



Fr. "Skip" Reeves
Rector

The Vision

The Church of St. Peter, Apostle and Confessor
201 Lakeshore Dr. Cheyenne, WY 82009
Services at LCCC, Center for Conferences and Institutes, Room 130
9 AM Bible Study, Youth Program, Sunday School, Nursery
10 AM Holy Eucharist



www.stpeterscheyenne.org
635-6868

April 2008

Airing Some Frustrations

From the Rector:



Unless you have been living under a rock for the past year you have not been able to avoid all the hoopla surrounding the primary elections to choose our party candidates in the run for president. I will bet you are tired of it. I know

that I am. However, there is a bright side. When all of this is over the candidates will know who elected them, and to whom they are accountable.

Over the past few months I have found myself becoming more and more uncomfortable with the lack of communication with our CANA bishops. When I was a young priest, with few responsibilities at the diocesan level, my letters to the bishop seemed to sit on his desk for an eternity, but sooner-or-later they were answered. Later on, when my graying hair began to fall out, and I was the chairman of half a dozen diocesan committees, my letters were answered by return mail, or a personal telephone call. I liked that, and I realize now that I had come to feel entitled to it.

Today my letters are not answered, my phone calls are not returned, and it troubles me. It troubles me because it finally dawned on me that our bishops are not accountable to anyone in the United States. Unlike all American bishops before them, they were not elected. All of our bishops have been selected by the Archbishop and, I assume, approved by the Nigerian House of Bishops. So, to whom are they accountable – not you or me.

Considering the extraordinary problems facing the American Church and the hostile environment from which we came, the "appointment" of our bishops is understandable. Something had to be done, and done quickly. We

all needed to duck under a protective, orthodox, umbrella, and CANA is providing it.

I keep forgetting that from its inception CANA has been a welcome stopgap organism. It isn't perfect, and it never will be. It will also be an ill-fitting shoe. The American psyche has demanded representation and accountability from our earliest days as a rebellious colonial people. In August CANA will hold its 2nd Council, and its most important item of business will be the election and formation of an Executive Committee to guide and administer our affairs. This will help, and I pray that we will do it well.

In order to help our delegates learn something about the various people who will be nominated I hope to devote the next four issues of the CANA newsletter to printing articles about the nominees. I think this will work better than simply voting for someone because they have a nice sounding name and then having to vote them out later on.

As I have mentioned in several sermons, when I found that I could no longer remain in the Episcopal Church I immediately began to search for an orthodox bishop that would take me under his wing. As a priest and as a Christian, I find it necessary to be accountable. Oh, all of us are ultimately accountable to God, but I need to be accountable to a Christian community and its leadership. I know myself all too well, and I don't trust myself – nor you to always do the right thing. That is why I love the Anglican Church. At its best it is a representative, hierarchal Church in which we are all accountable to someone.

God bless you.

Fr. Skip

VESTRY NOTES February's Vestry Meeting was held at the home of Ken & Gaye Flack. Following a short bible study, informal sharing included conversation about those needing prayers in and out of our parish. It was announced that Gaye will

no longer be coordinating Sunday flowers. Anyone who would be willing to assume that role is encouraged to contact Father Skip or any Vestry member.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report. This position is in transition between Ken Flack and Jim Mitchell, who are currently working together. The bank accounts are looking particularly positive, with the most money on hand that is not committed to budget accounts that has been seen in four years, rather in surplus. This can be attributed to a conservative budget and everyone is paying their pledges. We gave \$300 to Faith United Methodist Church for their generosity in extending their hospitality to us for the ordination service for Dan Clark and Marge Marcewicz.

Junior Warden's Report. Dan Clark commended Junior Warden Stephanie Reeves for her diligent work on the reception for the ordination service.

Senior Warden's Report. Jim Mitchell continues to be engaged with ARK, the agency which facilitates the purchase / procurement of property for churches. The process is not moving as rapidly as were our expectations, but progress is occurring. We are hopeful that their visitation here to look over our situation and provide information will take place in the near future.

OLD BUSINESS:

Goals. Discussion centered on seeking growth through expanding our presence in the community through quarterly functions, as previously proposed. Prior ideas included volunteering at Special Olympics. Additional thoughts involved the possibility of conducting a food drive for the needy, working for short periods at Arc of Laramie County to benefit the disabled, offering to assist with Boy Scouts, etc. Recent participation at the Comea Shelter and ongoing contributions to the Coalition for the Homeless are successful endeavors currently in place that seem to be providing meaningful aid where our actions can really count. The director of the Homeless Coalition recently expressed particular gratitude for our donations, especially for the size of our church. We want to communicate this to our parishioners so they realize how much they are appreciated and how their efforts are really filling a need for those experiencing unfortunate circumstances.

Mission Statement. As discussed at the Vestry Retreat, it is prudent to review our mission statement from time to time to insure it accurately reflects our intent. The updated statement we developed is: 'To faithfully witness

to the transforming love of Jesus Christ as revealed in the Bible and in the apostolic traditions. We do this by bringing God's grace and comfort to those in need and through our historic Anglican worship, fellowship, and prayer.'

