

# 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,

We enter April this year in the middle of Holy Week and right away we'll be celebrating Easter. Once again, with great joy and exuberance on Easter morning, we will say: "Alleluia. Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia." When celebrating the Eucharist, it has been hard for me not to say Alleluia especially at the time of fraction. The tradition of holding back on Alleluia during the days of Lent and Holy Week doesn't make much sense to me, however, the absence of alleluia from our liturgy during this time makes you think and appreciate more of what Jesus has accomplished through his passion. Jesus, mistaken for a gardener by Mary at the grave that Easter morning, was himself the planter. What was thought to be dead and buried now comes to life with more vigor and vitality. Alleluia. Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Easter brings joy and happiness into our lives, and our time to celebrate. Easter turns the first day of the week, the day of resurrection, as our Sabbath, a day of rest, feast and celebration, and legitimizes our need to chill, relax, and be playful. On Easter day Jesus, by appearing to the disciples who locked themselves up in a room, afraid and guilty, unburdened them of their fear and guilt. The resurrected Jesus, unbound himself of human limitations, was playful in all his appearances to his disciples. He greeted them each time by saying 'fear not'. He forgave them for their betrayal, denial and for their not having the courage of their conviction. Just as God in the beginning was playful in sculpting Adam out of clay and breathing life into him, Jesus, after his resurrection, turned his clay feet disciples into brave men by breathing Holy Spirit into them. God's creative work continues through us today. Unbound, unafraid and unburdened, we today are called to creatively celebrate our lives as individuals, families and communities.

How do we practice resurrected life? We need to unshackle ourselves by becoming a forgiving people. This is the first thing the risen Jesus asked his disciples to do, "If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." We need to celebrate the ongoing presence of the risen Lord in our lives. Let us be intentional about our being and our doing. Some of us have been following the Lenten meditations on Internet offered by the brothers at the Society of Saint John the Evangelist. They talked about the importance of Stop, Pray, Work, Play, and Love in our lives giving each their due time. Unless we are intentional about these various aspects, which make our life fulfilled, the world will turn us into mere pegs in the great machinery of production. Let us claim our time, our Sabbath, and celebrate it as a risen people, as the people of our risen Lord.

Blessings,

*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*  
Alex Smith, *Interim Organist*  
Judith M. Dougherty, *Parish Secretary*  
Maria Yanez, *Sexton*

### Vestry

2016 Raymond Forester  
Cindy Hammaker  
Courtenay Williams  
2017 Vincent Giancaterino  
Judi Hans  
Julia Sharpe  
2018 Frank Rothenberger  
Retta Sparano  
Jan Wier

### How to contact St. Peter's

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

April 2015

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## Deacon's Roundtable

*"You have made known to me the paths of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence."*

Acts2:28

Almost four years ago we were blessed with the birth of our first great-grandchild. She was a little premature but fought valiantly for life. Shirley and I watched as little Kennedy grew and began to take her first steps. It is quite a sight to see a child master the art of crawling and then one day decide to take a stand. That first wobbly step or two usually ends in a tumbling heap on the floor with no tears, just determination. Soon she was walking, then faster and faster than she had ever thought; millions of steps and tumbles later she a little master of walking, running and dancing. She began dance lessons last year and prances around the house with her little tu-tu when she visits with us in our home.

As we enter the Easter season together with the apostles, let's play with an analogy. Before Jesus rose from the dead and poured out His Spirit, the apostles were a little like expert crawlers. They timidly clung to hope and to each other for comfort. They clung to old skills, even taking up fishing again. But when the Spirit came, they were so full of God's love that they decided to stand and share the good news of that love with all of Jerusalem. Next, they learned not just to stand but to walk with the Spirit. Cooperating with this immense outpouring of grace, they witnessed heaven touching earth in the form of miracles and conversions. They danced for joy. They ran to the four corners of the earth, announcing, "Christ is risen!"

Today, Jesus wants to make this news resound in our hearts as well. "I am risen!" Can you sense the immensity of his love? Embrace it! Let the empty tomb and the triumph of the cross raise you to your feet. Jesus is inviting you to learn to walk with him as he travels the "paths of life" in the power of the Spirit.

Would you like to see heaven touching earth? Then say **Yes** and stand up. It doesn't matter how many times, or how hard, you've fallen in the past. This is a season of breakthrough! Every day, spend time with Jesus. Ask Jesus to fill you with love until your cup runs over. And practice walking through the natural peaks, plains, and valleys of your day close to His side. Then you will surely dance when you see him using your life to usher in His kingdom.

"Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

Blessings in Christ's name.

*Deacon Joe*

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## A Word From Deacon II

### **From Shrove Tuesday to Maundy Thursday**

Have you ever wondered what those words mean? They are very nearly the bookends of our Lenten season.

