



October 2021

The Crossed Keys

1 South Tschirgi St.
Sheridan, WY 82801
307.674.7655

Rector's Writings

Rev. Joel Dingman

At the men's prayer breakfast last week, we reflected on Acts chapter 16. The focus of the chapter is when Paul and Silas are sentenced to prison for proclaiming Jesus' gospel. During their time in prison there is an earthquake in the middle of the night, destroying the prison and freeing Paul and Silas from their chains. Paul and Silas stay in what remains of their captivity and continue to pray.

Upon discovering the jail in ruins, the jailer nearly rashly decides to fall on his sword. He concluded that his fate as a jailer was in peril due to the anticipated escape of the prisoners. Happily, the jailer discovers that Paul and Silas remain in the rubble praying and singing with the other prisoners. The jailer is relieved and perplexed as these people of faith remain secure in their relationship with God. The jailer asks the life changing question, "What must I do to be saved?"

That one question has been the source of a myriad of opportunities for a solution. For the jailer and his family, it meant hearing Jesus' gospel from Paul and Silas and being baptized into the Christian faith.

My experience has been that the answer has never appeared quickly or resulted in an "ah ha" moment that defined my relationship with God. That relationship is always in a phase of transition and evolution. Thankfully God is the constant in the relationship as we humans struggle through our understanding of who and what we are as Christians in the world. (continued on page 2)

Priest Ponders

Rev. Mike Evers

After working in the outreach ministries at St. Peter's, I am continually struck by God's abundance embodied in the generosity of our Church Family. One St. Peter's ministry with which I am especially familiar is the Launch Program. Launch - in cooperation with the Food Group - supplies an outdoor food pantry at Sheridan High School. This is used by young adults who are having difficulties finding housing and food.

The causes of their housing problems are many. These students may come from a difficult home situation where resources are scarce, are estranged from their parents, or a myriad of other reasons. These young folks take shelter where they can find it; typically by sleeping on friends' or relatives' couches. They move around often and have little structure or support. Can you imagine the stress of trying to finish high school while receiving little to no parental support?

St. Peter's helps these young people stay in school by providing a regular supply of items at the outdoor food pantry. Mary Beth Evers and Kelli Campbell stock the pantry with items donated by our Church Family. The outdoor pantry—a repurposed newspaper vending machine—is a source of nourishment for young people that have limited, if any, access to kitchen tools and appliances. The items that are most popular require little preparation, are easy to open and consume: granola bars, jerky, peanut butter and crackers, soup with pop top lids, tuna in a pouch, etc. Anything that can be grabbed and eaten without drawing attention to the user is best. Students desire to avoid the stigma of homelessness. Since the beginning of 2021, St. Peter's has provided 675 pounds of food for the Launch Program! Kelli and Mary Beth thank all of you who have donated and welcome others who would like to join in this ministry of food support for young adults as they "Launch" into independence. If this ministry interests you, call Mary Beth at 751-0057.

The Library Corner

By Sandy Chapman

This month I would like to introduce you to one of our library's new authors, Rachel Held-Evans, and three of her books included in our library. She was an American Christian columnist, blogger, and author. I was introduced to her by, Billie, who gave me one of her books, *A Year of Biblical Womanhood; How a Liberated Woman Found Herself Sitting on Her Roof, Covering Her Head, and Calling Her Husband "Master."* This book tells that after many of her friends were leaving their careers and choosing to stay at home and follow traditional gender roles, she decided to follow all the Biblical roles for women as closely as possible. With each exercise she contemplates, "What does God really expect of women?" It was a New York Times bestseller.

Next, I read *Searching for Sunday; Love, Leaving, and Finding the Church.* After growing up in a very fundamental church, she began to question its values, particularly the exclusion of some of God's people. She researches these values by each of the seven Catholic and Orthodox sacraments - baptism, confession, holy orders, communion, confirmation, anointing of the sick, and marriage. She tried several different churches, even starting one with her husband and a small group of friends, but eventually became an Episcopalian. This book was also on the New York Times bestseller list.

I've also read *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again.* I must admit there were parts of the book that I didn't necessarily agree with or understand. She questions whether the Bible is an instruction manual or what inspired means. She examines some of the favorite Bible stories and their interpretations and even writes a modern version of some of them. She concludes that the Bible, though sometimes confusing, is relevant in helping us follow God's loving and redeeming work in our world.

