

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

THE ROCK

We Are One Family In Christ



DECEMBER 2009 - JANUARY 2010
Volume 14, Issue 1



Reflections from the Rector

I'm still having a hard time getting used to writing 2010 on any correspondence. That being said, I think there is something about entering a new year that moves all of us to consider new beginnings and creates a desire to gather our bearings and an essential focus for the next part of our journey. This seems to be true whether we are considering life and living as individuals or as communities.

Our faith community at St. Peter's is no different. We, too, know the need to reflect on the ministries and relationships that are our identity and to consider how we are doing. We reflect on things that are working well, areas that need attention, ministries that have grown tired and may need a rest, and new possibilities that have not been considered. Such an exercise helps us listen to voices and opportunities that keep us vibrant in our care and service in this community.

One area that stands out as needing attention is a review and update of our parish directory information. This information is frequently changing and needs to be updated from time to time. It includes contact information by household with names, addresses, phone

numbers, and email addresses. It also includes information that helps us maintain accuracy in our parochial data base. Information like dates of birth, baptism, confirmation, and anniversary dates are included in this information. St. Peter's has purchased a new software package to help us manage this information more effectively. Our current information has been transferred to the new system, but we still need to confirm with all of you that we have the most up to date information for you and your family. Please know that we do not share any of your information beyond the parish and the diocese.

In coming weeks, be watching for opportunities to help us with this simple but important project. Updated photographs for St. Peter's Pictorial Directory will be taken, following both services on February 7, 14, and 21. An additional date may be added if needed. We are grateful to Les Moor for volunteering to once again serve as our photographer. Thank you for your participation and support of this endeavor as we begin a new year. Our efforts will serve all of us in our life together.

Faithfully,
Jim Friedel

Parish Business

From the Senior Warden



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

In 2009, after the annual meeting and election of new Vestry members, the annual Vestry retreat was held at the Diocesan Council Center on Mustang Island. A very tranquil setting, the center was the perfect place for the new Vestry to bond, meditate, and reflect on the accomplishments of the previous year, discuss what still needed to be done, and to plan for the upcoming year. We left the conference center with the various ministry chairs decided and a working plan for 2009.

I feel that every chair of our various parish committees did an outstanding job in organizing and carrying out their prospective duties. Behind those chairs were a lot of dedicated people, all working behind the scenes to make sure that our parish operates in the manner necessary to promote and support our outreach programs, maintain our facilities and grounds, and most of all, provide for the spiritual nourishment and growth of our parishioners.

The Vestry took on a new venture this year, the Fishin' for Mission Fishing Tournament. This was a joint venture between St. Peter's and St. Helena's in Boerne, Texas to raise funds for World Mission. Our first year was an unqualified success, raising close to \$6000 for World Mission. The money raised was very important, but I think the fellowship in Christ that was experience by all involved was of even more importance.

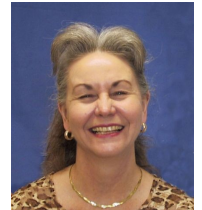
I want to personally thank the outgoing members of the Vestry. Jane Ross, Lynna Thomas, and Rick Spencer all put in countless hours of service to St. Peter's and to the Lord. I also want to express to Father Jim Friedel my gratitude for the guidance he has given to me over the past year as I strived to fulfill my duties as Senior Warden.

Fr. Jim's leadership and spiritual guidance has enabled our parish to grow and flourish with enthusiasm. And lastly, I'd like to thank the congregation of St. Peter's for your support of the Vestry this past year. With your prayers and God's Love, we will aspire to better serve the Lord this next year.

