



South Dakota Episcopal

Church News

www.diocesed.org

January/February 2009

New life for Flandreau church

The Episcopal church in the small community of Flandreau, South Dakota has a long history.

Bishop Hare ordered a church to be built there in 1878. St. Mary's was a log structure on the west side of town and was later moved to its present location south of the entrance to the Flandreau Indian School.

A second church, Church of the Redeemer, was constructed in 1895 and moved to Prairie and Second Streets in 1914.

Twenty-five years ago, in February 1959, a fire damaged a portion of the chancel and sanctuary of St. Mary's. The entire chancel floor had to be replaced, but the organ, communion vessels and linens were unharmed. Everyone was grateful that the insurance was in force.

In 1964, the two congregations merged into St. Mary's & Our Blessed Redeemer. But the stable, viable congregation watched and mourned as their building was condemned a few years ago. The chapel near the Flandreau Indian School was also in bad shape, so members met in their homes and community facilities, served by a variety of supply priests and lay leaders after Fr. Allen Lewis, part-time Vicar, retired.

Just when the congregation started to lose hope of ever having a "regular" church again, miracles happened.

An anonymous donation of \$35,000, a UTO grant of \$15,000, a \$50,000 loan from the Diocesan Centennial Challenge Fund, and a promise by the congrega-

tion to contribute some sweat equity and to raise \$20,000 on its own resulted in immediate action. In mid-October, the building at Prairie and Second was demolished and a new facility immediately began to rise at the site. Workers put in extra time to enclose the building before the weather got too cold, and if all goes as planned, their first service in the new building will be Christmas Eve with the Bishop presiding.

The second piece of the miracle was the appointment of the Rev. Charlie King to serve St. Mary's beginning in September. Fr. King is also Priest-in-Charge of the Tiospaye Wakan congregation at Calvary Cathedral.

Donations to help the Flandreau congregation with their new building would be appreciated, and may be sent to the Diocesan Office at 500 S. Main Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57104.



The new St. Mary's Church in mid-December 2008

**The Diocese
of
South Dakota**



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**Bishop's
visitation dates
in bold letters
(Dates subject
to change)**



2009

JANUARY

- Jan 17 Ordination of Rita Powell to priesthood
- Jan 23-24 Ministry Weekend, Pierre (*Baptism*)
- Jan 23-24 Nominating Committee meeting

FEBRUARY

Send delegate names & addresses to Diocesan Office

- Feb 7 Transition Committee, Chamberlain
- Feb 10 *ChurchNews* deadline, Mar/Apr 2009 issue
- Feb 13-14 Ministry Weekend (*Confirmation*), Sisseton Mission or Rapid City
- Pre-Lent Clergy Retreat CANCELLED
- Feb 20 Deans' Council, Pierre
- Feb 25 Ash Wednesday
- Feb 28 Ministry Weekend, Rapid City (*Christian Education*)

MARCH

- Mar 1 Parochial Reports due
- Mar 6-7 Diocesan Council, Pierre
- Mar 13-19 House of Bishops' Meeting

- Apr 29- May 2 Walk-about/presentation of bishop candidates around the diocese
- Apr 24-25 COM, Pierre
- May 9 Special electing convention, Pierre
- May 31-Jun 5 Summer Seminary, TEC
- Summer Summer Camp Schedule—see page 9
- Jun 25-28 Niobrara Convocation, Bishop Hare Center
- Jul 8-17 General Convention, Anaheim, California
- Aug 21-22 Youth Event, Watertown
- Aug 22 Ministry Training (*Prevention of Sexual Abuse*), Aberdeen
- Sep 18-19 COM, Pierre
- Oct 2-4 Annual Convention, Cedar Shore
- Oct 17 Ministry Training (*Prevention of Sexual Abuse*), Chamberlain
- Oct 31 Consecration of Bishop Coadjutor, Sioux Falls

- Change of address
- Subscription—\$5/yr.
- Cancellation
- Donation

Change of Address?

You can help the Diocese of South Dakota save money in postage due. Use this form to give us your new address BEFORE you move.

name

address

address

date

Spearfish church publishes its history

The history of Spearfish’s oldest church building has been condensed and preserved in a booklet designed to educate the public about **All Angels Episcopal Church** in Spearfish, according to a December 2, 2008 article in the *Black Hills Pioneer*.

The Very Rev. Bunker Hill, Rector, related that All Angels was trying to develop and strengthen the church in the community, and that one way to do this is through educating people about its historic nature.

The small pamphlet was written by a local historian and touches briefly on the history of the Episcopal Church in America, its development in Spearfish in the 1880s, New York ties to the Spearfish church building, and how it has fared for over 100 years. The original building, dedicated in April, 1899 is on the state Register of Historic Places and has a spot on the National Register of Historic Places.



Fr. Webster Two Hawk honored by Governor

The **Rev. Webster Two Hawk** was born February 4, 1930 and was ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church at St. Peter’s, Lake Andes on February 3, 1958. But ordained ministry wasn’t all he accomplished in 50 years of serving others.

In recognition of Fr. Web’s many accomplishments

and years of service in South Dakota, Governor Mike Rounds proclaimed February 3, 2008 as “Father Webster Two Hawk, Sr. Day.”

Governor Rounds noted that “serving as a non-stipendiary priest has allowed Webster to have a career in public service as past Tribal Chairman of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, as hospital administrator for the Rosebud Hospital, as director of the Indian Health Service for the Aberdeen area, and as director of Tribal Government Relations under Governor William Janklow.”



We’d like to include news about YOUR church and its ministry to its members, newcomers, or to the community.

But we must rely on YOU to furnish us with that news. Whether it is a couple of paragraphs or just a couple of lines; whether it is about something that happened, is ongoing, or is being planned – we’d like to hear about it. It will be included if at all possible. Pictures are also welcome. Send by mail or digitally. Add the Diocesan Office to your newsletter mailing list.

Keep the *ChurchNews* deadline in mind. The next deadline is February 10 (for the March/April issue) and the 10th of every other month thereafter (April, June, August, October, December).

Email: office.diocese@midconetwork.com
 Fax: 605-336-6243
 Mail: 500 S. Main Avenue
 Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6814

If you have any questions, call Mary at 605-338-9751

Bishop visits All Saints, Herrick

On November 1, 2008 Bishop Robertson held services and confirmed 5 members of **All Saints** in rural Herrick, SD. The confirmand, in the back row between **Vicar Kay Jennings** and **Bishop Robertson**, is **David Camin**. In the front row, left to right, are **Roxie Merrills, Mike Cole, Shirley Cole,** and **Derek Merrills**.



Members had an enjoyable visit with Bishop Robertson and pot luck following services, and we thank Bishop Robertson for his visit.

Bishop visits St. Paul's, Vermillion

In May Bishop Robertson visited **St. Paul's**, Vermillion, where he baptized **Logan Grace Sanborn** and confirmed **James May**.



