

## ST. PETER'S PARISH CHURCH

Date: 22 January 2014  
To: Members of the Vestry, Rector  
Cc: File, Sherri Hardiman  
From: Ann Bradshaw, Register  
Re: 2013 ANNUAL MEETING – 19 January 2014

The 2014 annual meeting for St. Peter's Parish Church was held in Richardson Hall on Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. The meeting began at 10:01 am. Father Paul Rowles called the meeting to order with an opening prayer.

Tony Wood motioned to approve the election of the three new Vestry members, Ben Evenly, Catherine Pierce and Terry Porter for three year terms each. The motion was carried ☺

### RECTOR'S REPORT:

#### January

Last year's annual meeting was January 20. I'd been back at work for less than a month. That week ended with Annual Council, at the end of which my term as Dean of Region IX expired, and I went back to just being plain old Reverend, not the Very Reverend. I have enjoyed the change! The new Vestry members, Chrissy Wagner, Steve Miles, and Kristin Swynford, were commissioned on the 27<sup>th</sup> and seated on the 28<sup>th</sup>. They have all been great additions to the Vestry. Steve is Liaison to the Worship Commission, Kristin to the Parish Life Commission, and Chrissy to the Christian Education Commission. We buried Lawrence Welford Christian on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sharon Elizabeth Hulsing on the 5<sup>th</sup>. We baptized Guiliana Marie Kornreich, daughter of Scott and Clarissa, and Taylor Ann Evelyn, daughter of Kim and Willie, on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### February

February started with the Great Chili Cook-off and Family Game Night on the 1<sup>st</sup>. We baptized Ford Sullivan King, son of Todd and Ashley, on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Region IX met on the 7<sup>th</sup> At St. John's, Church Hill. We baptized Ellen Mary Finn, daughter of Matt and Meghan, and Carley Ann Goodnow, daughter of Aaron Goodnow and Jennifer Garbett, on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Shrove Tuesday pancakes came on the 12<sup>th</sup>, and Lent began with Ash Wednesday services on the 13<sup>th</sup>. For the first time we had two services – noon and seven o'clock – and that was successful enough that we will do that again this year. We ended by dedicating a new Habitat for Humanity house on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### March

The season of Lent continued in March with folks eagerly looking forward each Sunday to see which congregation had the honor of participating in the Great Litany, always a

favorite. On the 12<sup>th</sup> we had a Lenten soup and bread supper, which we will be having again this year. Holy Week began on the 24<sup>th</sup>, followed by yet another glorious St. Peter's Easter Day celebration.

### April

April kicked off with the tenth anniversary of my ordination to the Priesthood on the 5<sup>th</sup>. I can't think of anyone else I'd rather celebrate it with than the parishioners and friends of St. Peter's. It's been a great seven years with you; the first three (2003-2006 – pre-St. Peter's) had their ups and downs, however. On the 7<sup>th</sup> we welcomed into the household of God Laney Ross Evelyn, daughter of Jessica and Patrick. We said goodbye to Maria Nellie Bruce, mother of Sam Bruce, on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The New Kent Outreach Council, one of Nancy Goodman's better ideas, met on the 16<sup>th</sup>, and interviews for the Clopton Scholarship were held on the 19<sup>th</sup>, always a high point of the year for me. None of us knew, I think, that it would be Doug Begeal's last time to sit at that interview table. We will miss him next year.

### May

May began with the spring Shrine Mont conference for Clergy, Lay Professionals, and Spouses the 6<sup>th</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup>. A Region IX meeting was held at Richmond Hill on the 9<sup>th</sup>, followed the next day by St. Peter's annual Golf Tournament. A fun time was had by all, even the team that finished in last place whose names shall not be mentioned. Our annual Pawleys Island family vacation kicked off with us attending the marriage of Graham Wade and our own Blair Goodman in Charleston, South Carolina on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

