



South Dakota Episcopal

# Church News

www.diocesesd.org

November/December 2012

## 2012 Diocesan Convention

### Bishop's Address

**G**race be unto you and peace from God our father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is my third Diocesan Convention as your Bishop. I thank God for our Diocesan staff that has served so faithfully this past year. We are blessed as a diocese to have talented, devoted and faith filled people who serve with us as we work to build up God's Kingdom.

As we have moved forward in ministry together during this past year, we have been presented with the opportunity to learn much both in the challenges we have faced and the mistakes we have made, but in all things God has been gracious in both forgiveness and wisdom. I ask your forgiveness for those things I have not done well that may have hurt you and for those things I have left undone which you wanted to see happen.

I will continue to make mistakes; I will not always get it right, but I will not let the risk of failure prevent me from moving forward. The former Canon to the Ordinary in the Diocese of Connecticut, Richard Tombaugh, taught a simple model for evaluating any activity.

*What did you do? What happened? What did you learn?*

We have tried to apply this measure to each effort we have made. We have learned much.

We have learned that just because we can't do everything, doesn't mean we shouldn't do anything. The development of youth ministry throughout the

Diocese has gone slower than I had expected, but we have had great success in the **Youth Program on Standing Rock**. We have learned the importance of establishing a strong program in one region before attempting to transport it to another. We have learned that raising the necessary funds to assure the youth ministry program will not only grow, but also be sustained, is not an easy task. We have also learned we are on the right track as we have had from 40 to 60 teenagers attending one of the two groups we have established. For many of these teenagers *'fusion4 club night'* is the highlight of their week. This year we are expanding the program to include tutoring.

There is a genuine need; we have a solid model. We have raised over \$100,000 to secure the matching \$100,000 we were given. We are assured the program will continue as we further develop it. We have also been given a \$65,000 UTO grant to build a supporting hall at St. Peter's in McLaughlin.



In May we launched our **Intentional Christian Young Adult Community** at the Bishop Hare Center on Rosebud Mission as Sam Adams began a summer internship with the expressed goal of developing a framework for the ongoing life of the community.

Throughout the summer other young adults joined him: Brittany Salisbury, Mikayla Dunfee and Portia Hurney. The four identified the three community

*(Continued on page 2)*

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of  
South Dakota**



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(Bishop's Address—Continued from page 1)

virtues to be: *prayer, listening and hospitality*. Sam, Brittany and Portia have returned to school, but Mikayla, joined by Kieran Conroy, will continue to develop this model of communal living as we recruit others to join them.

This is a joint venture with the ELCA and we hope it will become a place where young adults can come for a time of discernment and learn from the wisdom of the people in the faith communities on Rosebud Mission.

It has been slow going, but it has been going...

Our relationship with the **Taizé** community in France has deepened. Brother John made another visit to South Dakota in April. A group from South Dakota and Minnesota attended the International Taizé gathering this past May held in Chicago. A year ago Mikayla Dunfee served an internship at the community in France, and this past summer Quinetta Hairy Chin from Standing Rock and Michael Two Bulls from Pine Ridge also went to France where each participated in the Taizé internship program. The relationship is well established as our hosting of an International event Memorial Day weekend 2013 at Christ Church Red Shirt Table will confirm.

We have three members of our Diocesan family in **Seminary** this year. Portia Hurney from Trinity Pierre will graduate from Yale Divinity School in May 2013. Sam Adams from Emmanuel Rapid City will complete his studies at Wycliffe Seminary in Toronto in the spring of 2014, and Jim Marrs from St. Matthews Rapid City began his studies at Sewanee this fall. Eldon White



The Rt. Rev. John Tarrant

Pipe from Church of the Incarnation in Gregory is planning on attending the Seminary of the Southwest in Austin in the fall of 2013. I believe that between those in the local ordination process and those attending or entering seminary, we are well positioned to meet the ordained leadership needs of this Diocese in the years to come.

Some of our churches have faced great **challenges**. St. Andrews Bonesteel elected to close in May. Trinity Watertown is working with a consultant in hopes of a healthy restart. There are several energetic positive families and young people who are committed to restarting an Episcopal church in Watertown.

Other churches have seen **new energy**. Holy Name on the Lower Brule Reservation will be re-consecrated on Sunday and another congregation is looking at re-establishing. St. Johns Oglala under the guidance of Fr. Robert Two Bulls and the care of an ELCA pastor is again holding regular services. I made an official visit to St. John's in July. The Church of the Good Shepherd in Sioux Falls is also experiencing significant and sustained growth.

(Continued on page 5)



## Brookings Church wins awards

**T**he ABLE (Ability, Belief, Leadership and Equality) Award is presented by the Mayor and City of Brookings to recognize groups who work on accessibility projects that benefit the whole community.

This year it was presented to **St. Paul's Episcopal Church** on September 27 for their elevator renovation project.

Part of the award was for handicapped accessibility. St. Paul's also received recognition from the Brookings Historic Preservation Commission for sensitively blending the new construction of the elevator into the historic St. Paul's architecture.



