

# SS Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

Volume 17, Issue 10

October 2017

### September Council Highlights

- ✘ August's Operating Income was \$12,037.06 while Operating Expenses were \$10,942.93, resulting in a net income of \$1,094.13.
- ✘ Alex Enoch hosted coffee hour to raise funds to paint Church house as his Eagle Scout project.
- ✘ The Church is purchasing two automated defibrillators.
- ✘ A storage building to be purchased and placed on the patio on the west side of the Church hall.
- ✘ 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Consecration of the present Church is May 12, 2018.

## The Church School Year Begins . . .

Sunday, September 10, 2017 marked the beginning of SS Peter and Paul's Church School year. Our youth and teachers gathered for the annual Blessing of Students and Teachers.

Each lesson will begin with an education component followed by a interactive question/answer session and will conclude with a scripture/

tary school aged children will be in the middle classroom with Heather Olmstead and Grace Weiss. They have started learning about the lives of the saints of the church.

Their first lesson revolved around the life of Saint Sophia.

Lesley Friend, Lauren Hecht, Marty Gala, and Susan Weiss will be working with our 3-6 year olds and the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program.



Classes began in earnest on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Mara Hecht and Julio Lopez have joined us to teach our new high school class, which meets in the office next to Bishop Daniel.

The focus for their first unit is love: Family is Love; Our Orthodox History is Rooted in over 2000 Years of Love; Disciples, Saints and Martyrs: Their Love for Christ; The Holy

church related reading to sum things up.

The middle school class is being held in the conference room. They will be learning

The three, four, five and six year old children are in a very special time of life. The early child just out of infancy has a new world about him—The Prepared Environment. The adult prepares the environment that satisfies the mental urges giving way to interaction with the prepared environment.



Spirit Lives in Us: How Can We Show Love Towards Others, How do We Emulate Christ-like Love; and How Do I Live a Life of Christian Love in Today's Society.

about the sacraments with Stephanie Homyak and John/Corey Weiss.



The prepared environment is structured with many activities for the child to work with. (nued on page 2)

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# The Church School Year Begins . . .

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The activity is first demonstrated by the adult so that the child can see how the items are handled. The child is then free to choose that activity and process that which it is designed to teach.

By handling the materials in a specific way the child is able to work independently at a chosen space and a chosen pace. The child can also repeat the activity whenever it is available. The work is available when it is on the shelf, in other words when it is not being used by another.

Making choices and channeling random energy into purposeful activity is one result of the prepared environment. It is here that the child can develop their human

potentialities and develop self discipline through the structured freedom.

We have prepared the environment with activities that assist the understanding of

the Holy Bible and the Divine Liturgy. The atrium (classroom) is prepared with many activities for the child to choose after receiving the lesson from the adult. The activities are based on the following:

### Parables of the Kingdom of God

The chosen parables lead the young child



to contemplation and wonder. The parables are read from the Holy Bible and there is an activity for each one. For example, The Growing Seed, seeds and plants are examined in a particular way.

### Infancy Narratives about the life of Jesus Christ

The chosen narratives are specifically chosen according to their appropriateness for the young child. These narratives are read from the Holy Bible and then the child has the opportunity to work with the materials for each narrative. This provides the opportunity for the child to ponder the meaning of that which was heard.

### Geography of the Holy Land

The maps and the city of Jerusalem diorama, along with manipulatives, help the child to become familiar with the names of places that are mentioned in the Holy Bible and events in the life of Jesus Christ, Our Lord. This assists

the young children's ability to process that which is heard when the Holy Bible is read.

### Response Gestures and Hymns of the Divine Liturgy

The response gestures of the Divine Liturgy are carefully shown and the children have the opportunity to prac-

tice them. This makes them feel more at home in The House of God as they be-



come familiar with their role during the Divine Liturgy. The children become greater participants in the church services as they know what is expected of them.

### Holy Communion and Baptism

Both Holy Communion and Baptism are explained to the children in a way that they can absorb the meaning of both. While remaining theologically sound and grounded in Orthodoxy; the steps for each sacrament are carefully presented slowly and one at a time over the course of the Sunday school year.

### The Holy Altar

The children are shown miniature altar items (not to be confused with the real thing). The children learn the names of the items and then recognize them while in Church. Again the child becomes more familiar with the Divine Liturgy.

### Liturgical Colors, Vestments, Liturgical Calendar

The color of the vestments and altar cloths change with the Liturgical calendar. The colors in the children's room also change accordingly and



*(Continued on page 4)*

# Measure of Sincerity

Fr. Vladimir Berzonshy  
*"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God Who loved me and gave Himself for me."* (Galatians 2:20)

Most teenagers have read *The Catcher in the Rye*, that ritual of passage by J.D. Salinger, about a dropout from several high schools who lives in a society he feels full of shallow hypocrites, the sole sincere person being the drummer at Radio City Music Hall. This classic ritual of passage nails the know-it-all phase before realizing that we all ultimately play roles and excuse ourselves for doing so. It's unavoidable – or is it? What would Holden Caulfield make of St. Paul, had he ever known him?

I remember that stage of life when I had been searching for role models, persons who lived with a single purpose, focusing on a goal, not just drifting like chips on the river of life without commitment, vision or direction. I had such in my life, or at least as long as they had life; but even then in the Bible I found and held out throughout my lifetime the blessed St. Paul. He is the epitome of sincerity. The term means *"without wax,"* as was used to fill in the cracks and crevices of marble to make it appear whole.

In his early years a voracious reader of scripture, the prize pupil of the renowned rabbi Gamaliel (Acts 5:34, 22:3), Saul persecuted Christians with a vengeance, even traveling to Damascus in order to obtain from the authorities license to search out and destroy the followers of Jesus Christ. Then when confronted by our Lord on

the way, tossed from his horse and blinded, and asked: *"Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?"* (Acts 9:4), he turned his life around totally and spent his lifetime in obedience to the same Lord Jesus whom he had hated so completely. Hence, the above phrase he wrote to the Galatians.

There is for all of us a time between times when we pass from idolizing our parents to becoming like them, that phase of objectivity to the people in our lives. We become like Holden Caulfield, ignoring or not noticing how we have failed to live up to our own early ideals, and yet having the audacity to measure the essence of parents, teachers, clergy, relatives, friends and neighbors – all who have been in some way influential in our lives. They may take the time to tell us how we should grow and what we ought to become, and yet we accept or reject their counsel by looking into their eyes. Do they live themselves the values they proclaim? At least it was that way for me. Pretenders, imposters, poseurs – society and even those near to us are filled with the broken pieces of pitiful humanity that provide examples of what not to be.

Then we come upon one precious pearl worth waiting for, making up for all the lost time following those who steered us into blind alleys. Of course the Bible is replete with such gems, beginning with Christ Himself as well as St. Paul, together with the other apostles as well as patriarchs and prophets from the Old Testament; but there must be some alive for us in our adolescent years in order to prove that even in the 21st century it's possible to point to living examples of

sincerity, people whose lives are all of one piece, filled with the precious virtues of the Orthodox Christian faith. At times the search can be frustrating. Those we consider worthy of our emulation may turn out to be less than genuine. We forgive them, bless them and continue the search – but when we find some living witness to the pure, genuine article, we can do nothing better than to become ourselves like him or her, a model of Christ alive in us as well.

Reprinted from the Orthodox Church in America web site, <https://oca.org/reflections/berzonshy/measure-of-sincerity>\*

## *From the Fathers . . .*

*"The soul that loves God has its rest in God and in God alone. In all the paths that men walk in in the world, they do not attain peace until they draw nigh to hope in God."*

—St. Isaac the Syrian, Homily 56, 89



*"The Lord loves all people, but He loves those who seek Him even more. To his chosen ones the Lord gives such great grace that for love they forsake the whole earth, the whole world, and their souls burn with desire that all people might be saved and see the glory of the Lord."*

—St. Silouan the Athonite, Writings, IX.8



# The Church School Year Begins . . .

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the children begin to recognize the season by the liturgical color.

## The Good Shepherd

Good Shepherd parable is a central theme in the children's room. Also the Found Sheep parable and Psalm 23 are celebrated.

## Paschal Narratives

The Mystical Supper, Jerusalem (Holy Week), and the Women at the Tomb are presentations in the children's room that lead the child to a more complete faith experience.

## The Prayer Table

The prayer table is just that; a table for children to gather around and hear the chosen Prophecies and prayers. In addition, the Icon corner is a place where the children are invited to offer spontaneous

prayer. Prayer at this young age is often spontaneous as it is often prayer of thanksgiving.

## Practical Life

This course will present the fundamental principles of the Practical Life area as a foundation for the child's development of confidence and competence in daily life. Topics include how to prepare the exercises of Practical Life, grace and courtesy, control of movement, control of the person, and care of the environment.✠



## From the Fathers . . .

*"How mistaken are those people who seek happiness outside of themselves, in foreign lands and journeys, in riches and glory, in great possessions and pleasures, in diversions and vain things, which have a bitter end! In the same thing to construct the tower of happiness outside of ourselves as it is to build a house in a place that is consistently shaken by earthquakes. Happiness is found within ourselves, and blessed is the man who has understood this. Happiness is a pure heart, for such a heart becomes the throne of God. Thus says Christ of those who have pure hearts: "I will visit them, and will walk in them, and I will be a God to them, and they will be my people." (II Cor. 6:16) What can be lacking to them? Nothing, nothing at all! For they have the greatest good in their hearts: God Himself!"*

—St. Nektarios of Aegina  
Path to Happiness, I

## Around SS Peter & Paul

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- October 2 Walter and Vera Moschowsky  
3 Dusanka Marcetic  
4 Christi Sourk  
11 Susan Weiss  
13 Alexander Gala  
15 Eugenia (Gina) Mudrenko  
17 Rosemarie Osolinsky  
21 Svetlana & Arthur Fleenor  
23 Harold Homyak  
25 Olivia Weiss

**Many Years!**  
**Mnogaya Leta!**

### Protodeacon Alexis

This month marks the one year anniversary of Protodeacon Alexis' repose in the Lord. Protodeacon Alexis loved our parish community as his own family and his loss has been greatly felt. Joe and Marty Gala will host Coffee Hour on Sunday, October 1 in his memory.

Memory Eternal!



### PRAYER LIST

**"I was sick and you visited me."**  
**Matt 25:36**

We offer prayers to all of our parishioners who are ill or unable to attend services:

Marilyn Bezkorovainy  
Ann Garza  
Rose Kurowski  
Tillie (Tatiana) Kulek  
Anna Michkofsky  
Frank Kulik  
Vickie Kulik

*If you know of anyone in need of our prayers, please contact Bishop Daniel.*

## Bits and Pieces

### ROLL BAKE

The Roll Bake, the main fundraiser for the MBAS, is currently underway. The proceeds from the bake enable us to purchase robes for altar servers, altar covers, and whatever is necessary to support our clergy and to beautify our Temple.

We will be taking orders for Nut, Poppy and Apricot rolls until Sunday October 29<sup>th</sup>. The cost is 15.00 dollars and you do not have to pay until you pick up your order.

We rely on help from the parish in order to have enough people to help us bake.

If you would like to help, speak with Barbara Peterson.



Baking dates are as follows:

Tuesday, Oct. 10  
 Saturday, Oct. 14  
 Saturday, Oct. 21  
 Tuesday, Oct. 24  
 Saturday, Nov. 4  
 Tuesday, Nov. 7  
 Saturday, Nov. 18

### COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour provides an opportunity for fellowship; a chance to catch up with old friends and make new friends. Please help support coffee hour.



How? Bring in donations of coffee hour staples: coffee, sugar, peanut butter, jelly, cream cheese, butter, milk and, during fasting periods, quarts of non-dairy coffee creamers. Unable to shop? Consider making a cash donation to cover supplies. For more ideas, check with Linda Walters. Let's all pitch in and help! Interested in hosting coffee hour? Please contact Linda.

### WELCOME

We welcome all visitors to SS Peter & Paul. We hope your visit was enriching and enlightening. Please join us in the Cultural Center, behind the church, for our Coffee Fellowship Hour. It's a chance to meet some of our members, other visitors, and enjoy some coffee and fellowship. We also invite you to check out our Book Store.

### T/YAL

The TYAL donation drive for FANS will conclude on Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Please see Mara Hecht if there are any last minute questions regarding donation items.

The TYAL will be hosting Coffee Hour on Sunday, October 8th as a THANK YOU for how wonderfully generous our parish was with donating items to FANS.

We will be volunteering on Saturday October 28th at the FANS donation facility to help organize donations and help package items for families in need. If you are interested in volunteering your time that day, please see Mara Hecht. ALL ARE WELCOME!!

### CHURCH SCHOOL

Please refrain from entering the atrium during class time unless it is an emergency. In the event you do need to enter, please enter through the back hallway so as not to disrupt the children at work. We also need help with sewing, woodworking, painting, and drawing, and volunteers to help serve snacks.

## St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church Food Festival

### October 6-8, 2017

Falafel · Tabouli · Gyros · Hummus  
 Kabobs · Grape Leaves · Baklava  
 Arabic Dancing · Children's Activities  
 Live Entertainment · Church Tours

# October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos 8:30am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Church School</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Icon "O All-hymned Mother" St. Innocent, Metr. Of Moscow	<b>7</b>     5:00pm Vespers
<b>T/YAL will be volunteering on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at the FANS donation facility to help organize donations and help package items for families in need. If you are interested in volunteering your time that day, please see Mara Hecht. ALL ARE WELCOME!!</b>						
<b>8</b> 8:30am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Church School</b> <b>MBAS Meeting</b> <b>Last day to donate for T/YAL FANS</b>	<b>9</b> St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow	<b>10</b> Akathist Icon at Zographou  <b>ROLL BAKE</b>  6:00pm Council Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Jerusalem and Kaluga Icons	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>   <b>ROLL BAKE</b>  5:00pm Vespers
<b>15</b> Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council  8:30am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Church School</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Icon 'Our Deliverance'	<b>18</b> Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>   <b>ROLL BAKE</b>  5:00pm Vespers
				<b>CHURCH SCHOOL</b> If you have not already done so, please see Stephanie Homyak to register your child.		
<b>22</b> Kazan Icon 8:30am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Church School</b>	<b>23</b> Apostle James, Brother of the Lord	<b>24</b> "Joy of All Who Sorrow"  <b>ROLL BAKE</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Greatmartyr and Myrrhgusher Demetrius	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>   <b>T/YAL @ FANS</b>  5:00pm Vespers
<b>29</b> 8:30am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy <b>Church School</b>	<b>30</b> Ozerianskaya Icon	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> Cosmas & Damian	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>   <b>ROLL BAKE</b>  5:00pm Vespers
<b>We welcome all of our guests and visitors. Please join us in the Cultural Center for Fellowship Hour following Divine Liturgy each Sunday.</b>						