I often wonder about words that we say and use but don't truly understand; but then again, that's just me. My wife often says that I wonder about more things than "normal people".

Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday. Some call it Fat Tuesday, which is Mardi Gras if you translate it to French.

It's called Fat Tuesday, having to do with the ancient practice of giving up meat, which is fatty. So you gobble up the last of the meat, before Ash Wednesday. The Spanish and Portuguese have the same tradition, but they call it Carnival, which come from Carne Vale or Goodbye Meat.

But I digress, because that has nothing to do with why we call it Shrove Tuesday. "Shrove" is the past tense of the word "shrive," which means to hear a confession, assign penance, and

absolve from sin. Shrove Tuesday is a reminder that we are entering a season of penance.

Maundy Thursday is the day of the last supper, and the day when Jesus washes the disciple's feet. While these are important parts of our tradition, they aren't Maundy. Maundy comes from an old French word *mande*, and from the Latin, *mandatum*. It is the origin of our word *mandate*. The mandate is the final commandment from Jesus. A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. And how did he love us? Just as we are, and full of hope for us.

*P.S.* Some folks have talked with me about helping out our friends that we see on pantry days, or at lunch. Sometimes they are unsure how to respond to requests for help or money. Keeping in mind the mandate proposed above, the best thing to do is to direct them toward Koshy, or any clergy. Many people contribute to a discretionary fund that is established just for that purpose.

*Deacon Dennis*

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Holy Week Services



Maundy Thursday + April 2

7:30 p.m. Eucharist; Foot Washing  
9:00 p.m. Vigil until 1:30 p.m. Friday

Good Friday + April 3

1:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross  
2:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday + April 4

7:30 p.m. Great Vigil of Easter

Easter Day + April 5

8:00 a.m. Eucharist  
10:00 a.m. Festival Choral Eucharist

Meals for St. Mary's Shelter

April 13-17



Volunteers are once again needed to prepare meals for St. Mary's Shelter. You do not have to prepare a meal "alone", make this a family event or ask a friend or relative to join you. If you are able to prepare a meal or have any questions please contact Jan Wier at [janwier@comast.net](mailto:janwier@comast.net).

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Art Auction and Raffle Fundraiser

April 18, 2015



Tickets are available after the 10:00 service for the Saint Peter's Art Auction and Raffle Fundraiser on April 18. It will be held at the church from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, cost is \$15 per ticket or \$25 per pair/couple. The admission tickets will cover the cost of hors d'oeuvres, dessert, and beverages to enjoy while viewing art and sports memorabilia for purchase in the range of \$40 to \$400. The event will feature a live auction and it will be an enjoyable evening for everyone.

Although the art auction should be an evening of fun at Saint Peter's, it is also a fundraiser for our church. We hope you can all attend or help with a donation of a raffle basket, or as a sponsor or patron. There are also opportunities to donate food and wine for the event. If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Mariel Gniewoz-Weiss at 610-310-6408 or [mariel.gniewoz@gmail.com](mailto:mariel.gniewoz@gmail.com)

## Sunday Evening Music at St. Peter's

On Sunday, April 19 at 4:00 pm, we will have the next concert as part of the **Music@St. Peter's concert series**. The Alan Segal Quartet plays the music we all love, quintessential jazz, in a manner that entices the audience to stop what they're doing, turn and listen. Who of us could ignore the strength and vibrancy, of Eddie Etkins on saxophone, the rhythms of Leon Jordan, the fills and styling of George Sinkler on piano and the tempos of bassist Alan Segal? The audience forever tempted to sing along, is embraced and welcomed to the jazz and blues scene. They soon feel that they are part of the quartet and have become our friends, and indeed they have! These fine musicians have been performing in the tri-state area for many years, coalescing into the Alan Segal Quartet, playing the music they love – American Jazz in all its glory. Please join us for a lovely evening of Jazz and Joe. Light refreshments will be served.



On Sunday, May 3 at 4:00 pm, the Phoenixville Area High School Vocal Ensemble and Women's Choir will be joining us for an afternoon of beautiful choral music. These ensembles are made up of audition-only choral students of the highest caliber. This ensemble is for students who are highly motivated and self-directed and who wish a musical experience at an intense level.

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### St. Peter's Pantry



The Pantry Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all who so generously continue to help with the pantry and breakfast

ministry. So many of you have stepped up to the plate when we needed food items, have contributed funds so we can buy needed supplies, or have given of their time to volunteer on Saturdays and/or Mondays to help make the pantry and kitchen run smoothly.

Thank you for supplying recyclable grocery bags. Quite often the clients forget to bring bags and the ones you supply are a great help.