## Bless the tigers

**O**ctober 4 is the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. Many churches have Blessing of the Animals services on or around that date. The Rector of the Episcopal Church in Watertown has a passion for God's wild creatures in zoos and humane societies, and regularly holds an Animal Blessing at the zoo. **The Rev. Jackie Bernacchi** writes,

"I normally don't write about tigers...but Tika was a special case. Tika was one of the magnificent creatures we blessed last year at the zoo. He was already ailing, so we also prayed for his health. He passed in August, and I was invited to speak at his memorial and give a blessing (at the zoo). There were about 100 people there to mourn his passing. I hope God was praised and Tika's memory honored."

Tika: To God's glory

I was honored to be one of the many people to speak at Tika's memorial. I remember the great tiger from the ecumenical blessing of animals in October, 2011. He was ailing even then, so the blessing included healing prayers. His regal gaze and that purr will never leave my mind.

I find it humbling and prayerful to remember Tika. To me, the work of creation always points back to the Creator in praise, thanksgiving and wonder. God is ultimately honored. Tika's life is testimony to the importance of preserving and caring for that which God so graciously gave to us.

Giving thanks for Tika's life and all that he taught us is easy. Our asking a blessing for him and his memory, and the future of good stewardship that his life inspires is nothing new - for our God, *his God*, blessed him and called him good from the beginning for all the days of his life.

The great prophet Isaiah articulated a vision of a fully reconciled earth - lions with lambs, children playing safely near snakes. Was that another Eden? Was it paradise? I cannot be sure, but I know there is no vision of heaven in our Bible that does not include animals. I would not want to know one that would not include Tika.

Therefore, I offer this prayer...

Dear Heavenly Father, God, Creator, we praise and thank you for the magnificent life of your creature, *your tiger*,

Tika. We ask that all who miss him be comforted. Lord, help humanity to care properly for all of your creation. We ask a blessing on the place where Tika lived as it honors the memory of Tika's earthly journey with dignity, education and kindness.

Sweet God, now that the care of Tika has returned to you, let him know that we wish for him to run free in the house of the Lord.

Bless you Tika and thank you. Amen.



## Christian Cats & Canines

**W**e love our pets. They add so much joy to our lives and are a wonderful example of unconditional love. They also might have quirky personalities and maybe even—spiritual sides.

Do Episcopalians have an extra-special relationship with their pets? Maybe.....maybe not.....but let's explore it.



Introducing Matthew John "Mattie" Paulis, one of 3 cats tended by the **Rev. Marion Paulis** of **Christ Church, Milbank**. Even fast asleep, Mattie can sense when Marion opens her Prayer Book for Morning Prayer or Bible for sermon preparation. He's on it (literally) in a flash!

Photos of your church-attending or prayer-partner pets are welcome.



### Robes available!

**E**mmanuel Church, Rapid City, has 14 robes they'd love to pass on. They have been used as choir robes and are in very good shape. They would be good for choir, lay readers or acolytes. Each is an oatmeal color and has a white rope tie.

Contact Emmanuel in Rapid City (605-342-0909) or call JoAnn at 341-4700 if you are interested or have any questions.

## Lay Leader Training and Refresher Course

Saturday November 17, 2012

1:00—4:00 PM

Bishop Jones Center, Mission SD

The focus of this training session will be the Lectionary and the Book of Common Prayer.

For more information and/or to sign up, contact

The Rev. Annie Henninger

Rosebud East Episcopal Mission

105 E. 12th Street

Gregory, SD 57533

605-835-8144 218-343-8610 (c)

jahenninger@msn.com



## Church rededicated

**O**n Sunday, September 23, 2012, Bishop Tarrant rededicated **Holy Name Episcopal Church**, Fort George, on the Lower Brule Reservation.



(Bishop's Address—Continued from page 2)

There are challenges; there are opportunities. There is disappointment; there is hope. God continues to bless us.

This summer Sam Adams, our intern on Rosebud Mission, told me he wanted to begin the discernment process about a call to the priesthood. As he reflected he said he would often think, "What business do I have thinking I should be a priest?"

I could relate to Sam's question. I mean come on, what business do I have thinking I can be a bishop? What business do we have thinking that we can transform the way ministry is done in South Dakota or create an effective lasting intentional community at the Bishop Hare Center, or what business do we have thinking that we can pull off hosting an international gathering in just eight months? And certainly, what business do we have in thinking we can raise the funds to engage in all these ministries at the same time? We have no business to think we can accomplish any of this, because it is not our business, it is God's business.

We are about the business of God. This is God's work we are doing. Not because we are great or special or better than anyone else, but because God has called us to do God's work. God has called us to be the church of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, to lay behind some things that seem familiar and to embrace the unknown. It is a difficult time to be a leader in your churches; it is an uncertain time to be a leader in your churches; it is an exciting time to be a leader in your churches.

