

Keynotes

May 2024



The Season after Pentecost is not a very exciting one. It's not like Easter or Christmas, where there's celebration galore, fancy clothes, and feasts of fine food and wine. But that doesn't make it less important. One of the hallmarks of this season is how long it is, which means we have a lot of time to explore what regular, day-to-day Christian discipleship looks like. For a lot of reasons, people associate the Season after Pentecost with growth, like plants shooting up towards the sun. It's a season in which we bask in the goodness of God and grow towards God's love and justice. Like plants soaking in the nutrients from the sun, we are made alive by Jesus Christ, and we are called to radiate that beauty wherever we are planted. We don't have any big feast days to look forward to, and we don't have any pageants or midnight vigils planned for the next several months. But that's OK. Life in Christ isn't always about flash and beauty. Sometimes it's just about slow and steady growth.

-Chris



With our beautiful, old facility there are always small projects and needed repairs. We're also blessed with talented folks. If you're willing to help on occasion, please let us know how you'd be willing to help. Reach out to me, and when something comes up, I'll get in touch. Thanks in advance!



John Thompson 252-947-0497 johnsabertjr@gmail.com
Jr. Warden

CHILDREN'S
Sunday School

Meets at 11:15am
Upstairs in the Youth Room

Please prayerfully consider being an usher for St. Peter's Church; 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 call Hank Van Dorp at (252)214-8141.



The **Blessing Box** needs fruits, vegetables, canned meats, and ready to eat meals. Please look for the cans/containers with pull rings/pull top lids for convenience. Bottled waters and juices are also appreciated. Thank you for your generosity!

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





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 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 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
252-943-1259, gjrodman@yahoo.com

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

Nell Anderson	Sexton
Ann Behar	Treasurer
Missy Parker	Day School Director
Catherine Partrick	Parish Secretary
Jennifer Spivey	Parish Administrator



Vestry

Judy Van Dorp-Senior Warden

John Thompson-Junior Warden

Mike Behar-Stewardship

Sarah Bernart-Communications

Cathy Capogna-Outreach

Joffre Fisher-Pastoral Care

Susan Hodges-Parish Life

Jason Jacques-Newcomers

Roberto Jimenez-Spanish Language Liaison

Dave Loope-Community Connections

Ashley Padgett-Clerk



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: Tracie Bowen-friend of Pam & Ed Hodges, Chris Burnett-friend of Bernice Marle, Tim Cashion-friend of Pam & Ed Hodges, Terry Cutts-friend of Joffre Fisher, Martha Davis-sister of Betty Cochran, Jesse Dixon-friend of Sharon Johnston, JoAnn & Allen Dean Foster-friends of Joffre Fisher, Ruby Fulford-friend of Cindy & William Cochran, Kristie Hadley-daughter of Aynn & Ken Hadley, Margaret Harris-friend of Joffre Fisher, Bill Jefferson-friend of St. Peter's, Christine LeCompte-friend of Pam & Ed Hodges, Hunter Moore-friend of Nita & Steven Lee, Muriel Moore-friend of St. Peter's, Tom Payne-member, Debra Sebastian-friend of Linda Weathersby, Beth Szymeczek-daughter of Dr. Josh & Carol Tayloe, Jennifer Steenbergen-niece of Betty Cochran, Peggy Woolard-cousin of Joffre Fisher.

"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 Roxanne Holloman at 252-944-4951 and know that prayer will begin in "real time." All of these requests are confidential and we are on call 24/7.



Our condolences are extended to:

The family and friends of William (Bill) Ira Cochran, Jr.

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



Feeling left out during the offering since you didn't bring cash? Never fear! Simply scan this code with your smartphone and you can donate safely and securely through our Online Giving platform.

Stamp Ministry – ECW recently mailed 2,149 stamps to the Alliance Stamp Ministry. As of the end of April, they have raised \$9,000 in 2024! Since the stamp ministry began in 1972, they have raised \$1,191,300.00. All the money raised goes to support the printing of Spanish Christian literature that is used in Sunday schools in 19 different Spanish speaking countries. Thank you to those who faithfully drop stamps in the box on the table beside the Library door. Please consider joining our group of stamp collectors! Every single stamp counts. Remember to leave ¼ to 1/3 inch border around the stamp. Stamps with smaller borders sell for less.



thank you

A BIG THANK YOU to our new Chapel Garden Team! Under the leadership of Brennan Tolliver and Mary Kathryn McGahey, a team has been formed to lovingly care for our Chapel Garden. This hard-working crew has been planting herbs, weeding, and fertilizing and the garden is in tip top shape. We sincerely appreciate Patti Graves, Martha Larkin, Kathleen Couch, Lourdes Williamson, Lisa Godwin, Brennan and Mary Kathryn for their dedication to this special ministry! Also remember the Chapel Garden Fund can always use your support. (It is time to purchase a new bench and upgrade the irrigation system.)

