



CROSSTOWN

March 2020

At the foot of the cross in downtown St. Petersburg



Children react with glee to a Bible story: Messy Church, [Page 18](#).
Photo by HILLARY PEETE

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Soaring Music Offers Peace and Rest in 'Requiem for the Living'

Our spring concert event, the *Requiem for the Living* by Dan Forrest on March 22, "is beautiful music at its core," music director Dwight Thomas says.

"It's been on my short list for a while, and we've sung some of Forrest's anthems and hymn settings, which are really fresh and offer interesting ideas and different treatments on classic hymns," he said. "I knew I needed to give it another look, and as I got into it deeper, I thought, 'This is great.'"

One critic called the *Requiem* "a work of soaring melody and luminous harmony ... that emphasizes consolation for the living rather than grief and judgment."

The *Requiem* will be performed by the St. Petersburg Festival Chorus and Orchestra. "The choir is up to 55 singers, including a lot of people who have never sung with us before, from Tampa and North Pinellas," Dwight said.

Composer Dan Forrest, 42, was born in Breesport, New York. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in music at Bob Jones University and has a doctorate from the University of Kansas. He is a pianist, educator, and composer of choral, instrumental, orchestral, and wind-band works.

Forrest describes the *Requiem* this way:

"A requiem, at its core, is a prayer for rest — traditionally, for the deceased," he says. "The five movements of *Requiem for the Living*, however, form a narrative just as much for the living, and their own struggle with pain and sorrow, as for the dead."

The *Requiem*, sung in Latin in five move-



Dan Forrest

ments, lasts about 40 minutes. It opens with the traditional Kyrie — "Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord."

The aggressive second movement, "Vanitas Vanitatum" (Vanity of vanities), speaks of the turmoil and sorrow that face humanity. "This is the wild-card movement," Dwight said, a variation from the traditional requiem format. "It will remind some people of *Carmina Burana*, and the text, from Job — 'Let the day perish when I was born' — is not the classic requiem text."

The third movement, "Agnus Dei" (Lamb of God) asks for deliverance and peace. The joyous fourth movement, "Sanctus" (Holy, holy, holy), offers three different glimpses of the "heavens and earth, full of Thy glory," inspired by images of space from the Hubble Space Telescope; images of

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'Requiem for the Living'

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the earth as viewed from the International Space Station; and a view of the earth's cities, teeming with the energy of humanity.

The final movement, "Lux aeterna" ("May light perpetual shine on them"), includes a tenor solo in English: "Come unto me, all you who labor and are heavy laden...." The soloist will be Kevin Mitchell, familiar to us as the Evangelist in last year's



The "Sanctus" movement of Requiem for the Living was inspired by images like these — a galaxy 13-billion years old, taken from the Hubble Space Telescope, and Italy, taken from the International Space Station.

Requiem for the Living

When: 5 p.m. Sunday, March 22, performed by the St. Petersburg Festival Chorus and Orchestra. Dwight Thomas, music director. Suggested donation \$10.

Listen: Watch a video of the *Requiem for the Living* here: <https://tinyurl.com/tr6vepa>

Learn: A video interview with the composer is here: <https://tinyurl.com/qvh7aro>

St. John Passion by Bob Chilcott. Forrest says he specifically wanted that solo sung in English (or the language spoken where the *Requiem* is being performed) "so audiences will hear it" and recognize that the peace and rest they seek are already given in Christ.

The parts in the third and fifth movements traditionally performed by a boy soprano will be sung by two students from St. Petersburg College who met Dwight when they were students at the Pinellas County Center for the Arts at Gibbs High School,

where he is the staff accompanist. The students, Kaitlin Durkee and Kyleigh Long, had sung the *Requiem* a few years ago at Gibbs and contacted Dwight to see if they could sing it again with the Festival Chorus. (Of course!)

Forrest wrote the *Requiem* over a period of about 16 months in 2012-2013. He calls it a *Requiem for the Living* "partly to make it stand out from other requiems," he says, "but also because I want people who hear the text to find the rest that the text prays for."

Walking Once More The Pilgrim Way of Lent

Now we are into it — Lent, the six weeks leading up to Easter. The pancake supper is over, the King Cake devoured. We've come to the altar to be marked with ashes and the reminder: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

In church you'll notice simple greenery, no flowers. Limited music, and what we do have is restrained. The service begins with the Penitential Order (Pages 319 and 351 of the Book of Common Prayer). At the end of worship, in



place of the blessing, we will offer a solemn prayer over the people.

Often Lent is considered a time to give up some special pleasure — chocolate, or Facebook, or adult beverages. But you might think of Lent as a time of more rather than less: more stillness, more time to spend in prayer, more Jesus. "Each year, the Church offers us this precious time to return to Jesus Christ, to focus on what matters," writes the Rev. Scott Gunn, executive director of Forward Movement. "How will you accept this gift?"

During Lent, the Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams will offer classes on five Sunday mornings on the Creeds (story, [Page 7](#)). Deacon Scott Nonken will lead the Stations of the Cross at 6 p.m. Fridays. Please see the calendar of events in Lent and Holy Week ([Page 5](#)). And if you'd like some help with daily devotional readings, we offer a list (right). You may remember the old children's hymn: "that, with hearts made penitent, we may keep a faithful Lent."

Lenten Devotionals Available Online

Here are some Lenten devotionals to help you go deeper in your prayer life during Lent.

* **Episcopal Relief and Development** offers a daily devotional at 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

* **The Society of St. John the Evangelist** offers an online devotional at www.ssje.org

* **Pittsburgh Theological Seminary**, affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA), offers a daily print and audio devotional at PTS.edu/devotional

* **Living Compass**, a church-based faith and wellness program, offers daily readings via e-mail or in downloadable form at living-compass.org/lent.

LENT and EASTER

at the Cathedral

6 p.m. Fridays, March 6, 13, 20, and 27, and April 3: Stations of the Cross in the Cathedral, led by Deacon Scott Nonken. Participants move about the Cathedral for readings and prayers.

