



The Epistle

The Monthly Publication of the People of
St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Kansas City, Missouri
August 2011

Whet Your Appetite and Join Us for a Picnic

Celebrate St. Peter's Day during our annual picnic on Saturday, August 6. This year the picnic will be at Longview Lake, Shelter House 13.

This shelter house has an awesome playground area for all of your kids and/or grandkids, and a walking trail where kids can ride their bikes. There is also a public beach for swimming and you can rent a boat at the marina. Bring the whole extended family — all of your kids, grandkids, etc. — for a day of fun and fellowship.

We'll start at noon with social hour and then fire up the grills at 1 p.m. and be eating at approximately 1:30 p.m. Hot dogs, brats and hamburgers will be provided.

Please sign-up on the bulletin board and indicate how many will attend (this helps to determine how much meat to buy) and what side dish you plan to bring.



Fourth Annual Car Show



Our fourth annual car show is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on August 13. This no-fee event will feature all types of cars and motorcycles. Dash plaques will be awarded to the first 50 registrants. Food and drinks will be available, and if you can help cook, sell tickets or sell food, please sign-up on the bulletin board.

Animal Cookies, Anyone? Come to VBS

The Midrash Bible Study will be conducting this year's St. Peter's Vacation Bible School (VBS) the morning of August 20 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. All children from kindergarten through 6th grade are encouraged to attend. There will be several stations of activities, study, crafts and entertainment. We hope that all our children will attend and bring their friends and neighbors.

There will be cookies and more served during the school session.

Jana Triplett





Destroyed neighborhood in storm path

Source: KOMUnews; Used by permission
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Two Parishioners Join Relief Effort

In addition to the financial gifts and material goods collected for those effected by the May 22 tornado which struck Joplin, Mo., two members of St. Peter's parish went to Joplin to assist in cleanup efforts.

"On July 2, a group of my friends from karate went down to Joplin to help with the tornado relief. In one day, I meet people from all over the country, some as far as Alaska and Hawaii.

"When we arrived, some of us helped pull stumps and cut down dead trees. Some went and helped to prepare homes to be knocked down. Others stayed behind and prepared food and beverages for those out in the field.

"I could see that support from other communities gave the people of Joplin hope."

Jennifer Fuller

In the Heat, Joplin Cleanup Work Continues

Joplin, Mo., July 6. The upper air temperature is hovering around 100 and humidity coats your lungs. Lead and asbestos in the air means volunteers clawing through the carnage have to wear facemasks as they work in that heat and humidity.

And they do work.

This is the 46th day since the super tornado ripped across this southwestern Missouri town killing 153 men, women and children. It is a Wednesday. Yet more than 100 volunteers are bending their backs in the blistering heat at more than a dozen sites using picks and shovels, hoes, axes, but mostly their hands, to separate the debris and recover the physical remnants of the souls lost and the souls saved.

That is the most important thing I saw.

A bone-tired and fragile-looking young man told me that his fellow AmeriCorps volunteers who are coordinating and leading the site cleanups are starting to become sick. The sheer physical strain of the work, the weather, the lack of nutritious food and sleep and a spreading fungal infection are cutting them down. Yet he is in awe of the volunteers who continue to show up daily. He had sort of expected the enthusiasm to wane more, the fad to wear down perhaps. He said 100 volunteers is a slow day.

And they keep coming.

At a staging site next to the shattered Joplin High School campus, a local church group continues to serve meals to the volunteers. They have not failed a single day or a single meal. Today there are several long tables seating volunteers, some dazed and worn and even more others remarkably energetic

and vocal. At one end are about a dozen Amish men and women. Next to them are an equal number of young Jewish women, some wearing Israeli Navy t-shirts. There's a large clan of family members wearing same-color shirts.

A few people in the line are obviously not volunteers but are hungry nevertheless and no one is turned away.

You have seen still and video pictures of what is left of a vast swath of Joplin. They cannot convey what is there.

I have seen the effects of air strikes, earthquakes, floods, megafires and riots. Joplin seems worse. Perhaps it's there, a foot in front of your face as you bend over to lift another board or brick, and you find a ten year-old Thank You card. Or you shovel up burnt insulation and a child's shoe drops from the load. Then you stand up to stretch your aching back and rip off the mask and gasp in some air and you see the same thing in all directions as far as you can see.

And still the volunteers come.

