
The Wave - DECEMBER 2015

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

*FROM THE RECTOR
The Reverend Sue Lederhouse*

- 1. Peace before us, peace behind us, peace under our feet.
Peace within us, peace over us, let all around us be peace.**
- 2. Love before us, love behind us, love under our feet.
Love within us, love over us, let all around us be love.**
- 3. Light before us, light behind us, light under our feet.
Light within us, light over us, let all around us be light.**
- 4. Christ before us, Christ behind us, Christ under our feet.
Christ within us, Christ over us, let all around us be Christ.**
- 5. Alleluia.**
- 6. Peace before us, peace behind us, peace under our feet.
Peace within us, peace over us, let all around us be peace.**

The words above are the wonderful words of David Haas from the "PRAYER OF PEACE" (*Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-716921*). Our choir has sung them as an anthem on a number of occasions and each time they bring tears to my eyes. They are simple words yet so hard for us to own. And it is so hard to believe that they are possible. In these past days, we have seen the difficulty of achieving peace in the midst of yet more terrorist attacks. We have seen the difficulty of loving one another in this world where love gets lost in the midst of hate. Too often, we have failed to look for the light that shines in the darkness of our lives. We have let darkness overwhelm us and failed to let the light of Christ shine.

The power of Christ before us, behind us, under us, within us, and over us – that power of Christ all around us - is the theme of Advent and of Christmas to come. It is the power of Christ bringing light to all the dark places in this world and in our lives. Many of our Christmas cards feature the theme of peace – the hoped for "peace on earth" that the birth of Jesus Christ proclaims. That is our desire as we share together in our celebration of Advent and in the coming of Christ at Christmas.

Blessings on your Advent and Christmas – Sue Lederhouse+

THE DEACON'S CORNER

This weekend Nancy and I are babysitting our Grandpuppy “Bebe,” while our daughter and son-in-law are away.

“Bebe” arrived on Friday night. I should say, “exploded,” in our midst. She is still a puppy, about a year old, and a force of nature, a perpetual motion machine. She reminds me of a burglar who goes down the hallway checking each door until she finds one that is unlocked. She is a sweet puppy, but she is so high energy!! She is on the go 25 hours out of 24! We have grown used to living a more sedate life since our daughter grew up and moved away. Likewise, our dog Buddy. He is very “laid back.” Since Friday he has either been in his bed with his paws covering his eyes and ears, not believing what he’s seeing and hearing, or he has been outside meditating, communing with his Maker, and trying to get some peace and quiet.

As I watch Bebe, relentlessly on the move, going from one distraction to another, looking for Lord knows what, an insight dawns on me: ***that is exactly what we look like when we get caught up in the manufactured commercialism of the holidays and become driven by the message of the marketplace, constantly driving us to shop, shop, shop ’til we drop, and spend, spend, spend.*** Like Bebe, we frantically flit from store to store, and “toy to toy” looking for that “just right” gift.

Information technology is constantly bombarding us with the message it wants us to hear. The “roar” of the marketplace blots out the REAL MESSAGE of the season, or at least what ought to be the real message.

So let’s get off the escalator! Shut down the incessant blather of commercialism! Get back to reality!

It’s Advent! Remember?

Deacon Bob Sherwood

DIOCESAN CONVENTION 2015

Diocesan Convention took place at the newly renovated Cathedral in Boston on Saturday, November 14, following the Rededication of the Cathedral and Seating of the Bishop the night before. Both events were well attended with overflow standing at the back and being seated in Sproat Hall on the lower level. In attendance from St. Peter’s were The Rev. Sue Lederhouse and Bruce Lederhouse and our Lay Delegates Ken Lihzis and Merry Smythe.

The Friday night event featured the traditional knocking on the door 3 times with his Bishop’s crozier by Diocesan Bishop Alan Gates. The Eucharist featured a variety of music provided by several choirs and a number of musicians including an anthem in Chinese. There were remarks of gratitude by all of the groups using the Cathedral. The Rt. Rev. Doug Fisher, Bishop of the Diocese of Western Massachusetts, was the preacher.

On Saturday, the Convention heard a very moving address by Bishop Gates. Check it out on the Diocesan website – www.diomass.org. Three resolutions were offered and approved and there were two changes to the Diocesan Canons and Constitution. The Diocesan budget for 2016 was approved. The only contested election was for Lay member of the Standing Committee. Our former Intern to the Diaconate, Dan Horgan, was appointed to the Commission on Ministry. There was a presentation by the Commission that is studying the Diocesan mission strategy and there will be opportunities to provide feedback to them beginning in January.

