

Spring News from Saint Peter's

Please join us for worship!

JUNK IN THE TRUNK SALE

Do you have treasures to sell or would like to purchase some? St. Peter's will be sponsoring a "Junk in the Trunk Sale" June 9, 2018 from 9-1 in the parish parking lot. Sell your garage sale items out of the trunk of your car or bed or your truck. No loading or unloading. Put your own prices on items. You can rent a space the size of 2 parking spaces, that will accommodate one car and room for a table. The cost to sell your wares is \$20. Vendors receive a small gift and water from the church. There will be food and drink available for purchase by visitors.

Contact Ellen at 563-355-4640 or saintpetersbettendorf@gmail.com for application.

From the Senior Warden

The vestry met for its annual retreat on April 14. During the retreat, which was a half day event, vestry members focused more on relationship and visioning, instead of the usual "nuts and bolts" issues that are dealt with in monthly meetings.

During the annual meeting in January, the congregation was asked to share goals and visions for the coming year. In keeping with the congregation's vision, the vestry identified these focus areas for the coming months:

- Continue efforts to attract and support younger families through offerings such as Messy Church.
- Make needed improvements and repairs to the front walkway.
- Continue to build the music ministry, under the direction of Perry Mears.

From the Music Director

The spring has been a beautiful season of music here at St. Peter's. From our Lenten discipline of unison singing through the glorious vocal and instrumental music of Easter, our worship services have felt especially meaningful these last couple of months. As we finish out our choir year, we will have some special guest musicians joining us for our May 20th Pentecost service. Make plans to wear red and join us for worship that morning.

Did you know that St. Peter's currently provides space for three local music teachers who instruct 40 youth a week in after school lessons? This exciting program is expanding in the fall to include musicians from the Quad Cities Symphony Orchestra, who will offer instruction to area high school musicians in our facilities two nights a week. If you're interested in seeing the results of some of these lessons, there will be a studio recital on Tuesday, May 15, at 7pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome to attend.

The next event in our Music@St. Pete's concert series, "A Marian Spring," will be held on Friday, May 18, at 7:30pm in the sanctuary. This concert features the Vocal Ensemble QC, under the direction of Peter Grau. You may remember this group from their fall All Saints concert. You won't want to miss this performance, which features music in honor of Mary, along with songs of love and spring.

If you are interested in being a part of the Music@St. Pete's vision, there are many ways you can get involved. Are you a singer or instrumentalist? Make plans to join the choir when we resume rehearsals in the fall. Are you a good networker or fundraiser? Volunteer to help with the concerts in our 2018-2019 season. Have children or grandchildren interested in private lessons? Contact me and we'll see if we have a teacher to fit their needs.

Thanks for all you do to support the exciting music making that takes place each week here at St. Peter's!

From the Rector

Growing Together in the Holy Spirit is the title of our retreat this year. Retreat Leader Missy Harrison explains, "Our faith must only be as tiny as a mustard seed to thrive and grow. Together we can plant our seeds in good soil, nourish them, and give them light. Let's come together and explore things that need planted, nourished, and even pruned in our lives. The tiny mustard seed grows into a large bush, rivaling some trees in height. With God's help we can grow our faith together. The retreat will be May 18-20, 2018, at St Mary Monastery, directions on the brochures.

Please take brochures, share with friends, sign up and encourage others to sign-up. Registration and payment are due a week before the retreat.

Since the retreat is the same weekend as Pentecost, retreat participants are encouraged to return for the special glory of Pentecost worship at 10 am at St Peter's. We will not have an 8 am service that morning.

For Pentecost please wear red! We will all gather together for 10 am church and not at 8 am. Our worship will include special music.

Fifth Sunday joint worship All of the Episcopal parishes of Bettendorf and Davenport will worship together at 9:30 am on the fifth Sunday of the month beginning July 29, at the Cathedral, September 30, at St Alban's and December 30 at St Peters. Each time the preacher will be from congregations other than the one we are in!

