



# THE Cornerstone

## June 2022

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

### Hope or Wishful Thinking?

*For by hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.* Rom 8:24-25

What do you hope for in life? The other day, I was talking with a friend and asked her that same question. She replied, "I hope to have good health to travel and enjoy my retirement. I hope to see my grandchildren grow up. I hope I can continue to be of service to other people."

Because we live in the world, it is natural to search for hope in what we know in the experiences, possessions, and relationships of life. But the problem with placing our hope in the things of this world is that we can never be certain about them. Things of this world are transitory. People are unreliable. We are all at the mercy of the changes and chances of this mortal life.

When we place our hopes in what is transitory and imperfect, we end up treating hope itself like a gamble. We hope tentatively, fearful of disappointment, but still longing for a positive outcome. That kind of hope is like betting on the lottery or making a wish before you blow out the candles on your birthday cake. "I hope my wish comes true!"

But that is not the kind of hope that God has called us to. The hope that God gives is *certain*. The hope that God gives is *indestructible*. The hope that God gives is *eternal*. It rests on that which cannot be taken away. It will still be as true tomorrow as it is today. True hope is precisely this: that God is always with us, with you and with me, even unto death and beyond. True hope rests on the unending, overwhelming, boundless love of God for us, a love which has been revealed for all time in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross, and by his rising again.

*Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.* Rom 5:1-5

We are all of us guilty of wishful thinking. We can't help imagining a future that will be the way we want it to be. But my prayer for all of us at St. Peter's is that we remember the difference between a *wish* and our only true *hope*, which is in Christ Jesus.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.* Rom 15:13

Respectfully Submitted: Dr. John B. Davis, Lay Preacher

# Upcoming Events

## Vestry Meeting

The June Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 14th at 5:15pm., on the second floor in the meeting room.



## Daughters of the King

The DOK'S final meeting before the summer break was held on May 22nd in conjunction with our Outreach committee director, Laura Saffares Rulison.



## (New) Outreach

Laura will be working on forming an Outreach committee over the summer. We have many programs that St. Peter's is involved with on a regular basis: St. Francis Mission, South End Children's Cafe, Equinox, The Damian Center and many more! There are so many ways we can help our community here in the downtown area. By forming a committee we can gather our talents, brainstorm ideas and help others. If you are interested in joining this committee, please reach out to Laura @ 518-368-4284 or send her an email: [lsaffares@aol.com](mailto:lsaffares@aol.com)

## Lay Eucharistic Minister

Anyone interested in learning more about becoming a Lay Eucharistic Minister? We will be having a lunch meeting after the 10:30am service on Sunday, June 19th. We will go over all of the duties and responsibilities involved in this Ministry. Anyone who is interested or even mildly curious is welcome to sit in, with no obligation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Gordon Lattey or Susan Smith after any of the services, including up to the 19th.

## Carly's Cards

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



**Choir** - Choir rehearsals will continue on the following schedule until June 9th:

Thursdays - 5:30pm - 7:00pm full choir rehearsal

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

**Summer Choir** - Members of the parish are invited to join the singing of the summer choir, beginning June 26th. We have a brief rehearsal at 9:45 on Sundays to prepare music for the 10:30 service. There is no audition, but the ability to follow musical notation is helpful.

## 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.



There in every memory  
See his love and care  
Strength and hands to count on  
Freely he does share  
Provider, toil so faithfully  
To make our dreams come true  
Give strong and tender discipline  
Though it is hard to do  
A Father is God's chosen one  
To lead the family  
And point it to His will for life  
Of love and harmony...

**Happy Father's Day to all Dads**

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

## Youth Formation & Sunday School



Mother's Day on May 8th

### Thank you!

I would like to thank all the parents/grandparents who bring their children to church each Sunday. Also a big thank you to Jim Chenot and the vestry for the continued support of the Sunday School. Janice, Ruth, Pat and Wayne the behind the scene angels, thank you for all the work you do for the children of our church. Last but not least, I need to thank our Sunday School teachers, Ariana Saffares, Sharon Vardabash and Kelly Welch. They are the glue that holds this whole program together! Thanks to all of you. *Laura*



### Awards Sunday and Ice Cream Social

The Sunday School Awards and Ice Cream Sundae Social will take place on Sunday, June 19th. The Awards will be presented during the 10:30am service. The Ice Cream Sundae Social will be held immediately following the service. Please join us in celebrating the Sunday School Children and the Sunday School teachers.

