

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



# THE ROCK

*We Are One Family In Christ*

OCTOBER 2010  
Volume 14, Issue 9



## *Reflections from the Rector*

When, suddenly one evening, the wind changes, and begins to blow out of the north. I can feel my whole body breathe a little deeper, my muscles flex a little stronger, and my senses search the air for the freshness of a new perspective. You and I have welcomed this change before, but each time our dynamic new season of life makes the present change a more significant moment for each of us.

These reflections remind me of an evening worship service on the Rosebud Reservation in Mission, South Dakota a few years ago. As we moved to the prayers in the liturgy, a lovely woman stood to lead us. Virginia grew up on the Pine Ridge Reservation and was now about to celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. She had attended the "Indian Schools" and had learned to quilt as a part of her education. Wrapped in a beautiful "Star Quilt", she began the prayers by praying the four directions. As she turned to face north, east, south and west, she held up an abalone shell filled with burning sage and fanned the smoke upward as if to give the prayers a little extra lift as they rose toward the heavens. Each time she turned to make her prayer in a new direction, she spoke of the natural significance of the blessings that come from the four directions.

Looking to the east, she spoke of the light that brings the new day with all its hope and promise. Looking southward, she gave thanks for the warmth and the rain that often are drawn to the north in due season.

Looking to the west she gave thanks for the close of the day and the fading light that would draw us to rest. Then looking northward, she gave thanks for the wind, even the wind that brought the cold temperatures, for always there was the freshness and feel of a season of change.

No doubt, Virginia was well versed in the history of her people and the knowledge that some awful things could come from those four directions as well. Drought, famine, storms, and enemies (indigenous and European) were all part of her historical memory. These realities however were not in her prayer. Her focus was on the blessings, the abundance of what the creator provided naturally for the people. Standing with her and looking at each horizon, one could not help but be filled with inspirational thanksgiving. No matter the current situation in life.

I recall that evening so well because of the sensation of seeing life from a whole new perspective. Somehow the larger vista drew me away from my mortal anxieties and fears. Too often, these had clouded my ability to see the abundance and instead left me focusing on the scarcity of blessings. How easily we can get stuck in a mindset that holds us captive to negative thinking. Yet, that subtle shift in perspective, that gentle new wind, can invigorate our physical and spiritual being to imagine something more.

Our corporate worship and our prayers have the mysterious ability to draw us to such encounters with God. Uniquely and wonderfully, we are often surprised by the encouragement and clarity that comes from such moments. Yet the more we experience this near presence, the more we trust that it can and will happen again.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

**PARISH BUSINESS**

*From the Senior Warden*



John "JD" Debler, Senior Warden  
[jdebler@gsmnsurors.com](mailto:jdebler@gsmnsurors.com)

**Consecration Sunday Is Coming**

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

This is the third year St. Peter's Stewardship Committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of Christian giving.

*New Consecration Sunday* is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

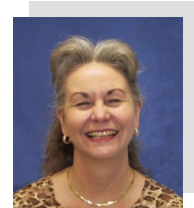
During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events. A catered lunch will follow the Consecration Sunday service in celebration of our parishioners' generous personal contributions.

Many Blessings,  
 John "JD" Debler  
 Senior Warden



Audre Debler, Treasurer  
[debler@pocca.com](mailto:debler@pocca.com)

***Treasurer's Notes***

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

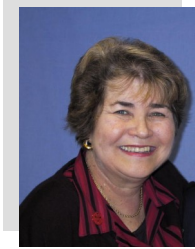
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Operating Revenues	206,257	199,721	6,536
Operating Expenses	<u>(184,442)</u>	<u>(200,474)</u>	<u>16,032</u>
Net Income (Loss) From Operations	21,815	(753)	22,568
	=====		

