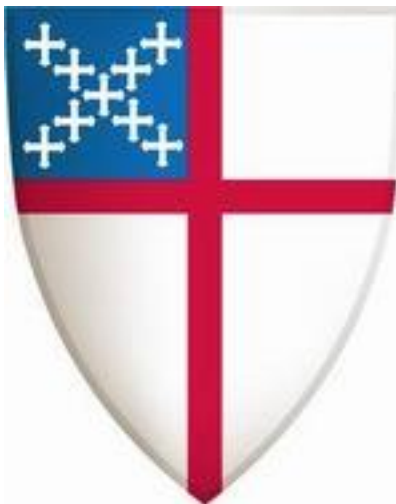




St Peter's Episcopal Church
950 East Washington St. Lebanon, IN 46052



2016 Annual Meeting of the Congregation

January 24, 2016

Annual Reports for the Year 2015



#stpetemeet #episcopalIN

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

2016 Annual Meeting Agenda

Call to Order

Invocation and Prayer

Approval of 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes

2015 Annual Treasurer's Report & 2016 Proposed Budget

St. Peter's Bishop's Committee

Recognition of Out Going Members

Voting Eligibility and Responsibilities of the Bishop's Committee & Delegates

Nomination of Candidates for Bishop's Committee

Election

Nomination of Delegates to Diocese Convention

Election

Presentation of Reports

Senior Warden's Report

Junior Warden's Report

Ministry's Reports

Community Outreach Report

Social Activities Report

Pathways to Vitality Report

Music Ministry Report

Altar Guild Report

Christian Education Report

Miscellaneous Reports

Vicar's Report

Q&A

Closing Prayer & Dismissal

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Clergy and Staff

The Right Reverend Catherine M. Waynick, Tenth Bishop of Diocese of Indianapolis
The Rev. Christopher R. Beasley, Vicar
Carol Ann Webb, Organist
Kimberly Thomas, Nursery Attendant
Cherie Donaldson, Treasurer

Bishop's Committee

Sandra Dailey, Sr. Warden	Jason Fortner, Jr. Warden	Diana Halstead, Class of 2015
Cherie Donaldson, Class of 2016	Lindsey Dickerson, Class of 2017	Debra Hartsock, Class of 2017

Newly Baptized in 2015

Katie Cremer	Corie Cremer	Kendall Cremer
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Dearlly Departed

Mary Ann Riley

Committee Chairs

Carol Ann Webb, Altar Guild
Shelbi Fortner, Children's Education
Sandra Dailey & Diana Halstead, Stewardship
Lindsey Dickerson, Communications
Debra Hartsock, Welcome & Invitation
Jason Fortner, Outreach
Sandra Dailey, Episcopal Church Women (ECW)
Open, Green Committee

Lindsey Dickerson, Andy Hartsock and Sandra Dailey, Delegates to 2015 Diocesan Convention

○ Sr. Warden's Report - Sandra Dailey presented the Senior Warden's report about the hiring a priest and Fr. Christopher called the 2015 St. Peter's Annual Meeting to order at 11:30am and promptly opened with prayer. The Annual report was distributed both electronically and one paper copy per family. The meeting was going to have live tweeting.

○ Jr. Warden's Report - Jason Fortner provided a brief summary of the efforts was presented. Jason 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes on page four (4) was presented for review. A motion was made by Jason Fortner to accept the report with minor changes and a second by Marion Ritchie. The motion was passed.

○ Grounds and Gardens Reports- Chuck Dailey summarized the 2014 ground and garden efforts and The Treasurer's Report on page 3 was the next topic of discussion. 2013 Actuals vs 2013 Budget; 2014 Actuals vs 2014 Budget; and 2015 Budget was presented for review. The treasurer's report reflected the Diocesan Committee on Personnel and Compensation mandated that all clergy and all lay employees receive a 3% raise and the increases were reflected in the 2015 Budget. Income revenue projects \$24K withdrawal from trust fund for 2015. Pledge income for 2014 was \$26k for 2015 we were looking at \$32,830 with both soft and hard pledges. Diocesan Aid still \$20k.

○ Community Outreach Report - Sandra Dailey summarized the "What's for Lunch" and "Shalom House" Lunch and remembered Shirley Rockstroh for her efforts that she gave. Giving of two Discussions: Revenue includes the Discretionary Fund, Sexton cost was an anticipated increase from weekly Thanksgiving Baskets and noted that we look forward to adding the collecting of canned goods for The Caring Center. cost from \$35 to \$40. Secretarial cost was discussed and \$300 gift to theological seminary was also added to the budget.

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report and the 2015 budget (subject to audit) by Jason Fortner, with a second from Carol Webb. The vote was unanimous.

○ Social Activities Report - Two new social activities: All Hollow's Eve and Trunk or Treat. Blue Christmas Service that we hosted as no church was going to pick it up. Italian Night, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Lenten Soup and Supper, Beer and Hymns, Back to Fifties and Oktoberfest. Yarn and Crafts projects and Gingerbread Houses were also really a fun activity.

Change of By-Laws to the change to add the increase of one Bishop's Committee member from 5 member s to 6. Quorum would be one more than half the membership of the body elected by the church.

A motion was made to change the By-Laws by Andy Hartssock, with a second from Chuck Dailey. The vote was unanimous.

○ Pathways to Vitality Report was given by Carol Webb - The main goal for 2014 was to get the website updated. They went on a Labyrinth Tour. The best Labyrinth was at St. Peter's in Carmel. John Ritter is their consultant. She invited people to join the group. Discussion of what the Labyrinth is and what it is to be used for.

Fr. Christopher went through the list of the three baptized and two confirmed in 2014, well as the one funeral in 2014. He read the list of paid staff members and their positions, then introduced all of the current and outgoing Bishop Committee members.

○ Music Report was covered by Carol Webb and discussed the introduction of Children's music to the service. Stressed her gratitude to Shirley Rockstroh for helping with the choir and filling in with the organ.

A special "Thank you" went to Jason Fortner for serving a one year term and Marion Ritchie for serving a two year term.

○ Alter Guild Report was also presented by Carol Webb - Thanks to Dorothy Kelley, Margi Whitehead and Jason Fortner for all their work with the Alter Guild. Nomination and Election of Bishops' Committee Members - Jason Fortner and Marion Ritchie terms expired. With an additional committee member added to the Bishop's Committee there was three open positions. The names of the nominees were: Margaret Donnolo; Debra Hartssock; Lindsey Dickerson; and Jason Fortner (Jason was eligible to run for a three year). Margaret withdrew her name as she planned to relocate out of state in the next few months and a request for nominations from the floor resulted in no additional candidates. The motion was unanimous for the candidates presented and to accept the nominations for these terms.

