



Cornerstone

May 2017

Newsletter of St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church

107 State Street, Albany, New York

From the Rector

Catching Glory (Part II)

In the last newsletter, I wrote about my marvel at the catcher's role in baseball. In particular, the demands on the catcher to take the pitch without flinching. Those balls come very fast -- often over 100 miles per hour. During spring training, the pitchers can be a little wild. The catchers then contend with speed and an unpredictable course of flight.

Easter Sunday brought to mind catching of another kind. The catching of glory by those first disciples as they met the Risen Lord. It is beyond our imagining what that experience must have been for the disciple. Yet glory was to be their vocation. They were to proclaim the risen and glorified One to a world that had never before known such glory.

The Apostles were sent to share Christ's victory over death first and foremost. The resurrection was the ultimate vindication of Jesus' oneness with the Father. The resurrection was the confirmation of all that the Lord had taught. But before being sent, there was need of one more glory. The glory that the Risen Lord had told them to wait upon from on high: *"And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."* (Luke 24:49.) Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Ghost, would be another glory-catching beyond their imagining.

This "power from on high" will be a catch that will cause the disciples to marvel afresh and give them the voice for their apostolic work, as "tongues as of fire" land on their very heads. It is a ball they don't see coming, but it will give them all they need. And of course, we too.

It is our custom to wear something red on Pentecost Sunday. It feels a bit like a team uniform. There is a joyful buoyancy to this great Feast of the Church. We are even a bit giddy. Perhaps for that reason we tend to chuckle when we hear in our Acts reading the charge by those visitors to Jerusalem who witnessed the event that the disciples must be drunk.

"But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

‘In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.'" (Acts 2: 14-18.)

Peter's wonderful recollection of the prophet Joel was no doubt the work of the Holy Spirit. Yet the great Pentecost gift is the truth of that prophecy to this day. The pitch is still coming to us from on High, with different kinds of curves and courses of flight. So, what have you caught from on High? We want to see the glory. Don't worry that we will think you are a bit drunk. We know what's up!

Pentecost blessings, Fr. Hartt+

Mark 16:9-15, 20

9 Now after he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. 10She went out and told those who had been with him, while they were mourning and weeping. 11But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it. 12 After this he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. 13And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them. 14 Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.*15And he said to them, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news* to the whole creation. 20And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

Hallelujah, the Lord is Risen! Were these the words that tumbled out of Mary's heart as she raced towards the other disciples; words of wonder and pure joy meant to defeat their mourning and weeping? Perhaps not, yet words were not enough to strike down the grief that had pierced their hearts. They would not believe Jesus was raised from the dead based on Mary's words alone.

I once heard N.T. Wright speak and refer to this very passage. Then, he referred to Mary as the Apostle to the Apostles - the first person to witness the Risen Lord and be commissioned by him. Even so, the other apostles have difficulty accepting the Good News of that first Easter. Today, many around us have difficulty accepting the Good News of Easter and none of us alive today have actually seen the Risen Lord nor can claim the authority of Apostleship.

We may not know what Mary's Easter greeting was to the others, but we can raise our Easter greeting to others in terms of a call and response. If we were to shout "Hallelujah, the Lord is Risen", would the people around us respond "The Lord is Risen indeed, Hallelujah"! If we called out to them this great Easter greeting, would those around us know the response, or even more importantly, know the Easter joy that accompanies it? If not - that is the place to begin!

There are many among us that are un-churched or not familiar with the Holy Bible or even the Easter miracle of the Resurrection. I know that we often struggle with how to teach people all that God has disclosed to us in Holy Scripture. Just how is the best way to share our faith with other people? Eventually we will want to teach them Holy Scripture and prayers, and about worship and serving others, and about healing and miracles and the importance of Christian community and support. But as a starting point, can we at the very least teach them about Easter Joy? We can teach them best by living joyfully in the world.

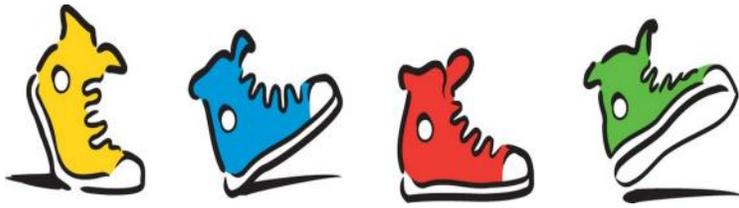
People may not connect with the Biblical words or teachings initially - yet how can they deny the joy? And then, starting in joy, we can bring the words and, even more importantly, their life-changing meaning to them.

Mary, the other women and all of the disciples must have had joy-filled hearts when the truth of that first Easter settled upon them; Jesus was raised from the dead! Later resurrection appearances would disclose even more hope and joy to them. Obviously, Christians are called to be joy-filled people! This may be our greatest witness to our world today.

