

# A Chosen Generation



**SEPTEMBER 2024**

**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

## A Message from Our Rector

*By The Rev. Natalie Blasco*

One of the things that I find most appealing about the Episcopal Church is that we are a community of many, throughout the world, with one tradition and one Book of Common Prayer. For me, that means that when I am worshiping on Sunday, I know that there are so many more people praying the same prayers and lifting our voices to God in “unison”.

That being said, our churches also exist in a congregational setting. We have our own governance (i.e. Vestry and other committees), we handle our finances internally, and each church has its own unique identity. The most difficult part of that equation is the church’s finances. It means that we are responsible for our own money, our own expenses, and the upkeep of our property. On top of that, we are called to offer a tithe to the Diocese of Florida, for the furtherance of our mutual ministries, which is something that we have been unable to do for some time now.

When we, as a church, ask our members to fill out a pledge form for the year, we do that so that we can plan for the year ahead. It is with those numbers that we develop a yearly budget. The dollar amount that you pledge is not a debt. Rather, it is just an estimate of what you can give in your current circumstances. If those circumstances change, it is perfectly okay for your giving to change, but the pledge card is also important for something else.

At the end of the year churches are not required to file tax returns with the IRS, as other non-profits do, since we are tax-exempt and because of the U.S. Constitution’s requirement of the separation of Church and State. Nevertheless, each Episcopal church is required to submit a “Parochial Report” to the national headquarters of our Church, officially named The Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America. There are two sections to that report: one is a report of all the income and expenses for the year and the second part is about the congregation itself (weekly attendance, number of baptisms, weddings and funerals, as well as the

*(Continued on page 3)*

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- Anglican Youth Fellowship
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- Family Movie Night
- Memorial Service
- Mission Sunday
- News from the Mission Field
- Positive Family Pivot Update

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Service Update

By JoAnne Rodriguez, Church Administrator

### CHURCH STAFF

#### **RECTOR**

**The Rev. Natalie Blasco**

#### **STAFF**

Church Administrator

**JoAnne Rodriguez**

Audio/Visual/Computer Tech

**Tony Buehler**

Children's Ministry Director

**Leslie Oxford**

Facilities Maintenance

**Tony Buehler**

**Collin O'Hara**

**Walter Pillsbury**

Front Office Volunteers

**Edna Richardson**

**Jeanne Wright**

#### **LAY-COORDINATORS**

Altar Guild

**Marlene Miller**

Eucharistic Ministers,  
Lectors/Ushers Ministry

**Collin O'Hara**

Newsletter

**JoAnne Rodriguez**

Social Media

**Virginia Pillsbury**

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In order to accommodate Mtr. Natalie's Vestry meeting schedule, we will have a bilingual service and potluck luncheon the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday each month.

Service will start at 9:30AM and lunch immediately after in Weeks Hall. Please bring your favorite covered dish and/or dessert.



## Mid-Week Bible Study

**Begins September 4**

*Starting with dinner at 6:00PM*

**TOPIC: The Chosen**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month**





## From Our Rector

*(Continued from page 1)*

number of pledging units). The number of pledging units means, basically, the number of pledge cards we received for the year. That number is indicative of our growth or our decline and is referred to, often, when a diocese makes decisions about whether or not a congregation is viable and if expending money and energy into its future, is warranted.

I say all of that to explain the importance of our stewardship campaign. It is not just about numbers and whether or not we can pay our bills. It is all about who we are and how we care for our community and its needs.

On August 22, a few of us attended a stewardship workshop, at St. John's Cathedral, in preparation for the start of our annual stewardship campaign. By

the time you read this, a Stewardship Committee will be formed and will have begun the work of developing the plan for our campaign. We will ask you to pray and reflect on your giving practices, taking into consideration your own needs, while contributing financially to the work of Christ in the world. There will also be a time for some fun, as we come together to celebrate the abundance that we are blessed with – an abundance of resources, an abundance of friends, and most importantly, an abundance of God's love for each and every one of us.

I want to thank you all in advance for opening up your hearts to each other and to the greater community. We are small but we are mighty and it is all because the Holy Spirit is working wonders in this place and in our hearts.



