



ST. PETER'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

302 MERCHANTS AVE.
FORT ATKINSON, WI 920-563-3889



March 2024

PARISH PROFILE

VIRGINIA "GINNY" LAURENT

This Month, we have the privilege of learning more about Ginny Laurent.

To begin with, Ginny has always been an Episcopalian. She and her husband, Jerry, moved to Whitewater 58 years ago and attended St. Luke's until it closed, which brought them to St. Peter's in October of 2015.

Ginny grew up in Evansville, Indiana before moving to Wisconsin. She has two adult children, Kathy and Tom, whom she adores and feels they are the greatest accomplishments of her life!

Asked what her most prized possession is, her response was "my baby grand piano" which she inherited from her parents. Yes, she used to play piano and would like to learn it again.

Ginny has wonderful memories of past trips with her family to the Bay of Fundy in Nova Scotia, and staying at a cabin near her dad's home in Parrsboro, a small town along the coast of Nova Scotia.

A recent special memory is being at the hospital when her daughter had surgery a month ago. It was a time when family came together to be with Kathy with prayer support of many. A complete gift of caring.



Another great accomplishment for Ginny was winning the 8th Grade Spelling Bee, and then, a few years later, the High School Spelling Bee.

When asked who her greatest hero is, she responded "my mom", and the person who knew her better than anyone was her husband, Jerry, to whom she was married for 50 1/2 years. Losing Jerry and moving forward has been her greatest struggle, even now.

I asked Ginny what makes her smile, she replied, "Having coffee with friends and, of course, Archie, my "Grand Cat" (who belongs to Kathy). Archie visits often.

Some wishes that Ginny has are to see the Grand Canyon, and to travel more in Canada, especially Nova Scotia.

- Interviewed by Jane Waters -
2/2024

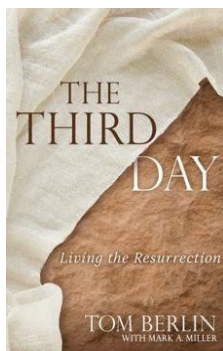
LENTEN BOOK AND VIDEO STUDY

After our Lenten Soup Suppers, we will be engaging in a book and video study using *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection*. Study will start at 6:00 PM directly after soup supper.

On the third day, he rose again.

In *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection*, Tom Berlin uses his gifts of storytelling and understanding the Scriptures to connect the reader to the experiences of several individuals around Jesus in his final days, focusing on new life and redemption rather than loss.

Join Peter, Mary Magdalene, and Thomas as they feel the despair of losing Jesus and the surprise and joy that awaits them in the resurrection. This study traces events around these characters, along with Paul and the disciples at Emmaus, and how the resurrection transforms their lives.



All are invited to come whenever they can. You can come for the soup supper, the study or both. Even if you haven't read the book, you will still gain something from the video teaching and the fellowship! Please know that you are invited to attend, even if for just one session!

Prayer for the Episcopal Wisconsin Trialogue

The "Trialogue" is composed of the three Episcopal dioceses of Wisconsin that are exploring how reunification to one diocese may better equip us to be the church God is calling us to be. Please pray with us.

Almighty God, we come before you asking grace and wisdom for all who are called to discern your mission for the church in Wisconsin. May we listen to one another in humility and always seek your will. We pray in the name of Jesus, the head of the church. Amen.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP GATHERING



This picture was taken at the February 9 Women's Fellowship Gathering. Our new Parish Administrator Caren Waters was able to come and we were so glad for the chance to meet her.

NEXT GATHERING:

Saturday, March 16, at 10:00 AM at the Church.

Leader of the Month:
Jane Waters

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

April Gathering will be Friday, April 12, 10 AM at the Church.

