



The Spire

The Newsletter of St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Smyrna, Delaware



"A Community of Faith Offering Hospitality, Hope and Healing"

June 2019

Volume 38, No. 6

Rector's Reflections

Reminder our **Bishop's Annual Visit** is on the day of our **Patron Feast, Sunday, June 30**. Bishop Brown has requested one service be held on the day of his visit as well as time scheduled for an adult forum after the service. Keeping in mind our annual block party is the same day, the morning schedule will be:

9:00AM - Confirmation, Reception, Renewal of Baptismal Vows with the Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Choir and music

10:30AM - (or immediately following the service) Adult Forum time in Parish Hall during coffee hour

11:30AM - Bishop Meets with Vestry Members while non-Vestry members prepare for lunch

12:00PM - Block Party starts with lunch

One of the principal ministries of bishops is Confirmation and Reception. This is the time when those baptized as children can make an adult confirmation of faith, usually around the age of 16. It is also when those who belong to another denomination can join the Episcopal Church and those who are members of the Roman Catholic or Lutheran Churches can be received into the Episcopal Church.

Currently we have two adults for Reception; 2 adults and five youth for Confirmation. It's not too late if you would like to be confirmed or received by the Bishop on June 30th! Please email (smyrnarector@verizon.net) or call (302-670-3800) me as soon as possible. There is some preparation in learning about the Episcopal Church; however, the process is very flexible to your schedule.

I also want to take this space to thank **Becky Cronin** for her service over the last almost seven years as our Bookkeeper. In June she is stepping down as our Bookkeeper to enable her to spend more time in a new ministry starting at St. Peter's Paws for Faith. In this ministry, Becky and certified therapy dogs Katara or Goslar or Robbie will visit at St. Peter's or, if requested, parishioners in their homes or medical facility to give unconditional love.

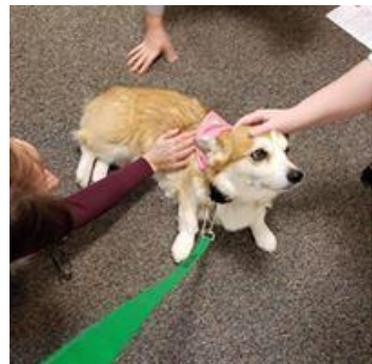
Katara:



Goslar:



Robbie:



My thanks to **Dorothy Andrew** for agreeing to serve in the position of Bookkeeper! Dorothy has experience with QuickBooks from her days working with the Department of Corrections Officers Association. Welcome Dorothy to this new ministry for you!

In Christ's Love and Service, *DJ+*

Highlights from 5/19/2019 Vestry Meeting

The main highlights were:

- Reviewed the 2018 Financial Audit Report.
- Learned that Bob Merrill is talking with a person who has ground penetrating equipment to locate unmarked graves.
- Approved the minutes from the April meeting.
- Learned the Bishop’s Annual visit is scheduled for June 30, same day as our Patron Feast and Block Party. There will be one service that will be at 9AM followed by a Forum time with the Bishop and congregation and then time for the Bishop and Vestry members.
- Learned we are switching from Verizon to Comcast to get rid of the static in our phone lines and increase internet speed.
- Harvest Building (Preschool) plans are underway for the retirement celebration for Beth Wessell after the graduation of her last class on May 22.
- Inviting Team is working on plans for our Block Party. Dana Wattay is generously donating his time as our DJ. The next event will be August 18 with honoring senior citizens.
- Connecting Team will be putting out a sign-up sheet shortly for food items needed for our Block Party. Mary Sanders will be coordinating the women cooking breakfast for the men on Father’s Day.
- Learned our next Eating-Out-Event is on June 12 from 5PM to 8PM at Hardees. No coupon is needed and the church receives a percentage of all sales during this time.
- Inviting Possibilities Team reported that we made around \$\$2,735 on our spring tea. A scrapbooking fundraiser is scheduled for August 23 and 24. We will be having a yard sale on September 21 and the Witch’s Tea will be on October 12.
- Harvest Sharing Team reported a poster board has been put up in the sanctuary of the animals we purchased with the Lenten collection for Episcopal Relief and Development.
- Our next meeting is Sunday, **June 23**, (4th Sunday since the 3rd is Father’s Day) following the 10:00 AM service and brief coffee hour appearance.

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June 14th – Flag Day!

Vestry Members

January 2020	January 2021	January 2022
Shirley Biddle	Elvis Belle	Terri Anderson
Ray DePhillis	Paul Buckley	Dawn Edwards
Dorris Wheeler	Jim Vaughn	Mary Sanders

2019 Officers:

Jim Vaughn, Sr. Warden Paul Buckley, Jr. Warden
 Bob Merrill, Treasurer Lisa Embert, Secretary



Mark your Calendars:

- 6/4 6:30pm St. Peter’s Preschool Open House
- 6/12 5:00pm Eating-Out-Event at Hardee’s until 8:00pm, Smyrna
Eat In, Take Out, No Coupon needed!
- 6/13 Noon Ladies Afternoon Out @ The Lemon Leaf, Sign-up sheet on the podium, or contact Dorris Wheeler – 302-423-5047
- 6/16 9:00am Father’s Day Breakfast (Parish Hall)
- 6/20 5:30pm Ladies Night Out @ The Boondocks, Sign-up sheet on the podium, or contact Dorris Wheeler – 302-423-5047
- 6/30 9:00am Bishop’s Visit & Block Party



Inviting Possibilities

We celebrate yet another successful Spring Tea! We had great weather, great food, great discussions among friends, great meeting of new friends, and a wonderful turnout! We send out thanks to Lavoura Cahall for always providing our beautiful place settings and to her and Diane Sterling for their support in the kitchen during the event. Cannot neglect a thank you to Dorris Wheeler for organizing the event and for being a wonderful hostess for the day! Also thanks go to Grace DiCuirci and her multiple crafty friends for the table favors and for all of the Chinese Auction items that they donated. Many thanks actually go out to everyone who donated items to the Chinese auction and food items, and for those who worked the event; without all of you this event would never happen! We made \$2765, a wonderful contribution to our church ministries!!

Mark your calendars for our future events:

June 12th- Hardees’ Fund Raiser - 5PM-8PM, no flier needed; **all sales** during the 3hrs counts toward our 15% that Hardees gives us!

September 21st- Yard Sale at the church
 (clean out those basements and garages!!)

October 12th - The Witches’ Tea, an event to usher in autumn

Blessings to all, Have a wonderful summer!!!
 Shirley Biddle





Our Thanks this month go to...

Dorris Wheeler, Lavoura Cahall, and Everyone who helped make our Spring Tea an enjoyable afternoon for all who attended.

Tom Campbell and All the Men who prepared and served a delicious breakfast to the Women on Mother's Day.

Jim Correll for adding candle holding sleeves to 15 pew candle holders.

Wayne Burris for assembling 81 flags for our Flags for Heroes fundraiser.

Bob Merrill for speaking with the Town of Smyrna to arrange for lights on our flags.

Paul Buckley, Ray DePhillis, Rob Miles, Jim Sbarra, Bill Slicher, Jim Vaughn, and David Womelsdorf for measuring and putting 81 flag posts 12" into the ground at the Cemetery.

Grace Dicuirci for helping attach the name cards on the medallions for the flags.

Dorris Wheeler for planning and coordinating our retirement celebration for Beth Wessell, Preschool Director/Teacher.

Shirley Biddle, Paula Kirk, Melody Richards, Linda Slicher, Kathy Steele, Missy Vaughn, Dorris Wheeler and Tanya Wheeler for helping at the Preschool Graduation and Retirement Reception for Beth.

Shirley Biddle, Paul Buckley, Wayne Burris, Bob Merrill, Bill and Linda Slicher, Jim Vaughn for putting up the 81 flags and attaching the 66 medallions on Thursday, May 23 for our Flags for Heroes project.

Paul and Paula Buckley and Becky and Jim Correll for fixing the flag display after the storm on May 29.

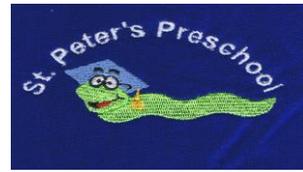


♥Thank you from the Preschool Board♥

Many thanks to Kathy, Melody, Shirley, Missy, Paula, Tanya and Linda who helped set up, photograph, provide and serve refreshments, and provide cards and memory book for our Beth Wessell's retirement celebration after the 4 year old's preschool graduation.

Congratulations and Thank You Beth!!!!

Dorris Wheeler,
Preschool Board Member



Patter from Preschool

Well the patter is stilled for the summer. Said goodbye to the children last week.

The 4's Graduation was Wednesday, May 22nd. We had 9 children in the class. The children did a great job with their songs and everything else that was asked of them. They worked hard and it showed! ☺

The 3's ended the "year" on Friday, May 24th. We had a small class this year with 6 but they will be joining several new friends in the 4's come September.

We did have a successful hatch of 5 butterflies. Each class got to see some released into the yard. I have always loved this project.

As you might be aware, I am retiring. I have been at St. Peter's for 18 years and I was at Ewell~St.Paul for 10 years. I am blessed to have been a small part in so many children's lives. I wanted to thank St. Peter's for the support the school and I have had over the years. I don't know what is ahead, I am trusting the Lord for direction.

Mrs. Tina Morris is assuming the lead for the future, along with Mrs. Karen Sawyer. I fell the program is in good hands. I can't wait to see what these ladies have in store.

Enjoy Your Summer and Be Safe,
Beth Wessell



Important/Fun Dates for May:

- 6/4 National Cheese Day
- 6/7 National Chocolate Ice Cream Day
- 6/11 National Corn on the Cob Day
- 6/14 Flag Day
- 6/16 Father's Day
- 6/18 International Picnic Day
- 6/21 First Day of Summer
- 6/26 National Canoe Day
- 6/29 International Mud Day





Outreach for 2019

Thank you for supporting our monthly Outreach Projects in 2018. We had a busy year and it is our hope that we have made a difference in our community. Our monthly schedule for 2019 will be the same as in 2018 and we will continue our on-going Outreach projects as well. The project for each month is listed below. If you have suggestions for Outreach projects, please contact me.

May we all have a giving heart in 2019!

Mary Sanders
(302)-659-1466

Matthew 25:35-45

³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

³⁷ 'Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

⁴⁰ 'The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

- January – P.I.C. (Personal care/household cleaning items) Ewell~St. Paul's Church, Clayton
- February – "Souper Bowl of Caring" (funds collected), Smyrna-Clayton Ministerium
- March – Food of the Month (food items), Food Pantry at Asbury U.M. Church, Smyrna
- April – PIC (personal care/household cleaning items) Ewell St. Paul's, Clayton ERD Episcopal Relief and Development -ERD (funds collected) Lent Project
- May – Food of the Month (food items), Food Pantry at Asbury U.M. Church, Smyrna
- June – Home of the Brave (wish list items) Veterans Home, Milford**
- July – Food of the Month (food items) Food Pantry at Asbury U.M. Church, Smyrna Alex's Lemonade (funds) 4th of July Event, funds for Children's Cancer Research
- August – Back Pack Project for North Smyrna Elementary School
- September – Kent County Animal Shelter (wish list items), Camden
- October – Thanksgiving Dinner (funds & breakfast food items), Smyrna/Clayton Ministerium
- November – DHCI Christmas for Residents (wish list items) Smyrna
- December – Veterans United Outreach of Delaware (Gift Cards)

**Harvest Sharing – June
Home of the Brave**

I have been in touch with Home of The Brave in Milford. As you may know, we have been collecting item for them in the Month of June. I took this Sharing effort from Dotty Savastani who started it, years ago. Their current wish list is only slightly different than last years, in that they omitted 2 items. I am asking for your support on this effort to help our Veterans.

If you have any question call me 653-5717 or you can go to their website at www.homeofthebravefdn.org for more information.

Thank you, Jim Sbarra

Home of the Brave is also listed on the Special Funds page that appears in Delaware's annual tax booklets. Please consider a donation to Home of the Brave through one of these venues.

Our current wish list includes:

- Cash to provide services not covered by grants.
- Gift cards for residents to purchase items not in our inventory.
- Rolls of stamps.
- New twin bed linens, new towels.
- Paper towels, toilet paper
- Standard food products, including meats, vegetables, fruits, coffee.
- DART bus passes
- Trees for shade and wind break around the farm house.

Cash donations allow Home of the Brave to match cash received through grants to fund items not covered by grants. Fundraising events by organizations are greatly appreciated and often assist in meeting our budget necessities.



**Thank You from
St. Peter's Scholarship Recipient**

Dear Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for selecting me for the Pamela Buckley Memorial Scholarship. I am very grateful to be honored for this scholarship. I will work hard at Cabrini University to obtain my degree so that I can become an occupational therapist. Your faith in me gives me the courage to face the challenges that lie before me. I also intend to be involved in campus ministry and to also travel abroad to provide medical relief to under privileged countries. My passion to help others has grown stronger. The internship opportunities at Cabrini University will help to broaden my knowledge on how to work as an occupational therapist and help me to gain experience. I am very grateful that you saw faith in me and helping me to reach and achieve my dream of being an occupational therapist.

Very Sincerely,
Chloe Griffiths

