

St. Peter's Congregational Meeting, 2019

Worship

Worship is central to who we are. A variety of settings and experiences are provided to share the Gospel and sacraments.



Service

We are called to love all people. We have opportunities to serve and reach out to all with God's love.



Learning

Growth in faith is a life long endeavor. We provide regular opportunities to nurture faith through learning.



Generosity

Because we are created in image of God, the giver of all things, we encourage all to be faithful and generous stewards of the resources God entrusts to us.



Community

We share out historic building and participate in local events that celebrate our heritage in the history of Port Royal.



Connecting Faith to Everyday Life

Table of Contents

Rector, Annual Report, 2018	3
Senior Warden, Annual Report, 2018	8
Junior Warden, Annual Report, 2018.....	12
Treasurer’s, Annual Report, 2018.....	13
Stewardship, Annual Report, 2018	17
Endowment Fund, Annual Report, 2018	18
Village Harvest, Annual Report, 2018	20
Christian Education, Annual Report, 2018	24
Music, Annual Report, 2018.....	26
ECW, Annual Report, 2018	27
ECM, Annual Report, 2018.....	28

Rector, Annual Report, 2018

The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks

This year's report is shaped by how we, as the St Peter's community, carried out our baptismal vows throughout 2018.

In 2018, the people of St Peter's worshiped as this part of the Body of Christ in our corner of Caroline County. **We continued in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers** in various ways. Christian Education for children and adults (see the Christian Education report) was available throughout the year. Fellowship continued with a monthly social on the first Sunday of the month following church, which in 2018 became a potluck lunch. Village Dinners were held on a monthly basis. For the first time in a few years, the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper took place, with Chef Dave Fannon whipping out pancakes for an appreciative audience. On the first weekend in May, some members of St Peter's joined Shiloh Baptist for Shiloh's MS Walk, and others went to Shrine Mont with Christ Church, Spotsylvania.

Worship for the year did not begin until Sunday, January 14th. The Epiphany Love Feast and the first Sunday after Epiphany worship services had to be canceled due to snow, frigid temperatures, and a power outage in Port Royal that lasted for several days. On Sunday evening, February 11th, with temperatures in the 60's, St Peter's welcomed The Thirteen for a concert and a reception at the home of the Heimbachs. Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day coincided. The Holy Week services took place as usual, with the addition of a foot washing and pizza supper I did over at the trailer park before the Maundy Thursday service at St Peter's. Easter Day fell on April 1st. I preached at the Community Sunrise Service as well as at St Peter's.

After Easter, St Peter's, Shiloh and Memorial held a potluck lunch and invited Sheriff's Deputy Scott Moser to speak with us on the topic of church safety and to hear his suggestions for how to keep our people and church buildings safe from harm.

Also in April, several members of St Peter's went to Memorial Baptist Church for a gospel concert by The Miller Family.

Between Ascension Day and Pentecost, we joined with Christians around the world and participated in "Thy Kingdom Come," a prayer initiative of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby.

During April, we formed a discernment committee for Salli Hartman, led by Thomas Haun, from the Diocese of Virginia. We affirmed her call to the diaconate. She begins her training for the Diaconate in January of 2019.

In August, we mourned the death of Marsha Dobson. Many from St Peter's attended her memorial service, held in the Covenant Funeral Services chapel in Fredericksburg. I officiated.

With Bishop Shannon's permission, on the Sundays of September we observed Year B of the Season of Creation, delving more deeply into our interconnectedness with one another, with God and with all of Creation. The Season of Creation ended on St Francis' Day with the blessing of the pets at St Peter's. Gospel on the River took place on the last Saturday of September at the home of the Heimbachs. The stewardship campaign coincided with the Season of Creation. We ended the stewardship campaign by taking home daffodil bulbs to plant.

On the last Sunday of October, in addition to the 9AM Rite I Eucharist and the 11AM Rite II service, a third Eucharist designed for children was held in the afternoon, followed by a Halloween supper for those who attended the service.

On the first Sunday in November, we celebrated All Saints' Day. The following Sunday we welcomed Everett Huffman into the congregation through the sacrament of Holy Baptism followed by a time of fellowship after the baptism.

The ECW ended the church year with a time of fellowship at a tea held at the home of Cookie Davis.

On the fourth Sunday in Advent the traditional Christmas pageant took place. Christmas Eve followed the next day, and the calendar year ended with a service of Lessons and Carols on the 2nd Sunday of Christmas.

The St Peter's choir has grown, and with the additional voices, our Choir Director and Organist, Brad Volland, has been able to bring some new musical dimensions into our worship. Several instrumentalists have also shared their talents this year as well, enriching our worship together.

Persevere in resisting evil, and whenever we sin, repent and return to the Lord. In February, the ECW went to Belle Grove to learn more about the sin of slavery and about the lives of people who were enslaved on plantations before the civil war.

The Vestry spent months working on a comprehensive safety plan for St Peter's which is now operational and has been made available to all members of the parish.

We proclaimed by word and example the Good News of God in Christ, and sought to serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves, and we worked for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being through our on-going outreach through the Village Harvest Food Distribution, in its fourth

year. During “Thy Kingdom Come,” we spent intentional time in prayer with those who came to the food distribution. In addition, several people took lunch to the trailer park for the children one summer day in July. We provided the food for the Port Royal Tree Lighting in December and several people from St Peter’s helped serve the food, along with Memorial Baptist Church and Shiloh Baptist Church.

Thanks to the generosity of the people of St Peter’s, the Discretionary Fund continues to provide emergency assistance to those in need of help with rent, electrical bills, water bills and other financial crises.

