

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Keynotes

August 2020



Dear Friends,

I am trying patiently to wait for the arrival of my second grandchild, that will be born either today or tomorrow. My impatience comes from a degree of anxiety for this yet to be born child, for my daughter, and most especially for their future in these unsure times. I do not normally think of myself as a worrier, but I must admit to an unusual degree of apprehension that is more than concerning. As I have gotten older, I have felt very secure in knowing that whatever happens God will be with me and those I love. Unfortunately, that security is being challenged just as our normal way of life and assumed beliefs are being tested.



As a child there was a very sweet piece of artwork, a hand-lettered poem with small blue birds and petite flowers painted by my grandmother hanging in my bedroom. My grandmother died from another pandemic in 1918 better known as the Spanish Flu. The poem as I know it, is paraphrased from Michael Hopkins, says:

Where there is faith
there is love,
And where there is love
there is hope.
Where there is hope.
there is God.
Where there is God
there is no fear.

These are the words that even as an adult I go back to time after time. I find them of great comfort and perhaps you will as well.

One of the things I am doing this summer is taking a couple of on-line bible study courses: *God With Us* deals with the first eight chapters of Matthew, and the other, *The Sunrise of Salvation*, looks closely at the Book of Genesis. Both courses reinforce the certainty of God's presence and love with and among us. Unfortunately, God with us does not mean that we will never have pain, sorrow, loss, or grief. God's promise is to share the burdens of these painful times so that we are may be assured we are never alone.

Doug's unexpected death has left a hole in the heart of Saint Peter's. COVID 19 prevents us from gathering as a faithful community to grieve this loss at this time, but we will certainly do so when we can safely gather to celebrate Doug's life and ministry. As you likely know, Doug's ashes are interned in the Saint Peter's Memorial Garden. Doug will always be with us now.

Please know that I hold the people of Saint Peter's in my heart and prayers while I am away, and that all may be safe.

Your friend,
Deacon Katherine

Dear Family and Friends of St. Peter's,

Sometimes, I am just amazed at the way things happen. Nine days after Doug died, St. Peter's was contacted by Sam Holt. Sam and his wife, Debbie, had recently moved from Albemarle, NC to New Bern to be close to their daughter and son-in-law. Sam said that he was looking for work as a substitute organist until he found a permanent job. He had been playing the organ at Trinity Episcopal Church in Statesville for the last thirteen years.

After visiting with Sam and Debbie at St. Peter's, we arranged for Sam to play for our on-line services so that he could get to know the choir, and they could get to know him. After two weeks, both Sam and the choir agreed that it was a good fit.

I am thrilled to announce that last night we hired Sam to be our new Music Director/Organist. It is unfortunate that we cannot have a reception for everyone to get acquainted, but we all know that can't happen right now. In the meantime, I hope you will enjoy the music during the on-line services.

Please remember that social distancing does not mean that you should sit inside and be a hermit. Call friends on the phone. Walk outside and enjoy the sunshine. Visit with neighbors at a distance. Be safe.

God's peace,
Swanson Graves, Senior Warden

I am excited to announce that Saint Peter's will also be welcoming a familiar face to the Office Staff. Catherine Partrick will be coming on board part-time beginning September 1st as Parish Secretary. She has served as an office volunteer for many years which is a huge bonus. Catherine will often be the first voice you hear when you call the church office. She will be assisting with and supporting administrative/clerical projects for all staff and clergy, as well as, helping with errands like picking up office and cleaning supplies, light bulbs, and the mail just to name a few. There's been a lot going on at St. Peter's....be sure to stay tuned to see what's next!



—Jennifer



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

Vincent Holliday	Sexton
Sam Holt	Music Director/Organist
Lex Mann	Treasurer
Catherine Partrick	Parish Secretary
Jennifer Spivey	Parish Administrator
Susie Taylor	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: Ryan Alligood-family of Heather & Ray Williams, David Barillaro-friend of Kathie Kriss, Jean Barnes, Maria Bonitez-friend of Ann Peters, Charlotte Grace Buckner-granddaughter of Bruce & JJ Jarvah, Matthew Burns-friend of Kathie Kriss, Nita & Bob Byrum-members, Charles Cantwell-friend of the Marles, Megan Carpenter-granddaughter of Leslie Whitehurst, Shirley Causby-friend of Ann Peters, Patricia Coffie-daughter of Terry Young, Dwayne Davis-nephew of Betty & Bill Cochran, Camden Green-friend of Janet Bradbury, Sam Grimes-member, The Rev. Jim Horton-friend of St. Peter's, Jay Marle-member, Kim Moulden-friend of Sharon & Rick Yakubowski, Helen Nicholson-sister-in-law of Katherine Mitchell, Zoph Potts-friend of the Archies, Angela Powers-cousin of Ann Peters, Charlotte Reynolds-friend of Jean Sterling, Phil Ryals-friend of Cathy Whichard, Acra Samuels-daughter of Hodges & Marsha Hackney, Amy Sasnett-sister-in-law of Bonita Arvizu, Mary Satchell-friend of Ed & Pam Hodges, Carol Sawyer-friend of Leslie Whitehurst, Mark Shippy-friend of John Thompson, Raymond Spencer-friend of Pam & Ed Hodges, David Steenbergen & Family-nephew of Bill & Betty Cochran, Rick Stevens-friend of Roy & Cathy Whichard, Linda Strader-mother of Stacey Lynch, Gary Strang-member, Frances Tankard-cousin of Katherine Mitchell, Carolyn Thomas-member, Heather Van Staalduinen -friend of Ed & Pam Hodges, Karen Watts-niece of Betty & Bill Cochran, Troy Whitehurst & Family-son of Leslie Whitehurst, Barbara Winfield-member, Terry Wollard-friend of Katherine Mitchell, Margaret Ann Woolard-friend of Betty Cochran.

