



# THE Cornerstone

## June 2025

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

*"Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our Heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation...."*  
— From Morning Prayer, BCP pg 41

Dear friends,

You may know that an orphan from the planet Krypton became Superman, a young Amazon came to help end WWII and became Wonder Woman, and a kid from Queens became Spider-Man after a radioactive arachnid bit him.

Today we're going to learn — if you didn't already know it — the secret origin story of Morning Prayer, formally known as "Daily Morning Prayer" from the Book of Common Prayer that's part of our inheritance as Anglican — now Episcopalian — Christians.

Morning Prayer isn't as prevalent these days in the United States as our other major worship service, the Holy Eucharist (aka Holy Communion or the Lord's Supper). The Eucharist's origin story is pretty well known because it's told every time we gather for communion: Jesus himself instituted it on the night before he died, and Jesus' followers have worshipped this way since the very earliest days of the church.

But Morning Prayer also has ancient origins. One of the reasons is that Jesus, like his first disciples, was Jewish. Faithful Jews sought to follow the Law, to love God completely by walking in his statutes. In order to do that, Jews had to be steeped in the Scriptures. They gathered each week in the synagogue to hear God's holy Word, to be taught, and to pray. There was also an ancient pattern of offering animal sacrifices every morning and evening at the Temple in Jerusalem.

All of these things — worship morning and evening and seeking to be formed by God's sacred Word — gradually developed into our Prayer Book "Daily Office." Early monastics in the church — whose main job was to pray — expanded daily prayer to be said throughout the day at pre-dawn and dawn (Matins/Lauds), 6 am (Prime), 9 am (Terce), 12 pm (None), 3 pm (Sext), 6 pm (Vespers), and bedtime (Compline). These many prayer times were far too much for your average English Christian to say.

With that in mind, Thomas Cranmer, who was a Protestant reformer and the Archbishop of Canterbury under King Henry VIII, compiled the first English language Prayer Book in 1549 that condensed and simplified the monastic prayer offices into Morning and Evening Prayer. Clergy were required to say these services, in the church, every day so that even illiterate Christians would be able to learn the Holy Scriptures. Someone who attended these services each day would hear all 150 Psalms each month (now it's every two months) and would hear almost the entire Bible in a year.

Prayer Books have been revised over the centuries by the church, but Morning Prayer has remained a constant. As we know at St. Peter's Church, Morning Prayer was the major service of worship on Sundays until the mid-20th Century in the United States. We are one of the few American churches left that retain the tradition of regular choral Morning Prayer on a Sunday morning (along with celebrating weekly Holy Communion).

That's a little of the history of this worship service that's so important to our parish life. If you're looking for a good Bible reading plan, spending 15 minutes a day praying the Daily Office is a wonderful way to start this spiritually healthy habit.

And maybe you've tried and found the Office too long or too confusing? No worries. It was the same way for me when I started. I'd love to sit down with you, go over Morning or Evening Prayer 101, and help you adapt it to your lifestyle so that you're not missing out on this way of formation (I can show you some pretty cool apps, too).

So as Yosemite Sam famously said to Bugs Bunny, "Say yer prayers, varmint!"

Grace and peace in Christ Jesus,

Mtr. Christina+

## Nine Days of Prayer for St. Peter's Church, 2025

Once again, the people of St. Peter's are invited to join in special prayer intentions during the great Nine Days of Prayer, lasting from the day after Ascension (Friday, May 30) to the Eve of Pentecost (Saturday, June 7).

As you'll remember, it's traditional to have special prayers during these nine days in imitation of the first disciples, who prayed together for nine days in Jerusalem as they awaited the coming of the promised Holy Spirit after Jesus ascended into heaven.

Below are prayer prompts for each day. You can offer these prayers to God privately, with your family/friends, or in community on Zoom each of the nine days at 6:30 am during Morning Prayer. To join the Zoom group, use Meeting ID 837 6018 1434 and Passcode 027098.

**Day 1** (Fri., May 30): Pray for our World. For world leaders to seek justice, freedom, and the dignity of every person. For nations at war to seek a way to cease fighting. For relief of famine, natural, and environmental disaster. For an end to persecution of Christians and all vulnerable people in every society. For corruption, violence and wickedness to be overcome by justice, peace, and righteousness. For farmers and an abundance of food for all. For artists, athletes, musicians and storytellers to thrive.

