



November 2022

The Crossed Keys

Rector's Writings

Acts 24:3

"We welcome this in every way and everywhere with utmost gratitude."

November is a month that begins with gratitude. The 1st is All Saints Day, immediately following on the 2nd is All Souls Day. Both those days are to specifically remember and honor the great cloud of witnesses who came before us. St. Peter's is blessed to remember those who preceded us, and who loved and served God with utmost gratitude.

The early Christians saw a vision for a church that would be present in the middle of a burgeoning community: to offer the love of Christ in the Sheridan area. It is with gratitude that, today, we can welcome all people into the shelter of St. Peter's, whose location is critical for those in our community who are in need. We are blessed with a physical structure that is open and inviting, and a parish yard that has appeal to those who may need a minute to sit and converse with God in the shade of a tree. Our trees and buildings, in many circumstances, were placed before the person benefiting from their comfort and ministry was born.

The 8th is election day. We gave thanks to everyone involved in the process of ensuring an orderly and efficient way of casting ballots. Also, a huge thank you to those willing to serve in an elected capacity; it is a blessing that we have elections with choices and voices of those we most want to represent us. On November 11th, we give thanks to all veterans for their service and commitment to preserve our way of life.

On November 24th, we give thanks to God for all these and many other blessings of creation that God has provided. Prosperity and generosity are seen everywhere in God's strong and unshakable kingdom. Many of you may have heard about our neighbor, First Interstate Bank, who is in the process of designing and constructing a new facility adjacent to St. Peter's. We do not yet know the impact of these plans on St. Peter's, although it is with gratitude that we live in an area that our financial institutions need to expand due to a growing economy.

During this month of numerous thanksgivings and remembrances let us look with faith to our past and in gratitude toward a future of grace and peace. May the love of God continue to grow in you. ~Joel



Evers, Mike. *Hem of His Garment*. 2022. Author's Personal Collection.

Juanita's Word: Happy Thanks and Happy Giving!!

In keeping with the wonderful theme of 'Giving Thanks', I wish to share with you a liturgy before giving to bless your heart. It comes from Every Moment Holy, Volume 1. Blessings, Juanita

In truth, I have nothing but you, O Christ, nothing that I might call my own.

So let that good confession now compel a better stewardship.

First teach me to treasure you, Jesus, above all things. Then let that increasing devotion be increasingly demonstrated in a joyful generosity – for to give is to live out the declaration that you alone are my provision and supply. I need not fear what comes tomorrow.

When I give to meet the needs of others, when I give to the work of those who serve the poor, the sick, the oppressed, when I give to the service of your Body and your Kingdom, I give not what is mine, but only what is already yours. With every charitable act I am simply practicing the fact that nothing which passes through my hands has ever belonged to me. You are my generous master. Make me your faithful trustee, teaching me to live as a wiser conduit of this liberal grace, learning to hold loosely the things of this world, never hoarding that which is yours, never seeking the mean preservation of my own comforts. Rather let me love well in my giving, even as you, O Father, have loved me so well by giving me all things in Christ.

Let me make each offering without thought of temporal gain. Let me give precisely because I have believed your promises are true – and let my giving be the proof.

If you are my shepherd, then I am freed to live generously, knowing I will never want for any needful thing – knowing that any seeming deprivation is but the work of your Spirit weaning me from a world of things and winning me to greater dependence upon Christ my King.

So why should I grasp at that which I cannot keep? This body will sleep in death and what I now hold so briefly will pass into the keeping of another. I own nothing here. I have no claim. Dispel the myth of my possessions, lest they taint that better hope of Heaven. Rather let me learn, while I draw breath, to live with open hands and joy-filled heart, investing your resources in your good works. Let me plant these mortal seeds in expectation of immortal harvest.

Bless now, O Lord, this gift and its benefits, that it might be received as evidence of your mercies, and multiplied in effectiveness for your kingdom. Through this and other acts of giving, train my heart toward a greater generosity, that the habits of my stewardship might be ever more pleasing to you, and ever more expressive of your own holy heart and passions.

**All that I have is yours, Lord Christ.
All that I have is you.**

Photo below: Evers, Mike. *Sunrise over the Sea of Galilee*. 2022.
Author's Personal Israel Collection.





