



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

July 2006

To all Network Parishes and Rectors:

The following letter is a pastoral letter to all Network clergy (clergy affiliates, parish affiliates and diocesan affiliates) from Bishop Bob Duncan, Moderator of the Anglican Communion Network. Bishop Duncan has requested that this letter be read to all congregations led by Network clergy at the earliest possible convenience.

23rd June, A.D. 2006

A Pastoral Letter from the Moderator

TO ALL THE BELOVED OF THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION NETWORK:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

A new day is dawning. It is a new day for all of us who understand ourselves to be faithful and orthodox Anglicans, whether within the Episcopal Church or gone out from it.

It is with sadness, but also with anticipation, that I write to you now that the General Convention of the Episcopal Church has provided the clarity for which we have long prayed. By almost every assessment the General Convention has embraced the course of "walking apart."

I have often said to you that the decisive moment in contemporary Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion history occurred at General Convention 2003. At that time, in the words of the Primates, the Episcopal Church took action that would "tear the fabric of our Communion at its deepest level."

Since that time, the tear has widened. While we had hoped that this Church would repent and return to received Faith and Order, General Convention 2006 clearly failed to submit to the call, the spirit or the requirements of the Windsor Report. The middle has collapsed. For that part of the Network working constitutionally within ECUSA as over against the dioceses represented by the thirty progressive bishops who issued their Statement of Conscience, we are two churches under one roof.

Even before the close of Convention, Network and Windsor bishops began disassociating themselves from the inadequate Windsor resolution, and thus far one Network diocese has formally requested alternative primatial oversight.

More initiatives are underway. Pastoral and apostolic care has been promised without regard to geography. All I can tell you is that the shape of this care will depend on a very near-range international meeting. Other actions will follow upon continuing conversations with those at the highest levels of the Anglican Communion. Over the course of the month of July, many of the things we have longed for will, I believe, come to pass or be clearly in view for all.

The Anglican Communion Network has never been more united. We are gaining strength, both domestically and internationally. This is the time for biblically orthodox Anglicans to hang together, supporting one another in solidarity, in prayer and with expectancy.

My prayers are with you all, especially those whose plight is most difficult and whose patience is most worn. Pray for me and for all the leadership in Network, Episcopal Church, and Anglican Communion, and most especially for the Archbishop of Canterbury in this crucial moment in modern Anglican history. Again I say to you that a new day is dawning.

Faithfully in Christ Jesus,
The Rt. Rev. Robert Wm. Duncan
Moderator of the Anglican Communion Network

Now that the General Convention of the Episcopal Church is over what can American Anglicans expect to happen?

From the Rector:



Thank God it is over. Not ECUSA's General Convention, but the shameful deceit and misrepresentations of the Episcopal Church in its efforts to maintain its membership in the Anglican Communion. Oh, there will be some dying convulsions, but no amount of "spin" can obscure what just happened in Columbus, Ohio.

Within minutes of the election of Kathraine Jefferts Schori to become the next Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church Bishop Jack Iker, of Ft. Worth, petitioned the Archbishop of Canterbury to appoint the primate of another Anglican province to provide "immediate alternative ... oversight and pastoral care" for his diocese. Bishop Iker is the first to forcefully acknowledge that the fabric binding the Episcopal Church to the rest of the Anglican Communion has been irreparably torn.

Primates of the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa issued an open letter saying, "...reports to date of your elections and actions suggest that you are unable to embrace the essential recommendations of the Windsor Report and the 2005 Primates Communiqué necessary for the healing of our divisions." Global South primates will meet in September and will offer their "concerted pastoral and structural response."

