



# Epistle

December 2014

## St. Peter's Church, Milford, CT

email: [stpetersmilford@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stpetersmilford@sbcglobal.net) web: [www.stpetersmilford.org](http://www.stpetersmilford.org)



### God With Us

This time of Advent and Christmas is, for many of us, a holy time, a time of drawing nearer to the Lord in remembering the gift of his Son Jesus. "God became man and dwelt among us full of grace and truth... And from his fullness we have all received grace upon grace." (John 1:14-16) In our gratitude for the love and blessing we have received from God, we observe this time by expressing that love and blessing toward others. It is a joyful time, a festive time, and

a busy time. But for those who have lost loved ones or who are alone, it can also be a particularly lonely and difficult time.

In the Gospel of Matthew, we are told that an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream, telling him that Mary, his betrothed, would give birth to a son conceived by the Holy Spirit and they were to name him Jesus for he would save his people from their sins. This was in fulfillment of the prophesy in Isaiah 7:14 that the Lord himself would give us this sign: A virgin would become pregnant and give birth to a son, and she would call his name Immanuel, which means God with us.

Truly God is with us in our rejoicing and celebrating, and in our sadness, our challenges, and our loneliness. Jesus' last words before ascending to heaven were, "Lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." (Matt. 28:20) He is with us and he has assured us of this again and again throughout scripture. But for those experiencing a great sadness, loneliness, or depression, a physical reminder of God's presence with them can be of utmost importance. We have been called to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world. Please be mindful of those you know or encounter day to day that might be facing such a difficulty and reach out to them with the love of Christ. Just the reminder that you care can make all the difference. The following poem was sent to me some time ago by a parishioner and is a reminder to be mindful of honoring God in this holy time through prayer and through being that tangible demonstration to those who are hurting that God is with us.

### It Only Takes a Moment

It only takes a moment  
To whisper words of praise,  
To thank God for the blessings  
That decorate your days.

It only takes a moment  
To be a friend in need,  
To spread a little sunshine  
While doing a good deed.

It only takes a moment  
To lift someone in prayer,  
Who needs to be encouraged  
And know that God is there.

Life can be so complicated  
That we forget to see  
That it only takes a moment  
To be the best that we can be!  
- Clay Harrison

It only takes a moment  
To share a little love  
With someone who is lonely  
And lift their soul above.

We will be holding a healing service on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. This is an opportunity to bring someone to church for prayer and encouragement who is going through a difficult time. This service is a simplified liturgy with much more time for individual prayer. All the readings and the message are on the theme of healing.

We are also holding Evening Prayer services on weeknights at 6:00 during Advent in the chapel as a way of honoring this holy time and keeping prayer central in our lives. We have Advent devotional materials available for you to pick up in the back of the church as well. It is my hope that you will experience this season as a time of recognizing that God is truly with us and that you will be aware of His presence each day.

The Rev. Cynthia Knapp

### Sunday Services

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist *no music*

† † † †

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist *with music*

Childcare available

Coffee & Fellowship follows

† † † †

10 a.m. Church School

† † † †

Wednesday — Holy Eucharist & Healing

Thursday — Morning Prayer  
8 a.m.

All weekday services held in the Chapel

† † † †

### January 2015 Epistle

Please email your submissions for the next Epistle by December 19, 2014, to:

[Stpetersmilford@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Stpetersmilford@sbcglobal.net)

† † † †

### St. Peter's Purpose

Sharing the Gospel of  
Jesus Christ

Preparing Disciples

Caring for the Community

† † † †

### St. Peter's Staff & Leadership

*Ministers:* The Congregation

*Bishop:* the Rt. Rev. Dr. Ian Douglas

*Priest-in-charge:* the Rev. Cynthia Knapp

*Assisting Priest:* the Rev. Angela Rowley

*Parish Administrator:* June Williams

*Music Director:* Joel Martin

*Sexton:* Bruce Rumford

*Infant & Toddler Care Provider:* Amanda Sayers

*Senior Warden:* Paul Mangels

*Junior Warden:* Conrad Green

*Treasurer:* Sharon MacKenzie

*Clerk:* Candace Franz



## December Birthdays

12/01 Carolyn Chirico  
 12/05 Paul Smith  
 12/10 Marie Palmatier  
 12/11 Paul Erlacher Jr.  
 12/14 Mead Franz IV  
 12/14 Leigh Warrington  
 12/16 Cynthia Feliconio  
 12/19 Haley Adams  
 12/21 Patrick Fleming  
 12/30 Jonathan Fraleigh

## December Anniversaries

12/01 Cynthia & Thomas  
 Feliconio  
 12/03 Carol & Bill Springsteen  
 12/19 Kathie & Richard Hebert  
 12/27 Judith Ann Johnston &  
 Don Warren Jr.  
 12/31 Cynthia & Scott Tummins

## Report from the Treasurer: October 31, 2014

Income year-to-date	\$ 239,942.11
Expenses year-to-date	(249,609.22)
Deficit	\$ ( 9,667.11)

Eighty percent of our income is derived from our financial support to St. Peter's. The operating expenses continue to exceed income on a monthly basis.

