

www.diocesesd.org May/June 2011

#### Youth Pilot Project Begins

he Standing Rock/Cheyenne River Youth Project will provide outreach ministry to high-risk youth and support congregational development for the churches of the two missions. The goal of the project is to offer alternative activities, using the successful ministry model of the North Dakota Standing Rock Episcopal Community/ Native Young Life. This involves outreach to youth at risk, contact time with youth and community, large and small group meetings, and participation in the summer camping program. It involves youth development, suicide prevention, and spiritual leadership. (see March/April 2011 issue of ChurchNews)

This is a foundational program that will make a real difference in real lives – and needed right now.

The initial, two-year budget is estimated at \$308,000.00. With funds matched by Church of All Angels' generous gift up to \$100,000, the diocese currently has \$90,000. Two grants are pending which will bring in additional funds.

Rather than wait until the project is fully funded, Bishop Tarrant recently proposed to Diocesan Council the hiring of **Deacon Brandon Mauai** of Ft. Yates, North Dakota, currently assisting Deacon Terry Star in the ND program cited above. Money raised to date, doubled with the matching grant, have made this beginning possible. The need is there and we mustn't wait any longer. With Brandon in place the project will begin to show results, creating a track record which will attract more funds, enabling the Cheyenne River portion of the project to proceed when a priest is in place on that Mission.

Fund raising will continue as well as successful

grant writing and solicitation of major gifts. A capital campaign will endow youth ministry in the diocese. The goal is to have a youth worker on every Mission in South Dakota and a viable and vibrant network of youth ministers throughout the diocese to support any congregation wanting to develop youth ministry.

Diocesan Council committed itself and the diocese to this challenge, and Deacon Brandon Mauai will begin employment in South Dakota sometime in May.

#### Introducing Brandon Mauai:

The Rev. Rita Powell,
Diocesan Youth Coordinator, knows Brandon
and is familiar with his
training and experience
for engaging in youth
ministry. It is hard work,
and Brandon brings
skill, energy, and a deep
faith to this important ministry.



Brandon is 26 years old, an enrolled member of Standing Rock, ordained in 2007 as a transitional deacon, and married to Angela. He has been involved in youth ministry since high school, and as a leader since 2003.

He was a Disciplinary Worker at the Standing Rock Middle School from 2008-2010 where he counseled and tutored students who had behavioral problems.

(Continued on page 24)

#### The Diocese of South Dakota



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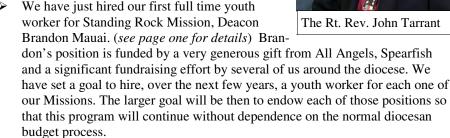
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#### Grace and Peace to you...

I t is wonderful to announce that youth and young adult ministry is blossoming around our Diocese. Three years ago Bishop Creighton Robertson and Diocesan Council hired the Rev. Rita Powell to serve as youth ministry coordinator for the diocese. A 'job description' was given to Rita, but it really was the dream of Bishop Creighton and others that would begin to shape the direction of what they saw as God's calling to our diocese.

Three years later.....





- ➤ We have sixteen young adults traveling to the Taizé Community in France where they will experience a unique spiritual framework deeply grounded in Christian reconciliation. Again, fundraising efforts have made this trip possible to many who could not have afforded it on their own. We are also exploring the potential of a joint venture with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) to develop an intentional young adult community on Rosebud Mission with the possibly of expanding the model to other sites around the diocese.
- We have over 20 young people registered to go to this summer's Episcopal Youth Event in St Paul. E.Y.E. is a National Church event that meets every three years. If you are of high school age and interested in going, contact the Rev. Rita Powell for details.
- Our summer camp program has had strong early registrations. This year the high school camp will begin during Niobrara Convocation, Brother John from the Taizé Community in France will lead Bible study, and many of those participating will then travel to the E.Y.E. in St. Paul. There are other wonderful programs being planned for the other weeks of camp.
- St. Paul's, Brookings and St. Paul's, Vermillion are both developing college ministries.

It began with the dream of making youth ministry a priority in our diocese. That dream has taken root, and is growing and blossoming in ways we could not have imagined three years ago. It is evidence of the Holy Spirit moving among us. It is evidence of the kingdom of God drawing near.

May we continue to be blessed as we live God's vision for our Diocese.

+John

## P

## Brookings church works for good ecological stewardship

Cathedral Committee and the congregation has studied and implemented the Catechism of Creation prepared by the Committee on Science, Technology and Faith of the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church.

They are avid recyclers, re-users, and reducers, and have worked together to adapt their church building to be more environmentally friendly. They recently completed upgrading their lighting, and will next start improving water conservation, heat and cooling efficiency, kitchen appliances, and office equipment.

They celebrate Earth Day every year – this year their observance coincided with the Brookings Conservation District's Soil and Water Conservation Week. The 2011 theme was about our forests, all of which are declining in health and abundance. In South Dakota forests mean the shelter belts that tame the prairie winds and prevent wind erosion while sheltering homes and livestock; the riparian forested corridors beside streams that serve as a buffer between water resources and upland activities that produce erosion; and the forests of the Black Hills

Continuing their stewardship of another kind of forest, they waved Eco-Palms on Palm Sunday.

where we find inspiration

and recreation.

These palms come from the palm forests of Nicaragua where they are harvested by sustainable forestry practices. The Eco-palms also support small locally-owned businesses that provide employment and return profits to local villages in Nicaragua. Sustainable palm harvest leaves the palm forest healthy so that the forest can provide shade, reduce soil erosion, provide wildlife habitat, and be an economic benefit year after year.

From <u>St. Paul's Messenger</u>, April 2011 By Chuck & Mary Lou Berry

## Emmanuel Rapid City gearing up for anniversary

mmanuel Episcopal Church in Rapid City is preparing to celebrate its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2012. A celebration of who they are and where they have been will be held on Saturday, November 10 followed by a Eucharist on

November 11 to celebrate their future.



Emmanuel is the largest Episcopal Church in western South Dakota and is

one of the oldest established churches in Rapid City. The foundation for the church was laid in 1887, right in the middle of the downtown area. Today it remains one of the core downtown churches.

#### Sioux Falls teens try cooking

ine Senior High Episcopal Youth Group members and several adults learned some tips for "Survival Cooking on the Cheap" on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at "K" Restaurant in downtown Sioux Falls, owned and operated by Calvary Cathedral member Kristina Kuehn.

Kristina demonstrated versatile cooking with pantry basics such as pasta – making macaroni and cheese and a pasta salad – plus mini pizzas. She finished with a tasty, easy butterscotch sauce to serve over ice cream or cake.

"Cooking at home is easy and inexpensive," says Kristina, "and a lot better for you than all the processed foods that are full of sodium, fat, and chemical preservatives."

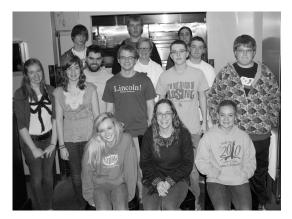
The cooking demonstration was part of the J2A (Journey to Adulthood youth curriculum) series of lessons on hunger and the cost of feeding a family.

