

SAINT PETER'S NET

JESUS SAID TO PETER, "FOLLOW ME, AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISH FOR PEOPLE."
MATTHEW 4:19

A Note From The Rector

Dear Members and Friends of St. Peter's,

Living an authentic life: One day Zusia, a very revered and well-loved Hassidic leader, appeared frightened and pale-faced to his disciples. They saw him as a pious, scholarly and humble man, always available to help them. When they asked him what was the matter, he told of his vision where angels were asking him about his life. He said that in his vision the angels would not ask him "Why weren't you Moses, leading your people out of slavery, and why weren't you, Joshua, leading your people into the Promised Land?" Not understanding Zusia's fear and feeling frustrated, one of his followers demanded, "But what will they ask you?" he replied, "The Angels will say to me, 'there was only one thing that no power of heaven or earth could have prevented you from becoming.' They will ask me, 'Zusia, why weren't you Zusia?'"

His story tells us that we are ultimately judged based on how authentically we lived our life. How often have we betrayed our own true self and desired to live like somebody else who may be more saintly, famous, or glamorous. We are familiar with the adage, "grass is always greener on the other side." Back when I was at the Bible College in the South, all the talk about 'born again' experience made me question myself and my spirituality. As I falsely claimed to have a 'born again' experience to fit in with fellow students, I felt miserable and not authentic to the point of being a fraud. Unmasking ourselves takes effort and courage; it means discovering and embracing one's own self. We may be terrified at first because what we might see there may not be all that great and wonderful. However, it is our true unique self. Our call is with the grace of God to peel away all the layers of masks, which have been imposed on us over the years by our upbringing and our society, and to find that pearl, our true self. Finding ourselves as God intended for us to be, and then to be on that path to where God calls us to be, is our spiritual journey.

In a few days we will be celebrating Pentecost, the day the church was gifted with the Holy Spirit. During the ten days prior to Pentecost, the disciples were told to stay in Jerusalem. They were to **stay** there to be clothed with the Holy Spirit. The word 'stay' Jesus used here has much more significance than simply waiting. It means the same as the word 'abide.' Before being sent out into the world, they needed to make an inward journey, deep into the recesses of their beings, their selves. Such a depth perception would yield them the knowledge that deep down they, each in his/her own way, reflect the radical image of God.

True spirituality is an earnest search into this unfathomable depth of our being. Centering prayer, meditation, and other monastic practices are ways that can help us abide like the disciples for an inner awakening and the receiving of the Holy Spirit.

Blessed Pentecost! *Fr. Koshy*

Mission Statement: We are an inclusive, forward-looking Episcopal parish that seeks to grow in Christ through worship, education and fellowship, serves Christ by ministering to local and global communities and shares Christ in following His command to "Love one another as I have loved you."

Vision Statement: Our vision at St. Peter's is to be an inclusive, vibrant Christian community honoring our Episcopal heritage by achieving excellence in worship, mission, education and fellowship.

Staff

Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathews, Rector
Rev. David Hyatt, Assisting Clergy
Rev. Joseph Dietz, Deacon
Retta Sparano, Liturgical Coordinator
Nicholas Lodico, Organist/Choir Master
Alex Smith, Asst. Organist/Choir Master
Judith M. Dougherty, Parish Secretary
Maria Yanez, Sexton

Vestry

2015 Susan Madden-Cox
John Magee
Retta Sparano
2016 Barbara Endrey
Raymond Foerster
Cindy Hammaker
2017 Vincent Giancaterino
Judi Hans
Julia Sharpe

What's Happening At St. Peter's

June 2014

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Deacon's Roundtable

I write this reflection as I have just cast my ballot in this year's primary election. It strikes me that most of our politicians promise us all kinds of support so we will vote for them. They say something to this effect, "If elected, I will not give in to special interest groups. I won't forget my humble roots. I'll be a servant of the people." However, over time just the opposite plays out.

Jesus was very familiar with this tendency. For him it was not elected officials, but some of those who served as religious leaders in Israel. Impressed with their elite standing, some of the scribes and Pharisees lost track of the real burdens that everyday people were facing. They enjoyed their status too much to remember the call to care for the poor, the widow, and the orphan.

