



Ring in the **Good News**

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

September 2016

Purcellville, Virginia

Pentecost Season

Inside this issue:

From the Rector: 2 God, The Body and You	
Welcome 4 Seminarian: Michael Whitnah	
Bible Studies 4 Resume	
Notes from 5 Music Corner	
K-8th Grade 6 Sunday School	
High School & 7 Adult Christian Formation Classes	
Guatemala 8 Mission Trip	
Eric Kandakai 10	
Cross Raising 11	
Plant Sale 11	
Kidz Page 12	
Service Roster 13	
Special Dates 14 & Lectionary	
Calendar 15	

Join us for a Cross Raising & Blessing
6pm, Friday September 30



See page 11 for details



God, The Body and You

By Fr. Tom Simmons

The God of the Bible is unique among all the gods named in human faith. Our Lord is both "above it all" AND "part of it all". In philosophical terms, God is BOTH transcendent and

immanent.

All the gods of the world's religions are EITHER transcendent OR immanent. For example, on one hand there is Islam, in which Allah is a god of extreme transcendence. "Allah akbar!" On the other hand, there is Hinduism, where god is so "part of it all" that god is indistinguishable from "it all". "All is One," or Brahman. The God of the Bible is as transcendent as Allah AND as intimately present in creation as Brahman.

In the Bible's narrative **the great God has come down. The Big One was born a human being. He is Jesus. With a human face he showed us who God is. He lived as one of us and made the distant God present to us. He did what was needed to reconcile our broken relationship with God, and restore us to rejoice in God's presence.**

But Jesus' time with us on earth was limited. Having completed his mission he returned to the Father. Just before he left Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit, who would extend Jesus' presence through the Church and to each of us. "Behold" he said, **"I am with you always."**

He sent the Holy Spirit to complete his work in the world, to make the whole creation new. He does it through us. God the **Holy Spirit brings the divine presence near** to each of us and to our community gathered in worship. God's Spirit moves among us in our study and proclamation of his word, and sharing the sacraments in the liturgy. The Spirit of Christ moves among us as we love and support one another, and as we go forth to serve the needy people all around us, struggling in a world darkened by pride and fear and craving.

God the Holy Spirit knits our fellowship together and empowers each one of us with a distinct calling to serve. He gives us "spiritual gifts" which enable YOU to contribute something unique - rooted in your passion and competence and ability - to build up the whole. **St Paul calls us "the Body of Christ"** and as the body has many limbs, organs and systems working together to make the body healthy, so each of us work together to make our community whole.

With each of us growing and serving together we fulfill our full potential as God's people and do our part with

Jesus to make the world new. We've been doing well at it here at St Peter's. And I believe the Spirit of Christ is **leading us to be even more faithful and effective** in the year ahead. God is so glorious and active in our midst. There are many opportunities to be part of the action here.

A big part of being a "body" means buildings and grounds. Building, maintaining, enhancing the beauty and usefulness of our structures and expanding them so our "form" better fits our "function" as God's people -called-to-mission.

The big news this summer has been the progress we've made to renovate McCray Hall. The shiny new ovens, handsome paneling, trim, painting (and coming window treatments and new floors) have transformed that space. It now does a much better job on Sunday mornings for our coffee hour fellowship, Sunday school class gatherings, and serving the groups who meet here during the week. It also makes McCray Hall much more appealing as an upscale rental venue, and the new home of Good Shepherd Montessori school.

I'm SO grateful for the work of Joe Matthews as Junior Warden, and Steve Schultz and members of the Expansion and Renovation Committee for finally moving us forward. It's been a LONG time coming! Many people have invested many dollars and dreams and good ideas and effort to make this a reality, and it's been a meandering journey getting here. That makes it all the more exceedingly exciting to finally see such progress on our facilities renovation.

Thank you all for our new McCray Hall!

For those who don't know the story behind the name "McCray" please allow me to tell you that story.

Who Was Mr. McCray?

As we discuss renovating and expanding McCray Hall some people wonder, "Who was Mr. McCray?" Here's what we know about him. Robert Janney McCray was one of our most distinguished members of Saint Peter's. He was a leader of life-long influence in the church and surrounding community.

Elected to the Vestry in 1913, at age 27, he served alongside his father, Edgar McCray. When his dad died in 1918, Vestry minutes report that he was "elected to succeed his father as Treasurer". He served on the Vestry until his death in 1964, working with 10 different rectors over 50 years.

(Continued on page 3)

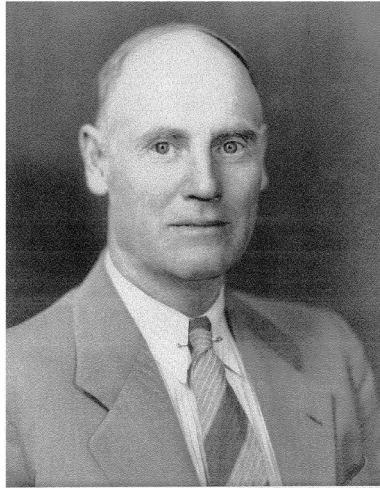
(Continued from page 2)

McCray's leadership was ubiquitous. Present at virtually every Vestry meeting, his reports covered everything from the cesspool at the old Rectory, to redrawing Madison Parish boundaries. As senior Warden his hands-on leadership was instrumental in building the new Rectory in 1950, and our current facility in 1963, in which his name is immortalized.

