



South Dakota Episcopal

Church News

www.diocesesd.org

March/April 2014

Niobrara Convocation 2014

The Niobrara Convocation will meet for 142nd time

Niobrara Convocation 2014 will be held June 26-29 in Santee, NE, on Our Most Merciful Savior Episcopal Church grounds. The Santee and Yankton Mission Episcopal Churches are the hosts.

Special guests this year include Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori; and the President of the House of Deputies, the Rev. Gay Jennings.

Plans and fundraising have been underway and the Niobrara Council meeting March 7-8, 2014, at Ohiya Casino & Hotel, 53142 Hwy 12, Niobrara, NE, will be dedicated to final planning.

Please send the Hospitality Donations to:
2014 Niobrara Convocation
Hospitality Treasurer
Janet Johnson
PO Box 686
Wagner, SD 57380

The Santee Annual Pow Wow is being held the same time so the *Ohiya Casino/Hotel* is fully reserved. They will, however, put names on a waiting list because there may be cancellations. 402-857-3860

Camping will be available on the OMMS Church grounds and at a park nearby.

Nebraska Lodging: travel on SD-50 toward Tyndall, SD, turn south on SD-37, crossing into Nebraska on Chief Standing Bear Bridge, which becomes NE-14, turn right onto NE-12 to Niobrara, NE.

Hillside Lodge Motel, Niobrara, NE
402-857-3611

Niobrara Trading Post, Niobrara, NE
402-857-3460 (cabins)
Niobrara State Park, 89261 522 Ave., Niobrara, NE, 402-857-3373

Springfield, SD: (across the Missouri River from Santee) has a few lodgings listed. Travel on SD-37, crossing into Nebraska on Chief Standing Bear Bridge, which becomes NE-14, turn left onto NE-12, turn left onto NE-54D-SPUR to Santee, 45 miles round trip.
http://www.springfieldsd.com/places_to_stay.htm

Crofton, NE: *Lewis & Clark Lodge*, Crofton, NE, 402-388-2630, on NE-12, traveling from Yankton, SD.

Yankton, SD Lodging: travel south through Yankton on US-81 until crossing into Nebraska, turn right onto NE-12 toward Crofton, NE, continue to follow NE-12, turn right onto NE-54D-SPUR to Santee, 93 miles round trip.

Best Western Kelly Inn, 605-665-2906
Holiday Inn Express, 605-665-3177
Days Inn, 605-665-8717
Super 8, 605-665-6510
Lewis & Clark Resort, 605-665-2680

DID YOU KNOW? Only three times in its history did the Niobrara Convocation not convene: in 1876, because of Bishop Hare's poor health; in 1901, because of the danger of small-pox contagion; and 1945, because of WWII gas and tire rationing and enforced slower speed limits made travel difficult. [from "That They May Have Life" by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, p. 78]

The Diocese of South Dakota



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Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consume and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Mt. 6:19-21

Each year on Ash Wednesday we read this part of Matthew's recording of the 'Sermon on the Mount.' For many who will hear this read this year, any treasures you might have had will have been used for propane, food, or other necessities. There is little thought of storing up anything.

Jesus would often speak about possessions; he would often speak to the poor. Perhaps, he wanted the poor to understand that poverty is not a sign of disfavor with God, but rather systematic of social injustice. Perhaps, Jesus was hoping that the rich would overhear and begin to understand the potential for wealth to both enslave and become a curse rather than a blessing.

In the Gospel according to Luke, Jesus' words are more poignant: 'blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.... But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.' (Lk 6:20, 24)

Jesus is not trying to start a culture war, but rather he is speaking words of love to both the poor and the rich. Mark's Gospel has a wonderful story about a young man who comes to Jesus and asks, 'What must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus looks at him lovingly, we are told, and tells the young man to 'sell what you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven.' Jesus understands that our possessions can possess us; what we own can own us.



The Rt. Rev. John Tarrant

So he says, 'Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.' Where is your heart? We might say, 'I love my spouse, I love my children, my family, my church, Thunderhead Camp, or God.' To discover your heart is to follow your treasure, however small or large. That road will lead you to that which you love.

Use this Lenten season to discover the 'heart' of what is important in your life. Track how you spend you time, your talents, and your money. Your discoveries might be an amazing spiritual awaking that enables you to better follow Jesus.



