



August 2020

# CROSSTOWN

*At the foot of the cross in downtown St. Petersburg*

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**In-Person Worship Returns**  
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Dean in Oklahoma City**  
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*Waving our signs for the Not My Son movement, we were energized by drivers who honked in support. [Story, Page 14](#). Photo by JUDY STARK*

## Goodbye, with Love

The parade of cars extended down Second Avenue N to the corner of Fifth Street and around the corner as parishioners turned out on July 26 to say farewell to Canon Katie and her family. She is about to become “the Very Awesome” — well, all right, formally “the Very Reverend” — Katie

Churchwell, dean of St. Paul’s Cathedral in Oklahoma City.

The goodbyes were bittersweet: delighted for Katie and her family, sorry for us. “Thank you for marrying us,” one couple said. “Thank you for baptizing me,” a child told Canon Katie. There were cards and gifts

and flowers and cookies, all of them ways of sending our love to someone who has made such a difference in so many lives. “I’m going to miss you guys so, so much,” Canon Katie said to friend after friend. We will miss you too.

Photos by JUDY STARK



Left, Logan and Collins hold a sign made by the McCoy family. Above, Debra and Clay Eich in their 1931 Ford Model A Cabriolet. Right, Jerry and Laurie Buchert played a CD of “Oklahoma!” as they waved goodbye to Katie, Collins, Addison, Logan, and Crawford.



## Saying Farewell

In April 2016, I posed my family in our Houston backyard to take a picture to be run in *Crosstown* announcing the Churchwells' arrival at St. Peter's in May.

So much has changed since then. My hair is shorter, our beloved Otley dog has gone on to his great reward, and Crawford no longer sucks his finger. We have added a Pumpkin Spice orange kitty to the family, followed a few years later by Collins Joyce, the happiest baby on the planet. Addison learned how to read and Logan finally got his black belt in TaeKwonDo.

One thing remained the same from that April 2016 picture to now: We love the Cathedral Church of St. Peter. Our love has deepened and grown, but I knew back in 2016 that the Cathedral was going to be a home for our family.

I am honored and humbled to have been able to serve you and to serve alongside you these past four-plus years. I can look back on our time together and see how clearly the Holy Spirit was at work with us. I have loved being your priest and you have

made me a better priest. You have let me love you with abandon and you have loved me and my family in return. I am filled with gratitude for each of you and the sacred spaces we have shared together.

It is inadequate to say that I, that we, will miss you. But those seem to be the words we have. We will miss you so much.

Until we meet again, dear friends.

— Katie



*Family portrait as the Churchwells prepare to leave: Crawford, Katie, Addison, Logan, and Collins (who's on the verge of both walking and talking). Photo by JUDY STARK*

# In-Person Worship Will Return on August 16 — With Care and Limitations

**The Very Rev. Stephen B. Morris**

We now plan to open the cathedral for in-person worship on Sunday, August 16.

There will be one service of Holy Communion, at 10:15 a.m.

“We believe it will be safe for us to gather then, but it is up to each person to determine when is the right time to return to church,” Dean Morris said. “Our online services will continue for those who are not ready to return in person.”

Here is what to expect:

**\* You will need to sign up in advance** if you wish to attend. Watch our website, Facebook page, weekly Connections e-mails, and social media for details about how to do that.

**\* You must wear a mask**, and we will observe social distancing.

**\* If you turn up without a reservation, we will ask you to wait in your car.** If we

have space to accommodate people without reservations (we are limited to 125 people), we will call you and invite you to enter.

**\* You will enter via the ramp**, spaced 6 feet apart. If there is a long line at the ramp when you arrive, please wait in your car until the line dwindles. We will begin letting people in 30 minutes before the service.

**\* Please sit only in the designated pews**, and please refrain from socializing, embracing, or chatting with others before the start of worship, no matter how glad you are to see them. We are charged with observing the CDC guidelines for group gatherings. Chapter members, who will be serving as ushers, have been told to enforce them.

**\* Prayer books and hymnals have been removed** from the pews. We will have

printed service bulletins, or you can follow the service on a phone or tablet. (Please put your device’s ringer on silent!)

**\* There will be no congregational singing.**

**\* At the Eucharist**, priests will first distribute the bread simultaneously to those seated in the chapel and on the south (garden) side of the church, then to those on the north (Second Avenue) side.

**\* Alms basins will be placed in several locations around the church.** Ushers will not pass the plates.

**\* At the end of the service you may leave via the doors on Second Avenue N** or via the ramp. Please do not linger in the Narthex or on the steps to socialize.

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## In-Person Worship to Resume

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\* **Only the restrooms in the Narthex will be available.** The rest of our campus — Harvard Hall, the kitchen, library, and other spaces — will be off-limits.

“I know this is going to feel awkward and strange at first,” Dean Morris said. “The Chapter and I have worked out these details, and we know there will be some wrinkles the first few weeks as we iron out the details. We ask your patience as we make it possible for us to worship together.”

