

# *May 2023 Morning Star*

## *St. Peter's Episcopal Church*

*218 Somonauk St. Sycamore, IL 60178*

*815-895-2227*

*Website: [www.sycamorestpeters.org](http://www.sycamorestpeters.org)*

*Facebook: Saint peter's episcopal church*





# Confirmation and Reception

On April 16<sup>th</sup>, the Bishop of the Chicago Diocese, Paula Clark was here to confirm 9 members of St. Peter's and to receive 3 new members.

Those confirmed were:

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

Those received were:

Erin Duffy  
Beata Boies  
Joseph Mwela









## Special Thanks and Recognition

At the end of the service, gifts were presented along with special thanks for their contributions to our Church:

Mark and Sarah Mendenhall for their offer to host and lead our Bible Study of the Chosen. They have led the study for the first 2 seasons with the promise of the 3<sup>rd</sup> season this fall. They were also recognized for their work with the music and children's Sunday School.



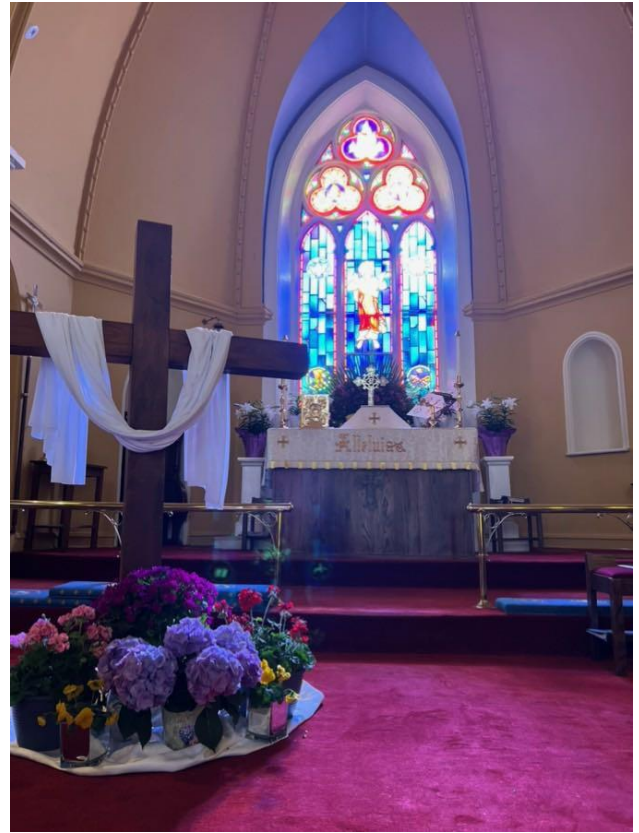
John Vain was recognized for his tireless work as treasurer for the past 5 years. He was responsible for working with the insurance companies in getting the roofs replaced on our properties including the Parish Hall and Church. John will continue to serve on the Finance Committee.



Tom Klein was recognized for his dedication and hard work at keeping both the inside and outside of our property neat and clean.







The Church looked beautiful for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Thank you to the Altar Guild for enhancing our worship and adding even more beauty to an already beautiful setting.



## John Weaver Memorial Chapel

The John O. Weaver Music Room just to the right of the sanctuary was dedicated to the memory of John Weaver who was the organist and choirmaster here for many years. After John's passing the room was converted to a music room with most of the work done by Larry Dirst.

It has now been converted again to the John Weaver Chapel. Mark and Sarah Mendenhall have made the changes to enable parishioners to use it for prayer and reflection. Please feel free to come and see it and use it whenever the Church is open.



## Thank you to ECW

After the service the congregation enjoyed a wonderful luncheon sponsored by the ECW. A special thank you to Judy LaPorta for making the arrangements for the food and to Cindy Vain for the flower decorations. Bishop Clark stopped to visit with parishioners at each table to ask questions and take the opportunity to get to know St. Peter's a little better.



