



# CROSSTOWN

January 2009

At the foot of the cross in downtown St. Petersburg

## Expecting "Aha!" Moments in Our New Life Together

The Very Rev. Stephen B. Morris, Dean

In colloquial terms, Epiphany, the season of the church year that we now enter, simply means "Aha!" When the magi, led by the star, reached their destination — the Christ Child — they had an "Aha!" moment. Now I get it, they must have said to themselves. This messiah is not just for a chosen people but for the whole world. He has come to be with those of us from each corner of the universe for all people.

Paul tells us in Romans that in Christ Jesus, God was reconciling the world to himself. The world, Paul said, not just a select few. What great news for a world so sorely in need of redemption and peace. All of us have an opportunity to participate in life in Christ and, in the process, have many "Aha!" moments. These are instances in time when the very real presence of Christ is made known to us. Some of

those moments are meant to humble us.

When my daughter Ellen was just six years old, she felt compelled to announce



that she knew that underneath the pretty church robes, I was just a mean ol' daddy! This was on a very long road trip with all four kids and the dog. She realized something very significant that day. I was a regular guy, just like the rest of her friends' daddies. Nothing special under the robes; just another flawed person who happens to be her dad and a priest.

We all do well to remember such important and fundamental elements of one another's life. We are human and, therefore, flawed. But God uses each of

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## Official Installation on January 31

Mark your (new 2009!) calendars for 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31. That is the day Dean Morris will be officially installed as our dean at a service of Celebration of a New Ministry.

Dean Morris has asked The Rev. Kurt Dunkle, rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Orange Park (near Jacksonville) and a native of St. Petersburg, to preach at this service. As you'll see from reading the service on Page 558 of the Book of Common Prayer, representatives of the congregation and the diocese present gifts symbolic of the new ministry: a Bible, water, a stole, a prayer book, healing oil, diocesan canons, keys, bread, and wine.

This will be a colorful and festive occasion for our Cathedral family. We'll have more details as the time draws near. Come celebrate and welcome the Morris family, their relatives and friends.

## Three Sundays in January for News and Updates

This is a month for updates, news, and reports at St. Peter's. Plan to be here to get the latest news on several big projects:

**\* Sunday, January 11: New Building and Columbarium Update**

After the 9 a.m. service at St. Peter's Central

How's the new building coming along? What's doing with the columbarium? We'll have news, schedules, and information. (Stories, Page 2)

**\* Sunday, January 18: Stewardship Update and 2009 Budget Presentation**

After the 9 a.m. service at St. Peter's Central

We'll report on the results of the fall pledge campaign and tell you how we plan to spend that money this year.

**\* Sunday, January 25: Annual Meeting**

10:30 a.m. (NO 11:15 a.m. service that day)

Reports from Dean Morris and the wardens on what's ahead for us in 2009.

## Crosswinds

Just a reminder that there will be **no elections** of new Chapter members at our Annual Meeting on January 25. Bishop Smith asked that the current Chapter remain in place, its terms extended by one year, to provide stability and institutional memory as Dean Morris gets settled and we move ahead with the building project.

\* \* \*

Our friends at St. Thomas' invite us to a **U2charist** at 10 a.m. Sunday, January 11. A U2charist is a Eucharist featuring the music of the rock band U2. It focuses on the Gospel and U2's messages of global reconciliation, justice for the poor and oppressed, and the importance of caring for your neighbor. The service will be in the parish hall at St. Thomas', 1200 Snell Isle Blvd. NE. Information: (727) 896-9641.

\* \* \*

**The Cathedral and offices** will be closed Monday, Jan. 19, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

\* \* \*

All the lightbulbs in the Cathedral have recently been replaced with **compact fluorescent bulbs**, which are much more energy-efficient. We stand to get a rebate from Florida Power for making the switch.

\* \* \*

**Please visit Dean Morris** in his new office on the second floor. This office was created so we could use one of the ground-floor offices as a sales office for the columbarium. Dean Morris's office includes both a private office and a meeting room. If you have trouble taking the stairs, he'll be glad to come downstairs and meet with you there.

