

# FEBRUARY 2024

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## Jim's Corner February 2024

February 14<sup>th</sup> is Valentine's Day, as well as Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent this year. For this article, I want to focus on Valentine's Day as the one day of the year when those in love go out of their way to show that love to each other. We've grown up thinking of Valentine's Day as a day for sweethearts to exchange tender expressions of affection symbolized by cards, chocolates, and going out for dinner. It is a romantic sentiment that makes the card companies and restaurants a lot of money.

Love is an important emotion in our lives. Countless songs are devoted to the subject. The same could be said for the number of romances, poems, dramas, fairy tales, and other literary genre devoted to the subject. It has been said that "Love makes the world go 'round.'" I would venture to say that virtually everyone thinks about love every day at

one time or another.

I suggest that the greatest love letter ever written is the Bible. This is God's love letter to all of us. From Genesis to The Revelation to John, God reveals his love for us in narrative story, psalms, poetry, and prophecy. For instance, "The Song of Solomon is a collection of about twenty-five lyric poems or fragments of poems of human love and courtship such as would be sung appropriately at weddings (Jer.33.11)."<sup>1</sup> Sometimes this love seems to be missing when we read of God's judgment of human behavior, but judgment itself is an expression of love. This is what we often refer to as "tough love." If God did not love humankind, he wouldn't correct us and put us back on the proper path.

John the evangelist speaks of love often. John 3:16 is, perhaps, one of the most quoted passages in which John tells us, "For God so loved the

<sup>1</sup>Herbert G. May and Bruce M. Metzger, eds., *The New Oxford Annotated Bible Revised Standard Version* (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1973), 815.

## The Head of the Church: Jesus the Christ

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

## Jim's Corner, cont.

world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” The following verse tells us why the Father did that. “For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.” Author Philip Yancy relates the story of Jesus’ encounter with a Samaritan woman. He goes on to say, “Knowing well the antipathy between the two groups, she marveled that a Jewish rabbi would even speak to her. At one point she brought up one of the disputed points of doctrine: Who had the proper place of worship, the Jews or the Samaritans? Jesus deftly sidestepped the question and bore in on a far more important issue: her unquenched thirst. He offered her not judgment but a lasting solution to her guilt over an unsettled life. To her and her alone he openly identified himself as Messiah and chose her as a grace [love] dispenser. Her transformation captured the attention of the whole town, and Jesus stayed for two days among the ‘heretics,’ attracting many converts.”<sup>2</sup> In John 15:13 we learn, “Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.” This verse reinforces what was said in John 3:16 because this is exactly what Jesus did for all humans, and creation, when he was lifted on a cross to die for our sins. In his epistles, John talks about love and how we show God’s love to the world. We love God because he loved us first (1 John 4:19). He showed us his love for us by dying and raising us to everlasting life by his resurrection. There is no greater gift than that! How could we not love him in return?

The parables are often stories of love. The Prodigal Son is an example of God’s love for us. We go astray, but God opens his arms and welcomes us home when we come to our senses (Luke 15:11-32). The Parable of the Good Samaritan reveals how God’s love for us is shown in the loving care the Samaritan gave to the man who was beaten and robbed on his way from Jerusalem to Jericho (Luke 10:30-37). The story of Zacchaeus, a hated tax collector, reveals God’s love for the outcast (Luke 19:1-10).

Later, St. Paul would write a whole chapter on love as the greatest Christian virtue. “If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.... So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love” (1 Corinthians 13:1-3, 13 RSV).

These are only a few examples of how love is shown in the Bible. During this Lenten period, whenever you pick up your Bible, consider reading the passages, Old Testament and New Testament, through the lens of love. I suggest that would be a great Lenten discipline.

<sup>2</sup> Philip Yancy, *Vanishing Grace: Bringing Good News to a Deeply Divided World* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zandervan, 2014), 28.



## John 3:16

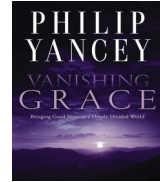
for God so loVed the world  
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# Announcing The 2024 Lenten Program

Fr. Jim will lead the five-week Lenten program using Philip Yancey's book and DVD study of *Vanishing Grace*. Quoting from the information on the back of his book:

Countering the Bad News about the Good News

“Why does the church stir up such negative feelings?”



Philip Yancey has been asking this question all his life, a question more relevant now than ever. Research shows that in a twenty-year span starting in the mid-nineties, favorable opinions of Christians have plummeted drastically. And opinions of evangelicals have taken even deeper dives.

