



ST. PETER'S  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

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



## NEWS! NEWS! NEWS!

### FIRST SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP AND OUTDOOR MASS STARTING JUNE 5

Starting on the Day of Pentecost, Sunday, June 5 on first Sundays we will have outdoor fellowship and an additional outdoor Mass in the Peace Garden. We are keeping fellowship simple and having coffee, juice, and one treat. Fellowship will happen directly after the 10:00 AM service.



The noon Eucharist in the Peace Garden will continue on first Sundays throughout the rest of the summer and as long as the weather and temperature permits. There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule on the bulletin board next to the red doors if you would like to sign up to provide the hospitality for First Sunday Fellowship (One treat, juice, coffee, and cleanup).



### FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR JUNE

It's Food Pantry time again! June is the month that volunteers from St. Peter's help to distribute the food at the Fort Food Pantry, which is located in the Jones Complex. There are different jobs that are assigned according to one's physical abilities and mobility. So, in other words, if you are not as mobile or steady on your feet as you used to be, there are jobs there are jobs that you can do. The Food Pantry Hours are Monday and Thursday 3:00–5:30 PM. Please sign-up on the sheets near the Flower Chart, or call Laurie McHenry. **THANK YOU!**



### PENTECOST RED GERANIUM INGATHERING AND PLANTING



Pentecost is quickly approaching on June 5! Our tradition at St. Peter's is to ask the congregation to bring RED GERANIUMS to church on that day or in the week before that, starting Sunday, May 29. We will plant the bulk of the geraniums in the Peace Garden on June 4 at 10:30 AM and also use some to decorate the church on Pentecost Sunday before planting them around the grounds. These geraniums provide beautiful color and are a visual reminder of the presence of the Holy Spirit.

## The Importance of Tabitha by Linda Ryan

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. – Acts of the Apostles 9:36-42



We are once again in the throes of confusing and unsettling messes that threaten our lives, well-being, and security. Dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic has been a strain on all of us globally. Here in the United States, as in other countries, death, disability, grief, and anger have followed in the wake of the pandemic, which has not yet completely left us.

One thing that I hope has come out of the COVID-19 pandemic is the importance of community. Looking at the destruction in Ukraine, not only of property and safety but the bonds of community between people who lived, worked, raised their families, prayed, and laughed together, we see what loss of community can mean. In times of stress and loss, members of the community usually come together to support and console each other.

This is how it was in Joppa when an older woman named Dorcas (Hebrew gazelle), also called Tabitha (Gk. gazelle), died. She was a well-known, respected, and loved member of her community, known for her good works and acts of charity. She had been a female leader in the area, living an exemplary life in ways that reflected her faith and commitment to the teachings of Jesus. It must have been a blow to the people who looked to her for guidance and assistance, much as we would feel at the death not only of a loved one but a person of high standing.

Guercino – San Pietro che resuscita Tabita (1618), by Giovanni Francisco Barbieri (1591-1666), also known as Guercino. Found at Wikimedia Commons.

Luckily, or more likely providentially, Peter the Disciple was in a town only about a dozen miles away from Joppa at the time. Two men were sent to him with the news and the request for him to hurry. They may not have known what Peter could do, but perhaps he could guide them through their time of grief. When Peter arrived, he went to the upstairs room where Tabitha's body lay, surrounded by the widows with whom she lived and worked. Peter cleared the room and knelt to pray.

In words reminiscent of those spoken by Jesus to the daughter of Jarius (Mk. 5:41), Peter said, "Tabitha, get up." He took her hand and, as she stood up, he showed her to the whole community. Through this miracle, many new converts to the infant Christian movement came. No doubt, the community rejoiced and thanked God for her restoration to them.

Tabitha was probably not a preacher, but we know she was influential because of the regard with which her circle of neighbors and fellow believers held her. They loved and respected her because of the life she led rather than just her words. This was the kind of life Jesus was getting at when he taught that his followers should love their neighbors, not just their friends, family, and fellow believers. Tabitha's example is one of a woman in a man's world, teaching by doing and helping to bind the community together in peace.