**Day 2** (Sat., May 31): Pray for Married people. For Christian marriages "to be a sign of Christ's love to this sinful and broken world, that unity may overcome estrangement, forgiveness heal guilt, and joy conquer despair" (BCP 429). For those engaged to be married. For marriages strained or failing, that God would bring healing.

**Day 3** (Sun., June 1): Pray for the Departed and for Resurrection Hope. For those who have died in the hope of Christ, that their joy may be fulfilled in God's presence. For those who mourn, the "strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love" (BCP 481). For the joy of Easter never to leave us. For God to grant us a holy death and to know his presence always.

**Day 4** (Mon., June 2): Pray for those who Suffer and Those in any Trouble. For the sick. For those suffering from depression, mental illness and addiction. For prisoners and their families. For the poor and neglected. For refugees and immigrants. For physically disabled people. For the homeless. For the unemployed. For those facing discrimination and hatred. For the Capital City Rescue Mission, the Damian Center, Loaves and Fishes, and the Children's Cafe.

**Day 5** (Tues., June 3): Pray for St. Peter's Church. For our parish to live out its mission to "Worship in Beauty. Practice Mercy. Hope in Jesus Christ." For our parishioners, from the youngest to the oldest. For our priest. For our staff. For our Guilds and lay leaders. For our Vestry. For our choir. For the Daughters of the King, Julia Chapter. For God to raise up from our parish new leaders, to give us fresh vision and to give us a heart to reach our city.

**Day 6** (Wed., June 4): Pray for Single people and Children. For singles to taste the love and presence of God in their lives in a powerful way. For them to enjoy deep and nurturing friendships and extended family circles. For those who feel called to marriage to find godly partners. For those who are single because of divorce or death to find healing and hope for the life ahead. For a particular blessing on youth and children — for protection and nurturing as lights of Christ in their generation.

**Day 7** (Thurs., June 5): Pray for the Universal Church, its members, and its mission. For Christ's one, holy catholic and apostolic church throughout the world and throughout time. For Christian unity. For our part of the church: the Anglican Communion and for the election of the next the Archbishop of Canterbury. For the Episcopal Church and Sean Rowe, Presiding Bishop. For the Diocese of Albany and Jeremiah Williamson, our bishop. For the ministry of all the baptized and of all bishops, priests and deacons. For the gospel to be rightly preached and the sacraments to be rightly administered. For an increase in baptisms and confirmations.

**Day 8** (Fri., June 6): Pray for the Nation and all in authority and service. For the Congress, President, and Supreme Court of these United States. For the state Assembly and Senate, our Governor, and New York courts. For our city of Albany: our Common Council, our Mayor, and the courts. For the military, police officers, firefighters, emergency workers, health care workers, and all government employees. For utility and sanitation workers. For schools and teachers. For the news media. For business people and all workers.

**Day 9** (Sat., June 7): Pray for the Coming of the Holy Spirit. For a fresh encounter of the Holy Spirit to direct, fill and rule our lives this Pentecost, individually and as a parish. "Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to thee, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly thine, utterly dedicated unto thee; and then use us, we pray thee, as thou wilt, and always to thy glory and the welfare of thy people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen" (BCP 832).

### Teen Breakfast Club

The Teen Breakfast Club will meet on Sunday, June 1st for a discussion of the Holy Spirit. This will be our final meeting until the Club resumes in September. We meet the first Sunday of each month to enjoy a simple breakfast, have a short spiritual discussion, and pray. The Club meets in Mtr. Christina's office from 9:30am to 10:05am. All teens are welcome!

### Rock and Root Hikers

Our hiking club, the Rock and Root Hikers, will explore Hollyhock Hollow on Sunday, June 22 at 1:30 pm. We'll be hiking the white trail, which is about 1½ miles on mostly flat terrain. Hollyhock Hollow Sanctuary is at 46 Rarick Road in Selkirk, about a 25-minute drive from Albany. This will be our last parish hike until the fall. All are welcome!

### Lord's Prayer Children's Talk on Sundays

Mtr. Christina offers children's talks on different parts of the Lord's Prayer at the beginning of the 10:30am service. And every child who can say the Lord's Prayer from memory will receive a Stewart's ice cream treat card. This will conclude on Sunday, June 8th.

