

# St. Peter's Bald Head

St. Peter's By The Sea Episcopal Church † 535 Shore Road † Cape Neddick, Maine † Since 1897

[www.st-peters-by-the-sea.org](http://www.st-peters-by-the-sea.org) • Editor: Michael L. Smyser IV • [mikecalifguy@comcast.net](mailto:mikecalifguy@comcast.net)

**St. Peter by the Sea Episcopal will open June 5 with services at 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. Eucharist**

## From the President of the Board of Trustees



Dear Friends,

Happy Easter to you all! He is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Let me begin with my usual thanks to my fellow trustees and fellow parishioners who are preparing so diligently and generously for our opening on June 5. There is a great deal of planning and work that goes into this, and I of course am no help at all. We have

experienced a cold and wet spring in Maryland, so I can only assume that it has been colder and wetter in Maine.

The good news is that we will be able to gather and worship at St. Peter's for the full season: June 5 through October 9, and that we will be led by Father Gahan in June, Father Fitzgerald in July, and Bishop Lillibridge in August, September, and October. Harold Stover will also continue to serve as organist and choirmaster.

Please be sure to mark your calendars for a choral concert at 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 10; our 125th Anniversary Eucharist on Sunday, August 7 with the Jazz Fest at 4 p.m.; and an organ concert at 4 p.m. on Sunday, September 18.

We will continue to follow diocesan guidelines in response to the ebb and flow of COVID, but the good news is that the church will be open, and we will be worshipping for a full season this summer.

And this is indeed good news because we will be together again as we should be: neighbors, visitors, and friends in community, giving thanks to God for our many blessings, hearing his word in the reading and preaching of scripture, encountering the challenge of Christ in his sacrifice on the cross made real in the sacrament of the altar, hearing his call to us and receiving his love, making his church alive again, shining his light boldly and brightly in the darkness of these challenging times.

My love and best wishes to you all.

Yours faithfully,

**The Rev. Dr. D. Stuart Dunnan**  
President of the Board of Trustees

## Properties Report

The winter of 2021-2022 was fairly kind to St. Peter's by the Sea church and rectory buildings. Even though we had a few substantial Nor'easters the buildings weathered these storms well with only a few repairs necessary. A minor leak was discovered around the chimney roof flashing at the rectory, which will be attended to soon. The church remained dry and unscathed in what were some very hard-driving rain and snow events putting our recent restoration projects to the ultimate test.

The rectory renovation is almost complete. Over the winter, Bagala Window Works, a local Maine company that specializes in restoring historic windows, reglazed most of the windows, added new window locks, and refurbished hardware. They also repaired the sash weights, and upgraded the slides and weather stripping, finishing the repairs and installation in late April. This important work will help improve the energy efficiency of these windows, while preserving the historic character of the rectory for another century to come! Now, they look and work the way they were intended to. ...continue on next page...

## St. Peter's Gives Back

For the second consecutive year, the Community Sharing Committee of St. Peter's by the Sea distributed the plate collection of the 2021 season in three \$5,000 grants! This year's recipients included the Recovery Center of York Hospital, Hope Fund administered by the York County Community Action Corp., and Seeds of Hope in Biddeford.

Seeds of Hope (top picture) is a cold-weather warming center that is located in a former Episcopal church in downtown Biddeford. Under the direction of Rev. Shirley Bowen, Seeds of Hope was granted title to the property last January from the Diocese of Maine although it had been in operation as a warming center for the unhoused since 2008. Seeds of Hope continues to offer a five-days-per-week place for a light meal and a warm shelter when temperatures fall below freezing. They were also recently granted permission to use zero-gravity chairs for sleeping. The program is widely supported by city government, businesses, and individual donors, and often partners with York County Community Action Corp. "Reverend Shirley" will be with us as guest preacher on August 14.



The Recovery Center continues to use the St. Peter's grant money to fund a pharmacy debit account so that uninsured clients who present themselves for Suboxone treatment can be immediately placed into treatment. Suboxone is a prescription medicine that blocks the "high" from opioids and vastly diminishes the physical effects of opioid withdrawal.

The Hope Fund of York County Community Action Corp. continues to provide emergency funding for clients whose needs are not met by existing programs, such as state fuel and shelter programs. The needs can range from a set of new car tires, an auto repair, or temporary transportation to a job – all of which further support the individual's ability to keep a job and continue to be productive. The average cost of emergency funding for an individual is around \$200.

The common denominator of all three program recipients is that all three provide assistance to those who "fall through the cracks" of existing social support funding.