"Rector's Writings" continued from page 1:

Asking the question, "What must I do to be saved?" is an opportunity to open ourselves to the constantly evolving relationship with God and our neighbor. This question opens the way for us to understand what God has in store for us, today and in the future. Thanks be to God we can travel together into an ever-changing world; being released from our bonds of captivity and looking forward to what God has planned for us.

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.

We are collecting contributions for **Episcopal Relief and Development**. This organization supports people in crisis around the world and locally. At the Diocesan Convention October 29-31, there will be an ingathering for all the congregations in the state. The Foundation for the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming has pledged to match up to \$50,000 for the ingathering.

Sunday October 10 and Sunday October 17 the loose offering at St. Peter's will be dedicated to Episcopal Relief and Development.

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"Feste Fantini" Concert
Sunday, October 24, 2021
~ 3:00 p.m. ~

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

~ More information is available at
www.trinklebrassworks.org ~



Hello Ladies! We just finished the last session of our study on Christianity during our first ever evening Mug & Muffin. It was a great time for me to have all of you over to see the latest addition to our taxidermy collection. Seriously though, I loved having you share in the love and laughter that filled my home. I hope you will join us for another evening Mug & Muffin in the future.

This month, ***we will meet in the parish hall on October 16th at 10:00am to 11:30am.*** Our new study is taught by Sheila Walsh. In this study, **The Longing In Me**, we will discuss how some of our worldly longings can lead us down the wrong path, and away from our true longing for God. Please join us for great discussions and yummy treats as we strengthen our relationships with each other and



Peters Education Loan Committee

The Walter F. And Mary E. Peters Educational Loan Committee is looking for one new member! If you are feeling called to serve St. Peter’s by supporting members of our congregation in their educational pursuits (with a very minimal time commitment), this is the committee for you!

Please contact the church office, or Elizabeth Craft (chairperson) by phone 307.752.9462, or by email elizabeth@ebiahearing.com for more information. ***Please submit names by December 14, 2021*** Thank you!

Vestry Minute

My predecessor, Dane Farman did such a good job as Junior Warden during 2019 and 2020, that there weren’t too many projects for me and the current Vestry to work on. However, we did fix the Chapel door so that it would not stick, the door on the South side was fixed and we have prepared for work on the curb and sidewalk along Tschirgi St. (October 2021).

I am finishing up my second stint on the Vestry. I was the Senior Warden when we called Rev. David Duprey in 1992. We have had several priests since that time. Through all of the ups and downs we have encountered over the years; we are as strong as ever. You, the members of St. Peter’s are to be commended for bending and not breaking with all our personnel changes.

Having been raised in Sheridan, I was aware of St. Peter’s and its great reputation. It was not until 1987 that my wife and our two young sons decided to join the church. Rev. Ray Clark asked me, “What took you so long?” Good question.

As I finish my term, I am most proud that we called Fr. Joel Dingman and Nancy Jo. I believe things work out for a reason and I think it was part of God’s plan for St. Peter’s to have the Dingmans with us.

Joy and laughter have returned to St. Peter’s.

Best wishes.

Rick Badgett, Junior Warden

Financial Information

September 2021

Income Received	\$15,262.50
<u>Total Operating Expenses</u>	<u>\$30,609.06</u>
Difference	-\$15,346.56

Outreach amount given out in September:
\$1234.15

Mid-week Bible Study

Beginning Wednesday, October 6

1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Join Rev. Joel to study and discuss the Scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday. Please come to the Parish Hall to ponder passages from God's Word together.

Saturday, October 9

10:00 to noon

"Safeguarding God's Church"

Training in the Parish Hall.

This is REQUIRED

for all with church keys.

The Choir Loft

Psalm 95:1 – *O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.*

Psalm 104:33 – *I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.*

A choir member once told me that singing was their way of praying to God. How fortunate we are at St. Peter's, to have a dedicated group of people who, year after year, come together to share in Choir Ministry.

What is involved in being in the choir? We practice most Thursdays at 5:30 for an hour. We meet on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am and practice again for the 10:00 service. The choir usually sings one song at the service. Not everyone can come to every rehearsal or be there every Sunday, so we adjust to the people we have, and strive to make a joyful noise! You can be a full-time member or a part time member of the choir. We are very flexible! You don't even have to sit in the choir loft if you'd rather sit with family.

