

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

The mission of St. Peter's is to be a supportive congregation for all seeking and wanting to share Christ's love in a welcoming and inclusive community where the Bible, human reason and the historical traditions of the Church are celebrated.

The Sacred Community



“It wasn’t revolt. It wasn’t some tragic loss of faith. It was, if I’m being honest, apathy. A lack of need. My career as a sports-writer was blossoming; work dominated my days. Saturday mornings were spent traveling to college football games, Sunday mornings to professional ones. I attended no services. Who had time? I was fine. I was healthy. I was making money. I was climbing the ladder. I didn’t need to ask God for much, and I figured, as long as I wasn’t hurting anyone God wasn’t asking much of me either. We had forged a sort of “you go your way, I’ll go mine” arrangement, at least in my mind.” These are the words of Mitch Albom, author of *Tuesdays with Morrie*, in his new book *Have a Little Faith*.

Into the midst of Albom’s disconnection from God and from the community of faith comes the question, asked by the rabbi of his youth, “will you do my eulogy?” Over the next eight years Albom meets with Rabbi Albert Lewis and together

The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe
Bishop of Iowa

The Rev. Dr. Lynne Carver
Rector

Karl Bodenbender
Music Director

Carolyn Tapscott
Administrative Assistant

Worship Schedule

Sundays
8 & 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Wednesdays

Christian Education

Sundays (Sept. – May)
9:00 a.m.

Vestry

Shelley Chambers
Nancy Czubara
Jane Hoffman
Sonita Oldfield-Carlson
Anne Petrie
John Swarney
Duane Timm
Keith Wilson
Marty Yeast

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they explore both faith and community.

Rabbi Lewis recalls, "When I was growing up in the Bronx, everyone knew everyone. Our apartment building was like family. We watched out for one another. I remember once, as a boy, I was so hungry, and there was a fruit and vegetable truck parked by our building. I tried to bump against it, so an apple would fall into my hands. That way it wouldn't feel like stealing. Suddenly, I heard a voice from above yelling at me in Yiddish, 'Albert, it is forbidden!' I jumped. I thought it was God.

Albom asks, 'Who was it?'

A lady who lived upstairs.

Albom laughs, 'not quite God.'

No. But, Mitch, we were part of each other's lives. If someone was about to slip, someone else could catch him. That's the critical idea behind a congregation. We call it a *Kehillah Kedoshah* – a sacred community."

Few people today experience community where they live. Few of us know our neighbors by name. We're not involved in each other's lives. Our busy schedules leave little time for leisurely conversations around kitchen tables or on front porches where in the past people connected with one another. Many individuals and families live at a distance from extended family. Cell phones and computers allow instant communication but how much real depth connection happens? More and more people speak of feeling isolated and lonely.

In the midst of his conversations with the rabbi, Mitch Albom writes, "I thought about workplace friends who were fired, or had quit due to illness. Who comforted them? Where did they go? Not to me. Not to their former bosses. Often, it seemed there were helped by their churches or temples. Members took up collections. They cooked meals. They gave money to pay bills. They did it with love, empathy, and the knowledge that it was part of the

supportive undercarriage of the "sacred community," like the ones the Reb spoke about, like the one I guess I had once belonged to, even if I didn't realized it."

I doubt Albom has ever heard of us. But, it's clear to me that, when he and the rabbi speak of the sacred community, they could be talking about St. Peter's. During the stewardship campaign in 2009, Hovey Tinsman was asked to share his life in this parish. Reflecting on St. Peter's beginning, he said, "I was one of eight and not just a number. I might have thought I was a volunteer, no way, all were assigned jobs. It was fun to be so involved and it meant so very much then and, most importantly, it still does. . . . What is so important is experiencing the love of family, the love that moves through this congregation and the church service and the involvement in the community at large. Being able to participate and enjoy all these blessings brings joy and meaning to our lives."

Maundy Thursday morning, April 21, we will invite the wider community into St. Peter's to mourn the passing of Hovey and to celebrate his life. Then at 6 p.m. we, the St. Peter's family, will gather to wash one another's feet, to remember the Last Supper Jesus celebrated with his own sacred community, and to share the agape meal. Come, sit around the table and nurture your relationship with God and one another. Been away for a while? Holy Week and the Easter season are great times to come home!

Holy Week & Easter Sunday 2011

Maundy Thursday, April 21

Memorial Service for Hovey Tinsman	10:30 a.m.
Holy Eucharist and Agape Meal	6:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 22

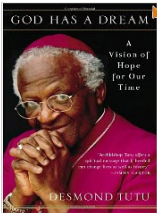
April 22	Good Friday Liturgy	7:00 p.m.
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Easter Sunday, April 24

April 24	Holy Eucharist	10:00 a.m.
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****The Easter Vigil will return next year

Continuing Education for Adults



Sundays at 9 a.m. in the lounge we will discuss Retired Archbishop Desmond Tutu's book, *God Has A Dream*.

April 24	Easter Sunday – no class
May 1	Seeing With the Eyes of the Heart
May 8	Stillness: Hearing God's Voice
May 15	In the Fullness of Time

Save the Date!

For Ladies High Tea

Saturday, May 14, 2011

Vacation Bible School 2011 – For all ages!

