



St. Peter's Episcopal Church
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Onward

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

September 2018

TRUNK or TREAT



Saint Peter's will be hosting a Trunk-or-Treat for our nursery school children on Saturday, October 27th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in a section of the church parking lot. We are looking for parishioner volunteers to help make this a fun and safe trick-or-treating experience for the kids. All you need to do is bring your car to the lot, park it, decorate the trunk, and pass out some Halloween candy/goodies to those that come for the event. □

If you are interested or have any questions, please call or email Serena Watkinson by October 17, 2018. 973-731-2879, 201-774-2018 or email hop26@yahoo.com.

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church

Saturday, September 22 | Noon to 6pm

Please Join us

Fun for All Ages

Beer Garden ★ Music

Delicious Food Truck Cuisine

Face Painting ★ Balloon Artist

Petting Zoo ★ General Store

Pie Contest ★ Bouncy House

★ Gaming Truck ★

ST PETER'S
FALL
FAMILY
FESTIVAL

271 ROSELAND AVENUE | ESSEX FELLS, NJ 07021 | STPETERSEF.ORG

From The Rector

God has given us all our blessings and this Fall will offer us many opportunities to express our gratitude. First, a word of thanks to all those that led, volunteered and supported the two big youth events of the summer. Fr. Anthony, Dawn Ruggiero and Helen Pulitano led a wonderful **Mission Trip** to Tennessee in July. The 17 young adults of SPY were great ambassadors of St. Peter's. It was a joy to watch the generous and selfless way they rushed to serve, the way they genuinely took care of each other all week and the opportunities they had to share with each other how God was visible to them as the week unfolded.

Thanks to Chris Blake, Chris Corso and Dana Leach who led another successful **Vacation Bible School** in August with almost 60 campers. Thanks to all the volunteers that were mainly comprised of young people from SPY and SPY alumni. VBS is great for the campers but it is even more rewarding for all the young people who volunteer many of whom have done so for years.

Thanks also to the Livingstons: Lynn, Mark, Jake & Colby=Toby West and the dozens of parishioners that answered the call to clean up the church basement from the flood of August 11. Your quick response did much to mitigate the repercussions of the water.

We have much to give thanks for at St. Peter's and September brings ample opportunity to celebrate. More detail can be found in this edition of The Onward, but here is a snapshot of all that is going on:

Sunday, September 9 ó We will have the 2nd of 4 celebrations this year to celebrate our parish's **125th anniversary**. In June, we had Eucharist in the park (a service enjoyed by all) to remember the first 3 years of our parish life in the Essex Fells railroad station (1893-1896). On September 9 we will have **one Eucharist at 10 am in the courtyard** to honor the 60 years that our church was housed in the chapel building (1896-1956).

Sunday, September 16 ó **First day of Sunday School at 9:45 am** (a new start time to give our children a little more time). First day of Wee Believers at 9:00 am in the chapel. After the 10 am Eucharist we will have a **Ministry Fair** where you can find out where you can explore and consider joining any one of the many ministries here at St. Peter's. *Find out about:* Outreach (St. Paul's Shelter, Christine's Kitchen, Habitat for Humanity)= Music (Adult Choir, Bell Choir, Children's Choir)= Children's and Youth Ministries (Sunday School, VBS, SPY, Mission Trip)=Health & Healing (Lay Pastoral Callers, Shawl Knitting, Angel Food, Prayer

Our Fall Festival Will Include a GAMING TRUCK! **Get your wristbands ahead of time!**

This September 22 (12-6pm), for the first time, we are hosting a FALL FESTIVAL that will include something new and fun for all ages, a VIDEO GAMING TRUCK! The GAMING TRUCK is a video gamer's dream living room on wheels, with plenty of consoles, controllers, and TV's.



Pre-sale value wristbands with UNLIMITED access to the GAMING TRUCK are available for \$25 at the following venues:

- Roseland Farmer's Market, Fridays from 12-6 through Sept 21
- Saint Peter's Church Office Tuesdays thru Thursdays from 9-3
- Coffee Hour after Church on Sundays from 11-noon

For more information, contact Christina Doyle.

Vacation Bible School **THANK YOU!!**

We had another WONDERFUL Vacation Bible School this summer with close to 60 campers and over 40 volunteers. A million thanks to those who helped in ways big and small, from pre-camp cutting and coloring to the week long jobs of trailing along after small people and those special jobs which required both pre-camp prep and full week camp activities! We are such a blessed parish. We also want to make the parish aware of the LOADS of food we collected for the Caldwell Food Pantry, backpacks and school supplies for Apostle's House and diapers, wipes and formula for North Porch. It was an incredibly generous group!

Vacation Bible School takes lots of work and energy, but reaches so much of the

West Essex Community. It is also so important to the growth of our SPY teens as they reach higher levels of responsibility each year and connect with the younger children of the parish (and they LOVE IT). Please keep VBS in mind as you think of ways you'd like to help St. Peter's this year!

