

MAY 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.

**STAY HOME
STAY SAFE!**

“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

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 are kept confidential within the group.

Men's & Women's Cursillo Group will meet again starting Wednesday, June 3, **if Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.** They meet at 6:15PM.

Co-ed Bible Study Group will resume Wednesday, June 3rd **if Covid 19 restrictions are lifted** They meet at 7PM. Bring your Bible and bring a friend!

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

THE PRAYER SHAWL GROUP

The Prayer Shawl Group meet on the first Tuesday of the month. They meet again June 2nd **if 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.

Do you have a button box? If you would like to donate some buttons to the ministry, please bring them to church. Also if you have any yarn at home that you don't need please consider donating it to the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Thank you!

YOUTH GROUP NEWS



The Youth have not met since the Covid 19 outbreak but meetings will resume once the restrictions are lifted.

The youth will be cleaning up the church grounds, getting rid of trash and debris once they are able. As always if there is anything you need from the youth, please let me or my great partner, Carolyn King, know.

We will begin studying the Book of Romans in our Sunday School time.

God will continue to provide and continue to bless this Youth Group with the help of our St. Peter's Family.

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!

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

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

In God's love,

James Benn

ALTAR FLOWERS If you would like to give altar flowers any Sunday through the year, please sign the flower chart beside the Sunday you wish to give. The flower chart can be found in the vestibule between the parish hall and the church.

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



KITCHEN NEWS Anyone who works with food in the church kitchen is required to take a **Food Handling class**. You can take it on site or on line. If you decide to take the class on line there is a link below which will take you to the page for the class. The cost is \$15 and takes approximately 90 minutes. Once finished you will be able to print your card. Please provide a copy to Vel for church record keeping.

If you want to attend the class, the cost is \$10 and is held at the Dept. of Public Health in downtown Norfolk.

<https://www.norfolk.gov/index.aspx?NID=157>

APRIL/MAY 2020

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

Happy Birthday

Roland Midgette	4/4
Abigail Sigler	4/11
Tony Fry	4/11
John Belote	4/13
Larry Laine	4/13
Tony Antonik	4/17
Allan Monette	4/19
Haley Glaeser	4/23
Valerie Sasser	4/23
Stephanie Eidam	4/25
Barbara Olliges	4/27
Corrin King	4/28
Kimberly Truxell	4/29
Jonathan Diffenbaugh	4/30
Bobbi Bowery	5/2
Kelly Olliges	5/6
Zachary DeLoatche	5/13
Magdalena Kress	5/15
Daniel Laine	5/25
Bruce Comfort	5/25
Charlie Pfeifer	5/27
BJ Neaves	5/30
Amanda Mattson	5/31

Happy Anniversary

Laura & Michael Kallestad	4/3/93
Florence & Howard Belote	4/4/59
Leanne & Ricki Wright	4/25/87
June Faye & Joe Sanderlin	4/27/57
Patsi & Joe Walton	4/28/62
Karen & Steve Kakol	5/17

ST. PETER'S CHURCH STAFF

Bishop	The Rt. Rev. Susan B. Haynes
Asst. Bishop	The Rt Rev. Jay Magnus
Rector	The Rev. John M. Eidam
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 expenses. 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 LUNCHEES TO

BE DETERMINED

We will notify you when the next lunch is scheduled.



MANY THANKS

to Jason Nowland and his Drama Team for the wonderful Lenten Monologues performed each Sunday morning in Lent.

Thank you all!!!

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

ASSIGNMENTS

May 3—4th Sunday of Easter

Acolytes	Corrin King, Kimberrly Truxell
Ushers	Steve Kakol, Jim Jimeno
Lector at 8AM	Drew Midgette
LEM at 8AM	Bob Vanderslice
Lector at 10AM	Larry Shreve
LEMS at 10AM	Bruce Comfort, Nancy Cimfort
Altar Guild Duty	Judy Eller, Charlotte Corbett

May 10—5th Sunday of Easter

Acolytes	Magdalena Kress, Bronwyn Shreve
Ushers	Larry Shreve, Vicky Martin
Lector at 8AM	Vivien Valentine
LEM at 8AM	James Benn
Lector at 10AM	Susan Sigler
LEMS at 10AM	Debbie Whitehorne, Jason Nowland
Altar Guild Duty	Nancy Comfort, Dot Pierce

