

Keynotes

April 2020



Dear Friends,

I hope that you all had a good Easter even though we were not able to attend church in our lovely sanctuary. Fortunately, we were able to enjoy the service online. What a great job by Father Jim, Deacon Katherine, Doug and the choir! Special thanks go to Brian Miller for his work on production.

One of the many downsides of not attending the Easter service is that we were not able to visit with friends. I miss this and want to know how everyone is holding up during these troubled times. No doubt, there are friends who you miss also. Social interactions are a significant part of our St. Peter's experience.

The vestry met last Wednesday night using Zoom conferencing. During our meeting, we developed the idea of members sharing their Coronavirus experiences with others. This will be done by sending short emails to Jennifer at the church office (Jennifer@saintpetersnc.org). The emails will be reviewed and then sent to the congregation with the subject CV Reflections. The vestry will get these messages started but we hope that you will all pitch in by writing your own CV Reflections.

Ground rules:

-Try to write a brief note as if you were at the Bonner Street steps after a service. You see a friend who asks "How is it going for you?" and you tell them.

-While it's great to have positive reflections, we realize that some situations are not positive. It may be helpful for some to talk about hardships.

-It is preferred that you sign your email because friends may want to give you a call to follow up with your reflection. We encourage that. But, you don't have to sign your name.

-This is not designed to be a "Sound Off" forum where we complain, point fingers or be unkind. No politics.

-All CV Reflections will be reviewed before sending out. Those deemed inappropriate or not in the proper spirit will not be distributed. The frequency of mailings will depend on the number of reflections received.

We at St. Peter's have an opportunity to distinguish ourselves during this difficult time. We like to consider ourselves a friendly, welcoming parish that is quick to help those in need. While our outreach is restricted, it's a perfect time to strengthen our core. Share your stories with your friends and enjoy their stories. If you are touched by someone's reflection, pick up the phone and give them a call.

God's peace,
Swanson Graves, Senior Warden

Parishioners,

In this time of uncertainty, I hope you are all healthy. We have multiple doctors, PAs and RNs as members of our congregation, and their message is clear; wash your hands frequently, keep social distance and use common sense.

The vestry had to make a difficult decision regarding canceling services, but the Bishop validated our decision. Just because we are closed for “church activities,” we continue to do God’s work in many ways. The building is still being used by many persons and small groups. Jennifer, Swanson, Doug, Deacon Katherine and Jim Horton are working to begin videoing services so we can stay connected to Saint Peter’s. The search committee continues to work on the Church Profile so we will be positioned properly for our meeting with The Rev. Michael Singer on the 25th. We may have an online meeting, if necessary, but the process will continue to move forward.

Our community needs us more than ever. To work our mission, please continue to make your pledges to Saint Peter’s. Payments may be mailed (PO Box 985, Washington, NC 27889) or paid online (www.saintpetersnc.org; Online Giving Tab). Contact Jennifer if you feel safer paying via a credit card transaction over the phone. Note that church office hours may vary over the next few weeks, but you may always leave a message (252-946-8151) and it will be returned as soon as possible. You may also drop your pledge payment off at the church office, but be sure and call first to make sure a staff member is in the office. Our monies do spectacular work in this community, and this was the number 1 topic (by a long way) recognized by the transition team. Thanks be to God.

**Mike Behar
Stewardship**

**The Cursillo reunion group will meet
Sunday May 17th at 11:30am for lunch at The
Meeting Place downtown.**



Help us keep in touch with you!

Please make sure and contact the church office if you have moved, changed your phone number or have a new email address.

Send updated information to jennifer@saintpetersnc.org or call 946-8151.



Giving to Saint Peter's has never been easier!

*Automatic Credit/Debit Card Payments

*Gifts of Securities

*If you are over 70 1/2, consider directing all or a portion of your RMD from your IRA to the church. Please check with your tax advisor to see if you would benefit from using any of these options.

*Also, to make pledge payments or to give for any reason, you can do so from our website via the online giving link at www.saintpetersnc.org.