Our Diocese continues to examine and appropriate our staff time, talent and treasure. Archdeacon Paul Sneve and his wife Tally and son Kenny moved to Vermillion in January. Paul was called to serve as vicar of St. Paul's Church in Vermillion along with his Diocesan duties as Archdeacon. He will continue to oversee the Niobrara School for Ministry and work with those in the local ordination process. Questions about either should be directed to him. This new position will assume

(Continued on page 16)

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Cancellation
Donation
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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



Rochester group brings Christmas smiles

On December 21, 2013 Wes Petersen and his wife Gloria traveled from Rochester, MN to Ft. Thompson to deliver enough candy, nuts and fruit (donated by the Presbyterian Church of Rochester) to fill 400 sacks. The holiday treats were handed out at the Christmas Eve services to all the children, youth and elders from Christ Episcopal Church Ft. Thompson; St. John the Baptist, Crow Creek; and the Presbyterian Church, Ft. Thompson.

Volunteers from the community helping to fill the bags on Saturday morning included Red Olson, Terry Quilt, Lynn Harrison, Chauncey Long Crow and of course Wes & Gloria Petersen. They are just two from a group of approximately 30 volunteers that travels to Ft. Thompson four to five times a year to help the churches with various projects such as cemetery maintenance and care, new fences, repairing of headstones, identifying and plotting of graves, painting and various other projects. The volunteers are all professionals from Mayo Clinic.

This is the sixth year that the Rochester group donated their time and effort to make this Christmas treat a reality for the children and youth in the Ft. Thompson area. The churches and community cannot thank these people enough for their kind generosity and thoughtfulness. Thank you and may God Bless you ALL.



From right to left: Lynn Harrison, Terry Quilt, Red Olson, Wes Petersen, Gloria Petersen.

Chauncey Long Crow not pictured.

Watertown

Trinity, Watertown has made outreach a priority for young and old alike. They have committed to a different outreach program for each month. The congregation gathers for fellowship as they care for others in their community.

In December, they collected food and assembled bags for PACH (People Against Child Hunger).



In January, the congregation gathered to make blankets for Codington County Cares. Together they made ten blankets for area cancer patients.



Pierre

Trinity, Pierre has designated 5th Sunday of ferings to outreach.

Last year's project was the Gift of Life program which reaches out to the poverty stricken areas of the world. Wednesday school students helped to raise money, along with necklaces made and sold by Ellen Walker and the Rev. Judy Flagstad.



In 2013 the students raised \$551 which allowed them to purchase a goat, a cook stove, 4 prenatal kits, and access to clean water for 4 people.

Ft. Pierre

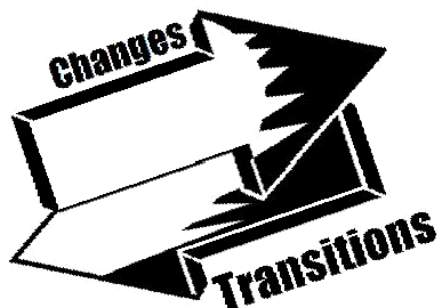
St. Peter's, Ft. Pierre, is offering:

- ◆ Three (3) scholarships for individuals in the Pierre area to attend EFM at Trinity, Pierre. We are committed to educating people about Christ.
- ◆ Three (3) scholarships for youth to attend TEC who cannot otherwise afford to go.

We hope these scholarships will be used, and that St. Peter's will make a difference in their lives. May God bless.

Contact:

St. Peter's Outreach
PO Box 391
Ft. Pierre, SD 57532



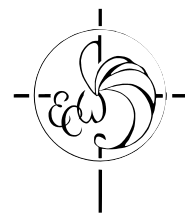
- ◆ **The Rev. Larry Ort** of Sioux Falls has accepted a call to be Priest in Charge of St. Paul's in Brookings, effective March 1, 2014.
- ◆ **Richard Zephier** of St. Mark's, Aberdeen, was ordained to the transitional diaconate on January 19, 2014.
- ◆ The Diocese has purchased the former Sacred Heart Roman Catholic church in Norris for the combined congregations of **St. Paul's in Norris** and **St. Thomas in Corn Creek**, under a new church name to be determined by the two congregations.
- ◆ The church building formerly used by the **Trinity** congregation in **Watertown** has been leased to Hosanna Lutheran Church for a year while they are constructing a new building. The new tenants have offered to do much repair and maintenance on the building. **John Gehm** of

Sioux Falls is working with Trinity using Restorative Practices* to help the congregation resolve some conflicts, heal, and grow.

**This is the workshop John Gehm held for Niobrara School for Ministry on the first weekend of February. Sometimes referred to as "talking circles" or "open spaces," it is a style of non-hierarchical group communication for almost any type of group to use to achieve forward movement, openness, accountability, respectful listening, reflection. It's an excellent format to use for decision-making, conflict resolution, and education concerning new ideas, as the circle format actively engages participants in the sharing of perspectives and respectful, nonjudgmental deep listening.*

Additional workshops on this topic will be held in the future.