St. Peter's Christmas Bazaar 2022

Saturday, November 19, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Lunch 11 am - 1:00 pm



Please consider the following items to donate:

- homemade bread, cakes, jellies, etc.
- crocheted and knitted items, quilts, aprons, towels
- all jewelry – necklaces, earrings, rings, bracelets
- Silent auction items (one of a kind, unique pieces)
- collectibles, antique pieces, small furniture
- candies, fudge, cookies
- ornaments (new and handmade)

The pies and lasagnas are possible only because all of you contribute so graciously – please see the sign-up sheets in the parish hall for listing of lasagna and pies and for recipe information. Please use a disposable pan for pies and lasagna (9x9 or 9x12). Lasagna may be frozen but must be cooked.

All the women of St. Peter's are proud of our bazaar. The money raised is given to charitable organizations in Sheridan, Wyoming, U.S., and around the world. You are an important part of the bazaar and we need your help to achieve our goals. Thank you for your part in making each bazaar a great success!

If you have any questions/ideas/comments, please contact: Linda Ernst (672-2293) , Kathy McNickle (752-5745), or Margaret in the church office (674-7655).

Bazaar Week Schedule:

November 16-20

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 9:00 am: Set up booths and tables

Thursday, Nov. 17, 9:00 am: decorate booths

Friday, Nov. 18 (all day): Bring projects and food items

Saturday, Nov. 19: Bazaar open 8:00 am -2:00 pm

Sunday, Nov. 20: Take down bazaar after second service

We finish quickly when everyone helps.

Our hope is that you will be able to attend the bazaar and enjoy the fruits of the labor put into this wonderful fund-raising event. We thank all of the ladies and gentlemen who help. Your time and talents are very much appreciated!

Peace to everyone!

Have a Merry Christmas!

Booths

Country Store: baked goods, preserves, yummy goodies, candies and cookies

Handiwork: needlework, quilts, pillows, hand-knit items

Holiday Center: wreaths, garlands, table center pieces, gift items

Jewelry: earrings, bracelets, necklaces, rings

Ornaments: large, small hand made Christmas decorations

Treasures: gently used, cherished items, collectibles and art

Coffee Bar: cinnamon rolls, coffee

The Red Door Thrift Shop: Home goods, holiday fashions for the whole family

Vestry Minute

By: Dane Farman

Greetings, may this day bring you the peace of God.

About a month ago at the Vestry meeting and in a moment of weakness, I volunteered to write something for the November Crossed Keys and also, true to my nature, I have put it off until the last minute.

The struggle was what should the subject be, with a God so mighty as ours. After much deliberation, I decided I would bring up some of the faults that are always right here with me every day of my life, you know, the ones that become so common that it comes as natural as slipping on your shoes in the morning.

One of the thorns I fight with the most is highlighted in Matthew 7:5. It has to do with removing the beam from your eye before worrying about the fleck in your neighbors eye. Sometimes when I'm too busy paying attention to what everyone else is doing wrong, old Lucifer builds a sawmill next to my eye and leaves me with beam after beam to fight with. Hardly a day goes by without me passing judgment on someone. I do have to say driving brings out the worst in me for that.

This brings up the next fault: praying for people that have wronged you, or that you have had a falling out with. When a driver next to you accelerates hard and jumps into your lane and then has the gall to slam on his brakes for a left turn when there were no cars for a block behind you can send me over the edge!

My wife one day pointed out that instead of getting angry, I should be praying for this person to have a better day. She always remembers when a bad day once clouded her judgment, allowing for mistakes. I know she is right, we are to pray for our enemies and forgive them for their transgressions.

Boy, Jesus was a great King. His prayer on the cross asking forgiveness for us, for we know not what we have done, is so powerful. The last fault I would like to air with you today (granted I have many more but I am not writing a novel here), is handing over my worries to Jesus. I have been raised to be self-sufficient in a world that demands you to stand on your own two feet, however wobbly they may be. With so many things today that cannot be fixed in this world: wars, politics and other issues, it is necessary to go to bed at night and hand your troubles over to Jesus— all of them!

Case in point is when I was told that I had tumors on both kidneys and there was an 80% chance it was cancer. My wife, Cheryl, and I did the right thing. It was kind of unusual for me, not so much for her.

