



THE **C**ornerstone

January 2022

Newsletter of St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church
107 State Street, Albany, New York

Christmas at St. Peter's Church



St. Peter's Happenings

Vestry Meeting

The January Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 11th at 5:15pm in the second floor meeting room.

Daughters of the King

The January DOK meeting will be a zoom meeting and the date is to be determined.

Coffee Hour

Please join us for coffee hour after the 10:30 AM service. There is a sign up sheet in the kitchen near the Pumpelly room if you wish to volunteer on a Sunday.

Carly's Card

If anyone would like to secure a month, starting with February, to become part of this marvelous endeavor, please contact Susan J. Smith at Gpleasant49@gmail.com or (518) 505-6051.



Pledge Cards

Pledge cards for 2022 were mailed out January 4th. If you did not receive a pledge card please call the church office. It would be greatly appreciated if you could please take a minute to complete your card and return it to the church office, or place it in the offering plate during the service. Pledges can also be made on the St. Peter's website at www.stpeterschurchalbany.org by clicking on the "Get your pledge card" button. You may also call the church office and we would be more than happy to complete a card for you.

Choir

Choir rehearsals are on the following schedule:

Thursdays: 5:30pm - 7:00pm full choir rehearsal
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 To Thank All our Volunteers For Their Service

Anyone interested in volunteering for Coffee Hour, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Ushering or becoming a Lay Eucharistic Minister please call Ruth at the church office (518) 434-3502.

Annual Parish Meeting

On Sunday, January 30th, the Annual Parish Meeting will be held immediately following the 10:30 AM service. We invite you to grab a cup of coffee and join us in the church.

Vestry Nominations:

The Vestry has nominated the following parish members to serve on the Vestry:

Jim Chenot will be running for his 2nd two-year term as Sr. Warden. He is running to fill his present seat.

Mark Lundberg will be running for his 2nd three-year vestry term. He is running to fill his present seat.

Jeff Russom will be running for his 2nd three-year vestry term. He is running to fill his present seat.

Sharon DeBonis will be running for her 1st three-year vestry term to fill the seat formerly held by Nancy Creagan.

Other nominations must be submitted to the church office in writing

by Wednesday, January 19th in order to appear on the ballot.

Community Outreach & Sunday School

Happy New Year to you all!

I want to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful congregation of St. Peter's Church. Thanks for all of the donated sugar cookies. We had dozens to share with the children of the South End Children's Café. I taught them how to use frosting bags and the art of sprinkles. The children had so much fun and many returned to make more.

Thank you to all of the volunteers that have helped this year at the St. Francis Mission. It was an extremely tough year to get volunteers, but the people of St. Peter's came through. The need for extra hands is so important for us to be able to serve over 200 meals every week, and the numbers continue to grow. So if you have a couple of hours to spare on any Saturday of the month from 11AM to 1PM we would love to have you. The address is 498 Clinton Avenue, Albany, NY 12206, just head to the back of the parking lot and knock on the large gray door and begin to help our community.

I want to thank all of the parents who brought their children to church during Advent. It was a blessing to show off our little angels for the annual Christmas Pageant and then again on Christmas Eve for the Crèche Procession.

Lastly, I need to thank Jim Chenot, Janice Chenot, Ruth Manss, Pat Shortall, and Wayne Hill. And a special thank you to the Sunday School Teachers; Sharon Vardabash, Kelly Welch and Ariana Saffares. The help, work and support of these people is what allows us to continue the many wonderful Sunday School projects and events and Outreach programs. And the generosity of your donations is what allows us to continue to serve our community.

Thank you all and blessings for a Happy, Healthy New Year.

