

The **Envoy**



October 2025

Words from the Father



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is hard to believe that I have been with you over six weeks already. I am deeply appreciative of all you have done to make me feel welcome. Thanks to those of you who have come by for a one-on-one visit to share your hopes, dreams, and concerns. All of you are welcome and encouraged to contact the office if you would like to meet with me. I look forward to hearing your stories and thoughts about what we can do together as the people of St. Vincent's.

I want to share a portion of the letter from the recent House of Bishops' meeting. I think it is a good reminder to all of us living in the in-between time (between the victory Christ has already won and His second coming) that we live in a troubled world but are still called to work for the kingdom here on earth today.

"While gathered, we have been keenly aware of the pain, fear, and uncertainty experienced by many in this present moment across our various contexts. On the first day of our meeting, we received reports of yet another school shooting, followed by the news of yet another politically motivated killing. The disturbing increase in political violence; the ongoing atrocities associated with war and global conflict; the continued starvation of God's children; the intimidation and persecution of the vulnerable and those who have been marginalized; and the rise of authoritarianism across the globe all require a robust Christian response.

We believe this response must be grounded in the Good News of the Gospel that injustice, violence, suffering, and ultimately death itself, are not the last word. We commit ourselves and invite the whole church to boldly proclaim by word and example that the cross and empty tomb stand forever as signs of the decisive victory of God's love over the forces of evil. We are being called to embody the values and imperatives expressed in the teachings of Jesus, the One we proclaim as Lord, who always stands with the poor, the vulnerable, the grieving, and the oppressed."

Letter from the House of Bishops, September 16, 2025

Let's continue to do all we can to share love with and show generosity to each other and to do the work that God has called us to do in sharing the Good News of God's redeeming love here in St. Petersburg.

Peace and Blessings, *Fr. Scott Nonken*, Priest-in-Charge

Senior Warden Report



Parable of the Young Borrower

There once was a young man who went to a banker seeking a loan.

Young Man: *Mr. Banker, I need a loan, actually a loan for life. What I mean is I need sufficient money to get through life-a Life Time Loan. Oh, by the way I don't want to pay any interest on the loan of the principal. And one more thing, I only intend to repay ten percent of the principal.*

Mr. Banker: *Son, let me get this straight. You want an interest free loan of money to live on for the rest of your life, and you only want to repay ten percent of the principal borrowed. Is this correct?*

Young Man: *Yep.*

Mr. Banker: *Security! Security! Remove this man from my bank!*

The annual pledge drive/sustaining campaign will begin soon and conclude prior to Thanksgiving. I encourage you to pledge a sum of money you are comfortable pledging. Important Notice: **Pledging is not a "blood oath"**; it is a reasonable estimate/guesstimate of what you are prepared to give to St. Vincent's for the growth and sustaining of Christ's Church and work in this world. Things happen for the worse or for the best and the amount you are able to give to St. Vincent's may be less or more than pledged. Pledging is the tool that allows the Church leadership to plan a budget. It is an important tool and to the extent more folks pledge the more accurately we can prepare a budget.

So much for the dollars, let's discuss Time and Talent. You are aware of the 80/20 Rule. I suspect we are closer to the 90/10 Rule. There are various activities in which to participate. There are various activities, programs and events that require "people power" to be successful and not wear out the same handful of folks heading these up. For example, Rebeca has taken over sister Sandra's Kitchen Patrol. From time-to-time check with Rebeca to see if she needs help. We need more greeters at the 10:00am service. We need more readers at the 10:00am service. We need workers for the Thrift Shop. The list goes on. There is plenty to do. Time flies by. Shortly it will be Halloween, then Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years.

Yours in Christ,

Mike McManus, Sr. Warden

Why make a proportional gift?

Recently retired Bishop of Olympia, the Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel, stated that the tithe is only the beginning point. As Christians we give one hundred percent of what we have in gratitude for God who gave us everything there is. We're *all in*.

When you make a proportional gift:

- You set aside your first fruits, dedicating a portion of your wealth, works, and wisdom to God. This is a sacred act.
- Your financial gift rises and falls with your income – it is right-sized to your household.

Giving back to God is a life-time journey; setting a percentage allows you to step up your giving over time.

