

Beloved of God,

Green is your color.

At least, it's going to be the "color" in church for a long time now. The "green season" – when our frontals, my stole, and other church adornments are green, is upon us. It's green from the Sunday after Trinity (white) all the way until the end of the church year on Christ the King Sunday (white) in late November. (We do take another "white" break to celebrate All Saints' Day).

The official name for this church season is "Ordinary time." It's where we spend half of our lives as Christians in the Episcopal tradition. So, it seemed fitting to take a moment this month to reflect on the "ordinary" Christian life.

Technically, "green time" begins in January. Once we pass through the purple and white seasons of preparation (Advent) and celebration (Christmas), there is a period of several weeks after Epiphany where we are in ordinary time and begin to hear the stories of the start of Jesus' earthly ministry and teaching. After the long interruption of Lent and Easter, Ordinary time resumes. And we find ourselves with Jesus in the everyday, the "ordinary" moments of his travels, of his teaching and of his miracles.

A lot of "ordinary" things happen in our lives in "green time" as well. In January, we recover from the holidays and return to work and school. In June, we work in our gardens, enjoy our kids on school break, and travel. In the "green time" of fall, we return to school and regular routines.

Regular. Ordinary. It's where life happens. We punch the clock, change diapers, mow the lawn or rake the leaves, empty the dishwasher, get the oil changed, tie our shoes.

It's the same with our Ordinary life with Christ. We say our prayers over dinner or at bedtime. We go to church on Sundays. We serve in the ways we're called – feeding the hungry, arranging flowers for the altar, praying for the sick on our prayer list, learning a new anthem.

Here's the secret to "green time": like the green things exploding in late spring splendor all around us, this is the time when growth really happens. As a parent, I sometimes find myself looking at my kids and realizing with a jolt that they are no longer as small as they were.

It's the same with us. In the blessed pattern of an ordinary Christian life, our growth really happens. I love the big holy days and special seasons of our church, but I also love the quiet beauty that grows and thrives in this season.

So, do not neglect to savor the quiet, everyday majesty of our ordinary life with Jesus. Savor him by dusting off your Bible and reading a chapter once a day. Savor him by saying the Lord's Prayer before you go to bed. Savor him by trying one new thing at church this "green" season that you've never tried before now.

Savor this quiet, holy time intermingled with toast and taxes. Because you may not notice the growth of the life of God within you, but it will happen. And on the Harvest Day, when the Lord of the harvest comes, we will be able to glorify him for giving the growth.

Grace and peace in Christ Jesus,

Mtr. Christina+

Vestry Meeting

The June Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 11th at 5:15pm..

Two Spring Family Disciple Events in June:

Spring Family Disciple concludes for 2024 with two exciting events – Strawberry picking and an all-parish Treasure Hunt and Pizza Party. It's not too late to participate, and these are great opportunities to welcome family members and friends who don't normally attend St. Peter's.

- **1. Berry Picking: Saturday, June 15 at 10 am.** Farm location to be announced, depending on weather/u-pick availability between now and then. If you'd like to join this "Play" outing, let Mtr. Christina know in person or at priest@stpeterschurchalbany.org and she'll message you the pick location.
- 2. Treasure Hunt and Pizza Party: Sunday, June 23 at 12 noon. We'll begin with pizza and fellowship at noon, then join an all-age hunt in the church for treasures and surprises. At the end of the hunt, we'll conclude with a sweet treat before heading home. Sign up by Friday, June 21 at priest@stpeterschurchalbany.org so that we have a head count for the pizza.

Summer Wednesdays in the Garden: Our normally scheduled Wednesday worship will move outside for the summer months into the garden between the Church and Guild House. The gates will be unlocked during lunch hours for anyone to bring a bag lunch and or just enjoy some quiet. A short service of Noonday Prayer will be said outside in the Garden on Wednesdays at 12 noon for anyone who would like to participate. Summer Wednesdays begin on June 12 and will last until the final Wednesday in August. The final indoor Holy Communion service for this spring will be celebrated in St. Mark's Chapel on June 5.

Learn to Pray – St. Peter's Prayer School: The final session of this adult education course will meet this month on the second Wednesday, June 12 at 12:30 in the Pumpelly Room. A second session of the class will meet on Sunday, June 9, after the 10:30am service. Please join us for this month's class, "Riches of the Prayer Book".



