

JANUARY 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.

2nd	.....	First day of school in 2020
5th	.....	Epiphany Sunday The Magi visit Annual Parish Meeting, 11:30AM
7th	.....	Prayer Shawl Meeting, 7PM
9th	.....	Finance Committee Meeting, 7PM
12th	.....	Commission the Vestry, 10AM Vestry Meeting, 11:30AM
13th	.....	Ladies Lunch, 12:30PM, at Applebees
19th	.....	Day School Board Meeting, 11:30AM
20th	.....	M.L. King, Jr. Day. Office closed

“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



PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Men's Bible Study– Tuesday mornings at 7:30AM. The men are studying the Book of Psalms. Bring your Bible and bring a friend!

The Intercessory Prayer Group 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.

Men's & Women's Cursillo Group meet at 6:15pm in the Diffenbaugh Library.

Cursillo Grouping for Women the group will not meet in November or December but will resume in January 2020. They meet at the Whitehorne's home every Monday at 1pm.

Co-ed Bible Study Group meet Wednesdays in the Diffenbaugh Library at 7PM. They are studying both the Old and New Testaments. They are currently studying 1 Peter. Bring your Bibles and bring a friend!

Please keep these people in your prayers

June Faye	Joan	Charlie
BJ	Hazel	June
Lois	Sebastian	Jacob
Tom & Family	Rick	Wayne
Xander & Family	John	Audrey
Johnny & Nancy	Debra	Vickie
Debbie & Kenny	Christine	Karen
Donald & Teresa	Niko	Bob
The Benn Family	Cheryl	Teresa
Al & Millie	Jessica	Rachel
Clay & Wanda	Daniel	Faye
Maurice & Joyce	Bonnie	Ruth
Bert & Ann	Matt	Ella
The Preston Family	Leslie	Patsi
The Long Family	Josephine	Dawn
Florence & Howard	Penny	Jess
Chris & Family	Fidelma	Joy
Nancy & David	Kathie	Jeff
Karen & David	Janet	Tim
Peggy E.	Henry	Henry
Stacey & Charlie	Lally	Billy
Mary		

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Our Day School is still collecting Box Tops for Education until they expire. You will be able to use your cell phone now when collecting box tops by using the app on your phone. Thank you for your continued support.

December Lunch at Plaza Azteca



JANUARY LADIES LUNCH

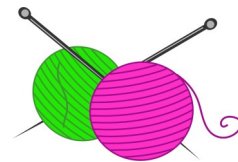
This month, the group will meet for lunch Monday, January 13th, at 12:30PM. They meet at "Applebees" in the ping Center, Norfolk.



Please sign the list in the parish hall if you plan on attending or call Millie Coward at 455-5887.

THE PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

The Prayer Shawl Group meet on the first Tuesday of the month. They meet next on January 7th 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.



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

CONSECRATION OF THE 11th BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN VIRGINIA

**Bishop-Elect Susan Haynes will be Consecrated
Saturday, February 1st ,2020, at St. Bede's Catholic
Church, 3686 Ironbound Road in Williamsburg.
The Most Rev. Michael Curry will preside.
A reception will follow in Kaplan Hall.**

**A carpool will leave the church parking lot at 9AM.
Please call the church office if you will be car pooling 466-9392**

YOUTH GROUP NEWS



**Please place your spare change in the jar on the table in the parish hall. All donations are used to help the homeless in Norfolk.
Thank you!**

Our Youth Group attendance has increased, but there is always room for more!

Please encourage your children/grandchildren or neighborhood kids to come to church and join our Youth Group! We have a great time!

We thank everyone in church for supporting us and for their generosity with donations. Thank you all!

The Christmas Stocking Drive was a huge success. Many thanks to all who donated items for the stockings.

The Youth did an incredible job with the Sunday School children, presenting the Christmas Pageant "How the Grinch Found the Christ in Christmas".

JANUARY 2020

Join us for Birthday and Anniversary Blessings on the 1st Sunday of the month

Happy Birthday

Michael Caldwell	1st
Robert Whitehorne	3rd
Marissa Weissner	3rd
Susie Johnson	10th
Larry Shreve	13th
Marissa McGinty	17th
Anna Kallestad	20th
Jordynne Wicker	20th
Floyd Parker III	22nd
Nancy Comfort	23rd
Linsey Shreve	26th
Judy Eller	29th

Happy Anniversary

Dana & Brad Bolding	1/4/03
Ron & Hilda Monte	1/26/

ST.PETER'S CHURCH STAFF

Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Jay Magness
Rector	The Rev. John M. Eidam
Secretary	Vel Shreve
Organist	Elizabeth Miller
Treasurer	Carolyn King
Sexton	Kevin Bates

VESTRY MEMBERS

Sr. Warden:	Bonnie Rennick	('19)
Jr. Warden:	Charlie Pfeifer	('20)

Kimberly Truxell	('19)	Robert Olliges	('20)
Rob Truxell	('19)	Linsey Shreve	('20)
Jim Jimeno	('19)	Howard Belote	('21)
		Susan Sigler	('21)

128th ANNUAL DIOCESAN COUNCIL in Williamsburg, February 28th/29th, 2020

Please pray for our Delegates...

Bruce Comfort and Vel Shreve

and our Alternates...

Nancy Comfort and Charlie Pfeifer

ALTAR FLOWERS If you would like to give altar flowers any Sunday through the year, sign the flower chart in the vestibule, beside the Sunday you wish to give.

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



A REMINDER... St. Peter's Youth Group is collecting spare change to help support the homeless in Norfolk. Please use the jar on the information table in the parish hall to make your donations.

The Youth thank you for being so faithful and generous in your giving.



The deadline for articles for the February issue of The Call is:
January 15th, 2020
Send articles to :
vel@stpeters-norfolk.org
or call the church office at 466-9392

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!



All types of clothing is needed at the Veteran's 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!

Due to a family emergency, “Blankets for the Homeless” will not be collecting items until further notice.

Thank you all for your support with this ministry

OUR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Sunday, January 5th, following the 10AM service

The meeting will include the election of new Vestry members and a review of the 2020 Operating Budget. We will also discuss current issues in our Diocese. This meeting is very important. Please make every effort to attend. Thank you

St. Peter's Children's Ministry

January 2020



New Year's Resolutions for Families

- ❖ Get Unplugged
- ❖ Eat Well
- ❖ Exercise
- ❖ Read!
- ❖ Do Chores
- ❖ Be Good to Others
- ❖ Get More Sleep
- ❖ Save Money



Thank you Lindsey Shreve for directing the Christmas Pageant "**How the Grinch Found the Christ in Christmas**" and to the Youth Group for their participation and enthusiasm!

Important Dates

- ❖ Jan 5th - 2nd Sunday after Christmas: Matthew 2: 1-12; *Wise Men Come to Visit Jesus*
The Magi visit the Children
BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS!
- ❖ Jan 12th - 1st Sunday after Epiphany: Matthew 3: 13-17; *The Baptism of our Lord*
- ❖ Jan 19th - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany: John 1: 29-42; *John Testifies About Jesus*
- ❖ Jan 26th - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany: Matthew 4: 12-23; *Jesus Begins to Preach*

Visit of the Magi

The story about the birth of Jesus teaches us many things. We learn about being pleasing to God from the Virgin Mary. When we live a life that is pleasing to God and others, God can use us in wonderful ways. Joseph teaches us that by living a righteous life, God will help us in times of difficulty and show us the way. The long and tiring journey to Bethlehem and the manger teaches us how God will always keep His promises, and that we have hope and assurance in Jesus. As the angel told the shepherds, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born." Then finally, the visit of the magi, or the wise men, show us that it is natural and expected to worship our Lord and Savior. ***Let's remember to put Jesus first, and worship Him during this time of the year.***

Happy Birthday Marissa McGinty!

