



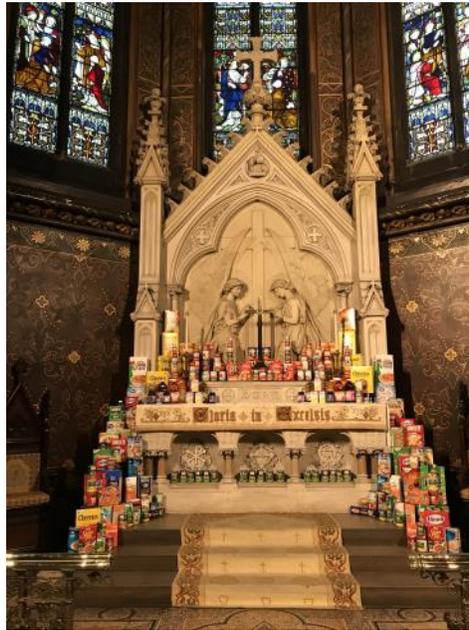
# Cornerstone

## November 2021

Newsletter of St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church

107 State Street, Albany, New York

### IT'S ALL ABOUT THANKSGIVING



#### Thanksgiving Altar Donations

Returning this year for Thanksgiving, we will decorate the Altars with a bounteous display of food – cans, boxes, jars or packages destined for distribution to the food pantry. (No fresh foods that can spoil, please.) We are asking for contributions from the whole parish family so that our altars may truly reflect our dedication to community outreach. Your food donations may be left at the Church **before** Saturday morning, **November 20th**, when the Flower Guild will be decorating the altars with the donated food, instead of the usual flowers. These Thanksgiving altars are given in memory of Jan D'Agostino, beloved leader of St. Peter's Flower Guild, whose idea for this decoration has become a fine tradition.

#### Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Peter's

**Saturday, November 13th, 2021**

**Beginning at 5:00pm**

**Dinner Served at 5:30pm**

Please join us for our Annual Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner as we celebrate the holiday together. St. Peter's will again supply the turkeys and we are looking for volunteers who are interested in cooking a turkey and bringing it already sliced to the dinner. For those who cannot help with the turkeys we ask you to please sign-up to bring one of the other many Thanksgiving side dishes or desserts. There are two sign-up sheets located near the baptismal font in the church: one sheet is to let us know what side dish or dessert you will be bringing and the other sheet is to let us know how many of you are coming. You may also call the church office at (518)434-3502 to let us know.

We also ask you to please bring a donated food item (canned goods, rice, cereal, etc.) to be included in our traditional Thanksgiving Altar display. These items will then be donated to our local food pantry for distribution. For more information or to help with the dinner (set-up, cooking or clean-up) please contact Janice Chenot at (518)786-1070 or [jechenot@hotmail.com](mailto:jechenot@hotmail.com).

**Thanksgiving Eve Service** - There will not be a noontime or evening Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 24th.

**Equinox Thanksgiving Dinner Donations**  
As was done last year, the Equinox Thanksgiving dinners will be prepared by restaurants instead of volunteers. To learn more on how to make a monetary donation or how to fundraise for this much needed form of outreach, please visit: <https://equinoxinc.networkforgood.com/projects/109496-2021-thanksgivingcommunity-dinner>

**South End Children’s Café Thanksgiving Outreach**  
Again this year, we will be filling Thanksgiving Baskets containing all of the fixings for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for the families of the South End Children’s Café. Laura Rulison and several volunteers will be grocery shopping and making up these baskets. If you would like to make a monetary donation to support this cause, please send your check to St. Peter’s Church as soon as possible. On the memo line please write: Children’s Café. For more information about the Children’s Café, please visit: <http://www.southendchildrenscafe.com>

**We thank you for your continued support!**



**ALL SAINTS’ SUNDAY**  
**November 7th**  
**at the 10:30 am Service**

**First Holy Communion**  
Ava Margaret Cehowski  
Oliver Sterrett Crisafulli

**Baptisms**  
Michael Constantine Panzironi  
Madelyn Ann Lauria

*Following the service*

**Baptism Celebration**

The Panzironi/Hollis Families invite the parish family to an Italian luncheon and desserts in celebration of the baptism of Michael Panzironi and Madelyn Lauria.

The luncheon will be held in the Parish Hall on the 2nd floor of the Church Guild House. All are welcome.

**First Holy Communion Class**  
With John Davis and Susan Smith



## Daylight Savings Ends

We “fall back” on Sunday, November 7th so don't forget to set your clocks back 1 hour Saturday night before you go to bed.

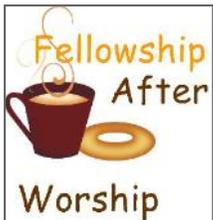


## Vestry Meeting

The November Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 9th at 5:15pm. The meeting will be held on the Second Floor meeting room

## Daughters of the King

The DOK will be having a brunch on Sunday, November 21st following the 10:30AM service. The place of the brunch is still to be determined. For more information please contact Julie Hotmer Drao at (518)596-4000 or [hotmermurphy@gmail.com](mailto:hotmermurphy@gmail.com). Beginning in December the DOK will resume their monthly meetings on the second Sunday of the month following the 10:30AM service. They will meet in the 2nd Floor Meeting Room of the Guild House.



## Volunteers are needed for Coffee Hour.

Give it your all and to the best of your ability because the effort you put forth at St. Peter's Church Coffee Hour, Lord knows how essential it is to all.

“The Bible consistently teaches that the church is Christ's body on earth” (Eph. 1:22–23). Each believer is a different body part and may perform a unique task at church such as Coffee Hour, but we're intricately knitted together We're not independent but **interdependent**, Our spiritual gifts are like eyes and ears and hands and feet that each play their part in the body's growth and mission.

The message is simple: We at St. Peter's are dependent upon all the church's believers for your assistance with coffee hour!

Choose a date that fits with your schedule. Please contact the Church office (518) 434-3502 or contact Susan J Smith at [Gpleasant49@gmail.com](mailto:Gpleasant49@gmail.com) or (518) 505-6051.

The 153rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Albany was held virtually on October 23, 2021.

We thank Deborah Spath and Nancy Creagan for being this year's delegates.

**We wish to thank all our volunteers for their service here at St. Peter's.**

If you would like to volunteer, please call Ruth at the church office (518) 434-3502.

## CARLY'S CARD

I would like to *personally* thank everyone for the out-pouring of support from the Vestry to the entire church community. Carly was an extremely special member of St. Peter's Church. She taught us how with just a little effort on our behalf, we could give such joy to many when sending cards out to the parishioners! We are certainly doing God's work vigorously with assistance from all. May we continue to be blessed by Carly and Al, who I am sure are looking down on us from above. They both absolutely loved our church.

If anyone would like to secure a month soon to become part of this marvelous endeavor as God's messengers, please contact Susan J. Smith at [Gpleasant49@gmail.com](mailto:Gpleasant49@gmail.com) or (518) 505-6051.

**Coming Soon!!**

## The 8:30AM Service Returns For Advent

We are happy to announce that the 8:30AM Service will return for the 4 Sundays in Advent. Please join us on the following Sundays: November 28th, December 5th, 12th, and 19th for a service of Holy Communion.

## Advent

Advent begins on Sunday, November 28th. Advent calendars will be distributed and Advent wreaths and candles will be available to the congregation.

## NEWS FROM THE ALTAR GUILD

A meeting of the Guild was held on Sunday, October 17 after the 10:30 service. It was well-attended, by Guild members, LEMs, office staff, and three members of the Vestry, including the Senior Warden. The changes in how we set and clear the altar now that we do not have a priest most Sundays were reviewed and discussed, and lunch was served. Vestry member Jeff Russom is working with the Guild to update our manual and we thank him for that. Copies will be widely available.

In recent months we have replenished our supply of altar linens and taken two frontals, a veil and a burse to a textile conservator to be repaired and restored. This is in keeping with the Vestry's decision to use this time between rectors to get our buildings and possessions, including the lovely, historic and valuable sacred items of which we are the custodians, in pristine shape. Unfortunately, this means that we will probably not have the Gloria frontal back in time for Christmas this year, as it was in by far the worst shape of all the items in need of repair, but it will be restored to its original glory the next time we see it.

Director Cathy Schunk also attended the October 17 meeting and will return to office on First Advent. We look forward to her return, and I personally thank the Guild, the Vestry and the Wardens, and Ruth Manss and Janice Chenot for all your encouragement and support during this difficult transition to carrying out our ministry without a priest in charge.

Sharon Couch DeBonis  
Interim Altar Guild Director



### **NEEDED: LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

*Beyond the circumstance of how we began our involvement  
as a Lay Eucharistic Minister is the reality that  
we have been called by God to do so!*

If at any time during your walk with Christ Jesus, were you questioning, "What Can I Do for God?"

**This is the time!** Jesus' words to His first disciples apply to us as well:

***"You did not choose Me, but I chose you!"*** (John 15:16)

By our obedience to that call, and by our active involvement in the ministry to which He has called us, we are sharing in the ministry of the Body of Christ, the Church.