## In New Podcast Series, Presiding Bishop and Guests Walk and Talk the Way of Love

Presiding Bishop **Michael Curry** has started a third season of his podcasts on The Way of Love, the churchwide initiative to encourage people to follow Jesus in their daily lives.

From time to time he posts a new conversation with ordained leaders of many

denominations, lay leaders, authors, and thinkers about how each of us can draw closer to Jesus by following the seven practices of the Way of Love: turn, learn, pray, worship, bless, go, and rest.

The conversations, each about an hour long, are available at this web address: [wayoflove.episcopalchurch.org/episodes/season/3/](http://wayoflove.episcopalchurch.org/episodes/season/3/) The host is **Sandy Milien**, who gave a presentation on The Way of Love at our diocesan convention last October.

Among the participants in the series are Lutheran pastor the Rev. **Nadia Bolz-Weber**, who talks about how sharing stories can cross the boundaries of loneliness and inequality in a time of injustice and division; **Teddy Reeves**, assistant curator of the National Museum of African-American History and Culture, speaking on what millennials are seeking in the church and trends for the future; and Father **Richard Rohr**, author, spiritual guide, and Franciscan monk, on the consequences of placing Jesus on a pedestal rather than actually following him.





# Staff Changes Will Strengthen Formation, Administration

Please congratulate one staff member on her new position and welcome another to the Cathedral.

**Hillary Peete** is now director of Christian formation, responsible for all levels, from children through youth and adults.

We welcome **Michelle Thomas** as our new administrator and associate for Christian formation. She is a longtime music educator and singer who since 2009 has sung in our Cathedral and Evensong choirs and with the St. Petersburg Festival Chorus.

“In my job as administrator I’ll be the first line of contact for everyone. I’ll handle all day-to-day operations, including working with our bookkeepers, receiving tech and supply requests, working with the clergy and Chapter, and generally making sure everything runs smoothly. I’ll also handle funeral and end-of-life planning, and I’ll be working with Hillary Peete on our

website and social-media presence.”

Michelle said, “Contact me if you’d like to get more involved at St. Peter’s but aren’t sure where to start, or if you want to nerd out about liturgy, hymnology, or Gregorian chant; if you have a new bullet journal or organization idea; or if you’d like to talk about all things craft beer (21+ only!).” Michelle is the taproom manager and events coordinator for Bayboro Brewing Co. in St. Petersburg.

See the story on [Page 11](#) for details about what family ministry and formation will look like.

Our former administrative assistant to the clergy and youth minister, **Alicia Schmid**, has resigned to work full-time in youth ministry. We thank her for her contributions to the Cathedral and wish her well in helping young people come to know Jesus.

**Maggie Mardirosian’s** role as associ-

ate for music outreach came to a close at the end of July. She will continue as a staff singer. If you missed her beautiful four-part harmony in the Thomas Tallis anthem “If ye love me,” click here: [www.spcathedral.org/connection](http://www.spcathedral.org/connection) and choose the message for July 18.



*Michelle Thomas*

## Virtual Coffee with the Clergy

Are you new to the Cathedral? Would you like to learn more about the Episcopal Church and the ministries of the Cathedral? Join the Rev. Brandon Peete, canon for hospitality, on Zoom for an informal gathering at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, August 16. E-mail [bpeete@spcathedral.com](mailto:bpeete@spcathedral.com) to sign up and receive the Zoom link.



# A Barrier Is Removed, an Entryway Welcomes

**The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams**

A rood screen is a partition between the chancel and the nave, surmounted by a cross (“rood” or “rode” is the Saxon word for cross). Rood screens were used in medieval churches to mark off the area in which the clergy performed their duties and celebrated the Sacrament, delineating it (and partly obscuring it) from the space meant for the laity.

Since churches would also be open to various secular uses during the week, the rood screen provided a barrier; you wouldn’t want animals getting into the sanctuary and desecrating the Reserved Sacrament.



*The back of the nave, without the rood screen, is much brighter and more welcoming.*

So why did St. Peter’s have a rood screen at the back of the nave? When the altar was against the east wall, the rood screen, given as a gift in 1936, was in the traditional place. When the south transept was made into a chapel in 1952, the rood screen was moved there and continued to serve its intended purpose in a new place.

When major renovations were done in 1969, someone’s instinct for preservation suggested the idea of moving it to the back of the nave.

But it never made either architectural or theological sense there: A barrier had been turned into an entryway, and a symbol of

the dignity of the Eucharist had been left without meaning.

So when we began thinking about constructing a permanent baptistry, it made good sense to begin by removing the rood screen and putting it in safe storage. The entrance is now much more open and inviting; the physical and visual barrier at the back of the nave is now gone.