Many Blessings,

John "JD" Debler

Treasurer's Notes



Audre Debler, Treasurer
debler@pocca.com

Results of operations through December 31, 2009 are as follows:

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Operating Revenues	312,160	281,909	30,251
Operating Expenses	(277,046)	(279,635)	2,589
Net Gain (Loss) from operations	35,114	2,274	32,840

*Respectfully,
Audre Debler*

Among Our Own

Condolences

Cecil Roland "Ron" Little passed away Wednesday, December 9, 2009. The Memorial Service was held Saturday, December 12, 2009 at 10:30 a.m.. Our prayers and condolences to Brenda and all of Ron's family and friends.

Elizabeth "Betsy" Browning passed away Sunday, December 27, 2009. Her Memorial Service was held Wednesday, December 30, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to her family and friends.

Community of Hope Prayer List

We ask that you keep the following persons in your prayers: **Carol Allen, , Landon Alexander, Dottie Bowen, Nadia Clark, Koto Cooper, Nat Gonzalez, George Hall, Jean Herring, Dorothy Hooker, Joan Lee, Barbara Long, Carole Ann McKitrick, Ken Mayhew, Bob Nelson, Anna Nix, Marvin Northrup, Frances Reed, Jim Reed, Jane Ross, Audrey Steffens, 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

Happy Birthday!

Jack McBrayer	Jan 1	Lynne McGee	Feb 1
Cecile Nelson	3	Stacey Hanks	1
Brent W. Gregory	4	Ann South	2
Sally Hart	7	Rick Glassett	3
Ted Whitlock	7	Skip Langley	7
Bill Tilden	11	Elinor Donnell	9
Lyndon Holcomb	15	John Ulbrich	13
David Herring	18	Becky Warren	13
Betty Kepp	18	Travis Farmer	17
Barbara Patton	19	Desmond Patterson	18
Audre Debler	20	Roy Allen	18
Lynn Lee	20	Johnnie Callam	18
Ken McGee	23	Fran Tarkington	20
Judith Rendall	23	Elaine Mogabgab	20
Mary Frazier	24	Ralph VanderNaillen	21
Fr. Jim Friedel	25	Steven Plummer	22
Amber Nicole Gregory	26	Bill Adams	23
Pete Weakly	26	Woody Woodard	23
Michael Patton	27	Mary Virginia Eby	24
Betty R. Smith	28	Will Douglas	29
Janey Weakly	28		

Happy Anniversary!

Jacqueline & Jeffrey Carlson	Jan 8
Patricia & Ivan Olenik	Jan 11
Karol & Skip Langley	Jan 22
Barbara & Michael Patton	Jan 30
Joanna & George Schermund	Feb 2
Peggy & James Friebele	Feb 10

Ministries



Angela Rivera

From the Director of Music Ministries

Congratulations to our awesome Chancel Choir for the wonderful Christmas Eve music. We have so many extraordinarily talented singers who are always willing to share their talents.

Our diverse group ranges in age from 14 to 92. I think it is wonderful to have multi-generational singers!!!

On February 18, 2010 they will be participating in the Festival Eucharist at Diocesan Council.

Thank you choir, and God bless you for your continuing service to St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

*Respectfully,
Angela Rivera*



Mike Patton

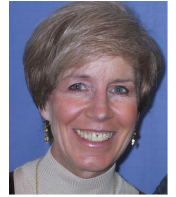
Parish Planning & Analysis Ministry

**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



Pam Heidt

The

Community of Hope International

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

Christmas Blessings to all our care receivers and care givers! The St. Peter's Center of the Community of Hope International met on December 2nd, for their Circle of Care. They made wood bead crosses and assembled bookmarks and everyone contributed cookies that were divided into gift containers. They had a great time creating these small gifts and gift boxes of cookies to deliver to their care receivers. June Gregory provided refreshments for all and Pinky Gonzalez taught the cross making skills.

Our group at St. Peter's has had a very busy year and we are especially thankful for all the parishioners at St. Peter's who help us to be aware of the needs in our congregation. Those who need special help or visits or prayers would be unknown to us, if it were not for those of you who are so helpful in keeping your Community of Hope updated on your needs and the needs of your friends and loved ones. Thank you all for your part of what makes our Community of Hope effective. Please call or email the church office, Barbara Patton, or any of the Community of Hope lay chaplains for any of these needs.

