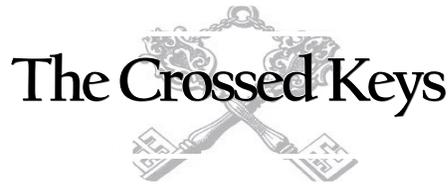




Fr. John Inserra
 frjohn@stpeterssheridan.com
 Cell: 307-763-3220

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
 1 South Tschirgi Street
 Sheridan, WY 82801
 307-674-7655
 Email: stpeterssheridan.com



January 2016

Go Deeper with the Gospel of Luke

Parish study for 2016

I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone about our parish study for the coming year as it features the Gospel of Luke that will begin on Jan. 10th. Let me just give you a few bullet points on this.

You do not need to commit to every single week to be a part of it. The nature of the study is that you can read the text and deal with the questions on your own if you cannot make a week. The study is designed for people to be able to weave in and out.

The purpose is ultimately to help us understand the life and teaching of Jesus better for us today. We will cover some context but application will be the goal.

You do not need the guide as the primarily text will be the Scriptures themselves. The guide will help bring out important points and give us discussion questions but the essential text is the Gospel of Luke itself.

Books are available for \$8 on the parish office if you want one.

The schedule for January will be as follows:

Sunday at 9am	Thursday at 4:30pm	Scripture	Chapter in NT Wright guide
Jan. 10	Jan. 14	Luke 1:1-38	1 – Announcing the Births
Jan 17	Jan 21	Luke 1:39-80	2 – Songs of Praise
Jan 24	Jan 28	Luke 2	3 – The Birth of Jesus
Jan 31 – Annual Meeting Sunday. One service at 9am.	Feb 4		No study this week due to Annual Meeting