In May, Andrea arranged for Shred It to come to St Peter’s. This service to the community is greatly appreciated and proceeds help fund the St Peter’s outreach projects.

The ECM worked with Caroline County Social Services to provide help to local families both at Thanksgiving and Christmas. People also donated money to Episcopal Relief and Development to help those affected by flooding from major storms that swept the eastern United States.

Boyd Wisdom serves the St Peter’s representative to CERV, a coalition of churches in Caroline County who work to meet the needs of those in crisis. In September, Boyd, Johnny Davis and I attended a meeting of CERV to learn more about food insecurity in Caroline County and to coordinate with the other churches in the county to best address the needs of those who suffer from hunger in our communities.

In November we welcomed Melanie Karpinos, from Heifer International, to speak with us about the work of Heifer International. In addition to the other donations made to Heifer during the Season of Giving, Mary Peterman donated three watercolors of “charming cows” which we raffled off and in doing so raised almost \$200 additional dollars for Heifer International.

Both the ECW and the Vestry donated outreach funds to support God’s work through local, national and international groups at their last meetings of the year.

Thank you to Ben Hicks. Ben supports me in my ministry to St Peter’s in ways too numerous to count. Most of you know that he formats the bulletin each week, shapes the monthly newsletter and runs our more than comprehensive website, churchsp.org as well as our Facebook page. This year he created an Advent course based on the canticles found in Luke which is posted on our website. Ben has the gift of looking and planning far ahead, which balances my “in the moment” mode of existence. I am so grateful for his support and for all he does for all of us. And we all know that St Peter’s is truly at this point the most photographed church in America.

Thank you to the St Peter's Vestry. This Vestry has worked hard throughout the year and each person has been supportive of everyone else in the group. The Vestry voted to get two major painting projects done, and we spent quite a bit of time on the St Peter's Safety Plan, which has finally been completed and made available to all of you. We have placed an AED in the Sacristy in case of medical emergencies. Helmut Linne von Berg capably led the church during my absence during the sabbatical. As you know, our treasurer, Eunice Key, has automated our bookkeeping, which will make the transition to a new treasurer much easier when the time comes.

2018 contained some experiments. For children, we offered several special events throughout the year. Most, though not all, were well attended. We did not have Vacation Bible School this year, due to a number of factors. Hopefully, VBS will return in 2019.

In an effort to encourage visiting and pastoral care among church members, I put together a visiting program called **OneDay**, which began with some helpful hints about paying visits to parishioners. Then we prayed together, and went out to visit and then returned for a time of conversation and prayer. This experiment did not catch on and will be discontinued in its current form.

Worship committee formed—This group helped make sure that worship ran smoothly while I was away. Some of the ideas that this group had for St Peter's will be put into place during 2019. I'm hopeful that this group will continue to meet with me in the year ahead.

Continuing education

In January 2018, I started learning Spanish. In August I spent two weeks in Antigua, Guatemala, doing a language immersion. In September I shared some of my experiences of my time in Guatemala and people tried some typical foods of the region in a program called An Afternoon in Guatemala. I'm grateful to St Peter's for allowing me time for a sabbatical to travel and study.

In June of 2018 I became a preaching fellow in the year long preaching enrichment program called Deep Calls to Deep, sponsored by the Lily Foundation and held at VTS. I spent one week at VTS in June for the opening of the program and then have met monthly since then with a small group to work on preaching improvement. The program will conclude in June 2019 with another week of continuing education at VTS.

To make sure that my spiritual life stays strong, I'm once again meeting with a spiritual director who has been a great help to me.

Other duties as assigned

My service as the Dean of the Fredericksburg Region continues. I make sure that our regional Clericus meets regularly and support the President of the Region as he organizes the quarterly regional meetings that I also attend. I also attend quarterly meetings with the other Deans in the Diocese with the Bishop. The Fredericksburg Region hosted two listening sessions to gather information for the Bishop Suffragan search which in the end was terminated. In March, I attended the funeral of The Rev. Norm Siefferman at St Paul's Episcopal Church in King George. In October, the Fredericksburg Region hosted a reception for Bishop Shannon at Aquia Church in Stafford ahead of his retirement. I served on the Resolutions Committee for the 2018 Diocese of Virginia Convention held in Richmond in November. Johnny Davis, our delegate, Cookie and I attended the Convention. In November I also attended the Celebration of New Ministry for the Rev. Nick Szobota, the new rector at St Mary's, Colonial Beach.

I attend meetings of the Interfaith clergy group in Fredericksburg periodically. At one of those meetings, I met the chaplain at the ICE detention center, and have signed up to take the volunteer training, which will be held in February of 2019.

Changes in the parish—Much to our sorrow, Marsha Dobson died in August. Virginia Bowen has moved and is now in an assisted living facility in Maryland near her daughter. Susan and Tom Tilt have returned to St Mary's in Colonial Beach. John Gilliland has stopped attending St Peter's. Much to our joy, Robert Bryan has returned to us after a long absence. John Hess has begun attending and is serving on the Altar Guild. Mary Peterman, Denise Gregory and Thom Guthrie have joined the choir. And we welcomed our newest member, Everett Huffman, when he was baptized at St Peter's in November.

Our congregation is aging. Several families are looking at major changes over the next few years. Our challenge is to support one another in the changes and the chances of this life as we continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers in the year ahead. Our prayers and support for one another with God's help will help us work through the tough times and to continue to be excited about the new life that God has got in store for St Peter's. As we pray for God's kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven, may we always be seeking as a congregation to make space for God's kingdom in our midst here and now. God is with us, and because of that fact, we can look ahead with confidence.

I am always grateful for your input, and so thankful for each one of you.

