



The Fisherman's Net

"Catch the Spirit"

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
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MARCH 2011

Pastor's Pen *Fr. David Couper*

Well, here we are again – another LENT! And we will all hear the invitation words on Ash Wednesday: *"I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance..."*

Familiar words to most of us. But HOW do we do that in an age of worry, fear, over-whelming commitments and intensive stress? How do we observe a Holy Lent? This month, let me be so bold as to make a prescription for each one of us – sort of like you going to a physician and he or she writes a course of medicine and treatment for you. When we have an illness that is disabling us or cutting into our lifestyle, we go to the doctor. And, as a good patient, we try to follow the advice and prescription that is given in order to feel better and to live a fuller (and healthier) life.

So now I am taking the bold role of being your spiritual physician and I have a prescription for you to live a calmer, more centered, and healthier lifestyle.

Here it is:

- 1. MEDITATION.** Each morning during Lent spend 10 minutes quietly sitting in a comfortable chair before you begin your day. During this time, center yourself. Receive God's blessing. Be the Light of Christ this day. Think very positively. Ask God to help you get rid of things like discouragement and irritation and replace them with graciousness and patience.
- 2. WORSHIP.** On Sunday, begin the day as you have with 10 minutes of meditation. This time prepare yourself through self-examination to receive Christ's Body and Blood at church (things you've done that you shouldn't have, things you should have done but you didn't). Re-examine your calendar and your checkbook. Ask yourself, where do envy, blaming, judging or lusting rob you of life and joy? Make a strong – very strong – commitment not to miss church on Sunday and focus your spirit and soul towards the Great Feast of Easter.
- 3. STUDY.** Commit to attending the Wednesday evening Lent Course at the church: 6 to 8 pm, with a "soup and fresh bread" supper. Read the readings and do the limited "homework" to prepare yourself to get the most out of the course.
- 4. SELF-DENIAL.** Either takes on something or gets rid of something, but DO something

different. What is it you are addicted to? (We ALL have addictions!). Try to cast off one of those addictions or take on a something positive that you have always wanted to do. This is about either habit-breaking (like over-eating or smoking) or habit-making (like eating better, exercising, or maybe writing a “thank you” each week to a person who has positively influenced your life).

That’s it from your spiritual doctor and “I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance...” See you in church!

Lenten Bible Study—Wednesday’s 6—8 pm

Outflow: Outward-focused Living in a Self-focused World

If it is all about God, why do we live as if it is all about us?

This book, in which we will study, is a cross between a manifesto and a how-to manual—to inspire us to embrace *outreach* as a lifestyle--a natural, everyday thing that is as normal as going to the grocery store. When church members lead joyful, outward-focused lives, they make powerful connections with family and friends...and those connections are opportunities to share God’s love. Simple and Biblical, too. The Outflow course (reading, discussion, and video) will inspire a vision for living an outward focused life and provide practical tools to make that vision a reality with:

- A clear image (an overflowing fountain) that cements in the mind the five-step process by which readers can move from an inward to an outward focus.
- 25 readings that support a five-week Outflow focus
- Labs - practical activities readers can do to live an outward focus with their family, community, friends, and the world at large.

Produced by **Steve Sjogren**, who pioneered Servant Evangelism at a church that grew from a handful of members to more than 5,000 members using *Outflow* principles and **Dave Ping**, Director of Equipping Ministries International.

More than 130,000 leaders have benefited from his practical training.

Listen for Lent

“How hard it is to listen, really listen,” writes Betty Rowland, in *The Arkansas Churchman*. “It’s a habit, a ministry, a way of life. But it needs cultivating. Listen to your children, to your spouse, to an elderly person, to your pastor’s sermon, to music, to the sounds of nature. Listen for God.” Why not give up talking for Lent?