Calling All Artists

St. Peter's ECW wants to print new notecards as our current inventory is very low. We are asking members of our parish for submissions that can be reprinted on notecards. Images can be photos, watercolors, acrylics or whatever medium you desire. The images can be of the church grounds, gardens, cemetery, or building. We can reduce the size to fit our 4 1/4 x 5 1/2 format. You will receive credit for your original artwork. Deadline for submission is August 1, 2024. Your submissions will be reviewed by the ECW Board and artwork will be chosen and reproduced in time for Fall purchases. As you pick your subject, remember these cards will be great for parishioner's notes as well as for gifts. Questions? Contact Mary Currin me2currin@aol.com 919-906-3132.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 6/1 Bryant Gachuz, Shelby Harris
- 6/2 Jazmin Tellez
- 6/3 Luna Espinoza, Alex Lora
- 6/5 Gissel Higuera, Bodie Johnston, Marcus Jones
- 6/6 Ryan Tavera, Carol Tayloe
- 6/7 Sarah Bernart, Julia Concha, Dave Waite
- 6/8 Mary Todd MacKenzie
- 6/9 Susan Dawson, Peggy Hudson, Hannah Whichard
- 6/11 Barbara Smith
- 6/12 Bettye Christian
- 6/13 Diane Furlough
- 6/14 Macon Lee, Allan Tellez
- 6/15 Peter Robinson
- 6/16 Aurelia Gachuz
- 6/17 Kitty Carter
- 6/19 Joy Rodman
- 6/21 Frank Stallings
- 6/22 Betty Gray, Yannilenne Tellez
- 6/24 Lind Graves, Dick Leach
- 6/25 E.J. Paszt
- 6/26 Sallie Scales
- 6/27 Ladislao Gachuz, Bob Thomas
- 6/28 Brandon Adame, Becky Leach, Mac Skillen
- 6/29 David Francisco
- 6/30 Ed Hodges

Financial Assistance Program – No two Mondays are the same in the Financial Assistance Program. Today was extraordinary, not only for the story, but also for how the heavens aligned for a wonderful outcome.

Imagine you are a 33 year old woman with two children, ages 10 and 8. Your water heater is not working and your landlord refuses to fix it. Period. Like it or leave it. Oh – and you are two hours from undergoing a C-section!! You go to the Magistrate for help but he can do nothing because you were not evicted. So now you and your family are homeless.

Two weeks to the day after giving birth, you are drawn to St. Peter's. You have stayed with friends and now are staying in a motel which requires a lot of money. Remember, that is two children and a newborn in one motel room and the children attend school at Northeast!

So you come to St. Peter's asking for help which is so hard for you because you are used to being the one giving help. You have worked as a nurse's aide for seventeen years and managed small care facilities. You have four more weeks of maternity leave with no income.

St. Peter's could have met her simple request for three more nights in the motel (our standard homeless practice) and wished her well, but no! The committee went to work! We reached out to Bright Futures which led us to two churches not on our normal hand-out sheet, and we were able to get three more nights for her at the motel. Then we reached out to Safe Harbor who she had earlier contacted but they only offered counseling. Through our contacts, we were able to speak with the Safe Harbor coordinator for the five county region. She was able to provide more motel funding since both local shelters were full. The coordinator is going to try to help find housing for this family, but it is difficult to secure.

While we were doing all of this networking, someone from the school district came into church with some girls needing dresses from the prom boutique. We were able to grab this person and get the correct contact information for the new head at Central Office who deals with homeless children. We got that process started.

Our lady has set up appointments later this week in the pregnancy center and at Social Services. We sent her off with information for Eagles Wings and Miracle Meals so she can feed her children in the motel room. (She uses a crock pot.) We gave her baby wipes and newborn diapers from our Blessing Box closet. Unfortunately, we were out of WalMart gift cards at that time.

After nearly an hour, we brought our lady back into the library to tell her what we had been able to line up. (During this time, she was talking to others in the waiting area and learned that many of them had similar problems with her landlord.) Only then did she share with us that she had already beaten cancer twice - once when she was pregnant with her first child.

We talked with her about BCCC and encouraged her to aim for further education as she obviously has the skills for a better job.

Remember my mentioning that she was accustomed to helping others? The last thing she shared with us was an encounter with a woman in WalMart whom she recognized from the motel. The woman was asking for money to buy hot dogs and bread to feed her children. Our friend gave this woman \$10 of her food stamps to help her. Several days later, the woman tried to repay her with \$6 she had raised but our lady refused to take it.

So St. Peter's, be proud of how your church was able to help this mother when she really needed support. Our session began with tears of embarrassment and despair and ended with tears of gratitude.

Please continue to support our program and enable us to do God's work.

Oh, we also saw seven other people the same morning!

Verna Motteler
FAP Committee



UTO Spring Ingathering



Thank you to our Saint Peter's parishioners who brought in blue boxes and envelopes for the Spring UTO ingathering. Thanks to you, Saint Peter's will be forwarding \$979.57 to the Diocese. These gifts will be used to help people throughout the United States and many foreign countries. Our next ingathering will be in November of 2024. Thank you. Lou Carter, UTO Chair



Did you know that Saint Peter's has a committee that focuses on attracting and supporting newcomers? We are all familiar with the benefit of having been welcomed when we were the "new kid (or adult) on the block." If you would like to join this committee, please contact Laura Bliley at BlileyL@ecu.edu or 252-495-3008. This committee requires meetings about twice each year, and we ask that you attend the welcome table at end of the 10:00am service about every 6 weeks.

ZION EPISCOPAL CHURCH YARD SALE

Friday, May 31st , 2pm-6pm Saturday, June 1st, 7am - 12noon

**7302 Hwy 264 East, at Bright Acres Rd,
2 miles beyond Beaufort County Community College**

**Zion's largest collection ever of household goods, clothing, electronics,
furniture, tools, antiques and hand thrown pottery.**

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO CHARITY