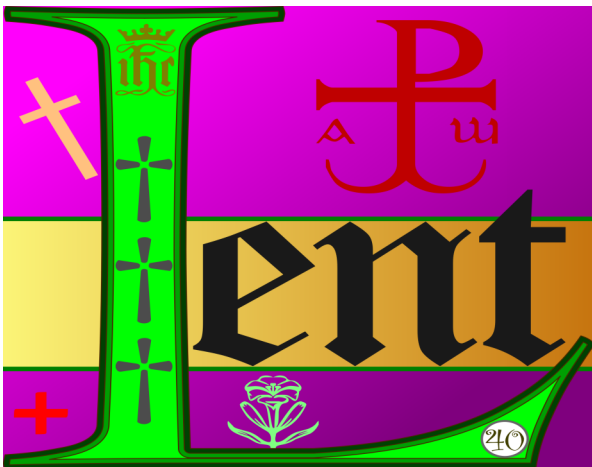
Yet despite the turn away from Christianity, interest in spirituality is rising. Why the disconnect? Why are so many questioning, “What’s so good about the Good News?”

Even more important, how can Christians make a positive, grace-filled difference in a world of desperate need?

In this important book, ... Philip Yancey explores what may have contributed to hostility toward Christians. He then offers illuminating stories of how artists, activists, and pilgrims are expressing their faith in ways that disarm even the most cynical critics.

“See to it that no one misses the grace of God,” writes the author of Hebrews. In this book, Yancey paints a poignant picture of what the world would look like if Christians fulfilled this command as a way of life.

We will meet in the Parish Hall, Wednesday evenings from 7 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. at the latest (we may be finished by 8, depending on the size of the group and the discussion), on February 21, 28, and March 6, 13, and 20. The book and Study Guide can be found at [Christianbook.com](http://Christianbook.com) and Amazon. The study will begin with a DVD presentation by Philip Yancey, and this will be followed by discussion based on the Study Guide. A sign-up sheet will be on the information table in the Parish Hall, so we can know how many folks to expect. Bring a friend!





# MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS



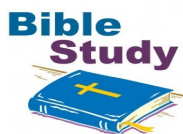
**The Ladies Luncheon**-The ladies of St. Peter's meet on the second Monday of each month for lunch and fellowship. Please join us February 12th at 12:30 P.M. at Nick's Diner, 6561 College Park Square (corner of Military Hwy and Providence Rd.). Bring a friend. If you plan to attend, please sign the list on the bulletin board in the parish hall. For more information contact Millie Coward, cell (757) 469-5887/[m.jlc@cox.net](mailto:m.jlc@cox.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@cox.net](mailto:m.jlc@cox.net). Please give some prayer about 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 January we completed 1 washcloth for Judeo Christian Outreach Center, 13 chemo hats for Virginia Oncology, 2 scarves and 2 adult hats for our Homeless Ministry, 25 premie hats and 1 infant hat 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 February 6th 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@cox.net](mailto:m.jlc@cox.net)

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@cox.net](mailto:m.jlc@cox.net).



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



## Saturday, February 10, 2024

10:30 A.M. – Noon

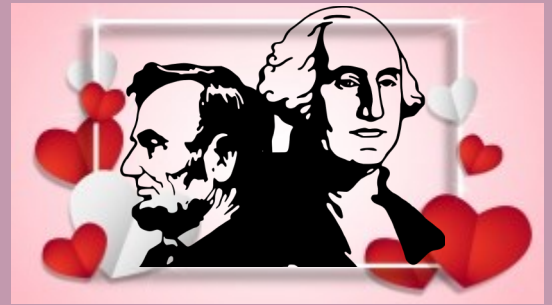
Please mark your calendars now for the upcoming Acolyte Training to be held in the Sanctuary. This training will assist the acolyte as we move into the Lent and Easter seasons.

All are welcome and encouraged to join us in the Sanctuary. Lunch will be provided at noon. We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information contact Nancy Comfort (757) 630-6455, Judy Eller (757) 218-7539 or the office (757) 466-9392.