# GARAGE & BAKE SALE



THINKING ABOUT HAVING A GARAGE SALE BUT NOT UP TO ALL THE WORK? SIGN UP FOR A TABLE AT ST. PETER'S GARAGE AND BAKE SALE! ON JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup> THE ECW WILL HAVE A GARAGE AND BAKE SALE IN WATERMAN HALL. ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE ECW GENERAL FUND TO ENABLE THE ECW TO KEEP THE CABINETS STOCKED, REPLACE SOME KITCHEN ITEMS AND OTHER PROJECTS.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

YOU WILL SIGN UP FOR A TABLE AND BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANNING THAT TABLE DURING THE GARAGE SALE. YOUR ITEMS SHOULD BE PRICED AND YOUR TABLE SHOULD BE FULL. WE WILL HAVE A CASHIER TO HANDLE THE MONEY.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH ITEMS YOURSELF, MAYBE YOU CAN PARTNER UP WITH SOMEONE.

THE BAKE SALE WILL BE MADE UP OF DONATED ITEMS BAKED BY YOU!

AS WE GET CLOSER TO THE SALE, WE WILL HAVE MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION. A GREAT WAY FOR YOU TO CLEAN YOUR CLOSETS AND HELP THE ECW!

### **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. 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 April. 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. A check for \$500, \$100 from parishioner donations and \$400 from Outreach, was sent as a first quarter donation for 2023. For Sycamore Food Pantry 2023 donations by check, please indicate "Sycamore Food Pantry" on the memo line.

### **SPARTAN FOOD PANTRY**

A \$350 donation of diaper wipes and 4 sizes of diapers was given to the Spartan Food Pantry

to help supply the needs of Sycamore School Families. This donation was in response to the local growing need for diapers and also as one way St. Peter's can assess what size of diapers is most needed in our community. The Spartan Food Pantry was most appreciative for the donation.

### **SAMARITAN'S PURSE SHOEBOX MINISTRY**

Each month the Morning Star announces items to be gathered for the Christmas Shoebox Ministry. Late next fall the children of the Church School and interested parishioners will be invited to fill a shoebox using the collected items. 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.

During the month of May, we will be collecting "WOW" gifts: deflated soccer balls with hand pumps, tennis balls, "Barbie" style dolls and accessories, and small stuffed animals. We also have a need for more washcloths for the boxes. There will be bins on the "sign-up" table for the items parishioners donate.

### **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  
3466 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 MINUTES  
MARCH 16, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Sr. Warden, Varsie Geisler. An opening prayer was offered. Those present were: John Vain, Cindy Vain, Jenny Sidmore, Varsie Geisler, Lynne Roberts, Stefanie Hill, Fr. Mark Geisler and Pat Klein, Treasurer. Deacon Dee and Larry Buttmer joined via Zoom.

Absent were Fr. Georges Jallouf, and Jr. Warden, Brian Duffy.

Guests present: Nancy Franke, Bud Fredin and Anna Mae Fredin.

Additions to the agenda were: Parochial Report, Safe Church, Safe Communities, Phone tree, and Library box. Stefanie Hill moved to approve the agenda with additions, the motion was seconded by Jenny Sidmore and the motion carried.

Jenny Sidmore moved that the minutes from the February meeting be approved, Cindy Vain seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurer Pat Klein reported that the reconciliation of the account was off by \$460.00. She and John Vain had been working to resolve this, but as yet, the account is still not balanced. The vestry was unable to approve the report without the account being in balance.

Senior Warden report:

Varsie Geisler reported that at our annual meeting a lot of things got aired and we now have a clear picture of how we need to work together to move St. Peter's forward with less contention.

The luncheon for the Bishop's visit and confirmations and reception were discussed. The hospitality account has \$1,733.14 in it. Fr. Georges had requested that we not have just sandwiches for the luncheon. Judy LaPorta had done research on catering for the event, which would have about 100 people and the least expensive hot meal would be Hy-Vee at a cost of approximately \$1,600.00. Deacon Dee offered to bring the cakes and she and Larry will pay for trays from Hy-Vee. Dee and Larry were thanked for their generous offer. Judy LaPorta will get together a committee to order the food and set up and clean up for the reception.

