St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Keynotes

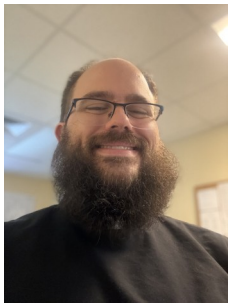
November 2026

Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina

Diocesan Convention came and went, and it was a fabulous experience. I can't say that about every convention I've been to, but this one had a fresh sense of inspiration, joy, and hope. Bishop Sarah Fisher has come into the Diocese like a fresh wind, full of a fresh wind of the Spirit, no doubt!

When we collectively discerned her to be our next bishop, I didn't imagine the kind of vitality she has injected into our common life. That engagement and inspiration were on display as she challenged everybody to make the story of Jesus real in each of our lives, parishes, and the world around us. She called us, and all Episcopalians in the Diocese, not just to believe in the story of Jesus, but to live in such a way that people around us know it's real in us, not just a book. People need to know that the power of Jesus isn't just a fable, and you are the ones to make it real!

The sense of collegiality and communal bonding was infectious, and perhaps the most irenic and light convention I've been to. That isn't to say there wasn't disagreement, as the hearings on several resolutions became a bit heated, but always respectful. On the convention floor, there was near unanimity on all voting matters, and, once again, no disrespect or contention. It was beautiful to see.



Even though we are entering into Fall and Winter, when life gets paradoxically slower and faster, and when there are no Spring flowers, we can still see this time as a reset, a new beginning. That's what Advent is: an ending and a beginning. The energy of the past vibrates elsewhere in the universe. These days, in the Diocese of East Carolina, a new melody plays, a fresh wind blows, and the vibes are good!

-Chris

Toys for Tots distribution day will be Sunday, December 13. Volunteers are needed for distribution day and welcomed to sort and bag the week of December 7-10. Please sign up at the display near the Main Street Entrance.

Much appreciation to all of you who participated in the Art Walk on the morning of November 1st. We were blessed with beautiful weather and exceptional talent! Our innovative friends treated viewers to their creativity, imagination and artistry, not to mention affording us the opportunity to take home wonderful gifts. James 1:17 affirms that all good things come from God, encouraging believers to trust in His divine guidance and respond with gratitude. Our friends' gifts are undoubtedly God-given and we are truly thankful for them and the fellowship we continually share together.



Help us spread the word!
St. Peter's Dayschool has openings in the 3 & 4 year old classes!
Call Beth Trgovic to schedule a tour.
(336) 467-8398

Donations to the Dayschool are always welcome. Checks should be made payable to St. Peter's and designated "Dayschool" in the memo line.

Just a quick note to remind everyone that if you receive a suspicious email or text from church clergy or staff asking for donations to purchase gift cards, send money to paypal, etc., please know that it is a scam. If you ever receive questionable communication which appears to be from the church or even fellow parishioners, please call the church office or contact the parishioner directly to verify BEFORE taking any action. 252-946-8151

CHURCH DIRECTORY

The church directory is **always** being updated. If you'd like a current copy, come by the office and get the latest version. Please let us know if any of your contact information has changed.

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church

BUILDING FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST
THERE IS ROOM HERE FOR YOU

Giving to Saint Peter's has never been easier!

*Automatic Credit/Debit Card Payments
*If you are 73 or older, 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 this option.
*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 or scan the QR code.
*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 Financial Assistance Fund support these needs and are always welcome. Checks can be made payable to St. Peter's with "FAP" in the memo line. You can also donate online via the website at saintpetersnc.org.





