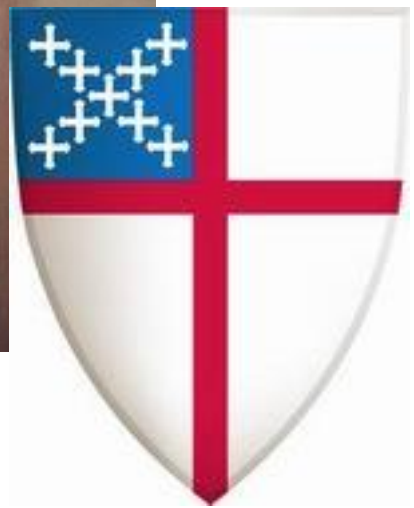




ANNUAL REPORT 2021



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Website: www.weseegodinyou.org

#churchthatgrows #WeSeeGodInYou

Tel: 765.482.2322

950 E Washington St., Lebanon, IN 46052

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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

Kimberly Thomas, Nursery Attendant

Jennifer Ellis, Sexton

Diana Halstead, Treasurer & Parish Administrator

Bishop's Committee

| Class of 2021 | Class of 2022 | Class of 2023 |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Carol Ann Webb | Caroline Bradley | Cherie Donaldson |
| Sandra Dailey | Kayla Glenn | Diana Halstead |

Committee Chairs

Carol Ann Webb, Altar Guild

Shelbi Fortner, 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



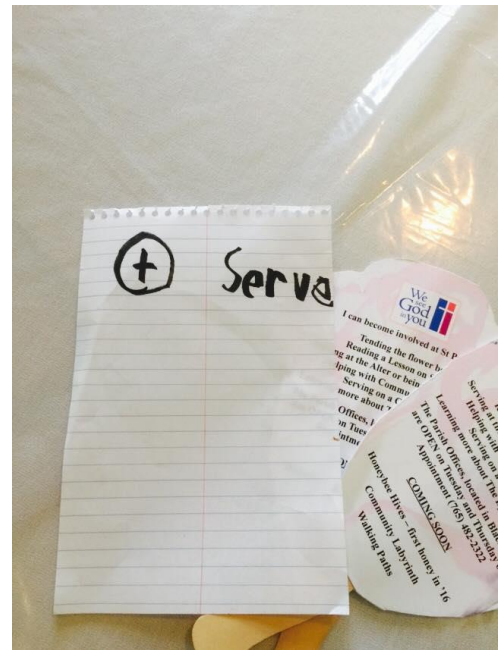
Dearly Departed

Bob Dehn

MINUTES OF 2021 ANNUAL MEETING

(submitted by Chuck Dailey)

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Parish was held via ZOOM on Sunday, 31 January 2021. Fr. Christopher called the meeting to order at 11:15am and seeing a quorum was present continued to conduct the basic items needed - election of Bishop's Committee members, Convention Delegates, and passing of the 2022 Budget. All other committee reports were suspended due to the interest of time and would be made available later in the Annual Meeting packet.



Nominations for Bishop's Committee received prior to the meeting were for Cherie Donaldson and Diana Halstead. Members of the parish were reminded of the requirements of serving on the Bishop's Committee and was informed that both nominees met the requirements. Having no nominations from the floor, nominations were closed and Cherie and Diana were elected by acclamation.

The next item was the election of convention delegates to Diocesan Convention to be held in Plainfield, IN. It is unknown at this time whether the convention will be in person or virtual as in 2020. Nominations received from the floor were for Dustin and Brittany Gunter to serve as delegates. They were affirmed by acclamation. Chuck and Sandy Dailey agreed to serve as alternates.

Shelbi Fortner shared her report as outgoing Senior Warden and thanked all of St. Peter's for the love and support they have shown her over the last two years and to her family. She also thanked the congregation and Fr. Ben for stepping up in the days following the fire that destroyed the Rector's home.

Fr. Benjamin Wyatt, the Pathways Priest at St. Peter's talked about how he is getting settled at St. Peter's and is excited to be here. He is planning on scheduling 1x1s with parish members to get to know them a bit better.

The Budget for 2021 was presented to the parish. Fr Christopher noted that the Diocese is changing their methods of funding to parishes. They will be taking the Direct Aid to Parishes bucket and splitting off a significant portion of it to a grants bucket that will be available for all congregations who are wanting to try something new. Our Diocesan Aid will go from \$22,000 in 2020 to \$14,000 in 2021. During the pandemic, St. Peter's received a waiver of pension assessments for two months from Church Pension Group and 3 months of apportionment relief from the Diocese. We also received a PPP loan to pay staff during the months of the pandemic. This loan has been forgiven.

Looking at 2021, we expect to receive 6 months of apportionment relief which helps to offset the decrease in diocesan aid. We will have to find a way to offset the decrease as diocesan aid will be completely eliminated in the next two or three years. Income is projected to be \$103,860 which includes about a \$40K withdrawal from our special funds. Expenses are tight but we are able to provide COLA of 3% for all staff. A balanced budget with expenses of \$103,860 was presented for 2021. Hearing no discussion, the budget was approved.

No Rector's address was given due to the interest of time.

A motion to adjourn was heard and passed by acclamation.

Fr. Christopher closed the meeting with a prayer at 12:07pm.

BISHOP COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Recognition of Outgoing Bishop's Committee Members

- Carol Ann Webb
- Sandra Dailey

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. (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
 - Chris Carter
 - Nick Piezonka
- Diocesan Convention
 - None received prior to Annual Meeting



SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Activities and Accomplishments for 2021:

- Updated Bylaws
- Created Donation and Acceptance of Gifts Policy
- Complete MMR
- Held a Bishop's Committee Retreat
- Completed an pre-audit review and identified areas of improvement
- Big Thank you to Cherie and Bob for all the work on the property they have completed for 2021.

Activities for the coming year:

- Participation in the Church Buildings for Collaborative Partnerships (CBCP) program
- Support Father Christopher in taking more time to rest and relax
- Schedule Audit for Church
- Continue Review of updates for Policies including online storage for the church.
- Church to participate in College for Congregational Development in July 2022

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



JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

I remember when I was asked to be Junior warden, I agreed to serve if I could ask others to help get things done. The Bishop's Committee agreed and I have had wonderful support from the Bishop's Committee and the congregation. Thank you to all! The mowing, trimming, weeding, fixing toilets, landscaping, changing furnace filters, troubleshooting the water softener, troubleshooting the lift station, having the electrical issues fixed are situations where individuals have stepped up and helped the church. THANK YOU TO ALL!

The outside trim, doors, and steeple were painted in the late summer. The diocese gave our church a \$6000 grant to help pay for this project. I think it looks great!