*Mail your payment to PO Box 985, Washington, NC 27889

If you need assistance with any of these options, email or call Jennifer Spivey at the church office. (946-8151, jennifer@saintpetersnc.org)

Our Financial Assistance Committee accepts requests from those in need of assistance with utilities and rent each Monday. Donations to the Rector's Discretionary Fund support these needs and are always welcome. Checks can be made payable to St. Peter's with "Discretionary Fund" in the memo line. You can also donate online via the website at www.saintpetersnc.org.

**Note: the Financial Assistance Committee has continued to help those in need during this time with the exception of Easter Monday. They are still working!



Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 8am-12:30pm & 1pm-3pm, Fri 8am-12pm

Note that church office hours vary right now, but you may always leave a message (252-946-8151) and it will be returned as soon as possible.

Saint Peter's Clergy & Staff

The Reverend Jim Horton, Priest
252-802-0216
horton.james64@gmail.com

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

The Rev. Fred Clarkson, Priest Spanish Congregation
252-940-1623
fclarkson@diocese-eastcarolina.org

Doug Cutler
Vincent Holliday
Lex Mann
Jennifer Spivey
Susie Taylor

Organist/Choirmaster
Sexton
Treasurer
Parish Administrator
Day School Director



Vestry Organization

Swanson Graves-Senior Warden
Richard Andrews-Junior Warden
Laura Bliley-Pastoral Care
Michael Behar-Stewardship
Ken Hadley-Clerk
Rachael Miller-Education
Carol Nash-Rector Search Liaison
Catherine Pfeiffer-Outreach
Katherine Tate-Parish Life



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: David Barillaro-friend of Kathie Kriss, Brandon Blount-friend of Ed & Pam Hodges, Charlotte Grace Buckner-granddaughter of Bruce & JJ Jarvah, Tom Bulla-son-in-law of Dr. Josh & Carol Tayloe, Bob Byrum-member, Hazel Caldwell-cousin of Mary Parker Liles, Charles Cantwell-friend of the Marles, Roger Carpenter-friend of Leslie Whitehurst, Patricia Coffie-daughter of Terry Young, Mike & Pat DeVivo-friends of Kathie Kriss, Camden Green-friend of Janet Bradbury, Virginia Hayes-mother of Stephanie Harris, Jay Marle-member, Helen Nicholson-sister-in-law of Katherine Mitchell, Judy Nobles-wife of Steve Nobles, Jessica O'Brien-granddaughter of Leslie Whitehurst, Verna Perry-friend of Saint Peter's, Ann Peters-member, Zoph Potts-friend of the Archies, Charlotte Reynolds-friend of Jean Sterling, Acra Samuels-daughter of Hodges & Marsha Hackney, Amy Sasnett-sister-in-law of Bonita Arvizu, Mary Satchell-friend of Ed & Pam Hodges, Mark Shippy-friend of John Thompson, Jackie Smilth-friend of Pam & Ed Hodges, Raymond Spencer-friend of Pam & Ed Hodges, David Steenbergen & Family-nephew of Bill & Betty Cochran, Pat Stouffer-friend of Nadine & Seb Barrett, Linda Strader-mother of Stacey Lynch, Gary Strang-member, Carolyn Thomas-member, Heather Van Staalduinen -friend of Ed & Pam Hodges, Piper Watkins-friend of Pat Capehart Brown, Barbara Winfield-member, Margaret Ann Woolard-friend of Betty Cochran.



Our condolences are extended to:

Henry Capogna and family on the death of his mother, Phyllis Capogna.

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

Back Pack Buddies Program Update

BPB Update: Because of the Coronavirus, food deliveries to Eastern Elementary students was halted at the end of March. We will begin again WITH GUSTO next Fall, when we are cleared to do so. All Back Pack food with an expiration date prior to September 2020 was taken to Eagles' Wings. The operations manager was very grateful to the generous parish of Saint Peter's. Thank you and God bless you.



Lost & Found

These items remain unclaimed and are located in the church office. If you wish to claim, please call the office. Otherwise, the items will be donated to the Salvation Army on May 15th.