Awards Sunday and Ice Cream Social

This year's Awards and Ice Cream Social will take place on Sunday, June 16th. The Awards will be presented during the 10:30am service and the Ice Cream Social will be held immediately following the service. Please join us in honoring the work of many who serve our church.

St. Francis Mission

St. Francis Mission Soup Kitchen Saturday, June 8th and 15th ~ 11:00am to 1:00pm

On the 2nd & 3rd Saturdays of every month, Laura Saffares, the Director of Christian Education and Chairperson of Outreach, along with other volunteers, all get together to help serve the families of our community in the South End of Albany. You are welcome to come and witness this amazing outreach program anytime you can, we are there from 9am -1pm. Thank you to all that come to volunteer. For information or to let Laura know you are coming please call Laura at: (518) 368-4284.

A big thank you to all that come to help and those who donate to Loaves and Fishes. We are feeding over 400 people a week! We had a young lady in the picture do a Diaper and personal hygiene drive for the people of our community!



St. Peter's Music



* There will be no choir rehearsals this month.

<u>Summer Choir</u>: Members of the parish are invited to come join the singing of the summer choir on any Sunday that is convenient for you beginning Sunday, June 23rd through Sunday, September 1st. There is a brief rehearsal at 9:45AM on Sundays to prepare music for the 10:30AM service. No experience is necessary, no weekday rehearsals, and no audition, but the ability to follow musical notation is helpful. It's rewarding, fun, and an opportunity for the whole family to sing together. Contact Daniel Romero for more information at <u>ddorganman@gmail.com</u>.

Organ Concerts at St. Peter's

For the first two Sundays in June, we will have two organ concerts at 3:00pm.

June 2

Michael DiLeo will preform works by Bach, Buxtehude, Barber, and Widor. Michael is a recent graduate of Manhattanville University in Purchase, where he studied organ with Daniel Romero. He is also Director of Music at Grace Episcopal Church in White Plains.

June 9

Dr. Adam Cobb will play a diverse program of music. Dr. Cobb is currently the Assistant University Organist at the University of the South, Sewanee, TN (one of the universities affiliated with the Episcopal Church,) and this summer will begin as Assistant Organist and Choirmaster at Christ Church, in Raleigh, NC.



St. Peter's Choir School

St. Peter's Choir School has been training and imparting a love of music to children for many decades. Based in the centuries old tradition of English choral music, St. Peter's is affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music, which teaches a graded music program where students advance through different levels of learning and musicianship.



St. Peter's

Summer Music Adventure for Kids

July 8-12 - 9:00 am. – 1:00 pm. Sunday, July 14 - 9:00 am. – 12:00 Noon

All children throughout the Capitol Region who are age 8 or higher are invited to participate in the Summer Music Adventure regardless of religious affiliation.

This great event for kids ages 8 and older will take place Monday through Friday from 9:00 am. to 1:00 pm. This event will include singing in a choir, playing handbells and chimes, playing games, learning about music and instruments, and lots of fun. Please mark your calendars and invite kids you know to participate. Registration is \$75 per child, and full scholarships are available. Registration form is on the next page. Please contact Daniel Romero for more information.

Registration fee: \$75 Scholarships Available Lunch Included

For more information please visit: www.stpeterschurchalbany.org choir@stpeterschurchalbany.org

Please plan on attending the kids' performance on Sunday, July 14, at the 10:30 a.m. church service.

The participants of St. Peter's Summer Music Adventure will perform some of the music that they will learn during the week. This includes music for children's choir and music for handbells and chimes. Come to support the work of our children and youth.

