

THE ST PETER'S POST

January , 2023

St Peter's Episcopal Church, Port Royal, VA

The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks, Rector

Epiphany and Beyond



- Every Sunday 11AM Worship in person at St Peter's and online through YouTube stream. Link changes each week.
- Every Monday, 6:30AM, Monday Morning Meditation
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87980716417?pwd=UHLxNE1jYlQ1TGh6N25oYTBxRURwQT09> Meeting ID: 879 8071 6417
Passcode: 790929
- Every Wednesday, 10AM until Noon Bible Study in the Parish House—study of the upcoming Sunday's lectionary
- Fri. Jan 6 The Feast of the Epiphany 7 PM on Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89505055797?pwd=RUM1dHM4eFdDV01VWUF4MWIDakdUQT09> Meeting ID: 895 0505 5797 Passcode: 145764
- Individual Learning Opportunity—The Good Book Club begins on Friday, January 6 (see article)
- Sun., Jan. 8, 11AM –The Baptism of our Lord—Holy Eucharist and Renewal of Baptismal Vows
- Wednesday, Jan. 11 – Village Dinner 4:30-6 PM. January's menu features soup. Cost \$10. Let Catherine Hicks

(540) 809-7489 know if you would like to reserve a dinner and whether you plan to eat in or take out.

- Wed., Jan. 18 – Village Harvest, 3:00pm-5pm. Unload food, 9:30AM. Set up distribution, early afternoon. Distribute food 3-5PM. All help is welcome for this vital St Peter's ministry.
- Thurs, Jan 19, Vestry, 2PM
- Jan. 18-25 – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme for 2023 is take from Isaiah "Do good; seek justice"
- Sun., Jan. 22, 11am –Holy Eucharist, Congregational Meeting and Vestry election.
- Sun., Jan. 29—Morning Prayer, with youth participation in leading the service.

Server Schedule, January, 2023

Sunday, January 8 The First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ HE 11AM

Lector: Ben Hicks

Chalice Bearer: Andrea Pogue

Altar Cleanup: Andrea Pogue

Sunday, January 15 The Second Sunday after the Epiphany, HE 11AM

Lector: Linda Kramer

Chalice Bearer: Johnny Davis

Altar Cleanup: Linda Kramer

Sunday, January 22 The Third Sunday after the Epiphany, HE 11AM and Congregational Meeting

Lector: Andrea Pogue

Chalice Bearer: Tom Hughes

Altar Cleanup: Jan Saylor

Sunday, January 29 The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany, MP 11AM

Lector: TBA

Altar Cleanup: Catherine Hicks

Thank you to the Altar Guild

The Altar Guild helps to make worship at St Peter's possible. Our worship space is beautifully prepared each week by **Elizabeth Heimbach**, who prepares the altar for the weekly Eucharist. **BJ Anderson** makes our gluten free communion bread. **BJ, Jan Saylor, and Andrea Pogue** help to clean up after each service. Thank you, Altar Guild!

Epiphany and the Sundays following Epiphany

"Epiphany" comes from the Greek word "epiphaneia", which means "appearing" or "revealing," an appropriate title for the season in which the appointed scriptures are devoted to the revealing of Jesus as the Son of God and our Lord and Savior.

The length of the season varies each year and is determined by the date of Easter. This year, The Feast of the Epiphany occurs on Fri, Jan 6 and the season after Epiphany ends on the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday, Feb. 19th, lasting through seven of a possible nine Sundays. Ash Wednesday this year falls on Feb. 22, 2023.

The observance of the Epiphany began in the Eastern Church in AD 361, as a commemoration of the birth of Christ. Gradually, Christians in the Western Church began to use the day of Epiphany to observe the occasion of the visit of the Magi to the Christ child.

