

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

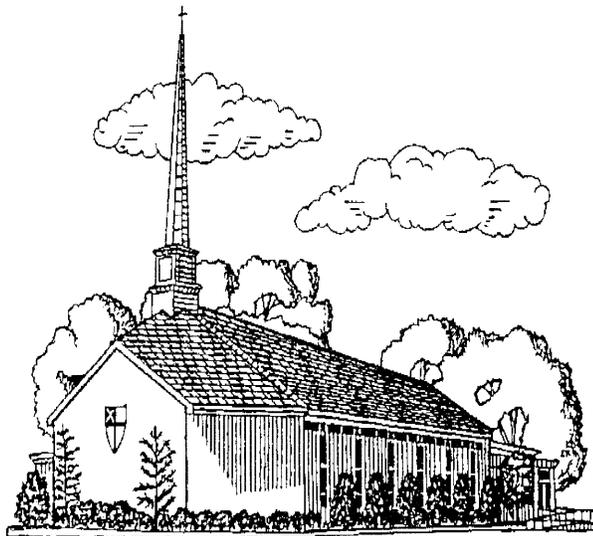
ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

One Hartford Road, Medford, New Jersey 08055

Phone: 609-654-2963 – FAX: 609-654-0401

Email: office@stpetersmedford.org

Web Page: www.stpetersmedford.org



The Reverend Canon Donald J. Muller, D.Min., Rector
The Reverend Canon Ronald G. Albury, Priest Associate
The Reverend Helen M. Orlando, Deacon

Lisa Miner, Parish Administrator
Sue Legnani, Christian Education Director
Brendan Moore, Music Director
Danielle Colaianni, Treasurer
Mark Cantarella, Sexton
Maureen Joos, Loren Manni, Parish Nurses

Saint Peter's Church is a blessed community of faith, grounded in the power of God's transforming love, where Jesus Christ welcomes all to abundant life. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we follow Him in prayer and praise, study and service.

2017 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

October 1, at 11:30 am

AGENDA

Opening Prayers..... The Reverend Canon Donald J. Muller, D.Min., Rector

Report of the Nominating Committee Debbie Banecker

Nominations from the Floor

Appointment of Tellers and Distribution of Ballots Rector

Declaration of Open Polls (*1/2 hour*)..... Rector

Brunch –

Approval of Minutes of the October 2, 2016 Parish Meeting Barbara Kelly

Ministry Reports Vestry members

Deacon’s Report.....The Rev. Helen M. Orlando, Deacon

Remarks by the WardensDebbie Banecker, Jennifer Buzby

Old Business Rector

New Business..... Rector

Announcement of Election Results..... Rector

Rector’s ThanksRector

Miscellaneous.....

Adjournment of Annual Meeting

Closing Prayers.....The Rev. Helen M. Orlando, Deacon

Annual Financial Meeting to take place Sunday, January 28, 2018 at 9:00 AM

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – OCTOBER 1, 2017

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Report of the Nominating Committee

Nominations - 2017

The Nominating Committee for 2017 included Ben Jones, Jennifer Buzby and Debbie Banecker.

The following nominations were made by members of the parish and the Nominating Committee. They are listed below.

Warden, two year term: Michelle Scarpulla

Vestry members: three - three year terms and Scott Fallon, Jack Hobson, Tiffany Myers, Loren Manni.

Delegates to Burlington Convocation: (6 & 6 alternates)

1. Dave Lusk
2. Pat Lusk
3. Jim Beard
4. Mike Orlando
5. Ben Jones
6. Lisa Taylor
7. Jim Smith
8. Bob Spalding
9. Mary Allan
10. Joe Kelly

Deputies to Diocesan Convention: (3 & 3 alternates)

1. Dave Lusk
2. Pat Lusk
3. Jim Beard
4. Mike Orlando
5. Ben Jones
6. Lisa Taylor
7. Bob Spalding
8. Joe Kelly
9. Mary Allan

Endowment Board, two - three year term: Cindy Cullen, Debbie Banecker

Candidate Biographies

For Vestry

Michelle Scarpulla

Michelle Scarpulla has been a member of St. Peter's for almost 15 years. In 2006, she was a part of the committee that re-furnished the nursery, and then became the coordinator of the nursery. Following that, she was elected to a three year term on the Vestry as the Christian Education Coordinator. It was during this time, that the Vestry decided to hire a Christian Formation Director and Michelle was involved in the hiring of Sue Legnani. (Thank God for Sue!) Michelle has also taught the three year old Sunday School class (before we adopted the Godly Play curriculum) and one of the elementary classes. Since going off Vestry the first time, Michelle has taught the J2A class, been the editor of the St. Peter's Goodnews newsletter, and re-started the youth group using the Destination Unknown curriculum (see photos of our adventures in Williams Hall!). She is also an usher at the 10:15 service.

Michelle lives in Marlton with her husband, Stephen, her two boys, Michael, 14 and Evan, 10, her dog, Nike, and an assortment of gerbils and fish. She works full time at Temple University as an Instructor in the College of Public Health.

John H. Hobson (Jack)

I live in Medford Lakes with my wife of 33 years, Jane and our two cats, Magic and Mystic. I have two adult children, Rebecca from Philadelphia who just married last month, and Christopher, who is in his senior year at Rowan University. I am employed by Nokia in New Providence, NJ as a test engineer.

I have been attending St. Peter's Episcopal Church since 1999 and served on vestry 2004-2006. The first two years I served on the adult education committee and the third year on the stewardship committee. I also served as Parish Clerk in 2005 and 2006 and I am currently a Eucharistic Minister and Acolyte Director.

Tiffany Myers

I have been a member of St. Peter's for twenty years. The first thing I volunteered for was the nursery, years ago, when it was in the room across from the library. I served on Vestry near the end of Father Moore's tenure and, thus, was one of the first to meet Father Don when we interviewed him. When I was on Vestry the first time, I worked with Adult Education, planning Sunday classes, coordinating Alpha, and starting St. Peter's Readers, a book club which lasted for something like seven years, I think. I have also volunteered with the children's Sunday School, in Godly Play, elementary, and J2A, as well as leading songs for Children's Chapel and helping with the songs (with my daughter) for Vacation Bible School. Currently, I am helping teach Rite 13. I am a lector and a member of the choir, I serve on the International Outreach Team, and I like to help serve breakfast at St. Paul's in Camden.

I am married to Chris Myers, and our children are now eighteen and twenty! They grew up at St. Peter's and when they would run around the parish hall and Sunday School wing during coffee hour, I used to joke that they felt at home there. Grayson, our 20 year old, is a sophomore at McDaniel College in Maryland, majoring in political science, and participating in Model U.N. and Model E.U. Ellie, our 18 year old, is a senior at Shawnee, captain of color guard in marching band, and participates in school musicals. She has turned me into a band parent, which means I am helping build this year's crazily involved props, editing the newsletter, and going to competitions. Another hobby of mine is taking photographs (including of the band), which began as attempt to capture the beauty of nature. And I am a dedicated Phillies fan.

**2016 Annual Parish Meeting
October 2, 2016**

Fr. Don opened the meeting with prayer at 11:35 a.m. in Williams Hall.

Senior Warden Debbie Banecker presented the nominating committee report and thanked vestry members.

Nominating Committee report unanimously approved.

Nominations from the floor for delegates and alternates to the Diocesan Convention and the Burlington County Convocation.

A motion to dispense with the reading of the 2015 minutes of the September 27, 2015 annual meeting unanimously approved. Minutes unanimously approved.

Appointment of Teller and Distribution of Ballots: Fr. Don.

Polls opened at 11:50; attendees enjoyed buffet brunch.

