



# Letters to the Romans

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
101 East Fourth Avenue, Rome, GA 30161  
(706)-291-9111 <http://www.stpetersrome.org>

Vol. XII, Issue #8. May 2014

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## Wardens & Vestry:

John Kirkland  
*Senior Warden*  
Jimmy Smith  
*Junior Warden*

†

## Through 2014:

Russ Jennings  
Andye Moss  
Suzanne Scott  
Bob Steinbruegge

†

## Through 2015:

Cooper Crawford  
David Hunter

†

## Through 2016:

Andy Anderson  
Sue Anderson  
Peggy Nash  
Stephen Smith

## “IT’S GOOD NEWS, ALL GOOD NEWS!”

“It’s good news, all good news,” said Nancy Knight, chair of the building committee at St. Peter’s as she opened a called vestry meeting on Tuesday, April 29. The good news she brought was the committee’s recommendation of a General Contractor to hire for our upcoming renovation project. The further good news was the bid is within the funds raised by the Capital Campaign Committee so none of the proposed renovation items will have to be forfeited because of expense. (Bring on that elevator!)

Even more exciting is that we can continue to “worship at home.” While construction takes place in the sanctuary and chapel, we will worship in Daniel Hall. Upon completion of those areas, we will move back into the sanctuary and turn over Daniel Hall to the contractor. Logistics, time lines, etc. are all being ironed out, and as soon as more details become available, the Parish will be updated. A web page dedicated to the renovation will be on our website soon. There you will be able to follow the progress and get the latest information.

After discussion of the bid, the members of the vestry unanimously voted to go with the building committee’s recommendations. The local firm of Pinson’s Inc. will handle our renovation. The committee is excited to be able to work with a company of Pinson’s caliber. Construction at St. Peter’s will begin within the next two weeks.

*Many thanks to Nancy Knight for providing “Letters” with this information as soon as everything was finalized.*



Architect’s rendering of 1st St. Daniel Hall/Chapel Entrance

Digital Effects: S. Musick

## The Clergy & Staff of St. Peter’s

### Rector:

The Reverend John Foster Herring

### Associate Rectors:

The Reverend Janice Bracken Wright † The Reverend Nikki Mathis

†

Parish Administrator: Terri Borchardt † Seminarian: Kemper Anderson † Director of Music: Dr. Fredrick Tarrant † Organist: Wanda Cantrell † Sexton: Sheila Kinnebrew † Newsletter Editors: Marny Busbin ([marnyr@bellsouth.net](mailto:marnyr@bellsouth.net)) & Andye Moss ([agm614@aol.com](mailto:agm614@aol.com)) † Newsletter Designer: Spencer Musick ([layout@letterstoromans.info](mailto:layout@letterstoromans.info))  
Church Photographer: Curt Yarbrough ([CHY813@hotmail.com](mailto:CHY813@hotmail.com))

## What do we Mean by Resurrection? A Reflection on Eastertide



"Love is come again, like wheat springeth green." St. Peter's Children's Choir sings *Now the Green Blade Riseth* before the 9:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Service. Photo courtesy of C. Yarbrough.



"We acclaim you, holy Lord, Glorious in Power." Fr. John Herring celebrates the first Eucharist of Eastertide at the Great Vigil. Photo courtesy of C. Yarbrough.

### *Eastertide*

By: The Rev. Joseph D. Herring

Eastertide is here. From now until Pentecost, our liturgies will be saturated with the motif of resurrection. Well they should be, since it is impossible to do justice to resurrection on Easter alone. It is a very good idea for all of us to exercise curiosity about issues underlying Easter. Let's have a look at a major one.

We need to ask ourselves if the Gospel affirms a physical resurrection. We often hear it said that "I can accept that Jesus' spirit is alive, but I cannot believe that he rose physically from the dead." This thought is often accompanied by a sentiment that "I'm much more spiritual than religious. I don't care much for institutional religion."