### Nine Days of Morning Prayer on Zoom

At 6:30 am, all are welcome to join in saying Morning Prayer on Zoom for the Nine Days of Prayer between the day after Ascension (Friday, May 30) to the Eve of Pentecost (Saturday, June 7). To join the Zoom group, use Meeting ID 837 6018 1434 and Passcode 027098. The service lasts for about 20 minutes, and no on-screen presence is required. It's a wonderful way to start the day!

### Summer Wednesdays in the Garden - Returns

Our normally scheduled Wednesday worship will move outside for the summer months into the garden between the Church and Guild House. The garden gate will be unlocked during lunch hours for anyone to bring a bag lunch and/or just enjoy some quiet. A short service of Noonday Prayer will be said outside in the Garden on Wednesdays at 12 noon for anyone who would like to participate. Summer Wednesdays begin on June 11 and will last until the final Wednesday in August. The final indoor Holy Communion service for this spring will be celebrated in St. Mark's Chapel on June 4.

### Vestry Meeting

The June Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 10th at 5:15pm in the second floor meeting room.



### Awards Sunday and Ice Cream Social

This year's Awards and Ice Cream Social will take place on Sunday, June 15th. The Awards will be presented during the 10:30am service and the Ice Cream Social will be held immediately following the service. Please join us in honoring the work of many who serve our church.

### St. Peter's Coffee Hour

Thank you to the many volunteers who have hosted St. Peter's coffee hours during the past fall, winter and spring. The response from the congregation has been phenomenal! Coffee Time will take it's usual summer break, to provide our hosts with time to enjoy summer. Coffee time will commence in mid-September. Coffee time is a wonderful way and mission to welcome newcomers and renew friendships. Volunteers are always welcome and needed. If you have an interest in learning more and expanding our core group, please contact Michele Vennard at: [mlvennard@gmail.com](mailto:mlvennard@gmail.com) or at 518-858-0525. Simple training is joyfully provided.

### Child A I T's (Acolytes in Training)

Any child aged 7 or older is eligible to become an AIT (Acolyte in Training) at St. Peter's. Acolytes assist in age-appropriate tasks during Holy Communion services that include assisting Lay Eucharistic Ministers and the priest at the altar, helping with the offering, and carrying processional candles. Interested?

Contact Mtr. Christina:

[Priest@stpeterschurchalbany.org](mailto:Priest@stpeterschurchalbany.org)



Happy Father's Day to all Dads





## Con GRAD ulations !

### CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR 2024-2025 GRADUATES

**CAROLINE E. CREAGAN** graduated Summa Cum Laude from Albany Law School with a Juris Doctorate. She has accepted a job with a law firm in Chicago. (Caroline is the daughter of Kevin and Nancy Creagan).

**CAITLIN JESSICA LUPE** will graduate from South Colonie High School with a Regents Diploma. She will be attending Siena College majoring in Business. (Caitlin is the daughter of Eric and Emily Lupe, and the granddaughter of Dale and Kathy Keenan).

**ARIANA ZEHNER** graduated with high honors from Hudson Valley Community College with an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education. (Ariana is the daughter of Laura Saffares and the granddaughter of Sharon Vardabash).

## Outreach

### Loaves and Fishes, Saturday, June 14th & 21st ~ 11:00am to 1:00pm

Every month on Saturday (dates for this month are listed above), Laura Saffares, along with other volunteers are committed to preparing and serving lunch to the people at Loaves and Fishes (formally known as St. Francis Mission), located at 498 Clinton Avenue in Albany. The number of adults and children we serve keeps growing. This is such a well received outreach for the children! You are welcome to come and witness this amazing outreach program anytime you can, we are there from 11am-1pm. For information or to let Laura know you are coming please call her at (518) 368-4284.



### South End Children's Café

We are collecting canned or dried goods to put in cabinets to supplement the food supplies of many families with children in the South End. The list is at the front of the church, and on the box for your donation.

### Making Flower Pots for Mother's Day!





The Chancel at the very front of the church contains the six lancet stained glass windows commemorating the life of St Peter. Listed below, in order from left to right.

