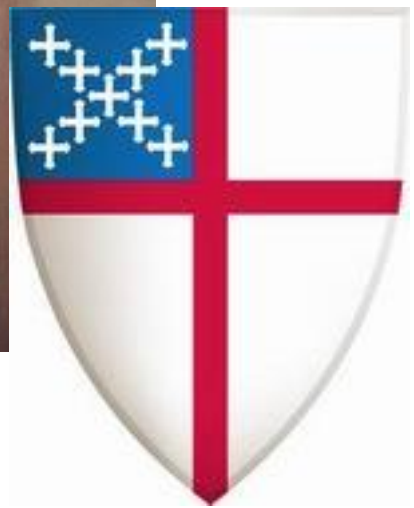




ANNUAL REPORT 2022



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Website: www.weseegodinyou.org

#churchthatgrows #WeSeeGodInYou

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950 E Washington St., Lebanon, IN 46052

CONTENTS - PAGE NUMBERS IN PARENTHESIS ()

Call to Order

Invocation and Prayer

Approval of 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes - (4)

St. Peter's Bishop's Committee - (4)

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 - (6)

Junior Warden's Report - (7)

2022 Annual Treasurer's Report & 2023 Proposed Budget - (7)

Ministries Reports

Grounds, Gardens, Apiary Report - (11)

Harvest House Report - (14)

Social Activities & Fundraisers Report - (18)

Music Ministry Report - (20)

Altar Guild Report - (21)

Labyrinth Report - (22)

Generosity/Stewardship Report - (23)

Miscellaneous Reports

Q&A

Rector's Report

Closing Prayer & Dismissal



ABOUT ST. PETER'S

Clergy & Staff

The Right Reverend Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, Eleventh Bishop of Diocese of Indianapolis

The Rev. Christopher R. Beasley, Rector

Carol Ann Webb, Organist

Carolin Frueh, Seminarian

Kimberly Thomas, Nursery Attendant

Jennifer Ellis, Sexton

Diana Halstead, Treasurer & Parish Administrator

Peggy Carter, Office Volunteer

Bishop's Committee

Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
Caroline Bradley	Cherie Donaldson	Chris Carter
Kayla Glenn	Diana Halstead	Nicholas Piezonka

Committee Chairs

Carol Ann Webb, Altar Guild

OPEN, Children's Education

Carol Ann Webb, Stewardship

OPEN, Communications/Welcome

Caroline Bradley, Outreach

Sandra Dailey, Social Activities and Harvest House

Chuck Dailey, Gardens and Apiary

OPEN, Green Committee



Dearly Departed

The Rev. Harold V. Smith, Past Rector, St. Peter's 1995-2002

ANNUAL MEETING 2022 MINUTES

- *Not available at time of printing*

BISHOP COMMITTEE RECOGNITION

Recognition of Outgoing Bishop's Committee Members

- Caroline Bradley
- Kayla Glenn

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 be 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. (This requirement may be waived if 2/3 of the Bishop's Committee already meets these criteria.)
3. Have not previously served a full term on the Vestry 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.

Nominations

- Bishop's Committee
 - Margaret Donnolo
 - Mark Maddox
- Diocesan Convention
 - None received prior to Annual Meeting



SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

During 2022, the church had a successful audit completed. Father Christopher, Diana and I worked together to review our accounts and documentation to ensure that we were prepared for the audit. The pre-work helped us to have a very successful review with only a few minor issues noted.

I participated in the Church Building Collaborative Partnership (CBCP) program along with Father Christopher, Chuck and Sandy Dailey. This program offered through the diocese helped identify some possible opportunities to better use the church space to partner with the community.

The church continued to support Shalom House during 2022, serving a meal in the Spring and Fall, attending their annual meeting and packing lunches at Love Inc. in July. I am hopeful that we will continue our partnership with Shalom throughout 2023.

While Father Christopher was unable to complete his planned sabbatical in 2022, he was able to take some additional time away from the church. I encourage the church congregation to continue to support Father Christopher and find ways for him to find time to take sabbatical in whatever form that works for him as a bi-vocational priest.

