



# CROSSTOWN

February 2020

*At the foot of the cross in downtown St. Petersburg*

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**New Chapter Members**

— Page 2

**Great News on the  
Stewardship Front — Page 5**

**Tales of the Florida Panther  
— Page 6**

**Pancakes and Ashes:  
Lent is Coming — Pages 8 & 12**

*Docent Josette Green talks about the Ku Klux Klan's presence in St. Petersburg during our tour of a civil-rights exhibit. Story, [Page 18](#). Photo by JUDY STARK*

# Annual Meeting 2020: Solid Financial Footing, a Thriving Congregation, A Strengthened Role as a Cathedral in Worship and Service

A growing endowment, strong financials, excellence in music and worship, and rich connections to each other and to our community: That was the summary that Dean Morris and others presented at our Annual Meeting on January 26.

The congregation elected four new chapter members: Tessa Marie Burnsed, Joe Lane, Anysia McDowall, and Michael Ricciardi.

In the last year we have added more than \$1-million to our endowment, bringing it to a total of \$2.2-million, treasurer Tim Lanz reported.

The total of pledges and contributions — \$990,000 — represents an increase of 9 percent over the year

before. Typically, across the wider Episcopal Church, congregations are happy with an increase of 2 to 3 percent, Tim said, which makes this increase “phenomenal.”

The grand total of pledge commitments alone to date is \$806,711.51. “We struggled for years to break the \$700,000 barrier” in pledge giving, the dean said. We accomplished that two years ago, and now we’ve broken the \$800,000 barrier, “a sign of commitment and congregational health,” he said.

Increased pledge and contribution income will partially offset the tapering-off of the income from the Peterborough Apartments and allow

us to continue with the level of program and staffing we enjoy.



*Senior Warden  
Ray McColgan:  
“Vote for four!”*

Total projected revenues in the 2020 budget amount to \$1,326,382, and total expenses come to \$1,414,283, leaving a projected shortfall of \$88,000, “which is not ideal but not the end of the world,” Tim said. The deficit will be made up out of the interest we earn on that \$2.2-million endowment. The principal remains untouched.

“Pledges are growing. I’m proud of these numbers,” Tim said. “The projected actual budget for 2019 is better than we thought it would



*Dean Stephen  
Morris is proud  
of our family  
ministries.*

[continued on page 3](#)

## Annual Meeting 2020

[continued from page 2](#)

be, and I'm pleased looking forward."

Dean Morris reviewed the strategic plan the Chapter has been working on (view it at our website, [spcathedral.org/strategic-plan](http://spcathedral.org/strategic-plan)). Here's what we have ac-

complished in four key areas:

**\* Stewardship:** We have formed a legacy society of those who are remembering St. Peter's in their estate planning, a group that numbers 51 so far. Watch for more news about this new ministry — events, educational gatherings, and information about a variety of ways to give to St. Peter's

as you do your final-affairs planning. We'll invite members of the legacy society to talk to others about what they've done and why.

**\* Strengthened Role as a Cathedral:** In 2019 we hosted the North American Deans' Association in May and the Province IV bishops in December. We also played host again to the diocesan Acolyte Festival in September. We used a trial Rite II liturgy for several weeks last fall as the wider church considers changes to the Book of Common Prayer. "We as a Cathedral should lead the charge" when changes are anticipated, the dean said. "We should explore and experience it and be a laboratory of experiments in worship."

**\* Communications:** We have greatly increased our presence on social media and we are constantly enriching our website. People from all over the world watch our Sunday morning live-streamed worship. One week when the live stream did not function properly, the dean said, we got a complaining phone call from a man in Rhode Island that he missed his weekly

[continued on page 4](#)



*Newly elected Chapter members Joe Lane, Tessa Marie Burnsed, Michael Ricciardi, and Anysia McDowall join continuing Chapter members Ray McColgan, Samantha Nevins, Gary Patterson, and Rich Rome, who each have one year remaining on their terms; and Kerry Carlisle, Lucas Fleming, Herb Polson, and Karen Torrissi, who will each serve two more years. At the Annual Meeting, Ray, as senior warden, acknowledged and thanked the members who rotated off the chapter: Dianne Casorio, Susan Churuti, Shar Nudelman, and Tim Staney.*

## Annual Meeting 2020

*continued from page 3*

worship with us. “We sent him a pledge card,” the dean dead-panned.

### \* Children’s/Youth/Family Ministry:

“This ministry is one of the things I’m most proud of,” Dean Morris said, acknowledging Children’s Minister Hillary Peete, Youth Minister Alicia Schmid, and Canon Katie Churchwell for strengthening and enriching our offerings in this area.

“We are an inclusive, diverse body,” the dean said. “We have different opinions about politics, we have all the genders, gay and straight. Parents, when you bring your kids here, you are shaping their lives to be people who truly accept other people. I wish everybody would come for that reason — to become adults who are very, very accepting of others. Some of us are well-homed; some of us are barely homed; and some of us are homeless, but our children are learning that all of us are equally important to God.”

The dean acknowledged our “great clergy, and I want them to be fed and filled with what it means to be a priest when we

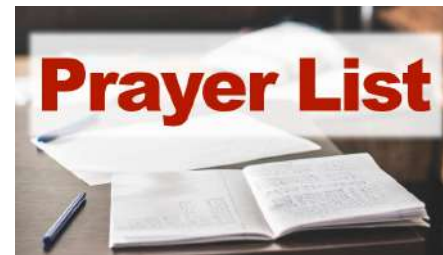
worship publicly,” even if that means he preaches less often.

Our music and arts programs “continue to exceed expectations,” he said, singling out Music Director Dwight Thomas as “one of the finest musicians in the church.” When people watch our live-streamed services, “they may fast-forward through some parts of it, but they don’t fast-forward through the music.” Watch for news about a recording opportunity for the choir later this year.

A video of Cathedral highlights from the last year was shown, and also can be viewed on our website, [spcathedral.org/strategic-plan](http://spcathedral.org/strategic-plan).

The dean closed with “deep gratitude for all of you who come here and who go away from here to represent us as the people of God. Thank you for your ministry. I love being here with you.” Senior Warden Ray McColgan offered thanks to the dean for his ministry among us, and the congregation responded with a standing ovation.

Photos by JUDY STARK



## Pray for Others On Our Parish Prayer List

Did you know that we maintain a parish prayer list? Printed on lavender paper, the list is updated each week and placed on the hospitality table in Harvard Hall. We invite you to pick up a copy and consider adding one or more of the names on it to your own personal devotions. Information is included about other pastoral care procedures. Our faith community is strengthened when we remember each other in prayer.

# YOU DID IT! The Pledge Drive Is An Overwhelming Success!

**Ray McColgan, Stewardship Chair**

On behalf of your Stewardship Committee and your Chapter, I want to thank you for a completely successful 2020 Pledge Campaign.

At the beginning of the Pledge Campaign last October, I spoke at all services about our goal for 2020: to achieve a pledge total of at least \$800,000. Thanks to your pledges, we have achieved that goal with pledges totaling \$806,711.51. This is a 6.34 percent increase from 2019. FANTASTIC!

We now have 232 pledging units, an increase from 2019. Of these, 26 are new this year.

This increased income helps us bridge the gap that will result from the loss of the



Peterborough Apartment income when it ends soon. It will enable us to go deeper in all we do — our worship services and music, our formation offerings, our outreach to the wider community, our support and care for our children and youth.

We welcome all pledges. There is no such thing as too small a pledge; nor is there too large a pledge. We accept pledges throughout the year. Forms are available on the hospitality table in Harvard Hall.

I am personally overwhelmed by the dedication and commitment of every member of our Cathedral family. My gratitude goes out to all of you. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



Please congratulate **WIL LAROCHE**, who will serve as the convener of the Friends of St. Aelred this year. Wil is a familiar face at coffee hour, at Spiritual Pride, and at the annual St. Aelred's brunch (he was in charge of the pulled pork this year) and served a previous term as convener.

# And Now, the Florida Panther: Author Craig Pittman Tells the Inside Story

We've loved author Craig Pittman's previous appearances at our Book Talk series, when he shared the hidden sordid drama behind the state's orchid industry ... investigated the Florida manatee — loved by environmentalists, loathed by developers ... and helped us laugh at our state's foibles, failings, and follies.

He'll be back on Tuesday, February 11, with his just-published book, *Cat Tale: The Wild, Weird Battle to Save the Florida Panther*. Be with us for his slide show of behind-the-scenes images of the panther. We'll have a drawing for a copy of the book that Craig will autograph for you.

As an environmental reporter for the *Tampa Bay Times*, Craig comes upon many of his book topics in the course of his reporting. Imagine being paid to investigate

chicanery, double-dealing, bumbling, and ineptitude outside the halls of government!

We spoke with Craig via e-mail recently about his work.



Craig Pittman

**Q. In all the books you've written about natural Florida — about exotic orchids, manatees, and now about panthers — human ineptitude, greed, and bungling play a major role. Why do humans keep messing things up?**

A: That's the nature of humans, dating back to the Garden of Eden. We're flawed, we're selfish, and often we can't see the forest for the potential profits.

**Q. Your last book, *Oh, Florida!*, was all about the bizarre activities, quirks, and embarrassments committed by Floridians.**

**Is there something in the air? In the water? Or do we just notice it more? Why**

*[continued on Page 7](#)*

## February Book Talk

**What:** Author Craig Pittman talks about his newest book, *Cat Tale: The Wild, Weird Effort to Save the Florida Panther*. We'll have a drawing for an autographed copy of the book.

**When:** **Noon-1 p.m.  
Tuesday, February 11**

**Where:** **Harvard Hall**

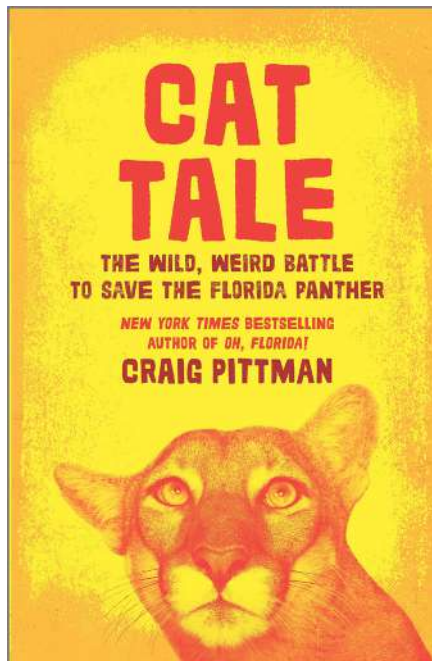
**Lunch available (\$5), or feel free to bring your own**

## Saving Florida's Panthers

[continued from Page 6](#)

### are we so often the butt of our own jokes?

A: We underwent a wrenching demographic change between 1940, when we were the least populated Southern state, and 2014, when we became the third most populous state. We now have about 22-million residents plus 100-million annual visitors, and everyone's crammed into a 30-mile-wide swath along the coast and along I-4 where the theme parks are. So if you cram that many people from that many different places into that small a space, they're bound to start ramming into each other's cars, chasing each other with machetes and arguing over whose dog pooped on whose lawn.



**Q. You're out there traveling the beaches and back roads of Florida. What's the next environmental disaster waiting to happen? Can we look forward to your writing about it?**

A: There are obvious aspects to climate change affecting Florida — sea level rise, higher temperatures etc. — and there are aspects that are not as obvious. I'm chasing the not-as-obvious ones right now.

**Q. In 100 words or fewer, persuade someone to read this book!**

This is the first time anyone has told the whole story of how Florida's official state animal, the panther, nearly went extinct in the 1990s and how a desperate experiment brought it back from the brink of extinction. Also, there's an appearance by Florida's verison of Bigfoot, the stinky Skunk Ape.

Our **FOYER GROUPS** welcome you to a home-cooked meal, old and new friends, and interesting conversation at their monthly dinners (\$5). This month they'll meet from 5:45 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, February 20. Sign up at the hospitality table in Harvard Hall, or contact Marion Fleming ([mimideeda@gmail.com](mailto:mimideeda@gmail.com)), who is happy to welcome you.

*The feast before the fast: Shrove Tuesday pancake party, [Page 12](#).*

## Another Season in the Christian Year: Lent, a Time of Introspection

The penitential season of Lent — a 40-day period leading up to Easter — begins on Wednesday, February 26: Ash Wednesday.

This season of self-examination and self-denial corresponds to the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness after his baptism in the River Jordan by John the Baptizer. (Read Luke 4:1-13, Matthew 4:1-11, or Mark 1:12-

13). During this time Jesus was tempted by Satan, preparing for the start of his earthly ministry.

The day before Ash Wednesday is Shrove Tuesday, otherwise known as Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday). Mardi Gras has long been a day of feasting and merrymaking before the somber season of Lent. Historically it was

a time to use up butter and cream, eggs, and meat before the Lenten fast. (These items were often dwindling in supply at the end of winter anyway.)

The word carnival, or carnevale — a raucous cel-

ebration before the start of Lent — literally means “goodbye to meat.” It is the custom, particularly in the Roman Catholic church, to observe meatless Fridays during Lent. In some parts of the country, fish fries are a popular way to socialize in Lent while observing this custom.

As for that name, Shrove Tuesday: In centuries gone by, Christians would make their confession at the beginning of Lent, and would be “shriven” — cleansed — of their sins. (The Middle English for “absolve” is shrive, shrove, shriven.)

The word “Lent” comes from the Old English word lencten, meaning “long spring days,” as the short, dark days of winter give way to the brighter days of spring. That is appropriate as we move from a dark, peni-

*[continued on page 9](#)*





## The Season of Lent

[continued from page 8](#)

tential season to the glory of Easter.

The season lasts six weeks because we do not count Sundays as part of Lent (they are, in effect, “little Easters”). Lent is a time the church intentionally sets aside for us to go deeper in our faith and develop spiritual practices that draw us closer to God.

The earliest Lent can begin is February 4; the latest, March 10. The start of Lent depends on the date of Easter, which is set according to the lunar calendar. (For everything you ever wanted to know about determining the date of Easter, see <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computus> or turn to Page 880 of the Book of Common Prayer.

You will notice a few changes in worship during Lent. The vestments and altar hangings are a penitential purple, and we use only simple greenery rather than colorful floral displays. The music is limited and subdued. We eliminate the word “Alleluia!” from our worship.

On the first Sunday in Lent (March 1) we will chant the Great Litany at the opening procession (Page 148 in the prayer book).

On other Sundays we will begin with the Penitential Order (Pages 319 and 351 BCP). At the end of worship, in place of the blessing, we will offer a solemn prayer over the people.

Deacon Scott Nonken will lead Stations of the Cross in the Cathedral at 6 p.m. Fridays in Lent: February 28 and March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3. Participants move about the Cathedral offering prayers and responses.

### Bring in your Palms

Do you still have palm crosses or fronds from last Palm Sunday? We'll have a basket in the Narthex to collect them. On Shrove Tuesday we will burn the palms.



The clergy will use the ashes to impose the sign of the cross on worshipers' foreheads at Ash Wednesday services the next day.

Photo by HILLARY PEETE

## Lenten Devotionals Available Online

Are you seeking a Lenten devotional to help you go deeper in your prayer life during Lent? Here are some options:

\* **Episcopal Relief and Development** offers a daily devotional at [episcopalrelief.org](http://episcopalrelief.org)

\* **Luther Seminary** offers a downloadable print version in regular or large type, or you can sign up to have the devotional e-mailed to you each day. [luthersem.edu/lent](http://luthersem.edu/lent)

\* **The Society of St. John the Evangelist** offers an online devotional at [www.ssje.org](http://www.ssje.org)

\* **Pittsburgh Theological Seminary**, affiliated with the Presbyterian church, offers a daily print and audio devotional at [www.PTS.edu/devotional](http://www.PTS.edu/devotional)

## Confession and Creeds: Two Opportunities to Go Deeper into Your Faith Life

The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams will offer two opportunities to learn more about the church and to deepen your own spirituality in the weeks ahead. Both are offered from 9 to 10 a.m. Sundays in Harvard Hall.

On February 23, Canon Williams will offer **a class on confession**. Yes, we do confessions in the Episcopal Church — see “The



Reconciliation of a Penitent” on Page 447 of the Book of Common Prayer. “Sacramental confession may be the best-kept secret in the Episcopal Church,” Canon

Williams says. “Find out what it is, how it works, and why you might want to participate in this powerful sacrament.”

On Sundays in March — that’s March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 — Canon Williams will go deeper into **the meaning of the Creeds**, unpacking the puzzles and paradoxes, the philosophical difficulties and theological implications, that lie just below the surface of the words we say every Sunday.



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

When you introduce yourself to someone new, offer to walk them over to the hospitality table in Harvard Hall and give them copies of this newsletter, our music and formation brochures, and our Cathedral history and architecture brochure. It’s another way to introduce all we have to offer.



*As part of our MLK Day of Service, children made get-well and welcome cards for parishioners.*

# Super Bowl! Trivia Night! Shrove Tuesday Pancakes! Join the Fun During a Month of Festivities

Shar Nudelman

We should call this month “Festivary” because we’ve got so many festive events on the calendar. Join the fun!

**\* Super Bowl Sunday Coffee Hour —** Sunday, February 2, after the 10:15 a.m.



*Left, DeDe Sheetz and Sandy Powers show off their team colors at last year’s Super Bowl party. Right, Nancy Lane cuts the Super Bowl cake (yes, we’ll have one this year too). Photos by JUDY STARK and HILLARY PEETE.*

service. We’ll have chips and dips and other game-day snacks. (And, yes, donuts.) Bring your own favorite pregame goodie to share! Everyone is invited to wear their team colors to church — your Super Bowl



team, your alma mater, your Rays, Bucs, Rowdies, or Lightning jersey, your kid’s team. (We know who will be wearing the Houston Astros jersey!)

**\* Mardi Gras Trivia Night —** Saturday, February 22, from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

Our professional trivia host, Lee, will be here to emcee another fun-filled evening of cutthroat competition. Teams will be randomly chosen. This is a joint event with our friends from St. Bede’s.

Tickets are \$12 and include a casual dinner of pulled-pork sliders (a gluten-free option will be available). Buy your tickets during coffee hour on Sundays, February 2, 9, and 16, or on our website at [spcathedral.org/trivia](http://spcathedral.org/trivia). Because we will be serving beer and wine along with non-alcoholic beverage!



*[continued on page 12](#)*

## Join the Fun!

[continued from page 11](#)

ages, this event is open only to those 21 and older.

If there is sufficient interest we will offer child care (\$5 per child includes food and activities). Please contact Hillary Peete ([hpeete@spcathedral.org](mailto:hpeete@spcathedral.org)) no later than February 9 if you are interested in child



care so we can plan accordingly.

**\* Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper —** Tuesday, February 25, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. We prepare for the beginning of the penitential season of Lent on Ash Wednesday with one last big indulgence. Pancakes plus fixin's and sides, and a King Cake baked by our own Gabriele Stauf. Gluten-free? No problem, you'll be able to enjoy too. Cost is \$3 per person, \$5 per family.

Youth will help serve; we'll have activities for kids; and we'll burn the palms from last Palm Sunday to create the ashes we'll use the next day. After dinner, indulge your artistic side by decorating wooden eggs that we'll use in this

year's Egg Hunt as we move toward a plastic-free Easter.

See [Page 8](#) for details about Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, and the 40-day season of Lent.

If you have questions about any of these activities, please contact Shar Nudelman at [marvshar1@msn.com](mailto:marvshar1@msn.com). We welcome volunteers to help with all these events; it's a great way to meet people if you're new to the Cathedral.



*Aletta Fenoff streaks across Harvard Hall in the pancake race.*

*Betsy Reynolds adds a little syrup, a little applesauce, a little whipped cream to her pancakes at last year's party. Gabriele Stauf puts the finishing touches on the King Cake. Shar Nudelman is ready to serve up the pancakes. Photos on this page by JUDY STARK and HILLARY PEETE.*

# By Walking and Sponsoring, We're Fighting Hunger

**Penny Roen**

Nearly one in four children and one in seven adults in Pinellas County are chronically hungry. Throughout February, we will strive to alleviate hunger as we prepare for the 2020 Pinellas County CROP Hunger Walk on March 1.

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local congregations and other groups to raise funds to end hunger locally and around the world.

Some specifics of the Pinellas CROP Hunger Walk and St. Peter's participation in it:

- \* 25 percent of the funds raised by participants are kept locally. That money is divided equally between the St. Petersburg Free Clinic and the Daystar Life Center. The remainder is used to provide food, clean water, and other necessities throughout the world.

- \* In addition to the money raised by

walkers and "virtual walkers," congregations, including the Cathedral, participating in the CROP Hunger Walk collect non-perishable food, which is given to Daystar and the Free Clinic in alternate years. This year Daystar is the recipient.

- \* The CROP Hunger Walk will be on Sunday, March 1, with registration beginning at 1 p.m. and the walk beginning at 2

p.m. at Gulfport Presbyterian Church, 5713 27th Ave. S. There will be two routes — one about one mile, the other about three miles.

- \* Volunteers will be in Harvard Hall during Sunday coffee hour beginning February 9 to sign up walkers and "virtual walkers" who don't actually walk but do raise money in behalf of those who walk, and to accept financial donations for the Cathedral team in the form of checks. (Checks should be made out to CWS/CROP.)



To donate to the CROPWalk online, go to <http://www.crophungerwalk.org/st-petersburgfl> and click on "donate." Then you can choose to donate to a specific walker (enter the last name of the walker) or team (Cathedral of St. Peter). Last year, Cathedral walkers and virtual walkers raised over \$1,000.

During February we will collect the following non-perishable food items to take to the CROP Hunger Walk:

Cereal or oatmeal	Canned vegetables
Soup	Canned tuna
Crackers	Canned pasta
Juice	Canned stew
Peanut butter	Canned pork and beans
Jelly	
Canned fruit	

For more information about CROP Hunger Walks, see Bill Roen ([williamroen@gmail.com](mailto:williamroen@gmail.com)) or Penny Roen ([pennyroen@gmail.com](mailto:pennyroen@gmail.com)).

## We'll Celebrate the Church's First Black Priest on February 16

We will honor a saint of the Episcopal Church, Absalom Jones, at services on Sunday, February 16. The church officially remembers Blessed Absalom, the first black priest in the Episcopal Church, on February 13.

Father Absalom's story is dramatic, worthy of a *Hamilton*-style musical. He was born into slavery in 1746 in Delaware. He was separated from his mother and six siblings when their master sold them off. At age 16, he was sold to a storeowner in Philadelphia, where he worked as a clerk, saving his money to buy the freedom of the enslaved woman he married.

Eventually Father Absalom gained his freedom. He became active at St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church, serving as lay minister for its black parishioners. When the white vestry at St. George's tried to force black parishioners to sit

in an upstairs gallery, even physically accosting Jones, the parishioners walked out.

In 1794 Father Absalom and others formed the St. Thomas African Episcopal Church.

Jones was ordained deacon in 1795 and priest in 1802. He was a powerful evangelist — his congregation grew to 500 in its first year — and a fiery preacher who denounced slavery from the pulpit. To him, God was the Father who always acted on “behalf of the oppressed and distressed.”



*Father Absalom Jones*

We will include music in the African-American tradition at the 10:15 a.m. service that day. At coffee hour we'll enjoy an African-American sampler of foods: ham, black-eyed peas, collards, and cornbread. We'll take up a freewill offering to help St. Augustine's Episcopal Church buy a new ventilation hood for their kitchen, crucial for their very active breakfast ministry.

***THE ST. PETERSBURG FESTIVAL CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA*** seeks chorus members for our spring production, Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living*, on Sunday, March 22, at 5 p.m. Rehearsals are from 7 to 9 p.m. on six Tuesdays beginning February 4. Dress rehearsals with a chamber orchestra are from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. March 17 and noon to 3 p.m. March 21. Anyone interested should speak to Music Director Dwight Thomas.

