

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 Members and Friends of St. Peter's,

Wasn't it wonderful on Trinity Sunday to recognize that over forty people have officially joined our church! As the rector of our parish it makes me very happy to see that we continue to be a welcoming and inviting faith community. What makes new people join us has a lot to do with the present members keeping our church open and inclusive. The church does not belong to us; we belong to the church. To the early disciples who wanted to join his movement, Jesus' refrain was, "come and see." We want to keep St. Peter's as a "come and see" church.

Our branding committee has been working diligently on a tag line for our church that is a short and succinct text that summarizes our character. The tag line "*St. Peter's; where loving and serving are one*" really reflects what we are all about. Our community would easily attest to it that we have been indeed a loving and serving church both now and in the past. We keep finding new ways to serve our community. St. Peter's has been providing leadership and space to Diversity in Action Group in their attempt in establishing an ongoing mentoring program at Phoenixville Area School District for children who are not doing well in school and life. We're also working on extending a school lunch program available to needy children during summer months.

The other areas we're working on are communications and modernization of our record keeping. We have purchased Realm, a web-based software system specifically designed for churches that will help us integrate communications within our community, updating directory, programs, and our accounting. We are also working on our website to make it more up to date and nimble.

Currently, a group is working on formulating a new capital campaign to make our church internally more accessible, to make more room for programs and storage, and to restore and refurbish some of the areas that are crumbling.

St. Peter's is a church with members who are open and welcoming to all, with programs that help members form and grow in faith, with ministries and missions that serve the needs of the people within and without, and with facilities that are conducive to worship, study, and meditation.

May God enable our church and us to serve as God's healing and reconciling presence in our neighborhood and in the world!

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

Very Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathews, *Rector*
Rev. David Hyatt, *Assisting Clergy*
Rev. Joseph Dietz, *Deacon*
Rev. Dennis Coleman, *Deacon*
Retta Sparano, *Liturgical Coordinator*
Karen Greene, *Organist/Choirmaster*
Judith M. Dougherty, *Parish Secretary*
Maria Yanez, *Sexton*

Vestry

February 2017	Vincent Giancaterino Julia Sharpe Retta Sparano
February 2018	Frank Rothenberger Judi Hans Jan Wier
February 2019	Raymond Forester Karen Martz Brian Prato

How to contact St. Peter's

Office: 610-933-2195

Email: saintpetersphoenix@gmail.com

Web site: www.saintpeterschurch.net

What's Happening At St. Peter's

June 2016

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Deacon's Roundtable

Every day people in our towns and cities are facing violence through the use of hand guns and other weapons. To bring this more to the awareness of the public the deacons of the Episcopal Church and especially in the Diocese of Pennsylvania are promoting Sunday June 5 as Gun Violence Awareness Sunday. To commemorate this day the clergy will be wearing orange stoles, armbands or ribbons. We encourage our parishioners to join us in wearing orange to show solidarity.

Let me be perfectly clear that we are not in any way promoting the banning of guns in our society. We are bringing to the forefront our concern for the indiscriminate use of firearms and how they are stored and cared for.

In 2013, the last year for which we have figures, 30,000 people died in the United States from being shot with a gun. Every week two toddlers—children aged 1 to 3—shoot themselves or others with a gun.



We as Deacons of the Diocese of Pennsylvania are inviting everyone to wear orange on Sunday, June 5. We are not setting a precedent. In the 1980's many folks wore red ribbons to bring awareness to the AIDS epidemic. Many of us wear pink ribbons to bring awareness to breast cancer and its victims. For this reason we invite you to wear some article of orange to bring awareness to the crisis which is killing and injuring our people, especially our young people in this diocese and in our country.

For further information please see the following web sites: <http://wearorange.org>, <http://www.ceasefirepa.org>. You can also listen to Presiding Bishop Michael Curry speak out against gun violence at General Convention <http://youtu.be/PsfpLdMlaio>.

Let us all pray for an end to gun violence.