BOOK REVIEW

Spiritual Direction: Wisdom for the Long Walk of Faith

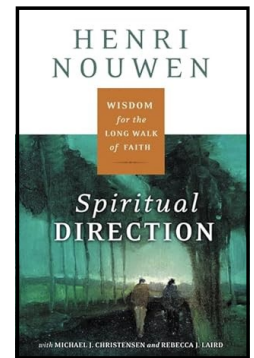
By Henri Nouwen with Michael J. Christensen and Rebecca J. Laird

Whether our need for spiritual direction is long term or occasional, it is an important one. We cannot get around the truth of the fact that we all need help at times. We need others to help us discern when we are on a path of self-delusion. We need others to encourage us when our call seems unclear or absurd. The people God brings into our lives are often for the purpose of our spiritual growth.

A spiritual director is not a counselor, a therapist, or an analyst. A spiritual director is a "mature fellow Christian to whom we choose to be accountable for living our spiritual life and from whom we can expect prayerful support in our constant struggle to discern God's activity."

Many people have turned to Henri Nouwen for spiritual direction. Though Nouwen has written many books, this is one area he did not cover in his published works. Christensen and Laird worked together to include notes from a class Nouwen taught on spiritual direction and excerpts from unpublished pieces of Nouwen's which form this book. They arranged the book according to the three disciplines that Nouwen taught: the discipline of the heart, the discipline of the book and the discipline of the community.

Though Nouwen is no longer with us, this book gives us the opportunity to benefit from his wisdom and grace. Each chapter ends with Going Deeper Exercises that can help us sort through the most complicated questions of that trouble our hearts. If we want to dig deeper there are four pages of Further Reading that will help us. If you take your faith seriously, this is a great book for you.



Terrie Knox

BIBLE BOOK SUMMARY: GENESIS

Verses 1-11 in the book of Genesis is the story of God and the whole world. People are the reflection of God's character. We can harness creation's potential to create more beauty and order. The serpent lied when he told Adam and Eve to eat the apple so they could become like God. The irony is that they were already like God. This first part ends with the Tower of Babel and the scattering of the people.

The hinge to the second part is the genealogy from Adam to Abram. God calls Abram to leave and promises to bless him, changing his name to Abraham. Verses 12-50 tells the story of God working through Abraham and his family. It was God's plan to rescue and bless His rebellious world through Abraham's family. Abraham begot Isaac who begot Jacob (whose name was changed to Israel) who had twelve sons, the twelve tribes of Israel. The book ends with the story of Joseph. The brothers sold him into slavery but God put him in charge of Egypt where he saved the family during a famine. So though bad decisions and sin continued even through God's chosen people, God met them all with His never-ending love and faithfulness and turned things back to good. To watch more detailed summaries go to Bible Project with the links below.

Bible Project: Genesis 1-11: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOUV7mWDI34>

Bible Project: Genesis 12-50: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VpbWbyx1008>

The Nature of God

A dozen of us are on a walk in the woods.
It's raw and dreary and dusk is upon us.
Most of the trees stand with bare arms.
The leaves, mostly brown on the ground,
are past their peak, like us.
The rain has made the path muddy.
Our steps are cautious.
We hold back branches that might snag,
watch for stumps that might trip us up.
There are designated stops for prayer,
and the leader invites us to listen for words
that might stir something in our hearts.
My ears tune to the birds.
My heart skips for those lovely pink leaves
burning on a bush.



ˆAngela Hoffman

NOTES FROM YOUR PARISH NURSE: PEACEFUL TRANSITIONS PROGRAM

SAVE THE DATE! Please join us on **Sunday, April 21** after the 10:00 am service in the Fellowship Hall for a **Sunday Brunch** that celebrates the first event in our Peaceful Transitions Program which continues through the Fall of 2024. Deacon REGS and his wife, Pat Scheeler, from the Milwaukee Diocese will help us begin our journey by giving an overview of the steps involved in the end-of-life planning.