Most of you probably know that the squirrels have been visiting black walhall and harvest house for years. Caroline Bradley found a company that was able to get the squirrels out and repaired the entryways they were using. No more squirrels! Thank you Caroline.

As we drive into Saint Peter's parking lot, we all see the beautiful sign. Thanks to Father Christopher for choosing that beautiful sign in ordering it. Thanks also to Father Christopher, Dan and Caroline Bradley, and Chuck Dailey for installing the sign. This sign is in memory of my parents, George and Shirley Dehn, and my brother Bob Dehn. All of the Dehn family are grateful for this beautiful sign. Father Christopher is planning on one or two Boy Scouts using the landscaping of the sign for their Eagle Scout Project. Dan has explained the final landscaping plan to me and it will look awesome! Hopefully we can dedicate it this summer.

Things to look forward to in 2022:

1. We will be painting Father Christopher's office while he is on sabbatical. There are some plaster repairs to be done and maybe a window repair. Father has said he will pick out the color and pack up the books on the shelves.
2. Removing the shrub on the South side of the main interest to the church building.
3. This spring we will be planting trees or shrubs in memory of Kurt Rockstroh, Eugene Buchanan, and Casey Kays. These are trees to replace trees that we have lost the last few years.
4. The "Annual St Peter's Work Day" to clean up the outside of the buildings and spruce up the inside.
5. Reinstate "Adopt a Garden or Area." We have done this in the past and it is fun. Members pick an area of the church and grounds that they and their family would like to weed, plant, etc.
6. In the spring, plant the playground set and mulched the ground area
7. Repair picnic tables and benches on patio.
8. If budget allows, we would like to resurface the driveway and parking lot
9. We have chosen a landscaper to build the patio for the labyrinth period since it is getting cold, we will probably have it done in the spring. Also it was decided not to install the water fountain. Carol Webb will be selling the fountain.

We will complete the re keying of locks later this year.

Again thanks to everyone that has stepped up and helped with the building and grounds maintenance this year. Everyone is appreciated!!!!

Respectfully submitted,
Cherie Donaldson
Junior Warden

TREASURER REPORT 2021 & 2022 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Adjusting 2021 for the Trust Fund withdrawals, income was \$68,353. Adjusting 2022 for the Trust Fund withdrawal, income \$65,277 accounting for a 4.5% reduction in income during 2022. Several things are attributable to this, namely diocesan aid continues to decrease and will be eliminated after 2023/2024. We still anticipate using our investment fund to help balance the budget for 2022, 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 2022 BUDGET - (REVISED 12/15/21) | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| REVENUE | 2022B | 2021A | 2020A | 2019A | 2018A | 2017A |
| DESIGNATED GIFTS | \$ 3,182 | \$ 5,014 | \$ 4,958 | \$ 5,981 | \$ 4,675 | \$ 10,071 |
| DIOCESAN AID | \$ 12,000 | \$ 14,000 | \$ 22,500 | \$ 24,000 | \$ 25,000 | \$ 25,000 |
| FLOWERS | \$ - | \$ 199 | \$ 123 | \$ 409 | \$ 366 | \$ 669 |
| INVESTMENT INCOME | \$ 1,000 | \$ 962 | \$ 1,151 | \$ 1,627 | \$ 1,714 | \$ 1,952 |
| MEMORIALS/DONATIONS | \$ - | \$ 800 | \$ 1,285 | \$ - | \$ 1,207 | \$ 900 |
| PLATE | \$ 1,000 | \$ 5,667 | \$ 1,396 | \$ 1,086 | \$ 1,372 | \$ 917 |
| PLEDGE | \$ 40,000 | \$ 32,652 | \$ 35,053 | \$ 34,977 | \$ 40,357 | \$ 35,116 |
| PROJECT INCOME | \$ 5,005 | \$ 5,649 | \$ 1,966 | \$ 5,918 | \$ 5,863 | \$ 6,561 |
| REIMBURSED EXPENSES | \$ 1,800 | \$ 2,425 | \$ 2,789 | \$ 3,135 | \$ 6,001 | \$ 6,290 |
| RENT | \$ 690 | \$ 340 | \$ 240 | \$ 600 | \$ 340 | \$ 365 |
| SPECIAL OFFERING | \$ 600 | \$ 644 | \$ 167 | \$ 938 | \$ 538 | \$ 1,110 |
| TRUST FUND | \$ 41,742 | \$ 20,000 | \$ 7,500 | \$ 8,000 | \$ 30,498 | \$ - |
| MISCELLANEOUS INCOMES | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 18 | \$ 410 | \$ - | \$ 16 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$ 107,019 | \$ 88,353 | \$ 79,146 | \$ 87,080 | \$ 117,931 | \$ 88,967 |
| DIO AID LESS APPORTIONMENT | \$ 4,028 | \$ 9,944 | \$ 16,709 | \$ 17,982 | \$ 19,175 | \$ 19,737 |

For details on our Generosity/Stewardship Drive for 2022, 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 2022 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 |

St. Peter's Episcopal Church – Lebanon, IN

As of December 31, 2021

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Huntington Checking – Operating Acct* | \$19,206.31 |
| Engaging Young Adults Initiative | (\$16,136.72) |
| Labyrinth Fund | (\$5,774.76) |
| Memorials Not Transferred To Savings | (\$292.54) |
| Seminarian Fund | (\$817.00) |
| Harvest House/Gardens/Care of Creation | (\$859.09) |
| Huntington Checking – Available for Operations | (\$4,410.80) |
| Huntington Savings* | \$22,367.39 |
| Rockstroh Memorial Gift | (\$10,000.00) |
| Memorials | (\$12,340.78) |
| Huntington Savings – Available | \$26.61 |
| Special Fund held at Diocese (As of 09/30/2021) *withdrew \$11,500 in October – not reflected in balance | \$61,852.66 |
| Huntington Checking – Rector's Discretionary Acct | \$1,939.18 |

