



CROSSTOWN

February 2009

At the foot of the cross in downtown St. Petersburg

Look Around: This Is What Hope Looks Like

The Very Rev. Stephen B. Morris, Dean

In his last published work, *The Hopeful Heart*, John Claypool wrote: "hope is utterly essential for the well-being of our particular species. What breath is to the physical body, hope is to the human spirit. Hope is what animates us. It is the fuel that energizes us, gets us up in the morning, and propels us through the day."

Have you ever held hope in such high regard? Do you consider it the fuel that moves you through each day? Do you believe that you cannot live without it?

Think about people you have known who seemed to have lost all hope. In *A Sacred Journey*, Frederick Buechner reveals the story of his father's suicide. His father, like three generations prior, grad-

uated from Princeton University and showed great promise that he, too, would be successful like his own father and grandfather. However, the Great Depression came along and, as a result, he could not find and keep a job that afforded his family the lifestyle to which he had grown accustomed. He turned to alcohol as a way of coping and eventually took his own life. Years later, when people asked Buechner how his father died, he would answer, "He died of heart trouble."

An increasing number of people are losing hope in the world we live in today. Everything and everyone around us is crying out for hope. We, the followers of Jesus Christ, show the world what hope looks like within the context of commu-

nity. St. Peter's Cathedral is a hopeful sign of opportunity and growth. In our time, while construction projects elsewhere are being halted, we are erecting steel beams to create our new buildings. It is our hope, founded through our faith in Jesus, that propels us to take such life-giving risks.

Claypool observed that there is nothing simple or magical about the act of hoping, for there is always the risk of disappointment. Our hope senses the potential that exists in the realm of the real but has not been realized, and it moves toward the actualizing of these possibilities. Thank you, people of St. Peter's Cathedral, for being a living symbol of hope. We are a real sign of life in Christ, which is hope to a dying world.

Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday at the Cathedral

Shrove Tuesday

Tuesday, February 24

Pancake supper, 5 to 7 p.m.

at St. Peter's Central

All the pancakes and sausages you can eat

Free of charge!

Please RSVP to the office

(727-822-4173)

Bus service available

Burning of the Palms at 6:45 p.m.

Bring your last year's

Palm Sunday crosses

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 25

Services with imposition of ashes at 7

a.m. noon (deanery service) and

7:30 p.m.



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Please welcome longtime parishioner **Sam Tallman** in his new role as parish intern. Sam is an aspirant for the priesthood in the Diocese of Western North Carolina and is journeying through a process of discernment of his call, by both himself and the church. A five-month parish internship is a component of that process. The aspirant becomes part of the church's daily ministry, and a parish other than the sponsoring parish joins in the discernment of the call. Sam will work principally with the clergy in liturgy and worship, pastoral care, and Christian education and formation.

* * *

Join your fellow parishioners and members of other downtown churches as we try to walk in love and ministry with our homeless brothers and sisters. The next meeting of the **Celebrate Outreach** committee is at 10 a.m. Saturday, February 21, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 401 Fifth St N. Questions? Speak to John Paul, Jayme Payne, or Kip Corriveau. If you prefer e-mail, please contact us at johnpaul3@yahoo.com, japay4@hotmail.com, or kipcorriveau@yahoo.com.

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Ordering something from **amazon.com**? Please start your online shopping at our web site, www.spcathedral.net. Click on "Cathedral bookstore." We earn a percentage of the cost of every amazon.com purchase that starts at our site.

* * *

The **Friends of St. Aelred** meet at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in St. Peter's Central. Our one-hour meetings consist of devotions, sharing of news, discussion, a song, and potluck dessert. Details are available on the Cathedral website (spcathedral.net) near the end of the month for the coming meeting. This month's meeting is February 11. The meetings are open to all who want to be more involved with efforts to increase full participation of gays and lesbians in the church. For more information, contact Rick Waterman at

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New Building Reaches Skyward!

Our construction site is a busy place these days. The elevator towers have been built, and a crane was moved onto the site the second week of January. You should be seeing real progress week by week. Our timetable is that the shell will be completed by August. Interior work will take the rest of the year.