Attendee Remarks

Ben Jones (pledge fulfillment), Barbara Kelly (thank you for supporting community ministries), Michelle Scarpulla (Letters of Light ministry), Sue Legnani (Christian formation), Matthew Smith (choir participation and rehearsals), Beverly Scollay (bus trip to St. John the Divine), Becky McCammitt (CROP Walk Oct. 16), Mandy Hunter (coffee hour).

Deacon's Report: The Rev. Helen M. Orlando

Dcn. Helen opened with a quote "just one," from Mother Theresa. She referenced her report in the Annual Report and provided updates on the International Outreach committee. She shared news from Redemption School, Haiti, including grant monies received. Please see her report for more details.

Remarks by the Warden: Debbie Banecker

Debbie thanked outgoing and current vestry members, and employed staff members, especially Lisa. She invited everyone to sign up for committees or run for vestry next year. She noted that current vestry members work at full-time jobs, but make time for this ministry. Make God your top priority and everything else will fall into place.

Polls closed at 12:20.

Election Results:

- Warden: Jen Busby
- Vestry members: Lisa Taylor, John Colaianni, and Barbara Kelly
- Endowment Board: Marty Banecker and Fran Mitchell
- Delegates to Burlington County Convocation: Mike Orlando, Ben Jones, Betty Jones, Ann Charles, Jim Beard, Bob Spalding.
- Deputies to the Diocesan Convention: Mike Orlando, Lisa Taylor, Jack Hobson; alternate: Beverly Scollay.

New Business

Fr. Don explained Flip Flop Sundays: on the third Sunday of each month, he will celebrate a special family Eucharist at 9 a.m., followed by Sunday School, then the usual 10:15 service. On the other Sundays, Sunday School will continue to meet 9 a.m.

Fr. Don and Ben announced that Howard Black will step down and Danielle Colaianni will replace him as treasurer on Nov. 1, pending approval by the vestry at the October 11 meeting.

Rector's Thanks

Fr. Don thanked Lynn, wardens, vestry, those who worked to support the designer bag bingo and 5K fundraisers; Marty (property and grounds) and Mandy (parish life) who fulfilled their vestry terms, and Alexis who stepped up in the second half of the year. Fr. Don thanked Dcn. Helen, Matt, Sue, Lisa, and Mark; Jeff Moore; Caps and Laps; Marty, Joe Santangelo and everyone who helps maintain the grounds; Sunday School staff; and Fr. Ron.

Attendee Remarks

Doris Heinz thanked those who attended the cathedral service to honor special seniors in the diocese. Doris and Roberta Price were honored by the bishop at this service.

Jen Busby thanked Fr. Don for his continued guidance and leadership.

Conclusion

A motion to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm. Dcn. Helen led an Order of Service for Noonday.

Closing prayers.

PARISH STATISTICS FOR JANUARY – AUGUST 2017

COMPARED TO JANUARY – AUGUST 2016

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Celebrations of the Holy Eucharist	147	151
Baptism	8	4
Marriages	2	1
Burials	11	8
Prayer Book Offices	77	77
Confirmed	0	9
Total Sunday Attendance (<i>includes Saturday service</i>)	4,834	5,152
Total Attendance at All Services	7,018	6,682
56 Private Communions (as of 8/31/17)		
Active Households as of 9/28/16	265	
Includes 7 new families		
Active Households as of 9/28/17	265	
Includes 8 new families		

CLERGY/STAFF REPORTS

REPORT OF THE RECTOR - THE REV. CANON DONALD J. MULLER, D.MIN.

Saint Peter's Church is a blessed community of faith, grounded in the power of God's transforming love, where Jesus Christ welcomes all to abundant life. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we follow Him in prayer and praise, study and service.

Throughout the Reports in this booklet you will find stories of God's work amidst St. Peter's. This is not my work or ministry but our work and our ministry; the ministry of all the people of God in St. Peter's. I think of St. Peter's being more than just those who call themselves "members and or worshipers", but also those who are part of our two Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Groups, our two Narcotics Anonymous (NA) Groups, Big Band Express, TOPS (Take Off Pounds Safely), MOMS Group, Boy Scout Troop 26, Rutgers Reading Program, Thelma Kershner and Mother Henrietta Lavengood in their Pastoral Counseling, Red Cross Blood Drives, those who will utilize the new Labyrinth, and others who come through our doors or walk our grounds or are touched by St. Peter's in any way.

I exercise my priestly ministry, in and through St. Peter's: celebrating the Sacraments; teaching, pastoral counseling, visiting the sick and shut-in, administration, writing, and preaching. But those things, while important, do not come close to the ministry of St. Peter's. I am only one person, as is Deacon Helen, you the members - rather disciples or ministers, touch more lives than I ever can. There are those who teach in our Christian Formation program; those who pray through our Intercessory Prayer List; Vestry Members; Eucharistic Visitors; those who assist with hospitality; the International Outreach Team; all the donations of items for outreach locally; those who assist in worship (acolytes, altar guild, choir, choir director/organist, Deacon, Deacon in Training, Lectors, Intercessors, Oblationers, and Ushers); those who minister with the homeless families that stay with us through Interfaith Hospitality Network; those who minister through St. Paul's in Camden; and much more.

I am grateful that, with your blessing, I have ministries outside of St. Peter's. I continue to Chair the Stewardship Commission for the Diocese and serve on the Trinity Cathedral Community Day committee. My membership in the Medford-Vincentown Rotary has enabled me to make contact with many people outside of St. Peter's (some who have become members) and have an impact on our community. Serving on the Board of Contact of Burlington County, I am in touch with some of the necessary services our neighbors need. Most recently, I (along with seven other Medford clergy) have begun a trained ministry as Chaplain of the Medford Police Department. This ministry is new for our township and promises to be one of benefit to our Police Officers and our community, as we become a bridge.

This past year your Vestry had two days with Canon Rob Droste, our Diocesan Canon for Congregational Ministry. He opened our eyes to the new situation the congregations of the church find themselves today – things have changed. "If you build it, they will come," no longer works. With that in mind, several things have begun: Beckie McCammitt, our Evangelism Vestry person, has begun an intentional ministry with the millennials in our congregation. She has also moved us out into the community at Oktoberfest (in addition to our Cancer Survivor Sunday and our Blue Christmas Service).

We are continuing our Ecumenical Ministry with our Good Friday Noon Service with Medford United Methodist Church and Faith Presbyterian Church. This past year (and October 1 this year) we are holding our Blessing of Pets in a Medford Park with our partners: Medford United Methodist Church, Faith Presbyterian Church, and Lord of Life Lutheran Church.

Early in 2017 Howard Black III decided it was time for him to retire as our Church Treasurer. He had served in that capacity for much longer than I have been at St. Peter's. He helped transition Danielle Colaianni to replace him. Danielle brings a wealth of banking experience to this ministry.

We were sorry to see our Organist/Choir Director Matt Smith leave us at the end of 2016, even though we knew his time with St. Peter's would be limited since he was in Graduate School at Westminster Choir College. BUT, I am grateful that Brendan Moore was brought to us to fill that position. Brendan brings lots of church experience, a community presence as the Chorus Teacher at Lenape High School, and real enthusiasm for growing our music ministry.

We are blessed with dedicated staff: Deacon Helen, Lisa Miner, Brendan Moore, Sue Legnani, Mark Cantarella, Danielle Colaianni, and our parish nurses Maureen Joos and Loren Manni. St. Peter's is blessed by the many parishioners who actively minister in Christ's name, thank you.

