

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

310 Route 137

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May 2024

The Network

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

MAY 2024

Phone: 508-432-5172

Email: Office@StPetersCapeCod.org

Website: www.StPetersLutheranCapeCod.org

The church office is closed on Monday, May 27 for Memorial Day.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
The Network
 MAY 2024 Issue
DEADLINE
 for submissions to the
JUNE 2024 Issue
 is May 15, 2024

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


Interim Minister
Pastor Roger Dennis
Pastor@stpeterscapecod.org

Minister of Music
Craig S. Tocher
Ministerofmusic@stpererscapecod.org

Ministry Administrator
Susan Madigan Kiehnau
office@stpeterscapecod.org

Operations Administrator
Ann German
businessoffice@stpeterscapecod.org

2023 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



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2024 Financial Staff:

Suzanne Bassett, *Treasurer*
assistanttr@stpeterscapecod.org

Lois Thomas, *Financial Secretary*

Lynn Hatch, *Assistant Financial Secretary*



OFFICE HOURS
 9 am to 3:30 pm
 Mondays - 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.

Website:
www.StPetersLutheranCapeCod.org

Office email:
Office@StPetersCapeCod.org
 Church Phone: 508-432-5172

Pastoral Perceptions

These lines are written shortly after the Easter celebration. We returned to the sanctuary during Holy Week and Easter. On Maundy Thursday, a representative of the construction company was present. We acknowledge her for two reasons. The first was the company completing the work in time for Easter. The second reason was her own personal involvement in ensuring the work was completed on time.

At Easter we recognized the PACT team for their efforts on the project. Although the team will be involved through the installation of the organ this fall, those that have volunteered have spent countless hours on the project.

Now, in this newsletter, I thank all of you, the members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church. Despite the change to worshipping in the fellowship hall, you were resilient in both your attendance and financial support. I heard few, if any, complaints about the switch in worship locations. Instead, you provided constructive feedback regarding changes that enriched the worship experience for both the on-line community and those that worshipped in person. Well done, good and faithful servants of the Gospel.

As together we journey to both serve Christ and call a permanent pastor, I pray our work will continue in the same spirit. May you continue to be blessed as you are blessings to others.

Pastor Roger Dennis
Interim Pastor

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 May 5, June 2, and July 7.

Holocaust Memorial Service

A Holocaust Memorial Service will be held on **Tuesday, May 7 at 7 pm** at the Federated Church of Orleans, 162 Main Street, East Orleans. This service is sponsored by Am Ha Yam Cape Cod Havurah in cooperation with Nauset Interfaith Association.



Transition Happenings

“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. Fellowship Hall was abuzz with members sharing and listening to stories from the past as well as hopes for our future. After sharing our small group table discussions with everyone, all participants were given three votes (green stickers) to identify their most important focuses for St. Peter’s in the next few years. Check out the poster-sized papers hanging upstairs in the sanctuary for additional details. Please note that the two sheets with the green dots contain all the areas of importance identified during the session. The items with green dots indicate those requiring additional focus going forward. Categories without dots or with fewer dots were deemed to be going well currently.

This information will be used by the Ministry Site Profile Team in outlining our requirements for our next pastor. The top categories were as follows:

- Lacking young families - 12 votes
- Music - 11 votes
- Being inclusive - 11 votes
- Not enough lay leaders - 10 votes
- Need for more faith formation opportunities for all ages - 10 votes
- Fellowship - 10 votes
- Open to change - 9 votes

Anyone who was unable to attend in person may contact the church office to express interest in a future online discussion. If there is enough interest, a Zoom will be scheduled sometime in May for the table discussion portion.

The Transition Team wishes to thank Pastor Jane Shields and everyone who helped with setting-up the tables and lunch, did clean-up, and participated in the event. All of you made it a success!

Stay tuned for future updates and feel free to contact any member of the Transition 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

Submitted by Claudia Bellis



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

Our St. Peter's Sunday School students did an amazing job creating special Easter cards for our Loaves and Fishes families. The cards, along with some treats, were a wonderful way of spreading kindness to our neighbors. Thanks to the students and all of you for supporting our pantry.

The Lower Case Outreach Council has purchased a new freezer for our pantry. Luckily we were able to stock it with our last order before the long three weeks without a delivery. Lately we have been able to get our meats and produce but not the needed staples and canned goods. We have many new clients without adequate refrigeration, and they rely on the non perishable items donated each week. We have been filling about 100 doubled bags each week, so we appreciate all the brown grocery bags!

St. Peter's Food Pantry Coordinator

Email: Ruth Brenneman at thomasbrenneman41@comcast.net





New Members at St. Peter's

On Easter Sunday, we welcomed two new members to St. Peter's: Paul Luciano and Jeanne Tria.