The Brookings Register reported on December 3, 2008—

Moses Joknhial II is a familiar person to many in South Dakota. Moses is one of the Lost Boys of Sudan, resettled in Sioux Falls, and a member of the Sudanese congregation at Holy Apostles. He has been a student in Watertown and Brookings, and speaker at Diocesan Convention as well as at churches, service clubs, and civic organizations mostly East River in South Dakota.

Since arriving in Sioux Falls, Moses has earned two associate degrees and a pilot's license, and is on his way to receiving a college degree at SDSU in aviation with a goal to become a commercial pilot. His drive and gratitude for education matches his passion to give educational opportunities to his war-ravaged native community of Duk Payuel in Sudan. He wants to build a school there.

Primary education classes are now held under a tree. Attendance is contingent upon weather, and food preparation and water carrying keep many students away as well. Village girls now spend much of their time grinding the corn by hand and fetching water from the river. So besides the building, donations have been raised for a water pump and a corn grinder, as well as desks and supplies for the school.

After telling his story around the state, donations have poured in. The city of Watertown adopted the water well as their project, meeting and exceeding the goal of \$12,000. On December 29, Moses will return to Sudan for three months to oversee the construction of his dream. He will also be reunited with the father he hasn't seen in 21 years, since the terrorist uprising which separated 40,000 children from their families.

Much of the funding is now in place, but donations are still needed. Tax deductible contributions can be made to the Diocese of South Dakota. Contact Rhonda Morse, project manager, at 605-334-2557 with any questions about the project.

Additional article on next page and photo on page 6

Bishop visits St. James, Mobridge

On October 25, Bishop Robertson visited **St. James, Mobridge** and **St. Elizabeth's, Wakpala** on the Standing Rock Mission. Confirmed, from left to right, are **Dallas Dunwoody, Vance Harmon, Adrienne Thompson,** and **Makaela Moser.**



Moses to build his school

At the 2007 State Diocesan convention, **Moses Joknhial II's** project "Rebuilding South Sudan through Education" was launched. Asked when he would like to have enough funds raised to return to his homeland to begin construction, Moses responded, "December, 2008." His dream will be fulfilled as he embarks December 29th on this journey. I have the good fortune to accompany him during the first month. Moses remains until mid-April to oversee the construction efforts.

Travel plans begin with two days in Nairobi, Kenya, to gather supplies, followed by a day trip to the Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya where Moses lived for a decade prior to his arrival to the USA in 2001. At the camp, he will provide food supplies to tribal family members who remain in the camp.

From Kenya, a chartered flight will fly us and Kenyan contractors directly to his village of Pajut, located within the community of Panyang, South Sudan. In his village, Moses will be reunited with his father and other family members for the first time since he had to flee in 1987. Village leaders will gather for a celebration to mark the place where the school building, water well, and grinding mill will be built.

Drilling the water well will be first priority. The well is being provided by the community of Wattertown, SD, whose campaign "Well Water from Wattertown" and slogan of *12,000 people donating \$1* successfully raised the funds needed to bore the well. Members of **Trinity Episcopal Church** were instrumental in organizing these efforts and are commended for their outstanding charity.

When the water well is completed, the work of building the school and grinding mill will begin with school building plans kindly provided by Randall Stanley Architects, Sioux Falls. Skilled workers from Nairobi and Khartoum will be employed along with help from local villagers. Materials and building supplies will be obtained from neighboring Uganda.

Fundraising efforts have exceeded expectations with over \$80,000 collected. This figure surpasses the initial goal, but is certainly welcome and necessary, due to increased costs since initial estimates were made.

Our diocese has contributed significantly to our fundraising efforts and has provided support in a multitude of ways, including church contributions, special offerings, youth fundraisers, and an ECW statewide "bake sale". The project has also received broad support from churches of other denominations, service clubs, and schools. To engage young people, Moses's campaign "Coins for Classrooms" has received great support involving vacation Bible schools, Sunday schools, public and private schools.

Moses will take 350 school bags to present as gifts to the students in his village. These bags were made by the women of Oaklane Hutterite Colony, Alexandria, SD. Sunday school children from Abiding Savior's Free Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, have written letters to include in the bags as an outreach mission, connecting children with children.

Moses's school project has been described as "having a life of its own." Indeed! *Special thanks are extended to everyone,* who has played a part in this and helped make Moses's dream and project goals a reality. Please offer your prayers for safe travel and good fortune for this worthy mission.

by Rhonda Morse, a project coordinator



Moses is speaking to children in VBS at Holy Spirit Church in Sioux Falls. He is wearing a "blanket" explaining to the children this is the only clothing he and his parents had to wear.

25 years ago.....

- **Trinity, Watertown** held a Renaissance Festival and raised almost \$3,000. Pickles-on-sticks and homemade donuts were sold, and pork loin slow-cooked on spits all day for a parish dinner. Ben Reifel was the official host.
- **Trinity, Pierre** installed a new pipe organ before Christmas and dedicated it in June on the occasion of the parish's centennial.
- **Rosebud** and **Pine Ridge** reservations suffered from storms, power outages, and fuel shortages. The Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief (now ER-D) provided an emergency grant of \$10,000 for food and fuel. The press coverage of the Church's response brought help from other sources.
- The women of **St. Thomas, Sturgis**, adopted a resident of the community nursing home who has no other family.

Transitions . . .

- ◆ **The Rev. Elizabeth ("Liz") Powers** began serving Christ Church, Chamberlain, and the Mni Sose Cluster (Holy Comforter/Messiah in Lower Brule, Christ Church in Ft. Thompson, and St. John's on the Crow Creek Reservation)

on September 1, 2008. Mother Liz and her husband, Sam Robertson, moved to Chamberlain from the Diocese of North Dakota where she was the priest at St. Stephen's in Fargo. She has been a social worker for over 30 years, was ordained a priest in 2004, and has a passion for Lay Ministry.



- ◆ **The Rev. Ryan Hall** has accepted the call to be Rector of St. Paul's, Brookings. Fr. Ryan currently is the curate at St. Mark's on Campus in Lincoln, Nebraska. Some in the diocese may know him from his summer internship on the Rosebud Mission and his time at TEC last summer. He and his wife Mary have a rescued Golden Retriever and are expecting their first child this spring. Details of their move to Brookings had not been finalized when this issue went to press.

We welcome them to the Diocese!

God Willing and the People Consenting

Bishop Creighton L. Robertson,
on behalf of Bishop Andrew Smith,
Diocese of Connecticut,
will ordain

Rita T. Powell

as Priest
in Christ's Holy Catholic Church
at Calvary Cathedral
500 S. Main Avenue
Sioux Falls, South Dakota
Saturday, January 17, 2009
11:00 am

Reception to follow



Footsteps in Faith—
*a regular column
 inspired by the Com-
 mission on Ministry to
 spotlight the many and diverse
 ministries performed daily in the
 lives of Episcopalians in South Dakota.*

*As we try to live out our Baptismal Covenants,
 sometimes our steps are going to go forward and
 sometimes we tend to take steps backward. Our
 steps can be large or other times they tend to be
 baby steps. But they all have a story to tell.*

This month we hear from **Dorothy Bahnson**, a member of Calvary Cathedral in Sioux Falls.