 Your Priest,



If you would like to check out Dr. John Milliken's webpage, it may be found at this blog address: <http://millikenlcc.wordpress.com>
 John, Rachel, Chayah and Noah arrived safely to their destination.
 Great information on this site! *Dr. John's Article is found on page 6.*

~~~~~

## Christmas Family Outreach Blessing



Dear St. Peter's friends,

It is with a full heart that I thank you for your generosity to our three Christmas families. This year we had a family in which the great grandmother and grandfather are raising two great grandchildren, a single mom raising three children and a family of 6 who are experiencing the twists and turns that life sometimes throws at us.

From your monetary gifts, we were able to take each mom and grandma shopping. All the shoppers found these ladies to be very grateful and very frugal. We tried to provide each child with a toy, game, book, and some clothes. Socks were a very popular item. The Sunday before Christmas, gifts were wrapped by volunteers during and after coffee hour. All gifts were delivered Christmas Eve morning. One of our members provided a big freezer bag full of deer and elk meat to each of the families, always such a welcome gift.

"They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share." 1Tim. 18



Dear members of St. Peters,

I have been fortunate to begin a new job this fall as one of three Sheridan Parent Liaisons working in the Sheridan Elementary Schools. Parent Liaisons are professionals who work with parents to help connect school and home, offer support and parenting advice, and assist in accessing community resources.

One of the community resources the Sheridan Parent Liaisons have discovered is St. Peter's outreach. Just before Christmas, elementary school staff identified families that could benefit from financial help to make their holidays better. With the support of St. Peter's, we provided gift cards to 19 families; a total of 64 parents and children. The amounts of the gift cards were small, but the impact was large.

The Sheridan Parent Liaisons very much appreciated the gift cards, as did all the families involved. Many messages of thanks were received, and we want to pass the THANKS on to you.

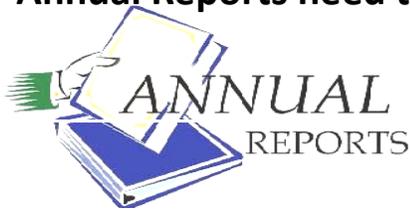
A goal of the Sheridan Parent Liaison program is to ensure success for all children in our community. I am honored to be a member of St. Peter's, where we support people in our community through our numerous outreach programs. Thank you so very much!

Very sincerely,  
 Carol Clark

Parent Liaison for H.A. Coffeen Elementary  
 307-763-3967 [carol.clark@nextlevelwyo.org](mailto:carol.clark@nextlevelwyo.org) or  
[carol.clark@scsd2.com](mailto:carol.clark@scsd2.com) (The Sheridan Parent Liaison  
 program is a new partnership between the Child  
 Advocacy Services of the Big Horn and "Next Level"  
 through Sheridan County School District Number 2.  
 For more information visit [www.nextlevelwyo.org](http://www.nextlevelwyo.org) or  
[www.facebook.com/sheridanparentliaisons.](http://www.facebook.com/sheridanparentliaisons))

**Annual Reports need to be submitted to the church office by January 20th.**

**Thank you!**



Greetings,

I am writing to inform you of our Annual Meeting for 2016 and ask you to come and be a part of it. First let's get to the logistics - **The Annual Meeting for St. Peter's will be on Sunday January 31st. On that day there will be one service at 9am and we will have the meeting following the service.** It is important that we do this as there are matters we need to vote on as a congregation together, not as one service or the other. There will be food. The meeting and lunch should take 90 minutes.

**What the Annual Meeting is:**

The Annual Meeting is a time for us to elect our leadership, present a budget, reflect on where we have been in the prior year, and change bylaws if need be. I do not anticipate any bylaw changes this year though.

**Electing Leadership** – In the Episcopal Church we are a Vestry led church in matters of administration and governance. (We strive to be led by the Holy Spirit in all matters.) The Vestry is the elected leadership of the church, and by electing them at the Annual Meeting you saying you trust them to make the best decisions for St. Peter's. This is a great honor and great responsibility and part of your duty to affirm them.

We also are electing delegates for Diocesan Convention who will represent this church in Diocesan matters for the coming year. This year the Convention is once again in Sheridan, so it is an easy travel year for someone wishing to be a delegate. Again these people are your representatives for the Diocese.

**Presenting a Budget** – The Vestry is responsible for preparing a budget for the church. The Annual Meeting is an opportunity for the congregation to weigh in on the budget, ask questions, offer feedback and comments.

**Ministry Reports** – The Annual Meeting also gives us a chance to reflect on what has been done over the past year so we are all on the same page. Let me give you an example: Did you know the Women of St. Peter's alone gave \$38,000 to Outreach causes? Do you know how they made that money? Do you know the Red Door (our parish thrift store) made \$26,000 last year that all went to Outreach?

Most importantly, it is a time to celebrate the past year at our parish and look forward to the next. We are wishing to be a delegate. Again these people are your representatives for the Diocese.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John+'.

Fr. John+



## Reintroducing St. Peter's Intercessory Prayer Chain

*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all People. 1 Timothy 2:1*