Calendar & Times

		<u>Scheduled Reader</u>	<u>Altar Flowers</u>
Mar. 6, Sunday	8:00 am Vestry Meeting		
	9:30 am Holy Eucharist	Rick Luedke	Naze family
Mar. 9, Wednesday	7:00 pm ASH WEDNESDAY		
Mar. 13, Sunday	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS		
	9:30 am Holy Eucharist 1 Lent	Steve Marks	No flowers during Lent
Mar. 16, Wednesday	6:00 pm Soup Supper & Bible Study		
Mar. 20, Sunday	9:30 am Holy Eucharist 2 Lent	Susan Medd	
Mar. 23, Wednesday	6:00 pm Soup Supper & Bible Study		
Mar. 27, Sunday	9:30 am Holy Eucharist 3 Lent	Kathy Marks	
Mar. 30, Wednesday	6:00 pm Soup Supper & Bible Study		

Lessons for MARCH

<u>1 Lesson</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>2nd Lesson</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
Mar. 6 Exodus 24:12-18	2	2 Peter 1:16-21	Matthew 17:1-9
Mar. 13 Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	32	Romans 5:12-19	Matthew 4:1-11
Mar. 20 Genesis 12:1-4	121	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	John 3:1-17
Mar. 27 Exodus 17:1-7	95	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42

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 the people in New Zealand who were hit by a devastating earthquake.
- *Pray for peace and justice in the world, especially in the Middle East and Africa where people are demonstrating for democracy.
- *Pray especially for Yumi’s safety in Afghanistan.
- *Pray for the hungry, the jobless, the homeless and those who see no hope in their lives.
- *Pray for our leaders, both national and local, to make good decisions.
- *Pray for the Millennium Goals, especially to eradicate hunger and poverty by 2015.
- *Pray for St. Peter’s and its families, for the present and the future, that we may grow in Christ and be his light to the world.

Let’s Celebrate!

Happy Birthday

March 3	Stephanie Naze
March 8	Debbie Stone-Marks
March 14	Peg Leitgabel
March 14	Kate Pieper
March 31	Dan Schneider

Happy Anniversary

March 3	John & Sheila Campbell
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If we have missed your birthday or anniversary or listed it incorrectly, please let us know so we may celebrate with you! Submissions or corrections may be sent to the editor: Mbread@att.net

The Spirit at Work!

- *Many of us attended the Pewaukee Chamber of Commerce awards, Friday February 4, where Helen Ackley was awarded the Citizen of the Year. Her picture appeared with Dan Vrakas, Waukesha County Executive, in the *Living Lake Country Sunday*, Sunday, February 20. Look for it on the bulletin board in the Narthex and congratulations again!
- *Our thanks to David Abbott for the suggestion and institution of the Lesson Inserts for Sunday mornings. They are an added plus to our worship time!
- *Daylight Savings begins March 13. Don’t forget to set your clocks AHEAD. Can spring be far behind?
- *St. Peter’s will once again have a Rummage Sale to benefit a worthy cause. Watch for more information!
- *Congratulations to Eric Dyrud who was elected to the Vestry at the Annual Meeting.
- *Thanks to all who attended and also provided the delicious feast for St. Peter’s Annual Meeting. The weather was bad, the meeting was good, but the food was great!

Do You Have a Prayer Request?

St. Peter’s Prayer Circle is an active group of people constantly praying for your needs. To make requests easier, prayer request forms are now available in the Narthex next to the Sunday bulletins. You may place your request in the offering plate. You may also contact Mary Buerosse, 262-691-3549 or by email at Mbread@att.net.

Looking for Apprentices & Persons in Training

St. Peter's Cemetery Administrator, Dan Naze, is looking for an apprentice(s). Dan would like to train someone to assist him in the Cemetery duties. If you are interested in learning about what Dan does, please contact him at 262-628-0478 or dnaze0478@charter.net.

New Updated Pictorial Directory in the Making

David Abbott is working on an updated Pictorial Directory. If you would like an updated picture for the new 2011 directory (perhaps a "younger" picture!), please let Dave know. You may send him a digital picture via email: sailmc1983@yahoo.com. Please check your "statistics" in the current directory and advise of any necessary corrections. Many thanks.

Reader's Schedule

A new Reader's Schedule will be published at the end of March. Are you interested in reading the lessons on Sunday mornings? Typically you would read 6-7 times a year! If you would like to be included in this ministry, please speak to Mary Buerosse (262-691-3549 or mbread@att.net) before the end of March!

Suzanne 'Suzy' Dyrud

A familiar face at St. Peter's, Suzy Dyrud died on January 29 after a courageous 10 year battle with cancer. She was the beloved wife of M. John Dyrud and sister-in-law to Eric and Dorina Dyrud. There was a memorial service held on Saturday, Feb. 26 at Christ Church, Winnetka, Illinois. In lieu of flowers, Suzy would have appreciated donations to the Lawrence Hall for Boys, 4833 N. Francisco St., Chicago, IL 60625 or the Lawrence University Art Center, Suzanne Mead Dyrud Teacher/Student Scholarship Program, P. O. Box 599, Appleton, WI 54912. We will surely miss Suzy and her smiling, upbeat personality.