### June, July, and August

Matthew's Haven held a silent auction at Royal New Kent on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June with wonderful results. That day my older brother's mother-in-law died in Atlanta after years of declining health, and I read the burial office for her on the 11<sup>th</sup> in Hickory, NC. Two more baptisms that month: Layla Southall Eagle, daughter of Rutsen and Tyler, and Avery Kate Douglas, daughter of Millie and Randy, both on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

New Kent Outreach Council met again on July 10<sup>th</sup>. We commissioned our youth mission team on the 14<sup>th</sup> and sent them off to Cherokee, NC the next Sunday. The 21<sup>st</sup> was also the day we baptized Catherine Carrington Remorenko, daughter of Elizabeth and John Paul. Another great Vacation Bible School began July 29<sup>th</sup>, capped off by the Parish Picnic on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

August brought no baptisms, but it did bring the first marriage of the year: Aimee Michelle Powell and Benjamin Ayers Evelyn on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Just more than a week before that, the Burial Office was read for our well-beloved Doug Begeal on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### September

Another Region IX meeting was held, this time at Varina Church on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The 15<sup>th</sup> was a huge day – Bishop Johnston came for his annual visitation. He confirmed Robert Michael Best, Gunnar Purington Carlson, Miranda Elizabeth Decker, John Michael Holland, Joseph Maximus Holland, Catherine McQuate Peterson, and Alexander Foster Stanley. Two adults were both baptized and confirmed that day: Kelsey Grace Slate and Carol Ann Smith. Finally, Erica Lynn Holland, John Mark Holland, and Weston Adam Slate were received into the communion of the Episcopal Church. It was a great day. The 20<sup>th</sup> brought us the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Sarah Lindsey Gupta Memorial Golf Tournament. In only two years enough money has been raised to endow a scholarship in her name at her alma mater, The College of William and Mary. The next day, however, the burial office was read for our dearly beloved Norman Harlev Valor. We will miss this faithful warrior.

### October

My birth month began with a wedding on the 5<sup>th</sup>: Anna Stuart Burnett and Matt Lambert. We blessed the animals on the 6<sup>th</sup> and celebrated our annual Oyster Roast, revised, resized, and relocated, on the 12<sup>th</sup>. It's always nice to have 300+ people at your birthday party, especially when it's one of those "once every ten years" birthdays. On the 19<sup>th</sup> I celebrated the marriage of Christopher Wallace and Kathleen Thornton. We celebrated the baptism of William Jefferson Wallace the 5<sup>th</sup> – who goes by "Quint" – on the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. Later that same day Sam Bruce, our choirmaster/organist for almost eleven years, resigned, followed the next day by the resignation of Adriane Marshall, who had been our Youth Mission Trip leader for about the same length of time. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> I read the burial office for Bernice Dietrich, who had been my driver for several years at Bowling Green Volunteer Rescue Squad.

### November

November began with a wedding on the 2<sup>nd</sup> – Mae Ashby Wallace and Christopher Brandon Ayers. Region IX met here on the 19<sup>th</sup> and were served a wonderful meal – thanks, Jeff Fazio. I was named to the Executive Board of the Diocese at this meeting and look forward to another three years on the Board.

## December

Christmas Craft Day was the 1<sup>st</sup>, and a good time was had by everyone. Then Cynthia and I did something in December we've never done before: take vacation during Advent. A wonderful seven-day Caribbean cruise hit the spot, especially given the weather you went through back here. I attended my first Executive Board meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> at Mayo House, Richmond. Subsequent meetings will be held at various locations in the Diocese throughout the year.

## January, 2014

We celebrated the new ministry of the Reverend Kathy McKinnon, the new Vicar of Varina Church, on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January. Next Sunday we will bid farewell to our outgoing Vestry members: Pete Carlson, who has really developed the Outreach Commission during his tenure; Karen Lange, who at one point had become the Pastoral Care Commission but has now recruited several very good new members; and Tony Wood, who has continued the tradition of St. Peter's having outstanding Senior Wardens. I value his council and his support during this last year which, for the most part, has been much less eventful than last year – about which we shall say no more.

