

A Voice in the Wilderness

St. Andrew's in the Pines Episcopal Church



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The Rector's Remarks



Wes Shields

Why are we here? I am told that this is one of the great questions of

the universe that every human being struggles to understand. I don't know if that is true or not, but I thought it was a good question for a Christian to consider. Why are we here, at this place, and at this time in history?

I believe that we all struggle in some form or another to understand what God's wishes or plan is for our lives. There are so many "good" things competing for our

time, our energy, and our resources that often times it is hard to live out our priorities. I have done a fair amount of work talking with people about their priorities and I know I have shared this with all of you before, but I think it is so important. Most people will have a list of priorities that looks something like this only with varying orders: 1. God and church, 2. Family/marriage and children as well as extended family,

(continued on page 2)

SAFV Taskforce Presentations Melanie Sampson

The SAFV Task Force is dedicated to continue services and education that help develop an improved sense of self and emotional well-being. Throughout the next couple of months SAFV in cooperation with St. Andrews will be presenting clinics in life skills to benefit both sides of the county. We will be presenting clinics on Job Skills, Money Management and Parenting Skills. The first class

will be on Job Skills. There will be two sessions, each approximately 2 hours long. The session will cover the job search, resources that are available in Sublette County, how to fill out an application and develop a resume, and finally interview tips and common mistakes. In the second session we will discuss how to keep a job once you have gotten your foot through the door, how to continue to develop your job skills, and other tips.

The class will be presented at the Pinedale Sublette County Library

September 12th & 26th from approximately 5:30-7:30 pm. This program will be good for our young adults as well as some of us that may want to change their life/career goals. Spread the word about the program to your neighbors and friends!!

If you are able to assist with child-care and/or refreshments for the first two classes, please call the church office ASAP at 367-2674. The child care will be on an as needed basis, and the refreshments will be for 5-10 people..

Rag Dolls 2 Love, Inc.

Rag Dolls 2 Love, Inc. is a non-profit organization started by Mary Page Jones in Wapiti, WY. This organization receives and ships thousands of "Rag Dolls" worldwide each year. These dolls are sent to areas where all normal infrastructure has been devastated. With no infrastructure, residents of these areas have very little and no one to look to for basic necessities. These dolls are not toys, but a source of solace and comfort for these children who have lost so much, materially and emotionally.

Information and the doll pattern can be found at www.ragdolls2love.org. You can also find this information and the doll pattern on the table outside of the sanctuary. St. Andrew's can take care of getting these dolls to Wapiti if you would like to drop them by the church parish hall. There is no deadline, as we think this can be an ongoing project for you, your family and any organizations you belong to. See Laura Shields with questions.



Rector's Remarks continued from page 1)

3. Friends, 4. Work. I suspect that this list doesn't look much different than mine or many of yours. I then ask people to make a list of where they spend the most time and energy and that list usually looks something like this: 1. work, 2. family, 3. friends, 4. God.

When you look at these two lists it becomes obvious that for many of us what we say is important is not what is really important in our lives. Again I ask the question, why are we here? The Bible tells us that we are made in the image of God and that we are

made to worship the Lord. That's it. It makes mention of working hard in order to provide for others, but basically it says that we were made to be in communion with God. We are made by God and for God. That's not to say that the Bible ignores the purpose is to glorify God. We are not to work or to love or to play for its own sake, but for the sake of God. Again, why are we here?

Take the time to think about why God has put us here in this place at this time. We all have gifts and talents that we have been given in or-

der to serve God. Are we using those gifts? Are we spending our time wisely? Only you can answer these questions, but if your life is anything like mine, and the lives of 99% of the people I talk with, then the answer is sometimes, if not often times, no. Don't spend another day feeling that how you spend your time, your gifts, and your talents is not up to you. You have the God given right to choose. Make sure you are choosing wisely.



