

To the whole St. Peter's Family:

For some strange reason it is suddenly hard to believe that my ordination is actually happening. I know that a lot of water has gone by since that January morning in 2000 when Ralph announced to the parish that I was seeking discernment towards ordination into the priesthood. Through the subsequent discernment process, and all of seminary, mentored practice and other adventures, St. Peter's has been my parish home, and the parish home of my family. Through the good and the bad, St. Peter's has been a source of comfort and encouragement for us as we have moved on in this journey.

I know that a great amount has happened, and yet, all of a sudden it seems, I am moving on. Of course there is nothing "all of a sudden" about it, and yet, I am feeling surprised at how keenly aware I am of the new reality of leaving here and changing roles. It hit me strongly at the diocesan convention in Bangor last week when I was described as being the clergy intern from St. Mark's in Waterville. Though it was soon after correctly pointed out that St. Peter's was my home and sponsoring parish, the reality of the end of a chapter was undeniable. It suddenly occurred to me that in spite of all that I have worked for, and all the excitement of the next adventure, I was not well prepared for a goodbye.

St. Peter's has been a wonderful parish home and I am grateful that my ordained ministry was launched out of this church at

this time. You have been an encouraging source of support from the moment Ralph publicly announced my intention to seek ordination right up to the present. For all of the ways you have supported us, Susan and the boys and I will forever be grateful.

I will be spending the next two years as a clergy intern at St. Mark's Church in Waterville, though we will continue to live here on the coast. I think and feel that it is an excellent "fit" for both St. Mark's and our family, and yet, I do feel some sadness of appreciation for what I am leaving. I believe that this is one of those times in life where sadness is the perfect way to feel. I am sad because what we have had here at St. Peter's has been so good. I would not want to feel any other way at this point.

But I am not just sad. I am also very happy. I am happy to have been formed and sent out of this wonderful place full of so many wonderful people, including our rector Ralph, who has been a true mentor and companion in this process. While I want to acknowledge with all of you the sadness and excitement about this change, I am also grateful that this is not really a goodbye. While I may not see you in church on Sunday mornings, I expect that I will see you out in the world. I will still be around; I will just be around in a different way.

Thanks again for all you have done for us in this chapter of our lives. May we all be blessed with fair winds and following seas.

With much affection and appreciation,

Jeff



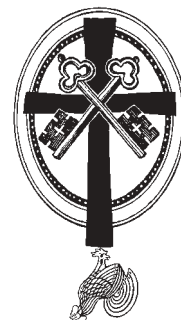
Le Petit Noel Fair December 11th



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NEWSLETTER OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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THE ROCK





THE ROCK

NEWSLETTER OF ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

White Street • P.O. Box 457 • Rockland, Maine 04841 • 207-594-8191 • Fax: 207-593-9378

www.stpetersrockland.org

Jeffrey C. Lewis Ordained Deacon!



Bishop Knudson with the newest deacon and his wife Susan

On November 1, 2004 (All Saints' Day), Jeffrey C. Lewis of Camden, Maine, was ordained into the Sacred Order of Deacons as a transitional deacon in the Episcopal Church. His ordination took place at St. Peter's Church, Rockland, Maine – Jeff's home parish and sponsoring church. His ordination marks the first step towards ordination to priesthood, a celebration which normally occurs six to twelve months after ordination as a transitional deacon.

The Right Reverend Chilton Knudson, Bishop of the Diocese of Maine, presided over the celebration. The service, one of the earliest known liturgies for the ordination of Christian clergy, combines ancient prayers and the invocation of the Holy Spirit. Numerous clergy from Episcopal parishes and other denominational churches throughout Maine participated in the service, including the Reverend William Imes, President of the Bangor Theological Seminary, where the now Reverend Jeffrey Lewis received his M. Div. in the spring of 2004. Jeff also studied at the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge,

Massachusetts.

Within the service, a Bible and a stole were blessed and presented to the ordinand. Jeff's wife, Susan, and their three sons Robin, Tristan, and Alden assisted with the vesting of the white stole made by parishioner Marilyn Smith and embellished with blue and white sailboats, symbolic of Jeff's love of the sea.

