



Parish Clean Up Day

By John Colaianni, Senior Warden

On Sunday, October 6th, a dedicated group of St. Peter's parishioners participated in our Parish Clean Up Day. The robust group of volunteers ranged in age from 6 to 60.

Most of the crew worked on clearing the Memorial Garden area of overgrown bushes and shrubs. As you know, our new Columbarium was installed earlier this year, and one of our main goals into early 2014 is to beautify the Memorial Garden. Preparing the area for landscaping is our first goal and a lot of the heavy lifting was completed on October 6th. What's more, these efforts will save St. Peter's considerable funds allocated to the Memorial Garden project, since we won't have to pay a landscaping firm to do this work. The shrubs were cut down and piled neatly on the Christopher Mill side of the property, for proper disposal and recycling by Medford Township.

Other projects that were tackled included cleaning all the windows in the Sunday School Wing ; cleaning the cabinets in the kitchen ; power washing the Christopher Mill side of the building (what a difference!) ; and removing the "leaning bush" in the front of the Church property which was simply too storm-damaged to save.

All the volunteers were treated to a hearty lunch of pizza and hoagies, all of which was well earned on a warm afternoon, and we shared in the post-work glow of jobs well done.

Please consider volunteering your time at the next Parish Clean Up Day, we'll be sure to find a job for you, no matter your skill level or physical limitations! A very special thank you goes to Ben Jones, Vestry Chair for Property and Grounds, who organized and supervised the efforts.



See more pictures in the Parish Photo Album.

November Calendar Highlights

Nov. 9 & 10: UTO Ingathering

Nov. 10 St. Paul's Breakfast Program, 7:45 a.m.

Nov. 12 Vestry Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 24 Family Advent Calendar workshop 5:00 pm

Nov. 25 Caps & Laps 1:00 p.m.

Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Holy Eucharist, 9:00 a.m.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES

WWW.STPETERSMEDFORD.ORG

FROM PULPIT TO PEW

by The Reverend Canon Donald J. Muller

As I write this column I am preparing to be the Guest Leader for our Trinity Cathedral, Trenton's Consecration Sunday. Just as we have invited Guest Leaders to come to St. Peter's (Canon Sosnowski, Canon Powers, Chuck Perfater, Fr. Scott Allen, Fr. Russ Griffin, Mother Lex Shallcross, and this year our Dioceses Chief Financial Officer Phyllis Jones), I believe I was invited because of St. Peter's, and what you do.

At the end of January I was an honoree at the "Community Service and Leadership Awards Banquet" of the Kitchen of Hope banquet in Glassboro. (Kitchen of Hope is a food pantry ministry of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Glassboro and other Episcopal Churches in the area.) There were about 12 honorees, representing different community aspects: education, government, volunteerism, philanthropy, business and commerce, community service, community awareness, public service, medicine and public health, and a youth. I was honored, frankly because of all that you, the people of St. Peter's, do locally and globally for those in need. Archdeacon John Hanson kept telling me how impressed he is with all that St. Peter's does, and he is right.

So, as we begin the month of November, I want to pause and give thanks. Give thanks to God for sending all of you to be a part of St. Peter's Church, Medford. Give thanks for the offerings of your time and talent to do the work of the Gospel through St. Peter's. It begins with our Wardens and Vestry (John Colaianni, Ken Montgomery, Kevin Cureton, Joe Kelly, Laurel Smith, Cindy Cullen, Joe Dinoto, Jennifer Buzby, Ben Jones, Loren Manni, and Edie Green); followed by our staff (Deacon Helen, Lisa Miner, Eleanor Myer, Sue Legnani, Howard Black III, and Mark Cantarella, Parish Nurses Maureen Joos and Loren Manni); the leaders/chairs and members of the many ministries: Stewardship, Communications (including our Good News Newsletter), Property and Grounds, Emergency Management, Parish Life (providing refreshments for the many events where parishioners and the community gather at our church), Christian Education (Sunday School, Journey to Adulthood, Vacation Bible School, Nursery, Intergenerational Events, Adult Education, Confirmation Class, Music (Adult and Children's Choirs, volunteer instrumentalists), Worship (Altar Guild, Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Eucharistic Visitors, Ushers, Greeters, Licensed Worship Leaders, etc.), Prayer Vine, Finance (Finance Committee, Audit committee, Endowment Board), and Outreach (Christian Caring Center, Caps & Laps, St. Paul's in Camden, Boy Scouts, Twin Oaks Community Services, Child Fund International, United Thank Offering, MDG – Mayange, and our newest Heart of the Home).

