

#### FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK

"...you are dust, and to dust you shall return (Gen. 3:19)."

These words, which we hear on Ash Wednesday (on February 14 this year) as the Celebrant makes the sign of the Cross on our foreheads, are the graveyard's gate through which we enter the season of Lent. They are what God says to Adam as His description of the fatal, final consequence of the Fall. It is His reminder to Adam of his essential humility—from the Latin humus, meaning "soil," "dirt," or "dust."

We walk through the forty days between then and Easter (not including Sundays) as an exploration of our mortality: the fact that one day we will die. Without acknowledging this reality, we miss the meaning and power of our Lord's promise of Resurrection. As we say in the Nicene Creed, "we look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come." On the Last Day, as St. Paul tells the church in Philippi, "He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of His glory (Phil. 3:21)."

One helpful Lenten practice can be to review (or prepare) our plans for what we want to happen with our temporal goods when we die. <sup>1</sup> While we usually think of these things as our savings, investments, and property, nothing is more temporal than our bodies. Therefore, Lent can be a good time to review (or prepare) our plans for our funeral.

### THIS ISSUE

FROM THE RECTOR'S DESK
PAGES 1-3

ANNOUNCEMENTS
PAGES 4-7

VESTRY UPDATES
PAGES 8-9

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS
PAGE 10

CALENDAR AND LAY SCHEDULE
PAGE 11

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One word before we start: when we do pass, it is important that whoever is authorized to execute our wishes confer not only with our family and the funeral home but also with the church—in fact, one of the first calls to be made is to the church for so that we can offer our pastoral care for those who mourn and our assistance with the preparations.

There are two forms for The Burial of the Dead: Rite One begins on page 468 and Rite Two begins on page 490. There is also an order for a graveside service (p. 484 and p. 501) which may be performed after the church service or by itself at the graveyard or cemetery.

Here are the things we need to decide:

- Do we want only the Burial Office to be performed? Or, in addition to the Burial Office, do we want the Holy Eucharist to be offered? Some do, some do not. Each is beautiful and dignified.
- Will our body be buried in a casket or cremated and placed in an urn for burial?
- Which readings do we want at the service? The Book of Common Prayer requires at least one reading and that one reading must come from one of the Gospels.
- Which hymns, if any, do we want sung? Usually, when the service is simply the Burial Office, there can be three hymns. When the Eucharist is included, there can be up to five or more.<sup>3</sup>
- Do we want a homily from the Rector or, with his permission, other clergy? Some do, some do not.
- Do we want a Eulogy? That is, do we want a family member or friend to say a few nice words about us? <sup>4</sup>
- As the worship leaders and family process out of the church at the end of the service, our custom is to ring the bells in the steeple: bells are rung either for each year of the departed's life or for each year of our Lord's earthly life: thirty-three.

There are a few other things that are good to know:

- There are no fees for a burial. We do ask that the family give an honorarium directly to the Organist and to our Sexton. Some families give honoraria to the clergy who lead the service, some do not. Neither is expected or necessary.
- One of the generous ministries of our chapter of the Daughters of the King is to host a visitation before the service.
- It is best to coordinate Altar flowers directly with our Flower Guild. Other gifts of flowers are placed in view at the Visitation, not in the church itself.
- Those who desire to be buried at St. John's, Ashwood should contact the member of the St. John's Board responsible for the selection of plots. Our office can help contact that person.



Our decision to make these arrangements can, oddly, give us a sense of peace about our mortality and the transitory nature of this life. It will certainly remove what would otherwise be burdensome for our family and loved ones. Some of our members have gone so far as to give us a file that contains their directions. If you have any questions, please call our office and we would be happy to help.