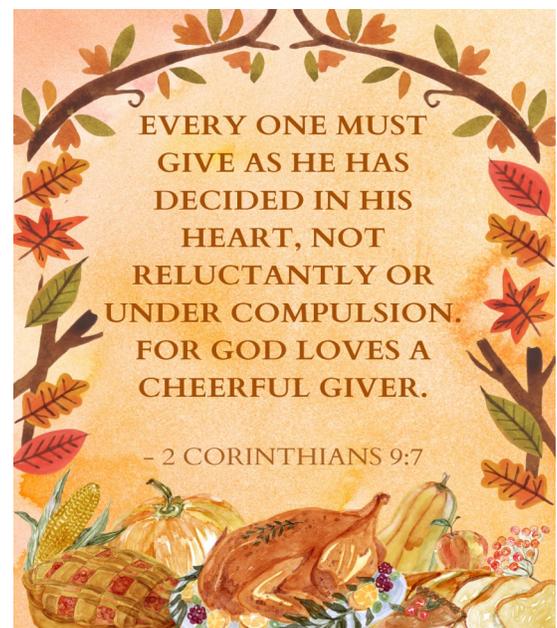
That evening we prayed to our God, that if it was His will, He would handle this, as He always does, in the best possible way. I would like to remind you that sometimes the best way to be healed is to go to the arms of God. Both Cheryl and I had a peace about the whole thing and we were able to sleep every night and worried little about the future for it was in God's hands.

The outcome was great; after two operations, I was pronounced cancer free and both tumors were benign. Wow! God Is Great. After bearing my soul to you all I want to make one last observation. I fall short in so many areas. The one thing I have gotten right is leaning on Jesus. Join me in this, I love company!

May the grace of God, the Father and His son
Jesus be with you! ~Dane Farman



Unknown. *Praying Hands Over Open Bible*. 2022. <https://www.dreamstime.com/photos-images/praying-hands-open-bible.html>



ECHO

(Episcopalians Connect by Helping Others)

Service

1 Peter 4:10

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

Mission Statement:

A group of St. Peter's volunteers have prayerfully come together to assist other parishioners of St. Peter's who may be in need of occasional help.

The purpose of **ECHO Service** is to offer 'handyperson' services to parishioners in the congregation which could include anything from changing a light bulb to small carpenter projects, running errands, shoveling snow, grocery shopping, making meals when needed, etc.



ECHO

Episcopalians Connect by Helping Others

Care Visitors

John 13:34-35

And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples.

Mission Statement:

A group of St. Peter's Volunteers who go into the homes of our isolated parishioners to offer friendly companionship and help assess the needs in the household at that time.

The purpose of **ECHO Care Visitors** is to visit, listen, share stories, pray, and help assess the needs in the household, and possibly help attain further resources for the parishioner if needed.

If you are in need of Echo services, please call the church office at 674-7655.



Evers, Mary Beth. 2022. Youth Craft Wreaths (left) & Tenley posing with her photo in the newspaper (above). Author's Personal Collection.

The Peters Education Loan committee is looking for an additional member! If you are looking for a way to make a difference without a major time commitment, please contact us!