# February 2024

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  Bible Study in the Library - 10:30 A.M.	2	3 Vestry Retreat 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
4  8:00 A.M. - Rite I 10:00 A.M.-Rite II  The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	5 Ladies Luncheon - 12:30 P.M.	6  8:00 P.M. AA MEETING	7 Cursillo Small Groups - 6:00 P.M.	8  Bible Study in the Library - 10:30 A.M.	9	10  Acolyte Training  10:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. w/Lunch
11  8:00 A.M. - Rite I 10:00 A.M.-Rite II  Baptism  The Last Sunday after the Epiphany  Search Committee Meeting following 10:00 A.M. Service	12  Abraham Lincoln's Birthday  Vestry Meeting- 7:00 P.M.	13  8:00 P.M. AA MEETING	14 Cursillo Small Groups - 6:00 P.M.  ASH WEDNESDAY  Services at 12:00 and 7:00 P.M.	15  Bible Study in the Library - 10:30 A.M.	16	17
18  8:00 A.M. - Rite I 10:00 A.M.-Rite II  The First Sunday in Lent	19 PRESIDENTS' DAY - SCHOOL AND OFFICE CLOSED  Day School Board Meeting - 7:00 P.M.	20  8:00 P.M. AA MEETING	21  Lenten Program - 5:30-8:00 P.M.  Cursillo - Pasta e' Fagioli	22  George Washington's Birthday  Bible Study in the Library - 10:30 A.M.	23	24
25  8:00 A.M. - Rite I 10:00 A.M.-Rite II  The Second Sunday in Lent	26	27  8:00 P.M. AA MEETING	28 Lenten Program - 5:30-8:00 P.M.  Altar Guild - Bean Soup	29  Bible Study in the Library - 10:30 A.M.	1	2

## MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS

### FEBRUARY 4 - 5th Sunday after the Epiphany

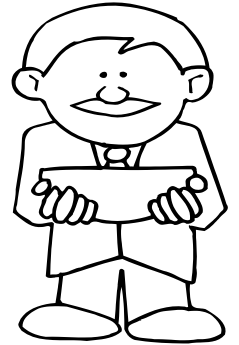
Acolyte: Magdalena Kress

Ushers: Jim Jimeno, Larry Shreve

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

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

Altar Guild Duty: Charlotte Corbett, Jessica Trochanowski



### FEBRUARY 11 - Last Sunday after the Epiphany

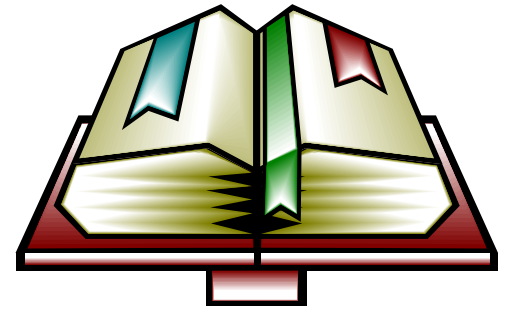
Acolyte: Eric Evans

Ushers: Larry Shreve, Greg Evans

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

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

Altar Guild Duty: Elizabeth Miller, Millie Coward



### FEBRUARY 14 - Ash Wednesday

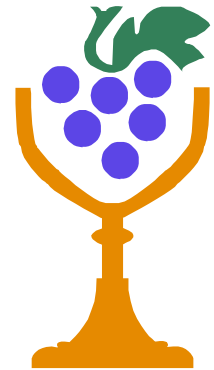
Acolyte: Bronwyn Shreve

Ushers: Larry Shreve, Jim Jimeno

Lector: 12:00 - Bob Vanderslice, 7:00 - Kimberly Truxell

LEM: 12:00 - Bob Vanderslice; 7:00 - Nancy Comfort

Altar Guild Duty: Elizabeth Miller, Millie Coward



### FEBRUARY 18 - 1st Sunday in Lent

Acolyte: Carys Shreve

Ushers: Greg Evans, Jim Jimeno

Lector: 8:00 - Bob Vanderslice 10:00 - Bronwyn Shreve

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

Altar Guild Duty: Vel Shreve, Charlotte Corbett, Ashley Pierce

### FEBRUARY 25 - 2nd Sunday in Lent

Acolyte: Judy Eller

Ushers: Larry Shreve, Vicky Martin

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

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

Altar Guild Duty: Judy Eller, Jessica Trochanowski



## *A word from St. Peter's Search Committee*

### *The search for a new pastor*

*St. Peter's Search Committee has met four times thus far, one of those being with Canon Roy Hoffman from the Diocese of Southern Virginia. We continue to formulate the documentation required to present to the Vestry, and then to the Diocese for position advertisement on their network.*

