

Keynotes

February 2026

With Ash Wednesday here and Lent upon us, we make our sojourn into the desert. Into the desert, where food is scarce and water disappears as the morning dew plays victim to the Sun. The desert is a harsh place. It's a place where becoming lost means a death sentence. To find oneself exiled in a desert is a cruel and unusual torment.

We have been exiled into a desert, and we move through a season of repentance as we journey to the cross and the empty tomb. This doesn't have to be a death sentence. Just as the Israelites wandered for 40 years in the desert but ultimately found new life, so too will we find new life on the other side of Lent. Even though the dry sand of the desert feels oppressive and inescapable, we will find new life. We will find hope amidst the ruins, streams of water bubbling up from dry sand, plenty to feast upon as we take this time of growth and transformation seriously.

Being in the desert means experiencing deprivation. You struggle just to have enough, just to get by. But it teaches you to appreciate what you do have. A tiny stream of water that might otherwise be ignored here becomes a river of life worth writing songs about. And when crops grow enough to eat after finding a way to let the smallest bits of water penetrate the cracked mud... when that happens, it feels like anything is possible, and it reminds us that no victory is too small to celebrate.

This Lent, ask for a desert experience of your own. Seek a time of drying out and self-reflection so that when Easter comes, and the dam of grace is opened, you can truly savor the water of life.

-Chris





Lent begins soon, marking a period of reflection, prayer, and preparation for Easter. This year, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. We will have Holy Eucharist and the Imposition of Ashes in the Chapel at 7am, 12pm, and 7pm. Join us as we gather to acknowledge our shared humanity, seek spiritual renewal, and embark on the 40-day Lenten journey together.



Church family! Let us come together to feast on pancakes and sausage on Tuesday, February 17 at 6:00 p.m. in All Saints' Hall. Please invite friends to fellowship with us as we prepare to enter Lent, a time of self-reflection, increased prayer, repentance and fasting.

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



The church directory is **always** being updated. If you'd like a current copy, come by the office and get the latest version.



Giving to Saint Peter's has never been easier!

*Automatic Credit/Debit Card Payments

*If you are 73, 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 Reverend Dr. Katherine Mitchell,
Associate Rector
617-721-6614, katherine@saintpetersnc.org

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

Victoria Brown, Seminarian
252-714-5974, vbrown4633@gmail.com

Ann Behar	Treasurer
Isabel Gomez	Sexton
Missy Parker	Day School Director
Catherine Partrick	Parish Secretary
Charles Porter	Interim Music Shepherd
Jennifer Spivey	Parish Administrator
Jane Taylor	Church Musician



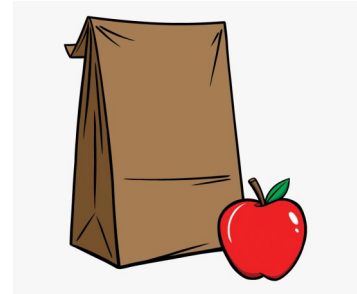
Vestry

Mike Behar
Deeanna Burluson
Emily Garner
Pat Griffin
Mark Henley
Inda Hill
Jason Jacques
Dave Loope
Patrick Nash
Ashley Padgett
Bob Puphal
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.

Zion Sack Lunch Ministry – Lunches for Zion patrons may now be delivered to 328 N. Market Street, beside “House of Styles” barber shop. You may park behind it and someone will assist you. A revised list of guidelines is available on the bulletin board beside Jennifer’s office. Thank you for your participation!



USHERS NEEDED



Please prayerfully consider being an usher for Saint Peter’s; a much appreciated and fulfilling calling! Duties include greeting and directing members and visitors, assisting with seating, collecting offerings, and providing assistance to those in need. If this is something that interests you, please contact Hank Van Dorp at (252)214-



If you are interested in becoming a Layreader, please call the church office at 252-946-8151. Your service would be appreciated.



We are looking for new members, past and present, to join us.

