



The Morning Star

May 2018

The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday

On Sunday, May 20, we will gather together in worship for the Feast of Pentecost, which will conclude the fifty days of the Easter season (Pentecost, meaning “fiftieth day”). In our own church tradition, this particular day is also known as Whitsunday.

We are especially reminded during this time of Eastertide that we are called to live a resurrected life. During our preparation in Lent, we hope that our skills have been honed to become better aware of God’s presence in our life and in the world around us: God acts! At our Sunday services these past weeks, we have heard lessons from the book, *Acts of the Apostles*. It recounts for us the response to God’s action made by the first generation of believers.

It is important to note that the Book of Acts was written by the same author as the Gospel of Luke. In the gospel, the event of the ascension (Ascension Day, the fortieth day of Eastertide) is the ending point for the activity of Jesus on earth. In Acts, the ascension is the beginning point for the preparation of Jesus’ followers for the Spirit, ultimately forming them to be witnesses of Christ. The Book of Acts is the second volume of an account that has no end; the narrative of our faith and of the Church continues to the present day.

Humanity experienced the full presence and power of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and as followers of Jesus we continue to write the narrative and proclaim the gospel in our time. The reading of *Acts of the Apostles* at this time remind us, once again, of the power of God’s continuous action in the world. Our faith formation also never ends.

During the nine days between Ascension Day and Pentecost we are to set aside time in our busy lives to reflect on our relationship with God, based on what we now experience during this Easter season and hope to gain in light of Pentecost. Traditionally, we are asked to pray and consider certain words associated with aspects of our faith: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control.

Thy Kingdom Come: Worldwide Anglican Communion Campaign calling for prayer

Initiated by Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby two years ago, this campaign is a global prayer movement asking Christians around the world to pray between Ascension Day, May 10, and Pentecost, May 20, for more people to come to know Jesus.

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry again joins this campaign this year, extending an invitation to all in the Episcopal Church.

Information about Thy Kingdom Come and prayer resources for individuals, congregations, and families are found at its website: www.thykingdomcome.global

Fr. Jim

Maundy Thursday



St. Peter's bell tower was adorned with palms and lilies as it served as our altar of repose for the Maundy Thursday watch.

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH COMMITTEE

RED BOWL OFFERING

A check for \$565, \$300 from the Christian Outreach Committee and \$265 from the March Red Bowl Offering, was sent to Episcopal Relief and Development Disaster Services in Puerto Rico. Thank you to everyone who donated to the ERO through the Red Bowl Offering, ensuring continued support for Puerto Rico during this long recovery phase.

There will be no Red Bowl Offering taken during the month of May.

HOPE HAVEN DINNERS

St. Peter's continues to provide a meal for the community homeless at Hope Haven on the 4th Wednesday of each month. Needed volunteers include a chair for each month in 2018 and persons to prepare or purchase food items. Sign-up sheets for 2018 are located in Waterman Hall. Please help the Outreach Committee provide one meal each month to our area homeless at Hope Haven.

SYCAMORE FOOD PANTRY

The Sycamore Food Pantry is running low and faces a difficult summer without our help. Please bring a can or two of food to church each Sunday and the Outreach Committee will see that it gets to the Sycamore Food Pantry. Help feed the hungry in our own community by donating to the Sycamore Food Pantry.

DEKALB/SYCAMORE BOOKCASE PROJECT

The DeKalb/Sycamore Bookcase Project provides bookcases and books to the children at Two Rivers Head Start Program. Thank you to those parishioners who donated new or gently used books for three and four year olds, promoting children's literacy efforts in our community. A special thanks goes to the Mike Blakeslee Family, with book donations totaling over 150!

The next meeting of the Christian Outreach Committee will be held on Wednesday, May 9, 12 noon in Waterman Hall. Please feel free to join us!

Vestry Meeting Minutes

for March 15, 2018, as approved by the Vestry on April 19, 2018.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Fr. Jim Clement, Interim priest. **Opening prayers** were given.

Those present were Fr. Jim Clement, Interim priest, Phil Montgomery, Anita Biletzky, Barb Weaver, Judy Dettloff, John Boies, Henry Vincent, Donna Hill, John Vain, Treasurer and Judy LaPorta served as clerk.

Bronwyn Burgweger was **absent**.

Two **guests** were present.

Barb Weaver moved to approve the **Agenda** as presented, seconded by Anita Biletzky, motion carried.

Barb Weaver moved that the **Minutes** from the February meeting be approved. Phil Montgomery seconded and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Phil Montgomery to appoint Judy LaPorta as Clerk of the Vestry. This motion was seconded by John Boies, and the motion was carried.

Donna Hill was thanked for her 15 years as Clerk of the Vestry.

Open Forum: **Nothing presented**

Committee Reports

Finance/Treasurer's report: John Vain reported that some early pledges were received, which accounted for being over budget in pledge income.

Adjustments were made for the organist salary in the 2018 budget.

A separate document will be created for the expenses of the rental properties owned by St.

Peter's in order to analyze profit and loss.

Work on the trust funds is moving forward. Bids are being sought from local banks to determine which costs and interest rates will best benefit St. Peter's. These decisions should be finalized by the end of April. July is the target date to present these changes in the trust funds to the congregation for approval.

A discussion ensued regarding consolidating the trust and checking accounts to one bank.

Phil Montgomery moved to give the finance committee the ability to explore the potential of combining all assets at one bank. Anita Biletzky seconded the motion and it carried.

Barb Weaver asked about Daughters of the King as they are not in the budget this year. John Vain reported that the budget will be revisited once the change in the trust accounts is complete.

Building and Grounds – report attached.

Anita Biletzky also informed the Vestry that the leases on the two rental properties are up for renewal. The amount of rent charged was discussed. Phil Montgomery suggested that we table the rent increase until summer in order to give the renters ample notice if a rent increase is in order.