The Peaceful Transitions Program is an opportunity to integrate your faith with important decision making. This program will help us talk more openly with each other and our loved ones about living and dying. As the Parish Nurse I will facilitate upcoming workshops where experienced professionals will guide us through completing our advance directives, planning a funeral service, and writing our own or a loved one's obituary. After several church services there will also be presentations on hospice and palliative care, grief support, and estate planning/financial resources.

Please keep watch on the Health Ministry bulletin board for upcoming details and let me know if you have questions.

References: FiveWishes.Org; Care Notes: Advance Care Planning: Making Care Decisions Now and for the Future; End of Life Concerns: A Guide for Families. Five Wishes

Health Ministry Activities:

Blood Pressure Screening – **Sunday, March 10th** from 7:30am – Coffee Hours after the 10am Service.

Mental Health First Aid Course – **Saturday, March 16th** – see Liz for details if interested.

Health Ministry Advisory Committee – **Sunday, April 14** – after the 10am service.

Peaceful Transition Brunch – **Sunday, April 21** – after the 10am service.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Children's Sunday School will resume on February 25 and will be held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month until June.

The schedule is March 10 & 24,
April 14 & 28, May 12 & 26.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Morning Prayer

8:30 AM Back-to Basics Bible Study

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist

**10:10 Coffee Hour Fellowship in the Parish
Hall**

SERMON SUMMARIES BY ANGIE HOFFMAN

1/28/24 Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as God. Jesus was no mere man. Angels showed up and the Magi visited. He said, "Come follow me", and they followed. He taught with authority, he cast out demons, and he triumphed over sin and death. Through Jesus Christ, we as a church family have the opportunity to heal others, help others deepen their faith, offer community, assist the poor and offer hope. Let our church be a place where others find Christ.

2/4/24

If our Lord laid hands on you, healing you as he did Simon's mother-in-law, what would you do? She got up and served the others. Service in the church as well as in the world is part of a Christian life. It's in the little things we can do each day.

2/11/24 Last Sunday of Epiphany/Canon Scott Leannah

An epiphany is a moment of insight, clarity, or understanding. The Transfiguration was the ultimate moment when Jesus was filled with glowing light, and glory! It was revealed to Peter, James, and John that Jesus was the Son of God. However, they needed to go back down the mountain to continue the work of God. In the face of what surrounds us in the world that is dark, we need more than ever to radiate God's presence. Once we see this light, we cannot not see it. It's everywhere!

2/18/24 The First Sunday in Lent

Lent is the season of self dedication or rededicating ourselves to God more fully. We might do this through fasting, prayer, or study. Even Jesus was tempted. He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness for forty days. Often it is the small things that lead us astray. When we turn to God with a contrite heart, we are forgiven. *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on me, a sinner.*

2/25/24 The Second Sunday in Lent/Deacon Louise Austin

The disciples had witnessed Jesus performing miracles and healing, knowing He was the One they had been waiting for, but now Jesus is telling them he is going to be tortured, killed and rise from the dead. All they seemed to hear was he was going to die. This is not what they had bargained for. Jesus recognized the tempter. We too are constantly being tempted. We need to discern between what God is asking from what society asks from us. We may be asked to give up earthly things, but we will experience divine pleasure in doing God's will. Believe that God will guide you on your journey. You are never alone.

STEWARDSHIP

"Each of us has a personal money story that developed early in life and stems from our family of origin. This legacy shapes our attitudes about money even as we age, including how we spend it, save it, and give it away."

(Money Legacies by Donald V. Romanik) What is your money story?

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING (D.O.K.)
ECUMENICAL CELEBRATION: LENTING WITH JOY!

All are Invited (women, men, laypeople, clergy, and folks of any denomination) to an ecumenical celebration: Lenting With Joy!

With some timely words from Julian of Norwich (a 14th-century holy woman with lots to say about hard times, plagues, Jesus, joy, and love).

Cost: \$20 at the door.

