

THE ROCK

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Est. 1954

Summer 2011

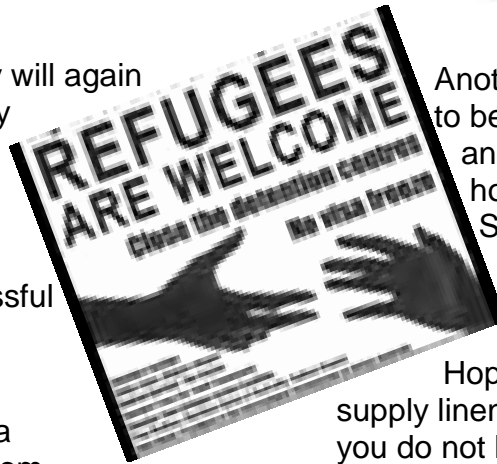
Renewed Refugee Project

This October, the Eastern Deanery will again gear up to sponsor a refugee family through Journey's End Refugee Services. The last one we carried out (and our second overall) was a little over a year ago, and by all measurements, has been a successful one. We call it the Friendship Partnership.

This time around, I am requesting a greater involvement/participation from St. Peter's parishioners, to blend with the efforts of parishioners from other churches in our deanery.

The areas required to sponsor a family are as follows:

1. Greet the family at the airport, present them with a few welcoming gifts, and accompany them to their new apartment home.
2. Help prepare their apartment prior to the arrival. This would include cleaning, moving furniture and household items, light repairs, decorating, and stocking the kitchen.
3. Prepare and deliver a culturally appropriate "welcoming meal" the day after arrival.
4. Help the family acclimate themselves to American life in the first few months after arrival. This could range from simply driving them to doctor or social services appointments, to setting up and running an in-house tutoring program. In other words- helping them meet their initial needs.



Another critical need for the project to be a success is the accumulation and transportation of furniture and household items prior to moving. St. Patrick's has offered their garage area in the past, and hopefully it will be available again. Our own Threads of Hope Linen Pantry will once again supply linens, towels, and other items. If you do not have any items to donate in the near future, you may still contribute by passing the call along to neighbors or relatives.

Once again, we will ask each participating parish to hold a FREE WILL OFFERING in conjunction with this latest version of the Friendship Partnership, that will build up our on-going account to buy food, pay the first month's rent, and buy needed winter clothing.

I will post a "needs list" in the early Fall for the collectable items needed, but I wanted to get your minds going to start thinking now about our newest joint venture. Please look closely at our needs and determine where and how you could be of assistance. We could especially use more help with moving items this time (some of us are getting older!).



God's peace and blessings be with you all.

Deacon Tom Tripp



My Thoughts

I am aware that a large % of the parish may read these Thoughts each month and not know who the author is. Likewise I have not met many of you. I am an 8 o'clock person for many reasons and have been so for much of my life. Firstly, I am a very morning person, bring it on in the morning so I can get on with my day. Secondly I hate to sing, cannot sing, have no singing voice, and well, I do not like hymns. As a kid with my family at St. Paul's Cathedral I could not stand the long whole notes and half notes of our music. (Actually I am mincing my words here very much!)

OK I'm an adult now and feel much the same for the most part. An 8:00 service suits me just fine. Recently a gym friend asked me to sub her 8:30 Sunday Spin class at an all woman club. Like I could say no?. That day John Frantz and I opened the church. I got the votive rack set up, emptied the dehumidifiers in the Under-croft and left before service to teach my class.

After class I returned home, showered and came back to church for the 10 o'clock service just after the sermon.

I have not been to the later service for at least a year & a half or more. Well, I walked into St Peter's on Pentecost Sunday, into a parish of red, signing up front for our friends from Ephphatha, and a whole lot of soul was happening. What I was blown away by was the number of children, our growth and future I saw. Did I know we had that many kids? No, never. This parish is on the move upwards for sure as younger people have come into our fold and friendship. I really wanted to take a picture of what I saw, but Bishop Scaife a long time ago forbid pictures of a service and I respect that to this day. It was such a sight!

