

Dear Parishioners,

'That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us, we will not hide from their children. We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and power of the lord, and the wonderful works he has done." Psalm 78: 3-4

Mother Sue and I are keen to share two parish initiatives commencing later this September. We would also like to explain some of the prayer and thought that led to these offerings.

We often say that our children are our future. Rightly so. As your clergy offer the children's homily on Sunday morning, there are precious moments when we wish that the congregation could see the expressions on our kids' faces. There is a wonder and delight dancing in their eyes. They sense the specialness of being in church, as their eyes survey the stained glass windows, altar, and vested choir. Our children know what is true: there is no other place in their lives where such wonder possesses them. They sense and claim the gift with full hearts.

In our Sunday school, our younger children learn essential Bible stories and the commandments which govern Christian moral life. They also have the opportunity to share their gifts in such offerings as the Christmas Pageant, Angels in Training, backpack collection, and cards for shut-ins and the sick. This list could continue at great length. We have a most dedicated and talented Sunday School staff. Indeed, we are blessed.

Two areas that can still be opened further are the Sacramental and worship lives of the younger children. In particular, the gift of Holy Communion and the prayers of the church. In an effort to strengthen Christian formation in those areas, we will offer a children's Eucharist in the Pumpelly Room on the last Sunday of the month during the 10:30AM service. It is intended for children of the age that presently come forward for the children's homily. Our children's homily on the last Sunday of the month will be moved to take place during their worship service.

We also intend to involve the children in this liturgy in several ways. They will process out with their own cross, help to set the Table, and will take turns with the flowers and lighting of candles. Most of all, they will receive instruction and a greater understanding of the elements which make up our worship life and partaking of the Lord's Supper. Of course, the level and frequency of participation will be the decision of the parents. We believe that the children's sense of "ownership" and understanding of all we do on Sunday will be greatly enhanced. Finally, we will also involve our older children of Confirmation age and higher at a much greater level during the adult service that last Sunday.

With our teenagers much in mind, we are adding a Sunday Service at 4:00PM. The clergy are aware that for some sports and other commitments are increasingly impacting Sunday morning. The later service is an attempt to meet that need but also to appeal to those who, for whatever reason, would find a later time attractive. Downtown Albany is also receiving an influx of young adults through new construction. We hope this later service will appeal to them. The planned service will be spoken and Rite II. We hope to create a more intimate gathering by using the choir pews and conducting the service from the Altar.

Within the Newsletter, you will find many offerings for study and Christian service in the coming year. Your clergy are quite excited about these offerings. We hope to see you all at the Parish Picnic on September 20th.

Peace of Christ, Fr. Hartt+

From the Associate Rector:

A recent computer problem with my email account led me to look at some old computer files. When doing so, I found the first article I wrote for *The Cornerstone* shortly after joining St. Peter's seven years ago. Part of it read, "What guides me in life is simple: Love God, love each other. As you may know, Christianity is not for lone rangers - ministry is relational! Jesus Christ seeks a relationship with us and for us to do so with each other."

There is much talk today about loving each other and treating each other with dignity and respect while at the same time we are bombarded with news of great violence being done to one another. I almost can't keep track of the accounts of extreme gun violence being reported; there are new stories daily. Just how do we live among and reconcile these two extremes?

For certain we have no control over the actions of others. And yet we can't pretend to live in isolation. There are no excuses for the violence committed by some, and certainly their issues must be multi-faceted to lead them to such acts. There could be medical issues, mental health issues and so on that we remain unaware of. My biggest concern, how-ever, is that these individuals who commit such acts feel so isolated in the world that they turn to violence in lieu of turning to relationships for release of their own pain and suffering.

The one thing we can do is to honestly reflect on our own daily interactions with others. Do we take the time to make eye contact with others? Do we greet those we pass on the streets? Do we ask about the well being of others with honest intent and care? Do we offer to pray for others who are sick, or hurting, or looking for direction? Do we listen to others for understanding instead of reply? Do we remember to call or look in on the sick, the widowed or the lonely in our neighborhood?

It might be helpful to root ourselves in what it means to love each other. There are many shades and meanings to our English word love. But what we learn through our Christian identity is that Jesus gives us the greatest model of love. It is a sacrificial love, a laying-down-of-self love, a love that prioritizes the other person over oneself. This is a committed love. This is extreme love. This is costly love. This is the type of love that is included in the directive to us to love God and love each other.

In our current culture, this type of love is not often demonstrated. In fact, our society appears to be becoming more and more distant from one another rather than being connected through relationship. People don't like to talk on the phone anymore; they send text messages instead. Neighbors don't even know one another as people rush in and out of their homes moving from one activity to another. Face to face connection is being replaced with online communications.