"Well done, good and faithful servants. Enter into the joy of the Lord."

To see all of the good works done in Jesus' name through St. Peter's, please read the Annual Reports 2013. If you don't see your name listed – please volunteer to serve where you feel called.

In Christ,

Fr. Don



BODY AND SOUL

By Edith Green, RN

For the past few years, once a month I've volunteered at a health-screening clinic in East Camden. It is held in an Episcopal church where I was confirmed many years ago. The folks we see live in that area and are happy to avail themselves of what we can offer. Most have almost nothing. They live below the poverty level and are delighted to have someone listen to them, take their blood pressure and give advice about their lives. They also get free food and clothing donated by other volunteers. Many of these folks come back month after month and we've gotten to know them by name, or at least by sight.

I see young mothers with their children, older women with their grown daughters, and men. Sometimes the men are with their friends, sometimes alone. Most of these folks are latino or African American. They smile and hug and tell us thanks.

I have no problem talking, smiling and hugging these people. I'm happy to talk and to listen and I am satisfied when the day is over. I feel as if I've somehow given back.

The only thing that bothers me is this: Would I be that giving, that concerned about them if, instead of seeing them in the church, I saw them in the street or in the grocery store or anywhere else besides the 'safe' harbor of the clinic? And I can tell you that I really don't know. I'd like to think it wouldn't make a difference but I also wonder; would some inner fear come to the surface and alter my behavior? It's something I struggle with more often than I'd like.

And finally: Live every day as if it's your last because someday you'll be right.



TRINITY CATHEDRAL DAY

By John Colaianni

On yet another beautiful, sun-drenched Columbus Day, a group of eight men from St. Peter's ventured north to Mercer Oaks Golf Course near Trenton in pursuit of the 9th Annual Bishop's Cup. Our group from St. Peter's consisted of Father Don Muller, Brad Denn, Joe Kelly, Jim Anderson, Don Powell, Steve Haines, John Colaianni, and Ken Hoover.

Alas, after winning back to back titles in 2011 and 2012, we finished a very respectable 3rd place, with a score of 3 under par, only one shot behind the eventual winners from St. Peter's in Perth Amboy. (At least it's still with "St. Peter's")

While we had a great time, and gave it our all, we're a little disappointed, after not playing up to our usual standards. Next year we'll try again to bring the trophy home to St. Peter's Medford. It will no longer be the original Bishop's Cup, as that trophy will be retired when Bishop Cuncell retires. Some highlights : Ken Hoover won the putting contest, and Don Powell came within a whisker of winning the straightest drive competition. Steve Haines had two great birdies, with long drives, great approaches and nice putts, and John Colaianni nailed an eagle at the Par-5 15th. Joe Kelly's short game was outstanding, and Jim Anderson had a great first time at the event and tossed in some good shots along the way too. The golfing highlight of the day, however, was Father Don's natural birdie. Well done sir! A close runner up was Brad Denn's crazy golf shorts (sorry, Brad, I couldn't resist). But in all seriousness, we enjoyed the camaraderie and fellowship with each other, and many others from around our Diocese. It was also great see our friends Canon John Sosnowski and Chuck Perfater, among many others.

A record number of golfers turned out to support Trinity Cathedral, as the course was packed with 33 groups and 126 golfers. Before the tournament, we enjoyed celebrating an outdoor Eucharist together, led by Bishop-Elect Stokes, Bishop Cuncell, Dean Rene John, and our very own Father Don. In the nine years of Trinity Cathedral Day, we have helped to raise more than \$200,000 for Trinity Cathedral!