Bishop Clark would like to meet with the vestry via Zoom on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. The vestry members can join from home for this one hour meeting. The regular vestry meeting will be on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in Waterman Hall.

The Vestry retreat will be Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> in Waterman Hall. The time is to be determined. Rodney Fair will lead the discussion of the book "Beyond Business as Usual". The vestry members were given the book and asked to have it read before the retreat. This is the program that Mother Verna was going to lead and Rodney will now take her place. Rodney has worked as an admin to the bishop and is currently working for a law firm in Chicago as Director of IT.

Varsie asked that the vestry members bring ideas on how to grow the church to the May 18<sup>th</sup> vestry meeting. John Vain reported that there had been a Growth committee that had some good ideas but the ideas were never executed. It was suggested that the new group be called Growth and Retention and new members should be added to the group to give us insight into what made them choose St. Peter's for their church home.

Varsie brought up the fact that chairs and furniture from the nursery had been recently stored in the furnace room, causing a fire hazard. This was a vestry concern and a discussion was held regarding who should be in charge of the rooms in the lower level. Varsie moved that the basement rooms and storage in Waterman Hall be under the auspices of the vestry who will work with Buildings & Grounds to determine where things will be housed. Stefanie Hill seconded and the motion carried.

Buildings & Grounds:

Pat Klein reported on the mold in the rooms in the basement of Waterman Hall. A mold test had been done and pictures of the issues were given to the vestry members. After talking with DeKalb Mechanical, Pat was advised that we needed to put 4 additional dehumidifiers in the basement rooms in addition to the one we currently have running. This will prevent future mold. Pat asked for the vestry to approve the purchase of 4 dehumidifiers at \$209.00 each. The vestry unanimously agreed that this needed to be done. Once these are in place, the mold can be removed. If the mold continues to be an issue, a new ventilation system would be needed at a cost of \$20,000.00.

Bud Fredin reported that the undercroft had a lot of items stored there and that the door needs to be tightened up and weather proofed. The windows need to be sealed and caulked as well,

Deacon Dee spoke to the vestry about how we can invite the community into our church. She offered to lead a de-stress class, or a grief class. She also mentioned that Fr. Georges has lived in the middle east and that could be an interesting class. A class in wills



and trusts could also be offered. It was suggested that we also ask the congregation what types of classes they would like to see us offer to the community.

The option of adding reverse osmosis to Waterman Hall was discussed. Fr. Georges has had it installed in the rectory (and paid for it) and the water is now clear and odor free. He is currently bringing water over to the hall to make coffee, as the water has an odor and bad taste. If installed, we might be able to eliminate the water cooler and the delivery of water to Waterman Hall. This would help to offset the cost. Varsie Geisler moved that we install reverse osmosis in the kitchen and no longer have Salt Water City bring water for the dispenser. Stefanie Hill seconded and the motion carried.

Outreach Committee: Lynne Roberts reported that she had spoken with Kris Borre about Grace Place. Fr. Mac, a Lutheran priest, is currently in charge but is leaving. They are going through the search process to find a replacement. Because the building is being sold, the dinner and services for the students have been moved to St. Paul's. At this time, they are looking for mentors for the students who come to their Wednesday night dinner and service.

Tuckpointing the church: John Vain reported that two contractors will be coming out in April to view the church and give an estimate on the cost.

John also reported that the AED –defibrillators, are here. One is for the church and one for Waterman Hall. CPR training must be done at a cost of \$40.00 per person. Stefanie Hill is looking into getting a nurse to conduct these classes.

Radon testing has been done and the samples have been sent.

