



Cornerstone

February 2024

Newsletter of St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church

107 State Street, Albany, New York

ST. PETER'S CHURCH RECTOR

Let us pray. *O God, whose blessed Son hath taught us that the truth will make you free: Grant, we pray thee, that the Gospel may be so faithfully proclaimed in and through the parish family of St. Peter's Church, that Thy people may be free indeed. Bless all who labor for thee, and may our hearts be lifted daily to that Temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens, where Thou, Lord God omnipotent, liveth and reigneth, world without end. Amen.*

Worship in Beauty. Practice Mercy. Hope in Jesus Christ.

When I came to St. Peter's 18 months ago in an interim capacity, part of my job was to lead us through a parish-wide process of self-reflection. We have done that work well. We told a lot of stories. We ate a lot of good food. We listened to our neighbors, and we prayed in all of it to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit.

After all of that work together, here's what we heard as our answer – for now – to the question, “What is God Calling us to Do?” It is:

Worship in Beauty. Practice Mercy. Hope in Jesus Christ.

That mission statement summarizes what this place has been about since 1712 and what it continues to be about. And now, we get to roll up our sleeves and enter the joy of who God has called us to be.

But before we talk about that, let's take a few minutes to reflect on God's blessings.

So many good things have happened here since I spoke to you at the last annual meeting. We've seen attendance in worship grow more consistent. We have been blessed by the hard and faithful work of all our Guilds, our other volunteers, our hard-working staff, and our Vestry who serve our Lord and our parish so faithfully. I was grateful to accept the Vestry's call as rector earlier this month. We all have been happy to welcome Daniel Romero as our organist and choirmaster, and we've been blessed by Malcolm Moran's expanded leadership role as our Assistant Music Director. Our choir has continued to lead us in beautiful worship, and they delivered a lovely performance of Handel's *Messiah* in December that had the best attendance we've seen in some years.

Within our own church, we've grown in discipleship and fellowship. We've continued beloved parish-wide traditions like the Parish Picnic and the pre-Thanksgiving Day dinner, and we've added the seasonal Family Disciple group this year, which has given participants new ways to learn, serve, and play together as followers of Jesus. In addition, our wonderful Christian education team has continued to care for and teach our children about the love of God.

We've grown together in our lives in prayer. Every second Sunday, prayer with anointing is offered after worship. Some of you have joined in monthly sessions of the St. Peter's Prayer School, where we try out new forms of prayer together ranging from writing collects to silent prayer to coloring illuminated letters. Others of you joined daily Advent Morning Prayer sessions on Zoom to prepare for Christmas.

We've also continued to practice mercy and justice. In Christ's name, we've again sheltered the homeless this winter here in our building in partnership with the Capital City Rescue Mission. Many of you have joined our outreach efforts in providing food and clothing to our neighbors in West Hill through Loaves and Fishes and in caring for young people in need at the South End Children's Café. And our partnership with the Damien Center, which provides support to those living with HIV/AIDS, continues to deepen.

In the last year, we've celebrated baptisms and first communions. We've rejoiced at new marriages. And we've wept together as we've buried our dead.

This what it looked like, in 2023, for us to Worship in Beauty, Practice Mercy, and Hope in Jesus Christ. But now, more good work lies ahead.

In the coming year, here are just a few plans we've got coming up:

- A planned effort to grow and support our choir – including recruiting children again.
- Robust musical offerings, including 3 Lenten Evensongs and other special musical events designed to invite newcomers to experience the beauty of Christ.
- A series of Sunday All-Parish breakfasts that we can invite friends and family to attend, designed to welcome newcomers to experience our church.

I'll be sharing more with you in the coming months about how you can join in this work ahead of us.

In closing, I can say with all my heart that God has truly blessed us and that the Spirit continues to lead us. May Jesus Christ give us grace to follow in his steps. All glory to his holy name forever!

Grace and peace in Christ Jesus,

Mtr. Christina Hunter+

Five Core Values of St. Peter's Church:

Confess Jesus as Christ through our worship, our works of service, and our friendships, walking in the footsteps of St. Peter and many others who share our faith.

Beautiful Worship in the Anglican tradition that includes choral music, traditional liturgy, and engaging Biblical teaching in our historic church building.

Friendly Community that welcomes people of all backgrounds and perspectives into a united place of belonging.

Spiritual Foundation for children and adults to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ through study, pray, service, and play.

Do Justice and Works of Mercy among our neighbors in Albany through our mission partners and other churches.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Reflecting on the past year as I prepare my report, I pray we all realize how blessed we are at St. Peter's by God's grace. We have all overcome many obstacles in the past few years and He has been there guiding us through some dark valleys only to see His glory on the other side.

To start, in January of last year, Mtr. Christina had just completed her first Advent season with us as our Priest-in-Charge and was looking toward Lent. We began helping Mother Christina get familiar with our Lenten and Easter service traditions. We were also truly fortunate during that time to have Mary Bon continue with us as our Interim Choir Director. As many know, Mary stepped in for her husband Neil Keen, our choir director of 42 years, after his passing the prior year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mary and Neil for everything they did for all of us at St. Peter's, enriching all of us with incredible music – our love and gratitude to the both of you.

As June came around and the church calendar normally slows down for the summer, the Vestry continued to meet during the summer working on task forces Mother Christina put together. These task forces were to tackle and restore some normalcy to the life at St. Peter's after bouncing back from the past pandemic. In addition, Mother Christina began the search process for our next Organist and Choirmaster. The process led us to the calling of Daniel Romero in September to begin as our next Organist and Choirmaster. Daniel was able to quickly move into his new role, getting familiar with our busy Advent season featuring a tremendous amount of choral music. Also, Malcom Moran who has been with our choir since he was a child, began working with Daniel as the Assistant Music Director, working on his organ skills with music the choir has performed in the past. The choir was able to adapt quickly to Daniel's musical leadership and this past Advent season, Mtr. Christina and Daniel led our congregation through an incredible Advent season, finishing with our traditional Christmas Eve services.

We must remember throughout the year how much help was needed to have all these wonderful services at St. Peter's. From the Lay Eucharistic Ministers helping lead each service, the Flower Guild that supplies the beautiful flower arrangements on the altars, the Altar Guild that sets and clears the altars for Holy Communion, and the ushers that oversee the congregation and attend to those that need some assistance. And throughout the year, both Pat Shortall and Wayne Hill, our sextons, take care of the day-to-day upkeep of all our physical properties in addition to opening and closing the church as well as making sure everything is in order and clean. It truly does take an army to make these services happen and I thank each and everyone of you in coming together to make them happen.

