

St. Peter's Parish Church

The Keys

December 2018- January 2019

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From the Interim Rector's Desk

While the rest of the world is running amok, singing Christmas carols and songs since before Halloween, the Church is on Kairos time, God's time, and it is saying—be quiet, not yet! I've had parishioners over the years question me incessantly about why we can't hang wreaths with red ribbons like others do. Or why can't we decorate since we look like the Grinch. Because it is Advent! That time of quiet reflection, but more important, that time of preparation to welcome the Lord. Something that isn't rushed. Because it's not about preparing the surroundings, it's about preparing our hearts to receive the greatest gift that God has given us. It's easy to move furniture, and dust, but to ready our hearts, to get rid of those hurts, angers, failings, that keep us from loving is so much harder and requires more time to do so.

Advent is a double preparation in that we prepare for Jesus' first coming, his birth, and look toward his second coming in power and glory. **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.** It is also the beginning of a new liturgical year: Year C and the Gospel readings mostly from Luke.

This year we will light the Advent candles by having a Church School class light a candle and lead us in a short ceremony explaining that week's candle and having an appropriate prayer. We will hear again in the Service of Advent Lessons and Carols, the marvelous works of God in Christ. And in the Christmas Pageant we will see enacted the story of his birth. At the 5 o'clock service, the Lukan narrative is read, and we will sing carols while children process the figures to the crèche on the altar. It is a story after all that most of us can recite by heart. "In those days there went out a decree..."

As we prepare to welcome our Lord, we also prepare to welcome our new Rector whenever that may be. As I said several Sundays ago, one of the ways to welcome is to ensure that our parish grounds are ready to do so. Before you move your furniture into your new house, it makes sense to paint and ready it beforehand, much less messy and how nice not to have to deal with all the covering and working around the furniture. So we will deal with all the mess now and get bids to do the parking lot, and the handicap access walk from the Parish House to the Church. Thus the new Rector can get on with the ministry and goals we have set. I deeply appreciate the Vestry's willingness to accomplish these tasks now.

It is a time of expectation and excitement, as we look to celebrate Jesus, our Lord, and to the person that He will send to continue to assist us to accomplish all that He would call us to do!

Doug †

The Rev. Dr. Doug Wigner



Advent
A Season of Hope
& Expectation

Wardens' Corner

How did Christmas get here so fast? I find myself asking this every year. When I was a child it seemed to take forever. Now it seems that the decorations are barely packed away before it is time to break them out again. I do not mean to sound as if Christmas time is a chore. It is not, at least not for me. It is actually my favorite time of the year.

One of my favorite things about this time of the year is that it provides an excellent opportunity to look back on the year, take stock of the blessings in my life, and reflect on how I can do better in those areas where I fell short. That list is unfortunately usually longer than I would like to admit.

This year I could not help but think about our church and how we have been blessed during this unique time in our life. Transitioning to a new Rector can be an extremely stressful time for a congregation. Here at St. Peter's, we have been fortunate to avoid the types of issues that can arise from such a stressful time. That says a lot about our church, and those who have given so generously of their time to ensure that all of its important ministries continue to serve both the congregation of St. Peter's and our community as a whole. We have been blessed with an Interim Rector whose familiarity with our church has provided comfort and a sense of continuity. We have also been blessed by an intelligent and dedicated Discernment Committee that has fully committed itself to approach its task of finding a new Rector in a thoughtful and prayerful manner. We could not ask more from them than that.

I could go on and on, but the limited space herein will not allow. Instead I will reiterate how blessed I believe that we are as a congregation. I know that during this Christmas season I will be thanking God for the blessings that we have, and for the bright future that I am confident lies ahead for our church in the upcoming year, and the years to come.

~ Matt Danielson, Senior Warden



St. Peter's Vestry Nominations

CLOSE

December 2, 2018

Nominations are currently being accepted for the Vestry Class of 2022.

Nomination forms are available in the Parish House foyer and in the back of the church. Forms may be submitted to the Senior Warden or to the church office. Prior to completing a form, be sure and get the person's permission before nominating them!

As a reminder, each Vestry nominee must be a member of St. Peter's Parish Church, a confirmed adult communicant (age 16+) in good standing, and "known to the Treasurer."