○ Christian Education Report - Cherie Donaldson thanked Shelbi Fortner and Sandy Dailey for helping out in Children's Sunday School program. Started out with Sundaes for Sunday School and are using the Spark Bible. Started a God and Me Program.

A short discussion of the Lenten Soup and Supper schedule and a proposed change in time to the 4th Thursday Election of Delegates for the Diocesan Convention - April 25, 2015 & Oct 23&24, 2015: Andy Hartssock was the only candidate and two candidates were needed so nominations from the floor were requested. Sandra Dailey and Lindsey Dickerson were nominated from the floor so a vote was required. Andy Hartssock and Lindsey Dickerson were voted to be the delegates to convention and Sandra Dailey was made the alternate delegate; their names were to be submitted to the Diocesan office. Summarized recognition of other members Sr. Warden, Sandy Dailey for supporting him in his first days at St Peter's. He praised Cherie Donaldson for her commitment to St. Peter's appreciated her willingness to manage the finances of the church.

○ Vicar's Report - Fr. Christopher recognized St. Peter's Leadership and the outgoing Bishop's Committee members Marion Ritchie and Jason Fortner. Summarized recognition of other members Sr. Warden, Sandy Dailey for supporting him in his first days at St Peter's. He praised Cherie Donaldson for her commitment to St. Peter's appreciated her willingness to manage the finances of the church.

- He also acknowledged Frank Moore for bringing the history of the church and the way things work. Thanked Shirley Rockstroh for being the treasure that we deeply loved. He also recognized the roles of different ministries like the community gardens and the bees. He also was excited for the Sunday school teachers and the challenges of the teaching the children and was grateful for the Alter Guild who clean up his messes. He wanted to visit those that are shut in and minister to the sick. He wanted to take our ministry to the streets and take the church to the streets. He wanted a consistent message and wants to see how we can get involved. Offer your gifts to our church community. Need to add signage to the church. We need to take our story to the world. Care and hospitality is a goal and need to look at a plan for the growth of this church. And we had an increase in weekly attendance. We have paid our bills on time and have kept up with our Diocesan apportionments. We exceeded our budget goals in 2014. With the results of 2015, a strategic plan will be develop to help guide where St Peter's is going to go and set the goals for our spiritual life. We all have to be committed to our lives here at St. Peter's. Fr. Christopher blessed us.
Discussion: Questions about tablets.

Results of the election of Convention Delegates: Andy Hartsock and Lindsey Dickerson. Alternate: Sandra Dailey

Fr. Christopher closed the meeting with a prayer.

Carol Webb made a motion to close the Annual Meeting and was seconded by Frank Moore. The motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandra Dailey, Sr. Warden/Clerk

Treasurer's Report 2015
Treasurer's Report 2015

continued

2016 Annual Meeting January 24, 2016
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St. Peter's Episcopal Church

ST. PETER'S 2016 BUDGET					
REVENUE	2016B	2015B	2015A	2014A	2013A
DESIGNATED GIFTS	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,700	\$ 11,574	\$ 5,678	\$ 370
DIOCESAN AID	\$ 25,000	\$ 20,000	\$20,000	\$ 21,667	\$ 20,000
FLOWERS	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 635	\$ 979	\$ 447
INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,812	\$ 1,598	\$ 1,226
MEMORIALS/DONATIONS	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 900	\$ 690	\$ 400
PLATE	\$ 340	\$ 300	\$ 554	\$ 1,200	\$ 369
PLEDGE	\$ 36,000	\$ 32,830	\$36,232	\$ 26,125	\$ 22,880
PROJECT INCOME	\$ 4,275	\$ 4,296	\$ 4,521	\$ 3,457	\$ 3,579
REIMBURSED EXPENSES	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 3,394	\$ 1,204	\$ 7,492
RENT	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 300	\$ 320	\$ 185
RESTRICTED - SAVINGS ACCOUNTS	\$ 1,768	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
SPECIAL OFFERING	\$ 480	\$ 600	\$ 274	\$ 1,690	\$ 198
TRUST FUND	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,369	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MISCELLANEOUS INCOMES	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 1,595	\$ 663	\$ 5
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 99,663	\$ 89,695	\$ 81,791	\$65,270	\$ 57,151
EXPENSE					
ALTAR SUPPLIES	\$ 307	\$ 280	\$ 790	\$ 369	\$ 423
APIARY	\$ 750	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -
BULLETINS/NEWSLETTERS	\$ 364	\$ 327	\$ 207	\$ -	\$ -
BUSINESS/OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 600	\$ 500	\$ 641	\$ 1,272	\$ 809
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$ 1,125	\$ 1,025	\$ 423	\$ 827	\$ 1,280
CLERGY CONFERENCE	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -
CLERGY CONTINUING EDUCATION	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CLERGY PENSION	\$ 5,142	\$ 5,017	\$ 5,017	\$ 2,030	\$ -
CLERGY SALARY/HOUSING/TAXES	\$ 28,569	\$ 27,872	\$27,872	\$ 11,275	\$ -
CONVENTION EXPENSE	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 143	\$ -	\$ -
DESIGNATED GIFTS	\$ 3,460	\$ 3,160	\$ 6,556	\$ 3,343	\$ 141
DIOCESAN APPORTIONMENT	\$ 5,507	\$ 5,160	\$ 5,160	\$ 5,166	\$ 4,616
DISCRETIONARY FUND	\$ 540	\$ 540	\$ 1,171	\$ 1,954	\$ -
EVANGELISM/OUTREACH	\$ 3,900	\$ 1,850	\$ 961	\$ 46	\$ 611
FLOWERS	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,006	\$ 1,066	\$ 934
FUNDRAISING/PROJECTS	\$ 5,063	\$ 5,709	\$ 2,781	\$ 1,084	\$ 1,166
INSURANCE	\$ 7,327	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,242	\$ 6,919	\$ 5,308
MARKETING	\$ 1,140	\$ 540	\$ 766	\$ 280	\$ -
MEMORIAL EXPENSE	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 139	\$ 139	\$ 5	\$ -	\$ 398
MUSIC	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 136	\$ 180	\$ 35
NURSERY ATTENDANT	\$ 1,102	\$ 1,071	\$ 814	\$ 322	\$ 862
ORGANIST	\$ 4,400	\$ 4,172	\$ 4,051	\$ 3,561	\$ 3,479
PAYROLL PROCESSING	\$ 384	\$ 193	\$ 301	\$ 245	\$ 197
REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,649	\$ 1,854	\$ 4,910
CONTRACT EXPENSES	\$ 926	\$ 960	\$ 988	\$ 384	\$ 420
SECRETARY	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 29	\$ -	\$ -
SEXTON	\$ 2,340	\$ 2,080	\$ 1,920	\$ 1,365	\$ 1,577
SEXTON SUPPLIES	\$ 340	\$ 560	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ -
SUPPLY CLERGY	\$ 675	\$ 675	\$ 270	\$ 3,915	\$ 6,750
TAXES	\$ 1,541	\$ 1,476	\$ 1,343	\$ 826	\$ 703
TELEPHONE/INTERNET	\$ 1,599	\$ 1,440	\$ 1,674	\$ 907	\$ 523
TRAVEL ALLOWANCE/MILEAGE	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,100	\$ 202	\$ 1,033	\$ 2,172
TREASURER/BOOKKEEPER	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 255	\$ 595	\$ -
UTILITIES	\$ 6,673	\$ 6,700	\$ 6,275	\$ 6,576	\$ 6,165
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 99,663	\$ 89,695	\$85,547	\$57,394	\$ 43,479
PROJECTED SHORTFALL	\$ 0		\$(3,756)	\$ 7,876	\$ 13,672

