

REFUGEES AMONG US

Michelle Ubben

This article was first published in The Keys on 19 June 2022 and is re-published with a few timely updates.

Like many, I watched news coverage of Afghans desperately trying to board planes to escape the Taliban, and Ukrainians driven from their homes by war and found myself increasingly moved to do something. But beyond just writing a check to a relief organization, I felt the Holy Spirit calling me to relationship—to encounter the refugees in our midst.

That calling led my husband, Matt, and me to get involved with a small group of volunteers who were helping a local refugee resettlement agency meet families' critical needs. It led us to an extended stay hotel room, where we delivered a grocery order and toys to a Syrian couple with seven children, who were in Tallahassee temporarily until they could get transportation to a city where they had a support group of friends and family. The children's faces lit up as they played with the baby dolls and stuffed animals and bubble wands. Speaking through a translation app on his phone, the dad told me his children had never seen common toys, since they grew up in a refugee camp in Jordan.

It led us to meet another large Syrian family and help them find the bikes they needed for transportation, desks for the children to work at, and a pantry shelf to hold their dry goods.

And it led us to meet an El Salvadoran family at a “pop up shop” staged to help local refugees find needed household items, when their precious little girl pointed to bread we were bagging up and asked if her family could have it. When we later learned that they were sitting on outdoor folding chairs in their living room, we brought them a couch and a recliner that a neighbor was giving away. WHICH HAS LED TO TOMORROW'S MAKE ART MONDAY WITH THE GUEVARA FAMILY! GOD IS DRAWING US INTO COMMUNITY WITH ONE ANOTHER!

Without a doubt, this has been the most rewarding volunteer work we've ever done, because it involves not just philanthropy but fellowship.

DEUTERONOMY 10:18 tells us to “*defend the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and love the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing,*” and MATTHEW 25 reminds us that *when we care for the foreigners among us, we actually do it for Jesus Himself.*

We have a tremendous opportunity to fulfill this scriptural directive by engaging with the more than 90 refugee families who live in our midst here in Tallahassee.

Members of St. Peter's have been walking alongside local refugee families and helping them experience the love of Christ through our fellowship and assistance. Our church has made financial contributions to help these families build stability as they move toward independence. We can always use more cathedral volunteers with a heart for this ministry to form a personal relationship and help however we're needed, which may include teaching English, locating needed household items, navigating bureaucratic processes and medical appointments, getting ready for the new school year, and more.

IF YOU FEEL YOU MAY BE CALLED TO SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY, JOIN US FOR AN UPCOMING EVENT, TALLAHASSEE REFUGEE FELLOWSHIP DAY, ON JUNE 24TH AT ECHO. MORE INFORMATION ON PAGE 6 OF THE KEYS.

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUMMER 2023

Visit our website to learn more.

www.stpetersfl.com/register

SUNDAY

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

June 11—July 30, 10:25—11AM | Led by Fr. Michael Petty

Adult Sunday School continues a journey through the whole of Scripture.

FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN & PARENTS

June 11—July 30, 10:25—11AM

Children and their parents are invited to join us in the parish hall each week for breakfast and a short devotional. Our hope is that this will help families of children to create a community together.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

June 11—July 30, 10:25—11AM

The Middle and High School students are invited to fix a plate of food in the Parish Hall to eat during their normal Sunday school in room 102. We will be continuing our way through the Gospel Project curriculum.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

JUNE 14-JULY 26 | 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!



ICE CREAM SOCIAL
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14



SUPER HERO NIGHT
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21



WACKY WEDNESDAY
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28



BiN90 NIGHT
WEDNESDAY, JULY 5



COLOR CREATIONS
WEDNESDAY, JULY 12



CHRISTMAS IN JULY
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19



WATER FUN
WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

WEDNESDAY, *continued*

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY | JUNE 14-JULY 12

Rising 6th-12th Grades

Join us in the Choir Room for an exciting short series, "God's Beauty for the Bored" this summer. Even if you can only make it one week this summer, it'll be worthwhile. We will be looking at several topics, such as: why church often feels boring, how to pick a church when you go off to college, why the bulletin includes space for "sermon notes," and more.