If you harbor any concerns about the fragility of man's concern for others or the ability of the faithful to sustain themselves in the face of nature's fury in God's glorious creation. If you suspect that one's love for others cannot always be sustained, then you ought to come down here for a day.

Drive to the football stadium parking lot at Missouri Southern State University any time after 8:30 am. Park your car, sign in and a bus will take you to a work site. You may find that faith and commitment to others is more powerful than you ever imagined.

Ted Bell

Diocesan Joplin Tornado Relief Efforts are Ongoing

Our diocesan relief efforts for the Joplin tornado victims are under way.

- The first *No Charge Garage Sale* is set for August 6. Another *No Charge Garage Sale*, in which St. Peter's will be participating, is set for October 22.

- Plans to build a two-story duplex for *Lafayette House* in Joplin (a women' and children shelter) are moving forward.

Those plans will involve the need for work-teams on weekends to accomplish various construction projects, e.g. hanging dry-

wall, painting, etc. Specific dates will be set later this summer as the plans develop.

- On Saturday, Nov. 19, all are invited to join Bishop Marty Field in Joplin for *liturgy of blessing* for this work.

- *ReLeaf* events, designed to re-plant a Joplin park and possibly some neighborhoods, will be held in the spring.

For up-to-date information on these and other diocesan efforts, go to their website, www.episcopalwestmo.org, and click on the Tornado Relief link.



Rector's Ruminations

By the Rev. Russell W. Johnson, Jr.

Dear Friends,

As I write this in mid-July, the temperatures are hovering around 100 degrees and I hope you are keeping yourselves comfortable during the hot weather.

When you think about it, Jesus would have experienced this hot weather too, since Judea/Palestine/Israel is closer to the equator which brings a very intense summer season. How did they survive such intense, hot, summer days?

The Roman government was creative in building aqueducts so that water could be transported to different parts of **the major cities**. **It's hard to know what Jesus would have worn** during the hot weather, but probably a lighter muslin weight which most lower class people wore. Chances are that when **Jesus worked with his "earthly father" Joseph in the carpenter shop**, they worked early in the day, closed shop during the afternoon when it became really hot, and open again late afternoon to early evening.

We are lucky to have air conditioning at St. Peter's, especially for Sunday worship. Many of the older churches in Minnesota do not have air conditioning, and therefore, worshipping can be very uncomfortable for a few weeks, especially with wearing vestments. Many of you may be aware that I do not wear the chasuble during the warmer months, May through September. For the chasuble was originally developed to be worn in cathedrals that did not have any form of heating, and the more levels of clothing you can wear, the warmer you could be!

So during this "hot period" of summer, keep cool, drink lots of liquids (water preferably), and come and worship on Sunday in our comfortable environment at St. Peter's.

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I wish to thank all who checked through your summer clothing, plus packaged school supplies, and donated items for the August 6 *No Charge Garage Sale* at St. Philips Church in Joplin. Special thanks to Clay Glenn who took these items **down to St. Paul's – Kansas City** on July 31 so they could be transported down to Joplin.

St. Peter's Outreach will focus its major energy on the October 22 No Charge Garage Sale at St. Philip's in Joplin. De-

tails will follow, but you may want to check through your front closet for jackets that are in good shape but no longer worn, or your bedroom closet for winter shirts/blouses/pants/skirts that are in good shape for others to wear. Your gifts may be **brought to the church office, and placed in the deacon's office.** Thank you.

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From my daily calendar (received as a Christmas gift):

If you have time to text, you have time to pray.

Keep the faith – but not to yourself.

God is the potter – not Harry.

God's grace: one size fits all.

Sunday's menu: Bread, Wine, Divinity.

God loves you! No restrictions apply.

Read the Bible – **it'll scare the hell out of you!**

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August activities (see more info within this *Epistle*):

Our annual parish picnic is to take place August 6. This is a new time and place (Longview Lake Shelter House 13), **beginning at noon and eating at 1:30 p.m.** I do hope that you'll sign up and join us for this festival event, as Susan and I look forward in seeing you there to enjoy hospitality and great fun with one another.

Let's hope this year Mother Nature cooperates with our fourth annual Car Show. Because of the rain, Cletson Cox wisely moved the show from June to August, so I hope that August 13 will be a great sunny day, perfect to come and see the different variety of cars from various periods and styles.

I give thanks for the Midrash Ladies (the Tuesday afternoon Bible study group) who are offering our Vacation Bible School (VBS) on Saturday, August 20 this year. Last year, Rebecca Fisher supervised the event and it was a great success. This year, from 9 – 11:30 a.m., games, activities and movies will be offered for children ages 5 through 12. So invite your children, grandchildren and neighborhood friends for a great morning!

