DECEMBER 2021

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.

3rd	Staff/Vestry Christmas Party
7th	Prayer Shawl Group, 7PM
13th	Ladies Lunch, 12:30PM Day School Christmas Program, 7:30PM Angel Tree gifts need to be in church!
22nd	Lessons & Carols, 7PM
24th	Christmas Eve Eucharist 7PM
31st	New Years Eve Worship 10:30PM Cocoa and Cookies, 11PM Holy Eucharist, Rite II

"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 2021

Birthday & Anniversary Blessings, on the 1st Sunday of the month

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

Charlie & Peggy Pfeifer 1 Bob & Kathy Vanderslice 1

12/19/71 12/30/92

ST. PETER'S CHURCH STAFF

Bishop Priest in Charge Secretary Organist Treasurer Sexton The Rt. Rev. Susan B. Haynes The Rev. Jesse R. Lassiter Vel Shreve Elizabeth Miller Charlie Pfeifer Kevin Bates

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Confirmation classes will begin in the new year. The first class will be Thursday, January 13th, 7PM. There will be six classes all together, lasting an hour each time. Anyone interested in Confirmation, Reception or Reaffirmation is asked to contact Father Jesse, 386-566-1967 or the church office for more information, 466-9392

VESTRY MEMBERS

Kimberly '	Truxell,	Sr. Warden	('23)	
Howard B	elote, J	r. Warden	('21)	
Charlie Pfeifer	(*21)	Bruce Comfo	rt	('22)
Linsey Shreve	(*21)	Nancy Comfo	ort	('22)
Susan Sigler	('21)	Charlotte Co	rbett	('22)
James Benn	(*22)	Ana Nowland	l	('22)

The deadline for articles for the January 2022 issue of The Call is: December 15th, Send articles to : vel@stpeters-norfolk.org or call the church office at 466-9392

Please keep these people in your prayers

BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Night Bible Study continues at 7PM, in the Diffenbaugh Library. All are welcome! We study the readings for the upcoming Sunday. Bring your Bible and bring a friend!



THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl ministry will meet again on Tuesday, December 7th at 7PM in the Diffenbaugh Library. They continue to knit, crochet and loom infant hats, preemie hats, homeless hats, baby blankets and prayer shawls. Don't know how to knit, crochet or loom??? They'll teach you! In October they made 49 preemie hats, 5 preemie blankets, and 28 infant hats . If you would like to join this ministry or for more information call Millie Coward at 455-5887.

June Faye & Joe	Joan	Charlie
BJ	Hazel	Niko
Lois	Sebastian	Jessica
Audrey	Wayne	Beverly
Patsi	Jeff	Kathy
Joyce	Rod	Clarice
Xander & Family	John	Kathie
Johnny & Nancy	Debra	Lisa
Debbie & Kenny	Barbara	Karen
The Benn Family	Cheryl	Jessica
Chris	Bob	Dewey
Clay & Wanda	Daniel	Ruth
Bert & Ann	Mary	Millie
Katie	Tark	Teresa
Debbie H.	Bobbi	Patti
Bernadette	Mark	Debbie
Carl & Janice	Father Jesse	Brian H.
Eastin		



LADIES LUNCH The next

lunch will be Monday, December 13th at 12:30PM. The ladies meet at Plaza Azteka in the Providence Square Shopping Center in Virginia Beach.

For more information or to RSVP please call Millie Coward at 455-5887

Also, please remember to sign the list in the parish hall if you plan on attending.



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 Mario Aaron Bucky Bob Mike Jennifer Courtney Allan

Frank Chloe Jonathan Michael Hans Hannah



"ACTS OF KINDNESS"

This ministry started out of need to the community. They have supported nursing facilities, the children of St. Peter's and the VA Hospital in Hampton. For Veteran's Day 50 flags were placed around the flag pole out front of church, and over 30 cards were made for St. Peters veterans, past and present. Anyone interested in joining this ministry is welcome. Please contact Nancy Comfort 480-0316 or Charlotte Corbett 474-2214.