Jeff, a "cradle-born Episcopalian" and graduate of the University of Texas, migrated to Maine to work and live on and near the sea. He is a licensed ship's captain and former Outward Bound Instructor and foresees that his ministry will always remain attached in some way to working with those dedicated to boats and sea voyaging.

Jeff's first clergy assignment is at St. Margaret's in Waterville, where he will serve for two years through a diocesan sponsored internship program, designed to place and support newly ordained clergy within Maine and nurture an ongoing commitment to continue their ministry within the diocese.

Within the Episcopal Church, ordination is viewed as a discerned calling.

Persons drawn to ministry first participate in a process to "discern" their ministry. Ordained ministries include either the permanent diaconate or the transitional diaconate, a step on the path to ordination to priesthood. Permanent deacons are called to serve as a symbol within the church of the life of prayer and service to the most needy among society. Permanent deacons serve directly under the authority of the diocesan bishop. Priests are called to a more comprehensive responsibility to maintain the life of proclamation, sacraments, education, and ministry within the church. They are called by individual parishes, but serve under the authority of the diocesan bishop and are responsible for observing the canons (laws) and protocols of the diocese and Episcopal Church.

The ordination of deacons and priests is part of the ancient organization of the Christian Church. The Episcopal Church in American traces its roots to the Church of England. As such, it shares in the heritages of both the Protestant Reformation and the medieval and ancient Christian Church in Rome. The Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church is elected by clergy and lay delegation and presides over 100 dioceses, each with its own bishop. St. Peter's Church was founded in 1852 under the Bishop of Maine. In its 150 year-old history, fifteen priests have served as the rector (lead priest) of the church.

Since the early 1990's, St. Peter's has been privileged to celebrate at least three ordinations: the ordination of Holly Antolini as Priest, of Martha Anne Englert as Deacon (transitional), and of Isabel Polk as Deacon. Isabel Polk currently is assigned by the Bishop as deacon to St. Peter's. The Reverend Ralph Moore is St. Peter's current priest and rector.

Following the celebration, friends, family and parishioners gathered in the parish hall for an "agape" reception—a sharing of the deep love and affection shared in the body of Christ in celebration of Jeff's ordination. Numerous gifts

Continued on Page 7



Maud Warren's Stained Glass in the Art of the Spirit Gallery for November

Maud Warren was a parishioner at St. Peter's Episcopal Church and now resides in Gloucester, Massachusetts. Her work has been sold in boutiques from Maine to Boston. It has been auctioned to help support public television, animal rights, education and advocacy for children and it is maintained in private collections. She has worked as a glass artist for over a decade, has taught stained glass design for the Farnsworth Museum and worked with American Artist Robert Indiana adapting one of his designs into stained glass. (An Editorial Note, she also co-created the design for the stained glass window that resides in the chapel at Penobscot Bay Hospital). Maud states; "It is impossible to discuss these gifts without including a statement about having come to Christ at St. Peter's. To me, Isabel is known as Isabella. I decided that was her name because to me she is a crown jewel as a model of service. When I first met her, to remember her name, I associated her with Queen Isabella of Spain who did much to help the poor in her country."

THE FISH The significance of the fish as a Christian symbol is quite well known. My stained glass fish come from my awe in creation. Each fish has an apostle's or evangelist's name. This fish is named after St. Mark. Simon Peter hangs on my own wall. The fish were originally created for the New England Aquarium. This fish was presented to Isabella as a Christmas gift.



THE CROSS The Cross is unique in many ways. I wanted and prayed for the Lord to give me the gift of something as rare as an Isabella for her ordination. The blue glass has special significance. She was ordained during Advent and blue is the color of hope and expectation so it seemed to be especially appropriate for Isabella's cross. Like everything we do in right relationship with our Lord, this was a wonderful surprise. I was blessed to discover that by combining elements of sculpture, Dalle De Verre glass and patinas that the cross took on a life that was not of my doing. In all humility, I was also blessed to be a channel through which the Lord sent this sacred work of art to my Sister-in-Christ. Isabella.

ABOUT THE STAINED GLASS: The Dalle De Verre glass is what makes these creations unique. This happens because of the colloidal fractures that occur when the glass is set on an anvil and hammered. The multifaceted pieces are jewel like and refracted light looms through them.

