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Jim's Corner

The account of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, in Luke 2:1-20 is probably the most loved and recited of the three gospel accounts, the other two being Matthew 1:18-2:1a, and John 1:1-18. Creches are ubiquitous and when one sees one, one immediately thinks of Christmas, the association is so strong. Most families have their unique Christmas traditions that are lovingly followed every year. As a child, I remember my mother cooking oyster fritters, scrambled eggs, bacon, and Christmas braided bread with dried fruit mixed in (which, one year, our dog ate before it was baked. The poor thing, she looked pregnant as the yeast was still active).

One of my most cherished memories of Christmas was the yearly arrival of our dear Canadian friends, the

Raskin family. Norm Raskin had known my parents since medical residency on Long Island, New York, and he became something like a second father to me (he used to call me Jimson). What was so special about Norm's family visit was that they were Jewish. So, on Christmas morning Norm would wear his signature stripped brown suit and play Santa Claus, distributing the gifts from under the tree to all fifteen people in attendance, including his wife, Sheil, and his two sons, Mel and Joey. You might imagine how wild it was to have so many in the house. When Hanukkah coincided with Christmas, we would participate in that observance as well. It's as though the sharing of our religious practices made the angels sing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!" Luke 2:14

Presiding Bishop:

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry

Diocesan Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. Susan B. Haynes

ST. PETER'S CHURCH STAFF

Interim Rector:

The Rev. Dr. James W. Hunter

Secretary:

Laura Kallestad

Organist:

Elizabeth Miller

Treasurer:

Charlie Pfeifer

Today, Jeannine's and my traditions are more low-key. During Advent, we have two Advent calendars, a Noah's Ark calendar between the kitchen and the family room and a log cabin calendar in the sunroom. We alternate days opening the doors and windows to remove the animals or decorations. We usually have two trees decorated, one in the living room and one in the sunroom. After a big Christmas breakfast and Morning Prayer on Christmas Day, we open gifts in the living room listening to Christmas music in the background. Later in the afternoon, we view the Christmas classic video, *A Christmas Story*, starring Melinda Dillon, Darren McGavin, and Peter Billingsley. Later, Jeannine's son, Scott, and her grandson, Isaac, will come for a Christmas dinner of pizza, followed by exchanging gifts with them. We've developed the Christmas pizza tradition to make the day less stressful and hectic, saving the big dinner for the day after Christmas.

I have no doubt that you have your own traditions and warm memories of Christmases past. As the song says, "It's the most wonderful time of the year." Jeannine and I pray that each of you remember those traditions and experience the joy of knowing what the angel shared with us, "I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10b-11

Merry Christmas!



MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY REPORTS: Annual Ministry reports were requested to be in the office by **November 30, 2023**. If you haven't submitted your report, please do so immediately. Thank you.



The ladies of St. Peter's meet on the second Monday of each month for lunch and fellowship. Please join us on December 11th 12:30 P.M. at the Plaza Azteca, 5209 Providence Rd., Providence Square, Virginia Beach. If you plan to attend, please sign the list on the bulletin board in the parish hall. For more information, contact Millie Coward, cell (757) 469-5887/ m.jlc@verizon.net.

The Altar Guild – We need your help!!!! We are looking for any man, woman, or young person that is confirmed in the Episcopal Church to join this ministry. We welcome you to join our team to help prepare the altar for celebrations of worship such as weddings, baptisms, funerals, and Sunday services. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Millie Coward, cell (757)469-5887/m.jlc@verizon.net. Please consider joining this very critically needed ministry of St. Peter's.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry- We continue to knit, crochet, and loom for various organizations. In October we completed 5 prayer shawls for St. Peter's, 11 washcloths and soap sacs for Judeo Christian Outreach Center, 11 chemo hats for Virginia Oncology, 21 premie hats and 6 infant hats for area hospitals. If you would like to help us supply these much needed items or learn how to knit, crochet, or loom, please join us December 7th at 10:00 A.M. in the Diffenbaugh Library. We have expert teachers and all the supplies you will need to practice. For more specifics please contact Millie Coward, cell (757) 469-5887/ m.jlc@verizon.net

Christmas is coming! Need a gift? We have a few beautiful white shawls that may be used for a baby blanket or a lap cover. They are \$30 each. These shawls would sell for at least 3 times the cost we are offering. All proceeds go to the Prayer Shawl Ministry to help cover the cost of yarn. If you are interested or would just like to see one, please contact any member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry or Millie Coward at (757)469-5887 or m.jlc@verizon.net.

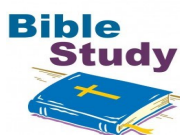


We are in the final-rehearsal stage for our Sunday School Christmas program to be held on **Sunday, December 17th** during the 10:00 A.M. service. The theme this year is **"The Twelve Days of Christmas"** song and will be directed by Linsey Shreve.



It is important that your children attend church each Sunday (as you are able) for practice, so they are comfortable with their parts. We always look forward to seeing your children and are excited about presenting this program to our congregation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us.

Our "Angel Tree" gifts you most generously donate will again be given to "For Kids" organization. The items do not need to be wrapped, as they will be displayed on shelves for parents to choose - imitating as real a shopping experience as possible. All donations should be brought to church by **December 10th** for delivery that afternoon. Thank you for your support of this very important ministry. If you have any questions, please call Vel at (757)630-4831.



Bible Study meeting is on Thursdays at 10:30A.M., in the Diffenbaugh Library. All are welcome! Bring a Bible and don't forget to bring a friend.



Racial Healing Workshop

Engage in transformative racial healing through our Diocesan Workshop, fostering empathy and understanding in a lifelong spiritual journey.

****While we encourage all to take this workshop, there are specific individuals and groups within the diocese who are required to complete it. Those individuals and groups include search committees, vestries and leadership boards (Standing Committee, Commission on Ministry, Executive Board, among others), diocesan staff, church staff, and clergy.**

Upcoming Local Workshop:

NEWLY LISTED


SATURDAY, JANUARY 27
9 A.M. – 3 P.M.
Ascension, Norfolk

Register at:
www.diosova.org

December 2023

St. Peter's Episcopal Church &
Day School
224 S. Military Hwy
Norfolk, VA 23502
Office: (757) 466-9392



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 8:00 A.M. - Rite I 10:00 A.M.-Rite II First Sunday of Advent	4	5 Prayer Shawl Meeting - 10:00 A.M. 8:00 P.M. AA MEETING	6 Cursillo Small Groups - 6:00 P.M. Genesis Bible Study - 7:00 P.M.	7 Bible Study in the Library - 10:30 A.M.	8	9
10 8:00 A.M. - Rite I 10:00 A.M.-Rite II Second Sunday of Advent Angel Tree gifts are due at the church.	11 Ladies Luncheon @ 12:30 P.M. Vestry Meeting - 7:00 P.M.	12 8:00 P.M. AA MEETING	13 Cursillo Small Groups - 6:00 P.M. Genesis Bible Study - 7:00 P.M.	14 Bible Study in the Library - 10:30 A.M.	15	16
17 8:00 A.M. - Rite I 10:00 A.M.-Rite II - Third Sunday of Advent Children's Sunday School Program - "The Twelve Days of Christmas"	18 Day School Board Meeting - 7:00 P.M.	19 8:00 P.M. AA MEETING	20 Cursillo Small Groups - 6:00 P.M. DAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - 6:30 P.M.	21 Bible Study in the Library - 10:30 A.M.	22	23
24 9:00 A.M. - Lessons and Carols 10:30 P.M. - Christmas Music 11:00 P.M. - Midnight Mass Fourth Sunday of Advent	25 	26 8:00 P.M. AA MEETING	27 Cursillo Small Groups- 6:00 P.M. Genesis Bible Study - 7:00 P.M.	28 Bible Study in the Library - 10:30 A.M.	29	30
31 8:00 A.M. - Rite I 10:00 A.M.-Rite II First Sunday after Christmas Day.	1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2 8:00 P.M. AA MEETING	3 Cursillo Small Groups - 6:00 P.M.	4 Bible Study in the Library - 10:30 A.M.	5	6

MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS

DECEMBER 3 - 1st Sunday of Advent

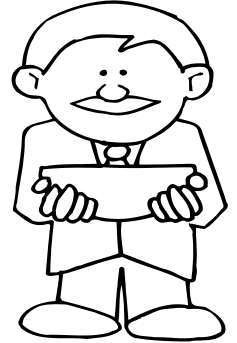
Acolyte: Magdalena Kress

Ushers: Vicky Martin, Susan Sigler

Lector: 8:00 - Charlotte Corbett; 10:00 - Bruce Comfort

LEM: 8:00 - Bob Vanderslice; 10:00 - Bruce Comfort

Altar Guild Duty: Judy Eller, Elizabeth Miller



DECEMBER 10 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

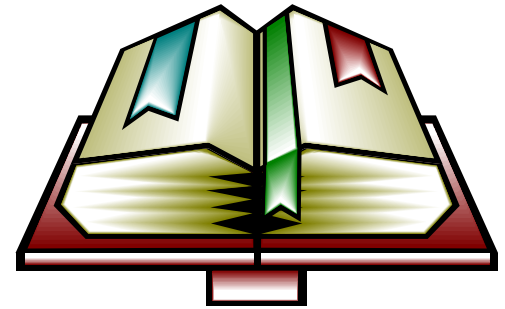
Acolyte: Eric Evans

Ushers: Greg Evans, Howard Belote

Lector: 8:00 - Jeffrey Pfeifer; 10:00 - Jeffrey Pfeifer

LEM: 8:00 - Bob Vanderslice; 10:00 - Kimberly Truxell

Altar Guild Duty: Charlotte Corbett, Jessica Trochanowski



DECEMBER 17 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

Acolyte: Carys Shreve

Ushers: Susan Sigler, Larry Shreve

Lector: 8:00 - Bob Vanderslice; 10:00 - Janet Chauncey

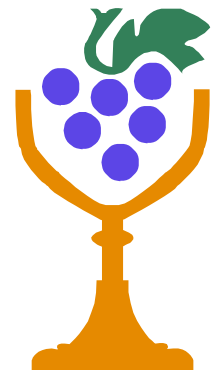
LEM: 8:00 - Bob Vanderslice; 10:00 - Charlie Pfeifer

Altar Guild Duty: Judy Eller, Ashley Pierce

DECEMBER 24 - 4th Sunday of Advent - Christmas Eve Day - 9:00 A.M. - Lessons & Carols

Acolyte: Judy Eller

Altar Guild: Vel Shreve, Millie Coward



DECEMBER 24 - Christmas Eve - Midnight Mass

Acolyte: Eric Evans, Bronwyn Shreve

Ushers: Jim Jimeno, Vicky Martin

Lector: 11:00 P.M. - Janet Chauncey

LEM: 11:00 P.M. - Kimberly Truxell

Altar Guild Duty: Vel Shreve, Millie Coward



DECEMBER 31 - 1st Sunday after Christmas Day

Acolyte: Eric Evans

Ushers: Jim Jimeno, Vicky Martin

Lector: 8:00 Jeffrey Pfeifer; 10:00 - Laura Kallestad

LEM: 8:00 - Charlie Pfeifer; 10:00 - Charlie Pfeifer

Altar Guild Duty: Charlotte Corbett, Ashley Pierce

CHILDREN'S LESSONS



December 2023

December 3 Debbie Whitehorne, Wendy Glaeser
"The Angel's Visit" Matthew 1:18-25

December 10 Yvonne Authement, Bronwyn Shreve
"Jesus is Born" Luke 2:1-20

December 17 **Children's Christmas Program**



Sunday School will not be held for the remainder of December.
We will begin again in January 2024.

Wishing all a truly joyous Christmas!!!

from your Christian Ed Staff





St Peter's Episcopal Sunday School

Christmas Program

Parents, we are already planning for our Sunday School Christmas Play to be held on Sunday, December 17th, during the 10:00 A.M. family service. The theme this year is "The Twelve Days of Christmas" song and will be directed by Ms. Linsey Shreve.

The weeks fly by at this time of year and we would like to get an early start. If you would like your child to participate in the program, it will be important that you bring them to church each Sunday (as you are able) for practice, so they are comfortable with their parts.

We always look forward to seeing your children and are excited about presenting this program to our congregation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us.



DECEMBER

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings are on the 1st Sunday of the month at both the 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. services.

Happy Birthday



Diane Wicker	1 st
Ron Monte	3 rd
Todd Eidam	9 th
Howard Belote	11 th
Patsi Walton	12 th
Megan Daniels	12 th
Eric Evans	13 th
Scott Walton	14 th
Isabel Nowland	15 th
Vel Shreve	23 rd
Jessica Fry	23 rd
Sebastian Plucinski	26 th

Charlie & Peggy Pfeifer	12/19/71
Bob & Kathy Vanderslice	12/30/92

Please call the office with anyone we may have missed on our lists for birthdays and/or anniversaries. Thank you.

A 2023 Flower Chart is located in the vestibule as you enter the parish hall.

It is ONE way to order flowers for a special Sunday.

Please visit our website for online ordering if you would like to donate flowers in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving.

The website eliminates mistakes that could hinder the ordering of flowers.

The price stays the same, \$72 per Sunday or \$36 if two people give on the same day.

All articles for the next issue of "The Call" are due by the 15th of the month.

Send articles to :
laura@stpeters-norfolk.org
or call the church office
757-466-9392.

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)

Joe, Chloe, Hannah Comfort-Tarbell, David, Courtney, Frank, Kyle, Michael, Allan, Mario, Roger Riffle, Chris Trochanowski



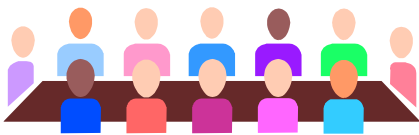
The Veterans are always in need of:



Please keep these people in your prayers

Toothbrushes, toothpaste, shaving cream, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, razors, tissues & handkerchiefs (new unopened). No candy, food, or drinks right now. They **are** accepting used clothing items again.

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



VESTRY MEMBERS

Kimberly Truxell, Sr. Warden - ('23)
Bruce Comfort, Jr. Warden— ('23)

Vel Shreve ('23), Judy Eller ('24), Charlie Pfeifer ('24), Debbie Whitehorne ('24), Linsey Shreve ('25) Liz Kress ('25), Peggy Pfeifer ('25)

Holy Father, the navigator of our souls, hear us as we hold up before you our annual Vestry. Be with us as we chart a course together, inspired by the presence of your Spirit. Give courage to our clergy, our leaders and each of us, as we move forward with your blessing. For all we do, we do to your glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Edward Klaus III	BJ Neaves	JoAnne Stone
Rick Daniels	Niko Miyashiro	Lois Deloatch
Haley G.	Jessica T.	Patsi Walton
Wayne Radford	Kathy Vanderslice	John Eidam
Nancy Evans	Kathleen Spudes	Dewey Radford
Luanne Cattley	Mary Robson	Robyn Klaus
Roger Bowser	Sarah Kakol	Charlotte Corbet
Howard Belote	Susan Sigler	Eddie Klaus II
Elma Hagemeier	Nancy Davis	Dot Pierce
Mary Horkey	Josie C	Megan C
Val Powell	Debbie Hollister	Joan Crowther
Denise McCue	Beau Pollard	
Bruce & Nancy Comfort	Clay & Wanda Smith	
Charlie & Leslie Pereira	Debbie & Kenny	
Jack & Dianne McKnight	Myles & Family	
Brian & Brenda Hallman	Jodi & Sean McGinty	
Kathy & Tim Sarver	Paul & Lee Nelson	
Lacey & Dan Pollard		

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2023

Opening: The St. Peter's Vestry met together in the Diffenbaugh Library and via Zoom (due to Covid) on October 9, 2023. Attending the meeting were Fr. Jim Hunter, Charlie Pfeifer, Peggy Pfeifer, Vel Shreve, Linsey Shreve, Judy Eller. Via Zoom were Kimberly Truxell, Bruce Comfort, Laura Kallestad, Debbie Whitehorne, and Liz Kress.

Agenda: Fr. Jim asked all to look at the agenda for the evening and see if any changes or additions needed to be made before starting. Vel motioned to accept the agenda as is and Linsey seconded. Passed by acclamation.

September 2023 Minutes: Linsey added that she was absent from that meeting, and it was amended. Charlie motioned to accept the minutes as amended, Bruce seconded. The minutes were approved by acclamation.

September Financial Report: Charlie reported on the September Finance Report.

The Cash Account Balances for September 2023 are as follows:

Operating Account:	\$44,603.55
Money Market Account	\$40,074.05
Composite Fund:	\$72,926.15
Total Net Assets:	\$160,679.02

Peggy motioned to accept the September Financial Report and Vel seconded. It was approved by acclamation.

Rector's Report: Fr. Jim reported that he had 1 communion visit in September, and 1 hospital visit, and continued working with Lynn Farlin on the formation project.

Senior Warden's Report: Nothing to report.

Junior Warden: Sidewalk has been repaired. Bruce will be contacting Climatedmakers about the thermostats in the church. They can only be set for weekdays and weekends not on individual days of the week.

New Business:

Electrical Problems: Laura and Debbie have the information regarding the "3 Phases" of the electrical system. It caused a disruption of power to the day school (1/2 of the school was without power). Robert Whitehorne (Parishioner) and Barry Connelly (Electrician) came out to inspect the problem and managed to fix it but they informed the office that all 3 phases need to be replaced – not repaired – and he is unable to do that kind of major work. It would shut us down for quite some time but needed to be done sooner rather than later. This also affects the church. It can not be accomplished one at a time. We will research some general contractors to give us estimates.

Stewardship Campaign: Should we ask some people to give a short talk about how and why they give to the campaign? The first letter will be sent out by October 19th.

Operation Christmas Child: Children in Sunday School will participate in this and have a "shoebox" for one girl and one boy. This may be opened to the congregation if anyone wants to participate. Debbie will have all the information available. It will need to be returned to Debbie by the 12th. Each box will also require \$10 for shipping and handling. This will be in addition to the angel tree. The Day School will also participate in this, at least one box for a boy and one for a girl. A notice will be placed in the bulletins and in *The Call*.

Old Business:

1. **Search Committee:** The Vestry could serve, but it would be more effective to have a separate committee, and they would present candidates for the position to the Vestry. Most of the parish profile could be written in advance of the Vestry retreat scheduled for February 3rd, 2024. One priority is to decide if we will have a separate committee or if the vestry will BE the Search Committee.

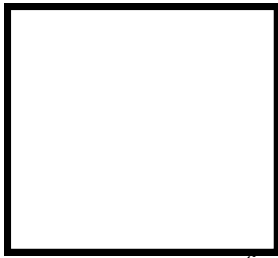
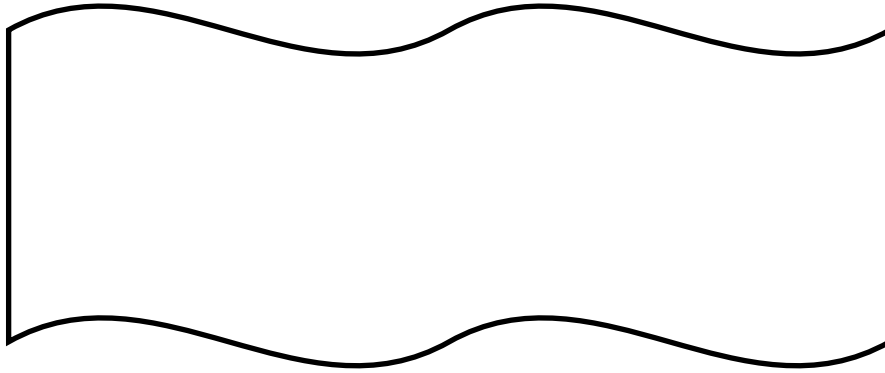
The Search Committee will also be the one to complete the profile. If anyone would like to speak to someone about serving, they should speak with Fr. Jim before approaching them. It should be a varied demographic of people who serve.
2. **Sexton:** Antonio will work with us as a “handyman.” He will be hired as an “on call” worker and should be paid as a “1099 Contractor” rather than a “Sexton”. We would have to be flexible with the time a project needed to be done.
3. **Cleaners:** Floors in the Parish Hall and two hallways will be stripped and waxed on October 12th. We need to have felt put on the bottoms of all tables and chairs in the parish hall to ensure the floors are not scratched up when they are moved into place. Debbie and Laura will purchase.
4. **Interim Ministry Update:** Not much to say as all the meetings have been attended/watched by all, and it is going along smoothly.
5. **Trustees:** Charlie attempted to bring the forms to the courthouse, and they needed a change in the way it was presented. Charlie will go down again this week with the corrected forms.
6. **Bylaws:** Charlie has made an attempt to conceptualize a set of bylaws for the church. He has been working with the canons of the Diocese and adapting for our individual needs as a church. Charlie will continue to work on them.

The next Vestry meeting will be November 13, 2023.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed with the remainder of the Evening Prayer service and then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Kallestad
Registrar



St. Peter's Episcopal Church & Day School
 224 S. Military Hwy
 Norfolk, VA 23502
 Office: (757) 466-9392
 Fax: (757) 466-9414
 E-mail: rector@stpeters-norfolk.org

THE CALL

“We celebrate our life in Jesus Christ, proclaim our faith in Him through word and deed, and create a loving and caring environment that draws people to Jesus and equips them for ministry.”

THE CALL - DECEMBER 2023

**St. Peter's Episcopal
 Church & Day School**
 224 S. Military Hwy
 Norfolk, VA 23502
 Office: (757) 466-9392
 Fax: (757) 466-9414

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.

