



THE Cornerstone

April 2022

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

Wait Upon the Lord

Have you ever stopped by the grocery store to pick up just one or two things on the way home from working late, only to discover that the self-serve checkout stations are closed and there is only one register open? Ahead of you in that line is a person with a shopping cart full of items. On top of that, when it comes time to pay, he suddenly pulls out a fistful of coupons that have to be cross-checked and scanned one at time. "Come on! Are you kidding me?" you say loud enough that everyone in the checkout line can know just how unfair this situation is.

Waiting. Sometimes it seems that's all we do. Waiting for the person ahead of us in line to hurry up and get on with it. Waiting for someone else at work to do their job. Waiting for things to turn out the way we want. Waiting often seems a pointless waste of time, a needless delay, something we must endure to reach our desired goal.

It may seem strange, then, that as Christians, we are told,

"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him" (Ps. 37:7)

For most of us, that's not easy to do. The temptation when I am confronted with a delay is to jump in and take over, to speed things up. Yet, when I lose my patience; when I try to seize control of my life, the situations I am in, or other people; when I shout at God, "No more waiting! Let's get on with it!" I drown out the one thing that I need to hear, His voice.

The Good News is, even when we are busily making a mess of things by trying to follow our own plans, the Lord will not give up on us. He will speak to us. He will give us signs. He will throw opportunities in our way which give us the chance to stop what we are doing and get back on the right path, the path He wants us to follow.

Waiting on the Lord is not about being passive. It is about actively listening for His voice, watching for His signs, looking for the opportunities He sends us. Waiting on the Lord is *hopeful expectancy*, a strong, quiet belief that although it may not look like it at this particular moment, on this particular day, God is always working to bring His plans for us to fulfillment.

It was nearly thirty years from the time when I first felt called to be a lay preacher to the day when the Lord brought it to pass at St. Peter's. I wish I could tell you that during that time I waited on Him with patient, hopeful expectancy. Quite the opposite. I spent too much time obstinately following my own path, because of course, I always thought I knew the quickest route, the shortest route, the best route. Nevertheless, God never stopped pursuing me. And during all that time, when I thought I was just waiting, or even when I had given up hope, He was training me, molding me, refining me for the purpose that He had foreseen from the very beginning of time. Wait upon the Lord,

He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40:29-31)

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. John B. Davis, Lay Preacher

St. Peter's Happenings

Vestry Meeting

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

Daughters of the King - Julia Chapter

The next DOK meeting will be held on Sunday, April 3rd at 11:45am in the meeting room on the second floor.

Coffee Hour

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

Carly's Cards

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

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.

ORGAN CONCERT - Join us for a gala concert and reception to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Eastern NY chapter American Guild of Organists on Saturday, April 30th at 3:00pm at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 107 State St, Albany. Organist Joey Fala will play works by Franck, Alain, Bach, Howells, and Hindemith and will premiere a piece written by Alfred V. Fedak in honor of the occasion. Everyone is invited to a reception in the church following the concert. A freewill offering will be taken.

Chrism Mass

You are invited to attend the annual Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of All Saints on Monday, April 11th at 5:30pm. The clergy of the Diocese will re-affirm their ordination vows and Bishop Smith will consecrate the chrism oil for use during the coming year.



Easter Lily Requests

Parishioners and friends wishing to place lilies on the altars at Easter to honor, show thanks, or remember loved ones are asked to complete the enclosed form and return it to the church office with your donation no later than Palm Sunday, April 10th. The suggested donation is \$25.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 10th: **Palm Sunday**

10:30AM Choral Holy Communion Service

April 14th: **Maundy Thursday**

7:30PM Holy Communion
with Stripping of the Altars

April 15th: **Good Friday**

12:00PM Good Friday Liturgy
1:00PM ~ *The Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross*
by Heinrich Schütz performed by the St. Peter's Choir
with Chamber Orchestra

April 16th: **Holy Saturday**

11:00AM Easter Egg Hunt at the Rectory
11:00AM - 1:00PM Angels in Training
at St. Francis Mission

April 17th: **Easter Sunday**

8:30AM Choral Holy Communion Service
10:30AM Choral Holy Communion Service
with Child Care



COMING SOON!! Albany's CROP Hunger Walk Is Just One Month Away!

St. Peter's is participating yet again in the John U. Miller Memorial CROP Hunger Walk in Albany, to be held May 1, 2022. Albany's 2022 Walk will take place in person, departing from the First Lutheran Church, 646 State Street, Albany at 12:30 PM. Please contact Maria Holden (msholden1@aol.com) if you would like to join the St. Peter's team of walkers. If you prefer, you may walk in your own neighborhood any time during the month of May. To contribute to Albany's CROP Walk and support our team, please visit our new team web page at:

<https://events.crop hungerwalk.org/2022/team/st-peters-episcopal-church-albany>

CROP Hunger Walks are community-based walk events held in cities and towns across the US to raise funds to respond to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster around the globe. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised go to the host community to support local hunger fighting efforts. Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world and our own community. Ending hunger is possible, and it is possible in our lifetime. Thank you for supporting the St. Peter's Team and CROP Walk 2022!