Should you have any questions in regards to the finances, please contact me. **2015 Contribution Envelopes** are available at the back of the church for those have used envelopes in the current year and for new members making a pledge for the first time in 2015. The use of pre-numbered envelopes helps us to better track your donation to St. Peter's. If your name is not there and you would like to have envelopes for the coming year, please add your name to the sign-up sheet.

Sharon MacKenzie, Treasurer  
[smacknze@optonline.net](mailto:smacknze@optonline.net)

## Food Bank Donations

St. Peter's continues its weekly collection for the Milford Food Bank at the Milford Senior Center. There is always a need for staples such as cereals, pasta, and peanut butter and jelly. Those items would be especially welcomed. *Please place all food donations in the basket located in the Narthex of the church. The basket will be brought up during the offertory, recognizing that these are a part of our gifts being offered to the Lord.*

## Altar Flowers

Flowers are a wonderful way to mark an event or a life, and help to support the ministry of St. Peter's parish. Flowers may be given in memory of a loved one, in celebration of birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, births or any occasion that you would like to celebrate. The suggested offering is \$25 to cover the cost of the flowers, but any donation is accepted. *If you are interested, please contact the Church office.*

## Coffee Hour

**Caring for our Community - Coffee Hour** is a ministry by and for those who attend services on Sunday morning. Coffee Hour is only possible through your participation. There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall for you to host on your own, or as a group, and St. Peter's supplies the coffee. Kathie Hebert and Nancy Lang posted guidelines/instructions on the bulletin board in the hall, if needed. Coffee Hour is a great time to meet new parishioners and enjoy fellowship with your church family. Ask someone who has not hosted before to join you!

December 7 – Bernadette and David DeRubeis

December 14 – Heifer Breakfast

December 21 – Karen Lowe and Nancy Yapo

December 28 – Barbara Duchon, Nancy Lang, Carol Ann Russo, Brooke VanBrederode

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Michelle and Jason Sansone on the birth of their daughter, Coralie Elizabeth Sansone born on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## Welcome the newly baptized

Kathleen Mary Fleming daughter of Jennifer and Patrick Fleming was baptized on November 2.

## Condolences

Condolences to the Lucas family on the death of Maureen's brother-in-law, Larry Landsberg.

Condolences to Edna Pavlowski and family on the death of her husband Hank (Henry) Pavlowski.

Condolences to Jacquie Anglin-Dixon, Wade and Warner Dixon on the death of Jacquie's mother, Cynthia Anglin, in Jamaica.

## Caring for your children

St. Peter's is pleased to care for your young children during the 10:00 a.m. service. Childcare is available for children through age 3. A trained special education/elementary education teacher and an assistant care giver, who has participated in Red Cross and Safe Church training, provide care for the children in the nursery on the second floor of the education building. An usher will be happy to assist you in locating this room. Our Church School program meets during the 10:00 a.m. service for children ages 3-12. They will be led to class by their teachers and returned in time for communion. Visitors are encouraged to have their children participate.

## Church School & Youth Ministry

**Sunday school meets during the 10:00 a.m. service.** Children start out worshipping with their families and then proceed to classes with the teachers. We have a wonderful team of teachers and a great group of kids and are looking forward to a terrific time together studying God's Word and applying it to our lives! Please be sure to fill out a registration form for each child. The young class, preschool through first grade, will be hearing a Bible story each week and using wooden figures and props and a related activity or art project to help with the understanding of each story. The older class, second through fifth grade, will use Group's Bible-based curriculum, "Faith Weaver Now".

## Youth Ministry

The youth group serves our youth in grades 6-12 and meets on the first and third Sunday evenings each month for fellowship, food, and faith. Contact the church office or Maureen Lucas at [stpetersyouthmilford@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersyouthmilford@gmail.com) for any questions or meeting times. December meetings will be on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> for their trip to the Living

Nativity at High Acres Christian Church in Ansonia and the 21<sup>st</sup> for the Christmas celebration and meeting.

