

THE WAVE JULY 2021

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

DEAR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS

Since arriving at St. Peter's, I have received a very warm welcome. Parishioners are so happy to be back in the church for Sunday worship after the long 14-month recess due to Covid. I hope even more people will feel comfortable in returning as we move into the weeks of summer.

A few parishioners have asked me how long I will serve as Interim. My "Covenant of Ministry" with the Vestry and Bishop Gates states that I will serve until "the arrival of the new Rector" or until "a mutually agreed upon date." No one really knows how long this transition will be.

Sue Lederhouse retired two years ago. The search for a new Rector was certainly complicated and slowed by our experience with the Covid pandemic. St. Peter's search is somewhat unique because the current budget requires a half-time compensation rate for the Rector.

St. Peter's has experience with long transitions. We trust God is in charge of the "times and seasons" as Jesus told his disciples (Acts 1:7).

My children have often heard two of my favorite quotations: "Failure to plan is planning to fail" and "If you want to hear God laugh, tell God your plans."

Grace and Peace, Rev. Bob Malm

BAPTISMS

We hope to start scheduling dates for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Information forms are available from the church office or from Rev. Bob Malm. Please contact us if you are interested in Holy Baptism.

A SUNDAY TO REMEMBER

On Sunday, June 27, we had a beautiful day, a spectacular service, fullness of the church to capacity, and a thoroughly delightful Gospel serenade outdoors in our "back yard." The musicians are to be praised and thanked: Lisa Platanitis, Danielle Watson, Matthew Bruce, Marc Fuller, Leisl Crehan and Sean Crehan; they deserve all the praise we could heap upon them. And also there was the moving visit of Rev. Sue and Bruce Lederhouse; everyone was so very happy to see them. And, too, the Baptism of Mark Taylor's granddaughter; that service reminds each of us of our obligation to help steer our children towards the Lord.

VISIBLE VESTRY

The Vestry met on June 14, 2021:

- St. Peter's has received a Covid Assessment Relief in the amount of \$5,000.
- We will be moving the Sallie Garden money into the General Fund.
- We have consolidated our bank accounts
- Priscilla Ellis would like to start up Jams and Jellies again.
- There will be one service on June 27 at 9 a.m. - celebrating St. Peter and the baptism of Mark Taylor's granddaughter.
- We will have coffee hour after the one service followed by a concert - given by our own fabulous musicians.
- We have received a request to house a senior adult day care - more on this next month.
- Junk King will come on Wednesday, June 16 to pick up lots of stuff.
- Next we are looking into a shredder.
- We are having the vents and ducts cleaned out - the vestry approved \$2,500 for this.
- Rev. Bob is continuing to meet with parishioners.
- Rev. Bob has been trying to trace our leadership history.
- Several people have requested we look into having Friendly Kitchen start up again - even just a little.
- Drug Free group will restart in September.
- Reestablishing a Facebook page was tabled until next week.

Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden

JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays:

George Funnel, George Darling, Linda Masson, Elisabeth Kershaw, Jack Kennedy, Donna Tripp
Donovin Tavares will celebrate his 18th birthday on July 16. Happy Birthday, Donovin!

Anniversaries:

Celeste and Jim Hankey, Nancy and Howie Moore

A NOTE FROM YOUR TREASURER

I took over from Dianne Cartmill as your Treasurer in February. Dianne had served her full term as Treasurer. Donna Beers is our Assistant Treasurer. I have a background in finance and have been a parish treasurer before.

With the support of the Vestry we have made a number of changes to our financial administration to reduce our costs and simplify the workflow. The main change has been to do our own bookkeeping instead of using Chuck Soule, who performed the task for many years. As a result, we now keep the check book at the church office and no longer rely on Chuck to write checks. We are now using internet banking to track our bank balances and have thereby been able to reduce the number of accounts we need, which simplifies our record keeping.

The switch to doing our own bookkeeping has gone smoothly. We were helped initially by our auditor, Terry Robinson. He wrote the Diocesan manual for parish treasurers and assisted me in bringing the structure of our accounts into line with that recommended by the Diocese. Our accounts have been kept on Quickbooks for the past 16 years. We continue to use Quickbooks, which is the most widely used accounting system in the U. S. We have been able to get it at a very advantageous price as a non-profit organization. I have previous experience in using Quickbooks.