The Easter Season and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ are joy-filled events that give us the greatest hope ever: a renewed life here and the hope of everlasting life with the Father. May our lives and presence in the world exude that great Easter joy and may it be contagious to others around us that they, too, might seek the Risen Lord.

Hallelujah, the Lord is Risen! The Lord is Risen indeed, Hallelujah!

Easteride Blessings Mtr. Sue



Crop Walk

The 2017 Albany CROP Hunger Walk is on Sunday, May 7th. Please meet at First Lutheran Church at noon for the Albany CROP Walk. You may speak to Tim Murphy to obtain a walker packet or to sponsor one of our St. Peter's walkers. Thank you for your support of local and regional Food Banks. For more information please visit <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/albanyny/>

Outreach

The May Outreach meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9th at 4:30 pm. Please join us to learn about Outreach ministries and hospitality events being planned!

Vestry Meeting

The May Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9th at 5:15pm.

Daughters of the King

The May DOK meeting will be held on Sunday, May 7th. They will meet after the 10:30am service in the Vestry room.



DOK Installation

Please join us in welcoming and congratulating our new Daughters of the King who will be installed into the St. Peter's DOK Julia chapter on May 21st during the 10:30am service:

Karen Chatman
Michelle Lundburg
Kate Marlay



Thank You to all the Men and Women who have served our country

Ascension Day Evensong

Please join us as we celebrate the fullness of the Easter Season with Ascension Day Choral Evensong on Thursday, May 25th at 7:30PM.



National Day of Prayer

The Annual National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday, May 4th. The Albany event will take place at the Vietnam Memorial in Lafayette Park (near the Capitol) at 12pm. There will be a second Prayer and Worship at Jennings Landing on the Hudson River at 6pm. Please join us in prayer for our nation and its leaders.

EDOA 2017 Diocesan Convention

Pre-convention meeting: For Delegates, and all interested parishioners, there will be a pre-convention meeting on Tuesday, May 9th at the Cathedral of All Saints starting at 7:00pm. The new EDOA budget along with other Business Meeting agenda items will be provided. Our elected delegates are particularly encouraged to attend.

149th Convention of the Diocese of Albany

June 9th - 11th at Camp of the Woods, Speculator NY. Please call the church office for a full schedule and registration information.

Regional Confirmation

On May 13, 2017 at 11:00am is the regional Confirmation Service at the Cathedral of All Saints with Bishop William Love officiating. Confirmands should arrive at the Cathedral at 9:45 to meet with Bishop Love. Please join us in celebrating the Confirmations of our St. Peter's members:



Matthew Clark
Caitlyn Connors
Holli Frazier
Hannah Grill
Mae Healy
Mckenzie Murphy
George Saide



Pentecost is Sunday, June 4th

We will have wonderful services including baptisms (at our 10:30AM service). As is customary within our tradition, we are encouraging you to wear red to church on Pentecost (red symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit).

From The Bishop

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with great sadness that I must share with you that Bishop David S. Ball, Seventh Bishop of Albany, passed away peacefully earlier this afternoon. He was 90 years old. Bishop Ball faithfully served our Lord and His Church here in the Diocese of Albany for over 60 years. He was dearly loved and will be greatly missed.

Calling hours for the Rt. Rev. David S. Ball, who passed away on Tuesday, April 18th, will be on Friday, April 28th from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. and from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at The Cathedral of All Saints, 62 South Swan St, Albany, NY 12210. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, April 29th at 11:00 a.m. at the Cathedral. The Rt. Rev. William H. Love will celebrate and the Rev. Justine Guernsey will preach. Clergy are invited to vest and process, wearing a white stole.

May Bishop Ball's soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

In Christ's Love,

+Bill

***The Rt. Rev. William H. Love
Ninth Bishop of The Episcopal Diocese of Albany***



Bible Study

Acts of the Apostles, Wednesday nights in May at 5:30pm. Join us for an in-depth study of the Book of Acts this spring at St. Peter's Church, co-led by Father Hartt and Mother Sue. Our first gathering will be an introductory session. Then, we will read one chapter daily at home and discuss those seven chapters at our next gathering. We will meet every Wednesday in May (5/3-5/31/17).

The Acts of the Apostles

1st week: May 3rd Introduction

2nd week: May 10th Discuss Chapters 1-7

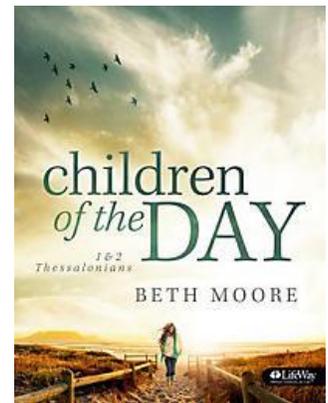
3rd week: May 17th Discuss Chapters 8-14

4th week: May 24th Discuss Chapters 15-21

5th week: May 31st Discuss Chapters 22-28

Healing a Woman's Soul

Healing a Woman's Soul is offering a free one-day workshop entitled Hearts Broken, Hearts Healed on Saturday, May 6th from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Church, 1229 Baker Ave, Schenectady, NY 12309. Check-in will begin at 9:30 a.m. and lunch will be provided. Registrations are appreciated. To register, call (518) 439-8574.



Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays at 3:00pm during May and June Mother Sue welcomes the women of the church to join us beginning Tuesday, May 2nd for our study on 1st and 2nd Thessalonians presented by Beth Moore. We will read and complete reflection questions during the week at home and then gather together on Tuesday afternoons to watch and discuss the video series. Please let Mother Sue or Kristin (in the office) know you'd like to join us and we will order you a workbook (suggested donation \$15.00).

Healing the Family Day Retreat

The Center for Healing and Spiritual Formation is hosting a seminar, rooted in the Word of God, on healing family relationships on Saturday, May 13th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. For more information, call (518) 692-9550 x201 or http://www.ctkcenter.org/page/healing_of_the_family_seminar



St. Peter's Angels Softball Team

The Angels 12th season will begin on Sunday, April 23rd. Games will still be played only on Sunday afternoons, and again this year they're part of the Empire State Sunday Softball League. Anyone interested in playing should contact Pete Benson at (518) 269-1293.

2017 ST. PETER'S ANGELS SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

April 23rd	Sunday	4:30PM	@ Mullens	(Mighty Mighty Bulldogs)
April 30th	Sunday	1:30PM	@ Mullens	(Vipers)
May 7th	Sunday	1:30PM	@ Mullens	(Keller Williams Realty)
May 21st	Sunday	12:00PM	@ Mullens	(Table 41)
June 11th	Sunday	3:00PM	@ Ridgefield	(Eagles)
June 25th	Sunday	1:30PM	@ Mullens	(518 Ballers)
July 9th	Sunday	1:30PM	@ Mullens	(Balls Out)
July 16th	Sunday	12:00PM	@ Ridgefield	(Tops in Bottoms)

Games will be played at either Mullens Park located at 35 North First Street, Albany, NY 12204 or Ridgefield Park located at 316 Partridge Street, Albany, NY 12208. Directions are available on the website. Please type in your browser <http://www.softball-24-7.com/ESS-SundaySoftball/> do not Google search it as it will not appear. On the website, we are listed as St. Peter's Angels. To check on rainouts call (518) 269-1293.



Happy 90th Birthday, Rose and Walt!



We welcome our newest Acolyte
Julian Kovacs

Youth Formation & Sunday School

Mark your calendar!! On Mothers day the Sunday School children will be making very special gifts for the moms, grand moms ect..... please join us on May 14th during 10:30 service.

Beaver Cross Camp Registration Open

Registration for Beaver Cross Camp is now open! Experience the adventure of summer camp by being part of Beaver Cross Camp communities devoted to faith, friendship and fun. At Overnight Camp and Day Camp, campers explore and deepen their faith together through dynamic teaching and activities. New friendships are created and old ones rekindled as campers laugh and learn together in the environment they themselves help create to be safe, encouraging and fun. To register online for camp, <http://www.beavercrossministries.org/camp-registration.html>



Beaver Cross Camp Dates!

2017 Overnight Camp Dates

Beaver Bound	July 5 - July 7	K-2 Grade
Discoverers	July 2 - July 7	3-5 Grade
Adventurers 1	July 9 - July 14	6-8 Grade
Adventures Weekend	July 14 - July 16	6-8Grade
Adventurers 2	July 16 - July 21	6-8 Grade
Pioneers 1	July 24 - July 28	9-12Grade
Pioneers Weekend	July 28 - July 30	9-12Grade
Pioneers 2	July 30- Aug 4	9-12Grade

*Drop-off is Sunday, 2-4PM and Camper Pickup is Saturday at 10:00 followed by a closing ceremony and cookout for campers and their families.

2017 Day Camp Dates

Day camp 1	July 3 - July 7
Day camp 2	July 10 - July 14
Day camp 3	July 17 - July 21
Day camp 4	July 24 - July 28
Day camp 5	July 31 - Aug 4
Day camp 6	Aug 7 - Aug 11
Day camp 7	Aug 14 - Aug 18
Day camp 8	Aug 21 - Aug 22

*A Day Camp Week runs Monday-Friday from 8:00-5:00 every day. An early 7:30 drop-off with breakfast is available for an extra charge. Every Day Camp week is open to kids grades K-6.

For registration forms pick one up at the church office, or visit <http://www.beavercrossministries.org/>



ATTENTION 2017 GRADUATES

We would like to acknowledge all graduates for the 2016-2017 school year. If you, your child, or even your grandchild will be graduating from high school or college or has already graduated anytime during this past school year, please complete the form that was included in your May Newsletter and return it to the church office. If you did not receive a form or need another one please call the church office. The deadline is Sunday, May 21st if you would like it to be included in the June Newsletter.

