

# 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,

Summer has gone by quickly, and I trust that it has been a good and relaxing time for everyone. Over the summer months, we had four baptisms, two weddings, one funeral, one ordination, and a great mission trip. When Susan and I return from our vacation in India, it will be time to begin our program year at the church.

The Soup Kitchen did not take a break for summer, and continues to thrive with more people joining, both to serve and be served. Like last summer, St. Peter's has taken over Tuesday's soup kitchen with Teri Coleman and Ashley Jaden as organizers. The decision has been made to extend serving a hot meal for lunch every weekday throughout the year; a good thing especially when we consider the number of people who would go hungry if we did not offer this. Deacon Dennis has been assigned to serve St. Peter's in Phoenixville by the bishop following his ordination. By walking the streets of Phoenixville, he is able to identify more people who are hungry, homeless, and in need, and we attempt to help them with the resources we have.

We return to worship in a full church beginning on September 7, Rally Sunday, when we will bless the backpacks of our young people going to school, and children can register for Godly Play classes that will begin on September 14 as well as Children's Chapel. On Sunday, September 21, in the afternoon, a grand parish picnic is planned at Copperfield restaurant in Limerick. On Sunday, September 28, we will hold a Ministry Fair following the service.

The church exists to do God's mission in the world, and as members and friends of St. Peter's, we should be happy to know that we are engaged in God's mission of breaking down the walls that separate us from our neighbors near and far and building bridges that connect us to each other. Often Church's preoccupation with internal concerns takes her away from being in God's mission of serving the "other" both near and far. Jesus made his disciples get on the boat and go to the other side of the Sea of Galilee to meet the so called "other" as I spoke about in a recent sermon: "Crossing the Waters of Life." Preaching that sermon was difficult for me as I considered our family gathering in India and their meeting and acceptance of our gay daughter after her October wedding. This can be like "crossing the waters of life" to meet the "other". The Psalmist assurance, "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me," gives me hope.

After the emotional service on Sunday, I saw the just-released delightful movie, *100 Foot Journey*, which in a way is a secular expression of how wonderful and joyful life can be if people let go of their preconceived notions and meet in the course of our life and live together in love and harmony. The movie ends with all the characters, who used to be strangers and in enmity, breaking bread together. It gives me hope in our human capacity to rise above our differences and prejudices.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Peace 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. 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

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

### September 2014

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## Deacon's Roundtable

***"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."***

(Leviticus 19:18)

We are all familiar with what Jesus calls the "two great commandments" of the Law: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart .... You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37, 39). But these commandments can seem so vague that we may not know how to observe them.

Here in Leviticus, where these words first appear, there are plenty of specifics. Don't steal or cheat. Don't take advantage of the poor. Don't belittle those with disabilities or make things more difficult for them. Don't stand by idly when you could be helping someone in need. Instead of hanging onto resentment or seeking revenge, tell your neighbor what he has done wrong, and then let him resolve it with the Lord.

Jesus is just as specific. We may sometimes wonder how we can love a Messiah who is invisible and who lives in heaven. He can seem so distant to us, so different from the people we encounter every day.

Or is he? If you want to see Jesus, look into the eyes of someone who is poor, hungry, homeless, sick, or imprisoned. Look into the eyes of a friend or family member who is suffering in some way. Listen carefully to what this person is saying—and is not saying. Stay long enough to find Jesus, so that you will end up treating him or her as you would treat the Lord.

This can seem overwhelming, especially when we think about how limited our resources are. *How can I possibly show this person real love?* The key comes in God's word to the Israelites: "I am the Lord." It is as if Jesus is telling us, *Here I am, looking through the eyes of this man's homelessness, that woman's poverty, this child's woundedness. They are all "these least brothers of mine," and when you look at them, you see me. When you serve them, you serve me. When you love them, you are loving me.*

Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta would often say that it was a privilege to care for the poorest of the poor because they offered her so many opportunities to meet Jesus. May we all find this same privilege as we minister to the needy ones among us—even those in our own families.

