



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Please join us for online and in person worship

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Shawn Rutledge, Presiding

July 31, 2022

Go to: <http://www.stpetersepiscopalcg.org/> to be directed to St. Peter's webpage for access to bulletins, Prayer Request forms and online worship videos

Special Safety Notice:

All are welcome to attend in person services. We do ask, if you are not vaccinated, that you please wear a mask while in the church buildings.

Bulletins are provided at the service in 12pt. font. If you need large font, you may print out a bulletin from home by going to the website (quick link button below) and scrolling down to below the picture where it says "Sunday Service Bulletin" on the left.

[Visit our website](#)

A Message from the Vicar

Some Thoughts on Mutual Ministry

First, a definition. What is Mutual Ministry?

"A term given to the concept of shared ministry and leadership in a congregation. Mutual ministry is an approach to Christian ministry that is lived out of the promises made in baptism. It sees the ministry of the whole congregation as the primary ministry. All members of the congregation are doers of ministry." - <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/mutual-ministry/>

Essentially, it's a formal recognition that all members of the church, laity and clergy alike, are ministers of the church, and that everyone is called by God to certain duties in the service of the church. This isn't new, it's part of our catechism (BCP 855):

Q. Through whom does the Church carry out its mission?

A. The Church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members.

So what makes Mutual Ministry special? Well, the church has at different times and in different places formalized this idea of shared ministry through a process called a Mutual Ministry Review. A Mutual Ministry Review is a structured approach and process that enables congregational leaders and groups to reflect on, talk about, and celebrate their ministries. It is designed to encourage and develop ministries and to

strengthen the people and relationships of those involved. The Mutual Ministry Review provides a process through which church leaders and groups may ask themselves, "How are we living out our call to serve God and God's people?" and then engage in meaningful conversations about their answers.

The listening tour I'm engaged in now is a sort of first step for this process. I'm getting to know the congregation, and establishing a groundwork of expectation and desire for the church as a whole. The next step will be a talk-back session where I tell the gathered church what I heard in the listening tour, and we use that information to build a 5 year plan for our community. Once that plan is in place, a Mutual Ministry Review is a yearly method for us to evaluate how things are going, see where we're falling short, and realign ourselves with our vision.

So why am I talking about all of this in my first month as Vicar? Because I want everyone in the church to really think about their own ministry. What is God asking of you? I'm not saying this because I'm trying to flog up some volunteers. I'm saying it because it is the church's responsibility help you grow in your relationship with God, and part of that is allowing you to engage in the ministries that God is calling you to. It's allowing you to engage the fruits of the Spirit that God has gifted you with. And this is in our catechism too (BCP 855):

Q. What is the ministry of the laity?

A. The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given to them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.

So be thinking about who God is calling you to be, and how the Church can help you grow into that vision.

Bishop's Visit - Installation - Chili Cookoff

St. Peter's will host Bishop Reddall for the Installation of The Rev. Shawn Rutledge as Vicar of St. Peter's on August 28th at 4pm. This will be followed by a Chili Cookoff reception.

The "fixin's" and drinks will be provided by the church, we are looking for YOU to share your chili! We could also use a few folks who have some good cornbread or lemon bars to share their cookery talents as well. Sign up sheet will be available this Sunday at church. If you can't make it to church physically but would still like to sign up, please email the Vicar.

1st, 2nd & 3rd Prizes will be awarded at 6:30 PM. The Vicar threw down the gauntlet on Sunday, claiming that his chili would win! Let's show him some good competition!

Diocesan Convention is Coming Fast!

Have you ever wondered how the business of church gets done in our diocese? Have you ever been a delegate to convention in the past and feel like it's time to go again? We're need you to think seriously about whether you feel called to represent St. Peter's at this year's convention in N. Tucson.

St. Peter's still needs one more lay representative.

You don't have to know anything special or do anything special to prepare, simply commit to attending so that you can cast your vote on the floor as a representative of the congregation. We need to get our list of delegates to the diocese soon, so please let us know if you're interested.

The 62nd Arizona Diocesan Convention
"Reconciled in Christ: Becoming Beloved
Community"

Will be held this October 21-22, 2022 at El Conquistador Hilton Resort, Tucson, AZ. If you'd like more info about the convention, please check out the diocesan website: <https://azdiocese.org/diocesan-convention-2022/>

Outreach Ministry

Outreach is doing great work in our community!

As you know we have been consistently involved in Laundry Love since the beginning of the program here in Casa Grande. St. Peters will be the 'hosts' at the next Laundry Love, Wednesday August 31st from 3pm - 7pm. If you feel called to participate in this ministry of support and togetherness, please reach out to **Karen Perkinson**: 520-518-5647.

Our next meeting will be on August 9th @10:00am in Burton Hall.

*Safety Notice: We ask that everyone attending the meeting wear a mask for the health and safety of all involved. We're so glad to be able to use our communal spaces again. Let's make sure we stay safe.

****Laundry Love could really use donations of granola bars****

We've had some great donations this month, and we could still use a few more this coming Sunday. A reminder that this is the last Sunday for our July collection. Next month is school supplies!

July Collection

During the month of July, we are collecting items needed for the unhomed in our community:

- sunscreen
- tampons
- socks

- blankets
- washcloths
- pillowcases
- backpacks

August Collection

During August we will be collecting school supplies, which will be donated to the Casa Grande Elementary School District. Be on the lookout for back to school sales at your local stores starting now!

All items should be placed in the basket in the Narthex, tagged "Outreach"

If you don't remember to bring them in on Sunday, you can also drop them off in the church office.

