

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 Friends and Members of St. Peter's,

As you all know this is my last letter as the rector of your church. Serving in God's mission with you at St. Peter's has been the most joyous and rewarding experience so far for me in my life. I believe it was the Holy Spirit that brought us together to work in this church. Susan and I thank God for each of you, for your willingness to embrace us when we first came. The love and hospitality we have experienced at St. Peter's are unsurpassable.

Now change is upon us. Both you and we are about to open our own new and different chapters in life. Beginning anything new is hard as we don't know what the future holds for us. Wasn't Richard Hooker, the 16th century Anglican theologian, apt when he said, "Change is not made without inconvenience.?" Leaving a present that is familiar and welcoming a future that is uncertain can be hard and not without its anxious moments. Nevertheless, changes and transitions are necessary requirements for anything that is dynamic. We must accept it when the time comes. I find Jesus' words to his disciples as they were about to experience separation from him, "let not your hearts be troubled", very comforting. Friends, we are not without help. Just as we have experienced God's guidance and presence in the past when we were in times of change and transitions, let us have the faith and trust in God's abiding presence now as well.

I find this poem by Julia Cameron very appropriate for us: "*Change creates friction and friction creates change. As we welcome the new, we must surrender the old. Our developing life requires that we make room for it. As we sort papers, clean drawers and clear closets, we are ordering far more than our physical life. As we create harmony, we attract harmony. Our lives become sweeter, less chaotic, more flowing. Clearing away psychic blocks to personal serenity. Change, however inconvenient, creates convenience and flow. Today, be a clear stream flowing softly through green meadows. Make your way swiftly but gently to your goals.*"

Transitions: Prayers and Declarations for a Changing Life.

For both you and us, these days are tender, our hearts ache and our feelings for each other are raw. We feel this way because we love. And it is a good thing. We will continue to be good friends but not pastor and laity. Our relationship now is on a different level, not as someone who would provide you with church's sacramental obligations for you, but as friends with whom we experience the love of God. Our relationship will not be impinged upon the external or visible expressions of the sacraments. These days are good for us to pay attention to our internal spiritual journey, the gift of which is the knowledge that changes or transitions are natural and that they don't have the final word. The gift of this knowledge allows to let go the past and embrace the new.

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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. David Hyatt, *Assisting Clergy*
Rev. Joseph Dietz, *Deacon*
Retta Sparano, *Liturgical Coordinator*
Derek Maninfor, *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

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What's Happening At St. Peter's June 2019

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Let us pray with the words of Rev. Henry Lyte, the Anglican priest, “O Thou who changest not, abide with me.” Let us heed to the words of our Lord, “Be not afraid.” We may have fears about the future and about the changes, but let us not be the fears and let us not create a world in which these fears dominate the conditions of our world.

Blessings, *Fr. Koshy*

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Deacon’s Roundtable

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.” (Hebrews 12:1-2)

A few years ago, my wife Shirley gifted me a book entitled An Iona Prayer Book written by Peter Millar. Each Wednesday, for those who visit Iona is a day of pilgrimage to the Holy sites of the island. Through the centuries folks have gone to places like Iona seeking healing, inspiration, and redirection. Christians are often described as the pilgrim people of God. The Bible also often expresses our spiritual lives as a “journey.”

The author writes in his prologue for Wednesday: “The outward pilgrimage is a sign of this inner journey—of repentance, resurrection and rebirth—the journey of the heart, held in the Creator’s hands. It is rooted in the conviction that life itself is a process of continual change and movement. We are never static, and we carry with us a sense of expectancy, of looking forward in hope.”

The quote from Hebrews expresses that journey of the Christian soul, on a continuing pilgrimage into the heart of God.

The pilgrim path is located everywhere and not just in sacred places. We the people of St. Peter’s Church are embarking on such a pilgrimage. The question arises: Are we open to being a pilgrim? Pilgrimage entails living with risks, uncertainties and loose ends. Everything is never neatly “sown up”—there is always exploration, search, movement, question and challenge. We face all of these as we begin to come together to discern where God is leading us as a congregation.

St. Columba, the founder of Iona, set the example with this prayer: Alone with none but Thee, my God, I journeyed on my way: What need I fear, when Thou art near, O King of night and day? More safe am I within Thy hand than if a host did round me stand. The Child of God can fear no ill, his chosen dread no foe: We leave our fate to Thee, and wait the bidding when we go. ‘Tis not from chance our comfort springs, Thou art our trust, O King of Kings.

