

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

# THE ROCK

*We Are One Family In Christ*



MAY 2011  
Volume 15, Issue 4



## *Reflections from the Rector*

The Great Fifty Days of the Easter season continue.

Each new day is marked with the awareness that the One who modeled life in relationship with God and in relationship with others has not been squashed, but instead transforms the reality of death into promising new beginnings. No longer paralyzed by the fear of death, we are inspired and empowered to live our lives courageously and in a manner that responds to God's love and blessing.

This is the theological language that is common in describing the Easter season. These words fit well with my personal reality. Reflecting on the years of my life, I see the opportunities, the achievements, the blessings, the joys; but also the frustrations, the disappointments, the failures, and the sorrows that make up some five decades of living. I have experienced how the low points in my life have been transformed, with God's help, into promising new beginnings. Quite often these occurred in ways that were not on my radar screen and in ways I could have never asked or imagined.

Such a message offers hope and promise to those who are facing harsh realities in the present time. Unemployment, financial instability, sudden health issues, domestic violence, and substance abuse are just a few of the situations in life that more and more people, in our own nation, deal with on a daily basis. Certainly, these folks are in need of a message that offers hope and promise for the future. They would also tell you they are in need of something more than "the message". They are in need of a tangible path or bridge that can help them move from their current situation to a new place, a new beginning. If the Easter message is to offer promise to them, it has to convey a different kind of hope, not the luck of winning

the lottery, or being discovered on the street as the next Susan Boyle, or the next LeBron James. There has to be something more that encourages the person to participate in being recreated, not with wishful thinking, but with new identity and purpose. It is not helpful for them to wait for someone or something to make life better. Instead, they are guided to pursue in heart, mind, and spirit; relationships and possibilities that can empower and lift them out of the current crisis.

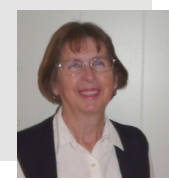
Saying this means that such relationships and possibilities for empowering and lifting them out of a current crisis must actually exist and be genuine. Quite often that is difficult to convey when someone is in survival mode, hunkered down, just trying to make it through the day. Yet that is the Easter message, "When we are in our darkest hour, somehow in some mysterious way a light and love that transcends the moment breaks through our hardness of heart and mind and offers a new beginning."

In my naïve experience with such things, I can not imagine a formulaic program that satisfies this enormous need in contemporary life. What I can imagine are ministries that allow the Easter message to be conveyed face to face, one relationship at a time. Facing the reality of a situation in life together, each party acknowledges and owns their part in rebuilding a life of value and purpose and all with God's help. The process is messy and filled with questions and uncertainties. Yet, in every community these are vital, even essential ministries if the Easter message is to become a reality for all people.

When I think of the Body of Christ, the Church being actively engaged in offering hope and promise to broken communities, it is these types of ministries that come to mind. The shape and form will vary with each unique setting, but the longing to bring the Easter message to life is a dynamic and ongoing challenge for the churches of the world.

We have some of these ministries actively addressing such needs right here in our community. Our part is to continue to support them and to be attentive to new challenges and expressions of hope that, with God's help, can transform our life together. Christ is risen indeed and is visibly evident in these activities of our life and love, Alleluia!

**PARISH BUSINESS**



*From the Senior Warden*

Hello to all,

Although the subject of this article may seem a little late, it is one that may be timeless. Hopefully, at Easter you were able to attend a church service either here or somewhere else. Father Jim, the Altar Guild, Choir, Lay Readers and many others worked very hard during Holy Week and Easter Day serving at each of the special services. At St. Peter's, each service was very well attended by members and guests alike. What could be more special than to have two baptisms at the later service. There were also many other young children attending with their parents and grandparents. St. Peter's is very glad that each of you chose to attend one of the Easter services.

