



November 2023

# CROSSTOWN

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

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*Our new baptismal font will be dedicated November 5.  
[Story, page 4.](#) Photo by HILLARY PEETE.*

# Search for a New Dean

## Share Your Thoughts On Our Next Dean: Take the Survey!

Have you taken the parish survey yet?

You have until November 6 to complete the survey. You can take it online on your home computer. You can access the survey here: [spcathedral.org/dean-search](http://spcathedral.org/dean-search). Or we'll have "technology buddies" in the Guild Room on November 5 after both services who will help you take it online. And we'll have printed copies if you prefer to use good old pencil and paper.

The important thing is that you take the survey! We need 225 completed surveys to give us statistically valid results. Yours could be the one that takes us over the top. So please, take the survey! Share your thoughts about the gifts and graces you want to see in our next dean and about the ministries and activities you value.

## Meet the Search Committee

*The Search Committee comprises the nine people who will interview candidates and recommend to the Chapter the priest they believe is called to be our next dean. We'll introduce the members of the committee in Crosstown over the next few*

*months. You can find more information about members of the Search Committee and about the search for our new dean at [spcathedral.org/dean-search](http://spcathedral.org/dean-search). This month, meet Betsy Adams and Karen Torrisi.*



### A Leader in Racial Reconciliation, Healing, and Justice

**Name:** Betsy Adams

**Age:** 64

**Member 1976-1981 (married here in 1979), and 2006-present.**

**Involvement at the Cathedral:** I'm chair of the Becoming Beloved Community team, seeking racial healing and justice. I facilitate our Sacred Ground circle, an Episcopal Church-wide program to foster racial reconciliation. I am the host of our Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama next April. I am a member of the planning group for the



diocesan celebration of the Life of Absalom Jones, the first Black Episcopal priest, to be held at the Cathedral next February. I'm a member of FAST, an interfaith community group that addresses issues of social and

economic justice in Pinellas County ([story, Page 19](#)).

**Occupation:** I worked as a registered

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## Meet the Search Committee

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nurse from 1981 until my retirement in 2020, the last 36 years of which I spent in the neonatal intensive care unit at All Children's Hospital.

**When I'm not at work or at the Cathedral, you'll find me ...** exercising and making new friends at the pool at the YMCA, traveling, reading, or listening to a variety of music.

**What I'm watching these days:** Anything *Masterpiece Theater*. I have been a fan since the age of 12. I especially like to binge-watch international murder mysteries.

**If Presiding Bishop Michael Curry came to town, the one thing I'd like to show him is ...** the Nehemiah Action at FAST. I would want him to experience the power of the Spirit in the gathering of thousands of God's people, from many denominations and all walks of life, coming together to hold our elected officials accountable for building a community in which all people can share in the benefits of God's grace. For me, the FAST Nehemiah Action gives us a glimpse of what it might be like to live in Beloved

Community, the dream of God.

**The Cathedral at Its Best:** The mid- to late 2000s, when we looked outward and saw ourselves as a resource for the diocese. We invited guest speakers such as theologian Diana Butler Bass and scholar John Dominic Crossan. Our worship included jazz eucharists, taizé, and an informal come-as-you-are service. We invited guest preachers from around the diocese. We hosted an on-site food pantry and a cold-night shelter. A team went to the Dominican Republic every summer to teach Vacation Bible School.

### Past Senior Warden, FSU Fan, British Mystery Buff

**Name:** Karen Torrisi

**Age:** 60

**Member since:** 2014

**Involvement at the Cathedral:** Past senior warden; Usher Guild chair, Lazarus Guild co-chair, Resurrection House board of directors, FAST, Daughters of the King, Beloved Community, Education for Ministry.

**Occupation:** Statewide Operations Manager for the Child Support Program with the Florida Department of Revenue.

**When I'm not at work or at the Cathedral, you'll find me ...** traveling to Tallahassee for FSU football games, touring Europe with my best friends, playing computer games, listening to podcasts or audiobooks.

**What I'm watching these days:** Any British murder mystery such as *Father*

*Brown, Midsomer Murders, Death in Paradise*, etc.

**If Presiding Bishop Michael Curry came to town, the one thing I'd like to show him is ...** The Dali Museum.

**A time when I saw the Cathedral**

**at its best:** the Diocesan Acolyte Festivals we hosted in years past, demonstrating our best at hospitality, organization, and liturgical support.



## Chapter Continues Preparation For New Roof, Bell Tower Repairs

At its October meeting, the Chapter moved ahead with plans for a new roof over the nave, restoration of the bell tower, and repair of the carillon bells.

Roof leaks have damaged the interior ceiling plaster, and the bell tower shows signs of significant stress cracks and potential structural issues that present safety hazards.