Paul is from Dedham, Massachusetts and a navy veteran. He has owned his own business for 25 years now. Paul has been married for 29 years. He has one child, a son, Shayne. He's working on being a good man of faith.

Jeanne and her husband retired here in June 2020. They have owned their home for forty years and were summer residents. They lived in Princeton NJ. They have six children. Jeanne hopes to get involved in activities at the church soon.



ORGAN UPDATE

(1) Pipes for Praise Update:

As of March 31, the total donations received in March, including \$15,000 matching gift: \$47,372. Grand total raised to date, including matching funds, is \$374,303. The balance remaining to raise: \$20,697. We are so close! Thank you from the Pipes for Praise Team.

With gratitude, the Pipes for Praise Team:

Karen Beggs, Peg Flood, Kathy Glifort, Gayle Olson, Fay Sargent, and Craig Tocher

(2) With Respect and Gratitude, PACT Update With Gratitude...

The Planning and Construction Team gratefully acknowledges the professionalism and craftsmanship of all those who so skillfully contributed to the beautiful outcome of our sanctuary renovation project. Our interactions with these fine companies and individuals were always collegial and invariably focused on getting the project done in a timely and cost-effective manner. Given the many hours most of the craftsmen spent on the project, we know that their margins or profits were slim indeed; nevertheless, all stayed within the budgets included in their proposals. And to our benefit, each showed patience when the PACT arrived at difficult junctures and needed time and guidance to come to a consensus on this or that thorny matter. In short, our heartfelt gratitude to the following individuals and companies.:

- **Charles Bomely**, architect; Plan B Retail Design, Tolland, CT
- **Andrew Philbrook**, general contractor, and **Susan Gerlach**, project manager; Philbrook Construction Services Group, Dennis
- **Kevin Shanley**, audiovisual contractor; East-West Associates, Bourne
- **Matthew Kline**, electrical contractor; Matthew D. Kline Electrician, Harwich Port
- **Anthony Muto**, finished carpentry, Coast to Coast Carpentry, Harwich
- **Michael Govoni**, painting contractor; Govoni & Sons Painting; Yarmouth Port
- **Conor McInerney & Crews**; HVAC contractor; Robies: Heating, Cooling & Generators, Hyannis

The members of the PACT - Lynn Archambault, Rich Archambault, Juliet Bongfeldt, Paul Bongfeldt, Carolyn Coomber, Rodney Schuller, Alice Vaughn, Jim Wordsworth and I - applaud these artisans for their beautifully crafted gifts to the congregation.

Submitted by Tony Esposito

St. Peter's Ministries



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The St. Peter's Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Friday, May 3 and Friday, May 17 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

Thank you to all who donated stuffed animals, art and craft items and "fidgets" for Children's Cove. The children who are served by this worthwhile organization will certainly appreciate your gifts. Contributions may be placed in the bins in the Narthex until May 5.

During May we once more observe Rachel's Day in memory and protest of children lost to gun violence.

The Esther Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 14 at 12:30 in the Luther Room. After the meeting, we will continue to discuss The Gift of Years by Joan Chittister.



SACRED SORROW



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, May 16 at 1:30 pm in the Luther Room.

"Mother's Day can be difficult for anyone who has lost a child. My hope as a mother is that we all will find peace and cherish the joy our children have brought to our lives."

Betty Lineberger, Bereaved Mother, Ocala, FL

See: bereavedparentsusa.org

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

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

Glad to see so many of our "traveling" friends back on Cape Cod! PSALM will hold its Annual Diaper Drive for the Cape Cod Council of Churches ABC (A Baby Center) in May. Last year we donated over 4,500 diapers and 5,100 wipes; along with various blankets, outfits, bibs, etc. In addition to the tangible items the ABC also accepts monetary donations.

The mission of ABC is to provide diapers, wipes, etc., to the most vulnerable Cape Cod residents without judgement. A pilot program at ABC this year is the "Dottie" program to provide period support supplies for moms. So we will be collecting "period supplies" and/or monetary donations to support this program also.

There will be a porta-crib in the Narthex during the month of May for collection of diapers, etc., or the "Dottie" supplies. If you have questions about items needed, please contact anyone in the PSALM group.

The next PSALM Meeting is on **Thursday, May 9 at 7:00 pm** in the Luther Room. We will finalize details for the Spring Tea to be held on May 20. We look forward to seeing all the PSALM members there! Happy Spring!!