Bishop Duncan, in the opening article of this newsletter, indicates that by the end of July he expects that we will be able to clearly see the direction the restructured Church will be taking. It is anticipated that the Archbishops of Canterbury and York will act under English law to exclude ECUSA from fellowship with the Church of England. This will enable the conservative bishops and congregations in the United States to avoid many of the legal expenses anticipated in maintaining their diocesan and parish properties. If this happens the conservative bishops would be recognized as the "legitimate" Anglican Church in America, or a new Anglican Province would be formed. Should the English Archbishops fold under pressure from ECUSA the primates of the

Global South are expected to form a totally new fellowship of Churches apart from the Church of England, and an American Province would become aligned with this fellowship.

~oOo~

What does all this mean for St. Peter's? Well, I'm not sure. Already individuals have approached me to ask about the advisability of formalizing our move to the AMiA. "Should we wait a bit to see what will happen?"

When I left Houston forty years ago to go to seminary the events we have lived through over the last few years were not even on the horizon. We knew what the Church believed and what the Bible taught ... even though we had never written down. We didn't need to write it down, because we believed what everyone believed since the days of Jesus. Wow, were we ever wrong.

Thank God we can now see the end to all this frustration.

Thank God we can begin to get back to being the Church.

Thank God we can once again heed the words of our Lord when he said: *"go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you"* (Matthew 28:19-20).

~oOo~

Our progress in finding a more permanent location for St. Peter's to worship is not as exciting as most of the other news being reported, but it is important. We have all but given up trying to purchase a building at the present time because of the prohibitive initial cost and the added expense of maintaining it; however, we have not given up on trying to lease a facility and this is what we have found:

1. For a while it looked like Christ Lutheran Church on Nationway was going to merge with Ascension Lutheran Church on Story. Last month the talks fell through and this is no longer a possibility.
2. We have found that the going rate to lease commercial property is about \$1.00 per square foot. We have found some very nice locations, but property like the former Hancock Fabric store is 10,000 sq. ft., or \$10,000 per month.

We are still looking ... and we would encourage you to look as well.

At our last Vestry meeting we heard a request to vary our worship service from time-to-time. Since the AMiA is an affiliate of the African Province of Rwanda, using the Kenyan Eucharist Rite (a standard in Africa) seemed like a logical place to begin. On the 16th of July the Adult Class will have the opportunity to review this service with me and determine which of its several options they most prefer.

The Kenyan Rite is surprisingly similar to our current service; however, in reading it I noticed an increase in the participation of the congregation that I think you will appreciate. I also found it to have a joyful, or exuberant quality that I personally liked. Please make an extra effort to be with us on July 30th when we will use this rite for the first time.

God bless you
Fr. Skip

**THERE WILL BE
NO ADULT CLASS
ON THE 4TH OF JULY WEEKEND**

FROM THE SR WARDEN

A Vision for the Future of St. Peters



For the second time in two months, I am going to focus on the Vision for our church. Last month I shared the basic elements of our vision of the future for St. Peter's and this month, I am going to share in a bit more detail how I see God guiding us. I have gotten feedback from several parishioners about various aspects of our Vision and one theme that continues to surface is the importance of "equipping ourselves and others who God calls to join us to share the Good News" with those around us.

So what does equipping mean in terms of what we learn and what we do? The root of this concept comes from the recognition that sometimes we are asked by friends and acquaintances why we are worshipping at St. Peter's. Many among us do not feel well equipped to answer that question. With continued moves in the Episcopal Church away from traditional orthodox Christianity, we can anticipate such questions to continue and we should be able to articulate God's calling to us. Such questions are opportunities for us to share our faith and in doing so, further God's kingdom here on earth.

So how will we do this? For starters, our adult education classes are very important in this process, Roger's teachings have already established a solid foundation for us. The tape series on the Trials and Testimonies of the Early Church that Jim brought to us built on that foundation. The vestry recently authorized purchase of that tape series for review by interested parishioners and for conducting additional small group sessions. More small group sessions in a variety of formats are encouraged and should prove to be valuable in equipping us to share our Christian experience with those around us. In addition, Fr Skip is presenting a series of sessions for adult education on historical Christian beliefs as contained in Anglican tradition. I encourage everyone who feels ill prepared to share about our church to avail themselves of these opportunities.