Search Committee: Judy LaPorta reported that although we do not have any new resumes to review, our posting is still on the Diocese website. Andrea Mysen's assistant was at a conference all week and would be spreading the word about our opening. He has been to St. Peter's and was very impressed with our church and what we have to offer.

Interim Rector's Report: Fr. Clement reported that two baptisms were held this month. He reviewed the changes in times for the Maundy Thursday watch, which will be held in the bell tower this year.

Bronwyn Burgweger will be in charge of the Easter Egg hunt for the children after the Easter Sunday service.

Fr. Clement then asked for affirmation of the hiring of Judy LaPorta as the part time parish secretary. The vestry affirmed.

The Parochial report was reviewed by all vestry members. Phil Montgomery moved to approve the report, Henry Vincent seconded, and the motion carried.

New Business: St. Peter's received a letter from the diocese thanking us for our mission share.

Barb Weaver moved to adjourn, seconded by Judy Dettloff, motion carried.

Fr. Clement offered Closing Prayers/Compline Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Judy LaPorta
Vestry Clerk



Prayer Corner

At Easter

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Lectionary readings for Sundays in

May. The readings may be found at www.lectionarypage.com

May 6: Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17
Psalm 98

May 13: Seventh Sunday of Easter:

The Sunday after the Ascension

Acts 1:15-17,21-26
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19
Psalm 1

May 20: The Day of Pentecost:

Whitsunday

Acts 2:1-21
Romans 8:22-27
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
Psalm 104:25-35,37

May 27: First Sunday after Pentecost:

Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17
Canticle 13

Parish Notes

Graduates

We would like to recognize those young women and men in our St. Peter's family who will graduate this spring. Please telephone the church office and let us know of any member of your family who is graduating from middle school, high school, or college. We look forward to acknowledging their achievements and sharing this information with the parish.

St. Paul's 50th Lobster Boil

The deadline to order lobsters for St. Paul's Episcopal Church's Lobster Boil is May 14, 2018. Distribution will be May 19 at the church at 900 Normal Road in DeKalb. Live lobsters cost \$18 and can be picked up at 4 p.m.; cooked lobsters cost \$20 and can be picked up at 5, 6 or 7 p.m. To order, visit www.stpaulsdekalb.org. Order forms also are available at the church. For information, call (815) 756-4888.

Summer Schedule

A reminder that our summer schedule will begin on Sunday, June 3rd. One service at 9:00 am will be offered on Sundays in June, July, and August.



Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Candles

There are many openings to dedicate Altar Flowers or a Sanctuary Candle for a Sunday in 2018. Please sign up on the reservation sheets on the bulletin board just outside the Parish Office. Your completed dedication form should then be turned in to the parish office.

- 1 Jenny Sidmore
- 2 Nicky Blakeslee
- 3 Albert Agha

Birthdays in May

- 2 Donald Hulse Jr.
- 4 Kylan Hill
- 5 Betty Prall
- 8 Stefanie Hill
- 15 Stacy Zimmerman
- 17 Ann Engstrom
- 20 Kathryn Egler
- 21 Josh Crittenden
- 21 Louis Andrezej Boies
- 23 Trisha Crittenden
- 25 Amanda Shea
- 27 Chris Noe
- 28 John Boies

Wedding Anniversaries in May

- 7 Jack and Susan Frost
- 9 Elizabeth and Walter Adamczyk
- 17 George & Janice Abizaid
- 25 Richard & Jane Garvey
- 29 Tom & Pat Klein

May 2018 Schedule for Children's Christian Education (CCE)

May 6 – Jenny Sidmore & Jean Evans

May 20 – Jenny Sidmore & Jean Evans



The Morning Star

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church

218 Somonauk Street
Sycamore, Illinois 60178
815-895-2227

www.sycamorestpeters.org

Parish Office Hours: 9am-1pm Monday-Friday Newsletter Staff

The Revd. James Clement	Publisher
Judy LaPorta	Editor
Jane Ovitz, Barbara Weaver, Carol Quitno, Pat Burgweger, Helen Beamish, Nancy Franke	Circulation

Deadline for Submission of Articles

5:00 PM on the 20th of each month. Email your articles to office@sycamorestpeters.org or place them in the Parish Office mailbox in Waterman Hall by the 15th of the month. All articles are subject to editing for length and clarity.

Email subscriptions

You may receive the Morning Star by email by sending a message to office@sycamorestpeters.org.

Parish Clergy and Staff

The Rev. James Clement	Interim Rector
jclement@sycamorestpeters.org	

Larry Dirst	Organist
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Judy LaPorta	Admin. Assistant
office@sycamorestpeters.org	
Days in office: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	

Jean Erlenborn	Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@sycamorestpeters.org	
Days in office: Monday, Wednesday	

The Vestry of the Parish

Phil Montgomery, Senior Warden	847-702-7445
Anita Biletzky, Junior Warden	815-793-5500
Bronwyn Burgweger	815-761-9866
Judy Dettloff	815-895-4225
Henry Vincent	630-465-1951
John Boies	815-353-9703
Donna Hill	815-739-1493
Barbara Weaver	815-895-4324
John Vain, Treasurer	815-899-1124

The Parish Vision Statement

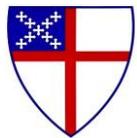
Red doors open for growth and renewal, where we find ourselves and others transformed.

The Parish Mission Statement

To be an inclusive fellowship growing in the Holy Spirit, nurturing the burdened and the joyous, reaching out to our communities and God's world.

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church
218 Somonauk Street
Sycamore, IL 60178
www.sycamorestpeters.org

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The newsletter of Saint Peter's Episcopal Church

"...until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts" 2 Peter 1:19