Altar Guild Clean Up Day

All Altar Guild members (and anyone else who would like to help) are invited to clean and polish the church in preparation for Pentecost. We will have one session on Sunday afternoon, May 24, from 1pm-3pm and one session on Monday, May 25 from 9am-noon. All cleaning supplies will be provided. Hope to see you Sunday or Monday!

Thank you, Nancy Hamblin

"You are never more like Jesus than when you pray for others." (Max Lucado) We have a dedicated prayer team at Saint Peters. If you want to be "one that prays for others," please join our team. If you are in need of prayer for yourself or for someone else, you can call Laura Bliley at 252-495-3008 and know that prayer will begin in "real time." All of these requests are confidential and we are on call 24/7.

It works like this:

- a. We receive a prayer request from someone in our church to my number.
- b. A text message is sent to the team with the request.
- c. The team members respond back that they have received the request and that they will be praying.
- d. If the requesting person provides follow-up that they would like to share with the team, I will provide that.

We all know that prayer can have powerful results and to pray for others provides growth in Him.





Rotary "Delivers" Project

During the COVID-19 stay at home order, many of our citizens are unable to get the necessary supplies, food, and prescriptions that they so desperately need. The Washington Noon Rotary is here to help with "Rotary Delivers".

Drivers will deliver phoned-in and paid for orders of: groceries, restaurant orders, and medical prescriptions for homebound senior citizens, handicapped persons, or others in need who do not have transportation to pick up needed food or supplies.

- *Drivers will NOT go to a store and shop, nor transport anyone.*
- *Deliveries will be placed on the front porch or at front door.*
- *NO MONEY will be exchanged at any time. Orders MUST be paid for in advance.*

Phone Numbers to Call:

252-414-5188 ~ 252-702-7154 ~ 252-751-7796

Service available: 11am—5pm, Monday to Friday

Delivery to: Washington, Washington Park, Pamlico Plantation area, Chocowinity, and Cypress Landing area

Sponsored by:

Rotary
District 7720



Drivers Needed!

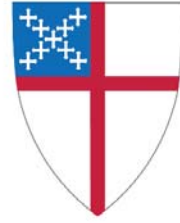


Call Bob Douglas

Project Coordinator: 530-949-1332



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA



CORONAVIRUS

Updates & Resources



Visit www.diocese-eastcarolina.org
or <https://episcopalchurch.org> for
information and links to useful websites.

THE
Episcopal
CHURCH



April 20, 2020

Meditation from Presiding Bishop Curry

The late professor Walter Wink, in one of his books, says that "History belongs to the intercessors who believe and pray a new future into being." None of us know the mystery of prayer and how it works. I don't know the intricacies of prayer's mysteries. What I do know and believe, is that prayer makes a difference. It's not a magic foot. It's not a way to... It's not a form of wish fulfillment, but it is a way of bringing our deepest needs and concerns and our very life into our consciousness and into the very presence of God.

There's an interesting story in the eighth chapter of the Book of Revelation, just a few of the verses, where you have this swirling of events happening in history and a world in chaos and the text says, "There was silence in heaven for half an hour." Walter Wink and others looking at that say that in its highly symbolic language, the Book of Revelation may be trying to tell us that even in the midst of all the chaos of the world, the prayers of God's people actually make a difference. Because if you look at that small section of the first few chapters of chapter eight in Revelation, during that silence of heaven, it says that the prayers of the saints are mingled with the incense before the throne of God and that those prayers are taken right to God. God hears our prayers. God responds in God's way and we respond.

Prayer matters. It's not magic, but it makes a difference. There's a prayer in the prayer book that I thought you might like. It's a prayer for in times of sickness, for use by the sick person, but maybe it's a prayer that can apply to us all.

This is another day, O Lord. I know not what it will bring forth, but make me ready, Lord, for whatever shall be. If I am to stand up, help me to stand bravely. If I am to sit still, help me to sit quietly. If I am to lie low, help me to do it patiently. If I am to do nothing, let me do it gallantly. Make these words more than words and give me the spirit of Jesus.

What a friend we have in Jesus. All our sins and griefs to bear. What a privilege to carry, everything to God in prayer. God love you. God bless you and may God hold you and this whole world, the entire human family and the whole of creation in those almighty hands of love.