Photos by JUDY STARK



*The image at left shows the rood screen in its original position in the Cathedral, where it was installed in 1936. At right, the screen was moved to St. Mary’s Chapel in 1952.*

# What We Do in Baptism, Part II: How We Might Do It Better

The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams

*Part 8 in a series on baptism. Find previous installments at [spcathedral.org/baptism](https://www.spcathedral.org/baptism).*

I ended my last article by noting two ways in which what we do in baptism does not adequately reflect what we believe about baptism. The first is that the profound importance of baptism is obscured by having a font that can be rolled down to the front of the church and then rolled back out of the way and left in what is basically a dark corner. We don't venture out to seek the font; the font comes to us at our convenience. The second is that the impossibility of solemn movement from east to west and back to the east is likewise in tension with our theology of baptism. In this article I talk about how we might do it better.

The solution is — theoretically — obvi-

ous. We need a permanent baptismery, something of enough size and dignity to echo the altar in witnessing to the centrality of the sacrament that will be celebrated there, with enough space around it for candidates, sponsors, and clergy to gather; and it needs to be at the west entrance to the nave. Is that possible? Until just recently, it was not; but we are making room. The disused sound booth and the rood screen have been removed, so that the back of the nave is much more open. What kind of bap-

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*This beautiful baptismery, at St. Mark's Cathedral in Seattle, might inspire the sort of baptismery we create at St. Peter's. Photo credit: St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle*



## How Baptisms Might Improve

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tistry we will be able to construct there depends on various complications of structural engineering, plumbing, electricity, and so forth; but we certainly expect to move forward with some kind of fixed and permanent baptistry that will be appropriate to our theology of baptism.

Ideally there would be provision for the immersion of adults and older children. The expectation of the framers of the 1979 Prayer Book was that the renewed emphasis on a high theology of baptism would be accompanied by an equal emphasis on what liturgists call the “sign-value” of the practice of baptism. As James Turrell explains in *Celebrating the Rites of Initiation*, “To speak of a liturgical element as having greater ‘sign-value’ is to say that it communicates its meaning with clarity, integrity, and vigor.” The sign-value of baptism is greatest where there is, quite simply, lots of water. Baptism is a symbolic drowning: St. Paul speaks of being buried with Christ by baptism into death (Romans 6:4). So both liturgically and theologically, immersion is

the ideal mode of baptism. “Each candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, or to an assisting priest or deacon, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate,” the rubric says (BCP Page 307), putting the preferred alternative first, as always.

A beautiful example of the sort of baptistry we have in mind — if the building will allow it — is at St. Mark’s Cathedral in



*The baptistry at St. Mark’s Cathedral allows baptisms to be performed the way the Anglican Church originally envisioned in the 16th century.*

Seattle. See more images and learn about the design of this baptistry at <https://saintmarks.org/worship/baptism/>

## Sunday Morning Class Looks at Latest Thinking in Philosophy of Religion

Canon Williams's class on **Contemporary Philosophy of Religion** continues at 9 a.m. Sundays via Zoom through August 30.

"The class is meant to give people an idea of what's going on in philosophy of religion nowadays," Canon Williams said. It's not an "Intro 101" class offering an overview of the entire field, he said; rather, it's "here's where the action is these days."

His own expertise lies in the classic topics presented in his talks on July 19 and 26 and August 2. But the discipline has not always been open to the viewpoints of marginalized voices or of topics that don't fit into the standard boxes. "So I have invited friends who have made good reputations in the discipline by exploring the intersection of philosophy of religion with the philosophy of disability, trauma theory, philosophy of race, and the theory and practice of mysticism," Canon Williams said. "I'm really excited about this range of perspectives."

On **August 2** Canon Williams will speak on "**Time, Eternity, and Divine Providence.**"

Here are the presenters and topics for the succeeding weeks:

**August 9: "Disability and God's Kingdom,"** presented by Kevin Timpe, the William H. Jellema Chair of Christian Philosophy at Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Mich., and an advocate for children with disabilities.

**August 16: "Philosophy of Religion and Trauma Theory,"** presented by Michelle Panchuk, assistant professor of philosophy at Murray State University in Murray, Ky., where she specializes in the philosophy of trauma and feminist philosophy.



*St. Julian of Norwich was one of the most famous medieval mystics.*

**August 23: "Philosophy of Race and Christian Theology,"** presented by Sameer Yadav, associate professor of religious studies at Westmont College in Montecito, Calif.

**August 30: "What Contemporary Philosophers of Religion Can Learn from Medieval Women Mystics,"** presented by Christina Van Dyke, professor of philosophy at Calvin University, specializing in medieval philosophy and the philosophy of gender.

The login for the class is sent out in the Friday Connections e-mail and class recordings are posted at [spcathedral.org/adults](https://spcathedral.org/adults)

# New Formation Plans Will Incorporate All Ages, Stages

Our new director of Christian formation, Hillary Peete, says her goal is to make our educational programs a continuous whole, from nursery through children and youth to adult formation.

“Instead of individual silos that have no connection to one another, I want our formation programs to offer lifelong learning and to be inter-generational,” said Hillary, who has been our children’s minister since fall 2018. “I want us to think about this as family ministry that includes everyone.”

So, for example, when children grow out of Messy Church — our family-friendly

monthly weeknight program of worship, crafts, and fun — “we hope the older kids will want to continue to participate as leaders,” she said.