Our church office has continued to run very well with Ruth Manss and Janice Chenot at the helm for the past few years. Each week, the unseen work, leaflets, bills, donations, payroll, phone calls, or helping those looking for help coming in from the cold or needing a snack. They also have been very instrumental in helping Mother Christina and Daniel retrieve information regarding older services, helping them get familiar with services and dedicated events performed in past years. Thank you both for all your dedication and the love you both have for St. Peter's.

The vestry and finance committees work extensively on our investments and the annual budget making sure that St. Peter's stays financially sound. Your pledges are so important in this process to be able to budget, and I would like to thank everyone who has already pledged for this year and those who may be thinking of pledging in the near future. Fortunately, St. Peter's has an endowment that continues to help supplement our budget with its investments. I want to commend and thank our treasurer George Scala for all the work he does throughout the year regarding our investments and stewardship campaign. His work is immeasurable, and we cannot thank him enough for all the time he takes to work on all the reports needed for the vestry.

Laura Saffares, our Director of Christian Education, has continued our Sunday school lessons and teachings with our younger congregation. Laura is also the Chairperson of our Outreach Committee and dedicates her time to serving meals at St. Francis Mission twice a month. She also serves holiday meals at the Damien Center and works tirelessly in making sure the people at the St. Francis Mission and The South End Children's Café are clothed and have what they need for the holidays, and beyond. Thank you, Laura, for being our ambassador regarding outreach – you are a blessing to so many in need. Thank you.

During the year, there were also the day-to-day ministries Mtr. Christina tended to including home/ hospital visits, weddings, baptisms and funerals. Mother Christina also made many personal phone calls to most of our parishioners just to check in. Mtr. Christina's love for St. Peter's and the congregation's [love](#) for her during the year became very apparent. As you may know, we had a contract with our Diocese regarding Mtr. Christina's employment with us. After eighteen months of service, Mother Christina and the vestry would both decide whether they felt it was a good fit for her to continue with our congregation and be hired as our next Rector. At our December vestry meeting, Mother Christina expressed her intent to remain with St. Peter's and we discussed the future and expectations of St. Peter's moving forward. We then convened at the January vestry meeting to finalize our decision. We all felt and agreed Mtr. Christina's calling was here at St. Peter's and on January 8th, the vestry voted and called Mtr. Christina as the next Rector at St. Peter's.

So, here we are, 2024. We have a new Rector in place, a talented new Organist and Choirmaster, and an unwavering faithful congregation. We have so much to be thankful for as we move forward. Information will be coming out shortly regarding Mtr. Christina's installation as Rector, currently scheduled at St. Peter's for Sunday, April 7th at 3:00pm with our new Bishop presiding. More information to follow regarding this joyous event as well as many other exciting celebrations that are planned to come this year. Please come and celebrate these wonderful events with us and congratulate Mtr. Christina. Additionally, we would also like to welcome Mtr. Christina's husband, Father Paul Hunter and her two children Martha and Jonathan to our church family.

I would like to thank our Junior Warden, Deb Spath, who is always there by my side offering her support and guidance. She has been a friend and someone whose opinion I value greatly. We are also blessed to have a dedicated vestry that makes sacrifices of time and effort for the betterment of our church and appreciate all your support during the past year. Unfortunately, this year we must say goodbye to Ashley Closson, member of the vestry, who has served on the vestry for two, three-year terms. We wish her our heartfelt thanks for all her years of service at St. Peter's Church.

God has clearly paved a bright future for all of us – please join us and celebrate with us any Sunday – we would love to see you again! For those faithful servants who are there day in and out supporting St. Peter's church, our Clergy and Vestry thank you all for your support.

Jim Chenot

Sr. Warden

ST. PETER'S CHURCH PROPERTY AND RESTORATION REPORT

In 2023, the Hunters finally settled in the rectory, getting familiar with the home and neighborhood. They were able to identify some small items that needed to be addressed. An old issue that needed to be investigated was the electrical at the rectory. We were able to identify all the issues and the electrical has been brought up to code. The basement also had some moisture and mold issues that were corrected and sealed properly. Gutters were installed to correct the water issue, which was going into the basement, as well as in the future preventing the water damaging the façade of the home.

The guild house had a few upgrades and renovations which included the fourth-floor apartment that is now occupied by our choir director, Daniel Romero. We also had the choir director's office overhauled, ready for Daniels arrival. Our church office also was upgraded to fiber service and new phones were installed.

The physical church also had its electrical system inspected and brought up to code where needed. We also replaced the older lights outside to more efficient lighting that now illuminates colors, as Downtown Albany begins to “illuminate” downtown businesses and buildings in color. Fiber was also brought into the church with the intent to live stream our services in the near future. The choir stalls and clergy furniture were also completed and were ready for the Advent season. We continue to focus our attention on the upkeep of the slate roof. Repairs were made last year, replacing and repairing the slate, but as roofs go, there is and will always be an issue that needs some attention. This spring, we are scheduled to have the roofs inspected again for any issues, as well as looking into a drainage issue that needs to be addressed that has begun eroding the façade of the church. More information to follow on this project.

Collectively, our physical properties are in very good condition. As stewards of St. Peter’s, we must remember the importance of the upkeep of this beautiful historic church. Please know your monetary gifts also serve a large role in these projects when budgeting. Thank you all for your financial support throughout the year.

Jim Chenot

ST. PETER’S CHURCH MUSIC PROGRAM

I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome you all have given me this fall. I would especially like to thank the vestry and wardens, and especially Mtr. Christina Hunter for all their help and support over the past few months.

Prior to my arrival this fall, Mary Bon capably served as organist and choirmaster at St. Peter’s following the sudden passing of longtime choirmaster, Neil K. Keen in August of 2022, until October of 2023. During 2023, the choir continued with their usual liturgical offerings, as well as a Good Friday performance. I’m very grateful to Mary for continuing the work of the adult choir, her efforts to organize the music office, and especially for being very helpful resource to me.