The Sundays following Epiphany include the baptism of Jesus, and the renewal of our baptismal vows, followed by the scriptures that describe Jesus calling the disciples to follow him. We, too, must decide whether or not to be the disciples of Jesus and then

to give thought to what discipleship will mean in our own lives. The season ends with the transfiguration of Jesus—another scriptural marker for Jesus' divinity, and the foreshadowing of the resurrection of Jesus at Easter.

The Baptism of our Lord, Jan. 8



On the first Sunday after the Epiphany the church celebrates the Baptism of Jesus Christ. All four gospels contain an account of the baptism of Jesus.

For Christians, baptism is the rite of initiation into the Church and marks the beginning of the journey through life as a Christian who is a part of the body of Christ, the Church.

Through baptism we become members of the Body of Christ. We will renew our own baptismal vows as we reaffirm the Baptismal covenant on Sunday, January 8th.

The Baptismal covenant

- 1 Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- 2 Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- 3 Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
- 4 Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

5 Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

6 Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

7 Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

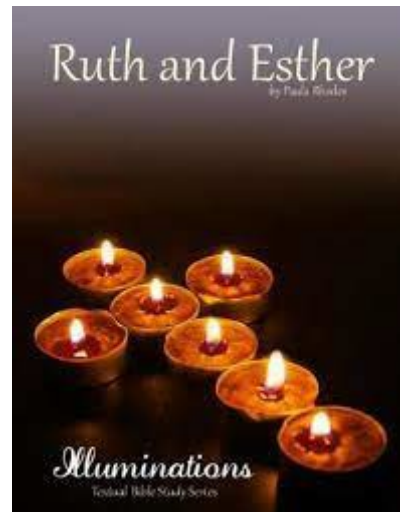
The prayers for those who are to be baptized remind us of the gifts that come with our own baptisms—deliverance from sin and death, hearts open to God's grace and truth, life full of the Holy Spirit, being in the faith and communion of the Church, loving others in the power of the Spirit, going into the world in witness to God's love, and to at last come into the fullness of God's peace and glory. To receive these gifts fully, we pray for inquiring and discerning hearts, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love God, and the gift of joy and wonder in all of God's works.

Bible Study, Wed mornings 10AM until noon

This group is open to **ALL** who would like to connect with others at St Peter's midweek and to spend some time with the scriptures coming up for Sunday. For those who haven't yet tried out this study, consider joining in for a time of prayer plus study. If you'd like to know more, give Catherine a call. 540-809-7489.



Good Book Club is reading Esther and Ruth during Epiphany



The Good Book Club is an invitation to all Episcopalians to join in reading the Bible as a community. Episcopalians will read a section every day through the Epiphany season.

The Good Book Club will explore ***Ruth and Esther***, books that explore the faithfulness and courage of two remarkable women. The stories of Ruth and Esther have much to teach us about the Hebrew concept of “chesed”, which means sacred kindness, as well as the willingness to be in sacrificial relationship with loved ones and our communities.

The Club will distribute daily scripture readings, reflections, and teachings, from Epiphany, Friday, January 6, to Shrove Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

1 Link - readings

<https://www.goodbookclub.org/readings/>

2 Sign up for updates

<https://www.goodbookclub.org/get-involved/>

3 Free Guide from Forward Movement

<https://www.forwardmovement.org/Products/2667/ruth-and-esther-bible-study.aspx>

4 Introduction to Ruth

<https://www.goodbookclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Introduction-to-Ruth.pdf>

5 Introduction to Esther

<https://www.goodbookclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Introduction-to-Esther.pdf>

6. Free Live Course - Lindsay Hardin Freeman. She is the author of **Bible Women: All Their Words and Why They Matter** and is an Episcopal priest. Lindsay will examine these themes and others in Wednesday-night sessions in Epiphany from 8-9 p.m. E.T. from Jan. 11-Feb. 15, 2022.

<https://www.churchnext.tv/library/live-class-examining-ruth-and-esther-191382/460347/about/>

The Gospel in January

Sunday, Jan 8 First Sunday after the Epiphany - Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus came to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. At conclusion of the baptism, the Spirit came down from heaven in the form of a dove and clearly announced Jesus as God's Son with whom God was well pleased.