As some of you may know, the Corpus Christi newspaper inserts a comic section in each Sunday edition. The comic strip of "LuAnn" is about a teenage girl who with her friends and family gives us a humorous look at teen life today. This particular comic on Easter Sunday was a little more thought-provoking than being comical. The scene begins with LuAnn and two of her friends in a fast food restaurant sitting at a table with their choice of food spread in front of each. Friend #1 asks: "Where do you guys rank on a spirituality scale?" Friend #2 responds with "Some people find it hard to be spiritual in difficult times..." LuAnn's response was "Yeah, the world's so messed up: war, disease, hunger, oppression, poverty, disasters (sound familiar) - You kinda wonder what there is to be thankful for." This was answered with "True", "Yeah" and "Mn" as they continued eating. In the last scene Friend #1 says - "This sandwich is yummy, I'm gonna get one to go." friend #2 says - "We're seeing the 2:45 movie in 3-D, right?" as she looks at her cell phone. LuAnn says "My new sundress will look great at the pool" as she pulls her new purchase from the package.

Has this scene played in anyone else's life but mine? This comic strip could apply to all age groups not just teenagers. When I take the time to count my blessings, it's a little hard to find an end. Today, as I look out of my dining area window, a pair of cardinals is happily bathing in the lawn sprinkler. They are enjoying the gift of fresh water as I am enjoying the gift of watching God's creatures.

As we progress through this Easter season, may we be thankful for all of God's special gifts to us, especially the gift of His Son.

Blessings to each of you,  
June Gregory, Senior Warden



**Treasurer's Report  
April 2011**

Mike Patton, Treasurer  
[mpatton16@gmail.com](mailto:mpatton16@gmail.com)

Shown below is a summary of the Church operating accounts for the four months ending April 30, 2011.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Revenue	\$123,557	\$114,035	\$9,522
Expense	<u>93,879</u>	<u>106,581</u>	<u>12,702</u>
Net Revenue/ Expense	<u>\$29,678</u>	<u>\$7,454</u>	<u>\$22,224</u>

Cash and short term investments of St. Peter's Church totaled \$241,621 on April 30, 2011.

As these results indicate, our Church is in a very solid financial position.

Detailed financial statements will be posted in the Parish Hall following the April 17, 2011 Vestry meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Patton

RELAY FOR LIFE

2011

**MINISTRIES**



***From the Director of Music Ministries***

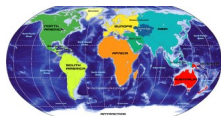
This month I would like to thank all our youth who add so much to our Chancel Choir. They are all so talented and so faithful in their commitment to our choir, in spite of their busy, busy schedules. They are all willing to sing solos, duets and whatever else I ask. They bring fun and joy to our rehearsals and all us adults cherish them and their contributions.

I especially want to thank Betsy Farmer and Justin Lee for their enormous contributions for all four years of high school. We will miss them dearly and eagerly await reports of their future success. Both have served in many capacities at St. Peter's Choir, Acolytes, Vacation Bible School, Bible study, Sunday School, Youth Group, Camp Capers, Young Life and others I may not even know about!!! Godspeed to you Betsy and Justin.

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing.

*Psalm 100:1-2*

- - - Angela Rivera



***World Mission***



Lynna Thomas

Greetings from snowy and cold Colorado this end of April and beginning of May. Yes it is snowing as I write this and am glad to place focus on our mission work in warmer parts. Fishin' for Mission is fast approaching, I know, but I wanted to share some news about other places where God's work is advancing, thanks to many Episcopalians and their dedication.

In Chapas, Mexico the Diocese of West Texas has partnered with The Diocese of Southeast Mexico and others to plant churches. English classes are underway and in time, after building relationships a new church. Easter celebrations and baptisms took place with after service meals and sweets of many kinds.

On a different note - Did you know that for many years DWTX has supported the Rafiki Childrens Center in Kenya - home to about 70 HIV/AIDS orphans? In February of this year the center held a four-day free medical camp, and hundreds of people showed up for treatment. Our prayers and dollars do good work!