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How time flies and for some, school will begin in the middle of August. I hope as you complete your summer activities, **that you be careful in these final days of the "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer."**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Russell W. Johnson, Jr." with a checkmark at the end.

Reflections from the Worrywart Treadmill

I went for an early evening stroll not long ago, intending to **place my “what ifs” in the Lord’s hands and seek divine guidance.** Instead of doing either of those things, however, I **ended up obsessing over my “what ifs,”** imagining how the various situations might play out for better or for worse. In short, **I never really got around to placing my “what ifs” in the Lord’s hands.** I was far too engrossed in spinning my wheels and going nowhere on the worrywart treadmill.

Eventually I surfaced from my preoccupation enough to notice that night had fallen – but with such brightness! A huge full moon hung low in the sky, clearly illuminating the grounds. Countless fireflies twinkled and flashed like earth-bound stars, dancing all around me. For several moments I stood stock still, simply **delighting in God’s special effects.** **In the midst of such amazing grace I found myself quoting from Psalm 139: “Wonderful are your works!”**



My **“what ifs” did not miraculously evaporate, but, miraculously,** they no longer felt like an oppressive weight. Like the ancient psalmist, I felt awed and humbled by the power of the One who created and loves the earth and all that is in it. From the lights in the sky, to the lightning bugs over the lawn, to preoccupied people who overlook both, our God holds us **fast. That’s what I learned—again—as I tumbled off the worrywart treadmill—yet one more time.** I pass it along, this **anchor to which we can cling whenever our “what ifs” land us on the worrywart treadmill: our God holds us fast, no matter what, and that’s good news.**

Kathy Hall

Sunday School Classes Continue

The Sunday School program for elementary-aged children continues through the summer. We are doing crafts, and short videos and music to prompt discussions.

Class start at 10 a.m. in undercroft classroom behind the stage. All elementary children are welcome. If parents have any questions, please contact me at wsfuller@kc.rr.com or phone (cell) 816-522-5474.

Debby Fuller

We Are Not Trader Joe’s

We are not the popular Trader Joe’s that just opened in our area, but more unusual items and better prices for sure are available in our little St. Peter’s Gift Shop than at any shopping place in town. And you don’t have to wait in a long line to get in or to make your purchases.

Myra Hyatt, Sandy Glenn and I will also be restocking the Gift Shop early in August, so don’t miss rechecking the new and interesting additions we hope you will find.

May August bring us cooler and much more comfortable weather.

Kathy Morris and Crew

Music Ministry to Gear Up After Labor Day

It’s hard to believe that the summer has gone so quickly! The music ministry will get back into full swing at the end of August. Chancel choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesdays at 6:30 p. m. beginning on Aug. 31, and resume singing on Sunday mornings beginning Sept. 11. The handbell choir will also resume in September, rehearsing on Sundays after church on Sept. 4, 11, and 18, and offering handbell music during the service on Sept. 25. The children’s choir will return in October, rehearsing after church on Oct. 2, 9, and 16, and sing for us on Oct. 23. The handbell choir and children’s choir alternate every other month, from Labor Day through Memorial Day.

We’ve got a ton of great music planned for this year for all three of our music ministry groups! If you have had the desire to be a part of the music ministry, as a singer of any age or a bell ringer, this is the perfect time to jump in! For more information, please contact our director of music, Laurie Schwab, at laurie.schwab@stpetersepisopal.net or at 816-524-4557.

Diocese Publishes Quarterly Magazine

The Diocese of West Missouri publishes a quarterly publication, *The Spirit*. If you do not receive it and would like to, please call the Diocesan office at 816.471.6161. The current and back issues are available on the Diocesan website, www.episcopalwestmo.org.