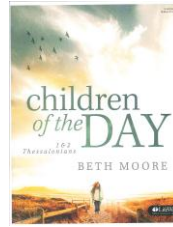
## Youth Confirmation Class

Youth Confirmation Class is held on Sundays, at 12:00 noon, in the rector's office, until Confirmation the following spring. The classes are taught by the Rev. Cynthia Knapp along with participation from Maureen Lucas, our Youth Minister, and the Rev. Angela Rowley, our assisting priest. If you would like to participate, and have not done so, please contact the Rev. Cynthia Knapp. Classes for December and January are scheduled for every Sunday. In December classes will be held only on December 7, due to the Christmas Pageant and rehearsals that the group is involved with. In January classes will be held every Sunday except for January 25, for the Service Project. Any adults wishing to be confirmed should speak with the Rev. Cynthia Knapp.

## Spiritual Adult Ed Programs

**Morning Bible Study** continues to meet on Tuesday at 7:00 a.m. in the church library.

**Women's Bible Study** continues to meet on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. On November 18<sup>th</sup> the Bible Study "Children of the Day", a study of 1 & 2 Thessalonians by Beth Moore began. The study will go through Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> and then break for Christmas and New Years and resume Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>. It is an 8 week study.



## Healing and Worship Service

We will be holding a Healing Service on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. This is an informal service with contemporary Christian music in which the teaching will be on healing and there will be prayer for healing offered during Communion. The holidays can be a particularly difficult time for many who have experienced a loss or other challenges in their life and this service is designed to respond to that need. If you know anyone who might benefit from this ministry please invite them to join you for this service.

**Advent Material** is on the back table in the church.

**The Christmas Pageant** will be on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> during the 10:00 a.m. service. Rehearsals will be Sundays, December 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> following the 10:00 a.m. services and Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The Christmas Pageant will be on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> during the 10:00 a.m. service.

Friday, December 5 there will be a **Tree of Light Ceremony at Milford Hospital** at 5:30 p.m. Cynthia Knapp will be offering the blessing.

## CHRISTMAS DECORATION FUND

If you would like to make a donation towards the Christmas Decorations, envelopes are located in the Church or you may use the form below. Donations can also be made through the E-Giving site located on our web site:

[www.stpetersmilford.org](http://www.stpetersmilford.org)

Donations need to be received in the Church Office no later than December 18<sup>th</sup> to be included in the Christmas Service Bulletin.

## CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial/Thanksgiving (circle one):

## You are invited

In August we started to feature a different Worship group and invite you to consider participating in one. See where God is calling you to serve Him.

## Ushers

Ushers arrive at church earlier than the rest of congregation and pass out bulletins for the service as people arrive. They are responsible for making sure the doors are unlocked, the lights are on, and the temperature in the church is comfortable. They assist in finding seats for worshipers if necessary. They take an accurate count of the congregation and church school attendees at each service. They collect the offering, control the flow of communion, notify the teachers when it is time to bring the children back to service, and tidy up the church after the service. They are also responsible for directing people to different areas of the church they may not know how to get to (restrooms, child care areas etc.). If you are interested in becoming an usher, please contact Paul Smith, 203-878-9188, [pdsmith1952@gmail.com](mailto:pdsmith1952@gmail.com)

## Advent Evening Prayer Begins Dec. 1

Looking for a quiet, meditative service that will bring you closer to the Lord during this holiday season of Advent and Christmastide? You can find solace and alleviate some of the daily stress created by the commercialization of the holidays while bringing yourself closer to the true meaning of Christmas by attending Evening Prayer in St. Peter's Chapel at 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday during Advent.

The short service, led by several of the parish's Lay Eucharistic Ministers and parishioners, begins on Monday, Dec. 1 and will conclude with the service on Tuesday, Dec. 23. Parishioners are asked to come in

through the parish hall door. More parishioners are welcome to be one of the day's leaders. If you are interested in leading, contact Steve Winters ([winters@wshu.org](mailto:winters@wshu.org)).

Each service runs about a half hour and offers a meditative way to "let go" of the day's burdens and frustrations while also celebrating the day's joys. You do not have to attend every day, although that could be a beneficial Advent discipline.

The service is expected to offer the Book of Common Prayer liturgy as well as an Evening Service from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer. So join us and discover quiet relief from what can easily become, unfortunately, the madness of the Christmas holidays.

Here are some thoughts about "rediscovering" Advent from the English consortium of country churches, *Full Homely Divinity*:

"When Advent is swamped and washed away by the premature celebration of Christmas, we lose something more: we lose the gifts of expectation and anticipation. Modern western society is a culture of instant gratification. We are unwilling to wait for anything and in refusing to wait we also lose much of the value of the thing desired. If we can have anything we want, whenever we want it, everything is cheapened and nothing is of much value. On the other hand, waiting patiently gives us an opportunity to reflect on the meaning and value of the things we desire. Indeed, it enhances the value of those things, for nothing is more valuable than the thing that is out of reach, and few possessions are more prized than the ones for which we have longed and waited. Furthermore, the truth is that, in spite of our desire for instant gratification, and in spite of the fact that we live in a time of abundance of every sort, we cannot always have what we want or, more importantly, what we need. And in such circumstances, what we need more than anything else is hope."