I've spent many hours thinking about the ways God has blessed me and helped me on my life journey. I came to the conclusion that the glorious communion of saints around me—people with the Holy Spirit within them—have been God's way of guiding me on my faith journey.

Let me tell you about some of them.

My Mother—
 she taught me I can only keep what I give away.

My Father—
 taught "be a friend to all and all will be your friend"

My Grandma—
 she loved me unconditionally as God loves

A Teacher—
 she taught Latin and then took time to share her trip to the Passion Play each Easter

A Children's Choir Director—
 she led us in praise to God in song—and I couldn't even carry a tune

My Soul Mate—
 he gave me reason to thank God for every day and live that day to the fullest

My Children—
 they loved me and provided me with great joy and thanksgiving

My Friends—
 they love me, sustain me, and are an ever present reminder that God is good.

I'm not a singer (guess I said that before) but the words of many hymns sing in my heart. I love these two special ones I learned as a child, one in Children's Choir and the other in Bible School:

"Now thank we all our God
 With heart and hands and voices
 Who wondrous things hath done
 In whom his world rejoices."

and

"and He walks with me
 and He talks with me
 and He tells me I am His own"

Yes, I know that God is with me on my journey. His ever present love sustains me.

SD Children & Mental Health

South Dakota Voices for Children has developed a web site especially for South Dakota parents to help foster children's mental health.

The site – www.sdkidsmentalhealth.org - includes information about mental health disorders that can affect children, available services, and how and where to get help. The site includes:

- *A Parent's Guide to Children's Mental Health Services in South Dakota*
- A companion video
- *Wings for Life* parent newsletter
- Searchable directory of mental health providers in SD
- Searchable bibliography of helpful children's books
- Other resources

South Dakota Voices for Children
 808 N. West Avenue
 PO Box 2196
 Sioux Falls, SD 57101
 605-367-9667



General Convention to be held this summer

The 76th General Convention of the Episcopal Church will be held July 7-17, 2009 in Anaheim, California at the Anaheim Convention Center.

The Diocesan Office registers and makes lodging arrangements for the Bishop and the Diocesan Deputation, but interested individuals can get housing and registration information at <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/gc2009>.

Visitor fees are as follows:

- ◆ Pre-Convention – Multiple Days: \$50 (available until June 6, 2009)
This includes a badge and program with access to legislative Houses, Eucharists and the Exhibit Hall.
- ◆ To receive all legislative material: \$400
- ◆ On-site registration – Multiple Days: \$60
- ◆ One day: \$15

On-site registration begins July 6. The Presiding Bishop and President of the House of Deputies make welcoming presentations on Tuesday, July 7 at 2:00 pm. The first legislative session begins at 8:00 am on Wednesday, July 8. The UTO Ingathering and Convention Eucharist will be Sunday, July 12 at 10:00 am.

Diocesan Deputies to General Convention are:

- ◆ The Rev. David Hussey, Vermillion
- ◆ The Rev. Webster Two Hawk, Ft. Pierre
- ◆ The Very Rev. John Spruhan, Rosebud Mission
- ◆ The Rev. George Parmeter, Huron
- ◆ Jean Lacher, Brookings
- ◆ Dennis Potter, Sioux Falls
- ◆ Wilma Standing Bear, Pine Ridge
- ◆ Wade Brings, Chamberlain

http://www.diocesesd.org/general_convention.htm

Bishop Robertson and Ann will be in attendance, as well as the Bishop-elect and spouse. It is unknown at this printing who will be attending the ECW Triennial from the Diocese.



The Ubuntu logo of the 76th General Convention was adapted from a design submitted in a contest sponsored by the Joint Standing Committee on Planning & Arrangements. The winning design was submitted by the Rev. Paul Fromberg, Interim Rector of St. Gregory of Nyssa Church, San Francisco, California, a member of the Episcopal Church and the Visual Arts.

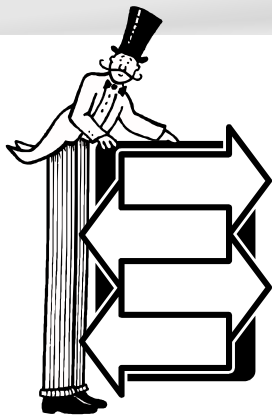
The Trinitarian design depicts God the Creator in the bright center, God the Son in the cross formed by the longitude and latitude lines and God the Holy Spirit, swirling around the Father and the Son. The swirl is comprised of dancing figures, male and female, with faces of many colors, who symbolize the interconnectedness of humanity.

In the official logo, the word Ubuntu is spelled out in a font especially created for General Convention by Mel Ahlborn, President of the Episcopal Church and the Visual Arts, together with a quotation from the Gospel of John. The full logo can be viewed at www.episcopalchurch.org/gc2009/

Good idea!



St. Andrew's, Rapid City holds **Barely Organized Religion** on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Gathering at a local coffee shop, they engage in questions of faith and help each other search for answers to spiritual questions we face in everyday life.



Youth &
Young Adult
News

TEC NEWS

Save The Dates!!!

***Do you know of someone who would be a great counselor-leader for young people at Camp next summer? Please please please contact Rita Powell with your idea! ***

**THUNDERHEAD EPISCOPAL CAMP
SUMMER 2009**

MAY 22-24	WORK CAMP
JUNE 22-25	STAFF TRAINING
JUNE 26-28	TEC STAFF GOES TO NIOBRARA CONVOCATION AT ROSEBUD MISSION
JUN 29-JUL 2	FAMILY AND 5TH AND 6TH GRADE CAMP
JULY 6-13	HIGH SCHOOL CAMP
JULY 16-19	MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS RETREAT
JULY 19-25	CONFIRMATION CAMP
JULY 25-28	MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS RETREAT
AUG 14-16	MEN'S RETREAT
SEPT 4-7	ALUMNI RETREAT
TBA	WOMEN'S RETREAT

FOR INFORMATION ON THUNDERHEAD CAMP FACILITIES

- Holly Huisken
500 S. Main Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
605-336-3486
thunderhead@dakotablue.net

**THUNDERHEAD EPISCOPAL CAMP
WISH LIST**

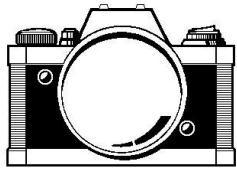
- PRAYERS
- BEDSIDE LAMPS
- YARN & FELT
- WHEELBARROW
- POSTER BOARD
- MATTRESS PADS—QUEEN & TWIN SIZES
- DIGITAL CAMERA W/MEMORY CHIP
- UNDERWRITE A BUS TRIP—10 @ \$3,000 EACH
- SIDING FOR SUPERTENT—LABOR & MATERIALS
- UNDERWRITE T-SHIRTS—\$400
- SPINE BOARD STRAPS—\$40 FOR A SET
- NEW SONGBOOKS
- SHARPIES (BLACK, SILVER, COLORS)
- VEGGIE TALES VIDEOS
- WINDOW REPLACEMENT—CABINS
- DOOR REPLACEMENT—4 @ \$500 EACH
- LOCKSMITH WORK
- NEW FIRST AID SUPPLIES—SANITARY NAPKINS & TAMPONS, ALOE VERA LOTION/GEL, TYLENOL, IBUPROFEN, BENADRYL (LIQUID OR CHEWABLE)

ONGOING NEEDS:

- VOLUNTEER GRANDPARENTS
- SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS
- OPERATING FUND DONATIONS
- MAINTENANCE VOLUNTEERS
- BUS CHAPERONES

FOR INFORMATION ON THUNDERHEAD CAMP PROGRAM

- The Rev. Rita Powell
500 S. Main Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
605-338-9751
605-659-0110
youth.diocese@midconetwork.com



What's Developing with Youth Ministry?