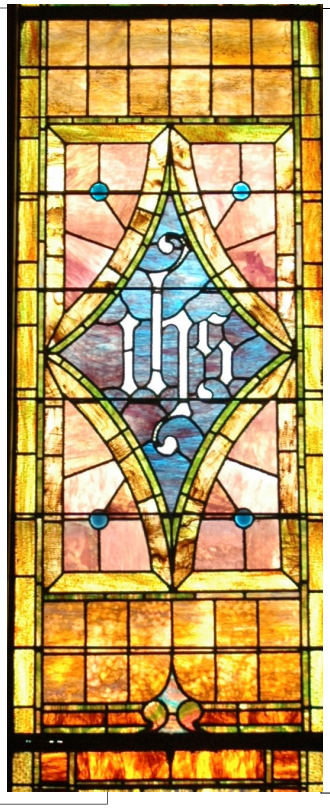
Office Hours
Mon-Thurs 8:30am-3pm
Fri 8:30am-12pm

Saint Peter's Clergy & Staff

The Very Reverend Christopher Adams, Rector
252-946-8151, chris@saintpetersnc.org

The Venerable Janet Sueiro Rodman, Archdeacon
252-943-1259, gjrodman@yahoo.com

Isabel Gomez	Sexton
Swanson Graves	Treasurer
Beth Trgovic	Day School Director
Catherine Partrick	Parish Secretary
Charles Porter	Interim Music Shepherd
Jennifer Spivey	Parish Administrator
Jane Taylor	Church Musician

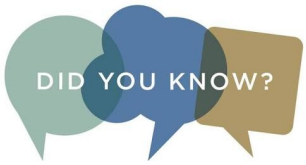


Vestry

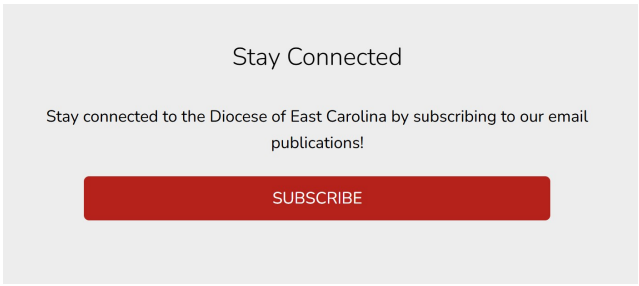
Inda Hill-Senior Warden
Patrick Nash-Junior Warden
Mike Behar
Deeanna Burleson
Jay Dixon
Emily Garner
Pat Griffin
Mark Henley
Dave Loope
Ashley Padgett
Bob Puphal-Clerk
Howard Smith



Every Wednesday at 7am and 11am the Holy Eucharist is celebrated. We reflect on the lives of significant saints in the history of the Church and are empowered by their faithful witness to the Gospel. These services are wonderful opportunities to be encouraged and strengthened in your discipleship. The 11 am service also includes anointing with holy oil and special prayers for healing as desired.



If you want to keep up with news, events, and happenings throughout the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina, visit the diocesan website and click on "**Subscribe**" at the bottom of the page to sign up for the Bishop's weekly message, *Castings*, and the diocesan newsletter, *News & Notes*. You'll receive updates on upcoming events, diocesan news, and other helpful information. Check it out!



Help Support Our Local Students!

Our local schools are in need of both spray and stick deodorant for students. This is a simple yet meaningful way to support the young people in our community and help meet an everyday need.

Donations may be placed in the collection box near the church office.





All members, past and present, are invited to join us.

Our meetings take place on the 2nd Sunday of each month following the 10am service in All Saints Hall.

