



# The Epistle

The Monthly Publication of the People of  
St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
Kansas City, Missouri  
January 2012



## Rector's Ruminations

By the Rev. Russell W. Johnson, Jr.

Dear Friends,

So, not much going on after Christmas at St. Peter's you say? Well, check this out:

Every sixth year, the lectionary calendar allows us to celebrate Jesus' "Holy Name," Sunday Jan. 1. St. Peter's will have one service on Jan. 1 as we did in 2006, and I hope that you'll be "up and ready" for the 10 a.m. service, after celebrating New Year's Eve. So come and celebrate not only Jesus' name, but also prayers for a spiritually healthy 2012!

We celebrate the baptism of Jesus on Sunday, Jan. 8. On this date, we'll reaffirm our Baptism Covenant, reminding us of our responsibilities that our sponsors recited for us at our baptism, but also our own recitation of them at our confirmation. Being one of our major sacraments, baptism welcomes us into the Body of Christ – a member of the church universal – and in reciting our vows, we remind ourselves how we are to care for one another, including "respecting the dignity of every human body."

Our annual celebration of our patron St. Peter will be Jan. 15. "The Confession of Saint Peter" is a *moveable feast* which means that although its official date is Jan. 18, we have the ability to *literally move* our observance either forward or backward, and so not to conflict with our annual meeting. The Sunday before, the 15<sup>th</sup>, will be our celebration of the patron saint of our parish.

St. Peter's annual meeting will take place on Sunday, Jan. 22, after our one service at 9:30 a.m. You'll find a sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board for you to bring your favorite fruit,

bread or dessert to share after the 9:30 a.m. service in the Undercroft. This is a special time in the life of St. Peter's, as Larry Christie (treasurer) will present the approved budget by the Vestry; reports from our senior (Becca Coleman) and junior (Jim Giddings) wardens, the election of new vestry positions and delegates to deanery meetings and diocesan convention, plus give thanks for the work of those who have fulfilled their Vestry terms. I therefore ask you to please mark this date and time on your calendar. As your Rector, I urge your presence at the annual meeting and I look forward to our gathering as our "community family brunch" on Jan. 22 after the 9:30 a.m. service.

On our fifth Sunday, Jan. 29, St. Peter's Order of St. Luke ministry group to lead its quarterly healing service at the 10 a.m. service. This is a special time when the congregation gathers to offer very special personal prayers for those in need, guidance or healing, as well as giving thanks for those close to us whom have healed or give thanks for those whom now occupy a place in heaven.

Looking at your January calendar, I hope that you'll mark these important dates in the life of your parish community and join us whenever you can.

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A note about the Season of Epiphany:

Did you know that "...the Feast of the Epiphany is older than Christmas, the earliest mention of it being about 200 CE? Though like Christmas, it too was probably a counteraction to the pagan solstice festival celebrating the birth of light"? <sup>1</sup>

I always think of the Season of Epiphany as the "fast forward" picture of Jesus' ministry. Twelve days after Christmas is the visit of the Magi. The following Sunday Jesus is baptized by his cousin John. We then encounter Jesus going about gathering his disciples, healing those who have diseases and eating with the unclean, all of which sets him up against the temple authorities in the 40 days of Lent.

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## Thanks Extended to Congregation

In this holy and joyous season, we celebrate God's greatest gift: Jesus, the Word made flesh, who dwelt among us long ago and who remains incarnate among us through our care for one another. **Care, such as the care that St. Peter's** has extended to me. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the many ways in which you have supported me: welcoming me so warmly into your midst; giving me great feedback on sermons and Prayers of the People; attending my ordination (in person or in spirit); holding me in prayer; bringing scrumptious treats to our coffee hour reception; contributing to my beautiful new cassock, surplice and tippet; cards; gifts; warm wishes; loving words. I am so thankful to and for each one of you. May you be richly blessed this **Christmastide, and may you continue to embody God's love** to those whose lives you touch. Merry Christmas, St. Peter's!