O God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered: Make us, we beseech thee, deeply sensible of the shortness and uncertainty of life; and let thy Holy Spirit lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days; that, when we shall have served thee in our generation, we may be gathered unto our fathers, having the testimony of a good conscience; in the communion of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; in the confidence of a certain faith; in the comfort of a reasonable, religious, and holy hope; in favor with thee our God; and in perfect charity with the world. All which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

-The Book of Common Prayer, p. 489

<sup>1</sup> Note the mandate to the clergy from the Book of Common Prayer: "The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in good health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses (BCP p. 445)."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Suggestions for Gospel readings are found on p. 480 for Rite I on p. 495 for Rite II. Other readings, from the Old Testament (p. 470 and p. 494) and New Testament (p. 475 and p. 495) writings may be added. The rubrics also say that, the Old Testament and New Testament readings, "a suitable psalm, hymn, or canticle may follow," with suggestions for Psalms on pp. 471-475 and pp. 476-479 (Rite I) p. 494 and p. 495 (Rite II).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> It should be noted that all decisions regarding music of any kind must be approved by both the Organist and the Rector. With only a very few exceptions, music is to be performed by the Organist and/or Choir.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Remarks should be from a written text of no more than 1,500 words. Whenever there is a eulogy, a homily will always follow.



#### **Diocesan Convention - Rescheduled**

The 192nd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Tennessee has been rescheduled to **Saturday**, **February 10th**. If you are slated to attend the Convention, please visit their website at <a href="https://edtn.org/home/convention/">https://edtn.org/home/convention/</a> for the latest information.

### Ash Wednesday Services

On Wednesday, February 14th, St. Peter's will celebrate Ash Wednesday services. Services of the Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes are scheduled for 6:45am, noon, and 7:00pm. All three services will take place in the Sanctuary.

### Visit from Bishop Bauerschmidt

Bishop John Bauerschmidt will join us on Sunday, February 4th. He will be conducting the office of Confirmation at the 10:15am service. We'll also have a reception after the service to honor the Bishop and the confirmands. Additionally, it is customary for the loose plate offerings and undesignated checks on that day be given to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.

# Men's Fellowship

The Men's Fellowship meets Thursday, February 1st, in the Parish Hall at 5:00 PM. Our meal will be blessed at 6:00 PM. Join us for great food and fellowship. All men are welcome. Bring your appetite!



### **Membership Classes**

St. Peter's Membership 201 class will be held February 20th at 6pm in the lounge led by the Rev. Chris Bowhay. Attending this two-part class is the first step to membership in our St. Peter's family. The first is the Newcomer Class (St. Peter's 101) that introduces its participants to our Rector, St. Peter's, and the Episcopal Church. The second is the Membership Class (St. Peter's 201) that explores the life of St. Peter's parish and how we can find ways to serve God's Kingdom in our parish.

**Upcoming Membership 201 Class:** 

February 20th at 6:00pm In the Lounge, adjacent to our office Light refreshments will be provided

Reservations are required by February 15th to attend the Membership class. Requests for childcare must be made with the reservation. Please make your reservation by emailing <a href="mailto:communitylife@saintpeterscolumbia.org">communitylife@saintpeterscolumbia.org</a>.



## Lent 2024 Services and Programs: Lenten Liturgies

As we enter this most penitential season of Lent, St. Peter's invites you to a midweek liturgy, supper, and program centered on liturgies outside of the Holy Eucharist. Our Choir Director and Organist, Dr. Peter Douglas, will help us experience powerful liturgy and learn about the musical elements of these liturgies. Fr. Chris will lead us in the final week of the Lenten Liturgies exploring the Daily Office.

#### February 21 - Evensong

Program: "Taizé: Meditative Songs and Silence"

February 28 - Taizé

Program: "History of Chant: A Look at Plainsong Compline Responses"

March 6 - Compline

Program: "The Stabat Mater and Trisagion: Stations of the Cross Responses"

**March 13 - Stations of the Cross** 

Program: "Tenebrae: Into the Shadows"

**March 20 - Evening Prayer (said)** 

Program: "The Daily Office"

## People's Table - Thank you!

I want to thank everyone who helped with the People's Table at First United Methodist church in January. I'm deeply grateful for those who provide, prepare and serve the food.

St. Peter's could not provide this valuable service to the community without all the volunteers each week. I'm also grateful for the financial assistance to purchase the food. The food is only provided by the donations of the parishioners of St. Peter's to the People's Table account. Donations are always welcome, please just designate "People's Table".

The next time St. Peter's serves will be the first four Fridays in May 2024. Thank you, Joann Belcher

## **Provide Support For The Family Center**





### **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!**

Mark your calendars for our Shrove Tuesday celebration on February 13! Dinner and the evening's festivities begin at 6:00pm. Youth, please arrive at 5:00pm to set up. Parents, please let me know if you can volunteer to flip and serve pancakes!

I love the tradition of everyone grabbing what is in their pantry and getting rid of it before Lent begins. If you have a big box of cookies or Valentine's candy that has to go before Lent, bring it to our goodies table.

In addition to sponsoring church youth events, we want to make this a community event by raising money and donating to a local cause. We will vote and announce the winner on FAT TUESDAY! The choices are:

- Maury County Students in Transition
- The Family Center
- Crossroads Café

Between now and February 13, put aside a coin jar and whatever you collect through that date you can bring to our pancake dinner. We will also accept donations at the door as you arrive.

We will also have a pancake flipping contest for all ages. Winners will receive a prize! The entry fee for the contest is a donation of any amount from \$1.00 to \$100.00. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jane Rodriguez-Keeton at 931.619.1315.



### **Annual Parish Meeting Recap**

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Annual Parish Meeting this past Sunday afternoon. If you would like to review a copy of the information packet that we handed out, you can view the document at this link on the St. Peter's website.



# VESTRY FEBRUARY 2024

St. Peter's 2024 Vestry Members John Finney, Senior Warden Jennifer Ballard, Junior Warden Sarah Robert, Clerk Dave Glowacki Peggy Harmon Becky Clayborne Wilks Hallidav

Larry Trotter Lucia Vining Ken Vickers Kevin Benderman Ryan Fowler Mark Keeton Madeline McWhorter Chip Wallace

#### **Vestry Meeting Bullet Points from January 23, 2024**

- Approval of Fr. Bowhay's Housing Allowance
- Heard Treasurer's Report of strong end-of-year plate contributions which reduced our budgeted deficit of \$58,409 to \$17,158.35
- Approved Budget for 2024
- Discussed a wi-fi package to help our members with hearing loss hear the service. Estimated cost: \$5,000
- Discussed roof repair. Estimated cost: \$900





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Larry Trotter Lucia Vining Ken Vickers Kevin Benderman

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#### **Financial Summary for December 2023**

Below please find a very broad overview of St. Peter's financial activity in the month of December 2023. We will receive the January Financial Report at our Vestry meeting on the third Tuesday in February. This summary is drawn from our Treasurer's Report to the Vestry which is much more detailed. Those who would like to see it may find it in the hallway that leads to the Church Office where it is always posted.

This summary also compares our End of Year results with our 2023 Budget.

	December	Year to Date	2023 Budget
All Revenues	\$109,715.18	\$522,693.48	\$509,037.00
All Expenses	\$50,755.70	\$539,851.83	\$567,446.00
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$58,959.48	(17,158.35)	(\$58,409.00)

Thank you for your gifts to God through St. Peter's. If you have any questions about our finances, please contact either our Treasurer, Melanie Lucas-Evanko (<u>melanieevanko@gmail.com</u>) or our Senior Warden, John Finney (<u>finneyjohnsandy@bellsouth.net</u>), or me (<u>priest@saintpeterscolumbia.org</u>).

Our Lord said, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21)

If you have any other questions, please call St. Peter's or send an email to <u>office@saintpeterscolumbia.org</u>.