Sunday, Jan 15 - Second Sunday after the Epiphany - John 1:29-42

John the Baptist knew Jesus as his cousin, but it is not clear until we read today's Gospel that John recognized Jesus as the promised Messiah. John called Jesus the "Lamb of God." When two of John's disciples heard that Jesus was the Lamb of God, they followed Jesus and asked where he was staying. Jesus said to them, "Come and see." We are invited to come along and see who Jesus is for us in this day and time.

Sunday, Jan 22 Third Sunday after the Epiphany - Matthew 4:12-23

This passage from Matthew's Gospel takes place early in Jesus' ministry as Jesus calls his disciples to come and follow. Jesus is still calling disciples today to come and follow. And to follow Jesus means that other things must be left behind, not always an easy choice.

Sunday, Jan 29 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany - Matthew 5:1-12



This Sunday we hear the Beatitudes as presented in the Gospel of Matthew. The Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7 is a collection of sayings Jesus may have uttered at different times and places, rather than delivered all at once in a single discourse. These have been influential over time. Dr. King often pointed out that it was Jesus' Sermon on the Mount that inspired the "dignified social action" of the civil rights movement. His notion of "creative suffering" – borne by civil rights activists who endured persecution and police brutality – came from his Christian faith in the redemptive suffering of Jesus.

The Beatitudes summarize the revolutionary values intended to guide those seeking to follow Jesus. Each one is a sermon in itself.

Another feature to be noted is the paradoxical quality of the Matthean beatitudes. They contradict the normal expectations of ordinary people and their reactions to human experience. The people Matthew identifies are not supposed to be happy – the poor, the mourners, the persecuted. Many martyred witnesses to the faith went to their death believing that a

vastly better life awaited them in the heavenly realm.

Yet the message of the Matthean beatitudes is not exclusively for a distant future. Rather, it is for the present. The words were spoken to generate trust in God in difficult circumstances, not simply to enable us to endure hard times.

The beatitudes define the way that Jesus himself lived to the point of death as a rejected religious revolutionary and unjustly condemned criminal. Such spiritual power comes not through our most noble human efforts, but through the gift of grace the Spirit gives us.

Congregational Meeting, Jan 22

The Congregational Meeting gives everyone at St Peter's a chance to review the year just past, to consider the blessings and challenges that the year ahead holds, to ask questions, and to thank Becky Fisher and Andrea Pogue for their Vestry service. At this meeting the congregation will elect two people to serve on the Vestry.

The Vestry is a group of people made up of lay leaders who, along with the Rector, direct the ministries of St Peter's, based on input from the congregation. Here are the qualifications for serving on the Vestry:

- 16 or more years of age.
- Attends worship on a regular basis.
- A regular financial contributor "known to the Treasurer."
- Registered in the congregation for at least 60 days as a baptized person (a person who has "received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism with water in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, whether in this Church or in another Christian Church, and whose Baptisms have been duly recorded in this Church").

Duties of Vestry members

- To be people of prayer.

- To attend worship and to be involved in church activities on a regular basis.
- To attend monthly Vestry meetings and to assume an active role in the group.
- To serve as team player as a member of the Vestry.
- To bring concerns of the congregation to the attention of the Vestry.

If you feel called to serve God and the Church in this capacity, please contact Catherine or a current Vestry member. A list of current Vestry members is on the back of each Sunday bulletin.

Diocesan News

Bishop Goff has now retired, but she sent a letter to us in December thanking us for our 2023 pledge. The Diocese now requires that our pledge to the Diocese should be 10% of our budget. The Diocese also gives churches the opportunity to ask for a reduction the required pledge based on parish circumstances. We will be using this option in the future if we need to do so.

Here's Bishop Goff's letter.

Thank you! Your financial pledge to the Diocese of Virginia of \$7933 supports our common mission and ministry as we share the love of Jesus with a world so in need of that love. Thank you for your commitment and faithfulness.

