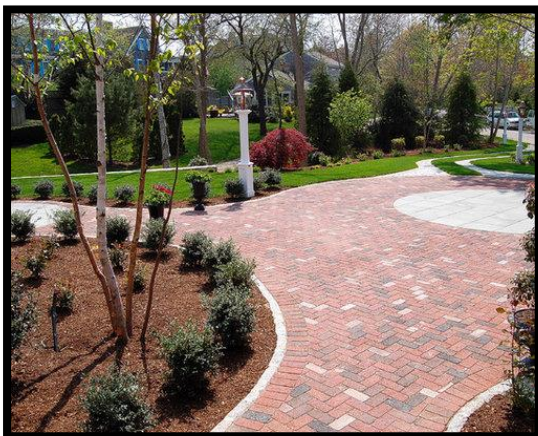


**The 291st Annual Meeting
of St. Peter's Episcopal Church
30 Church Street, Hebron, CT
Sunday January 26, 2025
at 11:30 a.m.**



**Dedication of the New Pathway in the Memorial
Garden in August 2024**



Agenda 2025 Annual Meeting

Opening Prayer: Pam Atwood

Roll Call: Candace O'Shea

Minutes from 2024 Annual Meeting (pages 39-45): Candace O'Shea

Wardens' Report: Marcia Eaton & Dan Osmond

Community Events: Chuck & Marica Eaton

Land Debt Report: John Ostrout

Journey to 2026 Report Goals for 2025: Curt Kraemer

2024 End of Year Financial Report: Barb Parkyn

2025 Budget: Barb Parkyn

Time, Talent and Treasure: John Loge

Mixed-Income Housing Update: Ron Kolanowski

Vestry Members retiring appreciation: Marcia Eaton

Election of Vestry: Ron Kolanowski

Clerk - Cast a Vote: Candace O'Shea

Appreciations: Marcia Eaton/Dan Osmond

Adjournment: Motion from the Floor

Closing Prayer: Brien Brown

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St. Peter's Episcopal Church 291st Annual Meeting
Sunday January 26, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER & OPENING PRAYERS

THE RECTOR'S SERMON AND REPORT FOR THE 291ST ANNUAL MEETING OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH ON JANUARY 26, 2025

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Isaiah 61: 1-2

In our gospel, Jesus quotes this passage from Isaiah when reading in the synagogue in his hometown. He tells those present ***"Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."*** Thus, sets in motion the beginning of his being placed in danger for making this claim, foretold by the prophets, that he is the Messiah.

This gospel passage we read begins ***"Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee."*** Jesus was compelled to speak out, and claim who he was. If we kept reading this chapter, we would have heard Jesus saying ***"no prophet is accepted in the prophet's home town."*** And, if we read this passage through verse 30, we would learn Jesus' claim of who he is... made the religious leaders and the towns people so angry they led him to the edge of a cliff determine to throw him to his death.

This is what happens when the Holy Spirit truly enters a person or a community. The Spirit compels us to do things that many think may be odd or out of the ordinary. However, our Lord gives us the example of what to do when we are truly compelled to act as the Spirit would have us do. It does not mean it is going to be easy or without risk.

My experience among you these 8 years is this parish has a long tradition of following the urging of the Spirit. It began when I realized you shared a portion of proceeds from events with other charitable organizations. Just a week ago I was approached by a church who sees what we do wants to do the same as part of their community service. This was remarkable and counterintuitive by the world's standards.

The leap of faith continued when the Flour Girl got her start here and is now one of the most successful ventures in town. It is the Spirit who led us to share our space with other groups like scouts or Business Networking International, the Red Cross, and others.

This prompting of God's Spirit continued with the purchase of 17 acres of land that you will hear good news about at the parish meeting. We also invited folks to imagine how this space might be improved and we will begin work on the altar area of the church soon. We have already stored the communion rails for the time being. And, we believe we have what we need in our "Journey to 2026" fund to do the work of improvements, new lighting, insulation, and making the altar safer and more accessible for our altar guild and others. This is thanks to donations and grants we have successfully received. We will not require additional funds at this time.

The concerts we hold, like the one cancelled last Sunday due to weather, brings together people from across our communities to celebrate life through the performing arts. We will reschedule and have some other wonderful concerts planned.

This year thanks to the commitment of Erica Baez, Cathy Gerke, and our teens we have been able to start up Sunday School again.

God's Spirit was present at the book group reading **The Book of Joy**. Nearly 20 people gathered every week for two months and shared deep spiritual insights and stories over what it means to find true joy even during times of profound loss and pain.

We see the Spirit through the many people who join hands and come together to prepare a meal for those who rely on sheltered housing during cold months at the No Freeze Shelter. I saw the Spirit present this year when we invited Maggie Harting to help us with our online presence and website. We know websites are critical to communicating in the modern day. However, like most parishes there is no one to take on this work which needs continual maintenance. The vestry allocated the funds to hire Maggie as a consultant and things are vastly improved and more people are connecting and finding what a special place this is.

I see the Spirit moving in the powerful ministry of our Altar Guild who lovingly prepare our space each week for worship. I see it in pastoral care of one another and in the Amarylis we send at Christmas to those who lost loved ones during the past year.

I saw the Spirit moving with the installation of the beautiful walkway in the memorial garden that is the cover of our Annual Report. This beautiful space is now fully accessible to individuals with assistive devices who previously were unable to join us in the garden.

Another powerful witness of God's Spirit happened last week. You may remember that we helped a Syrian refugee family resettle in CT in 2021-23. The Alkalifa family has successfully integrated as meaningful citizens into our country. To show their gratitude they mailed a check of nearly \$6000 to help the resettlement of another family sometime in the near future. A real witness of someone with not huge resources giving out of gratitude for what was given to them. The hope is that River East Resettlement Alliance will spring back into motion to host another family in 2025, thanks in large part to this generous gift from the family we helped.

One of the things we will discuss at the Annual Meeting is the use of treasure. We have succeeded beyond expectations in many areas of our common life that you will hear about in our meeting. However, you will also learn that there is a deficit to run the operations of the parish.

I also recognize many people are in a time of higher anxiety right now about a lot of things. I want to say that this deficit is not something that we cannot solve and I am confident we shall.

However, in the interest of transparency I want to tell you that the increase to this year's budget is largely staff salaries and particularly mine. I discovered a year ago that I was not paid the minimum level required by the larger Church and Pension Fund from the time I was ordained as a priest.

For 17 years I have been paid less than what I was supposed to be paid. A year ago, I told the vestry that I have no intention of asking for those funds from the previous 7 years with you to be restored to me. However, moving forward in 2025, we will pay the correct compensation at the minimum required level.

So, this adjustment is fixed and it will also be fixed for any clergy that may follow me in the future. I must admit, it is embarrassing to stand before you and talk about my salary like this, but is important that you all know the truth of why you will see a large increase in my salary. We can explain in more detail how this happened and the plans available to help close the gap.

Importantly however, I see God's Spirit most visibly present in the faith of the people of this community. It is demonstrated in countless ways each and every day. There is one person whose simple but deep faith stands out for me this

year. Our own Steve Konopka who came back from a struggle with advanced pancreatic cancer will tell anyone who asks, it was the prayers of the people of this congregation that got him through it. No matter what physical challenges he has endured, he is the first one to step up when anything is needed and asked of him. His answer is: This is my family and I will do whatever I can to help.

Our second reading from Paul's letter to the people in Corinth builds on last week's Epistle about gifts. He writes, ***"just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body... Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."*** We are each given unique gifts to be used to build up the body of Christ.

The question I ask myself all the time is what is God calling me and us to do now as a community on this journey of faith? How are the multiple gifts in this community being best utilized to serve Christ's Body in the world? Are we using the gifts God gave each of us, our time, our talent, and treasure to build up this Body to meet the needs for today?

As members of Christ's Body, it is now our turn to do what God asks of us in the passage from Isaiah. ***You and I are "sent to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."***

We have all that we need right in this room to be Christ's body, as this parish has done for some 291 years. May God be with us as we discern where we are called to use these gifts for the benefit of our church, our community, and the world in which we live. One of the greatest honors of my life is to serve as your rector. Thank you for giving me the privilege of joining you on this journey of faith. Amen.

WARDENS' REPORT for 2024

St. Peter's has been blessed in so many ways. Sitting back and thinking about 2024, it is difficult to comprehend all that we have accomplished. Our parishioners are generous in so many ways – their giving of time and talents, their financial support, and their love.

In 2021 we purchased 17.5 acres adjacent to our land. In an incredible three years, we have paid off the land loan. Our "Journey Committee" prioritized the things we needed to do to honor our past and prepare for our future, hoping to accomplish many of the tasks by 2026, for our Church's 200th Anniversary. Through grants and donations, many of the tasks are now fully funded, and one by one are being checked off our to-do list. You will hear more from Curt Kraemer about this.

Our Parish has many dedicated members. A beautiful brick walkway was installed in the Memorial Garden, donated by a Parish family. The all-purpose room was updated from floor to ceiling, through the hard work of a committee, and funded by a parishioner. Spearheaded by a parish family, and through the Church, as well as the Hebron Lions and others, an AED was purchased. In July a Hebron Firefighter/EMT held a workshop on the use of the AED with 15 people attending.

Our Deacon Donna Gray led a successful book study on "Ten Gospel Promises for a Later Life", written by Jane Marie Thibault. In the Fall the group read *The Book of Joy* by the Dali Lama, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Douglas Carlton Abrams.

We gained Doug Bowman, a Seminarian, who will be with us for a two-year stint. We lost Josh, our Music Director, as he left us to further his musical career. We had several people interested in filling that position.

We said goodbye to several parishioners and have gained a few new people. Our Church School is up and running, and through the efforts of Erica Baez and Cathy Gerke, children from early elementary-age to the teen years meet every Sunday.

We hired Maggie Harting to work on our social media presence, and our Facebook and website have been greatly improved.

The Wardens continued to meet via Zoom with the Diocesan Staff, other Wardens, Clergy and the Bishops. The second Wednesday all Wardens met with the Bishops.

Community Events continued with dinners and seasonal events each month. Many parishioners participate in the event preparations – and we have fun!

After each event, contributions are made to selected non-profits. We gather to prepare meals for NO-Freeze (Willimantic), and we collect food and other goods each month for area food banks on a rotating basis.

Our Church serves as a venue for Sanctuary of the Performing Arts. We welcomed many performing artists and opened our doors to the surrounding communities.

Our hall is home to Boys and Girl Scouts, Balance Class, BNI, Blood Drives, as well as Parishioner and non-parishioner family celebrations, meetings and parties.

We welcome all new members to our Church and extend an open invitation to join us. Dan and I welcome potential new members and would be very happy to meet with them and welcome them in person.