| EXPENSE | 2022B | 2021A | 2020A | 2019A | 2018A | 2017A |
|-----------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| ALTAR SUPPLIES | \$ 500 | \$ 247 | \$ 321 | \$ 363 | \$ 243 | \$ 1,247 |
| APIARY/GARDENS | \$ 3,500 | \$ 1,739 | \$ 520 | \$ - | \$ 778 | \$ 778 |
| BULLETINS/NEWSLETTERS | \$ 402 | \$ 280 | \$ 251 | \$ 295 | \$ 399 | \$ 463 |
| BUSINESS/OFFICE SUPPLIES | \$ 970 | \$ 2,584 | \$ 2,434 | \$ 965 | \$ 840 | \$ 296 |
| CHRISTIAN EDUCATION | \$ 800 | \$ 67 | \$ - | \$ 990 | \$ 397 | \$ 451 |
| CLERGY CONFERENCE | \$ 250 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 65 | \$ 50 |
| CLERGY CONTINUING EDUCATION | \$ 500 | \$ - | \$ 45 | \$ 45 | \$ 585 | \$ 45 |
| CLERGY PENSION | \$ 6,108 | \$ 4,962 | \$ 4,835 | \$ 5,802 | \$ 5,705 | \$ 5,538 |
| CLERGY SALARY/HOUSING/TAXES | \$ 33,931 | \$ 32,941 | \$ 32,232 | \$ 32,232 | \$ 31,692 | \$ 30,769 |
| CONVENTION EXPENSE | \$ 500 | \$ 150 | \$ - | \$ 1,159 | \$ 803 | \$ 939 |
| DESIGNATED GIFTS | \$ 2,802 | \$ 1,334 | \$ 1,640 | \$ 2,792 | \$ 3,945 | \$ 1,905 |
| DIOCESAN APPORTIONMENT | \$ 7,972 | \$ 4,056 | \$ 5,792 | \$ 6,018 | \$ 5,825 | \$ 5,263 |
| DISCRETIONARY FUND | \$ 552 | \$ 1,720 | \$ 652 | \$ 932 | \$ 896 | \$ 1,069 |
| EVANGELISM/OUTREACH | \$ 4,000 | \$ 1,245 | \$ 250 | \$ 1,459 | \$ 2,990 | \$ 2,254 |
| FLOWERS | \$ 480 | \$ 271 | \$ 379 | \$ 985 | \$ 912 | \$ 1,017 |
| FUNDRAISING/PROJECTS | \$ 1,675 | \$ 1,869 | \$ 347 | \$ 3,542 | \$ 4,670 | \$ 7,232 |
| INSURANCE | \$ 10,981 | \$ 10,708 | \$ 10,375 | \$ 9,434 | \$ 9,179 | \$ 8,496 |
| MARKETING | \$ 884 | \$ 495 | \$ 387 | \$ 817 | \$ 1,454 | \$ 457 |
| MEMORIAL EXPENSE | \$ 100 | \$ 2,694 | \$ 316 | \$ 3,516 | \$ - | \$ - |
| MISCELLANEOUS | \$ - | \$ 185 | \$ 26 | \$ 75 | \$ - | \$ - |
| MUSIC | \$ 150 | \$ 227 | \$ 202 | \$ 197 | \$ 110 | \$ 178 |
| PAYROLL PROCESSING | \$ 173 | \$ 116 | \$ 127 | \$ 376 | \$ 405 | \$ 373 |
| REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE | \$ 7,000 | \$ 8,538 | \$ 5,506 | \$ 12,079 | \$ 15,115 | \$ 3,910 |
| CONTRACT EXPENSES | \$ 1,325 | \$ 1,550 | \$ 1,408 | \$ 1,493 | \$ 1,113 | \$ 1,096 |
| SEXTON SUPPLIES | \$ 300 | \$ 168 | \$ 189 | \$ 99 | \$ 36 | \$ - |
| NON-CLERGY STAFFING | \$ 10,085 | \$ 8,152 | \$ 9,540 | \$ 9,689 | \$ 8,630 | \$ 7,883 |
| THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION | \$ 400 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 694 | \$ 565 | \$ 300 |
| SUPPLY CLERGY | \$ 675 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 270 | \$ 270 | \$ 270 |
| TAXES* | \$ 40 | \$ 40 | \$ 40 | \$ 40 | \$ 681 | \$ 2,056 |
| TELEPHONE/INTERNET | \$ 1,860 | \$ 1,840 | \$ 1,636 | \$ 1,604 | \$ 1,601 | \$ 1,578 |
| TRAVEL ALLOWANCE/MILEAGE | \$ 1,500 | \$ 61 | \$ 313 | \$ 91 | \$ 424 | \$ 267 |
| TREASURER/BOOKKEEPER | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 599 | \$ 595 |
| UTILITIES | \$ 6,606 | \$ 6,158 | \$ 5,761 | \$ 6,588 | \$ 7,101 | \$ 5,728 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$ 107,019 | \$ 103,860 | \$ 85,522 | \$ 104,640 | \$ 108,027 | \$ 92,502 |
| PROJECTED SHORTFALL | \$ 0 | \$ (15,507) | \$ (6,376) | \$ (17,560) | 9,904 | (3,535) |

OUTREACH REPORT

Due to the unusual year the community outreach programs we have normally participated in have been severely curtailed. During 2021, we served two Saturday lunch at the Shalom House. There was a limit of 4-6 people to cook and serve and it was curbside pickup.

Another event was the packing of backpack lunches at Love, Inc during Summer 2021.

For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you visited Me.'

Matthew 25:35-36



GARDEN & APIARY REPORT - 2021

Grants, Gardens and Growing Common Ground Farm

National Task Force Grant (Growing Common Ground) - In 2020 St. Peter's received a total of \$12,000 from the National Task Force Grant committee to further our outreach with organizations serving those with food insecurities from other communities. This funding covered costs for 2020-2021 seed and materials used by St. Peter's and the Black Independent Grower teams to complete portions of their individual and combined projects. The name of this new ministry is based on the title of the grant, "Growing Common Ground" (GCG)

In 2021 the team harvested and distributed over **3,000 lbs** of fresh produce to St. Joseph's St Vincent de Paul Society's semi-monthly food distribution and Shalom House to be used in meals. Produce was also provided to Central Indiana Teen Challenge. The gardens were so productive it was decided to once again provide our local neighbors an opportunity to get produce already harvested using a popup stand.

Covenant Grant (Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis) - Also in 2021, St. Peter's received a total amount of \$6,511 from the Christ Church Cathedral Covenant Grant committee to be used in support of our Care of Creation ministries, "Growing Common Ground". While several individual items listed in our proposal were possible options at this funding level, it was determined the best value would be the purchase of a food prep shelter, produce seeds, cover crop seeds and soil amendments to support our organic regenerative agriculture programs. The grant limited a maximum of \$5,000 for completing the food prep shelter so the Bishop's Committee agreed to fund the remaining amount using existing undesignated funds.

After contacting several builders with our specifications and requirements for a 20' x 40' shelter, American Steel Carports was selected as the supplier. The area selected was prepared to receive the structure by installing an 800 ft.² underlayment covered by 8 cubic yards of a stone base. Figure 1 shows the site preparation.



Figure 1 - Site preparation showing underlayment, stone and finished installation

The all-metal building was transported to St. Peter's via trailer on September 10th, 2021. The installation crew began the assembly process and completed the structure within 4 hours. Figure 2 shows the assembly process and the finished shelter.