*Respectfully,  
 Audre Debler*

*AMONG OUR OWN*



*HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY TO POLLY COOK !*



Barbara Patton

*Community of Hope  
Prayer List*

We ask that you keep the following persons in your prayers: Carol Allen, Butch Adams, Mary Adams, Landon Alexander, Nadia Clark, Corina Domaschk, Nat Gonzalez, Jean Herring, Nell Herring, Dorothy Hooker, Joan Lee, Carole Ann McKitrick, Les Moor, Bob Nelson, Anna Nix, Marvin Northrup, Jane Ross, Fred Snook, Rick Spencer, Al Steffens, Audrey Steffens, Rod Summers, Dorothy Taylor, J. T. Gonzalez, 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](mailto:bpattton@dbstech.com)



OCT

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Bob Nelson	1	Sally Bush	19
Sue McCarty	3	Phillip Hubbard	19
Rod Summers	3	Doris Moran	19
Lisa Anthony	7	Jennie Heldenfels	22
Al Steffens	7	Brianna King	22
Ann Martel	10	Joe Ledwig	22
Blake Mogabgab	11	Butch Adams	24
Bill Rivera	12	Margaret Goolsbee	25
Koto Cooper	15	Frances Reed	27
June Lane	15	Tom Thomas	27
David Smith	18	Gene Douglas	30



*Happy Anniversary!*

OCTOBER

Nancy & Jerry Cramer	6
Adelaide & Rev. Tom Keith	19
Carolyn & Allen Anthony	24
June & Alfred Lane	24

## MINISTRIES



### *From the Director of Music Ministries*

Angela Rivera

We are all so excited about our awesome  
**TALENT SHOW !!!**

October 10 is the big day. Everyone's favorite emcee, Al Steffens, will be the "ringmaster" again and we will all have a great time!

Our "Picnic Supper" following the Talent Show will include Popeye's chicken, potato salad, BBQ beans and homemade cookies.

We welcome you and your friends to come and enjoy this fun-filled time with us. Times and ticket information are as follow:

### **ST. PETER'S CHANCEL CHOIR TALENT SHOW & PICNIC SUPPER**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2010**  
**TALENT SHOW: 5:30 P.M.**  
**PICNIC SUPPER 6:45 P.M.**

**\$10.00**

**PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE MUSIC MINISTRY**

**\*\*\* DOOR PRIZES \*\*\***

**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH PARISH HALL**  
**412 N. LIVE OAK \* ROCKPORT, TEXAS \* 361-729-2649**



### **REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTOR** (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

When suddenly one evening the wind changes and begins to blow out of the north, may our prayer in God's sight be as incense, the lifting up of our hands as the evening sacrifice. Give us grace to behold you, present in your Word and Sacraments, and to recognize you in the lives of those around us. Stir up in us the flame of that love which burned in the heart of your Son as he bore his passion, and let it burn in us to eternal life and to the ages of ages. *Amen*

Praying you God's abundant blessings,

*Jim*

Dear Friends,

I want to express my thanks to all of you who took part in the conversations, "Speaking of Last Things". All of your comments, questions, and stories made each of these sessions so relevant to our daily living. I am especially grateful to our facilitators: Bill Adams, Kay Harlan, and Amy Sullivan. Their presentations and expertise provided a wealth of information and opened the door for future discussions. If you have not yet received the resource materials from these sessions, they are available in the parish hall. Should you have further questions or need additional information, simply contact our parish office. Thanks again for your participation in this ministry program.

*Jim Friedel*

## *NOW AND THEN . . .*



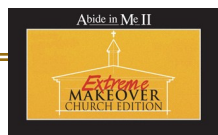
### THE BISHOP'S VISITATION

We are all looking forward to Bishop David M. Reed's visitation on Sunday,

November 7, 2010. During our recent Journey in Faith gatherings, many of you expressed an interest in being confirmed, received, or in reaffirming your faith on that Sunday morning. If you are interested in learning more about preparing for confirmation and reception, please contact Fr. Jim Friedel.

