

THE THOUSAND LEADER INITIATIVE

The Very Rev'd Marcus A. Kaiser, Sr. | Dean & Rector

The following is an excerpt of Fr. Marcus Kaiser's address to the Annual Meeting of the Parish on May 5, 2024.

In the last several months, we have identified five things about St. Peter's that if they were to change, we wouldn't be who we are—five core values. How we title and describe them might change, but they describe who God has made us to be.

1. We are a **BIBLICALLY FAITHFUL** congregation. This is a church that has taken a stand, at no small cost, on the authority of scripture and its place in our lives.
2. We are a **GENEROUSLY WELCOMING** congregation. We see it every time we host the diocese or community events, but also in little ways. I hear it from newcomers all the time—how this place that looks somewhat imposing from Thomasville Road is filled with kind people eager to welcome them in.
3. We are a people **HUMBLY SERVING**. You can see this on display every day and it's not only the staff here every day, but countless volunteers, ministers of Jesus Christ, from every walk of life putting the community before themselves.
4. We are a community that is **EARNESTLY WORSHIPPING**, specifically worshipping in the English cathedral tradition. There isn't only one way that people come to Christ, and it's not a question of superiority or inferiority, but we are a place where the beauty of holiness is an easily identifiable mark of who we are.
5. We are a congregation **PURPOSEFULLY DISCIPLING**, and we are committed to teaching, equipping, and sending disciples who become leaders in a world that is so badly in need of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

With this in mind, I have pondered why God has sent these people to this place in this time and crafted us into a people with these characteristics? The answer, I'm convinced, is that when the story of this generation is written, what will be said of St. Peter's Anglican Cathedral is that it is a church that produces world-changing leaders for Jesus Christ.

Imagine what it would look like if those characteristics were spread throughout the Church, adding to the various gifts and charisms of other congregations and other leaders. We see the first stirrings of it already. Of course, the Charles Simeon Institute has always done just this, but it must go beyond that.

In just the last year:

- **FR. WESLEY OWENS** was called as rector of a significant campus ministry church at Penn State.
- **FR. MATT WILKINS** received a call to be the senior associate at a significant church in South Carolina.
- **FR. BILL KRIZNER** has taken on an expanded leadership role on our own diocesan staff.
- **FR. DAVID MARTEN** was called to become the next Dean of St. Charles' Cathedral in Bremerton, Washington.
- We and our diocese have approved **WILL HENRY LAWRENCE** as a postulant for ordination, and he will leave in July to begin his studies at Trinity School for Ministry toward becoming a priest.

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- We [recently] heard a profound and important sermon from **FR. DANIEL BEHRENS**, once a curate here and now a missionary changing one life at a time in Pittsburgh.

All of that is to say nothing of the non-ordained leaders from this place, choir members leading worship in other places, children, youth, and college students having been trained as acolytes and disciples here contributing in other places all over the map.

Already, leaders from St. Peter's are making their mark on the Church, but today, I issue this challenge, this big hairy audacious goal: **WHAT IF WE MAKE IT OUR MISSION TO SEND A THOUSAND LEADERS INTO THE CHURCH IN A GENERATION?** We are a place that produces world-changing leaders, but are we intentional about it? Have we let it define who we are in mission, in discipleship, in worship? Have we been strategically focused on letting this drive how we staff, develop our strategic partnerships, and talk about the future development of our property?

I've started calling it the **THOUSAND LEADER INITIATIVE (TLI)**, and from this point forward, the first question asked about anything we do will be: **HOW DOES THIS PRODUCE WORLD-CHANGING LEADERS FOR JESUS CHRIST?** I don't have all the answers, which is why we need you. We need your wisdom and input and prayers and dreams and visions. We need your participation in the Neighborhood Conversations for this purpose.

By the way, a thousand leaders is an average of about one leader per current Anglican congregation in North America. To be clear, this isn't a question of building ourselves up or collecting feathers for our cap. No, it's so much bigger than us. Friends, what the world needs is Jesus Christ. For that, He gave His Church, and what she needs is leaders in this next generation. We are not the only answer, but we must be a part of it, for only that can change the complexion of the Anglican Church, and that could change the complexion of the world. May He do just that an, by His Holy Spirit, allow us to be a part of it.