Artists or parishioners interested in sharing a work are asked to contact Mary Alice Bird, Liturgy and Arts Chairperson (mabjab@midcoast.com or 596-6276).

THE ROCK

NEWSLETTER OF
ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Peter's Parish seeks to serve God's mission of restoring all people to unity with him.
We open wide our door and say, in the name of Jesus Christ, "Welcome."

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The Rev. Ralph Moore, Rector
Home: 596-0421
rector@midcoast.com

Deborah Watson, Administrative Secretary
Robert Earle, Organist
Malcolm Brooks, Choir Director
Garold Demmons, Sexton

ST. PETER'S VESTRY

SENIOR WARDENS:

John Bird 596-6276

Jim Bowditch 236-2272

JUNIOR WARDEN:

Deborah Oliver 236-8503

Mac Deford, Treasurer

MEMBERS:

Katherine Brown, Douglas Curtis, Sr.,
Bruce Davis, George Jones,
Linda Peterson, Joanne Smith,
Harold van Lonkhuyzen,
Christine Wohler

THE ROCK

Editor & Production: Chris McLarty
236-4244 • Fax 236-6253
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is the 20th of each month.

Letter from the Rector



I find myself in touch with an image I believe to be true about the future shape of the church. It began to form in my mind during these days of preparing for Jeff Lewis' ordination as a deacon.

On the one hand, in our brief tour of Reformation history in the homily of October 31, I drew attention to the life and ministry of John Wycliffe, theologian and professor of Oxford University, England, 1330-1384, who advocated that clergy simplify ministry in parish by not keeping up obstacles that hurt the faith of common people. He questioned much of the structure of the church as not supported by scripture. He inspired a translation of the Bible into English. And I found a remarkable statement written by him: "This Bible is translated and shall make possible Government of the people, by the people, for the people."

On the other hand, for the homily at Jeff's ordination I found myself drawn to another part of the world during the exact same time as Wycliffe's life, the mid-1300s. In Shiraz, Persia, lived a Muslim teacher and writer of religious verse named Hafiz. In his culture he was striving for much the same thing as Wycliffe was in his—one Christian, the other Muslim. Here is a poem by Hafiz.

We should make all spiritual talk
Simple today:
God is trying to sell you something,
But you don't want to buy.
That is what your suffering is:
Your fantastic haggling,
Your manic screaming over the price!

Hafiz good-naturedly speaks to the sense that in the Islam of the 14th century in Persia, there are obstacles in the way of people maturing in their faith, as in this poem.

We have all come to the right place.
We sit in God's classroom.
Now,
The only thing left for us to do, my dear,
Is to stop
Throwing spitballs for a while.

Once again it appears that God inspires very different people in very different places to take risks, be bold in the proclamation of their faith and act strongly for revitalizing their faith. Wycliffe is forever part of our Reformation heritage. Hafiz, to this day, is the most popular poet and religious muse for millions of Muslims.

One of the most audacious thresholds we Christians face is the notion that we are the most important religion in the world, or perhaps, the only true faith tradition. It is no secret that the theological education of our time, as well as the actual thought and practice of most historic denominations, increasingly respects the validity, worth, beauty and dignity of other religious faiths. Instead of concentrating on the church's mission, we speak today about God's mission in the world and the church discerning where it can serve that mission. Thus it is that when we ordain clergy we recognize in them not just that capacity for taking care of Christian churches and their ministries, but also, and arguably more important, they are to push open the windows and doors and lower the gangplank of the Christian household so as to see and experience God in all the other places. When we ordain clergy we know that this is an act with global dimensions.

It is also an act with global dimensions when we gather for sacraments and for prayers and for doing the church's work of mercy and service. Sure one reason that Christianity does not have great respect in many places in today's world is that it is perceived to be the de facto state religion of the earth's greatest empire. We, the Christian community, must put enormous effort into rehabilitating our traditions to be of saving value for others apart from our country's policy and the conduct of the nation state in which we live. Very very wonderful opportunities—very very high calling.

Love, mercy and blessing,

Ralph

**ST. PETER'S 2004 OPERATING BUDGET
MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT
Through September 30, 2004**

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	2004 BUDGET
Income: Pledged	\$7,462	\$63,328	\$120,000
Income: All sources	\$9,337	\$129,401	\$177,500
Total Expenses	\$20,548	\$131,118	\$208,555
DIFFERENCE	(\$11,211)	(\$1,717)	(\$31,055)

The Budget and Finance Commission met on Wednesday, October 20th at 7:45 AM in the Vestry Room. New members, Linda Peterson and Jake Thomas were welcomed.

