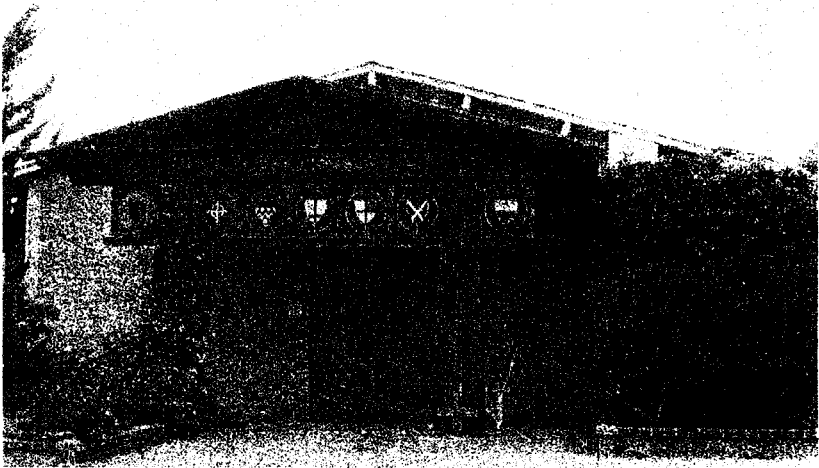


The Rock

of St. Peter's

A publication of
St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, Morro Bay,
California



St. Peter's mission is to be a spiritually thriving household for people on their faith journey, radiating Christ's love by bearing witness to our community with hope, compassion, inclusion and service.

October - November 2008

Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real

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Ministers of St. Peter's Episcopal Church:

All Baptized Persons

The Rev. Harriet B. Linville, Rector

The Rev. Charles J. Erickson, Rector Emeritus

Pastor Paul Valentiner, Associate Pastor

Judy Burke, Office Secretary

Walt Schob, Treasurer

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Diane Ludin 772-1723 (1), Junior Warden

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Frank Fiedler 771-9121 (3)

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Message From the Rector

Dear People of St. Peter's,

What gorgeous weather we are having, warm, clear days, cool, starry nights. Many crops are being harvested, to be bought at the Farmers' Market or the grocery store. Think of the hymns that we sing at Thanksgiving, "We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing," and "Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home."

While it is not always easy to regard the bounty of the harvest as a sign of God's love and abundance, we can take the full harvest as just that. We watch the stock market go up and down. We wonder what it means for \$700 billion dollars of American taxpayer money to go to shore up our economy. What is the faithful response? Think of Mary when the angel Gabriel comes to her with the message that she is to bear the Savior. What are his words? "Fear not, for God has found favor with you." I believe that those words are for us also. We can react in fear to every rumor or daily shift. Or, we can trust that God gives us the skills and wisdom to act responsibly. Many of us have already lived through the Great Depression, World War II, then Korea, Vietnam, government scandals, and so on. All of us have experienced personal disappointments, loss, and even betrayal. And, yet, we are still here. Perhaps even stronger. How can that be? We are sustained by our faith, our family, and our friends. Fear can paralyze us, keeping us from carrying out the mission and ministry that God gives us to do in the name of our Savior, Jesus the Christ. Faith can and does equip us to move forward to life, in hope. What if Mary had said no? Would God have found favor with a different young woman? Thank God, we do not have to contemplate that.

Let go of a small fear. Look for a small challenge. Move out in faith. The harvest is plentiful. And we are the laborers in this time and this place.

Peace and love in Christ,

Harriet+

Music Committee

The members of this team are: Dorene Hughes, Don Rose, Roger Ludin, Dorothy Tomilson, and Alan Williams. Diane Ludin is the vestry representative attached to the committee. The Rector and the Senior Warden attend meetings in an ex-officio capacity. Our goal has been to keep the music program and choir alive whilst we search for an organist/choir director. To this end we have interviewed various musicians and have been able to provide music in one form or another on each Sunday throughout the summer. We are at present working on producing the Annual Advent Service which will be on Sunday, December 7 in the late afternoon. A subcommittee is busy arranging a Youth Sunday to be held on November 23 at the 10:30 service. More news will follow as our work progresses. We should be pleased to hear your feelings about the importance or not, of music in your worship experience. Perhaps you have a favorite hymn?