Our speaker will be the Rev. Mary Jane Oakland, a retired Episcopal priest from the Diocese of Iowa. She has been a wise and highly beloved mentor for the lay members of the Episcopal Order of Julian of Norwich since its inception, and an honored pioneer in the development of a native plant protein formula for infant and childhood nutrition in Ghana, Nicaragua, and China.

Our ecumenical day will focus on silent reflections, workshops, and an Ecumenical Service in the Spirit of Taizé at the close of our time together.

Our day is sponsored by the Order of the Daughters of the King—Saint Francis of Assisi Chapter and will be held in grateful thanksgiving for a gift made in memory of Ann Baker-Ewing, a member of the Daughters of the King Chapter in Janesville. The Order of the Daughters of the King is a vowed lay order for

women, founded in 1885 by an Episcopal lay woman. Her aim was to help women develop a deeper relationship with Christ. It has expanded worldwide and continues to flourish.

Any questions? Leave a voice mail or text Janet Irvine at 608-295-1400.

To learn more and sign up, please register here by March 1, 2024.



(Reprinted from the Diocesan Newsletter)

RECYCLING AT ST. PETER'S

We recently started a new trash and recycling program at Saint Peter's. You will now find red trash cans with black bags inside and yellow cans with white or clear ones. The red cans are for garbage and non-recyclables such as Styrofoam. The yellow ones are for co-mingled recyclables.

One of each type is in the general area of the kitchen. Another pair is in the furnace room north of the kitchen. They are on the north wall. The red one has a cover. To the right of them is a rectangular bin for small cardboard and paper and behind them is space for flattened boxes. All of the small red recycling bins are where they always were.

From now on, the small bins scattered around the building can be emptied into the larger ones for easier transport out of the building. We hope the new cans will encourage better and more complete recycling while adding some convenience for those who care for it.

(continued on p. 9)

St. Peter's Vestry Minutes (Un-approved)

February 20, 2024 Vestry Minutes

February 20, 2024 Vestry Minutes

Present: Mother Mindy, Terrie Knox, Virginia Laurent, Bob Krumm, Angela Hoffman, Breck McHenry, Eda Wilson, Mark Bardenwerper, Liz Collins, Laurie McHenry.



Mother Mindy recently attended a clergy retreat where it was shared that there was a positive impact on meetings when started with scriptural study. So we began with a reading of Romans 12:1-2 and discussed the importance of resetting our thinking according to God's love and direction.

Minutes of the January 2024 vestry were sent out. Mark made a motion to accept them as written. Breck 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

Financial Report: Laurie reported that the diocese is now requiring that the fixed assets be listed on the balance sheet. They suggested the insurance replacement value divided by 2 would serve as the amounts. Thus Rectory, Church building, equipment and furniture are listed as fixed assets. Mark suggested we should have a pictorial inventory for the church and the rectory.

Auxiliary fund is up a bit due to market swing. Parish Nurse and Deposits are not on the budget but listed as liabilities because they are funds earmarked for specific things, ie the grant for the parish nurse and the key deposits to be refunded when keys are turned back in.

Budget vs Actual for the month shows we overspent but must keep in mind that much of our funds come in later in the year.

Access and contents of the safety deposit box was discussed.

Business: Mother Mindy welcomed the new vestry members and shared expectations. Remain calm and remain kind. She reminded us all that we may not always agree but we need to respect each other. We also need to vote our conscience even if it is in disagreement with the majority. But once a decision is made, all are expected to work together in community.

Dossal Curtain: The curtain behind the altar is over 500 years old and was donated by past members of the Jones family. It needs to be taken down and restored. An estimate was quoted at \$11,500. The present Jones family was contacted to discern their concerns.

Maintenance Plan Priorities: The continued maintenance of the church and rectory is a constant concern. There are many repairs and updates that need to be addressed, such as fixing the plaster and painting, bathroom updates, carpeting, etc. Laurie suggested gathering info to make a list of all the needs and vestry can prioritize them so we can make a plan. Laurie also reminded us that if we do not spend all that's budgeted, leftover moneys will be rolled over to next budget and not be lost. Mother Mindy asked vestry members to start looking around so we can start compiling a list.

