

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

We did it! December's goal is now history, and Zion has made it five for five, five consecutive balanced budgets, with annual surpluses that have allowed us both to repair a major parking lot drainage problem and to carry a healthy surplus into 2011. That goal has been before us since the middle of summer, when a surprising July shortfall left us in a pretty big hole, financially speaking. So, we decided to have a party, an *End-of-the-Summer Party* that raised about \$2,350.00 for deficit reduction. We combined that with a broader plan to *Eat Our Way out of the Deficit*, selling and donating pizza coupons to help reduce the deficit. As it turned out, we sold, donated, and distributed 257 pizza coupons, which reduced the deficit by \$2,570.00! We also put together five straight months of surpluses, culminating in December, when income topped \$25,000.00, and exceeded expenses by significantly more than the \$3,157.52 year-to-date deficit with which we began the month. Take a bow, and pat yourselves on the back, as we say thank you for your very active interest and ever faithful support.

December was a month of significant accomplishment, to be sure, while also visiting us with some untimely sadness. A long-term member, Pete Fenney, experienced a fall in his home, and due to a blood thinner he was taking for other health related concerns, suffered sufficient internal bleeding to lead, almost unstoppably, to a very tragic end. It all happened so suddenly, without warning. On the Sunday morning of December 12th I found myself announcing to the worshipping congregation that he was in the hospital and that the prognosis was not good; and when we gathered that evening for Advent devotions, I had to share the sad news that Pete had passed away. It was somewhat ironic, and apt, that the blizzard that had brought much of the upper Midwest to a halt, collapsing the Metrodome in Pete's hometown of Minneapolis/St. Paul, was just beginning to fall on his long-term home here in North Canton when we learned that God had called this faithful servant home. I have included excerpts from the funeral sermon on the last page of this newsletter; but even now, as the frantic pace of the holiday season slows, it is still hard to believe that Cal Peters, the voice of local news on WHBC radio, is gone.

When you read these words, I will be gone to New Orleans to watch the Sugar Bowl, which features the Ohio State Buckeyes and the Arkansas Razorbacks. Our daughter's dating life has landed Marilyn and me with great seats in the Superdome, and another opportunity to assess the progress toward restoration and healing in New Orleans. We have been encouraging friends and family to watch for Number 51 on the field, and then subtract one and look for us near the fifty yard line when the cameras pan the stands. I'll be drinking Starbucks, and Marilyn will be sporting a new pair of shoes, I'm sure. We'll make sure that Anna is intently focused on the game, which would actually be quite surprising. Talking about family, I have also included some information about Austin's continuing adventure in Armenia with the Peace Corps in this newsletter. He is really fitting in well, and enjoying his work immensely. I think you'll enjoy reading about his responsibilities and plans. In fact, he's fitting in so well that we're convinced that before he leaves, he will be the prime minister of Armenia – although as I think back to Woody Allen's 1970's classic *Bananas*, I suspect that could be worrisome, to say the least. I'll have to think more about that when I'm sipping chicory coffee and enjoying beignets covered with powdered sugar at the *Café Du Monde*. So, God bless you, and I'll see you next year!

AN OVERVIEW OF BENEVOLENCE FOR 2010

Zion takes great pride in supporting the work of the wider church. All of the money that is given to Zion is used to support the work of God's kingdom as best we can envision it and organize ourselves to do it. We are very conscientious in our desire to be faithful stewards with all the money that our members and friends share with us. That goes both for what we spend to support our ministry here at Zion and for what we give to support the ministry of others.

