



**St. Peter's**  
Episcopal Church  
Conway, Arkansas

## **The Labyrinth Walk** **Thursday, December 22, 2016**

### **Christmas Schedule at St. Peter's**

December 24, 2016  
Christmas Eve Family Service and Pageant  
5:00pm

December 24, 2016  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
8:00pm

December 25, 2016  
Christmas Sunday Service (only one service)  
9:00am

December 26 - December 30, 2016  
Parish Office Closed, but phone messages and mail will be checked daily

January 1, 2017  
Regular Sunday Schedule  
Dr. Linda Brown, preaching

## **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **Morning Prayer**

Join us every Tuesday and Thursday for Morning Prayer at 7 am in the Side Chapel,  
led by The Brotherhood of Saint Andrew.

### **Afternoon Bible Study**

Monday Noon Bible Study had changed its name and meeting time to Afternoon Bible Study and will meet Monday's at  
12:15 pm in the Library.

## #AdventWord 2016

Once again St. Peter's has decided to invite everyone to participate in an Advent program called AdventWord, the Anglican Communion's Global Advent Calendar!

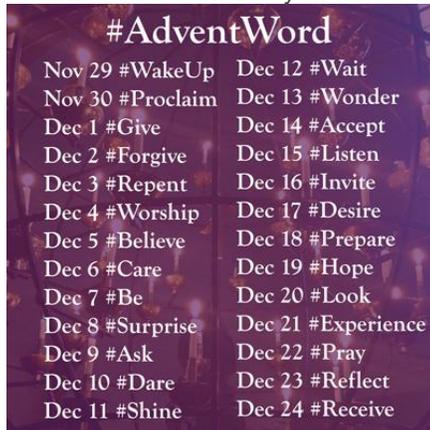
Last year, our church was one of the MOST active in the program, and because of this we were invited to be an AdventWord partner this year (you can find our name listed [HERE](#) on the partner page.)

This virtual calendar is created by Christians around the world sending in images in response to an Advent meditation from the Society of Saint John the Evangelists, an Anglican/Episcopal order of monks. This is an opportunity for us to connect with fellow Christians worldwide as we pray in Advent as we await the coming of the Christ child and the celebration of Christmas.

To participate go to [AdventWord.org](http://AdventWord.org) and sign up to receive a daily email from the Brothers of the Society of Saint John the Evangelists, The email will contain a daily word and meditation, accompanied by a stunning image. You are invited respond with an image of your own on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook or you can just watch the calendar grow each day in Advent. When you sign up you will receive easy instructions on how to send in images and view the AdventCalendar.

Make sure to tag St. Peter's when you post and to use the hashtags #adventword and #stpetersadventword so we can follow along and repost your images on our feeds.

Here is a cheat-sheet if you want to start planning and taking pictures for this experience!



If you have any questions email [jerusalem.greer@stpetersconway.com](mailto:jerusalem.greer@stpetersconway.com) or check out the AdventWord tutorial on our Facebook page.

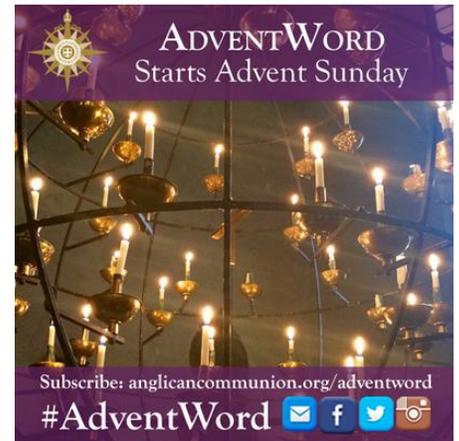
## Servant Leadership School of Conway presents "Saturdays for Centering"

When: From 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on January 14, February 11, April 8 and May 13, 2017

Where: Morgan House,

Who: Led by Catherine Crews, a retreat leader from Russellville who is commissioned by Contemplative Outreach

What: During the first Saturday, Catherine will lead us in a reflection on which contemplative practices speak the most to us. As we revisit the study of the enneagram, we realize we are different in the ways we experience God's presence. What are those differences? What do we have in common? We will have time for individual reflection, as well as group discussions. Please join us as we listen for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and possibly choose to make changes in our daily practices.



