



St. Peter's
Episcopal Church
Conway, Arkansas

The Labyrinth Walk **Thursday, December 15, 2016**

The Rev. Teri Daily's Medical Leave

As you know Teri is on Medical Leave for the first few weeks of Advent. To help her healing process time Pansy Westrich is coordinating meals to be dropped off at the church, and John, our Parish Administrator will be helping schedule visits.

If you would like to help with meals, please email pwestrich@yahoo.com.

If you would like to visit Teri, please email john.churchwell@stpetersconway.com.

For pastoral care needs or emergencies please contact Jerusalem Greer, Minister to Families, or Peggy Cromwell, our Deacon.

Thank you!

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.

Adult Forum

Adult Forum is open to all members of the St. Peter's community. We discuss various topics of interest to our members. Lecturers frequent our forum in person, but videos and books are also used. In those cases discussions are loosely led by a discussion leader. Past topics have included Pentecostalism, Quakerism, Protestantism, Judaism, various perspectives on the meaning of Jesus, the Enneagram, and the books Paradise Lost and The Divine Comedy. The following is the list of topics that will be discussed: December 18: Islamic Experience in America

Jay McDaniel (Hendrix) will be leading two sessions on Contemporary Islamic Thought in December: Dec. 4 and Dec. 18. The subject is timely. As he explains, contemporary Muslims in many parts of the world are caught between two antagonisms: a fear or suspicion of Islam on the one hand, and the reality of militant Islam on the other. Islamophobia and the rise of militant Islam have led them to take their faith more seriously, seeking to understand it as a possibility for goodness, peace, and justice in the world. Toward that end some Muslims have turned to classical sources with its rich intellectual history and some to the forward-looking thinking of the spiritual father of modern Pakistan, Muhammad Iqbal. Many have also turned to what some Muslims take to be the spiritual core of Islam: Sufism as embodied, for example, in the poetry and philosophy of Rumi. Jay will be talking about all of these issues. If you are curious about Jay's own interest in Islam, please see his How I Got Interested in Islam: <http://www.jesusjazzbuddhism.org/how-i-got-interested-in-islam-jay-mcdaniel.html>.

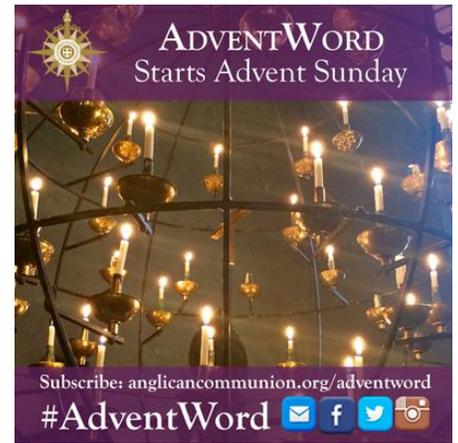
#AdventWord 2016

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 and signup 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!

#AdventWord	
Nov 29 #WakeUp	Dec 12 #Wait
Nov 30 #Proclaim	Dec 13 #Wonder
Dec 1 #Give	Dec 14 #Accept
Dec 2 #Forgive	Dec 15 #Listen
Dec 3 #Repent	Dec 16 #Invite
Dec 4 #Worship	Dec 17 #Desire
Dec 5 #Believe	Dec 18 #Prepare
Dec 6 #Care	Dec 19 #Hope
Dec 7 #Be	Dec 20 #Look
Dec 8 #Surprise	Dec 21 #Experience
Dec 9 #Ask	Dec 22 #Pray
Dec 10 #Dare	Dec 23 #Reflect
Dec 11 #Shine	Dec 24 #Receive

If you have any questions email jerusalem.greer@stpetersconway.com or check out the AdventWord tutorial on our Facebook page.

Mark Your Calendar

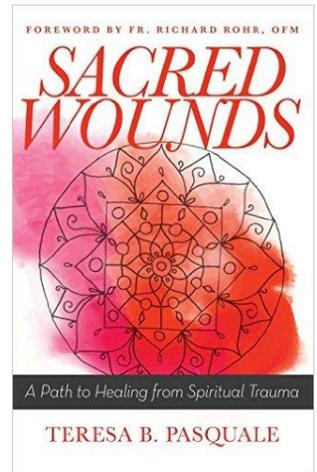
January 16, Monday, at 7 pm will be the first of the quarterly St. Peter's Lecture Series. Our own Dr. Donna Bowman will be the the first speaker for this endeavor. Donna has selected "He Spoke as One with Authority: What Jesus Reveals About the Nature of God's Power.

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
[Check out the book HERE.](#)



PARISH LIFE AND COMMUNITY

Volunteers of the Week

With Christmas rapidly approaching, and 2016 coming to a close, we wanted to take the time to send a big shout-out THANK YOU to everyone who volunteers in some way here at St. Peter's, in all our ministries! Our church would not be the warm and inviting family it is without the countless hours that so many of you give to our church family and the community. Before we take a holiday break from Volunteer's of the Week, we wanted to give one last HUGE thank you to our Ministry Team Leaders who work as hard as any of Santa's elves - Jeffery Ward, Carolyn Scott, Jerry Adams, and Nancy Thompson! We appreciate all you do to keep us staffed with Lectors, Ushers, Oblationers, Greeters, and the hospitality table stocked! May you all feel the love of your church family, and our great appreciation for your time and efforts this Christmas. We love you!

PS - Would you like to know more about how to participate in the Ministry Teams? Just ask one of our brave leaders!



Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Reminders:

December 18
Orchestra at 1-2pm
Pageant 2-3pm

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



Christmas Meals

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

Greening of the Nave, Carols, and Compline

All ages invited!