\* \* \*

The new year, 2009, marks the **120th anniversary** of the founding of the mission church that became St. Peter's . . . the 110th anniversary

## Columbarium Open House on January 10

**Sheree Graves and Martha Goodwill**

An open house to provide information about our columbarium will be at noon Saturday, January 10, at St. Peter's Central. All are welcome!

We plan to build 184 columbarium niches initially in our existing Memorial Garden, immediately south of the Cathedral. This is the scattering garden where the ashes of many of our loved ones have been placed. Eventually there will be 300 niches here, bronze-fronted containers that can hold the cremains of two people.

We also plan to remodel the former Baptist Sanctuary to our south into a City Peace Garden: 3,000 niches indoors and outdoors and a beautiful, gated garden with meditation areas, a fountain and Florida-friendly landscaping. The city will act at the end of this month on our request for permission to tear down the back end of the building, leaving the facade along Fourth Street N. Images of what this will look like are posted at St. Peter's Central as well as on the columbarium web site, [www.peacememorialgarden.org](http://www.peacememorialgarden.org).

Niches will cost \$2,500 to \$3,000, which includes a tax-deductible gift to St. Peter's. We will shortly open a sales office on the ground floor of St. Peter's Central. Questions? Please speak to senior warden Sheree Graves or to Martha Goodwill.



## New Lender Provides Loans to Move Ahead

**Sheree Graves, Senior Warden, and  
Pat Wahlen, Building Committee Chair**

The wonderful news we have going into the new year is that we have secured construction loans from a new lender, Freedom Bank, for a total of \$5.2-million. We closed December 19 on loans of \$2.7-million for our three-story building and \$2.5-million for the columbarium. The columbarium will become a revenue source that helps us pay off these loans. We'll have details about all this at our presentation Sunday, January 11.

At the end of December, we sold to First United Methodist Church the lawyers' office building we owned at 219 Fourth St. N for \$570,000. The Methodists also agreed to let us stay rent-free for a year in our temporary quarters at St. Peter's Central.

We are still seeking another \$2.7-million so we can build out the interiors as we have planned and pay for fixtures, fittings, and equipment. That money will go toward covering the loss of the \$2.7-million pledge from our anonymous donor.

Another step we have taken to create a revenue stream is engaging Osprey Real Estate Services to lease the spaces on the third floor of the new building. If you know anyone seeking executive office space downtown, please have them call Paula Smith at Osprey, (727) 898-8500.

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## Expecting "Aha!" Moments

*continued from Page 1*

us to reveal Christ to the world in thought, word, and deed. "Aha!"

\* \* \*

I am thrilled about the life we now share as Cathedral and dean in our life in Christ. We will have many "Aha!" moments together. I will always do my best to extend grace and comfort to you, and I know you will do the same for me. Some moments will be less than comfortable, and others will be pure excitement and joy. All of it is a gift from God. You are a gift to me, and I will treat our life together as such.

May this Epiphany season bring each of us closer to the loving reality that is Christ, the light of the world. May God shine time and time again in your life so that you say, "Aha! Now I get it." Remember, God comes to each of us, for each of us, in God's own time. Sometimes it is in elation and joy. Other times it is in humility and lowliness. Nevertheless it is blessed and holy.




## Diocese Creates Charity Fund

Bishop Dabney Smith has called upon the diocese to establish the Episcopal Charities Fund of the Diocese of Southwest Florida.

"I am asking 2,009 Episcopalians of this diocese to each contribute \$1,000 to establish this endowment for outreach. The number 2009 is simply to mark our 40th anniversary" in 2009. "This will raise more than \$2-million that will generate approximately \$100,000 per year" in interest, Bishop Smith said at diocesan convention in October.

The interest will be used for outreach within and outside the diocese, including in the Dominican Republic, the Haitian ministry, refugee resettlement, work with military families, or crisis care through Episcopal Relief and Development, the bishop said.

Bishop Smith said he hopes the funds can be raised by next October's diocesan convention. To become one of those 2,009 Episcopalians, make a check out to the Diocese of Southwest Florida and put "Episcopal Charities Fund" in the memo line. Send it to Diocese of Southwest Florida, 7313 Merchant Court, Sarasota, FL 34240.



