

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Rooted in love, growing through God's grace, reaching out to all.



St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Glenside 2025 Annual Report of the Parish

**Annual Meeting
January 25, 2026**

**Snow date:
February 1, 2026**

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Note: The Rector’s Report is given during worship in the sermon.



Bylaws Article 3, Section 2: The nominating committee shall nominate not more than eight (8) nor fewer than three (3) candidates for the office of member of the Vestry. The nominating committee shall also nominate at least three (3) candidates for the office of lay deputy and at least two (2) candidates for the office of alternate deputy to represent the parish in the Diocesan Convention and shall nominate candidates for the office of lay representative to the Deanery in conformance with deanery requirements. The names of those nominated shall be published at least two (2) weeks before the election. Additional nominations may be made by members entitled to vote if filed with the Accounting Warden at least one week before the election.

The Nominating Committee is pleased to nominate the following members for election to the offices of leadership and representation in the following areas:

Vestry

Parish Bylaws, Article 4, Section 1. Those qualified to serve on the Vestry shall be baptized lay persons of at least the age of eighteen (18) years, and members of the Corporation, a majority of whom shall be residents of Pennsylvania, and who shall have been nominated in writing to the Secretary before the time fixed for election as provided in Section 2 of Article 3.

Article 4, Section 2. There shall be no fewer than three (3) and no more than four (4) members of the Vestry elected annually for a three (3) year term, and they shall be ineligible for re-election for one (1) year after their term has expired.

Vestry Nominees (Vote for 4)

Anne Gibson (3-year term); Noel MacNeil (3-year term); Debbie Panebianco (3-year term); Deborah Way (3-year term)

The following members will continue to serve on the vestry in 2026: Beth Carlin, Debbie DeKalb, Ernie Dixon, Mark Evans, Julia Guerrero, Audrey Kipphut, Terita Reeve, Chris Teleha, and Matt Torpey.

Youth Delegate

Article 4 Section 4. There may be a Youth Representative to the Vestry elected annually for a one-year term who will be eligible for re-election for an additional one-year term. The Representative shall be a baptized lay person of at least thirteen (13) years who shall have been nominated in writing to the Secretary before the time fixed for election, as provided in Section 2 of Article 3. The Youth Representative shall have a seat and voice on the Vestry.

Youth Delegate Nominee (Vote for 1)

No candidate for 2026

Lay Deputies to Diocesan Convention

Lay deputies represent St. Peter's as voting members at the Diocesan Annual Convention.

Nominees (Vote for 3)

Charlie Hannum, Velma Supperer, Liz Nettleton

Convention Alternates

Alternates fill in for and assume the voting privileges of elected lay deputies who cannot attend the Diocesan Annual Convention.

Nominees (Vote for 2)

Wendy Hartung, Maureen Schaeffer

Delegates to Montgomery Deanery

Delegates to the Montgomery Deanery attend the Deanery's annual meeting as voting members and can attend monthly Deanery meetings.

Nominees (Vote for 2)

Charlie Hannum, Liz Nettleton

Alternate Delegate to Montgomery Deanery

Alternates fill in for and assume the voting privileges of elected delegates to the Montgomery Deanery who cannot attend the annual Deanery meeting.

Nominees (Vote for 1)

Jenna Linke

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee: Kate Boyce (non-Vestry member), Amy Huang-Neske (outgoing Vestry member), Dave Mosteller (outgoing Vestry member), Debbie Panebianco, Karen Sayer, and Deborah Way (non-Vestry members).

Vestry Nominees' Biographies

Anne Gibson
(3-year term)



I was born in Meadowbrook and lived in Fox Chase and Rockledge most of my life. I currently live in Abington with my husband and two sons and a cat named Lola, given to us by the Cat Distribution System. I enjoy kayaking, hiking, old houses and the beach. I am also an avid traveler with an upcoming European cruise in May and a family trip to Ireland in August.

I was raised Catholic and attended Catholic school but wanted a different place for my children to worship. My aunt and grandmother were attending St. Peter's and invited me to the Annual Women's Christmas dinner where I met Kelli Gottemoller. We struck up a friendship since our kids were the same age and she kept inviting us to different events at St. Peter's. After checking out various churches in the area, in 2004 we decided on St. Peter's for the community as much as for the religious experience and have been here ever since.

Noel MacNeil
(3-year term)



Hello all. My name is Noel Mac Neil. I was born and raised in San Diego California. I often get asked how I got to Pennsylvania from California. I worked for the National Park Service (NPS) in California as Law Enforcement for about 1.5 years and then became a Biological Science Technician in Northern Michigan for 3.5 years. After northern Michigan I moved to Georgia, then Nebraska, Florida, Ohio, New Hampshire, Arkansas, and now Pennsylvania. I have no kids and am not married, so it makes it much easier to move from location to location.

I currently work for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) as a Plant Protection Technician. My job is to kill spotted lanternflies in high-risk areas such as the airports, rail lines, etc. I love my job because I get to be outside every day working in all sorts of weather conditions.

When I was furloughed last year, I feared losing my job, trying to figure out how to pay bills without income and mentally just drained. During this period, I was overwhelmed with the support of St. Peter's and their parishioners. I used the food pantry to get me by and realized how important this service is. I am just one person with no kids and could not imagine how families in need make ends meet without programs like the food pantry.

The furlough made me realize how special St. Peter's is, and I want to be a part of that. The opportunity to be on the Vestry would allow me to give back to the community.

Debbie Panebianco

(3-year term)



My husband Bob and I joined St. Peter's in 2016 along with other members of St. Philip-in-the-Fields. At the time, I found everyone to be warm and welcoming to the new sheep in the fold. Almost ten years later, I find this congregation still has its gift of welcome to all who walk through the doors. As a vestry member I look forward to the responsibilities of directing our resources wisely and acting as facilitators of our church's ministries.