## Register of Church Services Extract

- Attendance: 6,221
- Communion: 5,183
- The Holy Eucharist (Sundays): 78
- The Holy Eucharist (Weekdays): 11
- Private: 13
- The Daily Office (Sundays): 8
- The Daily Office (Weekdays): 1
- Other offices and private: 18
- All Services (Sundays): 88
- All Services (Weekdays): 16

## Presentation of the Rector's Cross for 2013:

### Presentation #1:

June 17, 1993 – a Thursday – should have been the happiest day of the young couple's life. Instead, it was probably the worst. The baby boy born to them would, within only a few hours, bypass this world for the next. No one who was a part of that day would ever be the same again.

Eight years later his mother founded an outreach organization in his name as a ministry of this church. In 2008 it incorporated, and in 2010 it obtained its own independent 501(c)3 status. Although not technically connected today, it remains in our hearts forever a part of St. Peter's. Since its founding in 2001 it

has positively affected the lives of tens of thousands of children and families. That is not exaggeration or hyperbole – it is fact. Listen to what they have done this year alone.

- They provided over 250 bags of supplies and clothing to students through the Matthew's Haven Back to School program.
- They have identified key areas where children are consistently experiencing unmet needs in the classroom. These include, but are not limited to: shoes, undergarments, all-weather gear, haircuts, fees for school activities, fees for field trips, yearbooks, fees for AP classes, SAT/ACT test prep resources, school portraits, etc – things that your children, for the most part, take for granted
- St. Peter's again provided the site for Project Hope's Power Pals Camp.
- They have provided "Baby Bundles" – seven layettes – newborns.
- They have obtained Books for Babies kits and are planning implementation
- They had a Coat Drive – Distribution Date was November 8<sup>th</sup> – and 150 coats were distributed
- Give a Child a Christmas – 79 kids received Christmas presents and each family received food gift cards.
- Denim and Diamonds Charity Auction. they made \$9,165 on D&D. It will be held again on June 7, 2014. I suggest you be there!
- In 2012, Matthew's Haven provided over \$16,000 in direct assistance to families for energy assistance, emergency food or emergency housing assistance

Catherine would be the first to tell you that she could not do it without a great team of volunteers, but she is the one out in front feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, taking care of the least and the lost. For this incalculable body of work through Matthew's Haven, the 2013 Rector's Cross goes to Catherine Schulz Pierce.

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#### Presentation #2:

A boy from the genteel environs of Charleston, South Carolina goes to The College of William and Mary and meets a nice New Kent young lady. In the course of time, she takes him home to meet her parents. They live a good ways out in the country. The boy no doubt thought to himself halfway there that he heard banjoes in the background. His suspicions were probably confirmed when, as legend has it, they rounded the final turn to her parents house only to encounter a young man jogging down the road in cut-off blue jean shorts, combat boots, no shirt, and a football helmet. Quite a sight. "Yes," the young woman said, "that's my brother.

It didn't scare him off, however, or at least not for long, and in due time, the pair of them were married and soon brought forth a baby girl who would grow up to be a fine young woman. He and his wife began attending St. Peter's in 1982, and a few years later started becoming active in the church – and that's an understatement.

- He has been Register of the Vestry Register
- He served as Senior Warden during the interim period that led to the calling of the Rev. Douglas Wigner
- He was Chairman of the St. Peter's Oyster Roast for two years
- He served as Chairman and owner's representative for the expansion and renovation of the Parish House, a three year project that raised \$380,000 and resulted in the addition of the Education Wing, the Mullins Room, and a new kitchen, as well as the expansion of Richardson Hall, and renovation of the current office, vesting, and library spaces.
- Speaking of the library, he and his wife have contributed quite a few volumes to the collection
- He has served as Junior Warden
- He was the Chairman of the Search Committee that led to the calling of the Rev. Brian McGurk
- He also served as Chair of the committee that selected and implemented the ACS accounting, membership, and contributions software package, which led to his becoming
- Treasurer of the Parish – which he has been for almost fourteen years – because the former treasurer will tell you himself that he didn't want to learn the software!
- He was chosen to be Clerk of the Parish upon the death of Bud Thomas, who had been the first Clerk of this parish and had served for more than thirty years – a very hard act to follow
- He serves Lector, Intercessor, and Chalice, and given enough notice, will do almost anything I ask of him
- Finally, he has served as Treasurer of the St. Peter's Parish Foundation some four years in all.

