



THE WEEKLY WORD – OCTOBER 7TH, 2026

19TH WEEK AFTER PENTECOST

*St. George's Mission
Committed Christians
providing hope, help, and hospitality
in Northern Newport News*

Join us at St. George's on Sunday Oct 11th at 10:30am

For Morning Prayer

Servers for Sun. Oct 11th
AV/Sound: David Adams
Greeter & Usher:
Lector 2: Bonnie Dodson

Open: David Adams
Coffee Hour:
Lector 1: Sarah Thurmond
Close: Sarah Thurmond

2026 CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, October 18th

It is time again for the CROP Hunger Walk which supports the Virginian Peninsula Food Bank and THRIVE. St. George's is collecting non-perishable food for the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank and hygiene products for THRIVE. There are collection boxes and also envelopes in the Narthex for those who want to donate cash or write a check out to CWS/CROP. Please have your donations in by Sunday, October 18th.

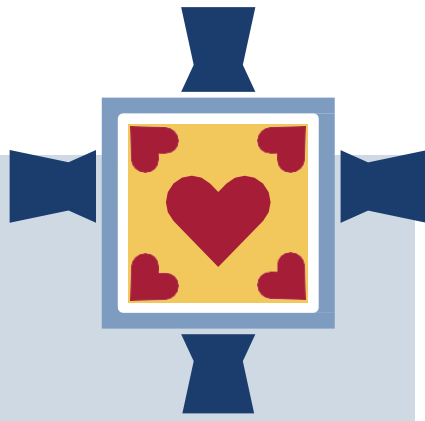


Stewardship Season: Plenty Good Room

October 4 – November 15th

As we close out the season of creation which reminds us of our call to be good stewards of God's creation, for the next 6 weeks, we will reflect on God's abundance and our call to make space for all. There is room for everyone at God's table. This year's theme, *Plenty Good Room*, reminds us that stewardship is not only about financial and in-kind gifts. It is also about relationships – the ways we are connected to God, to one another, and to our neighbors.

Our parish budget is one way we tell the story of those relationships. Each pledge and gift sustain our common life: children growing in faith, neighbors receiving meals and care, worshippers being welcomed, and friends finding hope. Our budget is more than numbers; it is a reflection of our values and our mission. During this Stewardship Season, I invite you to consider the relationships that have sustained you in this church, and how your generosity can help extend that welcome to others. There is, indeed, *plenty good room* in God's house.



Questions for Reflection:

What is something risky that you have undertaken that has paid off in the long run?



The Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons is rector of Trinity Church, Seattle and serves as

Treasurer on the board of TENS.

Plenty Good Room

Invitation to Thrive

It's 7:45AM on a Saturday morning in May. I join 45 people gathered on a dirt lot around a table made of plywood laid over sawhorses. We sip from cups of hot coffee and someone offers a prayer. I grab work gloves from a bin and follow the sheetrock team.

The sheetrock team includes: Amelia, the future homeowner who will live here with her three children; Charlie, a retired history professor; Cameron, a pastor from another denomination. Together, we learned a new skill that day - to hang and mud sheetrock.

I kept going back to that worksite one Saturday a month until the house was built. It was a testament to community, overlapping human stories, joy, generosity, building God's kingdom on South Holly St.

Our congregations thrive because the people who sit in the pews volunteer to learn new skills and share experiences of creating a vibrant community. We know the power of having a common purpose to deepen our faith.

When we open ourselves to volunteering, sharing our stories and skills, our ministry reaches far beyond what we can imagine or accomplish alone.

Will you join me in the adventure of trying something new? Meeting new people who share our core values, seeing our work build on itself and God's kingdom flourish? Would you commit to volunteer one hour a week (beyond worship time) for your church?

Yes, it's risky. It might require us to share our stories and find connections. The work we do might not be perfect by the world's standards (have you ever seen how many crooked nails are in a Habitat for Humanity house?). If we work together to create justice, make peace, spread joy to our neighbors, stand with the outcasts, the kingdom of God - where there is plenty good room for all people - will thrive. tens.org



THE EPISCOPAL
NETWORK FOR
STEWARDSHIP

Peninsula Ministry Partnership (St. Augustine's, St. George's, and St. Mark's)

Sharing our Ministry Together

Thursday Bible Study this Thursday, October 8th

Held 7-8 pm; new attendees welcome! Material used is published on the Episcopal website written by church teachers, organized by liturgical occasion & church season. Join the Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84370729616?pwd=M2JoVGw1bVpEMFBFTk55QWphN2RPdz09>

St. Mark's "Loaves & Fishes" ministry meeting. Please join us next **Tuesday, October 13th, at 7pm via Zoom (info below)** as we continue to discuss how God is calling us to serve in our community. Focus areas remain invitation & connection, our transit pass program, website development, and - above all - prayer.

