



The Labyrinth Walk Tuesday, November 22, 2016

A Message from Teri.....

Dear St. Peter's,

I am scheduled for a routine surgery on November 29th. I will most likely be out of the office through December 16th, and then back on a part-time basis through the end of December. I do plan to be back for Sunday services on December 18th and to celebrate Christmas with St. Peter's. In the meantime, the Rev. Hap Hoffman will be the presider for Sunday morning services on December 4th and December 11th, and Peggy (our deacon) and Jerusalem (our minister to families) will be responding to pastoral needs. Please do not hesitate to contact the church office if there's anything you need.

Sunday, December 4th, is the in-gathering of our pledges, so remember to bring your pledge card to services that day. We will offer them, along with ourselves, to God and ask for God's blessings.

Wishing you much peace as we enter the Advent season,

Teri

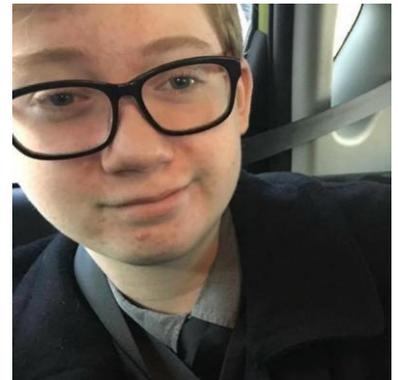
Volunteer of the Week

Congrats to Wylie Greer, our Volunteer of the Week!

Wylie, who is a junior at Greenbrier High School, has been a member of St. Peter's for a little over two years. During his time here Wylie has taken on a variety of ministry roles. Currently he serves as a Junior Verger, an Acolyte Master, Acolyte, Usher, Thurifer, and Lector. Wylie also loves to act in the Christmas Eve pageant, has volunteered with the EYC Summer Food Pantry Breakfast, helped with Thanksgiving Basket Day, preached a sermon, marched in the Pride Parade and has helped in the nursery when needed.

When not serving at St. Peter's Wylie is very involved in the Theatre program at GHS. His favorite church event is Pie Fest, and you can always get in his good graces by taking him out for a seafood dinner. Wylie also loves writing fiction, working on film ideas, building wooden swords, and traveling.

Thank you for all you do for St. Peter's Wylie! We love you!



SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Sunday's Baptism

A beautiful baptism was celebrated on Sunday, November 20, for Alan Scott Bell!



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 4: Islamic Experience in America
December 11: Moravian Love Feast Christmas Mass
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>.

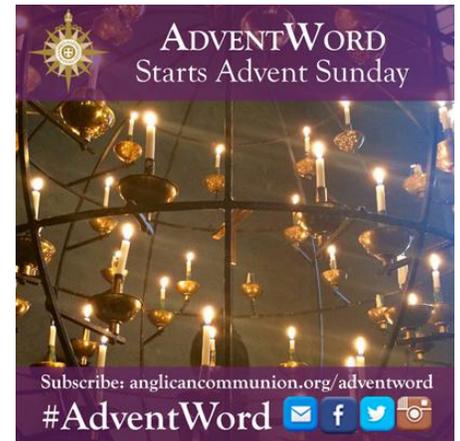
#AdventWord 2016

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.

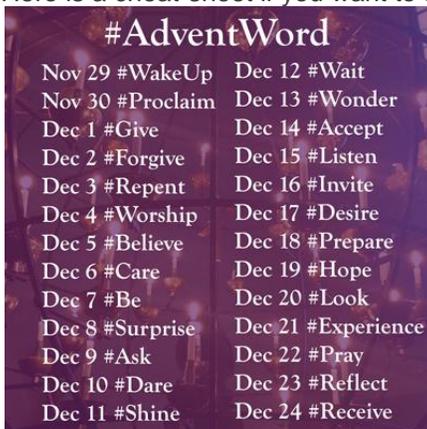
This is an opportunity for us to connect with fellow Christians worldwide as we pray in Advent as we await the coming of the Christ child and the celebration of Christmas.



To participate go to AdventWord.org and 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 to 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!



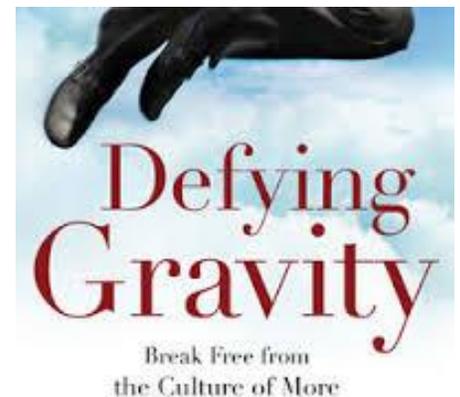
If you have any questions email jerusalem.greer@stpetersconway.com or check out the AdventWord tutorial on our Facebook page.