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Statement of Fund Balances

St. Peter's Episcopal Church - Lebanon, IN

As of December 31, 2015

Huntington Checking - Operating Acct*	\$37,378.39
Labyrinth Fund	(\$1,064.00)
Memorials (15) (\$1,656.78 tied to 11 Memorials w/ <\$500 balance)	(\$12,976.72)
Change for Change (\$99 annual lunch sponsorship due in '16 & '17)	(\$295.90)
Huntington Checking - Available for Operations	\$23,041.77
Huntington Savings*	\$11,768.67
Rockstroh Memorial Gift	(\$10,000.00)
Huntington Savings - Available	\$1,768.67
Special Fund held at Diocese*	\$78,530.22
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents*	\$127,677.28
<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>\$103,340.66</i>
<i>Huntington Checking - Vicar's Discretionary Acct</i>	<i>\$1,288.54</i>

SUBJECT TO AUDIT

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Recognition of Outgoing Members of the Bishop's Cmte

Sandra Dailey Diana Halstead

Voting Eligibility

To be eligible to vote, a person must be a baptized individual faithful in corporate worship who has received the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist at St. Peter's at least three times during the previous year. In addition, they must sixteen (16) years of age and supporters of St. Peter's through their time, talent, or treasure.

Requirements of Bishop's Committee Members

These are the requirements for eligibility per the Canons:

1. At least 18 years of age
2. A baptized and confirmed (or received) communicant in the Episcopal Church and a member of the St. Peter's parish
3. Have not previously served a full term on the Bishop's Committee within the past 12 months.

These are the expectations to serve on the Bishop's Committee:

1. Agree to a three-year consecutive term unless otherwise stated and take a leadership role.
2. Attendance at regular and special worship services and parish events.
3. Attend all Bishop's Committee meetings (three absences per year allowed) and special Bishop's Committee workshops.
4. Be willing to listen, learn and lead.

Candidates for Bishop's Committee

(Lewis) Chuck Dailey

Diana Halstead

Candidates for Diocesan Convention

Sandra Dailey

Lindsey Dickerson

Jason Fortner

Senior Warden's Report 2015

continued

Senior Warden's Report 2015

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St. Peter's Episcopal Church

As your Senior Warden since January of 2013, I can't say that this year, 6 years have gone by quickly. I would like for St. Peter's to be the world's best of the church in fact we were able to keep his part in the year five through the year. Thank you to Father Christopher St. Peter serving on the Senior Executive Officer in the Rector's Warden as the diocese like a son to me and I've enjoyed meeting with him and advising him.

Hopefully we will still continue to work on future plans and learn different ways for St. Peter's to share our gifts with. I have been a member in an Episcopal church for 58 years, this was my first time to have the opportunity to serve on a Vestry/Bishop's Committee and I'll have to say this was one of the most demanding, but rewarding jobs I have ever had. This year as Warden St. Peter's 2015 & 2016 has been a lot of growth of our name. He has been willing to care for the Open House service in the Sunday Warden's office. The few members that you have had in the past year are doing great in supporting us in our vision which to this year and persevere a part of our for a year. We have also been a faithful member of the Bishop's God's Family and indeed Dick's parish at Lady's new for our Sunday group being fairly new to the Episcopal church and bringing in his hands and service with the St. Peter's. Thank you to the parishes for a great time for worship. Bishop's Committee with her hectic work schedule and for helping to create a welcome package for St. Peter's. Then there's Diana Halstead, she volunteered to fill in for Frank Moore when he was on leave for a year. To be Sr. Warden's help at St. Peter's. What was a great deal with our people. Charge, the full responsibility rested on my shoulders to work directly with the Canons from the Diocese to find a way to get this church back on its feet. Fr. Christopher and Kent for working together to this? What are the goals and to have the parish laws and landscape services as a church and to have the job done to them to improve the worship services over our music and the altar. Fr. Chris, Fr. Chris, Fr. Chris, Fr. Chris. I also thank Fr. Christopher, the Canon, Fr. Chris, and Fr. Chris. It was a great year and I was busy preparing for our 2016 and art of our mission and vision of the parish, managing its day-to-day operations, identifying and nurturing leaders, and empowering members of the congregation to live out the Gospel in their daily lives. The role requires an open, honest and trusting relationship between warden and vicar and it is virtually impossible to fulfill if these key elements are missing or impaired. Now the warden does not always need to have much more to accomplish as we grow stronger. Hopefully I can speak for all of us when I say that our Lord has made a perfect fit for Sr. Warden's with his choice of who shall walk, teach and guide us into the future of when St. Peter's will fit in His great and glorious plan. My spiritual and faith journey and helped me nurture and develop leadership and "people" skills that have been invaluable in my life, career and ministry. If you are called to serve in this important but somewhat confusing role, my best advice is to approach it with an open mind, a sincere heart and a willingness to be shaped and directed by the work of the Holy Spirit.

Yours in Christ,

Both Chuck and I would like you to know we are both grateful that we were asked to come back to St. Peter's and to help get this church back on its feet as St. Peter's future wasn't looking too bright. We went without a priest for 5 years and I think with the addition of Fr. Christopher we have finally turned the corner and have moved from a non-inviting church to a fun and exciting church. As I step back from this leadership role, I plan to spend more time at a diocesan level with the election and transition to a new bishop and to work with our local community to build Harvest House. I have enjoyed being the Rector's Warden for the last year and a half and I thank you again for the privilege of serving all of the members of St. Peter's and the Bishop's Committee as your Senior Warden. Thank you for all of your support as change is never easy and I know I have pushed through a lot of change in the past three years. Please remember that change is good but also don't forget that we are not creating a new religion for certain groups of God's people to match the times, we are part of large global church for all people to share in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ. Those that have put their time and efforts in serving the church deserve to be respected for their beliefs. Like me, many of us have built a lifetime on this rock and had prayed that it will remain a strong and stable rock that our children will want to build their lives upon.

