



The Morning Star

January 2019

HAPPY NEW YEAR ST. PETER'S!!

Hope you all had a very Merry Christmas!

Once again St. Peter's brought the season in with a wonderful St. Nicholas celebration!

The decorations were beautiful, the food delicious, and the kids had a ball!

The ham balls could have won an award and the desert table looked like something from a fancy restaurant!

A big Thank You to all those who decorated, baked, set tables, and cleaned up.

Our kids must have been good this year because St. Nick stopped in with Treats for all!





2019 Annual Meeting Date set for January 27th.

The meeting will follow the one service at 9:00 am service. The vestry will be hosting coffee hour.

Candidates for Vestry

Lynne Roberts



I am a born and raised Methodist and a converted Episcopalian for over 35 years. My educational background and work experiences lie in the areas of elementary and special education. During my time at St. Peter's Episcopal Church I have raised three sons in the arms of this loving church family, served on Vestry three times, taught in the Church School, been an effective leader in the Church School and in children's educational ministry, chaired the Outreach Committee, served on the Caregivers and Finance Committees, and participated in the 8:00 am Service as a Lector. My varied experiences in St. Peter's church life and service will help guide me in decisions shaping St. Peter's for the future.

I have chosen to run for Vestry at this time to support Father Georges, help strengthen St. Peter's within our church family and to help it grow in membership. If elected I promise to work diligently in the best interest of God's Holy plan for His church, be a faithful and contributing member of St. Peter's, and most importantly, be a good listener for the parishioners of St. Peter's. It would be an honor to serve the Parish of St. Peter's once again as a member of the Vestry.

John Vain



My wife Cindy and our two sons John II and Jason moved to Sycamore in 1994. Cindy and I joined the Episcopal Church in 1982 having previously been long term members of the Catholic Church. Our move to Illinois was related to my job transfer with Del Monte. In August 2013 I retired from Del Monte Foods after 37 1/2 years. I was employed by Del Monte as Corporate Director for Human Resources.

Since moving to Sycamore we have made St. Peter's our church home. We openly participate in many of the church functions and committees. I have previously served on the St Peter's Vestry and was appointed Treasurer in 2018. Additionally I have been an active member of the Men's Fellowship, Finance Committee and am a Trustee on several Church Trust Funds.

I would welcome the opportunity to be elected to the Vestry and make positive contributions to the Vestry while representing our church members. I believe a Vestry members primary responsibilities are to represent our church members and ensure the financial stability and member retention and growth. The future of our church requires a new emphasis on growth and improving the vitality of our congregation. These are both key interests of mine and I feel the Vestry needs to be fully engaged in ensuring success in both areas.

Anita Biletzky
Junior Warden Candidate



I first joined St Peter's Church in 1979. This was the place where I wanted my children to receive their religious education. I have always felt that a knowledge and awareness of God was an important part of a child's life. I soon found that I enjoyed what St. Peter's had to offer and over the years I have served as Youth Leader, Acolyte trainer and Vestry member. It is important to me that we continue to focus diligently on our church future. There are people in our community and the surrounding communities in need of a church home. My efforts as a Vestry member will be to get the word out that St. Peter's is here, and that ours is a place where all are welcome. I would be faithful to that important mission.



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CHRISTMAS GREENING OF THE CHURCH

Thank you all for your donations and dedications for our Christmas greens:

DEDICATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS GREENS

Pat & Henry Burgweger	In memory of Mary & Ray Listy and Francis & Teddy Burgweger
Gary & Mary Beth Busch	In memory of our parents
John & Nancy Castle	In memory of the Castle & Ford Families
Judy & Gerry Dettloff	Merry Christmas, and in thanksgiving for our family and friends
Jacquie & Bob Drake	In memory of Fr. Abel & Quig, Father Gros, Aunt Lois & Uncle Dan and in thanksgiving for our grandchildren, Tyler, Allie, Drake and Neve
Jean E Erlenborn	In memory of the Erlenborn, Varty, Morris, Hass, and Uhrine families
Shirley Hamill	In memory of Joseph & Margaret Lee
Donna Hill, Janet Long & families	In memory of Jeannette B. Lee & Charles W. Lee
Jim & Stefanie Hill & family	In memory of Curt & Margy Hill
Judy LaPorta	In memory of Joseph F., Joseph C., and Phyllis LaPorta
Phil & Lisa Montgomery	In memory of Kevin Hudson, Sarah Totman and Susan Morgan
Barbara Morton	In memory of my mother and father
David, Steve, Kristen and Jeff Roberts	In memory of Thomas & Eleanor Roberts and Charles & Mary Roberts.
Barbara Weaver	In memory of John O Weaver