As a Eucharistic Minister, one's first and primary ministry is to the Lord Himself. Lay Eucharistic Minister's are needed at St. Peter's Church. Are you interested in finding practical ways of communicating God's loving care? Then there is a place for you as a Lay Eucharistic Minister at St. Peter's.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers are trained and vested properly by the Church. In the beginning of your involvement, you will shadow others to understand and feel confident with your role as a LEM. An additional note for anyone questioning if they are qualified, your Love for God is the only qualification necessary. However, keep in mind that being a Lay Eucharistic Minister is tremendously gratifying.

Please contact Ruth in the church office at (518)434-3502, when you are prepared to serve Christ!

# Youth Formation & Sunday School

Hello to all and happy fall ~ Sunday school is going well. Each week the children learn a new lesson and make a wonderful project to take home. I invite all children to join us on Sunday. I want to assure all the parents that we are following the CDC guidelines and protocols. The teachers are all vaccinated. We also welcome any child to wear a mask if that makes the family feel comfortable. We are trying our best to make all safe while coming to Sunday school. With that said please mark your calendars for these wonderful upcoming events !



## SUNDAY SCHOOL EVENTS!!

The Sunday School children will be baking pumpkin bread on **Sunday, November 14th**. So please have the children dress accordingly, so they may enjoy the wonders of baking. There will be a blessing of the bread on **Sunday, November 21st**, after which the loaves will be available to the congregation to take home and share for Thanksgiving Day dinner.

On **Sunday, November 21st**, we invite the children of the parish to join Miss Caitlin for the Sunday School Monthly Song during the 10:30AM service.

During the month of **November**, we will be collecting gently used coats for people of need at the soup kitchen. Please drop off your donations in the front office or at the back of the church. All sizes are needed for men, women and children. As always, thank you for your support.



**Mark your calendars:** The Christmas Pageant is back!! And will be held on **Sunday, December 19th**. We need angels and shepherds, etc. Please join us on Sunday, December 5th to get parts and costumes. Any questions or comments, please give me a call at (518)368-4284.

Blessings, Laura Rulison



### St. Francis Mission Soup Kitchen

Saturday, November 20th ~ 11AM to 1PM

The Angels in Training are in desperate need of your help! We invite you to join Laura, our Director of Christian Education, on Saturday, November 20th anytime you can give between 9AM and 2PM to help with food preparation, clothing and supply organization and distribution and cleanup, or from 11AM to 1PM to serve meals. Thank you ALL for your donations, your time, and for helping me continue the ministry of feeding and clothing our community. For information please call Laura at (518)368-4284. WE NEED YOUR HELP!



# November 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1 <b>All Saints' Day</b>	2 <b>Commemoration of All Faithful Departed</b>	3
7 <b>Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>All Saints' Sunday</b>  10:30am - Holy Communion First Holy Communion & Baptisms Baptism Luncheon following the service	8	9  5:15pm - Vestry Meeting	10
14 <b>Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b>  10:30am - Holy Communion Sunday School Baking Pumpkin Bread	15	16	17
21 <b>Last Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>Christ the King Sunday</b>  10:30am - Holy Communion 11:45am - DOK Brunch	22	23	24
28 <b>The First Sunday of Advent</b>  8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Holy Communion	29	30 <b>St. Andrew the Apostle</b>	



# Count Your Blessings



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	4 5:30pm - Full Choir	5	6 
	11 <b>Veteran's Day</b> Office Closed 5:30pm - Full Choir	12	13 5:00pm - Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner
	18 5:30pm - Full Choir	19	20 9:30am - Harvest Altar Decorating 11:00am - Angels in Training
	25 <b>Thanksgiving Day</b> Office Closed 	26 Office Closed	27
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Give Thanks to the Lord, for He is good.</i> <i>Psalm 107:1</i></p> 		

## CHOIR

Choir rehearsals are on the following schedule:

Thursdays: 5:30pm - 7:00pm Adult choristers

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

We are eager to welcome boys and girls age 8 to grade 8 to join the Treble section of the choir. Please contact Neil Keen at (518)339-0137 for further information.





WE WISH YOU A HAPPY  
**THANKSGIVING**



## Other Happenings in November

### Annual Bible Symposium

#### The Cathedral

Saturday, November 6, 2021

9:30am-1:30pm

Please join us for our Annual Bible Symposium with Dr. Garwood Anderson, Dean of Nashotah House, who will give three talks on 1 Peter: "Aliens, Strangers, and Citizens: A First Century Vision for Twenty-first Century Christians." Tickets are \$35 and include a box lunch with a sandwich. Lunch is included only if preregistered online by Oct. 29. Please let us know on the registration form if you have dietary allergies. All those eating in the Cathedral must be vaccinated. Tickets may be purchased at the door by check or cash on the day of the event for \$35, lunch not included.

