



# *Ring in the* **Good News**

**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**January 2017**

**Purcellville, Virginia**

**Epiphany Season**

## **Inside this issue:**

<b>Mercy Ministry in Guatemala</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Guatemalan Handcraft Sale</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Treasurer's Corner</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>The Creed</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>January Adult Formation</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Tree of Life Thanks St. Peter's</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Space Odyssey</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>It's a Boy!</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Friends Being Friends Christmas Thank You</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Kidz Page</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Service Roster</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Special Dates &amp; Lectionary</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Thank You from Wanda</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Calendar</b>	<b>11</b>



But, beloved, do not forget  
this one thing, that with  
the Lord one day is as a  
thousand years, and a  
thousand years as one  
day. The Lord is not slack  
concerning His promise, as  
some count slackness, but  
is longsuffering toward us,  
not willing that any should  
perish but that all should  
come to repentance.

## Mercy Ministry in Guatemala

Bob Loker

Recent generous donations to our Guatemala Discretionary Account have allowed St. Peter's to provide critical assistance to two Mayan women in great need, one young and one elderly. Both were given wheelchairs through Hope for Home (Hogar de la Esperanza). Their pictures and stories (taken from the Hope for Home webpage) appear below.



**Irma**  
**Age 20**

**Town/Village:**  
**Panella San**  
**Jose Poaquil**

**Items Needed:**  
**Wheelchair**

### More About Irma

Irma is a small, 20-year-old girl with Cerebral Palsy. She has always walked very slowly and requires help to do so. She lives with her sister and brother-in-law, as her mother passed away 2 years ago. She spends a lot of time on the floor, because she doesn't have a wheelchair. A walker or crutches could also be very useful to her. The family is very poor and lives in a house made of mud and sugar cane.



**Dolores**  
**Age 88**

**Birthday:**  
**September 15,**  
**1928**

**Town/Village:**  
**Guastatoya**

**Items Needed:**  
**Wheelchair**

### More About Dolores

Dolores is an elderly lady with a heart for God. She loves to preach and would like to be able to do so in a wheelchair. She lives with her daughter and granddaughter. She takes medicine for high blood pressure and vertigo. Her only necessity is a wheelchair that will enable her to travel and share the gospel.

**Another gift** has allowed us to purchase an "Upsee Mobility Device" for use by children living with the Fulp family at Hope for Home. This will be taken to Guatemala in January by a short-term mission team. This revolutionary device will allow a young disabled child to experience "walking" for the first time. Below is a picture of a disabled child using the Upsee. In January we hope to have pictures of a young Guatemalan child using it!



**GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP**, June 17 – 24, 2017: St. Peter's will be sponsoring a mission trip to Guatemala in support of Redeemer's House International from June 17 through June 24, 2017. Redeemer's House builds holistic relationships with at-risk families and much of our work will be with children (nutrition, after school programs, and Bible school). The cost for the trip is estimated to be about \$1750 contingent upon airfare prices. Please contact Bob Loker (540-338-2978 or [bobloker@gmail.com](mailto:bobloker@gmail.com)) if you have an interest in applying to be a team member. **An informational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 8th at 5 PM in McCray Hall.**



## Guatemalan Handcraft Sale

By Bob Loker



*Purchasing textiles for St. Peter's*



*Team Delivering a Donated Bed in Pinito*

Guatemala. Todd and Maureen have hosted a team from St. Peter's for the past five years.

Todd sent me the following:

*"Wow! You guys just continue to sell Guate handicrafts! Thanks so much. The money will specifically go towards scholarship projects that we are taking on in 2017. We have a number of kids in each of our areas that are in desperate need of our help and we will begin to offer scholarships to kids in Pinito next year as well!" (Pinito is a squatters community along an abandoned railroad track in Guatemala City where our team ministered last summer.)*

Thank you, St. Peter's, for supporting our Guatemalan handcraft sale. We sent \$789 in profit to Todd and Maureen Erickson who serve at Redeemer's House in Antigua,



*Pinito Children Acting Out A Bible Story*



## Treasurer's Corner

By Tanya Matthews

Praise be to God...we have an approved budget!

