

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church
412 N. Live Oak
Rockport, TX 78382**

THE ROCK

We Are One Family In Christ



**FEBRUARY - MARCH 2010
Volume 14, Issue 2**



Reflections from the Rector

Lenten Reflection

Several years ago, a friend shared a book with me. The title of the book was, Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain. A premise in the book was that each one of us has an artistic or creative side to our being. The reader was encouraged to discover that side and tap into it.

One of the exercises in the book seemed a little silly at first reading. I was invited to sketch a simple object, like a cup, a glass, or a vase. Then I was instructed to sketch the same object upside down.

I did this. I took a standard wine glass, placed it on the table and began to draw it on piece of paper. The finished drawing had all the problems I had seen in every previous attempt at art. The dimensions were all wrong, light and shadow were misplaced, and I was disappointed how poorly I had captured what I was seeing. You could tell it was a wine glass, but that was about it.

Then, I followed the instructions and began to draw the glass upside down. The first thing I realized was that I was now seeing the glass in a different way. More of the subtle details jumped out at me. The way the light hit the glass was more prevalent and I was able to include this insight in what I put on the page. Since I was seeing more, it took me a little longer to complete this drawing. So I turned the picture over and was astounded at how much better it was than the first. The dimensions actually were proportional. The light and shadow matched what one could see on the glass. It truly looked like the wine glass standing before me.

Why did that silly exercise lead to such a different artistic expression? The book stated that our eyes and our mind can be obstacles to truly seeing what is in front of us. We draw what we think we are seeing, rather than what is actually before us. The change of viewing the object upside down makes us look more intently because our minds eye doesn't conjure up an upside down image automatically, we have to focus to craft it. What we craft is actually a more accurate representation.

I was recently reminded of this experience at this year's diocesan council. We spent a good amount of time engaged in what was called "respectful communication". Seated in small groups, we were invited to listen to one another and to share our perceptions about biblical interpretation and various other topics posed to the group. We were encouraged to do this in a manner that truly allowed us to come to know one another with a sense of mutual respect. That artistic exercise described above came to mind as I gazed across the table at a new face. I was challenged not to presume to know the heart and mind of the person before me. Instead, to listen and slowly discover a new relationship as the real picture began to take shape.

At the end of the day, I could turn that picture over and have a more accurate representation of the new person I was coming to know. I was enriched by that new relationship; not because we agreed about everything, nor because we had the same interests. I was enriched because here was a fellow sojourner living in the same world, meeting with joys and sorrows, feeling cares and concerns, and trusting in One beyond him or herself. One who could guide them and me on the way. Respectful communication is a great gift that allows us to rediscover genuine relationship without all the baggage of preconceived notions and expectations that tends to put others in tiny confinements they can never escape. Instead we come to know another of God's children who also is an expression of imagination, wonder, and beauty; then by God's grace they come to know us as well.

May the holiness of God's presence shine on us during our Lenten journey.

Parish Business

From the Senior Warden



John "JD" Debler, Senior Warden
jdebler@gsminsurers.com

There is a lot going on these days at St. Peter's. We have just finished our Diocesan Council meeting, the Lenten season is upon us, and for the Vestry members, the annual retreat is coming up shortly.

The Diocesan Council was held in Corpus Christi this year. I know the delegates and alternates all enjoyed the fellowship and the worship. It was a chance to see what is going on around the Diocese regarding outreach programs, growth in the churches, and other aspects of Diocesan life. Thursday night, Holy Eucharist was celebrated at the Corpus Christi Cathedral. The Catholics were gracious enough to let us borrow it! The Cathedral was filled, the choir (including St. Peter's fabulous choir members) was splendid in their presentations, and Suffragan Bishop David Reed was at the top of his game in his sermon from the pulpit. It was an evening that I won't soon forget.

Among the presentations, speeches, and sermons was a talk by Ruby Payne at the luncheon of Friday. Ruby's mission in life has been the study of those who are in poverty and how to impact their lives so that they can become self sustaining. In her talk, she presented several very thought provoking ideas. Given the poverty level in Aransas County, I feel we can use some of her ideas to perhaps make a positive impact in at least a few lives here. We live in a county that has a tremendous amount of wealth. But on the opposite end of the spectrum, we also have a large segment of our population living at or below the poverty level. We will never eliminate poverty, but perhaps we can make a difference in some lives.