(Continued on page 4)

#### Page 4 Around the Diocese

(Continued from page 3)

After learning a few kitchen tricks (you can cook a large batch of pasta, toss it with a little olive oil, and keep it in a ziploc bag for a week for hot or cold pasta creations), the group got to sample the foods.



Senior high leaders **Christina O'Hara** and **Ross Miller** led the group, which is a open to members of all three Sioux Falls Episcopal churches.

#### Spearfish church dives in to help Special Olympics

2 010 was the first year of the Spearfish Polar Plunge (a fund raising event for Special Olympics) and the All Angels youth group participated then. This year they decided to keep the "tradition" going.

On February 13, All Angels in Spearfish held a Valentine's Dinner for all of God's beloved with a silent auction. With donations before, during, and after that event, the youth group raised \$1025.00 for Special Olympics South Dakota, more than we needed for our five "plungers" and two others who were "too chicken to plunge."

Spearfish Canyon Lodge donated some robes to us (because we asked) and we had a towel team to wrap us up nice and warm as we emerged from the tank. One of the towel team members thought he heard that we were the third highest fundraisers that day, and the only participating church.

Water temperature was reported at 36°F and air temperature at 24°F.

Bunker likes to say, "We are all angels here (but some are fallen)." And on that day, some were Blue Angels! No photo of our towel team, but they were Marinell Skretteberg, Scott Moseley, Traci & Mark Young, and Pearl Wang, as well as a whole host of other church members there to cheer us on.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hYZKqJb-Tpk



In the group photo above: the Rev. Bunker Hill, Jake Young in back; Hannah Young, Carson Weimer, Jane Hill; Holly Moseley in front. Not pictured: Mariessa Pisani.

Ed note: at least one person commented that this group was CRAZY! To which Holly replied, "Yes, we are crazy. And we have a fabulous church."

Previously, on February 6<sup>th</sup>, the youth served coffee hour and collected money for the Spearfish Food Pantry as part of the national "Souper Bowl of Caring." We raised \$144.75 that day.

These are only two of the many helpful projects the children and youth (and other church members) take on to help our community.

Article submitted by Holly Moseley

## Rapid City church increases its offerings

mmanuel, RC has recently started a Saturday evening service. It is intentionally rather low-key, with guitars, a bass, a cello, and an African drum providing the music behind familiar, traditional hymns and some more contemporary music.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Though **Fr. Rich Ressler** will wear a stole, he and the rest of the altar party will be in street clothes, and the liturgy will come from Enriching Our Worship (*authorized by General Convention*). This new service begins at 5:30 pm and is in addition to their regular Sunday services: 8:00 am Rite I and 10:15 am Rite II. Plans are underway to feature a meal and/or fellowship opportunity beforehand (bowling, movie, jam session).

Emmanuel's Health & Wellness Committee and the Vestry Social Committee are planning a series of walking/hiking activities during the spring and summer. One such hike will be the Crazy Horse Volksmarch on June 4.

#### A visit with Kenyon Cull

Article written and submitted by The Rev. Jim Pearson Rector of Christ Church, Yankton

Some of you know that Kenyon Cull was the dean and headmaster at St. Mary's Episcopal School for Indian Girls in Springfield, SD for many years. Kenyon is also a long time member of Christ Church who now is quite frail and has poor short-term memory. He resides at Sr. James Majestic Bluffs Nursing Home. I had a special moment with Kenyon Cull the other day that I would like to share with you.

He was sitting in his chair and reading from an anthology of poems. This surprised me as I thought it difficult for Ken to read most anything...was I wrong! I asked him if he would share a poem with me and being the Englishman that he is, it was a sublime moment as he read a poem by William Wordsworth. Wordsworth calls it "Lines Written In Spring" and since the church is soon to begin observing Lent (Latin for "spring") this poem's imagery takes us to the coming spring.

Lent is a time for reflection, mediation and prayer. As Nature begins to be renewed and to "come alive" once again, may we be aware of how God's loving Spirit seeks to make us more alive...more loving to ourselves, to one another and more loving to all of God's creatures and creation.

I HEARD a thousand blended notes, While in a grove I sat reclined, In that sweet mood when pleasant thoughts Bring sad thoughts to the mind.

To her fair works did Nature link
The human soul that through me ran;
And much it grieved my heart to think
What man has made of man.

Through primrose tufts, in that green bower, The periwinkle trailed its wreaths; And 'tis my faith that every flower Enjoys the air it breathes.

The birds around me hopped and played, Their thoughts I cannot measure; But the least motion which they made It seemed a thrill of pleasure.

The budding twigs spread out their fan, To catch the breezy air; And I must think, do all I can, That there was pleasure there.

If this belief from heaven be sent, If such be Nature's holy plan, Have I not reason to lament What man has made of man?

(Poem by William Wordsworth, 1798)

#### Winner has Palm Sunday Anniversary observance

**Trinity Church** in Winner celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary on Palm Sunday, April 17.

Bishop Tarrant arranged his visitation schedule to be present at this celebration.

Following the festival procession and celebration of the Palm Sunday liturgy and Eucharist, the anniversary celebration continued with a luncheon in the parish hall and a sharing of photos and stories that mark the history of Trinity Church and the community of Winner.

#### Page 6 South Sudan Outreach

## Panyang, South Sudan: School to Open!!!

oses Joknhial will be returning to his village in South Sudan in May to celebrate the opening of the United Panyang Community School.



**BEFORE** 



**DURING CONSTRUCTION** 



THE NEW COMMUNITY SCHOOL BUILDING

This diocese has been very generous in their support of Moses' project with contributions toward water wells, building supplies for the school (including concrete for the floor), grinding mills, and other equipment that will enhance the quality of life in the village and allow girls, especially, to attend school.

And the needs continue - to furnish and maintain the school. Just think:

- \$9 will provide a child with school supplies for one year
- \$21 will provide a school uniform
- \$125 will provide school desks for eight students
- \$200 will support a child with food and a scholarship for one year.
- \$400 will provide a teacher's salary for one month.



#### As before:

- \$50 purchases one share in a water well
- \$2,000 purchases a grinding mill
- Contributions in any amount toward unspecified needs for this project will be gratefully accepted and promptly used 100% toward the project.

Tax-deductible contributions can be made payable to the Diocese of South Dakota and designated for "South Sudan Education."

#### Mail to:

Diocese of South Dakota 500 S. Main Sioux Falls, SD 57104

#### Diocese of East Tennessee to consecrate a new Bishop

n February 12, 2011 the Rev. George D. Young, III was elected to become the 4<sup>th</sup> bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee, to succeed **Bishop Charlie vonRosenberg**. Pending receipt of the approvals, the ordination/consecration will take place on June 25 at the Church of the Ascension in Knoxville. The seating of the bishop is scheduled for June 26 at St. John's Cathedral, Knoxville.