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

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



*Memorial Service*

A service in memory  
of former member  
**Christie Parker**  
is scheduled for  
**Saturday, September 14**  
at 11:00 a.m. held  
in the Church Library.  
Reception immediately after.

For more information,  
contact Laura Smith  
904-335-0586  
or email  
[jamielaurasmith@yahoo.com](mailto:jamielaurasmith@yahoo.com)

## Christmas Play

By Leslie Oxford, Children's Ministry Director

We are working on putting together our first ever BILINGUAL Christmas play. This play will tell the nativity story with classic English and Spanish carols. We need your help to make this happen.

### Parents/ Grandparents with kids:

If you have kids (or grandkids) ages 4-13, we would love to have them involved in this production. We are starting practices **October 6** to prepare for our Christmas play on Saturday December 14.

### Practice Schedule:

October 6 - 12-1pm  
October 13 - 12-1pm  
October 20 - 12-1pm  
October 27 - NO PRACTICE  
Trunk-or-Treat Day  
November 3 - 12-1pm  
November 10 - 12-1pm  
November 17 - 12-1pm  
November 24 - 12-1pm  
December 1 - 12-1pm  
December 8 - 12-1pm  
December 14 - Dress Rehearsal  
11am - 1pm

**PERFORMANCE**  
**Saturday, December 14**  
**1:00-2:00pm**  
**cookie party to follow**

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Even if you don't have a child (or grandchild) involved in this play, we still need your help. St. Peter's has never had a bilingual Christmas play and it has been some time since our last Christmas production.

We are looking for volunteers who can assist with costumes, sets, music, tech., and more. If you are interested in helping, please contact Virginia Pillsbury, 904-307- 6808, or email [vpillsbury1126@gmail.com](mailto:vpillsbury1126@gmail.com).

**Most importantly, everyone is welcome to come to the performance on Saturday, December 14, from 1:00 to 2:00pm. It will be the perfect way to usher in the Christmas Season.**



# Back to School Supplies

By Leslie Oxford, Children's Ministry Director

As we approach the new school year, it is important to remember those in need, especially children in low-income families and teachers at Timucuan Elementary, our local elementary school. On August 3 & 4, we were able to do just that thanks to your support.

At our back-to-school outreach event on August 3, we distributed **60** backpacks to children in our community. More than 20 families in need came to St. Peter's Church to receive free backpacks, food, and prayer.

Additionally, we provided school supplies to all the teachers at Timucuan Elementary School. The school items included: paper, markers,

crayons, pencils, highlighters, sticky notes, pens, tissues, hand sanitizer, paper towels, and notebooks. Principal Contrina Bolton, and Assistant Principal Dr. Jada Smith, came to the service on August 4 to receive these items.

Thank you to everyone who brought in supplies and/or made a monetary donation, especially Jayne Bickerstaff, Linda Boyd, Katharine Boyd, Larry Hamblin, Tine Marie Greene, David Mena, Margie Mena, Laverne O'Hara, Virginia Pillsbury, Walter Pillsbury, and Mai Trog. Special thanks to Rakad Dance Camp, whose campers brought in half of the items distributed.

## Church Calendar

<b>1</b>	English Service Spanish Service	9:30 am 12:00 pm
<b>2</b>	LABOR DAY - Church Office CLOSED	
<b>4</b>	Bible Study	6:00 pm
<b>7</b>	CHO Food Pantry Open	7:30 am
<b>8</b>	English Service Spanish Service	9:30 am 12:00 pm
<b>9</b>	Virtual Prayer Group	6:30 pm
<b>10</b>	ECW Glory Circle	10:30 am
<b>14</b>	CHO Food Pantry Open Memorial Service - C. Parker Positive Family Pivot Open	7:30 am 11:00 am 12:00pm
<b>15</b>	Bilingual Service - AYF Choir Vestry Meeting Newsletter Deadline	9:30 am 12:00 pm
<b>18</b>	Bible Study	6:00 pm
<b>19</b>	Grace Circle	11:30 am
<b>21</b>	CHO Food Pantry Open	7:30 am
<b>22</b>	English Service Spanish Service	9:30 am 12:00 pm
<b>28</b>	CHO Food Pantry Open Core Outreach	7:30 am 8:00 am
<b>29</b>	MISSIONS SUNDAY English Service Spanish Service	9:30 am 12:00pm



# Family Night

**First Friday each month beginning OCTOBER 4**

*More info in the October issue.*

## Women's Small Groups

By The Episcopal Church Women (ECW)



Would you like to purchase Altar Flowers in Honor of a birthday, anniversary, or in Memory of a loved one?