As you know, we have begun the Monday evening pantry. The United Methodist Church of Phoenixville provides a cooked meal for the clients and for anyone who is in need of a warm home cooked meal. We are grateful to this group for their dedication and energy. The Monday Pantry program is growing slowly with new clients being accepted. Some of our Saturday clients have found this evening pantry more to their liking as some do work on Saturday's and can't fit it in their schedule.

If you feel called to help, please contact Doreen Penczer ([penczer@comcast.net](mailto:penczer@comcast.net)) or Gary Russell ([grussell-21@hotmail.com](mailto:grussell-21@hotmail.com)).

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### Godly Play



The Godly Play children have been spending the six weeks of Lent getting ready to come close to the Mystery of Easter. The Faces of Easter story focuses on the life of Jesus; his birth, the boy who was lost and found in "his Father's house", the man who was baptized by his cousin John, Jesus being temped in the desert, His work with the people no one wanted to be close to,

and Christ as he enters Jerusalem for the last time and offers the Twelve – and us – bread and wine.

Now, Easter Joy! The Easter Season is not just one Sunday, it is seven! Continue to bring these children together in our circle to play and wonder about the joy that is Easter.



Pentecost is the next of the “Three Great Times” of the church year. The children are very curious about this red hot Sunday. Don’t let them miss the build up to this unique day.

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### Children’s Summer Worship

Planning for a fresh children’s summer worship program is underway. It will take place during the worship service. It will be fun. It will be playful. It will be artful. It may be outside. It may be musical. It may be tasty. We may get wet. We may get dirty. And God will be with us.



Stay tuned. Ideas? Input? A pop up tent to donate? Want to be a part of this even for one Sunday? Contact Jan Wier at [janwier@comcast.net](mailto:janwier@comcast.net)

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### Summer Evening Story Time



In an effort to provide a simple story time to community children who may not be able to go

to a library story because of parent’s work schedules, an evening story time program is being proposed. The premise would be to hold it once a week, in the evening, outdoors, during the summer. Looking for folks who love to read to children, or good organizers, or communicators, or simply have thoughtful ideas to contribute. Contact Jan Wier at [janwier@comcast.net](mailto:janwier@comcast.net).

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### Job Posting Children’s Chapel Coordinator

Danielle Smith has been coordinating our Children’s Chapel program for the last several years. She’s done a beautiful job, and has an excellent program for our youngest children. As her own children age out of this program, (and she teaches Godly Play too!), it is time to pass the baton. Please take a moment to thank Danielle for all her work.



Children’s Chapel is an important program at St. Peter’s, and we need someone who is willing to coordinate it. You can have children in the program or not. There are still several Sundays left this spring to work with Danielle to get comfortable with the program. Please contact Danielle Smith – [daniellecsmith@comcast.net](mailto:daniellecsmith@comcast.net) or Jan Wier – [janwier@comcast.net](mailto:janwier@comcast.net).





## Financial Update - February, 2015

from Frank Rothenberger, Accounting Warden



The financial position of St. Peter's through February, 2015 is outlined below.

- **Income**

- St. Peter's received \$42,673 in pledges and open plate donations which is about \$1,000 above the budget of \$41,660.
- Total operating income was \$48,929 which is \$3,619 above the budgeted amount of \$45,310.
- Total income, including pass-thru income, was \$51,537.

- **Expense**

- Total operating expenses were \$45,634 which were covered by operating income with a surplus of \$3,295.
  - Operating expenses were \$6,071 under the budgeted amount of \$51,705 because of utility expense under budget and budgeted operating expenses yet to be incurred.
  - Total expenses, including pass through expenses of \$8,068, were \$53,882 through February, 2015.
- St. Peter's reported a deficit of (\$2,329) through February because of carryover pantry expenses that have been sufficiently covered by the Pantry account balance.

Additional detail on income and expenses is available upon request.

Account Balances as of February 28, 2015

- Checking: \$489
- Savings: \$38,951
- Certificates of Deposit: \$11,550
- Youth Group: \$1,531
- Pantry/Outreach: \$21,283
- Mission: \$1,475
- Building Maintenance: \$12,029
- Concert Series: \$2,363

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

# El Salvador Mission News

Cindy Hammaker



The 2015 mission to El Salvador is slated for July 11<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> and there are still openings to join this year's enriching, educational trip. Our focus this year will be human trafficking and internal displacement. We will be united with Cristosal as they guide us on a journey of learning and understanding of these highly important issues which impact so many. Cristosal is doing bold and amazing work to address and mitigate these issues. You can learn more about Cristosal's great work by going to [www.cristosal.org](http://www.cristosal.org). If interested in participating in this experience, please contact Cindy Hammaker very soon at [chammaker1@gmail.com](mailto:chammaker1@gmail.com). Our next missions meeting will be Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7PM and you are encouraged to attend this meeting if interested.