Faith Cards. We will get more printed. They are very beneficial in reaching out to others in a friendly and non-threatening way. Jim and Lynnann Mitchell have found them to be exceedingly useful in touching others under both favorable and unfavorable conditions.

Sign. Stephanie has been working with a sign company to design and place a sign at the site of our new property when the ground thaws. It will be in a wedge shape so it can be read from both directions. We decided to postpone its erection pending the visit from ARK when we may have a more concrete plan of what our timetable might be so we make our 'announcement' on the land nearer to the time that the construction of our building is a foreseeable probability.

Quarterly Fellowship Functions. We will schedule our annual Fourth of July Picnic and begin to look for a location that will work best for this year, as Westgate is not available. Prior to that, we may also plan a barbeque on our new property, perhaps erecting a big tent to hold a service and have a potluck along with it.

Photo Directory. It is still a work in progress. The mention of an e-photo directory is also a consideration.

NEW BUSINESS:

Request For Financial Aid. Hands in Harmony has sent out a letter to various organizations and churches seeking monetary contributions following the financial loss they suffered when their treasurer stole their funds. We will bring this up during announcement time at church so that anyone who wishes to give to them may be afforded that opportunity.

Blessings to all, Susan Oyler,
Secretary / Clerk of the Vestry

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY The PSM is dispensing with log sheets. It will no longer be necessary to "sign out" the prayer shawls. There will be a "Size and Shape" card inside the back of each shawl package giving this useful information. The care label and "The Amazing Prayer Shawl" legend will continue to be inserted in the upper side of the package. From now on, all you need do is look over the shawls and take your pick!

As always, feel free to call me (778-3993) if you need a shawl. I do not always bring them with me on Sundays.

Lu Hart

AN INVITATION FROM LUDMILA DRANCHAK

The Cheyenne Family YMCA *Artist of the Month* for April is artist Ludmila Dranchak. Ludmila's artwork with some unique computer generated artwork on a house and home theme uses houses, castles and such as near face-like shapes and the

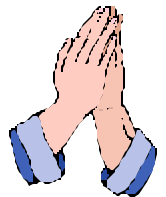
tongue-in-cheek theme is "Home and Garden". There is art with various pieces and ideas from her unique style and humor with silk flowers, on snow fences, interspersed house shapes and computer-art-wise more. A reception to meet the artist is free and open to the public on Friday, April 11, 5:00-6:00 p.m. Any questions about the ART or the reception call the artist Ludmila Dranchak, at 632-0447 or please call Chris Shay the Y-Arts person at the Cheyenne Family YMCA (307) 634-9622.

ROTA SCHEDULE WITH PRAYER TEAM

April 2008

To preview the lessons, you may go to www.biblegateway.com

	OT LESSON	PSALM	NT LESSON	PRAYERS	CHALICE	PRAYER TEAM
Apr 6	Jim Jensen <i>Acts 2:14a, 36-41</i>	Matty Ludwig <i>Psa. 116:1-4, 12-19</i>	Roger Ludwig <i>1 Peter 1:17-23</i>	Marge Marcewicz	Roger Ludwig Jim Jensen Stephanie Reeves	Matty Ludwig Marge Marcewicz LEM: Matty Ludwig
Apr 13	Shari Henney <i>Acts 2:42-47</i>	Marge Marcewicz <i>Psalm 23</i>	Susan Oyler <i>1 Peter 2:19-25</i>	Stephanie Reeves	Jim Jensen Roger Ludwig Marge Marcewicz	Caryl Marion Susan Oyler LEM:
Apr 20	Nick Dawson <i>Acts 7:55-60</i>	Stephanie Reeves <i>Psa. 31:1-5, 15-16</i>	Barb Clark <i>1 Peter 2:2-10</i>	Shari Henney	Dan Clark Susan Oyler Jim Jensen	Stephanie Reeves Gaye Flack LEM: Dan Clark
Apr 27	Lu Hart <i>Acts 17:22-31</i>	Dan Clark (C) <i>Psalm 66:8-20</i>	Nancy Campbell <i>1 Peter 3:13-22</i>	Barb Clark	Dan Clark Roger Ludwig Stephanie Reeves	Lu Hart Jim Jensen LEM: Marge M.



Youth Alive!!!! 2008

We received an invitation from Matt Edwards regarding Cheyenne Youth Alive 2008. In his letter he said:

"Never before in the history of this city has God brought so many churches together for our young people. God has promised many in Cheyenne that he would move in mighty ways in our young people and that he would use them to spark a new day for our entire city.

Join us as we content for the lives of our young people and the promise of our Father. Our goal is to cover this event with prayer starting now through the day of the event. The prayer commitment is this: to fast and pray together as a community every Wednesday beginning March 26th through Wednesday June 4th."

There will be a prayer/fasting sign-up sheet on the table. If you can support this endeavor for the youth of Cheyenne, please sign up.

Youth Alive !!! 2008
Saturday, June 7th
Lions Park

More Information Will Follow

