

March 2019



# Letters to the Romans

St. Peter's Episcopal Church • 101 East Fourth Avenue • Rome, GA 30161 • 706.291.9111 • [www.stpetersrome.org](http://www.stpetersrome.org)

## In this issue. . .

St. Peter's 175 <sup>th</sup>	2
Yoga, Centering Prayer, Bible Study	5
Adult Formation, Living Compass	6
Recharge & Rejoice	7
Children Ministry	8
Lent & Holy Week	9
JOY Trip	10
Canterbury Club	11
Compassionate Paws	12
Mission Outreach	13
S.O.A.P.	13
Parish News	16
Camp Mikell	17
Volunteers	17
Calendar	18



# HAPPY 175<sup>th</sup> Birthday

*St. Peter's Anniversary art work designed by Nancy Smith*

## Vestry Members

*Janet Byington*  
Sr. Warden

*Erika Wilson*  
Jr. Warden

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

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

*(Through 2021)*  
*Allien McNair*  
*Stephen Patton*  
*Jeanne Sparks*  
*Shane Wallev*

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

## PURPOSE STATEMENT OF THE DIOCESE OF ATLANTA

WE CHALLENGE OURSELVES AND THE WORLD TO LOVE LIKE JESUS, AS WE WORSHIP JOYFULLY, SERVE COMPASSIONATELY, AND GROW SPIRITUALLY.

*“Letters to the Romans” will celebrate the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church by publishing concurrent articles on the history of our church throughout the year. Each LTR monthly publication will feature an article covering 18 consecutive years of history. The series will conclude in the December issue. These articles will be based upon information found in Dr. C. J. Wyatt’s book, “Upon this Rock.”*

*The first article will cover the founding of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church in 1844 and continue through the beginning of the Civil War in early 1860.*

### ST. PETER’S CELEBRATES ITS 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ON MARCH 31.

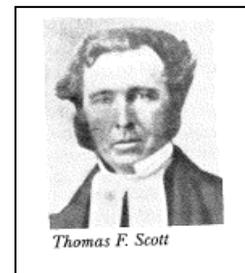
In 1834, the Georgia State Government passed legislature transferring the county seat from Livingston to Rome. It did not take long to recognize the advantage of the new settlement at the junction of the rivers. A new courthouse was constructed, and civilization quickly followed.

**St. Peter’s Church** was officially organized on March 31, 1844, when The Reverend Thomas Fielding Scott, the first rector of St. James Church, Marietta, came to Rome to administer the Eucharist to a small number of parishioners. He was assisted by the Reverend Carter Page, who had come from Virginia as a missionary to northwest Georgia. Following the service, **the church was established as St. Peter’s Church in the Diocese of Georgia.** (*The Diocese of Atlanta was not established until 1907, a split from the Diocese of Georgia.*) William P. Beers and John F. Lloyd were elected as the first wardens. William L. Brown was selected as the first vestryman.

*(It is commonly believed that the Reverend Scott came to Rome in 1843 to perform the first Episcopal service in Floyd County, the baptism of John Lloyd Beers, the infant son of Joanna and William P. Beers. His visits were infrequent for the first years of St. Peter’s. A few months later, on November 12, 1843, the Bishop of Georgia, Stephen Elliott, visited Rome and, in a private home service, he confirmed William P. Beers and administered the Holy Communion for the first time in Rome.)*

In January of 1845, the Parish was incorporated as “*The Church Wardens and Vestry of St. Peter’s Church, Rome*” by the Superior Court of Floyd County. A deed to the lot at the corner of Bridge Street (Fifth Avenue today) and Court or Church Street (now East First Street) was given to the parish by the court. The first church building was not erected on this property until 1849.

In the summer of 1845, The Reverend Owen Thackara, Deacon, was appointed by the Georgia Diocese as missionary to both Floyd and Cass (now Bartow) counties. Reverend Thackara resided in Cass and was only an occasional visitor to Rome. No official act of Reverend Thackara is recorded in the Parish Register. Services must have been conducted by lay readers and the Reverend Scott on his visitations from the Marietta Parish. Mr. Beers apparently served as Senior Warden from 1844 to 1849.