This will be my last Report as Rector of Saint Peter's Church as I will retire effective July 1, 2018. It has been and continues to be an honor and privilege to shepherd Christ's flock here. When I retire I will still be your friend, but your new Rector will become your pastor.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Canon Donald J. Muller, Rector

REPORT OF THE DEACON – THE REV. HELEN M ORLANDO, DEACON

Remind Us – A Prayer from the Iona Community

*God in whose love we are made,
when bread is before us
remind us of the hungry.*

*When our key is in the door,
remind us of those who have no home.*

*When the love of family keeps us safe,
remind us of those whose family was the place of their pain.*

*When we wonder what it is we can do,
remind us that you said:*

*“Whenever you feed the hungry, clothe the naked,
welcome the stranger, visit the prisoner,
you do it to me.”*

*And lead us to do
As you call us to do.
Amen.*

+ + +

I don't remember where I first found this prayer, but it has always defined how I see my role as a deacon in the diocese and among you. First and foremost, God has called me to be for you a reminder that “whenever you feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, [care for

the sick or] visit the prisoner, you do it to me,” and to lead and support you in responding to that call.

In response to God’s call to me, I devote the majority of my energy to chairing St. Peter’s International Outreach Team, which leads St. Peter’s in its companion relationship with Redemption School, Haiti, and supports the work of Episcopal Relief & Development. Please see the report of the International Outreach Team for more information about the work of our IOT. As an outgrowth of this work, I continue to serve as an active member of our diocesan Global Goals Task Force, serving as an on-call resource person and the first point of contact for those applying for Global Goals matching grants.

My regular responsibilities include the following: serving as deacon at two services each weekend and all special services, including weddings and funerals; contributing to the monthly newsletter, crafting the weekly Prayers of the People, coordinating the Prayer Vine, welcoming and assisting visiting priests, and recruiting, training and supervising our Eucharistic Ministers, Eucharistic Visitors, and Worship Leaders. Welcome to Jamieson Smith and Lisa Taylor, new Eucharistic Ministers since last year; and to Elizabeth Adler, Chris McCrum, and Michelle Scarpulla, new lectors. All give freely of their time to serve God and his church at St. Peter’s alongside their more experienced peers.

In my “free time” I serve as a clergy deputy to Diocesan Convention, clergy delegate to and secretary of Burlington Convocation, and do my best to attend the many special fellowship and educational events provided by our Bishop and diocese. It has been my special joy to serve with Father Don and other clergy of the Medford area in both the ecumenical Blessing of Animals held near St. Francis’ Day each year and the Good Friday ecumenical service.

Thank you for welcoming me when I carry Holy Communion to you in your home or at the hospital; trusting me to share in your joys and sorrows, and accepting and supporting me as the one who reminds you of Christ’s call to service and works with you as we respond to that call, together.

Faithfully,
Deacon Helen

REPORT OF THE SENIOR WARDEN – DEBBIE BANECKER

Becoming connected to St. Peter’s increases your spirituality, closeness with God, and can be very rewarding. Being involved with a ministry helps to forge relationships with parishioners, usually benefitting you more than St. Peter’s. As a Vestry member, I have spoken to many members in hopes that they would be willing to join the Vestry. I have to tell you that the response I get most is “I don’t have the time.” This response perplexes me as I always thought that you put God first in your life, then your family, and last your job. The current Vestry members have full time jobs, families, and are also active in more than one ministry at St. Peter’s. We make time for St. Peter’s.

Some of my best times have been working with fellow Vestry members planning a church function, the Designer Bag Bingo being my favorite. My relationships with my fellow choir members help me during good times and those that are trying. Although I have an instrumental musical background, St. Peter’s choir is the only choir I have ever been in. My fellow EM’s are also a fun group. We laugh at our mishaps on the altar. One time we had 5 EM’s (more than one EM volunteered to substitute for someone) and I robed, then unrobed, then came back to the altar

in my choir robe for communion. I'll never forget the time when my chalice was empty and I refilled it with the wine which was blessed for those parishioners receiving the sacrament at home. And not to mention reading some of the Old Testament names correctly. Thank goodness, Mike Orlando was a Classics major in college and can help me with the pronunciations. Won't you join the Vestry or another ministry in the future?

We've had another productive year at St. Peter's. Please take the time to read and reflect on the Vestry reports to the congregation in this Annual Report.

Your Vestry has been continuously hard at work finding ways to reduce the deficit in our budget. Several fundraisers have significantly improved our financial status. Of course, our Annual Golf Outing, headed by Jeff Moore, continues to be our biggest fundraiser. Continue to support upcoming fundraisers and events.

Our facilities have improved with work such as, rectory repair and construction, heating and air-conditioning repair, and the vast improvement with weeding and landscaping in the Memorial Garden.

Continuing our outreach, we have successfully opened our doors to outside groups: MOMS Club, the Tabernacle Church, AA, NA, Big Band Express, Boy Scouts, and the Rutgers Summer Reading Program.

I would like to thank the outgoing Vestry members, Ben Jones, Mike Krug and myself, for their hard work and efforts in making St. Peter's a community for worship, fellowship, and growth. Thank you to our new Vestry members for volunteering to be leaders of our church.

In life, there is always a "Give and Take." Some of us at St. Peter's are givers, some are takers and some give and take. I would like to see everyone give back to St. Peter's by joining the Vestry or one the many ministries we have to offer. You will find increased spirituality, peace, and satisfaction in your daily lives. Please pray about how you can make a difference at St. Peter's.

Respectfully Submitted,
Debbie Banecker

REPORT OF THE JUNIOR WARDEN – JENNIFER BUZBY

The past year has been filled with both rewards and challenges for the members of the St. Peter's Vestry.

We had the opportunity to work with the Rev. Canon Rob Droste, Canon for Congregational Development during two retreat days. The focus was "Building the Healthy, Successful Church of the Future." We investigated the direction of the missional church, both internally and externally. We discussed program development and people development; and considered church-based leadership and kingdom-based leadership. Through this enlightening process, we were able to develop a comprehensive listing of what St. Peter's is already doing that is "missional." We look forward to this continued collaboration with Fr. Droste as we look ahead to our future without Fr. Don.

Through the coordination of Joe Santangelo, Interfaith Hospitality Network (INH) returned to St. Peters this past winter. Participation in this effort was personally rewarding and spiritually fulfilling. I became aware of just how fortunate I am to have a roof over my head and know

where my next meal is coming from. I took pride in preparing breakfast and lunch for those less fortunate. I am looking forward to participating in this endeavor again in a few weeks.

Fellowship is important in parish life. I have a personal mission in providing the refreshments after the 7:45 service on a weekly basis. I look forward in preparing “something special” in addition to hearing in addition to the stories of what has transpired during the past week. For example, Ruth Hedden sharing that her son and daughter-in-law had weathered Hurricane Irma in Key West, Florida.

As for the challenges we face: The Vestry has continued to work tirelessly on how to effectively reduce the budget deficit. Despite the fundraising efforts of the Annual Golf Outing, organized by Jeff Moore, plus the Designer Bag Bingo extravaganza, we continue to strategize other avenues to offset the deficit. This is not just the work of the Vestry – we need the entire Parish’s help! We appreciate keeping your pledges current, spreading the word and participating in the fundraising efforts. This is “your church” and all of your support is gratefully appreciated.

Faithfully submitted,
Jennifer F. Buzby, Jr. Warden

VESTRY REPORTS

REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE – ANDREW LaRUE

I want to thank all of our parishioners who participated in our Stewardship Campaign this past year by completing their pledge card and supporting St. Peter’s. Your participation in our Stewardship Campaign enabled the Vestry to make a budget that enabled us to plan and organize the various parish activities over the past year. We look forward to a successful year and to increase our pledge commitments from last year.

Stewardship is not just making a financial pledge on Consecration Sunday; it is a combination of our treasure, time and talent.

This past year was a very rewarding one for me in being part of the Vestry as the Stewardship Chairperson. I am going into my second year on the Vestry. In this endeavor I’ve made great friendships and have been given a better understanding of what it takes to run a church like Saint Peter’s. We will be using the familiar Consecration Sunday program for this year’s Stewardship Campaign. “It’s Coming, November 11, & 12, 2017.”

