

THE ST PETER'S POST

August, 2022

St Peter's Episcopal Church, Port Royal, VA

The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks, Rector

Season after Pentecost –

“Feeding our souls, nourishing our hearts, bodies and minds through the ordinary acts” of Jesus – C. S. Lewis

- **Every Sunday 11AM Worship in person at St Peter's and online.**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86999263545?pwd=WHpNa1JrU0J0OGdMV3NMRlhmWUVCZz09> Meeting ID: 869 9926 3545 Passcode: 889278
- **Sun, Aug 7, following worship, enjoy coffee hour in the pavilion.**
- **Wednesday, Aug. 10 Village Dinner, 4:30-6 PM. Take out or eat in.** Call Susan Linne von Berg to make your reservation. 804-742-5233
- **Wed, Aug. 17, Village Harvest, 3-5:00PM,** Call Andrea (540-847-9002) to help pack 1pm-3pm and/or distribute food. 3pm-5pm
- **Thursday, August 25, 7PM. Sacred Ground Group, 7pm. All are welcome.**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86904459075?pwd=YIVYcTVBL09NK3d2bHZjZWdWalhsdz09>
Meeting ID: 869 0445 9075
Passcode: 715981
- **Sunday, August 28, Morning Prayer**

August Server Schedule

Sunday, August 7, 2022 The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Holy Eucharist, 11AM

Lector Helmut Linne von Berg

Chalice Bearer Andrea Pogue

Altar Clean Up Linda Kramer

Sunday, August 14, 2022 The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, Holy Eucharist, 11AM

Lector Susan Linne von Berg

Chalice Bearer Johnny Davis

Altar Clean Up Jan Saylor

Sunday, August 21, 2022 The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, Holy Eucharist, 11AM

Lector Andrea Pogue

Chalice Bearer Helmut Linne von Berg

Altar Clean Up BJ Anderson

Sunday, August 28, The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, Morning Prayer, 11AM

Lector Jennifer Collins

Altar Clean Up Elizabeth Heimback

Prayer Corner

Please pray for **Lydia O'Neil**, one of our Zoom parishioners. Lydia fell in her house in July, dislocated her knee and broke her femur. She will be in the Bowling Green Rehabilitation and Health Care Center for two months as she recovers. She would appreciate hearing from you! The address is
Lydia O'Neil
Bowling Green Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, #56
120 Anderson Ave
Bowling Green, VA 22427

Toni Faibisy continues her remarkable recovery at the Carriage Hill Health Care and Rehabilitation Center. You can send her at card at

Antonia Faibisy
Carriage Hill Health Care and
Rehabilitation Center
6106 Health Center Lane
Fredericksburg, VA 22407

Roger Key and John Whitfield need ongoing prayers as they both deal with cancer.

A Prayer for those we love, BCP 831

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

August Birthdays

Mike Newman 08/07
Keith Upshaw 08/09
Suzanne Wall 08/09
Bridgette Long 08/10
Thom Guthrie 08/13
Scarlett Long 08/13
Salli Hartman 08/15
Boyd Wisdom 08/18
Linda Kramer 08/18
Sylvia Sellers 08/20
Jennifer Collins 08/21
John Faibisy 08/23
Fred and Crystal Pannell 08/29
Da'von Townsel, son of Cornesha Howard 8/30

Thank you! 250 Boxes of Markers for Caroline's Promise

Thanks to all who contributed markers for Caroline's Promise School Give Away on July 23 at the Caroline Middle School. We made our goal!

Glorifying God with music

Along with Brad's continuing contributions, Helmut and Larry treated us to some beautiful music during July.



If you'd like to listen, check out the links below.