Building And Grounds Committee

The Building And Grounds Team consists of Frank Fiedler, Dianne Ellis, Barbara Hoose, Bill Morley and Carrie Trahane. they have decided to focus on three main objectives: Three month goal: 1) Dealing with any Sprint use of the BBQ location. 2) Six month goal: On going project for sound panels in the Parish Hall. Seeking a donor for each panel. 3)Long term goal: To maintain the property as best we can.

A More Accessible Church

In a move toward a more accessible Anglican Church, Birmingham Cathedral announced plans to open a series of wine bars in London as on of the alternative ways of engaging non-church-goers.

Newcomers' Wish List

"Hello, I am a newcomer at your church. Won't you please....

Smile at me during coffee hour. I know you want to see your friends and settle that piece of community business. But I may find it hard to believe that you truly care for each other unless I first see evidence that you care for the "stranger in your midst."

Tell me good things about your church and your minister. I want to believe that I have come to a place where people love each other and where they believe that they are doing something exciting and important for the Lord.

Notice me even if I am not "family." I don't want to feel invisible just because I am unmarried, a single parent, a teenager, or an older person.

Talk to me again the second week when I come back, and the third and the fourth. I am still not a part of your parish family. Please don't feel you have "done your duty" by me, just because you made a point of greeting me the first week I was there.

Invite me to become a part of some church group or organization. I need more than worship every Sunday. I need to know that I am accepted and affirmed by a group of people within the church who know me by my first name and who care about me as an individual.

"If you can find it in your heart to do these things for me, I will come back....the second Sunday, the third, and maybe forever."

(Borrowed from St. Peter's, Delaware, OH, which borrowed it from Holy Comforter Church, Drexel Hill, PA...)

Celebrate America at St. Peter's Barbecue

Celebrate America with a traditional Santa Maria-style Barbecue, 12 to 3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 25 at St. Peter's. Chairpersons Edith Ross, and Susan and Jo Johnson invite you to join the fun.

Beef tri-tip, grilled to perfection by the Hoose family, beans by Barbara Hoose, salad by the Putneys and garlic bread and salsa, will help us remember the blessings we share hereon the Central Coast. And the strawberry shortcake for dessert, made by Lenny Erickson, will remind us of the sweet days of youth.

Donna Baker will host the beverage booth where iced tea and soda will be available for all ticket purchasers. She will also provide wine for a \$2 donation.

The Pacific Horizon Chorus will arrive at 1 p.m. to stir our spirits with a host of patriotic songs sung in four-part barbershop harmony --- a singing style native to the U.S.A.

All this, plus the chance to share our fun with neighbors and guests, is offered for only \$12 per adult and \$6 per child under 12 years old. See Bill Morley about tickets, at the 10:30 service and Walt Schob at the 8:00 service, call 772-2368, or just come Saturday between noon and 3 p.m. -- there'll be plenty for everyone!

Oh, by-the-way, Diane Ludin will be serenading a la barbershop with her sisters in harmony.

Elections on November 4

One of the privileges and responsibilities of being a citizen is voting. More than just marking a ballot, it is studying the issues and candidates, asking questions, listening, and even praying, then acting. As a child, I remember going behind the green curtain of the voting booth with my mother or father, watching them flip the small levers, then pull the big one to cast the ballot and open the curtain. They taught me the importance of being a responsible voter. And so I taught my children. The last day to register to vote in California is October 20 this year.

