

St. Peter's

CONNECTION

VOL. 2, No. 15
February 17, 2012



Connecting the World with God's Love

THIS ISSUE: **Ash Wednesday services Feb. 22**

Jamaica Dinner and Silent Auction

Support our high school seniors' mission trip to Jamaica on Feb. 29. Dinner will be provided by Las Mananitas. Auction items include summer camp registrations.

Pictorial Directory

Sign up today to have your photo included in the next St. Peter's directory.



st. peter's
United Methodist Church

Ash Wednesday will be observed at St. Peter's with worship services at 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Feb. 22 in the Sanctuary. These services will include the imposition of ashes, an ancient Christian practice in which ashes are placed on each worshipper's forehead in the shape of a cross.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Christian season of Lent, the 40-day period leading up to Easter. Lent is a period of repenting for our sins, praying and returning to God. It is also a time of preparation for understanding the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Ashes are an outward symbol of our repentance and purification. Because the ashes are a symbol, they can be left on for the day or removed after the service.

Please make plans to participate in this special time of worship.



20775 Kingsland Blvd., Katy, Texas 77450
(281) 492-8031 www.stpkaty.org

Pictorial Directory

It's time for a new pictorial directory of our St. Peter's family. You can sign up online now for an appointment with Olan Mills. Appointment times are Tuesdays through Fridays beginning April 3. We also will have sign-up sheets at the Information Desk beginning in two weeks. Photography sessions will be at St. Peter's.

We would like to encourage you to have your picture made, even if you don't plan to purchase the package, so that we can have a photographic record of all our members.

To sign up online, please go to <https://sign-up.olanmills.com/familyinfo.aspx?chcontract=65357>.

If you have questions about online registration, please contact Jennifer Hollingshead at jhollingshead@stpkaty.org.

Coffee With the Pastors

Are you thinking about joining St. Peter's? If so, you are invited to attend Coffee With the Pastors, which is March 4 at 7 p.m. in E106. Please contact Rev. Lorna Bradley at (281) 492-8031, ext. 316, or lbradley@stpkaty.org for more information.

God is with us

In January, I had the privilege of taking a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Bishop Janice Riggle Huie and about 20 young clergy in our conference. This trip was not only a once-in-a-lifetime type of trip, but for me it allowed the Bible to become three-dimensional. Except for a couple of side trips, every site we visited had major biblical significance, and it was at some points overwhelming to know that I was walking where Jesus, our Lord and Savior, actually walked!

Upon my return, friends and family and members of St. Peter's asked me what was my favorite place I visited. And although each place was memorable in its own way, I have to say that I really enjoyed spending time on the Temple Mount. Because January is not the main tourist season, we actually had the whole place to ourselves. I was thankful that there weren't any other tourists there so that my photos didn't have some person in the background wearing a New York Yankees hat. Before we left, I put the camera down and I tried to soak it all up. I mean, I am standing where Jesus was about 2,000 years ago, where he taught his disciples and drove out the merchants and where on one of the High Holy Days he shouted at the top of his lungs, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink" (John 7:37-39). I stood on the site where God's presence filled the Holy of Holies, and to be honest I was a little overwhelmed. And in the midst of that, God spoke gently to my heart in a very profound way.

In that moment, standing on the Temple Mount, trying to soak it all up and trying to remember all the verses in the Bible that deal with this place and all the significant events that happened right where I was, God spoke. And He let me know that He is no longer on that Temple Mount, hiding be-

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Rev. Scott Rawlings



Pastor Scott at the Temple Mount during his recent trip to the Holy Land.

God is with us *continued from page 2*

hind a veil within the Holy of Holies. That His presence doesn't fall down like the rain like it used to. That His Holy Spirit is no longer in this place, but rather He is now in me! That His temple, the place where He dwells and where the Holy Spirit now moves, is in me! And it blew me away. Here I was standing on such a holy site and God was speaking to me saying, "This site is no longer holy. You are! You are holy, because Christ is now in you!"