In Christ's Love,

*Deacon Joe*

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## My Heartfelt "Thank You's"

As some of you know, I first came to St. Peters Church in 1956 when my family moved to Charlestown. It was my parish as a boy and young man, and then again as a young man with a family. After some time away, I returned for a visit in January of 2013, and it felt like a homecoming. So first off, I thank you all for that warm welcome.

In June of this year, following ordination, I was delighted to be assigned to my "home" parish. This is a bit unusual, but at the encouragement of Fr. Mathews to join with St. Peters in their local mission work, the Archdeacon and the Bishop have placed me here, particularly to continue as a "street" Deacon, serving the hungry and homeless of our town.

We are the only parish of the Diocese to have two Deacons, and this has a great deal to do with the encouragement and welcome spirit of Deacon Joe. So, I express my gratitude to him. I am grateful to all of you for welcoming me back, and for the generous and beautiful gift of the Dalmatic and Stole.

If you feel called to take part in the work of the Servant Christ in our town, please join me.

Peace and Grace and Thanks to you all.

*Deacon Dennis*

## Sunday, September 7

Return to Worship times of  
**8:00 and 10:00 a.m.**

**AND**

### Blessing of School Back Packs



A special prayer and blessing will be offered for the new school year as our children start back to school. Children are encouraged to bring their back packs to Church on the 7<sup>th</sup> and come forward to the altar for prayer and blessing.

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### Youth Group Meetings Resume

The first day of Youth Group will be Sunday, **September 14** from **4:30 to 7:00 PM**. We will meet every other Sunday evening at the same time until the end of April 2015.

We are excited to look forward to our J2A pilgrimage in June 2015 in the beautiful state of Maine. We will also have plenty of fun activities and service opportunities to complement the Christian education component of our program.



Please speak with Katie Druckenmiller if you have any questions or by email at [kdruckenmiller@gmail.com](mailto:kdruckenmiller@gmail.com).

## Annual Parish Picnic

Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>

Rain or Shine

2 to 6 p.m.

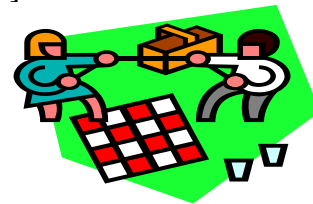
Copperfield Inn at Lakeside

Limerick, PA

Provided: Hot Dogs, Burgers, Condiments, Snacks, Soft Drinks, Beer and Wine

You are asked to bring side dishes or a dessert; Child's Halloween Costume or Bagged Candy which will be given to our Pantry clients.

Also available: Live Acoustic Music, game of Horseshoes, fishing in our "lake" [bring your own poles and bait] and especially for the children, a clown/face painter/balloon artist [3 to 4:30 p.m.].



Please RSVP to Vince Giancaterino at [mutziking@aol.com](mailto:mutziking@aol.com)

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### Property Committee/Men's Group

Mark Hamaker

The Property Committee is dedicated to maintaining the physical appearance and condition of the church to support the various missions of the church, and to make us all feel good about calling St. Peter's our spiritual home. Our routine work includes cutting the grass and maintaining the general appearance of the church exterior.

We met at the church on August 23<sup>rd</sup> for a morning of fellowship and to (1) steam clean the

Sunday School carpets, (2) install a Knox Box (to allow access to the church by the fire department in case of emergency), (3) repair the Sacristy door, (4) paint the Prospect Street door, and (5) mark the bottoms of chairs/tables in the Smith Fellowship Hall. Upcoming work activities will include completing repairs to front walkways, roof coating the garage, repairing Clinic sidewalks, cleaning gutters/drains, and installing new Altar Guild faucet in the kitchen, in addition to other numerous smaller and larger projects. Our **next day to work** on projects is **on Saturday, September 27, 8am to noon** – we hope that you can plan to join us.



The Property Committee is also interested in helping our parishioners who need assistance on small projects they either do not have the experience to do themselves or cannot afford to hire someone to do the work for them. Please contact either Mark Hammaker (267-319-2258 | markhammaker@gmail.com ) or Fr. Mathews if you have a project that you need assistance with.