I am hopeful that 2023 brings more opportunities for us to gather as a congregation and explore new ways to interact with each other and the community. I hope that the Italian night returns with a new life, we have the opportunity for another Fire and Wine Event and continue to grow.

As I leave my position on the Bishop's committee and Senior Warden, I look back over three very interesting and challenging years. I am hopeful I did my part to help us "pivot" during the pandemic.

Respectfully submitted,
Caroline Bradley
St. Peter's Sr. Warden

PEOPLE'S WARDEN'S REPORT - 2022

ACTION ITEMS TAKEN THIS YEAR INCLUDE:

1. Most city streetlights outside were replaced.
2. Indoor fluorescent lighting has started to be replaced with brighter bulbs.
3. Various repairs to restroom plumbing fixtures have been updated or repaired.
4. Annual church cleanup day was a big success. Both inside and outside.
5. Gathering area carpets were cleaned up to the dining area.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE:

1. Complete indoor lighting replacement.
2. Replace hot water heater in janitor's closet.
3. Finish Labyrinth brickwork
4. Complete carpet cleaning in church.
5. Brick sign power and lights restored.
6. Install Beekeepers bathroom/deep sink in Blackwell Hall.
7. Clean pew cushions.
8. Clean out and organize storage area behind sanctuary.

This report respectfully submitted by

Chris Carter, Peoples Warden, 24 January, 2023

TREASURER REPORT 2022 & 2023 BUDGET

PRESENTATION

In 2022, the Bishop's Committee pivoted from withdrawing money from our Special Fund to fund operating expenses to utilizing long-term monies sitting in our Savings Account. Most of these monies have been in our accounts since long before Fr. Christopher's arrival. The intention that when these monies were given is that they would be used for the continued ministries of St. Peter's. Instead they have been sitting in a bank account. We have used this money to fund many of the outreach and evangelism initiatives over the last few years.

Adjusting 2022 for the Savings Account withdrawals, income was \$70,600 accounting for a 3.3% increase in income during 2022. Several things are attributable to this, namely diocesan aid continues to decrease and will be eliminated after 2024/2025. We still anticipate using our investment fund to help balance the budget for 2023, but it is our hope and theology of a God of abundance that we will be able to save that money for a bit longer.

ST. PETER'S 2023 BUDGET - (REVISED 12/10/22)

REVENUE	2023B	2022A	2021A	2020A	2019A	2018A
DESIGNATED GIFTS	\$ 2,548	\$ 7,085	\$ 5,014	\$ 4,958	\$ 5,981	\$ 4,675
DIOCESAN AID	\$ 10,800	\$ 12,600	\$ 14,000	\$ 22,500	\$ 24,000	\$ 25,000
FLOWERS	\$ -	\$ 360	\$ 199	\$ 123	\$ 409	\$ 366
INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ 1,000	\$ 789	\$ 962	\$ 1,151	\$ 1,627	\$ 1,714
MEMORIALS/DONATIONS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 800	\$ 1,285	\$ -	\$ 1,207
PLATE	\$ 1,400	\$ 4,092	\$ 5,667	\$ 1,396	\$ 1,086	\$ 1,372
PLEDGE	\$ 40,000	\$ 37,792	\$ 32,652	\$ 35,053	\$ 34,977	\$ 40,357
PROJECT INCOME	\$ 5,540	\$ 3,943	\$ 5,649	\$ 1,966	\$ 5,918	\$ 5,863
REIMBURSED EXPENSES	\$ 1,800	\$ 2,267	\$ 2,425	\$ 2,789	\$ 3,135	\$ 6,001
RENT	\$ 690	\$ 1,195	\$ 340	\$ 240	\$ 600	\$ 340
SPECIAL OFFERING	\$ 600	\$ 475	\$ 644	\$ 167	\$ 938	\$ 538
TRUST FUND	\$ 44,033	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 8,000	\$ 30,498
SAVINGS WITHDRAWALS		\$ 17,329				
MISCELLANEOUS INCOMES	\$ -	\$ 2	\$ -	\$ 18	\$ 410	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 108,411	\$ 87,929	\$ 88,353	\$ 79,146	\$ 87,080	\$ 117,931
DIO AID LESS APPORTIONMENT	\$ 3,664	\$ 4,628	\$ 9,944	\$ 16,709	\$ 17,982	\$ 19,175

For details on our Generosity/Stewardship Drive for 2023, please see Carol Ann Webb's report later in this document. There are many indicators (on a financial level) that St. Peter's is on the right trajectory and path forward and we are hopeful for what 2023 will bring.