Our primary commitment to the work of the wider church comes through the support we give to the Synod. We gave \$20,040 to the *Northeastern Ohio Synod* in 2010. Our Synod keeps about 50% for local efforts here in Ohio, and sends the other 50% to the *ELCA*, which extends the reach of the church across the nation and around the world. Speaking of the work of the wider church, we contributed another \$570 in support of this broader mission through the *Women of the ELCA*, along with giving blankets, quilts, school kits and health kits for *Lutheran World Relief*. We were also active with support earlier this year in reaching out through *ELCA Disaster Relief* to assist in the aftermath of the earthquake suffered in Haiti. Our major commitment here at home to assist in helping to respond to needs beyond our own is focused on *Zion's Food Pantry and Clothing Closet*. We can also include such efforts as our *Turkey Give-Away* and the *Advent Giving Tree*, providing food for families and even gifts for children during the holiday season. Earlier this year, our ministry of *Vacation Bible School* raised \$1,000 for the Food Pantry, and then in August, our first ever *Community Yard Sale* raised another \$1,250 for the Food Pantry & Clothing Closet. All told, when we think about donations that are made regularly by *Community Christian Church*, *Grace United Methodist Church*, *Northminster Presbyterian Church*, community groups like the local Elks Club, several retirement groups, the Parkview Dinner Club, and a host of generous individuals, we raised significant funds to help persons who need us locally. Speaking locally, the Youth of Zion joined in the *2010 Souper Bowl* again to raise money to support the efforts of the Cleveland-based *Shoes & Clothes for Kids*. In terms of a helping hand given to friends and family in the congregation, we continue to offer significant assistance through both the *Steve Dague Fund* and local benevolence funds, which serve as yet another testimony to the generous spirit that thrives among us. These outlets of goodwill are truly impressive, very encouraging, and deeply gratifying.

Zion's established practice over the years, when it comes to setting benevolence targets, is to set a goal of giving 15% of our offering income to ministries other than our own. According to our best estimates, this would have set as our goal the amount of \$28,680.00. We sailed passed that goal this year with benevolence support exceeding **\$35,570.00!** As you can see with the above figures, we gave an amount that is far greater than even the 15% we regard as our fair share of the work of the wider church. For that we are both proud and grateful. It is only your generosity that allows us to do this. For that, and so much more, we offer our thanks to God and to you.

FAMILY NEWS FROM THE FOOD PANTRY & CLOTHING CLOSET

The Food Pantry Crew was breaking in Steve Dague as gently as we would any other volunteer. We trained him on the first Tuesday of the month in November, and then we declared him ready to go for the next pantry service day on the third Tuesday of that same month, which happened to be our busiest day of the year! I warned him things would get pretty wild on the day of our *Great Turkey Give-Away*. Apparently, I kind of understated the situation. After working feverishly to fill sixty holiday bags with, noodles, rolls, bread, stuffing, gravy, yams, vegetables, pies, and turkeys, we turned on a dime and filled sixty more bags with everyday food.

While we were doing that, our truck arrived back from the Akron-Canton Regional Food Bank with 3,300 pounds of food! We shifted our gears again, emptied out the truck, and then restocked our shelves. Concurrently, the Clothing Closet was also working feverishly to prepare for their day. Once everything was in place, Steve and I briefly reflected on the morning. He was amazed at all that transpired and how chaotic it was for three hours of prep work, only to watch it to all fall into place. I love that description of the pantry: chaotic. From a “newbie’s” point of view, it looks like utter *chaos*, but this *chaos* is the grace of God in action. Steve marveled at how all the different components blended into one centralized mission of service.

After we concluded our hectic preparation for our Thanksgiving *turkey give-away*, Steve thought it would be smooth sailing. What he was not aware of was that there was a growing wave building up behind him for the arrival of the Christmas season. Simultaneously with Thanksgiving planning, we were also organizing our Christmas season, which would include Christmas hams and all the extras, along with Giving Tree gifts, and some great stocking stuffers for all the Siffrin homes. The big day came on Tuesday, December 21st, a very busy week in December, with the usual hectic set of demands.

After the holidays we take a little time off to regroup our thoughts, to recharge our batteries, to reorganize, and then clean the pantry. All of this needed to be done, and had been done, when we were finally allotted our period of respite. As one dear friend and pantry volunteer Moe stated, “I now know why we are closed until January 18th!” As I reflect back over the past year, I want to thank all of our Food Pantry volunteers, the Elsass family for providing the clients with fresh produce, the different organizations that believe in what we do, the generous members of Zion who remember us every week with their support, and, of course, the good Lord, who has helped us in carrying out our mission.

I like to think of the pantry as chaotic in an organized sort of way. If it were not for all the volunteers involved in the work of the Food Pantry, it would be unmanageable, an unorganized mess. Everything we have accomplished requires organization and leadership, but mostly it requires volunteers who have touched the lives of many who are much less fortunate than we are. Providing decent food for our clients is a never-ending task. We still shop as moms, with the same old thought, namely, *if we won't eat it, then we don't expect someone else to.*

May God bless all of you,
Shirley Cavender

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

December's Council Meeting was scheduled immediately following the Chancel Guild Christmas Dinner, which meant that half of us arrived fully satisfied with the delicious food and fabulous company that filled Luther Hall earlier that evening. That good feeling continued with our brief Council Meeting, when Jim Fidler called us to order at 7 p.m., and Sue Heyard, Dave Palumbo, Juanita Cignetti, Dale Jacobs, Cathy Harvey, Chris Thomas, Beth Shaheen, Mark Votaw, and Pastor Sherwindt were in attendance.