We are working with All Trades Historical Restoration of St. Petersburg and The Verdin Co., which specializes in bells and chimes, to develop a budget and a timetable. Our intention is to complete this work before the 2024 hurricane season.

We are preparing now to make a presentation to the diocese for its approval and support of this project.

The carillon bells in the tower, which have been inoperative for several years from a lightning strike, will also be repaired and restored. A recent assessment by The Verdin Co. showed that support beams and bolts for the bells and chimes are rotted, rusted, and in need of replacement.

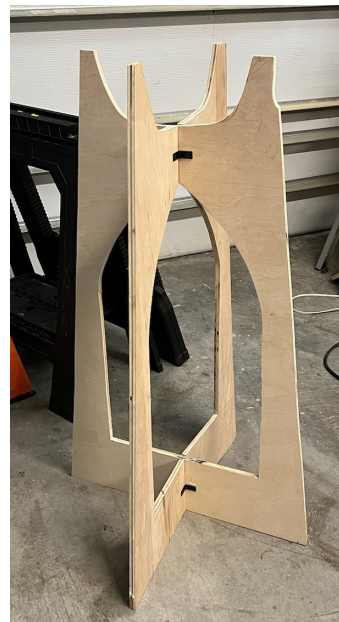
There is also a need to install a controller and interface board that will allow for the bells' operation. This work will begin when the scaffolding for the tower restoration is in place.

## Font of Every Blessing

Our new baptismal font will be blessed at the 10:15 a.m. service on November 5.

The wood stands for the glass font and the candle reflect the Gothic arches throughout the Cathedral, and the rich materials of the baptistery — marble, brass, wood — reflect the importance of baptism. The stands are made of sapele, an African hardwood that has similar characteristics to South American Mahogany.

The font was crafted by the Morean Glass Studio and the stands by Anderson Lumber. The platform for the baptistery was built by Peter Ortruba and his assistants. The entire project was designed by architect Bill Harvard Jr., lifelong member of the Cathedral, and was made possible by the gift of a generous anonymous donor.



*Work in progress: a mockup of the base for the font.*

## All Souls' Eve Contemplative Eucharist

As an extension of All Saints' Day, it is customary to set aside a day on which the Church

remembers family members and friends who have died: All Souls' Day. During this contemplative Eucharist with guest cellist Michael Amos, we will



*Michael Amos*

recall by name members of the broader Cathedral community who have died over the past year. The service begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, November 1. If you would like the name of a loved one read aloud, please email Hillary Peete ([hpeete@spcathedral.com](mailto:hpeete@spcathedral.com)) by Monday, October 30.

## The Calendar Is Filling Up!

### November

**Wednesday, November 1, at 7 p.m.:**  
**Contemplative All Souls' Eve Eucharist**, with guest cellist (see left).

**Sunday, November 5, at 10:15 a.m.:**  
**Baptism** with Cathedral Brass; blessing of the new baptismal font.

**Sunday, November 5, at 2 p.m.:**  
**Canoeucharist.**

We'll rent canoes or kayaks, enjoy paddling in local waters, and celebrate a Eucharist on board. [See page 13](#) for details.

**Sunday, November 12, at 10:15 a.m.:**  
**Acolyte Recognition Day.**

**Thursday, November 23, at 10 a.m.:**  
**Thanksgiving service.**



### December

**Saturday, December 2, at 7 p.m.:**  
**"Candlelight Baroque"** concert presented by the Master Chorale's chamber ensemble, MC Voices, and St. Pete Baroque. [Story, Page 10.](#)

**Sunday, December 3, at 4 p.m.:** **Live Nativity** with real animals, crafts, food, fun, Christmas-carol singalong at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 3747 34th St. S. [Story, Page 16.](#)

**Sunday, December 17, at the 10:15 a.m. service:** **Christmas pageant** presented by Cathedral children and youth.

**Thursday, December 21, at 7 p.m.:** **Longest Night service.** Quiet prayer and music for those for whom this is a difficult season of illness, loss, or loneliness.

**Sunday, December 24, Advent 4: Worship** at 8 and 10:15 a.m. **Christmas Eve: family-friendly service** at 5 p.m. with Cathedral Choir and Brass; 10 p.m., music prelude; 10:30 p.m., candlelight service with Cathedral Choir and organ.

**Monday, December 25, Christmas Day:** Worship with music at 10 a.m.

## It's Never Too Late to Pledge, Then Celebrate at Thanks-a-Brunch

### Ray McColgan, Stewardship Chair

Ingathering for our Faith Filled Financial Commitment Campaign was Sunday, October 29. Thanks to all who returned their Commitment Cards. Acknowledgment letters will be mailed in early December.

