



THE Cornerstone

June 2017

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

From the Rector

"You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

(Luke 24:49.)

The Lord has gone up with a shout and we here wait for the power from on high. The Feast of the Ascension is not easy to unpack in terms of the way it really affects us. It is at once glorious and pulling us upward along with the Lord, but it is also a leaving. A leaving which we feel acutely and can only imagine how it must have felt for the disciples who walked this earth with the Lord.

Consider, these disciples had lost Jesus, then gloriously gotten Him back in the Resurrection. But just forty short days later, after appearing to them, Luke tells us, with "many convincing proofs," it is time for Jesus to go home and be seated at the right hand of the Father. Our Lord brings to heaven His Incarnate flesh, giving us a fore-vision of the resurrection of the body. Meanwhile, the disciples wait and have much to ponder and so do we.

One of the things that might resonate in us in pondering Jesus' return to heaven is how it mirrors our own understanding of life as His disciples. Jesus has labored, done his work, and now goes home from this hurtful and broken world. As my paternal grandmother would have put it, He has "gone to His reward." Obviously, it is different from us in that Jesus is going full circle. Heaven to earth, earth to heaven. Our journey is one way. But it does reveal the paradigm of faith. Labor first, rest later. This brings us to the Church.

Saint Paul says, *"And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all."* (Ephesians 1:22.) *The power from on high is church power. The power to be the Church through the Third Person of the Holy Trinity.*

When the Holy Spirit comes for the disciples, there will be no mistaking what it is all about. The leaving will be replaced with power. The Lord's presence with them will be new, but as strong as ever. One need only read a few chapters into Acts to see how the Holy Spirit is as real a presence as the Lord's own walking with them back in Galilee. A new sense of purpose replaces any worry of Jesus' going home. They are not afraid, they are not bereft, they know what it is all about. And they can barely wait to get to work.

So what about us? Ascension really asks, are we mourners or are we laborers? For the Ascension truly is about receiving power and purpose. It is about the gift of life breathed into Christ's Body still upon earth. As we wait for the power from on high this Feast of Pentecost, may a fresh flame be kindled in our hearts about the work of the Church, especially here at Saint Peter's. Those first disciples and those who followed have given us this church. It happened by power from on high. Power coming down because our Lord has gone up. Rightly do we sing,

"Hail the Day that sees Him rise! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!"

Pentecost Blessings, Fr. Hartt

From the Associate Rector

The Julia Chapter of the Daughters of the King...

On Sunday, May 21st, we welcomed three new members into the Daughters of the King. Those who attended recognized this as a special spiritual event for our entire parish to celebrate. Others reading this may not have been present, so I will begin with an introduction to the Daughters, as given in the sermon that day which focused on one verse from the Gospel of John:

Jesus said, "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you." (John 15:7)

In reflection, I preached, "If you know anything about the Daughters, know this: they are all about asking. It is the Daughters that remember our prayer needs before God every day of their lives. Right now, there are over 100 prayer requests that the Daughters are remembering before God. I'm astounded by that, and, as a Daughter, am equally honored that so many of you have entrusted your prayer needs to us. They are names on a piece of paper tucked into our Bibles, yes; but they are far more than names on a piece of paper. They are illnesses. They are desperate situations. They are impending deaths. They are broken relationships. They are ministry needs of the church. They are You. When the Daughter sits to pray, she prays for You. She chooses to take time from her day and gift it to you; gift it to God; gift it for the sake of the Kingdom. The fact that we now have 11 faithful women praying these prayers multiplies them greatly. God does not have one persistent woman knocking his door. God has 11 mighty women pounding on it! If God were a man I would pity him. But because He is God - this glorifies Him. God wants us pounding - wants it deeply. It is how we honor him."

The Daughters are women like you and I (or like your friend, mom, sister or aunt) who simply pledge three things:

1. *To pray daily for the needs of the church.* Our prayer requests remain confidential as we lift these needs to God. It is done in private, yet builds an intimacy and connectedness with both the individual prayed for and God. It is a privilege and honor to bring the needs of the church before God.
2. *To support the clergy and help when needed.* Like many of the laity, we know that the clergy need many hands to make ministry happen at St. Peter's. We might provide a meal around a retreat or other spiritual event or baked goods for coffee hour. Other times, we have aided in Polishing the Pews. We offer our gifts and time to support ministries at our church.
3. *To wear the Cross of the Order regularly.* The Cross the Daughter wears is unique and special. It was designed especially for the Order and stays with a Daughter through her death at which time she may be buried with it or request it be returned to the Order. Its inscription, in Latin, translates "With heart, mind and spirit, uphold and bear the Cross." Often times, others take notice of this special cross and make inquiry and it, thus, becomes a form of evangelism.

