



The Messenger of St. Mark's



1908 Central Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001

November 2009

Vision

C²

Compassion to the Power of ²

Cr eating A Culture of Compassion

Core Values

as found in the word **G.R.A.C.E**

G = God

R = Rely on Each Other

A = Accepting of all people.

C = Caring for All Creation (50/50 Approach)

E = Excellence

Stewardship Sunday

Sunday, November 8 will be our Stewardship Sunday. Following both services will be a pot-luck meal and celebration (8 a.m. Breakfast – 10:30 a.m. Brunch). All people are reminded to bring their culinary delights! Remember, this year we are asking people to pledge their time, talent, and treasure for next year. Please RSVP to the church office. You can also drop your RSVP cards in the offering plates on Sunday morning.

Children and Youth Ministry Update

As we approach our new year, new people have been signing up for ministry and some shifts are taking place. First, starting in January, our children's chapel will be guided by O'Hara and Eric Keszler and Kim and Tracy Prey. Vanessa Mancill has served faithfully for three years as chapel coordinator and has now chosen to focus more of her time developing our youth ministry program for teenagers. She will also continue to be the point person for our Christmas Pageant. Caroline Veit will continue as the nursery and Vacation Bible School coordinator. Of course, our acolyte, lector, and usher ministries are always looking for interested children and teenagers as volunteers. Pre-teen and teenagers interested in Confirmation should contact the church office for more information. There are three class offerings throughout the year and the Confirmation service is always in the Spring.

After hearing from many of the young families, starting in January, we will be combining the concepts of Children's Chapel and our children's Sunday School program during the first part of the 10:30 a.m. worship. Kids will still be encouraged to arrive at 10:15 a.m. for snacks and then head to chapel until returning for the Eucharist. The Sunday school portion, which includes Bible readings, games, crafts, and reflections, will be during the normal Bible reading and sermon time of the liturgy. Watch for more details in the coming months.

Please contact the church if you are interested in helping with any of these ministries. Thank you to all of those people who have continued to volunteer faithfully helping us to raise our children and teenagers in Christ.

Words from St. Mark's Deacons

The Deacon's Desk

This coming Sunday, October 18th we will celebrate Children's Sabbath and honor our young people. Lifting our young up is the most important part of the Episcopal Church's mission. Both the Presiding Bishop and our own Diocesan Bishop are adamant concerning the spiritual welfare and the good work the young people are doing.

Throughout the church young people are in action with Christ's commandment to go out and tend the poor, the sick and the hungry. For example, our young in the Wyoming Diocese did work in Honduras. The young college students I worked with in UCSB made and served sandwiches to the homeless after the Sunday services.

Throughout the Episcopal Church there are young people doing ministry not only here in the United States but throughout the world. It is paramount that our church support Christian education. There is always a need for helpers in the education of our very young and our youth to encourage them that there is work for them to do as they get older. It is not an easy job to do on top of our daily chores of work and keeping up with our own children. This ministry is not a once a week thing; it continues all year long. Not only do our young need us on Sundays but all week and through Summer Vacation Bible Schools.

Christian Education is a ministry and not an easy one. Our Children's Ministry leaders need all the support and prayers they can get, and if you feel that this is the ministry you have been looking for, pray about it and join the leaders and our children.

Many Blessings,
The Rev. Anne Adams-Harris, dcn. ASHN

A Reflection on Diocesan Convention

It was a great privilege to be able to hear the keynote address of our Presiding Bishop to Diocesan Convention on Friday morning, Oct. 2nd. Bishop Schori opened by reminding us that the legal name for the Episcopal Church is the "Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society." She reminded us that our "mission" is to transform the world and to let ourselves be transformed – so that we might build a world that looks more like the reign of God. For me, the most poignant moment during convention came during the question and answer time after her address when a boy (perhaps 15 or 16 years old) stood up and asked her what that "reign of God" might look like.

Her reply was that it would be something like when Jesus was on the mountainside with the loaves and fishes. It would be a time when there was "enough" for everyone. A time when everyone would be fed, no one would be sick due to a lack of care, and there would be no war. It would be a time when everyone's gifts would be affirmed, no one would be unwanted and no one would live in a degrading situation. She said it would be the time when all would know that they were made in the image of God.

Every time we recite the Lord's Prayer we say "thy Kingdom come – thy will be done" and I wonder, when we say those perhaps all too familiar words, how often do we reflect on the words we are praying. How often do we ask ourselves if we *really* mean it?

If a teen asked *you* what the reign of God might look like, as a member of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, what would your answer be? And what would your role be in that Kingdom?