Why Journey to Adulthood Matters

By Sue Legnani, Director of Christian Formation

In a recent issue of Rolling Stone magazine there was an article titled, Sexting, Shame & Suicide. This article recounted the story of a teenaged girl who was at a party where she had gotten so drunk that she passed out and several teenaged boys assaulted her and took pictures of her in a very compromised situation. They then posted the pictures on social media. When the girl found out what had happened she was so humiliated that she eventually committed suicide. She wrote to a friend, "My life is over. I ruined my life and I don't even remember how." She didn't want to tell her mother, and she felt as if the whole world knew what had happened to her. An expert on the subject of bullying and sexual assault in high school and middle schools says, "When it comes to recording sexual assaults, young men aren't seeing them as crimes, but seeing them as pranks."

As I read the article I couldn't help wonder if this young girl had any adults she felt close to and could have gone to for aide, if not comfort. Had anyone ever told her that she was precious in God's eyes and that her sexuality was a gift from God? Had the boys who assaulted her ever heard that message? Did any of these teens think of the consequences of their actions now and in the future?

St. Peter's is very fortunate that several years ago the decision was made to use the Journey to Adulthood (J2A) program for Junior and Senior high school youth. J2A offers the opportunity for youth to establish a solid relationship with caring adults in the church who can be with them for a period of two years in each segment of Rite 13 and J2A. Through interacting with their group of teens, these adults get to know them through all of the activities and class time they spend together. In both programs there is the opportunity for the teens to discover that their gift of manhood and womanhood is from God and not something to take for granted or treat as trivial. They also hear that they have something to give to society and to God, and that they are precious to all who know and love them, including God, as His creation. The four years they spend in Rite 13 and then J2A give them a chance to build lasting relationships with their peers and more especially with the adult leaders who will tell you that, while there may be some bumpy moments with the teens, there are also many rewarding ones especially when they hear the positive feedback the kids have learned well from the lessons they have explored together about self, society, sexuality and spirituality. At the end of J2A the youth have the opportunity to decide if they want to be Confirmed in the church, and they spend several month studying about many aspects of our faith and the Episcopal Church.

If your teen is not yet a part of Rite 13 (grades 6 & 7) or J2A (grades 8 & 9) it is not too late for them to be a part of these groups. We never know what our youth may confront in their young lives, but we do know that they need all of the support they can get. The church should be the place they can go to when life is hard and they need our love and support and where they can be affirmed as a precious creation of God. *(cont. on page 5)*

Dates to Remember:

November 3: The Medford Community Peace Pole comes to St. Peter's. Watch for more information about this event.

November 24: Our Parish Family Covered Dish Dinner and Advent Calendar Workshop will be held in Williams Hall from 5-7 pm. Each family is asked to bring a covered dish to share for dinner, and supplies will be available to make your own Advent Calendar. We suggest that you bring your own scissors for cutting, and any craft materials you would like to incorporate into the decoration of your calendar. The basic calendar with daily bible verses will be supplied and the doors for the calendar will be pre-cut for you. Please use the sign-up sheet in the Narthex so we know how many calendars to prepare. (Don't worry, the Eagles don't play today!)

Why J2A Matters (cont. from page 4)

The Basics of J2A:

Goals of Rite 13

1. To celebrate God's gift of manhood and womanhood
2. To affirm the power of creative energy and to explore the thoughts and disciplines which allow individuals to effect change in the world
3. To teach, by word and example, the principles of freedom, responsibility and friendship

Guiding Scripture for Rite 13

- Lord, you have searched me out and known me (Psalm 139)
- Human beings created equal and co-creators with God (Genesis 1:26-31)
- The boy Jesus in the temple (Luke 2:41-52)
- The parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30)

Goals of the J2A Program

1. To celebrate the transition from youth to adulthood
2. To train young people in the skills of adulthood
3. To explore the mystery of our faith heritage
4. To establish our experience in the strength of community & liturgy

Guiding Scripture Passages

- The calling of Moses (Exodus 3:1-4:20)
- Jesus sending out disciples (Matthew 10:1-11:1)
- Putting on the whole armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18)
- Gifts of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:1-13:13)
- The parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30)

Coffee Hour Hosts

Fellowship is so important for personal and spiritual growth and something we often put off in today's busy world. A great way to spend time with each other is at coffee hour. With Trudy's retirement, we are asking for volunteers to take turns hosting coffee hour. As a host, you will bring food for the service you are attending as well as making sure that there is enough creamers, food, etc. as people fellowship. All of the coffee supplies will be provided as well as written instructions for hosting. You will not be responsible for making the coffee, just plugging in the pots in the morning. This is a great opportunity for everyone to get involved.