I'm writing this article for two reasons. First, to celebrate and thank the Daughters who have pledged themselves to our prayers. They are remarkable women, full of the Holy Spirit of God and a great blessing to our church. Second, I write to dispel myths or mystery surrounding the Daughters and to give information on who we are and what we do in hopes that others might consider joining this prayer ministry. When we pray, God listens. Could God be calling you to join us?

One does not need to answer that question immediately. The Daughters of the King provides a time for discernment and reflection while interested women meet with Daughters within our church and learn about the Order and the work that we do. The study takes several weeks and at the end each woman then decides if she is called to join the Order of the Daughters of the King.

We will be planning Discernment Classes at St. Peter's in the fall/winter 2017-18. Until then, we would ask, might you pray about joining us? All this we do...For His Sake.

Yours in Christ,

Mother Sue+

With and on behalf of the Julia Chapter Daughters:

Judy Burns	Kathy Keenan
Karen Chatman	Michele Lundberg
Cathy Connors	Kate Marlay
Carly Crewell	Alice Sanigular
Julia Hotmer Drao	Susan Smith
Mother Sue Waldron	



Its inscription, in Latin, translates:
"With heart, mind and spirit, uphold and bear the Cross."

For His Sake...

**I am but one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything, but I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do.
What I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do.
Lord, what will you have me do?**

Daughters of the King

The Julia Chapter of the Daughters of the King meets monthly to go over our Prayer List as well as help plan seasonal events at Church. We welcome our members and other women who are interested in learning about the Daughters of the King. We meet on Sundays following the 10:30am service in the Vestry Room. Future Meeting Dates are: June 4th, July 9th, August 13th, September 10th, October 8th, November 12th and December 10th, 2017.



Congratulations to the New Members of the Julia Chapter of The Daughters of the King which was held on May 21st.



Photos were taken by Jeffery Russom



Con GRAD ulations !

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR 2016-2017 HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES



CAROLINE E. CREAGAN graduated from the Albany Academy for Girls. She will be attending St. Lawrence University pursuing a Bachelor of Arts Degree. (Caroline is the daughter of Kevin and Nancy Creagan).

SIAN FLANNERY graduated from Barnard College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in French and Francophone Studies. (Sian is the daughter of Maria Holden and Terry Flannery).

MIRIAM KAMYA graduated from Northwestern University with a Master's Degree in Public Policy and Administration. (Miriam is the daughter of Moses Kamya).

EDWINA BLAKE ROOSEVELT MAGGS graduated from Syracuse University with a Bachelor of Science Degree. She will be pursuing her Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology at the Graduate School Columbia or Syracuse. (Winnie is the daughter of Tom and Amy Maggs).

ANDREW PLATEK graduated from Northfield Mount Herman School in Gill, Massachusetts. He will be attending the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. He will be playing basketball for the Tar Heels. (Andrew is the son of Catherine Schunk and Michael Platek).

DAVID MICHAEL POWELL will graduate from Albany High School with an Advanced Regents Diploma. He will be attending Middlebury College in Vermont majoring in Economics. (David is the son of Laura Staff and JP Powell).

LIAM P. ROOHAN graduated from LeMoyne College with a dual major Bachelor of Science Degree in Business, Marketing/Analytics. (Liam is the son of Raymond and Dorothy Roohan and the grandson of Pat Hartman).

JARED RUSSOM will graduate from Bethlehem Central High School with an Advanced Regents Diploma. He will be attending Daemen College majoring in Athletic Training. (Jared is the son of Jeff and Maggie Russom).

GEORGE SAIDE graduated from SUNY Albany with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physics.

PAUL W. SCHULT will graduate from Hamilton Central School with a Regents Diploma. He will be attending Boston College majoring in Biology. (Paul is the grandson of Edith Allen).

RICHARD SWEENEY will graduate from Bethlehem Central High School with a Regents Diploma. He will be attending Harvard University majoring in Applied Math. (Richard is the son of R. Matthew Sweeney and Victoria Stanton Sweeney).