## The Importance of Tabitha (*continued from page 2*)

Women in the Bible were generally an overlooked group unless they were mothers or wives. We don't even hear Tabitha's story very often except in sequential Bible readings. Stories like hers deserve more hearing to inspire both women and men to act as Jesus taught and Tabitha exemplified.

Who in our own communities are the Tabithas? What do they show us? How do they represent their faith in a clear, unequivocal way to those in need? How can we foster more Tabithas? How can we become one ourselves?

These are questions for us to consider. The strength of our communities and our outreach depends on it.

Source: <https://episcopaljournal.org/the-importance-of-tabitha/>

## THANK YOUS

We have received several Thank You cards from people for gifts our Outreach Fund has provided for special needs outside our church family. The thank yous are posted on the bulletin board in the Gathering Room located outside Mother Mindy's office. Please take the time to read them and be encouraged by the "reach" of our "outreach".

It is because of your hard work on fundraisers, (like the Cookie Cupboard) and generous giving that makes this possible. Thank YOU!

## PASTORAL STATEMENT ON MASS SHOOTING IN BUFFALO FROM EPISCOPAL CHURCH PRESIDING BISHOP MICHAEL CURRY



My heart is heavy with the news that a white supremacist gunman took the lives of 10 children of God in Buffalo on Saturday, May 14.

I grew up walking distance from the scene of this hateful crime, and my friends and I used to ride our bikes around the neighborhood. Buffalo's Black community raised and formed me. I grieve with the city and people I love.

The loss of any human life is tragic, but there was deep racial hatred driving this shooting, and we have got to turn from the deadly path our nation has walked for much too long. Bigotry-based violence—any bigotry at all—against our siblings who are people of color, Jewish, Sikh, Asian, trans, or any other group, is fundamentally wrong. As baptized followers of Jesus of Nazareth, we are called to uphold and protect the dignity of every human child of God, and to actively uproot the white supremacy and racism deep in the heart of our shared life.

Please join me in prayer for the shattered families in Buffalo. Please also join me in expressing profound gratitude for the intervention by Buffalo police that likely saved many other lives. Even amid tragedy, even when manifestations of evil threaten to overwhelm, let us hold fast to the good. It is the only way that leads to life.

Source: *The Episcopal Cafe*

## GIVING STATEMENTS

Giving Statements through May 31 will be sent out by June 10.

These statements are to ensure the accuracy of our record keeping and are a way of letting people know where they are in their pledges. If you have pledged or donated to the church and do not receive a statement by June 17, please let us know so that we can make sure everything is recorded properly.

An illustration showing two hands, one palm up and one palm down, holding a bundle of golden wheat stalks. The background is a warm, golden-yellow color.

Honor the LORD with your wealth  
and with the best part of everything  
you produce. Proverbs 3:9

Vestry Meeting  
March 16, 2022 – On Zoom

**Present:** Breck, Terrie, Mother Mindy, Scott Fernhaber, Ginny, Bill, Laurie, Bev.

**Absent:** Matt Bills

**Check Ins:** Everyone shared updates

**Prayer:** Mother Mindy opened with prayer

**Minutes:** Bill Moved and Scott seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Discussion: Breck said Vestry term limits should be changed from 3 to 2 consecutive terms; a friendly amendment was made. All were in favor, no nays, and Terrie abstained.

**Financial Report:** Laurie commented that it looks like expenses were down, but she hasn't been paying the assessment to the Diocese until she heard from them, and they did finally lower our assessment by \$7,000. Also, electric and gas bill will be large next month because they rolled into 3 months. Mother Mindy moved to accept the Financial Report with Gratitude. Bill and Scott seconded.

**Business:**

**Church Credit Card:** We had one when Father Andrew was here, but he cancelled it instead of taking his name off it. Premier Bank has it. Would put Mother Mindy and Barb as authorized users and set limits on how much can be charged. Need a motion by the Vestry. Ginny said the Jr. Warden should also be authorized user on the card. With Laurie as check writer, and Breck as Jr. Warden, it would violate a rule or protocol. Discussion followed regarding what the dollar amount limits there are for making purchases without Vestry approval. During the time Father Andrew was here, we think it was a limit of \$500. Resolution to obtain a business credit card with \$5,000. limit. While we have the situation where the Jr. Warden is related to the Treasurer, we won't have the Jr. Warden be an authorized user on the credit card. So, we are raising the amount to \$1,000 purchase allowed before having the approval of the Vestry. Scott made motion and Breck seconded. All in favor, no nays, no abstentions.

