

THE WAVE JANUARY and FEBRUARY 2021

St. Peter's Episcopal Church-on-the-Canal - Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts

HELLO ALL ST. PETER'S FOLKS:

This Wave is a combined newsletter for January and February, so there is lots to tell you.

Although we cannot meet, St. Peter's still is very busy and active. In December our church was decorated as though we were going to be there. It was beautiful to see in our YouTube services. The candles in the pews were a very special touch. We were very fortunate to have Rev. Darwin Price conduct a Christmas Eve Eucharist service for us and, of course, he was accompanied by our fabulous St. Peter's musicians! We were also able to have the lighting of the Advent Wreath. For the four Advent services we had a total of 213 views, the Christmas Service had 74 views and the Christmas Concert had 50 views.

Our St. Peter's musicians visited a total of 111 people. They tried to visit as many parishioners as they could. Everyone loved the music....and seeing them.

The Vestry is active behind the scenes. We are preparing for 2021. The budget committee has met and a budget has been approved. The nominating committee has met and a slate has been approved.

The Vestry had its first zoom meeting and it went pretty well – and no one was wearing their jammies!!

We will be sending the Annual Report to all parishioners via the U.S. Post Office. We are looking into “how to have an annual meeting and be safe”. If we can't have the meeting, at least you will all have the report of what exactly is going on at St. Peters.

Please let anyone on the Vestry know if you need any assistance, or if you have concerns about anything at St. Peter's; we are all willing and able to help out.

Missed birthdays in December – how could I????

Lisa Platanitis – December 26th

Nancy Guimond – December 31st

January Birthdays/Anniversaries

Donna Beers, Caroline Stone, Len Hathon, Georgina Frampton, Nancy Sherwood, Sally Darling, Robert Frampton, Jim Hankey, Ella Brennan, Donald Goershel and Joseph Metcalf.

Happy Anniversary to Elisabeth and Alan Kershaw

February Birthdays/Anniversaries

Nancy Moore, Howie Moore, Merry Smythe, Chuck Conway, Ken Fox, Elizabeth Gary and Happy Anniversary to Dianne and Dave Cartmill.

We don't know everyone's birthday/anniversary. If you haven't sent in the directory update to the church, we may miss you!

Also, on a personal note – if you call me and leave a message, please leave your name. I've gotten more than a few phone calls asking that I call back and no name – help!!

Love and Blessings to All. Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden

THE VISIBLE VESTRY

December 2020 and January 2021

We have received 44 pledges totaling \$72,400.

The Budget Committee is meeting to establish a budget for 2021.

The 2019 audit is complete – recommendations will be addressed; one is to have the Vestry trained in Safe Church.

Terry Robinson will be performing the 2020 audit,

We have a full slate of Vestry officers/members for 2021.

Canon Kelly O'Connell is urging us to hire a bridge/interim priest. The Vestry has voted to not do that at this time, as we still cannot have services in the church. We do have pastoral support from Fr. Dan Bernier if needed.

Visible Vestry, Continued

January 2021 – meeting held via Zoom – 9 members present

We are still receiving pledges.

The budget was approved by the Vestry for next year. We will be running at a deficit.

We will not be reopening in the near future

The slate for next year's Vestry has been approved as there were no nominations from the congregation. The slate is:

Senior Warden – Celeste Hankey, Junior Warden – Len Hathon, Clerk – Robin Higgins,
Treasurer – Alan Kershaw, Assistant Treasurer – Donna Beers

Members at Large:

Term ending 2022: Mark Taylor and Merry Smythe

Term ending 2023: Chuck Conway and Patti Metcalf

Term ending 2024: Dianne Cartmill and Nancy Moore

The Annual Report will be mailed to all parishioners. The downstairs furnace had to be replaced. The search for a new rector continues – the committee is actively interviewing.

Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Hello Everyone,

St. Peter's will continue to stay on the diocesan website, receiving and interviewing candidates. We pray that 2021 will bring us our new Rector.

Thank you for your continued prayers.

Prayer for a New Rector

O God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Guide us in our search of a new clerical leader, empower each one of us to use our unique ministries, to share open and honestly our thoughts, to respect the opinion of others, and to encourage humility, patience, and joy. Instill in us a vision of the Church's family, that guided by your Holy Spirit, we will be united in love and joyfully accomplish this mission of discovering the one you have called to serve with us as our rector. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Yours In Christ,

Matthew Bruce, Larry Higgins, Nancy Kennedy, Elisabeth Kershaw, Jim Lema, and Patti Metcalf

ELIZABETH GARY SENDS THANKS

To my dear friends at St. Peter's Church: thank you to each and every one who has sent messages and greetings, good wishes, prayers for health, and fond remembrances.

So many have sent notes and cards, I do wish I could thank each one, but as we know, we cannot be together to share individually our appreciation for so many kind and caring communications.

Thank you for your kindness and support. You are a blessing in my life. I want to thank the entire congregation for reaching out to me and supporting me. Thank you for everything that you've done to help me.