St. Peter's Outreach to North Lake Food Pantry

We began our new outreach program for the North Lake Food Pantry last month. It was extremely successful in receiving \$137.31 in donations, by check and cash. While food items for the North Lake Food Pantry will still be accepted, we are offering this opportunity for your monetary donations the last Sunday of every month. The "Food Pantry Jug" will be placed in the baptismal font for your donations. You may make out a check to the "North Lake Food

Pantry" if you wish to make a tax deductible donation. The Food Pantry can utilize the money at Second Harvest and therefore increase the amount of food available for their clients. Thank you for helping those in need.

Trust in God

-by Rev. David Elsensohn, St. Peter's by-the-Sea, Sitka, Alaska

Lent is a peculiar season. It is one of those times in the Church year that most of the people around us do not have the beginning of a clue what it is all about. Every year the Church calls us to the observance of a holy Lent. We are even given the outline of how to do this. In the Ash Wednesday service, the practices of self-examination and repentance; of prayer, fasting, and self denial; and of reading and meditating on God's Holy Word are commended to us. These practices are not the goal of Lent; rather they are a tried and true path to that goal. The goal of Lent is to find our way to a point in our lives where we can "trust in God" fully. Our fathers and mothers in the faith have found this to be an elusive goal. Our Lord Jesus is the one who

embodies this life of trust (shows us what it looks like). He trusted God all the way from Galilee, to Jerusalem, Golgotha, and beyond. Lent is a time for us to reflect on the ways things are and the way things can be. This is a special time for us to realize that we frequently trust (have faith) in everything and anything before trusting in God. Why is it that we tend to trust our own abilities, and those of others, before we turn to God's? If we knew the answer to this question, we might not have the

problem. What we do know is that all of us are on the road to learning how to place ourselves fully in God's hands. Each of us has our own unique struggles along the way. When we finally arrive, a whole new world opens up to us. We can tell our friends who ask us about Lent that it is a part of the process through which we increase in:

"trust in God's unchanging love"

and we learn to: *"build [our lives] on a rock that naught can move."*

At the start of our Lenten journey to Easter, I pray that all who make the journey will find this season to be a holy time of growth and increasing trust in God.

-via Anglican Digest, Lent 2009 AD, edited/condensed

*On their way home from attending an Ash Wednesday service, little Johnny asked his mother, "Is it true, Mommy, that we are made of dust like the minister said tonight?" "Yes, darling," his mother answered. "And is it true that we go back to dust again when we die?" "Yes, dear," his mother replied. "Well, Mommy, when I said my prayers last night and looked under the bed, I saw someone who is either coming or going." -Dennis R. Fakes

Senior Warden's Reflection by Andy Marks

Polarize.....Polarizing.....Polarized

According to Wikipedia, political scientists generally measure polarization in two ways. One is called *plain* or *generic* polarization, often referred to as **popular** polarization, which happens when opinions diverge towards poles of distribution or intensity. The other is known as *partisan* polarization, which happens when support for a political figure or position differentiates itself along political party lines. Polarization has become a popular word over the last several years. Many political experts see the two political parties in Congress as ideologically apart as they have been in the last three decades. As a result very little agreement can be found in policy.

In communication and psychology, polarization takes on a somewhat different meaning. Again, according to Wikipedia, polarization is the process whereby a social or political group is divided into two opposing sub-groups with fewer members of the group remaining neutral or holding an intermediate position. When polarization occurs, there is a tendency for the opposing sides of an argument to make increasingly disagreeable statements, via the "pendulum effect". Thus, it is commonly observed in polarized groups, that judgments made after group discussion will be more extreme on a given subject than the average of individual judgments made prior to the discussion. One does not have to look too far as we watch this type of polarization unfold before our eyes in Wisconsin. The purpose of this reflection is not to try to sway or change anyone's point of view, but to look at the consequences. I personally have never felt as passionate about any political issue in my entire life as I do with what is going on now in Madison. What concerns me even more is what it is doing to my soul. I want to remain objective, but my heart is being torn to one side. It's as if there are two giant magnets pulling people to one side or the other. And the more people that get sucked to a side, the stronger the magnet force becomes. Both feel the convictions of their righteousness. And where is God in all of this? He's standing alone somewhere in the middle.