Blessings,
The Rev. Carol E. Peterson



Faith in Pink

A Community-wide Service
in Recognition of
October Breast Cancer Awareness Month

3:00 pm Sunday October 18, 2009
(Service followed by reception in Parish Hall)

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Invite your family, friends, neighbors or co-workers -
anyone whose life has been touched by breast cancer!

Questions? Contact Rev. Carol Peterson

New Members and Transfers

Transfers in:

Transfers out:

Baptism:

If you have come to St. Marks recently and are interested in officially becoming a member please contact the church office at 634-7709.

If You Desire Baptism or Confirmation or Are New To Saint Mark's, Be Sure To:

1) Attend the Welcome Brunch and Rector Meet (For Newcomers only)

Sunday, October 18 between services in the Guild Room – 9:15 a.m.

2) Attend the Next Membership Class

Sunday, October 25 between services in the Guild Room – 9:15 a.m.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Saint Mark's, be sure to sign up for this six week class with the Rector. If you are interested in Baptism or Confirmation, this would be the appropriate class to attend.

3) Mark Your Calendars For The Next Baptism Dates

Baptism: Sunday, November 1 and Sunday, January 10

Adult Forums: October 25—November 15

The first Adult Forum will be held on October 25, facilitated by Norm and Carol Peterson. The topic of this forum will be a report on the recent Diocesan Convention and an update on the Bishop search.

The November 15 Forum will be an overview of liturgical changes for Advent by the Worship Planning Committee and an introduction to individual meditations and reflections for the season by Norm Peterson.

Leadership Thought

- Plan Your Exit -

As you continue to give of your time and effort in ministry, always keep in mind and be seeking out other people who would be good in ministry. In an odd sort of way, plan your exit from the very beginning. What will the transition be like whenever you step into another ministry? Too often a ministry gets launched into "survival mode" when a leader moves on because no one else is prepared to take over the reigns. And remember, your vestry and clergy are here to help and support in whatever way they can. Keep in touch with them, especially if you prepare to transition into something new. This church continues because of your efforts and hard work in furthering the good news of Jesus Christ. Thanks everyone and keep your exit in mind!

The St. Mark's Centennial Foundation invites you to the first

Life Planning Series

Last Rites Planning - Medical Directives - Will, Trust, and Estate Planning

Wednesday evenings – October 14, 21, 28
6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at Saint Marks

Dessert provided by the new Suite 1901 Restaurant!!

Because we are working with a caterer, please RSVP to the church office (634-7709) by the Friday before each session.

What are the last three things that you want to plan and think about in your life? Chances are they have to do with planning for the end of this life before you begin the next life in heaven. Starting in October, there will be a three part series that will be led by a team of clergy, financial experts, lawyers, and medical professionals that will cover planning your own funeral, preparing your medical directives, and finally, organizing your estate and Will. You can be in your 20s, 50s, or in your 80s. Don't wait. Start now! And, we will be offering an excellent dessert each evening supplied by the new restaurant and our new neighbor, Suite 1901. You may come to one, but we encourage you to attend all three.

Wednesday, October 14 – It's Your Funeral!

This first evening will cover anything that has to do with planning for your Last Rites.

Wednesday, October 21 – Pulling The Plug!

The second evening will focus on medical directives.

Wednesday, October 28 – Where There's A Will, There's A Way!

The third and final evening will focus on wills, trusts, and estate planning.

Reminder:

Parishioners are no longer allowed to park in the lot west of the church. The cars will be towed by the lot owner.

Spiritual Direction

If you would like to meet with either a clergy person or with our trained spiritual director, Norm Peterson, please contact the church office at 634-7709.

Saint Mark's Ministries, Vestry Liaisons (in parentheses), and Coordinators

* represents scheduling only

G.R.A.C.E Core Value Vestry Liaisons - God (Jim Stewart), Rely On Each Other (Nancy Abraham, Claire Davis), Accepting Of All People (Kay Perry), Caring For All Creation (Glen Garrett), Excellence (Ryan Lance)

Building and Grounds (Larry Swanson, Junior Warden) - Service Contracts, Supplies and Repairs, Gardening

Christian Education / Discipleship (Jim Stewart) - Adult Education (Norm Peterson) / EFM (John Peacock, Norm Peterson), Children's Sunday School (), Nursery (Caroline Veit), Vacation Bible School (Caroline Veit), Youth Ministry (Vanessa Mancill)