St. Francis Mission Soup Kitchen (a.k.a. Angels in Training)

On the 3rd Saturday of each month (May 20th) we invite you to join Laura Rulison 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 therefore many hands mean light work! Please call Laura for information or to let her know you are coming at (518) 368-4284.

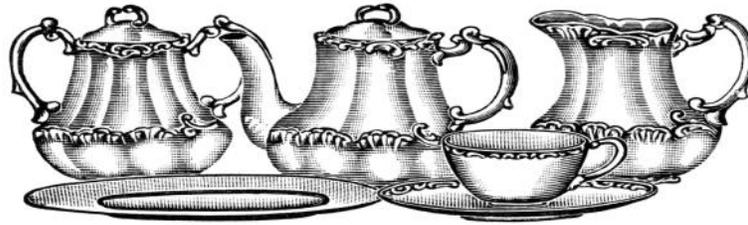


A Mother's love can not be measured.

It's a brilliant gem to be treasured.

Happy Mother's Day to all the Moms

You all are a true blessing from God.



SAVE THE DATE!

Friday and Saturday, May 19-20, 2017

For the Choir's

ART & VINTAGE SALE*

Opening Reception & Early Sale

for Church Members & Friends Only

Friday, May 19 ♦ 5:30-8:00 PM ♦ The Pumpelly Room

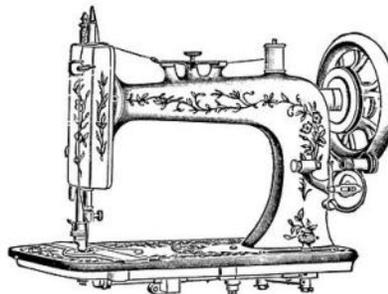
Public sale continues Saturday, May 20 ♦ 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

All proceeds support the Choir's trip to Chichester Cathedral

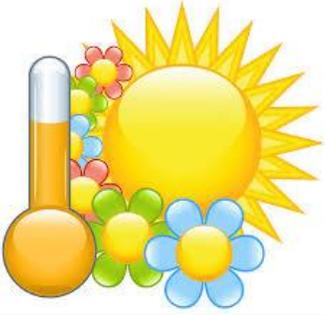
**We welcome your donations of house wares, artwork,
nice linens, collectibles, china, silver & other choice items.*

Donations may be dropped off at Church starting May 1, 2017.

*Pick up services are also available. Please contact Maria Holden at msholden1@aol.com
or 755-5337 if you have any questions. Details to follow!*



May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed
	1 5:00 pm - Treble Rehearsal	2 1:00 pm - Friends of St. Peter's 3:00 pm - Women's Bible Study	3 8:45 am - Top 12:05 pm - Ho 5:30 pm - Bibl
7 The Fourth Sunday of Easter 8:30 am - Holy Communion 10:30 am - Holy Communion w/Sunday School & Choir Awards DOK meeting following 10:30 am service 12:00 pm - CROP Walk	8 5:00 pm - Treble Rehearsal	9 1:00 pm - Friends of St. Peter's 3:00 pm - Women's Bible Study 4:30 pm - Outreach Meeting 5:15 pm - Vestry Meeting 7:00 pm - Pre - Convention Meeting	10 8:45 am - Top 12:05 pm - Ho 5:30 pm - Bibl
14 The Fifth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day 8:30 am - Holy Communion 10:30 am - Morning Prayer	15 5:00 pm - Treble Rehearsal	16 1:00 pm - Friends of St. Peter's 3:00 pm - Women's Bible Study	17 8:45 am - Top 12:05 pm - Ho 5:30 pm - Bibl
21 The Sixth Sunday of Easter 8:30 am - Holy Communion 10:30 am - Holy Communion w/ DOK Installation	22 5:00 pm - Treble Rehearsal	23 1:00 pm - Friends of St. Peter's 3:00 pm - Women's Bible Study	24 8:45 am - Top 12:05 pm - Ho 5:30 pm - Bibl
28 The Seventh Sunday of Easter Youth Sunday 8:30 am - Holy Communion 10:30 am - Morning Prayer w/ Children's Chapel	29 Memorial Day Office Closed	30 1:00 pm - Friends of St. Peter's 3:00 pm - Women's Bible Study	31 8:45 am - Top 12:05 pm - Ho 5:30 pm - Bibl

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
of the Hill ly Communion e Study	4 National Day of Prayer 5:00 pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30 pm - Full Choir	5 12:30 pm - Organ Concert	6
of the Hill ly Communion e Study	11 5:00 pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30 pm - Full Choir	12 12:30 pm - Organ Concert	13 11:00 am - Regional Confirmation @ Cathedral of All Saints
of the Hill ly Communion e Study	18 5:00 pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30 pm - Full Choir	19 12:30 pm - Organ Concert	20 11:00 am - Angels in Training
of the Hill ly Communion e Study	25 Ascension Day 5:30 pm - Full Choir 7:30 pm - Evensong	26 12:30 pm - Organ Concert	27
of the Hill ly Communion e Study			

Volunteer Schedules

We wish to thank our volunteers for their service to St. Peter's. If you would like to volunteer, please call Kristin at the church office (518) 434-3502. The blanks below indicate areas of need.