So, please make it a point to participate in one of these Neighborhood Conversations, which have already begun. You can sign up by visiting STPETERSFL.COM/CONVERSATIONS or by scanning the QR Code below with your smartphone.



With God's Mercy and Grace,

The Very Rev'd Marcus A. Kaiser, Sr.
Dean & Rector

P.S. Check out the updates from our 2023 Charles Simeon Institute Summer Fellows, **ALEX CAIN** and **ALEX EXUM**, two world-changing leaders who have been formed by the grace of God through their experience of ministry at St. Peter's Cathedral in Tallahassee, Florida.

AN UPDATE FROM OUR 2023 SUMMER FELLOWS



ALEX CAIN

COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Hey, St. Peter's! I hope this past year has been wonderful. Life has been moving along for us. Ava and I moved into a new apartment on campus and adopted a cat. Ava continues to excel at her job and recently helped lead a fantastic graduation. One of my priests has asked me to step in for him and lead the worship service at a local retirement home when he'll be out this summer. I'll be entering the discernment process for ordination in the next couple of weeks. And I'm looking forward to resting this summer before finishing my last two classes at Covenant. Thank you for pouring into me last summer and for your continued encouragement. May God continue to bless your ministries as you build up others for the Kingdom.



THE CHARLES SIMEON INSTITUTE

OF ST. PETER'S ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL

FORMING TOMORROW'S ANGLICAN LEADERS TODAY

ALEX EXUM

DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL

The year since my time as a fellow at the Charles Simeon Institute has been marked by transition and discernment. I am someone who welcomes transition, difficult as it may be, because I find it exciting to think about what the future may hold. Having graduated this semester with my Master of Divinity, I will, of course, be applying for jobs and considering continuing my education through further study, but all of this remains just beyond the horizon of any concrete plans that I have made. It may be as well that the Lord introduces a new horizon or two and totally disrupts any plans that I have made—as He tends to do. Yet because of my time at St. Peter's, one thing I do hold concretely is that the Lord has called me to serve His Church as an ordained minister. For this reason, I have begun the process of ordination in the Anglican Diocese of Christ Our Hope. As I look ahead, whether in the ordination process or in other pursuits, I will continue to carry the lessons that I learned at St. Peter's and bear the honor of a Charles Simeon Fellow.



DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMER 2024

Visit our website to learn more.

STPETERSFL.COM/REGISTER

SUNDAY

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL | THE GRAND SWEEP: A JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE

June 9–July 28, 10:30–11AM | Led by Fr. Michael Petty

This summer, The Grand Sweep of Scripture will focus on the Old Testament book of Judges. While many of us are familiar with some of the stories in this book (like the stories of Gideon and Samson), we may not have thought about their deeper theological and moral significance. Over the summer, we will consider Judges as a theological narrative and attempt to understand it in connection with what has come before it and what it anticipates. Our big question each Sunday morning will be that of what it means to read Judges as Christian Scripture.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, & PARENTS: FAMILY STYLE

June 9–July 28, 10:30–11AM

Children, Youth, and their families are invited to join us on the lawn for fellowship, summer snacks, games, dramatic Bible stories, and fun! We are continuing with the Gospel Project curriculum on David, Solomon and beyond. This is a time for the whole family to reconnect with others in the parish and participate in Summer Sunday School together.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

JUNE 12–JULY 31 | CLASSES: 6:15–7:30PM

DINNER SERVED IN THE PARISH HALL FROM 5–6PM

SUPER SUMMER NIGHTS | RISING PREK–5TH GRADE

Rising PreK–5th Grade

Join us for summer fun on Wednesday nights. Each week we have a special and fun activity and an enriching lesson!

PARENTING FOR FAITH

Led by Jason and Frances Merritt

As parents, we are perfectly positioned and perfectly equipped to daily and easily show our children the reality of day-to-day life with God. God has shared with us in the Bible a simple plan for us to encourage our children into a vibrant, two-way relationship with God. This class will help parents to understand this plan and put it into practice. Class topics include finding a spiritual framework to make sense of life, unwinding false views of God, conversational prayer, discipling children in any season of life, prayer ministry for children, and connecting children with the Church.