**By Karl Sanford, Chair of Outreach Ministry Committee**



## ***Our Clergy Schedule For Summer 2022***



### **Fr. Patrick Gahan**

*Starting the Summer 2022 season on June 5, we have The Rev. W. Patrick Gahan as our celebrant and preacher.*

2022 marks my tenth year as rector of Christ Church – San Antonio and thirteen years since Kay and I began our annual sojourn with the grand people of St. Peter's – Cape Neddick. We are delighted to be returning to the refreshing breeze wafting off the Atlantic and the inner refreshment that you share with us. The last two years of parish ministry have been the most challenging and exhausting since my ordination to the diaconate thirty-four years ago.

Among other things, Christ Church provided a week's groceries, toiletries, dog and cat food, and clothing (even steel-toed work boots) to over 22,000 San Antonians in 2021. What's more, we perfected outdoor worship such that the venerable, historic parish appeared to offer a weekly Sunday revival! While that's been exhilarating at times, we're counting the days until our pilgrimage north.

Our three grandchildren are also raring to return to their favorite place in the world – the St. Peter's rectory. So, Kay and I are setting aside books and puzzles to enrich our long days in Maine. But the real enrichment are the people of St. Peter's!



*Patrick Welcoming Newborn Twins to Christ Church, San Antonio*



### **Fr. Todd Fitzgerald**

*During the month of July, The Rev. Todd R. Fitzgerald will be our celebrant and preacher.*

After almost a decade in Texas, the Fitzgerald family members are settling into life in New England. In August of 2021, Todd accepted a position as priest in charge (rector) of St. John's Episcopal Church in West Hartford, Connecticut. St. John's is a vibrant Christian community with excellent music ministry, reverent worship, and vibrant programs for children and families. Though the learning curve is steep, Todd is enjoying the ebb and flow of parish ministry. With years of archival experience, Amy was able to find two positions in her field. She is working as an archivist at the Episcopal Church in Connecticut and at Trinity College in Hartford. Twenty-year-old Stella is finishing her second year at Boston University where she is studying Vocal Performance and Opera. After a voice program in Ithaca, New York, at the beginning of the summer, Stella looks forward to spending time in Cape Neddick and joining the St. Peter's choir. Though there were difficult moments, thirteen-year-old Florie survived the Texas-to-Connecticut move and has made some new friends. In the fall of 2022, Florie is overjoyed to enter St. James's School in Maryland as a 2nd Form boarder. Florie is excited to live and study at St. James's, and to test her resolve as an independent, intelligent, and caring, young person.

Todd, Amy, Stella, and Florie are thrilled to be returning to St. Peter's by the Sea. While they are excited to enjoy southern Maine, generally, and Marmion House, specifically, they are most excited to reconnect with old friends at St. Peter's, and make new ones.



### **Bishop Gary Lillibridge**

*Bishop Gary Lillibridge and his wife Catherine will be in residence from August to October.*

2022 will mark our 12th year as part of the St. Peter's by the Sea community and, as always, Catherine and I are very much looking forward to our return this year. I retired as the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas (based in San Antonio) in 2017 after almost 14 years in the Bishop's office. 2022 also marks my 40th anniversary to the ordained ministry in the Episcopal Church. In retirement, we have been extending our stay to enjoy the seasons of both summer and fall along the beautiful Maine coastline.

During the non-summer months, I am part of a teaching ministry for laity and clergy through the St. Benedict's Workshop and have served as an Interim Rector for several congregations as they seek their next full-time rector. I also serve as a mentor for newly-ordained clergy through a leadership development program funded by the Lilly Endowment.

We have three adult children who have come to love Maine, and two of them now live full time in the Northeast (Maine and Vermont). Catherine is very active in the community, including volunteering at the Ogunquit Library and helping to organize the St. Peter's pickleball group with other members of the congregation. We look forward to being with you from August through October.



*...continued from front page...*

Although it was a significant project, it was one of those things that can go unnoticed unless you are the one who tries to raise the window but cannot. Many of these windows were painted shut over the years, and sash weight cords had deteriorated to the point where they broke and fell into the wall cavities, making the windows difficult at best to open.

Several new window screens were also made and full-length porch screens repaired where needed. A new vanity with double sink combination was installed in the upstairs bathroom. A new cabinet for the guild was built and installed in the laundry room.

Many other minor repairs and upgrades will be completed in the next few weeks – but all is on schedule for the arrival of Father Patrick Gahan and his family in June.