HANNAH WEIR TUCKER will graduate from Saratoga Springs High School with an Advanced Regents Diploma with a Mastery in Science. She will be attending Sacred Heart University pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Exercise Science and a Doctorate in Physical Therapy with a minor in honors. (Hannah is the granddaughter of Diana Martin).

JUSTIN PAUL WAGNER will graduate from Guilderland Central High School with a Regents Diploma. He will be attending the University of Tampa majoring in Criminal Justice. (Justin is the grandson of Elaine Keenan).

Pentecost is Sunday, June 4th

We will have wonderful services including baptisms (at our 10:30AM service). As is customary within our tradition, we are encouraging you to wear red to church on Pentecost (red symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit).

Friends of St. Peter's

This group meets on Tuesdays at 1PM through the month of June in the Pumpelly Room. Come and enjoy coffee and conversation. All are welcome!!



Awards Sunday and Ice Cream Social

This year the Sunday School and Choir Awards and Ice Cream Sundae Social will occur on two different dates. The Awards were presented on Sunday, May 7th during the 10:30AM Service. The Ice Cream Social will be on Sunday, June 18th following the 10:30 service. Please join us in celebrating our esteemed choir members and Sunday school teachers.

PLEASE NOTE: Full choir and Sunday School will continue through Sunday, June 18th.



Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays at 3:00pm during May and June Mother Sue welcomes the women of the church to join us beginning Tuesday, May 2nd for our study on 1st and 2nd Thessalonians presented by Beth Moore. We will read and complete reflection questions during the week at home and then gather together on Tuesday afternoons to watch and discuss the video series. Please let Mother Sue or Kristin (in the office) know you'd like to join us and we will order you a workbook (suggested donation \$15.00).



Recovery Ministries

Recovery Ministries network serves as a voice of conscience to Episcopalians throughout the world, building awareness of pastoral and spiritual ministry to those addicted. Help the addicted and those who love them connect with spiritual resources and find lasting recovery. For more information please visit: <http://www.episcopalrecovery.org/resource> links

Church Chuckles!



Vestry Meeting

The June Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 13th at 5:15pm.

Outreach

The June Outreach meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 13th at 4:30 pm. Please join us to learn about Outreach ministries and hospitality events being planned!

EDOA Convention

Shine! It's time to shine! The 149th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany is coming up on Friday, June 9th through Sunday, June 11th at Camp of the Woods in Speculator. Our theme this year is Shine!, based on Matthew 5:16. There are many exciting workshops to choose from to show you how to get your shine on! If you'd like more information, you may access: <https://www.albanyepiscopaldioecese.org/forms/Convention/2017/2017ConventionRegistrationForm.php>

EDOA Volunteers Needed

We need help at Convention - we can't do it without you! If you're willing to volunteer, make sure to check the box on your registration form (it's at the bottom of the form). If you've already registered but want to volunteer, you can still volunteer by visiting: <https://www.albanyepiscopaldioecese.org/forms/Convention/2017/VolunteerAfterRegForm.html>

The Diaper Drive Returns

The Albany Refugee Resettlement Ministry is holding its seventh annual Diaper Drive at Convention. All diapers donated will go directly to Burmese refugee families living in the cities of Albany and Rensselaer. Diaper sizes 3, 4, and 5 are needed. (The diaper bank has recently received a good supply of N, 1, & 2 sizes). All donations will be collected near the Convention Registration area in Purdy Center at Camp of the Woods throughout Convention. If you would rather give "dollars for diapers," just make a check out to St. David's Church and write "Diaper Ministry" in the memo line. All donations received will go towards buying diapers for families in need. St. Peter's parishioners can bring diapers (or checks) for donation to Church by Wednesday June 7th and Mother Sue will transport them to Convention.



Youth Formation & Sunday School

Youth Sunday

Children's Chapel and Youth Sunday will return in the fall.

St. Francis Mission Soup Kitchen

(a.k.a. Angels in Training)

On the 3rd Saturday of each month (June 17th) we invite you to join Laura Rulison and others from St. Peter's to prepare and serve lunch at this Episcopal church on Clinton Avenue, Albany. Generally, over 100 adults and children come for lunch therefore many hands mean light work! Please call Laura for information or to let her know you are coming at 368-4284.



Beaver Cross Camp Dates!