Our Reunion Group meets on the 4th Tuesday at 1pm Riverwalk Coffee

Questions? Contact: Chris Chaffer 252-945-1492



12/3 Lilley Dudley, Buffa Powell

12/4 Kris Smith, Adelaide Stiles

12/5 Beth Collier

12/12 Barbara Francisco

12/13 John Hudson, Catherine Powell, Cindy Cochran, Picott Harrington

12/14 Janet Rodman

12/15 Charles Phillips

12/16 Maria Tellez Ramirez, Hunter Whitehead

12/17 Judy Young

12/20 Sandy Arballo, Steve Barnes

12/21 Claire Harrington

12/22 Finn Johnston

12/26 Jude Adams, Brad Rawls

12/27 Grace Bonner

12/29 Beth Sloan, Howard Smith

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: Family of Levi Bolton-friends of Lilly Jones. **Marilyn Bram**-friend of Kay Sharpe, **Dawn Buckman**-friend of Michelle Fuller, **Betty Cochran-**member, **Mary Ellen Creech-**friend of Stephanie Williams, **Micah-Goleman Mercer**-friend of Barbara Mercer, **Nick Fea**-nephew of Betty Cochran, **Joyce Goza-** mother of Jared Edwards**, Rita Hoggard**-cousin of Linda Weathersby**, Phil Holloman**-member, Bill **Hudson**-relative of John Hudson, **Stephen Hudson**-relative of John Hudson, **Frank Johnston, Sr**.- member, **Alice Langley-**friend of Betty & Rick Gray, **Maria Gachuz Monter-**sister of Victoria Gachuz, **Marc Ruedrich-**brother of Stephanie Williams, **Sallie Scales-**member, **David Silvia-**friend of Cursillo ministry, **Lizzie Simmons**-friend of Tommy Moore, **Mark Simmons**-nephew of Betty Cochran, **Leslie Slaymaker**-friend of Chris Chaffer, **Allison Smith-**friend of Pam & Ed Hodges, **Jennifer Steenbergen**-niece of Betty Cochran, **Fritz Tanner**-friend of Laura Bliley, **the Thigpen family-**friends of Lois & Bill McLaughlin, **Marjorie Vreeland**-friend of Linda Weathersby, **Scott Waters**-friend of Leslie Whitehurst, **Margaret Yates-**mother of Mark Yates, and **all active duty military personnel.**



Please join the Advent wreath workshop on Sunday, November 29 at 9am in ASH. This is a family event hosted by ECW. We will have candles, saucers and oasis. Please bring some greens from your yard and your clippers. Helen Dixon will provide instructions. Cost for wreath supplies is $20. Start the Advent season off right. Sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway so we can get a headcount for materials.



Volunteers are needed to provide Sunday Snacks for our growing Adult Sunday School Class and social time following the 10am service. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board by the church office if you are interested in helping out. Thank you and please come join us!

If you love babies and toddlers, please consider offering to be in the nursery from 10am-11am on Sunday mornings. To sign up, use the QR code:

Thank you!



<u>New</u> site for Wreaths Across America 2026

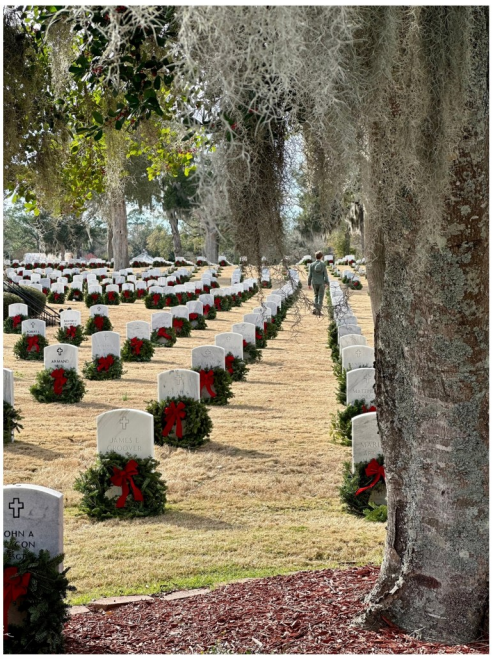
Oakdale Cemetery in Washington, NC

Approximately 1000 Veterans graves in Oakdale

Help honor all of them with a wreath!

Sponsored by

Major Reading Blount Chapter DAR



Wreath Placement

Dec 19th 12 noon

Place your order by November 20, 2026 with:

Cathy Whichard

105 Justin Drive

Washington, NC 27889

Checks made out to

"Wreaths Across America"

OR GO TO

The Link Below

or the QR Code

Sponsor a Wreath in Someone's Memory

www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/NC0322P

Sponsorship Type Price

1 Wreath $17

4 Wreaths $68

Thank you for generous support!

ECW has another successful Soup Sale!



Thank you to all the amazing cooks for providing 80 plus quarts of soup.
Thank you to our customers (and donors) who supported our sale.
Thank you to the kitchen helpers on October 25.