God Bless,

Laura



Sunday School Pageant


Cookie Decorating



January 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
2 Second Sunday after Christmas Day 10:30am - Morning Prayer	3	4	5 No Top of the
9 First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ 10:30am - Morning Prayer	10	11 5:15pm - Vestry Meeting	12 8:45am - Top
16 Second Sunday after the Epiphany 10:30am - Holy Communion	17 Martin Luther King Day Office Closed	18 Confession of St. Peter the Apostle	19 8:45am - Top
23 Third Sunday after the Epiphany 10:30am - Holy Communion	24	25 Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle	26 8:45am - Top
30 Fourth Sunday after The Epiphany 10:30am - Holy Communion 12:00pm - Annual Meeting	31		

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p>1 The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ</p> <p>New Year's Day</p>
<p>the Hill</p>	<p>6 The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ</p> <p>No Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>p of the Hill</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:30pm - Full Choir</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>11:00am - Angels in Training</p>
<p>p of the Hill</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:30pm - Full Choir</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>p of the Hill</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30pm - Full Choir</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
			 <p>Wish you and your family a joyful, bright, healthy, prosperous and happiest new year ahead. !!</p> <p><i>Happy New Year!</i></p>

St. Peter's Pumpelly Room Refurbishing Completed

by Fred Hershey



Pumpelly Room Before Picture by Jeff Russom

The project of refurbishing the Pumpelly Room was the result of “the Client” providing a clear inventory of function, problems, aesthetic desires etc. to “the designer”. By “the Client” I am referring to the Vestry appointed committee of Ashley Closson, Maria Holden, and Jeff Russom, who met and created a 2 page document of potential uses, selection of desired re-usable furnishings and undesirable disposable items. Possible ideas for making the room feel fresh and inviting and seating designed for the comfort of seniors. At first meeting with me, “the Designer” there was total agreement on what direction we should be going in. There was an expressed desire to restore the room to an appropriate feeling of scale. It was here that we discovered that the windows in the Pumpelly Room, were exactly the same as the windows in the choir room. At some time in the past, the top portion of the Pumpelly room windows were covered with sheet rock and valances and draperies were installed. Very much the style of decorating for Albany viewed as Colonial or Traditional in the 60's – 70's.

All agreed that opening up to the original window sizes would make a great deal of difference. As the designer I wanted the room to feature our portrait collection and the tapestry. I have realized that over the years, museums which have antique painting exhibitions have painted their walls in all sorts of real colors. Only those exhibitions featuring modern art rely on white walls. I was anxious to make the tapestry blend with its surroundings and add to its decorative effect. Color swatches were taken from the tapestry to create the basis of the color scheme. After studying the choir room windows, I discovered that the sashes were stained black and the frames were lighter oak. That revealed the original architectural intent. Combining the black sashes and the B. Moore “Brunswick Beige” walls with a B. Moore Ivory called “Old World Romance” provided a dramatically enhanced presence in the room. Changing the placement of the portraits also enhanced the grand feeling of the room. Furniture was selected from a commercial line which I have used successfully in our assisted living work. Plastic laminate on the new tables will be serviceable for coffee hour. The blue upholstery and paint in the back of the bookcases was taken from the tapestry. A message board with a video screen will be the center for collection of backpacks, posting sign-up sheets etc. All of the furniture which the committee designated for re-use was included in the plan.

New black iron chandeliers with shades add to the feeling of scale in the room. And the new large carpet replacing the tattered oriental rugs removes the trip hazard they presented. The rug was selected from a commercial restaurant line and the pattern and color are particularly good at diminishing the effect of spilled coffee. The size also increases the larger atmosphere of the room.

The remarks I have received have been overwhelmingly positive. I feel that the Vestry handled the project in a professional way that allowed me to create a facility which upgraded the appearance and will serve the congregation for years to come.

We would like to thank everyone involved in this Project, from the planning committee; Fred Hershey, Jeff Russom, Maria Holden & Ashley Closson. To the workers; Eugene Lugowski, Ruth Manss, Wayne Hill and Pat Shortall.



Pumpelly Room After Picture by Jeff Russom

**MINUTES FOR THE VESTRY MEETING
ST. PETER'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
November 9th, 2021**

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

Absent: None

Opening Prayer Led by Dr. John Davis.