## Ministry Minutes

One of the best ways we can encourage one another in our faith journeys is to share our experience of the work of God through his Holy Spirit in our lives. Just as the book of Acts in the Bible is a record of the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the disciples in the early church, the Holy Spirit continues to work through the lives of Christians today. If you have a story of the Lord working in your life in a way that has been encouraging to you, we would love to hear about it! If you are willing to share your story with the parish please speak with Cynthia Knapp.

## St. Nicholas to Visit Parish on Dec. 7

The Bishop of Myra, better known to all of us as St. Nicholas, will make his annual visit to St. Peter's at the 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist to offer the children's message. His visit to St. Peter's will fall the day after his birth date so we'll also be celebrating that historic event and perhaps can convince the venerable saint to tell us more stories about his life when he makes an appearance at the coffee hour following the service.

St. Nicholas's visit offers a different perspective on the upcoming Christmas holiday, so please make sure your young ones attend that Sunday. His is the story of how a Byzantine bishop evolved into his American alter ego Santa Claus and Father Christmas. More important, he is one of Christianity's most beloved saints. Who knows, everyone may even depart the coffee hour after St. Nicholas' visit with a gold coin in their pocket and a special cookie in their tummy!

## Coffee Hour and Hospitality

Coffee Hour and Fellowship is held in the Parish Hall on Sundays following the 10:00 a.m. service. It is a time of offering hospitality to everyone with coffee, tea, juice, and treats. We encourage everyone to sign up with another family. The sign-up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall.

The Hospitality Committee is gathering a list of members who would be available to prepare simple meals (and deliver) for parishioners who are either in need or are recuperating from illness. Please contact Cynthia, Nancy or Kathie if you are aware of a parishioner that needs meals.

Kathie Hebert (203-506-5125 or [cody50@hotmail.com](mailto:cody50@hotmail.com)) and Nancy Lang (203-874-6360) are co-chairs of the Hospitality committee.

## Manos de Dios #8 News

St. Peter's is planning their eighth trip to Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, to build a home for a deserving family. The trip has been scheduled for April 12 -18, 2014. The next meeting for the mission trip is Sunday, December 21st, at 11:45 in the Taft building. There is still room on the trip, so if you're thinking about going please come to the meeting.

## Save the Date & Your Appetite!!

**Manos de Dios Pasta Dinner and Silent Auction - January 24<sup>th</sup>.** A delicious Italian dinner and silent auction is planned for January 24<sup>th</sup> from 5-7p.m. to raise funds for our eighth mission trip to Colonia Anapra, Mexico. We will be building a 450 square foot house for a very deserving family. Please bring your friends, neighbors and their families. Ticket prices: \$10 adults 13 years and older; \$5 children ages 12 to 6; children 5 years and under are free.

The Juarez mission team is planning a **post-Valentine's Day Breakfast on February 15<sup>th</sup>**. Breakfast will be served after both the 8:00 and 10:00 services.

## Operation Christmas Child



Thanks to all who donated and helped fill the Shoe Boxes. We sent 31 boxes to 31 children somewhere in the world. They will receive the gift of knowing someone in the world cares for them and the greatest gift of all- the gift of JESUS in their lives.

## Alternative Christmas Giving

Let's prepare for Christmas in a real way by concentrating on our relationship with God, spending time in devotion with Him. When Christmas comes we can really rejoice with Jesus. To eliminate the hassle of Christmas, why not donate to a charity in your friend's or family member's name to one of the following worthy causes that St. Peter's already supports.

1. **Heifer:** Once again we will be helping families in third world countries be self sufficient. They benefit from animals and pass on offspring to their neighbors. So please buy a pig, a chicken or a tenth of a cow! Make checks out to St. Peter's with **Heifer** in notation.
2. **World Vision:** We can continue to help the Philippines through World Vision, who are really proficient in getting supplies to where they are needed. Make checks payable to **World Vision**.
3. **Juarez Project:** Help our dedicated team from St. Peter's to build a house for a needy family. Make checks out to St. Peter's with **Juarez** in the notation.
4. **Beth El Homeless Shelter and Soup Kitchen:** This is a place of real caring, and families and singles spend whatever time it takes to get on their feet. Make checks to St. Peter's notation **Beth-El**.

