

Keynotes

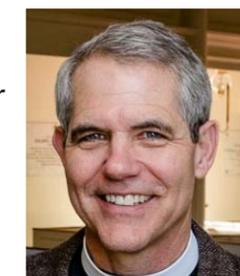
October 21, 2015



"We Thank You Lord"

"Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love."

A General Thanksgiving, BCP p. 836



Dear Friends;

A large portion of the Christian life consists of giving thanks to God. Giving thanks is much more than just me telling God "thank you" at the end of the day, or before meals. Though this is important and a vital part of our expression of gratitude to the Lord, giving thanks to God goes much deeper than our verbal expressions.

For instance, the Eucharist, our primary worship service, is an act of giving thanks to God as we remember what our Lord has done in giving his life for the salvation of the human race. In that service, we offer our lives back to God in thanksgiving by seeking to live in response to God's grace by "offering our bodies as living sacrifices" in service to our Lord.

We also express our gratitude to God and our church financially. This month we will be given the opportunity to give back to God in support of the ministry and mission of Christ through the work of St. Peter's. Our emphasis during this month of stewardship will be on understanding, from a biblical perspective, what it means to be a steward of all that God has entrusted to us. My sermons beginning on October 25 and ending on November 15 (Commitment Sunday) will primarily be teaching on four aspects of stewardship. I hope you will come.

Finally, as November draws to an end, our nation will take time to celebrate Thanksgiving Day. I am looking forward to spending it with my three children in Chicago this year. Fr. Horton will be with you the following Sunday. I am very thankful for his willingness to be the celebrant for us on that day.

There are so many things for us to be thankful for. As one of my colleagues likes to say at the close of her letters, "Blessing Abound."

Faithfully,

Fr. Jim

Musically Speaking

The two anthems sung by the choir this past Sunday were contemporary settings of much older texts. The anthem which was sung at the offertory was the ancient Gaelic Blessing (Deep peace) which has been set to music by a contemporary composer, David Barton.

Mr. Barton was born in Hampshire and currently resides in Staffordshire in the United Kingdom. He enjoys a busy schedule of teaching, accompanying and composing across the UK. He holds several diplomas for composition including one from the London College of Music. His various musical styles are often described as refreshing and sensitive. Although his setting of “Deep Peace” is not nearly as popular as John Rutter’s setting, it is lovely and useful as a general anthem throughout the year.

The anthem during the distribution was “Jesu, the very thought of thee”. This hymn, which is in our hymnal, traces to the 12th century. The original Latin text has been transcribed many times and set to various tunes. The arrangement which we sang was composed by Glen Rudolph.

Mr. Rudolph, a Pennsylvania native, resides in Pittsburgh. He has been involved in the Pittsburgh musical scene since 1977. He has been employed as tenor soloist at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral and also at Temple Rodef Shalom. He holds a graduate degree in composition from Duquesne University,

His setting of “Jesu, the very thought of thee” is very lyrical and somewhat mystical in nature. The unison anthem breaks into harmony only twice for emphasis of the text. He is better known for his composition, “Veiled in Darkness”. This piece was composed for the Pittsburgh Concert Chorale. It has become a favorite of ours during the Advent/Christmas season. We plan to sing it again this year.

As always, a hearty thank you for your interest in the music and your very kind comments for the choir. We appreciate your support more than you know. In fact, we are so appreciative we would love for you to join us in the choir! We already have a vestment for you and a seat as well! Please give serious thought to joining us .

Doug

Vestry Corner

In coming up with a list of possible new vestry members, the current members of the vestry submitted 18 names as potential nominees. No one outside the vestry submitted a name when we advertised for nominees. The outgoing vestry members serve as the nominating committee and called all 18 people on the list. Most of the people called said no. Several people said they would think about it. Several required lots of persuasion. Only one person gave us a definite yes the first time called. Most people used, “I am currently too busy to take that on.”

Is there work involved in being on the vestry? Yes, absolutely there is work involved. There is a monthly meeting – currently, 3rd Tuesdays at 5:30 PM. Our goal is to meet no longer than an hour and a half. Recently most vestry meetings have been around an hour. Vestry members are the liaison to a commission/committee that oversees some aspect of church life. What would we do if no one was willing to take the time to get involved in this ministry? Who would see that these programs function? How would our church function?

Last year as our church was going through some difficult times we had 9 candidates for 5 positions. Usually we can only find enough candidates to fill the vacancies and even that is a difficult task. Some of those asked to serve this year were very vocal about the job the vestry had done in the past, but when asked to serve now, cited being too busy.

I truly believe most people respond without seriously praying and asking the Holy Spirit, “What am I being called to do?” Obviously, someone on the vestry thought these people would make good vestry members or their names would not have been submitted.

Many of the current vestry have served numbers of terms in the past. It is time for others to step up to this important ministry in the life of our parish. I am currently finishing my 5th term as a member of the vestry and the last 2 years as Senior Warden. I am retired, but work part-time and am still extremely busy. I have seen Saint Peter’s go through much in the past 2 years. Would I serve again in the future if asked – absolutely. I love Saint Peter’s and feel most connected during times of service on the vestry.

We now have 5 candidates for 5 positions. The vestry has closed the nominations. We do not allow nominations from the floor the day of the parish meeting. This is because there is no way to determine whether someone nominated at that point meets the eligibility requirements.

I invite you to pray for our 5 nominees (which will be announced soon) and ask God what he is calling you to do. Consider saying yes in the future when asked to give your time and energy to this vital part of the life of Saint Peter’s.

Ed Hodges, Senior Warden



Position is Everything in Life

My mother used to say, sometimes jokingly, that position is everything in life. Whether she was referring to a physical stance (as in "Stand up straight, Janeta!"), or a particular station in life, or where you find yourself in the grocery store line, I believe she had a point. Your position, to paraphrase a bit, is important and can change your life.

Our Spanish Language Congregation is blessed in many ways, but most especially in the number of children we have in attendance each week. Approximately a third or more of our number on any given Sunday are children and teens. It's both an awesome opportunity and responsibility to lead worship in their midst, knowing that their formative years are being spent with me as one of their worship leaders. My position each Sunday, in the front of the chapel, allows me to share the Gospel and the message of God's love in a direct and intentional way to a population hungry for Christian community and the Good News. Our "Children's Moment" usually has 15-20 kids sitting on the floor ready to listen and learn about Jesus. They *love* to share what they know. It's a great place to be, positioned in front of eager learners.

But it gets even better than that, at least for me. When it comes time for Holy Communion, the chalice bearer and I move from the altar toward the first step in the chapel that leads up to the choir pews. It's from that location that we administer the bread and wine. It's from that location that I see mothers and fathers, some of whom do not yet take communion themselves, position the little hands of their baptized sons and daughters in preparation to receive the Body of Christ. It is from that position that I often have to bend down, sometimes quite a ways down, to share the Gifts of God with these precious children. My physical position may be hunched over and low, but the position of my heart and soul at that moment is soaring heaven-bound in gratitude and joy for the opportunity to share the Greatest Gift with the sweetest and most vulnerable among us. They are open, so open, to the love and energy flowing from the chalice & paten into their young hearts. Every Sunday I come away from that experience humbled and grateful, thanking the Lord for putting me in a position where I can be a messenger of His Grace to His children, young and old. If position is everything in life, then I have hit the jackpot! Thanks be to God and the people of St. Peter's!

I have found that to bow down in service to our Lord is to be raised up to a most high and exalted place with Him. Have you found a position in life that brings you closer to Him? Is it through service? Or intercessory prayer? Or when you share your time and talent with those in need? If you are searching, then call upon Him. He has a position that's perfect for you, and it's there simply for the asking.



The Reverend Deacon Janet Sueiro Rodman

Church Attendance

	Oct. 4	Oct. 11	Oct. 18
8 a.m. service	46	Joint service	38
10:15 a.m. service	135	120	98
Spanish language service	64	Joint service	51

Our sympathy is extended to Pam Klinger on the death of her son, Jeff Klinger.

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

We welcome the newly baptized, Henry Roberts Andrews, son of Richard & Austin Andrews.

If you haven't already done so, please sign up for our diocese's online newsletter, titled "News & Notes" and published each week. Simply visit our diocese's website at <http://www.diocese-eastcarolina.org> and follow the highlighted link titled "Sign Up For Our Newsletter."

Did you know that the Diocese of East Carolina also has a Facebook page? If you follow Facebook, please like their page to follow important messages from the Diocese.

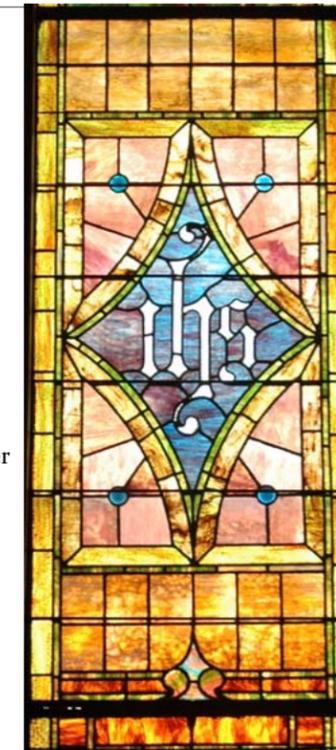
Saint Peter's Clergy & Staff

The Reverend Jim Reed Priest-in-Charge
946-8151
fr_jim@saintpetersnc.org

The Reverend Deacon Janet Sueiro Rodman
975-2214
gjrodman@yahoo.com

The Reverend Deacon Katherine Mitchell
617-721-6614
katherine@saintpetersnc.org

Doug Cutler	Organist/Choirmaster
Vincent Holliday	Sexton
Lex Mann	Treasurer
Jennifer Spivey	Parish Administrator
Susie Taylor	Day School Director



Vestry Organization (S.W.E.E.P.S.)

Service: Mary Parker Egbert
Worship: John Tate
Education: Nancy Hamblin
Evangelism:
 Hispanic Ministry: Maria Gachuz
Pastoral Care: Barbara Walker
 Parish Life: Tom Archie
Stewardship & Administration: Hodges Hackney
 Building and Grounds: Patrick Nash
 Clerk: Don Stroud

Jr. Warden: Swanson Graves
Sr. Warden: Ed Hodges



Please Pray For:



Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to thy never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that thou art doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. The Book of Common Prayer.

Please Pray for: **Phillips Babcock**-brother of Dick Babcock, **Gus Bachman**-cousin of Dill Lynch, **Bill Batchelor**-son-in-law of Dill Lynch, **Fred & Ryan Beachler**-nephews of Michael Beachler, **Pricilla Blier**-grandmother of Kristin Bradbury, **Barbara Dell Carter**-friend of Pam Hodges, **Amy Cohen-Callow**-friend of Mary & Ray Dennis, **Rev. Carl Gunn**-friend of Rudy & Mavis Burns, **Patricia Hutto**-mother of Gayle Nadel, **Cynthia Jones**-member, **Kathy Keasly**-friend of Rudy & Mavis Burns, **Norma Laughton**-friend of Sonia Privette, **George & Marjorie Maddrey**-parents of Tricia Baker, **Mark McCoy**-friend of the Holschers, **Susan McFarland**-friend of Mary & Ray Dennis, **Dr. Jimmy Moore**-Pastor at First Baptist Church (Washington), **Hilda Privette**-mother of Sonia Privette, **Wayne & Betty Privette**-uncle & aunt of Sonia Privette, **Marilyn Roth**-member, **Mark Simmons**-nephew of Betty Cochran, **Jennifer Steenbergen**-niece of Betty Cochran, **Elaine Stephenson**-sister of Tricia Baker, **Cindy Stringer**-member, **Stephanie Teal**-niece of Michael Beachler, **Sis Thornburgh**-member, **Jean Trueblood**-member, **Barbara Veasey Walker**-friend of the Hackneys, **Hallett Ward, III**-son of Ann Ward.

Prayer list requests may be made by completing a prayer card from the pew rack in church or by calling (946-8151) or emailing the church office (jennifer@saintpetersnc.org). Names will remain on the prayer list for 30 days.



ALTAR FLOWERS FOR OCTOBER

October 4. The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. A. R. Peters and Amy Peters by the family.

October 11. The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Hallet and Dora Ward, Hallet Ward, Jr. and Elizabeth Ann Ward by the family.

October 18. The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Chant and Sallie Bett Cutler, Rae Cutler and Bill and Bernice McLaughlin by Lois and Bill McLaughlin.

October 25. The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Kack and Henry Hodges by the family and in loving memory of Dorothy Hill and Brooks Jeffery by Barbara and Sam Grimes.

The holidays are rapidly approaching and I wanted to inform you of the outreach projects in which St. Peter's is involved through the Christmas season. Once again, I need lots of volunteers to complete our missions successfully. Please note the dates and deadlines; the sign up sheets will be starting to appear on the bulletin boards soon, so keep an eye out. If you are too crunched for time, but want to contribute, please make a donation to Jennifer indicating which ministry you would like to support. If you want to bring a few items for any of the following, but not make a whole package, there will be donation boxes to drop individual items. Remember, this is a good way in getting your children and grandchildren involved in giving.

November 10th-December 7th:

Salvation Army Angel Tree Program: The Angel Tree program is giving gifts to families who have applied for assistance to the Salvation Army for their Christmas program.



November 16th-23rd:

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child: Pack a shoebox for a child with toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and accessories.



December 8:

Operation Nursing Home: Create a gift package to be taken to a local nursing home. Care package list to come.



December 11th:

Toys for Tots: Unloading dropped off toys, sorting, counting and distributing toys.



December (date to be announced)

Salvation Army Kettle Bell Ringers.

Thank you for donating your time, talents and or treasures to one of these causes.

Mary Parker Egbert- Outreach

ECW MEETING

The next meeting of the ECW will be on November 4th at 9:30 in the Music Room. We are happy to announce that our speaker for November will be our own Ed Hodges who is, as we all know, a wonderful presenter! Ed's talk will be about the area formerly known as Nicholsonville which today is basically the North Market Street Historic District. He will give us the history of the area and the significant structures. Many of the homes in this area are those of current or past members of Saint Peter's. This should be of particular interest and promises that this is a program not to be missed. Please save the date and be sure to join us on the 4th at 9:30 a.m. We will look forward to seeing you there!

FALL CHURCHYARD CLEAN-UP

Saturday, October 24th - 9:00 A.M.

Rain date - October 31st

We will be raking, picking up magnolia cones, pulling weeds, and mulching. Bring your own tools. We particularly need tarps, blowers, and a few pickup trucks for trips to the dump. Meet in the Bonner St. driveway. Sign-up sheet outside Jennifer's office.

For more info call Sallie Scales at 946-9443 or E-mail scales.sallie@gmail.com. Come out and help beautify our historic churchyard.



Designated Outreach Contributions for September 2015

Rector's Discretionary Fund \$824
Episcopal Relief & Development \$214
Zion Shelter & Soup Kitchen \$190
Building Fund Principal \$522

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, November 15, 2015

Stewardship Sunday

One Worship Service at 10:15am
followed by lunch in All Saints' Hall.

(More information coming soon!)

Announcing the Transition Team Members:

Tom Archie
Betty Cochran
Nancy Hamblin
Keith Hardt
Lynn Harrington
Paul Keel
Lex Mann
Brian Miller
Allison Mordecai
Philip Ninan
Chris Padgett
Riley Roberson
Sallie Scales
Judy Van Dorp

The Transition Team was selected by your Vestry based on nominations from the congregation. We are grateful for their willingness to serve. They will be commissioned at a Sunday morning service soon.