

# The Fisherman's Net

## "Catch the Spirit"

St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
Highway 83  
North Lake, WI 53064

**Pastor's Pen** Fr. Jim Kaestner, Vicar

### LORD TEACH US HOW TO PRAY

This following poem was set to music and was in our 1941 Hymnal. It was written by James Montgomery, (1818-1897) and, while studying for the bar in Edinburgh, attended an Episcopal Church there and changed course to become an Episcopal priest. He wrote many other hymns. There are 10 in our hymnal but not this one.

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,  
Unuttered or expressed,  
The motion of a hidden fire  
That trembles in the breast.

Prayer is the simplest form of speech  
That infant lips can try,  
Prayers is the sublimest strains that reach  
The Majesty on high.

Prayer is the burden of a sigh,  
The falling of a tear,  
The upward glancing of an eye  
When none but God is near.

Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,  
The Christians native air.  
His watchword at the gates of death  
He enters heav'n with prayer

O thou by whom we come to God,  
the Life, the Truth, the Way,  
The path of prayer thyself hast trod:  
LORD, TEACH US HOW TO PRAY

Henri Nouwen was a very gifted priest, teacher and writer. One of his many books called us, priests and other serious seekers of God, to heal and bear one another's burdens. In another book he speaks of prayer in terms of "letting go, silence, acceptance, hope, compassion, and revolution. Prayer is work and it is exhausting work because no one wants to be vulnerable even before God. Nouwen begins his book on prayer with a story about a woman taken into a psychiatric hospital swinging with her fists at everyone and everything. She was totally frightened and frightened everyone around. In one hand was a small coin that she simply would not give up. It took two men to pry it from her. The coin was her last possession and when that was gone she would have nothing more. THAT WAS HER FEAR!

When we pray we need to let go of even our most prized possessions. We can try to hide behind them in our liturgical settings but they cling inside like that one slice of whatever too many. Our true encounters with God come in the private and quiet moments we have with the Other. The sour old stuff does not need to remain and the fears once gone allow the clenched fist holding onto the coin to open itself and embrace the new life.

Do we ever forgive ourselves or do we accept God's forgiveness is a deep and profound question. Forgiving ourselves is really based on our understanding of God's love and forgiveness. It is the openness

which grabs hold of love in place of clinging to our perceived securities. In this new place prayer is living. It is living in the love of God and most often found in the calm beauty of silence. In the silence we can talk to the angels who spoke to Mary and Joseph, the angels who spoke to Elizabeth and Zechariah, the angel who spoke to Abraham, and on and on. (The word “angel” after all occurs 108 times in the Old Testament and 165 times in the New Testament)

The silence we seek is not easily found because there is always something to distract us but it is found when we concentrate on our concept of God and let the other things fall away. The people we see reading books in busy places are not distracted by the outside sounds and millings about. Therein is the answer to our own craving for silence.

A fundamental part of the silence is the looking forward to and envisioning. If we lose the vision the sound of the silence is deafening. At times it may take an interesting book or a profound poem or the lyrics of song or hymn or simply the music alone. It is different for everyone and often dependent upon our mood and the time of day. If there were one time of day or one book or one whatever that worked for everybody, God would be accused of using a “cookie cutter” to create us. We are all individuals and come in a variety of shapes, styles and colours. It is this diversity that entertains God and ourselves.

Prayer isn’t just about dealing with life’s disappointments, it is just as much about new discovery in ourselves and others and of course learning something about God that is exciting and challenging. Nouwen writes, “The praying man is the man who inspires the world, who looks on it with compassion and, in this glance, penetrates to the source of all being.”

He concludes: “Prayer leads you to see new paths and to hear new melodies in the air. Prayer is the breath of your life which gives you freedom to go and stay where you wish and to find the many signs which point to a new land.”