If you have not already made a financial commitment for 2024, we ask you to do so as quickly as possible. We hope to finalize the 2024 budget in November and that budget depends on you. You can hand-deliver or mail your commitment card to the Cathedral or put it in the offering plate. Our secure online commitment site is always available as well: <http://www.spcathedral.org/give-abundance>.

**Please do plan to join us on Sunday, November 12, for our annual Thanks-a-Brunch.** We'll enjoy scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, ham, roasted potatoes, fruit, and pastries after the 10:15 a.m. service.

There's no charge, and all are welcome, but we do need to give the caterer a number so we have plenty of food for all. You can sign up for Thanks-a-Brunch at [spcathedral.org/brunch](http://spcathedral.org/brunch). The deadline is Friday, November 3. Don't be left out! Let us hear from you and come celebrate the accomplishments of this year and the promises of next year.

## Festive Fest

There was good food and good fun at Oktoberfest on September 29. Sausage and sauerkraut, apple strudel, beer donated by Mastry's Brewing Company, and another brain-teasing trivia contest. The fest marked the start of our Faith Filled Financial Commitment Campaign. We'll get together for more good food and good times at our Thanks-a-Brunch on November 12 marking the successful end of the campaign. Photos by HILLARY PEETE



*Matthew Dahm, owner of Mastry's Brewing Company, who donated the beer.*



*Susan Darrow and Herb Polson serve up the feast.*



*Steve Willis wins the coveted Cathedral tote bag, presented by Mike Schillace and Ray McColgan.*



# Contemporary Composer's Service Is Focus of November Choral Evensong

The service of Choral Evensong, at 5 p.m., Sunday, November 26 — Christ the King Sunday — includes the “St. Thomas Service” by Trevor Weston (b. 1967).

Weston is the son of immigrants from Barbados whose works often touch on themes of slavery and the history of African-Americans in the United States. His commissioned oratorio, *American Lamentations*, premiered in May at St. Thomas Fifth Avenue in New York City, dealing with the Episcopal Church's delicate relationship with enslavement and racial inequality. (As a boy Weston was a choral scholar at the St. Thomas Choir School.) Another piece, a requiem, celebrated enslaved workers on the rice plantations of South Carolina.

He is the winner of the first Emerging Black Composers Project, sponsored by the San Fran-



Trevor Weston

cisco Conservatory of Music and the San Francisco Symphony. His orchestral work *Push* was inspired by a comment by Antonin Dvorak — about Americans' limitless enthusiasm for all things new, the “American push” — and premiered at the San Francisco Symphony in September 2022.

Weston has a doctorate in music from the University of California, Berkeley. He is head of the music department at Drew University in New Jersey and teaches at the Juilliard School.

An organ prelude, at 4:45 p.m., offers Max Reger's *Choralfantasie über 'Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott,'* Op. 27, in celebration of the composer's 150th birthday.

The Cathedral Chamber Choir sings, and Music Director Dwight Thomas is director and organist. A freewill offering is taken, and a light reception follows.



Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 5. Turn your clock BACK one hour when you go to bed Saturday night.

And just a reminder that St. Peter's is now on winter hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

# Giving Tree Invites Your Holiday Spirit and Support

Ray McColgan

Our annual Giving Tree, sponsored by the Friends of St. Aelred, will be open for your support from November 1 through December 1. Every Christmas since 2009, your generosity has provided holiday gifts for children at Florida Resurrection House, Campbell Park Elementary, and Brighter Seasons for Children.

Here's how it works: You sponsor a child for \$50. (You may sponsor as many children as you wish, but we cannot match you up with a particular child or a particular participating organization.) The children have provided us with their Christmas wish lists. We order the gifts online and they are delivered to the participating organization for distribution to the children.



You can make your payment in one of three ways:

- \* by debit or credit card at our website, [spcathedral.org/giving-tree](https://spcathedral.org/giving-tree);
  - \* by dropping off or mailing a check to the Cathedral, payable to the Cathedral Church of St. Peter, with Giving Tree in the memo line;
  - \* or by scanning the QR code on this page and following the prompts.
- You can also pick up a printed copy of the QR code at the Giving Tree in Harvard Hall.

To learn more about the three participating organizations, visit [spcathedral.org/giving-tree](https://spcathedral.org/giving-tree) and view the videos there. Or visit Giving Tree under the Events tab on our website.

“Every year we have been overwhelmed by the great generosity of our congregation,” said Ray McColgan, one of the organizers of the Giving Tree. “We’re grateful to

everyone who participates. These children are among the most vulnerable in our community, and it is a real joy to know that we can make a difference and provide a Merry Christmas to kids who otherwise might go without.”

The Friends of St. Aelred are LGBTQIA+ Episcopalians and their friends and allies who offer spiritual support, friendship, and service to the Cathedral congregation and the wider community.







