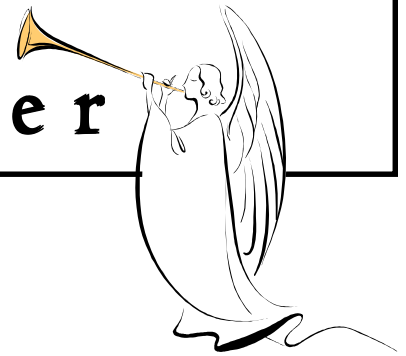


September - October 2010

The Messenger



A NEW DAY OF MINISTRY

William Toomey, noted evangelist, once was attending a conference in a city far from his home and needed a haircut and so sought out a local barber shop. While waiting he got into a conversation with one of the patrons and the topic turned to churches. Toomey, asked the man how he liked his church. The man's eyes brightened and he said in an enthusiastic voice, "It's the greatest!" The man went on to excitedly tell Toomey all about his church and the wonderful things they were doing in his community. Toomey commented later that he wished that all Christians when asked about their church could reply with great enthusiasm, "It's the Greatest!" That is my hope for St. Peter's Church too.

As we begin a new church program year this fall we have many exciting things to anticipate and incorporate into our church life together. This period of Interim Ministry is on the way to concluding with the imminent call of a new Rector for St. Peter's Church. My wife Mary and I will be sad to leave so many we have gotten to know and love here at St. Peter's and we will certainly wish for God's best blessings to be with you and this congregation as you begin a new phase of ministry in the life of this congregation. I will remain here until a new Rector can arrive and begin to be settled in this parish and I will help in any way I can to facilitate a smooth transition.

It is my hope and my prayer that you will all be ready to participate in welcoming and working together to establish this new day of ministry for your church. I hope you will keep an open mind and sense of adventure about your future and the possibilities for ministry that God will present to you. I hope you will be open to new ideas and new challenges as you work together with a new Rector to make visible God's kingdom and His presence in the ministry that you continue to do here.

St. Peter's is a great church with many strengths and talents and with great opportunities to serve God in this community and in the Diocese. You have a wealth of talent and faithful commitment among all those in this congregation. I am sure that through your faithful participation, your prayers and your hard work you will continue to make St. Peter's a great church!

May God's love and grace be with all of you always,

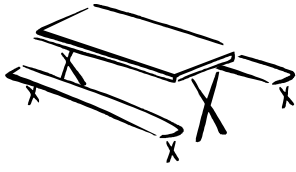
Fr. Douglas J. Reans, Interim Rector

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

505 Main Street ❖ Spotswood, New Jersey 08884

732-251-2449 ❖ Fax: 732-251-4019 ❖ Pastoral Emergencies: 856-630-1899 ❖ Thrift Shop: 732-251-4113

E-mail: stpetersspotswood@comcast.net ❖ Website: <http://www.stpetersspotswood.org>



Welcome Back Sunday

Come one, come all to our traditional welcome back (from summer) picnic which takes place on Sunday September 12, 2010 (first day of Sunday school) directly after the 10 am service (weekend after Labor Day). Hot dogs and burgers will be supplied. Guests are encouraged to bring friends and a picnic-type covered dish or salad or dessert or beverage. **Please use sign up sheets in back of church.** There will be games for the children and the second annual "Salad Challenge" will be held. Volunteers are always welcome with setup, clean up and cooking (contact Alice Meyers atm3164@yahoo.com or call 732-331-9671)

PLEDGES

We would like to thank all those who are keeping current with their pledges and contributions. If you would like a year to date statement of your contributions, please call or email Chris Kazar and she will send you the information, 732-446-7754 or ckazar@optonline.net.



THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop will re-open on Tuesday, Sept. 7th at 10 a.m. Donations are accepted during regular hours of operation: Tues. & Thurs.

