



ST. PETER'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EST. 1868

— THE —  
CORNERSTONE

# Letter from the Interim Rector



THE REV. DR. ROB VOYLE

I am grateful and looking forward to joining you all in March and journeying with you during the time of transition between your rectors. As I join you, the church in general and St. Peter's in particular will be starting Lent, a time of reflection and self-examination in anticipation of discovering and sharing in the new life of Easter. I feel like I will be joining you on the run, with all that Lent and Holy Week entail, but I also feel like I am joining you as we collectively take a breath and slow down, to establish the foundation, to wonder who we are, and whose we are, and what we are being called to be and do in the world.

On the Sunday following 9/11, Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams, my associate at the time, preached a great sermon in which he said: "The challenge of this life is not to stay alive, the challenge is to stay in love." That statement crystallized in my heart and mind what had been and has been the essence

of my ministry. If our goal is to stay alive, we will ultimately lose. On the other hand, on a daily basis we are confronted with numerous distractions and obstacles to living the way of love and being one with the Eternal God whose essential nature is Love.

My theme for Lent will be "Staying in love, in the midst of a fear mongering and polarized world."

That is the challenge that we all face, and I suspect as a nation we will face for years to come if we do not develop the practical skills of staying in love. For Lent I will be offering two different practical opportunities to develop our capacity for staying in love:

### SUNDAY FORUMS: LEARNING HOW TO FORGIVE AND RETURN TO LOVE

Some of the topics will include: learning the mechanism of resentment and forgiveness, distinguishing forgiveness from reconciliation, and how to forgive and stay in love on our terms while people continue to behave offensively and injuriously. The classes will be very practical in nature and you are invited to bring your resentment and leave without it.

### WEDNESDAY EVENINGS: YES!<sup>3</sup>

Discovering and living a personal life in which you can simultaneously say Yes! To God, Yes! To your Neighbor, and Yes! To Yourself.

One of the core topics is discerning which God from the plethora of gods in our society you would want to say yes to. For example, I think Jesus has been subject to identity theft and I am very much in league with our presiding Bishop Michael's work on reclaiming the loving name and work of Jesus. The other core topic is discovering and affirming our core purpose for being. I do not think our individual presence on this earth is an accident and I have discovered that this core purpose is directly related to the simple things in our lives that give us great pleasure and satisfaction. We will discover that when we manifest this core purpose, we will be simultaneously be saying Yes! to the loving God, Our Neighbor, and Ourselves.

I have led the Forgiveness and Yes!<sup>3</sup> programs in many venues. They are fun, freeing, and essential for staying in love. They are also an opportunity for you to invite family or friends who need to discover the freedom of forgiving and/or their core purpose for being on the face of the earth.

The core purpose exploration will also be an essential part of discerning St. Peter's collective purpose as a congregation, which is an essential step in establishing the search criteria for your next rector. Engaging the congregation's collective version of the Yes!<sup>3</sup> process will be a major focus of the Easter Season.

### MY PRAYER AND BLESSING FOR OUR TIME TOGETHER

Beyond all this programming I am looking forward to meeting and being with you as together we journey through this time of transition. Over the years I have collected thoughts and words and woven them into a blessing which expresses my faith practice and hopes for the people with whom I work. It will be my blessing to share this blessing with you in the coming time of transition.

- Watch over your friends at St. Peter's, O Lord, so that they can look forward to the days when they can look back and behold with wonder the great things they have co-created with you. *Amen.*
- The God of Truth bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficiality so that you live from deep within your heart. *Amen.*
- The God of Understanding make you tender in the face of pain and rejection so that others can know the comfort of your acceptance. *Amen.*
- The God of Justice make you fierce in the face of oppression and exploitation so that others can live with dignity in the midst of your respect. *Amen.*
- The God of all Wisdom bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can work with others to do what many claim cannot be done. *Amen.*
- And the Blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Life-Giving Spirit be amongst you and all those whom you love, and struggle to love, now and forever. *Amen.*

SUPPER

SERIES

WEDNESDAYS OF LENT

MAR 4 - APR 1

Discover and live a life in which you can simultaneously say  
*Yes!* To God, *Yes!* To your Neighbor, *Yes!* To Yourself.

5:30 P.M. HOLY EUCHARIST IN GRACE CHAPEL

6:00 P.M. SIMPLE SUPPER

6:30 P.M. PROGRAM

# The Season of Lent

## WHAT DOES THE WORD “LENT” MEAN?

The word “Lent” comes from the Anglo-Saxon word lencton (lengthen)—referring to the time of year when the days grow longer as Spring approaches.

## LENT IS A SEASON?

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends with Holy Week. Lent covers forty days, excluding Sundays. Since every Sunday is a “little Easter” celebrating the Resurrection, Sundays remain feast days even during the solemn Lenten season. The five Lenten Sundays are followed by the Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday), which ushers in Holy Week.

## HOLY WEEK

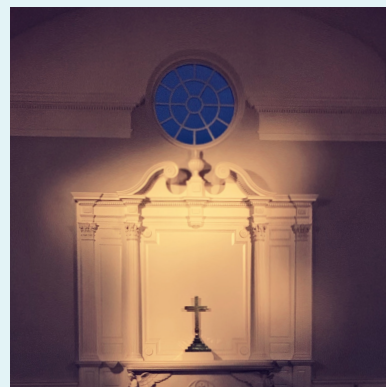
Holy Week is the highest time in our church year, when we walk through the events leading up to, and including, Jesus' suffering and death on the cross. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, which recounts both Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his Passion. Holy Week ends with the Triduum (the Latin “Triduum Sacrum” means “the sacred three days”). The Triduum begins on the evening of Maundy Thursday, encompasses Good Friday and Holy Saturday, and ends at sundown on Easter Day. Check the Lenten and Holy Week Schedule on pages 21 & 22 for all the opportunities to participate in this holy season.