Please feel free to approach us with any concerns or questions.

Respectfully submitted by Marcia Eaton and Dan Osmond, Co-Wardens

MINISTRY REPORTS FOR PARISH ACTIVITY IN 2024

ALTAR GUILD MINISTRY REPORT 2024

Tradition is the handing down of long-established customs or beliefs from generation to generation. In theology, it might be a doctrine believed to have divine authority, although it may not be in scripture. In our ever-changing world where we can feel uncomfortable, uncertain or insecure with that change, tradition can take on a powerful reassurance. This can be especially important in one's church.

For Fr. Ron, the liturgical committee and members of the altar guild, it is an honor and privilege to be caretakers of the churches worship traditions. The altar guild does so by maintaining vestments, linens, vessels and needed supply items, and setting them appropriately for all worship and celebrations. This work offers us a time alone in the church and with the Holy Spirit. A time which we can use as an opportunity for our own meditation and connection with God.

The guild members, under the direction of Fr. Ron, are Ellen Kraemer, Barb Parkyn, Joann Osmond, Cathie Litwin, Liz Cyr and Denise Ward. This allows for a rotation of each member serving every 5 weeks for one week of responsibility, generally requiring 2 hours per week. If there are additional services, (holidays, baptisms, funerals) the additional tasks are divided as it works for each person. There is abundant team work and no one is left doing more than they can allow time for.

We welcome new members, of any gender. A current member would work with a new recruit until he/she feels comfortable with the procedures and methods. Please reach out to the rector, church office or any member of the guild if you have interest in joining our team.

We extend a big thank you to Barb Parkyn for creating our rotation schedule, with co-ordination of the liturgical calendar and vestment colors, every six months and for taking diligent care of ordering supplies.

We would like to give a nod to our sometimes stage crew Curt Kraemer, Dan Osmond and Ray Litwin for helping out with climbing, lifting and an extra set of hands when we have needed their assistance.

This year we extend a special thank you to Lino Rodegher for constructing a box table to hold our large brown cross. That cross was originally made by Rick Marks, former parishioner and warden, for use during Holy Week. The addition of the box allows us to use the cross on the altar for many other celebrations as well.

We are also grateful to Liz Cyr for making the magnificent orange stole for the priest and another hanging for the cross as we remember those killed by gun violence, which we will have for years to come.

An additional gratitude goes to the women who worked diligently to restore the all-purpose room with additional storage space. They graciously planned an entire much needed cabinet for the altar guild to store a good portion of its supplies that were squished into the sacristy. We are grateful!

Respectfully submitted, Cathie Litwin

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS REPORT for 2024

The Buildings and Grounds (B&G) Committee would like to thank those who volunteered their time and talents during 2024. The B&G Committee completed the following during 2024:

1. Solicited for new Fire Alarm Monitoring contractors for the Hall and the church;
2. Recommended a contractor (Integrated Security Solutions, LLC [ISS]) to Vestry to assume monitoring of Phelps Hall and Church Fire Alarm Systems;
3. Worked with ISS to install new communication equipment in the hall and church that uses two means of communicating with the monitoring company;
4. Worked with ISS to conduct an annual inspection and testing of the fire alarm systems;
5. Cleaned all of the Phelps Hall gutters;

6. Solicited proposal from plumber for the installation of a whole building water sediment filter;
7. Provided oversight of whole building water sediment filter – This filter removes sediment that clogs the water line feeding the bathroom toilets (which had been causing slow refill of the toilet tanks – causing issues, particularly in the Women’s Room during larger events);
8. Repaired the bathroom stall doors that had been swinging out instead of swinging in to close;
9. Installed larger wheels beneath the main serving table in Phelps Hall – the previous smaller wheels were damaging the Hall flooring;
10. Solicited cost proposals from two contractors for the installation of a new Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system for the Church;
11. Reviewed HVAC cost proposals and provided recommendation to Vestry for selection of contractor
12. Provided oversight of HVAC contractor and installation of new system;
13. Completed and submitted application for \$12,000 rebate from Eversource;
14. Removed the second step up level of the altar, back to the altar backdrop;
15. Removed the first row of pews to allow access for persons with wheelchairs and scooters to sit up front;
16. Put two short pews, that had been removed to place the piano next to the Alter, up front so persons attending to, or worshipping with, those in wheelchairs have a place to sit;
17. Installed a new ladder for easier access to the Church basement;
18. Worked with Eversource to find an insulation contractor to insulate the area above the Church ceiling;
19. Provided input on the paperwork to receive a \$6,000 insulation rebate from Eversource;
20. Removed two dead trees from the north side of the parking lot across the street that had been dropping branches onto the parking area; and
21. Installed three 10,000 lumen lights on the north side of the parking lot across the street for additional lighting during evening/night events.

The B&G Committee is continuing to work on improvement projects for 2025 and is developing budgets for those projects.

Respectfully Submitted, Building and Grounds Committee

CEMETERY REPORT for 2024

The Cemetery Sexton's responsibilities are the following:

- Co-ordinate (with families of the deceased) the burial plot identification and location through previously compiled records
- Locate and determine the plot dimensions and mark them
- Arrand for excavation of the plot
- Mark the area and coordinate with monument supplier the exact location of the monument
- Contact funeral home and family to obtain dates of birth and death
- File certificate of burial/cremation with the Town of Hebron
- Keep a log of burials/cremations and record locations for our church records
- Watch over the cemetery to clean up debris and report damage or vandalism.

2024 CEMETERY NOTES

There was 1 full-earth burial: Milton Porter (04/30/2024 229F)

One burial plot was sold to John Viklinetz (406C). Presently we have approximately 160 burial plots available. Thanks to Len Babin for preparing a digital cemetery map allowing us to keep revisions up to date.

I would like to thank Len Babin and Mark Houle for their hard work keeping the cemetery free from encroaching brush and invasive plants.

The St. Peter's Cemetery Association (made up of community and parish members) meets yearly. They presently employ Chris Snow to keep the cemetery mowed. Yearly donations from plot owners are collected to cover the moving cost. The sale of plots is presently handled by the St. Peter's Cemetery Sexton.

During 2024 there were 8 cremation burials:

Otto G. Koenig 05/04/2024 (261X "C"
Annelies Koenig 05/04/2014 261X "C"
Sandra Phelps Czuchry 06/29/2024 294X "A"
John S. Neil 06/29/2024 359A
Vivian L. Horton 07/08/2024 234E
F. Belle Robinson 07/13.2024
Gerard P. Dumas 08/21/2024 222C
Ronald C. Meloche 10/23/2024 344G

Respectfully submitted, Charles Eaton, Sr. St. Peter's Cemetery Sexton

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING ~ 2024

This Community Events Group is a very remarkable and giving group of people. We meet once a month to lay out the plans for the upcoming events. Meetings last one hour! Please come join us.

The Community Events year began in March. First, was the Polish Dinner followed by the Maple Fest in Town (with maple-flavored foods for sale, and on that Sunday, after the Tractor Parade, St. Peter's hosted the Irish Cabaret in the Hall. April brought us to the Lasagna Dinner. In May we held the Plant and Garden Sale, followed, the following week the Baked Stuffed Chicken Dinner. In early June we held our annual Tag Sale, and in July, we held our very popular Chicken BBQ. A Pulled Pork Dinner in August was followed in September by a Turkey Dinner. October was busy with our Pumpkin Festival and then the Town Center's Harvest Moon Festival. Cookies baked by our teens and Harvest Moon magnets were given to the attendees. November saw our last Community dinner for the season, (roasted Pork Tenderloin). Our final big event was our St. Nicholas Fair in December.

We participated once again with the Scarecrow entry to the Town Center Project, which was under the direction of Cathie Litwin. This year's entry was a baker with the theme of "Cook it and they will Come."

All of these events are made possible by many people working together. We have a lot of fun and social interaction while preparing and participating in each event. Without this cooperation, these events would not be possible. A portion of the income from each of our events was donated to selected nonprofits in Hebron and surrounding communities, which are listed in the Outreach Report.

In preparation for the upcoming year, we will begin our meetings soon, and we hope that many of you will again participate. Watch for a parish-wide email about our meeting notices. These meetings are usually held at 7 in the parish hall and last one hour. Please join us if you haven't already! Newcomers are very welcome.

We were able to contribute over \$41,000.00 to St. Peter's 2024 operating budget, plus another \$3000 in outreach support!

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck & Marcia Eaton for the Church Community Events and Fundraising Committee

CHURCH SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUP

We are happy to have relaunched our Sunday School after a year of not meeting. Two years ago, we tried on a system in which the parents led this effort and rotated executing it. However, that effort did not work and we suspended Sunday School in 2023. Thanks to Erica Baez who stepped up and volunteered to take on Sunday School along with Cathy Gerke we have started up again in 2024. We are in a period of rebuilding our program.

Danielle Burdick a single mother with four very young children joined the parish in late summer and they were all baptized this Fall. They are regular attendees at Sunday school and are learning about church. In addition, our Sexton Angel Garcia brings his daughter Galilea as part of the Sunday School. The Raasumaa/Boots children also participate, along with the Gianoni and Hurley family children.

We started up in October and the plan is to keep going through April. The group is focusing on the Eucharist in its curriculum this year. In addition, thanks to Allison Forrest the children and youth were able to do a Christmas pageant this year. Even our seminarian Doug Bowman joined in as a cow in the pageant.

Our teen youth group is comprised of three teens. The large teen group we had during confirmation in Fall of 2022 through Spring 2023 had many of the group graduating and going on to college or other endeavors. The teens help with the Sunday School classes as well.

Respectfully submitted, Ron Kolanowski, Rector

COMMONS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND CHURCH STREET COMMONS

The Commons CDC was founded as a non-profit organization to create housing in the community. Our board of directors that is made up of Ron Kolanowski as Vice President, Rob Magnifico, President, and Betty Close, Treasurer who are parishioners along with Donna Jolly co-founder of the Coalition on Diversity and Equity (CoDE) in Hebron. CoDE has been a forceful advocate for this work and holds forums on housing attended by many from across the community. Another housing forum is planned Fighting for Home: documentary and panel discussion, Tuesday, March 11, 6:30-8:30pm, in the parish hall Our board is working with architect Kathy Dorgan on a 50-unit housing development called Church Street Commons on the rectory site that will also restore, renovate and integrate the rectory as part of the project.

On Tuesday, April 30, 2024 the CT Commissioner of the Department of Housing came to Hebron to learn about our housing project. An event was hosted at the church attended by elected leaders, representatives from state leaders, town staff, and a host of community leaders. At the meeting Commissioner Seila Mosquera-Bruno announced a \$300,000 grant to help the CDC with pre-development work.