I also want to extend the committee's warm thank you for your contribution to the Dollar a Day Campaign which occurred during Lent season. Your donation can be handed in via the April 12th service's collection plate in a designated envelope. Your generous contribution will go directly towards defraying the cost to the missionaries this summer and will help to make the mission a reality.



There will be a flower sale fundraiser back by popular demand and it will start in mid-April with flowers being delivered by May 17th. This year, the flowers will all be hanging baskets with a variety of colors and types of flowers. The baskets are large and very eye-

catching. They lasted all summer long for many people last year, so they'll add to our spring and summer enjoyment! More details about the sale will be coming in mid-April.

Thank you again for supporting St. Peter's effort of being led by faith in understanding and service to the needs of others less fortunate.

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## April Celebrations



### Birthdays

- [1] Andrew Quaintance
- [4] John Burkhardt, Susan Murray, Brian Thornton
- [5] Anna Campbell
- [7] Karen Martz, Steve De Prado
- [8] Michael Logar, Daniel Birkbeck
- [9] Katie Parker
- [14] Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathews
- [15] Tre Foerster, Rebecca Martz
- [16] Adam Schaefer, Barbara Rocchi, Desiree Young
- [17] George Browne, Amy Foerster
- [18] Erica Logar, Hannah Druckenmiller, Jillian Birkbeck
- [20] Sean Mitten, Dennis Coleman
- [21] Mary Lynn Kessler, Blake Pongras
- [23] Emma Martz
- [27] Joyce Paster, Brian Martz, Rebecca Ray

### Anniversaries

- [3] Raymond and Amy Foerster
- [7] Joseph and Karen Tosco
- [14] Ron and Georgette Druckenmiller
- [18] Jim and Barbara Rocchi
- [22] Robert and Deborah Birkbeck
- [23] Richard and Phyllis Byndas
- [25] John and Beverly Burkhardt
- [30] Christopher and Megan Wilson

# Worship Service Participants For the Month of April



## Acolytes

- 27:30 Vernet Spence-Brown  
Sydney Alling, Natalia Tackett
- 3 2:00 Vernet Spence-Brown
- 4 7:30 Vernet Spence-Brown  
Julia Sharpe, Mighael Logar
- 5 Libby Andrews, Brandon Rennie  
Phoebe Foerster, Megan Magee,  
Sean Magee
- 12 Vernet Spence-Brown  
Cartier Bengochea, Cayenne Bengochea
- 19 Thomas Hammaker  
Katie Parker, Colin Parker
- 26 James Hammer  
Sydney Alling, Michael Logar

## Greeters - 8:00 am

- 5 Lisa Scott
- 12 Glenn Murray
- 19 Joan Grunwell
- 26 Jack Susskind

## Greeters - 10:00 am

- 2 7:30 Judi Hans
- 3 2:00 Judi Hans
- 4 7:30 Pat Howse
- 5 Marva Young, Anne Andrews
- 12 Robert and June Blausen
- 19 Michael and Rosemarie O'Rourke
- 26 Mary Tackett, Lady Rennie

## Lectors - 8:00 am

- 5 Ron Gaugler  
Ron Gaugler *chalicist*
- 12 Henry Young
- 19 Lisa Scott
- 26 Ron Gaugler

## Lectors - 10:00 am

- 2 7:30 Susan Mathews, Curt Quaintance  
Vernet Spence-Brown *intercessor*  
Joanne Arnold, Carol Russell *chalicists*
- 3 2:00 Beverly Burkhardt, Joyce Paster  
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- 4 7:30 Retta Sparano, Marty Bloem  
Ron Druckenmiller *intercessor*  
Joyce Paster *chalicist*
- 5 Katie Druckenmiller, June Blausen  
Trevor Hall *intercessor*  
Beverly Burkhardt *chalicist*  
Vernet Spence-Brown *chalicist*
- 12 Jan Wier, Phoebe Foerster  
Joyce Paster *intercessor*  
Peter Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- 19 Curt Quaintance, Carol Russell  
Retta Sparano *intercessor*  
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- 26 Beverly Burkhardt, Michael Logar  
June Blausen *intercessor*  
Joanne Arnold *chalicist*

## Ushers

- 5 Clem Young, Sam Smith
- 12 Vincent Giancaterino, Robert Parker
- 19 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie
- 26 Bruce Alling, Jim Tackett

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## Take Time

### to Think:

*It is the source power*

### to Play:

*It is the secret of perpetual youth*

### to Read:

*It is the fountain of wisdom*

### to Pray:

*It is the greatest power on earth*

### to Love and Be Loved:

*It is a God-given privilege*

### to Be Friendly:

*It is the road to happiness*

Author Unknown