- 1 "Sweet Hour of Prayer" - Helmut and Larry . July 17
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPF_nINJ4Vio
- 2 "Because all men are brothers" – Larry, July 17.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uo8_vEaCjCs
3. Prelude, Brad and Helmut, July 10
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azB0ZzZbNeQ>
4. Offertory, Brad and Helmut, July 10
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_DcqFggwxi&t=8s
5. "10,000 reasons" – Larry, July 24
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4gxxamnr4sl>

Season of Pentecost Wisdom from C. S. Lewis

"The Roman church refers to this time as 'Ordinary Time.' Symbolically, this long season of green represents for the church a time of growth. This is the time that we accompany our Lord Jesus in his public ministry- healings, signs, parables and essential teachings from the life of Christ- so that we followers of Jesus can be reminded, re-inspired, and challenged in the day to day living of the Christian life."

“The season of Pentecost is a season of feeding our souls, nourishing our hearts, bodies and minds through the ordinary acts of our Lord Jesus Christ that we too as ordinary people would follow suit, becoming extraordinary disciples with hearts fixed where true Joys are to be found. For ‘true humility is not thinking less of yourself, it is thinking of yourself less.’” - C S Lewis

The Gospel in August

Get the lectionary readings here

<http://lectionarypage.net/#august>

Jesus deals with those he speaks with in various ways. When Jesus is with the disciples, his teaching is demanding and often blunt. When he is with the crowd, strangers and foreigners, Jesus proclaims the Good News of God’s unconditional acceptance and universal compassion. When he is with the religious leaders of the time, Jesus turns their criticism back on themselves.

August 7 - Luke 12:32-40

For Christians, “all life is lived in expectation of the Son of Man’s return. The time of the arrival is unknown, but the coming is sure. This eschatological anticipation sets the talk about possessions in a new context. One’s attitude toward wealth and its enticements and one’s actions with the money he or she has are not trivial matters. They are part of the disciple’s readiness and watchfulness.”

August 14 - Luke 12:49-56

“If one were to list ten of the hardest sayings in the Gospels, the first portion of this selection would undoubtedly be on the list. The statements that Jesus came to bring fire, a distressful baptism, and division, even among families, are hardly welcome words.....while the words of this text are not very palatable to those seeking safety and security, calls to change are reminders that judgment need

not be the last word, that destruction is not inevitable.”

August 21 - Luke 13:10-17

Jesus enters a synagogue and heals a woman who has been suffering for 18 years. Jesus heals the woman in sacred space (a synagogue, mentioned twice) and within sacred time, namely on a Sabbath (noted no fewer than five times), and he is criticized for this breach of the law. Jesus insists that the synagogue and the Sabbath are not the only things that are holy -- so is this woman’s life. He is also guilty, in the eyes of the synagogue leaders, of touching a ritually unclean woman. Jesus isn’t abolishing the Law of Moses but helping the people in the synagogue have a more compassionate and broader understanding of how to apply the law.

Jesus points out that while untying an ox or a donkey on the sabbath was forbidden in one part of the Mishnah (a Jewish book of laws), it was permitted in another. His point is that the woman is far more important than animals, yet animals are allowed more freedom on the sabbath than is the woman. This woman is a "daughter of Abraham," heir to the same promise as Abraham.

August 28 Luke 14:1, 7-14

The fourth Sunday lectionary reading is set at a dinner with religious leaders on the Sabbath. “There is no doubt that Jesus is a disturbing, even rude, guest at this dinner party, upsetting standard protocol, but his presence and his words open the way for the transformed structures of the kingdom of God.”

Commentary in quotations comes from Texts for Preaching: A Lectionary Commentary Based on the NRSV-Year C, Westminster John Knox Press.

News from our Ministry Partners

1. **Hunters for the Hungry** – St. Peter's provides a yearly donation to this group. Johnny Davis and his hunt club donate deer each year to this program so that hungry people in Virginia have access to fresh meat. Hunters for the Hungry started its work in 1991 and has provided over 30.3 million quarter servings of lean meat to Virginia families.
2. **Healthy Harvest Food Bank** – We purchase food from this group each month for the Village Harvest. Their program provides ½ million pounds of fresh product annually. They have finished their solar project, which powers the entire food bank campus. The food bank also participates in the program, "Backpack Buddies", a weekend meals program that has expanded to include every public school in their service area. Their new pursuit, Healthy Harvest Fresh, an aquaponics and educational center which will include classrooms and a greenhouse, will cost \$1,800,000. They have raised \$718K of the total cost.
3. **Heifer International** – Ending poverty begins with agriculture by supporting and investing in local farmers and their communities around the world. Heifer International has assisted in the compensation of smallholder farmers with over N100m insurance payouts to mitigate losses.
4. **Episcopal Relief and Development.** Currently, ERD is working with the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe to help local congregations throughout Europe provide assistance to Ukrainian refugees. The Convocation is creating a fund to support local congregations' refugee response and will pair those grants with training.

