

**THE MORNING STAR**

**APRIL 2021**

**WELCOME BROOKE TAYLOR  
DUFFY**





On Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, we welcomed the newest member to our St. Peter's family, Brooke Taylor Duffy. Brooke was born on January 1, 2021 and welcomed by mom, Erin, Brian, dad, and big brother Dallas. Brooke's Godparents are Dominique George and Les Tish. Family and members of St. Peter's were invited to Zoom in to watch the service.

Congratulation Erin, Brian, And Dallas!

## Easter Thoughts

The sun is making its presence known more and more each day. The temperatures comfortably rise. Rain arrives to wash away the salt and dirt from our roads and driveways. The birds make their way back to our region, and the sound of their chirping is wonderful.

It makes my heart glad to witness the transition from a cold and dark winter to a bright and joyful spring. Our moods brighten. We feel a greater desire to spend more time out of the house because with spring often comes new-found energy.

Not only can these wonderful things be applied to spring; they also can be applied to Easter. But there is one thing that often emerges this time of year that is especially associated with Easter. That is *hope*.

Easter Day, of course, is the day on which we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Jesus' resurrection from the dead is for all Christians the ultimate source of hope. Jesus' resurrection tells us that death is not the be all and end all. From what might have seemed utterly hopeless a few minutes ago, possibilities begin to emerge.

Easter Day is the most important day on the Christian calendar. Never should it be given short shrift. Never forget that Easter is a season of the Christian year that is 50 days in length. It is often called "The Great Fifty Days."

One of the most important ways we can celebrate this blessed season is to practice being hopeful. One way to do this in the present time is to look at how far our country has come toward eradicating the Corona virus. More people are getting vaccinated. Positivity and hospitalization rates are going down. Each day brings news of continued improvement.

Where do you see hope in your own life? Where do you see it in the world around you? Enjoy a very blessed season of Easter.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Faithfully,

The Reverend Mark A. Geisler

## LOVE

One of the themes that has occupied my mind during this Lenten Season and soon be to Easter Season is love. As I read and hear the news, it appears to me that what is lacking in our society and throughout the world is LOVE.

My mind travels back to 1967 and an "Our World" concert that featured as one of its acts, The Beatles, who sang for the first time a new song titled "All You Need Is Love." I am sure as you read this and I write, you and I can hear the tune in our heads or have already begun to sing it out loud. It was created as an international message that could be understood and shared by people of all nationalities and ethnic groups. The Beatles gave us a gift with this song. Did we just listen for a day? How soon did we forget the gift and its meaning as we may have sung it in our heads every time we heard it then, or as we hear it today as an oldie but goodie?

Love is a theme that many have used in writing a song, a story or poem but where is the love that we carry in our hearts? How is it that, sometimes, it is so difficult to tap into?

Both the Lenten and Easter Seasons are about love. Losing love but still knowing it exists and feeling it in the walk of Jesus to the cross. We then experience this love full force with Jesus' resurrection, celebrating His rising on Easter Sunday. We can feel and almost touch the love that explodes on the scene.

How does that feeling wane so quickly or does it as Monday rolls around and it's back to the same old, same old? What can each of us do to keep the fire of love burning brightly? I think we can do it by sharing the love we are carrying in our hearts. I think we do it by the example of our risen Lord Jesus Christ as He walked on this earth and shared himself to His death on the cross and then rising to the glory of God and the gift of grace to each of us.

Jesus is love and that love is the light of the world. Sometimes the 'love light' appears to dim but it never goes out. Each of us picks up a piece of the flame and then passes the 'love light' on all who we meet so that they can see how this 'love light' of Jesus is the most precious

possession we receive and give away freely to the glory of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Amanda Gorman, the National Youth Poet Laurette, who spoke at President Biden's inauguration, said it this way and eloquently. "There is always the light, if only we are brave enough to see it. If only we are brave enough to be it." Amen.

Many blessings to each of you in the coming Season of the Risen Christ,

Deacon Dee

## MINUTES FROM THE VESTRY MEETING OF ST. PETER'S

**FEBRUARY 19, 2021 Approved 3/18/21**

The Zoom meeting was called to order by Phil Montgomery at 7:00 PM. Those present were: Phil Montgomery, Anita Biletzky, Varsie Geisler, Fr. Georges Jallouf, John Vain, John Boies, Liane O'Keefe, Fr. Mark Geisler, Lynne Roberts, Donna Hill, and Henry Burgweger.

After an opening prayer by Fr. Georges, Phil Montgomery moved to approved the Agenda. Liane O'Keefe seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Phil Montgomery moved to accept the minutes from the January meeting, Donna Hill seconded, and the motion carried.

Sr. Warden Report: Sunday services have been cancelled for two weeks. Anita Biletzky, Phil Montgomery, John Vain and Fr. Georges have been in close communication regarding services and it was a collective decision to close the church due to the inclement weather.

Jr. Warden Report: The automatic lights outside the kitchen door weren't working. Excel electric was called and repaired the lights. The radiator in the ladies' room had not been working. The refrigerator in the kitchen was freezing up and not working properly. A part was needed and the cost to fix is \$450.00.

We had been renting the water softener in Waterman Hall, it was replaced by one we purchased last week.

The Wetzel house – a pipe under the sink was dripping water into the cellar of the basement. On Sunday a temporary repair was done and has since been permanently fixed.

