit grace-cathedral.org/labyrinth/interactions/index.shtml. Grace (which is one of the largest Episcopal churches in the US) even has an online labyrinth one can "walk." Walking a labyrinth is a wonderful meditation tool. If you have questions or would like to see the video about the labyrinths at Grace Cathedral, contact Barb Wise.



Health Ministry News Fran Milde, RN Ph.D

The Health Committee met on March 7 after church. Present were Shana Belton, Sue Holz, Marilyn Huffman, Fran Milde, Wes Shields, and Irene Wherritt. The committee identified new ideas and directions for the upcoming months. The topics discussed were:

1. Ideas for future articles included obesity and men's health. If anyone has an area that they would like to see addressed, please let Fran Milde know.
2. New directions identified were:
 - a. To incorporate the Health Ministry into outreach. One avenue suggested was Hospice. Other ideas will be explored too.
 - b. To plan and implement a healing service. This needs further development including goal, when to hold service, what type of service, etc.
 - c. To expand into youth education. Suggestions included having a Kid's Corner on Health and making health related presentations to J2A and Rite 13.
 - d. To hold a health day at St. Andrew's. This needs more discussion and direction. We do not want to repeat activities of community such as Health Fair. One suggestion was to have a Sunday after church devoted to health activities.

Another meeting will be held on April 24, 2004 immediately following Sunday service to continue on the above topics. If you have ideas to be brought up by the health committee, please see Fran Milde or other committee member.

Centering Prayer Workshop

What you can expect:

1. A time of learning, reflection, and renewal.
2. An opportunity to respond to the Spirit's invitation to pray.
3. A thorough teaching of the method of Centering Prayer.

What you will learn:

History/Tradition/Scriptural roots of Centering Prayer.

The Method.

The psychological experience of the prayer.

Taking centering prayer into daily life and ministry.

Centering Prayer is one response, among many, to God's invitation to enter into loving intimacy and union. Centering prayer is both a method and a relationship. Its source is the Divine Presence within, and as a method facilitates opening to that Presence. Centering Prayer fosters the contemplative attitudes of listening and opening to God at ever deepening levels thus facilitating intimacy with Him. With our continued consent and God's ever present grace the relationship moves towards divine union. The fruits of the prayer are manifest in daily life with the gradual unfolding of the theological virtues of faith, hope and love. These, in turn, support the spontaneous capacity to love and serve God and neighbor. Centering Prayer is a contemporary form of the prayer of the heart, the prayer of simplicity, the prayer of pure faith.

The Rev. Sandy Casey-Martus will be leading the retreat. She is an adjunct professor at the Episcopal of the Southwest and has served as the Executive Director of the Alta Retreat Center and Vicar of St. Francis of the Tetons Episcopal Church in Alta Wyoming.

Retreat Times

Friday, April 15 from 7 – 9:30 pm

Saturday, April 16 from 9 am – 12:30pm

(There is no cost for this retreat, but donations will be accepted)

Please let Wes Know if you plan to attend



Celebrating Christ in Community

ST. ANDREW'S IN THE PINES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Irene Wherritt, editor

Easter Activities

- 24th- Seder meal at 5:30 followed by Maundy Thursday service at 6:30
- 25th- Good Friday service at 6:30
- 27th -Easter services 7 am Bondurant, 9am White Pine, 11am St. Andrew's

