

CROSSTOWN

At the foot of the cross in downtown St. Petersburg



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Chanticleer, the celebrated all-male chorus, sings here January 21: <u>Page 4.</u>

Meet the Candidates for Chapter: Election on January 26

Six candidates are seeking election to four vacancies on the Chapter, the Cathedral's lay board of directors.

You can meet and hear the candidates at our "Meet the Candidates" event at coffee hour after the 10:15 a.m. service on Sunday, January 12.

We will elect the new Chapter at the Annual Meeting after the 10:15 a.m. service on Sunday, January 26. The Chapter's job is, with the dean, to set policy, oversee the Cathedral finances, and tend to the congregation's spiritual welfare.

At that same meeting we will hear a "state of the Cathedral" report; hear bud-

Meet the Candidates Sunday, January 12

coffee hour after the 10:15 a.m. service

get highlights; and learn about the strategic plan the Chapter has been working on all year.

The candidates are:

Tessa Marie Burnsed: works at Gulfport Elementary; retired from the U.S. Coast Guard; former youth minister; active in Campbell Park outreach, children's ministries (mother of Millie, Adam, Joel, and Milo) and



the 20/40 Group.

Joe Lane: former electronics engineer, designing military satellite communications systems; financial management and planning. Lector, member of Fellowship and Festivities Committee,

Bible study, and Foyer groups.

Anysia McDowall: executive non-profit fund-raiser and ecoentrepreneur: active as a

Jonathan Miller: director of business operations



eucharistic visitor.

for Community Health Centers of Pinellas. Involved in children's ministries and Messy Church.

Michael Ricciardi: semiretired

from a

career in sales, operations management, hospitality, and food service. Active in Fellowship and Festivities, usher, Flower Guild, Messy





Meet the Candidates *continued from page 2*

Church, Acolyte Festival, and deans' and bishops' conferences.

Bill Roen: retired Lutheran pastor, involved in our formation and outreach ministries (weekly Bible study leader, CROP-Walk organizer, Campbell Park volunteer).





Bill Roen

A petition period, during which additional candidates may come forward, closes at noon Sunday, January 5. Petition forms are available at the front desk.

Rotating off the Chapter are Dianne Casorio, Susan Hamilton Churuti, Shar Nudelman, and Tim Staney.

Continuing members are Kerry Carlisle, Lucas Fleming, senior warden Ray Mc-Colgan, Samantha Nevins, Gary Patterson, Herb Polson, Rich Rome, and Karen Torrisi.

MLK Day of Service Offers Opportunities for All Ages

"The time is always right to do what is right."

But it will especially be the right time on Monday, January 20, as we honor the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through service to our community.

The St. Petersurg Deanery (all Episcopal churches in St. Petersburg) are joining

for greater impact on our community. We will offer a variety of opportunities on MLK day. You can choose which ones you care to participate in.

We will begin the day marching in the St. Petersburg MLK Day parade. After the parade we will gather at the Cathedral for lunch. Then we will break into teams to engage in service projects involving

the St. Petersburg Free Clinic, Campbell Park Elementary, Woodlawn Elementary, and the Community Preschool. We will even build a Little Free Library! With projects both at the cathedral and at other locations, there is something for everyone to participate in, regardless of age, experience, or mobility. All are welcome to be

Christ's hands and feet in the world!

Please sign up online at spcathedral.org/ community so we know how many people to expect and can provide the necessary equipment for each project. If you have questions, please contact Canon Paige Hanks (phanks@ spcathedral.com) or Canon Katie Churchwell (kchurchwell@spcathedral.com).



We Welcome Chanticleer, Celebrated and Versatile Chorus, on January 21

The appearance on January 21 of the celebrated all-male chorus Chanticleer "was one of those 'manna from heaven' gifts that just descended," music director and organist Dwight Thomas said.

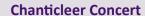
"I've been following Chanticleer since I was in grad school and have always admired them. Then about a year ago I got an e-mail out of the blue from them: They were singing a concert at the University of Florida and wanted to know if they could sing a concert here. We quickly found a way to make that happen."

The chorus of 12 singers, described by critics as "an orchestra of voices," includes members "who can sing soprano-range vocal lines, so it sounds like a regular mixed soprano/alto/tenor/bass choir," Dwight

said.

Chanticleer was founded in San Francisco in 1978 to sing neglected Renaissance and medieval music. Now their repertoire has expanded to classical, Gospel, jazz, folk, and new music. "And they're a friendly, fun, great group," Dwight said. "It's no wonder they have such a huge following and a worldwide reputation" for fine musicianship.

Besides singing hundreds of concerts around the world each year, Chanticleer is deeply involved in outreach, with efforts that involve 5,000 young people each year: master classes, clinics,workshops and choral festivals for singers ranging from elementary school to college and beyond.



When: 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 21
Tickets: Available at spcathedral.org/
music-events



Quiet Day Will Examine Vocation, Our Response to God's Call

A Quiet Day focusing on vocation and the call to live the life to which God invites us will be offered Saturday, January 25.

The day will be led by the Ven. Dr. Kath-

leen Moore, archdeacon of the Diocese of Southwest Florida and dean of the diocesan School for Ministry.

"Vocation — the sense of being called — is a way in which we discover our true self and grow into a larger life," Archdeacon Moore said. "As we do so, we discover the joy of authentic service. The Quiet Day will provide opportunities for discussion, reflection, and contemplation as we explore our personal response

to the call of our baptismal covenant to live out Christ's ministry of reconciliation in the world. Our challenge is not to ask what

the world needs, but to ask what makes us come alive and go do it."

The day will begin with registration and coffee at 9:30 a.m., and the program begins

at 10 a.m. It will include meditation, quiet time, and opportunities to learn about spiritual practices that can sustain us on our spiritual journeys — contemplative prayer, lectio divina, Anglican rosaries — and help us go deeper in faith formation.