As our Sunday morning coffee hour continues to transition we appreciate all of those who have volunteered to host. As with any transition we are learning and appreciate your feedback as we move forward. Many thanks to the following individuals who have volunteered their time and talent in the kitchen this past month: Jennifer Buzby, John and Danielle Colaianni, Ann Charles, Dave Smith, Dolores Nay, Barbara LaRue, Peggy and Joanna Thatcher, Betty and Ben Jones and Trudy McArthur.

Please sign up in the narthex to host a Sunday. If you have any questions, contact Laurel Smith at zoeymom1@gmail.com. Or (609) 714-0091.

Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

St. Mary of the Lakes Church

Sunday, November 24 at 7 pm

The service will begin at 7 pm with a Choral Concert with each choir singing one of their favorite anthems. The Order of Worship for the Prayer Service will include readings, intercessions, sermon, hymns, etc. similar to last year's program.

ANNUAL MEETING

Elected at the Annual Meeting for the Year 2014

Warden

Debbie Banecker – Two-year term as Warden

Vestry

Laurel Smith – Three-year term, Vestry Member

Barbara Kelly – Three-year term, Vestry Member

Marty Banecker – Three-year term, Vestry Member

Deputies to Diocesan Convention

Kevin Cureton , Eileen Truscott, Jim Beard

Alternates: Bob Spalding – First Alternate, Jack Hobson – Second Alternate, Cynthia Sosnowki – Third Alternate, Daryl Albury – Third Alternate

Delegates to Burlington Convocation

Ann Charles, Michelle Scarpulla, Pat Lusk, Cynthia Sosnowski, Mike Orlando, Jim Beard

Alternates: Eileen Truscott – First Alternate, Pat Lusk – Second Alternate, Bob Spalding – Third Alternate, Suzi Sprankle – Fourth Alternate, Mary Allan – Fifth Alternate

Endowment Board

Howard Black, 3rd and Danielle Colaianni



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Greetings St. Peter's Family... as the ads begin to count-down the shopping days of Christmas, let us all take a moment to plan on bringing our families and friends together for the Annual St. Peter's Children's Christmas Pageant. This time of year is filled with festivities and chaos, but the chance to listen to our children tell the Christmas Story should be the gift we give each other!



Important Dates:

Christmas Pageant: December 15, 2013 at 10:15 Service.

Rehearsals will begin Sunday, November 17th after the 10:15 Service and continue until the Pageant.

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, December 14th. Time to be Determined.

If you play an instrument and are interested in assisting us in forming a band to accompany the children, please let us know as soon as possible so we may plan accordingly. At a minimum, you must be available for the dress rehearsal on December 14th and the pageant on December 15th.

Christmas is not just an important holiday filled with magic... it is an opportunity to create traditions with your family and friends- please let us celebrate the Children of our Parish and make the Children's Pageant a priority to participate in, invite friends and family to view, and join us as we celebrate the reason for the season!

With a jingle in my step,

Kristine Adler

In Memory of Loved Ones All Saints' Day

□

Almighty God, we remember before you today your faithful servants

and we pray that, having opened to them the gates of larger life, you will receive them more and more into your joyful service, that, with all who have faithfully served you in the past, they may share in the eternal victory of Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Pray this prayer at home for those who you would like to remember and you can submit the names to the office by email, telephone or put the names on the sheet in the narthex so they will be remembered by name on All Saints' Day.

Ninth Annual Medford-Vincentown

Community Spiritual Breakfast

Wednesday, November 27, 2013

7:30 to 9:00 am

Medford Lakes Country Club

Tickets are \$16

David Stow 609-953-7600

DEACON'S BENCH

The Most Sacred Moment

Some of us remember when there was no formal dismissal at the end of the service. We knew the service had ended when the Altar had been cleared, the priest (or bishop) had given a final blessing, a hymn had been sung, and the candles had been extinguished. Service over, we could then return to our normal, daily lives.

In the 4th century, a formal Dismissal made its way into our worship, with the purpose of explicitly sending people on their way to witness to the Christ and to serve him by serving others. Various historical and cultural reasons prevented the inclusion of the Dismissal in earlier versions of the Book of Common Prayer, but those who designed our current prayer book were very intentional in restoring it to our worship – so intentional that they highlighted its importance by forbidding any other activity, such as the singing of a hymn, after it.

