



The In Touch

Volume 51, Issue 6

Our Mission: To Seek, Know, Love and Serve Christ in all Persons and in all Creation

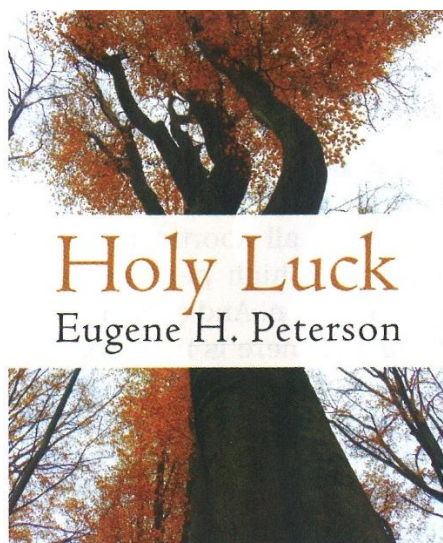
Ramblings from the Deacon....

A Shepherd of Words

Review by Phoebe Pettingell

In his preface to *Holy Luck*, Eugene H. Peterson sees a parallel between pastors and poets. Both are, or ought to be, “shepherds of words.” He explains that good clergy, like good writers, “use words with reverence, get immersed in everyday particulars, are wary of abstractions, spy out the glories of the commonplace, warn of illusions, attend to the subtle connections between rhythm and meaning and spirit.” Peterson, a Presbyterian minister and Bible scholar, is the author of many books on spiritual theology and professor emeritus of that subject at Regent College in Vancouver. He is, perhaps, best known for his Bible paraphrase, *The Message*, which some scholars have dismissed as a “New Age Bible.” Others have praised its ability to convey qualities of the original tongues to the average reader; in particular the earthy, unpolished *koiné* Greek — not as an elegant but obscure language to send one scurrying to commentaries and dictionaries, but the rough *lingua franca* of the Eastern Roman Empire. Peterson has often said that he never meant his paraphrase to be used as a lectionary Bible. As a poet, he understands the appropriate contexts for one kind of speech over another, as his poems attest.

In a touching story, Peterson explains how he first came to poetry. At 13, having recently moved to a new neighborhood where he had yet to make friends but was in possession of a new, leather-covered King James Bible bought with his own money, he spent the summer reading the Psalms. Raised in a culture that insisted on the literal truth of every word in the Bible, he was confused by the metaphorical language, but did not dare ask anyone to explain. Driven back on his own resources, he



Holy Luck

By Eugene H. Peterson
Eerdmans. Pp. 84. \$12.

gradually began to understand the power and meaning of such expressions as “the Lord is my Rock” or “put thou my tears in thy bottle.” With this key, not only did the rest of Scripture come alive for him but he found a new way of looking at and experiencing his life.

Peterson grew up in Montana, and has retired there. Its scrublands easily blend for him into biblical wildernesses. In “Egypt,” he considers how difficult Mary and Joseph must have found the period when they were forced to live in an alien culture “in rented rooms,” but also the wonder of retracing the paths trodden by Abraham, Elijah, and so many other ancestors of their people, going into exile to flee danger. “Promises / Kept in unpromising places,” the poet remarks, and suddenly we have a startling perception of God’s mysterious ways, which always do seem to take place in the most unexpected and unlooked-for venues.

Peterson's title refers to the Beatitudes, which he defines as Jesus' "ruthless and unqualified rejection of what it means to take up with the world and then [his] replacement of that understanding with a total reorientation of the imagination as we take up with the way followers of Jesus speak and act in the Kingdom of God." For "Blessed are those who mourn," which he calls "The Lucky Sad," he imagines grief as the torrents that create canyons, cutting through and exposing the layers hidden away underneath:

No pain
Is ugly in past tense. Under
The Mercy every hurt is a fossil
Link in the great chain of becoming/
Pick and shovel prayers often
Turn them up in the valley of death.

In his best work, Peterson shepherds his words and images so that whether he makes them lie down in green pastures or on the rocky desert places and gorges, they uncover fresh revelations from the Word of God that continuously shapes the Christian disciple's view of the world.

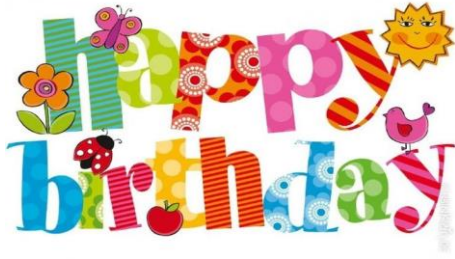
Phoebe Pettingell is a literary critic, liturgical writer and editor, and sacristan of S. Stephen's Church in Providence, Rhode Island.

May 22, 2016 • THE LIVING CHURCH

Submitted by,

Lee Grím





- 6/1 ~ **Caryn Noland**
- 6/2 ~ **Shane Mattsen** (son of Melanie & Randy)
- 6/3 ~ **Edith Jenkinson**
- 6/6 ~ **Riley Wright** (daughter of Alan & Kate, granddaughter of Georgeann & Andy)
- 6/9 ~ **Connor Weir** (son of Tara Rud & grandson of Cindy & Bruce Cassibo)
- 6/11 ~ **Erik Strand**
- 6/14 ~ **Doug Tanem**
- 6/21 ~ **Mark Grim** (son of Lee & Carol)
- 6/23 ~ **Tara Johnson** (daughter of Byrne & Carole)
- 6/24 ~ **Carly Toder** (granddaughter of Olga Reuter)
- 6/27 ~ **Jeannie Strand**
- 6/27 ~ **Jon Reuter** (son of Olga)
- 6/28 ~ **Glenn Walls** (son Bill & Karen, grandson of Donna Day)
- 6/30 ~ **Helen Fichuk**



- 6/11 ~ **Diana Russiff** (Day)
- 6/16 ~ **Laura Smith** (Menefee)



- 6/10 ~ **Dr. Sam Crossley & Jim Yount**
- 6/20 ~ **Ladd & Lucy Corrin**
- 6/22 ~ **Cindy & Bruce Cassibo**
- 6/25 ~ **Brent & Lisa Schlieff**
- 6/26 ~ **Dale & Sara Kennedy**

Spring cleaning?

Servants of Shelter is accepting donations for rummage sales to be held over the summer. Please, no clothing, appliances or large electronics, everything else will be gratefully accepted. SOS is an organization that serves the homeless in our community.

Holy Trinity Episcopal is looking for donations of small new or nearly new items for The Christmas Kid's Shop. The shop is a place where kids can experience the joy of giving by choosing gifts for their moms and dads (and grandparents if we have enough stock). They pay for the gifts by promising to do a good deed for someone else. We would also be grateful for small boxes, wrapping paper, and gift bags.

Please contact Kelly Mattsen 240-1712 to arrange drop offs or Melanie Mattsen 875-3506 if you are unable to drop off items and would like to arrange them to be picked up. Thank you for your support!

June 2016 Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities

Dates	Celebrants	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
5 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Samantha Crossley Rev. Lynn Naeckel Deacon: Lee Grim	Lee	Lee Grim Kay Herman	Gary & Carolyn Davison
12 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 4 th Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Samantha Crossley Rev. Lynn Naeckel Deacon: Melanie Mattsen	Melanie	Melanie Mattsen Tessa Walls	Donna Day Karen Walls
19 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 5 th Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Samantha Crossley Rev. Lynn Naeckel Deacon: Lee Grim	Lee	Michele Dahlin Carol Johnson	Wilbur & MaryAnn Tveit
26 Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 6 th Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Samantha Crossley Rev. Lynn Naeckel Deacon: Melanie Mattsen	Melanie	Georgeann & Andy Wright	Georgeann & Andy Wright



June 2016



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 Altar Guild
						Flossie
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.						Flossie
12	13	14 FLAG DAY	15	16	17	18 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	Ruby's Pantry Register 4:30 Dist. 5-6:30	9:30am Coffee Landing  Team/Vestry 6:00 pm				Carolyn Helen
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Altar Guild
 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	 First Day of Summer	Newsletter Deadline				Carolyn Helen
26	27	28	29	30		
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.			Messy Church 5:30 -7pm			