We are working with leasing agents from Osprey Real Estate Services to find tenants for the third floor and half the second floor. For leasing purposes it helps to give the building a name, so temporarily we are referring to it as Park West.

The building is now budgeted at \$6.4-million, and it will take another \$1.3-million to outfit it with fixtures, furnishings, and equipment.



SHEREE GRAVES

Two elevator towers have been completed on the building site and soon the rest of the building will rise to meet them.

Budget for 2009: A Tough Balancing Act

Blanton Garnett and Susan Churuti

This year will be "a year of hard decisions," Dean Morris said recently, and a review of the 2009 budget illustrates what he means.

We anticipate pledges and contributions of \$643,000, down from the \$667,011 we took in during 2008.

To balance our budget we are assuming that sales of columbarium niches will yield income to the Cathedral of \$150,000, which will bring our total general-fund income to \$848,000. The sale of each niche involves a \$2,000 tax-free gift to the church. If we sell fewer niches than we anticipate, our budget will be out of balance.

One piece of good budget news is that the diocese has reduced the apportionment it requires of each church from 10 percent to 8 percent. We will pay \$71,070 this year, down from \$92,596 last year.

The results of our fall pledge campaign show that as of mid-January we had received 182 pledges of \$509,405. For 2008 we received 202 pledges totaling \$564,180. (The number and amount changes from day to day as additional pledges are received, so the numbers for this year are no doubt higher as you read this.) Those figures are in line with national statistics that show fewer people are pledging more to the church.

The average pledge as of mid-January was \$2,798, up from \$2,677 last year. In 2007, the last year for which statistics are available, the average pledge in this diocese was \$1,947, and the average pledge nationally was \$2,191.

The 2009 budget shows that we expect to spend \$553,365 on personnel; \$92,800 on administration; \$51,100 on insurance; \$62,300 on plant maintenance; \$6,600 on parish relations; \$10,150 on evangelism; \$18,000 on outreach; \$1,250 on worship; \$4,350 on Christian formation; \$22,000 on music; \$35,200 on financing expenses; and \$71,070 on apportionment, for a total of \$928,185. The total is down from \$1,008,115 last year and \$1,008,332 in 2007.

Demolition of Baptist Sanctuary Okayed

Sheree Graves and Martha Goodwill

The great news this month is that the city has approved our request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to tear down the back two-thirds of the Baptist Sanctuary. That means we can proceed with our plans to create a columbarium on that site.

You won't see the wrecking ball fly immediately. We have started an asbestos survey (to see how much asbestos is in the building and where) and will then seek bids to have it removed. We have to prepare architectural drawings and obtain various other permissions from the city. We have 180 days to apply for the actual demolition permit.

Right now some of the Baptist Sanctuary exterior space is occupied by the construction trailer of the contractor for our new office building, Peter Brown. Because the sites are so tight, we have to do a little fancy footwork here and can't start to tear down the sanctuary until we have a place to move the construction trailers.

A columbarium sales office is at St. Peter's Central and information packets are available there. The phone number is (727) 388-5223. Please speak to Sheree Graves, Martha Goodwill, or Andi Gorton if you have questions or would like to schedule an appointment to learn more. The sales office rents that space from St. Peter's and pays us \$12,000 a year for it. More information is at our web site, www.citypeacegarden.com.

The cost of a niche — \$2,500 or \$3,000, depending on location — includes a \$2,000 tax-deductible donation to St. Peter's. We have figured this into the 2009 budget, so if you are thinking of buying a niche, you can provide peace of mind for yourself and your survivors while you support our operating budget.



Supporting Outreach Year-Round

Karen Amundrud, Outreach Committee

Our Outreach Ministry has created a "giving calendar." On the first Sunday of each month, we'll have the opportunity to support a particular need for a specific charity or ministry group in our community, helping adults and kids in a variety of situations. Here's the calendar; please post it prominently (we'll remind you each month!) and share your abundance.

March 1: Our Daily Bread/One Stop Center. Donation item: travel-size personal hygiene items

April 5: St. Petersburg Free Clinic; non-perishable food items.