### **What is a Prayer Chain?**

It is a group of people who are linked together like a chain, and committed to pray for other people in need. Prayer chain members are linked together, like a chain, to one another so that the needs for prayer can be passed on to all the members of the chain. When the request for prayer is received the coordinator notifies the prayer chain members by e-mail or phone; the members start praying immediately and continue to pray for the requested person daily for a specific time frame.

In an answer to prayer – a confidential email prayer chain is being reestablished at St. Peter's.

### **How to become involved?**

Any parishioner interested in praying for others' immediate and urgent needs is invited to contact Jodene Prusak; phone 307-752-7237 or e-mail [duffyprusak@gmail.com](mailto:duffyprusak@gmail.com) to join the Prayer Chain. No special skills are required other than a strong dedication to pray for others and the ability to refrain from gossiping.

This Prayer Chain is not replacing the printed prayer request in the Sunday Bulletin nor hospital visits carried out by Fr. John or Deacon Juanita; but rather to assist in providing additional opportunities for parishioner to receive prayers and to minister to others.

### **Ways to make prayer request known**

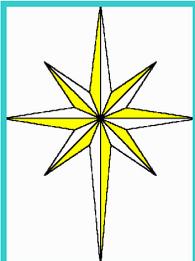
- 1) Contact coordinator Jodene Prusak: [duffyprusak@gmail.com](mailto:duffyprusak@gmail.com) or 307-752-7237 or Mike Evers: [mervers9@bresnan.net](mailto:mervers9@bresnan.net) or 307-672-4928 or 307- 751-6251
- 2) Contact Fr. John or Deacon Juanita
- 3) Contact church office or fill out form found in pews

### **What constitutes a prayer request?**

Any situation that causes sadness, anxiety and distress  
Those dealing with grief and loss  
Accident victims  
Those preparing for, or recovering from surgery or illness  
Those going through stressful times in their lives  
Any who are fearful  
The terminally ill  
Those with family worries  
Any situation that a person wants to life up to God

Prayer Chain parishioners will be asked to meet every couple of months to pray for each other and to track answered prayer. New links on the prayer chain are always welcome. If you feel called to pray for the needs of others please contact coordinator Jodene Prusak.

*Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Psalm 105:1*



**St. Peter's Ministry Schedule • January's Greeter-*Patrick Henderson***

|                    | <b>January 3</b>                                             | <b>January 10</b>                                                     | <b>January 17</b>                                                 | <b>January 24</b>                                | <b>January 31</b>                                                   |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>LEMS</b>        | A: J. Smith<br>B: D. Kuehne<br>C: J. Smith<br>D: J. McKnight | A: None<br>B: None<br>C: J. Smith<br>D: P. Sorvik                     | A: None<br>B: None<br>C: J. Smith<br>D: J. McKnight               | A: None<br>B: None<br>C: J. Smith<br>D: J. Smith | A: None<br>B: None<br>C: J. Smith<br>D: D. Kuehne                   |
| <b>LAY READERS</b> | 7:30<br>F&S Asmus<br><br>10:00<br>P. Dorsch<br>I. Wallop     | 7:30<br>L. Galloway<br><br>S&S Peddicord                              | 7:30<br>S. Bedard<br><br>10:00<br>P. Haworth<br>R. Thompson       | 7:30<br>H. Duell<br><br>10:00<br>M&M Evers       | 9:00 AM<br>Annual Meeting<br>L. Galloway<br>A. Vaughan              |
| <b>USHERS</b>      | F&G Boley<br>R&J Prusak                                      | J&B Benepe<br>M. Dailey<br>S. Mentock                                 | C. Haworth<br>C. Nicholls<br>R&L Rossa                            | F&G Boley<br>M. Stopka<br>S. Tharaldson          | 9:00 AM<br>Annual Meeting<br>R&J Prusak<br>J&B Benepe               |
| <b>ACOLYTE</b>     | J. Eisenach<br>B. St. John<br>M. Black                       | Q. Heyneman<br>J. Esienach<br>Q. Heyneman<br>Training:<br>C&B Mentock | N. Haworth<br>J. Eisenach<br>M. Fritz<br>Training:<br>C&B Mentock | N. Haworth<br>K. Alsup<br>L. Alsup               | 9:00 AM<br>Annual Meeting<br>B. St. John<br>M. Black<br>J. Eisenach |

**For any questions or changes for the ministry schedule contact ~ Juanita Smith at 673-4928**



***Church Library***

**New Books in Library-Check them out!**

Come Rain or Come Shine - Jan Karon

Fr. Timothy Kavanagh - Mitford Series

Metxis Books -

7 Men, 7 Women , Miracles

Timothy Keller Books

Let us seize hold of the living God.  
The weaver of heaven and earth,  
The eternal and true and Holy One.

Let us bring our past,  
Let us bring the present day,  
Let us bring the promise of the future.  
Let us seize the wonder of God's love,  
And place our hands in the hands of the One  
Who takes all that is ordinary

And makes it extraordinary.  
*Amen*

(Christine Sine)

Submitted by Juanita Smith



**D**r. John Milliken-Family Minister  
*drjohn@stpetersssheridan.com*  
307-461-1924



Greetings from Klaipeda.

“So don’t worry and don’t keep saying, ‘What shall we eat, what shall we drink or what shall we wear?! That is what pagans are always looking for; your Heavenly Father knows that you need them all. Set your heart on the kingdom and his goodness, and all these things will come to you as a matter of course.”

(Matthew 6:31-33, Phillips)

Yesterday we spent the afternoon with our friends Emas and Irma at their home in the country a few miles outside of Klaipeda. In the tumultuous days after Lithuania left the Soviet Union, Emas’s family was able to acquire a house and forty acres of land for very little money. He lives there now with his wife and their two young children, Urshule (2) and Agota (1) (Lithuanian versions of Ursula and Agatha). They are both alumni of LCC and have served at the university in various capacities. Emas presently works in admissions and spends much of his time traveling and speaking to high school students, challenging them to think about the important questions of life—while also giving some publicity to the school. You might have read my blog post about Saltshaker. Emas is basically in charge of that event, and both he and Irma have been involved since its inception.