The congregation unanimously passed the following resolution in his memory.

"Whereas: Robert Janney McCray was concerned with the erection of Saint Peter's parish house and especially interested that we have a parish hall suitable for the use of young people of the community as well as for other church activities...

"Therefore be it Resolved: That the parish hall of Saint Peter's Church be dedicated to his memory and henceforth shall be known as "McCray Hall."



McCray's influence was felt far outside the four walls of the church. At the Loudoun Hospital he served 40 years on the board, and also as president and chairman of board of trustees. A plaque in the hospital eloquently praised him: "Broad in vision, perceptive in judgment, generous in spirit and untiring in his work; a sincere person who possessed a remarkable insight into human nature. His service to the hospital was of profound importance to its development."

It was said that "The nurses loved him. Whenever there was a dispute between doctors and nurses they'd call him in to help. He had a way of resolving it very peacefully."

He worked till the day he died. Literally. He passed away at age 78 in the car driving home to Liberty Hall Farm, in Hamilton. He had just left his retirement ceremony as president of the Mutual Fire Insurance Co. of Loudoun. On his wrist was the gold watch awarded him for 50 years of service.

His granddaughter, Ann Wheeler of Charlotte, North Carolina, was with him when he died. She described her memories as a seven-year-old, sitting next to her grandfather in the car. Mr. McCray had just picked her up from school. As they inched their way through town, in traffic delayed by construction (the more things change in Purcellville the more they stay the same!), Mr. McCray suffered cardiac arrest. To his granddaughter, the sun rose and set on him. "Granddad was my best friend," she said. His death was the biggest loss of her life, and a huge loss for Saint Peter's.

St. Peter's has long been, as our Vision Statement now declares, "A city on a hill that cannot be hid... sending servants, changing the world." Robert Janney McCray was one of our brightest lights, bringing the influence of Jesus Christ into the public square in very practical ways. As a follower of Jesus he generously invested his character and gifts, his skills and wealth for the common good of our county.

Now we seek to renovate and expand the hall that bears his name, to further expand our ability to welcome, feed, and serve the people of Purcellville and members of Saint Peter's.

Whew What a Summer!

It's been quite a summer! Used to be I'd take off a week each, after Christmas and Easter, and two weeks at the end of July for vacation, followed by a week on retreat in August. That's changed this year! This year we stayed put the Sunday after Christmas and Easter to welcome visitors who came back the Sunday after the big seasonal services. And instead of two weeks at the beach it was one...in *early* July!

My annual prayer retreat was actually spent here, in the office, prepping for my big teaching weekend with Colonel North at Officer's Christian Fellowship in early August. And there was also that week in June among the Mennonites in Indiana for my new board role at CMI. And remember back in April I had the CREDO conference, hosted by the Church Pension Fund, in which clergy carve out a week in a beautiful place with professional faculty to refocus and rebalance and revive our sense of call to ministry. During the week we focused on our spiritual life, financial life, physical and emotional health, and vocational priorities.

In all it was a great summer, very insightful, and a big help for me to get squared away after a challenging year, and after running hard the last five years since my sabbatical in 2011. It was good to change up the schedule, to take the summer at a different pace. I must say, however, it's nice to be back on schedule!

—Fr. Tom

We welcome our new Seminarian, Michael Whitnah

One of the first questions people tend to ask when being introduced is, "So, where are you from?" I was born in VA, moved to CT for middle and high school, spent college and a year in Boston, married and relocated to PA, enjoyed a year in New Zealand, and am now back in VA for seminary at Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS). So, the I-95 corridor, except for New York. My wife Joanna is Massachusetts born and raised. We met working for a wilderness ministry program in upstate New York called La Vida, where we led backpacking and canoeing trips, something that is still very near and dear to our hearts. We are looking forward to becoming a family of three in a few months!

I first sensed a call to ministry at La Vida, where I was able to see God moving in incredible ways in my students' lives. I pursued that call after graduating from college when I took a job working for an Episcopal church outside Philadelphia working as the director of college/young adult ministries. While there, I began a formal discernment process at the suggestion of my Rector, and increasingly sensed God nudging (okay, shoving) me in the direction of seminary and ordained ministry. Joanna's background is in agriculture. She has spent significant time doing both production farming in the U.S., and agricultural missions work overseas. As we both continue to discern God's call in our lives (as individuals and a couple), it's interesting to think about the ways that parish ministry, farming, and experiential education dovetail and complement each other.

We are both looking forward to being a more regular part of the St. Peter's community. As we have had a chance to reflect on the past year in Alexandria, we have certainly missed having a church "home." If there's one thing that I've learned so far in seminary, and especially this summer during my chaplaincy internship at Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, it's the value and necessity of relationships. Building relationships with you, hearing your stories and sharing more of ours, and bearing witness to how God is working in all of our lives—that's what I'm most looking forward to.

As we move forward into this upcoming school year, Joanna and I would greatly appreciate your prayers. For Joanna and Baby Whitnah to continue to be healthy, for my studies this semester, our upcoming move onto VTS's campus, and for the beginning of our ministry with St. Peter's. We're looking forward to what God has in store for all of us.