The good thing about a choir is there is ALWAYS room for more people to be involved. If you like to sing and think that you might like to be a part of this ministry, please join us on **Thursdays at 5:30 pm in the Parish Hall.**

If you have questions, please email/text/call Suzie Hills at 307-763-0525 or suzie.schatz@gmail.com

Come make a joyful noise with us!

Suzie Hills

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We have had an ongoing ministry to our church providing blessed shawls, lap throws, and prayer squares for those have need of a "hug." Lack of knitters/crocheters and COVID, brought this to a halt. We'd liked to get this up and running again.

With cooler weather coming, would you help us replenish our supply of shawls, throws, and prayer squares for our body? We have acrylic yarns of all colors, needles, and patterns. We need your labor and prayers, please.

To help out, please contact Gail Boyer (307.674.7655) or Roberta Thompson (307.751.8894).

Save the Date

Christmas Bazaar is back!

**Friday, November 19 4:00-
7:00 pm**

Saturday, November 20

8:00 am-2:00 pm

Deacon Juanita's Word

Meeting God in Prayer

Prayer challenges me. How long? Where? What to pray? Why pray? How to pray? More questions than answers! I would like to share the following devotion from **An Extravagant Mercy** by M. Craig Barnes. After pondering what Barnes has to say (and it is challenging), let's talk.
Blessings, Juanita

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#### Believing in God, Not Prayer

*While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him. Acts 12:5*

When King Herod saw how happy he made people by arresting, and killing James, he also arrested Peter, intending to kill him as well. So the Church began to pray fervently for Peter. During the night, an angel came and quietly helped Peter escape from jail. Peter went to the home where the Church was gathered in prayer for him. When he knocked at the gate of the home, a servant named Rhoda was startled to see him. She left Peter at the gate and ran back into the house to tell the Church that he was outside. They said, "You are out of your mind," and returned to their prayers for his release.

It is easier for the Church to pray than to believe God would answer their prayers. I understand that. Sometimes I also pray as a discipline, yet doubt that anything will really change. The Church probably prayed for James' release as well, but he was still killed by Herod. So why should they believe that the Lord would answer their prayers for Peter?

This is a good question, but it's really beside the point when it comes to prayer, which is not a prescription for getting what we want. We don't actually believe in prayer. We believe in God, to whom we pray. We pray simply to be with God, which is more important than telling him what we want. When we are anxious about something, what we really need is to know God is with us, and that is something we can receive every time we ask. It is enough.

#### Community Diaper Bank

Thursdays from 11 am—1 pm

Diapers are free to all families in need.

Please spread the word!

The Diaper Bank accepts donations of diapers, wipes, and money for purchasing items.

Items may also be dropped off during office hours.

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

~ 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 ~



## Feste Fantini

Featuring Steven Trinkle, Bruce Barrie, Gary Malvern, Kelly Dehnert, Eric Unruh and Genie Burkett



Lander First United Methodist Church -  
Friday, October 22 - 7:00 pm  
First United Methodist Church Casper -  
Saturday, October 23 - 7:00 p.m.  
St. Peter's Episcopal Church - Sheridan -  
Sunday, October 24 - 3:00 p.m.

For more information:

<https://www.facebook.com/trinklebrassworks>

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## *Upcoming Events*

| Date                     | Event                                                                   | Time                 | Location    |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Saturday,<br>October 9   | Safeguarding God's House<br>Training REQUIRED for all with church keys. | 10:00-noon           | Parish Hall |
| Wednesdays               | Bible Study<br>For all parishioners.                                    | 1:30-3:00 p.m.       | Parish Hall |
| Saturday,<br>October 16  | Mug & Muffin<br>Fellowship & Study for the women of St. Peter's         | 10:00-<br>11:30 a.m. | Parish Hall |
| Wednesday,<br>October 20 | Vestry Meeting                                                          | 5:30 p.m.            | Parish Hall |
| Sunday,<br>October 24    | Feste Fantini Concert<br>Free!                                          | 3:00 p.m.            | Sanctuary   |
| Saturday,<br>November 13 | Mug & Muffin<br>Fellowship & Study for the women                        | 10:00-<br>11:30 a.m. | Parish Hall |
| Friday & Saturday        | Holiday Bazaar                                                          | 4:00-7:00 Fri.       | Parish Hall |

### *Alisa's Alcove*



*Two New Faces of St. Peter's:  
Alisa Saur & Kermit the Frog*

I moved from Vancouver, WA to Sheridan 5 years ago, and have had various types of employment from teaching math at NSI to working at 2 health food stores, nannying, and now the administrative assistant at St. Peter's. I am also a holistic health coach. My pet is Kennedy the Bunny, who is a spoiled, 9-year-old Holland Lop. I love to study scripture, pray with others, read, walk out PK Lane, and travel. I have lived in Washington, Montana, I went to school in Oklahoma, and lived in Singapore.