*Our initial goal is to prepare answers to the Office of Transition Ministry (OTM) Community Portfolio Worksheet, which contains details regarding St. Peter's. This will include points of contact at the church, service attendance numbers, financial information, Day School data, and a series of pages with different types of questions regarding who we are as a parish, interview questions for candidates, and answers to questions we feel a prospective clergy might ask us in return during the interview.*

*Once submitted to the Vestry, the information gathered by Canon Lynn Farlin through our previous Transition Team formation events will be incorporated into our profile.*

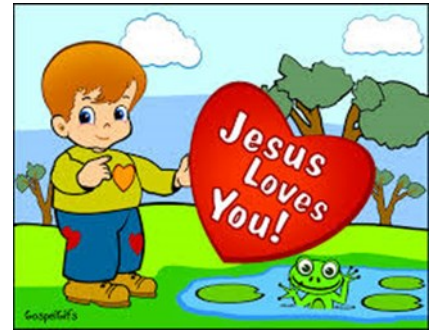
*Again, this will then be advertised by the Diocese, as well as the finished profile posted on our website for the person God has determined will serve as St. Peter's next pastor.*

*We will continue to advise the parish as things progress through the search and interview processes.*

*Respectfully,*

*Bob Vanderslice*

*Search Committee Recorder*



## February 2024

- February 4 Yvonne Authement, Debbie Whitehorne  
**The Disciples – Matthew 2:12-23, 9:9-13, 10:1-4**
- February 11 Bronwyn Shreve, Wendy Glaeser  
**Woman at the Well – John 4:5-42**
- February 18 Linsey Shreve, Yvonne Authement  
**A Storm – Matthew 8 23-27**
- February 25 Debbie Whitehorne, Wendy Glaeser  
**Jesus Blesses the Children - Mark 10:13-16**





# FEBRUARY

**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.**



Midgette, Andrew	3rd
Diffenbaugh, Andy	14th
Shreve, Matthew	14th
Truxell, Allison	16th
McGinty, Jodi	21st
DeLoatche, Lauren	22nd
Authement, Yvonne	23rd

*No Anniversaries this month.*



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

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

There is also a **Flower Chart** located in the vestibule as you enter the parish hall.

Either way, the price stays the same, \$72 per Sunday or \$36 if two people share the date.

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

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

Send articles to :  
[laura@stpeters-norfolk.org](mailto: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

**Sr. Warden - Linsey Shreve ('25)  
Jr. Warden - Debbie Whitehorne ('24)**

**Judy Eller ('24), Charlie Pfeifer ('24), Liz Kress ('25), Peggy Pfeifer ('25), Vel Shreve ('26), and Charlotte Corbett ('26)**

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	Karleen Smith	Dewey Radford
Luanne Cattley	Mary Robson	Robyn Klaus
Roger Bowser	Sarah Kakol	Charlotte Corbet
Howard Belote	Susan Sigler	Eddie Klaus II
Nancy Davis	Dot Pierce	Mary Horkey
Josie C	Megan C	Barbara LaDue
Val Powell	Debbie Hollister	Joan Crowther
Denise McCue	Shelly-Ann Tenia	Karen Freidt
Bert Truxell	Teri Stephenson	Tom Lambert
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

December 11, 2023 - Approved January 8, 2024

**Opening:** The St. Peter's Vestry met together in the Diffenbaugh Library and via Zoom on December 11, 2023. Attending the meeting in person were Fr. Jim Hunter, Kimberly Truxell, Vel Shreve, Linsey Shreve, Judy Eller, and Debbie Whitehorne. Attending the Zoom were Liz Kress, Charlie Pfeifer, and Peggy Pfeifer. This meeting began with Evening Prayer at 7:00 P.M.

**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. The date was changed to reflect December 11 instead of December 13. Charlie suggested that the Ministry Action Plan (MAP/Budget) be included. Laura asked that "Sunday closing of the church" be added – for clarification, what needs to be secured/shut off or closed after every Sunday service as some things are missed. Judy motioned to accept the agenda with changes, Vel seconded. Passed by acclamation.

**November 2023 Minutes:** The minutes were read and a motion to accept the minutes was made by Judy Eller and seconded by Debbie Whitehorne. The minutes were accepted as written, by acclamation.

**Rector's Report:** Nothing currently.

**Senior Warden's Report:** Her work here as Senior Warden is ending, and she is looking forward to her new position on the Cursillo Secretariat.