## THE SANCTUARY STAGES OF LENT

### INITIAL WEEKS OF LENT



### MAUNDY THURSDAY



### PALM SUNDAY HOLY WEEK BEGINS



### GOOD FRIDAY



## Lenten Disciplines

In earlier eras of the Church, baptisms only took place at Easter. Persons who were to receive the sacrament of Baptism (a “new birth” from “death to life”) were expected to fast and prepare during these weeks. Throughout the centuries, to get ready for Easter, Christians have adopted special Lenten “disciplines” to draw themselves into closer relationship to God.

## FASTING

A discipline might involve fasting, or giving up something. What is an indulgence or “distraction” that you could give up? Sweets? Soda? Bad habits like complaining? Social Media?



## TAKING ON

Another discipline involves taking something on. For example, reading a chapter of the Bible daily could be a Lenten discipline. A family could gather together each night for a Bible story. Attend a service you haven't been to before or sign up for the Lenten supper series.



Lent is a good time to practice almsgiving – sharing God's love in the world – by giving back. Helping to serve the Hot Lunch at Trinity Episcopal Church on March 22nd is one example of how your family can give back in Lent. Shopping for monthly food drive items, or participating in the Maundy Thursday shoe collection are other opportunities.



## PRAYER

Lent is a great time to learn new types of prayer. One prayer that would be especially appropriate during Lent is The Jesus Prayer. It is a short formulaic prayer esteemed and advocated especially within the Eastern churches: “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.” It's just that simple! Maybe your family could pray that prayer in the morning before heading out, in the car, or before supper.

Every week in Children's Chapel, we say the Five Finger Prayer. It's a good one too! Adding this to your nighttime routine is a great way to pray with your children during Lent.

### FIVE FINGER PRAYER

I LOVE YOU GOD!  
THANK YOU GOD!  
I'M SORRY GOD!  
HELP OTHERS GOD!  
HELP ME GOD!



## DESTINATION: EASTER

Finally, come to Easter Sunday and celebrate the Lord's resurrection! Share the joy of Easter with fellow parishioners, friends, and family. *Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

Lent is often called a “journey.” That means that at the end of Lent we should expect to find ourselves somewhere different from where we started. Our destination is Easter, the promised land, the new life given to us in the Resurrection of Jesus. By bringing Lent into our daily lives, we give ourselves and our families a unique opportunity to fully participate in Jesus' journey of love. Participating in the worship and disciplines of Lent can help this season come alive for all of us, giving us the gift of more deeply embracing the joy of Easter.



# A Reflection on Lent

BY FATHER JOSEPH WALLACE-WILLIAMS

An old man was asked, "What is it necessary to do to be saved?" He was making rope, and without looking up from the work, he replied, "You are looking at it."

Just as it is rare to ask this question, so it is rare to have it answered so clearly and compassionately. In the current religious climate those who are prepared to ask such a personally challenging question too often encounter stock religious answers. The old man's response was neither trivial nor flippanant. Nor is it as simplistic as it at first sounds.

The old hermit had done his work, which burned away the opaque filter of his self-bias so that he saw life just as it is, vividly and keenly. One with God, he was free to find himself and God in whatever was happening around him. Another anonymous desert saying has it, "God investigates three things in us: mind, word, and deed." This old man had penetrated to the heart of consciousness. He had gone past the contradiction between emptiness and mental content and therefore appreciating the rightful place of the intellect and expressed his liberation in the everyday ordinary events and obligations of life. In a later century, another anonymous spiritual master would express this liberation for one of his troubled students this way:

Put the strict way on one side and the lax way on the other, and look instead for what is hidden between them; once you have found this you will be free in spirit to pick up or leave any of the other things as you wish...What, you may ask, is this hidden something? Quite simply, it is God...God

is hidden between them, and you cannot find him with your intelligence .... So choose him, and you will be silently speaking, speaking silence, eating in fasting, fasting in eating, and so forth .... This loving choice of God, knowing what to set aside in order to seek him out with the steadfastness of a pure heart, being able to put both opposites aside when they present themselves as the be-all and end-all of spiritual aspirations, is the best way of finding God you can learn in this life. (The Cloud of Unknowing)

What is it necessary to do to be saved? The old man was making rope and without looking up from the work, he replied, 'You are looking at it.' It doesn't sound like a very profound answer. However, the answer fit the question perfectly. The old man took the measure of the person before him and compassionately revealed the obvious -- and the almost obvious -- to this young seeker on the verge of liberation from the conflicts and fictions of an independent and separate self.

It is so tempting to set religion apart from the ordinary, making of it a sort of fairyland amusement park. This is a modern-day rendition of an ancient heresy, Manicheism, which tried to separate reality into spirit and matter, the sacred and the profane. Salvation is healing that illusory split.

How do we do that? We don't. It is already done. It already always is. The "split" between God and us, the ordinary and the holy, the sacred and the profane, is a prop in our

imaginary self-story. It does not exist and never really did. Our task is to realize that fact. Salvation is an everyday ordinary experience. If Christianity really does proclaim good news, then the good news is that everything is redeemed; nothing is condemned. All that is left to do is to realize it. To live it.

SALVATION IS AN  
**EVERYDAY**  
ORDINARY  
EXPERIENCE.

No condition of life precludes happiness. No condition of life increases it. For a given individual, making rope is as holy and effective and expressive as any ritual religious act. The simple act of making rope, washing dishes, walking to the office, talking on the phone, filling out your taxes honestly, running your business ethically, or speaking kindly to those around you does not imply anything other than itself. Nor is it meant to. Everything is as it should be. Give up the search. It is right here. It is obvious.