9-10 a.m. Sundays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29: Canon Williams's classes on the creeds (details, [Page 7](#)).

5 p.m. Sunday, March 22: Dan Forrest's Requiem for the Living, performed by the St. Petersburg Festival Chorus and Orchestra. Directed by Dwight Thomas.

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, April 4: Special Messy Saturday to prepare for Palm Sunday.

10:15 a.m. Sunday, April 5: Palm Sunday procession around the Cathedral. Gather on the sidewalk on Second Avenue N.

7 p.m. Thursday, April 9: Maundy Thursday service with footwashing and Holy Communion.

7:30 a.m. Friday, April 10: 46th annual Way of the Cross procession through downtown.

Noon Friday, April 10: Good Friday liturgy.

9 a.m. Saturday, April 11: Holy Saturday office

7 p.m. Saturday, April 11: Great Vigil of Easter. Note that there is no 5 p.m. service this day.

8 and 10:15 a.m. Sunday, April 12: Easter services with Cathedral Brass at 10:15. Coffee hour and egg hunt for children follow the 10:15 a.m. service.

Children's Chapel and nursery care will be offered on Ash Wednesday (7 p.m.), Maundy Thursday (6:30 p.m.), Good Friday (noon), and Easter (10:15 a.m.).

Planning for the Future: Learn More on Legacy Sunday, March 8

Marilyn Polson, Stewardship Committee

Last year's Final Affairs Fair focused on preparations and planning for end-of-life decision-making, including wills, health care surrogates, preparing for minor children, and more. This year your Stewardship Committee will provide information about Planned Legacy Giving to the Cathedral: what it is, why you might want to do it, and methods available to you. We will also be talking about giving to the community through organ donation.

At coffee hour on Sunday, March 8, we will show a brief video prepared for the Cathedral through the Episcopal Church Foundation; hear from members of the Legacy Planned Giving Committee; hear from members of the Legacy Society; provide



information about making a legacy gift to the Cathedral; and answer questions.

Legacy giving in the past has greatly strengthened our financial situation. It began with the creation of St. Peter's Church in 1896. It continues today and has helped increase our Endowment Fund to more than \$2.2-million. The future of legacy giving is the responsibility of those of us currently attending the Cathedral.

Please join us on March 8 in Harvard Hall to learn more about this important topic. See if the video — of less than two minutes! — brings tears to your eyes, as it did to the members of the Stewardship Committee when they first watched it. It is truly inspiring!

Join us for **COFFEE WITH THE CLERGY** from 9 to 9:50 a.m. Sunday, March 8, in the Chapter Room. Canon for Hospitality Brandon Peete meets with newcomers (or not-so-newcomers) to welcome you, answer your questions, and help you feel at home at the Cathedral. Come for coffee or tea, doughnuts, and friendly conversation.

Classes on the Creeds:

What We Mean When We Say What We Believe

On five Sundays starting March 1, the Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams will present classes on the Creeds.

“The Creeds define the basic contours of Christian belief,” Canon Williams said. “We profess the Nicene Creed almost every Sunday, and the Apostles’ Creed is a key element of our Baptismal Covenant. So it is no wonder that philosophers and theologians over the centuries have devoted some of their best thinking to unpacking these familiar words and grappling with their deepest meaning.”

In this series we will take a deep dive into the puzzles and paradoxes, the splendors and wonders, that our theological tradition has found in five words or phrases of the Creeds:

* **“Almighty”** — reflections on

divine power, March 1

* **“For us and for our salvation”** — reflections on the theology of redemption, March 8

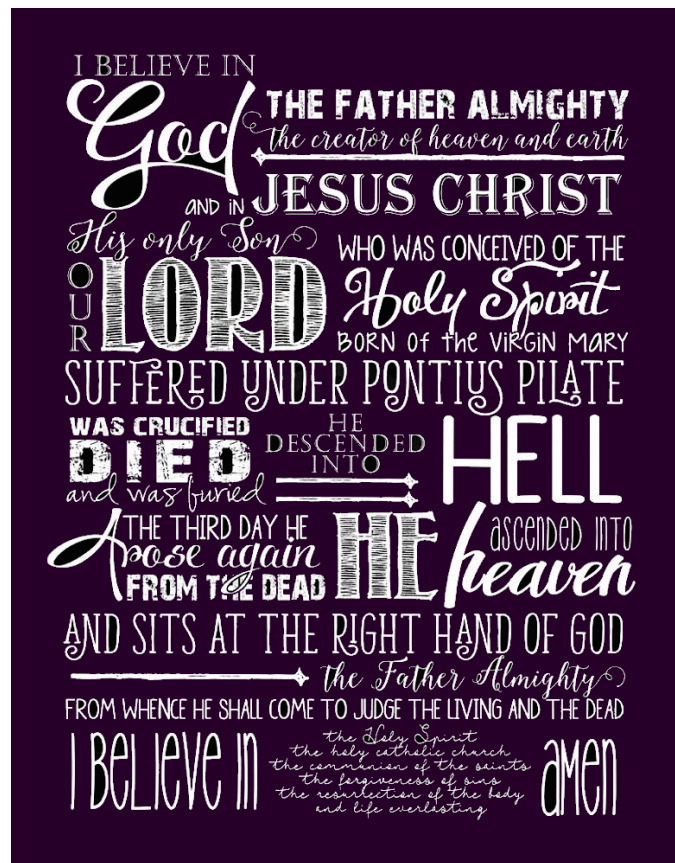
* **“Seated at the right hand of the Father”** — reflections on the exaltation of Christ, March 15

* **“He has spoken through the prophets”** — reflections on inspiration, March 22

* **“The resurrection of the body”** — reflections on the last things, March 29

The series is meant not just to convey a deeper knowledge of some of the central doctrines of the Christian faith but also to instill a greater appreciation for the project of “faith seeking understanding.”

