

# SAINT PETER'S NET

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

From the Rector

*Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer;  
from the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint.  
**Lead me to the rock that is higher than I,**  
for you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.*  
Psalm 61:1-4

In the recent past I have found myself quite often alone in thought, mostly because of the uncertainty of tomorrow, the barrage of news we are receiving telling us that the world around us as we know it is changing faster than we would like to one that none of us has a clue how it will look like. Most of us have never seen anything like this. The pandemic has interrupted our lives. Some have suffered the premature death of loved ones, while others live through and with severe pain and suffering. People are losing their jobs, stock market is tanking, many of us are afraid for our health and that of our loved ones, many of us have been placed under orders not to leave our homes and to shelter in place. I grieve deeply with you the losses that we are all living with and It is also my hope and prayer that what we are learning about ourselves – about our capacity for grace, for hope, for change and for love beyond our walls – will enrich us long after these pandemic ends.

In most of our communities, orders have been given to limit or cancel gatherings in public spaces and this has been hard for all of us. **At St. Peter's, we have canceled opportunities of all public worship and moved them to Phone conferences on Wednesday evenings, Zoom on Friday evenings and YouTube service on Sunday Mornings.** We have also made some changes to our Lunch and Pantry programs to be carry out services.

As we face an uncertain tomorrow as followers of Christ, I would like to remind you that we are:

- A Christmas people: Jesus is incarnated in every act of love and kindness we extend to one another.
- An Easter people: We know God can reach us beyond all the barriers the world can create.
- A Pentecost people: The Holy Spirit can revive us and will be our strength in times of great distress.

In Psalm 61, we are not told why David was overwhelmed, and it is better that we do not know. If we knew his specific circumstances, we would be strongly tempted to limit God's rescue only to those in the same situation. God wanted this prayer to be prayed by His people no matter the reason their heart is overwhelmed.

*When my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I,*

- He needed the rock, **a place of stability and security**, something strong enough to stand against crashing waves or quaking earth.
- He needed a rock that is higher than I, **a place above himself, above his wisdom, above his abilities.**

+ continued on next page +

**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. Fr. Samuel Ndungu, Rector  
Rev. Joseph Dietz, Deacon  
Retta Sparano, Liturgical Coordinator  
Derek Maninfiore, Music Director  
Judith M. Dougherty, Parish Secretary

## Vestry Officers

Diane Hope, Senior Warden  
Mary Jo Wells, Junior Warden  
Frank Rothenberger, Accounting Warden

## Vestry

2021 Shelly Brennleek  
Frank Rothenberger  
Victor Jackson  
2022 Lynn Boukalik  
Vernon Feather  
Mary Jo Wells  
2023 Leo Guen  
Diane Hope  
Todd Jackson

## How to contact St. Peter's

Office: 610-933-2195

Email: [saintpetersphoenix@gmail.com](mailto:saintpetersphoenix@gmail.com)

Web site: [www.saintpeterschurch.net](http://www.saintpeterschurch.net)

## What's Happening At St. Peter's April 2020

### Table of Contents

p. 1 From the Rector  
p. 2 Deacon's Roundtable  
Worship Opportunities  
Meals for St. Mary's  
p. 3 Altar Flowers  
Life Event [new feature]  
p. 4 April Celebrations  
p. 5 Financial Update

He needed **God to lead him to that rock.** David was unable to get to the firm-footed place above his crisis on his own.

Reach out and experience the breadth! Test its length! Plumb the depths! Rise to the heights! Live full lives, full in the fullness of God.

*Thou the spring of all my comfort  
More than life to me  
Whom have I on earth beside Thee?  
Whom in Heav'n but Thee?*

*Fr. Sam*

§ § § § §

### Worship Opportunities at St. Peter's

Wednesday evening at 7:20pm.  
Evening Compline and Check In:  
Dial In: 425-436-6377.  
Access code: 236046.

Friday Evening at 7:20pm.  
Evening Compline and Check in:  
Via Zoom: (Information on Thursday's blast)

Sunday Mornings.  
Service via YouTube and Church website.  
Check your emails too.

§ § § § §

### Deacon's Roundtable

I bring greetings to all of you in this season of illness and uncertainty. I offer for you and our brothers and sisters in Christ this prayer at a time of suffering.

*O God, the Father of all, look down in pity on those who suffer from the effects of the Corona Virus and heal the anguish of the world; release from all those who are in bondage of fear, and set free those who are afflicted with this horrible*

*disease. O Blessed Jesus care for the desolate, give rest to the weary, comfort the sorrowful, watch by the sleepless, and to those who have no one to care for them grant the gentle ministry of the angels to supply their needs and relieve their pain and suffering. Holy and merciful Spirit visit with your great compassion all who are in their last agony and bring them in peace and safety to the Paradise of Love. We ask all of this in the and through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Shortly after you receive this publication we will be celebrating Holy Week followed by the Great Feast of Easter. This Lent has been a real challenge for all of us but we look forward to the Resurrection and the renewal of life. Our great God is with us in all of this just as he was with Jesus on Good Friday. We pray that all of this will have run its course and we can get back to normal as we move through the Great Easter Season and on to Pentecost.

As Job said, "The Lord has given and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord." We put our trust in our Loving God to bring us through to rejoicing and joy.

I pray you all have a Blessed Easter.

