

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Comings, Goings & Doings in 2024

Baptisms: Daisy Balsama, Grace Benson, Avi Callahan, Devi Callahan, William Callahan, Caden Coates, Luke Denisco-Lutz, Quin Eckerd, John Fitzgerald, Jared Kreider, Maxine Kreider, Sloane Johnson, Ginny McToo, Oscar McToo, Maya Morales, Benjamin Pereyra, Mary Wildflower

Marriages: Margaret deWyngaert & Corbett Austin, Elaine Thomas & Jonathan Clements, Ashley Zimmerman & James Casey

Welcome to: Sophia Alexander, Danelly Beck w/ Audrey & Leah, Lily Bishop, Billy & Sarah Bourke, Jacob Bowling, Peter & Bernadette Fulweiler w/ Peter & Ronan, Lily Hamilton, Sophia Hamilton, Mike Krasulski & Tim Davidson, Noah & Laura Lazzaro, Holly & Peter Marvin, Sam Massie & Madelyn Bernhardt, Jeff Miles, Rus Murphy & Anne Malangyaon, Bob & Pricilla Nalls, Nathan Osburn & Stephen Didomenico, Ben Papa, Norrel Sainsott, Gerry Sheahan, Dustin & Caroline Sneed, Lauren Sullivan w/ Ellie & Katie, Maddy Vaver, Robin Weber, John & Julia Whelchel, Tom & Frances Wolf

Departures: Brendan & Deepa Callahan w/ Avi & Devi, Ted & Lauren Colberg w/ Lucia & James, Charlie Dill & Austin Stewart, Suzanne Kane, Angus & Katherine McLeod, Emily McNabb & Ginny Too w/ Jack, Clara & Oscar, Grace Wohlsen

Deaths: Jim Colberg, Katie Fanelli, Sue Perry, James Shannon

Ministry leaders in 2024:

Adult Education – Cordelia Biddle
Altar Guild – Kathleen Stephenson
Bell Ringing – Ben Cornelius
Book Group – Gretchen Cowell
Children & Youth Leadership – Sarah Hedgis-Kligerman & Danielle Defassio
Churchyard – Jill Minick
Church Tour Guides – Carolyn Klepser
Discernment – Nora Adelman, Jared Cram, Tina Hogan, Jonathan Miller & Kat Voit
Finance – Marjory Spraycar
Food Cupboard – Mara Blake-Ward
Gravestone Cleaners – Keith Betten
Greeters – Cordelia Biddle
History Committee/HSPCPC – Keith Betten

Investments – Allen Hall
Livestreaming – William Lim
Music Advisory Committee – Nora Adelman
Music Library – Hannah Poole
Parish Profile Committee – Sharon Haynie & Ben Willis
Pastoral Care – Kate Randall
Personnel Committee – Tina Hogan
Property – Ben Leaphart
Social Justice – Barbara Mattuecci
Stewardship – Lauri Cielo
TNT – Sarah Hedgis-Kligerman
Ushers – Steve Zettler
VIA – Tina Hogan & Nigel Richards
Writers Group – Cordelia Biddle
Youth Group – Lisa Hardy

Parish Profile Committee: Sharon Haynie and Ben Willis (Co-chairs), Julia Cadwallender, Teri Leavens, Angus McLeod, Hannah Poole, Marjory Spraycar

Search/Discernment Committee: Nora Adelman and Katharyn Voit (Co-chairs), Julia Cadwallender (replaced Lauren Colberg in July 2024), Lauren Colberg, Jared Cram, Tina Hogan, Jonathan Miller, Brian O'Donnell

Vestry: Julia Cadwallender, Paige Carlson-Heim, Ann Kell, Burrell Montz Covey, Jonathan Miller, Jay Newlin, (Rector's Warden), Marjory Spraycar (Accounting Warden), Court van Rooten, Kat Voit, Claire Waugh, Caroline West, Ben Willis

Thanks to everyone for all your hard work in 2024!

