

ST. PETER'S UMC CONNECTION

CONNECTING THE WORLD WITH GOD'S LOVE



Special Needs MINISTRY

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CHURCH



Hearts Helping Others is a ministry where people with all abilities come together to grow and learn more about God.

Learn more about this unique ministry and how you can get involved.

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

In this issue, Rev. Whitney Peper talks about St. Peter's Special Needs Ministry and how it helps St. Peter's connect the world with God's love.



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Special Needs Ministry

Dear Friends,

St. Peter's is a church that has always reached into the community, surrounding all who enter with love and grace. As one body, we have always been willing to step up and meet the needs of our congregation and community. One particular way in which this is represented is our Special Needs programs.

We are blessed to have a dedicated staff and volunteer team who, each week, work to meet the needs of children, teens, and adults with special needs and disabilities, as well as their parents, families, and caregivers. These programs include Easter Seals weekly teen respite; H2O, our adult respite care program; Friday Night Friends, our monthly child respite program; Sunday School Special Needs classroom; the buddy program for Wednesday nights and Sunday morning; sensory-friendly alternative at events, support groups, Courage Worship, and Special Needs VBS.



Whitney Peper,
Pastor of Care Ministry

Our goal with these programs is to stay true to our mission of Connecting the World with God's Love to all who come seeking support, a safe place, and a church community. The various programs not only reach far into West Houston and beyond but also other denominations and religions as we remain one of the few churches in the West Houston area offering these type of programs. These ministries exist because of the generosity and support of the congregation of St. Peter's, who have committed to making sure we remain a church that welcomes all of God's children.

At our Courage service, we have the opportunity to see many families worship together for the first time, as some have been turned away or had never had the chance to worship in the same space. In worship each week and through every program that we offer, the grace of God is evident. Through smiles, hugs, parents seeing their loved one being welcomed just as they are, God works in and through everyone who attends. To come to any part of our Special Needs ministry is to see God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit actively working, actively loving, and actively pouring grace upon those present.

If you know of anyone who will be interested in participating in any of these programs, or you would like to serve as a volunteer or support, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. You may contact me via [email](#), or call me to 281-492-8031, ext. 305.

Whitney

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CHURCH

HEARTS HELPING OTHERS

St. Peter's is a church for all abilities where everyone is welcome to take a seat at the Lord's table. Hearts Helping Others (H2O) is a ministry that extends that welcoming invitation for St. Peter's. H2O is a ministry of St. Peter's that serves adults with intensive special needs, specifically those who have completed their secondary education and need additional assistance with life skills such as feeding, mobility, and hygiene.

H2O meets every Friday from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Their meetings begin with the music, and they ask parents and caregivers how their week is going while having some sensory activities. Then, they come together to discuss the theme of the month, along with a Bible story. After studying the Bible, the participants and caregivers begin an art/craft session to transition into movie time. At the end of the day, they all have lunch together and play games.



Left to right: Shannon Stevenson, Ben Palen, & Marie Tsakiris (H2O nurse).

"H2O provides safe, clean, and loving respite care for the participants with high needs at a reasonable cost. I think this ministry is serving such a big need for these families even with just 5 hours on a Friday," said Shannon Stevenson, Ministry Facilitator. "I have a profound respect for these families that dearly love their adult children but face a multitude of daily challenges with their child in a more advanced stage of their own life as well. For example, lifting a 95-pound person in your late 40's or early 50's."

In the state of Texas, you age out of special education at the age of 22, which makes it hard for H2O participants with little or no mobility and speech to be part of larger groups that are working on job skills or more advanced social skills. Angele Mills started H2O in St. Peter's six years ago. After retiring as a life skills teacher, Angele was looking for a facility in the Katy area to provide a respite care for families of children who had aged out of life skills. She reached out to St. Peter's and the church decided to join her in this adventure, and thus becoming the home of H2O.

"At St. Peter's we are excited to be part of a ministry like H2O," said Whitney Peper, Pastor of Care Ministry. "H2O is a perfect way to connect the world with God's love. This is a unique venue



Ryan Schillhab working on an Olympic craft.