The Rev. Young was ordained in 1990 after graduating from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary and is currently the rector of St. Peter's Church in Fernandina Beach, FL. He is 55 years old and has two collegeaged children. His wife is the Rev. Kammy Young.

The Diocese of East Tennessee has a Companion Relationship with the Diocese of South Da-

kota. East Tennessee encompasses an area of approximately 14,350 square miles. The diocese is comprised of 45 congregations and 5 worshipping communities servicing nearly 16,000 active members.

## Salt Lake City selected as site of 2015 General Convention

alt Lake City, UT, has been selected as the site for the 2015 General Convention of the Episcopal Church, it was reported in March.

The selection was announced after the Episcopal Church Executive Council advised and consented to the choice at its February meeting in Fort Worth, TX (Diocese of Fort Worth).

The General Convention Office is holding space for a 10 day convention in July.

The Episcopal Church's General Convention, held every three years, is the bicameral governing body of the church. General Convention, the second largest legislative body in the world, is comprised of the House of Bishops, with upwards of 200 members, and the House of Deputies, with clergy and lay representatives from its dioceses and regional areas, at over 700 members.

The decision to select Salt Lake City, in the Episcopal Diocese of Utah, was reached following discussions, site visits, and "the advice and consent of the majority of the following: Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori, President of the House of Deputies Bonnie Anderson, Vice President of the

House of Bishops Dean Wolfe, Bishop of Kansas, the Presidents of the nine provinces of the Church, and the Executive Council," according to the Rev. Canon Dr. Gregory Straub, Executive Officer and Secretary of the General Convention,

The 2012 General Convention will be held in July in Indianapolis, IN (Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis).

#### National ECW Board picks Triennium Unified Gift

t the 40<sup>th</sup> Triennial Meeting of ECW in 1991, delegates were encouraged to contribute the money previously spent on trinkets and souvenir gifts (which adorned vests and hats and name tag cords) instead to the Unified Gifts project.

Enough money was raised that year to make it possible for the Diocese of Navajoland to have a Women of Vision program. Subsequent gifts were given to strengthen mission and ministry in Mexico and Central America, to the Minnesota Children's Defense Fund, and the Jericho Road Housing Initiative.

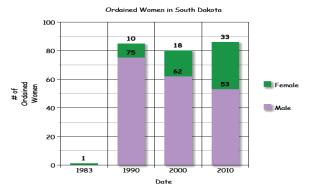
This Triennium the National Board has chosen Nets For Life as the 2009-2012 Unified Gift. Nets For Life is a program that educates communities and distributes long-lasting insecticide treated nets to combat and prevent malaria. Malaria is preventable and treatable, however nearly one million people die from it each year.

The ECW Annual Meeting for Province VI will be held in conjunction with the National ECW Board Meeting, in Colorado Springs, CO at St. Frances Retreat Center.

#### Women Clergy in South Dakota

he year 2011 marks the 35<sup>th</sup> year since the Episcopal General convention opened the ordination process to women. Though the 1976 General Convention decision to support women's ordination was followed by a flurry of ordinations in other dioceses, it wasn't until 1983 that the first woman was ordained in South Dakota – Deacon Adelia Brotherson. The Rev. Karen Hall was the first woman to be ordained a priest in South Dakota, in 1986.

The chart to the right shows how the number of women clergy in South Dakota has changed over the years. Not all the women counted were ordained in South Dakota, and not all who were ordained here are still resident. As of January 1, 2010, 39 women have been ordained either deacon or priest in the Diocese of South Dakota.



PARISHES:  Aberdeen - St. Mark's Belle Fourche - St. James' Brookings - St. Paul's	7,000.00 3,363.00	To Date	To Date	Balance	ChurchNews	To Date	To Date	
Belle Fourche - St. James'	,							Balance
Belle Fourche - St. James'	,	1,750.00	1,752.00	5,248.00	30.00	7.50	0.00	30.00
		840.75	843.00	2,520.00	110.00	27.50	105.00	5.00
Dioukings - St. Faul's	12,000.00	3,000.00	3.048.75	8,951.25	230.00	57.50	0.00	230.00
Deadwood - St. John's	5,950.00	1,487.50	1,474.21	4,475.79	90.00	22.50	50.78	39.22
Huron - Grace	,	,	,	,		56.25	56.25	168.75
	16,000.00	4,000.00	3,999.00	12,001.00	225.00			
Lead - Christ Church	6,332.00	1,583.00	1,060.00	5,272.00	170.00	42.50 27.50	170.00 110.00	0.00
Mitchell - St. Mary's	1,625.00	406.25	541.68	1,083.32	110.00			
Mobridge - St. James'	1,700.00	425.00	425.00	1,275.00	65.00	16.25	0.00	65.00
Pierre - Trinity	15,893.00	3,973.25	1,300.00	14,593.00	55.00	13.75	55.00	0.00
Rapid City - Emmanuel	45,096.00	11,274.00	7,516.00	37,580.00	290.00	72.50	50.00	240.00
Rapid City - St. Andrew's	28,991.00	7,247.75	7,247.76	21,743.24	220.00	55.00	82.50	137.50
Sioux Falls - Calvary	61,192.00	15,298.00	15,297.99	45,894.01	1,005.00	251.25	252.00	753.00
Sioux Falls - Good Shepherd	10,000.00	2,500.00	2,502.00	7,498.00	25.00	6.25	0.00	25.00
Spearfish - All Angels	26,896.00	6,724.00	6,724.00	20,172.00	290.00	72.50	72.50	217.50
Sturgis - St. Thomas'	5,137.00	1,284.25	856.17	4,280.83	95.00	23.75	95.00	0.00
Watertown - Trinity	8,605.00	2,151.25	1,434.16	7,170.84	210.00	52.50	40.84	169.16
Winner - Trinity	4,244.00	1,061.00	950.00	3,294.00	100.00	25.00	0.00	100.00
Yankton - Christ Church	22,000.00	5,500.00	1,833.33	20,166.67	445.00	111.25	445.00	0.00
TOTAL PARISHES	282,024.00	70,506.00	58,805.05	223,218.95	3,765.00	941.25	1,584.87	2,180.13
Bonesteel - St. Andrew's	600.00	150.00	0.00	600.00	30.00	7.50	0.00	30.00
Chamberlain - Christ Church	2,299.00	574.75	383.16	1,915.84	110.00	27.50	18.34	91.66
Cheyenne River Mission	525.00	131.25	525.00	0.00	420.00	105.00	60.00	360.00
Crow Creek Mission	1,866.00	466.50	300.00	1,566.00	175.00	43.75	130.00	45.00
DeSmet - St. Stephen's	30.00	7.50	0.00	30.00	5.00	1.25	0.00	5.00
Flandreau - St. Mary's	1,320.00	330.00	400.00	920.00	90.00	22.50	90.00	0.00
Ft. Pierre - St. Peter's	2,904.00	726.00	2,904.00	0.00	70.00	17.50	70.00	0.00
Gettysburg - Christ Church	400.00	100.00	115.00	285.00	25.00	6.25	15.00	10.00
Gregory - Incarnation	653.00	163.25	653.00	0.00	60.00	15.00	60.00	0.00
Herrick - All Saints	399.00	99.75	99.75	299.25	20.00	5.00	20.00	0.00
Hot Springs - St. Luke's	3,239.00	809.75	809.81	2,429.19	195.00	48.75	48.75	146.25
Lake Andes - St. Peter's	159.00	39.75	0.00	159.00	25.00	6.25	0.00	25.00
Lower Brule Mission	2,188.00	547.00	0.00	2,188.00	40.00	10.00	0.00	40.00
Madison - Grace	1,918.00	479.50	480.00	1,438.00	50.00	12.50	50.00	0.00
Martin - St. Katharine's	3,725.00	931.25	933.00	2,792.00	205.00	51.25	51.45	153.55
Milbank - Christ Church	2,689.00	672.25	500.00	2,189.00	65.00	16.25	65.00	0.00
Pine Ridge Mission	893.00	223.25	158.00	735.00	265.00	66.25	48.00	217.00
Rapid City - St.Matthew's	2,600.00	650.00	651.00	1,949.00	115.00	28.75	30.00	85.00
Rosebud Mission	7,283.00	1,820.75	2,178.00	5,105.00	310.00	77.50	30.00	280.00
Santee Mission	2,268.00	567.00	0.00	2,268.00	95.00	23.75	95.00	0.00
Sioux Falls - Holy Apostles	5,745.00	1,436.25	957.50	4,787.50	85.00	21.25	0.00	85.00
Sisseton - Gethsemane	800.00	200.00	200.00	600.00	60.00	15.00	0.00	60.00
Sisseton Mission	2,400.00	600.00	0.00	2,400.00	35.00	8.75	0.00	35.00
Standing Rock Mission	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	130.00	32.50	40.00	90.00
Vermillion - St. Paul's	9,240.00	2,310.00	1,540.00	7,700.00	180.00	45.00	0.00	180.00
Webster - St. Mary's	1,200.00	300.00	0.00	1,200.00	25.00	6.25	0.00	25.00
Yankton Mission	800.00	200.00	0.00	800.00	130.00	32.50	0.00	130.00
TOTAL MISSIONS	58,143.00	14,535.75	13,787.22	44,355.78	3,015.00	753.75	921.54	2,093.46
TOTAL PARISH AND MISSIONS	340,167.00	85,041.75	72,592.27	267,574.73	6,780.00	1,695.00	2,506.41	4,273.59