ERD also assists the South Sudanese Development and Relief Agency (SSUDRA) of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan as it responds to recent civil unrest and the COVID-19 pandemic. In collaboration with the Diocese of Salisbury and Christian Aid, SSUDRA is providing assistance to families in northwest South Sudan who have been impacted by the violence. The Church is also implementing COVID-19 educational campaigns in the central part of the country.

5. UTO focus for 2023 - Over the next three years, the United Thank Offering, in the spirit of Matthew 25:36, will focus on areas of ministry that serve those whom society has left out and left behind. Therefore, the UTO grant focus for 2023 will be on innovative mission and ministry projects addressing all aspects of the worldwide incarceration crisis, specifically:

- preventative programs and intervention
- prisoner support outreach
- prison reform work
- or post-prison re-entry

A Way to Pray - With Compassion



Compassion has been shown to improve our health and wellness, steering us towards meaningful interactions and relationships.

Developing our ability to pray with compassion encourages us to address inequality, cruelty, bullying and the struggles of others. It encourages us to be kind, opening our mind and heart to others.

Compassion allows us to connect to others. And, as a characteristic of God, expanding our own capacity for

compassion is something we can pursue with God's help....

Lord, please open my eyes to see those around me that are in need of my compassion. Nudge me to listen to others, to not only hear their needs but to seek to understand. Give me the heart to be interested in their troubles and provide me the means to help them whenever and however I am able through words or actions. Nudge me Lord, when I need it, remind me that I cannot dismiss or ignore the poor and downtrodden in this world. Help me follow where you lead; swell up in me a heart and voice for the oppressed, a giving hand to the poor, and to encourage the troubled and over time, help me be a reflection of your light in the world. In your name I pray. Amen.

Whether we know someone personally, or only from the news, holding them in our heart with compassion reorients us to God and away from the almost unavoidable self-preoccupations of our everyday life. When you see someone in need, keep that person in your heart throughout the day. Create a list you can add to, or stop what you're doing for a moment to hold them up in prayer for healing, peace, balance, discernment, understanding, wellness ... or to feel God's presence.

Prayer is also, and often, made manifest through action.

Be a Good Listener. Listening means we take an interest in what the person is saying. We offer feedback (though not necessarily advice) throughout the conversation. We take to heart what the person is telling us. We let another person talk.

Be Empathetic. Put yourself in another other person's shoes, make an effort to understand the other person's feelings, try seeing the world through the other person's eyes.

Be an Advocate. Scripture calls us to be there for the downtrodden. Get involved

in just one of countless organizations that gives voice to the voiceless, persecuted and oppressed people of the world. Lend your voice, your prayers, your time, your talents, your treasure.

Be Trustworthy with confidences.

When someone confides their troubles to you, this is especially important. Unless someone's struggle puts them or another in harm's way, confidences made public can cause undermine continued trust.

Be a Giver of time, talent, and treasure.

Be aware of what's going on, open your eyes to the world and be watchful for people and situations in need of prayer - on the news, in church, on the street. Engage with people who are different than you.

Be Kind. It never pays to underestimate the importance of our tone, our smile, our words, and the compassion in our eyes. Sometimes, it's the thing that gets us and others through a day... or is just the thing that turns one around!

Sources: <https://www.learnreligions.com/ways-to-show-compassion-712495>; www.guilldservices.org

For Households--The Wondering Together Project

The Wondering Together Project is a simple, short daily practice to help households to connect, to hear a little bit about one another's day, and to be held and loved in their sharing.