Community Life (Kay Perry) - Daughters of the King (Patti Jones), Health Ministry (Carol Peterson), Mary / Martha Women's Group (Karine Sneesby, Dorothy Stevens), Prayer Chain (Lynne Swanson, Kay Perry), Parish Life (Mara Funk, Kay Perry, Sylvia Stewart)

Outreach / Evangelism (Nancy Abraham) - Caring for Creation/Green (Corey Rutledge, Gayle Langmo), Jonathan Daniels Society (Mike Bell), Outreach (Celeste Hooper, Eric Nelson), Mustard Seed Project (Judy Weickum, Mary Guthrie), Web Page (Chris Barlow, Jerry Jones)

Finance/Administration (Ryan Lance, Glen Garrett) - Audit Team (Betsy Taggart, Fran Kline), Bookkeeper (Alisa Noel), Budget Team (Ryan Lance, Glen Garrett), Centennial Foundation (Pam Snell, Beth Lance), Counters (Darwin Pace), Office (Wanda Hughes), Pledge Records (Pat Swanson, Betsy Phelan), Staffing / Contracts (Rector / Wardens), Stewardship (Nancy Abraham), Templeton Fund (Ryan Lance, Glen Garrett), Treasurer/Asst. (Ryan Lance, Glen Garrett)

Worship (Mark Stewart, Claire Davis) – Acolytes (Catherine Rogers*, John Peacock*), Altar Flowers (Faye Mills), Altar Guild (Faye Mills), Children's Chapel (Vanessa Mancill), Eucharistic Minister (John Peacock*), Eucharistic Visitor/Hospital (Carol Peterson, Jim Stewart), Greeters/Welcome Ministry (Dan Kline), Lectors (Lynne Swanson, John Peacock*), Music (Betsy Taggart, Lynne Swanson), Prayer Team (), Nursery Chapel (Caroline Veit), Ushers (Chuck Hayes), Visual Arts Team (Betsy Taggart, Karine Sneesby), Weddings (), Worship Planning Team

Small Groups

Sharing Group / Bible Study

Thursdays 10 a.m. at Jim Dolby's house. It is led by Jim Dolby.

Sunday Morning Forums

On Sundays between services, from 9:15 – 10:15 am there is will be forums on different topics.

Education for Ministry (EFM)

This class began in the Fall.

Men's Coffee

Every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. at Synergy Café.

Membership Class

This class will be held between services on Sunday mornings starting in October. If you are interested in being Baptized or Confirmed in the Winter, or next Spring, be sure to attend this class. It is led by the Reverend Rick Veit. Be sure to mark the future Confirmation and Baptism dates: Sunday, November 1 (All Saints' Day), Sunday, January 10 (Baptism of our Lord), Confirmation (Spring tba)

Mary/Martha Women's Group

Twice a month on Fridays. This group is facilitated by Karine Sneesby and Dorothy Stevens.

Mary-Martha Circle Fellowship for Women

During our past two sessions, the women of St. Mark's have had the opportunity to host representatives from our community that specialize in assisting victims of several forms of abuse and the resources available to these victims. Casey Patterson from the Cheyenne Police Department and Dorothy Thomas from the State of Wyoming Department of Family Services spoke to us on the subject of Elder Abuse. Dory Clark from the Sheriff's Department and Melissa Walls a representative from Safe House lead the discussion on domestic abuse. Melissa informed our group of the many needs and ministry opportunities available to those who are interested in helping victims of domestic abuse.

Dorothy Stevens, *M.A., M.C.* will continue our 3 part series on abuse as she leads a discussion on spiritual and emotional abuse on **Friday, October 23**. Although abuse (in all its forms) is a huge and difficult subject to tackle, the leaders of the Mary-Martha Circle felt it was imperative to learn more about the different forms of abuse.

On **Friday, November 6**, Harline Larkey *B.S., M.Ed.* of Paws Wise dog training will present our program. She will be speaking on "good citizenship" for your pet.

Join the Mary Martha Circle on **Friday, November 20** for "Tea Time". This will be a fun time as we gather for authentic English tea and treats. If you have a special teacup or even a favorite mug, please bring it so that we may share our memories.

Susanna Garrett will give a power point presentation as we remember our hike at St. Walburga Abbey this past June.

Mary-Martha Circle is a fellowship group supporting women through empowerment, growth, and balance. Our programs start promptly at 1:00 p.m. in the Guild Room but please feel free to come and go as your schedule permits. Brown bag lunches are always welcome.

Statement of Income and Expenses, Surplus/Deficit for 9 Months Ending Sept. 30, 2009

	Year to Date
	Actual
2009 Income	\$ 207,557.93
2009 Expenses	\$ 205,531.59
2009 Surplus/Deficit	\$ 2,026.34
2009 + Prior Years Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (15,615.52)

Assessment (due to increased income) and church insurance are over budget.