## <u>Draft Vision for TEC</u> —prepared by the TEC Board

Thunderhead Conference Center A Place of Hospitality to Recreate and Renew our Lives

He Sapa: A Thin Place Where Heaven and Earth Meet "Truly, the Lord is in this place, and I, I did not know it." - Genesis 28:16

At TEC, our goal is for guests

To rest, to learn, to engage the Holy Scriptures, to experience healing in Christ,. to encounter God in creation, to be empowered by the Holy Spirit for God's work in the world

Our vision is to link the mission of TEC to the wider vision of the Diocese for renewal by creating a network of youth ministry throughout the Diocese. TEC strives to help identify, raise up, train, equip, and encourage leaders of all ages.

Specifically, we have these five objectives:

- Provide a sanctuary where the Holy Spirit equips our young people for the work of mission and ministry.
  - Embrace the wisdom of our elders.
  - b. Practice leadership now.
  - c. Emphasize faith formation.
  - d. Immerse each guest in Scripture.
  - e. Build up the Body of Christ.
  - Discover and enjoy God's creation. f.
  - Incorporate experiences for cultural understanding.
- Develop TEC as a self-sustaining entity.
  - a. Have a reliable cost-accounting system.
  - b. Establish a balanced and stable budget.
  - c. Produce and share useful information.
  - d. Utilize an accurate method of projecting revenue.
  - e. Exercise positive cost containment and accountability.
- Diversify and expand our capital resources.\*\* 3)
  - a. Emphasize value in programs and facilities.
  - b. Practice good stewardship with offerings that people are willing to pay for, setting fees accordingly and generating a scholarship fund for those who truly cannot afford it.

- c. Develop a strategic marketing plan to meet mission and revenue goals.
- Schedule periodic capital campaigns to create positive energy for TEC and the Diocese.
- Utilize capital funds to develop new facilities for changing needs.
- Enhance TEC facilities
  - Adapt/build facilities that accommodate persons with physical and developmental disabilities.
  - b. Add bathrooms to cabins and chapel.
  - Develop time-share cabins which will be a source of income.
  - d. Enhance the natural aspects of the property surrounding TEC.
  - Expand activity and meeting capacity and capabilities.
- Expand our horizons
  - Host neighboring dioceses and churches.
  - Strive to become a destination for national events.
  - Welcome and encourage a Taizé daughter
  - d. Make TEC a year-round facility with a fulltime staff.

TEC is strong in Heritage, History, and Hospitality. We want to build on this Spiritual Heritage, continue our history of raising up leaders for the church, and offer gracious hospitality, welcoming all people as Christ.



\*\*Introducing the Diocesan-wide Alleluia Fund...



THE ALLELUIA FUND ...

. . . is a Diocesan offering to grow our Episcopal Church in South Dakota. This fund supports a vision and an opportunity that is beyond the scope of individual congregations.

#### Page 10 TEC Board News

(Continued from page 9)

Gifts to the ALLELUIA FUND enable our Diocese to create new mission and strengthen existing ministries in a way that exceeds our allocated resources. It strengthens us to higher levels of commitment to The Great Commission:

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

(MT 28:19-20)

Every year during the Easter Season, the people of our Diocese will be invited to join together to support our common ministry and celebrate our lives together in Christ.

THE ALLELUIA FUND is a time to reflect and express our gratitude for our Risen Lord. The focus of the Alleluia Fund is on our relationship with Christ and discerning how we use God's abundance to advance the cause of Christ.

Bishop Tarrant began his episcopate by listening to the Spirit speaking through the people of South Dakota. Everywhere, he has heard a constant concern for young people in our communities and an acute frustration with being unable to reach them. Part of our response will be to initiate a youth program on the Standing Rock as a pilot project that we plan to build into a network of youth ministers that will help transform congregations small and large and become a resource for our diocese and beyond. THE ALLELUIA FUND aims to develop Thunderhead Episcopal Camp as another part of the Bishop's vision.

We want to put TEC on a solid foundation to accomplish God's call to mission.

- To equip our young people for the work of ministry
- To establish TEC as a self-sustaining ministry
- To diversify and expand TEC's resources for ministry
- To enhance TEC's facilities
- To expand our horizons for the future

Funds donated this year will help build the Endowment Fund begun in 2000 by the campers themselves. Our youth, from fifth grade through high school, started this fund by contributing \$500.00 during the 2000 summer camping season to ensure that TEC would be oper-

ating for future generations. Their gifts were matched and exceeded at that year's Diocesan Convention, and each year the fund has continued to grow. Nevertheless, it is not yet at even half of what is needed to ensure the wonderful, God-filled experience of TEC for future generations. Please give generously this year to help establish a solid foundation for TEC.

