

AUGUST 2020

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

St. Peter's Church was organized in 1885 and the cornerstone was dedicated September 5th, 1886. This structure still stands on Brown Avenue in Norfolk. The first worship service at our present site was in the parish hall on Christmas Eve, 1959. All existing construction was completed in 1965.

August 2nd Church re-opens

With Morning Prayer

At 10AM

“Celebrating and Proclaiming our Life in Jesus Christ!”

“THE CALL”

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

224 S. Military Highway
Norfolk, VA 23502
Phone: 757-466-9392



AUGUST 2020

Happy Birthday

Drew Midgette	1st
Bryan Whitehorne	2nd
Betty Lou Olliges	5th
Pat Pierce	5th
Bob Vanderslice	11th
Ashley Pierce	12th
Cathy Midgette	14th
Bronwyn Shreve	17th
Lois DeLoatche	17th
Austin Midgette	24th
Madison Pierce	27th
Lynne Monette	28th
Bill Ekberg	29th

Happy Anniversary

Elizabeth & Chuck DeLoatche 8/3/91

ST. PETER'S CHURCH STAFF

Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Susan B. Haynes
Secretary	Vel Shreve
Organist	Elizabeth Miller
Treasurer	Carolyn King
Sexton	Kevin Bates

VESTRY MEMBERS

Sr. Warden:	Bruce Comfort	('22)	
Jr. Warden:	Linsey Shreve	('20)	
Jim Jimeno	('19)	James Benn	('22)
Robert Olliges	('20)	Nancy Comfort	('22)
Charlie Pfeifer	('20)	Charlotte Corbett	('22)
Howard Belote	('21)	Ana Nowland	('22)
Susan Sigler	('21)	Jason Nowland	('22)

MANY THANKS

To those who continue to
send their pledges and
tithes to church.

This helps us keep current
with our bills and our
expenses. Thank you!

The deadline for articles for the
September issue of The Call is:
August 15th
Send articles to :
vel@stpeters-norfolk.org

ALTAR FLOWERS If you would like to give altar flowers any Sunday through the year, please call the church office if you wish to give We **are** allowed to have fresh flowers on the altar through the pandemic.

The flowers are \$60 each week, or \$30 when two people give on the same Sunday.



PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Please keep these people in your prayers

Men's Bible Study– Tuesday mornings at 7:30AM **if the Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.** The men are studying the Minor Prophets. Bring your Bible and bring a friend!

The Intercessory Prayer Group Meet Sunday mornings at 9AM in the Diffenbaugh Library. They meet again once restrictions are lifted. If you are unable to attend any Sunday, you may request the group pray for you or your loved one by writing on a prayer card and placing it in the Prayer Box on the table in the parish hall or in the Narthex. All prayers

Men's & Women's Cursillo Group will meet again when the **Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.** They meet at 6:15PM

Co-ed Bible Study Group will resume Wednesdays when the **Covid 19 restrictions are lifted** They meet at 7PM. Bring your Bible and bring a

June Faye & Joe	Joan	Charlie
BJ	Hazel	Niko
Lois	Sebastian	Jess
Audrey	Wayne	Josephine
Patsi	Vickie	Penny
Rick	Joy	Fidelma
Xander & Family	John	Kathie
Johnny & Nancy	Debra	Peggy E.
Debbie & Kenny	Christine	Karen
The Benn Family	Cheryl	Billy
Al & Millie	Jessica	Kathy
Clay & Wanda	Daniel	Ruth
Maurice & Joyce	Mary	Steve
Bert & Ann	Katie	Bonnie M.
Florence & Howard	Tim	Jaqi

THE PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

The Prayer Shawl Group meet on the first Tuesday of the month. They meet again when the **Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.** They meet at 7PM in the Diffenbaugh Library. The ladies make prayer shawls, that are given to our sick and shut in members. Hats and scarves for the homeless, baby hats, and sweaters. For more information contact Millie Coward at 455-5887. Each month the Prayer Shawl Ministry publish the items made the previous month. In February/March we made 3 infant hats, 25 preemie hats, 1 hat for the homeless, and 13 chemo hats. We also had a donation of 26 baby shawls. We are selling these beautiful shawls for \$40. Please call Millie or the church office if you would like one.

