

# SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

*Glen Davis | Small Group Ministry Leadership Team*

Small Group Ministry was identified by The Gulf Atlantic Diocese as a key area of growth in the diocesan strategic plan unveiled at Synod in November of 2023. The diocese will focus resources on helping each parish develop a Small Group Ministry.

Why is Small Group Ministry identified as one of the main focal points? Because within a Small Group, all 4 pillars of The St. Peter's Parish Rule of Life can take place in a single ecosystem: Worship & Prayer, Discipleship, Community, and Missions. Small Groups, if intentionally planned, incorporate Bible Study, Fellowship, Prayer, Worship, and Service or Missional Outreach. Small Group Ministry accelerates and enhances the spiritual growth of group members and is essential to our walk. All of us need others to walk with, grow with, pray with, worship with, and learn within smaller settings than only Sunday corporate worship.

For the last 6 or 7 months, a team of clergy, staff, and lay volunteers have been working diligently behind the scenes to help our new and existing Small Group Leaders build and expand the Small Group Ministry here at St. Peters. It took several months to identify the 25 or 30 existing groups already in place. Once identified, we had to understand group demographics (ages, etc.), meeting times, study topics, and group status (full, open, etc.). During that same time, we were praying for new leaders to be raised up, developing training programs and standards, setting goals, and defining the very purpose of the Ministry.

We conducted a Leadership Summit in the Fall to share tactical Small Group Leadership Strategies and Ideas for both existing and potential Small Group Leaders. A month later, we held an Informational Meeting for anyone interested in joining a Small Group. As a result of all these initiatives, we have had 6 new Small Groups kick off in the last month with 40-50 new group members!

St. Peter's now has almost 40 small groups in place—serving men, women, couples, singles, young families, and youth. Being connected in a small group is so significant—especially in a church the size of St. Peter's.

Don't miss out on the fun—get connected today and become part of the fabric here at St. Peter's! Small Groups make church—your church home... To get connected, simply fill out one of the Small Group Connections Cards located at the Parish Life Desk in the narthex, and we will do our best to help you get connected...or contact Glen Davis at [CARL.GLEN.DAVIS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CARL.GLEN.DAVIS@GMAIL.COM)

# MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY DURING THE ADVENT SEASON!

### BECAUSE OF YOU...

- 62 Local Vulnerable Youth & Children experienced a brighter Christmas through gifts that were given from the Advent Tree!
- 70 Ugandan students will have their school fees paid for 2024!
- 40 of our friends from Good Samaritan, Chelsea House, and Making Miracles enjoyed a Christmas Dinner and gifts at The Tuesday Night Fellowship!
- 30 bicycles were given away at Christmas On The Court with New Destiny Church in Quincy!
- 52 folks braved some nasty weather to bring cheer to assisted living facilities by Christmas caroling!



# DISCIPLESHIP

**MARY & MARTHA GUILD | JANUARY GATHERING** | *Monday, 8 January* | 9:45AM | Join us for our January Gathering at the home of Melanie Flowers. Our guest speaker is Michelle Frier from Refuge House. The social hour starts at 9:45AM and the meeting begins at 10:30AM. All women are invited.

**HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY: CONFIRMATION INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR PARENTS & STUDENTS** | *Between Services in Room 102 A/B* | *Sunday, 7 January* | Catechesis is a vital part of our high school ministry. It is a time of formation when the faith is passed from parents to students. This is when the church recognizes the students as full members. This is such an important time in their lives and in the lives of their families. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, PLEASE CONTACT DAVID MARTEN TO SCHEDULE A ONE-ON-ONE MEETING.

### CATHEDRAL TOUR

*Saturday, 13 January* | 10-11AM | No doubt many of you have attended numerous services and admired the beauty of the cathedral—have you considered taking a tour? Tours are given on the second Saturday of each month at 10AM.

You can learn about the symbolism of the West end of the building, the architectural details of the spires and crosses, why the construction took 2 years instead of 200, why the older cathedrals took hundreds of years to build, learn about the narthex, why the baptismal font is almost always at the west end, why the floor is supported by the prayers of the people, why the pews are the most expensive wood you will ever sit on, symbolism of the poppyheads on the ends of the pew, symbolism of the nave, roof, and roof support system, how and why Robert Mullins made the crucifix, learn about symbolism of the alter, Pulpit, Tester over the pulpit, and Lectern, learn about the statues and reredos made by Granda Liturgical in Spain, the stained glass windows made by Wipple Glass in Britain, how the stain glass windows are protected, the stations of the cross, the Cathedral organ and why the pulpit has a trap door.