God has called us to trust, to trust that our direction is true. God has called us to trust that we can learn what we do not yet know, to trust that we will have enough. We are to trust that God working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.



## Fun Facts from Convention

1. The Convention Offering from the Saturday Eucharist was \$1,070.70—designated for the Taizé gathering next May.
2. The M&M containers collected on Saturday netted \$519.31 toward Niobrara youth—contributions continue to come in and are welcome at any time.
3. You contributed \$217.53 via the UTO blue boxes on the tables.
4. Registration fees and Hospitality donations almost entirely paid for Convention expenses.
5. 175 people signed in at convention—46 were Clergy Delegates; 104 were Lay Delegates—and at least 195 ate lunch.

## LOST & FOUND

### At Diocesan Convention.....

1. Green stole
2. 1982 Hymnal, red. Bookplate says it was given in memory of Margaret Gallo and it contains several sheets of favorite prayers and meditations.

Yours? Please let us know in the Diocesan Office and we'll return it to you.

## Black Hills Deanery deserve thanks

**THANK YOU** to the Black Hills Deanery, hosts for this convention, for the excellent cookies, unlimited behind-the-scenes assistance, and for coordinating much of the convention worship. They were as hospitable as anyone can be, miles from home and in an un-homelike setting. **THANK YOU** for everything.

## Formal Facts from Convention

1. An amendment to Diocesan Constitution, Article VII, Section 1 was approved by two successive meetings of the Annual Convention and the Constitution therefore now allows up to two deacons to serve terms on Standing Committee at any time.  
  
7.1 “The Standing Committee shall consist of eight members made up of four confirmed adult communicants of this Church in good standing and four canonically resident members of the clergy, of which no more than two shall be deacons.”
2. **The Rev. Margaret Watson** (Cheyenne River Mission) and **Jan Sanford** (Grace, Madison) were elected to 4 year terms on the Standing Committee. Outgoing members, the Rev. George Parmeter and Carol Traversie, are thanked for their past service on Standing Committee.
3. A \$1,616,871 diocesan budget was approved.

## To pray unceasingly . . .

**I**n his address to convention, Bishop Tarrant spoke of the uncertain and uncomfortable, yet exciting, times and changes in the Church—needing leaders and doers and pray-ers. He asked for an on-going commitment to prayer.

As needs and projects develop, the prayers will change. New requests will be communicated via mail, email, website, etc.

To start, please pray for:

- The person God is calling to serve the Rosebud Mission to hear and heed that call.
- Pine Ridge Taize event, May 24-27, 2013
- Rosebud Young Adult Intentional Community
- Youth Ministry Project on the Standing Rock Mission

## Travel Journal of a Convention Delegate

**T**his year was my second as a delegate to Diocesan Convention. I had the opportunity to interact with people from across the Diocese and enjoy our community of Episcopalians.

My journey started Friday morning. I rode with Evelyn Thayer (wife of Father Charles Thayer). I especially enjoyed our visit, as I have known their grandsons since they were both small boys. I even taught the boys at Vacation Bible School. We arrived late morning, so I took an extended walk along the river, and relished God's handiwork.

We spent much of our meeting time hearing about exciting projects happening around the diocese, most involving young people. Of course there was a presentation on TEC's successful year. There was information regarding the Rosebud Young Adult Intentional Community and Standing Rock Youth Program. There was discussion of the upcoming Taizé gathering, and also an update on the Rebuilding South Sudan project.

Our Eucharist included a Lakota translation of the Sanctus, composed by TEC's high school campers. Fundraising to make the Standing Rock Youth program permanent continues. Women from that community have made and sold star quilts to support this effort. I admire the time and effort put into these beautiful works of art, several of which hung around the main gathering room. The Bishop also gave containers of M&Ms, with the request we fill the empty containers with change (or checks). These funds will become the seed money for an endowment for Niobrara Youth. The process of endowing the youth programs on the Reservations could take years, but I believe God is on our side in this important task, and we will continue to be blessed.

Residents of the Rosebud Intentional Community enthusiastically introduced themselves. The Taizé gathering promises to bring many young people to our Diocese. Our work in South Sudan, which now helps to educate hundreds of children, is expanding. Moses will soon return there to build the Mama

*(Continued on page 7)*

(Journal—Continued from page 6)

Myrna Medical Clinic, which will help provide safer childbirth, pre- and post-natal care, and keep the community healthier.

I look forward to hearing more about these programs, and watching how they develop. The Spirit is indeed at work through the people of South Dakota.

The experience of Convention would not be the same without exploring the exhibit tables. Many beautiful crafts and quilts raised funds for excellent causes. And Convention would not be the same without seeing what color shoes Barney wears to his budget presentation!

I chose the Anti-Racism Task Force presentation for my Saturday afternoon workshop. Sam Robertson

explained that teaching young Lakota/Dakota people their own history will help to process and heal generational grief. Historical examples were expounded upon, including the Dakota War of 1862, and the involvement of Sam's family in the conflict. The audience was able to express concerns and tell stories at the close of the session. I am eager to learn more and am pleased to share that similar presentations will be given around the state in the coming months. I wish I could have been a fly on the wall for at least two other workshops, but alas, it was time to head home.