Welcome Back

Welcome back Fr. David and Sabine. We missed you and are glad you had a great vacation in Florida. Thanks to Fr. Tom Ackerman and Fr. Jim Kaestner for filling in. We are so blessed you were able to celebrate the Eucharist with us and share your wisdom.

What We Sing: # 427 “When morning gilds the skies”

This is not, as its title might suggest, a morning hymn. It is a general hymn of praise to Christ, suitable for use at any time or season. The original hymn is of unknown authorship. It begins ‘Beim fruhen Morgenlicht’, and runs to fourteen verses. It first appeared anonymously in the *Katholisches Gesangbuch* published in Würzburg in 1828. It was first translated by Edward Caswall (1814-1878). He was educated at Marlborough and Brasenose College, Oxford. He was ordained into the Church of England but in 1847 he became a Roman Catholic. Caswall’s translation was first published in *Catholic Hymns*, a collection edited by the Rev’d Henry Formby and published in 1854. In 1873 he published a longer translation, covering all fourteen verses of the German original. The ‘New Standard’ edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern* contains Caswall’s original six-verse translation, *as printed below*. The third edition of the *Church Hymnary* and *Hymns for Church and School* print another six-verse translation of the hymn, which has the same first three lines as Caswall’s but differs considerably thereafter. That is the work of Robert Bridges (1844-1930). That is the translation which we find in our hymnal.

When morning gilds the skies,
My heart awaking cries,
 May Jesus Christ be praised:
Alike at work and prayer
To Jesus I repair;
 May Jesus Christ be praised.

Whene’er the sweet church bell
Peals over hill and dell,
 May Jesus Christ be praised:
O hark to what it sings,
As joyously it rings,
 May Jesus Christ be praised.

My tongue shall never tire
Of chanting with the choir,
 May Jesus Christ be praised:
This song of sacred joy,
It never seems to cloy,
 May Jesus Christ be praised.

Does sadness fill my mind?
A solace here I find,
 May Jesus Christ be praised:
Or fades my earthly bliss?
My comfort still is this,
 May Jesus Christ be praised.

The night becomes as day,
When from the heart we say,
 May Jesus Christ be praised:
The powers of darkness fear,
When this sweet chant they hear,
 May Jesus Christ be praised.

Be this, while life is mine,
My canticle divine,
 May Jesus Christ be praised:
Be this the eternal song
Through ages all along,
 May Jesus Christ be praised.

Lenten Rules—pick some!

- Refrain from critical remarks.
- Let that poor driver pull into the line of traffic in front of me.
- Put down that trashy book and read something worthwhile.
- Give our Lord a little credit for the good things happening to me; blame our Lord a little less for the bad things happening to me.
- Say “thank you” more often. Say “please” more often.
- Talk less. Say more.
- Smile some. Try smiling even when I do not feel like it.

- *The gospel is not something only to go to church to hear—but to go from church to tell.
- *Christ alone can save the world—but he cannot save the world alone; he needs your help.
- *Little things become great things when done in God’s power.
- *Faith is more than waiting upon God—it’s expecting an answer.
- *We cannot all be apostles; but we can all be living epistles.
- *If absence makes the heart grow fonder—some people really love the church!!

Church Marquees

- *Claude Presbyterian Church: “There are some questions that can’t be answered by Google.”
- *St. Cyril of Alexandria Catholic Church, Diocese of Galveston-Houston:
“Staying in bed, Shouting, OH GOD! does not constitute going to church.”
- *Palm Heights Baptist: “God does not believe in atheists, Therefore atheists do not exist”
- *Wyldwood Baptist: “Read the Bible—it will scare the Hell out of you.”
- *Oak Grove Baptist: “Walmart is not the only saving place.”
- *Neighborhood Christian Center of the Assemblies of God: “Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.”

God & the High-Tech World

God is sitting in heaven when a scientist prays to Him. “God, we don’t need you anymore. Science has finally figured out a way to create life out of nothing—in other words, we can now do what you did in the beginning.” “Oh, is that so? Tell Me...” replies God. “Well,” says the scientist, “we can take dirt and form it into the likeness of you and breathe life into it, thus creating man.” “Well, that’s very interesting... show Me,” says God. So the scientist bends down to the earth and starts to mold the soil into the shape of a man. “No, no, no ...” interrupts God. “Get your own dirt.”