## We'll Share Advent Potluck and Bible Study with St. Bart's

We are taking a Bible study break for the month of November. We will return for a community Advent study with our friends at St. Bartholomew's. We will explore the Songs of Good News found in the Gospel of Luke.

Join us in person Wednesdays, November 29 (St. Bart's), December 6 (Cathedral), and December 13 (St. Bart's).

All are invited to these potluck gatherings for fellowship and a time of learning and reflection led by the staff of St. Peter's and St. Bart's.

Dinner is from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m., and discussion is from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. St. Bart's is at 3747 34th St. S.

RSVP is not required, but will be helpful for us to plan. Contact Hillary Peete ([hpeete@spcathedral.com](mailto:hpeete@spcathedral.com)).

## Christmas Flower and Music Memorials

If you would like to make a donation for Christmas flowers and/or music, go to [spcathedral.org/christmas-memorials](https://spcathedral.org/christmas-memorials) to fill out the form and make your donation. Your gift supports the Flower Guild's special arrangements and decorations for the season as well as outstanding music in our worship services. Deadline is Sunday, December 10.



Christmas 2022

## Baroque Instruments and Voices Will Start the Holiday Season

Start the Christmas season at 7 p.m. December 2 when the Master Chorale's new chamber ensemble, MC Voices, joins with St. Pete Baroque in a concert called "Candlelight Baroque," when they will sing and play music of the season on period instruments at the Cathedral.



This is a first-time outing for MC Voices, and its first time rendering early music with authentic instruments. St. Pete Baroque won an enthusiastic following at its January concert at the Cathedral. They perform the music of the period (1600-1750) on instruments including harpsichord, lute, viola da gamba, viola d'amore, and baroque winds.

The program includes *Sussex Carol*, arranged by John Rutter; Bach's *Nun komm der heiden Heiland* (BWV 61); Praetorius's *Lo how a rose*; *Coventry Carol*, arranged by Burke; *Infant holy, infant lowly*; Vivaldi's *Magnificat*, and Gruber's *Silent Night*.

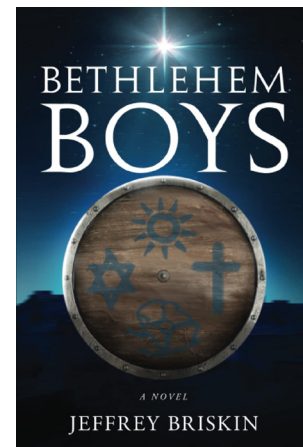
Tickets (\$30) can be purchased at [www.masterchorale.com](http://www.masterchorale.com) or at the door.

## Who's the Real Messiah? A Biblical Battle May Decide

Just in time for Christmas, the St. Peter's Book Club will read a page-turner of a biblical mystery: *Bethlehem Boys* by Jeffrey Briskin. Roberta Poellein is the presenter.

Three chests of treasure given by visiting scholars to a newborn boy they believe is the long-awaited Messiah are stolen from a barn housing the infant's family. But when an eyewitness is murdered and similar treasures end up in the possession of another family who claim their newborn son is the real Messiah, Bethlehem's residents form fanatical factions supporting each infant, threatening to turn this sleepy village into a first-century theological battleground.

The club meets at 6:30 p.m. November 28 in the Chapter Room. Or contact Roberta Poellein ([rplln37@gmail.com](mailto:rplln37@gmail.com)) for the Zoom link if you can't attend in person. The book club does not meet in December.



# Family Ministry News

## EYC

### Friendsgiving

**Sunday, November 12**

**Location TBA**

Youth and their families are invited to this pot-luck meal to have an early Thanksgiving celebration together. A sign-up for sides, drinks, and desserts can be found at

[spcathedral.org/youth](http://spcathedral.org/youth). Please RSVP by November 8 to help us plan.

### Thanksgiving break

**No EYC November 19 and 26**

### Christmas Party

**Sunday, December 10 from 5 to 7 p.m.**

**Location TBA**

Join us for a Christmas party with a white elephant game, gingerbread house contest, and hot cocoa bar.

### Happening @ DaySpring

**December 1-3**

Happening is open to all 9th- through 12th-graders. Happening is a unique high school experience weekend that helps teens foster a personal, more meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ through music, talk, prayer, worship, and a community led by fellow students, all of which is supported by clergy and lay adults. The cost is \$100. Scholarships are available. To register, visit [spcathedral.org/youth](http://spcathedral.org/youth).

