ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

310 Route 137

Harwich, MA 02645-1361

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Return Service Requested June 2024

The Network

St. Peter's Lutheran Church JUNE 2024

Phone: 508-432-5172

Email: Office@StPetersCapeCod.org

Website: www.StPetersLutheranCapeCod.org

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

The Network

JUNE 2024 Issue

The DEADLINE

for submissions to the JULY 2024 Issue

is June 15, 2024

Interim Minster

Pastor Roger Dennis

Pastor@stpeterscapecod.org

Minster of Music

Craig S. Tocher

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2024 Financial Staff:

Suzanne Bassett, Treasurer assistanttr@stpeterscapecod.org

Lois Thomas, Financial Secretary

Lynn Hatch, Assistant Financial Secretary

2024 Church Council:

Juliet Bongfeldt,
President
Cathy Samples,
Vice President
Tony Esposito
Secretary

Suzanne Bassett
Treasurer

Keeton Arnett Aline Glifort Kathy Glifort Chris Janson

Paul Luciano

Rodney Schuller Jane Wordsworth



8 am to 4:00 pm Tuesdays - Thursdays

Affirmation of Welcome

Welcome to new visitors and old friends.

We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation and strive to welcome people of every age and size, color and culture, every sexual orientation and gender identity, socioeconomic status, marital status, ability and challenge.

Welcome to believers and questioners, and to questioning believers. Welcome to all who seek Christ's love and grace.

This is a place where you are welcome to rejoice and lament, seek healing and offer service. Welcome in the name of Jesus.

ST. PETER'S MISSION STATEMENT

Centered in Christ and empowered by God's Spirit, we love, grow and serve.

Our core values: Christ-centered Open-minded Caring Welcoming Generous



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Website:

www.StPetersLutheranCapeCod.org

Office email:

 $\underline{Office@StPetersCapeCod.org}$

Church Phone: 508-432-5172

Pastoral Perceptions

The "summer season" is near given the increased traffic on the Cape and learning that some grocery stores will shortly be open until midnight. By the time you read this newsletter, Pentecost will have been celebrated. Thus, the church enters the long season of the Sundays after Pentecost. The color green returns as the liturgical color marking the return to "ordinary" time.

At its etymological root, the word "ordinary" has a rich meaning, far beyond the usual understanding of humdrum, commonplace, or every day. The word has its source in a Sanskrit or Indo-European word, which entered into Latin as the verb orior, meaning to rise up, to be stirred up and to grow. The word for "east" in Latin, oriens, conveys the same rich meaning: it indicates the rising of the sun. Hence, "ordinary time" is, for liturgical churches, the opportunity to allow the Lord to stir up our faith, to allow our spirits to rise, and to grow in our spiritual life.

In addition to being alert and welcoming summer visitors, let us also look for opportunities to "water" our faith through worship and acts of love.

Pastor Roger Dennis Interim Pastor

Transition Happenings – Update

"The History of St. Peter's" event was held on Sunday, April 14, 2024. Pastor Jane Shields facilitated this fun afternoon where we celebrated our past and identified key priorities for our path forward.

There was no interest expressed in an online make-up session for those who could not attend in person, so we're moving towards the next phase of the process.

The information gathered will be used by the Ministry Site Profile Team in outlining our requirements for our next pastor.

Stay tuned for future updates and feel free to contact any member of the Transition Team or Ministry Site Profile Team with questions as we continue our journey together.

Transition Team Members: Claudia Bellis, Elaine Davis, Kathy Glifort, Jim Merriam, Ken Thomas, and Jane Wordsworth

Ministry Site Profile Team Members: Cathy Samples and Chris Janson

Submitted by Claudia Bellis

ORGAN UPDATE

Can you believe it?! As of the end of April, we have raised \$382,249! Not too much further to go! We are so pleased to have come this far so quickly! At the end of 2023, we still needed close to \$80,000, and then at the Annual Meeting in February 2024, the Council had agreed to increase our goal to \$390,000 to cover some unexpected expenses and to have a contingency. Our group was very worried that we were not going to be able to achieve that goal, and we were running out of ideas as to how to raise the funds. But YOU, the congregation and friends of St. Peter's, have come through big time, and we are so THANKFUL!

The renovations of the sanctuary were completed so that we were able to worship there for Easter. It is exciting to see the changes: improved lighting, no soffits to block the view or muffle the sound, the altar platform is more open and welcoming, and the pews were rearranged so that those with wheelchairs may be accommodated within the middle of the assembly.