**Coffee Hour:** Mother Mindy presented our rationale for continuing to require masks. We are choosing to continue to wear masks and be cautious in order to protect the least of these, and right now our youngest member cannot be vaccinated. We are trying to balance the need to protect and the need for community. We will continue to mask for worship, and have the choice to be unmasked for Coffee Hour. Ginny said she is in favor of re-establishing Coffee Hour. Bev asked about when the work on the Undercroft will begin. Breck said that it depends on when JM carpet will be able to have the flooring available. Once we know JM timetable, then we will have the remediation of the asbestos started. Mother Mindy suggested waiting until May and start having outside Fellowship, then move inside for the Fall. Should we start in Gathering Room? Discussion about how many might there be in attendance. Breck said he is in favor of starting Coffee Hour. Scott agreed, said that a lot of people are asking for it. Bill said Covid burden in Jefferson is still a bit high, so he would feel better if it was outside. The suggestion was made to start on Easter. To summarize: We are in favor of Coffee hour, and would be more comfortable with it outside, and do it inside if it is raining or too cold. Bev suggested doing it when we start outdoor services, so there are chairs. Mother Mindy asked if someone could make a motion. Bev said to table it until next vestry meeting, Bill seconded. Next meeting is Weds. April 20, which is after Easter. Mother Mindy expressed that she would like to do something on Easter. Egg hunt was suggested. Vote was taken to have an outdoor Coffee Hour for Easter Only. Bill pointed out that during the tenure of Bishop Miller, when the burden was over 40/100,000. We were not allowed to do anything indoors at all. Breck noted that at that time, there was no vaccine.

**Holy Week** – planning meeting next Wednesday at 5:00 pm.



### Reports:

Sr Warden – because of all the delays, Scott is switching to a different supplier for the PTZ camera. He asked if Breck could be there when the guy comes in to see the nave.

Jr. Warden – we were able to get a professionally built cable that feeds the audio to the TV ears for anyone who needs auditory assistance.

Rector – Mother Mindy and Kevin are seeking an amicable divorce after many years of working on their marriage and much individual and couples' therapy. Bishop Lee did not see any reason that it would keep her from doing her priestly duties. Mother Mindy asked that anyone that had major concerns to please speak now. Kevin is still living in the Rectory and they are seeking to make this as easy on their children as possible. She asked for prayer for all of them.

Prayer: Terrie closed in prayer. Mother Mindy asked Breck to do our ending prayer next Vestry meeting. Bill moved to adjourn. Terrie seconded. All in favor. Meeting closed at 7:12 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Barbara Werner

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

We have three members that have or will graduate from High School or Masters Programs and two of our choral scholars have graduated with their Bachelor's Degrees!

### Congratulations

#### **Michael Bills**

Graduating from Fort Atkinson High School  
Michael plans to attend UW La Crosse in the fall



#### **Logan Davis**

Graduating from Fort Atkinson High School  
Logan plans to attend the Universal Technical Institute  
in Lisle, Illinois in the fall



#### **Katie Mumm**

Graduated from UW Whitewater with a  
Master of Science in Data Analytics.



#### **Claire Allen**

Graduated from UW Whitewater with a Bachelor of Music in  
Vocal Performance

#### **Molly Wanless**

Graduated from UW Whitewater with a Bachelor of Music in  
Vocal Performance

## Vestry Minutes April 20,2022 - (On Zoom)



**Present:** Mother Mindy, Scott Fernhaber, Bev Wille, Ginny Laurent, Breck McHenry,  
**Absent:** Matt Bills, Bill Cannon, Terrie Knox

**Prayer:** Mother Mindy opened in prayer.

**Minutes:** Bev move to accept the Minutes as presented from the March meeting, and Ginny seconded. All in approval. No nays, no abstentions.

