



St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Skidaway Island, Savannah, Georgia

Joyous in Spirit. Anchored in Faith. Lifted by Love.

ANNUAL REPORT

2016

WORSHIP & MUSIC	EDUCATION: Children, Youth & Adult	OUTREACH	PARISH LIFE: Hospitality & Pastoral Care	MINISTRY SUPPORT
Dick Sullivan Mickey Creel	Jay Howington Shelley Jenkins	Shep Mondy Dan Malachuk	Randy Moffett Pat Shea	Ned Smith, Stuart Evans John Kleine

Choir Chancel	Children: Nursery	Charitable Giving	HOSPITALITY: Coffee Hour Newcomers	Finance, Audit, Budget
The Band Music Academy Music Committee Music Academy Comm.	Godly Play VBS	Local Mission L.O.V.E.	Committee Foyer Groups Wednesday Dinners Lenten, Advent Dinners	Endowment Board Planned Giving
Altar Guild Flower Guild	Youth: Rite 13 J2A - Pilgrimage YAC - Confirmation	Family Promise of Greater Savannah (IHN) Prison Ministry	ECW Men of St. Peter's	Pledge Campaign Human Resources Cmte
Acolytes Lectors Eucharistic Ministers Eucharistic Visitors	Adults: 9 am Forum 11:30 am Forum	The Market	PASTORAL CARE TEAM: Parish Nurse + Flower Delivery	Nominating Cmte Communication
Ushers Greeters	Advent Series Lenten Series	Global Mission: Dominican Republic	+ Meals + Greeting Cards + Transportation + Visitors	Buildings & Grounds incl: Design Committee Memorial Garden
Wedding Guild Funerals/Receptions	LOGOS Inquirers' Class		Prayer Guild Prayer Shawl Ministry Baptismal Plaques	Vestry Wardens Exec Committee
Sound System Operators	Stewardship Education Parish Retreat			

ST. PETER'S VESTRY, CLERGY AND STAFF

St. Peter's Vestry

Class of 2014

Stuart Evans
Wayne Kuhn
Dan Malachuk

Class of 2015

Mickey Creel
Shelley Jenkins
Randy Moffett
Ned Smith (2 year term)
Richard (Dick) Sullivan

Class of 2016

Jay Howington
John Kleine
Shep Mondy
Pat Shea

St. Peter's Clergy and Staff 2016

The Rev. Hunt Priest, *Rector*
The Rev. Doris Johnson, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Patty Mingledorff, *Priest Associate*
Dr. Tim McKee, D.M.A., *Music Director*
Liza Henderson, *Parish Administrator*
Donna Garrison, *Associate for Finance & Administration*
Susan Mallgrave, *Associate for Communications*
Matt Rice, *Associate for Youth & Children's Ministry*
Nate Hodges, *Maintenance & Facilities Manager*
Janet Kuhn, EdD. RN, *Parish Nurse*

Rector's Report

This report is divided into three categories: what's going well in the areas of ministry I am most responsible for, areas for improvement (at least as I see them after only 4 months here), and some ideas for what might we do differently to improve these areas. Since St. Peter's and I began our ministry together in September:

I believe this has gone well:

Our beginnings. This has been a very easy transition for my family and me. From the first encounters with the St. Peter's Search Committee until now, we've felt welcomed, cared for and encouraged. I feel fortunate to have been called here to be the rector of a congregation with such talented and committed lay leadership and staff. So many of our ministry groups and administrative committees are well functioning and vibrant. We have many wonderful adventures to look forward to as we discover what God has in store for us.

I felt like our Celebration of New Ministry in October marked liturgically what was already happening in our day-to-day lives together. We acknowledged that the Holy Spirit was at work in the life of St. Peter's and in my ministry and that we've been called together to serve God and God's people. Our exchange of gifts was a public acknowledgment that anything we accomplish here in the years ahead, we accomplish together as congregation and priest, each of us sharing our time, talent and treasure to make it happen. We sang, we prayed, we gave thanks and we shared the holy meal of communion, followed by a wonderful reception in the Parish Hall. It was a holy evening.

Coming out of the Celebration, groups of parishioners came together in homes to share some food and drink and to get to know each other a bit more deeply. These 19 gatherings involved more than 200 people and they were a gift to me, but I hope, for all who attended. By sharing a bit of our own faith journeys we gave others an insight into who we are as children of God and we each received food for our own journeys through the stories of others. I know I did. Thanks to the organizers, the hosts and all who participated.

I see room for improvement:

First of all, in the realm of churches that need things fixed, we are in EXCELLENT shape.

With the significant turnover in administrative staff this past year and with the necessary focus on all that must happen during a transition, knowledge about many routine tasks and procedures has remained either in the heads of one or two people or completely lost. From the sound system to the office file server to the database and the installation of hurricane shutters, many of us have encountered a need or a problem and wondered, "*What do we do now?*"

St. Peter's is a fairly complex organization with many moving pieces of ministry and housed in a facility that is used often and by many different groups, both internal and from the wider community. We do not have very good written resources,

policies and procedures to fall back on or to share when someone without that knowledge needs to use some part of the building, set up for an event or get some piece of information.

Suggestions for the coming year:

Continued focus on Christian Formation Classes and Programs. I want us to continue to grow our Christian Formation ministries with young people and adults, including education about worship, especially the particularities of Episcopal Church worship. I want us to pray for each other more and when people are in need of pastoral and spiritual care, they (you) will let the clergy know so that we can engage all of the resources of the congregation in that care.

Policies & Procedures Manual. If we can spend some time this coming year on the boring task of creating a detailed Policies & Procedures manual that covers all aspects of our life together, we will be able to stop reinventing our procedures every time we try to do something. Shorter documents with specific, easily understood and accessible information can then be produced that address particular parts of our ministry and building. The office staff and I will do our best to make sure that information is readily available to all who need it.

Hunt Priest+
Rector

Report of the Senior Warden

'Moving Forward'

In this past year, I believe the parish has positioned itself, ready to "Move Forward" to greater heights in God's service.

First the Reverend Canon Zachary Fleetwood was welcomed as our Interim Rector. He served us well. He was compassionate and loving and made us all feel as if he was here to help us "move forward" while addressing issues that needed to be addressed. He reorganized the staff for greater efficiency and I believe most of us would agree that we are in a better place because of his efforts. We were sorry to see him leave but wish him the best in his retirement.

Then the Reverend Dr. Doris Buchanan Johnson joined us as our Associate Rector and did a tremendous job. She took care of all the needs of the parish after Zack left and continues to care for us. Her sermons are inspiring and give us a new perspective of Jesus's love. Thank you, Doris, for your commitment.

Our Search Committee, composed of many dedicated parishioners, began work early in the year. They spent many hours in meetings, prayer, and discernment. They interviewed several candidates in the process. Finally their prayers were answered and they unanimously put forth to the vestry the name of The Reverend

William Hunt Priest, Jr. The vestry voted unanimously to extend a call to Rev. Hunt Priest, as he is affectionately known.

God has truly answered our prayers in this selection. Hunt initiated a series of meetings at congregant's homes and was able to meet many of you. From comments I have heard, people have enjoyed these "conversations with Hunt" and feel they now know him better. I believe Hunt has hit the ground running and feel next year should be an exciting one.