If you are interested in this ministry please come join us. If you know of anyone who would like to have a 'one of a kind' cap, please let us know.

If you have any yarn at home that you don't need please consider donating it to the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Thank you!



GOD BLESS OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.”. (Ephesians 6:10-11)

Joey
David
Kyle
Christopher
Jared
Chloe

Bucky
Bob
Mike
Jennifer
Courtney
Michael

Jarod
Mario
Allan
Frank
Jonathan
Aaron



SUPPORT OUR VETERANS The Veteran’s Administration in Hampton is accepting the following items for the veterans: **Toiletries, clothing, candy, games, etc.** Please bring your donations to church and Bill Weissner will deliver them to the hospital.

Toiletries are needed the most. Donated items may be placed in the container in the parish hall. Thank you for your support!

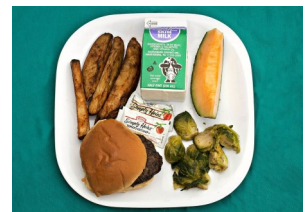


ALL TYPES OF CLOTHING Women's and Men's is needed at the Veterans Hospital

Please donate your gently used clothing to the **VET's**. Bring them to church and place in the container provided in the parish hall. Thank you!

LADIES LUNCHES

The group met Monday, July 13th and had a good time social distancing and eating! They meet again Monday, August 10th, 12:30PM, at the Brickhouse Diner, in the Providence Square Shopping Center in Virginia Beach. For more information contact Millie, 455-5887



Registrations for the 2020/21 school year at St. Peter’s Day School are currently being accepted. We teach 2,3,4 and Kindergarten age children. School begins September 8th. Please call the office 466-9392 for more information .

St. Peter's Children's Ministry

August 2020

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand



How many of you have heard of the time that Jesus fed 5,000 people with just a couple of loaves of bread and some fish that a little boy had in his basket? We call that happening a miracle. No one else could have done this, except for Jesus, and he did it several times. We can't explain it and we don't even try to. All we know is that a lot of people were with him one day at supper time and no one had anything to eat. The disciples wanted to send the people away, but Jesus told them that they should invite the people to stay and be fed. It seemed impossible to feed that many, but they knew that Jesus could do some amazing things, so they invited the people to sit down and wait for something to happen.

Jesus sent the disciples out to find whatever little bit of food they could and bring it back to him. They found one little boy whose mother had packed him a lunch of bread and fish. When the disciples came back with it, Jesus took the bread and fish and thanked God for it and then broke it up into little pieces. Each disciple was given some of the pieces to give to all of the people who were there. Each person thanked the disciples and then ate all that he wanted. Some of the people took more than they could eat at first because they were afraid that there might not be enough. But as the disciples kept going to each group of people and giving them the bread and fish, there was more than when they started. Pretty soon everyone had enough to eat and still there was some left.

Jesus told the disciples to take a basket and collect the leftovers. They went out and people started putting back what they could not eat. Do you

remember that they started with only five loaves of bread and two fish? When the disciples came back, there were twelve baskets full of bread and fish left over. What a picnic! No one had ever been to one like it before.

The next time you sit down to your table and you see bread in a basket, perhaps you will think about the day that Jesus showed the power of God with a great picnic lunch.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

August 2nd St. Peter's will open its doors for an in person service at **10:00 am**. Here are a few things to keep in mind; a vestry member will contact you with all detailed information.

