

We Have a Lot to Be Thankful For!

By The Rev. Natalie Blasco, Rector

We have a lot to be thankful for at St. Peter's By-The-River.

When November arrives, I am surprised at how fast the year has gone by. I feel the same this year, especially since we have been having such a good time together. November 1st is the one-year anniversary of my being here at St. Peter's. Although we started off a little rocky and the future of St. Peter's looked a little bleak, today we are a vibrant community that is striving to grow by being the hands and feet of Jesus on the Westside of Jacksonville. Together, WE faithfully partner with the Holy Spirit to understand how we can continue to be the presence of God's Kingdom here on earth.

Thank you all for the celebration of Clergy Appreciation Month in October, and for all the love and support that you have shared with my family and me. It has been a true blessing to serve you, and I pray every day is a blessing to each and every one of you. The wonderful thing about celebrating our anniversary together, in November, is that this is the official month for giving thanks for all that God has blessed us with.

On Thanksgiving Day, we will do something a little different this year. At 10:30AM on **Thursday**, **November 28**, we will celebrate the Eucharist. I invite you to bring an item that represents something that you are thankful for. You could bring a frame with a picture of your kids/grandkids or maybe a keepsake from someone near and dear to you. We will collect these items in a basket, during the offertory, and present them at the altar to give thanks to the Lord for all the blessings in our lives. Don't worry – you will be able to pick up your items right after the service.

Afterwards, we will gather, at 12 noon, for a Thanksgiving potluck lunch in Weeks' Hall. My family will bring a large turkey and other fixings, and all are invited to join us. All that we ask is that you bring a side dish to share.

Inside this issue

Church Calendar	2
Family Movie Night	5
Belk Charity Sale	6
ECW Small Groups	6
Bible Study	<u>e</u>
Core Outreach Village	11
Thank You Notes	15
111d1ik 10d140t00	

Special points of interest

- · Belk Charity Event
- · Election Day
- Thanksgiving Blessing Bags
- Thanksgiving Service/Lunch
- · Thanks-for-Giving Brunch
- Time Change
- · Veterans' Day

(Continued on page 2)

November Calendar			
1	Family Movie Night - Coco	7:30 pm	
2	CHO Food Pantry - <i>Open</i>	7:30 am	
3	ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY English Service Spanish Service / Xmas Play Rehearsal	9:30 am 12:00 pm	
5	ELECTION DAY		
6	Bible Study	6:00 pm	
9	CHO Food Pantry - <i>Open</i>	7:30 am	
10	English Service Spanish Service / Xmas Play Rehearsal	9:30 am 12:00 pm	
11	VETERANS' DAY - Church Office Closed		
12	ECW Glory Circle	10:30 am	
15	Newsletter DEADLINE		
16	CHO Food Pantry - <i>Open</i> Thanks-for-Giving Brunch	7:30 am 10:00 am	
17	English Service Spanish Service / Xmas Play Rehearsal	9:30 am 12:00 pm	
18	Virtual Prayer Circle	6:30 am	
20	Bible Study w/dinner	6:00 pm	
21	Grace Circle	11:30 am	
23	CHO Food Pantry - <i>Open</i>	7:30 am	
24	English Service Spanish Service / Xmas Play Rehearsal	9:30 am 12:00 pm	
28	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY Thanksgiving Service/Lunch Church Office Closed	10:30 am	
30	CHO Food Pantry - <i>Open</i> Core Outreach Village	7:30 am 8:00 am	

We Have a Lot to Be Thankful For!

(Continued from page 1)

We know that many of you already have plans to get together with your own families, but we want to make sure that everyone has a place to spend the holiday with "family".

My prayer for you all is that you continue to experience God's blessings and that his perfect peace and love be with you always. O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him, tell of all his wonderful works. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. 1 Chronicles 16:8-10



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Remember to set your clocks BACK one hour at bedtime on Saturday, November 2.

Thanks-for-Giving Brunch

By Virginia Pillsbury, Senior Warden

Let's celebrate Mi Familia, our successful stewardship campaign!