One other thought that fits into this construct is how we establish contact with those outside our parish and draw them into our Church family. In talking about this, our vestry has come up with several ideas that encourage me considerably. The common theme among these ideas is linking up with new people through activities other than traditional worship. For example, doing a weekend camping or fishing activity with co-workers or neighbors - especially with young people. Another is a shift in emphasis for our men's prayer/fellowship breakfast normally held on the second Saturday morning of each month. A new concept we are working on is using that time to help parishioners or others in our community who have home chores or other tasks that they are not able to safely do themselves.

The first project we have scheduled is replacing the floorboards in a horse trailer for one of our parish ladies. We will do this project on Saturday, July 8th at Dan and Barb Clark's house (401 E. Idaho St., Ph: 635-6445) beginning at 8AM. Food, tools and materials will be provided; all that participants need to bring are your hands and an appetite. I encourage any and all to come join in this project and plan to have both fun and good fellowship. If any of you have projects that could use some outside support, let me know and we'll put it on our list for a future gathering.

IHS,
Dan

VESTRY NOTES June'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 the ECUSA Convention currently in session.

TREASURER'S REPORT. Ken Flack informed us that we received the quarterly check from Albertsons (\$115.08). We are all encouraged to continue with our purchases there, as the return we get adds to our bank balance. Our overall total has increased from the previous month and all accounts are operating in the black.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT. No report. Jim Krouch was out-of-town.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT. Dan Clark related that the merger of the two Lutheran congregations is not going to take place, so the possible availability of Christ Lutheran is no longer open to us. He is going to put an article in the Vision about our Mission / Visioning process. We will look forward to parish feedback. We will also incorporate the adopted statements in the weekly bulletin at church and provide handouts at the Greeter table.

RECTOR'S REPORT. Father Skip updated us once again on the status of our affiliation with AMiA. We are continuing to wait for the AMiA processes to take their course. Pending at this time is an interview with their theologian to insure Father Skip's theology is "correct." Tom Johnson, AMiA priest in Casper, has shared that there are so many churches trying to get into AMiA right now, they are really overloaded. Father Rus Peck in Riverton is experiencing the same delays and is working hard to keep the parish active there. Meanwhile, we remain technically affiliated with our Canadian Bishop, though we are feeling mentally connected to AMiA.

OLD BUSINESS. Vestry Opening. A clear candidate has not emerged to fill this slot. We will continue to seek and pray about a willing and qualified prospect, but are comfortable with waiting for the right situation to present itself, as there is no particular urgency since we have an otherwise full slate serving.

NEW BUSINESS. Christian Education Resources. Dan has located an updated version of the video series we have been using for Sunday morning Adult Education. He recommended we purchase it for the church, at a cost of \$50 + shipping, in that some individuals have expressed an interest in viewing it and others have considered the

possibility of using it for home group sessions. Jim Mitchell offered that the Mitchells will procure it and donate it to St. Peter's. Marge also has some materials she will make available, so we will have a sort of library where people can check out information that may interest them.

Forms of Liturgy. Roger presented the idea of considering the use of other forms of liturgy from time to time. We have really done very little of that, except for a brief period when Father Skip used Rite 1 for a short time, but it was not continued due to lack of favorable feedback. With AMiA, we even have the option to take portions we like and trade them out for parts we are currently using. The main AMiA Bishop uses a mixture of two services. Casper is using some of the Kenyan Liturgy, along with the 1982 Prayer Book. There are a number of Anglican services. Many can be found on the internet.

Dan expressed several considerations to take into account, should we decide to incorporate some variation into our service schedule, such as how often we would use it, how we would decide, how it would be covered with the congregation, etc. We want to be consistent so people aren't surprised by the service. We need to feel comfortable with what is taking place. We will introduce the idea in the Vision and invite commentary from parishioners as we consider our course here. Presenting it at the Christian Education session would present the opportunity to ask for involvement from those church members. We would not expect this to be a permanent change, but more like "going out to dinner and ordering Mexican, or Italian," for variety.

