

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 just celebrated our Patronal Day this past Sunday though the actual date is June 29. Our Patron Saint, Peter, shares this day with Paul, another equally important saint. In many ways they were an odd couple to share the same the day in the liturgical calendar. We owe these two stalwarts of our faith, who couldn't be more different in their background and upbringing, for their vision and leadership for the church, especially in its infancy. While Peter kept the nascent church anchored in Jerusalem and developed it into a strong worshiping community and institution, Paul took the message of Christ into the far-flung areas of the world and made the church into a multi-centered global entity.

Though Peter and Paul differ in their vision and strategy for the future of church, in retrospect, one could clearly see how the church history has validated them both. Worship *and* mission and not worship *or* mission is the way to be a church. They are not mutually exclusive. Worship without mission is self-centered and inward looking. And mission without worship has no basis or authority and would be like an NGO. The book of the Acts of the Apostles talks about the tense moments Peter and Paul had between them in executing their visions for the church.

The tension between maintaining the nascent church as a stable entity and taking it on the road for mission is a good one provided that the tension is managed and balanced. This tension reminds me of the centripetal and centrifugal forces I learned in Physics. These are the two equal and opposing forces that keep our planet and other planets in space, in circular motion and in different orbits at a constant speed around the Sun. Just as centripetal and centrifugal forces are equally crucial for the planetary system, the pull and push of worship and mission are important for our faith life in the church and in the world.

In this regard our church is both a worshiping and a sending community. We gather regularly to re-equip, re-energize ourselves for the work of ministry and mission of the church. We gather only to be scattered. We gather weekly to be formed in faith and informed about our mission and then we are sent out into the community both near and far to do God's work among God's people. We're neighborhood mission church when it comes to serving the poor and needy in our community. We see our neighborhood globally as well like apostle Paul. This week some of our young people along with their chaperones are in El Salvador, engaged in contextual and experiential learning on Youth Leadership and Human Rights. What we are doing is important work. I want to thank the members of our church, the diocese, and Coatesville Evangelical Foundation for their support of this mission work.

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

Very Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathews, *Rector*
Rev. Joseph Dietz, *Deacon*
Retta Sparano, *Liturgical Coordinator*
Karen Greene, *Music Director*
Judith M. Dougherty, *Parish Secretary*
Maria Yanez, *Sexton*

Vestry

2018 Frank Rothenberger
Retta Sparano
Jan Wier
2019 Raymond Forester
Karen Martz
Brian Prato
2020 Judi Hans
Vincent Giancaterino
Julia Sharpe

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 July and August 2017

- p. 1 From the Rector
- p. 2 Deacon's Roundtable
- p. 3 How Can I Serve?
Walk for Hungar
- p. 4 Summer Giving
Financial Status
- p. 5 July Celebrations and Worship
Service Participants
- p. 6 July Calendar
- p. 7 August Celebrations and
Worship Service Participants
- p. 8 August Calendar

This is the second summer our church provides the leadership for the summer school lunch program for the children who would otherwise go hungry. We thank Gary Russell and a host of volunteers from our church and the community for this effort. St. Peter's with the help of neighborhood churches continues its weekday lunch and weekend pantry and breakfast programs. We thank our neighborhood churches for sharing in this work with us.

Summer is not a time off for the church. As in the previous summer, Jan Wier is leading an effort in a Summer Worship Program for children with an emphasis on knowing our neighbors. This takes place during the time of our second service on Sunday. Also this summer, we will begin planning on ministries and new initiatives for the program year.

It is my hope and prayer that we continue to be a church where worshiping of our God and engaging in the work of ministry and mission go hand in hand. Whether we are home or away this summer, let us continue to worship and serve our God. Have a blessed summer!

In Christ,
Koshy

§ § § § §

Deacon's Roundtable

Intercessory Prayer – What is it? Why do we use it on Sunday and in our daily prayer life? We intercede for someone when we lift them in prayer to our Lord for healing or some other adversity. We do this because we believe that our prayers do make a difference in peoples' lives. Before one can pray, however; one must see God as the present living God. Prayer is the conversation we have with God. It is through prayer that the will of God and our wills combine into one will. In humility we meet the creator one on one.

In truth, we can influence God's will. We do this by opening our lives to God so that God can do, in and through us, what he wants to do. God does not wish to have humans suffer, but without us opening ourselves to Him, through prayer, and making ourselves available to him as instruments of his action, he will do nothing. He has given us free will to act as his agents or not to act. God has so much he wants us to give and do through our lives, but the prayer-less and unresponsive heart blocks His will.

Whether we intend it or not, to pray for another person is to become involved in their life. To do this we must more deeply abandon our own lives. Our prayers become more other centered and less self-centered. Maybe this is the real problem with the implied unwillingness to intercede. To pray any prayer, we must believe that our souls are joined with the being of God. This is especially true of intercessory prayer. You have to believe that intercessory prayer can touch another person's soul through God and that you can be used by God to affect the other person's life. One way to do this is to picture Jesus laying one nail pierced hand on you and the other hand on the person for whom you are praying. The act is then carried out by love you have for Jesus and the other person. To influence someone, you must love them. To love them, you must pray for them. There is no act of real love than the act of intercessory prayer. Prayer really does things. It does not change God's intentions, but it does change God's actions. His action is through us because of the love we have for others.

