

THE WAVE NOVEMBER 2020

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

HELLO ALL ST. PETER'S FOLKS:

What a week St. Peter's has had!!

On Monday the long awaited steeple arrived at St. Peter's. The steeplejack, Steve, invited parishioners to crawl inside the steeple and sign their name. A few people were available to do this. All signatures were dated!

On Wednesday, the crane and lots of people arrived to watch the steeple be put in place. Steven gilded the cross with gold; it looks wonderful.

A special thank you to Henri Masson and Dianne Cartmill for all their efforts to keep the whole process on track!

We even had a gentleman with a drone document the whole procedure. He told us he would send a copy of the video. Lots of pictures, video, etc. were taken. We're hoping to share these pictures with all of you in a future YouTube service.

Speaking of the YouTube services, thank you all for your participation in putting these services together. The readers, the musicians, and the videographer. These services are being enjoyed by many people every week.

And, on Sunday, we were able to enjoy an outdoor concert, put on by our St. Peter's musicians. The weather was a little cool, but everyone dressed warmly, masked up, and thoroughly enjoyed the music. The interactive participation was so much fun.

Thank you to all our musicians – Lisa Platanitis, our Director Extraordinaire, Danielle Watson, Matthew Bruce, Liesl Keller, Sean Crehan and Marc Fuller and Jalon, a guest musician. Not only is their music inspiring – it's also fun for all. Thank you for the clock change reminder, in song, of course!

Lots is happening coming up – compiling the survey about reopening, setting a budget for next year, establishing a Vestry slate, completing the annual church audit, as well as getting ready for Advent and Christmas. Whether we can open or not, these seasons will be celebrated as only St. Peter's can do.

November is a big celebration month:

Happy Birthday to – Emily Johnson, Priscilla Ellis, Jane Lema, Lin Benting, Bob Benting, Larry Higgins, Nancy Kennedy and Jean Scully

AND Happy Anniversary to – Emily and Wesley Johnson, Jane and Don Goershel, Millie and George Frampton and Robin and Larry Higgins

Love and Blessings to All. Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden

THE VISIBLE VESTRY

Report of the October 19, 2020, meeting of St. Peter's Vestry:

- We have received a gift of \$10,000. We will need the approval of the family to spend this money.
- Pledges are down a little.
- The Stewardship campaign will begin in November. Dianne Cartmill has stepped down as chairperson – Alan Kershaw has stepped up as the new chairman.
- St. Peter's has been approved to reopen. The vestry members will be calling to see how people feel about opening – and whether or not they would attend in church services.
- We will be having another outdoor concert. The St. Peter's musicians asked to do another concert after the last one. This one is rumored to be fantastic!
- We need to set up a slate for next year. A nomination committee will be established in November. If you would like to be part of the vestry, please let a vestry member know so your name can be entered. We will be looking for a treasurer as Dianne Cartmill has completed 6 years which is the limit she can serve.
- The steeple has arrived and will be put into place on Wednesday, October 21, 2020. Some members of the congregation were able to crawl into the steeple and sign their names and date. The steeplejack was very excited about our steeple. The cross at the top has been gilded in goldleaf.
- The cost of the new steeple was around \$41,000 – we only had to pay the \$1,000 deductible.
- We are still receiving names for a new rector. We are looking into having a Deacon join St. Peter's.
- Chuck Conway was able to help us distribute the food supplies we had for Friendly Kitchen. All the food products have been distributed.
- The Convention will be held via Zoom this year. Merry Smythe and Ken Lihzis will be attending.

The next Vestry meeting will be on Monday, November 16, 2020

Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Hello Everyone,

After a second round of interviews, the Search Committee had decided to continue to receive names in search of a new Rector for St. Peter's. We must keep in mind that this period of time during the pandemic, and with the current increase in infection rates, that it is difficult for clergy to relocate. This is especially true if they have children in school or would be relocating a long distance. We must remain patient and trust in the knowledge and faith that the Lord will send us someone special for St. Peter's in His time.

Thank you for your continued prayers.

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 healthy November and a Happy Thanksgiving!

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

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 **December 2020** issue is Friday, **November 20, 2020**. Send all articles to Susan Hebb at susanhebb@comcast.net.

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

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Kathy Letzeisen, Parish Secretary
Susan Hebb, Newsletter Editor

Vestry

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