



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

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

Onward

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

MARCH 2019

St. Peter's Youth Group Presents Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



Dates to Remember

March 2	Li
March 5	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
March 20	SPY Spaghe
March 24	Bishop
April 4	Girl
April 6	Kristine

PLEASE JOIN US for one of our most popular events
in the life of St. Peter's Church.

The Pancake Supper will take place in the church Undercroft where the youth of our parish prepare, make and serve pancakes and sausage.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Tuesday, March 5th, 6pm, the Undercroft at St. Peter's
Adults \$10 Children \$5 Maximum Family \$25

2019 **proceeds** go to our **Youth Mission Trip** in July to Virginia Beach, Virginia.
The mission trip is an annual outreach project in which high school youth of St. Peter's help repair and renovate homes for people in need.



In February, with the close of the Epiphany season, we have heard again and again that we are called to be the ongoing light of Christ for the world. This is not because of our merit, for it only happens when the life of God flows through us, when our life is charged with a vital faith in the presence and reality of God.

In March, we begin our annual Lenten and Easter pilgrimage to reclaim that vital faith in our living God. Jesus' core message is that the life of God, eternal life, is not just an after-life reward but that it is accessible "now," "very close at hand," "extremely near," and the immediate and most necessary source of all moral vitality. And the great news that Jesus taught is, that this abundant life can be reached most simply, most readily by prayer, faith, detachment and love. This will be our Lenten pilgrimage - to give ourselves over to prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and service, so that our own lives melt into the life of God by staying closer and closer to the fire and light of God's love.

I commend to you staying close to God this Lenten season. Attend Sunday Eucharist, add some time of daily intentional prayer, fast on Ash Wednesday and Fridays, take a break from "binge-watching," read a spiritual book, read and meditate on God's holy Word, serve your fellow neighbor. Preserve a closeness to the God who loves you and wants to give you life to the full.

To live into a happy and holy Lent, come and join in these grace-filled events coming up.

Tuesday, March 5 - **Pancake Supper** at 6:00 pm.

Wednesday, March 6 - **Ash Wednesday** - Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes at 7:00 am (Chapel); 12 noon (Chapel); 4:00 pm (Chapel) & 7:00 pm (Church).

Wednesdays of Lent at 7:00 pm - **Lenten Journey with our Neighbors** – Join us along with parishioners from Holy Trinity, Verona & St. Peter's, Livingston for a short prayerful Eucharist followed by bread and soup.

Sunday, March 24 - **Episcopal Visitation by the Rt. Rev Carlye Hughes**. Bishop Carlye was consecrated as the 11th Bishop of Newark on September 22, 2018. She comes to us with a hopeful message of how we are all beloved by God and that we are gifted, called and sent to share this news with the world. We will all have a chance to meet the bishop as she celebrates and preaches at both the 8 am and 10 am Eucharist. She will join in coffee hour after both services and lead a town hall discussion during the coffee hour after the 10 am Eucharist.

Saturday, March 30 - **Spaghetti Dinner** at 6:00 pm. Come and enjoy great company and world-renowned Italian cuisine. All proceeds will go toward the SPY mission trip this July. This is also a chance for the wider parish to extend best wishes to Fr. Anthony Puca and his family as they begin their new ministry in Hillsdale.

Looking forward to seeing you at these important events in March.

Fr. Mike



committee members: Nat Bernardo, Elaine Biamonte, Brian Blake (SPY), Tamara Bross, Stephanie Cutting (OpShop), Erika Grothues, Evan McLaughlin, Joe Simko & Carl Sturcke.

ALSO, thank you to the OpShop! Despite several set backs this year the OpShop was still able to donate \$9,750!! David St. George is a way in which St. Peter's can reach out and touch our greater community, hopefully with an eye towards a "hand up" more than a "hand out." We could not do nearly as much if it wasn't for the dedicated volunteers in the OpShop. PLEASE give your "good stuff" to the OpShop, shop for bargains at the OpShop, **and most importantly, if you have TIME give the OpShop an hour or two.** \$9,750 is a LOT of \$2 shirts and \$5 jackets to hang and tag! As chairman of the David St. George Committee I am encouraging ALL of you to help the OpShop in any way you can because they are making a real difference in what St. Peter's can do to help our community!

With Faith and Love, *Dana Leach*

Alter Guild News

We have a new flower donation calendar in the upper room. Please consider picking a date to celebrate a happy occasion or to remember a loved one. The cost will be \$50 and you will be billed by the church.

