



THE MORNING STAR

MAY 2021

SERVICE TIMES

Come and worship with us!



Beginning Sunday, May 2nd, our Sunday service times will change as follows:

Zoom worship **9:00 AM**

In person service **10:00 AM**

Please mark your calendars with the change!

APRIL WRAP UP

April was a time of joy and glory for St. Peter's as we celebrated the risen Christ on Easter Sunday. Many members of our congregation came to our in person service and celebrated together. Our Zoom worship was also very well attended. Our beautiful altar was unadorned, and we missed having the children's Easter egg hunt after the service, but it was a beautiful day, a beautiful service, and we were blessed to be together in our beautiful church.

April was also a time of sadness, as services were held for two of our long time members, Carol Wells and Mike Blakeslee. These followed the service for Janis FitzHenry, held at the end of March. Thank you to all who supported and prayed for our brother and sisters and their families during their illnesses. May they rest in peace.

BISHOP-ELECT UPDATE

Bishop-elect Rev. Canon Paula Clark is recovering from a surgery on April 15th to remove an arteriovenous malformation in her brain. The surgery at Alexian Brothers hospital in Elk Grove Village was a success, and her doctors continue to be pleased with the pace of her recovery. The consecration has been postponed until June 12th. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will attend the consecration in person and serve as the chief consecrator. The service will be available on Zoom.

Bishop-elect Paula Clark, whose recovery continues to progress, released this brief statement through her daughter, Micha Green:

“Lead with love.

“That is a favorite phrase of mine, and though my time with you is just beginning, I have learned that this is how things are done here in the Diocese of Chicago. I am grateful to all of you for your prayers, and for giving me the quiet time I need to recover. But I want you to know that when I am fully restored to health, I will be eager to meet with you as we work together to change hearts, change minds and change actions to the glory of God.

“Thank you so much for your continued prayers and God's blessings, and peace be with you always.”

WHAT'S GOING ON AT ST. PETER'S?

Although Covid 19 has kept us from our normal schedule, things are happening at St. Peter's!!

Due to wind damage last spring, new roofs were installed on our two rental properties and the rectory. The Wetzel house also has new siding as a result of the storm. Thank goodness for insurance! The roofing on Waterman Hall will be installed and work on the church roofing will be done as soon as the adjusters can come up with the final numbers and work to be done. Because of the steep roof on the church, special equipment must be brought in for the safety of the workers. A big Thank You to John Vain who has spear-headed these projects and spent numerous hours on the phone and in person with roofers and adjusters. All of our properties will be looking great once all these projects are completed.

Our internet and phone service are also being updated. The church and Waterman Hall will have new services, hopefully by the end of this week. This will not only save us money, but we will have much better service. Again, thank you John Vain for all your hard work!

There has been a lot of noise in Waterman Hall lately, as new flooring is being installed in the Sky Room. Larry Dirst and his committee of Judy Dettloff and Cindy Vain, met with contractors and selected carpet squares that are now being installed, along with new flooring for the landings. Thank you to Larry, Judy D., and Cindy for all your work. Our Sky Room will now be a wonderful place to meet.

Church Secretary to take a leave

Our church secretary, Judy LaPorta, has asked to take a leave of absence for the months of May and June. Her last day in the office for now will be Friday, April 30th. Pat Klein has graciously agreed to step in for Judy during her absence. As a long time, faithful member of St. Peter's, we are happy to have Pat in the office. Thank you, Pat!

Fr. Georges

SAINT PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

VESTRY MINUTES MARCH 18, 2021

Approved April 15, 2021

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Those present were: Phil Montgomery, Anita Biletzky, Fr. Georges Jallouf, John Vain, John Boies, Varsie Geisler, Donna Hill, Liane O'Keefe, Fr. Mark Geisler, Deacon Desire Goodale, and Judy LaPorta, clerk.

After an opening prayer, Phil Montgomery moved to approve the Agenda. Varsie Geisler seconded, and the motion carried.

Donna Hill moved to approve the minutes of the February meeting, Liane O'Keefe seconded, and the motion carried.

Sr. Warden report: Phil Montgomery discussed the "bridge" plan for going from Phase 4 in the Covid stage, to Phase 5. The wardens and Fr. Georges will discuss opening the church. A celebratory service will be held when we reopen in full. It will be a festive occasion. A discussion was held regarding what to do about the annual meeting.

Jr. Warden report: Anita Biletzky referenced the email attachment regarding the tree service for the tree in the yard of the rectory. Jane Ovitz had been paying to have the tree sprayed and will discontinue that. Anita was looking at Nature Scape to get an estimate. Davey's tree service had been taking care of that tree. Their bill included 3 items for the Linden Tree, that had blown down last year. There were also 2 treatments on the Ash tree. Davey's was discussed and it was agreed that Anita should have them come out, assess the tree in the rectory and in front of Waterman Hall, and give us an estimate. Davey's is the expert in trees, and the most knowledgeable around.

Anita also had borrowed lights from Stage Coach to address the problem of the lighting for Zoom meetings from the church. We may have to add a server and router for the church to improve services from the church. It is possible we will change from Frontier to Metronet as our

provider. They can provide a complete service including phone and internet. Phil Montgomery moved that we have an Ad Hoc committee explore the options. Liane O'Keefe seconded the motion, and the motion carried. John Vain, Anita Biletzky (or Eric Biletzky), Liane O'Keefe, and Varsie Geisler offered to be members of the committee.