The Veterans are always in need of:

Toothbrushes, tooth paste, shaving cream, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, razors, new unopened packs of socks (mens & womens), new clothing (no used clothing at this time), tissues & handkerchiefs. No candy, food or drinks right now.

Please bring your donations to church and place in the box provided in the parish hall. Thank you all for your continued support!

For Veteran's Day, the "Acts of Kindness" Ministry placed 50 flags around the flag pole out front of church, in honor of our veterans, passed and present, and all Veterans. This was their way of thanking all Veterans for their service.





MINISTRY LEADERS...

It's time to submit your Annual Report for your ministry. Please have the report in to the church office by January 1st. All reports need to be compiled for the Annual Parish Meeting on January 9th.

The Magi Are Coming!

Epiphany Sunday, January 9th. The Magi bring gifts of gold, frankinsense and myrrh to present to the infant Jesus. They also visit the children in Sunday School.



CHRISTMAS PLANTS



If you would like to give a poinsettia plant in loving memory of a loved one, please sign the list in the parish hall. The plants will adorn the church at Christmas time.

New Year's Eve

Friday, December 31st join us in the parish hall for cocoa and cookies at 10:30pm followed by Holy Eucharist and Carol singing at 11pm.

Begin the new year on a positive note with Holy Communion!

"HAPPY NEW YEAR"!

The 2022 Flower Chart is located in the vestibule as you enter the parish hall. If you would like to donate flowers to the church any Sunday through the year, in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving, sign the flower chart next to the Sunday you would like to give. The flowers are \$70 or \$35 if you donate on the same Sunday as someone else.



Each Sunday in Advent, the service will begin with a short story about the author of many of our Christmas Carols. Many thanks to our story tellers, and characters, and special thanks to Peggy Pfeifer for her time and talent, and for enhancing our Advent season. Thank you Peggy!

Please join us for our **Annual Parish Meeting**, Sunday, January 9th, following the 9AM service. We will be reviewing the 2022 Operating Budget.

December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bible Study 7PM	2	³ Staff/Vestry Christmas Party at the Truxell's home 6:30PM Ultreya at Emmanuel	4
 ⁵ ADVENT II 9AM Holy Eucharist Rite I Children's Chapel/Christian Ed. Pfeifer's Anniversary Reception 	6	7 PRAYER SHAWL MEETING 7PM	8 Bible Study 7PM	9	10	11 Celebration of Life for Gary Benn 11AM
 ADVENT III 9AM Holy Eucharist Rite I Children's Chapel/Christian Ed. 	¹³ LADIES LUNCH at Plaza Azteca 12:30PM	14	¹⁵ Bible Study 7PM	16	17	18
19 ADVENT IV 9AM Holy Eucharist Rite I Children's Chapel/Christian Ed.	20	21	Lessons and Carols 7PM	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP 10:30PM	
 ²⁶ CHRISTMAS I 9AM Holy Eucharist Rite I Children's Chapel/Christian Ed. 	27	28	²⁹ Bible Study 7PM	30	 ³¹ 11PM Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:30PM Cocoa & Cookies 	

St. Peter's Children's Ministry

December 2021

Two Kinds of Baptism Luke 3:15-17, 21-22



Have you ever heard of Baptism? The cooling water kind? But did you know that there's another?

One that God perfectly designed. You may have been baptized by water, by dunk, or sprinkle, or cup. Some are baptized as babies, and some are all grown up. It's how we tell friends and family, that we've begun a life set apart. We are cleansed by that cool water, just as Jesus cleansed our heart. There is still another Baptism, one that you can't see.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit, when He lives in you and me. When Jesus went back to heaven, the Holy Spirit came to be our guide. He lives inside you always, to help you leave sin behind.

Both Baptisms are important, one on the outside and one within. But *they mean you love Jesus and will be with Him in the end.*

Prayer of the Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit bring me today to be good, kind, and gentle in every way. Come Holy Spirit fill me this day with faith and trust and great HOORAY!