In 1846, William L. Brown, the first vestryman, became Junior Warden upon the death of Mr. John F. Lloyd. William Atkins and Dr. George Coleman became Vestrymen. Deacon Owen Thackara resigned in 1847 due to ill health and The Reverend Thompson L. Smith was appointed to succeed him on January 1, 1848. He remained in charge of the mission for nine months.

Holy Communion was administered to the Episcopalians in Rome in the Methodist Church on July 9, 1848, by Bishop Stephen Elliott and the Reverend Thomas Scott of Marietta. William Douglas Coleman, the infant son of Dr. and Mrs. George Coleman, was baptized, and Mrs. Coleman was confirmed. Plans were made to build a church on the lot deeded to the church, during Bishop Elliott's July visit. Bishop Elliott later reported to the annual convention of the Georgia Diocese that in Rome *"a plan was adopted for the church edifice which has been progressing as rapidly as the collection of funds would permit."* Vestrymen serving were William Davidson, Dr. George Coleman, and Mr. William Atkins, while Mr. Beers and Mr. Brown continued to serve as wardens. Reverend Scott was called as rector of Emmanuel Church in Athens. *Consequently, St. Peter's was left without a priest.*

### ***The Rectorship of James D. Gibson (1849-55)***

The first rector to serve St. Peter's was James D. Gibson, a new deacon in the Diocese of Georgia. He accepted his first appointment as St. Peter's Rector in May and moved to Rome in June, 1849. Mr. Gibson was married, but his wife is only identified in church records as Mrs. Gibson.

Mr. Beers and Mr. Brown continued to serve as Wardens. For many years, the Episcopal Church held their annual meetings on the Monday following Easter. Vestrymen elected on Easter Monday were Mr. Davidson, Dr. Coleman, Mr. Atkins and Mr. Douglas.

The small congregation of St. Peter's finally erected the first wooden church structure on the hillside near the brick Floyd County Courthouse. At the end of 1849, Reverend Gibson wrote: *"I am happy in being able to report the completion of St. Peter's Church. It is a neat, plain building and cost, including painting, fences, etc., about \$1,400.00, all of which I hope to be able to meet immediately."*

The Parish Registry lists the services conducted by Mr. Gibson as two adult baptisms on March 18, one burial on July 10, eight baptisms of children on September 23, two children on October 22, three marriages, one of which was Robert Battey and Martha B. Smith on December 20. Because Mr. Gibson was not yet ordained, he could not administer communion. Consequently, Holy Communion was administered by the Reverend Thomas Scott, with Deacon Gibson assisting.

By 1850, the population of Rome had reached about 3,000. Businesses were flourishing, there were banks and even a newspaper. Steamboats moved in and out of Rome. The Rome railroad was linked by the main lines to Chattanooga and Atlanta. Doctors, lawyers and dentists moved to the county seat and a volunteer fire department was organized. James P. Perkins, an Episcopalian, was elected the second mayor of Rome.

St. Peter's was growing. Mr. Gibson wrote, "We hope to have St. Peter's consecrated to the worship of the Lord at the next Episcopal visitation. Through the liberality of the friends of the church of "Apostolic orders" our debt is nearly paid off; we have also received a great communion service from Grace Church, Charleston, South Carolina, a Baptism Font from a lady in Augusta, Georgia, besides a handsome Bible presented by the lady of our former missionary."

On Easter Monday, James P. Perkins was elected senior warden and Robert Battey junior warden. William W. Gibbs, Daniel Printup, George B. Douglas, R. T. Farrar and Andrew M. Laub were elected as Vestrymen. *(Mr. Laub resigned after the minister asked him not to participate in collecting the offering and presenting the plate to the rector "at a time when he was living in open sin.")*

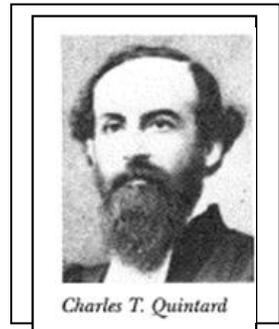
The final consecration of St. Peter's first church building was held in the summer of 1850 by Bishop Elliott. He later wrote, *"This is a very neat building, beautifully located upon one of the hills which overlook the town and accommodates about three hundred persons. It is entirely finished and furnished, with a neat fence enclosing the church."*