- ❖ wear a mask
- ❖ bring your own prayer book
- ❖ Kids are welcome to join the service in church but there will be no youth or Sunday school

We will have a Parish Meeting following the service to answer any questions you may have. Please plan to be there!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Kostek Trochanowski - 7th
Bronwyn Shreve - 17th



St. Peter's Children's Ministry

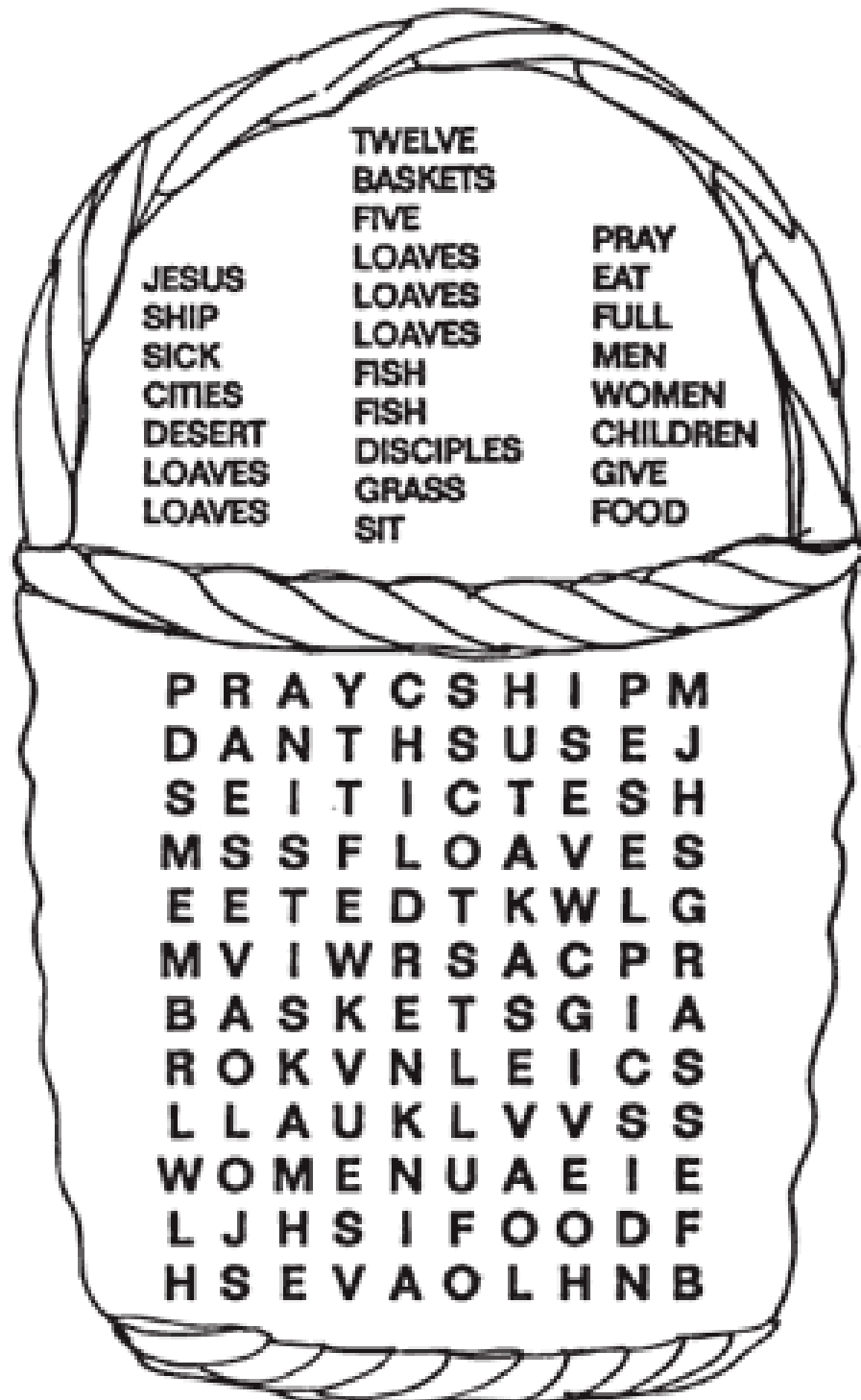
August 2020

BibleWise

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus fed over five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish. Some words from this story are hidden in the basket. Try to find all the words listed below.