Pray For Israel Trip happening now:  
The Rev. John Badders, leader

Honduras June 3 -16 and June 10 - July 7:  
Angie De Los Santos and my friends  
Mark and Sally Keddal

Remember PRAY FOR ONE  
PAY FOR ONE  
BE ONE

In His name,  
Lynna Thomas  
World Mission Representative



***The Community of Hope International***

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



Pam Heidt

The St. Peter's Circle of Care met in April. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>.

On May 25, we will get new debriefing bookmarks and go over the process of debriefing as a review.

For those who aren't involved with Community of Hope, debriefing and confidentiality are two subjects that are very important to Lay Pastoral Caregivers. Part of our mission is to not only give a non-judgmental listening presence to care receivers, but also to be trustworthy with the privacy and confidentiality of those we listen to.

Being a good listener is a gift to those who are being listened to. It is a gift because the person being listened to is, at least partially, unburdening themselves of the weight of their concerns, sadness, grief, etc. Usually these deep concerns and feelings are not those which the person wishes to be shared with the world. This is the reason for the pledge of confidentiality.

However, the listener has now lessened the care receiver's burdens and therefore taken on some of those burdens. This is where debriefing comes in. The lay pastoral caregiver (listener) can share the experience with another lay pastoral caregiver without naming names, but just to help relieve the burden they have accepted. This debriefing is also helpful in analyzing the visit and making sure that the words and concerns of the care receiver were handled in a thoughtful and careful manner. Most important of all, the debriefing is done with and kept in confidentiality between the two lay pastoral caregivers.

Our guide in pastoral care, (who sits quietly in our meetings, but is so helpful with guidance when we ask for it) Fr. Jim, has been asked by Brother Michael Gallagher and Rev. Dr. Helen Appelberg to lead a forum on "Seeing Christ in Ourselves and Seeing Christ in Others" at the Annual Community of Hope International Conference at Camp Allen in Navasota, TX in June. He plans to attend the whole conference and we look forward to that with great anticipation.

Pam Heidt

## NOW & THEN . . . by Jim Reed

## FISHIN' for MISSION

As the subject of building a new church for our congregation to use as a base of operations (sometimes I can't help using military metaphors), the most common comment has been: "I love our beautiful little church." The implication is that building a more useful church means that the beauty, familiarity and comfort of our worship space will be lost.



Most of us have moved several times in our lives. Frequently it is for a better job, a different school or, as we get older, fewer stairs to climb. Usually, we take some or all of our possessions with us. That "stuff" is what lets us quickly adapt to new places and spaces. The things we care about make any place comfortable because we take the beauty and familiarity with us. We would, of course, take much of the church adornment to a new worship space.

A group of artists from our church recently met and discussed how we could incorporate our stained glass windows into a new building. I am not privy to their discussion, but I find it exciting that the subject is being talked about. There has also been discussion about visiting other churches in the community who have built or remodeled their kitchens, and learning from their experience.

Our 100-year-old altar will undoubtedly continue to serve the Lord for years and the collection of altar hangings will fit nicely into a larger space. Comfort takes many forms; one is space for moving to and returning from the altar rail for communion. The Building Planning Committee has done a masterful job of creating a building concept that embodies the character and spirit of our church building. The clapboard siding, the shape of the steeple and the arched windows all say: "St. Peter's Episcopal Church is still here, ready to serve. --- Jim Reed

A very special thank you from St. Peter's for the beautiful "Altar Hangings" that we see during our worship. This inspired artistry is done through-out the year by our wonderful parishioners, Joan Lee and Jim Reed.



As I write this, I know the wind will stop blowing someday...surely by June 25th..."FISHIN' FOR MISSION" weekend.

This will be our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual "FISHIN' FOR MISSION" fishing tournament that benefits World Mission. Last year over \$10,000 was contributed to the effort of helping our Brothers and Sisters throughout the world. This money is used for food, medical care, drilling of water wells, and many other significant contributions to folks throughout the world who are not as fortunate as we are. It will prove to be a busy weekend and will require "All Hands On Deck" so to speak.