Another example of "Moving Forward" is the gift of a beautiful chapel by Ned Smith in memory of his wife, Marcia. This chapel has added to the beauty and functionality of our church. It will be used for special services and meetings.

Our church is in a very sound financial position. Our pledges this year again exceeded last year. We have enough reserves so that we were able to do a major overhaul of our organ and fix the air conditioner. We should all be very proud of our financial condition.

Our new staff is hard at work keeping the church running on a day-to-day basis. They are here to help you and to answer your questions. I would be remiss not to give them a "Thank You" for their commitment and hard work.

I believe we have had excellent people serve on the vestries. They have operated as a team and worked well together. And I have had the privilege to serve you as Senior Warden for two terms as we have moved through the transitional phase to a new phase of becoming aware of our potential to "Move Forward". We are now moving forward. God has blessed us and we pray that HE will continue to fill us with the Holy Spirit.

Wayne D. Kuhn
Senior Warden

MINISTRY SUPPORT

Vestry Liaisons: Stuart Evans, John Kleine, Ned Smith

Stewardship

Vestry Liaisons: John Kleine & Ned Smith

This year's Stewardship Campaign, *Opening the Door*, was a success! The gradual decline, from the recent high in 2012, was reversed last year and now is strongly in a growth period. The campaign headlines are:

- Total pledges were \$779,704
- Revenue increased \$20,125, Highest dollars in the last 4 years
- Participation increased, 188 pledges up from 185 last year
- 20 new pledges vs. 11 last year

- One third increased their pledge

The group leading this year's campaign included: Gail Andrus, Bill Foley, Marilyn Foley, Kathy Heck, Frank Mason, John Sobke, Ned Smith, David Sweeterman, Jim Toedtman, Donna Garrison, Rev. Hunt Priest & the Vestry.

John Kleine

Treasurer's Report

For the YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016

This was a year of transition and yet overall ended up close to our budget plans. Income for the year was \$832,773 which was under our budget by \$22,709. During the year the Finance Committee determined that the \$29,000 we had planned to use from reserves was not needed because our expenses were coming under budget as well. This amounted to almost all our shortfall in income.

Expenses for the year were \$842,134 which was under budget by \$47,248. There will be adjustments to these figures at the time of our final audit. The reason we have this situation is that we were operating on less than a full staff for a part of the year. Although we recognized that we would have extra expenses to make the change to a new priest and incur some other expenses to complete staff changes, we hired and trained a new bookkeeper. Our savings in expenses made it possible to avoid going to our reserves for operations.

The same was not true for capital expenses. We had three unplanned capital projects but we have been accruing some funds for these eventualities, \$50,000 for the organ and \$10,000 for an air conditioner unit replacement and \$7,000 to repair the steeple from storm damage. None of these impacted our operation budget but did reduce our reserve account.

We were also fortunate to have a parishioner gift the church with enough money to build a Chapel and provide for some ongoing maintenance of the chapel.

Our outside auditor, Holland, Henry & Bromley reported to the Finance Committee that 2015 results had no issues or concerns to report.

Out debt to South State Bank for the parish hall was \$25,181 at the beginning of the year. We were able to eliminate this loan in 2016 and we are now debt free.

Brendan T. Shea
Treasurer

Endowment Board
Vestry Liaison: Ned Smith

Members: Tom Sebrell (Chair), Frank Mason (Secretary), Harold Bulman, George Hubbs, Amy Webb.

The Board began the year by re-electing Tom Sebrell and Amy Webb to serve another three-year term.

Towards the end of 2015, the Board began discussing moving our assets from the Episcopal Church Foundation and State Street Advisors to a more responsive and local investment advisor. After exploring several options, we focused on Minis & Company located in Savannah. Minis has been in business since 1932 and manages portfolios on an individual basis with no co-mingled funds.

On January 31, 2016, the Board approved the closing of the State Street account and moving to Minis. This transaction took longer than anticipated and Minis did not receive the funds until mid-March. At that time they took in \$345,345. They then began to invest these funds over the next seven months and at the end of October they had almost completed fully investing these funds.

The Endowment Board made this move for the following reasons:

1. We wanted a relationship with an advisor who was more responsive to our needs and would meet with us periodically.
2. We needed a more detailed reporting on assets held and their performance.
3. We sought a more individual approach to investing rather than a 'cookie cutter' approach.
4. We sought to improve performance of portfolio.
5. We sought to minimize fees.

The Endowment began 2016 with assets of \$356,153. We received \$19,009 during the year. There was \$12,545 allocated for distribution in 2016 but there were no request for funds. As previously reported to the Vestry, there is \$14,402 available for distribution in 2017. As of October 31, 2016, the endowment fund totaled \$371,094.

Buildings & Grounds
Vestry Liaison: Stuart Evans

An eventful year for St. Peter's and no less so for Buildings and Grounds. There is a litany of annual events that we anticipate from an operational and maintenance perspective but unexpected surprises can disrupt our routines.

The first case-in-point was the Sanctuary HVAC problem necessitating that Sunday Services be held in the Parish Hall on June 19 and 26. The replacement of one of the compressors, a breaker in the church unit, and subsequently a new thermostat, improved our cooling and humidity control to appropriate levels. Additional duct

cleaning further helped the atmosphere in the church. During the months of July and August there were two occasions when all books were removed from the Sanctuary to wipe off what appeared to be a dusty white mold. The response of volunteers for this task was extraordinary and gratifying.

The second case was Hurricane Matthew causing a mandatory evacuation. With the exception of wind damage to the copper coating on the steeple, damage to our buildings was minimal. Tree issues were addressed to clear our driveways and debris cleanup followed. One Saturday workday was memorable for the enthusiasm of many volunteers for the task at hand. The impressive spirit of the caring men and women of the Parish and Clergy was heartwarming. Heartwarming was appropriate because of persistent precipitation during the work period.

For constructive and positive developments, we are indeed fortunate to have Nathaniel Hughes with us as our part-time Sexton. Nate has proved to be extremely capable and helpful to all. Liza Henderson, as Parish Administrator, has been exceptionally efficient and resourceful in maintaining contact and control with our many suppliers.

The Men of St. Peter's again performed superbly setting up and taking down a new booth system for our vendor participants.

Normal maintenance issues have been addressed both inside and outside. We are in compliance for building safety issues for insurance purposes.

The Design Committee Chairwoman, Debbie Giordon, has been busy of late to refurbish Hunt's office as priority one.

Alice Wright deserves our continued thanks for the lovely appearance of the Memorial Garden throughout the year.

As my term on the Vestry comes to a conclusion, I am thankful for what has proved to be a most enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Stuart Evans, Vestry Liaison

Memorial Garden Committee

Members: Alice Wright (Chair), Pat Shea (Co-chair), Stuart Evans, Alice Jepson, Barbara Paull, Mary Pickford.

The Memorial Garden continues in its role as a resting place for congregants who desire to have their ashes interred in the ground there, and a place for peaceful reflection. With the renovation of the Garden in 2011, the wall that was constructed serves as a Columbarium with 34 niches for ashes to be interred above ground.

