

THE WAVE OCTOBER 2020

St. Peter's Episcopal Church-on-the-Canal - Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts

HELLO ALL ST. PETER'S FOLKS:

When writing the cover message for the Wave Publication, you want to be sure that what you're writing is relevant and meaningful for the entire congregation. I would like to take this opportunity to Thank the St. Peter's Musicians.

The musicians, by name are:

Lisa Platanitis – Director of Music and Choir Director

Danielle Watson – soprano

Liesl Crehan – piano and organ player, soprano

Sean Crehan – mandolin, tenor

Matthew Bruce – drummer, tenor

Marc Fuller – violin player

Every week, this small group gets together under the direction of Lisa, they rehearse, fine tune, and come up with the most wonderful, inspirational music as a gift to the congregation at St. Peter's.

Their dedication to St. Peter's during this pandemic cannot possibly be measured. They have lifted our spirits; they have held this congregation closely together. They have stood out in the wind and rain, and still, shared their love of music with us.

And, I would like to add one more name to this thank you, Melissa Scannell, Videographer. Each YouTube service is not only filled with the music we all love, but the photographs that accompany the music are truly beautiful.

We all at St. Peter's thank you from the bottom of our hearts for sharing your fabulous gifts with us as we continue to stay safely apart; and we so look forward to when we can all be together again.

THANK YOU.

Love and Blessings to All. Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden

ST. PETER'S ALIVE AND WELL DURING COVID-19

We enter every new year knowing that we may have to face some unknown challenges, but no one could have predicted something so devastating and challenging to our church life as Covid-19.

St. Peter's has a long 83 years history of ups and downs that we have always risen to with great faith and resilience, and this year will be no different. One of the important factors that keeps us victors in such challenges, has always been and remains, great leadership and support from our church family.

As past Senior Warden, I know the work involved in the administrative side of keeping our church doors open. Therefore, I just want to say that your Senior Warden, Celeste, has done an outstanding job of keeping the ship afloat during this unprecedented time of struggle! In addition, your Vestry has shown that they can make tough decisions, which has given us a sense of great security and assurance we will get through these hard times together.

There are so many people to thank during this pandemic, all equally important, however, there are certain key folks to be recognized. Lisa for her fantastic worship leadership skills through music, and the team that has brought us inspiring You Tube services every week. Melissa's picturesque programming skills and all the wonderful readers, and of course musicians as well. They have been the eye of the storm, which has kept us spiritually connected. Robin for her blasts that have kept us informed throughout and Susan for keeping the WAVE going. Kathy for her secretarial skills and keeping the office running efficiently and of course, our great Treasurer, Dianne for keeping the bills paid. Mark for keeping the outside of our church looking neat and mowed and Henri for keeping the building in running order, and all the work it has taken to get our new steeple repaired and soon restored.

We will get through this, each of us alone but together in prayer as the strong church family we have always been, until we can meet in worship and in person again. We must continue to pray for our Search Committee who continues to work behind the scenes to see that we have a new Rector soon.

Thank you to all and God Bless St. Peter's

Linda Masson, past Senior Warden

THE VISIBLE VESTRY

- Financial Report – pledges are down a little, but we're still doing okay.
- We have paid for the steeple replacement – the total cost was \$41,000, our cost was \$1,000. – the deductible only.
- Our Reopening Shepard approved all the changes made to St. Peter's. The next step towards reopening was to complete a check and to have the Vestry approve it. The Vestry approved the Reopening Checklist from the diocese. We can now submit the checklist to the diocese. Once approved, we can move forward towards having services indoors.
- The diocese wanted to know if we were interested in a new interim, a bridge priest, supply or stay as we are right now. We are going to continue with lay people officiating at the services for now. We can request supply clergy once communion is going to be available. Because the Search Committee is moving forward so well, we decided against another interim.
- The vestry voted to open a St. Peter's Zoom account – cost approximately \$199.00 for one year. The Search Committee will use it to interview prospective clergy.
- YouTube services are very popular. Here is listing of views:
 - August 8 – 70
 - August 16 – 98
 - August 21 – 81
 - August 30 – 79 The Drive In Service that day had 50 attendees
 - September 6 – 75
 - September 13 – 65
 - September 20 – 36 Forty people attended the Concert that was held in the parking lot
- The numbers of the views increases during the week so there will be an update of numbers later.
- The steeple should be installed soon.
- The Search Committee has interested applicants and they will be starting interviewing this week.
- Suzanne Ott will be updating our website.
- Being that Friendly Kitchen is no longer functioning, we have a great deal of food stored. We thought Church of the Good Shepard could take it, but they don't have the room. If you are aware of anyone/ any organization that can use this food, please contact Lynne Brune. Lynne is also going to see if The Village at Cataumet could use some of it.
- The Paper Pantry will not start up again until we are able to restock after each session.

