

# *The Parish Post*

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## A Word From The Weiss

### A FRIENDLY PENTECOST CHALLENGE

The Day of Pentecost takes place on June 12. The word Pentecost means “the fiftieth”; the events of this day, as recorded in The Book of Acts, occurred fifty days after the Resurrection. Because the first Christians were primarily Jews, they tended to interpret things through their worldview. It is no accident, then, that our Pentecost story mirrors the Jewish harvest festival of Shavuot, which celebrates God giving the 10 Commandments fifty days after the Exodus. Both holidays mark a moment of God revealing himself to us in significant ways.

Now, God gave the Jews the 10 Commandments to help them live holy lives. And, while Pentecost has multiple meanings, one is that God gave us the Holy Spirit to help us “get the word out”—others can benefit from knowing and loving God. (After all, once Peter explained to the confused crowd what it meant that the disciples were sharing languages, “the same them about three thousand souls”. Even though Church leaders are tempted to inflate their attendance, that’s still impressive. See Acts 2 for the whole tale.)



meanings, one is that Holy Spirit to help us to share our faith, so from knowing and loving Peter explained to the it meant that the disciples their faith in many day there were added to thousand souls”. Even

So, as I reflected on the overlapping of Pentecost and Shavuot, I decided to offer us all a friendly Pentecost Challenge. During the Season of Pentecost (the longest in the Church Year), let’s aim to do two things:

1. **Memorize the 10 Commandments** (and reflect on how God may be speaking to us through them);
2. **Invite one “soul” to church.** Even if we fall well short of 3000 (!), what a joy it is whenever any new folks walk through our door on a Sunday morning!

Along with you on the journey of faith,

*Fr. Chuck Weiss*

## TWO BIG PENTECOST EVENTS

### Pentecost Potluck

Given that red is the liturgical color associated with Pentecost (alluding to the “tongues of fire” which appeared on the apostles’ heads), everyone is invited to bring their favorite “red” food this morning! The Fellowship Committee will be providing Sloppy Joes and buns. Beyond that, who knows? (Please sign up at church or contact Sue Rodgers about your dish.)

### A Visit from the Bishop Nomination Committee

During our Potluck, a member of the Bishop Nomination Committee will join us to discuss the process toward electing our next bishop—and to gather your thoughts about where we are as a diocese, where we are going, and what sort of bishop we need. (If you are unable to attend, you may share your thoughts at [episcopalpgh.org](http://episcopalpgh.org).)

*As always, you are encouraged to wear RED on Pentecost!*

## Women Take a Break



The Ladies of St. Thomas have decided to take a brief hiatus from their monthly Lunch gathering.

Watch The Parish Post and Bulletin, or contact Michelle Lucarelli or Sue Rodgers, for updates.

The Rector recommends using this free time to: *a)* catch up on all those old text messages, or *b)* get back to memorizing the Ten Commandments.

## Games Night at Canon House

On Thursday, June 23 at 6:30 PM, everyone is invited to Games Night at Canon House! This is fast becoming a favorite tradition for us.

Snacks and drinks will be provided. Bring your favorite board games, but leave the loaded dice at home.

Contact Pam Gardner or Amy Jennings for more information.



## Vestry Highlights

At our May meeting, your Vestry:

- Received a report from Joel Newcomb of Morgan Stanley re: our Endowment. Since Mr. Newcomb's last visit, this fund has risen 3.6% to \$388,923. At his recommendation, we placed \$50,000 into a cash reserve, given some potential expenditures. These include the need for a new roof and new copy machine.
- Approved a Diocesan Energy Grant Program proposal. The Diocese has offered to contribute up to 80% for "environmentally friendly" building costs in its parishes. Our proposal addressed first, the roof, and second, the copy machine. We should have a response by June 15.
- Discussed final plans for adapting our Chancel area to increase safety and practicality.
- Heard a report from Fr. Chuck about Lori Stebler's sense of call to the Diaconate. This is a gradual process involving the Rector, a Discernment Committee, the Vestry, and various Diocesan groups. Lori will meet with the Vestry in June.
- After our May meeting, your Vestry approved repairs which were necessary in our Rest Room. Our thanks to Bob Senay, Junior Warden, for arranging these repairs on such short notice.

Please feel free to contact Fr. Chuck or any Vestry member about these matters.

## Episcopal Relief and Development reaches out to Diocese of West Missouri

Our brothers and sisters in Missouri are picking up the pieces in the aftermath of a deadly tornado.

The clergy and laypeople of the Diocese of West Missouri are doing their part, with assistance from Episcopal Relief and Development. For the full story, go to [episcopalpgh.org](http://episcopalpgh.org).

To learn more about ERD, or to donate, go to [e-rd.org](http://e-rd.org).

## Quick Update on Fr. Chuck

*Back in January, I informed the parish that I had two health matters to address. The first was a heart valve replacement. I am thrilled to say that I have been feeling increasingly stronger as the weeks have passed since that surgery. I've already been on the tennis court, which is a joy for me! The second issue involves my thyroid gland. I am scheduled for a thyroidectomy on Wednesday, June 15. I will need about a week's recovery. The Rev. Terry Hunt has graciously offered to lead worship on June 19. Please let me know if you have any questions, and thank you so much for all your loving support!*

*Fr. Chuck*

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Ben Hill—June 7  
Diane Bushko—June 11  
Joe Lucarelli—June 12  
Chuck Meacci—June 13  
Elizabeth Freeman—June 24  
Wayne Greaves—June 24  
Betsy Carey—June 29  
Emma Hull—June 30

## **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

The Celentos—June 10  
The Bushkos—June 25

## **COFFEE HOUR**

June 5—Hunt/Stebler  
June 12—Potluck  
June 19—Meacci  
June 26—Rodgers/Bing/Vayansky

## **NOTES FROM THE CHURCH MOUSE!**

Hey, did you hear about the surprise at the Women's Lunch? The ladies brought gifts for JoAnn's new home at Canon House! (I knew all the time, but I didn't make a squeak.) / Some interesting Coffee Chats this month...I learned all about The Anglican Covenant, and Bishops. (Do bishops really go on *Dancing With The Stars*? That's what Fr. Chuck said.) / That was some surprise party for Fr. Chuck! Any excuse for cake, I always say. But, what's the big deal about turning 50? And why were the balloons *black*? / Hats off to Barbara and Jim Brown, for hosting a wonderful Breaking Bread gathering! (The Browns make some good brownies!) / I don't know why everyone's making such a fuss about those "cute little kittens" living next to the church. Maybe they're cute now, but they'll grow up to be...CATS!

Well, see you around  
(but you won't see me!),

**TOM**



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