There will be many opportunities to support this endeavor. The weekend will begin on Friday evening with registration check-in and a meal for all fisher people and anyone who would like to join us for the kick-off dinner. Tickets will be available for those who want to join us for dinner but will not participate in the fishing tournament. On Friday night, there will be a raffle with some neat items being offered and winner's names will be drawn on Saturday during the weigh-in and awards ceremony at the Salt Water Pavilion.

Consider how you may want to participate, there are many opportunities including:

- Setting up/breaking down on Friday and/or Saturday
- Cooking/serving on either or both days
- Assisting with registration
- Soliciting raffle items from local merchants or artists
- Soliciting items and filling "Goody Bags" for all anglers
- Contributing CASH donations.

There will soon be two "Sign Up Boards" (one for STUFF that we will need and one for STAFFING) in the Parish Hall. Please mark this week-end on your calendars and plan on a week-end full of Fishin', Fellowship, Food and Fun...all in the name of serving as the Body of Christ. We look forward to this event and the opportunity to serve. We know this will be a great success with the help of all the giving people from St. Peter's Episcopal.

Peace Be With You,  
Steve and Eileen Vincent

**AMONG OUR OWN**



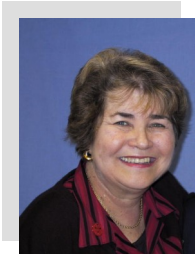
Our thoughts and prayers for Margie Summers. Her father, Don Tiedeman died peacefully Friday, April 22, 2011. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

St. Peter's is grateful for the recent Memorial gift honoring Rod Summers.

My mother and I express our deepest gratitude to everyone at St. Peter's for your thoughts and prayers during the recent illness and passing of my "Dad", Homer Owens.  
*Diana Sebastian*



	<u>JUNE</u>
Frances & Jim Reed	1
Sally & Bob Cotner	4
JoAnn & Joe Leonard	4
Dottie & John Neiderkorn	6
Molly & John Owen	6
Sis & Ralph VanderNaillen	6
Margaret & Charles Goolsbee	10
Mary & Ed Frazier	14
Jane & Rev. Ed Rose	14
Jean & Gus Hobohm	16
Kimber & Benjamin Clark	19
Cecile & Bob Nelson	19
Sarah & Bruce Shugart	21
Barbara & Steve Long	26
Janey & Pete Weakly	28



Barbara Patton

**Community of Hope**  
**Prayer List**

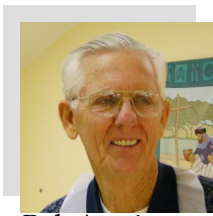
We ask that you keep the following persons in your prayers: **Carol Allen, Landon Alexander, Nadia Clark, Corina Domaschk, Nat Gonzalez, Jean Herring, David Herring, John Hill, Dorothy Hooker, Joan Lee, Carole Ann McKitrick, Anna Nix, George Sanders, Al Steffens, Audrey Steffens, J. T. Gonzalez.**

To pray with the Prayer Circle or to request prayer for yourself or your family, call or email Barbara Patton at 790-7775 or [barpatton@gmail.com](mailto:barpatton@gmail.com) (Please note email address change)



	<u>JUNE</u>		<u>JUNE</u>
Jim Reed	1	Martha Berkebile	13
Charlean Alexander	1	Will Gardner	13
Jane Ross	1	Anne Dobbins	16
Elza LeBrun	1	Dick Smith	16
Frank Kovach	2	John Juhala	17
Greg Saxon	3	Jae Clark	18
Nan Dietert	4	PamHeidt	19
Debra Gardner	5	Diana Sebastian	19
Oline Stanzel-LaBelle	7	JoAnn Leonard	20
Gail Brockett	7	Mira Guion	20
William Barnes	7	Belle Pantle	26
Bill Kirmse	7	Stephanie Seidel	26
John Hill	8	Gus Hobohm	27
Carole McKitrick	8	Joanna Schmermund	27
June Gregory	9	James Herring	27
Cecilia Shamon	11		

## OUTREACH PROGRAMS



Bob Austin

### *Good Samaritans MAY 2011*

The following letter was received from "*Sis*" **Vander Nailen**, one of the founders of Good Samaritans:

To All Members of St. Peter's Episcopal Church:

Thank you so much for your continuing help with food, money and volunteers to the Good Samaritans. We have been continually open for almost twenty years and have seen a great increase in client visits since our beginning. There has been a 50% increase in activity over the last two-year period and food distributions have risen even more – over 65%.

