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Current Events

- 8th:** 8:00 AM
Men's Group
Joining Room
- 9th:** 9:30 AM
Mother's Day
Church
- 11th:** 4:00-6:00 PM
Bshp Cederholm Meeting
Joining Room
- 16th:** 11:00 AM
Parish Meeting
Joining Room
- 20th:** 7:00 PM
Vestry Meeting
Joining Room
- 22nd:** 1:30 PM
Golf Tournament
Fundraiser Event
Allendale Country Club
- 30th:** 9:30 AM
Family Sunday
Church

St. Peter's Church

351 Elm St.
Dartmouth, MA
02748
508-997-0903

info@stpetersdartmouth.org
www.stpetersdartmouth.org
Paul Rodgers, Pastor
Sunday Worship at 9:30

PASTOR'S CROOK

Chaplain Rodgers

This will be my last newsletter article as your rector. I knew that I would eventually have to write that down but I am saddened that it has come sooner than we thought. The departure of 1/3 of our church in January has hastened my departure but by God's grace and your generosity we have been able to be with you for these past 4 months.

Where am I going? Well, it is a long tale which I will try to shorten. Almost two years ago I began to consider acting on a potential calling to become a Navy Reserve Chaplain. Last April I filed my application and began the lengthy process. When it became apparent in the fall of last year that people were going to leave and St. Peter's would no longer be able to afford me I switched over my application to Active Duty.

Later in the fall I was rejected for a minor eye condition but continued to push forward to seek a waiver for the condition. That appeal was in the works for a long time. It wasn't until March 15th that I heard the Navy was willing to consider the waiver. Then in a matter of just three days all the details were worked out for me to complete the process and potentially be in Officer and Chaplain School by August. The Admiral then signed the waiver and a few weeks later a spot opened up for me in the May School. The Bishop for the Armed Forces 'happened' to be traveling our way during Holy Week and Lauren and I had a wonderful interview with him and wife after which he gave final approval. My final interview with the Navy came April 13th and the next day they called to offer me a commission. Friday April 23rd I was sworn in as a Lieutenant, Junior



Grade and am enrolled for School starting May 23rd in Newport.

What will I be doing? The Navy Chaplain Corp serves all "sea-service" personnel, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, in all their capacities. I am slated to serve as one of the chaplains at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, FL. It is non-operational (does not deploy), on a large base with chaplains to help guide me, in the South East (4 hours to Lauren's brother in Charleston), and with an air-wing; anti-submarine squadrons of Seahawks (Navy Blackhawks) and P3-C Orions (turboprops). The training will be intense and the work will be challenging but Lauren and I are excited about this next call from the Lord.

We are confident that our relationships with you will continue long into the future but they will certainly change due to our distance. You have been very gracious and loving to us and for that we are deeply grateful; thank you!

I am excited for the future of St. Peter's. Listening to Jim Fleming preach on Sunday was simply wonderful. God has done so much here at St. Peter's to bolster those that remained, how could anyone doubt his hand in the future? We have included with this newsletter a copy of Jim's sermon, please read it thoroughly.

So, my final charge to you: Please be thoughtful and prayerful as you seek to do the Lord's will for your life. There is much to be done at St. Peter's and in the Dartmouth area for the sake of Christ's kingdom but if you are not doing it as the Lord guides then you are doing it in vain. Seriously and sincerely pray and listen for guidance to act according to God's desire not your own and everything else will fall into place. Matthew 6:33: "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Help support our Outreach to Families and Children on Saturday, May 22, 2010. St. Peter's is holding a Golf Tournament Fundraiser Event which will prove to be lots of fun for all involved! Shotgun start at 1:30 pm. A free lunch is offered as well as prizes and a 50/50 Raffle Event. We are trying to organize Teams of 4 at \$100.00 Per Person.

GOLF TOURNAMENT MAY 22

The Tournament is being held at The Allendale Country Club, 1047 Allen St., N. Dartmouth Ma (508)992-2010. The representative from St Peter's organizing this great happening is John Bonneau. When you decide you want to sign up give him a call at 508-993-8314. Tickets will be available at the gate.

If you like to play golf, take the time to consider supporting a local church and having fun!!! And of course, family and friends are welcome. It is fair play, clean fun and hopefully an afternoon filled with the good cheer of amiable weather.



SPAGHETTI DINNER REFLECTIONS

"Everybody loves my meatballs!" Indeed we do! The Spaghetti Dinner and Bake Off Event Fund Raiser had a happy outcome with satisfied appetites and money in the coffers. A whole hearted thank you to all volunteers and patrons alike. Everybody has his or her own way of expressing their generosity. Patronage, talent, time, and presence... the list goes on. A special thanks to the following: Janet (Chef Extraordinaire), Hartley, Jeanne, Mimi, Thelma, Rob, Peg,

Frank, Brian, John of the Trinity, and John Udell. Congratulations to Deb Bonneau on her First Place in the Bake off and gracefully in second place is Liz Carbone. The profit from this event is going to w a r d s support of our August J a z z Event.