The Episcopal Church supports California Impact, an ecumenical group that studies legislation and makes recommendations. Some of you heard the sermon a few weeks ago, responding to the gospel on issues of justice. The sermon illustration was Proposition 8 on the California ballot. Whatever your views of human sexuality might be, please look at this as a justice issue. California Impact urges a NO vote. Why, you might ask. No religious body in the United States issues a marriage license. That is for the state to do. The role of the religious body is to prepare persons for marriage, to officiate (as an agent of the state), and to bless the union. Domestic partnership does not guarantee that a loved one will be able to help make health care decisions or even get information about a sick partner. Rights of inheritance, right to sue on a partner's behalf, and over a thousand other rights guaranteed to married partners are denied to domestic partners. The faith community, as well as the secular community, desires faithful, healthy, loving relationships. Whether the marriage is between two persons of the same or different sex, the goals are the same. Jesus gave his life for justice. I pray that we can give our vote for this issue of justice. Please read the information on the bulletin board about the California propositions. Harriet+

Mutual Ministry Review Committees Meet

In the next few weeks all of the active groups in St. Peter's will meet to talk about what is working, what could be improved, and what we could set aside. This Mutual Ministry Review is a process, used by many congregations, to assess how the mission and ministry are working. The Rev. Donna Ross and the Rev. Brian Nordwick are consulting with us on this. Not only will this give us an idea of where we are, but it will also point us in the direction that God calls us to go. If you are on one of these committees, you are scheduled to meet with Donna Ross, Cris Rose, or Bud Zeuschner. If not, there will be opportunities to share your thoughts. Thanks to all who are giving of their time and abilities in this essential process.

Celebration of Twenty-Five Years of Priesthood

The rector's twenty-fifth anniversary of ordination to the priesthood is All Saints' Day. The following day, Sunday, November 2, will remember that during coffee hour. And, with a gathering for the 8 o'clock congregation following worship. Come and have a glass of champagne or sparkling apple cider. Her long-time friend and fellow priest the Rev. Susan Allen will be present to concelebrate the Eucharist.

Women In The Modern Church

Monday mornings starting October 6 – 10 am at St. Paul's
Over the centuries the Christian Church has not been as inclusive of women's ministries as Jesus himself was. This class begins with a review of Jesus' own attitudes towards women, and then looks at women in modern times – Catholics and Protestants – and their ministries in and beyond their churches. The study concludes with a look at women's spirituality today. Led by the Rev. Donna Ross and Maria McGuire. This is a book study, and the cost of the book is \$20. To order a book, write to the Rev. Donna Ross at donnaross@charter.net.

Diocesan World Mission Network

With the direction of the Bishop and through the energy and enthusiasm of mission-minded people around our diocese, a World Mission Network has been established. This is a forum for our diocese to celebrate, and help shape through common dialog and discernment, the mission program of the diocese, and to encourage and support each parish in its own calling to mission. The main objective of the World Mission Network is communication. Check out their blog at www.WorldMissionNetwork.blogspot.com The blog is a place where information, articles, photos, and links to partner websites are posted. Visitors to the blog can also engage in discussion by posting comments to articles and discussion topics. The World Mission Network conducted a survey of the mission involvement of all the churches in our diocese, in order to celebrate our current involvement, and facilitate sharing of experience and information between churches. The results of this survey are posted in a report on the World Mission Network Blog. If you have been involved in mission work, or are supportive of mission work, the World Mission Network would love to have you on their emailing list. The Network is under-represented in the San Luis Obispo Deanery, and they would love to have your input. For more information, contact Robin Denney at redenney99@yahoo.com. St. Peter's was a sponsor of Robin in her mission ministry.

Outreach Committee □

The St. Peter's Growth and Outreach Committee has undertaken several exciting projects to lead people who desire a faith community to be closer to God. This small committee of Jo Johnson, Susan Johnson, and Bill Morley has started several programs that are open to all members of the church and the community. The monthly nature walks provide us a chance to appreciate the beautiful environment that God offers us in Morro Bay and Los Osos. The team has also designed a line of T-shirts and sweatshirts that will be available by the end of October. Perhaps the most exciting project is the alternative service that will be on November 16 at 10:30. This service will be lead by a group of high school and college age students.