2017 Overnight Camp Dates

Beaver Bound	July 5 - July 7	K-2 Grade
Discoverers	July 2 - July 7	3-5 Grade
Adventurers 1	July 9 - July 14	6-8 Grade
Adventures Weekend	July 14 - July 16	6-8Grade
Adventurers 2	July 16 - July 21	6-8 Grade
Pioneers 1	July 24 - July 28	9-12Grade
Pioneers Weekend	July 28 - July 30	9-12Grade
Pioneers 2	July 30- Aug 4	9-12Grade

*Drop-off is Sunday, 2-4PM and Camper Pickup is Saturday at 10:00 followed by a closing ceremony and cookout for campers and their families.

2017 Day Camp Dates

Day camp 1	July 3 - July 7
Day camp 2	July 10 - July 14
Day camp 3	July 17 - July 21
Day camp 4	July 24 - July 28
Day camp 5	July 31 - Aug 4
Day camp 6	Aug 7 - Aug 11
Day camp 7	Aug 14 - Aug 18
Day camp 8	Aug 21 - Aug 22

*A Day Camp Week runs Monday-Friday from 8:00-5:00 every day. An early 7:30 drop-off with breakfast is available for an extra charge. Every Day Camp week is open to kids grades K-6.

For registration forms pick one up at the church office, or visit <http://www.beavercrossministries.org/>



Youth Bible Study

WHAT IS TUESDAY NIGHT LIVE?

TNL is our first ever live stream Bible Study. TNL airs every Tuesday night from 7:00pm-7:30pm. Our theme for the spring is That You May Have Life: Jesus Purposeful Plan of Redemption. Through this series we will be focusing on the intentional, sovereign, saving work of Christ in our lives and the world! This live stream will allow youth groups from across the region, and even around the world, to tune in and study the word of God together in an interactive online experience! More information can be found at: <http://www.beavercrossministries.org/tuesday-night-live.html>



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 would like to Congratulate Matthew Clark, Caitlyn Connors, Holli Frazier, Hannah Grill, Mae Healy, Mckenzie Murphy, and George Saide on making their Confirmation on May 13, 2017 at The Cathedral of All Saints in Albany, with the Rt. Rev William H. Love, Bishop of Albany. Thank you to Cathy Connors for this lovely photo.





We would like to Thank everyone who helped with our Art & Vintage Sale

Photos were taken by Nancy Creagan



June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			
<p>4 Pentecost</p> <p>8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Holy Communion DOK Meeting following 10:30 am service</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:00pm - Treble Rehearsal</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1:00pm - Friends of St. Peter's 3:00pm - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:45am - Top o' 12:05pm - Hol</p>
<p>11 Trinity Sunday</p> <p>8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Morning Prayer</p> <p>Diocesan Convention</p>	<p>12 Saint Barnabas</p>	<p>13</p> <p>1:00pm - Friends of St. Peter's 3:00pm - Women's Bible Study 4:30pm - Outreach Meeting 5:15pm - Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:45am - Top o' 12:05pm - Hol</p>
<p>18 Second Sunday after Pentecost Father's Day</p> <p>8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Holy Communion</p> <p>Ice Cream Sundae Social following the 10:30am service</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>1:00pm - Friends of St. Peter's 3:00pm - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:45am - Top o' 12:05pm - Hol</p>
<p>25 Third Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Morning Prayer</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>1:00pm - Friends of St. Peter's 3:00pm - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:45am - Top o' 12:05pm - Hol</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1</p> <p>5:00pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30pm - Full Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>12:30pm - Organ Concert 7:30pm - Organ and Choral Concert</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>of the Hill ly Communion</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>12:30pm - Organ Concert</p> <p>Diocesan Convention</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Diocesan Convention</p>
<p>of the Hill ly Communion</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>12:30pm - Organ Concert</p>	<p>17</p> <p>11:00am - Angels in Training</p>
<p>of the Hill ly Communion</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist</p>
<p>of the Hill ly Communion</p>	<p>29 Saint Peter & Saint Paul</p>	<p>30</p>	

Diaconal Ordinations

The Ordinations of Barbara Mitchell and Candace Palumbo to the Sacred Order of Deacons will take place on Saturday, June 3rd at 11:00 am at St. George's Episcopal Church, 912 NY Route 146, Clifton Park, NY 12065, with The Rt. Rev. William Love, Bishop officiating.