Pledge Income continues ahead of last year's but by only about 3%. The YTD surplus of \$6,111 reflects an additional, unbudgeted transfer from Investment/Endowment Funds of \$45,000 so that there are adequate operating funds for St. Peter's missions. This further reduces the monies in Investment/Endowment, without which, St. Peter's could not meet its financial obligations!

Your Budget and Finance Commission has recommended to the Vestry that all parishioners should consider giving St. Peter's an **extra 13th month pledge** for FY 2004. This would raise about 8% more than currently pledged or an additional \$9,000 to help meet our fiscal obligations.

Additionally, to make up for the \$5,000 overrun for Computer Expenses, an anonymous parishioner has pledged \$1,000 to challenge other parishioners to fully cover those expenses. This one-time expense was incurred to revise St. Peter's computer software, making it much more useful to the parish and all of its needs. We need at least 4 more (anonymous or otherwise) angels to match this challenging pledge. **THINK ABOUT IT!**

There has been a successful inventory of St. Peter's assets and this is recorded in the church's computer along with appropriate photographs of valuable properties. B&F is working with the Diocese to have a professional appraisal of the inventory next spring so that appropriate insurance is maintained. Many thanks are due to Paul Rogers and Asger Bagge plus the numerous Commission chairs for their tireless efforts in this most necessary enterprise.

It is important for the B&F Commission to inform all parishioners that St. Peter's is annually obligated to contribute 1% of its annual expense budget to support Theological Education. This is about \$1,750. In FY 2005, there will be \$468 available from a designated Investment/Endowment Fund for this purpose, which means St. Peter's has to come up with an additional \$1,282 to meet its Diocesan obligation in 2005. Your B&F Commission recommends to the Vestry that it designate a Sunday in 2005 as Theological Education Sunday and have a special offering to support this very necessary obligation.

The Commission began a preliminary discussion of a proposed Draft for the Operating Budget for FY 2005. In accordance with the recommendations from the special Task Force for Funding Our Ministry at St. Peter's, this Budget will have balance as a primary goal. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 10, 2004 and the main item of business will be the development of a proposed Budget for FY 2005.

Tom Putnam, Chairman
Budget & Finance Commission
August 2004

Vestry Notes for October

Present: Rev. Ralph Moore, John Bird, Jim Bowditch, Kay Brown, Doug Curtis, Sr., Bruce Davis, George Jones, Deborah Oliver, Sarah Reynolds, Joanne Smith, Harold Van Lonkhuyzen

The next Vestry meeting will be November 18, at 7 p.m. We will ask the Rev. Linton Studdiford to lead a Vestry retreat day on the mutual ministry review process on February 12, 2005. Commission reports:

- **The Stewardship Commission** requests \$750 in the budget for 2005, which includes funding for a stewardship campaign based on the house dinner idea Jane Karker proposed.
- **The Christian Formation Commission** requests \$1,000, based on its expenditures of the last 2 or 3 years.
- **The Pastoral Care and Calling Commission** requests \$500 for training and supplies.
- **The Liturgy and Arts Commission** requests \$16,450, including salaries for the organist and choir master.
- **The Building and Grounds Commission** requests \$25,000.
- **The Mission Commission** requests \$1,200, primarily for Loaves & Fishes.
- **The Evangelism Commission** requests \$2,000, the bulk of which will go for weekly ads in the Courier & Gazette.

We began work on the 2005 budget, with further discussion and work to follow. The Nominating Committee is still accepting names of those interested in running for parish leadership positions to be elected at the January 2005 Annual Parish Meeting.

The church will make a gift to Jeff Lewis of an alb and 2 clergy shirts. The offering at his ordination service will go towards his discretionary fund. We will organize a collection for Jeff to pay for the gifts, and possibly add to his discretionary fund.

Commissions should remember to register meetings with the parish office, and to lock the church behind them. Also, individuals using the building should be careful to avoid setting off the sacristy alarm, especially as we now must pay the Rockland police a fine for each false alarm.