Your grateful servant,

Catherine

Senior Warden, Annual Report, 2018

Helmut Linne von Berg

Memories of years as your Junior Warden are full of activities; multiple projects going on and never getting it all done. I enjoyed those times and there was great satisfaction in seeing projects getting completed to make our beloved St. Peter's Church a better place. When I became Senior Warden about a year ago, I was lost. I asked myself: what kind of a contribution can I make? What should I be doing? Finally, I found the answer in the story of a wise old owl living in an oak tree; the more he saw the less he spoke; the less he spoke the more he heard. Helmut, why can't you be like that old bird, I asked myself. Well, I did. I became all eyes and ears and had less to say. Even at Vestry meetings, the Senior Warden wasn't even on the agenda, so I have done a lot of listening and watching.

1. I did see the beautiful flower arrangements at the altar every Sunday morning, the Lord's beautiful creations placed there by Cookie Davis to the Glory of God! Thank you very much, Cookie.
2. I saw a professionally managed Webpage, with useful information for every week's activities, enriched with many photos, a virtual tour of our church's architecture and people in action. Many thanks, Ben! The price for all that work? It was done PRO BONO!
3. I heard fabulous Organ music by Bach, Beethoven, Purcell, Mozart and other composers played by our Music Director Brad, who also makes our 4-5 person choir sound almost like the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Thank you Brad for adding so much to our worship with music!
4. Occasionally, I heard beautiful Harp melodies played by Marilyn Newman – thank you so much for sharing those wonderful sounds.
5. While Catherine was away this summer for several weeks for vacation/sabbatical, I was in charge of making sure that all ran smoothly at church. I was the contact person for the parish and coordinated with Catherine when necessary to let her know about pastoral needs in the parish. I checked on those in the parish who needed a word of encouragement or a visit. I coordinated with the treasurer when necessary. I was available for whatever need arose. It was lonely at the top; however, with our treasurer Eunice keeping finances in the green and Barbara Wisdom assuring that bulletins were on time on Sunday mornings, I could sleep like a baby! Of course, Catherine had made arrangements prior to departure for preachers, officiants, etc. Well done!
6. Thank you, Betty Kunstmann for handling the United Thank Offering, the UTO blue boxes, an outreach of our ECW helping people around the world with financial grants.
7. Thank you, Nancy Long for handling the Samaritans Purse Shoebox collection for many years. In 2018 we directed our support from the Shoeboxes to the Heifer

- International Program. This group has helped more than 31 million families – about 155 million people – to move toward greater self-reliance through gifts of livestock and training in environmentally sound agriculture. This group has been working since 1944 to improve the life of needy people around the world. Truly the work of the Lord is being done by these folks and they deserve our support.
8. I see a freshly painted church and a painted rectory all handled by our Junior Warden, Johnny Davis. I see the church's driveway maintained and flowers planted around the church and mulched areas. Thank you Johnny and Cookie for all you do.
 9. Susan and I enjoy dining at the Village Dinners; food prepared and served by our ladies of the ECW. Thank you Clarence and Betty for purchasing the food; many thanks to the ladies doing the cooking! The desserts prepared by Eunice rival those of Paul's Bakery! It's all another way the ECW contributes to the church's outreach funds!
 10. Our monthly Village Harvest Food Distribution! Thank you Cookie and Johnny, Eunice and Roger for picking up the food in Warsaw early in the morning. Thanks to all of those who help unload the truck and sorting the items for distribution in the afternoon. Thanks to Andrea for overseeing the distribution.
 11. I saw ECM, in coordination with Caroline County Social Services deliver food to needy folks in our County. Especially at Thanksgiving, appropriate food was provided to 5 needy families. Three families with children in the Port Royal area received food, clothing and toys for the Christmas Holiday. This outreach was graciously supported with funds from you, our congregation, in addition to donations made by our men. Thanks to all of you!
 12. I saw our Treasurer's Monthly Report, keeping all of us informed of our congregation's finances, preparing a realistic budget and recording income and spending of our funds. Many thanks, Eunice.
 13. I saw the monthly Vestry Meeting Minutes prepared by our Registrar Elizabeth Heimbach; a detailed account of issues discussed, solutions identified and necessary actions taken by the Vestry. Thank you, Elizabeth for this important part of our Vestry functions.
 14. I saw the Altar Guild Ladies preparing the altar for worship. The properly prepared altar is an important part of our worship; on the altar the gifts of bread and wine, the body and blood of our Lord are handled. Thank you, Ladies. During Communion I saw and tasted the gluten free bread prepared by B. J. Anderson. All these many Sundays the bread was there on time for the Eucharist. Many thanks to you, B. J.
 15. We used to call it the Coffee Hour which has become a scrumptious luncheon with a variety of delicious, homemade food. Thanks to all who participate on the first Sunday of the month. The best Pot Luck Meal around!