1st - **The Harriet Langdon Parker Window** pictures the Call of St. Peter with the legend: **"Follow Me, and I will make you Fishers of Men."**

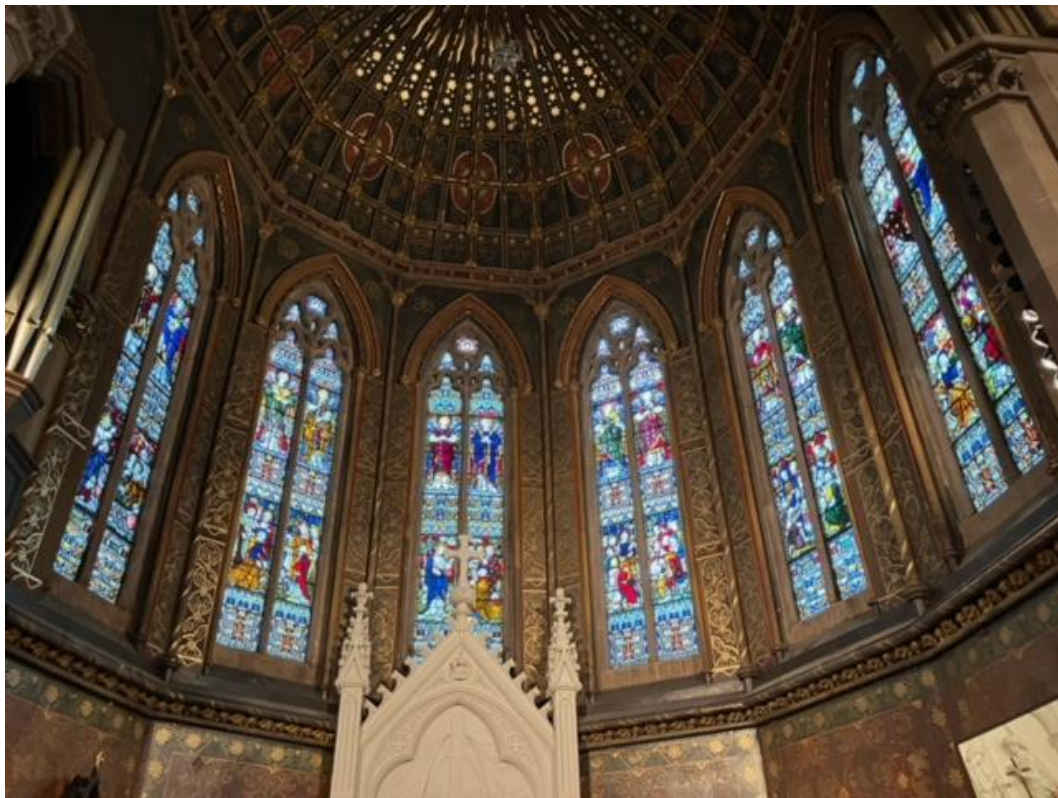
2nd - **The Irwin Window** indicating the Confession of St. Peter with the legend: **"Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."**

3rd - **The Taylor Window** depicts the Charge of St. Peter with the legend: **"Jesus saith unto him Feed my sheep."**

4th - **The Tremain Window** pictures The Pentecostal Sermon of St. Peter, with the legend: **"This Jesus hath God raised up: whereof we are all witnesses."**

5th - **The Pelz Window** pictures The Healing of the Cripple by St. Peter and St. John at the Beautiful Gate of the Temple, with the legend: **"In the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk".**

6th. - **The Amasa J. Parker Window** pictures the Release of St. Peter from Prison, with legend: **"The angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison."**



**Stained Glass Lancet Windows, commemorating the Life of St. Peter.**

## St. Peter's Music

**Summer Choir:** Members of the parish are invited to come join the singing of the summer choir on any Sunday that is convenient for you beginning Sunday, June 22nd through Sunday, August 31st. There is a brief rehearsal at 9:45AM on Sundays to prepare music for the 10:30AM service. No experience is necessary, no weekday rehearsals, and no audition, but the ability to follow musical notation is helpful. It's rewarding, fun, and an opportunity for the whole family to sing together. Contact Daniel Romero for more information at [ddorganman@gmail.com](mailto:ddorganman@gmail.com).

### St. Peter's Choir School

St. Peter's Choir School has been training and imparting a love of music to children for many decades. Based in the centuries old tradition of English choral music, St. Peter's is affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music, which teaches a graded music program where students advance through different levels of learning and musicianship.