Sandra Dailey
St. Peter's Sr. Warden

Junior Warden's Report 2015

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St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Buildings and Maintenance

Your Junior Warden has measured the past year by means of a hundred little missions to keep St. Peter's facilities running smoothly. We've added smoke detectors for our safety and for the peace of mind of our insurance adjustor. The furnaces and restrooms have been tended to. The Mysterious Collapsing Mailbox has been repaired twice. The supports for the paraments for the Season after Pentecost have been reinforced. Door stops have been mended and trash cans have been emptied. It may not always be glamorous, but I've been glad to serve.

Improvements both major and minor are on the horizon for 2016. An Adopt a Bulb campaign will be launching soon. We hope to replace the light bulbs in the worship space with LED bulbs, and we need your help. Even though the bulbs are more expensive than conventional light bulbs, they produce more light and virtually no heat while using very little electricity. The best part is, they last for fifteen to twenty years. Any chance to avoid ladder time is welcome. Additionally, work on installing a new roof on Blackwell Hall and the church will begin soon. Hail damage was found, so the cost to the parish will be minimal, and the benefits will be great. The new appearance and the added protection will put us in good shape for years to come.

I have appreciated your help in both finding and repairing issues around the church. I look forward to continued improvements to our building and grounds as we continue to grow in our love for the Lord and our service to our community.

Jason Fortner

St. Peter's Jr. Warden

Grounds, Gardens, Apiary Report 2015

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St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Several modifications were made to the St. Peter's Grounds and Gardens in 2015.

Raised beds north of the existing gardens plots were installed for perennial plants including blueberries, strawberries and blackberries. Compost was again used to strengthen the soil nutrients and vegetables that thrived the prior year were replanted. We also installed manual in-ground sprinklers between each plot, which covered the watering of two gardens at once. Ironically the summer was so wet that they were infrequently used, but they will be helpful in the future when summers are dry.

We had two additional community members gardened with us this year. Lyle Miller and Winona Steiner, both Lebanon residents, planted small beds and tended to their crops until the summer rains made it difficult to keep up with weeding. We will offer both a place this year and hope for more participation and moderate rainfall. The cooler, wetter weather made it difficult for certain crops like tomatoes and peppers to ripen. Overall the harvest was still very good, and pollinators (bees and butterflies) were seen everywhere!

I'd like to thank Sandy, Gary, +Fr. Christopher and Kent, for their tireless efforts to keep up with planting, weeding and maintaining the gardens. Special thanks to Gary for his dedication on the mowing crew.



A Bountiful Harvest

The Bee "Corral" was completed and the first two hives, named "Cate" and "Katherine" after our Bishop and Presiding Bishop, were primed and painted. They were then delivered in early spring to Dave Shenefield of Clover Blossom Honey, a commercial beekeeper and our local bee supplier.

On February 28th Gary Sanders, Sandy and I attended the Indiana Beekeepers Conference at Decatur High School along with 897 other beekeepers. It was an amazing event, with standing room only for most training sessions and over 35 onsite vendors of beekeeping supplies. We picked up our 2 nucleus hives (Nuc's) on May 29th, and the "girls" (all 10,000 of them) settled into their new digs very quickly.

Grounds, Gardens, Apiary Report 2015 continued

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

On June 20th Gary, Sandy and I attended the Purdue Bee Field Day where we learned how to inspect and manage hives under varying circumstances. During the St. Peter's Open House in the fall we gave several apiary tours, including one for three Frankfort High School National Honor Society students. This discussion led to the students using our "Intro to Beekeeping" PowerPoint presentation and gaining permission from the Superintendent and School Board to pursue Beekeeping as a NHS community project. While they will have a local beekeeping mentor, we've agreed to help support them by providing startup assistance and funding through local club grants for both hardware and bees.

Bishop Cate has encouraged us to use this Beekeeping project as a ministry. To help facilitate this, I've enrolled in the University of Montana Master Beekeeping Program. The program is an intensive on-line college 3-year curriculum covering all aspects of bees and Beekeeping. I've successfully completed the first session, Apprentice, late last September and am preparing for the second (Journeyman) session later this fall.



"Cate" and "Katherine" in the "Corral"

While both hives thrived this year and each carried over 100 pounds of honey into the late fall, the true measure of our success will come early this spring; overwintering honey bees in this climate is a tremendous challenge, and many local hives will not survive the winter. To help their odds, all excess honey stores over 80 pounds were removed and will be returned to them for early spring food resources.

2016 will see new additions to the apiary. With Gary's help, the "Corral" will be lengthened by 12 feet, and 2 new hives ("Mary" and "Martha") are being prepared and will be placed near the existing hives. Bees have been ordered for both St. Peter's and Frankfort HS and will be available in late May. In support of our new tenants, we will be planting 70 pounds of Ladino, White Dutch and Crimson clover in the field. Hopefully this addition will provide a food source for years to come and add color to the north side of the church property.

Grounds, Gardens, Reports
Apiary Report 2015 continued

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St. Peter's Episcopal Church

I'd like to thank everyone who has helped with this project, including Sandy, Gary, Fr. Christopher and Matt Fortner.



Bishop Cate and Fr. Christopher watching hive examination

Respectfully Submitted,

Chuck Dailey
Grounds, Gardens and Apiary

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Lenten Soup and Service Prepared by Fr. Christopher

As we have done for several years, on March 4, 2015 we hosted one of the Wednesday evening Lenten soup and service events. We served a full crowd, providing crockpots of delicious soup and baskets of bread. Fr. Christopher led approximately 70 people in an Evening Prayer service in the Anglican tradition.

The participating churches include Otterbein Methodist Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, and St. Mark's Lutheran Church (Whitestown).

In 2016, St. Peter's will be the host on Wednesday March 2nd dinner at 6pm service at 7. Please add this date to your calendar. Make plans to prepare a crockpot of soup, accompanied by home-made bread (or bread that's like home-made).

February 17	St. Joseph's RCC
February 24	Trinity Lutheran
March 2	St. Peter's Episcopal
March 9	Otterbein United Methodist
March 16	St. Mark's Lutheran

Yarn and Crafts (YAC) & Social Life

Prepared by Sandy Dailey (Chair), Marion Ritchie, Shelbi Fortner

2015 was a fun year with a lot of ways to interface our community and to just have fun. Our three 2015 big were Italian Dinner Night, Back to the Fifties and Oktoberfest. These events allow us to bring friends and family onto the church grounds to expose them to St. Peter's in a fun environment. Beer and Hymns is a great way to sing our favorite hymn and have a little brew too. We had a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, an Easter Egg Hunt, an Open House and St Nicholas Day.