Currently, the CDC is talking to developers to partner with us in building the development and we are close to a decision and creating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) about how this relationship will work.

We are also working to develop a lease agreement between the parish and CDC to give the CDC site control to build the project. In the process we realized that the land was given as a gift by Governor John Peters in his will when he died in 1858. The will specified that the property be used “in perpetuity” for use as clergy housing. We are in the process of petitioning probate court to allow us to use the land for affordable housing that will allow us to execute a lease between the parish and CDC.

The parish will benefit directly in two ways: 1) the historic 1860s rectory will be restored and integrated into the project thereby relieving the parish of a burgeoning liability; 2) generating new income to the parish through the land lease to be used specifically to help pay for clergy housing expenses, thereby creating a new source of income that is not reliant solely on pledges and donations to cover this expense.

Respectfully submitted, Ron Kolanowski, Rector

COMMUNICATION / SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT for 2024

Social Media Report for 2024

To the community of St. Peter’s,

Greetings friends. This is Maggie, your friendly social media manager – lurking in the background making updates to your website and posting events on FaceBook. Sometime soon, perhaps Instagram will come into our lives!

As you know, it’s annual report time and I’m here to share with you some of the things I’ve done since I came on board over the summer. Here’s a short list of the items I do on a regular basis:

- update the calendar on the website
- update the home boxes with links to interesting/relevant things
- keep the contact information and other pertinent details up to date
- create Liturgical Season appropriate sliders for the home page
- send press releases to physical media outlets & ECCT calendar
- refresh content on website as needed
- adding bulletins, sermons, and YouTube videos to website
- remove unused pages and links from website

St. Peter's continues to post Sunday services and other events through FaceBook livestreaming, and I then upload those videos to YouTube (usually in a day or so). In the 52 weeks of 2024, 42 services were posted on YouTube with an average number of views coming in at 5.9. There were 45 Sundays streamed on FaceBook and the average number of views came in at 16.4.

If you have any photos of St. Peter's that you'd like to see featured on the website, please send them to me at: margaretbreen97@gmail.com and I will include them during the appropriate Liturgical Season. And, of course, if you have information on events or other happenings around the community, keep me posted about those too! If you ever have any questions or suggestions for the website or our FaceBook page, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Respectfully submitted by Maggie (Breen) Harting

HEBRON VIEWS

Hebron Views is a quarterly print magazine publication delivered free to Hebron residents, businesses and municipal offices. The articles include a message from the town manager, the first selectman, and news of interest from a variety of town organizations, schools, and faith communities. St. Peter's has had a consistent presence in each edition of the magazine in a "St. Peter's column."

In 2024 the Spring issue highlighted the Sanctuary Performing Arts concerts (written by Cathie Litwin), held at St. Peter's church, chosen for its impressive acoustics and its 1928 Mason and Hamelin baby grand piano in the sanctuary. Each concert is followed by a reception in Phelps Hall, most often with canapes, desserts, chocolates and wine or coffee supplied by parishioners.

The Summer issue showcased “Preserving a past, Preparing a Future” (written by Fr. Ron), which described the long history of the church building, changes made over the centuries to meet changing needs in the parish. This was followed by dreams, accomplishments and plans for moving forward with an eye towards preparing for its 200th anniversary and start of its 3rd Century of service and ministry.

The Fall issue was titled “250th Anniversary of Samuel Peters’ Escape from Hebron.” Fr. Ron edited and augmented this based on significant work by John Baron, historian and Sarah Sportman, CT State Archeologist. The content spanned Peters’ life from 1735 when he was born to his escape to Boston and then to England in 1774.

Recently, the Winter issue was a story by Cathie Litwin about the genesis of the song “I’ll be Home for Christmas” with a nudge to opening our hearts, our spaces and our time to another, who may want or need to “go home.”

The Hebron Views guidelines call for approximately 250-300 words, with photos or art work attached. New ideas and writers are welcome. If you feel a call to write one or have an idea for a topic, please bring that to Fr. Ron or Cathie Litwin.

We also submit frequent articles and photos to the weekly regional newspaper, Rivereast, about our charitable or liturgical activities. Our objective is to inspire by example and display ways in which others can become involved at St Peter’s as a venue for fellowship, charity and worship.

Respectfully submitted, Cathie Litwin

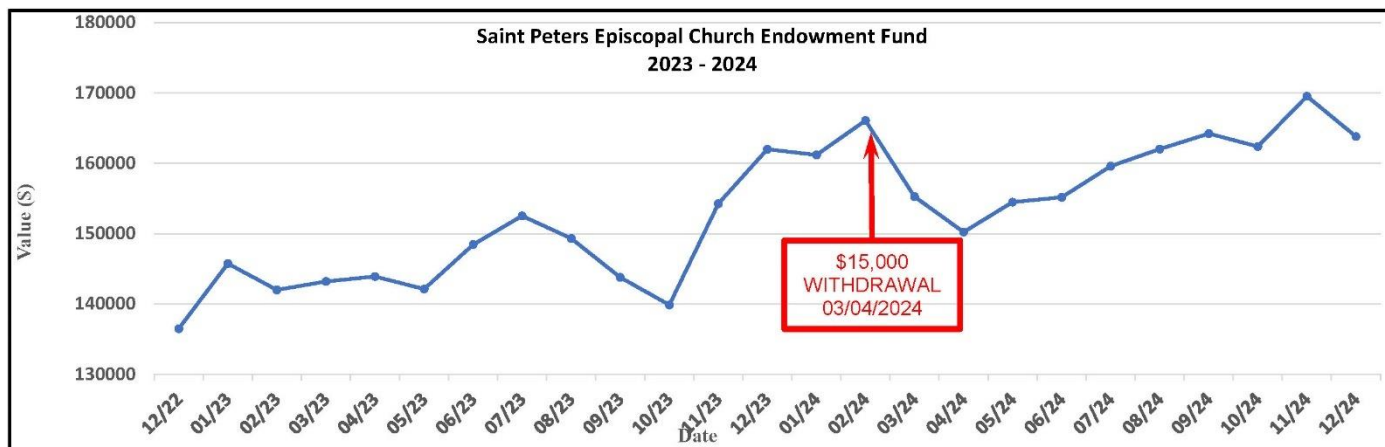
ENDOWMENT FUND FOR 2024

In December 2019, the \$130,000 from the sale of the Ballfield property was given to Donations & Bequests for Church Purposes, Inc (D&B) for investment, with custodial services provided by Bank of America Private Bank. D&B is wholly separate from the Diocese of Connecticut, but is operated to benefit churches within the Diocese.

Below are the 2024 monthly valuations of our Endowment:

December 31, 2023	\$ 161,987.78
January 31, 2024	161,168.83
February 29	166,086.05
March 31	155,261.30 (\$15,000 Withdrawal)
April 30	150,198.53
May 31	154,478.11

June 30	155,166.51
July 31	159,598.84
August 31	162,019.91
September 30	164,221.17
October 31	162,381.38
November 30	169,528.95
December 31	163,786.93



This last year the Endowment Fund has shown some growth. Despite a withdrawal of \$15,000 in March, the Endowment Fund has grown by approximately \$16,800, a solid 10% growth for the year.

Respectfully Submitted, The Endowment Task Force

FELLOWSHIP, HOSPITALITY & HALL USE in 2024

Our refurbished multi-purpose room and foyer have only enhanced the spacious and beautiful hall and kitchen. With the recurrence of COVID, we appreciate that we have protection filters, keeping us all safer.

We host the receptions following the concerts as the site for Sanctuary Performing Arts. We have also hosted receptions following funerals, dance and piano recitals, as well as birthday parties, baby and wedding showers, and Holiday family events.

The hall also hosts weekly Balance Classes, American Red Cross blood drives, Scout meetings, and Friday morning meetings of the BNI. Flour Girl and others occasionally rent the kitchen for special projects.

Chris Eells continues to be in charge of any hall requests and is the go-to person for the appropriate forms to be signed, explaining the renter's responsibilities, and assuring that the contract is in order before and after the event.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Eells and Marcia Eaton

GARDEN REPORT for 2024

This has been a busy year for the Garden Committee. We started by doing a 'rejuvenation pruning' of the shrubs at the front of the church which were overgrown and blocked a portion of the sidewalk. After a slow start, we were delighted with the result. The shrubs are filling in and look very nice. We did rejuvenation pruning of plants in the Memorial Garden as well.

Plantings for the pet cemetery were designed and installed. We had the Bradford Pear stump removed and then dug up and rearranged the plants in that flower bed. Several plants were installed: two more crabapple trees, six ninebarks along the side of the deck, and one Pieris at the corner of the patio. The edging around the garden by the hall entry was renewed. Annuals were planted there and in the planters on the deck. About twenty parishioners helped spread one hundred bags of mulch.

As part of the Juneteenth celebration, we planted a Japanese Maple in the Memorial Garden in memory of the slaves who were members of St. Peter's.

In July, a beautiful brick walkway was installed in the Memorial Garden thanks to a generous donation by two parishioners. The garden will now be more accessible to people with mobility issues.

The church grounds look beautiful thanks to the efforts of the Garden Committee. We meet for just an hour once a week, May through October. Please join us and enjoy new friendships and the beauty of the garden.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Kniep

LAND LOAN CAMPAIGN OF 2023-24

In 2021 St. Peter's purchased the 17.5 acres of land adjoining Phelps Hall for \$200,000. This long time Parish "Dream" was made possible by securing a private loan of \$150,000 with an annual interest cost of \$9,100 (7%).

A campaign was launched at the Annual meeting in 2023 to pay off the remaining \$130,000 loan, which would burden St. Peter's budget every year with an interest payment of \$9,100 into the foreseeable future.

The Vestry is pleased to announce that in two years this interest-bearing loan has been paid off! This accomplishment was made possible with the support of dozens of Parish families; proceeds from Parish events; earnings from St. Peter's

endowment; and a Town of Hebron purchase of the wetlands approved at last year's Annual Meeting.

At the December 19, 2024 Vestry meeting, the following motion was approved with a unanimous vote and no abstentions.

"John Ostrout motioned that St. Peter's pay Len Babin the full current land loan balance of \$36,000 as of December 19, 2024. Funds for this payment will be borrowed from funds from St. Peter's savings account. These funds will be replenished in 2025 with the \$30,000 in funds withdrawn from the endowment earnings and with \$6,000 from the \$7,500 that that the Town of Hebron is paying for our wetland property. With this payment to Len Babin, St. Peter's will own the land free and clear."

CONGRATULATIONS to ALL!