### St. Peter's

#### Summer Music Adventure for Kids

July 7-11 - 9:00 am. – 1:00 pm.

Sunday, July 13 - 9:00 am. – 12:00 Noon

**All children throughout the Capital Region who are age 8 or higher are invited to participate in the Summer Music Adventure regardless of religious affiliation.**

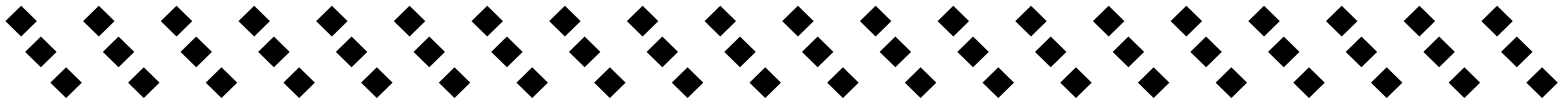
This great event for kids ages 8 and older will take place Monday through Friday from 9:00 am. to 1:00 pm. This event will include singing in a choir, playing handbells and chimes, playing games, learning about music and instruments, and lots of fun. Please mark your calendars and invite kids you know to participate. Registration is \$75 per child, and full scholarships are available. Registration form is on the next page. Please contact Daniel Romero for more information.

Registration fee: \$75

Scholarships Available

Lunch Included

For more information please visit: [www.stpeterschurhalbany.org/choir-school](http://www.stpeterschurhalbany.org/choir-school)



### Want Albany Diocese news?

The Episcopal Diocese of Albany has a weekly email blast that keeps area Episcopalians up on happenings around our region.

If you'd like to sign up for the email news, visit: <https://albanyepiscopaldiocese.org/publications/>

**Please plan on attending the kids' performance on Sunday, July 13, at the 10:30 a.m. church service.**

The participants of St. Peter's Summer Music Adventure will perform some of the music that they will learn during the week. This includes music for children's choir and music for handbells and chimes. Come to support the work of our children and youth.

**Fill out the form below and send it to:**

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**  
**107 State Street**  
**Albany, NY, 12207**  
**choir@stpeterschurchalbany.org**

**Registration Form** (due by July 1, 2025)

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Prior Musical Experience (none necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My child is able to participate with the following physical restrictions (our building has stairs and we will have some activities outside): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My child has the following allergies and dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My child has the following medications: \_\_\_\_\_