	<u>May 7, 2017</u>	<u>May 14, 2017</u>	<u>May 21, 2017</u>	<u>May 28, 2017</u>	<u>June 4, 2017</u>
<u>8:30am Lectors</u>	Gordon Lattey Gayle Hartz	Gordon Lattey Jay Jakovic	Gordon Lattey Robert Hull	Gordon Lattey Clark Daggett	Gordon Lattey Janelle Hobson
<u>10:30am Lectors</u>	Kim Healy Jack Ratzel	Cate Clark Moses Kamyia	Ashley Labib Tim Murphy	Youth Sunday	Victoria Pautler Fred Hershey
<u>Flower Guild</u>	Edith Allen	Nancy Creagan	Delly Everett Sharon DeBonis	Ann Collins	Catherine Gabriels
<u>Coffee Hour</u>			Daughters of the King		
<u>8:30am Ushers</u>	Clark Daggett Fred Lincoln	Bernie Burnell John Davis	Clark Daggett or Fred Lincoln John Sterrett	Robert Hull Teddy Hull	Clark Daggett Fred Lincoln
<u>10:30am Ushers</u>	Sharon DeBonis Julie Hotmer Drao George Saide Catherine Schunk	William Collins Kevin Creagan Jack Ratzel Jeff Russom	Sherry Bishko Moses Kamyia Frank Spath	Lawrence Everett Chris Grill Mark Lundberg Michele Lundberg	Sharon DeBonis Julie Hotmer Drao George Saide Catherine Schunk
<u>Altar Guild</u>					

Church Chuckles!



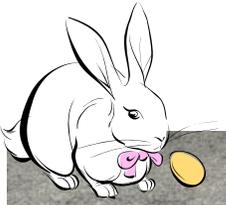
Flower Memorials

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.

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.

Easter Festivities!



Easter Egg Hunt at the Rectory



FRIDAY NOONTIME ORGAN CONCERTS

Free half-hour recitals each Friday at 12:30pm

CHOIR

Choir rehearsals are on the following schedule:

Mondays: 5:00pm - 6:15pm Trebles

Thursdays: 5:00pm - 6:30pm Trebles

5:30pm - 7:00pm Adult choristers

Sundays: 9:30am rehearsal for the 10:30am service

Please contact Neil Keen for more information at stpmus@gmail.com or 339-0137.

Evensong - Ascension Day, Thursday May 25th at 7:30PM. The choir will sing Choral Evensong with canticle settings by Herbert Murrill and a motet by Charles Villiers Stanford. All are welcome for this festive musical service.

Friday, June 2nd - Concert of Organ and Choral music. Our Choir and Organist will be joined by Organist Vaughn Mauren for a concert previewing music from their upcoming trip to England this summer. Watch for further details!

Composer of the month –

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)



Bach is such a monumental figure that it is impossible to overstate the extent of his influence. Bach's abilities as an organist were highly respected during his lifetime, although he was not widely recognized as a great composer until a revival of interest in and performances of his music in the first half of the 19th century. He is now generally regarded as one of the greatest composers of all time. His music is revered for its technical command, artistic beauty, and intellectual depth. In spite of almost 200 years of scholarly work into the life and music of Bach, there is no fading, even now, of the intensity of study on these subjects. As an illustration of that fact, here are the titles of a few of the scholarly offerings at a recent Bach Symposium in Amherst, Massachusetts:

- Bach against Modernity
- Bach and the Dance in 20th century France
- Certifying Bach's Interplanetary Funksmanship
- Bernstein, Rock, and Bach: constructing a tonal heritage for Modern Music.

That's pretty wide-ranging list, demonstrating the breadth and depth of Bach's impact on the world of music, and beyond. (Interplanetary Funksmanship??!!)