For about five more minutes we were allowed to just walk around, and as we did a couple of verses came to mind. The first was Ephesians 2:18, which says, "For through Christ we both have access in one Spirit to the Father." The other verse was 1 Peter 2:9-10, which says, "You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."



This Roman theater is located in the town of Bet She'an.

And as I reflected on those verses and as the tour guide was leading us away from the Temple Mount, I left knowing that I did not leave this holy site that was so significant in the Bible without God. I knew through scripture that God will always be with me because the Holy Spirit resides in me! (Ephesians 1:12-14) So know that wherever you are—it could be at home or at work or on the other side of the world standing on a sacred place—that God is with you if you are a believer in Jesus Christ. So take comfort in knowing that no matter what is going on in your world, God is there. In your high moments, God is there. In your valleys, God is there. Take comfort in knowing that we serve and love a God who has left the Temple Mount and took up residence with us. How wonderful is that?

Pastor Scott

Stephen Ministries training Feb. 28

Stephen Ministries equips people to care for and listen to those who are going through difficult times. If you are interested in serving in this way, there is still time to enroll in Stephen Ministries training. The first class starts Tuesday, Feb. 28.

For information and an application form, please contact Kim Meyers at (281) 492-8031, ext. 305, or kmeyers@stpkaty.org.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

**Feb. 21
5:30-7 p.m.
Lott Hall**

**\$6 adults, \$3 children 6-12,
free for children under 6**

*Proceeds benefit the Cliff
Lott Ministerial Scholarship
Fund sponsored by United
Methodist Men*



Lenten Study

The Singles With a Purpose adult Sunday School class invites all 55+ singles to join them Sunday, Feb. 26, at 11 a.m. in S204 as we begin a six-week Lenten series.

KEYS

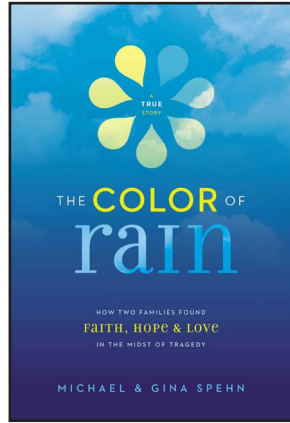
Senior Adults

Brown Bag Bridge. Brown Baggers celebrated Valentine's Day early with a game of bridge. The guys had a good day again, with Paul Sonne, high, and Scott DeWitz, second high. They walked away with a treat to take to their valentines. Our next game will be March 8. If you would like to play, please contact Martha at (281) 395-4825 or mckit@comcast.net.

Mothers of Young Children

Please join Mothers of Young Children Feb. 24 at 9:30 a.m. in E221 for our Mom to Mom study, "Building a Marriage for Life." This study is designed so that participants can join in at any time, so please plan to be with us. More information about the study is at www.momtomom.org. On March 2 Jane Seaman, image consultant, will talk about closet organization. On March 9 our Mom to Mom study is "Practical Perspectives on Discipline." More information about Mothers of Young Children is at <http://www.stpkaty.org/mothers-of-young-children>.

"The Color of Rain": two families becoming one



Perhaps Michael and Gina would have preferred never to know one another. The tragedies that brought their lives together, however, and the healing and strength that has come from God through the joining together of their families has inspired thousands of people who have read about and/or heard their story. Michael and Gina each lost a spouse to cancer just weeks apart. Their spouses were childhood friends and, in the midst of their season of intense grieving, Michael and Gina Spehn found one another and chose hope and new life. Eventually, they married and blended the five children from their respective families together.

"The Color of Rain" tells their story, and St. Peter's will begin its Lenten journey by having Michael and Gina as special guests in the Sanctuary worship services on Feb. 26. Books are available for \$15 at the Information Desk on Sundays between services and in the church office. Please mark your calendars for this special day in the life of St. Peter's.



Master Plan detailed at Church Conference

The Feb. 6 Church Conference featured a presentation on the initial Master Plan concepts by Studio Red architect Pete Ed Garrett. The plan is organized into components that will be aligned with the funding available from our Magnify & Multiply Capital Campaign. Kyle Mefford, a member of the Master Plan Strategy Team, discussed the series of meetings he held with adult Sunday School classes to discuss the Master Plan.

