

The Epistle

March 2013

St. Peter's Church, Milford, CT

email: stpetersmilford@sbcglobal.net web: www.stpetersmilford.org

As a gardener, March is a month of looking for signs of life. The hellebores and hepatica (Lenten roses and anemones are the common names) are among the first of the woodland plants to appear often even before the earliest of the daffodils. The colors and variety among these two species of plants are a testimony to the wonder and beauty of God's creation. After a cold, grey winter, I am always eager for these first signs of color and first promises that new life is coming. I cannot describe the excitement of watching the garden gradually come to life. Perhaps this is part of the reason I love the ministry so much and especially being an instrument in leading people to a relationship with the Lord. There is nothing more exciting, more inspiring, than watching someone be



brought into that new life in Christ. It is truly cause for rejoicing and a privilege to behold! Seeing them experience the truth of God's Word speaking directly to their lives is like watching someone discover a treasure beyond compare.

This time of year in our church season—going from Lent to Easter—is a reminder of this awakening to new life. It is what Jesus spoke of in *John 3* when he said we must be born again. It is the transformation we experience as we give ourselves to the Lord and allow him to form and shape us into his image. It is wonderfully demonstrated in the Easter morning dramatic transformation of the stone being rolled away and Jesus rising from death to life. In the resurrection we have the promise of eternal life with the Lord but we also have the promise of a resurrection to new life while we are in our lives on earth. In him we experience that new life, new hope and redemption. No matter how grey, how void of life, the winter of our soul may have become due to whatever difficult experience or journey we may have been through, there is no one beyond his ability to redeem, no stone on our heart too big for him to roll away. There is nothing more exciting than watching this transformation occur, no sunrise more glorious to behold. Even springtime in the garden pales by comparison to a person coming to new life in Jesus Christ.

I look forward to celebrating Holy Week and Easter with all of you this year. I invite you to this time of either remembering that transformation in your own life as you walk through the passion and resurrection with the Lord; or of exploring the promise and the hope of walking into that new life in him that awaits you as you walk this road with him.

the Rev. Cynthia Knapp

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, Sunday, March 24

Holy Eucharist - 8:00 a.m. (no music) & 10:00 a.m. (with music)

Maundy Thursday, Thursday, March 28

Maundy Thursday Service - 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, Friday, March 29

Way of the Cross - Noon

Good Friday Service - 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, Sunday, March 31

Holy Eucharist - 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. (both with music)

Sunday Services

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist *no music*

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist *with music*

Childcare available

Coffee & Fellowship follows

10 a.m. Christian Formation

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Monday – Thursday Evening Prayer 6 p.m.

Wednesday — Holy Eucharist

Thursday — Morning Prayer 8 a.m.

All weekday services held in the Chapel

† † † †

April Epistle

Please email your submissions for the next Epistle by March 22, to:

Stpetersmilford@sbcglobal.net

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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

Interim Musician: Paul Thoma

Christian Formation Director: Karen Vital

Sexton: Bruce Rumford

Infant & Toddler Care Provider: Amanda Sayers

Senior Warden: Paul Mangels

Junior Warden: Diane Gendreau

Treasurer: Sharon MacKenzie

Clerk: Candace Franz



March Birthdays

03/01 Deborah Soracco
 03/03 Hayden Hulme
 03/04 Kevin Dally
 03/04 Robert MacKendrick
 03/06 Evan Sansone
 03/08 Helen Kropitis
 03/08 Edward Wolfe
 03/11 Constance Healy-Collis
 03/13 Shawn Gendreau
 03/13 Stephen Winters
 03/15 Kelly Thompson
 03/16 Chloe Franke
 03/17 Catherine Fraleigh
 03/17 Patricia Houser
 03/18 Carolene Mahnken
 03/19 Fred Callahan
 03/19 Ingrid Dally
 03/19 Bill Springsteen
 03/22 David Derubeis
 03/22 Sharon Mackenzie
 03/22 Linda Roti
 03/25 William McDonald
 03/27 Isabela Meade
 03/29 Jeff Harker

March Anniversaries

03/31 Mary Beth & Stephen Saltzman


Condolences

To the family of John Slater

To the family of Florence Hopkins

Report from the Treasurer: January 31, 2013

Income year-to-date	\$18,253.80
Expenses year-to-date	(19,395.61)
Deficit	(1,141.81)

Are you looking for an easy way to automate your financial support to St. Peter's? Visit the  site located on our WEB site.