16. I saw the greeters and the ushers with a friendly welcoming smile on Sunday mornings. It was always good to see you. Thanks for being there.
17. I heard Ken Pogue lead with the Devotional at the Men's monthly breakfast. Thanks Ken for setting the tone and making us aware of our many blessings received from the Lord.
18. I saw Rob hurting and mourning at the loss of his dear wife Marsha. Hoping our prayers and expressed condolences would help him during those days of sorrow.
19. I saw the traditional Community Easter Sunrise Service held in the Long's backyard on the River, followed by the best breakfast in town! Nancy and Alex, thank you very much for your hospitality!
20. Our annual "Gospel on the River" was held in the historical home of Elizabeth and Jim Heimbach. The wine and cheese selection was the best ever! Many thanks Elizabeth and Jim for keeping this event alive and being such generous hosts.
21. I remember baskets full of wonderful ripe tomatoes brought to our congregation on several Sunday mornings by Dave Fannon and his son Gibby. Many thanks, Gents!
22. The annual Christmas Hymn "Sing-Along" and "Pot-Luck Dinner" was hosted by Cherry and Woody in their beautiful home across the river. A wonderful event enjoyed by all as we joyfully celebrate the birth of the baby Jesus. Thanks so much, Cherry and Woody!
23. I saw many other Sisters and Brothers at our worship and other meetings. Since I am up in the choir, my personal contact with you is somewhat limited. But in spirit I am there, giving you a hug or shaking your hand saying: "Peace be with you!"
24. I saw and heard our dear Priest Catherine, presiding over our worship, preaching the Gospel, leading us in prayer and during Communion saying with us:

"Dying, you destroyed our death,
Rising, you restored our life,
Christ Jesus, come in glory"!

Followed by these words of hope, justice and love, she says:

"Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. AMEN"

As my tenure as your Senior Warden is nearing its end, I know that I may not have seen or remembered all the amazing events or contributions made by our gracious, generous and loving congregation. It has been a special privilege to serve you, my mindful and caring brothers and sisters in Christ. May I end with words from our scripture:

“May the Lord bless us and keep us!

May the Lord make His face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us!

The Lord lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace.”

Junior Warden, Annual Report, 2018

Johnny Davis

MAJOR PROJECTS:

#1 Painting the inside of the Church

J.L. Clark \$16,000

#2 Painting the inside of the Parish House

Walter Bareford \$8,500

OTHER PROJECTS:

#1 Purchased 2 additional fire extinguishers for the Parish House

#2 Hired Bobbie Harrie to repair the heating and AC ducts in the basement of the Parish House and replace some of the insulation

#3 Purchased an AED machine for the Church (installed by Rob Dobson)

#4 Had the upstairs toilet repaired in the Parish House

#5 Accepted the Rain Barrel donated by Cookie Davis (installed by Robert Bryan)

#6 Removed old damaged bricks left from walk replacement (helped by Ed Harper)

#7 Removed large tree blown down by storm in backyard (cut up by Robert Bryan and removed to his burn pile with help of Ed Harper)

#8 Hired Jeremy Pitts to remove leaves from the property and cut the River Bank

WEEKLY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Twice weekly visits checking on thermostats, recycling trash, removing sticks and limbs, & snow removal, etc. My aim is to always have the buildings clean and comfortable for both Sunday services and weekly Bible Study.

Treasurer's, Annual Report, 2018 Eunice Key

Below is a recap of financial assets (Balance Sheet) and then the 2018 annual operating budget (Budget Report).

Balance Sheet

FUND DESCRIPTION	END OF YEAR BALANCE	SPECIAL NOTATIONS
General Checking Account/Fund	61,337.47	Used for daily budgeted income and expenses
RESTRICTED/DESIGNATED FUNDS:		
Cemetery Fund-Cash	840.61	ToTF dividends are deposited here annually
Concert Fund	652.64	
Endowment Fund-Ck'ing	125	\$475.00 rec'd during 2018 and \$1500.00 were moved to ToTF
Flower Fund	457.16	
Laura Hayes Scholarship Fund	565.22	\$500.00 was awarded for college books
Maintenance Fund-Church Painting	0	All funds depleted in 2018 for painting
Maintenance Fund-Parish House Fund	0	All funds depleted in 2018 for painting
Memorials Fund	1,270.00	\$600.00 rec'd in 2018; \$1,400.00 used to purchase AED
Miscellaneous Funds	272.27	Includes many receipts/expenses (wash) to multiple charities
Outreach: Discretionary Fund	0	
Discretionary Fund Checking Acct balance as of 12-31-17 (not included in total assets below)	1,796.72	97 checks were written for a total of \$7,525.86 during 2018, donated funds are transferred periodically to the priest's discretionary fund checking acct.

FUND DESCRIPTION	END OF YEAR BALANCE	SPECIAL NOTATIONS
Outreach: ECM	471.57	Transactions for Episcopal Church Men
Outreach: ECW	971.21	Transactions for Episcopal Church Women
Outreach: Mustard Seed	78.96	Provided pizza for PR Xmas tree lighting
Outreach: Village Harvest	4,450.80	In 2018 \$3860.15 in donations were received and \$2,108.92 was spent at the Northern Neck Food Bank
RESTRICTED FUNDS-MANAGED BY DIOCESE:		ToTF = Trustee of the Funds
ToTF-Cemetery Maintenance Fund	4,903.01	\$9,700 withdrawn in 2017 for 3 sidewalks, bell tower foundation and restoration and fence repair
ToTF-Endowment Fund	54,641.93	
ToTF-Investment Fund	120,082.34	
TOTAL ASSETS	251,120.19	