## St. Francis Mission & South End Children's Café

### St. Francis Mission Soup Kitchen - Saturday, June 18th ~ 11:00am to 1:00pm

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. 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,**

*Laura*



## Other Happenings



### WHI Alumni Retreat

June 20-22, 2022

A FREE healing retreat for veterans suffering from PTS and/or moral injury who have previously attended a WHI Retreat. Continue your journey to complete healing.

**The Closing Ceremony for this retreat is Wednesday, June 22, 10:00 a.m. The public is cordially encouraged to attend.**

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.

For more information or to register please visit the website:

<https://ctkcenter.org/healing-ministry/the-welcome-home-initiative>

The Organ Guild Concert was well attended on Saturday, April 30th.





**Burne-Jones Window**

St Peter's Church has many stained glass windows. These windows have importance in Christian instruction, and they add significant beauty to the church. One of the most outstanding, is the window donated by George S. Weaver, a Vestryman from 1872 to 1884. This window is pictured above, it depicts the Christology of the Old and New Testaments. At the top of the window we see the Temptation of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. In the main window are three figures important in the history of Christian Church. Going from left to right they are: Abraham (Abraham Heres Mundi), Melchizedek (Melchizedek Rex Salem) and David (David Rex Israel.) These figures are large and the colors are of bright red, gold and blue. At the base of the window are scenes from the nativity of Christ, including the Annunciation, the Birth, and the Adoration of the Kings. This memorial window was designed by Sir Edward Burne-Jones, a noted English artist and pupil of Rossetti. It was made under the artist's supervision by the William Morris Company in London, and installed in 1880.

# June 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			1 8:45 am - T
<b>5 The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday</b> 10:30am - Holy Communion	6	7	8 8:45 am - T
<b>12 First Sunday after Pentecost / Trinity Sunday</b> 10:30am - Morning Prayer	13	14 5:15pm - Vestry Meeting	15 8:45 am - T
<b>19 Second Sunday after Pentecost Awards Sunday - Father's Day</b> 10:30am - Holy Communion Ice Cream Sundae Social following the 10:30am service	20	21	22 8:45am - T
<b>26 Third Sunday after Pentecost</b> 10:30am - Holy Communion	27	28	29 <b>Saint Pe</b> 8:45am - Top

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Top of the Hill	2 5:00 pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30 pm - Full Choir	3	4
Top of the Hill	9 5:00 pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30 pm - Full Choir	10	11 <b>Saint Barnabas</b>
Top of the Hill	16	17	18 11:00am - Angels in Training
Top of the Hill	23	24 <b>The Nativity of St. John the Baptist</b>	25
ter & Saint Paul of the Hill	30		



# Con GRAD ulations !

## CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR 2021-2022 GRADUATES

**MATTHEW CLARK** will graduate from Cossackie-Athens Central High School with a Regents Diploma. He will be attending the University of Vermont. (Matthew is the son of Jennifer and Gavin Clark and the grandson of the late Dr. and Mrs. Robert Chaloner).

**ALISON POWELL** will graduate from Albany High School with an Advanced Regents Diploma. She will be attending the University of Connecticut (UCONN) honors program majoring in bio-medical engineering. (Alison is the daughter of Laura Staff and John Powell).

**ELIZABETH POWELL** will graduate from Albany High School with an Advanced Regents Diploma. She will be attending SUNY Potsdam with an undecided major at this time. (Elizabeth is a member of the choir and is the daughter of Laura Staff and John Powell).

**ANDREW PUGLIESE** will graduate from the Albany Academy for Boys with a High School Diploma. He will be attending the University of Tennessee majoring in Business. (Andrew is the son of Melissa and Chris Pugliese and the grandson of Joan Hagy).

**JARED RUSSOM** graduated from Daemen College with a Master's Degree in Athletic Training. (Jared is the son of Jeff and Maggie Russom and the nephew of Pete Benson).