Thus we have intercessory prayers in our worship service every Sunday and prayers of anointing and healing on First Sundays. I have personally witnessed God's action through these prayers and know for a fact that he does hear our prayers and answers them in His way.

I pray God's richest blessings on all of you.

Deacon Joe

How Can I Serve?



In April of 2013 Pope Francis addressed an audience saying: *“In this period of crisis today, it is important not to turn in on ourselves, burying our own talent, our spiritual, intellectual, and material riches, everything that the Lord has given us; but, rather, to open ourselves to be supportive, to be attentive to others. Set your stakes on great ideals of service that make your talents faithful. Life is not given to be jealously guarded for ourselves, but is given to us so we may give it in turn.”*

This important message of stewardship from the Pope can be seen as urging us, at St. Peter’s, to service. While many already do serve the church, others might want to begin to assist in worship services as a lector, as an usher, or singing in the choir; or perhaps we could serve one of the many organizations in the Phoenixville community such as the Food Pantry, the Code Blue Shelter, or the Summer School Lunch Program; perhaps we could staff the wonderful programs St. Peter’s offers young people including the Godly Play program, the summer Meet Our Neighbors Program, or the monthly meetings for our high school youth; some people may choose to travel to El Salvador to learn of the work of Cristosol in raising awareness of human rights issues. These few suggestions only begin to scratch the surface of possibilities for service. The needs are great and the opportunities are reaching out. Friends, your many talents will be greatly welcomed, so please step forward and offer them. If you are uncertain where you can best assist, please contact Father Koshy who will be happy to direct you to an important cause.

And finally, as you enjoy the leisure of the summer months please remember your church and continue offering your gifts of treasure to support the good work happening at St. Peter’s.

Have a blessed and restful summer!

The Stewardship Committee

Very Warm Greetings from the Pantry!

It looks like summer has arrived in full force! A bit slower would have been nice.

MARK YOUR CALENDER: SATURDAY, AUGUST 5th FOR THE 3rd ANNUAL WALK FOR HUNGER

We are busy putting together the final plans for this event. Let me give you a brief history of the Walk for Hunger: Two years ago Juliana Flora felt the need to challenge herself and she chose to walk 18 miles and raise money for the hungry and chose St. Peter’s Pantry to be the recipient of her efforts. (A decision for which we are ever indebted) She walked 18 miles along Rt. 113, ending at St. Peter’s Church. Using her talents with social media she raised over \$1000. We rewarded her with a bucket of ice for her very sore feet, which she has not forgotten!

Last year she decided to walk 18 miles on the Perkiomen Trail, so we were able to give her a send-off at Snyder Road, meeting her at Plank Road with a bucket of ice and again meeting her at the end, Pawlings Road, with more ice. (her only request) She again raised well over \$1000.

This year we want to bring more awareness to this wonderful event. Juliana will again walk the Perkiomen Trail but we want to step up our support. We are looking for people to walk with her for all or part of the way. Also people to sponsor a walker. She will start at Snyder Road at about 8am. As of now, we have someone who will meet and “guide” walkers from Plank Road to Lower Perkiomen Park (8 miles) at about 10:30am also at Collegetown to the end (5 1/2 miles) at about 12:30. The event will end at Lower Perkiomen Park at about 3:30pm, with a picnic and of course a bucket of ice.

Please, watch your bulletin and email blast for more information about times and how you can help if you don’t want to walk or want to donate to this wonderful event. Please feel free to contact either Doreen at penczer@comcast.net

or Gary at grussell21@hotmail.com with any questions.

The pantry continues to serve 80-100 folks each time and we are so grateful for your continued support.

Your ever faithful pantry



Summer Giving



Are you planning to be away on vacation this summer? We wish you a great vacation! Your church never goes on vacation – St. Peter’s is here when you leave and St. Peter’s will be here when you return. In that regard, church expenses continue to accrue during the summer in the same way as the rest of the year. If you do plan to be away, would you consider continuing to meet your pledge during that time - this will have a significant impact on ensuring that St. Peter’s continues to meet its financial obligations this summer. Thank you for your consideration!

Financial Update – May, 2017

from Frank Rothenberger, Accounting Warden

Income

- Total open plate donations through April were \$9,419 and pledge income was \$114,358. Pledge income and open plate donations continue to be above budget by a combined \$2.8K.
- Total operating income was \$140,659 after removal of pass-through income of \$16,985, which continues to be higher than expected.
- Total income was \$157,644 through May.

Expense

- Total operating expenses were \$125,790 after removal of pass-through expenses of \$24,469.
- Operating expenses continue to be close to budgeted expenses of \$120,879 and include some long-term building repairs and maintenance expensed in 2017.
 - Operating expenses through April were sufficiently covered by operating income with a surplus of \$19,780.
- Total expenses were \$150,553.

Total expenses were sufficiently covered by total income with a surplus of \$7,091.

Additional detail on income and expenses is available upon request.

Account Balances (as of 5/31/17):

- Checking: \$23,296
- Savings: \$9,067
- Certificates of Deposit: \$42,490
- Youth Group: \$1,136
- Pantry/Outreach: \$7,275
- Mission: \$2,128
- Building Maintenance: \$42,133
- Concert Series: \$3,988
- Capital Campaign: \$34,137
- Ecumenical Meal Program: \$1,473
- Petty Cash: \$200
 - **Total Cash: \$165,850**

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

July Celebrations!

Birthdays



3 Jyl Harrington
 5 David Scott
 6 Andrew Hans
 11 Louise Brand
 19 Peter Fifer
 22 Matthew Wier, Tate Wells
 23 Vivek Hivale
 24 Shirley Dietz
 26 Donald Brock
 27 John Jacobs
 31 Dan Coleman

Anniversaries



9 Dennis and Jonie Coleman
 15 Joe and Shirley Dietz
 27 Brian and Karen Martz
 30 Jesse and Mary Lynn Kessler
 Frank and Caitlin Rothenberger

§ § § § §

July Worship Service Participants

Greeters - 8:00 am

2 Joan Grunwell
 9 Lisa Scott
 16
 23 Glenn Murray
 30 Joan Grunwell

Lectors - 8:00 am

2 Henry Young
 Lisa Scott *chalcist*
 9 Ron Gaugler
 16 Anne Holbrook
 23 Alexis Radouane
 30 Lisa Scott

Acolytes

2 Vernet Spence-Brown
 9 Phoebe Foerster
 16 James Hammaker
 23 Sydney Alling
 30 Katie Parker

Greeters – 9:30 am

2 Anne Atlee, Kim Thornton
 9 Marva Young, Anne Andrews
 16 Vernet Spence-Brown, Marva Young
 23 Cindy Giancaterino, Lady Rennie
 30 Michael and Rosemarie O'Rourke

Lectors – 9:30 am

2 Todd Jackson, Leo Guen
 Trevor Gordon Hall *intercessions*
 Vernet Spence-Brown *chalcist*
 Joyce Paster *chalcist*
 9 Joyce Paster, Asha George-Guiser
 Susan Mathews *intercessions*
 Carol Russell *chalcist*
 16 David Brennfleck, Curt Quaintance
 Mali Warren *intercessions*
 Ron Druckenmiller *chalcist*
 23 Vernet Spence-Brown
 Catherine Wenger
 Ron Druckenmiller *intercessions*
 Joyce Paster *chalcist*
 30 Karen Martz, Trevor Gordon Hall
 Georgette Druckenmiller *intercessions*
 Peter Druckenmiller *chalcist*

Ushers

2 Clem Young, Sam Smith
 9 Vincent Giancaterino, Robert Parker
 16 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie
 23 Bruce Alling, Jim Tackett
 30 John Andrews, Mark Hammaker

August Celebrations!

Birthdays



- 1 Jesse Kessler
- 2 Elizabeth Andrews
- 6 Ron Gaugler
- 9 Richard Byndas
- 12 Natasha Young, Patrick Wier
- 13 Cindy Hammaker
- 17 Iris Blanche
- 21 Emerson Smith
- 28 Janet Walters
- 29 Bea Quaintance; Vinea Phillips
- 31 Andrea Archer Young

Anniversaries



- 7 Mike and Joyce Paster
- 8 Nick and Patti Petro
- 15 Curt and Bea Quaintance
- 20 Todd Jackson and Jyl Harrington
- 22 Ryan and Stephanie Sutter
- 28 David and Susan Hyatt
W. Peter and Katie Druckenmiller
- 30 John and Anne Andrews

§ § § § §

August Worship Service Participants

Greeters - 8:00 am

- 6 Glenn Murray
- 13 Lisa Scott
- 20
- 27 Joan Grunwell

Lectors - 8:00 am

- 6 Henry Young
Ron Gaugler *chalicist*
- 13 Alexis Radouant
- 20 Lisa Scott
- 27 Ron Gaugler

Acolytes

- 6 Vernet Spence-Brown
- 13 Ryan Sutter
- 20 Sydney Alling
- 27 James Hammaker

Greeters - 9:30 am

- 6 Anne Andrews, Kim Thornton
- 13 Vernet Spence-Brown, Judi Hans
- 20 Anne Atlee, Pat Howse
- 27 Marva Young, Cindy Giancaterino

Lectors - 9:30 am

- 6 Susan Mathews, Phoebe Foerster
Jan Wier *intercessions*
Carol Russell *chalicist*
Vernet Spence-Brown *chalicist*
- 13 Kent Wenger, Mali Warren
Catherine Wenger *intercessions*
Joyce Paster *chalicist*
- 20 Curt Quaintance, Marty Bloem
Joyce Paster *intercessions*
Peter Druckenmiller *chalicist*
- 27 Georgette Druckenmiller
David Brennfleck
Shelly Brennfleck *intercessions*
Ron Druckenmiller *chalicist*

Ushers

- 6 Clem Young, Sam Smith
- 13 Vincent Giancaterino, Robert Parker
- 20 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie
- 27 Bruce Alling, Jim Tackett