The total number of individuals interred in the Garden is 86.

The Design Committee

Members: Debbie Giordan (Chair), Janet Creasman, Marilyn Foley, Barbara Mason, Susan Roberts, Penny Sebrell.

The Design Committee continues to oversee the art gallery in the old parish hall. The art work displayed has been created by St. Peter's parishioners and changes every three months. This past year committee members have assisted with decorating the Rector's office, the Sunday school rooms and the conference room. The committee has been discussing and working on ideas for the walls in the new parish hall. We are hoping to complete this project in 2017, as well as finishing the vesting room. We are most grateful to Marilyn Foley for her dedication and collaboration with Ned Smith on the interior design of the new chapel. We are looking forward to the opening in early 2017.

ADMINISTRATION

Vestry Liaison: Wayne Kuhn

Human Resources Committee

Members: Cindy Howell (Chair), George Hubbs, Wayne Kuhn, Jim Morgan, Brendan Shea.

In the first half of the year, the HR Committee, in conjunction with Fr. Zachary Fleetwood, focused on completing the organizational changes envisioned in late 2015. When our long time Parish Secretary retired, volunteers began staffing the front desk. They have become ambassadors, welcoming visitors to the office, answering phone calls and assisting with projects as requested. A Parish Administrator was hired and the Bookkeeper role developed into a Financial and Administrative position. St. Peter's office was fully staffed by the time Fr. Zack ended his interim position with us in July.

Mid-year, the Rector Search Committee made a unanimous recommendation to the Vestry to call Fr. Hunt Priest to be our next rector. At the direction of the Vestry, the HR Committee followed up with the appropriate processes to ensure a smooth transition. Fr. Hunt arrived in late August and has been getting to know the staff, their responsibilities, abilities and routines. At year end, he is working with the HR Committee to direct organizational development and position alignments and goals, which will proceed in the New Year.

Clerk's Report

In 2016, there was 1 baptism, 2 confirmations, 4 marriages and 3 funerals.

In 2015, 16 persons officially transferred in to St. Peter's. Nine officially transferred to another church.

The total number of families on our records at St. Peter's is 307, and the number of individuals (including children) is 610.

WORSHIP

Vestry Liaisons: Mickey Creel & Dick Sullivan

Music Committee

Music Director – Timothy McKee

Music Committee Members: Judy Sweeterman (Chair), Janet Creasman, Libbie Cluett, Doug Eberle, George Hubbs, Jill Petersen, John Sobke, Marilyn Sobke, Betty Stout, Carol Wheaton.

Music is integral to the parish life of St. Peter's Church. Our many volunteer musicians serve to make possible our worship, education, growth, and outreach. The music committee provides support and advice on behalf of the parish to the Rector and Music Director and serves as a means of communication between the parish and the Music Director. Its role is to help maintain and improve the quality of our music programs as well as promote and expand the music ministry with a free concert series offering a diverse range of repertoire and musical experiences, underwritten by subscriptions and donations. Committee members are of general assistance as well, administratively or as needed.

The Chancel Choir is the cornerstone of our music ministry and is sincerely dedicated to the worship and work of St. Peter's Church. The choirs sing every Sunday for the 10 a.m. service *year-round*, including the summer months as well as for services on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, Easter Day, Christmas Eve and the Lessons and Carols service. The Chancel Choir also sings for most memorial services for our parishioners.

The Chancel Choir represents St. Peter's Church each year in community events which in 2016 included the National Day of Prayer service. The choir also led the Community Christmas Caroling in The Village for the 25th consecutive year.

During communion on a Sunday morning you often hear *The Band*, our group of instrumentalists, leading music from our "Songs of Praise" supplemental songbook. You may be inspired by soloists or small ensembles singing sacred music or by our SPY youth who from time to time sing during communion.

This year the annual Christmas Pageant took place on a Sunday afternoon with a special time of fellowship afterward. We are very blessed at St. Peter's that our parishioners of all ages give so much time to enrich our lives.

The music committee again was able to increase its Community Concert Series budget, thanks to the generosity of our contributors and thereby able to maintain the high level of concerts. The 2016-2017 series featured notable performers playing our recently refurbished pipe organ.

The newest arm of the growing St. Peter's Music Ministry is the Music Academy. Please see the following report for details about this exciting ministry.

The music committee looks forward to a new year of sharing God's love through music.

Music Academy

Music Academy subcommittee - Aubrey Brawner (Chair), George Hubbs, Judy Kenney, Pat Shea, Dave Sweeterman, Judy Sweeterman, Alice Wright.

Music Director - Timothy McKee

The St. Peter's Music Academy was created by the Vestry with funding from the Endowment Board and the St. Peter's annual budget. We celebrated our first full year with a performance and presentation of awards on May 18. The students played piano solos, duets and improvisations and sang solos and choral works. They also demonstrated the skills they had learned in the music and movement class. Seven children were awarded the white ribbon and eight were awarded the light blue ribbon of the Royal School of Church Music.

In June the Music Academy held its second Summer Camp. With 15 students enrolled, the camp marked the beginning of our second year of providing music and movement classes and instruction in piano, voice and music theory. The week concluded with a presentation of ensemble singing, piano improvisations and a demonstration of rhythmic movement.

The fall program followed in August with twenty children enrolled. Of those, four are from St. Peter's families, so we are beginning to reach out to the broader community. The music and movement class is now a dance class which, like the movement class, focuses on learning music elements of beat, rhythm, form and phrasing.

Teachers Kathy Heck, Susan McCain, Mary McKee, Tim McKee and Savannah Pender are assisted each Wednesday for 2 hours by volunteers who help keep children moving from place to place. These include Emilie Miller, Shirley Forssell, Sharon Grozine, Lynne Kemp, Judy Kenney, Janet Laycock, Pat Shea, Connie Stagg, Kathy Summers, Barby Townsend, Linda Wilhelm and Alice Wright.

We look forward to the growth of this ministry as we strive to reach our wider community through the ministry of music.

Acolytes

Matt Rice: Coordinator

Carey Bass, Langston Bass, Connor Brown, Tyler Brown, Natalia Descombe, Niko Descombe, Mason Howington, Meg Howington, Charlie Ippolito, Sam Ippolito, Mary-Leigh Jenkins, Ansley Keaton, Wick Keaton, Allyson Kemp, Megan Kemp, Hayden Lewis, Grace Lewis, Spencer McKee, Asa McManamy, Charlie Miller, Mary Miller, Charlotte Moffett, Kate Moffett, Anna Mondy, Carter Mondy, Jackson Mondy, Will Priest, Frida Raley, Hamilton Searcy, Wells Searcy, Landon Stone, Preston Stone, Ginger Vasquez.

These acolytes are always devoted and love to provide a passionate involvement in each and every service. This year we had an Acolyte Training Day where all of the Acolytes rehearsed and perfected their own personal technique for each of the roles

involved in the Acolyte Ministry. We are always looking and are eager to add more acolytes to our list. Any and all are welcome to serve as acolytes.

