



Introducing Online and Text Giving at St. Peter's

Online giving is now available at St. Peter's through a company named FaithStreet. This is a simple and secure way for you to give to St. Peter's. The process is simple. Visit the St. Peter's website (<http://stpetersmedford.org/>) or Facebook page and click on the "Give online" button

You can also give by text with a smart phone. Text the amount you'd like to give to (646) 832-4848. You will receive a text back with a link. Click on the link and enter the code "stpetersmedford". You will have to complete a one time set up, but then after that, you can text any amount and it will be processed immediately. How easy!



or scan the QR code below with your smart phone or tablet to get started.



The benefits of giving online is that it is:

- Convenient—give anytime, anywhere. It doesn't matter if you forgot your checkbook, don't have cash on you or went on vacation!
- Consistent—you can set up recurring payments once or twice per month. This is a way to prioritize your giving and to ensure the church receives steady income throughout the year.
- Secure—all payments are processed by Balanced Payments, a trusted partner of FaithStreet.

May Calendar Highlights

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES
WWW.STPETERSMEDFORD.ORG

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

May 13 Vestry Meeting 7:00 p.m.

May 14 Ascension Day Holy Eucharist 7:30 p.m.

May 17 Rite 13 Celebration 10:15 a.m.

May 18 Caps & Laps 1 p.m.

May 23-24 Pentecost—wear Red! No Sunday School

May 25 Office closed in observance of Memorial Day

May 31 Confirmation

FROM PULPIT TO PEW

by The Reverend Canon Donald J. Muller

Six people from St. Peter's (plus Canon Sosnowski) attended the Bishop's Spring Conference on April 18. It was a beautiful day, the Cathedral was packed with over 400 fellow Episcopalians from around the Diocese of New Jersey. There were three primary speakers, each with their own vantage point in helping the Church respond to the environment we find ourselves in today. One speaker really caught my attention with an image and phrase he used.

The image he used came from his own life. He was born and raised in Bridgeport, Connecticut into an Italian/Roman Catholic family or a Roman Catholic/Italian family. His grandparents lived on third floor of their building and could see the whole neighborhood. Everything they did was either Italian/Catholic or Catholic/Italian. The phrase he used to describe this was "faith ecosystem". He was born into an Italian/ Catholic or Catholic/Italian faith ecosystem.

Many of us born before the 70's or 80's were born into a faith ecosystem. Mine was not Italian/Catholic but more a Judean/Christian ecosystem. In my neighborhood on Long Island, on Sunday mornings, cars were missing from their driveways because almost all of our neighbors were either at Church or at Hebrew School at the local synagogue. We learned Bible Stories and Christian traditions and customs just by living in that environment. There were Blue Laws then, so no one went shopping on Sundays because there were no stores open. Things began to change, Blue Laws were done away with; weekends became times of recreation. People went shopping at the new malls or at yard sales. Sleeping in on Sunday became accepted.

The reality of our situation today is that if we are to be formed in the Christian Faith we have to work at it. Our culture or community won't do it for us. We can spend countless hours complaining about what has happened to our culture, even blame some politicians or judges, but that won't change the reality in which we find ourselves.

So how can we be formed as Christians in our culture today? First of all, it is to come to Church to worship God – hear the Word of God, pray for God's world, receive the Body and Blood of our Lord, sing God's praises, and fellowship with God's people. But that one hour or so will not be sufficient to form us when we are bombarded by so many other messages all week long.

If we are to be formed in Christ we must bring Christ into our homes as a primary place for Christian formation. In the Baptismal service, the primary people responsible for raising the baptized person to know Christ are the parents and Godparents, with the congregation (the Church) also promising to do all that we can. Starting on April 26 and continuing for at least the first three weeks of May we will have handouts in the bulletins with suggestions on how to take Christ home. Decide as a household (not just homes with young children in them) what items on the sheet you will try to do daily. Let us know how you are using the resources, what other resources you think you need, etc.

Over the next couple of months we will be trying to put more resources on line for our use (Facebook, emails, St. Peter's website, etc.). Watch for them, share them, talk about them, let us know how you are doing.

I pray that we will all be formed in Christ and transform our homes for Him.