**MOLLY RUSSOM** will graduate from Bethlehem Central High School with an Advanced Regents Diploma. She will be attending Arcadia University majoring in Art History. (Molly is a member of the choir and is the daughter of Jeff and Maggie Russom and the niece of Pete Benson).



### Those who have entered into REST:

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

Frank Spath - May 10, 2022



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## The Healing Ministry at



Join Sonya Reeder and RJ Ferguson in an exploration and invitation in understanding how giving attention to our own stories is also an invitation to further deepening our relationship with the Father.

This retreat is good for everyone but especially Spiritual Directors and those receiving or looking into receiving Spiritual Direction.

*...don't look for shortcuts to God. The market is flooded with surefire easygoing formulas for a successful life that can be practiced in your spare time. Don't fall for that stuff, even though crowds of people do. The way to life – to God! – is vigorous and requires total attention.” ~ Matthew 7:13 (The Message)*

### REGISTRATION

Join us for an exploration and invitation in understanding how giving attention to our own stories is also an invitation to further deepening our relationship with the Father. Sonya Reeder, LPC-S, and RJ Ferguson, LPC, offer a fresh perspective of understanding oneself as a matter of mapping through the vast workings of our hearts -- impacting how we lead, teach, love, and what we ultimately desire.

Spiritual formation is a willingness to live with an aching heart and an unquenchable thirst as the Holy Spirit arouses a deeper desire to know more fully the Savior whom we long to imitate as we live on this side of heaven. It is a process of detaching from anything and anybody which keeps us from going deeper with Christ, while attaching instead to Christ alone to become more like him. Continuing to be spiritually formed is central to our journey and becoming more like our savior. This journey not only involves being in the word, listening to the leading of the spirit, but it also involves creating space to be within a community of people seeking to go deeper with our Lord as we learn to relate like Him. The writer of Hebrews 3:13 tells us to encourage one another, do not go it alone. When we go it alone it creates division instead of unity and it makes us think we can find our own way instead of inviting others to walk alongside us as the spirit directs our way. We often buy into cultural individualism instead of following the way of the savior which is always relational. The Trinity itself models for us the importance of community and shares the value of relating well.

We hope this retreat will help you become more aware of the spirit's leading, give you the opportunity to be encouraged and to encourage others through sharing the stories God is telling through your life, and we hope you will come to find joy in your journey. Our desire is for this retreat to help give you a new vitality to go back into your life having encountered a God that chases after you and a God who wants you to continue on your faith journey in order to be formed to be more like His son, Jesus.

To register please go to: <https://ctkcenter.org/events/2-uncategorised/233-attending-to-the-soul-registration>

# BEAVER CROSS YOUTH MINISTRY

## SUMMER 2022

### DAY CAMP

Each camp week is structured around exciting creative themes. Hot lunches & field trips are included. Registration is available for early drop-off and includes a hot breakfast.

Dates	Grades	Regular Rate	Sibling Rate
7/6-7/8	K-8	\$140	\$130
7/11-8/19	K-8	\$230 a week	\$220 a week

FIELD TRIPS ARE BACK

### OVERNIGHT CAMP

Date	Session	Grades	Rate	Sibling Rate
7/6-7/8	Beaver Bound	K-2nd	\$180	\$160
7/10-7/15	Discoverers	3rd-5th	\$490	\$420
7/17-7/22	Adventurers I	6th-8th	\$490	\$420
7/22-7/24	Adventurers Weekend	6th-8th	\$100	
7/24-7/29	Adventurers II	6th-8th	\$490	\$420
7/31-8/5	Pioneers I	9th-12th	\$490	\$420
8/5-8/7	Pioneers Weekend	9th-12th	\$100	
8/7-8/12	Pioneers II	9th-12th	\$490	\$420

Scholarships are available

We truly believe in the power of camp and the importance it can have in a camper's life. For this reason we don't want financial strains to stop youth from building community in Christ with us. If you need help paying for a camper to attend **PLEASE** contact us for a scholarship.



Register at [WWW.BEAVERCROSSMINISTRIES.ORG](http://WWW.BEAVERCROSSMINISTRIES.ORG) TODAY

**MINUTES FOR THE VESTRY MEETING**  
**ST. PETER'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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

**Absent:** M. Lundberg, M. Moran

Opening Prayer Led by D. Spath.