Defying Gravity Small Group Book Studies November 6 - November 30 (taking off Thanksgiving week)

Two Time Options: Sundays at 4:00pm and Wednesdays at 5:30pm, both on the Christian Ed Hallway
Childcare provided on Wednesdays and by request on Sundays

Do you ever feel like your life and your possessions control you and your family, instead of the other way around? As the holiday season grows closer, do you are you feeling the weight of years of accumulated objects, as well as the expectation of more to come? Do you think of generosity as something about which to be intentional? If any of these questions spark an interest, then join us for a small group book study of Tom Berlin's *Defying Gravity: Break Free from the Culture of More* beginning this Sunday.

Vestry members will be leading two different groups of this four-week book study (skipping Thanksgiving Week). One

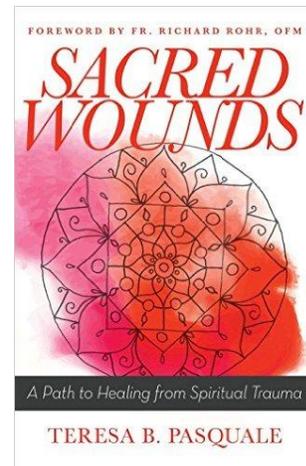


group will meet Sundays at 4 pm and another group will meet Wednesdays at 5:30 pm; feel free to switch back and forth between the groups depending upon your schedule. If you would like the church to order a book for you, please contact the church office. For Sunday childcare please email Jerusalem.Greer@stpetersconway.com

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

No Shave November!

Thank you to the Brotherhood of St. Andrew for sponsoring St. Peter's No Shave November!



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.



ECW Women's Holiday Gathering
The Morgan House
December 3, 2016
5:00PM

"O St Lucy, preserve the light of my eyes so that I may see the beauties of creation, ..."

All the women of the church are invited for a lovely evening of becoming and belonging as we gather to celebrate the Feast of St. Lucy, complete with Scandinavian inspired eats, traditional St. Lucy activities, and a focus on sharing God's light of hope in the world!

Want to help with food or activities? Email Jerusalem.Greer@stpetersconway.com



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 tholt@conwaycorp.net or call the church office.



CALENDAR

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
November 24	November 25	November 26	November 27	November 28
Church Office Closed	Church Office Closed	Food Pantry Closed	7:30am Rite I Holy Eucharist 9:00am EOW Eucharist 10:00am Adult Forum Family Formation Choir Practice 11:00am Rite II Holy Eucharist 12:00pm Parish Hall Reserved 4:00pm Defying Gravity (Lib) 5:30pm Advent Event (PH) 7:00pm Contemplative Quaker Fellowship (Classroom 4)	11:15am Centering Prayer 12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 12:15pm After-noon Bible Study (Lib) 2:00pm EfM 6:00pm Narcotics Anonymous (MH)

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 29	November 30	December 1	December 2	December 3
7:00am Morning Prayer 12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 6:00pm Circle of Trust (MH) 6:00pm EfM 7:00pm College Dinners (PH)	12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 5:00pm EYC (PH) 5:30pm Defying Gravity (Rm 2) 5:30pm The Fledglings Writing Group (Lib) 6:00pm Narcotics Anonymous (MH) 7:00pm Evening Prayer and Prayers for Healing	7:00am Morning Prayer 12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 2:00pm SLS Planning (Lib) 6:30pm Girl Scouts 6342 (PH) 7:00pm Bible Study (MH)	12:00pm Advent Noon Prayer 4:00pm Morgan House Reserved 4:00pm Conway Locally Grown (PH) 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6057 (MH)	9:00am EV Potluck (Lib) 9:00am Food Pantry 3:00pm ECW Jingle Mingle (MH)

Save the Date:

December 11, 2016:
Choir Christmas Cantata *On This Shining Night*
11:00am Service

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

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

COLLEGE MINISTRIES



Church-wide Chili Cook-Off for College Dinners

Help us support our college interns and students by participating in the Chili Cook-Off for the last meal of the semester! Tuesday, November 29, at 7:00 p.m.

Here is how you can participate:

- *Sign up to cook chili (we will need various kinds, including vegetarian) - drop-off anytime Tuesday, Nov 29
- *Sign up to bring a salad or dessert
- *Sign up to bring chili "fixins" (crackers, shredded cheese, chopped onions, etc)
- *Sign up to help set up (5:30pm-7:00 pm) or clean up (7:45-8:30 pm)
- *Sign up to help serve (6:45-7:30pm)

To sign-up for any of these please email peggy.cromwell@stpetersconway.com or let the church office know.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Peace, Love, St. Peter's T-Shirts - BACK IN STOCK!

Available in the office starting Monday and on Sunday mornings starting on October 16.

Or you can email:

[Jerusalem at Jerusalem.Greer@stpetersconway.com](mailto:Jerusalem.Greer@stpetersconway.com)

All proceeds go to help our youth and kids go to Camp Mitchell!



2016 ADVENT EVENT EXTRAORDINAIRE!

Sunday November 27, 2016

4:00PM - 7:00 PM

Let us begin Advent together, serving and celebrating!