In contrast, Jesus devoted himself to setting people free from whatever was burdening them. With words of forgiveness, he released a woman from the burden of shame over her past sins. Jesus offered Zacchaeus salvation after he repented of his extortion. On the road to Emmaus, Jesus consoled two disheartened disciples and lifted their hearts with words from Scripture and a taste of the bread of life.

Is there a burden you are finding hard to carry? Guilt? The pain of a wounded relationship? Powerlessness in the face of temptation? Don't think that God is too distant to help. Jesus came not to be served but to serve. Instead of exempting himself from the law, he fulfilled it. He became a human being just like us. He shared in all of the joys and sorrows we experience. He carried the cross that we might gain heaven. Surely he can help you now.

Choose just one thing that is a real burden to you and bring it to Jesus in prayer. Don't think it is too small—or too big—for him to handle. Just take the time to tell him about it. Then sit and listen quietly for his words of comfort, wisdom and help. Remember, conversation is a two way street. We must be open to receive

guidance for our questions, our hurts and our problems. Sit quietly in the lap of the Lord and let him be your guide.

In Christ's love,

Deacon Joe

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Summer Worship Schedule

June 22 through August 31

8:00 and 9:30 a.m.

EXCEPT: June 29

ONE SERVICE ONLY

Patronal Sunday

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Mid-week Bible Study



Bible Study will be held through the summer months every other Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. beginning June 3.

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Dollars and Sense
 News from your Accounting Warden
 Retta Sparano

Year-to-date Operating Income and Expense through April 30, 2014

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| INCOME | Pledge | \$ 74,377 |
| | Open Plate | 6,581 |
| | Clinic Rent | 6,000 |
| | Easter/Christmas | 2,357 |
| | Use of Building | 483 |
| | Flowers/Candles | 527 |
| | Miscellaneous | |
| | Total Operating Income | \$ 90,325 |
| | Pass-through income* | 19,082 |
| | TOTAL Income | \$ 109,407 |
| | | |
| EXPENSE | Diocesan Giving | \$ 6,694 |
| | Personnel | 58,786 |
| | Worship (<i>Altar supplies/Music</i>) | 2,319 |
| | Administration | 4,059 |
| | Mission | 2,500 |
| | Outreach Recipients | 300 |
| | Ministries | 95 |
| | Insurance | 2,176 |
| | Boiler Loan | 4,064 |
| | Property (utilities/supplies) | 19,523 |
| | Total operating expense | \$ 100,516 |
| | Pass-through expense | 9,991 |
| | TOTAL Expense | \$ 110,507 |

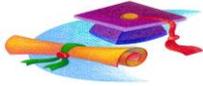
The above income and expense reflects budgeted items. Detail of the “pass-through” accounts such as mission, pantry, rector’s discretionary fund and specially designated funds are available on request. Most of these pass-through funds reside in separate designated accounts.

Account Balances as of April 30, 2014

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Checking | \$ 3,917 |
| Savings | 36,971 |
| Certificates of Deposit | 12,055 |
| Youth Group | 1,532 |
| Mission | 1,735 |
| Pantry/Outreach | 25,610 |
| Concert Series | 2,238 |
| Building Maintenance | 4,005 |

Thank you for your financial support of our parish.

2014 Graduations



It is not too late to submit news of your child [or yourself] who has graduated from High School or College. Please take a moment and send us a brief “bio” of the graduate, including any group, sport or committee [in school and/or church] that they participated in, as well as their plans following graduation. Deadline for the July/August edition of the *NET* is, June 22nd.

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Unto Us a Deacon is Ordained



Dear Friends, God willing and people consenting, Mr. Dennis E. Coleman will be ordained into the Sacred Orders of Diaconate on Saturday, June 14 at 10 AM at the African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas, 6361 Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151.

Shortly after Dennis came back to worship with us in early 2013 following many years of hiatus, he reapplied to the diocese for his ordination to heed his dormant call to serve as deacon in the church. Taking into account all his previous work in the ordination process back in the eighties, the diocese put him on a fast track, yet fully satisfied all the canonical requirements, resulting in his ordination to take place in a couple of weeks. His cheerful and easy-going nature is welcoming and invitational to both people inside and outside the church. As a deacon he will take the church to the people offering them the good news of God in Christ.