The Vestry Retreat, as I mentioned, is coming in a couple of weeks. The Vestry will "retreat" to the Mustang Island Conference Center for a couple of days to organize and reflect on what we are doing currently, both in worship and outreach, at St. Peter's and how we need to proceed for the remainder of the year. There are certainly some things that we were exposed to at Council that will be considered. If there are ideas or concerns that you have as a parishioner, please talk to one of the Vestry members before the retreat so that they can be addressed.

Going back to Council, the theme of this year's Council was "Bear One Another's Burdens". I cannot think of a better theme as we go through the uncertain times that many of us are experiencing in today's world. Just as Christ bore our burden of sin and died so that we could be forgiven for those sins, we need to reach out to one another and help lessen the burdens of one another. Whether it is helping our needy who have fallen on hard financial times, providing a shoulder to lean on for someone who has lost a loved one, or providing meals to someone who may be sick and unable to care for themselves or their families, we can all help lessen the burdens of others. But, it also means that if we are burdened, we need to ask first for God's help, and then be willing to ask for and accept help from others. It works both ways. We are all in God's family, and families help one another.

As we move through the Lenten season and approach Holy Week, let us each reflect on what Christ's Life, Death, and Resurrection means to us personally, and how we can live a life that is more like Christ's.

Many blessings,
 John "JD" Debler
 Senior Warden

Treasurer's Notes



Audre Debler, Treasurer
debler@pocca.com

Results of operations through January 31, 2010 are as follows:

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Over (Under)</u> <u>Budget</u>
Operating Revenues	52,474	57,420	(4,946)
Operating Expenses	<u>20,501</u>	<u>22,528</u>	<u>(2,027)</u>
Net Gain (Loss) from operations	31,973	34,892	(2,919)
	=====		

Needed: Volunteers to serve on the Finance & Audit Committee. Please let me know if you would be interested. I can be reached at 361-441-9018 or by email at debler@pocca.com.

*Respectfully,
 Audre Debler*

Among Our Own

Condolences

George Hall passed away Saturday, February 6, 2010. His Celebration of Life service was held Tuesday, February 9 at 10:00 a.m. Our prayers and condolences to Pat and all of George's family and friends.

On Monday, February 8, 2010, Dottie Bowen passed away. Her Memorial Service was held Thursday, February 11 at 2:00 p.m. Our thoughts and prayers continue for her family and friends.

Our prayers and condolences go out to Viola Rios and her family after the recent passing of her father-in-law, Jesse Rios.

Community of Hope Prayer List

We ask that you keep the following persons in your prayers: **Carol Allen, , Landon Alexander, Nadia Clark, Polly Cook, Nat Gonzalez, Jean Herring, Dorothy Hooker, Joan Lee, Carole Ann McKitrick, Ken Mayhew, Bob Nelson, Anna Nix, Marvin Northrup, Jim Reed, Jane Ross, Jeannie Rozzell, Audrey Steffens, J. T. Gonzalez, Bill Swanberg, Jesse Watson, Morgan Watson, and Ray R.**

To pray with the Prayer Circle or to request prayer for yourself or your family, call or email Barbara Patton at 790-7775 or bpattton@dbstech.com



Easter Lily Donations

I wish to purchase an Easter Lily
In Memory Of:

In Honor Of:

My check in the amount of \$ _____ is attached. Lilies are \$10 each.
My Name: _____

Happy Birthday!

Zachary Cunningham	Mar 1	Ann Whitlock	Apr 1
Steve Long	3	Faye Ulbrich	1
Anne McClanahan	6	Paul Magabgab	2
Deborah Lee Holloway	8	Allen Anthony	3
Donna Glassett	11	Helen Casterline	7
Hallie Gean Adams	13	Vernon Lewis	10
Milby Wade	15	Ruth Douglas	10
Bill Wilson	16	Murray Tarkington	11
Rick Spencer	17	Jane Ross	11
Mary Lou Lewis	20	Susan Morris	12
Peggy Bringle	21	J.W. Harden	13
Becky Plummer	23	Andrea Farmer	13
Dan Shelton	26	Benjamin Clark	19
Julia A. Pina	26	JD Debler	21
Jean Hobohm	29	Jayne Boyce	22
Ted Norman	30	George Sanders	22
Richard Hart	31	Mary Catherine Pugh	22
		Shane Sutton	24
		Don Hanks	25
		Jean Anderson	25
		Audrey Steffens	26
		Joe Leonard	28
		Dr. Charles Goolsbee	30
		Ivan C. Olenick, Jr.	30

Happy Anniversary!