Episcopal Church Women



Spring Meeting & Retreat

This event is scheduled for Saturday, May 3, 2014, at Al's Oasis conference room in Oacoma, SD.

The retreat is a series on Mary Magdalene: Strength and Shame, made possible by the Province VI ECW and developed by The Very Reverend Katherine B. Moorhead, of the Diocese of Florida.

The retreat portion will be led by Rev. Portia Corbin and will be divided into three sessions.

- 10 am – Retreat Session One
(Possession by Demons)
- 11 am – Lunch
- 12 noon – ECW Business Meeting
- 1 pm – Retreat Session Two
(Dependence on Jesus)
- 2 pm – Retreat Session Three
(Seeing Resurrection)
- 3:15 pm – Adjourn

Honored Woman

The Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese are asking for nominations to consider in selecting our Honored Woman for 2014.

If you know of someone in your congregation or the Diocese whom you would like to nominate, please send a recommendation, along with a brief resume, to:

Sharon VanDoren (ECW Vice-Pres.)
577 Idaho SE
Huron, SD 57350

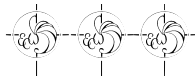
We are asking that nominations be submitted by April 15, 2014. Thank you!

Help Wanted

It is with regret we accept the resignation of our Secretary, **Char Clark**, who has served our organization with great dedication and attention to detail for the past 2½ years. We will miss her thoroughness and promptness in the publishing of our meeting minutes and appreciate her spearheading the establishment of our ECW website pages. We wish her well in her future endeavors and travels.

NOW.....we are recruiting for a Secretary for the Diocesan ECW. Please give prayerful consideration to serving in this position which requires keeping minutes of meetings twice a year....Spring and Fall.

If interested, please contact Bonnie Walker (605-787-5701)



Check out the ECW pages on the Diocesan website for officers, calendar, scholarship applications, meeting minutes, and more.

<https://www.diocesesd.org/ministries/episcopal-church-women/>



Creation Justice Ministries

(creationjustice.org) offers on-line resources:

- ◆ *Capsules*, their quarterly newsletter, provides updates, stories, and news from the denominations and congregations that they work with.
- ◆ Webinars - they host various webinars throughout the year to share important information on various efforts that Creation Justice Ministries and faith partners are involved with.
- ◆ Earth Day 2014 - This year's Earth Day resource is titled Water, Holy Water. Send them an email (through the website) to receive a copy.
- ◆ In March Creation Justice Ministries will partner with more than 30 Christian organizations to host a national gathering in Washington DC. Learn how you can help or participate.

Recovery and Relief

The Diocese of South Dakota has played a part in recovery and relief efforts recently.

- ◆ With help from Episcopal Relief & Development and other donations, we had a part in replacing livestock killed in the October blizzard and repairing houses damaged at the same time.
- ◆ Thanks to a \$50,000 ERD grant plus generous donations from around the world (yes, world!) in response to news reports and social media, people on the Standing Rock Reservation (SD & ND) will receive food and fuel aid during this season of extraordinarily cold temperatures and high heating fuel prices.

Adopt a Cabin!


In order to make the cabins at TEC more efficient in heat and cold, the TEC board is challenging deaneries, churches, or individuals to adopt a cabin.





Adopting a cabin will allow for necessary cabin repairs such as insulation and exterior staining.

What does it take?

 Raise \$1,000 for materials and supplies.

 Organize a group of at least 6 people to provide the labor.

 Bring some tools.

 Schedule a weekend at TEC for work, fellowship, and fun.



Work Weekend!

And speaking of working at the camp . . .

The Official Get-TEC-Open-and-Ready-To-Go-For-The-Summer Work Weekend is May 30-June 1.

We need your help to get TEC ready for the summer season.

Bring your tools and your friends for a weekend of work, prayer, fun, and fellowship. No cost to you except mileage, but we do need advance notice so we'll have beds ready and enough food.

Contact the TEC Facilities Manager
Don Metcalf
605-733-2461

Contact the TEC Program Director
The Rev. Portia Corbin
605-338-9751
605-280-4927
camp.diocese@midconetwork.com

Share your stories!

The greatest way to understand the power of TEC is from personal stories. TEC has changed many people—campers, counselors, clergy, and parents. **Chris Soukup** of Calvary Cathedral shares what TEC means to him.