May 17—6th Sunday of Easter

Acolytes	Nancy Comfort, Bruce Comfort
Ushers	Sean McGinty, Susan Sigler
Lector at 8AM	Tony Antonik,
LEM at 8AM	Bob Vanderslice
Lector at 10AM	Jeffrey Pfeifer
LEMS at 10AM	Charlie Pfeifer
Altar Guild Duty	Millie Coward, Jessica Trochanowski

May 24—7th Sunday of Easter

Acolytes	Christine Truxell, Judy Eller
Ushers	Coach Sigler, Jim Jimeno
Lector at 8AM	Vivien Valentine
LEM at 8AM	Bruce Comfort
Lector at 10AM	Judy Eller
LEMS at 10AM	Bruce Comfort, Nancy Comfort
Altar Guild Duty	Bobbi Bowery, Vel Shreve

May 31—Pentecost

Acolytes	Nancy Comfort, Bruce Comfort
Ushers	Larry Shreve, Sean McGinty
Lector at 8AM	Drew Midgette
LEM at 8AM	James Benn
Lector at 10AM	Janet Chauncey
LEMS at 10AM	Kimberly Truxell, Jason Nowland
Altar Guild Duty	Vel Shreve, Dot Pierce

FROM THE RECTOR

Vestry Highlights: At their April 19th meeting, the Vestry:

+ Met on the Internet via ZOOM

+ Approved the March Financial Report which included-

In March, our income was \$6,355 less than budgeted.

In March, our expenses were \$554 more than budgeted.

Thus far, in the year 2020 we are \$10,910 over budget

+ Bruce Comfort reported that the courtyard trees have been removed.

+ We are receiving estimates to deal with drainage and flooding sidewalk issues.

+ The Rev Roy Hoffman (Diocesan Staff) attended and shared information about the Rector search process that will begin in July.

+ We are receiving estimates for lawn care services including shrub trimming.

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

+ Our Diocesan Bishop- The Rt. Rev. Susan Haynes

+ Our Presiding Bishop, *The Most Rev. Michael Curry*

+ The people and clergy of our neighborhood churches.

+ Safety for all from the COVID 19 virus and other illnesses.

+ The leaders of our nation, our state, and our local governments.

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

+ All those making special efforts to keep in touch with our church family members

+ For all those keeping their financial giving current.

+ My incredibly talented *Church Staff!*

+ Those good deeds "*known and unknown*" to us and done by our church members.

+ For Bob Vanderslice and his technical help in our "*live stream*" services.

+ Those who have made commitments of time, talent, and treasure to our church.

+ To Almighty God, for all the ways He continues to bless our church.

RECTOR'S LETTER

Faith During Difficult Times

Back when I was teaching elementary school, I had a sign hanging in my office that read, "**Anyone who stays calm around here just doesn't understand the situation.**" That was more than 40 years ago, but that is still a sign of the times, is it not? Stress and anxiety are so much a part of our lives right now as we live through this COVID 19 virus pandemic.

Psalm 47 declares, "**God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.**" If so, then where is the Lord of Calm? The storm rages all around us and to some, God seems to be either asleep or absent. Some may wonder if He even cares. Well if the Bible is right (and it is) our God is not only the God of Peace and Serenity. He is also the God of the Whirlwind, the Storm, and of Stress. Faith in a personal God who loves us and cares for us is deepened and strengthened, not by having us removed from life's difficult situations, but rather because of them. This is one of the great paradoxes of the Christian faith. In other words, when there is trouble and when there is turmoil, the Lord is with us - strengthening us and giving us purpose. When there is trouble in life, the Lord doesn't promise to remove the trouble, but rather, He gives us Himself as an abiding and comforting companion so that we don't have to face trouble all alone.

We all want lives of peace and harmony. But those things don't come to us by avoiding trouble, but rather by facing it passionately and with a purpose, and, above all, facing it knowing that Spirit of God is with us and that He will never abandon us.

A genuine faith will cost us. We'll have to give up a lot of self-reliance, and we'll have to learn to do what we can. But we must also have the courage to turn over to God what we cannot do ourselves. Faith is easy when things are going well for us. That kind of faith, however, tends to be lukewarm. A really strong and vital faith is reserved for those who will experience life's problems. God can and will calm the storms in our lives, but we may have to face them squarely first. And that can be quite frightening and God can seem so far away. But He's not. We may have to be at our wits end before we finally realize that, all along, God was with us. All we needed to do was call upon Him.

Peace and love,

John+