In Memoriam:

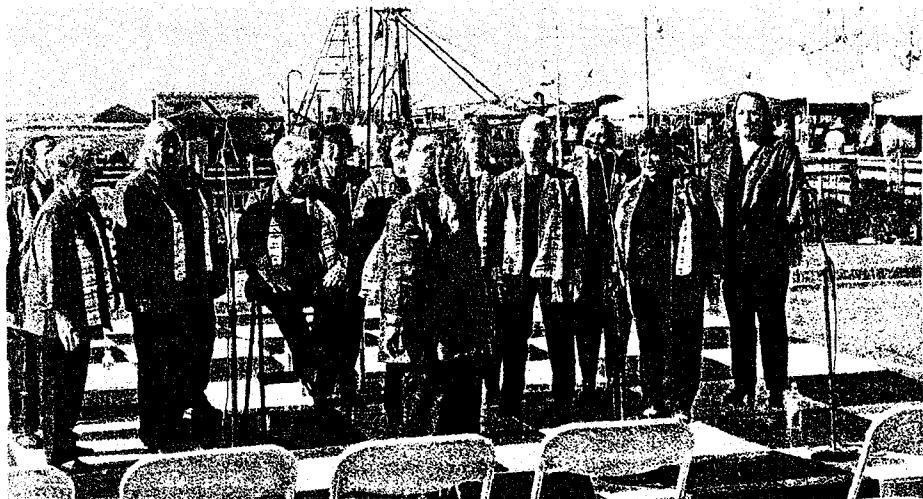
St. Peter's says good-bye and rest in peace to Tom Cantine and Bob Pool

Within a few days of each other, Tom Cantine and Bob Pool entered life eternal. On succeeding Fridays, each life was celebrated. Tom's farewell was at Los Osos Valley Memorial Park, while Bob's was at St. Peter's. Tom's wife of more than 70 years, Sigrid, preceded him in death. Ellen and Bob had recently celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary, and had known each other since very early childhood. Their sons Chriss and Cloyd also survive. Tom's three sons, Scott, Tom, and Dick, and their families, survive. At each service, family and friends shared memories, some very funny. There was a DVD of Bob's early life and some wedding film. In our human sorrow and loss, it is good to know that our memories of lives long and well lived and our faith will sustain us. May we all live in the hope of the resurrection?

Diocesan Convention for El Camino Real

meets in Salinas November 7—8, 2008

The household of the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real will meet in convention at Sherwood Hall in Salinas on November 7—8. Bp. Mary Gray-Reeves will preside over reports, votes, and the Eucharist. Our delegates are Diane Ludin, Bill Morley, and Cris Rose, and the rector. Alternates are Dianne Ellis and Carrie Trahan. Bill is standing for election to the Board of Trustees from the San Luis Obispo Deanery. There are other ministries available on the ballot. Check the diocesan website for more information.



Pacific Horizon Chorus of Sweet Adeline's, shown here singing at Morro Bay Harbor Festival, will entertain at our barbecue.

Young Adult Ministry

Canterbury Chaplain Berkeley Johnson writes, "We have just concluded Cal Poly's Week of Welcome (WOW). Wow! What a week. We were busy greeting new and incoming students, catching up with returning ones, and planning for the coming year. The week was filled with events designed to give students an opportunity to see what's out there as far as all their options, and Canterbury was able to make its presence known in an important way this year. I've had a lot of enthusiastic inquiries over the past week from returning students as well who are upbeat and excited about the "new year." As we enter year two of our ministry, we are excited and grateful for how far we've come, and ask that you please continue to pray for our students and our ministry. As we come to your churches to visit, please take the opportunity to meet and talk with these young people who are so excited about this ministry and their place in the Episcopal Church. The Episcopal Church is not without its struggles, and these students are well aware of those struggles. But our students and young adults also view these struggles as an opportunity: to listen respectfully to both sides, to learn to articulate their own viewpoints, and to appreciate new insights as a result. It is an exciting time in the history of this young ministry, and I hope you will come and share it with us. To any young adults (18-25....or thereabouts) who may be out there reading this: please come and join us and get involved.

