

# SAINT PETER'S NET

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

## A Thank You from Fr. Koshy

My brothers and sisters in Christ at St. Peter's,

I write you this note with a heart full of gratitude to God for each of you for your love for Susan and me. The sendoff party you gave us was grand and elegant; it was beyond anything we could imagine or wish for. Your presence at the party meant a lot for us. Also, thank you for inviting so many of our family, and friends from the community. The inclusivity and openness of our church to all people were so evident at the party. We thank you for all the praises lavished on us at the party in beautiful, meaningful and thoughtful ways by the emcee (Mike), the speakers (Gary, Retta and Rev. Andonian), and the presenters of gifts (Liz, Anne, Mona, and Judi) and for those prayers by Deacon Joe, Fr. David and the Vestry. Susan thanks the church for the special recognition and for the gift of a Coach bag given to her. The purse you have given us was so generous, and we thank each of you from the bottom of our hearts for the love that is represented in it. Thank you also for the beautiful memory album with your messages and pictures.

Both sendoffs - first by the youth and children on Cinco de Mayo and the grand party on June 2<sup>nd</sup> - and the Leave Taking Service on the Day of Pentecost were so emotional for us. On those occasions, I truly was not able to say much on the depth of our gratitude and appreciation for the people of St. Peter's. It hit me on the day after our last time being together. That Monday I woke up with an overwhelming sense of loss, my identity as your priest for the last thirteen years. The fact that I am no longer the rector of St. Peter's and the fact the relationship we built over the previous years is no longer the same were hard to accept. I prayed a lot, and I am sure in time I will come to have peace with it. Just as it was painful for me, our separation from each other may be difficult for you also. I recommend that during this interim period you as a parish organize a couple sessions to give voice to your own feelings of loss so that there could be some healing.

Once again, I thank God for those wonderful years of our ministry together. I thank God for St. Peter's for its welcoming of me, an outlier in many respects to you, to be with you as your priest. My prayer for St. Peter's is that it will continue to be a welcoming and inclusive church, not only in having people in the pews but also in having them at the Table, breaking bread together with the strangers, and in doing so we may be fellowshiping with angels unawares. This is what will keep St. Peter's at the cutting edge of the ministry of hospitality. Just as important is our continued engagement in the community by supporting the ongoing initiatives in the areas of affordable housing, environmentalism, multiculturalism, and the likes.

Though we may be apart and separated from each other, let us take comfort in the knowledge that we are bound by the love of God and surrounded by the grace of God and embraced in the peace of God.

With much gratitude and love, *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. David Hyatt, *Assisting Clergy*  
Rev. Joseph Dietz, *Deacon*  
Retta Sparano, *Liturgical Coordinator*  
Derek Maninfiore, *Music Director*  
Judith M. Dougherty, *Parish Secretary*

### Vestry

2020 Judi Hans  
Vincent Giancaterino  
Leo Guen  
2021 Shelly Brennfleck  
Frank Rothenberger  
Jan Wier  
2022 Lynn Boukalik  
Vernon Feather  
MaryJo Wells

### How to contact St. Peter's

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**Email:** [saintpetersphoenix@gmail.com](mailto:saintpetersphoenix@gmail.com)  
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## What's Happening At St. Peter's July and August 2019

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## Deacon's Roundtable

One of the issues causing us angst in our time is the presence of violence in our world, our nation and our community. Violence is endemic in our society today. It touches all of us directly or indirectly. We are bombarded with it on the daily news, in the movies and the TV shows we watch. Our children are confronted with it in our schools, on TV and in the "games" they play. Unfortunately, many of the video games children play are based on violence and the use of violence as a means of competition and winning.

Frederick H. Streets, Chaplain at Yale University, states that "violent behavior is an action taken by an individual, group, or instrument of society that *intentionally* (italics mine) demeans and/or destroys another human being or that person's property." He goes on to say "violence may be inevitable given certain conditions, but it need not be preferable...we must give our attention to what makes violence a preferable means to an end for so many in our society."

How can we, as individuals, fight the battle against violence? Bishop Franklin Turner, in his address to the Diocesan Convention in 1993 suggested "We are all aware that there are numerous issues facing us in the Church and society, but I would strongly urge that we spend a good deal of time addressing the issue of violence and developing meaningful ministries with our children. This would be time well spent."

I might suggest that this be a topic of discussion with our children at the supper table or as part of the discussions in our Youth Group meetings. It is our Christian duty to help our children learn that violence is not a normal and legitimate part of life. We must not allow them to live the perverted Golden Rule which says, "Do unto others before they do it unto you."

