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St. Peter's Weekly Vision – January 3, 2016

By Susan Ostrout

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

Service of Holy Eucharist Rite I at 8:00 a.m.

Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion at 10:00 a.m.

What just happened!!!



Our new Nativity Scene

A note from Father Perry:

This Wednesday the Church celebrates The Feast of the Epiphany. This feast commemorates the 'manifestation' of Jesus as the Christ – or, in other words, how Jesus reveals himself to the world. Several stories from the Gospels are traditionally read either on or around Epiphany: the Visitation of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12); the Baptism of Jesus (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22); and Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding feast of Cana (John 2:1-11). Each in its own way manifests Jesus as the One chosen by God to reveal God in the world (by birth, by baptism, by ministry). We will be celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany at the weekly Wednesday service of Holy Eucharist and healing on January 6 at 7 p.m. Since this is the first Wednesday service in 2016 we will be adding a candle-lighting ceremony to our worship at which time people may reflect on the healing we need in our lives and how we might draw strength from God's healing love to renew us and restore us as we begin the New Year. **We hope you will join us at 7 p.m. this Wednesday, January 6!**

Birthdays: Sunday's Bulletin announced the celebration of birthdays this week: Please call or send along your own best wishes to your friends! John Ostrout (1/3), Kara Perriolat (1/5).

In celebrating the Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols: Josh Ziemski, Organist and the choir performed and led parishioners in singing many beautiful carols.

Father Perry and Lynn Hassouna invited parishioners to come to the Rectory for an Open House. The party was well attended with lots of goodies and everyone had a great time.



Marianne Marsh, Maryann Hickelton, Joan Perkins



Bob LaMay, Marcia Eaton



Russ & Stephanie Wheeler, Bob & Barbara LaMay



Susan Ostrout, Candace O'Shea



Mary Latour, Joan Churney, Sue Ostrout, Dan Osmond



Laura Beaudoin, Chuck Eaton

Rob Mangiafico posted two press releases on the website (they were in the newspapers in December). Check them out!

<http://www.stpetershebron.com/2015/12/28/st-peters-episcopal-church-supports-ahm-youth-and-family-services/>

<http://www.stpetershebron.com/2015/12/28/st-peters-november-community-dinner-supports-windham-no-freeze-hospitality-center/>

Don't Miss!

Did you see all the new figures installed for our New Nativity Scene? – In memory of Henry (Hal) Lindert. Thanks to all who donated!



Adoration of the Magi by Rubens

About Epiphany

On January 6th the Church celebrates the Feast of the Epiphany, which marks the end of the 12 days of Christmas each year. Epiphany is a Greek word meaning “manifestation” or “appearing.” At the Feast of The Epiphany we celebrate Jesus being made manifest or appearing as Christ. Traditionally, there are three manifestations celebrated on this feast day. The most widely celebrated manifestation, and the one that has been historically celebrated by Christian churches in the West, is Jesus revealed as Christ to the three wise men, or Magi, from the East, who followed the Star of Bethlehem at Jesus’ birth. Twelfth Night, the eve of the Epiphany, ends the Christmas season, and is a night for celebration, feasts, and presents.

Wednesday, January 6th 7pm Buildings and Grounds: Rick Marks states:

Wednesday evening will be the first meeting of the B&G Committee for the year. All B&G members and parishioners are urged to attend. I’d like to concentrate on all the general maintenance and repairs of our properties. With that being said, I will be attending the first vestry meeting of the New Year to present what ways to help each committee work more efficiently by providing the support we need to complete our tasks. If you are unable to attend our meeting, please send me via email or text your ideas for things or areas we need to work on and any concerns you might have so I can bring them to the Vestry attention. Please remember that together we can do a great number of things for our parish family, so please try to attend as many meetings and projects as you can. I will make sure that my notes will be sent out after each meeting so everyone will be in the loop. I look forward to a productive year. Thank you.

Sunday, January 10 - First Sunday after the Epiphany – We will have a visit by Bishop Laura Ahrens and a Baptism at the 10:00 service. She will participate in both the 8 & 10 services and meet informally with parishioners during each coffee hour.

St. Peter's Community Outreach

We are in the news!! Please view us online to see press releases citing our outreach efforts in donating 10% of our community dinner profits to HIHS, AHM and the Windham Area No-freeze Zone

Nuts and Bolts!

From the Treasurer: Brian Swanson

A Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Monday January 4th at 7 p.m. in Phelps Hall to plan the budget for 2016. Any interested member of the Parish is welcome to attend.

Good financial news:

- Our pledge to the Diocese for the year 2015 has been paid in full. The Diocese provides St. Peter's with support services and outreach initiatives.
- The Year-End Statements have been mailed out. If you have any questions, please call the office. If you have not fulfilled your pledge for 2015, please bring your payments up-to-date. Thanks

Question/Answer by Rob Mangiafico: How does St. Peter's Church raise funds for its expenses, bills, and outreach?

Answer: 100% of funds needed by St. Peter's come from its parishioners and the hard work of parishioners for fundraising events and dinners. Approximately 16% comes from fundraising. The rest is supplied by the generous offerings and financial gifts from our parishioners and friends of St. Peter's, which is why pledges and your support are so important to the continued success of St. Peter's!

Cabin Fever Party in February – We are looking for someone to host this fun-filled annual tradition. Please let me know if you would like to host this year. You get lots of help!!!

Calling All Youth! Judi Babin and Lynn Hassouna have begun a new series of discussions for youth to be held on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. in Father Perry's

office. Any young person in grades 7 through 12 is welcome to join them. These discussions will continue to be held on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. More events are being planned including a Confirmation Class starting in January.

Visit us on the Internet

Our website (www.stpetershebron.com) offers an always up to date calendar, upcoming events listed with details, news from “The Vision”, the bulletin, the latest happenings, an updated photo gallery, and more!

Fr. Perry’s sermons are available on St. Peter’s website. If you missed Father Perry’s sermon, or want to hear it again, feel free to listen from the website.

Sermons may be found at: Services > Sunday Audio Sermons

Church School schedule is now on the website – If you were not able to attend church one Sunday, or want to review a church school topic at home, the website has a schedule of church school topics including bible verses and additional information. Just go to: About Us > Church School > Church School Schedule

Check out our Comfort and Joy website designed by Pat Kell. Lots of nice sayings. <https://www.facebook.com/#!/thecomfortandjoycommunity>

