### **DECEMBER 2018**

#### St. Peter's Episcopal Church

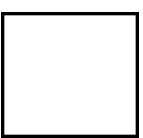
St. Peter's Church was organized in 1885 and the cornerstone was dedicated September 5th, 1886. This structure still stands on Brown Avenue in Norfolk. The first worship service at our present site was in the parish hall on Christmas Eve, 1959. All existing construction was completed in 1965.

Dec. 1	Trim the Tree, 10AM
	(Breakfast snacks provided)
Dec. 2	St. Nicholas visits, 10AM
Dec. 4	Prayer Shawl meeting, 7PM
Dec. 6	Finance meeting, 7PM
Dec. 9	Vestry meeting, 11:30AM
Dec. 10	Ladies Lunch, 12:30PM "Azalea Inn"
Dec. 14	Staff/Vestry Christmas Party, 6:30PM
Dec. 15	Pageant dress rehearsal, 9AM
Dec. 16	Christmas Pageant, 10AM
Dec. 17	Day School Christmas Prgram,7:30PM
Dec. 24	Childrens' Worship, 4PM
	Christmas Worship, 10:30PM
Dec.30	Lessons and Carols, 10AM
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve Eucharist, 11PM
	Cocoa and cookies, 10:30PM

#### "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



#### **DECEMBER 2018**

Join us for Birthday and Anniversary Blessings on the first Sunday of the month

Happy Birthday

Diane Wicker	1st
Ron Monte	3rd
Ellie Heindl	3rd
Michael Kallestad	7th
Todd Eidam	9th
Howard Belote	11th
Megan Whitehorne	12th
Brandy Gibson	12th
Jimmy Eller	12th
Steve Belote	13th
Patsi Walton	13th
Scott Walton	14th
Isabel Nowland	15th
Ella Spruill	18th
Buddy Spruill	22nd
Vel Shreve	23rd
Jessica Fry	23rd
Carole Price	25th
Sebastian Plucinski	26th
Jasmine Price	27th
Yvette Cline	28th
Justin Pickurel	28th
Charles Bolding	31st

### Happy Anniversary

Charlie & Peggy Pfeifer	12/19/71		
T & Diane Wicker	12/7/		
AI & Millie Coward	12/29/88		
Bob & Kathy Vanderslice	12/30/92		

#### **ST.PETER'S CHURCH STAFF**

Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Herman Hollerith, IV			
Rector	The Rev. John M. Eidam			
Secretary	Vel Shreve			
Organist	Elizabeth Miller			
Treasurer	Carolyn King			
Sexton	Kevin Bates			

#### **VESTRY MEMBERS**

Bonnie Rennick - Bruce Comfort -	Sr. W Jr. W	arden arden	('19) ('18)	
Nancy Comfort	('18)	Robert Olliges		('20)
Kimberly Truxell	('19)	Charlie Pfeifer		('20)
Rob Truxell	('19)	Linsey Shreve		('20)
Jim Jimeno	('20)			

#### DECEMBER "LADIES LUNCH BUNCH"

This month, the group will meet for lunch Monday, December 10th, at 12:30PM. They meet at "The Azalea Inn" in the Roosevelt Shopping Center in Norfolk. Please sign the list in the parish hall if you plan on attending. For more information contact Millie Coward at 455-5887



#### PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

<u>Men's Bible Study</u>— Tuesday mornings at 7:30AM. The men are studying the Book of Psalms. They meet in the meeting room beside Children's Chapel. Bring your Bible and bring a friend!

<u>The Intercessory Prayer Group</u> Meet Sunday mornings at 9AM in the Diffenbaugh Library. 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 are kept confidential within the group.

<u>Men's & Women's Cursillo Group</u> meet each Wednesday evening. Both groups meet at 6:15PM . The women also meet at Debbie Whitehorne's, home on Mondays at 1pm. Call Debbie for directions 499-7034

**<u>Co-ed Bible Study Group</u>** also meet on Wednesdays. They meet in the Diffenbaugh Library. The study begins at 7PM. They are studying the NOOMA series created by Rob Bell. A short video will be followed by group discussion. Bring a Bible and bring a friend!

#### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Sunday,

January 6th, 2019,

11:30AM

The meeting will begin following the 10AM service. The meeting will include the election of new vestry members and a review of the 2019 operating budget. There will be time to ask questions about the National Church and about our own St. Peter's.

This is an important meeting. Please make every effort to attend

Please keep these people in your prayers					
June Faye	Joan	Charlie	Brenda		
B.J.	Hazel	June	Liz		
Joe	Sebastian	Joy	The Daugherty Family		
Lois	Steve	Wally	Susan		
Tom & Family	John	Nathan	Chris & Family		
Xander & Family	Maurice	Tereca	Claire		
Johnny & Nancy	Christine	Alma	The Long Family		
Debbie & Kenny	Niko	Fred	Donald & Teresa		
Angie & Peter	Cheryl	Jackson	Madeline & Alex		
Al & Millie	Emily	Barbara	Ray		
Clay & Wanda	Daniel	Peggy	JC		
Maurice & Joyce	Bonnie	Brenda Jo			
Bert & Ann	Jessica	Rick			
Leslie	Josephine	Vickie			
The Long Family	Penny	Debra			
Florence & Howard	Fidelma	Kevin			
The Benn Family	Sarah	Holly			
The Daugherty Family	Susan	Karen			

#### 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



### 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!



<u>All types of clothing is needed at the Veteran's Hospital</u> 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!

#### The "Feed The Hungry" Ministry

We work with Blankets for the Homeless" supplying lunches, sweets, water, fruit and drinks. If you would like to join our ministry, or make a meal or monetary donation, please contact Ricki Wright at (757)724-0594 or email: rickiwright@cox.net

The homeless are always in need of socks. Now that the weather is changing the needs for the homeless change. Items needed include coats, hoodies, sweatshirts, tennis shoes, jeans, caps and travel size toiletries. They no longer



accept food that has to be prepared. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

Please bring your donated items to church and place in the container provided in the parish hall. Thank you! Many thanks to all those who donate items, and to those who dedicate their time in preparing lunches for the needy every month. Thank you all!

A REMINDER...St. Peter's Youth Group is collecting spare change to help support the homeless in Norfolk. Please use the jar located in the parish hall to make your donations. Thank you for being faithful and generous.

Our Day School is collecting Box Tops for Education. Please bring your box tops to church and place them in the box provided in the parish hall. Thank you for your support!

# December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> TRIM THE TREE 10AM Breakfast snacks served
2 ADVENT I 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I 9am Intercessory Prayer 10am Holy Eucharist Rite II St. Nicholas visits Children's Chapel/Christian Ed.	<b>3</b> Women's Cursillo Grouping at the Whitehorne home IPM	4 7:30AM Men's Bible Study 7PM Prayer Shawl meeting 8PM AA meeting	<b>5</b> Cursillo Grouping 6:15PM CoEd Bible Study	<b>6</b> Finance Committee meeting 7PM	7	8
9 ADVENT II 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I 9am Intercessory Prayer 10am Holy Eucharist Rite II Children's Chapel/Christian Ed. 11:30 am Vestry Meeting	10 Ladies Lunch 12:30PM Azalea Inn Roosevelt SC, Norfolk Cursillo Grouping Ipm	<b>11</b> 7:30AM Men's Bible Study 8PM AA meeting	<b>12</b> Cursillo Grouping 6:15PM CoEd Bible Study	13	<b>14</b> Staff/Vestry Christmas Party at John's 6:30PM	<b>15</b> Christmas Pageant rehearsal 9-12 Noon
16ADVENT III8amHoly Eucharist Rite I9amIntercessory PrayerI0amHoly Eucharist Rite IICHRISTMAS PAGEANTI1:30AM Day School Board meeting	<b>17</b> Women's Cursillo Grouping at the Whitehorne home IPM	<b>18</b> 7:30AM Men's Bible Study 8PM AA meeting	<b>19</b> Cursillo Grouping 6:15PM CoEd Bible Study	20	21	22
<b>23</b> ADVENT IV 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I 9am Intercessory Prayer 10am Holy Eucharist Rite II Children's Chapel/Christian Ed.	<b>24</b> CHRISTMAS EVE <b>4PM</b> CHILDREN''S WORSHIP <b>10:30PM</b> CHRISTMAS WORSHIP & CAROL SING	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27	28	29
<b>30</b> 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I 9am Intercessory Prayer <b>10am Lessons &amp; Carols</b> Children's Chapel/Christian Ed. 11	<b>31 NEW YEAR'S EVE</b> 10:30PM Cookies & Cocoa 11 PM Eucharist Rite II					

### St. Peter's Children's Ministry

#### December 2018

#### **One Dark and Starry Night**



On a dark and starry night One star shone particularly bright And led wisemen to the sight Where a prince was born that night.