The members present at the Church Conference also voted to empower the Committee on Lay Leadership to appoint a Building Committee to continue to working with the architect pending the outcome of the capital campaign.

You are welcome to attend the meetings with the design professionals. Please contact the church office for times and locations.



Easter Egg Hunt

Plans are already under way for this year's Easter Egg Hunt, which is open to St. Peter's members as well as the community. The egg hunt will be March 31 from 2 to 4 p.m. Last year more than 5,000 eggs were hidden and collected. This year we need donations of filled eggs or trinkets and individually wrapped candy to go into the eggs. Please avoid chocolate as it tends to melt if we have a sunny day. Collection boxes will be available in the Lobby beginning Feb. 26. Thank you for your help.





Going back to the basics of faith

All of us would like to go to sleep and wake up mature. Go to sleep and wake up profound. Go to sleep and wake up skilled in ministry, spiritually acute, wise! We'd like to wake up some morning and be able to apply all spiritual truth to all dimensions of our life.

But this kind of change isn't the result of wishing or wanting or hoping or thinking or even imagining. It's a result of applying the fundamentals. We must learn at some point in our Christian experience that we have to focus on certain spiritual fundamentals if we are going to be mature as believers in Jesus Christ.

Join us in *the element* beginning Feb. 19 for this five-week series in which we will be going back to the basics of our Christian faith. One thing is for certain: growing old is mandatory, but growing up is optional!



ST. PETER'S ATTENDANCE

February 5

Traditional Worship

8:30 240
9:45 247
11:00 523

the element

9:45 83
11:00 166

SPLASH 55

TOTAL 1,314

February 12

Traditional Worship

8:30 222
9:45 305
11:00 617

the element

9:45 111
11:00 128

SPLASH 86

TOTAL 1,469

Upholding the Church

PRAYERS

Tom Brown, Karen Champion, Rick Cook, Jerry Dewitz, Dan Dienst, Gary Eure, Ann Kelly, Don Kennedy, Peggy Marsden, Bill Miles, Tom Nelson, Mark Olson, Joy Prendergast, Judith Preto, Harold Spradley, Louanne Steph and Doug Stockton.

SYMPATHY

To George Gentry and family on the death of his wife, Mary Gentry.
To David Schock and family on the death of his father.
To Sylvia Sonne and family on the death of her sister.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Tony Bailey, Johnathon Baker, Tim and Alison Batig, Jared Behne, John Belsha, Amanda Berg, Colin Binion, Patrick Boutall, Will Brandt, Martin Busch, Randy Butcher, Sean Cain, Devin Camp, Andrew Camponelli, Darron Chamblee, Paul Cordner, Thomas Cotten, Joel de Sola, Parker Allen Dial, Kathryn Donnelly, Brandi and Josiah Fast, Daniel Fritz, J.M. Floyd, Charles Fray, James Gilbert, Anita Marie Gilliam, Tyler J. Gorcie, Jason Gordon, Eric Graesley, Tye Grasshoff, David Gutierrez, Richard Harp, George Harrison, Steven Heath, Matthew C. Houghton, Matthew Ivester, Scott Lewis, Mike Linn, Andrew Locke, Ryan Lueders, Austin McCall, Jason McFadzen, Jake McMath, Mick McNaughton, Adam Miller, Collin Mooney, Robert Near, Michael Neubert, Blake Nunes, Ryan O'Quinn, Neal Osburn, Austin Paynter/149th Division, Casey Pontious, Sherri Pontious, Don Rolleg, Jason Salter, Brandon Schumacher, Daniel Sewastynowicz, Joel Simmons, Dusty Stoddard, Shannon Thorthan, Patrick Bishop Turner, Bert Walker, Tom Walsh, Matthew Weible, Michael Wendt, Leonard Will, Jasen Wilson, Jason Woods and Marine Co. 1157.

Alzheimer's Support Group

The Alzheimer's Support Group will meet Feb. 20 at 1:30 p.m. in S209 for a time of caring and sharing. For more information, contact Beverly Deerhake at (281) 856-6217.