The installation of the organ itself has been pushed back to August or September as Foley-Baker is working on the organ for the National Cathedral in Washington, DC. In August, our Special Offering will be for the organ and any monies that are collected that are not needed for the installation will be put towards funding concerts and other musical endeavors at St. Peter's. Here's a photo of our newly renovated sanctuary at Easter.

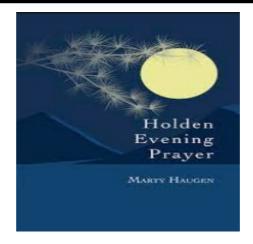
Pipes for Praise Team: Karen Beggs, Peg Flood, Kathy Glifort, Gayle Olson, Fay Sargent, Craig Tocher

Planning & Construction Team: Lynn Archambault, Rich Archambault, Juliet Bongfeldt, Paul Bongfeldt, Carolyn Coomber, Tony Esposito, Rodney Schuller, Alice Vaughn, Jim Wordsworth

St. Peter's Bell & Sanctuary Choirs

The choirs of St. Peter's will be on vacation for the month of July and part of August. Rehearsals will resume on Tuesday, August 13 in preparation for participating in worship on Sunday, September 8.

Rehearsals are on Tuesday from 1:00-1:45 pm for the bell choir and 2:00-3:30 pm for the sanctuary choir. If you would like to be a part of either choir in the Fall of 2024, please contact Minister of Music Craig Tocher at the church office. You need not be able to read music to join either choir!



Holden Evening Prayer: Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in July and August

St. Peter's will continue the tradition of having Holden Evening Prayer services at 6:00 pm on Wednesday evenings during the summer months. The first prayer service will be on July 3. Paul and Juliet Bongfeldt will lead the services each week. Holden Evening Prayer is a sung liturgy with accompanying scripture and prayers. It was originally written during the winter of 1986 while the composer was at Holden Village in the North Cascade mountains of Washington state.

Although in the past, the service has been held in the memorial garden when the weather is clear, this year we will have the prayer service in the sanctuary unless there is a team of two or three to set up and take down the necessary furnishings. The set up "crew" would need to be at St. Peter's by 5:30 pm. In order to hold the service outside, Paul and Juliet need to know by the morning of the day you are available to help. The task involves bringing down two stacks of chairs as well as the keyboard, extension cord, and a small cart for the books, candle, and items for the service. If you are willing to help with outdoor set up, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, or you can call the church office by Wednesday morning of the day you are available. Paul and Juliet will be there to tell you what to do, but they can't do the "heavy lifting" themselves.

If you have any questions, please speak to Paul or Juliet, or you can email them at <u>bongfeldtj@gmail.com</u>.

Second Service Continues on First Sunday, Once a Month

Our second service meets on the first Sunday of the month at 11:15 am. This service has a focus on healing. We'll hold this service on June 2, July 7 and August 4.



Food Pantry Update

Loaves and Fish Pantry

Monday: 1:00 - 3:00 pm **Tuesday:** 3:30 - 5:00 pm **Wednesday:** 12:30 - 2:30 **Friday:** 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

The Loaves and Fishes Pantry is getting ready for a busy summer, and we were excited to learn that the Greater Boston Food Bank will be adding another delivery each month beginning in June. Although there are big gaps in many of our staple products, we know that the additional delivery will make a big difference.

Thanks for your increased support these past few months. It has made a big difference in what we can provide to our families. The headlines in *The Boston Globe* today read, "Why are grocery prices rising so much faster in Massachusetts?" so we know that we must continue to do all we can to continue to help our neighbors.

A big thanks to Jane Wordsworth and Karen Beggs for creating Birthday Cake Kits complete with ingredients for a crazy cake that can be made using just a cake mix and a can of soda. The kits even included colorful tablecloths, napkins, and candles.

The photographs featured this month on the next page include some of our faithful Monday delivery team. They will be unloading and stocking over 3,000 pounds of groceries each month. Howard, from the Lower Cape Outreach Council, has been picking up our orders and delivering them for the past several years and has been working for LCOC since 2015.

Ross shares the heavy lifting with Paul, who is not pictured, and Curt's specialty is breaking down the boxes and taking them to the landfill. Claudia joined the team last fall and is an expert at loading our refrigerators and freezer. She also is helping with the shopping and can find the best prices between here and Connecticut! We are so grateful for the donations of non-perishable items but also the monetary gifts to the pantry allowing us to fill in some of the supply gaps. Thanks again for all your help fighting food security in our own community.