Finally, I look forward to another successful year in stewardship for St. Peter’s.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew LaRue

REPORT OF PROPERTY AND GROUNDS - JOHN COLAIANNI

I am honored to follow in the footsteps of the prior Vestry Chair for Buildings and Grounds, Marty Banecker. Thank you Marty for all you did at St. Peter’s. You left very large shoes to fill. The best part of serving as Buildings & Grounds Chair is getting to work with so many wonderful people.

To date in 2017, we have already had SIX work days at St. Peter’s ! More than 30 volunteers have helped. After each work day, we have thanked them both privately and publicly.

I sincerely hope YOU will consider joining us at the next workday! I always make sure to have jobs available for all skill sets. And if physical work is too much for you, that's ok, please join us anyway, you can help in other ways – like driving to pickup the lunch we provide to the volunteers and giving moral support!

Upcoming potential volunteer projects: Greening of the Church for Christmas; indoor painting; light landscaping; light decorating. Please keep an eye out for these and other opportunities! If you have a project you'd like to help with, or see something that you think should be fixed or changed, please let me know as soon as possible at 609.792.4055 (cell), 609.654.5644 (home), or john.colaianni@gmail.com.

**

And if you're interested in the nuts and bolts of Buildings and Grounds, here goes:

GROUNDS

We have continued our relationship with SLS Landscaping lawn cutting. They cut every two weeks and we get very aggressive pricing due to the fact we are cut on Mondays. This makes for a couple of "shaggy Sundays" but in 2018 we will work on the calendar to minimize those, especially for special events. We have continued our relationship with Russo's Snow Plowing. Both firms serve us faithfully and competitively.

We had the Rectory power washed by Chris Yates Powerwashing, and they did a great job, at the most competitive bid. We have on our own removed 3 fallen trees from the Rectory, spread 10 yards of fresh mulch, weeded the grounds twice all the way around, had the massive debris pile near the shed removed. Many trees were trimmed by our volunteers. Our very own Lisa Miner and Deacon Helen led special weeding projects to clear the areas near the doorway to the Office and the Memorial Garden, respectively. An Eagle Scout Project created a beautiful and sacred Labyrinth near the gazebo.

BUILDINGS

There were a couple of tough days without heat early in 2017, but a broken part was replaced and the Staff were troopers. We are in the process of switching HVAC service companies to Harriett's Energy Solutions. Once this transfer is complete, we will have several additional thermostats installed to better control temperatures.

We had our annual termite service agreement extended, and passed a full termite inspection with no activity found (a good thing). Our water usage has increased dramatically and we are actively investigating a potential underground leak. The Township was unable to discover anything. The Choir Robe Room needs some suspended ceiling re-framing to be done on a volunteer basis. Another project we'd like to complete is the framing of a new closet in the Youth Group classroom.

The Old Sacristy has a problematic flat roof above it. Temporary repairs have been made in the past. Roof replacement in this area is necessary to prevent future leaks. Additional roof drainage work may be required. (It is good on the one hand when flat roofs puddle, as this means the water isn't infiltrating the building, but we must address the puddles nonetheless.) New carpeting is going to be installed in the Narthex. The old carpeting has served us well and has exceeded its expected lifespan. All of the carpets in the Sunday School Wing were shampooed by Vestry volunteers prior to the startup of Sunday School.

One of the coffee pot area electrical receptacles in the kitchen no longer works. It was determined we will wait for when additional electrical work is being performed to address this.

We plan to install blinds in the Sunday School classrooms in which we also house our guests from the IHN Interfaith Hospitality Network, for privacy.

Special thanks to Ben Jones who regularly cleans and reinstalls the water pump in the pond, to help our grounds remain beautiful. Special thank you to Lisa Minerd for organizing the Library prior to the start of Sunday School. Special thank you to Sue Legnani for organizing the Christian Formation supplies and closets prior to the start of Sunday School.

FUTURE PLANNING

In mid-2018, the Solar Panels will become the property of St. Peter's. While these will not become instant income-generators, they will, in fact, eliminate one of our monthly bills for our Parish.

In mid-2018, Father Don will be retiring. We will need to address the conditions at the Rectory during this time that we seek a new Rector.

Respectfully submitted,
John Colaianni

REPORT ON EVANGELISM MINISTRY – BECKIE MCCAMMITT

Saint Peter's Millennials group activities:

- 👍 June 27, 2017 : Strawberry picking at Johnson Farm (Mandy and Brian Hunter, Jillian Floyd, Jose and Tricia Alvarez, Brandon Manni, Sean Cureton, Beckie McCammitt)
- 👍 July 29, 2017: Kayaking at Camp Ockanickon (Mandy and Brian Hunter, Ryan Manni, Drew Brennan, Brandon Manni, Sean Cureton, Jamie Cureton, Beckie McCammitt)
- 👍 September 2, 2017: Game night (Mandy and Brian Hunter, Sean Cureton, Brandon Manni, Beckie McCammitt)
- 👍 September 23, 2017: Habitat for Humanity (Mandy and Brian Hunter, Sean Cureton, Chris and Hannah McCammitt, Brandon Manni, Beckie McCammitt)

Saint Peter's booth at Medford's Oktoberfest:

- 🍁 Saturday September 16, 2017
- 🍁 Volunteers for the booth: Beckie McCammitt, Brandon Manni, Michelle Scarpula, Maureen Joos, Sara Cureton, Mandy Hunter, Brian Hunter, Barb LaRue, Lisa Minerd
- 🍁 Handed out cards and information, collected prayer requests

Respectfully submitted,
Beckie McCammitt

REPORT ON COMMUNITY MINISTRIES – BARBARA KELLY

Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without know it. — Heb. 13:2

Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. — Rom. 12:13

This verse from Matthew's Gospel speaks to just one of the many outreach missions of St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Our congregation is always ready to minister to the needs of our

brothers and sisters in South Jersey and beyond. Under the leadership of many talented people, St. Peter's has established an extensive outreach program, providing life-enhancing and life-saving assistance to needy and deserving people.

IHN Week: In 2017 St. Peter's expanded our relationship with Interfaith Hospitality Network by providing hospitality to homeless families in our Sunday School wing for one week in October. **Joe Santangelo** led a large team of volunteers who provided overnight hosting, dinner and hospitality, daily transportation to and from the Moorestown Community Center, bagged breakfasts and lunches, bedding, curtains, laundry, cleaning, entertainment and toys, notes of welcome and encouragement, prayer, and much more. Youth and adults pitched in to assemble the guest rooms on Sunday and transform them back to classrooms on Saturday. Energy in the parish was high that week as the Holy Spirit moved us.

Special thanks to Joe for adapting easily to surprises and changes from IHN, working with Fr. Don to manage the legal and insurance requirements, and organizing a special ministry that brought us together in new ways. In a debriefing meeting after IHN week, parishioners shared that we saw Jesus in the faces of our guests and in each other. St. Peter's will serve again October 15-22, 2017.

St. Peter's local ministries provide food, clothing, school supplies, and spiritual assistance to hundreds of individuals and families in Burlington County and surrounding areas. St. Peter's is one of the strongest supporters of the **Christian Caring Center** in Browns Mills, NJ, which serves the hungry and homeless. Thanks to you, St. Peter's provides a steady supply of critically needed food to the CCC pantry. The monthly collection effort is led by **Joe Kelly**. We also support the CCC's Easter and Thanksgiving meal collections and Christmas gifts for children.

Virtua Early Intervention Christmas Adopt-a-Family, led by **Barbara LaRue**, completed its third successful year. St. Peter's sponsors a family by combining our efforts with the CCC giving tree. Parishioners donate new toys, clothes, and personal items. Children in the program have physical, mental, and emotional disabilities and their families experience financial hardship.