His continued leadership in our adult Bible study brings to it a fresh energy and renewed commitment. We take great pride and joy in Dennis’ ordination. Deacons are placed in churches as the Bishop sees fit. It is our hope that Dennis’ will be appointed in a church where his gifts for ministry will be fully utilized for the benefit of God’s people.

El Salvador Mission News

Cindy Hamaker 610-933-3806; chammaker@verizon.net



The El Salvador mission is quickly approaching on July 12-19th. There are 10 missionaries participating this year with 3 youth and 7 first time missionaries. This will prove to be a very enlightening mission as we join with Cristosal in connecting and learning about the lives of the people, and the issues that women face in El Salvador. You can visit Cristosal's website to learn more of their great work and mission by going to www.cristosal.org

Thank you to all who participated in the flower sale and helped to raise funds to defray missionary's trip costs. Your support is greatly appreciated and will certainly help to make the participation in the mission much more feasible for many.

There will be a missionaries meeting at Koshy's house on June 10th. Focus will be on preparing for the trip by gaining a foundational knowledge of the history of El Salvador and the plight of the people. The movie, Romero, will be viewed and discussed at this gathering and anyone else interested in viewing this film and learning more are welcome to attend.

Thank you again for your support of the integral mission work of St. Peter’s.

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Welcome, New Members!



On Sunday, May 18 the New Member Ministry/Growth Committee hosted our annual Celebration of New Members and welcomed our newest members of Saint Peter's: Dan Boychuk; Lauren Christman and Shane Ackerman; Kay Hooper; Penny and Blake McClimon; Lauren, Mike, Isaac, and Coleman

Nagy; Glenda, Ian, and Blake Pongras; Sonia Rivera and Leonel Parada; Frank, Caitlin, and Charlotte Rothenberger; Courtenay, Sarah, Deacon, and Madeleine Williams; Christopher, Megan, and Tripp Wilson. Please introduce yourself to the newest members of our Saint Peter's family and welcome them to share our journey with us.

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June Birthdays



[1] Ashley Hans, Stephanie Logar; [2] Madeleine Williams; [4] Deacon Williams; [6] Anne Atlee, Clara De Prado, Owen Kandle; [8] Dawn Koch [12] Lynn Schaefer; [14] June Henry, Sonia Rivera [17] JoAnn Arnold, Brock Farnum; [18] Cartier and Cayenne Bengochea; [21] Tracy Parker [23] Karen Tosco, Brittany Alling, Robert Parker [25] Gary Russell; [29] Christopher Birkbeck [30] Walter Boone

June Anniversaries



[5] Robert and Tracy Parker; [7] Edwin and Karen Hartman; [10] Mark and Cindy Hammaker [11] Warren Campbell and Marty Bloem [21] Greg and Sharon Schiele; [22] Dave and Sue Meadows, Keith and Sherry Farnum; [25] Dan and Terri Coleman; [26] Lynn and Glynn Fraker

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June Worship Service Participants

Greeters - 8:00 am

1 Lisa Reid-Scott
8 Glenn Murray
15 Joan Grunwell
22 Jack Susskind

Lectors - 8:00 am

1 Henry Young
 Joyce Paster *chalicist*
8 Todd Jackson
15 Lisa Reid-Scott
22 Ron Gaugler

Acolytes

1 Brandon Rennie
 Brittany Alling, Sydney Alling
8 Vernet Spence-Brown, Jacob Schaefer
 Libby Andrews, Natalia Tackett
 Megan Magee, Will Brennfleck
15 James Hammaker
22 9:30 Thomas Hammaker
29 9:30 Vernet Spence-Brown
 Katie Parker, Colin Parker
 Trey Foerster

Greeters - 10:00 am

1 Robert and June Blauser
8 Carol Smith, Marva Young
15 Kim Thornton, Judi Hans
22 9:30 Lady Rennie, Mary Tackett
29 9:30 Pat Howse, Anne Atlee