Average Sunday Easter Attendance Christmas Attendance

2014	25.40	44	28
2015	28.08	56	41
2016	28.10	64	45
2017	30.81	71	38
2018	33.27	56	55
2019	30.00	76	58
2020	20.71*	36	35
2021	18.92*	54	49
2022	18.06	42	28

Statement of Fund Balances

St. Peter's Episcopal Church – Lebanon, IN

As of December 31, 2022

Huntington Checking – Operating Acct*	\$9,526.39
Labyrinth Fund	(\$7,405.90)
Seminarian Fund	(\$247.00)
Harvest House/Gardens/Care of Creation	(\$3,741.00)
Huntington Checking – Available for Operations	(\$1,867.51)
Huntington Savings*	\$25,040.01
Mission Strategy Grant – Digital/Communication Cons.	(\$20,000.00)
Rockstroh Memorial Gift	(\$5,000.00)
Huntington Savings – Available	\$40.01
Special Fund held at Diocese (As of 12/31/2022)	\$43,430.13
Huntington Checking – Rector's Discretionary Acct	\$1,776.89

Subject to Audit

EXPENSE	2023B	2022A	2021A	2020A	2019A	2018A
ALTAR SUPPLIES	\$ 560	\$ 238	\$ 247	\$ 321	\$ 363	\$ 243
APIARY/GARDENS	\$ 3,500	\$ 971	\$ 1,739	\$ 520	\$ -	\$ 778
BULLETINS/NEWSLETTERS	\$ 640	\$ 347	\$ 280	\$ 251	\$ 295	\$ 399
BUSINESS/OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 994	\$ 1,190	\$ 2,584	\$ 2,434	\$ 965	\$ 840
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$ 825	\$ 924	\$ 67	\$ -	\$ 990	\$ 397
CLERGY CONFERENCE	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65
CLERGY CONTINUING EDUCATION	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45	\$ 45	\$ 585
CLERGY PENSION	\$ 6,291	\$ 6,162	\$ 4,962	\$ 4,835	\$ 5,802	\$ 5,705
CLERGY SALARY/HOUSING/TAXES	\$ 34,949	\$ 33,931	\$ 32,941	\$ 32,232	\$ 32,232	\$ 31,692
CONVENTION EXPENSE	\$ 500	\$ 300	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ 1,159	\$ 803
DESIGNATED GIFTS	\$ 1,924	\$ 2,198	\$ 1,334	\$ 1,640	\$ 2,792	\$ 3,945
DIOCESAN APPORTIONMENT	\$ 7,136	\$ 7,972	\$ 4,056	\$ 5,792	\$ 6,018	\$ 5,825
DISCRETIONARY FUND	\$ 624	\$ 770	\$ 1,720	\$ 652	\$ 932	\$ 896
EVANGELISM/OUTREACH	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,660	\$ 1,245	\$ 250	\$ 1,459	\$ 2,990
FLOWERS	\$ 480	\$ 423	\$ 271	\$ 379	\$ 985	\$ 912
FUNDRAISING/PROJECTS	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,807	\$ 1,869	\$ 347	\$ 3,542	\$ 4,670
INSURANCE	\$ 11,586	\$ 11,415	\$ 10,708	\$ 10,375	\$ 9,434	\$ 9,179
MARKETING	\$ 884	\$ 283	\$ 495	\$ 387	\$ 817	\$ 1,454
MEMORIAL EXPENSE	\$ 100	\$ 297	\$ 2,694	\$ 316	\$ 3,516	\$ -
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 32	\$ 70	\$ 185	\$ 26	\$ 75	\$ -
MUSIC	\$ 256	\$ 261	\$ 227	\$ 202	\$ 197	\$ 110
PAYROLL PROCESSING	\$ 146	\$ 98	\$ 116	\$ 127	\$ 376	\$ 405
REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,927	\$ 8,538	\$ 5,506	\$ 12,079	\$ 15,115
CONTRACT EXPENSES	\$ 1,399	\$ 1,753	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,408	\$ 1,493	\$ 1,113
SEXTON SUPPLIES	\$ 335	\$ 200	\$ 168	\$ 189	\$ 99	\$ 36
NON-CLERGY STAFFING	\$ 9,952	\$ 8,572	\$ 8,152	\$ 9,540	\$ 9,689	\$ 8,630
THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 694	\$ 565
SUPPLY CLERGY	\$ 675	\$ 159	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 270	\$ 270
TAXES*	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 681
TELEPHONE/INTERNET	\$ 1,860	\$ 1,852	\$ 1,840	\$ 1,636	\$ 1,604	\$ 1,601
TRAVEL ALLOWANCE/MILEAGE	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ 61	\$ 313	\$ 91	\$ 424
TREASURER/BOOKKEEPER	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 599
UTILITIES	\$ 7,199	\$ 7,507	\$ 6,158	\$ 5,761	\$ 6,588	\$ 7,101
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 108,411	\$ 93,326	\$ 103,860	\$ 85,522	\$ 104,640	\$ 108,027
PROJECTED SHORTFALL	\$ (0)	\$ (5,397)	\$ (15,507)	\$ (6,376)	\$ (17,560)	\$ 9,904