Just before his Passion, Jesus prayed to the Father: “In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world.” (The Message, John 17:18). In his first post-Resurrection appearance to his disciples, he greeted them: “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” (The Message, John 20:21). Clearly, we who became one with Christ at our Baptism, are called not only to gather in worship but to be “sent” out to do the work God has given us to do...to continue Christ’s work of servanthood and reconciliation in the world.

Recently, we at St. Peter’s have changed the way we “do” the Dismissal by asking you to face the rear of the church – the exit - as the deacon or priest pronounces the dismissal. By this change, we are telling you what the Dismissal is not (an announcement that worship is over), but rather that worship continues as we go forth in mission to the world.

It has been said that the most sacred moment in the Liturgy comes when the body of Christ, having been fed by the Body of Christ, goes forth to be the Body of Christ in the world.

So, let us always “go forth, in the Name of Christ!”

Deacon Helen



**OUR CHURCH'S
FINANCIAL
HEALTH**

As of 10/1/13:

Income: 254,849.36

Expenses: 255,958.97

Net: -1,109.58

PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

None this month.

WEDDINGS

None this month.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

None this month.

United Thank Offering



UNITED THANK OFFERING

Ofrenda Unida de Accion de Gracias

"OUR CHANGE CHANGES LIVES"

United Thank Offering Fall Ingathering, Saturday and Sunday, November 9 & 10

St. Peter's will hold its fall UTO Ingathering at all services the weekend of November 9 and 10. UTO is an outreach ministry of the Episcopal Church. Founded in 1889 to enable the missionary work of the church, the program has become a worldwide effort in meeting compelling human needs and in expanding the mission and ministry of the church at home and throughout the world.

Every penny given in thanksgiving for God's blessings is granted by the UTO Board to respond to human need by loving service and to seek to transform unjust structures of society by providing grants to fund mission projects locally and around the world. The Board funded forty-eight grant requests in 2013. These grants included a grant of \$40,000.00 to All Saints Church, Lakewood, NJ, to renovate the third floor of its old rectory to provide accommodations for twelve homeless people and \$18,559.00 to our Companion Diocese of Ecuador Litoral, to enclose the property of San Jose Obrero Church in order to give security to the children of the nursery garden. Also this year, the first John Hines Social Justice Award has been given to the United Thank Offering Grant titled, "Five Smooth Stones," a film and study guide created by St. Anthony's Episcopal Church in Winder, Georgia, to address the issue of bullying (see <http://vimeo.com/30048770>).

Please join in giving thanks for the blessings in your life by placing your offering in the envelope provided in your bulletin.

A Prayer

When we are freed of fear and worry, Father, accept our offering
When our children return home safely, Father, accept our offering.
When a new baby is born in our family, Father, accept our offering.
When we receive your gifts of food, clothing and shelter, Father, accept our offering.
When we see your creative hand in the beauty of nature, Father, accept our offering.
When our loved ones return to you, Father, accept our offering.
When the sick and suffering are healed, Father, accept our offering.
When the right solution comes to some serious problem, Father, accept our offering.
When we find the peace of God in pain and sorrow, Father, accept our offering.
When we discover through faith that death is a gateway into eternal life with Christ, Father, accept our offering.
When we have enjoyed good fellowship and friends, Father, accept our offering.
Father, we ask that we may ever be united in our response to your love, thankful for our many blessings, and happy to give our offering; that by your spirit all nations and peoples may be one; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer from the Resource & Devotional Booklet for Parish & Diocesan UTO Coordinators.

In all things give thanks...

