

# THE MORNING STAR

October 2021

## WELCOME FALL!



## SERVICE TIMES

*Come and worship with us!*



**Service times changing in October**

**Zoom service at 8:30 AM**

**All Sundays In-Person at 10:15 AM**

---

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY TO BEGIN  
OCTOBER 6<sup>TH</sup>**

Father Georges will be conducting 6 weeks of adult bible study starting October 6<sup>th</sup>. The classes will be on Zoom Wednesday evenings from 7-8 PM and will be on consecutive Wednesdays till November 10. The topic of the Bible study will be The First Century of Christian History.



### WHERE ARE MY KIDS?

Bible study for children began on Sunday September 19<sup>th</sup>. The classes are being held in-person in the lower level of the Parish House at 10:00 AM.

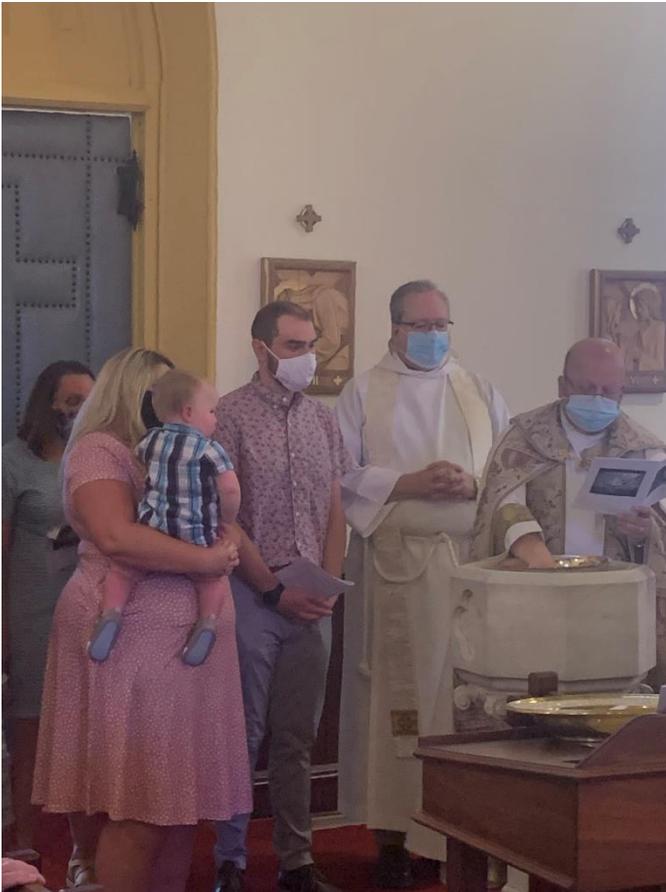
The subject for this year is “Hands-On Bible Exploration” and is being led by Erin Duffy. After Sunday School the children were brought to the Church where they were able to hear Father Georges say “Where are my kids??” for the first time in 18 months!

Welcome back, kids! It was so nice to see your smiling faces again!



## **BAPTISM OF AIDEN RYAN KULAKOWSKI**

On Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> Aiden Ryan Kulakowski, the grandson of Dan and Jenny Sidmore received the sacrament of Baptism here at St. Peter's. Aiden's parents are Jason Kulakowski and Kathryn Sidmore. Congratulations to Aiden, his parents and grandparents.



## **PUMPKIN FESTIVAL 2021**

After a one-year break from the Pumpkin Festival, it is hoped that we are on target for a renewal of this welcomed event at the end of October. For many years St. Peter's Church has offered a food booth at the Pumpkin Festival. The profits from this event have allowed the parish to purchase new lighting for the library, comfortable chairs for Waterman Hall, and floor to ceiling cabinets in the lower level of the

Parish House. These are just a few of the many purchases for the parish that enhance our life at St. Peter's and ease our work here.

Many parishioners provide time and/or monetary donations to make this a successful fundraising effort for the parish. This also provides an excellent opportunity for us to make our presence known in the community.

Please consider accepting a task this year. Volunteer sign-up sheets are in Waterman Hall. We always have a great time working together for St. Peter's! We would very much appreciate having your help.

## **CAREGIVERS COMMITTEE**

Committee members continue to monitor the status and needs of St. Peter's parishioners as we experience the roller coaster effects of the pandemic. We also keep busy visiting and staying in touch with people on the "shut-in" list. The current "shut-in" list is in the Morning Star monthly. 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.