The day will end about 2:30 p.m. with a celebration of Holy Eucharist.

Registration opens
January 2. You can register
online: http://www.spca-thedral.org.quiet-day, under

the "events" tab. Or you can sign up at the front desk. A \$5 donation to cover lunch and materials is payable at the door.



The Ven. Dr. Kathleen Moore



Our **FOYER GROUPS** meet from 5:45 to 7 p.m. Thursday, January 16, to enjoy a home-cooked meal (Chefs Jack, Richard, and Marion are in charge; \$5 donation), good conversation, and a chance to make some new friends or deepen ties with old ones. Signup sheets are on the hospitality table in Harvard Hall, and Marion Fleming is happy to welcome you (mimideeda@gmail.com).

Two Opportunities to Become Beloved Community: 'Sacred Grounds' Series and Civil Rights Museum Tour

Betsy Adams

As part of our first steps along the way to racial healing, a group has been meeting

for several months reflecting on and discussing the podcast "Seeing White." We have learned much about the history of race in this country and have explored areas where systemic racism is still prevalent. Through this process our minds have been opened, our hearts have been broken, and our souls have been inspired to action. You can listen to the podcasts at sceneonradio. org/seeing-white/

From Common Ground to Sacred Ground

Maybe you've heard about the meaningful conversations and relationships built through the Seeing White dialogue group. Perhaps you are interested in the work of

Becoming Beloved Community is the Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. It is the dream of a community where all people experience dignity and abundant life and see themselves as beloved children of God.



racial healing, but were unable to attend the group discussions. Beginning in February we will offer a new opportunity for learning and dialogue, "Sacred Ground," a Becoming Beloved Community resource

offered by The Episcopal Church.

"Sacred Ground" is a filmand readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 10-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on

Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific

Becoming Beloved Community continued from Page 6

American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

"Sacred Ground" will be offered on a deanery level so that we might come together with various parishes throughout the area. We will meet on a monthly basis to allow plenty of time to do the personal work needed prior to our discussions.

The introductory session will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, February 1. Lunch will be available. This session will be the longest as we will view a video together, learn about the group process, and begin our discussions.

Contact Canon Paige Hanks (phanks@spcathedral.com) or Betsy Adams (betsyad-ams@earthlink.net) for more information. An introduction to the Sacred Ground series may be found here: https://episcopal-church.org/sacred-ground

Our feet are on the path. We're taking steps along The Way. Let's all continue to move toward Becoming Beloved Community ... toward the Kingdom of God.

For more information on all things "Beloved Community," visit the Becoming Beloved Community page on the Cathedral website: https://www.spcathedral.org/ beloved-community

Museum Tour of 'Beaches, Benches and Boycotts'

On Sunday, January 19, we have reserved a 1:30 p.m. group tour of the "Beaches, Benches and Boycotts" exhibit at the Florida Holocaust Museum. Fittingly, that is the day before Martin Luther King Jr. Day. (https://www.

flholocaustmuseum.org/ explore-2/exhibits/beaches-benches-and-boycottsthe-civil-rights-movementin-tampa-bay/)

We will gather after coffee hour for a light lunch and discussion, then travel over to the museum for our tour. You can sign up at our Becoming Beloved Community page (https://www.spcathedral.org/beloved-community) or at our table in Harvard Hall during coffee hour on January 5 and 12. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$7 for students. Lunch is \$5 (sandwich, chips, drink, dessert).



'Nickel Boys' Uncovers the Horrors In Jim Crow-Era Florida Reform School

Our own hometown newspaper, the *Tampa Bay Times*, broke the story about archaeology students at the University of

South Florida who were digging up and trying to identify the remains of students who had been tortured, raped, and mutilated, then buried in a secret graveyard, at the state-run Dozier School for Boys in the Panhandle town of Marianna.

Now Colson Whitehead, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel The Underground Railroad, has taken on that story in The Nickel Boys, where the Nickel Academy in the fictional town of Eleanor, FL, is a thinly-disguised stand-in for the Dozier School. He traces the path of two boys — the idealistic Elwood and the skeptical Turner — as they struggle to survive in a place where the most violent offenders were on the staff.

Tampa Bay Times book editor Colette

Bancroft will discuss Whitehead's novel at our book talk on Tuesday, January 14. She interviewed Whitehead last summer when

he appeared at the Tampa Theatre.

Reviewing the book in *The New York Times*, Frank Rich wondered "how many other such stories still remain hidden and awaiting exposure, whether literally buried under faceless contemporary gentrification ... or figuratively buried in the national collective consciousness of denial." Again, it's the *Tampa Bay*

Times and reporter Paul Guzzo that have reported on the lost Zion Cemetery in Tampa, where nearly 800 African-Americans were — and apparently are still — interred on a site now occupied by warehouses and public housing.

We'll have a drawing for an autographed copy of *The Nickel Boys*. At his Tampa The-

atre appearance, Whitehead said that when he was about to start his book tour, his publisher sent him to a warehouse where he spent a week autographing 15,000 copies of the book to be sold on the tour. This is one of them!



Tampa Bay Times book editor Colette Bancroft speaks on The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead.

When: Noon-1 p.m.

Tuesday, January 14

Where: Harvard Hall

Lunch available (\$5), or feel free to bring your own



Colette Bancroft

From Christmas to Epiphany: The Divinity of Christ, a Visit from the Magi

In January we move from the second season of the Christian year — Christmas — to the third: Epiphany.

Christmas, of course, marks the birth of Jesus, and we celebrate for, well, the 12 Days of Christmas, ending on January 5. We

really don't know the exact day when Jesus was born. The oldest existing record of a Christmas celebration is found in a Roman almanac that tells of a Christ's Nativity festival led by the church of Rome in 336 C.E. Most researchers believe that celebrating

Christmas in December originated as a Christian substitute for pagan celebrations of the winter solstice.

