

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Keynotes

July 2020



"I'm getting them good vibes. I'm living this good life. I'm breathing on God's time, and I ain't gonna waste one breath. I'm soakin' it all up; I got me a full cupwaving them worries goodbye. I'm feeling them good vibes....."

—Good Vibes by Chris Janson

As I was getting ready to leave for work one morning recently, those lyrics were sung loudly and proudly by our 9-year old whizzing into the kitchen on a hoverboard with full widespread airplane arms and the biggest smile you've ever seen! While the grammar in the lyrics could use some work, the message is perfect!



To our kids, this time has meant more time spent at home; a slower pace for everything. For the most part, there aren't any firm schedules. Yet, there are chores to be done and neighborhood hide-and-seek and bike rides to be had. Suppers are at home; though maybe not until 8pm. Pamlico boat days are their favorite especially when Ruby (our dog) joins us. They've learned how to cook a little, clean the house, mow the grass, run the weed trimmer, wash dishes and do laundry...homeschooling at its best!

As grown-ups it's so hard to see past much of the world that surrounds us right now. Yet, through the eyes of our children, we are able to get a glimpse of the positives. We are learning that if we dig deep, we find that those positives are the lights that overcome all the darkness. Lights of love, friendship, joy, kindness, patience, compassion, goodness, humility and gratefulness are all still shining. We just have to keep our focus on them and be steadfast in our prayers.

Grateful & Blessed. These are the first two words that come to my mind when I truly reflect on COVID19 and the past 4 months. Kelly and I have a healthy family, a roof over our heads, food in the fridge and jobs. For many, this is not the case.

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I started writing this reflection on the morning of July 14, 2020....my 45th birthday (Now, you all know exactly how old I am!)...a day which I will always remember as the day my colleague, teammate and most importantly, my friend left this earth for his heavenly home. Little did I know that Doug was dancing in heaven as I was typing those lyrics at the beginning of this reflection.

I'm not much of a writer, and I'm certainly not a public speaker. Most of you know that. After all, how many times have you read an article written by me or heard me speak to a large group in my 18 years at St. Peter's? Trust me...you can count them on one hand! But, on the morning of July 14th when I sat down at my desk, there was something or someone (possibly an angel) that stirred me. It was my turn to share. Life happened and my reflection sat unfinished until today.

There are many unknowns right now: COVID₁₉, worship services, school and Dayschool, work, a Rector search, an Organist & Music Director search, and the list goes on and on. We can choose to be overwhelmed by all of those "unknowns," or we can choose to "wave those worries goodbye" and "feel those good vibes". (Go back and read those lyrics one more time.) Yes, it's easier said than done, but I'm going to try! Join me!

Love, Peace and Blessings,
Jennifer

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.



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
Lex Mann	Treasurer
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.

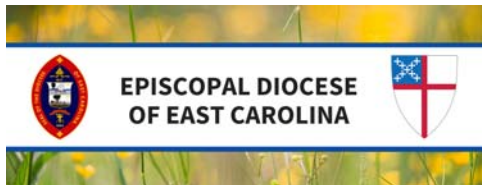
Please Pray for: Ryan Alligood-family of Heather & Ray Williams, David Barillaro-friend of Kathie Kriss, Maria Bonitez-friend of Ann Peters, Jay Bradbury-friend of Jane Taylor, Charlotte Grace Buckner-granddaughter of Bruce & JJ Jarvah, Tom Bulla-son-in-law of Dr. Josh & Carol Tayloe, Matthew Burns-friend of Kathie Kriss, Bob Byrum-member, Charles Cantwell-friend of the Marles, Betty Cochran-member, Patricia Coffie-daughter of Terry Young, Dwayne Davis-nephew of Betty & Bill Cochran, Camden Green-friend of Janet Bradbury, Sam Grimes-member, Mac Hodges-friend of Saint Peter's, Sharon Johnston-member, Jay Marle-member, Aurelio Gachuz Mejia-father of Victoria Gachuz, Cole Nicholson-great- nephew of Katherine Mitchell, Helen Nicholson-sister-in-law of Katherine Mitchell, Verna Perry-friend of Saint Peter's, 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, 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 Staaldinien -friend of Ed & Pam Hodges, Barbara Winfield-member, Terry Wollard-friend of Katherine Mitchell, Margaret Ann Woolard-friend of Betty Cochran.



Our condolences are extended to:

*Sarah Bernart & Family on the recent death of her mother, Cynthia Bernart.
Family and Friends of Douglas Cutler*

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



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



The Association of Mexicans in North Carolina, Inc. (AMEXCAN) is organizing a long sleeve shirt drive **from June 1, 2020 until July 31, 2020**. We are collecting donations of **gently used long sleeve shirts, hats, caps, and gloves**. All donations will be given to farmworkers in rural Eastern North Carolina.

Last summer, AMEXCAN hosted a similar drive and had a successful outcome. Thanks to the generous donations of the ENC community, we were able to collect hundreds of shirts and distribute them to ten different sites. During the hot summer, farmworkers work long hours in direct sunlight and endure the harmful rays of the sun. Additionally, through their work they are exposed to harsh chemicals and are susceptible to injury. Now more than ever, let's support our farmworkers!

AMEXCAN has two designated locations in Greenville to make donations. The first is inside La Tropicana Supermarket (1204 Memorial Dr. Greenville, NC 27834) where there will be a box. Our second location is at Joy Soup Kitchen (700 Albemarle St. Greenville, NC 27834) and requires scheduling a drop off by contacting (252) 367-9708 or (252) 624-6631.

Hope Line Available for NC Senior Adults from NC Baptist Aging Ministry

The NCBAM HOPE LINE (866.578.4673) is available daily, 9:00am – 9:00pm to receive calls from NC senior adults who are experiencing isolation and loneliness—because of social distancing efforts or for any other reason. **The Hope Line now also offers outbound calls.** The service is free and can be requested by calling 877.506.2226 or by emailing ncbam@bchfamily.org. A link will be sent to sign up for the “friendly call” service. Call recipients must be 65 or older and live in North Carolina. Requests can be made by individuals themselves or by a family member or caregiver. NCBAM team members and volunteers trained in evidence-based health coach techniques focus on listening and allowing callers to have a safe space to express themselves.

"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.



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.



Allen Thomas Hodges married Mary Helen Hartsock
on June 26, 2020. Allen is the son of Gray & Susan Hodges.

Congratulations!