Deacon Joe

A Word From Deacon II

The worship committee and clergy have been discussing lately, ways to seek to "keep everyone happy" with our services. This is important and necessary work, and good folks have been quite thoughtful about this. Fr. Hyatt and Deacon Joe are developing a pew card with some helpful thoughts on the topic.

Here are some other thoughts that have been rumbling around in my head: We are a diverse group. Some have been Episcopalians for a lifetime, some for just a short time. Some come primarily for the music. Some find it pleasant to listen and sing, the choir works hard to lead the hymns, the sung parts of the liturgy and to give us an anthem. Some don't care about the music much at all. Some come to hear The Word, some for the sermon. Some don't care about the sermon much at all.

The centerpiece of our common worship is the Eucharist. Some drink, some dunk. For some the consecration words, and the prayer time immediately following receiving the Eucharist are times of intense and silent devotion. For some, a lively a boisterous exchange of the peace with everyone present is important fellowship. For others, it is symbolic, brief, and subdued.

For some, the time just before worship is a time of quiet preparation and personal gathering-in, for others, it is a time to greet friends. For some, coffee hour is an important extension of the worship and a chance to fellowship together. Others simply go home.

There is no single set of rules that can define how we are to behave in church, we differ too much in how we worship and connect with our God. What is important to remember is that if you like to chat rather than sing the hymn, that it may not be the case for the folks down the pew from you. Thumbing through the bulletin or texting during the sermon may suit you just fine, but be distracting to your neighbor.

Our spiritual diversity is just as real as our ethnic diversity. Honoring others will guarantee a pleasant and meaningful experience for all. And keep in mind that we are a big and beautiful family, but we're not perfect.

Deacon Dennis

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Summer Worship Schedule



June 19 through September 4

8:00 and 9:30 a.m.

Except June 26
ONE SERVICE ONLY – 9:30 a.m.
 Paternal Sunday

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Add a little Spice to your life!



JOIN US FOR DINNER!

[Appetizers and Dessert are included] [BYOB]

Catered By: AMAN'S INDIAN BISTRO

When: Saturday, June 11- 6:00 p.m.

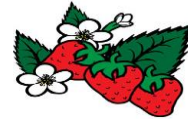
Where: St. Peter's Episcopal Church
 121 Church St., Phoenixville

Cost: \$25:00 per person

Benefit: El Salvador Missioner Travel

For tickets see a Mission Committee Member or call 610-933-2195

Strawberry Social Hour



For many years, Saint Peter's hosted an annual Strawberry Social in June. Please join us during fellowship hour on June 12 to revisit our past and hopefully continue the tradition into the future. If weather permits, we will have our Strawberry Social outside, on the lawn between the church and the parking lot. Please come!

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Godly Play Update



Our Godly Play fundraiser was a success! We will be able to purchase beautiful enrichment materials for our older children, and possibly be able to start our third classroom in the fall. Thanks to everyone who donated, and to our Godly Play Team who give of themselves every single week.

June 5th is our last day of class for the season. It is our tradition to have ice cream sundaes for our party. Families are encouraged to drop off any sundae topping to the classroom that morning.

If you are interested in joining our Godly Play team, we'd love to talk to you. We will especially be looking for people to become trained Door Persons for the fall. What's a door person? Please contact me to learn more, janwier@comcast.net.

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Children's Summer Worship Program



When: Begins Sunday, June 19 at 9:30.
Children follow program leader up the aisle at the beginning of the service. Children return at Peace time.

Who: children ages 3-3rd grade, younger children may attend with an adult. Older children and youth who might want to help, contact janwier@comcast.net.

What: "Neighbors" - our theme this summer will focus on our neighbors in the community. We'll have visits from firefighters, police, business owners, a nurse and a yoga instructor.

Where: we will meet either in the fellowship hall or outside on the grounds, weather permitting.

Interested in helping with this project, contact janwier@comcast.net

contact Genevieve Barker: [610-731-4222](tel:610-731-4222) or genevieve.hughes@ymail.com

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Greetings from the pantry!

Summer is coming!!



