



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.stpeterscheyyenne.org  
635-6868

November 2006

## From the Rector:



A couple of weeks ago I preached a sermon that evoked a number of positive responses. I think that people found it helpful in explaining their affiliation with St. Peter's, and why they support us so strongly. After giving this a bit more thought I boiled it down to the following article that I pray will be helpful.

**God bless you  
Skip**

## All Roads Will Get You Somewhere.

Alice speaking to Cheshire Cat asks:  
`Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?'  
`That depends a good deal on where you want to get to,' said the Cat.  
`I don't much care where--' said Alice.  
`Then it doesn't matter which way you go,' said the Cat.  
`--so long as I get *somewhere*,' Alice added as an explanation.  
`Oh, you're sure to do that,' said the Cat, `if you only walk long enough.'  
Alice in Wonderland, Ch 4, Lewis Carroll

Something that I will be ashamed of the rest of my life is how slow I was to realize that one of the roles of a Christian minister and the Church is to answer Alice's question clearly and decisively as it pertains to matters of faith because so much depends on it.

I spent 65 years in a denomination that once tried to depose one of its bishops as a heretic, but failed because it had no doctrinal standards. In looking back I am appalled to realize just how

hard we worked to accommodate all aspects of the changing American culture instead of trying to reform it. One of our bishops even went so far as to say, "The Church wrote the Bible, and the Church can rewrite the Bible."

Is that of any importance? Don't all faiths lead to the same place? Well, no. No they don't. Jesus put it this way, "What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?" (Mark 8:36) That's what the stakes are. They are life and death – eternal life and death.

In the summer of 1967 I worked as a chaplain intern at an inner city hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. One of my jobs was to pick up religious literature that various conservative groups would disburse throughout the hospital, and throw it away. I recall one tract that I especially enjoyed tossing ... in those days.

In comic book form it told the story of a mother and daughter boarding a train in a snowstorm and asking the conductor for information about when to get off. The conductor told them they wanted to get off at the seventh stop. This would be a lonely crossroads, but someone would be there waiting for them. The mother and daughter anxiously looked out the windows as the storm intensified, and they carefully counted the stops. All was going well; however, after the sixth scheduled stop the engineer made an unexpected stop because of a snowdrift covering the tracks ahead. After stopping he could clearly see that it was a small drift, and quickly restarted the train. Meanwhile the mother and daughter had gotten off the train and were standing in the snow as the train pulled away.

The conductor was acting in good faith. He thought he was giving good advice. And the mother and daughter did their part as well. They believed the conductor, and followed his advice. Still, they died on the side of the tracks.

Good directions will get you home. Well intended, but wrong guidance will leave you standing by the tracks. Yes, all roads will get you somewhere, but not all will take you where you want to go.

The God that has revealed Himself in the Bible is a God who recognizes just how helpless we are to find our way to him on our own. He is perfect, and we are far from perfect. On our own, we fall far short of meeting His perfect standards, His laws. Try as hard as we may, we will never earn His love. And so, He sent his only son, Jesus Christ, to fulfill the law and die for us.

This Jesus described Himself and His role as being "... the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6) Yes, Jesus is the road to God as He is revealed Holy Scripture, and only as He is found there.

#### FROM THE SR WARDEN



Another month in the books and I continue to see great things among us at St. Peter's. For starters, our work on behalf of the Coalition for the Homeless has been wonderful. A goodly number of our folks turned out on two separate occasions to help the Coalition get their second operating location ship shape for a number of new homeless support programs that I outlined in my input last month. Our continued food donations to this cause complement these work sessions for some of the most unfortunate and needy folks in our community. Good on you all for your contributions of time, talent and resources to this worthy cause in God's name. We also have many others in our church family who are serving the community in other special ways. Look for more articles in coming months about these ministries. Who knows, you might be inspired to join in a new venture that is already part of our service to God and his people.

There are also many other things happening at the national and international level that relate to our work here in Cheyenne. More and more parishes are exiting the Episcopal Church across the country and in many cases, new church plants are springing up to fill the need for Bible based, traditional Anglican worship and ministry. The formation of the Convocation of Anglicans in North America

which we recently joined has quickly become a leader in providing support to these groups. I'll let Fr Skip add more details on this issue in coming weeks.

