

April 2023 Morning Star

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

218 Somonauk St. Sycamore, IL 60178

815-895-2227

Website: www.sycamorestpeters.org

Facebook: Saint peter's episcopal church

Paula Clark, Bishop of Chicago to visit St. Peter's

Bishop Paula Clark will be here on Sunday, April 16th, to confirm and receive several members of St. Peter's. She will be celebrating at the 10:15 service and there will be a luncheon served by the ECW after the service.



Confirmation April 16th.

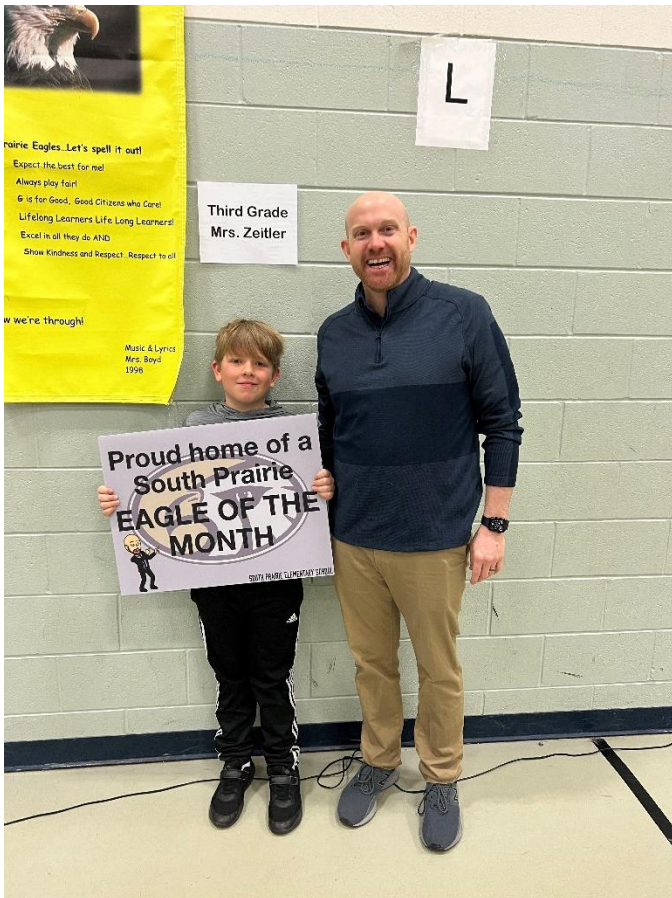
Those being confirmed on April 16th are

Caden and Evyn Carrier
Josh and Drake Crittenden
Bud, Melissa and Annamae Fredin
Brian Duffy
Henry Burgweger III

Also, Erin Duffy and Beata Boies will be received.

Oscar Does It Again!

Oscar Boies is standing with his principal, Mr. Rucker after winning the award for Eagle of the Month at school. Way to go Oscar! Keep up the good work!



Eden Annamae Spencer Baptized

The members of St. Peter's were happy to welcome the members of the Spencer family to our parish. Their daughter, Eden was baptized here on Sunday, March 12. Eden also has a sister, Vivien and her parents Laura and Seth.

Welcome to St. Peter's – we are so happy to have you with us.



LADIES NIGHT OUT



On Thursday, March 2nd, 13 ladies went to the Hillside Restaurant for one last time before the restaurant closed on March 4th. The service was very slow, as they were packed, and they were out of a couple of things, but we managed to have a great time anyway! The food was good and we had a lot of laughs. It was good to see some new people and some who hadn't been to LNO in a while.

Our good will offering for Safe Passage added enough that night to hit \$100.00 and a check for that amount was sent to Safe Passage. This \$100.00 was donated in just two nights! Thank you to those are so generous!

If you haven't been to one of our Ladies' Night Outs before, please check it out! We choose a different restaurant each month and pick a different day of the week so that those with other commitments can make one once in a while. Dinner is on your own and we have cocktails at 6 and dinner at 6:30. I ask that you sign up ahead of time (there will be a sign up sheet in Waterman Hall), or you can answer to the e-mail that is sent out. This allows me to let the restaurant how many will be coming so they're ready for us and have enough staff to serve us. We take a free will offering for Safe Passage, our local women's shelter, and send a check when we hit \$100.00.