*Reminder:* Beginning Sunday, October 10th from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m., come and see what it means to become a "missional community of faith". What might it look like for the church to truly attempt to encounter the "unchurched"? The Episcopal Diocese of West Texas began these conversations at the Abide in Me II conference for lay and clergy leaders last June. Yet, the observations and discussions are fascinating for all of us to hear. This program features Reggie McNeal, an inspiring and insightful church consultant who challenges us to envision the church nurturing relationships in new ways. A two-disc DVD with Bishop Lillibridge and Reggie McNeal will guide our morning discussions.

*Come and see!*



### NOW AND THEN by Jim Reed



The more information I collect about our church, the more dynamic the story becomes. I view the computer as a really great typewriter that is forgiving of my typing skills and has a built-in dictionary for my spelling. I use 3x5 index cards to make my notes, just like I was taught in high school. My stack of cards has already grown to about 1-1/4 inches in height.

While we were digging through old Diocesan Council records in San Antonio recently, I noticed that in 1893, St. Peter's began listing a rectory, in addition to the church, in its list of property owned. There were no other notes to indicate where the rectory was located. If such a place existed it would be the first rectory that St. Peter's owned. Carter House was built as a rectory in 1955. The church purchased the home at 1502 W. Paisano in Rockport for Fr. Reese Friedman and his family in 1997 and sold it when he left the parish.

On August 3, 1891, R.H. Wood, L.J. Kennedy and M.E. Sheldon sold to Bishop James S. Johnston two lots at the SE corner of Live Oak and Liberty Streets for \$1.00. Liberty Street is now Highway 35. The property is where JJ's Burgers now does business. The rectory was apparently built there in 1893 and was valued at \$1,600. Diocesan Council records dated January 1920 show a rectory at St. Peter's worth \$1,500. It may have served for many years, but so far no further mention of the rectory has been found.

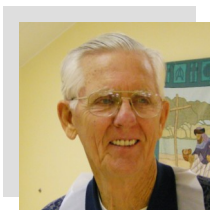
Rectories, or Parsonages as they are sometimes called, have been a part of the American scene for much of our nation's history. Providing a place for the preacher and his family to live was, and in some cases still is considered the "right thing to do". After World War II, the clergy began to understand the economic advantages to owning their own house. A home was, and is for many, the most valuable possession a person attains in their lifetime. So churches began to compensate the clergy with a housing allowance in the pay package and the clergy took on the responsibility for providing their own home. The Vestry is happy because it does not have the responsibility for maintaining the property and the clergy are happy with their investment.

*More about St. Peter's church buildings and property next month.*



### CASTAWAYS

Thanks to your generous contributions and volunteerism, Castaways had another great month and continues to be such a blessing to our community. Roy Allen presented St. Peter's with a check for \$5657.35 for the month of September.

***OUTREACH PROGRAMS******PARISH INFORMATION***

Bob Austin

[www.rfgoodsam.com](http://www.rfgoodsam.com)

### ***Good Samaritans - October 2010***

#### **THE GOOD SAMARITAN CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE COLLECTION**

As you read this, our Christmas toy drive will have begun. Toys for 2-10 year olds will mean a happier Christmas for these needy families. Remember, the box in the Parish Hall is for games, books, balls, stuffed animals, etc. Thanks to all for your care and interest.

Good Samaritans is growing each year with an active staff of about 60 volunteers. We normally have two volunteers on each shift to interview clients. An additional interviewer has been added on Mondays and some Thursdays as business has increased 13 per cent this year. We have added more chairs in the lobby as 12-15 people may be waiting. The point is, "Help" when you can by joining Good Sam or tell your friends and neighbors about the service we offer to the needy families in Aransas County. Contact a Good Sam volunteer for details and a tour of the facility.

One of the many services we offer at Good Sam is to inform clients of the many places that offer help in the County, such as Community Table every Tuesday evening, Food Stamps, children's insurance (CHIPS), Medicaid, medical clinics and St. Vincent de Paul. Our monthly 'Help Wanted' bulletins for jobs are very much in demand.