## Children's Ministry

### Messy Church for Families

**Thursday, November 9**

**Harvard Hall**

Families with kids ages 4 through 5th grade are invited to learn about God through science, scripture, art, movement, and some messy fun. Dinner is served from 5:30 to 6 p.m. (\$10/family) and we close with a prayer at 7:15 p.m. Please RSVP to Hillary Peete ([hpeete@spcathedral.com](mailto:hpeete@spcathedral.com)) by Monday, November 6.

## Christmas Pageant

The Christmas Pageant Choir will meet and rehearse from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Sundays, November 5 and 12, and December 3 and 10.

For those who wish to participate as an angel, shepherd, wise man, etc., we will pick out costumes on Sunday, November 5. There will be two run-throughs on Sundays, November 12 and December 10, all from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The dress rehearsal is Saturday, December 16.



## Messy Church: Lighten Our Darkness

At October's Messy Church, we talked about God's holy darkness and bedtime prayers. We made scented spray to use as



a reminder of God's presence with us at night, worry beads to use for prayer, and



painted pillowcases with a prayer so we never forget to pray at bedtime.



*Marilyn Vengroth and son Morgan paint a prayer pillowcase. Kaitlyn holds up a clay worry bead. A finished pillowcase and scented spray. Photos by HILLARY PEETE*



## By Water and the Spirit

We're hoping for a day like this on Sunday, November 5, when we'll meet at Fort DeSoto for our annual CanoEucharist. We'll paddle in the blue-green waters where Tampa Bay meets the Gulf of Mexico, then circle our canoes and kayaks to celebrate a Eucharist. All ages welcome. The cost is \$20 per canoe (fits two or three people). We'll meet at 2 p.m. at the Topwater Kayak Outpost across from the Dog Park Beach. Contact Hillary Peete to register ([hpeete@spcathedral.com](mailto:hpeete@spcathedral.com)).



## Great American Teach-In Needs You

Volunteers from the Cathedral will participate in the Great American Teach-In at Campbell Park Elementary on Wednesday, November 15.

If you would like to donate an hour of your time to this very worthy cause, please contact Penny Roen ([pennyroen@gmail.com](mailto:pennyroen@gmail.com)) right away — the deadline for volunteering is fast approaching. Learn more at [spcathedral.org/community](https://spcathedral.org/community).

The Teach-In is a nationwide activity that introduces students to career options, hobbies, role models, and activities they might otherwise never experience. So you might talk about your job or a favorite hobby, read a story, do a craft project, teach a song or a dance, or show the kids how to throw a curve ball.

## Make It a Festive Thanksgiving for Our Friends At Campbell Park, Resurrection House

You have until November 12 to donate nonperishable food for Thanksgiving bags for families at Campbell Park Elementary and Florida Resurrection House.

The shopping list: boxed mashed potatoes, canned green beans, cranberry sauce, boxed stuffing mix, and turkey gravy (canned, jarred, or powdered).

The Community Caring and Sharing Committee also invites you to contribute \$35 gift cards from Publix or Walmart so the families can buy the meat of their choice and other perishables for Thanksgiving dinner. (Please, no gift cards in larger denominations: We want to give each family the same amount.) Thrivent Financial Corp. has contributed \$250 to this project.

On Friday, November 17, at 10:30 a.m., we need volunteers in Harvard Hall to help assemble the bags. Then we need a couple of volunteers to deliver the bags to Campbell Park or Resurrection House later that day. Please contact chairperson Penny Roen ([pennyroen@gmail.com](mailto:pennyroen@gmail.com)) if you're able to help.

During the month of November the Caring and Sharing Committee encourages everyone to support the Giving Tree (story, [Page 8](#)).

**Pies for Peterborough:** The Cathedral will provide pies for the Peterborough Apartments' Thanksgiving Dinner this year, with the assistance of a grant from Thrivent Financial.



## All in the Family

Acolytes Katherine and Jack Knippen welcome our newest acolyte, their sister Emma. We'll honor all our acolytes at Recognition Day at the 10:15 a.m. service on November 12.



## We Made Sure Young Scholars Were Dressed for Success

In late October, we received an urgent request from Campbell Park Elementary School about the November 9 induction ceremony for 30 young male scholars into the Campbell Park Elementary 5000 Role Models program.

They had arranged sponsorships for 20 of the 26 young men whose families could not afford to cover the cost of the attire required for the ceremony, but six young men still needed sponsors. The cost of this attire is \$40.

Thanks to the generosity of the Cathedral congregation through the Committee's annual financial allotment and the quick work of Committee members responding through emails, we were able to sponsor those young men.



## **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

We filled up the trunk of a car with supplies for the Green Devils Pantry and Closet at St. Pete High School. We provided school supplies, personal-hygiene items, snacks, clothing, and gift cards.