On Saturday, **November 16**, from 10:00AM to 12:00PM, we will honor all those who have submitted their Pledge Card with a Thanks-for-Giving Mimosa Brunch in Weeks' Hall.

Come and enjoy being part of the

St. Peter's family with fellowship and brunch! We will have new St. Peter's By-the-River T-shirts for sale and we will also have a homemade quilt raffle.

For questions, contact Virginia Pillsbury at 904-307-6808, or email vpillsbury1126@gmail.com.





Wednesday November 6 & 20

Starting with dinner at 6:00PM

TOPIC: The Chosen

Contact: Virginia Pillsbury 904-307-6808 or email vpillsbury1126@gmail.com



Fill a grocery bag to help local families in need this Thanksgiving season.

Grocery bags will be available to pick up on Sunday November 10 and need to be returned by Sunday November 24.



St. Peter's Episcopal Children's Ministry

Bilingual Christmas Play

This will be a bilingual retelling of the Christmas nativity.

For children and teens ages 5-18

Practices start Sunday November 3rd

Practices:

Every Sunday 12pm until 1pm (Snacks included)

Dress Rehearsal:

Sun. Dec. 8 12pm until 2pm (Snacks Included)

Performance:

Sat. Dec. 14 at 2pm in the Sanctuary

Volunteers are needed! Contact 904 307 6808

Pastor Appreciation Sunday and Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off

By Virginia Pillsbury, Senior Warden

We had a wonderful Pastor Appreciation Sunday and Mi Familia Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off on Sunday, October 20. Our bilingual service was followed by a delicious potluck lunch where we also celebrated the October birthdays. Mother Natalie received gifts from the church to celebrate Pastor Appreciation Month. Thank you for loving us so well; we love you too!

Our Mi Familia Stewardship Campaign kicked-off with Mtr. Natalie and Ann Weeks speaking on the importance of financial stewardship to St. Peter's. The Mi Familia Family Tree is on the bulletin board in Weeks' Hall. As you make and turn in your pledge, please fill out a leaf with your name and put it on the tree! We will have speakers throughout the campaign that will end on November 17 with another bilingual service, potluck lunch, and November birthday celebration.

On Saturday, **November 16**, there will be a celebration brunch in Weeks' Hall for all who turned in a pledge card.



Mtr. Natalie with newly framed official Letter of Institution from the Vestry.



Mtr. Natalie with her Senior and Junior Wardens: Collin O'Hara and Virginia Pillsbury



Leslie Oxford opening up the Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off.



Our Stewardship Campaign Theme - Mi Familia Created by Leslie Oxford, Children's Ministry Director



Mtr. Natalie translating for Ann Weeks to the Spanish members.



Ann Weeks placing her leaf on the Tree after submitting her pledge.



Lavern O'Hara writing her name on a leaf to post after submitting her pledge.



For your convenience, scan the QR code here or visit our website

Stpetersbytheriver.org

click on donate

Thank you for supporting St. Peter's Episcopal Church and its Ministries.





All women are welcome to join the following monthly small groups.

GLORY CIRCLE: Meet on the 2nd
Tuesday, each month. Next meeting
November 12, at 10:30 a.m. in
Room 100. Study on Lesson 9 of
Max Lucado's book, "3:16".
Contact: Ann Weeks, 904.287.7103

GRACE CIRCLE: Meet on the 3rd
Thursday each month. Next meeting
November 21, at 11:30 a.m.
Location to be determined.

Contact: Tina Griffin, 904.207-3223

VIRTUAL PRAYER CIRCLE:

or email rowahw@aol.com

Intercessory prayer the 3rd Monday of each month via conference call. Next prayer circle **November 18**, at **6:30 p.m**.

† Call: 408-418-9388 † Access Code: 799 169 983 † Password: 37299826

Contact: Ann Weeks, 904.287.7103 or email rowahw@aol.com

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philippians 4:6

Belk Charity Event Sale: November 8-11

By Leslie Oxford, Rakad Dance Camp Director

By purchasing a \$5 ticket to the Belk Charity Event Sale at the Orange Park Mall, 100% of ticket sales will benefit Rakad Dance Camp.

