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From the Vestry— A Reflection

Dog Days of Summer Aug 2026

The **science behind the heat** is that Earth's tilt causes the sun's rays to hit at a more direct angle and for a longer time, hence hotter, longer days. Science aside, we know that it can get so hot and humid here that it's said the weather is not fit even for a dog. (dogdays of summer) The effect of this phenomenon, at least where we live, can be a bit of mental and physical lethargy, stagnation, and just feeling blah. Despite our having air conditioning, just knowing how hot and humid it outside causes us to feel a general disinterest in most things.

Over the years, I've noticed that my spiritual life can have dog days also. My prayer will be fruitful, and then it seems to take a nosedive

until it becomes a listless block of time. The thought of sitting still in prayer loses its appeal to me. That's when I use my experience with the summer heat to help get me back on track with prayer.

For example, sometimes it seems the dog days will last forever, with no afternoon showers to cool things off or no cool spell in sight. When that happens, I have to remind myself that the heat will eventually change to cooler temperatures. I think of how nice that first day of fall will feel, when I'll need a light jacket. Similarly, when prayer is difficult, I try not to panic. I think back to times of **consolation**, especially those that happened during previous prayer. I trust that God, who placed me in consolation, is still with me and will bring me through this dry

Presiding Bishop:

The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe

Diocesan Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. Susan B. Haynes

ST. PETER'S CHURCH STAFF

Parish Administrator:

Laura Kallestad

Organist:

Elizabeth Miller

Treasurer:

Charlie Pfeifer

time. It's a matter of perseverance. During the summer, I must constantly remind myself to **stay hydrated**, especially if I'm outdoors. It's the same for my spiritual life. When prayer is dry, hydrate! Just as water is crucial for providing the body with fluids, so is prayer crucial for providing our inner space with what keeps it alive.

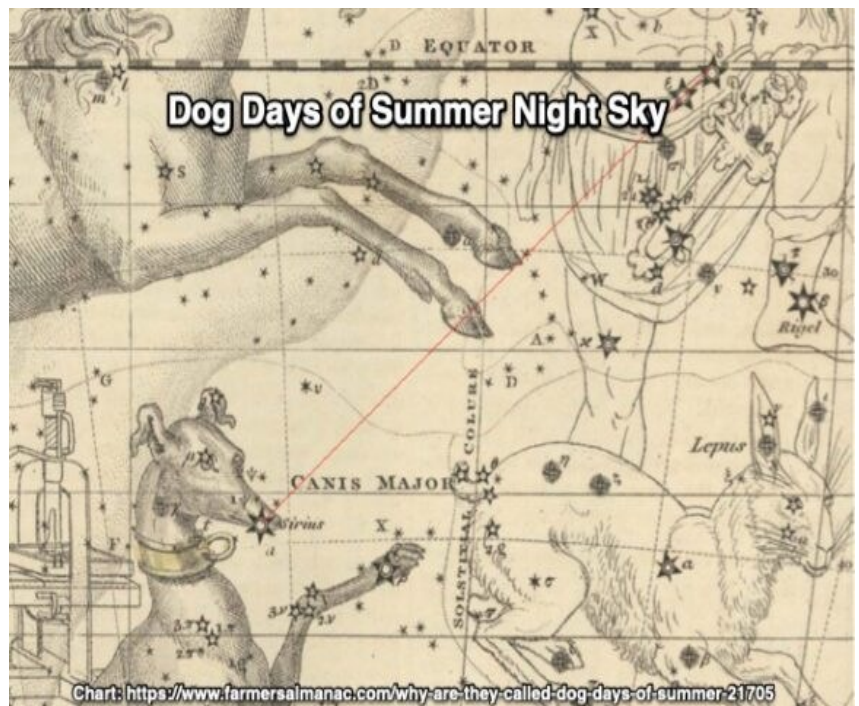
Prayer keeps my inner being attentive to God's presence in and around me. When I have difficulty praying, I don't give up. I still pray every day, giving myself a boost of something "cool,". I refresh my prayer by changing my space or method of praying. When it's an especially long, hot day, I hunker down inside, accommodating my activities to the weather. Being removed from the heat takes my focus off the weather, making me think more clearly and boosting my spirits.

Adding something to my prayer routine helps get me out of the doldrums. I might call someone and offer to pray with that friend. Or I might visit with someone with whom I've been out of touch. Doing something kind for others takes the focus off myself and puts it on what's important: helping others. Being of service is one of the main ways to snap myself out of the spiritual blahs.