The good news at our meeting began with the announcement that Bontrager Excavating completed the drainage repair on time and for \$400 less than estimated, or \$9,650.00. Dave Palumbo then shared the good news that we had kept the string of surplus months going with a \$743.72 surplus in November. We continue to surprise ourselves with savings that come through the new HV/AC system. Otherwise, all is well with life at Zion.

ZION'S NOVEMBER FINANCIAL FACTS

November Income	\$22,695.05
November Expenses	<u>\$21,951.33</u>
November Surplus	\$ 743.72
Income thru November	\$229,878.26
Expenses " November	<u>\$233,035.78</u>
Deficit thru November	(\$ 3,157.52)
Our 2010 YTD Deficit	(\$ 3,157.52)
The 2009 YTD Surplus	\$ 4,134.17

Don't forget: this old news from November was overcome by the good news of December, namely, we erased the year-to-date deficit and ended with a surplus!

We thank you for your generous support!

THE ADVENT FOOD REVIEW

We enjoyed four inspiring evening services during the Advent season, each beginning with our signature delicious dinner. The Men of Zion got the Advent season off to a truly exceptional start. Dale Jacobs and Mark Votaw took the lead in preparing Baked Ham, Dale's signature Mac & Cheese, along with cheesy potatoes, with the rest of the men filling the buffet table with desserts. Our service featured Jim Fidler in a drama that focused on the ministry of John the Baptist.



Dave Palumbo led Council's preparations of pasta & Italian sausage the following Sunday. Our Service of Lessons & Carols always offers a great showcase for the wonderfully talented people we've been blessed with at Zion. On the third Sunday of Advent Zion's Chancel Guild was in the kitchen, with a delicious chicken casserole and so much more. Jim Fidler offered a drama that told the Christmas story from Joseph's perspective.

Our final Sunday in Advent found Doug Roman in the kitchen, with lots of help from Dale Jacobs and the Youth of Zion, providing the *grand finale* of pasta, meatballs, pepperoni bread, garlic bread, and desserts galore. Carole Singer enlisted husband Ron's help in taking us on a journey that featured Christmas carols from around the world – England, Wales, Norway, Germany, France, and Poland, with Negro Spirituals and American Christmas classics. The service reached its very loud climax when everyone used a vast selection of musical instruments from around the world to end with our making a joyful noise to the Lord! Great food, wonderful fellowship, and inspiring worship: these have become the hallmarks of our Advent season at Zion.

GREAT NEWS FROM ZION'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

UPCOMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Sunday, January 2: No Sunday School for our Pre-Kindergarten through High School classes

Sunday, January 9: The Schedule of Sunday School Classes for All Ages resumes at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday, March 6th: Our *Farewell to Alleluia* signals the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES: PRE-K THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

This is just a reminder, but there will be no Sunday School classes for any of our youth (Pre-K through High School) on Sunday, January 2nd, unless they want to join the Adult Sunday School class because they're just missing it so much! We will resume our normal class schedule on Sunday, January 9th, when classes begin at 9:15 a.m. Same time, same places, same teachers, and more students! Everyone is welcome, even friends ... especially friends. We look forward to seeing everyone as we start off the New Year 2011!

CHRISTMAS THANKS WITH A CAPITAL C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S

A big thank you to everyone who helped to make this year's Christmas Program such a great success! It was a great program and the kids did a fantastic job, as always! We hope you enjoyed our alphabetical journey, as we told the wonderful and magical Christmas Story in a way that brought involvement, laughter, and lots and lots of singing. We want to thank everyone who helped to prepare our children for the big day. We also want to thank our children for their great effort, and our congregational family for joining in with your attentive support.