Christians can take a vital role in our society today through fostering and maintaining true relationship with each other. We can demonstrate to the world what it means to love God and to love each other. Today, many people are in great need to see this type of love, to experience this type of love, to learn to offer this type of love.

Just as the first Christians lived radically different as compared to the society around them, may we be bright lights shining in our own contemporary culture. Let's get back to the basics: "Love God, love each other."

Yours in Christ,

Mother Sue+

<u>New Service offering</u>: Holy Communion Service on Sunday's at 4:00pm beginning September 20th!

Your clergy at St. Peter's church know that people may have work or other obligations on Sunday mornings that prevent them from attending worship services as often as they might like. If so – this new service is for you! A quiet and contemplative said service (with no music) will be offered, with readings and a brief homily, each week beginning at 4:00pm. Our first service will be on September 20, 2015.

CROP Walk Update!

The 2015 Albany CROP Walk successfully raised \$101,394.50 surpassing its \$100,000 goal! Our own St. Peter's team raised \$955.00 through its six walkers. Thank you Maria Holden, the St. Peter's recruiter, all of the walkers and those who donated!



The annual parish picnic will be held at The Rectory, 8 Loudon Heights South, on Sunday, September 20th after the 10:30AM service. Chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass for the meal or a dessert. A free will offering will be taken with a suggested donation of \$10.00 per family. Driving directions to the rectory are available in the rear of the sanctuary.

St. Peter's Dance

Saturday September 26, 2015 from 7:00-10:00pm

Dust off your dancing shoes, get all "gussied up" and join us for an evening of fun in the Parish Hall! Members Vinnie and Mary Troiano, along with some of their friends, will lead us in learning and enjoying several favorite dance moves! Couples and singles are all welcomed with appetizers and light refreshments rounding out this evening of fun! We hope you will join us and feel free to bring a friend or two.

Those who have entered into REST:

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God:

Dr. Martin Davis 8/14/15

Adult Education

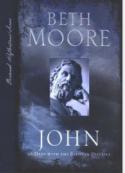
Women's Bible Study:

Monday's at 6:00pm beginning September 14^{th!}

**Please call Meghan in the church office to register and a book will be ordered for you!

Beth Moore's "John: 90 Days with the Beloved Disciple"

The women of St. Peter's, led by Mother Sue, are invited to join this 90 day journey with John the Beloved Disciple. "The young gospel writer followed Jesus all the years of His ministry, experiencing more miracles, displays of power,



and perfect love than he could fathom. And just as Christ led John into the depths of His love, that same journey is here for us, His beloved." A \$15 donation is asked to cover the book with scholarships available.

Healing A Woman's Soul

Healing A Woman's Soul offers its annual retreat entitled Tools for the Journey: Well Woman on Friday, September 11th - Saturday, September 12th at the Dominican Retreat Center, 1945 Union St., Niskayuna, NY 12309. This retreat, based on the story of the woman at the well from John's Gospel, helps women to discover and build spiritual wellness for the ups and downs of life's journey. The journey is not about how many times we have fallen, but how many times we have gotten up. Together we will find the tools to make better life choices and nurture spiritual resilience. Please come and discover, begin or strengthen a spiritual "wellness" with a loving God who longs for a relationship with us. Cost is \$120.00 and includes meals, program, and accommodations in a private room. Scholarships are available. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. on Friday and the program begins at 7:45 p.m. The program will end at approximately 4:30 p.m. on Saturday. For more information, please contact Deacon Denise Moore, Retreat Coordinator by phone at 315-725-6504

Adult Bible Study: Sunday's from 12:00-1:00pm beginning September 27th!

Paul's Letter to the Galatians

Bring a cup of coffee with you following our 10:30 service coffee hour as we meet in Mother Sue's office for a video presentation from N.T. Wright on Paul's Letter to the Galatians, followed by questions and conversation. This New Testament epistle not only conveys an early church community's growth in the faith, but also conveys much Christian theology; all presented by one of the leading Anglican theologians of our day! Those wishing for deeper study may choose to obtain a copy of *Paul for Everyone: Galatians and Thessalonians*, Tom Wright (ISBN 0-664-22785-6) [book not required]



The Daniel Plan Broadcast, Saturday October 3, 2015 from 10:00am-1:00pm (registration 9:30)

We welcome Mac and Mary MacDonald to St. Peter's who will offer a video broadcast explaining **The Daniel Plan.** This plan is framed around The Essentials: Faith, Food, Fitness, Focus and Friends – life areas that all work together to restore and sustain your long-term health. Faith is the foundation with God as the source of the power and the energy behind all transformational change. As you follow *The Daniel Plan,* you will discover you have a part to play in getting healthier, but God will energize your efforts. We have learned that doing The Daniel Plan with a group of friends is the "secret sauce. People who do the program together lose 50% more weight.