The wreaths on the church doors are given in loving memory of Barbara Griffith by her family.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes 11/15/2018
Approved 12/20/18

Those present were: Fr. Georges Jallouf, Barbara Weaver, Judy Dettloff, Anita Biletzky, Phil Montgomery, John Boies, Donna Hill, Henry Vincent, Bronwyn Bergweger, John Vain, Treasurer and Judy LaPorta, Vestry Clerk

Guests: Cindy Vain, Lynne Roberts, Nancy Franke

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Phil Montgomery

Judy Dettloff asked for a correction in the minutes from the October meeting to read that Judy Dettloff recommended that new red signs be put up giving our new hours asap.

Phil Montgomery moved to approve the minutes as corrected, John Boies seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurer's report: John Vain reported updates done on our server. The Heartland bank account was closed on Oct. 31st and the balance was deposited into the checking account at First Midwest Bank. All of our accounts are very positive.

Judy Dettloff asked John Vain if he was our IT person, as it appears he has been involved in updates to our system, etc. John explained that we use Armor Tech for the web server and e-mail, but he has been our liaison.

John Boies moved to approve the Treasurer's report, Barb Weaver seconded, and the motion carried.

Jr. Warden Report: Anita Biletzky reported that the Wetzel house had a broken handle on the screen door. The siding project for the rectory was going well. A letter for our tenants advising them of rent increases will be sent 12/1. Effective dates for the increases are March 1, 2019. The Nolan house rent will increase by \$25 and the Wetzel house by \$50.

Some rectory issues are on hold for now: the rain water pooling on the front porch will require an extensive repair and the refinishing of hardwood floors in the downstairs of the rectory.

Rector report: Fr. Georges thanked the vestry for all the work they have done.

If no one runs for Jr. Warden, one will be appointed. Fr. Georges stated that the Senior Warden is the second in charge and all need to collaborate with him. If he needs help, you need to be there for him.

Fr. Georges also stated that it is not the job of our Treasurer, John Vain, to deal with the internet.

In February there will be a vestry retreat and all positions of the vestry will be explained.

Fr. Georges showed the vestry two possible new altars, one with an open front and the other closed. All agreed that the closed altar would be best. Fr. Georges asked that the new altar be dedicated to the Waterman family.

Old business: Two trees have been planted, one in front of each of the rental houses.

The audit will be reviewed on Monday night.

Judy Dettloff reported that according to Larry Dirst, conversations with our new organist are going swimmingly. She will split the time with Larry. She is very reasonably priced which will help our budget.

Judy Dettloff moved that the meeting be adjourned, Henry Vincent seconded and the motion carried.

After a closing prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Judy LaPorta
Vestry Clerk

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH COMMITTEE

RED BOWL OFFERING

There was no Red Bowl Offering for the month of December.

Our Companion Diocese of Southeast Mexico will be the designated January Red Bowl Offering. This companion relationship was formed in 2001, and supports Bishop Benito Juarez Martinez, clergy and lay visits, communication efforts and fundraising for special projects. Bishop Benito has started a self-supporting cattle raising project in the Oaxaca State and has initiated a water ministry across the Dioceses Profits from these ministries and funds sent by companion dioceses sustain church ministries. Through the efforts of congregations like St. Peters Episcopal Church, social service agencies, diocesan ministries and individual contributors, the Diocese of Chicago hopes to help heal this hurting area of SE Mexico. Please consider helping our Companion Diocese of SE Mexico by contributing to this global effort.

HOPE HAVEN DINNERS

St. Peter's continues to provide a meal for the community homeless at Hope Haven on the 4th Wednesday of each month. Needed volunteers include a chair for each month and persons to prepare or purchase food. Sign-up sheets for 2019 will soon be located in Waterman Hall. Please help the Outreach Committee provide one meal each month to our area homeless at Hope Haven.

SYCAMORE FOOD PANTRY

Please keep the Food Pantry in mind as you complete your weekly shopping. Copies of the "Top Ten List" for pantry needs can still be found at the back of the church and in Waterman Hall. We need to help fill the pantry shelves to prepare for the holiday season.

GRACE PLACE CAMPUS MINISTRY

NIU is facing a hunger crisis on campus. St. Peter's will be collecting food and snack supplies for Grace Place Campus Ministry in January, and

hopes to have a full pantry when the students return to the NIU campus January 14. A list of needed food supplies will be in the bulletin. Please consider helping these students fight hunger as they prepare for future careers.