*By Joe Leonhard*



## **VOLUNTEERS needed. Pay is HEAVENLY.**

We are back this summer with a full church worship schedule so if you are able to serve as crucifer, usher, lay reader, or Eucharistic minister (you must be active under the auspices of the Episcopal Church), please contact Michael Smyser, Worship Volunteer Coordinator at 561.329.4300 or [mikecalifguy@comcast.net](mailto:mikecalifguy@comcast.net). Our worship schedule is June 5 - October 9 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. with Eucharist.



## Weddings at St. Peter's

For information on having a wedding at St. Peter's by the Sea Episcopal Church, please email Tammy Mallen, our Wedding Coordinator at dtmallen@comcast.net.

Left to right:

Gretchen Gehring and Mike Craft were married at St. Peter's on September 10, 2021.

Danielle Costanza and Ross Kramer were married at St. Peter's on July 31, 2021. Bishop Gary Lillibridge officiated. The couple exited the ceremony by motor scooter – surely the most unique exit on record!

Our Board of Trustee President, Rev. Dr. D Stuart Dunnan, who is the Headmaster at Saint Jame's School in Hagerstown, Maryland, was honored to officiate at the wedding of one of his former students, Joonmo Ku, and his bride, Christine Kim. It was an evening wedding at St. Peter's on July 31, 2021.



## Kitchen's Closed. Play Pickleball.

Join St. Peter's pickleball group and learn why this slogan is a fan favorite! Are you interested in trying pickleball for the first time—or just curious? Pickleball is a fast-growing sport and there are places to play just about everywhere. St Peter's is on the lookout for beginners or seasoned regulars to join our group to learn the basics of play, how to keep score, hit the ball, and have some fun and laughs as well. If you are ready for the challenge, please email Ann Bryz (ancbrice@gmail.com), Catherine Lillibridge (catherine.lillibridge.com), or Carol Kane Leonhard (kane.carolann@gmail.com) for more information and the current week's schedule.

## Didn't They Get The Memo?

Deer don't eat rhododendron or Mt. Laurel – so say all the gardening and landscaping books. Which, of course, is why they make such a good flowering shrub in northern landscaping plans. So why did our woodland beasts decide that this was the year to try something new? It's rather like taking a flyer on Indonesian food or Ugandan Matoke. The winter was mild, hence no shortage of food supply. Possible overpopulation? Could it be that the deer simply didn't get the memo or weren't reading the same landscaping books?

*By Karl Sanford*



## Fairbourne Lane To Be Resurfaced

In a cooperative project with our neighbors, Fairbourne Lane is to be regraded and resurfaced this spring. Abbott Bros. will extend the work they did on the rectory parking area by smoothing and grading the lane and then resurfacing with the compactible three-quarter inch gravel. The work should provide a well-drained, smoother surface for vehicular traffic, but most especially, for folks who like to walk to the coffee hours every Sunday.

*By Karl Sanford*



## St. Francis Blessing of the Animals

St. Peter's by the Sea Episcopal Church will host the annual Blessing of the Animals in observance of St. Francis Day with its usual fanfare well recognized in the southern coastal Maine community. Over 150 attend each year with their pets: cats, dogs, chickens, rabbits, birds, fish, frogs. Each pet, by name, is blessed with holy water and prayer as creatures of our Living God. This year's festive and joyful celebration will be held on **Sunday, October 2, at both services (8 a.m. & 10 a.m.)** and will be outside with Eucharist. This has become one of the most well-attended Sundays of our season, and everyone is invited to bring your pets for their annual blessing. St. Francis Feast Day is celebrated by the Anglican Church in its parishes worldwide to include the blessing from God upon our pets. Don't forget your lawn chairs for this beautiful outdoor worship experience. For more information, call Michael Smyser, chairperson of the animal blessings, at 561.329.4300.





# **Music Program Expanded for 2022**

The music program at St. Peter's will be expanded for the 125th anniversary. The choir, formerly in residence for July and August only, will sing at every service throughout the season except for the outdoor Blessing of the Animals on October 2. Five new singers have joined the rotating roster of chorists: Joëlle Morris, Stephen White, Asa Bradford, Ben McVety, and Dawn Anderson. Returning singers from last year are Jennifer Bates, Rhee Michelle, Rachel Keller, Stella FitzGerald, Andrea Graichen, Martin Lescault, John Adams, and Bruce Canterbury. In addition to the annual jazz concert on August 7, two additional concerts will celebrate the anniversary. On July 10, Harold Stover will direct an expanded choir which will present a festival of Anglican music. Organist Ray Cornils will play an organ recital of lighter works on September 18.



