



# THE Cornerstone

## March 2025

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

*"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom." – Psalm 90:12*

Beloved of God,

It was gonna be a great day.

First, I was heading to Morning Prayer with an old friend, getting breakfast afterward, and visiting with my little goddaughter. Then, I planned to spend precious hours alone in prayer in my old seminary's small chapel before rejoining more friends for a get-together dinner.

As I got up and showered in my Pennsylvania motel room, I prayed, "Lord, I give this day to you. Do whatever you want with me today. Teach me what you want me to learn today."

Boy, was I in for a surprise.

The morning went as I'd planned – prayer, pancakes, and friend time. But, I kept noticing a growing pain in my chest – sharp pain when I tried to take a deep breath. Because I have a family history of deadly heart issues, I went to urgent care. They sent me to the ER.

There I was – during the hours I'd hoped to be in silent prayer in the chapel – instead hooked up to an IV with machines beeping, the smell of sanitizer, and the sounds of gurneys wheeling by my room. And I said, "Really, Lord? This is what you wanted for me today?"

And the answer was, yes. That was God's gift to me. It was a Memento Mori – a term from classic Christianity that translates, "Remember (that you have) to die." As I sat alone in that room, I prayed. I felt bored and alone. And I remembered that all of us are fragile and assailable. That death spares no one.

This is a key idea that we come back to each Lenten season. We begin this sacred time with a Memento Mori as a whole church on Ash Wednesday, when the priest presses blessed ashes in the shape of a cross onto our foreheads and says to each of us, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

This practice can sound too morbid or dark for our current sensibilities. We spend a tremendous amount of time, money and energy avoiding death, illness, aging, or the appearance of growing weak or slowing down. But there is – in fact – a tremendous amount of freedom and even joy in Memento Mori.

This is borne out by the stories of many people who have faced serious illnesses or brushes with death. Often, upon recovery, there is a new delight in life – a sharper focus on what matters – a greater gratitude for daily mercies. As the Psalm says, such experiences can teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. I had a very small taste of that in Pennsylvania. Within a few hours, I was cleared (apparently, I'd pulled a muscle in my back) and soon rejoined my friends with renewed delight in fellowship, little kid time, and lots of Greek food and pizza. But the Memento Mori stayed with me.

The gift of Memento Mori is that reminder that we are not in control. We never will be. But Almighty God is in control and on our side. Even when each of us faces our hour of death, the Lord Jesus will be with us as we pass through that dread doorway. His voice will call us from our graves on the last Great Day. He will give us life. Death is not the end for us.

So beloved, as we enter this Lenten season, remember to let go. Remember to die. For truly, we know the One who is the Resurrection and the Life, and He will not fail us.

Grace and peace in Christ Jesus,      Mtr. Christina

## Adult Bible Study – Walking with Peter

During the first part of this course, we examined the gospel stories behind some of the windows in our church, particularly the six chancel windows. These depict scenes from Peter’s life and ministry, beginning with his call by Jesus beside the Sea of Galilee, and ending with his release from prison by the intervention of an angel of the Lord.

The second part of our study will take place on five Sundays in Lent, March 9 – April 6. We will explore other sources, including the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Letters of Peter, the apocryphal *Acts of Peter*, and some of the depictions of the Apostle in art, literature and film. There will also be a creative class project.

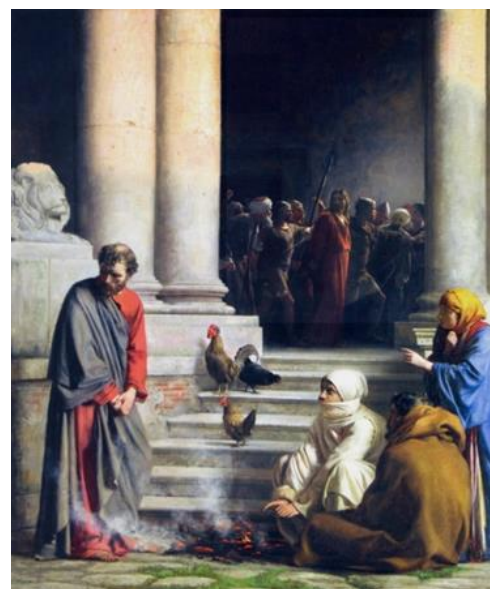
The Lenten study will conclude with reflections on Peter’s role in the Last Supper and in the garden of Gethsemane, and his denial of Jesus later that night: *“And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, ‘Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.’ And he broke down and wept.”* (Mk 14:72)

Meetings will convene at approximately 12:00 and will last approximately 45 minutes. Meeting room to be announced that day. Come for one meeting or all of them. More information about each topic will be available in church the preceding week.