If we take the New Testament seriously, we will have no difficulty giving short shrift to a purely spiritual resurrection. The first Christians were convinced that the risen Christ had encountered them not as a spirit, but as someone embodied. When Judaism had looked forward to the Age to Come, it expected a physical resurrection. Paul's elaborate seed imagery in First Corinthians is about the physicality of resurrection.

It is important to ask ourselves what we imagine when we speak of physical resurrection. Jesus' resurrection body was in some important ways different from the body that died on the cross. Mary Magdalene did not recognize him immediately early Easter morning. Both John and Luke write of one whose resurrection body is not subject to the same limits that we take for granted. The risen Jesus is embodied, but in a way that makes him both discontinuous and continuous with us. We might note that none of his enemies noticed him. Only those already in some measure committed to him were witnesses to his resurrection.

It is worth noting that today's best physicists admit that they are far from clear about what matter is. Most people are aware that the tiniest bits of matter contain enormous energy.  $E=MC^2$  is almost a cliché. But what is matter? The more deeply we analyze its structure, the more mysterious it appears to be. In no case should we be certain of what we're talking about when we refer to what is physical. The New Testament bears witness to a transformed physicality, not to a spiritual resurrection, whatever that is.

Transformed physicality has implications for all of us whose physicality remains what it has always been. Christ's resurrection has implications for every last atom in God's universe.

*Joe Herring is an Episcopal Priest & the Father of Rector John Herring.*

# Bishop Issues Pastoral Directive regarding Firearms on Diocesan & Church Property



*The* BISHOP *of* ATLANTA  
THE RIGHT REV. ROBERT C. WRIGHT

## **A Charge and a Pastoral Directive – April 28, 2014**

### **For the Clergy, Wardens and Ministry Heads of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta**

Greetings in the Name of our Risen Lord Jesus, the Prince of Peace,

Georgia Governor Nathan Deal has signed into law House Bill 60, officially called the Safe Carry Protection Act of 2014. This law is to go into effect July 1.

Given the implications of this law on our common life, I write to share a summary of the law as it pertains to our community and provide our Diocesan policy going forward.

The Safe Carry Protection Act makes it unlawful for even a licensed gun holder to carry firearms into "a place of worship, unless the governing body or authority of the place of worship permits the carrying of weapons or long guns by license holders"...

#### **Diocesan policy**

While the new law would permit churches to allow firearms in their buildings and on their property, the Diocese of Atlanta will not do so.

My judgment, charge and directive – as the ecclesiastical, or governing, authority of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta – is that with the exception of on-duty law enforcement officers, firearms are not permitted in church buildings or on church property. Georgia law permits and enforces this policy, and it shall remain in effect in this diocese.

Furthermore, according to the law, should a license holder bring a gun into church against the wishes of the church leader, the gun owner will be fined \$100. This also means that if "a non-license holder" brings a gun to that same church, he or she will be guilty of a misdemeanor.

My judgment and this policy are based on the normative understanding of the teachings of Jesus as The Episcopal Church has received them. This matter and I hope this policy afford us yet another opportunity to live the words we pray each week.

In the Name of the Prince of Peace,

bishopwright@episcopalatlanta.org  
404-601-5340 or 800-537-6743, ext. 116  
2744 Peachtree Road, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30305  
[episcopalatlanta.org](http://episcopalatlanta.org)

## In Case you Missed It: Parish Updates from April

### Rustic Wooden Cross Constructed by Parishioner Enriches Good Friday Liturgy



Jim Dixon, who constructed the cross, presents it to Mother Nikki Mathis before the Good Friday Liturgy.  
*Photo Courtesy of T. Borchardt*



The cross, pictured after finishing with five coats of urethane is sure to grace our Good Friday services for years to come.  
*Photo Courtesy of J. Dixon*

### Rebecca Roberts Receives Academic Achievement Award from Sewanee



Roberts receives the School of Theology Price in Biblical Studies from Dean, the Rt. Rev. J. Neil Alexander.  
*Contributed Photo*



Roberts (3rd from left), pictured with faculty, Dean Alexander, and other award recipients.  
*On April 23, The School of Theology community gathered in the Chapel of the Apostles in celebration of the upcoming commencement events. The Eucharist service on this day featured the presentation of St. Luke's crosses to each of the students scheduled to graduate on May 9. Following the service the Rt. Rev. J. Neil Alexander, dean of The School of Theology, and the Rev. Canon James Turrell, associate dean for academic affairs, announced the recipients of The School of Theology Prizes for outstanding academic achievement.*

## Parish News: May 2014

### **The congratulations of the parish is extended to:**

- ❖ Lydia Schlitt who was elected President of the Canterbury Club of Northwest Georgia for the 2014-2015 academic year. Lydia is a long-time Episcopalian, member of St. Peter's Choir, and is an upcoming Sophomore at Berry College;
- ❖ Bethany and Andrew Mecklin on the birth of their son, Anderson David Mecklin, who was born on March 23, 2014, in Carrollton, GA. Anderson is the grandson of Jeanne Mathews;
- ❖ Kimberly and Stephen Moseley on the birth of their daughter, Murphy Grace, on April 4, 2014. Murphy Grace is the granddaughter of Cynthia and Mike Burnes;
- ❖ Bob Berry who was named a Georgia Super Lawyer for 2014 for the 10<sup>th</sup> year;
- ❖ Mary Sib Banks who was recognized for her successful chairmanship of Mercy Senior Care's Two Million Dollar Capital Campaign;
- ❖ Tracy Page for being awarded Photographer of the Year from the Georgia Professional Photographers Association. Tracy also won Best in State Award from the Southeastern Professional Photographers Association, Best of Show Illustrative Award, the Distinguished Award for a Male Portrait, First Place Award for Illustrative, the Dick Dickerson Award for Most Improved Competition Entries, and the Certified Professional Photographer Competition Award;
- ❖ Emily Thurmond, a Darlington senior, who won the Vincent J. Dooley Award, an award sponsored by Athletes for a Better World in partnership with GHSA. Emily is the captain of her softball team and has been a 4 year member of the varsity softball, tennis, and swim teams. She has also won All-Area and All-Region honors in softball and was MVP in swimming.
- ❖ Alexandra Carlton for earning a place on the Red Coat Marching Band Flag Line at The University of Georgia. Alexandra is the daughter of Dagmar and David Carlton;
- ❖ Sam Moss for knowing the riddle from the Mountain in our last issue. John Herring passed his academic gown to Cameron O'Riley, so both their initials are monogrammed on the back of the gown;
- ❖ Rebecca Roberts for winning The Sewanee School of Theology prize in Biblical Studies;

### **Welcomed into the household of God at the Easter Vigil:**

- ❖ Susan Yolonde Alred
- ❖ Chandler Hopkins Sumner, son of Brooke and Aaron Sumner
- ❖ Emma Leigh Barron, daughter of Tammy and George Barron and granddaughter of Patti and Mike Barron
- ❖ Broc McKean Barron, son of Tammy and George Barron and grandson of Patti and Mike Barron

### **The gratitude of the parish is extended to:**

- ❖ Liz Mozley, Mary Sib Banks, Nancy Hunter, MJ Chisholm, and Marny Busbin for folding the palm crosses for Palm Sunday;
- ❖ Jim Dixon for the beautiful cross he crafted which was used for the first time on Good Friday;

*(Continued on Page 12)*

## Happening at St. Peter's this Month

### May 2014 Parish Calendar:

May 3: 6pm, Rite 13 Dinner

May 4: Easter 3

May 6: 3:30 Construction Meeting, 5pm Building Committee Meeting

7pm, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Three Rivers Singers' Concert for W.C. Owen