Highlights of 2024

Adult Education

We kicked off the year examining the Gospel of Mark during our Epiphany series. Another highlight of the year was an Evensong service and screening of the documentary film "The Philadelphia Eleven" in partnership with the Church of the Holy Trinity Rittenhouse. In July, we began a series titled "Faith & Politics for the Rest of Us," where we discussed theo-political visions and the rise of Christian nationalism. In the fall, we welcomed the Rev. Dr. Susan Richardson, who led parish forums to help us process and reflect on recent changes at St. Peter's.

Feast of Absalom Jones

In February, many St. Peter's parishioners attended a celebratory service at the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas in honor of Absalom Jones. Here at St. Peter's, interim organist Charles Johnson featured Black composers during each February service to take us on a musical journey through Absalom Jones' life.

Food Cupboard

St. Peter's spent time in January and February learning more about food insecurity during our "Feeding Our Neighbors" series, organized by St. Peter's Social Justice Discernment Group. After this series, we launched our Lenten Food Cupboard fundraiser, where we asked parishioners to make donations to supplement the food we receive from Philabundance. Our parishioners gave generously, raising more than \$10,000. The St. Peter's Food Cupboard served an average of 90 people a week in 2024, with more than 125 people showing up the first Saturday each month when we distribute household goods in addition to our regular food.

Rector Search

In February, interim rector the Rev. Clarke French was named priest-in-charge at St. Peter's. That same month, the Search Committee became the Discernment Committee and launched a discernment process to determine if Clarke should be called as St. Peter's next rector. After a

series of Listening Sessions with the congregation, it was decided to continue with the original intention of a nationwide search. The Discernment Committee returned to their original charge as the Search Committee. Working closely with the Diocesan Office of Transition Ministry, the Search Committee posted its rector job announcement in August and spent the fall reviewing and interviewing potential candidates.

Building Project

In 2024, St. Peter's began working with St. Peter's School to explore the possibility of constructing a shared building on our parking lot. A group of church and school representatives worked with architects to design a two-story 13,000-square-foot building which would provide the church with a large gathering space, kitchen, offices, and meeting rooms. In December, St. Peter's invited parishioners to a series of Listening Sessions to share their hopes and concerns for St. Peter's as we examine our church campus and explore how we might reimagine our physical space to better serve our mission and community.

LGBTQIA+ Support

In April, St. Peter's became a Rainbow Initiative Congregation. This initiative, a program of Episcopal Migration Ministries, empowers congregations to support LGBTQIA+ migrants and bring visibility and aid to those who have fled their countries because of persecution based on sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and/or sex characteristics. In June, St. Peter's celebrated Pride Month by festooning our church with rainbow flags and joining with other Episcopal congregations to participate in the Philadelphia Pride March and Festival.

Intergenerational Events

As part of St. Peter's ongoing effort to bring parishioners of all generations together, we hosted several all-parish events. We kicked off the year with a Shrove Sunday Pancake Breakfast in the Parish House, with the breakfast cooked by the children and youth of St. Peter's. All ages gathered in June for a combined end-of-year service with special guest Drag Queen Storyteller Balena Canto and ice cream sundaes in St. Peter's Way. Parishioners gathered again for our annual Welcome Back Picnic, an outdoor service in celebration of Creation Season, Ministry Fair, festive Advent Wreath making, and a Christmas Church Greening & Hymn Sing.

Sacred Ground

The formal Sacred Ground program, a seven-month small group that explored racial healing, reconciliation, and justice, ended its official gatherings in June 2024. However, several members of the group continued to meet each month in self-directed study and conversation. They engaged different resources around institutional racism from books to local art exhibits to documentaries and other films.

Social Justice

In 2024, the Social Justice Discernment Group organized a two-Sunday symposium around food insecurity welcoming guest speakers from the South Jersey Food Bank and Bethel AME Victory Community Garden in Ardmore. Following this successful event, SJDG met regularly to discuss how to provide ongoing resources about justice issues to the congregation. Since

September 2024, this ministry has offered more consistent meeting times, thanks to the leadership of Barbara Matteucci. In November 2024, we held a discernment meeting and identified four main issues on the minds of many members of the congregation: food sovereignty, migration, LGBTQIA+ rights, and healthcare (with a focus on women's healthcare). In December 2024, SJDG members self-selected into groups focused on one of these issues and outlined a plan for learning more, finding resources, and other ways to connect the congregation around this issue.