Respectfully submitted, John E. Ostrout

MUSIC REPORT for 2024

The year 2024 has been a time of transition in our music program. We said farewell to our music director Joshua Ziemski in September. Josh came to St. Peter's right out of college and was with the parish for ten years. He is an accomplished organist with great skill at improvisations. He was choir director, yet he always knew this was not his strength. He has taken a new position at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Mystic where he works with the accomplished music director Richard Schumacher. At St. Patrick's he is strictly the organist and gets to use his strength there is a vibrant music program. He is also being compensated at a level we were unable to pay in years past. We are grateful for his gifts to us and that of his mother Nancy Ziemski who kept our choir together. She was our choir mother. We miss all three Ziemskis as well as Eileen Akers.

We launched a search and had six candidates to interview. We narrowed it down to two and then one dropped out due to family issues. We have engaged Dr. Davis Martin, who is a trained choir director and teaches choral conducting at the university level. We are in a period of probation with Dr. Martin to see if it is a good fit for him and for us. While he comes to us as a pianist and choir director, he has not worked as a parish music director and has a lot to learn, especially the organ. We have set the goal of having him do more and more music on the organ which is important to the wider congregation. We are also working on picking songs that are more singable and familiar to the congregation. If there are hymns

or songs you want to sing in church, please Dr. Martin know. With Josh's departure, we realized we were woefully underpaying our music director and, to attract anyone to this position, we needed to add funding to this position which you will see reflected in our 2025 budget. We have not yet signed a formal contract with Dr. Martin as we continue in this learning period.

We also are hoping to find what can help us increase participation in our choir this coming year and are exploring the idea of choral scholars as some other parishes have done to support their choirs who are shrinking and aging.

Respectfully Submitted, Ron Kolanowski, Rector

OUTREACH AND AWARENESS REPORT

For the past ten years St. Peter's Church has taken a portion of its income from community events and shared proceeds with other charitable organizations in Hebron and surrounding communities. In 2024, twelve checks totaling \$3000 were donated to charitable organizations. Four donations of \$250 went to food banks. One to Andover, Columbia, HIHS and to Marlborough. Eight checks of \$250 went out to AHM, Windham's No-Freeze Shelter, SE Community for the Blind, Flying Free TRC, Inc., Hebron Historical Society, Camp Washington, WAIM, and Easter Seals of Oak Hill Camp Hemlocks. We also donated \$745 from the Juneteenth Celebration to CODE, \$200 from the Harvest Moon to the Town Center Project and \$540 to HIHS from the Thanksgiving Ecumenical service for a total of \$4485 to our outreach donations.

Juneteenth/Coalition on Diversity and Equity (CoDE)

On June 15, 2024 our youth group baked over 250 red velvet cupcakes to take to the Juneteenth event held at the Peters House. The cupcakes were given freely to all in attendance and the youth asked for goodwill offerings that would benefit CoDE and their work in the community. As stated, \$745 was raised in donations for CoDE.

Small Town Pride/Pride Sunday

Small Town Pride is an organization was created in 2023 to support our LGBTQ+ kids and adults in Hebron, Marlborough, Andover, and Columbia. Its focus is to provide a supportive, kid-friendly, and safe environment. It held an event at the Flour Girl Dooryard café and the American Legion on June 20 that attracted over 60 people crammed into the café. Fr Ron provided opening remarks for the panel

discussion of young LGBTQ+ people who grew up in Hebron to share their personal stories. On June 21 St. Peter's held our second Pride Sunday worship, in the parish hall due to high heat and the need for A/C. The service was highly publicized and garnered hundreds of hate comments on the St. Peter's website. Thanks to Maggie Harting for taking down the hateful comments as they appeared. Because of the hateful postings the town sent an officer to be at the church on Sunday as a level of protection, but nothing happened. Rather, the service was attended by over 100 people including some who were at the event the day prior.

Harvest Moon Festival

The Town Center Project (TTCP) hosted Harvest Moon in late October in the Village Center. St. Peter's gave a gift to the event of magnets that were given away. Our youth baked some 500 cookies that were also given away to those at the festival. A goodwill jar was taking donations to benefit TTCP and raised a modest \$200 toward their programming efforts. While it did not raise a lot of funds, TTCP leaders thought the magnet created wonderful awareness of the Harvest Moon Festival.

Church by the Pond (CBTP)

CBTP is a ministry of Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford and is a worshipping community of non-housed or housing insecure individuals who gather weekly in Bushnell Park for worship and a luncheon. Our teen in 2022 and 2023 worshipped with and provided a meal for the congregation. In 2024 additional funds were given from St. Peter's to support CBTP in its mission.

Camp Washington/Memorial of the Lost

CW is our diocesan camp in Morris CT, Fr. Ron's Children are active participants in many of the programs at Camp. Fr. Ron also serves on the Board. A donation was made this year to the Camp to support its Memorial of the Lost which raises awareness of all those who are affected by gun violence. The memorial is a tribute to those lost to gun violence in each year across Connecticut. St. Peter's hosted the Memorial which is comprised of T-Shirts on stanchions with the names age and date the individual was killed by gun violence in our state. The memorial in 2024 had 48 Individuals memorialized on the front lawn of St. Peter's Church from October 22-November 6. On Sunday, October 27 we held anti-gun violence Sunday in our worship at church to remember those lost to senseless gun violence in our state. The September community dinner supported the Camp with its \$250 donation to help the project continue.

Red Cross Blood Drives

Another year of Red Cross Blood Drives with many, many life-saving blood donations collected. We can be proud that the Red Cross continually asks us to host their drives. Beyond the usual scheduled drives (generally 3 or 4 per year), we are often called upon to host a drive when a preselected site has issues (leaks, lack of heat or air conditioning, etc.) that prevents the drive being held there. They call on us and when it is possible to accommodate them, we are happy to do so. Angel Garcia, our sexton is a God-send in so many ways, and in this case, his help with setting up of the necessary tables and chairs, as well as the resetting and clean-up of the Hall following the drive is priceless. Many thanks to Angel!

St. Peter's Preserve: Creation Care

St Peter's Preserve continues to be an important resource for our local AHM Youth & Family Services organization as well as for the Discovery Zone Learning Center. As stewards of our land, the AHM Board of Directors, staff and volunteers clear and maintain the trails which they use extensively for their youth programs and services.

The young children who attend the Discovery Zone are also frequent visitors to the Preserve. For a number of years, St. Peter's has partnered with AHM to co-sponsor the "Tap Into Nature" event during Hebron's MapleFest.

Last year, over 2500 people participated in the event which features nature programs and exhibits including maple syrup making, native plants and animals, birds of prey, and more.

St. Peter's is also active in the creation and maintenance of our gardens which attract our native pollinators. Our annual plant sale features an extensive inventory of native plants as well as information about how to support our native birds, bees, and butterflies.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Osmond, Outreach Coordinator, Ron Kolanowski, Rector, Candace O'Shea, and Claire Bracaglia, Parish Secretary

PASTORAL CARE and PRAYER MINISTRY REPORT for 2024

As John Loge so aptly put it in his stewardship address, to the congregation, as chair of the committee, "there is no committee...it's all of you!"

Likewise, it is the same here, at St Peter's, for our pastoral care and prayer ministry. Our committee is large and active because **it is all of you!**

Pastoral care focuses on physical, emotional and spiritual support to those who may, for one reason or another, appreciate a little extra kindness, care, and prayers ascending on their behalf. We can always count on *each and every* member of the parish to reach out in love and with that special kindness that says "I care."

Reaching out can go from preparing meals or helping with transportation to the simplest, but just as important and beneficial, hug, smile, fist pump or high-five, or only a touch on the arm, with an offer of prayer. So much of pastoral support is just showing up and at SPC, our fellow worshipers do just that. Once word goes out, it travels fast. Fr. Ron answers or responds to all calls and encourages anyone to stop into his office at any time. He answers and listens when you might simply need a voice at the other end. The next front line of this ministry, is Claire, our pastoral "dispatcher" who first offers her own listening ear, heart and counsel, before she directs the information to the proper person to take it from there.

Kathy Kniep, with her diligent communication with the Women's Group forms a wonderful collaboration with pastoral care when a need is recognized and shared, and acted on together when applicable.

Our Eucharistic Visitors are Lydia Myers, Marcia Eaton, Cathie Litwin, Carolyn Bouchard and Maryann Hickelton. They have both regularly scheduled and randomly taken communion to parishioners at home or in care facilities.

This year, our prayer shawl ministry has gifted 17+ prayer shawls; our two mainstays with yarn and needles, are Fran Rodegher and Cindy Matejek. Well over 50+ pocket prayers shawls have been enjoyed, again this year, by visitors to the church and hall, with the constant help of Lucille Allen knitting for hours. We have presented 6 "Tear Soup" books to those mourning loved ones and 2 "Heaven of Animals" books for loss of a devoted pet. Numerous greeting cards have been sent, usually signed with personal messages of many parishioners. In addition to Fr. Ron, Alberta Pomprowicz and Marcia Eaton, and countless others keep the phone lines warm calling anyone they have not seen on a regular basis, to check in on them and offer help, if needed. If you are aware of anyone who could benefit from a prayer shawl or the book for grief or loss, including a pet, please let Fr. Ron or Cathie Litwin know.

We continue with our tradition to help those grieving a loss during the year by giving them a beautiful Amaryllis plant, in December, that is nearly ready to bloom. Caring for the plant allows time and space to think of the loss and nurture the memory. The plants are timed to open right at Christmas, bringing with it, a meaningful brightness. Eleven plants were delivered to loved ones, this season with a simple reminder that life is forever and that love is stronger than death. Each person getting one this year was deeply touched at being remembered in this special way.

Fr Ron continues his monthly service at Colebrook with the assistance of Cathie Litwin, as reader and chalice, and Myra Day, a trusted friend who graciously joins them as pianist. This is a rewarding day for all and much appreciated by the Colebrook staff and residents. We also managed to continue a monthly service at Harrington Court for most of the year, then realized we did not have the bandwidth to continue and, also, the participants at Harrington had dwindled. We continue to offer communion to residents there who might request it.

If you feel called to play a more “formal” role in pastoral care, please let Fr. Ron, Marcia Eaton or Cathie Litwin know of your interest.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathie Litwin

SANCTUARY PERFORMING ARTS 2024

Sanctuary Performing Arts (SPA) was established in 2022 to create a cultural experience in the heart of Hebron Village during the Winter/Spring and Fall seasons. This initiative compliments the Town Center Project which produces cultural musical programs during the summer in the village center.

The goal of SPA is to host diverse artistic voices to help advance a more inclusive and diverse Hebron community.

SPA is housed at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church as the performance venue for several reasons. The church is the most historic church structure in the community and is located within the Town Center. It is rightly sized for concerts for a gathering of up to 120 people in an intimate setting.