Robin Sade of St Alban's brought us together with this relationship building idea she learned from Lutheran seminary colleagues. Given the pleasure we found at our shared Growing Iowa Leaders gathering last winter, we are excited about seeing more of each other and building up the local Episcopal community and visibility. Which, as with everything, begins with relationships. I am looking forward to planning post-worship refreshments.

Interesting Church Growth Fact Most of us realize that many things other than church are scheduled on Sunday mornings. At our most recent clergy meeting, we learned that a key way to connect to people is to have activities at times other than Sunday morning, and sometimes in places other than the

church building. For example, an informal Eucharist for families, in a side room of a restaurant, or **Messy Church** on a Wednesday night. Our strategy, is to focus on one thing, work to get good at it and build attendance. Which is why we are doing **Messy Church**. Please attend whether you have children or not. Fun and laughter are wonderful.

Messy Church is for EVERYONE We gather to playfully and messily explore the stories of our faith. In particular, our hope is to invite and welcome friends and neighbors with children as we build an emphasis on Children. Please invite friends, family and neighbors to participate in this playful messy art, informal worship and intergenerational faith formation. Our next meeting will be May 16 at 5:30 p.m.

Summer Ministry School and Retreat is June 22-24 in Grinnell. This weekend is an opportunity to get to know other Iowa Episcopalians, feed your own spirit, learn what we have in common, or learn new skills for the good of the parish. REGISTER BY MAY 15, 2018 TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SPECIAL SAVINGS

ADULTS Check out the fantastic learning tracks being offered! Join a track that captures your imagination or fits your needs, and you'll spend 8 hours delving into that subject over the course of the weekend. Link to Track descriptions <http://www.iowaepiscopal.org/smsr17-tracks.html> OR just use the time as a solo retreat... Let someone else cook and find a quiet repose away from the hubbub of home in a dorm room with no distractions. Enjoy the rhythm of the Daily Office...worship scheduled into your weekend AND enjoy casual time with friends old and new!

Kids entering grade 3 and younger. FREE CHILDCARE during track time. Their meals and lodging (with a parent/guardian) is free as well!

Youth Track (entering grades 4 -12): Gather for fellowship, music, worship, music, formation, music, and fun. Youth enjoy group favorites such as a Friday pizza party, swimming at the local pool, games, and lock-in. The Diocese of Iowa's Youth Ministry Development Team (YMDT) leads this track that will meet at St. Paul's Episcopal Church across the street from Grinnell Campus. Most participants enjoy the chaperoned lock-in accommodations, but youth can choose to sleep in the dorms with their parents.

Church in the Park

Our Spring Church in the Park will be on

June 3 at 10:00 a.m. Please join us as we kick off the summer with a service in Devils Glen Park at 1101 Devils Glen Road in Bettendorf. Following the service, we will enjoy fellowship. (Bring chairs, lawn games, sports equipment and table games- especially if it looks like rain.) Late morning we'll start the charcoal and prepare lunch Hot dogs, burgers and table service will be provided. Sign up in back of the church to bring a dish to share. We have a shelter reserved so don't let rain keep you home. Subsequent Sundays in summer, we will have one service only at 9:00 a.m. and no Adult Formation classes.

Vestry Notes from February, March and April Meetings

- Six members of the Congregation attended the February 17 Growing Iowa Leaders event.
- Lenten season Wednesday events, Messy Church and Holy Week activities were scheduled.
- We bid farewell to Pat and Doug Druckenmiller who moved to Minnesota.
- The Vestry had its annual Retreat on April 14 at the home of the Senior Warden.
- The Property Committee is looking into sealing the front sidewalk and spring maintenance issues.
- Rooms on the lower level are being prepared for music students' lessons this fall.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church | 563-355-4640 | saintpetersbettendorf.org

STAY CONNECTED:
