

St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
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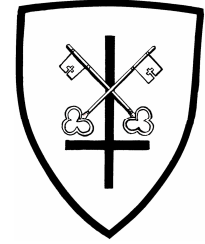
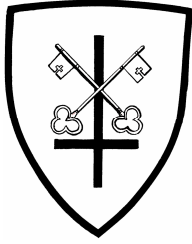
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# JANUARY PARISH MEMBER SERVICE SCHEDULE

**January is Usher Team 5:** Peter D., Bruce A., Dick J., Rob M., Len N., Paul S., Marvin

	January 4	January 11	January 18	January 25
<b><u>Acolytes</u></b>				
<b>8:00</b>	Austen A.	Volunteer Needed	Jacqueline M.	Volunteer Needed
<b>9:00</b>	Alison B., Emily L., Kirsten K.	Elsie G., Neil G., Meredith R.	Claire C., Sarah C., An- gela H.	Jack W., Sarah L., Alison B., Meredith Randle, Chrissy R.
<b>11:00</b>	Chrissy R., Grace R., Caroline M.	John R., Hayley M., Zoli M.	Alex G., Erin G., Mi- caela G.	John R., Elsie G., Caroline M., Grace R., Thomas S.
<b><u>Chalicians</u></b>				
<b>8:00</b>	Ed W.	Tootie K.	Mike L.	Bill M.
<b>9:00</b>	Sue B. Georgeanne J.	Thad K. Sharon S.	Kathi A. Laura D.	Sue B. Georgeanne J.
<b>11:00</b>	Keith A. Alan B.	Jeff C. Jim L.	Judith L. Andy O.	Paul S. Larry S.
<b><u>Lay Readers</u></b>				
<b>8:00</b>	Bill M. Tootie K.	Sharon S. Jim S.	Lee M. Erika S.	Chris R. Sally H.
<b>9:00</b>	Kirsten K. Eric S.	Neil G. Ned S.	Claire C. Audrey V.	Jack W. Len N.
<b>11:00</b>	Kathi A. Bob M.	Larry S. Gail H.	Jim L. Lorraine G.	Bob W. Rob G.
<b><u>Altar Guild</u></b>				
<b>Weekly Capt.</b>	Karen S.	Pam P.	Katie E.	Jessie N.
<b>Flowers</b>	Caroline R., Meta P., Karen S.	Caroline R., Meta P., Karen S.	Caroline R., Meta P., Karen S.	Caroline R., Meta P., Karen S.
<b><u>Greeters</u></b>				
<b>9:00</b>	Karen & Peter M.	Joe D.	Kathryn H.	Katie E.
<b>11:00</b>	Jim & Bettie J.	Catharine G.	Bill & Judy W.	Taffy G.

# ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



## THE KEY

JANUARY 2009

*"Called together in Christ, Transformed by God's grace, Sent out to serve."*

### FROM THE ASSISTANT RECTOR

Dear Friends,

I am sitting here in the midst of Advent, trying to write an Epiphany letter, as my mind thinks about a Christmas sermon, while in region meetings we are planning Lent and Easter, and even, in one case, Lent 2010! All the while I'm inundated with Christmas carols, Santa Claus, and thoughts of the Christmas shopping I still need to do—and wondering when I'll find time and energy to fight the crowds to finish it. It's all a bit crazy-making. It's difficult to enter fully into one season while my mind is split into so many directions and so many seasons. But this is the way we live, isn't it? We get our kids ready for school as our mind churns through what we have to do that day, where the kids need to be after school and by the way, what are we going to have for dinner? Our weekends are planned months in advance. Vacations are planned years ahead.

Our lives are so full and so scheduled that the slightest interruption or delay causes major problems. A flat tire becomes a tragedy because of the disruption it causes. If we get sick, we ignore it and press on. If a child gets sick, we have some major scrambling to do. Yet, life is full of disruptions. I am continually reminded of how quickly our life can change. I never planned on spending the fall recovering from knee surgery. I never planned on spending what will be a total of 10 months (including time prior to surgery) in

physical therapy. And my disruption is minor. Members of our community have had, and will continue to have, far more major interruptions in their lives.

Accidents, illnesses and deaths are tragic disruptions that we wish for no one. Yet, I wonder, are our lives too full and scheduled to allow for the pleasant surprises? What do we miss by being so busy? What do we pass by without even noticing?

The shepherds were minding their own business on that Christmas night so long ago; they were settling in to keep their sheep safe from the dangers of the night. Yet, they left what they were doing and went to Bethlehem. The traditional crèche shows a few sheep with the shepherds at the manger. I've always figured they left most, if not all, of the flock behind. Perhaps they left a few shepherds back with them. I don't know. We do know at least some of the shepherds left their jobs and went to Bethlehem. Does the thought of wandering away from your job seem as foreign to you as it does to me? How many of us would have been so busy and so preoccupied that we would have failed to notice the entire choir of angels singing to us? The shepherds noticed, followed, and, as a result, saw the face of God.

The wise men gave up several years of their lives to wander around the countryside looking for the Christ child. They weren't sure where they

### DATES TO NOTE:

- 1,19 - Office Closed
- 1 - SOME
- 2,9,16,23,30 - Women's Bible Study
- 3,10,17,24,31 - Icon Writing
- 4,10,11,17,18,24,25,31 - Play Rehearsals
- 6 - First Tuesday Commission Meetings
- 7,14,21,28 - Handbell Choir Practice
- 7,14,21,28 - Adult Choir Practice
- 14,28 - Youth Choir Practice
- 8,15,22,29 - Thursday Ears
- 8 - Trivium Bare Bible Study
- 9,10 - Vestry Retreat
- 9,30 - Meals on Wheels
- 12 - Finance Committee Meeting
- 12, 26 - Prayer Group
- 13 - Second Tuesday Commission Meetings
- 15 - Key Articles Due
- 16,17,18 - Women's Retreat
- 20 - Vestry Meeting
- 22 - Trivium After Work
- 25 - Visitation of the Bishop
- 25 - St. Peter's Concert
- 31 - Sunday School Teacher Training

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were going. They went to Jerusalem first. In fact, they inadvertently tipped Herod off when they stopped at the palace to ask for directions. They could have turned around anywhere along the way. How many of us would have? How many of us would not have started out at all? Yet the wise men continued to follow, of all things, a star, and they too saw the face of God.

God is full of surprises. Time after time in the Bible an individual is surprised by an encounter with God, like the shepherds and wise men were. Have we allowed our lives to become so overly filled and scheduled that we have left no room for God to surprise us? Can you

even imagine dropping everything you are doing and going off following a star for who knows how long to who knows where? Can we allow even a tiny opening to give God the opportunity and space to transform us? Perhaps we may even see the face of God.

I pray we will notice it.

In faith,



The Rev. Ann Martens

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN —

As this is my last article for the *Key* as the Senior Warden, I wanted share a few thoughts on what your vestry accomplished during the past year and what lies ahead for St. Peter's. A year in the life of our parish is not a long period of time and yet it is very important that the leadership of our Church provide guidance and initiate actions to ensure St. Peter's remains a healthy and vibrant spiritual community. As I have written before, our parish is not a static one. In fact, by almost any measurement we continue to grow in Sunday service attendees, attendance at Sunday School, programs, staff, and our budget, just to name a few. Given the short period of time in which each vestry serves, this vestry decided to begin the process of addressing the growth of our parish in a concrete and deliberate way. The result of this first step was the Vision Task Force (VTF) and the results summarized in its report. The follow-on steps to this report will be dealt with by the next vestry and for years to come. I look back on this first step with pride and satisfaction. I look ahead with incredible anticipation.

In addition to the VTF process, we prepared for the sabbatical that Craig and Meta will undertake during the first half of 2009, witnessed the continued growth of our vibrant Sunday school, enjoyed the continued expansion of our young adults/young families program, just to name a few. As with any organization, we always have work to do. Your vestry is aware that more work needs to be done to develop and implement programs for our senior parishioners. The financial health of our parish always requires some work. We have more work to do in the area of providing financial support to our diocese. These are but a few of the issues facing the leadership of St. Peter's in the years ahead.

I look to the future with excitement and anticipation. Numerous steps are now in place to guide St. Peter's on the journey that lies before us. Next year, more discussion and consultation within our parish will occur as we move forward in ways to address our growth. I am confident that over the next several years, additional steps will unfold as we implement a comprehensive inclusive strategy to incorporate the growth we have seen at St. Peter's. Some of these steps will be tangible, such as changes to our physical plant; others will be manifested in new programs for our congregation. I leave the vestry with great hope and confidence that wonderful things are in store for St. Peter's.

My service as Senior Warden would not have been nearly as satisfying and fulfilling without the help of numerous people. There are many of you I relied on for advice, from whom I sought input, and with whom I shared ideas. To all of you, thank you. I would however, like to single out three people for special thanks—Craig for his vast knowledge of the church and theology; Gretchen Ginerty, my Junior Warden, for her calm, methodical approach to seemingly every issue that came before us; and my wonderful wife, Patti, for her exceptional support of my service on the vestry.

Peace,  
Steve

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**PARISH NEWS —**

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**ST. PETER'S ANNUAL EPIPHANY PAJAMA PARTY  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, AT 6 P.M.**

Wear your favorite pair of pajamas, bring your preferred stuffed animal, and let us read you a bedtime story or two. There will be a baby sleeping in hay, three men in funny hats carrying presents, and maybe a talking animal or two!

We'll start promptly at 6 p.m. with milk and cookies, then tuck in to the chapel for story time.

Don't forget a comfy blanket to sit on or curl up under!

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**VISITATION OF THE BISHOP**

Mark your calendars! The annual visitation of the Bishop will be January 25. This year we will celebrate the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation with the Bishop Coadjutor, the Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston, at the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services.

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**SHRINE MONT RETREAT 2009**

Save the date! We will have our annual parish retreat at Shrine Mont from April 17 through 19, 2009. We had a record 315 attendees last year, and it's very likely we can set a new record this year. Because of our increased numbers, we are working closely with the Shrine Mont staff on our housing. Please be aware that we may have some different housing locations this year than we've had previously, but we will do our best to honor requests as we are able and make sure everyone has a bed. Watch for registration forms in the February *Key*, future eNewsletters, and in the Narthex by late January.

If you would like to help with the retreat planning, please contact Lisa L.—we will kick off our planning in early January.

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**FLOWER MINISTRY**

The Pastoral Care Commission would like to begin a flower ministry in which the altar flowers will be delivered after the 11:00 service to parishioners living near the church who are sick, or who have just had a baby, or who have other special circumstances. We are seeking volunteers for this ministry. The clergy will determine who will receive the flowers; the volunteers' job will be to put a few flowers in a vase (provided) and deliver them. It will take only a few extra minutes for those who attend the 11:00 service (people who attend other services are welcome to participate also). This would be a great family activity or an activity one person can do alone.

If you can help with this ministry or if you would like more information, please see Kristin Oliver or the Rev. Ann Martens.

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**COOKS WANTED!**

Our wonderful Meals That Heal crew is always looking for more volunteers. This group provides meals as needed to parish families, and the more cooks we have, the more people we can help take care of. If you can cook and/or deliver meals, we'd love to know. Please contact Bess J. or Lisa L. if you can help or would like more information.

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**ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL ST. PETER'S CHRISTMAS TREE SALE**

Diane and I want to thank the people who made this year's Christmas tree sale a huge success. The church made over \$3000 this year. Our office manager, Nikol Destatte, did an incredible job supporting our project. The following worked the lot in wet and cold weather: Larry S., Russ T., Tim H., John M., Bob H., Lloyd S., Bill L., Betty L., and Sharon J. Collins E., Jim D., and Blair F. delivered and set up trees. Bob H. took the extra trees to the YMCA for needy families. The interaction with non-church members and the fellowship makes this annual project very special. Thank you, to everyone! Diane and Gary.

## PARISH NEWS (CONT.) —

### LIGHT OF THE WORLD THANKS

Thanks to those who so willingly shared their photographs, paintings, sculpture, collages, prints, needlework, encouragement and time. They were Anna F., Lynn W., Anne S., Susan L., James C., Anita W., Legaré H., Taffy G., Ann M., Gloria Z., Craig P., Sophie W., Tom H., Rob S., Ralph H., Helen P. H., Gary C., Judy W., Glenna W., Jeff C., Laura B., Nicki S., Valerie M., and Rachel G. Thanks also to everyone who took the time to go see the exhibit. If you haven't caught it, there's still time!

My heartfelt gratitude goes to Anne S., Karen S., Ruth P., Jayne S., Anna F., and the Fellowship and Worship Commissions for discussions over the last two years that encouraged this project and hopefully many others. Thanks to Laura B. for her encouragement and practical advice. The enthusiasm of those who attended the October adult forum led by Deborah Sokolov, curator of the Dadian Gallery, helped spur on the project, too.

Acknowledgements would not be complete if I did not thank the Icon Writers of St. Peter's, whose practice inspired me to investigate what makes art "Christian." I learned that Jesus was the first "Icon" or image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation (Col. 1:15) and that Christian art has Christ at its heart. The awe and reverence for God's creation are evident in the pieces in "The Light of the World."

Thank you,  
Meta P.

### NARNIA 2009 BEGINS REHEARSAL ON JANUARY 4, 2009, AT 12:30 P.M.

Rehearsals start on Sunday, January 4, 2009 at 12:30 p.m. at St. Peter's. Sunday rehearsals are from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m., and are always full company.

Parents, please make time to attend a very important meeting immediately after the start of rehearsal on January 4 in the Chapel. If you have questions before the fourth, please e-mail [narnia2009@comcast.net](mailto:narnia2009@comcast.net).

Cast: Second grade through high school seniors. If you have not signed up, or don't have a chance to before the fourth, just come. We want you in *Narnia*.

Performances will be the weekend of March 13-16, 2009.

To sign up, e-mail [narnia2009@comcast.net](mailto:narnia2009@comcast.net) (if you have not already), the following information:

- Name(s) of child(ren)
- Grade(s) level(s) of Child(ren)
- Name(s) of parent(s)
- E-mail address(es)
- Preferred telephone number
- AND answer this question (for each participant): Would you like to audition for a big part, be considered for a smaller solo singing part, or just enjoy being part of the company?

We'll see you in *Narnia*!

Lorraine, Stage Director

Kim, Music Director

Ruth, Production Stage Manager

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## PARISH NEWS (CONT.) —

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### THANK YOU

St. Peter's 2008 Secret Santa tree helped many of our needy and troubled brothers and sisters in Virginia. Following is the letter of thanks we received when we sent off our gifts to the Jackson-Feild Homes near Richmond.

*Dear Ms. Brannan,*

*Wow. Thank you very much for your extremely generous support of the five girls in Darden Cottage whom the parishioners of St. Peter's adopted for Christmas. Your \$100 donation for each of the girls will help us make their holiday wishes come true.*

*With the loving support of our many donors, this will be the best Christmas many of the girls at JFH have ever had. Please thank the members of the Mission Commission for their warm support of our holiday Adopt-a-Girl program. We wish all our friends at St. Peter's a holiday season filled with joy, love and peace.*

*Ann*

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS —

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Happy New Year! Sunday School had a great first half with enthusiastic and dedicated teachers and energetic students. We welcomed new families and feel very blessed with our growth.

### Successful Christmas Pageant

We give many thanks to Jennifer W. and Emily K. for a wonderful Christmas Pageant in December. We had more sheep, angels and stars than ever before! Chris S. and Ward L. did a great job on the set and added a special new feature: the star moving across the ceiling! Thanks also to Susan L. for costume assistance.

### Choir Members Joining Music Time

One activity that really paid off for us was choir members joining Emily for music time in the classroom. Thanks to all who joined us—it is helpful for the children to see more adults downstairs.

### Storytellers Welcome

The Pre-K class is so large that they have added a story time in a second room to help with the crowd during craft time. If you would like to assist with reading a story to a group of adorable Pre-K students, please let us know.

### Curriculum Evaluation

This spring we will be assembling a small group to evaluate our Sunday School curriculum for 2009–10. We are pleased with the switch we made in the grade 5/6 class this year.

### Sunday School Dates to Note

December 28—No Sunday School

April 12—No Sunday School: Easter Egg hunt at 10 a.m.

April 19—No Sunday School: Shrine Mont weekend

May 26—Memorial Day weekend: Check with your teacher regarding class

June 14—Last day of Sunday School

## COMMISSION NEWS —

### MISSION COMMISSION NEWS

As of mid-December, the parish was busily collecting gifts, warm clothing and many other items to fulfill Secret Santa wish lists. Under the capable leadership of Mary Jane S., the Secret Santa program will help the young women from abusive home situations living at the Jackson-Feild Homes near Richmond, Virginia. Our very own Tillie S. serves on the Board of Trustees for the Jackson-Feild Homes foundation. J-F Homes began as an orphanage established in the Tidewater area by Episcopal clergy following epidemics in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The organization has evolved to help young women who come from abusive homes.

Secret Santa this year is also helping the Arlington Housing Corporation. AHC not only preserves and builds affordable housing units for low and moderate income families but also provides programs for residents. Families can access after-school programs, tutoring and adult workshops. This is the first year that AHC has requested help in providing warm clothing for children of their resident families.

In late November, St. Peter's delivered to an extremely grateful Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington dozens of Thanksgiving dinner food "baskets" and Safeway gift cards for turkeys or hams. This effort was brilliantly led by Jan G. We were told by SMGW that we provide the bulk of the Thanksgiving meals for the needy families SMGW helps.

In other Mission Commission news, we have received funding from a Human Needs Grant from the Diocese of Virginia. Sheridan C. applied for this grant. She described the work that St. Peter's has done in assisting with clean water projects in western Kenya. This area is home to a former priest associate at St. Peter's, Samuel Sudhe. The \$2,500 grant will be used to construct a new well in the area near the village of Assembo in Kenya. St. Peter's has assisted with other clean water projects over the last few years, building several water catchment systems to collect and store rainwater (see pictures on the Mission bulletin board in the Narthex).

In January, Mission Commission will turn its attention to planning for mission trips in the summer. This year, we will be focusing on the Dominican Republic trip as well as trips that our fabulous young people might undertake. Other projects that will probably take place in the spring include a fundraising event and a toiletries and "walking food" drive for the homeless clients of SMGW. We will also take part in the Rebuilding Together (aka Christmas in April) event (April 25-26, 2009).

### 2008 PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD

In December 2008, our parishioners began sending their warm Christmas wishes to other parishioners by signing the St. Peter's Parish Christmas Card in the Narthex. They saved the expense of sending a card and their contribution supported the mission work of St. Peter's Church. As of mid-December, our generous parishioners had raised \$455.

Our beautiful card featured an icon of the *Theotokos* (Greek, meaning bearer of God), or *Mother of God*. There are several typical representations of Mary in iconography. This icon is an example of the "Tender Mercy" or "Eleousa" style. This style is typical of icons created from c. 1100 to c. 1700. The icon was reproduced in our St. Peter's icon writing class.

The following parishioners had signed the card as of mid-December:

Jan G.

Sally H. and Family

Linda G. and Bill S.

Suzanne and Tom B.

Gwyneth, Scott, Katie and Chrissy R.

Nancy and Jack S.

Taffy G.

Paddy L. and Tim H.

Barbara E. and Peter C.

Tootie K. and Mike L.

Patty F. and Gary G.

Lynn, Ed, Bob, Tom and Jack W.

Nora, Len, Hailey and Grace

Bill and Judy W.

Tom and Legare H.

Claire and Ward D.

## VESTRY NEWS —

### Vestry Highlights December 16, 2008

#### **At its December meeting, the St. Peter's Vestry:**

**Approved a budget for 2009.** The budget is in rough balance assuming that St. Peter's is able to conclude a contract to provide parking spaces for construction workers from Marymount University for a monthly donation of \$1,800 for 12-19 months. The budget also assumes that there will be an additional \$60,000 in pledges from the 34 "units" still outstanding.

This budget provides for \$25,000 to rebuild a depleted maintenance reserve fund and to increase the parish's pledge to the Diocese of Virginia by \$12,000 over 2008. As large as the diocesan pledge may seem, it will still leave St. Peter's in the bottom 10 percent of parishes as a percent of pledges.

However, all other accounts except staff pay have been held at or below 2008 levels. Parish giving is not keeping pace with parish needs. The next vestry will examine ways to raise income and lower expenses but significant new efforts will require an increase in pledge-giving, since non-pledge gifts cannot be included in the parish budget.

**Received a report from the Stewardship Committee** that as of December 15, it had received 171 pledges for \$693,895 with some outstanding pledges remaining. Of those, 11 are from new members.

**Gratefully approved receiving a gift of \$4,000** for new choir robes from Glenna W. and Jeff C.

**Voted to proceed with the next step in discerning the future of St. Peter's buildings** by voting to accept an offer by parishioner Rob S. to put together an architectural preliminary master plan for a fixed fee of \$7,500. The fee is one-half to one-third of the going rate for such work. The project will produce drawings necessary for the church to decide how to proceed in solving its space needs and will provide a base for basic cost estimates if St. Peter's decides to proceed further.

**Heard from the Personnel Committee** that it is very close to recommending a Priest-in-Charge to serve in Craig Phillips' place while he and Meta are on sabbatical.

**Voted unanimously to certify parishioner Mary T.** for ordination as a Deacon on her graduation from seminary.

## ADULT FORUM —

### Adult Forum Schedule for January 2009

#### January 4

#### **Option I: Inquirer's Class: The History, Polity and Governance of the Episcopal Church—Led by the Very Rev. Craig A. Phillips, Ph.D.**

Our rector will present an overview of the history of our church, how it is organized and governed, and how policy and new canon law is made, from the national church of the Presiding Bishop headquartered in New York down to the diocesan level. Most of us already know that "Episcopal" means "governed by bishops," and we will discuss how bishops are chosen, how long they serve, the bounds of their authority, and what powers they have at their disposal to regulate church life. We'll also talk about the general convention and how the two representative bodies of ordained and lay men and women work together to elect new leaders capable of meeting the challenges ahead.

## ADULT FORUM (CONT.) —

### **Option II: A Study from the Book of Samuel: The Providence of God—Led by Jayne S.**

The *Books of Samuel* are a terrific story of the Providence of God and the power of man—the account of Israel’s struggle to adapt its faith to radically changed social realities. The books are about powerful personalities—the dominating characters Samuel, Saul, David and Solomon. There is also a rich cast of supporting characters: Hannah, Nathan, Abigail and Bathsheba. Personalities loom large. Power looms large. How is power exercised? What represents legitimate power? What is the difference when the power exercised by a leader is the gift of God over and against the temptation to think that the authority and leadership is something that the leader can grasp? The achievement of human political power is not without its dangers. The temptation to think of human power as autonomous is considerable. To wield that power in the service of self-interest and in disregard of God’s ultimate authority and rule is to incur judgment. The narrator understands that in the juxtaposition of human power and divine will, God possess the final authority. The themes of *Samuel* are as pertinent today as they were at the time of David and the time of Babylonian captivity.

**January 11**

### **Option I: Guest Speaker: Charles “Buck” Blanchard, World Mission Coordinator for the Diocese of Virginia**

We are especially fortunate to have Buck Blanchard dropping by to talk about what is going on with world missions in the Diocese. He’ll also discuss the importance of having a strong missions program at the local church level as well as opportunities that exist in the diocesan level. A graduate of the University of Colorado, Buck is an experienced world traveler, including a stint in the Peace Corps in Togo, West Africa, in the early 1980s. Before coming to the Diocese he worked in law, private equity, and venture capital. Buck Blanchard will preach at the 9 and 11 o’clock services as well as address us at the 10 o’clock adult forum. We can expect to hear him urge us to get involved! All are welcome.

### **Option II: Inquirer’s Class: Prayer and Spirituality in the Episcopal Church—Led by the Rev. Mary Demmler**

The practice of prayer and spirituality in the Episcopal Church runs deep, with many fissures and great variety. Come learn about traditions old and new as well as the ways Episcopalians sample practices—not just from other Christian traditions, but from other faiths as well.

**January 18**

### **Option I: The Theology of the Incarnation—Led by the Very Rev. Craig A. Phillips, Ph.D.**

The Incarnation, from the Latin “in the flesh,” is a central doctrine of Orthodox Christianity. It is the belief that God took on a human body and nature and become both man and God: *And the Word became Flesh and Dwelt among us* (John 1:14). The theology was developed in the early church councils of the fourth century in response to several different heretical movements of that era concerning the nature of Jesus. The councils of Nicea (325), Ephesus (431) and Chalcedon (451) declared that Jesus was both fully God, begotten but not created by the Father, and fully man, taking His flesh and human nature from Mary. Two natures: human and divine united into one Personhood of Jesus Christ. The Incarnation is an important part of what makes Christianity unique among world religions. We hope that you will join us to learn more about this essential doctrine of the Church.

## ADULT FORUM (CONT.) —

### Option II: Church Operations and Setting-Up Procedures—Led by Sexton Chris Neumann

Have you ever wondered how the church worship spaces get magically reset after an event? Have you ever wondered how the proper configuration of tables and chairs materializes in the first place? If the answer to these questions is yes, then you have probably read too much Harry Potter and your favorite figure in classical mythology is Sisyphus. Nonetheless if the answer to these conundrums is diverting or potentially useful to you, please attend this forum. There is a science to how the worship spaces are set, albeit a minor one, and once you master the easy-to-learn metrics and techniques, putting things back will go from a daunting chore to a matter of routine. Your host will reveal the numinous lore of “sextoning,” that most minor of ecclesiastical offices. Amaze your friends! Confound your critics! All will be agog at the effortless aplomb you display in performing the most intricate evolutions of the chair and table ballet. This forum will be geared to newcomers and volunteers (new and experienced) for the play and other events. All are welcome.

### January 25—The Annual Visitation of the Bishop

#### Plenary Session: Bishop Co-Adjutor the Right Reverend Shannon Johnston

Bishop Co-Adjutor Johnston will be making his first formal annual visit as bishop to St. Peter's for baptism and confirmation Sunday. Upon Bishop Lee's resignation by May of 2010, Bishop Johnston will become the thirteenth Bishop of Virginia. Born in Florence, Alabama, in 1958, Bishop Johnston is a noted liturgist and promotes evangelism, Bible study, and classic theology as essential to parish life. Before coming to the Diocese of Virginia he served in churches in Alabama and Mississippi. He enjoys traveling and following the Green Bay Packers. Bishop Johnston will speak to the entire parish at the 10:00 hour.

## MUSIC AT ST. PETER'S —

### ***SONGS TO CHASE THE WINTER AWAY* CONCERT, SUNDAY, JANUARY 25**

It's January—are you getting tired of winter, and ready for spring? Mark your calendars and plan to attend *Songs to Chase the Winter Away*, presented by Concerts at St. Peter's on Sunday, January 25, at 4 p.m.

St. Peter's singers and friends will offer an eclectic and refreshing mix of songs from folk song and Broadway and Top 40, to art songs and opera arias. Kim W. will provide piano accompaniment and commentary. In the spirit of last year's greatly enjoyed *Sing Me a Love Song* event, *Songs to Chase the Winter Away* has something for everyone. Spend a chilly Sunday afternoon in the warmth of friends, good music, and the promise of spring!

All are invited to attend *Songs to Chase the Winter Away*, as well as the reception following the concert. Your friends and neighbors are welcome, too! Admission is free (donations are gratefully accepted in support of Concerts at St. Peter's).

For the convenience of families with young children, child care will be available during the concert.

MUSIC AT ST. PETER'S (CONT.) —

**Concerts at St. Peter's  
Presents**

# ***Songs to Chase the Winter Away***

*An Entertaining Musical Journey  
from Darkness to Light, from Winter to Spring*

**Sunday, January 25, 2009  
4 p.m.**

*St. Peter's singers and friends offer an eclectic and refreshing  
mix of songs from folk song and Broadway and Top 40,  
to art songs and opera arias.*

*Spend a chilly Sunday afternoon in the warmth of friends,  
good music, and the promise of spring!*

*Kim W.  
will provide piano accompaniment and commentary.*

**Admission Is Free  
(Donations Accepted)**

**Join Us at a Reception Following the Concert**

## MUSIC AT ST. PETER'S (CONT.) —

### Jesus Shall Reign

1719

*His name shall endure forever; His name shall continue as long as the sun. And men shall be blessed in Him; All nations shall call Him blessed.*

—Psalm 72:17

While living on the Abney estate, Isaac Watts devoted himself to a massive project, adapting the Book of Psalms for Christian worship. In 1719, *The Psalms of David Imitated in the Language of the New Testament* was published. In it, Watts worked his way through most of the 150 psalms, paraphrasing them, injecting them with New Testament truth, and framing them in singing form.

He explained his approach with these words: “Where the Psalmist describes religion by the fear of God, I have often joined faith and love to it. Where he speaks of the pardon of sin through the mercies of God, I have added the merits of a Savior. Where he talks of sacrificing goats or bullocks, I rather choose to mention the sacrifice of Christ, the Lamb of God. Where He promises abundance of wealth, honor, and long life, I have changed some of these typical blessings for grace, glory, and life eternal, which are brought to light by the gospels, and promised in the New Testament.”

Several of these have become favorites that have withstood the ages. His rendition of Psalm 72, for example, has been called the first missions hymn: “Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun.”

This hymn played a role in the life of Eric Liddell, Scottish Olympic hero of the 1924 games in Paris, who became a missionary to China with the London Missionary Society. His departure from Edinburgh was never to be forgotten. His friends escorted him in a festooned carriage from Scottish Congregational Church to Waverley Station, where multitudes gathered. Before boarding the train, Liddell spoke to the crowds, saying he was going abroad to endeavor to do his part in trying to unify the countries of the world under Christ. “Let our motto be ‘Christ for the World, for the World needs Christ,’” he shouted. He then led in two verses of “Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun.”\* If, on that memorable day, Liddell sang all the verses of “Jesus Shall Reign” he would have come to this one:

*The saints shall flourish in His days,  
Dressed in robes of joy and praise;  
Peace, like a river, from His throne  
Shall flow to nations yet unknown.*

\*Eric Liddell served courageously in China until his death in 1945 in a Japanese internment camp.

(Excerpted from *Then Sings My Soul* [Robert J. Morgan, Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2003, pg. 37])

## OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST —

### THE ARLINGTON FOOD ASSISTANCE CENTER (AFAC)

The Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) has experienced an 80% increase in food demand over this time last year. Just so you know how it works: only residents of Arlington can qualify to receive food from AFAC, and they must be referred by a specific recognized institution such as the staff nurses of Arlington Public Schools, or the county's Crisis Intake Center. According to AFAC there is little or no abuse of this process. The clients are overwhelmingly the "working poor" of Arlington County, but also include elderly and disabled residents and refugees. There is a particular demand right now for cereal and canned meats. In a related national development, there are now 30 million American receiving USDA food stamps—the highest level on record. Please consider AFAC in your giving plans, and don't forget to bring your extra non-perishable food to the church.

### AT ST. PETER'S IN 2009

#### February

TBA - Youth Lock-In

02/01/09 - Godspeed Ceremony for Rector's Sabbatical

02/21/09 - Godly Play Training

02/24/09 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

02/25/09 - Ash Wednesday

#### March

TBA - Sr. High PYM Weekend

03/04,11,18,25/09 - Region 3 Lenten Program

03/13,14,15/09- *Narnia* Performances

03/31/09 - Mission Trip Sign-up Deadline

#### April

04/01/09 - Region 3 Lenten Program

04/09/09 - Seder Dinner

04/10/09 - Good Friday

04/11/09 - Region 3 Easter Vigil Service (St. Peter's)

04/12/09 - Easter Sunday

04/17-19/09 - Shrine Mont Parish Retreat

04/25/09 - Rebuilding Together: Christmas in April

#### May

05/03/09 - St. Peter's Concerts Presents

05/16/09 - Godly Play Teacher Training Wrap-up

#### June

06/07/09 - Graduating Seniors' Dinner

06/13/09 - Sunday School Teacher Wrap-up

06/14/09 - Last Day of Sunday School and Godly Play

06/21/09 - Welcome Back for Rector

06/28/09 - St. Peter's Parish Picnic

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**

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Office Hours:  
Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
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Web Site: [www.saint-peters.org](http://www.saint-peters.org)

**Staff:**

The Very Reverend Craig A. Phillips, Ph.D., *Rector*  
The Reverend Mary Demmler, *Assistant Rector*  
The Reverend Ann Martens, *Assistant Rector*  
Christopher Richardson, *Parish Seminarian*  
Don Witman, *Director of Music*  
Emily Koons, *Youth and Junior Choir Director, Organist*  
Nikol Destatte, *Communications Director*  
Christopher Neumann, *Sexton*  
Thomas Gillis, *Sexton Emeritus*

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**Vestry:**

Chair: The Very Reverend Craig A. Phillips, Ph.D.  
Senior Warden: Steven C. (2008)  
Junior Warden: Gretchen G. (2009)  
Register: Paul S.(2010)  
Kathi A. (2009)  
Suzanne B. (2010)  
Jim B. (2009)  
Catharine G. (2010)  
Ward L. (2009)  
Doug M. (2008)  
Jack S. (2010)  
Lynn W. (2008)  
Glenna W. (2008)

**Volunteers:**

Treasurer: Mira B.  
Key Editor: Rob G.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>JANUARY 2009</h1>						
				<b>1</b> <i>New Year's Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i>  6:00am - SOME	<b>2</b> 7:30am - Women's Bible Study	<b>3</b> 12:00pm- Icon Writing
<b>4</b> 8am - HE Rite I 9am - HE Rite II 10am - Adult Forum, Sunday School, The 10 Spot 11am - HE Rite II 12:30pm - Play Rehearsals	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:15pm - First Tuesday Meetings	<b>7</b> 6:30pm - Handbell Choir Practice 7:30 pm - Adult Choir Practice	<b>8</b> 10:00am - Thursday Ears 8:00pm - Trivium Bare Bible Study	<b>9</b> <i>Vestry Retreat</i> 7:30am - Women's Bible Study 11:00am- Meals on Wheels	<b>10</b> <i>Vestry Retreat</i> 10:00am - Play Rehearsal 12:00pm - Icon Writing
<b>11</b> 8am - HE Rite I 9am - HE Rite II 10am - Adult Forum, Sunday School, The 10 Spot 11am - HE Rite II 12:30pm - Play Rehearsals	<b>12</b> 7:30pm - Finance Committee Meeting 7:30pm - Prayer Group	<b>13</b> 7:15pm - Second Tuesday Meetings	<b>14</b> 6:00pm - Youth Choir Practice 6:30pm - Handbell Choir Practice 7:00pm - Godzilla 7:30pm - Adult Choir Practice	<b>15</b> <i>Key Articles Due</i> 10:00am - Thursday Ears	<b>16</b> <i>Women's Retreat</i> 7:30am - Women's Bible Study	<b>17</b> <i>Women's Retreat</i> 10:00am - Play Rehearsal 12:00pm - Icon Writing
<b>18</b> <i>Women's Retreat</i> 8am - HE Rite I 9am - HE Rite II 10am - Adult Forum, Sunday School, The 10 Spot 11am - HE Rite II 12:30pm - Play Rehearsals	<b>19</b> <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>	<b>20</b> 7:00pm - Vestry Meeting	<b>21</b> 6:30pm - Handbell Choir Practice 7:30 pm - Adult Choir Practice	<b>22</b> 10:00am The Thursday Ears 6:00pm - Trivium After Work	<b>23</b> 7:30am - Women's Bible Study	<b>24</b> 10:00am - Play Rehearsal 12:00pm - Icon Writing
<b>25</b> <i>Visitation of the Bishop</i> 8am - HE Rite I 9am - HE Rite II 10am - Adult Forum, Sunday School, The 10 Spot 11am - HE Rite II 12:30pm - Play Rehearsals 4:00pm - St. Peter's Concerts	<b>26</b> 7:30pm - Prayer Group	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:00pm - Youth Choir Practice 6:30pm - Handbell Choir Practice 7:30pm - Godzilla 7:30pm - Adult Choir Practice	<b>29</b> 10:00am - The Thursday Ears	<b>30</b> 7:30am - Women's Bible Study 11:00am- Meals on Wheels	<b>31</b> 9:00am - Sunday School Teacher Training 10:00am - Play Rehearsal 12:00pm - Icon Writing