*Our formation team: Christian formation director Hillary Peete and associate for Christian formation Michelle Thomas.*

teers as leaders, teachers, and facilitators.

Hillary will also work to integrate our outreach, formation, and fellowship min-

“We want to develop as many opportunities as we can to embrace the family as a whole,” Hillary said. “When we say ‘All are welcome,’ we want to really mean it.” That means classes and activities to which all are invited, small groups at various times of the day and week, and more reliance on adult volun-

istries. When the Outreach Committee collects food and hygiene supplies for the St. Petersburg Free Clinic, for example, it makes sense to educate ourselves by inviting someone from the Free Clinic to speak to us about their work.

“I’m very excited about the new directions we are taking in formation,” Dean Morris said. “You will see more integration in all that we do here. We want to be intentional about connecting the dots for people, showing how our ministries work together and support each other. And all the things that we are expected to do as adults — singing, praying, participating in worship — our children and youth will be doing too.”

Hillary, who has a master of divinity degree from the Candler School of Theology — the same degree as our priests — will work with Michelle Thomas, our new administrator who is also the associate for Christian formation.

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## New Formation Plans

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Michelle has had a long career in music as a vocalist, organist, choir director, and educator (she taught for five years in the Pinellas County schools). She worked with last year's Vacation Bible School and Christmas pageant, teaching the children instrumentals and vocals for several songs.

Michelle said, "I'll be working very closely with Hillary to build relationships and lifelong faith with all generations of parishioners, but most notably our children, youth, and families."

"Working together, Michelle and I will get to know the kids and their parents, and as they move from the EYSeedlings (grades 3 to 5) to junior and senior youth group, there will be a smoother transition," Hillary said.

"We'll also be looking at the big picture — not just the next few months or the next semester, but several years down the road. What do membership and confirmation mean for adults? What do we need to learn as Episcopalians?" she said. "Doing this during a pandemic, when we can't be together, isn't easy, but it's as good a time as any."

## Blessing of the Devices

August 3 through 8

There is so much stress, anxiety, and worry surrounding decisions about going back to school this year. While many of us still aren't sure what that will look like, it's clear that we have much more than backpacks to bless! Since we aren't able to gather in church, we are bringing the blessings to you. Families (children + youth) are invited to sign up online ([spcathedral.org/children](https://spcathedral.org/children)) for a time for either Michelle or Hillary to come by your home for a "Blessing of the De-



vices." Just as we bless the physical symbols and tools of our learning, we can also bless and mark the digital devices through which so much of schooling, work, and life are now mediated.



**Cathedral EYC Bike Ride at  
Fort DeSoto**

**Sunday, August 2, 6:30-8 p.m.**

Youth (6th-12th grade) are invited to go for an evening cruise along the bike path and catch up with friends as summer comes to an end.

## Harry Potter Club Continues!

Sunday, August 16, 5 to 6 p.m. via Zoom

We had our first Harry Potter Club in July with 18 kids! We talked about how we are marked as Christ's own forever by the sign of the cross on our foreheads at baptism, as Harry is marked as "the boy who lived" by the lightning scar on his forehead, and the power these stories have in our lives. The kids also created blessings based on characters in the first four chapters of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. Here is one of the collects.



### *Hagrid: a blessing for those in troubled times*

*O God, you bring us to safety in troubled times by taking care of our troubled hearts. We ask that you would care for us when we are scared and frightened so that you can guide us to peace, serenity, and comfort. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

Connor Carlisle decorates a Harry Potter bookmark before the club's meeting in July. Photo by KERRY CARLISLE

## EYSeedlings

Sunday, August 9, noon-2 p.m. at the Cathedral

The EYSeedlings (3rd-5th grade) were able to safely gather during the summer to hang out by the pool, make tie-dye shirts, and enjoy a creative paint party. In August we will continue faith formation with a series called "Connect." Preteens connect with God's big story through videos, Bible exploration, and hands-on projects. We hope to be able to meet in person, but can shift to virtual if needed.



Splash party: Addison Campbell-Correll (front, in red), enjoys the water with Peyton Parker and Caleb and Dustin Knight. Photo by HILLARY PEETE



## We Hit the Streets for ‘Not My Son’ Rally

We broke a record for participation on July 10 when Cathedral members joined Pastor Kenny Irby of Historic Bethel AME Church and others for a Not My Son rally at intersections around Williams Park. Forty-nine people turned out, the most since these rallies started earlier in the summer.

Not My Son is a grassroots community outreach and intervention effort to assist African-American male youth and young adults, ages 12 to 24, and to promote achievement and anti-crime awareness.

Each Friday night, supporters of Not My Son take the message to the streets at different faith communities, building relationships and encouraging others. Learn more at [/www.stpete.org/mbsk](http://www.stpete.org/mbsk)

The consensus at the end: We learned something. We had fun. And it wasn't all that hard to get out on the streets and witness to our faith and belief in racial justice.

