



RESURRECTION UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC PARISH

Land Stewardship Committee

WISDOM HAS SPREAD HER TABLE AGAIN

IN PROVERBS there is beautiful imagery of Lady Wisdom setting forth a banquet and inviting all to come and partake: *Wisdom has built her house, she has set up her seven columns; She has dressed her meat, mixed her wine. Yes, she has spread her table...Come and eat of my food, and drink of the wine I have mixed.*

In the depths of his conscience, man has always detected a law that he does not impose upon himself but which somehow holds him to obedience. *Proverbs* enunciates this law. *Wisdom* proclaims it. *Sirach* sees it in the beauty of creation. *Song of Songs* sees it in the love between man and woman. *Ecclesiastes* laments the "vanity" of doing otherwise and, as death stands upon his very door, *Job* senses that it is there and refuses to speak badly about the source of life that lets both good and evil work. Many times we have heard the words of the evangelist John speak of it as the *Word*—**"In the beginning was the Word; the Word was in God's presence."** All of Biblical Wisdom literature shouts of Wisdom and traces it back to God. Yet each writer struggles to adequately portray it. Even the modern poets such as T.S. Eliot ask, "Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge?"

Wisdom has truly spread her table before the people of Resurrection University Catholic Parish. She speaks of it in the fall migration, the changing of the seasons, the coming of snow, the arrival of lower humidity and falling temperatures. She is present in the yellowing of the leaves of the aspen trees, the appearance of Venus, the morning star and the scudding clouds in advance of the cold front. She speaks to us in the faint peep of the chickadees, the sounds of the night-traveling robins, the beauty of Mars beckoning in the sky, and the monthly travels of the moon.

Saints Augustine, Benedict and Francis taught and lived with the same fervor that Wisdom is to be learned from nature. The trees. The stones. The author Anne Dillard would teach the stones to talk in search of wisdom.

Wisdom never ages and that is her eternal message to young and old. And that is the singularly unique message that should make her important to us at Resurrection University Catholic Parish. Wisdom is timeless, always present. Her teachings are spread upon the table, upon the land. Come walk with Wisdom. Make her part of your religion, your prayer life, and your contemplation.

*Two things I require of thee:
deny me them not before I die:
Remove far from me vanity and lies:
Give me neither poverty nor riches:
Feed me with food convenient for me
Proverb 30:7-8*

Message from the Editor:

*Where is the Life we have lost in living?
Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge?
Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?
T.S. Eliot, Chorus From the Rock*

GREEN LEAF



About the Critters 'n Things...



Deep in December it's
nice to remember

Although you know
the snow will follow

Deep in December it's
nice to remember

Without a hurt, the
heart is hollow

Deep in December it's
nice to remember

The fire of September
that made you mellow

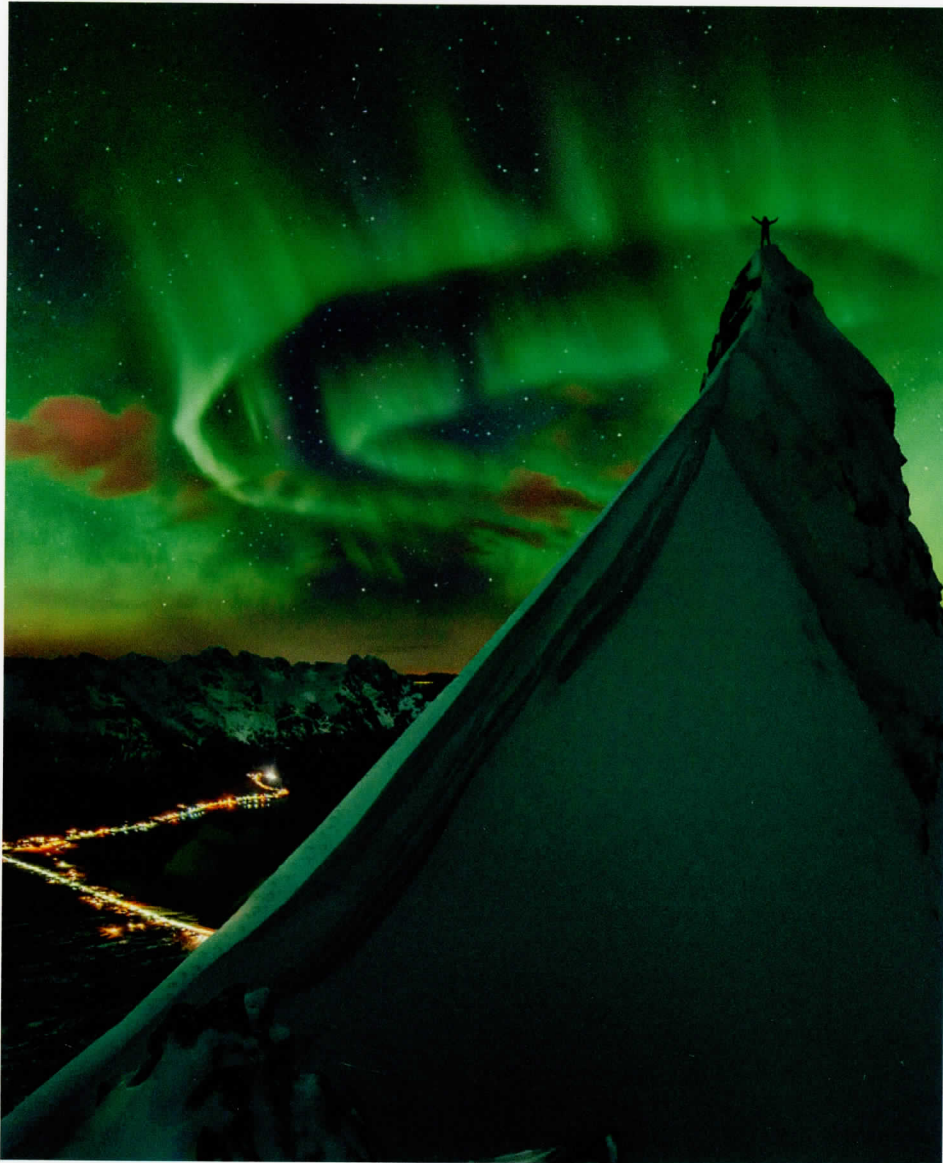
Deep in December
our hearts should
remember