Mr. Gibson proudly recorded in St. Peter's Parish Register, *"This church was consecrated to the worship and service of Almighty God on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord 1850, and on the following day its Rector, the Reverend J. D. Gibson, was admitted to the holy order of Priests."*

The Parish Register in 1850 reveals that St. Peter's was growing and flourishing – two adults and fourteen children (four of whom were slave children) were baptized, five adults confirmed, three couples were married, and two burials were conducted. Isaac M. Wilson was listed as senior warden and James P. Perkins was listed as junior warden. Seven men were listed as vestrymen. Although records were lost in a fire in 1860, it is assumed that James Perkins became senior warden on the departure of Isaac Wilson in 1852. Entries recording the baptism of slaves held by parishioners appear in the records of 1853. Mr. Pavey and his wife, Julia (slaves) were confirmed on August 10.

Reverend Gibson departed St. Peter's in 1854 for a calling in Savannah. During his stay, he baptized 81, confirmed 24, added 34 communicants and conducted 18 burials. There were 31 active communicants at St. Peter's. After the resignation of Reverend Gibson, St. Peter's was without a rector for almost two years. During this interval the number of communicants diminished by one-third.

In the summer of 1855, Charles Todd Quintard, Deacon of the Diocese of Tennessee, visited Rome and held services five or six times at St. Peter's, performed several baptisms and conducted a funeral. Mr. Quintard continued to visit Rome for the next ten years.



On March 5, 1856, the senior warden, acting by authority of the vestry and congregation, called the Reverend William H. Clarke to become Rector of St. Peter's. He was promised a salary of at least \$300.00 annually. Mr. Clarke accepted the invitation and officiated at St. Peter's on the following Good Friday and Easter Day. At the parish meeting held on Easter Monday, Stephen M. Wilson and Tandy S. Wood were elected wardens. Lewis G. Burwell, James Noble, John W. Noble, Keating S. Simmons, Augustine P. Neeld, and John A. Evans were elected Vestrymen.

Mrs. Clarke arrived the following summer. The Ladies of St. Peter's raised \$130 to paint the church building. In 1857, The Reverend Clark, at the urging of Bishop Elliott, encouraged the congregation and raised \$365.25, plus a gift of \$444.00 from friends of the rector, to secure a parsonage for the Parish.

On April 22, 1858, Bishop Elliott confirmed another 10 persons – two persons being servants. In 1859, he returned to Rome and confirmed another 10 persons.

By 1860, the parsonage debt was completely paid off. The entire project cost about \$1,850. St. James, Marietta, generously gave St. Peter's an organ previously used by their congregation.

Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States. Secession from the Union was openly discussed. Within the year, Rome and St. Peter's will turn its energies toward war and the ensuing economic depression to follow.

*(The Anniversary Celebration of the History of St. Peter's will continue in the April Letters to the Romans with St. Peter's history through the years 1861 to 1881)*



**Chair YOGA**  
Tuesdays at 11:00am in Daniel Hall



## CENTERING PRAYER

Wednesdays at 3:30 pm  
Rhodes Wyatt Room

No meeting: on April 17<sup>th</sup> May 15<sup>th</sup>

Contact Jane Cunningham for more  
information – [missjane1@mac.com](mailto:missjane1@mac.com)

**BIBLE STUDY MEETS WEEKLY ON THURSDAY**  
**10:00 AM IN RHODES WYATT ROOM**

*Studying the Book of ACTS*



Do you need pictures taken of your groups event to be used for archiving, newsletter, etc? Events like Easter egg hunt, Youth Sunday, Ministry Fair. Please contact Curt Yarbrough PRIOR to the event to schedule his time, 706.506.9078 or [chy813@hotmail.com](mailto:chy813@hotmail.com).

# ADULT FORMATION FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

## MARCH 3

ASK YOUR VESTRY — A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION FROM ST. PETER'S VESTRY

## MARCH 10

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE — IN ANTICIPATION OF ST. PETER'S 175<sup>TH</sup> B-DAY, A FUN TRIO OF CISSY ROGERS, BARBARA BRILEY & ANNE CULPEPPER WILL TAKE US ON A TRIP THROUGHOUT THE YEARS OF THEIR LIVES AT ST. PETER'S.