The Cathedral itself looks very different now that the pews have been removed and chairs are set up in their place. The walls have been painted a salmon color and the floor is dotted with the tiles for all the parishes in the Diocese – past and present. St. Peter’s tile is in the back right side. The front doors are now glass which allows the people outside to look into the Cathedral (“a house for all people”). In addition, there is a very striking Chapel just inside the front door which features an icon given to former Bishop Tom Shaw as a retirement present and a beautiful cross.

The Rev. Sue Lederhouse on behalf of the St. Peter’s Convention delegates

GOD IS WITH US!

How many of us are tempted to keep asking God “Why?” as we see terror and destruction rising more and more frequently all around our world. Fortunately, as Christians we have access to faith that brings us hope, and not fear that brings defeat. It is hard to stay focused at times and keep our eyes on the prize that the gift of the resurrection has given to us. We will never have the answer to why there is so much evil and tragedy in the world and the terrible atrocities of war, the need for power, and crimes of humanity against humanity. However, whether we are believers, professed non-believers or somewhere in the middle of uncertainty about whether there is even a God, in the midst of the chaos a light always seems to appear. The inner spirit of something greater than ourselves within emerges out of the despair and pain of evil. A light that draws us together in solidarity. A joining together of support and a shared hope and strength we get from sharing in our sorrows and losses. Wanting to believe that we are not alone and that not all of mankind is bad. That peace of God’s light, that we believers recognize as God’s love, comes shining through and conquering even the worst of situations: “Boston Strong” and “We are France.” Yes, God is with us! Let us all continue to believe in the power of Christ’s death, and the hope he gave us in his gift of the resurrection. We pray for France, for our country, our nation, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ. Let us always try to remember where our strength and victory will always come from, even when we are distracted by life’s difficult tests of our faith.

And in the words of Ella Wheeler Wilcox, so beautifully expressed:

GETHSEMANE

*All those who journey, soon or late,
Must pass within the garden’s gate;
Must kneel alone in darkness there,
And battle with some fierce despair.
God pity those who cannot say:
“Not mine but thine”; who only pray:
“Let this cup pass,” and cannot see
The purpose of Gethsemane.*

Linda Masson, Senior Warden

ADVENT AT ST. PETER'S

During Advent, we mark the change in season by some changes in our liturgy. Purple is the color for Advent, the color of penitence and of expectation. We use the color purple on every Sunday except the 3rd Sunday of Advent. On that Sunday, "Rejoice Sunday", we use the rose colored vestments and hangings.

During the Advent season, we have no flowers on the altar in keeping with the penitential nature of this season. We will bless the Advent wreath on the First Sunday of Advent (November 29) at both services. Each week we will light a new candle on the Advent wreath (assisted at the 10 a.m. service by parishioners).

During Advent, we make a few changes in our liturgy. At the 8 a.m. service, we will use Eucharistic Prayer I (in the Prayer Book, p. 333). At the 10 a.m. service, we will be using Eucharistic Prayer 2 from *Enriching Our Worship* (pink insert). The choir will again be doing a special introit ("Christ is Coming – Prepare the Way") each Sunday immediately before our opening hymn. For our service music, we will use the Schubert settings of the Kyrie, Sanctus, and Agnus Dei and for a post-communion piece, the Taize chant, "Wait for the Lord." These will be printed as a music insert in the bulletin. At the presentation, we will sing one verse of "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" (Hymnal #66) as we have done in previous years. It will be printed in the bulletin.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of November 22, we have **56 pledges** including **3 new pledges**. If you have not made a pledge yet for 2016, please do so as soon as possible. If you have been a regular contributor but have not made a pledge, please consider pledging. It helps us as we determine our budget for 2016 to be able to better gauge how much money we can expect and also ensures that your contributions can be tracked more easily. Additional pledge cards are available on the table in the Narthex. Thank you for your generosity and your support of God's mission here at St. Peter's. **Also – If you made a pledge for 2015 and you have not completed your pledge, please try to do so before the end of the year.**

FRIENDLY KITCHEN MEETING

Sadly, Mary Tavares, long time meal planner, chef, and organizer of Friendly Kitchen, has announced her retirement as of the end of this year. Mary has given "her all" to this ministry and has provided wonderful meals to Friendly Kitchen attendees, most notably with her Thanksgiving dinners year by year. We will greatly miss her and her team who have also provided so much for the Friendly Kitchen program.

This opens a slot for another team – cook, kitchen helpers, and servers – for the coming year. Is this your calling? Does this sound like a good fit for you??