St. Peter's Apiary – 2022

Beekeeping On-Site Meetings

- West Central Indiana Beekeepers - In 2022 the West Central Beekeepers Club of Indiana continued to hold their meetings in Harvest House on the third Saturdays every month from January thru November. When weather permitted, the apiary was open for hive tours and inspections on the first and third Saturdays from May thru September. This scheduled aligned with their meetings, so volunteers were always available on those Saturdays.
- Hidden Hollow Honey – RJ Honey, a local beekeeping company was sold and moved in February to the Hidden Hollow Honey Company of Crawfordsville. With this purchase came the commitment to complete the 2022 monthly bee school that was already in progress. The original location in Lebanon was not available so an agreement was reached allowing the new owners to rent Harvest House for their monthly meetings.



Bee Colonies

- Existing Colonies – Three colonies were successfully overwintered from 2021. The strongest colony swarmed on April 22, but luckily only went approximately 50 feet from the apiary and was recaptured. All three colonies were reasonably healthy in the fall and will hopefully survive the winter.
- Purchased Colonies – The decision was made to purchase additional bee colonies to support the proposed expanded apiary. Four nucleus (starter) hive boxes were prepared and delivered to Clover Blossom Honey in LaFontaine,

Indiana. The colonies were created using the supplied boxes and were picked up on June 6th. Three of the four thrived throughout the summer and all four went into the fall with reasonable resources to hopefully survive the winter.

- Captured Swarm – A swarm lure trap was installed in a tree at our home on April 28th and a swarm was captured on June 21st. The lure trap was removed from the tree and delivered to the apiary on July 20th. The swarm had full frames of brood and honey, and as expected was one of the strongest colonies in the apiary going into the fall.



Caring Hands Campers learning about bee in a hive



Volunteers helping Caring Hands Campers with suites



Christ Church Cathedral youth learning about honey bees

Off-Site Meetings and Presentations

Several apiary and convention events and off-site meetings were supported with in 2022. Those major events included:

- Clay County Beekeeping Conference /Advance Bee Anatomy – February 5th
- Boone County Gardenfest – April 1st
- CreationFest (Fishers) – April 23rd
- Province V Creation Care Conference (South Bend) – April 29th
- Savor Lebanon – May 7th
- Heartland Apiculture Society (Evansville) June 28 – July 1
- Diocesan Convention (Plainfield) – November 4-5th

Grants

An application was submitted for the Bee Cause Grant which provides schools and other non-profits with beekeeping equipment including an observation hive and a curriculum for K-6th graders. Applicants that already had bee colonies can opt for a monetary award of \$1,500. We were notified on December 7th, 2022 of the selection

committee's approval of our proposal for the monetary award. The funding will be used for equipment for the expanded teaching apiary.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chuck Dailey

