



St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
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## Episcopal Church Women

The Episcopal Church Women will be holding a soup and chile sale on February 3rd, 2019.

Please consider making a quart of soup for this fundraiser. This year our profits will go to "North Porch". Containers will be available in the upper room two weeks prior to the sale.

Thank You in Advance,

Sue Mazur and Jennifer Jackson  
ECW



# Onward

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

FEBRUARY 2019



# SPY

SPY meets on February 10th & 24th

Jr. SPY (grades 6-8) 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Sr. SPY (grades 9-12) 5:30 – 7:00 pm

## College Care Packages

The SPY group will be putting together our annual College Care Packages to our youth who are attending college the end of February. If you have a college aged student and would like them to receive one of our care packages, please contact Christina Doyle, [doyle531@hotmail.com](mailto:doyle531@hotmail.com) and provide her with the name and address of the student.



## Family Church

WOW! I LOVED Family Church this month! We actually had a visit from the three Magi and it was GREAT! Not to mention, the readers, Nadira Khan, Jonathan Spell, Sophia Khan & Amanda Luke were excellent. Our elements were carried very carefully, despite a shoe malfunction, by Alexandra Hunkele and Lyla Khan. Our ushers, Frankie Hunkele, Samantha Vitiello and Charlie Cutting were so helpful and Frankie was the only one actually scheduled to usher - thanks for last minute assistance, Samantha and Charlie!

February's Family Church will be February 10th followed closely by March's on March 10th so mark your calendars and if your child(ren) would like to help let me know - I need volunteers!!

Peace,  
Dana Leach  
973-364-7544, [scottdanaL@aol.com](mailto:scottdanaL@aol.com)

## February Calendar

- Feb 3rd - Sunday School
- Feb 10th - Family Church
- Feb 17th - no Sunday School due to school vacation
- Feb 24th - Sunday School

## *Littlest Parishioners' Playgroup*

**Saturday, February 2nd, 9:30-11:30**

Too cold to play outside, but we still need to get our wiggles out! Its time again for our Littlest Parishioners' Playgroup! Playgroup is for those with children age 3 and under and takes place on the first Saturday of each month. Older siblings are welcome. We will meet in the upper room unless we happen to get a lovely warm sunny day then we'll shift to the playground. Please join us and feel free to bring others you think might be interested.

Our March date will be March 2nd if you'd like to mark your calendars. If you have questions please contact Nat Bernardo at [nathaliabernardo23@gmail.com](mailto:nathaliabernardo23@gmail.com) or Dana Leach, [scottdanaL@aol.com](mailto:scottdanaL@aol.com), 973-364-7544.

## Sunday School

It is a new year with important lessons being taught in Sunday School. This is not only a time when children learn stories from the bible, but they also learn to THINK about their faith through discussion, "wondering" questions and even through crafts. The children also build relationships with one another and God that carry them through Communion Class, Confirmation Class and SPY. They become friends, but also a support system. My 20-year-old is still getting together with his SPY friends

when home from college. The teens find how much they love having this different group of friends outside of their school circles.

Like everything else in life, the more you put in...the more you get out. If you have any questions about Sunday School or children's programming at St. Peter's please give me a call. I love talking about it :)

Faith & Peace,  
Dana Leach  
973-364-7544, [scottdanaL@aol.com](mailto:scottdanaL@aol.com)

Let



Us

## Know

If you would like your St. Peter's-related event highlighted in *Life at St. Peter's*, please send an email to Christine Corso by noon Wednesday (The eblast is usually distributed on Thursday mornings).

Please also reach out if you would like to promote your event to the larger West Essex community through Facebook or our website!

*For with you is the well of life,  
And in your light, we see light.* Psalm 36:9

In Christmas and the Epiphany season we celebrate Christ, the light of the world, in whom we see the face of God. In Christ, we see the abundant benevolence of God, God's loving-kindness, full of mercy and compassion. In him, we do not see an angry, hateful God but a patient God who forgives. In him, we do not see an almighty, aloof God but God who is God-with-us, God who takes the last place, God who turns the other cheek, a God who loves ó even those who don't love him. *In his light we see light.*

But the Epiphany story does not end there. The Epiphany story, that we celebrate this February, continues with us. For once, says St. Paul, "*you were darkness but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light – for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.*" (Ephesians 5:8-9)