By Rev. Rita Powell

Epiphany at the Cathedral: Youth/Young Adult Bible Study and Compline

Light in Darkness

Epiphany Series

6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study

35 & under, or young at heart.

8:00 p.m. Compline in the Style of Taizé
Ancient. Contemplative. Deeply spiritual.

All ages welcome.

The Rev. Rita Powell will offer an exciting program for young people at **Calvary Cathedral** this Epiphany. On four Sunday nights (January 11, 25 and February 8, 22) there will be a 6:30 PM Bible Study. The theme will be *Light in the Darkness*. We will work with the prologue of John and parts of Isaiah to shine light on our own experience of God. Each Sunday will close with a service of Compline in the manner of Taize at 8:00 PM. Chanting, candlelight, and silence will provide a contemplative experience on these cold winter nights. Good conversation guaranteed! Write Rita at youth.diocese@midconetwork.com with your questions!

Youth Council to Meet in January at Lower Brule

The Diocesan Youth Council will meet on Saturday, January 31st at **Holy Comforter** in Lower Brule. **Father Liam Muller**, Chair, has set several topics for the Council's agenda. These include: reviewing curriculum for TEC Program this summer, visioning program for youth at Niobrara Convocation, and reviewing plans for Youth Convention next August. The proposed youth program budget will also be presented to the Council at this time, as well as the proposed work list for the Youth Coordinator. Father Muller is excited to help develop the leadership and strength of the Youth Council.

Save The Date: Youth Convention in Watertown August 21-23, 2009!

A big congratulations is in order for **Trinity, Watertown**. Despite being in a difficult time without a Rector, Trinity has persevered to plan the Youth Convention next summer. Two major components have been secured: Convention location, and entertainment. The youth of Trinity met with and booked well-known Christian band *Bread of Stone* to perform at the Convention. In addition, they have raised almost all of the funds needed to pay for the band as their gift to the Youth Convention. Wow! Great work! The convention planning committee, including **Brenda Boettecher** and **Julie Plunkett**, has secured a contract with the Lake Poinsett camping facilities to feed and house the convention. This is going to be a spectacular event you won't want to miss!

Look for a Youth Convention mailing, including details on a T-shirt design contest, coming to your church!

Developing Relationships with Colleges/Universities: USD Pilgrimage to Taize

Coming up this March, Rev. Powell will offer her assistance to the USD Taize student group to help lead a pilgrimage to Taize, France. This ecumenical, liturgical community is a beacon for youth ministry around the world, and a model for week-long church experiences that change and shape lives. Please keep this mission trip in your prayers!

Stay Tuned for a Youth Ministry Training Event near YOU!

This spring, look for youth ministry training events in your deanery. These events will be tailored to the special needs of each of the Deaneries in the Diocese. Ideas? Requests? Contact your Dean, Priest or Rev. Powell at youth.diocese@midconetwork.com

The Next Step



The Next Step in Young Adult Youth Ministry touches all ages with eternal themes!

Perhaps you have heard of “The Next Step” or “GodSigns” this year. This movement grew out of the Alumni Reunion at Thunderhead Episcopal Camp in 2007. As the returned campers shared music and memories around the campfire one night, they lamented the loss of the connections they had in their earlier years. They spoke of the church being out of touch with their generation. This sparked a fire in four women in particular: **Tara Jean Engel, Holly Huisken, Kristen Sanford, and Cary Thrall.** At the urging of the other campers, Kristin scheduled a workshop at the upcoming Diocesan Convention. The topic that year was “What If You Love God, but Can’t Trust Him?” The workshop was offered again at Grace Church in Huron. The attendance of people of all ages, who were interested in holy conversations about our faith where it touches our lives, has highlighted the need for this forum to continue at this time.

This year’s theme evolved from last year’s discussions. Even though we may not be ready to reach out to God, God is constantly reaching out to us. We call these moments “GodSigns”.

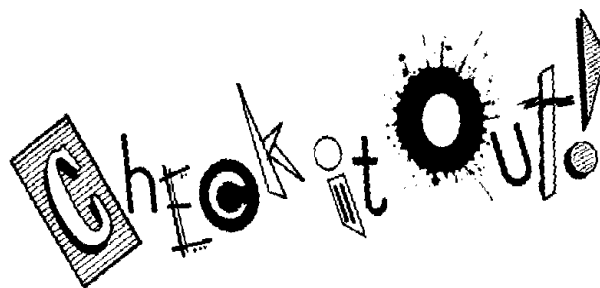
With another workshop at Diocesan convention in 2008, and two follow up workshops so far since then, the interest is growing. If you would like to host the Next Step workshop (three hours recommended minimum time) “Godsigns,” please contact Kristin Sanford at klynns77@yahoo.com for a date in March or April. There is no cost for the workshop, but we do ask for donations to help with our travel expenses. The workshops run similar to ways we have learned and enjoyed at TEC: Small groups with open discussions based on the theme, hands-on activities, snacks, active music, and Bible readings. We open and close each session with prayers.

The Next Step goals include but are not limited to:

- Open communication at each workshop
- Welcome all adults, whether young in years or attitude
- Share the loving environment we found at camp with the people who show up
- Demonstrate that young adults desire to be active in their faith and their Diocese
- Reach the people (all ages, any denomination)



We pray you will take the Next Step and join us at one of the workshops in your area, or next year at the Diocesan Convention.



Want to know EVERYTHING going on with Youth Ministry in the Diocese? Check out www.lumencordium.com and post YOUR news, events and ideas from you and your church.

A new blog is being launched for youth and young adult ministry in the Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota. It will have updates on what our Youth Coordinator is up to, what is happening all over the state. It will feature periodic meditations on God and culture. And most importantly, it will have your comments, conversation, updates. If you want to post a full story or set of pictures, e-mail Rita at youth.diocese@midconetwork.com



Nominating Committee narrows the slate for Bishop Coadjutor

Gathering on November 21st and 22nd, the Nominating Committee for Bishop Coadjutor reviewed the nomination forms of 15 candidates. Using specific criteria suggested by the Screening Sub-Committee and confirmed by the Nominating Committee as a whole, the committee looked at each candidate individually. Based on the criteria, 7 candidates were eliminated from the process, and they will be notified of the committee's decision.

