

11. 20 . 2019 | 3PM - 5PM

# VILLAGE HARVEST

823 WATER STREET, PORT ROYAL VA

Our 5 year anniversary!



**The Beauty Way**  
 I walk with beauty before me  
 I walk with beauty behind me  
 I walk with beauty below me  
 I walk with beauty above me  
 I walk with beauty around me  
 My words will be beautiful  
 In beauty all day long may I walk

## ST. PETER'S IN 2019 - BUILDING COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

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## About the Cover

At the end of a year on the web, we try to present a wrap-up that includes the events significant in the life of St. Peter's. We then try to go a step further. Was there a theme (or themes) that ran through the events of the year? We think so for 2019 - **Building Community Relationships**.

You can see it in the Spanish Bible Study that started in Lent and continued through the year, Hunters for the Hungry twice during 2019, the MS Walk as well as Shred-It in May, the **Children's** Summer Program, the Season of Creation in Sept, the Way of Beauty retreat in November, the monthly Village Harvest which celebrated its 5th anniversary also in November, and the Blue Christmas service at the end of the year. Several were new to 2019 - Spanish Bible Study, the MS Walk, the Children's Summer program and the Blue Christmas service.

[Here is a version St. Peter's 2019 story](#) told through 40+ events:

Note, there is a table of contents with the list and links for the events covered. If you click on an event it will scroll to it. There is usually a link to the event's story and a related photo. There is a corresponding arrow on the right side of the screen that will take you back to the top.

## **Rector, Annual Report, 2019**

### **The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks**

The St Peter's mission statement is to do God's will. We can do God's will best when we pray for and love one another, proclaim and teach God's word, and take the gospel to our neighbors and out to the world.

Carrying out this work of the church can be joyful and inspiring for all of us. And with joy and inspiration comes a sense of urgency about keeping ourselves alive and well in the years ahead. So our challenges are **to pray for new life for St Peter's every day, to do our best to get to church every Sunday so that we can support one another consistently in person, and to be generous with our time, our money and our talents for this part of God's body in this world. Invite others to join in our work for God's reign on this earth and for the good of our community in Port Royal.**

#### **The ways in which we pray for and love one another.**

I am grateful for the way that the people in our congregation support one another through prayer and love for one another, both in worship and throughout the week. This past year, the community came together to support the families who lost loved ones. I am so grateful for all of you who came to the services and offered your love and support to the families. In addition to that visible support, we are intentional about praying for one another, by paying attention to the prayer list and praying for those who request prayers. Our love for one another is strengthened through prayer for one another and the fruits of prayer are evident throughout our congregation. We have fun socializing together, which also draws us closer. The First Sunday potluck lunches every month, the Everett's annual Christmas party and the New Year's Eve party, the ECW Tea and Gospel on the River give us the chance to get together and enjoy one another's company.

#### **To proclaim and teach God's word.**

**Ecumenical Bible study continues.** This group, which meets every Wednesday from 10AM to noon, prays for those in any sort of need, and then studies the lectionary for the coming Sunday worship. In these Bible studies, we learn more about the context in which the passages were written, and we consider how these scriptures speak to us.

**On Sunday mornings** this past year, we studied Romans and then delved into an in-depth study of First Corinthians, which culminated in a visit from Bishop Ihloff, who played the part of Paul in our class. We have also traveled around the world in a series of pilgrimages and have spent some time with The Rev. Deacon Carey Connors discussing mission and how best to carry out our mission of proclaiming God's love to the world.



**The Spanish Bible Study.** Last year, thanks to help from you, the Fredericksburg Region and the Diocese, I was able to attend the Latino Ministries competency course at VTS. This study led to the Spanish Bible study which began last Lent and then continued through the year, with commitment from those attending to continue to meet in 2020. I would like to thank Ramon and Linneth Feliciano, Elizabeth Heimbach, and Cookie and Johnny Davis for welcoming Claudia Villa and Antoinetta and Melanie Avila to St Peter's. Countries represented in this one Bible study are Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Guatemala, and Mexico.