When they arrived upon the scene, It was almost like a dream. There lay the tiny Lord Supreme, 'Tween Joseph and Heaven's future queen.

The wisemen placed their gifts before him, To show how much they adored him. Their souls filled with joy to the brim, As the angels sang their Heavenly hymn.

Now each Christmas we commemorate, And rejoice with glee and celebrate, The birth of Jesus, the one so great, The Son of God, the Word Incarnate. Don't forget! Tree Trimming Saturday December 1<sup>st</sup> 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

#### **Important Dates**

\*\*\*\*\*\*

 Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> - <u>Advent 1:</u> Luke 21:25-36 (p.1043) Signs of the End of the Age
 St. Nicholas Visits the Children
 Advent calendar to be handed out during Sunday school

#### **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!**

- Dec 9<sup>th</sup> <u>Advent 2:</u> Luke 3:1-6 (p.1016) John the Baptist prepares the way
- Dec 16<sup>th</sup> <u>Advent 3</u>: Luke 3:7-18 (p.1016) John speaks to the people

#### \*A Christmas to Believe in\* Christmas Play at 10:00 service

- Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> <u>Advent 4:</u> Luke 1:39-45 (p.1013) Mary visits Elizabeth

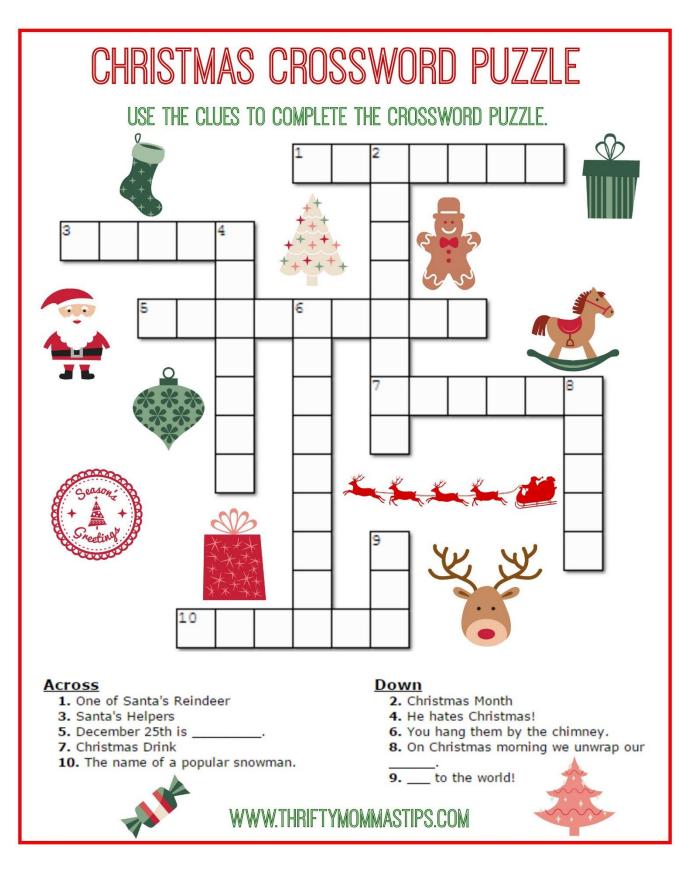
#### Happy Birthday!

Isabel Nowland (December 15<sup>th</sup>) Jasmine Price (December 27<sup>th</sup>) Ellie Heindl (December 3<sup>rd</sup>)



### St. Peter's Children's Ministry

### December 2018



#### ASSIGNMENTS

#### December 2nd—Advent I

Acolytes Ushers Lector at 8AM LEM at 8AM Lector at 10AM LEM at 10AM Altar Guild Duty Nursery Attendants December 9th–Advent II Acolytes Ushers Lector at 8AM LEM at 8AM Lector at 10AM LEM at 10AM Altar Guild Duty Nursery Attendants December 16th— Advent III

Ushers Lector at 8AM LEM at 8AM Lector at 10AM LEM at 10AM Altar Guild Duty Nursery Attendants December 23rd—Advent IV

Acolytes

#### Acolytes

Ushers Lector at 8AM LEM at 8AM Lector at 10AM LEM at 10AM Altar Guild Duty Nursery Attendants December 24th—Christmas Eve Acolytes Ushers Lector LEM

Altar Guild Duty

Sarah Weisiger, Bronwyn Shreve Sean McGinty, Coach Sigler Drew Midgette James Benn Jeffrey Pfeifer Kimberly Truxell Nancy Comfort, Bobbi Bowery Karen Kakol, Amanda Keller

Jasmine Price, Nancy Comfort Roger Rennick, Larry Shreve Tony Antonik James Benn Larry Shreve Bruce Comfort Lynne Monette, Dot Pierce Wendy Glaeser, Vivien Valentine

Judy Eller, Bonnie Rennick Steve Kakol, Jim Jimeno Vivien Valentine **Charlie Pfeifer** Janet Chauncey Charlie Pfeifer Vel Shreve, Bonnie Rennick Yvonne Authement, Wendy Glaeser

Bonnie Rennick, Danny Nowland Vicky Martin, Sean McGinty Drew Midgette James Benn Laura Kallestad Jason Nowland Judy Eller, Jessica Trochanowski Amanda Keller, Karen Kakol

Christine Truxell, Kimberly Truxell, Bonnie Rennick, Nancy Comfort Larry Shreve, Steve Kakol, Sean McGinty, Coach Sigler Vivien Valentine James Benn, Charlie Pfeifer Nancy Comfort, Dot Pierce, Millie Coward, Vel Shreve

#### ASSIGNMENTS (Continued)

#### December 30th—Lessons & Carols

Acolytes Ushers Lector / LEM at 8AM Altar Guild Duty Nursery Attendants



Gabi McGinty, Olivia McGinty Roger Rennick, Jim Jimeno James Benn Bobbi Bowery, Bonnie Rennick Wendy Glaeser, Yvonne Authement

#### NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP

Monday, December 31st, 10:30PM Cocoa & Cookies, 11PM Holy Eucharist. Celebrate the New Year at midnight, with a joyful noise!

#### CHRISTMAS HAPPENINGS

- Dec. 1st ..... Trim the Tree, 10AM
- Dec. 2nd .... St. Nicholas visits, 10AM
- Dec. 16th ... Children's Pageant, 10AM
- Dec. 24th ... Children's Worship, 4PM Christmas Worship, 10:30PM
- Dec. 30th ... Lessons & Carols, 10AM
- Dec. 31st ... New Year's Eve Worship, 11PM Cocoa & Cookies, 10:30PM
- Jan. 6th .... Epiphany, Annual Parish Meeting, 11:30AM

#### **Christmas Plants**

If you would like to give one of the poinsettia plants this Christmas, in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving, please sign the Plant List in the parish hall.

#### WEEKLY FLOWERS

If you would like to give altar flowers any Sunday through the year, please sign the Flower Chart in the vestibule (between the church and parish hall). Sign your name beside the Sunday you wish to give, or call the church office 466-9392 and reserve a Sunday

#### ATTENTION MINISTRY LEADERS

Your End of Year Reports need to be submitted to the church office ASAP. You may email them to

vel@stpeters-norfolk.org or bring them to the office. The reports will be compiled into one large report given to church members at the Annual Parish Meeting on January 6th, 2019

The deadline for articles for the January '19 issue of The Call is: December 15th Send articles to vel@stpeters-norfolk.org or call the church office at 466-9392

### THE PRAYER SHAWL

**GROUP** The Prayer Shawl Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month. This month they meet December 4th 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, sweaters, scarves and hats for World Vision, and breast prosthesis for those undergoing breast surgery. For more information contact Millie Coward at 455-5887.