Planned Giving

Whoa! Stop the Slide! Is that what you say when you wake up to find your portfolio has diminished overnight? Stop, Stop, That's Too Far! Your 401K, your IRA, your home! All going down. You watch all the gains of the last few years disappearing like water down the drain. But what is lost is the gain and it's not lost because you never had it. I mean, you never really had it. If your home is worth a certain amount of money, that's all well and good as something to talk about but it's still the same house and if next month it's worth more or less, it doesn't matter. That is, unless you want to borrow and spend the equity. But maybe that's not a smart move. Don't we feel so wise and in control when our home is going up in value and when our 401K is growing? But the markets go up and down; life goes in only one direction. No matter what the markets do, we all have to make plans for later days. That's why we have the 401K or the IRA or both. That's why we make plans to continue giving to St. Peter's even after we are gone. Some members of St. Peter's did not lose money on some of their assets because they gave the assets to St. Peter's when they were high valued; now these donors continue to earn a monthly income as a result of the donation. Sounds crazy, doesn't it. Just know that for every person there is a way to give to St. Peter's, either now or later, in a way that enhances the finances of St. Peter's and the spirituality and finances of the donor.

Bill Morley

Habitat Apostle Build

Parishioners from St. Barnabas, St. Benedict's, St. James, St. Luke's and St. Stephen's and Canterbury Club have been helping to build four Habitat for Humanity homes in Atascadero the past several months. Our next build date is Friday 10/17 from 8 to 2. All deanery members are encouraged and welcome to join us. Please contact Leann Brooks to get on the schedule leannbrooks@hotmail.com or 550-9832. No experience necessary.

Mini-Magnetic Church Conference

Last month, at St. James', Joanna Shreve, a lay person like you and me, condensed and presented the wisdom for magnetizing a church to parishioners from all the churches in the county. Because more have learned the simple techniques that can be used to make the church's appeal more visible, more can be implemented and we have seen evidence of that happening. For any who were not at the meeting at St. James' or at the original Magnetic Church Conference, please keep your eyes and ears open to learn how you and each of us will learn to play a role. In the paragraph above you saw the name "Joanna Shreve" and, for most of you, the name means nothing. Mrs. Shreve attends St. Timothy's in Mountain View. She is active in that parish and she has long been active in many roles in the Diocese of El Camino Real. If you ever have the opportunity to meet her you may recognize the twinkle in her eyes and her matter-of-fact way of approaching things at the same time that you notice she doesn't get around especially well. Mrs. Shreve sharing of her energy is a benefit to all of us.

Bill Morley

Myth in Western Religions

6 Tuesday afternoons starting October 7 - 1:30 to 4 p.m. at St. Benedict's. Much of religious talk is mythical, that is, religions tell foundational stories which are not meant to be taken literally but are meant to be taken seriously. We live, however, in a culture that does not have much time for myth, that does not probe for serious meaning. For instance, how do most Jews understand the following concepts: God as creator; the prophets speaking for God; and Israel being the chosen people? How do most Christians understand the narratives of Jesus' birth, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension, and ideas of atonement and the trinity? What do Christians and Jews understand by God as a person, a covenant with God, and an afterlife? Discussions led by Lenny Erickson of St. Peter's Church, Morro Bay, sponsored by the Hollister Institute at St. Benedict's Church. For more information, contact Lenny Erickson at lenny8332@sbcglobal.net.

