

Keynotes

January 2026

You are beautiful. You are holy. You are good. You are the very desire of Jesus Christ. You please him with your very being. This is who you are, in every waking or sleeping moment. There is nothing that can steal this from you—this identity, this mark of divine love!

The world keeps shaking us, testing us. There's pain, frustration, and anger. There's confusion. There's anguish and agony.

But even all of this cannot take away who you are! The sharpest pain and the darkest nights cannot steal the goodness and the absolute BEAUTY that dwell within. Such is the gift of God in Christ: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church has been called by God to be an oasis of love, a refuge in a desert, an oasis that welcomes everyone to drink deeply from the well of grace. All are welcome to take the nourishing fruit from the branches of this tree, knowing that we are rooted in Jesus Christ, and when people feast here, they feast on his goodness.

Tensions abound in the world. Tensions abound within our community. Tensions abound within our own hearts. It's a time of chaos in the world. But it doesn't have to be chaos here. It doesn't have to be chaos within your heart. Dwell each morning on your beauty, on the gift of God's grace given to you that has made you whole and beautiful in a brand new way that you could never have expected.

Let this be your guide. Let the peace of Christ be your anchor during the storm. Focus on his goodness. Focus on your own goodness. Focus on the goodness of your neighbor. This is what the world needs.

-Chris





THANK YOU to everyone who helped with Toys for Tots!
658 Children were served this year.



The ECW soup sale in October was so successful we have decided to repeat it with a twist. On Sunday January 25 we will host a chili and cornbread sale!!.... just in time for the Super Bowl. We will sell the chili for \$10.00 and cornbread for \$5.00 at the 9:00 Sunday school hour. Remember we sold out early last October so don't be late.

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
Missy Parker	Day School Director
Catherine Partrick	Parish Secretary
Charles Porter	Interim Music Shepherd
Jennifer Spivey	Parish Administrator
Jane Taylor	Church Musician



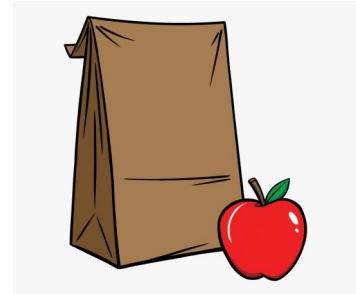
Vestry

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.

Questions?

Contact: Jason Jacques 678-596-5141

Brennan Tolliver 404-602-2417

Chris Chaffer 252-945-1492

1st Friday @ 4pm Riverwalk Coffee Shop

3rd Friday @ 4pm in ASH (Dinner follows)



2/1 Ulises Correa, Forest Sidbury

2/2 Jeniffer Roman

2/4 Suzie Harrington

2/5 Stephanie Harris, Fred Holscher

2/7 Mary Parker Liles, Maria Ramirez

2/9 Judy Ingles

2/12 John Thompson

2/13 Andrea Madero

2/14 Pat Griffin

2/15 Franny Johnson, Grace Paszt

2/16 Cathy Capogna, Jamie Chavez, Julian Flores, Elizabeth Matthews,
Ann Peters

2/17 Sara Bentzel, Mauro Tellez

2/18 Gil Alfonso, Mandy Monath

2/19 Crystal Hardt

2/20 Dave Loope, Meredith Rawls

2/22 Tamara Clark, Edward Harding, Cathy Waters

2/24 Verna Motteler, Ingrid Serrano

2/25 Barbara Grimes

2/29 Aynn Stowell-Hadley



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: Manuel Solano Adriano-friend of St. Peter's, Lorrie Basnight-friend of Michelle & Brian Fuller, Keith Beavers-friend of the Nash family, 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, Dave Loope-member, Lex Mann-member, Carlos Martinez-friend of Michelle & Brian Fuller, Ellen McCotter-member, Ann Peters-member, Bill Rianhard-member, Mark Rocchio-friend of Michelle & Brian Fuller, Scott Seiden-friend of Michelle & Brian Fuller, Allison Smith-friend of Pam & Ed Hodges, Jennifer Steenbergen-niece of Betty Cochran, Marjorie Vreeland-friend of Linda Weathersby.

Our condolences are extended to the family & friends of Joffre Fisher.

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



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.





The ECW is happy to announce that Terri Johnson, from the Open Door Women's Shelter, will be our guest speaker at the February 4 general meeting. Join us at 10am in the music suite for refreshments, prayer, and fellowship. We want to "shower" her with gifts for the newly completed expansion. If you are able, bring any of the following items to the meeting or place in the basket outside of Jennifer's office: Ream of copy/printer paper (92 bright white), laundry detergent sheets, Bounce dryer sheets, mesh drawstring laundry bag, Lysol all-purpose cleaner, 3" x 3" pad of post-it notes.