Stephen Ministries

In times of trouble, we look for friends to listen to us while we work through our feelings. A Stephen Minister can be such a friend, either to you or to someone you know. Stephen Ministers are committed to providing Christian care for others going through a difficult time. If you or someone you know could benefit from the trained, caring presence and listening ear of a Stephen Minister, contact Rev. [Whitney Peper](#) at 281-492-8031.

Job Search Assistance

The Job Search Assistance Group meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in S202 for those interested in a program to help with finding employment or job change. We will discuss search tactics, online submittals, networking, resumes, and interviewing for both general and specific job searches. There is no charge for this program. When attending, please be on time, bring your recent resume and be prepared to take notes. For information, please contact [Hector McLoughlin](#) at 832-217-6768.

SUNDAY'S INFORMATION

This Sunday at St. Peter's...

We will continue our sermon series, Other Gods.

In ancient Rome, "the King of the Gods" was Jupiter. He was the chief deity of Roman state religion throughout the Republic and Imperial eras, until Christianity became the primary religion of the Empire.

For the Romans, Jupiter was the person in charge of enacting justice, just like Pharisees and were in Israel. When Jesus comes into the picture of Israel he brought justice in a way that was disruptive for the times. What did Jesus do to disrupt the Pharisees? Why was Jesus all of a sudden breaking laws?

Join us this Sunday as we look at the radical approach Jesus had for peace and justice.

Title: Other Gods: Jupiter **Scripture:** Matthew 9:10-13

Preaching Lineup:

Traditional Service: Dr. Pat Sparks
The Element: Rev. Jamison Doehring
West Campus: Rev. Alex Zeisig
Courage: Rev. Whitney Peper

Get Connected

There is a free app that will make it easier to connect with St. Peter's through your mobile devices. The ACS Church Life app allows you to access the information in the member database found on our website. You can search through our member directory, register for events, check the church calendar, and give online.

Once you have downloaded the app, use the same log-in information that you use on our member database. If you have questions or don't have a user name and password, contact [Ashley Eidson](#).

ST. PETER'S ATTENDANCE

January 26		February 2	
Traditional Worship		Traditional Worship	
8:30	158	8:30	174
9:45	179	9:45	169
11:00	324	11:00	290
The Element		The Element	
9:45	108	9:45	101
11:00	102	11:00	112
The Element Night of Worship	52	West Campus	104
West Campus	90	West Campus Students/Kids	22
West Campus Kids	32	SPLASH	45
SPLASH	62	Splish Splash	28
Splish Splash	26	Korean Service	21
Korean Service	23	<u>Courage</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Courage</u>	<u>28</u>	TOTAL	1,077
TOTAL	1,194		

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Lucy Jardia
Susan Johnson
Brian & Erica Jordy
Earline Moreland
Joe & Tricia Rose

CHURCH INFORMATION

Daily Bible Reading

February 10-16

Monday: Luke 17:11-19, **Tuesday:** Psalm 81,
Wednesday: Psalm 86, **Thursday:** Psalm 90,
Friday: Psalm 108, **Saturday:** Psalm 136,
Sunday: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

February 17-23

Monday: Colossians 1:1-23, **Tuesday:** Colossians 1:24-2:5,
Wednesday: Colossians 2:6-3:4, **Thursday:** Colossians 3:5-4:1,
Friday: Colossians 4:2-18, **Saturday:** Jude 1-25,
Sunday: Psalm 17