Chris Bowhay+







Bridget and Bill Fancher	2/1
Pam and Joey Phillips	2/14
Liz Cooley and Keith Click	2/25
Lucy and Gary Ledbetter	2/25
Connie Hardin and Kile Patrick	2/26
Susannah and Steven Weber	2/29

Jim Barrier	2/1	Mary Dale Fitzgerald	2/14
Kittye Kelley	2/1	Caroline Kelley	2/14
Pete Sloan	2/4	John Fitzgerald	2/16
Laura Fuller	2/4	Margaret Berry Kennedy	2/17
Sonny Scoggins	2/7	Lawrence Culbertson	2/19
Lili Finney	2/8	Thomas Webster	2/20
Madeline McWhorter	2/8	Jimmy Waters	2/20
Dave Glowacki	2/8	Carol Baker	2/20
Mark Brunner	2/9	Pete Morris	2/21
Tammy Walton	2/9	Barbara Dreher	2/22
Whit Whittington	2/9	Frances Tuck	2/22
Jacob Holmes	2/10	Ridley Kennedy	2/24
Eleanor Dyer	2/10	Thomas Hutto	2/24
Grayson Carini	2/10	Shelby Karp	2/24
Lynn June	2/11	John Brown	2/26
Joey Phillips	2/14	Michael Shockley	2/28
Victoria Janowicz	2/14	Douglas Joyce	2/28



# February 2024 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:30am-Women's Bible study 5:00pm-Men's Fellowship 6:30pm-Scouts 7:00pm-NA	2 6:00pm-Vestry Retreat	9:00am-Vestry Retreat 6:00pm-Jr. Cotillion 7:00pm-NA
4 Bishop's Visit  8:00am-Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15am-Sunday School 10:15am-Holy Eucharist Rite II	5 7:00pm-NA	6 5:15pm-Estes Committee 6:00pm-Outreach Committee 6:00pm-AA 7:00pm-NA	7 10:30am-Holy Eucharist & Healing Service 12:00pm-NA 5:30pm-Choir	8 10:30am-Women's Bible study 5:00pm-Buildings and Grounds Committee 7:00pm-NA	9	9:00am-Diocesan Convention 7:00pm-NA
11 8:00am-Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15am-Sunday School 10:15am-Holy Eucharist Rite II 12:15pm-Vestry F&G 2:00pm-Cadet & Teacher Meeting, 1861 School 2:00pm-Jr. Cotillion	1:30pm-Scouts 7:00pm-NA	13  11:30am-Lunch Bunch 3:00pm-Crossroads to Home 6:00pm-Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 6:00pm-AA 7:00pm-NA	14 6:45am-Ash Wednesday Service 11:00am-DOK 12:00pm-Ash Wednesday Service 12:00pm-NA 5:30pm-Choir 5:30pm-DOK 7:00pm-Ash Wednesday Service	15 10:30am-Women's Bible study 6:30pm-Scout Pack Meeting 7:00pm-NA	16	17 7:00pm-NA
8:00am-Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15am-Sunday School 10:15am-Holy Eucharist Rite II 12:15pm-Vestry Exec Comm.	7:00pm-NA	20 6:00pm-Membership 201 Class 6:00pm-AA 7:00pm-NA	21 10:30am-Holy Eucharist & Healing Service 12:00pm-NA 5:00pm-Choir 6:00pm-Lenten Supper	22 10:30am-Women's Bible study 7:00pm-NA	23	24 7:00pm-NA
8:00am-Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15am-Sunday School 10:15am-Holy Eucharist Rite II	26 7:00pm-NA	6:00pm-Vestry Meeting 6:00pm-AA 7:00pm-NA	28 10:30am-Holy Eucharist & Healing Service 12:00pm-NA 5:00pm-Choir 6:00pm-Lenten Supper	10:30am-Women's Bible study 7:00pm-NA		

February 2024 Lay Schedule Rotunda Ministry Scheduler



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# St. Peter's Episcopal Church

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