



The Beacon

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

January 10-31, 2024

MLK Day of Remembrance



For a number of years, young residents of Coatesville, inspired by the Selma to Montgomery march and Martin Luther King's "I Have A Dream" speech, have marked the MLK Day of Remembrance by marching in and around the roomy CYWA site, proudly bearing colorful, homemade signs and expressing their hope for continuing social justice. At the end of the day, about 150 people enjoyed a meal of soul food together.

This year, Coatesville is sponsoring a large public parade as well as informative educational experiences for attendees of all ages. CYWA has recruited 25 community leaders (including pastors, police and fire chiefs, and the school superintendent) as participants in the event that honors those who experience violence and verbal abuse as they uphold basic American rights granted by the Constitution. And a communal meal will bind the community as well.

That's where St. Peter's comes in: we are participating too, by preparing 400 lunches! We will gather in the barn at 12:30 p.m. on **Sunday, January 14** to make 400 sandwiches and to fill 400 bags with all the usual lunch accompaniments. The food ministry will supply all the fixings, but we need lots of helping hands. So please save the date and join us in serving the Coatesville community that afternoon! May the spirit of the MLK day of service guide our participation in this worthy endeavor!

Adult Forum Resumes Next Week

- On **January 14**, Deacon Jeff and others will lead a discussion about the value and blessings of the small group experience. They will also suggest resources to guide us this year as St. Peter's forms small groups where "everybody knows your name, and they're always glad you came" and gets to know each other.
- Are you curious about how the barn kitchen project is progressing? On **January 21**, Paige Infortuna and her team will reveal architectural plans; discuss the grants we have received and the funds we have yet to raise; and envision the possibilities the kitchen will create as we work on becoming a "third space" for the community.
- On **January 28**, Dave Kasievich, Head of School at St. James, returns to preach at all three services and also lead adult formation along with Soozung Rankin, a longtime volunteer at the school and also a staff member. The only Episcopal school in Philadelphia, St. James is rooted in transformative loving relationships; it provides 85 fourth-through eighth-graders with a high-quality, faith-based private education that is tuition-free thanks to more than 1,000 annual donors and scores of volunteers.



A Change in the Vestry Class of 2025

Because of time constraints, Nicholas Mosvick resigned from the vestry in December. The remaining eleven members followed the protocols in our bylaws for filling an unexpired term, and are pleased to announce that Nick Allen has agreed to serve out that term. We thank Nicholas for his service and Nick for accepting this parish leadership role. If you have any questions, please speak with Abigail or one of the wardens.



January 14
Sandwich-making for MLK Day
12:30

January 15
Book club
7 p.m. (Zoom)

January 18
Deadline for February Beacon

January 23
Regular sandwich-making
12:30

January 28
Youth group
4 p.m.

COMING UP ON FEBRUARY 4

Welcome, Newcomers to St. Peter's!

The members of our newcomer commission and vestry heartily invite all who have come to St. Peter's over the past two years to brunch after worship on Sunday, **February 4**. From 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., we will get to know each other over a meal in the parish hall of the historic church. Please let either Heather Edelblute (edelblut@gmail.com) or the parish office (610-644-2261) know that you are planning to attend.

Compline Service for Candlemas

We will observe the Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple (the feast day also known as Candlemas) on **February 4**, with a contemplative service of Compline in the historic church at 7:30 p.m. On this fortieth day after Jesus' birth in accordance with Jewish law, Jesus was presented at the temple in Jerusalem and Mary was purified; as Luke tells us, this day also occasioned Simeon's prayer of blessing, which we know as the canticle *Nunc Dimittis*.

- The Hacker family and Paige Infortuna who coordinated the fall hayride and bonfire;
- Gail Malcolm for taking minutes at the vestry retreat in October.
- The four Vietnam veterans who provided military honors at Lloyd Reynolds' interment;
- Cliff Castle for organizing the James Taylor concert that benefited outreach;
- The choir and Steven Patchel for the All Saints' evensong.
- The Rev. Canon K. Jeanne Person, for leading services and adult forum on November 19;
- Trudi Graves for collecting, editing, and laying out the articles in *The Beacon* every month;
- All who participated in the BB&G4J log-splitting and Dave Tatum's chili tasting in November;
- Those who presented Kate Mallon-Day with gifts on her retirement from choir and provided the fellowship spread after the service;
- Martin McElroy for spearheading the November blood drive.



LOOKING AHEAD TO LENT

Lenten Offerings for Your Calendar

February 13

Shrove Tuesday pancake supper*
6 to 7:30 p.m.

February 14

Ash Wednesday services*
12 noon and 7:30 p.m.

February 18 through March 17

Adult forum Lenten series*

February 19 through March 18

Weekly Lenten popcorn theology series*
6 to 7 p.m., via Zoom

February 21 through March 20

Wednesday Lenten soup suppers*
6 to 8 p.m., jointly with St. Francis in the Fields

*Details will appear in the February Beacon

