

The Messenger



A MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR:

Dear St. John's,

Pope Francis recently said, "Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you." I have been thinking a lot about this idea of living for others since this pandemic and quarantine began.

Many of you are wearing masks to protect those most vulnerable. You are staying away from your grandkids and spouses and friends and loved ones in an effort to flatten the curve and do your part. Neighbors are helping each other with groceries, yard work, and sharing resources. Churches remain empty spaces much like our restaurants, local businesses, and schools. Everyone is doing their part because we were created to help each other; to live for one another.

As you know, our leaders have begun the difficult work of planning our re-entry. Counties are moving into various new phases under new guidelines. Soon Lancaster will be following suit. The yellow phase awaits, but as your rector, I have to ask are we ready? Are we prepared as a community of faith, responsible for the wellbeing of others, to open our doors? Are we prepared to worship with key elements missing like congregational singing, passing the peace, and participating in the Holy Eucharist? There are no easy answers to these questions, only faithful ones. Your vestry has been meeting to discuss these questions and many more, but we need to hear from you.

As we begin the long and involved process of re-entry we must do so as a community and your voice and feedback matter. Please take a moment to fill out the following survey: [Re-entry at St. John's](#). We want to know what is on your heart and how we can continue, as a parish family, to help each other.

I remain faithfully yours,
Amanda+

STAY CONNECTED:

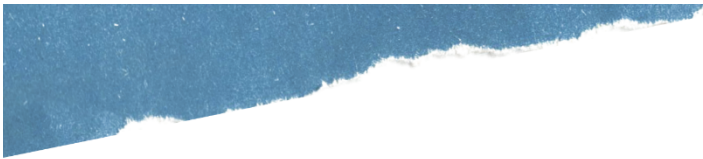


During this time when we aren't able to be together physically, we invite you to join us in other ways. Please check our [Website](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#) pages regularly for new information and video messages.

Tune in to our worship service on Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Don't forget to wear RED on Sunday, May 31, 2020 for Day of Pentecost and post your pictures to our [Facebook](#) page.

NOON DAY PRAYER:

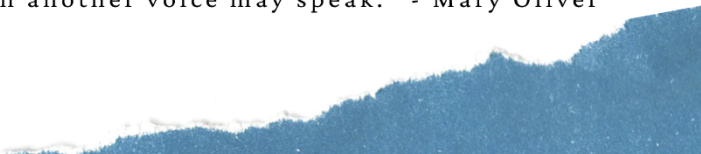


JOIN US EVERY WEDNESDAY FOR:

Noonday Prayer

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STJOHNSLANCASTERPA/](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnslancasterpa/)

"It doesn't have to be the blue iris, it could be weeds in a vacant lot, or a few small stones; just pay attention, then patch a few words together and don't try to make them elaborate, this isn't a contest but the doorway into thanks, and a silence in which another voice may speak." - Mary Oliver



A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER, Charles Wear:

In last month's update, it was noted that St. John's operating cash flow was strong despite the COVID pandemic. We have good news this month also. Parish giving, via mail and online, is steady and on budget. And due to special gifts and some prepaids of annual pledges in the first quarter, we remain about 20-25% higher in overall contributions year to date. Expenses are down a bit from 2019 and on budget. We expect expenses versus budget to improve further as the year plays out, as we fully realize the benefits of the staff restructuring that occurred at the beginning of the year.

The big financial news this month is St. John's approval for a one-time grant (forgivable loan) as part of the SBA's Paycheck Protection Program. These funds will cover 8 weeks of payroll, utilities and loan interest payments as a federal incentive to retain employees during the COVID pandemic. And although our cash flow has yet to be detrimentally affected, the longer-term financial future is not so clear. These funds will give St. John's the added security to weather potential economic fallout, especially the turbulence of unpredictable investment markets. And as most of you know, St. John's has historically relied on strong investment returns for a significant portion of operating expenses. If you have any suggestions, questions or concerns, please reach out to me. Thanks, and stay safe!

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Drop off nonperishable items for the food pantry at the church office.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

Like to sew? Make some extra masks for those in need.

Check in on a fellow parishioner. Try this: pull out your parish directory, close your eyes, point to a name, make the call.

Pray. Seriously, prayer works.

Check in on your neighbors.

Support local restaurants and businesses by ordering take out or buying gift cards to be used later.