The program was developed by Sally Thomas, who was influenced by Jerome Berryman and Godly Play. Sally says that "The Wondering Together Project sprang from things I learned from friends and work mentors, "wise ones," who have come into my life. Things like ... simple rituals at home foster connection ... everyone needs a way to process their day... a lot of us (including me) may feel "addicted to our phones" ... and the simple act of telling and hearing stories makes us more sensitive and empathetic

people. Wondering Together incorporates aspects of simple daily rituals and storytelling, allowing us to learn how to simply listen and be present for each other. Take ten minutes a day to gather and to ask one another these questions and to listen to the answers.

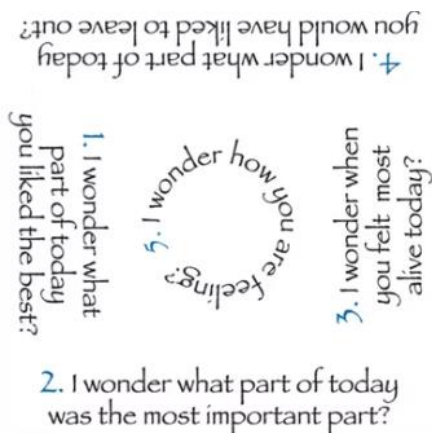
1. What part of the day did you **like best** ?
2. What part of the day was the **most important part** ?
3. What part of the day did **you felt most alive or had the most energy**?
4. What part of today would **you have left out**?
5. How are you feeling in this moment ?

Close the Wondering Together time by thanking one another. You could bow to each other silently, high five each other, blow out a candle if you lit one, share a hug depending on the nature of your group. Take turns at who asks the questions each time.

Check out the video.

<https://wonderingtogether.org/video-introduction>

The card they used



St. Bartholomew—August 24 on the church calendar



Bartholomew was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus and is usually identified as Nathaniel. He was a friend of Philip, another of the twelve apostles in the Gospel

according to John, where the name Nathaniel first appears. In the other Gospels he is mentioned as Bartholomew. Bartholomew is also mentioned as “Nathaniel of Cana in Galilee” in (John 21:2).

In Mark 3:18 he is one of the twelve Jesus calls as disciples.

He was characterized by Jesus on the first meeting as a man “in whom there was no guile.” When Nathanael asked how Jesus knew him, Jesus said, “I saw you under the fig tree” (John 1:48b). Whatever amazing revelation this involved, it brought Nathanael to exclaim, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel” (John 1:49b). But Jesus countered with, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this” (John 1:50b).

After the Resurrection, St Bartholomew was one of the disciples who witnessed the appearance of the risen Savior on the Sea of Galilee (John 21:2). The disciples had been fishing all night without success. In the morning, they saw someone standing on the shore, though no one knew that the person was Jesus. Jesus told them to cast their net again, and they made so great a catch that they could not haul the net in. Then John cried out to Peter, “It is the Lord.”

According to Eusebius’ history, Bartholomew went on a missionary tour to India, where he left behind a copy of the Gospel according to Matthew. Other

traditions record him as serving as a missionary in Ethiopia, Mesopotamia, Parthia, and Lycaonia.

Some depictions of Bartholomew show a scroll which is common among apostles and represents his preaching to many nations.

Along with his fellow apostle Jude, Bartholomew is reputed to have brought Christianity to Armenia in the 1st century.

Bartholomew is said to have been martyred in Armenia after converting the king of Armenia to Christianity. The 13th century Saint Bartholomew Monastery was a prominent Armenian monastery constructed at the site of the martyrdom of Apostle Bartholomew in what is today southeastern Turkey.

His relics are on the island of Lipari an island off the coast of Sicily in the Basilica of San Bartolomeo. Tradition has it that his body was washed up there. The people of Lipari celebrate his feast day annually by taking a solid silver and gold statue of Bartholomew from inside the Cathedral of St Bartholomew and carrying it in a procession through the town.