The **St. Paul's Church Breakfast Program** is a long-standing ministry. A group of St. Peter's volunteers drives to St. Paul's the second Sunday of each month to cook a hot breakfast for Camden residents. They feed an average of 90 to 100 individuals, and sometimes as many as 120, during each visit. This ministry also provides gently used clothing. Volunteers include 10 to 20 adults and teens, providing high school students with valuable hands-on experience caring for others. Participants this year included, but were not limited to, **Harry and Gretchen Campbell, Ken Carpinelli, John and Danielle Colaianni, Mandy and Brian Hunter, Beckie McCammitt, Lisa Miner, the Montgomery Family, Tiffany and Ellie Myers, and Kelly Trimble.**

St. Peter's Caps & Laps, a group led by **Mary Allan**, provides new, hand-stitched items to the youngest and oldest members of our community. These include caps to group newborns at local hospitals and babies baptized at St. Peter's blankets, and prayer shawls to the sick and elderly. Caps & Laps also collects new calendars and greeting cards each year for residents at The Evergreens and CareOne. Each Christmas, Caps & Laps assembles and delivers gift bags of calendars, cards, stationery, and pens.

Operation Fill-a-Backpack benefits local children with emotional and behavioral disabilities through Oaks Integrated Care in Mt. Holly, NJ. St. Peter's Operation Fill-a-Backpack drive begins each year in August. In 2017, the large collection bin in the narthex was again overflowing.

St. Peter's year-round clothing collection, led by **Danielle Colaianni**, provides gently used items donated by parishioners to the Seneca High School thrift shop and to St. Paul's Church, Camden. Thanks to Danielle, John, and Lisa for sorting and delivering items each month.

Through **ChildFund International**, we provide financial assistance and friendship to Rubino in Bolivia and Thiago in Brazil. Our annual sponsorship provides them with medical care (including immunizations), dental checkups, food, textbooks, and school supplies. Our Christmas gifts enable them to purchase much-needed items. The ChildFund project in their countries provides a school facility and teaching staff; labor and materials for capital projects, such as plumbing and electricity in community buildings; visiting healthcare workers; and adult classes in nutrition, child care, and agriculture. Please follow the Thiago's and Rubino's progress on the community ministries bulletin board in Williams Hall.

I am privileged to be involved in community ministries and am grateful to all of you for your generous support. Please contact me with comments or suggestions for additions and improvements to our programs.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Kelly

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH TEAM – DEACON HELEN

Gonaives, the second largest city in Haiti and home of Redemption School, prides itself for being Haiti's "City of Independence." It was there that Jean-Jacques Dessalines declared Haiti's independence from France on January 1, 1804. Unfortunately, the city of Gonaives must also lay claim to a dark past. From 1959 to 1986, it was the local center of operations for the *Tonton Macoutes*, a private police force reporting to Haitian dictators Francois (Papa Doc) and Jean-Claude (Baby Doc) Duvalier that was responsible for the gruesome torture and death of nearly 30,000 Haitians. Its nerve center was located in one of the buildings that is now part of Redemption School. We thank God that what was once a place of darkness and death is now a place of light and life.

St. Peter's and Redemption School began their companion relationship of prayer, presence, and financial support in the autumn of 2014. Since that time, we have prayed for Redemption School whenever we gather in worship and have been remembered by the people of Redemption School as a part of their parent church's monthly cycle of prayer. Although our "presence" to one another has been mostly conducted via email, we happily welcomed Father Jean Fils Chery, then priest-in-charge of Redemption School, to St. Peter's in January, 2015. Redemption School welcomed us in return, when current priest-in-charge, Father Joseph Diegue, welcomed Sue Legnani and me when we visited Haiti in April, 2016. Thanks to hard work, the donated pledges of our Sunday school children and youth, and your generosity, we continue to faithfully fulfill our annual financial pledge \$2,200.00 (\$2,000.00 to Redemption School/\$200.00 to the Diocese of Haiti Partnership Program), which is used to pay faculty salaries at "Redemption." Matching funds provided by our diocesan Global Goals Task Force have provided partial payment for needed renovations to the oldest of the school buildings and enabled the purchase of an external hard drive for students' use, much-needed computer ink cartridges, and lumber for new school benches.

Notable Events during the Past Year

Lego School Construction Project, September 2016-March 2017 – This project raised \$888.00, \$294.00 of which was donated by deputies and guests of our 2017 Diocesan Convention. Photos of and information about our Lego School project published in *The Central Record, In Prov 2*

(the newsletter of our own Episcopal Province 2), and *Good News in the Garden State*, our diocesan newsletter, inspired others to join us in our ministry with Redemption School.

2nd Annual Fair Trade Gift Market, November 5, 2016-Thank you so much to all who worked hard on this year's event.

Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday, March 4-5, 2017, an event geared at raising awareness and funds to support the worldwide ministry of our church's emergency response and development organization. Tiffany Myers, our Episcopal Relief & Development Representative, chaired this event.

New Partners for Redemption School - Both St. Augustine's, Camden, and Church of the Resurrection, Bridgeton, have joined us in our support of the ministry of Redemption School to the youth of Haiti.

We hope that God will lead some of you to join those of us already working to lead St. Peter's in its companion relationship with Redemption School. Here are some ways to do so:

Join Us – New Committee Members are needed and welcomed. Our regularly-scheduled meetings are held in the parish library every 2nd Sunday of the month, immediately following the 10:15am service.

Offer your Help – If being a full Team member sounds like too much for you, offer to take a turn selling grocery store gift cards or help with other scheduled fundraisers. Better yet, come up with an idea of your own and help make it happen.

Provide financial support for the students of Redemption School by purchasing grocery store gift cards, supporting our other fundraisers, or making a donation. Did you know that the average annual cost to provide full tuition, books, formal uniform and a “dress-down-day” T-shirt for Redemption School students is less than \$1.00 per day?

Pray that God may continue to bless and guide us and the leaders of Redemption School as we walk prayerfully together to bring dignity, justice, and peace to the people of Haiti through the education of its youth.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Helen M Orlando, Deacon

Current IOT Members are: Mary Allan, Ken Carpinelli, Edie Green, Ben and Betty Jones, Sue Legnani, Tiffany Myers, Michelle Scarpulla, and Beverly Scollay. Thank you also to the following: Laurie Barbato, a long-time team member who had to step down this year in order to care for her mother; Ann Charles, who resigned from the team years ago, but is always quick to help when she is in town; Mark Kaczarowski, who makes himself available to sell grocery store gift cards when needed after the Saturday, 5pm service; and Elisabeth Cullen, who will assist with selling cards after the 7:45am service.

REPORT OF THE BOY SCOUTS - Troop 26

127 Merit badges awarded to 30 scouts

23 Scouts have had 30 rank advancements

No Scouts have become Eagle so far. Hoping to have 3-5 before the end of the year. Ethan Kaighn, Robert Sollitto, and Eric Kennedy have completed their projects and all they have left to do is an Eagle board of Review. Adam Keir and Brian Beitel are scheduled to start their projects soon. We also have 2 others working on Eagle proposals.

36 scouts went to Yawgoog summer camp in Rhode Island and earned roughly 100 Merit Badges.

We currently have 41 Scouts registered with the Troop. We had 5 who crossed over in February from Cubs and 2 who joined from Voorhees.

2 Scouts aged out, Jack Sterbenz and Jason Applegate.

January 2017- The Troop held its annual Court of Honor, cooking a spaghetti dinner for the families.

February- Operation Polar Bear held at Pine Hill in Berlin. Scouts participated in the Klondike Derby. A handful braved the elements and camped over. Scouts attended Scout Sunday at St Peter's.