In October, most of the people who were in the choir prior to the pandemic returned to singing with us on a regular basis. The choir currently has 18 adults who regularly sing, occasionally supplemented by choir alumni around the holidays.

The choir had a busy season of Advent in 2023. On December 3, the choir sang most of Handel’s Messiah (two hours’ worth) with orchestra. Due to new publicity efforts, we had a larger audience than in past years, and we received substantially greater donations. On Sunday morning, December 17, the choir sang a festival of nine lessons and carols, very closely replicating the famous service from King’s College, Cambridge. Some of this repertoire was also included in two festive Christmas Eve services, which also featured other works for choir and two violins.

During the fall we began some initial work to restart the treble chorister program. During 2024 there will be further planning and implementation to restore this very important part of our music ministry.

I am impressed and grateful to St. Peter’s commitment to maintaining the full breadth of the Anglican choral tradition. There are very few parishes in the Episcopal Church who get to experience sung morning prayer canticles, choral evensong, and choral communion services/masses all happening under one roof. This is truly a treasure, and I’m truly grateful to make these musical offerings to the greater glory of God!

Respectfully submitted
Daniel C. Romero

ST. PETER’S CHURCH ARCHIVES

Accomplishments for 2023 in the Church Archives:

1. I wrote articles for the Church Newsletter.
2. I filed new articles in the collection'.
3. I created new boxes as needed for collection expansion.
4. I did the routine filing of newsletters and service leaflets.

Sincerely, Connie Powell

ST. PETER'S CHURCH FLOWER GUILD

In 2023 we created weekly arrangements for the Main Altar throughout the year, including arrangements of greens during Advent, poinsettias for the Christmas season, palms and lilies for Palm Sunday and Easter, as well as our traditional Thanksgiving altars of food given by the congregation and then donated. This year the food went to the South End Children's Café Cabinets, the Albany Mission Overflow Shelter (here at St. Peter's church) and Riverview Missionary Baptist Church.

We continue to be thankful to have such talented and dedicated members. We would also like to express our appreciation to Ruth Manss, in the church office, for all her invaluable assistance during the year.

We are very grateful to those who made donations of memorial, thanksgiving and celebration flowers during 2023. We would not be able to operate without the generous support of the congregation. If you are able to make a donation for flowers this year, please call the Church office to reserve a Sunday.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy W. Creagan, Chair

Sally Jennings, Ann Collins, Sharon DeBonis, Cathy Schunk, Laura Grill, Maria Holden and Catherine Gabriels.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH USHERS GUILD

St. Peter's Church is most grateful to all in the Ushers Guild who served during the past year, those continuing to serve and those who have recently joined the guild family. Ushers are the first faces of welcome and hospitality that people coming to St. Peter's Church encounter. In this post pandemic time, our ushers have welcomed back the congregation and visitors attending both morning services in our historic downtown church. Our ushers meet, greet, offer service bulletins, collect tithe, and guide visitors and congregation during each service.

Please join us in acknowledging the contributions of the following ushers:

Catherine Schunk, Sharon DeBonis, Bill Collins, Kevin Creagan, Dr. John Davis, Sam Hartt, Robin LaPlante Mark Lundberg, Michele Lundberg, Ben Clark, and Deb Spath.

A special thank you to Cate Clark and Katherine Grill who ushered for various services.

The Ushers Guild is an excellent ministry of St. Peter's Church and we encourage anyone who may be interested in joining to contact Jeff Russom at 518-879-2388, russomjeff@gmail.com or any member of the Ushers Guild for more information.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Russom

ST. PETER'S CHURCH ALTAR GUILD

St Peter's Altar Guild had a successful year in 2023. Our members are setting St. Mark's altar for an 8:30 Holy Communion service weekly. St. Mark's is also set for a communion service the first Wednesday of each month, plus additional special services as are called for throughout the year. The main altar is set for communion at the 10:30 service on two Sundays a month. Our members set the main altar for additional services at Christmas and Easter.

The Guild received a donation of a new service book and missal stand for use on St. Mark's altar from an anonymous donor for which we give thanks.

The Guild received restricted funds to continue our work in restoring our frontals and mending our silver vessels. This work has been delayed by the full schedule of Gwen Spicer, our restorer, and the closing of J. Wippell & Co Ltd in Exeter, UK. This firm created many of our beautiful frontals in the past. We are researching our options in proceeding further with restoration.

I appreciate the efforts of all our members. This is a faithful and caring group, and I am grateful for their care and devotion to our church.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a member of the Altar Guild can contact me (cathschunk@aol.com) or call the church office. Training will be provided to you.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Schunk, Director

Members: Barbara Adams, Sharon DeBonis, John Davis, Pam Gerfin, Laura Grill, Catherine Gabriels, Donna Hershey, Barbara Kelly, Michele Lundberg, Diana Martin, Malcolm Moran, Donna Ohlman, and Gloria Vanderpoel.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH DAUGHTERS OF THE KING JULIA CHAPTER

During the 2023 year, the Julia Chapter of the Daughters of the King members were dedicated to the Rule of Prayer, Evangelism and Service. Below is a list of accomplishments.

The Julia Chapter members are proud of the maintained, tremendously organized Prayer List. We continue to update the list with requests for prayers from both parishioners and other individuals.

The DOK membership assisted Laura before Easter 2023 to organize and stuff easter baskets for the homeless. All involved enjoyed helping Laura. Together, I believe we assembled 40 baskets.

Mtr. Christina requested to speak with the DOK regarding Prayer Sunday at our May 2023 meeting. Unfortunately, due to illness and scheduling conflicts, we did not meet and confirm our assistance with Mtr. Christina until September 2023. While meeting with Mtr. Christina, we discussed an idea of getting smaller DOK groups together and share positives and negatives of the small group plus discuss sharing events. After months of struggling, Jennifer Firth is assisting me with a list of memberships in the area. We are updating the Daughter of the King bylaws.

During our September meeting, attending members along with Mtr. Christina discussed our responsibility of Prayer, Service and Evangelism. The Daughters have agreed (following Morning Prayer on the 2nd Sunday of the Month) to assist Mtr. Christina in praying with those who meet in the back of the church. Our role is to greet and welcome parishioner(s) and pass them along to Mtr. Christina for prayers and/or anointing.

Also discussed was the Blessing Bags for which we are planning to shop in November 2023 and to prepare the bags the first Sunday in December.