These past few years have been challenging as we've dealt with the Covid pandemic and changes in cultural demographics, as well as transitions in our own diocese. Through it all we have been called to service together, linked by ancient bonds that hold us as people of God. Those bonds have forged resilience in these difficult times.

Your strength and flexibility are among the gifts that have blessed us during the worst of the pandemic. I've seen how the clergy of this diocese found ways to share worship along with skills, tools, and learnings. It is a

great benefit of our Church that through our connections in regions and across the Diocese, we benefit from the wisdom of everyone.

As this long season of change and transition continues, remember God's message and Do Not Be Afraid. God is with us and loves us fiercely.

Please share with your Vestry and congregation my gratitude for this pledge as God continues to prepare us to give and receive the good things God intends.

Faithfully yours, The Rt Rev Susan E. Goff,
Bishop Suffragan and Ecclesiastical
Authority

As 2023 begins, the Diocese is now being led by, The Rt Rev Mark Stevenson.

Meet our New Bishop Diocesan



The Rt. Rev'd E. Mark Stevenson is the 14th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. He was **elected** on June 4, 2022, at St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School, Alexandria, and was **ordained and consecrated** on December 3, 2022, at The Saint Paul's Baptist Church in Richmond. More than 35 bishops from around the United States, England, Tanzania and Ghana joined in the laying on of hands along with Presiding Bishop Michael Bruce Curry, Chief Consecrator.

Bishop Stevenson is focused on centering his ministry – and that of the Diocese of

Virginia – on the teaching and love of Jesus. Central to that is an emphasis on truth telling and reckoning as we address issues of systemic racism; life-giving formation as followers of Jesus; and transparency and accountability as we interact with each other as the family of God.

Prior to his ministry in the Diocese of Virginia, Bishop Stevenson served as Canon to the Presiding Bishop for Ministry Within The Episcopal Church. In this role he was the principal liaison between Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and the House of Bishops, the various dioceses, and many of the governing bodies of The Episcopal Church. Before being called to that role in September 2018, he was the Director of Episcopal Migration Ministries, leading a dedicated team in executing a national program of refugee resettlement. Previously, he served as Domestic Poverty Missioner for The Episcopal Church.

Bishop Stevenson served as Canon to the Ordinary in the Diocese of Louisiana from August 2005 until September 2013. Following hurricane Katrina, he worked closely with local, regional, national, and international leaders and groups to put into place the processes for effective relief and other ministries. He was the Rector in two parishes: the Church of the Annunciation in New Orleans, and the Church of the Good Shepherd in Maitland, Florida. His time at both churches focused on developing ministries with youth and revitalizing ministries of stewardship, Christian education, and community outreach.

Bishop Stevenson and his wife of twenty-seven years, Joy, reside in Richmond with their Border Collie, Franklin.

Meet our Assistant Bishop



The Rt. Rev'd E. Mark Stevenson, Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia, announced the appointment of the Rt. Rev'd Gayle Elizabeth Harris as Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia. Bishop Harris is currently Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Massachusetts.

"I could not be more thrilled that Bishop Harris has accepted this call to serve as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Virginia. Her wisdom, wide-ranging church experience, and love of Jesus will be a gift to us all. Bishop Harris is prayerful, intentional, and devoted to the Good News that God is love. And personally, I am so very thankful that I will have such a clear thinking and fun-loving ministry partner as we – as a diocese – walk the path that Christ has put before us."

Bishop Harris will play a lead role in broadening and deepening the Diocese's formation ministries for both clergy and lay leaders. She will also share in the full range of episcopal duties, including support of clergy, congregational development, and visitations to churches, schools, colleges, and retirement communities.

"As a former resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I feel honored and richly blessed to be appointed Assistant Bishop by Bishop Stevenson," said Bishop Harris in a greeting to the people of the Diocese. "Joyfully, I look

forward to joining with you in the proclamation of the Gospel of love and reconciliation in the Diocese of Virginia and beyond. I pray that our ministry together in the name of Jesus, continues to empower us to be God's agents of healing and transformation in our own lives, and in the world."