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

PRAYERS

Evelyn Asher, Neal Baley, Pam Bergman, Louis & Marilyn Blank, Nippy Blair, Mollie Boulware, Pat Bourgeois, Dennis Bowling, Jim Brock, Nancy Calderone, Katy Christy, Jack DeWees, Janice Dewitz, Loretta Dienst, Kirk Dye Mitchell Eck, Jim Ficalora, Christina Gamble, Robin Gannon, Bronda Goates, Judy Gosnell, Paul Haddock, Jason, Elizabeth, & Adelaide Harr, Cathy Harrison, Art Henderson, Stephanie Herzfeld, Barbara & John Hobbs, Nancy Holden, Kathy Howe, Michele Jennings, Catherine & Brent Jones, Marilyn Joyner, Oscar Jones, Lu Lane, Betty Langley, Billie Lewis, Frank Litchauer, Ralph Long, Patty & Vince McDermott, Richard McSwain, Kathryn Mendoza, Phyllis Mooney, Denise Passmore, Kathy Powell, John Scarcella, Stephanie Schumann, Don Scruggs, Georgiana Simmons, Joy Sisler, Janice Webb Skillman, Barbara Spain, Larry Steele, Margaret Steele, Wyndoll, Stephens, Emma Stoddard, Barbara Thoen, Gail Allison Vaughan, Rachel Wadkins, Bill & Vivienne Wardle, Nancy White, Merle Williams, Michaela Williams, Shelia Williams, Ann Wimans, & Frank Womack.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Jake Armijo, Clayton Barnes, Tim and Alison Batig, John Belsha, John Buck, Jonathan Burdette, Sterling Burdette, Skyler Cook, Austin Foster, Westley Freeze, Tyler J. Gorcie, Dylan Greismeyer, Stinson Hamilton, Stephen Travis Harding, Jason Harr, Anthony Harris, Adam Higdon, Tyler Konrad, Mike Linn, Erik Miller, Matthew Moses, Blake Nunes, Cameron Nunes, Ryan O'Quinn, Tyler O'Quinn, Melissa Ouellette, Kenneth Perry, Matthew Platz, Noah Platz, Shawn Platz, Kevin Quentin, Jack Ritchie, Don Rolleg, Ben Saunders, Jacob Shinkle, Theo Speas, Jason Steele, Kyle Taylor, Jacob Wilke, and Jasen Wilson.

SYMPATHY

- To David & Vonda Turner & their family on the death of his mother, Annabelle Turner.
- To Frank & Joanne Lowe & their family on the death of his mother, Jean Lowe.
- To Jacque Mullen and her family on the death of her mother, Maybelle Mullen.
- To Frank Barber on the loss of long term companion, Maybelle Mullen.

HAPPENING AT ST. PETER'S

KEYS Adults 50+ to Visit the San Felipe De Austin Museum & Guardian Angel Catholic Church



The group will start their trip by visiting the San Felipe De Austin Museum and will enjoy a Mexican Fajita Fiesta lunch on site. They will close the day by visiting the Guardian Angel Catholic Church in the afternoon. Both tours will have a speaker to present the venue's history.

The cost of the trip is \$30 per person, which includes lunch. The group will leave St. Peter's East Parking Lot at 9 a.m. and will return around 4:30 p.m. To sign up, please visit the Welcome Desk between services on February 9, 16, & 23.

For more information, please contact P.K. Loeffler at 281-492-8031.

Summer Internships

The Age-Level Ministry is currently looking for summer interns. This 10-week paid immersive internship program is designed for students desiring a more in-depth exploration of full-time ministry in the United Methodist Church. The internship program runs from June 3 to August 12.

Interns will work at least 40 hours a week and will have regular time off. Every intern will be expected to participate in at least a one-week long camp, and some may be expected at multiple camps. For more information, please contact [Lucy Underwood](#), HR Administrator.

St. Peter's Family Table

Join us every Wednesday at St. Peter's Family Table starting at 5:15 p.m. in Lott Hall. Bring the family, have dinner, then check out the group studies for adults and age-level programs for children and students. Get to know the St. Peter's community and meet us at the table!

The cost for dinner is \$7 for adults and \$3 for kids when registered online. If registering at the door, it's \$9 for adults and \$5 for kids. Register online in our [website](#).



Help Needed for Family Table

Many hands make light work at St. Peter's Family Table. Get connected with the Kitchen Team and help with shopping, set-up, cooking, clean-up, or administration. All ages and levels of experience are welcome. Please call or text Shelley Keating at 281-492-8031.

Prayer Quilt Ministry

You are invited to join the Prayer Quilt Ministry on Wednesday, February 12, in E221, from 9 a.m. to noon. This ministry has created more than 1,000 quilts to give to those needing comfort. Quilting experience is not required. For more information, contact Tereasa Reimer at 281-492-8031.