In Christ,

Fr. Don

KIDS' CORNER

By Sue Legnani, Christian Formation Director

Most Sunday mornings, except the third Sunday of most months, I have the privilege of worshipping with the children who come to “Children’s Chapel”. We sing together, hear a Psalm written on their level, listen to a bible story that I tell either using felt figures from a set called Beulah Land or read from a book, and best of all the children share their prayer requests during our Prayers of the People. Over time they have become more comfortable sharing their prayer requests. They can pray with real passion when they remember their friends, family, pets, and “all manner of things”. I have learned to appreciate the depth of their prayers and the fact that most of the time they don’t have to think very long to be able to say what they want to pray for. They know what’s important and that they can ask God to listen to their prayers.

The form of the chapel service is very close to the first half of the Eucharist service so when they do go to church with their family there is a similarity to the flow of the Eucharist and service we have in the chapel. We don’t water down this worship because that would not be fair to the children. This time is not filler on Sunday morning either. It is meant to give the children who attend the opportunity to hear the Service of the Word (the first half of the Eucharist) in a way that is meaningful to them. I like to think that we also provide a safe space for the kids to practice their prayer life.

Children are by nature very spiritual people and when families take the time to pray together at home, as well as at church, the seeds for a rich spiritual life will be planted. So, you might be asking yourself, where do I start this prayer life at home? If you don’t already have one, get yourself a Book of Common Prayer and go to the section called “Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families” (yes, that’s right...FAMILIES). There you will find devotions for the morning, at noon, the early evening and at the close of day on pages 137-140. The Order For Compline (page 127) is also a peaceful way to close the day before bedtime. Another opportunity to pray is before meals, and table graces are included in the back of our prayer book on page 835.

And if you don’t have a prayer book right now, and you don’t know where to start, just ask your child what they would like to pray about and let God take it from there.

Vacation Bible School: July 12-16 Hands Across the Water

This summer our VBS will center around the relationship we have with Redemption School in Haiti. The children will learn about this beautiful, but challenged country and the lives of the children who live there. We will be using some wonderful children’s books that tell the stories of Haitian children who have gone through earthquakes and flooding, but who also love to play soccer, enjoy the rich Haitian tradition of story telling, ride on a Tap Tap (the name for the Haitian buses) and go to school just like our kids do. We’ll sing, play games, have snacks, and learn how our lives are similar and different from Haitian children. We’ll also learn how God works in their lives and ours.

We will need some help with collecting items for our VBS week. Please save Huggies wipe containers and plastic grocery bags. There will be containers in the Narthex for collecting these items. A list of additional items will be available soon too.

Body and Soul

By Edith Green, RN

Mother's Day, once again, will soon be here. When I was a little girl, the practice was that those who had living mothers wore red carnations on Mother's Day. Those whose mothers had died, wore white carnations. I was perhaps six years old when I told my mother how lucky I was to be able to wear a red carnation. It didn't occur to me that she was probably sad that her own mother had died long before. Time has taken its toll and now if we still wore carnations, I'd wear a white one.

In her memory, I'd like to share some things about my mother. Maybe those of you whose mothers have also died would like to write a list of things to remember about your own mother.

She was the only girl out of seven children.

As an adult, she struggled with her weight, losing pounds then gaining them back.

She loved dishes and had many sets even though she didn't use all of them.

She loved to entertain. As a kid, I can't remember a Sunday when we didn't have company for dinner.

She wasn't a great cook but made the most delicious cinnamon buns; sticky and delicious.

She was married four times; twice divorced and twice widowed.

She always worked even when it wasn't common for women to be in the workforce.

Her last job was as an administrator of a nursing home.

She often took craft classes; I still have a leather handbag with carvings that she made. She also made silver trays and beaded earrings.

She was an avid birder. Once she went on a birding trip with Roger Tory Peterson, the guru of birding. Their picture even made the National Geographic magazine.

She had many friends and remembered them all on their birthdays.

Her birthday was important to her and each year she did something special.

(cont. on p.7)

She ended her years fighting dementia, not recognizing anyone close to her.

Dates to Remember

May 3

9:00 Sunday School

10:15 Children's Chapel

Teacher's Meeting following 10:15 service

May 10 *Mother's Day*

7:45 St. Paul's Breakfast, Camden

9:00 One Room Sunday School. "The Bishop Is Coming" —Teachers are encouraged to come and help but do not have to teach.