## Celebrate Outreach

More than 115 people attended the Memorial for the Homeless at the CAYA service on December 21. Celebrate Outreach, a ministry consortium of eight downtown churches, continues to work together to find ways to support our homeless neighbors and reach out to those in need. The group's next meeting is at 10 a.m. January 17 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 401 Fifth St. N. Please join us! Questions? Speak to John Paul or Jayme Payne.

## Crosswinds, from page 2

of the building of the Cathedral . . . and our 40th anniversary as the Cathedral for the Diocese of Southwest Florida. Watch for events from now through December as we mark this anniversary year. Please see our anniversary logo on the back page.

\* \* \*

This month we'll install software that allows our telephone system to make automated phone calls quickly to everyone on our roster. This "**phone tree**" will let us call you with a recorded message: for example, a change in service times, or breaking news, or information when a hurricane or other disaster is looming. If you're not there to answer the phone the system will leave a message. We promise not to bug you with too-frequent and unwanted calls! This is similar to the system that the schools use to call hundreds of parents and leave messages. The phone tree is part of our commitment to provide better, faster, less expensive communication with our congregation.

\* \* \*

**Episcopal Church Women** meet at 9 a.m. Saturday, January 10, at St. Peter's Central. All women welcome! We'll be planning activities and guest speakers and welcome your input.



## Music in January

Our music offerings in January:  
\* Sunday, January 18, at 11:15 a.m.: **Orchestral Mass**, Mozart's "Missa Brevis in D," K194.

Mark your calendars now for **Sunday, February 1, at 7:30 p.m. for "A Visit to the Sistine Chapel."** We offer a glimpse into the glories of music from the Vatican's Sistine Chapel with Renaissance polyphony interspersed with plainsong and organ music . . . all by candlelight.

# St. Peter's: A Guide

*With God's help, we will welcome all people.*

## Weekend Worship

### Saturday

5 p.m.: Holy Communion and Homily  
*A traditional service, no music*

### Sunday

7:30 a.m.: Holy Communion and Homily  
*A traditional service, no music*

9 a.m.: Holy Communion (child-friendly) and Homily  
*A spirit-filled celebration, with hymns and choir*

11:15 a.m.: Choral Holy Communion and Homily  
*A sung service with choir*

6 p.m.: CAYA (Come As You Are)  
*Holy Communion in the round, followed by a shared supper.  
Celtic prayers and music from around the world.*



## Visiting/getting in touch

Office/Parish Center: 201 Fourth St. N. (33701). Church entrance:  
On Second Ave. N just west of Fourth St.

## Mailing address:

P.O. Box 1581, St. Petersburg, FL 33731-1581

## Telephone:

(727) 822-4173

## Fax:

(727) 823-2205

## E-mail:

[stpetersplace@spcathedral.com](mailto:stpetersplace@spcathedral.com)

## Web Site:

[www.spcathedral.net](http://www.spcathedral.net)

## Our clergy and senior staff:

The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith, Bishop

The Very Rev. Stephen B. Morris, Dean —  
[sbm@spcathedral.com](mailto:sbm@spcathedral.com)

The Rev. Canon Georgene Conner, Canon Evangelist —  
[canongigi@spcathedral.com](mailto:canongigi@spcathedral.com)

The Rev. Lynde E. "Ted" May IV, assisting priest

The Rev. Clyde Nabe, assisting priest

The Rev. Herbert E. Rowe, assisting priest

The Rev. Richard T. Earle III, Deacon — [rearle@fishersauls.com](mailto:rearle@fishersauls.com)

Edward Barbieri, Director of Music (Organist/Choirmaster) —  
[music@spcathedral.com](mailto:music@spcathedral.com)

Pamela J. League, Administrator — [pam@spcathedral.com](mailto:pam@spcathedral.com)

## Monday-Friday

Morning Prayer, 9 a.m. ☞ Evening Prayer, Monday and Friday, 6 p.m.

## Wednesday

Service of Healing, 10 a.m.

## Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Choral Evensong, 6 p.m.

## Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Holy Communion, 12:05 p.m.

At any time after hours you have a pastoral emergency, please call our clergy on their cell phones: Dean Morris, (727) 743-1614, or Canon Conner, (727) 742-8509.

*Crosstown* is the newsletter of the people of St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral, published monthly for members, friends, and supporters. Editor, Judy Stark ([judy Stark@yahoo.com](mailto:judy Stark@yahoo.com)); Associate Editor, Mary W. Matthews ([mothermary@extremelysmart.com](mailto:mothermary@extremelysmart.com)). Next deadline: February 15, 2009.

Building  
consecrated  
1899



**St. Peter's**  
serving God since 1889



Cathedral  
since  
1969

# January Transitions

## January Birthdays

1 David Hill Bill Hough Jerry Merchant	11 Marisa Johnson Camille Knight	19 Georgina Wootten-Case	25 Phil Bowman Jan Strimer	28 Paul Bonneau Bill Wheatland
2 Ansee Long	13 Lois Atkins	20 Tom Amundrud Alex Ramsey	26 Marcy Crosby	31 Robert Blanc Lela Garnett
3 Nancy Dolson Olivia George	14 Betty Shamas	21 Oriana Beard	27 George Wilsey	
8 Ian Beard Fay Nielsen Michael Robbins	15 Mark Campbell	22 Sarah Margaret McBride		
9 Sarah Howlett	16 Bethia Caffery Roberta Poellein Brett Salsman Sylvia Walbolt	23 Don Wright		
10 Maggie Burnsed	17 Elisabeth Patiala Randy Ramsey Ginny Rowell			

## January Anniversaries

12 Tim and Pat Holly	26 Phil and Louisa Thomas
22 Bill and Silvia Hoyt	31 Ted and Diane May

## McKendree Will Play At CAYA January 11

One of our favorite musicians, Fran McKendree, will play at the CAYA service at 6 p.m. Sunday, January 11.

He's playing the day before in Boynton Beach and agreed to drive across the state to be with us for that evening, Canon Conner said.

McKendree is a longtime popular Christian musician and worship leader who often appears at national events and at the Episcopal conference center at Kanuga. He has become a beloved friend of St. Peter's thanks to his appearances here in the last few years, and it will be great to welcome Fran again!



## Visit Williams Park

Please note these events, designed to make Williams Park a safe, attractive, and appealing place for all. Plan to be there to support our neighborhood.

**\* The Wednesday Midday Market** runs weekly from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Food vendors, crafts, music. If you

work downtown, this is your lunch break!

**\* Last Friday Concert Series:** The last Friday of each month, from 6 to 10 p.m., with live music and beer, wine, and food. Proceeds from sales benefit social-service agencies that assist the homeless and others.

**\* Art in the Park** continues from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays with arts and crafts vendors and more.



## New Life for an Old Tree

The 98-year-old camphor tree in our Memorial Garden will be removed shortly. Its roots were damaged, and the roots were also causing damage to the foundation of the Cathedral.

We are planning to remove the tree now, at a cost of about \$4,000, rather than waiting until the Memorial Garden is enclosed by our new three-story building and the Cathedral. The removal at that time would be far more complex and would cost an estimated \$100,000.

Tarpon Springs wood artist Lawrence Hasiak will create an art object for us out of some of the wood. (You

can see his turned wood vessels on display at the Florida Craftsmen Gallery.)

Other wood will be set aside to create an altar for the Bishop's Chapel in our new building. Thus the tree, planted in 1911, will have a new life in our new buildings.

Camphor trees have a lifespan of about 100 years and are now considered invasive species.



## January Movies Eddy Burns

Here's the movie lineup for January. We show free movies at 7 p.m. Fridays at St. Peter's Central. Free popcorn! All welcome! Details about the films are at the web site, [spcathedral.net](http://spcathedral.net), or on the bulletin board.

January 9: *My Father's Glory* (France, 1991).

January 16: *My Mother's Castle* (France, 1991).

January 23: *The Two of Us* (France, 1968).

January 30: *I Will Never Forget You* (U.S., 2007).