The kids were great: Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the angels, the innkeeper, and Caesar Augustus. We thank them all: Jaret and Grant Beaber, Eric and Justin Dague, Carley and Cassie Frank, Nathan and Jeremy Fox, AJ Edwardo, Christian, Savannah and Summer Heller, Natalie and Christian Henderson, Max Jacobs, Lya, Kat, Weston, and Amelia Milek, David Panzarello, Mallory and Marcus Rhodes, Brooke Roman, Brandon and Brooke Stout, Christopher Thompson, Kelly, Kevin and Casey Walters. Thank you, too, to Carol Rossbach for making the beautiful and amazing letters to spell out Christmas. We're always amazed by her talents and we appreciate everything that she does for us! Finally, a big thank you to Suzanne Walters for her accompaniment and help with the music. Everyone's time, dedication, and commitment to our kids is so greatly appreciated! Thank You! Thank You! Thank you to everyone involved!



A BIG THANK YOU FOR A GREAT DECEMBER

December was a very busy month for Zion’s youth, and we have lots of folks to thank! First, thank you to everyone who generously supported Zion’s Advent Giving Tree this year. It was an amazing success! Not only were we able to collect all of the gifts for seven of the families we serve through our Food Pantry, we were also able to collect a whole lot of \$25.00 donations to cover the cost of the Christmas dinners we provided. And what is more, we also donated and distributed almost seventy pizza cards, also known as great Stocking Stuffers, for the families we serve, along with almost all of the Siffrin homes in our area! That is truly a picture of what the Christmas Season is about, namely, sharing God’s love with others and helping persons in need! The presents are very much appreciated by the families who receive them; the donations were a great help to our Food Pantry; and the pizza coupons will be a gift that keeps on giving all the way through August 31st. It is so wonderful to know that Zion is such a compassionate, loving, and overwhelmingly generous congregation! Before moving on to our next big thank you, we want to thank Brooke and Taylor Roman, as well as Nathan and Jeremy Fox for their help in putting up our Giving Tree for Advent, which became our Chrismon Tree for Christmas.

Next, we must thank our youth of all ages, including parents and adult leaders, everyone who helped to wrap all of the Giving Tree gifts. This is an enormous undertaking, and everyone pitched in with great enthusiasm! The morning begins with Christmas Play practice, which is a joyful ordeal all by itself. Then, it expands to become a huge pizza party, with treats galore. If that isn’t enough, then comes the present wrapping party. It gets pretty crazy; but we had a great afternoon filled with fun, food, and service on Saturday, December 18th! We extend a huge thank you to our Sunday School leaders and parents who helped with everything that afternoon.

Finally, thank you to all of the youth and their families who helped with the Youth Advent Dinner the very next day on December 19th. There was no rest for the weary. The morning began with our Christmas Play, which was, without doubt, a great joy. Then, the day continued; and we really appreciate the dedication of our youth and their families, especially during this busy holiday season. A big thank you goes out to Doug and Lisa Roman for leading our preparations for the Youth Advent Dinner. Pasta was served up with homemade sauce and meatballs, along with Doug’s signature pepperoni bread, and a wide array of desserts. Every one of them was delicious and all of us enjoyed them. Thank you to all of the youth and their families who contributed food, helped to serve the meal, and cleaned up afterward. What a day! What a weekend! And then came Christmas Eve, when our youth were back at it, singing with the Children’s Choir, offering special music on their own, and joining in the worship of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We are so lucky to have our great group of families. They’re always willing to pitch in and help! December was truly a great month for the Youth of Zion and for our congregation. Everyone should be proud of all we accomplished and shared!

Zion’s Sunday School Staff would like to wish all of our families

God’s Blessings for a Peaceful & Happy New Year!



MORE THANK YOU'S

The Chancel Guild's Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 14, continued the theme of exceptional food at Zion during the Advent season. The evening began with punch, assorted nuts, and conversation, followed by jello salad, with stuffed chicken breast as our entree, a sweet potato casserole, and a light (but luscious) red velvet cake parfait for dessert. Helen Heller and Kay Davis were our hostesses. Our thanks to the Chancel Guild for the extra work required with additional communion services during the holiday season, along with the added responsibility of caring for so many poinsettias.