Figure 2 - Assembly process and finished shelter

The remainder of the grant funding was used to purchase produce seeds, cover crop seeds and soil amendments. Produce seeds purchased for the 2022 spring growing season included sweet corn, green beans, peas, squash, cucumbers, tomatoes, peppers, spinach, radish and basil. Cover crop seeds for the 2021 fall planting included buckwheat, phacelia, crimson clover, daikon radish, hairy vetch, fava bean, rye, triticale, peas, and oats. Cover crop seeds for the 2022 spring planting included millet, sunflower, soybean, sorghum-sudangrass and teff grass.

The cover crop seeds used for the 2021 fall planting were mixed into a “cover crop cocktail” and were planted on September 26th. These crops will improve soil health while suppressing weeds when they emerge in the spring of 2022.

Figure 3 shows the cover crops seeds bags, the mixture in the no-till planter hopper and a separate planting of buckwheat cover crop providing needed fall forage for our bee colonies.



Figure 3 - Cover crop seed packets, “cocktail mixture” in no-till planter hopper and buckwheat forage for bees

The final purchase of soil amendments included organic humus compost, organic garden soil, starting soil and raised bed garden soil. Because of the timing these products were purchased at

30% of the regular price, allowing for a significantly larger quantity to support our 2022 growing efforts. Figure 4 shows the soil amendments purchased.



Figure 4 - Soil amendments including organic humus, garden soil, starter soil and raised bed soil

St. Peter's Apiary - a "Buzzing" place in 2021

In 2021 the West Central Beekeepers Club of Indiana made the decision to move their future monthly meeting location from the Thorntown library to St. Peter's and Harvest House. The narthex was determined to be the best space to hold the meetings due to the limitations of social distancing in Harvest House.



West Central Beekeepers monthly meeting - January 2021



West Central Beekeepers in St. Peter's Apiary - February 2020

While multiple camps and bi-weekly tours scheduled for the apiary in 2020 were cancelled, we were able to restart all of those in 2021. Once again, we were able to host 2 individual day camps for the Zionsville Boys & Girls Club Caring Hands Camps in June and July. We were also able to host tours for Indianapolis visitors from Christ Church Cathedral and Bethany Lutheran Church. In September we hosted the Marion Garden Club. Overall, the camps and tours were a great success considering the limitations due to social distancing. We would like to thank the volunteers who helped run the various stations and provide support for the 2 days of events in June and July.



Caring Hands Campers learning about bee in a hive about honey bees



Volunteers helping Caring Hands Campers with suites



Christ Church Cathedral youth learning

In October we attended The Beekeepers of Indiana Fall Conference at the Blue Gate Convention Center in Shipshewana, Indiana where I gave a presentation on Technology in Beekeeping. I was nominated and elected to the TBol Board of Directors for a two-year term as Vice President. Between this commitment, retaining the position of Chairman of the Education Committee and being asked to speak at several state and interstate events this summer, I'll be extremely busy with beekeeping activities in 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chuck Dailey

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

HARVEST HOUSE REPORT - 2021

- Harvest House Community Center 2021 Classes
 - Sandy Dailey completed 16-week JMG class at CITC Mondays through Mar 15th
 - Sandy Dailey conducted a JMG Level 1 & LGEG Training class on Mar 31st.
 - Sandy Dailey conducted a JMG Level 1 & 2 Training class on April 7th.
 - Sandy Dailey conducted a JMG Level 1 Refresher for the Master Gardeners that would be instructors for the two Summer Camps
 - 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 18th.

- Harvest House Community Center 2021 Program, Meetings & Camps
 - West Central Beekeepers of Indiana - 3rd Thurs of each month Jan-Nov ZOOM & in person starting in Feb (Moved into Gathering area to obtain 6ft spacing)
 - JMG Level 1 Session 1 Day Camp Jun 1st - Jun 5th
 - Hands in the Hive Day Camp July 10th
 - Christ Church Cathedral Field Day July 17th
 - JMG Level 1 Session 2 Jul 19th -Jul 23rd
 - Whitestown/Zionsville Boys & Girls Club Four (4) Caring Hands Camps - (2) on Jun 10th and (2) on Jul 15th.

- Junior Master Gardener (JMG) Program & Boone County Master Gardeners

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 which was cancelled in February 2021 at Texas A&M, Sandy Dailey will be a guest speaker at the convention in February 2022. Tysha Ahmad will be traveling with Sandy to be trained in the Pre-school "Learn, Grow, Eat and Go" curriculum.

After adding the new soil this spring, the Junior Master Garden was planted with the donated heirloom tomato plants from Boone Co. Master Gardeners. The JMG campers helped maintain and harvest the raised beds. At the end of the summer, these gardens also provided the Urban Growers with green tomatoes



JMG Raised Bed



JMG Summer Camp

Packing Trail Mix for
ShalomEMG
President

The Boone County Master Gardeners completed Phase 1 of the Bioswale project in the Spring of 2021. Several Masters Gardeners volunteer to help maintain the Bioswale area and our Herb garden area. Usually one to two volunteers per week come 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. In 2022, we will have Pamela Mahler also volunteering from Montgomery Co. Master Gardeners.

Central Indiana Teen Challenge 2021

In 2021, we provided the second 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 volunteers to help teach each some of the 8 topics all at their facility due to COVID-19 restrictions in the spring. Only one young lady completed all the requirements and activities of the JMG program. Dr Kathryn Orvis from Purdue personally provided a letter of congratulations to Makayla. The girls also came out to clean the gardens every Friday through the summer from 9:30 to noon. Two older girls worked the produce stand with two of our parishioners every Tuesday and Thursday July through October.



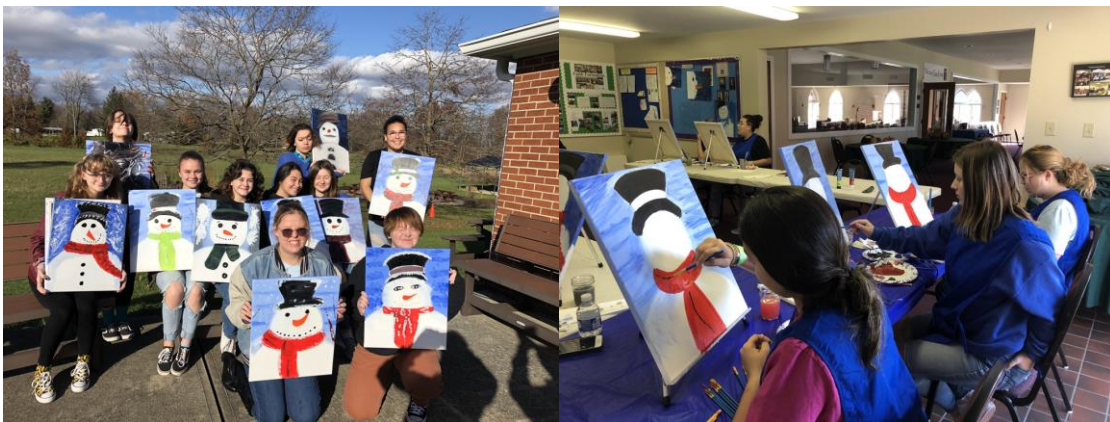
Harvest House JMG Group at CITC



Harvest House/CITC JMG Group working the

2021 Certified Junior Master Gardener w/ Purdue Prof. Kathryn Orvis

On Nov 18th, Artist Carol Powers provided a free “Painting on Canvas” class to 10 of the girls at Harvest House. That was a fun outing for them.