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Weds. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is an important outreach ministry in our community as well as an important source of income for our parish. Volunteers are **ALWAYS WELCOME.**

The Senior Warden's Report

I have heard many conversations over the last two years that the Interim process takes too long. Until recently I agreed; however, not too long ago I was reminded that we live in God's time which sometimes differs from our time. Yes, two years is a long time but it was exactly what was needed to get us to this point. I have had the opportunity to meet the final candidates to be our new rector and can say with complete confidence that whomever is called to join us at St. Peter's was brought to us according to God's plan. Sometimes our journey is more difficult than we wish it would be, yet it always takes us to where we are meant to go.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge those parishioners who devoted countless hours serving on the self-study and discernment committees. Thank you Lynda Bronzellino, Diane Chiarella, Frank D'Allessandro, Bob Ferguson, Maria Ferguson, Carol Goldfinger, John Grennen, Ed Grobelny, John Hamilton, Wayne Hamilton, Jodi Hoover, Nancy Voza-Kulpa, David Persson, Lorraine Shelters, and Dawn Young. Special thanks to Dave Hoyt and Eric Pertschuk who served on both committees. Their hard work and dedication to St. Peter's is greatly appreciated.

As we enter the final stages of our discernment process, you can listen for announcements in church to keep updated on our progress.

Laura Bonamici

Sunday School!

Don't miss out! It's not too late to sign your children up for the 2010-2011 Sunday School year at St. Peter's! With wonderful teachers and a great curriculum, the children will enjoy the teachings of the Episcopal faith in a way that is geared specifically to their age group. Come join us for an exciting Sunday School year!

Nancy Pertschuk

BIGGEST LOSER!

Sign up at the Welcome Back Picnic for the next "Biggest Loser" Contest

ST. PETER'S HOLIDAY BAZAAR

November 27th
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

- ◆ Pictures with Santa
- ◆ Kids Crafts
- ◆ Raffles
- ◆ Vendors & Crafters
- ◆ Bake Sale & Kitchen
- ◆ and much much more!!!



If you or someone you know would like to rent a 6 ft. table or 1 of the 5 rooms (includes 1 - 8 ft. table) that are available, please contact the office. It's first come, first served.

Volunteers are needed to help set up, work during the bazaar and to help clean up. If you can help out, please contact Eric Pertschuk. Donations of new items are requested for the Raffle Table.

COMING UP!

"Tricky Tray"

being planned for Spring 2011

Donations of any new large or small items, credit card points, time shares, etc. (and of course monetary donations) are needed for prizes. Volunteers are also needed.

Gift Card Program

Soon you'll be able to purchase your gift cards: grocery, gas, department store, etc. online with St. Peter's receiving a percentage of the purchase. Watch for more information in upcoming Sunday bulletins and Messengers.



RAFFLE

2 Tickets to Sight & Sound Theatre for the "Miracle of Christmas" show on December 4, 2010, dinner for 2 and luxury bus transportation. \$230 Value

Drawing to be held on Nov. 27th.
Ticket Price: \$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00

Winners need not be present but must be 21 years or older to win. No substitution of the offered prize may be made and no cash will be given in lieu of the prize.



• **SHOP RITE CARDS** are available before and after each Service. Also, thanks to everyone who is buying these cards, we actually sold out on June 6. Keep up the good work, and also please keep bringing in your used ink cartridges.

• PENNIES FOR THE PARISH

In order to help St. Peter's out during these difficult economic times, the fundraising committee is starting a "PENNIES FOR THE PARISH" campaign.

A jar will be placed in the bell tower for this purpose. Just throw your pennies (or larger coins if you would like) and see what a dent we can make in our deficit.



For more information about any of these events contact Eric Pertschuk (epertschuk@gmail.com), Mary Ann Grennen (magrennen@verizon.net), Diane Chiarella, Martine Esso-Baker, Janine Giske, or Rosette Andrews.

COMMUNITY OF HOPE MINISTRIES

"..for I was hungry and you gave me food, .." Matthew 25:35

Summer is at an end and we look forward to a new and exciting time in the life of our Parish and in our town. Even though lots of things slow down July and August, COHM seemed to be always busy.

The Memorial Day Parade was a great day to honor those who have fought and are still fighting for our country and all that we stand for. COHM had a table in front of the rectory (in the shade) to give out information on COHM, hand out refrigerator magnets and accept donations from parade goers. An incident that brought me an indescribable feeling of God in our midst was when some of the veteran's who were marching came over to us and said, "God bless you for the work you do." That's what we were saying to them.