TAKE GOLIATH DOWN *By Max Lucado*

Goliaths still roam our world. Debt. Disaster. Dialysis. Danger. Deceit. Disease. Depression. Super-size challenges still swagger and strut, still pilfer sleep and embezzle peace and liposuction joy. But they can't dominate you. You know how to deal with them. You face giants by facing God first.

Focus on giants—you stumble.

Focus on God—your giants tumble.

You know what David knew, and you do what David did. You pick up five stones, and you make five decisions. Ever wonder why David took five stones into battle? Why not two or twenty? Rereading his story reveals five answers. Use your five fingers to remind you of the five stones you need to face down your Goliath. Let your thumb remind you of ...

1. THE STONE OF THE PAST Goliath jogged David's memory. Elah was a déjà vu. While everyone else quivered, David remembered. God had given him strength to wrestle a lion and strong-arm a bear. Wouldn't he do the same with the giant? A good memory makes heroes.

"Remember His marvelous works which He has done" (1 Chron. 16:12). Catalog God's successes. Keep a list of his world records. Has he not walked you through high waters? Proven to be faithful? Have you not known his provision? How many nights have you gone to bed hungry? Mornings awakened in the cold? He has made roadkill out of your enemies. Write today's worries in sand. Chisel yesterday's victories in stone. Pick up the stone of the past. Then select ...

2. THE STONE OF PRAYER Note the valley between your thumb and finger. To pass from one to the next you must go through it. Let it remind you of David's descent. Before going high, David went low; before ascending to fight, David descended to prepare. Don't face your giant without first doing the same. Dedicate time to prayer. Paul, the apostle, wrote, "Prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long" (Eph. 6:18 MSG).

Prayer spawned David's successes. His Brook Besor wisdom grew out of the moment he "strengthened himself in the Lord his God" (1 Sam. 30:6). When Saul's soldiers tried to capture him, David turned toward God: "You have been my defense and refuge in the day of my trouble" (Ps. 59:16).

Invite God's help. Pick up the stone of prayer. And don't neglect ...

3. THE STONE OF PRIORITY Let your tallest finger remind you of your highest priority: God's reputation. David jealously guarded it. No one was going to defame his Lord. David

fought so that "all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. Then all this assembly shall know that the Lord does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's" (1 Sam. 17:46-47).

David saw Goliath as a chance for God to show off! Did David know he would exit the battle alive? No. But he was willing to give his life for the reputation of God.

What if you saw your giant in the same manner? Rather than begrudge him, welcome him. Your cancer is God's chance to flex his healing muscles. Your sin is God's opportunity to showcase grace. Your struggling marriage can billboard God's power. See your struggle as God's canvas. On it he will paint his multicolored supremacy. Announce God's name and then reach for ...

4. THE STONE OF PASSION David ran, not away from, but toward his giant. On one side of the battlefield, Saul and his cowardly army gulped. On the other, Goliath and his skull-splitters scoffed. In the middle, the shepherd boy ran on his spindly legs. Who bet on David? Who put money on the kid from Bethlehem? Not the Philistines. Not the Hebrews. Not David's siblings or David's king. But God did.

And since God did, and since David knew God did, the skinny runt became a blur of pumping knees and a swirling sling. He ran toward his giant.

Do the same!

Let your ring finger remind you to take up the stone of passion.

One more stone, and finger, remains:

5. THE STONE OF PERSISTENCE David didn't think one rock would do. He knew Goliath had four behemoth relatives. For all David knew, they'd come running over the hill to defend their kin. David was ready to empty the chamber if that's what it took.

Imitate him. Never give up. One prayer might not be enough. One apology might not do it. One day or month of resolve might not suffice. You may get knocked down a time or two ... but don't quit. Keep loading the rocks. Keep swinging the sling.

David took five stones. He made five decisions. Do likewise. Past. Prayer. Priority. Passion. And persistence.

Next time Goliath wakes you up, reach for a stone. Odds are, he'll be out of the room before you can load your sling.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

Hey Fred, you appear to be leaking!



Goliath shouted his taunts, and threats! Saul and the Israelites were very afraid, some more than others. 1 Samuel 17:11

Your Vestry:

Jim Fleming, Sr. Warden
John Bonneau, Jr. Warden
Steve Hegarty, Treasurer
Janet Sampson, Clerk
Members: Rob Lamoureux,
Carol Hegarty, and Hartley
LaCorbiniere

Anglican-Speak:

The Gospel

Any reading from Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John. We stand for the gospel reading in the Eucharist, to show reverence for Jesus, since he is speaking to us when the gospel is read. Sometimes there is a procession to the center of the nave for this reading. This is traditionally an office of the deacon or of clergy acting as deacon in the service.



Web Suggestion:

stpetersdartmouth.org

Just a reminder that we actually have a fairly good webpage. It has just been completely reworked this month so go and check out the new site... great new way of hosting sermons online too!



Book Suggestion:

Your Whole Life, Carol Showalter and Maggie Davis, 2007 A spiritual and practical approach to gradually changing one's eating and exercising behaviors for the better. This book considers the whole person coping with the stresses of life and weight issues. A great book to read along with Weight-Watchers