Out and About in the Community

St. Peter's clergy once again brought Ash Wednesday beyond our doors, distributing "Ashes to Go" at Washington Square Park in the morning. Parishioners participated in a summer art project called "Love Rocks" where we painted rocks with colorful messages of love and hope and placed them in our churchyard for passersby to enjoy. Our series of Summer Concerts in the Churchyard was a success, with three Wednesday evening concerts in June and July. St. Peter's partnered with Episcopal Community Services to participate in its School Supply Drive and Christmas Gift Drive. In October, we invited our neighbors and their furry friends to our annual outdoor Blessing of the Animals. Also in October, Preserve St. Peter's organized its first public program, a Halloween event titled "Churchyard Challenge," which drew dozens into our churchyard to learn about the headstones, monuments, and history of the churchyard.

Whip, Splatter, Stir

In September, parishioner Claire Shrader led the effort to start a new ministry at St. Peter's called Whip, Splatter, Stir: A Cooking Club for People with Parkinson's Disease. The monthly cooking club provides a place for people living with Parkinson's Disease to help foster a special space for community and connection.

Our History & Preserve St. Peter's

The History Committee continued to share stories with the congregation every month in the Spire newsletter, and dedicated volunteers cleaned many gravestones in the churchyard. This year, the nonprofit Historic St. Peter's Church Preservation Corporation, which had been inactive since 2014, reestablished and reinvigorated itself under a new name: Preserve St. Peter's. This organization works as a fund-raising and educational entity closely aligned with St. Peter's Church. In October, Preserve St. Peter's held its first public event "Churchyard Challenge." The organization also raised money for and initiated the renovation of the Memorial Garden on the northwest side of the church. The weeds and invasive plants were removed and the site was mulched in preparation for replanting in spring 2025.

Stewardship Campaign: Living God's Love Out Loud

During the fall's stewardship campaign, we encouraged parishioners to "Live God's Love Out Loud." We posted hearts in the church to represent each pledge, and by the campaign's end, 137 households (including 19 new people) pledged to financially support St. Peter's; altogether pledges totaled \$415,000. We were encouraged that the number of pledgers remained relatively stable and total pledge revenue increased from last year.

Children & Families

St. Peter's 9 AM Family Worship Service remained popular this year, attracting many families with young children. Highlights this year included our Shrove Sunday Pancake Breakfast, Palm Sunday worship service, Easter Egg hunt, and Christmas Pageant. Our Sunday School for older children, which is held during the 11 AM Worship Service, continued its second year.

TNT (20s & 30s)

St. Peter's 20s & 30s group continued to be very active in 2024, holding several series of Zoom Discipleship groups to explore faith, theology, and day-to-day living. Our TNT group also gathered for a spring cookout and a fall potluck.

Sages

This group for retired members at St. Peter's continued their monthly meetings through 2024 with some of the highlights being: Court van Rooten sharing about his experience at a special art exhibit on Sarah Bernhardt while staying in Paris; group discussion on different memories from the 1960s-1970s; overview of the Stations of the Cross during Lent with Rev. Sarah; special presentation by The Reverend Rachel Wenner Gardner about her research on Phillips Brooks.