You will have access up to 60% off of selected brands and \$5 off your entire purchase all day **November 8** through **11.**

Buy **five** tickets and get a complimentary Rakad Christmas ornament.

It's a win-win and an easy way to support Rakad Dance Camp.

Tickets are available at the Church Office or go online to rakaddancecamp.com



Veterans' Day: November 11

Submitted by JoAnne Rodriguez, Church Administrator

On Sunday, **November 10**, we will honor our <u>Active Duty</u>, <u>Reservists</u>, and Retired Veterans.

If you are a Veteran, or you have a family member who's a Veteran, please submit his/her **FIRST** and **LAST** name on your Connect Card enclosed in the Sunday Service Bulletin and mark it "Veteran" or contact the Church Office, 778-1434, ext. 101 or via email <u>irodriguez@stpetersjax.org.</u>

Please submit names by: **Wednesday, November 6**







Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, submissions for St. Peter's

DECEMBER

issue of

A Chosen Generation

DUE: NOVEMBER 13

Did you know that St. Peter's accepts submissions from all Area of Ministries (AOM) and any member of the church?

The newsletter is only as good as the content it receives, and that depends on the members.

Don't be shy – it's easy, it's good exposure and it's FREE!

Email your information to: newsletter@stpetersjax.org



The Core Outreach Village is held in St. Peter's front parking lot the last Saturday of each month from 8:00 to 10:00 AM.

The next Outreach Village is scheduled for

NOVEMBER 30

This outreach aims at serving those in our community who are either experiencing homelessness or struggling with other living needs in their lives.

Volunteers are always needed.

All you need to do is come on the last Saturday of each month and share God's love with our community.

For more information, contact Virginia Pillsbury, 904-307-6808 or email vpillsbury1126@gmail.com



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Donors get a t-shirt, \$25 e-gift card, and the satisfaction of saving lives in their community!



Diaper Bank for Northeast Florida

By Chrystal Parks, Founder of Diaper Bank for Northeast Florida

Last Friday, we celebrated our **5**th birthday in an extra special way. Employees from DanielKids helped us unload 260,000 diapers from Huggies. Through our membership with The National Diaper Bank Network and their founding sponsor, Huggies, we received this donation to support Northeast Florida families who struggle to afford diapers. Thank you, Huggies!







St. Peter's Trunk or Treat

By Virginia Pillsbury, Senior Warden

A few years ago after a long hiatus of our annual Trunk or Treat, Shavon Malanga came forward and asked about starting our Trunk or Treat tradition again. She was working at Baby Luv the Community Health Outreach ministry of Jacksonville and wanted a safe place for the neighborhood to dress up and collect candy.

Thanks, Shavon, for your love of this community!

On Sunday, October 27, we had another successful Trunk or Treat event. Thanks to all who helped! Timucuan Elementary School Teachers and faculty; Shavon Malanga and her family, and our Girl Scout Troop!

Pictured here are Rakad Campers and family.



The Baker Family



L-R: Isabella Boyer, Meilani Boyer, and Fadwa Benhabbou



L-R: Lyla Peacock, Avery Peacock, Luna Malanga, and Sophia Malanga



The Minions! Mtr. Natalie & Family L-R: Margie & David Mena, Tony & Mtr. Natalie



David & Margie Mena



Our Altar Guild L-R: Linda Boyd and Marlene Miller



Our Acolyte/Altar Guild Member: Katharine Boyd



Girl Scout Troop #74940 Leader: Devin Murphy



Shavon Malanga



Teachers and Faculty of Timucuan Elementary School

Stewardship Campaign Continues

By Virginia Pillsbury, Senior Warden

Our beloved church administrator, JoAnne Rodriguez, spoke about the importance of stewardship during our service on Sunday, October 27. Mi Familia: *Growing Together* is the theme for our stewardship campaign, which continues through November 17.