10:15 Children's Chapel

May 16 (Saturday) 6:30 pm. Rite 13 Celebration Dinner and Rehearsal

May 17

9:00 Sunday School

10:15 Children's Service

Rite 13 Celebration

May 24 *Pentecost*

Memorial Day Weekend. No Sunday School, Nursery or Children's Chapel. Wear something RED to church.

May 31 *Confirmation*

9:00 Sunday School

10:15 *Confirmation Sunday*

Children's Chapel

June 7 *Final Day of Sunday School*

DEACON'S BENCH



UTO Spring Ingathering, Saturday and Sunday, May 2nd and 3rd, 2015

Abundance often comes out of scarcity when we are faithful.

Take a look at the gospel lesson regarding the loaves and fishes. No matter which gospel we read, we are asked to examine the faith of the disciples. The disciples operate out of their own anxiety, fear and scarcity. They see what is lacking...so many people and not very much food, only enough for themselves. They ask Jesus to send the people away so they can feed themselves. Jesus is clear: you give them something to eat.

The same is true today; Jesus is asking us to feed people instead of sending them away. Jesus shows the disciples and the crowd what God can do with a little offering and an abundance of faith.

The United Thank Offering is a sign that abundance comes out of scarcity. Children contribute out of their allowance and adults out of their hard-earned paycheck. These offerings are above and beyond the tithe of 10% that God asks of each of us; an extra offering to give thanks for the goodness of God and the blessings of each day. Every coin or dollar represents our willingness to hand over everything we have to Jesus, so that he can bless it and share it among the masses.

The United Thank Offering is a discipline but it's also a lifestyle. As you make your offering, you can use it to offer up a prayer for others. Do you find yourself overwhelmed by the statistics regarding teenagers? Your offering will become afterschool programs, gardens to supply food pantries, and weekend programs. Overwhelmed by violence in Africa? God will bless your offering and it will become a school in Liberia, farming in the Sudan, and healthcare in Ghana.

For 125 years, the United Thank Offering has been funding innovative mission and ministry that the church doesn't have the money to fund. It takes our small and large offerings, blesses them, and then sends them out as a sign of our love and God's blessings to others. It is always a sign of abundance and faith. Offerings of thanksgiving given out of our own sense of scarcity or fear join together to become an abundance of solutions to the problems of the world. A few fish, some bread are blessed and feed the multitudes.

Special, blue UTO envelopes will be in our bulletins the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, May 2nd and 3rd. We invite you to use them to make your own offerings of thanksgiving, which God will turn into blessings for others. If you use a check, please make it payable to St. Peter's, with UTO in the memo line.

Thank you, and may God bless you.

Deacon Helen

PARISH NEWS

PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

Cole Wayne Sweeney, son of Tara Sweeney and Tyler Nulph
Hudson Mary Beyer, daughter of Brett and Kristen Beyer

WEDDINGS

None

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Bill Goldy, March 23, 2015

6th Annual
Rev. Canon James L. Moore
MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING
Monday June 1, 2015
Medford Lakes Country Club

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE BUILDING & GROUNDS BEAUTIFICATION OF
ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

11:00 am - Registration
11:30 am - Lunch
12:30 pm - Shotgun Start
5:30 pm - Dinner & Prizes

Golfer - \$175.00 each - Includes lunch, golf & dinner. Indicate below if you have a pre-arranged foursome:

Player 1 Name _____	Player 2 Name _____
e-mail _____	e-mail _____
Player 3 Name _____	Player 4 Name _____
e-mail _____	e-mail _____

FEEL FREE TO PURCHASE AS MANY LUNCH AND/OR DINNER GUEST TICKETS AS NEEDED...BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Lunch Only Guest - \$25.00 each # of guests _____	Name _____
Dinner Only Guest - \$35.00 each # of guests _____	Name _____

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Closest to the pin Sponsor - \$500.00	Sponsor Name _____
Longest Drive Sponsor - \$500.00	Sponsor Name _____
Hole Sponsor - \$300.00 - Includes sign on tee box	Sponsor Name _____

Phone # & Contact _____

Additional Donation \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to: St. Peter's Episcopal Church & write Canon Moore Golf Outing in the Memo line.
Mail to: 457 Oakshade Road, Shamong, NJ 08088, c/o: Jeff Moore

Special prize for the most original golf punts!!
Contests include: scramble foursome, longest drive, closest to the pin, "yellow ball", & raffle gift baskets

Contact Jeff Moore (jeff@jamoore.net or 609.268.0500) with questions or if you would like to provide a raffle prize.
(I.e. Phillies Tickets, gift cards, free company services, wine basket, etc.)