WOMEN'S GATHERING:



THURSDAY, JUNE 4 @ 7PM

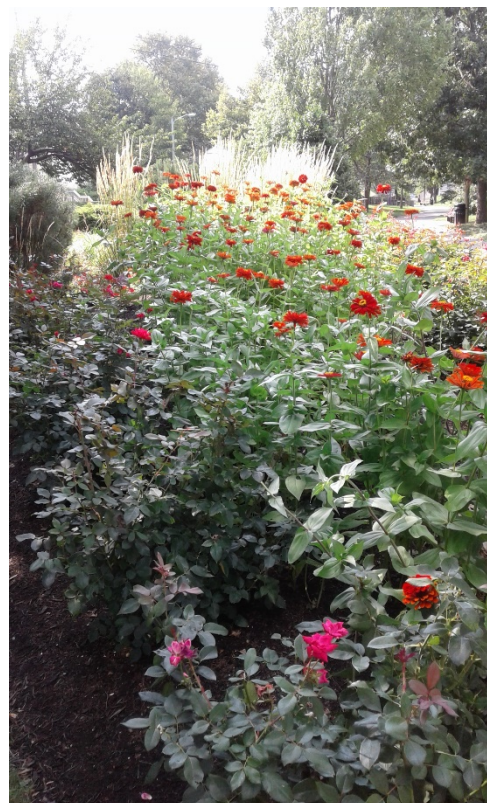
WOMEN'S GATHERING

Zoom Information:
Meeting ID: 858 3266 5653
Password: 663998

BETTY FINNEY MEMORIAL GARDEN:

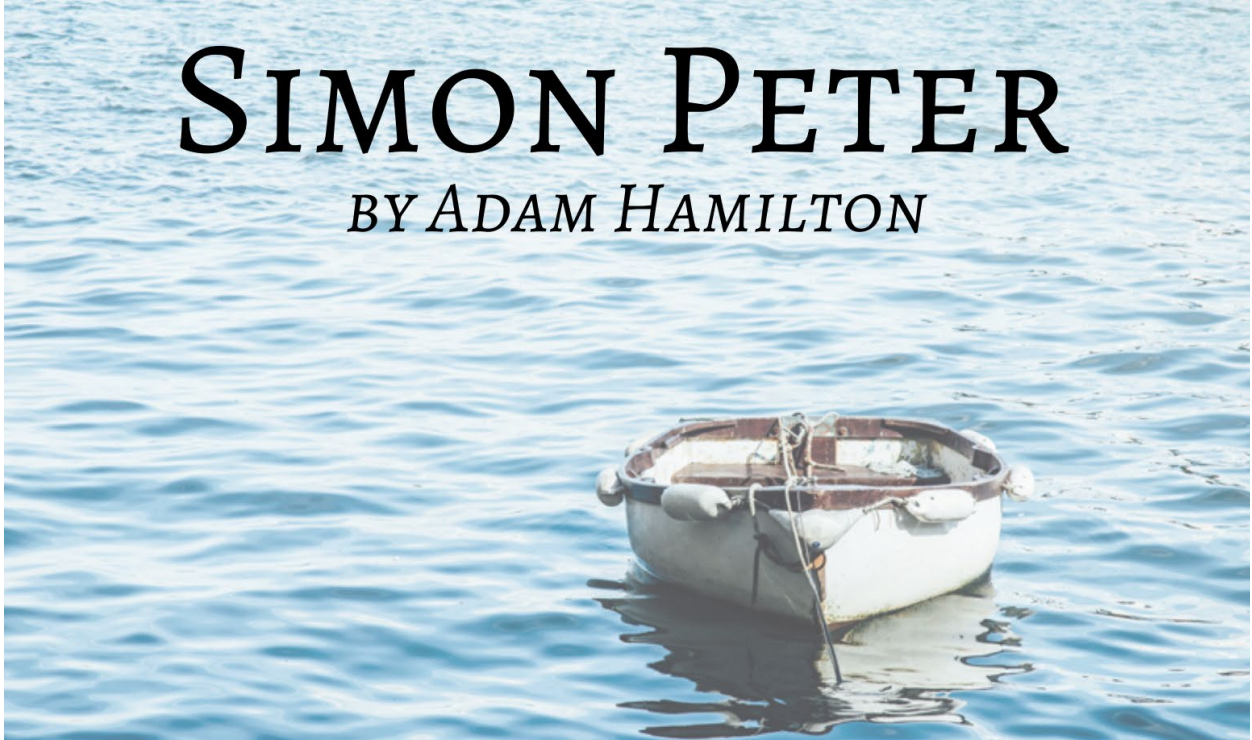
We would like to say thank you to all the community members and volunteers at St. John's and all the other Episcopal churches for beautifying the memorial garden on May 15th and May 16th.