Come to the meeting on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, at 9 a.m., as we talk about plans for Friendly Kitchen for the coming year. We are grateful for the continuing parish teams of Marie Whitcomb and Diane Simski and for Mark Taylor and his family as well as the St. Margaret's ladies who provide meals for all of the holiday Mondays. Friendly Kitchen serves approximately 50 meals/week.

PARISH PRAYER LIST UPDATE

A new Prayer list will begin on **December 6th**. Please submit your prayer requests on the yellow forms in the Narthex. You may place them in the offering plate or bring them to the Church Office or you can email them to saintpeters@verizon.net

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to donate money to purchase Christmas altar flowers in memory of (or in honor of) family or friends, please fill in the Christmas flowers form (which will be found in the bulletin on December 6 and 13) and return it with your donation. Please be sure to print the names clearly. **DEADLINE IS MONDAY - DECEMBER 14.**

CHRISTMAS SEASON AT ST. PETER'S

DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

5 p.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite II with Christmas Presentation

8 p.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite II (Choral prelude begins at 7:30 p.m.)

DECEMBER 27

I CHRISTMAS

8 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite I

10 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite II

VISIBLE VESTRY

Vestry had their monthly meeting on Monday, November 16th.

1. The pledge ingathering was on Sunday November 15. There are still a number of pledges that have not yet been returned. The congregation is encouraged to please bring their pledge cards to church on Sunday, or to mail them as soon as possible. The Vestry will be preparing the budget for next year within the next month and it is important to have the pledge cards to assist in that process.
2. Women's Bible Study continues to meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. Attendance is 12-15 and participants are very enthusiastic about the study.
3. The Monday morning 11:00 Bible Study also has been very successful and has a steady attendance of 14-16.
4. St. Peter's hosted the Diocesan Pre-Convention Forum on October 29 with 40 plus in attendance. Thanks to Meredith Smythe, Lynne Brune and Ken Lihzis for helping out with the refreshments. The forum went very well and visitors enjoyed looking at the pictures and reading the history of our church in the Narthex.

5. Don Smith posted a blurb about St. Peter's on Facebook, in response to the Bourne Police Department pictures of St. Peter's on Throwback Friday, November 6. Worship times and other information were added to the article. Good PR! Thanks, Don!!!!
6. Nominating Committee will be meeting on November 23 to review what positions we will need to fill on Vestry for the upcoming year. Thank you to our two outgoing Vestry members Patti Metcalf and Tom Johnston! We are thankful for their service and they will be missed by all. Nominating Committee will be Rev. Sue, Linda Masson, Lynne Brune (Senior and Junior Wardens), Patti and Tom (outgoing Vestry members), and Sally Darling (non-Vestry member).
7. Seating of the Bishop took place in our Cathedral in Boston on November 13, followed by the Diocesan Convention the next day, November 14. Rev. Sue and Bruce Lederhouse, and Ken Lihzis and Meredith Smythe (our two lay delegates) attended.
8. Front door work is now completed and came in under the original budget by \$169.
9. Dillon McGuinness will be shoveling for us again this coming winter. THANK YOU!
10. MMA students have begun parking in the front parking lot. There are 13 at this point, but it is expected we will have more after the holidays are over.
11. Monday, November 23, Friendly Kitchen will have its Thanksgiving dinner. Thank you to all who donated.
12. Waddle Books donations continue to do well bringing in \$116.48 for October.
13. Thanks again to all who helped to make our Holiday Fair such a success. We made \$1500 and there is more to come from the Tupperware Sale! Jams/Jellies made \$418 of that amount. Nice job, ladies!!
14. We would like to ask the congregation, as you sort through your holiday items this season, to put aside those you will not be using again. This is a good time to bring them to the church and we will go through them and save them for next year's sale. That also includes white elephant type items that are in very good condition, maybe never used or look never used. Getting the items now, or throughout the year, makes the sorting and pricing so much more manageable.

Linda Masson, Senior Warden

PANCAKE BREAKFAST - DECEMBER 6

Our traditional first-Sunday-of-the-month Pancake Breakfast will be served on **Sunday, December 6, at 9:00 a.m.** Come and join us for pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausages, juice and coffee. All of this served up with ample smiles by our dedicated Pancake Breakfast team.

MEN'S BREAKFAST GATHERING - DECEMBER 19

The men of the parish will join together for breakfast at **8:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 19, at Persy's Place, 3198 Cranberry Highway in East Wareham**, for a time of food and fellowship. The restaurant is on the same side of the highway as Lindsey's, next to Upper Cape Realty. All men of the parish are cordially invited to attend. For more information, please contact Ken Lihzis (Klihzis@gmail.com / 774-212-0453).

