

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,

Our celebration of worship this past Sunday was a special one. As I reflect on the day, I was both amazed at what we can do together and filled with gratitude to God. We baptized two babies, Jared and Lilly and two young girls, Audry and Ava into the household of God and kicked off our 2018 Stewardship Campaign in a packed church. Our gospel lesson, the parable of the vineyard owner and the laborers, reminded us once again of how in the Kingdom of God everything is upended and different from what we are used to in our human institutions and enterprises. This parable also told about the abundance of harvest and the need for a steady supply of laborers.

This agrarian context of the parable of the vineyard served as the backdrop of our stewardship kickoff for 2018 pledge drive. The theme this year is sowing seeds in rich soil. In order to impress this theme, the committee provided a seed sowing kit containing a 4-inch biodegradable pot, a package of soil and seeds, an identification pic and instructions on sowing. Even after everyone got a seed sowing kit, there were a number of them left in the church after the service once again reminding the need for laborers.

St. Peter's is making huge strides in attracting new people to church especially families with young children partly because of Godly Play and Children's Chapel. Our youth group is also once again growing. We will be confirming seven young people when the bishop comes for his visitation in November. As a church we are covenanted to see these children who come to us are supported in their life in Christ. We now have a dedicated person to work as the director of Youth and Family Ministry at St. Peter's.

For the seeds to sprout and grow, it requires rich soil, water, air, sunlight and someone to sow and tend. Our vineyard at St. Peter's is in need of the time, talent, and treasures of all of us to see that it brings forth a hundredfold at harvest season. Just as God is generous with us, we need to be generous with our resources in the building up of the Kingdom of God in our midst.

Friends, God is doing a new thing in our midst, and let us make sure that we are fully engaged as participants with God in this enterprise. I would like to see a hundred percent participation in our pledge drive; I don't want to see anyone left out of this most blessed God-driven enterprise.

I pray that you find yourself blessed by God in both receiving and giving.

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

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

Vestry

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

How to contact St. Peter's

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October 2017

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Deacon's Roundtable

During the time of formation to the diaconate or the priesthood, those discerning their call are expected to write letters to the bishop four times a year. One of those prescribed times is the fall Ember Days. The first day of this period is September 14, Holy Cross Day.

This feast is called "The Exaltation of the Holy Cross" in both the Eastern and Western Churches. It commemorates the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem. This church still stands today and is built over the sites of the Crucifixion and Christ's Tomb.

The Feast of the Holy Cross is a time to meditate on the sacrifice Jesus Christ made for all of us and its implication for our lives. The British mystic and poet Caryl Houslander wrote: "We are here on earth to help to carry the cross of Christ, the Christ hidden in other human beings, and to help in whatever way we can. We may, like Simon (the Cyrene) have literally a strong arm to give, we may help to do hard work, we may have material goods to give; we may have time, which we desperately want for ourselves but which we must sacrifice for Christ. We may have only suffering. Suffering is the most precious coin of all. Suffering of body, suffering of mind, laid down willingly for Christ in humankind, enables Him to carry His redeeming cross through the world to the end of time."

Between each Station of the Cross we follow during Lent we pray: "We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because, by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world." On Good Friday, as the Cross is carried to the front of the church for veneration, we recite: "Behold the wood of the cross, on which has hung our salvation: come, let us adore."

We do well to set this day aside for veneration as we move ever closer to the close of the church year in the celebration of Christ the King.

Jesus laid down his life for us, the least we can do is discern our calling to believe in His saving

grace and use that as a base for our stewardship discernment in serving God's people in this place and this community. May God open your hearts and minds to his glory and the glory of those whom we serve.

Deacon Joe

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Blessing of the Animals

October 2nd



The spirit of St. Francis will once again be celebrated at St. Peter's on October 1st at 1:00 p.m. in the garden area outside the Lady Chapel.

Let's celebrate the special animals that enrich our lives with their unconditional love. Please encourage your family and friends to join us for this special celebration with their pets! Outreach at St. Peter's is not limited just to people!

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Meals for St. Mary's Shelter

October 2-6

Jan Wier



St. Peter's is home to many "good cooks" and our cooks are once again asked to prepare meals for St. Mary's Shelter. We are scheduled for Monday, October 2nd to Friday, October 6th. Please don't think you have to cook alone, ask a friend or relative to join you or even make this a family effort. Contact Jan Wier at janwier@comcast.net to participate in this outreach of St. Peter's Church.

Music @ St. Peter's
October 29, 2017 4:00pm



John Maurer

John Maurer is recognized as an “exhilarating and very versatile trumpet performer and educator” Jose Sibaja, lead trumpet, Boston Brass. John has performed in various venues around North America and conducted a number of residencies and masterclasses in many renowned colleges and universities. John has been privileged enough to perform as a soloist for public figures such as The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson and Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex.



Request from the Pantry



As Autumn has arrived, the pantry is now gearing up for the Thanksgiving Pantry. We are asking for donations of canned yams, canned gravy, stuffing and scalloped potatoes. We would also like to receive 90 cans of coffee and 90 boxes of tea. These items are especially looked for to compliment holiday meals.

Please keep your donations of reusable grocery bags coming too!

Thank you again for your continued support of the pantry. *Your faithful pantry*

October Celebrations

Birthdays



- 1] Helen Young
- 2] Curt Quaintance
- 3] Sr. Linda-Susan Beard
- 6] Marjorie Hairsine, Karen Hartman
- 7] Diane Hope
- 9] Sharon Schiele, Marva Young
- 12] Sarah Williams
- 14] Phoebe Foerster
- 15] Elizabeth Fifer
- 17] Henry Young
- 18] Mark Hammaker, William Brennfleck, Isaac Nagy
- 19] Michael O'Rourke
- 21] Lisa Scott
- 22] Lindsey, Kaitie, Fiona Craig
- 23] Susan Hyatt
- 24] Bruce Alling
- 28] W. Peter Druckenmiller, Kristen Cassidy

Anniversaries



- 10] Randall and Margaret Hobbs
- 19] Gary and Carol Russell
Brian and Kim Thornton
- 25] Eric and Julia Sharpe

Chester County Food Bank Survey

In August 2017 the Chester County Food Bank conducted a survey of 60 guests of the St. Peter's Pantry. Here is a brief summary of the more notable findings:

Top reasons why community members are not accessing pantry services:

- 1) Lack of transportation
 - 2) Disabled or home bound.
- 87% say they are happy with the amount of food they receive
 - 83% say they are satisfied with the variety of foods

Most important foods at the pantry:

- Milk, eggs, fresh produce
- 80% of our guests have income less than \$20,000 per year
- 79% are aged over 50

Only 14% of our guests did not graduate from high school - another 43% completed high school, and another 43% had some college or college degrees

Our analysis of this survey is that our guests are satisfied, they are truly in need, majority are older (disabled and retired), and most are educated. This kind of factual data helps us overcome our preconceived notions of those in need.

It also points us in the direction of continuing to pursue our core mission of finding and serving those experiencing food insecurity in our community. In October Doreen Penczer and I will be addressing the residents of Episcopal House to develop a plan to transport them to the pantry and return. We hope a majority of the 50 residents will participate.

Thank you for your faithful support of the pantry mission.

2017 Community Food Security Assessment of St. Peter's Food Pantry

Food Security

- 69% say they sometimes or often worried about whether their food would run out before they could buy more
- 61% say they sometimes or often couldn't afford to eat balanced meals
- 49% say they receive SNAP/EBT

Top reasons families can't buy the food they need:

1. Rent and housing costs
2. Utilities and bills
3. Medical bills/prescription costs

Members would like information about:

SNAP/EBT
Medical
Housing
Job opportunities

Pantry Usage

- 71% visit the pantry more than one time per month
- 19% visit the pantry one time per month • 87% say the pantry hours work for them
- 32% regularly visit another pantry

Top reasons other community members aren't accessing the pantry:

1. Lack of transportation
2. Disabled or homebound
3. Uncomfortable receiving food at a pantry

Pantry Food Choice and Selection

- 87% say (strongly agree or agree) say that they are happy with the amount of food they receive
- 83% say that they are happy with the variety of foods
- 71% say they can choose healthy food
- 62% say that they can find the foods they traditionally eat
- 70% say they get a good balance of foods
- 78% say they can make several meals with the foods they receive
- 11% say that healthy food at the pantry is not important to them
- 13% would like to learn to cook with the foods they receive

- 76% say they would like more fresh produce
- 72% would like to receive cooking oil, spices, and herbs to help me make meals more delicious

Most important foods at the pantry:

1. Milk
2. Eggs
3. Fresh Produce

Least important foods at the pantry:

1. Canned goods (fruit/vegetables/meat)
2. Prepared store meals (hot dogs, breakfast sandwiches)
3. Instant meals (beef stew, etc.)

Less than 75% of members have:

- A can opener
- A blender
- A kitchen knife
- Cooking oil and spices

After a visit to this pantry or cupboard, how long does the food you receive from the pantry usually last? [58 Answered, 2 skipped]

Employment

Full time work	8%
Part time or seasonal work	7%
Looking for a job	6%
Stay at home parent/caretaker	4%
Retired	44%
Disabled and can't work	29%

Age

18-30	0%
31-40	7%
41-50	14%
51-64	33%
64 or older	46%

Gender

Female	55%
Male	45%

Education

Not a high school grad	14%
High school grad/GED	43%
Some college	22%
2 year degree or higher	21%

Military Status

Veteran or active military	5%
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Zip Code

19460	91%
Other: [19453, 19512, 19426, 19335, 19475]	9%

Who took the Survey? [60 surveys]

Race

White	77%
African American/black	11%
Hispanic/latino	7%

Annual Income

Less than \$12,000	42%
\$12,000-\$20,000	38%
\$20,000-\$30,000	17%
\$30,000 or more	4%

October Worship Participants

Greeters - 8:00 am

1 Glenn Murray
8 Lisa Scott
15 James Dallas
22 Joan Grunwell
29 Lisa Scot

Lectors - 8:00 am

1 Alexis Wilson
 Ron Gaugler *chaliceist*
8 Anne Holbrook
15 Lisa Scott
22 Ron Gaugler
29 Anne Holbrook

Acolytes

1 James Hammaker
 Isaac Nagy, M.J. Kiernan
8 Vernet-Spence Brown
 Sean Magee, Mali Warren
15 Michael Logar
 Colin Parker, Trey Foerster
22 Ryan Sutter
 Katie Parker, Phoebe Foerster
29 Frank Rothenberger
 Emma Martz, Syndey Alling

Greeters – 10:00 am

1 Judi Hans, Vernet-Spence Brown
8 Marva Young, Pat Howse
15 Cindy Giancaterino, Lady Rennie
22 Michael and Rosemarie O'Rourke
29 Anne Andrews, Anne Atlee

Ushers

1 Clem Young, Sam Smith
8 Vincent Giancaterino, Robert Parker
15 Curt Quaintance, Carl Rennie
22 Bruce Alling, Jim Tackett
29 John Andrews, Mark Hammaker

Lectors – 10:00 am

1 To Be Announced – Family Service
 Joyce Paster *chaliceist*
 Carol Russell *chaliceist*
8 Linda-Susan Beard, David Brennfleck
 Carol Russell *intercessions*
 Vernet Spence-Brown *chaliceist*
 Richard Greene *chaliceist*
15 Curt Quaintance, Beverly Burkhardt
 Mali Warren *intercessions*
 Vincent Giancaterino *chaliceist*
 Ron Druckenmiller *chaliceist*
22 Retta Sparano, Jan Wier
 Vernet Spence-Brown *intercessions*
 Richard Greene *chaliceist*
 Peter Druckenmiller *chaliceist*
29 Jolie Chylack, Kent Wenger
 Georgette Druckenmiller *intercessions*
 Ron Druckenmiller *chaliceist*
 Joyce Paster *chaliceist*

Financial Update – August, 2017

from Frank Rothenberger, Accounting Warden

The financial position of St. Peter's through August, 2017 is outlined below.

- **Income**
 - Total open plate donations through August were \$14,667 and pledges were \$172,079 which were below budget by about \$6.8K. August was the first month in 2017 when pledge and open plate income were significantly off pace. This can be contributed to a generally slow month and only 4 deposits made. For comparison, total pledge income was \$20,840 for the month of July with 5 deposits compared to total pledge income of \$14,294 for August.
 - Total operating income was \$207,674 after removal of pass-through income of \$32,449 and a one-time donation of \$5,000 towards the capital campaign.
 - Total income was \$245,124 through August.
- **Expense**
 - Total operating expenses were \$197,411 after removal of pass-through expenses of \$36,142 and one-time expenses of \$23,340 covered by funds in the Capital Campaign account and Building Maintenance Savings account.
 - Operating expenses continue to be below budgeted expenses of \$203,770 and include some long-term building repairs and maintenance expensed in 2017.
 - Operating expenses through August were sufficiently covered by operating income with a surplus of \$10,263.
 - Total expenses were \$256,893.
- Total expenses were not covered by total income resulting in a deficit of (\$11,769); however, these expenses included \$3,340 for the Capital Campaign and paid for with Capital Campaign funds and \$20,000 in building repairs that were paid from the Building Maintenance Savings account.

Additional detail on income and expenses is available upon request.

Account Balances (as of 8/31/17):

- Checking: \$22,698
- Savings: \$9,067
- Certificates of Deposit: \$42,490
- Youth Group: \$1,137
- Pantry/Outreach: \$4,443
- Mission: \$1,639
- Building Maintenance: \$25,358
- Concert Series: \$3,988
- Capital Campaign: \$35,833
- Ecumenical Meal Program: \$1,317
- Petty Cash: \$200
 - **Total Cash: \$148,170**

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