We'll be joined by Ms. Corey Hampton of Four Oaks Day Center, who'll introduce us to the services they provide for homeless people in Newport News.

We'd love to have any of our PMP brothers and sisters join us, and even if you can't, we invite your prayers that God will breathe life into the ministries of the PMP...and make them into whatever he'd have them be!

Fridge available. Danny has a small refrigerator that needs a new home. If you're interested, please contact Andy ([757.880.6337](tel:757.880.6337)) for additional details.

St. Mark's Zoom Info:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84430506697?pwd=bUlUNDZES1JscHFTcjdaQlptL2FEdz09>

Meeting ID: 844 3050 6697

Password: 5414

One tap mobile

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[+1 267 831 0333](tel:+12678310333) US

Meeting ID: 844 3050 6697

Where Have You Encountered God?

As you read in Roscoe's encounter in Yosemite National Park, God meets us in all kinds of places: among giant Sequoias, on a mountaintop, beside the ocean, around a family table, in the quiet of a church sanctuary, or even in the middle of an ordinary weekday.

We invite you to share a photograph of a place where **you have encountered God**. It might be a beautiful place that awakened your sense of God's presence, a meaningful place connected to a special memory, or a simple, everyday place where you experienced grace, peace, love, or wonder.

Along with your photo, please include a brief sentence or two telling us **where the picture was taken and how you encountered God there**.

Ways to submit:

- Digital - Email your picture and description to the church email address: stgeorgess.nn@gmail.com
- Physical photo with a description – leave in church office or give it to Lisa Adams

Let's create a collection of images that reminds us that God is not confined to our church walls. Wherever we go, God is already there, waiting to be noticed. These will be shared in Weekly Word and on the St. George's website. Once we have a number of submission, we will also create a display for the Narthex.

Where have you encountered God? Share your picture and your story!

Invitation to Compline with St. Mark's

On Wednesday evenings at 7pm, St. Mark's hosts a service of healing prayers, followed by either traditional Compline or New Zealand Night Prayers. This usually takes no more than 20 minutes.

They would love to have other members of the PMP join them. It's presently hosted on the St. Mark's Zoom channel (info is below or click the Zoom icon at the bottom of www.smechampton.org).

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84430506697?pwd=bUlUNDZES1JscHFTcjdaQlptL2FEdz09>

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Week of October 11th

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayers, we pray for St. Bride's, Chesapeake and St. Thomas, Chesapeake; and for breast cancer patients, survivors, caregivers, and those seeking a cure.

St. George's Prayer List

*Deania, Teresa & Steve S., Davidsinia, Christina M., Richard, Linell, Henrietta, Lacy, Wil, David G, Skip J., Darlene M., Gale, Sandra, Serena, Gerald, Joan M., Carmen, Jennifer H., Bobby, Gwen, Candace, Urith, Janette, Phyllis M., Calvin, Richard and Ronda T., Mary S., Pamela E., Bill B., Leslie T., Brian M., Connie, Billy, Celestina, Thelma, Aimee S., Mark, Yvette, Connie H, Sarah, Alyscia, Audrey, Bionce, Rodrigo Matteo, the Caldera Family **And Our Military:** Eduardo, Joe, Ashley, Anthony, Nyla, and Dominique.*

Readings for October 11th

The First Lesson

Isaiah 25:1-9

O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;

the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might
save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

The Epistle

Philippians 4:1-9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Gospel

Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I

have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

October Chanco Chatter

Upcoming Events

2026

Weekends in October Wilderness Warriors

October 23–25 Alumni Weekend

October 30–November 1 Diocesan College Retreat

November 6–8 Fall EYC Weekend

November 21 2026 Donor & Ambassador Celebration

December 4–5 Advent Retreat

2027

January 15–17 Winter Camp

Learn more & register at:

chanco.org/events



Episcopal Church Women



Women in Leadership Symposium

Saturday, October 17th ~ 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Christ & Grace Episcopal Church, Petersburg 23805



**President Lisa
Bortner**

President of the
National ECW



**Bishop Susan
Haynes**

11th Bishop of the
Episcopal Diocese of
Southern Virginia



**Dr. Renee
Escoffery-Torres**

ECW President of
Province III



**The Rev. Lissie
Rhoton**

Rector of Christ &
Grace Church



**Helen Sharpe-
Williams**

Former President
ECW of the Diocese
of Southern Virginia



Martha Burton
Moderator

Scan to Register!

Christ & Grace Episcopal Church
1545 S Sycamore St, Petersburg, VA 23805



Attend In Person or Via Zoom ~ No Registration Fee; Lunch \$15