## **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

### **HOPE HAVEN**

Thank you to those who contributed their time and cooking talents to help prepare and deliver a meal to Hope Haven on September 22. Your efforts were appreciated by Hope Haven clients. We are fortunate to have a team of parishioners who offer 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. Let's all help fulfill St. Peter's commitment to help the homeless and hungry in our community.

## DeKalb CROP Hunger Walk

OCTOBER 3, 2021



### SYCAMORE FOOD PANTRY

The Outreach Committee continues to receive funds to be donated to a local organization fighting hunger. The Outreach Committee will add funds to those donations and will send a check quarterly to the Sycamore Food Pantry, requesting that the funds be used to purchase food from the Northern Illinois Food Bank. This assures our donation provides the maximum amount of food for our community needs.

### OPERATION SHOEBOX MINISTRY

St Peter's will once again commit to the Samaritan's Purse Operation Shoebox Ministry. Samaritan's Purse partners with local churches in over 170 countries and territories to provide a shoebox filled with surprises, including clothing items, school supplies, crafts, and sports equipment for a child in a third world country. This year the ministry is concentrating on children in the Pacific Islands. Collection week is November 15<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>. Watch for the shoeboxes and directions at the back of the church or in Waterman Hall. Suggestions for shoebox items will also be provided. Shoeboxes can also be filled and sent online.

### September 11 Prayer Service

On Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup>, Father Georges held a prayer service in remembrance of the 20- year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. It was a quiet and reflective service which was very well attended.

“If we learn nothing else from this tragedy, we learn that life is short and there is no time for hate.” - - **Sandy Dahl, wife of Flight 93 pilot Jason Dahl, who died in Shanksville, Pennsylvania crash**

### HOW TO JOIN THE TEAM OR DONATE

[Crophungerwalk.org](http://Crophungerwalk.org)

Scroll down to “Search for your Walk”

Click on St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Type in St. Peter's Episcopal Church

On this page you can join the team or donate  
Donation envelopes are in the office or through  
Lynne Roberts

### Mark my Words

My favorite season of the year is Fall. I love the colors of the leaves. I am a big football fan, and I look forward to new seasons at both the college level, and in the NFL. I also enjoy watching the combines working the fields, bringing in a new harvest.

One specific and local feature of Fall that I have come to enjoy is Sycamore's Pumpkin Festival. I like to look at the pumpkins that so many have created, and the parade is one of the best I've ever experienced.

To be even more specific, I very much enjoy working the concession stand that St. Peter's operates. I also enjoy the camaraderie we share serving pumpkin squares, brats, hot dogs, and other delicious items.

I would like to encourage all of you to take some time on Sunday, October 31, to work the stand. Not only will you have fun working, but you will also have an excellent view of the parade.

I wrote this column on the first day of Fall. The leaves are turning from green to red, yellow, and orange. Soon our streets will be awash in color. In a drive to Ottawa today, I noticed that the first harvests have started.

It is my prayer that you will have both an enjoyable and blessed Fall. In the midst of all the busyness of your life, don't forget to take time to have fun.

See you on the 31<sup>st</sup>!

Faithfully,

The Reverend Mark A. Geisler

## News from Hope Haven

As many of you know, our daughter is a clinical mental health therapist at Hope Haven. She rarely shares anything about her day with us due to the nature of her work. However, today was different. Most of the residents know that her parents are part of the group that brings tater tot casserole because I send my casserole with her to work each month.

During a session this afternoon with one of her clients, she was asked, "When are your people bringing dinner again?" Suzie said, "My mom's casserole is already in the refrigerator. The rest of the food will be coming this afternoon." Her client said, "Thank goodness!" and reported that last night's fare was bland.

We don't contribute meals each month to Hope Haven to be thanked or told that it's one of the residents' favorites, but it should make us all feel good knowing that, not only are we helping to feed those in our community who cannot feed themselves but we are feeding them a meal they look forward to and really enjoy.

Way to go, St. Peter's!

Varsie Geisler

## Ladies Night Out



A lively group of ladies from St. Peter's met on Tuesday night Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> at El Jimador restaurant in DeKalb. The foof was great, (and the drinks too!) the conversation lively, and the laughs were plentiful!