The people of our Diocese are blessed with an abundance that exceeds any in the history of the world. We are called to share that abundance for the welfare of those we serve through our ministries. Together we can do great things.

Alleluia! Give Thanks and Praise.

What or how should I give?

- Pray for wisdom on sharing the blessings you have received
- Consider a "pledge" of \$1.00 a day during the 50 days of Easter, or the whole year as some have done already!
- Contribute generously in faith for growth.

Give through your church's offering or send directly to the Diocese of South Dakota.

The Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota ...
... Bringing Christ to Every Age

Please send your offering during the Easter Season to

#### THE ALLELUIA FUND

The Diocese of South Dakota 500 South Main Ave. Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6814



# Zouth News!

#### Pilgrimage to Taize

group of young people will make a pilgrimage to visit Brother John and the community of Taizé in France this May. We are a diverse group—from Rapid City, Pine Ridge, Standing Rock, Sisseton, Sioux Falls, Minnesota, and Idaho. We will be going to experience the prayer and song with hundreds of other young people from around the world. It will be a beautiful time to be at Taizé. Their spring will be in full swing—and there will be apple blossoms and the smell of wood smoke, the sound of cows lowing in the fields, the grass green and fresh, the red tile roofs of the old stone houses stacked nicely alongside the village roads.

Brother Alois, the Prior of Taizé, will meet with our group to develop a relationship with us. Taizé is a powerful place of hope in the church—where the gap between the young and the church is reconciled. They are good friends to have. Fr. Robert Two Bulls, Jr., has been invited to celebrate the Eucharist in Lakota in the old village church, the very place where Taizé began. It will be the first time that language has been spoken there.

In addition to Father Robert, please pray for all of the pilgrims: Rev. Rita Powell, Fr. Bunker Hill, Kristin Sanford, Portia Hurney, Ross Miller, Quinetta Hairy Chin, Joe Skinner, Michael Schweigman, Rachelle Crawford, Ashley Harrison, Erin Sciendzielos, Alexander Cushman, Anchittha Poo-Ngarm, Ron Braman, Walker Rose, Brady Ketelson, Jimmy Bloomquist, and Mikayla Dunfee.

#### **Picture Summer Camp!**

he air will be chilly early in the morning when head counselor Ross Miller goes out to ring the gong, the first wake-up call for sleeping campers snug in their cabins. 30 minutes later, the chapel

bells will peal, ringing out across the still mountain air, calling everyone, in pjs and sleepy-eyed, to morning prayer in the chapel. Holly's smiling face welcomes us to the tables for breakfast of pancakes and sausage. We'll do our chores and gather again to hear from a spiritual director - maybe Fr. Rob Schwarz explaining the Eucharist, maybe Brother John opening up the bible to us, maybe Dean Ward Simpson extolling the thrills of the prayer book. In the sunny afternoon, we might go to Lake Roubaix, or Roughlock Falls. We might play water balloon volleyball or Ultimate Frisbee. We might make mosaics or payer partner gifts. In the evening, we might dance. We might play cabin challenge, or we might watch the night come all around us as we sit around the camp fire, singing and laughing and eating s'mores. The chapel bells will ring once more, calling us to compline in the candlelight as we ponder the day in prayer, and get ready for bed. A perfect day at camp.

## Youth ministers—Meet at Convention!

alling all of you who are involved in a youth ministry! We will gather as a group during a workshop slot at Diocesan Convention in Pierre, September 10, to plan our Diocesan Youth Convention and program for 2012. Mark your calendars now and don't miss this gathering!

#### Brother John of Taizé returns to South Dakota

s the friendship between Taizé and South Dakota will grow in the upcoming pilgrimage, it will grow again as Brother John returns here in June! He will be a guest at the Niobrara Convocation, and the spiritual director for the High School camp! He will also be a part of another big, ecumenical event hosted by Calvary Cathedral in Sioux Falls on Tuesday, June 21. If you don't get to visit with him at Convocation, be sure to see him in Sioux Falls!

The Rev. Rita Powell
Diocesan Youth Coordinator
605-695-0110
youth.diocese@midconetwork.com

#### 2011 TEC Schedule

May 20-22 **Mini-Work Weekend** Reservations needed

- thunderhead@dakotablue.net

May 26-31 reserved

June 3-5 **Main Work Weekend** Reservations needed

- thunderhead@dakotablue.net

June 5-10 **Summer Seminary** 

—check it out at the diocesan website: www.diocesesd.org or in this issue of *ChurchNews* – the courses are always good

June 12-16 **Family/5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp** Contact the Rev. Rita Powell to register at youth.diocese@midconetwork.com. Camp registration form on page 15.

June 16-19 Niobrara Convocation at Camp

June 17-21 **High School Camp at TEC** 

• 9<sup>th</sup> graders go home on 21<sup>st</sup>

June 21-27 **High School Camp at EYE** (10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders) (in St. Paul, MN, via Calvary Cathedral in Sioux Falls; bus does not return to camp from Sioux Falls)

**July 1-4** Thunderhead Episcopal Center is **AVAILABLE** for use over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. If you are planning a family reunion or other gathering, please contact Holly Moseley at 605.642.4349 or teenangels@rushmore.com for more information.

July 5-10 Middle School (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade) Camp.

July 15-17 Women's Retreat

**Aug 8-14 AVAILABLE** for those attending the Motorcycle Rally; we do have a group that returns every year, so reserve early. Contact thunderhead@dakotablue.net for rates.

Aug 19-21 tentative Men's Retreat

Sept. 2-5 tentative Alumni Retreat

## Thunderhead Episcopal Center 2011 Wish List

#### For the kitchen:

- Flour-sack type towels
- Commercial upright freezer (\$4500)
- Conveyor-type toaster/cooker (about \$2000)

#### For the chapel:

- Two new banners talk to Holly
- Hymnals (if you are replacing yours)
- Updated songbooks (\$250)
- New carpet/flooring

#### For SuperTent:

- Underwrite Internet connection (\$500/yr)
- Mattress pads for queen, full, and twin beds

#### Other:

- Replace a deck (\$500)
- Paint/stain for decks and picnic tables
- Scholarships
- Build up the endowment
- Cook for a camp session or retreat
- Maintenance volunteers

## Diocese of South Dakota 2011 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. TEC 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 forms, checks etc., to: TEC Registration

500 South Main Ave Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Questions: Contact the Rev. Rita Powell at <a href="mailto:youth.diocese@midconetwork.com">youth.diocese@midconetwork.com</a> or 605,659,0110



#### **Camp Schedule**

#### 5th & 6th Grade and Family Camp • Sunday, June 12-Thursday, June 16

Start a tradition of **Family Camp** as vacation time at beautiful, peaceful Thunderhead Episcopal Center. Relax together and 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 together as a 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.

5th & 6th Graders are encouraged to attend this camp as an introduction to TEC. This camp will offer fun and faith -building activities for kids and grownups, together and separately. Campers welcomed to stay on for Niobrara Convocation, to be held at TEC. June 17-19. Cost: \$100 per person or \$250 per family.

