



Farewell to Father Don and Lynn!

St. Peter's parish would like to thank Father Don for his ministry over the past 14 years. Father Don, you have been with us through good times and bad, listening to us, guiding us, inspiring us, praying with us, and blessing us. We are so grateful to you and to Lynn for your ministry and friendship to our parish, and we wish you much peace, good health and happiness in your retirement. As you have said to us every Sunday, we now say to you: May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; may He lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace, this day and forever more. Amen!"



July/August Calendar Highlights

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES

WWW.STPETERSMEDFORD.ORG

July 8 St. Paul's Breakfast Program, 7:45 a.m.

July 9 – 11 Vacation Bible School, 6 – 8:00 p.m.

July 11 Vestry Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

August 8 Vestry Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

August 12 St. Paul's Breakfast Program, 7:45 a.m.

Summer (July-August) office hours – 8-12 p.m.

FROM PULPIT TO PEW

by The Reverend Canon Donald J. Muller

Let me begin by saying “Thank you.” Thank you for the wonderful BBQ at Freedom Park on June 9th. Thank you for your kind words, cards, and gifts. Thank you for the care, concern and prayers for Lynn and me during her hospitalization and recovery. Thank you for the privilege of sharing in your life and family for these past 14+ years. It has been a joy to celebrate your baptisms, weddings, confirmations, and burial of loved ones. Thank you for allowing me to minister to you in times of sickness in body and/or spirit. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NRSV))

A new season will begin for all of us on July 1. Lynn and I will be living in an active adult community in Barnegat Township. I will, for the first time in 38 years not have an altar and pulpit from which to celebrate Word and Sacrament. I assume it will feel like vacation, but in a couple of weeks that feeling will probably go away. I have no great plans in retirement. I will, if asked, be a Supply Priest in parishes that need one. I will also, by invitation, be the Guest Leader for New Consecration Sundays. Lynn and I have begun doing some genealogical work that I hope to continue. We will have more time with our five grandchildren (although two of them will be in college). I have much reading to catch up on. There are some projects around the house to accomplish, as well.

Your new season will be different. You will have the opportunity to discern the direction to which God is calling St. Peter’s in the future. What qualities and skills will your new Rector need to lead you into that mission? This is a challenging time, but can also be filled with great excitement and energy. Trust God, and hope for a new future. I have great confidence in you, the Wardens and Vestry, and your Discernment Committee, that together God will reveal the priest to lead you in the future. Deacon Helen, Lisa Miner, Sue Legnani, Brendan Moore, Mark Canterella, and Danielle Colaianni will carry on with their ministry among and with you.

After June 30, our relationship will change. I will not and cannot continue as your pastor, but I can continue as your friend. Canon Moore was gracious in allowing me to build a trusting relationship with you. I will do the same for the priest that God next calls to lead you. I have learned over the years that it is best for the former priest to stay out of things. The next Rector might do things differently, just as I did. Your new Rector will bring gifts and skills to this ministry that are needed for the future, not the past.

Lynn and I love you all. We welcome your friendship. So here is where we will be: 50 Mayport Court, Barnegat, NJ 08005; CanonDonMuller@gmail.com; 609-694-3453.

May God bless you richly, following Jesus in his mission in the world.

In Christ,

Fr. Don

Church & Home

By Sue Legnani

In the word “recreation” we see a new word: re-creation. Our summer time can be a time of re-creation as we take vacations or even “staycations”, the term that means staying at home and taking day trips for a few days of at home vacationing.

What does re-creation have to do with creation? I’d like to think that after my vacation I’m re-created in some new way. I have a better outlook on life after getting away from the daily stresses and strains of life. I hope to feel a little more rested and generally in a better mood after being away from my usual routine. But I also feel re-created when I have the opportunity to be out in nature, whether that’s in my garden, or doing a little bird watching in my backyard or at the Jersey shore. I think it’s always easier for me to see God in nature than in any other place. It also makes me appreciate the natural beauty around me and it makes me recommit to do something to preserve the creation God has given all of us to enjoy.

Over the next few weeks you will receive through email a series of meditations you can do at home with your family. Although it may look like something you would do just with children, it can be done by folks of any age. (Besides, it never hurts to get in touch with your inner child.) Please try some of the exercises yourself, and with your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews...you get the idea. Rediscover the creative gifts God has given you and take the time to share it with someone else. After all, that’s what God has done for us.

Look for “Our Time” and “Creation” coming to your email box. If you don’t have email, copies can be found in the Narthex. Please take one and feel free to pass it along to others.

In Christ,
Sue

Sunday School 2018-2019:

As we plan for the 2018-2019 Sunday School year we are in need of teachers for Grades 1-3 and 4-6.