Date	Topic
March 9, Lent 1	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Letter of Peter</b>
March 16, Lent 2	<b>Peter in Art &amp; Literature</b>
March 23, Lent 3	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Letter of Peter</b>
March 30, Lent 4	<b>Class Project</b>
April 6, Lent 5	<b>Last Supper and Gethsemane</b>



The William P. Irwin Memorial Window, Chancel of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, depicting the Confession of Peter, *“Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God.”* (Matt 16:16-18, KJV)



*Verleugnung Jesu durch Petrus* (Peter's Denial). Carl Heinrich Bloch (1834-1890). Brigham Young University Museum of Art.



## Daylight Savings

We "spring ahead" on Sunday, March 9th! Don't forget to set your clocks ahead the night before.

## Vestry Meeting

The March Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 11th at 5:15pm.

## Teen Breakfast Club

The Teen Breakfast Club will meet on Sunday, March 2 to discuss "Pancakes, Palms, and Ashes: What's behind our Lent Traditions?". This club meets the first Sunday of each month from 9:30am to 10:10am in Mtr. Christina's office for food, a spiritual discussion, and prayer. All teens are welcome to attend.



## Shrove Tuesday & Burning of the Palms

Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on Tuesday, March 4 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 Homeless Shelter. If you'd like to volunteer or if you have questions, contact Janice Chenot at: (518) 786-1070.



And....during the supper, we'll also burn last year's blessed palms from Palm Sunday to turn into blessed ashes for Ash Wednesday. Please bring old palms to church and place them in a basket in the Tower Chapel. The last day to collect palms is Sunday, **March 2**.

## Ash Wednesday Services

Please join us for services on Ash Wednesday, March 5th. They are as follows: 12pm and 5:30pm both with imposition of ashes. The 12pm service will be a noontime liturgy with sermon, and the 5:30pm service will be a Holy Communion service.



## Choral Evensong during Lent

St. Peter's will offer Choral Evensong at 5:45pm on three Fridays during Lent: March 7th, March 21st and April 4th. 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.

## Lent Small Group on Zoom

Join us every Tuesday morning at 9:30am on Zoom for a Lenten small group where we'll discuss the ins and outs of the classic Lenten practices: fasting (March 11), almsgiving (March 18), prayer (March 25), reading Scripture (April 1), meditating on Scripture (April 8), and encountering Christ in worship (April 15). Bring your coffee, your stories, and your curiosity. Our Meeting ID is 897 5374 1573, and the Passcode is 453388.

## Friday Lent Early Morning Prayer on Zoom

During the season of Lent, you're welcome to join us for Morning Prayer on Zoom each Friday at 6:30am. This 20-minute prayer service from the Book of Common Prayer is a meditative way to observe Fridays in Lent as we draw near to the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection on Easter. The services will begin on Friday, March 7 and continue through Good Friday on April 18. Our Meeting ID is 837 6018 1434, and the Passcode is 027098.

## Rock and Root Hikers

Our hiking club, the Rock and Root Hikers, will do a winter hike at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center at 1:30pm on Sunday, March 16, weather permitting. We'll hike the Beaver Tree Trail, a half-mile loop with moderate ups and downs that is especially appropriate for children and beginning hikers. We'll meet outside the visitor center at 56 Game Farm Road in Delmar. Questions? Contact Mtr. Christina at (518) 423-4891.

## Children's Chapel

Our children will meet for a special service of Holy Communion and musical worship in our upstairs chapel in the children's area on Sunday, March 30 during the 10:30am service. This time of worship is led by Mtr. Christina on Fifth Sundays throughout the calendar year.



**Soup Sampler Sunday**

On Sunday, March 23rd the Outreach Committee will be hosting Soup Sampler Sunday following the 10:30am service in the Parish Hall. Bowls of soup along with bread and butter will be available for purchase. Come join us and stay and eat or take some to-go. Please bring your favorite soup to share and your appetite as well! A sign-up sheet is located in the Pumpelly Room to let us know who will be bringing soup and what kind of soup you will be bringing. This year's Soup Sampler will benefit the Overflow Shelter here at St. Peter's Church.