Bible Studies Resume in September

SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

We welcome both newcomers and veterans to the **September 11th**, fall commencement of our Sunday evening Bible Study group! The small group meets weekly each Sunday evening at **5 PM** at the home of Sophiann & Dell Nunaley*. The group enjoys potluck snacks and fellowship time until 5:30, and then begins its bible study which ends at 7 PM. We are currently in a study of the book of Genesis, and our September 11th meeting will be focusing on the faith testing of Abraham in his being asked to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. If you have been thinking about a deeper engagement with fellow Christian believers, this is a good opportunity to do so with a lively group who enjoy the accountability of helping brothers and sisters in Christ live out the life we are called to do. We invite all who are interested to join us! Please contact Sophiann or Dell Nunaley*.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

First fall meeting is **7 PM**, Wednesday, **September 7th**, at Anne and Steve Schultz's home*. We will be starting the last Person of Jesus unit, *Passion*. Bob Loker and Monica Gill will be co-leading. Contact: Bob Loker*.

*Please see church directory for address and additional contact information.

Notes From the Music Corner

By Barbara Bulger Verdile

SCHEDULE CHANGES AHEAD FOR THE CHOIR

At this moment in time, when we have spent the summer either in a spoken service or with hymns simply accompanied on the organ, it is quite appropriate to stop and think about all we might give up if we were to lose a choral presence in our corporate worship. And we need to consider this now because we have reached a point where it is no longer possible for our choir, with its current number of singers, to split between the two services. The lack of choral music, even for just one of the services, would cost us dearly in our ability to follow the exhortation found in the Bible to sing and make melody to the Lord.

First and foremost we would lose the manner in which a choir supports good congregational singing and visually encourages singing. Second, a choir presence says to all that the voice of the congregation is a primary, not secondary, element of our musical worship, encouraging full participation in our corporate music-making.

I could go on enumerating the reasons our choir is such an essential part of our worship at St. Peter's but now it is time to tell you of some changes ahead for the Choir which I hope will interest you in the light of the previous discussion.

We are a busy congregation filled with parishioners who are active and engaged in many important areas in our church's life, but in order to offer choir at both services we need additional singers to join from both services. In the past, a commitment to sing with the Choir has meant devoting 2 hours one evening each week for rehearsal as well as the warm-up before service each Sunday.

So with the hope of finding new singers for the choir, re-activating former choir members and of course retaining current ones, I would like to change our **rehearsal time and day to Sunday mornings, from 9:25 to 10:05AM**. Early service singers will warm up on Sunday mornings at 7:45, and late service singers will warm up at 10:05AM. This is a proven rehearsal pattern used in many churches with congregations of similar size and resources to ours. Those wishing to sing seasonal choir music at Christmas and Easter can make a six-week commitment to Thursday

CHOIR REHEARSALS

Sundays, 9:25-10:05am, in the Choir Room

CHOIR WARM-UPS for Sunday Services

Early service: 7:45am, in the Nave

Late Service: 10:05am, in the Nave

evening rehearsals during the weeks prior to Christmas and Easter. In this way we create a time commitment for Choir members which is more in line with the other church volunteer ministries. I am hopeful this will attract additional singers and I encourage all of you to search your hearts (and schedules!) and come be a part of this tradition which has been such an important part of St. Peter's.

So that being said, ***I look forward to seeing many additional singers at our first meeting in the Choir Room at 9:25AM on Sunday, 11 September.***

...AND FOR OUR YOUNGER SINGERS

The Chorister Program

Each year new singers -- whether rising third graders, new church families, or those who have not sung with The Choristers before -- are encouraged to join in our music-making. The reasons to have your child participate are many:

Choristers develop knowledge of the church's liturgy as they assume an active role in worship. Choristers develop musical and vocal skills that equip them for lifelong participation in the church's music. Our church's worship is enhanced by the musical contributions of the choristers. Choristers develop peer friendships within the church community.

A Children's Choir can serve as an out-reach opportunity for the church.

The Choristers are affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music through its Voice for Life program.

Our first rehearsal will be held in the Choir Room, September 11 at 12 noon, after the 10:30 service.

The current plan is for the Choristers to sing in church on October 16, November 20, December 18 and Christmas Eve at the 5:00 service.

K-8th Grade Sunday School 2016-2017

By Kathleen Voss

Welcome back friends! I hope all of you enjoyed a wonderful summer break! Our program year begins again on **September 11th at 9:30AM**. Kindergarten through 5th grade will meet downstairs and our Rite 13 Students 6th – 8th grade, will work with Mr. Wilhelm in the Youth Room. Please feel free to register on our website throughout the month.

Our elementary aged students will continue to follow *Weaving God's Promises*. This year we explore *God's Beloved Community*. We will learn how we are called upon to live in a loving community with one another and learn what constitutes that loving community.

As always, attendance is important. We are blessed to have wonderful teachers with us who give of their time and talents. It is a challenge to teach a class when attendance is sporadic. Other obligations do come up and unfortunately, we all get sick once in a while, but this year, please try to make Sunday School a priority for your child. The following article is one that I have shared before, but I think it is a good one to revisit as we begin a new year!

There has been a lot of discussion in my circle of friends recently about the necessity of Sunday School. I've been working in children's ministry for nearly two decades and I never thought I'd see the day when churches would consider doing away with this valuable ministry.