On January 6, we observe Epiphany, the revelation of God as manifested in Jesus. It is the day when, according to legend, the wise men from the East came to present their gifts to Jesus. Notice, now: Regardless of what Christmas cards depict and what the

This is one of the earliest known depictions of the Magi, from a third-century sarcophagus.

lyrics of carols may say, the wise men were *not* at the stable on Christmas Eve. We don't know how many there were; we assume there were only three and we assume they were kings because they gave three royal gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gold represented Jesus's kingship; the frankincense represented Jesus's future role as religious leader; and the myrrh represented Jesus's future role as prophet.

The wise men who visited "from the East" may have been royalty, or priests, or astrologers, or scientists. Or they may have been magicians, hence their title of the Magi; this word comes from the Persian magush, member of the learned and priestly class; the Greek version of the word, magos, meant "magician, learnèd enchanter." The Magi by legend are thought to have been Indian, Persian, and Arab,

Epiphany

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indicating that in sending the Messiah, God was reaching out to all the peoples of the known world, not to Israel alone.

Epiphany continues through Shrove Tuesday, which this year is February 25 — the day before Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. The Baptism of Our Lord is observed on the first Sunday after the Epiphany, this year January 12.

The gospels for the other Sundays of the Epiphany season describe Jesus's divinity as recorded in the stories of the wedding at Cana, the calling of the disciples, and various miracles and teachings of Jesus. The Last Sunday after the Epiphany is always devoted to the Transfiguration. Jesus's identity as the Son of God is dramatically revealed in the Transfiguration gospel, as well as the gospel of the baptism of Christ.

And Lent? We'll tell about that season next month.

Material from <u>history.com</u> and from An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church was used in this report.



All-Male Quartet Will Sing Compline Service in January

Our monthly service of Compline returns at 8 p.m. on Sunday, January 12. This month we will hear the service sung by an all-male quartet. Join us in February to hear the service sung by an all-female quartet.

Compline is the church's "good-night" liturgy, the last service of the day. We sing it in a darkened church illuminated by flickering candlelight. It is a time of rest, meditation, and unwinding from one busy week before we meet the challenges of the week to come. The service lasts about half an hour.

Our updated history of the Cathedral remains available on our website, <u>www.spcathedral.</u> org/history. Spend some time learning about our past, see the changing appearance of the Cathedral, and meet the figures who founded and shaped the Cathedral over its first 130 years.



Classic Anglican Church Music

Our service of Choral Evensong for the Third Sunday After the Epiphany, at 5 p.m. Sunday, January 26, will feature the Service in G by Herbert Whitton Sumsion (1899-1995).

Sumsion's Magnificat and Nunc dimittis have entered the standard repertoire of Anglican church music. Sumsion was a close associate of many of the major figures in England's 20th-century musical renaissance, including Edward Elgar, Herbert Howells, Ger-

ald Finzi, and Ralph Vaughan Williams.

The Responses are by Philip Radcliffe and the anthem is Neswick's "Magna et mirabilia."

An organ prelude is at 4:45 p.m. The Cathedral Chamber Choir sings, and Dwight Thomas is music director and organist. A freewill offering is taken, and a light reception follows.



'Mourner's Path' Workshop Begins January 28

Another season of our bereavement workshop, "Walking the Mourner's Path," begins at 6 p.m. Tuesday, January 28.

This eight-week class, led by trained facilitators, helps those who have experienced a loss find peace and healing. Participants are strongly urged to attend all eight sessions.



"Walking the Mourner's Path" was created by an Episcopal priest and is used in churches nationwide. Learn more at www.mournerspath.com.

For more information please speak to Jerry Buchert (727-346-5286) or Anita Pernell-Arnold (727-865-1388).

LECTIO TO GO continues in the new year starting January 6. Meet Canon Katie at 9:30 a.m. Mondays on the front steps to hear a reading from Scripture, then walk and meditate, read more, and walk and meditate for about an hour. Refresh your mind and your body!

How Your Outreach Committee (and You!) Works to Transform Lives

Penny Roen, Outreach Chair

Throughout the year, we present information about opportunities for service in activities promoted by the Outreach Committee ("Volunteers are needed...") and we invite members of the congregation to donate items to help those in need ("There is a box in Harvard Hall..."). Those invitations

appear in *Crosstown*, the Sunday worship bulletin, on the website and on the monitors in the Narthex and in Harvard Hall, and through emails and social media.

In addition, the Outreach Committee oversees the distribution of an operating budget to organizations helping the needy.

In 2019, the operating budget amounted to \$37,050.

If you would like to be more involved in this work (that is, to join the committee), please contact any current member of the committee: Canon Katie Churchwell, Deacon Scott Nonken, Karen Amundrud, Andi Gorton, Mary Howe, Al Phillips,

Volunteers filled Thanksgiving food bags for special-needs homeless children at Campbell Park. The children sent back this thank-you poster. Karen Raihill, or Penny Roen (2020 committee chair).

In 2019, the congregation of the Cathedral responded to our appeals by feeding the hungry, providing backpacks and school supplies to the children of Campbell Park Elementary and diapers to children and adults, and by volunteering at Campbell Park, Peterborough, Resurrection House, the CROPWalk, Pride, Vacation Bible School both here and in the Dominican Republic, and in so many other ways.

We'd like to begin 2020 the way we begin Outreach Committee meetings — with our Mission Statement — because that explains very clearly not just what we do, but more importantly, why we do it. And, of course, this mission statement describes an important part of the mission of the Cathe-



Outreach

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dral and of each and every member of the congregation:

"Because we are compelled by Christ to be the healing presence of God's love in the world, we work to transform the lives of the vulnerable through food, health, education, relationship-building, and inclusivity initiatives."

Outreach Opportunity Of the Month

During January, we will prepare hygiene kits for the St. Petersburg Free Clinic. There will be a box in Harvard Hall for your donations. On our Day of Service on January 20, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we invite volunteers to help assemble the kits.

See the story on Page 3 for details.

We will fill gallon-size zip-top plastic bags with these items, which should all be travel-sized. You can find them in the travel or sample displays at drugstores and dollar stores.

Shampoo Hand sanitizer Conditioner Hand lotion

Toothpaste Soap or body wash
Dental floss Lip balm
Foldable toothbrush Hair bands
Breath strips Small first-aid kit
Mouthwash Sewing kit (minimum:
Deodorant needle and thread)

St. Aelred's Brunch Marks a Saint's Day and the 12th Day of Christmas

We'll start the new year with our annual St. Aelred's Brunch, after the 10:15 a.m. service on Sunday, January 5.

The Friends of St. Aelred will provide pulled pork. You provide everything else — salads, sides, bread, desserts.

This brunch is always a festive "end of the holidays" event. January 5 is the 12th day of Christmas; time to wrap up the partridge in the pear tree and the five golden rings for another year.

Aelred (1109-1167) was a Cistercian monk, author, and a major

figure in English church life. He taught that friendship is a gift from God and allowed his monks to hold hands and give other expressions of friendship.

The Friends of St. Aelred is our organization of LGBTQ Episcopalians and their friends and supporters.

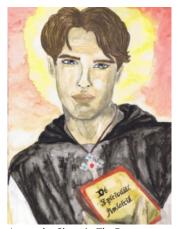


Image by Sheerie TheFay

Supporting our Community Partner – Campbell Park Elementary School

Susan Darrow

Our Campbell Park "Dream Team" hosted a Sweet Treats Appreciation Event for the teachers and staff by providing goodies in the teachers' lounge on December 17. A big "thank you" to everyone who

provided delicious cookies. Team members brought treats, set up, and helped clean up. The team was on hand to visit with all who came to enjoy the treats. Staff were able to sit and take a few moments of rest

and share their stories with Cathedral members.

Coffee hour crafters prepare materials for Campbell Park students to make snow globes: from left, Susan Darrow, Dottie Choate, Carolyn Randall, Cindy Campbell, Cynthia Garrels, and Mary Howe.

Events like these are one way we support the efforts of the dedicated staff of the school.

This year the Cathedral provided each kindergarten and first-grade class with \$150 in discretionary funds. Team volunteers have lunch with a student each week as Lunch PALS.

In a new effort, we adopted Ms. Denise Baker's first-grade class for this academic year. Each month we ask her what help she needs and invite our team members to help meet those needs. In November we provided cookies and icing for students to decorate a Fall-themed treat to take home before the Thanksgiving break. We also prepared some flash cards and workbooks that the students will use later in the year. In December, Susan Darrow met with Ms.



Campbell Park

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Baker and committed to fulfilling her request to help with some Christmas crafts. Our team (and some extra helpers) spent coffee hour time cutting out Santa and reindeer pictures for a snow-globe craft. Susan has been working in the classroom each week helping students complete two holiday crafts.

If you would like to help by preparing materials, working with the students in the classroom, or having lunch with a student weekly, please contact Canon Katie (kchurchwell@spcathedral.com) or Susan Darrow (sdarrow99@me.com). Susan will let you know when our next Coffee Hour work team will be needed.



First-graders in Denise Baker's class, with Susan Darrow, display their Christmas crafts.

Santa's helpers (with community coordinator Carlos Childs, second from left) set up holiday treats for Campbell Park teachers and staff.



What Is the New That You're Looking for As a New Year and Decade Begin?

Alicia Schmid, Youth Minister

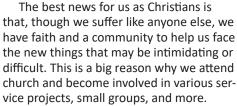
Sometimes the start of a new year can be exciting. Many people see it as a fresh start, a time to make resolutions or develop healthier habits. There is a spiritual quality to newness. In Ezekiel, God promises a new heart and a new spirit. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, Paul tells us that "whoever is in Christ

is a new creation." In the book of Revelation, we read of an amazing vision of a new heaven and a new earth.

Each of us has a front-row seat to new things in our lives — new presences as well as new absences. Not all that is new is shiny or compelling; sometimes it's raw and dif-

ficult to grasp. There's newness of tragedy at times, too, when we thought the world was safe and it turned out not to be.

Members of our Episcopal Youth Community, with youth minister Alicia Schmid, right, baked cookies for local firefighters on December 22. Photo by HILLARY PEFTE



As we begin 2020, I ponder the newness in ourselves that we don't notice. Our brains are primed to crave newness again and again in novel ways. Our appetites for the next cool gadget or thing can be insatiable. Seeking spiritual newness is different, as it requires more focused attention, perhaps more like what Paul was talking about. What's the newness that comes when you let go of a fear? What's the newness that comes when you make a commitment, the newness that comes out of faithfulness



Youth News

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over time, or learning something about yourself you'd never seen?

What anxiety over status or appearance or the judgment of others have you let go over the years? What is the new that you're really looking for? Something more solid than novelty, but a good and life-giving change? Let's look to those kinds of changes in 2020.

As a youth minister, my prayers for newness are that our young people will deepen their faith to new levels. I pray they can own and carry that deeply-rooted faith with them throughout their lives. Even when it isn't the start of the new year, may we all be renewed day by day, as we seek to follow Jesus with all we've got.

How can we begin to shift and refocus our attention to develop this faith? I think we grow in life and in faith when we show up! Even if your middle or high school student hasn't been attending EYC meetups and events regularly, I hope they will join us on the following dates in 2020:

Sunday, January 19: Junior and Senior

EYC (our new name! Episcopal Youth Community!) breakfast at 9 a.m. After coffee hour we will join the Becoming Beloved Community group for a tour of the "Beaches. Benches and Boycotts" exhibit at the

Holocaust Museum. Museum ticket is \$7 for students; lunch is \$5. Please see the box on Page 7 for information about registering for the tour and reserving a lunch.

Monday, January 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. Youth will be involved in service projects this day. Wear comfortable clothing, close-toed shoes, and meet at the Cathedral

at 9 a.m. Breakfast and coffee provided.

Friday, January 31: Family Movie Night and Pajama Pizza Party. Children and youth are encouraged to wear your favorite jammies and host a fun evening as we enjoy the family movie, *Coco*. This is a fund-raiser for our trip to the Episcopal Youth Event in Baltimore next summer. We're asking \$5 per person \$15/family and we invite your

generosity. Pizza supper at 6:30 p.m., movie at 7 p.m.

Sunday, February 9: EYC Hot Chocolate and Compline Night, 7-8:45 p.m. We'll enjoy hot chocolate, then attend the service

of Compline at 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 16: Youth Group hour. Junior EYC from 9 to 10 a.m., Senior EYC from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We'll create self-portraits of faith for our art and bake sale, an EYE fundraiser, on February 23.

Sunday, February 23: Art and bake sale, another EYE fund-raiser, during coffee hour, after

the 10:15 a.m. service.

Tuesday, February 25: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner. Youth will host, serve, and assist in children's activities.

Want more information about the Cathedral EYC? Want to RSVP to an event? Contact Alicia Schmid at asschmid@spcathedral.com

Children's Ministry: Faith Formation in the Nursery

Hillary Peete, Children's Minister

It started with a conversation about ensuring a smooth transition for fifth-graders into the Youth Group (now known as EYC,



Episcopal Youth Community). Then Canon Katie Churchwell and I thought about the transition for kids from Children's Chapel to EYSeedlings in third grade. From there we worked backward to the transition from the nursery to Children's Chapel around age 4. And then we arrived at our conversation about what we can and should offer to our nursery-age children (babies through four-year-olds) that would be a strong foundation for faith formation.

Starting in early December, a priest and deacon have come into the nursery each week to offer either a blessing or Holy Communion. We want to fully recognize the children and adults in the nursery as part of the congregation, as well as create more familiarity between the clergy and children. Some families are in the habit of

Canon Katie Churchwell offers communion wafers to little ones in the nursery. Photo by HILLARY PEETE picking up their children to bring them into "big church" for Eucharist, and they will still be welcome to do that. But for others, this helps ensure that young children have the opportunity to participate in this act of worship during such a formative time.

On Sunday mornings, children are welcomed to the nursery by our lead child caregiver and a volunteer. Parents sign the children in, indicating "Blessing" or "Eucharist." There is time to play and have a snack. When Children's Chapel leaves to join families in church, Hillary Peete (or another volunteer) will join the nursery and invite the children to gather around a circular rug. The children will look at and explore one image from the *Images of God* book and then hear one story from a children's Bible, preferably something from the Lectionary (the readings we are hearing in "big church"). We will then say a prayer

The Ministry of Baptism

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together. We will also use this time to talk about the color of the liturgical season we're in and sing songs.

After 10 to 15 minutes of story, prayer, and song, the priest and deacon will meet us in the circle for Eucharist and Blessings. The first few weeks of having a priest come in have been great! The children are curious, a little cautious, and joyful to be included.

Nursery Prayer

Good morning, God, this is your day. I am your child, please show me your way. We have learned that the children will grab handfuls of wafers if we aren't keeping a close eye. We are excited

that this more fully incorporates nursery-age children and

those serving in the nursery into worship. We hope that this creates more familiarity with the rhythms of worship as children transition to Children's Chapel and/or participate in worship with their families. Sometimes it helps to keep the big picture in mind. We believe that even the most basic ways in which we shape our children's faith as tiny toddlers will continue to inform them on their lifelong journey as faithful Christians.

As a New Decade Dawns, Some Resolutions to Keep

Along with the usual resolutions about losing weight and going to the gym more frequently, here are a couple you can actually keep:

* This would be a good year to get your final affairs in order. If you

don't have a will, make one. Talk to your lawyer and your financial advisor about bequests. Speak to someone on the Stewardship Committee about

how you will leave a legacy gift to St. Peter's. (Stewardship chair Ray Mc-Colgan would be delighted to arrange that conversation.) And plan your funeral. The materials from our Final Affairs Fair last spring are available in the Chapter Room/Library, along with helpful books and resources. We'll have more information about legacy giving in the new year.

* If you're not giving online, please let us help you set up an account. Or you can give by automatic deduction from a credit card or from your bank account. Someone from the Stewardship Committee is in

> Harvard Hall at coffee hour after the 10:15 a.m. service on the fourth Sunday of the month to help you. We can also update your contact information and take your picture

for our online directory.

what's your goal?

* Make 2020 the year you dig a little deeper into your own faith formation. We'll have many opportunities throughout the year for you to find ways to enrich your prayer life, learn more about our faith, or find a way to be involved that translates your faith into actions that change the world.

Giving Tree Gave Generously

Thanks to the warm Christmas spirit of our congregation, we were able to provide 235 gifts to 93 recipients through our Giving Tree in December, sponsored by the Friends of St. Aelred.

"Thank you to everyone who participated in making Christmas merrier for our recipients at Campbell Park Elementary, Resurrection House, and Brighter Seasons," said Ray McColgan, one of the organizers. "Every year all the gift tags are taken, and people return not only the requested gift but even more. I'm proud we are a congregation that is so eager to be generous."

Photo by HILLARY PEETE



Santa's helpers sorted and packed the gifts, making sure that the right item got to the right person in time for Christmas Eve.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Planning is in the works for the resumption of our Children's Choir. Watch for an announcement in January.



Friendly, helpful advice to make us the welcoming community we want to be.

When you spot someone you don't know at coffee hour, take a friend with you and introduce yourselves. Now the newcomer knows two other people, and the awkwardness of starting up a conversation is cut in half.

Blessings from the Bishops

Bishops from the Episcopal Church's Province IV — the Southeastern United States — met at the Cathedral in early December. They blessed an ambulance that will be shipped to our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic. Bill Kunkel, left foreground, executive director of the Dominican Development Group, acquired the ambulance from a generous donor in Western North Carolina and drove it to St. Petersburg en route to Miami for shipping. The bishops conducted business, explored downtown St. Petersburg, and praised the hospitality, hearty food, and warm hospitality we extended them.



Women Are the Stars in Reader's Theatre Performance

Women take the stage at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 29, when our Reader's Theatre offers its winter performance in Harvard Hall.

The well-known adage, "Well-behaved women seldom make history," rings true in this production as women speak up and stand out in excerpts from works where women take command and dominate center stage.

Experience the original women's movement in Lysistrata, by

Aristophanes; a black comedy, Little Murders, by Jules Feiffer; a British comedy, Ladykillers, by Graham Linehan; women and their war with fashion in Love, Loss, and What I Wore, by Nora and Delia Ephron, and in Appearances, by Tina Howe; and the watershed, true-crime courtroom drama, Machi-



Actresses in a Decatur, GA, performance of "Love, Loss, and What I Wore."

nal, by Sophie Treadwell. These unique and interesting works will not fail to entertain! Jack Clark is the director.

No charge for the performance. Light refreshments will be served.

'Heroes of the Holocaust' Presentation Looks at Goodness in Time of Evil

The Florida Holocaust Museum will offer a presentation, "Heroes of the Holocaust — Noble Tales Emerging from the Darkness," from 1 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, January 21.

The speaker is Prof. Howard Kerner, who has taught at USF, Stetson University, and Polk State College in Winter Haven, among others.

Prof. Howard Kerner

Kerner will spotlight the generally unknown but inspiring acts of goodness that were performed by altruistic heroes during the Holocaust – deeds that ask the following questions:

 What are we to learn today for ourselves, our children, and grandchildren from the goodness that was done when good-

ness was illegal?

• If people chose goodness during the horror of the Holocaust, what is our excuse today to treat each other so poorly?

The presentation (\$12) is followed by a free guided tour of the museum, including the current exhibit, "Beaches, Benches, and Boycotts: The Civil Rights Movement in Tampa Bay." To register, contact Susan Nolan at srnolan318@gmail.com, or (954) 592-1992.

Our Patronal Festival January 19 Acknowledges Peter, 'the Rock'

We will observe our Patronal Festival on Sunday, January 19 - 100 the Confession of St. Peter. The Cathedral Brass will be with us at the 10:15 a.m. service.

This is the day we recognize the importance of our namesake, St. Peter. We read the story of his confession, or acknowledg-



ment, of Jesus as the Messiah and celebrate our community of the Cathedral Church of St. Peter.

The Gospel lesson that day (Matthew 16:13-19) portrays Peter as the first to see who Jesus really is: "You are the Messiah, the Christ, the son of the Living God." Jesus praises Peter and vows to build his church "on this rock," a play on words. Peter's name in Greek is Petros, and the Greek word petra means rock.

The Roman Catholic Church interprets this statement as referring to Peter, the individual, as the first pope. The Protestant Church interprets it to mean that God will build Christian community upon the confession, the acknowledgment of Jesus as the Messiah by each member of the priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2:9).

Family Promise Develops New Business Plan To Resume Helping Homeless Families

Karnili

Karen Amundrud

Family Promise continues its efforts to resume serving homeless children and their families.

A new business plan calls for Family Promise to increase the number of host congregations, expand the board, raise money, and improve communications. The organization ceased working with families in early 2019 while it sought new staff leadership and financial stability. The hope now is to be operational in Spring 2020.

Family Promise of Pinellas
County is part of a national nonprofit organization serving homeless
children and their parents. They are housed
at participating churches, moving from
church to church each week. Four times a
year they receive their meals and lodging

for a week at Palm Lake Christian Church, with St. Peter's support. They spend days at the Day Center at Central

Christian Church, 6161
22nd Ave. N, where
they seek jobs, social services and
permanent housing.

The need is great. Last year the Pinellas District Schools counted more than 3,000 homeless school-age children

(many of whom have preschool-age homeless siblings). In 2007-08 the district counted just under 1,000 homeless children. Studies show that homeless children are likely to become homeless adults and are prone to severe mental and physical health issues.

A community meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 7, in the sanctuary at Central Christian Church, when Tom Coffi of National Family Promise will lead a discussion on how to achieve sustainability and begin working again with homeless families. I invite you to give prayerful consideration to whether you are called to serve on the board or on a committee or to provide financial support. We are called as Christians to help those in need, and we want all children to become self-supporting, contributing members of society.

Want to know more? Please contact Karen Amundrud (amundrudk@yahoo.com) for details. Visit the Family Promise website at fppinellas.org.

The Four Great Baptismal Feasts

The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams

Baptism: Part 3 in a series Find previous installments at spcathedral.org/baptism

As I noted in my last article, the incredible richness of the grace of baptism, and its importance for the Church as a Body, mean that in ordinary circumstances baptism is administered only in the context of public worship, with the solemnity and exuberance that baptism calls for, and only on occasions of particular significance. There are four such occasions: the Easter Vigil, the Day of Pentecost, the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, and All Saints' Day or the Sunday following.

In the early centuries of the Church the Easter Vigil was the pre-eminent — and in some places the only permissible — occasion for baptism. One of the main functions of Lent was preparation for baptism. Moreover, the liturgy of the Vigil tells the story of God's saving work throughout history, cul-

minating in the Paschal mystery itself. What more appropriate occasion could there be to write new characters into that story and plunge people into the Paschal mystery?

Pentecost also has good historical credentials as a baptismal feast, and the theme of the Holy Spirit bringing life and power to the Church is echoed in the words addressed to each new Christian: "You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever." As St Paul reminds us, "No one can say Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit" (1 Cor. 12:3b).