Altar Guild

Members: Sharon Grozine & Emilie Miller (co-chairs), Sue Addington, Gail Andrus, Sandy Bocard, Dana Boden, Cynthia Calder, Pam Clift, Mickey Creel, Wyndie Eberle, Mary Ann Hess, Beth Holmquist, Ann Hubbs, Ann Koepke, Susan McCain, Nancy Scheele, Jan Seeley, Sue Snyder, Sandy Thompson, Peggy Wise.

The mission of the Altar Guild of St. Peter's is to prepare the altar for all worship services, including two regular Sunday services, baptisms, weddings, memorial services and funerals, as well as any special events. We are responsible for the care of all altar hangings and linens along with the brass, silver and portable communion sets. We also order all altar supplies, such as wafers, wine and candles.

This year we purchased new linens for the portable communion sets, an intincture spoon and new water glasses for the priests to use during services.

An additional duty is the care of all vestments. Emilie Miller shortened four stoles and repaired the white vestments.

With the completion of the new chapel we will also be responsible for all services held there.

Flower Guild

Members: Susan Roberts & Adrienne Williams (co-chairs), Cissy Brennan, Dana Boden, Rue Clark, Libbie Cluett, Sally Eckerson, Debbie Giordan, Muffin King, Susan Mallgrave, Crissy Mondy, Sonia Oram, Marie Scheuermann, Penny Sebrell, Kristina Svenson, Mal Welch, Julie White, Laura Wieners.

The Flower Guild of St. Peter's is responsible for the beautiful floral arrangements that grace our worship space every week and on special occasions. Each member arranges the flowers about 3 times per year. After Sunday worship services, the arrangements are divided into smaller arrangements and the Flower Delivery Guild takes the arrangements to parishioners who are in the hospital or who are at home and unable to come to church.

The Flower Guild also decorates the church for the Christmas and Easter seasons.

Lay Readers Guild

Members: Sally Spencer (Coordinator), Harold Bulman, Karen Cassard, Art Chapple, Libbie Cluett, Mark Cluett, Elizabeth Cote, David Frothingham, Jay Howington, Cameron Ippolito, Amy Keaton, Allyson Kemp, Carl Kemp, Lynne Kemp, Janet Kuhn, Karen Lindholm, Wanda Lucas, Ginger Malachuk, Nancy Minor, Frida Raley,

Kim Ribbens, Marie Scheuermann, Pat Shea, Chuck Smith, Dan Spencer, Sally Spencer, Christina Stanton, Claudette Warlick, Lannie Williams.

Lay Readers serve a vital role at St. Peter's by reading scripture lessons during worship services. The Lay Reader Coordinator coordinates the reading schedules and allocates the applicable readings to the Lay Readers. New Lay Readers are individually trained by clergy.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers Guild (Chalice Bearers)

Members: Sally Spencer (Schedule Coordinator) Chris Baker, Jim Brawner, Mary Clapp, Jay Howington, Ginger Malachuk, Doug McManamy, Nancy Minor, Pat Powers, Pat Shea, Phil Snyder, Dan Spencer, Sally Spencer.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers (also known as LEMs or Chalice Bearers) assist the clergy in celebrating the Eucharist at both the 8:00 and 10:00 Sunday services, as well as at other occasions in which the Eucharist is celebrated. They usually lead the congregation in reading the Prayers of the People, help prepare the altar before communion ("setting the table"), and administer the wine during communion.

Ushers

Head Ushers: Bill Wright (Chair), Sandy Estill, Phil Turek, Dick Hess, John Kleine, Pat Powers.

Ushers: Dave Canham, Rue Clark, Bill Davis, Homer Eckerson, Hal Evans, Dave and Mary Ellen Fox, George Heck, Carl Kemp, Chuck Koepke, Wayne Kuhn, Roger Maugh, Charles Miller, Randy Moffett, Ashby Moncure, Sally Robinson, Tom Sebrell, Clyde Shaw, John Sobke, Dick Sullivan, Linda Tierney-Pufahl, David Wilhelm.

Substitute Ushers: Bill Andrus, Lynn Kemp, Janet Kuhn.

Soundboard Operators: Jim Brawner, Carl Kemp, Chuck Koepke, Randy Moffett, Pat Powers, Phil Turek, David Wilhelm, Bee Wood.

PARISH LIFE: HOSPITALITY & PASTORAL CARE

Vestry Liaisons: Randy Moffett & Pat Shea

HOSPITALITY

Greeters Guild

Mary Ellen & Dave Fox (Coordinators), Rev. Doris Johnson+, coordinator for Dec., 2016.

This group of volunteers continues to play a vital role every Sunday and at special services such as Christmas Eve. They are the first to welcome visitors and offer warm greetings to parishioners at each service.

Members are on call to greet all in the narthex area, as well as at the parking lot entrance. There has been a larger number of parishioners in the 2016 guild than were in the group in 2015. Members include: Gail & Bill Andrus, Susan & Charlie Arraiz, Sandy & Gary Bocard, Karen Cassard, Connie Dimou, Dave & Mary Ellen Fox, Debbie Giordan, Donna & Dan Hanlon, Janet & Wayne Kuhn, Susan Mallgrave, Kathryn McLean, Nancy Minor, Maggie Mitchell, Barbara Paull, Joy Schwartz, Joan Seaman, Betty Stout, Zoe Wells, Julie White.

Coffee Hour

Randy Moffett, Coordinator

In 2016, the coffee hour after the 10am service continued to rely on parishioners to provide the delicious food we enjoy.

Volunteers include Sue & A.L. Addington, Gail & Bill Andrus, Susan & Charles Arraiz, Betsey & Langston Bass, Sandi & Gary Bocard, Aubrey & Jim Brawner, Karen Cassard, Jennifer & Will Claiborne, Mickey Creel & Art Chapple, Debby & Jud Cuttino, Lue & Gary Daughenbaugh, Anne Dauray, Sally Eckerson, Wyndie & Doug Eberle, Carol Eppel, Marilyn Foley, Shirley & Mark Forssell, Mary Ellen & Dave Fox, Patty & Dave Frothingham, Debbie Giordan, Mary Ann & Dick Hess, Beth & John Holmquist, Marth & Walter Hough, Cathy & Jay Howington, Cindy & Dave Howell, Ann & George Hubbs, Janet & Fred Irwin, Amy & Bill Keaton, Lynne & Carl Kemp, Judy Kenney, Sharon & Tal Kersh, Susan & John Kleine, Ann & Chuck Koepke, Janet & Wayne Kuhn, Shelley Jenkins, Sunny Langkammerer & Jon Peterson, Karen Lindholm, Joan Loos & Dick Sullivan, Julie & B.J. Lowenthal, Ginger & Dan Malachuk, Susan Mallgrave, Barbara & Frank Mason, Judy Maugh, Kathryn McLearn, Connie & Chuck Miller, Emilie Miller, Nancy Minor, Ann & Randy Moffett, Crissy & Shep Mondy, Patty & Jim Morgan, Sylvaine & Dave Neises, Diane & Tom Oxnard, June Palmer, Barbara Paull, Erin & Charles Raley, Kim Ribbens, Susan & Steve Roberts, Joy Schwartz, Marie Scheuermann, Joan Seaman, Ann & Scott Searcy, Penny & Tom Sebrell, Marilyn & John Sobke, Sally & Dan Spencer, Betty Stout, Kathy Summers, Kristina Svenson, Donna & Clyde Shaw, Judy & David Sweeterman, Beckie & Steve Templeton, Linda Tierney, Haydee & Jim Toedtman, Barby & Al Townsend, Mal Welch & Bill Costa, Julie White, Linda & David Wilhelm, Bee Wood, Alice Wright and certainly other people whose names were somehow omitted. Thank you, everyone!