Budget Report

Category	YTD	Annual	YTD Budget
INCOME CATEGORIES	Actual	Budget	Difference
Non Pledge - ID'ed Offerings	23,206	20,000	3,206
Loose and Other Offerings	2,585	-	2,585
Pledges	91,346	96,388	(5,042)
Interest Earned	28	-	28
Total: Income Categories	117,165	116,388	777
EXPENSE CATEGORIES			
Church Properties			
Building Repairs	6,981	4,000	2,981
Insurance	5,506	8,000	(2,494)
Reg Maintenance Bldgs	8,294	4,600	3,694
Utilities	5,039	5,000	39
Total: Church Properties	25,820	21,600	4,220
Salaries - Priest			
Base Salary	34,815	34,816	(1)
Clergy Telephone and Travel	66	100	(34)
Continuing Education	425	500	(75)
Health Insurance	9,450	9,420	30
Pension	6,267	6,267	-
Professional Allowance	2,000	2,000	-
Total: Salaries - Priest	53,023	53,103	(80)
Salaries - Other			
Children's Ministry Coordinator	2,768	4,521	(1,753)
Organist	14,530	12,000	2,530
Supply Clergy	855	2,250	(1,395)
Supply Musician	400	420	(20)
Total: Salaries - Other	18,553	19,191	(638)
Administrative			
Admin. Expenses, & Gen. Supplies	542	1,500	(958)
Christian Education	166	1,000	(834)
Cleaning Duty	1,646	2,000	(354)
Diocesan Council and Clergy Conf	1,380	800	580
Liturgy Supplies	591	650	(59)
Misc Expenses	2,798	4,000	(1,202)
Music	199	150	49
Nursery Duty	1,760	2,080	(320)
Pledge to Diocese of Virginia	6,000	6,000	-
Pledge to Fredericksburg Region	750	750	-

Category	YTD	Annual	YTD Budget
INCOME CATEGORIES	Actual	Budget	Difference
Total: Administrative	15,832	18,930	(3,098)
Charities and Community Outreach	1,950	3,000	(1,050)
Total: Expense Categories	115,178	115,824	(646)
Operating Surplus/Deficit	1,987	564	1,423

Stewardship, Annual Report, 2018

Elizabeth Heimbach

The Vestry began to discuss plans for the 2018 Stewardship Campaign at the June meeting. The members of the Vestry felt that it was important for the campaign to finish in early October in order to allow sufficient time for the preparation of the 2019 budget. The campaign, therefore, began on Sunday, September 16 with the distribution of the pledge letter and a brief talk by Catherine. Because the campaign coincided with the Season of Creation this year, Catherine urged the congregation to think about the themes of abundance and gratitude as they planned their pledges.

On September 30, Helmut Linne von Berg, the Senior Warden, spoke about the importance of planned giving as part of each member's commitment to St. Peter's. The campaign ended on October 7 with everyone taking a handful of daffodil bulbs to plant as a reminder of the themes of the Season of Creation and the stewardship campaign.

Endowment Fund, Annual Report, 2018 Ben Hicks

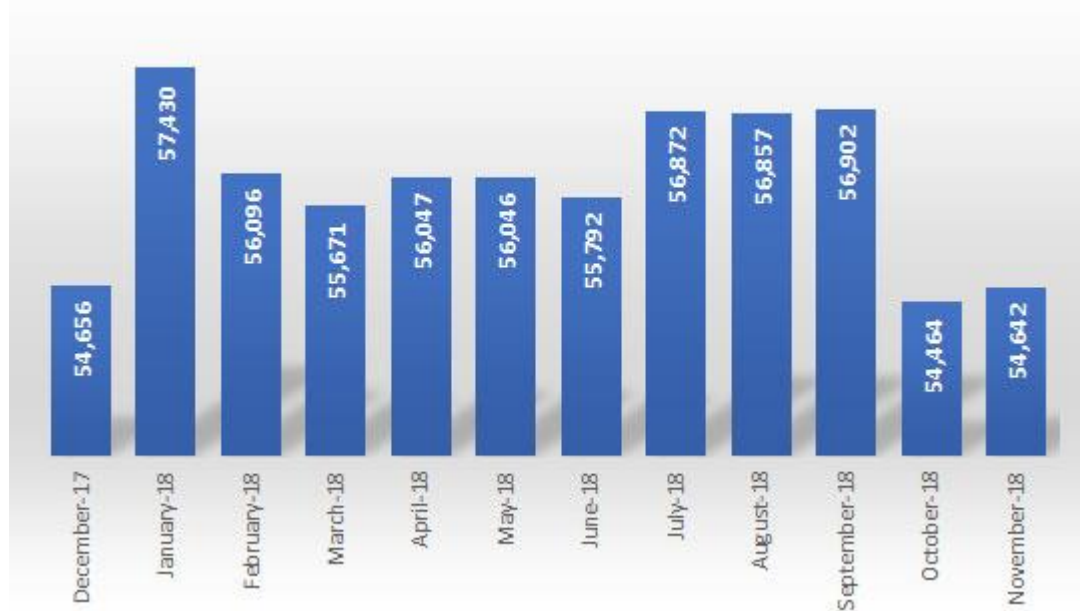
The St. Peter's Endowment Fund was established on Nov. 25, 2001. In 2015, the document was revised and approved by the Vestry.

The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to ensure a firm financial foundation for the parish and to provide additional funds for outreach. It is not for yearly operational expenses. It is a long term investment vehicle providing for future needs.

During 2017, the fund increased by \$6,228, excluding an equity increase, a 16.9% increase. However, from Dec. 2017 to Nov 2018 the fund balances were stable at \$54,600.

However, from Dec. 2017 to Nov 2018 the fund balances were stable. In between those periods, the fund rose from \$54,655 at the end of 2017 to \$57,430 in January, 2018. The market, however dropped in Feb and March, 2018 and then there was the October, 2018 correction that reduced the balance to \$56,902 to \$54,464, a 4.3% reduction. As of November, the balance was \$54,600. Thus, there was no growth during 2018.

Endowment Fund Balances



The Fund is managed by a Board of Trustees consisting of three members appointed by a majority vote of the vestry.

The Board members serve at the pleasure of the vestry. The priest serves as an ex-officio non-voting member of the Board of Trustees.

The Fund will be used for:

1. Long term expenses of the church (including capital acquisitions, improvements, renovations and replacements).
2. Outreach ministries.

The Endowment Fund is invested through the Diocesan Trustees of the Funds. The Endowment balance changes through gifts, a reinvestment of earnings and special distribution requests.