May 3: Episcopal Church Women/United Thank Offering spring ingathering; money for UTO grants

June 7: Vacation Bible School in the Dominican Republic; school/art supplies

July 5: Brookwood Residence for Girls; items girls like (details to follow)

August 2: St. Vincent de Paul food pantry; non-perishable food items

September 6: Alpha House; baby items

October 4: Resurrection House/focus on children's literacy; children's books

November 1: ECW/UTO fall ingathering; money for UTO grants

December 6: Episcopal Relief and Development; "Gifts for Life" from the ERD catalogue; holiday gift market items made by Sunday School

Crosswinds, from page 2

tbhockeyfan@gmail.com or (727) 577-0902.

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Our **musical offerings in February** include:

- * Sunday, February 15, at 11:15 a.m.:
Haydn's Theresienmesse, #12 in B flat
- * Wednesday, February 25, at 7:30 p.m.,
music for the Ash Wednesday liturgy

* * *

Our **Sunday morning classes** resume after the 9 a.m. service February 8. Tony Gecan leads a class in Room 108 at St. Peter's Central looking at that day's Gospel. In Room 105, Vance Wegner offers a discussion group on the day's lesson, what's going on in the church, or a topic "TBA." We also offer donuts, coffee and fellowship in the atrium at St. Peter's Central after both the 7:30 and 9 a.m. services.

* * *

We're **seeking a bus driver** for the Cathedral van. This is a paid position that involves about five hours' work each week. Applicants must have a clean driving record for the last five years; no special license is required. Driver must have good personal hygiene, be capable of assisting people on and off the bus; and be friendly and courteous. Besides driving for Sunday services, applicants must be able to drive for occasional special events such as Christmas Eve, Easter vigil, parish dinners and other events after 5 p.m. Please speak to facilities manager Robbie Smith, (727) 742-4421.

* * *

Are you a morning person? The **Gospel Reflections Group** invites you to join us at 7 a.m. Tuesdays. We read the Gospel for the coming Sunday and talk about how to live it out in our own lives. No homework required, and there are no wrong answers here! We're on our way rejoicing at 8 a.m. A supportive group of friends waits to welcome you, learn from you and include you in our prayers for each other. Please speak to Don Jenkins or David Hill if you'd like to know more.

St. Peter's: A Guide

With God's help, we will welcome all people.

Weekend Worship

Saturday

5 p.m.: Holy Communion and Homily
A traditional service, no music

Sunday

7:30 a.m.: Holy Communion and Homily
A traditional service, no music

9 a.m.: Holy Communion (child-friendly) and Homily
A spirit-filled celebration, with hymns and choir

11:15 a.m.: Choral Holy Communion and Homily
A sung service with choir

6 p.m.: CAYA (Come As You Are)
*Holy Communion in the round, followed by a shared supper.
Celtic prayers and music from around the world.*



Visiting/getting in touch

Office/Parish Center: 201 Fourth St. N. (33701). Church entrance:
On Second Ave. N just west of Fourth St.

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 1581, St. Petersburg, FL 33731-1581

Telephone:

(727) 822-4173

Fax:

(727) 823-2205

E-mail:

stpetersplace@spcathedral.com

Web Site:

www.spcathedral.net

Our clergy and senior staff:

The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith, Bishop

The Very Rev. Stephen B. Morris, Dean —
sbm@spcathedral.com

The Rev. Canon Georgene Conner, Canon Evangelist —
canongigi@spcathedral.com

The Rev. Lynde E. "Ted" May IV, assisting priest

The Rev. Clyde Nabe, assisting priest

The Rev. Herbert E. Rowe, assisting priest

The Rev. Richard T. Earle III, Deacon — rearle@fishersauls.com

Samuel V. Tallman, Parish Intern

Edward Barbieri, Director of Music (Organist/Choirmaster) —
music@spcathedral.com

Pamela J. League, Administrator — pam@spcathedral.com

Monday-Friday

Morning Prayer, 9 a.m. ☞ Evening Prayer, Monday and Friday, 6 p.m.

Wednesday

Service of Healing, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Choral Evensong, 6 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Holy Communion, 12:05 p.m.

At any time after hours you have a pastoral emergency, please call our clergy on their cell phones: Dean Morris, (727) 743-1614, or Canon Conner, (727) 742-8509.

