

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,

Rabbi Hillel asks this great ethical question, "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself who am I?" The other day I had a chance to talk to Lenora Thornton about her brother, Clarence Rittenbaugh, who helps our pantry by bringing meat every other Tuesday from the Giant supermarket. He does it in a quiet way without calling attention to himself. I asked her what impels Clarence, who is in his mid-eighties to do something like this rather than sitting at home and relaxing. She told me we are just one of the few places in Phoenixville he volunteers by bringing food from area supermarkets. He delivers meat to us, vegetables to another and breads to still another. He keeps himself busy throughout the day by collecting and delivering food so that people in our neighborhood won't go hungry. Clarence is not somebody who is only for himself. I get this same sense from talking with many of our friends and members at St. Peter's.

Jesus commands us to love others just as we love ourselves. Rabbi Hillel asks what happens if we are stuck at the point of loving ourselves and never go any further? What makes one from being a narcissistic or self-absorbing personality to an altruistic one? For many this development is a gradual one while for others it is a quick and dramatic shift. It is as if we heard a voice asking us to move beyond ourselves and our concerns, to become more involved in the critical issues of our day, to have an impact on the wider world in which we live. When we respond to that still voice ringing in our ears affirmatively, life becomes more meaningful and worthwhile. We answer our call with a love that resides deep in the recess of our souls with a sense of mission and purpose.

St. Peter's is a community of people who say 'yes' to the call to be the kind of people the world needs today. While firmly anchored in Phoenixville and committed to serving our immediate neighbors, we are also engaged globally. Our engagement in God's mission in the world both near and far calls for a fresh commitment of our time, talent, and resources. I do hope that all of us, both new and longer-term members, answer the call to be partners in God's mission by pledging the most you can to our beloved church.

Let us ask ourselves what form of generosity will change our life today?

In gratitude,

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*
Rev. Dennis Coleman, *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 John Magee
Retta Sparano
2016 Barbara Endrey
Raymond Forester
Cindy Hammaker
2017 Vincent Giancaterino
Judi Hans
Julia Sharpe

How to contact St. Peter's

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What's Happening At St. Peter's

November 2014

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Deacon's Roundtable

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone from our St. Peter's congregation that so graciously gave from their hearts to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of my ordination to the Vocational Deaconate.

Sunday, October 12 was a very emotional day for me as I remembered back to the time I first started my ministry with you as an intern in 1992. We have been through thick and thin together over these past twenty years.

When Retta handed me the envelope during announcement time I was completely overwhelmed by the standing ovation. I was not aware this was happening until Deacon Dennis caused me to turn around. Needless to say, I was awe struck.

The emotions did not come to an end at church. When I got home and read the congratulatory card and wonderful letter written to all of you, I was taken back. The overwhelming part that really struck me and caused me to weep unashamedly was the wonderful monetary gift all of you so willingly gave from your hearts. This was totally unexpected but greatly appreciated.

I am greatly humbled by the trust you have placed in me and my ministry to St. Peter's. I pray we will work together bringing Christ to those who visit us on Sunday mornings and to the wider Phoenixville area. Jesus calls us to be laborers in the vineyard thus bringing more people to the feet of Christ.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the love, support and trust you have placed in me. I pray God's richest blessings on all of you.

In Christ's Love,

Deacon Joe

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A Word From Deacon II

The Awkward Comfort of Silence

The Prayers of the people have become, at the rightful urging of Fr. Hyatt, the prayers of, by, and for the people at St. Peter's, and the world. Your voices speak from wherever you sit in church, lifting that symbol up high, The intercessory list is chanted in unison by everyone. We all pray together for all of those in need.

The 1979 Prayer Book added significant changes to the liturgy, a primary change being the reminder of our baptismal covenant, and that ministry is not solely the job of the clergy, and not spoken only from the altar. All four offices are to minister, Lay People, Bishops, Priests and Deacons.

The rubric in the BCP says that the prayers of the people are to be led by a Deacon or Lay Person. In rubric language, the deacon, listed first, is the first choice. This has evolved into the current understanding that the prayers are to be "led" by the deacon by composing the prayers, and providing instruction. Also, prayer needs can be brought to the deacon to be added to the list, or to have the deacon speak the names of someone that you wish to be added to the list of intercessions. The prayers are to be spoken by...The People.