Ranch Mass, 2006, Norm and Barb Pape's





ECW News



ECW Service Day, Laura Shields

Service Day

Our service night was held July 24th. One crew took flowers and the card from St. Andrew's to lone at the Sublette Center. She wasn't feeling well and so did not go out to the park for a take-out dinner from Café on Pine with the rest of the group, but enjoyed the company in her room. The other crew met at the Murdock's and did some cleaning, weed-eating and defrosted the freezer. Thank you to all who participated. Your generous heart was greatly appreciated!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! ECW is goin' to the ballet!

The Pinedale Fine Arts Council will be presenting the Massenkoff Russian Folk Festival Friday, October 27, 2006. You are responsible for purchasing your own ticket to the ballet. We will plan to have dinner at Café on Pine before the event. There will be a sign-up sheet in the parish hall so we can make reservations for dinner. If you would like to come, but don't want to drive after dark, please give Laura a call at 537-3153 for a carpool.



Busy Places Sacred Spaces



Mary Thompson

In June, sixty eighth grade students and chaperones from Pinedale traveled to New York City for a week-long tour. Students from our St. Andrew's family making the journey were Emily Johnston, Amy David, Kyle Peterson and Jayne Thompson. I was a chaperone and eager to see New York again.

The itinerary included the standard destinations from the Statue of Liberty to Broadway, the Metropolitan to Macy's and much more. Our lively group also had the opportunity to visit some magnificent churches and this has given me an interesting point of reflection on our trip.

St. Patrick's Cathedral on Madison Avenue is the largest Roman Catholic church in the US and it can seat 2,200 worshippers. It was begun in 1858 and was designed and built in the Gothic style that dominated Europe during the Middle Ages. Our group was impressed with the ornate details and beautiful stained glass, and some of us returned on Sunday for a 7 AM service so that we could experience St. Patrick's again.

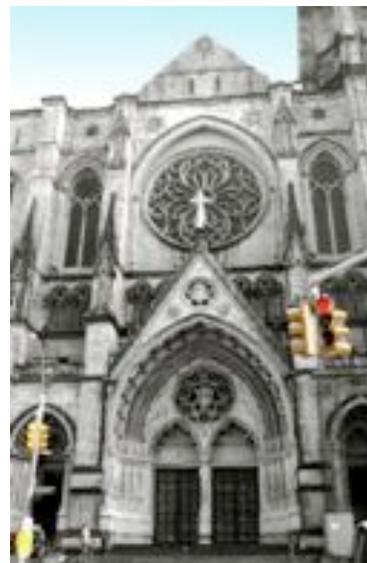


We visited St. Paul's Chapel, across from the site of the World Trade Center. St. Paul's is the oldest public building still standing in New York, and it is part of the parish of Trinity Episcopal Church. George Washington had a pew here when New York was our nation's capital. During the res-

cue efforts at Ground Zero, the Chapel was used for medical emergency and food distribution. The grounds are quiet and colonial with hand wrought gates surrounding old headstones. Inside, the sky blue ceiling and simple meeting house layout is spare and simple.

When we traveled to the upper west side, the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine was our destination. Huge and hulking as you approach from the west, the interior soars heavenward as you pass down the corridors. The interiors are undergoing a massive cleaning and the organ is not yet repaired following a fire in 2002. Even disrupted with plywood partitions, the space impressed our group. Begun in 1892 and seating 5,000, construction is not complete on the world's largest cathedral. (The nave stretches the length of two football fields!).

We discussed how magnificent it would be to have a worship space like St. John The Divine: the acoustics, the art, the drama. Imagine what the Blessing of the Animals would be like or the Christmas Concert for World Peace?!



Vestry Meeting minutes, Cheryl Essington

August 14, 2006

Present: Wes Shields, Cheryl Essington, Cally McKee, Fred Petersen, Fran Milde, Gail Grubb, Donna Skinner, Carla Sullivan

Minutes of Last Meeting: Fran moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting, Gail Grubb seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: We are ahead of our budget. Fran moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, Gail seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Phil proposed the following in addition to his financial condition reports.