**The St Peter's music program.** Many churches are no longer fortunate enough to have a choir, especially smaller churches. I'm so grateful to the choir members who have been so faithful over the past several years—Nancy Long, Helmut Linne von Berg, Mike Newman, and Roger Key. With the addition of Thom Guthrie, Mary Peterman, Denise Gregory and Tucker Fisher, our choir has been able to add beauty and quality music to our worship each Sunday. We are also blessed with several instrumentalists who are willing to share their time and talent: Helmut Linne von Berg, violin; Marilyn Newman, harp; and Mary Peterman, flute; Thom Guthrie, organ. Brad Volland, our music director and organist, as done a masterful job of putting all of these talents together to make some wonderful music, as well as contributing his own talents by playing our little tracker organ. Every year Helmut Linne von Berg and Jim Heimbach produce Gospel on the River, an enjoyable afternoon of singing gospel hymns together. Brad and these wonderful musicians are true blessings for our church.

**The Concert Series.** St Peter's offers a world class concert for the community each year, thanks to your generosity and commitment to this outreach program for the community. This year we welcomed PhilHarmonia, a chorus of over twenty young people from Philadelphia, PA. The Heimbachs hosted the reception before the concert.

**Two new worship services took place this year**—The Blessing of the Backpacks for the children, and The Christmas Service of Comfort for those who have suffered losses during the year and may not have felt overwhelmed with joy during the Christmas season. The Connexion Chamber Choir from Colonial Beach came over and sang for this service.

**The Season of Creation** this year brought us to the end of the three year Season of Creation lectionary cycle. During this season, we not only celebrated the wonders of creation, and thanksgiving to God for all God has made, but we also looked at some of the current problems that the earth is experiencing and how scripture applies to current environmental crises.

**Our beautiful property brings us closer to God.** Robert Bryan cleared the riverbank and worked on the old colonial road bed next to the church, opening up the river view. We are so blessed with the beautiful view that we enjoy of the Rappahannock River and of the many flowerbeds around the buildings that Cookie Davis maintains.

## **Taking the gospel to our neighbors and the world.**

**The St Peter's Village Harvest**, the food distribution, continues to serve the community and those in need of fresh produce and meat. I am so grateful for the sustained commitment of the people of this Parish to ensure that this food ministry continues. We pray for and with the people who come, and some are now volunteering alongside parishioners to get the food distributed each month.

**The Village Dinner** is another outreach ministry of St Peter's. In addition to giving community members and parishioners a chance to socialize over a good dinner, the profits from the dinner go to help local, national and international organizations who provide help in a variety of ways to those in need. Many thanks to Eunice Key, the Kunstmanns, and the many other people who help to make this dinner possible each month.

**Weekly summer fun for the neighborhood kids.** This year, instead of Bible School, we tried having a series of study and activities that included our friends around the neighborhood. Elizabeth Heimbach and Catherine held cooking classes for neighborhood kids and Jim Heimbach taught everyone how to make omelets.

**Thanksgiving and Christmas Families**--The Episcopal Church Men took dinners to many families at Thanksgiving, and with the help of the ECW, St Peter's adopted a family for Christmas and bought and delivered the requested presents. Both projects were done in conjunction with The Caroline County Department of Social Services.

**St Peter's provided the pizza for the Port Royal Christmas party.** The Town Council, Caroline's Promise, Caroline County Parks and Recreation, the Port Royal Fire Department and the churches come together to provide this annual gathering for Port Royal residents. Santa Claus made his appearance as usual.

## **Many more blessings**

**I'm grateful for your ongoing commitment to my continuing education**, so that I can serve God and St Peter's more fully. **The Latino Cultural Competency course**, taught by faculty from The Episcopal Church, resulted in a new Bible study at St Peter's. In May at the clergy retreat at Shrine Mont I was blessed to hear a series of talks by **Thomas Long**, one of the preaching giants whose work we studied in seminary. In June of 2019 I completed the year long **Deep calls to Deep preaching program**, which involved monthly meetings with a preaching group as well as an opening and closing residency at VTS. In October I went to Kilmarnock for the **Virginia School of Celtic Consciousness**, taught by John Philip Newell. I learned a lot about Celtic spirituality and have used much of that information in sermons and sermon preparation. Celtic spirituality ties in well with the theology we have been

delving into during the Season of Creation each year. 2019 was a great year for continuing education, and I thank all of you for making the time for this enrichment possible.