SALVATION ARMY "ANGEL TREE"

The Outreach Committee sponsored the Angel Tree again this year. Donated new toys and clothing were provided to local needy children from birth through 18 years of age. Each child received two toys and an outfit of clothing this year. Toys brought to the St. Nicholas Feast were also donated to the Angel Tree Program. Last year over 1500 local children were served, and the County hopes to increase that number this year. Thank you to the participating parishioners who supported 15 area children this year.

SPECIAL END-OF-THE YEAR DONATIONS

Thanks to our new investment police for the Waterman Trust Fund, Christian Outreach was able to disperse funds to two local agencies fighting hunger in our community who are fighting hunger locally.

VAC Meals on Wheels will receive a check for \$1500, and Grace Place Campus Ministry will receive a check for \$1000. We are thankful for this special opportunity to address hunger locally.

The next meeting of the Christian Outreach Committee will be held on

Wednesday, January 9, 12 Noon in Waterman Hall.
Please feel free to join us!

USHERS NEEDED!!

If you attend the 10:15 service, I'm sure you have noticed that we have the same people ushering almost every Sunday. We need to add some depth to our usher pool! If you have an interest, even a little one, please speak up! Don't worry if you don't have a partner, we'll find you one. (to usher with, that is!)

Stop in or call the office for more details. Thanks for considering!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Aubrey Hulseberg
- 3 Natalie Egler
- 3 Laura Hulseberg
- 5 Robert E. Hamill
- 8 Allison Agha
- 9 Wright B. George
- 12 Joshua Boies
- 13 Henry Vincent Jr.
- 14 Anita Biletzky
- 18 Carla Riego
- 20 Patricia Burgweger
- 21 Liane O'Keefe
- 23 Eryn Carrier
- 27 Debra Sipp
- 27 Lamont Mommer
- 31 Varsie Geisler



Prayer Corner

For Joy in God's Creation

O heavenly Father, who hast filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works; that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, we may learn to serve thee with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

For Peace Among the Nations

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen

LADIES' NIGHT OUT

With the holidays over and the weather unpredictable, we will be staying close to home for the next few Ladies' Night Outs. Our first LNO of the New Year will be on Wednesday, January 23rd at Taxco in Sycamore. As usual, cocktails at 6, dinner at 6:30, separate checks. Come join us for a night of good food, good company and lots of laughs! There will be a sign up sheet in Waterman Hall after the first of the year.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED-Publicity

Do you like to take pictures? Would you have some time to keep our bulletin boards up to date? Are you comfortable sending Press releases to the newspaper? (help available) If you answered YES to these questions, please stop in the office and we can discuss in more detail. Thank you for your consideration.

2019 CALENDARS ARE HERE

Be sure to pick yours up in the back of the church or in Waterman Hall.

Parish Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Georges Jallouf Rector
918-859-5877/ Rector@sycamorestpeters.org
Larry Dirst Organist

Judy LaPorta Admin. Assistant
office@sycamorestpeters.org
Days in office: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Jean Erlenborn Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@sycamorestpeters.org
Days in office: Monday, Wednesday

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

The Morning Star

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church

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Newsletter Staff

Judy LaPorta Editor
Jane Ovitz, Barbara Weaver, Carol Quitno,
Pat Burgweger, Helen Beamish, Nancy Franke
Pat Knudsen Circulation

Deadline for submission of articles

5:00 PM on the 20th of each month. Email your articles to office@sycamorestpeters.org or place them in the Parish Office mailbox in Waterman Hall by the 15th of the month. All articles are subject to editing for length and clarity.

You may receive the Morning Star by email by sending a message to office@sycamorestpeters.org.

The Vestry of the Parish

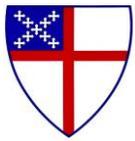
Phil Montgomery, Sr. Warden	847-702-7445
Anita Biletzky, Junior Warden	815-793-5500
Bronwyn Burgweger	815-761-9866
Judy Dettloff	815-895-4225
Henry Vincent	630-465-1951
John Boies	815-353-9703
Donna Hill	815-739-1493
Barbara Weaver	815-895-4324
John Vain, Treasurer	815-899-1124
Judy LaPorta, Vestry Clerk	815-970-2015

The Parish Vision Statement

Red doors open for growth and renewal, where we find ourselves and others transformed.

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

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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