Finances As of August 31st, 2008

Revenues	Received	Expected	Budgeted year
Offerings	\$78,869.84	\$75,431.12	\$113,146.72
Rents received	\$11,291.46	\$11,996.00	\$17,994.00
Parish Hall use	\$1,995.51	\$2,710.00	\$4,065.00
Fund raising projects	\$0.00	\$33.36	\$50.00
Special projects	\$782.60	\$1,766.64	\$2,650.00
Miscellaneous other revenues	\$5,007.85	\$3,587.36	\$5,381.00
Interest	\$1,529.09	\$3,302.64	\$4,954.00
Total Revenues	\$99,476.35	\$98,827.12	\$148,240.72
Expenses	Spent	Expected	Budgeted year
Childcare-babysitting	(\$60.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Continuing education	\$165.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Diocesan fair share	\$9,173.00	\$9,832.64	\$14,749.00
Equip & fixtures-new purchase	\$9.21	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance	\$9,553.24	\$11,360.64	\$17,041.00
Maintenance & repair	\$1,110.38	\$1,500.00	\$2,250.00
Office (not supplies)	\$1,580.55	\$1,640.00	\$2,460.00
Labor services	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies	\$1,274.07	\$1,650.00	\$2,475.00
Taxes	\$1,059.57	\$1,612.00	\$2,418.00
Utilities	\$6,333.36	\$6,164.08	\$9,246.00
Miscellaneous expenses	\$4,906.56	\$5,646.64	\$8,470.00
Personnel	\$57,410.94	\$62,067.44	\$93,101.00
Total Expenses	\$92,965.88	\$101,473.44	\$152,210.00

World Community Day "Embracing Justice"

Church Women United invite you to join us as we come together this year for "World Community Day," Friday, October 24, 2008, at St. Timothy's Catholic Church, Morro Bay, at 10:30 a.m. As we celebrate this year we are reminded of the worldwide movement of women of many faith traditions, who come together on this day to observe a common day of prayer, from sunrise to sunset.

Following the worship service, there will be a short business meeting before our Salad Luncheon, hosted by St. Timothy's Women's Guild in the Parish Hall.

Please RSVP by October 20, 2008 to Althea, 772-7729 or office,

10 772-2840.

Financial Report As of September 30th, 2008

Revenues	Received	Expected	Budgeted Year
Offerings	\$86,060.84	\$84,860.01	\$113,146.72
Rents received	\$13,155.96	\$13,495.50	\$17,994.00
Parish Hall use	\$2,147.32	\$3,048.75	\$4,065.00
Fund raising projects	\$0.00	\$37.53	\$50.00
Special projects	\$782.60	\$1,987.47	\$2,650.00
Miscellaneous other revenues	\$10,886.09	\$4,035.78	\$5,381.00
Interest	\$1,699.72	\$3,715.47	\$4,954.00
Total Revenues	\$114,732.53	\$111,180.51	\$148,240.72

Expenses	Have Spent	Expected	Budgeted Year
Childcare-babysitting	(\$60.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Continuing education	\$165.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Diocesan fair share	\$11,615.00	\$11,061.72	\$14,749.00
Equip & fixtures-new purchase	\$9.21	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance	\$10,439.93	\$12,780.72	\$17,041.00
Maintenance & repair	\$1,826.22	\$1,687.50	\$2,250.00
Office (not supplies)	\$1,846.19	\$1,845.00	\$2,460.00
Labor services	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies	\$1,393.33	\$1,856.25	\$2,475.00
Taxes	\$1,059.57	\$1,813.50	\$2,418.00
Utilities	\$6,983.19	\$6,934.59	\$9,246.00
Miscellaneous expenses	\$5,226.76	\$6,352.47	\$8,470.00
Personnel	\$69,722.49	\$69,825.87	\$93,101.00
Total Expenses	\$110,676.89	\$114,157.62	\$152,210.00

HOW DID WE DO IN SEPTEMBER 2008?

In the month of September, we spent \$2455 more than we received. During the first nine months, we received \$4056 more than we spent, including two paid up pledges received in January. Sprint is writing an amendment to our contract with a new rent commencement date of January 15th, 2009. They are still proceeding with obtaining permits to begin work. No amendment or start date has been received. We have contributed \$1244 to the Millennium Development Goals. BBQ is coming up on Oct. 25th. Hoping for a big turnout. Cash flow is still a problem. With Vestry approval, we borrowed \$5798 from our savings to pay big bills. Cash flow will continue to be a problem for the rest of the year.

A full copy of the September Financial Report is on the bulletin board (with a blue cover). If you would like a copy, ask Judy. Any questions or comments please call me—771-8270 or email: wschob@sbcglobal.net