6:30 PM on Wednesday, December 21

Cookies and Cider to follow!

If anyone has pine boughs, pine cones, holly with red berries, magnolia boughs, nandina berries, or cedar boughs that you can cut, the Altar Guild would love to have some for the Greening of the Church on Dec. 21. You may drop them off outside the Sacristy Door Dec. 18-21. Thank you!



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.



CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Nativity Pageant and Orchestra Updates

December 18

Orchestra 1:00-2:00

Pageant 2:00-3:00

December 21 - FULL CAST and Orchestra

5:00 pm-Pizza Dinner provided

December 24-4:00 pm-FULL CAST and Orchestra

Questions? Email Jerusalem.Greer@stpetersconway.com



CALENDAR

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
December 15	December 16	December 17	December 18	December 19
7:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Tia Chi (PH) 12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 2:00pm SLS Planning (Lib) 6:30pm Finance Meeting (Lib) 6:30pm Girl Scouts 6342 (PH) 7:00pm Bible Study (MH)	12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 4:00pm Conway Locally Grown (PH) 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6057 (MH)	9:00am Food Pantry 9:00am Parish Hall Reserved 10:00am Secretariat (MH)	7:30am Rite I Holy Eucharist 9:00am EOW Eucharist 10:00am Adult Forum Family Formation Choir Practice 11:00am Rite II Holy Eucharist 12:30pm DOK (MH) 1:30pm Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (Lobby) 5:00pm Blue Christmas 7:00pm Contemplative Quaker Fellowship (Classroom 4)	11:15am Centering Prayer 12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 6:00pm Narcotics Anonymous (MH)

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 20	December 21	December 22	December 23	December 24
7:00am Morning Prayer 12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 6:00pm Circle of Trust (MH)	12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 5:30pm The Fledglings Writing Group (Lib) 6:00pm Narcotics Anonymous (MH) 6:30pm Greening of the Nave	7:00am Morning Prayer 10:00am Tia Chi (PH) 12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 2:00pm Enneagram (Lib)	12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 4:00pm Conway Locally Grown (PH)	9:00am Food Pantry 5:00pm Christmas Eve Family Service and Pageant 8:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Save the Date:

December 18
Blue Christmas Service
5:00pm

December 21
Greening of the Nave, Carols and Compline
6:30 pm

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

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.

Sunday, December 18, 2016
2 cans whole kernel corn, 1 box of cereal, 2 pkg ramen

**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

Years ago when this congregation was contemplating adding a third service for the first time in my memory, a survey of hourly preferences and types of worship experience people preferred was taken. As I recall, the results showed we did not care about the hour or type of worship experience as much as if there was music. We all indicated we would go where the music was. Presumably, we all would have gone to the seven-thirty service if that was where the music was performed. Fortunately, it is a quiet service. A service with order maintained by the spoken liturgy and some silence spaces. Sunday evening there is a Quaker silent service. Some find their worship experience in silence. There are a number of methods of achieving a worship posture that have been developed, centering prayer is a popular one. If you are interested, check the Labyrinth Walk for information or Thomas Keating's site. Wednesday evening healing service has some silent time scheduled. If we don't get it. We ask for it. What are your preferences in worship? Are you used to worshiping in silence? Have you tried and become frustrated? Try sitting quietly, dismissing each group of thoughts that come into your mind. Just tell them to go away. Once you have a clear mind relax. It may take some practice. -Ann Drake

CHURCH FINANCIALS

Stewardship Update

We have received 62 Pledge Cards for the 2017 Proposed Operating Budget. Thanks to this initial response, we are more than halfway to our goal of \$475,500. It's not too late to get into the giving! Pledge Cards may be put in the offering plate or delivered to the church office.

Discretionary Fund

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

Staff Christmas

Christmas is right around the corner and it is time to acknowledge the dedicated staff at St. Peter's. It is a tradition at our church to collect funds to be used for staff Christmas gifts. If you would like to contribute to this year's fund, you may place your donation in the offering plate (write "staff gift" in the memo line) or drop it off at the church office.

Thank you! - Jane Harris, Senior Warden

SUNDAY SERVICE AND LITURGICAL INFORMATION

Liturgical Readings for Sunday, December 18, 2016

Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy

Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Prayers of the People

Prayers and Petitions:

Chandler; Shannon; Rebecca and Aidan; Nikki; Anisa; Angie and Ashlyn; DeWayne; Dane; Kevin; Bill; Steve; Doug; Patsy and Ed; Maggie.

In Loving Support for:

Jenny, Doug, and Odessa; Hannha; 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:

Daniel Abbott, Clydine Waid.

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

Team 3	7:30am Rite I	9:00 Enriching with Music	11:00 Rite II
Lectors	Ann Drake	Mary Etta Qualls	John Vanderslice Jayme Stone
Greeters	Richard Boosey		Madelyn Adams Stephanie Vanderslice
Ushers	Richard Boosey	Sam and Tanya Buchanan	Jerry Adams Wayne Stengel
Oblationers		*usher will be oblationer	Henrey and Kathleen Van Lierop
Eucharistic Ministers (EM)	Pam Holt	1-Judy Helm 2-Kathryn Spinks	1-Kelley King 2-John Wiltgen

Eucharistic Visitors (EV)		Erin Weindorf Rita Mackintosh	
Vestry Counters			Sam Buchanan Liz Larson
Acolytes		AM: Michael Moses CB: Wade Simpson	AM: Michael Moses C: Veronica Makepeace T1: Jack Wirtz T2: Amy Rice
Altar Guild			Team 4

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

STAY CONNECTED:



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

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by john.churchwell@stpetersconway.com in collaboration with



Try it free today