Kathy Hall

### Gift Shop News

## Shop Staff Gains Member

If you took a good look at the Gift Shop display before the Christmas stock was removed, you might think we didn't sell very much this year, but thankfully, we had a good selling season in spite of the three Sundays the Gift Shop had to be closed for other events. So we gratefully thank all who contributed to our having a profitable season and we already have plans for how these funds will be used to benefit St. Peter's.

We were sad to see Suzanne Hoff leave for their southwestern home for the winter months as Suzanne was active in both the Altar Guild and Gift Shop and look forward to her return in the spring. So the timing could not have been more perfect to welcome Nancy Sorensen, a newcomer to **St. Peter's who has volunteered for the 8 a.m. Gift Shop service.** She will be a most valuable addition to our crew.

Each of us wish each of you a Most Happy and Healthy 2012,

Kathy Morris and the Gift Shop crew

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During these seven weeks of Epiphany (the length of Epiphany depends up when Easter is scheduled), we continue to celebrate the gift of Jesus' ministry as he walked among the people and communities within Judea.

With our many activities that are planned for January, I hope you will join with us as we also walk with the Lord during this time of the Season of Epiphany.

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Many thanks to Laurie Schwab and those who participated in **the children's music and song program at the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.**

<sup>1</sup>Buckland, Patricia "Advent to Pentecost: a history of the church year" (Wilton: Morehouse-Barlow Co., Inc. © 1979 Patricia B. Buckland), p. 46

## Parish Notes

- St. Monica's Guild will not meet during January and February.
- The Boy Scouts thank all for their support during their annual greenery sale.
- Annual meeting is scheduled for January 22; includes brunch.
- The 2012 flower chart is posted on the bulletin board.

### Day School News

## Check out Colors and Shapes

The themes for January are Colors & Shapes and Under the Sea. Miss Kaleigh, our teacher in the Green Room, has created a color and shapes wall in the classroom which looks great and is also a great learning tool. Be sure to check it out when you are down by the day school.

I want to give a special thank you to my cousin, Lynette Schrick-Miro on the donation of a computer to our Green Room. The children have been without a computer for almost a year and now we have one up and running again! There are many learning opportunities on the computer and even our three year olds are becoming computer savvy!

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Cathy Henson  
Day School Director

# January 2012 Events Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 11:15 a.m.—Coffee Hour, Parlor	2—Office Closed	3 2 p.m.—Bible Study	4 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	5 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 6:15 p.m.—Back Snack 7 p.m.—Couples Bible Study 7 p.m.—1st Thursday Club	6—Office Closed 8:30 a.m. Aerobics	7 9:30 a.m.—Praise Band
8 The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Jesus 8 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.—Coffee Hour, Parlor 9:15 a.m.—Adult Forum: Bible Study 10 a.m.— <b>Children's Christian Learning</b> 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 11:15 a.m.—Coffee Hour, Parlor	9 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Boy Scouts	10 10:30 a.m.—AARP 2 p.m.—Bible Study	11 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	12 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 6:15 p.m.—Back Snack	13—Office Closed 8:30 a.m.—Aerobics	14 9:30 a.m.—Praise Band
15 The Second Sunday after the Epiphany: The Confession of St. Peter 8 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.—Coffee Hour, Parlor 9:15 a.m.—Adult Forum: Bible Study 10 a.m.— <b>Children's Christian Learning</b> 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 11:15 a.m.—Coffee Hour, Parlor 11:30 a.m. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">VESTRY Meeting</span>	16 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Boy Scouts	17 2 p.m.—Bible Study	18 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	19 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 6:15 p.m.—Back Snack 7 p.m.—Couples Bible Study	20—Office Closed 8:30 a.m. Aerobics	21 9:30 a.m.— <b>St. Paul's, KCK</b> 9:30 a.m.—Praise Band
22 The Third Sunday after the Epiphany 9:30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m.—Brunch/Annual Meeting in the Undercroft	23 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Boy Scouts	24 2 p.m.—Bible Study	25 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	26 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 6:15 p.m.—Back Snack 7 p.m.—Couples Bible Study	27—Office Closed 8:30 a.m.—Aerobics	28 9:30 a.m.—Praise Band
29 The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany 8 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.—Coffee Hour, Parlor 9:15 a.m.—Adult Forum: Bible Study 10 a.m.— <b>Children's Christian Learning</b> 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist—Healing 11:15 a.m.—Coffee Hour, Parlor	30 8:30 a.m. Aerobics 7 p.m.—Boy Scouts	31				