The next Vestry meeting will be Monday, October 19, 2020.

Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Happy Fall Everyone!

The Search Committee has been busy meeting to discuss and prepare questions for an initial interview for candidates who have expressed interest in becoming our new Rector. The first interviews took place at the end of September via Zoom, and were designed to get to know the applicants a bit better and find out what inspired them to seek a position here at St. Peter's. Follow-up interviews will expand upon what we have already learned, and further explore and seek examples of theology, leadership and teaching ability and style, spirituality, communication skills/styles, compassion, energy and initiative, pastoral care, incorporation of music, and many more. This is where the Search Committee Survey is most important. Your responses will guide and lead us to a Rector who most embraces those qualities, hopes and dreams that are held most dearly in the hearts of the people of St. Peter's.

Please keep us in your prayers and continue to pray the...

Prayer for a New Rector

O God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Guide us in our search of a new clerical leader, empower each one of us to use our unique ministries, to share open and honestly our thoughts, to respect the opinion of others, and to encourage humility, patience, and joy. Instill in us a vision of the Church's family, that guided by your Holy Spirit, we will be united in love and joyfully accomplish this mission of discovering the one you have called to serve with us as our rector. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Blessings for a happy and healthy fall season!

Yours In Christ,

Matthew Bruce, Larry Higgins, Nancy Kennedy, Elisabeth Kershaw, Jim Lema, and Patti Metcalf

HAVE YOU UNSUBSCRIBED?

We have noticed that a number of folks have recently “unsubscribed” from our weekly email list. If you did so intentionally, we hope we haven’t done something to offend you, and we will miss you. If you unsubscribed accidentally (easy to do if you read on your phone), we need you to know that we ***cannot*** re-subscribe you! Our email service will not allow us to re-subscribe anyone who has opted out, as this is considered harassment. You may be able to correct this yourself by going to the last email you received from us, and at the bottom of the email click on “update your preferences”. If this does not work, please contact us at the church and we will forward you the weekly and Sunday emails from our personal email. We hope to update all our email addresses in the near future and correct any errors in subscriptions and/or email addresses. Thanks for your help!

Robin Higgins

CONTINUE TO BEWARE OF SCAMMERS

The following information was received from the Diocese. Please always double check when asked for donations of ANY kind online!

Online "phishing" scams continue to target churches and clergy, and they require everyone's awareness and vigilance.

Scammers' tactics vary, but a common one is to send e-mails or text messages that appear to be from a known organization or church leader (such as a bishop or rector). They typically ask for urgent help or a favor, and request that the recipient buy and electronically send gift cards, make donations via money transfer or provide personal information.

Church leaders should inform their congregations about these scams and reinforce the message that bishops, clergy and church leaders will never ask for help or donations in this way. Recipients should be skeptical of unexpected e-mail or text message requests to send or spend money or provide urgent assistance. Check the sender's e-mail address for legitimacy before responding or opening any links or attachments. E-mail from the bishops and diocesan staff, for example, will come from the designated e-mail domain @diomass.org, not from gmail.com or other e-mail providers. If a request seems to be authentic, confirm with the requester using known contact information.

Robin Higgins

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ALL!

And now, a little catch up. We have not been together in church since March 8th, so here goes:

Happy Birthday in April to:

Henri Masson, Susan Hebb, Kathy Letzeisen, Michael Metcalf, John Newcomb

Happy Anniversary to:

David and Lynne Brune, Bob and Lin Benting, Donald and Sheila Dostie

Happy Birthday in May to:

Mary Mentz, Ruth Newcomb, Marlene O'Connor, Deacon Bob Sherwood

Happy Anniversary to:

Mike and Patti Metcalf, George and Sally Darling

Happy Birthday in June to:

David Brune, Alan Kershaw, Jim Lema, Mary Tavares

Happy Birthday in July to:

George Funnel, George Darling, Linda Masson, Elisabeth Kershaw,
Jack Kennedy, Donna Tripp

Happy Anniversary to:

Jim and Celeste Hankey, Howie and Nancy Moore

Happy Birthday in August to:

Charlie Ellis

Happy Anniversary to:

Clyde and Donna Tripp

Happy Birthday in September to:

Jaquelin Taylor

Happy Anniversary to:

Bob and Nancy Sherwood, Jack and Nancy Kennedy, Jim and Jane Lema, Leonard and Monica Kilmer,
Charlie and Nancy Ellis

Happy Birthday in October to:

Monica Kilmer, Patti Metcalf

Happy Anniversary to:

John and Ruth Newcomb, Henri and Linda Masson, Bob and Georgiana Frampton,
Larry and Robin Higgins

From Celeste Hankey

NOTES FROM OUR PARISH SECRETARY, KATHLEEN LETZEISEN

MAIL CALL!

A reminder to use the **POST OFFICE BOX 265** address when mailing to the church. The post office will send back mail addressed to the Main Street address because we do not have a physical mailbox at the church.

READERS of FORWARD DAY-BY-DAY

Copies of Forward Day-By Day are available outside the back door of the church. Copies will be available there for pick up until we are able to resume indoor services. If you would like a copy but are unable to get here to pick one up, please let Kathy know (508-759-5641) and arrangements will be made to get one to you!

Kathleen Letzeisen

SAINT PETER'S SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND PREVENTION SUPPORT GROUP UPDATE

Please keep the Bourne and Wareham Substance Free coalitions in your prayers. We have not been meeting due to the Corona Virus precautions. The next meeting of our group will be in limbo until we get an all clear from the Diocese. Please hold all those who suffer from addiction and are in recovery in your prayers.

A large part of the recovery process is supported by the traditional 12-Step Group meetings. These groups have been unable to meet during the crisis and it must be difficult for them at this time.

AA meetings can now be available by phone 4 times a day, seven days a week, at 7:00 a.m., 12 noon, 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., by calling 425-436-6360, Access #n422932. If you have loved ones or friends who are dealing with substance abuse issues, please try to have an open ear and an open heart to be there for them.

If you are concerned for a friend, family member or yourself, you can call the Massachusetts Substance Abuse Information and education Helpline at 1-800-327-5050.

We offer up this prayer from the Book of Common Prayer, page 831:

O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you. Look with compassion upon all who, through addiction, have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of recovery; and to those who care for them give patient understanding and preserving love. AMEN

Larry Higgins

DO YOU RECEIVE OUR WEEKLY E-MAILS?

Every week, St. Peter's sends out a weekly email which typically includes upcoming news and events, the lessons for the upcoming Sunday, a schedule of "servers" for the week, etc. This email is also used for notifications regarding deaths in the parish family, cancellations, and other timely news.

For the past several months, the content of the weekly emails has changed somewhat, and we have added a Sunday email with the link to our YouTube Morning Prayer service.

If you are NOT receiving the emails and would like to, please contact Robin Higgins at ptown.robin@yahoo.com. If you know of someone who is not receiving the email and might like to, please share this information with them! We can't just add someone to the email list – our email service requires that we have your permission to email you! We don't want anyone to miss out on events and news from the parish. Thank you!

Robin Higgins

MAINTENANCE NEEDS

If you see something that needs to be done (a light that has burned out or some other maintenance project), write it on the list on the freezer in the kitchen. Thanks for your help!

CAN WE E-MAIL YOU?

We make THE WAVE available electronically to anyone who would prefer to receive it via e-mail. This enables us to save money on both paper and postage. When you send your e-mail address, along with your name and mailing address (for clarification) to susanhebb@comcast.net, she will add your name to a list, and you will receive the next month's newsletter by that means; subsequently your name would be removed from the print mailing list.

PRAYER CHAIN

The Emergency Prayer Chain is up and running! When you have a prayer request, please contact Lynne Brune at 508-295-6146, or Priscilla Ellis at 508-563-7786.

If you would like to join the Emergency Prayer Chain and commit to praying for those in need, please contact one of the individuals listed above and specify if you would like to receive information by email or by phone.

Individuals will remain on the Prayer Chain for 2 weeks unless updated. All requests will be treated confidentially and only shared with those on the Prayer Chain. Please let us know if you would also like to add the prayer request to the Sunday bulletin.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The Newsletter Deadline for the **November 2020** issue is Friday, **October 23, 2020**. Send all articles to Susan Hebb at susanhebb@comcast.net.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church -on-the-Canal

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Staff

Lisa Platanitis, Music Director and Choir Director
Liesl Keller, Pianist and Organist
Kathy Letzeisen, Parish Secretary
Susan Hebb, Newsletter Editor

Vestry

Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden	617-710-5346	Alan Kershaw.....	508-224-4018
Len Hathon, Junior Warden.....	774-678-0169	Merry Smythe.....	774-404-0110
Dianne Cartmill, Treasurer.....	774-269-4348	Chuck Conway.....	617-877-1538
Lynne Brune, Assistant Treasurer.....	508-295-6146	Patti Metcalf.....	508-833-0170
Robin Higgins, Clerk.....	413-329-4651	Donna Beers.....	508-759-8283
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