Cost: There is no registration fee; however, we ask that you speak to or email Caroline Scott, Judy Helm or Rita Mackintosh if you plan to attend. There will be an opportunity to contribute non-perishable items or cash to St. Peter's Food Pantry. Snacks and drinks will be provided; registrants are encouraged to bring a sack lunch if they so wish.

Please put these dates on your calendar and prayerfully consider joining us at one, two, three or all four Saturdays.

judyhelm77@gmail.com  
carolinescott44@yahoo.com  
mackritar16@gmail.com

## Bible Quest

Start the New Year off with a Bible Study. Bible Quest a Journey through the Christian Scriptures is a discussion of the books of the New Testament. Join the group Monday, January 2, at 12:15 in the Church Library OR Thursday, January 5, at 7 pm at the Morgan House. The study is design so participants may join the discussion at any time. Contact Joe Arn at 501-796-0121 for additional information.

## Wednesday Noon Book Study

Book Study will start on January 4, 2017. We will read Richard Rohr's The Divine Dance. Bring your lunch and read the Introduction and Forward to discuss.

## New Circle of Trust

You are invited to join a new Circle of Trust starting January 2017

A Circle of Trust is a community of friends who, through a process of shared exploration, learn a loving, respectful alternative to everyday pressures. CoT is an opportunity to nurture new ways of communicating while engaging in personal and social transformation. Parker Palmer's book "A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward an Undivided Life" will be our starting point.

If you are interested in CoT, please attend our first meeting on Tuesday, January 17 at 6:50 p.m. in the Morgan House. If you have questions, contact any member of the Servant Leadership School or the church office.

Sponsored by the Servant Leadership School

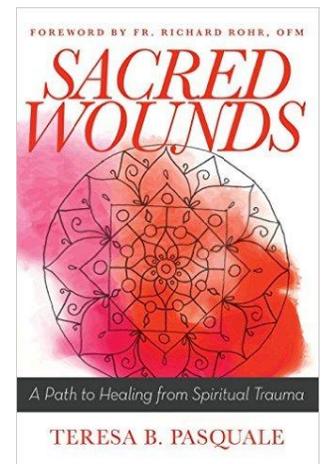
## Mark Your Calendar

January 16, Monday, at 7 pm will be the first of the quarterly St. Peter's Lecture Series. Our own Dr. Donna Bowman will be the the first speaker for this endeavor. Donna has selected "He Spoke as One with Authority: What Jesus Reveals About the Nature of God's Power.

Dr. Donna Bowman is Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies in the Norbert Schedler Honors College at the University of Central Arkansas.

## Spiritual Growth Gathering - Sacred Wounds: A Path to Healing from Spiritual Trauma Sunday Mornings, 10:00AM, The Morgan House

Join Rebecca Billy for this Sunday morning small group discussion hour focusing on the nature of emotional wounds, trauma, and spiritual hurt that come from negative religious experience. Some of the discussion, centered about the book Sacred Wounds, will include: stories from a wide range of persons hurt by negative religious experience, healing and contemplative practices to help readers explore their own spiritual story, and practical ways to move towards personal healing. A journey through the experience of trauma in religious settings and how it is both relatable to other forms of trauma and distinctive -- outlining both facets and an exploration of the author's own personal and professional understanding of hurt, trauma, PTSD, and the power of resiliency and



healing.

Questions? Email Rebecca Billy or [Jerusalem.Greer@stpetersconway.com](mailto:Jerusalem.Greer@stpetersconway.com)

[Check out the book HERE.](#)

## PARISH LIFE AND COMMUNITY

### Christmas Meals

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we will not be hosting Christmas Meals nor a Christmas lunch this year.