The DOK conference was discussed and several individuals are interested in attending. The conference was attended by myself on Saturday, 10/28 held at Christ the King Center, Greenwich.

The Daughters also discussed purchasing a book regarding Women in the Bible and hopefully, we will enjoy learning about the Women in our Bible Study for which we will begin in February 2024. Even though our number of members is low, the membership remains faithful to our doctrine of Service, Evangelism and Prayer as we remain extremely active. After an intense search for new DOK members of the Julia Chapter of St. Peter's Church, we fell short of our expectations and were not able to enlist additional women in becoming involved with the DOK and enroll them in the Discernment Class. The Daughters of the King are consistently approachable and welcome new members on a continuous basis.

On Sunday, 10/8, I greeted parishioners with Mtr. Christina. That was a wonderful experience and hope to be able to repeat it soon.

Michele Lundberg supported Mtr. Christina on Prayer Sunday, 11/12. Michele appreciated the opportunity to pray with Mtr. Christina and parishioners. She found the experience very gratifying.

During the month of December 2023, the Daughters received funding totaling over \$725 from St. Peter's Church (Outreach Committee). We shopped and purchased items for Blessing Bags. Included in a Blessing Bag was deodorant, hat, gloves, lotion, feminine products, tooth brush and paste, soap, shampoo, conditioner and Kleenex. The 2lb Blessing Bags for both females and males were organized and 2/3rd was given to Laura Saffares, Director of Christian Education, who has contacts with numerous organizations, such as a men's and women's homeless shelters that are grateful to receive the bags. Approximately 1/3rd of the Blessing Bags were distributed to Gretchen Coyner, Chairperson, "Healing a Woman's Soul", Domestic Violence Ministry of Albany. Ms. Goyner was very much appreciative of the items received.

I would like to thank everyone who participated with the organizing of the Blessing Bags.

Donna Ohlman	Alice Sanigular	Samuel Hartt
Karen Chatman	Judy Burns	Mtr. Christina
Jeff Russom	Pat Shortall	

Janice Chenot (Thank you for your continuous support of the Daughters of the King)

Respectfully submitted by Susan J. Smith, Daughters of the King, President

ST. PETER'S CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Welcome to the New Year! I want to start my report on Sunday School by thanking the teachers: Kelly Welch, Sharon Vardabash, Ariana Saffares, and Ava Cehowski! The Sunday School is growing by leaps and babies! This amazing team is essential to accommodate the children we serve each week. I would also like to thank Ruth, Janice, Pat, and Wayne for always supporting me and the Sunday School. Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who bring our angels to church each Sunday. A huge thank you to Mother Christina, James Chenot, and the Vestry of St. Peter's. You are always there to support what God allows me to do upstairs with the children, for this I am blessed.

Here are some of the highlights of what the children did in Sunday School this year.

Children's Chapel: This is held every 5th Sunday during the year. Come and join us as Mother Christina plays her Ukulele, sings with the children, talks of Jesus, and brings them the meaning of the Eucharist.

Prayer Pretzels and Registration: The children were delighted to hear the Legend of the Prayer pretzels and also learned how they can pray each day.

Pumpkin Bread: We all joined in to make batches of pumpkin bread, pumpkin muffins, and pumpkin bites this year just before Thanksgiving. The joy on their faces of putting all the ingredients into a big bowl to make a delicious homemade baked good was bso special. The children take great pride in making these wonderful goodies to be shared with family and the congregation for the holiday meal.

The Annual Christmas Pageant: This is a special time of year when the children of the Sunday School can show off their talents. The children get so excited to dress as a character of the Nativity scene, from Mary and Joseph to the Kings, shepherds, and Angels.

Valentine's Day cards and goodie bags: We will be making special Valentine cards and sweet treat bags for the Damien Center in Sunday School. They will be delivered by Mother Christina, me, and other members of the church on February 11 at 3:00 pm. Join us if you can.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: Join us at the Annual Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 13th in the Parish Hall at 5pm time for a wonderful meal and fellowship.

Coloring of the Easter Eggs: March 24th during Sunday School. Please join us upstairs to color over 300 eggs for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. This year we will also be stuffing more plastic eggs for the children to find.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt: March 30th at 11:00 sharp at the Rectory! Rain or shine! Bring a friend and a basket to hunt for all the eggs. A special prize for the children who find the golden eggs!

Mother's Day: Please join us in Sunday school on this day to make very special gifts for all the moms. We will make extra for all the moms, grandmothers, and others in the congregation.

Ice Cream Social and Sunday School awards: My favorite time of the year! The whole congregation is invited to take part in making your own sundae after the 10:30 service. The children will get their special award during the 10:30 service.

Blessing to all ,

Laura Saffares

Director of Christian Education

WOMEN OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH

Remains Inactive

ST. PETER'S CHURCH OUTREACH PROGRAM

It is an honor and privilege to serve St. Peter's Church as the Outreach Chairperson. The congregation of St. Peter's has helped me provide the many facets of our program. I can only do what I do because of you! I am truly blessed to have the support to help our downtown community.

Here are some of the 2023 outreach activities:

St. Francis Mission Soup Kitchen - I now go on the 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of the month. The need to feed and clothe our community has doubled since last year. On average we feed from 300 to 380 meals a week. This is a note from Gail who runs the Soup Kitchen each week "In 2023 we served a staggering total of 14,451 meals! An increase of 2,720 from 2022. I am pleased to let you know we have received an exceptionally generous Gratitude Grant from the Regional Food Bank for \$2,000 which will be used during the 2024 calendar year". We also provide goody bags with fresh fruit, toilet paper and baked goods for the people to take home. We buy in bulk from the Regional Food Bank, which allows us to have a shopping table with cereal, yogurt, drinks, milk, eggs and personal care products. I also have the honor of distributing clothing on the weeks I am there. The donations of coats, hats, gloves, clothes and household items are accessible to all that come in our doors. This year I was able to raise money from friends and family to buy 50 board games to give the children of the soup kitchen. Outreach also helped fund Mother's and Father's Day gift bags filled with personal items, sweets and playing cards to give out to our community. Thank you to everyone who donates items to St. Francis, every item makes a big difference to so many of our neighbors. I encourage anyone that can volunteer on either Saturday to come join us in our ministry. We are there from 9am to 1pm. The address is 498 Clinton Ave; come to the back of the parking lot and knock on the big grey door.