Let us keep in prayer Fr. Koshy and Susan as they begin their years of well-earned retirement and our Search Committee and Vestry as they continue to discern whom our Loving God has called to be the new rector of our church.

Deacon Joe

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A Note From The Senior Warden

It is the hope of the Vestry and Discernment Committee to keep everyone informed of changes and news during the interim period following Father Koshy’s departure. Please feel free to ask questions or share comments with vestry persons and discernment committee members at any time. In the spirit of keeping everyone informed, the following service information is offered:

The summer worship schedule begins on June 16. Services will be at 8:00 am and 9:30 am.

The celebrants will be as follows:

June 16

The Reverend Paulsson Rajarigam

June 23

The Reverend Paulsson Rajarigam

June 30 Patronal Feast Day

The Reverend David Hyatt

July 7 to September 1

The Reverend Canon Nancy James Deming

Judi Hans

JudithHans@comcast.net

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Summer Worship Schedule



June 16 through September 1

8:00 and 9:30 a.m.

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Introducing Our Interim Priest



The Rev. Canon Nancy James Deming

The Rev. Canon Nancy James Deming has been ordained to the priesthood for fifteen years, having begun her priestly work as Vicar for ten years, at St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church. St. Gabriel's is a diocesan mission parish located on Roosevelt Boulevard, in the lower part of northeast Philadelphia. From there, Canon

Nancy joined the staff of Interim Bishop Clifton Daniels, III as Canon for Congregational Care and Development. Most recently Canon Nancy completed an Interim Rector assignment with Christ Church, Media, PA. Canon Nancy brings a depth of successful parish leadership experience and a passion for tangible ministry.

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Strawberry Social Hour



Please join us for a strawberry social on Sunday, June 9 after the 10:00 am service. There will be a brief update on the Capital Campaign and we will have the opportunity to enjoy each other's company following Father Koshy's final service with us.

The Capital Campaign Committee

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Discernment Update



The Discernment Committee is continuing the process of evaluating candidates who have applied to St. Peter's to be our new Rector. We are making progress in reviewing the materials submitted by a number of qualified individuals.

The Discernment Committee

Todd Jackson and Diane Hope, Co-Chairs

Meeting Dates
(all held in St. Margaret's Hall)

June 2, 4-6 PM

June 13, 6:30 PM

(Joint meeting with Vestry and Rev. Richard Ullman)

June 9, 11:30 AM

Summer Sunday School Lessons



The Environmental Ministry Committee will be offering a weekly Sunday School lessons during our church services throughout the season (beginning June 30th). The theme is "Saint Peter's and Our World" and is wide open for interpretation. There will be a lesson about our mission work in El Salvador, a lesson about finding nature in our stained glass windows, a yoga lesson and more! Any subject that connects the children to the Earth and their world will be a great topic for the them to learn about!

We are still in need of four lessons on the following dates: July 28, August 11, 18 and 25. If you have an idea for a lesson subject that you could teach to our church children during one of the dates listed, please contact Jolie Chylack at jchylack@msn.com

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The Importance of Stewardship



In the autumn of 2018, our fellow parishioner, Chris Goulian, shared some thoughts on stewardship with us. A few of his meaningful comments follow:

Regarding the importance of stewardship, there are two biblical passages that come to mind. the first is from Psalm 8, in which the psalmist reflects upon the glory of God's creation and on humanity's place in it:

When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
The moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,
What is mankind that you are mindful of them,

human beings that you care for them?
You have made them a little lower than the
angels and crowned them with glory and
honor.

You made them rulers over the works of your
hands;
you put everything under their feet.

The second passage is from Matthew 25. After inviting into the kingdom of heaven those who fed and clothed and visited and comforted him, Jesus, in response to the confusion of those who do not remember ever ministering to his needs, responds:

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

What these two passages reveal, of course, is that we are all stewards, and as such, we have in our care both the world we live in and the people we live with in the world.

This planet, this "fragile earth, our island home," as the Eucharistic prayer describes it, is the only place in the universe available to us that can sustain life as we know it.... As stewards, let us remember that the whole world, and all of humanity, is under our care.... So if that world seems just too wide for us to embrace, then let us remember the smaller worlds in which we live: our homes, our communities, our workplaces, and in particular, our church here at St. Peter's, its family and its mission. Through our gifts, our talents and treasure, we are able to make a difference in the lives of those around us.

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June Birthdays



- [1] Ashley Hans, Stephanie Logar
- [3] Emma Mallowe
- [6] Anne Atlee, Clara De Prado

- [8] Dawn Koch
- [10] Nolan Krummrich
- [12] Lynn Schaefer
- [13] Kent Wenger
- [14] June Henry
- [14] Matthew Dean
- [18] Sherry Ma, Ella Brennfleck
- [19] Michael Nagy
- [21] Tracy Parker
- [23] Brittany Alling, Robert Parker
- [25] Gary Russell
- [30] Walter Boone

June Anniversaries



- [2] Trevor and Erin Hall
- [5] Robert and Tracy Parker
- [7] Edwin and Karen Hartman
- Christopher and Emma Mallowe
- [10] Mark and Cindy Hammaker
- [13] Michael and Lauren Nagy
- [19] Matthew and Annette Kiernan
- [21] Greg and Sharon Schiele
- [22] Dave and Sue Meadows
- [23] Douglas and Gretchen Streuli
- [26] Chris Goulian and Amy Atlee

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June Worship Service Participants

Greeters ~ 8:00 am

- 2** James Dallas
- 9** Lisa Scott
- 16** Volunteer
- 23** Glenn Murray
- 30** James Dallas

Lectors ~ 8:00 am

- 2** Ron Gaugler; Ron Gaugler *chalicist*
- 9** Alexis Wilson
- 16** Lisa Scott
- 23** Alexis Wilson
- 30** Ron Gaugler

Acolytes

- 2** James Hammaker
- Leo Wenger, Christian Wenger
- 9** Victor Jackson
- Sean Magee, M.J. Kiernan
- 16** Vernet Spence-Brown
- Emma Martz, Trey Foerster
- 23** Frank Rothenberger
- Isaac Nagy, Coleman Nagy
- 30** James Hammaker
- Leo Wenger, Christian Wenger

Greeters ~ 10:00 am

- 2** Marva Young, Anne Atlee
- 9** Carmita Magee, Lady Rennie
- 16** Kim Thornton, Pat Howse
- 23** Judi Hans, Danielle/Vincent Jouenne
- 30** Rosemarie and Michael O'Rourke

Lectors ~ 10:00 am

- 2** Mary Ellen Babbitt, Chris Goulian
- Jan Wier *intercessor*
- Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- Peter Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- 9** Leo Guen, Karen Martz
- Retta Sparano *intercessor*
- Vernet Spence-Brown *chalicist*
- Gary Russell *chalicist*
- 16** Vincent Tavani, Carol Russell
- Trevor Hall *intercessor*
- Beverly Burkhardt *chalicist*
- Vincent Giancaterino *chalicist*
- 23** Amy Atlee, Susan Thomas
- Retta Sparano *intercessor*
- Carol Russell *chalicist*
- Gary Russell *chalicist*
- 30** Catherine Wenger, David Brennfleck
- Vernet Spence-Brown *intercessor*
- Vincent Giancaterino *chalicist*
- Richard Greene *chalicist*

Ushers

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

Financial Update – April 2019
from Frank Rothenberger, Accounting Warden

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

- Income
 - Total open plate donations were \$5,131 which is slightly above budget expectations and pledges were \$97,195 which is higher than expected through April, 2019 by about \$8.7K.
 - Easter giving was \$1,883 which is close to the budgeted amount of \$2,250.
 - Total operating income was \$114,761 which included \$6,365 in rent from the Clinic.
 - Total income, including pass through/designated income of \$101,736, was \$216,497. Designated income included \$80,384 in Capital Campaign funds.
- Expense
 - Total operating expenses were \$112,571 resulting in an operating surplus of \$2,190. Discernment expenses were \$4,193 through April, 2019. Utility expenses remain higher than budgeted.
 - Total expenses, including pass-through, one-time and other designated expenses of \$47,686, were \$160,257. This included \$27,150 in Capital Campaign expenses.
 - St. Peter's reported an overall surplus of \$56,240 through April, 2019.

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

Account Balances (as of 4/30/19):

- Checking: \$15,044
- Savings: \$4,083
- Certificates of Deposit: \$43,494
- Youth Group: \$1,402
- Pantry/Outreach: \$33,974
- Mission: \$1,141
- Building Maintenance: \$18,617
- Concert Series: \$4,881
- Capital Campaign: \$106,448
- Ecumenical Meal Program: \$4,112
- Columbarium Project: \$2,889
- Petty Cash: \$200
 - **Total Cash: \$236,285**

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