We are also very thankful for those Community of Hope members who make a special point to visit residents of Coastal Care Nursing Center. They visit many non-Episcopalians and their efforts in this outreach mission are appreciated by our larger community which includes St. Peter's, Rockport, and the nursing home. Thank you and Best Wishes for a wonderful 2010.

Pam Heidt

Outreach Programs



Bob Austin

rfgoodsam.com

Good Samaritans

Families started signing up for the Good Samaritan Christmas baskets on November 23rd. We expected 500 to 600 families to receive a box of food for Christmas dinner on December 19th and we had close to 600. Decorated boxes were placed in the parish hall from Sunday, November 29th, until Thursday, December 17th. Your donations of food or money helped Good Sam to furnish food for Christmas for lots of needy families. With the economy down and layoffs in the work force we have been swamped with clients needing help, mostly for food. We provided assistance to 1,322 families in September, a 21 percent increase over 2008. We are able to handle the increase thanks to a fine group of volunteers. Learn more about our Christmas basket program at our website, rfgoodsam.com.

Two recent examples of people needing help:

- A young woman with four children between the ages of 2 and 9 woke up one morning to find a note on the kitchen table saying, "I'm leaving. And I'm not coming back." The trailer where they lived was owned by the husband's grandmother who needed the income from the rental, and she evicted them. We arranged housing for them for the week and put them in touch with agencies that offer more permanent help, but it was a teary session for all, and there are no easy answers for this family.
- A man in his fifties had been a painter all his life. He said he had never gone more than a week or two without a contract until this year. His business slowed but he was busy enough to cover his basic expenses until the last three months. He had had no work at all. His savings are about wiped out; he had covered all the avenues he knows of to try to drum up some work with no success. All he was asking for was food, which we gladly supplied, but we expect he will need more help than this in the near future.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support for Good Samaritans. We hope you all enjoyed the blessings of the Christmas season.

While celebrating the birth of Christ on December 25th, there was a great outpouring of love, not only for the needy families in our community, but for each other. Perhaps the second Commandment, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," stands out more this time of year.

The contributions to Good Samaritans by churches, schools, RV parks and businesses for our Christmas Basket Program was better than ever. We were able to give a box of food for a Christmas dinner to 600 families. Many volunteers from the community as well as from Good Sam helped during November and December to prepare for distribution day.

Wal-Mart allowed us to hand out flyers for two full days which resulted in barrels full of food plus cash donations. A lady and her small child came out of the store with two bags of food to put in the barrel, plus some cash and coins. She said, "Last year Good Samaritan helped my family, this year we are helping you."

A special thanks to all at St. Peter's for your help to Good Sam throughout the year. This fine charity organization succeeds with your help and we will look to you again as we have food drives during 2010. We wish all of you a very happy new year!

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

Bob Austin

Consecration Sunday



Ministry Leaders

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>	Rick Spencer

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	Rick Spencer
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	Audre Debler
Finance Committee, Stewardship	Les Moor
	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
	Verger: Al Steffens
Ushers	Ken McGee
Director of Music/Choir	Angela Rivera

Important Dates

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

Remember that 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. (St. Peter's will be serving on Feb 2)
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:

Pictorial Directory Photos will be taken after each service Feb 7, 14, and 21. An additional date may be added if necessary.

February 13	Community of Hope Retreat
February 16	Shrove Pancake Supper at 6:00 pm
February 17	Ash Wednesday Services at 7:00 am - 12 noon - 6:00 pm
February 18 - 20	Diocesan Council To follow from your computer, go to the website www.dwtxmediahub.org
February 25 - Mar 25	Thursday Lenten Soup Supper & Book Review of "The Noticer" by Andy Andrews at 6:00 pm

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTEDSCHEDULE 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