August 2011 Events Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Boy Scouts	2 2 p.m.—Bible Study	3 8:30 a.m. Aerobics	4 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 7 p.m.—1st Thursday Club	5—Office Closed 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 5:30 p.m.—Phillips/York Rehearsal	6 8:30 a.m.—Pantry Team to St. Paul's, KCK Noon—Church Picnic at Longview Lake 3 p.m.—Phillips/York Wedding and Reception
			Russ. out of office.			
7 The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost 8 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 9:15 a.m.—Adult Forum: Bible Study 10 a.m.— Children's Christian Learning 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist Russ out of office	8 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Boy Scouts	9 10:30 a.m.—AARP 2 p.m.—Bible Study 7 p.m.—Discernment	10 8:30 a.m. Aerobics	11 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist	12—Office Closed 8:30 a.m. Aerobics	13 8:30 a.m.—Team One to St. Paul's, KCK 10 a.m.—Car Show
14 The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost 8 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 9:15 a.m.—Adult Forum: Bible Study 10 a.m.— Children's Christian Learning 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist	15 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Boy Scouts	16 2 p.m.—Bible Study	17 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 6:30 p.m.—Group to New Theatre	18 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist	19—Office Closed 8:30 a.m. Aerobics	20 8:30 a.m.—Team Two to St. Paul's KCK 9—11:30 a.m.—Vacation Bible School
21 The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost 8 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 9:15 a.m.—Adult Forum: Bible Study 10 a.m.— Children's Christian Learning 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist VESTRY	22 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Boy Scouts	23 2 p.m.—Bible Study 7 p.m.—Discernment	24 8:30 a.m. Aerobics	25 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist	26—Office Closed 8:30 a.m. Aerobics	27
28 The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost 8 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 9:15 a.m.—Adult Forum: Bible Study 10 a.m.— Children's Christian Learning 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m.—OSL Meeting	29 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Boy Scouts	30 2 p.m.—Bible Study	31 8:30 a.m.—Aerobics 6:30 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal			

August 2011 Ministry Schedule

	August 7 The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost	August 14 The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost	August 21 The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	August 28 The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
SACRISTANS 8 a.m.* 10 a.m.	Nancy Rozell* Betty Ritchie, Rebecca Fisher	Nan Bohl* Irislee Pringle, Crystal Cameron-Vedros	Ellen Bartels, Suzanne Hoff* Helena Fulls, Stacie Czar	Barbara Lorenz, Kathleen Clarke* Elizabeth F uemmeler, Kemp Wiese
ACOLYTES 10 a.m. Crucifer Gospel Book Torch Torch	Jhennifer Fuller Nicole Wright Julia Misemer	Janie Turner Travis Triplett Molly Johnson	Noah Ralston Abbie Czar Emma Czar Spencer Ralston	Jhennifer Fuller Nicole Wright Benjamin Schwab
LECTORS/EM 8 a.m.* Lector/EM 10 a.m. 1 st Lector 2 nd Lector/EM Eucharistic Minister	Terry Rozell* Bill Brown Tim Schwab Jhennifer Fuller	Larry Christie* Bob Noll Linda Manthei Tim Schwab	Debbie Dribben*: LR Jack Knuth*:EM only Amie Ralston Laurel Bondi Jim McDowell	Donna Stanford* Tara Markham Jim McDowell Nancy Harris
INTERCESSOR 8 a.m.* 10 a.m.	Terry Rozell* Laurie Schwab	Larry Christie* Tim Schwab	Debbie Dribben* Need Volunteer	Donna Stanford* Amie Ralston
CELEBRANT/ HOMILIST	F. Mann/F. Mann	Johnson/Johnson	Johnson/Johnson	Johnson/Hall
CHAPEL PRAYER 8 a.m.* 10 a.m.	Michael Davis Sandy Glenn	Michael Davis Laurel Bondi	Michael Davis Nancy Harris	Michael Davis Debby Fuller
USHERS 8 a.m.* 10 a.m.	Charles Harvey* John Fisher, Bud Brown	Ford Bohl* Chris Czar, Sam Manthei	Larry Kennedy* Cleison Cox, Paul Vedros	John Van Hafften* Bill and Debby Norman
GREETERS 8 a.m.* Narthex: Vestibule 10 a.m. Narthex: Vestibule:	Ellen Bartels* Larry Christie* Nancy Harris Jim & Cindy Giddings	Becca Coleman* Linda Voran, Clint Haberland*	Patti Kennedy* Sherri Wingard*	Boo Van Hafften* Donna Stanford*
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS After 8 a.m. Eucharist *	Terry & Nancy Rozell Need Volunteer	Jack Knuth & Becca Coleman Need Volunteer	Clay Glenn Sandy Glenn Need Volunteer Need Volunteer	Sue Ferraro Jhennifer Fuller Need Volunteer Need Volunteer
GIFT SHOP HOSTS 8:00 a.m.*10:00	Suzanne Hoff* Sandy Glenn	Barbara Lorenz* Helena Fulls	Nancy Rozell* Kemp Wiese	Suzanne Hoff* Crystal Cameron-Vedros

August Efforts to Help St. Mary's

During the month of August we will be focusing our efforts on St. Mary's food pantry. I spoke with Deacon Leslie recently at St. Mary's and she wants to thank all those at St. Peter's for what we do for them. They are extremely grateful for our help. As always they can use canned meat products such as ravioli, Vienna sausage, pasta sauce with meat and potted meats. They are always in need of canned fruit. If you cannot get out to shop you can make out a check to St. Peter's with "Outreach" in the memo portion and we will take care of it.