Speaking of added responsibilities during the holiday season, we extend our thanks to members and friends who added their talents to the music we enjoyed at Zion: Fred Locker, Phil Lehenbauer, the Walters family (Brian, Suzanne, Kelly, Kevin, and Casey), Dale Jacobs, Max Jacobs, Carole Singer, Ron Singer, Beth Heller, Vicki Givler, Helen Heller, Joyce Gibeaut, Darlene Milavickas, Marilyn Espe-Sherwindt, Carol Rossbach, Matt Slease, Tom Votaw, Pastor Sherwindt, Christian Henderson, the Children's Choir....

Of course, we also want to remember and thank the Men of Zion for their efforts in preparing our church, inside and out, for this holiday season. Chris Thomas, Carl Geib, Bob Lancashire, Verle Elsass, Garry Leed, Dan Wilson, Dave Palumbo, John Rhodes, Brian Walters, Larry Moore, Dale Jacobs, Mark Votaw, Dean Fox, Chuck Danner, our Deacons, the Trustees, Council members: thank you all for helping in so many ways. Looking ahead to January, we want to remind our men that our regular monthly meeting will be pushed back to January 12, when we will meet for dinner at 6 p.m. in Luther Hall.

THANK YOU'S AND MORE

To my Church Family at Zion,

Thank you so much for the phone calls, your visits, the flowers, and especially for your prayers offered during my recent stay in the hospital and ongoing recovery at home. The power of prayer is an awesome experience, and after the recent battle I faced, I believe more and more in its results.

*Blessings to all,
Moe Alters*

To our Family at Zion Lutheran Church,

The seasons of Advent and Christmas are almost a blur, but one of the feelings that comes distinctly into focus is the gratitude your generosity has inspired with cards sent, gifts given, and support offered. Thank you for all you do in friendship and love.

*In His service, and yours,
Pastor and Marilyn*

Martin Luther King, Jr., clergyman, activist, humanitarian, and civil rights leader, was born on January 15, 1929 in Atlanta. He led the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955, delivered his *I Have a Dream* speech in 1963, and received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. He was assassinated in Memphis in 1968. His life will be remembered on January 17th this year. Here is one quote that has helped to define the significance of his life and leadership: "Conscience asks, 'Is it safe?' Expediency asks, 'Is it politic?' Vanity comes along and asks, 'Is it popular?' But Conscience asks the question 'Is it right?' There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must do it because Conscience tells him it is right."

AUSTIN'S ARMENIAN ADVENTURE CONTINUES, PART 3

When last we visited Austin in June's edition of *The Zion Herald*, he was giving a speech at a state dinner in Yerevan, the capital city of Armenia. Well, okay, he was almost bumped from the program; but he was still asked to offer some brief words of welcome at the official installation ceremony in Yerevan for this year's crop of Peace Corps Volunteers. Since then, he has settled into his assignment as a business resource with an NGO (non-governmental organization) in Goris, which is a small city in the south, somewhere near the border with Iran.

In a recent update regarding his work in Goris, he writes, "I am pretty impressed with my organization's level of sophistication. We have six projects ongoing with larger, international NGOs, many of which have national implications. For example, we are working to develop software for Armenian schools to better track student information. The pilot year of the project is nearly complete and they will be presenting the conclusions to the Ministry of Education for country-wide roll-out. Contrary to the chaotic schedules of other volunteers, I am working 9 to 6, Monday through Friday. So far, the majority of my work has been focused on teaching my coworkers English and American business practices, methodologies, etc. Additionally, I have been working to build Excel-based tools to improve and standardize different actions in the organization. I am also working on rewriting the business plan for the NGO's subsidiary, but getting all the information is slow-going, and I will be starting to help write a larger social-enterprise project for the network of villages around Goris. Unfortunately, there are no *L'Arroma* cafes here, so my coffee and bran muffin supply is nil."

In the meantime, Austin was selected to serve as the Small Projects Advocate for Armenia, and in between his travels to the north (where he enjoyed an impromptu barbeque with the family of his cab driver's brother-in-law), to the south (to get his picture taken by the border with Iran), and to the east (where he rode on the world's longest reversible cable car), he recently submitted a proposal that involves a *Walk Across Armenia* to raise awareness about children's health issues. The proposal is entitled *Border to Border: One Step Towards Improving Children's Health*. The premise is basic. "In many of the villages and towns throughout Armenia, there is a significant deficiency of understanding among children about leading a healthy lifestyle and making choices today to improve their health in adulthood. Certain habits, such as maintaining a balanced diet, regularly exercising, and avoiding cigarettes and alcohol are among the simplest preventative measures to mitigate serious health problems."

