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# REFUGEES AMONG US

by Michelle Ubben

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.

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.

St. Peter's is launching a new outreach ministry to come beside a local refugee family and help them experience the love of Christ through our fellowship and assistance. Our church will be making a financial contribution to help this family build stability as they move toward independence. And a group of cathedral volunteers with a heart for this ministry will 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, PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON TUESDAY, JUNE 28 FROM 6–7:30PM IN THE PARISH HALL AND BE IN PRAYER FOR THIS EFFORT.

# DISCIPLESHIP

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## PARISH LIFE: PHOTO BOOK

We are planning to create a photo book (think yearbook) of Cathedral members to have available sometime this summer. The first step is for all members to make sure you have a photo in DiscipleLife and/or have updated your photo. Go to [StPetersFL.com/disciplelife](http://StPetersFL.com/disciplelife) for an instructional video on how to do this yourself! *Thank you for your patience as this comes together and for your willing and gracious participation!*

*The deadline to have your photo taken or to have it updated for printing is June 30 so get it done now!*

## CARE MINISTRIES: HEALING THE WOUNDS OF TRAUMA | A WEEKEND RETREAT

Some experiences in life are so painful they cause deep and lasting suffering. That suffering is what we call *trauma*. Trauma is a deep wound of the heart and mind that takes a long time to heal. It hurts every part of us and our relationships, our bodies, our thoughts, and our faith. St. Peter's seeks to minister to people dealing with losses (grief), heart wounds (trauma), and moral injury (grief and shame). This trauma healing weekend provides lessons that lead people on a journey of healing. At the heart of the training is the Bible which tells about the love of God and creates a safe place where group members help each other heal. The weekend will be *Friday evening 15 July, all day Saturday, 16 July, and Sunday afternoon 17 July*. Attendance at all sessions is required and the cost of the weekend including Saturday lunch is \$10.

If you are interested, would like to learn more, or register, contact Alice Sanderson at [Alice@StPetersFL.com](mailto:Alice@StPetersFL.com) or call 850.701.0664.

## COMMUNICATIONS | CALLING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Do you have a background in photography, professionally or as a hobby, and do you have a high-quality digital camera? We need your help! We're looking to form a small group of photographers\* to help document important aspects and events in the life of our cathedral. If you're interested in learning more, please email Will Henry Lawrence at [WillHenry@StPetersFL.com](mailto:WillHenry@StPetersFL.com)

*\*If you feel you may need some training, thank you for your willingness, but this is not for you at this time.*

## MESSY MONDAY MORNINGS

*Mondays in June and July, 9–10am* | Open to all children! This is a great opportunity to get the kids out of the house and come share fellowship with other families in our parish and community. We will have lawn activities and messy art crafts each week.

## YOUNG ADULTS GATHERING

*8pm | Tuesdays | All Saints Cafe (903 Railroad Ave)*  
Join us throughout the summer for conversations about faith (led by group participants) and coordinating mission opportunities with others. The theme this summer is Apologetics. For more information, contact Fr. David Marten at [David@StPetersFL.com](mailto:David@StPetersFL.com)

## MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL: MISSION THURSDAYS!

During the summer, we will be working from *10am–1pm each Thursday* at *Making Miracles Group Home*. Our goal is to landscape around the home to make it safe for children and hopefully install a sandbox for them to play in. We will also have some opportunities to interact with the residents. Bring gloves, loppers, and rakes if you can! Contact Jennifer or Fr. David for more information.

## CARE MINISTRIES: BOOK NOOK

Did you know we have a book nook outside the Parish Hall? Feel free to borrow books on topics like parenting, grandparenting, grief, and more!

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ELECTION

Four new members were elected to the Vestry at the Annual Parish Meeting: Tom Crapps, Chuck Lang, Joyce McNeill, and Rick Mosby. Vanessa Zein-Eldin was elected to serve as a delegate to Diocesan Synod. Each of these individuals will serve a three-year term.

# MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

## UNDER-RESOURCED: SCHOOL'S OUT!

School isn't the only thing out for summer. When cafeterias and lunchrooms are closed for lunch and breakfast during June and July, our under-resourced families face empty pantries and refrigerators to keep up with the additional meals needed at home.

As you shop for your own groceries, please help ECHO restock the shelves with assorted non-perishable items such as peanut butter, cereal, snack bars, pasta, canned fruit, canned meat, and canned vegetables during these busy months! Thanks in advance!

Feel free to drop donations off in the usual peanut butter baskets, or contact Under-Resourced Core Captain, Freddy Branham, at [fbranham@echothl.org](mailto:fbranham@echothl.org) or 850.224.3246 ext 204 to coordinate pickup/delivery.