A special thanks to Nate Hodges, our unfailingly cheerful and unflappable event assistant. The room is always set-up, the coffee is always made, and everyone who has hosted a coffee hour has commented on how easy Nate made it for them.

We rely on volunteers each Sunday. Please consider hosting a coffee hour in 2017.

Newcomers Committee

Members: Debbie Giordan (Chair), Kathy Heck, Amy Keaton, Bob Neumann, Kim Ribbens, Kristina Svenson, Alice Wright.

The committee, along with those on the Greeters and Ushers guilds, focus on identifying visitors and persons new to St. Peter's. This year the committee developed a new procedure for welcoming and following up with newcomers. A newcomer's brunch was held at the Kuhn's house in May. We plan to have two coffees and a brunch each year to make our new people feel welcome. A new welcome card was created for the back of the pews in collaboration with the Communications Committee. A newcomer's packet should be finished in early 2017.

Foyer Groups

June Palmer, Chair

The Foyer Groups are groups of 8 parishioners who sign up to meet in one of each group's homes in January, February and March to enjoy a delicious dinner while getting to know each other better. Generally the host provides the main dish while the guests bring the appetizers, salads, vegetables and dessert. The chairman of the group scrambles the list each time so that ideally the members are with different parishioners each time.

Additionally, there is a Kick-off cocktail party in the fall for the group, but this year due to Hurricane Matthew's visit in October it was cancelled and will be held in early January instead.

Hopefully the Foyer Groups will be as popular this year as they have been in the past, as they are a lovely tradition at St. Peter's.

Receptions:

Alice Wright and Marie Scheuermann

The committee provides a reception for those who have a wedding or funeral at St. Peter's.

Episcopal Church Women [ECW]

Maggie Mitchell, President, Susan Snyder, Vice-President; Mickey Creel, Treasurer, Adrienne Williams, Special Assistant.

The mission of the ECW, which includes every woman of St. Peter's over 18, is to foster the spiritual growth and closeness of all the members of our parish, and help members find Christian community through fellowship, service, study, and worship.

The beginning of 2016 found ECW hosting the second 'Souper Luncheon' which was held on Saturday of Super Bowl weekend. Homemade soups, breads, salads, desserts combined with a very festive Parish Hall. This event was a celebration and acknowledgement of ALL the churches on Skidaway Island, plus St. James Catholic Church and our Jewish friends. Clearly, this is a time of thanks for all the work done by our neighbors throughout the year. A time to renew our energies while knowing that we women are not alone in our endeavors. We applaud each other! The speaker for this event was Geveryl Robinson, Professor at Clemson University and former *Savannah Morning News* Columnist. It was a sell-out crowd of women, with a waiting list of others hoping to attend. All of the churches (except one!) were represented by attendance. There were over 100 ladies attending.

June 4, found ECW women meeting in the Parish Hall for Coffee-Danish-Conversation. There was a small program as well. This was an intimate group with much sharing of ideas and thoughts. The exchange was informative and fun!

July 17 found ECW joining in the farewell event for Rev. Zach Fleetwood. A beautiful and original oil painting by Marilyn Foley was presented to Father Zack as a goodbye/thank you gift.

Again, ECW assisted in the very successful Market event. A welcome luncheon is planned for our new priest's wife, Lisa Priest. She will tell us a little about herself at that luncheon. The date was delayed due to the ravages of Hurricane Matthew, with the new date January 14, 2017.

PASTORAL CARE

Altar Flower Delivery Guild

Members: Cindy Howell [chair, 2016]; Susan Kleine [chair, 2017], Aubrey Brawner, Karen Cassard, Priscilla Farnum, Connie Jones, Janet Kuhn, Steve Langston, Ginger Malachuk, Joan Mattson, Connie Miller, Nancy Minor, Annie Moncure, June Palmer, Barbara Paull, Joan Seaman, Donna Shaw, Marilyn Sobke, Kathy Summers, Kristina Svenson.

The Altar Flower Delivery Guild delivers flower arrangements every Sunday to parishioners who are ill, unable to get to church, or simply in our thoughts and prayers for any reason. Doris+ writes cards to two recipients, reminding them of our love and blessings for them. Three bouquets are arranged using flowers and greenery from the altar, and a Guild member delivers them to the homes of the recipients. This is a joyful ministry and we encourage more people to belong. Over 100 arrangements were delivered in 2016.

Baptismal Frames Guild

Mickey Creel, Chair

Baptismal Plaques are handcrafted to celebrate the Baptismal Covenant. Families are gifted a framed keepsake paper replica of the fabric banners that were given in previous years. There were two baptismal plaques made and presented for 2016.

Greeting Card Ministry

Members: Shirley Forssell [coordinator], Sue Addington, Barbara Baker, Debby Cuttino, Sandy DeSola, Laura Gilliam, Patty James, Steve Langston, Maggie Mitchell, Joan Seaman, Kristina Svenson.

The St. Peter's Greeting Card Ministry encompasses the occasions throughout the year when parishioners have special occasions (birthdays, anniversaries, etc.) and cards are sent to all who are on the list at church.

There were 11 volunteers who sent the cards in 2016. Each month has a volunteer who sends special occasion cards to parishioners. One volunteer sends a "Care Note" to parishioners who have the first anniversary of the death of a loved one. The church provides the cards and postage for these greetings.

Parish Nurse

Janet Kuhn EdD, RN

The role of the parish nurse includes making in-home, hospital and nursing home visits and phone calls to those parishioners with health concerns. It also includes acting as health counselor and referral advisor when asked. Referrals come from the rector, associate rector, parishioners and the prayer list.

A pastoral care team composed of the rector, associate rector, prayer guild coordinator, vestry liaison, myself and several interested parishioners meets on a regular basis to coordinate the pastoral care needs of parishioners. A refresher course on CPR and the use of the defibrillator will be scheduled in 2017.

Prayer Guild

Members: Shirley Forssell [Coordinator], Barbara Baker, Mary Ellen Fox, Cathy Henderson, Debbie Howell, Patty James, Connie Jones, Judy Kenney, Ginger Malachuk, Susan Mallgrave, Susan McCain, Susan Snyder, Sally Spencer, Barby Townsend, Claudette Warlick.

The St. Peter's Prayer Guild has been in existence for 26 years, from the beginning of the mission years until the present. It has always included confidentiality as part of the commitment to pray. At this time, there are 15 ladies (men are always welcomed) who commit to pray daily for the ill, troubled or those facing surgery in the parish plus those who are the concern of a parishioner.

The prayer chain (mainly email) is the method used to pass on prayer requests needed immediately. An Excel list of the total requests is prepared for each month for the members and is updated before each monthly meeting. The monthly meeting is usually the 1st Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m.