Then follow
follow
follow.

Try To Remember, from *Fantasticks-the Musical*)



THEN SINGS MY SOUL



In Green Company: Aurora over Norway
Image Credit & Copyright: [Max Rive](#)

"Oh lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds that you have made. I see the stars I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed. "

"Then sings my soul My Savior, God, to Thee, How great thou art."

I HAVE A DREAM, I'LL CROSS THE STREAM

The pop-singer group ABBA had a top 40 song decades past called "I Have A Dream, A Song To Sing." Basically it was a take-off on the Genesis story of Jacob poised at the River Jabbok awaiting for dawn to cross.

Jacob, as the story goes, was another of the Old Testament Hero-villains that had cheated his father, his brother, and then his uncle. He fled to a foreign land, amassed great wealth and assets and was somewhat repentant and returning to his homeland with herds of cattle, sheep, camels, gold, silver, a wife and family—the usual net worth of the scoundrel of the time.

Well, he learns that his brother Esau, whom he had also cheated was coming with a large group of heavily armed men. About 400. Enough to do the job. Jacob, being a clever man, calculates that this does not bode well for him. He puts all of his belonging, including his wife, across the stream and it takes so long that he is left alone on the far side. And the sun sets. And it is dark..

As ABBA points out, "*If you see the wonder of a fairy tale you can take the future even if you fail. I believe in angels when I know the time is right for me.*"

The angel comes and fights with Jacob, cripples him and sends him on his way after renaming him Israel. A name that means *fought with God and lived*. For the rest of the story see Genesis 32:23.

The Land Stewardship Committee (LSC) has a dream. Maybe it could even be called a fairy tale—to take the west end of the parking lot and create a habitat—meditation garden. A dream to transform a plot of land now just basically storing snow and the summer time garden plot and convert it into a place for all parishioners, students, apartment dwellers, to come sit, contemplate, meditate, walk and just watch nature at play.



A place to watch the ground squirrels, the Clark's nutcrackers, and the chickadees in their daily foraging activity. A place to stroll the pathways and touch the trees, smell the flowers, pick some of the edible greens and fruit from plants such as nodding onions, mountain strawberries, camus root, alpine currant, choke cherry, service berry, and elderberry. Maybe even sit and remember those that have gone before us and upon whose shoulders the church militant stands tall.

The picture above shows a typical layout of an all-native Montana habitat design currently underway and study at the home site of one of the LSC members. The LSC knows the project can work since it has been underway for six years. Matter of fact, it is laid out to the exact dimension of the available ground at the parking lot end. How's that for a dream?

If, in these troubled times, you can still see the wonder of a fairy tale, then you too can take the future even if you fail. Fellow parishioners: do you believe in angels something good in everything you see? Do you believe in angels when you know the time is right?

Then come, cross the stream. Contact the LSC and let us share the dream. Paul A. Gore 406-587-2001
Ellie Weber 954-609-5612