For this, and for many other services known and unknown, the 2014 Rector's Cross is awarded to Stuart Rutledge Burnett.

#### SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:

One of Tony's first projects when he became the Senior Warden was to investigate the church's boiler system. Before he could complete that – it broke! A new HVAC system (and all that went along with that installation); a new entrance way at the top of the driveway and a brand new floor in Richardson Hall were the main projects that were completed during his three years. These were among many other smaller projects. Compared to 2012 – Tony felt that 2013 was a breeze!

## JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:

Mark hopes the HVAC/boiler era is now gone! It seems a Terry era is here ☺

- The new HVAC system settles down. For 2012 and the first part of 2013, much of the attention and energy of the many parishioners who contribute to the B&G effort was taken by the (long running) HVAC upgrade. With the replacement of boiler #2 in the spring, many thought that many of the installation problems were behind us. For the most part they were. Although the switchover to heat this fall wasn't without challenges, we have abundant heat! Even more encouraging is that we are seeing a decrease in our energy costs due to the increased efficiency
- An Education from Ken and Major. In early Spring, with Sherri's help, we updated the "to-do" list for the site. While there was a lot on that list, it was only after meeting with Ken Rubert and Major Mansfield that we saw just how large the list really was after adding important items that were just not that obvious.
- Terry Joins the Staff. Although Terry Porter has a full time site manager's job with Habitat, we are fortunate as of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter to have him as a part time member of St. Peter's staff. Terry's meticulous work and broad capabilities were certainly key factors in bringing him on board, but that long "to-do" list is what added the urgency. We are working down the list – but many new items keep being added...like the chunks of plaster that fell off the front tower that Father Paul pointed out to me last Sunday.

## Foundation Treasurer's Remarks:

- Early in 2013, many of the parish permanent and temporarily restricted funds were moved to an actively managed investment account. These investments were identified separately from the Foundation's assets, but managed under a consistent conservative strategy by the Foundation directors. In retrospect, for the year this was a good decision.
- Towards the end of 2013, we got news that was not quite so good. Our investments have been managed by PLF (Penino, Levin and Ford). Our account manager, Dick Tashjian, in whom we had a lot of confidence, retired from PLF. But in an even bigger impact, our own Steve Peterson, who was the current President of the Foundation, was given significantly increased responsibilities in his day job, and the greatly increased workload led him to resign his Foundation position. Speaking for the other directors, I can tell you that we very much miss the deep investment understanding and expertise that Steve brought to the table.

- Quick financial facts:
  - \$284 K End year value of St. Peter's restricted account investments
  - \$ 21 K 2013 investment value increase
  
  - \$ 1.9 M End year value of St. Peter's Foundation investments
  - \$215 K 2013 investment value increase

Overall managed investment return for 2013: 13%

#### BUILDING & GROUNDS:

Patrick spoke of the many accomplishments that were done by the Building and Grounds commission this year, such as the driveway entrance and the drainage issue; the brick repair on the sidewalks; the basketball court; painting of the entrance to the Parish House and the Meditation Garden. He also cited Terry Porter's tremendous help!

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

#### OUTREACH:

Peter told us about the United Thank Offering (UTO) and that over 650 letters were sent out to new residents of New Kent telling them out St. Peter's Parish Church and all the history behind it. Other outreach included the YMT to Cherokee, NC and the Outreach Council (which is organized by Nancy Goodman) as well as the new shelving units which were paid for and installed at the new location for the New Kent Food Panty after a tree destroyed their prior location during a bad storm. The Youth and other volunteers erected a ramp for a family's home as well as help clean up their yard. Rod and Joyce Molina have been instrumental in maintaining St. Peter's website and using Constant Contact to inform parishioners of events and other information.