The cost of the broadcast is underwritten by St. Peter's Church and so there is no individual fee to attend. The Daniel Plan books and other materials will be available for purchase during the Broadcast. Please come learn about this path to health and wellness!

Youth Formation & Sunday School





Prayer Pretzels/Sunday School Registration

On Sunday, September 13th Sunday School registration will take place and the children will be busy making prayer pretzels. Please take a moment to stop upstairs to complete a registration card for your child(ren).

> Calling all Families to **Youth Sunday:** The last Sunday of each month beginning **September 27th!**

The clergy of St. Peter's are happy to announce this new ministry highlighting the youth of our church at the 10:30 service on every last Sunday of the month. We are proud of our youth and how they are growing into their future roles as members of St. Peter's Church. Because of this, we are inviting them to take special part in the service on the last Sunday of each month. The teens will fill important roles during the 10:30 service in the Sanctuary. Additionally, we will be offering Children's Chapel for our youngest members. In lieu of our traditional Sunday school offering, pre-Confirmation youth and Sunday school teachers will celebrate a Youth Eucharist in the Pumpelly Room during the 10:30am service. Children will begin worship with the parents in the main Sanctuary and following the second reading the children will be invited to process into Children's chapel for their own Gospel message, homily and instructed Eucharist service.

Youth Sunday will help our youth learn about and connect with our liturgy as well as take their place among us as St. Peter's Church members. Please speak to Fr. Hartt or Mtr. Sue if your child would like to have a special role during an upcoming Youth Sunday (i.e. reader, acolyte).



Backpacks & Supplies for Back-to-School

Every year the Sunday School collects backpacks (new or lightly used) and back-to-school supplies to be donated to the children at Grace and Holy Innocents. Please pick up an extra backpack, notebook, pack of pens or pencils, loose leaf paper, or markers and place the items in the bushel baskets located in the Pumpelly Room or in the Sunday School rooms. These supplies and backpacks will be delivered to Grace and Holy Innocents on Saturday, September 19th. Thank you for your support, your donations are greatly appreciated.

Blessing of the Backpacks:

We invite the youth of St. Peter's to bring their backpacks to church to be blessed for the new school year. This will happen September 20th during the 10:30 church service.

First Holy Communion

Baptized individuals wishing to prepare to receive their First Holy Communion are invited to attend preparatory classes beginning Sunday September 28th following the 10:30am service. The group will meet for three consecutive weeks (9/27, 10/4, 10/11), and prepare to receive their First Holy Communion on All Saints Sunday, November 1, 2015 during the 10:30am service. Please call the church office to let us know you (or your child) would like to take part in this class. For those seeking Holy Baptism, please speak to Fr. Hartt or Mother Sue.

St. Francis Mission Soup Kitchen

The 3rd Saturday of each month (September 19, 2015) (Angels in Training), invites you to join Laura Saffares and others from St. Peter's to prepare and serve lunch at this Episcopal church on Clinton Avenue, Albany. Generally, over 100 adults and children come for lunch so many hands mean light work! Please call Laura for information or to let her know you are coming at 368-4284.

September 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wedne
		1	2 8:45 am - Top of t 12:05 pm - Holy C
 6 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8:30am Holy Communion 10:30am Holy Communion 	7 Labor Day Office Closed	8 4:30 pm - Outreach Meeting 5:15 pm - Vestry Meeting	9 8:45 am - Top of t 12:05 pm - Holy C
 13 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8:30am Holy Communion 10:30am Morning Prayer Sunday School Registration 	 14 Holy Cross Day 5pm - Treble Rehearsal 6pm - Women's Bible Study John the Beloved Disciple 	15	16 8:45 am - Top of t 12:00 pm - Holy C
 20 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 8:30am Holy Communion 10:30am Holy Communion 4:00pm Holy Communion Church Picnic 	 21 St. Matthew 5pm - Treble Rehearsal 6pm - Women's Bible Study John the Beloved Disciple 	22	23 8:45 am - Top of t 12:05 pm - Holy C
 27 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8:30am Holy Communion 10:30am Morning Prayer Service with start of Children's Chapel in Pumpelly Room 12:00pm First Holy Communion Class 12:00pm - Galatians Bible Study 4:00pm - Holy Communion 	28 5pm - Treble Rehearsal 6pm - Women's Bible Study John the Beloved Disciple	29 St. Michael and All Angels	30 8:45 am - Top of t 12:05 pm - Holy C

esday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
he Hill Communion	3	4	5
he Hill Communion	10	11 12pm - 9/11 Service of Remembrance	12
he Hill Communion	17 5 pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30 pm - Full Choir	18 12:30 pm - Organ Concert	19 10:30am - Dr. Martin Davis Funeral 11am - Angel's in Training
he Hill Communion	24 5 pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30 pm - Full Choir	25 12:30 pm - Organ Concert	26 9:00am - Bible Symposium 7:00pm - St. Peter's Dance
he Hill Communion			

