

Christ Church Chronicle

Produced by the congregation of Christ Church Episcopal in Sheridan, MT

Volume 3 Issue 4

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Past, Present and Future

Deacon Janis Hansen

These are the major categories of tenses in English. Yes, lots of reluctant students of English have had to learn these, and even the more elaborate ones like present perfect, or present progressive! It is said that English holds this matter of time much more seriously than other languages. After all, tense means expressing when something happened, or was going to happen, or might have happened — remember conditional tense? Chinese doesn't work that way, but manages with other words, and expressions to convey time.

And so what? Well, on our bulletin every Sunday, we state that Ruby Valley Episcopal Churches "Inform people our past events that shape our present, and current events that shape our future." Part of informing about past events is the work of The Christ Church Legacy Group, which meets about every month.

In our meetings, we talk about the past events that have shaped our present, and we exchange some wonderful stories. Some repeatable, some not. The energy in the parish hall when we meet zooms up: we laugh, and take bunny trails, and have lunch! Folks who don't worship with us any more, or did only a little, have come with their stories. There is really something holy about what happens when these gatherings take place. It's not easy to describe, but, most importantly, it is joyful. It is celebratory; it may look like just chit-chat, but there is something more there.

There's a sweet presence among the participants, and a sense of holding reverence for the past which has shaped our present. The many hours of toil to maintain this church, and to love it became apparent in one's heart and mind as one attends these gatherings.

So, come to the next Legacy Meeting, on April 15th, and share the past, as it shapes our present!

Just come... no need to be tense about it!!



Standing: Cynthia Shackleton, Claudia Holland, Gloria Lombardi Seated: Polly Todd, Vi English, Catherine Doornbos Other attendees not in the picture: Shirley Whittaker, Rhonda Feuerstack, Deacon Jan Knox

"St. Augustine's very notion of "memory," [is] not just nostalgia for some past moment, but connecting past, present, and future in one complete contemplative knowing."

Richard Rohr



Past, Present, and Future	1
Senior Warden's Report	2
Coming Events	2
Coffee Hour Recipe	3
Humor Corner	3

Senior Warden's Report

Frank Ford

With the sometimes hesitant promise of spring in the warmer weather of the last several weeks, the Vestry has begun planning for what promises to be a busy season of maintenance and upgrades for the church property. Among the jobs being considered are internal and external work on the rectory when the current tenant leaves and the building becomes vacant between tenants early this summer. We are also hoping to replace the deteriorated flooring of the Parish hall and perhaps repaint its interior; begin work on the churchyard improvements proposed by the landscaping committee; repair the leaking flashing in the church roof and continue with the kitchen upgrades. All this and a number of lesser tasks are to be undertaken while also responding to the front yard damage we expect to result when the state reworks Sheridan's Main Street this summer. Junior Warden Don Snyder and his deputy, Dave Hansen are preparing a chart outlining all this and other proposed projects which will be displayed in the Parish Hall. We encourage you to look it over and get involved in these efforts by sharing your thoughts as well as your expertise and whatever other assets you may be able provide in furtherance of all this necessary work on our church. At the same time your Vestry is continuing to work under the leadership of Ashley Pairitz and Deacon Janis Hansen to reach out and expand our ministry to the Ruby Valley at large, particularly among the younger adults and children. We hope to make last year's highly successful community picnic an annual event, along with "Sprinklerama", game night and a number of other ecumenical avenues that are currently being explored.

Our next Vestry meeting is scheduled for after coffee hour on 13 April. As always, everyone is invited to attend and make their voice heard in managing secular affairs of Christ Church.

Coming Events

April 2 Lenten Breakfast 6:00 a.m.
Church of the Valley, Twin Bridges

April 9 Lenten Breakfast 6:00 a.m.
Notre Dame, Twin Bridges

April 18 Good Friday Stations of the Cross
11:00am, followed by service.

April 20 Easter Sunday



Cynthia and Judy busy preparing Lenten Breakfast



The community lines up for a wonderful Lenten Breakfast

The Work of the Church

In addition to the work of the Vestry, the Legacy group, and the Lenten Breakfast mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter, the people of Christ Church have been reaching out in many ways this past month.

We sponsored another family game night as part of our outreach to our community. It was great fun playing board games with young and old.

Several parishioners joined Deacon Janice at Home Park for a house blessing. Judy Burns and Polly and Dick Todd are living at Home Park Assisted Living. We had a traditional house blessing with prayers and singing accompanied by Jerry on guitar. Home Park and the residents there welcome visitors any time, so drop by for a visit.