Annual Income	Weekly Income	Beyond the Tithe		Tithe	Proportional Giving								
		15%	12%		9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
\$20,000	\$385	\$58	\$46	\$38	\$35	\$31	\$27	\$23	\$19	\$15	\$12	\$8	\$4
\$25,000	\$481	\$72	\$58	\$48	\$43	\$38	\$34	\$29	\$24	\$19	\$14	\$10	\$5
\$30,000	\$577	\$87	\$69	\$58	\$52	\$46	\$40	\$35	\$29	\$23	\$17	\$12	\$6
\$40,000	\$769	\$115	\$92	\$77	\$69	\$62	\$54	\$46	\$38	\$31	\$23	\$15	\$8
\$50,000	\$962	\$144	\$115	\$96	\$87	\$77	\$67	\$58	\$48	\$38	\$29	\$19	\$10
\$60,000	\$1,154	\$173	\$138	\$115	\$104	\$92	\$81	\$69	\$58	\$46	\$35	\$23	\$12
\$70,000	\$1,346	\$202	\$162	\$135	\$121	\$108	\$94	\$81	\$67	\$54	\$40	\$27	\$13
\$80,000	\$1,538	\$231	\$185	\$154	\$138	\$123	\$108	\$92	\$77	\$62	\$46	\$31	\$15
\$90,000	\$1,731	\$260	\$208	\$173	\$156	\$138	\$121	\$104	\$87	\$69	\$52	\$35	\$17
\$100,000	\$1,923	\$288	\$231	\$192	\$173	\$154	\$135	\$115	\$96	\$77	\$58	\$38	\$19
\$120,000	\$2,308	\$346	\$277	\$231	\$208	\$185	\$162	\$138	\$115	\$92	\$69	\$46	\$23
\$150,000	\$2,885	\$433	\$346	\$288	\$260	\$231	\$202	\$173	\$144	\$115	\$87	\$58	\$29



Image from: universal.org



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

PLEASE CONTACT ME ABOUT:

- ☐ setting up payments from my checking account/credit card.
- ☐ including the church in my estate plans.
- ☐ making my gift through stocks or securities.



My promise for 2025-26: Acknowledging that we Tell out our Soul, I/we promise \$_____ for ministry.
I/we plan to fulfill this pledge ☐ weekly ☐ monthly ☐ quarterly ☐ annually

**Wealth, Works
& Wisdom**

**It takes more than
money to operate
ministry in our church.**

With gratitude we accept
the many gifts of our
members as volunteers,
servers, ambassadors,
and friends in and
outside our community.
Thank you for all you do!

☐ I/my family would like to volunteer:

☐ I/my family would like to learn more about these ministries or opportunities:

☐ I/my family have skills and interests we would like to share or teach to our church:

Treasurer Report

Attached is a compressed view of the financials presented to Vestry on Sept. 25th:

Year To Date August 2025			
<i>Description</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Over / Under</i>
Income			
Regular Giving	120,804	112,079	8,725
Other Operating Income & Gifts	74,714	98,978	(24,266)
Total Revenues	195,518	211,057	(15,539)
Expenses			
Operations Support	10,480	13,728	3,248
Utilities	20,217	19,864	(353)
Property Maintenance	37,366	26,827	(10,539)
Insurance	45,982	45,982	0
Apportionment	31,511	31,511	0
Clergy / Staff	57,677	58,213	536
Total Expenses	203,232	196,124	(7,108)
NET TOTAL	(7,715)	14,934	(22,649)

Our budget discrepancy in large part is due to the cost of removing several Pine trees and treating remaining 105 trees on our campus, at a cost of \$19,500! And, next year an additional \$10,500 will be needed to do a second treating. We were blessed with a donation from John Yancey to assist in the "tree" cost. In addition, I received a call from Priscilla Warmack who has pledged \$10,000 to the Grounds Fund in memory of her brother, our very missed Clay Johnson. The City of St. Petersburg also requires us to plant new shade trees to replace the ones removed. The Thrift Shop has pledged the purchase and delivery costs in Thanksgiving for all who volunteer in that Ministry. Thanks to all who love and serve our Church and campus grounds.

Any questions/concerns please feel free to email me at berryludwig@gmail.com or call (727) 348-4766.

Faithfully submitted,

Berry Ludwig, Treasurer



Come visit

Thrift Shop

Treasures Galore!