WEDNESDAY, *continued*

PERSPECTIVES ON CHRISTIANS AND POLITICS: A DISCUSSION

Led by Cliff Nilson

Who does God want you to vote for in November? We don't have the answer to that question, but we will look at what the Scriptures say about being a good citizen. Using the book, *Jesus and the Powers*, by N.T. Wright and Michael F. Bird, this class will discuss the role of Christians in politics. We will consider the historical perspective, the relationship of church and state, the impact of the kingdom of God in this age, whether Christians can oppose laws or rulers, and what kind of government God approves. The book is recommended but not required.

BEING FORMED IN BEAUTY

Led by Clifton Rogge, *Charles Simeon Summer Fellow*

This seven-week class examines the Christian life through the concept of beauty. From God's redemptive act expressed in Scripture, to our responding to his active work in us, we behold God more completely when we open ourselves to the various forms of beauty within this self-revelation. This requires a sacrifice on our part that conditions our faith to make us into disciples who reflect not only Christ's restorative grace, but the beauty drawn from the life of God himself. This course is designed to conceptualize beauty as that which draws us into God and that which allows us to participate in God's self-revelation as we are further transformed into his likeness.

KNEELING WITH GIANTS: LEARNING TO PRAY WITH HISTORY'S BEST TEACHERS

Led by Ben Praamsma, *Charles Simeon Summer Fellow*

The best way to learn to pray is to kneel alongside the Church's prayer giants and to pray with them. This class will be a mix of both instruction and prayer time with each session focused on a particular giant of prayer. Over the course of the summer, we will kneel alongside St. Benedict, St. Theresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Ignatius of Loyola, George Herbert, and Jeremy Taylor. The resource book for this class is *Kneeling With Giants: Learning to Pray With History's Best Teachers* by Gary Neale Hansen.

PRAYER BOOK 101

Led by Fr. Michael Petty

Using The Book of Common Prayer can be difficult if you are unfamiliar with it or if you have come from a non-liturgical background. If you have found yourself puzzled by the liturgy on Sunday or would like to be able to use the Book of Common Prayer in your daily prayer life, this class is for you. Over the course of seven weeks, we will explore the origins of the Book of Common Prayer, the history of Christian liturgy, the Daily Office (Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer), the theology of the sacraments, the Eucharist, Holy Baptism as a model for the Christian life, the Sunday collects and Scripture readings, the liturgies for Holy Matrimony, the anointing of the sick, Reconciliation, Ministry at the Time of Death, the seasons of the Church year, and the Prayer Book vision for individual and common worship and prayer. By the end of the class, you will not only have a better understanding of the "how" of Anglican worship but also a better understanding of the "why". The resources book for this class is *A Walk Through the Prayer Book* by Arnold Klukas.

DISCIPLESHIP

FAMILY BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Tuesday–Thursday, 4–6 June, 5pm–8pm | We have loved 'Family Style' Bible school so much that we are doing it again! We are inviting the whole family to come and participate, learn, and grow in your faith together. Enjoy a boxed picnic each night on the lawn. After dinner, families and volunteers will join together in worship with live music. Families will be grouped together into tribes to play games, make art, and learn about God's Word together.

YOU CAN REGISTER AT StPETERSFL.COM/FBS

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FALL

FALL MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

PRAYER BOOK IOI | *Mondays, September 12–November 4*

THE ANGLICAN CATECHISM | *Wednesdays, September 11–November 13*

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES | 11 SEPTEMBER–13 NOVEMBER

RECTOR'S BIBLE STUDY: ROMANS

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

CHRISTIAN POETRY

THE ANGLICAN CATECHISM

YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE
SUMMER FELLOWS
FAMILY RECEPTION
WEDNESDAY | 29 MAY 2024
6-7:30PM

 THE CATHEDRAL PARISH HALL

MEET OUR NEW SUMMER FELLOWS,
GET AN UPDATE ON THE CHARLES SIMEON INSTITUTE,
AND ENJOY A FREE PICNIC DINNER.

This is a family-friendly celebration!

No child care provided, but bring the kids to play outside!