## Carol's Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is named in memory of Carol Hoponick, a beloved member who always gave of her time and talent as well as her treasure. She delighted in giving gifts to children and we are continuing her legacy.

St. Peter's is helping three needy families from Good Shepherd Daycare for Christmas. The tree, with gift tags on it, will be up on November 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be three tags for each gift.

Tag #1 will provide all the details.

Tag #2 will provide the recipient's name, to be attached to the gift

Tag #3: Write your name and telephone number on the tag and place in the box under the tree.

Thank you in advance for "Caring for the Community", and making someone's Christmas a true blessing.

## Our Annual Heifer International Bountiful Breakfast

Please join us on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, for our annual breakfast to benefit Heifer International, a non-profit we have been supporting for over ten years.

**Heifer's Mission is:** *To work with communities to end hunger and poverty and to care for the Earth.* **About**

**Heifer:** *Heifer International is a global nonprofit with a proven solution to ending hunger and poverty in a sustainable way. Heifer helps empower millions of families to lift them out of poverty and hunger to self-reliance through gifts of livestock, seeds, trees, and extensive training, which provide a multiplying source of food and income.*

St. Peter's has successfully launched ten "Arks" which is a \$5,000.00 gift of needed animals to be distributed throughout the world. Please join us on December 14<sup>th</sup> after each service, enjoy a bountiful breakfast, while sharing your blessings with the less fortunate in this world. Find Heifer on Facebook or at [Heifer.org](http://Heifer.org)

## Walk-for Beth-El



Many thanks to all who supported the Walk for Beth El in October. It was a great warm sunny day and there were lots of terrific Halloween costumes. There were

refreshments and entertainment by none other than our own Jay Pinsince's Ellwood band. The service of the Youth Group at the breakfast gave a profit of \$550.00, the most any breakfast has ever done. Combined with other donations from the parish St. Peter's Youth Group donated \$1,100.00. Well done in our mission of "Caring for the Community"

## 2015 Stewardship Drive

Stewardship: When I heard that word, I would first get nervous, and then ask Bernadette, “What can we afford this year?”

You can just imagine what ran through my mind when I was asked to head up this year’s Stewardship drive, especially knowing that I would be out of my comfort zone, and that we would actually be making home visits rather than sending out mailers.

I was surprised to find out that most people I asked to be team captains and visitors pretty much shared the same anxieties I did.

I was also amazed that almost all who were asked to help in our Stewardship drive were willing to confront their fears and anxieties and agreed to make visits. Visitors found that the experience of going to their fellow parishioners’ homes was a blessing in disguise.

Through this experience I have come to realize that stewardship is not only about money, most importantly it is about connecting with parishioners we may never otherwise had the opportunity to have a fruitful, open conversation with, except for the pleasantries that we share on Sundays. These visits also allowed us to find out if any parishioners had concerns regarding anything to do St. Peter’s. In addition, it also gave us the opportunity to identify families that maybe in need of pastoral visits or other support that we may be able to offer. The visits also communicated to our fellow parishioners that there is another way of supporting our community besides monetary resources, which is with our God given talents. Our Lord has given us all unique and specific talents that could make a positive impact on our Parish and community.

I am grateful for the blessing of enlightenment that I received through this experience; it has given me a deeper understanding of why I was drawn to the little church with the “Red Door”!

“To the world St. Peters may be just another church; however to one person or family that we are able to assist, St. Peter’s may be the world.”

Yours in Christ  
David DeRubeis

## Junior Warden Updates

First, I would like to thank everyone for their patience during the painting of the church. The painters - Trumbull Restoration- did a great job patching and painting. I commend them for their professionalism and their attention to detail. Every week they covered everything with plastic sheeting, covered the floor with drop cloths, brought in heavy planks and plywood placing it on top of the pews to be used as scaffolding,

and carted in a massive amounts of tools and ladders to do the work. On Friday, they took all that out and cleaned up their mess, so that Sunday services could be held as usual. This process went on for seven weeks. Granted, they did leave a bit of dust, here and there at times, but for the most part I think they did a great job. They will be returning to paint the corbels at the base of the ceiling beams on the wall sometime soon. We were all hoping the new paint colors would brighten the place up, and it did to some extent, but not enough.

After looking at several different solutions, it was decided that changing the 300 watt incandescent bulbs in the overhead fixtures to 100 watt -not so compact-fluorescent bulbs was the way to go. These new bulbs, while using only 800 watts in total, provide 4000 watts of light compared to the old bulbs that provided only 2400 watts of light. We also installed three new LED bulbs in the wall sconce on the back wall. These new bulbs provide 300 watts of light from three bulbs that use the same amount of power as one of the 60 watt bulbs they replaced. We are also in the process of replacing the flood lights in the Altar area with new LED bulbs. There are 12 floodlights up there at 75 watts each that will be replaced with LEDs that use only 13 watts each. I'll let you do the math. The bottom line is that these changes will save electricity and provide more light at the same time.