March- The Troop traveled to Shawnee mountain for a day of skiing. They spent the night camping and on the way home stopped for a hike to Sunfish Pond.

March/April- The Troop held its annual Easter flower sale. On the 31st, they headed to Washington, DC for a 4 day weekend, taking in the sights around our Nation's capital.

May/June- The Troop went on a zip line day trip in June to Delaware

July- Summer camp in RI.

August- The Troop went white water rafting this month instead of its usual June date. Attendance was low in June, so the trip was moved to August. This date seems to work better. It was our 2nd year going in August.

33 Parents and Scouts attending.

September- Back to school. The Troop just held elections for new leadership positions, electing Craig Droke, its Senior Patrol Leader. Scott Minshall and Adam Krsnak were elected Assistants.

October/November/December- We plan on helping with setup, cleanup, parking, and where ever needed at the Apple Festival and The Dickens Festival. The Troop will try to squeeze in some fall camping locally one weekend. We are scheduled to visit the Intrepid for an overnight on board the ship. The next day we are scheduled to visit the 9/11 memorial.

In addition to the listed monthly events, the Troop participated in many other projects:

We held 3 Courts of Honor in January, June, and October to hand out various awards and achievements.

The Troop, thanks to Scott Minchall and Ryan Scannell (Den Chief) have increased their recruitment effort, lending a hand at several Cub Scout events.

Our annual fall Scout Popcorn sale is currently underway. Monies earned are used activities and camperships.

The Troop introduced two unique Merit Badges thanks to John Scannell and Mike Kennedy. John led the Astronomy Merit Badge, which include many different nights of star gazing. Mike guided the Aviation Merit Badge, complete with a local airplane ride.

Jason Lupa and Pete Smith led the Fire Safety Merit Badge for dozen Scouts.

John Scannell led the Troop and various Cub dens at the solar eclipse.

The Troop helped setup and takedown of equipment for Movies in the Park for 8 weeks this summer. The Troop used 6 Scouts per night for a total of 48 Scouts.

Our next project for the Church involves replacing the letters and fixing the display case outside the front entrance. We also would like to paint the sign out on Hartford rd.

Eric Kennedy's Eagle project was dedicated during an outdoor service recently. The Labyrinth was unveiled at this time.

New Assistant Scoutmaster - Shawn Fricke
New Treasurer - Shawn Omans

Bob and Sui Applegate stepped down from their positions. Bob took a position at the Council level.

Respectfully submitted,
George Youngkin, Scoutmaster

REPORT OF THE ENDOWMENT BOARD – FRAN MITCHELL/HOWARD BLACK, 3rd

St. Peter's Endowment Board was established in 2008 to enable the Parish to more completely fulfill its mission by developing its ministries beyond what is possible through its annual operating funds. The Endowment Fund is funded through a variety of gift vehicles; including bequests in wills, charitable remainder trusts, other trusts, life insurance policies, real estate, securities, stock, other life income gifts and other property. The Board will receive and administer these gifts in a manner faithful to loyalty and devotion to God expressed by the donors, and in accord with the Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of New Jersey, and the policies of St. Peter's.

The Board is continuing the Vestry's designation of the Diocesan Trust Fund as the appropriate depository for the funds. Gifts and interest received in the past year have raised the value of the fund to \$54,986.87.

Members of the Board and others are available to assist parishioners in matters of this regard. Gifts to the Fund can be made at any time by anyone and in whatever vehicle the donor wishes to use in conformity with the gift policy.

Respectfully submitted,
Fran Mitchell, Chairman

REPORT OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION –SUE LEGNANI

How do you raise a Christian? They say it takes a village to raise a child and I'm convinced that it takes a church to raise a Christian, to show the love of Christ and his compassion in the world around us and to model this for children and teens. In the 2016-2017 school year we were blessed to have a group of eighteen adults who were willing to give of their time and talent to teach this message and mentor the children and teens in our congregation. Because of these dedicated adults we are able to offer Christian Formation for PreK through tenth grade. Fr. Don offers adult classes during the year on Sunday mornings as well as Wednesday mornings.

How do you make Bible study for teens something the kids would want to do? Take them on a "Destination Unknown"! Michelle Scarpulla started this youth group in 2015 and it has

complimented Rite 13 for grades 6-8. Each month the teens were given a clue from scripture about where they were going. They arrived at church and were taken to the unknown destination for a new experience followed by a short Bible study that was related to the destination.

We gather together several times a year for special events to prepare for the coming of Christ during Advent, and during Lent to prepare for the events of Holy Week and Easter. Our annual Christmas pageant (A Charlie Brown Christmas) was presented on the third Sunday of Advent. We experienced Children's Stations of the Cross during Lent, and teens and young adults led the Good Friday Stations of the Passion.

As a Sunday School outreach project the children made St. Valentine cards for patients at Weisman and Demours rehabilitation centers. The cards as well as other donated items were delivered before St. Valentine's Day for the patients to enjoy as part of their therapy.

On the third Sunday of October, November, January, February and March Fr. Don led a shortened family Eucharist in Moore Chapel at 9 am. We invited the children to participate in as much of the service as possible. They helped to set the altar, read the lesson, led the prayers of the people and some of the music as well. This has been well received and we plan to continue this service again this year.

Vacation Bible School, a summer tradition at St. Peter's, was held on July 9th – 13th for children in our congregation and the community. The theme was Power Lab: Discovering Jesus' Miraculous Power and through Bible stories, music, games, snacks and some pretty fun science experiments, like slime and bouncy balls, the kids learned about what Jesus' power can do in our lives.

Since the church can only do so much it's important for families to develop their own spiritual lives in their home. Praying, showing the love of God and Jesus to those around them and celebrating the cycles of the Church Year in the home are all very doable things and help reinforce the lessons we experience in Christian Formation classes Sunday morning. Periodically I send material to parents with ideas for things they can do at home with their children to prepare for major holidays in the Church Year like Christmas and Easter. If a family is looking for some new ideas or if they want to start traditions in their home there are always plenty of ideas to incorporate into their family life.

I want to thank the following teachers and assistants who made our Christian Formation program possible.

Godly Play: Tina Sunlitis, Tina Rubano, Barb La Rue, Nancy Shumen

Grades 1-3: Beckie McCammitt, Geri Blum, Jenn Brownlee, Debbie Worsdell, Brian Miller

Grades 4-5: Kristine Adler, Ken Montgomery, Alexis Gosewisch, Chris McCrum

Rite 13: Sheila and Steve Miller

J2A: Tiffany Myers, Dave Lusk

Destination Unknown (Youth Group): Michelle Scarpulla and the many parents who volunteered to drive and help in other ways.

Loren Manni: Vestry liason

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Legnani, Christian Education Director

YOUTH GROUP – MICHELLE SCARPULLA

In the fall of 2015, St. Peter's youth group was re-started using a curriculum called Destination Unknown. Youth in the Rite 13 and J2A classes were invited to participate in a monthly outing. Each month, youth are invited to a youth group event and given a bible verse as a clue to what the destination will be, but they are not told where they are going. On the day of the youth group, the youth gather at St. Peter's for an opening activity and prayer before heading out to their location. They are not informed of the destination until they arrive. Once there, the group engages in an activity, bible reading, discussion and sometimes a snack or meal. Over the 2016-17 school year, the youth visited the following locations:

- A running track
- Acme grocery store (followed by a taco dinner with the Vestry)
- A cemetery
- Stratosphere: a trampoline facility
- A fire and EMS station
- Ceramic Barn
- A vineyard (many thanks to Eileen and Larry Sharrott for hosting us at Sharrott Winery!)