Should you have any questions in regards to our income or expenses, please contact me.

Sharon MacKenzie, Treasurer
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.*

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, 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 worship on Sunday mornings. Coffee hour is only possible through volunteers and donations. St. Peter's supplies the coffee. You may choose to host on your own, or as a group. It is a great way to meet new parishioners and share in fellowship. Ask someone who has not hosted before to join you! There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

March 3 –The Pinsince Family

March 10 –Mary Beth Saltzman

March 17 – *Available*

March 24 – *Available*

March 31 – Easter Sunday – No Coffee Hour

Meet June Williams



June is from North Stamford, and her parents retired there on a quiet street where her mother's family has lived for five generations. June's father served in the Army, and as a child June moved almost every two years. With her older brother and parents she has lived in Germany and Japan and throughout the

eastern USA. She graduated from Hollins College, VA with a double major in French and Psychology, after living a year in France. Her husband, Frank, is from Virginia and attended Washington and Lee University, VA and the University of VA. June and Frank started a life of missions together in Haiti and then joined World Vision Int'l in Zaire. They returned to Haiti two more times until the earthquake destroyed every material thing around them, but by God's grace and many miracles, their family was spared. A plane from McGuire Air Force base in New Jersey was the first to respond to the disaster, and due to the extent of June's injuries the Williams family was the first to be airlifted back to the United States. They then lived with June's parents in Stamford



until June could walk again. Friends immediately enrolled the girls in Christian Heritage School, Trumbull which they continue to attend. Frank and June have three children who are seven years apart in age, Trevor (23), Dawn (16), and Pria (9). They also have a Chinese girl, Spring Ma who is 16, living with them, who is 16. Trevor is planning to

be a full-time firefighter in LA, California. Dawn loves music and theater. Pria is the wordsmith in the family and ultimate animal lover, like her mom. June was writing a few books before the earthquake (memoirs and a mystery) and finds it still a little overwhelming to get started again, but she loves to write. Working with teens and seeing life from their perspective is another of her greatest joys. She looks forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the coming months and is thankful for the opportunity to be part of the St. Peter's community

Ministry to Carriage Green

Did you know that St. Peter's has four teams of Lay Eucharistic Ministers that share communion with parishioners who reside at Carriage Green as well as others who join in fellowship? The ministry has grown from just three parishioners to ten to twelve participants on a Sunday! This helps those who reside there to feel like they are truly part of our community. The LEMEs bring Communion, bulletins, Epistles, and Forward Day by Day when they visit as well as prayer and conversation. The teams providing this valuable ministry are: Linda Gustafson and Danny Blanchet, Fred and Sharon Callahan, Debbi Smith and Lee Wonneberger, and Steve Winters and Chandler Riker. If there is a fifth Sunday in a month, Linda and Danny are there to serve! The photo below was taken by Barbara Wolfe, one of our parishioners, and shows Alan Jepson and Leo O'Loughlin as well as LEME Steve Winters and the residents who have joined the group.



Carriage Green

Souperbowl Sunday

Many thanks for your generous support for Beth-El center and Soup Kitchen. A check for \$250 will be sent to Beth-El, which will help provide shelter and hot meals for the needy during this snowy winter.

Church School

The church school kids had a great time making welcome signs for the family in Juarez. A few of the group also came in on Ash Wednesday and made 4 blankets, one for each of the children. They thoroughly enjoy being a part of the mission trip in this way!



Youth Group

Meeting dates- March 7th and 21st 5-8pm

The young ladies of Youth Group, as well as some of their moms, will be attending Women of Faith's "The Revolve Tour" in Philadelphia on March 9th and 10th. We ask for your prayers as we attend this weekend full of music, inspirational speakers, and prayer, that our hearts may be open to all that God wishes us to gain from this experience. Thank you!

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting was held on Sunday, January 27 after the 10:00 service. 47 parishioners signed in as attendees.