## Have you met Patrice Fike?

Patrice Fike was born in Boston, MA and at the age of ten moved to Milford with her family. Patrice sang in choir when Father Taft was Rector in 1959, was the president of the Young People's Fellowship [1963-65] when her father, John Fike, was the adult mentor of the group, Graduated from Milford High School in 1966 and she is a fourth Generation Episcopalian – a “Cradle Episcopalian”

Patrice is currently a Chaplain Intern at Norwalk Hospital and a Candidate for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Southeast Florida. She recently taught two classes in Epidemiology in the Yale School of Public Health. After working and teaching in the health care field for so many years as a registered nurse, she finds it refreshing as a Chaplain to walk away from the clinical aspects of care and to embrace the spiritual side of life. She was previously employed at the University Of Miami School Of Medicine for seventeen years in a myriad of roles including clinical care, teaching and administration. It has been a life-long dream of hers to become a priest and after so many years was encouraged by the Bishop of the Diocese of SE Florida to attend seminary. Last year she completed her Masters of Divinity at General Seminary.



Patrice is the daughter of John and Eleanor Fike, who were long time members of St. Peter's and are both deceased. She has one sister, Marjorie who lives with her husband George (Allen) in Milford and two brothers. Fred lives in Milford and her brother John resides with his wife, Linda in North Carolina. She has seven nieces and nephews! Ben is her seven year old miniature schnauzer and they both attended the blessing of the animals, in October.

Patrice enjoys cooking, adores reading, traveling and photography. Besides her extensive theological readings, she enjoys good mysteries, meditative and spiritual readings and poetry. Her travels have taken her to many places with Greece being her favorite destination. Patrice won the National Geographic Cover Award in 1983 for a photo she took in Greece of a young boy and his dog. She won another photo

competition with a photo of a beautiful rock-filled stream of water in newly-fallen snow surrounded by yellow forsythia peeking out through the snow. It was purely serendipitous that this photo even came about as she was hurrying through the woods to meet a friend for lunch and almost didn't stop to snap it!

Another favorite is music. While in her first year at General Seminary in NY, she had a season's subscription to the Metropolitan Opera. A whole new world opened up for her. She loved it and ended up buying a subscription for the remaining two years!

St. Peter's Episcopal Church means the world to her. It was at St. Peter's in a conversation with Father Taft before she moved to Florida in 1968 that she first began her journey of exploring ordination to the priesthood. She will never forget his support. Upon return visits to see her parents over the years, she always came to church and continued to meet with Fr. Taft until his death. She has had the pleasure of getting to know all the successive priests who have served St. Peter's since then. The Rev. Andrew Osmun, who was a great favorite of her Dad and had an important ministry to him at the end of his life and was very supportive of Patrice in her time as a student at General Seminary.

Patrice doesn't know what the future holds for her as she waits Ordination, but she knows that she belongs back “home” in Milford. Home looks a little different to her now yet she does wonder what or who is around the next corner? In the past year, she became a Lay Eucharistic Minister and serves at the 8:00 am Service with a wonderful group of early risers. She also is a proud member of the 8 o'clockers Breakfast Club, which is great fun and gives her a chance to know everyone better. She was also involved in a small group on spiritual formation this fall and helps with visits to bring Communion to patients in the West River Health Care Center.

*Helen Pasenelli*





## Change Something, Change You

by Rick Warren

***“Let us examine our ways and turn back to the Lord.” (Lamentations 3:40 MSG)***

You can’t change everything. But you can change *you*.

When your life feels like it's falling apart, knowing what you can change — and what you can't change — can make all the difference.

You can't change your past. You can't change your parents. You can't change the gifts and talents God has or hasn't given you. You can't change a handicap you've been given. You can't bring back a dead loved one.

You might as well accept all of those things. You'll start to find peace in the midst of troubles when you accept what you can't change. Otherwise, you'll make yourself and the people you love miserable.

There's much you can't change, but there's something important you can change: you.

When Jeremiah's world was falling apart, he wrote in Lamentations 3:40: *“Let us examine our ways and turn back to the Lord”* (GNT).

What's going on in your life that doesn't line up with what God wants? Depending on how we react, crises can help us as we learn to focus our eyes on what matters: Jesus.

To re-order your life God's way, it'll take some gut-level self-evaluation. You'll need to do an inventory of every area of your life. You'll need to take a look at your relationship with God, your spouse, your kids, and your co-workers. You'll need to look at hurts, habits, and hang-ups that may be bringing you down. Nothing can be off limits.