#### Middle School/ Confirmation Camp • Tuesday, July 5-Sunday, July 10

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. The Spiritual Director will be creating a great time around the classic church topics. Cost: \$225 per person

#### High School Camp/EYE\* • Friday, June 17-Monday, June 27

High School campers have an amazing, two-part opportunity before them this year!

- (1) June 17-21: Experience Niobrara Convocation, which is being held at TEC this year. You'll meet youth groups from around the nation who attend this gathering of our Native diocesan churches. There will be storytelling around the fire and a special youth-oriented service on Saturday night. Convocation departs after Sunday worship on June 19, and campers will remain at TEC for a fun, retreat-like, community building camp, packed with laughter, prayer, and the beauty of the Hills.
- (2) June 21-27: On June 21, campers will board a bus and head for the triennial national youth conference, Episcopal Youth Experience (EYE) in St. Paul, MN (with an overnight stop first at the Cathedral in Sioux Falls). On Sunday, June 26, we will worship and work with Father Bob Two Bulls Jr. at All Saints Indian Mission in urban Minneapolis, returning to Sioux Falls on Monday, June 27.
  - \* EYE is open to students who are in 9th-12th grades during the 2010-2011 school year. (We do plan to attend again in 2014!) Thirty slots are available for EYE on a first-come, first-served basis. You must register through the Rev. Rita Powell, registrar for the Diocese of South Dakota, so contact her asap if you plan to attend EYE. Attendance at EYE will replace this fall's youth convention, so let's fill every slot!

About YOU, the Camper;	your Parents; & your Health
My name is:	• If you take medication of any kind: Please attach a list of medications with instructions as to the time and dosage
I am ☐ Male ☐ Female	for administering them. Medications need to be in their original containers and will be turned over to camp staff
My birth date is:	upon arrival.
My address is:	• Please attach a copy of Camper's insurance card, Medicaid card, or IHS number!!!
My e-mail is:	PARENT/ GUARDIAN RELEASE The health history for this child is correct to the best of my
My Parent or Guardian is:	knowledge. This child has permission to attend camp and engage in all activities, except as noted above. If I cannot
Their phone is:	be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by the Camp Director or Nurse to
Their e-mail is:	hospitalize, secure treatment, and to order injections, anesthesia, or surgery for my child.
Are they who we should call in an emergency? If not,	anesthesia, of saigery for my clinic.
please list someone else:	Parent/ Guardian Signature and Date
Please tell us about your health: Do you have any dietary restrictions, allergies, or restrictions on activities?	***Once you send us your registration form, check your mail for confirmation and for transportation and other camp info!
Cost of camp	What you need for camp
The Diocese of South Dakota feels strongly that its youth should have the opportunity to experience the	Please circle which one describes you!

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 try to keep the camper fees down.

#### Please check which camp you will attend:

- ☐ Family Camp: \$100 per camper, \$250 per family
- Middle School/Confirmation Camp: \$225
- ☐ High School Camp + EYE: \$500
- ☐ High School Camp Only: \$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.

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! ©

#### Attention Men!

his year's Men's Retreat is scheduled for August MEN'S RETREAT 19-21. We need an estimate of how many people are interested in attending to proceed with planning.

Please email thunderhead@dakotablue.net or call Holly at 351-1328 right away to let her know you are interested. Recruit your friends and indicate your intentions today!

#### **Attention Women!**

o you ever feel overwhelmed by circumstances and/or the emotions they seem to produce?

Do fear, grief, resentment, bitterness, or other feelings seem to loom over your life like giants, leaving you feeling helpless?

Or are you bothered by small things that lodge like thorns in your heart or flesh, sinking in deeper the more you try to remove them?

Join Chaplain **René Porter Stewart** and women from around the diocese as we explore the ways we can kill those giants and pull those thorns. Based on a short book by the Rev. Charles Swindoll, we will explore "gritty answers to gritty questions," as one person described the topic.

Thunderhead Center is a great place to explore such topics, providing a peaceful, quiet space that nurtures the spirit and soothes the soul. Register today!

\*\*See the next page for registration form.\*\*

Bedding and towels are provided. Some personal supplies are available if you forget to bring them. You might want: Comfortable clothing, warm clothing (nights are often cool), cool clothing (days can be warm), comfortable walking shoes, slippers, personal supplies (soap, shampoo, toothbrush, etc.), Bible, a journal, sunhat and sunglasses, your own pillow (we have some).

Thunderhead Episcopal Camp has a comfortable lodge with a fireplace and indoor plumbing.

Cabins are available for a reduced rate, with a separate shower house

## Killing Giants and Pulling Thorns

Proposed Women's Retreat Schedule:

#### Friday, July 15, 2011

2-5:30 pm Arrival and settle in

6:00 pm Supper

7:00 pm Introductions, Ice breakers

9:00 pm Compline

#### Saturday, July 16, 2011

8:00 am Breakfast & Chores

9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Session I

12:00 Lunch & Chores & Rest

2:00 pm Session II

6:00 pm Supper & Chores

7:00 pm Session III 9:00 pm Compline

#### Sunday, July 17, 2011

8:00 am Breakfast & Chores 9:00 am Holy Eucharist

11:30 am Lunch & Chores, then Depart



#### Women's Retreat Registration

Please send the \$100.00 fee with this form (or indicate the amount of scholarship needed. We encourage you to ask your church for help with the fee.)

Checks should be made to TEC. Send by July 5 to the address below. Please print.				
Name:				
Address: _				
City:		State:	Zip code:	
Phone num	nber(s):			
E-mail:				
Roommate	e request:			
Emergency	y number during this event (s	someone to contact):		
Name				
Relationsh	ip:			
Phone(s) _				
•	ry or medical needs or condit ch any special instructions a			
Send to:				
	Thunderhead Episcopal PO Box 890 Lead, SD 57754	Center		
	thunderhead@dakotablu	ie.net		

## **Application for Niobrara Summer Seminary 2011 Introduction to Theology**

The Rev. Dr. Doug Dunn, Instructor

#### Please TYPE or PRINT clearly.

(A separate form should be filled out for each student.)

1.	Student Name
2.	Mailing Address(Please write "General Delivery" if that is how you receive mail.)
3.	City, State, Postal Code
4.	Primary Telephone #
5.	Alternate phone numbers (indicate cell/work/fax)
6.	E-mail address
7.	Tribal Affiliation
8.	a) Home parish or mission
	b) City & State
9.	Expenses (check all that apply & enclose a check for the total amount):
	<b>Tuition:</b> \$50 (ALL students must check this box) Room and Board: SuperTent, double occupancy: \$200 Room and Board: SuperTent, single occupancy: \$250 Room and Board: Cabin, double occupancy: \$175 Meals Only: \$100
10.	Date of application
11.	Signature (Please have guardian sign if applicant is under 18.)