Beloved, this is the opportunity Mother Church has extended to us in the season of Lent - to strip away all that is unnecessary. See past the distractions. Sit still for just a minute and know that you are loved by God, not for anything that you have done or not done. Not because of anything you have achieved or failed to, but simply because God created you in God's own image.

Pax,

Fr. JWW



# A Note from the Vestry

February 9th was a wonderful day at St. Peter's. Our services were full, the Rector's Forum was lively, and the music was beautiful. Luke's last sermon was terrific -- "Let Your Light Shine" was such a positive take away. As endings go, our farewell to Luke, Hopie, Hope, Maude, and Sam was a good one. Thanks to all who helped make it happen. It was wonderful having our staff all present and helping in so many ways. Godspeed to the Jernagan family!

And now we move forward. The Vestry met mid-February with a full agenda and welcomed our three new Vestry members. Angela Mahan, our new Chief of Staff and Administrator, along with parishioner Hal Burroughs, spoke to us about the Vestry's role in general, and specifically while we are in transition. The Vestry will focus on leading St. Peter's through this transition year as well as managing our resources and finances of the church. If you have not yet submitted your 2020 pledge, we need everyone's participation as we work to call our next rector. Janet Rouse, our Stewardship Director, would be happy to help If you have any questions.

Everyone is excited for the Rev. Dr. Rob Voyle's first Sunday with us on March 1st. Until then, the Rev. Kelly Carlson is our Priest-in-Charge and Fr. Joseph will continue his ministry as well. I encourage all of you to stay engaged at St. Peter's, to attend our weekly offerings, Sunday services, and to let your light shine!

Jeanie Davis  
Senior Warden



# Introducing Your Rector Search Committee

BY CHRIS KNIGHT, SEARCH COMMITTEE CHAIR

Who are you? What are you doing? What’s taking so long? Many of you have asked at least one of these questions to the recently named members of the search committee, and by the time our new rector arrives you will probably have asked all of them! As we begin this sacred journey with one another and with all of you, we want to take this opportunity to answer those questions as well as others you may have for us.

The Vestry has elected 11 parishioners, each of whom brings an openness to discern where the Holy Spirit is calling us and, with God’s help, we will work to bring together our parish with our new rector. We commit to prayer and to sacrifice personal interests to achieve the best outcome for St. Peter’s. The Vestry made their selections so that we reflect the demographics of our congregation as a whole. We range from life-long Episcopalians to those who have recently joined the church; from those who have been members of St. Peter’s for over 50 years to those that have joined in the last year; and those with young children and others with grown children and young grandchildren. Short biographies are posted on the parish website. Please stop us in church or the undercroft to say hello!

Our success will be rooted in a sense of spiritual community with one another through prayer, scripture, and reflection. The Vestry has elected the Rev. Susie Skinner as our Chaplain who is serving on the search committee in an ex-officio capacity, guiding us on this sacred journey.

The Vestry has provided us with a highly talented Interim Rector, the Rev. Dr. Robert (Rob) Voyle, who will guide the whole congregation in discerning our purpose. Rob has over 25 years in Episcopal ministry focused on congregations in transition. Together Rob and his wife Kim have formed The Appreciative Way, a publishing and training organization in association with the Clergy Leadership Institute that provides post-ordination leadership training, which they also direct. Additionally, the Vestry has hired an experienced calling consultant,

Anne Schmidt. Anne is the Director of Evangelism and Welcome Ministries at the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration in Dallas, TX. Anne is very familiar with St. Peter’s, having served with Luke on the board of the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes. Anne’s expertise has already proven valuable, as she attended our initial retreat, instructing us in protocol, roles, and responsibilities as a committee.

Generally speaking, the search is a 3-step process:

- STEP 1



We as a congregation define our purpose.
- STEP 2



We assess the criteria and skills of appropriate candidates.
- STEP 3



We engage the best-fit candidates in a process of prayer and discernment to determine who the next rector of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church will be.

While the responsibility of being a member of the search committee is quite daunting, we all are humbled to be asked to serve and are comforted by the fact that we are in very good hands, thanks to the foundational work of our Vestry. We are fortunate to be guided by experts like Anne and our Interim Rev. Dr. Rob Voyle, both telling us that our search process will take at least a year to complete. There is no benefit in rushing the process. We will be providing routine updates in the weekly newsletter “News from the Rock,” future issues of *The Cornerstone* magazine, the SPEC website, future Sunday forums, and the Sunday bulletin to keep you all abreast of our progress. You are also welcome to grab any one of us for a conversation from time to time. The committee is committed to transparency; however, many specifics and all candidate information must be held in strictest confidence for obvious reasons.

## What can you do to help us on this sacred journey?

- Pray!** Pray for the search committee, for the candidates and our next rector. The Holy Spirit is certainly at work here. Please pray that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices and that our discernment process will be blessed with the light to find our next rector.
- Join in!** There will be many opportunities to engage in activities to “discern the congregation’s core purpose and how we can weave the individual purposes into that collective purpose.” We simply cannot do this successfully without you, our fellow parishioners.
- Reflect!** Reflect on our present, past and our future. Remind one another of our history, our impact on the Diocese and our community.
- Care!** Take care of one another and continue to be welcoming to those who come in search of a church home.
- Pledge!** Now more than ever, sharing your time, talents and treasure in support of our congregation tells the story of our lives in Christ to our next rector.

We thank you all for your prayers and for this opportunity to serve our parish. May we be blessed to find the next rector for St. Peter’s who will embrace our vision and guide us to keep our light shining, now and in our future.