All of the Pantry Committee members are overwhelmed by your very generous, continued support of the pantry – *Thank You!*

We continue to serve about 80-100 families each pantry. Our faithful scouts deliver to 22-25 residents at St. Peter's Place and we pick up about 10 folks on Saturdays to enjoy breakfast, fellowship and food.

One of our own faithful volunteers, Bella Jenney, has painted a beautiful mural in the Fifer Room, please stop by to see it when you have a minute.

Another local scout troop has spent the last few months making tote bags from used tee shirts, as well as tote bags for personal products. They have made over 100 totes and were handed out at our May 24th pantry. We are excited to see what they have done.

As we continue to serve, word gets out in the community. Recently we received a very nice donation from MOPS! That is a group of Mothers of Pre-Schoolers who were looking for a service project and heard of the pantry.

We are looking forward to summer, and also to your continued generous support of us and those we serve in the community.

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Children's Chapel



As St Peter's is growing, so are our children's programs! Children's Chapel is looking for volunteers for the fall schedule to guide children in the gospel. If you would like to help, it is much appreciated! For more information, please

Financial Update – April, 2016

from Frank Rothenberger, Accounting Warden

The financial position of St. Peter's through April, 2016 is outlined below.

- Income
 - Total open plate donations through March were \$8,906 which is about \$2.6K in excess of budget and pledges were \$82,168 which is about \$2K in excess of budget.
 - Easter offering was \$1,456 which falls about \$1K short of the budgeted amount.
 - Total operating income was \$97K through April after removal of pass-through accounts, Clinic rental and non-recurring income. Operating income is about \$7K in excess of budget primarily because of pledge and open plate donations exceeding budget expectations by about \$5K and \$1.5K in income for use of St. Peter's.
 - Total income, including pass-thru income of \$15K, was \$123,147.
- Expense
 - Total operating expenses were \$92,348 which were sufficiently covered by operating income with a surplus of \$6,656.
 - Operating expenses continue to be less than budget at about \$6K through April. Expenses are controlled through April because of actual expenses being less than anticipated, including utilities about \$1.5K less than expected through April.
 - Total expenses, including pass through expenses of \$14.7K, were \$108,045 through April.
- St. Peter's reported net income of \$15,287 through April.

Additional detail on income and expenses is available upon request.

Account Balances (as of 4/30/16):

- Checking: \$13,267
- Savings: \$39,032
- Certificates of Deposit: \$12,126
- Youth Group: \$1,136
- Pantry/Outreach: \$16,435
- Mission: \$5,079
- Building Maintenance: \$25,276
- Concert Series: \$3,231
- NEW Capital Campaign: \$33,062
- Petty Cash: \$200
 - **Total Cash: \$148,845**

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

June Celebrations

Birthdays



- [1] Ashley Hans, Stephanie Logar
- [2] Madeleine Williams
- [4] Deacon Williams
- [6] Anne Atlee, Clara De Prado
- [8] Dawn Koch
- [10] Eric Sharpe
- [12] Lynn Schaefer
- [14] June Henry, Sonia Rivera
- [17] Brock Farnum
- [18] Cartier and Cayenne Bengochea,
Ella Brennfleck
- [19] Michael Nagy
- [21] Tracy Parker
- [23] Karen Tosco, Brittany Alling,
Robert Parker
- [25] Gary Russell
- [30] Walter Boone

Anniversaries



- [5] Robert and Tracy Parker
- [7] Edwin and Karen Hartman
- [10] Mark and Cindy Hammaker
- [13] Michael and Lauren Nagy;
- [21] Greg and Sharon Schiele
Patrick and Shelly Carney
- [22] Dave and Sue Meadows
Keith and Sherry Farnum
- [25] Dan and Terri Coleman

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Who's New? Who's Who?



Meghan and Brian Prato
Claire (3 years) and Brynna (8 months)

We currently live in Phoenixville near the Kimberton Fish and Game Association, but just bought our first home as a family and will be moving to Springfield in June! Don't worry – we absolutely love Saint Peter's and will still be coming as parishioners! A 30 minute drive doesn't scare us.