**Joëlle Morris**, alto, is originally from Evian, France, and is a singer, choral conductor, music educator, and voice teacher living in central Maine. In addition to a busy concert schedule in New England and annual summer appearances in France, she now serves as Director of Choirs and Lecturer of Music at Bates College.



**Stephen White**, bass, sings with St. Mary Schola and the Cathedral Choir of St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral. He is an Episcopal priest who retired after forty years of parish ministry, most recently as rector of St. Andrew's Church in Newcastle, Maine.

**Asa Bradford**, bass, has degrees in both music and art from the University of Southern Maine, where he sang with Robert Russell's Chamber Singers. He has also sung with the Schola Cantorum at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and is a founding member of the St. Mary's Schola. He is also a luthier who makes violins and guitars.



**Ben McVety**, tenor, sings with the Choral Art Society and Renaissance Voices. He has been a high school choral director from 2013-2021, and has recently moved to the Portland area in Maine. He enjoys teaching vocal lessons, playing piano and trombone, audio and video engineering, and is currently learning how to play the Irish tin whistle. Ben is also a member of St. Mary's Schola.



**Dawn Anderson**, alto, is a busy choral singer in Portland. She sings with the Choral Art Society and Renaissance Voices.



**Stella FitzGerald** is the daughter of Fr Todd FitzGerald. She is a opera and voice performance major at Boston University in her second year.



**John David Adams** is a bass soloist with a rich, flexible voice well suited to Baroque literature, notably the cantatas and oratorios of Bach and Handel. He has been sung with the San Francisco Symphony, Marine Chamber Orchestra, San Francisco Bach Choir, Maine Pro Musica, and many others. He is also a founding member of Aureole Chamber Ensemble and Vox Nova Chamber Choir in Maine. He joined St. Mary Schola in 2010.



**Jennifer Bates**, soprano, is a Maine native who enjoys a multifaceted career in the opera, concert, and recital worlds. Her appearances include the NY Philharmonic, NY City Opera, American Symphony Orchestra, New England Symphonic Ensemble at Carnegie Hall, as featured soloist at the Bach Vespers Cantata Series, and many European engagements such as at Windsor Castle. She appears regularly on NY City Opera's Vox series and has sung on the ALEA III series in Boston.



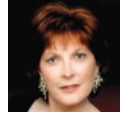
**Rachel Keller**, soprano, was raised in a musical family in Yorkshire, England. As an undergraduate music major, she sang with the Yorkshire Bach Choir and had supporting roles with York Opera. When in Philadelphia, she explored Music Therapy while enjoying opportunities such as with Ancient Voices at the University of Pennsylvania. Since moving to Maine in 2002 Rachel has devoted her time to vocal study. She was a member of Renaissance Voices and the Choral Art Society, and is a member of Portland's Rossini Club. Rachel has sung with St. Mary Schola since 2012.



**Andrea Graichen** is a longtime member of Choral Art Society and the St. Mary Schola. She has appeared as a guest artist with the Portland Symphony Orchestra, and sang the role of Mother Jeanne in the PSO's presentation of Poulenc's opera, Dialogues of the Carmelites. Graichen has sung a wide variety of roles many other operas including Mozart's Parto, Ma Tu Ben Mio, Shubert's Der Hirt Auf Dem Felsen, and Handel's Messiah.



**Martin A. Lescault** has been featured as a soloist with the Portland Symphony Orchestra, Boston Pops, Maine Music Society, and many others. He has performed with ensembles such as the Schola of St. Mary's Cathedral and Portland Opera Repertory Theater. He is presently a member of the Cathedral Choir of St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral in Portland, Maine, and has performed for weddings and mass at St. Peter's By The Sea.



**Rhee Michelle** has been performing in the state of Maine for more than 40 years as a soloist for organizations such as the Portland Symphony Orchestra, Downeast Singers, and Choral Art Society, as well as for churches and in musical theater. She is the recipient of Maine's most prestigious vocal award, the Nordica Award. She is also a member of Renaissance Voices, and an a cappella jazz ensemble call Maineblend, which she also directs.



**Bruce Canterbury** graduated from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, as a Music Education major with a principle in voice. He taught elementary school music at St. Patrick's School in Portland, Maine. He joined St. Mary Schola in 2012.



**Harold Stover**, organist and Director of Music, returns for his fifth summer. His recital career includes the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., Westminster Abbey in London, and many other distinguished venues. He has been featured as performer, composer, and lecturer at conventions of the American Guild of Organists and has made thirteen appearances on Pipedreams, American Public Media's radio program of organ music. He directs the Portland-based chorus Renaissance Voices and teaches at the Portland Conservatory of Music.