Each grade has 2 teams of 2 teachers who team-teach every other week so that no one is teaching alone in a class.

Curriculum is supplied and as much support and resources as you need is given by your Director of Christian Formation, Sue Legnani.

We also need helpers in the Godly Play room (Pre-K to Kindergarten). Those people assist the teacher, who is the story teller, by helping the children find and use the materials in the room, help with snack and with getting the children settled for the lesson time.

Finally, we always need folks to watch children in the Nursery (age birth to three years old). The more Nursery volunteers we have the fewer times you will serve in the Nursery. This is an important service for parents of young children and a great way for teens to work on community service for school or Scouts. An orientation to the Nursery will be given to acquaint new volunteers before they are placed on the schedule.

For more information please contact Sue Legnani at slegnani@stpetersmedford.org or 609-654-2963.

Body and Soul

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
GRADUATES 2018

By Edith Green, RN

Do you talk to yourself? I do, all the time. I pretend I'm talking to the dog but really, I'm talking to myself. What do I talk about? Whatever happens to be on my mind at that time. Sometime it's about something I'm about to do, sometimes it's about an imagined conversation with another person. So, I'm letting you in on the latest conversation with myself.

Internal Voice: What are you eating now?

Me: Only a little piece of cake. IV: Only a little? Looks like a whole piece to me. Me: No, it's only a small piece. I was hungry, okay? IV: No, it's not okay. You have diabetes, you have sugar levels that are too high. You keep moaning about getting your sugars down and look what you're doing. Not only that, but you want to lose weight, how do you think you're going to do that eating cake?

Me: I know you're right. I just don't have any will power. I keep looking for stuff to eat and I end up with stuff not good for me. IV: So, what are you going to do about it? Me: I'll try harder.

IV: That's not good enough. You need to sit down and make yourself a weekly menu and stick to it. Me: Sit down and make a menu? I don't think I have the time for that. IV: Don't you like yourself? Me: Of course, I do. Why wouldn't I? IV: Well, act like it. Start doing things that benefit you and stop doing things that help destroy your health.

I begin to cry because I know my inner voice is right. I make jokes about how certain foods jump into my shopping cart when I shop, things like sweets and cookies. But, I'm not fooling myself, not really. What I have to do is put my health on the top of my to do list. I have to get serious about this. That is if I want to live long enough to see my grandchildren grow up. And I do.

Finally: God promised man he would be able to find good and obedient wives in all corners of the earth. Then he made the earth round--- and laughed and laughed and laughed.

College Graduates

Christopher Hobson, Rowan University,
Bachelor of Science, Computer Science

Abigail Moore, Temple University, BA in Media
Studies and Production

Kimberly Hoover, University of North Carolina,
BS in Psychology with minors in Chemistry &
Biology

Jamie Cureton, Wesleyan University, BA in
Film Studies

High School Graduates

Scott Hoover

Brady Moore

Ellie Myers

Timothy Cook

Mary Margaret Katt.

Eighth Grade Graduates

Matthew Adler

Alex Gosewisch

Lucas MacBride

Brooke DePietropolo

Devin DePietropolo

Maci Pittman

Michael Pittman

MacKenzie Ritter

Lilli Schneider

Jacob Smith

Hailey Smith.



DEACON'S BENCH

By Deacon Helen M. Orlando

Dear Friends,

By the time you receive this newsletter, Father Don will have retired. Some of you, especially those who have never known another rector at St. Peter's or who have never experienced an interim period between rectors, may be feeling more than a little bit adrift. Please be assured that your Wardens and Vestry members will be working to keep each and every one of you "in the loop" as much as possible. As a beginning, they have created a Timeline of the interim process on the large bulletin board at the rear of Williams Hall. It will be updated frequently, so remember to check it out on a regular basis.

Beginning Monday, July 2, I will be available to you in the office during the following times: Mondays, 1pm-3pm; Wednesdays, 9am-12 noon. Please feel free to drop by if you need a listening ear or just want to chat. Should you be unable to meet during the day, I will work with you to arrange an evening or weekend meeting.

Lastly, you will now hear my name and phone numbers listed should you call the office outside of office hours for a pastoral emergency. I will be happy to serve you in any way possible and expect to have access to a priest when needed.

It will take time both to grieve the loss of Father Don and to discern who will be the new rector called to lead St. Peter's into the future. This is a time to trust in the slow work of God

Above All, Trust in the Slow Work of God - Teilhard de Chardin, S.J. (1881-1955)

Above all, trust in the slow work of God.

We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay.

We should like to skip the intermediate stages.

We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new.

Yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some states of instability and that may take a very long time...

Give our Lord the benefit of believing that his hand is leading you, and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete.