Bishop Harris begins her ministry in the Diocese of Virginia on April 1, 2023 and will live in Richmond, Va.

About Bishop Harris

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Bishop Harris obtained her Master of Divinity degree from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, California. She was ordained to the priesthood in 1982 in the Diocese of Newark (New Jersey), where she served as Assistant to the Vicar at Grace Church (Van Vorst) in Jersey City. She then moved to Washington, D.C., where she worked as Diocesan Urban Resident at St. Philip the Evangelist Church from 1982 to 1984. She was priest-in-charge of Holy Communion Church from 1984 to 1992, also serving at that time as Nave Clergy at Washington National Cathedral.

While in the Diocese of Washington, Bishop Harris served on a range of diocesan leadership committees, including: the Standing Committee (President); the Nominating Committee for Bishop Suffragan; the Search Committee for Dean of Washington National Cathedral; and the diocesan Committee on Budget and Finance. She also served two terms on both The Episcopal Church Committee on Church Structure, and the Program, Budget, and Finance Committee.

In 1992, she was called as rector of St. Luke and St. Simon Cyrene Church in Rochester, New York, where she served until her June 1, 2002, election as Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Massachusetts.

Prior to her election as bishop, she served the Diocese of Rochester as a Dean and was a member of the Commission on Ministry, the Worship and Liturgy Committee and

Companion Diocese Task Force. She was twice elected as Deputy to the General Convention of The Episcopal Church (1997, 2000).

Bishop Harris completed service in 2006 as a member of the Joint Nominating Committee for the election of the former Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church. She is a past Vice Chair of the Church Pension Fund Board of Trustees. During her time on the Board of Trustees, she was assigned to the Executive Committee, the Finance Committee, the Governance Committee, the Benefits Policy Committee, and the Social and Fiduciary Responsibility in Investments Committee. She has served on the Board of Directors of CREDO and the Steering Committee for Bishops Working for a Just World.

Bishop Harris formerly chaired the House of Bishops' Pastoral Development Committee, is currently the Convener of the Episcopal Bishops of African Descent, and is on The Episcopal Church's Task Force on the Theology of Money. Bishop Harris is a member of the House of Bishops' Planning Committee and of the Standing Committee on Interfaith and Ecumenical Relations of the Church. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Church Investment Group.

In the Diocese of Massachusetts, she is on the board of the Old North Church Foundation and serves as vice president of Episcopal City Mission. She is a past President of the Massachusetts Council of Churches. Bishop Harris leads annual pilgrimages from the Diocese of Massachusetts to the Holy Land, and is active in the Diocese of Massachusetts partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.

Bishop Harris received an honorary Doctor of Humanity degree from the New England School of Law and an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific.

An inspiring story from our St Peter's Family

As many of you know, Jan and Larry Saylor are away in Africa visiting their son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren. This family is making a difference in Africa.

Linda Kramer spotted this article in Hopkins Medicine, Fall 2022, and shared it with St Peter's. Thank you, Linda!

Making a Difference in Zambia

One day at church in Zambia, Deanna Saylor (Johns Hopkins, 2011) overheard a young woman telling a friend that her leg problems had returned. Saylor, associate professor of neurology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, apologized for eavesdropping and urged the woman to make a neurology appointment with her. "She had been to doctors over 10 years, and nothing had help." Says Saylor, who lives and works in Zambia with her husband and their two young children. "We did a workup, and I diagnosed her with multiple sclerosis. She's now walking without a can, and she is empowered to manage her care." The intervention was particularly meaningful for Saylor, whose mother was diagnosed with MS when Saylor was in second grade.

Saylor witnessed the best and worst of her mother's neurologists, and decided that she would be one of the good ones. Her ambition came into sharper focus during a six-week internal medicine rotation at a rural Kenyan hospital in 2010.