Then the kids processed down the aisle and Sheila hit the piano and a drummer kicked in as the kids added percussion, Awesome! Really, so much red, so many adults and children happy in the experience of Christ among us. We became one in family and in the Lord as we each held a paper ribbon.



After Communion and Blessing, the service ended, but not like 8:00. Screen up front came alive, fed from a lap top with the words for the recessional hymn, and...my foot started to tap on beat. Find the beat, I say in Spin class, establish cadence, and I did in church. The guy who dislikes Episcopal music was tapping his feet..I am so humbled...Thank you to Pastor Barbara, vestry and parish leadership for bringing such a huge change to St. Peter's and for making that change happen. I could not have accomplished that when I was Warden. I might have to sub more Spin classes just so I can attend the later service more often!

Most importantly is, any visitors will see what I saw only more so. St. Peter's is a very welcoming parish, on the MOVE!

Paul Schwartzmyer



University Food Pantry

There is a basket in the back of the church that should be filled with food for



the University Food Pantry. There must be at least a thousand children in our area this summer that will miss the free breakfast and free lunch they were served in school. Both blue collar and white collar jobs are disappearing and with it goes the ability to properly feed a family. Can you help?

The bible tells us to feed the hungry. What are you doing? A simple non-perishable food item brought to church each week and placed in the wicker basket along with items from other members of the parish will provide meals for our less fortunate neighbors.

Here are some suggested items to be donated: peanut butter, jelly, pasta, spaghetti sauce, boxes of macaroni and cheese, cereal, rice, Dinty Moore Stew, ravioli, beans, soups (chicken noodle, tomato, chicken with rice), corn beef hash.

Teach your children to give to others. Have them pick out an item at the store or from your cupboard each week. Let them know they are feeding kids their age and how blessed they are to have food on the table every day.

Blessing of the Animals

On Pentecost Sunday, June 12th, 2011, the Church of the Ascension (Episcopal) launched their first late-afternoon worship service. Because it was the weekend of the Allentown Art Festival, they had some activities available ahead of the 4:30 pm service for passersby. There were healing and blessing stations available for all God's creatures, including humans. The Church of the Ascension will be opening a Pet Food Pantry for those in need of supportive help for their pets, and so it was especially important to offer pet blessings. A few dogs on leashes accompanying their owners to the Art Festival stopped by for a few prayers.



Mid-way through the afternoon, we heard the sound of clapping hooves and looked up to see three deputies from the Erie County Sheriff's Department mounted division coming down Franklin Avenue toward the Church. We crossed the street and asked if they'd allow us to bless their horses. Deacons Pete Cornell and Kim Greene, and The Rev. Cathy Dempsey (all off-camera) made their way toward the horses. The Rev. Barbara Price was there that day to help kick-off the event, and she was privileged to bless a very tall buckskin horse named Shiloh. As you can see from the photos, Shiloh – without any prompting – bowed his head while he was being blessed. Thanks be to God for all creatures great and small, and for the blessing of the Holy Spirit upon us all.

If we want to have coffee hour during the summer months, we need some volunteers to supply healthy food and take care of the trash.

Dates that need coverage are: **7/10, 7/24, 8/7, and 8/21**. A list of parishioners who signed up to help is posted on the schedule in the undercroft, along with a list of "trash locations". The schedule is located next to the kitchen opening.

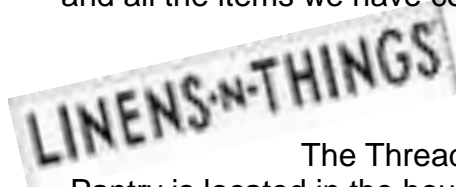
Thank you in advance for your help.

Richard Arquette and Deacon Tom

Blessing of the Backpacks

During the summer we will be collecting school supplies and backpacks for the children of refugees at Journey's End attend various Buffalo schools. During July and August stores will be having sales on school supplies. When purchasing supplies for your children or your grandchildren, get an extra couple of items and place them in the box in the narthex.