We all reviewed the Kenyan liturgy and liked what we saw. This service is being used in Rwanda where AMiA's Archbishop is located. One of the hallmarks of this African service is the chant and response format. Dan wondered about using it on the Sunday we are inducted into AMiA, or perhaps we might not want to wait for that. We'll continue to gather thoughts about it.

Possible Church Sites. Father Skip has looked into rental costs for an interim location, such as a "store front." Average costs are running around \$1 per square foot. An example is: the former fabric store next to Hobby Lobby would run around \$1000 monthly. Utilities would probably be additional. Another possibility is the former JoAnn Fabric Shop in Cole Center.

Information from the AMiA folks in Denver has encouraged us to be patient. They are telling us it is not unusual to see a 5-year average for getting into a church. Dan observed that God will put a building in front of us when we are ready.

Father Skip pointed out that something we also need to take into account as we look at these expenses is what costs could be to pay a priest at such time that he would retire. The Bishop is indicating a realistic amount could well be in the neighborhood of \$60,000, with insurance, housing, and salary. We could well be expending significant dollars with that and a building, so we need to keep those contingencies all in our sights.

On the plus side, Father Skip remarked this could give us a space we could call our own. We could put up signage to identify our church. These things are likely to bring a certain amount of growth.

Men's Fellowship. Dan conveyed he and others are committed to the gathering of the Men's Fellowship Group once a month. He mentioned that there were some people who participated at the previous one who are not church members but might end up coming to church some time. An area he would like to pursue is Work Days. Since we don't have a building, he would like to see the group undertake projects of manual labor where assistance might be

rendered to parishioners or to fulfill a need in the community. He has a first project in mind - - replacing the floor in a horse trailer. He has scheduled this task for July 8th and encourages inviting any and all who might consider taking part, both within or outside of St. Peter's. He speculated that it is quite possible that some folks might participate in an endeavor of this nature who might otherwise not attend other functions.

Camping Trip. Dan brought up the idea of a camping trip. More to come.

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

NOTICE ABOUT PRAYER SHAWLS

There has been a high demand for Prayer Shawls recently. If you have been unable to get a shawl, or if you know you will be needing a shawl, please tell Lu Hart. We want to be sure we have shawls available for anyone in need of healing.

**You're invited to join in the celebration
of Pete Marion's 85th birthday and Caryl
and Pete's 56th wedding anniversary
Sunday, July 16, 2006
2:00 to 5:00 pm
3695 Dover Road**

**ROTA SCHEDULE WITH PRAYER TEAM
June 2006**

To preview the NIV readings, you may go to www.biblegateway.com. This site includes both the printed texts and an audio reading.

	OT LESSON	PSALM	NT LESSON	PRAYERS	CHALICE	PRAYER TEAM
July 2	Lu Hart	Jim Jensen	Jim Jensen	Marge Marcewicz or Larry Doyle	Marge Marcewicz Lu Hart	Gaye Flack LEM: Matty L. /MM
July 9	Susan Oyler	Dan Clark	Stephanie Reeves	Barb Clark	Susan Oyler Roger Ludwig Stephanie Reeves	Caryl Marion Lu Hart LEM: Lamar Gordon
July 16	Marjie Klebe	Stephanie Reeves	Jim Jensen	Marge Marcewicz	Dan Clark Marge Marcewicz Susan Oyler	Gaye Flack Stephanie Reeves LEM: Dan Clark
July 23	Barb Clark	Linda Kidwell	Dan Clark	Stephanie Reeves	Lu Hart Stephanie Reeves Dan Clark	Caryl Marion Marge Marcewicz LEM: Marge Marcewicz/ML
July 30	Stephanie Reeves	Jim Jensen	Roger Ludwig	Roger Ludwig	Roger Ludwig Dan Clark Stephanie Reeves	Matt Edwards Matty Ludwig LEM: Marge Marcewicz

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