



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

February 2007

Can We Learn From Telemarketers?

From the Rector:



During his visit last week Bishop Minns challenged the Vestry to double the size of St. Peter's by next year. He reminded us that "growth is the normal sign of life." If we are alive – we will grow. However, that won't happen by chance. Each member of this congregation must develop the mindset of an evangelist. Each must see himself or herself as an apostle.

OK, so there is nothing new about that. We have all heard that before, and we have done absolutely nothing about it – why?

I think one of the biggest reasons we hate to hear about evangelism, and fear the thought of ever trying to do the work of an evangelist, is the fear of rejection. "What if I ask someone and they say no – what will I do?"

Well, you might be heartbroken. That's what St. Paul felt when his Jewish countrymen rejected the Gospel. He knew the saving grace of Jesus Christ. He knew how their lives could be transformed and filled with joy when they realized the depth of God's love for them. When they rejected the Gospel it broke his heart, but he never stopped doing the work of an evangelist.

How many times have you hung up on a telemarketer? Can you imagine the rejection they encounter a hundred times a day? One of the mantras that they repeat to themselves over-and-over is ... SW-SW-SW (Some Will - Some Won't - So What!) I know that you remember Jesus' parable of the Sower and Seed, and how so many of the seed fell on poor soil and didn't grow to maturity. Yet, the sower continued to sow the seeds. Dani Johnson, a telemarketing trainer and motivational speaker, gets very dramatic when she uses her unique take on this parable in her training. She talks about a man

stopping to console a farmer who is crying his heart out on the side of the road. The man asks, "What has happened? What could be so terrible?" Between sobs the farmer answers, "They didn't come up. (Sob!) They just didn't come up. (Sob!) I counted all my seeds. (Sob!) I planted 10,000 seeds and only 1,000 seeds sprouted. (Sob)" Absurd isn't it!

Farmers have always planted more seeds than they needed because they know many of them are never going to sprout, but they keep on planting seeds. Telemarketers keep on making calls because they know that most of them are never going to pan out. Yet, we in the Church, are often afraid to plant a single seed for fear that, that one seed may not sprout, and somehow we may die!

Well, rejection may sting. It is especially painful when your product is as good as the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and you know what it can do for people. Yes, it really should break our hearts to see people walk away from the Gospel. And, if we really believe that the Gospel is life saving and transforming, what does it say about us if we don't even try?

All Jesus asks of us is that we try. That we give it a shot. Should we fail, and we will fail – a lot, I am confident we will one day hear "Well done, good and faithful servant."

*God bless you,
Skip*

VESTRY NOTES. January's Vestry Meeting was held at the home of Dan Clark and was opened by prayer. Following a short bible study, informal sharing included conversation about rejoicing in the surge in the choir, prayer needs within the parish with special requests for Lou Perna, developments around the state concerning disenfranchised church members, and updating our website.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Ken Flack reported that our financial status remains healthy and the bank balance continues to grow. He remarked this is his last meeting as Treasurer, as his term on the Vestry is expiring. According to our By-Laws, it is allowable for the Treasurer position to be held by a non-Vestry member, so it is possible that Ken could continue in that role. While expressing willingness to continue with the bookkeeping for the church, he felt that decision should be made by the new Vestry, though indicated he would like to see the responsibility of Pledge Secretary & Donations (flowers, wine, etc.) be transferred to a new person.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT. No current developments.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT. Dan Clark conveyed he had issued an invitation to Tim Davies, his counterpart at St. Andrew's, to include their members at the Men's Prayer Breakfast on the upcoming Saturday. We are continuing to develop a rapport with those folks and hope to encourage and enjoy fellowship and projects in areas where we find we have things in common.

RECTOR'S REPORT. All items are to be covered under other business.

OLD BUSINESS. Land / Facility Purchase / or Lease. Jim Mitchell informed us he has been exploring lease possibilities. One site, a warehouse, that could have been suitably adapted, was too costly for what it offered. There are some locations available on a short-term basis, such as 6-9 month situations, which could quite possibly be donated, but we would be looking at potential frequent moves, so that was not deemed favorable. Jim is continuing to search for options for us and has three contacts continuing to keep an eye out for us as well. We are still making inquiries about the Miracle Valley Pentecostal Church just north of East Lincolnway, as they prepare to move to a new building.

Vestry Retreat. This first gathering of the new Vestry is scheduled for Saturday, February 3, 2006, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Westgate Clubhouse. It is designed to foster team building, fellowship, and trust to get the group off to a good start to provide for the care of St. Peter's during the coming year.

Annual Parish Meeting. Dan announced that the following new Vestry members have been tapped: Vicky Clark, Gaye Flack, Jim Jensen, Stephanie Reeves, and Marilyn Terwilleger. They will be formally elected at the Annual Parish

Meeting on Friday, January 29, 2007, following the Potluck Dinner at Westgate Clubhouse. Father Skip has asked Jim Mitchell to serve as Senior Warden and Jim has accepted. Discussion ensued about the possibility of decreasing the size of the Vestry in coming years so that we don't unwittingly promote burnout by involving people in service too often, due to the size of our congregation. That consideration will be weighed further at future meetings.