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING: SPEAKER AT GOOD SHEPHERD | 7-8pm | Wednesday | 29 June

Florida is third in reported cases of human trafficking in the country. Good Shepherd's Mercy & Justice Core Community will host Robin Hassler-Thompson, Executive Director of STAC (Survive and Thrive Advocacy Center), at Good Shepherd's Community Center. Ms. Hassler-Thompson will speak about human trafficking in this area, what we can do to educate ourselves to identify victims of human trafficking, and specifically what businesses can do to educate their staff and volunteers to do the same. She will recommend free, on-demand training (STACPRO) for businesses, profit and non-profit alike, in our area which is specifically tailored to the Leon County community. Leon County's businesses have a unique and important role to stop, prevent, and respond to human trafficking in this area. Hope to see you there!

## PARTNERED EVANGELISM: TARMAC BASKETBALL

*"Tarmac has helped reestablish my faith in God through basketball."* This is just one of the many testimonials that has come from a TARMAC BASKETBALL SUMMER CAMP. Since its inception in 2019, *Tarmac Basketball* has mentored over 150 girls and provided countless Bibles to those who have professed their faith in Christ.

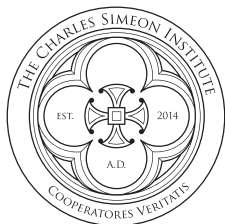
*Tarmac Basketball* will be hosting a summer camp for girls ages 7-14, *July 11-15 from 8am-4pm* and is asking for donations of indoor youth basketballs (*Size 28.5*). Look for the box in the Narthex to 'slam-dunk' your donation into! Additionally if you are interested in providing a scholarship for a girl in need, the cost for the camp is \$250. Please make checks payable to Tarmac.

For more information, please contact Susan Burton at 850.251.3418 or [thetarmactlh@gmail.com](mailto:thetarmactlh@gmail.com)

## PRISON: CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Celebrate Recovery (CR), held at Wakulla Correctional Institution on Saturday mornings, just graduated class #38! This is the oldest CR prison group in Florida and has been under the continuous leadership of Bobby Carrouth. Bobby's faithfulness and commitment have been amazing, to say the least! Jim Anderson has been a loyal assistant for Bobby. Other team members from St. Peter's include Larry Gonzalez and Matt Brown. A heartfelt thank you to each of these men (and others) for giving of their time and talents to reach those behind prison walls.

If you are interested in learning more about Celebrate Recovery, or volunteering, please contact Bobby Carrouth at 850.508.7296.



## CHARLES SIMEON INSTITUTE SUMMER RECEPTION | 6-8pm | Thursday | June 30

Please join us for the CSI Summer Reception! Enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres with fellow parishioners, hear from our 2022 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](http://STPETERSFL.COM/SUMMER-RECEPTION)

# 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!

## 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 [Alice@StPetersFL.com](mailto:Alice@StPetersFL.com)

Please call the Cathedral Office at 850.701.0664 or email [Alice@StPetersFL.com](mailto:Alice@StPetersFL.com) to be added to the Cathedral Prayer List.

**Military:** Lucas Bell, Jose Betancourt, Lt. Col. David Chichetti, SSG Corey Daws, Major Daniel Dean, Capt. James Dilworth, Capt. John Easterbrook Jr, Airman Drew Edwards, Sgt. Michael Gaskins, SSgt Corey Owen, Capt. Griffin Jax, Capt. Griffin Jax, Capt. Savannah B. Jax, 1st Lt. Parker Jax, 1st Lt. Chandler B. Jax, 1st Lt. Carson Jax, 1st Lt. Rebecca Jax, Gabriel Melendez, Col. Burt Newman, Major Gen. John Richardson, Capt. Oliver Rushing, Andrew Sanderson, Lt. Cmdr. Chris Smith, SFC Dewey Spence, Lt. Patrick Swain, Capt. Parry Thomas, Lt. Cmdr. Blake Van Brunt Jr, Tommy VanLandingham MM3, Seaman Benjamin Waddill.

**Parishioners, Relatives, and Friends:** Patrick Madden, Gus Tacot, Marian Williams, Andrew Howard, Jackie Kemp, Karen Halfhill, Bart & Connie MacFarlane, Shirley Coyle, Phyllis Schmidt, Ben Allen, Joan Moore, Vicki Spitzer

## CARE MINISTRIES: LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS NEEDED!

The Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEM-Vs) take communion to those who are unable to attend Sunday services at the Cathedral. If you're interested in serving in this ministry, please contact Alice Sanderson at [Alice@StPetersFL.com](mailto:Alice@StPetersFL.com)

## PRAYER MINISTRY

If you would like to be prayed for by a team of prayer ministers, after receiving communion, please proceed to the prayer ministry teams near the Liberty Cross in the transept near the large wooden door to classroom 201. You may form a line along the wall of the transept if necessary. Prayer needs and concerns are kept confidential.

K-12 CHORISTER  
**CAMP** STPETERSFL.COM/CHORISTER-CAMP  
JULY 25—JULY 29 | 8:30AM-12:30PM



## FINANCIAL MINUTE

*Total Operating Budget:* \$2,896,155.24 | *% Collected YTD:* 70.89% | *Debt Retired in June:* \$11,789.33  
For more information about making a pledge, visit [StPetersFL.com/Give](http://StPetersFL.com/Give)