We like to try different restaurants, so let me know if you have a favorite you'd like us to try. Let me know if you have any questions or suggestions. Hope to see you for our April night out!

Judy LaPorta

laporta.judy@gmail.com

Spring Clean Up Day

On Saturday, April 25th the ECW did some housekeeping in the kitchen and the storage closets in the lower level. Thanks to all who helped out.



APRIL 2023 MORNING STAR ARTICLES....

CAREGIVERS COMMITTEE

Committee members, along with the Clergy of St. Peter's, continue to monitor the status and needs of St. Peter's parishioners. We visit "shut ins," send greetings through email and cards, and meet every other month to keep up with our parishioners. St Patrick's Day and Easter greetings were sent to all on the list. The current extended Caregiver's List is in this newsletter and is also at the back of the church. We also realize that there are many "Circles of Friends" in the parish who care and support each other during times of need. That effort is recognized and much appreciated. 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. Visits, phone calls and written words are invaluable.

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH COMMITTEE HOPE HAVEN

Thank you to all parishioners who contributed their time and cooking talents to help prepare and deliver a meal to Hope Haven in March. Sign-up sheets for future monthly 2023 dinners for Hope Haven residents are in Waterman Hall. A monthly email will also be sent from the office if additional help is needed. Let's all continue to help fulfill St. Peter's 2023 commitment to Hope Haven and our community homeless and hungry.

SYCAMORE FOOD PANTRY

St. Peter's is no longer gathering food donations for the pantry, but monetary donations are always welcome. Quarterly donation checks are sent from the Christian Outreach Committee to the Sycamore Food Pantry, indicating our desire to have food purchased through the Food Bank to guarantee the most value for our donated funds. For Sycamore Food Pantry 2023 donations by check, please indicate "Sycamore Food Pantry" on the memo line.

EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT (ERD)

The Christian Outreach Committee donated \$1,000 to ERD for Earthquake Relief in Turkey and Syria. ERD was one of the first organizations on site delivering medical help, water and food, and search and recovery services immediately following the earthquake. Please pray for all volunteers who rushed to help the victims of this disaster.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE SHOEBOX MINISTRY

This past year our Shoeboxes went to Mozambique, a southeastern African nation along the Indian Ocean, and to Trinidad and Tobago, a multi-island country in the West Indies close to South America. Please pray for the children who received our shoebox gifts and for their families.

Each month the Morning Star announces items to be gathered for the Christmas Shoebox Ministry. Next fall the children of the Church School and interested parishioners will be invited to fill a shoebox using the collected items. During the month of April, we will be collecting combs and brushes, hair accessories and colorful bandanas. There will be a bin on the "sign-up" table for the items parishioners donate. We hope to be able to fill 20-25 shoeboxes next fall, making the cost much lower and providing an experience filled with fun and fellowship for St. Peter's parishioners.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Thank you to all parishioners who volunteered to deliver hot meals and cold sack lunches through the Meals on Wheels program during the month of March. In 2022, Voluntary Action Center provided

77,019 meals to 495 clients in DeKalb County. St. Peter's is proud to be a part of this local organization serving our community "shut-ins."

TANZANIA DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT (TDS)

The local mission of TDS is to invest in a sustainable community, provide educational improvements for the youth, especially girls, in the Rural Mara region of Tanzania. In past years St. Peter's has participated in the local Tanzania Development Support by fundraising to build a community center, a dormitory for girls, and a school. In 2018 The Willmann Scholarship Fund was launched to support education for gifted girls from low-income households. In 2023 the first group of scholars graduated and received their National Exam results. 8 of the 10 Scholars received scores needed to move on to an Advanced Level school. We should all be proud of their success!

NIU GRACE PLACE

The Chicago Diocese Campus Ministry at NIU, Grace Place, has moved to St. Paul's Episcopal Church in DeKalb. The Lutheran owned building where this campus ministry met is now being sold, and the board is conducting a search for a new campus Episcopal Priest or Lutheran Pastor. Dinner and services are held every Wednesday evening, and invitations have been extended to St. Peter's parishioners to join them for this community fellowship. Grace Place is looking for volunteers to mentor NIU students and help make them feel a part of our community. If you are interested in mentoring NIU students as they pursue their education and life in the DeKalb Sycamore area, please see Lynne Roberts for details.