## All-Female Quartet Will Sing Compline Service in February

Our monthly service of compline, at 8 p.m. Sunday, February 9, will be sung by an all-female quartet. Last month the service was sung by four male voices.

Compline is the church's "good night" liturgy, the last service of the day. We sing it in a darkened church illuminated only 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.

## Evensong Will Feature Buffalo Cathedral Service

Our service of Choral Evensong for the Last Sunday After the Epiphany, on February 23, will feature Roland Martin's "St. Paul's, Buffalo" service.

Martin teaches organ, piano, and harpsichord at the University at Buffalo and is a prolific composer, teacher, conductor, accompanist, vocal coach, and organist in Western New York.

St. Paul's Cathedral in downtown Buffalo, which celebrated its 200th anniversary in 2017, is the bishop's seat for the Diocese of Western New York and has a long tradition of excellent men's and boys' choirs. Designed in the Gothic style by architect Richard Upjohn,

it was the seat of the great missionary bishop Charles Henry Brent (1862-1929), founder of what became the World Council of Churches and a leading advocate of church unity and reconciliation.

The responses are by Stephen Caracciolo and the service anthem is Thomas Pavlechko's *Te Deum laudamus*.

An organ prelude is at 4:45 p.m. and the service at 5. The Cathedral Chamber Choir sings. Dwight Thomas is music director and organist.

A freewill offering is taken, and a light reception follows.



Roland Martin

**LECTIO TO GO** continues at 9:30 a.m. Mondays. Meet Canon Katie 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!

# From Game Day to Egg Painting, Fun Abounds for Kids and Families This Month

**Hillary Peete, Children's Minister**

There's lots going on for families and children in the next few weeks. Read the details, mark your calendar, and we'll see you there. Questions? Contact Hillary Peete ([hpeete@spcathedral.com](mailto:hpeete@spcathedral.com)).

## **Sunday, February 2: Children's Ministry Family Social**

Kids and grown-ups are invited to join us in the garden after worship for some football fun! There will be game-day snacks and everyone is invited to wear their favorite team (football or otherwise!) jersey.

## **Thursday, February 13: Messy Church Does Science: Plants!**

Last month in Messy Church we asked each other some very important questions: Can touch change the way we feel? Does God have any silly or funny creations? How does your brain help your arms? How do your teeth help your stomach? Through



*Messy Church asked about how our bodies work, including playing jump rope.*

Science: Plants! Dinner is from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. (\$3/kid, \$5/adult, \$10 max/family) followed by Bible stories and messy fun from

Messy Science, 25 kids had fun exploring the ways God has created us to be in community and to love and care for one another.

We hope that you'll join us on Thursday, February 13, for Messy Church Does

6:15 to 7:30 p.m. RSVP to Hillary by February 9, please.

## **Sunday, February 16: EYSeedlings (3rd-5th graders), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.**

This month we'll continue playing our worship bingo cards. When someone gets

four in a row, we'll go out for ice cream! As we prepare for Lent, we'll talk about this special



*These are the EYSeedlings, our "junior varsity" youth group of third- through fifth-graders.*

[continued on page 17](#)



## Fun Abounds This Month

[continued from page 16](#)

season and use LEGOs to engage scripture. Lunch and games, too!

### A Plastic-Free Easter!

This year we're trying something new for the egg hunt after the 10:15 a.m. service on Easter, April 12. We have purchased 800 wooden Easter eggs and we would love your help painting, decorating, and dyeing them. There will be eggs and paint available on Shrove Tuesday, February 25, for everyone to use, and there will also be a table in Harvard Hall where you can take a bag of eggs home to decorate and bring back. Everyone is allowed to enter one decorated egg in the Easter Egg Contest. Winners will be chosen on Palm Sunday! Stay tuned for more details and contact Hillary Peete with any questions.

Photos by HILLARY PEETE



*Help us decorate these wooden eggs!*

## Are You Colormute? How to Talk to Kids About Race

Hillary Peete, Children's Minister

***What: Faith formation for parents:***

***Talking to kids about race***

***When: Sundays, March 1, 8, 22,  
and 29. Discussion from 4 to 5 p.m.***

***Family dinner from 5 to 5:45 p.m.***

Silence can send the wrong message to our kids. When we stay quiet on issues of race and identity, children listen to other voices — including misinformed peers and persistent cultural stereotypes. We need to seize the opportunity to share with our kids foundational truths about God's love for all humanity in its amazing diversity.

Do we believe that each person has been made in the image of God and uniquely reveals the Divine? If so, how do we proactively have life-giving conversations about this reality? How do we help our kids know in the deepest sense that

we belong to each other?

Let's get some practice sharing the Gospel (good news) with our kids. Parents, grandparents and caregivers are invited to a four-week series on Sunday evenings. We'll draw from various perspectives and resources — blogs, books, scripture, videos, and more — to enrich our discussion and equip us to talk to our kids about race.

Nursery care will be available for babies through age 4 and fine-arts activities for children (kindergarten through middle school) during the discussion time. We'll come together after the group discussion for a simple family meal to connect and continue to get to know one another.

Please RSVP to Hillary by February 21 to help us plan for childcare and activities. Suggested donation of \$20/family to cover the cost of materials.

# Becoming Beloved Community: Civil-Rights Exhibit Tour Opens Our Eyes and Breaks Our Hearts

**Betsy Adams**

Continuing along the way toward racial healing, we look to the model of the labyrinth as our guide. Our path leads us to continue discovering and telling the truth about race. The truth in our community, in our church, and within ourselves. We ask the questions, *Who are we? What things have we done and left undone regarding justice and healing?*

As a step toward discovering the story of racial injustice in our community, on January 19 a group of 40 adults and youth visited the Florida Holocaust Museum for a tour of “Beaches, Benches, and Boycotts,” an exhibit documenting the civil-rights era in the Tampa Bay area. We learned about St.

*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.*



Petersburg’s African-American pioneers. We learned about the era of segregation, including the iconic green benches that welcomed residents and tourists but were off-limits to African-Americans. We heard of redlining, Ku Klux Klan gatherings, and

lynchings here in St. Petersburg. But above all we learned about a close-knit African-American community, both resilient and persistent in striving for racial justice.