**A. Parochial Report:** Mother Mindy presented the Parochial Report by sharing the pdf's on the zoom screen. She explained all the different numbers. Mother Mindy asked if her statement about what we are looking for in the future, and what we need to do to realize these dreams. Is her statement accurate? Bev commented that she feels very disconnected from our shut-ins. She has also benefited from studies and group events about the topic of grieving. She suggested Grief Share. Ginny agreed that she too would like this. Mother Mindy asked if there are other things we would like to see changed in our community. Ginny said that we need opportunities for connection. Scott said we are going in a good direction. Hopefully we'll see some of the people who visited on Easter. Breck agreed, and would like to see normalcy. Scott moved to accept the Parochial Report as presented., Breck seconded. All were in favor.

**B. Coffee Hour** – it's been hard to balance the needs of the congregation and the need to be cautious. Bev said there were a lot of people at Coffee Hour on Easter. She suggested having coffee hour between Indoor service and outdoor service in the summer. A discussion about should we do outdoor services this summer followed. It was suggested that we poll the congregation to see if there is a majority interested. However, we also need to still have an indoor service in order to stream it. Mother Mindy suggested that we choose a certain Sunday of the month. Maybe start in June, as the weather has been pretty erratic. Should we start with outdoor Fellowship? Bev is not in favor of moving tables or chairs outside. Setting it up on rolling carts would be fine. We should try to get compostable cups and plates and utensils. IF there were four families who would be interested in taking charge of this on an assigned Sunday. Breck suggested First Sundays...to get people into the mindset that First Sunday's are special. Bill agreed. Bev agreed, and so did Ginny. Barb will make a sign-up sheet for First Sunday Coffee Hour.

**C. C. Holy Week "Post Mortem"** – What went well?

Breck – was here for Palm Sunday

*(Minutes continued from page 7)*

**Tenebrae**- Beautiful service. Easy to follow in the booklets. "Big noise" may have been defective.

**Night Watch after Maundy Thursday** – not well attended. It was suggested that the sign-up sheet for the Night Watch should be where the Flower chart sign-up. Bill noted that in the past the chapel was decked with flowers for the Night watch. Mother Mindy asked if the flower guild would get the extra flowers to enhance the experience.

**Maundy Thursday-**

**Good Friday** – Mother Mindy needs a 5-foot wooden cross with a stand, crown of thorns and something to put it on. Barb will put it in the newsletter to see if someone could make one for us.

Bill circled back to say that he really enjoyed the daily masses during Lent. Scott agreed. MM said that she would do it again, or at least on Thursdays and Fridays.

**Easter Vigil** – New fire was a bet of a disappointment. Some visitors came and when the lights were out, they started to leave. Mother Mindy called them back in and explained why we start in the dark.

**Easter Day** – Ginny commented that the Flower Guild outdid themselves!!! It was Gorgeous!

**Good Friday Offering** – typically we send money to the Holy Land. Was an offering taken. Whatever we did last plus 10 percent. And rounded up.

**Parish Hall Project** – the molding guy is working down there now. RJ is going to be starting to set up the remove the asbestos.

**Potpourri** – Scott said we need to discuss the PTZ cameras. He sent out information to all the Vestry. Cost is \$7,300. Which includes installation and training. This company has been in the business for a long time. Breck has done some research as well and consulted with someone in Wauwatosa who thinks that something a little less expensive would be sufficient. John Washbush has suggested a model that costs \$900 to \$1,000 apiece. We would need to pre-set to make it seamless to the viewer. Breck recommended tabling and get more information. Bill said, yes, postpone the decision, but, if the PTZ camera that Scott is suggesting is the best to go, he would vote yes. Ginny too would vote yes on the more expensive cameras if that is the best for our situation. We need an “apples to apples” comparison. Also, the installation and training feature with Scott’s company sounds very attractive.

Breck moved and Scott seconded that we adjourn.

Breck closed in prayer. Adjourned at 7:43

Respectfully Submitted by Barbara A. Werner

## EASTER EGG HUNT



The children of the parish and our guests enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt in the Peace Garden after Easter Mass. Fun was had by all (especially the spectators!)



