

TIME, TALENT, & TREASURE

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRIEST

The Rev. Canon Paige Alvarez Hanks

Envisioning our mission and ministry is a big task that the St. Bede's Vestry and parishioners have in front of us. While there is no denying that God has been at work within this parish since 1952, the effects of the overall decline in church affiliation among Americans, combined with the transitions our church has experienced over a period have left us at a crossroads. Through a combination of the tenacity and work of our parishioners and the generosity of the Diocese of SW Florida and The Cathedral Church of St. Peter, we have a unique opportunity to have a Priest in Charge and to re-envision the way we serve in ministry and how we use our resources.

We are excited to share the news that the Diocese has made a decision to loan the parish \$150,000 to use to tackle some immediate issues (such as water abatement and building updates). This allows us to move forward with phase 1 of our property plan. Joel Giles, while completing his time on Vestry in January, will continue to be our lead and point of contact for our renovation and plans for the property. I know that most of you have waited a long time to see this dream come to fruition, and we hope to schedule a Town Hall parish meeting soon to address the details of the plan as it is expected to unfold and to answer questions about the project. For now, we give thanks to God for walking with us in this journey from aspiration to reality.

We also give thanks to Linda Rothmann, who made the decision to step down as Senior Warden, effective the end of August. Her leadership has been steady and committed throughout her term, and she has given an incredible amount of time and talent to this church in a variety of roles and responsibilities. I am most grateful to George Morgan for assuming the role of Senior Warden at this crucial time in the life of the church. While change can be a challenge, we know that change is necessary for the growth of the parish and that God is present in all our decisions.

As you can see from all this news, big things are happening at St. Bede's. Jesus is calling the people of this church to imagine the ways we might journey together in faith and honor our baptismal covenant to proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.

My door is open to you as you pray and discern the ways that you will support our life in ministry together. Today, I give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve as your priest in such an exciting time as this.

Canon Paige



Carefest St. Petersburg got its start almost 20 years ago, and CareFest® is a Christ centered community service day that takes place throughout our community. St. Bede's is one of the sites for work at this year's event on *Saturday, September 28th*. You are invited to join with community volunteers to work on our property from **8:30-11:30am**, cleaning out the Memorial Garden and backyard, as well as some interior and exterior work on the church building. Please see Joe Tyler if you are able to help!

DEACON'S CORNER

The Rev. Deacon Marcus Crim

In last month's newsletter, I proposed a couple of ideas with which we could get the people that live or work around St. Bede's to notice us, meet with us, and perhaps do a project with us. One of the ideas was to construct a simple labyrinth in a section of our front property facing 16th St.

Several of you have asked what a labyrinth is. Some definitions compare a labyrinth to a maze, but they are quite different. A labyrinth has one entry/exit point which leads to the center and then back out the same way. Labyrinth walking is an ancient practice used by many different faiths for spiritual centering, contemplation, and prayer. Labyrinths were created on many European cathedral floors to help draw people into meditation. Instead of taking a dangerous journey to Jerusalem, medieval Christians went to the cathedrals to pray and walk the labyrinth. Many modern churches still incorporate them in their designs and many people still love to walk labyrinths. In San Francisco, the cathedral where I was ordained, Grace Cathedral, there are 2 labyrinths- one outside and one inside.

Since we are starting the first phase of our remodeling very soon, it's probably best that we put this project on hold for the moment. But I would like to talk to any or all of you about your opinion on building a labyrinth out front. And, of course, I'm interested in any ideas you might have that will engage us with the people that live in our neighborhood.

Stewardship of Welcome

We are a *welcoming community* at St. Bede's. Part of welcome includes inviting folks to worship and experience our church family. First go to God and pray, then invite someone to join you on Sunday or one of our events. We are a people of welcome!

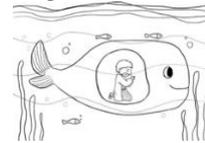


Crafter's Needed
Spaces are \$15.00 each

For Info:
Joyce 727- 495-1121 or
Jackie 920-889-6730
Please leave a
message, we will call
you back!

Food and Bake Sale

Jonah!



The Sisters of Bede are back on November 9th (***please note the change of date!***) with their presentation of Jonah, the Musical. Led by Nancy Morgan, the Sisters of Bede are a group of women whose ministry is to bring The Word through story and music through God's people. There will be great props, unique table decorations, and an audience sing-along to tunes you love and already know. This year, The Sisters have been traveling in their unreliable van and find themselves serving others in a casino when the hilarity ensues. Many thanks to Lisa and David Coddington for preparing a yummy dinner before the show!