The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord (the First Sunday after the Epiphany) "offers a clear link between the action of Jesus at the river Jordan and the action of the church and the new initiate today" (James F. Turrell, Celebrating the Rites of Initiation). Epiphany baptism was particularly valued in the East, and it remains an important occasion for us to celebrate our incorporation into Christ and his total identification with us



All Saints' Day lacks the historical credentials of the other three baptismal feasts, but it makes a lot of sense, because in baptism we join the communion of saints. There's also a practical advantage: Adopting All Saints' Day as a baptismal feast gives

The Great Baptismal Feasts continued from page 24

us an opportunity to baptize roughly once a quarter.

So our first baptisms of 2020 will take place on January 12, the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. The other baptismal occasions are the Easter Vigil (Saturday evening, April 11), the Day of Pentecost (Sunday, May 31), and All Saints' Day (Sunday, November 1).

On Monday, January 20, we will be open for our *DAY OF SERVICE* activities in observance of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day (see story, Page 3), but there will be no worship services and the office will be closed. We'll reopen fully at 9 a.m. Tuesday, January 21.

Epic Story of the Gulf of Mexico is Book Club's Selection of the Month

We live along its shores, we walk along its beaches, we swim in its waters, we prepare for hurricanes that turn a tranquil body of water into a threat: the Gulf of Mexico.

On January 28, St. Peter's Book Club will take up the Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *The Gulf: The Making of an American Sea*, by Jack E. Davis. John Sumner is the presenter.

The review at <u>amazon</u>. <u>com</u> says: "When painter Winslow Homer first sailed into the Gulf of Mexico, he was struck by its 'special kind of providence.' Indeed, the Gulf presented itself as America's sea — bound by geography, culture, and tradition to the national experience — and yet, there has never been a compre-

hensive history of the Gulf until now.

"And so, in this rich and original work that explores the Gulf through our human connection with the sea, environmental his-

torian Jack E. Davis finally places this exceptional region into the American mythos in a sweeping history that extends from the Pleistocene age to the 21st century." Read the full review here: https://www.amazon.com/Gulf-Making-American-Sea/dp/087140866X

All are welcome, and no need to have read the book: Our stimulating discussion may inspire you to do so. The book club meets at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapter Room/Library.

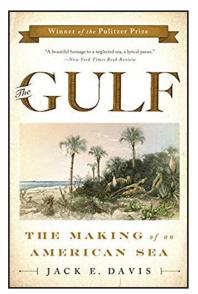


Exhibit of Contemporary Icons Continues at St. Thomas

The exhibit of contemporary icons continues through February 9 at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 1200 Snell Isle Blvd.

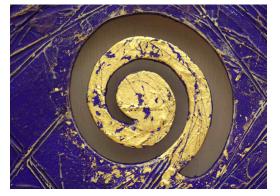
Russian-Swedish artist Ludmila Pawlowska is showing more than 100 of her works in the church and in other parts of the campus. A dozen traditional icons from

the Vasilievsky Monastery in Suzdal, Russia, are on display.

The exhibit, known as "Icons in Transformation," has been viewed by more than 150,000 people as it travels the United States. Most of the works are for sale. Proceeds support the mission and outreach

programs at St. Thomas.

The exhibit is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays and noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Suggested donation is \$10 per person. Information: (727) 896-9641, or http://www.stthomasstpete.org.



The exhibit includes "Heaven" (above) and "Crown of Thorns" (right) by Ludmila Pawlowska, and the classic "Icon of the Mother of God of Three Hands" from the Vasilievsky Monastery in Russia.





COFFEE WITH THE CLERGY

continues from 9 to 9:50 a.m. on Sunday, January 12, in the Chapter Room. Our canon for hospitality, the Rev. Brandon Peete, will meet with newcomers (or anyone who'd like to come) to get to know you, answer your questions, explore our tradition, and introduce you to our faith community. And yes, there will be coffee, tea, and donuts.

Fun Movies All Month, and an EYE Fundraiser

Susan Regan

Our free Friday night movies return in January. Join us at 7 p.m. in Harvard Hall. We provide the popcorn (and, usually, other nibbles). Bring your friends!

January 3: Jiro Dreams of Sushi (2011, PG). This delectable documentary profiles sushi chef Jiro Ono, an 85-year-old master whose 10-seat, \$300-a-plate restaurant is legendary among Tokyo foodies. Ono is also a father whose sons struggle to live up to his legacy and make their own marks.

January 10: Get Low (2009, PG-13). Oscar winners Robert Duvall and Sissy Spacek team up to tell the true story of the irascible Felix Bush, a backwoods Tennessee loner who planned his funeral in 1938 while he was still around to attend — and enjoy — the proceedings.

January 17: *The Fencer* (2015, NR). Fleeing police, an Estonian fencer finds work as a teacher and introduces his students

to the sport. The children now wish to compete in a national tournament, forcing him to choose between risking his safety or disappointing his students.

January 24: They Came to Play (2008, NR).

Director Alex Rotaru profiles the devoted musicians entered in the 2007 International Piano Competition for Outstanding Amateurs in Fort Worth, Texas, where non-professional pianists over the age of 35 can fulfill their dreams by shining onstage. Some are classically trained, others are self-taught, but all have "real jobs" — ranging from dentist to physicist to protennis player — and are avid artists with a lifelong passion for music.

January 31: Coco (2017, PG). This is a special night: a fundraiser for the Episcopal Youth Community (EYC), our youth group, which is planning to attend the Episcopal Youth Event in Baltimore next summer. A pizza dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m., the movie at 7 p.m. The EYC is asking for

a donation of \$5 per person, \$15 per family, "and generosity is encouraged," they say. Children and youth are invited to wear their favorite pajamas. As for the movie: In



Disney Pixar's vibrant tale of family, fun, and adventure, an inspiring young musician named Miguel embarks on an extraordinary journey to the magical land of his ancestors. There, the charming trickster Hector becomes an unexpected friend who helps Miguel uncover the mysteries behind his family stories and traditions.