Welcome to the two new Vestry members Barbara Lewis and Natalie Green. And thank you to Kathy Schock who agreed to continue.

Thank you to both Jennifer Chiodo and Jennifer Shoop for your leadership.

Cynthia spoke of what we have to look forward to in 2013, and of her goal to strengthen and encourage us spiritually with both worship and programs like Alpha and Bible study.

Sharon discussed our budget for 2013, and our deficit of about \$55,000.00. The Vestry will be looking at the budget and making alterations if/as necessary.

Conversation about the rectory and what we will do with it were discussed.

We also encourage parishioners to use their gifts and participate in one of the many Worship ministries and programs St. Peter's has to offer.

Thank you to all that attended.

Spiritual Adult Ed Programs

There is a women's Bible study, on Tuesday mornings. The group runs from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. Child care is provided. "Breaking Free", began on Tuesday, November 27, 2012 and will be ending on March 5. Starting on March 12, we will be studying the **Book of Esther**.

Evening Adult Ed Classes are in progress.

A Bible Study on the **Gospel of John** began on Wednesday, January 9th starting at 7:00 p.m. and ending 8:30 p.m.

An **Alpha class** began on Thursday evenings except the second Thursday of every month (the Outreach dinner is held in the Parish Hall) from 6:30 p.m., starting with a simple dinner and concluding at 9:00 p.m.

Email the church office at stpetersmilford@sbcglobal.net, or call the office at 203-874-8562 if you are interested in any of the programs.

Morning, Noon & Evening Prayer



Most people think of Lent as a time to give something up, but it can also be a time to bring something new into our lives. Prayer services are a wonderful way to bring in the day and shrug off the day's troubles.

Morning Prayer

is Thursday mornings at 8:00 a.m. led by Linda Roti.

Wednesday Holy Eucharist at noon.

Evening Prayer has resumed again starting on February 14, and will continue during Lent. Services are Monday – Thursday at 6:00 p.m. Currently, Paul Mangels, Deirdre Green and Steve Winters are leading the services.

All services are about 30 minutes. You are invited to attend any or all of these services. All services are held in the Chapel.

New Music Director

We are looking forward to welcoming Susan Paisley to our St. Peter's parish family as our new Music Director. Her first Sunday with us will be March 17th and she will be working with the choir the Thursday before. She and her husband, Matthew, live in Woodbridge, Connecticut. Susan is an accomplished musician playing the organ, piano, and violin and is excited about developing the music ministry at St. Peter's. More about Susan in next month's Epistle.

Thank You to Paul Thoma

Paul has graciously served to lead our music at St. Peter's during the interim time while we have searched for a new music director. We appreciate his hard work and faithfulness in this ministry and are thankful that he will continue to be a part of our parish family and the choir after handing on the baton to Susan to lead us in music.

Manos de Dios #6 News

Watch for next month's edition of "The Epistle" for pictures and updates on St. Peter's sixth mission trip to Juarez, Mexico.



Your Mission Comes from God Himself

by Rick Warren

“In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world.” (John 17:18 MSG)

If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, God has given you a mission in this world. You’re not here to just take up space; you’re not here to just strive after your own personal goals.

You have an assignment from God himself. Once you’re in the family, your life changes. You have a new reason for living. Your life isn’t about you anymore; it’s about God’s mission.

And your mission fits into God’s mission for all of history. God created everything in the universe because he wanted a family. He didn’t need Earth. He didn’t need the other planets. He didn’t need the stars. He created all of it because he knew some of us would willingly choose to be a part of his family.

The mission God gave Jesus he now gives to the Body of Christ — the Church. He wants us to help get other people into his family. Jesus said it like this: “In the same way that you gave me a mission in the world, I give them a mission in the world” (John 17:18 MSG).

Once we know Jesus, we have to go! We must tell our friends and families about him. But we can’t stop there. God has never made anyone he doesn’t want saved. He loves everyone — across the entire globe.

God wants us to live out his mission everywhere: in our families, our communities, and our world. His mission for your life is both global and local. The Bible says, “Now the Lord says to me, ‘It isn’t enough for you to be merely my servant. You must do more than lead back survivors from the tribes of Israel. I have placed you here as a light for other nations; you must take my saving power to everyone on earth’” (Isaiah 49:6 CEV).