Pub Theology Thursday, September 26th

Are you interested in talking about God, especially in light of current events? Do you have friends who are wary of church, but still are seeking to know and understand more about God? Our next gathering is **Thursday, September 26th at Stone Soup at 6pm.** Our format is casual and food and drinks are available to order. Don't feel like eating or drinking? No problem! All are welcome (over age 21) for the discussion time – and friends are welcome. Questions? Contact Canon Paige or Deacon Marcus. **Our first event was a big hit!**

Serving God through Worship



Lay readers, Eucharistic ministers, and Acolytes trained on Sunday, August 11, 2019 to continue to serve in ways that enhance the worship experience for all. With the addition of new members, we will be starting a new schedule for Lay Readers and Eucharistic Ministers on **September 1st**. Our new and returning acolytes will be participating in the Diocesan Acolyte Festival on **Saturday, September 7th** at the Cathedral. If there is anyone else who wishes to join this ministry, please contact Canon Paige and arrange a time for training.

News from the Choir



The Choir is participating in the Acolyte Festival on **Saturday September 7th at 12:30 p.m.** at the Cathedral as part of a collaborative effort with the Cathedral Choir. They will reciprocally join us for our Gospel Sing on Saturday **September 21st at 5:30pm** for our Potluck dinner followed by singing at 6:30pm. Other events throughout the Church Year such as Diocesan Services (ordinations, funerals, etc.) will provide further opportunities to collaborate. We welcome any and all to join us, as many of the events feature simple familiar hymns that can be rehearsed ahead of time. Remember, one who sings prays twice



Second Annual Gospel Sing

Our Second Annual Gospel Sing is almost here! Mark your calendars for Saturday September 21st at 5:30pm for a potluck dinner and a time of fellowship as we sing some gospel favorites. We welcome all parishioners, and this is a great opportunity to invite a friend or two to join in the fun! Please bring a dish to share with the group and make plans to be with us for this fun evening. If you know of a musician who might want to join us, please let Jon Peterson know at jdpete1692@gmail.com.

Adult Formation Opportunities

Learning about our faith is one of the ways that we find ourselves drawing closer to God. Here are some upcoming opportunities within our parish, and across the diocese:

- Our Bible Study has had some wonderful learning activities over the past few months. The only thing missing is YOU! We meet at **11am each Thursday** after the Healing Service (10am in the Chapel) for a look ahead at the readings for Sunday.
 - Pub Theology – we had a great first session and are looking forward to our next gathering on **Thursday, September 26th**.
 - Small group discussions on understanding issues around racism will begin Monday, October 7th at the Cathedral Church of St. Peter. These small groups will be listening to the podcast episodes from Seeing White found in season 2 of Scene on Radio. You can listen to these podcasts whenever you like and join with others in discussing the Christian response to racial injustices. See Canon Paige to learn more.
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Annual Octoberfest Saturday, October 26th

The biggest event of the programming year at St. Bede's is our annual Octoberfest Dinner. Happy hour starts at 5:00 and dinner is served at 6pm. We are thrilled to have The Rev. Cn. Chris Gray back by popular demand for this event, and to preach at the service the next morning. **Note this change in the date!**

ECW NEWS



The Episcopal Church Women will hold their next meeting after church on Sunday, September 1st. ECW is also reminding everyone about Undie Sunday on September 8th. Please bring new underwear and socks in children's and adult's sizes to church for donation to those in need at Resurrection House and The Sheriff's Office. Questions about ECW or the Undie Sunday collection? Reach out to Beth Delos Reyes at uririsheyes@yahoo.com to get all your questions

answered!

THE NEW DIRECTORY IS READY!



New parish directories are available in the back of the church and in the office. Included in the back are birthdays and anniversaries as you provided them to us for publication. If you have any updates to your contact information or have any edits for the directory, please give these to Canon Paige so we can update our records appropriately.

THE REV. CANON PAIGE ALVAREZ HANKS, PRIEST-IN-CHARGE
THE REV. MARCUS CRIM, DEACON
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WWW.STBEDEEPISCOPALCHURCH.ORG
FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT STBEDESTPETE

Important Reminders – Mark your Calendars!

- 9/1 ECW Meeting after Church
- 9/7 Acolyte Festival Service at 12:30pm at The Cathedral.
- 9/8 Undie Sunday – Bring **new** underwear and socks to donate to the Sheriff's Dept. and Resurrection House in kids and adult sizes.
- 9/21 Potluck Dinner and Gospel Sing at 5:30pm
- 9/22 Vestry Meeting after Church
- 9/28 Workday (8:30-11:30am) as part of Carefest St. Petersburg at St. Bede's
- 10/5 Craft and Gift Fair 9am – 3pm
- 10/5 Blessing of the Pets on the lawn at St. Bede's from 11am-12pm

Save the Dates!

Octoberfest – Saturday, October 27th (**Note the date change**)
Sisters of Bede present: Jonah The Musical – Saturday, November 9th