



# The Epistle

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

## Fall Activities Abound Around St. Peter's



(Clockwise from upper left) • Parishioners enjoy a fall clean up day. Thanks to Boy Scout Troop 46, the tree line along the parking lot received a major trimming. We can all say "Thanks!" to the Scouts by considering them during the holiday season when they are selling their holiday greenery. • Pets of all types are blessed during our annual St. Francis Day observance. • Clay Glenn, Outreach chair, with some of the many gifts generously given by St. Peter's parishioners for the no-charge garage sale in Joplin, Mo. • Teams of parishioners represent St. Peter's at the Red Bridge Fest.



## Book on Gratitude Good Reading

I am reading a book called *Uncommon Gratitude: Alleluia for All That Is*, co-written by Rowan Williams and Joan Chittister. Writing about such topics as saints and peace and faith, Williams and Chittister find many things for which to give thanks with loud Alleluias – but sometimes, the things for which they express gratitude are things I would not necessarily have thought about. Williams and Chittister also take on topics such as doubt and suffering and crisis. They give honest expression to the hardships and pain those situations can entail, but darned if they don't also find room for Alleluias as well. **If you're interested in expanding your gratitude horizons, *Uncommon Gratitude: Alleluia for All That Is* is a worthwhile read. Amen, and Alleluia!**



Kathy Hall

## Cleaning Day Set for Nov. 26



snacks to share for all. Questions? Please contact us .

Fall Altar Guild and all-parish cleaning day is scheduled for Sat., Nov. 26, at 8:30 a.m. There will be plenty to do both inside and outside. We welcome all able and willing hands and hearts. Bring yard and garden tools if you are planning to work outside. Guild members will be bringing

Rebecca Fisher  
(816) 616-8657  
John Fisher  
(816) 739-3407

## Year End Reflections

# Still Owe on 2011 Pledge? Time to Fulfill It

**Leaves are turning colors, there's a hint of cooler weather, and people are beginning to talk about the holidays. It's hard to believe, but another year is winding down! As we move into the Advent Season, it's a time of reflection on all of the wonderful gifts God has given us, including the greatest gift of all—Jesus, our Lord and Savior!**

**This is also a wonderful time to reflect on what you'd like to accomplish financially before the end of the year. Did you make a financial commitment to St. Peter's for 2011? If so, where are you on fulfilling that commitment? If you did not make a commitment earlier because of your circumstances but feel like you can do so now, it's not too late. There are several options available for giving to St. Peter's.**

You can make a stock gift to your church. This helps the church, and frees you from paying any capital gains taxes that might be due if you were to cash out the stock on your own. If you plan to do this, please try to initiate the transfer by December 1 so that we can be sure and get everything completed before the end of the year. You can call the church office or talk to Larry Christie to start the process.

For those of you who are 70 ½ or over, another way to fulfill your financial commitment is through sending all, or a portion of, your required minimum distribution from your IRA directly to the church. If you do this, you do not have to claim that as income on your taxes for the year. The key is that the check should be made out to the church directly—not to you.

You can talk to the company that handles your IRA on specific instructions for this.

Of course, we still take cash and checks too! All gifts received or postmarked on or before December 31 can be counted towards a deduction on your 2011 taxes.

**God's blessings are great! St. Peter's continues to be an active influence in the community around it, showing God's love to those who need it. Thank you so much for all you do to assure that this continues into the future.**

Debbie Miller  
Financial Administrator

## Hats and Scarves for KCRM

# Knitters: Keep Knitting

**It won't be long before Christmas, and that means that Debbie Dribben will deliver your hats and scarves to the men at the Kansas City Rescue Mission a week or so before Christmas Day.**

Please leave them in the church office by Monday, Dec. 12. **Don't forget to include your name.**

Many thanks to all of you for continuing to make this ministry such an important and successful one.

Anita Eulitt



## Rector's Ruminations

By the Rev. Russell W. Johnson, Jr.