1. **Gifts.** The Fund is funded by “inter-vivos” gifts and contributions as well as bequests of cash and other donations such as securities, life insurance policies, real estate, etc. We request donations at Easter and Christmas, specifically. Earlier in the year \$1,150 was added in January and \$350 in April which are shown in the book value.

2. **Reinvestment of earnings.** The Fund also grows through a reinvestment of earnings. The earnings are calculated based on 4.5% of the average balance of the fund over 5 years. In 2018, \$2,565.84 in earnings was reinvested as of Nov, 2018.

3. **Special distribution requests.** Any request for funds during the years for the uses mentioned will decrease the balance of the fund.

This is a planned giving fund. You can leave a specific gift, a percentage of your residual estate or a special asset to the church. An attorney can take your existing will and make such an addition. The bequest is subtracted from your estate for tax purposes to lower your potential tax. Besides the tax advantages, you can have the pleasure of providing for the church as your final gift to the church.

Please consider donating to this fund to help ensure the ongoing life and work of St. Peter’s. Anyone desiring to donate cash or other assets can contact Johnny Davis or any other Trustee for help with questions or information.

A copy of the Endowment Fund document is available online – <http://www.churchsp.org/endowmentfund>

Village Harvest, Annual Report, 2018

Ben Hicks

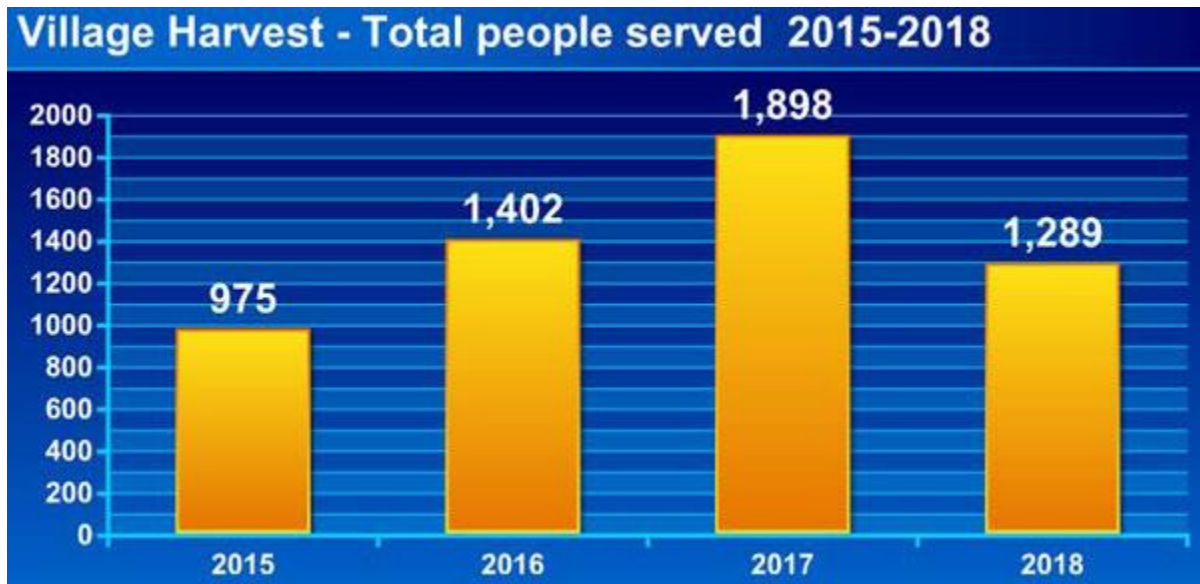
We introduced the Village Harvest at the end of 2014 as a response to the increasing costs of food and to ease some of the financial strain of those in our community. Port Royal can be described as a food desert. We set up the food distribution market style to make food available locally and easily accessible to those who need it.

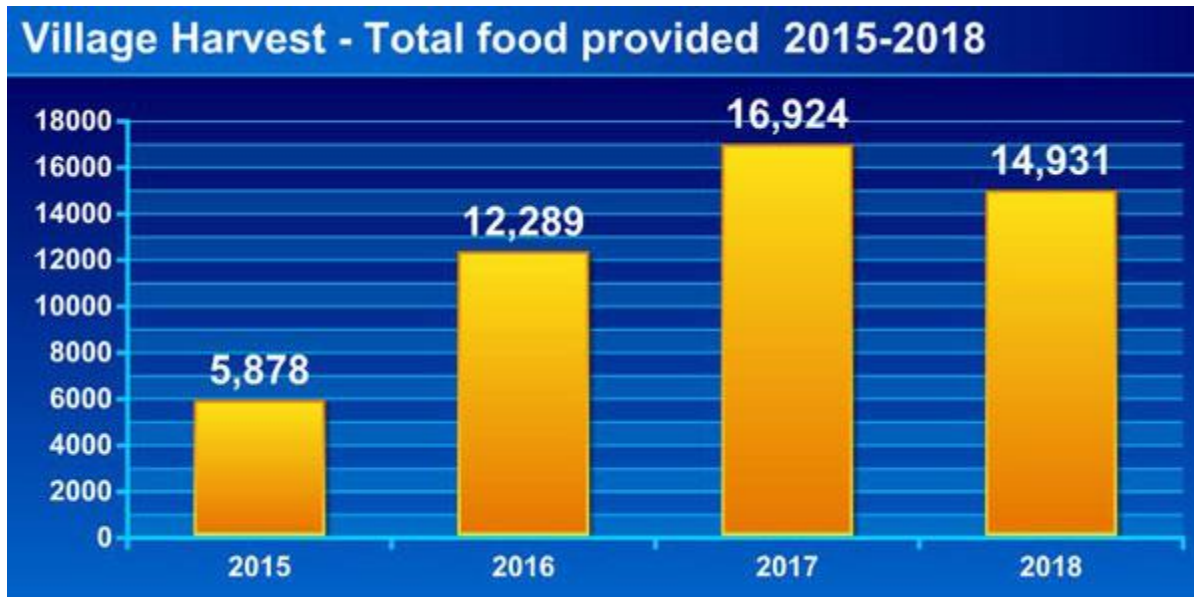
In 2018, the Village Harvest turned 4 years old. In celebration on "Giving Tuesday", Nov. 27, the Harvest earned \$1,267 to exceed its goal of \$1,200.