I wish to thank the people of Calvary Cathedral for providing me this opportunity to serve them, and the Diocese.

Sincerely,  
Erin Rath, Calvary Cathedral

## 2013 Liturgical eCalendar!

**D**eveloped to be easily integrated into your Windows or Mac calendar system - as well as your mobile device - the *Liturgical eCalendar* provides easy access to the appointed Episcopal lectionary readings and proper liturgical colors for 2013.

Simply download the eCalendar then import it into iCal, Outlook, Google calendar, or other standards compliant calendar program, to have access to the information you need to organize the liturgical year without need for a separate planning program.

If you'd like to take this convenient new planning technology for a trial run before heading into the new year, a 2012 edition is also available now for instant download at a reduced price.

Liturgical eCalendar 2013	Liturgical eCalendar 2012
\$9.99 846863019694	\$1.99 846863019687



## Online Advent Calendar

**T**he Episcopal Church Office of Communication has partnered with SSJE (Society of Saint John the Evangelist) to create an online Advent Calendar. The calendar will go live on December 2<sup>nd</sup> on the Church Office's IAmEpiscopalian Pinterest board, and will provide a word, a beautiful image and a meditation specifically chosen for each day in Advent. See the calendar now at <http://pinterest.com/iamepiscopalian/advent-calendar/>

The word and meditations come from SSJE's short daily devotional *Brother, Give Us A Word*. In the face of the shopping countdown to Christmas the calendar offers a way for people to fill up with meaning and at the end have a feast of images to enjoy.

If you haven't yet had the opportunity to subscribe by email to the daily word at *Brother, Give Us A Word*, you can do so at any time by visiting [www.ssje.org/word](http://www.ssje.org/word) or via Twitter (@SSJEWord). A few moments each morning to ponder the word's meaning can bring peace and inspiration to the rest of your day.

Today's the day to be inspired! Visit *Brother, Give Us A Word* now to start receiving the daily word in your inbox and take a look at the Advent Calendar on Pinterest to start pondering the many ways in which this valuable (and free) resource can add depth and meaning to your Advent practices.

## Diocesan ECW News

**I**t was a very successful annual meeting in Pierre on September 21. We had 30 people in attendance! Way to go!! This was a great turnout of ladies who provided provocative, thoughtful, reflective, and, yes, humorous comments to enhance our mission agenda and guidance for our future outreach endeavors.

We started the day with two very informative and entertaining programs: a presentation on South Dakota stained glass windows by Dr. Barbara Johnson followed by a presentation on the South Sudan (Moses) Project by Rhonda Morse. Our annual project this past year focused on raising funds for the hiring of teachers in South Sudan. This outreach fundraising effort closed the end of September; however, if you are still holding funds in support of this project, please forward them to the Diocese ECW Treasurer, Gloria Pearson, 447 Rolling Hills Drive, Yankton, SD 57078.

### 2013 Outreach Project

Our next outreach project will be dedicated to assisting a congregational need in the South Dakota Diocese. Applicants should identify a pressing need and send a letter to the ECW President, Bonnie Walker, 13294 Carson Court, Piedmont, SD 57769 containing the following information: project name, project location, requesting religious organization (church name, location, etc.), and papers itemizing the cost estimate of the project.

Deadline for applications is April 1, 2013 (no foolin!) and a selection will be made at the Spring ECW meeting on April 27, 2013. Fundraising for this outreach project will run from October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013.

### Website

The Diocesan ECW now has its very own pages on the SD Diocese website ([www.diocesed.org](http://www.diocesed.org)) which you may access through the heading of "Other Ministries." Our bylaws and meeting minutes are posted there, and you will also find contact information for all of our officers and chairpersons. We owe this evolutionary (and revolutionary) feat to our com-

puter expert Scott Moseley who worked tireless hours with Secretary Char Clark to assist us with our technology advancement! If you have any suggestions or recommendations for this site, please contact Char at her e-mail address: [ivanchar@rushmore.com](mailto:ivanchar@rushmore.com). For those of you not having access to computers, you may access the website through computers at your local library. Visit your library.... check out a book (or two)...and check out the website!

### Honored Woman

We received two nominations for the 2013 Honored Woman and because both ladies were equally distinguished, members present decided to honor BOTH women. It is with great pleasure that the SD Diocesan ECW declares the 2013 Honored Women to be **Marjorie Gross** from Christ Episcopal Church in Yankton and **June Comstock** from Christ Episcopal Church in Milbank. Congratulations to both ladies whose biographies will appear in a future edition of the *SD ChurchNews*.

Many thanks to Inez Harris and Elizabeth Campbell for preparing a shadow box display of crosses that have been given out at the triennial ECW meetings throughout the years. These ladies collected all of the crosses worn since this tradition began. The shadow box display was presented to the National ECW President at the recent ECW Triennial meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU AND GOD BLESS YOUR WORK!