**We have also been blessed at St Peter's to have those in discernment for ministry join with us in a variety of ways.** **Phil Fitzhugh**, who helps with the food distribution and is a regular at the Wednesday Ecumenical Bible Study and who has preached at St Peter's, is in the process of becoming a locally licensed pastor in The United Methodist Church. **Salli Hartman**, who did her discernment work at St Peter's, is in the diocesan school and is being trained as a Deacon in The Episcopal Church. She has been approved to move forward with her candidacy. **The Reverend Deacon Carey Connors**, who is currently a Deacon, is at VTS and will graduate this May and be ordained as a priest in The Episcopal Church. We are blessed by having her with us two Sundays a month. She is sharing her extensive knowledge in missions with us as well as preaching once a month and serving as the Deacon in our worship services.

Two blessings for St Peter's are Morgan Key, daughter-in-law of Roger and Eunice Key, and John Hess, who joined St Peter's in 2019. We are grateful for their presence in our midst. Morgan helps with Village Dinners and has done babysitting at the Spanish Bible study. John is a lector and serves on the altar guild.

And near the end of 2019, we welcomed DaVon Ny'Kese Townsel through the sacrament of Holy Baptism into our community. He and his parents, Cornesha Howard and David Townsel, then played the parts of the Holy Family for this year's Christmas pageant.

Several in our community have moved away. We sent our blessings along with **Wendy and Alan Gayle**, who have moved to the Charlottesville area; **Howard and Millie Muhly**, who have moved to Maryland to be closer to their children; and with **Dave Fannon**, who has moved away to be closer to his sons. In their time at St Peter's, they all blessed us richly, and may they be happy in their new homes.

**Three memorial services took place at St Peter's in 2019.** We said goodbye to Peggy Roberts, Rachel Marie Schnakenberg, mother of Trenton and Nathaniel Schakenberg and sister in law of Becky Fisher, and to John Sellers, beloved resident of Portobago Bay and a good friend of St Peter's. I am so grateful to the support that this community showed to the families—providing welcome and comfort, and a time for the families to gather after the service for food and fellowship. This sort of generosity is deeply appreciated by grieving families.

**The nursery** has gotten a new roof. Many thanks to Rob Dobson who did the work that had to be done before the roof was installed. The windows are being replaced and the interior work will be done, making this space more welcoming for our children.

And so as another year begins, I give thanks to God for this community and all the blessings that we have shared together in 2019, while looking ahead with anticipation and excitement to all that is ahead of us in the new year of 2020.

Before we know it, we'll be counting the blessings that God has in store for us in 2020, blessings we can only imagine right now. Knowing that God goes with us into the new year, we look forward to with anticipation to all that awaits.

**And remember to pray for and to love one another, to proclaim and teach God's word, and to take the gospel to our neighbors and the nations. And let's do this together, as Jesus calls us to do.**



## **Senior Warden, Annual Report, 2019**

### **Elizabeth Heimbach**

The congregation of St. Peter's is small in number, but guided by our priest, we have been able to accomplish a lot this year. As Senior Warden, I am grateful for

1. The leadership of our priest:

Catherine works tirelessly to care for the people of St. Peter's, especially those who are ill and those who mourn.

2. Worship:

Catherine prepares each service carefully. She encourages participation by members of the congregation who serve as greeters, acolytes, lectors, and Eucharistic ministers. She cheerfully teaches new altar guild members the proper way to care for the altar, and she patiently encourages new acolytes to learn the order of service. She plans wonderful services for the celebration of major festivals like Easter, Pentecost, Christmas, and Epiphany. She writes the script for the Christmas pageant each year, and this year, she also introduced a gentle, quiet Blue Christmas service.

3. The music:

Our wonderful choir under Brad's direction adds a splendid dimension to our worship each Sunday. The fall concert with PhilHarmonia was a wonderful event that attracted an audience from both St. Peter's and from other churches.

4. The oversight of the buildings and grounds of the church:

Junior Warden Johnny Davis has dealt this year with everything from leaks in the church to leaves and branches in the church yard. Johnny and Rob Dobson have also spent countless hours on the renovation of the nursery building.

5. Fellowship:

The monthly potluck lunches and Village Dinners are lovely occasions that bring us together. Gospel on the River and the Everett's Christmas party are also events that everyone looks forward to.

6. Outreach:

Village Harvest and the work of the ECM and the ECW provide practical ways of sharing God's love with our community.

7. Education:

Wednesday Bible Study, Spanish Bible Study, Sunday School, and Sunday services that include scripture readings and thoughtful sermons all provide the congregation with opportunities for discussion and growth. The Way of Beauty retreat was an occasion to learn about Native American beliefs.