**Junior Warden:** Not in attendance.

### **New Business:**

1. **Housing Allowance Resolution** – The housing allowance for Fr. Jim must be approved yearly by the Vestry and noted in the minutes by Laura Kallestad. The notice states as follows:

“**Whereas** the Rev. Dr. James W. Hunter is employed as Interim Rector by St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Norfolk, Virginia, which does not provide a residence for him,

**Be it resolved** that of the total compensation of \$20,165 to be paid to the Rev. Dr. James W. Hunter during 2024, that \$20,165 be designated as Housing Allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.”

Kimberly Truxell made the motion to accept the Housing Allowance Resolution as written and Vel seconded the motion. It was approved by acclamation.

2. **Diocesan Pledge** – Charlie suggested that the amount given this year should not change from last year. This suggestion was approved by the Vestry.
3. **Annual Meeting** – Is set for January 7, 2024, after the 10:00 A.M. service. The only reports missing currently are the Senior Warden report, the Day School report, and the Year-End Financials (which are not available until the end of December).
4. **Vestry Election** – Vel Shreve and Charlotte Corbett are the only nominations received at this time. Several members of the church were approached, and all declined. Fr. Jim would like at least one additional nomination.
5. **Ministry Action Plan** - Charlie presented a draft for the proposed budget for 2024.

**November Financial Report:** Kimberly reported on the November Financials with Charlie in Zoom.

The Cash Account Balances for November 2023 are as follows:

Operating Account:	\$40,444.26
Money Market Account	\$40,076.06
Composite Fund:	\$71,104.39
Total Net Assets:	\$154,790.04

Vel motioned to accept the November Financial Report and Linsey seconded. It was approved by acclamation.

6. **Closing and locking up the church after services:** The spotlights on the Last Supper (Stained Glass) were left on and the door from the church to the Parish Hall was left open and unsecured. Other doors and locks have been left open in the past. The check list for the counters needs to be updated and available every Sunday to make sure everything is secure. Laura will update a checklist for the counters or whoever is assigned to this task.

**Old Business** –

1. **Parish Pledge Drive** - Pledged Income – \$129,558.00 - 29 Pledges received. 18 pledges were increased. 1 pledge was decreased. 3 new pledges were received. 5 pledges that have not yet been received (for an approximate value of \$13,400). The average pledge for 2023 is over \$4400 and the average pledge for 2024 is over \$4900.
2. **Electrical Problems in Day School and Church** – Debbie is going to obtain quotes on our deteriorating wiring issues.

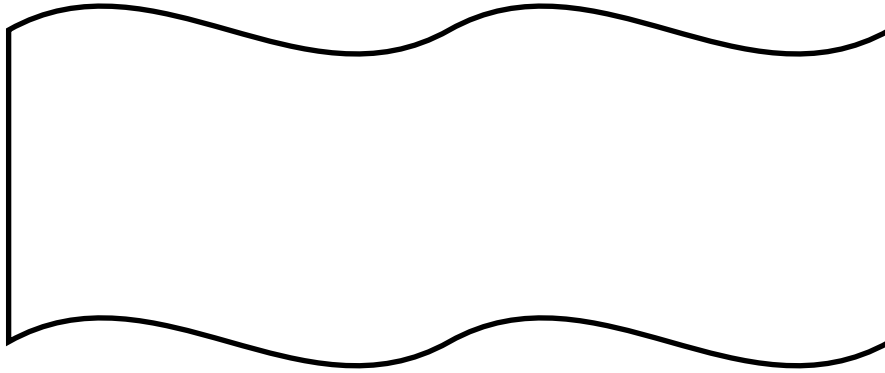


3. **Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training** – Lay Eucharistic Minister, Worship Leader, and Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training is currently being offered at Grace Church in Norfolk on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Jim would like Bruce, Nancy, and Charlie to attend this training. Charlie and Nancy cannot attend, and they will have to receive this training before the form for licensing is submitted to the Diocese.
4. **Interim Ministry** – No update currently.
5. **Bylaws** – Charlie stated that he has about 2 hours of work left and they will be completed.
6. **Day School Director** – when Fr. Jim leaves, Laura will be the “Director” of the Day School until a replacement priest is hired.

The next Vestry meeting will be January 8, 2024.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Kallestad



St. Peter's Episcopal Church & Day School  
 224 S. Military Hwy  
 Norfolk, VA 23502  
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## 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 - FEBRUARY 2024

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.*