The Men’s Group has also been busy brewing two batches of homemade beer that have been shared at the Property Committee meetings. Rumor has it that a third batch is in the works. All of the men of St. Peter’s are encouraged to come join in the fellowship that our group has to offer. **The next meeting of the Property Committee/Men’s Group** is on **Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm** in the Fr. Fifer Room.

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## Ministry Fair – September 28

Judi Hans



Please plan to attend the Ministry Fair to be held after the 10:00 service on Sunday, September 28. Several organizations from the Phoenixville community have been invited to discuss volunteer opportunities to serve our neighbors. In addition, several of our ministries at Saint Peter’s will also highlight ways you can share your gifts within and outside of our church walls. The fair will be held in the Florence Smith fellowship room.

If you would like more information or if your group would like to participate in the Ministry Fair, please contact Judith Hans at [judithhans@comcast.net](mailto:judithhans@comcast.net) or Barbara Endrey at [echobarb@comcast.net](mailto:echobarb@comcast.net)

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### Did You Know?



Did you know that church budget is based on the pledged donations from our parish members? The open plate donations can only be applied for general operating expenses. This means that without our members’ commitment to pledge each year, we cannot fully fund important.

This year, if you donated in the open plate but you did not send in your pledge card, please consider pledging this year. Saint Peter’s Church appreciates your donations in any form (volunteering or financial), however the pledging process is very important to allow our budget to be planned in a more efficient way.

Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

*The Stewardship Committee*

# Universal Access Update



The Universal Access project is under way, expected to be completed in late September or before. For the first time, parishioners and visitors using wheelchairs or with severely limited mobility will be able to access worship services. Total cost will be about \$75,000. The project will include:

- New universal access ramp with railings from the parking lot to the nave of the church.
- New entry door into the nave.
- Refurbished ceiling and lighting fixtures on the ceiling of the Lady Chapel exterior alcove.
- New concrete steps on either side of the ramp.
- New concrete pad at the ground level entrance door.
- Parking lot improvements to include additional parking spaces, concrete walkway with railing parallel to the church building.
- New lighting throughout to improve visibility and provide heightened security.
- New drainage systems to manage water flow more effectively.
- Several new trees and landscaping improvements.

Thank you to all who contributed to our Capital Campaign which has made our dream of universal access a reality.

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## 2014 El Salvador Mission

Cindy Hammaker



This past July, ten missionaries made our 7<sup>th</sup> trip to El Salvador to engage with our friends there. This year, our mission evolved from a work-based approach to a more interactive experience enabling us to gain keener awareness and understanding of their struggle. Our focus this

year was a women’s group in Amatapec, spending a day in their community and traveling with them visiting sites of interest. We easily became inspired as we heard their stores of sorrow, courage and strength. They are developing a successful, cooperative business called Spirit Without Borders which produces and sells handcrafted jewelry and other useful items.

We visited the village of La Anemona for our 4<sup>th</sup> year, where we have made lasting friendships. The residents of this village have had to flee from deadly mudslides and relocate once again. One resident shared with us that our presence gives them hope, and to please continue to keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

There is a quote from Mother Teresa that states the true essence of our mission so eloquently: *“When we see the individual, when we learn each other’s stories, when we sit, talk, look each other in the eye, when we break bread together, that is where the prejudices and the stereotypes melt away and we see each other as brothers and sisters”.*

Thank you to all who support St. Peter’s El Salvador mission; it is a mission of the whole church that reaches beyond our borders and touches lives beyond our comprehension through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We will share more about our trip on October 19<sup>th</sup> at a special mission service and reception.