GCG Farm Manager and Master Beekeeper, St. Peter's Episcopal Church



HARVEST HOUSE REPORT - 2022

- Harvest House Community Center 2022 Classes
 - Carol Powers instructed two (2) “Painting on Canvas” classes for the girls at Teen Challenge and one for the Church members and friends on Nov 16th & 17th.
- Harvest House Community Learning Center 2022 Program, Meetings & Camps
 - Hosted West Central Beekeepers of Indiana – 3rd Thurs of each month Jan-Nov ZOOM
 - Started Hosting Friday Night AA Mtgs the 1st Friday of the month starting December
 - Hosted RJ Honey Beekeeping 101 the 1st Saturday of the month from April to November
 - Not enough registered to hold JMG Camp in 2022.
- Junior Master Gardener (JMG) Program & Boone County Master Gardeners
 - Sandy Dailey and Pam Mahler completed 16-week JMG class at Teen Challenge on Mondays thru Mar 15th
 - Sandy Dailey and Pa Mahler started the new 16-week JMG class at Teen Challenge on Thursday Nov thru the end of the year
 - Sandy Dailey conducted a JMG Level 1 Refresher for the Master Gardeners that would be instructors for Summer Camps
- Junior Master Gardener Training

Harvest House Community Center (HHCC) @ St. Peter’s is still Indiana’s northern training facility for the Junior Master Gardener (JMG) Leaders. Sandy Dailey represents HHCC @ St Peter’s on Indiana’s JMG Advisory Board. The National JMG conference February 2022 at Texas A&M, Sandy Dailey was a guest speaker at the convention highlighting St. Peter’s GCG Farm and JMG Program. Tysha Ahmad traveled with Sandy to be trained in the Pre-school “Learn, Grow, Eat and Go” curriculum. Great conference, unfortunately we had to spend 2 nights in the Dallas/Ft Worth airport due to an ice storm.

- 2022 Urban Farmer Mini-Conference

February 11th Harvest House/Growing Common Ground Farm put on an Urban Farmer Mini-Conference at St. Peter's.

- Ashley Adair, a Purdue Extension Organic Agriculture Specialist was our Keynote Speaker speaking about " Growing and Marketing Organics
- Chuck Dailey from Growing Common Ground Farm presented Regenerative Agriculture research here at St. Peter's
- Nathan Shoaf a Purdue Urban Agriculture Coordinator talked about Urban Farming and Gardens
- The Black Independent Growers (BIG) formed the Urban Farmer Panel to close the conference

- Boone Co. Master Gardeners

The Boone County Master Gardeners completed Phase 1 of the Bioswale project in the Spring of 2022. Several Masters Gardeners volunteer to help maintain the Bioswale area and our herb garden area. Two Master Gardeners volunteered per month to help out with Harvest House programs from April through October. Master Gardeners - Valerie Jasper (Lebanon), Cheryl Copeland (Carmel), Dorothy Pulfer (Bloomington) and Karen Hogan (Zionsville) are regular volunteers for all Harvest House programs including Junior Master Gardeners camps and classes at St. Peter's. We also had Master Gardener Pamela Mahler join us as a volunteer in all the gardens almost every week and help with the JMG Team.

- The Refuge Teen Challenge

In 2022, we provided the third six (6) month garden education program to Teen Challenge for 30+ girls. Classes met once a week for two and a half hours. Sandy Dailey recruited Pam Mahler to help teach each some of the 8 topics all at their facility in the spring and fall. Eight young ladies completed all the requirements and activities of the JMG program. Dr Kathryn Orvis from Purdue provided a letter of congratulations to all the girls being certified as Junior Master Gardeners.

The Junior Master Gardeners maintained the donated heirloom plants from the Boone Co. Master Gardeners. The JMG girls from Teen Challenge helped maintain the raised beds. At the end of the summer these gardens provided the Urban



Growers with green tomatoes. The girls also came out to clean the gardens every Thursday through the summer from 9:30 to noon.

We had the girls out on June 24th for a Teen Challenge Parents Weekend Bond Fire. We provided drinks and smore's. Again, in October, we had them out after Octoberfest for a meal, bond fire,

smore's and hayrides. They really had a great time!