President Bonnie Walker  
([bonwalker@rap.midco.net](mailto:bonwalker@rap.midco.net))

### Next meeting: ECW Spring Meeting

April 27, 2013

Al's Oasis in Oacoma

11:00 am program

noon lunch

1:00 pm meeting.



## United Thank Offering grant applications to be available in January

*Change in timeline announced*

**T**he United Thank Offering Board announced a change in the timeline for grant applications for 2013. Grant applications will be accepted only online from January 1, through February 28, 2013

Since applications require approval by our diocesan UTO committee, and the selected application requires the bishop's endorsement, the diocesan deadline for submission of COMPLETED applications is FEBRUARY 8, 2013.

Known worldwide as UTO, the United Thank Offering grants are awarded for projects that address human needs and help alleviate poverty, both domestically and internationally within Anglican provinces, dioceses, and companion dioceses.

Interested applicants may review the grant criteria and changes online beginning November 1 at <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/uto>

Grant applications will be reviewed in March for compliance followed by review by UTO Board members. The UTO Board Granting Session and Board Meeting will be held in May; grant awards and declinations will be announced in June.

Important information for applying for the grants:

- one application may be submitted by each diocese of the Episcopal Church, with diocesan bishop approval;
- one application may be submitted by a U.S. diocese of the Episcopal Church on behalf of an overseas Companion Diocese (the Companion relationship may be formal or informal), with approval by both diocesan bishops;
- one application may be submitted by invited provinces of the Anglican Communion, with approval by the Archbishop or Primate or Provincial Secretary and, if applicable, the diocesan bishop

The United Thank Offering awarded funds are the Ingatherings/funds/contributions received through the Blue Box offerings; offerings of change made by Episcopalians throughout the church.

UTO's tag line is "Our Change Changes Lives."

\*\*Grants that focus on changing lives and changes communities receive priority in granting decisions.

South Dakota giving to date:

2012 UTO REPORT		
Church Name	City	2012 TOTAL
St. Paul's	Brookings	271.36
St. John's	Deadwood	79.75
Grace Church	Huron	191.79
St. Mary's	Mitchell	10.00
Trinity	Pierre	82.00
Emmanuel	Rapid City	760.17
St. Andrew's	Rapid City	513.27
Calvary Cathedral	Sioux Falls	50.00
Trinity	Winner	52.34
Christ Church	Yankton	469.52
St. Peter's	Ft. Pierre	100.00
St. Luke's	Hot Springs	35.00
Grace Church	Madison	144.16
Christ Church	Milbank	67.00
Church of Jesus	Rosebud	51.81
St. Mary's	Old Agency	92.19
Diocesan Convention		217.53
Individual Donations		50.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>3,237.89</b>
Balance Forward		15.00
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>3,252.89</b>

Past Giving:

2004	11,851.24	2008	7,796.56
2005	9,825.74	2009	10,264.30
2006	7,358.23	2010	7,766.35
2007	11,590.79	2011	9,277.65

UTO has been very generous to the Diocese of South Dakota over the past years. There is still time in 2012 to give generously back. Send checks to the Diocesan Office.

## Niobrara School for Ministry Registration

Mail this information to:

Pat Woolley, NSM Registrar  
590 W. 9th  
Winner, SD 57580-2406

Or—Call her @ 605-842-2033

Or—Email her: dsdmsm@me.com

Or—Register online at [www.diocesesd.org](http://www.diocesesd.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #'s \_\_\_\_\_

Registering for:

Course Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Fees & Expenses:

Classes are \$15 per day plus any text book cost (TBA)

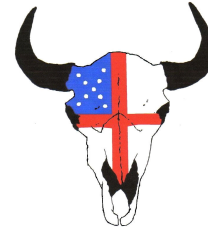
Payment method: \_\_\_\_\_

### Schedule Niobrara School for Ministry 2012-2013

**\*Contact Pat Woolley to register  
(dsdmsm@me.com).  
(605-842-2033).**

Nov 2-3	Dakota Experience (East)
Nov 16-17	Exploring the Pentateuch
Jan 11-12	Major & Minor Prophets
Apr 12-13	Wisdom Literature
June 2-7	Summer Seminary

NIOBRARA SCHOOL FOR MINISTRY



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF  
SOUTH DAKOTA

## GRACE HAPPENS

"If I go down to hell..."

**O**f all the horrors of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century the Nazi Holocaust of the Jews, gypsies and homosexuals stands out above all others. Yet even in the midst of those unspeakable crimes, some people acted with incredible grace, refusing to lose their God-given humanity. One of those was a young Dutch woman, **Esther "Etty" Hillesum**. An aspiring writer, she kept a diary from March 1941 to October 1942. After that her letters continue her story until 7 September 1943 when she was placed on a train to Auschwitz.

