

The Episcopal Church of
SS Peter & John
169 Genesee Street
Auburn, New York 13021

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Return Service Requested



The Gospel Messenger

True Worship † Powerful Community † A Heart for the Lost

April 2023



To my Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I can't believe that April is upon us. The end of Winter, the beginning of Spring. The end of Lent, the beginning of Holy Week.

This is the high point of the Church year – approaching Easter. During Holy Week we have very key liturgies. Palm / Passion Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Stations of the Cross and Easter. I commend all these services to you. Easter becomes a profoundly different experience if you are able to attend some of these services during the week. Especially Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. We call these liturgies collectively the Triduum. They really are intended to function as one long liturgy over a few days. There is a beautiful curve to them from the distress of Maundy Thursday, the suffering and death of Good Friday and the Joy of Easter. The resurrection that tells us that death and darkness never have the last word.

I know that attending all of these is just not possible for some of you. But if you can't attend all of them, maybe some of them. To be repetitive, it just makes Easter all that more festive.

What great news about Canon Carrie Schofield-Broadbent being elected the new Bishop of Maryland. We are all brimming with pride and I'm sure especially Kathlyn and Jim. Please keep Carrie and all of her family in your prayers during this time of great transition and celebration.

I'll conclude with a beautiful poem on Easter by e. e. Cummings shared by the great writer and thinker Richard Rohr;

*I thank You God for most this amazing day:
for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky;
and for everything which is natural which is infinite which is yes*

*(I who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun's birthday;
this is the birthday of life and of love and wings:
and of the gay great happening illimitably earth)*

*how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any—lifted from the no
of all nothing—human merely being
doubt unimaginable You?*

*(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)*

Grace and Peace,

John +

Father John †

ON-LINE WORSHIP

Sundays - 10am Worship Service

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97774056978?pwd=ZytJSVZjWmt3MUdSMk13U1JaaGNLZz09>

Meeting ID: 982 7706 2680

Passcode: 435902

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Other Zoom Worship Schedule and Numbers

Tuesdays – 10am Bible Study

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94333886777?pwd=WnNKSncyQkkzS1g0Yjc3ZGIVbk1PQT09>

Meeting ID: 943 3388 6777

Passcode: 577455

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Wednesdays – 12pm Worship Service

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95528786615?pwd=Z01DVGdvcG5XeVBIUVRMKzFFVVBZz09>

Meeting ID: 955 2878 6615

Passcode: 634665

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Monday – Tuesday – Wednesday – Thursday – Friday

MORNING PRAYER – RITE II

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/john.rohde.16/>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92662278952>

Meeting ID: 926 6227 8952

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 926 6227 8952

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ac4XCk34Dn>

Holy Week Services



Maundy Thursday

April 6, 2023

7:00 pm



Good Friday

April 7, 2023

12:00 Noon



Stations of the Cross

April 7, 2023

7:00 pm

Vestry Voice

The March Vestry meeting began with an opening devotional. The February minutes were approved. The February financials were approved.

We received word from the accountants handling Mary Borkowski's estate that she left Saints Peter & John \$10,000 in her will. It was suggested that maybe we should do a plaque for Mary who was a lifetime Episcopalian. We also need to determine where to plant her tree.

Father John contacted NYSEG about doing an energy audit. They only do them for residential customers in need. If we want one done, we will have to contract someone and pay for it. The questions remains – if we have the audit done, do we have the resources to implement whatever changes they recommend. A motion was made by William Abdallah, seconded by Kay Henry, that we explore the cost of having an energy audit done. All were in favor and Father John volunteered to look into this matter.

The matter of the tower door was discussed. People are using this door but are not making sure the door is shut tight. We need to remind people that they need to be more vigilant about shutting this door.

We have sent our ad and logo to the Citizen and are waiting for a proof. The ad will run the Friday before Palm Sunday and the Friday before Easter. Thank you to Joy and Cailin O'Donnell for the logo.

We need a better system in place for the clearing of the sidewalk from the parking lot to the tower door. Sometimes the sidewalk is not clear when the people start arriving for the 10:00 am service. We can have someone clear it after the 8:00 am service but there is still the possibility of more snow accumulation before the 10:00 service. There is also a tree hanging over the sidewalk that drips water and snow on the sidewalk. This is a safety issue for our parishioners especially the elderly. Maybe make an announcement at the services that if you see a problem, tell someone.

The meeting closed with a benediction and blessing by Father John. Next Vestry meeting will be April 11, 2023.

Soup Kitchen

With the ever rising of grocery prices and the recent reduction of SNAP benefits for most people, we have seen a very sharp increase in the need for meals. We are running close to a 25% increase over a year ago. We have had some very generous donations and we pray that they will continue to roll in. What we are in need of is volunteers, in particular, people to pick up donated food such as at Wegmans, BJ's and Tops. This does not have to be every week, maybe once or twice a month.

Also, we will be doing a ham dinner on April 8th, the day before Easter, so if you would like to donate a ham, please bring it to the parish hall any morning. Thank you to everyone for their generosity in helping out.