Thank You to our Sunday School Volunteers

Now that our Sunday School year is drawing to a close, I want to recognize the efforts of our team who worked (and played) with the children this year.

Erin and Brian Duffy
Mark and Sarah Mendenhall
Chris and Denielle Noe
Cindy Vain
Jenny Sidmore
Stefanie Hill
Mary Glynn Boies
Barb Beasley
Anita Biletzky
Varsie Geisler
Janette Scheer

Thank you all for a job well done!

ST. PETER'S "THINKING OF YOU" LIST MARCH, 2023

George and Janice Abizaid
1129 Milan North Drive
Sycamore, IL 60178

Dick Balstrode
BICKFORD of AURORA
7 S Orchard Road
Aurora, IL 60506

Helen Beamish
414 High Street
Sycamore, IL 60178

Larry and Deacon Dee Buttmer
20913 West Snowberry Lane
Plainfield, IL 60544

Billy Clem
PO BOX 559
Sycamore, IL 60178

Cynthia Dorband
1600 North Fourteenth Street #204
DeKalb, IL 60115

John and Ann Engstrom
1349 Axel Lane
Sycamore, IL 60178

Harriet George
1008 Joshua Street
Genoa, IL 60135

Shirley Hamill
4366 Prairie Flower Circle
Rockford, IL 61114

Rick Johnson
619 DeKalb Avenue
Sycamore, IL 60178

Tom and Pat Klein
344 Manning Drive
DeKalb, IL 60115

Beth Krogman
2944 Greenwood Acres Drive
DARC Health Care Center
DeKalb, IL 60115

Barbara Morton
11715 Ellwood Greens Road
Genoa, IL 60135

Chris and Denielle Noe
1256 Ali Drive
Sycamore, IL 60178

Jane Ovitz
Goodwin House Alexandria
4800 Fillmore Avenue #316
Alexandria, VA 22312

Carol Quitno
2944 Greenwood Acres Drive
DARC Health Care Center
DeKalb, IL 60115

David Roberts
140 Wendy Street
Sycamore, IL 60178

Linda Saxer
440 Exchange Street
Sycamore, IL 60178

Dan and Jenny Sidmore
418 Yorkshire Drive
DeKalb, IL 60115

Henry Vincent
921 Knollwood Village Road
Apt 208
Caseyville, IL 62232

Tricia Rusin
1640Brickville Road
Sycamore, IL 60178

Al and Anneliese Masco
4630 Grace Street
Schiller Park, IL 60176

Tom Percy
2001 Beck Lane
Lebanon, MO 65536

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
February 16, 2023

Present: Fr. Georges, Varsie Geisler, Cindy Vain, Jenny Sidmore, Henry Burgweger, Brian Duffy, Deacon Dee (via Zoom)
Lynne Roberts, guest. Father Michael Dwyer, dean of the Rockford Deanery, visiting guest.

Father Georges called the meeting to order at 7 pm and offered an opening prayer.
The agenda was approved with the addition of one line item for comments by Father Dwyer.
The minutes of the January meeting were approved with no changes.

Fr. Mike offered several facts facing Church Vestries in today's world:

A call to serve on our vestry is a ministry of service that starts with a need.

Our church is a welcoming place for the people of God.

Church of the '50-'60s is no more.

A measure of our success is often done outside the church.

We need to meet people where they are in their lives; listen, be civil, and be respectful.

This can be an awkward dance – but we must dance together.

Fr. Georges asked Fr. Mike to speak to the concern of a married couple serving together on the vestry. Our bylaws do not address this issue.

Fr. Mike noted that while this is not prohibited, it is strongly recommended that they do not serve simultaneously and he considers that a good idea. The unanswered question: are we excluding people willing to serve if we have this rule?