West Bugunda - Outreach provided scholarships for 3 girls from West Bugunda to attend school, totaling \$3,000.

Thanksgiving - A large collection of food donations adorns our altar at Thanksgiving. Thanks to Nancy Creagan and the flower guild members for arranging this glorious display. Some of the food was kept at church to assist with walk-in requests. Some was donated to fill the walk up food cabinets at the South End Children's Café and some was brought to the New Life Baptist Church here in Albany.

Damien Center - This year we were able to serve the community of the Damien Center with a home cooked meal for Easter and Christmas dinner, as well as put on "cook outs" for Memorial and Labor Day. This was coordinated by Sharon DeBonis and Maria Holden. They reached out to the congregation to make pans of Turkey, summer salads, casseroles and desserts. A very special thank you to the volunteers that make it all happen: Sharon DeBonis, Maria Holden, Jeff Russom, Laura Grill, Cathy Schunk, Deb Spath, Mollie Flannery, Tanya Douglas, Diana Martin, Clark and Carol Daggett. We are also grateful to our friends Lucinda Collins, Elenor LaViolette, Lidiah Scholtes-DeBonis, Scott and Jenna Couch and the staff and members of the Damien Center for their assistance and support.

Crop Walk - Thank you to Maria Holden for organizing the CROP Walk and to all the parishioners who helped to raise \$1,326.43 for the hungry.

Carly's Cards - Thank you Susan Smith for creating this outreach in honor of Carly. She just loved sending cards to everyone in our church! If anyone would like to help with this amazing outreach, please reach out to Susan Smith

Daughters of the King - Thank you all for providing Blessing Bags to the women of The St. Francis Mission. I was able to hand out over 25 bags! Thank you also for the two additional full shopping bags of more Blessing Bags to be distributed in the weeks to come! The Daughters also helped with putting together 20 Easter Baskets for the Damien Center.

Church and Office Staff - Thank you to Ruth Manss who continues to provide outreach with the many daily "walk-ins" in need, during office hours. Thanks to all that made monetary donations, food and drinks to make this possible. A big thank you to Pat and Wayne who assist with keeping our church beautiful but also assist with people that come in our doors.

Backpacks - We collected over 70 "Back to School Backpacks" filled with school supplies for the children of St. Francis Mission. I even had enough to fill a "Gap" with the South End Children's Café! Thank you all so much.

South End Children's Café - For Thanksgiving this year we collected money from the congregation and Greenbush Tape and Label to fill 25 Thanksgiving day bags. They were filled with gift cards for a turkey, stuffing, potatoes, carrots, pies and more. They were topped off with a beautiful dish towel! Thank you Janice Chenot for helping me coordinate and shop for this amazing outreach! I will continue to collect food for the South End Children's Café walk up cabinets, please consider buying a few extra things at the market to help feed our community. The box is in the back of the church.

The Giving Tree-- This year I talked with Tracey of the South End Children's Cafe to see what St. Peter's could do for the children during Christmas. She provided a detailed list of the each child's name and what they wished for as a gift. St. Peter's congregation answered all 60 requests! Thank you all for making so many children smile this year!

St. Peter's Overflow Shelter--It has returned to the upstairs auditorium after a long hiatus. In coordination with The City Mission, we now house 10 men where they can safely sleep, grab a healthy snack and much needed peace. Thank you to Mother Christina and James Chenot for providing this service to our community.

West Point - Our Outreach committee sent \$500 to the Church of the Holy Innocents in West Point to support the Canterbury Club. It is a sister church located in West Point NY. The church gets sponsors for the new Episcopal Cadets of West Point. They welcome them to their church for moral support and to continue God's teaching. The money goes towards taking a summer and winter retreats for the cadets.

East Greenbush Animal Hospital - Sharon Evans of our congregation reached out to me about making a special donation to the St. Francis Mission. The East Greenbush Animals hospital was celebrating their 20th Anniversary and wanted to help with our Outreach. Dr. Deb Chew and her staff put together 30 personal hygiene bags for men and women. They also donated 75 sets of gloves and hats for the children of the mission. Thank you to Sharon for making this come together for our community!

I continue to be thankful and blessed by the generosity of St. Peter's Church. I need to thank the Vestry for all the support and encouragement that allows me to head this committee to help our community. I can only do this by the grace of God and the support of all of you .

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Saffares



2023 PAROCHIAL REPORT FIGURES	
ASA 2023	86.6
Baptisms	6
Confirmation/Reception	0
Weddings	2
Funerals/Committals	5

2023 VESTRY MEMBERS	
SR. WARDEN:	James Chenot
JR. WARDEN:	Deborah Spath
TREASURER:	George Scala
Ashley Closson; Sharon DeBonis; Christie Gordon; Samuel Hartt; Fred Hershey; Maria Holden; Mark Lundberg; Malcolm Moran; Jeff Russom	

2024 VESTRY ELECTION RESULTS

Jim Chenot was elected Senior Warden for his third two-year term.
 Maria Holden was elected for her second three-year vestry term.
 Christie Gordon was elected for her first three-year vestry term.
 William O. Pettit, III was elected for his first three-year term.

Congratulations to all!