**Pledge Cards**

Pledge cards for 2025 have been mailed out to all parishioners. If you did not receive a pledge card please call the church office. It would be greatly appreciated if you could please take a minute to complete your card and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate during the service. You may also pledge online at [www.stpeterschurchalbany.org](http://www.stpeterschurchalbany.org) or you may call the church office and we would be more than happy to complete a card for you. Thank you to those that have promptly completed and returned their pledge card.

**Choir Rehearsals Schedule**

Tuesdays: 4:00pm- 5:00pm - Treble Rehearsal  
Thursdays: 5:00pm - Treble Rehearsal  
                  5:30pm - 7:00pm Adult choristers  
Sundays: 9:30am rehearsal for the 10:30am service

We are eager to welcome boys and girls age 8 to grade 8 to join the Treble section of the choir.

**Coffee Hour**

Spring is almost here, so it's time to complete the coffee hour volunteers schedule. Thank you all who have participated in this important St. Peters Stewardship program. Please look for the spring schedule in the Pumpelly room kitchen. And again thank you, Michele Vennard

**Easter Lily Requests**

Parishioners and friends wishing to place lilies on the altars at Easter to honor, show thanks, or remember loved ones are asked to complete a



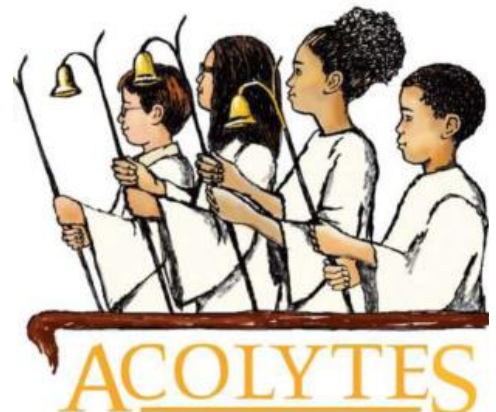
Lily form and return it to the church office with your donation no later than Palm Sunday, April 13th.. The suggested donation is \$25. You can find the Lily Form on page 8.



**Child AITs  
(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)



## Try the Classic Lenten Disciplines this Season

Lent is a season of clearing away distractions in our lives to draw closer to Jesus. The practices below are ways of growing in repentance and intimacy with our Lord as with journey with him toward the cross. Each week, St. Peter's parishioners are invited to try on a new practice. We also have a Zoom group on Tuesday mornings where parishioners can come to ask questions and share experiences (see page 3 in the newsletter).

### **Lent 1 (March 9-15) Fasting**

Fasting is reducing the amount of food one would normally eat during the day as a form of "body prayer." When we feel hunger, we ask God to increase our compassion for our neighbors who are hungry and to nourish us with God's presence. Those new to fasting should probably start slowly by reducing meal sizes or by cutting out a single meal.

### **Lent 2 (March 16-22) Almsgiving**

Almsgiving is the sharing of food or money with the poor and those in need. The word "alms" comes to us from the Greek (via Latin and Old English) word meaning "mercy" or "pity." When we give alms, we seek in Lent to give to others, specifically in secret. Is there a way to give or do good to someone in need without them knowing – to do it so that only you and God know about it?

### **Lent 3 (March 23-29) Prayer**

Prayer is the language of the heart connecting us to the loving heart of our Father. There are many, many ways to pray, but the Lenten emphasis is on praying secretly and intimately with God. You can pray the Our Father, a Prayer Book Collect, or just talk to God like you would a friend. But can you do it in secret – for five minutes, alone, without anyone else knowing?

### **Lent 4 (March 30-April 5) Reading the Scriptures**

Reading the Scriptures is a way of entering into God's sacred story that is – in fact – our own. Reading for even five minutes a day can have a profound impact on our lives over time. Pick a time each day when you can read a manageable amount of Scripture – a single chapter or a Psalm. For this week, challenge yourself by reading through an entire shorter book (like 6-chapter Ephesians or 4-chapter Philippians) or consecutive chapters in a gospel.