Nov 17th, Artist Carol Powers provided a free "Painting on Canvas" class to the girls at St Peter's. That was a fun outing for them.

For 2023, a new session of JMG at CITC started mid-November with 23 girls. Prior to Christmas the girls helped assemble the 188 fruit baskets at St. Joseph's for the Food Distribution and 4 for our Sr. Citizens. Becca & Morey Nakaya, Sue Martz, Marion Ritchie, Pam Mahler, and Chuck & Sandy Dailey

Two girls received their Junior Master Gardener Certificate on January 5th 2023 and another will be certified mid-February 2023.

The girls will be coming again to St Peter's to work at our Growing Common Grounds Farm (GCG Farm) as their community service projects and to be part of our Food Distribution Ministry. We are looking forward to continuing this relationship and having them to help-out this year.

- Student Interns at GCGF

Three of the Teen Challenge girls were Student Summer Interns in 2022. They planted all the plants in the gardens and laid in all the weed barrier. They also worked the produce stand with our parishioners (Marion Ritchie, Cherie

Donaldson & Becca Nakaya) July through October. The girls received educational stipends totaling \$1105. Hoping to be able to have Interns again in 2023.

Outreach Annual Report - *Sandy Dailey* 2022

Community Outreach & Grant Partners

- Shalom House
 - Harvested & provided vegetables 6 times throughout the summer for meal service – 177#
 - 35# of green beans were provided three times that were prepared ready to cook
 - Corn, cucumbers, and tomatoes were also provided prepared for meals
- Central Indiana Teen Challenge
 - Harvested & provided vegetables throughout the summer for meals - 161#
 - Provided Garden instructions to maintain GCGF gardens and grow food.
- St. Vincent de Paul Society's Five Fishes & Two Loaves Food Pantry at St. Joseph's Church
 - Harvested & provided vegetables 6 times throughout the summer for distribution – 825#
 - 188 - 12 piece (5#) Fruit Baskets were provided to the Christmas food distribution – 940# at a cost of \$1,494.88 for fruit and basket supplies. (Approximate \$1k was donated for the baskets)
 - 2023 - A teaming arrangement between the St. Peter's and St. Vincent de Paul Society.
- Growing Common Ground Farm (GCGF) Partners
 - Harvested & provided vegetables throughout the summer – 1870# +
 - 2023 Agreement - A teaming arrangement was agreed to between St. Peter's and our GCG Farm partners.
- Local Community Distribution
 - Harvested & provided vegetables (Produce Stand) July thru October – 2600# +
 - 2023 to provide vegetables to the community again with Fresh Produce Stand.

Thank you for supporting Harvest House Community Center Activities.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Dailey

2022 Social Activities



Month	Date	Social Event	Location	Coordinator
January	16	St Peter's Annual Meeting	St. Peter's	Fr Christopher
March	1	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	St. Peter's	C Dailey
March	25	St. Peter's vs Purdue Watch Party	Klooz Brewz	EYAI
March	27	St. Peter's vs UNC Watch Party	Halsteads	Halsteads
April	21	Family Night BINGO!	St. Peter's	Fr Christopher
April	25	CBCP Site Visit	St. Peter's	CBCP
May	7	Labyrinth Day	St. Peter's	C Webb
May	7	Savor Lebanon!	Town Square	EYAI/GCCF
	12	Rogation Day	St. Peter's	Fr. Christopher
June	5	Wine & Fire	St. Peter's	C Bradley & D Halstead
July	23	Parish Picnic	St. Peter's	Fr Christopher
September	16 & 17	Back to the Fifties – Strawberry Shortcake & Ice Cream Sundaes Booth	4H-Fairground	C & S Dailey
September	29	Family Night BINGO!	St. Peter's	Fr Christopher
October	8	Oktoberfest & Hayride	St. Peter's	K Glenn & C Bradley
October	26	Chili Cook-Off & Halloween Weakest Link	St. Peter's	Fr Christopher
November	3	Hanging Crosses for All Saints	St. Peter's	YAC
November	16/17	Painting on Canvas – CITC & Adult Class	St. Peter's	S Dailey
	23	Thanksgiving Baskets	St. Peter's	Fr. Christopher
December	4	Fr Christopher House Blessing	Rector's House	Bp Jennifer
December	6	St. Nicholas Day	St. Peter's	S Dailey
December	8	Gingerbread House Making	St. Peter's	YAC
	28	Family Night – "BINGO" Regifted Prizes	St. Peter's	Daileys

MUSIC REPORT - 2022

It's been a long road from just hearing the hymns played on the organ when we first gathered virtually in 2020 during the pandemic wilderness to the joy of singing with masks during 2021 and finally being able to sing with masks optional during 2022.