Brian is the operations manager for both the Army All-American Marching Band and the Jersey Surf Drum and Bugle Corps. He also runs his own business consigning used color guard equipment. Meghan is a psychologist, and currently works in a residential treatment facility with children/adolescents with autism and intellectual disabilities.

Brian and Meghan met through the marching band activity, and were friends for a long time before they started to date back in 2006. Brian popped the question 4 years later in Ireland, and in 2012, they were married. Their oldest daughter, Claire, made a surprise early arrival the following January, and fought her way home after a 2 month stay in the NICU. In 2014, Meghan graduated with her doctorate in psychology, and Brian and Meghan decided to move down to the Southeastern Pennsylvania area to have access to better job opportunities. They settled into a house that they rented from family, and found jobs doing what both of them love to do. Not too long after that, Claire's little sister Brynna came along (thankfully on schedule!). Now the family of four is complete, and they've found a home to call their own in Springfield, PA! Both Brian and Meghan have a deep love and appreciation for music and the

arts. They both also really love to travel, and hope that they can share both of those passions with their girls as they get older.

After moving down to Phoenixville, Brian and Meghan wanted to find a church to call home. It was important for them to find a place that their daughters would be welcomed and have a place to learn and grow within an inclusive Christian faith. Meghan was raised Episcopalian, and went to a couple churches in the area of various denominations to find the “right” one. When she went to a service at Saint Peter’s, she knew she had found a place to call their church home.

What drew Meghan and Brian initially to Saint Peter’s was the people that are there. They were welcomed with very warm and loving open arms from everyone we encountered, and it was clearly a supportive place. They also loved the number of families in the church, and the small children. They wanted to make sure that their children would be welcomed just as much as they were, and to see so many beautiful kids present and engaged in service was wonderful. Finally, they were truly touched by the service that Saint Peter’s provides to the community, and the inclusiveness and love they share for anyone and everyone. In a world where it is so easy to judge and criticize, they were so happy to find a place where the people genuinely showed an interest in and acceptance of everyone who walks through the door. Those are the kinds of values that they want their children to grow up with, and it’s why they love Saint Peter’s so much!

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June Worship Service Participants

Greeters ~ 8:00 am

- 5 Jack Susskind
- 12 Lisa Scott
- 19 Glenn Murray
- 26 **ONE SERVICE ONLY – 9:30 a.m.**

Lectors ~ 8:00 am

- 5 Ron Gaugler; Lisa Scott *chalicist*
- 12 Henry Young
- 19 Lisa Scott
- 26 **ONE SERVICE ONLY – 9:30 a.m.**

Acolytes

- 5 Brandon Rennie
Sydney Alling, Libby Andrews
- 12 Vernet Spence-Brown
Katie Parker, Colin Parker
- 19 9:30 James Hammaker
Michael Logar, Emma Martz
- 26 9:30 Ryan Sutter
Sean Magee, Mali Warren
Brandon Rennie

Greeters ~ 10:00 am

- 5 Mike Logar, Anne Andrews
- 12 Kim Thornton, Judi Hans
- 19 9:30 Cindy Giancaterino
Vernet Spence-Brown
- 26 9:30 Pat Howse, Marva Young

Lectors ~ 10:00 am

- 5 Mali Warren, Trevor Hall
Georgette Druckenmiller *intercessor*
Peter Druckenmiller *chalicist*
Beverly Burkhardt *chalicist*
- 12 Ron Druckenmiller, Katie Druckenmiller
Susan Mathews *intercessor*
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- 19 9:30 Phoebe Foerster, Marty Bloem
Leo Guen *intercessor*
Joyce Paster *chalicist*
- 26 9:30 Trevor Hall, Carol Russell
Jan Wier *intercessor*
Beverly Burkhardt *chalicist*

Ushers

- 5 Clem Young, Sam Smith
- 12 Vincent Giancaterino, Robert Parker
- 19 9:30 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie
- 26 9:30 Bruce Alling, Jim Tackett