Etty was an "assimilated" Jew, educated and fully participating in the intellectual world in which she lived. When she began her diary she was living a rather unconventional lifestyle maintaining simultaneous relationships with two older men. She was also thoughtful, introspective and growing spiritually. As the Nazi noose tightened around the Jews in Holland, Etty's spiritual life matured. She found God deep within herself and God became her center. In places her diary becomes an extended prayer and conversation with God.

With the other Jews, Etty was forced into the Amsterdam ghetto and then sent to Westerbork, a camp where Dutch Jews were gathered before being shipped by train to Auschwitz. Her diary reveals that she knew exactly what her fate would be, yet she still asserted the beauty and meaning of life, and she was thankful for goodness she saw in her friends and the world around her. She wrote, "...it is our complete destruction they want. But let us bear it with grace."

She was allowed out of the camp at times to go to Amsterdam with messages for family, friends and she even smuggled some to the resistance. Despite knowing what lay ahead she always wanted to return to Westerbork to give what help she could to the people there.

Etty described life in Westerbork and the terrible suffering of the people around her, yet she refused to hate all Germans. Indeed she sympathized with some young German soldiers. On the same day she could write both, "We are moving toward our destruction..." and "...German soldiers suffer also. There are no frontiers between suffering people, and we must pray for them all." Her desire to avoid hate was not naive; she wrote, "...the absence of hatred in no way implies the absence of moral indignation."

The most amazing thing about Etty was that when friends offered to help her escape, she refused to do it. She knew that if she escaped someone else would be taken to Auschwitz in her place. She would not do anything to hasten another person's death.

On the day she was transported to Auschwitz a friend wrote that she went to the station "...smiling, a kind word for everyone..., full of sparkling humor, perhaps just a touch of sadness..." Her final written words she put on a post card to a friend which she threw from the train. Farmers found it and posted it. On it she wrote, "We left the camp singing." That surely was something Etty inspired.

Etty Hillesum died at Auschwitz on Nov. 30, 1943. She was 29 years old.



Etty Hillesum

The faith and love that Etty bore though the horror and degradation of the holocaust testify to the power of God's grace. In her, God's kingdom became real in the very face of hell thus fulfilling the words of Psalm 139, "If I go down to hell, you are there also."

Etty's writings were first published in 1981 and are available now in [An Interrupted Life and Letters From Westerbork](#) published by Henry Holt Company in 1996.

© 2012 the Rev. Fred Jessett

*Before he returned to school this fall, Sam Adams submitted this article on the Rosebud Young Adult Community, but it missed the deadline for Sept issue. It is included in this issue for your information.*

## Prayer, Listening, Hospitality

**A**fter about two years in germination and almost three months planning and preparing on the ground, the Rosebud Young Adult Intentional Community will move into the Brokenleg House at the Bishop Hare Center in Mission this Fall. It has been an exciting and challenging summer, and we are very excited to see how God leads the intentional community in the coming year.

After spending the month of June by myself, I was joined by Brittany Salisbury of Sioux Falls and Mikayla Dunfee of Rapid City for July and August. Seminarian Portia Hurney from Pierre also came out for about two weeks in early July to help us think through the vision, structure, and rule for the community. Brittany and I will be leaving at the end of August to return to school, but Mikayla will spend the whole year out here, accompanied by Kieran Conroy (originally from New York, but more recently from Omaha, NE). Together they will comprise the first “class” of community members, and will continue to work out some of the questions and issues still remaining regarding internal community life and engagement with the Rosebud Reservation community.

There is still a lot of ambiguity regarding some of the specifics of this intentional community, but we believe that they will be resolved in due time as the community anchors itself in the virtues of prayer, listening, and hospitality in order to engage the wider community in a spirit of humility that will lead to reconciliatory relationships between native and non-native people in South Dakota.

The Rosebud Young Adult Intentional Community will be marked by three main virtues: prayer, listening, and hospitality. These virtues are meant to help

us cultivate a posture of humility that will enable the community to truly love and serve its neighbors. Prayer helps us realize and express our utter dependence on God for wisdom, patience, mercy, and love in every action or inaction we undertake. Listening helps us embody the conviction that we have much to learn and that it would be sinfully presumptuous and prideful to assume that we know best how to love and serve our neighbors before knowing them. Hospitality helps us cultivate an openness to the other. It is an exercise in getting outside of ourselves and learning to recognize and affirm the image of God in every person we come into contact with, no matter who they are. It is a very practical exercise in laying aside our own inclinations, desires, and conveniences for the sake of the other.

It has been incredibly fun and interesting to explore what it will look like to practice these virtues at the Bishop Hare Center and in the Rosebud Reservation community. As for prayer, the community has been and will continue to be praying at the St. James Chapel

at the Bishop Hare Center three times a day every day (at 8:00 am, 5:30 pm, and 9:00 pm...all are welcome anytime!). This rhythm of daily prayer is in many ways the foundation of the community’s daily activities.