VBS Volunteer Opportunities

If you would like to serve as a teen or adult volunteer for this year's VBS, registration will open this Monday. VBS volunteers will be able to register their kids during early registration beginning Monday, February 24. For more information, please email [Children's Ministry](#).

Town Hall Meeting

On Sunday, February 23, we will have a Town Hall meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will talk about the upcoming General Conference and what it means for us as a church.

There will be a time for questions and answers after the discussion.

Nursery will be provided.



Dive Deep with CHI RHO

“The class is a deep dive into the Bible, one book at a time. Raised in another faith, I didn’t have much knowledge, real knowledge, about the Bible. This class has opened my eyes to the wonder and mystery of God and His love.” Amy, six-year CHI RHO member.

Starting Sunday, February 16, CHI RHO will start an 11-week verse-by-verse study of 1 & 2 Peter. They will be looking at how was it that Peter passed from being a simple fisherman who denied Christ three times to a bold preacher and a great leader of our faith. They meet in S202 every Sunday at 9:45 a.m. Please [email](#) Sheryl Ray to register and reserve a book (\$10).

This multigenerational class centers on Scripture with facilitated group discussion. The different points of view that the members bring to the class allows for a fluid discussion that will help you see Scripture from a different perspective while holding on to its truths.

Open Hearts Support Group

Open Hearts is a support group for families and friends of LGBTQ persons. They offer a safe and affirming setting for those who desire understanding, education, and support. They welcome anyone to be a part of this group, whether you need support or can provide support.

Open Hearts meets the third Thursday of the month. Their next meeting is Wednesday, February 20 at 7 p.m.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact [Elaine Saunders](#).

Getting To Know Your Church continued from page 3

where people with all-abilities can either come as a participant or as a volunteer to help each other grow as community.”

H2O welcomes anyone who has high needs and is unable to attend other groups in Katy due to medical, physical, or sensory needs that would greatly benefit from participating. They like to expose their participants to fun and creative outlets, which allows them to welcome people who want to share their talents and skills with their participants.

“It is so hard to pour into others when you are running on empty. I like to think of this program as cup filler,” said Shannon. “It fills my cup to be with this group; the cups of the participants get filled by socializing and doing something different once a week. Most importantly, it gives these parents a time to fill their cup so they can continue to pour into their sweet children.”

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship
with Holy Communion

9:45 a.m.
Traditional Worship

9:45
The Element
Contemporary Worship

Sunday School for All Ages

10:30 a.m.
St. Peter's West Campus
at Cinco Ranch High School

11:00 a.m.
Traditional Worship

11:00 a.m.
The Element
Contemporary Worship

11:00 a.m.
Korean Worship Service

SPLASH Children's Worship

Sunday School for Adults

5:00 p.m.
Courage Worship for All

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

ST. PETER'S EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, February 9

3:30 p.m.	Scout Sunday	Churchwide
	Fishers of Men	Library
5:00 p.m.	Carillon Handbell Choir Rehearsal	S101

Monday, February 10

11:00 a.m.	Memorial Service for Maybelle Mullen	Sanctuary
12:00 p.m.	Memorial Reception for Maybelle Mullen	Asbury

Tuesday, February 11

8:30 a.m.	Joyful Bells	S101
9:15 a.m.	Faithfully Fit	The Quad
9:30 a.m.	Grace Notes	E106
12:00 p.m.	Better Bodies	The Quad

Wednesday, February 12

10:00 a.m.	The Gathering	Asbury
5:15 p.m.	St. Peter's Family Table	Lott Hall
6:00 p.m.	Rooted	Wesley
6:00 p.m.	Wednesday Night Kids	Splash Theatre

Thursday, February 13

9:30 a.m.	Mission of Motherhood	Asbury West
12:00 p.m.	Better Bodies	The Quad

Saturday, February 15

3:00 p.m.	Texas A&M Singing Cadets	Sanctuary
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A detailed calendar of St. Peter's events is available on our website.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Thursdays

7:30 a.m.

Whataburger

23540 Westheimer

Join us!