**COST: \$45**

To place an order, call the Church Office 904-778-1434, ext. 100 or fill out an Altar Flower order form available from the Church Office or Church Library, along with your payment.

Make your check payable to **ST. PETER'S CHURCH** and note for Altar Flowers.

**NOTE:** Be sure to mention your color and/or flower choice. Specific flower requests like roses or a larger arrangement will have an additional charge.

On Sunday, you may place your order form, along with your payment, in the offering plate, otherwise bring your order and payment to the Church Office during normal business hours:

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

*All women are invited to join the following monthly small group circles.*

The purpose of St. Peter's Episcopal Church Women (ECW) is to encourage and enable women to answer God's call to service and ministry within the Body of Christ. It is a source of encouragement for women seeking to strengthen their spiritual growth.

**GLORY CIRCLE:** We meet the **2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday** each month. Next meeting, **September 10**, at 10:30AM in Room 100. **Contact:** Ann Week, 904-287-7103 or [rowahw@aol.com](mailto:rowahw@aol.com)

**GRACE CIRCLE:** We meet the **3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday** each month. Next meeting, **September 19**, at 11:30AM **Contact:** Tina Griffin, 904.207.3223

**VIRTUAL PRAYER TIME:** We normally meet the **3<sup>rd</sup> Monday** each month for intercessory prayer, via conference call. Due to a special performance in my community on that same day, our prayer time will be held on Monday, **September 9**, at 6:30PM.:

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

**Contact:** Ann Weeks, [rowahw@aol.com](mailto:rowahw@aol.com)  
904.287.7103

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



If you would like prayer on Sunday morning, after you receive communion, please see one of our Prayer Warriors, Ann Weeks or Laverne O'Hara.



# Anglican Youth Fellowship

By Virginia Pillsbury, Vestry Senior Warden

Anglican Youth Fellowship (AYF), the music group from Uganda that visited with Mary Chowenhill in September 2019, will return to St. Peter's on Sunday, **September 15**. We will have our bilingual service at 9:30AM, in the Sanctuary with AYF performing during the service, followed by a potluck lunch.

AYF will also perform at Community Health Outreach on Wednesday morning, September 18, at 10:00 a.m., and also during our

Wednesday night Bible Study on September 18, at 7:00PM in the Sanctuary.

They will perform throughout Jacksonville during the week, including Westminster Woods and New Dawn Outreach, and will leave on Thursday afternoon, September 19.

For more information, or to help, please contact Virginia Pillsbury at 904-307-6808, or Mary Chowenhill at 904-613-3094 or email, [marycee203@gmail.com](mailto:marycee203@gmail.com)



Submissions for  
St. Peter's

**OCTOBER**

issue of

*A Chosen Generation*

**DUE: SEPTEMBER 15**

The newsletter 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](mailto:newsletter@stpetersjax.org)

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF MINISTRY

SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

FREE CONCERT

7 pm

**AYF BAND**

*In Concert*

**HOLDING ONTO JESUS**

ST. PETER'S CHURCH  
5042 TIMUQUANA RD, JACKSONVILLE FL



## Diaper Need Awareness Week

By Crystal Parks, Founder & President of the Diaper Bank for Northeast Florida

What is National Diaper Need Awareness Week? Go online and visit [NationalDiaperBankNetwork.org](http://NationalDiaperBankNetwork.org) to find out and learn how to get involved **September 23-29** for a week of action to draw attention to the

public health crisis of #DiaperNeed in the U.S. and advocate for meaningful change. Visit our website at [diaperbanknef.org](http://diaperbanknef.org)

#EndDiaperNeed

### EVENT RENTAL

*Did you know that we have space to rent for your event?*

If you or anyone else are seeking to rent a hall for a birthday, anniversary, baby shower, etc., we have two spaces for rental: Weeks Hall for larger events and our Church Library for smaller events.