There were over twenty short-term mission groups that stayed at the Bishop Hare Center this spring and summer, either in the Jones Building, in Barbour Hall, or in the Brokenleg House. The intentional community helped to host these groups this summer, and will take over responsibility for scheduling and hosting them in the future. This will be a significant aspect of the community’s practice of hospitality, and our hope is that these groups will in years to come be able more fully to participate in the intentional community’s ongoing life through joining in prayer and learning with the community how better to listen and to show and receive hospitality.

*(Continued on page 13)*



**Brokenleg House**

It might be said that if the intentional community had an agenda or purpose for its presence on the reservation, it would be to learn how to give up one's preconceived agenda and to learn how to truly listen to people in the surrounding community. In this sense, the virtue of listening pervades everything the community does. Being iconically expressed in an extended period of silence during prayer, the community is seeking to cultivate a quietness and receptivity of spirit in order to better listen to God, each other, and neighbors in the surrounding community.

While this intentional community is still in its embryonic stages in many ways, I am incredibly excited to see where God leads as we pursue the virtues of prayer, listening, and hospitality on the Rosebud Reservation. This project has at times been very difficult to talk about, as often the first question people ask is "What are you doing here?" It may be difficult to envision practically, but praying, listening, and being hospitable is actually what this community aims to be doing. Our belief is that this is a holy calling, one that we are all called to as followers of Christ, and that we hope will pave the way for transformation and reconciliation in our own lives and in the lives of those we meet. Feel free to join us in spirit as we pray, listen, and show hospitality, for the sake of the gospel and the flourishing of all communities in South Dakota. And if you're ever in Mission, stop by the Brokenleg House. We'd love to see you!

—Sam Adams

## A Mission in Mission

**T**here are two initiatives under way that can help us to build community within our Episcopal family across the state. The first is the development of the Rosebud Young Adult Intentional Community and the second is a huge, international Taizé event coming to Pine Ridge over Memorial Day weekend in 2013.

**#1. The Rosebud Young Adult Intentional Community** was founded over the summer of 2012 as a part of a joint project of the Episcopal Diocese and the Lutheran (ELCA) Synod of South Dakota. The young adults living in this home owned by the Episcopal Diocese seek to be "a humble, relational presence among our Lakota neighbors, inspired by the

self-giving, hospitable way of Jesus."

There are multiple goals associated with this project. If we want this intentional community to succeed, prosper and become self-sufficient, they will need our support – please pray for these young people and their ministry. I would also suggest that through this project, **we will build stronger community and relationships within our congregations, cities and towns, and across the Diocese.**

One supportive project for the intentional community is to make repairs to the Noah Brokenleg house, where the young people will live. On October 19-21, a group from Calvary Cathedral made a "Mission in Mission" trip to do repairs to the roof, walls, ceilings, bathrooms, siding, and electricity. Other work weekends will be scheduled as needed. Your donation of funds, materials, or labor can help to make this a place of welcome and support for visiting mission groups and the Rosebud community.

Quoting Bishop Tarrant, "Just because you can't do everything doesn't mean that you shouldn't do something."

**#2.** Participating together in the renovation of the Intentional Community home can help us also to prepare for the second big event: The **International Taizé Gathering at Pine Ridge** over Memorial Day weekend of 2013. Thousands from all over the world will gather to praise God! The Taizé community is made up of over a hundred brothers representing Catholic and Protestant Communities from over 30 nations. This community is known for their work for peace, cross-cultural prayer and understanding and reconciliation between divided Christians and separated peoples.

The idea and opportunity is to serve in love and prepare for an amazing spiritual experience, and much preparation goes into the details of hosting such an event. If you have any ideas, questions, donations (tax deductible) or want to volunteer or know more, please feel free to contact

Mary Dobier-Soukup  
Calvary Cathedral, Sioux Falls  
marysoukup@sio.midco.net  
605-201-2926.

## Finland Taizé

A small contingent of South Dakota and Minnesota Episcopalians recently traveled to Finland to take part in one of the Taizé community's Pilgrimage of Trust gatherings – very much like the one we will host on Pine Ridge in May 2013.

The group included

- The Rev. Rita Powell (Vermillion)
- Tyrone White (Cheyenne River)
- Micheal Two Bulls (Pine Ridge)
- The Rev. Bob Two Bulls (Dioc of Minnesota)
- Ritchie Two Bulls (Diocese of Minnesota)
- Ashley Harrison (Leech Lake band of Ojibwe)
- Mikayla Dunfee (Intentional Community, Rosebud).

The seven were first welcomed by Brs. Stephen and Norbert (Taizé) and a number of native Finns to Ivalo in Lapland, home of the indigenous Sámi people. The “pilgrims” created new friendships among the Sámi through shared cultural discourse and the Sámi’s abundant hospitality. Stops in Lapland included a high school, a protestant Sámi church and prayer service, a Skalt Sámi orthodox chapel and prayer, a hike, a boat tour of sacred Sámi cites, a Sámi museum, and a higher education institute for the preservation and education of Sámi culture.