- 1) Approve the draw down of \$46,561 from the current balances in our two Operating Accounts (totaling \$79,102).
- 2) Of this amount, \$26,735 would be deposited into the Building Fund Savings account to raise it to the \$30,000 level designated earlier by the Vestry as a debt service reserve.
- 3) A mortgage payment of \$22,813 would then be recommended for approval of the Vestry, as required.

Gail Grubb moved to approve Phil's recommendation; Cally seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Senior Warden's Report: Convention delegates were discussed.

Rector's Report: Big Piney is still doing well. Wes asked for continued prayer for himself and the congregation there.

Others:

Gail Grubb reported that the painting in the Neely house is almost complete. The Crisis Pregnancy Center will finish the painting before they move in.

Carla reported that the Wednesday School program has adopted a new curriculum this year. They will be using Live B.I.G., and will be asking for more parent involvement.

The Adult Education program will begin The Alpha Course on September 12th. A meal will be provided each meeting of this 13-week program.

Old Business:

1. Dance. The Vestry will revisit this item at the next meeting.
2. Shirts. Carla will follow up with this project later this fall.
3. Website. Cally will follow up with this project later this fall.
4. Service Times. Several times for the winter service were discussed. Attendance has been increasing at the early service. Wes will ask for input from members who might have conflict due to ranching duties. The 8:00 and 9:00 services will continue through September, to be revisited at the next meeting.

New Business:

1. Property Plan. Wind River Landscaping has asked that we amend the lease to read that he will be given the right of first refusal if we decide to sell the property. Gail Grubb moved to amend the lease, Carla seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Per the email sent to the Vestry, the house will be rented to the Crisis Pregnancy Center for \$1,200.00 per month beginning in September. Shane will work with Judy Smith to prepare the contract, including a one-year lease. Cally moved to rent the house to the CPC, Fran seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

2. Convention Delegates. Wes will be in contact with Phil and Patty Washburn this week.

3. Outreach. SAFV will be having their life skills training on September 12th and 26th. St. Andrews will be providing refreshments and childcare. Wes will talk to Gail and Laura and possibly provide a meal.

4. Prayer Group. Wes asked that the Vestry try to attend the prayer group on Tuesdays at noon when possible.

5. Booster club sponsor. St. Andrew's was asked if they would like to sponsor the booster club. Cally made a motion to decline the sponsorship, Fran seconded the motion and the motion failed unanimously.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

*Allen and Mary Rutherford
Ferguson donated funds for the
printing of this newsletter.*

Thank You!

Remembering Katrina: Recovery continuing with Episcopal Church's help

Episcopal News Service



Episcopalians will join with their neighbors all over the Gulf Coast to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the days when Hurricane Katrina devastated the region. Commemorations on both the congregational and di-

ocesan level are planned in the dioceses of Louisiana and Mississippi. In some instances, Episcopalians will participate in ecumenical and interfaith prayer services, and will join with relief agencies to commemorate the events of August 27-30.

Meanwhile, long-term recovery work, including the involvement of Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) and Episcopal Migration Ministries, continues and there is still a need for volunteer workers to help those efforts.

In addition, the Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Church Foundation and the dioceses of Louisiana and Mississippi have formed a partnership to raise \$6.5 million in the first phase of a campaign to reconstruct church buildings, insure compensation for clergy while congregations regain self-sufficiency, create new opportunities for church schools and establish ministry centers. By August 9, the Darkness into Day effort had raised \$1.2 million, according to Rebecca McDonald, Episcopal Church Foundation marketing director.

More information about [Darkness into Day](#) is available [online](#)."

Announcements

- September 5, 6 pm training for Alpha Course Leaders
- September 6- Wednesday School Kickoff and parent meeting
- September 9, 5:30-8 Crisis Pregnancy Center fundraiser at Pitchfork Fondue
- September 10, Youth Group Trip to Jackson
- September 12 and 26, at 5:30 - 7:30 pm St. Andrew's participates in SAFV Job Skills Training
- October 5-8, 40th Annual Diocesan Convention, Evanston, Wyoming
- October 27, ECW goes to dinner and ballet

Coming Soon, Blessing of the animals!



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