## MARCH 17

EFM: WHAT IT CAN MEAN FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE. CYNTHIA MURPHY BURNES WILL SHARE HE EXPERIENCES OF THE EFM COURSE. EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EFM) IS A 4-YR. COURSE PREPARED BY SEWANEE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY DESIGNED TO HELP LAY PEOPLE DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR FAITH AND TO DISCERN HOW GOD IS ACTIVE IN THEIR LIVES.

## MARCH 24:

HAPPY 175<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY ST. PETER'S

## MARCH 31:

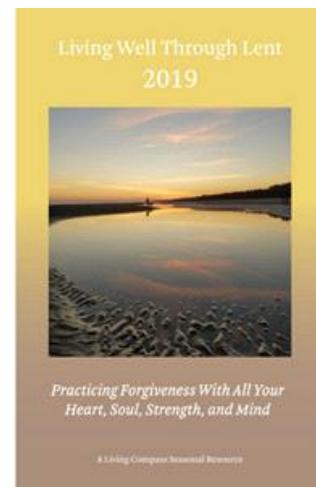
SUSAN HARVEY — FOLLOW THE GLEAM....

## LIVING COMPASS



## LIVING WELL THROUGH LENT

LIVING COMPASS WILL OFFER STUDY GROUPS STARTING MONDAY, MARCH 11 AT 1:00 PM AT 401 EAST 4<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE AND WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13 AT 6:00 PM IN THE RHODES WYATT ROOM.



THE MONDAY GROUP WILL BE LED BY D'ANN DOWNEY AND THE WEDNESDAY GROUP WILL BE LED BY BETH NOVIAN HUGHES. WE WILL MEET EACH WEEK UNTIL EASTER. THE TITLE OF THE SERIES THIS YEAR IN, "PRACTICING FORGIVENESS WITH ALL YOUR HEART, SOUL, STRENGTH AND MIND. THIS PROMISES TO BE A MEANINGFUL STUDY. PLEASE JOIN US.

# ReCharge & Rejoice Wednesdays

\* Celtic Service 5:30 pm

\* Dinner Service begins at 5:45 pm

March 6: Chicken Tortilla soup, sourdough cheese toast, salad w/taco ranch dressing, strawberry Yum Yum dessert.

March 13: Speak Cheesy Gourmet Grilled Cheese Sandwiches

March 20: Lasagna, salad, garlic bread, pound cake.

March 27: Backyard BBQ/grilled burgers & dogs, macaroni salad, bake beans, chips, cookies, vegetarians grilled portabella mushrooms.

Jr. Choir 6:15-7 pm

EYC Activities Schedule 6:30-8 pm



## LENT: A Time for Transformation

### We enter the season of Lent on March 5.

*This year, I ask you to consider how it can be a time of transformation for your family. You will see this year's theme of butterflies pop up in various ways as butterflies represent the ultimate expression of transformation. Please be sure to check the Children's Ministries bulletin board for more details and save these dates as we transform together on the way to Easter.*

**March 4: SHROVE TUESDAY!** Join the fun, all you can eat pancakes, pancakes relays, and burying the alleluia! Dinner begins at 6pm.

**March 5: ASH WEDNESDAY.** Junior Choir will NOT meet so that families can attend Ash Wednesday service Together at 6:30pm.

**March 31: Our Lenten Pretzel event is back!** Come learn the significance of PRETZELS and LENT with John and Tracy Schroeder.

**April 21: EASTER!** It wouldn't be complete without the Easter Egg Hunt and the flowering of the crosses!

**\*\*\* MITE Boxes** will be distributed during LENT as a way to transform your giving. They will be collected on Easter morning before the 10:00 am service.



# LENT & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT ST. PETER'S ON MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup> AT 8:00 AM, NOON, 6:30 PM & IN SPANISH AT 7:30PM.

EVENING PRAYER ON THURSDAYS, MARCH 7-APRIL 11 AT 5:30 PM.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON TUESDAYS, MARCH 12-APRIL 9 AT 5:30

COMMUNITY HOLY WEEK SERVICES WITH LUNCH HOSTED BY THE 2<sup>ND</sup> AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH ON MONDAY, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15 THROUGH APRIL 17 AT NOON.