Many thanks to Chris Carter, who sang the verses to Canticle 13 on Trinity Sunday while the congregation joined on the refrain (#886, *Wonder, Love and Praise*). On Christmas Eve, Chris lovingly sang *For the sake of our Brother* at the end of the Carol Sing.

During 2022, we learned four new hymns from *Voices Found*, the hymnal purchased in 2021 with memorial money in memory of Dotti Linton. In addition, we learned one hymn with new words to a familiar tune.

During my vacation from work this month, I finished a fifteen-book series of "liturgical mysteries," which features Hayden Konig, a small-town police chief in North Carolina who just happens to be the part-time organist and choir director at St. Barnabas, the local Episcopal church.

In the last book of the series, *The Choir Director Wore Out*, the final hymn, at a service that included baptisms and the

Bishop's presence, was *Now thank we all our God*, which Hayden felt was sung with gusto, following the proclamation of Charles Wesley (an Anglican turned Methodist): "*Sing lustily, and with a good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of it being heard, than when you sing the songs of Satan.*"

(Checking the quote online, the only references I found attributed the quote to John Wesley, the Anglican-turned-Methodist brother of Charles Wesley, taken from John's rules for singing that were included in his hymnal published in 1780.)

Previously, in 1761, John Wesley's directions for singing also included these guidelines: *Do not bawl so as to be heard above the rest of the congregation but strive to unite your voices together. Sing in time and do not sing too slowly. Above all, sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. So shall your singing be such that the Lord will approve here and reward you when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.*"

And, synchronistically, just last Sunday, Fr. Christopher suggested during the sermon that we *listen* to one another as we sing. That advice has long been stressed to choir members so their music flows as one

voice joined together in praise to God. Since we at St. Peter's *are* the choir, as well as the congregation, listening to each other is a gift we can offer our neighbor as we sing. Amen.

- Carol Ann Webb

ALTAR GUILD - 2022

Although we are small, the St. Peter's Altar Guild continues to be a behind-the-scenes blessing as the members faithfully prepare the table around which we gather on Sundays to feast at God's banquet – and then clean and put away the communion vessels.

Offer your thanks to Carolyn Bradley for her ministry of washing and ironing the altar linens that are used during Holy Communion. (Carolyn joined after the Annual Meeting in 2019.)

Offer your thanks to Diana Halstead (a member since 2020), who delivers the altar cloths to the cleaners and picks them up, as well as being a faithful part of the Sunday altar guild rotation.

We give thanks for the faithful service of Jason Fortner+, who had been an Altar Guild member almost from his first day at St. Peter's in January 2013, until his journey toward ordination to the priesthood led him in service to congregations beyond St. Peter's.

We give thanks to Shelbi Fortner, who joined the Altar Guild in 2018 and served faithfully until Jason's+ ordination to the priesthood in June of 2022 and his subsequent assignment to St. John's Episcopal Church in Lafayette. We are grateful that Shelbi maintains a connection with St. Peter's as a server on Sunday once a month.

We continue to give thanks for the men in the congregation who have taken down/put up the banners at various times during the year. Thanks to everyone who helped decorate and prepare the church for Christmas (and then undecorated after the twelve days of Christmas).

Serving on the Altar Guild is a ministry. It is holy work. It is a blessing. Join your hands with our hands as we serve God. Come and see!

- Carol Ann Webb

LABYRINTH - 2022

Prepared by Carol Ann Webb

“Take a walk today as a way to embody prayer. If possible, try walking in a circle and notice what happens to your thoughts.” (Christine Valters Paintner in *The Soul's Slow Ripening: 12 Celtic Practices for Seeking the Sacred*)

My favorite way to walk the labyrinth is barefooted. I love the feel of the grass on

the bottom of my feet, giving me a feeling of being grounded – literally – with the earth.