For more information please visit the website: <https://www.cathedralofallsaints.org/events/bible-symposium-2021>



### Welcome Home Initiative

for men and women

Monday - Wednesday, November 8th - 10th



The Welcome Home Initiative® ministers healing for military veterans who have served their country in combat or any other service context that has caused suffering in varying degrees from post-traumatic stress or moral injury, and are in need of soul repair. Spouses too are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Our program helps veterans and spouses understand the hidden impact of combat and trauma, and provides a safe place for emotional healing. This essential spiritual and emotional healing is a complement to healing received from psychiatric and social services.

The public is most cordially invited to attend the closing ceremony of this retreat which honors those who attended the retreat and their service to our country.

For more information please visit the website: <https://ctkcenter.org/healing-ministry/the-welcome-home-initiative>

**MINUTES FOR THE VESTRY MEETING**  
**ST. PETER'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Present:** J. Chenot, D. Spath, A. Closson, N. Creagan, C. Gordon, F. Hershey, M. Holden, M. Lundberg, J. Russom, G. Scala

**Absent:** M. Moran

Opening Prayer Led by M. Lundberg.

**Approval of the Vestry Meeting Minutes, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 minutes were approved on a motion by M. Holden and seconded by D. Spath. The motion was unanimously approved by the vestry.

**Sr. Warden's Report** –J. Chenot

Jim's report will reflect his written letter that was placed in the September newsletter, along with some additional information that he will present at the Vestry meeting.

**Sunday Attendance** - The Average Sunday Attendance is 84.4.

**Finance** – G. Scala - Treasurer's Report

George reviewed the Treasurer's Reports for the months of June, July and August as there were no reports during the summer months. Offerings for the month of June were \$10,547, July \$10,151 and August \$9,023. Year-to-date offerings are \$121,622. This compares to \$130,442 at this time in 2020.

Investment accounts did well over this 3-month period. Year-to-date Merrill Lynch is up +11.90% and Key is up +11.39%. George reported that we did finally receive the large Key distribution that has been worked on for some time and he will continue to monitor to make sure that future payments come through as agreed. Expenses are \$111,729 under budget through August, primarily to the vacancies in our clergy positions.

To date we remain at 38 pledges for a total pledge amount \$107,994.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Scala

**Property** – The Pumpelly Room project is well underway, with the wall plaster and windows being repaired and the electrician coming in to begin updating existing wiring and adding additional outlets. The committee is expecting the project to be complete in late Fall.

**Old Business** – The search committee is continuing to move forward in the search for our next Rector of St. Peter's. With all paperwork submitted for the job posting, the search committee now awaits potential candidates' applications.

**New Business** – The vestry has decided that the congregation can continue this year with hosting the much-loved Pre-Thanksgiving dinner. More information about the event will be included in the weekly leaflets and monthly newsletter. The vestry also discussed a new marketing campaign which will look to reach out to our neighbors in the downtown area and invite them to join us in worship through a series of postcard mailings. It is a new strategy with hopes of increasing our church community.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by D. Spath and seconded by M. Holden, then was approved unanimously by the vestry.

Closing prayer was led by M. Lundberg.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christie J. Gordon

## *Clergy & Staff*

Neil K. Keen, F.A.G.O.....Organist & Choirmaster  
Laura Rulison .....Director of Christian Education  
James P. Shortall.....Sexton  
Wayne Hill.....Assisting Sexton  
Ruth Manss..... Office Manager  
Janice Chenot.....Office Volunteer  
E. Constance Powell.....Historian & Archivist

## *Vestry*

James Chenot ..... Senior Warden  
Deborah Spath.....Junior Warden  
George Scala ..... Treasurer  
Ashley Closson, Nancy Creagan, Christie Gordon,  
Fred Hershey, Maria Holden, Mark Lundberg,  
Malcom Moran, Jeff Russom

## *How to Contact Us*

### **Office Hours:**

Monday -Friday

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Telephone: 518-434-3502

Fax: 518-462-4419

E-Mail:

[Receptionist@stpeterschurchalbany.org](mailto:Receptionist@stpeterschurchalbany.org)

Website:

[www.stpeterschurchalbany.org](http://www.stpeterschurchalbany.org)

## *Services*

**Sunday**

Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**107 State St.**

**Albany, New York 12207**