## God's Earrings by Lexiann Grant

*"Then came there unto him all his brethren,...and they bemoaned him, and comforted him...every [one] also gave him...an earring..." Job 42:11 KJV*

She was dressed neatly in clean but inexpensive clothing of muted beige and white — straight skirt, cotton blouse and a sweater vest. The woman's thinning hair was short but fluffed and manicured in place. Her round face, rather like Mrs. Claus or an aging cherub, displayed a serene, inviting smile. I don't remember if she wore jewelry.

When I encountered her it was in a convenience store, while getting a coffee drink to push me through the rest of another endlessly bad day. At that time I was enduring stressors that had brought me to a point where I'd lost most of my faith and was wondering if checking out of life was an option.

The 70-something lady was holding a shallow, plastic box, showing the contents to a few people, most of whom ignored her or moved on. My first thought was "oh no," a manipulative panhandler or fanatic of an odd religious practice.

An aura of goodness she seemed to be emitting caught my attention. When our glances met, I was drawn towards her. Inside the box were dozens of sets of tiny, cheap earrings that she said she'd made. She asked if I'd like a pair.

I decided that if she'd gone to so much trouble to earn a little money, I'd buy a pair to help with whatever her financial desperation was. I chose a pair and asked her how much.

"They're free," she answered, "like God's love." Ah oh. Here comes the pitch. I was about to tell her "thanks but no thanks because I love my Episcopal church." Instead, as I opened my mouth to speak, I started crying and told her how much I needed to hear that. Although I didn't detail my problems, I told her my life had been difficult for so long that I was cracking under the strain.

She hugged me and just let me cry. I hugged her back, regained my composure, thanked her and began to step away. But before this grandmotherly comforter let me go, she patted me on the back and

whispered, "This is a hug from God. He loves you and wants to remind you He's always with you, even now."

Somehow that mysterious meeting uplifted me sufficiently to keep going through the tough times. Like Job, my life was not restored immediately. But I put those earrings in a prominent place with my others and looked at them whenever I needed a spiritual reminder that God cares.

This woman — and God acting through her — reminded me to be grateful, and to continue to believe through all circumstances. Also like Job, it prompted me, again, to pray for enemies and bad people, for hurtful family or friends. Eventually my faith and hope — and living each day, one day at a time — were restored.

*And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. Job 42:10 KJV*

### Coda

During the pandemic I searched for this woman online and through acquaintances who belonged to larger

churches in the area. Only one person had heard of an older woman handing out earrings as a token of God's love, but they didn't know who she was. Finally, I found an obituary with her picture. It described a person of great faith, active in her church and community. But there was no mention of her godly earring gifts.

Her son was listed as a pastor in another state, so I contacted him and asked if he knew of her earring mission. He did not. This lady and her work will not be forgotten by those of us whose lives she touched with caring. What a gift. So much time, effort, expense and love. And she did it in secret, not seeking recognition, only giving of God to people in need.

This world needs more people like her.

*Lord, help us to serve as your earrings, touching others with your love through the gifts you have so freely given to us. Amen.*

*Lexiann Grant is a retired writer & author, a former chalice and layreader, but still an Episcopalian who enjoys*





## LAY EUCHARISTIC LEADERS SCHEDULE

### MAY 29

#### 10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Randy Ridout

AV Technician: Michael

Acolyte: Bill Cannon

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

### JUNE 5

#### 10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Terrie Knox

AV Technician: Breck

Acolyte: Bill Cannon

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

#### 12:00 PM OUTDOOR SERVICE

Lector: Ginny Laurent

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

### JUNE 12

#### 10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: John Donohue

AV Technician: Bob Krumm

Acolyte: Bill Cannon

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

### JUNE 19

#### 10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Eda Wilkom

AV Technician: Michael Bills

Acolyte: Bill Cannon

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

### JUNE 26

#### 10:00 AM IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM

Lector: Bev Wille

AV Technician: Breck McHenry

Acolyte: Bill Cannon

Usher: Scott Fernhaber

## ACTIVITIES AT ST. PETER'S

### Monday—Friday 8:00 AM

Morning Prayer in the Gathering Room

### Sunday, May 29

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

In-Person and Live Streamed on YouTube

### Thursday, June 2

3:00– 5:30 Pm: Food Pantry

### Sunday, June 5

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

In-Person and Live Streamed on YouTube

**Outdoor Fellowship/Coffee Hour Following**

**10AM Service**

**12:00 PM Outdoor Worship Service**

### Monday, June 6

3:00– 5:30 Pm: Food Pantry

### Thursday, June 9

3:00– 5:30 Pm: Food Pantry

### Sunday, June 12

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

In-Person and Live Streamed on YouTube

(Masks Required inside the church)