For the remaining 8 candidates, checking of references has begun including conversations with their current Bishops. Videoconferencing interviews will also be conducted in December and January and candidates will be asked to submit a videotaped sermon. Letters to the candidates will include this information along with requests for a Church Deployment Office profile and answers to other pertinent questions.

Upon the conclusion of the videoconferences by the screening sub-committee, the full nominating committee will convene again on January 24th and 25th to cut the slate to 3-5 candidates. Once the final slate is announced, there will be opportunity for the petition process.

Please continue to keep the Nominating Committee, the candidates and those who will be delegates to the electing convention in your prayers.

- *The Rev. Judy Flagstad*
Nominating Committee

Check the diocesan website often for updates on the process. The timeline is published, as well as the diocesan profile published for review by candidates, listings of committee members, and all articles on the election process that have appeared in the *ChurchNews*.

Bookmark www.diocesesd.org and check it often to stay informed!

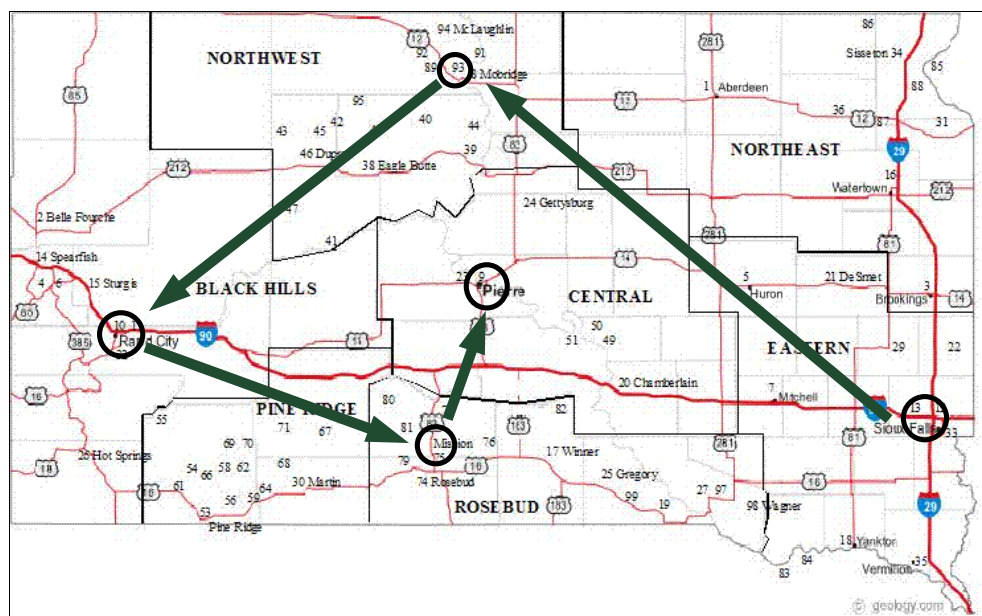
— *The Rev. Mercy Hobbs, Chair*
Transition Committee



Walkabout Schedule

The candidates are tentatively scheduled to visit according to this schedule:

- **Wednesday, April 29** – Sioux Falls, Calvary Cathedral
- **Thursday, April 30** – Wakpala, St. Elizabeth's Church (Standing Rock Mission)
- **Friday, May 1** – Rapid City, Emmanuel Church
- **Saturday, May 2** – Mission, Bishop Hare Center (Rosebud Mission)
- **Sunday, May 3** – Pierre, Trinity Church



Transition Committee plans four events in preparation for our new bishop

With the election of the tenth bishop of the Diocese of South Dakota less than six months away, the Transition Committee is making preparations for four events relating to the election. The group meets periodically in Chamberlain, most recently November 22, to coordinate efforts. The Transition Committee is chaired by the **Reverend Mercy Hobbs** of St. Paul's Vermillion and Santee Mission, and is charged with assisting in Bishop Robertson's transition into retirement and the incoming bishop's introduction to the diocese.

Here is a synopsis of each of the four events:

Presentation of the Nominees April 29-May 3, 2009

The first event is the presentation of the nominees, also known as the "walkabout," set for April 29 to May 3 at five sites around the diocese. This will bring the three to five finalists for bishop coadjutor, plus their spouses, to the diocese for a tour that allows them to meet us and us to meet them. Members of the diocese are encouraged to attend one of these five events to meet the candidates. In addition to a "meet and greet" event (details to be published in the next *ChurchNews*), the candidates will be interviewed by the Standing Committee.

- **Wednesday, April 29, Evening**
Sioux Falls, Calvary Cathedral
- **Thursday, April 30, Evening**
St. Elizabeth's, Wakpala (Standing Rock Mission)
- **Friday, May 1, Evening**
Emmanuel, Rapid City
- **Saturday, May 2, Afternoon**
Bishop Hare Center, Mission (Rosebud Mission)
- **Sunday, May 3, Afternoon**
Trinity, Pierre

Electing Convention May 9, 2009 in Pierre

The electing convention will be held at the Ramkota Convention Center in Pierre on Saturday, May 9, the

weekend after the presentation of the candidates. Delegates elected for the 2009 Diocesan Convention will also be the delegates to the electing convention. **It is important that all delegates arrive before registration closes for the electing convention, in order to be credentialed to vote.**

The Celebration of Ministry for Bishop Robertson & Ann Summer 2009

A retirement celebration honoring Bishop Robertson and Ann will be held sometime this summer, probably in the middle of the state, under a big tent! The committee will take care to plan around Niobrara Convocation and the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, which will be held July 7-17 in Anaheim, CA. (Our selection of bishop must be ratified by the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops at the Convention.)

The Consecration October 31 in Sioux Falls

God willing, our new bishop will be consecrated at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 31 at the Sioux Falls Convention Center, with a reception to follow on-site. Up to 2,000 people are expected to attend the consecration service, which will be led by **Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori**.

In addition to the official retirement celebration, the committee is working with Bishop Robertson to assure a happy retirement from the office he has held since 1994. The committee will help the new bishop get introduced around the diocese and in Sioux Falls, where the Diocesan headquarters are located. Support for the family in finding employment and schools, if need be, will also be provided. The Committee welcomes any ideas for honoring Bishop Robertson or for welcoming our new bishop.

By Julie Gehm for the Transition Committee





GRACE HAPPENS

“On earth as it is in heaven”

By The Rev. Fred Jessett

On the Friday before Memorial Day, 1964, I was driving the twelve miles from Mission, South Dakota to the town of Rosebud when I found the road blocked by a line of cars. I parked and walked ahead to find a deputy sheriff on the scene of a one car accident. Ambulances had been called for.

