

SAINT PETER'S NET

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

From the Rector

Dear Members and Friends of St. Peter's,

Once again summer is here, with the changes in our routines and in the pace of our activities. Some of us will be traveling distances for vacation, and others of us will stay home and make day trips. Summer offers us a more relaxed time to connect with our family and friends, and a time to work on unfinished projects. I wait for summer to read books unrelated to my work. Summer months at St. Peter's include having the altar in the chancel closer to the congregation, clergy and choir lead the service without vesting as we adjust to the warmer weather. We moved up our main service to 9:30 AM to catch the cooler air of the morning, and are initiating a new program for children age 3 through 3rd grade; an expanded time of learning and worshipping at the early part of our main service. The theme for this year's learning is creation. Thank you to Jan Wier and the adult volunteers for offering this much-needed opportunity for our children.

As in the past many years, St. Peter's will again be sending a group to El Salvador this summer. The mission this year is to become more familiar with the issues of forced migration and human trafficking. They will be taking a weeklong course at the Global School run by Cristosal Foundation. As much of the learning takes place in our interactions with each other, we will be joined with a delegation from the diocese of Massachusetts and with a group of Salvadorans. It is hoped that our learning will be significant enough to make us more effective in educating the people of our churches and diocese to be more aware of the struggle and suffering of our brothers and sisters in Central America.

St. Peter's footprint in our neighborhood is already quite large. Just as we are wondering what more can we do to being our brother's keeper, Jan Wier has come up with a new initiative; a summer reading program for children who have limited access to books and library. A group of volunteers from our church and the community will be reading books to children in a new location, where we can reach out to more in the community. News about this program is found elsewhere in the Newsletter. Our volunteers will appreciate any help you can lend them to make this program successful.

As our denomination is now meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah for its triennial General Convention, let us pray that a spirit of unity prevails over its proceedings and passing resolutions. If you're interested in following the convention proceedings online, here is the link: <http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/gc/>. Also pray for me as I'm scheduled for surgery shortly after coming back from the Mission trip. I will be out recuperating for a couple of weeks in July and August. I will keep you posted.

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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*
Rev. Dennis Coleman, *Deacon*
Retta Sparano, *Liturgical Coordinator*
Karen Greene, *Organist/Choirmaster*
Judith M. Dougherty, *Parish Secretary*
Maria Yanez, *Sexton*

Vestry

2016 Raymond Forester
Cindy Hammaker
Courtenay Williams
2017 Vincent Giancaterino
Judi Hans
Julia Sharpe
2018 Frank Rothenberger
Retta Sparano
Jan Wier

How to contact St. Peter's

Office: 610-933-2195
Email: saintpetersphoenix@gmail.com
Web site: www.saintpeterschurch.net

What's Happening At St. Peter's

July and August 2015

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Let us discover the rhythms of rest and delight summer offers us. While we enjoy the easy pace of summer and delight being away on vacation or at the shore, please keep your church and its ministries in your thoughts and prayers. If you happen to be attending a church other than ours, please remember to bring a copy of the bulletin of the service you attended.

Have a blessed summer of rest and renewal.

Fr. Koshy

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Deacon's Roundtable

Please read John 5:1-9

Jesus asked the crippled man, "Do you want to be well?" It was a simple question, requiring a yes or no answer. Of course we would all say yes if we were in this man's situation and someone came offering us healing. You would think he would say the same thing as well. Why else would he spend all his time at a pool known for its healing powers? But rather than give an enthusiastic yes to Jesus, the man laments, "I have no one to put me into the pool."

It seems that he has resigned himself to live a life of loneliness and want. But Jesus knows better: he himself is the One who will immerse this man in God's healing power. As long as Jesus is in the world, he will love and heal—physically, spiritually, and emotionally!

This is the nature of true love. It always seeks the best for the beloved—not just good enough, but the best! The hard realities of life had taken their toll on this man, and Jesus chose to do something more than just try to cheer him up. He set him free!

It's easy to resign ourselves to a life of suffering, isn't it? We can settle for just a "trickle" of grace in the form of quiet acceptance or just a little relief. But Jesus is standing before us, ready to unleash a flood of

grace. He always loves. He always wants the best for us.

If everyone were to step out in faith in a new area of their lives—or seek a new faith in an old area—imagine the joy that would fill the heavens! So let's all tell Jesus, with a surge of faith in his abundant power, that we believe he is the One sent to help us!

Have a Blessed summer.