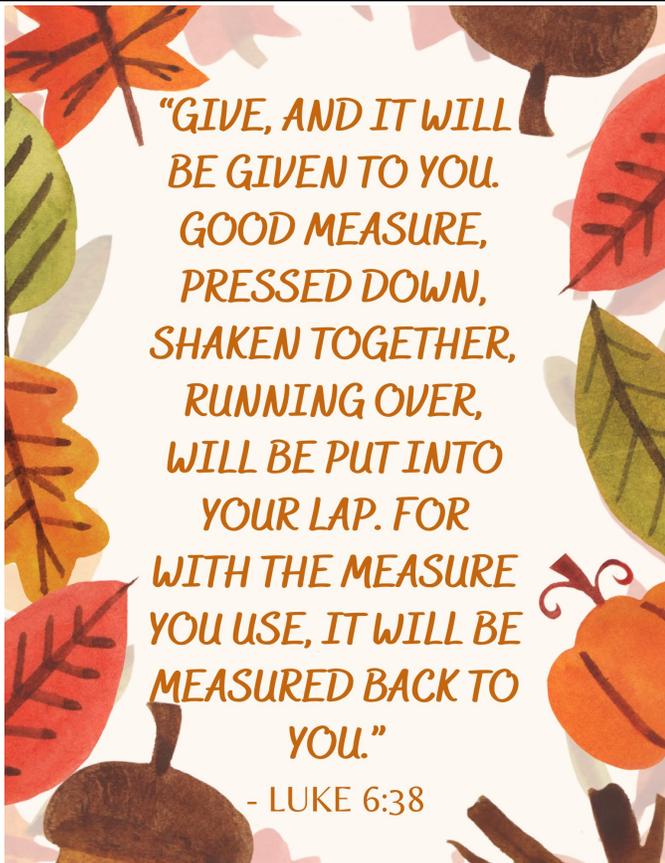
The Loan committee was first established in 1976 and consists of five members and a Vestry liaison. Each committee member serves a term of five years. The current members of this committee are Carol Bickel, Elizabeth Craft, Laura Galloway, Dorothy Goodwin, and Joyce Carroll. Our Parish Administrator, Gail Boyer, also works with the committee to keep records of loans and repayments. Many of our parishioners have benefited from the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Peters and we wish to perpetuate this program.

Galatians 6:2 calls us to "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Please contact one of the people named above, email elizabeth@ebiahearing.com, call 307.752.9462, or contact the church office for more information.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time	Location
Each Wednesday	Bible Study	1:30-3:00 p.m.	Parish Hall
Each Sunday	Bible Study	9:00-9:45 a.m.	Library
Every Tuesday	Healing Service	12:10 pm	Chapel
Every Thursday (except Thanksgiving)	Choir Practice	5:15 pm	Parish Hall
Wednesday, November 9/23	Men's Breakfast	6:30 am	Parish Hall
Thursday, November 10	Confirmation Class	1:30 pm	Parish Hall
Sunday, November 20	Kids/ Adult Choirs Singing	10:00 am service	The Sanctuary
	Birney Church Service	3:00 p.m.	The Church in Birney, Montana
Wednesday, November 16	Vestry Meeting	5:30 p.m.	Parish Hall
November 16-18	Bazaar Set Up		Parish Hall
Saturday, November 19	BAZAAR	8:00 am– 2:00 pm	Parish Hall
Thanksgiving Day (Nov 24)	Thanksgiving Day Service	9:00am	Sanctuary



Bowen,
 Margaret.
*Preparing
 for the
 Bazaar.
 (left)
 Crafters in
 Action.
 (below)
 2022.
 Autor's
 Collection.*



St. Peter's Contacts

Rector

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Deacon

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Priest

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Senior Warden

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Junior Warden

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Kathy McNickle - Pianist

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Loretta Tonak - Organist/Pianist

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Cathy Storm - Organist/Pianist

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307. 674.4565

Gail Boyer - Parish Administrator

gail@stpeterssheridan.com
307.674.7655

Margaret Bowen- Admin Assistant

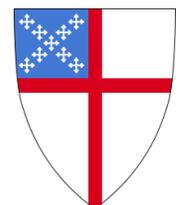
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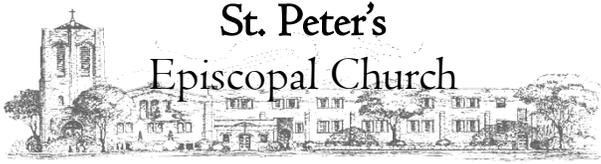
Vestry 2022	Contact Information
1 Thoney, Mark <i>Sr. Warden</i>	mark@thoney.net
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4 Farman, Dane	danefaman@gmail.com <i>(note: there is intentionally no "r")</i>
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6 Hills, Suzie	suzie.schatz@gmail.com
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12 Wells, Lisa	lisamilner0107@gmail.com

OCTOBER FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Operating Income	\$30,840.98
Endowment Draw	\$25,000.00
Operating Expenses	-30,787.18
Difference	\$25,053.80
Outreach in Oct	\$1,294.75: Life Link, the Hub bus rides, lodging, Compassion International

Church Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
9:00 am - 3:00 pm





St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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Join Us on YouTube!

The link is on the front page of the website:

www.stpeterssheridan.com