# January 2012 Ministry Schedule

	January 1 The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ	January 8 The First Sunday after the Epiphany	January 15 The Second Sunday after the Epiphany	January 22 The Third Sunday after the Epiphany	January 29 The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
SACRISTANS 8 a.m. 10 a.m.	<u>10 a.m. Service only</u> Betty Ritchie, Rebecca Fisher	Nan Bohl Irislee Pringle, Slacie Czar	Ellen Bartels Helena Fulls, Crystal Cameron-Vedros	<u>9:30 a.m. Service only</u> Barbara Lorenz, Elizabeth Fuemmeler	Kathleen Clarke Kemp Wiese
ACOLYTES 10 a.m. Crucifer Gospel Book Torch Torch	Nicole Wright Julia Misemer Paige Wright	Janie Turner Abbie Czar Molly Johnson Emma Czar	Paige Wright Benjamin Schwab	<u>9:30 a.m. Service only</u>	Elizabeth Fuemmeler Nicole Wright Julia Misemer Paige Wright
LECTORS/EM 8 a.m. Lector/EM 10 a.m. 1 <sup>st</sup> Lector 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lector/EM Eucharistic Minister	<u>10 a.m. Service only</u> Bill Brown Tim Schwab Nancy Harris	Larry Chrislie Cielson Cox Ted Bell Jim McDowell	LR: Debbie Dribben EM: Sheri Wingard Tara Markham Jim McDowell Laurel Bondi	<u>9:30 a.m. Service only</u> Terry Rozell Elizabeth Fuemmeler Alexis Fuemmeler	Donna Stanford Bob Noll Frank Anderson Ted Bell
INTERCESSOR 8 a.m. 10 a.m.	<u>10 a.m. Service only</u> Sandy Glenn	Larry Chrislie Need Volunteer	Debbie Dribben Need Volunteer	<u>9:30 a.m. Service only</u> Terry Rozell	Donna Stanford Need Volunteer
CELEBRANT/HOMILIST 8 a.m./10 a.m.	Hall/Johnson	Johnson/Johnson	Johnson/Johnson	Hall/Johnson	Johnson/Hall
CHAPEL PRAYER 8 a.m. 10 a.m.	<u>10 a.m. Service only</u> Sandy Glenn	Michael Davis Laurel Bondi	Michael Davis Nancy Harris	<u>9:30 a.m. Service only</u> Michael Davis	Michael Davis Sandy Glenn
USHERS 8 a.m. 10 a.m.	<u>10 a.m. Service only</u> John Fisher, Bud Brown	Ford Bohl Chris Czar, Sam Manthei	Larry Kennedy Cielson Cox, Paul Vedros	<u>9:30 a.m. Service only</u> Bill & Debby Norman	Don White Bill & Debby Norman
GREETERS 8 a.m. Narthex: Vestibule 10 a.m. Narthex: Vestibule:	<u>10 a.m. Service only</u> Nancy Harris Sue Johnson	Becca Coleman Linda Voran, Clint Haberland Sue Johnson Frank Anderson	Patti Kennedy Sheri Wingard Clay Glenn Jim & Cindy Giddings	<u>9:30 a.m. Service only</u> Narthex: Boo Van Haften, Sue Ferraro Vestibule: Larry Christie Jhennifer Fuller	Larry Christie Sue Johnson Clay Glenn
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS After 8 a.m. Eucharist After 10 a.m. Eucharist	<u>10 a.m. Service only</u> Need Volunteer	Sheri Wingard Need Volunteer	Donna Stanford Sue Ellen Wright	Brunch/Annual Meeting in the Undercroft	Jack Knuth/Becca Coleman Ted & Pam Bell
GIFT SHOP HOSTS 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	<u>10 a.m. Service only</u> Sandy Glenn	Nancy Rozell Crystal Cameron Vedros	Nancy Sorensen/Kathy Morris Kemp Wiese	Gift Shop Closed	Barbara Lorrenz Helena Fulls