In Christ's Love,

Deacon Joe

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A Word From Deacon II

Top ten reasons to take the summer off from church:

10. It's too hot in Church. I prefer to be somewhere cooler, like lying on the beach, or on the golf course.
9. I deserve a day off. After all, aren't we supposed to rest on the Sabbath?
8. Other people get to stay home, why shouldn't I?
7. I do enough/give enough/care enough the rest of the year.
6. What's the big deal? The church will be there when I get back.
5. I would go, if the church were air-conditioned with softer seats and there was no kid noise and the sermons were shorter and they did better hymns.
4. If I take off the same days that the Pastor is on vacation, he'll never know.
3. I can be just as religious at home. Well, at least I think I can; I never really tried it.
2. What's the big deal? I'll bet everyone skips their pledge offerings in the summer. Everybody knows the church has plenty of money.
1. Jesus won't care, he wants me to be happy, and to think of myself first.

Half a Year Has Passed



July 1st, begins the second half of the year 2015 and all Giving Statements will be mailed from the Parish Office by July 12th. Please take a moment to ensure that all your giving has been accounted for and that your pledges are up to date. If you have any questions about your statement, please call the Parish Office, 610-933-2195, Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to Noon.

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Children's Summer Worship Program

The Children's Summer Worship program runs through August 30th. Children ages 3-3rd grade are welcome to attend. Younger children may attend with their parents. Older children who would like to be involved as helpers may attend as well (please contact Jan Wier, janwier@comcast.net, to inquire about your child being a helper.). The children follow the processional up the aisle with the leader for the day. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall or outside on the right hand side of the building. Leaders will bring children back to church at the exchange of the Peace.



Our theme for the summer is God's Gifts of Creation; from Light, Green and Growing Things, Animals, People, and finally Rest. We will explore the different gifts each week. In addition we will have guest volunteers who will be sharing a talent, craft, or activity that is special to them. This helps all of us, old and young, as a St. Peter's family to get to know each other. We have all kinds of fun planned with our guests; singing, learning to sign a prayer, playing with water, making dog treats

for the SPCA, a physical fitness activity, crafts and even making fresh mozzarella cheese!

Contact Jan Wier with questions or interest in being part of the program. Janwier@comcast.net

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Summertime Fun in the Sun

Thursday's – July 9 to August 20

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Friendship Park

[in event of inclement weather the program will move to Franklin Commons]

Theme: Friendship



Summertime Fun in the Sun is for families with pre-K to elementary school children, featuring a lite supper, stories and music. Please bring a towel or blanket to sit on.

This summer family activity is coordinated by Growth Ministries Inc., Mrs. Belinda Goodwin [484-868-5807 or 610-342-7015 and St. Peter's, Phoenixville, Mrs. Jan Wier [610-935-8996 or janwier@comcast.net]

Please contact Jan Wier with questions or interest in being part of the program.

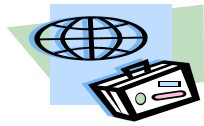
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El Salvador Mission

Cindy Hammaker

St. Peter's will be sending 4 missionaries to El Salvador on July 11-18th. These missionaries are: Fr. Koshy, Cindy Hammaker, Gary Russell, and we are so happy to have the Rev. Ken McCaslin, the Valley Forge Deanery's Deacon at-large, join us this year. Our group will be merging with other missionaries from around

the country to learn and grow in faith as we immerse ourselves in The School of Global Engagement with Cristosal.



The focus of this years' trip will be forced migration and human trafficking. - important and serious issues that we are concerned with here in the US and even close to our doorsteps. An important component of the experience in El Salvador will be connecting with people who are struggling with these terrible issues and we will hear their testimonials and learn about their everyday life.

We'll also listen to guest speakers on these topics and travel to sites to learn more about the cultural and societal factors contributing to these problems. The missionaries will certainly want to share what they have learned when they return and work to continue supporting Cristosal's great work in mitigating these issues.

Thank you for all you've done to support this invaluable and integral mission of St. Peter's. It is wonderful to know that the great spirit of St. Peter's is being felt not only in our own community but with our brothers and sisters across our borders!

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Stewardship Committee

During the summer months, your Stewardship Committee focuses on non-financial aspects of stewardship, but our annual campaign is not too far in the future. We often attempt to encourage stewardship actions with weekly messages in the Bulletin or monthly articles in the *NET*. I often struggle with the correct Stewardship message, but two things in recent weeks caught my attention that epitomizes full-blown stewardship at St. Peter's.

Just look at the weekly events calendar in the Bulletin or church emails. Five soup luncheons,

Monday night Pantry, and Saturday's bi-weekly Pantry! Our daughter Ashley, a non-religious person, coordinates the Friday luncheon, and it's the highlight of her week. I like to think that giving back is simply a human trait, no matter your beliefs. Thursday nights and Friday mornings can be quite hectic in our very small non-gourmet kitchen as Ashley and Judi prepare delicious meals on a tight budget.