Blood Drive is March 4

St. Peter's next blood drive is March 4. Please sign up Feb. 19 or 26 in the Lobby or contact Marsha Asplin at (281) 492-0472 or mea1242@aol.com. More than 1,000 units of blood are needed daily in the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center area, so your donation is important. Please contact Marsha if you have any questions about donating blood.

Vacation Bible School

Did you know that it takes more than 100 adult volunteers to make Vacation Bible School a success? Please volunteer at this summer's Sky VBS where the sky is the limit and everything is possible when you trust in God! VBS week is June 11-15. Contact Brandi Taylor at (281) 395-8330 or Sarah Loving at (281) 574-2670 or stpkatyVBS@gmail.com.

MISSION Ministries

February Mission Focus. ServeFest 2012 is a work event that takes place Feb. 18 and 25 and includes projects at Katy YMCA Camp Cinco Ranch and Katy Christian Ministries and for local families in need. We will be doing painting, basic construction, landscaping, plumbing, electrical and general clean up. Register online at www.compassionkaty.org/katy-servefest/register.

Food Pantry Needs. On the first Sunday of each month we collect donations of food and toiletry items for Katy Christian Ministries' Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is especially in need of vegetable oil, apple juice, dish soap, shampoo, tuna, Ritz crackers, canned meat (chicken and Spam), beans (canned 15 oz. and dry 3+ lbs.), tomato paste, rice (3+ lbs.), Hamburger Helper, toilet paper, deodorant (men and women), canned vegetables (carrots, corn, potatoes, etc.), quart and gallon zipper freezer bags, and size 3, 4, and 5 diapers and wipes. Please bring your items to the Lobby on March 4.

March Mission Focus. We will be collecting supplies and recruiting volunteers for Christ Clinic in Katy. This clinic provides healthcare services to people without insurance or government assistance. Most of the medical providers are volunteers. Christ Clinic also has a pharmacy that is maintained through donations. Volunteers are needed for medical and non-medical tasks. Supplies needed include Naproxen, Claritin, Zyrtec, Benadryl, Lysol, bleach, sunscreen, and personal care kits (soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, washcloth, nail clippers). Christ Clinic also could use \$10 gift cards to pharmacies or \$30 donations to cover the cost of a prescription inhaler. The clinic is holding a silent auction in March and welcomes donations of gift baskets. Please visit the Mission Ministries table in the Lobby March 4 for more information.

Save the date: Church Without Walls (CWOW) is June 10.

Wednesday Night Dinner

5:00 – 6:30 p.m., Lott Hall

February 22

Chicken au gratin, sesame broccoli, rolls and ice cream sundaes

Kid's meal: Pizza, corn and ice cream

Adults: \$6 Kids: \$3

Reservations should be made by Monday evening
online or at the Information Desk.

February 29

Jamaica Dinner fundraiser for Student Ministries

See article on page 7 for complete menu, times and prices.

Acts 17:6

ST. PETER'S STUDENT MINISTRIES

Senior high students, join us Feb. 26 to hear our guest speaker Michael Gienger. We'll meet in Wesley at 5 p.m. Want to know more about Michael? Go to www.STPstudentministries.org and click on the High School tab.

Summer Camps. Student Life Camp is July 23-27 in Arlington for 7th-12th graders. Cost is \$199. Registration deadline is March 23.

U.M. ARMY work camp is June 17-23 in Lumberton for high school students who have completed grades 9-12 and adults. Cost is \$175. Registration deadline is April 12.

Rainbow Camp is July 2-6 in Houston for junior high students and high school leaders. Cost is \$75. Registration deadline is May 31.

For information on camps and Student Ministries activities, contact Heather Harmison at hharmison@stpkaty.org or (281) 492-8031.

Jamaica Dinner and Silent Auction supports seniors' mission trip

Help support our high school senior mission trip to Jamaica by joining us for dinner sponsored by Las Mananitas and a silent auction on Feb. 29 from 5:30-7 p.m. in Lott Hall. Adult meals include two fajita tacos, rice, beans, chips, salsa and dessert for \$12. Children's meals include a corn dog, chips and cookies for \$3.