We will be observing "Backpack Sunday" on August 28th at our parish picnic. The Sunday School children will be asked to bring in their backpacks and Pastor Barbara will bless them and all the items we have collected.



The Threads of Hope Linen Pantry is located in the house behind the church. That building was the original church before the current church was built.

Inside the house are racks filled with sheets, blankets, quilts, towels, small appliances, pans, glassware, mugs, etc. In the basement there are racks of dishes to make up as sets. On the second floor there are bins of clothes for children in various sizes and seasons.

The Linen Pantry is only open for 2 hours, four days a month. During working hours, donations are examined before they are put on racks. Items are also pulled and put together for the various clients that need them. Donations may be coming in the back door and clients are taking what they need to help furnish an apartment out the front door. We provide items to agencies as well as to individual clients of the various agencies. So, you can see why **we need more volunteers** to assist us. If interested, you can be scheduled as little or as much as you would like. Working at the Linen Pantry is a very rewarding experience. Our clients are so pleased with the quality and the amount of items we give them for **free**. You feel good when they walk out with a smile on their face.



Another Way of Looking at ...

Altar Guild.



The following is a quote from a Diocesan Altar Guild mailing.

"Have you ever thought about **your** altar guild as being a tool for evangelism? Well, I hadn't either until our new Bishop, Bill Franklin mentioned it."

"Bishop Franklin believes that our identity as Episcopalians is closely aligned with our beautiful liturgies. Who we are and what we believe is manifested through the work of an altar guild, positioning us as evangelists! The way we prepare the altar, the way we take care of our linens, the way we shine our silver show that the work we do reveals our love of God in real and concrete ways. ... Let's make known and affirm, our Episcopal heritage and the magnificence of our liturgies with the congregations of today and of the future. "

If this is important to you, the Altar Guild at St Peter's would like to have you as a member. This is behind-the-scenes but never-the-less, necessary work. On the job training will be provided and would involve about one Sunday per month.

Contact *Karen Miller* if interested.

Getting To Know You



Meet Gayle--- We've all seen her in Church since January, but the fact is, Gayle is not new to St Peter's. She was baptized and confirmed here. She is one of Elaine Miller's daughters. Lucky for us she has returned.

Gayle comes from a very close loving family and adores her sisters. She works in a dental office and has a 22 year old daughter.

She enjoys walking her Yorker, gardening, cooking, going camping, reading and doing jigsaw puzzles. She is very interested in group activities and is looking forward to making new friends to extend her family.

Gayle is part of our Dreams and Spirituality group. Her words of advice are "Every day is an opportunity to live, laugh and love." But above all remember, "Don't nuke gummy bears".

If you haven't introduced yourself to her yet, please do so. You are in for a treat.

Your Roving Reporter,

Becky Peiffer





SUMMER TO DO LIST



Exciting UPCOMING EVENTS

Many thanks to all who helped achieve the short-term goals set forth for May and June

Here's a list for the summer –

1. Complete the renovation project:
 - Over the summer we will: refinish the pews; refinish the tile flooring under the pews; paint the walls in the nave and narthex; and install new carpeting
 - When the construction work is completed, we'll add our kneelers (thank you to Carolyn Bongi for her hard work and faithfulness on this difficult project).
2. Continue cleaning the closets and shelves throughout the church, including the ambulatory.
3. Get the cove molding and undercroft 'moisture' issues repaired, replaced, and resolved.
4. Continue weeding the outside, especially, in the week prior to the Lawn Sale.
5. Have an "all hands on deck" turn-out and support for the Annual Lawn Sale on August 6th. There will be pony rides and other kid-friendly activities. Stay tuned for more details. The hours are 9 am to 2 pm, with set-up on Friday, August 5th. **Contact Kristie Payne at 835-9715 to volunteer.**
6. Clean and remove any broken toys in the nursery.
7. If YOU see a project that needs doing, suggest it to Pastor Barbara for the September's "to-do" list.