"I was in a small, remote village, seeing need on a scaled I had never seen before," says Saylor, who also holds a master's degree in health science from the Bloomberg School of Public Health (2009). "By the end, I felt like I could make a difference in a setting like that in a way I couldn't in a setting with more ample resources."

After a research fellowship in Kenya, Saylor moved to Zambia in 2018 to develop a neurology program for Johns Hopkins at the

University Teaching Hospital (UTH), a 1,655-bed hospital in the capital city of Lusaka.

Before she arrived, the entire East Africa country of more than 18 million people had just five neurologists, all expatriates trained in other countries and all based at UTH. There was no inpatient neurology care available, no neurology training program and no Zambian neurologists.

Now, five adult and two pediatric neurologists have graduated from Saylor's program, she says, with another five in training. Her weekly education sessions reach hundreds of providers in multiple countries across sub-Saharan Africa. "Training the country where you're going to practice means graining in the most common disorders you're like to see, and withing the resource constraints of your setting," notes Saylor, recipient of the 2022 Global Achievement Award from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Alumni Association.

Next for Saylor is helping Zambia-trained neurologists start practices in smaller hospital across the country, giving more residents access to the high-quality neurological care she wanted for her mother.

Deanna, Owen, Emma and Brad Saylor



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Jan 18-25



At least once a year, Christians are reminded of Jesus' prayer for his disciples that "they may be one so that the world may believe" (see John 17.21). Traditionally the week of prayer is celebrated between 18-25 January, between the feasts of St Peter and St Paul.

The readings are [here](#).

"Isaiah lived and prophesied in Judah during the eighth century BCE and was a contemporary of Amos, Micah and Hosea. This was towards the end of a period of great economic success and political stability for both Israel and Judah, due to the weakness of the 'superpowers' of the time, Egypt and Assyria. However, it was also a period when injustice, inequity and inequalities were rampant in both kingdoms.

This period also saw religion thriving as a ritual and formal expression of belief in God, concentrated on Temple offerings and sacrifices. This formal and ritual religion was presided over by the priests, who were also the beneficiaries of the largesse of the rich and powerful. Due to the physical proximity and interconnectedness of the royal palace and the Temple, power and influence were centered almost entirely on the king and the priests, neither of whom, for much of this history, stood up for those who were enduring oppression and inequity

Isaiah spoke into this context, attempting to awaken the consciousness of the people of Judah to the reality of their situation. Instead of honoring the contemporary religiosity as a blessing, Isaiah saw it as a festering wound and a sacrilege before the Almighty. Injustice and inequality led to

fragmentation and disunity. His prophecies denounce the political, social and religious structures and the hypocrisy of offering sacrifices while oppressing the poor. He speaks out vigorously against corrupt leaders and in favor of the disadvantaged, rooting righteousness and justice in God alone.

Today, separation and oppression continue to be manifest when any single group or class is given privileges above others. The sin of racism is evident in any beliefs or practices that distinguish or elevate one "race" over another. When accompanied or sustained by imbalances in power, racial prejudice moves beyond individual relationships to the very structures of society – the systemic perpetuation of racism. Its existence has unfairly benefitted some, including churches, and burdened and excluded others, simply due to the color of their skin and the cultural associations based upon perceptions of "race".

Prayer Corner

Please pray for all of those in our congregation who have been sick and continue to recover from flu, Covid and other illnesses.

Susan Linne von Berg is suffering from severe back pain. Please pray for her as she seeks healing through physical therapy. Please pray for Helmut as he cares for Susan.

Nathaniel Schakenberg, nephew of Becky Fisher, is in need of a kidney transplant and he needs our prayers.

Jim Heimbach has broken his arm and is dealing with a lot of pain. Please keep him in your prayers.

Thanksgivings for Christmas gifts to our community

December 20, 2022

Dear St Peter's Family:

We would like to thank you for your generous donations of \$750 for the Christmas Partners Program and \$500 for the Thanksgiving Seniors program. We are truly blessed to be the recipient of your generosity. The funds were used to provide Thanksgiving meals to the elderly in our community and to make sure that children have a wonderful Christmas.

