November 2018

Letters to the Romans

St. Peter's Episcopal Church • 101 East Fourth Avenue • Rome, GA 30161 • 706.291.9111 •
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Vestry Members

Kathy Steinbruegge, Sr. Warden
Cynthia Murphy, Jr. Warden

(Through 2018)
Cynthia Murphy-Burns
Kathy Steinbruegge
Clem Trammell
Tyler Wood

(Through 2019)
Lloyd Griffin
Janet Byington
Nancy Smith
Erika Wilson

(Through 2020)
Lynette Bonner
Charlie Hardaker
Jan Routledge
Jennifer Sikes

Rector: ✞The Reverend John Foster Herring ✞Canterbury Club: Rebecca Segrest ✞Hollye Smith: Children's Ministry Coordinator (stpetersromefamily@gmail.com) ✞Choirmaster & Director of Music: Dr. Fredrick Tarrant ✞Organist: Wanda Cantrell ✞Parish Administrator: Elizabeth Barnes ✞Financial Coordinator: Debbi West ✞Sexton: Sheila Kinnebrew ✞Newsletter Editor: Bryant Steele (steelecomm@netzero.net) ✞Church Photographer: Curt Yarbrough (chy813@hotmail.com) ✞Newsletter Layout: Bob Evans (rsmithevans@aol.com)

SABBATICAL REFLECTIONS FROM FATHER JOHN

Since my return in September, I have been asked a lot about my sabbatical. There really is no short answer and it is something I continue to process. As I mentioned in my letter to the congregation back in May, one of the standard portions in the Letter of Agreements for priests in the Diocese of Atlanta is a requirement for sabbatical of no less than 3 months after each 6 years of ministry. I believe this is done for two reasons. First, the Diocese wishes to alleviate "burn out" among priests, particularly Rectors. Second, it is to model for the rest of the community the importance of rest and rejuvenation. By the time June 2018 arrived, I had been ordained for over 10 years and had not yet taken a sabbatical and was ready to do so. I was not worried about burn out. I simply wanted to spend quality time with my family and felt that churning within for some time. From that deep desire came the idea for a cross country camping trip, which I began planning in 2017 and which was the true highlight of my time away from St. Peter's.

We were on the road for 29 days and stayed at 15 different campgrounds, 4 of which were at national parks. We drove a total of 7600 miles, towing a mini-camper and a roof-top tent. We had a ground tent too, for stops lasting more than one night. We were tested by weather, road conditions, bad decisions and good ol' family impatience at times. But, most of all, we saw and did marvelous things together. I cannot say which was the best moment, because there were so many best moments. I cannot say which was my favorite place, because each time I thought we were at my favorite place, something else would come along.

We were stunned by the beauty of the peaks and the water at Grand Teton, entertained by wildlife and mother nature in Yellowstone, in awe of the beauty of the driftwood beach on Bainbridge Island, in love with the views and urban delights of Seattle and Portland, stunned by the vistas of the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, surprised by the paradox of the severity and the serenity of Arches National Park, and taken with the views of the Tenmile range in the Colorado Rockies. We were amused that seemingly every time we crossed a river, it was the Snake River. We hiked, kayaked, biked, and rode horseback. We experienced 35 degree mornings and 100+ degree afternoons. We saw countless animals including, but not limited to bison, bear, deer, mule deer, elk, bull elk, and pronghorn. We ate low budget campfire meals most of the time, and sometimes treated ourselves to a night out, such as dining on the rim of the Grand Canyon at the North Rim Lodge. There are simply too many memories and too many stories to share in such a small space. I was not ready for it to end, as I am a traveler at heart. But, I will always be grateful for the time I was able to spend with my wife and children on this trip.

I was able to accomplish some other things on the sabbatical. I went through about 10 books, shortening my reading queue, at least temporarily. My to-do list was shortened somewhat, as I was able to take care of some yard work that needed to be addressed. Furthermore, I drove another 2,000 miles by myself, visiting family in Chicago and New Jersey, seeing family I seldom see and having personal conversations that bore much fruit. But the highlight of the sabbatical was clearly the cross-country camping trip. Thank you all for giving me time and space for my sabbatical this summer. I am grateful.

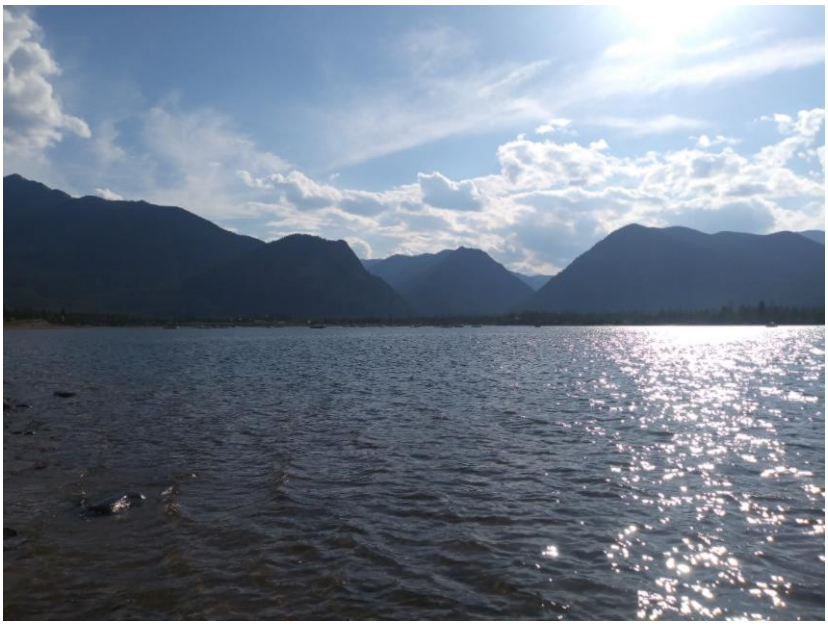
Camp Site Setup

Grand Prismatic-Yellowstone National Park

Shopping in Seattle Washington

Bainbridge Island, Washington

The North Rim, Grand Canyon National Park



Dusk at Peak One Campground, Colorado

Voodoo Donut – Portland Oregon

An Opportunity for Sharing and Support

Bryant Steele has been seriously ill for almost a year. He has chosen to share the physical and emotional journey he is currently taking. His article will be included in the December newsletter.

Understanding how different each journey is and how difficult yet cathartic sharing that journey may be, we would like to give other parishioners who themselves or who have been the care providers who have taken similar journeys this year the opportunity to write a brief article (no more than 450 words) to be included with Bryant's.

If you have experienced physical, emotional, or spiritual pain this year and are willing to share your journey with your St. Peter's family. You may email them to, steelecomm@netzero.net or drop off at the church office.

Chair YOGA
Tuesdays at 11:00am in Daniel Hall

LIVING COMPASS
outfitting for the journey
HEART • SOUL • STRENGTH • MIND

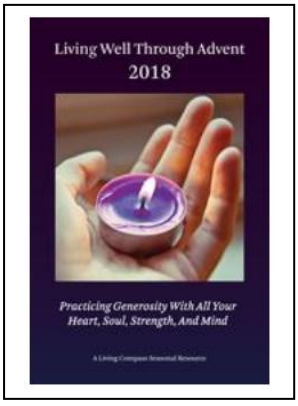
Mondays – 1:00pm 401 East 4th Avenue led by D'Ann Downey Nov. 29-Dec 17.
Wednesdays – 6:00pm Willingham House led by Beth Novian Hughes Nov. 31 – Dec 19.

LIVING WELL THROUGH ADVENT 2018, Practicing Generosity With All Your Heart. Soul. Strength and Mind.

The Living Compass Advent Series will start in November.

You will find the Advent Booklets placed around the church later in November. Feel free to pick up an Advent study guide for home use even if you do not plan to attend the class.

More information contact:
D'Ann Downey at ddowneywarley@comcast.net
Beth Hughes at novianhughes@gmail.com



FOYER GROUPS WILL HAVE SIGN UPS IN LATE 2018 FOR NEW GROUPS FORMING IN JANUARY 2019

CENTERING PRAYER meets each Thursday at 6:00pm in Rhodes Wyatt Room.

Contact Jane Cunningham for more information.
missjane@me.com

BIBLE STUDY WEEKLY ON THURSDAYS AT 10:00AM IN RHODES WYATT ROOM.
Final meeting before Christmas will be December 13th.

ADULT FORMATION

November 3	Roger Ard Session 3: Are you in a good place?
November 11	No Adult Formation due to Annual Meeting
November 18	Roger Ard Session 4: Good God?
November 25	Bob Evans discusses Bishop Tutu's: "The Book of Forgiveness."

Join us on Sundays at 11:20am in Daniel Hall.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
With Baptisms

November 4, 2018

ReCharge & Rejoice Wednesdays

Celtic Service 5:30 pm

Dinner 5:45 pm

- **11/7** Speak Cheesy Sandwiches: 1) Classic, 2) Feta Pesto, mozzarella, tangy feta with homemade pesto. 3) Apple Bacon Cheddar, chopped bacon, apples, and cranberries blended with cheddar and nutmeg. Served with chips, a side and pumpkin honey bun cake.
- **11/14** – Living Compass Pot Luck.
- **11/22** - NO MEAL due to Thanksgiving.
- **11/28** – New Orleans Jambalaya w/chicken & sausage, French bread, salad, bread pudding.

Youth Choir 6-6:45 pm, Jr. Choir 6:15-7pm and EYC Activities 6:30-8pm.

Canterbury Club of Northwest Georgia

2019 Calendar collection for DFACS

November 11th: Lunch following 10am worship at St. Peter's.
November 19th: Morning Prayer at the Marina & Sailing on Knotty Farm.

PARISH NEWS

Sympathy of the Parish is extended to The Reverend Dr. G. Donald Black and his family on the death of Suzanne DuPuy Black.

Best Wishes from the Parish are extended to Norma Littlejohn, long time member of St. Peter's who has moved to Texas to be closer to her son.

Congratulations of the Parish extended to Fran and Harris Bagley on the birth of their newest grandson, William Harrison Bagley, born in Dusseldorf, Germany**.**

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

ALTAR GUILD:

November: *Mary Kirkland, Bambi Berry, Cynthia Burnes, Lee Hight, Sarah Molnar, Annette Morris, Kimberly Moseley, Hollye Smith, Becca Wood, Molly Steeves.*

December: *Sunny Knauss, Michael Ann Booth, Suzy Gilbert, Sue Ann Kalkus, Beth Starnes, Erika Wilson, Lulie Chin.*

BREAKFAST CREW:

December 2: *Doug Lansing, Russ Jennings, Jack Knight, Sasa Vance, Sam Lucas, Guy Hunter.*

December 9: *Ann Pullen, Jeanne Cahill, Bruce Hunter, Len Woodward, Sammy Edgeworth, Chris Edgeworth.*

December 16: *Tricia Richards, Jimmy Kelly, Suzy Gilbert, Peter Gilbert, David Hunter, Gayle Keith.*

December 23: *Bryan Johnson, David Harvey, John Schroeder, Tracy Schroeder, Meredith Cole, Harold Lawrence.*

December 30: *Allien McNair, Clem Trammell, Bill Schoepski, Bill Byington, Craig Wilson, Bob Kane.*

GREETER:

November: *Beverly Burns, Tom Dasher, Sue Anderson, Len Woodward.*

December: *Nancy Hunter, Peggy Nash, Tricia Richards, Mary Patton, Russ Jennings.*

USHER:

November: *Wright Smith, John Kirkland, Cooper Crawford, Rob King.*

December: *Winston Sirmans, Stephen Patton, Jim Hamrick, Leigh Patterson*

LOAVES & FISHES:

November*: Andye Moss, Jeanne Mathews, Barbara Briley, LaDonna Woods, Patti Barron, Dot Fletcher, Tammy Barron, Jennifer Moss, Lee Hight, Marie Middlemass.*

December: *Elaine Smith, Beth Starnes, Dale Carroll, Frances Knight, Jackie Mooney, Janet Morris, Jean Clark, Michelle O'Neill, Sue Mann, Tricia Richards, Michelle Lawrence.*

Vestry of the Month: November: *Charlie Hardaker (706 331-7454)*

Mission and Outreach for November

During the month of November, we collect items for Toys for Tots. Please consider donating at least ONE BOOK for a child from Birth – 12. We like for each child to have at least one book to read or one to be read to them. Comic books and/or coloring books make a nice addition.

If you prefer to donate toys, please consider children ages birth-2 or 10-12.

We will need volunteers to sort and pack toys soon. It will warm your heart to think about the child who will receive the toys and books you choose for him or her.

Thank you for your donations to P.A.W.S. and for helping with the urgent request for the Salvation Army.

Peggy Nash, Chair of MSO

Advent Activities from Family Ministries

12/2 Advent Wreaths – Daniel Hall 4-6pm
12/9 Advent Gingerbread House -Daniel Hall 4-6pm
12/16 Special Advent Service – 4-6pm
12/19 Christmas Pageant, Dinner served 5:45pm Pageant begins at 6:45

"Hostressing"

A good friend introduced me to this term a few years back and explained that "hostressing" occurs when we get so wrapped up in the details of an event that we lose sight of the event's purpose. I could earn a gold medal in "hostressing". I have spent so many hours preparing for an event and worrying over small details that by the time the event arrived, I was exhausted with raw nerves. Have you ever found yourself in the same position?

We are rounding the corner to Advent and the Christmas season. Advent begins on December 2nd.

This time of the year, our "hostressing" skills are in full force. Entertaining, meal planning, silver polishing, tree trimming...it is overwhelming. By the time Christmas Eve and morning arrive, we are often times ragged and not able to fully experience the awe that Jesus' birth brings.

I am asking you to set aside some time with your St. Peter's family to come and prepare together for Jesus' birth. We will have some special events on Advent Sunday afternoons where you are invited to come join with your loved ones and experience. No prep, no meal planning...just an invitation to find ways to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Advent details are located above. I look forward to celebrating the season with you.

Hollye Smith, Coordinator Children's Ministries

November Calendar 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:30 Rite II **8:45-10:00 Breakfast** **9:15 Kids SS** **10:00 Rite I** **11:20 Adult SS** **1:00 Eucharist in Spanish**		**Yoga 11am** **12:15 Healing Prayer**	**9:00 Staff Mtg.** **5:30 Celtic** **5:45pm Recharge & Rejoice Activities**	**1** **Bible Study 10:00** **Centering Prayer 6pm**	**2**	**3**
4 24 Pentecost All Saints Sunday	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8** **Bi**ble Study 10:00	**9**	**10**
11 25 Pentecost Annual Parish Meeting	**12**	**13** Vestry Meeting 5:30pm	**14**	**15** Bible Study 10:00	**16**	**17**
18 26 Pentecost	**19**	**20**	**21** **Newsletter deadline for December**	**22** Office Closed **Thanksgiving**	**23** Office Closed Community Kitchen	**24**
25 Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King	**26**	**27** JOY trip to Woodstock Outlet Shops Community Kitchen	**28**	**29** Bible Study 10:00	**30**	

Many thanks to Curt Yarbrough for providing some of the photographs used in the LTR.

Editor's Note

Submissions to *Letters to the Romans* are welcome from any St. Peter's parishioner and should be dropped off or sent to the church office. Please keep items brief and to the point.

News and photos of parishioners participating in community events are also welcome.

The deadline for submissions to the December Issue is by NOVEMBER 21st, 2018.

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