Peace,  
  
Chris  
Search Committee Chair

## ST. PETER’S RECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE



CHRIS KNIGHT  
(Chair)



SUSIE SKINNER  
(Chaplain)



JOHN BRADLEY



MOKIE  
CARMICHAEL



LAURIE  
HAFFENREFFER



HEDY LEE



SALLY  
LEMKEMEIER



DANNY  
ORTHWEIN



CHARLIE  
PETERS  
(Vestry)



SUSAN  
SCHETTLER



RACHEL  
SOKOLICH



DEWAYNE  
TRAINER  
(Vestry, Jr. Warden)



# Palm Sunday and Holy Week Curriculum for Children

BY ANN BABINGTON, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Spring is an exciting time for the Sunday School children at St. Peter's! Last Sunday, February 23, we made our Alleluia Tags, to be stored away until the penitential season of Lent turns into the joy of Easter. Our older children will be making Palm Crosses; we will walk the interactive stations for the Children's Good Friday Service; our Easter Egg Hunt is always joyous and over way too quickly; and certificates will be handed out to those who attend the Easter Sunrise Service. Lent brings its own special type of learning as we not only study the *Holy Moly*, *Connect* and *Re:Form* Lenten curriculums, but we also alternate each year between two additional Holy Week curriculums: The Sounds of Holy Week and Resurrection Eggs.



The Sounds of Holy Week provides children in Kindergarten through 7th Grade the opportunity to create the soundtrack for the most important week of Jesus' life. The sounds represent: Palm Sunday on the streets (coconut shells and greenery so the children can hear the clip clop of donkeys hooves and the swish of palms); the overturning of the tables in the Temple (pieces of wood and coins falling on the floor); Judas being paid (30 coins being dropped into hands); the events of the Last Supper (matza being cracked, drink poured in a cup, and a door slamming shut as Judas left); the trial and the crucifixion

(washing hands in a basin of water, metal sheet that sounds like thunder, the roll of dice). We all gather around a big table for this interactive lesson where the children are asked to close their eyes to hear and concentrate on the sounds.

Using Resurrection Eggs, we share together the Easter story of Holy Week and Jesus' resurrection in an interesting and memorable way. The children assemble and take home an egg carton, Bible verses, and 12 plastic eggs filled with symbols from Jesus' life. For example, we would study the following Bible verse from Matthew, "While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it and gave it to them saying, 'Take, eat; This is my body.'" Inside that plastic egg would be a small piece of bread. Other items that are tucked into the eggs are: silver coins, purple cloth, thorns, nails, a sponge, a rock and white cloth with accompanying Bible verses. We conclude with the last egg being empty and the Bible verse from Matthew reading, "He is not here for He has been raised as He said."

In Sunday School, we feel it is important that the children share in Lent and the experience of Holy Week. Without engaging in the events of these days, Easter morning will not have the full meaning and significance that it could have for them.



FOR AGES  
4-10

ST. PETER'S  
VBS

THE PARABLES  
OF  
JESUS ✖

JUNE 1-5

9:00 A.M.- NOON

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!  
STPETERSEPISCOPAL.ORG/VBS2020

Dear VBS Families,

An exciting summer is ahead for the children who will be attending St. Peter's Episcopal Church's Vacation Bible School! Please join us June 1-5 for The Parables: Stories that Jesus Told. Jesus loved to teach people by telling them stories, and our VBS campers, ages 4 to 10, will be learning those important stories and their hidden meanings.

The week will be packed with science projects, catchy Christian Music, memorable Bible stories, fun games, delicious snacks, and creative art projects. In addition to that busy schedule, we will have special guest artists each day, such as performers and face painters. Knowing how important it is to give to others, we will also incorporate thoughtful service projects and collections to benefit others.

Be sure to join us during this memorable week of Vacation Bible School! You may register and make your payment online at [stpetersepiscopal.org/vbs2020](http://stpetersepiscopal.org/vbs2020). The registration fee is \$50 per child, with a family maximum of \$90. The registration deadline is Friday, May 22nd. If you have any questions, or are interested in scholarship information, please contact me at [annbabington@gmail.com](mailto:annbabington@gmail.com).

We are looking forward to seeing your children June 1-5 at St. Peter's VBS 2020!

Ann Babington  
Director of Christian Education

# Episcopal City Mission Prayer Cycle



The Last Sunday of Epiphany is also known as “Transfiguration Sunday”, because it uses one of the Gospel readings about the transfiguration of Christ on the holy mountain. Episcopal City Mission works to see the lives of children in the Juvenile Justice System in St. Louis transfigured through God’s grace.

ECM’s chaplains and volunteers strive to help us see the glory of Christ shining through these children -- even in the midst of their circumstances and, through our work, to endeavor to reflect God’s love into their lives.

For more than 65 years ECM has been a ministry of presence to children (ages 11-17) in the Juvenile Justice System in St. Louis. We can never be certain of the ways or extent that our work has changed the children we serve. The poem below expresses our hope for making a long-lasting difference in their young lives.

**You Never Know**

*You never know when someone might  
catch a dream from you.  
Or something you say  
may open up the windows  
of a mind that seeks light.  
The way you live may not matter at all.  
But you never know, it might.  
And just in case it could be  
that another’s life, through you,  
might possibly change for the better,  
with a better and brighter view,  
it seems it might be worth a try  
at pointing the way to the right.  
Of course, it may not matter at all.  
But then again, it might.*

~ Unknown

## ECM PRAYER CYCLE FOR LENT

Learning to see the glory of God in others requires spiritual discipline on our part. Please consider making this cycle of prayer part of your discipline during Lent, training yourself to see Christ’s glory shining through the lives of these children, praying to see them transfigured in their circumstances.

### Monday

Pray for the children at the City Detention Center; the families of these children; Chaplain Kevin Aldridge; Superintendent Gerald Hayes, Assistant Superintendent Martin Jenkins, and the staff of the Detention Center.

### Tuesday

Pray for the children at County Detention; the families of these children; Chaplain Deborah Burris; Superintendent Randy Focken, Assistant Superintendent Kellie Landaker, and the staff of the St. Louis County Detention Center.

### Wednesday

Pray for the children at the Division of Youth Services’ facility, Missouri Hills; the families of these children; Chaplain Kevin Aldridge; Assistant Regional Administrator Audrey Helfrich, and the staff of Missouri Hills.

### Thursday

Pray for those children in the Juvenile Justice System in St. Louis who are certified to stand trial as adults, and their families.

### Friday

Pray with thanks for the supporters of ECM; and for Executive Director Beth Goad, Board Chair Mark Jordan and the Board and Advisory Council, Development Assistant Angela Breeher, and ECM Parish Ambassadors.

## LETTERS FROM THE CHILDREN AT ECM

February 13, 2020  
St. Peter's Episcopal  
Dear Sunday School,  
Thank you for what you guys did for us because we all are going through things right now we all just need a lil love and prayers.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
Dear Sunday School  
Thank you for praying for me and helping me on this holiday  
Happy  
February 13, 2020

Feb 13, 2020  
St. Peter's episcopal church  
Dear Sunday School,  
We send you our love from the detention center. Thanks for showing love during a time we need it the most. God bless. Thank you once again.  
Sincerely

February 17th, 2020  
St. Peter's Episcopal church  
Dear Sunday School, thank you for thinking about all the young kids in this facility and going out of your way to show we've been thought about.  
Sincerely



**HELPERS  
NEEDED  
TO  
DELIVER  
EASTER  
FLOWERS**

HELP SPREAD THE JOY OF EASTER!  
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DELIVER EASTER PLANTS TO MOSTLY HOME-BOUND OR RECENTLY BEREAVED PARISHIONERS ON APRIL 15 OR 16, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE!

# Lenten Offerings at St. Peter's

## YES!<sup>3</sup> LENTEN SUPPER SERIES



Join our Interim Rector, The Rev. Dr. Rob Voyle, for a Lenten program designed to help you discover and live a life in which you can simultaneously say **Yes! To God – Yes! To your Neighbor – Yes! To Yourself.** Come learn from Rob about discerning your

core purpose in life, and how it can lead you to Yes! The program, accompanied by a simple supper, will follow our 5:30 service of Holy Eucharist in Grace Chapel on every Wednesday of Lent (March 4th – April 1st). The evening will conclude by 8:00 p.m. Sign up on the church website or call the Church Office at 314-993-2306. Read more about this wonderful series on pages 2 & 3.

## SUNDAY FORUM:

“Learning How to Forgive and Return to Love”

Beginning on March 8th, Rob will lead a Sunday Forum series focused on forgiveness. Learn the mechanism of resentment and forgiveness, and how to distinguish forgiveness from reconciliation. Explore the possibilities for forgiving and staying in love on your terms, even while people continue to behave offensively and injuriously. Rob promises that the gatherings will be very practical in nature. He invites you to bring your resentment and leave without it! Sundays in Lent at 9:15 a.m. in the Undercroft, beginning March 8th.



## TRINITY MAUNDY THURSDAY SHOE COLLECTION

The Trinity Food Pantry community has needs in addition to food. Most homeless people walk everywhere they go, usually wearing out a pair of shoes in a month. St. Peter's is collecting new and gently used sturdy walking shoes in men's sizes 8-16 (Trinity serves a predominantly male population). Drop shoes in the baskets in the narthex on Sundays or bring them to the Church Office during the week. The final day for the collection is **Palm Sunday, April 5th**. Our goal is to collect 80 pairs of shoes. Please help us reach our goal!

## FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Join fellow parishioners at 7:00 on Friday mornings in the Elliot Room. The goal is to promote an environment where participants ask questions, explore answers, make friends,



and deepen their knowledge and love of Christ. It's a great way to start your day!

## CHORAL EVENSONG

Sunday, March 8th at 5:00 p.m. This is a traditional service of scripture, prayer, and music. The choral music is by American composers Searle Wright (1918-2004) and Craig Phillips (b. 1961). The canticles are Wright's Magnificat and Nunc dimittis in E minor. The anthem is Phillips's “Keep watch, dear Lord,” a setting of a beloved prayer from *The Book of Common Prayer*.

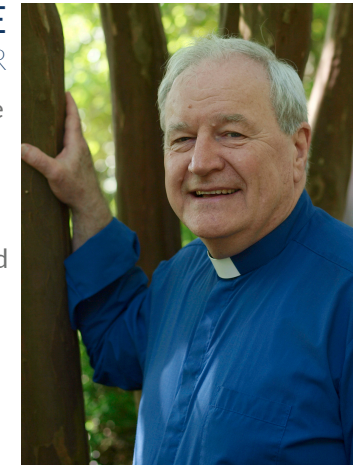


# New Year, New Roles

*St. Peter's clergy and staff are here for you! Read about what (and who!) is new in the Church Office.*

## REV. ROB VOYLE INTERIM RECTOR

On March 1st, we welcome The Rev. Dr. Rob Voyle as Interim Rector of St. Peter's. Rob is an Episcopal priest, executive coach, and a licensed psychologist. In addition to a doctorate in psychology he has degrees in mechanical engineering and theology.



Rob was born and ordained in New Zealand. After ordination, he moved to the United States, met and married his wife Kim. They currently live in Oregon, twenty miles west of Portland.

As the Founder and Director of the Clergy Leadership Institute he is committed to providing advanced training in clergy leadership to enhance ministry effectiveness.

Rob's personal mission is to be “helpful, humorous, and healing,” which is manifested in a passion for conducting training and consultation. He is a gifted storyteller and has a penchant for mischievously confronting listeners with new insights that are both affirming and liberating.

We look forward to learning more about Rob as he joins our church community!

## ANGELA MAHAN

CHIEF OF STAFF / ADMINISTRATOR

Angela Mahan serves as Chief of Staff and Administrator at St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Her role includes the day-to-day non-liturgical operations of the parish, including oversight of lay staff, facility, communications, financial budget and parish events.

Before starting at St. Peter's, Angela worked for Kansas State University as Director of Research & Extension. Originally from Kansas, she holds both a bachelor's and master's degree from Wichita State University. Having spent more than 20 years in the field of higher education, Angela has broad knowledge in the areas of administration, marketing, staff development, volunteer management, event planning and facility operations.

In her free time, Angela enjoys spending time with her two dogs, cooking new recipes, and exploring different walking trails as well as restaurants within the St. Louis area.

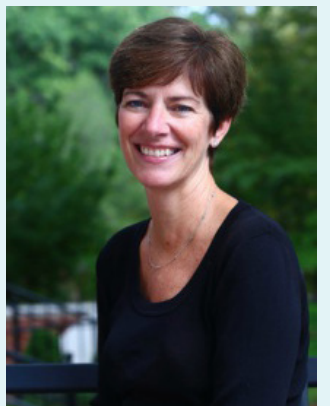
She is married to the Reverend C. Earl Mahan, an Episcopal priest and rector within the diocese of Missouri, and has two stepchildren, Trevor and Mikayla.



## JANET ROUSE

DIRECTOR OF STEWARDSHIP AND PARISH LIFE

Janet will continue in the role of Stewardship Director and Parish Life. Within the financial stewardship area, Janet will oversee financial giving at St. Peter's. In addition, she will work with committee chairs and parishioners to develop and maintain active involvement in our service, support, and ministry opportunities. Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure truly make a difference. Please contact Janet at 314-993-2306, or janetr@stpetersepiscopal.org, to learn more about opportunities to serve at St. Peter's Church!








# 2020 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

As of 2/20/20

307 PLEDGES (58% of households)

\$1,081,830 (77% of Goal)

## MAKE A GIFT

See what God will do next








# Giving THAT GROWS

**PLANNED GIVING** to St. Peter's Episcopal Church allows you to share the **blessings** you have received, by **investing** in the mission of our church and making a smart and **generous** financial decision.

# Stewardship During Transition

Over the next year, we as a parish will reflect and discern, help the Search Committee in its efforts, open our hearts and minds to our interim rector and each other. More than ever, we need your commitment to the vision of St. Peter's.

This is not a time to hibernate, to wait quietly for an awakening. Quite the contrary - this is a time to become more active, more aware, and more involved. Many eyes will be on us in the coming months. Candidates will be looking at every aspect of St. Peter's and that will include how we as a congregation respond in terms of stewardship.

If you have pledged, thank you. Your pledge strengthens our parish so that we may fulfill our mission. Every pledge is important.

If you have not already done so, please prayerfully consider a pledge to support the mission of St. Peter's and to do the work God is calling us to do.

No, we are not hibernating. We are alive and we are awake. Stay invigorated! Stay active and stay faithful in your sharing of the blessings that God has bestowed.

With love and gratitude,

Laurie Haffenreffer  
Stewardship Chair



## What is God Calling You to Do?

You are gifted with ideas, creativity, talent, and skills so why not share them? St. Peter's has a wide variety of ministries that serve our congregation as well as our community. Some of our current serving needs include:

- Sunday Breakfast Crew
- Hospitality Committee
- Trinity Foot Clinic – Maundy Thursday
- Pentecost Celebration Committee

Contact Janet Rouse at [janetr@stpetersepiscopal.org](mailto:janetr@stpetersepiscopal.org) to sign-up or learn more!





# Dreaming of Easter

BY DAVID SINDEN, ORGANIST & DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

I’ll never forget the first time I went to a service for Candlemas at the Oratory of St. Francis de Sales in south St. Louis.

The setting was extraordinary. This church was recently voted the most beautiful church in America, and its magnificent altar was adorned with white hangings for the day.

Just in the first part of this service for Candlemas (which we Episcopalians also call the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple), we heard the proper Latin chants and saw the blessing of the candles. After coming forward to the altar rail to receive our candles, our candles were lit, and everyone present joined in a Candlemas Procession (behind at least sixteen acolytes!) around the church.

It was then that we entered a different liturgical world.

While we were in procession, the altar hangings were changed from white to a somber Lenten purple. Because the Oratory keeps the old custom of the three-week “pre-Lenten” season, we were reminded that Lent was on the way.

It was a surprise to see altar hangings changed in the midst of this service. But it was a great reminder of how the church celebrates the totality of Jesus’s life in everything we do. Even while we commemorated an event concerning the infant Christ, we were reminded of his passion.

This year at our own celebration of Candlemas (Sunday, Feb. 2), we sang Hymn 259 by John Ellerton. The hymn begins with a surprisingly heavy dose of “not” and “no.”

Hail to the Lord who comes,  
Comes to his temple gate;  
**Not** with his angel host,  
**Not** in his kingly state;  
**No** shouts proclaim him nigh,  
**No** crowds his coming wait.



The author’s son at the Candlemas Procession at The Oratory of St. Francis de Sales in 2018

It’s an unusual stanza of poetry; Ellerton describes the Presentation by what it is not. And his point of comparison is the second time Jesus will come to the Jerusalem temple: his triumphal entry that we commemorate on Palm Sunday.