The other event was the Art Auction this past April, coordinated by Julia Sharpe, Caitlin Rothenberger, Mariel Gniewoz-Weiss, and the most lovely Judi Hans. Of course all of these ladies are lovely, but I need the Brownie Points! They far exceeded the goal of raising \$4000, and Judi and I both adore the painting we bought that reminds us of our wonderful Mediterranean trip last year. It evokes some very emotional memories in another milestone of our life together. To digress for a moment, this year we are planning a 12 day trip to Cape Cod, the Canadian Maritimes, Lake Placid, and the Finger Lakes. God, retirement is such a Blessing!



After the auction, a service organization was supposed to assist in the break-down, but unfortunately they were a no-show. So the auction ladies, several of their spouses, members of the Stewardship Committee, and many others schlepped hundreds of pictures up the various flights of stairs to the parking lot. It simply capped a very successful night after many months of planning, planning, and more planning by these four ladies!

So, I guess my Stewardship message here to the Parish of St. Peter's for the summer of 2015 is simply: Please just keep doing what you are doing - you give thanks in all of the many things that you give to this church! We certainly thank you for your generosity of Time and Talent!

Respectfully submitted,

Don Hans, Sarah Williams, Diane Hope, Eric Sharpe, Dave Brennfleck

Dollars and Sense



News from your Accounting Warden Franklin Rothenberger

The financial position of St. Peter's through May, 2015 is outlined below.

- Income
 - St. Peter's received \$103,862 in pledges and open plate donations which is on pace with the budget through May.
 - Total operating income was \$126,972 which is about \$11,000 above the budgeted amount of \$115,875.
 - Operating income is over budget primarily because of fundraising income and a \$2,492 refund from the diocese for unused healthcare reimbursement funds from 2013 and 2014.
 - Total income, including pass-thru income of \$10,819, was \$151,063.
 - This number is inflated by \$13,273 which is the initial payment from the insurance claim for the fire damage to the garage. The expenses to repair the damage have not yet been incurred.
- Expense
 - Total operating expenses were \$114,223 which were sufficiently covered by operating income with a surplus of \$12,749.
 - Operating expenses were about \$6,631 under budget through May.
 - Total expenses, including pass through expenses of \$19,903, were \$134,126 through May.
- St. Peter's reported net income of \$16,938 through May, or \$3,665 with the insurance proceeds removed.

Additional detail on income and expenses is available upon request.

Account Balances as of May 31, 2015

- Checking: \$22,638
- Savings: \$38,961
- Certificates of Deposit: \$12,126
- Youth Group: \$871
- Pantry/Outreach: \$12,931
- Mission: \$4,580
- Building Maintenance: \$13,039
- Concert Series: \$2,295
- Petty Cash: \$200
 - **Total Cash: \$107,641**

**As always, your generous support of St. Peter's mission work
and operating expenses is greatly appreciated.**

July Celebrations!

Birthdays



2 Carmine Schiavone
 3 Devon Fraker, Jyl Harrington
 5 David Scott
 6 Andrew Hans
 7 Robert Blauser
 11 Louise Brand
 19 Peter Fifer
 22 Matthew Wier, Tate Wells
 23 Vivek Hivale
 24 Shirley Dietz
 26 Donald Brock
 27 John Jacobs
 31 Dan Coleman

Anniversaries



9 Dennis and Jonie Coleman
 15 Joe and Shirley Dietz
 27 Brian and Karen Martz
 30 Jesse and Mary Lynn Kessler
 Frank and Caitlin Rothenberger

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July Worship Service Participants

Acolytes

5 Sydney Alling
 12 Vernet Spence-Brown
 19 Michael Logar
 26 Thomas Hammaker

Greeters - 8:00 am

5 Glenn Murray
 12 Joan Grunwell
 19 Jack Susskind
 26 Lisa Scott

Greeters – 9:30 am

5 Anne Andrews, Mary Tackett
 12 Lady Rennie, Judi Hans
 19 Michael & Rosemarie O'Rourke
 26 Anne Atlee, Vernet Spence-Brown

Lectors - 8:00 am

5 Lisa Scott
 Lisa Scott *chaliceist*
 12 Ron Gaugler
 19 Henry Young
 26 Lisa Scott

Lectors – 9:30 am

5 Retta Sparano, Jan Wier
 Shelly Brennfledk *intercessions*
 Joanne Arnold *chaliceist*
 Peter Druckenmiller *chaliceist*
 12 Ron Druckenmiller, Joanne Arnold
 Trevor Hall *intercessions*
 Beverly Burkhardt *chaliceist*
 19 Carol Russell, Susan Mathews
 Vernet Spence-Brown *intercessions*
 Carol Russell *chaliceist*
 26 Georgette Druckenmiller, Jan Wier
 Curt Quaintance *intercessions*
 Peter Druckenmiller *chaliceist*

Ushers

5 Clem Young, Sam Smith
 12 Vincent Giancaterino, Robert Parker
 19 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie
 26 Bruce Alling, Jim Tackett

August Celebrations!