Thanks,
Jennifer Jackson

OpShop News - Discover the Happiness in Donating Items to a Worthy Cause!

OpShop proceeds benefit St Peter's Church and a dozen local charities!

The St. Peter's OpShop ministry is currently in need of donations of new and gently used home goods and jewelry. A few items to help you declutter - donate bowls, everyday dishes, decorative items, scented candles, new perfume and cologne, lamps in working order, artwork, Easter and Spring decorations, small wood tables & wood chairs. (We cannot accept baby items, toys, or damaged items. It's an expense for us to dispose of those items.) Donations may be placed in the Thrift Shop shed anytime in the church parking lot. Thank you.

We provide community service hours for youth! We need their help and yours to process donations! Please contact Lynn Livingston cjmlynn@gmail.com 973-216-1458.

Milestones

Baptisms

Isabelle Lynn Watts,
daughter of Nicole &
Adam Watts

Layla Elizabeth Simonetti,
daughter of Anna & David
Simonetti

ST. PETER'S STREET FAIR

VOLUNTEERS · JUNE 8 & 9 · NEEDED

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 or 301.802.7878.

Tricky Tray Baskets - Can you solicit? Do you know someone who owns a business who would donate something fun? Can you donate a basket yourself or join with someone to donate something fun? The Tricky Tray makes great money for our church every year. Please help make it a success!! You can reach out to Stephanie Kent, ste.ken@yahoo.com if you have questions or can donate.

David St. George Outreach Endowment

The David St. George Outreach Endowment Committee was begun by former rector David St. George as a way to distribute interest from a fund set up for the purpose of helping others. Each year St. Peter's receives grant requests and it is the duty of the committee to read, investigate, discuss and

make recommendations on each of these requests. We do this with the following in mind: *The David St. George Outreach Endowment Committee is an outreach committee of Saint Peter's Episcopal Church, Essex Fells, NJ. Its purpose is to distribute funds to organizations or groups, within the communities of Saint Peter's and the Diocese of Newark, who seek to assist struggling individuals with food, shelter, education and/or support in hopes that they may one day be able to support and care for themselves. The distributed funds will be given in response to grant requests, submitted by these organizations, after prayerful consideration, discussion and investigation by the committee members. The aim of the committee is to not only assist individuals in need, but to focus on smaller organizations or projects for whom our limited resources would have the most impact.*"

This year we were able to distribute \$25,950! We had \$16,200 interest from the fund and \$9,750 donated from the Op-Shop!!!

Organizations supported by the 2018 funding included: The Apostles' House, Caldwell Dept. of Human Services, CASA, Interweave, Meeting Essential Needs with Dignity, Newark School of Theology, North Porch, St. Peter's Haven, Senior Resource Center, Toni's Kitchen, Wynona's House and Christine's Kitchen. We were also able to make contributions to both the Rector's Discretionary Fund and the SPY Mission Trip.

A huge thank you for the thoughtful, caring and honest exchanges of all

Christine's Kitchen

Thank you to the Confirmation Class for their outstanding work at Christine's Kitchen on Saturday, Jan. 19th. They served around 80 men, women, and children and wrapped up leftovers for many to have a second meal.

Another great big thank you to those of you who donated your time to shop, cook, and deliver the food. These meals would not be possible without your kind and generous support. Whether it was plates for food, butter for dinner rolls, or homemade brownies, each and every donation made a difference. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 6th, our next visit to Christine's Kitchen.

If you'd like more information about volunteering or donating, please contact Jennifer Vonderahe at jcvonderahe@gmail.com or 773-575-2325.



Girls Night Out!

Save the Date! Please join us for a Girls' Night Out on Thursday, April 4th 7pm at Kimberly Butler's home at 25 Hathaway Lane in Essex Fells.

The event will be BYOB, and we'll do a pot luck of appetizers and desserts. Contact Pam Au at pamau@comcast.net or 201-960-5566 to sign up.

So, grab a friend and join us for a fun evening of catching up! ALL ARE WELCOME!

125th St. Peter's Birthday Party

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 \$40.00 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.