The Vestry has passed the 2017 budget for St. Peter's. It's realistic, with strong pledges and tithes, and it's a balanced budget with ten percent contingency built in. We are in a much stronger cash position than six months ago, and there's a renewed commitment to watching expenses and monitoring income very carefully every week. Our investment accounts are earning interest, and we have an excellent bookkeeper handling the day-to-day transactions under the leadership of the Finance Committee and Vestry. Further, we have a local CPA who will be helping us with policies and procedures to make sure we're doing things the right way.



We had a difficult time financially over the past two years, and the budget anticipated a loss. The total amount of that loss was \$100,000. It's a big hit. So in the last half of 2016, we struggled with meeting our obligations and we had to make cuts and sound alarms. We borrowed from our investment accounts, which thankfully, had enough money in them to sustain the expenses. We need to repay those funds in time.

The great news is that the Vestry rolled up its sleeves, focused on budgeting, stewardship and membership to improve these issues. Here are some of the accomplishments which affected our finances favorably:

1. We focused on the problems, analyzing how to solve them. We wrote a long letter to the congregation explaining the situation and asking for help. We also asked the Diocese to help us to understand how other churches solved similar problems, and they gave us great advice, which we implemented.
2. We made cuts in spending at all levels and worked on increasing revenues.
3. We developed an effective stewardship campaign.
4. We made a strong push for electronic giving, to which several families responded. It provides regular, sustained cash flow.
5. We created a new two-person approval process for all expenses, requiring all expenses to be cost-coded to a budget line item. Accountability increased.
6. We increased the communication of where we stand financially. Weekly notices in the bulletin helped raised awareness, which in turn, helped to raise funds for deficit-reduction.
7. We decided to only hold events that are self-sustaining financially.

By the guidance of prayer, and watching for the lit path that God always has in front of us, we were able to see the financial problems and focus on solving them. We're on the right path. We have a balanced budget with contingency built in. Our Vestry is focused and our future is bright. Thanks be to God.

---

## Exploring Your Faith—Part II—The Creed

The Creed: A 4-part study (January 22, 29, February 5 & 12) on the ancient statement of faith of the Church, the Nicene Creed, exploring what we believe and how those beliefs shape our lives. This is Part II of the Exploring Your Faith course in preparation for Confirmation or Reception into the Episcopal Church when Bishop Shannon Johnston visits on March 26th. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Tom.

## January Adult Formation

By Jon Corbett

### Sacred Rhythms: Arranging Our Lives for Spiritual Transformation.

How do we open up ourselves for needed change? Where does Christ-like growth come from? What is the goal of our Christian life? Do you feel like the desired change never comes?

We will start a new Adult Formation class for the month of January (January 8-29) aiming to help us in opening ourselves to God for His work in our lives that we may experience life more abundantly and experience growth and change.

We know there is something we ought to do, but we also know true change only happens by the work of God's Holy Spirit in our lives. Thus, we practice spiritual disciplines (Prayer, Reading Scripture, Fasting, Solitude, etc.) to create a space for God to work in our lives.

Many of us practice spiritual disciplines already. This class will be help if our disciplines have become dry, legalistic, or we just need a refresher or some sort of change. The aim of this class is to help us to renew our desire to commune with God. It also will provide direction to tailoring disciplines to address areas of needed growth or sin in our lives ... example what do you do if you struggle with gossip?