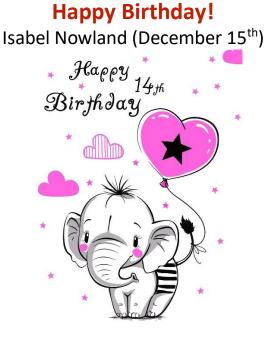
Important Dates

- Dec 5th <u>Advent 2</u>: Luke 3:1-6; John the Baptist Prepares the Way
- Dec 12th <u>Advent 3:</u> Luke 3:7-18; John the Baptist Prepares the Way
- Dec 19th <u>Advent 4:</u> Luke 1:39-55; Mary Visits Elizabeth

Christmas Eve service - Luke 2:1-14 (15-20) 10:30pm Christmas Carols Service starts at 11:00pm

Dec 26th – <u>Christmas 1</u>: John 1:1-18; The Word Became Flesh





St. Peter's Children's Ministry

December 2021



DECEMBER ASSIGNMENTS

Dec 5-2nd Sunday of Advent

Acolytes	Gabi McGinty, Olivia McGinty
Ushers	Coach Sigler, Larry Shreve
Lector	Larry Shreve
LEMS	Charlie Pfeifer, Debbie Whitehorne
Altar Guild Duty	Bobbi Bowery, Millie Coward

Dec. 12th – 3rd Sunday of Advent

Acolytes	Judy Eller, Nancy Comfort
Ushers	Steve Kakol, Susan Sigler
Lector	Kimberly Truxell
LEMS	Nancy Comfort, Kimberly Truxell
Altar Guild Duty	Bobbi Bowery, Jessica Trochanowski

Dec. 19th—4th Sunday of Advent

Acolytes
Ushers
Lector
LEMS
Altar Guild Duty

Dec.. 24th—Christmas Eve

Acolytes Ushers Lector LEMS Altar Guild Duty

Bruce Comfort, Judy Eller Larry Shreve, Jim Jimeno, Steve Kakol, Coach Sigler Bruce Comfort Nancy Comfort, Charlie Pfeifer Millie Coward, Dot Pierce, Vel Shreve

Carys Shreve, Bronwyn Shreve

Debbie Whitehorne, Bruce Comfort

Charlotte Corbett, Dot Pierce

Jim Jimeno, Vicky Martin

Jeffrey Pfeifer

Dec.. 26th—1st Sunday after Christmas

Acolytes	Jeffrey Pfeifer, Kimberly Truxell
Ushers	Vicky Martin, Susan Sigler
Lector	Jeffrey Pfeifer
LEMS	Debbie Whitehorne, Nancy Comfort
Altar Guild Duty	Jessica Trochanowski, Vel Shreve

Priest's Letter

December It's the most wonderful time of the year!

December always feels like a special time of year. Whether it is the cleansing snowy landscapes, seeing family for the holidays, or just some time off from our busy and rushed lives, the end of the year feels special. As Christians, we have the added Major Feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. We make a big deal out of this holiday because God revealed his long-awaited plan to redeem humanity by becoming human. That sounds simple but getting to that conclusion took a while: from the first days of Adam and Eve until the birth of Christ. In fact, the entire Old Testament, the Fall of humanity and the introduction of sin and death, the flood, the election of Abraham to father a Holy Nation, the salvation from Pharaoh in Egypt, the resettling of the Holy Land, all of it leads to Jesus. The point is that all of history leads to Jesus. Even the Big Bang happened so that Jesus could come into the world to redeem creation. The significance of this event is impossible to overstate.

The time leading up to our Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ is called Advent (coming into being). It is so called because the readings retell the story about how God became man in Jesus Christ. Traditionally, a few weeks before a Major Feast was to happen, the Church would declare a fast, where Christians would eat less food and focus on their spiritual growth in order to appreciate the Feast as much as possible.

This Advent, make a commitment to ask yourself how your walk with Christ is going. Use this time of anticipation for Christmas to grow closer to God and to each other. Living a Holy Advent will indeed ensure Christmas will always be the most wonderful time of the year!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us all evermore,

Jesse+