So, consider taking a tour and learning everything you would like to know about your Cathedral.

**DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN SUBMIT A FLOWER DEDICATION FOR A SPECIFIC SUNDAY DURING THE YEAR?** Our 2024 Altar Flower Chart is now up—located on the Parish Life Desk in the Narthex. Our talented Flower Guild will create beautiful arrangements to glorify God! Honor a special day or loved one by signing up on the chart and filling out the purple form next to it. Dedications are \$150.

**INTERESTED IN JOINING THE FLOWER GUILD?** WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS—NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! CONTACT KELLEY DiSALVO AT [DRDISALVO@COMCAST.NET](mailto:DRDISALVO@COMCAST.NET) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

### SECOND SUNDAY MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY!

*Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>* | 6:30–8PM | Calling all middle and high schoolers—let's celebrate the new year together. We'll eat junk food, play games, and have a guest speaker! Mrs. Hope Carrasquilla will be our guest speaker, and she will be talking about the recent St. Peter's trip to Nicaragua. Dinner provided. It's sure to be a great time!

**SPRING CLASSES | REGISTER NOW!** Our Spring class semester begins January 10<sup>th</sup> for Wednesday Nights and January 14<sup>th</sup> for Sunday School. Grab a Spring Catalog in the Narthex!

### WOMEN'S MINI RETREAT | REGISTER NOW!

*Friday, 16 February & Saturday, 17 February*  
Visit [StPETERSFL.COM/MINIRETREAT](http://StPETERSFL.COM/MINIRETREAT) to learn more about our speaker, Jodie Berndt!

# WORSHIP

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## VISITING THE CATHEDRAL?

*Welcome—we're so glad you're worshipping with us today!* Our nursery is available during Sunday morning services for children newborn through Kindergarten. We hope you'll join us for coffee & other refreshments between morning services! Whether today is your first time or you've been with us for awhile, we're so glad you're here!

## CATHEDRAL PRAYER LIST & CARE MINISTRIES



If you have any pastoral needs or know of someone who needs pastoral care and prayer, please contact Care Ministries Coordinator, Alice Sanderson at [ASANDERSON@STPETERSFL.COM](mailto:ASANDERSON@STPETERSFL.COM)

TO BE ADDED THE THE CATHEDRAL PRAYER LIST, EMAIL [ASANDERSON@STPETERSFL.COM](mailto:ASANDERSON@STPETERSFL.COM) OR SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST OR CARE MINISTRY NEED AT [STPETERSFL.COM/PRAYER](http://STPETERSFL.COM/PRAYER)

**Military:** Lucas Bell, Jose Betancourt, Lt. Col. David Chichetti, SSG Corey Daws, LCpl Sam Henri, SSgt Corey Owen, Lt. Col. Daniel Dean, Capt. James Dilworth, Capt. John Easterbrook Jr, Airman Drew Edwards, Sgt. Michael Gaskins, Capt. Griffin Jax, Capt. Savannah B. Jax, Capt. Parker Jax, Capt. Chandler B. Jax, 1st Lt. Carson Jax, 1st Lt. Rebecca Jax, Gabriel Melendez, Col. Burt Newman, Major Gen. John Richardson, Capt. Oliver Rushing, Spc. Andrew Sanderson, Lt. Cmdr. Chris Smith, Lt. Patrick Swain, Capt. Parry Thomas, Lt. Cmdr. Blake Van Brunt Jr, PFC Noah C. Bielling, MM3 Tommy VanLandingham, SN Benjamin Waddill, PFC John P. Warren, 2nd Lt Jack Ubben

**Parishioners, Relatives, and Friends:** Jackie Kemp, Will, Fay Ann Hannon, Patty Applegate, Marsha Hall, Fred, Rob Wheeler, Janet Clemons, the Shields Family, Heidi Fisher, Bonnie, Eva, Vicki

*as of 1.4.24*

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

**ART OPENING  
FEATURING  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
BY**

**KENT PUTNAM**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 12 | 4-6 PM**  
ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL ARTISANS GALLERY WALL

**WINE & CHEESE  
DOCENT TOURS OF THE CATHEDRAL**

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ARTIST  
AT [STPETERSFL.COM/PUTNAM](http://STPETERSFL.COM/PUTNAM)  
OR  
SCAN THE QR CODE 