



February 2022

# CROSSTOWN

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

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## THE CANDIDATES FOR BISHOP COADJUTOR



*The Rev. Thomas P. Reeder*



*The Very Rev. Douglas F. Scharf*



*The Rev. Timothy E. Schenck*



*The Rev. Canon C. John  
Thompson-Quartey*

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# Slate of Four Candidates for Bishop Coadjutor Is Announced

The Standing Committee has announced a slate of four candidates for Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Southwest Florida, to be elected at the Cathedral on April 2.

The candidates are:

\* **The Rev. Thomas P. Reeder**, 53, Rector, Christ Episcopal Church, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. He leads a parish with a membership of 5,000, a clergy staff of nine, and a lay staff of more than 100.

\* **The Very Rev. Dr. Douglas F. Scharf**, 43, Rector, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church & School, Tequesta, FL. Father Scharf is the former rector of Holy Innocents, Valrico, and former associate at Holy Spirit, Osprey.

\* **The Rev. Timothy E. Schenck**, 54, Rector, Episcopal Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Hingham, MA. Father Schenck is the co-founder of Lent Madness, the annual NCAA-style bracket tournament to determine which saint, out of 32, will win the Golden Halo.

\* **The Rev. Canon C. John Thompson-Quartey**, 61, Canon for Ministry Development & Congregational Vitality, Diocese of Atlanta. He was a candidate for bishop in



*Bishop Coadjutor Search*  
Diocese of Southwest Florida

the Diocese of Georgia in 2019.

Information about each candidate is available at [www.bishopsearchswfl.org/candidates](http://www.bishopsearchswfl.org/candidates). That includes a brief professional biography, a resume, questions and

answers, and introductory videos.

A petition period, during which additional candidates may come forward, continues through February 7. Information is available at <http://www.bishopsearchswfl.org>. Any additional candidates will be announced no later than March 20.

Candidate meet-and-greet sessions around the diocese will be held March 22-24. Watch for information about times and locations. More information about the candidates will become available in the weeks ahead.

The coadjutor will serve with Bishop Dabney Smith until Bishop Smith's retirement, at a date to be announced, and then will become the sixth bishop of our diocese.

"I count myself blessed to have been part of the committee that discerned this wonderful slate of candidates." said the Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams, our canon theologian.

## ‘We Break Ground on New Earth This Day’: Annual Meeting

At our Annual Meeting on January 30 we affirmed four new chapter members; heard very encouraging financial news; and got a preview of two new initiatives we’ll be hearing more about in the weeks to come.

The new chapter members are Al Carico, Jennifer Preston, Randy Ramsey, and Beth Snyder. They join continuing members Tessa Burnsed, Anysia McDowall, Jonathan Miller, and Michael Ricciardi (Class of 2022) and Susan Darrow, Lauren Durst, Wil Laroche, and Mark Myers (Class of 2023). Leaving the chapter at the end of their three-year terms are Kerry Carlisle, Lucas Fleming, Herb Polson, and Karen Torrisi.

Anysia was welcomed as the new senior warden, and she noted that “in the 100-year history of the Cathedral I am the first African-American to serve in a lay leadership role. This is a moment of healing and progress as we tell the community truly who we are and break ground on new earth on this day.”

She gave a brief overview of the Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion Statement ([see](#)

[Page 4](#)) and encouraged parishioners to attend a session at 9 a.m. February 6 to learn more.

Mark Myers presented a summary of the Strategic Plan, focusing on deepening our faith, growing faith-filled generosity, enriching our ministries, enhancing our technology, and maintaining the cathedral. We’ll have details at 9 a.m. February 13.

Dean Morris offered great financial news. A major bequest will bring us \$125,000 a year for the next 19 years, which will fund a curacy program. A charitable donation from the Peterborough developer will bring us \$40,000 to \$50,000 annually for the next 10 years. The sale of transferable development rights has brought us \$260,000. In 13 years the Cathedral has moved from a \$5.4-million debt to no debt and an endowment fund of \$5.1-million as of the end of 2021.

“The truth is that when we are blessed in any way we can be blessed, if we just hold onto it as tight as we

can, the greatest things don’t happen,” Dean Morris said. “But when we share our financial wealth out of love, care, concern, and gratitude, great things happen to the recipient and the giver.”

Details about the DEI Statement, the Strategic Plan, and the budget are available at [spcathedral.org/annual-meeting](https://spcathedral.org/annual-meeting).



*Our new senior warden, Anysia McDowall, and outgoing senior warden Karen Torrisi. Photo by HILLARY PEETE.*

# Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement: Walking and Living in the Way of Love

In the summer of 2020, after the killing of George Floyd, turmoil was unfolding around the nation. Many institutions found themselves pausing to reflect on their values, beliefs, and position on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), racial reconciliation, equality, and justice.

So too at this moment, leaders of the Cathedral Church of St. Peter considered our church standing on these very issues. We questioned a number of things.

Are we welcoming and inclusive to all people? Are we reflective of our community in our clergy, lay leaders, and staff? How culturally diverse is our congregation? How do we illustrate these values in our policies, programs, and

communications, and to our congregation and within our community?

While the Cathedral had long developed and adopted programs and practices to become a Beloved Community, we discovered, in conversation with Dean Morris,



that there was a welcome space to create a bold statement of position and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and to demonstrate our values ... a statement that was guided in prayer and rooted in the Baptismal Covenant, our guide for living out our faith inside and outside the walls of the church.