New items daily

Wed. - Fri. 10a - 2p

Sat. 10a - 4p

5124 22nd Ave. S., Gulfport, FL
#727-321-7215



Fall has officially arrived even though it's still pretty hot. Thankfully, so are our sales, due to all the wonderful donations we have received. Our Halloween and fall merchandise sold quickly. But the Costumes are now on display. And, we have a rack of items that a creative person could make a really cool outfit. Everything is very reasonably priced and the Children's costumes are only \$1 each. Sometime during October, we'll begin displaying jackets, sweaters and fleeces. On display now are a number of ladies evening dresses for your upcoming cruises or holiday parties.



New volunteers are always welcome. You can work at the register, or unpack, sort and maybe price. If you live in or near Gulfport, we need someone to put our recycle bins out on the street Tuesday evening. Finally, we lost our textile recycler, so could use a volunteer to pickup and drop in the Recycle Shed located across the street at the SDA Church parking lot Recycle Shed.

Faithfully Submitted,

Berry Ludwig,

Thrift Shop Manager





TRUNK-OR-TREAT

Halloween Night

Friday, October 31st, 6pm -8pm

You are invited to decorate your car or truck and hand out candy to little trick-or-treaters from our community. This is a wonderful outreach that brings families of all shapes and sizes to our campus.

We need a minimum of 10 trunks to hold this event.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet the neighbors, and invite them to come grow with us in our St. Vincent's Community.

To make the event extra festive, we encourage you to dress in costume too! *(please keep costumes not-too-scary for the younger kids)*

You can also donate treats if you don't plan to attend - place in the Cauldron in the Narthex.

Let's make Halloween a fun and safe event for all!!

~ Sign-up Sheets are in the Narthex or call the Office ~

Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 4th, 9am-10am

Bring your beloved pets – great and small – for a special outdoor blessing. If your animal doesn't travel well, you're welcome to bring a photo to be blessed instead.



Birds from George C. McGough Nature Park, a local wildlife sanctuary, will be joining us, and there will be snacks for dogs and people. This tradition, rooted in the teachings of St. Francis, reminds us of the sacred bond we share with all living creatures. Come celebrate the beauty of God's creation and the animals we love. *All are welcome* – two-legged, four-legged, feathered, or furry!

Volunteers are needed—please call the office (727-321-5086) or talk to a vestry member if you can help, Thank you!

Outreach Ministry

Our Clothing Closet and Food Pantry always welcomes donations! However there are a few things in particular that we are low on. If you or someone you know has any of the following items to donate, feel free to bring them to Daystar!

- * Men and women's unworn underwear
- * Men and women's shoes (all sizes)
- * Men's t-shirts (Small- Large)
- * Men and women's socks
- * Family size personal hygiene
- * Peanut Butter
- * Jelly
- * Whole grains
- * Canned Veggies
- * 10 ounce Laundry Detergent



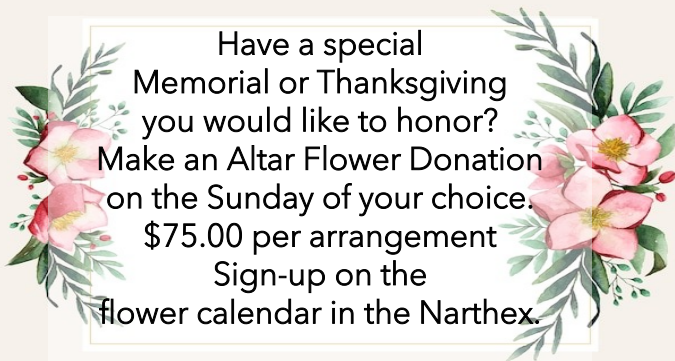
1055 28th St. S.,
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
(727) 825-0442

Bible Study

Every Thursday
10:30am in the Parish Hall



Have a special
Memorial or Thanksgiving
you would like to honor?
Make an Altar Flower Donation
on the Sunday of your choice.
\$75.00 per arrangement
Sign-up on the
flower calendar in the Narthex.



VESTRY MEETING

Thursday, Oct. 23rd, 6:30pm

Any Member of the Church
is welcome to attend.

ST. VINCENT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Evening Social

Pizza Party THURSDAY!!

October 2nd & 16th ~ 6pm in Parish Hall

Sign-up in the Narthex

*All Are
Welcome!*



MEN'S GROUP BREAKFAST

Saturday, October 4th,
8am-9:30am ~ Parish Hall

All Men of the Parish are invited to attend as well as cook. Sign-up in the Narthex.





SEW WHAT? STUDIO

Calling all fabric artists!!