The Burns Movie Series honors our late founder and programmer, Eddy Burns. Comments and suggestions: Susan Regan, sfrcpa23@gmail.com.

St. Peter's and St. Bede's Invite You To Read the Gospel of John Together

Join thousands of your fellow Episcopalians — all around the Church and right here in St. Petersburg — in reading the Gospel of John from Epiphany through Shrove Tuesday.

This is the annual "Good Book Club," a churchwide invitation to Episcopalians to study a book of the Bible together. Two years ago the Good Book Club started with the reading of Mark's Gospel. Last year the Church came together to read Paul's Letter to the Romans.

We're all familiar with the most famous verse of John 3:16, but the Good Book Club focus gives us an opportunity to read the extraordinary Gospel from start to finish. We'll hear stories heard only in John: Jesus turns water into wine at the wedding of Cana, encounters the woman at the well, and raises Lazarus from the dead.

The spiritual Gospel of John uses beauti-

ful poetry: Jesus as the bread of life and as the vine. And it's in John that we hear the great I AM statements.



How can you participate? In a couple of ways.

* First, you can pick up a copy of the day-by-day reading list on the table in Harvard Hall. We've also got bookmarks there to mark your progress in your Bible. The readings are short, just a few verses a day.

* On January 6, start reading, knowing that Episcopalians all around the world are reading along with you.

* Visit goodbookclub.org, where you will find a great array of resources — a free downloadable introduction (highly recom-

mended), prayer resources, daily social-media postings, a live online class, much more. Some are free; there is a charge for others; see what works for you.

* On two Sunday evenings — January 12 and February 23 — St. Peter's and St. Bede's will join from 6 to 7:30 p.m. for a discus-

sion of the readings, led by the Rev. Canon Paige Hanks. We'll meet in the library at St. Bede's, 2500 16th St. N, and snacks will be provided. No need to register; just come.

This is a great way to go deeper in your faith formation, become more familiar with the Bible, and learn from your fellow Episcopalians. Happy reading!

January Transitions

Birthdays

- Hank Sharp
 Bill Hough
 David Hill
 Kylie Crow
- 2 Anslee Long3 Melody Brown
- 4 Rick Knight
- 4 Hannah Singleton
- 6 James Knight
- 6 Addyson Sylvester
- 6 Lucy Bond
- 7 Jenny Koester
- 8 Michael Robbins
- 8 Fay Mackey
- 8 Sarah Howlett

- 9 Michael Lyons
- Patty Leavengood
- 10 Harry Evertz
- 10 Maggie Burnsed
- 11 Camille Knight 11 Jessie Monzingo
- 12 Michael Castillo
- 13 Lois Atkins
- 14 Betty Shamas
- 15 Mark Campbell
- 15 Isabella Beavers
- 16 Bethia Caffery
- 16 Roberta Poellein
- 16 Sylvia Walbolt
- 6 Ann Meuse

- 16 Caleb Fenoff
- 16 Milo Burnsed
- L7 Ginny Rowell
- 17 Randy Ramsey
- 18 Shands McKeithen18 Michael Plahs
- 19 Albert Edgemon
- 19 Lacey Hodgson
- 19 Jillian McCoy19 Iris Juarez
- 20 Clancev Miller
- 20 Alex Ramsey
- 21 Robert Powers
- 21 James Parker
- 22 Ryan Sandy
- 23 Don Wright
- 24 Jillian Gairing
- 25 Jan Strimer
- 26 Marcy Crosby
- 27 George Wilsey
- 28 Paul Bonneau

- 8 Ron Felicelli
- 29 Laurel Greene

- 31 Averill Summer
- 31 Lela Garnett
- 31 Liam Dunn

Anniversaries

- John & Jan Dooley
- 13 Earl & Jean Beshears
- 18 Peter & Sara Pastman
- 18 Richard &
- 21 Logan &

- 21 Bob & Averill Summer
- 22 Bill & Silvia Hoyt
 - Tom Walker & Wil Laroche
- 30 Patrick & Ria Beavers

Death

Katie Churchwell

Betsy Giovanis





Click here to view this month's calendar of St. Peter's events.

St. Peter's: A Guide

At the foot of the cross in downtown St. Petersburg

Our Worship Schedule

Sunday

8 a.m.: Holy Eucharist Rite I and Sermon A traditional service, no music

10 a.m.: Children's Chapel and Middlers' Chapel

10:15 a.m.: Holy Eucharist Rite II and Sermon Worship music led by choirs

11:20 a.m.: Coffee Hour

Saturday

5 p.m.: Holy Eucharist Rite II and Sermon A traditional service, no music

Weekday Worship

Holy Eucharist, 12:05 p.m. Monday through Friday Holy Eucharist and Healing: Wednesdays, 12:05 p.m.

If you have a pastoral emergency after hours, please call **Canon Katie Churchwell** on her cell phone, (727) 771-5552.

Crosstown is the online newsletter of the people of the Cathedral Church of St. Peter, published monthly for members, friends, and supporters. Editor, Judy Stark (JudyStark@yahoo.com), Associate Editor, Mary W. Matthews (MotherMary@extremelysmart.com).

Next deadline: January 15, 2020.

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Our clergy and senior staff:

The Very Rev. Stephen B. Morris, dean

The Rev. Canon Katie Churchwell, canon for community formation

The Rev. Canon Paige Hanks, canon missioner and priest-in-charge, St. Bede's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Canon Brandon Peete, canon for hospitality

The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams, precentor and canon theologian

The Rev. Ethan Cole, priest associate

The Rev. Scott Nonken, deacon

The Right Rev. Barry R. Howe, bishop in residence

Dwight Thomas, director of music ministries and organist