Yarn and Crafts (YAC) gets together at least once a month to work on some type of craft project and to have a light meal. Most of the evening is spent YACing and Laughing. We have created many crafty products such as xmas card garlands, flower arrangements, xmas cards, gingerbread cookies for St. Nicholas Day bags, and no sew blankets. We stepped out into the community this year to go shake our PomPom at a Lebanon High School Volleyball game too. This year we are going to sponsor a Painting event in Indianapolis and do a few events out in the community.

In 2015 we traded the 4th Thursday of YAC for Family Night. We had Bingo, Yard Games, Board Games, Movie Night; Make your own Pizza and Gingerbread Houses. We had Pumpkin carving with Carmel Apples and Popcorn balls. We'll come up with a whole line up of fun. Mardi Gras mask making and gumbo are coming up soon.

Community Events Reports

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Community Worship Prepared by Father Christopher

This year we hosted an ecumenical Good Friday service with our own Bishop, The Rt. Reverend Catherine Waynick, presiding. The liturgy is one that +Cate wrote while in seminary and asks the question, "Were You There?" to ten characters. The sanctuary was draped in black for this service. We had participants from Trinity Lutheran as well.

In mid-May, we hosted our first Rogation Day services where we invited the community to bring those items used in gardening and caring for the earth to be blessed. The service included the traditional "beating of the bounds" as we processed around the church to the gardens, bee corral, and finally along the drive where lawn tractors, shovels and plants were blessed. We concluded with Eucharist and plants for everyone.

Our parking lot Eucharists during the summer helped to increase our visibility and continued to attract people from other churches to participate.

In October we continued with an All Hallows' Eve service followed by a Trunk or Treat indoors and the children received A LOT of candy. In total, we had 20 people attend this service. People came in costume and enjoyed the socializing aspect of the evening.

Blue Christmas

Prepared by Father Christopher

Once again, St. Peter's stepped up to the plate and offered to be the host of the Blue Christmas service. This marks the third consecutive year we have hosted this event. Also, LACA decided that this would become one of our regular events. This year we enjoyed participation from Trinity Lutheran, First Presbyterian and Central Christian churches.

On Sunday, 20 December we hosted 24 people for a Blue Christmas service of hope and remembrance. We remembered and acknowledged that for many the holidays are not always the brightest due to the various types of losses we may experience. Participants were invited to list their hurts on a piece of paper and seal it in an envelope and leave it at God's altar. Candles could be lit for those losses we grieved. All four of the participating clergy offered prayer and healing stations. We sang the new Christmas song we had learned *Star-child, earth-child*.

Look for us to host again in 2016!

One Small Change: Pathways to Vitality

Prepared by Carol Ann Webb

2016 Annual Meeting January 24, 2016
of the Congregation

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Good news! Two of the three projects that the Pathways Team identified in 2014 as our priorities have now been completed: the church website was updated with the two main websites being merged into one and a tri-fold brochure has been created which guests with St. Peter's and our mission and various ministries.

You can get to the web page by going to www.stpetersepiscopallebanon.org or the much simpler www.weseegodinyou.org. This also works for any of the affiliated extensions such as .net and .com that we also own.

This completed project will strengthen our visibility to people looking for a church. The majority of people today find a church by looking at websites.

Our third, and major, project is building a labyrinth on the St. Peter's grounds. We have identified a site for our labyrinth on the east side of the church building, to the north of the trees. For "Invite a Friend" Sunday in August, Chuck, Sandy and Josh Dailey spray painted a large labyrinth in that area and then Chuck mowed the paths between the outlines.

Many of our guests and St. Peter's members took the opportunity to walk the labyrinth that day, sometimes accompanied by music from a Native American flute. Children also enjoyed the walking the labyrinth.

The consensus of the Team is to start with paths marked by pavers buried flush with the ground so that the grass can be easily mowed. A budget has been prepared and we are applying for grants to assist with costs.

In the future, this site could be converted to a concrete design. We envision plantings around the labyrinth to offer privacy (Chuck Dailey's dream of a vineyard?), as well as plantings to hide the telephone company's equipment near the road from view. A water fountain would be a hospitable addition for walkers during our humid Indiana weather.

On our 2014 labyrinth tour, we discovered that the labyrinths we visited were not prominently identified. In driving by the location, one would not know that a labyrinth was available. One of our goals is to identify the fact that we have a labyrinth for public use.

One of the next steps in the process is to identify the design and size of the labyrinth. We plan to begin constructing our St. Peter's labyrinth this spring, to be an offering to Lebanon and the surrounding communities as a place of peace and harmony.

Our "God Moment" sharing during the announcement time was a spontaneous project that was born the Sunday before Lent began in 2014 when the Pathways Team agreed that, as part of our Lenten discipline, one of us would share a "God Moment" during the announcements throughout Lent.

Sharing the times in our lives when we feel close to God strengthens the relationships among us. As we continue to share God Moments each Sunday, we become more aware of those sacred times in our lives. I am delighted that our young people regularly and joyfully share God Moments.

One Small Change: Pathways to Vitality St. Peter's Episcopal Church

(Continued)

As we become comfortable sharing within our congregation, perhaps we will become more comfortable sharing with our friends and acquaintances outside the congregation.

Each Pathways meeting begins with about 10-15 minutes of prayer, Bible study and sharing – and we are committed to finishing the meeting within an hour.

We use the same Bible passage each meeting, based on the idea of a book entitled, *Dwelling in the Word*. By reading and dwelling in the same passage each meeting, we are able to gain new insights into both the passage and how it can be applied to our own lives.

The Pathways to Vitality Team members are Lindsey Dickerson, Jason Fortner, Diana Halstead and Carol Ann Webb.

If you feel called to be a part of the Pathway to Vitality Team, please contact Carol Ann Webb or Fr. Christopher. We are grateful for your prayers and support. Your input is welcome.



Music Report Altar Guild Report

Prepared by Carol Ann Webb
Prepared by Carol Ann Webb

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

We are blessed with our Altar Guild at St. Peter's. Although we are small in numbers, the members are faithful. During Lent we learned #140, *Will thou forgive that sin*, the musical setting of John Donne's prayer-poem. to their call to prepare the table around which we gather each Sunday to feast at God's banquet.

On Palm Sunday, Chuck Dailey and Jason Fortner sang #170, *March Your King* for the Offertory Anthem. Please personally express your appreciation to Dorothy Kelley, Margaret Wourchick and Jason Fortner, who exhibit a loving, devoted and continued commitment to this ministry.

On Easter Sunday, the congregation was invited to bring bells, which were enthusiastically rung throughout the service. I am continually inspired by their faithfulness and their willingness to do what needs to be done at the moment, singing of the processional hymn, #207, *Jesus Christ is risen today*. We also learned a Gospel Alleluia which we sang even if - or I should say, especially if, they are not scheduled for that Sunday. throughout the Easter season.