For more information, contact JoAnne Rodriguez, 904-778-1434, ext. 101 or email [jrodriguez@stpetersjax.org](mailto:jrodriguez@stpetersjax.org)



# What is National Diaper Need Awareness Week?

September 23-29, 2024





# Diaper Bank

By Crystal Parks, Founder & President of the Diaper Bank for Northeast Florida

The increasing demand for diapers and other essential needs continue to grow in our community. Please help us alleviate diaper need by donating our most requested items directly from our Amazon Wishlist.

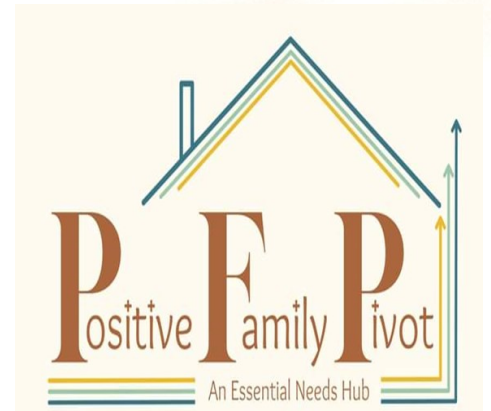
Items purchased from our list will be shipped directly to us. Visit [jaxdiaperbank.org/make-a-donation](http://jaxdiaperbank.org/make-a-donation) to show your support.



## Our Wishlist!

-  Diapers (sizes 3 & 4)
-  Training pants (All Sizes)
-  Baby wipes
-  Baby formula
-  Volunteers

#Wishlist Wednesday 



Schedule change for **SEPTEMBER**

Open for Diaper distribution **ONLY** on **Saturday, September 14**, from 12:00 to 2:00PM.

**Starting in October by appointment ONLY.**

For more information or to schedule an appointment for services, call **904-383-7135** or email **positivefamilypivot@gmail.com**



## Community Health Outreach

By Eustachius Roberts, CHO Board Member



Join us for an evening of fun, connection, and making a difference! We are thrilled to announce the upcoming 2024 CHO Jax Social!

Our signature event is dedicated to fostering community engagement and supporting our mission of healing, growth, and compassionate service.

**Thursday, October 10  
at 6:30 PM**

Haskell Building  
111 Riverside Ave.  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

*Mark your calendars  
and stay tuned for more  
info coming soon.*



Community Health Outreach (CHO) offers free services to the uninsured and financially insecure as follows:

### Primary Medical Care

Our Medical Clinic provides free primary healthcare for the uninsured with low to no income. Patients must submit an eligibility form that can be found on this website or picked up in front of the Medical Clinic Monday. Once eligibility is determined, you will be scheduled for care.

Healing Hands Clinic Hours\*:  
PATIENT ELIGIBILITY/OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
and 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**NOTE** - Clinic Hours are based on provider availability – established patients must call the clinic to schedule appointments.

### Dental Services

Our Dental Clinic provides free dental services to low-income and uninsured individuals. Those services include:

- Scheduled extractions on Fridays based on the availability of the providers (by appointment only)
- Cleanings based on the availability of the providers (by appointment only)

Our staff works with a strong team of volunteer dentists and hygienists from the community. Dental clinics are held throughout the week depending on the availability of our providers.

Patients must submit an eligibility form that can be found on this website or picked up in front of the Medical

Clinic Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Once eligibility is determined, you will be scheduled for care.

\*Medical and Dental Clinic hours are subject to change depending on the availability of providers and holidays.

### Lord's Food Pantry – Drive Thru

The CHO Lord's Pantry provides drive-thru grocery distribution on **Saturday** mornings from **7:30 to 8:30 a.m.** We serve about 200 clients each week with about \$200 worth of groceries each visit. All in need are welcome.