A car passing through the reservation had blown a tire, rolled over and strewn six members of a family across the highway. The mother and the teen age daughter were dead. The father had a broken hip but was conscious. The youngest child, a boy about four or five had a head injury. Another son with a broken arm lay by his father. Amazingly, one son was unhurt.

I talked to the father, learning that he was Lutheran, his wife Roman Catholic. He asked me to give last rites to his wife and daughter and I did. He also gave me the name of his pastor who would know how to contact his and his wife's families.

Mixed up communications between the deputy, the Rosebud police and the hospital sent the ambulances to the wrong road junction, so the wait was long. People from other cars were patiently standing by willing to help, and a couple were holding the unconscious youngest boy. While we waited, I took a turn holding the child and I prayed for the family. Finally, the ambulances arrived with a doctor and nurse who got the living and the dead off to the hospital.

The full impact of that scene didn't hit me until I arrived at home ready to make the needed phone call. As I walked in the door our little son ran to me with his arms out shouting, “Daddy.” As I scooped Tommy up in my arms, I burst into tears. The terrible contrast between holding the injured child at the scene and then holding my own healthy son overcame me.

I called the pastor to tell him what had happened and pass to him the awful job of telling the tragic news to two families.

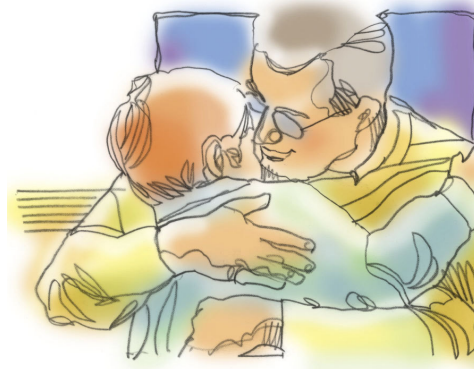
Unfortunately, the youngest boy's skull fracture was too severe and despite the best efforts of the four young staff doctors, the boy died later that night.

I believe that those of us present that day, the deputy, the bystanders, and the medical personnel, were given an opportunity to experience Christ's kingdom by acting with compassion. For that brief moment, in that place, God's kingdom did come on earth as it is in heaven.

Moments like that usually arise without warning and we are called to be ready so that we may respond with compassion. When we do, for that instant, the kingdom of Christ comes on earth. Many opportunities for compassion, for bringing God's kingdom on earth, are less dramatic than the story I related here but are no less real.

In this time of economic difficulties we will surely find opportunities to act with compassion. In doing so we will begin to fulfill the prayer our Lord taught us, “Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

© Fred Jessett 2008

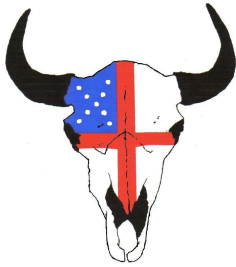




**Niobrara School for Ministry
Schedule for 2009
** open to all persons ****

January 23-24	Sacrament of Baptism	Trinity, Pierre 6p Fri-3p Sat
February 13-14	Sacrament of Confirmation	Sisseton Mission 6p Fri-3p Sat
February 13-14	Sacrament of Confirmation	Emmanuel, Rapid City 6p Fri-3p Sat
February 28	Christian Education for All Ages	St. Andrew's, Rapid City 9a-3p
Spring 2009	Sacrament of Matrimony	TBA
May 31-June 5	Summer Seminary – Liturgics	at TEC
August 22	Training for Prevention of Sexual Misconduct	St. Mark's, Aberdeen 9a-3p
October 17	Training for Prevention of Sexual Misconduct	Christ Church, Chamberlain 9a-3p
November 6-8	Dakota Experience	Calvary Cathedral
November 21	Christian Education for All Ages	Calvary Cathedral 9a-3p

NIOBRARA SCHOOL FOR MINISTRY



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF
SOUTH DAKOTA

Are you interested in bringing The History of the Episcopal Church in South Dakota ministry workshop to your congregation?

Contact Fr. Paul Sneve at 605-342-6199 (or stmatts@rushmore.com) for more information.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

I Will Attend:

_____ February 13-14 at Sisseton Mission (The Rev. Mercy Hobbs, Instructor)

_____ February 13-14 at Emmanuel, Rapid City (The Rev. Rich Ressler, Instructor)

Lodging arrangements TBD

_____ I will need lodging

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Fee: \$25 toward meals **

**Send registration form and fees, at least 2 weeks in advance of class,

To: The Rev. Paul Sneve
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 1606
Rapid City, SD 57701-1606

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES

Instructor: The Rev. Kathy Monson Lutes (St. Andrew's, Rapid City)

I Will Attend:

- February 28, 2009, St. Andrew's, Rapid City
- November 21, 2009, Calvary Cathedral, Sioux Falls

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Fees: \$ 15.00 toward meals**



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Instructor: The Very Rev. John Tarrant (Trinity, Pierre)

I Will Attend:

- January 23-24 at Trinity, Pierre
- I will need lodging

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Fee: \$25 toward meals **

**Send registration form and fees, at least 2 weeks in advance of class,

To: The Rev. Paul Sneve
 St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
 P.O. Box 1606
 Rapid City, SD 57701-1606

TRAINING FOR THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Instructor: The Very Rev. Kathryn Costas (St. Mark's, Aberdeen)

I Will Attend:

_____ August 22, 2009, St. Mark's, Aberdeen

_____ October 17, 2009, Christ Church, Chamberlain

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Fees: \$ 15.00 toward meals**



THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Instructor: Tally Salisbury (St. Matthew's, Rapid City)

I Will Attend:

_____ Date and place to be announced in next issue of *ChurchNews*



THE HISTORY OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Instructor: The Rev. Paul Sneve (St. Matthew's, Rapid City)

Would you and your congregation like to host this Ministry Workshop? Contact Fr. Paul Sneve to make arrangements. 605-342-6199

**Send registration form and fees, at least 2 weeks in advance of class,

To: The Rev. Paul Sneve
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 1606
Rapid City, SD 57701-1606



Start planning for 2009 Niobrara Convocation

The 137th Niobrara Convocation will be held June 25-28, 2009 at the Bishop Hare Center in Mission, SD hosted by the Rosebud Deanery.

The first Niobrara Convocation was held on October 5-6, 1870 at the Santee Agency in Nebraska. An organizational meeting, it was to be attended by 2 lay delegates from each chapel. It grew to be a loved and much looked forward to annual event in South Dakota. It has served as a social gathering for hundreds of friends and relatives to come together each summer from all directions, as well as an opportunity for teaching, sharing, business, and worship.

It is also a unifying force in the mission and ministry of the Diocese of South Dakota, as all congregations are invited to participate. Visiting bishops, clergy, and groups from other dioceses add to the special weekend.

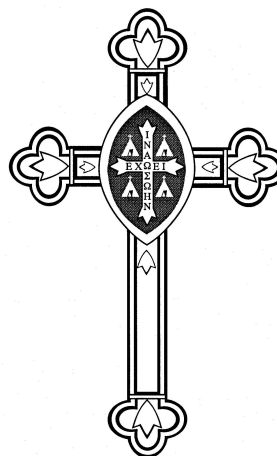
A big thank you to **Donna Douville** who compiled the following list of motels within a 45 minute drive to the Bishop Hare Center.

Rosebud Casino/Quality Inn SD/NE State Line	378-3360	*
Dakota Inn Winner	842-1440	\$40-65
Iverson Inn Murdo	669-2452	\$39-65
Thoroughbred Lodge White River	259-3349	\$45-65
Fountain Inn Valentine, NE	402-376-2300	\$50-60
Motel Raine Valentine, NE	800-999-3066	\$57-67
Antelope Country Inn Mission	856-2371	*
Country Club Motel Winner	842-1866	*
Holiday Inn Express Winner	842-2255	*
Super 8 Motel Winner	842-0991	*
Warrior Motel Winner	842-3121	*

Holiday Inn Express Valentine, NE	402-376-3000	*
Comfort Inn Valentine, NE	402-376-3300	*
Dunes Motel Valentine, NE	402-376-3131	*
Super 8 Motel Valentine, NE	402-376-1250	*
Trade Winds Motel Valentine, NE	402-376-1600	*
Days Inn Murdo	669-2425	*
Lee Motel Murdo	669-2871	*
Sioux Motel Murdo	669-2422	*
Super 8 Motel Murdo	669-2437	*

* These motels had not yet responded with price ranges for June.

Watch here in the *ChurchNews* and on the Diocesan Website for further information about Convocation.



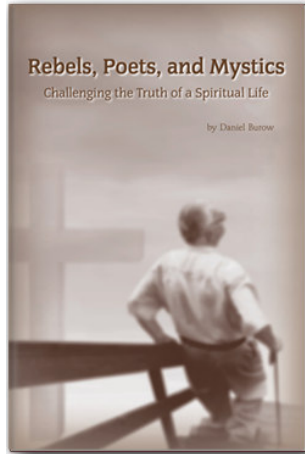


2008 UTO REPORT					
#	Church Name	City	2008 SPRING	2008 FALL	2008 TOTAL
1	St. Mark's	Aberdeen		10.00	10.00
2	St. James'	Belle Fourche		75.15	75.15
3	St. Paul's	Brookings	45.40		45.40
5	Grace Church	Huron	248.90	168.32	417.22
7	St. Mary's	Mitchell	247.00		247.00
8	St. James'	Mobridge	113.84		113.84
10	Emmanuel	Rapid City	760.74		760.74
11	St. Andrew's	Rapid City		425.79	425.79
12	Calvary Cathedral	Sioux Falls	486.30	482.25	968.55
14	All Angels	Spearfish	327.00	672.80	999.80
16	Trinity	Watertown	396.03		396.03
17	Trinity	Winner	117.66		117.66
18	Christ Church	Yankton	445.58	639.84	1,085.42
23	St. Peter's	Ft. Pierre	91.30	50.12	141.42
26	St. Luke's	Hot Springs	113.24		113.24
29	Grace Church	Madison	192.48		192.48
31	Christ Church	Milbank	40.00	83.00	123.00
35	St. Paul's	Vermillion	199.40		199.40
36	St. Mary's	Webster	274.69		274.69
39	Ascension	Blackfoot	295.00		295.00
51	Holy Comforter	Lower Brule	216.34		216.34
74	Church of Jesus	Rosebud	8.73	91.10	99.83
87	St. James'	Enemy Swim	92.10	171.62	263.72
	Diocesan Convention			157.84	157.84
	Individual Donations		52.00	5.00	57.00
	TOTALS		4,763.73	3,032.83	7,796.56
	2003 Totals				7,039.60
	2004 Totals				11,851.24
	2005 Totals				9,825.74
	2006 Totals				7,358.23
	2007 Totals				11,590.79
	2008 Totals				7,796.56
	Balance Forward				33.18
	TOTAL INCOME				7,829.74
	Checks to National UTO			7,800.00	7,800.00
	Balance as of 12/10/08				29.74

St Augusta's Bookstore & Cathedral Shop

Rebels, Poets, and Mystics: Challenging the Truth of a Spiritual Life
By Daniel Burow \$14.95

Priest and spiritual teacher, Sioux City Episcopal priest Fr. Gary Frahm (1937-2002) used stories from the Judeo-Christian and Eastern spiritual traditions, his own life, and poetry to counsel others toward their own spiritual path. Fr. Frahm taught that human loneliness, emptiness and detachment are a natural part of the human condition but to a large degree we suffer because we misunderstand what we long for.



“Fr. Frahm knew that living a spiritual life was first a process. One that required quiet guidance,” explains the author. “Before Fr. Frahm died he told me he had more to teach about that process. Writing this book was something I could do for him. “As a result of Frahm’s influence, Burow spent the next 10 years studying with teachers and masters of Western mysticism, Hinduism and Taoism across the United States.” It wasn’t until I had a deep understanding of these approaches that I was able to tell Fr. Frahm’s story as well as my own,” he says. “The practice of love as the only experience of God – finding true acceptance of yourself and of others – is the foundation of this book,” says Burow. “The message it offers is an invitation to grow and to move toward an authentic spiritual life.”

605-336-6243 (Cathedral number)
605-366-8948 (Mary Jane)
mceretto@bankeasy.com

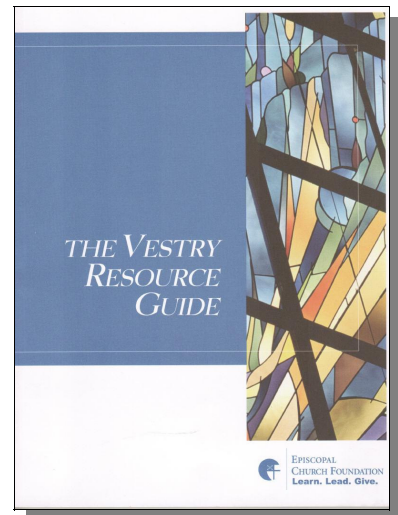
Church Resources

Diocesan staff and members of Calvary Cathedral recently enjoyed a visit from Maurice Seaton, Associate Director of Giving Services at the Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF), who gave a detailed presentation on aspects of conducting a capital campaign.

He also recommended ECF’s revised Vestry Resource Guide, a one-volume guide to help clergy and lay leaders understand the sacred ministry of leadership and how it can be best accomplished. Though the title refers to vestries, it is also applicable to mission committees, bishop’s committees, and team ministries.

It is designed to help

- understand the special role of vestry members
- understand some universal issues
 - canon law
 - finances and stewardship
 - conflict
 - leading in a time of transition
- with resources and educational tools



(Continued on page 22)

(Continued from page 21)

The Resource Guide contains

- instructional text
- Bible studies
- discussion questions
- job description templates or guides

and can be used for new vestry member orientation, routine reflection, or a vestry retreat.

The Vestry Resource Guide is available for \$12 at www.episcopalbookstore.com or call 1-800-803-6223.