The class meets from 9 to 10 a.m. in Harvard Hall, and yes, there will be coffee and donuts.



New Service for the Deaf Offers Access to Worship In a Language They Understand

St. Peter's will start hosting a monthly Eucharist for the Deaf at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 15. The service will be led by the Rev. Richard Mahaffy, an Episcopal priest who has been profoundly deaf since birth and is a leader in ministry to the deaf.

"Our ancestors in the faith believed that all people had the right to read the Scriptures and to worship in a language they understood," Father Mahaffy said. "Deaf people also have this right, and the churches must find creative ways to give them access to God's Word and the Church's Sacraments."

The service involves a simple liturgy in "the language of the people" (in this case, American Sign Language) that will be acces-



Rev. Richard Mahaffy

sible to all Deaf people, regardless of their proficiency in English, and that will reflect the ways of relating that are common in the Deaf community.

Among the various types of disabilities, deafness is unique because Deaf people share a unique language and culture, unlike any other group. This liturgy is simpler and easier to understand, less wordy and easier to follow, and engages the congregation in dialogue. It is an experimental liturgy and will be adapted as needed to meet the needs of a Deaf congregation.

"We are adapting the worship of the Church to the language and culture of the

Deaf in order to bring the Good News of the Gospel to those who have no way of hearing it," said Father Mahaffy, who is president of the board of the Episcopal Conference of the Deaf. "Deaf churches are few and far between. They are invariably small and poor, and receive little attention and support from the hearing church.

"We want to thank the Cathedral staff and members for making this service possible and for giving us the space to worship in our own language and culture," he said. "We plan to offer a Deaf service on the third Sunday of each month in the hope that we can attract and build up a small congregation of the Deaf here at the Cathedral. Everyone is welcome!"



This Song of the South Is a Lonely Refrain In Our March Book Talk Selection

The ninth season of our Cathedral Book Talks comes to a close this month when Erica Dawson leads a discussion of *The Gone Dead* by Chanelle Benz, a *New York Times* “most anticipated title” for 2019 and a Notable Book of the Year.

And for those who pay attention to late-night television, it was on Jimmy Fallon’s summer reading list last year.

The Gone Dead is set in the Mississippi Delta in 2003. The lead character, Billie James, returns after a 30-year absence to investigate the suspicious death of her father, Cliff, a renowned African-American poet. As she probes a resistant past, she must face the rumor that she herself went missing on the day her father died — an event of which she has no memory.

Benz’s “attention to the recurring nature

of racism in this country, and her gift for weaving these insights into a gripping narrative, establish Benz as an adept critic and storyteller,” the *New York Times* said in a review.



Erica Dawson

“As Billie mines the present for clues, she is tethered to the past, settling into the house she visited as a child, reuniting with a cousin ... and even beginning a relationship with a white man whose ancestors owned the plantation hers sharecropped,” the *Times* reviewer wrote. “It is also satisfying to witness Benz skillfully connecting a troubled history to its corresponding present.”

Our reviewer is Erica Dawson, Ph.D., director of the MFA in Creative Writing program at the University of Tampa, where she is an associate professor of English and writing. She is the author of three books of

poetry: *When Rap Spoke Straight to God* (Tin House, 2018), winner of the 2018 Florida Book Awards Gold Medal for Poetry; *The Small Blades Hurt* (Measure Press, 2014), winner of the 2016 Poets’ Prize; and *Big-*

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March Book Talk

What: Reviewer Erica Dawson speaks on Chanelle Benz’s *The Gone Dead*

When: Noon-1 p.m.
Tuesday, March 10

Where: Harvard Hall

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

March Book Talk: 'The Gone Dead'

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Eyed Afraid (Waywiser Press, 2007), winner of the 2006 Anthony Hecht Prize.

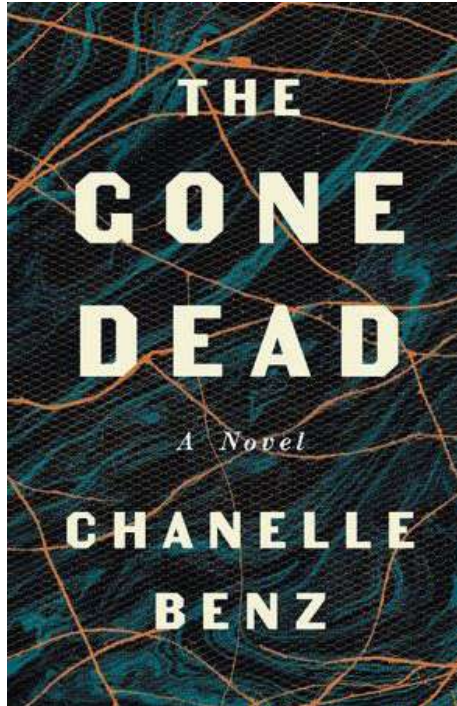
We exchanged some warmup questions and answers with our speaker:

Q. *The Gone Dead* combines a mystery story — who killed Billie's father? — with observations on the pervasive racism in the Mississippi Delta. How does the author weave these two themes together?

A. The mysterious death of a black man living in Mississippi in 1972 inherently raises questions of whether racism was involved. The two themes are automatically woven together, so to speak.

Q. What does this book have to say to readers in this era of renewed white

nationalism and #blacklivesmatter? One critic praised the author's ability at skillfully connecting a troubled history to its corresponding present. How is this both an old story and a new story?



A. In many ways, it's not an old story and a new story, it's a single story. And the story is timeless. Benz shows us that nothing has changed between the past and present.

Q. What most surprised you about *The Gone Dead*?

A. The people who were involved in Cliff James's disappearance.

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

A. This book is the story of a family, a town, and a country. Benz draws our attention to the strength of the human spirit as it faces brutal truths.

We return to **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME** at 2 a.m.