During World War II, the Fascist regime planned to take the silver statue of Saint Bartholomew and melt it down. The statue was weighed, and it was found to be only a few grams of precious metals. It was returned to its place in the Cathedral of Lipari. In reality, the statue is made from many kilograms of silver and it is considered a miracle that it was not melted down. Saint Bartholomew is credited with many other miracles having to do with the weight of objects.

A Resurrection Story



The Judean date Palm tree, famous in Jesus' time in Israel, is a special tree because it was thought to be extinct but has now been brought back to life from seeds found at Masada, a fortress situated on top of an isolated rock plate near the Dead Sea. Masada is known for the palaces and fortifications of Herod the Great. In 72-73CE the Jews took Masada and resisted the Romans against great odds. In the end, they chose mass suicide rather than capitulation and living a life of slavery, But they left a storehouse of food.

After 2000 years, Israeli archeologists excavated Masada and they found a treasure trove of seeds right by the ruins of the food storage sites, including seeds of the dates known from Biblical times for their food value as well as their medicinal properties, such as warding off depression. Over time, the trees bearing these dates had died out, and were thought to be extinct.

Sarah Sallon and her colleagues from the Louis L. Borick Natural Medicine Research Center to sprout the ancient seeds. The first step to hydrate them slowly, using a bottle warmer. A tree known as "Methuselah" came up. The team then planted another 30 dates and another 6 came up which were female. Once again these tree grew and bore dates, 2,000 years after the tree was so considered lost.

General Convention 80 wrap-up



The 80th General Convention
of
The Episcopal Church
July 8, 2022 - July 11, 2022

1. Prayer Book conceptual change

A comprehensive Prayer Book revision was not on the Convention's agenda.

Now, our liturgical life together may include other material and go beyond a printed book.

For the first time, The Book of Common Prayer would be "those liturgical forms and other texts authorized by the General Convention." In other words, liturgies that are not in the current prayer book that could be elevated to "prayer book status," whether they are replacing parts of the prayer book or standing on their own. In the past, the Convention revised the existing Prayer Book under Article IX. Article IX has never specifically provided for adding authorized liturgies that are not part of the revision of the entire book. Article IX is being modified to include authorized liturgies without having to revise the entire book.

Over a dozen liturgical texts have been "authorized" – for trial use, experimental use, or simply "made available." These include Marriage Rites, Holy Eucharist: Rite Two expansive language, Enriching Our Worship Series, Book of Occasional Services, Liturgies from other communions with the bishop's permission, Daily Prayer for All Seasons. At St Peter's, we already use many of these resources in our worship. Proposed changes must still go into trial use status and be approved over two General Conventions.

The substitute left the specific process of authorizing new texts open to future canonical definition, focusing just on the constitutional change that would enable such work.

This change is important because..... the struggle in the past has been a comprehensive edit of the entire book, a massive task. This allows for associated liturgies that stand on their own without having to change the existing content of the BCP.

2. Tackling racism on the local level

The Convention created the Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice, a voluntary association of Episcopal dioceses, parishes, organizations, and individuals that will be charged with facilitating, coordinating, encouraging, supporting, and networking efforts of Episcopal dioceses, parishes, organizations, and individuals for racial justice and equity, and the dismantling of white supremacy as part of the goal to become the "beloved community."

There is an implementing structure intended and associated funding. "Resolved that the Presiding Bishop and President of the House of Deputies appoint a Constituting Group for the development, implementation, and creation of the Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice, whose work includes determining and proposing all necessary organizational, canonical, legal, and other actions necessary to constitute formally and oversee said Coalition."

This change would bring anti-racism training oversight to the province and diocese levels and create a permanent foundation moving forward so that people around the Episcopal Church can learn from each other on what works.

This change is important because it brings needed resources in content and support to the effort of tackling racism and the dealing with the history of racism in The Episcopal Church.

The racism of the church is one of the shortcomings identified in an extensive survey of Americans. Bishop Curry shared statistics regarding this survey at General Convention. "Among non-Christians in particular, those who are not Christian, 50% associated Christians with the word hypocrisy; 49% with the word judgmental; 46% with self-righteousness; and 32% with arrogance. And then, nearly half of non-Christians in America believe that racism is prevalent among Christians in the church."