#### PASTORAL CARE:

Karen reported on all that has been going on this year and the efforts that so many given.

2013 was a restructuring year for the Pastoral Care Commission. The Commission's strong leadership in the past laid the foundation for a new leader and a targeted direction for the future.

Jennifer Johnson/Stenbjorn assumed the leadership of the Pastoral Commission. Mentored by Nancy Goodman, Jennifer defined priorities for the commission and moved efforts forward.

One of those priorities is the shut-in population of St. Peter's Parish. The commission delivered "Christmas Baskets" to Shut- Ins. Jessica Evelyn and Jennifer

assembled the baskets which included homemade food goodies (banana nut bread, cranberry bars, candied pecans, sugar cookies); dry goods (tissue, lotion, Chapstick); large print word finds (and mechanical pencils) and a Christmas card with a scripture from the church!

Thanks to the consistent efforts of Nancy Goodman and Paul Rowles, the guidelines for funerals at St. Peter's Parish were completed.

Three funeral receptions were held this year. Many thanks to the St. Peter's families whose fellowship helped provide comfort to the families who lost loved ones. Special thanks to Jayne Thomas and Joyce Molina for support.

Over 300 birthday and sympathy cards were sent out this year. Thanks so much to Nancy Goodman, Corinne Dorsey and Kathy Lindsey for their contributions to make that happen.

A big thank you was given to Jennifer Johnson/Stenbjorn, Nancy Goodman, Jessica Evelyn, Corinne Dorsey, Shirley Meyers and Kathy Lindsey for their caring ministry on the Pastoral Care Commission.

Pastoral Care Commission looks forward to reaching out to those in need in our community and to the continued wonderful support from the St. Peter's Parish families.

#### Garden Guild Report:

Karen gives a big Thank You to Jayne Pinelli, Preston Martin, Carol Nelms, Barbara McKinney, Karen Moore, Carrie Evelyn, Kendal Hatley, Sallie Smith, Kristin Shacochois-Brown and Charlotte Rae Woodall. These parishioners keep St. Peter's gardens and grounds beautiful year round!

An extra thanks goes to Jayne Pinelli whose endless passion for the gardens at St. Peter's assures that all parishioners and visitors have a beautiful surrounding as they experience St. Peter's.

With the help of Mark Whidden, Kendall Hatley, Billy and Kim McLean, Phil von Hitritz, Steve and Kim von Hitritz, PJ Brown, Steve Miles, Joyce Molina, Cathy Bersik, Lexia Owens, Peter Carlson, Tony Wood, Parker and Blake Wood, Carol Nelms, Dylan Brown, Jayne Pinelli, Jeff Fazio, Paul and Cynthia Rowles, Patty Townsend, Bruce Gregory, Bruce Lange, Kristin Shacochois-Brown September 14, 2013 was a very successful gardening day at St. Peter's. The weather was beautiful (I guess Paul had something to do with that!) and much was accomplished. Appreciation goes out to all who helped weed, plant, mulch and plan.

Steve Miles's perseverance made it possible to once again have a tree in the brick circle in the meditation garden. He also led a follow up planting day to plant bulbs and greenery.

As you attend church on Sundays please take a moment to observe the grounds. It takes many hands to tend the sacred land Martha and George walked many years ago. Consider helping the Garden Guild keep up a piece of history!

#### PARISH LIFE:

Kristin said the Parish Life Commission had a very successful 2013! Our Hospitality/Fellowship team, under the leadership of Jeff Fazio and his hard-working team, helped to keep our fellowship alive throughout the year with very successful events including the Sweetheart Breakfast, Family Games Night, Harvest Feast, Advent Lessons and Carols, Lemonade Under the Tower in the summer and all the wonderful coffee hours. We finally managed to create a Procedures Manual for all the wonderful things we do. Yeah!

Our Annual Church Picnic at the Davis Farm in August was another success story again this year. Thank you to Anna and Boogie Davis.