In addition to daily prayer, we have very special note cards that are sent to those for whom we pray and/or to those who request the prayers. Members are encouraged to send notes in the name of the guild and to keep the "list keeper" updated about requests.

Prayer Shawls Guild

Joan Johnston, Coordinator

Knitters continue to create and give shawls to our parish family and friends supporting those in need of extra tender loving care. In addition to those served at St. Peter's this ministry also gives shawls to Hospice Savannah. About once a month these shawls are blessed at each of our Sunday services. Approximately 100 shawls were completed this year. Knitters meet at St. Peter's the fourth Wednesday of each month. There are presently 17 knitters in this guild. Everyone is welcome and no experience is required.

OUTREACH

Vestry Liaisons: Dan Malachuk, Shep Mondy

Outreach Advisory Committee: Gail Andrus, Jim Brawner, Karen Lindholm, Bill Wright.

This year, Outreach at St. Peter's continued its transition, responding directly to the feedback from the congregation as expressed in the Holy Cow survey, subsequent church roundtable dinner discussions and a review by the Vestry.

The essence of that response was to move toward focusing our Outreach program on fewer organizations, especially those that are less able to secure public sector or United Way funding and those which also provide opportunities for our members to become personally involved as volunteers. The Advisory Committee for this year was constituted to include folks who were involved in organizations where parishioners were either actively engaged or had the potential for meaningful engagement.

In 2016, we also accelerated our contributions so that recipient organizations had the use of these funds in time to help them cover their summer programs. This also represented a shift in philosophy – to treat our Outreach commitment as a commitment, rather than an allocation of what funds were available at year's end. This can be described as a shift to a "first fruits" approach.

The overall Outreach program includes three areas of emphasis:

1. **“Partnerships”**: We selected four local organizations where we can deepen our relationship, financially and through an increasing involvement of volunteer effort. As more funding becomes available, we anticipated channeling the bulk of the increase to these organizations.
2. **Mission & Projects**: Continue to support both local and international mission projects, most notably the participation in an eye care and vision clinic at our companion diocese in the Dominican Republic.
3. **Charitable Contributions**: Continue financial support, primarily to 10 local organizations that address the needs of children and families at risk. The organizations supported are those that St. Peter’s has supported in past years and especially those that have our members involved as volunteers.

The Vestry’s Outreach Charter also gives voice to our aspiration to increase the percentage of operating funds committed to Outreach, eventually achieving an allocation of at least 10% of the church’s operating budget. For 2016, budgeted funds represented about 6% of the operating budget, totaling \$45,000. This was an increase from the past two years (i.e., \$40,000 in 2015 and \$30,000 in 2014). It is expected that the 2017 budget allocation for Outreach will increase to \$50,000 - \$55,000.

In addition to these, substantial funds were also contributed from The Market at 3 West Ridge. Regrettably, weather forced the cancellation of this year’s St. Peter’s 5k/10k race. The organizing committees for these events select the organizations that receive that support.

1. Partnerships

In 2016, four organizations were designated as ones with which we have begun to explore how to increase our financial commitment and broaden our volunteer relationships. The idea was summarized in one of the Holy Cow follow-up dinners in the phrase, “go deep”. We began by increasing our financial support as well as being pro-active in identifying ways to contribute personal effort that was truly useful.

- Kairos is a non-denominational, lay-led, international Christian ministry that helps to address the spiritual needs of prison inmates. Kairos is a Greek word meaning in God’s Special Time, indicating an opportunity to re-consider their life choices as hearts are changed. St. Peter’s volunteers serve on Kairos teams that work at Rogers State Prison and Coastal State Prison. The structure of Kairos is strongly influenced by the Episcopal Cursillo and other Christian retreat and follow-up programs. Our 2016 financial allocation to Kairos was \$3,000.
- L.O.V.E. Mentors
 - The acronym stands for Local Outreach Volunteer Educators. Volunteers work one-on-one, typically weekly, with children in

Savannah's public schools. The objectives are to help improve academic performance and raise positive aspirations.

- In 2016, the number of St. Peter's L.O.V.E. Mentors increased from 8 to 12. Overall, there are 120 Mentors serving more than 200 children in Title 1 schools (Title 1 are schools with substantial student population eligible for free/subsidized school meals).
 - St. Peter's contributed \$4,000, helping the program to expand its ability to provide free summer camp experiences.
- Interfaith Hospitality Network [recently renamed Family Promise of Greater Savannah]
 - This is a network of congregations that provide shelter, meals and hospitality to homeless families with children. St. Peter's is one of 20 congregations in Savannah that take turns hosting families for a week at a time. Volunteers cook and share meals with the families at the church and spend the night with them. In the morning, the IHN van returns the families to the IHN center so the children can get to school and their parents can get to work, training, or job interviews.

Their success rate (families migrated from homeless to housed and employed) approaches 90% initially and for those who are in that 90%, their continued success exceeds 95% at the five-year mark.

In 2016, the focus was on expanding the roster of folks who can take on our hosting tasks as well as develop other ways to help this organization continue to fulfill its mission and to increase the number of families served. Our 2016 financial allocation was \$7,000.

- St. Mary's Community Center
 - The Center is a community outreach initiative of St. Joseph's/Candler in the Cuyler-Brownsville neighborhood of Savannah. For many years, St. Peter's adult and youth group volunteers have assisted in special events for both children and seniors who are served by the Center.

Several of our parishioners have volunteered to help staff St. Mary's free income tax program that provides this free service to folks best described as the "working poor".

This year we increased our funding to \$7,000 to signal our commitment. We continue to discern how best to harness volunteer energy and willingness to meet the many needs of the families served. One challenge is to define work packages (e.g., job counseling, resume preparation, GED tutoring, personal financial planning, reading for young ones and "first teacher" coaching for their parents) so that expectations of our volunteers and the needs of the community can be matched.

A part of the rationale for “going deep” is to develop improved understanding of the challenges facing these organizations, so over time we are better able to use the many talents within our congregation in ways that will truly help them increase and sustain their effectiveness.

2. Missions & Projects

Funds and efforts are also committed to missions and projects on both a one-time and ongoing basis:

- Building on the success of their 2014, 2015 and 2016 trips, the upcoming 2017 Dominican Republic trip has been expanded further with the addition of both medical professionals and volunteers from St. Peter’s and other parishes in the diocese. Individual volunteers pay for their own air travel and out-of-pocket-expenses. An Outreach budget allocation covers room and board at the diocese’s guesthouse in the Dominican Republic, local logistics and staffing, and shipping for donated, specialized equipment. The total allocated is approximately \$10,000-\$12,000, depending upon which expenses need to be prepaid from 2016 funds to cover the trip which takes place in late January/early February.
- In response to an urgent need due to flooding in Louisiana, an Outreach commitment of \$4,000 was presented to the congregation and then was nearly doubled to just under \$8,000 through individual contributions by our parishioners. These funds were used by the diocese in Louisiana to assist 27 families in the small village of St. Francisville, east of Baton Rouge. They lost everything and were totally without shelter, food, and clothing. This predominately African-American community had little if any financial resources and no insurance to cover floods since they lived in an area that was never identified as a flood zone.