Dr. John & Jane Butt	Mar 14
Dan & Barbara Shelton	Mar 26
Bill & Angela Rivera	Apr 3
Landon & Charlean Alexander	Apr 16
Fr. Jim & Christy Friedel	Apr 19
Richard & Betty Craig	Apr 20
Bob & JoAnn Martin	Apr 21

Ministries



Angela Rivera

From the Director of Music Ministries

What a glorious time the Chancel Choir had at the Diocesan Council Eucharist. Our choir made up half of the singers and we had a grand time singing with Good Shepherd and being a part of this wonderful service. The anthems were extraordinarily challenging and our choir did a marvelous job of preparing the music. Thank you for all your hard work!

Lent and Easter are almost here and we all know the Choir is an important part of our worship for this season. We appreciate all your kind comments about how the music touches your soul on Sundays. It touches ours also. I believe that is why we continue to sing!

*Respectfully,
Angela Rivera*



Mike Patton

Parish Planning & Analysis Ministry

**Ref: HENDERSON STREET
PROPERTY**

Aransas County has applied for a federal grant to purchase the Henderson Street property. The property, if purchased, will be part of the City of Rockport and Aransas County's flood drainage project.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been executed between Aransas County and the Episcopal Corporation of West Texas, which gives the County the right to purchase this property through March 30, 2010. A condition of this agreement is that the Church cannot sell the property as long as the grant is pending. The property will continue to be marketed in an effort to obtain a "back up" contract in the event that the grant is not awarded.

Planning & Analysis
Mike Patton



The Community of Hope International

"A School for God's Service..." RSB



Pam Heidt

Your Community of Hope Center at St. Peter's enjoyed a very busy February.

First, we had the annual CoH West Texas Region retreat, with the other centers in our Diocese, at Mustang Island Conference Center. Our speaker for the retreat was Rev. Dr. Les Fairfield who is a retired seminary professor whose field of expertise is church history. He taught us about the early Christian Church in Antioch and we learned that at that time (50-100AD), conditions were squalid at best and the city had many more people per square mile than New York City has today, but no sky scrapers....no sewers, no running water etc. The only people that even tried to care for others were the Christians at the time. No doctors and no hospitals. So that was how the tradition of Christians being caregivers and healers began. We all enjoyed the weekend immensely, but probably none more than Barbara Patton, the retired history teacher! And of course the food! If you've ever spent a day at the Conference center, then you know we all gained a couple pounds that weekend. We had nine people there; Barbara and Mike Patton, Milby Wade, Ann Martel, Beth Garner, Pinky Gonzalez, Judy Nibbelink and Larry and Pam Heidt.

Second, we manned our usual Community of Hope Booth at Council the following week. We sold notecards and Betty Shamel's wonderful saints and brought in a lot of money for our West Texas Region. We also had the opportunity to meet many people from the Diocese of West Texas. Fr. Jim introduced a wonderful film (about Community of Hope) to the council and I heard rumors that his talk was almost as good as the film....

Third, Saturday afternoon, following the closing of Council, our Circle of Care had a meeting to which we had invited three people from St. Matthew's at Universal City to see how our Circle of Care is run. Their priest, Tim Vellom and Barbara Duffield and Kerry McKaskle all came to see us as they are very interested in forming a CoH center at their church. We had a lovely turnout, and all three visitors were so glad to have met our wonderful group and have written back about it with great praise. So I would like to thank all our lay chaplains for their hospitality and warmth (which, of course they always have, but it was nice that someone else got to see what a special group of people they are)....

(Continued on page 5)

Outreach Programs



Bob Austin

rfgoodsam.com

Good Samaritans

GOOD SAMARITANS – FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010

The annual “Rockport-Fulton’s Got Talent” show is coming to the Martha Luigi Auditorium on Sunday, March 7th, at 3:00 PM. The \$10 tickets will benefit Good Samaritans, so get some tickets for your family and your neighbors and enjoy being entertained by many talented people from our community. The show is produced by Angela Rivera, Kathy Rinche and Meredith Carter.

We expect a busy year at Good Samaritans as many families are coming in for the first time. With an approximate 25% increase in family visits last year, we expect an equal need for Good Sam services this year. The local HEB store furnishes all of our bread and we use about 100 loaves each week. We appreciate this donation.

Visit our website: www.rfgoodsam.com

*Thank you,
Bob Austin*

A big thank-you to Yvonne and Les Moor for doing the photography for our updated Pictorial Directory which is in the process of being completed. Anyone still needing to update their photo or information, please call Les or the Parish Office.