Above all, trust in the slow work of God, our loving vine-dresser. Amen.

Faithfully,

Deacon Helen

From the Vestry – Communication

Check it out! St. Peter's is on the map! The Episcopal Asset Map, that is. Visit episcopalassetmap.org to see how this map works..

The Episcopal Asset Map is being promoted by the Episcopal Church (including Presiding Bishop Curry and Episcopal Relief and Development) as a tool for people to "find worshipping communities, schools, and ministries of the Episcopal Church" around the world. In the near future, we will be adding details to our profile on the Episcopal Asset Map so that, as the website describes, we can "tell the Church and the world about how (our) congregation is being called to serve God and neighbor." Thanks to Deacon Helen for helping with this.

St. Peter's is also on Instagram ([stpetersmedfordnj](https://www.instagram.com/stpetersmedfordnj)) and Twitter ([stpetersmedford](https://twitter.com/stpetersmedford)) now. Instagram allows us to share daily inspiration, demonstrate the life of the parish, and publicize events and activities. Twitter can be used in this way as well and can also be used to connect our followers to informative tweets from other Episcopal Church accounts. We have increased our Facebook presence, too.

St. Peter's In Transition bulletin board. If you have not yet done so, we invite you to take a few moments to peruse our bulletin board in Williams Hall. It's part of the vestry's effort to keep you informed throughout our transition process from having Father Don as our rector to calling a new rector to ministry at St. Peter's. New markers will be added to our timeline as appropriate. Our "You are here" arrow allows you to follow our journey.

How you can help tell our story:

Help us build a following on social media by following us yourself and by telling others (or retweeting to your followers on Twitter, sharing posts to your Facebook timeline).

Consider an Instagram takeover – Tell the story of one of your groups at St. Peter's - choir, Sunday School class, Altar Guild, etc., etc. If your group would like to post photos for Instagram for a few days (up to a week) talk to me about doing it.

You can always take photos of "St. Peter's through my eyes" and share them to [@stpetersmedford](https://twitter.com/stpetersmedford) on Twitter and/or as a visitor post on our Facebook page. Or you could email them to me for use on one of our social media sites. You can also email them to stpetersnewsletter@stpetersmedford.org for our newsletter.

Come to our Town Hall on June 28!

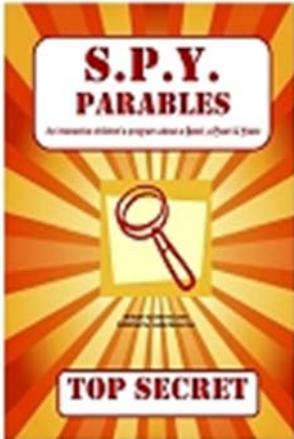
Write a Bible verse that inspires you to trust in God through our time of transition and pin it to our bulletin board (a pen and blank "clouds" for this purpose can be found on the bulletin board).

Remember that we have a Vestry Suggestion Box that you can always use, or you can approach one of us directly. I'd like to give a shout out to Jamieson Smith for doing the layout for our Newsletter, the Good News, as editor. Thanks, Jamie!

Thanks for reading...

Tiffany Myers
tiffany.myers@stpetersmedford.org

VBS 2018



Join us for our 2108 Vacation Bible School S.P.Y. Parables
An interactive children's program about a Seed, A Pearl & Yeast

SAVE THE DATE:

July 9th-11th

(Monday-Wednesday)

6:00 pm-8:00 pm

This year our VBS will be three days of SPYing on the parables of Jesus. This creative, interactive program is designed to teach children about three of Jesus' parables:

The mustard Seed

The Pearl of Great Price

The Yeast in flour

We will celebrate the mysteries and gifts that God gives us through the parables Jesus taught.

Each day in our opening celebration the children will be given clues to help unlock the lesson hidden in these multi-layered stories, and we will use our activities, crafts and a service projects to learn how to apply these lesson to our daily lives.

Registration forms are available in the Narthex and on the home page of the St. Peter's website. Pre-registration is greatly appreciated so we can plan for the number of spy's attending.

Don't miss the fun!

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John Colaianni
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Confirmation 2018

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Taylor Design Group, Inc.

PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

Abigail Grace Hunter, June 24, 2018, daughter of Brian and Mandelle Hunter

Rocco Giovanni LoBianco Cunningham, June 24, 2018, son of Marcus Cunningham and Michele LoBianco

Vivienne Rose LoBianco Cunningham, June 24, 2018, daughter of Marcus Cunningham and Michelle LoBianco

WEDDINGS

None

MEMORIAL SERVICES

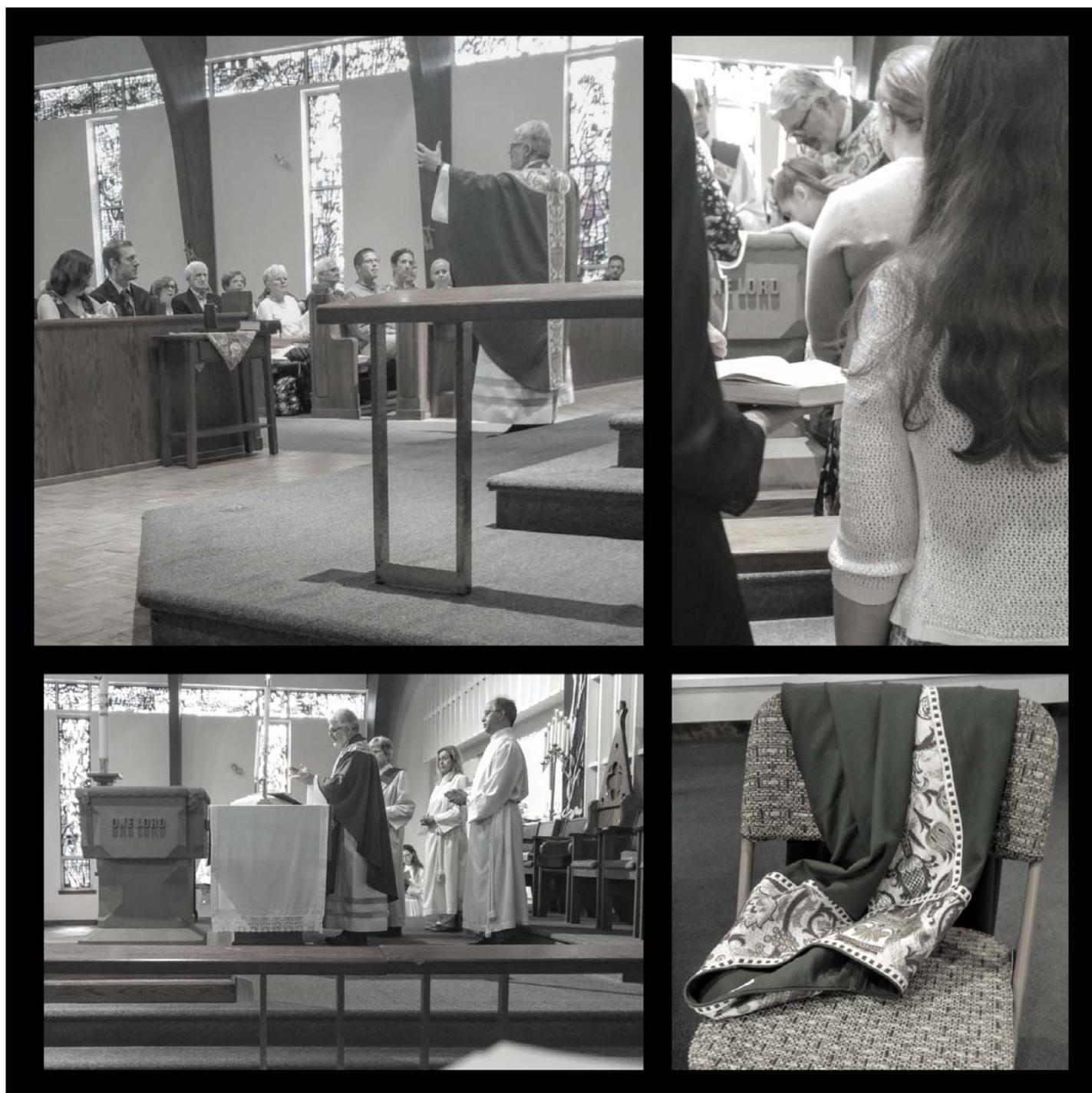
None

PARISH PHOTO ALBUM



Bottom Left: Jeff Moore with Brady in matching golf pants.

Father Don's Last Sunday as Rector



Collages & Photos Courtesy of Tiffany Myers

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

Brendan Moore, Organist Lisa Miner, Parish Administrator Sue Legnani, Director of Christian Formation
Tel: 609-654-2963 Fax: 609-654-0401 <http://www.stpetersmedford.org>
Email: office@stpetersmedford.org Newsletter email: stpetersnewsletter@stpetersmedford.org

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.

July/August 2018

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Service Schedule

Saturday Eucharist..... 5 p.m.
Sunday Traditional Eucharist 7:45 a.m.
Family Eucharist..... 10:15 a.m.

Weekdays

Wednesday, Healing Eucharist..... 10 a.m.
Morning Prayer (Monday-Friday)..... 9 a.m.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
1 Hartford Road
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