Forward Movement upgrades- 4 podcasts



1 These podcasts use *megaphone*, a podcast app for phone, tablet, desktop.

[Scripture Day by Day](#), a new daily office podcast following the readings listed in *Forward Day by Day*, with lectionary readings for Sundays and Major Feasts following the Revised Common Lectionary. About 8 minutes.

[Forward Day by Day Podcast](#), Daily inspirational meditations reflecting on a specific Bible passage, chosen from the daily lectionary readings. About 4 minutes.

[A Morning at the Office](#) - Complete Daily Morning Prayer, About 15 minutes.

[An Evening at Prayer](#) - Complete Daily Evening Prayer from The Book of Common About 15 minutes.

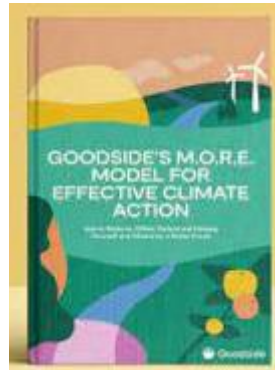
2 General resources from Forward Movement.

<https://prayer.forwardmovement.org/home>

3. For your mobile phone or tablet - from the **[Apple App Store](#)** and **[Google Play Store](#)**

Season of Creation Discussion

The Season of Creation (Sept. 1-Oct. 4) will soon be upon us. The Bible speaks of a God who is not passive or distant, but active and involved in helping to make creation new. We need to understand our role in renewing creation through reducing our use of greenhouse gases which imperils our environment.



During the Season of Creation we would like to have a zoom discussion group around the book **Goodside's M.O.R.E Model for effective climate action.** The book brings climate change

issues to the forefront in basic, easy to understand language

The M.O.R.E, acronym stands for Measure. Offset, Reduce and Educate The idea is for you to develop your own plan for reduction of your use of greenhouse gases. Before we can consider reduction, there is some education required - why do we need to reduce? Before we can reduce we have to measure our use of greenhouse gases to know how much we have to reduce. We also need some options with reduce, including offset. It all works together The key words are "you" "model" and climate action". You need a plan of action and encourage others to do the same. We would like to cause a ripple effect .

The book is free to download.

<https://news.churchsp.org/wp-content/uploads/GoodsideMore.pdf>

Let Catherine know - **stpetersrev@gmail.com** if interested in this discussion

stpetersrev@gmail.com Thanks. We will schedule based on the level of interest..

August, 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Bible Study in person 10am-12pm, Parish House	4	5 Virginia Sales Tax Holiday (purchase school supplies)	6
7 Sunday 11AM Holy Eucharist 12PM - Coffee Hour HBD Mike Newman	8	9 HBD Suzanne Wall, Keith Upshaw	10 HBD Brigette Long, Samantha Pugh Bible Study in person 10am-12pm, Parish House Village Dinner 4:30pm- 6 pm	11	12	13 HBD - Scarlett Long, Thom Guthrie
14 11AM Holy Eucharist	15 Feast Day of St. Mary HBD Salli Hartman Happy Anniv., Alex, Elizabeth Long; Dominic, Kelly Paterino	16	17 Happy anniv. Boyd, Barbara Wisdom Bible Study in person 10am-12pm, Parish House. Village Harvest 3pm-5pm	18 HBD - Boyd Wisdom, Linda Kramer	19	20 HBD Sylvia Sellers
21 HBD - Jennifer Collins 11:00AM, Holy Eucharist	22	23 Happy anniv. - Justin, Karen Long HBD- John Faibisy	24 Happy anniv. David, Carolyn Duke St. Bartholomew Bible Study in person 10am-12pm, Parish House	25 Sacred Ground Book Group 7pm	26	27
28 11:00AM, Morning Prayer	29 HBD - Fred, Crystal Pannell	30 HBD - Ann Upshaw,	31 Bible Study in person 10am-12pm, Parish House			