Dear Friends:

I would like to announce that our long-time member Rosemary Overbey will be replacing Clint Harberland who has been responsible for organizing the monthly birthday and anniversary cards. Clint has been doing this for the past three years, and I am most grateful for her time and effort in inaugurating **this wonderful ministry of St. Peter's staff acknowledging special days** in the life of our parishioners. Many thanks Clint (along with her faithful assistant Linda Voran), and welcome Rosemary to this very special ministry!

\*\*\*\*\*

November is the month that we all give thanks, whether it be a time when our pilgrims gave thanks or our personal time to give thanks for what we have

As Christian people, it is our *faithful duty* to give thanks to God for all that we have, especially for the death and resurrection of **God's only son, Jesus of Nazareth.**

Our lessons for Thanksgiving Day do not focus on pilgrims and Native Americans eating together. (Whether this happened I really don't know; most likely it's a legend). **The** Thanksgiving Day lessons remind us of our priorities. What is important for us to remember in giving thanks? The point of Thanksgiving is for us to remember that *all things come from thee, O Lord, or let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.*

These statements which I recite from Sunday to Sunday reaffirm that *with gladness* we give something of our life and labor as a gift to God. With thankful hearts, we give *a portion* of what we have back to God. Theologically we call this stewardship. I simply call it *being thankful*. Being thankful for what I have: my family, good health, a place to call home, being employed at **St. Peter's, cabinets with food, and an automobile that takes me "heather and yon."**

Thanksgiving is also a time when we have to honestly ask **the question to ourselves, "If I truly believe that I was made in the image of God, that God loves and cares for me, gave me the talents of who I am to accomplish what I have accomplished, then how much of what I have received over the years are mine, and how much of what I have is God's?"**

So, am I saying that my car belongs to God; my home, **computer, clothes, food in the refrigerator? Do my daughters' educational degrees belong to God?**

I know how difficult this may be to comprehend, but maybe if we think about the question that Jesus is asked by the Pharisees and Herodians (those supporting King Herod), looking at a coin with the image of Caesar stamped on it, Jesus replies, **"Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's, and unto God what is God's."**

Certainly, what I physically own are mine, and I pay taxes to the Caesars of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. *But how I got what I have comes from God: my time, talent and treasures.* Therefore, in return, I give back to God a part of my time, talent and treasure **as a way saying "thank you."** I give because I'm thankful for what I have, and in giving, I know that my financial resources are directed in ways that will conform to many of the issues that make this community and world a better place to live.

**St. Peter's will celebrate our thanks on Sunday, Nov. 20,** after the one service at 9:30 a.m. with our "Give Thanks Brunch," **an opportunity to celebrate the gathering of our Stewardship Estimate of Giving cards on this special day.** Once again, no one will knock on your door or corner you in a spot in asking for a pledge for 2012. If we do not hear from you on or before *Consecration Sunday*, within the next week, you will **hear from us because it is the Vestry's hope that at our Dec. 11 meeting, a balanced budget may be approved for presentation at the annual meeting, Jan. 22.**

Your cooperation in filling out the Estimate of Giving card within a timely period will be deeply appreciated. Beginning **with All Saints' Sunday and the following Sunday, short special presentations** will be given by members of the parish. On *Consecration Sunday* (Nov. 20), you will receive your Estimate of Giving card. Please place it in the alms basin for it to be blessed with thanks for your acknowledgement of returning **a portion of God's gift for the ministries at St. Peter's and beyond.**

Thanksgiving time traditionally begins with the month of November. Look around, for I truly believe that we have much to give thanks for, in which we respond through our Estimate of Giving card *saying thanks be to God!*

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

## Christmas Traditions Meeting Topic

Please join us for our next meeting in the church parlor at **6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 10. All women of St. Peter's are** welcome to attend and please bring guests. Our hosts will be Kathy Morris and Myra Hyatt. We will have a program about Christmas traditions. Also the Gift Shop (see story this page) will be open for your Christmas shopping convenience with many new items.