### **Lent 5 (April 6-12) Meditating on the Scriptures**

Meditating on the Scriptures is less like reading the Bible and more like inviting the Bible to read us. Pick just a single verse or two (perhaps from the passages you read last week or from Sunday's gospel) and spend five minutes reading slowly, savoring each word. Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you through associations or images that come. End your reflection with a minute of silence, enjoying God's presence.

### **Lent 6 (Holy Week) Encountering Christ in Worship**

Plan to attend at least one mid-week Holy Week service this year (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, or Holy Saturday). Ask Jesus to help you encounter him in a new way during that service. Come to church open to what the Spirit may speak to you. Consider writing down your reflections afterward and what you think God may have been saying to you.



# Outreach

## Loaves and Fishes, Saturday, March 8th & 15th ~ 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.

### Winter Clothing Collection



St. Peter's will continue to collect gently used or new coats for children and adults in need at Loaves and Fishes until the end of March. Please drop off your donations in the green barrels located in the Pumpelly Room or at the back of the church and upstairs in the Sunday School Room. We are also collecting hats and gloves/mittens for children and adults. And as always, if you need a pick up just give Laura a call 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.



### DAMIEN CENTER BOWLING FOR PAWS

On March 9 the Damien Center will host an afternoon of bowling and entertainment to benefit PAWS, which supports pet owners who are members of the Damien Center with food, veterinary care, and care for their animals when they are temporarily unable to care for them themselves. \$35 will get you shoe rental, two hours of bowling time, and a fabulous drag show. All ages are welcome to attend. We have created one team of six, and hope to create at least one more. It does not matter if you don't bowl. Bowl anyway, or just come for the silent auction (pet merchandise, restaurant and movie gift certificates, donations from local businesses), the raffles, and the floor show. Food and beverages are available for purchase. For details please contact Sharon DeBonis, [scdebonis@verizon.net](mailto:scdebonis@verizon.net) or 518-669-5054 (cell or text), or talk to me at church.

**First Day of Spring  
March 20th**



# Donations sought for Livestreaming our Church Services -- Halfway to Goal!

With the launch of our new website at [www.stpeterschurchalbany.org](http://www.stpeterschurchalbany.org), our church is poised to add livestreamed services in the near future. We have been working toward this for the last two years.

The only remaining component is to buy computer hardware necessary to record and upload services effectively. Because our Vestry is making some larger expenditures this year to make necessary safety and repairs to our church building, we wanted to reach out to our congregation to see if anyone would like to donate toward the cost of purchasing livestreaming equipment.

The cost for this project including recording equipment, computer hardware and labor is just over \$10,000. A generous parishioner has already stepped forward to pledge \$5,000 toward the effort, so we're already halfway there!



If you'd like to contribute, just earmark your donation for "Livestream." God bless!

## New Website Launched!



## Check out our new church website!

You'll find expanded sections on our church's history, mission, ministries, and upcoming events.

Visit [www.stpeterschurchalbany.org](http://www.stpeterschurchalbany.org) to check it out. Feedback is welcomed.

**Easter Lily Form**



**2025 EASTER LILY REQUEST**

Parishioners and friends wishing to place Lilies on the altar at Easter to honor, show thanks, or remember loved ones are asked to please complete this form and return it along with your donation to the church office no later than **Palm Sunday, April 13th**. Suggested donation is \$25.

**In memory of                      In thanksgiving for                      To celebrate**  
**(circle one)**

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**Given by** \_\_\_\_\_

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**In memory of                      In thanksgiving for                      To celebrate**  
**(circle one)**