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - 2024

	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
INCOME			
Offering Income/Pledged/Envelopes	\$ 180,000	\$ 193,692	\$ 195,590
Offering Income/Loose	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,675	\$ 3,500
Offering Income/Special Funds			
Altar Guild	\$ 500	\$ 25,491	\$ 500
Sunday School Offerings	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100
Easter/Lenten Offerings	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,496	\$ 4,500
Flowers	\$ 5,500	\$ 6,525	\$ 6,250
Capital Funds from Offerings	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000
Memorials	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,060	\$ 2,000
Special Services Contributions	\$ 150	\$ 505	\$ 150
Christmas Offerings	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,537	\$ 5,000
Undesignated Gifts	\$ 1,500	\$ 100	\$ 250
Other Designated Gifts	\$ 6,000	\$ 11,292	\$ 10,000
Choir & Music Gifts	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,418	\$ 1,500
TOTAL Offering Income:	\$ 211,250	\$ 253,791	\$ 231,340
Other Income			
Columbarium	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ -
Interest, Miscellaneous Income	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,304	\$ 1,000
TOTAL Other Income:	\$ 1,000	\$ 3,804	\$ 1,000
Investment Income			
Key Trust Return (Net of fees)	\$ 66,700	\$ 236,666	\$ 99,072
Merrill Lynch Return (Net of fees)	\$ 68,651	\$ 251,024	\$ 94,904
TOTAL Investment Income:	\$ 135,351	\$ 487,690	\$ 193,976
TOTAL INCOME:	\$ 347,601	\$ 745,285	\$ 426,316
=====			
=====			
EXPENSES			
Outreach			
Outreach	\$ 15,000	\$ 8,941	\$ 10,000
Total Outreach	\$ 15,000	\$ 8,941	\$ 10,000
Fellowship			
Parish Events/Hospitality	\$ 9,000	\$ 10,999	\$ 9,000
Total Fellowship	\$ 9,000	\$ 10,999	\$ 9,000
Music/Choir			
Guest Organist Stipends	\$ 1,500	\$ 26,100	\$ 1,500
Special Service Musicians	\$ 4,500	\$ 6,400	\$ 4,500
Choir Member Stipends	\$ 8,500	\$ 5,560	\$ 12,500
Music Supplies	\$ 500	\$ 290	\$ 500
Instrument Tuning & Maint, Other Misc.	\$ 3,500	\$ 17,981	\$ 5,000
Total Music/Choir	\$ 18,500	\$ 56,331	\$ 24,000
Pastoral Support			
Diocesan Conferences/Training	\$ 3,000	\$ 679	\$ 1,000
Travel	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,475	\$ 1,750
Discretionary - Rector	\$ 4,800	\$ 7,717	\$ 1,800
Discretionary - Curate/Deacon	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Visiting Clergy Stipends	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,658	\$ 1,500
Total Pastoral Support	\$ 11,800	\$ 11,529	\$ 6,050

Christian Education	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
Sunday School Supplies	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,688	\$ 2,000
Adult Education/Alpha	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ 1,000
Total Christian Education	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,688	\$ 3,000
Worship			
Altar Supplies	\$ 5,750	\$ 832	\$ 10,000
Altar Flowers	\$ 2,750	\$ 2,293	\$ 2,750
Total Worship	\$ 8,500	\$ 3,125	\$ 12,750
Administration/Salaries			
Salaries	\$ 191,833	\$ 164,410	\$ 230,647
Clergy: SECA Tax Reimbursement	\$ 5,355	\$ 5,355	\$ 5,355
Outside Services/Temporary Help	\$ 4,000	\$ 620	\$ 4,000
Legal Fees	\$ 10,000	\$ 1,125	\$ 10,000
Diocesan Assessment	\$ 66,000	\$ 66,021	\$ 66,000
Total Administration	\$ 277,188	\$ 237,531	\$ 316,002
Operations			
Advertising	\$ 1,500	\$ 961	\$ 1,500
Archival Expense	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500
Books & Subscriptions	\$ 500	\$ 821	\$ 500
Office Supplies	\$ 2,000	\$ 823	\$ 1,000
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 10,500	\$ 5,383	\$ 5,500
Maintenance Agreements	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,174	\$ 4,500
Equipment Lease Expense	\$ 4,700	\$ 4,477	\$ 4,700
Staff Training	\$ -	\$ 2,089	\$ 1,000
Postage	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,878	\$ 1,500
Printing/Web Site Expense	\$ 2,250	\$ 3,228	\$ 2,250
Telephone/Cable/Internet	\$ 7,500	\$ 10,814	\$ 10,250
Bank Charges	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,808	\$ 1,500
Insurance (Liability, Property, Auto, Comp)	\$ 35,000	\$ 37,661	\$ 37,500
Parking: Staff & Parish	\$ 7,000	\$ 6,960	\$ 7,000
Total Operations	\$ 79,450	\$ 81,077	\$ 79,200
Payroll Related Expense/Benefits			
Payroll Processing	\$ 5,500	\$ 12,708	\$ 5,500
Health & Dental Insurance	\$ 48,000	\$ 54,888	\$ 51,000
Clergy Housing Allowance/Equity	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pension	\$ 12,000	\$ 28,047	\$ 31,500
FICA (Employer Expense)	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,904	\$ 7,250
Disability Expense	\$ 1,000	\$ 843	\$ 1,000
Total Payroll Related/Benefits	\$ 76,500	\$ 102,390	\$ 96,250
Plant Operations			
Capital Improvements	\$ 25,000	\$ 45,458	\$ 25,000
Janitorial Supplies	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,247	\$ 2,750
Church & Guild Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 20,000	\$ 37,616	\$ 20,000
Church & Guild Gas/Electric	\$ 25,000	\$ 27,076	\$ 25,000
Water/Sewer	\$ 1,000	\$ 764	\$ 1,000
Property Taxes/Town NFP Fee	\$ 500	\$ 529	\$ 500
Rectory Maintenance	\$ 8,600	\$ 15,946	\$ 8,600
Rectory Electric/Gas	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,650	\$ 4,000
Total Plant Operations	\$ 85,100	\$ 133,286	\$ 86,850
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 585,538	\$ 646,897	\$ 643,102
GAIN/(LOSS):	\$ (237,937)	\$ 98,388	\$ (216,786)

St. Peter's Happenings

Candlemas with Communion

On Friday, **February 2nd** at 5pm there will be a Holy Communion service including a candlelit procession to celebrate The Presentation of Jesus Christ our Lord in the Temple. The said service will be held in St. Mark's Chapel. After the service, all are welcome to join Mtr. Christina and her family at The Skinny Pancake at 1 Steuben St. in downtown Albany to celebrate the French tradition of making crepes on this feast day.

Wednesday Lectionary Lunches: Bring a bag lunch and join Mtr. Christina in the Pumpelly Room after Noonday Prayer at 12:30pm. During this informal gathering, we'll chat about any questions or observations you have regarding the day's Bible readings (but no Biblical/spiritual topic is off limits!) Need the readings? Visit:

<https://prayer.forwardmovement.org> and click "Daily Readings." Drinks will be provided.

Learn to Pray – St. Peter's Prayer School: This adult education course will meet this month on the second Wednesday, February 14 at 1:00pm in the Pumpelly Room, following the Ash Wednesday Service at 12:00pm. Please join us for this month's class: "Examen and Confession".