8. The St. Peter's website:

Ben Hicks' inspired photography continually enhances the church's website as well as the Facebook page. His work on the weekly bulletins and the monthly newsletter is invaluable.

## **Junior Warden, Annual Report, 2019**

### **Johnny Davis**

- In March the Vestry voted to do repairs to the Nursery building. New windows were ordered from Window World in Fredericksburg to be installed after the roof was repaired or replaced. Two members of the church agreed to cover the cost of a new metal roof rather than paint and repair the old one. Burrus Roofing of King George was hired to do the work at a cost of \$6,450. Rob Dobson agreed to oversee the repairs inside and out so that windows can be installed. The roof is now complete and additional repairs will be made soon.
- Chris Fisher showed everyone the new AED purchased by the vestry and explained how it works. He will give an actual demonstration later.
- The Pitts Brothers were called about the leak on the inside of the rear left wall of the church. They will come and assess the problem.
- The termite company was called to check the buildings. Some Powder Post Beetle damage was found.
- A Clean Up Day was held in March. The following things were accomplished:
  - First the chain link fence and white board fence were power washed by the Junior Warden before the work day.
  - Both the chain link and the white board fences were painted.
  - The whole Parish House basement was cleaned out removing trash and plastic bags from the basement.
  - Topsoil was spread in holes around the church yard.
  - The rotten stump on the fence line was dug up and removed.
  - All items collected outside of the Bell Tower were removed and the items inside were rearranged.
  - Gravel was added to the driveway to the Parish House.
- Later the tombstones in the graveyard and all the steps to the buildings were power-washed by the Junior Warden and the new wind-chime donated by Catherine was hung.
- Tools were bought from Sears and donated to the church by the Junior Warden to be kept in the Parish House. He immediately tested them by hanging a new bulletin board purchased for the Parish House and a picture donated to the Sacristy. Then new screws were used to secure hymn book holders in the sanctuary.
- After a bad storm in May, the Junior Warden cleaned the church yard removing sticks and limbs. Earlier three truck-loads of wood was removed from a fallen tree on the property line with the help of Ed Harper. Robert Bryan sawed the tree and allowed us to put it in his burn pile nearby.
- In November Jeremy Pitts was hired to removed leaves and cut the riverbank.

- It was also necessary for the Junior Warden to spray the driveway and borders four times to eliminate weeds and unwanted grass.
- It was also necessary for the Junior Warden or his designee to keep the heat and air conditioning adjusted each week and to pick up fallen limbs as needed.

## Treasurer's, Annual Report, 2019 Eunice Key

Below is a recap of financial assets (Balance Sheet) and then the 2019 annual operating budget (Budget Report).

FUND DESCRIPTION	END OF YEAR BALANCE	SPECIAL NOTATIONS
General Checking Account/Fund	39,959.38	Used for daily budgeted income and expenses
<b>RESTRICTED/DESIGNATED FUNDS:</b>		
Cemetery Fund-Cash	1107.32	Cemetery contributions and ToTF dividends are deposited here annually
Concert Fund	799.64	
Endowment Fund-Ck'ing	0.00	\$1,775.00 rec'd during 2019, funds moved to ToTF
Flower Fund	238.30	
Laura Hayes Scholarship Fund	565.22	
Maintenance Fund-Church Painting	150.00	1 contribution made in 2019
Maintenance Fund-Parish House Fund	0.00	
Memorials Fund	1,279.03	\$200.00 rec'd in 2019; \$190.97 used to purchase Composter
Miscellaneous Funds	212.69	Includes many receipts/expenses (wash) to multiple charities, In 2019 used funds for piano moving/tuning
Outreach: Discretionary Fund	0.00	97 checks were written for a total of \$7,214.53 during 2019, a total of \$6,420.50 donated funds are transferred periodically to the priest's discretionary fund
Discretionary Fund Checking Acct balance as of 12-31-19 ( <b>not included in total assets below</b> )	(1,002.69)	

<b>FUND DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>END OF YEAR BALANCE</b>	<b>SPECIAL NOTATIONS</b>
		checking account.
Outreach: ECM	952.20	Transactions for Episcopal Church Men
Outreach: ECW	555.78	Transactions for Episcopal Church Women
Outreach: Mustard Seed	78.96	Not used in 2019
Outreach: Village Harvest	3,527.84	In 2019 \$1,208.25 in donations were received and \$2,051.22 was spent at the Northern Neck Food Bank
<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS-MANAGED BY DIOCESE:</b>		ToTF = Trustee of the Funds
ToTF-Cemetery Maintenance Fund	5,093.06	
ToTF-Endowment Fund	60,442.97	
ToTF-Investment Fund	131,113.08	
ToTF-Stamp Program	30,074.42	\$30,000.00 moved in 2019 from general checking to this short term investment
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>276,149.89</b>	



## Budget Report, December 31, 2019

If the last column is positive then it is positive for the church or if negative, negative for the church.