Whether you are experienced or a beginner, please join us for fellowship and collaboration. **All Fabric and Craft projects welcome!**

Some sewing machines and notions are available.

Group meets the **2nd and 4th Thursdays** of the month from **10am - 2pm**
at **St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church's Parish Hall**
(3747 34th Street South St. Petersburg, FL).

Prayers for Healing

Shut-ins:

Rosanna Balzano, Sybil Mulhauser, Shirley Johnson

Members in Need of Healing:

Shirley Bonney, Lisa Youla, Eileen Prins, Edith Racine, Susan Austin, Pat Goodin,
Eleanor Turner, Nancy Teague Horner

Healing for Friends & Family:

Lisa Goodin, Melissa Cercone, Tiffany Leigh, Michael Norris, Pam H.,
Debbie Reeves, Billy Reeves, Jonathan Roman, Martin, John Kiley, Kelly Meador,
Jan Meinhart, Ken Wides (repose), Eugene Lawrence, Joanew Cramer,
Yareli's Roman, Goeli Gratero, Ken, Eddie, Lori Knight, Izzy Evans, Craig, Robin,
Suzanne Emery

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to your servants the help of your power, that their sickness may be turned into health, and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For prayer list submissions, contact the office: 727-321-5086 / officestvin@gmail.com
Prayer list refreshes every quarter: March 1st, June 1st, September 1st, December 1st.

Saint of the Month

Philip, Deacon and Evangelist.

In the sixth chapter of Acts, we read that the Apostles commissioned seven men in the congregation at Jerusalem to supervise the church's ministry to the needs of its widows and other poor. (This is generally considered to be the beginning of the office of Deacon in the Church, although the Scriptures do not use this term in referring to the original seven men.) Two of these have gained lasting fame. One was Stephen, who became the Church's first martyr. The other was Philip, whose story we find in Acts 8:5-40; 21:8-9. After the death of Stephen, there was a general persecution of the Church at Jerusalem, and many Christians fled to escape it. Philip fled to Samaria, where he preached the Gospel to the Samaritans, a group who had split off from the Jewish people about six centuries earlier, had intermarried with other peoples, and were considered outsiders by most Jews. They received the message with eagerness, and soon Peter and John came to Samaria to bless the new converts.

After this, Philip was sent by God to walk along the road from Jerusalem southwest to Gaza, where he met a eunuch (a term meaning literally a castrated man, but also used to mean simply an official of a royal court) of the Queen of Ethiopia (probably meaning Nubia -- what we now call the Sudan), returning home after worshipping in Jerusalem. The man was reading from Isaiah 53 ("He was wounded for our transgressions"), and Philip told him about Jesus, and persuaded him that the words were a prophecy of the saving work of Jesus. The man was baptized, and went on his way rejoicing, while Philip went north to Caesarea, the major seaport of Israel, and its secular capital.

When Paul (accompanied by Luke) was going up to Jerusalem for the last time, he paused at Caesarea and spent several days with Philip. (This may be the source of some of the information Luke used in writing the early chapters of Acts.) We are told that Philip had four daughters who prophesied. (This is relevant to discussions of the role of women in the Church.)

Was Philip the Deacon the same person as Philip the Apostle? No, they were different. There were Twelve Apostles, and they said, "Our work is to preach the Gospel, not to administer the budget. Choose seven men to administer the budget." Obviously they meant seven men other than themselves.

Moreover, when Philip went to Samaria, and preached and made converts, he baptized them, but none of them received the Holy Spirit. It was not until Peter and John came from Jerusalem and laid hands on them that they received the Spirit. Surely this means that Philip was not an Apostle--not one of the Twelve. Yes, they were the same person. We have ancient testimony identifying them. Papias of Hierapolis, a second-century writer who had spoken with some of the