Saturday, August 6th

Our Annual Lawn Sale takes place this day from 9 am to 2 pm, rain or shine. We've already lined up the pony rides!!!! You can come, eat, buy, and ride – or rent a table to sell your own 'stuff.' The Visiting Nurses' van – "Mission on the Move" – will be on-site to do cholesterol screening and blood glucose screening. We will also have a UNYTS Bloodmobile present for blood donations. We are trying to line up a demonstration by the mounted division of the Sheriff's Department. ***Needed: bakers to donate to the bake sale; people to help with set-up Friday, August 5th in the evening or early Saturday morning; people to help with take-down at 2 pm; etc.*** Contact Kristie Payne at 835-9715 for further details and/or to volunteer. If you can't help in a particular way, just come and support the effort. We hope this is an 'all hands on deck' event. Proceeds contribute to youth camps and pilgrimages, Linen Pantry and our renovation project(s).

Sunday, August 7th

The Churches of the Eastern Erie Deanery are joining together for a picnic at Stiglmeier Park in Cheektowaga. This is a pot-luck picnic: bring a dish to pass, your own beverage, and table service. We will have games for kids, music, and line dancing. We start at 12 noon. We will work out car-pooling from St. Peter's or you can take your own car.

**Friday and Saturday,
August 26th and 27th**

Our Annual Parish Retreat at Christ the King Seminary takes place this Friday and Saturday overnight. It is an 'adult's only' spiritual retreat. The theme this year will be "Releasing our Hearts from Guilt: Embracing New Freedom in Christ."

Sunday, August 28th

This is our parish picnic after the 10 am service, at St. Peter's. Bring your beverages, a dish to pass, and your own table service. We'll provide the hot dogs and hamburgers. There will be children's games. We will also do a "blessing of the backpacks" for our children who will soon be returning to school and for the school supplies collected and the children receiving them at Journey's End

Sunday, September 11th

St. Peter's will host an Eggertsville/Snyder Church Association Memorial Service for Peace and Remembrance at 4 pm on this day, the 10th anniversary of 9/11. A reception will follow.



thank you to.....

Sue Gunn and all who dined at Applebee's in May. We earned \$115.57 towards the J2A trip to Washington, DC

All who did weeding in the front flower beds.

John Lopat for the train and highway set and **Maria Sanchez-Clarke** for the new kitchen sets in the Nursery.

All the Sunday School teachers who donated their time and talent for our children.

Sarah Peden for her dedication in caring for our younger children.

Alison Mohr for expertise as Superintendent of the Sunday School.

Pastor Barbara, Sarah Hardy and Sheila Schaschack for the beautiful Offertory hymn and **Steve Hardy** the projectionist during the recessional hymn last Sunday.

John Lopat for fixing the back step at the Mission House.

Carma Miccoli and Ed Hill for meeting with all the contractors

Treasurers Report

As of June 30 2011

Operating Account

RECEIPTS YTD	Actual
Plate & Pledge	38,582.44
Liturgical & Outreach & Special	4,076.02
Memorials	675.00
Other	10,078.94
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$53,412.40
DISBURSEMENTS YTD	Actual
Building & Grounds	\$3,078.86
Clergy	24,326.16
Memorial Expense	402.75
Operations	7,345.96
Outreach	7,109.00
Personnel/Payroll tax/ & Service	4,371.74
Utilities	4,447.83
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$51,082.30
St Peter's Account Balances 6/30/11	
First Niagara - Checking	\$45.17
Capital Funds YTD	\$11,031.11
Money Market - Savings	\$20,593.80
Interest & Deposit	\$897.37
Withdraw	-\$1,592.60
Total 6/30/11	\$19,898.57

300.42	Continuing Ed.
1,210.17	Meath Memorial
251.05	Walgate Memorial
3,470.00	Sitek Memorial
59.15	Wellness Ministry
11,608.49	Renovation/Capital Funds
356.00	Summer Camp
151.47	Parish Nurse
301.50	Music Fund
1,585.32	Memorial Garden
115.60	Order St. Luke
11.00	UTO
36.00	Theo .Ed.
442.40	Insurance