## Live Nativity Returns December 3

All are invited to join us from 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday December 3, at St. Bartholomew's for our Live Nativity. We'll have a cast of animals including a camel, donkey, sheep, and cows. There will be crafts for kids, a

dress-up nativity set, and candlelight carols. Food trucks will also be on site! Volunteers are needed. Please reach out to Hillary Peete today ([hpeete@spcathedral.com](mailto:hpeete@spcathedral.com)). St. Bartholomew's is at 3747 34th St. S.



*From our first Live Nativity in 2021.*



### A Warm Welcome

We now have a basket of shawls on the back pew in the inner narthex (just inside the entrance doors). This ministry of hospitality and warmth reaches out to those who may find the Cathedral a little chilly during worship. Thanks to Jean Beshears for the idea and to the St. Veronica's Guild for donating two of the shawls. If you have a shawl you'd like to donate to spread warmth and comfort, please do!

Yes! We're collecting those charity calendars that are filling up your mailbox. Please drop them off at the front desk. We'll deliver the calendars to our neighbors at Peterborough Apartments, who are delighted to receive them every year.

# Going Deeper: Exploring the Sites of Our Civil Right Pilgrimage

**Betsy Adams**

There's still time to register for our four-day pilgrimage in April 2024 to significant

racial and social-justice sites in Montgomery, Selma, and Tuskegee, AL. The Cathedral's Becoming



*The refusal by Rosa Parks to give up her seat to a white passenger was one of the seminal events of the Civil Rights Movement.*

Beloved Community invites those well-versed in justice issues and those just beginning the journey.

A series of events took place in Alabama and throughout the South in the 1950s and '60s that culminated in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 — from the day in 1955 when

Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery to the 1965 Selma-to-Montgomery March.

On this pilgrimage you'll learn how each event moved the arc of the universe a little closer to justice.

As we learn the stories of the Civil Rights struggles in the South, we can sometimes best understand them through exploring the personal stories both of those who lived and breathed them, and of the families affected by them for generations to come.

Your BBC Team offers this selection of podcasts related to sites the pilgrimage group will visit in April. Pilgrims are strongly encouraged to listen in preparation for the trip. We encourage the rest of our St. Peter's family to take the time to listen to

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## Exploring Our Civil Rights Pilgrimage

*continued from page 16*

these excellent podcasts for their own education and edification:

### Equal Justice Initiative: Lynching in America

<https://lynchinginamerica.eji.org/listen>  
Selma, Montgomery, and “Good Trouble”

<https://billofrightsinstitute.org/podcasts/selma-montgomery-and-good-trouble>

### How Black WWI Veterans Got Their VA Hospital (Tuskegee)

<https://www.npr.org/2023/09/29/1202075543/tuskegee-alabama-va-hospital-black-veterans-centennial>

### The Real Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott

<https://www.learningforjustice.org/podcasts/teaching-hard-history/civil-rights-movement/the-real-rosa-parks-and-the-montgomery-bus-boycott>

## How to Join the Pilgrimage

All are invited to join the pilgrimage to Alabama, April 11-14, 2024. Here are some ways to learn more about the pilgrimage:

\* At [spcathedral.org/beloved-community](https://spcathedral.org/beloved-community) you can **watch a video** (click on “peace and justice memorial center”) showing what we’ll see on the pilgrimage. Or click on “Pilgrimage Dates and Details” for a downloadable brochure.

\* To speak to someone in person, **contact Betsy Adams** ([betsygadams@icloud.com](mailto:betsygadams@icloud.com)).

\* **To register for the pilgrimage**, visit <https://portal.myfaithjourneys.com>. Group number: 24030.



**DO YOU HAVE A CRECHE** — a Nativity set — that you’d like to share?

During the season of Advent (starting December 3, the four Sundays leading up to Christmas), we’ll have a display of creches in Harvard Hall along with stained-glass windows that depict the Holy Family around the manger.

If you have a creche you’d like to display, please contact Cynthia Garrels ([c-garrels@kellogg.northwestern.edu](mailto:c-garrels@kellogg.northwestern.edu); (727) 914-4228) by November 27.

# FAST Sets Its Priorities to Improve Pinellas County

Twenty-one enthusiastic, justice-seeking network members from the Cathedral joined with nearly 400 others October 16

at the FAST Annual Assembly. We voted to continue work on criminal justice reform, water quality, and affordable housing.

Hillary Peete was announced as Corresponding Secretary of the Executive Committee and the Rev. Mike Alford gave the closing prayer. All are welcome to join us in this important work in our community: identifying areas of concern, developing strategies, and meeting with elected leaders to seek their support.

Our criminal-justice efforts focus on creating a diversion program for those who are arrested for nonviolent driving offenses, such as an expired tag or suspended

license. Some people drive with suspended licenses because they have no alternative way to get to work. The fines and fees associated with these arrests can be staggering for those who are already struggling financially. The result is the criminalization of poverty. FAST continues to meet with St. Petersburg Chief of Police Anthony Holloway to ask him to create a diversion program, as has been done in Bro-

ward, Manatee, and Sarasota counties.