### Monday, June 13

3:00– 5:30 Pm: Food Pantry

### Thursday, June 16

3:00– 5:30 Pm: Food Pantry

### Sunday, June 19

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

In-Person and Live Streamed on YouTube

(Masks Required inside the church)

## BEAUTIFUL GARDENS DON'T JUST HAPPEN

I think most of us know that creating a garden is a big undertaking, whether it be small garden in your own yard, or a major landscaping project. Some of you have watched the Peace Garden take shape over the years, and some who are newer to St. Peter's have enjoyed it's beauty without knowing it's story. It began for me back in February of 2016. St. Luke's had closed its doors the previous year, and the resulting blessing for St. Peter's was that several of the St. Luke's parishioners became part of the St. Peter's flock. Ellen Bogner was one of those individuals. I hadn't met Ellen yet, but I knew her name. One day as I was locking up the Church and turning off the lights (earlier than my usual 1:00 pm shut down) I was startled to see there was a woman in the church praying. Ellen told me later that she was having a conversation with God. He was nudging her to create a garden in the greenspace next to the church that was completely overgrown with weeds, invasive plants, nettles and burdock. Ellen's response to God was "You want me to do WHAT?" That day, Ellen told God "Yes"....and I think she also told Him that He was going to have to help her. And So it began. Here are the milestones:

### Garden Timeline

**2016** - God "plants the idea, and Ellen says "yes." Clearing of overgrown wooded perimeter begins – 50 + bags of garlic mustard, burdock, nettles and other weeds removed. Ellen's daughter, Heather and significant other, Andy, come from Oklahoma to help, using their truck to pickup 25 bags of mulch, and their backs to spread it. (They have come every year since—literally spreading hundreds of bags of mulch over the years).

- "Hidden Garden" discovered
- St. Francis statue purchased and a location for the "St. Francis Garden" chosen.

**2017**- Circle Garden re-done by a group of parishioners: irises dug up and re-homed, hostas and Stella de'oro lilies planted; Garden Ministry Grant applied for and obtained resulting in the purchase of the tent, commissioning of sign, and creation of cement benches made from former church steps. Donations of perennial flowers and ferns and hostas were given by the Paysons, Nancy Breitsprecher, Bev Wille, and the Cannons.

**2018** - Re-doing the Landscaping around the Church building proposed and The St. Peter's Memorial Landscaping Capital Campaign began, raising money for the project.

**2019** – McKay Nursery completes landscaping in June. Landscaping is dedicated.

- Nancy Swanson repairs the "Little Library" from St. Luke's and installs it in the Peace Garden. Later, it becomes a "Little Pantry, filled regularly with food and toiletries for anyone in need.

**March 2020**—Covid 19 closes down all services in Churches, Synagogues, Mosques, Temples worldwide.

- Pentecost Geranium Planting is accomplished by 7 masked and socially-distanced parishioners.
- First Live streamed service is Christmas of 2020.
- We begin Livestreaming Sunday morning Mass each week with only 5 people allowed.

**May 2, 2021** - First In-person Mass since the start of the Pandemic—in The Peace Garden.

As the above timeline illustrates, the Peace Garden has an incredible history - with God at the center, providing the first "nudge" to develop it, *long before the real need was even in our wildest imaginations.*

**We are entering a new season, as Ellen, who has done the lion's share of weeding and watering, is asking for more volunteers to help with its upkeep.**

The need is for people to sign up to take a week during the summer months to do the weeding, watering, dead-heading. If those who can take a week, we can maintain this beautiful space God has given us to steward for the purpose of worship, restoration, provision, and his witness in the community. We will show you what to water and where to water (we have it divided into Zones), and what needs to be done. It would not be a daily task, but, about 3 x week, possibly more during the really hot dry times. Please consider signing up for our Peace Garden Ministry.