Photos by JUDY STARK



*Dean Morris chats with a family and hands out literature and goodie bags with masks, mints, and a prayer.*



*Pastor Irby congratulates the group at the end of the rally for a record-setting turnout.*

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## 'Not My Son' Brings Support

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Participants at Fourth Street and First Avenue N enjoyed music from a restaurant as they displayed signs and handed out pledge cards.



Ellen Alexander, Wil Laroche and Lois Ricciardi hold up their signs.



Michael Adams wore the T-shirt and waved the sign.



Mike Schillace, the Rev. Ann Dieterle from St. Thomas', a St. Petersburg police officer, and senior warden Ray McColgan attract attention on another corner.

# Treasure: What Does It Mean to You?

## Lucas Fleming, Stewardship Committee

I asked my 10-year-old daughter, Avary, what she thinks about when she hears the word treasure. She said that it is a prize you get after doing something good. While she is probably referring to getting something out of a treasure chest at the dentist's office after her appointment, what she said spoke to me about how we can view treasure in the church.

You have to admit the use of the word treasure seems odd in the context of religion. Especially when grouped with the other words we use — time and talent — when we refer to the three-legged stool of church involvement. That said, I think it provides an opportunity to live into what that word means and leads us to do as Christians.

Church may be one of the few places where we go into it with one expectation

and become open to other awarenesses that may come our way over time. We may at first enjoy making friends, listening to great music, or seeing our children learn about religion. That is great and it got us through the door and kept us coming. But over time, if we allow it, we may notice something else pulling at our spiritual heartstrings. Maybe it is hearing an announcement about being part of a group that learns about racism, or about an opportunity to sit in silence to enjoy and know God's presence within us. It might be to cook for a group at Messy Church or to serve on the Chapter. There are too many things to list here, but the point is that as we begin to trust more in what our church does, we listen more to what is happening within ourselves.

I have seen this in my own church life. I

profess that I am a child of the church, having grown up as a PK (preacher's kid — my father is the Rev. Peter Fleming Jr.). But that designation doesn't mean I have a corner on any particular market within the church. On the contrary, I have every reason to distance myself from the family business because, well, it is just too much church over my lifetime. And while I have ebbed and flowed over time in my church involvement, I have never lost that listening skill to be open to a growth moment in the church and accept what comes my way.

Those moments seem to be guided by what is happening to me outside of the church in my life. When times are great and I am operating on all cylinders, I may tend to take a spiritual break and not look at what my life needs. But when times get tough and I feel like the world is closing in on me, I go right to the church to protect



*Lucas Fleming*

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## What Does 'Treasure' Mean?

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and feed me through that time. That is probably the trust I mentioned earlier. It is the feeling that no matter what, I can go to a place that accepts and loves me for who I am at that moment in time.

So what does this have to do with treasure? For me it has everything to do with it. When all is well and I am not really feeling intentional about my church involvement, my pledge tends to reflect that. One kind of feeds the other. By not caring as much, I feel like I don't have to give as much. While I know that is a tough thing for a church to hear when it has a budget to meet, I can at times distance myself from that and pay attention to other things that I think bring value to my life.

But when I am growing spiritually in the church and see the value it has in my life, my pledge really goes up. That requires an intention on my part to keep that in front of me, especially when the October pledge campaign rolls around. I can default to the thought that it isn't really my job to do this. After all, we have priests and staff at



the church whose job it is to run the place. So shouldn't they just tell us how much I should give to make things work out?

That is the beauty of a church. For some reason, logic does not follow the pledge/budget process. If you try to put it in a box to make sense of it, you lose what the church is giving you. We need to individually take account of our intentions and

correspondingly support what we give financially to our church. That, of course, comes with the church providing what we like and need to make our lives better.

I can tell you that in my long life (57 years as an Episcopalian), I have not belonged to a church as vibrant as St. Peter's. It seems like we are hitting on all cylinders now. And the opportunities keep coming, especially for me and my family as we get to know other families better. The impression I get is that we and the priests and the staff are really pushing the boundaries of what God is calling us to do with our lives.

This calling is loud and clear to me. However, I still see it as a river flowing by me with constant mes-

sages that I can stop that part of the water and incorporate it in my life. Or just let it continue to flow. It is me who puts my hand in the river, not anyone else. It is me who sits and watches the water flow by. It is me, in the end, who writes the check. And it is me who decides to take a break. And while I think it is me, it really isn't me, is it?



## Amendment to the Endowment Fund Gift Policies and Guidelines

### Ray McColgan, Senior Warden

The Cathedral Church of St. Peter's Endowment Fund was created four years ago with four funded categories: General, Music, Outreach, and Capital Improvement. Section D (Donor Designated Fund Policy) stated that individual funds could be created with a donation of \$25,000 or more. At the time this was reasonable. However, as the Endowment Fund has grown significantly — it is currently valued at \$2,964,210 — that is no longer an appropriate amount.

Also, we have learned that the individual wishes of a donor can easily be met through placing the donation into one of the four established categories, which encompass all ministries and expenses of the Cathedral. Donors are welcome to specify one of these categories or to divide the donation among them.