After filling up on the glorious nature of the North, the pilgrims headed south for the official Taizé gathering in Helsinki. Prayers took place in the Helsinki Lutheran Cathedral and Helsinki Orthodox



Cathedral. The highlight perhaps for our small group lay in the presentation by Tyrone, Michael, and Ashley about their respective tribal cultures to an inquisitive Scandinavian audience.

The opportunity for this tremendous trip arose out of an interest to continue to build relationships between the Lakota culture and the ecumenical monastic community of Taizé, France. Though perhaps a different setting, the spirit of Br. Roger’s vision, was very much present—as it undoubtedly will be in May at Pine Ridge.

Mikayla Dunfee  
Rosebud Intentional Community



**DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE A WEEKLY UPDATE ON TAIZÉ-PINE RIDGE PREPARATIONS?**

Send your e-mail address to Tom !!!  
Thomas.Emanuel @usd.edu

**Do you know a South Dakota high school student or group who would like to be a part of Taizé-Pine Ridge 2013?**

Send a note to Pastor Steve Miller who is coordinating the Official High School Presence at the weekend!

TaizePineRidge2013@uccvermillion.org

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Bishop's visitation & travel  
dates in bold letters

# Diocesan Calendar

## NOVEMBER

Nov 1    Begin Season of Thanksgiving  
**Nov 1    Bishop & Dean Simpson at All Saints (Waterford)**  
 Nov 2-3    Dakota Experience, Sioux Falls  
**Nov 4    Bishop visits Good Shepherd, SF**  
 Nov 9-11    Trinity Institute @ Cathedral  
**Nov 9-10    Niobrara Council, Batesland**  
**Nov 11    Bishop visits Emmanuel, RC**  
 Nov 12    Diocesan Office closed  
**Nov 12-15    Bishop meeting in St. Louis**  
**Nov 17    Diocesan Council meeting**  
 Nov 16-17    Niobrara School (Pentateuch)  
**Nov 17-18    Bishop visits Aberdeen**  
**Nov 20-28    Bishop vacation**  
 Nov 22-23    Diocesan Office closed

## DECEMBER

**Dec 1    Bishop visits Tiospaye Wakan, SF**  
**Dec 9    Bishop visits Yankton**  
 Dec 10    *ChurchNews* deadline  
**Dec 16    Bishop visits Holy Apostles, SF**  
 Dec 25    Diocesan Office closed

## JANUARY

Jan 1    Diocesan Office closed  
**Jan 6    Bishop visits Grace, Huron**  
**Jan 13    Bishop visits St. Andrew's, Rapid**  
 Jan 21    Diocesan Office closed  
**Jan 27    Bishop visits St. Paul's, Brookings**

## FEBRUARY

**Feb 3    Bishop visits Belle Fourche**  
 Feb 8    Deadline to submit UTO grant apps to Dioc Office  
**Feb 9-10    Bishop visits Mni Sose Cluster**  
 Feb 10    *ChurchNews* deadline  
 Feb 13    Ash Wednesday, Lent begins  
**Feb 17    Bishop visits St. Paul's, Vermillion**  
 Feb 18    Diocesan Office closed  
**Feb 24    Bishop visits Watertown**

## MARCH

Mar 1    Parochial Reports due  
**Mar 7-13    House of Bishops**  
**March 17    Bishop visits Pierre**  
 Mar 31    Easter Sunday



## Episcopal Church Facts and Figures

**N**ew facts and figures about membership in the Episcopal Church have been posted on the Research page: [www.episcopalchurch.org/research](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/research)

Among the facts:

- In 2011, membership in the Episcopal Church is 2,096,389 with 1,923,046 in the domestic (50 US states) dioceses and 173,343 in the non-domestic (non US states) dioceses.
- 27 domestic dioceses showed growth in membership\* in the past year: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Dallas, Fort Worth, Maine, Maryland, Navajo Missions, Nevada, North Carolina, Northern Michigan, Northwest Texas, Oklahoma, Pittsburgh, Quincy, South Carolina, **South Dakota**, Southeast Florida, Southwestern Virginia, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Washington, West Tennessee, West Missouri, Wyoming.
- In the non-domestic dioceses, growth in membership was marked in 6 dioceses: Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador-Litoral, Puerto Rico, Taiwan, Venezuela.
- The Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) table shows a total for the Episcopal Church of 698,376, with 657,837 in the US dioceses.
- The largest active congregational membership in a domestic diocese remains St. Martin's, Houston this year marking 8,480.

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\* from Parochial report statistics

### Parochial Report out in December

**C**lergy—you are responsible for this report to be completed (by you or others) and filed by March 1, 2013. Forms will be mailed to you or your churches in December.

You can file online or let the diocesan office do it. Either way, the diocesan office needs a completed copy by March 1, 2013.

The diocese gets a great amount of financial assistance from The Episcopal Church. The least we can do is file their reports as requested. If you have questions, the Diocesan Office can help.

***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.