The church parish hall provides a perfect post-concert venue for receptions. Most importantly, the church was designed specifically for sound in the 19th century. The gentle curvature of the ceiling creates a resonate sound with perfect acoustics for chorale groups or chamber ensembles. Lastly, the parish has a history as a

performing arts space going back to the early 20th century when Benjamin Bissell and Austin Warren, founded St. Peter's School of Liberal and Humane Studies. Choral Evensong and Vespers concluded the "work day," the evenings' social events revolving around simple entertainments like charades, square dancing, folk singing, or a piano recital.

SPC is supported by goodwill offerings from concert attendees and generous grants from the Hebron Greater Together Community Fund a program of the Hartford Foundation for Charitable Giving.

Concerts Held in 2024:

February 11: "A Valentine of Love" from Jason Castonguay in Concert

March 3: The Choir School of Hartford: Group of Inner-City Youth Performing Classical Favorites.

March 17: St. Patrick's Day Cabaret and Dinner, Featuring "The Callithumpians"

April 14: "Seasons Come and Seasons Go:" Hebron Chorus Annual Spring Concert

May 19: New Orleans Style French 75 Dixieland Jazz Band had us dancing in the aisles.

June 8: Voices of Concinnity, a professional *a Capella* choir who were formerly artists-in-residence at St. Peter's will transport you with the magic of the pure human voice.

October 26: 7:00p.m. "An Evening with Elisabeth Von Trapp," granddaughter of Von Trapp of The Sound of Music fame, Elisabeth brought her family's musical tradition to Hebron.

November: "Bless This House," A Thanksgiving Concert with Jason Castonguay;

December 7: Hebron Chorus: "A Long Day Closes" Holiday Concert

STEWARDSHIP REPORT for 2024

We closed 2024 with a successful Stewardship campaign, and we thank everyone who contributed their time, talents, and treasures. We received 69 pledges in 2024 for a total of \$160,140. Actual pledge donations were only short by approximately \$2,950.

Our 2025 Stewardship campaign began in the fall of 2024 with a sermon to parishioners, followed by a letter and a 2025 pledge form. Currently we have received 74 pledges for a total of \$168,737. We are indeed grateful. If you have

not filled out a pledge card, it is never too late. Just speak to one of us or call the office, and we can help you with that. Thank you for helping us plan for 2025.

Respectfully submitted, John Loge and Barbara Parkyn

WOMEN'S GROUP REPORT for 2024

The women of St. Peter's support a wide variety of ministries. We are actively involved in the monthly community dinners and all our annual fund raisers including the Maple Fest, plant sale, tag sale, harvest festival, greening workshop and the St. Nicholas Fair.

This year we also organized receptions for the Sanctuary Music series and continued to provide monthly dinners for the Willimantic No Freeze Shelter.

We initiated a major redecoration of the all-purpose room in Phelps Hall during the summer. We researched and selected carpet tiles for the floor, ordered four large storage units, a small desk and eight chairs from IKEA and two side chairs with arms. We painted the walls, the existing storage cupboards, metal file cabinet, bookcase, the small bureau and refinished the tabletop and painted the base so it looks like new. Then, inspired by the success of that project, we painted the foyer, reframed four pictures of historical interest, refinished the entry table, and ordered and painted a small bench. The new spaces look good if we do say so ourselves! This was all made possible through the financial gift of one parishioner.

New members are always welcome to join the group. Participating in the Women's Club provides an excellent way to meet new people and get involved in the many activities at St. Peter's.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Kniep for the Women's Club

TREASURER'S REPORT for 2024

St. Peter's Vestry approves a budget several weeks prior to our Annual Meeting, and our finances are carefully tracked and reviewed monthly by our finance committee. Please remember all parishioners are welcome to share thoughts and concerns regarding all vestry matters, including our finances. Each week our treasurers count and enter all income into our 'Church Windows' program and pay invoices as we receive them. Our bookkeeper, Jeanne Kowalsky, reviews and updates all entries and prepares monthly reports to be reviewed by our finance committee and vestry, works with the Diocese and our payroll company, and prepares quarterly and annual state and federal filings and payments. As you will see from the end of year numbers below in the year-end report we anticipated a deficit of \$8300 and came in with a deficit of \$8084. What this demonstrates is we are right on target in our projections of income and expenses. However, we do need to close deficits moving forward.

Thank you to everyone who gave their time, talents and treasures to enable us to pay all of our bills on time, share some of our wealth with other community and Diocesan organizations, and to work on many projects in Phelps Hall and our Church as we move toward our Journey to 2026 celebration!

Operating Income

Our operating income in 2024 was **\$232,915.22** (\$2,915.22 over what we budgeted). Income was generated from weekly offerings, pledges from 69 families, weekly and holiday offerings, hall use and rentals, and over \$41,000 raised from our community events income. Exact figures are provided on the December 31, 2024 Balance Sheet and Treasurer's Report in this Annual Meeting Report.

Operating Expenses

Expenses totaled 239,293.60, which was \$2,451.50 over what we budgeted for. We had several unforeseen expenses: copier machine expenses, and snow removal. Electricity in all three of our facilities was also over what we had anticipated, and Father Ron's pension was adjusted after the 2024 budget had been approved. The Church Pension Fund provides a formula for the Rector's Pension, and it was discovered that we had been under budget for Father Ron this year! The Diocese has since discovered that this was the case in many churches throughout Connecticut, and adjustments are being made in those instances.

We closed 2024 with a shortfall of slightly over \$8,000.

Donations

We designated income from our September Turkey dinner (\$3,426.94) to cover our 12 outreach donations of \$250 each. We also donated Maundy Thursday/Good Friday donations to benefit the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East, funds/donations from the Juneteenth Celebration (\$745) were given to CoDE, Harvest Moon donations went to the Town Center Project, and donations from our Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service were given to HIHS.

Babin Land Loan

The \$150,000 loan - November, 2021 to December, 2024:

THANKS to many generous donations, our Land Loan Share Agreement Plan, and our ability to use some of the interest generated in our Endowment fund, we totally paid off the loan by the end of December, 2024!

Journey to 2026 Fund

Generous donations from many parishioners and friends and several Grants enabled many projects to take place in Phelps Hall and the Church. Just to name a few: upgrading the Multipurpose room (new carpeting and cabinets, painting); a beautiful Memorial Garden Walkway was installed; new plantings surrounding the church and hall; split systems providing heat & air conditioning were installed in the Church; upgrades to the sound system in the church; and work has begun in Church for safety reasons, to utilize the space for concerts, and for beautification.

Sanctuary Performing Arts provided many concerts in our Church; several Grants, generous donations from Ron Hughes and Jason Castonguay concerts, and donations from those attending each concert cover expenses.

AED - Cathy Gerke led a campaign to raise funds to purchase a defibrillator for Phelps Hall.

Youth Convention: Donations from parishioners and funds raised by the Youth Group paid for Ella and Anna to attend the Diocesan Convention.

Website/Broadcasting We hired Maggie Harting to update and oversee our website and broadcasting systems

RERA – River East Resettlement Alliance – St. Peter’s is the fiduciary for this regional organization that provides support, housing and finances as a family assimilates into the community. The family supported by RERA this past year has successfully moved forward and is now working to help RERA with other families in the future – a huge success story!

Our **2025 Budget** was passed at our January 16, 2025 meeting (budget is attached):

Total budgeted operating income: \$233,500 (includes \$168,737 in pledges)

Total budgeted operating expenses: \$261,926

Projected Deficit budget for 2025: \$28,426

As we all know, many expenses are rising, and the situation at St. Peter's is no different. As we searched ways to close this 2025 projected deficit, we did our best to keep budgeted costs as low as possible. Our largest increases are with our personnel. We are mandated by Diocesan Convention to raise salaries a MINIMUM of 4.1% in 2025, and we have done so. We realized that we have been underpaying Father Ron for years, in his annual years of service computation of his salary. We were paying him only 75% of what he should have gotten all along. He has insisted that we not make that up to him from previous years which would be over \$20,000; however, moving forward we have adjusted his salary to be accurate with minimum levels required by the larger church. We have increased our Administrative Assistant's salary to conform with the actual time spent fulfilling the administration needs of St. Peter's. As we searched for a music director this past year, we realized that we were far below the 'average' salary of a music director, so we have made adjustments in that category also. And we have added a website/broadcasting line item to the budget which has been a huge improvement to our online presence, thanks to the good work of Maggie Harting.

As you see in the above projections for 2025 we have a larger deficit where we will need to narrow the gap this year and have several ideas to do so.

St. Peter's is SO Blessed with a very generous and caring Family!! It is because of all of YOU that we were able to do the above projects and to keep up with running our Church and Phelps Hall, and to look forward to 2025 in doing the same! THANK YOU! I'd also like to especially thank everyone who worked with me throughout the year to track and manage our finances! Jeanne Kowalsky, our bookkeeper for working diligently to track and manage all of our funds and finances, for her knowledge and work with the Diocesan regulations (and for putting up with my learning curve!); Amy Stone, our assistant treasurer for counting and tracking our income every week and for helping me with many other duties; Father Ron for his insight and his grant writing skills and for his constant assistance; our finance committee for carefully monitoring our monthly reports and discussing every aspect of our income and expenses (Father Ron, Joan Churney, Marcia Eaton, Mark Houle, Curt Kraemer, Dan Osmond, John Ostrout, Candace O'Shea, Barb Parkyn); and to our Vestry for overseeing everything we present.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Parkyn for the Finance Committee and Vestry

Treasurers Report of Income and Expenses as of 12/24 for the General Fund

Friday, January 17, 2025

St. Peter's Episcopal Church - Hebron CT
Treasurer's Report as of December 2024 for General Fund