We have also started using a new system to track all your giving. This system is called DONATION and was recommended by Terry Robinson. This has allowed us to simplify the counting process for collections. The counting is now done after each service. The new process consists of endorsing all checks with the church stamp and counting them so that we know the number of checks received. Counters are no longer required to record the details of each check. Cash is counted and the dollar amount recorded. On Monday morning all the detail of the collections is entered into the DONATION system. All funds are then taken to the bank for deposit. We bank at Citizens Bank in the Cedarville branch of Shaw's.

You will shortly be receiving your receipts and pledge statements for the June quarter. They will be more detailed than you have seen before. We will continue the practice of supplying quarterly pledge statements only to those who have made a pledge. If you do not pledge but donate more than \$250 during the year you will get a receipt for tax purposes at year end. Pledgers will also get a tax receipt. If you think there any discrepancies in any of the reports you receive you should contact Celeste Hankey, our Senior Warden rather than me. It is an audit requirement that you should contact somebody other than the Treasurer.

I would welcome anyone who would like to help out by joining our team of counters. It usually takes less than 10 minutes after the service. Please either contact the church office or me directly if you would like to help.

If you have any questions about the church finances, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at 508-224-4018 or by email at: kershaws@gmail.com

Alan Kershaw – Treasurer, St. Peter's Church on the Canal

GREETINGS FROM YOUR SEARCH COMMITTEE!

It has been so wonderful to be able to see each other on Sundays, and when our masks come off we will see more of each other!

We have not received any new candidates lately, but St. Peter's has been blessed with the presence of Rev. Bob Malm as our new interim Rector. Welcome Bob and Leslie!

Apparently spring and summer is a popular time for Rectors to begin to look around to make a change. We remain open and available on the Diocesan website for that special person who is called to be our Rector.

Happy summer all!

Yours in Christ,

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

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.*

Yours In Christ,

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

WEEKLY E-BLAST

Please notify Robin Higgins via email at ptown.robins@yahoo.com with any **changes** to your email address **OR** if you have not been receiving the weekly email news and would like to do so in the future. We promise not to bombard you with emails! Robin Higgins

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND SUPPORT GROUP

The group is planning to re-convene in July, on Monday the 19th at 3:33 p.m., in the meeting room at church. We would like to welcome anyone who would like to join us in our on-going discussion and support. We will be looking ahead to see where we at St. Peter's can continue to help those in need.

Several years ago, a group of parishioners concerned about the growing problems surrounding substance abuse issues joined together to study ways that Saint Peter's could help. Education opportunities were developed and presented to the congregation, and a fund-raising campaign was begun to support the Bourne Substance Free Coalition.

We hope you can join with us in prayer and conversation on Monday the 19th of July at 3:33 p.m. at the church. "All Are Welcome"

Sincerely Submitted,
Larry Higgins

Substance Abuse Prevention and Support Group

Here are some resources that are available for those who may need help at this time:

Massachusetts Substance Abuse Hotline 1-800-327-5050

Learn to Cope www.learn2cope.org

AA Zoom 425-436-6360
Access Number
n 422932

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

WE CAN SEND "THE WAVE" TO YOUR COMPUTER

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.

JULY 2021

4	Sunday	
5	Monday 11:00 a.m.	NO Bible Study
11	Sunday	
12	Monday 11:00 a.m.	Bible Study
12	Monday 7:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
18	Sunday	
19	Monday 11:00 a.m.	Bible Study
23	Friday	Newsletter Deadline
25	Sunday	
26	Monday 11:00 a.m.	Bible Study

Weekly Schedule

Sundays	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist, Rite I Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Mondays	10:00 – 4:00	Church Office Open
Fridays	10:00 – 4:00	Church Office Open

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

Staff

Rev. Robert Malm, Interim Rector
Lisa Platanitis, Music Director and Choir Director
Liesl Crehan, Pianist and Organist
Kathy Letzeisen, Parish Secretary
Susan Hebb, Newsletter Editor

Vestry

Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden	617-710-5346	Nancy Moore.....	508-380-6241
Len Hathon, Junior Warden.....	774-678-0169	Merry Smythe.....	774-404-0110
Alan Kershaw, Treasurer.....	508-224-4018	Chuck Conway.....	617-877-1538
Donna Beers, Assistant Treasurer.....	508-759-8283	Patti Metcalf.....	508-833-0170
Robin Higgins, Clerk.....	413-329-4651	Dianne Cartmill.....	774-269-4348
		Mark Taylor.....	508-863-1259