Oral Reports:

- Sr. Warden: Nothing to report. All has been calm.
- Jr. Warden: Furnace room in the back has been put in order and recycle and garbage bins arranged.
- Nurse: The Peaceful Transitions Program will begin April 21 after church with a brunch. She is

partnering with Deacon REGS from the diocese. There is also an End of Life Coaching Course in March that she will be attending. Note the bulletin board downstairs that is designated for the Health Care Ministry. A Mental Health First Aid program is being offered at Oconomowoc in March.

Rector: The added time for Caren's training has been a challenge but she catches on quickly and is becoming much more independent. She has responded to several pastoral needs. A goal is to do more visits, especially getting communion to Kitty.

Closed with the General Thanksgiving. Breck made the motion to adjourn. Bob seconded. Motion passed. Meeting ended at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrie Knox

LAY LEADER SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY—MARCH 28, 6:00 PM

Lector: Terrie Knox

Deacon: Louise Austin

Usher: Brian Knox

GOOD FRIDAY—MARCH 29, 3:00 PM

Lector: Terrie Knox

Deacon: Louise Austin

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

EASTER VIGIL—MARCH 30, 8:00 PM

Reader: Jane Waters

Reader: Amy Reynolds

Reader: Anne Grover

Reader: Eda Wilson

Reader: Randy Ridout

Acolyte: Janet Bills

Deacon: Louise Austin

Usher: Brian Knox

EASTER—MARCH 31, 10:00 AM

Lector: Scott Fernhaber

AV Tech: Bob Krumm

Acolyte:

Deacon: Louise Austin

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

8:00 AM Mon.-Fri. Morning Prayer

Maundy Thursday: 6 PM Mass

Good Friday: 3 PM Mass

Saturday, 8:00 PM Easter Vigil

Sunday, 10:00 AM Easter Sunday Mass

Followed by Brunch and Egg Hunt

(continued from p. 7) Recycling at St. Peter's

I left some black bags in the scrub room between the bathrooms but because there are now several types of bags and they take up more space, I have moved storage for all bags into the northwest furnace room on to a cart just behind the freezer. Please move all boxes of bags for trash and recycling to that location at a convenient time.

Please let me know or leave a note with me if this presents a problem. I am sure we can work out a solution. At the glass door leading out of the building are cubbyholes. Mine is labeled. Feel free to leave me notes there about any problems that crop up.

Mark L. Bardenwerper, Sr., Junior Warden
citrogsa@charter.net



MARCH



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		8:00 am MP	8:00 am MP 12:00 PM Midweek Mass	8:00 am MP	1 8:00 am MP	2
3 8:00 am MP 8:30 am BibSt 10:00 am Sunday Worship 11:10 Fellowship	4 8:00 am MP	5 8:00 am MP	6 8:00 am MP 12:00 PM Midweek Mass 5:30 PM Soup supper 6PM Book Study	7 8:00 am MP	8 8:00 am MP	9 D.O.K. Ecumenical Gathering
10 7:30 am BP Screening 8:00 am MP 8:30 am BibSt 10:00 am Sunday Worship 11:10 Fellowship 11:15 Sunday School	11 8:00 am MP	12 8:00 am MP	13 8:00 am MP 12:00 PM Midweek Mass 5:30 PM Soup supper 6PM Book Study	14 8:00 am MP	15 8:00 am MP	16 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship Gathering Mental Health First Aid Course (see Liz for details)
17 Blood Pressure Screening 8:00 am MP 8:30 am BibSt 10:00 am Sunday Worship 11:10 Fellowship	18 8:00 am MP	19 8:00 am MP 6:00 Vestry Meeting on Zoom And in-person	20 8:00 am MP 12:00 PM Midweek Mass 5:30 PM Soup supper 6PM Book Study	21 8:00 am MP	22 8:00 am MP	23
24 8:00 am MP 8:30 am BibSt 10:00 am Palm Sunday Worship 11:10 Fellowship 11:15 Sunday School	25 8:00 am MP	26 8:00 am MP	27 8:00 am MP 12:00 PM Midweek Mass	28 8:00 am MP 6:00 PM Maundy Thurs- day	29 8:00 am MP 3:00 PM Good Friday Mass	30 8:00 PM Easter Vigil
31 EASTER SUNDAY 8:00 am MP 8:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Mass 11:15 Fellowship/ Brunch EGG HUNT	Upcoming Events: Friday, April 12– Women's Fellowship Gathering at the Church Sunday, April 14—Health Ministry Advisory Committee Mtg. Sunday, April 21—Peaceful Transitions Brunch					