Therefore, on Wednesday, July 22, 2020, it was moved, seconded, and ap-

proved by Chapter that Section D, Paragraph 1 of the Endowment Fund Gift Policies and Guidelines be amended to read:

*In consultation with the Dean and Senior Warden, a separate and designated fund within the St. Peter's Endowment Fund may be established for gifts in the amount of \$500,000 or more. These financial assets will be merged with other assets of the St. Peter's Endowment Fund for investment purposes, but the identity and designated purpose of each fund is preserved individually.*

Chapter will finalize this amendment at the next regularly scheduled meeting, on August 26, 2020. If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact any member of the clergy or Chapter prior to this meeting.

## A Prayer for Tough Times

May the Lord torment you.

May the Lord keep before you the faces of the hungry, the lonely, the rejected, and the despised.

May the Lord afflict you with pain for the hurt, the wounded, the oppressed, the abused, the victims of violence.

May God grace you with agony, a burning thirst for justice and righteousness.

May the Lord give you courage and strength and compassion to make ours a better community, to make our church a better church.

And may you do your best to make it so, and after you have done your best, may the Lord grant you peace.

— *A benediction from Bishop Woodie White at the 1996 General Conference of the United Methodist Church. He is now Bishop-in-Residence at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta.*



## The Road to the White House and Beyond: Michelle Obama's Story

### Roberta Poellein

St. Peter's Book Club meets via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. August 25 to discuss *Becoming* by Michelle Obama. The presenter is Susan Darrow. The former First Lady's memoir talks about her roots and how she found her voice, as well as her time in the White House, her public health campaign, and her role as a mother.



Writing in *The Atlantic*, reviewer Hannah Georgis commented:

“Michelle Obama had to repeatedly recalibrate her affect to satisfy an electorate whose ideas about black women remain shaped by white supremacy. She had to be articulate but not intimidating, classy but not uppity, warm but not loose, sentimental but not hot-blooded.”

Obama writes, “I was getting worn out, not physically, but emotionally. The punches hurt, even if I understood that they had little to do with who I really was as a person. It was as if there was some cartoon version of me out there wreaking havoc, a woman I kept hearing about but didn't know.”

E-mail Roberta Poellein at [rplln37@gmail.com](mailto:rplln37@gmail.com) for the Zoom link and password for the meeting.

## Help the Free Clinic with Food, Hygiene Items

The Outreach Committee's August project is collecting food and hygiene items for the St. Petersburg Free Clinic.

The clinic has specifically asked for canned Vienna sausage and ravioli and for diapers for adults and children, sanitary pads, and tampons.

Please watch the Cathedral e-mails, our Facebook page, and our website for announcements about where and when we will collect these items. We are trying to schedule a drive-by dropoff at the Cathedral.

An alternative is to donate cash. You can go to our website ([spcathedral.org/give](http://spcathedral.org/give)), click the “Give Today” button, then select “outreach” from the dropdown menu and type in “Free Clinic” on the optional menu line.

You can donate directly via the clinic's website: [stpetersburg-freeclinic.org](http://stpetersburg-freeclinic.org). Or mail a check to the Free Clinic at 863 Third Ave. N, St. Petersburg 33701. If you belong to an organization that matches your gift, or if your employer does so, you can increase the value of your gift by donating through that organization's or business's matching-gift portal.

And, finally, while all of the members of the Outreach Committee join in congratulating Canon Katie on her election to be the dean of the Cathedral in Oklahoma City, we are devastated that she is leaving the Outreach Committee. Her guidance, leadership, and just plain hard work have been inspiring, and we hope they will help carry us forward.

## Family Promise Seeks New Director, Website Help

### Karen Amundrud

Family Promise has begun its search for an executive director. A hiring committee is preparing a job description. The intention is to have the new person on board by October 1.

We suspended our services at the end of 2018 and have been working toward financial stability and leadership development.

Now, as we move toward reopening, we need a volunteer to help us with our website, posting provided content and updating. Familiarity with our host, GoDaddy, would be helpful. This volunteer will be part of the communications committee. If you're interested, please e-mail Julie Pratt at [prattjm64@gmail.com](mailto:prattjm64@gmail.com).



Family Promise of Pinellas County is part of a national nonprofit organization serving homeless children and their parents. They are housed at participating churches, moving from church to church each week. Four times a year they receive their meals and lodging for a week at Palm Lake Christian Church, with St. Peter's support. They spend days at the Day Center at Central Christian Church, 6201 22nd Ave. N, where they seek jobs, social services and permanent housing.

Please contact Karen Amundrud ([amundrudk@yahoo.com](mailto:amundrudk@yahoo.com)) for details. Learn more at [fppinellas.org](http://fppinellas.org).

## A Prayer for These Times

At this time,  
during these times,  
above all in God's time ...

Let us praise God and—  
through all our uncertainty—  
strive to thank God for all the  
blessings of this life,  
for our redemption,  
and for all that draws us  
closer to God.

Let us find peace within  
ourselves.