There are three places where we pause for prayer. When we pray for the sick and special needs of someone, prayers of thanksgiving, and for the departed. The reader of the day is to lead us in silence here, giving us each time for prayer and reflection.

We are not Quakers; silence is unusual in the middle of the service. In fact, we often think that we are only silent if the organist forgot the hymn number or the clergy dozed off.

As we make these changes to fully realize the power and reality of this time for individual prayer, the reader must lead us into a somewhat uncomfortable silence. However, if we can

expect that we will be given this time to silently or audibly think of, and pray for those on our hearts, we enrich this prayer session all the more.

Yours in Christ the Servant,

Deacon Dennis

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Daylight Savings Time Ends



Turn all clocks **BACK** 1 hour before retiring on Saturday, November 1st.

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Day By Day



The November, December, January issue of *Day By Day* [Forward] is available in the Narthex Tract Rack.

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Mission Update

Cindy Hammaker chammaker1@gmail.com

The missions committee hosted a wonderful event/fundraiser for Cristosal at The American

Bar and Grille on October 18th. In attendance were many guests who are service-minded individuals in the community. Noah Bullock (Cristosal's director) and his assistant, Hannah Perls, were present and Noah spoke about Cristosal's ground-breaking work with addressing and mitigating the immigration crisis. Noah was beaming and full of energy at the event. The people present were also energized about Cristosal's missions and funds were raised which will have a significant impact on continuing their tremendous work. Noah then gave the sermon at St. Peter's on October 19th and spoke further about Cristosal's present mission focus. Again, much energy was expressed and parishioners gave more generous donations. This enthusiasm and tangible support is exactly what Cristosal needs right now as they face their incredible tasks ahead! What a terrific send-off to El Salvador as Noah and Hannah dive back into their tremendous work that lies ahead! Thank you so much for all of your contributions and support!



Also, the citrus sale is back by popular demand! The proceeds from this sale will help to defray costs to the El Salvador 2015 missionaries. Orders for 20lb or 40lb boxes (\$30 and \$40) of oranges (navel or juice), grapefruit, mixed box or tangelos are being taken now and with deadline of November 16th. A sales table will be set up after the 10AM service every Sunday leading up to the deadline. You can also contact Cindy Hammaker at chammaker1@gmail.com with questions or to place an order. This fruit is very sweet and tasty and lasts for up to 3 wks. It will arrive by early to mid-December to enhance your holiday season.

The next mission meeting is scheduled for November 17th at 6:30PM and anyone interested is welcome to attend. Thank you again for your support of this invaluable mission of St. Peter's!

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Who's Who



Caitlyn, Frank, and Charlotte Rothenberger

Frank and I bought our first house and moved to Phoenixville in 2010, the same year that we got married. Phoenixville has been a great place for us to live for a lot of reasons. One reason is that it is right in the middle of where we both grew up. Frank is originally from Lititz in Lancaster County. I am originally from Metuchen, NJ. We met while we were both students at Ursinus College. Since graduating, I have been working as a German teacher for the Boyertown Area School District. Frank currently works for Phoenixville Federal Bank and Trust in the Commercial Credit department.

We keep ourselves busy with our daughter Charlotte and our two yellow labs, Charlie and Hurley. Charlotte is nine months old. She is crawling everywhere and loves exploring new things. The boys are 8 and they love going for walks and getting treats. We also spend a lot of time visiting our families and friends, but love living in downtown Phoenixville. We can regularly be seen walking the boys and Charlotte all over town and going to all of the different events in downtown Phoenixville. We have been attending services at St. Peter's for about a year (we love being able to walk to church too). We have felt so welcomed by all of the members of St. Peter's. Frank is excited to recently be given the opportunity to serve the church as treasurer and we have enjoyed learning about all of the ways St. Peter's serves the community.