May 11: Easter 4

Mother's Day & Youth Sunday

May 18: Easter 5

Last Sunday School until fall

May 20: Vestry Meeting 5:30pm

May 23: Newsletter Deadline

May 25: Easter 6

May 26-30 Soup Kitchen 8:30-1pm

May 26 Office closed for Memorial Day

#### Looking Ahead:

June 1: EYC Caving Trip

### St. Peter's Recognizes Rite 13 Participants on May 4, 2014



Rite 13 Students, Parents, & Teachers with pictured with Mo. Nikki after the service. *Photo Courtesy of C. Yarbrough*

From Left: Instructors Amanda Law, Keri Herring and Jackie Trammel take part in the liturgy. *Photo Courtesy of C. Yarbrough*

Sunday, May 4 was a BIG day in the life of Rite 13 students. A special liturgy to celebrate their lives and mark the transition that begins as they move from childhood and progress toward adulthood was held within the regular Sunday Service. This Rite 13 liturgy, and the course of study for which it is named, was part of the first year of the 6 year overall formation program for all of our youth, ages 12-18, known as Journey to Adulthood or J2A. Any parents interested in enrolling their child next year may contact Mother Nikki.



#### St. Peter's Heartily Congratulates our Rite 13 Participants & Their Parents:

**Carter Montgomery Anderson** (Son of Randall & Jennifer Anderson, stepson of Leigh Ann Anderson)

**Josie Roxanna Cole** (Daughter of Meredith & Joey Cole)

**Henry Norwood Crawford** (Son of Cooper & Madge Crawford)

**John Daniel Kirkpatrick Knauss** (Son of Dr. Mark Knauss & Sunny Shropshire Knauss)

**Matthew Timothy Courtney Knauss** (Son of Dr. Mark Knauss & Sunny Shropshire Knauss)

**Eugenia Stanert Marceau** (Daughter of Sunny Shropshire Knauss & Dr. Mark Knauss)

**Nathaniel Wilson Massey IV** (Son of Amy and Nat Massey)

**Josephine Sophia Vargo** (Daughter of Joe Vargo & Leigh Ann Anderson, step-daughter of Andy Anderson)

# May 2014 Ministry Schedules, Rosters, and Rotations

<b>Altar Guild</b> ~~~~~ Mary Kirkland©, Annette Morris, Bambi Berry, Kimberly Moseley, Cynthia Murphy-Burnes, Hollye Smith, Marsha Welch, Lee Hight, Sarah Molnar ~~~~~ Vestry Member of the Month ~~~~~ Peggy Nash	<b>Breakfast Crews</b> ~~~~~ 5/4 Tricia Richards, Jimmy Kelley, Mike Alexander, David Hunter, Peter Gilbert 5/11 Jack Niedrach, David Harvey, Tracy/John Schroeder, Bryan Johnson 5/18 Allien McNair, Clem Trammell, Al Bonnyman, Bill Schoepski, Bill Byington, Bill Banks 5/25 John Hine, Bruce Hunter, Joe Seigler, Wright Smith, Bill Fricks	<b>Loaves and Fishes</b> ~~~~~ Andye Moss©, Barbara Briley, Bryant Steele, Cathy Mitchell, Jane Morgan, Lee Hight, Linda Kane, Patti Barron, Tracy Page ~~~~~ <b>Soup Kitchen:</b> Monday: Frances Knight©, Bob Evans, Amy Summerlin, Beth Starnes, Irby Ledbetter, Mary McGuffey, Shelley Parris, Anne Kaiser Tuesday: Marny Busbin©, Anne Kerr, Janet Morris, Peggy Nash, Ruth Forrester, Suzy Gilbert Wednesday: Ann Laughlin©, John Hine, Randy Muller, Elaine Smith, Susan Cooper, Sylvia Hine, Laura Frederick Thursday: Rich Molnar©, Will Dellis, Barb Molnar, Betsy Awsumb, Kathy Steinbruegge, Lilli Tucker, Cheryl Ranwez Friday: Andye Moss©, Randy Muller, Ann Laughlin, Cissy Rogers, Liesl Bold, Helen Keaten, Jill Horst
<b>EYC</b> ~~~~~ 5/1 - 11th/12th Grade Sunrise Gathering at Swift & Finch 5/11 - Youth Recognition Sunday/ Mothers' Day 5/14 - Schroeder's Night 5/18 - Last Sunday School before Summer Break	<b>Greeters</b> ~~~~~ Beverly Burnes©, Randa/Ronnie Mixon, Tom Dasher, Jenna Black, Sue Anderson ~~~~~ <b>Ushers</b> ~~~~~ John Burnes, Lisa Bell, Jerry Norman, Al Bonnyman	