Money Market - Checking	6/30/11	\$235.46
Lillian Shandraw Ed. Fund	6/30/11	\$501.50
J2A Pilgrimage Fund	6/30/11	\$626.85
Mission & Ministry	6/30/11	\$416.35
Columbarium Fund	6/30/11	\$3,527.10
Morningstar Ministries	6/01/11	\$2,035.44

* \$10,000 borrowed from Diocese.
June--paid interest only on loan

Merrie Hill





Prayers of the People

Long Term list:

Kelly, Leigh, Sarah and family, Darlene, Jim, Dianne and Olin, Jim & Mary M, Ulyssa, Norman, Eric, Donnalyn, Adel, Bill B, Douglas, Lauren, Brandon G, Jean Z, Bea, Wilma, Harlan, Stanley B, Steve and family, Marty, Kevin R, Nancy, RJ, Roy and Ellie, Karen, Patty K, Mary, Father Joe & family, Megan, John W, Amanda, Phillip, Alyssa, Barb & Frank, Shirley, Dorothy, Wesley C., Warren, Jim R, Art, Jacque D, Kimberly D, Anna, Wanda, Patrick W, Josh, Kay, Richard, Debbie, Paul R and Reidun, Talisa, Rev. Phil, Fr. John Russell, Chelsea and family, Nicole, Joshua, Edwin M., Darlene S, Fr. Peter, Betty J

Short Term list:

Theresa M, Jan, Joan, Mary Lou C., Tim, Ron B, Bill M, Tom H., Mark B, Kirk, Dave F., Ruth, Missi, Steve H, Teresa, Lynda H., Michael, Robert C., Ruth R, Rich, Donvan, Bob and family, Adam, Deena and Dave, Joshua, Addie M., Dan, Joel, Tom T, Andrew, Mark, Joy, Elena, Bob R, Bill H, Olive, Betty J, Danielle, Dan, Larry, Janet G, Lincoln, Mike T, Ginny, Ann & Scott L., Rita H, Rev. Stephen Smith, Sue G, Richard H, Chris, Gloria S, Lance S, Tammy D, Areti, Mrs. D, Chris, Ruth D, Joanne H, Samatha, Suzanne H, Al and Jason

Servicemen:

William, Jessie, Jack, AJ, Greg, Ray G, Christopher, John, Dustin, Nathaniel, Vinnie D, Gene S, Fred C, Ricky, James, Michael V., Ken S.

The following names will be removed July 10th if not updated.

From the long term list: Kelly, Darlene, Donnalyn, Bill B, Douglas, Lauren, Brandon G, Jean Z, Bea, Wilma, Harlan, Stanley B, Steve and family, Marty, Kevin R, Karen, Patty K, Mary, Father Joe & family, Amanda, Phillip, Alyssa, Barb & Frank, Shirley, Dorothy, Wesley C., Warren.

From the short term list: Theresa M, Jan, Joan, Mary Lou C., Tim, Ron B, Fr. John Russell, Bill M, Tom H., Chelsea and family, Mark B, Nicole, Kirk, Dave F., Ruth, Missi, Steve H, Teresa, Darlene S, Lynda H., Michael, Robert C., Ruth R, & Rich.

Thank you and God Bless

Sue Gunn

Book Corner

The Episcopal Handbook

The essential field guide for all things Episcopal.

Copyright 2008 Church Publishing Inc.
Morehouse Publishing

This is a fact filled book of everything you wanted to know about the Episcopal Church. Things like "Why is that Empty Chair Next to the Altar?" or "telling the Season of the Year by the Color of the Altar". It is a quick read and even us old Episcopalians will find facts about our church that we did not know.