Our groceries are provided by our food service agencies: Farm Share, Feeding NE Florida, Waste Not Want Not, Publix, Winn-Dixie, Aldi, Walmart, and Fresh Market.

### Baby Luv Center

Baby Luv distributes diapers, wipes, and formula to parents every **Wednesday** from **9:00 to 11:00 a.m.**

We are currently accepting donations of diapers, formula, and wipes.

If you have any questions, please call our office or send us an email at [admin@chojax.org](mailto:admin@chojax.org).

*Glorifying God and showing the love of Jesus by feeding the hungry, clothing the needy, and healing the sick.*

Visit our website at  
**[chojax.org](http://chojax.org)**

# Core Outreach Village

By Virginia Pillsbury, St. Peter's Partner Ministry Liaison

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

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

Outreach Village is scheduled, **September 28**.

**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.



**Last Saturday of Every Month from 8-10am**  
**In the front parking lot of St. Peter's Episcopal Church**  
**(5042 Timuquana Road)**

- |          |              |             |
|----------|--------------|-------------|
| April 27 | August 3     | October 26  |
| May 25   | August 31    | November 30 |
| June 29  | September 28 | December 29 |



**St. Peter's**



**Senior Warden**  
**Virginia Pillsbury**

**Junior Warden**  
**Collin O'Hara**

**Clerk**  
**Linda Boyd**

**Treasurer**  
**Tina Griffin**

**Leo Nazario**

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Vestry Meeting  
the **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday** each  
month in Room 2.

Next meeting:  
**September 15**  
at 12:00 noon

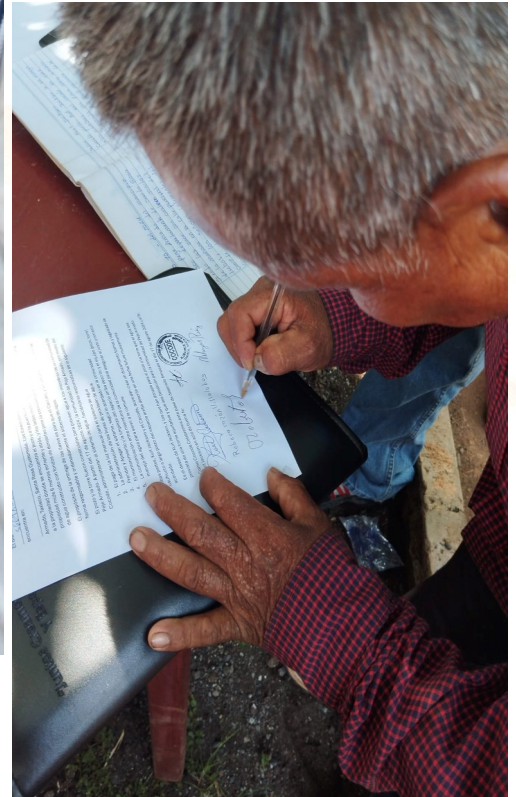
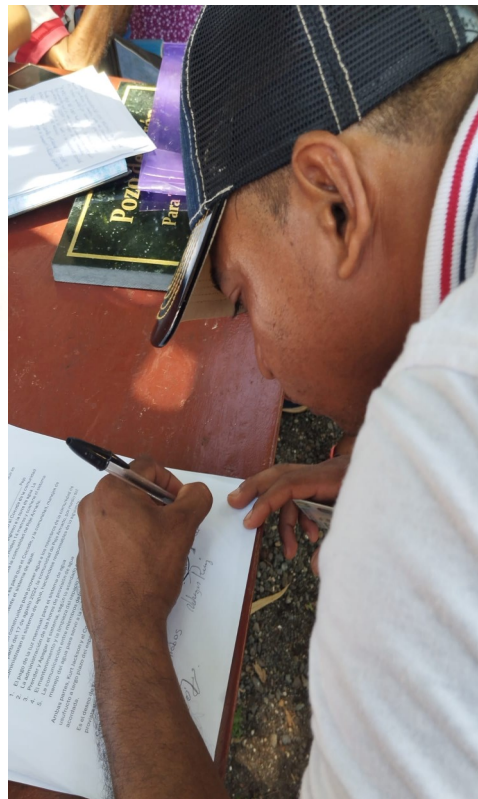
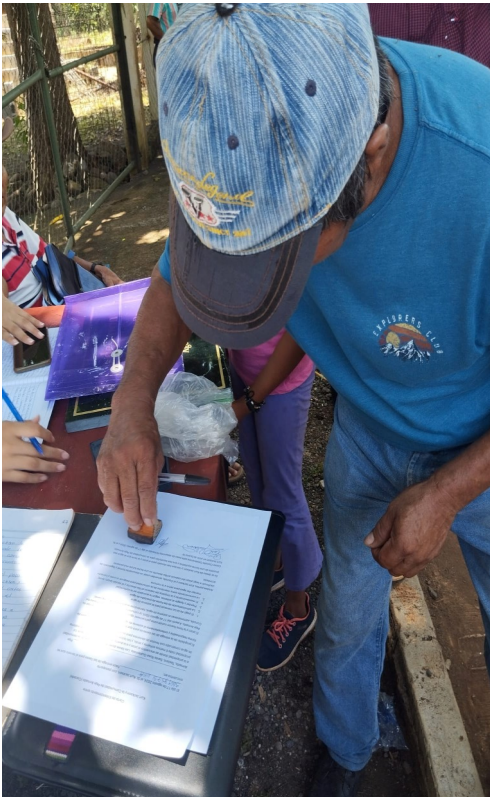