Let us accept that we are  
profoundly loved and  
need never be afraid.

Knowing that we are all  
nourished from the same  
source of life,  
may we so live that others be  
not deprived

of air, food, water, shelter, or  
the chance to live.

Let us pray that we ourselves  
cease to be a cause of  
suffering of one another.

With humility let us pray and  
act for the establishment  
of peace in our hearts, in  
our communities, and on  
the whole earth.

Amen.

*Offered by Byron Rushing,  
vice president of the House of  
Deputies, partially adapted  
from Morning Prayer 3, A  
New Zealand Prayer Book.*

# Resources Open Our Ears and Minds to Stories We Haven't Heard, Conversations We Need to Have

Many of us are trying to have healthy conversations these days about race and to expand our understanding of history and learn what we weren't taught in school. Here are some helpful resources.

You can listen to the podcasts at the websites listed, or subscribe at the App Store or wherever you get your podcasts.

Find additional recommendations on the Beloved Community page on the Cathedral website: [spcathedral.org/beloved-community](https://spcathedral.org/beloved-community)

The July issue of *Vestry Papers*, published by the Episcopal Church Foundation, offers articles from a variety of perspectives on **racial justice and reconciliation**: <https://www.ecfvp.org/vestry-papers>

The July issue of *Sojourners* magazine



includes an article by the Very Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas, dean of Episcopal Divinity School at Union Theological Seminary, on **the importance of knowing our history** — the good and the bad — and calling for reparations: <https://tinyurl.com/ybb8co8m>

## *A Letter to the Church on Breaking Free of White Supremacy*

by Kelly Brown Douglas (see above), Stephanie Spellers, and Winnie Varghese. Spellers is the Presiding Bishop's canon for evangelism, reconciliation, and stewardship of creation. Varghese is priest for justice and reconciliation at Trinity Wall Street in

New York City. Three prominent Episcopal clergymen of color lay out a plan for the church's response to racial injustice: <https://tinyurl.com/y7jumptmv>

[nytimes.com/1619podcast](https://nytimes.com/1619podcast)

"Four hundred years ago, in August 1619, a ship carrying more than 20 enslaved Africans arrived in the English colony of Virginia. No aspect of the country that would be formed here has been untouched by the **250 years of slavery** that followed. '1619,' a New York Times audio series hosted by Nikole Hannah-Jones, examines the long shadow of that fateful moment."



[slate.com/podcasts/history-of-american-slavery](https://slate.com/podcasts/history-of-american-slavery)

Hosts Rebecca Onion and Jamelle Bouie explore **the history of American slavery** and examine how the institution came to

[continued on page 22](#)

## Resources We Need

[continued from page 21](#)

shape our country's politics, economy, and culture.

[gimletmedia.com/shows/uncivil/episodes](http://gimletmedia.com/shows/uncivil/episodes)

"*Uncivil* brings you **stories that were left out** of the official history of the Civil War, ransacks America's past, and takes on the history you grew up with. We bring you untold stories about resistance, covert operations, corruption, mutiny, counterfeiting, antebellum drones, and so much more. And we connect these forgotten struggles to the political battlefield we're living on right now."



[sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/](http://sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/)

**Where did the notion of "whiteness" come from?** What does it mean? What is whiteness for? Host John Biewen took a deep dive into these questions in this 14-part documentary series, released between

February and August 2017, but just as timely today.

[thestoop.org](http://thestoop.org)

Hosts Leila Day and Hana Baba tell stories about **the many facets of black life**: talking to a 14-year-old niece about the protests, black Muslim women, children and black hair, black introverts.



<https://www.radio.com/media/podcast/everyday-conversations-on-race-for-every-day-people>

Host Simma Lieberman describes her podcast as "**a cross-race conversation on race**" for people who are "afraid of saying the wrong thing" or being ignored or trivialized. Topics include living while black, the racial impact of Covid-19, racist "Zoom-bombing," and the "Karen" controversy over entitled white women.



## Parking Lots Return

The city-owned parking lots on the north side of Second Avenue N are again available for our use after 6 p.m. weeknights and all day Saturday and Sunday.

The lots had been fenced off during renovations at City Hall, which have now been completed.

On weekdays, park only in the six spaces marked "Reserved for St. Peter's Cathedral." If you park anywhere else in the city-owned lot you risk a \$35 fine.

Photo by JUDY STARK.

## Pantry Invites Your Donations

The Little Free Pantry at St. Bede's is eager to accept your contributions of nonperishable food and personal-hygiene items. You can drop them off at the pantry at the front of the church (to the right of the sanctuary) at 2500 16th St. N. The pantry operates on a "no-questions-asked" basis and meets both the need for food and the need to give. See [littlefreepantry.org](http://littlefreepantry.org) for more about this nationwide initiative of neighbors helping neighbors.



## Resurrection House Welcomes Monthly Gifts

Resurrection House is inviting friends to make a monthly recurring gift in amounts of as little as \$20 to support its work in ending generational poverty.