On that first Palm Sunday, to use the words of another hymn (154):

- Yes, there are angels: “the company of angels is praising thee on high”
- Yes, Jesus comes in his kingly state: “All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!” “Thou art the King of Israel”
- Yes, there are shouts: “to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.”
- And yes, there are crowds: “The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went”

There are other wonderful “intersectional” moments like this in our church music.

At Christmas time, we sang Hymn 104, “A stable lamp is lighted,” by Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Richard Wilbur:

This child through David’s city  
Shall ride in triumph by;  
The Palm shall strew its branches,  
And every stone shall cry.

And on Christmas Eve, the Choir sang a traditional Basque carol that juxtaposes the sleeping Jesus with his death and resurrection.

Sing lullaby, lullaby,  
is the babe awaking? Sing lullaby.  
Hush, do not wake the infant king,  
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning,  
conquering death, its bondage breaking.  
Sing lullaby.

The whole of our Church Year from Advent to Pentecost is rich with multi-layered meaning. Even while we were celebrating Christmas, we have been “dreaming of Easter.”

Juan Oliver, the current Custodian of the Book of Common Prayer, recently wrote about “iconic” feasts in the Church Year, the greatest of which is Easter. “For those who live in iconic time,” Oliver says, “Lent is irradiated with Easter light.”

Let us enter into Lent not with dread, but with joy. As we draw nearer to the celebration of the Paschal Mystery let us sing and celebrate the dying and rising of our Lord. After all, we have been “dreaming” about it all along.

## EASTER FLOWERS

It is time to order flowers to beautify the sanctuary for Easter. We hope that you will contribute to the general cost of Easter flowers. You may order and make your donation online, or by completing the form found in the Sunday bulletin. If you wish to have your acknowledgement appear in the Easter service booklet, all orders must be placed by Monday, March 23rd. Easter Flowers donations received after that deadline are appreciated, and will still be designated for the flowers, but the acknowledgement will not meet the Easter booklet print deadline.



# WELCOME TO A NEW YEAR! WELCOME TO A NEW DECADE!

...and please help the Playgroup to welcome new families to our wonderful program. If you know someone who has celebrated a first birthday, it is time to sign up for our 2020-2021 year. We focus on providing children who are twenty months to three years old with a fabulous first experience away from home. For more information or to schedule a visit, please call 993-6774 or email [playgroup@stpetersepiscopal.org](mailto:playgroup@stpetersepiscopal.org).



## Have you logged into realm yet?

Looking for that 2019 Giving Statement? Can't find the phone number of a fellow parishioner? Want to email your Sunday group to request a sub?

Realm, our interactive parish directory, offers convenient tools to support everyone's involvement in the life of our parish on Sundays and throughout the week. Update your contact information, access the parish directory, manage your family's privacy settings, upload a photo, view your giving history, or sign up for paperless statements all with just a few clicks.

If you have not yet created your login, you will need to be sent a Realm Login Invitation email. This ensures that everyone's contact information stays among St. Peter's parishioners. Please sign up at the Welcome Table in the Undercroft, or email our Director of Communications, Jacquelyn VanWeelden, at [jacquelynv@stpetersepiscopal.org](mailto:jacquelynv@stpetersepiscopal.org). Please provide your full name, preferred email address, and preferred phone number.

## Let's get connected.

Church doesn't just happen on Sundays. Stay connected wherever you go by downloading the free Connect - Our Church Community app. Once you have created your Realm login, you can use the app to communicate with your groups, RSVP to events, manage your giving, update your profile, and more. It makes it easier for us to stay connected and informed throughout the week.



**Connect - Our Church  
Community**  
ACS Technologies

If you are having trouble creating your Realm login, uploading your profile photo, or navigating any other aspect of Realm, feel free to contact Jacquelyn at [jacquelynv@stpetersepiscopal.org](mailto:jacquelynv@stpetersepiscopal.org) or by calling 314-993-2306 ext. 112.

# Upcoming Events



## YES!<sup>3</sup> SUPPER SERIES

WEDNESDAY,  
MARCH 4 @ 5:30  
P.M.

Discover and live a life in which you can simultaneously say Yes! To God – Yes! To your Neighbor – Yes! To Yourself. Please read more about this wonderful series on pages 2 & 3.

Next: Wednesdays in Lent  
March 11, 18, 25, & April 1

## HOLY EUCHARIST AT THE GATESWORTH

THURSDAY, MARCH 5 @ 11:00 A.M.

All are welcome to gather with parishioners who reside at the Gatesworth for a service of the Holy Eucharist in Club West, in the West Wing of One McKnight Place.

Next: April 2



## CHORAL EVENSONG

SUNDAY, MARCH 8 @ 5:00 P.M.

This is a traditional service of scripture, prayer, and music. Please read more about this service on page 14.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

TUESDAY, MARCH 10 @ 7:15 A.M.

Join the men of St. Peter's Church and their friends on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:15 a.m. The morning features a warm welcome, a hearty breakfast, and good conversation. Everyone is welcome!

Next: April 14

## TRINITY HOT LUNCH

SUNDAY, MARCH 22 @ 1:00 P.M.

Four or more times a year, teams of parishioners cook and serve at Trinity Episcopal CWE's Sunday Hot Lunch from 1-3 p.m. Please contact Bill Gilbert at [turkgobble@aol.com](mailto:turkgobble@aol.com) for more info or to sign up!



## SANDWICH MAKERS

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 @ 9:15 A.M.

Gather in the kitchen to assemble sandwiches for Sunshine Ministries in downtown St. Louis. This enables Sunshine Ministries to provide lunch to homeless men seeking shelter and support. All are welcome!

