

# The In Touch

FEBRUARY 2012

Volume 47, Issue 2

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*Our Mission: To Seek, Know, Love and Serve Christ in all Persons and in all Creation*

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## RAMBLINGS from the Rev. . .

Once again my favorite season of the church year has arrived. And once again I'm having no chance to preach, the loss of which I'm finding painful, although I'm sure you are enjoying hearing Sam's voice instead. Once in a great while in our lives, we get to experience a true moment of epiphany, when we suddenly see something in a new light or understand something that had eluded us before. More often, such new insight comes slowly over some longer period of time, requiring many little epiphanies, and maybe even lots of reflection on our part.



The way I see Jesus, for instance, has changed a number of times over the years, but seldom has that happened in an instant. It's usually been the result of many influences and experiences over a period of time. My attitude toward prayer, however, was radically shifted in just one weekend, although it took many months to integrate that new understanding into my theological world view.

The very idea of Epiphany, of suddenly seeing something new, or in a new way, probably appeals to me too because it is used so often in literature, especially poetry. One of John Donne's poems begins, "No man is an island. . ." and ends with a funeral bell tolling, saying, "Send not to know for whom the bell tolls. It tolls for thee."

And from another poet, this one also Anglican, but 20<sup>th</sup> Century, from The Four Quartets by T.S. Eliot:

The dripping blood our only drink  
The bloody flesh our only food;  
In spite of which we like to think  
That we are sound, substantial flesh and blood,  
Again, in spite of that, we call this Friday good.

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The moments of happiness - not the sense of well-being,  
Fruition, fulfillment, security, or affection,  
Or even a very good dinner, but the sudden illumination—  
We had the experience but missed the meaning.

Sadly, this is the most common experience of Epiphany, to have the experience, but to miss the meaning. The problem is most often one of not being mindful, of not noticing, of not reflecting on your experience in order to possibly understand it. We are too busy, or too uninterested, or too surrounded by other noise to pay attention.

I'm trying to cultivate some quiet time this season and wish the same for you. Try to find some time each day to tune out the noise of our culture, our families, our immediate surroundings, and tune in to the peace of quiet, to the sound of birdsong, or the sound of ice forming/breaking on the lake, or the sound of the winter wind in the pines. Ask the Holy Spirit to be with you in the silence and then rest there.

Lynn +

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*Submitted by Jackie Guimond*

## PLACES I'VE BEEN



I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone. I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there. I have, however, been in Sane.

They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm. Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older. One of my favorite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenaline flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get!

I may have been in Continent, and I don't remember what country I was in. It's an age thing. Life is too short for negative drama & Petty things. So laugh insanely, love truly and forgive quickly!



# THE **breath** OF THE **soul**

REFLECTIONS ON PRAYER

By Joan Chittister

## 4. Discipline

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*By a long process of prayerful discipline I have ceased for over forty years to hate anybody.*

\* GANDHI

**A**t no time of day or night are we not thinking about something. The only real question is, What is it? What do I choose to ruminate about in the interstices of the day, in the dark quiet of the night? Where does my mind go when there is nowhere specific defined for it to go?

The question is an important one because its answer defines the kind of person we are choosing to become. If we scheme dark thought, however placid and positive we appear to be to others, we are darkness walking. "He was a pleasant man," people say of the felon next to whom they have lived for years. He dressed well, and went to work every day, and nodded to the neighbors. But in his heart the malice simmered and seared.

The fact is that we become what we think about. What we seed in our souls grow in us, forms us, becomes what drives us from moment to moment.

What we think about during the waking hours of the day is basic to prayer. And prayer is also basic to it. What I put into my soul is what will shape me.

Prayer intends to steep me in the thoughts of God, in the sense of the presence of God, in an openness to the will of God, in the likeness of God. To pray is to rivet my mind on the things of God. "As you sweep," our novice mistress taught us, "pray. Just say any short prayer over and over and over," she said. "Eventually it will become part of you." She forgot to say that eventually you will become it, as well.

If, on the other hand, I allow anger to take rood in the core of my spirit, let it fester in me, let it bite around the edges of my soul, concentrate on it over and over again - even though the situation that planted it is itself old and musty - whatever the irritation or inconvenience or uncertainty that piques me now, I will become anger, as well.