A Brief History of the Episcopal Church

David L. Holmes

Published by Trinity Press International

This is concise history of the Episcopal Church from the Anglican Reformation to the Episcopal Church in the Twentieth Century. I found this a very enlightening book that takes one on the journey of the growth of The Episcopal Church. It was like sitting around the campfire listening to stories of your family History. You will not believe all we went through to get to where we are today and who we are today. I especially found the Appendix: Henry VIII's Quest for an Annulment most interesting for it gave a depth to that period of time that I never realized was part of keeping a monarchy viable. If you like history and want to know more about your Church then this is a good read. Only 200 pages long will make it a good summer read.

Damon Piatov



Happy Birthday!

- 7/06 Alfred Price
- 7/08 Sharon Taube
- 7/10 Anne Matthews
- 7/12 Cheyenne Mohr
- 7/14 Shawn Mohr
- 7/14 Nicolas Reed
- 7/18 Frances McElhinny
- 7/19 Emmalina Baumgartner
- 7/20 Joy Hardy
- 7/22 Yvonne Secord
- 7/25 Maria Sanchez-Clarke
- 7/26 Alison Mohr
- 7/28 Rex Koeppen
- 7/28 Aaron Taube
- 7/31 Becky Peiffer

- 8/01 Allie Fiutak
- 8/01 Emily Fiutak
- 8/02 Shirley Stick
- 8/03 Wendy Palmer
- 8/06 Benjamin Hemmer
- 8/07 Nicole Burroughs
- 8/10 Deepu George
- 8/10 Katia Sanchez-Kron
- 8/10 Briar Serafin
- 8/15 Sarah Hardy
- 8/16 Maya Hill
- 8/18 Pastor Barbara Price
- 8/19 Richard Arquette
- 8/21 Lee McElhinny
- 8/22 Iain Gunn
- 8/24 Jeanne Culver
- 8/25 Elaine Miller
- 8/26 Rachel Reed
- 8/28 Bradley Taube
- 8/29 Lauren Nagel
- 8/31 Rita Hamilton

Happy Anniversary



To You Both

- 7/05 M. & Mrs Daniel Graesser
- 7/11 Mr & Mrs. Gregg Palmer
- 7/12 Mr & Mrs. Jeffrey Tripp
- 7/13 Mr & Mrs. Eric Fiutak
- 7/30 Mr & Mrs Gary Donhauser
- 7/31 Mr & Mrs Steven Paradise

- 8/05 Mr & Mrs Richard Guarino
- 8/09 Mr & Mrs Nicholas Reed
- 8/19 Mr & Mrs Ronald Bongi
- 8/21 Mr & Mrs James Gunn
- 8/26 Mr & Mrs Keith Barry

Don't Forget!

Keep Your Pledge Up to Date

Please remember to keep your church pledge current. The expenses of the church continue while you are on vacation. It is also hard to play catch-up after a vacation.



Fifth Grade Assignment



Wouldn't this be great if it was taught in every school? A fifth grade teacher in a Christian school asked her class to look at TV commercials and see if they could use them in 20 ways to communicate ideas about God. Here are some of the results:

God is like.

BAYER ASPIRIN

He works miracles.

God is like.

A FORD

He's got a better idea..

God is like.

COKE

He's the real thing.

God is like.

HALLMARK CARDS

He cares enough to send His very best.

God is like.

TIDE

He gets the stains out others leave behind. ..

God is like.

GENERAL ELECTRIC

He brings good things to life.

God is like.

WAL-MART

He has everything.

God is like.

ALKA-SELTZER

Try Him, you'll like Him

God is like.

SCOTCH TAPE

You can't see Him, but you know He's there.

God is like.

DELTA

He's ready when you are.

God is like.

ALLSTATE

You're in good hands with Him.

God is like.

VO-5 Hair Spray; *He holds through all kinds of weather*

God is like.

DIAL SOAP

Aren't you glad you have Him? Don't you wish everybody did?

God is like.

The U.S. POST OFFICE

Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet nor ice will keep Him from His appointed destination.

God is like.

Chevrolet

the heartbeat of America

God is like

Maxwell House

Good to the very last drop

God is like.

Bounty

He is the quicker picker upper . Can handle the tough jobs. ..

And He won't fall apart on you



Submitted by Phil Gardner