In the coming months, we'll share updates on affordable housing and water quality. In the meantime, feel free to ask those who attended the Annual Assembly to share their experience: Betsy Adams, Mike Alford, Karen Amundrud, Melissa Barlow, Peter Barlow, Judy Beck, Susan Darlow, Luanne Ferguson, John Hannay, Judy

Holland, Fay Mackey, Tom Morabito, Hillary Peete, Anita Pernell-Arnold, Libby Pinkerton, Michelle Plichta, Susan Regan, Michael Roush, Marilyn Vengroff, and Veronica Wright.

For more information or to join FAST, visit [spcathedral.org/fast](https://spcathedral.org/fast)



## What is FAST?

Faith and Action for Strength Together (FAST) is a justice-ministry organization of 50 religious congregations throughout Pinellas County that band together to create positive change in our community. FAST is a congregation-based 501(c)3 non-profit whose purpose is to train community residents from diverse congregations to work together to identify root causes of community problems and take action on these problems. Learn more at [spcathedral.org/fast](https://spcathedral.org/fast) or [fast-pinellas.org](https://fast-pinellas.org).



## Cathedral Had a Big Role at Diocesan Convention

The Cathedral played several leading roles last month at the 55th annual Diocesan Convention at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center in Punta Gorda. Phil Patee, Martin McKinney, and Ken Esteb were vergers at the opening Eucharist, at which Canon for Music Dwight Thomas was the organist.

Altar Guild member Shar Nudelman and Sarah Hill, co-directress of the diocesan Altar Guild, were part of the team that prepared for the Eucharist celebrated by Bishop Scharf. Our voting deputation included



St. Peter's vergers included Phil Patee, Martin McKinney, and Ken Esteb.

Chapter members Mark Myers, Susan Darrow, and Marilyn Vengroff, and our clergy, Curate Mike Alford and Canon Thomas Williams, shown below seated with Director of Christian Formation Hillary Peete.

Administrator Michelle Thomas staffed a table at the ministry fair for Education for Ministry, for which she is the diocesan

coordinator. And after 16 years, Judy Stark retired as program chair and hung up the purple cowbell she rang to call delegates into their meetings.

Curate Alford was elected to a three-year term on the Ecclesiastical Disciplinary Board.

Photos by MICHELLE THOMAS







## Hail to Hero, Farewell to Elaine

The Rev. Mike Alford offers a blessing for Hero, a canine-in-training for Southeastern Guide Dogs. Hero returned to the school, in Palmetto, for further training on October 7. He is the sixth guide dog raised or co-raised by Elaine New, center, and Hero has been a regular visitor to the Cathedral as part of his training. Elaine is a past Chapter member and a longtime singer in the Cathedral Choir who is moving to North Carolina this month. We wish her blessings on the journey!

## Of Note in November

**All Souls' Eve, Wednesday, November 1, at 7 p.m.:** A contemplative service with guest cellist when we remember members of our wider Cathedral family who have died over the past year. [Story, Page 5.](#)

**Veterans' Day, Saturday, November 11:** Learn more about the Cathedral's noted veterans at [spcathedral.org/crosstown-blog-veterans](https://spcathedral.org/crosstown-blog-veterans). This story from 2020 will introduce you to extraordinary military heroes and will direct you to the plaques in the Quiet Room off the nave honoring those who served in World War II.

**Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23 at 10 a.m.:** Before the turkey and the football games, we'll gather for Holy Eucharist and sermon. We'll sing the familiar Thanksgiving hymns and give thanks for our blessings.

*Know this:* The settlers who arrived on the Mayflower in 1620 were no friends of the Church of England, the spiritual ancestor of the Episcopal Church. Bishops? Vestments? Candles? Stained glass? Bah! Learn more about who the Pilgrims really were at [spcathedral.org/crosstown-blog-pilgrims](https://spcathedral.org/crosstown-blog-pilgrims). The Ric Burns video referenced there, *American Experience: The Pilgrims*, is available on Amazon Prime to rent or buy, or can be viewed at [pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/films/pilgrims](https://pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/films/pilgrims).



## Around the Cathedral

The Cathedral will be closed on Thursday, November 23, except for our **Thanks-giving Day service** at 10 a.m. No other services, no activities. We are also closed on Friday, November 24, as usual. We'll reopen at 9 a.m. on Monday, November 27.