A special thanks to Dave Martin for organizing this community service project.



SIMON PETER

BY ADAM HAMILTON



FLAWED BUT FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

"He was not rich or educated, but was familiar with hard work. He was quick-tempered and impetuous, but possessed a passion that would change the world. He left everything to follow his teacher, yet struggled with doubt and fear."

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- June 3 The Call of the Fisherman
 - June 10 Walking with Jesus in the Storms
 - June 17 Bedrock or Stumbling Block?
"I Will Not Deny You."
 - June 24 From Cowardice to Courage
The Rest of the Story

ADULT FORMATION WITH AMANDA & MATT

WEDNESDAYS @ 7:00 PM ON ZOOM:

MEETING ID: 814 1145 2599 & PASSWORD: 991733



YOUTH GROUP VIA ZOOM

*Every Wednesday
at 4:30PM*

*For details contact:
John Knouse or
Mike Williams*

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGE

I AM, WE ARE...ONE WORLD: HERE, THERE, EVERYWHERE

“However many holy words you read, however many you speak, what good will they do you if you do not act on upon them?” ~ Buddha

Reflect on the incredible time we are going through with its pain and also the caring that has emerged to recognize and help our brothers and sisters.

June 7th

Over and over the phrase “we are in this together” has appeared. As we move ahead into a new world atmosphere let us remember that phrase is more powerful than just dealing with the virus. We are ALL God’s Children!

June 14th


Take a moment and reflect on not what you “lost” during this time of solitude but rather what you’ve learned and have decided to adopt as a new practice. What might have brought you deeper in your faith and more thankful?

June 21st (Father’s Day)

Express your thanks to those who have “fathered” your life and demonstrated caring and love.

June 28th

“In the long run, the sharpest weapon of all is a kind and gentle spirit.” ~ Anne Frank
The smallest caring, gift, words, can be huge to someone in need of love. Continue to look for ways you can share your connection to others.



The Lancaster Chapter *of the American Guild of Organists* presents

**LANCASTER SUMMER
ORGAN RECITAL**

LIVESTREAM ONLY

from
St. John's Episcopal Church
Lancaster, PA

featuring
Performances by Local Organists

Thursday, June 11, 2020
7 PM

Visit LancasterAGO.org for:
Livestream Video Link, Printable Program,
and to Donate

Donations benefit the Organ Scholarships of the Lancaster Chapter

WILL YOU JOIN US?



Interested in a FREE course on anti-racism? Join us for our summer course "Becoming the Beloved Community."

This course is designed to provide future and current leaders of the church with the knowledge and background to come but the scent of racism, particularly focusing on dismantling system of racism within and outside of the institution of the church. Learn more on our Diocese's website! <https://diocesecpa.org/ssfm/>

JUNE BIRTHDAYS!



Melanie Moyer	1	Phil Purdy	15
Sibyl Seachrist	2	Donald Lovett	16
Aaron Hasircoglu	5	Tyler Brenton	17
Julia Hasircoglu	5	Robert Kilp	19
Debbie Carter	6	Kathleen Plaxa	19
Eamon Nelson	6	Rev. Beth Mollard	21
Peter Plaxa	6	Jane Lee	24
Mary Waskowicz	6	Dr. Peter Novosel	24
Jane Forrester	7	Jane Lee	24
Susan Bowser	8	John Gouveia	27
Adelyn Scheetz	11	Molly Brenton	28
Mike Williams	11	Eric Kilhefner	28
Susan Dohren	15	Mary Farmer	29

June Anniversaries

Ricky Smith	10	Phil & Hilary Becker	24
Dr. Charles Alexander	11	Dave & Sue Martin	24
Stephen & Heather Sherman	11	Ken Strickler & Rosemary Coverly	25
Phil & Sue Purdy	13	Edward & Pam Loose	25
Michael Frantz & Kathleen Magbag	17	Jeffrey & Janelle Stone	25
Ken & Connie Burch	20	Heather & Jennifer Trenary	27
Edward & Jean Gordon	21	Jon & Jane Forrester	28
Greg & Emily Phillips	22	Jeannie Zeller	30
Ronald & Deborah Linton	23		

Continued prayers for our Homebound: Margaret Crothers, Michael Frantz, Ellen Keller, Fritz Lawrence, Don Lovett, Nancy Nemith, Peter Plaxa, Joan Rahe, Ricky Smith, Joanna Sweeney

Military: Brian Hobbins, Laurel Hobbins, Alex Kelly, Kirby Kinderwater, Kyle Kinderwater, Joshua Watkins, Cameron Watts