I know the arguments, "We need to cut costs," and "We don't have enough volunteers," but these seem small compared to the growing need for spiritual guidance. Is this answer to remove this valuable spiritual service? I'm not convinced.

Sunday Schools may seem like "old hat" to some churches but according to Barna Research, 95% of churches still offer some type of classroom Bible teaching– and for good reason. Barna says, "In a culture saturated with change, one of the most stable aspects in the religious sphere has been Sunday School – the weekend educational efforts that Protestant churches offer to people outside of worship services." Why? More than ever before, people need a counterweight to the massive cultural shifts that modern societies are now experiencing. More specifically, children need Sunday School ministry for these five reasons. If you're building a new ministry or revamping an established one, keep these goals in mind.

Sunday School helps children respect,

appreciate and utilize the Bible. Reverence for God's written words doesn't come naturally, sadly. A healthy Sunday classroom environment, centered around the Bible, will elevate its importance in a child's life.

Sunday School teaches children how to navigate the Bible. If a child joins the Scouts, the Scoutmaster doesn't hand him a 400 page map and say, "Good luck!" Sunday School teachers don't just teach Bible stories, they show a child how to utilize the concordance and give a basic understanding of the Bible's books and overall format.

Sunday School gives kids a chance to ask questions. Kids' church isn't designed for a detailed Q & A session but Sunday classes can. Sunday School is the perfect format for in-depth discussion, even debate. This format allows teachers to give kids more good food for thought.

Sunday School develops a community of believers. Why do you think schools use the classroom method? Not just to reach more children, faster. Originally, it was because in a classroom setting, kids were more likely to help one another and push each other along in their growth. A community of children, worshipping, learning the Bible and discovering God together creates a bond that single study can't accomplish. Sunday Schools are the Petri dishes for the future church.

Sunday School plants spiritual seeds. Some of my greatest revelations concerning God's love and plan for me I received quietly in Sunday School. I'll never be able to thank the small Baptist church ministry that picked me up on the bus and carried me to Sunday School every week. Even when we moved away from that loving community of believers, I never forgot the songs, the lessons and the love. Sunday Schools are like plant nurseries, they may look unimpressive at first, but under the soil, miracles are happening.

We need Sunday Schools!

BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER

*Lord, use my eyes to see new friends
Open my ears, to hear my teacher
Open my mind, to learn new things
Let my heart remember that you are near
when I am afraid
Help me to love others like YOU do
Let YOUR light shine bright at my school.
Amen*

High School Sunday Formation, 2016-17: *Mere Christianity*

By Jon Coate

Our existence is one of confusion. No matter how much we value the truth, how often is it quite difficult to find? When we try to make sense of this world, it is so easy to get lost in the cacophony of voices telling us that their truth is the *best* truth. Unfortunately, even Christian faith has become afflicted by this confusion over the years. Even though St. Paul tells the Ephesians that we are called to “the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, who is above all and through all and in all”, we find ourselves in a world with dozens (if not hundreds!) of differing Christian denominations and teachings.

Is it possible for us to look past this dense fog of confusion, to see the pure, unfiltered light of the Gospel?

For just a moment, step back with me into Britain, 1942. Nearly the entire planet has been immersed in the most bloody, widespread war ever known – for about 4 years now. The momentum of the war is just beginning to turn, as Britain is now partnering with the Soviets, China, and the United States to stop the advance of Axis powers. But Britain is still just a year removed from the horrific bombing raids known as the Blitz, which had killed around 40,000 civilians and destroyed countless homes, businesses, and schools. So while the English people set about rebuilding their devastated communities with heavy and (doubtlessly) uneasy hearts, a forty-four year old Irish scholar, writer, and veteran of the first Great War stepped in front of a BBC microphone to give a series of radio addresses.

This writer was our beloved C.S. Lewis, and these radio addresses would go on to become compiled into the work we now call *Mere Christianity*. In these radio talks, Lewis set about to show us a vision of Christianity, not divided by squabbles over theological or doctrinal debate, but unified over its most unaltered and simplest (merest) form.

So, inspired by Lewis' apologetic masterpiece, all high school aged youth are invited to join me for Sunday formation in the 2016-17 program year to examine how we find proof for Christianity, what Christianity really means, and how we must act as Christians. **Register on our website Youth Programs page at www.stpetes.net. We'll meet in the Rector's office, Sunday mornings, at 9:30am, starting September 11.**

Adult Sunday Formation Classes—Begins September 11, 9:30am

The Bible: Where did it come from and why should I trust it?

The Scriptures are central to our faith. We know God through them—The Father, the Son, and The Holy Spirit. They tell the story of what God has done for us in the person of Jesus. But do we have good reason to trust them? We better.

Answering these questions will help us deepen our own faith and help us answer questions from others searching for faith.

This course will deal with questions such as: why we have the books we have in the Bible? Who wrote it? What about other Gospels (Judas, Thomas, etc) that we often hear about in popular media? What are good reasons for trusting the Scriptures as we have them today? Are the Gospels really eyewitnesses to Jesus?

Course begins on September 11 and runs through October during Adult Formation hour (9:30) in McCray Hall. Led by Jon Corbett

ST. PETE'S 101

We offer our “Path In” to the life of St Peter's on Sunday mornings, 9:30am, starting September 11, in the library.

If you have recently come to St. Peter's you know that starting new is hard to do. Do you have questions about living as a Christian or the distinctive way we do it here at St. Peter's? We will help you explore what we are about here at St Peter's and how we live and work together as a congregation.

Topics Include:

- What's the Story?
- Where have we come from?
- Where are we headed?
- How to make St Peter's my home?

Led by Fr. Tom Simmons and Tom Coate in the Library

Guatemala Mission Trip, Week 2

By Bob Loker

For the past four years I have stayed in Guatemala for an additional week after our St. Peter's mission team departs. The week is supported by a partnership between St. Peter's Church and seeJesus ministries. SeeJesus is a global discipling mission that publishes interactive Bible studies and conducts seminars worldwide. One of the seeJesus courses, The Person of Jesus, has been taught almost continuously at St. Peter's for the past ten years.



Downtown Livingston



Telling the Story

This summer I worked with Barry and Marquita Staley, missionaries from Purcellville now serving in Guatemala, and with Debora Ramirez, a Guatemalan missionary. They serve with the Independent Missionary Network which provides Biblical and church growth training to pastors and church leaders. They had previously been trained by seeJesus to lead interactive Bible studies. We taught in schools in Livingston, a small town on the Caribbean coast which can be reached only by boat because it backs up to impassable dense jungle. The population consists mainly of indigenous Mayans and the Garifuna people, descendants of African slaves. Livingston's claim to movie fame dates back to 1935 when a scene of The New Adventures of Tarzan was filmed there.

During our week we taught the story of Jesus raising the widow of Nain's son to over 700 students from six schools from elementary through high school. We adapted our material to reach oral learners (students who prefer to learn orally rather than through reading), using skits and other oral methods. The older kids could read well but they all loved the drama and the reinforcement of the oral training. One goal of the oral training is to have the students learn the story so well that they can tell it very accurately in their own words. (Most middle class Northern Virginia kids who read the Bible only superficially do not learn the stories sufficiently well to do this!)



Elementary School Kids



Mayan High School Students

It was a great week. We were stranded one night in Livingston when a storm prevented us from returning by boat to our base. There was no running water in the house where we "camped out" so we were a little raunchy teaching the following day. But the food was good, the water was bottled, and the seafood was fresh at a local restaurant, Restaurante Happy Fish. The people were friendly and appreciative and hopefully God used us to touch some young lives. Perhaps more importantly, we left The Independent Missionary Network with a valuable teaching resource for additional equipping of the church.

Thank you letter from Hayes Baker

Note from Bob Loker: Several members of the St. Peter's Guatemala Mission Team received financial assistance from the Loudoun Missions Foundation to cover some of their trip expenses. Hayes Baker wrote a thank you letter to the foundation board for the funds he received in which he described his experiences. Here is his letter:

Dear Mr. Ruckman:

Thank you very much for the generous donation toward my mission trip. Following is a brief description of some of my experiences the week-long excursion.

I wanted to go down to Guatemala because I felt that it would be a fantastic way to further my faith while volunteering and helping other people firsthand. I was very excited at the thought of being able to spend an entire week helping people in need. Originally I expected that I wouldn't be able to communicate much with the locals and that I would be asked to do one job throughout the whole week, but I was very wrong. The locals were very understanding and helpful while I spoke broken Spanish with them and I spent the week doing a variety of different tasks with my team.

One of the very first things that I took notice of was that all of these people were so grateful for everything that we were doing for them. They had so little compared to many of us here in the United States but had a different way of living their lives. Unlike us, they made time to be more social, build relationships, and experience life, whereas in the States we are always in a rush and always following a schedule. I never realized how different we go about our lives until experiencing it firsthand.

The next thing that amazed me was Penito, an extremely poor town built along an abandoned railroad track between two meat packing plants. Old discarded bones littered the dirt road going down the center of the town and cow carcasses hung nearby. The area is home to active gangs and the children didn't have a safe place to play until a Pastor, Rami, and his wife, Shirley, were called to start a church in the center of town. They devote their time to keeping a safe and productive place for children to stay and learn during the day and have built a place of worship accessible to the community. Pastor Rami is respected by every resident of Penito. He is even respected by the gangs of the area and I believe that it is due to what he is trying to do for the community as a whole. Pastor Rami showed me that one person can change many lives when he follows God's calling, even in dangerous places like Penito.

The final highlight of my trip was spending time with the local children of Santiago Zamora. Just as important as feeding and educating them was giving them attention and playing with them, this is something that isn't guaranteed to them in their day to day life. The children also taught me that taking the time to build relationships can have a positive impact on their lives and mine. It made me want to do more to help them and to share the gifts that God has given me.

I hope that I can take what I've learned in Guatemala and use it to better my community. I will definitely tell others about my experiences on the mission trip in hopes that they may decide to do something like this in the future. Thank you for helping to make this experience possible for me to have.

Respectfully,

Hayes Baker



Hayes & Team doing a skit in Penito

In Memory of Eric Kandakai

By Tim Hall

We are saddened to report that St. Peter's has lost one of our dear Liberian friends, Eric Kandakai, who befriended, supported, and fed us on all of our mission trips to Monrovia. We came to know Eric on our first mission trip to Bromley in November 2009, when he served as cook at the White Compound where the combined St. Pete's and St. James' missionaries stayed. Eric provided friendship and advice, and some excellent down-home food, to nourish our weary bodies and souls during this visit only five years after the end of the Liberian civil war. Eric's involvement supporting this mission trip was key in bringing him back to Christ, as he and his family joined the St. Peter's Caldwell community.

Eric strove to provide for his growing family by starting up his own bakery and catering business, a very challenging undertaking in war-torn Liberia, but his spirit and skill helped him make a go of it, although just scraping by.

We engaged Eric again on our next mission trip in July 2012, wherein we conducted training for nearly 100 Episcopal Diocesan school teachers at B.W. Harris High School, with Eric providing lunch, with joy, each day for this entire assemblage. On our most recent trip, in February 2014, for dedication of the new St. Peter's Caldwell School, Eric provided delicious, catered breakfasts, lunches, and dinners, delivering the repast on the back of rented motorcycle space. He was always most gracious and kind. And he graciously hosted our St. Pete's Purcellville team, the Reverends Edward Gbe and Michael Sie, and the entire St. Peter's Caldwell vestry for a celebratory dinner at his new, tiny shop, of which he was so proud and we so impressed, following Sunday worship before the formal dedication of the school.

Eric passed away unexpectedly in his sleep on Wednesday, 17 August. He was 45 and leaves behind his wife, Musu, and three children, Alpheus (age 11), Morris (age 15), and Jamama (age 16). He was a delightful soul, caring and happy, and will be greatly missed. We are establishing a scholarship fund for his children. If you would like to give a remembrance to celebrate Eric's life and help care for his widow and orphan children, please give a check payable to St. Pete's with "Eric Kandakai Memorial" in the memo line.



Eric (in center, beside Paul Miller) in his shop with his sons, daughter, and wife, Musu.

Join the Men & Women of St. Pete's for a Cross Raising and Blessing on Friday 30 September beginning at 6PM



In the style of an Amish-style barn raising, help us erect a 18'x10"x10" wooden cross and share in fellowship with fellow St. Pete's parishioners.

6PM – Participants Arrive

**7PM – The Meaning of the Cross,
Cross Raising and Blessing (Fr. Tom)**

8PM on – Bon Fire and Fellowship



**Location: The Schatz's. 10975 Georges Mill Rd
Lovettsville, VA 20180 (571) 276-7042**

**Bring: A Dish to Share, Camp Chair, Flash Light,
Leather Gloves. Drinks will be provided.**



Come Rain or Shine. Dress for the weather.

PLEASE RSVP TO SCHTRED@AOL.COM

NLT 28 September



DONATIONS NEEDED for St. Peter's Annual Plant Sale—Saturday, October 8

Please drop off your bulbs, cuttings, and divisions from your gardens to sell at our annual Fall Plant Sale.

Empty pots are available in the fenced area outside of McCray Hall.

Drop off your plants at St. Peter's anytime now in the fenced area behind McCray Hall.

If you'd like to help with the Plant Sale, please come to the Planning Meeting on Sunday, September 4, 9:15am, in McCray Hall—or contact: Jean Kuhns



When Father Reads the Book


In these days of rush and bustle
When we hurry off to work,
I'm reminded of those early times
When father read the Book.
When Father read the Book.
As we each our places took
Round the dear old family altar
When father read the Book.

O those dear old Bible stories,
Psalms that flowed like rippling brook;
Warnings, promises, and precepts
Lived, as father read the Book
As father read the Book.
Satan's kingdom round us shook,
And our Savior early claimed us
Because father read the Book.

O they say it was old-fashioned,
And what waste of time 'twould look
To now take half-an-hour
To let father read the Book.
But as father read the Book,
Blessed thought in our minds stuck;
And the day went so much better
Just 'cause father read the Book.

Oft I'm troubled as I journey
On toward heav'n with upward look,
To see families all about me
Grow up without father's Book.
Let father read the Book,
Kneel and pray and read the Book;
Your home will be so different
If your father reads the Book.

--G.E. Foster



PUZZLE

THE LORD WILL PROTECT

God always watches over us, during good times and bad.

Directions: Connect the dots, according to the instructions below. Then use the resulting word to complete the Bible verse.

Start at 19. Draw from 19-18, 18-17. 47-62, 62-77. 22-21, 21-20. 50-51. 82-81, 81-80, 80-65, 65-50, 50-35, 35-20. 24-38, 38-53. 24-40, 40-55. 17-32. 47-48. 32-47. 26-41, 41-56, 56-71, 71-86. 56-57, 57-58. 55-54, 54-53, 53-68, 68-83. 55-70, 70-85. 58-43. 57-73, 73-88. 43-28, 28-27, 27-26.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105
106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135

>> "So do not __ __ __ __ __, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God." Isaiah 41:10, NIV <<

Answer: fear

Kids (3rd Grade & Up) - JOIN THE CHORISTERS!

- Choristers develop knowledge of the church's liturgy as they assume an active role in worship.
- Choristers develop musical and vocal skills that equip them for lifelong participation in the church's music.
- Our church's worship is enhanced by the musical contributions of the choristers.
- Choristers develop peer friendships within the church community.
- A Children's Choir can serve as an out-reach opportunity for the church.
- The Choristers are affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music through its Voice for Life program.

Our first rehearsal will be held in the Choir Room, September 11 at 12 noon, after the 10:30 service.