Our meetings are on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 4:30pm in the Library.

Questions?

Contact: Chris Chaffer 252-945-1492



3/3 Nancy Hamblin

3/5 Fred Scales

3/6 Brennan Tolliver

3/7 Jose Adame, M.J. Peters

3/8 Janet Cutler, Charles Porter

3/9 Maribel Edwards, Thomas Moore, Pastor Ramirez

3/10 Scott Harris, Sharon Whitehurst

3/11 Frank Johnston, Lilly Jones, Charlene Loope, Zack Pagnani,
Mark Yates

3/12 Henry Capogna, Betsy Johnston, Tommy Moore

3/13 Janeth Madero

3/15 Cutler Lee, Megan Smith, Lisa Strang

3/16 Frank Johnston, Pam Klinger

3/17 Jared Edwards

3/18 Phil Holloman

3/20 Angelee Higuera

3/21 Chris Chaffer

3/22 Richard Andrews, Clay Carter, Jane Griffin

3/23 Marcia Griffin, Monica St. Onge

3/25 Mary Katheryn Monath, Loren Mumford, Gary Strang

3/26 Sergio Ramirez

3/27 Yahir Resendiz

3/29 Robin Skillen

3/31 Mary Scott Sheppard



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: Jane Griffin-member, Timmie Hodges-friend of Fred Holscher, Diane Igoe-friend of Janet Bradbury, David Ingles-member, Johnny Jernigan-brother-in-law of Jean Sterling, David Ward Jones-brother of Ashley Padgett, Lex Mann-member, Carlos Martinez-friend of Michelle & Brian Fuller, Ann Peters-member, Bill Rianhard-member, Mark Rocchio-friend of Michelle & Brian Fuller, Allison Smith-friend of Pam & Ed Hodges, Jennifer Spruill-friend of Laura Bliley, Jennifer Steenbergen-niece of Betty Cochran, Marjorie Vreeland-friend of Linda Weathersby.

We hope to have some very “Noisy Buckets” at both services on Sunday, February 22nd. **We encourage children to come and help** round up funds for Back Pack Buddies. Buckets will be passed around the congregation so please come prepared and bring any loose change you might have in forgotten purses, pockets, bureau drawers, etc.!! All proceeds will go towards feeding our small friends who appreciate it mightily!!



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!

Build it and they will come! We are planning to resume nursery services and hoping the little ones will come. The nursery is set up so we now need a volunteer group to care for the children. If you love babies and toddlers, please consider offering to be in the nursery from 10-11 am Sunday mornings. Hoping for once in 6 weeks rotation. Email me if you'd like to join this special ministry – vandorp@suddenlink.net.





Due to the weather we had to cancel our general ECW meeting on February 4. Don't worry , we will meet on March 4 and our speaker Terri Johnson, from Open Door Women's Shelter will be able to speak to us on that date. The new addition is open and she will talk about that exciting new space. Remember to bring in supplies on their "wish list" so we can shower her with needs for the shelter. Place them in the bin in the hallway, or bring them to the meeting.

Items requested are:

Bounce dryer sheets, mesh laundry bags, Lysol all purpose cleaner, ream of copy/printer paper bright white, 3 x 3 post-it notes, laundry detergent sheets.

Evening in Parish

The Evening in Parish Committee is working to make our April 17 fundraiser a big success. There are many ways you can join in the fun. There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board with committees that need help. Please consider offering your time and talent to one of these. In addition to fundraising, this event is an opportunity for the parish to work and have fun together. Maybe you haven't been involved in the past, particularly if you are new to St. Peter's ... here's your chance, no matter your skill level. There will be delicious food, music by "JD and Clay", time for conversation and of course opportunities to purchase amazing auction items. You will receive your invitation in March. Plan to attend and bring a friend. This will be a fun way to introduce new folks to St. Peter's.