Lectors - 10:00 am

1 Family Service - Jan Wier will Schedule
 Carol Russell, Joanne Arnold *chalicists*
8 Brittany Alling, Katie Druckenmiller
 Jan Wier *intercessor*
 Joyce Paster *chalicist*
15 Trevor Hall, Iris Blanche
 Marty Bloem *intercessor*
 Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*
22 9:30 David Brennfleck, Shelly Brennfleck
 Beverly Burkhardt *intercessor*
 Vernet Spence-Brown *chalicist*
29 9:30 John Burkhardt, June Blauser
 Ron Druckenmiller *intercessor*
 Peter Druckenmiller *chalicist*

Ushers

1 Jack Andrews, Jacob Schaefer
8 Jack Andrews, Jacob Schaefer
15 Jack Andrews, Jacob Schaefer
22 9:30 Jack Andrews, Jacob Schaefer
29 9:30 Jack Andrews, Jacob Schaefer

Highlights of the April 23, 2014 Vestry Meeting

Finance Report – Retta Sparano reviewed the Finance Report. Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual Utilities showed our utilities to be high due to the extreme winter. Retta would like more Vestry Members to be involved the budget planning, so we all have a better idea of the process. Part of this includes Liaisons obtaining budget requests from their respective Committee Chairperson and submitting them to the Budget Committee. The budget is then shared with the Stewardship Committee as they plan the fall campaign. Retta reiterated the importance of pledging, and encouraged 100% pledging among Vestry members. Telephone costs running over budget; Ray Foerster had a question about the 800-line. He will discuss with Judy Dougherty and report on this next month.

CPR – CPR class is scheduled for Monday, May 12 from 7-8:30 p.m. Cindy Hammaker reported that 4 people have signed up. Joe Dietz will announce the class during church, and fliers will be available at coffee hour.

Kitchen Committee – Retta and one or two other people have shouldered this responsibility every Sunday for quite some time. More help is needed for organizing and recruiting hosts for Coffee Hour, especially since parishioners are staying longer due to Godly Play.

Parish Picnic – To be held at Copperfield's in Limerick on September 21st. Vince said we can use the outside deck (which has a canopy), or the Ballroom if it rains. Vince will provide burgers, hot dogs, beverages, a face painter, music and will check with the LCB to get special dispensation for BYOB, and will also check with his purveyors about donating beer. Parishioners would supply side dishes and desserts. Fishing is permitted in the lake. Julia Sharpe suggested the Youth Group put together some games.

Spiritual Campaign – Our Spiritual Campaign Kickoff will be Sunday, June 8, to coordinate with Pentecost. We will begin to roll out the Branding Project. It was decided to have a beautiful display of Doves on branches, with each dove having one or two thoughts about St. Peter's. Father David said this is a wonderful counter-balance to the harsh judgments of Lent. It was felt that this would be a good introduction to meditation taking place during services every Sunday, and could move parishioners to meditate on a more regular basis. Susan will contact Jan Weir to coordinate this with the Godly Play program. Vestry Doves will be placed on branches and put in the church prior to June 8, to give the parish a glimpse of what is to come. This will be publicized in The Net.

Rector's Report – Fr. Koshy said that the Vestry is a community within a community; we discern God's will for the church together, and we need to grow closer and form a deeper spiritual connection with each other, as leaders of the church. We each took some time to explain what Holy Week meant to us.

Godly Play Fundraiser – John Magee reported that the second classroom needs to be outfitted. Cost of Godly Play materials is \$6,000.00 per classroom. Vestry allotted \$2,000.00 for three years. Jan Weir would like to have another fundraiser similar to last year's "shower". Cindy Hammaker said that they visited a fully stocked Godly Play Sunday School in Philadelphia, and there is a need for more options and lessons at St. Peter's. Currently, the classrooms are sharing lessons, which throws off the coordination of the Godly Play lessons with the Church Lessons. There is interest in a series called, "For the Saints", which costs \$950.00. John asked for a motion to approve a Godly Play fundraiser, and the motion was accepted.

Youth Group – Cindy Hammaker said that the ASP trip had to be cancelled this year due to lack of interest and lower Youth Group attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Endrey