Papa John's Last Sunday



Prayer during the Corona Virus

Heavenly Father as our nation and our communities, and the whole world live in fear and anxiety as the COVID-19 Virus continues to spread; we pray that you would put your divine touch upon your creation and heal us completely in body, mind, and spirit.

Give us the grace to seek your face and to seek your guidance and direction in all we do. Help us to draw strength from the faith you've given each of us, and protect us from all undue fear, anxiety, and depression.

We pray for protection for, and give thanks for, all those who daily make themselves vulnerable and put their lives on the line to help us, heal us, and keep us safe: for all doctors, nurses, and others who staff our hospitals and nursing homes and health care offices and facilities; for all first responders, for police officers, firefighters, National Guard units, and other military service people. For the employees of all food stores, home improvement centers, pharmacies, and restaurants that remain open to serve us in the midst of this crises.

For those around the world- the scientists and medical staffs who are working endless hours, using the knowledge and wisdom you have given them to find answers on how to stop the spread of this virus and to develop a vaccine to prevent it. Bless their efforts, Lord, and protect them.

For the leaders of the nations of the world, our country, and our communities; that they would look to you for guidance and direction as they make decisions about relaxing restrictions and how best to care for the people you've placed in their care.

Most of all, Lord, we pray that you would help us to remember that you are the Sovereign Lord of the universe and that you rule over heaven and earth and are in charge of all things. And that you have promised to walk with us each minute of each day. Help us to trust you and to find peace in that promise. Amen.

REMINDER:

GUIDE LINES FOR CHURCH SERVICES

PLEASE FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES WHEN ATTENDING CHURCH

- Do not come to church if you have had a fever within 24 hours
- Face coverings or masks **must** be worn
- You will enter church through the front door and exit through the red door beside the bathrooms.
- Bring your Prayer Book from home. There are no books in the pews. If you do not have a Prayer Book we will provide one for you. Take it home and bring it with you next time you attend. The readings for each Sunday may be found on line at lectionary.com. You may also download the service onto your tablet or cell phone and bring that to church
- Keep social distancing at all times. Walk where the blue crosses are on the floor
- Sit in the pews marked with a blue crosses 6 feet apart. Families are allowed to sit together.
- Place your offering in the plate at the door to the parish hall as you leave.
- No socializing in the parish hall, no coffee, no sitting. Exit through the door beside the bathrooms.
- One person allowed in the bathroom at a time. Wait in the hallway and please social distance.

CHURCH RE-OPENS SUNDAY, AUGUST 2nd AT 10AM

Report from the Junior Warden

A Strong Foundation

During the Covid pandemic church maintenance has continued. However, there is still plenty to do.

A leak was discovered in the Day School building which was caused by pine straw and dirt in the gutters. The gutters have since been cleaned.

There are pine trees around church building that need to be cut back to prevent damage to the roof.

The church grounds are being taken care of by a professional company. Borders are weeded, edges trimmed, bushes trimmed when needed, and the yard is mowed weekly.

Dot Pierce and her helpers take care of the flower borders. Thank you Dot! There is always pine straw and pine cones that need to be picked up.

We have some damage to the ceiling in the parish hall due to a leak in the small steeple. The leak will need to be taken care of as soon as possible.

Now that church is opening on Sundays, the sanctuary needs to be sanitized. Kevin Bates, our janitor, sanitizes usually at the end of the week. Help is needed to wipe down the pews after he sanitizes. This has to be done each time.

The maintenance and upkeep of our beautiful church and church grounds requires quite a bit of time and effort. **We need your help!** If you are willing to help with any of the projects listed below, please call Linsey, (757) 581-1123.