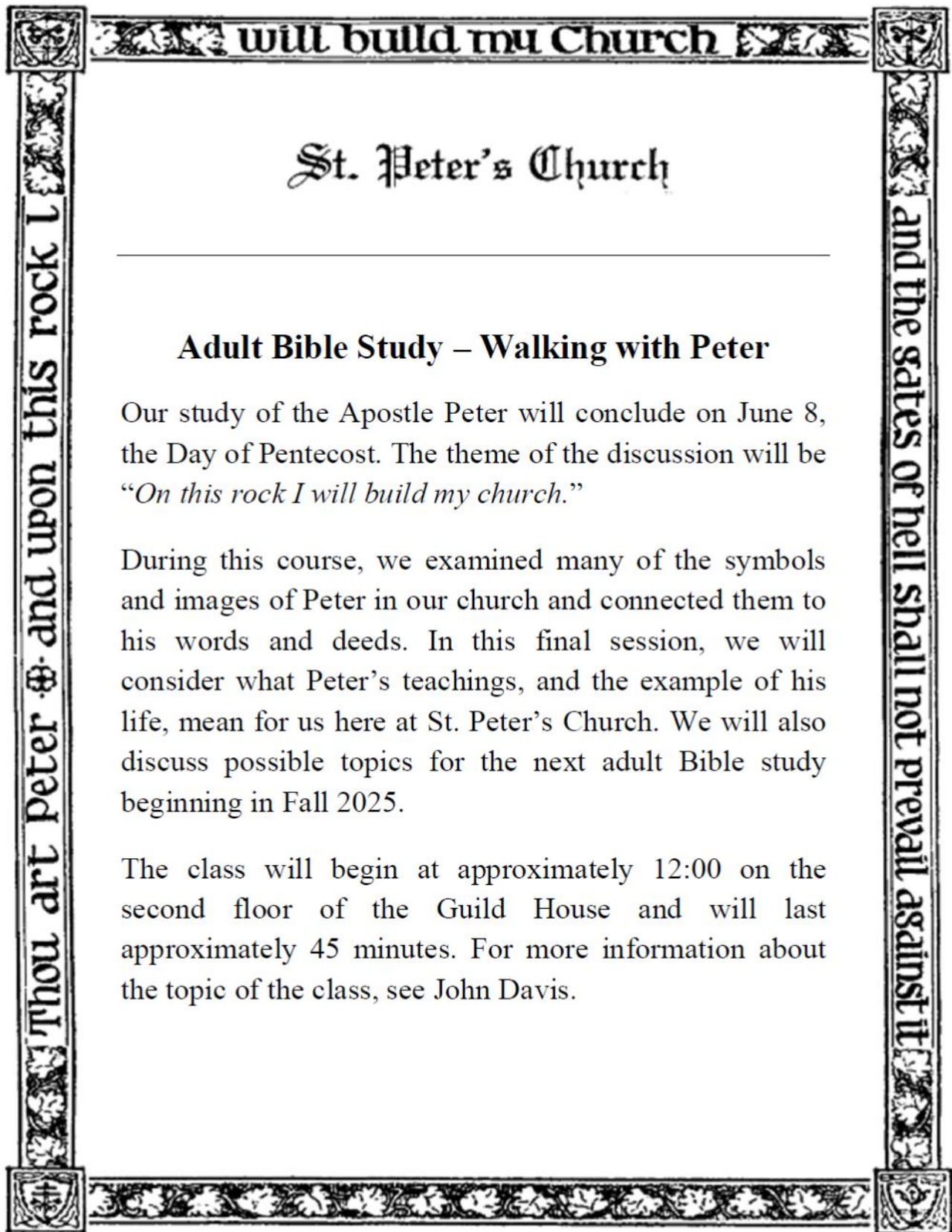
\_\_\_\_\_

During the Music Adventure, I may be reached at: Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

**MEDICAL TREATMENT:** I give permission to the St. Peter's Summer Music Adventure Directors to obtain and administer medical aid, including that of a licensed medical doctor, as might be required for immediate care of my child in case of an emergency.

**VISUAL AND AUDIO MEDIA:** I give my permission for photographs and/or video footage of my child to be used by St. Peter's Choir School and its various programs for promotional purposes (brochures, websites, promotional videos, presentations, and the like.) I understand that only my child's first name may be used.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Family Adult/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_



## St. Peter's Church

### Adult Bible Study – Walking with Peter

Our study of the Apostle Peter will conclude on June 8, the Day of Pentecost. The theme of the discussion will be *"On this rock I will build my church."*

During this course, we examined many of the symbols and images of Peter in our church and connected them to his words and deeds. In this final session, we will consider what Peter's teachings, and the example of his life, mean for us here at St. Peter's Church. We will also discuss possible topics for the next adult Bible study beginning in Fall 2025.

The class will begin at approximately 12:00 on the second floor of the Guild House and will last approximately 45 minutes. For more information about the topic of the class, see John Davis.



# June 2025

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

1 <b>The Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>  8:30am - Holy Com. 9:30am - Teen Breakfast club 10:30am - Holy Com.	2	3  4:00pm - Treble Rehearsal	4  12:05pm - Holy Communion	5  5:00pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30pm - Full Choir Rehearsal		7
8 <b>The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday</b>  8:30am - Holy Com. 10:30am - Holy Com. 12:00pm - Walking with Peter	9	10  4:00pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:15pm - Vestry Meeting	11 <b>Saint Barnabas The Apostle</b>  12:05pm - Noonday Prayer in the Garden	12  5:00pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30pm - Full Choir Rehearsal	13	14  11:00am - Angels in Training
15 <b>Trinity Sunday</b> <i>Happy Father's Day!</i>  8:30am - Holy Com. 10:30am - Holy Com. Ice Cream Social - Following the service	16	17	18  12:05pm - Noonday Prayer in the Garden	19	20	21  11:00am - Angels in Training
22 <b>Second Sunday after Pentecost</b>  8:30am - Holy Com. 10:30am - Morning Prayer 1:30pm - Hike	23	24 <b>The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist</b>	25  12:05pm - Noonday Prayer in the Garden	26	27	28
29 <b>Third Sunday after Pentecost</b>  8:30am - Holy Com. 10:30am - Morning Prayer	30 <b>The Apostles Saint Peter &amp; Saint Paul</b>					

**We Wish To Thank All our Volunteers  
for Their Service!**

**MINUTES FOR THE VESTRY MEETING**  
**ST. PETER'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**April 8th, 2025**

**Present:** Mtr. Christina, J. Chenot, D. Spath, A. Closson, K. Creagan, C. Gordon, S. Hartt, M. Holden, R. LaPlante, A. Panzironi, W. Pettit, G. Scala

**Absent:** P. Benson

Opening Prayer Led by Mtr. Christina.