As always, we owe our thanks to the men in the congregation who have taken down/put up the green banners. Our varied Ben and Hymns the year concluded with the singing of purple, on Beer and White days in 2014. We began with a few hymns with organ accompaniment and then moved to the gathering area for a time of snacks and fellowship. We interspersed the fellowship time with hymns accompanied on the piano.

Decorating and preparing the church for Easter and Christmas involves extra help from members of the congregation. Thanks to everyone who assisted, for without your help, it would have been a daunting task.

Although familiar carols were a part of the Blue Christmas service we offered again this year to the community on December 20th, we added the lovely new hymn *Star Child, earth Child*. If you feel God is calling you to a ministry with the Altar Guild, please let me know. It is holy work.

Christian Education Report

Prepared by Shelbi Fortner

On the fourth Sundays, Children's Sunday, we continued using *Come into God's presence* singing as the opening hymn, alternating it with *There's new life in Jesus*. We also learned *Jesus Christ, Son of God* (#814 in *Wonder, Love and Praise*) for the processional hymn. For the hymn before the Gospel, we continued singing *Jesus love me*.

Over the last year we have worked to establish consistency while remaining flexible and ready to respond to the constant growth and changes of the children of St. Peter's. Children participate in Children's Sunday School classes during the first half of Sunday morning services. Shelbi and Sandy share the responsibilities for these classes. During 2015 we learned several new hymns from *The Hymnal 1982*: #257 (*O Zion, open wide thy gates*), #309 (*O food to pilgrims given*), #471 (*We sing the praise of him who died*), and #500 (*Creator Spirit, by whose aid*).

During this time, children who are four to ten years old are learning to worship through prayer, song, and art. We are using *God's Word, My Voice* and the Spark Bible to guide our weekly lessons following the lectionary cycle. Children return to the sanctuary to pass the Peace and participate in the Eucharist. During this time, the children sit in small chairs in front of the pews. This has allowed them an excellent view of the altar and led to increased engagement which has manifested as following Father Christopher's motions and words.

From *Wonder, Love, and Praise*, we sang #797 (*It's me, it's me, it's me, O Lord*), which was one of the hymns we learned at the Beer and Hymns event. We also learned #803 (*These three are the treasures*).

On the fourth Sunday of each month, the children remain with their families throughout the service, and join Father Christopher for a special children's sermon. The children also collect a special offering which will be used to purchase items through Episcopal Relief & Development.

During Advent, we began using a new *Sanctus* (*Holy, holy, holy*), #S-128 in *The Hymnal 1982*. After Christmas, we added a new *Gloria*, #S-278. We will continue to use these two settings at least throughout 2016 so that they become as familiar to us as previous settings we have sung.

In the summer of 2016, we are hoping to plan and hold VBS for children and their friends and families. We'll be looking for volunteers to assist with this endeavor.

We reviewed hymns learned in the past couple of years as well as hymns we hadn't sung for a while. We continue to sing hymns from the congregation's list of favorites.

Please express your appreciation to Chuck Dailey and Jason Fortner for their ministry as cantors.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Communications

Prepared by Lindsey Dickerson

This year we heard a recurring theme referencing new and exciting things happening at St. Peter's. It's a brand new day! With introducing new ministries and ways to communicate, we need to find a way to keep up with the ever changing times that people are now using to communicate. There is the old fashioned way of mail and the telephone, but newer technology is challenging us to embrace new forms of communication and go to our virtual congregation that is not limited by these physical walls of St. Peters.

I was first tasked with updating the St. Peter's directory. It was no small task. I went through several different directories from different years, pieced together new information and old. And finally, compile this heap of information into a neat, readable document for all of you to find the names, phone numbers, addresses, emails, birthdays, and anniversaries of your fellow parishioners.

I was also tasked with ensuring we were following diocesan policy regarding photographs of minors that we may use on social media. We do need to ensure we do have permission to use photographs of any minor child. We now have a policy in place regarding using photographs, and a form for all parents to submit to grant us permission.

Even though we embrace many new forms of communication, we still use the methods that many may be more accustomed to. That's right; we used the good old fashioned newspaper. A press release was submitted to and printed in the Lebanon Reporter regarding the Good Friday Service that Bishop Cate led.

In addition to creating events and managing the Facebook page, a Twitter page (@StPeteLebanon) was also created in preparation for Social Media Sunday. Convention was liveTweeted so anyone could keep up with the newest developments. Social Media Sunday was the following day. People across the country posted on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and even Periscope highlights of before, during, and after service. I still remember the amazement that Father Christopher had after the service, and was so pleased to see that 116 people had tuned in to our service that was livestreamed on Periscope. This even got the attention of the organizers of Social Media Sunday! Once again, thank you to everyone who did participate in Social Media Sunday. One of the organizers of SMS has said "Christ has no online presence but your own." So we do continue to encourage each and every one of you to post anything that moves you a picture, a quote, or a video. Social media is everywhere now, and is a great way to share what makes St. Peter's special with others. Create that online presence to give a voice to the wonderful things St. Peter's has to offer the Lebanon community.

Vicar's Report

Prepared by Father Christopher

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Let me begin by saying thank you!

Thanks to our Bishop's Committee, including Diana Halstead who filled out the last eight months of Frank Moore's term and to my dear Senior Warden Sandra Dailey, I don't know of many priests who are as fortunate to have as capable, focused or trusted Senior Warden as I have had in Sandy. She has been my closest adviser as she negotiated the contract to bring me here in the midst of gunfire and has coached and counseled me during first eighteen months here. We may not have always agreed on everything and I am sure that she has thought a couple times that I must be out of my mind with some ideas. I mean who plans TWO OUTDOOR SERVICES and a PARISH PICNIC within three days of each other? I took care of the weather and Sandy helped to make sure these events went off without a hitch. I am sad to be losing her as my Senior Warden but glad to count her as my friend. Thank you Sandy!

Thanks to the other members of our Executive Team: Jason Fortner (Junior Warden), Cherie Donaldson (Treasurer) and the iPad who serves as our Virtual Clerk. I have been privileged to serve with these faithful leaders, and indeed with such a group of talented individuals. You need to know that God has blessed this parish with uniquely gifted and faithful leaders. These leaders take their faithfulness to God seriously and they love you all—they love this parish with abundance and with wisdom. I am so honored to serve with them!