I wanted to write just a bit about this family since their life is an illustration of the truth contained in the verse quoted above and might serve as an encouragement to you—I know it does to me. They live a very simple life on very little income. Irma doesn’t presently work (she is home with the kids) and Emas earns 600 euro a month (\$647). He told me about how many young people have left Lithuania to have a higher standard of living elsewhere. It is easy to leave for Scandinavia, Germany, or England and double one’s income. It is a powerful draw that few resist. The unfortunate side effect is a rapidly shrinking population that has lost 6% just the last 5 years. But they are committed to staying here in order to minister to young people.

For them their focus shapes the way they live as a family. They have a very open home where they are constantly welcoming friends and future friends for food, conversation, and rest in a tranquil setting. They are also building youth camp facilities on their property with the dream of eventually being a place where kids from all over the country can come in the summers for Christian community and encouragement. They have so built a couple small buildings and hope soon to complete a bath house and a larger structure for indoor meeting and eating space. You might wonder how all this happens on \$647 a month (this is a much poorer country than the US, but even for here this is very little money). Their answer is simple: they rely upon God and he brings in what they need as they need it. Sometimes money is given for materials; they have had a few groups who have come to help do work (including an enthusiastic and competent group of Germans who spent a week last summer). Sometimes even food shows up. As we enjoyed roasted lamb yesterday, Emas explained that a neighbor gave an entire lamb to them recently. The neighbor said he had been blessed by God with many lambs and wanted to give away a tenth of his animals in gratitude.

This way of life is a challenge to me and, I think, a challenge to the sort of life we take for granted in the US. “How strange it would be,” Emas said, “to live a life where your resources are devoted to your own life and your enjoyment!” And why would that be strange? It is, after all, perfectly normal. Yes, but it is not what we are made for. And, consequently, it is not the way of life that leads to greatest fulfillment. Jesus said it is better to give than receive. Why do we often find that so hard to believe?



# St. Peter's January 2016 Calendar

HE: Holy Eucharist \* HS: Healing Service \* SRS: Sugarland Ridge

| Sunday                                                                      | Monday                            | Tuesday                    | Wednesday                       | Thursday                                         | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 3<br>2nd Sunday<br>After Christmas<br>7:30 HE<br>10:00 HE                   | 4                                 | 5<br>10:00 HS<br>1:00 SRS  | 6<br>Women's<br>Council<br>9 AM | 7<br>Red Door<br>10-3<br>Choir Practice<br>6:30  | 8      | 9        |
| 1<br>7:30 HE<br>10:00 HE<br>1st Sunday<br>After Epiphany                    | 11<br>Handbells<br>6:30           | 12<br>10:00 HS<br>1:00 SRS | 13                              | 14<br>Red Door<br>10-3<br>Choir Practice<br>6:30 | 15     | 16       |
| 17<br>7:30 HE<br>10:00 HE<br>2nd Sunday<br>After Epiphany                   | 18<br>Handbells<br>6:30           | 19<br>10:00 HS<br>1:00 SRS | 20<br>Vestry<br>Meeting<br>6PM  | 21<br>Red Door<br>10-3<br>Choir Practice<br>6:30 | 22     | 23       |
| 24<br>7:30 HE<br>10:00 HE<br>3rd Sunday<br>After Epiphany                   | 25<br>Handbells<br>6:30           | 26<br>10:00 HS<br>1:00 SRS | 27                              | 28<br>Red Door<br>10-3<br>Choir Practice<br>6:30 | 29     | 30       |
| 31 4th Sunday<br>After Epiphany<br>9:00 AM<br>ANNUAL<br>BUSINESS<br>MEETING | <b>One<br/>Service<br/>Sunday</b> |                            |                                 |                                                  |        |          |

Jan 01 Emma Fiskum  
 Jan 03 Bridgette Gill  
 Jan 04 Betty Harrison  
 Parker Treide  
 Jan 06 Beth Shelton  
 Jan 07 Barbara Gibbons  
 Jan 10 Kathy Eaton  
 Jan 17 Carrie Kehrwald  
 Jan 18 Timberly Fiskum  
 William Wallop  
 Jan 21 Liz Rossa

Jan 22 Riva Trott  
 Jan 23 Pat Chappell  
 Jan 25 Hayes Henderson  
 Ellen Treide  
 Jan 26 Maria Nicholls  
 Jan 28 Jeannene Mc Knight  
 Walt Ebia  
 Jan 29 Bruce Hoffman  
 Jan 30 Karen Nicolarsen  
 Jan 31 Steve Carroll  
 Sue Heuermann



**ST. PETER' S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**1 SOUTH TSCHIRGI STREET**  
**SHERIDAN, WY 82801**



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Sr. Warden-Lynne Outland  
 email: garylynne@vcn.com  
 Phone: 752-1918

Jr. Warden-Liz Swanson  
 email: swanson238@bresnan.net  
 Phone: 674-6662

St. Peter's Office Hours  
 9:00 am to 2:00 pm (Monday - Friday)  
 Office Phone: 674-7655

St. Peter's Office and Music Staff  
 Gail Boyer: Parish Administrator (674-7655)  
 Karon Keahey: Parish Secretary (674-7655)  
 Suzie Schatz-Benson:  
 Music Coordinator (763-0525)  
 Jeannene Mc Knight: Organist



**Open to everyone!**

**Handbells Practice**  
 Mondays at  
 at 6:30 PM



**Choir Practices** are held on  
 Thursday's at 6:30 PM. If you love to  
 sing and would like to be a part of  
 these vital ministries, contact Suzie  
 Schatz-Benson at 672-2140