Fill out the form below and send it to:

St. Peter's Episcopal Church 107 State Street Albany, NY, 12207

choir@stpeterschurchalbany.org

Registration Form (due by July 1, 2024)		
Child's Name:	Age:	
Second Child's Name:	Age:	
Prior Musical Experience (none necessary):		
My child is able to participate with the following physical restrictions (our buil activities outside):		
My child has the following allergies and dietary restrictions:		
My child has the following medications:		
During the Music Adventure, I may be reached at: Phone#		
MEDICAL TREATMENT: I give permission to the St. Peter's Summer Music A ister medical aid, including that of a licensed medical doctor, as might be required of an emergency.		
VISUAL AND AUDIO MEDIA: I give my permission for photographs and/or St. Peter's Choir School and its various programs for promotional purposes (br presentations, and the like.) I understand that only my child's first name may	ochures, websites, promotional videos,	
Date:Signature of Family Adult/Guardian		

From the Archives

ENTRANCE TO ST. PETER'S CHURCH

Before entering the church there are plaques on the outside walls. These include one for early church construction and one for former Rector Eggenshiller, one for former Rector Laman Bruner, and one for Edgar Luby who was active in the church and for whom the church tower is dedicated.

To enter the church we climb the stairs to the Vestibule. Underneath these stairs is the burial place of George Augustus Viscount Lord Howe, a British Brigadier General who was killed July 6, 1758 on a march to Fort Ticonderoga. At the entrance to the Vestibule are two possibly Tiffany stained glass windows above the front doors. The first window depicts an ornate bishops miter with accompanying ribbons. The second depicts decorative ribbons.

In the Vestibule are two plaques dedicated to Lord Howe. One is on the right wall facing into the church. It was placed on the wall to prevent deterioration when parishioners stepped on it. There is also a triangular plaque dedicated to Lord Howe on the floor of the Vestibule. Wall plaques on the Vestibule walls also include the 1980 plaque from the United States Department of the Interior, naming St. Peter's Church as a National Historic Landmark. On a front wall is a plaque in honor of George Monro, a Colonel Commander of the 35th Regiment of Foot, dated from 1700 to the 3rd of November 1757. It was dedicated by the Munro Clan Reserve Unit.

Above the entrance to the Narthex is a seal of Queen Ann Royal Arms done in color in bas relief. It was donated in memory of Albert Edward Oliver, Esq. a vestryman from 1944-1956. Inscribed in the seal are the words *Semper Eadem*, a motto of Queen Elizabeth I which means: "Always The Same". Also, in the Vestibule there is a plaque of dedication of the adjacent Narthex. It reads: "This Narthex is dedicated to the Glory of God and in Memory of Evelyn and Clarence Neuman".

It was not until 1875 that tower funds were made available. They were bequeathed from John Tweddle and his family. The tower was designed by Richard M. Upjohn and constructed by Messrs. Ellin and Co. of New York. It is impressive. It first rises 75 feet to a series of Recessed Arches. Above is the Belfry, which is 30 feet in height. There are a total of 12 bells, 11 of which are from the Meneely Bell Company of Troy, New York. The other bell was from an earlier version of the church.

Above the Belfry is a Parapet with exposed angles containing massive gargoyles with scary faces. Above this is the Roof which continues an additional 60 feet, to be surmounted by a stone Spire, which ends in a Finial which bears in gilded iron, the beautiful Double Cross of Holland.

Our Church Entrance is truly beautifully constructed.



June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	We
2 Second Sunday after Pentecost	3	4	5
8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Holy Communion 3:00pm - Organ Concert			12:05pm - He
9 Third Sunday after	10	11 Saint Barnabas	12
Pentecost 8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Morning Prayer 12:00pm - St. Peter's Prayer School "Riches of the Prayer Book" 3:00pm - Organ Concert		5:15pm - Vestry Meeting	12:00pm - No the Garden 12:30pm - St School in the "Riches of th
16 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Awards Sunday - Father's Day	17	18	19
8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Holy Communion			12:00pm - No the Garden
Ice Cream Social following the 10:30am service			
23 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	24 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist	25	26
8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Morning Prayer 12:00pm - Treasure Hunt and Pizza Party	of join the Daptist		12:00pm - No the Garden
30 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	†		
8:30am - Holy Communion 10:30am - Morning Prayer			

dnesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1
	6	7	8
oly Communion	No Choir Rehearsal		11:00am - Angels in Training
oonday Prayer in	13	14	15
Peter's Prayer Garden	No Choir Rehearsal		10:00am - Spring Family Disciple "Play" Berry Picking
e Prayer Book"			11:00am - Angels in Training
	20	21	22
oonday Prayer in	No Choir Rehearsal		
	27	28	29 Saint Peter & Saint Paul
oonday Prayer in	No Choir Rehearsal		
			Happy Father's Day

Announcements



Con GRAD ulations !