Sunday, March 8. Set your clock ahead one hour when you go to bed Saturday night — spring forward — so you get to church on time Sunday morning. As novelist Stuart O'Nan writes in *Emily, Alone*: "Springing ahead was an official admission that no clock could ever measure the rotation of the earth, of the earth around the sun, birth and death, the turning seasons, the thrust of new shoots."

Still Time to Walk to Wipe Out Hunger

There's still time to support the Pinellas County CROPWalk starting at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1. Bill and Penny Roen will sign up walkers and sponsors in Harvard Hall after the 10:15 a.m. service. Walkers can choose between one-mile and three-mile routes, or they can be "virtual walkers." Those who wish to donate can sponsor individual walkers or the Cathedral team. Go to www.crophungerwalk.org/stpetersburgfl, click on the "donate" button, and follow the directions. A quarter of the money raised will be split between the DayStar Life Center and the St. Petersburg Free Clinic. The remaining 75 percent will be used to help alleviate hunger throughout the world.



One of the teams in last year's CROPWalk.



Final Compline of the Season

Our final service of Compline this season will be sung at 8 p.m. Sunday, March 8.

Presented in the candlelit Cathedral, this service emphasizes rest, spiritual peace, and contemplation. It is the last service of the day, marking the division between day and night, between waking and sleeping, the time when we entrust ourselves to God's loving care.

Compline originated in the fourth century as the series of night prayers said by monks in their dormitories. Characterized by simplicity and brevity, the service lasts just half an hour.

When You Donate Disposable Underwear You Give Freedom, Comfort, Independence

Penny Roen

This month the Outreach Committee is collecting adult diapers and other adult incontinence supplies for the Diapers for Dignity program of the Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas.

These supplies are distributed to those in need through local sites such as the Sunshine Center and the St. Petersburg Free Clinic.

Because of limited funding, this program is sustainable only through donations. Medicaid and basic Medicare do not cover the significant cost of adult diapers. Last year the Cathedral donated more than \$6,500, plus



two bins and five large boxes of diapers.

A family member of one recipient reported: “We as a family try very hard to care for my 87-year-old mother and let her enjoy the comfort of home and not put her in a facility. This service helps reduce some of the high expense we have for her needs.”

Another recipient said, “I had prostate cancer very bad. I have to wear diapers so that I can control myself and be able to leave my apartment. Please keep this up, we need these diapers and they are very expensive.”

Supporting the Diapers for Dignity program: from left, Camille Hernandez, board president of the Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas; Dianne Casorio and Virginia Rowell of St. Peter’s; and Ann Marie Winter, executive director of AAAPP.

March Outreach Opportunity Diapers for Dignity

- * Pull-up (rather than tab) adult diapers of all sizes
- * Bed pads
- * Latex gloves

Please put your donations in the Outreach collection box outside Harvard Hall.

Give online at spcathedral.org/give. Click on “Give Today,” then on “Select a Fund,” choose “Outreach,” and in “optional memo” type “Diapers.”

Or make checks payable to the Cathedral and note “Outreach — Diapers for Dignity” in the memo line.

You and Your ACS Account

Ray McColgan, Stewardship Chair

With an ACS account you are able to view the Cathedral directory, locate phone numbers and e-mail addresses, make changes to your personal information, check and monitor your giving information, obtain statements as soon as they are available, and make payments to the Cathedral.

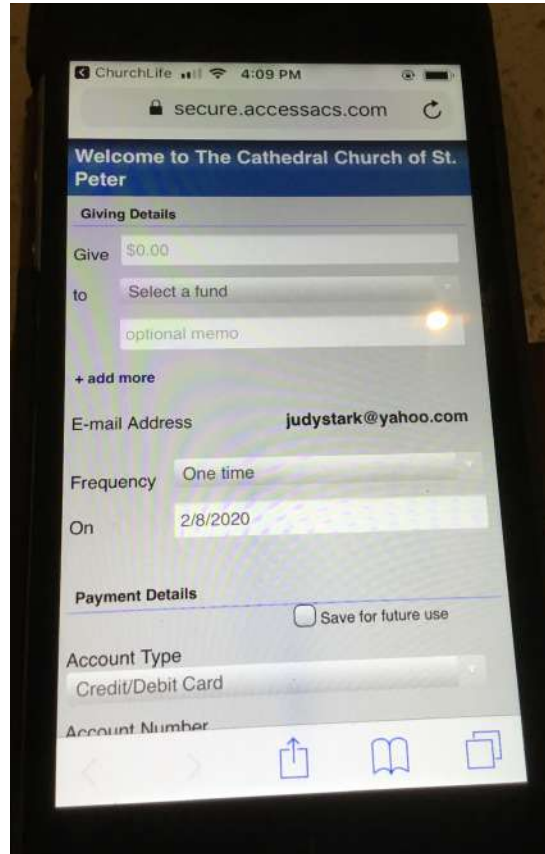
Additionally, with an account and a smart-phone, you can use the Church Life app to locate, call, and e-mail anyone in the directory.

ACS is an accounting and communications software system used by many churches. We use it to keep the books, to create directories, and to post information.

Sounds good? Use the link below to register for an account or stop by the online help desk in Harvard Hall the fourth Sunday of every month after the 10:15 a.m. service. Or contact Ray McColgan at RMcColgan@me.com.

Click on this link: <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/memberlogin.aspx?sn=90135>

When the Sign-In Screen appears, click on "Need a login?" and continue from there.



The **FOYER GROUPS** will not meet this month. Their next gathering is from 5:45 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 16. This dinner gathering (\$5) is a great way to meet people and learn your way around the Cathedral. Marion Fleming (mimideeda@gmail.com) is happy to welcome you.

A Festive Celebration of Absalom Jones; Now, On with the Work

Betsy Adams

On February 16 we celebrated the life and ministry of the Rev. Absalom Jones, the first African-American priest in the Episcopal Church (1802). We heard the propers for his feast day, sang both traditional African-American spirituals and works by modern-day African-American composers, and heard a stirring sermon by Canon Paige Hanks about how all of us who would follow Jesus are called to lay down our lives for our friends.

The celebration continued at coffee hour with a soul-food tasting: ham, black-eyed peas, greens, and cornbread, catered by Heavy's Food Truck. A generous free-will 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.



fering will support our brothers and sisters at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in their Sunday Breakfast Ministry.

A New Beginning on Sacred Ground

The first gathering of the Sacred Ground

Dialogue Group met at St. Peter's for an introductory session February 1. Five area Episcopal churches were represented at this initial gathering of 24 people. We began our day at City Hall for the raising of the Carter G. Woodson Museum flag to mark the beginning of Black History Month. We spent some time getting to know one another, discussing group norms, and reviewing session materials.

We then watched our first video, a documentary, *American Creed*. *Sacred Ground* is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith.

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Becoming Beloved Community

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This group will continue to meet monthly for 10 sessions.

Reaching Out Into the Community

As we continue to read, research, and learn about racial justice and systemic racism, we are also reaching out to the wider community in search of ways that God may be calling us to action. On February 18, several members of the Becoming Beloved Community team attended a public conversation, “Beyond the Green Bench: Where Do We Go From Here?”

This conversation raised issues of how we balance preserving and interpreting the past with removing symbols of oppression and hatred. (The green benches of St. Petersburg, for example, symbolic of its past as a tourist mecca, were restricted to white people only. Do we keep the benches? Remove them? Offer interpretive signage?) We plan to share all that we are learning about opportunities for racial healing and justice in our own community.

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

Photos by JUDY STARK



At our soul-food sampling February 16, Anita Pernell-Arnold and Rebecca Taylor offer up black-eyed peas and cornbread. Further down the buffet line, Shari Layne serves Meg Banitch some ham. Next up on the buffet line: collards!



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 Hollywood to New Zealand, Movies for the Month of March

Susan Regan

Every Friday night at 7 we show a movie on the big screen in Harvard Hall, complete with popcorn and, usually, other movie munchies. No charge; bring your friends!

March 6: *Harold and Lillian: A Hollywood Love Story* (2017, NR). Movie fans know the work of Harold and Lillian Michelson, even if they don't recognize the names. Working largely uncredited in the Hollywood system, storyboard artist Harold and film researcher Lillian left an indelible mark on classics by Alfred Hitchcock, Steven Spielberg, Mel Brooks, Stanley Kubrick, Roman Polanski, and many more. Through an engaging mix of love letters, film clips, and candid conversations with Harold and Lillian, Danny DeVito, Mel Brooks, Francis Ford Coppola, and others, this deeply engaging documentary offers both a moving por-

trait of a marriage and a celebration of the unknown talents that helped shape the films we love.

March 13: *Sunday in the Country* (1984 NR). This portrait of French family life circa World War I looks at the Ladmiral family, whose patriarch is an old painter living in the country. The film's impressionistic style comes through as members of the family arrive at the painter's home.

March 20: *The Willow Tree* (2005, NR). College professor Youssef never let his blindness stand in the way of a rich life, but when he undergoes experimental surgery in France, he's thrilled to have his eyesight restored, even though he now faces many new adjustments. Returning to Iran, Youssef struggles to reconcile reality with the images created

in his mind's eye for years in this bitter-sweet drama.

March 27: *Her Majesty* (2001, PG) Thirteen-year-old Elizabeth Wakefield lives in a quaint town in Middleton, New Zealand, and her lifelong dream of meeting Queen Elizabeth looks as if it may come true when the queen schedules a visit. But the young girl's loyalties and priorities are tested when her friend Hira, a Maori tribeswoman, runs afoul of local authorities. It seems her eyesore of a house is smack-dab in the middle of the parade route.



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

Children's Ministry for March

Hillary Peete, Children's Minister

Sunday, March 1: Children's Ministry Family Social. After worship at 10:15 a.m., join us for games outside and a family project in Harvard Hall. Each family will decorate and put together a series of Faith Talk cards that can be used at home.

Sunday, March 8: EYSeedlings (Note change to second Sunday because of Spring Break). All third-through fifth-graders are invited to hang out with friends, have lunch, and engage in Bible study.

Thursday, March 12: Messy Church Does Science: Animals. Join us for Messy Gail's wild Bible stories and messy science fun for all ages! Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. and we wrap up at 7:30 p.m. RSVP to Hillary Peete, hpeete@spcathedral.com.

Sundays, March 1, 8, 22 and 29: Colormute? How to Talk to Kids about Race. 4-5 p.m., group discussion. 5-5:45 p.m., family dinner. Nursery is available for babies through age 4. Music and arts activities for children 4 and up.

We believe each person has been made in the image of God and uniquely reveals the Divine. So how do we proactively have life-giving conversations about this reality and help our kids know in

the deepest sense that we belong to each other?

Join us for this four-week series on Sunday afternoons. 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.



In 2019, Messy youngsters celebrated a different sort of "palm" Sunday.



OUR PRAYER

LIST is available on the hospitality table in Harvard Hall (look for the purple sheets). Our lives together are strengthened when we remember each other in prayer.

We Learn About God's World of Plants

Messy Church Does Science: Plants took on some experiments in February. Did you know you can make a fruit battery? Or change the colors of flowers? How does such a big tree come from a tiny mustard seed? What if God made sunsets in black and white?

From the Parable of the Sower to the power of God's love, Messy Church was full of stories about Jesus and surprises.

In March our theme is **Messy Church Does Science: Animals**. Join us at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 12, in Harvard Hall.

Photos by HILLARY PEETE



Clockwise from top left: Sour power: how lemons generate energy ... a close-up look with magnifying glasses ... what the leaves tell us ... waiting for white carnations to turn different colors as they drink up colored water.

Worship Baskets Help Kids Participate in the Service

Have you seen our new worship baskets for children? Kids are invited to take whatever they are drawn to into worship. There is a basket in the Narthex and another inside on a pew in St Mary's Chapel.

What's inside?

- LED candles to remind us that God is with us.
- "Let Us Pray" books to help kids follow along with the liturgy.
- Wooden crosses to remind us of God's love and the hope Jesus gives us.
- Notecards to draw a picture. We'll send it to our home-bound members.
- Streamers (in liturgical colors) to wave during the music.
- Lectionary activity sheets for readers and pre-readers and a worship scavenger hunt.



What We Say in Baptism, Part 2: The Baptismal Covenant

The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams

Part 5 in a series on baptism. Find previous installments at spcathedral.org/baptism.

After the renunciations and affirmations, we come to the Baptismal Covenant. It is the most distinctive feature of the baptismal rite of the 1979 Prayer Book. It is also, I must say, the most selectively quoted. How often we hear about the social dimensions of our baptismal promises — and of course we can hardly hear about them often enough — and how seldom we are reminded that the Baptismal Covenant begins with, and is dominated by, the Apostles' Creed.

So let's start there. Yes, the Baptismal Covenant begins with an affirmation of belief, one that has been part of the baptismal liturgy from pretty early in the life of the Church.

In early centuries it was forbidden to write down the Creed. Those preparing for baptism would be taught the Creed by rote and then would recite it at the Easter Vigil; we have to reconstruct what the Creed looked like back then from allusions in sermons.

In earlier American Prayer Books candidates were asked whether they believed in the articles of the Creed, but the Creed itself was not recited. The English Prayer Books had the priest recite the Creed, and the candidate was to respond, "All this I



steadfastly believe." Having baptismal candidates recite the whole Creed is a new and powerful witness to the centrality of these essential beliefs in undertaking the Christian life.

But as resigned Archbishop of Canter-

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The Words of Baptism

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bury Rowan Williams explains in *Tokens of Trust*, the kind of belief we profess in the Creed is not merely belief in some fact, or purported fact, “as if God were the name of one more doubtful thing like UFOs and ghosts to add to the list of the furniture of my imagination.”

Rather, it is the kind of belief that expresses trust and confidence; it is “about where I find the anchorage of my life, where I find solid ground, home.” To proclaim our baptismal faith in the words of the Apostles’ Creed is to say: “I trust, I have confidence in, I take refuge in, the God who has made everything and so can have no selfish purpose and has made visible for us the sort of God he is and the sort of purpose he has in the life and death and resurrection of Jesus.”

Because we trust God and God’s purposes for us, we can then undertake, with God’s help, to live out the implications of that trust through serious and committed discipleship. We promise to be faithful in corporate worship and prayer, to repent

when — not if, but when — we fall into sin, and to proclaim the Good News in what we say and in how we live. We promise to love

our neighbors as ourselves, to “strive for justice and peace among all people,” and to “respect the dignity of every human being.”

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. AMEN.

Youth Self-Portraits of Faith Reveal Lives in Transformation

Alicia Schmid, Youth Minister

In February, the Cathedral Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) focused on individual faith stories and created unique self-portraits of faith. The portraits were a reminder that faith is a powerful healer, transformer, and changer of lives. We saw evidence of this in the faith portraits of our young people, and I couldn't be more



proud to see our youth starting to own their faith in big ways. The portraits were for sale at our art and bake sale to raise money for our trip to the churchwide Episcopal Youth Event in Baltimore next summer.

We enjoyed a festive Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner that included decorating wooden eggs for the Easter Sunday egg hunt and the burning of the palms liturgy. It was a wonderful experience in building relationships and enjoying a fun time together.

As we lean into the Lenten season, may we all lean into our spiritual lives as well, making the extra effort to be present with one another. We grow as people and as Christians and have fun making memories

Sight and sound: Hudson Norman works on a detail. Photo by ALICIA SCHMID



Members of the EYC create their portraits of faith. Photo by ALICIA SCHMID

when we are together. Please come be present with us for the following dates:

March 1: First Sunday in Lent. Way of the Cross rehearsal #1.

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Youth Self-Portraits

[continued from page 21](#)

March 6-8: New Beginnings #67 weekend for middle-school students.

March 8: Second Sunday in Lent.

March 15: Third Sunday in Lent. Junior EYC breakfast, 9-10 a.m. EYC Spring Break Beach Day at Treasure Island after services.

March 22: Fourth Sunday in Lent. Way of

the Cross rehearsal #2.

March 27-29: Happening #80 for high-school students

March 29: Fifth Sunday in Lent. Way of the Cross rehearsal #3

April 5: Palm Sunday. Way of the Cross rehearsal #4. Youth help with Easter treat-bag stuffing; lunch before rehearsal.

April 10: Good Friday. Way of the Cross procession through downtown streets, 7:30 a.m.

April 12: Easter Sunday. Egg hunt in the garden after the 10:15 a.m. service.

Want more information about the Cathedral EYC or to send an RSVP to an event? Contact Alicia Schmid: aschmid@spcathedral.com



The 46th consecutive Way of the Cross walk is on Good Friday. Youth will rehearse on March 1, 22, and 29 and April 5. Photo (2019) by JUDY STARK

Thanks for a Month of Fun and Festivities

Shar Nudelman

A big “thank you” to those who joined us on February 2 for pregame snacks during Super Bowl Coffee Hour; on February 22 for another competitive and laughter-filled Trivia Night with our friends from St. Bede’s; and on February 25 for our traditional Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner.

Watch for information about our Pentecost Picnic on Sunday, May 31, and more fun events hosted by the Fellowship and Festivities Committee. We have fun doing these events and always enjoy having people join in. “Many hands make light work,” so please free to contact me, Shar Nudelman, if you’d like to help – marvshar1@msn.com. It’s a great way to meet people and learn your way around the Cathedral.



Trivia night: Who’s behind the masks?

Learn the Secrets of Flower Arranging At Two Classes in March



Ron Gallucci will share his flower-arranging secrets.

Have you ever wanted to learn how to arrange flowers? Now’s your chance. Flower Guild chair Ron Gallucci will offer classes on two Saturdays in March to teach you the secrets of turning flowers and greens into beautiful arrangements for your home or to give as gifts.