Thanks to all who purchased nuts through our annual fundraiser. Nut orders will be taken through Nov. 6; please contact Sue Johnson.

**Attention ladies of St. Monica's:** Date change for the December meeting. Please mark your calendars for the first Thursday in December. The December meeting will be Dec. 1, rather than the second Thursday.

Sandy Glenn  
Secretary/Treasurer

## Gift Shop Ready for Shoppers

As you can see when you step into the parlor, Christmas has already arrived in the Gift Shop. The Good Elves set up the Christmas displays earlier this year but we will still have our annual Christmas Open House on the evening of St. Monica's meeting on Thursday, Nov. 10, starting at 6:00 p.m. All women are invited to come and bring a friend.

Among the neat gifts to be displayed are unique serving plates and beaded serving utensils which will dress up your holiday parties, or will be great as gifts (don't forget to purchase Rabbit Creek mixes which are



so easy to fix or bake), beautiful scarves/shawls which are so in vogue now, unusual jewelry for yourself or as gifts if you can't part with them, and, of course, Christmas decorations for your homes or loved ones. You will be interested to know too that our buyers will be attending the Gift Mart sample sales on Nov. 12 for even more attractions, and our new acquisitions will be on sale the very next day.

So don't miss this great opportunity to be the first to choose the mostly one-of-a-kind offerings in our Gift Shop at prices that can't be beat. For the grand opening on November 10, we will be serving yummy pies that are traditional for the season. So, join us on November 10 for a fun evening doing what most women love to do: SHOP!

Kathy Morris  
and the Christmas Elves

## Fall Fundraiser Nets \$400

The themes for the month of November are transportation and Thanksgiving. Every year we look forward to our non-traditional Thanksgiving lunch with our day school families and friends. We have begun working on our songs for the Christmas program, which is our favorite time of the year!

Our fall fundraiser for the day school made just over \$400. This will allow us to purchase four new bikes and several toys for the undercroft. Many have been asking about the butter braid/pastry puff fundraiser. Please mark your calendars as we will be doing that fundraiser in the spring!

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Cathy Henson

# Trunk or Treat 2011



“From ghoulies and ghosties and long-leggedy beasties and things that go bump in the night, good Lord, deliver us!”

- from an old Cornish prayer book

The event took place Sunday, Oct. 30, in our parking lot. The kids enjoyed dressing up and treats out of the trunks.



# November 2011 Events Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6 The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost 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.— <b>Children's Choir Rehearsal</b> 1-4 p.m.—Emily Davidson Recital	7 8:30 a.m. Aerobics  7 p.m.—Boy Scouts  Russ	1 2 p.m.—Bible Study  8 10:30 a.m.—AARP 2 p.m.—Bible Study  out of town	2 8:30 a.m. Aerobics  7 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal  9 8:30 a.m. Aerobics  7 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	3 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 6:15 p.m.—Back Snack 7 p.m.—Couples Bible Study 7 p.m.—1st Thursday Club	4—Office Closed 8:30 a.m. Aerobics  10 a.m.—Memorial Service  Diocesan Convention	5 9:30 a.m.—Praise Band
13 The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost 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.— <b>Children's Choir Rehearsal</b>	14 8:30 a.m. Aerobics  7 p.m.—Boy Scouts	15 2 p.m.—Bible Study  11 a.m.—Outreach Meeting	16 8:30 a.m. Aerobics  7 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal	17 10 a.m.—Holy Eucharist 6:15 p.m.—Back Snack 7 p.m.—Couples Bible Study	18—Office Closed 8:30 a.m. Aerobics	19 8:30 a.m.— <b>St. Paul's, KCK</b> 9:30 a.m.—Praise Band
20 The Last Sunday after Pentecost Consecration Sunday * Thanks Luncheon  9:30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist Nursery Provided 10:30 a.m.—Thanks Luncheon	21 8:30 a.m. Aerobics  7 p.m.—Boy Scouts	22 2 p.m.—Bible Study 6:15 p.m.—Back Snack 7 p.m.—Red Bridge Ministerial Thanksgiving Service at Red Bridge Christian Church	23   7 p.m.—Thanksgiving Eve Service at All Saints Episcopal Church	24—Office Closed   Thanksgiving Day	25—Office Closed	26 9:30 a.m.—Praise Band 8:30 a.m.—Parish Clean-up Day & Altar Guild Cleaning Day
27 The First Sunday of Advent 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	28 8:30 a.m. Aerobics  7 p.m.—Boy Scouts, no meeting	29	30			