Peace and blessings,
Jane Wordsworth

Dulcimer Fellowship in May

We will gather again on the first Thursday of the month, **May 2 at 4 pm** for a mid-week dulcimer class and on the third Sunday after church on **May 19**. As always, anyone is welcome to come, even if your experience with the dulcimer is to ask "What's a dulcimer?" (The answer is a three-string folk instrument with American Appalachian roots.) Also, if you have been out of town for the monthly gatherings and would like a private introduction/lesson, I would be happy to provide that. We do have some "loaner" dulcimers that are available for you to borrow and try out. If you have any questions, please contact MJ Pattison at mjpattison@gmail.com.



2024 Caregivers Retreat

DATE: Thursday, May 9

TIME: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

PLACE: St. Peter's Lutheran Church
310 Route 137
Harwich, MA 02645

St. Peter's Pastoral Care Team invites caregivers in any setting to a day designed to nurture you as you continue the important work of caregiving, either for your loved ones, as a profession, or both!

There will be time for conversation with other caregivers, prayer, and workshops to feed your soul. Lunch will be provided so please let us know if you're attending so that we have enough food. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board or you can email the church office: office@stpeterscapecod.org.

Sewer Work at St. Peter's

The town of Harwich approved the Apex work, and we were switched over to the Harwich sewer system on April 17. We'll no longer be using the septic system. The sewer connection work in the back parking lot near fellowship hall started on Monday April 15 and was completed by April 19. The school was not in session so they were not affected. The Food Pantry modified their entrance into the building through the door at the end of the education wing during construction.



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. May 2024

The Wonders of Plants

Plants are essential to the survival of all living organisms as they exhale oxygen and inhale carbon dioxide so they can flourish. The world's 50,000 species are woody plants with a finite formed crown of foliage. The stem of a plant includes the inner fibrous heart and an outer covering of sap and bark.

Quaking Aspens are the most wide spread of all trees in North America. Mature bamboo grass is the tallest plant in the world at 100 feet. The largest flower in the plant kingdom is the Raffles Arnoldi from southern Sumatra, Indonesia. Sixty-eight percent of all plants and ferns grow in the tropics, 30 degrees north and south of the equator.

Leaves are loaded with a green pigment called chlorophyll that dominates their color during warm months and when the air becomes cool and dry, the chlorophyll breaks down to several carotenoids that promote the colors of autumn foliage.

A plant that bears leaves is called an Angiosperm, and a plant that bears needles is called a Gymnosperm. When plants draw water (one inch per second) up from their roots, water mixes with inhaled carbon dioxide causing a chemical reaction that produces a glucose-like plant food. Balsa at only eight pounds per cubic foot is an angiosperm because it bears leaves, and an example of a gymnosperm is a yellow pine at fifty pounds per cubic foot.

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.

Voices of Migrants

The Refugee Support Team of Nauset Interfaith Association is continuing their series about migrants who seek a better future. You can hear from Brazilian community members on **Saturday, May 18 from 2 to 4 pm** at the Orleans United Methodist Church, 73 Main Street, Orleans.

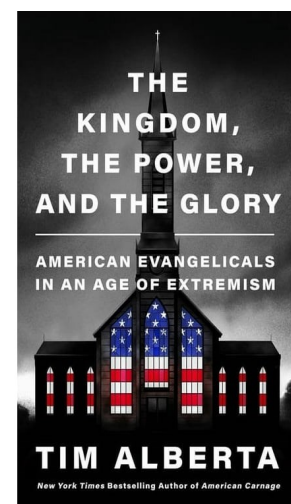
A Book Review of Tim Alberta's The Kingdom, the Power, and The Glory by MJ Pattison

For anyone who is interested in reading further about the impact of nationalism on the Christian church, I recommend Tim Alberta's The Kingdom the Power and the Glory: American Evangelicals in an Age of Extremism (First Edition, 2023).

Once started, this book is impossible to put down. Alberta is a wonderful, compelling writer who does not shy away from telling hard truths about his own faith community. He has managed to get extensive interviews with most of leaders of the Evangelical movement over the past three decades. You will recognize many names and come away with a much better understanding that the fusing of Christianity and nationalist fervor is not a sudden phenomenon but has been developing over decades.

The author is an award-winning journalist and a staff writer for *The Atlantic*, but he is also a faithful Christian and the son of a pastor of a large mid-western Evangelical Christian church. He is exactly the right person to write this book. While much of Alberta's reporting is frightening and disturbing, he also includes many interviews with and stories about truly inspiring pastors, church members and college professors, who are standing up for an authentic Evangelical faith with great courage, often at a devastating personal cost.