To help us continue our journey along the way of social justice, we will offer a new opportunity for learning and dialogue, “Sacred Ground,” a Becoming Beloved Community resource developed by The Episcopal Church.

“Sacred Ground” is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded

[continued on page 19](#)

## “Sacred Ground”

[continued from page 18](#)

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 fo-



*The group that toured the civil-rights exhibit at the Holocaust Museum gathered for a photo first. We learned at the tour that the green bench we were sitting on or gathered around still represents exclusion and discrimination to African-Americans who were forbidden to sit on the benches when they lined Central Avenue in St. Petersburg. Photo by BETSY ADAMS*

cus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

“Sacred Ground” will be offered on a deanery level so that we might come together from parishes around South Pinellas. We will meet monthly to allow plenty of time to do the personal work needed prior to our discussions.

The introductory session will be held

Saturday, February 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 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. Subsequent sessions are scheduled on Monday evenings: February 24, March 23, April 20, and May 18.

Interested, but uncertain? Would you like to be part of the group, but cannot attend the introductory session? Contact Canon Paige Hanks ([pthanks@spcathedral.com](mailto:pthanks@spcathedral.com)) or Betsy Adams ([betsyadams@earthlink.net](mailto:betsyadams@earthlink.net)) for more detailed 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 forward toward becoming Beloved Community ... toward the Kingdom of God.

For more information on all things “Beloved Community,” visit our page on the Cathedral website: <https://www.spcathedral.org/beloved-community>.

## Remembering Dr. King

Our Day of Service on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 20, took us outdoors and in. Some of us marched in the city's Dream Big parade. Some volunteers landscaped the corner in front of Woodlawn Elementary or did painting and cleanup at the

Community Preschool next to St. Bede's.

At the Cathedral we cleaned the nursery, reorganized the Guild Room, and sorted toiletries for personal-hygiene kits for the St. Petersburg Free Clinic. We created wellness packages, containing tissues, hand soap,

mint and gum, and a little sweet treat for all pre-K, kindergarten, first- and second-grade, and special-education classrooms at Campbell Park Elementary.

Photos by AMELIA HANKS, JUDY STARK, and PAIGE HANKS



*We honored Dr. King by marching, sorting toiletries for the Free Clinic (above), creating wellness packages for Campbell Park Elementary (above right), and landscaping (right).*



# What we say in baptism, Part 1: The renunciations and affirmations

The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams

*Part 4 in a series on baptism.  
Find previous installments at  
[spcathedral.org/baptism](http://spcathedral.org/baptism)*

When I was baptized (by total immersion, of course), I was asked whether I had accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. I said yes, and the Baptist minister said something like, “Upon your profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, I baptize you, my brother, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

We Episcopalians use a lot more words at baptism, and not just because we’re Episcopalians and, well, we like that sort of thing. What we say at baptism underscores the seriousness of the new relationship that baptism inaugurates, the vital role of the Body of Christ into which the candidate is being initiated, and the unsparing

demands of the Christian life that begins at the font.

After the candidates are presented, the Celebrant invites three renunciations and three affirmations from the candidates who can speak for themselves, and from the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the children they present.

The renunciations in the 1979 Book of Common Prayer expand upon the traditional renunciations of “the world, the flesh, and the devil.” First, the devil: “Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?” Then, the world: “Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of

[continued on page 22](#)



*Canon Katie, Canon Sam, and Dean Morris join in the baptism of Millie Busch.*

## The Words of Baptism

[continued from page 21](#)

God?” And, last, the flesh: “Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?”

Pause for a few moments and think about the life to which these renunciations commit us. We say no to rebellion against God; we pledge resistance to anything that would break in on God’s creation and do it harm; we set our faces against everything that would stand in the place of God’s love for us and our love for God.

Then, having said what they are rejecting, the candidates say what they are accepting. They “turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as [their] Savior”; they “put [their] whole trust in his grace and love”; and they

“promise to follow and obey him as [their] Lord.” (So my Baptist pastor would at least be pleased that we get the Lord-and-Savior part in there; he’d be distressed by the paucity of water. But we’ll get to

that.) Turning away from the world is an empty gesture unless we turn toward the One who has overcome the world.

And finally, the congregation promises to do everything in its power to uphold the newly baptized in their life in Christ. Baptism incorpo-

rates people into the Church, and in this promise the Church commits to doing the ongoing work of supporting the renunciations and affirmations made in baptism.



## Join Us As We Continue to Read The Gospel of John

The wider church continues to read the Gospel of John as part of the Good Book Club program, and we — readers from the Cathedral and from St. Bede’s — have been reading right along with them since January 6.



THE  
GOOD BOOK  
CLUB

Every year in Epiphany, the Episcopal Church invites everyone to read a book of the Bible together. Two years ago it was the Gospel of Mark; last year it was Paul’s Letter to the Romans.



It’s not too late to join in! A reading list with each day’s short passages is available on the hospitality table in Harvard Hall along with bookmarks and a “Gospel of John 101” quick introduction. Extensive resources are available at [goodbookclub.org](http://goodbookclub.org). The readings end on Shrove Tuesday, February 25.

At 6 p.m. Sunday, February 23, we’ll gather at St. Bede’s for a 90-minute discussion of what we’ve been reading. All welcome, and there will be snacks.

## Dramatic Story of Florida's Birth and Growth Is Book Club's February Selection

This month's selection for St. Peter's Book Club is *A Land Remembered* by Patrick Smith, a book that some people think should be handed out to every tourist and newcomer at the welcome centers at the state line.

It has been ranked #1 Best Florida Book eight times in annual polls conducted by *Florida Monthly* magazine.

Here's the review from [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com):

Smith tells the story of three generations of the Maclveys, a Florida family who battle the hardships of the frontier to rise from a dirt-poor Cracker life to the wealth and standing of real estate tycoons.

The story opens in 1858, when Tobias Maclvey arrives in the Florida wilderness to start a new life with his wife and infant son, and ends two generations later in 1968 with Solomon Maclvey, who realizes that the land has been exploited far beyond human need.

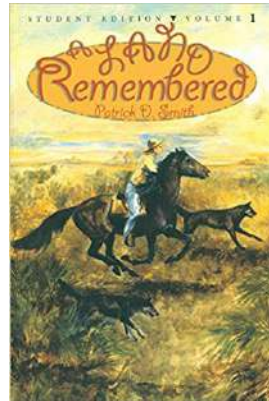
The sweeping story that emerg-

es is a rich, rugged Florida history featuring a memorable cast of crusty, indomitable Crackers battling wild animals, rustlers, Confederate deserters, mosquitoes, starvation, hurricanes, and freezes to carve a kingdom out of the swamp. But their most formidable adversary turns out to be greed, including finally their own.

Love and tenderness are here too: the hopes and passions of each new generation, friendships with the persecuted blacks and Indians, and respect for the land and its wildlife.

*A Land Remembered* was winner of the Florida Historical Society's Tebeau Prize as the Most Outstanding Florida Historical Novel. Now in its 14th hard-cover printing, it has been in print since 1984.

Rita Jankovich is the presenter. All are welcome, whether you've read the book or not. The club meets in the Chapter Room at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 25.



Our updated **HISTORY OF THE CATHEDRAL** remains available on our website, [www.spcathedral.org/history](http://www.spcathedral.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.

# Youth Will Offer Revealing Self-Portraits of Faith At Art & Bake Sale Fundraiser February 23

**Alicia Schmid, Youth Minister**

The Cathedral EYC started off 2020 with learning, fellowship, and a dialogue about newness in faith and in life. During February, we will focus on our own individual



faith stories and discuss ways we can grow in faith and in life.

As Christians, many of us already know that worship, fellowship, outreach, and faith formation are all paramount in our lives if we are to truly live out our calling to love God with all we have, and love our neighbor as ourselves. So it's important to be aware that we must take time for these spiritual practices. In February, the EYC will dive deeper into faith and talk about what each of our own faith journeys looks like so far. We won't just talk about them. The youth will have the opportunity to paint a "self-portrait of faith" — their own faith, whatever that might look like.

*With kayaks in a circle at Fort DeSoto, our Episcopal Youth Community gathers to celebrate a canoecharist in December.*

Unlike a typical self-portrait, which often is created to capture one's physical appearance, self-portraits of faith are not about the physical, but the spiritual. Portraits of Faith are about documenting the role of spiritual experience in one's life: the expected and the unexpected, told in ways that are unique to each person, and brought to life through art media. Some may be a more impressionistic style, others more abstract, but either way, creativity is encouraged. The message of Portraits of Faith is that, despite all the negative press on faith in the world today, faith is a powerful healer, transformer, and changer of lives.

We will create self-portraits of faith on Sunday, February 16, beginning at 9 a.m. in the youth room. We will take this project a step further by giving youth the oppor-

[continued on page 25](#)



## Youth News

[continued from page 24](#)

tunity to create two portraits and offering one for sale at our EYC Art & Bake Sale Fundraiser the following Sunday, February 23, during coffee hour in Harvard Hall.

All proceeds from our art and bake sale will support the Episcopal Youth Event

2020, a once-every-three-years churchwide gathering of youth. Our high school students will travel to Maryland next summer to meet with other young Episcopalians from every diocese. Together we will attend workshops and engage in worship and fellowship that will help equip us to be better stewards of the Gospel. Your support and generosity as we prepare for EYE 2020 are

so appreciated!

How can we continue to shift and refocus our attention to dive deeper into our faith in 2020? 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:

**Sunday, February 9:** Cathedral EYC Hot Chocolate and Compline Night, 7-8:45 p.m.

**Sunday, February 16:** Youth Group Hour. Junior EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) from 9 to 10 a.m.; Senior EYC from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Self-portraits of faith will be created for our Art & Bake Sale on February 23.

**Sunday, February 23:** EYC Art & Bake Sale / EYE 2020 Fundraiser during coffee hour after the 10:15 a.m. service.

**Tuesday, February 25:** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Youth will host, serve, and assist in children's activities. See story, [Page 12](#), for details.

For more information about any youth activities, or to RSVP for an event, please speak to Alicia Schmid, youth minister: [aschmid@spcathedral.org](mailto:aschmid@spcathedral.org).

### Coming Up: Way of the Cross



For the 46th consecutive year, Cathedral youth will lead the Way of the Cross through the streets of downtown St. Petersburg at 7:30 a.m. Friday, April 10 — Good Friday.

Rehearsals are scheduled for these Sundays starting at 11:30 a.m.: March 1, March 22, March 29, and April 5.

Please speak to Alicia if you'd like to participate. We'll need adult help as well with rehearsals and costuming.

*Youth walk through Williams Park with Jesus, played by Jack Clark, at the 2019 Way of the Cross. Photo by JUDY STARK*

# Movies in February: Adventure and Romance; 'Green Book' Actor Will Be at Our Screening

Susan Regan

Join us for a great month at the free Friday night movies. One of the actors from our February 7 movie, *The Green Book*, will be with us (read on for details). Bring your friends; we provide the popcorn.

**February 7: *The Green Book*** (2018, PG-13).

Frank "Tony Lip" Vallelonga, a bouncer from an Italian-American neighborhood in the Bronx, is hired to drive Dr. Don Shirley, a world-class black pianist, on a concert tour from Manhattan to the Deep South in 1962. They must rely on *The Negro Motorist Green Book* to guide



them to the few establishments that were then safe for African-Americans. The book, a travel guide for African-Americans, who were turned away from most restaurants and motels, was published from 1936 to 1967, promising "vacation without aggravation."

Confronted with racism and danger as well as unexpected humanity and humor, Vallelonga (Viggo Mortensen) and Shirley (Mahershala Ali) are forced to set aside differences to survive and thrive on the journey of a lifetime. The movie won the Oscars for Best Picture and Best Supporting Actor (Ali) in 2019.

We will welcome our guests, Lou and Lynn Vallelonga. Lou's nephew, Nick, wrote the screenplay about his father and Dr. Shirley. In the movie, Lou portrays his own grandfather, Nicola Vallelonga.