“The magic of TEC is the ability of such a simple place to have such a profound impact on those who share its space. TEC has this ability to take people out of their daily worries and concerns and place them into a realm of togetherness; togetherness with others, with themselves, and with Christ. Over my time at TEC, I have borne witness and taken part in something I like to refer to as ‘The TEC Transformation.’ It’s this amazing thing that happens to people who visit TEC where peoples’ doubt and worry and insecurity become transformed into confidence, comfort, and serenity. TEC is place, yes, but more so, TEC is an experience.”

Share your story! Send it to Portia at youth.
diocese@midconetwork.com



Diocese of South Dakota 2014 Summer Youth Camps

Be a part of the excitement of camp at Thunderhead Episcopal Center this summer! We will sing and laugh and explore and pray in the rich beauty of this remote area of the Black Hills. Without a doubt, you'll make unforgettable memories and lifelong friends.

Thunderhead Episcopal Center Youth Camps are open to all young people throughout South Dakota. No matter where you come from or where your faith is, *you are welcome*. Please fill out and return this form so we can prepare to welcome you this summer!



Send this form & payment to: **TEC Registration,
500 South Main Ave.,
Sioux Falls, SD 57104**

Questions: Contact the Rev. Portia Corbin at
youth.diocese@midconetwork.com or 605-280-4927.

*Calvary Cathedral will provide transportation to/from all three camps from Sioux Falls and at pre-arranged stops along I-90. Please check the "Transportation" box on the registration form if you will need a ride. **Sign up by May 1st to ensure your spot!** Call the Cathedral with transportation questions: (605) 336-3486.*

Camp Schedule

High School Camp • Sunday, June 15–Saturday, June 21

Make unforgettable memories and lifelong friends as you explore God's work in the world, in this beautiful, peaceful setting. Hikes in the woods, artistic opportunities, and music around a campfire is guaranteed. Open to all entering grades 9-12, and those who have just graduated high school.

Cost: \$150 per person

5th & 6th Grade and Family Camp • Sunday, June 22-Wednesday, June 25

For those entering 5th & 6th grade: Build memories around hiking into the woods for an outdoor Eucharist, plunging into the cold waters of Spearfish Creek, and telling stories around a campfire—all while building your faith.

Family Camp: Start a tradition of camp with your family. You'll have your own space, all meals are provided, and the cost is unbeatable. Open to all families and kids of any age, especially elementary-aged kids. A great way to introduce your kids to camp!

Cost: \$100 per person or \$250 per family.

Middle School/Confirmation Camp • Sunday, June 8-Saturday, June 14

Open to all who are entering grades 7-8. This session will have all the camp fun you could want AND it will give you what you need to know about being confirmed in the Episcopal Church. Come explore our Baptismal Covenant and learn about God's amazing work!

Cost: \$150 per person

Registration Form

All about YOU, the Camper; your Parents; & your Health

My name is: _____

I am Male Female

My birth date is: _____

My address is: _____

My e-mail is: _____

My Parent or Guardian is: _____

Their phone is: _____

Their e-mail is: _____

Are they who we should call in an emergency? If not, please list someone else:

Please tell us about your health:

Do you have any dietary restrictions, allergies, or restrictions on activities?

***If you take medication of any kind:** Please attach a list of medications with instructions as to the time and dosage for administering them. Medications need to be in their original containers and will be turned over to camp staff upon arrival.

***Please attach a copy of Camper's insurance card, Medicaid card, or IHS number!!!**

PARENT/ GUARDIAN RELEASE

The health history for this child is correct to the best of my knowledge. This child has permission to attend camp and engage in all activities, except as noted above. If I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by the Camp Director or Nurse to hospitalize, secure treatment, and to order injections, anesthesia, or surgery for my child.

 Parent/ Guardian Signature and Date

*****Once you send us your registration form, check your mail for confirmation and for transportation and other camp info!**

Cost of camp

The Diocese of South Dakota feels strongly that its youth should have the opportunity to experience the sacredness of the Black Hills within the community of their peers in the church. We want you to come to camp! **No one should feel they can not go to camp because they don't have the money.** The Diocese subsidizes the operations and staffing of its youth camps to keep the camper fees down.

Check which camp you'll attend:

- Family Camp: \$100 per camper, \$250 per family
- Middle School: \$150
- High School Camp: \$150

Camper fees include room and board, all activities.

Check one:

- I will need a full scholarship to come to camp.
- I will need a partial scholarship for camp. I can contribute \$_____
- I do not need a scholarship to come to camp.

Transportation

- I would like a ride to camp.

What you need for camp

Please circle which one describes you!

- I need/ I have a sleeping bag and pillow.
- I need/ I have towel and toiletries.
- I need/ I have clothes for outdoor activities.
- I need/ I have shoes for outdoor activities.