- Yard work, picking up pine cones and pine straw
- Leak in steeple, repair work
- Pine tree trimming
- Sanitizing the pews, wiping all wood surfaces.

Thank you in advance,

Linsey Shreve

Junior Warden

Letter from the Senior Warden

Right now, our church has lost our Priest after 23 years. The church has moved into a time of transition, and we the members feel like we've had the wind knocked out of us.

He has loved us, fed us, and protected us. He has doctored our wounds and rejoiced when we rejoiced. But now this man is moving on, and sadness and discouragement well up.

I simply want to hearten you with six biblical truths.

1. God will be with this church at all times.

We are not forsaken. God is with our congregation. "I will never leave you or forsake you," (Heb 13:5). Priests will come and go. Only God will never leave us. And the presence of God is more vital to the life of the church.

2. God is in control.

God "works all things according to the counsel of His will" (Eph. 1:11). Do you believe that? This pastoral transition is not happening outside of the will of God. God is working this according to the counsel of his will. So, the question is not, "Who is in control?" God is in control. The question is, "Will you rest in him by trusting him?"

3. God plans good out of this transition.

It might not feel good right now, but God has promised that he works all things together for the good of his people (Rom 8:28). Is our church part of his people? If so, this transition is included in "all things"? Therefore, you can rest assured that good will come from it. That's how awesome God is: even those things that don't feel good are used for good. It might not be the good you have in mind, but it is good. Therefore, walk forward in faith.

4. It's okay to weep.

While good will come out this pastoral transition, that doesn't remove the deep sadness. Losing our Priest hurts. I'm reminded of how the Ephesian elders wept at Paul's goodbye: "And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship" (Acts 20:36-38).

I believe the Ephesians knew that God would be with them, that he was in control, and that he was going to bring good out of this transition. Nevertheless, they wept. And it's okay to weep. It's actually a way of saying thank you to both God and our Priest.

5. Ministry must go on.

Notice what the Great Commission does not say, "Go therefore and make disciples . . . if you have a Priest." We must continue with our Ministries; the Great Commission does not include any conditionals.

Does ministry become a bit harder without a pastor leading? Probably so, but if he was a good pastor, he will have obeyed Ephesians 4:11-12 by equipping the saints for the work of the ministry. In the interim, you and the lay leadership of this church must make sure ministry continues. Get to work!

6. The church must not scatter.

Jesus promised the flock would scatter at his crucifixion (Mat 26:31). For a season, that's exactly what happened. The same often happens in churches during pastoral transition. Because "their" Priest is no longer there or ministry begins to lag, folks trickle out. Some reasons for going might be legitimate, but this may also be the time in which the congregation should most strongly Gather Together for support and encouragement.

Recognize the temptation to scatter and work more diligently to stay bound together in unity and love. This will be a season of testing for us all. I know we didn't ask for it, but with God's help, we'll endure it.

Especially during this pandemic, we must work even harder to overcome the trials and tribulations of being separated from our Christian Community and strive to be present to one another with faithfulness and prayer to God and His Church.

May the interim bring blessings we never expected, and I pray that God provides a new Priest for our church soon.

Bruce Comfort

Senior Warden

**CHURCH SERVICES RESUME ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 2ND
AT 10AM WITH MORNING PRAYER. PLEASE FOLLOW THE
GUIDELINES THAT HAVE BEEN SENT TO EVERYONE FOR
THE REOPENING.**

**Remember to bring your Prayer Book from home.
HOLY EUCHARIST WILL BE CELEBRATED IN THE NEAR
FUTURE.**

**FOR THOSE UNABLE TO ATTEND CHURCH PLEASE
CONTINUE TO WORSHIP WITH US EVERY SUNDAY
MORNING AT 10AM ON FACEBOOK ON OUR WEBSITE...
stpeters-norfolk.org**

**THERE IS A LINK ON THE SCROLLING MESSAGE
TAKING YOU TO THE SERVICE ON FACEBOOK.**