PRAYING BY THE BOOK: PRAYING WITH THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

Led by Fr. Michael Petty

The Book of Common Prayer is designed to help us "pray with the Church" both publicly and privately and, thus, functions as a "school of prayer". After presenting a theology of Christian prayer, this class will help participants make use of the Book of Common Prayer to develop a deeper prayer life. The class will help participants live into the Anglican practice of balancing "common prayer" and private prayer so that they mutually enrich one another. THE RESOURCE BOOK FOR THIS CLASS IS ROMANO GUARDINI'S *THE SPIRIT OF THE LITURGY AND THE LORD'S PRAYER* (available in St. Peter's Bookstore).

PRAYERS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT | JUNE 14-JULY 19

Led by Alex Cain, *Charles Simeon Summer Fellow*

One of the ways we can learn to pray is by praying the prayers in Scripture. This class will focus on some of the most important prayers of the New Testament with the idea that they can each form us as praying people. Each class session will be devoted to one New Testament prayer. We will begin with the prayer of Mary (the Magnificat) and move on to consider the prayer of Jesus for his disciples (John 17:1-26), Paul's prayer for the Ephesians (Ephesians 3:7-21) and his prayer for wisdom (Colossians 1:1-14). The class will conclude with a consideration of Revelation 1:9-20. THE RESOURCE BOOK FOR THIS CLASS IS *PRAYERS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT* BY LYNNE BAAB (available in St. Peter's Bookstore). Note: this class will conclude on July 19.

PRAYING THE PSALMS | JUNE 14-JULY 19

Led by Alex Exum, *Charles Simeon Summer Fellow*

The Psalter has been referred to as the "Prayer Book of Israel" in that each psalm is a prayer to God under different circumstances and for different reasons. This class will introduce participants to the practice of praying the psalms as part of their personal prayer life. The class will operate as a group Bible study with each session focused on a particular psalm. Each psalm will provide a model for a kind of prayer, including a prayer of dependence, a prayer of trust, a prayer of distress, a prayer of gratitude, a prayer of grief, and a prayer of hope. THE RESOURCE BOOK FOR THIS CLASS IS *PRAYING THE PSALMS* BY JUANITA RYAN (available in St. Peter's Bookstore). Note: this class will conclude on July 19.

WEDNESDAY, *continued*

PRAYER & LISTENING

Led by Brian Bailey

For some Christians, prayer is a means of getting God to do their will. This is a habit that is easy to fall into. However, God created us for a relationship with himself and this requires that we listen to him. This class will function as a group Bible study with each session focused on a passage from Scripture. The class will explore such topics as conversation with God, praying with authenticity, prayers of request, listening to God in prayer, praying for others (intercessory prayer) and practicing God's presence. THE RESOURCE BOOK FOR THIS CLASS IS *PRAYER AND LISTENING* BY JAN JOHNSON (available in St. Peter's Bookstore).

THE SPIRITUALLY VIBRANT HOME

Led by Chuck and Patty Lang

Calling all parents! Your home life with your children really matters! This class will explore simple yet profound ways that home life can be deeply formational for children and lead to flourishing families. It will also help you think of your home as a "house church." You will learn about "messy prayers," "loud tables," "open doors," and more. THIS CLASS IS BASED UPON THE ACCLAIMED BOOK BY DON EVERTS, *THE SPIRITUALLY VIBRANT HOME: THE POWER OF MESSY PRAYERS, LOUD TABLES AND OPEN DOORS* (available in St. Peter's Bookstore).

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

Led by Ben Munroe

We use the phrase "the Gospel" a good deal, but do we really understand what it means? The word "Gospel" means "Good News" but what is this news about and why is it so good? This class is a kind of "Gospel 101" for those wanting to know the answer to these questions. The Gospel is the good news of a fulfilled promise of God. The class will trace the promises of God from the Old Testament to their fulfillment in Christ in the New Testament and explore the implications of their fulfillment for our lives and the mission of the Church today.

ADDITIONAL SUMMER DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MESSY MONDAY MORNINGS | 9-10AM | MONDAYS IN JUNE & JULY

This is a great opportunity to get the kids out of the house and have fellowship with other families. This summer we will have lawn activities and messy art crafts each week.