**Ray Cornils** was the City of Portland's 10th Municipal Organist serving 1990-2017. Known for his highly diverse programming, he concertizes throughout the U.S. and abroad. He has performed at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., Wanamaker Organ at Macy's in Philadelphia, Spreckels Organ in San Diego, International Festival of Sacred Music in Quito and Portoviejo, Ecuador, as well as conventions for the American Guild of Organists and the Organ Historical Society.

TO CELEBRATE  
OUR 125TH ANNIVERSARY!

## **FESTIVAL OF ANGLICAN MUSIC JULY 10**

with professional choirs and full  
organ, directed by Harold Stover

## **ORGAN RECITAL SEPT 18**

featuring renowned organist  
Ray Cornils

**WATCH FOR DETAILS**



**Our Annual Jazz Concert is on August 7, 2022 (8/14 rain date) 4:00-6:00 p.m.**



## ***Jazz is Back!***

Immerse your senses in memorable favorites by the 17-member New Legacy Swing Band on Sunday, August 7 (with rain date: Aug. 14), 4-6 p.m. on the oceanfront rectory lawn at St Peter's! Bring your blankets or lawn chairs, and enjoy the wine and cheese provided by Beachmere Inn. Tickets are \$30 with proceeds supporting the preservation of St. Peter's by the Sea.

### **Jazz Committee:**

*Charlotte Constantian  
Fotene Coté  
Louesa Gillespie  
Bishop Gary Lillibridge  
Richard Morgan  
Linda Seager  
Charlie Smith  
Jeanine Storrs*



## ***St. Peter's Guild – Join Us!***

Our guild is made up of volunteers who care for the altar, vestments, vessels, and linens for Sunday Eucharist. Altar guild members also adorn the sanctuary with flowers; and throughout the summer season, we host hospitality hours, and provide linens for our priests and their families at the rectory.

We also oversee the annual brunch and church picnic benefits. These fundraising events, along with our membership dues, help the guild fulfill its mission of community outreach – helping families in our area who face hardships! Everyone is welcome to join us for these fundraising socials following our 10 a.m. services:

**Guild Benefit Picnic - July 10**

**Guild Benefit Brunch - August 21**

As our church is growing and the needs as well – new members and ideas are most welcome! If you'd like to join or renew your membership, please mail your \$20 check, made payable to St. Peter's Guild, to Treasurer Susan Martin at 10 Birch Road, Kennebunk, ME 04043.

### **Officers of St. Peter's Guild for 2022:**

*Carol Kane Leonhard, Chair  
Diane Sanford, Secretary*

*Tammy Franz-Mallen, Vice Chair  
Susan Martin, Treasurer*



## ***Visitation from Bishop of Maine***

The Rt. Rev. Thomas Brown, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Maine, will visit St. Peter's on **Sunday, August 21**, to celebrate and preach at worship. As is his custom, Bishop Brown likes to visit as many summer chapels as he can each year. Following the 10 a.m. Eucharist, there will be a reception at the rectory to welcome him back to St. Peter's by the Sea. Bishop Brown was consecrated as the tenth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Maine on June 22, 2019.







**St. Peter's By The Sea  
Episcopal Church**  
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PO Box 693  
Cape Neddick, ME 03902  
[www.st-peters-by-the-sea.org](http://www.st-peters-by-the-sea.org)

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## *Celebration of Life Service*

### **Virginia Spiller**

**Friday, June 17  
10 a.m.**

**St. John's Episcopal Church  
100 Chapel St.  
Portsmouth, NH**



Virginia Spiller was welcomed into the arms of God on April 26, 2022 at the age of 85. She was born and grew up in Portland. She became the wife of Dexter T. Spiller of York and mother to their children, among many other things. Just to name a few: She was teacher, den mother, member of local boards, and the first woman in the town's 350 years to be town moderator; historian, genealogist, and the librarian archivist; and received many awards such as from the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, and Keuka College. To view her obituary, visit [www.csnh.com/obituaries/](http://www.csnh.com/obituaries/).

## *Altar Flowers*

Each Sunday throughout the season, June through mid-October, you may sponsor the altar flowers which adorn St. Peter's – to honor or recognize family members, loved ones, or special occasions. Due to a price increase, the fee for the two lovely floral bouquets is now \$120. This sponsorship may be shared by another person or family at a cost of \$60, with each sponsor receiving a floral bouquet at the end of the service. To sponsor flowers, please contact Tammy Mallen at [dtmallen@comcast.net](mailto:dtmallen@comcast.net) or 617.962.0246 for availability and to provide your dedication information.



## *St. Peter's By The Sea Board of Trustees*

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