(Continued from page 4)

Community of Hope International

Our next meeting will be the second Wednesday in April (April 14) and we look forward to getting together again then. Our care receivers are always prominent in our thoughts and actions, and we are always thankful for our lay chaplains that so faithfully call on our non-parishioners at Coastal Care. Their dedication is inspiring....

Pam Heidt



FISHIN' FOR MISSION 2010

June 25- Registration & Dinner
St. Peter's Episcopal Church

June 26- Tournament & Awards
Saltwater Pavilion at Rockport Beach Park

Cost per angler
Adults: \$125
Youth (12 and under): \$75
Guided and Unguided Divisions

Registration Deadline: May 15, 2010

**Benefits the World Mission Fund
of the Diocese of West Texas**

www.dwtx.org
Contact Michael Glick
with questions 210-382-3206



DIOCESAN COUNCIL FEBRUARY 18-20, 2010



ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 24, 2010



Ministry Leaders

Important Dates

Vestry Commissions and Ministry Leaders

<u>Sr. Warden</u>	John "JD" Debler
<u>Jr. Warden</u>	June Gregory
<u>Treasurer</u>	Audre Debler
<u>Clerk</u>	

Buildings, Grounds & Equipment Commission:

Garden Guild	Steve Long
Columbarium	Mike Patton

Christian Education Commission:

Daughters of the King	Frances Reed
Brotherhood of St. Andrew	Frances Reed
Cursillo	Al Steffens
Library	JoAnn Leonard
Nursery	
Godly Play	Kimber Clark
Adult Education	Frances Reed
Vacation Bible School	Frances Reed

Communications Commission:

The Rock	Butch Adams
Website	
History	Judy Nibbelink
Pictorial Directory	Les Moor
Signs, Advertising, Directories, Bulletin Boards	

Evangelism Commission:

Greeters & Name Tags	Lynna Thomas
Newcomers	

Planning & Analysis Commission:

Five Year Plan, Bldg Planning and Land Sale or Purchase	Mike Patton
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Parish Care & Fellowship Commission:

Assistant	Jane Ross
Sunday Coffee Hosts	June Gregory
Comfort Meals	Milby Wade
Community of Hope/Pastoral Care	Pam Heidt
	Pinky Gonzalez
	Sarah Shugart
	Milby Wade
Circle of Prayer	Barbara Patton
	Yvonne Moor
Kitchen Guild, Special Events, Meals & Dinners	

Stewardship Commission:

Audit Committee	Audre Debler
Finance Committee, Stewardship	Mike Patton

Outreach Commission:

Castaways	Lynna Thomas
Good Samaritans	Roy Allen & Jo Ann Leonard
Community Table	Bob Austin
	Al Steffens

Worship Commission:

Altar Guild	Becky Warren
Acolytes/Lay Readers & Lay Eucharistic Visitors	Sherri Collins
Ushers	Vergar: Al Steffens
Director of Music/Choir	Ken McGee
	Angela Rivera

WORSHIP SERVICES:

Sunday	8:00 a.m. Rite I Holy Eucharist
	10:30 a.m. Rite II Holy Eucharist
Wednesday	6:00 p.m. Rite II Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

The Nave of St. Peter's Church is open for prayer and meditation every day the church office is open. Hours are 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and Friday 9:00 a.m. until noon.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS:

Mon:	Castaways Pricing 12:30 p.m.
Tues:	St. Peter's at Castaways 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
	Community Table at First Presbyterian 4:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Wed:	Healing Service and Holy Eucharist 6:00 p.m.
	Choir Practice 7:00 pm
Fri:	St. Peter's at Castaways 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Thursday Lenten Soup Supper & Book Review of "The Noticer" by Andy Andrews continues on Thursday evenings at 6:00 pm through March 25 in the Parish Hall.

The Community Lenten Lunch on Wednesdays at noon through March 24:

March 10	First Methodist
March 17	St. Peter's joins with Sacred Heart to host this luncheon (a sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall)
March 24	First Presbyterian

**WELCOME NEW VESTRY MEMBERS:
BETH GARNER, JOEY GILL
AND KAY SCOTT**



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

412 N. Live Oak Street
Rockport, TX 78382

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES:

Sundays:	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite I
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite II
Wednesdays:	6:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

CHURCH STAFF:

Rector:	The Rev. James Friedel
Director of Music Ministries:	Angela Rivera
Parish Secretary:	Diana Sebastian
Office Telephone:	361-729-2649
Office Hours:	Monday through Thursday 9:00 am - Noon; 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Friday 9:00 am - Noon
Email:	stpeterbythesea@att.net
Website:	www.stpeterbythesea.com