Installation of The Twenty-first Dean of The Cathedral of All Saints



You are cordially invited to the

Installation and Institution

of

The Very Reverend Dr. Leander S. Harding

as

*the Twenty-first Dean of
The Cathedral of All Saints
62 South Swan St.
Albany, NY 12210*

at

*Choral Evensong
Sunday, June 4th, 2017*

at

Three O'clock in the Afternoon

Your prayers and presence are requested

*Clergy are invited to vest and process
in choir dress
(Cassock, Surplice, Tippet and Hood)*



Volunteer Schedules

We wish to thank our volunteers for their service to St. Peter's. If you would like to volunteer, please call Kristin at the church office (518) 434-3502. The blanks below indicate areas of need.

	<u>June 4, 2017</u>	<u>June 11, 2017</u>	<u>June 18, 2017</u>	<u>June 25, 2017</u>	<u>July 2, 2017</u>
<u>8:30am</u> <u>Lectors</u>	Gordon Lattey Janelle Hobson	Gordon Lattey John Davis	Gordon Lattey Julian Kovacs	Gordon Lattey John Sterrett	Gordon Lattey Connie Powell
<u>10:30am</u> <u>Lectors</u>	Victoria Pautler Fred Hershey	Ashley Labib Catherine Schunk	Maria Holden John Cerniglia	Sally Jennings Tim Murphy	Kim Healy Jack Ratzel
<u>Flower</u> <u>Guild</u>	Catherine Gabriels	Sherry Bishko	Edith Allen	Nancy Creagan	Sally Jennings
<u>Altar</u> <u>Guild</u>	Pamela Gerfin	Diana Martin	Pamela Gerfin	Barbara Kelly	
<u>8:30am</u> <u>Ushers</u>	Clark Daggett Fred Lincoln	Bernie Burnell John Davis	Clark Daggett or Fred Lincoln John Sterrett	Robert Hull Teddy Hull	Clark Daggett Fred Lincoln
<u>10:30am</u> <u>Ushers</u>	Sharon DeBonis Julie Hotmer Drao George Saide Catherine Schunk	William Collins Kevin Creagan Jack Ratzel Jeff Russom	Sherry Bishko Moses Kamyra Frank Spath	Lawrence Everett Chris Grill Mark Lundberg Michele Lundberg	Sharon DeBonis Julie Hotmer Drao George Saide Catherine Schunk
<u>Coffee</u> <u>Hour</u>					

REFLECTIONS OF A ST. PETER'S OVERFLOW SHELTER VOLUNTEER

As a volunteer/capital city rescue mission representative, I have personally witnessed St Peter's Episcopal Church's generosity in providing the opportunity for The Capital City Rescue Mission to partner with them to serve the homeless women from the streets of Albany and beyond. I welcomed broken women at night and sent the same women out the door the next morning rested and refreshed. The individual Christmas bags and gift cards extended to the ladies, helped not only the women that were with us on Christmas Eve but for the entire 12 days of Christmas, until The Epiphany, at which time the remaining gift cards were given back to St Peters for distribution, to continue the love with St Peter's needy.

What a gift when St. Peter's Outreach group took the time to make care packages, including made with love scarves, hats and women's products, and the kind gesture was much appreciated. Homeless women have different needs and St. Peters Episcopal Church clearly takes care of them.

Without the love and hospitality extended by the parishioners of St. Peter's, 541 warm showers would not have been available to the guests, there would have been no movies, fellowship time, popcorn, candy, coffee, fruit and so much more. For 12 cold, windy, dark hours, St Peters became home for the homeless women – a safe warm home.

Never underestimate the impact your church has made by opening your doors and your hearts. Each and every guest was extremely grateful and numerous times I heard, "For 12 hours St Peters Episcopal Church became my home". Keeping the doors open at St. Peter's, for the needs of the homeless women is a blessing and one that I hope is available as long as the need is there.

God bless and thank you for making a difference.

Mary Malone



St. Peters Music



CHOIR

Choir rehearsals are on the following schedule:

Mondays: 5:00pm - 6:15pm Trebles
Thursdays: 5:00pm - 6:30pm Trebles
5:30pm - 7:00pm Adult choristers
Sundays: 9:30am rehearsal for the 10:30am service

Please contact Neil Keen for more information at stpmus@gmail.com or 339-0137.

FRIDAY NOONTIME ORGAN CONCERTS

Free half-hour recitals each Friday at 12:30pm

Organ & Choral Concert

Come join us for a Concert of Organ and Choral music Friday, June 2nd at 7:30pm. Our Choir and Organist will be joined by Organist Vaughn Mauren for a concert previewing music from their upcoming trip to England this summer.