Elizabeth Sewall Gary

NOTES FROM OUR PARISH SECRETARY, KATHLEEN LETZEISEN

MAIL CALL!

A reminder to use the **POST OFFICE BOX 265** address when mailing to the church. The post office will send back mail addressed to the Main Street address because we do not have a physical mailbox at the church.

READERS of FORWARD DAY-BY-DAY

Copies of Forward Day-By Day are available outside the back door of the church. Copies will be available there for pick up until we are able to resume indoor services. If you would like a copy but are unable to get here to pick one up, please let Kathy know (508-759-5641) and arrangements will be made to get one to you!

Kathleen Letzeisen

Substance Abuse Prevention and Support Group

Several years ago, a group of parishioners, concerned about the growing problems surrounding substance abuse issues, joined together to study ways that St. Peter's could help. Education opportunities were developed and presented to the congregation, and a fundraising campaign was begun to support the Bourne Substance Free Coalition.

The year 2020 began with our usual meetings held on the third Monday of each month. Due to the Corona Virus, in-building meetings were suspended and our group has become temporarily inactive. With the generosity of parishioners, \$149.50 was raised through our once-a-month collection jug for the Bourne Substance Free Coalition.

The pandemic has increased the need to find ways to support those suffering from addiction as well as their families. With health care lost due to job loss and people struggling with the economy, many have fallen back on cheap street drugs to cope or to mask pain so that they can work. Please pray for those suffering and for their families.

I would like to thank the parish and members of our group, Celeste and Jim Hankey, Jane and Jim Lema, Bob and Nancy Sherwood, and Donna Beers for their dedication and efforts to keep this important issue in our minds and prayers. Also, a big thank you to our treasurer Dianne Cartmell and Robin Higgins and Sue Hebb for helping get the information out to parishioners. Please Keep all those dealing with this disease in your prayers.

Here are some resources that are available for those who may need help at this time:

Massachusetts Substance Abuse Hotline 1-800-327-5050

Learn to Cope www.learn2cope.org

AA Zoom 425-436-6360
Access Number
n 422932

O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you. Look with compassion upon all who, through addiction, have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of recovery; and to those who care for them give patient understanding and preserving love. AMEN

Larry Higgins

DO YOU RECEIVE OUR WEEKLY E-MAILS?

Every week, St. Peter's sends out a weekly email which typically includes upcoming news and events, the lessons for the upcoming Sunday, a schedule of "servers" for the week, etc. This email is also used for notifications regarding deaths in the parish family, cancellations, and other timely news.

For the past several months, the content of the weekly emails has changed somewhat, and we have added a Sunday email with the link to our YouTube Morning Prayer service.

If you are NOT receiving the emails and would like to, please contact Robin Higgins at ptown.robin@yahoo.com. If you know of someone who is not receiving the email and might like to, please share this information with them! We can't just add someone to the email list – our email service requires that we have your permission to email you! We don't want anyone to miss out on events and news from the parish. Thank you!

Robin Higgins

CAN WE E-MAIL YOU?

We make THE WAVE available electronically to anyone who would prefer to receive it via e-mail. This enables us to save money on both paper and postage. When you send your e-mail address, along with your name and mailing address (for clarification) to susanhebb@comcast.net, she will add your name to a list, and you will receive the next month's newsletter by that means; subsequently your name would be removed from the print mailing list.

PRAYER CHAIN

The Emergency Prayer Chain is up and running! When you have a prayer request, please contact Lynne Brune at 508-295-6146, or Priscilla Ellis at 508-563-7786.

If you would like to join the Emergency Prayer Chain and commit to praying for those in need, please contact one of the individuals listed above and specify if you would like to receive information by email or by phone.

Individuals will remain on the Prayer Chain for 2 weeks unless updated. All requests will be treated confidentially and only shared with those on the Prayer Chain. Please let us know if you would also like to add the prayer request to the Sunday bulletin.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church -on-the-Canal

P. O. Box 265 / 165 Main Street
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532
Phone: 508-759-5641
Web: saintpetersbb.org
E-mail: saintpeters@verizon.net

Staff

Lisa Platanitis, Music Director and Choir Director
Liesl Keller, Pianist and Organist
Kathy Letzeisen, Parish Secretary
Susan Hebb, Newsletter Editor

Vestry

Celeste Hankey, Senior Warden	617-710-5346	Alan Kershaw.....	508-224-4018
Len Hathon, Junior Warden.....	774-678-0169	Merry Smythe.....	774-404-0110
Dianne Cartmill, Treasurer.....	774-269-4348	Chuck Conway.....	617-877-1538
Lynne Brune, Assistant Treasurer.....	508-295-6146	Patti Metcalf.....	508-833-0170
Robin Higgins, Clerk.....	413-329-4651	Donna Beers.....	508-759-8283
Mark Taylor.....	508-863-1259		