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD (+/-)	Annual Budget
Income							
401.000	Offerings - Pledge	17,126.00	13,250.00	157,183.36	159,000.00	(1,816.64)	159,000.00
402.000	Offerings - non-pledge	3,478.00	1,666.00	20,786.00	20,000.00	786.00	20,000.00
	Total Offerings	\$20,604.00	\$14,916.00	\$177,969.36	\$179,000.00	(\$1,030.64)	\$179,000.00
404.000	Prior Year offerings	0.00	84.00	2,100.00	1,000.00	1,100.00	1,000.00
407.000	Holiday Offerings	1,298.00	84.00	2,308.00	1,000.00	1,308.00	1,000.00
413.000	Facilities - Donations for Use	755.00	250.00	4,435.00	3,000.00	1,435.00	3,000.00
416.000	Designated offerings - Restricted	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
419.000	Other Operating Income	2,008.00	916.00	5,165.35	11,000.00	(5,834.65)	11,000.00
419.001	Event Net Income	7,044.69	2,916.00	40,937.51	35,000.00	5,937.51	35,000.00
400.301	Total Operating Income	\$31,709.69	\$19,166.00	\$232,915.22	\$230,000.00	\$2,915.22	\$230,000.00
421.000	Additions to General Fund	30,000.00	30,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	0.00	45,000.00
	Funds for Transmittal	650.00	0.00	14,629.81	0.00	14,629.81	0.00
	Total Non-Operating Income	\$30,650.00	\$30,000.00	\$59,629.81	\$0.00	\$59,629.81	\$0.00
	Total Income	\$62,359.69	\$19,166.00	\$292,545.03	\$230,000.00	\$2,915.22	\$230,000.00
Expenses							
515.002	Copier Expense	147.06	100.00	2,856.36	1,200.00	1,656.36	1,200.00
515.003	Telephone	291.03	250.00	3,446.17	3,000.00	446.17	3,000.00
515.005	Postage Expense	0.00	62.00	118.00	750.00	(632.00)	750.00
515.007	Office Supplies	727.33	100.00	2,605.57	1,200.00	1,405.57	1,200.00
515.008	Stewardship Expense	0.00	9.00	0.00	100.00	(100.00)	100.00
515.009	PC Support/Software	0.00	50.00	529.00	600.00	(71.00)	600.00
515.012	Pledge/Giving envelopes	0.00	0.00	246.33	260.00	(13.67)	260.00
515.015	New copier machine	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
515.018	Misc. Supplies and Decorations	0.00	9.00	0.00	100.00	(100.00)	100.00
	Total Admin Expenses	\$1,165.42	\$580.00	\$9,801.43	\$7,210.00	\$2,591.43	\$7,210.00
533.001	Diocese Loan pymt	443.31	447.00	5,319.72	5,320.00	(0.28)	5,320.00
533.002	Babin Loan Int. Exp.	0.00	453.00	0.00	5,450.00	(5,450.00)	5,450.00
	Total Land Loan Expenses	\$443.31	\$900.00	\$5,319.72	\$10,770.00	(\$5,450.28)	\$10,770.00
520.002	Outreach Support	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total Outreach Support	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
501.001	Rector Salary	1,668.76	1,669.00	20,025.12	20,025.00	0.12	20,025.00
501.002	Rector Housing Allowance	5,000.00	5,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	0.00	60,000.00
501.003	Rector Social Security Allowance	674.22	674.00	8,090.64	8,091.00	(0.36)	8,091.00
501.004	Rector Health	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
501.005	Rector Life Ins.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

St. Peter's Episcopal Church - Hebron CT
Treasurer's Report as of December 2024 for General Fund

Friday, January 17, 2025

Page 2 of 4

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD +(-)	Annual Budget
501.006	Rector Ins. Allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
501.007	Rector Pension	1,612.46	1,342.00	19,349.52	16,118.00	3,231.52	16,118.00
501.008	Rector Travel & Prof. Exp.	285.26	91.00	285.26	1,100.00	(814.74)	1,100.00
501.009	Rector Continuing Ed.	0.00	71.00	0.00	850.00	(850.00)	850.00
501.014	Rector Dental Ins.	85.08	86.00	1,020.96	1,021.00	(0.04)	1,021.00
	Total Rector Expenses	\$9,325.78	\$8,933.00	\$108,771.50	\$107,205.00	\$1,566.50	\$107,205.00
505.001	Admin Asst Salary	1,974.72	1,525.00	20,996.64	18,298.00	2,698.64	18,298.00
505.002	Admin Asst Payroll taxes	151.08	116.00	1,606.30	1,400.00	206.30	1,400.00
	Total Admin Asst Expenses	\$2,125.80	\$1,641.00	\$22,602.94	\$19,698.00	\$2,904.94	\$19,698.00
507.003	Organist expense	1,750.00	1,384.00	15,800.00	16,575.00	(775.00)	16,575.00
	Total Music Director Expenses	\$1,750.00	\$1,384.00	\$15,800.00	\$16,575.00	(\$775.00)	\$16,575.00
513.010	Supply Clergy & Seminarian	0.00	41.00	0.00	500.00	(500.00)	500.00
	Total Supply Clergy	\$0.00	\$41.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$500.00)	\$500.00
508.001	Bookkeeper Contract	675.95	416.00	4,269.53	5,000.00	(730.47)	5,000.00
515.001	Worker's Compensation Ins.	0.00	91.00	364.00	1,100.00	(736.00)	1,100.00
515.004	Payroll Service Fee	236.82	75.00	1,143.16	900.00	243.16	900.00
515.014	Broadcasting contract	271.90	84.00	1,543.54	1,000.00	543.54	1,000.00
	Total Personnel Expenses	\$14,386.25	\$12,665.00	\$154,494.67	\$151,978.00	\$2,516.67	\$151,978.00
515.006	Auditor Review	0.00	107.00	1,450.00	1,350.00	100.00	1,350.00
520.001	Diocese and National Church	1,825.01	1,825.00	21,900.12	21,900.00	0.12	21,900.00
530.001	Property & Liab. Ins.	0.00	0.00	6,107.25	9,000.00	(2,892.75)	9,000.00
	Total Diocesan Obligations Exp.	\$1,825.01	\$1,932.00	\$29,457.37	\$32,250.00	(\$2,792.63)	\$32,250.00
532.003	Worship	127.62	75.00	924.66	900.00	24.66	900.00
	Total Worship Supplies	\$127.62	\$75.00	\$924.66	\$900.00	\$24.66	\$900.00
515.011	Convention Registration	0.00	12.00	95.00	150.00	(55.00)	150.00
522.001	Church School	183.63	25.00	183.63	300.00	(116.37)	300.00
522.004	Adult Ed.	0.00	9.00	40.99	100.00	(59.01)	100.00
522.005	Retreat/Workshop	0.00	0.00	0.00			
522.006	Vacation Bible	0.00	0.00	0.00			
	Total Christian Formation	\$183.63	\$46.00	\$319.62	\$550.00	(\$230.38)	\$550.00
524.002	Flowers Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00			
	Total Flowers Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			
532.002	Music	59.00	25.00	597.00	300.00	297.00	300.00
532.004	Organ Repairs	0.00	62.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)	750.00
532.005	Instrument Tuning Expense	0.00	66.00	0.00	800.00	(800.00)	800.00

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD +(-)	Annual Budget
532.006	Guest Musicians	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
532.007	Choir Robes Cleaning	0.00		0.00			
	Total Music Expenses	\$59.00	\$153.00	\$597.00	\$1,850.00	(\$1,253.00)	\$1,850.00
524.001	Altar Expense	0.00		0.00			
	Total Altar Expense	\$0.00		\$0.00			
530.002	<i>Electricity</i>						
530.012	Electricity Church	701.93	84.00	1,820.40	1,000.00	820.40	1,000.00
530.022	Electricity Hall	1,686.62	584.00	7,207.95	7,000.00	207.95	7,000.00
530.032	Electricity Rectory	368.39	166.00	2,384.26	2,000.00	384.26	2,000.00
	<i>Total Electricity</i>	<i>\$2,756.94</i>	<i>834.00</i>	<i>\$11,412.61</i>	<i>10,000.00</i>	<i>1,412.61</i>	<i>10,000.00</i>
530.003	Building Maintenance	39.00	209.00	2,648.64	2,500.00	148.64	2,500.00
530.004	Pest Control	0.00	125.00	1,319.40	1,500.00	(180.60)	1,500.00
530.006	HVAC Maintenance and Repairs	0.00	41.00	300.00	500.00	(200.00)	500.00
530.013	Oil - Church	0.00	250.00	2,890.72	3,000.00	(109.28)	3,000.00
530.023	Heating - Hall	415.53	291.00	3,277.16	3,500.00	(222.84)	3,500.00
530.024	Propane - Hall	0.00		0.00			
530.025	Sewer - Hall	0.00	50.00	617.00	600.00	17.00	600.00
530.033	Oil - Rectory	573.40	334.00	2,513.10	4,000.00	(1,486.90)	4,000.00
530.035	Sewer - Rectory	0.00	50.00	617.00	600.00	17.00	600.00
530.040	Fire Systems Expense	375.00	87.00	3,756.80	1,050.00	2,706.80	1,050.00
530.041	Cleaning/Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
530.042	Major Repairs	0.00	166.00	1,626.96	2,000.00	(373.04)	2,000.00
531.000	Grounds Maint	375.00	100.00	858.18	1,200.00	(341.82)	1,200.00
531.001	Snow Removal	750.00	84.00	1,850.00	1,000.00	850.00	1,000.00
	Total Building & Grounds	\$5,284.87	\$2,621.00	\$33,687.57	\$31,450.00	\$2,237.57	\$31,450.00
523.001	Pastoral Care Expense	92.47	16.00	92.47	200.00	(107.53)	200.00
	Total Pastoral Care	\$92.47	\$16.00	\$92.47	\$200.00	(\$107.53)	\$200.00
540.000	Event Sales Tax	232.00	113.00	1,259.00	1,400.00	(141.00)	1,400.00
	Total Fundraising Expense	\$232.00	\$113.00	\$1,259.00	\$1,400.00	(\$141.00)	\$1,400.00
550.000	Other Operating Expense	4,854.47	0.00	5,055.99	0.00	5,055.99	0.00
	Total Operating Expense	\$28,654.05	\$19,101.00	\$241,009.50	\$238,558.00	\$2,451.50	\$238,558.00
570.000	Funds Transmitted to Others	667.00		14,629.81			
	Total Non-Operating Expenses	\$667.00		\$14,629.81			
500.301	reductions to general fund	30,000.00		55,000.00			
	Total Expenses	\$59,321.05	\$19,101.00	\$310,639.31	\$238,558.00	\$2,451.50	\$238,558.00

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD +(-)	Annual Budget
	Difference	\$3,038.64	\$65.00	(\$18,094.28)	(\$8,558.00)		(\$8,558.00)

St. Peter's Episcopal Church - Hebron CT
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2024