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## September Celebrations

Anniversaries



[8] David and Lisa Scott; [17] Frank and Nancy Giampietro; [18] Ben and Sarah Ohanesian; [24] Donald and Lisa Brock; [30] Clem and Marva Young

## Birthdays



[1] Barnes Jacobs; [2] Andrew Tosco, Allison Tosco; [4] June Blausner; [7] Beverly Burkhardt, Finn Sutter; [8] Glenn Murray, Vincent Giancaterino; [9] Fred Park, Minita Hivale; [10] Christopher Wilson; [11] Megan Wilson; [12] Daniel Coleman, Jr.; [13] Katie Druckenmiller, Reece Farnum; [14] Tom Weiss, Colin Parker; [16] Georgette Druckenmiller, Kavita Hivale; [17] John Young, Andrew Grace; [18] Jean Getzey; [19] Raymond K. Forester, Jr.; [24] Peggy Kandle; [26] Joan Grunwell; [28] James Tackett, Dahlia Boone; [29] Cathy Sullens, Kenneth Henry

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## September Worship Participants

### *Acolytes*

7 Thomas Hammaker  
James Hammaker, Michael Logar  
14 Vernet Spence-Brown  
Sydney Alling, Brittany Alling  
21 Brandon Rennie  
Katie Parker, Colin Parker  
28 Vernet Spence-Brown  
Libby Andrews, Megan Magee

### *Greeters - 8:00 am*

7 Joan Grunwell  
14 Jack Susskind  
21 Lisa Reid-Scott  
28 Glenn Murray

### *Greeters – 10:00 am*

7 Michael and Rosemarie O'Rourke  
14 Anne Andrews, Penny McClimon  
21 Carol Smith, Mike Logar  
28 Marva Young, Judi Hans

### *Lectors - 8:00 am*

7 Ron Gaugler *lector*  
Lisa Reid-Scott *chalicist*  
14 Todd Jackson  
21 Henry Young  
28 Lisa Reid-Scott

### *Lectors – 10:00 am*

7 Brittany Alling, Retta Sparano  
Joanne Arnold *intercessor*  
Carol Russell *chalicist*  
Peter Druckenmiller *chalicist*  
14 Marty Bloem, Iris Blanche  
Nicholas Lodico *intercessor*  
Vernet Spence-Brown *chalicist*  
21 Shelly Brennfleck, Susan Mathews  
Carol Russell *intercessor*  
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*  
28 Joyce Paster, Vernet Spence-Brown  
Jan Wier *intercessor*  
Beverly Burkhardt *chalicist*

### *Ushers*

7 Jon Martin, Clem Young  
14 Vincent Giancaterino, Bruce Alling  
21 Carl Rennie, Victor Jackson  
28 Jon Martin, Sam Smith

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## You'll Find A Welcome Here!

*My friend, you'll find a welcome here. So pause a while to meditate. Here bring the burdens of your mind, with all the pains of your heart you bear. Just bring them here, and take instead the Way of Christ. The peace it brings, the love it shares, the service it inspires; will be to you the Way, the Truth, and the Abundant Life.*

First Christian Church, Sebring, Florida

# Dollars and Sense

News from your Accounting Warden, Retta Sparano



Year-to-date Operating Income & Expense through 31 July 2014

## INCOME

Pledge	\$ 126,630
Open Plate	10,827
Clinic Rent	10,500
Easter/Christmas	2,357
Use of Building	863
Flowers/Candles	672
Miscellaneous	
Total Operating Income	\$ 151,849
Pass-through income*	48,367
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 200,216</b>

## EXPENSE

Diocesan Giving	\$ 9,581
Personnel	99,035
Worship (Altar supplies/Music)	3,468
Administration	10,579
Mission	2,500
Outreach Recipients	900
Ministries	1,713
Insurance	4,414
Boiler Loan	6,096
Property (utilities/supplies)	21,914
Total operating expense	\$ 160,200
Pass-through expense	34,051
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 194,251</b>

The above income and expense reflects budgeted items. Detail of the “pass-through” accounts such as mission, pantry, rector’s discretionary fund and specially designated funds are available on request. Most of these pass-through funds reside in separate designated accounts.

## Balances as of 7/31/14

Checking	\$ 5,471
Savings	36,985
Certificates of Deposit	12,055
Youth Group	1,256
Mission	587
Pantry/Outreach	33,711
Concert Series	1,988
Building Maintenance	8,008

*As we approach the Stewardship Campaign for 2015, please prayerfully consider your pledge.*