**1. Approval of the Vestry Meeting Minutes, March 11th, 2025**

The vestry minutes from the March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting were approved on a motion by A. Closson, seconded by A. Panzironi, then unanimously approved by the vestry.

**2. Rector Report – Mtr. Christina**

**Pastoral updates:**

Participated in Teen Breakfast Club on Sunday, April 6, with Katie Brillat leading a discussion of the four gospel accounts of the resurrection story.

Did last rites on March 19 for Deborah Campbell at Albany Medical Center.

Concluded the Lent for Kids talks on Sunday, April 6. We'll take off Palm and Easter Sundays and then we'll do a 7-week series of kids' talks on the Lord's

Prayer, taking us through to the summer break.

Continuing Lent Zoom Morning Prayer on Fridays.

Continuing a Lent Small Group on Tuesdays on Zoom.

Participated when I could in the weekly Lenten phase of the Walk with Peter class, which John Davis is leading.

Participated in our second and final Lenten Evensongs on March 21 and April 4.

Helped out at Loaves and Fishes on March 15, along with Laura and several other members of the parish.

Led a Rock and Root Hikers trip on March 16 on the Beaver Trail at Five Rivers.

Officiated the interment of David Molte in our Columbarium after the 8:30 am Eucharist on Sunday, March 23.

Did one home visit with a parishioner.

Continuing to encourage children 7 and older to try out being acolytes. Have secured some used red acolytes' robes and cottas in kids' and teen sizes that we should be able to start using soon.

Met with Daniel and the choir on Thursday, March 27 to summarize and discuss the main feedback from the choir survey from this winter. It was a good conversation.

Preparing an adult for Baptism, which will hopefully take place in Eastertide.

Led a very energetic Children's Chapel on March 30 – there were about a dozen kids and perhaps five adults.

Met with my spiritual director on March 18.

Did sacramental confession on April 8.

Took a few hours for study and prayer on Wednesday, March 26.

**Big Picture and Mission/Vision work:**

We are continuing to do preparation for – and promotion of – our Summer Music Adventure choir camp scheduled for July 7-11 and 13<sup>th</sup>. We placed an ad in the Spotlight News Summer Camp Guide that publishes in April, and we're making calls to schools offering to do in-class music demonstrations or to host field trips to our church to teach about organ/choral music and invite kids to join choir school.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

Holy Week to Easter – April 13-20

Rock and Root Hikers at Rensselaerville Falls – April 27

CROP Walk – May 4

**3. Sr. Warden's Report –J. Chenot**

As we continue to observe the Lenten season leading us to Easter in a few weeks, we would like to thank our Mother Christina, our lay ministers, our ushers, the altar guild, flower guild, Danial, and our choir for all the preparation prior and during this busy church calendar year. The first week in March, last month, the Lenten season started with all our traditional events and services including two Friday Evensong services with one additional Evensong service this past Friday. Attendance at all these services has been very encouraging in both congregation and choir and we thank everyone involved in making these services quite special and meaningful to all during Lent. What has been encouraging is that we are beginning to see some new faces, young and old, either returning to services on a more regular basis or including those looking for a new spiritual home to worship.

This coming Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Palm Sunday at both the 8:30 and 10:30 services. The choir will again continue the traditional Ride On procession at the end of the 10:30 service. The Sunday school will also be busy during the Palm Sunday service decorating Easter eggs for the Easter egg hunt which will be held the following Saturday at the Rectory. We would like to thank our Sunday school director Laura Safaris and all the Sunday school staff in advance for all their hard work and guidance working with the children each Sunday in addition to those who help in the nursery. One additional mention, the attendance at the Sunday School has begun to increase in numbers, which has been very encouraging to see and pray that this will continue as our congregation begins to show some growth in numbers.