We truly appreciate your continued support of our programs.

Happy Holidays to you!

Warm regards, Anne Tyree, Caroline Christmas Partners

This was the result of the work of the ECM. Thanks to all who contributed and to Ken Pogue and the leadership in the ECM for their work in organizing their ministry and this outreach effort!

Several ECW members got together to provide gifts for a family in Bowling Green, in addition to food from the Village Harvest.



Caroling for Helmut and Susan



After the Christmas Eve service, the Duke, Davis and Hicks families went to the Linne von Bergs and sang Christmas carols to Helmut and Susan. Helmut sang the first verse of Silent Night in German by request. The star was added by Johnathan as a creative touch.

Advent and Christmas Thanksgivings



The season of Advent began with a wonderful offering of music from the St Peter's youth. Thank you to Arthur Duke, piano; Chester Duke, French horn; Hamilton Duke, trumpet; and Evan Davis, trumpet. Singers included Sydney Davis, Evan Davis, Holly Davis, and Katy Davis, as well as Marie Duke and Autumn Hicks. Sydney and Holly Davis served as lectors. Many thanks to Odessa and Johnathan Davis and Carolyn and Dave Duke for encouraging their children and helping make the program of music possible. Thank you to Larry Saylor for his musical direction and to the Rev Tom Hughes, who made an appearance as St Nicholas. .

Larry Saylor played his guitar during Advent, and his musical meditations contributed to the beauty of our worship. .



Unexpected illnesses took their toll on some of our seasonal plans. In spite of diligent preparation, Brad Volland, our organist, and the choir were unable to share the music they had prepared due to attacks of flu and Covid within the choir. Brad discovered that

he had Covid only a day or two before Christmas and was unable to play the organ for either service. **Thanks be to God for Mary Peterman, flutist, and Denise Gregory, pianist, who came to the rescue and brought beautiful, soulful music to our congregation for both the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.** Thanks also to Linda Kramer, choir member, who lent her voice.

Many thanks to Alice Hughes, who designed the lovely window decorations that we enjoyed during Advent and Christmas. Linda Kramer and Catherine Hicks pitched in to help create the six window boxes of greenery.



And thank you to Cookie Davis and Linda Upshaw who purchased and delivered the magnificent memorial poinsettias that graced the church for Christmas.



From Marion Mahoney at Christmas—Dear Friends, reflecting on the joys of the past year and remembering you warmly. Wishing you happiness, goodness, and a beautiful year ahead!

You are always close in heart. Love, Marion

Jan., 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 11am, Lessons and Carols HBD Samantha Collins The Holy Name	2 Monday Morning Meditation 6:30am .	3	4 Bible Study in person 10am-12pm, Parish House	5	6 Epiphany Epiphany service 7pm on zoom Good Book Club	7 Begin Ruth, Esther readings
8 First Sunday after the Epiphany, Baptism of our Lord	9 Monday Morning Meditation 6:30am HBD Betty Kunstmann	10	11 HBD Marilyn Newman Bible Study in person 10am-12pm, Parish House. Village Dinner 4:30-6pm	12 HBD Terri Harrison	13	14 HBD Chris Fisher
15 HBD Cookie Davis 11:00AM, Holy Eucharist	16 Monday Morning Meditation 6:30am HBD Tom Hughes	17	18 Confession of St. Peter Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Bible Study 10am Parish Village Harvest begins 3pm-5pm	19 Vestry, 2PM	20	21 HBD Anna Haug
22 11:00AM, Holy Eucharist - Congregational meeting	23 Monday Morning Meditation 6:30am	24	25 Conversion of St. Paul Bible Study 10am Parish	26 HBD Tyler Collins	27	28
29 11:00AM, Morning Prayer	30 Monday Morning Meditation 6:30am	31				