

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



# THE ROCK

*We Are One Family In Christ*

SEPTEMBER 2010  
Volume 14, Issue 8



## *Reflections from the Rector*

I want to refer you to an update in this newsletter offered by Larry Heidt. It is written in regard to the progress by the St. Peter's Building Planning Committee.

A few years before I arrived at St. Peter's, the parish had begun conversations about the future and the prospect of building a new church. That forward thinking was in response to the ongoing ministries of the parish and the realized potential for additional ministry programs that could be offered to serve the broader community. The Building Planning Committee was entrusted with the task of developing a preliminary design for a new church building.

Since my arrival at St. Peter's, I have served on this committee with these dedicated members. In every way they have taken on this responsibility with a prayerful and thoughtful resolve. Our progress has been slow and deliberate as we have listened to one another and considered the many variables involved when envisioning a new spiritual plant. We have trusted one another through the process and now are nearing the end of this preliminary work.

I wish to add my thanks to every member of the committee and to everyone who participated in imagining how a new church facility might enhance our parish ministries, presently and in the future. We will continue our prayerful deliberation about what comes next, but thanks to the dedication and care of this committee, we are positioned to respond when the time is right. I invite your prayers and comments as you learn more about the work of this committee. Please add your thanks for the commitment of these members to this task.

With Gratitude,  
Jim



## Journey in Faith

*Interested in learning more about the Church and  
in particular the Episcopal Church?  
Maybe you would just like to brush up on your  
understanding of the Church or the Episcopal Church?*

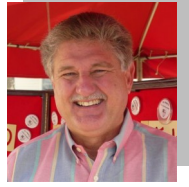
You then are invited into a Journey in Faith opportunity. Whether you are a newcomer, a returning member, or just interested in refreshing or learning more, we would love for you to be a part of this inquiry and discussion. What is baptism all about? Why do we sing so much in worship? How does the Church carry out its ministry in the world? Why are bishops important in our expression of being a community of faith?

We will utilize the Outline of Faith in the Book of Common Prayer as well as a few other resources to guide our discussions. There will be plenty of time for your questions and to hear from one another. The second six week session will take place from Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like more information about this opportunity or about future sessions of "Journey in Faith", please contact Fr. Jim Friedel.

## *Parish Business*

### *From the Senior Warden*



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

I was reminded of the cyclical nature of life the other day when it was announced in church about our senior high school students leaving for college. There they are, at the top of the high school pecking order, and then it is back to the bottom in the hierarchy of college. It is pretty much that way in much of what we do in life. You start out the bottom and work your way to the top, only to make a change in jobs or careers and start over again at the bottom again.

Does it work that way with being a Christian? I think in the context of being a member of a church, it does in a way. You start going to a church, get active in a couple of church programs, decide you really like the people and what they are doing to further God's word, officially join the church, become more involved and step into a leadership position. Not everyone moves into a leadership position, but that's o.k. There are plenty of roles that everyone can fill in the workings of the church. Some people maintain that all they want to do is come and worship God, and do not care to get involved in any of the other activities that go on in our church life. That is perfectly fine. However, I feel that those people truly miss out on what it means to be a part of a church family. The support, fellowship, and inspiration you receive from our church family here at St. Peter's is really beyond description. I hate to see any of our congregation miss out on it. Now, having said all of that, I do not mean to imply that there are any "low man on the totem pole" or "top dog" positions in our church family. There are only "new members" who then become "involved members". We are all in the community of faith together, are all equal in the eyes of God, and any illusions of grandeur are of our own making.

But, what about our Christian faith itself? Is there a hierarchy in that? Really, I think of it more as a journey, never ending until we reach our eternal destination. Certainly there is a beginning. As children, or perhaps later in life, we hear about the Bible, the teachings of Jesus, and then something happens in us. An awakening to what God is all about and that he sent His Son down to be among us, to teach, and then to die on the cross for our sins. I believe that our journey in faith, though, is entirely an individual thing. We each have our highs and lows. It would not surprise me to see that a young child that is just discovering the love of Christ would have a higher "faith rating" than some older Christians. The child's belief is uncluttered with many of the doubts that sometimes seep into an older person's mind as they go through life's trials. But an older person has also lived through many situations where God's Love has certainly made its presence known. Our faith is tested throughout our lives, and hopefully as our faith grows, we fair better during the tests. But it is an ebb and flow, and I think that during the ebb, our church family can help pick up that person until he or she has made it through the rough spot. That's why we all need to be attentive to others and their daily lives. Some people are not inclined to ask for help, but often it is easy to see that they are in emotional distress. Let's reach out to them. Let's pray for them. We may find ourselves in the same situation someday.

I mentioned reaching our eternal destination. That reminds me of the story of the lady who died and went to heaven. She was looking around and saw several people she had known. "Well," she sniffed. "I never thought he would get to heaven. Or her either". But actually, the joke was on her, because nobody expected to see her there.

As we move forward in our church year let us all be mindful that all that we have is because of God's love. Let us give thanks everyday for that and be willing and eager to give back some of our bounty to further God's Love.