Saint of the Month Club

Monnica

Mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387

Prayer: O Lord, who through spiritual discipline didst strengthen thy servant Monnica to persevere in offering her love and prayers and tears for the conversion of her husband and of Augustine their son: Deepen our devotion, we beseech thee, and use us in accordance with thy will to bring others, even our own kindred, to acknowledge Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



Monnica's life story is enshrined in the spiritual autobiography of her eldest son, in *The Confessions* of Saint Augustine. Born in North Africa about 331, of Berber parents, Monnica was married to a Latinized provincial of Tagaste named Patricius, whom she won to the Christian faith before his death. In her earlier years she was not without worldly ambitions and tastes. She grew in Christian maturity and spiritual insight through an ever-deepening life of prayer. Her ambition for her gifted son was transformed into a passionate desire for his conversion to Christ. After his baptism in Milan in 387, by Bishop Ambrose, Augustine and his mother, together with a younger brother, planned to return home to Africa. While awaiting ship at Ostia, the port of Rome, Monnica fell ill. Augustine writes, "One day during her illness she had a fainting spell and lost consciousness for a short time. We hurried to her bedside, but she soon regained consciousness and looked up at my brother and me as we stood beside her. With a puzzled look, she asked, 'Where was I?' Then, watching us closely as we stood there speechless with grief, she said, 'You will bury your mother here.'" Augustine's brother expressed sorrow, for her sake, that she would die so far from her own country. She said to the two brothers, "It does not matter where you bury my body. Do not let that worry you. All I ask of you is that, wherever you may be, you should remember me at the altar of the Lord." To the question, whether she was not afraid at the thought of leaving her body in an alien land, she replied, "Nothing is far from God, and I need have no fear that he will not know where to find me, when he comes to raise me to life at the end of the world." Recent excavations at Ostia have uncovered her original tomb. Her mortal remains, however, were transferred in 1430 to the Church of St. Augustine in Rome.

St. Peter's Communion Silver



This article is being republished to correct the usage of the terms *EWER* which is a large generally wide-mouthed water pitcher and *CRUET* which denotes the small pitcher used regularly at the communion service. It is hoped this clarification will make this article more informative and more interesting. ECP, (Church Archivist)

The communion silver gift from Queen Anne of Britain to the Onondaga Indians which was subsequently given to St. Peter's Church by Governor Hunter, is now housed in a safe to protect it from wear. A replica of the gift is housed in the church in the memorial cabinet in the narthex of the church. It is now only used for special services such as Christmas Eve and Easter.

However, many of the pieces of silver used on a weekly basis for communion also have an interesting history. For example there is the silver water ewer and chalice presented by Grace L. Wiles in 1912 in honor of Reverend Battershall at his 25th anniversary as rector of St. Peter's Church. The engraving on the chalice reads: "In loving memory of the rectorship of Walton W. Battershall, D. D. GLW. Both pieces are decorated with purple amethyst like stones and are very beautiful. The chalice was used for the communion service at Christie (Chenot) Gordon's wedding.

It is interesting to note that when the St. Mark's altar was contributed to St. Peter's Church it was accompanied by several silver pieces. For example there was a silver water ewer with a scroll handle. It was engraved with the winged figure and with the words: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts." On the bottom of the piece were the words: "Christmas gift to St. Mark's Church Green Island, NY, 1866." Another piece from St. Mark's Church was a silver paten. It included a depiction of the *Angus Dei* (Lamb of God) and was engraved "Glory to God in the Highest, Alleluia." Still another piece was a silver plated copper chalice with a rounded cup containing a stamped winged creature and mounted on a splayed foot. On a ball of the stem were stamped six diamonds in relief. The wording on the chalice read "I drink this in remembrance of Thee." The bottom engraving read "An Easter gift to St. Mark's Green Island, New York from M.E.G. and F. A. G. in loving memory of their parents 1893."

Returning to gifts directly given to St. Peter's Church there were a certain number of pieces donated in honor of military service men. A highly decorated ciborium resting on clawed feet made in 1911 was engraved: "For the altar of St. Peter's Church in the City of Albany, in loving memory of General Frederick Phisterer, the gift of his children, Easter 1911. Another piece was a silver chalice with a silver clip in the cup engraved with the church Coat of Arms and inscribed: "In loving memory of Arthur Henry Stein, Jr. July 23, 1943." It is from Gebelen Stirling, Boston. A silver water ewer was "donated by the friends of Sgt. William Brooker Campbell, (October 31, 1919 – Sept 6, 1945). St. Peter's Church" On the piece after the St. Peter's Coat of Arms were the words: "Presented by associates of his father, William Henry Campbell."

Silver gifts were also presented honoring members of the altar guild. These include a large silver ewer and a smaller silver cruet, both engraved : "In memory of Margaret Grey Trudeau Gallup." Margaret was former president of the altar guild. And our own Diana Martin donated a processional ciborium which is silver on the exterior and gold in the interior. She presented this gift to St. Peter's Church: "in thanksgiving for her grandson Henry Martin Angst Tucker."

We can see there is much to note in our silver communion services. It is just another example of the proud history of our church.

**MINUTES FOR THE VESTRY MEETING
ST. PETER'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

March 22, 2017

Present : Fr. Hartt, Mtr. Sue Waldron, J. Chenot, D. Spath, G. Scala, M. Lundberg, T. Murphy, K. Cehowski, C. Gordon

Absent: E. Stafford, S. Lencewicz, N. Creagan, M. Holden

1. Approval of the Minutes of Vestry Meeting, February 15, 2017

The January 10, 2016 minutes were approved on a motion by G. Scala and seconded by T. Murphy. The motion was unanimously approved by the vestry.