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**Given by** \_\_\_\_\_





# March 2025

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

						1
<b>2 The Last Sunday after the Epiphany</b> Holy Communion Both Services 8:30am 10:30am 9:30am - Teen Breakfast club	3	4 4:00pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:00pm - Shrove Pancake Dinner & Palm Burning	<b>5 Ash Wednesday</b>  12:00pm - Ashes 5:30pm - Holy Communion w/Ashes & Choral	6 5:00pm - Treble Rehearsal	7 6:30am - Morning Prayer Zoom 5:45pm - Evensong	8 11:00am - Angels in Training
<b>9 The First Sunday in Lent</b> 8:30am - Holy Com 10:30am - Morning Prayer 12:00pm - Walking with Peter	10	11 9:30am - Lenten Zoom 4:00pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:15pm - Vestry Meeting	12 12:05pm - Noonday Prayer	13 5:00pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30pm - Full Choir Rehearsal	14 6:30am - Morning Prayer Zoom	15 11:00am - Angels in Training
<b>16 The Second Sunday in Lent</b> Holy Communion Both Services 8:30am & 10:30am 12:00pm - Walking with Peter 1:30pm - Hike @ 5 Rivers	17 <i>Saint Patrick's Day</i> 	18 9:30am - Lenten Zoom 4:00pm - Treble Rehearsal	<b>19 Saint Joseph</b> Noonday Prayer 12:05pm	20 5:00pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30pm - Full Choir Rehearsal	21 6:30am - Morning Prayer Zoom 5:45pm - Evensong	22
<b>23 The Third Sunday in Lent</b> 8:30am - Holy Com 10:30am - Morning Prayer 12:00pm - Soup Sampler Day 12:00pm - Walking with Peter	24	<b>25 Annunciation of our Lord Jesus Christ</b> 9:30am - Lenten Zoom 4:00pm - Treble Rehearsal	26 Noonday Prayer 12:05pm	27 5:00pm - Treble Rehearsal 5:30pm - Full Choir Rehearsal	28 6:30am - Morning Prayer Zoom	29
<b>30 The Fourth Sunday in Lent</b> 8:30am - Holy Com 10:30am - Morning Prayer 10:30am - Children's Chapel 12:00pm - Walking with Peter	31					

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

January 14th, 2025

**Present:** Mtr. Christina, J. Chenot, D. Spath, A. Closson, C. Gordon, S. Hartt, M. Holden, R. LaPlante, J. Russom, G. Scala

**Absent:** P. Benson, M. Lundberg, W. Pettit

Opening Prayer Led by Mtr. Christina.

**Approval of the Vestry Meeting Minutes, December 10th, 2024**

The vestry minutes from the December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting were approved on a motion by D. Spath, seconded by A. Closson, then unanimously approved by the vestry.

**Rector Report – Mtr. Christina**

**Pastoral updates:**

1. Led our third Teen Breakfast Club on Sunday, Dec. 1. Topic was “Do all Dogs go to Heaven?” – it was a theology of pets and our work to care for Creation as Jesus followers.
1. Leading Daily Morning Prayer on Zoom for Advent at 6:30 am, Monday through Friday.
2. Have begun doing my yearly Advent calls where I try to contact each parishioner (or at least leave a message).
3. Completed the Friendship sermon series in November in preparation for Friendship Sunday on Nov. 24.
4. Concocted the “St. Peter’s Spicy Dark Cocoa” recipe for the Hot Chocolate Stroll, using my husband, children, and parishioners as test subjects.
5. Awarded ice cream cards to two children for November’s ABCs Bible Memory Challenge.
6. Co-led “Walk with Peter” on Nov. 24 that focused on Jesus’ charge to Peter, “Feed my sheep.” Participated in the Dec. 8 session of the class on Peter’s Pentecost sermon.
1. Led a Thanksgiving Eve Noonday Prayer service on Nov. 27.
2. Beginning premarital preparations with a couple.
3. Making progress on our web redesign. Almost ready to launch new site.
4. Arranged to hire a member of the Albany Ambassadors team to help with safety on Sunday mornings for December.
5. Working with our lay leaders to encourage increased participation in the Hanging of the Greens this year.
6. Will be traveling Dec. 29 (after church) through Jan. 4 to Ohio to visit family during Christmastide.  
Met with my spiritual director on Dec. 2.

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

1. The Friendship Sunday and All-Parish Breakfast on Nov. 24 was a great event. We had one visitor who happened to come that day, as well as seven additional friends who were invited by parishioners. The breakfast – which was delicious – was well-attended. Thanks to every person who put work into continuing to welcome people into our church community.
2. Hot Chocolate Stroll: We participated in the Fifth Annual Hot Chocolate Stroll on Dec. 7. About a dozen of our parishioners volunteered for this event (including some kids), and we welcomed a little over 300 people into the church during the event (and distributed perhaps 60 flyers detailing our worship times and upcoming December events). Many visitors were awed by the beauty of our building and sat enjoying their cocoa while the listened to the organ playing or to recorded choral music. Overall, a wonderful welcoming event.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

Handel’s Messiah – Dec. 15

Lessons and Carols/Hanging of the Greens – Dec. 22

**Sr. Warden’s Report –J. Chenot**

I would like to start by wishing everyone a Healthy and Happy New Year. We just completed a wonderful Christmas and Advent season this past December. The turnout for both Christmas Eve services were well attended. We also celebrated Christmas Day with one service, which was celebrated at 9:30 am.