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR 2023-2024 GRADUATES

EVAN DAVID KIRK graduated from Utica University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Construction Management. (Evan is the grandson of Michele Vennard and Gordon Lattey).

ALEXANDRIA ROZE REID will graduate from Albany High School with a Regents Diploma. She will be attending Maria College pursuing an RN Nursing Degree. (Alex is the daughter of Kelly Welch & Tyranee Reid, and the granddaughter of Sharon Vardabash).

LIDIAH SCHOLTES-DEBONIS graduated from UAlbany with a Master's Degree in Social Work. (Lidiah is the daughter-in-law of Sharon DeBonis).

HENRY MARTIN TUCKER graduated from the University of Vermont with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Sustainable Landscape Horticulture. (Henry is the grandson of Diana Martin).

Regional Confirmation at St. Peter's Church

Congratulations!

Cole Cehowski Nathan Douglas Christopher Spath





Those who have entered into REST:

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life

through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God:

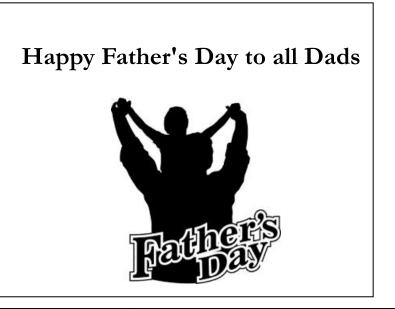
Earl Stafford - April 21, 2024

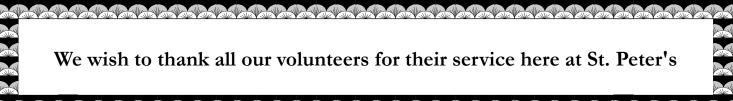
Other Happenings



BEAVER CROSS YOUTH MINISTRY

Beaver Cross is a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Albany and our mission is to build community in Christ. Located in Greenwich, NY Beaver Cross Ministries is a year round youth ministry program. Our focus is to be an active youth ministry with retreats and break camps during the school year and summer camp during summer break. Across our ministries, we provide youth and young adults opportunities to explore and deepen their faith through dynamic Biblical teaching, fellowship in a Christian community, and awesome camp activities; new friendships are created and old ones rekindled as Beaver Cross campers laugh and learn together in an environment devoted to faith, friendship and fun! For more information on Sonshine Youth Retreats and Beaver Cross Day/Night Camp please visit: www.beavercrossministries.org





MINUTES FOR THE VESTRY MEETING ST. PETER'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH April 9th, 2024

Present: Mtr. Christina, J. Chenot, D. Spath, C. Gordon, S. Hartt, M. Holden, M. Lundberg, W. Pettit, J. Russom, G. Scala

Absent: P. Benson, S. Debonis, F. Hershey

Opening Prayer Led by Mtr. Christina.

Approval of the Vestry Meeting Minutes, March 12th, 2024

The vestry minutes from the March 12th, 2024 meeting were approved on a motion by M. Lundberg, seconded by D. Spath, then unanimously approved by the vestry.

Priest in Charge Report - Mtr. Christina

Pastoral updates:

Led Holy Week services – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday. A hearty thank you to all of our choir members, guilds, and other parishioners who joined in serving and worshipping during those sacred days.

A secondary word of thanks for the hard work put into the glorious institution/induction service on April 7. The Lord was truly glorified in it, and it's a day I'll always remember with gratitude and affection.

Concluded Morning Prayer on Zoom on Lenten Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 6:30 am.

Officiated Evensong on March 22.

Did two nursing home visits.

Officiated Jay Seiling's funeral on March 16.

Officiated Florence Bogdan's funeral on April 5.

Officiated a graveside burial service for Mari Bennett on April 8.

Led the March session of St. Peter's Prayer School on Lectio Divina on Wednesday, March 13 and Sunday, March 24.

Attended the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of All Saints on March 25.

Did sacramental reconciliation with my confessor prior to Easter.

We will be adding a few sung parts to Sunday Morning Prayer in Eastertide only (4/14, 4/28, 5/12).