St. Peter's Food Pantry Coordinator

Email: Ruth Brenneman at thomasbrenneman41@comcast.net



Claudia Bellis filling the freezer.

Howard and Ross unloading the food truck.



Curt Douglas breaking down the boxes.



What I am Learning About Centering Prayer: Part One

You Can't Fail at Centering Prayer! by Stewart Pattison

I was introduced to centering prayer more than twenty years ago during a week-long spiritual immersion program at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia. Since then, I have been part of silent meditation groups and studied contemplative prayer. Most recently, for the past four years I have participated in the centering prayer group led by the Rev. Kathy Carpenter of the congregation of St. Mary of Magdala (SMM) which meets at St. Peter's.

In January, Kathy suffered a severe stroke from which she is, thankfully, making a slow and steady recovery. In February I realized how much I missed this twice monthly gathering. I indicated to the co-pastor of SMM, the Rev. Kathy RigordaEva, that I would be willing to convene the group until such time as Kathy Carpenter was able to resume her leadership.

On Tuesday, May 14, I was joined by two members of SMM. It was wonderful to be together again seeking the presence of God's silence. Yet, it is one thing to show up for a group as a participant. It is another to do so as convener/leader. I have begun reading a wonderful book on centering prayer entitled <u>Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening</u>, by Cynthia Bourgeault. I have learned that what I don't know about centering prayer far exceeds what I do. A journey has begun!

What I can tell you is this: *You Can't Fail at Centering Prayer!* Why?! You cannot fail because it is not a test. So often we compare our spirituality against the saints and those around us and come away defeated before we even start. Somehow, we believe that we need to have achieved some level of spiritual experience before we come to a group engaging in something lofty sounding like "centering prayer."

If there is a test, it is of your desire to make an intentional step on your spiritual journey. If you show up *even once*, you have passed. As Jesus says of Mary sitting at his feet, "She has chosen the better portion." That is, her *wanting* to be with Jesus was all she needed. Cynthia Bourgeault observes that "90% of centering prayer is desire. The rest is technique."

So, I propose that the first step, before you even show up for centering prayer, is to pray for the willingness to draw near to God. You may find yourself on a morning errand pulling to the church parking lot for twenty minutes of silence in the company of new spiritual friends. Or, you may find yourself taking a walk on the beach, *or*, you may join a book group, Bible Study, prayer shawl group, or Bell Choir. God usually responds to our desire to open our hearts.

We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 10:00 am in the sanctuary. If you want to know more and/or have questions please contact me at stewartepattison@gmail.com or after worship.

St. Peter's Ministries

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Prayer Shaul
Ministry The St. Peter's Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Friday, June 7 and
Friday, June 21 at 1:30 in the Luther Room. Please join us as we
prayerfully knit or crochet these shawls which continue to be needed.

ESTHER CIRCLE

Although the Esther Circle will not hold regular monthly meetings during the summer, we will meet at various times to begin work on jewelry for the Cranberry Fair.





To the left is a photo of the stuffed animals and other items donated to Children's Cove in May.
Thanks for your support!



SACRED SORROW

"Grief is neither a problem to be solved nor a difficulty to be overcome. It is a sacred expression of love; a sacred sorrow." The St. Peter's ministry for bereaved parents will meet on Thursday, June 20 at 1:30 pm in the Luther Room.

Thinking of all bereaved fathers this month. Although mothers are traditionally consoled when a child dies, fathers grieve also, and deserve our prayers and compassion.

For more information about the Prayer Shawl Ministry, Esther Circle, or Sacred Sorrow, please contact Marianne O'Boyle at 508-775-2757 or marianne@oboyle.net.

Dulcimer Fellowship: Looking back - Looking Ahead

The dulcimer fellowship group will continue to meet at its usually scheduled times in June: Thursday, June 6 at 4:00 pm and Sunday, June 16 after worship.