Peace & Blessings,
David Ward
(315) 730-5898

Anne Lamott on Easter

Beyond Bunnies: The Real Meaning Of Easter Season

This is the season of holy days: Passover, Pascua, Holy Friday and Easter Sunday. For many Christians, the ritual of this Easter weekend will be punctuated by bursting pink and yellow dresses on little girls, and magnificent hats on their mothers and grandmothers. There will be Easter baskets filled with chocolate eggs and plush bunnies.

As joyous as the day is, Easter and the season of Lent are also a period of great introspection. Speaking with NPR's Michele Norris about her reflections of Easter this year is writer Anne Lamott. Many know Lamott from her seminal book on writing called *Bird by Bird*; parents might fondly remember *Operating Instructions*, her tome on motherhood. Lamott also writes novels and has published three essay collections on her Christian faith.

So what does the season — so much about rebirth and redemption, but also sacrifice — mean to Lamott?

"Well, it's the most profound holiday in the Christian tradition," Lamott says. "And I think two things really come to mind. One is something that the great writer Barbara Johnson said, which is that we are Easter people living in a Good Friday world. And I think that every year the world seems more of a Good Friday world. And it's excruciating, whether it's Japan, or Libya, or whether it's your own best friends and their children who are sick, which is something that makes no sense when you think about a loving God. But it's a time when we get to remember that all the stuff that we think makes us of such value, all the time we spend burnishing our surfaces, is really not what God sees. God, he or she, loves us absolutely unconditionally, as is. It's a come as you are party."

HELP FOR UKRAINE: ONE YEAR IN

This February marked one year since the Russian invasion of Ukraine. In that time, millions have suffered incalculable loss. As of this January, there were over 18,000 documented civilian casualties and almost 13 million people who'd been displaced or were refugees. Nearly five million more who originally left their homes have returned to face extremely difficult circumstances.

Soon after the conflict broke out, we began working with ACT Alliance, and through this network, we now directly support 70,000 people each day. Much of this assistance entails providing food and cash transfers to people in Ukraine who are impacted by the war.

Episcopal Relief & Development also continues our partnership with the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe (CECE), equipping local congregations throughout Europe to assist Ukrainian refugees. CECE supports congregational capacity by providing peacekeeping resources, resettlement and language services, pastoral care and direct services, including cash transfers.

Although the city of Chernivtsi in western Ukraine is far removed from the fighting, it has faced its own steep challenges as people fleeing war-torn areas arrived on their doorstep, sometimes with little more than a suitcase. Chernivtsi Regional Emergency Hospital — already undersupplied — now struggled to tend to a massive influx of patients. But one of our partners through the ACT Alliance, Hungarian Interchurch Aid, bought and transported medicine and ambulance equipment that has made a huge difference.

"There were difficult times as the war broke out, something we thought unimaginable," reports the hospital's medical director. "It was only due to the generosity of our partners abroad that we managed to get back on track and keep providing the necessary services for the now increased population of our region."



Calendar of Events for April 2023

Sundays:	8:00 am	Worship
	10:00 am	Worship w/Music – Livestreaming
	12:30 pm	Centering Prayer
Mondays:	8:30 am	Morning Prayer – Facebook/Zoom Event
	11:00 am – 12:00 Noon	Clothes Closet
	11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Soup Kitchen
Tuesdays:	8:30 am	Morning Prayer – Facebook/Zoom Event
	10:00 am	Bible Study – Zoom Event
	11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Soup Kitchen
Wednesdays:	8:30 am	Morning Prayer – Facebook/Zoom Event
	11:00 am – 12:00 Noon	Clothes Closet
	12:00 Noon	Worship – Zoom Event
	11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Soup Kitchen
Thursdays:	8:30 am	Morning Prayer – Facebook/Zoom Event
	12:00 Noon	Worship – In-Person - Community Room
Fridays:	8:30 am	Morning Prayer – Facebook/Zoom Event
Saturdays:	11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Soup Kitchen
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Thur., Apr. 6 th	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Fri., Apr. 7 th	12:00 Noon	Good Friday Service
Fri., Apr. 7 th	7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Tues., Apr. 11 th	7:00 pm	Vestry Meeting via Zoom
Wed., Apr. 19 th	5:00 pm	Ultreya Meeting via Zoom

### **Jan. – Feb. 2023 - Actual vs. Budget**

		<b>Jan. – Feb. 2023</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>Offerings</b>	22,274.00	15,771.90
	<b>Other</b>	3,401.04	3,895.00
	<b>Legacies/Bequests</b>	-	-
	<b>Total Income</b>	\$ 25,675.04	\$ 19,666.90
<b>EXPENSE</b>	<b>Gas, Electric, water, sewer</b>	8,767.52	3,591.68
	<b>Salary &amp; Benefits</b>	18,811.29	20,556.72
	<b>Insurance</b>	5,141.75	2,666.66
	<b>Other</b>	4,875.55	5,910.00
	<b>Total Expense</b>	\$ 37,596.11	\$ 32,725.06
	<b>sale/purchase of securities</b>	0	0
	<b>Net Income</b>	\$ (11,921.07)	\$ (13,058.16)