We ended the year on a high note. 140 clients came in December, the highest monthly figure since August. We provided produce such as carrots, turnips, sweet potatoes and onions and in the grocery area an assortment of protein, veggies, and fruits. Meats (chicken, beef and pork) continue to be part of the distribution. Overall the percentages of different types of food are fairly even - 46% produce, 33% grocery and 22% meats.

During 2018, the Harvest reversed its increases and saw declines in numbers. However, clients on average received more food and thus more value for coming to the Harvest. Lower numbers means More Value.

The Village Harvest in 2018 was the first decline in both number of people served and foods provided since the ministry began Nov., 2014. Numbers served dropped from 1,898 to 1,289 and food from 16,924 to 14,931 over the year. Numbers thus fell by 3.2% and food 11.8%. Due to bad weather, there was no Harvest in March, 2018, and that affected the total numbers.





What were the reasons for the decline? One would be the lack of calling to remind people of the harvest. This was a time consuming process to call up to 200 people. The thinking was that those who really needed and appreciated the harvest would track it on their calendars and come. Secondly, in some months the weather has been challenging. Lastly there may have been some improvement in food insecurity. From 2015-2016 it dropped from 12.2% to 12.1% in Caroline. In Essex, King George and Westmoreland the declines were more significant – Essex -.5%, King George, -.7%, Westmoreland -1.4%. The percentages, however, can hide the real need. Even at 12.1%, it includes 3,750 in Caroline County and in Essex because the county is smaller, 1,700 people.

For those who came to the Harvest in 2018, the value increased in both pounds provided and value of the food. Total pounds provided per person on average rose from 9 to 13 pounds. The value per shopper rose from \$54 to \$73 per month based on the pounds.





The increase in value per shopper did increase costs. The average costs in 2018 rose from \$135 to \$194 per month. The return from "Giving Tuesday" offset half the yearly costs which is estimated at \$2,400.

The Harvest continued to provide additional services. In January, mittens were distributed. We distributed Whitman's Samplers, donated by Russell Stover's, in April. In May, the distribution included dishwashing liquid which parishioners donated. During July, August and September, school supplies were offered. We have given out referrals to medical clinics, such as Central Virginia Health Services. We publicize local events such as the Port Royal Fishing Day, which was held in June. Sylvia Sellers brings the Little Free Library to the food distribution each month, so participants have a chance to take home books to enjoy.

In summary, the distribution provides--

1. Food for those who are being challenged economically. Funds saved from purchasing food can go toward other necessities. We have a variety of clients - widows, single parents, senior adults on limited fix income, unemployed, working poor, people experiencing a crisis.
2. Food for those who lack transportation to get it. Several clients from Caroline and Essex counties pick up food for those who can't get to St Peter's on their own.

The distribution provides benefits for those at St. Peter's as well--

Teaching children about outreach and generosity. One summer in Vacation Bible school provided jars of beans with a recipe for a distribution. Enriching those at St. Peter's who help with the distribution.

In many ways the Village Harvest has become our second congregation with examples of fellowship, outreach and education. Many at St. Peter's serve each month. Johnny and Cooke Davis bring back food monthly from the Northern Neck Food Bank.

Two quotes taken a year ago from our volunteers at the 3rd anniversary highlight the role for the volunteers:

"I enjoy being a part of a team in our mission 'To Do God's Will'. "I think that our community is learning that we at St. Peter's CARE and desire to share God's love with our neighbors."

"I help with Village Harvest because we get to know the people we help. These folks become friends not just a number. It just makes me happy that we can help in some small way to make things a little easier or better for them."

Village Harvest helps those outside the church who are dealing with financial hardships as well as those inside the church who enjoy working one-on-one in service to others. The distribution strengthens our ties to the community we are charged to serve and strengthens our ties to God who nourishes us.

Christian Education, Annual Report, 2018

Becky Fisher/Catherine Hicks

Christian Education at St Peter's during 2018 consisted of ongoing Christian Education for children on Sunday mornings, with Becky Fisher continuing as the teacher. Becky used a combination of the Godly Play curriculum as well as adding the Living the Good News curriculum for fall of 2018, continuing into 2019.

The long running Wednesday Ecumenical Bible Study continued throughout the year. At this Bible Study, people come together to study the lectionary passages for the upcoming Sunday. This Bible Study combines learning and fellowship for those who attend.

In February, Catherine and the Dukes met in Fredericksburg and attended a program at the Fredericksburg Area Museum called Waterways. We learned about the impact that the Rappahannock River has had on life in this area, and also talked about the waters of baptism. We ate pizza together after the program. All were invited to this program.

Catherine led the children on a hike around Portobago Bay in June. Stopping at various places along the way, we read scriptures, prayed, and ended with Eucharist by the river. The children spontaneously contributed to care for the environment by cleaning up the area near the river near our Eucharist and lunch spot.