(Jan 17th)



St. Peter's Children's Ministry

January 2020



January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Cursillo Grouping 6:15pm Co-Ed Bible Study 7PM	2 First school day in 2020	3	4
5 EPIPHANY SUNDAY 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I 9am Intercessory Prayer 10am Holy Eucharist Rite II The Magi visit Children's Chapel/Christian Ed. 11:30am Annual Parish Meeting	6	7 7:30AM Men's Bible Study 7PM Prayer Shawl 8PM AA meeting	8 Cursillo Grouping 6:15pm Co-Ed Bible Study 7PM	9 Finance Committee meeting 7PM	10	11
12 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I 9am Intercessory Prayer 10am Holy Eucharist Rite II Commission new Vestry Children's Chapel/Christian Ed. 11:30AM Vestry meeting	13 Ladies Lunch 12:30pm Applebees at Janaf Shopping Center in Norfolk	14 7:30AM Men's Bible Study 8PM AA meeting	15 Cursillo Grouping 6:15pm Co-Ed Bible Study 7PM	16	17	18
19 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I 9am Intercessory Prayer 10am Holy Eucharist Rite II Children's Chapel/Christian Ed. 11:30am Day School Board	20 ML KING DAY Office & Day School closed	21 7:30AM Men's Bible Study 8PM AA meeting	22 Cursillo Grouping 6:15pm Co-Ed Bible Study 7PM	23	24	25
26 8am Holy Eucharist Rite I 9am Intercessory Prayer 10am Holy Eucharist Rite II Children's Chapel/Christian Ed.	27	28 7:30AM Men's Bible Study 8PM AA meeting	29 Cursillo Grouping 6:15pm Co-Ed Bible Study 7PM	30	31	

ASSIGNMENTS

Jan 5—Epiphany Sunday

Acolytes	Nancy Comfort, Bronwyn Shreve
Ushers	Vicky Martin, Susan Sigler
Lector at 8AM	Drew Midgette
LEM at 8AM	James Benn
Lector at 10AM	Larry Shreve
LEMS at 10AM	Jason Nowland, Debbie Whitehorne
Altar Guild Duty	Nancy Comfort, Bonnie Rennick
Nursery Attendants	Wendy Glaeser, Debbie Whitehorne

Jan 12—Baptism of our Lord

Acolytes	Gabi McGinty, Corrin King
Ushers	Coach Sigler, Jim Jimeno
Lector at 8AM	Tony Antonik
LEM at 8AM	Charlie Pfeifer
Lector at 10AM	Judy Eller
LEMS at 10AM	Charlie Pfeifer, Kimberly Truxell
Altar Guild Duty	Judy Eller, Millie Coward
Nursery Attendants	Karen Kakol, Amanda Keller

Jan 19—2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Acolytes	Magdalena Kress, Olivia McGinty
Ushers	Larry Shreve, Steve Kakol
Lector at 8AM	Vivien Valentine
LEM at 8AM	Bruce Comfort
Lector at 10AM	Susan Sigler
LEMS at 10AM	Bruce Comfort, Nancy Comfort
Altar Guild Duty	Vel Shreve, Jessica Trochanowski
Nursery Attendants	Wendy Glaeser, Yvonne Authement

Jan 26—3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Acolytes	Judy Eller, Nancy Comfort
Ushers	Sean McGinty, Susan Sigler
Lector at 8AM	Drew Midgette
LEM at 8AM	James Benn
Lector at 10AM	Jeffrey Pfeifer
LEMS at 10AM	Bonnie Rennick, Jason Nowland
Altar Guild Duty	Bobbi Bowery, Dot Pierce
Nursery Attendants	Debbie Whitehorne, Amanda Keller

FROM THE RECTOR

Vestry Highlights: At their December 15th meeting, the Vestry:

- * Approved the November Financial Report which included-
In November, our income was \$1,923 more than budgeted.
In November, our expenses were \$2,008 more than budgeted.
Thus far, for 2019, we are \$19,126 under budget
- * Approved the 2020 Operating Budget of \$231,742.20
- + Contributed \$1,000 to the Diocesan Fund to purchase vestments for our Bishop-elect Susan Haynes+ +
The Staff and Vestry Retreat is scheduled for Feb. 7-8, 2020 at Chanco.
The Rev. Roy Hoffman (Diocesan Staff) will attend the retreat to review
Diocesan policies pertaining to a Rector search process.
- + Recognized Bonnie Rennick, Kimberly Truxell, and Rob Truxell as they have
completed their three year terms on the Vestry.
- + The Day School gas line project has been completed and passed City inspection.
- + The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on January 5, 2020
- + The 2020 Vestry Meeting schedule was distributed.

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

- + Our new Bishop-elect, The Rev. Susan Haynes
- + Our Presiding Bishop, *The Most Rev. Michael Curry*
- + A Happy and Healthy New Year 2020!
- + Safe journey for all those traveling.
- + a successful 2020 Stewardship Campaign.
- + The people and clergy of our neighborhood churches.
- + Our friends at St. James Holiness Church.
- + The leaders of our nation, our state, and our local governments.

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

- + My incredibly talented *Church Staff!*
- + A beautiful Thanksgiving Eve Eucharist.
- + The Day School Gas Line installation being completed (thanks *Bruce Comfort!*)
- + The ministries of our church members and their leaders.
- + Those good deeds "*known and unknown*" to us and done by our church members.
- + Those who have made commitments of time, talent, and treasure to our church.
- * To those who donated funds for the shrubbery trimming/garden mulching.
- * To Almighty God, for all the ways He has blessed our church this past year.

RECTOR'S LETTER

Because This Is What Disciples Do!

A new year brings with it new beginnings and new possibilities. I would like to remind you of an old Biblical concept that I believe needs a new emphasis here at St. Peter's in 2019- Christian Discipleship. A disciple is literally a "*follower*." A Christian disciple is a follower of Jesus Christ. Christian discipleship carries with it a number of responsibilities. I'd like to briefly describe those responsibilities.

First, a disciple is **committed**. When we are committed to someone or something, we are prepared to make *sacrifices* in order to remain faithful to that commitment. Some of these sacrifices may be small, others larger. Some will be easy, while others may be painful. Some will involve time and effort, others will involve money. We all make commitments to a number of things in our lives. A Christian disciple's primary commitment (whatever it takes) is to Jesus Christ. A Christian disciple also accepts the responsibility to **learn** (and when possible) to teach others about Jesus. It's impossible to follow someone effectively unless you know something about them. You need to spend time with them in order to understand their thoughts, ideas, and dreams and where they intend to lead you. In the same way a Christian disciple cannot follow Jesus Christ unless he/she learns about him- what he taught (by studying the Gospels) and spend time with him regularly (in prayer). This goes back to being committed to taking the time to do these things- even when it may be inconvenient to do so.

And a Christian disciple is committed (there's that word again) to **spending time with other Christians**. There is no such thing as a *Lone Ranger* Christian. We were created by God to be in community with others and Jesus prayed that his disciples would be "**one in Him**." (John 17:21)

Christian disciples need to be together to offer support and encouragement to one another, and to worship together and teach one another. A Christian disciple, therefore, joins a Bible Study Group, or a Support Group or a Team ministry of some kind. Sunday mornings will always find the Christian disciple in church-no excuses (short of illness).

So, how are you doing with your Christian discipleship? Take some time to assess yourself. Are you committed to Jesus Christ? Are you spending time with him, learning from him? Are you "**in the Bible**" on a regular basis (daily)? Do you attend worship services every Sunday (even when it's inconvenient)? Do you spend time with other disciples? Do you give sacrificially of your time, talent, and treasure to the work of Christ in the world? If you call yourself a disciple of Jesus Christ, then your answer should be "**Yes!**" to all of the above. You need to be doing these things **because this is what disciples do!** If your answer is "**No**" to even one of the above, I invite you to join me in the coming year to learn anew what it means to be a **disciple** of Jesus Christ. It will be an exciting journey, but I warn you now, it will be full of challenges and some hard work. But in the end, it will be worth it. Jesus told some of his listeners that he had come so that "**[his disciples] might have life and have it abundantly**." (John 10:10) I am of the opinion that we can't begin to experience that "**abundant life**" until we give our lives to Christ and commit ourselves to becoming his disciples.

Peace and love,

John+