*Deacon Joe*

§ § § § §

### Meals for St. Mary's Shelter

April 6-10



Members of St. Peter's have lovingly prepared meals for St. Mary's Shelter in Phoenixville for many years now. We have been asked to provide meals for their 10 residents on April 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10. Please volunteer to make a meal, or, if you want to support our local restaurants in this time of need due to COVID-19, you can

order a meal and have it delivered to the shelter. Maybe call a friend from St. Peter's and 2 families could cook or share the cost of the meal. It would be nice to add some new families to this mission, so please consider doing this. For more details and/or to volunteer, please contact Natalie Famous at 610-716-3758 (call or text) or [NFamous@foxrothschild.com](mailto:NFamous@foxrothschild.com). Thank you!

§ § § § §

## Sponsorship of Altar Flowers



Did you know that you can place Sunday Altar Flowers? There are quite a few "open" Sundays on our list and flowers can be placed in thanksgiving, birthdays, anniversaries or in memory of a loved one. Our "in house" florist, Ron Druckenmiller, arranges the flowers and will bill you directly. The placements can be made "one-time-only" or on an annual basis.

For availability of a Sunday, contact the Parish Office, at 610-933-2195 Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to Noon, or by email: [saintpetersphoenix@gmail.com](mailto:saintpetersphoenix@gmail.com)

§ § § § §

## Life Event

Todd Jackson and  
The Beginning of Retirement.

I retired from the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission on February 28, 2020. Up to this point, my retirement has not been quite what I expected. Jyl and I have happily been getting accustomed to much more time together, since I did plan to spend more time at home. However, social-distancing and self-isolation have really taken "being at home" to a new level for both of us, as for everyone else. Thankfully our time together has been a wonderful highlight of this strange new world, making our isolation much easier.

Another planned part of retirement was to enable more time together with our grandchildren, Bryn and William Hamilton and their parents Eryn Jackson and Dr. Keith Hamilton in Collegetown, as well as our daughter Rachel and her husband Andrew Roth in Virginia. Sadly, spending time with them all has been difficult because of the recent coronavirus restrictions. Fortunately, we have FaceTime video and have spent hours watching our grandchildren while they work on lessons and play. Video is a valuable alternative, although without their wonderful hugs. We look forward to future "social closeness".

A primary goal of retirement is an increased freedom to choose what I spend my time doing, and I begin with a long list of activities that we never got around to in the past. That list will take some real time to work off, and I sincerely look forward to making the most of the rest of my life. It will be an adjustment to not have a very structured schedule such as what constituted the past 43 years of working life. I consider it my mission to master that freedom, no matter how long it takes.

I am a man with many blessings. I have had a great career with many years of interesting and fulfilling work, including a supportive professional community of colleagues and friends. I expect that community will evolve in retirement, shifting into different areas and directions. St. Peter's Church has been and will continue to be part of my community. And, of course I am a man with great wealth in my wonderful family, providing me with all the

reasons I could ever want to be happy in this life.



Todd and Family at the wedding of Rachel and Andrew, May 19, 2019

### April Anniversaries



- [3] Raymond and Amy Foerster
- [14] Ron and Georgette Druckenmiller
- [25] John and Beverly Burkhardt
- [30] Christopher and Megan Wilson

\$     \$     \$     \$     \$

\$     \$     \$     \$     \$

### April Birthdays



- [1] Andrew Quaintance
- [4] John Burkhardt, Brian Thornton  
Susan Thomas, Alia Thomas
- [5] Anna Campbell
- [7] Karen Martz, Steve De Prado  
Frances Stengel
- [8] Michael Logar
- [9] Katie Parker, Chris Goulian,  
Theodore Cassidy
- [11] Erin Hall
- [15] Trey Foerster, Rebecca Martz,  
Amy Atlee
- [16] Adam Schaefer, Desiree Hatton
- [17] Amy Foerster
- [18] Erica Logar, Hannah Druckenmiller
- [20] Sean Mitten, Dennis Coleman
- [21] Mary Lynn Kessler, Blake Pongras  
Jill Patrick
- [23] Emma Martz
- [25] Nigel Jenkins
- [27] Joyce Paster, Brian Martz
- [29] Leo Wenger, Christian Wenger

**Financial Update – February 2020**  
from Frank Rothenberger, Accounting Warden

The financial position of St. Peter's through February, 2020 is outlined below.

- Income
  - Total open plate donations were \$4,638 and pledges were \$41,643 through February.
  - Total operating income was \$50,239 which included \$1,739 in rent from the Clinic.
  - Total income, including pass through/designated income of \$20,809, was \$71,048. Designated income included \$15,370 in Capital Campaign funds.
- Expense
  - Total operating expenses were \$50,436 resulting in an operating deficit of (\$197), essentially breakeven. Operating Expenses included \$2,456 in a repair bill to Trago Mechanical (building maintenance – boiler repair).
  - Total expenses, including pass-through, one-time and other designated expenses of \$51,750, were \$101,992. This included \$47,659 in Capital Campaign expenses.
  - St. Peter's reported an overall deficit of (\$30,944) when considering the Capital Campaign expenses that were covered entirely by previously raised Capital Campaign funds through February, 2020.

Additional detail on income and expense is available upon request.

Account Balances (as of 2/20/20):

- Checking: \$52,447
- Savings: \$10,586
- Certificates of Deposit: \$43,494
- Youth Group: \$1,404
- Pantry/Outreach: \$17,912
- Mission: \$736
- Building Maintenance: \$34,872
- Concert Series: \$4,505
- Capital Campaign: \$163,268
- Ecumenical Meal Program: \$2,307
- Columbarium Project: \$3,063
- Petty Cash: \$200
  - **Total Cash: \$334,795**

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