



UPCOMING INSPIRATIONS
ST. PETER'S CHURCH
Week of October 25, 2026

Church Office (302) 653-9691 – Hours: Mon & Fri Closed, Tues - Thurs - 9:00AM – 1:00PM
Email: Office: stpeters.smyrna@verizon.net Rector: smyrnarector@gmail.com
Website: www.stpeters-smyrna.church

Please take this paper home and use it as a reminder of what is going on at St. Peter's and how you can offer your gifts and talents to support the many activities.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Every Thursday- Bell Practice begins at 6:00 pm and Choir practice begins at 7:00 pm.

St. Peter's Preschool Event: The preschool invites you to join them for Trunk or Treat at 10:30 am on Tuesday, Oct 27th- 4-year-old class and/or Friday, Oct 30th- 3-year-old class. There are 12 students in each class and set up time in either parking lot is between 10-10:15.

NOVEMBER 2026

During the month of November, look for the arrival of *St. Peter's Blessing Tree*. The tree has grown big and full over the past year but there is plenty of room for growth. Please continue to share your blessings throughout the month of November.

November 1st- All Saints Day

November 3rd-5th- The church office will only be open 9am-1pm. No one will be in the office after hours.

November 11th- Veteran's Day

November 12th- Outreach Event— We will be providing dinner for the Smyrna High School football team on the evening before their final game of the regular season. Details to follow. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Shirley Biddle or sign up on the podium in front of the church.

November 17th-19th - The church office will only be open 9am-1pm. No one will be in the office after hours.

November 22: Community Thanksgiving Dinner from 2 pm to 5 pm at the Smyrna Elementary School. **Please bring a pie with you to church on this Sunday.** They will be taken to the dinner following the church service.

WEEKLY MUSINGS BY SARAH



You know that wonderful hymn, “they’ll know we are Christian’s by our love.”? Well, I have experienced that sentiment lately in my own life.

I came to Saint Peter’s Church with excitement, with hope and with dreams of the ministry that we would build together. No where in my mind or heart did, I factor in an eye issue that would confound most every aspect of my life. Thankfully by the grace of God and the skill of practiced physicians this is a short-term problem.

Besides a great deal of humility and the need to ask others for help, I have learned about the people of St. Peter’s Church. I have learned that you are incredibly gracious, forgiving, welcoming and wonderful people. I never would have imagined this eye issue as the marker of my first days at St. Peter’s. I feel horrible that this has happened. But I have learned about you and this community. In spite of the obstacles, you have been flexible and so adaptive and loving. I am more than grateful.

What I have learned is that I have found a home. In my frail humanity I am aware that God has brought us together for a reason, a good reason. I am even more excited to learn about where God is calling us together. I am humbled and thankful to have been called into this ministry with you.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Really just thank you.

Fundraising/Events



You can help support St. Peter’s Church by grocery shopping! When you shop at Redner’s, simply bring your receipts into church and place them in the box located in the parish hall.

Redner’s donates a portion of your total receipt back to St. Peter’s Church.

Opportunities to Donate



The October Outreach is the *Community Thanksgiving Dinner* sponsored by the Smyrna-Clayton Ministerium. Checks need to be made out to St. Peter's Church with "Thanksgiving Dinner" in the memo line.

Funds can be dropped off at St. Peter's during Sunday Services, dropped off during office hours (Tues-Thurs 9AM to 1PM) or mailed to the church.

Bring a pie to church on Sunday, November 22nd -All pies collected during the service will be donated to the Community Thanksgiving Dinner following the service.

The food pantry continues to accept donations. A list of the popular items needed have been placed in the baskets at each entrance. Please take a list home for reference when shopping. The pantry and those it serve, thank you for all that you give to support them.



November's Outreach events will be DHCI Christmas for the residents and Joy Boxes for those children in need at the Smyrna School District. More information to follow.



Join us for the
Celebration of New Ministry
POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
6:00 pm

St. Peter's Church along with the bishop will be celebrating the new ministry of Reverend Sarah Nelson.

Stay and enjoy fellowship
with an ice cream and desert social following the service





The *Annual Stewardship Campaign* is running now through Sunday, November 29, 2026.

If you did not receive a giving card or need an additional one, please pick one up in the front pew or contact the church office.



Plenty Good Room

Making Room for Plenty Good Harvest

The harvest is great, but the workers are few. Matthew 9:37 (NLT)

When I was a teenager, my grandmother loved her garden. She still does. Her garden required the kind of care that kept her hands in the soil and her attention fixed on the rhythms of the season. On warm afternoons she would call me outside to help her prepare the dirt, loosening the earth, pulling weeds, and clearing space for new seeds. I remember standing there sometimes, puzzled and very impatient. To me, the garden already looked fine.

After the winter season, I had grown accustomed to what it always looked like. To me, it was good enough. Why disturb what was already there? Why dig up soil that seemed just fine? The work felt slow and unnecessary, but my grandmother understood something I was still learning.

A healthy garden needs tending. She moved through those rows and buckets with patience, gently removing what did not belong, the stubborn weeds, the tangled stems, the crowded patches of soil that had no room left to breathe. She knew that if new life was going to grow, something first had to be cleared away. The garden would overflow with life, all because we made room.

Season after season, I was, and still am, amazed. Looking back now, I realize something I did not understand then: if the garden had stayed the way I wanted it, untouched, crowded, unpruned, we would never have seen that abundance at all. The garden required room, and a willingness to yield.

Sometimes that work feels uncomfortable. Sometimes it feels unnecessary. Sometimes we cannot yet see what God is preparing to grow. But the invitation remains the same: make room for new life, make room for deeper faith, make room for the Spirit to move in ways we may not yet understand. And when the seasons of harvest come, we may discover what my grandmother knew all along: when space is made in the garden, there is always plenty good room for the harvest. tens.org

Questions for Reflection:

What might God be inviting you to release or clear away in your life so that something new can grow?



Shannon Whittaker is a member of St. David's Episcopal Church in Cambria Heights, New York.