MAUNDY THURSDAY ON APRIL 17 AT 7:00 PM.

GOOD FRIDAY ON APRIL 19 AT NOON.

EASTER VIGIL ON APRIL 20 AT 9:00 PM. RECEPTION TO FOLLOW IN DANIEL HALL.

EASTER DAY SERVICES AT 9:00 AM AND 11:15 AM.  
HOT CROSS BUNS SERVED IN DANIEL HALL BETWEEN SERVICES.  
EASTER EGG HUNT.

(OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY, APRIL 22)



JOY Trip  
Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>  
**Singin' in the Rain**

\$73 includes admission, transportation, driver gratuity  
Depart St. Peter's at 12 noon, performance at 2pm

Reservations and money required by Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup>.  
Mail or drop your check by the church office. On memo line write JOY.

ONLY 13 seats remaining.

First come first served for St. Peter's members OR guest.

Your MONEY will reserve your seat,  
a verbal reservation will NOT hold your reservation.

Box lunches will be available at 11am on the 28<sup>th</sup> for an additional \$12.





**Sundays at 7:00 pm C3: Coffee, Conversation & Compline at Berry Krannert Center, Room 105.**

**Mondays at 5:30 pm: Canterbury Dinner followed at 6:30 by Evening Prayer.**

## Canterbury Fundraising for Mission Trip

**March 5<sup>th</sup>: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**  
Proceeds will benefit our mission trip this year.  
**Celebrate Mardi Gras with your St. Peter's Family.**  
**6pm**

*Laissez les bon temps rouler!*

**Ash Wednesday Service on Berry College Campus, 3/6/2019.**  
**Service at noon with Rev. Janice Bracken Wright.**  
**Ashes to Go will follow.**

**Saturday, March 9 – 14: Mission Trip to New Orleans.**

**Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>: Group lunch following church.**

**Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>: Group lunch following church.**

**Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>: CANTERBURY SUNDAY.**

**SHROVE TUESDAY**

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR COMPASSIONATE PAWS, INC.

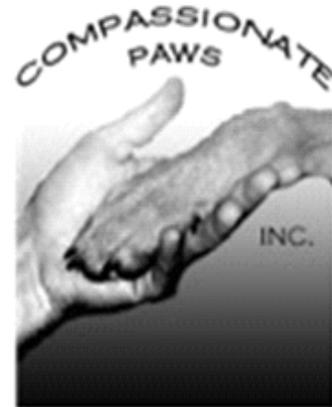
To become a Pet Partner, the person needs to take an online handler's course ([www.petpartners.org](http://www.petpartners.org)) and the dog needs to take an obedience class plus have the proper temperament. We also have cats, mini-horses, llamas and even rats as Pet Partners.

**MEDICAL Facilities:** We volunteer in hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and healthcare facilities. You would be amazed at the positive impact our Pet Partners have on the elderly; a couple of elders had not spoken in years, but spoke for the first time in the presence of two of our dogs. Patients have been released from ICU after they have a Pet Partner visit and respond favorably.

**SCHOOLS & The COMMUNITY:** Teams go into schools through *The Read with Me* program to assist with literacy problems. Pet Partner teams go to local colleges in the surrounding area and de-stress students during final exam time. Pet Partners attend Trunk or Treat events sponsored by Berry College, military events, grandparent events and much more.

It takes many volunteers, time and energy to cover it all. We need MORE TEAMS to cover all areas where we have a positive influence. You choose the amount of time you are able to commit. If you do not have an appropriate animal to be a Pet Partner, YOU can be a Pet Partner with someone else's animal with their permission.

For further information on becoming a Pet Partner.....  
visit our website [www.romepaws.org](http://www.romepaws.org) or call Jan Greene 706 766-7727



D'Ann Downey



## MISSION & OUTREACH for MARCH



Support Episcopal Relief & Development during the Lenten Season. Write a check to St. Peter's and on the memo line write ERD or use the mite boxes that will be distributed later. Give on line at [www.episcopalrelief.org](http://www.episcopalrelief.org)

# S. O. A. P.

## Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution



**5.5 million.** That is how many children are involved in human trafficking each year. **24.9 million.** That is the number of people being trafficked into forced labor. **4.8 million** are being forced into sexual exploitation and a shocking **7,200** men purchase sex from a minor every month in the state of Georgia alone. Currently, Atlanta has the largest underground commercial sex economy out of 14 urban cities.

On the weekend of January 26 and 27, S.O.A.P. (Save Our Adolescents from Prostitution) held a large-scale outreach mission in Atlanta. Over 200 volunteers assembled at All Saint's Episcopal Church on Saturday and at Ahavath Achim Synagogue on Sunday to label small bars of hotel soap with the national human trafficking hotline phone number and distribute these soaps to over 400 Atlanta hotels in the vicinity of the Mercedes Benz Stadium before the Super Bowl Game. This outreach mission aided in the arrest of 40 men with human trafficking charges and the recovery of four female victims, with the possibility of more.

My husband, Sammy, my sister, Sara, and I were blessed to represent St. Peter's by being a part of this outreach as we joined hundreds of others eager to serve and support this cause in any way we could. We arrived at All Saint's Episcopal Church at 9:00 that morning and were some of the first few to arrive. After a quick registration, we were shown into a large room with many tables prepared with boxes of soap,

stacks of labels, and plastic bags adorned with the S.O.A.P. logo, a heart with wings. We took our places at a table and watched as the room quickly filled beyond capacity. Then we were ready to begin.

After a brief round of instructions and a serious reminder of the significance of the outreach, we all began to label our soap. Each table was told how many bars of soap to include in a bag (ours was 300) and how many bags to fill per table (our table needed 5). This task was easy enough – stick a red label to the back of each bar of soap. This allowed the front of the soap package, which was printed as any other bar of regular hotel soap, to remain visible while the real message was inconspicuously “hidden” on the bottom.

The mood in the room was energetic and even jubilant as we all worked diligently. We cheerfully chatted with the other volunteers at our table as we worked and meet some interesting people. The room was abuzz with fervent, yet extremely well-organized, activity and after about an hour and a half we had piles and piles of bags of soap, each one numbered with how many hundreds of bars of soap was inside.

Now it was time for some education on the topic of human trafficking. This was when the atmosphere became strikingly somber as we were schooled on some disheartening and horrifyingly morbid facts and statistics. The room became absolutely hushed as our speaker introduced herself, shared her history, and revealed the roots behind S.O.A.P.

Theresa Flores, a survivor, campaigner against sex trafficking, and the creator of S.O.A.P., took the stage to tutor us on the facts of human trafficking and to enlighten us about S.O.A.P., which has been in existence since 2010.



She made us aware of several appalling statistics such as:

- Human trafficking is the leading crime in the world – including the U.S.
- An estimated 1.3 million children go missing in the U.S., many of them runaways, and 33,000 remain missing at any given time.
- If a missing or homeless child is not recovered within the first 48 hours, there is a 1 in 3 chance they will be trafficked or solicited for sex.
- The majority of trafficking occurs in hotels and motels.
- Although there is always a demand for sex, sporting events, conventions, and other large events that draw extensive crowds of people, particularly men, increase the demand for sex for sale.
- Human trafficking earns profits of roughly \$150 billion a year for traffickers, according to a report from 2014.

- No matter the size of the biggest city or the tiniest community, if there is a drug trafficking problem at all then there is a human trafficking problem there, no matter how hidden.
- 12-14 is the average of entry into child prostitution in the U.S.

There are several other even more graphic and dreadful statistics that were shared with us, but the above may illustrate a gruesome enough reality for this article. The point is undeniably clear: Human trafficking is a huge problem with an unfathomable amount of victims that need rescue, and sometimes the best way to receive that help, or possibly the only way, would be from a phone number on a seemingly ordinary bar of soap found in a motel bathroom, the one and only moment they may have just a few minutes of privacy and a chance at freedom. After Ms. Flores' presentation, we were able to take a lunch break to refuel for the second half of the mission, to deliver the soap to the hotels. We would break down into groups of 3 or 4 and we would each take or share certain roles of driver, navigator, hotel staff educator, "detective", and scribe. The driver would obviously focus on driving the vehicle while the navigator would GPS and give directions to each 82% of the girls are tricked or blackmailed by traffickers, 35% are victims of family or friends, location. The hotel staff educator would take any opportunity available during the visit to help educate any hotel staff that we may meet about how to recognize the nonobvious signs of human trafficking and what to do if they do witness this. The "detective" would remain observant to our surroundings for any signs of activity and the scribe would take notes to turn in when we returned to All Saints. We were informed that we could very well witness this activity during our trips to the hotels, since we were now trained on what to look for, and we were advised to either call the police or the S.O.A.P. number if we felt like there was somebody in danger. The whole thing was now becoming very real.

Each group was given a list of hotels to visit. The entire itinerary was extraordinarily well mapped out. Next to each hotel on the list was the number of bars designated for each specific business depending on the size of the hotel and number of rooms. After we received our hotel list, we shifted to another line who gave us the appropriate number of bags of soap for our mission. We were also given folders of literature and information for each hotel. The folders contained brochures for front desk staff, brochures for housekeeping staff, other articles of information, a mouse pad with the national human trafficking hotline phone number on it, a poster with the faces and names of several girls that have gone missing in the area, and other helpful items. Having received all of our "tools", each group then dispersed to carry out our missions.

We had a total of 5 hotels and a Waffle House on our list, which was strategically planned out so that our route would take us out into a little loop that delivered us right back to All Saints Episcopal. Every single hotel desk clerk listened to us with their undivided attention and nobody refused taking the soap and other materials. Every single desk clerk answered "yes" when we asked them if they would like a phone call from S.O.A.P with more information. The solemn expressions on the clerks' faces let us know that they were very aware of this problem and they have probably seen signs of human trafficking at their hotel. One clerk even seemed to become teary eyed as we spoke with her and explained our mission and why we were there. Our last stop was a Waffle House where the staff agreed to hang one of our posters of missing girls on their bulletin board in the entry. After about 2 hours, we had completed our mission and returned to All Saints to turn in our route sheet along with the notes we had made about any suspicious activity we had seen and, yes, we DID see some.

S.O.A.P has a global outreach of 960 million people worldwide. As I have described, they educate and encourage people to report abuse, exploitation, and human trafficking. For example: reports increased by 300% at the Super Bowl LII in Minnesota and by 7% at the Winter Games in South Korea. S.O.A.P. has helped facilitate the protection of 16,795 victims of exploitation. S.O.A.P. has been heralded by the London Metropolitan Police as “one of the best crime prevention campaigns we have ever seen.” In 2018, S.O.A.P.’s campaign film was shown in flight on international airlines, reaching over 52.1 million passengers. Theresa Flores has published several books and a movie is now in the works regarding her life and her mission.

Sammy, Sara, and I were honored to have represented St. Peter’s by participating in this essential outreach project. As I mentioned at the beginning of this article, to date, 40 Atlanta men have been arrested on human trafficking charges and at least 4 girls have been recovered, starting on the very day after the S.O.A.P. Up



Atlanta event took place. There are many ways to help contribute to S.O.A.P. and if you would like more information about the outreach and how to help, please visit their website at <https://www.soaproject.org/>.

-Christopher Edgeworth

## PARISH NEWS

Congratulations of the Parish extended to Anne Kerr on the birth of her granddaughter, Francesca Elizabeth, and to proud uncle Chris Kerr.

Congratulations of the Parish extended to Nancy Knight as a recipient of Heart of The Community Award.

Sympathy of the Parish is extended to Mary Patton on the death of her brother, Michael John Foster, 1/24/2019.

Sympathy of the Parish is extended to Suzanne Protz on the death of her father, Gardner Wright, 1/27/2019.

Sympathy of the Parish is extended to Lulie Chin on the death of her father, Kenneth Ebaugh, 1/28/2019.

Sympathy of the Parish is extended to Barbara Briley and Ed Hine on the death of Albert Cecil Briley, Jr., 2/1/2019.

Sympathy of the Parish is extended to Burns and Crawford families on the Death of Bess Crawford, 2/10/2019.