Looking back on our first year, I proposed this group for completely selfish reasons. I love playing the dulcimer and wanted some people who would play with me. I have not been disappointed!! I am very grateful to the Anderson Fund for underwriting two "loaner" dulcimers to get us started. As a "program evaluator," I can't help but think about some of the "statistics" that tell the story. Since September:

- 16 people have attended at least one fellowship session
- We range in age from 8 to somewhere upwards of 80
- 4 people have purchased their own dulcimers
- 3 people who are not from St. Peter's found us through word of mouth and reading the newsletter online
- Sunday gatherings have never had less than 6 and sometimes as many as 10

Looking ahead, we will continue to be a fellowship group: anyone can come and we will always have a way for those completely new to the dulcimer to participate, even as some of you are ready for slightly more advanced versions of the songs we are learning. As summer schedules are variable, we will not try to meet in July and August. However, I am willing and able to get together with anyone individually to keep you motivated. I am also hoping to schedule a "dulcimer on the deck" ice cream social once I know what my families' plans are for coming to the Cape.

We will begin to meet regularly again in September and work on Christmas carols right away so you can play some by Christmas! Christmas carols are particularly lovely on the dulcimer. Thanks again, to the St. Peter's community for the imagination to let this happen!!

If you have any questions, please contact MJ Pattison at mjpattison@gmail.com.



Through the Lens of Science with Doug...

Doug Kenney is a retired science teacher who lives at Regal Care of Harwich and joyfully shares a monthly newsletter article with us. Call him at 508 430-6309. June 2024

2024 Summer Solstice

The velocity of the Earth's revolution around the sun is a function of its distance from the sun. On December 21, its distance is 91.4 million miles, and on June 21, this distance is 94.5 million miles, a difference of 3.1 million miles. The earth's mean orbital velocity is 66,600 miles per hour. To compute the specific orbital velocity on December 21 or on June 21, one needs to use Kepler's third law of harmonics which states: "the square of a planet's orbital velocity = the cube of the planet's distance from the sun." This law was discovered by astronomer Johannes Kepler in the twentieth century. It turns out the Earth's orbital velocity on December 21 is about 68,000 mph and about 65,000 mph on June 21, a difference of 3,000 mph.

Because the velocity of the Earth's revolution during summer months is less than it is during winter months, the northern hemisphere experiences about seven days of extra living! The southern hemisphere also experiences this extra time, but the residents of Australia would not label it a bonus of living time because it's their winter. From September 21 to March 21, the Earth's orbital velocity accelerates meaning the northern hemisphere experiences fewer hours of living as well as the residents of Australia do, but that's okay because their summers are very hot!

Don't be confused about the length of each day, because one day is a function of the Earth's rotation at 15 degrees per hour. What does vary is the time it takes the Earth to orbit in one hour. The longer it takes, the longer the bonus of living time. Some months have thirty days, and some have thirty-one days, making up our twelve month calendar. Adding up the number of days between equinoxes, there are 184 days during the warm months, and 181 days during the cold months making just a little over 365 days per year.

The most amazing orbital velocity of the Earth is the solar system's velocity around our galaxy. It takes a million years to

orbit the Milky Way just once at a velocity of 25 miles per second!

God wanted us to have a fabulous journey on "Space Ship Earth."



THANK YOU NOTES AND LETTERS

Dear St. Peter's,

Thank you for your cards, prayers, flowers, and the prayer shawl. It's been comforting to know that you care!

Home now from the hospital, and I am on the mend.

Love in Christ, Brenda Niemi 100th Birthday Thank You

Dear Family and Friends,

Thank you for celebrating this milestone with me. The beautiful birthday wishes have touched my heart deeply, and I cherish you more than words can express. I am truly grateful for your thoughtfulness and presence on my special day.

John Solomon Zippo

We love to hear from you!

Send your updates to:...
office@StPetersCapeCod.org or
ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
310 Route 137
Harwich, MA 02645-1361
(508) 432-5172

Master Calendar

If your committee or ministry team would like to meet at the church, please let Ministry Administrator Susan know. She'll get you on the master calendar and reserve a space for you.



SAVE THE DATE! St. Pius Women's Society's Annual Summer Fair is Wednesday and Thursday, July 17 and 18, from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm: jewelry, gift card raffle, crafts and knits, baked goods, and treasures. St. Pius is located at 5 Barbara Street in South Yarmouth. The fair is in their Parish Life Building. Their flyer is on the kiosk.

LOCAL GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS

- Run by Broad Reach Hospice's bereavement coordinator, Rebecca Chesbro, this grief support group is open to anyone grieving the loss of a spouse. It meets on the first and third Tuesdays at 2 pm in the Luther Room at St. Peter's.
- The Northside United Methodist Church, 701 Airline Road, Brewster, has a grief support group at their church for all who are experiencing some type of grief that meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays at 2 pm.