The campaign is known as "Be Part of Something Good." Participants get weekly e-mails about something good that happened for a family on the Resurrection House campus, at 800 11th St. N, made possible by these donations.

Florida Resurrection House is a faith-based residential program whose clients are mostly single mothers and their children. It offers transitional housing, case management, counseling, life-skills training, and continuing education. St. Peter's was one of the founders, and members of our congregation sit on its board.

To become part of the "Be Part of Something Good" team, visit [floridaresurrectionhouse.org/something-good/](http://floridaresurrectionhouse.org/something-good/)





# August Transitions

## Birthdays

1	Pat Bygrave	8	Susan Bettencourt	15	Veronica Sylvester
1	Sydney Smith	9	Jim Stevens	16	Mary Howe
1	Gretchen Hamm	9	Liz Allen	16	John Faber
2	Bonita Cobb	9	Averell Lenhardt	17	Kathleen Coughlan
3	Betsy Pheil	10	William Pastman	17	Matt Dahm
3	Ryan Witko	11	Judy Stanton	18	Jane Dooley
3	McKenzie Wheeler	11	Alexander Beck	18	Debra Davis
4	David Hobbs	14	Barbara Wright	18	Gary Patterson
4	KayeLynn Salsman	14	Bob Churuti	18	Emma McBaen
5	Michelle Correll	15	Jacqueline Jones-Blacker	19	Evelyn Ranuro
6	Laurence Roberts	15	Dennis Cooper	19	Lois Ricciardi
6	Abigail Albert	15	Beth Snyder	19	Chloe McBaen
7	John Hamm	15	David Lessard	20	Vonnie Bennett
7	Molly Goodwill	15	Eve Munkittrick	20	Jerry Buchert
7	Noelle Leroy			20	Helen Munkittrick

26	Cory Center	30	Michael Scott
26	Suzanne Hill	30	Joe Burnsed
26	Matilda McBaen	30	Henry Morris
28	Pat Williams	31	Dianne Denk
28	Rowan McBaen	31	Richard Rome
30	Karen Amundrud	31	George Billias

## Anniversaries

1	Michael Blacker & Jacqueline Jones-Blacker	27	Ed & Freda Caley
1	John & Louise Garrigues	27	John & Carol Ellis
1	John & Louise Garrigues	30	Lindsey & Henry Juarez
2	Heather & Rick Neefe	31	John & Adelia Samaha
3	Elizabeth & Ryan Ferrell		
6	Amy & Shaughn Hurt		
7	Greg & Gaye Burnsed		
7	Reid & Kerry Carlisle		
8	Jon & Elizabeth Reynolds		
11	Andy & Kate Munkittrick		
12	Ed & Marnie Long		
16	Ed & Betty Shamas		
20	Terry & Larissa Crow		
20	Joseph & Hilary Sosa		

## Deaths

Thomas Foster  
Ellen Hyland

***If you'd like to receive Crosstown electronically, please send an e-mail to [agorton@spcathedral.com](mailto:agorton@spcathedral.com) asking us to put you on our electronic mailing list.***

## St. Peter's: A Guide

### Our Worship Schedule

We will reopen for in-person worship on Sunday, August 16, with one service of Holy Eucharist at 10:15 a.m. Please see the story on [Page 4](#) for details about how to reserve a seat and the restrictions that will be in place.

Services will continue to be posted at [spcathedral.org](#) and on Facebook. The order of worship can be found at [spcathedral.org/worship-live-stream](#)

**If you have a pastoral emergency  
after hours, please call  
(727) 238-5998 to speak to  
a member of the clergy.**

*Crosstown* is the online newsletter of the people of the Cathedral Church of St. Peter, published monthly for members, friends, and supporters. Editor, Judy Stark ([JudyStark@yahoo.com](mailto:JudyStark@yahoo.com)), Associate Editor, Mary W. Matthews ([MotherMary@extremelysmart.com](mailto:MotherMary@extremelysmart.com)).

**Next deadline: August 15, 2020.**

## At the foot of the cross in downtown St. Petersburg

### Getting in Touch:

**Office:** 140 Fourth St. N, 33701. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the offices and Cathedral are closed except for one worship service at 10:15 a.m. Sundays. Please see the story on [Page 4](#) about our plans for in-person worship.

### Mailing address:

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

### Telephone:

(727) 822-4173

### Fax:

(727) 823-2205

### E-mail:

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

### Web site:

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



### Diocesan leadership:

The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith, bishop

The Rev. Canon Richard H. Norman, canon to the ordinary

### Our clergy and senior staff:

The Very Rev. Stephen B. Morris, dean

The Rev. Canon Paige Hanks, canon missionary and priest-in-charge, St. Bede's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Canon Brandon Peete, canon for hospitality

The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams, precentor and canon theologian

The Rev. Ethan Cole, priest associate

The Rev. Samuel V. Tallman, priest associate

The Rev. Scott Nonken, deacon

The Right Rev. Barry R. Howe, bishop in residence

Dwight Thomas, director of music ministries and organist