Special Note: We are always appreciative of any hygiene items.

As with any ministry in the church, if you feel God calling you to become more active in the Outreach Ministry you can talk to Karen Perkinson, stop by the monthly meeting, or talk to the Vicar to help you explore that call more fully.

Health and Safety Update

COVID is on the rebound in Pinal County July 20, 2022

1. COVID cases are dramatically increasing since May 1. The COVID BA.5 variant is now the leading cause of new infections in the US. Compared to older variants, BA.5 is more transmissible and highly infectious. The best indicator of infection is the positivity rate for testing results:
 - a. May 1 the positivity rate was 4.4% in Pinal County.
 - b. As of July 20, it remains the same at 25% (compared to 2 weeks ago), or, 1 in 4 patients tested are positive.
2. New COVID cases in Pinal County were 24 on May 1. As of today, new cases are 133.
3. Hospitalizations: May 1 the total hospitalized residents in Pinal Co was 180. Today, the number of hospitalized residents in Pinal County is 424. Banner Casa Grande has 10 COVID patients in the ICU.

4. Protection: The key is to be vaccinated. Once vaccinated, one should receive the booster vaccinations. Wear a mask in places where there are large groups of people (i.e., supermarkets, theaters, restaurants, churches) to reduce your risk.

5. It's important to understand what the vaccine will do:

a. It reduces your risk of infection.

b. If infected, it reduces your risk of hospitalization, ICU intubation and death.

c. Meet with your healthcare provider to assure that you are protected.

6. In Pinal County, only 55% of all residents are vaccinated. 78% of residents 65 and older are vaccinated.

Since January 2020, at least 1 in 4 people who live in Pinal County have been infected, and at least 1 in 276 people have died. Total cases in Pinal County since the beginning of the pandemic is 140,061. An increase of 2000 new cases in the last 2 weeks.

Finally, **Flu vaccines will become available soon**. Currently, for residents 65 and older the CDC recommends three (3) vaccines for Seniors:

1. Fluzone High-Dose Quadrivalent (Sanofi Pasteur)

2. Fluad Quadrivalent (Seqirus)

3. Flublok quadrivalent (Sanofi Pasteur)

Please remember that each individual's health affects the health of the community. It is easy to protect yourself from influenza for the forthcoming Flu season by receiving the flu shot at your local pharmacy or physician's office. Mark your calendar for a Flu shot in early September.



The Daughters of the King

Contact Helenor Webb to learn more about
the Daughters of the King.

If you would like the Daughters of the King to pray for you,
please email: DOKPrayerRequest@stpetersepiscopealcg.org

Caring Hearts Phone Tree Ministry Meetings Continue

Thursday Every Week @ Noon

Ministry leader: Helenor Webb (Bishops Warden)

St. Peter's Instant Church Directory

As the new Vicar talks to folks on his listening tour he is
UPDATING entries in St. Peter's Instant Church Directory. If you
know you have inaccurate information listed in the directory
please let the Vicar know. Thank you!

Coffee Hour

Our new team approach to coffee hour is paying off. The sign up sheet is filling up, although there is still room for more! The idea is to get 3-4 folks signed up for each Sunday so that the burden is shared by many and the load is lighter!

Followship is an essential aspect of any church community. During COVID we have had to give up so many ways in which we gathered together in person. As of July 3rd we have started holding in person gatherings for coffee hour directly after church. Please take at least a few minutes to stop and talk with your fellow parishioners. Help us build one another up in the body of Christ so that we have the strength to go out into the world and be the body of Christ for others.

Altar Guild Ministry

As with any ministry in the church, if you feel God calling you to become more active in working around the altar, you can talk to Debbie Slaybaugh: 307-217-2154, or talk to the Vicar to help you explore that call more fully. If you're just curious why we do what we do around the altar, the Vicar will be more than happy to answer any questions.

Open Call for a Digital Verger

Just as a traditional verger assists the clergy in the conduct of public worship, especially in the marshaling of processions, the digital verger assists the clergy with making the service available to those watching online. The history of the verger dates back to the middle ages when the verger was the "Protector of the Procession." He would lead the way, making room for the procession to enter the church from the town square, and with his virge (mace) in hand would literally clear the way if necessary. The basic vestment of the verger is a black cassock. The ministry of vergers is supported and encouraged by the

Vergers' Guild of the Episcopal Church. While the digital verger would not be required to vest every week, if you're interested in doing so, you could! We have spare cassocks. We'll talk about the mace. The main duties of the digital verger are to set up and monitor the camera during the service Sunday morning, monitor the streaming to Facebook, and then upload the video at a later time to YouTube. If interested, please contact Kari Davis by email at: Karidavis1900@gmail.com; or talk to the Vicar.

Do you have announcements?

If you have anything you'd like to share in this newsletter, for the good of the community, please reach out to Maryan at 520-836-7693 maryan.gosselin@stpetersepiscopalcg.org or the Vicar at 602-688-2273 shawn.rutledge@stpetersepiscopalcg.org

Office Hours

The Vicar will be in the office on:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Maryan, the office administrator, will be in Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

You can reach Maryan at:
Office: 520-836-7693
Cell: 978-407-0798

You can reach the Vicar, The Rev. Shawn Rutledge at:
Office: 520-836-7693
Cell: 602-688-2273
Email: shawn.rutledge@stpetersepiscopalcg.org

For **Pastoral Care and Counseling**, please call the **Pastoral Care Line: 520-483-4288**

I may not see your call right away between the hours of 10pm and 7am, but otherwise I'll try and return your call or text within a few hours.



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