Thank you also to our committee chairs: We have a wonderful group of people each charged with helping us to expand our footprint in this community and to Grow as Disciples of Jesus Christ. I'll say more about their work further on. Thank to: Lindsey Dickerson (Communications), Jason Fortner (Outreach/Evangelism), Diana Halstead (Stewardship), Shelbi Fortner (Education), Chuck Dailey (who is doing an exceptionally fine job with Gardens, Grounds, and Apiary), Gary Sanders (Grounds and Apiary), and Debra Hartsock (Welcome/Invitation). And thanks to all of you for all your faithful ministries, serving God in this place! I am delighted to be part of a place where collaboration helps us to thrive. This is a place where we as a community take joy in our common endeavor. This kind of positive energy and Jesus-centered focus is attracting new people to our church. Our attendance is up nearly 13.5% since last year, and many new faces have worshipped with us in the last several months. Thank you for your faithfulness to God in this place, and for your personal engagement with our guests and new members to welcome them into the life of the church.

Cherie Donaldson has served as our Treasurer for 2015 and will continue to serve in this capacity, entering her eighth year. We have had the task of converting our financial records to Quickbooks and the audit in late August. I know that if I need anything, I can always count on her to provide me the data I need. In our monthly meetings, she has a notebook of questions to ask me, and I am happy to say this month, the list was very short! She has done a remarkable job in keeping track of things and doing her best to manage and balance the never-ending challenge of pledges, in-kind gifts, the complications of a discretionary account, change for change, and when your vicar turns in receipts all bundled together, months later. She is both faithful and precise in her work and handles the finances of the church with the utmost integrity and care.

Chuck Dailey takes on the important work of facilitating the Gardens behind the church and this year we welcomed two new members into the community to garden with us. We have installed our very own weather station to monitor rainfall and the Grounds team has done numerous improvements to make our gardens successful.

Vicar's Report

continued

2016 Annual Meeting January 24, 2016
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Chuck and Sandy Dailey and Gary Sanders head up our Apiary here at St. Peter's. What was just an idea for a hobby two years ago has sprouted into a ministry that has its very own line item in the budget! We will be presenting workshops at the upcoming Vestry College and I will be giving a workshop presentation when I serve as Chaplain at the Youth Spring Conference at Waycross in early March.

Sandy Dailey, Cherie Donaldson and Shelbi Fortner have faithfully served our children's Sunday School. In the summer Cherie Donaldson announced her retirement from Sunday School and Shelbi Fortner stepped up and provides leadership of this ministry. From shaking pom poms to learning The Lord's Prayer, Christian Education is alive and thriving thanks to those who take the time to teach our youth the history and rock upon which the Episcopal Church has existed for 230 years. Kimberly Thomas ministers to our youngest in ways that I never imagined when we hired her shortly after my arrival. Her dedication to creating a safe and fun place to be gives me great joy.

Carol Ann Webb coordinates the Altar Guild, and with Margi Whitehead, Jason Fortner, and Dorothy Kelley continue to clean up the messes I make at the altar. They are also quick on their feet when the vicar decides to do something different on a Sunday morning or new liturgical season. Their faithfulness in providing beautiful and clean linens every week (and for extra services) to celebrate the Mass is greatly appreciated.

Countless numbers of you have given your time, talents and resources to the life of this parish and in service to others.

We need to celebrate our ministry and celebrate our many gifts, and celebrate one another. Please join me in giving thanks to God and thanks to each other for the blessings of this community.

While I could go through all the events of 2015 and itemize them for all of you, that is not my focus today, most of those items have been captured in the outstanding reports that have been prepared by the people who have led the ministries of the church this past year. These reports have been prepared in a variety of formats for your ease.

In the number of parishes I have been in during my formation, I have come to one conclusion regarding the "State of the Parish" address. That is, the best measure of our success in any given year is to look at what we said specifically that we would accomplish, where we are today, and where are we going.

We hosted a very successful Open House and Guest Sunday

What started out of an idea that I read on an Episcopal Church blog, became a highlight and central focus for the year. In the Spring I pitched the idea of an "Invite-A-Friend" to church day and we could possibly have a small reception afterwards. The main thing I told the Bishop's Committee is that we have to get EVERYONE in the parish to commit to inviting and making sure that one new person attended.

As we planned our other events for the Summer Social Calendar, the Parking Lot Eucharists and pizza party, the Parish Picnic. We noticed we gather together the best and with others from our community when there is food involved. So plans began to be developed that we would have an "Open House" and showcase our ministries to the public. This would help meet our goal for 2015 of telling people that "We are Here!"

Vicar's Report

continued

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Again, our Senior Warden Sandy Dailey stepped up to the plate and organized a YAC day of working on ministry boards that highlight our programs. The Apiary group decided they would give tours of the corral and enough jackets and veils were purchased so we could take groups out there. The Pathways team selected a location for a temporary labyrinth and a painted version was mowed and then lined. Flute music was provided for people who walked the labyrinth that day.

We had 48 in church that Sunday and several more came later in the day. A rousing success by any standard.

We must continue the work started in 2015 and find new ways to reach out in 2016.

There is an old Christian song that some of you might know, with this important refrain, "no one stands alone; where standing side by side; draw the circle, draw the circle wide." I heard another Episcopal clergy person reflect on this song and the image and reflection seems to describe what we have focused on here at St. Peter's.

It seems to me that when we read the Gospels, Jesus' primary message to us his children is that we spend our time in this world helping draw the circle wider. The Jewish world in which Jesus was raised drew a circle around Jewish life only. Everyone else was outside the circle of God's care. Jesus was crucified because he suggested that God's dream is a circle that encompasses all people, all beliefs, and all perspectives. God's love, God's grace, God's forgiveness, includes many more people than we would ever ask or ever imagine. If drawing the circle were left up to me, it would be a small circle. But God draws the circle, and God draws the circle wide. Jesus is calling all of us to the "Draw The Circle Wide" business. I don't just mean this spiritually I mean it literally. I mean God is calling St. Peter's to inviting more and more people into the sphere of God's grace.

There's a problem with drawing circles, however. If you've ever used a compass you know that on one end is the point and the other the pencil. In order to use the pencil end of the compass, the other end, the point, as to have a firm grip. It has to have a sure foundation. In other words, in order for circles to be drawn, especially really wide circles, they must have a strong center.

Yes, Jesus is calling us to draw the circle wide; yet, in order for the circle to be drawn wide we must tend to the center. The vitality of the church's center, in terms of our worship, our commitment to Christ, our biblical awareness, our prayer, our stewardship, determines how wide the circle can be drawn. There has to be something at the center worth sharing, in order for there to be any value in drawing the circle wide.

Perhaps that is why, in my first year and a half at St. Peter's, we have spent some significant time tending to the center of our circle. Let me describe a few ways where we have tended to the center of life here at St. Peter's. Your Bishop's Committee has spent a significant amount of time praying about, and acting on, the desire that we provide more ways for members of St. Peter's to be engaged in ministry and mission at St. Peter's.

We are going to continue being more visible in 2016.

Vicar's Report

continued

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

In 2016, we will continue to live and breathe the words of our mission statement:

“A people of prayer uniting in one spirit – connecting caring and community service; holding forth hope and healing for every day life; dancing in the diversity of creation; glorifying in God's wildly inclusive love; and confident in Christ our Lord.”