A momentous occasion for us - - our new Bishop Martyn Minns, his wife and daughter will be with us throughout the weekend which marks our 3^d anniversary. Father Skip will pick them up in Denver and has news media interviews scheduled throughout the day on Friday prior to the Potluck and Annual Parish Meeting that evening. The Bishop will have lunch with the Vestry on Saturday while his family joins other parish members for a luncheon at the Country Club, as organized by Stephanie Reeves and Jane Forbes. He will then confer with Marge Marcewicz and Dan Clark regarding their aspirations to enter the diaconate. On Sunday, Bishop Minns will share news about and the vision for CANA (Convocation of Anglicans in North America) at the Adult Education session and will conduct Baptisms and Confirmations at the church service, along with the reaffirmation of vows for others wishing to do so.

NEW BUSINESS. Vestry meetings will be temporarily changed from the second Tuesday to the second Monday of each month to accommodate some schedule conflicts over the next four months. We will caucus with the new Vestry to determine ongoing dates.

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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION During February we'll continue to study the exciting life of Joseph, a good example of the old hymn "God works in mysterious ways his wonders to perform" or as others have said, "God works in wondrous ways our blunders to transform!" Both are true, aren't they? We'll see how Joseph foreshadows Jesus and illustrates the life and work of our savior in surprising ways. And we'll look at God's way of working with Joseph and how it shows the ways God is currently working in our lives this very year!

I've noticed that some call our Christian Ed "Adult Education". But it's not. Teens are

welcome! I'll do what I can to make application to their lives as I seek to do for ours.

Roger Ludwig

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING The Annual Parish Meeting was held on January 19, 2007, at Westgate Club House, following a pot luck dinner.

OFFICERS AND VESTRY ELECTION. Senior Warden. Jim Mitchell was selected by Father Skip to serve as Senior Warden. It was moved by Stephanie Reeves and seconded by Dan Clark that this appointment be approved. All concurred by vote.

Junior Warden. Will be elected by the new Vestry.

Vestry. Selected to the Vestry were Vicky Clark, Gaye Flack, Jim Jensen, Stephanie Reeves, and Marilyn Terwilliger. Dan Clark moved and Ken Flack seconded that all be accepted by acclimation. Unanimous approval followed.

BUDGET. Treasurer Ken Flack presented the budget for 2007. He reported that all accounts are in the black and the church has no debts. He advised that we currently have two bank accounts - - one checking and one money market. We have earned \$1,190.41 in interest in our money market this past year and our bank balance has increased by \$28,170.78. We received \$8,995.92 more than was forecast for this period. Increased giving and conservative management by those in charge of the various

accounts helped contribute to this growth. Thanks go to Shari Henney for conducting a successful stewardship campaign. This should bode well for operations and savings in the coming year.

Ken expressed his thanks for allowing him to serve as our Treasurer for the past 3 years. His term on the Vestry is expiring, so this is officially his last duty; however in that By-Laws allow non-Vestry persons to serve indefinitely as Ex-Officio members in the roles of Treasurer and Secretary, it is possible that he could be retained in that position.

BISHOP'S VISIT. Bishop Martyn Minns, his wife Angela, and daughter Rachel, graced us with their presence. It was an absolute delight to have them with us, traveling from Virginia, and a landmark event in the life of our parish. He and Father Skip participated in a radio program in the morning, but the newspaper and television morning news declined to interview him on the basis that he represents a topic too controversial for them to handle. We enjoyed his presentation about CANA, the state of the church nationally and internationally, and his own faith journey.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and closed by prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan B. Oyler

Secretary / Clerk of the Vestry

ROTA SCHEDULE WITH PRAYER TEAM

February 2007

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

	OT LESSON	PSALM	NT LESSON	PRAYERS	CHALICE	PRAYER TEAM
Feb 4	Matty Ludwig Isa. 6:1-8, 9-13	Marjie Klebe Psa. 138	Susan Oyler I Cor. 15:1-11	Stephanie Reeves	Jim Jensen Roger Ludwig Marge Marcewicz	Matty Ludwig Stephanie Reeves LEM: Matty Ludwig
Feb 11	Stephanie Reeves Jer. 17:5-10	Matty Ludwig Psa. 1	Jim Jensen I Cor. 15:12-20	Susan Oyler	Susan Oyler Stephanie Reeves Roger Ludwig	Marge Marcewicz Caryl Marion LEM: Lamar Gordon
Feb 18	Barb Clark Exod.34:29-35	Dan Clark (C) Psa. 99	Matty Ludwig II Cor. 3:12-4:2	Roger Ludwig	Jim Jensen Dan Clark Marge Marcewicz	Susan Oyler Lu Hart LEM: Marge M.
Feb 21 Ash Wed.	Barb Clark Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Jim Jensen Psa. 51:1-17	Marjie Klebe 2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10	Lu Hart	Lu Hart Stephanie Reeves Dan Clark	Matty Ludwig Marge Marcewicz
February 25	Susan Oyler Deut. 26:1-11	Roger Ludwig Psa.91:1-2,9-16	Nick Dawson Rom. 10:8b-13	Stephanie Reeves	Jim Jensen Roger Ludwig Marge Marcewicz	Gaye Flack Susan Oyler LEM: Dan Clark

If you need to make a change, please try to find a substitute. If you are unable to find a substitute, please let the Rota Coordinator, Matty Ludwig know, 775-0675 leave a message, or at mattyludwig@bresnan.net