I pray our Loving God to be with us as we do our part to diminish the effects of violence on our children and society. *Deacon Joe*

## Special Parish Meeting



Parish By-Laws need adjustment to current practices for electing a rector for which the Vestry recommends technical amendments recommended by our Consultant, the Reverend Richard Ullman. We therefore call a special Parish Meeting to consider and adopt these amendments, to be held during the time of announcements during the 9:30 am service on Sunday, July 21, 2019.

This is not intended to be a long meeting. You will receive by email a copy of the proposed changes 2 weeks prior to the meeting as specified by current by-laws. Paper copies will be available on July 7 in the narthex. Please try to attend this meeting.

*Judi Hans*, Senior Warden

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## Summertime....and the living is easy!



Yes, summer is finally here after a rainy, soggy spring. Summer is the time for relaxing, traveling, vacationing and getting away from daily activities and responsibilities. Unfortunately (or fortunately) our dear church is never able to get away and go on vacation, it is here for us 365 days a year.

During our interim period this summer, it is vitally important for all of us to continue to make Saint Peter's function. It would be so sad if we have a visiting candidate for rector visit us and find an empty church, no activities, and a financial deficit.

We are proud of our lay leadership and how we get things done by everyone pulling together. We need to attend Sunday services regularly, make our financial contributions, and continue to participate in our ministries. Let's make the Summer of 2019 to be the finest summer in the history of Saint Peter's.

*Judi Hans*, Senior Warden

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## Looking For God in the Outdoors

Jolie Chylack



Last month, my mother lent me a wonderful book entitled "Quiet Moments and Holy Places" By James A. Belcher. It focuses on growing closer to God by communing in Nature. Summer often provides us with a more relaxed schedule to take advantage of the many opportunities to do just this in our area. We can choose to enjoy walks through Valley Forge or Mill Grove, the Schuylkill River Trail, or along our local canal at Lock 60.

This past weekend I was reminded of a particularly beautiful and solitary hiking spot as the Environmental Ministry Team held a clean up walk along the Lock. The hiking trail is called the "Neil Thorpe Trail" and the entrance is just to the right (up about 30 yards) as you go beyond the physical lock structure in Mont Clare. The hike has only a slight upgrade but would be considered relatively easy as long as one wears sturdy shoes. There are small waterfalls along this ravine trail and great opportunities to look for birds. It is well shaded and so it's a good choice for a warm summer day.

Wherever you may choose to commune with God, I hope you will enjoy and have a blessed summer season.

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## Summer Giving



Are you planning to be away on vacation this summer? We wish you a great vacation! Your church never goes on vacation – St. Peter's is here when you leave and St. Peter's will be here when you return. In that regard, church expenses continue to accrue during the summer in the same way as the rest of the year. If you do plan to be away, would you consider continuing to meet your pledge during that time - this will have a significant impact on ensuring that St. Peter's continues to meet its financial obligations this summer. Thank you for your consideration!

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## A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis

BCP, page 833

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

**Financial Update – May, 2019**  
from Frank Rothenberger, Accounting Warden

The financial position of St. Peter's through May, 2019 is outlined below.

- **Income**
  - Total open plate donations were \$7,027 which continues to be above budget expectations and pledges were \$119,448 which is higher than expected through May, 2019 by about \$8.9K.
  - Total operating income was \$143,284 which included \$9,014 in rent from the Clinic.
  - Total income, including pass through/designated income of \$200,232, was \$343,516. Designated income included \$173,024 in Capital Campaign funds.
- **Expense**
  - Total operating expenses were \$139,232 resulting in an operating surplus of \$3,588. Discernment expenses were \$4,587 through May, 2019.
  - Total expenses, including pass-through, one-time and other designated expenses of \$63,574, were \$202,626. This included \$32,160 in Capital Campaign expenses.
  - St. Peter's reported an overall surplus of \$140,890 through May, 2019.

Additional detail on income and expense is available upon request and will be reported on at the annual meeting.