CITC “Painting on Canvas” at St Peter’s



Assembling Fruit Baskets at St. Peter's

Delivering Baskets to the St. Joseph's

Dec 14th the girls came to St. Peter's and assembled 100 fruit baskets for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Distribution at St. Joseph's in the gathering area. Following this activity, the girls were surprised with an X-mas party that St. Peter's had for them where the generous people of our church provided funds for our shoppers, Diana Halstead along with Caroline & Elizabeth Bradley, bought and wrapped gifts for all 19 of the CITC girls.



Santa Marion giving out X-mas Gift Bags

For 2022, a new session of JMG at CITC started mid-November with 13 girls, which nine are new to the program. Ten should be eligible to receive their Certified Junior Master Gardener Certificate in early March. Also, the girls will be again coming 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 have continued having them to help-out around Harvest House this year.

Social Activities and Outreach Annual Report - *Sandy Dailey 2021*

Community Outreach & Grant Partners

- Shalom House

- Harvested & provided vegetables 8 times throughout the summer for meal service - 177#
 - 75 bags of Trail Mix was provided by JMG community Service Project
 - 35# of green beans were provided twice prepared ready to cook
 - 2022 - A teaming arrangement has been proposed between the St. Peter's and Shalom.
- Central Indiana Teen Challenge
 - Harvested & provided vegetables throughout the summer for meals - 63#
 - Provided Garden instructions to build their own gardens and grow food.
- St. Vincent de Paul Society's Five Fishes & Two Loaves Food Pantry at St. Joseph's Church
 - Harvested & provided vegetables 5 times throughout the summer for distribution - 520#
 - 123 - 11 piece Fruit Baskets were provided to the Christmas food distribution
 - 2022- 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 - 600# +
 - 2022 Agreement - A teaming arrangement was agreed to between the St. Peter's and our GCG Farm partners in December 2021.
- Community Distribution
 - Harvested & provided vegetables (Produce Stand) July thru October - 1400# +
 - 2022 to provide vegetables to the community again with Fresh Produce Stand.

2021 Social Activities

| Month | Date | Social Event | Location | Coordinator |
|-----------|---------|--|---------------|-----------------|
| January | 31 | St Peter's Annual Meeting | St. Peter's | Fr Christopher |
| April | 22 | Earth Day | St. Peter's | S Dailey |
| May | 1 | Labyrinth Day | St. Peter's | C Webb |
| | 12 | Rogation Day | St. Peter's | Fr. Christopher |
| September | 18 & 19 | Back to the Fifties - Strawberry Shortcake & Ice Cream Sundaes Booth | 4H-Fairground | C & S Dailey |

| | | | | |
|----------|----|---|-------------|--------------------|
| October | 9 | Oktoberfest & Hayride | St. Peter's | K Glenn & S Dailey |
| November | 18 | Painting on Canvas - CITC & Adult Class | St. Peter's | S Dailey |
| | 23 | Thanksgiving Baskets | St. Peter's | Fr. Christopher |
| December | 6 | St. Nicholas Day | St. Peter's | S Dailey |
| | 30 | Family Night - "BINGO" Regifted Prizes | St. Peter's | Fr. Christopher |



Earth Day at the Labyrinth Painting on Canvas - St. Peter's Adults & Friends

Thank you for supporting Harvest House Community Center Activities.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandra Dailey

MUSIC REPORT - 2021

When we switched to virtual worship early in 2020 during the wilderness of the pandemic, the absence of music was distressing. We were a church with no hymnals or prayer books in the pews. And yes, the hymns were *played* during the service, but that's just not the same as being able to *sing* the hymns. Humming along was better than nothing, but we still missed the singing.

During 2021, we were finally able to sing, while masked. What a joy!

Our new small choir practiced before church (at 9am!) for several weeks before Christmas so we could offer two anthems during the Christmas Eve service: *Moonlight on the Manger* and *What Gift Can I Bring?* Many thanks to the choir members: Chris and Peggy Carter, Shelbi Fortner, Kayla Glenn, Maria Shepherd, Nick Piezonka and to the three young women, Elli, Grace and Phia, who sang the opening verse of *What Gift Can I Bring?* And thanks to Fr. Christopher for directing the choir.

Using memorial money given in memory of Dotti Linton, we purchased 45 copies of the hymnal, *Voices Found*. A label will be placed inside the hymnals, indicating that they are in memory of Dotti. During the year we have sung seven hymns from *Voices Found*.

- Carol Ann Webb

ALTAR GUILD - 2021

The St. Peter's Altar Guild continues to be a behind-the-scenes blessing when the members faithfully prepare the table around

which we gather on Sundays, as we are able, to feast at God's banquet - and then clean and put things away.

Carolyn Bradley continues her ministry of washing and ironing the few altar linens that are used during Holy Communion. Carolyn joined after the Annual Meeting in 2019.

Diana Halstead, a member since 2020, delivers the altar cloths to the cleaners and picks them up, as well as being in the Sunday altar guild rotation.

Deacon Jason Fortner, who has been an Altar Guild member almost from his first day at St. Peter's in January 2013, is now doing his field education at All Saints, Indianapolis, a part of his continued journey toward ordination to the priesthood. What a joy to have him with us to proclaim the Gospel on the Sunday after his ordination to the transitional diaconate and to chant the Gospel on Christmas Eve.

Shelbi Fortner, who joined the Altar Guild in 2018, rounds out the list of faithful members.

Nick Piezonka, who is usually at church well before the 10am service, often helps with setting up the altar. Are you ready to be a full-fledged member, Nick?

During 2020, four Advent banners, in memory of Margi Whitehead, a long-time altar guild member, were purchased and used during the season. Each weekly banner featured a candle and one of the words associated with the four Sundays of Advent: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. These

banners were hung on either side of the cross.

After Christmas, we purchased new Christmas banners as well as Pentecost banners in memory of Margi Whitehead, using the remaining monies that were donated in her memory.

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).