### Art, Pray, Love

Join us for the 9th annual Art Pray Love- Art Show and Auction scheduled for Saturday, January 28, 2017. The event will be from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm at St. Peter's Episcopal Church at 925 Mitchell Street in Conway. Tickets will go on sale after Christmas and can be purchased from the church office or between services. Ticket prices are \$25 a piece or \$45 per couple before the event and \$30 a piece and \$50 per couple at the door day of the event. There are also discounted children's tickets.

Event Details:

1. Artists will display their works for purchase
2. Silent Auction and wine pull
3. Authentic Guatemalan extravaganza market
4. Food and drink

All proceeds from the event will go to St. Peter's Guatemalan Medical Mission.

Contact Pansy Westrich for questions about the event and contact Marianne Welch for questions about the medical mission.

### Altar Flowers 2017

The calendar to reserve your special date for altar flowers in 2017 is available on the lobby bulletin board. Sign up early to get your first choices! Thanks to everyone who donated altar flowers this year. They were beautiful and made our worship services even more special.



### Hookers and Knitters Needed!

Do you possess a moderate to keen talent with crochet hooks or knitting needles? Then we need you!

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is looking for new members, patterns and help is provided. If you are interested please contact Pam Holt at [tlholt@conwaycorp.net](mailto:tlholt@conwaycorp.net) or call the church office.



**2017 Women's Winter Interlude III Arkansas ECW**  
**Friday, January 6, 2017 at 3:00 PM - Saturday,**  
**January 7, 2017 at 4:00 PM**



Relax and unwind after a busy holiday season. Please join us for a weekend of fun, prayer and a great program by Rev. Patricia Matthews, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry for Christ Church, Little Rock. She will explore strong women from the Bible and from myth as models of how we can be strong women as we move through all the stages of our life. There is an opportunity for a book club session led by Susan Carter. To register please visit: <http://arkansasecw.org>  
 Please note: there is a fee for online registration and credit card processing.

**Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Reminders:**

Wednesday December 21  
 Orchestra 4-5pm  
 Dress Rehearsal for Pageant and Orchestra 5-6:15pm - Angel Choir included  
 Pizza Dinner and Greening of the Nave following

Saturday December 24  
 Everyone - 4:00pm



**Holiday Break Programming Schedule**

EYC is on break until January 18.  
 Family Formation (10am) will be on break from December 25 - January 22.  
 These breaks are in large part due to our wonderful teacher's being on Winter Break.  
 We will still have childcare on Sunday mornings from 9-12.

**CALENDAR**

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>
December 22	December 23	December 24	December 25	December 26
<b>7:00am</b> Morning Prayer <b>10:00am</b> Tia Chi (PH) <b>12:00pm</b> Advent Noon Prayer <b>2:00pm</b> Enneagram (Lib)	<b>12:00pm</b> Advent Noon Prayer <b>4:00pm</b> Conway Locally Grown (PH)	<b>9:00am</b> Food Pantry <b>4:00pm</b> Call time for Children's Pageant <b>5:00pm</b> Children's Christmas Pageant and Eucharist <b>8:00pm</b> Christmas Eve Candlelight Service and Eucharist	<b>9:00am</b> Christmas Day Service and Eucharist	<b>Parish Office Closed</b> <b>6:00pm</b> Narcotics Anonymous (MH)

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 27	December 28	December 29	December 30	December 31
<b>Parish Office Closed</b> <b>6:00pm</b> Circle of Trust (MH)	<b>Parish Office Closed</b> <b>6:00pm</b> Narcotics Anonymous (MH)	<b>Parish Office Closed</b>	<b>Parish Office Closed</b> <b>4:00pm</b> Conway Locally Grown (PH)	<b>7:00pm</b> Terry-Collins Wedding

## FOOD PANTRY

### Help Out the Food Pantry

Don't forget your items to bring this Sunday! You may also drop off items in the church lobby anytime during the week. With your help we are able to provide food to those in need.

**Diapers!**

\*\*If you are bringing fresh produce to donate, please contact someone with a key and see that it is placed in the Food Pantry refrigerators.