Ultimately, I found this to be a hopeful book. Evangelical Christianity is not a monolith, and it is important for those of us who come from mainline or progressive protestant faith communities to find common cause with fellow Christians whose churches are being torn asunder by this political polarization. This story is also Tim Alberta's story, which begins in his home church where he has returned to attend his father's funeral and he is blind-sided by the division and animosity he finds there. The book also ends in his home church four years later, as he listens to a brave and compelling sermon from his father's successor. As a way forward, Alberta offers with these words from St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians "So we fix our eyes on not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." (2 *Corinthians* 4:18)





Our 9:30 am Sunday in-person worship is live streamed on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StPetersLutheranChurchHarwich>

THANK YOU NOTES AND LETTERS

Thank You from the Tech Team

The St. Peter's Tech Team, which currently consists of Gayle Olson, Chris Janson, Lou Meyer, Kayden Kaser, and MJ Pattison, would like to thank you for your patience as we get used to the new A/V system that was installed as part of the sanctuary renovation. We appreciate all constructive feedback. By early May we will have completed training on the new system and will hopefully be able to make the adjustments that some of you have suggested.

Our team is small and our motto is "Connection not perfection." It would be wonderful to have a few more people who are trained in the system. Streaming the service is fun and interesting, and now would be a good time to expand our team. We can train you by having you watch for a Sunday or two and then one of us can "ride along" as you stream a service yourself. If you are interested, please contact the church office and we will be back in touch promptly.

Flower Thanks

What a joy to receive the beautiful Spring bouquet of flowers that adorned the chancel on Sunday, April 14. It was a pleasant surprise! In facilitating St. Peter's history, I enjoyed the many facts and stories shared.

Here's another one: do you know that a memorial set up over 30 years ago, specific to church flowers, is still going strong?

Gratefully, Jane O'Hara Shields

Altar Table Thanks

A BIG thank you to Jim Wordsworth who made the beautiful altar table that is behind the altar. He used pieces of wood from the old altar rail! Thanks, Jim.

Dear Altar Guild,

There you go again . . . being such a blessing! Thanks . . . and God bless you too! Thank you for the beautiful flowers I received on Sunday. They certainly made me smile! Thanks again for thinking of us!

Jetty Sousa Lampson &
Brian Lampson

Thank You Note

We received a lovely thank you note and a generous donation from the Monday evening Men's 12-step group that meets here.

May Birthdays & Anniversaries

MAY BIRTHDAYS

MAY ANNIVERSARIES




- 11 Linda & Charlie Czech
- 14 Gayle & Russell Olson
- 16 Chris & Claudia Bellis
- 28 Tom & Alison Christensen

- 6 Russ Olson
- 13 Gretchen Mackechnie
- 14 Amy Eberhardt
- 16 Don Albert
- 17 Scott Ritz
- 19 Zachary Bellis
- 22 Therese Gordon
- 23 Lydia Holleck
- 27 Don Anderson

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.

May 2024 at St. Peter'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 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH	2 10a Staff Support Mtg CR & Z 4p Dulcimer Fellowship Group LR	3 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 130p Prayer Shawl LR	4 10a Women's Bible Study LR 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
5 9:30a Worship, Sanctuary 11:15 a Healing Service, Sanctuary	6 9:30a Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fish FP 6p Men's AWOL LR 7p Girl Scouts FH	7 8:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 9:30a Bell Choir Sanctuary 11:15a Choir Sanctuary 2p Broad Reach Grief Group LR 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP	8 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH 1:30p Council Offs. Mtg CR 4p Y.O.H. Board Mtg LR 7p Girl Scouts Leaders FH	9 10a Caregivers' Retreat LR N 10:30a Pastoral Care Team Meeting CR & Z 7p PSALM Meeting LR	10 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH	11 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
12 Mother's Day 9:30a Worship, Sanctuary	13 9:30a Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fish FP 5p Girl Scouts FH 6p Men's AWOL LR 7p Girl Scouts FH	14 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	15 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH	16 1:30p Sacred Sorrow LR 7p Girl Scouts FH	17 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 1:30p Prayer Shawl LR	18 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
19 Home Communion Sunday 9:30a Worship, Sanctuary 1045a Dulcimer Fellowship Group, LR	20 9:30a Monomoy Bridge FH 12p Spring Tea 1p Loaves & Fish FP 4:30p SPLC @Faith Family Kitchen 6p Men's AWOL LR 7p Girl Scouts FH	21 8:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 9:30a Staff Meeting, CR 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 12:30p Finance Com Mtg CR 1p Bell Choir Sanctuary 2p Choir Sanctuary 2p Broad Reach Grief Group LR 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP 6p Council Mtg FH	22 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH	23	24 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH	25 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
26 9:30a Worship, Sanctuary	27 Memorial Day Office Closed. 9:30a Monomoy Bridge FH 1p CLOSED Loaves & Fish FP 6p Men's AWOL LR 7p Girl Scouts FH	28 8:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 9:30a Staff Meeting, CR 10a Centering Prayer SMMC Office 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Bell Choir Sanctuary 2:00p Choir Sanctuary 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP	29 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH	30	31 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH	