



Ring in the

Good News

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

October 2014

Purcellville, Virginia

Pentecost Season

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Playground Dedication



The Saint Peter's Episcopal Church Playground was officially dedicated on Sunday, September 14th!

**Father Tom and Kathleen Voss
welcomed and thanked our neighbors
Dan and Terri Kaseman
for their generous gift**

See full story on page 4

Marriage: Hard to Do. Hard to Do Without.

By Fr. Tom Simmons

As a man married for nearly 20 years, and as a pastor who has journeyed with many married couples through the ups and downs of life together, marriage is hard to do...and it's hard to do without. Let's parse that saying in two parts.

First, marriage is **Hard To Do Without**.

The Bible's book of Genesis tells the story how marriage was established by God in creation. It shows the union of husband and wife in heart, body and mind. The man and the woman are two very DIFFERENT, yet deeply COMPLEMENTARY creatures and God made us for each other. Because we are different, each can be a true helper to the other.

And help is what we need. In marriage God combines the strengths and completes the weaknesses each have, making the couple so much more than the individuals ever could be alone. They can see into each other's blind spots and pick up each other's slack. This union is world-changing, as men and women are fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and bring forth its potential for the glory of God and the benefit of all people.

There's nothing better in life than having a good partner, a true friend to share the journey, a soul mate who is strong where you are weak and whose weaknesses call forth your strength. The French say, "Viva la difference," which God intended for our mutual joy. In the pairing of husband and wife, God's image and the mission he gave humanity is fulfilled.

That's the glory of marriage and every love song ever written aspires to it. We need it, which is why **it's hard to do without**. It's a relationship fundamental to human nature, built right into our hearts and bodies. So how's it working for you and your mate?

Those who have tried marriage know it is **Hard To Do**.

The differences between men and women, which God designed as a blessing to complete us, now tend to drive us apart. What once powerfully attracted us to the other and inspired great fascination and awe easily come to exasperate us. It's hard to understand, tolerate and forgive your spouse. And for many, one of God's greatest gifts – our marriage – can become our greatest cause of hurt and sorrow.

Jesus addressed that reality when he was asked about divorce (Mark 10:1-9). His answer is startling. He deals with human reality in marriage, and recovers God's original intention for husbands and wives.

The reality behind divorce, Jesus said, is we have "hard hearts". Pure and simple. We are selfish, unforgiving, and unfaithful in our commitment to love, comfort, honor and keep one another. We protect and promote ourselves at the expense of our spouse. We tend to bore our focus in on the faults and failings of our spouse, which are often just the flip-side of the coin from their strengths.

We tunnel in on these things and lose gratitude for the gifts they bring to life. This becomes a mutual game of blame and reproach, demanding that the other change while rarely seeing one's own fault.

But God intends something much better.

He wants us to experience the joy of mutual understanding and self-offering with our spouse. Jesus wants each of us to approach our spouse with humility and curiosity, sympathy and openness, to see in them the great gift God has given to make us whole.

Jesus invites us each to experience the hard-heart-changing power of his love, displayed on the cross when he gave his life for ours. Take a minute to vividly think of him there, pouring it all out for you. Allow it melt your heart and give you hope.

If that's the price he paid for YOUR forgiveness, what price will you pay to forgive your spouse? If he suffered such to serve you, can't you suffer something to serve the one you promised to honor? Let his love inspire yours.

Then take another step.

Invite your spouse to join you on seven date nights on Fridays in October and November for the **Marriage Course** held at the Carver Center in Purcellville. Each session begins at 6:30 PM and ends promptly at 8:30 PM. During these two hours you'll enjoy informative talks by the course leaders, and other couples who have taken the course and will share how it has enriched their lives.

Over dessert and drinks you and your mate will have a chance to engage in thoughtfully-designed exercises that let you discuss in private how to use the resources offered that night.

You can enroll and receive course details by emailing, marriagementors@stpetes.net and reserving a seat. The introductory night is Oct 3. All couples are welcome!





Starts October 3rd

Friday Evenings

6:30-8:30pm

**The Carver Center
200 Willie Palmer Way,
Purcellville**

An opportunity to invest in the future of your relationship.

Marriage Alpha

A seven session course set in a fantastic atmosphere. You will be served drinks and dessert at The Carver Center while listening to practical talks that are informative and fun.

The course begins on Friday, October 3, 2014, and runs weekly through November 21 (skipping Halloween.) Mark your calendars and tell a friend about it! Seats are limited to 15 couples, first come first served.

Register by emailing: marriagementors@stpetes.net

What Can I Expect?

A typical evening starts at 6:30pm and finishes by 8.30pm. Each session includes:

- ⇒ **Fantastic atmosphere** that many say feels like a date night. Courses are run in all kinds of venues – homes, restaurants, cafes (after hours), community halls, churches, even a cruise ship - but wherever your local course is run you should find a great atmosphere and a friendly welcome.
- ⇒ **Practical talks** that are informative and fun, either given live or played on DVD. They include filmed clips of couples sharing their own experiences and street interviews from around the world.
- ⇒ **Coffee and private discussion time** as a couple. You will be given topics to discuss (sometimes with the help of an exercise). Music is played so you can't hear couples on other tables and they can't hear you!
- ⇒ **No group work**, so relax - you will not have to share anything about your relationship with anyone else.
- ⇒ **Homework** - at the end of each session you are given some homework to do together. This will help you to build on what you have learnt and give you the opportunity to apply it to your relationship. Don't worry - it won't be graded! It isn't looked at by anyone else and is just for your own benefit.

Over seven sessions of the course you will discover practical tools to help you:

- ◆ Understand each others needs
- ◆ Communicate more effectively
- ◆ Grow closer through resolving conflict
- ◆ Recognize how your upbringing affects your relationship
- ◆ Improve relationships with parents and in-laws
- ◆ Develop greater sexual intimacy
- ◆ Discover each other's love languages, and much, much more!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

By Kathleen Voss, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries

The Sunday School and Youth Program are both off to an excellent start!

Our new year started on September 14th and the beauty of the sunny day was a good indication of what is to come!

The Youth Program saw record numbers! Rite 13 led by Carl Sheys and joined by Tait Simmons and Lauren Hunt is in their second year of the 2 year program. Our 7th and 8th graders are growing in their potential each week!

The Youth Alpha program led by Nissa Clavelli and Dave Hunt, as well as by our 11th and 12th graders, also started strong! We encourage these young people to bring a friend to the program on Sunday mornings! We welcome new faces! Youth Alpha is a series of interactive sessions designed for young people in order to explore their Christian faith and discuss life's big questions.

Our children's Sunday School program returns to Year 1 of *Weaving God's Promises*. Weaving our Faith. "This year the curriculum covers the story of our salvation, our story from the fall of humankind to our redemption by Jesus." The children learn how we fit into the story. Our morning starts with music in the Sanctuary at 9:20AM and then moves to the classrooms at 9:30 AM for our lesson.

We will continue to welcome new registrations throughout the year! Please contact Kathleen Voss for more information!

Playground Dedication

The Saint Peter's Episcopal Church Playground was officially dedicated on Sunday, September 14th. Father Tom and Kathleen Voss welcomed and thanked our neighbors **Dan and Terri Kaseman** for their generous gift of the play set, see saw (a huge hit) and tether ball. The Kasemans also donated the fencing around the playground and air conditioning units, including the man power necessary to construct it, mulch for the area AND a picnic bench. The total cost of all the items was well over \$5,000.

In the fall of 2013, Father Tom, Kathleen Voss and Mike Volpone examined the old playground and realized that it was not salvageable. It was becoming unsafe for the children to play on. We had it on good authority that Mr. Kaseman was interested in helping us with the purchase of a new playground. He and his wife Terri were responsible for much of the construction of the Hamilton playground. Dan and Kathleen worked together over the fall and winter to find the right set for the space that was available. Their goal was to make the playground safe and appealing, a place that families can use all year long and not just on Sunday mornings!

The historic snowfall of 2014 and the torrential rain in the spring, put the project on hold for a few weeks! "There were times when we thought that building an Ark would be a more appropriate project!" Once the weather cleared and with the help of **Joe and Tanya Matthews**, for their donation of topsoil, **the Brzozowsky family** for their kind monetary donation and **Boy Scout Troop 39**, who raked the mulch and framed the area, the playground started to take shape.



Playground Dedication Prayer

Mr. Kaseman did much of the work himself, often coming to the church to trim limbs, grass seed the area and rake out the mulch in his spare time.

The beautiful bright morning on September 14th provided the perfect backdrop for the dedication! Joined by members of the congregation, teachers and children from the Sunday School and Youth Programs, we were able to say a heartfelt **"THANK YOU" to the Kasemans** for their kindness and generous spirit. Father Tom blessed the playground with a laying on of hands and we all enjoyed lemonade and donuts ... with the joyous sounds of children's laughter playing in the background!



Thanksgiving plaque hanging on the play set



By Kathleen Voss, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries

Youth Program:

On September 6th our youth group decided not to sleep in this first Saturday morning after the first week of school! Instead, they woke up early, put on their jeans, packed a bag lunch and went over to Camp Highroad in Middleburg to participate in the teambuilding ropes course and zip line. Joined by Father Tom and Tricia Smith our group of 12 teenagers (13-16) had a great, albeit exhausting day!



CAMP HIGHROAD—September 2014

"I was scared at first, before the zip line but it was actually fun!" said Megan Smith. "I think it helped us work better as a team!"

"The rope challenges were a little boring; my favorite one was the balance board! The zip line was cool!" said Megan Czaban

Camp Highroad's Team Challenge Course builds communication, cooperation and trust by helping groups to face challenges as a team. The course is made up of 20+ low level (max = 10ft high) challenge obstacles spread throughout the woods. Teams who bond and work well together progress to challenges that are harder and

higher. For groups, 5th grade and up, looking for an additional challenge that will push individuals to their limits, their 40' tall, 400' long zip wire is available with low-ropes sessions or as a stand-alone activity! The day DID bring teambuilding and the bravery of the young people doing the zip line was inspiring!

For those of you who live within about 10 miles of Camp Highroad, you may have heard Mrs. Voss's screams as she descended the 400' foot zip wire! Father Tom thinks that she should try out for the choir!

This was the first youth outing of the year. Other plans include, Temple Corn Maize in the fall, roller skating, movie nights, hiking, paintball and laser tag! Keep an eye on your email and the Good News for upcoming dates and times.

Youth Events—October 2014

- Saturday, 10/11 Fellowship Hike (see p. 8)
- Friday, 10/24 Join your friends as we navigate Temple Hall Farm CORN MAIZE in the dark!!! Meet at the maize by 6 PM. St Pete's will be paying the price of admission but bring some money for snacks. Parents are welcome to stay and get lost with us! Please let Kathleen Voss know if you plan to attend by October 19th, she will provide further information at that time.



CAMP HIGHROAD—September 2014



CAMP HIGHROAD—September 2014

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2014, AT 5:00PM



Annelies

First Congregational
United Church of Christ
945 G St., NW, Washington, DC
(Metro Center, parking available)

For tickets, visit
Thomascirclesingers.org

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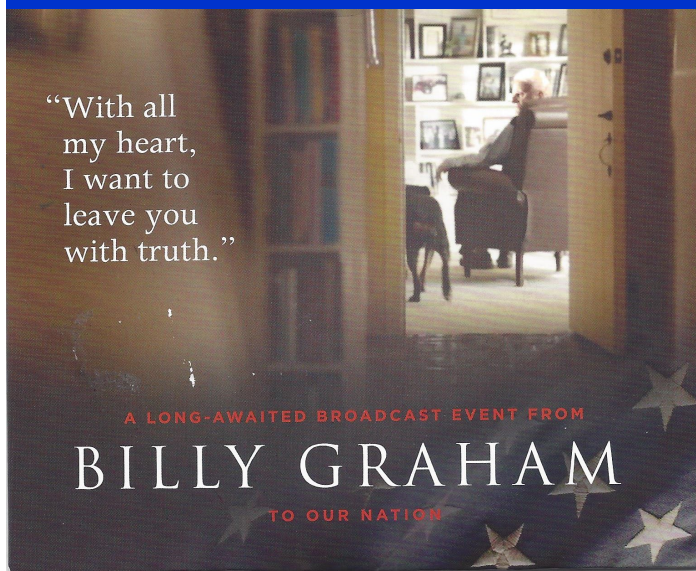
Bob and Barbara Verdire sing with the Thomas Circle Singers, a chamber choral ensemble with a dual mission: to perform diverse choral works for the enjoyment of audiences in the Washington, D.C. area and to raise awareness and funds for organizations that address the pressing needs of the city's underserved citizens. For over three decades, TCS concerts have raised funds and awareness for organizations serving the homeless and hungry, children, seniors and families at risk, the sick, and victims of violence in Washington, DC. TCS donates concert ticket proceeds to nonprofit organizations every year and has raised over \$100,000 for worthy causes.

The group's first concert this season offers the Washington D.C. premiere of a work with a timely and compelling focus.

Have you read "The Diary of Anne Frank"? If you did, do you remember your response to Anne's thoughts and images of daily life, a life changed by a war that forced her to live in hiding behind a bookcase in the secret annex? Can you imagine the impact of this material set to music?

This month, on **Sunday, October 19th at 5PM** the Thomas Circle Singers will perform the Washington, D.C. premiere of "**Annelies**," the first major choral setting of The Diary of Anne Frank set to music by James Whitbourn. His dramatic music complements the personal thoughts and feelings of Anne — brought to life in Melanie Challenger's libretto. This special performance will be enhanced by a variety of media to help the audience see, hear, and feel this incredible story of ordinary people during extraordinarily terrible times.

For tickets, visit Thomascirclesingers.org



DVD Review – by Wynell and Jim Schatz

My Hope America “The Cross” with Billy Graham

Maybe some of you have already viewed this very inspirational video online at <http://billygraham.org/video/the-cross-easter/>. We learned of it at the NRA National Prayer Breakfast, hosted by Franklin Graham, in April in Indianapolis. The DVD contains the feature presentation called “The Cross” and three shorter bonus feature stories to include one in Spanish.

This heartwarming, beautifully produced video highlights stories of rich, successful celebrities and sports stars that had “everything” and yet through their personal journeys realized they had nothing without a relationship with God and Jesus. It masterfully switches between hard hitting statements by Billy Graham, today still spreading the good news in his home, videos of Billy Graham during his notable public sermons, and a cross erecting sequence that energizes the mind with those seen seeking the cross.

Graham explains that our country is in great need of a spiritual awakening and describes in an eloquent but powerful way the meaning of The Cross, the real cross of Christ, and that there is no way to salvation except through the cross of Christ. He leaves the viewer with this message that is well worth passing on to others, notably those in need, lost in the search for peace, hope and a meaning in life.

One of the films’ best quotes is from Christian rapper, Lecrae Moore, who says “Jesus lived the life I could not live and died the death I should have died”.

We found the message in this DVD too useful and inspiring not to share it with others. Recently we mailed some sixty copies to family, friends and associates, many believers in God and other not so much. The response has been very positive.

To order “The Cross” or preorder “Heaven” (due out in November), available as a single copy at no charge, go to secure.billygraham.org/myhope/myhope.aspx or call Ruth’s Attic Bookstore (866) 526-7173.

HERO Movie Available Now on DVD

George Escobar and **Michael Snyder**, Co-Founders of Advent Film Group and Producers of *Alone Yet Not Alone* have recently had another movie they produced, *HERO*, released on DVD. Shown this summer at St. Pete’s Men’s Breakfast, it was enthusiastically received. But you don’t have to take our word for it—look what Dr. Ted Baehr, film critic and founder of MOVIEGUIDE®, had to say in his review of *HERO*:

“*HERO* is a movie about fathers and sons. It opens with Joe coaching his son David’s baseball team, the Gappers to the state championship. Seven years later, Joe returns to town. He had left to pursue fame and fortune to support the family. His wife, Hannah, is stricken and dying of cancer. David is angry that Joe left them. After Hannah’s funeral, Joe moves back into the house, but David is still angry. Meanwhile, David is coaching the Gappers, but the team loses more than it wins. Joe steps in to get the fathers involved with their sons and turn the team of losers into winners.

“*HERO* is an excellent, faith-filled low budget movie about God turning a man’s heart to his son and a son learning to forgive his father. The opening is powerful. The ending is heartrending. In fact, the drama, the acting, the jeopardy work well throughout the whole movie. For a low budget, faith-filled movie, this is incredible. *HERO* will touch your heart, your mind and your soul. It has a strong, inspiring Christian worldview, with many positive messages. *HERO* is a movie about the estranged relationship between a father and his son, who learn how to reconcile using faith and baseball. *HERO* is a wonderful, faith-filled sports drama about God turning a man’s heart to his son and a son learning to forgive his father. It will touch your heart, your mind and your soul.

“*HERO* could get the award for most improved movie, since MOVIEGUIDE first saw a rough cut a few years ago. That said, it is better than most improved. The opening is powerful. The ending is heartrending. In fact, the drama, the acting, the jeopardy work well throughout the whole movie. For a low budget, faith-filled movie, this is incredible.

The filmmakers behind *HERO* are to be commended. This is one of the few movies that MOVIEGUIDE® can actually say go see it. *HERO* will touch your heart, your mind and your soul.”





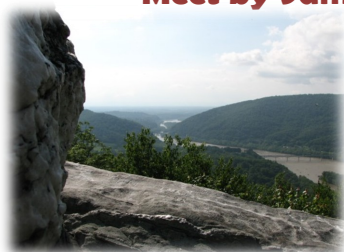
St. Pete's Fellowship Hike

Saturday 11 October - 9am till Noon



Join us for the first in a series of Fellowship Hikes @ the Short Hill and the Potomac River. This hike we'll stop at "The Cross" at Pinnacle Rock for a prayer and the reading of some scripture and then walk on to Eagle Point, sit and have breakfast and then on to Buzzard Rock overlook for outstanding views west "Between the Hills". All ages are welcome *BUT this one is a strenuous 1200 foot ascent that will challenge even the best casual hikers.* Well behaved kids and dogs are welcome. Bring water, breakfast favorites, binos, cameras, tick/bug spray, your favorite short piece of scripture to read to the group and your hiking gear. Camp chairs are optional.

Meet by 9am at 10975 Georges Mill Road, Lovettsville, VA 20180



Please RSVP to Jim Schatz @ schted@aol.com or via phone (571) 276-7042 by 4 October so we can get a head count. Rain date Saturday 25 October.

Our next Fellowship Hike (date TBD) will be a bit easier along the "flats" of the historic River Road and the Potomac River past Peacher's Mill to "Devil's Elbow".

Sanctuary

Art and architecture in the presence of God's praying and worshipping people take on a special quality, and a thinness develops where some of God's transcendence can be detected. Even a humble school auditorium, when used for worship long enough, can become imbued with holiness. And with ears to hear and eyes to see and souls open to notice, you can sense the properties of heaven – the unseen that overlaps the seen – wherever the Church worships. As though the building itself takes delight in this special service, and finds some way to show forth its joy in serving.

The worship space of my own church community is an airy, high-ceilinged space, with large clear windows to let in light, and a stained glass behind the altar that does amazing things to the light that enters. And that is where I usually feel I can detect God's presence alive in this space. But other worship spaces have other qualities – different ways of transmitting light – or sound – or texture – or fragrance – or mood. What qualities of your worship place convey for you God's unseen presence?

"Sanctuary..."

How delightful to wait in the quiet nave,
to settle... then to simply be.

Alone - does no one long to share this quiet pause?

The world, it seems, is all awash in sound and fury,
even "the country" succumbing to the din!
Ah, but here, this blessed place -
space -
capturing and marking out a quiet void,
filling it with light and Peace.

Such a lovely quality to this light,
made heavy by its delicate lack,
absence lending weight to light.

Light enlivened by colored glass,
reflections,
refractions,
and unheard echoes of other worlds....
Air that is alive with stillness!

In a world gone mad with sound,
a gentle balm for the soul,
and sanctuary....

People of The Way

By Fr. Tom Simmons

Early Christians were known as the People of The Way.

They were known for their love of their neighbor, fellowship in the breaking of bread, and their commitment to follow the life and practice of Jesus. The Apostle Paul confessed to worship God according to The Way (Acts 24:14). Jesus shows us that the way to life abundant is through the practices of prayer, forgiveness, giving, and love to all, especially to those who live on the margins of society. Jesus leads us on The Way into the heart of God.

At Saint Peter's we call this "our journey with Jesus." We join that journey with all these other people walking with Jesus into the new world he is making. Jesus walks with us every step of the way, one step at a time. He's warmly inviting and patiently challenging us to "take the next step" of trusting obedience and adventurous faith in our pilgrimage.



The wider Christian world has seen a resurgence in taking pilgrimage over the last decade— a spiritual undertaking to gain insight, clarity and purpose of what it means to be a People of the Way. Whether it is the Camino de Santiago Competella in France and Spain, the Via Francigena in Italy, or following the footsteps of Jesus in the Holy Land, the purpose of pilgrimage is to journey to the unfamiliar to find new life in Christ.

On pilgrimage, you only carry what you need; most guides tell you to only carry 10% of your body weight. On pilgrimage, you stay focused on the necessities of life: food, water, physical health, a place to sleep, the hospitality and kindness of others. On pilgrimage, you learn to give and receive in gratitude, recognizing that what is given comes from the provision and grace of God. On pilgrimage, a deep trust in God emerges and permeates the journey.

How can we bring the pilgrimage experience to our day-to-day living? How does the spiritual practice of giving shape us into being a People of the Way? How is Jesus calling you and me to "take the next step" in your journey? It is different for different people. What is it for you?

We've distilled many of the steps into our Simple Ancient Disciplines to guide us in our journey week-to-week. In the month ahead we will focus on the spiritual practice of giving.

We'll have a series of speakers and bulletin inserts reflecting on the why and how of "taking the next step" in giving, which Jesus is calling each of us to take.

Wisdom on Stewardship from Sirach:

"Be generous when you worship the Lord, and do not stint the first fruits of your hands. With every gift show a cheerful face, and dedicate your tithe with gladness. Give to the Most High as he has given to you, and as generously as you can afford. For the Lord is the one who repays, and he will repay you sevenfold."

Sirach 35:10-13

The Simple Ancient Disciplines

As followers of Jesus Christ we grow into the people God made us to be by learning, living and sharing the Gospel.

We learn the Gospel by:

- *Living in Christian community*
- *Learning Holy Scripture*

We live the Gospel by:

- *Worshipping weekly*
- *Praying daily*
- *Giving sacrificially*

We share the Gospel by:

- *Working in ministry*
- *Sharing our faith*

Doing these disciplines will change your life. This is the life of "discipleship", which helps us reorder our lives around God's purpose, so we can experience more and more of the healing, peace and wholeness Jesus promised.

MISSION: Subject to Change without Notice!

What I did on my mission/teaching visit to Africa.

By Mark Riley, Seminarian

The road to Tanzania has been a long and complicated one. It began last May (2013) when we first began to discuss the opportunity for a mission with a teaching and evangelical emphasis. We were invited to teach in Renk, South Sudan, at the Renk Theological College, by our friend and former classmate, Principal Jacob Panchol Majok.

Due to unexpected events, the initial mission to Renk was canceled due to unrest in the country. For all of January, we anxiously watched as the circumstances in South Sudan worsened, and we could do nothing but pray. There were talks of rescheduling or re-imagining the mission to South Sudan, but the situation never improved; the fighting intensified to civil war, and the mission to Renk became hopeless.

However, in February, with the tireless help of the faculty and staff of Virginia Theological Seminary, as well as some people on the ground in Tanzania, a new opportunity for mission surfaced: a chance to teach and evangelize in Tanzania.

At lightning speed, we worked to revise our curriculum, learn about the culture, history, and people of Tanzania, and reflect on the cultural, missional, and evangelical theologies that form our understanding of mission. We were less than a week away from leaving for Tanzania, when we learned the most valuable lesson a missionary can learn:

MISSION: Subject to Change without Notice!

To better meet the needs of the Anglican Province of Tanzania, the Archbishop of Tanzania requested that our mission be relocated to St. Philip's College in Kongwa, Tanzania. With a transformed mission, a new destination, and fuller understanding of the fluidity of mission, we left for three weeks in Kongwa.

We were excited to meet the needs of the seminarians and faculty of St. Philip's in the best way we could and worked nonstop to accomplish the most important tasks in the few days prior to our departure. In the span of under a week, we had to shift our focus from engaging/teaching the Gospel of Mark and introductory Greek to a group of experienced clergy, where we expected to both teach and learn about their perspective on the Gospel, to a completely new set of requirements.

We were asked to teach Acts, Romans, the Gospel of John and Hebrews to students who were preparing for their Provincial Exams. These were books that had not been covered as fully as

the Principal would have liked, so they asked us to help the students prepare. Two of us taught the first and second year students Acts and Romans and the other team of two taught Hebrews and John to the third year students.

It was a rigorous schedule that included two hours of teaching and tutoring Greek every afternoon. On average, each team taught five to six hours a day, which also meant we spent at least that much time preparing each evening. The students were excited to learn and were fully engaged every moment, so while a grueling pace for us, their passion for learning and love of God inspired us.

The students mirrored our energy and continuously engaged us in activities when we were not in the classroom. We worshipped with them, shared meals, tea breaks, and even sports activities. On the whole, the people of Tanzania are filled with joy and love, especially for visitors, and they take hospitality to whole new level!

Before our trip we were learning about the socio-economic challenges faced throughout Africa and how that can negatively impact so many of the countries (South Sudan as one example). Tanzania has had a stable government and peace for over 50 years, and while many of the people live with very little, they do not consider themselves to be impoverished. They have a sense of pride and hospitality that is truly inspiring. If they spend any time at all in comparing themselves to others, it is simply because they are trying to see how they can give whatever they have extra to another person in need. I was overwhelmed by their generosity and found it a little ironic that we were being asked to teach them about the Book of Acts, while they seemed to embody the ethos of the early Christian Church.

On the last evening of our stay, everyone from St. Philips came and celebrated our time there. There was wonderful food, sincere speeches and gifts exchanged, prayer, dancing, singing, and a night filled with great love and joy!

My friend and classmate at VTS, Emmanuel Madinda, taught me very important lesson before I left, explaining: "Many people come to Africa in the hopes of changing Africa, and some do. You must remember that you may or may not change Africa my friend, but Africa WILL change you."

Having returned after only three short, action packed weeks, I realize that I am forever changed, and thanks be to God for every bit of that change!

Mark Riley teaching in Tanzania





The Autumn Plant Fair & Festival was a Success in spite of cool and rainy weather!

It was successful due to those who came forward to help with their gifts of time, treasure and talent. Delicious pastry, mouthwatering BBQ, and abundant beautiful plants were offered.

The goal was reached and we are able to supply our sister church in Caldwell Liberia with desks for their school!

Thanks be to God. Sincere thanks to all. **Jean Kuhns**

*Congratulations to the winner of the Garden Basket Raffle, **Leigh Psaltos**.*

St. Peter's annual United Thank Offering collection, sponsored by the Mt. Calvary Guild, will be on October 12

The United Thank Offering addresses compelling human need through grants to projects that alleviate poverty, both domestically and internationally, within the Anglican provinces, dioceses, and companion dioceses. In participating, you are sharing your offering with ministries that are concerned with the needs of others and the mission of the Church.

You may wish to involve your family by having each member place an offering in a UTO box as they praise God and thank Him for the specific needs that He has met in their lives.

Please pick up your UTO box or envelope in the narthex and return it in the offering plate on October 12th. Please make checks payable to St. Peter's with "UTO" on the memo line.

The Mt. Calvary Guild will present St. Peter's UTO offering at the Episcopal Church Women 124th Annual Meeting & 126th United Thank Offering Ingathering on October 16th at All Saints Episcopal Church, Richmond.

To learn more about The United Thank Offering see the information packet next to the basket of UTO boxes and envelopes on the table in the narthex or visit www.ecusa.anglican.org.

Casa Chirilagua

St. Peter's hosted our fifth annual outing at Great Country Farms for the Casa Chirilagua Kid's Club on August 23rd. Casa Chirilagua is a Christian ministry to Latino immigrant families in the Alexandria area supported by St. Peter's. Parents and kids enjoyed a tractor ride, picking apples, visiting the farm animals and a lunch with the St. Peter's hosts. Thank you hosts, and a special thanks to **Nancy Baker** who has packed lunches for everyone in all our past years. Also, thanks to the wonderful folks at Great Country Farms who have consistently welcomed us to their farm at no expense to us.



St. Peter's takes up a collection each summer to buy **elementary school supply packs** for Casa Chirilagua children. This year we set an ambitious goal of 36 packs at \$25 each. We are happy to report that we made our goal! Thank you St. Peter's for this blessing to immigrant children.

Reserve seats online at
<http://bit.ly/10142014>

Join 1st Choice Women's Health Center
For our 20th Anniversary Gala Celebration

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2014
AT THE
HILTON WASHINGTON DULLES AIRPORT

WITH SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER, ERIC METAXAS

<http://bit.ly/10142014>

Seating begins at 6:30 p.m.

Dinner & Program 6:45 to 9:30 p.m.

Dinner is complimentary. An opportunity to make a financial contribution will be extended.

Please call today if you'd like to make a banquet underwriting gift, 703-729-1124.



FEATURED SPEAKER
NEW YORK TIMES
Best Selling Author Eric Metaxas



Edible Cornucopias

If you're planning a harvest party, set up a snack station so people can fill their own edible cornucopias.

What you need:

- Waffle cones
- Bowls
- Spoons
- Toppings (chocolate chips, nuts, pretzels, fish-shaped crackers, candy corn, dried cranberries, yogurt-covered raisins, etc.)

What you do:

1. Set up the table, placing each topping in a bowl. Place a spoon in each bowl.
2. Invite friends to create their own cornucopia by spooning chosen goodies into their waffle cones.
3. Enjoy!

A promise to the earth

After the flood in Genesis, God promised to “never again ... destroy all living creatures” (Genesis 8:21, NIV).

Directions: Using the picture clues below, write each small word in the blanks to complete God's promise in Genesis 8:22, NIV.

“As long as the ____ th

____ ures, ____ ____

and har ____ , c ____ ____

and h ____ , 1+2= [?] ____ mer

and ____ ter, day and night

w ____ n ____ r ____ cease.”

GENESIS 8:22, NIV

Answer: As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.” (Genesis 8:22, NIV)



Blessing of the Animals

On The Feast of St. Francis Sunday

October 5th—10:30am

If you share St. Francis' love for all God's creatures, bring them to this liturgy for a special blessing and to express how much we are blessed by them.

All creatures great and small are invited, even stuffed animals if you wish.



St. Peter's OCTOBER ROSTER 2014

		Oct. 5	Oct. 12	Oct. 19	Oct. 26
		Blessing of Animals			
		17 Pentecost	18 Pentecost	19 Pentecost	20 Pentecost
LECTORS	Early	Jesse Brown	Corrine Hegener	Drew Lavan	Mark Baker
	Late	Jon Corbett	Eamon Coy	Bill Geiger	Patti Flowers
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Early	Buddy Andrews, Sophiann Nunaley	Peter Schellhase, Buddy Andrews	John Burden, Judy Hall	Gail Donohue, Paul Donohue
	Late	Shane Ayers, Lauren Hunt	Shane Ayers, Randy Stoutenburgh	Dave Hunt, Dave Grommon	Linda Stoutenburgh, Randy Stoutenburgh
SUB DEACON	Early	Mark Riley	Tanya Matthews	Mark Riley	Mark Riley
	Late	Mark Riley	Linda Stoutenburgh	Mark Riley	Mark Riley
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	Early	Kelly Cockrill	Terry Duhring	Dell Nunaley	HL
	Late	Marty Thompson	Bill Geiger	Traci Eddinger	HL
ACOLYTES	Early	Aubrey & Addie Winger, John Matthews	Michael, Katherine, & Bridget Wagstaff	Joshua & Megan Smith, Eric Gibson	Ciara, Kimberly & Colin Donohue, Isabella Tucker
	Late	Katya Clavelli, Jonathan LaPre, Henry Psaltos	Chris Hunt, George & Henry Simmons	Dan LaPre, Shane Ayers, Lauren Hunt, Peter Forbes	Katya Clavelli, Jonathan LaPre, Henry Psaltos
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS	Early	Mark & Nancy Baker, Don & Krista Winger	Rick & Kelly Cockrill, Paula Reardon, Debbie Pappas	Mike & Maggie Snyder, Bob Loker, Jesse Brown	Paul & Gail Donohue, Peter & Erin Schellhase
	Late	Eamon & Jenn Coy, Kurt & Melissa Nordstrom	Sven Johnson & Pat Long, Billy & Nancy Dillon	Ben & Anna Curtis, Mark & Katie McKinley	David & Amy Smith, Ryan & Mandi Walsh
USHERS	Early	Todd & Pam Johnston, Bill & Beth Gibson	Doug & Elizabeth Wagstaff, Mark & Nancy Baker	Rick & Kelly Cockrill, Paul Miller & Laurraine Landolt	John Sleeter, Dick Wilhelm, Mark & Jack Novak
	Late	Ed & Georgia Poe, Bill & Renee Geiger	Ben & Anna Curtis, Eamon & Jenn Coy	David Weiss, Tred Parry, Jimmy Eddinger, Billy Dillon	Susan Collins, Sandy Wehr, Marty & Erica Thompson
GREETERS	Early	Peter & Erin Schellhase	Corrine & Hank Hegener	Dell Nunaley	Mark Baker
	Late	Nissa Clavelli	Peter Forbes	John Israel	Steve Schultz
TELLERS		Pat Long & Sven Johnson	Howard & Linda Evans	Joe Clavelli, Rick Tyler	Pat Long & Sven Johnson
ALTAR GUILD		Bobbie Wilhelm, Jean Kuhns, Chris Lafferty, Ruth Ensor, Anna Curtis	Bobbie Wilhelm, Jean Kuhns, Chris Lafferty, Ruth Ensor, Anna Curtis	Bobbie Wilhelm, Jean Kuhns, Chris Lafferty, Ruth Ensor, Anna Curtis	Esther Kilgour, Sophiann Nunaley, Nancy Baker, Maggie Heim

If you are unable to fulfill your ministry on a day you are assigned, please (1) find your replacement and (2) notify the church office of the change in schedule. Thank you for serving!

OCTOBER Anniversaries and Birthdays

*If your name is missing from this list,
please contact the church office.*

ANNIVERSARIES:

10-1 Peter & Erin Schellhase
10-7 Kyle & Kathleen Voss
10-9 Billy & Nancy Dillon
Paul Miller & Laurraine Landolt
10-11 Dave & Debra Grommons
10-12 Marty & Erica Thompson
10-22 Randy & Linda Stoutenburgh

BIRTHDAYS:

10-1 Brad Kilgour
Jordan Smith
10-2 Chris Duhring
Reagan Field
Luke Harris
10-4 Sarah-Jane Corbett
Steve Sicking
Mary V. Simmons
10-6 Eckard Holdorf
Marty Thompson
10-7 Kelsey Baker
Ollie North
10-8 Una LaPre
Michael Walsh
10-9 Sophie Brzozowsky
Nancy Dillon
10-12 Robert Nunaley
10-13 James Israel
Jane Thompson
10-14 Ian Sicking
10-15 Aidan Bidgood
10-16 Matthew Walsh
10-18 Susan Collins
10-19 Nissa Clavelli
10-22 Lucas Kazem
Nancy Sheys
10-23 Levi Coy
Mason Field
10-25 Margo Cross
10-26 Marie Heim
10-27 Mary Hoeltzel
10-28 Shiloh Field



Be In-The-Know!

You can be the first to receive important announcements, the *St. Pete's Weekly*, and the *Good News* by signing up on our website.

Under "**Signup Opportunities**" click on "**Signup for St. Peter's announcements and news**" and enter your name and email address. It's as simple as that!

Mark Your Calendar!

Oct. 1 Mission Team Mtg. 5:00pm
Oct. 3 Marriage Alpha 6:30pm
Oct. 4 Men's Breakfast 7am
Sundaes on Saturdays 6pm
Oct. 5 Blessing of the Animals 10:30am
Baptism Prep Class 12:30pm
Lay Committee Mtg. 12:30pm
Oct. 7 Vestry Ministry Mtg. 7pm
Oct. 10 Marriage Alpha 6:30pm
Oct. 11 Fellowship Hike 9am
Sundaes on Saturdays 6pm
Baptism Prep Class 12:30pm
Oct. 13 Washington Prayer Gathering 1pm
Oct. 14 Vestry Exec Mtg. 7pm
Oct. 16 TOL Dinner 4pm

Oct. 17 Vestry Visioning Retreat
Marriage Alpha 6:30pm
Oct. 18 Vestry Visioning Retreat
Men's Leadership Mtg. 7am
Literary Guild 5pm
Oct. 19 Newsletter Deadline
Baptism Prep Class 12:30pm
Oct. 20 Mt. Calvary 10am
Oct. 21 Vestry Mtg. 7pm
Oct. 24 Marriage Alpha 6:30pm
Oct. 25 Parish Work Day
Oct. 26 Healing Liturgy
Baptism Prep Class 12:30pm
Oct. 28 Pastoral Care Team 5pm

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for OCTOBER

Date	Sunday	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
5	17 Pentecost	Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20	19	Philippians 3:4b-14	Matthew 21:33-46
12	18 Pentecost	Exodus 32:1-14	106:1-6, 19-23	Philippians 4:1-9	Matthew 22:1-14
19	19 Pentecost	Exodus 33:12-23	99	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-22
26	20 Pentecost	Deuteronomy 34:1-12	90:1-6, 13-17	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Matthew 22:34-46



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 HOLY EUCHARIST Mission Team Mtg. MSSG Bible Study	2 Choir	3 Marriage Alpha	4 Men's Breakfast HOLY EUCHARIST Sundaes on Saturdays
5 HOLY EUCHARIST Blessing of Animals Choristers & CS Lay Committee Mtg Baptism Class Bible Study	6	7 Vestry Ministry Mtg	8 HOLY EUCHARIST MSSG Bible Study	9 Choir	10 Marriage Alpha	11 Fellowship Hike HOLY EUCHARIST Sundaes on Saturdays
12 HOLY EUCHARIST Sunday School & SF Choristers & CS Baptism Class Bible Study	13 Washington Prayer Gathering	14 Vestry Exec Mtg	15 HOLY EUCHARIST MSSG Bible Study	16 TOL Dinner Choir	17 Marriage Alpha Vestry Retreat	18 Men's Leadership Mtg Vestry Retreat Literary Guild HOLY EUCHARIST Sundaes on Saturdays
19 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> HOLY EUCHARIST Sunday School & SF Choristers & CS Baptism Class Bible Study	20 Mt. Calvary Guild	21 Vestry Mtg.	22 HOLY EUCHARIST MSSG Bible Study	23 Choir	24 Youth Corn Maize Marriage Alpha	25 PARISH WORKDAY HOLY EUCHARIST
26 Healing Liturgy HOLY EUCHARIST Sunday School & SF Choristers & CS Baptism Class Bible Study	27	28 PC Team Mtg.	29 HOLY EUCHARIST MSSG Bible Study	30 Choir	31	

Key: CS=Choral Scholars; MSSG=Men's Spiritual Support Group; PC=Pastoral Care; SF=Spiritual Formation Classes; TOL=Tree of Life



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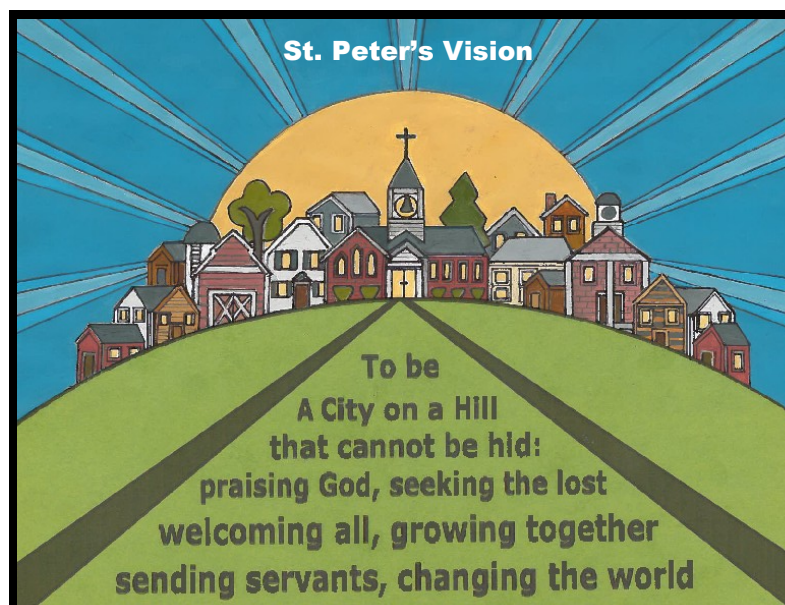
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