Behavior Expectations:

When you come to camp, you will be asked to sign a behavior contract that applies to all Diocesan Youth Events. No drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or anything that can be considered a weapon are to be brought to camp. Camp is a place of spiritual community and renewal. Because of this, we will ask you to turn in all cell phones and ipods, mp3 players, electronics so you can be present during your camp time. We will also insist that you refrain from inappropriate sexual or violent behavior while you are here. And, of course, to be respectful of everything here.

You should also know that completion of registration grants permission to use photos of you, taken at camp, for publicity purposes. Smile! 😊

Niobrara school for Ministry is offering the following classes this spring. Further information as well as fees and registration forms can be found in this issue of the Church News or online at: www.diocesesd.org/ministries/

Niobrara School for Ministry

**LOOKING
AHEAD**

Dakota Experience West will be held at Emmanuel Church in Rapid City on Friday, March 16 starting at 6:00 pm and will conclude by 3:00 pm on Saturday, March 17.

This class satisfies the canonical requirement for all Diocesan employees to receive anti-racism training. Fr. Paul Sneve will present a glimpse into Native American culture in South Dakota with an emphasis on how spirituality informs the culture as well as how Christianity is practiced as part of the culture. History as well as modern culture with an eye towards the future will all be discussed.

South Dakota Church History will be presented in two locations: in Wagner on March 22 and in Pierre on April 26.

This class is different every time Fr. Paul Sneve teaches it, as the participants contribute to the Timeline that Fr. Paul uses to present our history and make the topic alive and comprehensive. Participants are encouraged to bring histories from their home Missions or congregations to share with the class.

The Wagner class will draw in the rich history of the Yankton and Santee Missions. The Pierre class will also make it easier for all diocesan church communities to participate. Participants are asked to bring histories of their home churches.

Church Polity and Administration

Pierre, May 17 from 9:00—3:00

This class is part of the Niobrara Curriculum and meets the Church Polity canonical requirements for ordination, though all are invited to attend. Fr. David Hussey will lead this class drawing from his experience as a Parish Priest and Canon to the Ordinary. Besides discussing basic canonical guidelines for congregations, Fr. David will provide participants with a greater understanding of roles of the Laity and Clergy in Church Administration.

Niobrara Summer School

June 1-6 at Thunderhead Camp

Dean Ward Simpson will return to Summer Seminary with an introduction to Ethics and Moral Theology. This course is part of the Niobrara Curriculum and seeks to provide participants with useful tools to engage ethical dilemmas so as to understand all influencing and contributing factors especially with what God offers us in Scripture, Tradition and Reason.

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**These courses are designed to help fulfill or supplement the academic requirements for ordination, but they are not limited to those persons in the ordination process. Anyone interested is welcome! Many courses are also good for continuing education.**  
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If you are interested in one or all of these opportunities, please contact the Registrar at 605-338-9751 or email office.diocese@midconetwork.com. Registration may also be accomplished via the diocesan website: www.diocesesd.org (Other Ministries) and the Payment/Donation button.