## News from the Mission Field

*By Tamalyn Jackson-Gutierrez, Missionary to Guatemala*

On Saturday, August 17, we celebrated the miracle of water for Peje Armado in an official handover of the keys of the Water Tower to the community council, who will administer and manage the water system!

In appreciation, the community had a marimba (traditional Guatemalan instrument), firecrackers and a beautiful bouquet, Kurt and Sally accepted on behalf of all of the wonderful people who have contributed to this project. We wish all of you who have donated could have enjoyed the delicious “caldo de gallina” or hen stew, they graciously served us in gratitude. We wish you could have been here to witness the wisdom of Pastors Roberto, Paco, and other community leaders, along with the message of encouragement Kurt gave. Thank you to all of you who have prayed and sent gifts; God is so good!!!



Community Council Signing of Documents





Kurt signing documentation



Presentation of Bouquet  
L-R: Kurt, Sally, and Pastor Roberto



Presentation of the plaque to the community.  
L-R: Pastor Roberto, Felipe Nery Cartillo Hernandez, and Kurt Jackson



It's Official!  
Back wall: Flowers and Plaque



## First Steps Outreach Ministries, Inc.

By Sally Jackson, Missionary to Guatemala

Kurt and I will be in Jacksonville in September and would love to spend some time with you. We so look forward to seeing each of you and worshipping with you. You are very dear to us. You may contact us at 904-701-9156 or my cell 904-837-8820, if you'd like to get together or just to say hi.

Please keep our following needs in prayer:

- We can use help with a car or ride, on an as needed basis, for all or part of the time that we are in town. If you or someone you know can help, please let us know.
- Please pray for activities going on in Guatemala, led by our daughter Sarah, while we are here in town.
- For provision for First Steps there and for us here.
- For protection of our home there and us here.
- For wisdom in what we do.
- For an increase in monthly support.

We are so excited about the backpack drive for *Kids Club* for

*Jesus* in the Antigua market! Please help support us by sponsoring one of these children of the *Club*. Sponsorship cost is \$50 per child but feel free to donate any amount, every penny helps! We need to fill **40** backpacks.

### Donations can be made as follows:

- Cash or a check made out to: **First Steps Outreach Ministries** given directly to me or Jeanne Wright on Sunday.
- Check made out to **First Steps Outreach Ministries** and mailed to:  
P.O. Box 10805  
Jacksonville, FL 32247
- Via Zelle using:  
[firststepske@yahoo.com](mailto:firststepske@yahoo.com)

*Your donation is tax deductible and greatly appreciated!*

Thank you for your support.