That’s God’s plan for the world. That’s his mission for you. He wants everyone on Earth to know him. And he wants to use you to see that happen. God didn’t just say that to missionaries or pastors. If you’re in his family, he gave his mission to *you*!

Talk About It

- Is it possible that you need to change the way you live in order to follow God’s plan? If so, what would that look like in your life?
- How will you be on mission with God this month?

Preparing Disciples

Daily Devotionals & Prayerful Resources:

Text versions:

Church of the Savior, Washington, DC - more social action oriented:

<http://www.inwardoutward.org/>

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>

Audio, Video, & other Resources:

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=u0%3D2>

Ministry of the Brothers of The Society of Saint John the Evangelist (many other resources):

<http://www.ssje.org/word>



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

MARCH 2013 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DATE	SERVICE TIME	ACOLYTE	LAY MINISTER	LECTOR	READINGS	USHER	GREETER	CHILD CARE
March 3, 2013	8:00 AM	K. Bell	S. Callahan	S. MacKenzie	Exodus 3:1-15 1 Corinthians 10:1-13	B. Kuhar E. Pasenelli	A. Fredericks	
3rd Sunday in Lent	10:00 AM	M. Gendreau R. Fraleigh	S. Winters B. Lewis	D. Smith J. Bryson	Exodus 3:1-15 1 Corinthians 10:1-13	K. Pegnataro D. Bryson	G. Burrows J. Shoop	W. Bibens
March 10, 2013	8:00 AM	L. Gustafson	D. Warren	D. Blanchet	Joshua 5:9-12 2 Corinthians 5:16-21	A. Fredericks D. Blanchet	S. Giambra	
4th Sunday in Lent	10:00 AM	E. Durazzo K. Carriero	J. Pinsince D. Green	P. Watson B. VanBrederode	Joshua 5:9-12 2 Corinthians 5:16-21	B. McDonald P. Smith	M. Saltzman S. Peck	W. Dixon
March 17, 2013	8:00 AM	H. Kropitis	F. Callahan	D. Warren	Isaiah 43:16-21 Philippians 3:4b-14	W. Christiansen E. Pasenelli	E. Luysterborghs	
5th Sunday in Lent	10:00 AM	D. Bibens W. Dixon	D. Smith C. Riker	C. Franz R. Eldridge	Isaiah 43:16-21 Philippians 3:4b-14	R. Durazzo K. Bell	C. Mahnken B. Bell	E. Durazzo
March 24, 2013	8:00 AM	D. Gendreau	S. Callahan	K. Gammage	Isaiah 50:4-9a Philippians 2:5-11	A. Fredericks D. Blanchet	A. Swanepoel	
Palm Sunday	10:00 AM	P. Bell W. Bibens	J. Carter S. Winters	L. Wonneberger R. Allsop	Isaiah 50:4-9a Philippians 2:5-11	J. Carter F. Hopkins	D. Smith G. Burrows	M. Gosset
March 28, 2013 Maundy Thursday	7:30 PM	E. Durazzo	B. Lewis C. Riker	L. Roti D. Smith	Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14 1 Corinthians 11:23-26	K. Bell D. Blanchet		
March 31, 2013	8:00 AM	C. Cunningharr H. Kropits L. Gustafson	D. Warren	S. Callahan	Acts 10:34-43 1 Corinthians 15:19-26	W. Christiansen B. Kuhar	A. Fredericks	
Easter Day	10:00 AM	K. Carriero D. Bibens G. Lucas S. Bell W. Dixon	J. Pinsince B. Lewis	D. Smith P. Watson	Acts 10:34-43 1 Corinthians 15:19-26	P. Smith R. Eldridge	J. Shoop C. Mahnken	C. Ritz