Class on Episcopal Confession – "All May. None Must. Some Should." The phrase "Go to Confession" can conjure up images of Roman Catholic priests assigning "Hail Marys" as penance. Yet there is a form of this sacramental practice that is part of our Episcopal heritage. We'll gather on Sunday, Feb. 11 after the 10:30 service to learn about that practice. We'll also spend a few minutes learning about a private prayer practice known as the "Examen" that is a great aid in self-reflection. This class is part of the St. Peter's Prayer School series.

BURNING OF THE PALMS

The congregation is invited to bring last year's blessed palms from Palm Sunday to church to be burned and turned into the blessed ashes that are distributed on Ash Wednesday. The palms will be burned at a short prayer service during the Shrove Tuesday gathering this year (children welcome!). A labeled basket will be placed in the Tower Chapel to collect palms until the Last Sunday after the Epiphany, **February 11th**.

Vestry Meeting

The February Vestry meeting will be held on **Monday, February 12th** at 5:15pm, as the Shrove Pancake will be taking place on Tuesday night.

Shrove Tuesday

Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on Tuesday, **February 13th** from 5pm to 6:30pm. Volunteers are needed to cook and should arrive by 4pm. Many other volunteers are needed for clean-up so that the Parish Hall can be ready by 7pm for the arrival of the men from the Overflow Shelter. If you have any questions or are volunteering to cook, please contact Janice Chenot at 518-786-1070.

Lent Early Morning Prayer on Zoom: Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 6:30am, Mtr. Christina will lead Morning Prayer on Zoom, Wednesdays through Fridays, ending on Good Friday, March 29. The service takes about 20 minutes. Coffee and pajamas are just fine. Bring your Prayer Book and Bible or just come to listen. All are welcome to prepare our hearts to encounter the Risen Lord on Easter Sunday. Zoom Meeting ID: 837 6018 1434. Password: 027098.

Ash Wednesday Services

Please join us for services on Ash Wednesday, **February 14th**. They are as follows: 12pm and 5:30pm both with imposition of ashes. The 12pm service will be a said service and the 5:30pm service will be a full Holy Communion service with music.



Sunday Study of the Lenten Saints: John and Charles Wesley. Anna Julia Haywood Cooper. Janani Luwum. Patrick of Ireland. Sundays in Lent following the 10:30 service, we'll learn about saints who are part of our Anglican/Episcopal heritage. This study will include a brief biographical sketch of the week's saint, followed by a group discussion of an excerpt of their writing. This series will be led by Mtr. Christina Hunter and Dr. John Davis. More details to come.

Choral Evensong during Lent - On the following Fridays at 5:30 pm: February 23, March 8 and March 22




St. Peter's will offer Choral Evensong on three Fridays during the season of Lent. Choral Evensong is the traditional sung version of Anglican Evening Prayer, sung in the English Cathedral tradition. The parish choir prepares a significant amount of choral music for these services, which provides for an especially beautiful and artistic form of worship. Following Evensong, everyone is invited to food and fellowship at a local restaurant that serves fish.



February 2024



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

				1 No Choir Rehearsal	2 Presentation of Jesus in the Temple 5:00 - Holy Communion Service	3
4 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Holy Communion Both Services 8:30am 10:30am	5	6	7 Holy Communion 12:05pm	8 Full Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm	9	10 Angels in Training 11:00am
11 Last Sunday after the Epiphany 8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Morning Prayer 12:00pm - Prayer School 3:00pm - Winter Disciple "Serve"	12 Vestry Meeting 5:15pm	13 Shrove Pancake Supper - 5:00pm	14  Ash Wednesday 12:00pm - Ashes 1:00pm - St. Peter's Prayer School "Examen and Confession" 5:30pm - Holy Communion w/Ashes and Choral	15 Full Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm	16	17 Angels in Training 11:00am
18 First Sunday in Lent Holy Communion Both Services 8:30am 10:30am 12:00pm - Lenten Saints Study	19 President's Day Office Closed	20	21 Noonday Prayer 12:05pm Lectionary Lunch 12:30pm	22 Full Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm	23 Evensong 5:30pm	24 St. Matthias the Apostle
25 Second Sunday in Lent 8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Morning Prayer 12:00pm - Lenten Saints Study	26	27	28 Noonday Prayer 12:05pm Lectionary Lunch 12:30pm			

* In observance of President's Day, the church office will be closed on Monday, February 19th.

MINUTES FOR THE VESTRY MEETING
ST. PETER'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
December 12th, 2023

Present: Mtr. Christina, J. Chenot, D. Spath, P. Benson, A. Closson, S. Debonis, C. Gordon, M. Holden, M. Lundberg, J. Russom, G. Scala

Absent: S. Hartt, F. Hershey

Opening Prayer Led by Mtr. Christina.

Approval of the Vestry Meeting Minutes, November 14th, 2023

The vestry minutes from the November 14th, 2023 meeting were approved on a motion by M. Lundberg, seconded by D. Spath, then unanimously approved by the vestry.

Priest in Charge Report – Mtr. Christina

Rector stuff:

Concluded the yearlong Matthew preaching series on Christ the King Sunday.

Led second the November session of St. Peter's Prayer School (Intercession and Imagination) on Sunday, Nov. 26.

Led the first December session of St. Peter's Prayer School (Candles and Contemplation) on Sunday, Dec. 10.

Scheduled Winter Family Disciple for Jan/Feb/March and have started inviting people to sign up.

Have scheduled Confirmation classes to begin in January for three candidates.

Did three home visits.

Leading Morning Prayer on Zoom during Advent weekdays at 6:30 am.

Am again calling through our directory to touch base with all our members during Advent.

Officiated at a special Thanksgiving Eve service of Noonday Prayer on Nov. 22.

Celebrated the Feast of St. Nicholas on Dec. 6 at the 12:05 pm Wednesday service with Holy Communion.

Was a speaker on the panel "Exploring our Call to Ministry" at the Inspired Leadership Conference held at Christ the King Center on Dec. 9.

Participated in Roots Jam at the Cathedral on November 26. Planning another session in January.

Interim stuff:

Big Picture Update: Taking a break from most Big Picture work until January to focus on Advent/Christmas.

Administrative Update: Will address this in the task forces part of our meeting.

Discernment regarding rector's position: will address this under new business.

SAVE THE DATE:

Lessons & Carols and Hanging of the Greens – Dec. 17

Christmas Eve – Dec. 24 at 4:30 and 10 pm.