Textbook: **Christian Theology: An Introduction** by Alister E. McGrath (older editions are OK)

Registrations should be mailed to:

Pat Woolley 590 W. 9th Winner, SD 57580-2406 605-842-2033 dsdnsm@me.com **Questions:?** 

Archdeacon Paul Sneve PO Box 1606 Rapid City, SD 57701 605-342-6199 paul1@rushmore.com

### 139<sup>th</sup> Niobrara Convocation

### "Itancan, niye otiunniyanpi, Wicoicage na wicoicage kin el."

(Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another. Psalm 90:1)

June 16-19, 2011

Hosted by

## St. Matthew's Episcopal Church at Thunderhead Episcopal Center

20 miles south of Lead on Hwy 85 (10 miles past Cheyenne Crossing)

Hospitality Checks & donations should be sent to:
Niobrara Convocation
PO Box 1606
Rapid City, SD 57709

There are no fees (registration or otherwise), all are invited, with lots of room to camp! Good food! Good fellowship! Great singing! Powerful prayers!





This old tradition provided a wonderful time for Native People from all over Indian Country to connect and reconnect and to worship God in their own language. Though a few of the details have changed and evolved, Niobrara Convocation continues to be a great time of fellowship and feast, worship and work.



There are many motels in the Black Hills. Check Black Hills lodging/motels/hotels/campgrounds on the internet.

#### All Souls Mission in South Dakota

By Peg Teslow, Good Shepherd, Sioux Falls

y story is different than the norm. My parents were deaf and their meeting was most unusual. Let me digress.

In April 1934 my aunt and uncle, Elizabeth and Carl Mattox, came to Sioux Falls on their honeymoon. They visited the local deaf club which was located upstairs above Brown & Saenger at 8<sup>th</sup> & Main Avenue in Sioux Falls, SD, now the site of the Downtown Holiday Inn. My aunt was a very attractive woman and my father asked her if she had an unmarried deaf sister, to which she replied yes, in Denver, CO. Dad asked if it would be okay to write to her.

As fate would have it, my mother agreed and in June 1934 he motored to Denver to meet my mother and they became engaged. He returned to Denver where they were married at St. Mark's Church on August 26, 1934 by Reverend Homer E. Grace, and brought her back to Sioux Falls as his bride.

What, you may ask, has this got to do with All Souls Mission? All Souls Mission was a branch of the Episcopal Church which ministered to the deaf in a 5-state area and was led by another deaf person, Reverend Homer E. Grace. Reverend Grace came to Sioux Falls on a monthly circuit visit to congregations in Omaha, NE; Des Moines, IA; Minneapolis, MN; Sioux Falls; and returning to Denver.

Homer Earl Grace as born in Garden City, KS on March 24, 1889 to William Robert Grace and Ruth Ann (Nickerson) Grace. He received his BA from Gallaudet College, Washington, DC in 1911 and an honorary degree from Gallaudet in 1965. He graduated from St. John's College in Colorado in 1924. He was ordained Deacon in June 1924 and ordained Priest in March 1925, both by Bishop Ingley of the Colorado diocese. He received his Doctor of Divinity from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary in 1958. He and his wife, the former Lulu Mae Lewis, were married October 9, 1912 and to this union there were three children.

Rev. Grace was Priest-in-charge at All Souls Mission of the Deaf and Missionary to the Deaf in Prov-

ince 6 from 1924 to 1959. He was also Editor of the *Mission Visitor* from 1939 to 1959. He completed special work in Province Six from 1959 to 1963.

Not only did he marry my parents, but he baptized me at Calvary Cathedral, Sioux Falls, SD in 1939. By Rev. Grace's influence, my parents made sure I had a strong Episcopalian background, and thus I grew up in Calvary Cathedral and had perfect Sunday school attendance for years. I was confirmed by Bishop Blair Roberts and my sponsors were Mrs. Blair Roberts and Mrs. Neil Graham.

My father, Joseph Servold, was what I would call the equivalent of senior warden of All Souls Mission. His monthly duty was to collect the offerings and mail them to Indianola, Iowa which I assume was the headquarters of All Souls Mission branch of the Episcopal Church.

My memory of Rev. Grace was that he was a gentle grey-haired man, smoked a pipe and worked the crossword puzzle in ink. His monthly visits were marked by dinner at Annie Olson's house or our house after my father picked Rev. Grace up at the train depot and later at the bus station.

We children of the deaf that attended the Monday evening services at Calvary Cathedral would run around the church playing hide-and-seek and other games. No one could hear us, so we could make all the noise we wanted. The new addition to the Cathedral was not in place at that time. The church secretary's office was just off the alleyway located at the east of the building, with stairs leading up to the dean's office, sacristy and choir robe room.

My first memory of attending church on Sundays was a small chapel just north of the guild hall located immediately under the nave. Red-haired Margaret Berry was our teacher for many years.

Following services there was coffee, treats and fellowship in the "old" kitchen in the undercroft. My father would drop Rev. Grace off at Dexter House located on the All Saints School campus following services. Someone from the diocese would take him to his mode of transportation for his return to Denver.

Reverend Homer Grace died August 31, 1980.

#### **Pre-Convention Deanery Meetings**

he seven Diocesan Deaneries meet prior to Diocesan Convention to review the proposed diocesan budget for the following year and any other business that may come before the Convention. It would be a time to discuss resolutions submitted to date, and recruit nominees to run for diocesan office. It is also a time for deaneries to elect, if needed, their representative to Diocesan Council.

Here are the scheduled dates for the 2011 Deanery Meetings:

August 20	2:00 pm	Trinity, Pierre
August 21	2:00 pm	St. Thomas, Sturgis
August 28	4:00 pm	St. Paul's, Brookings

Convention Hospitality Funds (\$100 is asked from each congregation) may be sent to

Diocese of South Dakota 500 S. Main Ave

Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6814

These funds help pay for the welcoming reception and other expenses of convention not covered by registration fees.

#### **Positions Open**

The following positions will need to be filled by election at the 2011 Diocesan Convention:

Standing Committee

1 Presbyter 4 year term

1 Lay 4 year term 1 Lay 1 year term

Province VI Deputy

1 Clergy 3 year term 1 Clergy 2 year term 1 Clergy 1 year term 1 Lay 2 year term 1 Lay 1 year term

Be sure your church has submitted the name(s) and addresses(es) of its convention delegates. Committee members will be selected from this list, and information will be mailed out soon.

#### Go Ahead, Re-invent the Wheel

Each day I read two dozen tech blogs and eletters, partly because I'm intrigued by the technology people are inventing, but even more because I find inventiveness itself so appealing.

"I love the way eager minds take an existing tool and make it better, or invent something altogether new. They "re-invent the wheel" again and again; they "fix what isn't broken"; they refuse to "leave well enough alone." Applause, applause. This is where progress comes from.

"I am equally excited when I see a church leader think "outside the box" and imagine a fresher, better way to do something. Churches can't just "keep on keeping on." Doing church the "same old way" is a death-wish.

"But if we think creatively, there's no end to what we can do in God's name."