The silent auction includes one week of camp at Pine Cove Outback (grades 2-9), one week Pine Cove Down Under day camp (grades 1-6), one week U.M. ARMY Mission Trip registration (completed grades 9-12 and adults), Student Life Camp registration (grades 7-12), Rainbow Camp Mission Trip (junior high and high school leaders), Children's Ministries Summer Games (grades 1-6), Children's Ministries Cooking With Kids (4- to 5-year olds or kindergarten-5th grade), and Great Adventure Camp in Cat Springs.

Tickets are available in the Lobby on Sundays or the Student Ministries office at (281) 492-8031. Proceeds go toward Jamaica Mission supplies.



Daily Bible Reading

Feb. 20-26

MONDAY

Exod. 14:21-31

TUESDAY

Acts 16:11-15

WEDNESDAY

Prov. 3:27-35

THURSDAY

Gen. 9:8-17

FRIDAY

Ps. 25:1-10

SATURDAY

1 Pet. 3:18-22

SUNDAY

Mark 1:9-15

Feb. 27-Mar. 4

MONDAY

Deut. 31:1-8

TUESDAY

Rev. 3:1-6

WEDNESDAY

Isa. 45:1-7

THURSDAY

Gen. 17:1-7, 15-16

FRIDAY

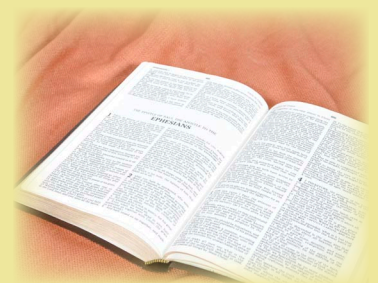
Ps. 22:23-31

SATURDAY

Rom. 4:13-25

SUNDAY

Mark 8:31-38



Sunday Worship

8:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship
with Holy Communion

9:45 a.m.

Traditional Worship
the element
Contemporary Worship
Sunday School for All Ages

11:00 a.m.

Traditional Worship
the element
Contemporary Worship
SPLASH
Children's Worship
Sunday School for Adults

**St. Peter's
United Methodist Church**
20775 Kingsland Blvd.
Katy, Texas 77450

St. Peter's Events Calendar

Sunday, February 19

4:00 p.m.	Women's Cancer Support	S209
4:30 p.m.	Trustees	E106

Monday, February 20

1:30 p.m.	Alzheimer's Support Group	S209
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Tuesday, February 21

5:30 p.m.	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	Lott Hall
7:00 p.m.	Missions Committee	Conference Room

Wednesday, February 22

6:00 a.m.	Ash Wednesday Service	Sanctuary
10:00 a.m.	The Gathering	Asbury Hall
5:00 p.m.	Wednesday Night Dinner	Lott Hall
7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Service	Sanctuary

Friday, February 24

9:30 a.m.	Mothers of Young Children	E221
6:00 p.m.	Friday Night Friends	Asbury Hall

Monday, February 27

1:00 p.m.	United Methodist Women Board	E106
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Tuesday, February 28

7:00 p.m.	Church Council	E106
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Wednesday, February 29

5:00 p.m.	Wednesday Night Dinner	Lott Hall
6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Nights at St. Peter's	Various locations

Thursday, March 1

7:00 p.m.	Women of Joy	S202
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Friday, March 2

9:30 a.m.	Mothers of Young Children	E221
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Detailed weekly calendars of St. Peter's events are available
at the Information Desk in the Lobby and on the St. Peter's website.

Ways to serve ...

**Volunteer at Vacation Bible
School.**

Attend the Jamaica Dinner.

Attend the Pancake Dinner.

Donate Easter Eggs.

Give Blood.

Volunteer with ServeFest 2012.

Volunteer at Christ Clinic.

Train to be a Stephen Minister.

*Information on serving in any
of these areas is included in this
newsletter, is at stpkaty.org and
is in the Sunday worship bulletin.*