-Barb Werner-

## JACKSON KEMPER: BISHOP, MISSIONARY (24 MAY 1870)

Jackson Kemper was born 24 December 1789 in Pleasant Valley, New York, attended Columbia College, and was ordained a priest in 1814. In 1835, the Episcopal Church undertook to consecrate missionary bishops to preach the Gospel west of the settled areas, and Kemper was the first to be chosen. He promptly headed west. Having found that clergy who had lived all their lives in the settled East were slow to respond to his call to join him on the frontier, he determined to recruit priests from among men who were already in the West, and established a college in St. Louis, Missouri, for that purpose. He went on to found Nashotah House and Racine College in Wisconsin. He constantly urged a more extensive outreach to the Indian peoples, and translations of the Scriptures and the services of the Church into Indian languages. From 1859 till his death in 1870, he was bishop of Wisconsin, but the effect of his labors covered a far wider area.



From a sermon preached before the Board of Missions in 1841

How remarkably peculiar, how vastly important is the position of our Church! Possessing as we fully believe all those characteristics which distinguished the primitive fold:-A scriptural Liturgy~evangelical doctrines~and the apostolic succession~having the form of godliness and the power thereof~free from the false and worldly scruples and the time-serving policy of civil governments~independent~respected and influential~in the midst of an intelligent, enterprising and commercial people~Brethren! may it not be OUR duty to convert the world~may not this high, this inestimable privilege be offered to US! And are we prepared~are we doing at the present moment EVEN ONE TENTH part of what we are capable? Our means and our power are extensive~and under the blessing of Him, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, our aim~our constant, undeviating, untiring aim should be great and lofty. "Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God."

With the talents we possess, (and for which, as good stewards, we must finally account, at that hour when no secrets can be hid), with the talents committed to our trust and the privileges we enjoy, cannot our faith, our liberality and our self-denial, GREATLY increase? Cannot our supplications be more fervent, our economy more strict, our love of souls more ardent? Have we, as individuals, or a Church, a deep and abiding interest in the success of missions?


Not a brother here would I accuse of indifference or cowardice. But I would stir up, with God's permission, the pure mind of each one, by way of remembrance. It is the spirit of missions I earnestly and most affectionately advocate.

The division into Foreign and Domestic is often arbitrary, and might, without detriment, be abolished; for no one, I presume, would wish to withdraw our heralds of the cross from Africa, suspend our incipient efforts for Texas, or abandon the much injured aborigines to all the degrading vices they have learned from unprincipled men who claim to be civilized. Let us go where duty calls~where Providence points the way~and let us rejoice in the privilege, for we assuredly ought~Oh, let us rejoice in the privilege of sending forth in the name of the Lord and under the guidance of His Spirit all those who, thoroughly instructed in sacred truths, hear the cry, "Come over and help us"~and cannot resist the deep, the abiding conviction concerning their sphere of duty~whose hearts burn within them when they hear of people or nations wholly given to idolatry, or licentiousness, or worldly-mindedness. Cultivate, dear brethren of the clergy, cultivate with the utmost assiduity your own vineyard~love with the strongest affections your own spiritual children,~but close not your hearts to the sufferings and wants of your neighbors.

*by James Kiefer*

May 2022 Newsletter  
**ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
302 Merchants Avenue  
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Return Service Requested

	<b>ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH</b>	302 MERCHANTS AVE. FORT ATKINSON, WI 920-563-3889	<a href="mailto:office@stpetersfort.org">office@stpetersfort.org</a> <a href="http://www.stpetersfort.org">www.stpetersfort.org</a> Rector: Mother Mindy Valentine Davis
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**INSIDE: IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT:**

- First Sunday Outdoor Services and Fellowship/Coffee Hour
  - Pentecost Geraniums In-gathering and Planting
    - Peace Garden Story and Call for Volunteers
  - A Word from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

**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.