**February 14: *Out of Africa*** (1985, PG).

What better choice for Valentine's Day than this romance? Hoping to forge a



better life, Denmark native Karen Blixen (Meryl Streep) enters into a marriage of convenience with a womanizing baron. But when the couple moves to Nairobi, Karen falls in love with a free-spirited hunter (Robert Red-

ford) who can't be tied down. Director Sidney Pollack's lush period piece earned seven Academy Awards including statues for Best Picture, Best Screenplay, and Best Cinematography.

[continued on page 27](#)

## Movie Night

[continued from page 26](#)

### February 21: *The Return of Martin Guerre*

(1982, NR). In 16th-century France, a man (Gerard Depardieu) who deserted his wife (Nathalie Baye) and child unexpectedly returns to his native village after eight years. But the astonishing metaphorphosis in his personality leads a number of his relatives and neighbors to believe he's a fraud. Ultimately he's hauled before a magistrate to expose the truth. This faithful adaptation of the novel by Janet Lewis is based on a true story.

**February 28: *Maiden*** (2019, PG). In 1989, an all-female crew captained by 27-year-old Tracy Edwards entered the Whitbread Round the World Race on a yacht, "Maiden." By finishing second, the female crew permanently transformed the all-male province of deep-water yacht racing.

*The Burns Movie Series honors our late founder and programmer, Eddy Burns. Comments and suggestions: Susan Regan, [sfrcpa23@gmail.com](mailto:sfrcpa23@gmail.com).*



### Consider Alternative Parking

Parking is at a premium these days because most of the city-owned lots on Second Avenue N are fenced off as a staging area while City Hall undergoes remodeling. Please allow yourself ample time to find parking, especially on Sundays. One possibility: the Sundial Garage at 117 Second St. N. Construction is expected to be completed in late spring/early summer.

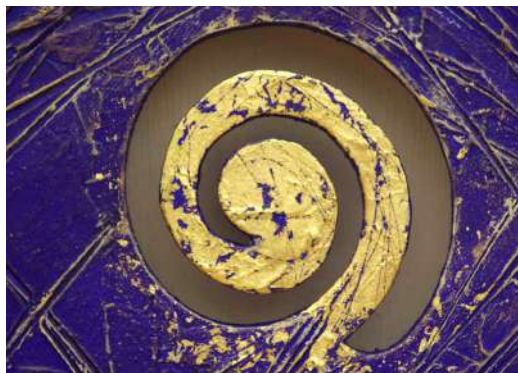
## Exhibit of Icons at St. Thomas Closes February 9

February 9 is your last opportunity to view “Icons in Transformation,” an exhibit of contemporary icons by Russian-Swedish artist Ludmila Pawlowska, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 1200 Snell Isle Blvd.

Most of the works are for sale. Also on display are a dozen traditional icons from the Vasilievsky Monastery in Suzdal, Russia.

The exhibit of more than 100 works 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, February 9, 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.

# February Transitions

## Birthdays

1	Bob MacDonald	6	Kate Munkittrick	16	Judy Ferrara
1	Byron Shouppe	6	Courtney Crosby	16	Adrienne Haines
1	Patty Hollingsworth	6	Isla McDowall	17	Ed Shamas
2	Jim Jeffries	11	Alice Meyer	17	Brad Davis
2	Jenna Parsons	11	Robert Pinion	17	Emily Lenhardt
2	Mason Parsons	12	Robert Denk	17	Savanna Andrews
2	Ezekiel Miccichi	12	Ray McColgan	17	Peyton Parker
3	Rendall Sanchez	12	Mike Grimshaw	18	Presley Emma Ponte
4	Tom Walker	13	Eli Dobiesz	20	John Wilson
4	Johnathan Ellis	14	Monnie Moore	20	Bill Barlow
4	Nathaniel Norris	14	Lance Orchid	20	Lynne Albee
5	Fran Spector	15	Fred Stansbery	21	Bari Bryant
5	Christopher Etter	15	Elizabeth Howlett	21	Melissa Smith
6	Roberta Yancey	15	Jaclyn Hager	22	John Linehan
6	Kathy Hancock	15	Mike Zuravel	23	Dorothy Longstaff
		15	Garrett Mastry	23	John Ellis
				23	Sue Bracci
				23	Ayla Fuchs
				24	Marilyn Polson
				25	Barbara Martin
				25	Grace Hamilton
				25	Kim Parsons
				25	Gina Sansone

25	Jessica Grimshaw	28	Scott Nonken
26	Orin Linder	28	Audrey Hamm
26	Marianne Hallas	28	Bronwyn Gairing
27	Lou Schrader	28	Clark Gairing
		28	Rosamond Katzel

## Anniversaries

2	Shands & Joan McKeithen	14	Mario & Judith Loehrer
5	Gareth & Debra Eich	14	Peter & Ashley Gairing
5	Neil & Susan Savage	14	John & Lisa Beck
6	Michael & Carol Piper	14	Sam Tallman & Mike Zuravel
14	Jack & Kit Clarke	18	Brent & Marion Huber
14	Elizabeth & Stephen Schroeder	28	James & Rick Knight



[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 Chapell

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.

### Visiting/getting in touch

Office: 140 Fourth St. N, 33701. Church and office entrance: On  
Second Ave. N just west of Fourth Street.

#### Mailing address:

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[www.spcathedral.org](http://www.spcathedral.org)



**If you have a pastoral emergency  
after hours, please call Canon Paige  
Hanks at (214) 704-9430.**

*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](mailto:JudyStark@yahoo.com)), Associate Editor, Mary W. Matthews ([MotherMary@extremelysmart.com](mailto:MotherMary@extremelysmart.com)).

**Next deadline: February 15, 2020.**

### Diocesan leadership:

The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith, bishop  
The Rev. Canon Richard H. Norman, canon to the ordinary

### 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 missionary 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. Samuel V. Tallman, priest associate  
The Rev. Scott Nonken, deacon  
The Right Rev. Barry R. Howe, bishop in residence  
Dwight Thomas, director of music ministries and organist