## Guadalupe Outreach a Success

Well, the holiday season is over and I hope everyone had a great holiday. Maybe Santa brought you just what you wanted or you had some good times with family and friends and most of all we remembered the reason for the season. Our Guadalupe Outreach was a great success this past December and the folks at Guadalupe were very grateful and told those of us who delivered the items that they could **always count on St. Peter's to do a great job. Thanks to all of you who helped make it another successful outreach effort.**

Now January is upon us and this month we will direct our **Outreach efforts to St. Mary's Kansas City. They are always in need of canned items such as spaghetti sauce with meat, raviolis, Spam, Vienna sausages and canned fruit. When possible it is helpful if we can get the types of cans that have the tab openings so a can opener is not needed. Many of their clients are homeless and don't always have can openers. When we delivered the sacks for Thanksgiving I spoke with Deacon Leslie and it appears they have had an increase of at least 25 percent in the number of clients they serve. So let's check the sale papers and do what we can to help.**

**As always if you don't get a chance to shop you can just write a check and put "Outreach" in the memo portion and we'll shop for you. Thanks for all you do and may God bless you all.**

Peace,  
**Clay Glenn**  
 Outreach Chair

## Helping Hands Brighten Holiday

Special thanks to all the many helping hands for making St. Peter's look Christmas ready! Everyone got to add their personal touch, making the work done quickly. We truly missed Debby Fuller's directing and her talent, but we know she is pleased how festive the church looks. Before Debby's passing, she was able to embroider another set of Christmas linens for communion purposes. What makes this set a little more impressive is she used some of the beautiful linens that belonged to Dorothy Johnson (Fr. Russ's mother). So, as we miss Debby and her many talents, we also know she is using those talents in a much better place. Thank you, Debby.

Rebecca Fisher



## January Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

- 3 Chad Dial
- Sean Giddings
- Debby Norman
- 7 Jack Knuth
- 9 Kathleen Clarke
- 12 Bryan Abbott
- 14 Maurice Hunt
- 17 Sally Vander Lippe
- 18 Nicole Wright
- 19 Emily Vander Lippe

Clay Glenn III

- 20 Don White
- 24 A. J. Van Houtan
- 25 Jeffrey Brown
- 28 Bridget Clary
- 30 Bob Noll
- 31 Hal Ferraro

### Anniversaries

- 16 Michael & Becky Cheek
- 17 Diane & Allen Van Houtan

### Financial Status

<u>Year to Date thru November</u>	Budget	Actual
Revenue	\$ 242,537	\$ 236,402
Expenses	\$ 247,345	\$ 234,101
Surplus (deficit)		\$ 2,301

As we draw closer to year-end, thank you for your gifts to your church, which help keep her shining bright in the community. Please be sure to have any contributions that you would like credited to 2011 in the church office by Thursday, Dec. 29, or postmarked by Dec. 31, 2011.

Debbie Miller  
 Financial Administrator

### St. Peter's Vestry

- Russell Johnson, Rector  
(816) 942-1066 [russ.johnson@stpetersepiscopal.net](mailto:russ.johnson@stpetersepiscopal.net)
- Becca Coleman, Senior Warden  
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- Jim Giddings, Junior Warden  
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- John Fisher, Buildings & Grounds  
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- Clay Glenn, Outreach  
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- Linda Voran, Clerk  
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- Kathy Hall, Priest-in-Residence  
(816) 560-3803 [kathy.hall@stpetersepiscopal.net](mailto: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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