St. Peter's SEPTEMBER SERVING SCHEDULE

		Sept 4	Sept 11	Sept 18	Sept 25
		16 Pentecost	17 Pentecost	18 Pentecost	19 Pentecost
LECTORS	Early	Kelly Wyatt	Dell Nunaley	Gail Donohue	Gail Donohue
	Late	Jon Corbett	Eamon Coy	Mark McKinley	Traci Eddinger
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Early	Judy Hall, Peter Schellhase	James Hall, Sophiann Nunaley	Judy Hall, Buddy Andrews	Paul Donohue, Terry Duhring
	Late	Linda & Randy Stoutenburgh	Dan LaPre, Lauren Hunt	Jonathan LaPre, Randy Stoutenburgh	Tom Coate, Dave Hunt
SUB DEACON	Early	Tim Hall	Buddy Andrews	Tanya Matthews	Br. John
	Late	Tom Coate	Dave Hunt	Linda Stoutenburgh	Br. John
INTERCESSOR	Early	Dell Nunaley	Sophiann Nunaley	Kelly Cockrill	HL
	Late	Randy Stoutenburgh	Traci Eddinger	Marty Thompson	HL
ACOLYTES	Early	Adam & Eric Gibson, Mark Matthews, Hayes Baker	Aubrey & Addie Winger, Isabella Tucker	Josh, Megan & Olivia Smith, James Nunaley	Kimberly & Colin Donohue, John Matthews
	Late	George & Henry Simmons, Lexi Eddinger	Dan LaPre, Lauren Hunt, Jon Coate	Jonathan LaPre, Grace Falatko, Scarlett Daly	George & Henry Simmons, Lexi Eddinger
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS	Early	Drew Lavan & Nancy Wise, Linda Turner	Peter & Erin Schellhase, Robert & Patty Costantino	Chris & Terry Duhring, Mark & Nancy Baker	David & Carla Ramsey, Jim & Wynell Schatz
	Late	Mary Paul Jones, Nora Young, Steve & Anne Schultz	Jim & Maggie Heim, Ollie & Betsy North	Stephen & Sally Falatko, Tom & Mary Coate	Randy & Linda Stoutenburgh, Bill & Renee Geiger
USHERS	Early	Bill & Beth Gibson	Todd & Pam Johnston	Paul Miller & Laurraine Landolt	Dick Wilhelm, Zan Shah
	Late	Mark & Katie McKinley, VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	Susan Collins, Tred Parry, Keith & Regina Brzozowsky	Steve & Anne Schultz, Eamon & Jenn Coy	Jim Heim, Bob Ryan, Billy Dillon, Jimmy Eddinger
GREETERS	Early	Ron Clark	Joe Matthews	Dell Nunaley	Mark Baker
	Late	Jim Heim	Steve Schultz	Traci Eddinger	Jon Corbett
TELLERS		Pat Long & Sven Johnson	Howard & Linda Evans	Rick Tyler, Mike Nikosey	Pat Long & Sven Johnson
ALTAR GUILD		Sophiann Nunaley, Nancy Baker, Chris Lafferty, Patty Costantino, Rebecca Smoot, Marina Liburdi, Sharon Purnell	Sophiann Nunaley, Nancy Baker, Chris Lafferty, Patty Costantino, Rebecca Smoot, Marina Liburdi, Sharon Purnell	Sophiann Nunaley, Nancy Baker, Chris Lafferty, Patty Costantino, Rebecca Smoot, Marina Liburdi, Sharon Purnell	Pat Pearson, Linda Evans, Debi Parry, Laurraine Landolt, Jane Mitchell-Baugh, Kelly Cockrill

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!

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries & Birthdays

ANNIVERSARIES:

- 9-17 Brian & Kirsten Jenkins
Rick & Tamara Tyler
9-18 Bill & Beth Gibson
9-19 Jim & Maggie Heim
Dell & Sophiann Nunaley
9-20 Ron Clark & Theresa Beeton

BIRTHDAYS:

- 9-1 Robert Ayers
9-2 Tom Simmons
9-5 Ella Coffey
9-7 Bree Babb
Mary Kay DeMarce
9-8 Laurraine Landolt
Barbara Verdile
9-9 Paul Miller
Krista Winger
9-10 Gauge Young
9-15 Justine Phelan
Charlotte Tuohy
9-16 Connor Collins
9-21 Robert Purnell
Sherri Kakol
9-25 Josh Smith
Bob Verdile
9-27 Olive Johnson
Conor McKinley
9-28 Shane Ayers
9-30 Kimmie Donohue
Mary Dye

JOIN THE CHOIR!

REHEARSALS NOW

Sundays 9:25-10:05am
in the Choir Room

Mark Your Calendar!