*\*James Montgomery also wrote these familiar hymns: # 93 Angels from the Realms of glory, #343 Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless, #411 O bless the Lord, my soul, #616 Hail to the Lord’s Anointed*

## Calendar & Times

		<b>Scheduled Reader</b>
January 3, Sunday	9:30 am Holy Eucharist	Judy Kaestner
January 5, Tuesday	7:00 pm Vestry Meeting	
January 9, Saturday	2:00-5:00 pm Open House at Kaestner’s	
January 10, Sunday	9:30 am Holy Eucharist	Andy Marks
January 17, Sunday	9:30 am Holy Eucharist	Debbie Marks
	10:45 am St. Peter’s Annual Meeting	
January 24, Sunday	9:30 am Holy Eucharist	Katie Luedke
January 31, Sunday	9:30 am Holy Eucharist	Susan Medd

## Lessons for January

	<u>1 Lesson</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Jan. 3	Jeremiah 31:7-14	84	Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19	Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23
Jan. 10	Isaiah 43:1-7	29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Jan. 17	Isaiah 61:1-5	36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
Jan. 24	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31	Luke 4:14-21
Jan. 31	Jeremiah 1:4-10	71:1-6	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30

## Remember in Your Prayers

*“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he hears us: And if we know that he hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him” (1John 5:14-15)*

- \*Pray for Wally Dryburgh who is in Angels Grace Hospice.
- \*Pray for the homeless and those without jobs during these cold days of winter.
- \*We give thanks that Peg Leitgabel’s lymphoma is now in remission!
- \*Pray for the containment of the H1N1 (swine) flu and for those who have contracted the virus.
- \*Pray for our leaders, both national and local, that they make good decisions for our economy.
- \*Pray for peace in the world, especially in Iraq, Afghanistan and Iran. Pray for our soldiers.
- \*Pray for the Millennium Goals, especially to eradicate hunger and poverty.
- \*Pray for St. Peter’s and its family, for the present and the future, that we may grow in Christ and be his light to the world.

## Let’s Celebrate!

### Happy Birthday

January 1 Denise Mikulak  
January 2 Lexi Brumder  
January 16 Tricia Hayes  
January 19 Paul Citerony  
January 26 Rick Luedke

### Happy Anniversary

January 26 Andy & Kathy  
Marks

## The Spirit at Work!

Don’t forget to park your car several feet away from St. Peter’s side-yard. This will allow individuals to walk in front of vehicles so they won’t have to walk in water, slush or ice. Thank you.

- \*We received \$55.56 from Roundy’s Supermarkets “WE CARE” program. This money was given to the North Lake Food Pantry. Remember that as you shop at your local Pick ’n Save, you are also giving to the North Lake Food Pantry. You need to be sure that St. Peter’s account number is used: 808260. And don’t forget the “Funds for Friends” stamps from Sentry!
- \*Happy belated birthday to Paul Mikulak last month, December 12. If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know so that we may all celebrate your special day.
- \*The Lake Country Reporter’s column *On The Move* for December 29<sup>th</sup> reported: **Charlie Brumder** has joined Children’s Hospital and Health System Foundation as development director. He will focus his efforts on critical needs at Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin including expansion of the hospital’s surgical space, Emergency Department/Trauma Center and Herma Heart Center.
- \*If you receive the *Living on the Lake* publication, you would have seen a picture of Eric and Dorina Dyrud in the *On the town* column titled “Casting a ballot of support.”
- \*Thanks to Pete Buerosse who worked to remove the acid stains from the Narthex and repaint it before Christmas. It looks wonderful!
- \*Thanks to Trish Hayes and the Sunday School children for their wonderful ornaments used to decorate our Jesse Tree. They learned about our heritage through these decorative symbols.
- \*We begin again to adorn the altar with flowers, starting on January 10. Please check the bulletin board for your designated Sunday. Thank you for your ministry to St. Peter’s.
- \*Have you marked your calendar for *Joseph and Magic Technicolor Dream Coat* at the Fire side on April 24, 2010? See the “Go, Go, Go Joseph” article on the next page!
- \*Don’t forget to put your food items in the basket in the Narthex for the North Lake Food Pantry, housed next door at Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. Also see the article on Alternative Giving. The Vestry is endorsing this gifting as the only Christmas project we will do this year.

## **“Go, Go, Go Joseph”**

Our trip to **The Fireside Theatre** in Fort Atkinson to see “*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*” will be on Saturday, April 24, 2010. This popular musical, written by Andrew Lloyd Webber, closely follows the story of Joseph and his brothers as found in the Bible starting at Genesis 37. There is a sign-up sheet with all the information on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Family and friends are welcome. We MUST have a minimum of 20 people going to qualify for the special group discount rate. Sign up now. Payment will be collected in February/March. (Sheila will be collecting the payments. Please do NOT put your payment in the Sunday collection plate.) Are you considering giving this trip as a gift to someone? If so, see Sheila. She has made up some gift certificates for just that purpose. Any questions regarding this trip should be directed to: Sheila Campbell @ 262-691-4857.

## **Vestry Meeting & Annual Meeting Scheduled**

\*The Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 5 at 7:00 pm at the church. The main agenda is the proposed budget and other items for discussion at the Annual Meeting.

\*The Annual Meeting will be held after service on Sunday, January 17. Please mark your calendar and plan to stay for this important meeting to discuss St. Peter’s future. We will serve a light brunch. Please look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

## **Alternative Gift Giving**

To: St. Peter’s Episcopal Church

The North Lake Food Pantry would like to gratefully thank your parish members for not only participating in our Alternative Gift Giving program this holiday season but also for your generous food and monetary donations throughout the year. Not all of the receipts are in on the fundraiser, but we feel it was successful because of benefactors such as yourselves. We appreciate your interest in our work with the less fortunate brothers and sisters and for giving them hope. It is only through you that we can assist those in need. Thank you for helping us live in love and respect as the holy family showed us. May the peace and joy of Christ be with you now and always, a blessed and prosperous new year.

Sincerely, Ron Konieczka, Manager, North Lake Food Pantry

## **Religious Organizations Are Vital to Volunteering in America**

According to these research findings compiled by the Corporation for National and Community Service:

- More than 23 million people, representing 34.8 percent of all volunteers, donate their time primarily through religious organizations—more than through any other type of organization.
- 45 percent of volunteers ages 65 and older volunteer primarily with religious organizations.
- 34 percent of teens who volunteer do so with congregations—more than with any other type of group, including schools (18 percent).
- One-third of American adults who volunteer learn about services through their congregation, and 72 percent of all volunteers say they attend weekly religious services.
- People who give to and volunteer for religious organizations are more likely than others to donate time and money to non-religious charities.
- Volunteers are cross all racial and ethnic volunteers, 37.1% of Latino volunteers, 33.8% of white volunteers, and 33.6% of Asian volunteers serving primarily through religious organizations.
- Nearly 50 percent of congregations with social service activities reported that the most helpful capacity-building tool for carrying out their volunteer programs would be a one-year, full-time volunteer with personal responsibility for volunteer recruitment and management.

From the faith-based Leadership Network:

[http://www.leadnet.org/LC\\_ExternallyFocusedChurches.asp](http://www.leadnet.org/LC_ExternallyFocusedChurches.asp)

*“Churches have begun in recent years to redefine their success factors from exclusively measuring their*

*internal success in terms of people in worship to measuring external success in terms of people served in the community.*”

submitted by Paul Citerony

## **Senior Warden's Reflection** by Andy Marks

### *Christmas at St. Peter's - 2009*

As is our tradition, the church was decorated the Sunday before. The garland was hung from the rafters. The 10-foot tree stood to the right of the altar. Candles, surrounded with pine branches, were placed in front of each window. Wreaths were mounted on the doors and the poinsettias, set in front of the altar, were accented by the beautiful arrangement of flowers behind the altar. The manger scene was set up in the back of the church next to the Jesse tree which had been decorated with homemade ornaments created by some of the children and other parishioners. Working as a team, the church was “greened” and ready to go in less than an hour. As usual, the hardest task taken on by our most skilled decorators was to figure out how to get the lights on the tree to work. When it was all finished, the church looked like a perfectly framed work of art. For me, the greening of our little church fills me with the Christmas spirit.

Once again Christmas Eve mass at St. Pete's was a treat to experience. Despite a cold rainy evening and a sparse turnout, the service lived up to expectations. With Julie playing the organ accompanied by Kaitlyn on the violin, the music was very special and moving. Fr. Jim delivered one of his best sermons of the season helping each of us to reflect on our own individual framing of this blessed occasion. The singing of *Silent Night* by candle light at the end of the service added the finishing touch. It is here where many of us put our own frame on Christmas. At the first Christmas Eve service I attended at St. Peter's, Dawn Majeski, the Senior Warden's daughter, accompanied by her husband on the guitar, sang the first verse of *Silent Night* and the congregation joined in for the other verses. It was an unforgettable experience. It's during this time of the service that a thousand thoughts go through my head, and at least for a moment I sense God's presence. It's also during this time that I feel lucky to be part of such a wonderful church community, St. Peter's.

## **Invitation from Fr. Jim & Judy Kaestner**

*Open House  
at  
The Kaestner's  
Saturday, January 9  
2 - 5 p.m.  
N52 W37111 Washington St  
Oconomowoc  
262-569-1817*

*Carpool if possible  
Parking is very limited*

## What We Sing: #423 Immortal, Invisible, God only wise

This hymn was sung at the Chapel Royal, Windsor Castle, on April 21, 1986 to mark Her Majesty's sixtieth birthday. Surprisingly, it is only comparatively recently that it has gained wide popularity. It did not, for example, appear in *Hymns Ancient and Modern* until 1950. It was written by Rev'd Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908). He was born and educated in Aberdeen and at New College, Edinburgh. He was ordained in 1850. He served at the Scottish Church in Chadwell Street, Islington, North London and Free Church congregations in Milnathort, Glasgow and Edinburgh. The culmination of his career was the moderatorship of the Free Church of Scotland in 1893. "**Immortal, invisible**" first appear in Smith's *Hymns of Christ and the Christian Life* in 1876. The hymn is based on I Timothy 1:17: "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever." In 1884 Garrett Horder included Smith's hymn in his *Congregation Hymns*, omitting the last two lines of verses 4 and 5 to give a new hybrid final verse:

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light,  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
All laud we would render: O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

The hymn we sing has additional changes from the original:

### **Our hymn reads:** Verse 4 **Original**

Though reignest in glory, thou rulest in light  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight:  
All laud we would render: O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
But of all thy rich graces this grace, Lord, impart  
Take the veil from our faces, the vile from our heart.

There is no Verse 5 in our hymnal

All laud we would render: O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee,  
And so let thy glory, almighty, impart,  
Through Christ in his story, thy Christ to the heart

## Churches & Casinos in Las Vegas

There are more churches in Las Vegas than casinos. During Sunday services at the offertory, some worshippers contribute casino chips as opposed to cash. Some are sharing their winnings—some are hoping to win. Since they get chips from so many different casinos, and they are worth money, the Catholic churches are required to send all the chips into the diocese for sorting. Once sorted into the respective casino chips, one junior priest takes the chips and makes the rounds to the casinos turn chips into cash.

And he, of course, is known as The Chip Monk!!!!

## Thinking about the Old Year

\*Thinking about the past has its advantage—it's cheaper.

\*Thinking about the old year is like the grammar lesson; you find the present tense and the past perfect.

## A Christian Dictionary?

**Amen** —The only part of a prayer that everyone knows

**Bulletin** —Your receipt for attending Mass

**Choir** —A group of people whose singing allows the rest of the Parish to lip-sync.

**Holy Water** —A liquid whose chemical formula is H2OLY.

**Incense** —Holy Smoke!

**Jonah** —The original “Jaws” story

**Justice** —When kids have kids of their own

**Kyrie Eleison** —The only Greek words that most can recognize besides gyros and baklava

**Magi** —The most famous trio at attend a baby shower

**Manger** —Where Mary placed Jesus because Joseph forgot the crib when packing the donkey

**Pew** —A medieval torture devise still found in churches.

**Procession** —The ceremonial formation at the beginning of Mass consisting of altar servers, the celebrant, and late parishioners looking for seats.

**Relics** —People who have been going to Mass for so long, they actually know when to sit, kneel, and stand.

**Stable** —Where Mary gave birth to Jesus because Joseph wasn’t covered by an HMO

**Ten Commandments** —The most important Top Ten list not given by David Letterman

**Ushers** —The only people in the parish who don’t know the seating capacity of a pew.