Approval of the Vestry Meeting Minutes, October 12th, 2021

The October 12th, 2021 minutes were approved on a motion by F. Hershey and seconded by M. Lundberg. The motion was unanimously approved by the vestry.

Sr. Warden's Report –J. Chenot

It is a joy to start my Senior Warden report after following an incredible All Saints Day Service we celebrated this past Sunday. We had two baptisms and two who received their First Communion. Congratulations to the families and those that received; all of you are blessings to us at St. Peter's and welcome all of you to our church family. Many thanks to Father Lehmann and Dr. John Davis for their help beforehand, preparing the families and candidates for the service.

The Pumpelly Room is also close to completion and is looking beautiful. We would like to thank Fred Hershey for all his work spearheading this incredible undertaking, again just beautiful. Also, Ruth Manss and Wayne have worked tirelessly getting the kitchen cleaned and painted preparing it for upcoming events held in our parish hall. Thank you both.

We are looking forward and ahead to our upcoming annual Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner Saturday, November 13th in the parish hall. Turkeys were distributed at the church for those that were interested in cooking them ahead of time. Thanks to Janice Chenot for coordinating this incredible evening. We all look forward to this great evening of food and fellowship and hope to see many of you there. The Altar guild is continuing to receive food donations to decorate the Altar for Harvest Sunday. Food donations following Thanksgiving will be donated to the local food pantries.

As we get closer to Advent we have secured supply ministers and deacons but still have a few openings. Please pray as we move closer to Christmas that we will continue to be blessed with God's continued blessings, as we move into our busy Advent season.

Sunday Attendance - The Average Sunday Attendance is 83.3.

Finance – G. Scala - Treasurer's Report

George reviewed the October Treasurer's Report. Offerings for the month of October were \$10,807. Year-to-date offerings are \$150,846. This compares to \$158,677 at this time in 2020.

Investment accounts saw increases for the month. Merrill Lynch was up +4.55% for the month and Key was up +4.41%. Year-to-date Merrill Lynch is up +12.77% and Key is up +11.69%. Expenses are \$141,082 under budget through October, primarily due to the vacancies in our clergy positions.

To date we remain at 39 pledges for a total pledge amount \$108,094.

There was a discussion concerning a 2022 budget. We carried forward the 2020 budget into 2021 due to the uncertainties that existed last year. While there remains uncertainties, George will prepare a 2022 draft budget for the Vestry to review at the December meeting. He will also draft a Stewardship Letter for review.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Scala

Property –

J. Chenot presented an opportunity to hire a handy man to come in for 4 hours on Fridays to work on various projects throughout the Guild House and the Rectory. This was approved on a motion by D. Spath, seconded by G. Scala, then unanimously approved by the vestry.

January will begin Phase 3 of the Interior Restoration Project. This involves the restoration of the Chancel.

Outreach – The vestry continues to discuss recruiting for a leader or point person for our many outreach projects.

Old Business – None

New Business -

After thoughtful consideration, the vestry decided to bring back the 8:30am service through Advent. This 2nd service will be reevaluated after Advent depending on attendance and availability of preachers.

We will begin our shortened Stewardship Campaign this year for pledges for 2022. It was decided that due to COVID, the vestry will defer from the traditional stewardship campaign from previous years with hopes of returning to it next year.

The preliminary planning for the 2022 Budget was discussed. The vestry will continue these discussions at the December Vestry meeting and will have an approved budget to present at the Annual Parish Meeting in January.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by C. Gordon and seconded by M. Moran, then was approved unanimously by the vestry.

Closing prayer was led by M. Lundberg.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christie J. Gordon

Neil K. Keen, F.A.G.O.....Organist & Choirmaster
 Laura Rulison Director of Christian Education
 James P. Shortall.....Sexton
 Wayne Hill.....Assisting Sexton
 Kevin Goolsby.....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

Website:

www.stpeterschurchalbany.org

Services

Sunday

Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

107 State St.

Albany, New York 12207