The Oyster Roast (albeit on a smaller scale) was very well-received this year and we look forward to next year. Thank you to Thomas Evelyn and Bill Lindsey for their work on this event.

We always need more help and more volunteers. Don't miss out on a great volunteer opportunity in 2014 with the ministry of Parish Life!

#### WORSHIP:

Steve reported that the acolytes continue to train twice annually and the current focus is on the organist search. Kim von Hitritz is chair of the search and we hope to begin interviews in mid -February.

#### Kneeler Project:

Then Steve had a "Show and Tell" for us - St. Peter's kneelers, which are more than 50 years old and which were in need of replacement or repair, have been rebuilt and recovered under the leadership of Steve Miles. The recovering process was overseen by Jane Thomas, Jayne Pinelli, and Catherine Stanley.

The Restoration Association provided a loan to cover the cost. Now that the project is complete, parishioners can buy one or more kneelers as a way of repaying the loan. The cost of a kneeler is \$100. Parishioners interested in buying a kneeler can contact Bill O'Keefe—804-9667370/billo38@icloud.com or Steve Miles – 804-690-3002/s.miles@suntrust.com

Alternatively, you can send a check to St. Peter's and note kneeler on the memo line and then send Bill an email.

Parishioners who buy a kneeler will have their names entered on a plaque which will be displayed in Richardson Hall.

### STEWARDSHIP:

Bill said that he knew that Stewardship often conjures up a vision of Parish Beggars!

- Steve Peterson, who has led the commission for four years, has stepped down because of his workload at VRS. Steve did an outstanding job and deserves our gratitude for his hard work and insights. Once a new chair is appointed, he/she will reconstitute the commission. Lisa Guthrie, Bruce Lang, and David Swynford deserve our thanks for their contributions.
- Some think of Stewardship as the Parish Beggars. And, some of that takes place. But, Stewardship is also responsible for working with other commissions and committees to make sure they have the resources needed to carry out Christ centered goals are available.
- Stewardship is time, talent, and treasure and that allows St. Peter's to maintain its historical beauty and value, Fr. Paul and those who assist him to meet the spiritual needs of the parish and our community, especially those in the county who are less fortunate. The acts we perform and the gifts we provide is one way that God changes us.
- Last year, we had a budget of \$228K. At this time last year, we believed that we would face a sizeable deficit. Thanks to your generosity, commission prudence and the investment return on excess cash that deficit was avoided. .
- Looking ahead, the 2014 budget is only slightly larger than last year's.
- To better plan budgets and programs, Stewardship needs feedback on parishioners' priorities for meeting spiritual needs. Don't be shy, share those thoughts with the Stewardship Commission.
  
- This year's Stewardship campaign built off of the Commission Fair in the summer. In addition to a pledge letter from Steve Peterson, several parishioners and Father Gene provided testimony at several services.
- Steve Peterson has stepped down as Commission chair because of increasing work related responsibilities. A new chair needs to be appointed and that person should reconstitute the commission team.

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Stuart reported that we only have a \$3400 deficit at the end of 2013! It took a lot of hard work to get there – with many thanks. We made \$21,000 from the investments from the Foundation Fund (see Junior Warden's report above for details).

Many thanks were given to May O'Leary and all that she is able to raise and donate from the annual St. Peter's Golf tournament ☺

## RESOURCE & DEVELOPMENT:

### OTHER:

Big News - The St. Peter's YMT (Youth Mission Trip) this year is to Steubenville, Ohio July 20-25th!!!

David Swynford will be leading the trip. Deposits of \$100, payable to St. Peter's, are due by February 1 to reserve your space. Please contact David (804-557-3533) with any questions. Need based scholarships are available.

[https://www.youthworks.com/communities/Steubenville\\_OH/](https://www.youthworks.com/communities/Steubenville_OH/).

We say good bye with many thanks to our three Vestry members whose three year terms are over: Tony Wood, Peter Carlson and Karen Lange.

Paul closed the meeting w/prayer. The meeting ended at 11:05 am.