Locally, projects included:

- Christmas Angel Tree
 - Parishioners provide gifts for parents to give to their children through programs at Interfaith Hospitality, Safe Shelter and St. Mary’s Community Center. Each Interfaith and Safe Shelter child is the recipient of three requested gifts: clothes; toys/games; “infrastructure” (e.g., an infant’s walkers).
- Backpack Buddies
 - A Second Harvest program whereby volunteers pack food supplies for children to bring home to help their families through the weekend.
- Looking ahead, the Music Academy pilot program has demonstrated proof of concept and is now a candidate for continuing Outreach support.

We also note that many of our members volunteer through several service organizations, not associated with the church but importantly providing help where it is needed.

Charitable Contributions

\$1,000 was provided to each of the following ten organizations. All have been recipients of financial support in past years and a number of our members are involved as volunteers with many of them.

Secular Organizations

1. Big Brothers / Big Sisters (Now Frank Callen Boys & Girls Clubs)
2. CASA
3. Citizen's Advocacy
4. Landings Military Relief Fund
5. Live Oaks Public Libraries Foundation
6. Park Place Outreach Savannah
7. SAFE (Savannah Area Family Emergency)
8. Horizons Savannah

Faith-Based Organizations

1. Old Savannah City Mission
2. Episcopal Youth and Children's Services

Outreach Organization

The Vestry's Outreach charter specifies that coordination is to be provided by the Vestry liaison for Outreach, with the guidance and support of at least three parishioners, each asked to serve initially for one calendar year to review financial allocations and commitments and to provide guidance on volunteer programs and involvement.

In 2016, this group was formed to include folks with substantial experience with Outreach programs at St. Peter's as well as other parishes and who were most directly engaged with the four organizations that were selected for our "partnership" commitments.

As 2017 gets underway, we will again form a small group to guide our efforts – hopefully with both veterans of our Outreach programs as well as those who may be new to the congregation and/or these programs. Having worked through the adjustments in our contribution allocations, our effort will need to emphasize designing and providing tangible opportunities for continuing service, especially to the communities beyond the bridge.

The Market at 3 West Ridge

Each year *The Market at 3 West Ridge* continues St. Peter's outreach tradition of volunteering time, talent and treasure as over 120 women and men work together to make *The Market* a success. We firmly believe that a better future for all depends on providing vulnerable Savannah children with safe environments and opportunities to maximize their abilities.

Each year *The Market* selects twenty national vendors to display and sell their boutique goods including stylish and unique clothing and accessories for women, men and children, unusual home decorative and garden accessories, linens, and

classic and contemporary jewelry for this two day event. *The Market* also includes a vibrant spring plant sale and a delicious luncheon made and served by our volunteers. Over the past four years, *The Market* has grown in credibility with national vendors and in popularity, with over 800 women and men attending and shopping in 2016.

The Market 2016 was held Friday February 19th and Saturday February 20th. The Live Oak Public Libraries Foundation and Safe Shelter Center for Domestic Violence Services were the charities selected to receive financial support. *The Market* donates all net proceeds from door admissions, plant sales, and luncheon and sponsor donations. In addition, our vendors contribute 15 percent of their sales to the charities. For 2016, the net proceeds totaled \$54,000 which were given (\$27,000 to each charity) to support Live Oak's Summer Reading Program and Safe Shelter's Youth Enrichment Services and Camp Rock.

The Market 2016 Committee was led by Co-Chairman Gail Andrus and Crissy Mondy. The work of *The Market* could not have been accomplished without the dedicated efforts of the following committee members: Nannette Allen, Sandy Bocard, Cissy Brennan, Valerie Brown, Cynthia Calder, Janet Creasman, Mary Ellen Fox, Patty Frothingham, Debbie Giordan, Sharon Grozine, Kathy Heck, Martha Hough, Ann Hubbs, Amy Keaton, Judy Kenny, Hayden Lewis, Kathryn McLearn, Emilie Miller, Patty Morgan, Bob Neumann, Susan Roberts, Jan Seeley, Marilyn Sobke, Kristina Svenson, Beverly & Don White, Carol Wheaton and Alice Wright.

EDUCATION

Vestry Liaisons: Shelley Jenkins, Children & Youth Education
Jay Howington, Adult Education

Adult education at St. Peter's typically follows the academic calendar to best coordinate with the youth and children's education. The people who lead adult education at St. Peter's offer programming that comprises the following attributes: educational, consistent, and social.

LOGOS – Meets bimonthly [once over dinner to discuss a book that all have agreed upon as the reading and one just as a social gathering]. Approximately 12-20 people comprise LOGOS and, while perhaps small in number, this hearty group is committed to one another and fellowship. Each year the group grows in both depth and number.

Inquirer's Class – this class is scheduled for the six week period prior to the Bishop visiting St. Peter's in the spring.

Adult Forum Committee

Members: Chris Baker [Chair], A. L. Addington, Langston Bass, Pamela Clift, Rev. Don Hands, Cindy Howell, Jay Howington, Rev. Doris Johnson, Lynne Kemp, Janet Kuhn, Westina Matthews Shatteen, Kim Ribbens, Barby Townsend.

Adult Christian Formation comprises all of our efforts to engage our parish in "the things of God," be they scriptural classes, quiet days, or our 9am and 11:30am Adult Forums.

The 9am Forum is currently seeking God in the midst of our daily lives in an offering we've called "What's Up with God." Newspaper articles, elections, national and world events have all been fodder for spirited discussion.

The Adult Forum Committee organizes gatherings of interest to the adult congregation of St. Peter's each Sunday morning from 11:30 – 12:15. The topics range from current events to literature, music, theology, and personal reflection, presented by parishioners and others outside our congregation. All members of the St. Peter's family are welcome to attend and to suggest topics for future forums.

The following are the forums presented from September through December, 2016: Hunt Priest, *"Everything you Ever Wanted to Know about Hunt"*; *"The BIG Umbrella of Stewardship in God's World"*; Cindy Howell, *"What do you NOT Believe? The Apostle's Creed & Faith"*; Hunt Priest, Doris Johnson, Tim McKee, *"All Hallows, All Saints, All Souls"*; Doris Johnson, *"How to Listen When You Have a Differing Opinion"*; Marilyn Sobke, *"Spiritual Journey"*; Westina Matthews, *"Nouwen, God, & You: Deepening Your Spiritual Life"*; Doris Johnson, *"The Advent of Moses"*; Chris Baker, *"The Advent of Isaiah and Jeremiah"*; Hunt Priest, *"The Advent of Mary."*

In addition, the Adult Wednesday Bible Study meets from 10:30–11:30-ish each week with Doris+ as we currently examine *"Getting Involved with God: Rediscovering the Old Testament"* using Ellen Davis' text and various scripture translations. We too look to how our studies are currently played out in the world yet again. Recently, Westina Matthews Shatteen offered an Advent Quiet Day, allowing us to both share and contemplate God in our lives this Advent. It was so well-received we will plan to offer other times for such deep reflection.