If you feel God is calling you to a ministry with the Altar Guild, please let me know. It is holy work. It is a blessing. Come and see!

- *Carol Ann Webb*

LABYRINTH REPORT - 2021

“There is a deep understanding that walking embodies our prayer and walking in a circle has a way of moving our brains out of their desired linear course.” ~Christine Valters Paintner in *The Soul's Slow Ripening: 12 Celtic Practices for Seeking the Sacred*.

She continues, “Take a walk today as a way to embody prayer. If possible, try walking in a circle and notice what happens to your thoughts.” Go walk our labyrinth today!

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

Twelve gals from Teen Challenge joined us for three Earth Day activities, one of which was walking the labyrinth. After I gave a short talk about the labyrinth, the girls spent time walking the labyrinth while I played my Spolum drum (which intrigued them). After the walk, several of them enjoyed playing the drum. Each of the girls picked out a finger labyrinth to take home.

We also had three adults who walked the labyrinth that day, after the Teen Challenge group was finished.

After being unable to hold our annual Labyrinth Walk on World Labyrinth Day last year due to Covid-19 restrictions, we were able to participate during 2021. The World Labyrinth Day tag line is “Walk at One at 1pm.” 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.

Five people from St. Peter's and 2 from Trinity Lutheran Church walked on World Labyrinth Day.

In 2018, the Bradley family graciously offered the pavers left from the building of the fire pit for use in creating the entry to the labyrinth. Spring 2019 was a busy time at St. Peter's and the paver project was postponed until the spring of 2020. As you might guess, the project was put on hold once again, due to the coronavirus.

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 decided not to use the drinking fountain due to installation. If you know someone who would like to purchase it, please let me know. We have signage, a St. Francis statue and two Celtic crosses that will be put in place eventually - all in God's good time.

The Labyrinth Team includes Jason Fortner, Diana Halstead, and Carol Ann Webb. We are grateful for your prayers and support. Your input is welcome -Carol Ann Webb



Our youngest walker on World Labyrinth Day
2018

GENEROSITY/STEWARDSHIP - 2021

Our loving response to God's gifts is gratitude.

Thank you for your generous donations during the last three months of 2021 as we collected items for the Afghan refugees. Each one of the MANY items you gave is an act of gratitude to God.

Although the collection for the Afghan refugees ended (without notice) before we were able to transport them, the donations will be distributed where they are needed.

Many of you have memories of Johanna Mohringer knitting scarves and mittens and baby blankets. Whenever she was at church, she had her knitting needles busy! Maria (Mohringer) Shepherd has donated several bags of Johanna's work, which have been in storage, and they will now be put to good use.

One of the ways we express our gratitude to God is through gifts to the church, that are not a part of a pledge. One of the cornerstones of a Generosity/Stewardship program is a gifts donation policy. As one Bishop put it, (and I'm paraphrasing it) a gifts policy keeps the church from having to deal with broken down furniture.

The Bishop's Committee approved the attached St. Peter's *Donation and Acceptance of Gifts Policy*, which will guide our acceptance of all future gifts. Please refer to this Gifts Policy when you wish to make a gift to St. Peter's.

I see God in each of you - in your God-given gifts that you bring and offer to God and St. Peter's in so many ways and that are combined with the gifts of others, both here and outside these church walls.

Thank you for your partnership in stewarding all the wondrous gifts that God gives us, individually and as a congregation, 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 on December 19th, we received 11 pledge cards totaling \$35,340 in pledges toward our goal of \$40,000. If you would like to begin pledging for 2022 (it's never too late), 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, both 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.

- *Carol Ann Webb*



APPENDIX A – REVISED BY-LAWS 2021

NAME

The Wardens and Bishop's Committee of this congregation do hereby designate that the name of this Mission will be referred to as St. Peter's Episcopal Church of Lebanon, Indiana.

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE

The Bishop's Committee of this Mission shall consist of the Vicar as an ex-officio member and six (6) other persons (not less than 5 or more than 15), who shall be divided into three (3) groups of two (2) persons. The term of office of each group shall be three (3) years or until their successors are duly chosen.

At each Annual Meeting of members of the Mission, two (2) persons, who are electors and members in good standing of this Mission, shall be elected to replace the outgoing group. The two persons receiving the most votes shall be elected. At least two-thirds of the entire Bishop's Committee shall also be confirmed adult communicants in good standing. Vacancies existing from time to time may be filled for the balance of the unexpired term by vote of a majority of the remaining Bishop's Committee or, if the vacancy exists at the time of the Meeting of the Mission, by a vote of the qualified electors at such Annual Meeting of the Mission. No member of a Bishop's Committee who is elected to a full three-year term shall be eligible for re-election to the Bishop's Committee until one (1) year after the expiration of the term for which elected.

The Vicar of the church shall be the chairperson of the Bishop's Committee of the Mission, according to the rules, regulations and form of government of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Indianapolis.

The Bishop's Committee shall have general charge, management and control of the affairs, funds and property of the Mission and shall authorize and control all expenditures. It shall be the duty of the Bishop's Committee to aid and support the Vicar in all efforts for the spiritual welfare and growth of the church.

It shall be the duty of the Bishop's Committee to carry out the purpose of the Episcopal Church in accordance with the canons, rules and usages of the canon law of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Indianapolis.

The Bishop's Committee shall, at each Annual Meeting of the members of the Mission, make a general report of the affairs of the church.

The Annual Meeting of the Bishop's Committee shall be held immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Mission, and regular meetings of the Bishop's Committee shall occur once a month, with exception during the

summer. Special meetings may be called by the Vicar at the written request of three (3) members, including one (1) Warden. Four (4) members shall constitute a quorum of the Bishop's Committee.

The Parish Register and the annual Report shall be the responsibility of the Priest or Deacon in charge, or, in the absence of a priest or deacon the responsibility of the Warden, in the case of a Parish or the Vice Chair of the Bishop's Committee, in the case of a Mission

OFFICERS

The officers of the Mission shall be a Senior Warden, a Junior Warden, a Treasurer, and a Clerk. All officers shall be electors and communicants in good standing of the church. The Clerk of the Mission shall also be the Clerk of the Bishop's Committee.

At the Annual Meeting of the Bishop's Committee, immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Mission, or in the event of a vacancy in the office, the Vicar shall appoint from the Bishop's Committee a Senior Warden, and Bishop's Committee shall elect a Junior Warden from its membership. The Wardens hold office until the next Annual Meeting or until their successors are chosen.

The Treasurer and the Clerk shall be appointed by the Vicar and assume office at the Annual Meeting of the Bishop's Committee. They shall hold office for one (1) year thereafter or until their successors are appointed. Said persons need not be member of the Bishop's Committee.