YOUTH | CAMP ARAMINTA REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN! | 17-22 July | Camp Araminta registration is open! Consider attending this summer, it is a great time. Several cathedral students testify to how it has changed their lives and how it has drawn them closer to Jesus. There is something special about spending a week with peers; intentionally praying, having fun, studying scripture, and worshipping our God and King together. Camper registration (rising 4th-12th grade students) costs \$495 and will remain open until full or June 30th. LIT (*Leader in Training*), FA (*Flight Attendant*), and CIT (*Counselor in Training*) registrations (grades 10-12 staffers) costs \$395 and will remain open until full or May 29. Parish and diocesan scholarships are available upon request. ising 4th-12th grade students. Learn more and register at StPetersFL.com/Araminta

YOU ARE INVITED
TO THE
SUMMER RECEPTION
OF



THE CHARLES SIMEON INSTITUTE
OF ST. PETER'S ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL

ON
TUESDAY | 13 JUNE 2023
5:30-7:30PM

 THE CATHEDRAL NAVE

Enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres with fellow parishioners, hear from our 2023 Summer Fellows, and get an update on the Charles Simeon Institute of St. Peter's Anglican Cathedral!

CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED!

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND BY
VISITING

STPETERSFL.COM/SUMMER-RECEPTION

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

UNDER-RESOURCED: ECHO

School isn't the only thing out for summer. When cafeterias and lunchrooms are closed for lunch and breakfast during June and July, under-resourced families face bare cupboards and empty refrigerators as they try to keep up with the additional meals needed at home. ECHO needs your help to restock their shelves with assorted non-perishable items such as tuna, soup, cereal, pasta, and canned fruit & veggies during these busy months!

You can drop donations off in the usual peanut butter baskets, or contact Freddy Branham at fbranham@echoth.org or 850.224.3246 ext 204 to coordinate pickup/delivery. Thank you!

PARTNERED EVANGELISM: TARMAC BASKETBALL

Tarmac Basketball is inviting all seniors/grandparents/ the elder and wiser ones to come and visit with our players on July 19th at IOAM. Our goal is to provide a venue to combine the generations in Christ. We want you to share stories and conversations in Christ and how it has affected and impacted your lives as a way to pave a path for the younger generations. No public speaking or basketball skills are necessary—it's all about bringing the generations together for a faithful time of fellowship. Coffee and light breakfast goodies will be provided. Please join us at Immanuel Baptist Church at 2351 Mahan Drive at IOAM on July 19, 2023. RSVP via text to Susan Burton at 850.251.3418 or via email to thetarmacth@gmail.com.

UNDER-RESOURCED: TALLAHASSEE REFUGEE FELLOWSHIP DAY | St. Peter's is one of the churches that will be helping with a refugee "rummage sale" at ECHO on June 24th. Here are the ways you can help:

1. Bring and recruit donations of household items.
2. Bring and recruit donations of food staples and personal items.
3. Volunteer to help work the event, including folks with trucks to help transport items back to refugees' homes.

If you would like to contribute to purchasing toys for the kids to play with at the event or refreshments, contact Michelle Ubben at Michelle@SachsMedia.com. We hope you all will find some way to be involved in this worthwhile event. Besides meeting refugee families' physical needs, it is a great way to make them feel welcome and provide fellowship. So, please attend if you can.

INTERNATIONAL: DOHC NOTEBOOK COLLECTION FOR UGANDA | Our cathedral chapter of the Daughters of the Holy Cross is supporting the St. Peter's Uganda Mission Team by providing notebooks to be used during conferences with the South Rwenzori Diocese. All parishioners are invited to send greetings to our brothers and sisters in Uganda by writing a note or drawing a picture on a bookplate that will go inside each notebook. Bookplates will be available in the narthex beginning Sunday, June 11th!



DISCIPLESHIP

YOUTH | MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL PARTY TODAY! | *June 11* | Middle and High Schoolers, let's start summer off with a splash! We will get together for dinner and a pool party 6:30-8PM. The event will take place at a parishioner's home. Email Jennifer Nicholson at JNicholson@StPetersFL.com for the pool party address!