**Approval of the Vestry Meeting Minutes, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

The March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 minutes were approved on a motion by F. Hershey and seconded by D. Spath. The motion was unanimously approved by the vestry.

**Sr. Warden's Report** –J. Chenot

As we look back at this past month, we started the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday which fell on of March 2<sup>nd</sup>. March was quite tranquil during the Lenten season as we continued our 10:30 Sunday Services with excellent supply ministers and Deacons. I also want to thank our wonderful LEMs who have been able to assist the supply priests during services and making them feel at home when visiting.

As we continue our Lenten journey in April, we begin setting our eyes on the upcoming weeks ahead. This coming Sunday we will be celebrating our traditional Palm Sunday Service at 10:30. We then look ahead to Holy week and Good Friday, and on Easter Sunday we will celebrate both 8:30 and 10:30 services as we have had in the past years. Saturday, the day before Easter we will have the Easter Egg Hunt at 11:00 AM at the rectory. We hope to see everyone there with their young egg hunters. Thank you Laura, for all your love and work you give all our children at St. Peter's.

Our Altar Guild, Flower Guild and Ushers have all been doing an incredible job as well. It is truly a blessing all the work all our committee's do each week to make our Sunday Services look beautiful and run smoothly. The office is also looking ahead as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter Services, including putting together the Easter lily requests for Easter Services. Thank you, Ruth and Janice for all your help through this busy season. As they do so well behind the scenes, Wayne and Pat continue to make sure our physical plant is tended to and always there to help out. Thank you both. Regarding those behind the scenes, I would also like to thank one of our vestry members, Christie Gordon, for compiling our notes from our vestry meetings, thank you Christie.

We are very fortunate to have secured Father John Scott as our celebrant during the upcoming Holy Week and Easter Services. Though we do not want to shadow all the preparation Father Scott has been working on for all our services, we are able to announce our recent call for Mother Christina Hunter to become our Priest in Charge. More details will be sent out to the congregation regarding the call, as well as position as vestry begins to work on Mother Christina's covenant. This is exciting news for all of us as we look forward to welcoming Mtr. Christina and her family to our St. Peter's family.

I hope everyone is looking forward to this upcoming Easter Sunday and I wish everyone a very Happy Easter.

Jim

**Sunday Attendance** - The Average Sunday Attendance is 65.3

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

George reviewed the Treasurer's Report for March. Offerings for the month of March were \$12,913 and Year-to-date we are at \$31,973. This compares to \$41,389 for 2021.

Investment accounts saw slight increases for the month. Merrill Lynch was up +0.97% for the month and Key was up +0.62%. Year-to-date Merrill Lynch has a return of -6.99% and Key is at -7.34%. Expenses were \$22,949 under budget year-to-date through March.

We have received 26 pledges for 2022 for a total of \$103,930.

Respectfully Submitted,

George Scala

**Property** –

We will be fixing and updating the lighting and church signage outside the church.

The next step of the Restoration Project will be replacing the choir stalls. We are working with a company out of France who will be manufacturing new stalls that will be as close to original as possible.

**Outreach** –

The outreach committee is always looking for an extra set of helping hands for the St. Francis Soup Kitchen once a month on a Saturday morning. If there is interest in helping, reach out to Laura Rulison for more information.

St. Peter's will be participating in the Albany Crop Walk again this year, headed by Maria Holden. Anyone interested in participating can connect with Maria.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business** –

The Julia Chapter of Daughters of the King has elected Susan Smith as their new President and Michele Lundberg as the Vice President.

**Adjournment**

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

Closing prayer was led by D. Spath.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christie J. Gordon

## *Clergy & Staff*

Neil K. Keen, M. Mus., FAGO, ARCM.....Organist & Choirmaster  
Mary E. Bon, M. Mus., CAGO, ARCM.....Assisting Organist  
Laura Rulison ..... Director of Christian Education  
Ruth Manss..... Office Manager  
James P. Shortall.....Sexton  
Wayne Hill.....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*

### **Office Hours:**

Monday -Friday

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

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Website:

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

## *Services*

### **Sunday**

Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

(1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays)

Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m.

(2nd Sunday)

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**107 State St.**

**Albany, New York 12207**