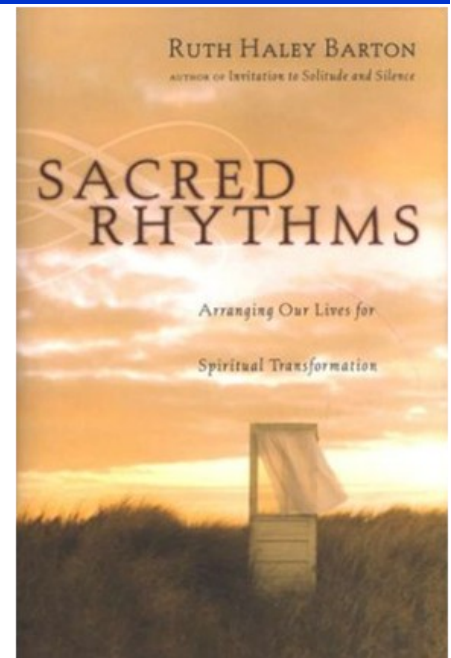
Others of us are new to the idea of a spiritual discipline. This class will be an excellent introduction and help us to start off right.

The goal for all of us is a closer walk with God communally and individually through practices that we can practice together as community, in our families, and by ourselves.

We will also broach the idea of a forming and abiding by a spiritual "rule" for our lives, which will be a concept taken up in a course later this year.

This course is based loosely off of the following books:

- Barton, Ruth Haley. *Sacred Rhythms: Arranging Our Lives for Spiritual Transformation*. (InterVarsity Press: Downers Grove, Ill. 2006).
- Calhoun, Adele Ahlberg. *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices that Transform Us*. (InterVarsity Press: Downers Grove, Ill. 2005).



### Tree of Life Thanks St. Peter's

*My box overfloweth!! Thank you so much for your generosity in participating with **Tree of Life's Christmas for Others program**. You are a generous church! The donations of the gift items and gift cards will go a long way towards ministering to the poor and needy in our local area -to teens who are most often overlooked at Christmas time. In particular, I was keeping my eye on Ross gift cards, since that is where we will be doing our shopping for clothes. When I added up all the Ross gift cards, I am pleased to announce that I am fully self-funding (well, except for those little things I needed to buy earlier on before I had VISA gift cards to use)!!! I needed to have \$1,875 for clothes, \$25 per child at 75 children....and I have it all!!! I just can't believe it. And, as you know, the toys came from Toys for Tots, and the teen items were part of what each church collected through their congregation. This is so awesome!!*

*If it were not for the help of HBC and St. Pete's I could not have done this. God is so good. I just love how he pulled the church communities together for one common purpose of reaching the poor and needy in our area in the name of Jesus!!*

*We look forward to wrapping and delivering these gifts, and sharing the gospel of Christ! Thank you, again!*

*—Kathy Ruckman*



## Space Odyssey

By Paul Benner

In the predawn darkness of July 22, 2015, in Baikonur, Kazakhstan, a 1946 photo of my wife Betty and I was launched aboard Soyuz TMA-17M for docking with the International Space Station (ISS). Our granddaughter, Megan Levins, an Astro Physicist with NASA, arranged for the crew of Expedition 44 to take us along for the journey.

We reached an altitude of 251.49 miles and a speed of 17,150 miles per hour. The flight duration lasted 141 days, 16 hours, 9 minutes and 15 seconds covering a distance of 59.6 million miles and completing 2,256 Earth orbits. We launched at 21:02:45 GMT docking to the ISS on July 23, 02:45 GMT., and undocked from the ISS on December 11, 2015, at 09:47.

We saw two space walks, one from the Russian airlock and a second from the US airlock. We welcomed two Russian cargo supply vehicles and another set of three crew members. My friend Kjell Lindgren took a picture of my wife and I in the Cupola module as we gazed down on Earth.

All in all we had a great time flying high!

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center  
Houston, Texas 77058

JSC2014E067382

NASA  
National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



*Paul's granddaughter, Megan Levins, with the crew of Expedition 44*







## It's a Boy!

**Charles Emil Whitnah  
born Dec. 30, 2016!**

He and Joanna are doing great so far, and we're looking forward to introducing him to the community at St. Peter's in a few weeks.

Peace,  
Michael



## Friends Being Friends Christmas Thank You

A huge thank you to everyone who brought food, donated gifts, and volunteered at our annual Friends Being Friends' Christmas Party Wednesday, December 14th. Nancy and Luigi Prestipino made the mood especially festive with their piano/violin carols, and the food was delicious.

Our friends could hardly wait to see what St. Peter's secret Santas left under the tree. With more than 75 people in attendance, the event would not have been possible without all the support of our faithful FBF volunteers. Special thanks to Chris Daniels, our sexton, for his efficient set-up and take-down and Pat Pearson, our fearless photographer!

Wishing everyone a joyful and blessed New Year!

—The Bakers

# MASON JAR nightLight

Because Jesus is the light of the world, his followers don't need to fear darkness or life's dark times. Make this nightlight to remind you of Jesus' light and presence.



## What you need:

- Work area with good ventilation
- Mason jar
- Clear glue that works on glass
- Paintbrush
- Glass stones
- Tealight candle
- Lighter
- Adult supervision

## What you do:

1. Starting at the top of the jar, brush glue on a small section.
2. Press glass stones onto the glue in rows. Let dry.
3. Continue gluing stones, in small sections, until the entire jar is covered.
4. When dry, place a candle inside. Light with adult help.



# Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?  
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.  
Then read the completed Bible verse.*

KEY:



" \_ \_ M T H \_ L \_ G H T \_ F

T H \_ W \_ R L D. W H \_ \_ V \_ R

F \_ L L \_ W S M \_ W \_ L L N \_ V \_ R

W \_ L K \_ N D \_ R K N \_ S S."

J \_ H N 8:12, NIV

PSALM 27:4

# ONE THING

I desire to dwell in the  
House of the Lord  
forever.



# St. Peter's JANUARY SERVING SCHEDULE

		January 1	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
		Epiphany	Baptism of Our Lord	2 Epiphany	3 Epiphany	4 Epiphany
LECTOR	Early	Mark Baker	Calvin Smith	Bryan Field	Drew Lavan	William Lawrence
	Late	Jon Corbett	Linda Stoutenburgh	Mark McKinley	Lauren Hunt	Liz Tuohy
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	Early	Buddy Andrews, Terry Duhring	Sophiann Nunaley, Dave Grommons	Jaqueline Whalen, Peter Schellhase	Paul Donohue, Judy Hall	Buddy Andrews, Terry Duhring
	Late	Dave Grommons, Dave Hunt	Randy & Linda Stoutenburgh	Dan LaPre, Dave Grommons	Lauren Hunt, Dave Hunt	Randy & Linda Stoutenburgh
SUB DEACON	Early	Tanya Matthews	Tim Hall	Buddy Andrews	Tanya Matthews	Michael Whitnah
	Late	Tom Coate	Dave Hunt	Linda Stoutenburgh	Tom Coate	Michael Whitnah
INTERCESSOR	Early	Terry Duhring	Dell Nunaley	Peter Schellhase	Paul Donohue	Kelly Cockrill
	Late	Traci Eddinger	Randy Stoutenburgh	Marty Thompson	Jon Coate	Randy Stoutenburgh
ACOLYTES	Early	Adam & Eric Gibson, Mark Matthews	Aubrey & Addie Winger, Isabella Tucker	Joshua, Megan & Olivia Smith, James Nunaley	Kimberly & Colin Donohue, John Matthews	Adam & Eric Gibson, Mark Matthews
	Late	Jonathan LaPre, Grace Falatko, Scarlett Daly	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	Linda Turner, Rick & Tricia Smith, Justine Phelan	Eckard & Keri Holdorf, Bill and Beth Gibson	Buddy Andrews, Marina Liburdi Tim & Judy Hall	Todd & Pam Johnston, Rick & Kelly Cockrill	Paula Reardon & Gary Simpson, Paul Miller & Laurraine Landolt
	Late	Sven Johnson & Pat Long, Billy & Nancy Dillon	Brian & Amanda Daly, Deana Czaban	Steve & Anne Schultz, Stephen & Sally Falatko	Thomas & Heidi Grisius, Mark & Katie McKinley	Ryan & Mandi Walsh, Richard & Sharon Purnell
USHERS	Early	Bill & Beth Gibson	Mark & Nancy Baker	Bryan & Shiloh Field	Paul Miller & Laurraine Landolt	Rick & Kelly Cockrill
	Late	Steve & Anne Schultz, Tred & Debi Parry	Keith & Regina Brzozowsky, Mark & Katie McKinley	Susan Collins, Sandy Wehr, Bob Ryan, Billy Dillon	Jimmy Eddinger, Jim Heim, Steve & Anne Schultz	Tred & Debi Parry, Keith & Regina Brzozowsky
GREETERS	Early	Mark Baker	Ron Clark	Bill Gibson	Joe Matthews	Dell Nunaley
	Late	Jon Corbett	Jim Heim	Tom Coate	Dan LaPre	Jon Corbett
TELLERS		Pat Long & Sven Johnson	Howard & Linda Evans	Jim & Maggie Heim	Steve & Sally Falatko	Jim & Wynell Schatz
ALTAR GUILD		Pat Pearson, Linda Evans, Debi Parry, Laurraine Landolt, Jane Mitchell-Baugh, Kelly Cockrill	Nancy Dillon, Judy Hall, Una LaPre, Linda Turner, Justine Phelan	Nancy Dillon, Judy Hall, Una LaPre, Linda Turner, Justine Phelan	Nancy Dillon, Judy Hall, Una LaPre, Linda Turner, Justine Phelan	Bobbie Wilhelm, Jean Kuhns, Ruth Ensor, Mari Campbell

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!

## JANUARY Anniversaries and Birthdays

1-3	Brian Daly
1-5	Madelyn Jenkins
1-6	Callista Daly Elizabeth Wagstaff
1-7	Eli Field
1-8	Jen Coate
1-10	Arthur Laurent Riley O'Neil
1-11	Matt Kakol Don Winger
1-12	Debby Caulfield
1-13	Emmy Holdorf
1-14	Claire Falatko Patti Flowers
1-16	Addie Winger
1-17	Paul Navarro
1-20	Debbie Pappas
1-22	James Hall
1-24	Katharine Wagstaff
1-25	Mark Matthews
1-26	Charles Baugh
1-27	Marina Liburdi
1-28	Regina Brzozowsky Alex Casey Penny Duhring Liz Tuohy
1-29	Teddy Curtis
1-30	Carla Ramsey Tricia Smith

### What's Happening?

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!

Jan. 1	HOLY EUCHARIST 8 & 10:30am
Jan. 3	Vestry Ministry Mtg. 7pm
Jan. 7	Men's Breakfast 7am
Jan. 8	HOLY BAPTISM Altar Guild Take Down 12pm The Anglican Way 12:30pm Guatemala Mission Info Mtg. 5pm
Jan. 10	Vestry Exec Mtg. 6pm
Jan. 15	The Anglican Way 12:30pm Youth Group 7pm
Jan. 16	Mt. Calvary Guild 10am
Jan. 17	Vestry Mtg. 7pm
Jan. 21	Men's Leadership Mtg. 7am Literary Guild Mtg. 5pm
Jan. 22	Healing Liturgy <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>
Jan. 25	Pastoral Care Team Mtg. 5pm
Jan. 27	Youth Movie Night 7pm
Jan. 29	Youth Group 7pm

## Thank You from Wanda

I am so grateful for the love, prayers, emails, cards, and many other kindnesses shown to me during this time of mourning for my beloved son, Daniel. Many have asked how they can help. There has been a Go Fund Me page set up for Dayna & the girls at: [www.gofundme.com/in-memory-of-daniel-jurascheck?r=95243](http://www.gofundme.com/in-memory-of-daniel-jurascheck?r=95243)

Thank you again and God bless you!

## Revised Common Lectionary Readings for JANUARY

Date	Sunday	First Lesson	Psalm	Second Lesson	Gospel
1	Epiphany	Isaiah 60:1-6	72:1-7,10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
8	1 Epiphany	Isaiah 42:1-9	29	Acts 10:34-43	Matthew 3:13-17
15	2 Epiphany	Isaiah 49:1-7	40:1-12	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	John 1:29-42
22	3 Epiphany	Isaiah 9:1-4	27:1, 5-13	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	Matthew 4:12-23
29	4 Epiphany	Micah 6:1-8	15	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	Matthew 5:1-12



# JANUARY

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> Bible Study	2	3 Vestry Ministry Mtg	4 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> Bible Study	5	6	7 Men's Breakfast <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b>
8 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> SS & SF Altar Guild Anglican Way Bible Study Mission Info Mtg Youth Group	9	10 Vestry Exec Mtg.	11 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> Bible Study	12	13	14 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b>
15 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> SS & SF Anglican Way Bible Study Youth Group	16 Mt. Calvary Guild	17 Vestry Mtg.	18 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> Bible Study	19	20	21 Men's Leadership Mtg  Literary Guild <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b>
22 Newsletter Deadline <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> & Healing Liturgy SS & SF The Creed Bible Study	23	24	25 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> PC Team Mtg. Bible Study	26	27 Youth Movie Night	28 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b>
29 <b>HOLY EUCHARIST</b> SS & SF The Creed Bible Study Youth Group	30	31				

**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](http://www.stpetes.net)**

Rector: The Rev. Thomas W. Simmons IV  
— [frtom@stpetes.net](mailto:frtom@stpetes.net)

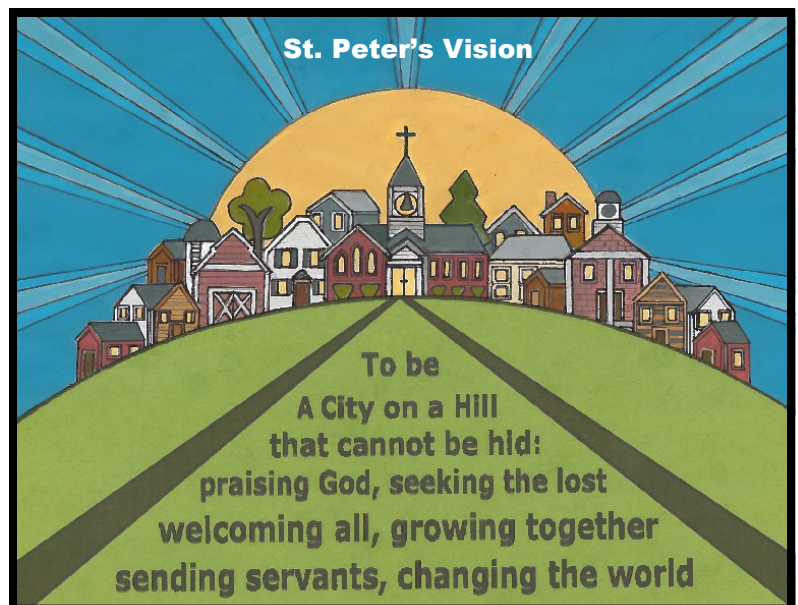
Director of Children's Ministries:  
Kathleen Voss— [dcm@stpetes.net](mailto:dcm@stpetes.net)

Directors of Youth Ministries:  
Jon & Kristin Coate—[youthd@stpetes.net](mailto:youthd@stpetes.net)

Parish Administrator: Wanda Munsey Juraschek  
— [office@stpetes.net](mailto:office@stpetes.net)

Financial Administrator: Diane Adams  
— [bookkeeper@stpetes.net](mailto:bookkeeper@stpetes.net)

Sexton: Chris Daniels — [sexton@stpetes.net](mailto:sexton@stpetes.net)



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