In addition to previously being a vestry member at both St. Philip's and St. Peter's, I am a Eucharistic minister. I also maintain the church's website and am a member of the gardening team. I regularly attend LIFT meetings, play the recorder in our Folk Group, and sometimes assist in the kitchen.

I am a retired statistician with two children, two grandchildren, and one "grandpup". I love to do crossword puzzles and play in the dirt in my garden, and I have recently taken up quilting.

Deborah Way

(3-year term)



I have been an Episcopalian since baptism in 1958. That was not my choice, but I have deliberately chosen the Episcopal Church for myself many times since then. As a child, I sang in church choirs. As an adult I have worshipped from the congregation and served in most volunteer opportunities including vestry. In my non-church life, I have served as a medical professional in the care of chronically ill and dying adults. While at the Philadelphia Veterans' Administration, I grew a fledgling program for the care of Veterans with life-limiting illness and their families. I also created and grew education programs for physicians, nurses, and patients and their families. I used the unique opportunities existing at the VA to expand the care provided to all Veterans within our reach. I hope to use my life skills to serve St. Peter's as part of the Vestry.

From the Rector's Warden

The Vestry is the elected leadership body of the parish, meeting monthly to oversee the business of the church, including personnel, finances, property management and maintenance. Vestry members liaise with parish ministries, committees and staff.

This year the Vestry has been hard at work improving the processes and procedures St. Peter's uses to manage our resources. A new Financial Subcommittee of the Vestry - including our Accounting Warden and Finance Chair - has helped to sharpen the financial reports the Vestry uses monthly to track spending, monitor savings, and respond responsibly when emergency expenses arise. Vestry members are leading a new Capital Improvement Projects Planning Group working with our Property Chair to help St. Peter's be better prepared for short-term and long-term needs for maintenance and improvement. Vestry members also oversee the Steeple Committee working through the complexities of getting our steeple replaced after a lightning strike. Currently we're in the midst of transitioning our budgeting process to be more proactive and mission-driven and working with our ministry leaders to help us navigate these changes.

St. Peter's Vestry:

Class of 2028: Beth Carlin, Julia Guerrero, Terita Reeve, Chris Teleha.

Class of 2027: Debbie DeKalb, Mark Evans, Audrey Kipphut (People's Warden), Matt Torpey.

Class of 2026: Amy Neske, Dave Mosteller, John Olson, Douglas Pneuma.

Accounting Warden: Ernie Dixon

Vestry Secretary: Charlie Hannum

Photos and bios are above and are also available on St. Peter's website at stpetersglenside.org/annual-meeting.

It has been a privilege to experience the energy, talent, and faith of this team!

*Respectfully submitted,
Dave Mosteller, Class of 2026, Rector's Warden*

From the People's Warden

People's Warden Audrey Kipphut will present her report in person during the Annual Meeting.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Ernie Dixon, Accounting Warden*

Property Committee

Every day, Tim, our caretaker, and Joe, our cleaner, ensure that our buildings are comfortable, clean and welcoming to everyone who comes here. From the children at Kid View, to parish members who gather to worship, work, and socialize, to community members attending meetings, seeking assistance from our Food Cupboard and Community Fridge, or simply looking for a warm and quiet place—everyone benefits from their efforts. Outside, our dedicated group of gardeners, Debbie Panebianco, Amy Neske and Eileen Dooley, plant flowers, pull weeds, trim, and keep the Memorial Garden and outdoor areas fresh and attractive. Without their hard work and commitment, it would be difficult to make St. Peter's

an appealing and well-functioning resource for our congregation and the entire community.

We maintain and improve a cluster of buildings that are over seventy-five years old. Two years ago, we resolved a major heating problem and installed an efficient, modern system for our church. However, many tasks remain: exterior painting, roof repairs, modifications, kitchen updates, pew repairs, window replacements, and more, all requiring attention. The vestry has instructed us to develop a list of major renovations and repairs needed, then set priorities. Mark Evans, the property liaison, leads a committee to address and prioritize these issues. Mark will also host another property forum, focused on the sanctuary, to generate ideas for making it fully accessible and usable for various future activities.

If you have any thoughts or concerns about how we use the sanctuary, let Mark know so you can be informed about the upcoming forum. If you are handy with tools and have some spare time to help with small projects, please reach out—we always appreciate the help.

One final note: the veneer on our seventy-five-year-old ends of the pews is deteriorating, and we need a solution to restore their beauty. If you have woodworking skills or ideas, please contact me.

*Respectfully submitted,
David Kipphut, Property Chair*

Worship

Worship at St. Peter's in 2025 saw participation of our members, as well new direction for both our choir and our folk group and additional liturgical ministers.

Sacraments

In Spring of 2025 two adults from St. Peter's were received into the Episcopal Church at the Easter Vigil. In the fall of 2025, we started a confirmation class of eight youth, who will be confirmed in spring of 2026.

There were no baptisms in 2025.

Liturgical ministers

Music director and organist Carol Cei resigned from the position in June of 2025. A search committee was formed and met throughout the summer. In August Sam Faust (they/them) was hired as our new music director and organist. They started in October of 2025. Sam brings a love of music written by women composers, and a strong commitment to representing the work of people from marginalized groups.

In 2025, Linda Toia, who founded the Folk Group in 2002, moved to Baltimore to be with family. For more than 20 years, Linda directed the group, planned the music, and ran rehearsals. Throughout the year before her departure, she worked to develop the leadership of the group in her absence. Four members of the Folk Group stepped up to serve as a leadership team: Kristina Marchuk, Terita Reeve, Donna Kulp, and Debbie DeKalb. Among them, they plan and manage the music, run rehearsals, and direct the group when they play. The Folk Group leads the music at liturgy six times a year.

The Rev. Bob Smith, who served his diaconal internship at St. Peters in 2024 and was ordained February of 2025, was assigned to St Peter's staff as our deacon. Deacon Bob oversees requests for support from community members and works with our outreach ministries. He is also a member of our pastoral care team. On Sundays he proclaims the Gospel and oversees the ministry of the table, tasks reserved for deacons.

Rosalinda Ibañez Memba continues to progress as a postulant for the priesthood. Postulancy is an initial time of

preparation and testing for ordained ministry.

Additional acolytes and Eucharistic Ministers were trained this year. We could always use more help in these areas, as well as ushers.

Special Liturgical Programs

In January of 2025 St Peter's hosted the Souls Shot Exhibition, featuring paintings by local artists honoring the lives of people who died from gun violence in the region over the previous year. The portraits hung in the church and were remembered in our liturgies. A special program to meet the artists and organizers of the Souls Shot program was held, as well as a special Taizé prayer service. Souls Shots tours throughout the region and the state.

In addition, our Taizé team offered a Blue Christmas service for people suffering grief or loss during the Advent and Christmas season. And they offered a Lenten service as well. These quiet contemplative evenings, marked with chants, silence and candlelight are unique offerings that draw people from the community as well as our parish.

Attendance

Our average Sunday attendance is about where it was in 2024, averaging about 90 people on a Sunday.

As always, my gratitude goes out to all who serve in liturgical ministry at St Peter's: Our Altar Guild, acolytes, lectors, choir and folk group, tech team, and ushers, as well as the wonderful volunteers who ensure that our fellowship time is filled with good food to share.

*Faithfully submitted,
The Rev. Barbara Ballenger*

Choir & Music

2025 was a year of transition for the Music program. Our former Director of Music submitted her resignation in June and there was a search committee assembled in short order. Over the summer, applications were accepted and in October, Sam Faust took the reins of the program. They are still getting their feet on the ground, so to speak, but you can be sure to expect interesting, eclectic and powerful music in the future!

*Respectfully submitted,
Debbie DeKalb, on behalf of Sam Faust, Director of Music*

St. Peter's Bell Choir

St. Peter's Bell Choir rang in the New Year with joyous Epiphany bell peals. The membership has remained steady with an encouraging advancement in skill level and repertoire difficulty. Bravo bells!

The Bell Choir provides inspiration and meditation for Sundays and celebrations with a wide variety of musical offerings. The addition of trumpet, flute and keyboard enrich the tonal beauty of the handbells.

The Bell Choir continues to prepare and present seasonal music for Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Advent and Christmas. The 2025 Lessons and Carols service was highlighted with the sparkle of unique bell ringing. Christmas Eve featured the beauty of choir, trumpet and handbells to enhance the sacred night.

Many thanks to the members of St. Peter's Bell Choir for their dedication and devotion to this wonderful musical ensemble.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Flaherty, Bell Choir Director*

Folk Group

The Folk Group is celebrating the twenty-second year of our music ministry here at St. Peter's.

Members of our group are Jenna Linke (vocals), Donna Kulp (vocals and Music Librarian) Debbie DeKalb (vocals, flute, Director), Kristina Marchuk (vocals, clarinet, and Music Selection), Bridget Burless (vocals), Debbie Panebianco (recorder), Bob Filice (keyboard), Terita Reeve (guitar, vocals, and Communication), Mike Reeve (mandolin, vocals, and sound system).

We are always looking for new friends to help us make music for Come Forth Sundays, and would like

to invite you to consider joining us, especially if you are a Bass player (electric or stand-up), a vocalist (we have a few rehearsals before each Come Forth appearance), or a percussionist. All are welcome! No experience needed, as long as you are able to carry a tune, we welcome you!

In 2025 the folk group offered the music for three Come Forth Sundays plus the parish picnic, and Guatemala Sunday. We genuinely enjoy making joyful sounds together with the congregation and look forward to continuing to do so in the coming year. The Leadership Team is delighted to be able to continue the work begun by Linda Toia.

*Respectfully submitted, Debbie DeKalb, Terita Reeve, Kristina Marchuk and Donna Kulp
Folk Group Leadership Team*

Ministry Scheduler Report

Scheduling Tool

Our parish utilizes the app Ministry Scheduler Pro to efficiently manage and coordinate our liturgical worship minister schedule. This tool has been instrumental in organizing and supporting our volunteer ministries.

Liturgical Schedule

An eight-week schedule is built within the app to cover the following ministries:

- **Acolytes**
- **Eucharistic Ministers**
- **Ushers**
- **Lectors**
- **Intercessors**
- **Counters**
- **Vestry Steward**

Approximately 60 volunteers actively serve within these ministries, contributing to the spiritual life and smooth functioning of our worship services.

Features and Functionality

Ministry Scheduler Pro offers several features that enhance the scheduling process:

- **Schedule Changes:** The ability to make adjustments as needed.
- **Sub Requests:** Volunteers can request substitutes directly through the app, streamlining communication.
- **Email Communication:** The app supports sending group emails or individual notifications to volunteers.
- **Login Management:** Providing volunteers with login information to access their schedules and updates.

Volunteer Engagement

This tool has allowed for greater flexibility and responsiveness, ensuring that our ministries are staffed effectively while supporting the volunteers who dedicate their time to these roles.

Thank you to all who contribute to the success of our worship services through these vital ministries!

*Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Marchuk, Ministry Scheduler*

Tech Team



Hard to believe the Tech Team is already in its sixth year! What started as a way to keep people connected to Mass during COVID has become a regular part of our weekly worship. This past year was pretty steady overall. A couple pieces of equipment gave out and had to be replaced, but for the most part things kept running smoothly. With Sébastien Guillotin away at college, he hasn't been around the booth much, though he did

jump back in at Easter and plans to cover a few shifts over Christmas break. James Moor has been a big help, especially with PJ traveling more this year, and Mike has stepped up to run things solo when needed.

That said, we're still really in need of one or two more dependable people to join the team. Any help in spreading the word would make a huge difference. Looking ahead to 2026, we know some of our gear is reaching the end of its life. Replacing it before it fails will save us from scrambling, and it also gives us a chance to make upgrades based on what we've learned over the past six years. With those changes, we'll be able to improve what we offer beyond the limits of our current setup.