Birthdays



- 1 Jesse Kessler
- 2 Elizabeth Andrews
- 3 Dean Kandle
- 6 Ron Gaugler, Caleb Arsenich
- 9 Richard Byndas
- 12 Natasha Young, Patrick Wier
- 13 Cindy Hammaker
- 17 Iris Blanche
- 19 Glynn Fraker
- 21 Ethan Arsenich, Mary Tackett,
Emerson Smith
- 28 Janet Walters
- 29 Bea Quaintance; Vinea Phillips
- 31 Andrea Archer Young

Anniversaries



- 7 Mike and Joyce Paster
Carmine and Lisa Schiavone
- 8 Nick and Patti Petro
- 15 Curt and Bea Quaintance
- 20 Todd Jackson and Jyl Harrington
- 22 Ryan and Stephanie Sutter
- 28 David and Susan Hyatt
W. Peter and Katie Druckenmiller
- 30 John and Anne Andrews

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August Worship Service Participants

Acolytes

- 2 James Hammaker
- 9 Vernet Spence-Brown
- 16 Katie Parker
- 23 Sydney Alling
- 30 Natalia Tackett

Greeters - 8:00 am

- 2 Glenn Murray
- 9 Joan Grunwell
- 16 Jack Susskind
- 23 Lisa Scott
- 30 Glenn Murray

Greeters - 9:30 am

- 2 Cindy Giancaterino, Kim Thornton
- 9 Marva Young, Anne Andrews
- 16 Judi Hans, Pat Howse
- 23 Michael and Rosemarie O'Rourke
- 30 Lady Rennie, Anne Atlee

Lectors - 8:00 am

- 2 Ron Gaugler
Ron Gaugler *chalicist*
- 9 Lisa Scott
- 16 Ron Gaugler
- 23 Henry Young
- 30 Henry Young

Lectors - 9:30 am

- 2 David Brennfleck, Joanne Arnold
Katie Druckenmiller *intercessions*
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*
Joyce Paster *chalicist*
- 9 Vernet Spence-Brown
Beverly Burkhardt
Shelly Brennfleck *intercessions*
Joanne Arnold *chalicist*
- 16 Georgette Druckenmiller
Ron Druckenmiller
Trevor Hall *intercessions*
Vernet Spence-Brown *chalicist*
- 23 Susan Mathews, Joyce Paster
Retta Sparano *intercessions*
Peter Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- 30 David Brennfleck, Shelly Brennfleck
Phoebe Foerster *intercessions*
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*

Ushers

- 2 Clem Young, Sam Smith
- 9 Vincent Giancaterino, Robert Parker
- 16 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie
- 23 Bruce Alling, Jim Tackett
- 30 John Andrews, Mark Hammaker

Save These September Dates!

Sunday

September 20, 2015

2:00 p.m.

Parish Picnic



Copperfield Inn at Lakeside, Limerick, PA



Saturday

September 26, 2015

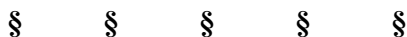
6:00 p.m.

Music at St. Peter's Fundraiser



Featuring The Time Wolfe Jr. Jazz Ensemble

The evening will include live jazz music, delicious food and a beer and wine raffle! Advance tickets will be \$15 and at the door \$20



1ST Annual Golf Tournament

October 12, 2015

Springford Country Club

We will be having tons of fun at our First Annual Golf Tournament to benefit our mission partners in El Salvador, the Cristosal Foundation. Please join us for a full day of lunch, 18 holes of golf with cart, open bar and dinner, all starting with registration at 10:00 AM, tee off at 12:00 and reception / dinner at 5:00 PM. Cost per person is \$145.00, or dinner only at \$65.00.

The Executive Director of Cristosal, Noah Bullock, will be here in person to bring us up to date on Cristosal's extraordinary work addressing human trafficking and internal displacement in El Salvador and Central America.

Please see Gary Russell or Eric Sharpe for further information.

[grussell-321@hotmail.com;
sharpe606@comcast.net]