Related to this movement away from the Episcopal Church, we will be holding several adult education classes that link this process with our Vision for St. Peter's. These classes will build on the vision statement we adopted for our church earlier this year. The focus of the presentations and discussions will be responding to the common request during the development of our vision that we provide help in preparing our members to explain why we formed St. Peter's and the call we perceive for how we should serve God's children both here at home and in broader perspective. The presentations will be based on material provided by the American Anglican Council and include information about things both here in the U.S and on a global scale. If you would like to do some advance work on this subject, click on the Episcopal Witness link at <http://www.americananglican.org/>. Look for these classes in early to mid Nov and plan to attend.

My last thought here will be about our first ever stewardship campaign. This of course is also part of our future and I am delighted that Shari Henney has agreed to lead this effort. The stage has now been set and I look forward to being part of the process with you all.

IHS,  
Dan

Don't forget our men's fellowship breakfast to be held the second Saturday in Nov at the Westgate Community house across from Fr Skip's. Food will be on the table by 7:30 and the lesson and discussion will start at 8:00. We normally are finished by 9:00 so you can still get your weekend chores done.

#### VESTRY NOTES

October's Vestry Meeting was held at the home of Ken Flack and was opened by prayer. Following a short bible study, informal sharing included conversation about prayer needs within the parish, the Chicken for Women Project in Mozambique and other international news.

**TREASURER'S REPORT.** Ken Flack reported that our bank balances continue to grow and all operational accounts are sound.

**JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT.** No current developments.

**SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT.** Dan Clark talked about the upcoming WorkDay at the Coalition for the Homeless. After breakfast, painting is on the agenda. This should pretty well wrap up the work required at their facility at this time.

**RECTOR'S REPORT.** All items were covered in Old and New Business.

**OLD BUSINESS. CANA or AMiA Affiliation.** Convocation of Anglicans in North America (CANA) appears to be the rallying place for those who are leaving The Episcopal Church (TEC). Bishop Minns is the only Bishop currently in this country, though it is expected it will not be long before more are consecrated. They are already dividing up regions and setting up an operating structure. Anglican oversight is being provided through Archbishop Peter Akinola of Nigeria at this time. It is anticipated that CANA itself will likely go out of existence as a new emerging U. S. Province is formed from it. It is being proposed that this body will exist parallel to TEC in the United States, even though the Archbishop of Canterbury is not particularly in favor of such a move. CANA has been extremely responsive to our inquiries and requests and our alignment with them should be simple and expedient, should we choose to associate with them. Bishop Minns has expressed his ability to visit us at our Annual Parish Meeting / Anniversary on January 21, 2007.

Anglican Mission in America (AMiA) has been slow to respond to our efforts to affiliate with them and have presented some roadblocks in connection with some theological issues. While we felt positive about the regional networking possibilities and the presence of a nearby Bishop was a very advantageous factor, the difficulties and lack of support through the application process have not been encouraging. A motion and vote by the Vestry favored CANA unanimously. This message will be carried to the parish via letter and announcements at Sunday Services, to be followed by a Sunday Parish Meeting to allow the congregation to vote and make our final decision.

**Property Acquisition.** The building we toured in east Cheyenne was sold just as we thought we might move forward to pursue a purchase offer, so no prospects are pending at this time. The committee of Jim Mitchell, Dan Clark, and Ken Flack has met and is exploring various possibilities for financial aid on the web and through local channels, so that we might have

something lined up when we locate something of interest in the future.

**Kenyan Rite.** Father Skip and Dan have worked with various parts of the service to establish a sequence and meter which is easier to follow and more like what we are accustomed to. We especially like the involvement of the congregation in this liturgy. We have gotten some music from the Anglican Church at Casper which we can incorporate into the service. The possibility of conducting an instructed Eucharist or covering this rite in Christian Education was brought up to become more enlightened about it and gain familiarity.

**Coffee Rota.** Becky Burney reported that Shari Henney, Barbara Clark, and Jim & Sue Krouch have agreed to assist with coffee preparation on Sunday mornings prior to Christian Education. Additional volunteers are needed and encouraged to contact Becky if such assistance can be provided.

**NEW BUSINESS. 2007 Budget.** Treasurer Ken Flack presented the proposed budget for 2007. Following discussion, a new budget was approved. Very little change was implemented from previous years.

**Stewardship.** We have not conducted a Stewardship drive in our 3 years of existence. Its purpose is not just to fill out the budget, which we have accomplished comfortably to this point, but for our own spiritual health and life. Shari Henney will chair such a project for this year.