Category	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Difference
<b>INCOME CATEGORIES</b>			
Non Pledge - ID'ed Offerings	13,421	16,441	(3,020)
Loose and Other Offerings	1,833	-	1,833
Pledges	93,736	91,346	2,390
Interest Earned	44	-	44
<b>Total: Income Categories</b>	<b>109,034</b>	<b>107,787</b>	<b>1,247</b>
<b>EXPENSE CATEGORIES</b>			
<b>Church Properties</b>			
Building Repairs	1,180	3,000	1,820
Insurance	3,236	6,500	3,264
Reg Maintenance Bldgs	5,022	3,000	(2,022)
Utilities	5,819	5,200	(619)
<b>Total: Church Properties</b>	<b>15,257</b>	<b>17,700</b>	<b>2,443</b>
			-
Base Salary	34,815	34,816	1
Clergy Telephone and Travel	-	100	100
Continuing Education	500	500	-
Health Insurance	10,130	10,080	(50)
Pension	6,267	6,300	33

<b>Category</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>	<b>YTD Difference</b>
Professional Allowance	462	500	38
<b>Total: Salaries - Priest</b>	<b>52,174</b>	<b>52,296</b>	<b>122</b>
			-
Children's Ministry Coordinator	619	4,521	3,902
Organist	14,500	15,500	1,000
Supply Clergy	300	600	300
Supply Musician	200	420	220
<b>Total: Salaries - Other</b>	<b>15,619</b>	<b>21,041</b>	<b>5,422</b>
			-
Admin. Expenses, & Gen. Supplies	719	700	(19)
Christian Education	114	400	286
Cleaning Duty	1,656	2,000	344
Diocesan Council and Clergy Conf	943	700	(243)
Liturgy Supplies	641	500	(141)
Misc Expenses	1,986	2,500	514
Music	657	200	(457)
Pledge to Diocese of Virginia	6,000	6,000	-
Pledge to Fredericksburg Region	750	750	-
<b>Total: Administrative Charities and Community Outreach</b>	<b>13,466</b>	<b>13,750</b>	<b>284</b>
	3,000	3,000	-
<b>Total: Expense Categories</b>	<b>99,516</b>	<b>107,787</b>	<b>8,271</b>

<b>Category</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>	<b>YTD Difference</b>
<b>Operating Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>9,518</b>		

## **Stewardship, Annual Report, 2019**

### **Elizabeth Heimbach**

In keeping with the 2020 theme of annual giving in the Diocese of Virginia, “Wonder in All,” the campaign at St. Peter’s this year sought to emphasize “the gift of joy and wonder in all God’s works.”

The campaign opened on September 1 when everyone in the congregation received a copy of the pledge letter along with a box of beeswax candles. which were meant as a reminder of the light and warmth that St. Peter’s endeavors to share all year long.

Pledges were due four Sundays later on October 7. This allowed the Vestry more time to discuss the church budget for the upcoming year. It was especially important for the Vestry to have time to devote to the budget this year because several members of the congregation have moved away, and the total amount from pledges in 2019 was significantly less than the amount pledged in 2018. However, it is heartening to note that a number of people have increased the amount of their 2020 pledges – surely a reflection of the congregation’s commitment to the work of St. Peter’s.

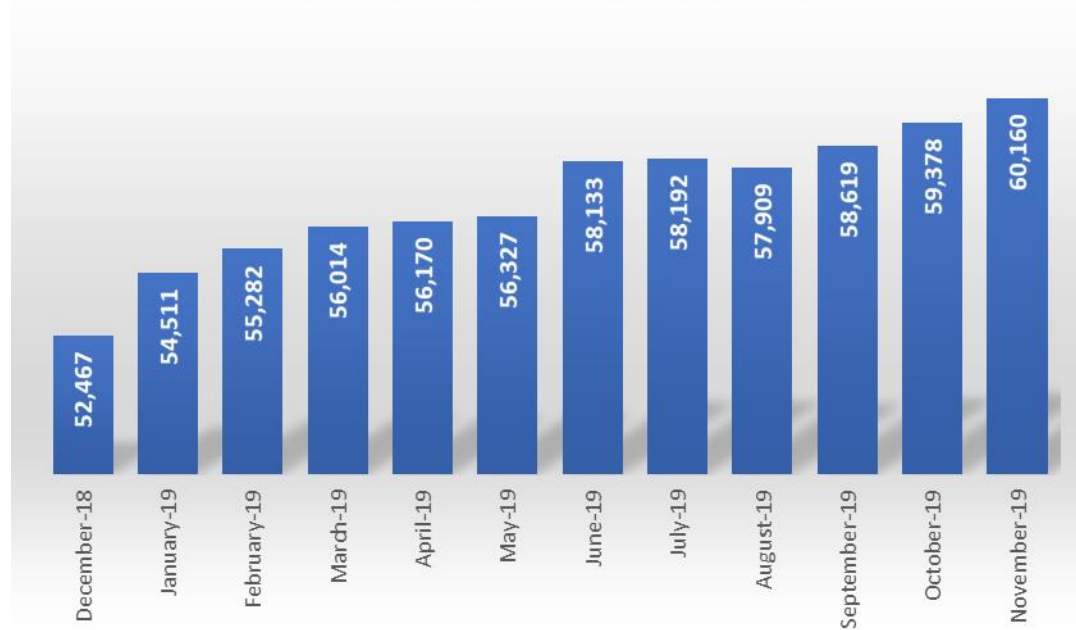
## Endowment Fund, Annual Report, 2019 Ben Hicks

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.

The fund rose from December, 2018 from \$52,467 to \$60,160 at the end of November, 2019, the latest numbers available. This represents a 14.66% increase and includes two increases to the corpus during 2019. Overall the S&P 500 was up 19% the first three quarters of 2019, the best performance of this period since 1997.

### 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. \$750 was added at Easter in 2019.

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 2019, \$3,011.24 in earnings was reinvested as of Nov, 2019 compared to \$2,565.84 in 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, 2019**

### **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 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.

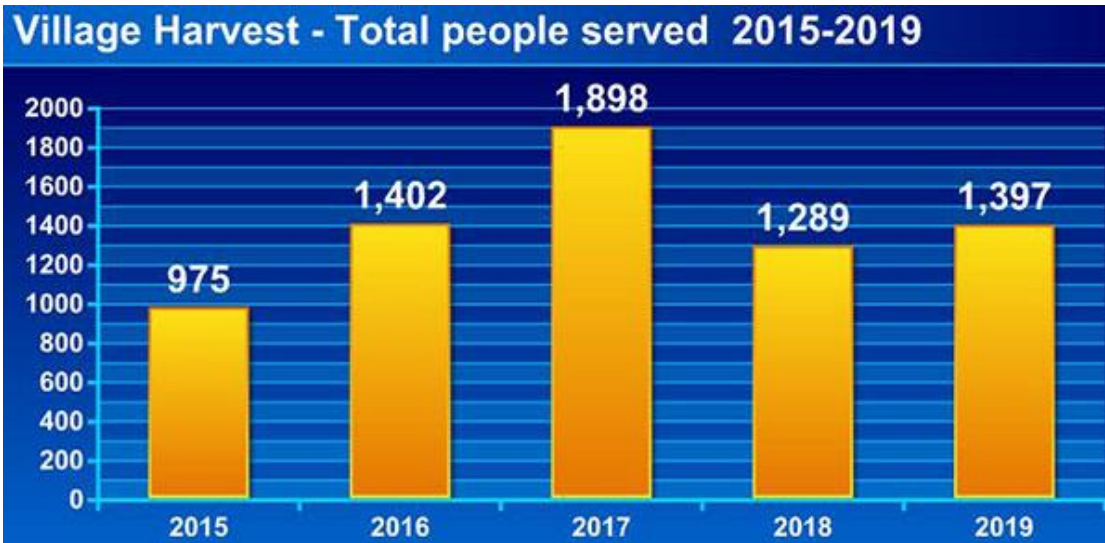
The distribution provides benefits for those at St. Peter's as well-as an example of generosity and service to the community- Many at St. Peter's serve each month. Johnny and Cooke Davis bring back food monthly from the Northern Neck Food Bank.

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

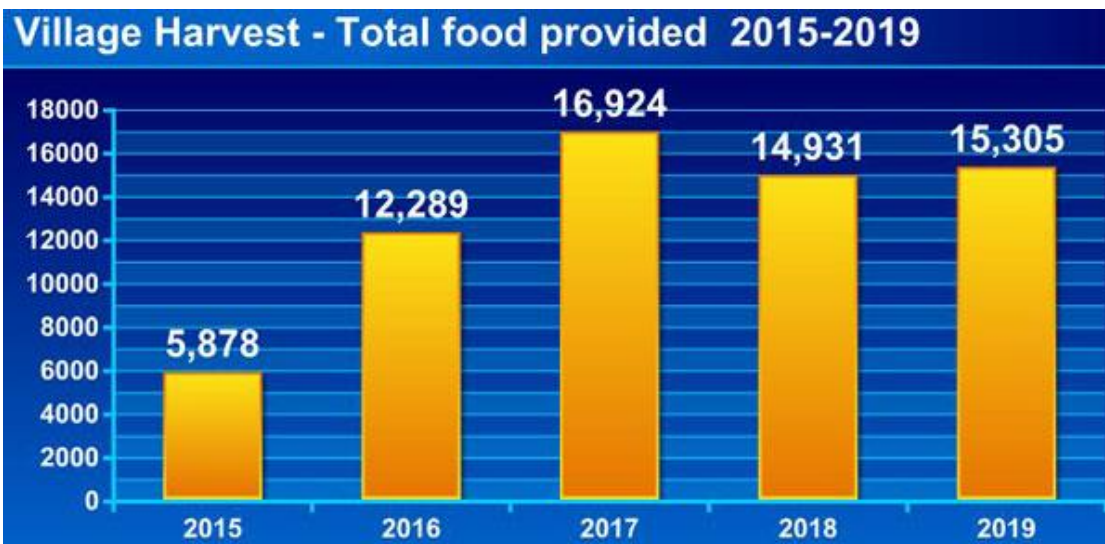
*"I enjoy being a part of a team in our mission 'To Do God's Will'. 'I think that our community is learning that we at St. Peter's CARE and desire to share God's love with our neighbors."*

*"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.



The Village Harvest in 2019 showed expansion as it ended 5 years of service . People served grew from by 8% from 1,289 to 1,397. This is in contrast to 2018 where there was a 32% drop after the decision was made not to call people ahead of the harvest



Food available, however, grew less than clients at 3% from 14,931 to 15,305 pounds. Much of the decline has occurred in the last 2 months. December's total was 766 pounds, the lowest of 2019 but above December, 2018 which had 692 pounds available.

Since food grew slower than people, food available per person declined from 11.6 to 11.0 pounds from 2018 to 2019. This level is substantially above the earlier years in the Harvest – 6 pounds in 2015 to just under 9 pounds in 2017.



The value per shopper was also down in 2019 from \$69.5 to \$65.7, calculated at \$6 per pound. However, this is substantially higher than the earlier years of the harvest – \$36.2 in 2015, \$52.6 in 2016, \$53.5 in 2017. Beginning in 2018, there was more value from \$53.5 in 2017 to \$69.5 the following year.

Over a 5 year period the church has served 7,086 people 66,327 pounds. This calculates to 9.36 pounds per person at a value of \$56.2 over the period.



## **Christian Education, Annual Report, 2019**

### **Catherine Hicks**

All that we do—our time together and our serving the world together in God’s name is educational, because we always learn something when we’re together. We have done a LOT of Christian education together this year under that broad definition.

Specific Christian Education also took place in a variety of ways.

Even though the children’s Sunday morning class has come to what I hope is only a temporary end, and children have joined in with adults on Sunday mornings for education, we also had several educational activities specifically for young people. Over approximately six weeks this summer, the children met weekly, along with children from the neighborhood to do various activities together. At the end of the summer, I did a Eucharist and blessing of the backpacks, to which all kids were invited. We had an instructed Eucharist and each child present received a back pack tag to place on the back pack. By serving as acolytes, the children also have a way to learn about worship and why we do the things we do. I am very grateful to the Dukes and to the Fishers for serving as acolytes in 2019.

The weekly ecumenical Bible study continued and thrived. Our time consists of praying for one another and then delving into each of the upcoming scriptures for Sunday.