Consecration Sunday Returning this Fall

Our congregation's finance committee selected the New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program last year as a way of teaching the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education. With its positive reception and success we have decided to use this program again for our stewardship giving this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Governing Board Chairperson,

Jim Chenot

Saint of the Month Club John Henry Hobart

Bishop of New York (1830)

Revive thy Church, Lord God of hosts, whensoever it doth fall into complacency and sloth, by raising up devoted leaders, like thy servant John Henry Hobart whom we remember this day; and grant that their faith and vigor of mind may awaken thy people to thy message and their mission; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for eve rand ever. Amen.

John Henry Hobart was one of the leaders who revived the Episcopal Church, following the first two decades of its independent life after the American Revolution, a time that has been described as one of "suspended animation." Born in Philadelphia, September 14, 1775, Hobart was educated at the Universities of Pennsylvania and Princeton, graduating from the latter in 1793. Bishop William White, his longtime friend and adviser, o dained him deacon in 1798 and priest in 1801.

After serving parishes in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Long Island, Hobart became assistant minister of Trinity Church, New York City, in 1800. He was consecrated Assistant Bishop of New York on May 29,1811. Five years later he succeeded Bishop Benjamin Moore, both as diocesan bishop and as rector of Trinity Church. He died at Auburn, New York, September 12, 1830, and was buried beneath thechancel of Trinity Church in New York City.Within his first four years as bishop, Hobart doubled the number of his clergy and quadrupled the number of missionaries.



Before his death, he had planted a church in almost every major town of New York State and had opened missionary work among the Oneida Indians. He was one of the founders of the General Theological Seminary, and the reviver of Geneva, now Hobart, College. A strong and unbending upholder of Church standards, Hobart established the Bible and Common Prayer Book Society of New York, and was one of the first American Churchmen to produce theological and devotional manuals for the laity. These "tracts," as they were called, and the personal impression he made on the occasion of a visit to Oxford, were an influence on the development of the Tractarian Movement in England. Both friends and foes respected Hobart for his staunch faith, his consuming energy, his personal integrity, and his missionary zeal.

Daughters of the King

The first DOK meeting this year will be Sunday September 13, 2015 at 9:35am in the vestry room. All Daughters, and women of the parish interested in learning about the Daughters, are invited to attend. We will be updating our prayer list and also developing plans for the next DOK Discernment Class and planning the Fall Prayer Walk.

Outreach

This month's Outreach meeting will be on Tuesday 9/8/15 at 4:30 pm. Please join us to learn about Outreach ministries and hospitality events beings planned!

Lay Eucharistic Ministers:

Are you looking to increase your religious experience? We are looking for members of St. Peter's who might be interested in becoming a Lay Eucharistic Minister. Experience the joy of serving God by assisting at both the Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharistic Sunday Services. If interested please call the parish office at 434-3502.

Flower Memorials

During the year, our Flower Guild arranges flowers to bring beauty to our sanctuary and joy to our congregation. Those wishing to make a donation for flowers for a memorial, thanksgiving or celebration should call the Church Office to confirm available dates. During Advent, we use only greens; during Lent, the altars are bare. Other Sundays, we welcome contributions. Cost of flowers: Main Altar is \$50, St. Mark's Altar is \$35, and the Tower Altar is also \$35. All requests are payable in advance.

From the Archives

A Beloved Rector

This article is on Reverend Walton W. Battershall, Rector of St. Peter's Church in Albany from 1874 to 1911. And what a Rector he was. A short biography of his life and accomplishments follows.

On July 6, 1874, Reverend Battershall was called by the Vestry to become the next Rector of St. Peter's Church. He accepted the call and was instituted on September 29, 1874 by Bishop William Croswell Doane, the first Bishop of the Albany Diocese. He immediately went to work, presiding over the partial completion of the Church Tower and Chimes in 1875. That same year he also approved the institution of a Missionary Fund. All three of these projects were possible from gifts stated the will of former Senior Warden John Tweddle, as well as gifts from his family.