Anita reported that the carpet for the Sky room would be paid with FPIF funds. She thanked Larry Dirst, Cindy Vain, and Judy Dettloff for getting the bids and ordering the carpet.

The Wetzal house driveway needs some work and it was mentioned that the rectory driveway is also in need of work. John Boies will look at both to see what is needed.

Treasurer's report: John Vain reported that we are doing well with our expenses. The fact that we do not have expenses for things like Sunday school, nursery care, etc. plays a part in that. We are positive with income v. expenses.

John noted that Line 161 – Organ system is for a computerized organ system. The McNamara's, who have been servicing our organ are looking to retire. Larry Dirst will give a presentation to the vestry on the process. This would allow us to program the music and not have the need for an organist. Deacon Dee said she had been in a church that used this system and it was wonderful.

John reported that DeKalb Mechanical will take a look at the boiler and furnace system and report on what our next step should be.

Lynne Roberts moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Varsie Geisler seconded, and the motion carried.

Outreach: Lynne Roberts reported that the Hope Haven dinner for this month was covered, and that Meals on Wheels for March had also been covered.

Caregivers: Lynne Roberts reported that the committee continues to keep in contact with our shut-ins.

Rector report: Fr. Georges reported that according to the Diocese we can have 25% capacity in the church for Holy Week services.

There is to be no singing by the congregation, but one person can sing if they are 20' from everyone.

On April 8th at 10:30, Bishop-elect Rev. Paula Clark will be on the deanery Zoom call. Some churches in the deanery have still not opened and some will open for the first time on Easter day. Fr. Georges will be visiting shut-ins. The Bible study has 2 weeks left. We are still not to have any meetings in the hall; however, the church is open for services, following the Covid 19 protocol.

Varsie Geisler moved that the meeting be adjourned, Liane O'Keefe seconded, and after a closing prayer, the meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy LaPorta
Vestry Clerk

CAREGIVERS COMMITTEE

Members continue to monitor the status and needs of St. Peter's parishioners during Covid-19, and keep very busy visiting and staying in touch with people on the "shut-in" list. The current "shut-in" list is in the Morning Star monthly. Parishioners are receiving the Covid-19 vaccine and local facilities are beginning to loosen up a bit. Please continue to help with prayers, phone calls and birthday cards for those individuals on our list, those alone at home, and residents in health care facilities. Contact with family and friends remains a top priority for our mental wellbeing.

The Caregivers Committee also grieves for the loss of three long time parishioners; Jan FitzHenry, Carol Wells and Mike Blakesley. All three have filled our hearts with love and memories and will be missed. May they all find peace in the arms of our Lord.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

HOPE HAVEN

Thank you to parishioners who contributed their time and cooking talents to help prepare and deliver a meal to Hope Haven on April 28th. Your efforts to prepare St. Peter's Savory Tator Top Casserole, as well as the rest of a complete meal, were appreciated by Hope Haven clients. We are fortunate to have parishioners to help support our monthly commitment to Hope Haven. If you want to help out with the Hope Haven meals, look for the volunteer sign-up sheet in the back of the church or give Lynne Roberts a call or email.

SYCAMORE FOOD PANTRY

The Outreach Committee has received funds to be donated to a local organization fighting hunger. A check for \$500, \$150 from parishioner donations and \$350 from the Christian Outreach budget, was sent to the Sycamore Food Pantry. We included a note requesting that the funds be used to purchase food from the Northern Illinois Food Bank to assure that our donation provided the maximum amount of food for our community.

COVID 19 PROCEDURES

The diocese has asked that we continue with the Covid 19 procedures currently in place. This includes no more than 25% of the capacity in church, wearing masks, sanitizing, and social distancing. We also should have no flowers in the church and singing is limited to one masked singer, 15-20 feet from the congregation. While many of us have been vaccinated, there are also a number who have not. If you would like to be vaccinated, you may contact the DeKalb County Health Department to sign up and reserve a time. The vaccinations are currently being given at the Convocation center.

Call 815-748-2401, or for online registration

<https://health.dekalbcounty.org>

Some pharmacies and medical offices are also offering the vaccines.



Mark your calendars!! St. Peter's will hold its 2020 Annual Meeting on June 6th at 10:00 AM at St. Mary's Parish Hall in Sycamore. This will be a meeting only; no food will be served. Water bottles may be brought, but must be taken home with you as we will not have trash receptacles available. St. Mary's has agreed to allow us use of their facility at no charge. We will be responsible for setting up and taking down chairs. St. Mary's hall is considerably larger than ours, which will enable us to achieve the necessary social distancing requirements currently in place. We will have one in person service on June 6th at 9:00 AM and proceed to St. Mary's for the meeting. We understand that this is not an ideal situation, but under the circumstances, we think this is the best solution for us and our congregation. We need a quorum to conduct this meeting, so please attend if you are able. Thank you for your understanding. Hope to see you then!

ST. PETER'S "THINKING OF YOU" LIST

May 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 7TH 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



May Birthdays

1 Jenny Sidmore
4 Kylan Hill
8 Stefanie Hill
17 Ann Engstrom
21 Josh Crittenden
23 Trisha Crittenden
25 Amanda Shea
28 John Boies

Wedding Anniversaries

17 George & Janice Abizaid
25 Richard & Jane Garvey
29 Tom & Pat Klein

PRAYER CORNER



Prayer for the Social Order

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart (and especially the hearts of the people of this land), that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*