The dog days of summer are real and guaranteed to be around in years to come. (It's the reason God made cold watermelon and snow cones!) The same is true of the dog days of the spiritual life. But with a little planning and creativity, we can get through unscathed. Just remember to persevere, hydrate with prayer, and serve!

God Bless
Bruce Comfort

*Dog Days bright and clear
Indicate a happy year;
But when accompanied by rain,
For better times, our hopes are vain.*



Mz. Chris

Employed at St. Peter's Day School
from 2003 thru 2026 as an Extended
Care Aide has:::::

RETIRED!!!



After 23 years of faithful service, Mz. Chris has retired from the Day School. Throughout her years at St. Peter's, she became a beloved fixture whose cheerful greeting, "Well, hello, darlin'," welcomed children, parents, and staff each day. It's hard to imagine the Day School without hearing those familiar words—a greeting so many of our families have come to know and love and will certainly miss.

Family has always been at the heart of Mz. Chris's life. She is a devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, and she had the special joy of watching all three of her great-grandchildren attend St. Peter's through Kindergarten. While some might find working alongside family to be a challenge, Mz. Chris wouldn't have had it any other way.

GOOD Luck from all of us at St. Peter's and we wish you long life, prosperity and now - time to spend with all your family and friends and your precious *Washington Commanders®*!



MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Ladies Luncheon—The ladies of St. Peter's meet at a different restaurant on the second Monday of each month for lunch and fellowship. We will be enjoying a 12:30 pm lunch on August 10th at Chicho's Pizza 1400 Kempsville Rd. Chesapeake. Please join us and bring a friend. If you plan to attend, please sign the list on the bulletin board in the parish hall so we have an accurate number for reservations. For more information contact Millie Coward cell (757) 469-5887/m.jlc@cox.net.

The Altar Guild Ministry would like to welcome a new member. **Alma Kelley.** Thank you Alma for joining our team. Your help is greatly appreciated. We are still in need of 3 more members, women or men. You will be fully trained and work with an experienced member. Benefits are unlimited, e.g. working with a great team, pride in knowing that you had a hand in helping to make the Altar beautiful and pleasing for our church family, and most of all the joy you will experience knowing that you are serving the Lord by preparing the Altar at St. Peter's for celebrations of worship for Sunday Services, Weddings, Baptisms, and Funerals. Please prayerfully consider applying for this critical ministry job today! **We need your help!!!** If you would like to hear more about our responsibilities please contact Millie Coward 757 469-5887/



The Prayer Shawl Ministry is taking a summer break. We will not be meeting in August. However, we continue to work on much needed items for organizations that we support. Our membership is small but we work hard to furnish these items to needy folks. Our next meeting will be on September 1st at 10am in the Dittenbach Library. Please consider joining us not only to share your talents but for the fellowship as well. We have expert teachers and all the supplies you will need to practice. Or if you prefer, you may supply items from the comfort of your home. Just call, email or text me and I will be happy to pick them up for distribution. For more specifics please contact Millie Coward, (757) 469-5887/ m.jlc@cox.net. If you know of an organization that would benefit from our talents with please let me know. I'll be glad to contact them.



St. Peter's Day School is not just another building — it is ministry in action!

It is an integral part of **St. Peter's Episcopal Church**, bringing new families into our congregation, helping support church expenses, and serving children ages 18 months to 4 years. **Now, the school needs YOU.**

You can help by: • Helping to run our Facebook Page and Sharing on social media • Posting or distributing flyers • Spreading the word to parents and grandparents • Connecting us with businesses or neighborhood newsletters • Posting a flyer at your workplace or local gathering spots • Volunteering for the Day School Board (meets once a month). If you attend community meetings or belong to local organizations — **YOU can make a difference.**

For more information, contact: Charlie Pfeifer (Chairman), Vel Shreve, Hilda Monte, Janet Chauncey, Debra Whitehorne, Liz Kress, or Laura Kallestad (Registrar).

Support the School—Strengthen the Church.



St. Peter's Search Committee is still actively searching for a new rector for our church. Although this process seems to be taking a long time, this is not unusual. We will continue to keep you informed on our progress by publishing news in The Call and the Sunday bulletin. Please be patient and supportive of our Committee and keep them in your prayers. Remember, our next rector is out there somewhere, searching for the perfect church with the best church family. Let's hope he finds us soon! It's in God's hands! Blessings, Vel Shreve, Search Committee Chair



Outreach

The parish of St. Peter's is supporting the food pantry at Church of the Advent.

A collection basket has been placed in the parish hall for your donations of non-perishable food items. Please be sure to check expiration dates before placing items in the basket.