Hoping to offer Zoom Morning Prayer from Ascension Day (May 9) until Pentecost Eve (May 18). We'll also put out a special prayer list with specific intentions for those nine days that anyone in the parish can join in.

Big Picture and Mission/Vision work:

Choir Summer Camp is in the works and would like to set a couple of dates for All-Parish Breakfasts later in the year. Will discuss under Task Forces. **SAVE THE DATE:**

Spring Family Disciple (Learn) Scavenger Hunt – April 21, 2024 Regional Confirmation – May 16, 2024 Diocesan Convention – May 31-June 2 Choir Summer Camp – July 8-12

Sr. Warden's Report –J. Chenot

- I think we can say we have started this year and spring with incredible joy and excitement. To begin, our Lenton season continued each week during March, which led us to Palm Sunday, Holy week, Good Friday and two Glorious Easter Sunday services on the last Sunday of March. As mentioned previously in my report last month, there was much anticipation and preparation underway for Mother Christina's installation coming up on April 7th which happened to fall on the Sunday following Easter.
- What has taken place here at St. Peter's in the past few weeks and months has been so inspiring and heartwarming. On Palm Sunday, we had our services with palms and traditional choir recessional hymn, "Ride on, Ride on", at the 10:30 service. During holy week, we had our Maundy Thursday evening service, followed by a noon time service on Good Friday with a musical performance at 1:15. Our choir performed "The Crucifixion" by John Stainer, with chamber orchestra, conducted by our organist and choir director Daniel Romero. Daniel, who came aboard to St. Peter's in September as Choir Director and Organist, has done an incredible job working with our choir, getting familiar with our traditional services and music that we have all been accustomed to. Our choir has continued to be the hardest working dedicated members we have had in some time. Their devotion to each other and to Daniel has shown all of us how incredibly talented they are. Thank you all for all the beautiful music that was performed during our Easter season as well as the music that was performed at Mother Christina's installation.
- And yes! Mother Christina was officially installed to be our next rector at St. Peter's this past Sunday, April 7th, with our new bishop Jeremiah Williams officiating. Father Paul Hunter also officiated at the service, including a wonderful sermon. We were able to also welcome and enjoy the presence of Mother Christina's mom and dad, who also were able to attend the ceremony, traveling from Ohio.
- Mother Christina's ceremony was wonderful, with clergy, parishioners, friends and family, all in attendance. Following the service, we had a wonderful reception that spread from the Pumpelly room to the choir room. Many hands went into this incredible reception for all of us to enjoy after the ceremony. First, we would like to thank Deb Spath, Michelle Vernard, Maria Holden, Nancy Creagan, Sam Hartt, Jeff Russom, Laura Safaris, Sharon DeBonis, Cathy Schunk, Ruth Manss, Janice Chenot, and Dr. Davis, all working together to put on this incredible reception. Special thanks to Ray Perricone and Janet Shideler, parishioners from our 8:30 service, jumping in and helping all of us during the reception wherever needed. Thank you both so much. Also, we were also able to enjoy some piano music during the reception performed by Malcolm Moran, our music understudy to Daniel, choir director.
- There are many others who were so instrumental these past few months and weeks, fulfilling so many other ministries within the church that made all our services move along so smoothly. With the help of our ushers, alter guild, flower guild, and Lay Eucharistic ministers, our congregation was able to enjoy worshiping together each week with their guidance, beauty, and reverence. Also, many thanks to Wayne and Pat that work day in and day out keeping the Church and physical property clean and in order. Thank you all for your love and support to St Peter's.

We also have others in the congregation who can bring their children to our wonderful Sunday school, headed up by Laura Safaris. During Eastertime, Laura and other volunteers in our Sunday school engaged our young children with many Easter theme projects. This year again we were able to enjoy our prayer pretzels baked by our children in Sunday School during Lent for all of us to enjoy. Also, decorating and coloring Easter eggs were done for our well anticipated Easter egg hunt which we have each year at the rectory.

Again, we need to mention and thank both Ruth and Janice for all their work and preparation they put forth during this busy time of year. There are many moving parts and information needed to be put together each week, putting these incredible services together with leaflets, bulletins, inserts and readings, all to help us worship together in harmony. Thank you both.