Additional Information on Pledges

	Year to Date
	Jan-September
2009 Pledges	
Received	\$ 156,891.50
Pledged	\$ 165,653.25
Variance to Pledge	\$ (8,761.75)

Please review the information below. Where does your pledge fit in? Is your pledge current?

4 pledges have been paid in full.
 49 pledges are current or less than 30 days behind
 14 pledges are between 30 and 60 days behind
 13 pledges are over 60 days behind
 1 pledge has not been paid on

Have you considered paying your pledge through your bank's online bill pay. Simply set-up St. mark's as a recurring payee and let your bank do the rest!

Photos from the Diocesan Convention
in Casper

Presiding Bishop
Katherine Jefferts
Shori



John Peacock and
Nancy Abraham

Norm Peterson
And Jim Garner



Bishop Caldwell and Deacons
Carol Peterson and
Anne Adams-Harris



November Birthdays

- November 1 Dorothy Bradley
Stephen Collins
- November 4 Margot Robinette
- November 7 Evelyn Littrell
Georgiana Stewart
- November 8 Jim McIntosh
- November 10 Wilson Wagner
- November 12 Susan Garrett
- November 13 Carol Peterson
- November 16 Mikaela Smith
Sage Kline
- November 17 John Rogers
Bethany Green
- November 19 Richard Haag
Dian Murphy
Peter Illoway
Miranda Hin-
kle
- November 21 Pete Hutchison
Allan Elsberry-Patterson
- November 22 Theresa Patterson
- November 23 Phil Schiel
Chris Barlow
- November 24 Jodi Smith
Alek Keenan
Clara Goulet
- November 25 Amanda Keefe
- November 27 Stacey Goetz



Norm touring
the new Diocese
building



Betsy Taggart, Susanna Garrett, Sylvia and Jim Stewart

If your birthday was missed please notify the church office at 634-7709.

Outreach

Upcoming Outreach Survey

All of the Mustard Seed suggestions were wonderful and deserve a second look. The Outreach Committee is interested in implementing the project of elder care within our parish family. This could be a wonderful vehicle for in-reach to our parishioners that may need assistance. In the coming weeks the Outreach Committee will be sending a survey to the parish at large. We will be asking for your input as someone who can provide assistance or know someone who needs assistance. This survey will give us the necessary information to get this project rolling.

Please take the time to respond to the survey and return in the stamped envelope provided.

With thanks from the Outreach Committee.



In Christ's love, we seek, welcome, embrace and serve the human family.

Emergency Assistance

When you go the market or to the gas station, please consider purchasing a gift card for the emergency assistance supply box or for Community Action.

Thank you,
The Outreach Committee.



We thank those of you who have given your time so generously for this important ministry! Please feel welcome to come to a workshop, no sewing skills are needed! If you can use scissors, you are able to help make a wonderful token of love! Would you please consider helping comfort a child with a new blanket?

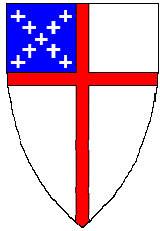
Linus workshop dates in October 28th & there is a change in the November dates because of holidays, we will meet on the 4th and the 18th. Please come and help if you can. As always, any blanket made at home is appreciated.

Donations to this much valued ministry are appreciated. We need 100% cotton new flannel or new fleece. We can always use gift cards from Hobby Lobby or Walmart. Gift certificates from either The Quilted Corner or Around the Corner quilt shops are also welcome.



"He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the alien, giving him food and clothing."
Deuteronomy 10:18

It is our mission to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
1908 Central Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82001



Non-Profit Org.

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Cheyenne, WY

Permit No. 28

Forum on National Health Care Reform

October 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Cottonwood Room at the Library

The first "I Can Cope" session of this series will feature staff members from Rep. Cynthia Lummis' office. Tucker Fagan, chief of staff, and Landon Stropko, legislative assistant in the Washington, D.C. office, will be here to discuss the situation in health care reform as of that evening and answer audience questions. Representatives from Sen. Enzi's and Sen. Barrasso's offices will also be present to receive input from constituents. Please come to the Cottonwood Room at the library from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for this important event! Call Greta Morrow at 635-3943 or Janice Triplett at 638-8949 for more information.

Newsletter Articles are due the 2nd Monday of every month. The articles should be no larger than 1/8—1/4 page long.
Please email them to the office at stmark307.ad@gmail.com.