Deacon Helen

HEART OF THE HOME

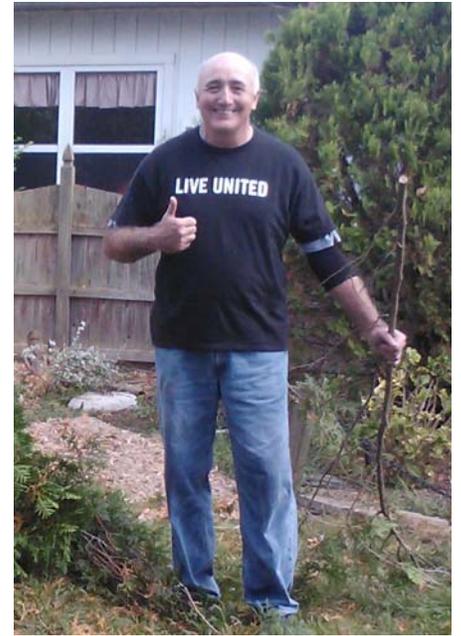
Submitted by Cynthia Sosnowski

What an amazing day a few weeks ago! Four wonderful ladies, Judy, Shirley, Jeanine, and Cindy, traveled all the way from Lancaster, PA, to St Peters to deliver two FULL carloads of items for the Heart of the Home project from the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, Lancaster convocation ECW. Over 30 bins of beautiful sewing kits, new kitchen items and home office supplies, you name it, arrived just as we were worried that we were low on resources for the 16 new names we recently received of families moving back into their rebuilt homes. Father Don blessed the items during the 10:15 service and then Betty Jones and I headed to Ocean County with our new PA friends to see some of the hurricane impact areas. Lois, our angel contact from All Saint's, Bay Head, lead us on a tour up and down the island, including a trip to Ortley Beach where we all stood on the sand where St Elizabeth chapel stood before the storm. The cross in the photo is where the front door of the chapel once was. Then we were off to Rev. Neil and Wendy Turton's home (the All Saints, Bay Head, alternate rectory since the rectory was completely lost to the storm) for tea and to talk with a group of ladies who had first hand experiences in the storm. The conversation was riveting, so important to hear and so important for them to be able to share. I spent the afternoon of Oct 6 among angels and I was once again reminded how important our church's project is to those on the receiving end.

If you read the article in the Oct 20 Philadelphia Inquirer, you know that it may be years before some people are back into their homes, and our baskets will continue to bring them a bit of comfort as they work to rebuild. Thank you all so much for continuing to work on the Heart of the Home project. Every Sunday, more items appear in our basket in the narthex thanks to the enormous generosity of our parish family. The difficult news is that the effects of the storm won't be over soon, but the good news is that many families will have their transition be a bit easier thanks to our work.



PARISH PHOTO ALBUM



A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who turned out for the parish work day. We were able to make a major step in improving up the Memorial Garden by removing the arborvitae and a general clean up. In addition, flower beds were weeded, Sunday School windows washed, and the end wall of the church was power washed.



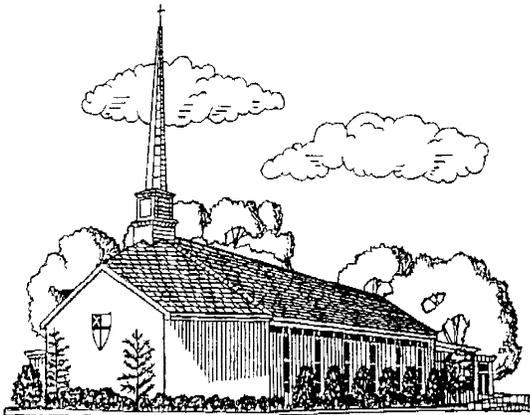
As always, the food was delicious and plentiful at the Annual Meeting brunch. Thank you to all who attended the meeting and especially to those who ran for a position within the church!

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

One Hartford Road, Medford, NJ 08055
The Rev. Donald J. Muller, D. Min., Rector
The Rev. Canon Ronald Albury, Associate Priest
The Rev. Helen M. Orlando, Deacon

Lisa Miner, Parish Administrator Eleanor Meyer, Director of Music Sue Legnani, Director of Christian Formation
Tel: 609-654-2963 Fax: 609-654-0401 <http://www.stpetersmedford.org>
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Saint Peter's Church is a blessed community of faith, grounded in the power of God's transforming love, where Jesus Christ welcomes all to abundant life. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we follow Him in prayer and praise, study and service.



Service Schedule

Saturday Eucharist.....5 p.m.
Sunday Traditional Eucharist.....7:45 a.m.
Family Eucharist.....10:15 a.m.
Weekdays
Thursday, Healing Eucharist.....10 a.m.
Morning Prayer (Monday-Friday).....9 a.m.

November 2013

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