*Respectfully submitted,
PJ Linke and Mike Levin*

Formation

Children, Youth and Families

Godly Play for Everyone

Godly Play Foundation Mission Statement: Making meaning through story, wonder, and play. Nurturing spiritual lives by honoring the centrality, competency, and capacity of children.

Godly play is a Montessori-based approach to spiritual formation and is one of the ways we nurture children's spiritual lives by offering space to experience God's love, wonder, and presence in community here at St. Peter's. Used in 70 countries worldwide, Godly Play is recognized as a trusted method for helping children explore their faith with imagination and wonder. Godly play affirms that children are already in relationship with God. Through storytelling, sacred play and guided wondering, children engage deeply with the core stories of scripture and the practices of our liturgical tradition. This process helps them learn to speak the language of our Christian faith in a way that is both personal and authentic.

St Peter's has a long and meaningful history with Godly Play. It takes place during the first part of the Sunday worship service and children rejoin their families at Communion. It is designed for children ages 3 through 5th grade. This past year we saw our Godly Play circle grow to include about 25 children overall, with an average Sunday attendance of 5 on any given Sunday during the course of the year. Maureen Schaeffer and Rosalinda Ibañez-Memba have been faithful co-teachers in this ministry, and their partnership is much appreciated. I am looking forward to Keirstin Sibley joining the team in the new year.

I realized this year that I have been the storyteller for this ministry for 37 years and have loved every minute of it. But a lot is changing in my life at this time, and I told Rev. Barb in September that I will be retiring from this ministry at the end of this program year. New storytellers will need to be raised up and trained in time for September 2026. I wonder if the Holy Spirit is calling you, perhaps? Please speak with me or Rev. Barb if you are interested. It has been a fulfilling and spirit-filled ministry for me.

*Respectfully submitted,
Laurel Mosteller*

Youth and Teens

In 2024-25 our Youth and Teen Ministry continued to meet monthly in the evening on the second Sunday of the month. Gatherings included game nights, sandwich making for a local food ministry, helping with the annual Shrove Tuesday Talent show, campfires, and the creation of a special cross to be used on Come 4th Sundays. Up to seven youth attended the gatherings.

In fall of 2025, we revamped the program to focus on service. Dinner guests from the parish are invited to attend the meal made by youth and discuss their ministries with the parish. The youth serve the guests, clean up the meal, and box leftovers for the Community Fridge. Then the participants engage in a service project together. The gatherings are averaging 11 youth. The Youth Ministry team includes Rev. Barb, Kristina Marchuk, Dan Kelly and Alex Stevers-Radke. Special thanks also goes to parent Kristin Brenner who assists in the kitchen with our meal prep.

*Respectfully Submitted,
The Rev. Barbara Ballenger*

Listening Circle: A Small Group Opportunity

Beginning in the fall of 2010 with one group, and adding a second group in 2013, Listening Circles at St. Peter's have met monthly through the program year to experience and practice deep listening. Our time together is shaped by the Circle of Trust Touchstones developed by the Center for Courage & Renewal, in hopes of building trust and creating a safe place for listening and sharing. Participants take time to share some of our personal stories with each other and use poems and stories to help guide our conversations as we explore questions that arise about life. We turn to wonder and try to let go of judgment. Our work is not about fixing or saving or advising in these circles, but instead to listen deeply, reflect in silence, and explore what might be stirring in us.

With Linda Toia's desire to continue co-leading after her move to Baltimore this past summer, the two groups addressed the question of how to go forward. Listening Circle One decided to continue its hybrid schedule for another year together—meeting in the library for fall and spring months, and by Zoom during winter months. Listening Circle Two decided to continue meeting by Zoom, as this group has done since Covid.

Over the years of Listening Circles, participants have shared with us ways in which relationships with others in their work, family, church, or organizations have been transformed through the practice of listening carefully to others. This "circle" of intentional, trusting, listening continues to grow at St. Peter's. Listening Circles are open to anyone interested in deeper listening and strengthening relationships. Their size is limited to provide more generous time for each person's participation. Due to the importance of building trust, participants are encouraged to attend as many of the sessions as possible. Please contact Linda or Melissa if you are interested in learning more about this opportunity.

We look forward to living into whatever may unfold as we continue this good and holy practice of listening to one another.

*Respectfully submitted,
Linda Toia and Melissa Olson, Facilitators*

Daniel Memorial Library and The Archives

As many of you enter the church from the parking lot every Sunday, the Library sits just waiting for you inside the entry. Books are arranged based on a classification Code used by churches. Books are arranged by this code and, within the code, by the author's last name. A copy of this classification is inside the green binder as well as on shelf labels that show where a new classification begins and what it means. The binder also holds alphabetical listings of the books by author's name, by title, and by subject.

An explanation of pictures and hangings in the room can be found in a clear plastic holder on the back of the

double entry doors. Read it as your eyes travel around the room. As the world changes, our minds may still look for the stimulation of holding a book, turning the pages, and feeling connected to someone else in a unique way. Please come in, sit down, and enjoy. All books, other than reference books, bibles, and service books such as hymnals and prayer books, can be taken home. Use the clipboard to let us know if you have borrowed something. Just return it to the table or one of the open shelves when done.

Besides books, the Library has become the repository of our archives, the accumulation of our records dating back to 1873. Although much of our history was saved, it was not always accessible. In the Library around the walls, you will find black shelves with binders. The binders are labeled. The History of St. Philip-in-the-Fields can be found on the shelf at the back of the room. On the picture wall are binders with some of our more recent Vestry Minutes. On your left as you enter are shelves with documents, pictures, etc. saved from our past. Also, there are binders with sermons from a few of our Rectors as well as the Minutes of the Annual Meetings. We have also compiled a small binder with full page pictures of the ministers of both churches in the order of their first year with their respective churches.