Thank you!

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to those who helped to make this year's rummage sale a success! Parishioners volunteered in many different capacities: some baked cookies and pies for our bake sale, some helped unpack, sort and price donations, some helped work the sale the day of the event, and others helped pack up and transport leftovers to Good Will, and clean up Williams Hall when the sale was over (and several served in multiple ways!)

Many thanks to the following:

Maureen Joos, Angela McCrum, Chris McCrum, Barb LaRue, Tiffany Myers, Grayson Myers, Jennifer Buzby, Loren Manni, Josie Nealis, Rose Johnston, Kela McEntee, Katusca McEntee, Mike McEntee, Lori Sears, Marilyn Borrell, Wendy Campbell, Ben Jones, Betty Jones, Rich Montgomery, Tim Montgomery, Dave Smith, Roger Norris, Jo Sherwood, and Ruth Hedden.

A special thank you to Lisa Minerd for answering questions, making phone calls, taking messages, and assisting with the organization of this event.

A final thank you to those who donated goods for the event! Funds raised (about \$1400!) will be used for our community outreach programs.

Danielle and John Colaiani



Body and Soul (cont. from p. 4)

She was very religious and strongly believed in a higher being.

She ended her years fighting dementia, not recognizing anyone close to her.

Her funeral was held on her 89th birthday.

Thank you for indulging me with my memories as the thirteenth Mother's Day approaches since I became eligible to wear a white carnation.

Finally: A mother is not a person to lean on but a person to make leaning unnecessary.

Confirmation



Sunday, May 31st is Trinity Sunday. Bishop Stokes will be with us to celebrate that day at the 10:15 service. This will be Bishop Stokes first visitation to St. Peter's since his Consecration in November 2013. There will also be members of our congregation Confirmed and Received including our J2A group. The whole congregation is invited and encouraged to attend this Service to meet and greet Bishop Stokes and to support those being Confirmed.

Rite 13 Celebration on May 17th:

Rite 13 is the first two years of the Journey to Adulthood program that St. Peter's has used for several years. The teens in this class have spent time learning and exploring topics about Self, Spirituality, Society and Sexuality. During these two years they have crossed over from being children to teens as they have all turned 13 by now. As they cross over the threshold to adulthood we want them to know that their church goes with them into their new world and we do this in a very public way through the Rite 13 Ceremony that will be held during the 10:15 service on May 17th. This not just a family or class celebration, but a whole parish celebration as we all support them as they grow in Christ and move out into the world.

Haiti's Economy

By Grayson Myers

Haiti's economy was once prosperous, back when it was a major exporter of coffee and sugar during the 18th century (and a colony dependent on slave labor, a significant drawback). Years of turmoil, poor economic policies, corruption, poor education, lack of infrastructure, lack of investment, and other woes have hampered Haiti's economic development, and the devastating earthquake in 2010 did not exactly help matters. As of 2014, Haiti's gross domestic product (GDP) was \$18.54 billion (in comparison, the US GDP was 17.701 trillion) and its GDP per capita was \$1800 (which is the lowest in the Americas). Although the country had its debt cancelled after the earthquake, it has since begun to accumulate more, as the revenue the country collects is half of what it spends. 58.5% of the country's population lives in poverty, and the unemployment rate was 40.6% in 2010. The majority of the country's workers labor in service and agricultural sectors, and the agriculture sector is especially vulnerable to natural events, such as hurricanes or droughts. The country's exports primarily consist of clothing, and 83.5% of Haitian exports go to the United States, where they are tariff exempt. The country imports many goods, the majority of which come from the Dominican Republic and the US. Haiti receives significant aid from actors in the international community, including the World Bank, the United States, Europe, Venezuela, and numerous NGO's.

DID YOU KNOW?

Gourds were so important to the Haitian people that in 1807, President Henri Christophe (1761-1820) made them the base of national currency and declared all gourds the property of the state. Today, the Haitian currency is called "gourdes."



Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

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. 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. Please sign up in the narthex to host a Sunday. If you have any questions, contact Laurel Smith at zo-eysmom1@gmail.com or (609) 714-0091.