Friday, January 17, 2025

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Previous Period Balance	Amount Diff Period
Assets				
103.000	Key Bank Checking	71,763.19	57233.02	14530.17
105.000	General Savings(Key Bank)	69,039.62	109841.62	(40,802.00)
107.000	Petty Cash	300.00	300	0
108.000	D&B Endowment Account	163,786.93	169528.95	(5,742.02)
110.000	Prepaid Expenses	5,196.89	2035.75	3161.14
111.001	Accounts & Interest Receivable	30,000.00	0	30000
120.000	Land purchased	200,000.00	200000	0
	Total Assets	\$540,086.63	\$538,939.34	\$1,147.29
Liabilities				
201.000	Accounts Payable/Vendors	6,600.27	60	6540.27
202.000	Other Accounts Payable	30,000.00	0	30000
205.000	Deferred Income	4,825.00	0	4825
208.000	CT PFLT Payable	66.04	44.03	22.01
210.000	Diocesan Loan	4,373.46	4802.79	(429.33)
212.000	Land Loan - Private	0.00	36000	(36,000.00)
213.000	Int. Free Land Loans	28,500.00	32900	(4,400.00)
	Total Liabilities	\$74,364.77	\$73,806.82	\$557.95
Fund Balances				
302.000	D&B Endowment Fund Balance	133,786.93	169528.95	(35,742.02)
303.000	Land Fund Balance	167,126.54	126297.21	40829.33
301.000	General Fund Balance	46,458.04	43419.4	3038.64
325.000	Commons Dev. Corp Land Lease Fund Balance	5,717.40	5717.4	0
326.000	Outreach Fund Balance	596.48	846.48	(250.00)
327.000	Holy Day Fund Balance	2,007.74	1071.44	936.3
328.000	Defibrillator Acct Balance	728.81	728.81	0
329.000	Sanctuary Performing Arts Fund Balance	11,424.61	6818.61	4606
333.000	Altar Guild Fund Balance	<u>862.60</u>	862.6	0
	Subtotal	67,795.68		
341.000	Cemetery Fund Balance	1,796.07	1296.07	500
343.000	Capital Funds Balance	4,050.20	4050.2	0
344.000	Memorial Garden Fund Balance	1,155.09	1155.09	0
349.000	Rector's Discretionary Fund Balance	3,652.14	3597.14	55
353.000	Memorial Church Fund Balance	7,555.76	7555.76	0
362.000	3rd Century Fund Balance	<u>78,803.45</u>	92187.36	(13,383.91)
	Subtotal	97,012.71		
	Total Fund Balances	\$465,721.86	\$465,132.52	\$589.34
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$540,086.63	\$538,939.34	\$1,147.29

St. Peter's Episcopal Church - Hebron CT

Presentation Budget Report for General Fund

Account #

Account Name

Yr Beg 01/2024

Income

401.000	Offerings - Pledge	170,000.00
402.000	Offerings - non-pledge	18,000.00
404.000	Prior Year offerings	2,000.00
407.000	Holiday Offerings	1,000.00
413.000	Facilities - Donations for Use	3,500.00
419.000	Other Operating Income	4,000.00
419.001	Event Net Income	35,000.00
Total Operating Income \$_____		\$233,500.00

515.002	Copier Expense	2,000.00
515.003	Telephone	3,400.00
515.005	Postage Expense	700.00
515.007	Office Supplies	2,000.00
515.008	Stewardship Expense	100.00
515.009	PC Support/Software	600.00
515.012	Pledge/Giving envelopes	250.00
515.018	Misc. Supplies and Decorations	100.00
533.001	Diocese Loan pymt	4,434.00
533.002	Babin Loan Int. Exp.	0.00
501.001	Rector Salary	44,639.00
501.002	Rector Housing Allowance	45,000.00
501.003	Rector Social Security Allowance	9,063.00
501.006	Rector Ins. Allowance	0.00
501.007	Rector Pension	17,766.00
501.008	Rector Travel & Prof. Exp.	1,100.00
501.009	Rector Continuing Ed.	850.00
501.014	Rector Dental Ins.	0.00
505.001	Admin Asst Salary	23,298.00
505.002	Admin Asst Payroll taxes	1,783.00
507.003	Organist expense	22,000.00
513.010	Supply Clergy & Seminarian	500.00
508.001	Bookkeeper Contract	5,205.00
509.001	Online support contract	2,400.00
515.001	Worker's Compensation Ins.	1,200.00
515.004	Payroll Service Fee	1,000.00
515.014	Broadcasting contract	500.00
515.006	Auditor Review	1,600.00
520.001	Diocese and National Church	23,386.00
530.001	Property & Liability Ins.	9,537.00
532.003	Worship	900.00
515.011	Convention Registration	100.00
522.001	Church School	300.00
522.004	Adult Ed.	100.00
532.002	Music	65.00
532.004	Organ Repairs	750.00
532.005	Instrument Tuning Expense	0.00
532.006	Guest Musicians	0.00
530.002	<i>Electricity</i>	
530.012	Electricity Church	2,200.00
530.022	Electricity Hall	7,500.00
530.032	Electricity Rectory	2,500.00
<i>Total Electricity</i>		<i>12,200.00</i>

Continuing Budget Presentation

530.003	Building Maintenance	2,500.00
530.004	Pest Control	1,500.00
530.006	HVAC Maintenance and Repairs	500.00
530.013	Oil - Church	1,500.00
530.023	Heating - Hall	3,500.00
530.025	Sewer - Hall	650.00
530.033	Oil - Rectory	3,500.00
530.035	Sewer - Rectory	650.00
530.040	Fire Systems Expense	2,500.00
530.041	Cleaning/Supplies	0.00
530.042	Major Repairs	2,000.00
531.000	Grounds Maint	1,200.00
531.001	Snow Removal	1,500.00
523.001	Pastoral Care Expense	200.00
540.000	Event Sales Tax	1,400.00
550.000	Other Operating Expense	0.00
Total Operating Expense \$ _____		\$261,926.00

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2025

Vestry Persons and Officers for 2025

A Vestry may be comprised of a maximum of 4 Officers plus 9 Vestry Persons in addition to the Rector. Please note that Vestry Persons are generally elected to a 3-year term of office and may seek to be reelected for a second three-year term, while Officers are elected each year and may be re-elected three consecutive years and according to guidelines set forth in Diocesan Canons or parish bylaws. Additionally, a person may be elected to serve as a Vestry Person for a shorter term of office in order to fill a vacancy. The following names indicated in **bold print** are submitted for election to terms as Vestry Persons and Officers for 2025

Wardens:

Marcia Eaton **Year 6 of a possible 6-year term of service**

Dan Osmond **Year 5 of a possible 6-year term of service**

Treasurer:

Barb Parkyn **Year 5 of a possible 6-year term of service**

Clerk: **Open for Nominations**

Returning Vestry

David Anderson Year 2 of a first three-year term

Chris Gerke Year 2 of a first three-year term

Kathy Kneip Year 1 of a second 3-year term of service

Curt Kraemer Year 3 of first three-year term of service

John Ostrout Year 2 of second 3-year term of service.

Steve Wells Year 2 of a second 3-year term of service

Three Open Vestry Seats - Nominations from the floor

ELECTION OF VESTRY & DELEGATES AND RECTOR'S APPOINTMENTS
Delegates and Alternates to the Annual Diocesan Convention
October 24-45 2025

Two (2) Delegates and two Alternates (who will serve as delegates in the event that elected delegates are unable to serve) are elected each year to serve for a 1-year term to represent St. Peter's at the annual Diocesan Convention in November. Delegates may be reelected to the position without a maximum number of terms of service.

Convention Delegates

Nominations for two seats from the Floor

Alternate Delegates

Nominations for two seats from the Floor

Rector's Appointments for 2025

Father Ron has appointed the following individuals for critical parish functions for a 1-year period and do not require election.

Burial Lots Treasurer: Charles Eaton, Sr., Cemetery Sexton

Assistant Treasurer: Amy Stone

Archivist: John Baron

Historian: Marianne Marsh

- Motion to approve the ballot and the appointments
- Motion that the clerk cast a single vote to certify the elections.

Minutes of the 290th Annual Meeting

of St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Sunday January 28, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

The following is the Agenda for the 2024 Annual Meeting:

Opening Prayer: Sandy Marshall
Roll Call: Candace O'Shea
Minutes from 2023 annual meeting: Candace O'Shea
Wardens' Report: Marcia Eaton & Dan Osmond
Financial Report and 2024 budget: Barb Parkyn
Land Debt Report: John Ostrout
Wetlands Sale Motion: John Ostrout
Community Events: Chuck & Marica Eaton
Journey to 2026 Report: Curt Kraemer
New Sanctuary Design: Curt Kraemer
Mixed-Income Housing Update: Rob Mangiafico
Youth Report: Allison Forrest
Vestry Members retiring appreciation: Marcia Eaton
Election of vestry: Ron Kolanowski
Clerk - Cast a Vote: Candace O'Shea
Appreciations: Marcia Eaton/Dan Osmond
Adjournment: Motion from the Floor
Closing Prayer: Father Ron

2024 Annual Report

Comments presented at the Annual Meeting augmented material found in the 2024 Annual Report.

Handouts: There were four handouts for this meeting- the 2024 Annual Report, the January 2024 Newsletter of the River East Resettlement Alliance, an architectural diagram of the proposed altar renovation, and a schematic of the wetland area proposed for sale to the Town of Hebron.

Discussion Minutes of the 290th Annual Meeting

Present: 38 voting members and Reverend Ronald Kolanowski attended the Annual Meeting held in St. Peter's Parish Hall.

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING PRAYERS: The 290th annual meeting of St. Peter's Episcopal Church was called to order at 10:50a.m. by Sandy Marshall. Sandy opened the meeting with a prayer.

BUSINESS MEETING:

Minutes of the January 29, 2023 Annual Meeting:

Motion to accept the Minutes of January 29, 2023

A motion to accept the Minutes of the January 29, 2023 Annual Meeting, as printed in the January 28, 2024 Annual Report, was made by Cathy Gerke and seconded by Gayle Kataja. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

Rector's Report (Father Ronald Kolanowski): During his sermon at the combined 9am service, Father Ron Kolanowski verbally shared the written report included in the January 28, 2024 Annual Report. No additional comments were offered.

Warden's Report (Marcia Eaton and Dan Osmond): No additional verbal comments were made. Comments are included in the 2024 Annual Report.

Financial Report: A written report of St. Peter's finances is included in the January 28, 2024 Annual Report.

Barb Parkyn began by sharing how we here at St. Peter's are guided by the Holy Spirit. She shared that the Holy Spirit is seen in so many ways: how we raised money for the new roof, for the land purchase, for international relief, for outreach and how we care for one another. Our Journey to 2026 Fund is growing and in 2023 we were able to donate \$2,500 to local non-profits. The Annual Report contains more information on our work.

Barb Parkyn also thanked the great financial team who help us oversee and manage our finances including our bookkeeper, Jean Kowalsky; the Finance Committee who meet regularly to review and guide our finances, our Sunday counters; Claire Bracaglia and our income treasurers Judi Babin and Amy Stone. It's a great team.

Barb also shared that we raised \$67,000 in contributions for the land. We give thanks to Judi and Len Babin who have loaned us \$150,000 so that we could complete the land purchase with a cash transaction. We are grateful for their generosity. Our plan is to pay back interest only for several years while we are working out the specifics for future land use. The proposal that John Ostrout shared will help us to pay back principal and reduce interest owed. It was also noted that Barb Parkyn helps to manage the finances of the River East Resettlement Alliance.