The Vicar shall perform such duties and posses such authority and exercise such prerogatives as may be described by the canon, rules and usage of the canon law of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Indianapolis.

The Senior Warden, if the Mission is without a Vicar, shall assume the duties of the Vicar outlined in the Bylaws until such time as a new Vicar is called.

The Vicar shall preside at the meetings of the Bishop's Committee and at all meetings of the members of the Mission.

The Senior Warden and Junior Warden. In the absence of the Vicar, the Senior Warden, and in his/her absence, the Junior Warden shall preside at the meetings of the Bishop's Committee and at the meeting of the members of the Mission.

In the event of the death, resignation, disability, or continued absence of the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden shall possess and exercise all the powers of the Senior Warden until such time as a new Senior Warden is appointed.

Treasurer of the Bishop's Committee. The Treasurer shall collect all fees, gifts, and other income of the Mission, and shall keep the accounts of the Mission and report thereon at each meeting of the Bishop's Committee. These accounts shall be audited at least every three (3) years by an independent public accountant or auditor provided by the diocese. Accounts of the Mission shall also be audited when a new Treasurer is selected to serve.

In the event of the death, resignation, disability or lack of conscientious performance of duties, the Vicar shall appoint a successor Treasurer who will hold office of the balance of the unexpired term.

There shall be a bond given, which may be a blanket bond, for the faithful performance of the duties of the treasurer in such amount and with such surety as the Bishop's Committee shall approve. Payment of the premium for such bond shall be an expense of the regular budget of the Bishop's Committee.

Clerk of the Bishop's Committee. The Clerk shall give notice of all meetings of the Bishop's Committee and of all meetings of the members of the Mission and shall keep minutes of all such meetings. The Clerk will consult with Vicar on the dates and times of the meetings.

In the event of the death, resignation, disability, or lack of conscientious performance, the Bishop's Committee shall elect a successor Clerk who shall hold office for the balance of the unexpired term.

MEETING OF THE MISSION

There shall be an Annual Meeting of the members of the Mission during the first two months the calendar year, on a date to be designated by the Bishop's Committee, and special meetings shall be held when called.

At the Annual Meeting there shall be an election of the Bishop's Committee. The selection of lay delegates from the Mission to the Diocesan Convention. There shall be annual reports by the Vicar and by other officers and organizations of the Mission, and other business specified in the notice of meeting to be transacted.

Special meetings of the Mission may be called by the Vicar or by the Bishop's Committee if there is no Vicar.

Quorum at any Annual or Special Meeting will be members present in numbers equal to one more than half the average Sunday attendance for the previous calendar year.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE MISSION

(Membership in the mission will align with membership in the Church as outlined in Canon 24)

1. A member is any person

- a. who has received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, whether in the Episcopal Church or in another Christian Church,
 - b. whose baptism has been recorded in the Episcopal Church and who has enrolled as a member of the Mission by having their name entered on the Mission register.
2. A confirmed communicant is a member who has received Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church at least three times during the preceding year and who has been confirmed, which includes:
 - a. A person who is baptized in the Episcopal Church as an adult and receives the laying on of hands by a Bishop of the Episcopal Church at baptism,
 - b. A person who is baptized in the Episcopal Church as an adult, and at some time after the baptism, receives the laying on of hands by a Bishop of the Episcopal Church in reaffirmation of Baptismal vows.
 - c. A baptized person who received the laying on of hands at confirmation by any Bishop of the Apostolic Succession and who is received into the Episcopal Church by a Bishop of the Episcopal Church, or
 - d. A baptized person who received the laying on of hands by a Bishop of the Episcopal Church at Confirmation or Reception.
 3. A member who is sixteen years of age or over is an adult member, unless a greater age is required by law.
 4. A member in good standing of the Mission who removes from this Mission to another congregation of the Episcopal Church shall be entitled to receive a certificate stating that he or she is a member in good standing of this Mission. If a person who desires to become a member in good standing of this Mission presents such a certificate from another congregation of the Episcopal Church, such certificate shall be accepted that he or she is a member in good standing.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

There shall be the following standing committees:

- A. Building and Grounds
- B. Faith Formation
- C. Outreach and Hospitality
- D. Finance
- E. Stewardship and Generosity

and such other standing or special committees that may be designated as needed.

The Bishop's Committee shall prescribe the duties and the authorities of all committees to the extent that they are not prescribed in these By-Laws. Membership in committees is open to all members of the Mission, membership will be limited to two committees concurrently by any member of the Mission. The Bishop's Committee will monitor the size of each committee to determine appropriate size based on activity.

FINANCIAL

The Bishop's Committee shall cause records and books of account to be made and kept of all trust and permanent funds showing at least the following:

- A. Source and date
- B. Original principal amount
- C. Terms governing use of principal and interest
- D. How funds are invested

All funds and securities controlled by the Bishop's Committee shall be deposited with a bank or savings and loan that is covered by either FDIC or FSLIC. All bank accounts will have three authorized signers the Vicar, Treasurer and Senior Warden. The Treasurer will be responsible for updating the bank account records as soon as reasonably possible when there is a change in Officers or Vicar. All checks for \$500.00 or more will require signatures by two of the authorized signers.

Prior to the beginning of each fiscal year of the Mission, the Bishop's Committee shall formulate an annual budget for the operation of the Mission and the maintenance and repair of its properties.

All buildings and contents shall be adequately insured.

The fiscal year of the Mission shall be a calendar year.

BY-LAW REVISION

In respect to all questions of construction of these By-Laws, the decision of the Bishop's Committee shall control and be finally binding, but

These By-Laws may be amended by the Bishop's Committee with an affirmative vote at any meeting. All changes to the bylaws will be presented to the members at the Annual Meeting of the Mission following the adoption of the changes.

APPENDIX B – REVISED GIFT POLICY 2021

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Lebanon, Indiana

Donation and Acceptance of Gifts Policy

Gifts given to St. Peter's Episcopal Church are to be reflections of the gifts that God has given to us in our "creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life, for the means of grace and the hope of glory" (Book of Common Prayer). Most especially, however, gifts are signs of the greatest gift of all: God's very gift to us of Jesus Christ.

All the gifts God has given to us are gifts of grace. *Grace* means that a gift is given freely, unreservedly, and with no restrictions or strings attached. Thus St. Peter's are free to use God's gifts to us carelessly if we choose but, more preferably, we are to use those gifts with the deep carefulness that accompanies true gifts received with profound gratitude.