Crosstown is the newsletter of the people of St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral, published monthly for members, friends, and supporters. Editor, Judy Stark (judy Stark@yahoo.com); Associate Editor, Mary W. Matthews (mothermary@extremelysmart.com). Next deadline: March 15, 2009.

Building
consecrated
1899



St. Peter's
serving God since 1889



Cathedral
since
1969

February Transitions

Birthdays

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1 Charles Beck
Patty Hollingsworth
Bob MacDonald | 12 Marjorie Lockwood
Ray McColgan | 21 Bari Bryant
Melissa Smith |
| 2 Alberta Neathery | 14 Monnie Moore
Barbara Rex | 22 Todd Crosby |
| 4 Johnathan Ellis | 15 Elizabeth Howlett
Sally Kebler
Fred Stansbery | 23 John Ellis
Dorothy Longstaff
Marsha Wegner |
| 5 Richard Alford
Jack Wilt | 16 Adrienne Haines
Brad Hirvela
Ian Leavengood | 24 Marilyn Polson
Peter Watts |
| 6 Courtney Crosby
Kathy Hancock
Kate Munkittrick
Roberta Yancey | 17 Savanna Andrews
Emily Earle
Ed Shamas | 25 Jessica Grimshaw
Barbara Martin
Kim Parsons
Gary Slone |
| 8 Marge Boyer | 18 Jim Urban | 26 Marianne Hallas
Maxine Lee |
| 11 Alice Meyer
Kathy Paul | 19 Chris Webb | 27 Helga Andrews
Shirley Earle |
| 12 Mike Grimshaw
Pat Holly
Chris Little | 20 Bill Barlow
Pam Neves
Debbie Robinson | 28 Audrey Hamm |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 5 Neil and Susan
Savage | 14 Jack and Katie Clarke
Mario and Judith
Loehrer
Stephen and Elizabeth
Schroeder |
| 6 Michael and Carol
Piper | 19 Ron and Cynthia
Sinclair |
| 9 Bill and Beverly Lacy | |
| 10 Gary and Suzanne
Haines | |

New Member

Stephanie Wells

Death

Albert Roberts

Pancakes and Palms: Lent's inside story

Q. What's Lent?

A. Lent is the season of the church year that corresponds to the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness after his baptism in the River Jordan. The word "Lent" comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "lencten," meaning "long spring days," the lengthening days as winter turns into spring. It's a penitential season, marked by self-denial and fasting, that leads up to Easter.

Q. Why do we have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent starts? What does "shrove" mean?

A. "Shrove" is the past tense of the Old English verb "shrive," meaning to obtain absolution by confession and penance. In bygone days people would make that confession at the start of



Lent. They used up all their fats and sweets — butter, sugar, meat, eggs, dairy — in preparation for the 40 days of denial. Another name for Shrove Tuesday in "Mardi Gras," literally "Fat Tuesday," the day we eat up all those tasty treats.

Q. Why do we burn the palms on Shrove Tuesday?

A. The palms we're burning are left over from last Palm Sunday, when we waved them to welcome Jesus as he entered the city of Jerusalem on his way to his crucifixion. Their ashes will be imposed on our foreheads at Ash Wednesday services. If you've still got some palms, bring them that evening.

Q. We don't say "alleluia" in church during Lent. Why not?

A. It's a symbol of Lent as a penitential season. The children will pack up "alleluias" in a special box at the pancake supper and put them away until the Great Vigil the night before Easter.

February Movies

Eddy Burns

Here's the February film lineup. Movies are shown free at 7 p.m. Fridays at St. Peter's Central. Details about the films are on the web site (spcathedral.net) and bulletin boards.

February 6: *National Treasure* (U.S., 2004). Stealing the Declaration of Independence.

February 13: *Laura* (U.S., 1944). Otto Preminger's film-noir romance.

February 20: *The Maltese Falcon* (U.S., 1941).

Bogart, Lorre, Greenstreet, Astor, film noir at its finest.

February 27: *Up the Yangtze* (China, 2007).

Construction of a giant hydroelectric dam in China changes lives of individuals, a nation, and the world.