2. Senior Warden Report - J. Chenot

J. Chenot thanked all who had a hand in making our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner which again was well attended and a great way to start off our Lenten season. Thanks to Jeff Russom, CJ Gordon, Janice Chenot and Pam Gerfin, as well as so many others who volunteered cleaning after the dinner to prepare the room for the women's shelter. It was a great evening for everyone to come together and prepare for Lent.

Ash Wednesday services were well attended and Jim also wanted to remind all that we are still having Evensong services each Friday evening at 5:45 during lent. He thanked the choir and Neil Keen for their participation at all these Friday services.

J. Chenot wanted to thank everyone involved with the homeless overflow shelter which ended March 15th for the winter season. This year was truly a success hosting women in need at our shelter and will plan to again host these women who are truly in need for shelter during the winter months. This now completes our 8th year working with the Albany City Mission to help with those in needs and Jim thanked the congregation for all their support with food and monetary donations during this past season.

Jim wanted to thank Father Hartt and Mother Sue in advance for all the preparation needed during lent that leads us to Palm Sunday, Holy week and Easter Sunday Service. Also a thank you in advance to the altar guild, flower guild, ushers, Pat and Shawn for all the work and preparations performed each week is done to ensure each Sunday as well as the extra work for these services run smoothly. In the church office there is an incredible amount of extra work compiling information for the Easter memorials as well as all the extra printing of leaflets and programs. Janice works tirelessly in the office as well as Kristin. Thank you both for all your dedication and support to the church as well as to all of us.

We would also like to thank Neil Keen and the choir for all their work preparing for Good Friday service. This year the choir will be performing "The St. Matthew Passion" on Good Friday with orchestra. We also want to thank the choir for all their time and dedication at rehearsals preparing the music for Easter Sunday services. Lastly, we look forward to the Easter egg hunt the Saturday before Easter at the rectory. As always, Jim is looking forward to Easter Sunday and is hoping for a great turn out as we did at Christmas time.

3. Finance - G. Scala

George S. reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the month of February. Total offerings for January were \$19,474. This compares to a budgeted number of \$22,804. YTD offerings are at \$37,503. YTD through the same period in 2016 were \$37,991.

The investment/endowment accounts both showed gains for the month. For February Merrill Lynch was up +2.36% and Key was up +2.15%. YTD both the Merrill Lynch and Key accounts show a 4.10% return. This leaves us with a positive budget variance in this area YTD of \$148,308. Both accounts performed favorably versus market indexes. Expenses YTD through February are \$2,224 over budget recouping most of the overages in January.

Pledges are currently at 52 pledging units for a total amount of \$141,546.

4. Property

Bell Tower Structural Work

The work was approved on a motion by M. Lundberg and seconded by T. Murphy. The motion was unanimously approved by the vestry.

Improvements and Maintenance at the Rectory

The work was approved on a motion by T. Murphy and seconded by C. Gordon. The motion was unanimously approved by the vestry.

5. Outreach – Mother Sue

The CCRM Overflow Women's shelter completed its first successful year at St. Peter's, serving 520 women this season and our Shelter now running for 8 years! March 15th was their last evening. It was reported at least five of the women came to Christ and several of them were able to get back on their feet and are now living in their own apartments! This is a vital ministry we offer to these women. Thank you for your support and prayers!

Friends of St. Peter's, our new fellowship group, meets from 1:00-3:00 Tuesday afternoons in the Pumpelly Room. These gatherings have become a staple for this small group who always welcomes more into our midst!

3/26/17 will be our Annual Soup Sampler following the 10:30 service. The proceeds will benefit the Homeless Action Committee (serving the homeless community in Albany NY). Thank you Judy Burns for coordinating this years' Soup Sampler and for all the cooks!

Hats Off to England! Our annual Tea will be a fund raiser for this summer's choir trip to Chichester, England. The tea will be on April 23, 2017. Thank you Judy Burns for coordinating the tea. We are running a 50/50 Raffle at the Tea.

Albany CROP Walk will be Sunday May 7, 2017. We are seeking a volunteer to coordinate this for our team from St. Peter's.

Blessing Bags: We thank DOK Chapter of St. Stephen's Church, Delmar for their assembling Blessing Bags for the homeless people served by CCRM.

We are considering inviting Food for the Poor later this year. On Good Friday, The Episcopal Church is suggesting donations to support mission in the Holy Land.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

Episcopal Diocese of Albany 2017

The Episcopal Diocese of Albany 2017 Convention Elected Candidates are Kevin Cehowski, Carly Crewell and Alice Sanigular. The Candidates were elected on a motion by T. Murphy and seconded by M. Lundberg. The motion was unanimously approved by the vestry.

Parochial Report

The 2017 Parochial Report was approved on a motion by K. Cehowski and seconded by T. Murphy. The motion was unanimously approved by the vestry.

8. Associate Rector's Report - Mother Sue

Bible Study: *Read the Bible* in 90 Days continues, with only 1 ½ weeks left. It has been wonderful, and also a challenge, to read and post a synopsis daily. I am pleased 12 people are participating (some from St. Peter's and others from my wider Facebook circle) and I am greatly encouraged by this interest. We are currently reading through Paul's letters in the New Testament.

The Women's Bible study continues reading and reflecting on *Hearts of Fire*, stories of 8 women who were persecuted for their Christian faith. It is difficult material to grapple with and yet relevant to the crises occurring throughout the world as Christians continue to suffer under persecution. We have two more sessions left, and will finish our study on April 4th

Discovery Bible Study continues to meet each Wednesday at 6:00pm for approximately one hour during the weeks of Lent. We welcome men and women of the parish to join us. Our last meeting is April 5th.

Lenten Program: Sunday April 2, 2017 after services we will hold a Lenten program with lunch and a series of Lenten meditations. Thank you, Daughters of the King, for providing our luncheon items.

Christian Education Survey: A survey is prepared and will be distributed in the Sunday leaflet and also the April newsletter asking for people's interest in both Youth and Adult Christian formation at St. Peter's. The clergy is eager for feedback as we plan the next educational programs.

9. Sunday Attendance

The average Sunday attendance is currently 125.5

10. Rectors Report -Father Hartt

Father Hartt shared the Holy Week Schedule:

April 9th Palm Sunday 8:30Am & 10:30AM Holy Communion

April 10-13th, Holy Communion Noon

April 13th, Maundy Thursday 7:30PM Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar.

April 14th Good Friday, Noon Good Friday Liturgy, 1:00PM *The Passion according to St. Matthew, J.S. Bach*

April 15th: Holy Saturday 8:30AM Liturgy. Easter Egg Hunt at Rectory

April 16th Easter Sunday 8:30Am & 10:30AM, Choral Holy Communion

The running ASA was discussed. We are ahead of the average of the last 2 years. This is encouraging. Father Hartt said that Lent is a time in the life of the parish in which a holy seriousness can be felt in both the attendance and worship. We have had a strong Lent thus far.

Father Hartt commended the Choir and Mr. Keen for the quality of the musical offerings this year. It is notable the number of people who remain for the postlude. Fridays of Lent continue with Evensong and sacred Reading. The Readings are taken from the rich trove of our Anglican tradition and beyond. Our Archivist has asked that these readings be posted on the parish website.

The date for the Regional Confirmation has been changed by Bishop Love to May 13th. Holli Philips, George Saide are our adult Confirmands. Our teens are Hannah Grill, Mae Healy, Caitlin Connors, Mckenzie Murphy, and Matthew Clark.

Father Hartt discussed personnel matters. Father Hartt thanked Jim Chenot for sending a contractor to the rectory to catalog needed repairs.

Father Hartt congratulated Jr. Warden, Debbie Spath, on becoming a Grandmother. We give thanks for the birth of Chelsea and look forward to her baptism. May God bless Vicky and Greg Pautler as new parents.

Father Hartt offered the following Nominations for Diocesan Convention: Alice Sanigular, Carly Crewell, and Kevin Cehowski.

Father Hartt Spoke of the Lenten Quiet Day planned for April 2nd. The Quiet Day will follow Sunday Service and begin with a light lunch. The Quiet Day will be led by both Fr. Hartt and Mtr. Sue.

Father Hartt have been working on youth ministry at Saint Peter's. The Director of Beaver Cross, John Iseman, will be visiting St. Peter's April 30th to speak both about Youth Ministry in the Diocese and here at Saint Peter's. Fr. Hartt thanked Christie Chenot for here willingness to develop Youth Ministry opportunities in our parish.

11. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by K. Cehowski and seconded by T. Murphy, then was passed unanimously by the vestry.

12. Compline

Father Hartt led Compline.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin M. Cehowski

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Paul J. Hartt.....Rector
The Rev. Susan Waldron.....Associate Rector
Neil K. Keen, F.A.G.O.....Organist & Choirmaster
Laura Rulison..... Director of Christian Education
James P. Shortall.....Sexton
Shawn Van Ness.....Assisting Sexton
Kristin Robinson.....Administrative Assistant
Janice Chenot.....Office Volunteer
E. Constance Powell.....Historian & Archivist

Vestry

James Chenot.....Senior Warden
Deborah Spath.....Junior Warden
George Scala..... Treasurer
Kevin Cehowski, Nancy Creagan, Christie Gordon, Maria Holden,
Stephanie Lencewicz, Mark Lundberg, Tim Murphy, Earl Stafford

How to Contact Us

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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