Composer of the month: Thomas Tertius Noble (1867 – 1953)

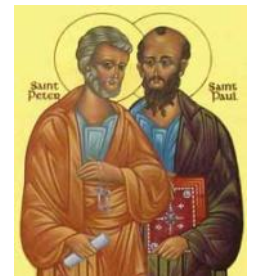
English-born organist and composer, was Organist and Choirmaster at Ely Cathedral, and later at York Minster from 1898 to 1913. His last appointment was at St Thomas Episcopal Church in New York City from 1913 to 1943, where he was responsible for establishing a choral tradition along Anglican cathedral lines. Dr Noble also founded the Saint Thomas Choir School for boys in 1919. We still sing his hymn tune *Ora Labora*, with the text, *Come, labor on. Our* choir sang his evening canticles at the Ascension Day evensong.

Frank Sill Rogers, Organist and Choirmaster at St. Peter's in the early part of the 20th century, was offered a prestigious position in New York City in the 19-teens, at a time when the St. Peter's Choir was much admired. I haven't found reference to what position was offered, but my speculation is that it was St. Thomas Church, where T. Tertius Noble ultimately received the appointment. Dr. Rogers opted to remain in Albany.

Saint of the Month Club

Saint Peter and Saint Paul, Apostles

Prayer: Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified thee by their martyrdom: Grant that thy Church, instructed by their teaching and example, and knit together in unity by thy Spirit, may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, which is Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Peter and Paul, the two greatest leaders of the early Church, are commemorated separately, Peter on January 18, for his confession of Jesus as the Messiah, and Paul on January 25, for his conversion, but they are commemorated together on June 29 in observance of the tradition of the Church that they both died as martyrs in Rome during the persecution under Nero, in 64.

Paul, the well-educated and cosmopolitan Jew of the Dispersion, and Peter, the uneducated fisherman from Galilee, had differences of opinion in the early years of the Church concerning the mission to the Gentiles. More than once, Paul speaks of rebuking Peter for his continued insistence on Jewish exclusiveness; yet their common commitment to Christ and the proclamation of the Gospel proved stronger than their differences; and both eventually carried that mission to Rome, where they were martyred. According to tradition, Paul was granted the right of a Roman citizen to be beheaded by a sword, but Peter suffered the fate of his Lord, crucifixion, though with head downward.

A generation after their martyrdom, Clement of Rome, writing to the Church in Corinth, probably in 96 A.D., says: "Let us come to those who have most recently proved champions; let us take up the noble examples of our own generation. Because of jealousy and envy the greatest and most upright pillars of the Church were persecuted and competed unto death. Let us bring before our eyes the good apostles—Peter, who because of unrighteous jealousy endured not one or two, but numerous trials, and so bore a martyr's witness and went to the glorious place that he deserved. Because of jealousy and strife Paul pointed the way to the reward of endurance; seven times he was imprisoned, he was exiled, he was stoned, he was a preacher in both east and west, and won renown for his faith, teaching uprightness to the whole world, and reaching the farthest limit of the west, and bearing a martyr's witness before the rulers, he passed out of the world and was taken up into the holy place, having proved a very great example of endurance."

Church Celebrations



St. Peter's Church, has a long history of celebrations of past events. Many of these were planned by our own Fred Hershey. The more prominent of these celebrations are discussed below:

On June 2nd 1996 a celebration was held titled The Celebration of the Past, Present and Future of Saint Peter's Church. The costumes of the participants for the early period were very authentic. Father Eggenschiller represented Bishop Doane. There was a procession with bagpipes and banners, and a presentation of the Queen Anne Silver during the service.

Then on June 2nd 2002 a special Heritage Celebration was held to honor the Church's presence in Albany and also the volunteers who went to New York City after the September 11th 2001 attack. The Albany Police Pipe Band accompanied the procession of approximately 150 volunteers. The church service was devised by Interim Rector, Reverend Charles Sheerin.

The celebration in June of 2004 was to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Albany Congress of 1754. At that Congress, representatives of the colonies and the local Indian tribes met to consider Benjamin Franklin's Albany Plan of Union, a plan devised to assure that the various colonies and the Indians could live and work together. The symbol of the plan was a snake sliced into pieces representing each of the colonies with the slogan "JOIN OR DIE"

For the Albany Plan celebration, St. Peter's choir members, celebration participants in period costume, and Indians from the Mohawk Tribe of the Bay of Quinte in native dress, paraded down State Street from the State Capitol to the worship service at St. Peter's Church. The priest in charge at that time was Father Bill Small. The celebration was preceded on Saturday night by colonial entertainment including a costumed Benjamin Franklin. The following Sunday afternoon there was a lecture at the Albany Institute of History and Art.