Treasurer's Report: We finished January with a YTD positive of \$11,202.67. It is important to note that of the 40 pledging units we have for 2023 the following breakout is the first month's response to pledges. A total of 5 units (12.5% of the total) have fully pledged for 2023. 24 of the remaining units (60% are active) and 11 (27.5% have not responded to their pledge). A further look at our numbers shows that for January expenses exceeded the planned monthly income by \$1,204.54. So, although we stand positive for the month and YTD, we need to understand and remain vigilant in monitoring expenses. This month's income shows the dependency of early pledging and the peaks during the year when income from member's trusts inflate our income levels for the month and YTD. The key to our financial stability is plate giving, new

people in the pews. For January we were excellent versus plan. Continued growth is key to the success of the church. Historically plate turns into a pledge, but that takes time.

Senior Warden Report: Varsie gave a heartfelt remembrance of Mother Verna and asked that we dedicate ourselves to making Verna proud. A reminder to everyone to complete the mandatory online training program "Safe Church, Safe Communities". If there are questions regarding the process, answers are available through the diocese.

Junior Warden Report: Three short-term Radon test kits have been received for the rectory and the two rental properties. Two additional kits have been ordered for the church and Waterman Hall.

Reverse osmosis needs in the kitchen will be reviewed with Soft Water City.

Our janitor, Melissa Fredin offered her resignation for personal reasons. Tom Klein will continue to fill the cleaning duties while we search for a new janitor.

Frank Beasley has agreed to take chairman of Buildings and Grounds with Brian Duffy filling the role of vestry liaison.

Plans are in place to install the church "Giving Box" during March, weather permitting.

There is a need to confirm if St. Peter's is part of the Sycamore water lawsuit.

Committee Reports: Lynne Roberts spoke of the need for volunteers for our March commitment to "Meals on Wheels", and our monthly dinner contribution to Hope Haven. A donation of \$1000 was made to the relief fund for the victims of the earthquake in Syria.

Old Business: Church tuckpointing review is scheduled for March/April. AED purchase has arrived and now we will determine the location and needed training for the two units.

New Business: The annual Parochial Report was distributed for approval and needed report questions. All vestry members took part in this needed report for the diocese

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 with a motion by Jenny Sidmore and a second by Cindy Vain. Fr. Mark Geisler offered the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Anita Biletzky
Interim Clerk

April Birthdays

- 3 Claudia Hulseberg
- 4 Barbara Beasley
- 9 Ryan Drake
- 12 Judy Dettloff
- 13 Father 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 Daniel Harley
- 29 Anna Mommer

April Anniversaries

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

Service Times for April:

Holy Week

<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	7:00 PM
<i>Good Friday</i>	
<i>Stations of the Cross</i>	Noon
<i>Ecumenical Service</i>	3:00 PM
<i>United Methodist Church</i>	
<i>Solemn Collects</i>	7:00 PM
<i>Easter</i>	10:15 AM

Sunday April 16th

Bishop's Visit and Confirmation
10:15 AM

Regular Schedule resumes April 23

Sunday	8:00 am	In-Person Rite I
	8:45 am	Zoom Service
	10:00 am	Sunday School
	10:15 am	In-Person Rite II

Parish Office Hours:
9am-1pm Monday-Thursday
9-11am Friday

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church

218 Somonauk Street
Sycamore, Illinois 60178815-895-2227
www.sycamorestpeters.org

Parish Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Georges Jallouf Rector
918-859-5877/ Rector@sycamorestpeters.org
Assistant to the Rector: Fr. Mark Geisler
815-766-0694
Deacon: Desiree Goodale
Sarah Mendenhall Organist

Pat Klein Admin. Assistant

office@sycamorestpeters.org
Days in office: Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday

Jean Erlenborn Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@sycamorestpeters.org

Days in office: Monday, Tuesday

The Vestry of the Parish

Varsie Geisler, Sr. Warden	815-766-1127
Brian Duffy, Junior Warden	815-298-6182
Stefanie Hill	815-761-5052
Jenny Sidmore	815-501-0102
Cindy Vain	815-899-1124
John Vain	815-761-5169
Lynne Roberts	815-751-7846

Pat Klein, Treasurer 815-751-0722

Finance Committee

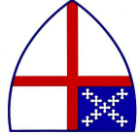
Pat Klein
John Boies
John Vain
Varsie Geisler
Barb Beasley

"...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



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