Coffee hour hosts for May/June

	7:45	10:15
May 3		Tiffany Myers
May 10		
May 17		Minerd/ McCammitt
May 24		
May 31		Confirmation
June 7		
June 14		
June 21		
June 28		

Many spots available in April and May. See Laurel Smith to sign up or email her at zo-eysmom1@gmail.com.

Are you 5K ready?

Have you signed up for the St. Peter's Run and Pray 5K yet? Why not? Are you worried your "temple" is not healthy enough? Part of the mission of the church is to help us get our "temples" whole—spiritually and physically. This may be just the jump start you need. If you want to try but don't know how to prepare, visit this website to start:

<http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-living/fitness/in-depth/5k-run/art-20050962>

If you have a smart phone or tablet, try downloading one of these apps to help you get ready:



Even if you're not ready for the full 5K, come out and try the 1 mile or just cheer on those who do run!

SAVE THE DATE!!!

St. Peter's parish is a growing, vibrant Christian community. We have high ambitions for St. Peter's outreach to the community. We welcome you and your family to participate in our 1st Father's Day Weekend - Run & Pray 5K

Father's Day Weekend Run & Pray 5k & 1 mile Fun Run

Saturday, June 20th, 2015

7:30 a.m. - Registration
8:00 a.m. - 5k and Family Fun Run

Presented by: St. Peter's Episcopal Church
1 Hartford Road, Medford, NJ

- First 100 registrants receive a Race Tee Shirt
- Medals will be awards to the top finishers
- Shaded, flat course in Christopher Mill
- Online Registration opens in March
- Volunteers needed
- Sponsorships are available to businesses and community organizations. Contact Michael Krug for details at (856) 701-3429

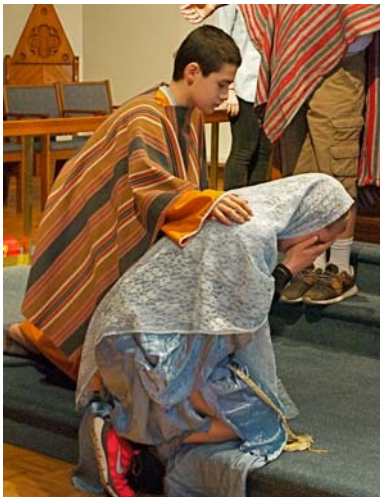
Saint Peter's Episcopal Church
One Hartford Road
Medford, New Jersey

Good Friday Service

If you have never been to the Good Friday evening service at St. Peter's, make a point to go next year. It is a very solemn and powerful service made even more so by the Live Stations of the Cross performed by the youth of St. Peter's. Many thanks to all who were involved!



Ken Montgomery directs the youth during rehearsal; Pilate (played by Mekayla Montgomery) listens to the complaints against Jesus; Jesus (played by Joey Moore) carries his cross while the soldiers (played by Ellie Myers and Brady Moore) look on.



Mary (played by Mekenzie Montgomery) is comforted by one of the disciples (played by Anthony Rubano); Father Don and Deacon Helen kneel before the cross. *(Photos courtesy of Tiffany Myers and Michelle Scarpulla.)*

PARISH PHOTO ALBUM



The 1st-3rd grade Sunday School students completed a six week special program called Welcome to Communion, which culminated in a celebration on April 26th. Congratulations!



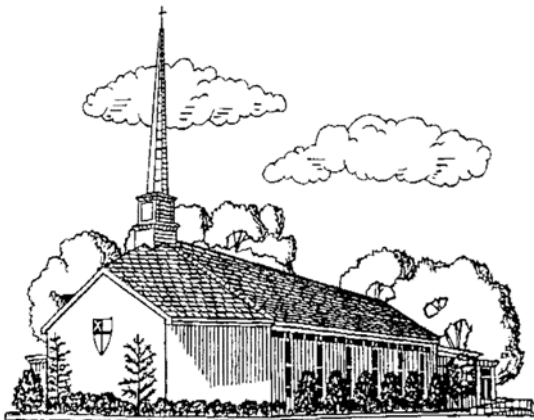
The children were all ready for the annual egg hunt after the 10:15 service on Easter. Many thanks to Kristine Adler for this photo and for organizing the event!

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>
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.



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.

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