**Account Balances (as of 5/31/19):**

- Checking: \$8,559
- Savings: \$4,083
- Certificates of Deposit: \$43,494
- Youth Group: \$1,402
- Pantry/Outreach: \$31,385
- Mission: \$285
- Building Maintenance: \$21,272
- Concert Series: \$4,847
- Capital Campaign: \$198,758
- Ecumenical Meal Program: \$4,033
- Columbarium Project: \$2,890
- Petty Cash: \$200
  - **Total Cash: \$321,207**

**Thank you all for your continued and generous support of St. Peter's.**

## July Celebrations!

### Birthdays



- 3 Jyl Harrington
- 5 David Scott
- 6 Andrew Hans
- 10 Gina Jenkins
- 13 Joseph Sutkowski
- 19 Peter Fifer
- 22 Catherine Wenger, Matthew Wier,  
Tate Wells
- 23 Vivek Hivale
- 24 Shirley Dietz
- 26 Donald Brock
- 27 John Jacobs
- 28 Robert Cassidy
- 29 Evelyn Fifer, Gregory Love
- 31 Dan Coleman, Kim Guiser

### Anniversaries



- 1 Joseph Webster and Laura Winslow
- 2 Robert and Kristen Cassidy
- 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

### *Greeters - 8:00 am*

- 7
- 14 Lisa Scott
- 21 Glenn Murray
- 28 James Dallas

### *Lectors - 8:00 am*

- 7 Lisa Scott  
Lisa Scott *chaliceist*
- 14 Sue Patrick
- 21 Ron Gaugler
- 28 Alexis Wilson

### *Acolytes*

- 7 Vernet Spence-Brown
- 14 Victor Jackson
- 21 Frank Rothenberger
- 28 James Hammaker

### *Greeters - 9:30 am*

- 7 Mike Logar, Anne Andrews
- 14 Judi Hans, Carmita Magee
- 21 Lady Rennie, Cindy Giancaterino
- 28 Marva Young, Cindy Giancaterino

### *Lectors - 9:30 am*

- 7 Todd Jackson, John Magee  
Jan Wier *intercessions*  
Gary Russell *chaliceist*  
Beverly Burkhardt *chaliceist*
- 14 Mona Chylack, Mary Ellen Babbitt  
Catherine Wenger *intercessions*  
Carol Russell *chaliceist*
- 21 Marty Bloem, Vernet Spence-Brown  
**Carol Russell** *intercessions*  
Vincent Giancaterino *chaliceist*
- 28 David Brennfleck, Jolie Chylack  
Kent Wenger *intercessions*  
Richard Green *chaliceist*

### *Ushers*

- 7 Clem Young, Sam Smith
- 14 Mark Hammaker, Robert Parker
- 21 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie
- 28 Bruce Alling, Jim Tackett

# August Celebrations!

## Birthdays



- 1 Jesse Kessler
- 2 Elizabeth Andrews
- 6 Ron Gaugler
- 9 Richard Byndas
- 12 Natasha Young, Patrick Wier
- 13 Cindy Hammaker
- 17 Iris Blanche
- 21 Emerson Smith
- 28 Janet Walters
- 29 Bea Quaintance; Vinea Phillips
- 31 Andrea Archer Young

## Anniversaries



- 7 Mike and Joyce Paster
- 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

### *Greeters - 8:00 am*

- 4 James Dallas
- 11 Lisa Scott
- 18
- 25 Glenn Murray

### *Lectors - 8:00 am*

- 4 Lisa Scott  
Ron Gaugler *chaliceist*
- 11 Sue Patrick
- 18 Alexis Wilson
- 25 Ron Gaugler

### *Acolytes*

- 4 Vernet Spence-Brown
- 11 Victor Jackson
- 18 Sean Magee
- 25 Frank Rothenberger

### *Greeters – 9:30 am*

- 4 Vernet Spence-Brown, Anne Atlee
- 11 Kim Thornton,  
Danielle/Vincent Jouenne
- 18 Judi Hans, Mike Logar
- 25 Rosemarie and Michael O'Rourke

### *Lectors – 9:30 am*

- 4 Vincent Tavani, Beverly Burkhardt  
Retta Sparano *intercessions*  
Vernet Spence-Brown *chaliceist*  
Ron Druckenmiller *chaliceist*
- 11 Susan Thomas, Catherine Wenger  
Trevor Hall *intercessions*  
Beverly Burkhardt *chaliceist*
- 18 Jan Wier, Karen Martz  
Leo Guen *intercessions*  
Carol Russell *chaliceist*
- 25 Lynn Boukalik, Retta Sparano  
Vincent Tavani *intercessions*  
Gary Russell *chaliceist*

### *Ushers*

- 4 Clem Young, Sam Smith
- 11 Mark Hammaker, Robert Parker
- 18 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie
- 25 Bruce Alling, Jim Tackett