**2013 PLEDGE TO THE DIOCESE
As of January 28, 2014**

<u>PARISHES:</u>	<u>Pledge</u>	<u>Paid To Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Churchnews</u>	<u>Paid To Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Aberdeen - St. Mark's	9,000.00	9,000.00	0.00	30.00	60.00	(30.00)
Belle Fourche - St. James'	3,188.00	3,188.00	0.00	120.00	120.00	0.00
Brookings - St. Paul's	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	230.00	230.00	0.00
Deadwood - St. John's	4,637.00	4,637.00	0.00	60.00	60.00	0.00
Huron - Grace	11,433.00	11,433.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	0.00
Lead - Christ Church	7,281.00	7,281.00	0.00	160.00	160.00	0.00
Mitchell - St. Mary's	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	110.00	110.00	0.00
Mobridge - St. James'	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	65.00	65.00	0.00
Pierre - Trinity	9,000.00	8,844.51	155.49	65.00	65.00	0.00
Rapid City - Emmanuel	44,466.00	45,450.54	(984.54)	340.00	340.00	0.00
Rapid City - St. Andrew's	31,029.00	31,029.96	(0.96)	180.00	180.00	0.00
Sioux Falls - Calvary	62,370.00	62,370.00	0.00	1,005.00	1,005.00	0.00
Sioux Falls - Good Shepherd	14,000.00	14,000.00	0.00	30.00	30.00	0.00
Spearfish - All Angels	28,561.00	28,561.00	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
Sturgis - St. Thomas'	4,497.00	4,497.00	0.00	130.00	130.00	0.00
Watertown - Trinity	0.00	0.00	0.00	80.00	80.00	0.00
Winner - Trinity	4,962.00	4,962.00	0.00	75.00	75.00	0.00
Yankton - Christ Church	19,314.00	19,314.00	0.00	470.00	470.00	0.00
TOTAL PARISHES	269,738.00	270,568.01	(830.01)	3,650.00	3,680.00	(30.00)
Chamberlain - Christ Church	2,129.00	2,129.00	0.00	105.00	105.00	0.00
Cheyenne River Mission	2,157.00	1,046.00	1,111.00	350.00	265.00	85.00
Crow Creek Mission	1,956.00	1,494.00	462.00	150.00	150.00	0.00
DeSmet - St. Stephen's	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00
Flandreau - St. Mary's	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	90.00	90.00	0.00
Ft. Pierre - St. Peter's	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	60.00	60.00	0.00
Gregory - Incarnation	750.00	750.00	0.00	60.00	60.00	0.00
Herrick - All Saints	200.00	200.00	0.00	30.00	30.00	0.00
Hot Springs - St. Luke's	4,908.00	4,908.00	0.00	170.00	170.00	0.00
Lower Brule Mission	1,927.00	952.86	974.14	40.00	40.00	0.00
Madison - Grace	2,188.00	2,188.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00
Martin - St. Katharine's	3,698.00	3,698.00	0.00	210.00	210.00	0.00
Milbank - Christ Church	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	80.00	80.00	0.00
Pine Ridge Mission	1,553.00	1,425.00	128.00	275.00	255.00	20.00
Rapid City - St. Matthew's	2,600.00	2,604.00	(4.00)	90.00	120.00	(30.00)
Rosebud Mission	4,403.00	3,703.00	700.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
Santee Mission	1,653.00	1,653.00	0.00	140.00	140.00	0.00
Sioux Falls - Holy Apostles	0.00	0.00	0.00	85.00	85.00	0.00
Sisseton - Gethsemane	800.00	800.00	0.00	60.00	60.00	0.00
Sisseton Mission	2,400.00	2,400.00	0.00	60.00	40.00	20.00
Standing Rock Mission	826.00	676.00	150.00	116.00	116.00	0.00
Vermillion - St. Paul's	8,000.00	8,000.00	0.00	150.00	150.00	0.00
Webster - St. Mary's	1,858.00	1,858.00	0.00	35.00	0.00	35.00
Yankton Mission	783.00	783.00	0.00	175.00	175.00	0.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	50,489.00	46,967.86	3,521.14	2,886.00	2,751.00	135.00
TOTAL PARISH AND MISSIONS	320,227.00	317,535.87	2,691.13	6,536.00	6,431.00	105.00

Episcopal Church Foundation

The Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF) seeks to bring about a growing number of healthy, vital, and vibrant congregations in service to God's mission with the capacity to empower and support their members to live out the Gospel.

ECF provides programs, products, and services to Episcopal congregations, dioceses, and related organizations in the areas of financial resource development, leadership, and training, including *ECF Vital Practices* which offers *Vestry Papers* articles and many other resources for congregational leaders. Their articles and resources share experiences of things that are working well for congregations.

Visit EpiscopalFoundation.org or ECFVP.org to subscribe to *ECF Vital Practices*. Subscriptions are free to have *Vestry Papers* and *ECF Vital Practices* content delivered twice a month to your email inbox.

From the February email:

Roadmap for Senior Wardens

By Demi Prentiss

So you've just learned that you're about to become your congregation's newest senior warden. Wow. Now what?

First of all, take a deep breath and remember that you're part of a body, with many parts, with many gifts. You're not alone – not in human terms, and not in the spiritual sense. You can gather a team of trustworthy advisors around you. And you stand in a long line of senior wardens – a communion of saints – whose experience and wisdom can support you.

Before you start, take an inventory. What are your resources, what are your challenges, and where will you find allies and mentors? These preliminary lists will grow during your time in office.

Personal Passions

Every person who becomes a senior warden brings a unique portfolio to the job. Take stock of your:

- **Energizers** – What are your gifts? What are the things that energize you and engage your pas-

sions? When you're doing these things, you'll be offering your best to your congregation. Put these on the "My Priorities" list.

- **Enervators** – What are the things that suck your energy? These things will wear you out, and your out-sized efforts will bring only modest results. Put these on the "Team Priorities" list. As you build your leadership team, remember to gather around you (com)-passionate partners who have skills and gifts in these areas.

Hard Skills

Skills that help a senior warden function well sometimes come through previous experience, and sometimes through intentional skill building as part of the vestry team. They can even be learned on-the-job.