During the last quarter of the year, we started our Card Ministry and we will continue to provide encouragement and celebration for those in our community and those in need. The goal is to let everyone know that they are being remembered at the altar of St. Peter's each day. If you have a friend, neighbor, loved one who stands in need of prayer, you can add their name to our prayer list here at St. Peter's, and if you choose to give us their contact information, we will periodically write to them to remind them that they are being remembered at St. Peter's altar. The care of each other at this church does not happen merely by the presence of the clergy, though that sacramental presence is vital and real for us, it happens when we all care for each other.

One of the new team that I would like to see at St. Peter's is the Worship team. This team would be made up of the clergy, our organist and two other members of the church. I would envision that we meet four times a year, not only to plan our worship together, but also to think of how worship at St. Peter's can be at its best for all people. More to come.

We have been blessed with a generous gift of \$10,000 from the estate of our beloved Shirley Rockstroh. One of the things that Shirley did was ensure our events and happenings were well publicized and that we made ourselves known in this community. Part of this money will be used to fund advertisements and other social media marketing in the coming year. We will also plan a garden to invite quiet reflection outside the new window from the family.

So, as you can see, yes, we have been tending to our center here at St. Peter's over the past year. And, we have more tending to do in the years to come, because the circle can't hold unless there is a strong center. Be that as it may, this does not mean that we have neglected Jesus' call to draw the circle wider.

The Dailey's have faithfully fulfilled the responsibility for leading our hospitality efforts this year and has spent numerous hours with the help of many of you to coordinate and facilitate our social gatherings. We will continue to be intentional in planning special times to be together and to celebrate our life in community. As with all of our ministries, we can always use more help. If you feel that you have particular gifts in this area, I am sure that Chuck or Sandy will be happy to enlist your service in the coming year.

Hospitality is not just about throwing a good party. It is about the work that we do each and every week as people come through our doors. It is about the care that we execute for our facility and the surrounding area. It is about expressing an openness to receive others who come among us, unconditionally, with grace, dignity and acceptance. St. Peter's is truly a faithful people in this regard.

You can be a part of any of these ministries and teams. God is calling us individually to draw the circle wider.

To achieve these goals, I am setting four goals for the coming year:

Vicar's Report

continued

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

- Expand Outreach and Missions in terms of dollars, people reached and opportunities for members to serve.
- Explore worship opportunities at St. Peter's by potentially adding an additional service focused on welcoming those not yet here.
- Strengthening and Developing opportunities and involvement of All ages in the Parish.
- Continue to develop and care for the resources that have been entrusted to us — in terms of the staff, buildings and grounds, and financial gifts.

I guess if there has been any disappointment for me in this first eighteen months of ministry at St. Peter's, it is the realization that you can't do everything all at once. I have to confess, personally, I have a number of items on my own plate that I would have liked to have further along in the process of development. Yet, I want you to know that I trust God's guidance, I trust God's presence and though God is in charge, my plan is that we have plenty of time to come together.

Financially, we are floating along.

Your Bishop's Committee made the commitment to investing a portion of your money at the Diocesan Offices to help pay the additional costs of a priest in the future. The plan was to withdraw 50% in 2015, 33% in 2016, and 17% in 2017. This would exhaust the \$70,000 we have in the fund. I am happy to stand here and say that for 2015, we did not take one dime from the investment fund and our bank account balance is roughly \$3,500 lower than the beginning of the year. In keeping that money invested at the diocese, we have generated an extra \$8,000 for the future! The plan is still to take 33% (or 24,000) for 2016. I hope to report similar good news next year.

For 2016, we saw an increase of 40% in the number of pledging units and an increase of 25.5% in the amount pledged. Our apportionment to the diocese went up slightly, \$350 per year. However, we are one of the few churches of our size that can say that we paid all of our apportionments on time the entire year! Some are more than a year in arrears. Also we are very thankful to have received notice that we are receiving an extra \$5,000 from the diocese for 2016.

I want to applaud your giving, both pledged and in-kind gifts. We exceeded our projected budget for 2015 and together as we begin to map out our vision forward, we will continue to be resourceful in seeking out new granting opportunities and being careful stewards of the resources that you have so generously blessed St. Peter's with.

When you look at our Statement of Fund Balances, you might think that we have plenty of money. A good portion of that money is earmarked for special projects. Just this week we filed our Mission Strategy request for funds in 2017. We have asked the Diocese of Indianapolis for \$25,000 (the same level of support as 2016) to support our ministries. It may seem strange to talk about 2017 when we are just beginning the new year and approving the new budget, but we need to position ourselves for the growth that has occurred in the eighteen months since I arrived and the growth I hope comes in the next eighteen months. One of the things we listed in our request for funding is support to move me past half-time. A goal that I think many of us share. We will also explore opportunities through the Lilly Grant that the Diocese of Indianapolis received.

Vicar's Report

continued

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Our financial goal this year will be to end the year in the black. I have faith that if each of us will give as we have been blessed and out of our abundance and not out of what is left, we will achieve this goal.

The Pathways team will continue their important work to address our spiritual lives and congregational renewal.

You can read more about it in their report, but the only remaining goal for the Pathways team is the realization of a labyrinth in the East section of our property. We have toured other labyrinths in the area, met with a designer, developed a budget, presented it to the Bishop's Committee and are now working on grants to fund this expense.

During 2015, we were able to have a taped labyrinth for our use during Holy Week and during our Open House we had a painted 30 foot version available on the East Lawn. I hope the educational components and examples have helped us to realize how this is an excellent vehicle for welcome, advertisement and hospitality and will be a resource not only for our congregation but for the entire community. I am delighted to consider this possibility considering the abundant resources of land that we have that are not presently being used.

It is my hope that in 2016, we will continue to do what we do well and we will continue to embrace challenges and opportunities in prayer and with faith, welcoming conversation and discernment of God's Spirit, as we seek guidance and direction in fulfilling our vision and mission.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church is your church home and this is your family. That being said, within any social construct care is required by not just a few, but by all the people. When such care is given the people don't just survive, they thrive. I believe that we can thrive in new ways in 2016, but we all have to be willing to give our very best, not just once a month or when it is convenient, but each and every week.

Jesus blesses us in life, through life and with life eternal. Are we seriously not able to afford Jesus an hour or so of our time each week in community, in service, in truly walking in the light of Christ and seeking his guidance?

So we move forward from this year to the next remembering the mission to which we are called by no one less than Jesus Christ, "no one stands alone; where standing side by side; draw the circle, draw the circle wide."

I am blessed and honored to be your priest.

In thanksgiving for all of you.

The Reverend Christopher R. Beasley
Vicar, St. Peter's, Lebanon