On World Labyrinth Day (the first Saturday in May), a friend and I had planned to walk “Walk as One at 1pm” (the World Labyrinth Day tagline). Participants are invited to “be part of a rolling wave of peaceful energy as the earth turns” by walking a labyrinth at 1pm local time.

However, we had some heavy rain the afternoon before the walk, and my friend was leery about the labyrinth being muddy, so I walked by myself. The grass was spongy – almost bouncy - from all the rain, a new and different feeling as I walked barefooted slowly around the path, noting the gorgeous flowers scattered along the way. That day my walk took 45 minutes (longer than normal) as I took photos of the wee purple violets, as well as some other small purple flowers, dandelions with bees enjoying the nectar, and some unknown-to-me very tiny white flowers. This was a time without time, spent relaxing and relishing being renewed in God’s creation, as I pondered the marvelous mystery of being grounded in God, grafted in Jesus and growing in the Spirit.



Did you know that dandelions are one of the first flowers to nourish bees in the spring? There is a movement my son in New Hampshire told me about called “No Mow May,” where the people in his hometown of Manchester pledge to not to mow their lawns during May so the bees have access to the dandelions until other flowers are blooming. Sounds like something we could import to Lebanon.



I continue giving thanks that St. Peter’s has invested in offering this labyrinth to

Lebanon and the surrounding communities as a place of peace and harmony. We look forward – one of these days – to completing the plans-on-hold: the paver entry to the labyrinth and plantings. We have a gift of pavers from the Bradley family, some signage, a St. Francis statue and two Celtic crosses that will be put in place eventually – all in God’s good time.

The labyrinth is open. You’re invited to take a walk and pray our labyrinth today!

GENEROSITY AND STEWARDSHIP - 2022

*Prepared by Carol Ann Webb,
Generosity Coordinator*

**Our loving response to God’s gifts is
gratitude.**

One of the ways we express our gratitude to God is through gifts to the church, that are not a part of a pledge. I see God in you in your faithful participation in the various ministries and activities at St. Peter’s. I’ve witnessed this faithfulness that has been a part of the fabric of St. Peter’s as long as I’ve been a member – and from the stories I’ve heard, this faithfulness was part of the St. Peter’s family from our founding in the

living room of Bill and Betty Blackwell, just down the street on Washington.

The cloud of witnesses of our faithful St. Peter’s saints who have gone before us is near to us. I imagine them looking on in awe and joy as they rejoice to see how we are gratefully continuing to build on their foundation of faithfulness so that the love of God and Jesus and the Spirit is vibrant and shared with our neighbors. Indeed, this act of faithfulness is *stewardship grounded in generosity*.

I see God in each of you – in your God-given gifts that you graciously bring and generously offer to God and St. Peter’s in so many ways. Your gifts are then combined with the gifts of others, both here and outside these church walls as we share God’s love.

Thank you for your partnership in stewarding all the wondrous gifts that God gives us, both individually and as a congregation, empowering and equipping us so we can joyously and lovingly share those gifts with all our neighbors.

Thank you for listening to God’s call in your life. Thank you for being a valued and valuable part of this congregation. We need and value you and your gifts and your voice as we journey together to become the Light of Christ at St. Peter’s.

At the ingathering of pledges in November, we received 9 pledge cards totaling \$34,200 in pledges toward our goal of \$40,000. If you would like to begin pledging for 2023 (and it's never too late to begin), please contact Fr. Christopher.

As we are reminded on the Feast of The Epiphany (January 6th), "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness shall not overcome it." This ever-present light provides us *hope* for the present – in every day, in every moment – so that we can be confident, knowing that the Christ-Light shines in any darkness and it will never be overcome.

The Christ-Light sparkles and shimmers before us, leading and guiding us into our future, as individuals and as the church. May we each carry the Christ-Light as we go forth into the world, seeing the God-Light shining in our neighbors... knowing that Jesus has left the building... in each one of us.