We are also looking for exciting, desirable items for our auction. Do you have a skill to share, perhaps a second home to offer for a weekend, are you a great cook or love entertaining, can you provide services from local merchants, are you an artist? There will be a sign-up sheet for auction donations on the bulletin board by the church office.

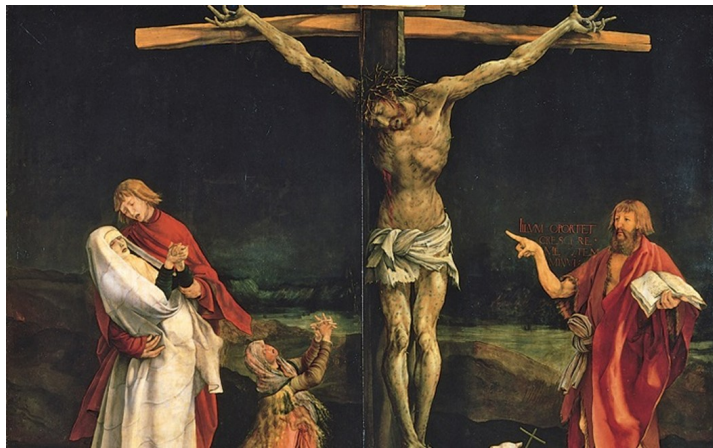
If you have questions, contact Mary Currin 919-906-3132.



"The Gospel of Mark: Suffering Messiah, Confused Disciples, Strong Women, and Confounding Ending"

The shortest and oldest of the four New Testament gospels, Mark's story about a Jesus sorely misunderstood by his closest disciples has captured the imagination of readers across the centuries. Lacking a birth story, resurrection appearances, and celebrations of power common to Matthew's and Luke's gospels, Mark tells a story laser-focused on suffering, service, and the inevitability of the cross. What prompted this portrait of Jesus? What do we know about the historical time and place of its author and first hearers? How does the story artfully engage its readers? Above all, what are the theological and ethical questions such a story poses?

Gary Phillips will lead a conversation about the Gospel of Mark. Over a 7-week period, the class will read the gospel and reflect on its historical origin, literary features, and interpretive importance for readers today. We hope you'll plan to join us on Sundays in All Saints' Hall at 9am.



A new **fiber arts group** has begun here at St. Peter's. Our first project is a crocheted tapestry recognizing the many folks in Beaufort County who are homeless. Our first get-together was lots of fun. We hope more of you will join us as we will be meeting every Sunday from 4pm-5pm in the Woolard Meeting Room. All are welcome; those who want to learn how to crochet or knit, as well as seasoned artists! More information can be found on Julia Concha's Facebook & Twitter sites "Love our Neighbors, Washington, NC" or you may call Nancy Hamblin at 252-944-6809.

"Community is a body of people crying for one another, working together for a common cause, enjoying and overlooking (or grimly, tolerating) each other's foibles; it's a rough and beautiful quilt sewn of patches that don't seem to go together at all, and then they do."

Anne Lamott



Keeping the Faith-Our focus is to determine what our faith calls us to do as the body of Christ in our current times to heal divisions and to support each other as a group. All are welcome. The next meeting will be Monday, February 23rd at 6:30m in the Woolard Meeting Room.



As we journey through Lent, we are hosting Lenten Lunches on Wednesdays from 12pm-1pm in All Saints Hall. We will gather for a simple meal of soup and sandwiches, accompanied by brief reflections and worship. This midday respite offers a chance to pause, nourish body and soul, and connect with others in our community. All are welcome to attend and participate in this meaningful tradition. Join us on Wednesdays February 25-March 25.

Daughters of the King
Lenten Reflection Day

Saturday, February 21, 2026

9:30 Registration

10-12 Program

Zion Episcopal Church

Washington, NC

We will welcome and hear from
Reverend Anne Dale

Associate Rector
Christ Church, Elizabeth City, NC

Please join us!
Refreshments and fellowship



The
Order
of the
Daughters
of the King