On another note, we will be working for the next 2 months to try and collect items for the Joplin Tornado Relief efforts through the diocese. All we ask is to go through your clothes, your kids' or grandkids' clothes and if they are in good shape but no longer fit just bring them to St. Peter's and we will get them to Joplin. They will have a no-charge garage sale in October for those in need and they can use fall and winter clothes as well as kitchen and holiday items. If you have any questions about this, just give me a call or talk to me at church. Instead of taking your good used clothes to Goodwill or Salvation Army, bring them to us. It doesn't cost you anything and it certainly helps those in need in the Joplin area.

Once again, thank you for all you do.

God bless,
Clay Glenn Jr
Outreach Chair



August Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 9 Frank Sargent
- 18 Rosemary Overbey
- 19 Kenneth Hollstrom
- 20 Kemp Wiese
- 21 Debbie Dribben
- 25 Howard Archer
- 26 Linda Manthei
Jennifer Moritz
- 27 Anni Archuletta
- 30 Molly Johnson

Anniversaries

- 5 Charlie & Barbara Oliver
- 8 Gary & Kimberly Johnson
- 9 Jim & Kathy Hall
- 11 Bob & Kathy Murphy
- 13 Ken & Tara Markham
- 28 Jack & Barbara Lorenz
Maurice & Allene Hunt

Financial Status

<u>Year to Date thru June</u>	Budget	Actual
Revenue	\$ 140,238	\$ 135,474
Expenses	\$ 134,347	\$ 134,535
Surplus (deficit)		\$ 939

During the summer months, we run very close on income/expenses. It's important that your commitment to the church continues, even if you are on vacation! Thank you!

Debbie Miller
Financial Advisor

Day School News

Places Available for Fall Opening

We have had a very creative summer, as our teachers came together and created many new theme days, which the children truly enjoyed. We are looking forward to beginning our new school year this month and have another year filled with learning opportunities and family based extracurricular activities. We will end the summer with an ice cream party for our family and friends of the day school.

There are several openings in the day school for the fall. If you or someone you know is interested in our program, please come by the day school for a tour and an information packet.

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Cathy Henson
Day School Director

St. Peter's Vestry

- Russell Johnson, Rector
(816) 942-1066 russ.johnson@stpetersepiscopal.net
- Becca Coleman, Senior Warden
(913) 541-8526 becca.coleman@stpetersepiscopal.net
- Jim Giddings, Junior Warden
(816) 569-2107 jim.giddings@stpetersepiscopal.net
- John Fisher, Buildings & Grounds
(816) 795-6693 john.fisher@stpetersepiscopal.net
- Clay Glenn, Outreach
(816) 250-5402 clay.glenn@stpetersepiscopal.net
- Larry Kennedy, Membership/Fellowship
(913) 636-8862 larry.kennedy@stpetersepiscopal.net
- Larry Christie, Treasurer/Finance
(816) 322-1396 larry.christie@stpetersepiscopal.net
- Jana Triplett, Christian Education
(816) 444-5294 jana.beetriplett@stpetersepiscopal.net
- Linda Voran, Clerk
(913) 681-0255 linda.voran@stpetersepiscopal.net
- Kathy Hall, Deacon
(816) 560-3803 kathy.hall@stpetersepiscopal.net

Weekly Service Schedule

Sunday

Holy Eucharist.....	8:00 a.m.
Adult Forum.....	9:15 a.m.
Children's Learning.....	10:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist.....	10:00 a.m.

Thursday

Holy Eucharist.....	10:00 a.m.
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St. Peter's Mission Statement

We are called by God through Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to respond in this community by:

- *Worshiping God*
- *Growing in knowledge of God's presence in our daily lives*
- *Providing a warm, nourishing and reconciling fellowship*
- *Sharing God's love with others*

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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St. Peter's Day School

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