Many blessings,  
 John "JD" Debler  
 Senior Warden

*Among Our Own*



Our sincere prayers and condolences continue to be with Christy and Fr. Jim following the passing of his cousin, Steven Friedel.

A Celebration of the Life of Ara Jean "Jeannie" Rozzell was held Monday, August 30 at 2 p.m. Our friend Jeannie was born December 1, 1920 and passed away on August 27, 2010. Our prayers and condolences are extended to her son, Reese, and to her many friends and family members.



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, Nat Gonzalez, Jean 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 [bpatton@dbstech.com](mailto:bpatton@dbstech.com)



SEPT

SEPT

Diane Austin	1	Melissa Daylong	17
Jean Herring	2	Reba Lomax	17
Sally Summers	2	Landon Alexander	18
Andrew Ehrlich	3	Carolyn Anthony	18
Polly Cook	4	Lynn Wildman	21
Adelaide Keith	5	Glenn Gregory	22
Toby Mogabgab	5	Larry Heidt	23
Barbara Shelton	5	Jena Kirmse	23
Dr. John Butt	6	Peggy Friebele	24
Natalie Werkhoven	6	Rev. Edwin Rose	24
Karol Langley	8	Betsy Farmer	25
Betty Craig	10	Stan Miles	26
Lynna Thomas	11	Pinky Gonzalez	27
Bruce Shugart	14	Rhonda Cunningham	28
Mary Adams	16	S. E. Kelly	29



SEPTEMBER

Lynne & Ken McGee	1
Audrey & Al Steffens	3
Julia & John Pina	9
Nell & David Herring	10
Ann & Ted Whitlock	12
Faye & John Ulbrich	14

## MINISTRIES



### *From the Director of Music Ministries*

Angela Rivera

I cannot believe it, but it is time for the world famous, ever entertaining - awesome - delicious **TALENT SHOW !!!**

These years do go by fast. October 10 is the big day. If you want to be in this year's show, just give me a call at 729-7884. All acts must be ready by the end of September. Everyone's favorite emcee, Al Steffens, will be the "ringmaster" again and we will all have a good time. If you have never been able to attend one of our annual talent shows, plan to come and enjoy a little 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**



### *Entering the Dwelling Places of the Soul*

**The Fall Gathering  
For Women  
October 22-24, 2010**

**The Rev. Suzanne Guthrie  
Sylvia Maddox  
Chaplain**



Sponsored by  
The Commission  
for Women's Ministries

If you have any questions, you are welcome to call Leigh Saunders at 210-824-5387. Online Registration information is available at [www.dwtx.org](http://www.dwtx.org) on the Special Events Page.

## ***BUILDING AND PLANNING ---AND REMEMBERING***

### BUILDING PLANNING COMMITTEE PROGRESS



In 2006, St. Peter's Vestry mandated a Building and Planning Committee under the leadership of the Planning and Analysis Commission. The mandate was to develop a preliminary design for a new church building to be built on property along Henderson Street that had been already purchased. An architectural firm, CLK Architects, was hired and a series of parish "town hall" meetings were held to get everyone's ideas. Out of these meetings and a written parish-wide survey came a consensus of our future needs. CLK also advised that the Henderson St. property was far from an optimum site for our needs. The decision was made to sell the Henderson St. property and seek a more suitable site. Mike Patton reported in the Rock earlier this year on the progress of the sale expected this fall.

The Building Planning Committee was inactive during the time we searched for a new priest and the transition was complete. In 2009, the committee received a new mandate from the Vestry to continue work with CLK and develop a "Conceptual Design Package" for a new church building. This package was to become the basis for our long range planning for a new church building. The package was to include the criteria for selecting a new building site, both plan and elevation drawings, a cost estimate and computer generated 3D renderings of what the building would look like.

Anne Dobbins, Joey Gill, Margaret Goolsbee, David Herring, Mike Patton, J.D. Debler, Don Hanks, Jim Reed, Jim Friedel and Larry Heidt are currently serving on this committee. We expect completion of the "Conceptual Design Package" and presentation to the Vestry in October. After the presentation to the Vestry a new committee, co-chaired by Joey Gill and Jim Reed, will be formed to begin the next step. The next step will include a full presentation to the congregation later this fall or early in 2011.

As you can see, this has been a slow and sometimes tedious process. However, moving slowly and deliberately has allowed the committee to design a new building that will insure the full support, continuation and expansion of all the spiritual and mission activities that are the core of St. Peter's. It has been a privilege to serve on this project and I would like to thank everyone who contributed their ideas, thoughts, dreams, time and efforts to this process. I hope you will be as pleased with the results as the committee is.

Respectfully,  
Larry Heidt, committee chair

### NOW AND THEN by Jim Reed



Elsewhere in this issue of The Rock, Larry Heidt has given you a report on the progress of the Building Planning Committee. In it he announced that Joey Gill and I would form a new committee to begin the next step in hopefully turning the "Conceptual Design Package" into a new facility someday.