Next: April 26



## PALM CROSS WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 @ 9:00 A.M.

Expert hands and beginners are all invited to attend the annual Palm Cross Workshop, Saturday, April 4, 9:00 to 11:00 am, in the Sunday School Grade 4/5 classroom. All are welcome to join!



## ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 @ 9:00 A.M.

Will you help us beautify our church in time for Holy Week and Easter? Join us on Saturday, April 4th, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. for some outdoor grounds keeping or indoor cleaning in the Sanctuary. Coffee and donuts will be served. Don't forget to bring your outdoor work gloves or indoor rubber gloves – and we'll supply the rest. If you can make it, please contact Jerry Wille at [gwille@hotmail.com](mailto:gwille@hotmail.com) or by phone at (314) 254-1698. We will meet rain or shine!

# Holy Week & Easter Schedule



## PALM SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist  
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist

## WEDNESDAY EVENING HOLY EUCHARIST

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8 @ 5:30 P.M.



## GOOD FRIDAY

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

12:00 P.M. Liturgy of Good Friday, followed by **Waiting at the Foot of the Cross.**

We invite you to wait with Blessed Mary and John the Beloved, to reflect and meditate on the last words of Jesus from the cross. Brief reflections will be offered and times of silence will be kept as we ponder the significance and meaning of Jesus' crucifixion.

This opportunity for prayer and reflection will begin immediately following the Noon Good Friday liturgy and conclude at 3:00 p.m.; all are welcome to participate for any portion of this time.

4:30 P.M. Children's Chapel with Stations of the Cross

7:00 P.M. Liturgy of Good Friday



## MAUNDY THURSDAY

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

Workers are needed for the Maundy Thursday Foot Clinic at Trinity Episcopal CWE. Different jobs are available for workers with different comfort levels. For more info, please contact Liza Weiss at [lizagrote@gmail.com](mailto:lizagrote@gmail.com).

7:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing

8:00 P.M. Overnight Prayer Vigil in Grace Chapel



## EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 11 @ 10:30 A.M.

Children ages ten and younger are invited to hop on over to the front lawn of MICDS Saturday, April 11th, rain or shine. There will be a group picture before the hunt! Be sure to join us there! Questions? Contact Ann Babington at [annbabington@gmail.com](mailto:annbabington@gmail.com).

## EASTER SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

6:00 A.M. Sunrise Service  
7:00 A.M., 9:00 A.M., & 11:00 A.M.  
Services of Holy Eucharist

8:45 A.M. - 10:30 A.M. Parish Breakfast

Child care will be available in the Little Building for infants through 5-year-olds from 7:30 A.M. through 12:30 P.M. Additional parking will be available at MICDS.



# Upcoming Events



## ST. JOHN'S PEACE MEAL

SATURDAY, APRIL 18 @ 2:00 P.M.

If you would like to cook and/or serve dinner for St. John's Peace Meal at St. John's Tower Grove, contact Bill Gilbert, [turkgobble@aol.com](mailto:turkgobble@aol.com) or 314-283-5288. Volunteers must be at least 12 years old.



## CHORAL EVENSONG

SUNDAY, APRIL 19 @ 5:00 P.M.

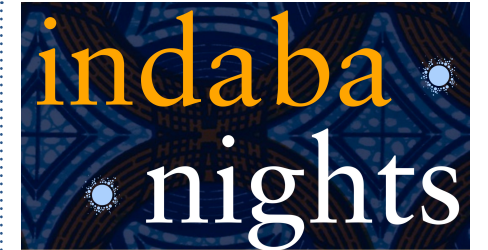
In the season of Eastertide, the lessons and music celebrate the risen Christ. The canticles are from the Service in C Major, Op. 115 by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924). The anthem is "Worthy is the Lamb" from Messiah by G. F. Handel (1685-1759). Sung by the St. Peter's Singers.



## YOUTH SUNDAY

SUNDAY, APRIL 19 @ 10:30 A.M.

Since the youth do wonderful things and represent St. Peter's all year long, we are taking a special day to celebrate them. Come join us at the 10:30 service on April 19th for our sixth annual Youth Sunday! Our youth in grades 6-12 will help lead the worship service through music, acolyting, reading, ushering, chalice, and preaching!



## INDABA NIGHTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22 @ 5:30 P.M.

Indaba Nights is an invitation to increase understanding, deepen relationships, and build a stronger community here at St. Peter's by spending time together in worship, fellowship, and deep discussion. We begin with Holy Eucharist, followed by dinner. Then groups meet for discussion. We come back together for Compline, finishing by 7:45 p.m.

Next: April 29, May 6 & 13

## THE ORDINATION AND CONSECRATION OF THE 11TH BISHOP OF MISSOURI

SATURDAY, APRIL 25 &  
SUNDAY, APRIL 26

The diocese will welcome the Rev. Deon Johnson as our 11th bishop on April 25, 2020.

The ordination will be at St. Stanislaus Kostka Polish Catholic Parish in St. Louis. A reception follows at the Polish Heritage Center, on the church grounds.

The installation (seating) will be April 26, 2020, at Christ Church Cathedral.

We invite everyone in the Diocese to be a part of this joyous event, either by attending in person or by watching a livestream feed at a watch party or your home.

Please visit [diocesemo.org](http://diocesemo.org) for more information.



# indaba

[ in-dah-bah ]  Zulu, South Africa

(n.) A gathering for purposeful discussion, with a goal of discovering deeper convergences that might hold us together in difference, building better understanding and a stronger community.

## indaba nights

Join us at St. Peter's as we come together in community to worship, eat, and share in purposeful discussion on the common concerns of our shared life.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR 4 WEDNESDAY EVENINGS:

APRIL  
22



APRIL  
29



MAY  
6



MAY  
13

CLASS INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION COMING SOON!