Peace & Blessings,
Kris Blake, Chris Corso & Dana Leach

Nursery Care

Nursery care begins again on September 9th during the 10:00 service for children age 3 and under. We are excited to have Ann Szalay back with us. Ann has been caring for our children for a LONG, LONG time! We will miss Michelle Perry, but I am happy to report we have a wonderful replacement in Colleen Kyriacou! The nursery is located at the back of the chapel. An usher should be able to direct you if you need help finding it.

St. Peter's Fall Family Festival

St. Peter's Episcopal Church will host its first-ever **FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL** on Saturday, Sept. 22. The event will offer something for everyone, including **MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT** sponsored by **Ron Albanese-POLKA DOT!**, an **OLD-FASHIONED GENERAL STORE** sponsored by **Penny Finkle** and a **PETTING ZOO** sponsored by **MountainView Veterinary Hospital**. The festival will also feature **FACE PAINTING, BALLOON ART, a VIDEO GAMING TRUCK, a BOUNCE HOUSE and PIE JUDGING!** Guests will be able to kick back in our **BEER GARDEN** sponsored by **Cloverleaf Tavern** in Caldwell. You can enjoy delicious cuisine from a variety of **FOOD TRUCKS**, including The Guac Spot, The Rolling Pita & Clyde's Homemade Italian Ice. Hours are 12 to 6 p.m. on the grounds of St. Peter's, located at 271 Roseland Avenue in Essex Fells. Other event sponsors include: **Original Pancake House of New Jersey**, West Caldwell, **Provident Bank**, Roseland, **Clifford B. Finkle, Jr. Inc., Newark**, **Rothenberg Orthodontics**, West Caldwell, **Jack's Super Foodtown**, Caldwell, **Fresco's Market and Catering**, Caldwell, **Jim & Liz Irwin - Arcadia Realtors, Roseland**, **The Garden Club of Essex Fells** and **Linnett Landscaping & Design**, Roseland. St. Peter's Episcopal Church is celebrating 125 years of faith in action through worship, fellowship and service to the community. Visit stpeters-essexfells.org for more information.



Fall Festival Pie Competition

If you are a baker we'd love to have you enter the pie competition!

Each baker should submit two of the same pie--one for judging and the other for the sale at the festival's general store. All proceeds will go to the church, and unsold pies will go to people who are homebound. Pies should be made at home and brought to the church's undercroft between 6 and 8 PM on Friday, September 21. Judging will take place between 1:30 and 3 PM the day of the festival. The judges will evaluate each pie's appearance, aroma, texture, flavor and after taste.

Judges include Essex Fells Mayor Ed Davis, Essex Fells School Superintendent Michelle Gadaleta and former Essex Fells Mayor Ed Abbot.

Please contact Christina Doyle [by email](mailto:christina.doyle@stpeters-essexfells.org) or telephone (301-802-7878) if you would like to volunteer, or [send an email](mailto:christina.doyle@stpeters-essexfells.org) to Christine DiGiovanni to submit a pie for the competition.

Chain); Worship Ministries (Lay Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers & Acolytes); Op Shop & Altar Guild. There are so many places where we can make new friends, join in fellowship and community and give of our time and talent. Where is God calling you to give?

Saturday, September 22 – St Peter's first ever **Fall Family Festival** fun and fellowship for all ages from 12 noon to 6 pm on the parish grounds.

Also, on Saturday September 22 – the **Episcopal Consecration** of the 11th Bishop of Newark, The Most Rev. Carlye Hughes at NJPAC at 11:00am presided by the Most Rev. Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. With much joy we welcome Bishop Hughes as the first woman and the first African-American bishop of Newark.

We have much to celebrate and be thankful for so join in this September to enrich and deepen our *attitude of gratitude*.

Fr. Mike

Parishioners Come Together to Help St. Peter's

Up to a foot of water flowed through the OpShop, Sunday School Classrooms, and undercroft during an August storm. Silt, mud, leaves, puddles & damage were left behind when the water receded. Cleanup was a huge task. Thank you so much to those who mopped, ran the wet vacs, brought bleach, lugged debris, & salvaged items! A special thank you to Toby West, Colby, Jake, & Mark Livingston, Esther Pivarnik, Liz and Father Mike Muller, Stephanie, Charlie & Tim Cutting, Judy Himes, Stephanie Kent, Kathy Elder, Tracy Candido and her daughter, Carl, Dana Leach, Brian Blake, Peter & Vince Corso, Aidan, Alice Cotton, Marty Kessler, Barbara Marlin, Karen, Sue Mazur, Serena & Jack Watkinson, Lisa and Jason Brown and his crew, and Frank Butterfield.