On Sunday, February 1st, Maribel Edwards and Adelaide & Cordelia Stiles will be selling Girl Scout cookies in the atrium after the 8am service and 10am service. The girls are church members and a part of Troop 4533 which meets here at Saint Peter's. They appreciate your support!

Thank you for supporting the 2025 Christmas Honor Card program. Every penny of the \$2820 raised went directly to these designated causes.

Back Pack Buddies: \$740

Eagle's Wings: \$495

Financial Assistance Program: \$720

Marion Shepard Cancer Center: \$195

Open Door Community Center: \$235

Zion Shelter & Soup Kitchen: \$135

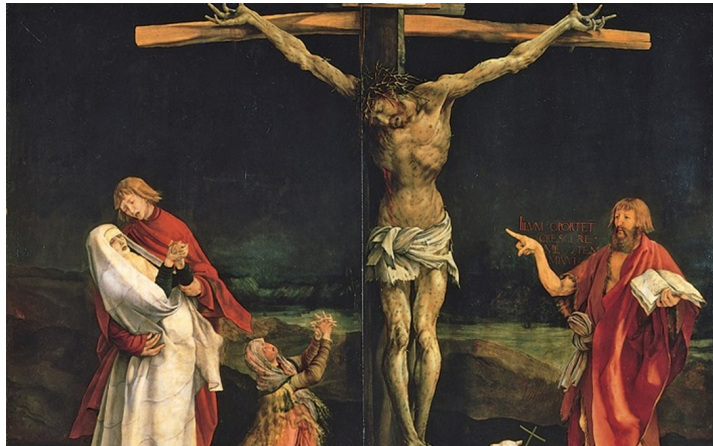
Lights of Love: \$300



"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?

Beginning Sunday, January 25, 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





SPRING FUNDRAISER



ECW is excited about hosting our spring fundraiser on Friday, April 17. This is instead of the Attic Sale we have held in the past. The social gathering in ASH will be from 5:30-8:00. There will be delicious finger foods, beverages, (alcoholic and nonalcoholic options), music, silent and loud auctions and time for social interactions among all members of our parish and invited guests.

As this is a fundraiser to support the Outreach ministries of ECW we will charge for the event as well as solicit donations from those who cannot attend. Look for your invitation in March. In addition there will be auction items collected from our parish and the community. Please think about donating your time or talent to this event. We will have sign-up sheets on the bulletin board so you can see what committees need your help.

Our committee is looking for auction items such as vacation houses for a weekend or week, restaurant gift cards, lunch, dinner parties, tickets to sporting events, services such as legal help, technology assistance, carpentry work, landscaping, fishing or golf trips, artwork, food items, and more (be creative). These can be from local merchants or members of the parish. Contact Mary Currin 919-906-3132 or Becky Furr 704-507-6176 for more information.



Winter Potluck Dinner

St. Peter's Vestry has revived an old favorite - potluck dinners - and the summer and fall events had such great turn-outs! Our Winter Potluck is set for Thursday, January 22nd at 6:00 p.m. in All Saints Hall. This event's special treat will be a brief talk by our own David Loope, President of Beaufort County Community College. He'll share with us the unique role that community colleges play in our communities and American society as a whole.

Emergency Warming Station Update & Pending Winter Weather



We appreciate our community's care and concern for those in our community who need assistance during hard times, especially during weather emergencies.

Your kind words and offers of assistance to Zion Shelter & Kitchen over the past week mean a lot to their leadership and to our church. As many of you know, last week's warming station in our parish hall to a few neighbors in need was a temporary solution.

With a more severe and likely winter weather prediction for this coming weekend, our church leadership met to discuss ways to help Zion's guests in the interim until further discernment and discussion can take place regarding warming stations in our community. St. Peter's is blessed with a special fund for situations such as this, and our leadership team voted last night to help Zion pay for temporary housing in hotels over the weekend. But we cannot do it alone.

Friends in our community and church parish, we don't yet know the extent of the severe weather headed our way, nor how many of our neighbors will need help. However, the potential for this need to go beyond what St. Peter's can assist with is high. We ask that you consider making a donation to Zion Shelter & Kitchen if you are able and willing to contribute to this temporary solution. Donations can be made online via the church website at www.saintpetersnc.org or by check payable to St. Peter's. Be sure to designate the Zion Shelter in the memo line.

Cheers,
Emily Garner
Vestry Member