apostles, speaks of the Philip of Acts 21 as one of the Apostles. Polycrates, a second-century bishop of Ephesus, says that Philip, "one of the Twelve", was buried at Hierapolis along with two aged virgin daughters of his, and that a third daughter, a prophetess, was buried at Ephesus. It seems unlikely that two Philips would both have unmarried daughters of whom at least one was known as a prophetess. If eleven of the Twelve Apostles refused the work of administering the church's welfare program, but one, for special reasons, accepted it, it is not clear that Luke would have felt bound to point this out. The Jerusalem community may have thought it desirable to have one man serve both as one of the Twelve and one of the Seven, so as to provide a link, a liaison, between the two groups. Philip, who specifically named in John's account of the feeding of the Five Thousand (John 6:5), is likely to have had special abilities in organizing the feeding of the hungry, and related matters. Moreover, the Seven were originally appointed because the Greek-speaking Jews complained that their widows were being neglected. Philip had a Greek name ("lover of horses"), which at least suggests some kind of Hellenistic element in his background. Even more to the point, we note that earlier, when a group of Greek-speaking Jews wanted a chance to speak with Jesus, they went first to Philip (Jn 12:20f). Clearly Philip was a good choice for dealing with Hellenists. As for the objection that Philip's Samaritan converts receive the laying on of hands, not from Philip, but from Peter and John, it must be noted that Peter and John were there specifically as representatives of the Apostles gathered at Jerusalem. It may very well be that Philip wanted to make sure that the receiving of a group of Samaritans into the Church, a gesture certain to stir up violent emotions in some Christians, had the official support of the College of Apostles.

Taken from www.satucket.com; written by James Kiefer



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1 Kerry Gilbert
7 Eleanor Turner
12 Michael Bessinger
14 Charlie Ludwig
22 Laura Prins
25 Joe Porcelli
26 Lucille Avril
26 Micaela Nieto
28 Joe Tyler
29 Lynne Lynn

Happy Anniversary

11 John & Roberta Yancey
12 Roy & Irmgard Colter

Join us for
C*and***OFFEE**
Fellowship

~ Following the 10am Service ~



St. Vincent's Episcopal Church
October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 6pm Evening Social	3 Office Closed	4 8am Men's Breakfast 9am-10am Blessing of the Animals
5 Holy Eucharist: 10am Rite II 12pm Spanish	6	7	8	9 10:30am Bible Study	10 Office Closed	11
12 Holy Eucharist: 10am Rite II 12pm Spanish	13	14	15	16 10:30am Bible Study 6pm Evening Social	17 Office Closed	18 
19 Holy Eucharist: 10am Rite II 12pm Spanish	20	21 	22 Envoy Submis- sion Deadline	23 10:30am Bible Study 6:30p Vestry Meeting	24 Office Closed	25
26 Holy Eucharist: 10am Rite II 12pm Spanish 	27	28	29	30	31 6p-8p Trunk-or- Treat 	



St. Vincent's Episcopal Church

Loving God, Loving our Neighbor, Following Jesus Christ.

5441 9th Ave N., St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Office Hours 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday

Telephone (727) 321-5086 / (727) 201-7613

E-mail: officestvin@gmail.com Website: www.stvinepiscopal.org

Clergy

The Rev. Scott Nonken, *Priest-in-Charge*
snonken@episcopalswfl.org,
(727) 260-1784

The Rev. Richard Earle, *Assisting Priest*
rtearle-lawyer@live.com,
(727) 515-4879

The Rev. Gerardo Logildes Coroas,
Latino Ministry Priest
logildesgerard@gmail.com,
(239) 710-3762

Staff

Parish Administrator
Jennifer Arness
officestvin@gmail.com
727-321-5086 / 727-201-7613

Bookkeeper
Berry Ludwig
bookkeeperstvincents@gmail.com
727-348-4766

Altar Guild
Nancy Mullikin
donmull38@gmail.com
727-347-7594

Sexton

Music Department
Deanna Wittstruck, Director
wilsoncdtjr@msn.com
727-742-9298

Vestry 2025

Mike McManus, *Senior Warden*
mmcmanus100@yahoo.com,
(936) 581-9942

Russ Lynn, *Junior Warden*
rloriginals1@gmail.com,
813-802-9301

Sheri Mooney, *Clerk*
goldie1062@aol.com,
727-527-9534

Maria Surun
mariasurun@gmail.com,
(813) 847-9198

Willie Ortiz
willie19642@hotmail.com,
(727) 320-2669

Lyman Hussey
lhsussey1@tampabay.rr.com,
(727) 290-9039

Jim Kramer
67jimk@gmail.com,
(727) 512-1048

Berry Ludwig, *Treasurer (non-vestry)*
bookkeeperstvincents@gmail.com,
727-348-4766

Thrift Shop: #727-321-7215

Hours 10am to 2pm; Wed. through Fri.

10am to 4pm on Sat.

5124 22nd Ave. S., Gulfport, FL