## FROM THE RECTOR

#### **Vestry Highlights:** At their November 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Vestry:

- \* Approved the October Financial Report which included-
  - In October, our income was \$3,391 more than budgeted.
    - In October, our expenses were \$1,236 more than budgeted.
    - Thus far, for 2018, we are \$2,225 under budget
- \* Stewardship Follow-up letters were mailed to church members on Nov. 8th
- \* Kitchen and Pantry improvements continue. The plumbing is completed.
- \* Shrubbery Trimming and Mulching has been completed.
- \* Bruce Comfort and Charlie Pfeifer volunteered to give Stewardship witness talks at Sunday \* Thus far, two nominations have been received for the 2019 Vestry.
  \* Discussed needed repairs to the Day School furnace. Charlie Pfeifer will call Church Insurance
- to see of any of the \$5,000 estimate will be covered.

Rector's Prayer List - Please join me in praying for:

- \* For all those affected by the fires in California as they recover and grieve.
- \* Our Diocese and our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Herman (Holly) Hollerith
- \* Our Assisting Bishop, The Right Rev. Jay Magness
- \* Our Presiding Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry
- \* The people and clergy of our neighborhood churches.
- \* St. James Holiness Church and their pastor, Elder Gavin Wainwright.
- \* The leaders of our nation, our state, and our local governments.
- \* A successful fall Stewardship Campaign.
- \* A full church on Christmas Eve!
- \* Lots more *Positive Change* for our youth collection jars.

Answered Prayers- Please join me in giving thanks to God for:

- \* My incredibly talented and hardworking Church Staff!
- \* Our new kitchen and pantry- thanks to all who worked so hard to make it happen!
- \* Those performing Advent monologues this month.
- \* The Acts of Random Kindness done by so many of you.
- \* The generous donations made to the Church Discretionary Account.
- \* Those good deeds "known and unknown" to us and done by our church members.
- \* The commitments of time, talent, and treasure received thu s far.

### **RECTOR'S LETTER**

#### **Tragedy or Hope? The Choice is Yours**

"He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. (John 1:11, 12)

In these two verses of Scripture we have, I believe, the greatest FACT in the history of mankind

("He came....."), the greatest **TRAGEDY** in the history of mankind ("...his own did not receive him."), and the greatest **HOPE** for the future of mankind ("to all who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.")

The twelve days of the Christmas Season are a celebration of the Incarnation- Christ's coming as a babe in a manger in Bethlehem or, as John describes it, *"The Word (God) became flesh and made his dwelling among us..." (John 1:14).* God came to us to show us just how much He loves us and to draw us close to Him for eternity. God (in Jesus) didn't come as a stranger. Rather, He came as one who belonged. But rather than welcoming Him, some people refused to try to understand Him and who He was and rejected Him in blind anger. Eventually, they killed Him. To these people, Jesus' coming into their lives didn't change a thing.

But not everyone rejected Jesus. There were some who received Him and Jesus gave to those who believed in His Name the right to become children of God- people forgiven and loved- changed people no longer alienated from God by sin...people who will live eternally in God's presence. There is no greater **HOPE** for the future than that!

My friends, you can take the greatest **FACT** in human history- *"He came..."* and do one of two things with it. You can turn it into the greatest **TRAGEDY** by not receiving him into your life, or you can receive him and grab hold of the greatest **HOPE** a person can have- hope in the new life that is ours through faith in Jesus Christ. The choice is yours. Jesus said, *"I have come that you might have life, and have it in full." (John 10:10)* 

At Christmas, you'll no doubt receive all kinds of wonderful gifts. But the greatest gift at Christmas can't be bought. It can't be boxed. It can't be gift wrapped. In fact, it can't even be given- it can only be received. That gift is Jesus Christ and the peace that comes with knowing Him as your Savior and Lord.

I pray that you will choose **HOPE** this Christmas. I pray that God will give you the grace to receive His Son-whether it be for the first time or anew. I pray that He will grant you the spiritual insight needed to know, to hear, and to understand what that holy night in Bethlehem was really all about. And I pray the He will give you the grace to allow that precious gift to change you and to change your life. Have a very Merry Christmas season and a happy and a blessed new year- 2019!

Peace and love,

John+