In addition, the pictures on the walls of the library show St. Peter's and St. Philip's beginnings, and end with a picture of how we are today, one church, one congregation.

Personally, I want to thank those people who helped with the recent acquisition of books from Linda Toia: Helen Collins, Debbie DeKalb, and Karen Sayer. Due to the number of books added, the memorabilia has been placed in storage in the closet. I have enjoyed taking care of our books but find that I can no longer continue. Hopefully, the next guardian of the library space will step forward as I did many years ago. Please enjoy the gifts we have been given.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Robson*

Parish Life

Kitchen Affairs

2025 was a positive and good year for the Kitchen Group!

The goal set was and remains: "to nurture the congregation membership through the offering of food." Fellowship Hour is a staple after the 10am service, where food and drink enhance the space to start a conversation, revisit friendships or simply fill an empty belly. Everyone is welcome to sit with anyone...anytime.

Time. Talent. Treasure. These 3 tenets are at the core of the kitchen success – all are a vital part of the success. Some give of their time – assembling meals for the community frig, washing coffee cups and dishes or helping to clear after the picnic or Seder.

Some give of their talents – baking at home to add to the food offering to others, making soup for the Soup-er Sunday offering or making the pies for the "Pies at the Polls" event.

Finally, some give of their treasure – monies placed in the fellowship donation basket, donation of a turkey or ham for community meals, or monies to pay for the paper goods or containers for meals.

Each of these parts are vital to the success of this Ministry.

The Kitchen Group will continue to strengthen friendships and promote congregational unity through its food efforts in the shared donations of time, talent and treasure.

*Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Teleha*

The Lunch Club

The Lunch Club was started in March 2019 to give St. Peter's senior citizens as well as retired parishioners a chance to socialize during the day and have a light meal. Parishioners have invited family members and friends. We do have members who belong to other churches, so know that all are welcome as long as we know the week before Lunch Club meets (for setup and catering numbers). If you would like to join us, please reach out to Kate Boyce at yellowkab1@gmail.com and she will be glad to give you information.

Karen Sayer is our chef, with the help of Suzanne Teleha and Geraldine Quigg, who make sure our light lunch is always delicious. I'm so lucky to work with them, as well as other volunteers, plus set up specialist extraordinaire, Alex Stevers-Ratke. Some months we have entertainment or speakers. So far, each December we have had the Abington High School Chorus bring us holiday entertainment. In January we will have a speaker from the Montgomery County Department of Aging to talk about the many services that are free to our seniors.

We normally meet the third Wednesday of the month unless we have to change to another week to accommodate a guest who is coming to speak/entertain, holidays, etc. If you would like to join us or have questions, please reach out to me and I will be glad to give you information.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sue Gordon*

Card Ministry

Each month cards are sent out to those who are home-bound, those with serious or ongoing health issues, birthdays, and anniversaries. Cards are also sent out during the year for sympathy, hospitalization, rehab stays, health issues, births, and congratulations. Velma Supperer is in charge of children's birthdays, as well as anniversary cards, and I send out the other cards. During 2025, Velma and I sent out about 475 cards. If you know of a parishioner or close family member who needs a card, please contact me by email or text at gsgordon115@comcast.net or 215-840-7607. Please remember to send your birthday information or update your birthdays and anniversary dates to the church office at stpeter654@gmail.com.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sue Gordon*

Christmas Card Exchange

The Christmas Card Exchange box was brought from the former St. Philip's Church. Last year we had quite a few cards sent to parishioners. The box was set up across from the chapel in the hallway leading to the sanctuary and remained there through the end of the Feast of the Epiphany. All St. Peter's members who would like to give cards to their friends may leave their cards in the mailbox or on the table. These cards are placed in alphabetical order in the Christmas card tray by me once a week for easy pick up. If people wish, they can leave a donation (in place of the postage these cards would have needed) in the slot on the top of the box which will be given to the Guatemala Education Scholarship fund.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sue Gordon*

Prayer Candlestand

The beautiful prayer candlestand beside our altar once stood in the St. Philip's Prayer Nook. I'm so happy to see how many parishioners are using it. There is a donation container on the bottom shelf of the candles to the left. These donations go to replace the votive candles that are used each week. Thank you for continuing to support this ministry.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sue Gordon*

Learning in Faith Together (LIFT)

Our LIFT book group meets the first and third Tuesday of each month from 10-11:30 a.m. in the meeting room across from the office. Advanced reading can be done but not necessary, as we listen to the audiobook and then discuss the content during the meeting. We are presently reading How We Learn to Be Brave by The Rt. Rev.

Mariann Edgar Budde, Episcopal Bishop of Washington DC. Although it is a small book, we are having some very meaningful discussions. Please contact me if you're interested in joining or have questions.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sue Gordon*

Sandwich-Making Program

Beginning on Tuesday, December 2, a group of volunteers began making sandwiches to distribute to the Abington Community Fridge Program. The amount of sandwiches depends upon volunteers and donations. We have started with simple peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in hopes that with more monetary, food and supply donations we can expand our choices in the future. Our sandwich-making volunteers will be meeting the first Tuesday of each month in the parish hall starting at 12:30 p.m.. Please see me about volunteering, donations, or any questions you have.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sue Gordon*

The Welcome Team

The Welcome Team is just what the name says. We try to find ways to make everyone welcome and to share the joy, the community and the worship experience that St. Peter's Church offers.

Currently we are a core group of six. We try to spot newcomers before, during or after the Sunday service and see that they have all the information that they need to feel comfortable among us. The newcomers are given a contact information card, and a brochure. After the service they are invited to meet Rev. Barb and invited to fellowship. There is a follow-up phone call or email for a personal touch. If they have a good experience, they are more likely to return.

Newcomers are officially welcomed into the St. Peter's family on Come 4th Sunday. On this day they receive a gift bag prepared by the Welcome Team and have their photo taken by Mike Levin for our photo board, which is managed by Debbie Panebianco.