Le Petit Noel

New name for our fine little Christmas Fair

St. Peter's fund-raising elves are putting a new spin on our traditional Thanksgiving/Christmas season sale events. This year we hope to attract lots of children and their parents with Le Petit Noel. (Yes, we know that Le Petit Noel actually means "the Christ child"!)

The event will be held Saturday, December 11 from 8 A.M. until noon in the parish hall. Santa has accepted our invitation to be our guest, listening to children's requests and stories. A professional photographer will be set up to take photos of children with Santa, available for purchase. (No need to travel to a mall for a Santa photo!)

Linda Peterson and Bridget Buck will offer **pony cart rides** for children and adults. **Breakfast will be served throughout the event**, and craft and gift items will be available for purchase. ECW members are preparing a basket of treasures (watch for details in the Sunday leaflet) to be raffled, as well as holiday craft items.

As in past years, jewelry will be sold by local designers Chris McLarty, Deborah Thuss, and Linda Peterson. Mary Alice Bird is making her handbags/totebags and wreaths and is adding tutus and fairy skirts. The traditional baked-goods table will also include dried and frozen items, such as the fruits of our gardens, entrées, breads, desserts, and soups.

We need everyone's help.

You will get a phone call from someone on the team to ask you what you can contribute. Here is a list of things that will help make this event fun and successful:

Elves/Volunteers—to help call parishioners in advance, and/or to work the day of the event

Candle stubs—they are melted and made into handy fire starters

A Santa suit—does anyone have one?

A sleigh—large or small—one we could borrow for the event?

Baked goods—bread, cookies, bars, desserts

Home-preserved—jam, jellies, and pickles

Frozen items—main course entrées, soups, desserts—make a double recipe and freeze some. This means that you don't have to spend the whole week before Le Petit Noel cooking—you can begin in advance!

Dried items—e.g., sun-dried tomatoes (call Marty if you would like to borrow her dehydrator)

Disposable containers or cash for other cooks to buy containers for the frozen items—a variety of sizes needed.

If you are ready to help, don't wait for the phone call. Call one of us and we will joyfully accept your help!

Deborah Oliver 236-8503

Marty Rogers 236-8922

Chris McLarty 239-4244

Liz Hunt 594-5330

Cindy Lucas 594-9757

Linda Peterson 236-0769

Marilyn Smith 594-4039

Isabel Polk 596-0003

ECW HOLIDAY THEME BASKET

Featured at Le Petit Noel

St. Peter's Episcopal Church Women will be raffling off a holiday theme basket as part of the upcoming Le Petit Noel. The basket will be on display on Sundays beginning November 14 and raffle tickets will be available. The drawing will be December 11, the day of the fair. There will also be crafts available to purchase at the ECW table. This is also part of the Time and Talent project. All proceeds will go to help alleviate the shortfall in St. Peter's operating fund.



News from the Mission Field

The Evangelism Commission meets every month faithfully usually on the second Tuesday of the month at 6 PM at St. Peter's. For the past year we have worked tirelessly on various ways to convey the message that St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Rockland is out there working in the mission field and we welcome others to join us! That's just part of what we try to convey in our messages to parishioners and to the local community. We are using as many resources as possible: road signs, signs on the church property, ads in the newspaper, press releases, inserts in the Sunday leaflet, telephone calls and e-mail, foyer groups, welcoming loaves of bread, and even better grape juice at communion!

At our annual meeting in January we hope to be able to report on more efforts. A major goal is to get the Rock on our website so those who have internet access can find the latest newsletter without wondering if the printed version got thrown out with last week's newspapers.

Some of the other activities are not so glamorous but just plain common sense and good manners: how we continue to welcome people who come to worship with us after they get their loaf of bread, how we make it easy for parishioners to stay in touch with each other (read—Up-to-date DIRECTORY!! — What a struggle it has been to accomplish this!), and joining other commissions in a broad effort to revitalize parishioners' spiritual and social investment in St. Peter's.

Stay tuned for more news or join us on the Evangelism Commission! We are Jim Bowditch, Marty Rogers, Deborah Oliver and Thom Buescher.