In July, the children took a field trip to Maymont in Richmond, VA, to spend the day in nature, to enjoy feeding the animals there, to play in the creek, and to learn from the educational exhibits about nature in the visitors' center.

In October, Catherine put together a Sunday afternoon family Eucharist followed by a Halloween dinner for families and children.

For adults, the Christian Education included a Sunday morning Lenten program that looked at helpful ways of praying for God's kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven. On Wednesday nights during Lent, Catherine offered a class on the book of Revelation.

The ECW took a field trip to Belle Grove in February and learned more about what being enslaved on a plantation would have been like in the pre-Civil War years.

In June, Catherine and most of the Vestry attended the diocesan Church Vitality Day at Aquia Church in Stafford.

During Advent, Sunday morning Christian education for adults centered around three words, "Behold, Rejoice, and Proclaim." The last Sunday of Advent focused on the traditional Christmas Pageant.

Also during Advent, Ben Hicks created the first on demand online course on Luke's Canticles (churchsp.org/lukecanticles) based on the book **Songs in Waiting** by Paul Gordon-Chandler who weaves together his studies of the four stories from Luke. Added to the book's contents were "online extras", videos and powerpoints that support the study.

Christian education, put together by Ben Hicks, is also found on the website on a weekly basis with a discussion of the lectionary and related topics.

Music, Annual Report, 2018

Brad Volland

The past year once again bore witness to many blessings for St Peter's Episcopal Church's music ministry! As you know, our choir is small but wholly committed and dedicated to serving the church and community by praising God through Christ the Son. I am so excited that we had three new choir members join us for Christmas, and hopefully into 2019. Thom Guthrie has joined the choir, and also Mary Peterman and Denise Gregory. All three are musicians and play instruments. The choir and instrumentalists presented a wide range of musical styles to the congregation and community during the past year. Our choir presented several new anthems, including new contemporary anthems, classical anthems and anthems based on familiar hymn tunes. We will soon be working on new anthems for Holy Week and Easter.

Our sincere appreciation and thanks go to : Helmut Linne von Berg for his continued choir membership and for sharing his violin music with us; Thom Guthrie, for sharing his skills on the organ; Marilyn Newman for her gift of beautiful harp music; Mary Peterman and Denise Gregory for playing flute and piano; Andy Cortez for his amazing trumpet playing; Karen Richardson for sharing her musical talents with the guitar; and Jim Heimbach for his piano playing.

Our annual concert series continues to be very well received by our congregation and community.

We are most thankful for Mark W. Thompson and his staff, who continue to offer their specialized talents in the maintenance of our pre-Civil War pipe organ.

It is truly a blessing and a privilege to serve as your music director and organist. 2019 promises to be another wonderful year in the musical life of our beloved St Peter's.

ECW, Annual Report, 2018

Elizabeth Heimbach, President

2018 was a special year for St. Peter's ECW because Cookie Davis, our former president, received a national award for her service to the ECW. Her award was announced at the General Convention in Texas in July and celebrated at a Region 1 meeting in October.

Closer to home this year, the St. Peter's ECW hosted a group from the St. George's ECW for lunch on May 24 and in turn had lunch at St. George's on September 11. Our visit to St. George's included a wonderful tour of the church's stained glass windows led by Ben Hicks. And on November 27, the ECW enjoyed an elegant tea at Cookie Davis' house. At the tea, the group voted to make donations to a number of organizations including Healthy Harvest Food Bank, St. Andrew's School, Caroline Young Life, Caroline's Promise, St. Peter's Village Harvest, Five Talents, St. Peter's Discretionary Fund, Episcopal Relief and Development, and Heifer International. The group also give \$1000 to support the work of Luis Garcia in the Dominican Republic.

In the coming year, the ECW plans to serve dinner on Feb. 5 to the University of Mary Washington ELCM students. Other plans include a visit to the Bowling Green Nursing Home and possibly a retreat at Richmond Hill in the spring and a visit to Graves Mountain in the fall. The Royal Caterers plan to continue preparing the monthly Village Dinners, and ECW members will continue to be responsible for caring for the altar each Sunday.

ECM, Annual Report, 2018

Helmut Linne von Berg

Our Episcopal Church Men meet every second Friday of the month at 7:30 A.M. in the back room of Horne's Restaurant at the intersection of US 301 and US 17. Attendance varies between 7 and 15 men who begin the meeting with a discussion of Aunt Jemima's Pancakes to the latest Chinese landing on the dark side of the moon and anything in between. After many problems have been identified and solved, the process of ordering a scrumptious breakfast begins. At this time our waitress has already put two coffee pots on the table and brought in the hot chocolate to those men who need something sweet early in the AM. Typical breakfast order consists of two eggs (any style), bacon and/or sausage, home fries with extra sauteed onions and peppers, toast and a selection of jams. Some of our hard working men occasionally consume a country fried steak with all the trimmings; often take half of it home to their loving spouse.

When pouring the third cup of coffee, the time for our devotional has arrived. Suddenly there exists a more somber mood as Ken Pogue presents his well prepared homily. Usually Christian current or historic issues are identified and a discussion evolves. There exists an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust; men do not hesitate to identify and talk about their personal spiritual journeys with all its ups and downs. We thank Ken for his leadership regarding the group's devotional!

The ECM's main outreach programs are discussed and plans are made at the appropriate time. The programs are:

1. Need a ride? Call any of the men.
2. Feed the needy for Thanksgiving; 5 households in 2018.
3. Prepare a Christmas for three families with children; this includes food, clothing and toys.
4. Maintain liaison with Caroline County Social Services to identify truly needy people.
5. Any time during the year provide canned meats to Social Services if and when funds are available.

All our meetings close with the Lord's Prayer.