Thank you for making me welcome in your parish! I've enjoyed meeting new friends, especially Kermit!

# St. Peter's Contacts Information

**Priest in Charge**

Rev. Joel Dingman  
joel@stpeterssheridan.com  
307.670.0072

**Deacon**

Rev. Juanita Smith-Eisenach  
rev.juanitadsmith@gmail.com  
307.673.4928

**Reverend**

Rev. Michael Evers  
mike@stpeterssheridan.com  
307.763.0746

**Senior Warden**

Peter Clark  
bondo@wavecom.net  
307. 751.3173

**Junior Warden**

Rick Badgett  
rick.badgett@bresnan.net  
307.752.7776

**Music Ministry Coordinator**

Suzie Hills  
suzie.schatz@gmail.com  
307.763.0525

**Jeannene McKnight** - Pianist

clarini918@gmail.com  
307.674.4186

**Kathy McNickle** - Pianist

kathymcnickle@aol.com  
307.752.5745

**Loretta Tonak** - Organist/Pianist

tonak@wavecom.net  
307.751.4977

**Cathy Storm** - Organist/Pianist

cstorm@fiberpipe.net  
307. 674.4565

**Gail Boyer** - Parish Administrator

gail@stpeterssheridan.com  
307.674.7655

**Alisa Saur** - Administrative Assistant

alisa@stpeterssheridan.com

| Vestry Members                |                               | 2021 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| 1. Clark, Peter - Sr. Warden  | bondo@wavecom.net             |      |
| 2. Badgett, Rick - Jr. Warden | rick.badgett@bresnan.net      |      |
| 3. Baker, Bridgette           | bridgettebakerwy@gmail.com    |      |
| 4. Bishop Michelena, Lacasa   | lacasamichelena@gmail.com     |      |
| 5. Galloway, Laura            | lcg@fiberpipe.net             |      |
| 6. Hills, Suzie               | suzie.schatz@gmail.com        |      |
| 7. Nicolarsen, Karen          | nicokada@fiberpipe.net        |      |
| 8. Schnatterbeck, Thomas      | thomasschnatterbeck@gmail.com |      |
| 9. St. Clair, Roger           | rstclair@surfwoyo.net         |      |
| 10. Swanson, Tracy            | TSwanson@dadco.com            |      |
| 11. Thoney, Mark              | mark@thoney.net               |      |
| 12. Wells, Lisa               | lisamilnero107@gmail.com      |      |

*Vestry members  
are available to you for questions or inquiries.*

**2021 Convention**

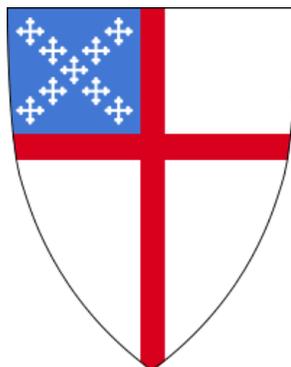
**October 29, 30, 31 ~ Jackson Hole, WY**

**Delegates**

Peter Clark  
Tracy Swanson  
DuAnne Diers

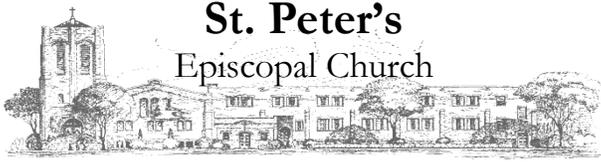
**Alternates**

Carol Clark  
Laura Galloway  
Sarah Mentock



**Church Office Hours:**

Monday -Thursday  
9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Fridays  
10:45-12:30



**St. Peter's**  
Episcopal Church

1 South Tschirgi Street, Sheridan WY 82801

Phone: 307-674-7655

Email: [stpeterssheridan@gmail.com](mailto:stpeterssheridan@gmail.com)

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