There were between six and twelve students at each event with two chaperones each time. Michelle Scarpulla planned and coordinated the youth group and a different parent would co-chaperone each month. In the 2017-18 school year, Barbara LaRue will take over the youth group with the new Rite 13 and J2A groups.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Scarpulla

WORSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE

LETTERS OF LIGHT MINISTRY – MICHELLE SCARPULLA

During one of the youth group meetings, the youth took time to send letters to St. Peter's members who are ill and/or homebound. Within a few weeks, a few of those parishioners had written back or indicated to Lisa or Deacon Helen how nice it was to receive those letters and cards. Because of this great response, this prompted the creation of the Letters of Light initiative. St. Peter's parishioners are invited and encouraged to continue the process and send notes of well wishes and prayers to our members who cannot be with us each week. There is a table in Williams Hall set up to include pens, note cards, envelopes and a list of people who can use some cheer. Please help us to continue this initiative.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Scarpulla

MUSIC AT ST. PETER'S – BRENDAN MOORE

I would like to first say that I am very pleased to have been chosen for this position. I enjoy the congregation at St. Peter's and look forward to my time here at the church. When the Bishop came for Confirmation, he had mentioned the well-known hymn, Jesus Loves Me. Upon hearing this, I took it upon myself to play that very same hymn for the post-communion meditation. A member of the congregation stopped me after the service and thanked me for playing Jesus Loves Me, and felt that I would fit right into the congregation. For my part, I believe that I have.

I have a few new ideas planned in order to keep things interesting and make sure that we are all offering our best to God musically.

When I first started at St. Peter's, I was a bit unsure of how to proceed. Having worked previously in the Presbyterian Church (and prior to that, St. James Episcopal Church in Long Branch) I felt just a bit lost. I can honestly say that the choir members at St. Peter's are extremely helpful in providing guidance, especially Roberta Price. She often spoke to me after Sunday's service, asking what we were going to sing next and gently recommending a particular choral work. I will miss her greatly this year, but the other choir members have stepped forward and I look forward to working with them. I of course must write that I am always seeking additional choir members and even if you don't think you can sing, I strongly encourage you to consider joining us. Come and join us in singing and of course laughter at rehearsals on Thursday's at 7:30 p.m.

I have had several conversations with different choir members about the future of the church's music program. Some have offered the opinion that they would like to sing more traditional Episcopal music and others seem to enjoy more contemporary music. It is my intention to bridge the gap between the two very different musical styles. If any of the members of the congregation have suggestions in terms of music, I encourage you to make those suggestions. I am always open to suggestions and am willing at least to listen to them. While I cannot guarantee that change will happen immediately, I will accommodate as best I can.

When I first met Father Don in March of 2017, I was ecstatic to learn that St. Peter's had a working pipe organ. As an organist, I can say honestly say that playing an electronic organ is not at all the same as playing a real, bona-fide pipe organ. However, pipe organs are fairly complex instruments and require specialized maintenance and tuning. In fact, 10 years ago to the day, the very company that tunes our organ, Peragallo, offered to show me around the 5 manual, 150 rank pipe organ in St. Patrick's Cathedral. Needless to say, I was in organist heaven and spent nearly 5 hours with the tuners! I learned, however, that it takes Peragallo about 6 hours to tune one pipe division out of about 7 and that whenever there is an event in the Cathedral, no less than 3 of their technicians are there to prevent any musical mishaps. While our humble instrument does not require such extravagant care, it does require regular maintenance. For example, one of the stop knobs does not draw out properly, forcing a certain organist to pause during hymn introductions to cause the offending stop to play. It is my intention that this issue should be fixed and that the organ should be tuned at least four times per year (essentially with the changing of the seasons).

Finally, I had the chance to read the previous Music Director's report and noticed that he mentioned perhaps writing a brief note about the musical happenings in the church and providing history and information regarding hymn tunes and service music. I would like to continue this idea, so be on the lookout for a musical note in the next newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,
Brendan Moore

REPORT OF THE ALTAR GUILD – SUZANNE CRAWFORD

The dedicated members of St. Peter's Altar Guild, overseen by our Rector, prepare our church and chapel for all weekly services, as well as special services such as weddings, funerals, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Ash Wednesday, and all Holy Week services. We are organized into weekly teams which are responsible for setting out the elements for the Eucharist, and caring for all vessels, linens, and other items used in worship. The altar frontal is changed for each season

as well as for special services. Hymn numbers are posted, candles filled with oil, holy water refreshed, and brass items polished. Special thanks go to Rose Johnston who washes and irons all of the linens, and Anita Beard for her attention to the chapel. We sincerely appreciate all who set up the manger scene outside and green the church at Christmas, as well as our sexton, Mark Cantarella, for his invaluable assistance throughout the year.

We would love to have you join us on Altar Guild! If you have just an hour or two a month to devote to our vital ministry, you would be participating in a most important and rewarding act of service to St. Peter's. Our invitation is extended to all who think this is a ministry they could try. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Most sincere thanks go to those who served faithfully on Altar Guild in 2016 – 2017:
Anita Beard, Suzanne Crawford, Barbara Dane, Alison Gregory, Ruth Hedden, Doris Heintz, Rose Johnston, Maureen Joos, Mark Kaczorowski, Mandy Keen, Dottie Mitchell, Josie Nealis, Ruth Pogoda.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Crawford

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – DEACON HELEN

What is the most common response to the invitation to serve as a Eucharistic Minister? Almost always, it is some version of “I am not worthy.” Did you realize that no one is worthy? We don’t become Eucharistic Ministers because of our worthiness; the opportunity to serve God, the congregation and the clergy in this way comes as a gift.

The primary role of the Eucharistic Minister is to reverently serve the chalice at celebrations of the Holy Eucharist. At St. Peter’s, some Eucharistic Ministers also serve as lectors and/or assist the deacon or priest when the altar is being prepared. As a Eucharistic Minister, you may expect to serve approximately once a month, normally at the service you regularly attend. Eucharistic Ministers also serve on major Holy Days such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, during Holy Week, and Easter.

Each Eucharistic Minister is licensed by the bishop after training by Deacon Helen or designated assistant.

Current Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Allan, Carl Ausfahl, Debbie Banecker, Anita Beard, Natalie Boyle, Suzanne Crawford, Ward Davis, Jillian Floyd, Jack Hobson, Mark Kaczarowski, Andrew LaRue, Charlene Marietti, Beckie McCammitt, Ken Montgomery, Ruth Pogoda, Sue Santangelo, Eileen Sharrott, Jamieson Smith, Jim Smith, Sally Smith, Lisa Taylor

Thank you to Daryl Albury, Fran Mitchell, and Dottie Mitchell, newly retired Eucharistic Ministers, for their many years of service.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Helen M Orlando, Deacon

LECTORS/INTERCESSORS – DEACON HELEN

Lectors share God’s word during worship services by reading the first and second lessons, and leading the psalm. They also serve as intercessors when leading the Prayers of the People.

At St. Peter's, all lectors serve on a rotating schedule; frequency depends on the number of available lectors. Monthly schedules are emailed to all lectors and texts of the readings and Prayers of the People are emailed in advance. We also invite our Lectors to read on major Holy Days, such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, during Holy Week, and Easter. Although Lectors are not licensed, training is available from Deacon Helen, as requested.

Many lectors report that preparing to read aloud increases, enriches, and sometimes even changes their understanding of even the most familiar passages.

Current Lectors: All Eucharistic Ministers and Elizabeth Adler, Jillian Anderson, Laurie Barbato, James Beard, Jane Bersch, Russ Carvin, Danielle Colaianni, Marilyn Flagler, Edie Green, Barbara LaRue, Chris McCrum, Mekenna Montgomery, Mekelsey Montgomery, Tiffany Myers, Mike Orlando, Michelle Scarpulla, Scott Semmel, Ellie Myers, (sub.), Caroline Warfield (sub.)