Thanks to the help of TryTank and the Latino Ministry in a Box experiment, we started a new Bible study during Lent. This Bible study is geared toward Spanish speakers. During Lent, we listened to a short talk in Spanish, followed by a discussion. Since Lent, the group has continued to meet, and our current study consists of each person bringing a Bible scripture that illustrates a certain theme such as faith or blessing. We share a meal together and then join in conversation around the theme of the evening. All are welcome at this Bible study, even those who don’t speak Spanish.

Several of us participated in the way of love breakfast, which took place on the last Wednesday morning of the month over the course of six months. At each of the sessions we took one of the rules of life and discussed the impact of that rule on our lives and how we might support one another in being faithful to the rule. We used the material on The Way of Love provided by The Episcopal Church.

Christian Education on Sunday mornings has included a study of the Letter of Paul to the Romans which we did in conjunction with The Good Book Club, and a study of I Corinthians, in which we all took on the parts of people who would have attended the early church. Bishop Ihloff played the part of Paul during his visitation with St Peter’s. We also had a series on pilgrimages in which we learned more about Israel, Ireland, Guatemala and

Hawaii, and current day issues related to these areas. The Rev. Deacon Carey Connors led a series of discussions on mission. During Advent, we spent some time studying the women that appear in scripture around the birth of Jesus—the women in Matthew’s genealogy, Elizabeth, mother of John, and Mary, mother of Jesus.

## **Music, Annual Report, 2019**

### **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. The choir and visiting musicians presented a wide range of musical styles to the congregation and community during the past year. Our choir presented many new anthems, including a new anthem for each Sunday during Advent and two new anthems for Christmas Eve. 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; Mary Peterman and Denise Gregory for their beautiful voices and playing flute and piano; Andy Cortez for his amazing trumpet playing; Jim Heimbach for sharing his piano playing and Marilyn Newman for sharing harp music with us.

On September 22, 2019, Jim and Elizabeth Heimbach hosted our annual "Gospel on the River" at their beautiful home on the banks of the Rappahannock River.

Our annual concert series continues to be very well received by our congregation and community. On November 2, 2019, we were blessed with the voices of "PhilHarmonia," a twenty-voice choir from Philadelphia.

On December 22, 2019, we had our first "Blue Christmas Service." We enjoyed the musical offerings of "Connexion," a thirty-voice community choir from Colonial Beach, Virginia.

We are blessed and 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 and 2020 promises to be another wonderful year in the musical life of our beloved St. Peter's.



## **ECW, Annual Report, 2019**

### **Elizabeth Heimbach, President**

2019 was a busy year for the St. Peter's ECW. Our members continued to care for the altar each Sunday and host the monthly after-church pot luck lunches. The Royal Caterers also planned and prepared Village Dinners every month. In addition to these activities, several ECW members served dinner on February 5 to a group of the University of Mary Washington ELCM students.

ECW members also gave a reception and provided housing for PhilHarmonia, the group that performed at the concert on November 2.

Later in November, Cookie Davis hosted an elegant tea for the ECW at her house. At the tea, members decided on the charities that the ECW will support this year.

Then, in December, the ECW participated in a Christmas program for children through Caroline County Social Services. This involved buying and wrapping clothes and toys requested by the children of a family in Port Royal. And, as an additional Christmas activity, the ECW provided an array of "white elephant gifts" that were distributed at the December Village Harvest.

Now, as the New Year begins, the members of the ECW hope to continue to work on projects that contribute to our church and to our community.

## **ECM, Annual Report, 2019**

### **Johnny Davis**

- The men of St. Peter's Church met the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at 7am at Horne's Restaurant. Breakfast was ordered and a devotional was read. A discussion followed of what the devotional meant to each person. Later there was discussion about what we need to do in our community to help those less fortunate than us and what we think is important.
- Giving Thanksgiving meals to ten families in Port Royal and Bowling Green was our main objective of the year. Food for a full meal was purchased by Helmut Linne von Berg and Johnny Davis and delivered to each family suggested by Social Services the day before Thanksgiving. It was much appreciated.
- Delivering venison from Hunters for the Hungry to Social Services in Bowling Green for distribution by them to needy families was another important goal of the ECM. Some of the deer Johnny's hunt club harvested were part of the venison that was packaged and kept at Upper Essex Baptist Church until needed. Johnny picked up venison three times this year—in February, October and December. The total amounted to 1,250 lbs.