We are being called, in the scripture passages of February, not just to be a community of believers in Jesus but to be a community of disciples of Jesus that walk in his way of light. We are called to become imitators of God. As Paul implores the community in Ephesus, *Put away all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.*" (Ephesians 4:31-5:1)

Jesus' and the apostle Paul's core teachings are that there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God and that, in Christ, there are no more divisions between humans and other humans. More than ever, the world needs this light. Our world is devolving into binary tribal mentalities sped up and enlarged by the Twitterverse and zealots of all persuasions. People are cruelly judged and segregated through the filters of us versus them, republican versus democrat, citizen versus migrant, Jew versus Christian, black versus police and on and on and on!

Love one another *as yourself* ó that way they will know you are my disciples. Not, *as much as yourself*, as if we are still separate entities, but love one another *as yourself*, as an extension of your own being, as part of one body. (1 Corinthians 12:12-13) In that way, you will be light.

Faith, as it turns out, is not holding onto some doctrinal beliefs, it is a pathway of spiritual formation based on transformative practices of love, a way of life that needs to be learned



## St. Peter's Street Fair



June 7th & 8th

The Street Fair is coming! Our annual Street Fair will be held on June 7th and 8th from 5:30-9pm. We are looking for a few good men, women and youth to help make this event a success. There are many different types of opportunities available whether it be helping out at game and food booths, donating strawberries, shortcakes or tricky tray items or being involved in the set-up and take-down. If you are interested and/or willing to help out, please contact Christina Doyle at [doyle531@hotmail.com](mailto:doyle531@hotmail.com) or 301.802.7878.

## SPY SPAGHETTI DINNER RESCHEDULED

Rescheduled for March 30th

Previously purchased tickets will be honored. Didn't get your tickets? They will be sold at Coffee Hour at the door closer to the event.

SPY invites you to a life changing experience of fine Italian dining. The master chefs of SPY will prepare salad, the finest Italian bread in New Jersey, spaghetti and meatballs, and, of course, their world-famous tomato sauce! All who attended will experience hospitality and service unmatched anywhere in the world!

All Proceeds will go to support the 2019 Mission Trip to Virginia Beach, Virginia. Come out and support SPY and your taste buds will thank you forever !!!

Adults: \$10

Kids: \$5

Maximum amount per family : \$25

*You're Invited*  
*125th St. Peter's Birthday Party*  
*Essex Fells Country Club*  
*April 28, 2019*

All are welcome to our special "125th St. Peters Birthday Party" being held at the Essex Fells Country Club on Sunday, April 28th, 2019. The brunch begins at 11:30 or right after the 10:00 AM St. Peters Church Celebration Services. The cost is \$36.00 for adults and \$17.95 for children 12 and under. We will send out invitations to all parishioners in early March, with a RSVP date of April 19th.

We are excited to honor and celebrate this great parish of St. Peters and look forward to seeing you there. Please save the date now, as we'd love to have everyone who is a part of St. Peters attend. If you have any questions, or would like to reserve your place now, please reach out to Pam Bayard at [pamelabayard@gmail.com](mailto:pamelabayard@gmail.com).



in community. The reason we are put in community is that we might begin to learn that love of neighbor includes loving someone that is different from ourselves and it is precisely in its treatment of that different person that love is revealed as genuine. *Let us love each other since love is from God and everyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. Whoever fails to love does not know God, because God is love.*" (1 John 4:7-8)

*Fr. Mike*

**PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE  
PART II**

On Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> Health & Healing will present the second part of our planning for the future with The Five Wishes. There are many things in life that are out of our hands. The Five Wishes document which will be provided at this workshop gives you a way to control something very important- how you are treated if you get seriously ill. It is an easy to complete form that lets you say exactly what you want. Once it is filled out and properly signed, it is valid under the laws of most states.

Please come to plan for your future in the undercroft after the 10am service. Any questions, please call or email Rev. Susan Negrotto (201-637-2962, [snegrotto@yahoo.com](mailto:snegrotto@yahoo.com)).

***Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary***

Each week during the prayers of the people we like to mention those who are celebrating a birthday or anniversary that week. If you have not yet submitted your dates to the office please send them to Eileen Andersen at [eandersen.stpeters@gmail.com](mailto:eandersen.stpeters@gmail.com) so we can celebrate your special dates too. Thank you