With all this excitement under our belts, we must remember that we are still in the Easter season. Mother Christina has many exciting ministries and classes coming up soon, many listed in our April newsletter. We hope everyone gets an opportunity to read the newsletter, possibly finding a ministry or class that may interest them and/or others, to enhance and strengthen their faith. Thank you, Mother Christina.

Congratulations again to Mother Christina, officially our new rector and minister at St. Peter's. God bless you, Father Paul, and you children Martha and Jonathan. We are extremely happy you have made St. Peter's your home.

Thank you all for a wonderful Easter season

Sunday Attendance - The Average Sunday Attendance is 98.6 (as of May 13)

Finance - G. Scala - Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report Highlights/Summary - March 2024

Endowment Return (Merrill Lynch)

Mar:

+2.87%

	March	YEAR-TO-DATE
OFFERINGS	\$21,876	\$47,201
EXPENSES	(\$52,829)	(\$153,019)
GAIN/(LOSS)	(\$30,953)	(\$105,818)
WITHDRAWALS FROM ENDOW- MENT TO FUND SHORTFALL	\$110,241	\$161,043

Updated 2024 Pledges:

Index Calculated Return: +7.60%

32 for a total of \$123,937 YTD Offerings through Mar '24 were \$5,170 higher than Mar '23

Property -

A pew in the church was repaired after coming apart during service on Sunday. J. Chenot would like to remind parishioners not to hesitate to let him know if they see something in the church or guild house that needs attention.

Outreach for March and April - S. DeBonis

St. Peter's continues to support Loaves and Fishes at the St. Francis Mission at least two Saturdays a month with a physical presence, serving food, helping people find clothing and housewares that they need from among the donations collected by Laura Saffares throughout the year, and sharing kindness and warmth with the guests. Over the winter Laura made several trips to the home of one donor to collect gently used clothing, just one of the many examples of her behind-the-scenes work. St. Peter's also continues to support the South End Children's Café, with donations to the free food cabinet as well as special gifts such as a donation from one friend of the Café for Easter egg dying kits for all the children. St. Peter's was ably represented on March 10 at Bowling For PAWS, which supports the pets of the Albany Damien Center, by Laura Grill, Katherine Grill, Will Thomas and Sharon DeBonis. Our new bishop also bowled, although not on St. Peter's team. St. Paul's Albany had that honor this year. Preparations for Easter dinner at the Damien Center are well underway, including Easter baskets for the residents. St. Peter's CROP walk team for 2024 is being coordinated by Maria Holden. The walk will take place on Sunday, May 5.

Old Business -

Delegates for the Annual Diocesan Convention have been selected; Katie Brillat and Sam Haynes with John Davis as an alternate. This vote was completed via email on April 23rd with a motion to approve the delegates made by M. Lundberg, seconded by S. Debonis, then unanimously approved by the vestry.

New Business - None

Adjournment A motion to adjourn was made by W. Pettit and seconded by J. Russom, then was approved unanimously by the vestry. Compline was led by Mtr. Christina. Respectfully Submitted, Christie J. Gordon

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Christina Hunter	Rector
Daniel Romero	Organist & Choirmaster
Malcolm Moran	Assistant Music Director
Laura Saffares	Director of Christian Education
Ruth Manss	Office Manager
James P. Shortall	Sexton
Wayne Hill	Sexton
Janice Chenot	Office Volunteer
E. Constance Powell	Historian & Archivist

Vestry

James Chenot	Senior Warden
Deborah Spath	Junior Warden
George Scala	Treasurer

Pete Benson, Sharon DeBonis, Christie Gordon, Samuel Hartt, Maria Holden, Mark Lundberg, William Pettit, Jeff Russom

How to Contact Us

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Telephone: 518-434-3502 Fax: 518-462-4419

E-Mail: Receptionist@stpeterschurchalbany.org Website: www.stpeterschurchalbany.org

Services

Sunday

Holy Communion 8:30 am Holy Communion 10:30 am (1st & 3rd Sundays) Morning Prayer 10:30 am (2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays) Sunday School 10:30 am

Wednesday

Holy Communion - 12:05pm (1st Wednesday of the month) Noonday Prayer - 12:05pm (All other Wednesdays)

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 107 State St. Albany, New York 12207

