

The Beacon

*In thy light shall we see light.
Psalm 36:9*

June 2021

Rest for Your Soul

by the Rev. Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt

New England, at least my part of it, was not air-conditioned when I was a child, so I was in my thirties when I first lived and worshipped in spaces cooled to a reasonable temperature during the summer. My marvelous summer memories reflect this reality: sitting on the grass with my father and eating all the chilled melon from the refrigerator, lying on the screen porch in shorts and a t-shirt, reading books by Beverly Cleary, and one especially hot day when my mother managed to take popsicles to Crane Beach.

As a parent I treat summer as a unit of time. When my children were small, we had the “summer of no technology” or the “summer of fun” or the “family book club summer,” with varying degrees of success. I always wanted to have some sort of theme to be sure we would eke every bit of goodness out of this enchanting season. It was sort of a way of making a leisurely time of year productive. For me this was essential to its enjoyment. I am a person who likes to have a goal for her vacations.

And so I read with interest a recent email letter from the bishop with “Getting Rest” as the subject line and a familiar verse from Matthew (11:29) as an epigraph, “Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” In his letter Bishop Gutiérrez directs parish leadership to take steps necessary to ensure that church staff and clergy take significant time off this summer. Acknowledging that adjustments might need to be made, he details the ways the diocese can provide resources as needed. The letter is long and the point clear: “While our call to ministry means we must be willing to give of our lives and to go above and beyond in service to the Gospel and our churches, the pace of the last fourteen months is not sustainable. If they do not rest, they will suffer, both personally and in the performance of their duties.”

Everyone is tired. I hear it and see it all the time. It is commonly understood that it will take years to assess the depth of the impact the pandemic has had on people. Some have the luxury of being able to rest, others do not. At St. Peter’s our summer offerings will be meaningful, but not hectic. June 6 will be Youth Sunday. Please mark your calendars and plan to support our remarkable young people as they lead all aspects of worship at the 10 a.m. service. On June 13 we will bid Godspeed to Susan House, our incredible parish administrator, through prayer and a celebration following the service. The Chester County health department will be on campus on June 14 to offer vaccinations to anyone eighteen and over. On June 17, there will be a simple labyrinth event, near the summer solstice. We will provide meals in Coatesville and Phoenixville as usual and engage in other outreach ministries. Morning Prayer and Bible study will continue, along with Atwater walks, prayer group, and other regular offerings. You can read more about all of this in the pages that follow.

In response to the bishop’s letter and with the support of the wardens, I am encouraging rest for our staff and clergy—not a lot more than usual, but *intentional* time. Ministry will continue beautifully, and the program year will start strong in September, with souls rested and refreshed. Thank you for all that you do. It is a privilege to serve at St. Peter’s Church in the Great Valley.

“AVE ATQUE VALE,” RACHEL AND SUSAN

Welcome, Rachel Swartz

Please welcome our new parish administrator, Rachel Swartz, who begins her ministry with us on June 1, having recently served as administrator and development director at the Pennsylvania Gestalt Center. Her administrative skills are well matched for our position and her cheerful disposition will, I expect, will fit right in at St. Peter’s.

She is looking forward to her new position and observes, “I bring thirty-plus years of experience in development and communications, education, and administration, and feel honored to channel my gifts into an organization whose mission I can completely champion and support.” On a personal note, she adds, “In my daily life, I am mindful of living as sustainably as I can. Gardening in the summer and preserving for the winter give me much pleasure, as does sharing the bounty with friends and those who do not have.”

Please take a moment to stop by the office to greet her, or to send a note of welcome. And please remember to tell her your name so that she can begin to get to know the wonderful people of this parish.

Farewell, Susan House

It is time to bid farewell to our longtime parish administrator, Susan House, who is retiring this month. While we hope to see her around campus from time to time for a visit, we must wish her Godspeed for now. Please help by joining us on **Sunday, June 13**, when we will send her off with prayer during the 10 a.m. service and then say our farewells at a festive reception after the service.

To assist with our planning, please let us know that you are coming, either by using the link provided in Keynotes or by contacting Abigail directly (610-644-2261 or abigail@stpetersgv.org). As always, should your plans change at the last minute, just come join us anyway to celebrate the quarter of a century that Susan has so faithfully and lovingly spent with us!

Youth Sunday, **June 6**, is the day when the youth of the parish will preach at 8 a.m., and will lead Morning Prayer at 10 a.m., preaching, reading, and intercessing. We encourage you to be there, either in person or virtually, to support the young leaders of the Church.



Solstice Compline at the Labyrinth

In anticipation of the summer solstice, we will gather near the labyrinth at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, **June 17**, for a simple, brief service of compline. Those who wish may remain to walk the labyrinth or visit with each other as the sun sets. To sign up, please use the link provided in Keynotes or contact Abigail (610-644-2261 or abigail@stpetersgv.org). As usual, if your plans change at the last minute, please just come and join us!



The Beacon
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The Beacon is produced monthly by St. Peter’s Church in the Great Valley
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Staff: Trudi Graves (editor), Charlotte Mark, David Graves

Chester County Vaccine Clinic at St. Peter's

Between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Monday, **June 14**, Chester County will hold a drop-in vaccine clinic on our campus for anyone eighteen and older. No appointment is necessary—simply come when it is convenient for you. To help us gauge interest in this opportunity among our parishioners and friends, please use the link provided in Keynotes or contact Abigail (610-644-2261 or abigail@stpetersgv.org) to let her know if you or friends of yours are interested in being vaccinated that day.

Also, we need five volunteers to assist with tasks like setting up chairs, welcoming, receiving paperwork, and offering directions. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Abigail. Thank you!

Gathering of Women

In May, when we met face to face for the first time in over a year, we decided that our next gathering would be at our beautiful labyrinth in June, when the weather should be more pleasant for meeting outdoors than it was in May. All women of the parish are heartily invited to join us by the labyrinth at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, **June 9**. We plan to walk the labyrinth, talk about its history, and share our stories about it as well.

Since communal sharing of food will still be restricted, please bring your own snack and beverage—as well as a chair. If the weather interferes with our plan, we will gather on the patio on the lower level of the barn. If you have questions, contact Lynn Mander (lsmander@gmail.com).

Lemonade on the Lawn and Coffee Return this Month

On **June 6**, old fellowship favorites, the coffee urn at the 8 a.m. service and “lemonade on the lawn” hosted by the vestry after the 10 a.m. service, will resume. We will make every effort to enjoy refreshments outdoors.

As we return to such fellowship after more than a year, please remember always to greet first someone whom you do not recognize or with whom you have never spoken, before seeking out folks more familiar to you. We look forward to visiting in this way again!

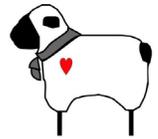
Also, please note that beginning **June 27**, the 10 a.m. service moves from the barn to its usual summer location, the historic church.

Comfort and Comforting Food

Often the simplest gestures bring us comfort—caring words from a friend, a thoughtful card sent by snail mail or email, comfort food delivered to our doorstep. These are tangible actions that can comfort us and also enable us comfort others. Receiving a casserole gives respite from preparing a dinner; a pot of soup provides easy warmth and nourishment; a pie or cake puts a smile on a troubled face. Such simple gestures say we care.

During the past year Covid restrictions have limited our ability to deliver such comforting food. We are thankful that these restrictions have been set aside, enabling us to resume this form of pastoral care. A team of parishioners prepares and delivers the food, and most of the recipients are parishioners. Requests for such comfort are infrequent, but delivering the food is always heartwarming. Would you like to get involved with this team, which the pastoral care commission coordinates, when a need arises? If so, contact Holly Hardester (hahardester@gmail.com or 484-319-6323).

If, or when, you or a loved one would appreciate the comfort of a food delivery, feel free to contact Abigail (abigail@stpetersgv.org), Chris (chris@stpetergv.org), or Mary Ann Tatum (maryanntatum5@gmail.com).



Time for Some “Pomp and Circumstance”

Hats off to everyone who is graduating, or has graduated, from high school, college, and graduate school between August 2020 and this June. We congratulate them and wish them continued success in their future adventures.



- **Trey Phillips** (son of Laura Acton) graduated from Conestoga H. S. and will major in architecture at Temple’s Tyler School of Art and Architecture.
- **Emily Fabius** was awarded a B.A. in computer science and applied psychology by Boston College. She has signed on as a software engineer at Raytheon.
- **Lucy Sumner** (daughter of Sian Myshko) earned a B.S., *magna cum laude*, in economics at Penn’s Wharton School, where she concentrated in legal studies and business ethics.
- **Charlotte Tellefsen** received a B.A. in English from Duke U.
- **Alexander Weir** earned a degree in business administration from Northeastern University, where he majored in finance and minored in computer science and music performance.
- **Brendan Hickey** received a Ph.D. in educational psychology from Capella U. .
- **Luke Stasiunas** (son of Luci Russell and Clive Hammant) earned a Masters in Music (organ) at the U. of Oklahoma.

Proud grandmother **Pat Harvey** is celebrating three graduations this year: Chandler Harvey from St. John’s U., Campbell Harvey from Delaware County Christian School, and Cutter Harvey from Franklin County (VA) H.S.

Doing God’s Work

Beginning with this issue, each month *The Beacon* will spotlight one group of parishioners who carry out the mission of St. Peter’s through their service on our commissions, committees, and guilds. While some of these groups work unnoticed behind the scenes and some are more visible, all are working to enrich our experience of God at St. Peter’s and to fulfill our mission.

This feature will begin by putting the spotlight on our commissions, introducing the current members and providing a brief summary of the tasks they undertake on behalf of St. Peter’s. This month we are focusing on the finance commission, whose tireless watchfulness ensures the sound footing we need to carry out our mission.



Spotlight

on the

FINANCE COMMISSION

Members: Eric Lien (chair); Jack Belsinger, Joe Herbst, Larry Malcolm, Wilson Smith; Peter Kreek, Paige Infortuna (treasurers); Dave Lockner (vestry liaison/rector’s warden); Jan Himmelreich (stewardship liaison).

The finance commission drafts the annual parish budget, setting both goals for income and priorities for expenses; monitors the budget monthly; and makes recommendations to the vestry about financial matters, including non-recurring expenditures over \$1,000.

The End of Another Preschool Year

by Denise Nuttall

Greetings from the preschool, where we were glad to be able to hold a safe and socially distant graduation this year! The past few months have flown by, and we are now looking ahead to the 2021-22 school year and gearing up for our Lambs summer camp.

Our fall pre-Kindergarten class is full, but space is still available in our four-day and two-day programs. If you know of a child who might be interested in attending a play-based, nurturing preschool program next year, please contact Denise Nuttall for more information about our program.

There is still time to register for our day camp for our lambs and little lambs from June 7 through July 23, except during the week of July 4. The regular weekly five-day program runs from 9 to 11:45 a.m., and on Monday through Thursday we also offer a “lunch bunch” option that extends the day to 1 p.m. Each week of camp has a special theme:

June 7-11: Under the Sea

June 14-18: Down on The Farm

June 21-25: Bugs and Butterflies

June 28-July 2: Red, White & Blue

July 12-16: In the Jungle

July 19-23: Space Exploration

Also, we are looking for teachers and aides for the day camp, so please contact me if you (or someone you know) would like to help during summer camp.

To learn more about camp or about next year’s program, call or write me at (610-644-2261 or preschool@stpetersgv.org).



Heads Up: Come “Rummage” with Us in November

By popular demand, St. Peter’s is bringing back its rummage sale—but this year it will take place on Saturday, November 13, before snow starts to blanket the roadways. The sale will, as before, raise funds to support our preschool, and at the same time will provide outreach to the local community, to which we will publicize it widely.

To prepare for the revival of this perennial favorite, we invite you, as you do belated spring cleaning, declutter, or downsize this summer and fall, to please set aside items that you no longer want but that we can resell—for example, small pieces of furniture, workshop and gardening tools, antiques, and collectibles, toys, books, baby paraphernalia, and sundry household gadgets (but not clothing and shoes). Basically, we gladly accept *almost* anything, but there are several items that we simply *cannot* accept:

- items that can’t be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected (e.g., mattresses, bed pillows, stuffed animals)
- items that might have been damaged by impact (e.g., car seats, helmets)
- items that require costly, time-consuming certification for resale (e.g., cribs & cradles)
- items the EPA deems hazardous (CRT television and computer monitors, paint)
- items that other charities do not accept (e.g., VHS tapes, undergarments, exercise equipment like treadmills and weight sets).

As the sale date approaches, we will announce drop-off times, but at this point we need to ask you to hold on to your unwanted treasures until then. Thank you for helping us stage another, long-awaited preschool rummage sale by collecting and holding on to what you no longer want until later. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Mike Harman (michaelharman1956@comcast.net or 610-495-6439).

Planning for the Fall

It is time to plan for Sunday school in the coming year, so on Wednesday, **June 2**, Sunday school teachers, parents, and all who are involved in the important work will meet, via Zoom, at 7 p.m. to define the Sunday school program that begins in the fall. Please plan to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Chris (chris@stpetersgv.org)



Thank You, Holly

On June 6, we will formally thank Holly Hardester, who is stepping down as the head of children's formation. Her love for the children is evident to all who see her in action. Throughout the pandemic, she made sure families had materials with which to teach their children the story of God's love for all. She has been wise with her guidance and firm in her conviction that all children should be included as much as possible in the life of the church. Please be sure to thank her.

News from Two of Our Outreach Partners

Exciting News from St. James School

In 2013, St. Peter's started supporting a new Episcopal middle school in North Philadelphia; since then, St. Peter's has provided St. James School with time, talent, and financial gifts that have helped help it grow into a thriving community hub among some of Philadelphia's lowest-income families. And as we learned at adult forum on May 16, St. James has exciting news about its future: Head of School Dave Kasievich and Chaplain Andrew Kellner announced that the school received a million-dollar challenge grant to help it succeed in building an addition to enlarge and enrich the existing facility. The addition will provide "brick and mortar" benefits like a larger entrance and spacious lobby, a floor wholly dedicated to supporting its graduates, the additional space needed to add third grade to the school, and at long last full accessibility. Academically, the addition will ensure that the school has a dedicated space for art, music, and religious studies, and space to offer adult education—as well as a kitchen large enough to accommodate its growing food program.

If you would like to make a gift towards the addition and have it doubled by the grant, please send your pledge by **June 3**. If you would like more information, please visit stjamesphila.org/event/10th-anniversary-benefit/.

CCC Summer Camp 2021

One hundred twenty amazing eight- to eighteen-year-olds will enjoy five weeks of Chester Childrens Chorus camp on the Swarthmore College campus beginning in mid-June. The program includes a variety of activities: music instruction, piano and voice lessons, hands-on math sessions, science, African dance, visual arts, coding, fitness, as well as play time and weekly field trips. To conform to CDC guidelines, outdoor activities will take place under large tents equipped with pedestal fans, and indoor activities in the largest, best ventilated rooms on campus; everyone will have to wear a face mask and practice social distancing, and all adult leaders will have been vaccinated.

All of us at CCC are grateful to the members of St. Peter's for their years of steadfast support. Your thoughtful, generous gifts enable us to provide our Chester children with programs like this. *Thank you!* If you wish to be added to our mailing list to follow the children's summer adventure, please contact Carolyn Marzo (610-328-8617 or ckohn1@swarthmore.edu).



Summer Meetings

Beginning **June 13**, the youth group will meet every other week during the summer. Because the past year has been stressful, our biweekly meetings will focus primarily on fun, although we are looking into ways of serving local communities as well.

On **Saturday evening, June 26**, our outdoor summer movie nights in the rector's grove resume, starting at 9 p.m. The plan is to move through the Marvel Universe series. And this year we won't have to deal with last summer's poor sound quality, thanks to St. Peter's **huge** new speakers!

Diocesan Youth Jam, July 10

Mark your calendars now for the first ever diocesan Youth Jamboree from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, **July 10**, which the diocese asked us to host (at its expense) and which the bishop will attend. Some of the fun activities already being planned for the day are a DJ, "slip and slide," an inflatable obstacle course (or perhaps mini golf), cornhole, wiffleball. To keep everyone's energy level up, there will be BBQ (with vegan options), a Kona ice truck, Philly pretzels, and more.

As the host church, we will need help with executing logistics like parking, traffic flow, and both set-up and clean-up. Being asked to host this event is an honor for St. Peter's, and we want to do it right. Chris will soon contact the youth group and their parents about helping but will be happy to hear from anyone about helping, including those not currently parenting an adolescent.

Dismantling Racism

There's still time to sign up for the two-day online diocesan *Dismantling Racism* program from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on **June 26 and July 17**. Other relevant dates are **June 6**, 1 p.m. (information), **June 17**, 7 to 8:15 p.m. (for parents/caregivers), and **September 11** (follow-up). We invite all young people 13 and older to take this profound training that is vital for our youth and our world. Contact Chris to find out how to sign up.

Pub Theology on Summer Break

Pub theology, like popcorn theology, is taking time off for the summer! We hope that by the time it resumes in the fall we will be able to come together "in the flesh" (and maybe in a pub too). But we may also schedule some virtual meetings to include those who can't participate in person. During the summer, though, please start thinking about theological topics that we may want to explore, engaging our curiosity.

Vacation Bible School

We plan to offer Vacation Bible School from August 16 through 20, so reserve that week now so your children can attend. Exactly what form VBS will take and exactly when during the day it will happen are still undecided, so watch for more information in Keynotes, future *Beacons*, and special emails.



One thing we know for sure, though, is that for VBS to happen we will need many hands! Not only does VBS serve the children of St. Peter's, but it is also an evangelism tool to reach children in the community who have not experienced the Good News of God in Christ! If you are interested in helping with this effort, please contact Chris (chris@stpetersgv.org).

16 Acres of Inviting Social Distancing

Much is happening at St. Peter's to get you out of the house and back to an active faith community that is much more than just a place to worship on Sunday morning. Our beautiful sixteen-acre property doesn't just happen; it takes a lot of work and dedication from parishioners, since we do all that work ourselves, without hiring landscapers, and we can use your help.

- Do you enjoy gardening? We offer ample opportunities to work with plants and get your hands dirty. The "Galatians garden" that our Atwater neighbors planted along the exit road last year invites you to help tend it (or just to relax on one of its Adirondack chairs and benches). Our magnolia, butterfly, and entrance gardens, as well as the newly planted Echo Lake walkway, also need tending, and this year's expanded preschool vegetable garden includes raised beds to tend and also a bench from which to watch the harvest grow.
- Have you ever planted a tree? You can learn the fine points of tree-planting from experienced fellow parishioners and help plant several new trees.
- Would you like to try your hand at making outdoor furniture? During the past year the shed became a "woodshop" where the BB&G4J turned discarded pallets into chairs, benches, and planters that they have placed around campus.
- If your bent is more muscular than crafty, you might enjoy using a log splitter to prepare cords of firewood to be sold to parishioners for next winter. (Funds from those sales help offset the expense of maintaining our property.)
- Would you like to take a thrilling "Short Ride in a Fast Machine"? If so, you can hop onto one of our four zero-turn mowers and help cut the grass each week. With a headset playing your favorite music (maybe even that John Adams piece), you can enjoy the beauty of our campus while maintaining our acreage.
- On a fitness note, do you go to a public park to walk, jog, or cycle? Last year, when parks were closed, people came to our beautiful, safe, and *open* property to exercise; this year neighbors and parishioners alike continue to walk, run, and ride bikes on our campus daily. Or do you simply enjoy sitting outdoors connecting with friends both old and new? If so, come relax in the shade around the firepit.

All this (and more) happens at St. Peter's both on weekdays and on weekends. To get involved just stop by the shed or send Dave Tatum an email (davetatum@aol.com).



- The vestry class of 2021—Don Cheetham, Doug Jones, Eileen Klein, and Charlotte Tellefsen—for their years of service, and outgoing youth representative Honor Nestlehutt;
- Jenny Disque, Trudi Graves, Shannon Mannon, Luci Russell, and the vestry class of 2021 for serving on the nominating committee for the vestry class of 2024;
- Commission chairs Helen Ockenden (stewardship), Steve Ockenden (communications), and Holly Hardester (children's formation), who stepped down this year;
- Jan Himmelreich for taking on the leadership of the stewardship commission;
- Marnie Melvin of Citizen Advocacy of Chester County for leading adult forum on May 9;
- The Rev. Andrew Kellner for preaching on May 16, and David Kasievich and Andrew for leading adult forum;
- Dave Lockner, Steve Mark, and Laurel Veitch for their work on the parish administrator discernment team;
- Paige Infortuna, Peter Kreek, and Susan House for setting up the new payroll system;
- Trudi Graves for her guidance regarding the rummage sale plans in November;
- The BB&G4J for keeping the grounds beautiful and creating benches and tables that encourage conversation outdoors;
- All the leaders of the food ministry;
- Shannon Almquist and Lynn Mander for organizing last month's first in-person gathering of women in over a year;
- The community of St. Peter's, the friendships we form here, and what we discover as a result.



June 5
Needlework ministry
10 a.m. (Zoom)

June 6
Youth Sunday
8 and 10 a.m.

June 9
Gathering of women
6 p.m. (labyrinth)

June 13
Celebration of Susan's
ministry with us
10 a.m., service
11 a.m., reception

June 14
Covid Vaccine Clinic
(if sufficient interest)
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (barn)

June 17
Solstice Compline
7:30 p.m. (labyrinth)

June 26
Youth movie night
9 p.m.

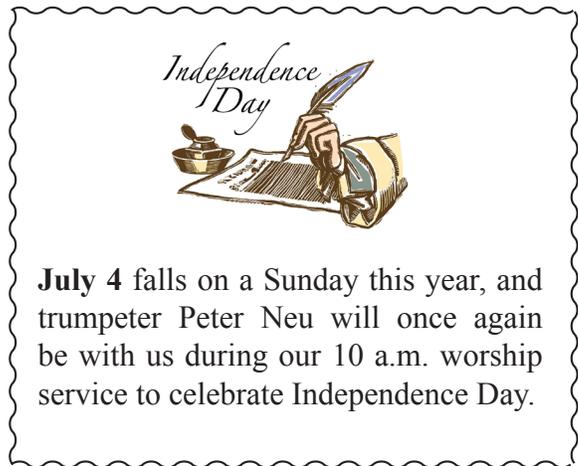
June 27
Summer services move
to the historic church
8 & 10 a.m.



Movies on the Lawn

In keeping with a “new July 4th tradition” born out of pandemic necessity last year, we will once again air *1776 The Musical*, on Saturday evening, **July 3** on the lawn, starting at 9 p.m.

The audio problems that plagued us last year are a thing of the past—St. Peter’s now has big speakers! So if you are in town, plan to come and bring the family! Please contact Chris (chris@stpetersgv.org) if you have questions.



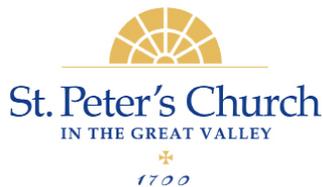
July 4 falls on a Sunday this year, and trumpeter Peter Neu will once again be with us during our 10 a.m. worship service to celebrate Independence Day.

April Financial Snapshot

	April 2021	Year to Date April	Year-end Projection	Budget 2021
Parishioner Contributions	\$ 28,238	\$261,096	\$594,653	\$555,000
Other Income*	30,374	33,484	137,103	123,150
Total Income	58,612	294,580	731,756	678,150
Total Expense	48,893	237,148	677,846	678,150
Surplus/ (Deficit)	9,719	57,432	53,910	0

**Includes interest, rentals, endowment distributions, fundraiser, PPL funds*

The financial statement for April is positive. The funds St. Peter’s received from the Payroll Protection Plan partially paid for staff salaries in April. We project a budget surplus at year’s end, which will help support operations in 2022. –Eric Lien for the finance commission



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The Rev. Abigail Crozier Nestlehutt, Rector
 The Rev. Christopher W. Exley, Assistant Rector
 Dr. Bruce Glenny, Organist/Choirmaster
 Susan House, Parish Administrator
 Denise Nuttall, Preschool Director
 Gail Malcolm, Event Coordinator
 Liam Reid, Weekend Facilities Manager

*Our Mission:
 by the power of the Holy Spirit,
 to nurture people of all ages in the
 knowledge and love of God in Jesus Christ,
 and to make Him known
 in the wider community*

The deadline for the
 July Beacon is
June 15.

Weekly Summer Offerings at St. Peter's

Sunday
 8 A.M. Sunday Eucharist*
 10 A.M. Sunday Eucharist**
 11 A.M. Lemonade on the Lawn*
 1 P.M. Youth Group*

Monday thru Thursday
 12 NOON Noonday Prayer***

Wednesday
 10 A.M. Morning Prayer & Bible Study***

Thursday
 10:30 A.M. Intercessory Prayer Group***

Friday
 8 A.M. Gathering of Men*/*** (alternately)

* In person
 ** In person and virtual
 *** Virtual

The parish office is open Monday through Thursday, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please note that it is closed on Friday. If you need assistance when the office is closed, please contact the rector via cell.

Author, Author!

Parishioner Shannon Almquist's *Parsonage: A Memoir of Shelter and Sharing*, is now out, both in print and as an e-book. As she pointed out at adult forum, people often wonder, "Who lives in the parsonage? Is it a runaway teen, a refugee family of seven, an Ethiopian grad student, an abused mother with kids, the pastor's family?" The answer, her memoir reveals, is that they all do and they are all welcome!

Sometimes brick and mortar, sometimes shelter for the soul, for Shannon a parsonage represents a lifetime of shelter and sharing during more than 50 years of living in one with her husband, the Rev. Roy Almquist. Sometimes funny, often poignant, occasionally tragic, her stories explore what it means to offer shelter and to be shelter, virtual and literal.

If you missed Shannon's book talk, or if you attended but want to learn more than forty-five minutes of forum allowed her to talk about, you can order the book through Amazon.com in whichever format you prefer.