November Celebrations

Birthdays



- [1] Ellie Kandle
- [2] Phil Howse, Ryan Sutter, Logan Henry
- [4] Corey Young, Blake McClimon,
Michael McClimon, Coleman Nagy
- [6] Cynthia Ciancaterino
- [8] Olivia Dorais, Raegan Dorais
- [9] James Hammaker, Nancy Rowinski
- [11] Vincent Phillips
- [14] Courtney Logar
- [16] Robert Henry
- [24] Kristen Craig
- [26] Natalia Tackett
- [27] Greg Schiele
- [29] Retta Sparano
- [30] Megan Magee

Anniversaries



- [2] Patrick and Jan Wier
- [3] Steve De Prado and Natalie Famous
- [12] Peter and Elizabeth Fifer
- [15] Robert and June Blauser
- [24] Don and Judi Hans

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Two Early Reminders

5th Annual Lessons and Carols

December 7 – 5:00 p.m. A Festival of Lessons and Carols for Advent, presented by the Choir of St. Peter's and Friends.

Carols Around: A Night of Christmas Carols

December 21 – 5:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy an evening of Christmas favorites and get a jump start on the Christmas season.



Financial Update: January through September 2014

Frank Rothenberger, Treasurer



Thank you for your support as I begin my position as treasurer of St. Peter's. We are almost through 2014 and the financial position of the church is outlined below.

- **Income**
 - Open plate donations are in line with the budget but pledges are under budget by about \$4K.
 - Other operating income is slightly over budget
 - Operating income of \$196,436 is \$2,613, or 1.3%, under budget.
 - Total income, including pass through income of \$52K, is \$248,783 through 9/30
- **Expense**
 - Utilities have been higher than expected this year at \$17K which is about \$4K over budget.
 - Overall, total operating expenses of \$191K are about \$7K, or 3%, under budget.
 - Total expenses, including special offerings of \$36K, are \$226,847

Overall, St Peter's is operating sufficiently close to its budget to have a total surplus of \$23,060. Pledge receipts are under the total pledged amount so collecting full pledged amounts in the last quarter of 2014 is important. As long as income and expenses stay within budget as 2014 winds down, there should be sufficient income to cover operating expenses.

Additional detail on income and expenses is available upon request.

Account Balances:

- Checking: \$11,148
- Savings: \$36,445
- Certificates of Deposit: \$11,549
- Youth Group: \$506
- Pantry/Outreach: \$36,307
- Mission: \$846
- Building Maintenance: \$8,000
- Concert Series: \$2943

As we finish out 2014, we thank everybody for the generous contributions so far and encourage everybody to meet their pledges to ensure that St. Peter's is able to meet all of its expenses. Please consider pledging what you are able during the stewardship campaign for 2015 as we prepare next year's budget.

Your generous support of St. Peter's mission work and daily expenses is appreciated.

November Worship Participants

Acolytes

- 2 Julia Sharpe, Brandon Rennie
Katie Parker, Colin Parker,
Megan Magee
9 Thomas Hammaker
James Hammaker, Michael Logar
16 Libby Andrews
Sydney Alling, Megan Magee
23 James Hammaker
Katie Parker, Colin Parker
30 Vernet Spence-Brown
Phoebe Foerster, Natalia Tackett

Greeters - 8:00 am

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

Lectors - 8:00 am

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

Greeters – 10:00 am

- 2 Mary Tackett, Lady Rennie
9 Kim Thornton, Vernet Spence-Brown
16 Cindy Giancaterino, Marva Young
23 Mike Logar, Judi Hans
30 Anne Andrews, Carol Smith

Ushers

- 2 Sam Smith, Robert Parker
9 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie
16 Bruce Alling, Jon Martin
23 Vincent Giancaterino, Victor Jackson
30 Clem Young, Sam Smith

Lectors – 10:00 am

- 2 Curt Quaintance, Beverly Burkhardt
Carol Smith *intercessions*
Joyce Paster, Carol Russell *chalicists*
9 Nicholas Lodico, Retta Sparano
Phoebe Foerster *intercessions*
Joanne Arnold *chalicist*
16 Vernet Spence-Brown, Sarah Ohansian
Marty Bloem *intercessions*
Beverly Burkhardt *chalicist*
23 June Blauser, Joanne Arnold
David Brennfleck *intercessions*
Joyce Paster *chalicist*
30 Carol Russell, Susan Mathews
Shelly Brennfleck *intercessions*
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*



A Prayer of Thanksgiving

[Book of Common Prayer]

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in the season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.