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St. Peter's Weekly Vision –October 25, 2015

By Susan Ostrout What just happened!!!

On Sunday we celebrated the THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER <u>PENTECOST</u> - Service of Holy Eucharist at 8:00 a.m. Rite 1 & at 10:00 a.m. <u>Service of Holy Eucharist Rite 2</u>



Next Sunday, November 1 (ALL SAINTS DAY)

In the New Testament all Christians are called 'saints.' But over the course of church history the term tended to be reserved for those men and women who were especially powerful witnesses to faith during their lives. The most significant of these saints were honored by the church on specific days throughout the year (e.g. St. Francis is remembered on October 6). All Saints' Day was established to honor of *all* the saints, known and unknown, who ever lived. In the Episcopal Church All Saints' Day is celebrated on November 1 and is considered to be one of the seven "Principal Feast Days" (joining Christmas and Easter among others). On this day we are reminded that we too are saints in our generation!

The day before All Saints' Day is known as All Hallows Eve (Halloween!) on which various customs of masks and costumes, pumpkins and bonfires, "trick or treating," are all symbolic of the protective power of good over evil spirits. The day after All Saints' Day is called All Souls' Day, a day to remember and offer prayers on behalf of all the faithful departed.

- 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 working 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 teen hands-on learning projects 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 for details.
- The CT Diocesan Convention is Friday and Saturday November 13th &14th. Father Perry, Maryann Hickelton, and Brian Swanson will be attending.

Stewardship

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 should have received your pledge cards for 2016 along with a wonderful thought provoking message from the Vestry. As you know, the return of the pledge cards is critical to establishing next year's budget. Please take this opportunity to consider your pledge and return it by next Sunday, November 1.

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

Don't Miss!

- Church School begins at 9:55 with a prayer circle for primary and intermediate age children (parents can join us if they like). Children go to individual classes for discussion and activities related to a Bible Story; they join their families for Communion at 10:45. Check out our website for more information.
- Every Tuesday, Choir practice 6:30-8:15 pm
- <u>Every Wednesday 7:00 p.m.</u> --- Holy Eucharist with Service of Healing. A lovely, quiet soul-refreshing informal service held in the church.
- Thursday, October 29, 7:00 p.m. Fundraising Meeting at PHELPS HALL
 - Thanks to all for a successful October Fest German Dinner (especially to Marianne and Nelson Moore who coordinated the event). The dinner generated \$2,116.75.

AGENDA

- Discuss the November 14 Roast Pork Dinner
- Discuss St. Nicholas Fair (Dec. 5th) What has worked well in the past, Refill planters previously sold by us /prepare table arrangements. New ideas / suggestions, luncheon plans. Your input and participation is welcome! Please forward your suggestions to <u>eaton_c@sbcglobal.net</u> or (better yet) attend the meeting.
- <u>Saturday, November 14 Roast Pork Dinner</u>
- <u>Saturday, November 21</u> -St. Peter's Annual Fall Clean-up -Buildings and Grounds Committee asks for <u>help from all ages</u>. 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 and 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. <u>"Many hands make light work" so the more people come, the quicker it will go.</u>
- Saturday, December 5, 2015 St. Nicholas Fair

Nuts and Bolts!

- <u>A message from the choir loft:</u> 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. <u>We are trying out some new music so come and listen</u>. Anyone interested please speak to the organist (Josh Ziemski).
- Many 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
- Please take a moment and check out our new website designed by Robert Mangiafico: <u>http://www.stpetershebron.com</u>. If you have any good photos of events at St. Peter's Church, please share with us.
- Check out our Comfort and Joy website designed by Pat Kell. Here is an example! <u>https://www.facebook.com/#!/thecomfortandjoycommunity</u>

Women's Club Halloween Party Photos (Mon. Oct 26) Guess who we are?????



Lynn Hassouna & Sue Ostrout Laurel Houle & Cindy Brinkman Kathy Kniep, Cindy Brinkman & Lynn Sandahl



Robin Kenefick, Joan Perkins



Laurel Houle, Lynn Hassouna, Mary Latour, Cindy Brinkman, Susan Ostrout, Joan Perkins, Robin Kenefick, Lynn Sandahl, Candace O'Shea, Audrey Gasper, Francine Block



Candace O'Shea & Susan Ostrout



Kindness makes you the most beautiful

person in the world

no matter what you look like.

Mary Latour & Lynn Hassouna





Laurel Houle, Lynn Sandahl, Cindy Brinkman

Audrey Gasper, Laurel Houle