CARE MINISTRIES: PARISH VISITORS GUILD
The Parish Visitors Guild is a ministry of St. Peter's in which parishioners send cards, visit, and deliver flowers to fellow parishioners confined to their home, recovering from an illness or going through a difficult situation in life. We are always looking for others to join this effort to bring encouragement and hope into the lives of others. If you'd like to be part of this ministry, contact Alice Sanderson at ASanderson@StPetersFL.com

Make Art Mondays

Summer Workshops Presented by
THE ST. PETER'S ARTISANS



Monday, June 12

Salvadoran Cuisine & Crafts
with The Guevaras Family

Learn to make (then eat!) traditional Salvadoran pupusas and do a craft project inspired by Salvadoran folk art.



Monday, July 10

Coastal Inspired Watercolors
with Nina Allen Freeman

Learn the basics of pen/ink drawing and watercolor painting using coastal inspired imagery.



Monday, August 14

Flower Arranging in Decoupaged Vases
with Susan Cutchins & Elizabeth Maples

We will decoupage a simple vase, and create a beautiful floral arrangement using grocery store purchased flowers and greenery from your own yard.

MONDAY EVENINGS | 6:00—8:30PM | \$30/CLASS | BYOB

LIMITED CLASS SIZE | NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED | STPETERSFL.COM/REGISTER

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. We hope you'll join us on the lawn for coffee & other refreshments between morning services! Whether today is your first time or you've been coming for awhile, we are 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

Please call the Cathedral Office at 850.701.0664 or email ASanderson@StPetersFL.com to be added to the Cathedral Prayer List. **YOU CAN ALSO SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST OR CARE MINISTRY NEED AT [STPETERSFL.COM/PRAYER](https://StPetersFL.com/PRAYER)**

Military: Lucas Bell, Jose Betancourt, Lt Col. David Chichetti, SSG Corey Daws, Lt. Col. Daniel Dean, Capt. James Dilworth, Capt. John Easterbrook Jr, Airman Drew Edwards, Sgt. Michael Gaskins, PFC John P. Warren SSgt Corey Owen, Capt. Griffin Jax, Capt. Savannah B. Jax, 1st Lt. 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, SFC Dewey Spence, SN Benjamin Waddill Lt. Patrick Swain, Capt. Parry Thomas, Lt. Cmdr. Blake Van Brunt Jr, MM3 Tommy VanLandingham, PFC Sam Henri

Parishioners, Relatives, and Friends: Art, Amy, Nick Ciarlariello, Maryann Jones, Bart MacFarlane, Carroll Walker, Pat Barnidge, Fred Thomson, Jim & Helen Mosby, Tom McHaffie, Cindy Allen, Bill Pandolfi, Mary Meloni, Vicki Spitzer, Mary Alma Lang

as of 6.6.23

CATHEDRAL CONCERT | UGANDA MISSION TRIP BENEFIT | *Thursday, June 15th | 7PM*

Maxwell (Max) van Hoeij has been a member of St. Peter's since its inception. He often thinks of Isaiah 38:20—"The Lord will save me, and we will play songs on stringed instruments all the days of our lives at the house of the Lord"—when he performs on his violin. He is sharing his love of music on *June 15th* at 7PM. Max is a full-ride music merit scholarship recipient at Vanderbilt University. He's attending the Aspen Music Festival (AMF) this summer with merit scholarships and fellowships from Vanderbilt and AMF. Some of Max's performance accomplishments include being admitted into the Paganini International Violin Competition in 2023. He is also the 2022 Tennessee MTNA Young Artist Award winner. At 13, he received awards and performed at Carnegie Hall Stern Auditorium and Weill Recital Hall in New York City.

Please join us for this incredible treat. Donations will be collected with all the proceeds from the recital going towards the Cathedral's Mission to Uganda in September.



FINANCIAL MINUTE

Total Operating Budget: \$TBA | % Collected YTD: TBA% | Debt Retired in April: \$12,159.66

For more information about making a pledge, visit StPetersFL.com/Give