Gifts are given to the church for a single purpose: to support the church's mission to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the context of a particular congregation. This implies that while the Gospel imperative to share the Good News never changes, the context of the congregation does change. Gifts given with grace to the church are therefore gifts given without conditions. Thus, as the congregation determines over the generations how it will spread the Gospel, gifts may be discerned for the continued appropriateness of their support of the church's mission. (And, at the risk of stating the obvious, it is not incumbent upon the church to accept a donation that it perceives is not congruent with its mission or a gift that the church is unable to maintain in appropriate ways.) As used in this Policy, *gifts* are not in lieu of annual financial pledges, but rather are in addition to annual financial pledges. The Parish depends upon annual financial pledges to create a budget and pay its regular bills. A gift is a special contribution in addition to annual financial pledges.

It is very helpful and sometimes required that donors have a conversation with the priest and perhaps the Bishop's Committee or a committee or commission to determine what needs there are and what gifts may be of the greatest use in the life and worship of the community. Sometimes there needs to be a period of discernment before an appropriate gift can be determined.

Gifts are given to and received by the Vicar, Wardens and Bishop's Committee of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, who by canon law are the "agents and legal representatives of the Parish in all matters concerning its corporate property" (Canon 1.14.2) Thus, no agreement regarding the exchange of gifts may be determined by members, individual representatives, or any other group of this congregation.

It is in this spirit of participation in the grace of God that St. Peter's believes that genuine gifts are given and received. A list of gifts received will be maintained as part of the Missions records.

More specifically, the Vicar, Wardens, and Bishop's Committee of St. Peter's may accept a donation with the following understanding:

Monetary gifts to the church fund may be received by the Bishop's Committee as unrestricted, temporarily restricted or permanently restricted. Gifts will be considered unrestricted if no agreement is presented at the time of the gift. Temporary restricted will be restricted for a 5 year time period if the timeframe is not specified in the agreement or no written agreement was presented at the time of the gift.

Unrestricted gifts mean that the money may be spent in the way that the Bishop's Committee sees fit for the furtherance of the parish's mission. In other words, the donor does not influence the use of the donation. This type of gift supports the regular operating budget established by the Bishop's Committee.

Temporarily restricted gifts to the church fund may be spent only in the way specified by the donor. It is common and preferred to stipulate that the designation expires in not more than ten years in case the original need for the designation becomes moot (or earlier if the original need is no longer present but funds remain from the original gift).

Permanently restricted gifts become a part of the Church's endowment. They may specify a particular purpose.

Categories of monetary gifts include cash, stocks and securities, deeds of gift, wills and bequests, life insurance, retirement plans, trusts, and pooled income funds. Legal and tax implications may mitigate the acceptance of any monetary gift. Monetary donations to the church are usually tax deductible to the donor to the extent available under law; the donor should consult with his or her tax advisor as the church is not able to give legal or tax advice.

Monetary gifts given to the Vicar's discretionary funds are given as unrestricted gifts (unless there is an extraordinary need to which the donor wishes the funds directed in consultation with the Vicar).

Unrestricted discretionary funds are used at the clergy's discretion for those purposes that are not covered by or are beyond the parish budget and in accordance with the **Vicar's Discretionary Fund Policy**. *If the donor wishes to give to the discretionary fund, the check should be made payable to St. Peter's Episcopal Church and in the "memo line" the donor can specify "discretionary fund."*

Objects intended for general parish life may be received gratefully and be used as long as they serve the needs and mission of the congregation as discerned by the Vicar in conjunction with the appropriate committee chairpersons, and/or the Wardens and Bishop's Committee.

Any gift intended to be used in the sanctuary or to reflect the presence of God anywhere in the building or on the property (including works of art, sacred objects, vestments, music, instruments,

furniture, other objects, etc.) will be received with the permission of the Vicar who is charged by the Canons of the Episcopal Church to be Steward “for the conduct of the worship and the spiritual jurisdiction of the Parish” (III.14.1a). At the Vicar’s discretion, gifts may be brought to the Bishop’s Committee for discernment as to its appropriateness for its use in the worship life of the congregation. The use of a gift may vary as the needs of the church change. The intention of the donor will receive particular consideration but is not binding on the church.

Objects intended for sacred use at the altar will be blessed. Any gift that will be given for the Altar should be discussed with the Altar Guild and Vicar for appropriateness prior to acceptance. They will be used as they serve the worship needs of the church as determined by the Vicar and, if appropriate, the Altar Guild and Bishop’s Committee. The use of a gift may vary as the needs of the parish change. The intention of the donor will receive particular consideration but is not binding on the Parish.

Memorial gifts are given primarily to honor the glory of God. Secondly they are used to maintain or enhance the appearance and utility of God’s house, the Church. And lastly, they are offered in memory of loved ones. These gifts are given a particular respect and care beyond those given for general use. The intended use of a memorial gift and its length of service will be given special consideration within the above-named guidelines. Again, conversation with the Vicar and any other interested party prior to determining a gift.

Gifts of property or real estate (offered either while the donor is living or in his/her will) can be legally complex and expensive to transact. They can cost the church more in legal fees than it receives in the gift. Therefore, donors are strongly urged to consult the Vicar and Bishop’s Committee prior to offering the donation in order to assure that the gift will, in fact, benefit the church and not unintentionally become a liability. Acceptance of gifts of real estate must be approved by the Vicar, Wardens and Bishop’s Committee as the legal representatives of the parish. The Vicar, Wardens and Bishop’s Committee may seek the advice and assistance of the Diocese and the Chancellor or church attorney where they deem such advice and assistance appropriate.

All objects or property are usually tax deductible as in-kind gifts, for which the donor may receive a receipt. Any appraisal is the responsibility and cost of the donor. The donor is encouraged to consult with his/her tax advisor prior to making any major gift to ensure that the anticipated tax benefits, if any, are realized. If the donor wishes a receipt, the donor must advise the Vicar.

In conclusion: Thank God that only God’s gifts of grace are everlasting. No gift given to the church (or any creation of God’s) is equally as permanent. During the life span of a gift, a gift might be gratefully used until it is worn out, the needs of the church may change, and/or the parish could refurbish or build a new building. Gifts unconditionally offered allow the Holy Spirit to move and breathe and help the church grow into greater

holiness and witness. Should the Bishop's Committee and the Vicar discern that a gift needs to be retired, handed on to others, or disposed of, we give our pledge that it will be done appropriately in accordance with the nature of the gift and with our gratitude, reverence, and respect.

The Bishop's Committee will review the Gift Policy periodically, to ensure that it is in line with the parish mission and canon law. The Bishop's Committee and the Vicar will consult the Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs for guidance on acceptance of any gift not specifically addressed in the policy.

Gifts offered with this understanding will provide a witness to the infinite grace of God and will therefore help us to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. Thank you for considering your offering of a donation to St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Lebanon, Indiana.

Faithfully,

The Vicar, Wardens and Bishop's Committee of St. Peter's Episcopal Church. - *Revised October 2021*