St. Peter's Parish Church

The Reverend Dr. Doug Wigner, *interim rector*
The Reverend Dr. S. Paul Rowles, *rector emeritus*
Joyce H. Molina, *organist and choirmaster*
Sherri W. Hardiman, *parish administrator*
Stuart R. Burnett, *clerk & treasurer*
Susan G. Sitterson, *assistant treasurer*
R. Jon Ackley, *assistant treasurer*
David A. Swynford, *verger*
Ann O. Bradshaw, *register*

The Vestry

Matt Danielson, *Senior Warden*
Linwood Gregory, *Junior Warden*

Class of 2019

Matt Danielson (557-3365)
Bill Lindsey (757-566-8132)
Abbott Woodall (932-3758)

Class of 2020

Carrie Evelyn (932-5078)
Kim Filipowicz (557-2905)
Linwood Gregory (932-4254)

Class of 2021

Kendall Hatley (932-3854)
Sheila Mitchell (932-4874)
Stuart Burnett (240-8368)

The Keys

Sherri Hardiman, *Co-Editor*
Amy O'Keefe, *Co-Editor*

Margaret Best, *Altar Guild Chair*
Catherine Stanley, *EYC Advisor*



Christian Education

Church School News

Church School is off to a bang with a total of 53 students and, unbelievably, it's time to mark your calendars for upcoming Advent events. We will hold the annual Christmas Craft Day on December 2 following the 11 am service. The cost is \$15 per family which includes pizza, beverage, and the fixings for a gingerbread house. Please save your milk carton for the base of the house. Directions for a gingerbread house and a sign-up sheet are available in the Parish House foyer.

Calling all angels, shepherds, and wise men to participate in the Church School Christmas Pageant! Practices will be December 9 and 16 at 10 am in Richardson Hall. The pageant will be held on Sunday, December 23 at 10 am.

And NEW this year, we are hoping to involve the Church School students in the 5 pm Christmas Eve family service with the procession of the crèche. More details to follow!

~ Carol Nelms, Church School Superintendent



Adult Forum

The Adult Forum will be facilitated by Bobby Nelms on the following Sundays: November 25, December 2, 9, and 16. The topic: "Advent is about learning to love the waiting." During the four weeks, the class will discuss THE MEANING IS IN THE WAITING by Paula Gooder. Books will be available on the first day of class. Hope to see you there!

~ Bobby Nelms, Adult Ed Facilitator

Congregational Care



Congregational Care Opportunities

College Students Ministry

Ann Bradshaw is asking parishioners for \$10 Starbucks gift card donations which will be sent in the exam kits for all 14 students. Gift cards may be placed in Ann Bradshaw's box in the Parish House or financial donations will be accepted too. Please list \$10 Starbucks Gift Card-College Students Ministry on the memo line of your personal check. The deadline for all donations is Sunday, December 9.

The Knitting Circle Ministry

This wonderful ministry gathers monthly to work on a variety of projects. New knitters are always welcome to join—no experience required! Contact Elizabeth Remorenko (Elizabeth.Remorenko@gmail.com) for more details.

Home Parishioners Ministry

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

~ James 5:13-15

This ministry is a very fulfilling ministry meeting the great need of the elderly and others who cannot physically attend church. Some of our parishioners are still in their own homes, while others are in nursing homes. Volunteers make home visits, place phone calls, send hand-written notes, and deliver gifts throughout the year. If there is a parishioner who would like to be added to our Home Parishioner Ministry, please contact Kim Filipowicz at kimflip8@gmail.com.

~ Kim Filipowicz, Congregational Care Vestry Representative



We Salute our Veterans

Captain Isaac Tyree, born in New Kent County in 1788, died July 3, 1858, and served his country in the War of 1812 as a Private in the 52d (Christian's) Regiment.

The Regular Army of the United States was very small prior to the War of 1812, fewer than 30,000 members. The young nation depended on local (state) militias to provide manpower in the event of war. The Virginia militia was organized by county, with each county producing one or more regiments. Each regiment typically took the name of its Commanding Officer, a Colonel. This person quite often paid for the uniforms and supplies required by "his" regiment.

Regiments were in turn organized into twenty-one brigades, and the brigades were organized into four divisions. Each state had an Adjutant-General, nominally the Commander of the State Militia when the President called it up for Federal service, much like today's National Guard. With the outbreak of war in 1812, President Madison called up the states militias, with each state satisfying a particular quota. Virginia furnished 65,354 infantry men, 8,803 cavalymen, 7,698 artillerymen, and 10,036 men in miscellaneous troops for a total of 91,891 men. Virginia did not grant bounty land or pension for military service during this war. The pension or bounty was provided by the United States.

Captain Tyree is somewhat of an enigma in that very few records can be located about his life in New Kent or his service to his country. To compound those mysteries, he is buried in an unmarked grave in St. Peter's Cemetery. But, based on what we have been able to determine, Isaac Tyree continued to serve his community after his service to his country. We located a record of the [Virginia General Assembly- House of Delegates](#) from 1846 that showed Isaac Tyree as one of the Commissioners of Schools for New Kent County. Parish and census records from that same time indicate that he was a farmer and a contributing member to his community, most likely from his ancestral home at Tyree's Plantation (1655) located on the Barhamsville Road in eastern New Kent. Our assumption is that he remained in the Virginia Militia following the War of 1812, and eventually assumed command of a local company, which would have been comprised of neighbors in a small community in New Kent County, thus attaining the rank of Captain as a Company Commander.

We give thanks for the life and service of Captain Isaac Tyree. In the next issue, we will look at the service records of another veteran from St. Peter's Parish Church. If you know any of the history or family or other information about any of our veterans and would like to contribute to this short tribute of their service, please contact Jess Fowler at (804) 898-0378 or jessfowler01@gmail.com.

~ Jess Fowler, Ministry for the Military

Outreach



Christmas Offering

This year's Christmas Offering will benefit the New Kent Christmas Mother Program and Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) for US Disaster Response, with an equal split between the two entities.

The New Kent Christmas Mother Program is managed jointly by two local LaSertoma Clubs, Bottom of the Bridge LaSertoma and Shore to Shore LaSertoma. LaSertoma, or Leaders in Service to Mankind, is a service organization which promotes friendship and fellowship among its members, and assists, sponsors, and supports philanthropic endeavors within the community and internationally. The two local clubs consist of volunteers who coordinate with others in the community to help provide food, clothes, and gifts to families. Families are interviewed and vetted by members of the two volunteer groups before being placed with a sponsoring individual, family, group or business or are sponsored via a local area Angel Tree. The New Kent Christmas Mother program is dedicated to making sure that no child in our community is without a gift to celebrate the holidays.

As Episcopalians, we are more familiar with ERD. Detailed program information about the Episcopal Relief and Development fund and how it benefits US Disaster Response may be found on their website at www.episcopalrelief.org.

The Christmas letters and offering envelopes will be mailed soon. Please be generous!

~ The Vestry



Matthew's Haven

Matthew's Haven was honored by the New Kent County School Board at their meeting on November 5 and received a certificate of appreciation for our generous contributions to the children of New Kent, most notably for our Summer Feeding program. This event held this past summer was our initial kick-off feeding program in which we served 1600 meals and 800 snacks to 40 New Kent children over a 10-week period.

Our Annual GIVE A CHILD A CHRISTMAS!

We're really excited about our annual Christmas program! The names of the children to be sponsored are currently posted in the Parish House foyer. This is where you can sign up to sponsor a child(ren) for Christmas!

In addition, Matthew's Haven gives each family a Christmas Eve box. Although each year's box is different, they usually include a Christmas movie, crafts, Santa hats, socks, etc. Any monetary donations are greatly appreciated! \$10 will purchase a movie and \$6 will purchase crafts or socks/hats. All donations are tax deductible. You may leave any monetary donations in the Matthew's Haven "mailbox" in the Parish House. All wrapped and tagged gifts are due back to the church by December 9. Thank you in advance for sponsoring a child or for any support provided.

Volunteer Opportunities: We are ALWAYS in need of volunteers to support our programs and events. Please chat with any of our volunteers: Catherine Pierce, Carolie Kay, Becky Boestfleisch, Martha Danielson, Debbie Gentry, Josephine Leggett, and Ann Bradshaw.

Amazon Smile: We know you'll be doing some of your Christmas shopping on-line. PLEASE consider making Matthew's Haven your designated charity with Amazon Smile. It's super easy and a % of your purchases will go to Matthew's Haven!

~ Catherine Pierce



The 7th Annual *Sarah's Memorial Golf Tournament* was held at the Club at Viniterra golf course on September 28 and was an overwhelming success! Again, the program exceeded all expectations by growing its endowment fund to support scholarships with the College of William & Mary and for graduating seniors in New Kent County.

Sarah passed away in November 2011 with a rare form of adrenal cancer. She was a former teacher of New Kent Middle School, an alumnus of the College of William & Mary, and a faithful member of St. Peter's. Since the program began, five scholarships have been awarded at William & Mary and over \$21,000 in scholarships have been granted to New Kent seniors, including six from St. Peter's.

Over 100 golfers participated in this year's tournament at Viniterra, along with 55+ hole sponsors, and 9 tournament sponsors. We also received numerous donations and prize offerings. The food, the fun, the friendly competition, and the prizes were truly the order of the day. So many supporters joined together for this wonderful achievement!

Unquestionably, the major reason for the continuing growth of this spectacular program rests with the efforts and prayers of the St. Peter's family. We sincerely thank everyone for their participation and look forward to seeing everyone again next year.

~ Sarah Lindsey Gupta Memorial Golf Tournament Committee



Parish Life

From the Parish Register



Baptism

Mary Grace Gillette, infant daughter of Adam & Mary Margaret Gillette; granddaughter of Bobby & Carol Nelms and Walter & Becky Gillette, November 4, 2018



8th Annual Soup Cook-off & Family Games Night



Our **Soup Cook-off & Family Games Night** will be held on Saturday, January 26. The Soup Cook-off begins at 6 pm and Games will start about 7:15 pm. The category will be your favorite soup, which can be a soup, stew, chili or chowder. Please take note that this is a different night that we've held the event in past years—we're having it Saturday night instead of Friday night.

The Soup Cook-off contest is in its 8th year. We will have a sign-up board in the Parish House foyer in early January. Please mark your calendar for this evening of good fellowship, great food, and fun games.

We will only accept the first 10 soup/chowder contestants, so please take note of this.

We are also looking for Bridge players. Two tables will be set up in one of the Church School rooms (8 players). If we have more players than expected, we'll set up a third table. All kinds of games will be played in Richardson Hall after the Soup Cook-off, such as Catch Phrase, Phase 10, Dominoes, Monopoly, Risk, Pictionary, and other card/board games. Please feel free to bring any games that you'd like to play.

Mark your calendar for this evening of good fellowship, great food, and friendly competition! If you have any questions, please call May O'Leary at 804-909-3535.

~ *The Fellowship Committee*



From the Treasurer



~ 2018 Contributions Due in Church Office or Postmarked by December 31 ~

All contributions to St. Peter's received in the CHURCH OFFICE or postmarked by December 31, 2018 will be applied toward 2018 pledges and included as 2018 contributions on your end-of-year statements for tax purposes.

Contributions received or postmarked AFTER December 31, 2018 can still be applied to complete 2018 pledges, but they will be recorded as 2019 contributions for tax purposes and will not be included on the 2018 end-of-year statements.

Likewise, pre-payments against 2019 pledges received prior to December 31, 2018 can be applied to 2019 pledges, but will be shown on your 2018 statement as a contribution for the 2018 tax year. Statements will be mailed to you by the end of January 2019. As a reminder, 2019 pledges are still being accepted!

If you have any questions about the current status of your 2018 pledge, please send an e-mail to the Treasurer at stpeters.treasurer1@gmail.com and I will be happy to run a contributions report and e-mail it back to you. This will show all your 2018 contributions and the status of your 2018 pledge.

~ *Stuart Burnett, Treasurer*



Check Out
St. Peter's "Halloween Choir"!



From the Discernment Committee

The process of finding our new Rector may seem slow and deliberate, but it is an exciting and invigorating time for our parish. It is a chance for each of us to reflect on the gifts God has given us through our beloved St. Peter's Parish Church, and more importantly, it is a time to look forward to what we can become.

The discernment process is built on three questions:

Who have we been? Who are we now? Who is God calling us to be?

Some of our long-time St. Peter's members graciously answered questions to help the discernment committee appreciate the importance of our history and legacy, the *Who we have been?* The committee spent time studying the operations and organizations that make up our church to identify *Who are we now?*

Currently, the committee is developing ideas to speak to as many parishioners as possible about what St. Peter's means to us today, and *Who is God calling us to be?* You may be given two or three questions on an index card at an upcoming service. You may be asked to participate in a listening session. A committee member may ask to attend your next commission meeting to hold a small, short focus group session. There may also be a more in-depth digital survey available for those who would like to express themselves in that format. The goal of this listening and feedback is to ultimately create a rich picture of our parish that will speak to the servant whom God has already chosen to be our Rector.

The members of the discernment committee are honored to perform this special ministry. We ask that you continue to pray for our church and for the search process by using our *Prayer of Discernment*, which is found on page 10 of this newsletter.

~ Discernment Committee: Joyce Peterson, Kent Bradshaw, Cyndi Burnett, Matt Dolci, Jessica Evelyn, Lori Janke, and David Swynford

Note of Appreciation

St. Peter's Family,

Thank you all so very much for your concerns, texts, e-mails and especially the cards you sent all the way to Germany throughout the time I was hospitalized and through my rehabilitation.

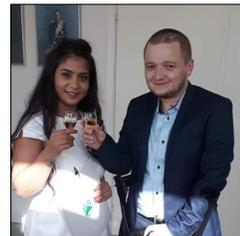
For those who might not know, I was injured in a Munich subway accident on June 24 of this year. It was silly of me to slip on the side of the walk-way but it was 5 am and I had just gotten off work and I was very tired. Unfortunately for me, a train was entering the station when I slipped. The train severed my left leg above the foot and I suffered a head injury as well as lacerations to my right foot, a vertebrae injury, and a contusion of my right lung. I spent over two months in the hospital, three weeks of which I spent in a medically-induced coma.

I was truly blessed to have the love of my life Veronica at my side throughout this time as well as her sister Camilla. My mom was there for me in June and July and my dad was there from June 27 to September 27. All four of them were there when I emerged from the coma in July. Almost from the first day in the hospital, I started receiving letters from my friends at St. Peter's and some folks at church I've not yet met, having left to join in the Army in 2012.

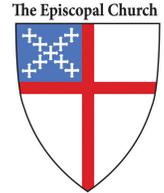
So, the good news is that I finished my first round of rehabilitation on October 24, with more to follow, and I plan to go back to work as soon as my doctor releases me. I now walk with a prosthetic foot and one crutch. I married the love of my life Veronica Manole in Aero, Denmark on October 17. On October 23, we submitted the first of four applications for Veronica to obtain a visa to the United States. It is a lengthy process. We hope to have her visa in hand by early March and move back to New Kent in late March or early April. Our plan is to live with my Dad for a while, and both of us want to work in the local area. I plan to attend Virginia College in Richmond and pursue a two-year degree in network and systems administration.

Again, so many thanks to my St. Peter's family.

~ Erich R. von Hitritz



Worship



Report on the 224th Annual Diocesan Convention ~ November 1-3

(Attended by The Rev. Dr. Doug Wigner and Allan Fabritz)

As most of you know already from the special email that was sent out, and from the diocesan magazine *Virginia Episcopalian*, Bishop Shannon Johnston has resigned in order to take an early retirement. He stated that he felt he has met his goals in accomplishing the vision he had brought to the diocese; also he has some personal and family reasons.

The Standing Committee has been searching for a candidate to be a Bishop Provisional until a new Bishop Diocesan is elected, but has not been successful yet. Comments from the floor expressed a desire of some to move ahead with the search for a new Diocesan rather than to continue looking for a Provisional. Meanwhile, Bishop Suffragan Susan Goff has full ecclesiastical authority. A resolution was passed to allow her to appoint, with the consent of the Standing Committee, an Assistant Bishop under such conditions as she determines. She has expressed plans to hold a series of meetings around the diocese to listen to our concerns and opinions on these matters regarding the leadership of the diocese.

A special fund has been established in honor of Bishop Shannon Johnston to support programs for Youth and Young Adults. *The Virginia Episcopalian* has information on contributing to the fund.

A resolution was adopted on "Way of Love" Rule of Life to move forward with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and General Convention's priorities set forth for the next three years: Evangelism, Racial Reconciliation, and Care of Creation. Bishop Curry has set forth a series of steps for each of us to do this, with the lead words: *Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, Rest.*

A resolution was adopted supporting the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh by condemning anti-Semitism, reaffirming George Washington's support for liberty of conscience, commending interfaith work, and urging attendance at local synagogue Shabbat services.

There was a presentation on the Triangle of Hope, where there has been a revival of the relationship of the Diocese of Virginia with those in Kumasi, Ghana and Liverpool, England. There are or will be exchanges of Youth Pilgrims among the three dioceses. The Rev. Andrew Merrow of St. Mary's, Arlington was re-elected to the Standing Committee. Also elected were the Rev. Barbara "Bambi" Willis of Trinity, Fredericksburg, Ashley Cameron of St. Mary's, Goochland, and Christie Thomas of St. Paul's Memorial at UVA, Charlottesville.

A reduced budget, due unfortunately to slightly lower parish contributions than expected, of \$4,935,000 was adopted.

~ *Allan Fabritz, Lay Delegate for St. Peter's Parish Church*

Christmas Decorating

This Christmas season the church will be dressed with colonial decorations of fruits and greenery. These decorations are available for purchase in memory of, in honor of, or in thanksgiving for a loved one. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church and in the Parish House foyer.

A donation of \$10 is requested. Please make your check payable to *St. Peter's Parish Church* and note *Christmas Decorations* on the memo line. The deadline to sign up is Monday, December 3. Thank you!

~ *Margaret Best, Altar Guild Chair*





Worship *continued*

Hanging of the Greens

Please join us for a **fun** time decorating St. Peter's for the Christmas season. The annual "Hanging of the Greens" will be on December 15 at 9 am. We will once again be decorating the church in the "della robbia" style with fruit and greens. This is a great time to show off your creativity. Come out have a cup of hot cocoa and get in the Christmas spirit!

If anyone has garden greenery for this project, please bring it to the church and leave it under the tower by December 15. We are looking for nandina, holly, cedar, and pine.

~ *Margaret Best, Altar Guild Chair*



Wreath Sponsorship for St. Peter's Veterans & Placement of the Wreaths

NEW this year—the Ministry for the Military will coordinate the placement of Christmas wreaths on the graves of our veterans. This will take place on December 15, which aligns with the Hanging of the Greens, beginning at 9 am. We'll have a very brief ceremony concerning the wreaths, then the "wreath crew" will decorate the cemetery while others decorate the church with fruit and greens. All are invited to attend and help place these wreaths on the graves of our veterans.

We are requesting sponsorship, at \$15 per wreath, for as many veterans' graves as you'd like to sponsor. Checks may be made payable to *St Peter's Parish Church*, with *Christmas Wreaths for Veterans* noted on the memo line. You may give your check to our Treasurer, Stuart Burnett or place it in the offering collection on Sundays.

A Music Note



Shout with joy to the Lord, lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing. *Psalm 98:5*

Will you be ready? Will you be watching? Will you be listening? Will you hear the angels sing? These are lyrics from an anthem the choir will sing during Advent. The choir started preparing for Advent and Christmas in October. We look forward to our annual Lessons & Carols service on December 9 at 11am. We hope to see you all there and share in that beautiful service that helps us "get ready" for the coming of our Savior. Jennifer Johnson joins us, playing the violin. Jennifer is a talented musician, and the violin will lift our voices in joyful singing.

We'll go caroling December 16. Look for an announcement in an upcoming *Weekly E-pistle* and bulletin. Those who participated last year can testify to the joy we felt as we visited some of our parishioners in their homes. You will be blessed in more ways than you know.



On Christmas Eve we will have the opportunity to sing some of our favorite Christmas Carols. There are two services, 5 pm and 11 pm. The early service will be filled with the joyful sounds of children and families. The late service is beautiful and, as many of our younger parishioners are tucked in bed, it is quieter.

We have a special treat at the 11 pm service. Mary Jane D'Arville will play the harp. St. Peter's is the perfect setting for the melodious sound of the harp. Don't miss this opportunity. You will be sure to remember this most special evening as we come together to worship and usher in Christmas Day.

Thank you to all of the choristers and musicians who put in many hours to prepare for our services all year long, and especially during Advent and Christmas.

~ *Joyce Molina, Organist and Choirmaster*

Remembering Those Serving Our Country
~ Near and Far ~

Chris Atkins
Edward Allen
Brandon Belcher
David Douglas
Ashton McEacharn
Annie Patterson



A Memorable Quote

Remember the words of George Washington to the Newport R.I. synagogue:

“May [every one of] the children of the stock of Abraham who dwell in this land...sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree and there shall be none to make him afraid.”

Prayer of Discernment

Eternal God, you are the good shepherd who cares for your Church and through whom all things are possible. We lay the life of our parish before you as we search for a new Rector.

Renew in our parish a sense of your love and mission, that we may serve the people around us and be guided to the priest who, as our Rector, will care for this parish and equip us for our ministries.

Guide those involved that they may listen with patience and trust to the voice of your Holy Spirit. Bring us peace to know that, in your time, your will shall be done.

Give us grace and courage to follow where you would lead, that your Name may be glorified through us as we carry out your work of reconciliation and caring for others.

We pray for your servant, now unknown to us, whom you have already chosen to be our Rector, to heed your call with joy and praise.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Amen



We Ask Your Prayers for Those in our parish family who are sick:

Rollin Rosser, Sue Caldwell, Jean Mansfield, Bob Kay, Karen Carraway, Ann Townsend Woodall, Tom Evelyn, Charlotte Ray Woodall, **and all others known and unknown.**

Steven Harrell, son of Sue Caldwell;
Mary Wilcox, friend of Miriam Ackley;
Shirley Stone, grandmother of Millie Douglas;
Minnie Brammer, mother of Lee Brammer;
Aaron Platek, cousin of Adriane Marshall;
Abbie Schaub, friend of St. Peter's;
Stella Zaja, friend of Lori Lindsey White;
Sherry Rebman, sister of Keith Wagner;
Mary Calabrese, friend of Jeff & Denise Fazio;
Gayle Ramsey, mother of Wanda Porter;
Brenda Lambert, mother of Matt Lambert;
Greg Lloyd, friend of Ann Bradshaw;
Barbara Serowich, sister of Jon Ackley;
Richard Plant, friend of Kathy & Bill Lindsey;
Elsie Ferrell, great-aunt of Chrissy Wagner;
Karen Dunn, friend of Kathy Lindsey;
David Ross, friend of Ashley & Chris Peace;
Rogers Family, friends of Kent & Ann Bradshaw;
Tori Coates, cousin of Ann Bradshaw;
Korman Butler, friend of Susan Cheyne & Lee Tyson;
Dana Watkins Spears, friend of Donna Fowler;
Molly Anne Dameron, friend of Emily Clay Evelyn & Padgette Evelyn;
Katie Badanes, sister of Amy O'Keefe;
Don Grigg, husband to cousin of Bill O'Keefe;
John Miller, friend of St. Peter's;
Steve Fuhr, brother-in-law of Steve Peterson;
Bill Baker, former parishioner;
Joe English, brother to colleague of Bobby Nelms;
Lee Gregory, cousin of Carol Nelms;
George Ferrell, great-uncle of Chrissy Wagner;
Rocket Johnson, friend of Carolie Kay;
Bruce Pollock, friend of Susan Cheyne;
Timmy Narsted, grandson of sister-in-law to Bill O'Keefe;
Julie Staub, friend of Tony & Stacey Wood;
Deborah Gibrall, friend of St. Peter's.

***Give them courage and hope
in their troubles and bring them the
joy of your salvation.***



December Birthdays

- 5 Christine Best
- 5 Jesse Fowler, Jr.
- 6 Jon Ackley
- 6 Emily Woodall
- 6 Jodie Dolci
- 7 Padgett Evelyn
- 10 Eduardo Macotto
- 10 Matthew Smolnik
- 11 Catherine Pierce
- 12 Jason Best
- 12 Lauren Ashby (Libby) Wallace
- 14 Ken Rubert
- 14 Kelly Grace Armitage Eagle
- 15 Wayne Greer
- 15 Caroline Nelms
- 16 Lori Janke
- 17 Torun Carlson
- 17 Destiny Lumpkin
- 19 Susan Sitterson
- 19 Sarah Morrow Dunn
- 20 Graham Wilson Ware
- 21 Caroline Swynford
- 23 Layla Southall Eagle
- 28 Miranda Decker
- 28 Helena Harris
- 30 Avery Kate Douglas
- 31 Alexis Frank

January Birthdays



- 1 Caroline Evelyn Belcher
- 1 Carol Johnson
- 1 JaneMarie Mae Jones
- 2 Major Mansfield
- 2 Jack Swynford
- 2 Susan Goodin
- 3 David Carmean
- 4 Elizabeth Smith Remorenko
- 5 Kathy Boschen
- 7 Miriam Ackley
- 7 Jim Harris
- 9 Emalynn Alacoque Settlemire
- 10 Norma Lewis
- 10 Ashley Pierce
- 10 Wil Miles
- 11 Bob Kay
- 12 Cathy Kelly
- 13 Willie Evelyn
- 14 Jeff Fazio
- 14 Sloane Kathryn Moore
- 15 Joseph Hartley Remorenko
- 18 Vicki Reus
- 18 Derek Gresko
- 23 Tony Lewis
- 25 Linda Holub
- 27 Nancy Kulig
- 29 Landon Matthew Gillette
- 30 Joseph Holland
- 31 Karen Carraway



Anniversary Blessings

December

- 1 Bob & Carolie Kay
- 4 Matt & Cricket Smolnik
- 6 Jeff & Denise Fazio

January

- 1 Kent & Ann Bradshaw
- 2 Brett & Adriane Marshall
- 16 Edward & Katherine Allen

Cemetery Flowers Reminder



We Episcopalians believe in "real" things, like real bread and real wine for the Eucharist. We use real flowers and real greenery to decorate the church. That part extends to the cemetery, so please remember as Advent and Christmas approach, that only real arrangements are permitted in the cemetery. Thank you.



NOTE: Beginning February 2019, the birthdays and anniversaries of St. Peter's parishioners can be found on our website at www.stpetersnewkent.org, and will no longer be included in THE KEYS. However, the list of names will continue to be included in our weekly leaflet insert. If you have any questions, please give me a call in the Church Office. Thank you!

~ Sherri Hardiman, Parish Administrator

ST. PETER'S PARISH CHURCH
Episcopal Diocese of Virginia
8400 St. Peter's Lane
New Kent, Virginia 23124-9633

Upcoming St. Peter's Events To Note

December 2018

- 2 Christmas Craft Day
- 2 Vestry Nominations CLOSE
- 3 Christmas Decorations Sign-up Deadline
- 9 HE I at 9 am; Lessons & Carols at 11 am
Reception Follows
- 9 Gifts Due for *Give a Child a Christmas*
- 15 Hanging of the Greens & Wreath Placement, 9 am
- 16 Christmas Caroling
- 17 Vestry, 6:30 pm
- 23 Christmas Pageant at 10 am; HE I at 9 & 11 am
- 24 Christmas Eve, HE I at 5 & 11 pm
Choir Meets Wednesdays at 7 pm, except 12/26

*There will be no service on Christmas Day this year
due to the Interim Rector's Schedule.*

January 2019

- 1 Church Office Closed for New Year's Day
- 4 Last Day for Submissions to February/March
THE KEYS
- 17 Garden Club in Richardson Hall, 9 am to 12 noon
- 20 Annual Meeting at 10 am, No Adult Christian Ed.
Services at 9 and 11 am
- 26 8th Annual Soup Cook-off & Family Games Night
6 pm - Cook-off; 7:15 pm - Games
- 27 Vestry Installation
- 28 Vestry, 6:30 pm
Choir Meets Wednesdays at 7 pm

February 2019

- 3 Souper Bowl of Caring at Both Services
- 10 Sweetheart Breakfast at 10 am
- 18 Church Office Closed for Presidents' Day
- 18 Vestry, 6:30 pm
Choir Meets Wednesdays at 7 pm



For a child has been born to us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

~ Isaiah 9:6