SPY meets on March 10th & 24th

Jr. SPY (grades 6-8) 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Sr. SPY (grades 9-12) 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Sunday School

February finished up unit 2 for Sunday School. We had such a fabulous group of teachers! We are so blessed as a parish to have Serena Watkinson (preK-K), Liz Muller (1st-3rd) and Mary Beth Weber (4th-6th) working with our children! We also had Emily Blake greet for our littlest ones each week and a wonderful crew of greeters for 1st-3rd grade including Patty Vitiello, Carolyn Wescott, Mary Shearin and Kevin Hersh. Many, many thanks to them all!! Unit 3 will welcome Mary Shearin back to teaching (preK-K) after a long break and Christina Doyle and Quinn Egan back in the 4th-6th grade class. I will again be with "my" class, 1st-3rd grade. We will continue with a variety of individuals assisting with greeting which has worked great for unit 2! If you are able to help please let me know.

As we start with Lent on March 10th remember the importance of Sunday School for your children. The addition of something for Lent can be just as powerful as giving something up and intentional Sunday attendance is easy and impactful.

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

Family Church

Have I mentioned how I LOVE Family Church?! The children all did such an amazing job. Many thanks to Jocelynn Dilkes, Jack Latson & Colin Carr (first time reader) for reading so beautifully; Luke Latson, Koen Vonderahe & Frankie Hunkele who were so helpful ushering; and last minute element bearers Alexandra Hunkele and my new friend Jackson who so carefully delivered the gifts! The Children's Choir also did a lovely job singing. Thanks, Mr. John!

Our next Family Church is March 10th so make sure you reach out so your child(ren) have an opportunity to share their gifts with the congregation through this special service.

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March Dates

March 3rd - Sunday School
March 10th - Family Church
March 17th & 31st - Sunday School

Littlest Parishioners' Playgroup

Saturday, March 2nd, 9:30-11:30

We have been having so much fun through the winter with 3 or 4 families (4-7 children) each month. Children play and parents visit! Playgroup is for children age 3 and under and takes place on the 1st Saturday of each month. Older siblings are welcome. We meet in the upper room unless we get a warm sunny day then we go to the playground. Join us and bring others you think might be interested. April date will be the 6th - mark your calendars.

If you have questions contact Nat Bernardo at nathaliabernardo23@gmail.com or Dana Leach, cell 201-694-6543 or scottdanaL@aol.com.

SAVE THE DATE!

Vacation Bible School at St. Peter's will be here before you know it! We can't tell you what the theme is yet, but wanted to make sure you marked the week on your calendar. **VBS will be August 5th-9th.** This is an amazing week for campers, teen counselors and adult volunteers. Please keep the week in mind as you plan your summer vacation. We wouldn't want you to miss another fun filled St. Peter's VBS!! VBS is for children age 3 through entering 5th grade and is from 9:00 am -12:00 noon. We will be in touch soon with the theme and registration information, but if you have questions you can always reach us at sfefvbs@gmail.com.

Peace, Kris Blake, Emily Blake & Dana Leach

Holy Communion Recognition

St. Peter's Church wants to celebrate the importance of receiving Communion for children and their families and has designated May 5, 2019 as Holy Communion Recognition Sunday. The Episcopal Church does not call this First Communion because many of these children have already received a Communion as small children.

Three interesting and engaging classes have been designed to help the children, second grade and older, prepare for this special day. Please mark these Saturdays on your calendars:

April 13th - 10:30 am
April 27th - 10:30 am
May 4th - 10:30 am

Thank you...

Thank you to all who prepared or purchased soup or chili in February. Your generosity helped us to support North Porch Women & Infants' Center. You can learn more about the important work of North Porch [at their website](#).

Thank you again!
Sue Mazur & Jennifer Jackson
Episcopal Church Women

Lenten Journey with Our Neighbors



The neighboring Episcopal Church parishes of Holy Spirit, Verona; St. Peter's, Essex Fells & St. Peter's, Livingston, invite all to share a Lenten journey of prayer and fellowship on the **Wednesday evenings of Lent**.

We will meet each **Wednesday at 7:00 pm** for a quiet Eucharist followed with a short meal of bread and soup.

March 13 – St. Peter's Church
271 Roseland Avenue, *Essex Fells*

March 20 – Holy Spirit Church
36 Gould Street, *Verona*

March 27 - St. Peter's Church
271 Roseland Avenue, *Essex Fells*

April 3 – St. Peters Church
94 East Mount Pleasant Ave, *Livingston*

April 10 - Holy Spirit Church
36 Gould Street, *Verona*

April 17 - St. Peter's Chapel (*Tenebrae*)
271 Roseland Avenue, *Essex Fells*

Together they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayers. Acts 2:42

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Spaghetti Dinner

Time:

6:00pm



Date:

March 30th

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

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