Things that we have put into practice: name badges, a luncheon in the spring for all of the parish to connect with our newcomers, standing with Rev. Barb after the service to greet any visitors, assigning "buddies" to newcomers, and tracking their comfort in our family. This year, we welcomed 9 families.

St. Peter's is a church where "all are welcome". We want to share that feeling and spread the joy that this church brings. Would you like to join us in that mission? We look forward to adding you to our team.

*Respectfully Submitted, Audrey Kipphut,
Welcome Team Chair*

St. Peter's Purlers

The Purlers meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 11:00 a.m. in the library. The group isn't limited to knitting. We crochet and make little quilt prayer squares.

We produced 300+ quilted prayer pals, dozens of knitted and crocheted prayer squares, almost 100 hats for the Seamen's ministry, and a bag full of colorful hat and mitten sets for the Bright Lights Ministry. We've produced prayer shawls, baby blankets and children's hats and mittens for the mitten 'tree' (that is actually the blue box). We are so fortunate to have a whole closet full of yarn and knitting needles available to us that have been generously donated from our congregation.

We welcome new members with or without knitting experience. If you want to knit with us, contact Janice Solla at jsolla@earthlink.net.

*Respectfully Submitted, Janice Solla
St. Peter's Purlers Chair*

Parish Nurse Report

This year has been a time of growth and renewal for our parish health ministries, with a focus on education, accessibility, and holistic care for all members of our community.

Highlights of 2025:

- **Revision of Pastoral Care Team Documents:**

The Pastoral Care Team's short-term small group materials were reviewed and updated to better support volunteers and ensure consistent, compassionate care for parish members in times of need.

- **Menstrual Care Items Ministry:**

A new ministry was launched to provide menstrual care items in all parish restrooms. All restrooms are now clearly labeled as all-gender, supporting dignity and inclusivity for everyone in our community.

- **Updated Intimate Partner Violence Resources:**

The previous "Domestic Abuse" posters were revised and replaced with updated Intimate Partner Violence Resources, which now appear in all restrooms. This update reflects a broader understanding of relationship violence and directs individuals to current, supportive resources.

- **Back Door Reading Posters:**

A new monthly series of "Back Door Reading" posters was introduced. These feature educational and seasonal health messages tied to scripture and include a short parish nurse note. Topics have ranged from safety reminders to wellness encouragements, and the response from parishioners has been overwhelmingly positive.

Looking Ahead to Late 2026:

- **Brown Bag Medication Check:** An opportunity for parishioners to review medications with a healthcare professional for safety and understanding.
- **Health Screenings:** Upcoming blood pressure and blood sugar screenings will promote awareness and preventive care.
- **Healing Retreat (March):**

Planning is underway for a healing and wellness retreat this March, focusing on the healing and spiritual power of health and faith.

As we move forward, the Parish Nurse Ministry remains committed to promoting wellness of body, mind, and spirit—supporting our parish family in living out our faith through caring for one another.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Marchuk, Parish Nurse*

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care team gathers our various caring and pastoral outreach ministries under one umbrella to coordinate caring outreach to parishioners. Pastoral outreaches include the card ministry, vaccine clinics and rides for parishioners, Eucharistic Visitors, the parish nurse and medical supports. The team includes Rev. Barb, Deborah Way, Sue Gordon, Kate Boyce, Deacon Bob Smith, and parish nurse Kristina Marchuk.

This year we added a short-term pastoral care team, a small group that provides more targeted spiritual, emotional, and medical support to parishioners in acute crisis. We also gathered contact and support information to assist parishioners who live alone.

*Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Barbara Ballenger, Rector*

Stewardship Team

This year's stewardship team has been meeting year-round. The team members are Robin Dixon, Julia Guerrero,

Rebecca Fellerman and Reverend Barb. This 2025-2026 theme was ‘Tell Out My Soul’. During our meetings we reviewed and customized the materials and templates provided by The Episcopal Network for Stewardship (tens.org), and brainstormed ways of fostering Stewardship for St. Peters not just during pledge season, but year-round.

The 2025 pledge season kicked off on Sunday, October 12th. Each Sunday there were personal presentations from our members on some of the volunteer ministries that keep St. Peter’s running. There were also reflection pages available each week relating each Sunday’s readings to Stewardship. This year we introduced Stewardship Meals, opportunities to connect with each other in small groups over a meal. The Stewardship Team is deeply grateful to those members of St. Peter’s who opened their homes for these dinners. Ingathering Sunday this year was November 16. By the end of December 2025 we had received 60 pledges, totaling \$173,859.

While November will continue to be ‘pledge season’, the Stewardship team will work throughout the coming year to keep Stewardship as an ongoing focus, so as a community we can reflect on how our treasure, time and talent may be used to build up and expand our parish and the larger community that we serve.

Respectfully submitted, Rebecca Fellerman and Robin Dixon
Stewardship Chairs

Outreach

Community Partnership Team

Our name is Community Partnerships because we partner with our community. Currently, we try to limit our community within the Diocese of Pennsylvania.

Our funding comes primarily from two sources—half of the proceeds from the biannual rummage sales and year-round random online rummage sales, and 10% of bequests left to the church without a designated donation site.

To qualify for a grant from our committee, organizations must submit the following:

- current 501C3 documentation
- the legal name and address of organization.
- its current operating budget.
- latest audited financial statement.
- a list of current board members with contact information.
- contact person’s name and contact information.
- information about its mission, service area, population, and accomplishments

As of October 2025, we have made the following grants:

January	
St. Francis Inn	\$750.00
February	
Corinth 13	\$1000.00
Souls Shots Portrait Program	\$250.00
March	
Women’s Center of Mont Co	\$500.00

Family Promise Montco PA	\$500.00
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April

HIAS	\$750.00
Hope and Help Network	\$1000.00

May

Face to Face Abington	\$750.00
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July

Breathing Room	\$750.00
Corinth 13 Special Program	\$1000.00
Episcopal Diocese of West Texas	\$1000.00

September

Corinth 13 Center back to school supplies	\$750.00
Caring for Friends	\$1000.00
Greater Good	\$500.00
St. Peter's Food Cupboard	\$500.00

October

Beds for Kids	\$1250.00
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This is a total of 16 organizations which received help from St. Peters. These grants total \$12,250, including October.