Those that have already submitted their pledge card, have placed a leaf marked with their name on the tree, pictured here, and have also received a car magnet with St. Peter's new logo. Please remember to fill out a pledge card for 2025, if you have not done so already.





Donations Needed for CHO

Submitted by JoAnne Rodriguez, Church Administrator

St. Peter's



Senior Warden Virginia Pillsbury

Junior Warden Collin O'Hara

Clerk **Linda Boyd**

Treasurer **Tina Griffin**

Vestry Meeting the **3**rd **Sunday** each month in Room 2.

Next meeting:

November 17

at 12:00 noon

The Food Pantry is always in need of **paper grocery bags**. They also accept plastics bags in addition to. When you shop at the grocery store, please alternate by asking for paper and donate the bags to CHO.

For your convenience, you may bring your donations along with you to Church on Sunday.

The CHO Food Pantry is open for donation drop-off on **Friday** between 9:00AM and 3:00PM. Thank you for your support.





ELECTION DAY Tuesday, November 5

Duval County Early Voting
Ends November 3

Monday- Friday 7am - 7pm Saturday- Sunday 8am- 5pm

For more information and early voting locations visit: duvalelections.com

Thank-You-Notes

A huge THANK YOU to Jayne Bickerstaff for her willingness to serve and be on-call as needed. She is a true and faithful servant and we are grateful for her service to St. Peter's and all that she does behind the scenes.

We appreciate Edna Richardson and Jeanne Wright for their dedication as our front desk receptionists on Tuesday and Thursday. We are grateful for their time and assistance each week and more. Last but not least, thank you to Laverne O'Hara for assisting in the back office.

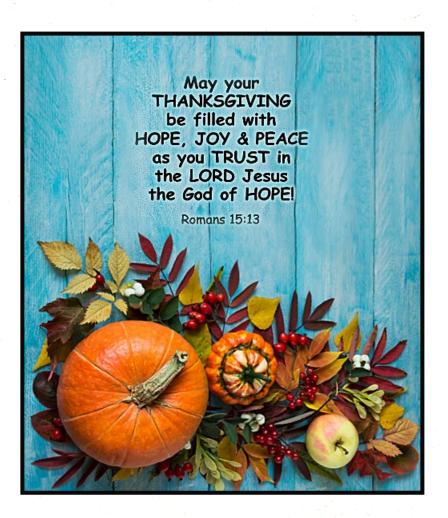
Mtr. Natalie Blasco and JoAnne Rodriguez

Thanks to Margie and David Mena for providing our cakes for our potluck lunches.

Thank you to all who helped at our Work Day: Walter Pillsbury, Collin O'Hara, Scott Smith, Jeanne Wright, Marlene Miller, Tina Marie Greene, Linda Boyd, Katharine Boyd, David Mena, Margie Mena, Natalie Blasco, Tony Buehler, Leslie Oxford, and community volunteers Thomas Wedding, Marques Burney, Patrick Williams, and Hazel Williams. Thanks to you we were able to work on a lot of projects at St. Peter's!

Thanks to all who helped with our first Movie Night on November 1!

Virginia Pillsbury, Senior Warden





HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Collin & Laverne O'Hara	5
Charlie & Sara Arnold	49

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

5042 Timuquana Road Jacksonville, Florida 32210 Phone: 904.778.1434

Email: stpetersjax@gmail.com



A Chosen Generation



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS Sunday, November 3

Remember to set your clocks BACK one hour at bedtime on Saturday, November 2.



Tuesday
NOVEMBER 5

7:00am to 7:00pm

For more information visit duvalelections.com or clayelections.gov

St. Peter's Service Schedule

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:

- † **9:30AM English Service** 3rd Sunday Bilingual Service
- † 12:00PM Spanish Service

Children's Ministry available.

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY

1st & 3rd Wednesday each month.

Starting with dinner at 6:00PM.

St. Peter's Business Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday | 9:15AM to 2:00PM

Closed Weekends/Federal Holidays

904.778.1434

Website: stpetersbytheriver.org