MP—Morning Prayer BibSt—Bible Study

LAY EUCHARISTIC LEADERS SCHEDULE

MARCH 3

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Bev Wille

AV Technician: Bob Krumm

Acolyte: Janet Bills

Deacon: Louise Austin

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

Coffee Hour Host: Ginny and Jane

MARCH 10

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Ginny Laurent

AV Technician: Matt Bills

Acolyte: Bob Krumm

Deacon: Louise Austin

Usher: Brian Knox

Coffee Hour Host: Anne Grover

MARCH 17

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Eda Wilson

AV Technician: Breck McHenry

Acolyte: Janet Bills

Deacon: Louise Austin

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

Coffee Hour Host: Amy Reynolds

MARCH 24 PALM SUNDAY

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Jane Waters

AV Technician: Bob Krumm

Acolyte: Breck McHenry

Deacon: Louise Austin

Usher: Liz Collins

Coffee Hour Host: Angie and Liz

MARCH 31 EASTER SUNDAY

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Scott Fernhaber

AV Technician: Bob Krumm

Acolyte: Janet Bills

Deacon: Louise Austin

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

Coffee Hour Host:

ACTIVITIES AT ST. PETER'S

Mondays—Fridays 8:00 AM

Morning Prayer in the Gathering Room

Sunday, March 3

8:00 AM Morning Prayer

8:30 AM Back to Basics Bible Study

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

11:10 AM Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Wednesday, March 6

12:00 PM Noonday Prayer

Sunday, March 10

8:00 AM Morning Prayer

8:30 AM Back to Basics Bible Study

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

11:10 AM Coffee Hour

11:15 AM Sunday School

Wednesday, March 13

12:00 PM Midweek Mass

5:30 Soup Supper

6:00 Lenten Book Study

Saturday, March 16

10:00 AM Women's Fellowship Gathering
(at the Church)

Sunday, March 17

8:00 AM Morning Prayer

8:30 AM Back to Basics Bible Study

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

11:10 AM Coffee Hour

Tuesday, March 19

6:00 PM Vestry Meeting -Hybrid

Wednesday, March 20

12:00 PM Midweek Mass

5:30 PM Soup Supper

6:00 PM Lenten Book Study

Sunday, March 24

8:00 AM Morning Prayer

8:30 AM Back to Basics Bible Study

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

11:10 AM Coffee Hour

11:15 AM Sunday School

March 2024 Newsletter

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

302 Merchants Avenue

Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Return Service Requested

	ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH	302 MERCHANTS AVE. FORT ATKINSON, WI 920-563-3889	office@stpetersfort.org www.stpetersfort.org Rector: Mother Mindy Valentine Davis
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SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:00 AM MORNING PRAYER IN THE GATHERING ROOM

8:30 AM BACK-TO-BASICS BIBLE STUDY

10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST: IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAMED

11:10 FELLOWSHIP (COFFEE HOUR)

ST. PETER'S MISSION STATEMENT

To Lead Each Person into a Living Relationship with Jesus Christ,
Train Them as Disciples, and Make Jesus Known to Others.