**Priest.** The consideration of allocating money for property acquisition or for the circumstance of hiring a full-time priest when Father Skip retires was posed. A greater salary commitment will be needed at such time and could be a factor as great or greater in fostering growth as the procurement of a building. This is something to be taken under advisement in subsequent meetings.

**LCCC.** Though we thought we would not again be displaced from our usual rooms, we find we will be re-located to the Training Center once again on November 17<sup>th</sup>, due to a mix-up in the Conference Center office. As a result of this error, they will not charge us.

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

#### **PARISH MEETING OF OCTOBER 22, 2006**

A one-item agenda was considered at the special parish meeting called at regular Sunday services. The matter of whether to continue the

pursuit of our prior decision to affiliate with Anglican Mission in America (AmiA) or to rescind that action to align with the Convocation of Anglicans in North America (CANA) was presented. Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to join with CANA. A vote followed, approving the motion. We will proceed with action to become a part of CANA.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:** Sunday's at 9:00

**November 5<sup>th</sup>:** Roger Ludwig will give the last in the series on the covenants, covering the use of Old Testament scripture by a New Testament people.

**November 12<sup>th</sup>:** Sue Hume will cover preparation for a possible flu epidemic and other emergency preparedness measures.

Roger

**STEWARDSHIP:** Have you ever had one of those weeks where every brain cell of creativity feels like it has been used up? It's been one of those weeks in the Henney house and even the dust bunnies are running for cover from the physical chaos created by teams working on three different projects. I quietly sat down to write this article late one evening and trying to prime my mental pump, I pulled out the dictionary to look up the word stewardship. I meditated on its paraphrase, to manage the affairs of an organization, and found it cold and technical.

Then one of those "a-ha" moments occurred. Stewardship is what I am doing daily in my music studio. Five of us now are building a successful future through wise management of time, creative use of talents, and joyful giving. The most important element, however, is relationship. In our beehive of activity this week, my little staff has given each other lots of hugs, soothing words of encouragement to calm anxieties and pockets of time to whittle down a mountain of work to achieve our goals. God's presence has been so powerful at times, all we could say was a mind-blowing "Thank You!".

Matty and I are having so much fun putting together all the ideas listed on your post-its from Sunday, October 29. A common thread keeps revealing itself as we build a presentation board for you—we are already doing many of the things you listed! Motivational speakers will agree that most of the world lives in the negative and it's a minority that chooses to live moment by moment in the positive. Come join us for the services on November 5 and 12 as I joyfully show you what we have and "how to kick it up a notch" to achieve the positive goals you want for St. Peters. As we meet together on Celebration Sunday, November 19, I am convinced that your response will be a resounding, "Thank You!" to almighty God who loves us so much.

Shari

**ROTA SCHEDULE WITH PRAYER TEAM  
November 2006**

To preview the lessons, you may go to [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com).

	OT LESSON	PSALM	NT LESSON	PRAYERS	CHALICE	PRAYER TEAM
<b>Nov 5</b>	Lu Hart Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9	Jim Jensen Psa. 24	Susan Oyler Rev. 21:1-6a	Stephanie Reeves	Roger Ludwig Marge Marcewicz Susan Oyler	Lu Hart Caryl Marion LEM: Matty L.
<b>Nov 12</b>	Matty Ludwig Ruth 3:1-5 4:13-17	Marge Marcewicz Psa. 127	Susan Oyler Hebr. 9:24-28	Roger Ludwig	Stephanie Reeves Roger Ludwig Susan Oyler	Marge Marcewicz Matty Ludwig LEM:Lamar Gordon
<b>Nov 19</b>	Stephanie Reeves I Sam. 1:4-20	Dan Clark (C) Psa. 16	Barb Clark Heb. 10:11-25	Marge Marcewicz	Dan Clark Roger Ludwig Marge Marcewicz	Stephanie Reeves Gaye Flack LEM:Dan Clark
<b>Nov 26</b>	Jim Jensen 2 Sam. 1:4-20	Marjie Klebe Psa. 132	Matty Ludwig Rev. 1:4b-8	Susan Oyler	Susan Oyler Stephanie Reeves Dan Clark	Caryl Marion Marge Marcewicz 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](mailto:mattyludwig@bresnan.net)