It's not easy. It can get messy. It's always tough to turn from sin even when it's tearing us down.

But you can't find healing otherwise. Healing apart from repentance can't last. When your world is falling apart, you'll be tempted to bemoan every area of your life.

That's a waste of time. You can't change everything — but you can change you.

And when your world is falling apart, that can mean everything.

### **Talk It Over**

- What one area of your life can you change right now that will make a positive impact on yourself and others?
- Who can help you ask yourself the hard questions about your priorities, relationships, and secret sins as you take a spiritual inventory of your life?

## Preparing Disciples

### Daily Devotionals & Prayerful Resources:

#### Text versions:

Rick Warren's daily devotions from Saddleback: <http://profile.purposedriven.com/dailyhope/post>

Esoteric Episcopal Priest's musings - Barbara Crafton: <http://www.geraniumfarm.org>

Ministry of Evangelical group dedicated to servant ministry: <http://blog.leadlikejesus.org>

The Bible in One Year by Nicky Gumbel - Scripture with a commentary and life application: [www.htb.org.uk/bioy](http://www.htb.org.uk/bioy)

#### For teenage girls:

<http://hisprincess.com>

#### For parents:

<http://BibleLifeCoaching.com>

### Audio, Video, & other Resources:

Rick Warren's daily devotions from Saddleback: Daily Hope radio series at [www.rickwarren.org](http://www.rickwarren.org)

Ministry of the British Jesuits - comes as an audio file: <http://www.pray-as-you-go.org>

Crosswalk, the intersection of faith and life dedicated to building up the Church, which is the body of Christ – text (many other resources): <http://www.crosswalk.com/devotionals>.

Contemplative resources in both text, audio, and video: <http://www.contemplativeoutreach.org>

A new App called iPray has been released for the iPhone: the Book of Common Prayer. You can download iPray from the iTunes Store here: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/ipray-bcp/id431349318?mt=8&ign-mpt=uo%3D2>

Ministry of the Brothers of The Society of Saint John the Evangelist (many other resources): <http://www.ssje.org/word>

### Books:

My Utmost for His Highest by Oswald Chambers

Jesus Calling by Sarah Young



**If you have a favorite daily devotional and would like to share with the congregation, please contact us so we can publish it!**

## DECEMBER 2014 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DATE	SERVICE TIME	ACOLYTE	LAY MINISTER	LECTOR	READINGS	USHER	GREETER	CHILD CARE
<b>December 7, 2014</b>	8:00 AM	D. Gendreau	S. Callahan	K. Gammage	Isaiah 40:1-11 2 Peter 3:8-15	W. Christiansen D. Johansen	G. Bristol	
Second Sunday of Advent	10:00 AM	W. Dixon I. Mead	D. Pinsince J. Pinsince	B. Eldridge D. Smith	Isaiah 40:1-11 2 Peter 3:8-15	R. Durazzo B. Palmatier	S. Peck M. Saltzman	M. Gosset
<b>December 14, 2014</b>	8:00 AM	K. Bell	D. Warren	D. Blanchet	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	P. Strong B. Kuhar	A. Swanepoel	
Third Sunday of Advent	10:00 AM	G. Lucas S. Bell	S. Winters D. Green	Linda Roti P. Watson	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	<b>Volunteer Req</b> B. Eldridge	D. Smith G. Burrows	P. Bell
<b>December 21, 2014</b>	8:00 AM	H. Kropitis	P. Fike	D. Warren	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Romans 16:25-27	C. Bristol E. Pasenelli	E. Lusterborghs	
Fourth Sunday of Advent	10:00 AM	P. Bell A. Kiley	B. Lewis D. Smith	B. VanBrederode R. Allsop	Nativity Pageant	C. Russo K. Bell	C. Mahnken B. Bell	S. Bell
<b>December 24, 2014</b>	4:30 PM	A. Kiley I. Mead J. Fraleigh G. Lucas S. Bell	S. Callahan D. Green	<b>Volunteer Req</b> M. Palmatier	Isaiah 52:7-10 John 1:1-14	B. McDonald P. Smith	B. Duchon J. Bryson	
Christmas Eve	10:30 PM	R. Fraleigh P. Bell W. Dixon K. Carriero W. Dixon	S. Winters P. Fike	D. Warren D. Blanchet	Isaiah 52:7-10 John 1:1-14	R. Durazzo P. Smith		
<b>December 25, 2014</b>	10:00 AM	<b>Volunteer Requested</b>	<b>Volunteer Requested</b>	<b>Volunteer Requested</b>	Isaiah 52:7-10 John 1:1-14	<b>Volunteer Requested</b>		
CHRISTMAS DAY								
<b>December 28, 2014</b>	8:00 AM	D. Gendreau	F. Callahan	P. Strong	Isaiah 61:10-62:3 John 1:1-18	P. Austin D. Blanchet	A. Swanepoel	
First Sunday After Christmas	10:00 AM	R. Fraleigh J. Fraleigh	D. Pinsince J. Pinsince	C. Thompson H. Lucas	Isaiah 61:10-62:3 John 1:1-18	K. Pegnataro F. Hopkins	L. Kiley M. Carter	M. Kiley