Youth Formation & St. Francis Mission Outreach



Hello to all and Happy Spring~

We have lots planned in the St. Peter's Sunday School, so please mark your calendars.

Sunday, April 3rd: We will have a reenactment of the Last Supper, this will include the story of Jesus and his disciples, washing of our feet and taking part in the Most Holy Bread and Wine (juice). Please come and take part in this wonderful activity.

Sunday, April 10th: The children of the Sunday School will be coloring Easter eggs during the 10:30AM service. So please make sure the children are dressed in old clothes, smocks are available.

Saturday, April 16th: The Annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Rectory, 8 Loudon Heights South, Loudonville, NY at 11:00AM sharp ~ rain, shine or snow! Please be sure to bring a basket and a friend!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Due to the Easter Egg Hunt and the Angels in Training falling on the exact same day at the exact same time, Laura (Saffares) Rulison will not be able to participate in feeding the needy. Therefore, she is looking for some volunteers to help the Angels in Training at Grace and Holy Innocents on Saturday, April 16th from 11AM to 1PM. Could you please spare 2 hours to help those in need? Thank you so much in advance !!

St. Francis Mission Soup Kitchen Saturday, April 16th ~ 11AM to 1PM

On the 3rd Saturday of every month, Laura Rulison our Director of Christian Education and new Chairperson of Outreach, along with other volunteers, all get together to help serve the families of our community in the South End of Albany. We served 222 take out meals in March! You are welcome to come and witness this amazing outreach program anytime you can, we are there from 9AM - 1PM. For more information or if you would like to volunteer, please contact Laura at (518)368-4284.

Thank you to all the volunteers that came to help, this amazing outreach program to our community.

Thank you and may God Bless,



Other Happenings

Beaver Cross Spring Break Camp:

Monday April 18 - Friday April 22, 2022





What better way to spend time off from school than at Beaver Cross Camp! Spring Break Camp, structured similar to our Day Camp program, brings the excitement of summer to the school year. Campers will have the opportunity to do all of their favorite camp activities including: archery, sports, ropes, crafts, field games, campfire and more! The cost of the program is \$150. Registration includes all programmed activities, lunch, and an afternoon snack. Early drop off with breakfast is an additional extra.



More information at: www.beavercrossministries.org/spring-break-camp



April 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			
<p>3 The Fifth Sunday in Lent</p> <p>10:30am - Holy Communion 11:45pm - DOK meeting Sunday School - Last Supper Reenactment</p> 	4	5 5:15pm - Vestry Meeting	6 8:45am - Top of
<p>10 Palm Sunday The Sunday of the Passion</p>  <p>10:30am - Holy Communion Sunday School - Easter Egg Coloring</p>	11 Monday in Holy Week 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal w/ orchestra	12 Tuesday in Holy Week	13 Wednesday in Holy Week 8:45am - Top of
<p>17 Easter Sunday</p> <p>8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Holy Communion w/child care</p> 	18 Office Closed	19	20 8:45am - Top of
<p>24 The Second Sunday of Easter</p> <p>10:30am - Morning Prayer</p>	25 St. Mark the Evangelist	26	27 8:45am - Top of

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2
of the Hill	7 5:30pm - Full Choir	8	9
in Holy Week	14 Maundy Thursday 5:30pm - Full Choir 7:30pm - Holy Communion with Stripping of the Altars	15 Good Friday 12:00pm - Good Friday Liturgy 1:00pm - <i>The Seven Last Words of Christ on the Cross</i> 	16 Holy Saturday 11:00am - Angels in Training 11:00am - Easter Egg Hunt at the Rectory
of the Hill	21 No Choir Rehearsals	22	23
of the Hill	28 5:30pm - Full Choir	29	30 3:00pm - Organ Concert at St. Peter's Church

From the Archives

St. Peter's Church PRUYN ALTAR AND REREDOS



While our memorial Altar and Reredos are being refurbished, it is a good time to review how this centerpiece of our church building came to be.

Of the many decorative pieces in the church, the memorial Altar and Reredos are most spectacular, especially when seen in the morning light through the stained glass windows. The Altar and Reredos were erected in 1885 as a gift from Charles Pruyne in honor of his deceased wife Elizabeth McClintock Pruyne, who died in 1884. The work was designed by Richard M. Upjohn and executed by Ellen & Company of New York. The design is decorated Gothic and the material is Caen stone, a limestone from Cannes France. Below the Altar are limestone arches enclosing symbolic designs.