Blessings and much love,

*Kurt & Sally Jackson*



Join us on

**SEPTEMBER 29**

at 9:30AM

for a presentation by  
Kurt & Sally Jackson  
Missionaries to Guatemala



### LOVE OFFERING DONATIONS FOR GUATEMALA MISSION

SUPPORT FIRST STEPS MINISTRY,  
KURT & SALLY JACKSON'S MINISTRY  
IN ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 22  
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ST. PETER'S CHURCH  
FOR GUATEMALA MISSION



# Thank-You-Notes

Our sincere gratitude to Marlene Miller, Tina Marie Greene, and Linda Boyd for all of their hard work transferring the altar needs over to the Church Library for our worship services. In addition, to your assistance with the Installation Service on July 20. Last, but not least, a great big THANK YOU to Tina Griffin for beautifying the Sanctuary building by coordinating pressure washing and cleaning of the windows.

*In Christ,  
Mtr. Natalie and the Vestry*

St. Peter's Church Family,

Thank you for the birthday cards and for your thoughts, prayers, and support for me and my family.

*Sincerely,  
Jolene Rodriguez*

Thank you to everyone that was a part of our combined service and for your support with our potluck lunch on Sunday, August 18. Especially to those that have helped with setup and cleanup.

*With gratitude,  
Virginia Pillsbury, Senior Warden*

A great big THANK YOU to Tony Buehler and Collin O'Hara for removing tables and re-organizing Weeks Hall in preparation for the voting precinct's needs.

*Warmest Thanks,  
JoAnne Rodriguez, Administrator*

Thank you to Margie and David Mena for cleaning up the courtyard area!

*Virginia Pillsbury, Senior Warden*



**SEPTEMBER**  
Birthdays & Anniversaries

**SEPTEMBER**  
Birthdays and Anniversaries

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**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

Warren & Ernestine Jones..16

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Scott Smith .....	6
Carolyn Tipping .....	15
Betty Owens.....	17
Marlene Miller .....	18
Sylvia King.....	23

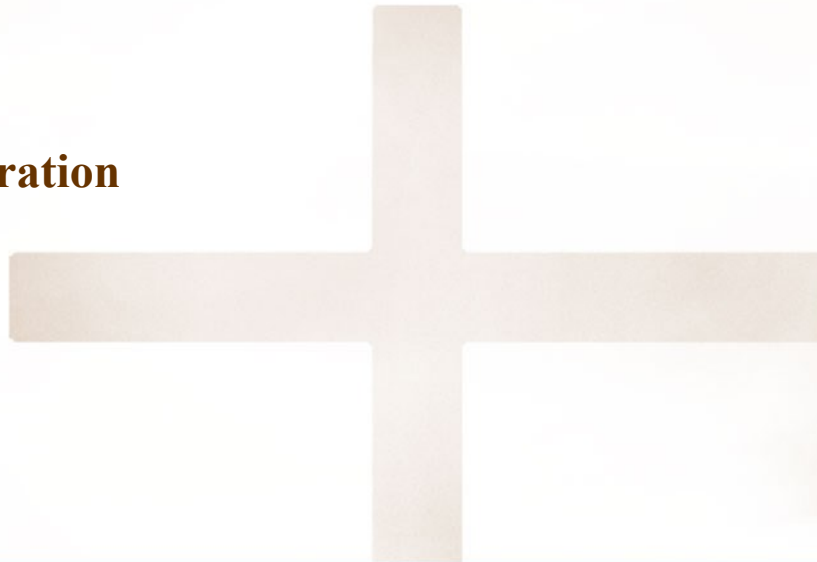


# St. Peter's Episcopal Church

5042 Timuquana Road  
Jacksonville, Florida 32210  
Phone: 904.778.1434  
Email: stpetersjax@gmail.com



## A Chosen Generation



**We'll Be Closed**  
IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY  
**September 2**

### St. Peter's Service Schedule

#### SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:

† 9:30AM English Service  
† 12:00PM Spanish Service  
*Children's Ministry available.*

#### 7:00PM MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: stpetersjax.org