Some of you joined with us as we participated in the **National Night Out** at the Municipal Building where we were the recipients of 711 cans of food and a check 711 from the 711 store at the corner of Old Stage Road and Summerhill Road. This was in addition to the many non-perishable food items and cash donations that we received from visitors to our booth. All of this money and food went to stock our local Food Pantry known as C.U.P. (Churches United for People). Thank you to all who volunteered their time, talent and treasure. It was a fun evening meeting with new and old Spotswood friends and neighbors.

If you went to the **Middlesex County Fair**, somewhere near the goats and lambs and the building where they judge the beautiful handwork and flowers and vegetables were the large glass jugs with the names of several non-profit groups on them. The group who collected the most cash received an additional \$500. COHM collected \$90.74 which is being used for the Food Pantry.

Several people in the community have been referred for medical and dental care, assisted with applications for various entitlements such as Social Security Disability, referred to agencies for ongoing assistance with utility bills and budgeting, assisted with short-term assistance to prevent being on the street, referred to an agency for help with rent and assistance with obtaining furniture and getting medical and school records transferred to another part of state where they are relocating. We are in process of assisting several families with back-to-school needs. If you would like to help us out with this (from school supplies to school clothes) please call Dorothy Gabbett 732-599-0712 or 732-390-0649.

The **Wednesday Night Suppers** have been a ministry of St. Peter's Church for approximately 18 years and continue to be well attended especially the **Children's Ministry** which is led by Denise Acquista and very popular with the young people. Many of the beaded bracelets that you see people wearing at the dinners and around the church have been created by these same young people.

The need in our community for the **Food Pantry** and other services has grown so that 4 other churches (Immaculate Conception, Spotswood Chapel, Spotswood Reformed and Trinity United Methodist) have joined us as part of **Community of Hope Ministries** (formerly known as St. Peter's CDC) so that we can serve our community together, reach more people and have additional resources. Together we can do wonderful works in His name.

The young people and the young-at-heart from the combined parishes are having a **Car Wash Fund Raiser to benefit COHM** in the fall. Exact location and date to be determined. Please keep bringing in your old towels to Ralph. Further notice coming.

St. Peter's parishioners (and their friends) have always been there to donate and volunteer when asked, especially for furniture, clothing, gift certificates, help with moving. Please consider letting us know if you would be available to volunteer in any capacity, whether it is for suppers, helping someone pack, assist filling out forms or make phone calls. It can be ongoing or a one-time task. Many of the people who have benefitted from the help they have received through Wednesday Night Fellowship Suppers, Food Pantry or any of the many forms of assistance available through COHM have asked how they can ever repay what has been done for them. One family found its way now that they are more stable. Each time they go shopping they purchase food to give back to the Food Pantry. The mom's face glowed as she told me her story.

Number of families served through the C.U.P. Food Pantry for April, May & June of 2010 is **426**.

Number of families served at the Wednesday Night Fellowship Suppers for April, May & June of 2010 is **1,437**.

September Birthdays

September 1 st	James Jones III
September 2 nd	Judy Fenton
September 3 rd	Craig Brown
September 4 th	Jenna Grobelny Amanda Ragaglia
September 5 th	Olivia Klem Ceri Miller Doris Thorne Dorothy Wysel
September 6 th	Mike Clementi Timothy Smith
September 9 th	Frank Klem Scott Loughran
September 10 th	Kerry Alai-Chiarella
September 12 th	Pamela Mason Joseph Meyers
September 13 th	Mike Dvorak Grace Pollock Jacob Weiss
September 14 th	Lucas Hoyt Jayvis Rayside
September 15 th	Makenna San Agustin
September 16 th	Steven Gordon
September 17 th	Megan Bonamici Kathie Evans
September 19 th	Olivia Gandolfo Mary Paprota Vicki Rosario
September 18 th	Tracey Patufka
September 19 th	Lynda Bronzellino Heather Weiland
September 20 th	Melissa Bonamici
September 21 st	Thomas Britt
September 22 nd	Kate Budrow Mary Ann Grennen Mark Hoyt Zachary Klem
September 24 th	Scott Gordon Nikolas Paskell Paul Sarnak
September 25 th	Kai Hagen
September 26 th	Walter Popleik Carolyn Thompson
September 28 th	Rosalie Quaglietta Amy Wheeler
September 29 th	Robert Ferguson
September 30 th	Megan Murray Angie Fatum Wayne Hamilton