The Reredos include many smaller sculptures. However the principal designs are larger, consisting of two angels in high relief with outspread wings kneeling at a central cross, which forms the background of the Reredos. The angel figures were modeled by Louis St. Gaudens at the studio of his brother Augusta. One of the kneeling angel figures is modeled in the likeness of Elizabeth McClintock Pruyne, in whose memory the Altar and Reredos were given by her husband.

The buttresses of the Reredos are inscribed with messages of peace.

The North Buttress of the Reredos contains the following inscription:

*To the Glory of God and in Sacred and Loving Memory of
Elizabeth McClintock Pruyne
Born Oct. 31st, 1853, evermore at Rest
Dec 20th, 1884.*

The South Buttress of the Reredos is inscribed as follows:

*And we also bless Thy Holy Name for all thy servants
departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching Thee to
give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with
them, we may be partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom.*

**MINUTES FOR THE VESTRY MEETING
ST. PETER'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
February 8th, 2022**

Present: J. Chenot, D. Spath, A. Closson, S. Debonis, 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, January 18th, 2022

The January 18th, 2022 minutes were approved on a motion by S. Debonis and seconded by M. Lundberg. The motion was unanimously approved by the vestry

Sr. Warden's Report –J. Chenot

I would like to start off by thanking and congratulating those elected at the annual meeting in January, Sharon DeBonis (1st term), Mark Lundburg (2nd term), Jeff Russom (2nd term) on their three year term to the vestry, and Jim Chenot (2nd – two year term). Again, thank you to Nancy Creagan for her recent service and dedication on the vestry. I am looking forward to continue working with our very committed vestry and congregation as we continue in our search for a new Rector.

We are grateful for those who in the congregation stayed after the 10:30 Sunday service for the annual meeting. Thank you to those who prepared reports regarding their guild sharing their ministry missions that took place during the past year. George Scala also was instrumental at the meeting with his financial report, and he was also there for any questions. Finally, thanks to Ruth and Janice for compiled and printed all the reports and information for the guilds. I also want to mention the gratitude I have for both Ruth and Janice for all the help each week with the visiting clergy – thank you both. A copy of the annual report was sent out in the beginning of February as part of our newsletter for those unable to attend and will be to review the reports.

We would also like to congratulate the two new faces on the altar who have stepped up to train to become lay ministers (LEMS). Dr. John Davis has very helpful in this process and I would like to thank him for his service and help. Know we are looking for many new volunteers in many of the guilds including LEMS. If you are interested in any of these ministries please let us know!

We will start our Lenten season, Tuesday March 1st with our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner from 5 to 6:30pm. We are continuing to look for clergy for our Ash Wednesday service. We are so fortunate to welcome Father John Scott to St. Peter's who will be helping us in April as well as officiating through Holy week and Easter, more on Father Scott to follow.

Finally, our Choir director Neil Keen is continuing to surprise us all with his enthusiasm getting the choir back in session. The choir is getting ready for all the music we are all familiar with during the Lenten season. The choir is sounding phenomenal and Neil is looking great!

Thank you all.

Jim

Sunday Attendance - The Average Sunday Attendance is 52.8.

Finance – G. Scala - Treasurer's Report

George reviewed the January Treasurer's Report. Offerings for the month of January were \$8,606. This compares to \$7,577 for 2021.

Investment accounts saw decreases for the month. Merrill Lynch was down -5.99% for the month and Key was down -5.11%. Expenses were \$9,979 under budget for the month, primarily due to the vacancies in our clergy positions.

Pledges are beginning to come in for 2022. To date we have received 23 pledges for a total of \$101,070.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Scala

Property – J. Chenot reported that there are many ongoing projects including the elevator repair, repair of the roof of the church, and repair of the bells in the bell tower.

Outreach – Laura Rulison has accepted the role as the head of the Outreach Committee.

Old Business – None

New Business –

The Albany Diocese has released a survey for all members to respond. The vestry will send the link out in a Constant Contact email and we plan to also put it in the leaflet.

There will be Regional Confirmation held on May 14th at the Cathedral. We will advertise this to the parish to see if there is any interest. If there is interest, there is a tentative plan for Confirmation classes that will need to be solidified.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by F. Hershey and seconded by G. Scala, 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
Ruth Manss..... Office Manager
James P. Shortall.....Sexton
Wayne Hill.....Assisting Sexton
Janice Chenot.....Office Volunteer
E. Constance Powell.....Historian & Archivist

Vestry

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

How to Contact Us

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Monday -Friday

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E-Mail:

Receptionist@stpeterschurchalbany.org

Website:

www.stpeterschurchalbany.org

Services

Sunday

Holy Communion 8:30 a.m.

(3rd Sunday only)

Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

(1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays)

Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m.

(4th Sunday)

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

107 State St.

Albany, New York 12207