Besides giving out grants this committee also collects items to share in the community.

LAYETTE SUNDAY:

Mother's Day finds us collecting items for newborns and toddlers. These can be new or slightly used and consist of clothes, diapers, or other items young ones need.

BACKPACKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

In August we collect backpacks and school supplies for needy children who would not have supplies to start school without our help. These consist of notebooks, binders, paper folders, notebook paper, backpacks, and other supplies students need.

UNITED THANK OFFERING

October finds talk about gratitude, giving thanks, and showing thanks.

You should have a UTO blue box to save your change in. Remember every penny counts and every penny donated goes to the grants. New blue boxes will be passed out the first part of the year. Be sure to get yours.

SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE

November finds us thinking about the people who bring our goods into the ports. About 5% of seafarers are female, and close to 90% of the workers are from the Philippines. They are usually at sea for 6 months or longer, and when the ship does pull into port, only a few workers are allowed to get off. We collect personal items, writing tablets, envelopes, chap sticks, work socks, work gloves, hats, and scarves. It is asked that the work items be in dark colors. We package similar items together, counting the number of each item. Then these are taken to the Seamen's Church Institute at the port.

This year St. Peter's congregation gave 63 fleece and 3 knitted scarves, 34 hats, 11 pairs of gloves, 57 pairs of

socks, 5 bottles of body wash and 25 bars of soap, 11 tubes of toothpaste, 7 toothbrushes, 21 deodorants, and couple packages of disposable razors. There were 35 tubes of hand lotion, some hard candy, fingernail clippers, writing paper, stamps, pens, and chap sticks.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Rivera Community Partnership Co-Chair*

MARY PAT'S COOKIES

Helen Collins takes charge of this community project. Several years ago, two ladies, Pat Hoar and Mary Couch attended St Peters. Mary was active in the Wednesday morning Healing Prayer service and both were active in the women's group. Pat started taking shut-ins cookies for Christmas. Mary continued to practice after Pat could not. When Mary was unable to continue, the women's group wanted to continue the practice of giving the cookies. Helen took over coordinating this practice. Today tins of cookies and candies are given to shut-ins and elderly people of the church and community.

PIANO ANGELS

Each December finds children's names on the grand piano. These names are from children who live in the Kensington area. Besides the child's name, each paper has the child's age, sizes, and 2 items they would really like. People wrap each gift, putting the child's name on each gift. Then both gifts go into a large gift bag with maybe some candy. These gifts are given to the children during the celebration of the Three Kings. Last year, we served almost 70 children. The children must earn the right to receive the gifts by attending church services and school. Some of the children belong to Corinth 13 Center.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Rivera Community Partnership Co-Chair*

The Guatemala Connection

Since 2003 St. Peter's Church has maintained a very special relationship with five small congregations in the Northeast area of Guatemala. St. Peter's members who have visited our beloved companions have found these pilgrimages to be inspiring and life-changing adventures.

In addition to visits and communication through Whats App, Zoom, and email, the companion relationship involves the following aspects:

- Scholarship Program in which children receive partial scholarships making it possible for their families to keep them in school. Some of our earlier scholarship recipients are now in post high school education programs!

You are invited to make contributions to the Guatemala Scholarship Fund for the upcoming year.

- Medical Emergency Fund provided to the clergy in our companion parishes to use at their discretion to help parishioners who have no medical insurance and serious medical needs.
- Water Filtration Project to help provide safe drinking water to families.
- Regular prayer for one another. We also keep each other informed and commit to praying for each other during particularly difficult times.

Some highlights of 2025 were the following:

- Guatemala Sunday was celebrated on Dec. 7 with music by the folk group, a recorded sermon by our friend Rev. Neli Miranda with music recorded by her son Maximo, special food for fellowship hour and a very successful Guatemala sale with crafts from UPAVIM, a women's cooperative in Guatemala City.
- In November we sent money for scholarships and medical emergencies to our companion churches.
- Our companion parishes are deeply grateful for the support of our St. Peter's community. *Thank you for your prayers and your generous donations.*

Our Guatemala Committee meets on Zoom periodically and would welcome interested members. We plan for Guatemala Sunday, have the opportunity to meet with the Diocesan Guatemala Committee, and communicate with our clergy in Guatemala. Most importantly, our committee members and Guatemala companions: Offer prayer for one another. We also keep each other informed and commit to praying for each other during particularly difficult times.

Thank you to our Guatemala Committee Members: Bridget Burless, Joani Harkinson, Rosalinda Ibanez, Barbara McKinney, Mary Rivera, Maureen Schaeffer, Velma Supperer, and Linda Toia

*Respectfully Submitted by Linda Toia,
Guatemala Committee Chairperson*

Rummage Sales

The amount raised this year came to the second highest amount ever, \$16,181.70.

Leftovers from the April Sale went to Rev. Joseluis Memba for his congregations' use. The Fall Sale ended with the Whosoever Gospel Mission and Vietnam Veterans of America coming to pick up what remained. The money made is divided between St. Peter's Church and The Community Partnership Committee.

The Random Online Rummage sale started during the pandemic and since it has done so well, we want to remind people that these sales go on all year long. For information about this option, simply email Kate Boyce with a picture of what you would like to sell, if possible, and a description, including any dimensions, brand name, etc. Kate then sends it out to a special email list. When the item is sold, Kate sends the information to the seller, and the two parties connect to finalize the sale. Please note that online sales are not handled during the months of the Rummage Sales, April and October. If you are not on the Email List, just contact Kate at rummagesale@stpetersglendside.org to add your name.