“Working with flowers is fun, and it’s easier than people think,” Ron said. “With just a few basic skills you can turn a bunch of supermarket flowers into a gorgeous display that will look like a florist created it.”

There will be two classes, from 9 a.m. to noon on March 14 and again on March 21. The same information will be presented at both sessions, so please sign up for only one. A signup list is at the front desk. Each class will be limited to 12 participants so you can get one-on-one attention. There is no charge for the classes.

These classes are designed for those who are not already involved in the Flower Guild. No experience necessary!

There will be coffee, tea, snacks, fun, and prizes.

Questions? Speak to Ron, or e-mail him at ronbill@tampabay.rr.com.

Photo by JUDY STARK

The Great Story Behind the Greatest Story Ever Told

The King James Version of the Bible, first published in 1611, has profoundly influenced how we think about our language and our faith. Here are the turns of phrase we know by heart, the words that sound like the Voice of God: “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me.” “A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.”

How did this extraordinary text come to be?

That is the story Adam Nicolson tells in *God’s Secretaries: The Making of the King James Bible*, which the St. Peter’s Book Club will discuss at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March

24, in the Chapter Room. Penny Roen is the reviewer.

This version of the Bible was ordered up by James I of England (formerly James VI of Scotland), successor to Elizabeth I. A new translation of the Bible was a tool to unify his fractious new kingdom.

And the actual translators and creators of this text? “God’s secretaries” consisted of six teams of clerics — most of them now forgotten — who were subject to or masters of power politics, backstabbing, and behind-the-throne influence, for purchase and for sale.

Nicolson sets his story in the richness of Jacobean society.

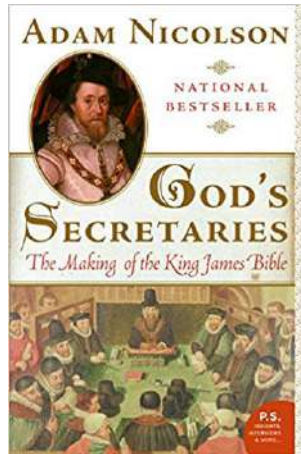
Here was a true blossoming of England, after the shriveled long goodbye of Elizabeth I. It was a time of burgeoning worldwide trade and exploration, “a springtime of hope and optimism.” It was the time of the late Shakespeare and of the blood-

and-thunder Jacobean dramas. It was also the time of Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot — home-grown terrorism! — and the devastating plague.

The text is rich with delightful anecdotes. One of the translators, John Layfield, served as chaplain on an expedition to the Caribbean. He was involved in translating the chapter of Genesis describing the Garden of Eden, and Nicolson suggests that Layfield was drawing on the enveloping lushness of the tropical gardens he had seen on Dominica Island in the lesser Antilles.

God’s Secretaries reminds us that any text, including our Bible, is a creation of human beings, as subject to pressures, politics, preferences, and pride as any other document. But how much our worship is enriched when we know the story of the greatest translation of the Greatest Story Ever Told.

Join us for a discussion of this enlightening book, whether you’ve read it or not. The way you read or hear the Bible will never be the same.



Typically we offer an **ADULT INQUIRERS' CLASS** in Lent, leading up to baptism, confirmation, reception, or renewal of vows at the Great Vigil of Easter. This year that class will be delayed until fall. Bishop Smith is scheduled to be with us on November 1, All Saints' Day, and will conduct those rites at that time. Watch for information in the fall about the class.

Reflections on the Expansive-Language Liturgy

The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams

After seven weeks last fall using the expansive-language Rite Two liturgy authorized in 2018 by General Convention, we solicited the congregation's feedback. More than 100 people responded to the survey — a gratifyingly large number.

The results revealed a wide divergence of opinion. Some people found the revised language clumsy; others felt it did not go far enough in removing gendered language for God. A fourth of the congregation responded well to the new translation of the Nicene Creed; a third found it problematic.

The contemporary translation of the Lord's Prayer provoked even stronger disagreement: About a third of the congregation identified it as one of the elements in the

revised liturgy that they liked best, but nearly half the congregation identified it as something they found particularly difficult.

After reflecting on the surveys and our own experience of the trial-use liturgy, we have discerned that adopting the new liturgy on a permanent

basis would be too disruptive to the worship life of the congregation. Although many in the congregation welcomed at least some elements of the new liturgy, the balance of opinion favored retaining the Prayer Book liturgy.

We are grateful for the thoughtful responses to the survey and for the seriousness with which this congregation takes our life together.





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

If you met a new person last week, be sure to greet and welcome them the next time you see each other. You're no longer strangers; you're friends, so reinforce that, and help the newcomer feel not-so-new — as if, as our logo says, “you belong here.”

Journey Toward Justice

The Diocese of Southwest Florida will offer the latest installment in its "Journey" series, a three-day retreat, April 23-25 at DaySpring, the diocesan camp and conference center in Parrish.

The featured speaker is the Rev. Adam R. Taylor, executive director of *Sojourners*, the Christian social-justice organization that publishes a monthly magazine and a daily online publication



Rev. Adam Taylor

at sojo.net. He is the author of *Mobilizing Hope: Faith-Inspired Activism for a Post-Civil Rights Generation*. He will provide a vision for justice rooted in the Gospels and the skills to engage in this work.

The retreat guide is the Rev. Julia Rusling, founder and director of Anam Cara, a ministry of spiritual direction, retreats, and yoga therapy, who will lead meditative practices and contemplative exercises.

Information and registration: www.dayspring-fla.org/event/journey-series-2020

THE GRAND PRIX returns to St. Petersburg March 13 through 15. Visit gpstpete.com for maps of the race route and other information about this event, which closes streets and diverts traffic downtown, and allow yourself extra time to get to church that Sunday.