# JANUARY 2015 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DATE	SERVICE TIME	ACOLYTE	LAY MINISTER	LECTOR	READINGS	USHER	GREETER	CHILD CARE
<b>January 4, 2015</b>	8:00 AM	H. Kropitis	S. Callahan	D. Blanchet	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19	W. Christiansen D. Johansen	G. Bristol	
Second Sunday After Christmas	10:00 AM	W. Dixon I. Mead	S. Winters D. Green	B. VanBrederode R. Allsop	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19	R. Durazzo B. Palmatier	S. Peck M. Saltzman	W. Dixon
<b>January 11, 2015</b>	8:00 AM	K. Bell	D. Warren	P. Strong	Genesis 1:1-5 Acts 19:1-7	P. Strong B. Kuhar	A. Swanepoel	
1st Sunday After The Epiphany	10:00 AM	G. Lucas S. Bell	B. Lewis D. Smith	L. Wonneberger M. Palmatier	Genesis 1:1-5 Acts 19:1-7	D. Bryson P. Smith	D. Smith J. Bryson	P. Bell
<b>January 18, 2015</b>	8:00 AM	D. Gendreau	P. Fike	S. Callahan	1 Samuel 3:1-20 1 Corinthians 6:12-20	C. Bristol E. Pasenelli	E. Lusterborghs	
2nd Sunday After The Epiphany	10:00 AM	P. Bell A. Kiley	D. Pinsince J. Pinsince	C. Thompson H. Lucas	1 Samuel 3:1-20 1 Corinthians 6:12-20	C. Russo K. Bell	B. Duchon B. Bell	M Gossett
<b>January 25, 2015</b>	8:00 AM	H. Kropitis	F. Callahan	D. Warren	Jonah 3:1-5,10 1 Corinthians 7:29-31	P. Austin D. Blanchet	A. Swanepoel	
3rd Sunday After The Epiphany	10:00 AM	R. Fraleigh J. Fraleigh	S. Winters B. Lewis	D. Smith J. Bryson	Jonah 3:1-5,10 1 Corinthians 7:29-31	K. Pegnataro F. Hopkins	L. Kiley M. Carter	S. Bell





# St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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**December 2014**



**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> Bible Study 7:00 am. Library Parish Hall Executive Committee 7:00 p.m. Library	<b>3</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing 12:00 p.m.—Chapel Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.	<b>4</b> Morning Prayer 8 a.m Chapel	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7 Advent 2</b> Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class Noon Taft Building Healing Service 5:00 p.m. Youth Meeting Time TBA	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Bible Study 7:00 am. Library Women's Bible Study 9:30—11:00 a.m. Parish Hall	<b>10</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing 12:00 p.m.—Chapel Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.	<b>11</b> Morning Prayer 8 a.m Chapel Outreach Dinner 5:00 -7:00 p.m.	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14 Advent 3</b> Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Baptism 10:00 a.m. Heifer Breakfast after each services	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Bible Study 7:00 am. Library Women's Bible Study 9:30—11:00 a.m. Parish Hall Vestry Meeting 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall	<b>17</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing 12:00 p.m.—Chapel Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m. 	<b>18</b> Morning Prayer 8 a.m Chapel	<b>19</b> 	<b>20</b>
<b>21 Advent 4</b> Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m. Juarez Meeting 11:45 a.m. Taft Wing Youth Meeting Time TBA	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Bible Study 7:00 am. Library NO Women's Bible Study	<b>24</b> NO Holy Eucharist & Healing  Holy Eucharist 4:30 p.m. Carols 10:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist 11:00 p.m.	<b>25</b> Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b>
<b>28 Pentecost 16</b> Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Church School 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Bible Study 7:00 am. Library NO Women's Bible Study Prayer Shawl 7:00 p.m. Library	<b>31</b> Holy Eucharist & Healing 12:00 p.m.—Chapel Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.			<b>Evening Prayer held in the Chapel starting Dec 1—Dec 23, at 6 p.m. Monday through Friday during Advent</b>