In May 2021, a small task force of Chapter leaders including Junior Warden Anysia

McDowall, Senior Warden Karen Torrisi, and Chapter members Kerry Carlisle and Lauren Durst began a three-month journey to build the Cathedral Statement on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. We carefully and prayerfully examined our Baptismal covenant, other Episcopal DEI statements, and our vision for who we are, why we are that way, and how we show who we are in action as a faith community.

This statement — [see page 5](#) — is a declaration of our faith, and offers guiding principles to ensure that as we walk in love and follow in the way of Christ, our actions, ministries, programs, and culture continue to reflect these values.

At the 9 a.m. formation hour on Sunday, February 6, the task force will share the process we followed to create the statement, ways the church is already living out its principles, and where we can go from here. Please join us.

## Diversity /Equity/ Inclusion Statement

We seek to be a church that loves as Jesus loves, loves our neighbors as ourselves, welcomes and celebrates all, and respects the dignity of every human being.

We believe that there is profound strength in diversity, and we stand firmly against hatred, bigotry, racism, and discrimination of any kind. We are intentionally committed to striving for justice and peace among all people.

We invite you to worship with us because you are a child of God. Whatever your ethnicity, skin color, abilities, circumstances, gender identity, sexual orientation, or wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we will help each other to build our relationship with God, with one another, and with the earth.

We pray that we will be an example of unconditional loving-kindness as we work toward racial reconciliation and fostering a Beloved Community full of compassionate, loving, liberating, and life-giving relationships.

We ask you to hold us accountable. When we fall short, work with us to be better and to walk in the way of love as Christ loved us.

## Evensong in February: A Classic Service by Dyson

Our Service of Choral Evensong at 5 p.m. February 27 —the last Sunday after the Epiphany — will feature the “Service in D” by George Dyson.

A Yorkshireman, Dyson (1883-1964) served in World War I and was an expert on grenades. Later he became director of the Royal College of Music. One of his notable accomplishments there was granting a full scholarship to Julian Bream, “a pivotal moment in the young guitarist’s path to greatness,” Wikipedia tells us.

His evening services continue to be popular in English churches and cathedrals, where they are con-

sidered part of the core repertory.

Dyson’s son was the theoretical physicist and mathematician Freeman Dyson, who died in 2020.

Among his grandchildren are the science historian George Dyson and the philanthropist, tech analyst, and commercial space-travel investor Esther Dyson.

The service includes the Responses of Gerre Hancock and Richard Shepherd’s anthem, “Te Deum laudamus.”

An organ prelude is at 4:45 p.m. The Cathedral Chamber Choir will sing.

Dwight Thomas is director and organist. A freewill offering is taken.



# Looking Ahead to Lent: First the Pancakes, Then the Penitence

## *Plus Wednesday Night Pot-Luck Classes, Arts Troupe for the Kids*

In early March we begin the season of Lent, the 40-day penitential period leading up to Easter. Lent reminds us of the time Jesus spent in the wilderness after his bap-



*Shrove remembered: At past pancake suppers Cyndi Orozco came in full Mardi Gras regalia, and Harvard Hall was decorated appropriately. Photos by JUDY STARK*

tism, preparing for the start of his earthly ministry, death, and resurrection.

But before the fast, the feast. On **Shrove Tuesday** (Tuesday, March 1), we'll bring back a favorite Cathedral gathering, our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

We'll have pancakes and toppings, crafts for the kids, and fellowship for all ages. (We need volunteers to get those pancakes on the table. If you can help, please contact Hillary Peete at [hpeete@spcathedral.com](mailto:hpeete@spcathedral.com).)

The next day, **Ash Wednesday** (March 2), we will offer Holy Eucharist and imposition of ashes at three services, at 7 a.m.,

noon, and 7 p.m. A service for children will be at 7 p.m. in the Children's Chapel. The ashes, from the palms used last Palm Sunday to hail Jesus's entry into Jerusalem, remind us that "you are dust, and to dust you shall return." If you still have palm crosses or fronds from last Palm Sunday, we'll have a basket in the Narthex where you can deposit them to create this year's ashes.

Canon Ethan Cole will lead an Ash Wednesday service at Peterborough Apartments to strengthen our ties with our neighbors.

We will offer a **Lenten Dinner Series** on five Wednesday nights starting March 9. After a potluck dinner in Harvard Hall, you'll have your choice of two discussion groups. Canon Cole will lead "Lent with the Psalms," looking at the so-called "penitential psalms" (6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, and 143) and suggesting how we can think of

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## Looking Ahead to Lent

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repentance and new life through reflection on ancient poetry and prayer. The program will include take-home prompts for journaling and prayer.

Hillary Peete will co-lead a discussion on the book *The Church Cracked Open* by the Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, canon to the Presiding Bishop for evangelism, reconciliation, and creation. Sometimes it takes disruption and loss to break us open and

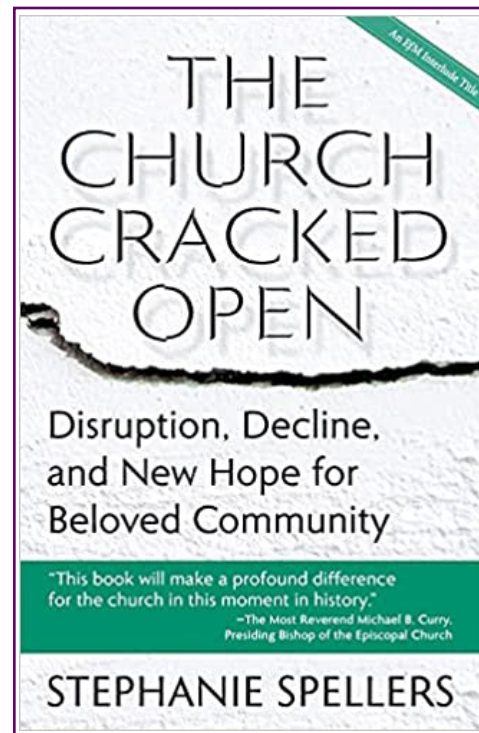
call us home to God. In this critical yet loving book, the author explores the American story and the Episcopal story in order to find out how communities steeped in racism, establishment, and privilege can at last fall in love with Jesus, walk humbly with the most vulnerable, and embody beloved community in our own broken but beautiful way. Learn more at [churchcrackedopen.com](http://churchcrackedopen.com).

We'll have details about all these events next month, or check at [spcathedral.org/lent](http://spcathedral.org/lent).

### Save the Date! Cathedral Arts Troupe Returns this Lent

All children ages 4 through 5th-graders are invited to join us for arts and music as we explore the Psalms during Lent. We will meet Sundays from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Arts Troupe's work will culminate with the children singing the Anthem during the 10:15 a.m. Easter service on Sunday, April 17.

Anticipated dates are March 6, 13, 27, and April 3 and 10. Please let Hillary or Michelle know if your child(ren) plan to participate.



# Journey Toward the Priesthood: Hillary Peete Is Seeking Ordination

**Q. You've shared with us the good news that you are a postulant, seeking ordination to the priesthood. Tell us what that means!**

A. Postulancy is a time of deepening prayer life, spiritual formation, continued discernment, and academic and clinical preparation. The next step is to become a candidate. Once all requirements have been met, the Bishop may decide to ordain an individual.

**Q. Walk us through the process — what have you done so far, what are the next steps?**

A. After some very helpful conversations with Dean Morris and prayerful consideration, I completed a "Notice of Interest" for the diocese, indicating I was interested in entering the process. Following approval from the Bishop, I con-



*Hillary Peete*

tinued to craft my spiritual autobiography and "sense of call" statement. A formative part of the process is the parish discernment group. I met with Mark Myers, Jennifer Knippen, Cathy Rome, Ray McColgan, and Susan Regan over the course of several months, during which they helped me further articulate my call. I have had the opportunity to meet with the Commission on Ministry and with Bishop Smith, who will continue to guide my continued formation and education.

**Q. You already hold an M.Div. from a seminary, but you chose not to seek ordination upon graduation. Tell us about that.**

A. I attended Candler School of Theology at Emory University and graduated in

2009 with my Master of Divinity degree. I was not seeking ordination at that time. The best way I can describe my decision to attend seminary was a great sense of curiosity about God in the world. I thoroughly enjoyed systematic theology courses as well as the practical applications of theology as a chaplain at a hospital and at a group home for teenagers in foster care. While I felt a bit anchorless in seminary while my peers had such clear direction, I am grateful that I had the space to follow my curiosity. I couldn't have imagined landing where I am now!

**Q. Now you've felt the call of the Holy Spirit to seek ordination. What changed your mind? Where did this call come from?**

A. Throughout my spiritual journey, I have experienced the sacramental nature

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## Postulant Hillary Peete

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of presence. God's work in the world is accomplished when we show up in one another's lives. God's grace is made real when we help each other make spiritual meaning out of the longing and losses, joys and abundance of our lives. As a lay person I have joined people wherever they are living their life in the world. Sometimes I offered spiritual nourishment, at other times I was fed. Relationships based on mutuality leave fertile ground for God to show up in surprising ways. And now I hear a call to continue to join people wherever they are in today's world and embody an active, visible, sacramental presence as a priest and to administer sacraments that point towards God's unfailing love.

**Q. Assuming that all goes according to plan, you would first be ordained as a transitional deacon, and then, about six months later, as a priest. When might those steps occur?**

A. The Bishop and the Discernment Committee are reluctant to give out firm

dates so early in the process. As someone who loves to plan and get things on the calendar, letting go and trusting the process have been a challenge! I was able to attend the ordination service at the Cathedral on January 22 and it was a moving experience to envision myself in that role when the time comes.

**Q. Will we see you doing anything different around the Cathedral in the months ahead? You'll continue as our director of Christian formation while you are moving through this process, right?**

A. I'm thankful for the grace and flexibility that the Cathedral has given me to explore this call. I will continue as director of Christian formation throughout this process, as well as through the courses and study that the Bishop recommends. I have already had the opportunity to offer homilies during the Wednesday 12:05 p.m. Eucharist and I look forward to continued opportunities to be formed.

My relationships and the work I have done with families, children, and youth have been deeply influential in my decision to pursue ordination. It is not lost on me

that I am where I am because the clergy I knew in childhood and early adulthood took a genuine interest in me and my spiritual life. I do feel particularly called to ministering to families as a whole, and hope to continue to use my gifts in this way.

### Go Team! Super Bowl Party February 13

Coffee hour after the 10:15 a.m. service on February 13 will be a Super Bowl Party. We'll have game-day snacks and treats, and you're invited to wear your team colors.



Those can be your Super Bowl choice, your high-school or college shirts, the Rays, Bucs, or Lightning, a team of any sport that you play for or root for — any team of your choice.

# Black Activist and Journalist's Memoir Is Our February Book Talk Topic

Our February book talk offers us the opportunity to partner with Tombolo Books to introduce this month's title, *Sometimes Farmgirls Become Revolutionaries: Notes on Black Power, Black Politics, Depression, and the FBI*, by Florence Tate with Jake-Ann Jones.

Our presenter is Lorielle J. Hollaway, founder of Cultured Books, the multicultural children's bookstore in St. Petersburg. (Learn more about it at [culturedbooks.org](http://culturedbooks.org).) The book talk is from noon to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, February 8; please register for the link at [spcathedral.org/book-talks](http://spcathedral.org/book-talks). Order the book from: [culturedbooks.org](http://culturedbooks.org).

Civil rights/Black power advocate, journalist, and press secretary Florence Tate was placed under FBI surveillance for political activities. She was communications



Lorielle J. Hollaway

director for several Black political organizations; communications director for Marion Barry during his candidacy and first year as mayor of the District of Columbia; and press secretary for the Rev. Jesse Jackson during his historic 1984 presidential campaign.

Tate was an ardent Pan-Africanist during a time of revolution and civil war in Africa, when her choices of whom to support or oppose endangered her life and earned her the denunciation of powerful groups.

The book's co-author, Jake-Ann Jones, is a reporter in St. Petersburg for the *Weekly Challenger*. She will appear at a book talk and signing from 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, February 22, in the courtyard at Tombolo Books, 2153 First Ave. S in St. Petersburg.

Jones will be joined in conversation by Dr. Brittany Peters, the clinical director and

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## February Book Talk

**What:** Lorielle J. Hollaway speaks on *Sometimes Farmgirls Become Revolutionaries*, by Florence Tate with Jake-Ann Jones.

**When:** Noon-1 p.m. Tuesday, February 8, via Zoom. Register for the link at [spcathedral.org/book-talks](http://spcathedral.org/book-talks).

## February Book Talk

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owner of the Center for Wellness & Clinical Development in Tampa.

The final presentation in our 11th season of book talks will be on Tuesday, March 8, at noon, when our presenter will be Alsace Walentine, co-founder of Tombolo Books. Title and live link to come, but you won't want to miss a chance to hear about this smart bookstore that has greatly enriched the reading culture in St. Petersburg.



## Amazing Historic Discovery Meets Medical Mystery in the Honduran Jungle

This month the St. Peter's Book Club takes up one of those "believe it or not" true stories, an amazing historical discovery crossed with a medical mystery, with all sorts of "no way!" twists and turns in between. Shar Nudelman is the presenter.

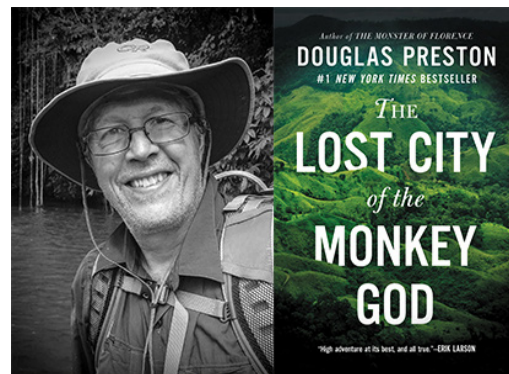
The book is *The Lost City of the Monkey God: A True Story* by Douglas Preston. A team of scientists in 2012 located a hidden metropolis in the Honduran rainforest, the long-lost sacred and wealthy White City of the Monkey God.

Indigenous tribes had long warned that anyone who enters the city will fall ill and die. When Preston and his team returned from their exploration, they found they had contracted in the ruins a horrifying, sometimes lethal — and incurable — disease.

The book is "suspenseful and shocking, filled with colorful history, hair-raising adventure, and dramatic twists of fortune," [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) says.

It was named Best Book of the Year (2017) by the *Boston Globe* and *National Geographic*.

The book club will meet via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 22. E-mail Roberta Poellein ([rp1ln37@gmail.com](mailto:rp1ln37@gmail.com)) for the Zoom link. You can watch a documentary about the White City of the Monkey God at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLljqSHW2SI>



## Still Time to Catch Up with The Good Book Club

It's not too late to join the rest of The Episcopal Church in reading the first 20 chapters of the Book of Exodus.

Each year the wider church encourages Episcopalians to read their Bibles together through a program called the Good Book Club. You can find the list of daily readings at [goodbookclub.org](http://goodbookclub.org) — just a few verses a day. The readings started on January 6 and continue through Shrove Tuesday, March 1, but with a little intentional effort you can catch up.

At that same website you'll find podcasts, Bible study guides, books, blogs, videos, and more. Many are free; there's a charge for some. It costs nothing to read along with your fellow Episcopalians.



*The Pinellas County Center for the Arts Women's Chorale.*

## Women's Chorale Will Perform

**Don't miss this:** The Pinellas County Center for the Arts Women's Chorale will sing at the Cathedral at 5 p.m. Sunday, February 6. Later this month the chorale will perform at the prestigious American Choral Directors Assn. Southern Conference.

The judges analyzed three years of performances from more than 70 submissions. Of those selected to sing, fewer than half are high-school groups.

This is a great and well-deserved honor, and we're delighted to welcome the chorale, which is based at Gibbs High School.

## Musical Notes

Please remember these regular musical offerings:

\* **Chanted Compline at 7 p.m. Sunday, February 13.** Attend in person or watch via livestream at [spcathedral.org/worship-live-stream](https://spcathedral.org/worship-live-stream). The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams and Michelle Thomas offer this brief, quiet service that ends the day with confession, psalms, prayers, and the concluding antiphon, “Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.”

\* **Our podcast of sung noonday prayer continues.** Canon Williams and Michelle Thomas sing the Order of Service for Noonday each Monday through Saturday. The podcasts are posted on Spotify and Apple Podcast each day at 9 a.m. The service lasts between eight and nine minutes, with the sung service lasting six minutes and a spoken meditation two or three minutes.

## Sunday Morning Formation: A Variety of Offerings

Please take advantage of these offerings during our formation hour, from 9 to 10 a.m. Sundays in Harvard Hall.

**Sunday, February 6: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement.** See story, [Page 4](#).



**Sunday, February 13: Strategic Plan.** A group including clergy, staff, and lay members have articulated our strategies and priorities for the next three years. Learn more about how this plan was created, the initiatives that will be the focus, and how various ministries will be impacted and enhanced.

**Sunday, February 20: Benison Farm.** See story, [Page 20](#).

**Sunday, February 27: Shape of the Year: Lent.** Dean Stephen Morris will lead this

presentation on the upcoming penitential season of Lent (it begins Wednesday, March 2 — Ash Wednesday). Learn about this season in the liturgical year, what to pay attention to, and how we can use the rhythm of time to shape our spirituality.



# For Children, Youth, and Families, Time for Fun, Fellowship, and Faith-Building

## EYSeedlings

*(Formation for 3rd- through 5th-graders)*

### A Light in the Episcopal Church

**Sunday, February 6**

**11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

We'll learn about Absalom Jones and other leaders of the church who have shined their light and shown us how to live a life of service and love.

## Cathedral EYC

*(6th- through 12th-graders)*

**Sundays, February 6 and 27,  
from 5 to 7 p.m.**

**Sunday, February 13: Super Bowl Party  
at the Knippens'!**

Come for the food, commercials, game, or friends! Bring a snack to share. Please RSVP to Michelle Thomas for the address ([mthomas@spcathedral.com](mailto:mthomas@spcathedral.com)).



## Messy Church

### Wise Builders

**Thursday, February 10**

**5:30-7:15 p.m.**

Messy Church is a wonderful way for families to hear Bible stories and talk about their faith together. We will explore the story of the wise builder from Matthew 7 through building, painting, and creating. Dinner is served from 5:30 to 6 p.m. (\$10/family) and we close with a prayer at 7:15 p.m. RSVP to Michelle Thomas ([mthomas@spcathedral.com](mailto:mthomas@spcathedral.com)).

## Youth Confirmation

We are in the final stretch of confirmation classes. Confirmands meet from 3:45 to 5 p.m. Sundays. Stay tuned for more details.

**February 6:** The Sacraments

**February 13:** No confirmation class

**February 20:** No confirmation class

**February 26:** Retreat Day (with mentors)

Pray for our confirmands Sophia, Dustin, Ellie, Carter, and Joseph and mentors David, Justin, and Lauren.



## Celebrating Epiphany

Our EYSeedlings — 3rd- through 5th-graders — had a great afternoon celebrating Epiphany at the home of the Erickson family overlooking Weedon Island Preserve. We climbed on an obstacle course, checked out the view from the playhouse, and enjoyed a raucous white-elephant gift exchange. A big bag of leftover Halloween candy and the game “Taco, Cat, Goat, Cheese, Pizza” were the most desired prizes.

Photos by HILLARY PEETE and MICHELLE THOMAS



*Maggie and Abigail Albert in the playhouse.*



*Aksel Erickson takes a table jump while the kids played musical spoons.*

## Back in the Game

Our EYC youth (grades 6 through 12) enjoyed a fun night of bowling at Sunrise Lanes in early January after a long Christmas break. Only two youth managed to break 100. The rest of us used bumpers and hoped for the best. That’s Chas Wain-Nye giving the arcade games his best shot. We ended the night with pizza and as many gag gifts as our arcade tickets could buy.

Photos by HILLARY PEETE



# Saints Among Us



## First Black Episcopal Priest Persisted in Face of Slavery

On February 13 the Church observes the Feast of Absalom Jones (1746-1818), the first Black priest in the Episcopal Church.

Jones was born into slavery in Delaware. His owner encouraged his efforts to learn to read and write, realizing that these skills increased the slave's value. When Jones's mother and five sisters were sold to another slaveowner, he was taken to Philadelphia, where he worked in his master's store and learned mathematics at a Quaker school.

In 1766 he married Mary Thomas, also enslaved, and the couple saved and borrowed to purchase her freedom. In 1784, after years of resistance,



Jones's owner agreed to grant him his freedom.

Jones and his friend Richard Allen were effective evangelists who greatly increased the Black membership of St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church. When the white vestry members decided to segregate Black members into an upstairs gallery without notice, the Black worshippers indignantly walked out as a group.

By 1794, Black Episcopalians had built their own church, St. Thomas African Episcopal Church. Jones was ordained deacon in 1795 and priest in 1802 by William White, the first and fourth Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church and first bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania.

Jones was an earnest preacher who

denounced slavery and warned oppressors to "clean their hands of slaves." St. Thomas Church grew to more than 500 members in its first year.

Known as the "Black Bishop of the Episcopal Church," Jones was an example of persistent faith in God and in the Church as God's instrument.

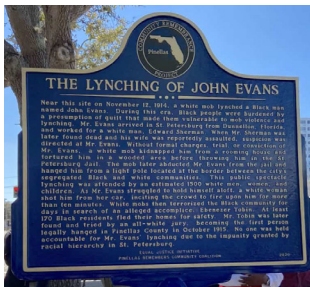
### Collect for Absalom Jones

Set us free, heavenly Father, from every bond of prejudice and fear; that, honoring the steadfast courage of your servant Absalom Jones, we may show forth in our lives the reconciling love and true freedom of the children of God, which you have given us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.



## Gather to View Lynching Site Marker

We will remember Absalom Jones, the first Black priest in the Episcopal Church, on Sunday, February 13, with special music.



At noon, all are invited to walk or drive to view the recently-installed historical marker at the site of the 1914 lynching of a Black man, John

Evans, at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street at Second Avenue S. (Abundant parking is available.) We will read through a litany of remembrance together as a call to action to continue our work building Beloved Community in our city. Contact Betsy Adams ([betsygradams@icloud.com](mailto:betsygradams@icloud.com)) for more information or visit [spcathedral.org/beloved-community](https://spcathedral.org/beloved-community).

## Learn About Native American History

The Episcopal Church is committed to the vital work of remembrance, recognition, and reconciliation in connection with our Indigenous siblings. The Becoming Beloved Community of the Cathedral invites you to explore Indigenous history far away and close to home. Learn more in this three-part series:

**Monday, February 7**, at 7 p.m. via Zoom: **An Indigenous Boarding School Experience with Wayne William Snellgrove.**

A member of the Saulteaux tribe, Snellgrove will share his experiences of being ripped from his mother, his tribe, and his culture. He went on to become a champion swimmer and is now an author and speaker on indigenous spirituality. Zoom link: <https://episcopal-swfl.zoom.us/j/87824130752>, meeting ID 878 2413 0752, passcode Indigenous.

**Sunday, March 6: Away from Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories.** We'll visit a special exhibit at the James

Museum. Historical photographs and objects, interactive timelines, and interviews tell individual stories of pain, heartbreak, and resilience. <https://thejamesmuseum.org/special-exhibitions/>

**Sunday, March 20: Sacred Land tour.**



*Sioux children on their first day at a boarding school, 1897. Courtesy of the Library of Congress.*

We'll visit an ancient Tocobaga village on Boca Ciega Bay. Visit the website <https://www.sacredlandspreservation.org/> Find details and information about all this and more at [spcathedral.org/beloved-community](https://spcathedral.org/beloved-community).

## February Outreach: Diapers for Dignity

This month the Outreach Committee will collect adult diapers and other adult incontinence supplies for the Diapers for Dignity Program of the Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas.

Imagine the humiliation of being unable to change to a fresh diaper! Seniors with incontinence challenges may become socially isolated and are subject to infections and embarrassment.

Medicaid and basic Medicare do not pay for incontinence supplies, and families often struggle to cover the costs, which can be significant.

The Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas is a 501(C)(3) private, non-profit agency serving seniors and their caregivers in Pasco and Pinellas counties.

Through the Diapers for Dignity program, the Agency collects adult diapers and other incontinence supplies and distributes them to various sites in the area including The St. Petersburg Free Clinic and the Sunshine Center. Those sites then distribute the inconti-

nence supplies.

In 2021, the Agency distributed over 75,000 items through the eight sites they support in Pinellas County and two sites in Pasco County.

If you would prefer to make a financial donation, you can do so through the agency's website, <http://www.agingcarefl.org>, or by mailing a check marked Diapers for Dignity directly to AAAPP, 9549 Koger Blvd. N #100, St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

### What We're Seeking

- \* Pull-up (rather than tab) adult diapers of all sizes
- \* Bed pads
- \* Bladder leakage pads

Please bring your donations to the Cathedral on Sunday mornings or during office hours during the week.

## Help Honor Our Campbell Park Valentines with Sweet Treats

Our volunteer opportunity for February is making bags of sweet Valentine treats for the teachers and staff of Campbell Park Elementary.

Bags will include cards, notes of encouragement, and individually-wrapped candy and treats.

If you'd like to donate treats, we're seeking individually wrapped candies (such as "fun size" miniature bars) — please, no big boxes of chocolates, because of Covid. We are also seeking individually wrapped breakfast or energy bars or individually wrapped cookies. Bring them to the Cathedral no later than Sunday, February 6.

During coffee hour on February 6, we'll set up a station in Harvard Hall with supplies where you can write notes of thanks and sign cards.

Then we'll meet at 10 a.m. Tuesday, February 8, in Harvard Hall to assemble the bags. Please contact Susan Darrow ([sdarrow99@me.com](mailto:sdarrow99@me.com)) for more information.



# Why I Volunteer

## *What I Do Makes a Difference in the Lives of Others*

### Gail McCoy

A year ago, I was honored to join the board of directors of the Peterborough Apartments. I couldn't help but remember that in 1981, Peterborough was dedicated after a seven-year effort on the part of the Cathedral's first dean, the Very Rev. LeRoy D. Lawson.

His vision of a church-sponsored housing facility for low-income elderly residents became a reality in this multi-story, 150-unit independent living apartment building at Fourth Avenue N and Fifth Street.

Along with the one-bedroom apartments (with plenty of closets and a kitchenette), the amenities include computer, recreation, and laundry rooms and a library and a new dog park.

Currently, Carteret Management Corp. successfully handles the overall operation of Peterborough with onsite staff headed

by a manager. The Cathedral still offers a guiding hand: Per the bylaws, the board includes six parishioners.

On the board's behalf, in December I had the fun task of using \$395 of the Cathedral's Outreach Committee funds to purchase gifts for 24 goodie bags that were raffled off at the Peterborough Holiday Barbecue.

This year, please continue to hold Peterborough in your prayers. Also, consider volunteering to help at various times throughout the year as we assemble gift bags (e.g. for basic Covid supplies, Easter, and Christmas goodies). These gift bags have brightened the lives of the Peterborough residents and have helped them to feel a part of a greater Christian community.

\* Peterborough is currently seeking a volunteer in its library. If you'd like to know more, please speak with Outreach Chair Penny Roen ([pennyroen@gmail.com](mailto:pennyroen@gmail.com)).



*Peterborough board member Gail McCoy and longtime board chair Virginia Rowell fill emergency-care bags for Peterborough residents. Photo by HILLARY PEETE.*



## Continuing Volunteer Needs

Our continuing volunteer activities and needs include:

\* **Campbell Park Elementary Resource Room** volunteers between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesdays. Contact Susan Darrow, [sdarrow99@me.com](mailto:sdarrow99@me.com).

\* **Florida Resurrection House child-care** volunteers from 6 to 8 p.m. Mondays.

\* **Florida Resurrection House fresh pantry** volunteers.

\* **Florida Resurrection House resource room** volunteers.

Contact Penny Roen ([pennyroen@gmail.com](mailto:pennyroen@gmail.com)) for information about volunteering at Florida Resurrection House.



## Fruitful Day On the Farm

Volunteers planted fruit trees in January at Benison Farm, the community garden at 2920 26th Ave. S that is a joint project of St. Thomas and St. Augustine's Episcopal Churches, building community and a source of fresh produce in a food desert. Our next work day is Saturday, February 26, from 9 to 11 a.m. Visit [spcathedral.org/community](http://spcathedral.org/community) for details, or speak to Hillary Peete. At 9 a.m. Sunday, February 20, during our formation hour, hear leaders from Benison Farm and Cathedral volunteers talk about the food, the faith, and the fellowship that are growing here.

Photo by HILLARY PEETE

## Quiet Day Offers a Chance to Renew Our Discipleship

Take a few hours away from the noise and distraction of the world on Saturday, February 5, at our annual Quiet Day, when the Rev. Canon Richard Norman will be our presenter, on the theme “Into the Wilderness.”

Canon Norman is chief of staff and canon to the ordinary for the Diocese of Southwest Florida and a member of the Cathedral congregation. From time to time you have seen him as preacher or celebrant on Sunday mornings.



Through art and scripture we will join Christ during his 40 days in the wilderness. Dwelling in the wilderness will provide us with the opportunity to refine our own discipleship and discover once again what it means to follow Christ — and in doing so, to take our Christian vocation of living in the poem of creation more joyously and generously, as if we have come out of a desert.

Doors open at 9:30 a.m. for continental breakfast. We'll begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at 2 p.m.

Please register at [spcathedral.org/quiet-day](https://spcathedral.org/quiet-day). There is a \$5 charge, payable at the door, for snacks, lunch, and materials. All are welcome! Please invite your friends from other congregations to join us.

## Faith Community Nurse Offers Many Ways to Help You

### Rita Sewell, BSN, RN, Faith Community Nurse

As our Faith Community Nurse ministry gets started, here are the ways I am able to serve you:

- \* I will provide a blood-pressure clinic from 9 to 10 a.m. the first Sunday of every month in the Library.

- \* I will provide weekly support as a health counselor, health educator, integrator of spirituality, and resource liaison from 10 a.m. to noon most Thursdays at the Cathedral.

- \* If you'd like to make an appointment

with me, please e-mail me at [nurse@spcathedral.com](mailto:nurse@spcathedral.com).

The Cathedral website will soon provide links to additional health-related resources.

I will be looking for people interested in joining me as we seek ways to serve our faith community.



## New String Quartet Will Play Authentic Baroque Instruments February 20

Music of the Baroque era will echo through our worship space at 5 p.m. Sunday, February 20, when a new string quartet, St. Pete Baroque, makes its Cathedral debut with a program called “Musica d’Amore.”

The group performs on historical instruments that are set up as they were in the 17th and 18th centuries: gut strings, baroque bows, and unique instruments that are not found in modern-day musical settings.

“We are dedicated to giving new life to old masterpieces, giving voice to newly discovered works, and bringing audiences the eccentric and improvisatory nature of Baroque music,” said Dan Urbanowicz, artistic director. A member of the Sarasota Orchestra, he plays baroque violin/viola d’amore.

Other members of the group are violinist Sarah Shellman, principal second violin with The Florida Orchestra; cellist Scott

Kluksdahl, who teaches at the USF School of Music; and Brent Douglas, harpsichordist, pianist, and conductor.

“I know Dan from the Pinellas County Center for the Arts, where he is one of the string teachers, and I know the other players personally or by reputation,” Canon for Music Dwight Thomas said. “They’re all fine players and Dan, in particular, really loves early music played on period instruments and makes the music come alive. There aren’t many early music groups in this area, so it’s nice to know and support a group that is right here in St. Petersburg.”

Their program will include works by Handel, Bach, Buxtehude, Telemann, Lucretia Vizzana, Cipriano DeRore, Ricardo Rogononi, and Diego Ortiz. A donation

of \$20 is suggested. They perform as part of our Cathedral Arts programming.

See (and hear!) a short video of this energetic group at their website, <http://www.stpetebaroque.org>.



*St. Pete Baroque “embodies sunniness, serenity, and effusion in turn,” music critic Betsy Schwarm says.*

# February Transitions

## Birthdays

|   |                     |    |                   |
|---|---------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Patty Hollingsworth | 6  | Isla McDowall     |
| 1 | Byron Shouppe       | 9  | Nicolina Neefe    |
| 1 | George Gramling     | 9  | Debbie Knippen    |
| 2 | Judy Holland        | 9  | John Galiger      |
| 2 | Jim Jeffries        | 9  | Hilleary Gramling |
| 2 | Ezekiel Miccichi    | 11 | Rob Pinion        |
| 2 | Timothy Saut        | 12 | Mike Grimshaw     |
| 3 | Rendall Sanchez     | 12 | Mari Reive        |
| 4 | Tom Walker          | 12 | Ray McColgan      |
| 5 | Fran Spector        | 12 | Len McCue         |
| 5 | Sophia Preston      | 12 | Robert Denk       |
| 5 | Christopher Etter   | 13 | Eli Dobiesz       |
| 6 | Kathy Hancock       | 14 | Sarah Lewis       |
| 6 | Roberta Yancey      | 15 | Elizabeth Howlett |
| 6 | Kate Munkittrick    | 15 | Fred Stansbery    |
| 6 | Courtney Crosby     |    |                   |

|    |                   |
|----|-------------------|
| 15 | Mike Zuravel      |
| 15 | Rebecca Wain      |
| 17 | Ed Shamas         |
| 17 | Savanna Andrews   |
| 17 | Peyton Parker     |
| 17 | Brad Davis        |
| 20 | John Wilson       |
| 20 | Bill Barlow       |
| 20 | Lynne Albee       |
| 20 | Celia Erickson    |
| 23 | John Ellis        |
| 23 | Dorothy Longstaff |
| 23 | Sue Bracci        |
| 23 | Ayla Fuchs        |
| 23 | John Hannay       |
| 24 | Marilyn Polson    |
| 24 | Gunnar Peters     |
| 25 | Jessica Grimshaw  |
| 25 | Grace Hamilton    |
| 25 | Kim Parsons       |
| 25 | Barbara Martin    |
| 26 | Marianne Hallas   |
| 26 | Orin Linder       |
| 27 | Marsha Fetchik    |

|    |                 |    |                 |
|----|-----------------|----|-----------------|
| 28 | Clark Gairing   | 28 | Scott Nonken    |
| 28 | Bronwyn Gairing | 28 | Rosamond Katzel |

## Anniversaries

|    |                        |    |                            |
|----|------------------------|----|----------------------------|
| 5  | Gareth & Debra Eich    | 14 | Sam Tallman & Mike Zuravel |
| 6  | Michael & Carol Piper  | 28 | Rick & James Knight        |
| 14 | John & Kit Clarke      |    |                            |
| 14 | Peter & Ashley Gairing |    |                            |



*If you'd like to receive Crosstown electronically, please send an e-mail to [agorton@spcathedral.com](mailto:agorton@spcathedral.com) asking us to put you on our electronic mailing list.*

## St. Peter's: A Guide

### Our Worship Schedule

**Sunday, 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite I and sermon**

**Sunday, 10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite II and sermon**

**Wednesday, 12:05 p.m., Holy Eucharist**

**Second Sunday, 7 p.m., Chanted Compline (through April)**

**Fourth Sunday, 5 p.m., Choral Evensong (through April)**

**Masks are encouraged at all worship services and indoor gatherings but are not mandatory.**

Sunday services at 10:15 a.m. can be viewed on Facebook or at [spcathedral.org/worship-live-stream](http://spcathedral.org/worship-live-stream), where the order of service can be downloaded.

**If you have a pastoral emergency after hours, please call (727) 822-4173 ext. 1 to speak to a member of the clergy.**

*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, 2022.**

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

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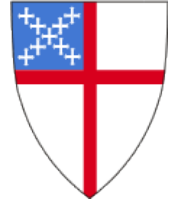
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### Diocesan leadership:

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 Ethan J. Cole, Canon for Congregational Life

The Rev. Canon Brandon Peete, Canon for Hospitality

The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams, Canon Theologian

Mr. Dwight M. Thomas, Canon for Music and Precentor

The Rev. Scott Nonken, Deacon

The Right Rev. Barry R. Howe, Bishop in Residence