VESTRY

# November 2011 Ministry Schedule

	November 6 The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost	November 13 The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost	November 20 The Last Sunday after Pentecost Christ The King Sunday	November 27 The First Sunday of Advent
SACRISTANS 8 a.m.* 10 a.m.	Nancy Rozell* Betty Ritchie, Rebecca Fisher	Nan Bohl* Irislee Pringle, Stacie Czar	9:30 Service only Ellen Bartels, Helena Fulls	Barbara Lorenz, Kathleen Clarke* Elizabeth Fuemmeler
ACOLYTES 10 a.m. Crucifer Gospel Book Torch Torch	Elizabeth Fuemmeler Nicole Wright Julia Misemer	Janie Turner Abbie Czar Molly Johnson Emma Czar	9:30 Service only Noah Ralston Spencer Ralston Travis Triplett	Elizabeth Fuemmeler Benjamin Schwab
LECTORS/EM 8 a.m.* Lector/EM 10 a.m. 1 <sup>st</sup> Lector 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lector/EM Eucharistic Minister	Terry Rozell* Cletson Cox Frank Anderson Ted Bell	Larry Christie* Bob Noll Nancy Harris Frank Anderson	9:30 Service only Debbie Dribben Jim McDowell Tim Schwab	Donna Stanford* Tara Markham Ted Bell Laurel Bondi
INTERCESSOR 8 a.m.* 10 a.m.	Terry Rozell* Jim McDowell	Larry Christie* Frank Anderson	9:30 Service only Laurie Schwab	Donna Stanford* Tim Schwab
CELEBRANT/HOMILIST 8 a.m./10 a.m.	Johnson/Johnson	Johnson/Johnson	Johnson/Johnson	Johnson/Hall
CHAPEL PRAYER 8 a.m.* 10 a.m.	Michael Davis Sandy Glenn	Michael Davis Laurel Bondi	9:30 Service only Bob Murphy	Michael Davis Nancy Harris
USHERS 8 a.m.* 10 a.m.	Charles Harvey* John Fisher, Bud Brown	Ford Bohl* Chris Czar, Sam Manthei	9:30 Service only Cletson Cox, Paul Vedros	John Van Haften* Bill and Debby Norman
GREETERS 8 a.m.* Narthex: Vestibule 10 a.m. Narthex: Vestibule:	Ellen Bartels* Donna Stanford* Nancy Harris Clay Glenn	Becca Coleman* Linda Voran, Clint Haberland* Sue Johnson	9:30 Service only Jim & Cindy Giddings Patti Kennedy, Sheri Wingard	Boo Van Haften* Sue Ferraro Jhenifer Fuller
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS After 8 a.m. Eucharist * After 10 a.m. Eucharist	Rosemary Overbey* Need Volunteer	Nancy Rozell* Sue Johnson	9:30 Service only	Kathy Morris* Need Volunteer
GIFT SHOP HOSTS 8:00 a.m. *7:10:00 a.m.	Myra Hyatt* Sandy Glenn	Nancy Rozell* Helena Fulls	Gift Shop Closed	Suzanne Hoff* Kemp Wiese, Crystal Cameron- Vedros

# Deadline Nears for Giving

Sunday, Nov. 13, is the deadline for "Feeding the Pig" and returning "Thanks" sacks to assist St. Mary's with the Thanksgiving dinner for those they serve. In November we also will be starting our Christmas outreach by adopting families from Gaudalupe Center.