Your donations will be delivered to Church of the Advent's food pantry, which provides food for approximately 500 people each month.

We encourage everyone to participate in this important ministry as we seek to fulfill God's call to care for our brothers and sisters in need.

If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Corbett.



Upcoming Local Diocesan Activities

Zoom Specialized Safe Church Training - August 22 & 23, 2026

ABOUT

This is a 2-day Zoom Specialized Safe Church Training workshop. The two sessions are Saturday, August 22, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and Sunday, August 23, 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Attendance at both sessions is required for certification.

After registering, you will receive an email which will contain a link to join the Zoom Meeting and the documents that will be used during the training.

We will be using PowerPoint slides for the majority of the training so plan to join via computer so that the slides will be visible to you.

Racial Healing Workshop, Bruton Parish Williamsburg - Aug 29 or Good Shepherd Norfolk—Sept. 26

ABOUT

Reflect on our experiences with race and its impact and recommit to the holy, life-long journey of racial healing in ourselves and the world.

While we encourage all to take this workshop, there are specific individuals and groups within our 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.

This is a day-long, in-person workshop. Lunch will be provided.

In Person Specialized Safe Church Training - Epiphany Norfolk, Sept 19

ABOUT

This is a day-long, in-person Specialized Safe Church Training Workshop at Church of the Epiphany in Norfolk. Lunch will be provided

Discover the Ministry of the Verger

Saturday, October 24, 12-1:30 p.m. | Christ & St. Luke's

A free introductory workshop open to all in the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia

EYC Fall Weekend

November 6-8, 2026 | Chanco on the James

Save the date for the Episcopal Youth Community Fall Weekend!

Cursillo was a gift to you, can you share it with others? Advent, Christmas and Lent are all about giving. The Father gave the most precious gift of all, his son, and our path to eternal life. For many, Cursillo was a gift. Well beyond the economic benefit of a sponsor's donation of fees, the Cursillo gift was wrapped in God's love -- in our table groups, talks, music and the kindness of Palanca. As you reflect on gifts given and received this past Christmas, consider the precious gift of Cursillo. We honor the giver by showing and sharing our gift. As we look ahead to the new year, let us all cherish the gift of Cursillo, and consider who to bless with it. People waiting to be gifted include potential candidates, and Cursillistas that would be blessed to be invited more fully into the Fourth Day. Contact our Lay Director or any member of the Secretariat at <https://www.cursillodiosova.org/about> if you have any questions.

Our next Cursillo weekend will be October 1 - 4, 2026 at Chanco on the James. Courtney Wheeler from Ascension is the Lay Rector. Applications are being accepted for team and candidates.

The Episcopal Cursillo Weekend:

Key elements of the Episcopal Cursillo Ministry are relationship, evangelism, and reconciliation in the home, the parish, the community, and the world.

We bring together a diverse group of people to share the richness of many modes of worship and broaden our appreciation for our Church. Lay people conduct the Weekend with two or three clergy members as spiritual advisors. Cursillo presumes that those who attend a Weekend are already well grounded in the faith. It isn't intended to be a conversion experience but an enriching and deepening of what is already there. Often, Cursillo provides new insights into our faith and fosters ministry among lay people.*



August



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Bryan Whitehorne	2 nd
Richard Jordan	3 rd
Patrick Pierce	5 th
Susan Sigler	7 th
Bob Vanderslice	11 th
Ashley Pierce	12 th
Lois Deloatche	17 th
Bronwyn Shreve	17 th
Alma Jordan	25 th
Madison Pierce	27 th
Lynne Monette	28 th

Josie and Jim Jimeno

Aug. 26th

If we missed your special date, we apologize. Please contact the office so we can update our records: call 757-466-9392 or email laura@stpeters-norfolk.org.



The deadline for articles in 'The Call' is the fifteenth of each month.

**Send articles to :
laura@stpeters-norfolk.org**

If you'd like to donate flowers in memory, celebration, or thanksgiving for someone or something special, please place your order on our website.

Ordering online helps prevent errors and allows our Flower Guild to thoughtfully personalize each arrangement.

The suggested donation is \$50 for a Sunday, or \$25 per person when sharing a date.