APRIL 2013 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DATE	SERVICE TIME	ACOLYTE	LAY MINISTER	LECTOR	READINGS	USHER	GREETER	CHILD CARE
April 7, 2013	8:00 AM	K. Bell	F. Callahan	S. Callahan	Acts 5:27-32 Revelation 1:4-8	E. Pasenelli D. Blanchet	S. Giambra	
2nd Sunday of Easter	10:00 AM	W. Bibens E. Durazzo	D. Green D. Smith	J. Bryson D. Bryson	Acts 5:27-32 Revelation 1:4-8	K. Pegnataro F. Hopkins	S. Peck J. Bryson	P. Bell
April 14, 2013	8:00 AM	H. Kropitis	S. Callahan	K. Gammage	Acts 9:1-6, (7-20) Revelation 5:11-14	B. Kuhar A. Fredericks	E. Luysterborghs	
3rd Sunday of Easter	10:00 AM	M. Gendreau J. Fraleigh	J. Carter C. Riker	P. Watson B. VanBrederode	Acts 9:1-6, (7-20) Revelation 5:11-14	J. Carter B. McDonald	M. Saltzman D. Smith	W. Bibens
April 21, 2013	8:00 AM	L. Gustafson	D. Warren	D. Blanchet	Acts 9:36-43 Revelation 7:9-17	P. Austin G. Bristol	A. Swanepoel	
4th Sunday of Easter	10:00 AM	R. Fraleigh P. Bell	S. Winters J. Pinsince	R. Eldridge R. Allsop	Acts 9:36-43 Revelation 7:9-17	P. Smith R. Durazzo	G. Burrows B. Bell	W. Dixon
April 28, 2013	8:00 AM	C. Cunningham	G. Bristol	D. Warren	Acts 11:1-18 Revelation 21:1-6	C. Bristol D. Emmons	C. Emmons	
5th Sunday of Easter	10:00 AM	D. Bibens K. Carriero	B. Lewis D. Smith	C. Franz L. Wonneberger	Acts 11:1-18 Revelation 21:1-6	K. Bell R. Eldridge	J. Shoop C. Mahnken	E. Durazzo

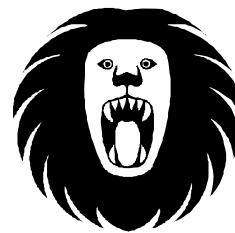






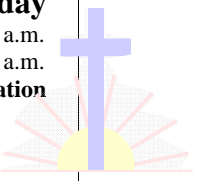
St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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e-mail: stpetersmilford@sbcglobal.net

March 2013



<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
3 Lent 3 Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Christian Form 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10 a.m.	4	5 Bible Study 7:00 am. Library Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m.—Parish Hall Executive Committee 7:00 p.m. Rector's Off	6 Holy Eucharist 12:00 p.m.—Chapel Bible Study-John 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Library	7 Morning Prayer 8 a.m Chapel Jr Youth 5—6:30 p.m. Sr Youth 6—8:00 p.m. Alpha Program/Dinner 6:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m.	1 8	2 9
10 Lent 4 Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Christian Form 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. Happy St. Patricks Day	11	12 Bible Study 7:00 am. Library Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m.—Parish Hall	13 Holy Eucharist 12:00 p.m.—Chapel Bible Study-John 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Library	14 Morning Prayer 8 a.m Chapel Outreach Dinner 5:00 -7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m.	15	16
17 Lent 5 Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Christian Form 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10 a.m.	18	19 Bible Study 7:00 am. Library Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m.—Parish Hall Vestry Meeting 7:00 p.m. Rector's Off	20 Holy Eucharist 12:00 p.m.—Chapel Bible Study-John 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m. Library	21 Morning Prayer 8 a.m Chapel Jr Youth 5—6:30 p.m. Sr Youth 6—8:00 p.m. Alpha Program/Dinner 6:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.—9:00 p.m.	22 	23
24 Palm Sunday Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Christian Form 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10 a.m.	25 	26 Bible Study 7:00 am. Library Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m.—Parish Hall Prayer Shawl 7:00 p.m. Library	27 Holy Eucharist 12:00 p.m.—Chapel	28 Maundy Thursday Morning Prayer 8 a.m Chapel Maundy Thursday Service 7:30 p.m. 	29 Good Friday Way of the Cross Noon Good Friday Service 7:30 p.m.	30 
31 Easter Sunday Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. No Christian Formation						Evening Prayer Monday—Thursday 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel