



St. Peter's Episcopal Church
271 Roseland Avenue
Essex Fells, NJ 07021

(973) 226-6500
www.stpeters-essexfells.org
Email: eandersen.stpeters@gmail.com

Advent Event

Advent is a time for getting ready to enter the mystery of Christmas. Let's start getting ready together!

Join us on Sunday, Dec. 3rd, 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Undercroft. Enjoy a light supper and children's Christmas crafts. Families will be able to make Advent wreaths (we will be asking for a small donation if you are making a wreath to offset costs). It's sure to be a wonderful time of togetherness!

If you are crafty, we'd love your help running a craft table! We also will need donations of food, as well as greens for our wreaths. Please be on the look out for sign-up sheets or contact Sarah Latson at sarahlatson@gmail.com or (973) 433-7637 to volunteer.



Onward

A newsletter for and about
the people of
St. Peter's Church

November 2017



A Word from the Interim Rector: Honoring the Ancestors

On All Saints Sunday, we remember all those we call “the departed.” But is that the best way to describe them? The Prayer Book tells us that the living and those who have gone before us are “knit together in one communion and fellowship.” Our ancestors live in our genes, in habits that have come down through the generations, in ideas that have become part of family and national cultures, and much more. More than that, the Gospel assures us that they are truly alive in God, who pervades all things. Remembering those we love but no longer see, even continuing to relate to them in our minds, can be a source of gratitude for good relations, and continuing learning about relationships that were a challenge.

Pledge Ingathering and Dedication on All Saints Sunday, November 19th

We will dedicate all pledges received for our 2018 Budget on Sunday, November 5. You may make your pledge on the website, by mailing the pledge card received in your pledge letter to the office, or by putting it in the Offering Basin any Sunday. Our goal is \$280,000 in Pledge income to make the ministry of a full-time priest financially viable. The total parish budget also includes income from the Nursery School and Op Shop, and a percentage of investment income. Pledges are the backbone of our annual support, and we, like other parishes, do not receive financial support from the Diocese. Give prayerfully and generously to help the parish move into a new era!

Search Update

The Search Committee plans to recommend its finalists for full-time priestly leadership of St. Peter’s by the end of October. The Vestry will then conduct in-depth interviews with these clergy during November and early December and hopes to make a choice before year’s end. Our new priest would then arrive early in 2017. The Search Committee of over a dozen parishioners made their selection from approximately a dozen people interested in St. Peter’s or recommended by the Diocese.

Vestry Notes: At its September and October meetings, the Vestry:

Approved the replacement of a sidewalk railing along the side of the Upper Room to provide greater protect for small children who might wander too close to the basement window wells. New shrubbery will provide a further buffer.

Ratified a list of on-line summer Vestry votes approving funds for the replacement of the Office building back porch, the installation of new carpet in some Nursery School space,

St. Peter’s Ladies Night Success

Thank you for joining our Ladies Night Out! We had a fun evening of community/fellowship, savory appetizers and desserts and opportunities to shop. Special thanks to Pat Aliotta, Sarah Latson and Serene Watkinson, June Cowell and Chris Corso for helping to use your incredible talents to make the evening a success.

I especially want to give a shout out to our vendors who made the night a success! Michelle Towers, W by Worth, for dressing some of us with great fashion and style; Francine Stern, Stella & Dot, for her personalized picks for fabulous jewelry and accessories; Melanie Dubois, Belle Creations, for her unique glass creations that transcend all aspects of life; Linda Lee, Mary Kay, for her great advice on beauty, skin care and makeup; Susan Kobler, Stringalong, for her amazing jewelry using beautiful beads and Swarovski crystals; and, Diane Campanella, Gabby Girl Designs, with her marvelous monogrammed bags, Sherpas capes, baby clothing and much more!

Pam Au



*Lots of Smiles
from the Ladies
at
Ladies Night*

What is North Porch?

The North Porch Women and Infant's Center, run through the Episcopal Diocese of Newark provide seven-day emergency supplies of formula, baby food, diapers, wipes and clothing for needy mothers and infants in the Newark, Paterson, Hackettstown, Clifton and Dover areas. The name reflects the custom of the ancient church to regard the "North Porch" as a gathering place and refuge for women.

How Does North Porch Serve Needy Families?

They provide a seven-day supply of infant items in order to help needy mothers stabilize and improve their lives. They have a part-time social worker that works with these mothers providing counseling, parenting classes and job referral materials.

What Can We Do To Help the Babies?

Please Bring diapers size 1-5, baby wipes
baby cereal, baby food
Enfamil Formula
baby shampoo, diaper rash cream
clothing: from newborn to size 3

PLEASE Help the babies by bringing any of these items to church or the church office during the month of November

*Thank you, Sue Mazur and Jennifer Jackson
ECW*

Christmas Ornament Orders

You can pick up or purchase an ornament at coffee hour on Sunday, Nov. 26 and Sunday, Dec. 10. You can also pick up and purchase

an ornament at coffee hour on Sunday, Nov. 26 and Sunday, Dec. 10. You can also pick up and purchase an ornament at the Church Office between 9 & 2 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday starting Tuesday, November 28th. Remember to bring exact change or a check for your order. Remember, the ornaments are \$20/each.

Thanksgiving Baskets

St. Peters will be filling 15 baskets for our local food pantry again this year. Local churches and civic groups provide over 100 baskets every Thanksgiving to the Pantry. Yes, there are many people in our local area who do not have enough to eat! Together we can make this a special day for all.

SPY will be helping us sort and deliver the baskets. Please donate your free turkeys if you have an extra or won't be using yours! Charts to sign up for the rest of the basket contents will be available after church. Deadline to bring in food is November 19 when we will deliver the baskets. Our kitchen freezer will be turned on soon to drop off turkeys.

June Cowell

You Could Save Someone's Life!

The Atlantic Training Center will be running a CPR Certification Night on Tuesday, Nov. 28th, from 7pm to 11pm.

The course will be in the Upper Room and cost is \$40 per person.

Call Sue Negrotto 201-637-2962 or the church office 973-226-6500.

removal of dead trees, replenishing the mulch around plantings on the grounds. The Finance Committee's recommendation to designate part of the Garth Maintenance Fund for use in maintaining the Memorial Garden was approved, as well as designating income from one investment fund originally given for outreach purposes to the David St. George Fund.

Approved the Nursery School Board's election of the new Nursery School Director.

Reviewed a new Vestry notebook outlining the responsibilities of Vestries in Episcopal canon law, and the usual patterns of partnership between Vestry and Rector in managing both the material and spiritual life of parishes.

Accepted the Search Committee's report on interviews of prospective Candidates for Rector.

Received 2018 budget requests from various areas of parish life from the Vestry persons overseeing them.

Received a report from Tim Cutting, Pledge Campaign chair, on the testimonials given by parishioners about what St. Peter's means to them.

Approved a motion for pledge amounts received to be sent to parishioners in late spring and early September as well as toward year's end.

Received a report from Finance about current investment income, and how a proper proportion of investment income is now being credited to Altar Guild, Music, Buildings and other accounts held as part of our total investment portfolio.

Making the Holidays Meaningful and Manageable While Coping with Grief and Loss

A grief education presentation will be held at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 271 Roseland Ave, on Tuesday, November 7 at 7:30 PM. The public is invited, regardless of religious affiliation. This presentation will explore how to navigate the difficult journey of grief, no matter the cause, especially during the upcoming holiday season. The holidays can especially painful because they emphasize the absence, the empty chair, the missing voice, the lost opportunity. Yet, the pain of loss is also an invitation to embrace healing and deeper personal insight. This program will be conducted by Father Vince Corso, M.Div., LCSW, parishioner and pastoral assistant at St. Peter's. Vince is the founder of *Compassion Identity* and a therapist in private practice focusing on loss and life transitions. For over 20 years, Vince served as director of bereavement services in hospices in New York City and Long Island. For further information please call 973-226-6500.

SPY

St. Peter's Youth

SPY Meetings

November 5th and 19th

Jr. SPY 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Sr. SPY 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Little Parishioners Playgroup

We had a WONDERFUL time at our 1st Littlest Parishioner's Playgroup! We will be meeting monthly, the first Saturday of each month, 9:30-11:30 in the playground or upper room at St. Peter's. This means if you have a child aged 3 or under mark your calendar for November 4th and come and join us!! If you know someone with a young child who is looking for a spiritual home, invite them!

For questions contact Dana Leach 973-364-7544 or scottdanaL@aol.com



Calling All Children!

It's that time of year again for our annual Christmas pageant! We need children to play Mary, Joseph and the Wisemen, along with lots of angels, shepherds, sheep and donkeys! We also need readers!! New this year: the Christmas pageant will be held during December's Family Church on December 10th. There will be a single rehearsal on Saturday, December 9th from 11am-1pm. Be on the lookout for sign-ups starting November 12th. There is a part for every child!

Please email or call Maggie Wohltmann if your child(ren) are interested.

margaretwohltmann@hotmail.com (email)
973-287-6453 (home)
973-769-8318 (cell)

Sunday School Calendar

Nov 5th - Sunday School
Nov 12th - Teacher Convention weekend, No Sunday School or Family Church
Nov 19th - Sunday School
Nov 26th - Thanksgiving weekend, No Sunday School

Hi all! Only 2 weeks in November with Sunday School :(The PreK-K class will be talking about the 10 Best Ways and Jonah; two great lessons! 1st-3rd grade finish our time in the desert then head towards Christmas. 4th-6th grade will touch on two important topics, the importance of helping others and what God wants us to do with our gifts.

Attendance has dropped off since our 1st Sunday together this fall (which it always does), but I encourage you all to think about the importance of church and God in your lives and the way it can offer a grounding for your children. Knowing there is something out there bigger than EVERYTHING, that LOVES them, can be very powerful and comforting. As parents we can't always be with our children, but God can. Also, I have seen the growing support and connection our children have with church friends, as they go through the St. Peter's program from Sunday School to Jr. SPY to Sr. SPY. If you were able to be in church to witness the Mission Trip presentation I think you'll agree their bond is evident.

Children are welcome at St. Peter's at ANY point of their spiritual journey, but if you're children are young and you are already a part of St. Peter's try to bump up Sunday School in priority and I think you will be really, really glad, as you wave your child off to college, that you did :)

Feel free to contact me with any questions or if you'd like to become a part of this wonderful ministry.

With Love & Faith, Dana Leach, 973-364-7544, scottdanaL@aol.com



Family Church

No Family Church in November due to Teacher Convention long weekend. December's Family Church will be our WONDERFUL pageant! Back to normal Family Church January 14th so be on the look out for my pleas for help :) Thanks to our October Family Church helpers who each made me so very proud: Sophia Khan, Nadira Khan, Amanda Luke, Stephanie Panitch, Andrew Stern, Kayla O'Connor and Layla Khan!! We are blessed to have you as part of our parish!

Faith & Peace, Dana Leach 973-364-7544, scottdanaL@aol.com



Special Helpers for Family Church