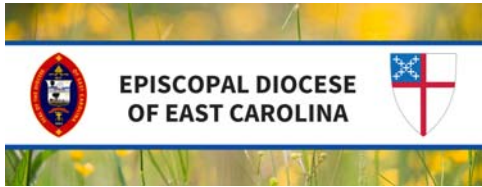
"You are never more like Jesus than when you pray for others." (Max Lucado) We have a dedicated prayer team at Saint Peters. If you want to be "one that prays for others," please join our team. If you are in need of prayer for yourself or for someone else, you can call Laura Bliley at 252-495-3008 and 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.





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

A Prayer for New Rector Search

God of patient and gentle strength, who knows our needs before we ask, may your loving presence guide us as we seek the next rector for St Peter's. Give us an open spirit, discerning hearts and clear minds, that we may trust your will for us and become ever more united in your son our Savior, Jesus Christ. Inspire our conversation, deepen our prayer, and make us a community of humility and grace. Raise up for us, we pray, a priest and pastor who will boldly proclaim your Gospel, faithfully administer your sacraments, and serve your people with love and compassion. Amen

Don't forget to keep up to date with your 2020 pledge. Balances are available by calling or emailing Jennifer at 946-8151 or jennifer@saintpetersnc.org.



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.

An Invitation to Learn More about EfM



Education for Ministry, better known as EfM, is a dynamic course of study and reflection on the entire scope of the Christian tradition from the earliest times to the present. It covers the basics of a theological education in the Old and New Testaments, church history, liturgy, and theology. During the academic year, EfM groups meet weekly in a seminar group under the guidance of a trained mentor. (We have fewer than 10 members, social distance and wear masks. When necessary we can also use Zoom for distance learning.)

Participants enroll one year at a time for this four-year program. Each fall, new members begin with a study of the Old Testament. Returning members study the New Testament in Year 2, Church History in Year 3, and Theology and Ethics in Year 4.

Did you ever wonder why there are two creation stories in the Bible? How the Bible was written or why Christians worship in so many different ways? EfM can help you find the answers to these and many more questions.

If you are interested in learning more about the church and the elements of your faith please call Jane Taylor, EfM mentor, at (252) 402-8782. I would love to talk with you about this program which has been offered here at St. Peter's Episcopal Church since 2007. We are enrolling students starting now to begin study in September.

Sack Lunch Ministry



If you are interested in providing 15 lunches for Zion Shelter visitors, please sign up on the sheet posted outside Jennifer's office. St. Peter's is responsible for the first Saturday of each month. Lunches are delivered to the shelter on the preceding Friday morning. Easy-to-follow instructions are posted as well. You may also email jennifer@saintpetersnc.org to sign up.



- 9/1 Marvin Gachuz
- 9/4 Steve Nobles
- 9/5 Maricruz Ramirez, Ian Stroud
- 9/6 Bonita Arvizu, Betty Cochran, Santiago Espinoza
- 9/8 Paola Adame, Tripp Andrews, Hank Van Dorp
- 9/9 Anna Rianhard
- 9/11 Henry Moore
- 9/12 Charlie Brown, Trish Litchfield, Susan Pendergrass, Lilly Woolard
- 9/13 Don Stroud
- 9/14 Lex Mann
- 9/15 Sally Pruden
- 9/16 Allison Mordecai
- 9/18 Mike Paul, Riley Roberson
- 9/19 Kathleen Kennedy
- 9/20 Giovanni Gachuz, Sergio Higuera
- 9/21 Lisa Capehart, Lanie Cox, Jose Lora, Eugenia Serrano
- 9/22 Reg Smith
- 9/23 Rubi Adame, Carlos Arballo, Kathie Kriss, Stephanie Williams
- 9/26 Jorge Adame, Vianey Lopez
- 9/27 Val Johnson, Eliza Lee, John Tate
- 9/28 Mitchell Blake
- 9/30 Coop Cooper