Financial Report

SAINT PETER'S CHURCH
SUMMARY STATEMENT
OPERATING FUND
December 2024

	Dec-24	Actual 2024	2024 Budget	% of Budget	Actual 2023	variance
REVENUE						
Giving	50,969.00	434,688.00	443,500.00	98%	446,763.00	(12,075.00)
Endowment Transfers	22,063.00	264,756.00	264,756.00	100%	265,548.00	(792.00)
Misc Revenue	9,689.00	126,126.00	125,000.00	101%	99,667.00	26,459.00
Total Revenue	82,721.00	825,570.00	833,256.00	99%	811,978.00	13,592.00
EXPENSES						
Clergy	16,275.00	272,201.00	285,585.00	95%	235,734.00	36,467.00
Music	13,565.00	96,601.00	111,718.00	86%	102,373.00	(5,772.00)
Educ/Fellowship & Altar Supp	1,581.00	13,168.00	16,152.00	82%	14,825.00	(1,657.00)
Outreach/Missions	0.00	72,075.00	71,200.00	101%	69,923.00	2,152.00
Communication & Develop	7,173.00	68,342.00	66,781.00	102%	64,343.00	3,999.00
Administration	15,084.00	190,755.00	200,335.00	95%	188,735.00	2,020.00
Property	10,768.00	97,303.00	90,168.00	108%	93,986.00	3,317.00
Total Expenses	64,446.00	810,445.00	841,939.00	96%	769,919.00	40,526.00
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	18,275.00	15,125.00	(8,683.00)	-174%	42,059.00	(26,934.00)
Property Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00		(37,114.00)	37,114.00
Bonuses					(15,593.00)	15,593.00
Profile & Search Expenses	(7,791.00)	(18,931.00)	(15,300.00)	124%	(4,694.00)	(14,237.00)
Special Endow Transfers	0.00	0.00	0.00		45,000.00	(45,000.00)
Non -Budgeted Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00		(10,945.00)	10,945.00
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	10,484.00	(3,806.00)	(23,983.00)	16%	18,713.00	(22,519.00)

SAINT PETER'S ENDOWMENT FUNDS

THREE ADVISORY (ACTIVELY MANAGED) ACCOUNTS BALANCES AS OF 12/31/2024

CHURCH ENDOWMENT	\$4,719,483
CHORAL ENRICHMENT	\$ 256,754
YOUTH EDUCATION	\$ 440,298

ONE NON-ADVISORY ACCOUNT

FUTURE CHURCH ("THE KEYS") ACCOUNT (aka 'Building Fund')	\$2,404,939
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St Peter's Church 2025 Approved Budget

	Budget	Notes
Revenues		
Giving	440,000	<i>Pledging & Plate giving</i>
Special Offerings	3,500	
Earned Income	78,200	<i>Parking Lot & Apartment Rent</i>
Routine Transfers from Endowment	259,620	<i>For Operations</i>
Total Revenue	781,320	
Expenses		
Clergy	334,277	
Staff Salary & Benefits	267,771	<i>Includes all staff except for paid choir members (expensed under Music)</i>
Clergy Expense Budget	6,000	<i>Rectors' Expense Accounts, Professional Expenses/Continuing Education, etc.</i>
Music	49,100	<i>Paid Singers, Sub Organists, Supplies, Librarian</i>
Other Worship	1,250	<i>Altar Supplies</i>
Education & Fellowship	9,800	<i>Adult Ed, Youth Group, Welcoming Ministry, TNT, History, Convention, Hospitality & Fellowship, Pastoral Care</i>
Outreach	1,200	<i>Social Justice</i>
Communications & Development	10,250	<i>Communications & Marketing, Vestry Retreat</i>
Parish Expenses	136,200	<i>Office supplies, IT, Insurance, Utilities</i>
Professional Services	44,250	<i>Accountant, Audit, Background checks</i>
Diocesan Support	70,000	<i>Annual Sacred Gift to Diocese</i>
Total Expenses	930,098	
Other Expenses (non operating--search/profile; capital/property)*		
	0	<i>While budget is zero we should anticipate some expenses; taking a 5-year average we recommend \$50,000</i>
Total Net Income/Loss	-148,778	
<p>Non-Routine Draws from Endowment</p> <p style="text-align: right;">150,000</p> <p><i>We did not take a draw in 2024, and will not take this draw in 2025 if we do not have to. We do have some remaining PPP funds which are currently serving as a recommended operating reserve of at least 3 months. If we do not need to use this, it could possibly be used to cover our 2025 gap. It could also serve to cover unbudgeted expenses such as search and capital costs.</i></p>		