And, in the same way, I become jealousy. And greed. And lust. And hate. It all depends on what I feed on, what I live on, in my thought. What I immerse myself in, down deep inside of me where the soul of a person lies in wait, I will become.

But if I put in the discipline of the presence of God, I will become of God.

If I put in prayer for my enemies, if I pray to a loving God to make me loving, too, then - however many years it takes - it will happen. Then, like a drop of rain in the midst of a flood, I will become part of the heart of the world.

I must pray to become love.

***MANTRA: God, free me from my attachment to the evil of hatred.***

Before Jacob died he said to us, "You must say to Joseph: I beg you, please forgive your brothers their crime and their sin and all the wrong they did you. Now, therefore, we ask you, forgive the crime of us who are faithful to the God of your parents." Joseph wept when he heard this..."Don't be afraid; is it for me to put myself in God's place? You planned evil for me, but God planned it for the good....SO you need not be afraid." + GENESIS 50:17-22

*Submitted by Deacon Lee Grim, permission to use by Joan Chittister*



## February Birthday's



2-3-12 - Tessa Walls  
(daughter of Karen & Bill Walls,  
granddaughter of Fred & Donna Day)

2-3-12 Morgann Rud Stevens  
(daughter of Tara & Tyler Weir,  
granddaughter of Cindy Rud)

2-5-12 Neve Oettinger

(daughter of Pam Oettinger (Davison), granddaughter of  
Gary & Carolyn Davison)

2-9-12 Waiva Menefee

2-9-12 Robert Nye

2-22-12 Carolyn Davison

2-22-12 Grace O'Kane

(daughter of Heather & Matthew, granddaughter of Andy  
& Georeann Wright)

## February Anniversaries



2-11-12 Heather &  
Matthew O'Kane

2-13-12 Jon & Flossie Knutson



## Baptism

## Anniversaries

2-9-12 Dean Tveit

2-12-12 Dacota Lehman

2-23-12 Jim Davison



We need people to serve as  
acolytes, lectors, and lay  
readers, especially lay  
readers. If you can help in  
any of these areas please see  
any team member.

*Thank you*



## New Vestry Members 2012

Robert Nye - 2 yr

Karen Walls - 1 yr

Gary Davison - 2 yr

Carolyn Davison - 2 yr




Erik Strand - completed 1 of 2 yr

Jeannie strand - completed 1 of 2 yr

Cindy Rud - completed 1 of 2 yr

Gary Davison Treasurer 4 yr

# FEBRUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 <a href="#">Altar Guild</a> Donna Georgeann
5 <b>Morning Prayer</b> 10:00 a.m. Lay Reader: Lee Grim	6	7	8	9	10	11 <a href="#">Altar Guild</a> Donna Georgeann
12 <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 10:00 a.m. Rev. Samantha Crossley	13 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	14 9:30 Coffee @ Coffee Landing 6:00 p.m. Total Ministry Meeting 7:00 – 8:30 Life Cycle	15	16	17	18 <a href="#">Altar Guild</a> Flossie Jeanne
19 <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 10:00 a.m. Rev. Samantha Crossley	20 6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting	21	22  ASH WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m.	23	24	25 <a href="#">Altar Guild</a> Flossie Jeanne
26 <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 12:00 p.m. Fr. Wayne McIntosh	27	28 6:00 – 8:00 Life Cycle Class	29  SOUP SUPPER 5:30 SERVICE 7:00 p.m.			

## Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities

# February 2012

Dates	Lay Officials	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
<b>5</b> <b>Morning Prayer</b> <b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Lay Reader Deacon Lee Grim	Melanie Mattsen	Melanie Mattsen Robert Nye	Mavis Tanem Lennis Conners
<b>12</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon Lee Grim	Robert Nye	Mike Brennard Tricia Brennard	Donna Day Karen Walls
<b>19</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon Lee Grim	Jeanne Corrin	Jeanne Corrin Mavis Tanem	Flossie Knutson Carole Johnson
<b>22</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Deacon Lee Grim		Jeannie Strand Erik Strand	
<b>26</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> <b>12:00 p.m.</b>	Fr. Wayne McIntosh Deacon Lee Grim	Tessa Walls	Kay Herman Waiva Menefee	Gary Davison Carolyn Davison
<b>29</b> <b>Lenten Soup Supper Service</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Rev. Samantha Crossley Deacon Lee Grim	Melanie Mattsen		Erik Strand Andrew Strand