Because of **ALL** of you, we made $920 which will be transferred to our BackPack Buddies program.



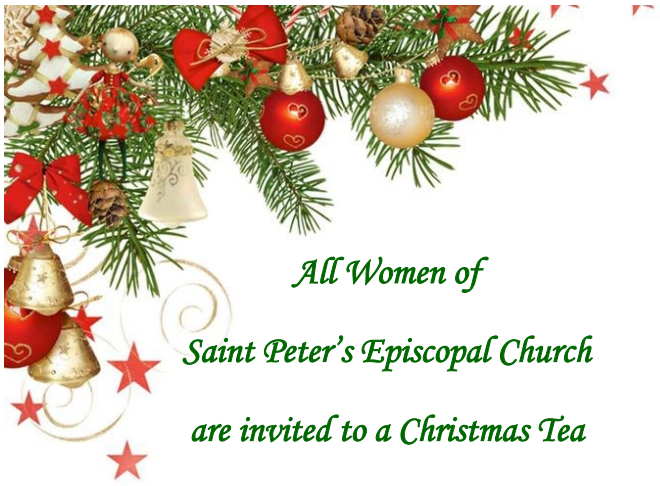
Would you like to support our active and growing Youth Group by providing a meal on Sunday evenings? Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office. Your help is much appreciated!



UPDATE ON BACK PACK BUDDIES & OPEN DOOR: St. Peter's provides nutritious weekend food to 25 Kindergartners at Washington Elementary School as well as to 9-12 children facing homelessness at Open Door Community Center. The cost of each bag of food is approximately $15 so it is a costly but vitally important ministry. If you would like to help in funding this project, please send a contribution to SPC, PO Box 985, Washington, NC 27889 and put BPB on the memo line. Every penny of your donation will go directly to food purchases. If you want to know more about this ministry, feel free to talk to one of the committee members or email communications@saintpetersnc.org.



2027 Pledge Form Reminder-Please remember to turn in your 2027 Pledge Form to the church office as soon as possible. If for some reason you have not received one or have misplaced it, please contact the church office. Also, 2026 Pledge balances are available by calling or emailing Jennifer. (946-8151 or jennifer@saintpetersnc.org)



All Women of

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church

are invited to a Christmas Tea

Wednesday

the ninth of December

at ten o'clock in the morning

Rena B. Harding Room

Guests are welcome.

Bring your favorite Christmas goodie to share!

ECW is in the process of filling board positions for 2027. There are several vacancies available, depending on your skill set and time availability . Please consider joining our Board and help shape ECW for 2027. The Board meets each month, usually the first Monday before the general meeting, but that can be changed. Positions available are President, Program Chair, Devotional Chair, and Recording Secretary. Contact me if you are interested.

Mary 919-906-3132



Christmas Honor Card Program

The very popular Christmas Honor Card Program has returned to Saint Peter's! This program provides an opportunity for Saint Peter's members to donate to one or more designated local, non-profit agencies.

For each minimum donation of $5.00, participants will receive a beautiful "honor card" featuring the chosen agency, which can be given to family members or friends as a Christmas gift. This is a convenient way to do one-stop Christmas shopping and support needy agencies in our community.

This year, our local agency options are: Marion L. Shepard Cancer Center, St. Peter's Financial Assistance Program, Back Pack Buddies Program, Eagle's Wings, St. Peter's Dayschool and Lights of Love. (All cards are available in Spanish upon request.)

Look for The Christmas Honor Card Program table in the atrium on Sundays from now until Christmas! If you want cards on a weekday, just call the church office.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to sell the honor cards on Sundays from 9am-9:45am and 11am-11:45am. Please check the schedule on the bulletin board by the church office and sign up to help if you can.

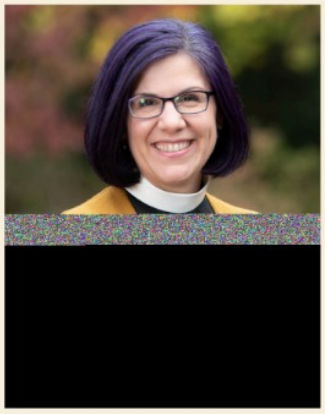
Questions?