On December 14<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 service, the Sunday school performed their annual Christmas pageant with our young children from our congregation and Sunday School with the direction of our Christian director Laura Saffaris. Thank you, Laura, for your leadership of Christian education, as well as all our Sunday school teachers involved in the work, they put into performing the pageant.

That following afternoon, the Choir performed our annual Messiah concert accompanied by an orchestra, led by our organist and choir director, Danial Romero. We again had many who turned out enjoying this incredible annual musical performance. I would like to take this opportunity by thanking our choir director, Daniel, and our choir for all their hard work and dedication to the preparation of the music performed, including all the music prior during the Advent season.

The following Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, we had our traditional Lessons and Carols at the 10:30 service, followed by our annual Hanging of the Greens. We had a great turnout for the Hanging of the Greens including many seasoned and new helpers. It was encouraging to see everyone working together to beautify our church for Christmas, which has been a large part of St. Peter’s tradition for many years. Many thanks to Janice Chenot who coordinated the luncheon, as well as many others who helped prepare side dishes to share and clean up after the event. It was a wonderful Advent Sunday enjoyed by so many. Thank you to those who participated or helped in any anyway, making it truly a great day for all

Many of these services and events would not be possible if not without the help of all those on the altar guild, flower guild, the ushers, acolytes, and clergy, which made this past Advent season a meaningful and joyful time for all of us. Special thanks to Ruth, Janice, Pat and Wayne for all the preparation before all the services. Finally, thank you to Mother Christina for her guidance and work during this extremely busy season for all during this past Christmas and Advent season.

This past Saturday Morning at St. Peter's Malcom Moran and Martine Felime joined hands in matrimony. Congratulations to both of you. The ceremony was beautiful.

We continue to open our doors in our parish hall hosting the overflow shelter which has been a blessing for many homeless gentlemen from the Capital City Mission in Albany for some years now. We are always looking for individuals willing to volunteer a few hours during the evening to help the Capital City Mission staff making these less fortunate men feel a bit at home. I would like to thank those who have been donating food as well as monetary gifts designated to this worthy cause. Thank you all for your support.

Our annual meeting will be held on the last Sunday of this month, January 26<sup>th</sup>, following the 10:30 service. The meeting will begin at 12:00 noon and include tea and hymn singing. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeff Russum for his service on the vestry after serving two three-year terms and Mark Lundberg, completing his second – two, three-year term. Thank you both for your service and support on the vestry.

Again, thank you Mother Christina for all your work, preparation and spiritual dedication you have extended leading up to and during this Advent season. Your love and commitment to all of us at St. Peter's does not go unnoticed and we are so blessed to have such a wonderful minister.

**Sunday Attendance** – The Average Sunday Attendance is 72.3 (as of Feb. 9, 2025).

**Finance – G. Scala –**

Treasurer's Report Highlights/Summary – Dec 2024

	DEC	YEAR-TO-DATE
OFFERINGS	\$39,436	\$251,173
MISC. INCOME	\$1,490	\$17,048
EXPENSES	(\$49,836)	(\$566,141)
GAIN/(LOSS)	(\$8,910)	(\$297,920)
WITHDRAWALS FROM ENDOWMENT TO FUND SHORTFALL	\$16,253	\$272,135

Endowment Return (Merrill Lynch)

December: -3.14%

Index Calculated Return: -3.81%

2025 Pledges:

26 for a total of \$110,464

YTD Offerings for 2024 were \$2,616 less than '23

**Property –**

This year, we hired a crew to remove all of the greens from the church after the Christmas season. The team did the job quickly and efficiently and the cost was comparable to us removing them on our own.

**Outreach –**

The Outreach Committee is putting together Valentines' Day bags for the children at the South End Children's Cafe. A list of requests will be inserted into the weekly leaflets.

**Old Business –**

The vestry continues to work on nominations for the 2 vestry seat openings for the annual meeting.

**New Business –**

Mother Christina looked for feedback on our Safety Ambassador who was hired for the month of December. The vestry agreed that he has been a helpful presence and we would like to move forward with hiring him permanently if possible.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by A. Closson and seconded by C. Gordon, 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  
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**