Your generous support always makes a difference in being able to offer food and assistance to those in our community who have limited resources and need a hand up. Without contributions from caring people like you, we could not keep our doors open for the needy in Aransas County.

Sincerely,

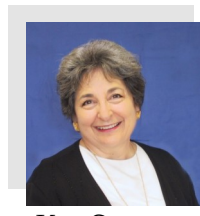
**Sis Vander Nailen**

Volunteer



Thanks to the St. Peter's parishioners who brought candy and plastic eggs for our Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday. Your generosity and kindness always amaze me. Thanks to my faithful helper Meagan Lee who carefully, prayerfully and joyfully stuffed each egg. Thanks are also in order for Justin Lee, Meagan Lee, Jamie Alexander and Blake Pool for hiding the eggs in just the right places and then supervising the hunt itself. Approximately ten to fifteen children participated, and found all the eggs in about ten minutes. What great fun!!! To God be the glory!!

Sincerely,  
Frances Reed



Kay Scott

### PARISH CARE & FELLOWSHIP

We had a good turnout for the Lenten Luncheon, at the First Presbyterian Church, on April 6. About 135 citizens attended and dined on wonderful, homemade sandwiches, chips, pickles, salsa, and cookies.

The Committee wishes to thank the following people for all the help they so kindly offered:

**Barbara Patton** brought chips, sandwiches and tons of help. She really knows that kitchen! **Ann Martel** helped people get their drinks, and brought dark bread sandwiches. Fr. **Jim** and **Christy Friedel** made pimento cheese sandwiches. **Helen Casterline** and **Jeff Deggs** brought cream cheese and cucumber sandwiches. **Jane Butt** arrived with egg salad sandwiches. **Judy Nibbelink** brought chips and helped on the serving table. **Pinky Gonzalez** gave us sandwich wraps, and helped wherever it was needed. **Magna Augustine's** homemade salsa, and cookies were very much appreciated. **Yvonne Moor** and **Carol Allen** brought us pickles. **June Gregory** sent tuna sandwiches. **J.D.** and **Audre Debler** contributed sandwiches, and **Cody** and **Ashley Debler** sent cookies. **Sherri Collins** also sent cookies. **Diana Severino-Saxon** brought cookies, and was a great help. **Oline S. Labelle** brought us chips.

Fr. Jim talked to us about coming together as a community, and what a special feeling it adds to the season of Lent.

The clean up went quickly because Barbara, Ann, Fr. Jim, Judy, Pinky and Diana stayed with us to the very end.

The left over food was given to the Aransas County Sheriff's Department, the Aransas County Fire Department, the Good Samaritans, and the Aransas County EMS. I was told that an EMS unit had gone to Corpus Christi, and they had not had lunch, yet. As I was pulling in to the parking lot, another unit was leaving, and they had not eaten. Before I left a third call was coming in.

These services are vital to our community. I was happy to be able to offer them our food in appreciation for all they do. For many years (working for the State and in different volunteer capacities), I have seen how much service groups appreciate this small offering of thanks. We will soon be able to give out a business card when we take gifts to people. It helps to identify us as we come into a facility. Sometimes folks want to say thank you and don't know whom to thank.

We know whom to thank! Many thanks to all our "helping hands" and to **Carol Allen** who taught me how to give "air kisses".