Children's Education Committee

Members: Betsey Bass, Debby Cuttino, Debbie Giordan, Shelley Jenkins, Lynne Kemp, Emilie Miller, Matt Rice, Scott Searcy, Kathy Summers, Kathy Smith, Wade Smith, Susan Snyder, Laura Wieners, Mark Worsham.

Nursery

Nursery Coordinators/Attendants for Infants and Toddlers: Dan and Sally Spencer

Nursery Care is provided for children three months through three years on Sunday mornings from 8:45-11:45. There are two rooms which may be separated with a closed door as needed for safety and a positive playing/learning experience for the children. Parishioners have been very generous in donating age-appropriate baby and young child items. Attendance during the past year has ranged from 1-11 children. Typical attendance per Sunday has been 2-4 children.

Children [Age 3 through 5th grade]

Godly Play tends to the youngest of our children, ages 3 through 3rd grade. The class is set with a prepared environment, with the sacred stories of scripture surrounding them. The stories are narrated by the Storyteller, and tied to the presence of God with their space and lives. Children have an awareness of God even before they are able to speak about God. Godly Play lessons help them reflect on both the stories of God's actions in the world via scripture and God's presence in their lives. Part of the fun of Godly Play is reflecting and wondering about God's intentions. Those spoken responses then become pictures of stories the children create...each at the level of their own age and interest.

Leaders: (Shelley gave you the storytellers: the doorkeepers are Emilie Miller, Scott Searcy, and Laura Wiener...essential to the process.)

Sunday School (4th & 5th grades)

Teachers: Betsey Bass, Maggie Mitchell

Students: Niko Descombe, Claire Fleming, Meg Howington, Wick Keaton, Luke Kirkpatrick, Mary Miller, Preston Stone, Ben Templeton.

The 4th & 5th Grade class began August 2016 during 9:00 hour on Sunday mornings. This class is geared to assist in the transition from the Godly Play class to the Rite 13 class. With a focus on a more liturgical and biblical analysis, the 4th & 5th Grade class is meant to inspire students to understand the immense power and presence of God in all aspects of life including various activities from reading bible parables, cooking lessons, and even expressing bible stories through paint and canvas.

Youth [6th-12th grade youth]

Our ***Journey to Adulthood*** program (each segment 2 years) has been chosen to serve several purposes. Building a community of Christians is primary, of course, but within that core value our youth at every level are encouraged to question, realize there will always be differing opinions about our themes and scripture to which we respond with thoughtfulness, more questions, and acceptances of differences. In addition, each group has both a special focus and a special celebration.

Rite 13

Teachers: Debbie Giordan, Ann Moffett, Matt Rice, Susan Snyder, Wade Smith.

Students: Carey Bass, Langston Bass, Tyler Brown, Natalia Descombe, Vivienne Drake, Mason Howington, Sam Ippolito, Mary Leigh Jenkins, Ansley Keaton, Spencer McKee, Charlie Miller, Anna Mondy, Jackson Mondy, Davis Wilkes.

The Rite 13 class is geared for middle schoolers (6th grade - 8th grade). This class begins the over-arching J2A Program that the Sunday school classes follow here at St. Peter's. The Rite 13 class inspires middle schoolers on his or her journey to become young adults by learning more of God's wondrous power in discovering who they are and how they can grow as an Episcopalian. This class meets during the 9:00 hour on Sunday Mornings.

J2A (Journey to Adulthood)

Teachers: Shelley Jenkins, Matt Rice, Susan Snyder, Mark Worsham.

Students: Connor Brown, Charlie Ippolito, Megan Kemp, Asa McManamy, Carter Mondy, Hamilton Searcy, Landon Stone, Will Templeton, Connor Wilkes.

The Journey to Adulthood Class is the second step in the overarching J2A Program that the Sunday School Classes follow here at St. Peter's. The J2A class is meant for High School students to continue their journey to adulthood by learning more about the lessons God teaches us as well as the Discipline involved with being a Christian in the 21st century. This class meets during the 9:00 hour on Sunday mornings.

YAC (Young Adults in Church)

Teachers: Shelley Jenkins, Mark Worsham.

Students: Allyson Kemp, Hayden Lewis, Grace Lewis, Peyton Lowenthal, Charlotte Moffett, Kate Moffett, Will Priest, Frida Raley, Kate Templeton.

The YAC Sunday School class is the third and final step in the overarching J2A Program that the Sunday School Classes follow here at St. Peter's. The YAC students are juniors and seniors in high school that have already been on their pilgrimage. YAC students learn more about what being a young adult in the church is all about. Studying scripture and finding a small group to discuss and debate current events and topics are just some of the goals that the YAC class strives to reach. These are also the years during which Confirmation preparation takes place. This class meets during the 9:00 hour on Sunday mornings.

SPY (St. Peter's Youth Group)

Teachers: Matt Rice, Erin Davis

Students: Carey Bass, Langston Bass, Connor Brown, Tyler Brown, Natalia Descombe, Vivienne Drake, Mason Howington, Charlie Ippolito, Sam Ippolito, Mary Leigh Jenkins, Ansley Keaton, Allyson Kemp, Megan Kemp, Grace Lewis, Hayden Lewis, Peyton Lowenthal, Spencer McKee, Asa McManamy, Charlie Miller, Charlotte Moffett, Kate Moffett, Anna Mondy, Carter Mondy, Jackson Mondy, Will Priest, Frida Raley, Hamilton Searcy, Landon Stone, Kate Templeton, Will Templeton, Connor Wilkes, Davis Wilkes.

SPY is the St. Peter's Youth group program that includes students from 6th graders - 12th graders. SPY is the program that allows for all students at St. Peter's to connect and interact with one another. Whether that is going kayaking on the Skidaway River or cooking meals for the Interfaith Hospitality Network, SPY is always filled with activities and excitement and is meant to be a place where all students can feel comfortable and build long-lasting friendships. SPY takes place on Sunday nights at 6:00.

Lenten Series 2016

Our Wednesday Nights in Lent began with Worship to Center the Soul, a quiet, meditative service of readings, prayer, and Taize music supported by our choir.

It continued with a Simple Supper and a discussion on the small book, *Always We Begin Again*, which sets out a contemporary Rule of Life, a system of spiritual and meaningful living based on Benedictine spirituality. It was created and led by Lynne Kemp and Rev. Doris Johnson.

St. Peter's Library

Library committee: Joan Loos [Librarian], Karen Cassard, Janet Creasman, Janet Insley, Claudette Warlick, Laura Wieners, Lori Witten.

St Peter's Church is very fortunate to have an endowed library to serve its parishioners and all clergy of the Diocese of Georgia. We have a wide variety of religious materials for all ages, books, magazines, CDs and DVDs. A self-service system allows the library to be available whenever the Parish Hall is open. We have recently completed converting our card catalog to computer access on our church website.

At present we have 2,993 items, with 376 items in the last 3 years. The library subscribes to several periodicals, and materials for children, young people and adults, including reference books, picture books, biographies, novels, and recordings of church music, books on the arts, the Bible, prayer, church history and comparative religions.

Many of our books are purchased and some are donated from parishioners, often in memory of or in honor of, another person. We welcome suggestions of possible titles for purchase.