The Diocesan Office also has a few copies of the Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs produced by the produced by The Episcopal Church (815) in 2000.

The Church Canons set forth the general responsibility and accountability for the stewardship of the Church's money and property. This manual provides requirements and helpful advice on sound, practical internal controls, accounting guidelines and business practices.

- Financial Management
- Internal Controls
- Bookkeeping
- Taxes
- Clergy Discretionary Funds
- Audit Guidelines for Congregations
- Insurance
- Parochial Reports
- Records Management

Contact the Diocesan Office if you are interested in obtaining a copy of this manual.

A FEW NEW TITLES OF INTEREST

“A Deeper Faith: A Journey into Spirituality” from Penguin Group, by Jeff Gollhofer, 259 pages, hardcover, © 2008, \$22.95

[Penguin Group] The spiritual journey is an adventure that has few road maps. Filled with amazing highs and deep lows, the journey of the soul can be confusing, confounding, and at times elusive. Seekers both new and seasoned need a guide to help them through each phase of growth and learning.

A modern-day Merton, Episcopalian priest and cultural anthropologist Jeffrey Mark Gollhofer is such a guide. He uses the form of letters to a spiritual seeker to act as a mentor and friend, answering questions that we all can relate to, as well as telling stories from his own life and from the lives of the thousands he has counseled and helped over the years. The book follows the liturgical seasons of the Christian calendar, as Gollhofer brings into focus the perils and promises that a life filled with holiness and awe will bring.

Divided into three sections — “Responding to the Call,” “Making the Passage,” and “The path of Love” — Gollhofer's work ushers his reader through the rhythms of the soul, bringing wisdom to the road traveled by all who seek a great understanding and deeper connection to God.

This is a book for any reader who wants spiritual nourishment, especially during the dark nights when doubt reigns supreme and faith is hardest to find. Graceful without being preachy, *A Deeper Faith* is the story of believing when all else fails and of holding on to the promise of a devotional life. Honest, revealing, and important, this is a modern classic of an ancient rite of passage, the path of a soul, written by a man who has traveled the path and come back to help each of us.

“How Many Light Bulbs Does It Take To Change A Christian? A Pocket Guide to Shrinking Your Ecological Footprint” from Church Publishing, Inc., by Jan Nunley, Claire Foster & David Shreeve, 65 pages, paperback, © 2008, \$10

[Church Publishing, Inc.] For Christians, “going green” isn't about being trendy, it's about stewardship of God's creation and mindful living. But where to start? How can communities, churches, and individuals take steps to re-

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500 S. Main Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6814

CLIP  TO INCLUDE CURRENT ADDRESS IMPRINTED ON OTHER SIDE

(Continued from page 22)

duce our environmental footprint and live more lightly on the earth? This full-color, information-packed booklet is divided into eight easy-to-read sections: water, energy, transportation, waste, biodiversity, well-being, lifestyle, and Sabbath. It contains hundreds of practical ideas to help people, congregations, and communities make a real difference to the environment. Includes links and contact information for environmental organizations in the United States and Canada.

“Reweaving the Sacred: A Practical Guide to Change and Growth for Challenged Congregations” from Church Publishing, Inc., by Carol J. Gallagher, 135 pages, paperback, © 2008, \$16

[Church Publishing, Inc.] Ideal growth and development tool for small congregations in all mainline denominations. This book offers simple, clear exercises and techniques to help leaders and members pinpoint problems and identify gifts/values of their shared history, in order to engage in a ministry of renewal, welcome, and growth.

Topics include:

- Relationships and Identity: understanding the starting point for rebuilding and outreach.
- Grief and Healing: unpacking concerns that might be inhibiting growth.
- Providing Safety and Security: engendering trust, beginning with leaders.
- Inviting Growth: plans and exercises to cultivate invitation and inclusion of newcomers.
- Understanding Gifts Through Storytelling: helping

leaders identify their future through variety of teaching and learning styles.

“Church Wellness: A Best Practices Guide to Nurturing Healthy Congregations” from Church Publishing, Inc., by Tom Ehrich, 132 pages, paperback, © 2008, \$20

[Church Publishing] All churches, no matter the denomination, are faced with similar challenges: membership development, leadership development, communications strategy, spiritual development, young adult ministry, listening to parishioner needs, and measuring progress. The author provides a guide for clergy and lay leaders in a way that is clear and usable.

“The Oxford Guide to the Book of Common Prayer: A Worldwide Study” from Oxford University Press, edited by Charles Hefling and Cynthia Shattuck, 640 pages, hardcover, © 2007, \$15.95

[Oxford University Press] The Book of Common Prayer runs like a golden thread through the history of the Church of England and the worldwide Anglican Communion. The Oxford Guide to the Book of Common Prayer is the first comprehensive guide to the history and usage of the original Book of Common Prayer and its numerous descendants throughout the world. It shows how a seminal text for Christian worship and devotion has inspired a varied family of religious resources that have had an influence far beyond their use in the churches of a single tradition.

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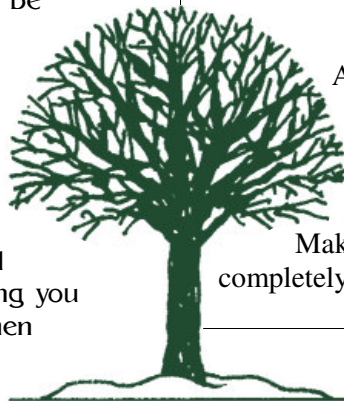


(Continued from page 23)

Much more than simply a history, this volume describes how Anglican churches at all points of the compass have developed their own Prayer Books and adapted the time-honored Anglican liturgies to their diverse local cultures. In the dozens of editions now in use throughout the world, the same texts — Daily Prayers, the Eucharist, Marriage and Funerals, and many others — resemble each other, and yet differ from each other in interesting ways. A brief look at “electronic Prayer Books” offers a glimpse at how this story of development and adaptation may continue in the Information Age.

**Election Prayer for the
Diocese of South Dakota**

Sovereign Lord, you have created, redeemed, and cared for us: we give you thanks for all the bishops of your Church who have served us, the Diocese of South Dakota. We pray that your Holy Spirit will guide the work of all responsible for the nomination and calling of our next bishop and the heart of the one to be called. May she or he be passionate in encouraging and supporting all the baptized, that we, with the many and diverse gifts you have given us, may continue Christ’s mission of reconciliation, the restoring of all people to unity with you and each other. May we ever seek to widen the sacred circle gathered around Jesus in prayer, loving and serving you and our neighbors in Jesus’ Name. Amen



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As we begin the new year, loving Creator, give us guidance and the willingness to follow where you lead. May we follow your will rather than our personal desires. Make us restless until we surrender completely to you.

The Episcopal Church in South Dakota is a sacred circle gathered around Jesus in prayer, loving and serving God and our neighbor in Jesus’ name.

The Mission of the Diocese of South Dakota is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ through the ministry of all.