Thanks be to God,  
Kay Scott

**MINISTRY LEADERS**

**Vestry Commissions and Ministry Leaders**

<u>Sr. Warden</u>	June Gregory
<u>Jr. Warden</u>	John "JD" Debler
<u>Treasurer</u>	Mike Patton
<u>Scribe</u>	Kay Scott

**Buildings, Grounds & Equipment Commission:**

Garden Guild	John "JD" Debler
Columbarium	Steve Long
	Mike Patton

**Christian Formation Commission:**

Daughters of the King	Becky Warren
Brotherhood of St. Andrew	Frances Reed
Cursillo	Al Steffens
Library	JoAnn Leonard
Nursery	
Godly Play	Kimber Clark
Adult Education	The Rev. James W. Friedel
Vacation Bible School	Frances Reed

**Communications Commission:**

The Rock	Joey Gill
Website	Diana Sebastian
History	Woody Woodard
Office Administration Liaison	Judy Nibbelink
Pictorial Directory	Joey Gill
Signs, Advertising, Directories, Bulletin Boards	Les Moor

**Evangelism Commission:**

Greeters & Name Tags	Pinky Gonzalez
Newcomers	

**Planning & Analysis Commission:**

Five Year Plan, Bldg Planning and Land Sale or Purchase	Jim Blake
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**Parish Care & Fellowship Commission:**

Sunday Coffee Hosts	Beth Garner, Kay Scott & Dan Pugh
Comfort Meals	June Gregory
Community of Hope/Pastoral Care	Milby Wade
	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	Mike Patton
	Rick Glassett
	Jean Albright
	Walter Bringle
Finance Committee, Stewardship	Mike Patton

**Outreach Commission:**

Castaways	Becky Warren & Joey Gill
Good Samaritans	Roy Allen & Jo Ann Leonard
Community Table	Bob Austin
	Al Steffens

**Worship & Liturgy Commission:**

Altar Guild	Rev. James W. Friedel
Acolytes/Lay Readers & Lay Eucharistic Visitors	Sherrri Collins
	Verger: Al Steffens
Ushers	Ken McGee
Director of Music/Choir	Angela Rivera

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Memorial Day 2011**

Memorial Day will be celebrated on Sunday, May 29 at the 10:30 service. The plan is to remember those in our extended St. Peter's family who have died in military service. If you have family or know of someone that you want to be remembered, please pass the name or names to the church office, or to Jim Reed. If you have names to be included it would be very appropriate to include the name of the Service; for example, "John Albert Jones - United States Army".

**AFRICAN TEAM MINISTRIES CRAFTS**

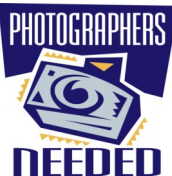
JEWELRY, WOOD CARVINGS AND OTHER CRAFT ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE IN THE PARISH HALL AFTER WORSHIP MAY 15, MAY 29 AND JUNE 5. PROCEEDS PROVIDE ORPHAN SUPPORT, AID TO REFUGEES, CLEAN WATER, MEDICAL CARE, REPAIRS OF CHURCHES AND TRAINING FOR THE LAITY. AFRICAN TEAM MINISTRIES ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR HELP.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

It is THAT time of year again. VBS is scheduled for JUNE 20-24, from 9:00 to 11:45 a.m. Mark your calendar and search your heart. We have a place for you!!!

The theme this year is **PandaMania**.

If you are interested in contributing food-related items, please call Thursey Sutton 790-5309 or 230-0352, or the church office 729-2649.



**SHUTTERBUGS AMONG US:**

We welcome your photos of parish events for use in The Rock and on the bulletin boards! You can email them or bring them by the parish office. Thank you.



Please join us for the **AWARDS CEREMONY** honoring the winners of the

**Third Annual ROCKPORT IN BLOOM CONTEST**

Rockport City Hall • 622 E. Market St. Thursday, May 26, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

For additional information, please call Rockport City Hall at 279-2213 ext. 222 or Penny Shephard at 729-5168

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**

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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 W. 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