September Anniversaries

September 9 th	Paul & Nancy Kulpa Carl & Amy Wheeler
September 11 th	Richard & Kerri Dvorak
September 14 th	John & Mary Ann Grennen Grover & Gertrude Ivins Robert & Kimberly Perez
September 17 th	Darryl & Denise Jolly
September 19 th	Louis & Harriet Schmidt
September 20 th	Kenneth & Patricia Irons
September 21 st	Frank & June Klem
September 22 nd	Paul & Sharon Gale
September 27 th	Kirk & Laura Bonamici

October Birthdays

October 1 st	LeeAnn Poko
October 3 rd	John Grennen Scotty McTaggart Robert Wyckoff
October 4 th	Debra Hamilton
October 5 th	Danielle Hamilton
October 6 th	Roy Dey Jr. Martine Baker
October 7 th	Glenn Kalber Julie Pulaski
October 9 th	Bob Benhardt
October 10 th	Bertus Shelters Ralph Evans Jr. Stephen Powell
October 11 th	Sandra Reti
October 13 th	Scott Harrell
October 14 th	Carl Wheeler Norma Wyckoff
October 15 th	Ken Kazar Brielle Rayside
October 16 th	Jeffrey Shelters
October 17 th	Craig Hoover Joseph Patton Anna Shonk Michele Sheedy-Smith
October 18 th	Cory Acquista
October 19 th	Brett Fagan Melissa Pertschuk
October 20 th	Connor Patterson
October 21 st	Anthony Santora
October 22 nd	Brynlee Hoyt
October 23 rd	Casey Fenton Lauren Jerscheid Patricia Osbahr
October 24 th	Jayde Gildea
October 25 th	Leah Harrell Veronica Hagen Caroline Jones
October 26 th	Judy Maniscalki
October 28 th	Victoria Heffron
October 31 st	Anne Carthy Andrew Quigley

October Anniversaries

October 1 st	Wayne & Debra Hamilton
October 2 nd	Paxton & Debra Jerscheid
October 12 th	Thomas & Tina Porcelli
October 13 th	James & Marianne Jones Michael & Diana McCarthy
October 15 th	Bertus & Lynn Shelters
October 16 th	John & Nancie McTaggart
October 20 th	Kenneth & Christine Kazar
October 24 th	Ted & Kathy Foley Scott & Kristina Miller



Advertisers

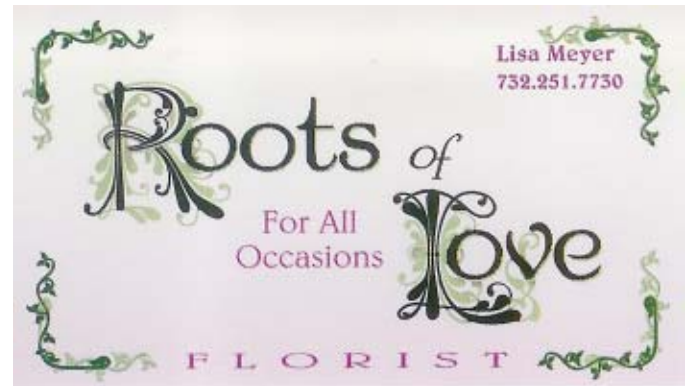
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EPertschuk@gmail.com

The business card features a blue and white illustration of a paint can with a brush and a paint roller on a tray.

ASK ABOUT A CHURCH DISCOUNT



Lisa Meyer
732.251.7730

Roots of Love
For All Occasions
FLORIST

The business card has a decorative green vine border and features the text "Roots of Love" in a large, stylized font.

ASK ABOUT A CHURCH DISCOUNT



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www.rmhplumbing.com
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Monroe NJ
08831

The business card features a background of blue square tiles and a horizontal copper pipe running across the middle.