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - DECEMBER 14 & 28

The Women's Bible Study has had a very strong beginning. Since its start in September, the women have learned about Herodias, Salome, Hannah, Elizabeth, Hagar, and the Samaritan Woman at the Well. On December 14, we will look at **Bathsheba, wife of King David**. On December 28, we will study **Mary Magdalene**. No previous Bible knowledge is required. A Bible is helpful but if you don't have one, we can provide one for you. **The group normally meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 12:30 p.m.** All women of the parish are invited. Bring a bag lunch and there will be coffee/tea and goodies provided.

VILLAGE AT CATAUMET

The Village at Cataumet is a family shelter for 18 families. On any given month there are 40-50 people living at the shelter with about half of them being children. At this time of year many arrive with no warm clothing, no money or food stamps. Each family on arrival is given a clean room which has a dorm size refrigerator and microwave. They receive a twin bed with clean bedding and a NEW pillow. Breakfast is provided in the communal kitchen. The families cook their other meals. The kitchen can also be used by families who would like to cook together. Food staples are always needed for new families.

Listed below are their needs at this time:

1. NEW pillows
2. Twin sheet sets
3. Housewares – mops & brooms, cleaning supplies
4. Food staples
5. Children's jackets, hats and mittens
6. Adult warm clothes
7. Diapers, wipes, sippy cups
8. Food store certificates, any amount

Donated clothing should only be seasonal as there is not a huge amount of storage. We can still donate our monthly items as most of those things cannot be bought with food stamps

All things are possible with God's Help and Our Prayers!

Love and Blessings, Georgi Frampton

UPDATE: We were delighted to have Paula Mallard, Program Director for Village at Cataumet, as our guest on November 22 after both services. She gave an excellent presentation on the needs of the Village. After the first of the year, we will be organizing an Outreach Committee to plan how we can provide additional help to the residents there. Interested?? Watch for further announcements!

ITEMS FOR VILLAGE AT CATAUMET FOR DECEMBER – Toiletries for Adults

ANNUAL MEETING - JANUARY 31, 2016 - SAVE THE DATE

The Parish Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 31, 2016**. There will be **one** service at **9 a.m.**, followed by a potluck brunch, and then the Annual Meeting. At this meeting, new officers and parish leaders will be elected. A full slate of nominees will be published in the January WAVE and posted on the bulletin boards in the Church. Reports from parish organizations and committees will be received and the 2016 proposed parish budget reviewed. **Deadline for submission of reports for the Annual Report Booklet is JANUARY 18**. Please submit them in electronic form to susanhebb@comcast.net or in printed form to the Church Office.

HEALING SERVICE

Each month, a faithful group of parishioners gather to join in a service of prayers for healing, anointing, and laying on of hands. This service is held on the third Sunday of the month, which will be **Sunday, December 20, at 9:00 a.m.**

PRAYER CHAIN

The Emergency Prayer Chain is up and running! When you have a prayer request, please contact the Rev. Sue Lederhouse at 508-240-2853, or 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.

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.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The Newsletter Deadline for the **January** issue is Friday, **December 18th**. Send all articles to Susan Hebb at susanhebb@comcast.net

DECEMBER 2015

3	Thursday	11:00 a.m.	Deanery Clericus at St. Peter's
6	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Pancake Breakfast
10	Thursday	4:30 p.m.	Brownies
13	Sunday	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Friendly Kitchen Meeting Compassionate Friends Candlelighting
14	Monday	12:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study Vestry
17	Thursday	4:30 p.m.	Brownies
18	Friday		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
19	Saturday	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast Group
20	Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Healing Service
21	Monday		NO Friendly Kitchen
24	Thursday	5:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service & Presentation Christmas Eve Service (choral prelude at 7:30)
28	Monday	12:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study NO Friendly Kitchen

Upcoming Dates

Jan 31	Annual Meeting	Feb 9	Shrove Tuesday
Feb 10	Ash Wednesday	March 5	Mid-Lenten Party
March 20	Palm Sunday	March 27	Easter
April 3	Bishop Gayle at St. Peter's		

Weekly Schedule

Sundays	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite I Holy Eucharist, Rite II Choir Rehearsal
Mondays	10:00 – 4:00 11:00 a.m. 5:15 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Church Office Open Bible Study Friendly Kitchen AA (Men's Closed Meeting)
Wednesdays	7:30 p.m.	AA (Co-ed Open Meeting)
Fridays	10:00 – 4:00	Church Office Open

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

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