*From all the Good Samaritan volunteers, thanks to all of you for your donations and support throughout the year.*

*Bob Austin*

### **MDA "LOCK-UP" - OCTOBER 14**

Fr. Jim will be "locked up" at Mac's Pit BBQ in Rockport on Thursday, October 14 at noon.

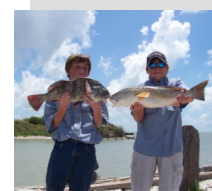
He needs your help to "bail him out".

A donation jar is in the Parish Hall, or you can come by the office, or join him at Mac's BBQ on October 14.

Checks should be made out to MDA or "Muscular Dystrophy Association".

Your show of support will help send "Jerry's Kids" to Summer Camp and will help make a difference in the lives of those affected by muscular dystrophy.

### **FISHIN' for MISSION**



The ice chests are cleaned, most of the fish have been eaten, and St. Peter's, Rockport, is just about rested up from hosting this year's successful Fishin' for Mission tournament, held June 25 and 26.

Fifty-six anglers showed up and some very nice fish were brought in, including several trout over 24 inches. The youth division was a hit this year, and one young man, Evan Lovett, not only won largest redfish (27" - 7 lbs) in his category, but won it for the general tournament as well. One stringer weighed in at 36 lbs.

Marthe Curry of the diocesan World Mission Department told the group about all of the work of the World Mission Department, so the purpose of this tournament was foremost in everyone's minds. World Mission was later presented with a check for \$9,614. Not too shabby for a fun day of fishing.

*Next year's date has been set, so mark your calendars for June 24 and 25, 2011.*

**-- Cindy Glick**

**MINISTRY LEADERS****ANNOUNCEMENTS****Vestry Commissions and Ministry Leaders**

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

**Buildings, Grounds & Equipment Commission:**

Garden Guild	June Gregory
Columbarium	Steve Long
	Mike Patton

**Christian Formation 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	The Rev. James W. Friedel
Vacation Bible School	Frances Reed

**Communications Commission:**

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

**Evangelism Commission:** Becky Warren & Joey Gill  
Greeters & Name Tags  
Newcomers**Planning & Analysis Commission:** Mike Patton  
Five Year Plan, Bldg Planning and Land Sale or Purchase**Parish Care & Fellowship Commission:**

Sunday Coffee Hosts	Beth Garner & Kay Scott
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:** Becky Warren & Joey Gill

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

**Worship & Liturgy Commission:** Rev. James W. Friedel

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

**WORSHIP SERVICES:**

Sunday	8:00 a.m. Rite I Holy Eucharist
	9:15 a.m. Adult Christian Formation
	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 p.m.
Fri:	St. Peter's at Castaways 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Fall Assembly**

Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup> through Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
Hosted by St. Alban's Episcopal Church  
1417 Austin Avenue, Harlingen, TX 78550

**Marti Fagley will lead a dynamic teaching on:**

*"The community is the people around us and the power of healing that comes from the gifts of the presence they can give us." Marti Fagley*

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010

**Friday and Saturday: \$27.00**

Friday: 6pm—Hors'd'oeuvres, wine and non-alcoholic beverages, evening meal.

Saturday, beverages, breakfast, snacks, and box-lunch.\*

**Saturday Only: \$17.00 Holy Eucharist at 8:30am**

Includes beverages, breakfast, snacks, and box lunch. \*

**Junior Daughters:** Friday and Saturday-- \$15.00

Saturday Only-- \$10.00

\* Saturday box lunch will include a vegetarian and non-vegetarian selection. Please contact Kathy Yhlhorn at St. Alban's: [kathylhorn@aol.com](mailto:kathylhorn@aol.com) with your lunch choice.



Full /partial scholarships available (confidential) by calling: Karen Duerr, President DWTX, 210-509-9737

**Important registration information**

Complete flier which includes mail-in registration, speaker biography, and additional flier information is available at The Province VII website <http://www.dokprov7.org> and click on Fall Assemblies.

**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