- **Thinking strategically** – It's important to be able to take the longer-range view.
- **Team building** – Part of the vestry's responsibility is to help mobilize the many members of the congregation to function as one.
- **Delegating** – Sharing responsibility and authority are a hallmark of mature leadership. Giving away the task means focusing more on the outcome, less on the process.
- **Communicating clearly and often** – Telling the story well means giving enough background for people to walk with you all the way through to your punch line. Sharing the story means using multiple channels – print, electronic, verbal – and many modes – auditory, visual, kinesthetic – with various audiences – children, youth, adults, seniors, and more.
- **Learning together** – Learning communities forge special bonds that provide a support network for improved practice. What does your vestry need to learn together?
- **Building relationships** – Strong, loving relationships with God and with people are the essentials of life in Christian community. Relationships flourish where safety, trust, and openness are carefully nurtured.
- **Setting priorities** – Knowing what's important is easier when you have a vision of where you're headed. Both the vision and the priorities grow out of the whole community, and it's the leaders' job to articulate them. Do you have a process for hearing what the community has to say?

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Essential Growing Edges

There are some skills where a small investment in initial learning is made especially fruitful through long-term practice and development. Three areas of learning, in particular, have proven to pay lifelong dividends for church leaders. Book study or a workshop can start you (and your team) on the way.

Check the list of resources at the end of the article.

- **Listening** – There are many avenues for learning intentional, active listening. The “one-on-one” relational meeting is a particularly focused and effective practice to identify community concerns and discover new leaders.
- **Church size typology** – A congregation’s size influences its style, its organization, its assumed norms, and what works. Knowing the strengths and challenges of your congregation size will shape your work as leaders.
- **Family systems theory** – Leaders grow in resilience as they develop a basic understanding of the role that anxiety, triangles, emotional process, and differentiated leadership play in congregations.

Demi Prentiss is ministry developer for the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth.

Resources

- Church size theory, *ECF Vital Practices*
- Family systems theory – Using Bowen Family Systems Theory, by Tim Shaprio, *Alban Institute*
- Family systems theory – Differentiated Leadership Made Simple, YouTube video
- Family systems theory – (practical app) - Resilient Leadership by Bob Duggan (Inifity, 2009)
- Listening and Caring Skills in Ministry by John Savage (Abingdon, 1996)
- Listening – Active Listening: Hear What People are Really Saying, Mind Tools
- Listening – Steps of a One-on-One Relational Meeting, Industrial Areas Foundation
- The role of the warden – “You’re a new warden. Now what?” by Donald Romanik
- “The Work of Leadership,” by Ronald A. Heifetz and Donald L. Laurie, 1997 Harvard Business Review
- The Vestry Hand-Off: Orientation for new members by Linda Grenz

Lenten Meditations from ER-D

Episcopal Relief & Development invites you to commemorate **Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday** on the first Sunday in Lent, **March 9, 2014**, or another convenient date during Lent.

Meditations & Bulletin Inserts are available to download at:

<http://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/church-campaigns/lent>

or visit the online Episcopal Marketplace: <http://episcopalmarketplace.org/Products/Episcopal-Relief-Development>

This year’s devotional focuses on creating economic opportunities and strengthening communities, with a particular focus on empowering women. Here is an example:

Ash Wednesday, March 5

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. — The Book of Common Prayer, p. 267

Loving our neighbor can look like ensuring her ability to feed herself and her family. Jesus fed people, and that feeding is still central to how we remember and become his body in the world today.

Poor women—in his day and our own—often depend on male relatives for their livelihoods. Microfinance, growing food more effectively and developing agricultural and market cooperatives are important tools that help the poor increase their ability to feed themselves and their children. That kind of development also brings dignity, as women find agency and become more effective partners in decision-making. Agency is an image of God’s presence and action in the world.

Lent invites us to reflect on loving God and neighbor and to examine our own actions and inactions. Prayer, study, fasting and giving alms are traditional ways to observe this season—and all are avenues to loving more fully—with heart, mind,

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Making Thunderhead Camp's future solid

Recent research has shown that children and youth who attend a religious camp are more likely to participate in their religious community than those who don't. The camp experience can be an important formative time in a child's life.



Are you a passionate supporter of the camp?

We are launching the first of several plans to build a solid endowment for Thunderhead Camp and its future. We need to increase an initial fund of \$200,000.00 by about eight fold to assure Thunderhead's future sustainability.