The Woodchucks and Woodchicks continue their ministry of keeping folks warm through the Montana winter. Don't miss the great video done by Mary Frances Schjonberg of the Episcopal News Service on Father Harry and the Woodbank. The link is:

<http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/ens/2014/03/27/wood-banks-unique-ministry-warms-those-left-in-the-montana-cold/>

Coffee Hour Recipe

JJ Snyder

Prep Time: 20
Minutes

Yields: 12 servings

Cook Time: 30
Minutes

2/3 c. half-and-half cream
1/2 cup maple syrup

Ingredients:

10 c. cinnamon bread
cubes

1/2 tsp vanilla extract

1 (8 ounce) package
lowfat cream cheese,
softened

2 TBS confectioners' sugar

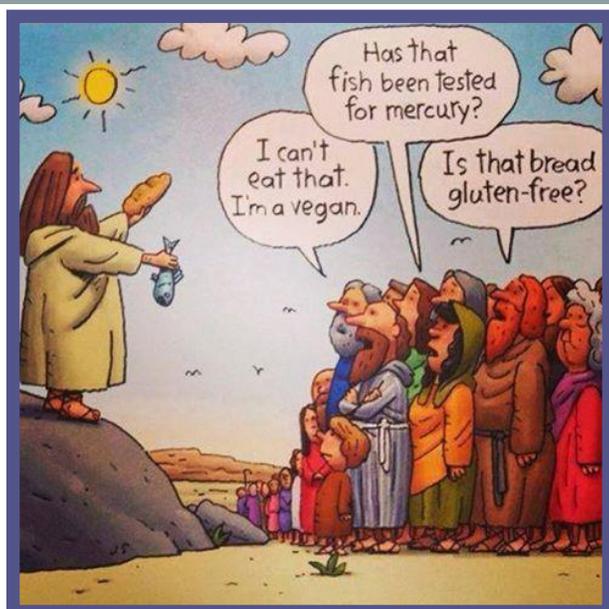
8 eggs

1 1/2 c. milk

Directions

1. Place bread cubes in a lightly greased 9x13 inch baking pan.
2. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese with an electric mixer at medium speed until smooth. Add eggs one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Stir in milk, half and half, maple syrup, and vanilla until mixture is smooth. Pour cream cheese mixture over the bread; cover, and refrigerate overnight.
3. The next morning, remove souffle from refrigerator, and let stand at room temperature for 30 minutes. Meanwhile, preheat oven to 375 degrees F
4. Bake, uncovered, for 50 minutes in the preheated oven, or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Sprinkle with confectioners' sugar, and serve warm.

Humor Corner





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INVITE people into our midst
INCLUDE people in the life of the church
INFORM people about past events that shape our present,
and current events that shape our future
PROCLAIM the gospel in thought, word and deed
REJOICE in a new life found in Christ Jesus.

Mission Statement

To be formed as the body of Christ, seeking to love and serve one another and those in need.

Vision Statement

To be Christ's continued presence in the Ruby Valley by welcoming those who seek Christ, offering varied forms of services, reflecting our diversity while maintaining our Episcopal identity.

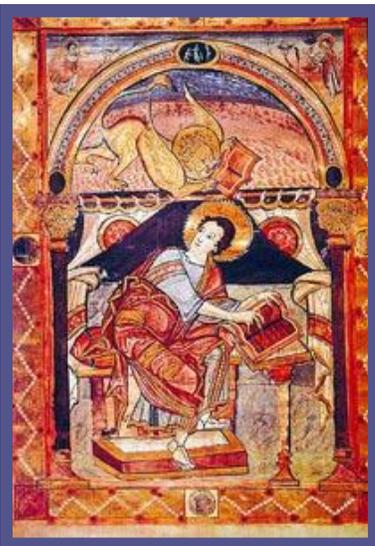
Service Leaders for April and May

Upcoming Service Leaders for April / May

6 Apr: Rev Jean McLean
13 Apr: Rev. Bruce McNab (Palm Sunday)
18 Apr: Deacon Janis Hansen (Stations of the Cross / Good Friday)
20 Apr: Rev. Jean McLean (Easter Sunday)
27 Apr: Rev Harry Neeley
4 May: Rev. Bruce McNab
11 May: Rev Harry Neeley
18 May: Rev Jean McLean *
25 May: Rev Harry Neeley

Upcoming Lectors for April / May

6 Apr: George Rich
13 Apr JJ Snyder
20 Apr: Dave Hansen
27 Apr: George Rich / Beth Wrzensinski
4 May: Kit Dale
11 May: Judy Aaker
18 May: Bill Callaway
25 May: George Rich



[St. Mark the Evangelist](#)