Feast of the Confession of St. Peter (Patronal Feast) – Jan. 21, 2024.

Annual Meeting – Jan. 28, 2024.

Submitted by The Rev. Christina Hunter

Sr. Warden's Report –J. Chenot

We started our first Sunday of Advent in the afternoon, Sunday December 3rd with a magnificent performance of Handel's Messiah with our choir with orchestra, led by our new choir director Danial Romaro. The annual musical tradition was well attended with many commenting on how wonderful the music and performance was. Our thanks to all the musicians for all their musical talents and the dedication needed to put a top-notch performance such as this together. Following the performance, our traditional Messiah party was held at the Chenot residence.

As the year comes closer to the end, we would like to thank all of those who have sent in their pledge cards already for next year and hope others will be able to fill out a card to help the finance committee properly budget for 2024.

This past Sunday, December 10th at the 10:30 service, the Sunday school performed their annual Christmas Pageant. Many thanks to Laura Safaris and all those in our Christian education department for all the coordination and rehearsing that went into to perform this performance. Lessons and Carols will be performed this coming Sunday, December 17th at the 10:30 service, followed by The Hanging of the Greens at 12:00. Lunch will also be served for all those helping with decorating and preparing the church for Christmas. We always look forward to this Sunday event each year beautifying the church for our Christmas services.

During this time of year there is an incredible amount of unseen extra work and time put in that is needed too for us to enjoy the Advent and the Christmas season. The vestry would like to thank the Flower Guild, Altar Guild and the Usher's who volunteer so much of their time during this busy time of year. We also would like to thank Wayne and Pat for keeping the Church and physical plant clean and tidy, especially during the Advent season. Finally, enough cannot be said to Janice and Ruth for all their work throughout the year and especially this time of year in the office. We are truly deeply indebted to both and thank them for all their dedication and hard work.

To end, we would like to thank Mother Christina for all her tireless work preparing for this upcoming Advent Season. Thank you for your love and commitment to St. Peter's Church, as well as all your work to the immediate community helping those in need. St. Peter's and Albany is very blessed to have Mother Christina ministering to all of us, as well as those coming off the street looking for help and support. Thank you.

We want to wish everyone a blessed and Merry Christmas and wish everyone a safe and Happy New Year.

Sunday Attendance – The Average Sunday Attendance is 86.6 (as of December 31, 2024)

Finance – G. Scala - Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer’s Report Highlights/Summary – November 2023

	November	YEAR-TO-DATE
OFFERINGS	\$14,036	\$191,798
EXPENSES	(\$48,739)	(\$567,028)
GAIN/(LOSS)	(\$34,703)	(\$375,230)
WITHDRAWALS FROM EN-DOWMENT TO FUND SHORTFALL	\$8,722	\$338,614

Endowment Return (Merrill Lynch)

Nov: +7.77%

Index Calculated Return: +8.03%

Updated 2024 Pledges:

18 for a total of \$85,540

YTD Offerings through Nov '23 are \$34,160 higher than '22

Property –

J. Chenot discussed that the only major project for 2024 will be fixing the roof of the church. The vestry will continue discussing plans for funding this project.

Outreach – S. Debonis

Thanksgiving was observed by the distribution of bags of all the ingredients for a turkey dinner (with vouchers in place of turkeys, as 25 frozen turkeys turned out to be a lot to store and transport) to the people at the South End Children’s Café. Laura Saffares and Janice Chenot did the shopping, as they do every year. The backpack project has been well supported, with many fully-equipped backpacks being donated by parishioners. We are now gearing up for Christmas, with the Giving Tree, which is enormously popular, for gifts requested by children at the Children’s Café and the St. Francis Mission, the continued collection by Laura of warm clothing for adults and children, and preparations for dinner at the Damien Center. The tireless cooks of St. Peter’s are preparing a bounty of side dishes, Deb Spath and Sharon DeBonis will cook turkeys and gravy, and Laura and Sharon will serve at noon on Christmas Day. Laura and a growing contingent of St. Peter’s parishioners continue to serve faithfully, twice a month, at St. Francis’ Mission. A reminder that, as the non-English-speaking number of people served continues to grow, anyone who speaks even a smattering of another language is most welcome to come and help communicate with the people we serve.

Old Business – None

New Business –

The vestry reviewed the 2024 proposed budget prepared by G. Scala. The proposed budget was approved on a motion by D. Spath, seconded by A. Closson, then unanimously approved by the vestry.

Due to M. Moran accepting a paid position at the church, he has stepped down from his vestry seat. When this occurs, the vestry nominates someone to complete out the term of the vacated seat. C. Gordon was nominated by D. Spath, seconded by M. Holden, then unanimously approved by the vestry.

The vestry began discussing nominations for the open vestry seats. They will be reaching out to potential candidates, and the ballot will be voted on at the January vestry meeting.

The 18 month Rector in Charge Covenant between Mother Christina Hunter and St. Peter’s Episcopal Church will end in January. Mtr Christina and the vestry began discussing the options moving forward. Options include Mtr. Christina forming a new Covenant to officially become the Rector of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, or if one party does not wish to continue, the vestry would begin a new Rector search. The vestry will have an official vote at the January meeting.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by J. Russom and seconded by M. Lundberg, then was approved unanimously by the vestry.

Compline was led by Mtr. Christina.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christie J. Gordon

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Christina Hunter.....Rector
Daniel Romero.....Organist & Choirmaster
Malcolm Moran.....Assistant Music Director
Laura Saffares.....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

Pete Benson, Sharon DeBonis, Christie Gordon, Samuel Hartt, Fred Hershey, Maria Holden, Mark Lundberg, William O. Pettit III, Jeff Russom

How to Contact Us

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Telephone: 518-434-3502

Fax: 518-462-4419

E-Mail:

Receptionist@stpeterschurchalbany.org

Website:

www.stpeterschurchalbany.org

Services

Sunday

Holy Communion 8:30 am

Holy Communion 10:30 am

(1st & 3rd Sundays)

Morning Prayer 10:30 am

(2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays)

Sunday School 10:30 am

Wednesday

Holy Communion - 12:05pm

(1st Wednesday of the month)

Noonday Prayer - 12:05pm

(All other Wednesdays)

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

107 State St.

Albany, New York 12207