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND BY
VISITING

StPETERSFL.COM/SUMMER-RECEPTION

OR SCANNING THE QR CODE



BY MAY 22nd

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

INTERNATIONAL: MISSION NICARAGUA! |

Our team of 29 people participating in St. Peter's summer mission trip to Leon, Nicaragua is headed out soon! This group is excited to be able to share the love of Christ with the people of Leon. The group will be partnering with an organization called TWELVE CHURCHES to help spread the gospel, provide encouragement to the pastors of these churches, and conduct a variety of services, such as: a VBS, a youth conference, prayer walks, construction, and medical outreach.

We could still use a little help from YOU! If you have a suitcase with wheels that you would be willing to part with, that would allow the team to save on luggage costs.

Additionally, this is the LAST CALL for toiletry donations, which will greatly bless those in Nicaragua we will minister to. Please bring any suitcases or toiletries to the Missions team by the 26th of May!

TOILETRY/HYGIENE PRODUCTS WE NEED:

- SOAP
- SHAMPOO
- TOOTHBRUSHES
- TOOTHPASTE

INTERNATIONAL: MISSIONARIES VISITING FROM AFRICA | TODAY, MAY 19 | *Between Services*

Please join us between services in the parish hall on to hear from the Director of the African Strategic Discipleship Movement and current staff member of the Archbishop of Uganda office, Esayas Ersabo and Ethiopian Missionaries Joe and Kay Harding (Major and Jane Harding's Niece and Nephew).

Dr. Esayas Ersabo comes from Wolayita Soddo in Southern Ethiopia. Joe Harding is a second-generation missionary who grew up in Ethiopia and did his first degree at UNC-Charlotte and Wheaton College and his graduate studies in missions at Columbia International University (CIU). Kay Harding was raised in Wisconsin and attended University of Wisconsin–Madison and her completed her graduate studies in mission at CIU where she met Joe.

Esayas' and Joe's fathers worked together for several years in the SIM planted church, Ethiopian Kale Hewet Church. Later on, Joe, Esayas, and their wives, Kay and Tsige Bale, picked up the legacy of the gospel partnership between these two families which has lasted for about 70 years so far. Esayas initiated and pioneered several discipleship movements in the Ethiopian Kale Heywet Church for about 14 years, and is now the Director of the African Strategic Discipleship Movement (ASDM). He and his wife Tsige are working from the Archbishop's office of the Anglican Church of Uganda. Joe and Kay are spearheading projects that will assist in resourcing missionaries from Africa and Asia to the rest of the world.

WORSHIP

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. 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 are in need of pastoral care, please contact Care Ministries Coordinator, Alice Sanderson.

TO BE ADDED TO THE CATHEDRAL PRAYER LIST, EMAIL ASANDERSON@STPETERSFL.COM OR SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST OR CARE MINISTRY NEED AT STPETERSFL.COM/PRAYER

Military: Lt. Col. David Chichetti, SSG Corey Daws, Amn Drew Edwards, Capt. Carson Jax, Capt. Griffin Jax, Capt. Savannah B. Jax, Capt. Parker Jax, Capt. Chandler B. Jax, Capt. Rebecca Jax, Col. Burt Newman, Lucas Bell, SSgt Corey Owen, Lt. Col. Daniel Dean, LCpl Sam Henri, Maj. James Dilworth, Gabriel Melendez, Jose Betancourt, Capt. John Easterbrook Jr, SrA Hayden Livingston, Sgt. Michael Gaskins, Capt. Oliver Rushing, Spc. Andrew Sanderson, Lt. Cmdr. Chris Smith, Capt. Parry Thomas, PFC John P. Warren, LT Emily Redmond, MM2 Tommy VanLandingham, Lt. Drew Stockstill, Lt. Cmdr. Blake Van Brunt Jr, PFC Noah C. Bielling, SN Benjamin Waddill, 2nd Lt Jack Ubben

Parishioners, Relatives, and Friends: Linda McCaleb, Ed Moore, Larry O'Dell, Nick Ciarlariello, Fred, Vicki, Forrest Finch Boone, Susan Thomasson, Peter Boyer, Brian Jogorst, Sheila Melton, Dave, Jessica Masters, Patty, Janet Clemens, Patricia, Will Valentine, Carol, Eva *as of 5.16.24*



**CATHEDRAL
BOOKS & GIFTS**

Stop by Sundays After Church!