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 Holy Eucharist 8:00 A.M. Rite I 10:00 A.M. Rite II 10:00—Christian Ed. The 10 th Sunday after Pentecost	3	4 AA Meeting 7:00 P.M.	5 Movie: "Just Let Go"	6	7	8
9 Holy Eucharist 8:00 A.M. Rite I 10:00 A.M. Rite II 10:00—Christian Ed. The 11 th Sunday after Pentecost VESTRY MEETING	10 Ladies Luncheon - 12:30 P.M. DAY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING 6:00 P.M.	11 AA Meeting 7:00 P.M.	12 Movie: "Sound of Freedom"	13	14	15
16 Holy Eucharist 8:00 A.M. Rite I 10:00 A.M. Rite II The 12 th Sunday after Pentecost	17	18 AA Meeting 7:00 P.M.	19 Movie: "Between Borders"	20	21	22
23 Holy Eucharist 8:00 A.M. Rite I 10:00 A.M. Rite II The 13 th Sunday after Pentecost	24 1st Day of School for: Norfolk, Virginia Beach and Portsmouth! 	25 AA Meeting 7:00 P.M.	26 FINAL Movie: "The Reason"	27	28 Last Day of Summer Camp 2026!!	29
30 Holy Eucharist 8:00 A.M. Rite I 10:00 A.M. Rite II The 14 th Sunday after Pentecost	31	Sept. 1 Prayer Shawl Resumes 10:00 A.M. AA Meeting 7:00 P.M.	Sept. 2	Sept. 3	Sept. 4 Labor Day Weekend Office and Day School Closed <u>Monday.</u>	Sept. 5 

MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS

AUGUST 2 -

Acolyte: Eric Evans

Ushers: Larry Shreve, Jim Jimeno

Lector: 8:00 - Bob Vanderslice, 10:00 - Jeffrey Pfeifer

LEM: 8:00 - Bob Vanderslice, 10:00 - Nancy Comfort

Altar Guild: Charlotte Corbett, Ashley Pierce

Flower Guild: Jessica Trochanowski



AUGUST 9-

Acolyte: Bronwyn Shreve

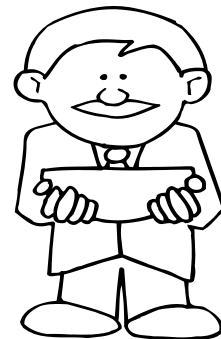
Ushers: Susan Sigler, Vicky Martin

Lector: 8:00 - Charlotte Corbett; 10:00 - Linsey Shreve

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

Altar Guild: Josie Jimeno, Judy Eller

Flower Guild: Nancy Comfort



AUGUST 16-

Acolyte: Carys Shreve

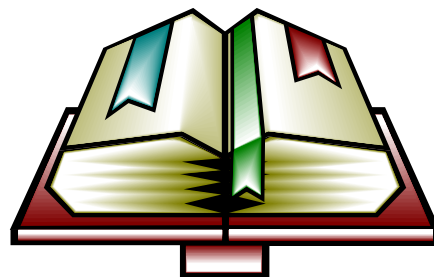
Ushers: Jim Jimeno, Larry Shreve

Lector: 8:00-Bob Vanderslice; 10:00 - Larry Shreve

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

Altar Guild: Josie Jimeno, Ashley Pierce

Flower Guild: Dot Pierce



AUGUST 23-

Acolyte: Magdalena Kress

Ushers: Susan Sigler, Steve Kakol

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

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

Altar Guild: Hilda Monte, Charlotte Corbett

Flower Guild: Hilda Monte



AUGUST 30-

Acolyte: Judy Eller

Ushers: Vicky Martin, Larry Shreve

Lector: 8:00 - Bob Vanderslice 10:00 - Jeffrey Pfeifer

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

Altar Guild: Vel Shreve, Millie Coward

Flower Guild: Josie Jimeno



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, Michael, Matt, David, Mario, Kyle, Frank, Courtney,
Chris, Chloe, Allan, Roger, Caleb, Josh



*Please keep these people in your prayers.
Notify the office to remove from or add to
these lists. Thank you.*

The Veterans are always in need of:

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 - Kimberly Truxell ('27)

Jr. Warden - Bruce Comfort ('27)

**Charlotte Corbett ('26), Vel Shreve ('26),
Charlie Pfeifer ('26), Nancy Comfort ('27)**

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.