In preparation for this new job, I started reading some of the history of our church. It is fascinating to compare "Now" with "Then", hence the lead on this article. On July 13 of this year, Wendy Laubach, Dan Pugh, Lynn Lee, and I went to San Antonio to look in the Diocesan archives. It was an interesting and fun day. Mr. Don Engleking, a member of the Diocesan Historical Commission was our host. We found some information, but we also found that there are lost periods caused by the passage of time and natural disasters. For example, the hurricane of 1919 not only blew St. Peter's church away, but records were destroyed too.

In the 139 years of history behind our church, the building has been erected twice, blown down twice, moved twice, and remodeled and expanded at least six times. This means that on average, we have moved, rebuilt or modified every 12 years. We have owned three Rectories and I am still counting the number of priests who have conducted services on a regular basis (Bishops not included).

Recently I went to stand on the corner where the first church edifice was built. When J.M. Doughty and Tom Mathis laid out the town, they gave land to five churches. St. Peter's location was at the southwest corner of Live Oak and North Streets. It is interesting to note that the deed read, "If no church is built the land reverts to DM". Bishop Gregg did not waste any time in building.

I will try to tell you some interesting stories about the past as we move into the future. Our Road Ahead is not as clear to us as is the Now and Then, but trusting in the Lord to lead us, St. Peter's will continue to be a force for Christian Mission in this part of His kingdom.

## OUTREACH PROGRAMS

## PARISH INFORMATION



### *Good Samaritans - September 2010*

Bob Austin

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

### THE GOOD SAMARITAN CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE COLLECTION

In October Good Sam will collect used toys for children ages 2 -10. From October 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> we need to collect as many used (or new) toys as possible to be given out to Good Sam families at Christmas. Vi Shirey, a Good Samaritan volunteer, washes the stuffed animals in her washing machine and cleans all toys. She has arranged this toy program for several years to help 450 to 500 children. Each child receives two or more toys which are handed out at Peace Lutheran Church a few days before Christmas. Clients visiting Good Sam are given a toy voucher when they register for a Christmas basket. Note that toys are for ages 2 - 10 and may be used or new. Vi Shirey, with her daughter's help, is making dresses for 40 Barbie dolls, and a local beautician is donating her time and talents to style each doll's hair.

We learned from Rev. Tom Wagstaff at Peace Lutheran Church that some families say these toys are the only things they have for their children at Christmas. So please see what your children/grandchildren or neighbors can give for those less fortunate. Books, games, balls, stuffed toys or anything to excite a child at Christmastime will be welcomed.

All items can be brought to the parish hall and Good Sam will remove them every day or so. Or you may call me at 790-7806 and I will pick up toys at your home.

Thanks to all of you for your continued  
support of Good Samaritans,  
*Bob Austin*



### PERSONAL PLANNING

Mike Patton

About ten years ago, St. Peter's held several meetings at which we discussed the various personal, legal and spiritual issues that people face when making decisions concerning their eventual death. I have had a number of requests that we re-visit these issues. There will be three sessions held on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. The meetings will be between the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday services. Qualified speakers and discussion leaders will facilitate these meetings. Please attend, and if you have friends in the community who would be interested, please let them know they are welcome.

Jewelry  
Oils  
Cards  
Enamels  
Prints  
Ceramics  
Watercolors  
Metal Works  
Glass  
Weavings  
Sculptures  
Ornaments  
Photography  
Calligraphy  
Rosaries  
Crafts  
and  
MUCH  
MORE!!

ARTS FESTIVAL & MARKET FOR PEACE  
WORLD MISSION

Proceeds to support World Mission Initiatives  
of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas

**Saturday, October 23, 2010**

On the lovely grounds of  
THE BISHOP JONES CENTER  
111 Torcido Road - San Antonio, TX  
10:00 am to 6:00 pm - Admission is FREE  
Reception 4:00-6:00 pm

Food Booths  
Entertainment  
Kid's Activities

**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 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	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:** Joey Gill & Becky Warren  
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:**

Castaways	John "JD" Debler
Good Samaritans	Roy Allen & Jo Ann Leonard
Community Table	Bob Austin
	Al Steffens

**Worship Commission:**

Altar Guild	The Rev. James W. Friedel
Acolytes/Lay Readers & Lay Eucharistic Visitors	Sherri Collins
	Verger: Al Steffens
Ushers	Ken McGee
Director of Music/Choir	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 p.m.
Fri:	St. Peter's at Castaways 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**LOST & FOUND**

A silver Cursillo cross was recently lost. If anyone finds it, please notify the Parish Office at 729-2649 or John Hill at [stxlobo@peoplepc.com](mailto:stxlobo@peoplepc.com)



If you haven't visited our website in awhile, please do - [www.stpeterbythesea.com](http://www.stpeterbythesea.com). It's updated regularly with photos, information about upcoming events, reports of recent happenings and much more. Also, issues of *The Rock* and our monthly calendars are available on the site.

## St. Peter's Episcopal Church

412 N. Live Oak Street  
Rockport, TX 78382

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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