Advent Event Schedule

4:00-5:00PM - Service Fair - Do you volunteer in an organization outside of St. Peter's walls? Would you like to share the good that this organization does with your church family? Set up a booth at our Service Fair in the church lobby! Are you looking for a community organization to get involved with, then come see with your St. Peter's brothers and sisters are up to! Email Jerusalem.Greer@stpetersconway.com to reserve your booth space.

5:00-6:00PM - Family Feast Fiesta - Join us for a fiesta themed- potluck-style as we celebrate the Eucharist around the dinner table as a family! Bring a Mexican inspired dish or taco toppings to share.

6:00-7:00PM - Advent Activity Time - Crafts, games, activities, and more will be available for everyone to participate in and every household will leave with tactile ways to celebrate Advent at home.



To volunteer to help with this event or for questions please contact Jerusalem Greer at

Jerusalem.greer@stpetersconway.com

Electronic Release Forms

Parents and Guardians - In order to better serve you and your children we have created an online registration and release form for the 2016-2017 ministry year. Please fill this form for each of your children. We will use these in cases of emergencies, outings, and trips. None of the information you provide will be made public or given out without your permission. Thank you!

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=obf5sodab&oeidk=a07ed3hquokea889b12>

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, November 27, 2016

2 cans tuna w/water, 2 pkg of pasta, 2 cans pasta sauce

**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

Barbara Brown Taylor notes that "God's final defense against our idolatry, our attempt to say God's name and our attempt to see God, both forbidden by our scriptures, is God's silence." Maybe through God's silence he, she, can keep our attempts to control at bay. [p.38] There was a reason that God came to the Israelites in a black cloud so that he couldn't be seen. It is that he wanted no golden image. He knew the people. They had already made a golden cow as their image of a god. Not for a nano second does he trust us to refrain from control. We have to learn other ways of realizing and affirming our faith. If we think that we are going to receive in some miraculous way a definitive answer to the question of faith we are

wrong. What faith requires of us is action: go out into the world preaching, teaching, and healing the sick. Feeding people spiritually and physically. It is through our acts of faith that the world is and will be transformed. To even entertain the notion that we will see or hear God's voice is folly. We nailed his flesh to a cross. Heard his cry of despair as he died forsaken. And we found an empty tomb. He is gone. It is hard to cope with the silence. How do you find your faith? What are your actions of faith? Is faith a verb for you?

-Ann Drake

CHURCH FINANCIALS

Discretionary Fund

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

Your Giving @ Work

As we head into Stewardship Season and think about our giving for the coming year, it is always a fun practice to take a look back, and see just how our giving has helped our church to grow this past year!

This week we wanted to give you a snapshot of just how much Family Ministries has grown, and an overview of what your giving has provided for our families.

A few of the things we did in 2016 are:

- Increased our nursery workers from 3 to 4 due to our baby boom
- Helped send 25 kids to camp or state-wide youth events.
- Hosted a Dog Wash, Trunk-or-Treat for the community
- Served breakfast 4 times to our Food Pantry clients
- Saw an average of 40 kids participating in Spiritual Formation each week
- Trained a Junior Verger and two Junior Thurifers
- Went Yurting, the County Fair and Bowling
- Celebrated Pentecost, St. Michaelmas, Epiphany, Easter, Advent and Christmas with inter-generational events
- Learned to pray using the Labyrinth and cleaned the courtyard
- Celebrated Baptisms and Confirmation
- Started a Youth Orchestra for Christmas



Isn't it just wonderful? Thank you to everyone who gives to St. Peter's and volunteers with Family Ministries - our church is a welcoming place to families because of you!

SUNDAY SERVICE AND LITURGICAL INFORMATION

Liturgical Readings for Sunday, November 27, 2016

The 9:00am lector will read from

Isaiah and lead the Psalm.

Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44 Psalm 122

Below is the link to the lectionary readings for Sunday.

http://www.lectionarypage.net/YearA_RCL/Advent/AAdv1_RCL.html

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

Team 4	7:30am Rite I	9:00 Enriching with Music	11:00 Rite II
Lectors	Norma Smothers	Jay Rudd Stacy Jones	Leigh Ann and Ted Warriner
Greeters	Pam Holt	Tracy and Walker Simpson	Claire Lasardo Steve Zeltmann
Ushers	Joe Am	Nancy Thompson Beth Brady	Mary Etta Qualls Nancy Thompson
Oblationers		Melanie and Chrissy Cavender	Erin Weindorf Deana Weindorf
Eucharistic Ministers (EM)	Stacey Coleman	1-Jerusalem Greer 2-Linda Brown	1-Bob Brown 2-Dan Allen
Eucharistic Visitors (EV)		Catherine Fortney Cody Blackmon	
Vestry Counters			Liz Larson Karen McNutt
Acolytes		AM: Beth Brady C: Wade Simpson	AM: Beth Brady C: Amy Rice T1: Miles Greer T2: Jaylee Garrett-Jones
Altar Guild			Team 1

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

STAY CONNECTED:



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

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