Six of the flags now in the church represent the six colonial representatives to the Albany Congress. Other flags in the church represent the other members of the original 13 colonies. The Archives contains memorabilia of the early Albany Congress as well as of the Albany Congress Celebration.

Because Fred Hershey was in charge of many Heritage Sunday celebrations, it was no surprise when in 2012 he was selected to head the celebration for the 300th anniversary of the dedication of St. Peter's Church as a "peculiar parish" i.e. it was not under a local Bishop but under a Bishop in England, the Right Reverend Henry Compton, Bishop of London. (Previously, in 1708, the first Episcopal Parish in the area had been organized by the Reverend Thomas Barclay.)

Along with his committee, Fred planned the year-long celebration for the 300th Anniversary which included an excellent display of church memorabilia at the Albany Institute of History and Art. There was a forum of speakers at the Institute. In addition there were church sermons from Bishop Love of Albany, and Reverend Cooper of the Trinity Church in Manhattan. A special musical performance was given by the historic Mendelssohn Club of Albany. There were also church receptions and an elegant hotel cocktail party. All agreed that it was a wonderful year-long celebration.

In addition to being in charge of celebrations, Fred has used his interior designer skills to renovate the Pumpelly Room, the Parish Hall, and various church offices. Another of Fred's accomplishment, was the chairing the Restoration Committee which raised funds for a Historic Structures Report. This report done by John J Waite & Co. outlined the steps, design and procedures for the restoration of St. Peter's Sanctuary to the original 1901 design.

MINUTES FOR THE VESTRY MEETING
ST. PETER'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

April 11, 2017

Present: Fr. Hartt, J. Chenot, D. Spath, G. Scala, M. Lundberg, T. Murphy, K. Cehowski, E. Stafford, M. Holden, N. Creagan

Absent: S. Lencewicz, C. Gordon, Mtr. Sue Waldron

1. Approval of the Minutes of Vestry Meeting, March 22, 2017

The March 22, 2017 minutes were approved on a motion by K. Cehowski and seconded by T. Murphy. The motion was unanimously approved by the vestry.

2. Senior Warden Report - J. Chenot

Jim started his report reflecting on how well St. Peter's collectively as a congregation takes on the Lenten season seriously and all of us should be commended on their own commitments made during this solemn time during Lent and Holy week. As Father puts it, "we do it right at St. Peter's". This past Sunday we celebrated Palm Sunday both at the 8:30 and 10:30 services which were well attended. It was also great to see the choir continue its traditional Ride On procession at the end of the 10:30 service. Another annual tradition during Palm Sunday service was having the Sunday school children decorate the Easter eggs for the Easter egg hunt for this upcoming Saturday at the Rectory. We would like to thank Laura Rulison and all the other Sunday school staff for all their work with our younger children in Sunday school as well as the nursery.

The choir has done an incredible job performing evensong each Friday evening during Lent and we would like to thank all those who participated at those services. Neil and the choir are well rehearsed and ready to perform the St. Matthew Passion on Good Friday after the noon time service with orchestra. The choir will also be participating in the Maundy Thursday service the night before. The choir is also looking forward to performing joyful music Easter Sunday at both the 8:30 and 10:30 services. Thanks to Neil and the choir for all their dedication performing top notch music at all these services. Also I would like to thank our choir Mom, Diana Martin who coordinates the brunch in between the Easter Services for the choir as well as making sure the Choir is looking their best at all times for all the services.

Jim also wanted to thank the altar guild, the flower guild and all the ushers for all their time and talents volunteered during this busy Lenten and upcoming Easter season. Also thanks to Pat and Shawn for keeping the Church and physical plant clean and in order. Also Jim wanted to recognize and thank both Janice and Kristin for working tirelessly in the church office during this Lenten season. The amount of work that is processed in the office during this time is an incredible task – the printed items for the extra services as well as all the record keeping for Easter Lilies memorials. We are sincerely thankful for both of them for all their tireless work during this busy season.

Jim thanked our devoted and loving clergy, Father Hartt and Mother Sue for all their preparation for all the services during the Lenten season and the Sunday services that leading us to Easter Sunday. Jim ended by wishing everyone a Happy Easter.

3. Finance – G. Scala

George S. reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the month of March. Total offerings for March were \$14,909. This compares to a budgeted number of \$22,804. YTD offerings are at \$53,339. YTD through the same period in 2016 were \$59,915.

The investment/endowment accounts both showed gains for the month. For March Merrill Lynch was up +.43% and Key was up +1.15%. YTD the Merrill Lynch shows a positive return of 4.53% and the Key accounts show a 5.25% return. This leaves us with a positive budget variance in this area YTD of \$179,499. Both accounts performed favorably versus market indexes. Expenses YTD through March are \$5,121 over budget.

Pledges are currently at 53 pledging units for a total amount of \$142,746.

4. Property - None

5. Outreach - Mother Sue

6. Old Business - None

7. New Business - None

8. Associate Rector's Report - Mother Sue

9. Sunday Attendance

The average Sunday attendance is currently 128.8

10. Rectors Report - Father Hartt

Father Hartt reported on Holy Week thus far. Fr. Hartt said that Palm Sunday was strong in both worship and attendance. The Choir was stunning in their offering on Palm Sunday. The parish had an attendance of 181. If we can rightly say that Christmas and Easter numbers reflect our Membership, we can likewise say that Palm Sunday reflects our core congregation. The summers have a serious impact on our ASA, beyond the norm of other churches. Lenten Friday Evensongs have wrapped up. We had better attendance than the previous year, including a regular visitor. Monday and Tuesday of Holy Week had a faithful few at Noon. Maundy Thursday is a strong service for us, as is Good Friday. Preparations are secure for the remainder of Holy Week. St. Matthew's Passion will be preformed by the Choir on Good Friday. Rehearsals point to a fine performance. The Easter liturgy is always glorious with our music and liturgy.

Father Hartt had the funeral for Margaret Story on March 30th. Our prayers are with the family, the daughters Barbara and Anne, and husband Robert. Margaret was a women of great faith who did much to help the most vulnerable through St. Margaret's Home and Hospital for Babies.

On the 5th Sunday of Lent, Mtr. Waldron and Father Hartt held a Quiet Day. The devotions were powerful and the day was well attended. Father Hartt spoke of the importance of such Quiet Days and our participation beyond Sunday worship.

Discovery Bible Study has wrapped up for the season. The passages used through Lent concerned our Lord's Passion and related prophecy.

The parish has been contacted by Food For The Poor to arrange another visit. Fr. Hartt was told that our parish has been very generous in the past. The next visit will be July 2nd. Father Hartt also thanked those who participated in the Soup Sampler fund raiser for the Homeless Action Committee. Perry Jones has asked that we continue to serve women in our overflow shelter next year. We are transitioning from sheltering men. CROP WALK is scheduled for May 7th.

There has been considerable illness in the parish. Our Senior Warden and daughter, Christie, has been especially ill with a strep-related sickness. Our prayers are with them and Mtr. Sue who was feeling too poorly to be present this evening.

The Choir Trip is in the final stages of planning. Two fundraisers are planned: a spring tea and an art and vintage sale.

Youth Ministry is a continued focus of Christie Chenot. Our Diocesan Youth Leader will be visiting St. Peter's on April 30th.

Father Hartt thanked Jim Chenot for the planned repairs at the Rectory. It is hoped that the outside work on the lampposts can be done by the Easter Egg Hunt. Father Hartt will be having his vacation during June this year.

Father Hartt gave thanks for the growth in the Daughters of the King and wished us a blessed Easter.

11. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by M. Lundberg and seconded by K. Cehowski, then was passed unanimously by the vestry.

12. Compline

Father Hartt led Compline.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin M. Cehowski

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Paul J. Hartt.....Rector
The Rev. Susan Waldron.....Associate Rector
Neil K. Keen, F.A.G.O.....Organist & Choirmaster
Laura RulisonDirector of Christian Education
James P. Shortall.....Sexton
Kristin Robinson.....Administrative Assistant
Janice Chenot.....Office Volunteer
E. Constance Powell.....Historian & Archivist

Vestry

James Chenot Senior Warden
Deborah Spath.....Junior Warden
George ScalaTreasurer
Kevin Cehowski, Nancy Creagan, Christie Gordon, Maria Holden,
Stephanie Lencewicz, Mark Lundberg, Tim Murphy, Earl Stafford

How to Contact Us

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Services

Sunday

Holy Communion 8:30 a.m.

Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

(1st & 3rd Sundays)

Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m.

(2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays)

Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Holy Communion 12:05 p.m.

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

107 State St.

Albany, New York 12207