BJ Neaves	Karen Kakol	Foster Spruill
Niko Miyashiro	Lois Deloatche	Haley G.
Jessica T.	Patsi Walton	Mary Johnston
Wanda Smith	Kathy Vanderslice	Edward Klaus III
Mary Robson	Robyn Klaus	Sarah Kakol
Charlotte Corbett	Sharon Dashiell	Howard Belote
Susan Sigler	Eddie Klaus II	Mitchell Bentley
Nancy Davis	Dot Pierce	Joyce Caldwell
Mary Horkey	Josie C	Megan C
Val Powell	Debbie Hollister	Joan Crowther
Denise McCue	Bert Truxell	Barbara LaDue
Karleen Smith	Dianne McKnight	Bob Alford
Christine Alexander	Krista Itzen	Pam Standish
Yvonne Authement	Joan Wilson	Bill Naylor
Barbara Bowser	Easton Young	Mike Jones

Eddie & Lisa Stanfield	Paul & Lee Nelson
Bruce & Nancy Comfort	Teresa & McKinley Kerns
Leslie & Charlie Pereira	Debbie & Kenny
Steve & Betty Jane Baxter	Myles & Family
Jodi & Sean McGinty	Sarver Family
Mary & Larry Laine	Dee & Glen Smith
Wade & Karen Freidt	Sheila & Tom Lambert
Evans Family	Tark & Carol Tarkington
Wayne & Loretta Radford	Janet & Bob Chauncey
Hunter/Chapman Families	

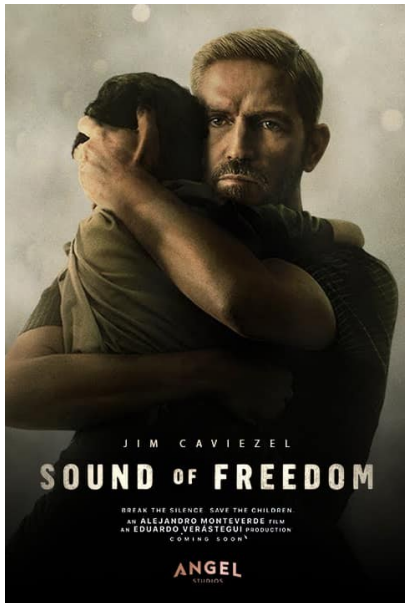
St. Peter's Movie Night 2026 !!!



Just Let Go August 5

Film length: 1 hour; 46 minutes

After surviving a drunk driving accident that killed his pregnant wife and two kids, Chris Williams struggles to 'just let go' and forgive the young man who caused it.



Sound of Freedom August 12

Film length: 2 hours; 11 minutes

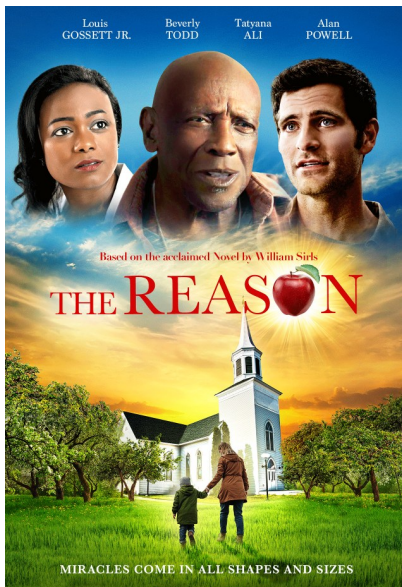
God's children are not for sale. Every parent's worst nightmare is a reality for some. The incredible true story of a former government agent turned vigilante who embarks on a dangerous mission to rescue hundreds of children from traffickers. "Sound of Freedom" is based on the true story of Tim Ballard, a former Homeland Security agent who rescues children from sex traffickers. Jim Caviezel does an amazing acting job—as always—in his portrayal of Ballard.



Between Borders **August 19**

Film length: 1 hour; 30 minutes

The true story of the Petrosyan family, Armenian Christians who flee persecution in Azerbaijan and Russia during the Soviet Union's collapse, seeking refuge and hope through their faith.



The Reason **August 26**

Film length: 1 hours; 22 minutes

When a mysterious man appears in a small town, unexplained miracles start to occur, changing the lives of everyone he meets. There's a mother whose five-year-old boy has leukemia, two doctors — one an atheist haunted by his past, the other a brilliant young oncologist who places all her hope in the power of modern medicine — and a blind pastor whose son hasn't spoken a single word in 38 years. All of them will be brought together by the presence of this stranger, who teaches them the true meaning of faith and hope.

**Refreshments are served beginning
at 6:30pm—Film begins at 7pm**



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

“THE CALL”

We *celebrate* the love of Christ and *proclaim* our faith by *welcoming* and *serving* all.

AUGUST 2026

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

Office: 757-466-9392

Organized in 1885, St. Peter's Church laid its cornerstone on October 5, 1886—a historical building that still stands on Brown Avenue in Norfolk, VA.

Worship at our current site began on Christmas Eve 1959 in the parish hall, and the present structures were completed in 1965.