### Pantry Musings

In my recent readings of Barbara Brown Taylor and Kathleen Norris, I have noticed a tendency to lift up every day activities for our consideration as spiritually rich. Doing the laundry and washing the dishes are two such tasks, necessary for our lives together but usually assigned to women and, hence, not considered important as a result. Listening to the children, hearing their concerns, helping with homework, taking measure of their growth--becoming adults. Cooking meals. All woman's work. All vital to developing the next generation and maintaining life in community. All relationships that should be considered holy. Maybe we are paying more attention to these tasks and their spiritual importance now because men are having to help with women's work now that both parents are working outside the home, or a single parent is having to do it all. Do you ever think about the love of the family for certain foods when you buy food and prepare a meal? Is there some personal space available to you when you do the laundry? Do you drive the kids to school or take them to ball games? What goes on during that time? Norris even manages to put a positive spin on the minute details of the cooking and cleaning laws found in Leviticus by noting that God is involved in the daily lives of his people and this involvement is from a God who loves us. "A God who cares so much as to desire to be present to us in everything we do. [Quotidian, p.22]"

-Ann Drake

## CHURCH FINANCIALS

### Discretionary Fund

All \$1 bills in the offering plate will go to the Discretionary Fund.

# SUNDAY SERVICE AND LITURGICAL INFORMATION

## Liturgical Readings for Sunday, December 25, 2016

### Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."  
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the Lord to Zion.  
Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
The Lord has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

### Psalm 98

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the Lord with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.

### Hebrews 1:1-4, 5-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son;  
today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father,  
and he will be my Son"?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."  
Of the angels he says,  
"He makes his angels winds,  
and his servants flames of fire."  
But of the Son he says,  
"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.  
You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."  
And,  
"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands;  
they will perish, but you remain;  
they will all wear out like clothing;  
like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed.  
But you are the same,  
and your years will never end."

**John 1:1-14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

## **Prayers of the People**

### **Prayers and Petitions:**

Chandler; Shannon; Anisa; Dane (healing) Dick and Carolyn; Kevin (healing); Vanderslice Family (safe travels); Bill (healing); Jack (healing); Pat (healing); Hannah; Jane and Emily (safe travels); Ann; Stanley; Patsy and Ed; Nikki.

### **In Loving Support for:**

Jenny, Doug, and Odessa; Hannah; Jon and Julie; Micah; Linda; Bob; Sam; Mouaz; Natalie.

### **Thanksgivings**

We give thanks for the people of St. Peter's and visitors with us this week.

We give thanks for Jonathan Spinks; Kathryn Spinks; Suzanne Sprague; Gray Standridge; Susan Standridge; Wayne, Ellen, Adam, and Susannah Stengel; Debbie Steward; Jayme, David and Andrew Stone; Els and Tom Strickland; Scott, Jeannie, Jack, Britt, and Sam Stroth;

We give thanks for Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.

We give thanks for Lubavitch Center for Jewish Learning.

We give thanks for our Episcopal Church Women.

We give thanks for The Rev. Jose Morales Perez and St. Matthew's, Chuguexa (choo-yakes-ah).

We give thanks for the church in Armagh, Ireland, and The Rt Revd Ferran Glenfield.

We give thanks for the 8:00am Holy Eucharist Service at St. Martin in the Fields, Philadelphia.

### **The Departed:**

Jon Paul Coney

## Liturgical Ministries Schedule

<b>Team 4</b>	<b>9:00am Rite II</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	Andrea Savage Melissa Felty
<b>Oblationers, Greeters</b>	Kent Ballew, Nancy Thompson
<b>Eucharistic Ministers (EM)</b>	Pam Holt
<b>Eucharistic Visitors (EV)</b>	Catherine Fortney Cody Blackmon
<b>Vestry Counters</b>	Karen McNutt John Phillips
<b>Acolytes</b>	C: Harry Lance
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Team 4

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

STAY CONNECTED:



Saint Peter's Episcopal Church, 925 Mitchell Street, Conway, AR 72034

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