**Hey, shuffleboard enthusiasts!** Our colleagues at First United Methodist have

invited other downtown churches to join them for the Crosstown Shuffle, an evening of shuffleboard and fellowship, at the St. Petersburg Shuffleboard Club, 559 Mirror Lake Drive N, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, December 7. Adults \$10, youth \$5; details at [stpetefirst.org/shuffle](http://stpetefirst.org/shuffle). RSVP by December 4, please. Food trucks will be on site.



*We didn't win, but no one had more fun than our 20s-40s group on October trivia night at Pinellas Ale Works.*

Our centering prayer group, **Pray, Meditate, and Connect**, will meet in the Chapter Room from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. on November 4 and 18. Join them to share prayer concerns, 20 minutes of silent meditation, and a brief prayer service as we deepen our fellowship through prayer. Save the dates and participate as you are able. The group is led by Karen Payne-

Taylor and Jannie Hume, who have years of experience with silent meditation groups. For more information or to register your interest, please contact Jannie ([jhume6@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jhume6@tampabay.rr.com)) or visit [spcathedral.org/meditate](http://spcathedral.org/meditate).

**Our senior ministry, the OWLS**, will meet after the 10:15 a.m. service November 5 in the Chapter Room. Curate Mike Alford will speak about the distinguishing characteristics of the Episcopal Church and how other Christian denominations compare.

**We have two pews available to a good home.** They were removed from the nave to make room for the new baptistery. The oak pews are 165 inches long, 36 inches high, and 23.5 inches deep. No charge, although a freewill offering is always a fine idea. If you or someone you know might be interested, please speak to Administrator Michelle Thomas ([mthomas@spcathedral.com](mailto:mthomas@spcathedral.com)).

# November Transitions

## Birthdays

1	Ellen Morris	9	Phyllis Waters
1	Cole Naylor	10	George Sykes
1	Dave Corey	10	Anna Guengerich
1	Corey Lentini	11	Justin Grimshaw
2	Blanton Garnett	12	Gaby Gramling
2	Greg Glenn	12	Penny Robbins
2	Henry Juarez	12	Sara Brousal
4	Jenny Reese	13	Jake Smithhart
4	Emily Williams	13	Stefan Palen
5	Raymond Lannon	14	Tracey Gross
6	Mary Matthews	14	Sarah Parker
7	Andy Munkittrick	14	Michael Myers
8	Ida Brophy	15	Cindy Gines
8	Dave Darrow	16	Kassidy Gums
8	Luke Saut	17	Alex Costello

18	Carter Curtis
18	Bruce Rice
18	Hunter Isiminger
19	Richard Gibson
19	Bob Summer
19	Kristen Herman
19	Jacob Peters
22	Beatrix Peete
22	Elias Scultori
23	Glenn Currier
23	Mary Marcantonio
23	Georgia Snyder
24	Susan Oates
25	Cynthia Sinclair
25	Tallulah Taylor
25	Juliette Juarez
26	Michael Adams
26	Clayton Roen
26	Elise Chandler
27	Heather Hollingsworth
27	Lydia McDowall
28	Susan Churuti
28	Ken Post

29	Cassie Ramsey
29	Steve Hawk

30	Evelyn Finklea
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## Anniversaries

13	Rich & Cathy Rome	23	Fred & Susan Stansbery
15	Scott Strader & Laurence Roberts	26	Todd & Terry Llewellyn
15	Jack & Susan Regan	27	Ray McColgan & Mike Schillace
17	Matthew & Ellen McDonald	29	Tim Staney & Matt Stewart



*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

**Sunday, 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite I and sermon**

**Sunday, 10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite II  
and sermon**

**Wednesday, 12:05 p.m., Holy Eucharist**

**Fourth Sunday, 5 p.m., Choral Evensong  
(through April except December)**

Sunday services at 10:15 a.m. can be viewed on Facebook or at [spcathedral.org/worship-live-stream](https://www.spcathedral.org/worship-live-stream), where the order of service can be downloaded.

**If you have a pastoral emergency after hours,  
please call (727) 822-4173 ext. 1 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: November 15, 2023.**

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

### Getting in Touch:

**Office:** 140 Fourth St. N, 33701

### Mailing address:

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

### Telephone:

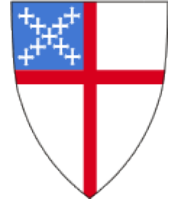
(727) 822-4173

### E-mail:

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

### Web site:

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



### Diocesan leadership:

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas F. Scharf, Bishop

The Rev. Canon Richard H. Norman, Canon to the Ordinary

### Our clergy and senior staff:

The Rev. Michael R. Alford, Curate

The Rev. Canon Brandon Peete, Canon for Hospitality

The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams, Canon Theologian

Mr. Dwight M. Thomas, Canon for Music and Precentor

The Right Rev. Barry R. Howe, Bishop in Residence