Foyer (Re)Groups for new series of get togethers

Great food was served up at the Foyer Group Potluck Supper on Sunday October 17th. People shared what their groups have done since the Foyer Group gatherings began last winter. Some groups have dined out for breakfast, others have done potlucks in the homes of their group members. One group went bowling and another group painted the clam shell hods that were later sold at the Spring Plant and Garden Sale. The universal activity was socializing and getting acquainted with the six or eight other members of their group. All reported learning something new, even about people they thought they already knew pretty well.

We added everyone's name to a hat and drew them out for new groups. Then, those present talked about when to meet with their group and made arrangements to contact anyone not present. If anyone was not at the potluck and wants to join a group, please call or email Jim Bowditch (236-2272), Joe Patten (596-1071) or Marty Rogers (236-8922).

Here are the members of each group:

Group 1

Kim & Linda Peterson
Vicki Haskell
Doug Curtis
John & Mary Alice Bird
Doree & Richard Fisher
Marilyn Sockwell

Group 2

Mia Purcell
Ellie Hutchinson
George Jones
Joe & Mary Patten
Marty & Paul Rogers
Ann Russell

Group 3

Mike & Cindy Lucas
Jim & Felicity Bowditch
Lee Karker & Jane Karker
Dorothy Nyman
Bruce Davis
Pat Snow

Group 4

Chris & Jim McLarty

Deborah Oliver & Asger Bagge
Fern Spring
Liz & Don Hunt
William & Terry Sells

Group 5

Joann & Billy Smith
Bridget Buck & Ralph Moore
Spence & Anne Hurtt
Jim & Gayle Curtis
Harold Von Lonkhuyzen
& Kirsten Staples

McGinnity Thank You

We would like to thank everyone who came to our "farewell" dinner. It was such a rainy, nasty night outside, but inside was quite different. The friendship and the stories were so special. We appreciate everyone. The gift was especially meaningful to us. It's something we will always treasure. Our St. Peter's family means a great deal to us and always will. We are not in our new place yet, but hope to be in by early November. Anyone is always welcome. If you're in the Boston/Nashua, NH area, give us a call. Our phone number, mailing and e-mail addresses are:

978-692-8222
P.O. Box 490
Westford, MA 01886
petermcginnity@att.net
pammcginnity@att.net
With love,
Peter and Pam McGinnity

Good Clean Funds Time and Talent Team Effort

Need kitchen cupboards, stove, refrigerator cleaned? Call us, Chris McLarty (236-4244) and Marty Rogers (236-8922) to arrange a time. We will work for \$15 per hour (each) donating the proceeds to the Time and Talent Fundraiser. We can clean, sort for the trash, box for give away or yard sale. (PS: Our qualifications are great. Marty has had recent experience having just completed all of

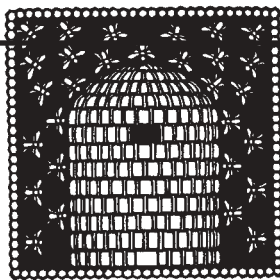
the kitchen cupboards for her nonagenarian parents. It's a tough job for most of us and almost impossible for people with limited flexibility and agility.)

Haiti Group Forms Are You Interested In Helping to Shape Mission Outreach to Haiti?

Sunday, October 17, Deborah McKean (member of St. John's, Thomaston, and the Haiti-Maine Companion Diocese Committee) spoke to the parish at both services about the needs of the Episcopal Diocese of Haiti. She spoke about the "opportunity to not only touch the lives of our brothers and sisters in Haiti, but also to bring more depth to our own lives as Christians," and how "our faith is not a cozy comfort which cushions us against the painful realities of today's world; rather, our faith calls us into solidarity with the poor." Deborah invited us as a parish to become more actively involved in outreach to our companion diocese and indicated if a group is interested in pursuing this, that she would return to meet with us to discuss possible actions. Close to a dozen people signed up to become more involved in this work.

On Sunday, November 14 at 3 P.M. at St. Peter's, a follow-up meeting with Deborah McKean will be held either in the parlor or vestry room. If you did not sign up, but would like to be part of this discussion and exploration—please come to the meeting. Mary Alice Bird is acting as the temporary facilitator for the gathering.

Possible projects to be discussed include: financial support for satellite communications for each Haitian parish, children's medical mission work, support for the technical college or seminary, support for the work of the Society of St. Margaret (schools, center for elderly women, etc.), and parish partnerships. Potential activities may also include participation on a work team in Haiti at a time in the future when travel is again considered safe.



JOTS & TITLES

**BOWLING FOR ATHLETES
AND DILETTANTES,
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 6 pm**
at Oakland Park Lanes, Rockport,
on Route One.

Hey—you haven't tried this yet? Well, it's time to take the leap. Even the rector has been seen doing this, not to mention wardens, vestry members and countless parents and children. Not to be missed. Just show up and find the St. Peter's bowlers (and we don't mean hats).

**"ADVENT FOR FAMILIES" ADULT
FORUMS FOR FAMILIES AND THE
YOUNG AT HEART—Sundays,
November 14 and 21, 9:15 am.**

Share plans for a meaningful Advent—making wreaths, home rituals and prayers and songs, getting ready for a Christmas that includes Christ.

**NATIVE AMERICAN SUNDAY,
November 21, at both services.**

A special liturgy with members of the Native American community participating. This is one way to observe the Diocese of Maine's annual celebration with our Native American sisters and brothers.

**NEW DOCUMENTARY,
"INVISIBLE," SHOWN
AT ST. PETER'S,
SUNDAY, NOV. 21, 4:00 pm.**

This documentary film follows the lives of several members of Maine's Native American nations. They live and work in Maine today. They are our neighbors. They also have family histories and memories that reach back to times of terrible oppression. "Invisible" is a documentary co-produced by the Indian

Relations Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Maine. Our Indian neighbors tell their stories. St. Peter's has received a copy of this documentary because members of our parish helped raise funds for its production and our parish is listed in the credits as a sponsor. Please come to see this 60-minute video production and remain afterwards for sharing our responses. This is a very appropriate way to observe this special day's impact on our lives.

**INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING
SERVICE AT ST. PETER'S, MON-
DAY, NOVEMBER 22, 7:00 pm.**

Following our memory of last year's service as a joyous and moving experience, this year we continue coming together for a celebration through music. Musicians and singers from all the congregations in the Rockland Interfaith Alliance will share in this event. Malcolm Brooks urges any of us to participate in St. Peter's offering to this festival. Let him know your interest: 236-8251. We are asked to bring gifts of food and money for the Area Interfaith Outreach.

**THANKSGIVING DAY,
November 25, 10:00 am.**

A festive but simple celebration of Holy Eucharist will be offered—come and taste gratitude before plowing into the day.

**ADVENT BEGINS ON
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28.**

Our liturgies on Sundays take a sudden turn to reflect the new inner moods of the season. Preparing for the birth of Jesus, we begin a new year in the Church's calendar. In the three-year cycle, this will be Year A, and our Sunday lessons are appointed by the

Revised Common Lectionary now authorized for trial use in the Episcopal Church. It is currently in use by the Lutheran Church, the United Methodist Church, the Presbyterian Church, the United Church of Christ, some Roman Catholic parishes and many other congregations of other denominations.

**WEDNESDAY HOLY EUCHARIST,
7:00 AM in the CHAPEL.**

These services have become meaningful midweek pauses for many of us, and there is always space for more folks. The liturgy lasts about 40 minutes. This includes about 10 minutes of meditation accompanied by the tolling of a bell. Brief readings and prayers from many sources, always including a gospel lesson, are interspersed by silence and simple songs from the Taizé chant traditions. The sparse Celtic eucharistic prayer is taken from the Iona Community Worship Book. Afterward, many participants sharing morning coffee or breakfast at the Brown Bag. Calming and restoring, this is an opportunity open to all.

JEFF'S ORDINATION

continued from page 1

were given to the ordinand.

A Personal Note: Jeff's ordination was a great joy for all present. Many participating in the planning of the service and reception. Gracious thanks to all. Members of St. Peter's are asked to contribute to a purse for Jeff.

If you would like to make a contribution, but did not have a chance to do so before the service – simply send a check to the office, earmarked "Jeff Lewis Purse."

— Mary Alice Bird

Fall Stewardship Program and Pledge Drive for 2005

The 2005 Stewardship program began on Sunday, October 24, with announcements at both services and the distribution of pledge materials after the services. The remaining pledge packages were mailed out the following week. If you did not receive a package and would like to make a pledge, please call Deb Watson at the church office, 594-8191.

Members and friends of St. Peter's have also been invited to a **HARVEST POT LUCK DINNER** followed by **MYSTERIOUS ENTERTAINMENT** on Saturday, November 6, at 5:30 P.M. in the parish hall. This event is hosted by the Stewardship Commission. Please join us for an evening of fellowship and fun.

Thanks to the generosity of members and friends of St. Peter's, pledging for the current year (2004) has exceeded \$120,000. The 13th Month appeal sent out in September has already generated more than half of the additional \$8,000 needed to reach the 2004 goal of \$125,000. Watch the Sunday bulletin for further updates.

The pledge goal for 2005 is \$127,000. This is not a large increase, and if you are able to give more, please consider what you can do for God's work at St. Peter's. If you are not currently pledging, but contributing when you come to church, please consider making a pledge commitment.

NOVEMBER 14 IS STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY. At that time, we ask that completed pledge cards be placed in the offering. Pledges may also be mailed to the parish office. Your pledge along with your gifts of time and talent helps to support God's work at St. Peter's. Please consider what you can do as a faithful steward in thanksgiving for all God has given you.

One Person's St. Peter's Story

Each Sunday during the Stewardship campaign for the coming year, a few parishioners are asked to speak at the first and second services. Here are one person's comments given on October 31st.

When Liz Hunt, on behalf of the Stewardship Commission asked me a few weeks ago to speak to you, I mulled around quite a few thoughts. Last night with that extra hour we had, I wrote my thoughts down so I wouldn't ramble on. Don't worry this is not an hour long. I usually am standing up to give you messages of things that are happening at St. P or welcoming visitors but today I want to say something about myself.

I'm a life long Episcopalian—perfect Sunday School attendance record. I taught Sunday School in college and for many years afterwards. I brought my kids up in church—they were acolytes—if any of you remember Chris when he was 10 that might be hard to believe but it's true. After all of this, in the mid-1990's, I found myself attending church less and less often. I struggled to find where I was in my spiritual life and what I should be doing as a good Christian beyond rote attendance at services on Sunday. I knew that I couldn't just forget about church—I had learned something in my 50 plus years of life.

About a month after Ralph began his ministry here at St. Peter's I started coming. Not because of Ralph—I hadn't heard anything about him. I didn't know what I was looking for, but I remember thinking that he had prepared the sermon especially for me. I kept coming—meeting new people, old friends—church began to take on a whole new meaning. That sign over the door welcoming us to the Mission Field became something I thought I could do—with the help of all of the people in the parish family to guide me. I won't name anyone beyond Ralph because each of you in your unique way teach me about living a life with Christ.

When something is really important to me, I joyfully support it and try to rally others to do the same. St. Peter's has this very significant place in my heart and my life, so Paul and I give of our time, our talent and our treasure. Each of those are important, but "treasure"—real money is what pays the bills. No home, and St. Peter's is my spiritual home, can survive without fuel, water, electricity, people and at St. Peter's that means our staff. St. Peter's needs all of that and more. We need people who care passionately for the things that nourish them spiritually—whether that is the music and the choir, the liturgy, programs for our children, our adult forums, care to our elders at home, or our ministry in the community out there in the mission field.

I hope you will think passionately and prayerfully about what it is that draws you to St. Peter's and what you really want to see grow and flourish here. Think beyond the everyday to the things that lift your heart and soul. And then with prayer, give with gratitude as generously as you can. And when you sign your pledge card, be sure to put your name on it—the absence of a space for your name was an oversight when the stewardship commission revised the pledge cards.

—Marty Rogers

St. Peter's Rooster T-shirts For Sale

We have several great Rooster T-shirts. The proceeds from the sale go to children and youth activities at St. Peter's. The shirts have a small embroidered red rooster, top left front—no other lettering. They look great! This is what is available: Adult small—5 (various shades of blue) Adult medium—4 (one light orange, 3 various shades of blue) Adult large—3 (one each: tan, grey & cream) Adult X large—1 (purple) Youth 10-12 (medium)—2 (one each grey & blue). Adult shirts are \$15, youth are \$12.

Please contact the church office or Marty Rogers to purchase a shirt.