## May 2014 Lay Reader/Chalice Schedule

SUNDAYS		
	<u>5/4/14</u>	
8:30 a.m.	Tricia Richards	Reader/Prayers
	Tricia Richards	Chalice Bearer
10:00 a.m.	Randy Warley	1st Lesson
	D'Ann Downey	2nd Lesson
	Keith Summerlin	Prayers
	Frieda Yeary	Chalice Bearer
	Bryant Steele	Chalice Bearer
	Sunny Knauss	Chalice Bearer
	Kemper Anderson	Chalice Bearer
	<u>5/11/14</u>	
8:30 a.m.	Mark Jester	Reader/Prayers
	Mark Jester	Chalice Bearer
10:00 a.m.	Youth Sunday	
	<u>5/18/14</u>	
8:30 a.m.	Tricia Richards	Reader/Prayers
	Tricia Richards	Chalice Bearer
10:00 a.m.	Janet Byington	1st Lesson
	Al Bonnyman	2nd Lesson
	Zibby White	Prayers
	Bill Byington	Chalice Bearer
	Bryan Johnson	Chalice Bearer
	Kemper Anderson	Chalice Bearer
	Steve Stutts	Chalice Bearer

SUNDAYS Continued		
	<u>5/25/14</u>	
8:30 a.m.	Spencer Musick	Reader/Prayers
	Spencer Musick	Chalice Bearer
10:00 a.m.	Randa Mixon	1st Lesson
	Bob Steinbruegge	2nd Lesson
	Wade Carpenter	Prayers
	David Hicks	Chalice Bearer
	Brian Hampton	Chalice Bearer
	Kemper Anderson	Chalice Bearer
	<b>Wednesdays</b>	
	<u>5/7/14</u>	
5:30 p.m.	Curt Yarborough	Reader/Prayers
	Curt Yarborough	Chalice Bearer
	<u>5/14/14</u>	
5:30 p.m.	Stephen Patton	Reader/Prayers
	Stephen Patton	Chalice Bearer
	<u>5/21/14</u>	
5:30 p.m.	Curt Yarborough	Reader/Prayers
	Curt Yarborough	Chalice Bearer
	<u>5/28/14</u>	
5:30 p.m.	Stephen Patton	Reader/Prayers
	Stephen Patton	Chalice Bearer



## Candids from St. Peter's Vestry Retreat: Sewanee, TN

### *Our Clergy & Vestry Working Hardly:*



From Left: Father John Herring converses with the weekend's guest leader, Pat Grace, while Andy Anderson and Mother Nikki Mathis, right, look on.

*Photo Courtesy of P. Nash*

### *Our Clergy & Vestry Hardly Working:*



From left: Taking a break from what was surely an "all-business" agenda for the weekend, Stephen Smith, Andye Moss, Mother Nikki and Russ Jennings enjoy a lighter moment at the retreat before Stephen entertained the group with his guitar playing, which we have been assured, only featured songs about Stewardship campaign strategies and mission statements.

*Photo Courtesy of P. Nash*



## St. Peter's Parishioner has Artwork Selected for Display in NH Exhibition



the artists registry  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH VISUAL ARTS  
@ECVA



*Angels Keep Watch*, a piece by St. Peter's Parishioner Margaret Ward Ingram, has been chosen for display in an exhibition sponsored by Episcopal Church Visual Arts. The painting will hang in the Chapel of St. Peter and St. Paul at St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire, until May 23, 2014. Ingram strongly encourages all artists from St. Peter's to become involved in ECVA, saying that it is "It's a wonderful way to worship and honor God." According to its website, ECVA's mission is to "encourage artists and organizations to engage the visual arts in the spiritual life of the church." More information can be found at <http://ecva.org>. Congratulations, Margaret!!



Margaret Ingram's painting "Angel's Keep Watch." *Photo courtesy of the artist.*

## St. Peter's Leaves her mark on Habitat for Humanity Apostles Build

Hats (and gloves) off to: Andy Anderson, Sue Anderson, Andrew Berry, Sam Berry, John Burnes, Bill Byington, Jim Dixon, Byron Eberhart, John Hine, Sheila Kinnebrew, Nat Massey, Jack McGuffey, Jack Niedrach, Larry Osborn, Leigh Patterson, Stephen Smith, and Bob Steinbruegge. On April 5, these volunteers worked tirelessly for eight hours doing sheet rock work for the Habitat Build. Peggy Nash organized the group that provided lunch to our St. Peter's crew, and Curt Yarbrough stopped in to take a few candid of our parishioners hard at work. We are truly blessed to have such dedicated parishioners representing us in community-wide projects like these!



Andy Anderson & Leigh Patterson prepare to hang a piece of sheet rock during the build.

*Photo Courtesy of C. Yarbrough*



From left: Bill Byington, Jack Niedrach, & Larry Osborn secure one piece of sheet rock before moving on to the next one.

*Photo Courtesy of C. Yarbrough*

# Alleluia, Christ is Risen! Images of Easter 2014 at St. Peter's



"Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal Feast we may so burn with heavenly desires." Fr. Herring blesses the fire used to light the Paschal Candle at Vigil.

"The Light of Christ; Thanks Be to God," is sung three times as the Paschal Candle is brought into a dark church that lights up as our we begin the ancient observance of Easter Vigil by recalling God's history of saving acts in the Old Testament.



"Let my Prayer be set forth in your sight as incense." Father Herring censens the Chancel Altar during the offertory before celebrating the Eucharist at Vigil.



"Through the Easter story we come to realize that sin & death are not the strongest powers in the world...Love is," concluded Father Herring in his Easter Morning homily.



Above: the cross decorated by our children after the 9 a.m service. By the time this was taken, they had stamped to the Willingham house lawn to hunt Easter eggs, (pictured below shortly before the armada arrived).





St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
 101 East Fourth Avenue  
 Rome, Georgia 30161

Return service requested.

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### May 2014 Parish News (Continued from page 5)

#### The gratitude of the parish is extended to:

- ❖ The sheetrock crew who worked at the Habitat "Apostles' Build" house: Andy Anderson, Sue Anderson, Andrew Berry, Sam Berry, John Burnes, Bill Byington, Nat Massey, Jim Dixon, Byron Eberhart, John Hine, Sheila Kennebrew, Jack McGuffey, Jack Neidrach, Larry Osborn, Leigh Patterson, Stephen Smith, and Bob Steinbruegge. Thank you also to Peggy Nash for organizing lunch and to Curt Yarbrough for taking pictures;
- ❖ The Reverend Don Black for his shepherding of Evening Prayer throughout Lent.
- ❖ David and Nancy Hunter for sponsoring St. Peter's in the 6th Annual Harbor House "Adult Spell Off" on May 2. The 'Saintly Bees,' comprised of parishioners Tom Dasher, Spencer Musick, and Jack Niedrach made easy work of words like "Oscillometer," advancing well into the second round after more than half of the other 25 teams had been eliminated. All proceeds from the event benefited the Harbor House, which supports children and families throughout the process of a child-abuse investigation with a kid-friendly environment.

#### The sympathy of the parish is extended to:

- ❖ Bill Schoepski and Allien McNair on the death of Bill's mother, Pauline E. Schoepski, in Belvidere, Illinois, on March 28, 2014;
- ❖ June, David, Brian, Jean-Claire and Will Dellis on their death of her husband and their father, Donald Olon Dellis, on April 6, 2014.