We thank both Mekayla and Mekenzie Montgomery, now away at college, for their many years of service as lectors at St. Peter's.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Helen M Orlando, Deacon

WORSHIP LEADERS – DEACON HELEN

A small group gathers in the chapel as the morning sun's rays stream through stained glass. The lit candles of an Advent wreath light the darkness in preparation for Advent Evening Prayer. Men and women gather in the church to follow the centuries-old practice of experiencing the Passion of our Lord as they walk the "Stations of the Cross." God offers the grace of each of these experiences to those who serve as Worship Leaders at St. Peter's.

Worship Leaders are approved by the Rector and licensed by the Bishop to lead public worship. Training is provided by the Rector or Deacon Helen. Regular duties include the leading of Morning and/or Evening Prayer on the weekdays of Advent and Lent and can include the leading of the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings during Lent and Holy Week or the leading of the Wednesday Healing Service (without Holy Communion), in the absence of a priest.

Current Worship Leaders: Anita Beard, Suzanne Crawford, Mark Kaczorowski, Barbara Kelly, Lisa Miner, Ken Montgomery, Ruth Pogoda, Robert Spalding

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Helen M Orlando, Deacon

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS

St. Peter's Eucharistic Visitors carry Holy Communion on a regular basis to members of the congregation who are unable to attend church services due to illness or other reasons. As they bring Christ in the Sacrament and give of themselves in fellowship and loving service, most Eucharistic Visitors develop strong bonds with those whom they visit and value both blessings given and blessings received as they carry out their ministry.

Eucharistic Visitors make visits to their assigned charge(s) at least once each month, preferably on the first Sunday of the month or as soon afterward as possible. There are currently no other

regularly-scheduled meetings, although annual or semi-annual meetings for prayer, sharing, and fellowship may be scheduled. Each Eucharistic Visitor is approved by the Rector and licensed by the Bishop. Training is provided by Deacon Helen.

Current Eucharistic Visitors: Mary Allan, Carl Ausfahl, Anita Beard, Fran Cioffi, Ward Davis, Pat Lusk

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Helen M Orlando, Deacon

ST. PETER'S PRAYER VINE – DEACON HELEN

We know that we can't involve ourselves in every problem, every situation in which there is need; but we can do something. Let God weave your efforts, your gifts, your prayers into what God is already doing for that person, in that situation, in that particular place of need, and trust that somehow you can make a difference.

Brother David Vryhof, Society of Saint John the Evangelist

Each day, members of St. Peter's Prayer Vine invite God to weave their prayers into God's work, forming an invisible web of prayer, solace, and support for those who have requested prayers for healing or for the protection of those serving in the military. Prayer Vine members have no group meetings, but receive new prayer requests and updates via email or snail mail, depending on what is most convenient for them. Their quiet, invisible ministry brings hope and healing to many.

Any one may request prayer for anyone by contacting Deacon Helen, the Church Office, or entering the name and need in the notebook provided on the narthex table. Prayer requests are kept on the intercessory prayer list for one month and will be removed after that time if no update has been received. Specific prayer requests and updates are kept confidential among clergy and Prayer Vine members.

Current Prayer Vine members: Hilda Baldyga, Anita Beard, Cindy Dinoto, Alison Gregory, Doris Heintz, Rose Johnston, Barbara Kelly, Pat Lusk, Joan McElhinney, Sue Santangelo, Mary Shone, Susie Van Emburgh

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Helen M Orlando, Deacon

ACOLYTE REPORT – JACK HOBSON

The Acolytes of St. Peter's provide the youth of the church the opportunity to participate in the worship service and serve at the altar with the clergy. In this way, the young people of our parish learn the meaning of service and strengthen their commitment to the life of the church. We invite and encourage all youth in third grade or above to join in this important ministry.

This fall we will again be holding training sessions for new and returning acolytes, and a special commissioning ceremony will take place during a Sunday service. In February, the acolytes will have the opportunity to participate in the Diocesan Acolyte Festival.

We had our annual acolyte recognition outing to a local amusement park in September this year.

Mekenzie Montgomery and Grace Castiglia graduated this year. We recognized them with bibles during the 10:15 am service.

Thanks to the following (and their parents) for this important service to the parish during the past year:

Elizabeth Adler
Matthew Adler
Jillian Anderson
Anthony Castiglia
Grace Castiglia
Elisabeth Cullen
Brooke DePietropolo
Devin DePietropolo
Charlotte LaRue
Daniel LaRue
Tyler McCrum
Jack Miller
Mekelsey Montgomery
Mekenna Montgomery
Mekenzie Montgomery
Ellie Myers
Mackenzie Ritter
Michael Scarpulla
Jacob Trinity
Joshua Trinity

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Hobson, Acolyte Director

USHER REPORT – LISA MINERD

St. Peter's ushers faithfully serve at each of our Sunday morning services. As the first people a visitor meets, our ushers are the face of St. Peter's to our many guests and newcomers. We thank them for greeting parishioners, visitors, and newcomers alike with a smile, for handing out bulletins and inserts, and for always being willing to cope with the unforeseen emergencies that arise. The following have served as ushers from September 2015– September 2016:

7:45 a.m. Traditional Eucharist

Dick Bland, Jason Ferguson, Ruth Hedden, Maureen Joos, Josie Nealis, Dave Smith, Mark Tressel, Chris Unger.

10:15 Holy Eucharist

Jon Andrews, Marty Banecker, Jim Beard, Jane Bersch, Russ Carvin, Rob and Nancy Castiglia, Kevin Edwards, Phil Flagler, Abby Floyd, Joe Kelly, Michelle and Evan Scarpulla, Beverly Scollay, Caroline Smith.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Miner

MEMORIAL GARDEN REPORT – LISA MINERD

Out of the 97 available niches in the “new” columbarium, 12 have been purchased. If you are interested in purchasing one, please come to the office for the form.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Miner

PRAYER FOR ST. PETER’S ANNUAL MEETING

Almighty God,
giver of every good gift;
Look graciously on St. Peter's Church,
and so guide the hearts and minds of those
 who shall choose the new vestry members, delegates, and committee persons.
And that once chosen, they shall do all the good works you have chosen for them to do.
Lead them with wisdom;
through Jesus Christ our Savior, AMEN

An Order of Service for Noonday

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.
People O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

Psalm 126

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

3 Then they said among the nations, *
“The Lord has done great things for them.”

4 The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

At the end of the Psalm is said

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Officiant

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. *Romans 5:5*

People Thanks be to God.

A meditation, silent or spoken, may follow.

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

People Christ, have mercy.

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

Officiant and People

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Officiant Lord, hear our prayer;

People And let our cry come to you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, to direct and rule us according to your will, to comfort us in all our afflictions, to defend us from all error, and to lead us into all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Free intercessions may be offered.

The service concludes as follows

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Wardens

Debbie Banecker, Senior Warden
Jennifer Buzby, Junior Warden

Vestry Members

Ben Jones, Finance
Lisa Taylor, Parish Life
Chris McCrum, New Member Development
Mike Krug, Fundraising
Andrew LaRue, Stewardship
Beckie McCammitt, Evangelism
John Colaianni, Property and Grounds
Barbara Kelly, Community Ministries
Loren Manni, Christian Education Council Chair

Staff

Mark Cantarella, Sexton
Danielle Colaianni, Treasurer
Brendan Moore, Music Director
Lisa Minerd, Parish Administrator
Sue Legnani, Christian Education Director
Maureen Joos, Loren Manni, Parish Nurses
The Reverend Helen M. Orlando, Deacon
The Reverend Canon Ronald G. Albury, Associate Priest
The Reverend Canon Donald J. Muller, D. Min., Rector
The Right Reverend William Stokes, Bishop of New Jersey