In short, two groups of six Peace Corp Volunteers will walk the entire length of Armenia, one group leaving from the northern border with Georgia and the other from the southern border with Iran, with both groups meeting halfway in the town of Martuni for a closing celebration. It should take 20 days this summer, with volunteers combining to walk 500 kilometers. The goals are three-fold: to raise awareness about living a healthy lifestyle, to raise awareness about the presence of the Peace Corps in Armenia, and to raise awareness of on-going projects with partner organizations. Austin is in charge of marketing the idea, as well as strengthening the network of partnerships that foster cooperation between American and Armenian organizations.

Well, it looks like Austin is keeping busy. He has settled in, moved into his own house, added a dog to his family, along with many new friends. His responsibilities are growing, as is his enjoyment of his new surroundings. Stay tuned for upcoming updates as Austin's adventure in Armenia continues.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF PETER FENNEY

April 3, 1933 – December 12, 2010

John Peter Cal Fenney, known as Cal Peters to much of his broadcast audience over the years, or just plain Pete to most of us, was a man whose birth and life made a difference for good in our world and for God's kingdom because of the life he lived and the lives he affected, personally and professionally, as a son, husband, journalist, broadcaster, and friend. He was born in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1933, and although he had an older sister – much, much older – he grew up mostly as an only child with his two older parents, who had Pete late in life. His dad and mother adored their only son, and filled his life with a love that would shape the loving, soft-spoken man Pete became. Except for a brief stint in the Army, when he served in the Radio and Broadcast Corps in Alaska, Pete spent just about all of his pre-married life in Minnesota, graduating from high school in 1951, and from the University of Minnesota in 1957 with a Bachelor's degree in journalism.

He met his wife Joan at the U of M, and they were married in December 1957. Steven came along in 1960, and Stephanie in 1964. As they thought back to when they were young, they remembered a life that saw them move with non-stop regularity all around the Midwest following the broadcast career of Cal Peters from Fargo, North Dakota through Mason City, Iowa and Des Moines, to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Port Washington, Madison, and then to Steubenville, Ohio, and finally North Canton, where he became the voice of local news at WHBC in Canton. In the meantime, Pete had devoted his life to attending local council meetings, reporting on the news, interviewing famous political figures, including every presidential candidate since the arrival of the turbulent 1960's: Hubert Humphrey, Jack Kennedy, Richard Nixon, Lyndon Johnson, George McGovern, Edmund Muskie, Jimmy Carter, and Ronald Regan: these names just begin the list of interviews he gave and the reporting he did during an age in America that was like none other.

Listening to the details of Pete's life reminds us why we enjoyed and loved him, and also surprises us a bit by how much this humble man experienced and accomplished. He always found ways to contribute to the communities he was blessed to call home. We were one of those communities, and there is no doubt that we were blessed through Pete's active involvement as a member worshipping in our pews, as a member of church council, as a reader at our many worship services, as a character in our many liturgical dramas, as the inspiration behind the renovation of our resource center, always enjoying the camaraderie that came with serving God together. He was so active for so long that it was difficult to see that his age was finally catching up with him, and devastating when the news of his tragic fall and quick decline stole his life away so suddenly.

I've seen enough Norwegian films, and have known enough Lutherans of Norwegian descent, to realize that death is stoically acknowledged as an inevitable reality in life, and certainly the circumstances of Pete's injury made resisting death futile. Still, the news of Pete's passing has been very hard to get our minds around, and almost impossible to feel right about. It could have been other! It should have been other! But these sentiments are foreign to a Norwegian's perspective. *It is as God ordains it.* That's not some sort of fatalistic reference to predestination, but an expression of faith in God's goodness and trust in God's love. These are qualities that Pete never questioned, not because he couldn't, but simply because he was Norwegian, or, more to the point, because God had blessed him with this gift to trust things we needn't understand to God's wisdom, so that we might focus our attention and energy on those things where we can make a difference, on those things where we should make a difference; and that's exactly what Pete did ... to the glory of God. Amen

“On some positions, Cowardice asks the question, ‘Is it safe?’ Expediency asks the question, ‘Is it politic?’ And Vanity comes along and asks the question, ‘Is it popular?’ But Conscience asks the question ‘Is it right?’ And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must do it because Conscience tells him it is right.”