- Sept. 3 Men's Breakfast 7am
Sept. 4 Plant Sale Planning Mtg. 9:15am
Sept. 6 Vestry Ministry Mtg. 7pm
Sept. 7 Mission Team Mtg. 5pm
Wednesday Eve Bible Study Resumes 7pm
Sept. 11 **PROGRAM YEAR BEGINS!**
Choir Rehearsal 9:25am
Sunday School Begins 9:30am
Choristers 12pm
Altar Guild Mtg. 12pm
Youth Group Hike 3pm
Sunday Eve Bible Study Resumes 5pm
Sept. 13 Vestry Exec Mtg. 6pm
Sept. 15 TOL Dinner 5pm (*hosted by Men's Breakfast group*)
Sept. 16 Youth Movie Night 7pm
Sept. 17 Men's Leadership Mtg. 7am
Literary Guild 5pm
Sept. 19 Mt. Calvary Guild 10am
Sept. 20 Vestry Mtg. 7pm
Sept. 25 Healing Liturgy
Newsletter Deadline
Youth Group 7pm
Sept. 27 Pastoral Care Team 5pm
Sept. 28 Friends Being Friends Cook-Out 6pm
Sept. 30 Cross Raising & Blessing 6pm



Find out by signing up on our website
www.stpetes.net.

Under "Signup Opportunities" click on
"Signup for St. Peter's announcements and
news" and enter your name and email address.
Then you'll know what's happening!

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for SEPTEMBER

Date	Sunday	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
4	16 Pentecost	Jeremiah 18:1-11	139:1-5, 12-17	Philemon 1-21	Luke 14:25-33
11	17 Pentecost	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28	14	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Luke 15:1-10
18	18 Pentecost	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1	79:1-9	1 Timothy 2:1-7	Luke 16:1-13
25	19 Pentecost	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15	91:1-6, 14-16	1 Timothy 6:6-19	Luke 16:19-31



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Saturday Holy Eucharist Services Will resume Saturday, November 12 5:00 PM in the Chapel				1 Next Step Community	2	3 Men's Breakfast
4 HOLY EUCHARIST Plant Sale Planning Mtg.	5	6 Vestry Ministry Mtg	7 HOLY EUCHARIST Mission Team Mtg Bible Study	8 Next Step Community	9	10
11 <i>New Program Year!</i> HOLY EUCHARIST SS/SF Choir Rehearsal Altar Guild Mtg Choristers Youth Group Hike Bible Study	12	13 Vestry Exec Mtg	14 HOLY EUCHARIST Bible Study	15 TOL Dinner Next Step Community	16 Youth Movie Night	17 Men's Leadership Mtg. Literary Guild Mtg.
18 Choir Warm Up HOLY EUCHARIST SS/SF Choir Rehearsal Choristers	19 Mt. Calvary Guild	20 Vestry Mtg.	21 HOLY EUCHARIST Bible Study	22 Next Step Community	23	24
25 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> HOLY EUCHARIST & Healing Liturgy SS/SF Choir Rehearsal Choristers Youth Group	26	27 PC Team Mtg.	28 HOLY EUCHARIST FBF Cook-Out Bible Study	29 Next Step Community	30 Cross Raising 	

KEY: CS=Choral Scholars; FBF=Friends Being Friends; MSSG=Men's Spiritual Support Group; PC=Pastoral Care;
SF=Spiritual Formation Classes; SS=Sunday School; TOL=Tree of Life



MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 546
Purcellville, VA 20134-0546

Address Correction Requested



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

37018 Glendale St., Purcellville, VA, 20132

540-338-7307 www.stpetes.net

Rector: The Rev. Thomas W. Simmons IV
— frtom@stpetes.net

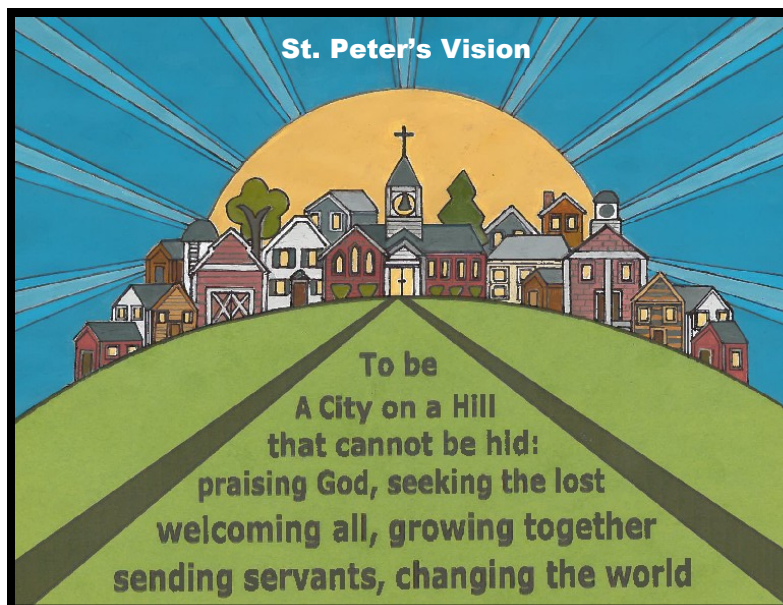
Director of Music & Organist:
Barbara Bulger Verdile — musicd@stpetes.net

Director of Children's Ministries:
Kathleen Voss — dcm@stpetes.net

Directors of Youth Ministries:
Jon & Kristin Coate — youthd@stpetes.net
Parish Administrator: Wanda Munsey Juraschek
— office@stpetes.net

Financial Administrator: Diane Adams
— bookkeeper@stpetes.net

Sexton: Chris Daniels — sexton@stpetes.net



The *Good News* is published monthly by St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Editor: Wanda Munsey Juraschek Newsletter email: GoodNews@stpetes.net

If you would like to save paper and postage, please notify the editor; *The Good News* is available to read or download on our website.