### VESTRY PERSON OF THE MONTH:

**MARCH: Jeanne Sparks, 706 346-8451.**

**APRIL: Charlie Hardaker 706 237-6062**



# CAMP MIKELL

## SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE 2019

**Mini Camp:** May 17-19, Rising 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grader- For camper and parent/guardian

**Youth Camp:** May 26-June 1, Rising 10<sup>th</sup> Graders-Just Graduated

**Performing Arts Camp:** June 2-June 8, Rising 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Graders

**Intermediate Camp:** June 16-June 22, Rising 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Graders

**Junior Camp:** June 23-June 29, Rising 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Graders

**Kid Camp:** July 7-July 12, Rising 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders (NOTE: KID CAMP ENDS ON FRIDAY)

**Work Camp:** July 15-July 20, Rising 10<sup>th</sup> Graders-Just Graduated

**Emmaus House:** July 22-July 26, Emmaus House Summer Program

**Guest Camp:** August 30- September 2, Children, Adults, and Families of all Ages  
(Contact Amanda, 706-886-7515 or [amanda@campmikell.com](mailto:amanda@campmikell.com) for more information)

## OUTDOOR CAMPS

**Outdoor Youth:** May 26-June 1, Rising 10<sup>th</sup> Graders-Just Graduated

**Outdoor Junior/Intermediate:** June 2-June 8, Rising 6<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> Graders

## **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES**

### **ALTAR GUILD:**

**March:** Lynne Hicks, Melissa Keefe, Elaine Smith, Paula Dickinson, Kathy O'Mara, Nell Hamrick and Gayle Keith.

**April:** Nancy Hunter, Laura Frederick, Andye Moss, Peggy Nash, Nell Warren, Sue Mann, Lynnette Bonner, Virginia Hunter and Babo Segars.

**BREAKFAST CREW:**

**March 3:** Bryan Johnson, David Harvey, John Schroeder, Tracy Schroeder, Meredith Cole and Harold Lawrence.

**March 10:** Allien McNair, Clem Trammell, Bill Schoepski, Bill Byington, Craig Wilson and Bob Kane.

**March 17:** Doug Lansing, Russ Jennings, Jack Knight, Sasa Vance, Sam Lucas and Guy Hunter.

**March 24:** Ann Pullen, Jeanne Cahill, Chris Edgeworth, Sammy Edgeworth, Susan Geddes and Pam Troxel.

**March 31:** Jack Niedrach, Gayle Keith, Billy Sparks and Jimmy Smith.

**GREETER:**

**March:** Bob Evans, Mary Yarbrough, Curt Yarbrough, Stephen Patton, Allien McNair and Hugh Bonner.

**April:** Mary Kirkland, Doug Lansing, Laura Davis, Lloyd Griffin, Beverly Schrum and Jeanne Sparks.

**LOAVES AND FISHES:**

**March:** Peggy Nash, Nancy Hunter, Babo Segars, Keri Herring, Lynette Bonner, Sylvia Hine, Erika Wilson, Karen Hellriegel and Mary McGuffey.

**April:** Amanda Kinder, Leigh Patterson, Virginia Hunter, Anne Kerr, Linda Voccio, Mary Patton, Mary Sib Banks, Mollie Avery, Linda Jennings and Nell Hamrick.

**USHERS:**

**March:** Clem Trammell, Nat Massey, Len Woodward and Clyde Knowles.

**April:** Nat Massey, Jim Noon, Tom Dasher and Stephen Smith.

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

The deadline for submissions to the APRIL Issue is by March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**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.

# MARCH Calendar 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:30 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Breakfast 9am Kids SS 10:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Children's Chapel 11:20 Adult SS 1:00 Eucharist in Spanish		12:15 Healing Service	9:00 Staff Mtg 3:30 Centering Prayer 5:30 Celtic Service 5:30 Recharge & Rejoice Activities	Bible Study 10:00	1 Church Office Closes at noon	
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6pm</b>	<b>6</b> <b>ASH Wednesday</b> 8am, noon, 6:30 pm @ St. Peters. 7:30pm in Spanish Berry College Noon No EYC or Jr. Choir	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	
<b>31</b> <b>Lenten Pretzel Event</b>						

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