A tradition at our Ladies' Nights Out is to collect free will contributions for Safe Passage. Safe Passage is our local domestic violence and sexual assault crisis center. Once we have collected \$100, a check is sent to them. After generous contributions at our last outing, we will be sending a \$100 check to them and are on our way to the next one! Thank you, Ladies, for your generosity.

Our next Ladies' Night Out will be on Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at Ellwood Steak and Fish House in DeKalb. Hope you can join us! For questions or more information about Ladies' Night Out, contact Judy LaPorta.

**Minutes from August Vestry Meeting  
St. Peter Episcopal Church  
Vestry Meeting  
August 19, 2021  
Approved September 16, 2021**

The Zoom Vestry Meeting was called to order by Varsie Geisler at 7:00 P.M.

Those present were Fr. Georges Jallouf, Stefanie Hill, Anita Biletzky, John Vain, Varsie Geisler, Larry Dirst, Larry Buttimer, Henry Burgweger, Fr. Mark Geisler, Deacon Dee Goodale-Buttimer and Donna Hill, substitute clerk.

Those absent were Lianne O'Keefe and Lynne Roberts.

Opening prayers were given by Fr. Georges.

Agenda: Varsie Geisler asked that the Sunday School discussion under "old business" be removed from this agenda. Discussion of the By-Laws was requested to be added. Stefanie Hill added that she had made a Google form questionnaire for parishioners regarding Sunday School. Larry Buttimer moved to accept these changes. Stefanie Hill seconded, and the motion carried.

Minutes: There were corrections for the July minutes. On the first page, "Brad Osborn" does not have an "e" at the end of Osborn. The same is true for his name on the second page. In the treasurer's report, two figures do not have a dollar sign in front - 15,000 and 20,000. On the second page, it was asked that the large blank space after "Outreach" and before "Old Business" be removed. Following the suggested changes, Anita moved and Larry Dirst seconded to have the Minutes approved.

It was mentioned that Dee and Larry Buttimer and Stefanie Hill did not receive the July Minutes. Varsie will forward the Minutes to them.

Junior Warden Report: Anita commented that it was a quiet month for activity. Henry Burgweger and Tom Klein completed some grounds work. Tree/shrub treatment was completed by Tom Klein. Henry removed a tree from the backyard of the Nolan rental property. A special thank you was extended to both for their work. A light at the

Nolan house was repaired. A control panel for the air circulations system on the Waterman Hall air conditioning system was replaced by DeKalb Mechanical. The system is now functioning properly.

Treasurer's Report: John Vain reported a positive year-to-date. By the end of the 2021 year, we may experience a \$15,000 - \$20,000 shortfall. John sent an email to the Vestry explaining some issues with roof replacement. On the Parish Hall and church, there have been several layers of roofing installed over previous rooves without correcting the underlying issues. Insurance has approved the proper replacement of both the Parish Hall and the church. However, there is a material shortage at the present time, so work will be delayed to a future date. The treasurer's reports were reviewed and approved by the Vestry.

Committee Reports: Larry Dirst reported that deadlines for Pumpkin Festival planning are being met.

Old Business: The gift for our newly elected Bishop has been put on hold until further notice of her ordination.

The Directory work is on hold until the beginning of the year. John Vain asked about Nursery considerations. Once plans are made, nursery babysitters will be needed. It was suggested that High School students may be interested. The budget calls for one paid attendant. All attendants in the Nursery will need to receive training under the Keeping God's People Safe training which is offered on-line.

New Business: By-Laws - Anita proposed that we reduce the number of at-large Vestry Members and wanted to know the feelings of the rest of the Vestry. Her proposal was to reduce the Vestry from 9 to 7 members. The following is the verbiage decided upon:

**ARTICLE 6  
Vestry**

Current

6.1 *Composition; Qualifications.* The Vestry consists of the Rector, two Wardens, and seven elected Vestry members. Vestry members shall be adult confirmed voting members of the Parish, 16 years of age or older.

Proposed

6.1 *Composition; Qualifications.* The Vestry consists of the Rector, two Wardens, and **not less than five and not more than 12 members.** Vestry members shall be adult confirmed voting members of the Parish, 16 years of age or older.