P.S.A.L.M. People Sharing and Loving More

PSALM Meetings and Events:

June 13 5:30pm Annual Dinner Meeting

at The Beacon

Sept. 12 7:00 pm Business Meeting

Oct. 10 7:00 pm Business Meeting



We wish to extend a heartfelt, sincere THANK YOU to all who contributed diapers and wipes etc. to A Baby Center for our annual drive. We are blessed with your generosity for the mothers and babies in need!

HAPPY SUMMER!!!

Be safe. Be well. Be blessed.

Fellowship Hall set up for the Women's Tea on Monday, May 20. Thanks, Jane Wordsworth, Elaine Davis, and all the women who baked, made sandwiches, and assisted.







June Birthdays & Anniversaries

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday

- 1 Anna Conklin
- 4 Rodney Schuller
- 7 Ruth Duben
- 8 Cara Jolibois
- 11 Lucie Carlsen
- 14 Bruce Bassett
- 15 Keeton Arnett
- 15 Brenda Niemi
- 18 Dorothy Kean
- 18 Fay Sargent
- 20 Mary Schaefer-Koteles
- 21 Kayden Kaser
- 23 Tammy Hines
- 24 Joanna O'Gorman
- 27 Lou Meyer

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES



- 5 John & Suzanne Stehdahl
- 8 Don & Pat Anderson
- 8 Jim & Linda Merriam
- 12 Bill & Alice Vaughan
- 14 Peter & Christine Sontag
- 24 Russ & Elena Peterson
- 25 Don & Donna Albert
- 26 Bob & Marcia Harris
- 27 Kevin & Melissa Clayton
- 28 Ralph & Kelly Mercer
- 29 Ted & Judy Helm
- 29 Curt & Jennifer Douglas

Update your information in St. Peter's Directory!

If you have any changes or if we don't have your birthday or anniversary listed, please send to:

Office@StPetersCapeCod.org

Flowers are placed at the altar to the glory of God on a woman's 75th birthday.



If you know someone with this special day coming up, please let us know.

		June 2	ne 2024 at St. Peter's	er's		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Room Guide: CR Conference Room DN Downstairs Narthex FH Fellowship Hall FP Food Pantry LR Luther Room N Narthex S Sanctuary Z Zoom					1 10a Women's Bible Study LR 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
2 9:30a Worship, Sanctuary 11:15 a Healing Service, Sanctuary	39:30a Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fish FP 7p Girl Scouts FH	48:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 9:30a Staff Meeting, CR 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 2p Choir Sanctuary 2p Broad Reach Grief Group LR 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP	5 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH 4p Dulcimer Fellowship Group LR	6 10a Staff Support Mtg CR	Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 1:30p Prayer Shawl LR	8 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
9:30a Worship, Sanctuary	10 9:30a Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fish FP 7p Girl Scouts FH	8:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 9:30a Staff Meeting, CR 10a Centering Prayer SMMC office 12:30p Esther Circle 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Bell Choir Sanctuary 2:00p Choir Sanctuary 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP 6p NAMI Meeting LR	12.30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p. Kathy's Bridge FH 1:30p Council Offs. Mtg CR 4p Y.O.H. Board Mtg LR	13 10:30a Pastoral Care Team Meeting CR & Z 530 PSALM Dinner, The Beacon	14 Flag Day Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH	15 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
16 Fathers' Day & Home Communion Sunday 9:30a Worship, Sanctuary 1045a Dulcimer Fellowship Group, LR	17 9:30a Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fish FP 4:30p SPLC @Faith Family Kitchen 7p Girl Scouts FH	18 8:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 9:30a Staff Meeting, CR 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 12:30p Finance Com Mig CR 1p Bell Choir Sanctuary 2p Choir Sanctuary 2p Choir Sanctuary 2p Broad Reach Grief Group LR 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP 6p Council Mtg FH	19 Juneteenth 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH	20 1:30p Sacred Sorrow LR 5:30p Chatham Chorale Annual Meeting FH	21 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 1:30p Prayer Shawl LR	22 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
23 9:30a Worship, Sanctuary 30	24 9:30a Wonomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fish FP	25 8:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 9:30a Staff Meeting, CR 10a Centering Prayer SMMC Office 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 2:00p Choir Sanctuary 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP	26 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH	27	28 Church office dosed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH	29 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary