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## **St. Peter's Weekly Vision – November 1, 2015**

By Susan Ostrout

### **What just happened!!!**

**On Sunday we celebrated the ALL SAINTS DAY - Service of Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. Rite 1 & Service of Holy Baptism at 10:00 a.m.**



An excerpt from Father Perry's All Saints' Day sermon:

"There is a moment in our service of Baptism today when I will ask all of you to support Lilliana in her life in Christ – when I will ask you to be witnesses of God's love. If she is to embrace the faith we proclaim today, she will need people in her life to teach her, to care for her and to love her. She will need more than encouraging and inspirational words; she will learn from the behaviors of people around her. If she sees forgiveness demonstrated, she will learn to forgive. If she experiences thankfulness and joy in the lives of her family and friends, she will learn gratitude. And if she sees people caring for one another, she will learn compassion. If she is surrounded by witnesses to God's love, she will be inspired to be such a witness to others.

"Today, All Saints' Day we come to remember the saints as those men and women who were witnesses to God's love in their generations. May they inspire us to be witnesses in our generation – witnesses to God's love. May God bless us in our journey of faith, strengthen us in our witness and hold us in the palm of his ever-loving and forgiving hands."

(Note: Audio podcasts of Father Perry's sermons will be available soon on our website. Stay tuned!)

**At our All Saints' Day celebration we baptized Liliana Rose Wursthorn and we inducted Haley Cone as an acolyte.**



**JoAnn Osmond and Father Perry induct Haley Cone as our newest acolyte. Congratulations!**

**St. Peter's has a new website!** The new site offers an always up to date calendar, upcoming events listed with details, news from Sue, the bulletin, the latest happenings, an updated photo gallery, and more! All with a sharp new design that looks great on a desktop computer, tablet, or smart phone. We also have a new email address at St. Peter's, which is [office@stpetershebron.com](mailto:office@stpetershebron.com). Please put that in your contacts folder and use it to email the office. Although the old one will still function for the foreseeable future, it will eventually be phased out, so please begin using the new one and check your junk/spam folders to be sure emails from St. Peter's don't end up in the Trash. Thanks.

### **News from the Diocese**

**On All Saints' Day, Bishop Michael Curry was installed as the 27<sup>th</sup> Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church.** The ceremony was conducted at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC with retiring Presiding Bishop Katharine J. Schori presiding.

## Stewardship

### Please Read Carefully!

We need your help in covering our parish expenses! Everything costs so much these days: staffing, administration, insurances, keeping our buildings warm and repaired. You will have received your pledge card for 2016 in the mail along with a wonderful thought provoking message from the Vestry. In case you did not receive your pledge packet or have mislaid it, there are additional packets at the back of the church. As you know, the return of the pledge cards is critical to establishing next year's budget.

**Important thoughts and concerns about Stewardship:**

1. We learn that we are not masters living in a world that we own and control, but we rather are stewards of what has been entrusted to us.
2. Christian stewardship is rooted in God's gift of Jesus Christ to us and we are entrusted with sharing this gift.
3. Through God's grace, we freely receive God's gifts and have permission to use these gifts.
4. Stewardship has to do with all aspects of living out personal faith, including finances.
5. In our own Church family in order to meet our budget expenses, an across the board increase of 3 percent from all givers would balance our projected budget.

**Some statistics:**

- **Last year 64 families pledged for the year 2015.**
- **As of Nov 1 2015 we have received pledges for the year 2016 from 38 families. \$35,000 more needs to be pledged to meet our expenses for next year. Please help by making a pledge for 2016 or increasing your current amount. Thank you. Brian Swanson, Treasurer**

### Don't Miss!

- Every Tuesday, Choir practice 6:30-8:15 pm
- Every Wednesday 7:00 p.m. --- Holy Eucharist with Service of Healing.  
A lovely, quiet soul-refreshing informal service held in the church.
- Monday, November 9 – Vestry Meeting
- Friday and Saturday November 13th & 14<sup>th</sup>. The CT Diocesan Convention  
Father Perry, Maryann Hickelton, and Brian Swanson will be attending.

- **Saturday, November 14 – Roast Pork Dinner, 4:30-6:30 or until sold out. Adults: \$13; under 12: \$6.**
- **Saturday, November 21 -St. Peter’s Annual Fall Clean-up -Buildings and Grounds Committee asks for help from all ages. Please meet at Phelps Hall at 8:00 a.m. for coffee and start work at 9:00. This will include the cleanup around the church, garden, parish hall and rectory. It is a great way to get together with fellow parishioners, work on beautifying the church grounds, and have a few laughs. We also provide fuel for your efforts with coffee and donuts/bagels. Please come armed with your gloves, tarps, rakes. “Many hands make light work” so the more people come, the quicker it will go.**
- **Saturday, December 5, 2015 – St. Nicholas Fair**

## **Nuts and Bolts!**

- **St Peters Community Outreach - St Peters and AHM Youth Services plan to jointly share the use of our land (approx. 16 acres) behind our parking lot as an outdoor nature learning and recreation area. Parishioner, Jack Gasper has been working with AHM and the Vestry to coordinate approval of this program, which your vestry has recently granted. Jack has also expressed interest in work-ing with the teens and the adult group organizing the program. The first stage in the AHM program plan is to establish a serpentine walking trail through the property, which provides many different views of the natural beauty within its boundaries. The AHM programs will be used for many different hands-on learning projects for teens involving a variety of native plant, animal habitat, and bird studies. Other uses for both teens & adults include nature walks, bird watching, cross country skiing, orienteering, Native American lore, etc. are just a few of the uses planned for our land. Work has already begun with establishing the walking trail. Anyone interested in becoming involved with this project can contact: [Jack Gasper 860-228-0201.](tel:860-228-0201)**
- **Stained Glass Window report: The windows in the nave of the church have all been restored, and the final payment has been made to Stained Glass Resources leaving a surplus of \$342 in the Window Fund. Additionally, there are \$1,024 in outstanding pledges which, when added to the cash balance, would increase the amount carried forward to \$1,366. The three windows on the Altar wall have all suffered damage similar to those restored, but not to the same degree. Restoration of these windows will be addressed following the kitchen project. Once more, thank you to all who made this project happen! By Tom Sayers**

- Many of St. Peter's children have come through our doors been baptized, confirmed and now have moved away or at least gone off on their own. If you think they would like to receive a copy of the Vision, please let me know. Send me their emails. We would love to hear how they are doing.  
[sdocker@comcast.net](mailto:sdocker@comcast.net)
- **Choir Loft message:** Stop by and lend us your voice!!! Don't be shy - **CALLING ALL SINGERS!!!!** The choir is looking to add some Tenors and Basses to our ranks. Sopranos and Altos are always welcome too. Any men or women that would like to sing are invited to join us Sunday mornings at the 10 am service. We meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:15 and Sunday mornings at 9:05 to rehearse. We are trying out some new music so come and listen. Anyone interested please speak to the organist (Josh Ziemski).
- Please take a moment and check out our new website designed by Robert Mangiafico: <http://www.stpetershebron.com>. If you have any good photos of events at St. Peter's Church, please share with us.



God's creations

- Check out our Comfort and Joy website designed by Pat Kell. Here is an example! <https://www.facebook.com/#!/thecomfortandjoycommunity>