Hope Haven- Varsie Geisler reported that Hope Haven has asked if we will be doing our Easter Egg hunt again this year. We will fill the eggs on April 2<sup>nd</sup> during coffee hour and the hunt will be April 8<sup>th</sup>. The eggs will be hidden at noon and the hunt will begin at 1:00. There will be a bucket in Waterman Hall for candy donations to fill the eggs. The candy must be wrapped and small enough to fit in an egg.

Little library – Jenny Sidmore reported that the little library behind Waterman Hall needs new plexiglass installed. The books are getting wet. The library was started by a girl scout troop that met in Waterman Hall

several years ago. At that time, they were maintaining it. Since they no longer meet here, the box has not been regularly maintained. There is also a library box in front of Princess Alex's ice cream shop that was also put up by girl scouts and is also missing plexiglass. Lynne Roberts moved that we purchase the plexiglass for both library boxes and we ask for someone from the congregation to regularly maintain the box. Because it is on our property, we need to be sure there is no offensive material or anything that is against our beliefs. Bud Fredin offered to install the plexiglass. Varsie seconded and the motion carried.

Parochial Report: The members received copies of the report to review.

Safe church, Safe community training: A list of people who are required to complete the training was passed out. The office is able to check online to see who has completed the training. Background checks are required for anyone working with the children and credit checks for anyone dealing with the church accounts.

Stefanie Hill moved that the meeting be adjourned, Jenny Sidmore seconded and after a closing prayer, the meeting adjourned at 10:22PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy LaPorta  
Acting clerk

### ***May Birthdays***

3	Jenny Sidmore
4	Kylan Hill
8	Stefanie Hill
17	Ann Engstrom
20	Kathryn Egler
21	Josh Crittenden
21	Louie Boies
23	Trisha Crittenden
26	Amanda Shea
27	Chris Noe
28	John Boies
29	James Waterman

### ***May Anniversaries***

7	Jack & Susan Frost
17	George & Janice Abizaid
29	Tom & Pat Klein

## **Service Times for May:**

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

**Last day of Sunday School for this term  
will be May 7<sup>th</sup>. See you all again in the  
Fall!**

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

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## **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
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## **Finance Committee**

Pat Klein  
John Boies  
John Vain  
Varsie Geisler  
Barb Beasley



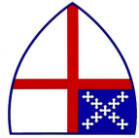
# 16 THINGS I WOULD WANT IF I GOT DEMENTIA

Written by **Rachael Wonderlin**  
[www.rachaelwonderlin.com](http://www.rachaelwonderlin.com)

- 1.** If I get dementia, I want my friends and family to embrace my reality. If I think my spouse is still alive, or if I think we're visiting my parents for dinner, let me believe those things. I'll be much happier for it.
- 2.** If I get dementia, I don't want to be treated like a child. Talk to me like the adult that I am.
- 3.** If I get dementia, I still want to enjoy the things that I've always enjoyed. **HELP ME** find a way to exercise, read, and visit with friends.
- 4.** If I get dementia, ask me to tell you a story from my past.
- 5.** If I get dementia, and I become agitated, take the time to figure out what is bothering me.
- 6.** If I get dementia, treat me the way that you would want to be treated.
- 7.** If I get dementia, make sure that there are plenty of snacks for me in the house.
- 8.** If I get dementia, don't talk about me as if I'm not in the room.
- 9.** If I get dementia, don't feel guilty if you cannot care for me 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It's not your fault, and you've done your best. Find someone who can help you, or choose a great new place for me to live.
- 10.** If I get dementia, and I live in a dementia-care community, please visit me often.
- 11.** If I get dementia, don't act frustrated if I mix up names, events, or places. Take a deep breath. It's not my fault.
- 12.** If I get dementia, make sure I always have my favorite music playing within earshot.
- 13.** If I get dementia, and I like to pick up items and carry them around, help me return those items to their original places.
- 14.** If I get dementia, don't exclude me from parties and family gatherings.
- 15.** If I get dementia, know that I still like receiving hugs or handshakes.
- 16.** If I get dementia, remember that I am still the person you know and love.

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**Volume 28, Issue 5 – May 2023**



# ***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*