Children from age 4 through youth are invited to participate in a ***CHILDREN'S CHOIR*** that will prepare a song to be sung at the 10:15 a.m. service on Easter. They rehearse Sundays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Please speak to Maggie Mardirosian, our associate for music outreach.

It's Official: Church in Cuba Rejoins The Episcopal Church

Episcopal News Service

The Episcopal Church of Cuba has been officially readmitted into the Episcopal Church, ending a 50-year separation.

At the 2018 General Convention, the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies voted unanimously to readmit Cuba, which the House of Bishops had expelled from the church in 1966. The action in early February, at a meeting of the church's Executive Council, confirmed that the Episcopal Church of Cuba had met the requirements set by General Convention for re-admission as a diocese.

The House of Bishops took its action in 1966 in response to the effects of the Cuban Revolution and the United States' response. The Cuban Revolution, led by Fi-

del Castro, began in 1953 and lasted until President Fulgencio Batista was forced from power in 1959. Batista's anti-communist, authoritarian government was replaced with a socialist state, which in 1965 aligned itself with the communist party.

In 1961, Episcopal schools in Cuba had been closed and appropriated, and many clergy and their families were displaced. Some remained in Cuba; some either returned or immigrated to the United

States. Some clergy who remained in Cuba were imprisoned, executed or disappeared. Church buildings were closed and left to deteriorate. The church was polarized politically, and its clergy and lay leaders suffered. In response to the geopolitics of the time, the House of Bishops in 1966 voted unilaterally to separate from the Episcopal Church in Cuba.

Her voice breaking with emotion, Cuba Bishop Griselda Delgado del Carpio addressed Council in Spanish through an interpreter.

"Each one of us has been living [through] a very emotional time in our life in the Diocese of Cuba," Bishop Griselda said, "because the church lived for more than 50 years all by itself.

"I want to express my gratitude to each one of you ... who has worked so arduously to achieve this moment. ... We will continue serving our people, our country – however, we will do it in your company."



Presiding Bishop Michael Curry embraces Bishop Griselda Delgado del Carpio of Cuba after the formal readmission of her church into The Episcopal Church. Photo by EPISCOPAL NEWS SERVICE

Mulch Madness: Come Play in the Dirt

A fun Cathedral workday is set for Saturday, March 28, starting at 9 a.m. at Resurrection House (Seventh Avenue N at 11th Street). We'll be spreading mulch in the planted beds around the campus to keep things neat and the plants happy.

Wear close-toed shoes and bring gloves and rakes if you have them. Sign up at spcathedral.org/community. We should be done by noon; the more who show up, the sooner we'll be done.

If you're one of those former homeowners who misses gardening, or if you simply like playing in the dirt, this is your chance. There may even be doughnuts, donated by a Resurrection House board member.



A New Executive Director for Resurrection House

After 22 years as chief executive officer, Cynthia Sinclair has retired from Resurrection House, a residential facility for homeless families with children. The Cathedral was instrumental in founding Resurrection House, which helps families follow a detailed, faith-based program to change their lives and end generational poverty. Upon Cynthia's retirement the entire campus was named in her honor.

The new executive director is Ellen McDonald, an experienced executive with a background in communications, ministry, and business. She worked in the United Methodist Church as a director of discipleship and a leader in the Fresh Expressions movement that seeks to create new forms of church for a changing culture. She is seeking ordination to the diaconate in the United Methodist Church.

Ellen has worked with area non-profits to share their stories and build powerful development programs, both internally, as a director of communications, and externally, as a public relations and marketing consultant.

She graduated summa cum laude from Duke Divinity School with a master of arts in Christian Practice and has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Florida Southern College.



March Transitions

Birthdays

- 2 Royce Hobby
- 2 Bud Miller
- 3 Neil Savage
- 3 Tracy Pardee
- 3 Hilary Sosa
- 3 Adam Busch
- 4 Carol Piper
- 4 Ben Wintrip
- 5 John Echternach
- 5 Rose Linderman-
Worlein
- 5 Amy Hurt
- 6 Judy Beck
- 6 Gabriele Stauff
- 6 Dustin Fenoff
- 6 John Doley

- 7 Larne Clifford
- 8 Marguerite Dawson
- 8 Dianne Casorio
- 8 Ken Esteb
- 9 Peter Fleming
- 9 Andrea Day
- 10 Paulette Whitlock
- 10 Dee Pfeiffer
- 10 Kathy Campbell
- 10 Gene Haines
- 11 Rachael Witko
- 14 Betsy Reynolds
- 14 Rosemary Benoit
- 15 Sharon Lunsford
- 15 Colin Dunn

- 16 Gareth Eich
- 16 Diane O’Neil
- 17 DeDe Sheetz
- 17 Joel Burnsed
- 18 Cynthia Garrels
- 18 Gregory Depp
- 19 Rose Marie Judd
- 19 Nicolas Samaha
- 20 Mary Murante
- 20 Emily Hoyt
- 21 Jillian Harms
- 21 Campbell Clarke
- 21 Tatum Clarke
- 22 Andrew Cockey
- 23 Lucy Barnett
- 23 Laura Bygrave
- 23 Noah Blacker
- 23 Samuel Saut
- 25 John Beck
- 25 Christine Fasan
- 26 Elizabeth Hasbrouck
- 26 Hadley Huber
- 27 Jim Potter

- 28 Laura Albee
- 28 Maggie Doley
- 28 Natalie Desousa
- 28 Caroline Albert
- 29 Vincent Murante
- 29 Alexandra Ford

- 30 Carolyn Gregory
- 30 Richard Sias
- 30 Courtney Thornburg
- 30 Caroline Clarke
- 31 Tannon Hasbrouck

Anniversaries

- 13 Ron Gallucci &
Bill Madison

- 18 Sherie Campbell &
Michelle Correll
- 25 Gerald & Judy Talbot
- 29 John & Tracy Pardee

Deaths

Helen Bohman
Elizabeth “Bettie” Ralston



[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

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

Third Sunday, Holy Eucharist for
Deaf, 12:30 p.m.

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).

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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