The Outreach Committee thanks those who have donated "Thanks" sacks and those who have contributed cash or checks for the hams or the "Thanks" sacks. We will be purchasing the items necessary and deliver everything to St. Mary's in time for Thanksgiving. For those of you who may wish to donate to purchase a ham, the hams cost \$7.90 each. Hy-Vee will deliver the hams the same day we deliver our sacks.

On the day we have our own "Thanks" dinner here at St. Peter's we should have our Christmas tree up with the tags for Guadalupe Center families in need. Please check out the tags on the tree and take one or more to help the families at Guadalupe center. When you purchase a tag item please wrap it, tape the tag by the string to the wrapped package and bring it to church. If you cannot wrap the gift we will do it for you. Once again, if you want to donate but cannot shop, just write a check and fill in the memo portion as to how you want your gift to be used.



Clay Glenn  
Outreach Chair

# St. Paul's Food Pantry Outreach

The St. Paul's Food Pantry staff has asked that parishioners who would like to be involved with the Food Pantry at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Kansas City, Kan.) to volunteer on the third Saturday of the month, beginning Nov. 19. While volunteers are needed every Saturday, there seems to be a greater need later in the month.

The Food Pantry serves our Kansas neighbors, providing much-needed commodities and donated groceries, fresh produce and baked goods. If you would like to help with this outreach effort, or if you need directions to St. Paul's, please contact us at 816-569-2107 or jgiddings@kc.rr.com.

Jim and Cindy Giddings



# November Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

- |    |                 |                      |                     |
|----|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 2  | Dodie Brown     | 20                   | Sue Ferraro         |
|    | Lynn Heitman    | 22                   | Raymond Hyatt       |
|    | Grant Markham   |                      | Sue Ellen Wright    |
| 3  | Sharon Keilhack | 24                   | Judy Cartwright     |
| 5  | Judy Christie   | 25                   | Robin Marsh         |
| 7  | Irislee Pringle |                      | David Voran         |
| 8  | Sandy Glenn     | 26                   | Leah Larson         |
| 10 | Anita Eulitt    | 27                   | Laurel Bondi        |
| 12 | Larry Christie  |                      | John McGovern       |
| 14 | Tim Tatlock     | 29                   | Nolen Roberson      |
|    | Bill Wiese      | 30                   | Charles Harvey      |
| 17 | Tara Markham    |                      | Sally Vander Lippe  |
| 18 | Caroline Bondi  | <u>Anniversaries</u> |                     |
|    | Ralph Fuller    | 11                   | Ford & Nan Bohl     |
| 19 | Mike Moritz     | 18                   | Jeff & Nancy Brown  |
|    |                 | 21                   | David & Linda Voran |

### Financial Status

<u>Year to Date thru September</u>	September	Year to Date
Revenue	\$ 34,162	\$ 210,967
Expenses	\$ 27,087	\$ 199,646
Surplus (deficit)	\$ 7,075	\$ 11,321

In order to meet expenses in September it was necessary to transfer \$20,000 from the Endowment Fund to the Operating Fund. This is reflected in the above numbers. The staff is working hard to keep expenses down so that we will not have to do that again this year. Thank you for all you are doing to keep your financial commitment to St. Peter's current.

Debbie Miller  
Financial Advisor

### 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*

## *Joint Thanksgiving Eve Services: Nov. 22 and 23*

St. Peter's will join All Saints' and St. Mary Magdalene for the Thanksgiving Eve service at All Saints Episcopal Church (9201 Wornall Rd.) starting at 7 p.m. Please join this festival event so a good representation from St. Peter's will help show our support in neighborhood Episcopal community events. Also, the Red Bridge Ministerial Alliance service will be Tuesday 7 p.m. at the Red Bridge Christian Church (10842 McGee St.).



## *St. Peter's Episcopal Church*

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