The first step in reaching our goal is to accept the challenge of one of our TEC board members who has pledged a dollar a day toward the TEC Endowment. If one hundred people from around the diocese would accept the \$1.00 a day challenge it would increase our endowment by \$36,500.00 a year and generate \$1,460.00 in income for TEC each year in perpetuity.

I (We) _____ accept the \$1.00 a day (or other amount _____) challenge to help make Thunderhead Camp sustainable.

Please send your pledge or donation to
Thunderhead Camp
The Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota
500 S. Main Ave.,
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

or email your pledge to:
office.diocese@midconetwork.com or
youth.diocese@midconetwork.com or
randy.diocese@midconetwork.com

Thank you for your support.

+Bishop John

Other ways to help:

- Donations toward camper scholarships
- Donations to the TEC Endowment
- Participate in a Work Weekend
- Adopt a Cabin
- Offer to drive campers to and from TEC (or to a van pickup site)
- Ask the Rev. Portia Corbin (605-280-4927)

- ◆ Mail donations to the address on the left.
- ◆ Use your credit card through the diocesan website: www.diocesd.org and click on Payments/Donations

Every copy of *The South Dakota ChurchNews* that has an incorrect address is returned to us with a 75¢ postage due charge.

Please use this form to correct your address or supply your new address BEFORE you move.

Thanks!

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City, ST, Zip

Effective Date

Church we will attend after move

Mail to:

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

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Bishop's visitation & travel dates in bold letters

Diocesan Calendar

MARCH

Mar 2 TEC Sunday
Mar 2 Bishop visits Watertown
Mar 7-8 Niobrara Council, Santee
Mar 9 Santee/Yankton Missions
Mar 14-15 Dakota Experience, Rapid City
Mar 20-26 House of Bishops, Camp Allen
Mar 22 SD Church History Class, Wagner
Mar 30 Bishop visits Trinity, Pierre

APRIL

Apr 6 Bishop visits Milbank
Apr 10 *ChurchNews* Deadline (May/June issue)
Apr 11-12 Commission on Ministry Mtg
Apr 26 SD Church History Class, Pierre
Apr 26 Diocesan Council
Apr 27 Bishop visits Calvary Cathedral

MAY

May 2-3 Niobrara Exec Council, Santee
May 3 ECW Spring Meeting, Al's Oasis
May 4 Bishop visits Spearfish
May 11 Bishop visits Rosebud Mission (West)
May 17 Church Polity & Admin Class, Pierre

May 18 Bishop visits Mitchell
May 24-25 Bishop on Standing Rock Mission
May 26 Diocesan Office closed

JUNE

Jun 1 Bishop visits Deadwood
Jun 1-6 Summer Seminary, TEC
Jun 6-8 Bishop visits Navajoland Convocation
Jun 8-14 MS/Confirmation Camp, TEC
Jun 10 *ChurchNews* deadline (Jul/Aug issue)
Jun 15 Bishop visits Lead
Jun 15-21 High School Camp, TEC
Jun 22-25 Grade 5-6/Family Camp, TEC
Jun 26-29 Niobrara Convocation, Santee

JULY

Jul 4 Diocesan Office closed
Jul 12 Diocesan Council

AUGUST

Aug 3 Bishop visits Red Shirt Table
Aug 24 Bishop visits Winner



(Bishop . . . Continued from page 2)

he will be on the road one Sunday a month and in the Diocesan office one day a week.

The Rev. Portia Corbin will be moving to Watertown to live in Trinity’s vicarage as she continues to serve as Youth and Young Adult Missioner. She will continue to work as the camp program director and is available to help congregations with youth, young adult and children’s ministries. She also will be serving as priest-in-charge of Trinity, Watertown, serving as their ministry developer. She will be in the Diocesan office one day a week and on the road one Sunday a month.

Canon David Hussey will continue his ministry as Diocesan Transitional Ministry Officer, regular supply priest for St. Peter’s Church in Ft. Pierre, and supporting St. Mark’s Aberdeen in ministry development. David also offers direct support to other Missions and individual congregations throughout the Diocese.

St. Matthew’s in Rapid City and **St. Mark’s** in Aberdeen both have open clergy positions. Getting all of the bases covered in the Diocese is always a challenge, especially as many of our congregations can not afford full-time positions.

This Diocese is blessed in many ways and part of our spiritual discipline, as a diocese, is not to let the challenges overwhelm our sense of blessedness. We continue to be invited to be faithful witnesses to God’s love through our Lord Jesus. As we are faithful to that calling, God is faithful in providing us with the human and other resources needed.

+John

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strength and substance. How will I live and love differently this Lent? How will I become God’s agent and help others to do the same?

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
—Psalm 51:11*

—The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori

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.