Anita asked if there was a way to make paying pledges an easier process for those pledging. Credit card? Other options? There was discussion. Anita brought up the future Rib Fest as an opportunity to “spread St. Peter’s presence” in the community. She suggested a banner that could be put up since the church is so close to the Rib Fest festivities. There was discussion.

Rector’s Report: Fr. Georges announced an upcoming baptism. He also mentioned that September will resume with the option of Zoom services for those wishing to not attend church in person. He informed the Vestry that on September 11<sup>th</sup>, he will be offering prayers for our country in front of the church.

At 8:35, Larry Dirst moved and Larry Buttimer seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed.

Closing prayers were given.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Hill, substitute Vestry Clerk

## **OCTOBER IS PRAYER FOR MISSIONS:**

The worldwide Christian Church has designated the month of October for remembrance and prayers for Mission and those who are called to the work in the mission field.

It is important that we take time to remember those who are working in the mission field, especially those places where they are putting the lives at risk by proclaiming the good news in countries in the middle east, Africa and Asia. With the recent events of Afghanistan this is all the more evident that prayer is

needed for those who are still in the country proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ. With the struggles of the government, the expansion of extremism, food shortages and the continued raging pandemic, those areas need prayer more than ever.

Here are 5 specific things you can pray for this month.

- 1) pray for the small group of believers in those countries. Pray that they find strength, wisdom and peace in the promise of God
- 2) pray for the displaced. A new wave of refugees is expected to come from many parts of the middle east to the rest of the world. Pray for their protection and provision as they relocate
- 3) pray for the women. Many women fear that the new rule means they will be stripped of opportunities of education and safety. Pray for protection
- 4) pray for the sick. Covid 19 continues to spike in this area of the world and hospitals are limited.
- 5) pray for those who are governing. Pray for wisdom and that their hearts will be touched by the saving grace of Christ.

The book of common prayer has a prayer that is appropriate for this prayer.

**Ever living God, whose will it is that all should come to you**

**through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him,**

**that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope**

**of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the**

**Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Just a reminder, during this month it is a special joy that in the month of October, St. Peters has the opportunity to hear from a missionary family who support those who do the work of Christ around the world. Please

remember to join us on October 10 to listen to the stories of hope and opportunity of Jack and Alysia Kinney and the work they are doing in Indiana and bringing an impact to Christ.

We look forward to introducing you to them and sharing the joy of knowing them with you.  
Mark and Sarah Mendenhall

## **All Souls Day**

We will be publishing the names of our dearly departed in the November 7 bulletin. If you would like to submit names of those for which you would like prayers to be offered you can send them to the office or there will be an insert in the bulletin starting October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please submit names by October 24.

## **October Birthdays**

- 1 Jacquelynn Drake
- 2 Joseph Brown
- 4 Nancy Castle
- 4 Ann Zimmerman
- 5 Barbara Hulseberg
- 14 Larry Dirst
- 18 Danielle Blakeslee
- 21 Henry Burgweger III
- 21 Phil Montgomery
- 23 Heather Laub
- 23 Cynthia Vain
- 23 Hannah Hill
- 26 John Hulseberg
- 27 Gerald Dettloff
- 27 John Vain II
- 28 Bob Drake
- 29 Tamara Newquist
- 30 Bill Nicklas

## **October Anniversaries**

- 3 Nicholas & Amanda Klein
- 3 Mark & Sarah Mendenhall
- 6 David & Anne Ovitz Ayres
- 6 Howard & Tamara Newquist
- 9 Al & Anneliese Masco
- 11 Dan & Jenny Sidmore
- 11 Shannon & Mitch Egler
- 16 Chris & Denielle Noe
- 23 Robert & Shirley Hamill

## ***Prayer Corner***

Lord Jesus, who went about doing good and healing all, we ask you to bless your friends who are sick. Give them the strength in body, courage in spirit and patience in pain. Let them recover their health, so that they may joyfully praise your name. Amen

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

### **July 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  
675 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

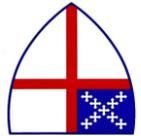
Shirley and Bob Hamill  
3466 Prairie Flower Circle  
Rockford, IL 61114

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

*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*



# *The Morning Star*



**Volume 25, Issue 9 – September 2021**

**Saint Peter's Episcopal Church  
218 Somonauk Street  
Sycamore, IL 60178  
[www.sycamorestpeters.org](http://www.sycamorestpeters.org)**