To prepare for OpShop's opening day, Sept. 15th, we need help carrying bags from storage and hanging items. **Hundreds of items need to be put on display.** Please lend a hand on Saturday, Sept. 8th anytime you can from 9:00-12:00 & Sunday, Sept. 9th following the 10:00am service, we will have refreshments for you! Proceeds benefit St. Peter's, the David St. George Fund, and local charities. Volunteer days for fall setup are also Sept. 4th 10am - 1pm, Sept. 6th 10am - 1pm, Sept. 11th 10am - 1pm, and Thursday, Sept. 13th 10am - 1pm.

SPY is back!

Saint Peter's Youth (SPY) is a vibrant ministry that welcomes all sixth to twelfth-grade youth in the parish to experience Christian community and fellowship in a relaxed, fun, and informal setting. Typically, our time together consists of a meal, some conversation, and an activity chosen by the SPY kids. Saint Peter's is proud to have a large and energetic youth group that in addition to bi-weekly Sunday meetings, participates in other community-wide activities throughout the year.

If there are middle and high school youth in the parish who haven't yet attended SPY, I would greatly encourage them to do so. Youth group is the best way for youth to experience and understand the importance of Christian community. Many of our current members in SPY contribute countless hours to St. Peter's, and they do so because of the friendships, experiences, and lessons they have learned from being active in SPY.

On a personal note, one of the great personal joys for me as a priest is the opportunity to form relationships with the kids, and to see them form relationships with one another. I genuinely look forward to the Sunday evenings when SPY meets. I hope to see all of the middle and high school youth of our parish at SPY this year!

We will meet in September on the 16th and 30th.

JR SPY (6th to 8th grade): 4:00-5:30

SR SPY (high school): 5:30-7:00

Peace,
Father Anthony+

Youth Confirmation 2019

St. Peter's will conduct classes in preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation beginning Sunday, October 21. For those baptized at an early age, Confirmation is the Church's invitation to "express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop" (The Book of Common Prayer, p. 860).

Though Confirmation is open to all, these classes will be geared toward youth. As determined by the Diocese of Newark, candidates must be in the eighth grade or older. Youth candidates must participate in the duration of the program (Oct-May) in order to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

Please contact Father Anthony for further details regarding Confirmation and to register: fr.anthony.saintpeters@gmail.com.

Peace,
Father Anthony+

Family Church

Family Church is starting a bit late this year because of our 125th anniversary service on September 9th recognizing the chapel. It should be a wonderful service for all! Our first Family Church service will be October 14th. I LOVE Family Church and the amazing contributions the children make to our worship time together. Please let me know if your child(ren) would be interested in reading, ushering or carry up the elements in October.

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

Littlest Parishioners' Playgroup

Sept 8th

We have been playing all summer long and enjoying the playground! Our next playgroup for the 3 and under crowd of the parish will be Saturday, September 8th, 9:30-11:30. We will meet in the playground, weather permitting. If it is a rainy day we'll meet in the upper room. We usually meet the 1st Saturday of each month but are making a change due to the Labor Day weekend. All with small people are welcome to join us and siblings are welcome. This is a fun group of young families!

For questions please contact Nat Bernardo, nathaliabernardo23@gmail.com or Dana Leach, 973-364-7544, scottdanaL@aol.com

Sunday School - Welcome Back, September 16th!!!

Happy Fall!! It's time once again for Sunday School, YAY!! Our first Sunday back together is September 16th. We are blessed to have a great group working with our children again this year. PreK-K and 1st-3rd grade classes meet in the Godly Play classrooms under the upper room. Please take time to thank Toby for his beautiful paint job and all his hard work in cleaning up our rooms after they flooded!! There is a change for 4th-6th grade, **4TH-6TH GRADE WILL MEET IN THE NURSERY SCHOOL CLASSROOM UNDER THE UPPER ROOM ACROSS FROM THE GODLY PLAY ROOMS.**

NEW TIME: SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL BEGIN AT 9:45.

This will give us time to complete our lessons, discussions and prayers without rushing to join the congregation. **Please make every attempt to arrive at**

9:45. Parents can take advantage of the 15 minutes to visit with each other or enjoy some peace and quiet time sitting in church. As usual we will guide the children back to you about 10:40 so they can participate in communion.

It can be hard to get up and moving on a Sunday morning, but I hope you will make Sunday School a priority this year for your child(ren). We have a wonderful strong and dynamic group of children at St. Peter's whom I LOVE! They are building relationships with each other as they grow in their relationships with God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. They help each other to explore their faith. New young faces are welcome at any point in the journey to adulthood at St. Peter's, but a great place to start is Sunday School. We are blessed at St. Peter's to have so many who care about our children, and to have children who are dedicated to St. Peter's!

I am always in search of more teachers and greeters. It is an EXTREMELY rewarding ministry at St. Peter's. If you are interested in becoming involved in some way or have any questions give me a call or send an email.

With Faith and Love, *Dana Leach*
scottdanaL@aol.com, (973) 364-7544



Vacation Bible School 2018