Contact the church office at 252-946-8151 or Emily Garner at 252-933-0289 or emilygarner7888@yahoo.com

Daughters of the King

Advent Reflection Morning

The Rev'd Canon Stephanie Allen



Please join us as we begin our Advent season reflecting and preparing for the birth of Jesus. The Rev'd Canon Allen will be sharing her own reflections for the season.

DEC 5 2026

9:30 registration begins
10:00 Program
11:30 Eucharist

RENEWAL - EUCHARIST - SNACKS

Zion Episcopal Church

Day School News – November

What a wonderful month it has been for our Day School!

We began October with our mission focus on **local food box/ pantry**. The children learned about being the *hands and feet of Jesus* by sharing food with our community—an important lesson in kindness, service, and love.





We also enjoyed an exciting field trip to *The Barn*, where students learned how to feed goats, pigs, and turkeys, explored the world of pumpkins, and even rode a train.

Our Fall Party at *Pirate Park* on the waterfront was a day full of joy. The children played, enjoyed delicious snacks, fed the turtles, and gathered at the gazebo to listen to special stories read by the Brown Library librarian.





This season, our talented students created the artwork for our **Christmas Honor Cards**, bringing their creativity and heart into each piece.

We are looking forward to sharing our voices with the parish! The Day School will be singing at the **November 22nd, 10AM service**—we hope to see you there to celebrate with us.




Washington Women's Bible Study
invites you to
The Weary World REJOICES
A Christmas Worship Celebration
In the midst of a weary world, come and be refreshed by the wonder of Christmas and the good news that Christ has come!
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2026
6:00 - 7:00 PM
First Methodist Church
Washington, North Carolina
Wesley Hall
Please contact Laney Hodges (252-943-4421) for information or questions.
Come and rejoice in the hope of Christmas!

Financial Assistance Program

The Financial Assistance Program would like to share a story with you about an extraordinary woman who we were able to help recently. Let's call her "Jane." Jane needed help with a $1,000 water bill brought on by a constantly running toilet. Her cousin had given her the house so there was no landlord involved. The good news is that she did not have a rent payment each month. Jane had done her research and received help from two other churches before coming to St. Peters. She had a little over half the bill covered.

Jane is probably in her mid-forties. She has three teenagers living with her at home (ages 18, 16, 15) and one of them has a disability. She also has a daughter outside the home who has 4 children (ages 5, 4, 3 and a newborn). Jane earns about $1,000 from her home health job and receives $800 in food stamps. She was granted guardianship over the daughter's 3 oldest children who now live with her, one of whom is autistic. Jane receives no child support or help of any kind for any of these 6 children.

Jane was so proud to share with the committee her plans to attend BCCC to pursue a degree in early childhood education. She only has 3 more classes to go and she will be inducted into the honor society!

If all this was not enough "on her plate," Jane and her sister share responsibility for their mother who is in the throes of dementia.

All of us on the FAP committee present were in awe of all Jane does with a smile on her face. We gave her a check to help with the water bill as well as a resource sheet listing other places that might help her. She was glad to learn about the Ripe for Revival food truck and Miracle Meals. We suggested she visit Bishop Jones' Share Shop to see if he could help locate a toilet for her house serving 7 people. What a privilege and pleasure it was to help someone in need; one who is doing so much to help herself and her family.

Thank you for your contributions to the Financial Assistance Program. Remember that all the funds we distribute come directly from the congregation. We usually see 5-8 people a week. Please know that your generosity is making a difference in our neighbors' lives.

ECW mailed 1,522 stamps in early October. We already have 681 stamps toward our next mailing! As of the end of September, Alliance Stamp Ministry has raised $26,000 this year. Thank you to all who support this global outreach project of ECW. The holiday season is a great time for saving stamps! Please remember to leave 1/2-1/4" border around the stamps. The stamp box is on the table outside the library.