Again, to our wonderful choir, Danial Romaro our choir director, choir assistant and organist intern, Malcom Moran, assistant. During the Lenten season, beginning in March, they have performed evensong services on Friday evenings, rehearsing the musical pieces for our Sunday services, preparing for Holy Week and participating in our vigil Maundy Thursday service. Following on Good Friday, there will be a noon day service, followed by a performance by the choir and director Danial with "The Seven Last Words of Christ" with orchestra immediately following the noon time service at 1:15. We would like to thank Danial and the entire choir for all their time and dedication put forth in this meaningful spiritual time in our church life here at St. Peter's.

The week of April 13<sup>th</sup>, Holy week, there will be a Maundy Thursday evening service, Good Friday noon time service followed with a musical concert, leading up to two wonderful Sunday Morning Easter services at 8:30 and 10:30. Thank you to Danial and the choir for their entire dedication performing wonderful music at all these services. Also, I would like to thank our choir Mom, Diana Martin, who coordinates the brunch between the Easter Services for the choir as well as ensuring the Choir looks their best at all the services.

The vestry would also like to thank Pat and Wayne for keeping the Church and physical plant clean and for all the parishioners and newcomers. We also want to recognize and thank both Janice and Ruth for working tirelessly these next few weeks in the church office. The amount of work that is processed in the office this time is an incredible task – printed items for the extra services as well as all the record keeping for Easter Lilies memorials. We are sincerely thankful to both for all their tireless work during this busy season.

On behalf of the Clergy and Vestry, we wish everyone a wonderful and joyful Eastertide.

**4. Sunday Attendance** - The Average Sunday Attendance is 90.6 ( as of May 9 ).

**5. Finance – G. Scala** - Treasurer’s Report Highlights/Summary – Mar 2025

	Mar	YEAR-TO-DATE
OFFERINGS	\$20,453	\$45,401
MISC. INCOME	\$240	\$1,396
EXPENSES	(\$59,790)	(\$170,657)
GAIN/(LOSS)	(\$39,097)	(\$123,860)
WITHDRAWALS FROM ENDOWMENT TO FUND SHORTFALL	\$23,611	\$70,179

Endowment Return (Merrill Lynch)

March: -4.52%

Index Calculated Return: -4.08%

2025 Pledges

34 for a total of \$119,136

YTD Offerings (through Mar) for 2025 are \$1,800 *less* than YTD Mar ‘24

#### **6. Property -**

- The floors in the church are scheduled to be shined for Easter Sunday services.
- The installation of the new Fire Alarm System has been completed.
- The equipment for the Live Streaming has been installed. Next we will need some volunteers to train on the system. We are hoping to be ready to stream Easter Sunday services.
- The vestry discussed the need to bring in a cleaning service to help assist with some of the weekly cleaning duties. The cost to hire Janitronics was discussed.
- The vestry voted to move forward with hiring this service on a motion by D. Spath, seconded by A. Closson, then unanimously approved by the vestry.
- A plumbing issue was repaired in the women’s bathroom in the Pumpelly Room, but there continues to be an issue with the furnace leaking. We will be reaching out to a heating and cooling contractor to fix this leak.
- J. Chenot presented a quote to have the bells in the bell tower repaired to get them back in working order. The vestry will further discuss a plan for this renovation project.

#### **Outreach –**

We continue to serve at Loaves and Fishes 2 Saturdays every month. New volunteers are always welcome.

#### **Old Business –**

Under the Safety Task Force, K. Creagan and J. Russom are working on a draft Safety Plan for the church. When it is complete, they will present to the vestry.

#### **New Business –**

The November vestry meeting will be rescheduled to Tuesday, November 18th, 2025. The meeting was originally scheduled for Election Day. This change was made on a motion by A. Closson, seconded by C. Gordon, then unanimously Approved by the vestry.

#### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by W. Petitt and seconded by D. Spath, 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, Ashley Closson, Kevin Creagan, Christie Gordon,  
Samuel Hartt, Maria Holden, Robin LaPlante,  
Annette Panzironi, William Pettit

## *How to Contact Us*

**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday  
9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Telephone: 518-434-3502

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

### **Summer Wednesday's**

**Noonday Prayer** - 12:05pm  
Outside in the Garden

## **ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**107 State St.**

**Albany, New York 12207**