2024 Budget:

The Vestry approved the 2024 budget on January 18, 2024. Details of the budget are included in the Annual Meeting Report. Total income for 2024 is budgeted at \$230,000 and operating expenses are budgeted at \$238,558. This leaves a shortfall of \$8,558 which we expect to be able to close.

Father Ron shared how important Barb Parkyn is and how dedicated she is to accurately tracking all of income and expenses. Thank you to Barb. Father Ron noted that the management of the budget is the Vestry responsibility, and it is the Vestry who has accountability for passing the budget. Additionally, Father Ron extends an invitation to the parish to participate in the Finance Committee work as all members of the parish are welcome.

Committee Reports

Several committees were highlighted for verbal reports in addition to the written summaries included in the Annual Report.

Land Debt Report: John Ostrout noted that the land loan debt carries an interest of 7%. At the beginning of 2023, the principal balance on the interest loan was \$130,000. Through the actions we took in 2023, we reduced the principal on the interest loan to \$71,000. Our goal is to eliminate the loan that carries an interest charge. The Finance Committee has identified, within the parish funds, opportunities to further reduce the \$71,000 in 2024. The first opportunity identified is to apply \$10,000 from funds raised by Community Events. The second opportunity is to tap into the St. Peter's Endowment Funds earnings. We identified \$15,000 that we will apply to the loan balance. The third opportunity is to use the \$7,500 from the sale of the wetlands to the Town of Hebron for the Jeremy River Protection area to further reduce our loan balance.

With these actions, we will bring our interest-bearing loan to \$38,500. This is a significant accomplishment as within a year we have gone from a 130,000 interest-bearing loan to a \$38,500.

Again, special thanks were given to Len and Judi Babin for without their generosity in offering St. Peter's a significant loan, we would not have been able to purchase the land. We are grateful to them.

Wetlands Sale Motion: When St. Peter's purchased the land parcel next to the parish hall, we knew that the parcel included 5 acres of wetlands that could never be developed. These wetlands border the existing Jeremy River Preserve and the sale of our wetlands will ensure that the wetlands can be preserved for future generations as part of the Jeremy River Preserve. We are the last piece they need.

Motion: John Ostrout moved that the parish enter into a sales agreement to sell to the Town of Hebron the 5 acres of wetland that St. Peter's owns. This motion was seconded by Chuck Eaton. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

The Parish will move forward to gain approval from the Standing Committee of the Diocese for the sale of the land to the Town of Hebron.

Community Events (Chuck and Marcia Eaton): Chuck gave sincere thanks to everybody who participated in our community events and noted that everyone is welcome to participate. The monthly dinners for 2024 are set as are other major events. Our first community event, a luncheon, will be held during the Hebron MapleFest on March 16.

Our dinners are take-outs only. It is much more efficient to do the take-outs and it is not possible for us to do both take-outs and sit-down meals. Our first opportunity for a community sit-down meal is during MapleFest.

Chuck shared a list of non-profit organizations which have benefited from our outreach funds.

Journey to 2026 Report (Curt Kraemer):

Curt referenced the communication meetings that were held in September and we will have more in the future. We are going to significantly upgrade the electrical in the church. To date, we have updated our electrical panels to 200 AMP service. In the future, we will be rewiring the church and updating outlets and fixtures. Our goal is to do this work in 2024.

Safety and accessibility in the church are our primary concerns and the work that we are doing will make a positive difference. We are separately looking at the accessibility issues that we have outside the church.

As part of our Journey to 2026, we will be renovating our sanctuary. Curt Kraemer shared the designs of the new altar and sanctuary. There are several key benefits of the new design. First, it will provide and additional emergency exit from the church. We currently only have one viable exit in the church. Secondly, we have discussed the need to remove the second level at the altar as this second level is a significant tripping hazard. Our goal is to have the entire front of the church to be on one level so that there is only one step across the front versus the one step/two-step design that currently exists. It was also noted that it will be far easier for the Altar Guild as there will be storage hidden behind the gothic arches. This will make is significantly safer for Altar Guild members. The response to the new architectural designs was very favorable.

Father Ron shared that the funding for all the work in the church was started with 5 donors gifting \$85,000. Additionally, Father Ron is working on a potential grant that will require matching funds.

Mixed Income Housing Update (Rob Mangiafico):

Rob Mangiafico is the President of the Commons Community Development Corporation (CCDC). Father Ron Kolanowski, Betty Close, and Donna Jolly (CoDE) are all on the board.

The mixed income housing complex will have 1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments and will be located on the 3½ acres of the rectory property. We will preserve the rectory as an historic building and the apartment will be set back from the road. The Commons Community Development Corporation (CCDC) has worked with the Sewer commission and obtained preliminary approval to hook into the system. We also received a \$2 million grant from the state of Connecticut to research and test wells. We recently conducted our first test and it revealed a flow of 25 gallons per minute. The housing complex will require 10 gallons per minute.

The CCDC will lease the property from the church. St. Peter's will enter into a long-term land lease agreement with the non-profit. St. Peter's will not sell the property, but will financially benefit from the lease agreement. The CCDC has also applied for a pre-development loan from the state (\$300,000) to help with the initial costs. The CCDC is looking for a development partner who has the same sensibilities, perspectives, and goals on how a rural town can build something that enhances people lives and the town.

The CCDC is considering about 50 units. One needs to have a sufficient number of units to attract a good management company and a good development company and make it a worthwhile interest for them. In a mixed income housing complex, 80% of units have to be "affordable". 20% of the units will rent at full market rate.

A concern was raised regarding the low water pressure in the hall. It was noted that the low water pressure is not related to the water testing. The 10 gallons that the affordable housing will need will not impact the St Peter's well. The parish has engaged a plumber to address the water pressure issues in the kitchen and women's bathroom.

Rob Mangiafico shared that additional test wells will be developed. Regarding the recent well testing, it was noted that the state of Connecticut required that the well test run for 3 full days at full throttle. St. Peter's has hired a water specialist (Chuck Eaton, Jr.) to ensure that St. Peter's water interests are protected.

As there was significant interest in the progress and direction of the mixed income housing, a separate forum will be planned in 2024 to discuss progress and options.

Sunday School:

Father Ron Kolanowski asked for prayers and support for a Sunday School. We need someone to take on leadership of a Sunday School program.

Vestry Members Retiring Appreciation (Marcia Eaton):

Sandy Marshall, Joan Churney, and Georgette Conrad are all retiring from St. Peter's Vestry. Marcia Eaton publicly thanked them for their contribution but as each was not present, personal thanks will be offered later.

Parish Reports:

Additional details and all committee reports can be found in the Parish Reports included in the Annual Report of January 28, 2024. For the record, the following reports are included in the Annual Report:

Rector's Report (Ron Kolanowski)

Warden's Report (Marcia Eaton and Dan Osmond)

Altar Guild (Cathie Litwin)

Broadcasting/Recording (Eric Forrest)

Buildings and Grounds (Curt Kraemer)

Cemetery Report (Charles Eaton, Sr.)

Church and Community Events (Marcia and Chuck Eaton)

Communication/Social Media (Rob Mangiafico)

Endowment (Curt Kraemer)

Fellowship, Hospitality & Hall Use (Chris Eells and Marcia Eaton)

Garden Committee (Kathy Kniep)
 Hebron Preserve (Candace O'Shea)
 Land Loan (John Ostrout)
 Music (Joshua Ziemski)
 Outreach (JoAnn Osmond)
 Pastoral Care/Prayer Ministry (Cathie Litwin)
 Refugee Resettlement (Fr. Ron)
 Sanctuary Performing Arts (Fr. Ron)
 Stewardship (Fr. Ron)
 Women's Club (Kathy Kniep)
 Youth Group
 Treasurer's Report (Barb Parkyn)
 Vestry Approved Budget for 2024
 Slate of Offices for 2024
 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

Election of Vestry for 2024:

Father Ron Kolanowski reviewed the slate of officers for 2024 and asked for additional nominations from the floor. There were no additional nominations offered.

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2024

Vestry Persons and Officers for 2024

A Vestry may be comprised of a maximum of 4 Officers and 9 Vestry Persons in addition to the Rector. Please note that Vestry Persons are generally elected to a 3-year term of office and may seek to be reelected for a second three-year term, while Officers are elected each year and may be reelected three consecutive years and according to guidelines set forth in Diocesan Canons or parish bylaws. Additionally, a person may be elected to serve as a Vestry Person for a shorter term of office in order to fill a vacancy. The following names indicated in **bold print** are submitted for election to terms as Vestry Persons and Officers for 2024

Wardens:	Marcia Eaton	Year 5 of a possible 6-year term of service
	Dan Osmond	Year 4 of a possible 6-year term of service
Treasurer:	Barb Parkyn	Year 4 of a possible 6-year term of service
Clerk:	Candace O'Shea	Year 6 of a possible 6-year term of service

Returning Vestry

John Ostrout	Year 1 of second 3-year term of service.
Steve Wells	Year 1 of a second 3-year term of service
Kathy Kniep	Year 3 of a first 3-year term of service
Mark Houle	Year 3 of a first 3-year term of service
Curt Kraemer	Year 2 of first three-year term of service

Incoming Vestry all year 1 of three-year term
Chris Gerke and David Anderson

ELECTION OF VESTRY & DELEGATES AND RECTOR'S APPOINTMENTS

Delegates and Alternates to the Annual Diocesan Convention 2024

Two (2) Delegates and two Alternates (who will serve as delegates in the event that elected delegates are unable to serve) are elected each year to serve for a 1-year term to represent St. Peter's at the annual Diocesan Convention in November. Delegates may be reelected to the position without a maximum number of terms of service.

Fran Rodegher
Sandy Marshall

Alternate Delegates

Irene Victoria Fisk
Cathy Gerke

Rector's Appointments for 2024

Father Ron has appointed the following individuals for critical parish functions in 2018. These appointments will stand for a 1-year period and do not require election.

Burial Lots Treasurer	Charles Eaton, Sr., Cemetery Sexton
Assistant Treasurers	Judi Babin and Amy Stone
Archivist	John Baron

Motion to approve the ballot and the delegates

The nominating committee moved that the parish approve the vestry slate as presented. This motion was seconded by Sue Ostrout. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

The Parish Clerk cast a single vote for the slate of officers, vestry members and delegates. The election was certified.

Closing Prayer: Marcia Eaton closed the meeting with a prayer.

Adjournment Motion: A motion to adjourn the annual meeting was made by JoAnn Osmond and seconded by Cathy Gerke. The motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace O'Shea, Parish Clerk