From: Morning Walk / Apr 11, 2011 by Tom Ehrich



#### The Episcopal Church in Pajut . . .

. . . was roofed, thanks to donations from this diocese. Since this picture was taken, the walls have been filled in.

However, a recent storm caused extensive wind damage to the church roof. \$2,900 is needed to repair it before the rainy season ruins the walls and other inside structures.

Any and all donations to help repair the roof would be very welcome. Send to the Diocesan Office (*see address to the left*), and mark your offering "South Sudan Church Roof."

#### **GRACE HAPPENS**

By The Rev. Fred Jessett

"An Easter Story From A Dark Time"

In the last century, two totalitarian regimes tried to wipe out religion among the people they ruled. Both the Soviet Union and Communist China under Chairman Mao, actively sought to abolish religion. Places of worship were closed and believers persecuted. Christians in the west feared that those regimes might succeed in extinguishing the light of faith among the people of those lands.

When the Soviet empire fell and post-Mao China opened its doors to commerce and travel from the west, we outsiders were amazed and heartened to discover that Christianity had survived in both places, and in the case of China had actually grown during the years of persecution.

I was not surprised when it came to light that there were far more Christians in the Soviet Union that we had been led to believe. I suspected it all along because of a story I had heard at the University of Washington in 1956.

That year a man who had been a Russian tank commander in World War II spoke on campus. His name was Nicholas Goncharov and he was a visiting YMCA leader. He told of growing up a Russian Orthodox Christian in a small town under Communist rule. Here's how I remember his story.

One year a group of Communist Party officials came to the town at Easter time and announced that Easter services were banned. Instead the people were to gather in the town square where they would hear speeches from the party officials on the evils of religion, the foolishness of faith, and proof that God didn't exist.

So instead of the Easter Liturgy, which in the Orthodox tradition takes place mostly Saturday night and on into early Easter morning, the people were gathered in the town square and subjected to hours of anti-religious lectures.

When the day was almost over and the speakers finally finished, they were approached by the elderly local priest who asked he might speak just a word to the townsfolk. The party officials, probably assuming they had clearly exposed the wickedness of religion and demolished faith, must have felt there wasn't much the old priest could do in a few words to counter their brilliant arguments, so they let him speak.

The priest walked up on the speakers' platform and looked out over his parishioners, then said simply, but forcefully, "Christ is risen!"

The people in the square, all standing now, roared back, "Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia."

Real faith is hard to kill, and Easter is our evidence for that fact. What we celebrate at Easter is not just something that happened 2,000 years ago. We celebrate because, through faith, Christ is risen from the dead in our lives today, just as he had risen from the dead in the lives of Dr. Goncharov's fellow towns people. Those who see in the resurrection the promise of God's life-giving love will not be talked out of it and that's why those who seek to abolish faith fail.

© Fred Jessett 2009



## Rustic Cabins In The Black Hills

Owned by the Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota on land leased since 1922 from the Black Hills National Forest.

Located off the Needles Highway (#87): South of Sylvan Lake—3 m. north of Playhouse Road.

3 screened cabins sleeping 4-6 +, each with an outhouse.

Use 1 cabin or more for a minimum donation of \$30 per night per cabin.

<u>Provided</u>: beds, mattresses, pots, pans, plates, cups, silverware, propane stove and refrigerator, fire-place. Water can be carried from nearby covered spring.



Chapel of the Transfiguration



The Bishop's Cabin at Camp Remington

Bring your own: bedding or sleeping bags, blankets, towels, food and beverages, and lighting - fluorescent lanterns, propane lamps, Coleman lanterns with fuel, etc.

Episcopal services at the quaint Chapel of the Transfiguration on Sundays in July through Labor Day at 10:30 a.m.

FOR RESERVATIONS - Call Randy Barnhardt at 605-338-9751

FOR INFORMATION - Call Tony Gonsor at 605-673-2205

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Bishop's visitation dates in bold letters

## Diocesan Calendar

	MAY		JULY
May 1	Calvary Cathedral	Jul 5-10	Middle School/Confirmation Camp
May 1	Installation of Rev. Jackie Bernacchi	Jul 10	St. Luke's, Hot Springs
	at Trinity, Watertown	Jul 15-17	Women's Retreat, TEC
May 3-6	Clergy Retreat, Blue Cloud Abbey	Jul 17	Incarnation, Gregory
May 6-7	Niobrara Council, Ft. Pierre	Jul 24	Christ Church, Red Shirt Table
May 7-17	Taizé trip		
May 8	St. Matthew, Rapid City		AUGUST
May 15	Emmanuel, Rapid City		
May 20-21	TEC Work Weekend	Aug 1-15	Bishop on Vacation
May 22	St. Mary's, Mitchell	Aug 19-20	Men's Retreat (?), TEC
May 23-Jun	4 Bishop away at College of Bishops	Aug 20	Deanery Mtg, Trinity, Pierre
		Aug 21	Deanery Mtg, St. Thomas, Sturgis
	JUNE	Aug 26-27	Diocesan Council
		Aug 28	Yankton Mission
Jun 3-4	Work Weekend @ TEC	Aug 28	Deanery Mtg, St. Paul's, Brookings
Jun 5	Christ Church, Lead		
Jun 5-10	Summer Seminary @ TEC		SEPTEMBER
Jun 10	ChurchNews deadline (Jul/Aug issue)		
Jun 12	St. John the Baptist, Deadwood	Sep 9-10	Diocesan Convention, Pierre
Jun 12-16	Family Camp @ TEC	Sep 11	St. Peter's, Ft. Pierre
Jun 16-19	Niobrara Convocation @ TEC	Sep 14-21	House of Bishops
Jun 17-21	High School Camp	Sep 25	Grace Church, Madison
Jun 25	Consecration in East Tennessee	Sep 30-Oct	
Jun 21-27	EYE, St. Paul, MN		
Jun 26	Christ Church, Yankton		



(Youth—continued from page 1)

Sioux Falls, SD 57104-6814

He also served on Pathways in the summer of 2006 where he was housed at Camp Gabriel as a full time youth minister for the summer. Since 2004, he has been involved with many of the athletics groups on Standing Rock, where much of his contact time had taken place with the youth.

Any and all tax-deductible donations marked for the Youth Project will be gratefully accepted. Send to:
Diocese of South Dakota
500 S. Main Avenue

Contact Randy Barnhardt, Diocesan Administrator, at 605-338-9751 to talk about legacy gifts.

**n** April 8, 2011, Diocesan Council approved a Diocesan Policy based on the findings of a diocesan task force appointed to explore health insurance options.

Effective January 1, 2012, employees will contribute 15% of the annual medical insurance premium assessed by The Medical Trust. New employees will contribute 15% immediately; current employees will be phased in, contributing 5% in 2012, 10% in 2013, and 15% in 2014 and beyond.

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#### Reminder—

Those who are chairs or secretaries of diocesan boards, commissions, committees, councils, and such are asked to submit a report of activities and plans since the 2010 convention. Send to the Diocesan Office by June 10 or August 10, for inclusion in one of the next two issues of *ChurchNews*.

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.