Battershall was an eloquent speaker and writer. Sermons included *The Moralities of Nature* given in September of 1878, O *Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem* given on his fifth anniversary, September 28, 1879 and *The Day and its Battle* a sermon preached in St. Andrew's Dune Church Southamton, Long Island, June 17th 1904. His book entitled *Interpretations of Life and Religion* was copyrighted in 1897. The Church Archives contains some of his works including two copies of his book.

Battershall church activities included the building of the handsome new Sunday School Chapel and Parish Hall completed and dedicated in 1875. On October 21 1879 the Sixth American Church Congress came to Albany. Then on June 7, 1880, a total of \$4,100 was raised by subscription which was to be used among other things for organ rebuilding to be done by Hood and Hasting. After the establishment of the St. Peter's Choir of men and boys in 1884, Battershall presided over the building of the new Choir Room in 1885. In 1892 the world famous Frank Sill Rogers became church organist.

Battershall encouraged the redecoration of Church Chancel which was opened December 25, 1885 and was consecrated June 1st, 1886. May 1891 he instituted the nucleus of a fund for the Endowment of the Parish. This Endowment fund is still used by the Parish today. In 1895 he accepted a gift from Jesse Potts for a new Church Rectory. This Rectory later became a part of our Guild Hall, also donated by Jesse Potts. The combination building currently houses the offices of the Rector and Associate Rector, the Church Office, the Vestry Room, apartments, the Sunday School, the Archives, and our Parish Hall.

On November 4th, 5th and 6th 1899 St. Peter's Church celebrated Battershall's 25 years as Church Rector. There was a celebratory service with a sermon by Bishop Doane. Battershall's also spoke saying that the parish is what it is by the generations who in its long history have been the worshippers. The congregation appreciated these wonderful words. At the reception following the service he was presented with a large loving cup of hammered silver and a check for \$3,500. On November 6th he was honored again with a Clericus luncheon sponsored by Reverend Dr. Enos, at St. Paul's Church, Troy. Battershall remained St. Peter's Rector until 1911 when he retired. He died in 1920.

A small portrait of this great man hangs in the Church Archives. A larger portrait can be found in the Pumpelly Room.

St. Peter's Music CHOIR FALL START-UP

Choir rehearsals will begin the week of September 14th on the following schedule:

Mondays:	5:00 - 6:15pm Trebles
Thursdays:	5:00 - 6:30pm Trebles
	5:30 - 7:00pm SATB choristers
Sundays:	9:30 rehearse for the 10:30 service

We are eager to welcome new members to the choir. Boys and Girls, age 8 to grade 8, are eligible to join the treble section, and there are opportunities for adult singers as well. Please contact Neil Keen for more information at

stpmus@gmail.com or 339-0137.



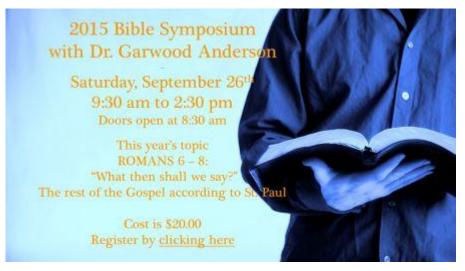
FRIDAY NOONTIME ORGAN CONCERTS

Free half-hour recitals each Friday at 12:30, will resume on September 18th

Website Update:

The new church website has been a hit so far! We have had over 3,000 visits since it first launched in the beginning of July. With summer ending and many things starting up, all announcements, events, and service times will be on the front page. Please take a moment and check us out at

Stpeterschurchalbany.org



For registration please contact the Cathedral of All Saint's at (518) 465-1342.

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Paul J. Hartt The Rev. Susan Waldron	
Neil K. Keen, F.A.G.O	Organist & Choirmaster
Laura Saffares	Director of Christian Education
James P. Shortall	Sexton
Robert Clancy	Assisting Sexton
Meghan Cooney	Administrative Assistant
Janice Chenot	Office Volunteer
E. Constance Powell	Historian & Archivist

Vestry

James Chenot	Senior Warden
Deborah Spath	Junior Warden
Judy Burns	Clerk
George Scala	Treasurer

Pam Gerfin, Stephanie Lencewicz, Maria Holden, Moses Kamya, Mark Lundberg, Earl Stafford, Jack Ratzel, Tim Murphy

How to Contact Us

Office Hours: Monday -Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Telephone: 518-434-3502 Fax: 518-462-4419 E-Mail: Receptionist@stpeterschurchalbany.org Website: www.stpeterschurchalbany.org

Services

Sunday Holy Communion 8:30 a.m. Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. (1st & 3rd Sundays) Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m. (2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays) Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Holy Communion 12:05 p.m.

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 107 State St. Albany, New York 12207