One change that will occur in 2026 will be that the sales will be taking place a little earlier in the month due to our Come Forth Sundays and the many activities scheduled.

We could not continue without the help of so many people, many of whom are not even members of our congregation but who come because of an association with our former Thrift Shop or are friends of members. We thank everyone who donated time, help, or shopped. Special thanks to John and Jeannette Klarman who came every day to help. As we hope to continue this event, the first recorded Rummage Sale earned \$668.00 in 1971, we know we need a constant list of people who are willing to help. Please put a note on your calendar for April 11th – 19th and October 10th – 18th and remember to sign up. Although we offer a paper sign up on the bulletin board by the kitchen as well as online sign up, people can always email me when they plan to help.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Robson*

St. Peter's Food Cupboard

It has been an eventful 2025 for the food cupboard. Earlier in the year, Audrey Kipphut stepped away to be able to give her much needed time to fulfill her other various duties for our church. We thank her for her tenure at the helm and wish her the best in her other endeavors.

Terita Reeve graciously agreed to co-chair the effort to keep the cupboard up and running.

Due to the decrease or outright elimination of SNAP benefits during the year, we have gotten into the habit of checking more than once a day to keep the shelves as full as possible. We are also helping to keep the outside 24/7 pantry filled with our overflow.

Many thanks to Abington School District, the local Boy Scout troop, the Glenside Post Office, and of course the generosity of St. Peter's Congregation. It brings a smile to our faces every time we see a wagonful of food placed at the altar during the Presentation hymn.

In June 2025, St. Peter's became home to the Abington Community Fridge, a project of mutual aid, in which community members provide food for one another through the refrigerator that is accessible to the community 24/7.

Thanks for your response to the ministry of feeding the local community. We look forward to continuing our journey in 2026.

*Respectfully submitted,
Rick DeKalb and Terita Reeve*

Red Cross Blood Drive

As of the time this report is due, we are still preparing for our 2026 blood drive (to be held on Saturday 2/28/26**). So, this report will deal with the 2025 drive. For this drive, there were 68 appointments made, of which 40 people actually showed up (ten people were 1st time donors). This allowed the Red Cross to collect 55 pints of blood, thus aiding 165 patients in the Delaware Valley area.

Folks always comment on how St. Peter's runs the best blood drive in the area. Sprinkles Ice Cream Shoppe, Giuliano's Deli and the Glenside Pub supplied the "thank you pints" for our "GIVE A PINT, GET A PINT" drive. Nothing Bundt Cakes gave small cakes (called Bundlets) to each of our first-time donors as well as power red donors (who give 2 units of packed cells). Munchies for donors were supplied by Panera Bread. We offer our sincere thanks to these generous area businesses and our AWESOME donors.

Please donate blood if you can, encourage others to do so and support our wonderful local business partners. **Pull out your calendars and phones now and mark done that date Turns out our drive has also provided inspiration for ANOTHER! Our very own Matthew Schmidt has chosen to do a blood drive as his Eagle Scout project. His drive was scheduled for Jan 10, 2026 at the Giant food store in Willow Grove. His organization skills are excellent, so I am sure it will be a great success. Welcome to the vampire club, Matthew!

*Respectfully submitted,
Your resident vampire, Kate Boyce*

Vaccine Clinic

After having run small vaccine clinics in conjunction with Eric's Rx Shop in 2023 and 2024, we took a bold step in 2025. This time we partnered with Montgomery County after learning that they had lost their clinic site in the eastern end of the county, requiring folks to travel further to access care. Since the county provides many shots for the un/underinsured this access is critical. Our location on a public bus route is also very helpful. So, whereas our previous clinics served 30 to 50 people (mostly with private insurance) this time we were able to provide care for more neighbors with a wider diversity. We had 180 people register for the event, and 151 people received a total of 255 vaccines (126 influenza and 129 Covid-19). Thank you to the parish and the community groups who relocated so that we could use the entire auditorium space for this event.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kate Boyce*

Gun Violence Awareness & Advocacy

In 2025, St. Peter's remained deeply committed to honoring lives lost to gun violence and advocating for meaningful change. Throughout the month of January, we hosted The Souls Shot art exhibition in the sanctuary, featuring portraits of Philadelphia-area residents whose lives were taken by gun violence. Created by local artists using diverse media, the exhibition transformed our sacred space into a place of remembrance, lament, and advocacy for effective gun safety legislation.

In April, Parishioners Mary Rivera, Maureen Schaeffer, and Alex Stevers-Radke furthered this work by joining fellow advocates at Pennsylvania's End Gun Violence Advocacy Day at the State Capitol in Harrisburg, where they spoke directly with legislators.

Our work continued with the annual Toll the Bells for Gun Violence Awareness Day, as Rev. Barb and Bell Choir Director Kathy Flaherty participated in the city-wide ringing of bells as a prayerful cry for peace.

Respectfully submitted,

*Charlese Freeman-Benoit
Associate for Communication and Administration*

Administration, Communications, and Operations

In 2025, with strong volunteer support, our interim administrator, Jeanné Hannum, was well equipped to maintain administrative duties during staff's maternity leave.

Website and social media engagement reflected expected seasonal patterns, with a typical summer dip followed by a strong rebound during the program year. By fall, website sessions, post views, and unique visitors all increased, along with a notable rise in "clicks to contact," indicating greater community engagement. Rev. Barb's Rector's Notes continued to draw strong interest, especially pieces addressing current social issues, and events such as the craft show gained traction through both social media and word of mouth.

As we move into 2026, priorities include exploring more cost-effective online giving options, reviewing dues and subscriptions to reduce unnecessary expenses, strengthening year-round stewardship efforts, improving email security through a transition to stpetersglenside.org addresses, and evaluating whether our current website platform continues to meet the church's communication needs. With gratitude for the support shown throughout the year, we look ahead with confidence and enthusiasm for continued growth and collaboration.

Respectfully submitted,

*Charlese Freeman-Benoit
Associate for Communication and Administration*

End of Report