

SAYING YES: ANSWERING THE CALL OF THE LORD

by Alex Exum | Charles Simeon Institute Summer Fellow

Growing up, I was told that I should consider going into the ministry. Really, what this meant was, “Hey kid, we noticed that you’re semi-good with people and you like the Bible.” My struggle with this calling, however, was the fact that I could not imagine myself taking on that kind of responsibility in the Church. Who was I that I should lead God’s people?

In the face of such a daunting task, I am reminded of the call story of Moses. Moses encounters the Lord, the Creator of the universe, in an incredible sign of a burning bush which is not consumed by the flame. The Lord calls Moses to lead His people out of the land of Egypt and gives Him signs that will confirm this calling. Yet Moses still can’t see himself leading God’s people, and responds to God’s calling, “Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue (Ex. 4:10).” Moses lets the Lord know that He’s made an honest mistake. After all, how could a man who is such a poor speaker lead anyone, let alone free them from the bondage of slavery? The Lord responds with a simple question: “Who has made man’s mouth... Is it not I, the Lord (Ex. 4:11)?”

Like Moses, I find it hard to believe that I can live up to the Lord’s calling on my life. The truth is, I’m afraid to say “Yes” to the Lord because I know my own inadequacies, shortcomings, and disappointments. It seems that, deep down, I believe that my weakness will hinder the work of God. And yet, I can hear God asking me, “Who was it that made you? Was it not I, the Lord?”

This has been the Lord’s question to me as I have struggled and pushed myself during my time as a Charles Simeon Fellow. As I put on the collar for the first time at the beginning of the summer, I knew that it would be a long summer as the weight of responsibility began to press on my shoulders. But time and time again, the Lord has proven faithful, saying to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness (1 Cor. 12:8).” Although the summer has been long, I wouldn’t trade it for anything in the world because it is here that the Lord has made His calling on my life abundantly clear.

For a brief bio of Alex, please see the last page of today’s service bulletin.

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

UNDER-RESOURCED: GRACE MISSION

There are several opportunities for your family, small group, or you individually to volunteer at Grace Mission over the summer. On the 4th Sunday of every month St. Peter's serves dinner at Grace. Our next opportunity is TODAY, July 23rd from 4-7PM.

Grace Mission is undergoing an office renovation to address some health and safety issues. There plenty of opportunities to use your skills with painting and carpentry. For more information about these opportunities or to learn more, contact Heidi King at 850.668.5525 or heidi@heiditking.com.



CURRENT NEEDS TO SERVE INFANTS 1-7 MONTHS

NEW ITEMS

- SIZE NEWBORN, 1, 2, 3, 4, AND 5 DIAPERS
- BABY WIPES (WE NEVER HAVE ENOUGH)
- BABY FINGERNAIL CLIPPERS
- BABY HAIRBRUSH OR COMB
- BABY THERMOMETERS
- BABY BOTTLE BRUSHES
- COTTON BALLS AND COTTON SWABS (SMALL BAGS)
- BABY WASH, LOTION, AND SHAMPOO
- INFANT CAR SEATS
- STROLLERS
- PACK AND PLAY
- BOUNCY FLOOR SEATS

USED OR NEW ITEMS

- BABY BOY AND GIRL CLOTHING: ONESIES, SLEEPERS, AND OUTFITS
- SIZE MEDIUM, LARGE, XL MATERNITY CLOTHES (WE NEVER HAVE ENOUGH)
- CRIB SHEETS/BASSINET SHEETS
- BABY BATHTUB
- DIAPER BAG
- BABY CARRIER/SLING
- PLASTIC BABY HANGERS
- *OTHER SMALL ITEMS A NEW MOM WOULD NEED AND YOU NO LONGER NEED*

DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYER MINISTRY: PRAYER TEAMS AVAILABLE IN BOTH TRANSEPTS AT 9AM SERVICE

If you would like to be prayed for by a team of prayer ministers, after receiving communion, please proceed to the prayer ministry teams in either transept. You may form a line along the wall of the transept if necessary.

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

SUPER SUMMER NIGHTS

Rising PreK-5th Grade | 6-7:30PM | Join us for summer fun on Wednesday nights. Each week we have a special and fun activity and an enriching lesson!



WATER FUN

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

Women's Fall Retreat

Hosted by St. Peter's Daughters of the Holy Cross

October 6-7, 2023



...clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12

SAVE THE DATE! All women are welcome to attend the Daughters of the Holy Cross Fall Retreat. For more information, please contact Terri Sue Aldridge Lawson at tsaldridge@gmail.com

SPIRITUAL GIFTS WORKSHOP
SATURDAY, 26 AUGUST | IOAM



HIGH SCHOOL: CONFIRMATION INFORMATION

At St. Peter's Anglican Cathedral, catechesis is a vital part of our high school ministry. It is a time of formation when the faith is passed from the parents to the students. This is when the church sees the students become full members. This is such an important time in their lives and in the lives of their families.

To equip these students to make the confirmation vows, we have a catechesis class which focuses on three aspects: (1) MENTORSHIP, (2) BIBLE READING, AND (3) THE CATECHISM. This is a powerful and formative process that can shape a student's imagination of what it means to be a Christian.

We will be having a parent and student information meeting on *August 13th between services*. If you are unable to attend, please contact Fr. David Marten to schedule a one-on-one meeting. I recommend thinking about who you would like to ask to be your mentor right away, since they will be asked to attend the Spiritual Gifts Workshop with you on *Saturday, August 26th*.

make Art Mondays

Summer Workshops Presented by

THE ST. PETER'S ARTISANS



Monday, August 14

Flower Arranging in Decoupaged Vases

Susan Cutchins & Elizabeth Maples

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, SSgt Corey Owen, Capt. Griffin Jax, Capt. Savannah B. Jax, Capt. Parker Jax, Capt. Chandler B. Jax, 1st Lt. Carson Jax, PFC Sam Henri, 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, Lt. Patrick Swain, Capt. Parry Thomas, Lt. Cmdr. Blake Van Brunt Jr, MM3 Tommy VanLandingham, SN Benjamin Waddill, PFC John P. Warren.

Parishioners, Relatives, and Friends: Marilyn O'Leary, Allen Quinsey, Kim Wilson, Ed Moore, Vicki, Clayton & Philip Jax, Bart MacFarlane, Pat, Fred Thomson, Jim & Helen, Tom McHaffie, Cindy & Ben, Bill Pandolfi, Mary Meloni, Katherine Hilary Pontin

as of 7.19.23