We have had to spend a lot of money on snow removal due to the large amounts of snow so far this winter. Anita has been in touch with the contractor, Sarasota, to be sure that all entries are cleared.

Treasurer's Report – Our Nicor bills for the church have been high, considering that we have not been open every week and not running the heat as often.

For January, our expenses were less than our income. All accounts are in good order.

John Boies moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Phil Montgomery seconded, and the motion was carried.

It was recommended that an ad hoc committee be created to review the furnace in the church.

Caregivers – Lynne Roberts reported that some of our shut-in members have deteriorating mental conditions.

Meals on Wheels needs drivers for March.

Outreach – Lynne Roberts reported that she needs volunteers for Hope Haven. Members of the Vestry volunteered to fill those needs.

Lynne also reported that we have not had any members inquire about paying for the Covid 19 tests. CVS currently does not charge if a person has insurance, but charges \$39.00 if there is no insurance. Hy Vee charges \$25.00

Old Business:

Parochial Report: A lengthy discussion was held regarding the Parochial report. John Boies requested that in question 1C, the fact that we are unable to receive the Holy Eucharist be moved to the top of the list. There was also a typo on 2B.

John Boies moved to accept the report with the corrections. Donna Hill seconded and the

motion carried. It was also requested that the vestry receive the corrected copy before it is sent to the diocese.

Rector Report: Fr. Georges thanked Lynne Roberts for updating the congregation on Carol Wells.

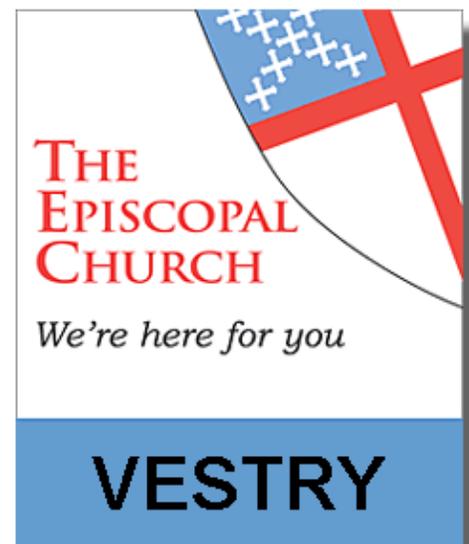
Ten people came for Ashes to Go this year on Ash Wednesday. Three were members, and seven saw our article in the paper.

Starting February 21, we will have one in person service at 9:00 am and 10:00 Zoom worship.

Phil Montgomery moved that the meeting be adjourned, Varsie Geisler seconded, and after a closing prayer by Fr. Mark, the meeting adjourned at 8:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy LaPorta  
Vestry Clerk





March 28	Palm Sunday	9:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:15 AM Zoom Worship
April 1	Maundy Thursday	7:00 PM Holy Eucharist Rite II also on Zoom
April 2	Good Friday	3:00 PM The Way of the Cross followed by Liturgy of Good Friday also on Zoom
April 4	Easter Sunday	9:00 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:15 AM Zoom Worship



*May light perpetual shine upon our brother and sisters in Christ who have recently died. May they rest in peace.*

Mike Blakeslee

October 26, 1954-March 17, 2021

Carol Wells

December 23, 1932-February 13, 2020

Janis FitzHenry

December 16, 1943-March 20, 2021

Remember Lord, those who have died and have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, especially for Mike, Carol and Jan. May these, and all who sleep in Christ, find in Your presence light, happiness and peace. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

## **Psalms 23**

The LORD is my shepherd; \* I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures \* and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul \* and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \* you have anointed my  
head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*and I will dwell in the  
house of the LORD for ever.

## **ST. PETER'S "THINKING OF YOU" LIST**

### **APRIL 2021**

Harriet George  
1217 Loren Drive  
DeKalb, IL 60115

Cynthia Dorband  
1600 North Fourteenth St. #204  
DeKalb, IL 60115

Beth Krogman  
29449 Greenwood Acres Dr.  
DARC Health Care Center – W104  
DeKalb, IL 60115

Carol Quitno  
2675 Roberts Circle  
DeKalb, IL 60115

Dick Balstrode  
1133 North 7<sup>TH</sup> Street  
APT 801  
Rochelle, IL 61068

Pat Knudsen  
1228 Bellevue Drive  
DeKalb, IL 60115

Billy Clem  
PO BOX 4559  
Sycamore, IL 60178

Dan Sidmore  
418 Yorkshire Dr.  
DeKalb IL 60115

## **April Birthdays**

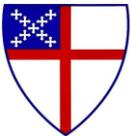
- 3 Claudia Ruth Hulseberg
- 9 Ryan Drake
- 12 Judy Dettloff
- 13 Fr. Georges Jallouf
- 14 Jeffrey Roberts
- 14 Shannan Harley
- 15 Lynne Roberts
- 15 Joan Mommer
- 16 Jean Erlenborn
- 19 Donna Hill
- 21 Richard Balstrode
- 24 Benjamin Mommer
- 27 Amanda Riego
- 27 Breana Riego
- 27 Daniel Harley
- 29 Anna Mommer

## **Wedding Anniversaries**

- 11 Philip & Lisa Montgomery
- 25 Jim & Stefanie Hill
- 25 Fr. Mark & Varsie Geisler
- 27 Fr. Georges & Maha

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

Volume 24, Issue 4— April 2021



# ***The Morning Star***



*The newsletter of Saint Peter's Episcopal Church*

*The Parish Vision 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*

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