Early this summer St. Peter's will share VBS with Edwards Congregational Church on Jersey Ridge. The program will be inter-generational and run Tuesday, June 7 through breakfast on Saturday, June 11. It will occur during the evenings with a sleep over for youth on Friday night. Adults will listen to and discuss *Spiritual Heroes: Woman & Men on the Frontiers of Faith* (which formed the core of our Lenten retreat this year). A parallel program is being created for children (entering kindergarten to age 12). There will be a preschool program during the mornings of the following week. If you have questions, please talk with Lynne+. More information will be available shortly.

March 20, 2011 Vestry Meeting Minutes

(submitted not yet approved)

Present: Nancy, John, Sonita, Duane, Shelley, Anne, Jane, Keith, and Lynne. Absent: Marty.

The meeting opened at 11:30 AM.

The February 23, 2011 Minutes were approved

OLD BUSINESS

• Property:

- Gutters: John will call this week to follow up on gutter cleaning.
- Windows: John will get quotes for repairing/replacing horizontal wood members

in the window wall. E&M Restoration was recommended for one bid. Anne recommends using Abatron Liquid Epoxy and WoodEpoxy rather than trying to remove and replace the wood without damaging the aluminum sheathing.

- Atrium dehumidifier: Bob Petrie cleaned the inline filter to reduce the noise and get the pump running again.
- Shared Blood Drive: Keith offered to help at Trinity Cathedral on May 5.

NEW BUSINESS

- Candidacy for Diaconite: Pat Kirkland explained the Diaconate process to the vestry. The vestry voted to sign Pat's application for admission for ordination to the vocational diaconate.
- Mowing/Shoveling Contract: The vestry voted to renew our contract with Lawnscape but voted not to use added chemicals on the lawn.
- Vacuum Cleaners: the vestry voted to have Lynne purchase a new Dust Buster [moved: Duane; 2nd: Anne]. The Carlsons will donate a refurbished Hoover vacuum cleaner.
- Vacation Bible School: we have been invited to join Edwards' Congregational Church for evening VBS this summer. It will be an inter generational program on the Heros of Faith.
- Holy Week planning: Jane and Nancy will help Lynne plan the services for Holy Week. The vestry agreed to using fronds from St. Peters palms for Palm Sunday.
- Episcopal summer camp (at Pictured Rocks) brochures are available.
- Fellowship:
 - John and Duane will plan a canoe trip.
 - Nancy is organizing a Ladies' Spring Luncheon for May.
 - The end of year picnic will be on June 5.
 - July 4th fundraiser. Do we want to sell food and drink this year?
 - A brunch was suggested for the Bishop's visit in July. The vestry discussed the possibility of having the bishop give a presentation to the community on the Episcopal Church's plan for outreach and social justice.

- Property:
 - Spring clean up / garden prep will be between the services on Rogation Sunday.
 - Composting: Sonita will bring plans for composting bins to the next meeting.

Goals and responsibilities for 2011:

- The vestry discussed ways in which we can be intentional about spreading the word of St. Peters. It was suggested that we need to be less modest about our church and what we have to offer. Members inviting guests tends to be successful. We could have a *How to Invite Guests* seminar for parish members to give us ideas and “tools”. Sonita and Lynne explained about the Profound Journey Dialogue method of reaching out to the public in a non-threatening and non-religious way which we could offer as a retreat of sorts.
- We could capitalize on the perception that the Episcopal Church is like a bridge back to God for people who have drifted from organized religion.
- We can build on St. Peters tendency to be inclusive, open, and tolerant. Although St. Peters has a traditionally grounded and socially progressive approach we have to be prepared to deliver on the things we offer.
- It is likely there will be an Inquirers’ Class, prior to the Bishop’s visit in July, for people who want to be received into the Episcopal Church.
- Create signature events that people identify with St. Peters. These could be like Celtic Christmas, the 4th of July food stand, free movies on the wall, or an outdoor labyrinth.
- Lynne will renew our website service with GoDaddy.com

Vestry and St. Peters Offices:

Co-wardens: Shelley Chambers and Sonita Oldfield-Carlson
 Clerk of the Vestry: Anne Petrie
 Christian Ed Coordinator: Jane Hoffman
 Evangelism / Marketing: Sonita Oldfield-Carlson
 Fellowship: Nancy Czubara
 Outreach / UTO Coordinator: Nancy Czubara and Pat Kirkland
 Property: John Swarney and Anne Petrie
 Publicity: Duane Timm
 Stewardship: Duane Timm

Worship / Internal Ministries Coordinator: Shelley Chambers & Sonita Oldfield-Carlson

NEXT VESTRY MEETING: Wed, May 4 at 6:30.
 Sonita will lead opening meditation.

The closing prayer was led by Lynne. The meeting closed at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Petrie

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 18 Lynette & Bob Cline
- 22 Dick Gast & Joan Marttila
- 25 Peter & Kitty McAndrews

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Kristine & David Rood
- 4 Nick & Nancy Czubara
- 5 John & Lorri Swarney
- 8 David & Jane Hoffman
- 12 Steve and Mary Raab
- 14 James & Jean O’Hare
- 21 Bruce & Sharon Tinsman
- 28 Cory & Kelleigh Satterfield

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jerry Yeast, Kelleigh Satterfield
- 4 David Rood
- 5 Jessie Anderson
- 6 Steve Raab
- 12 Carolyn Krenos-Bodnar
- 14 Pat Kirkland
- 16 Ron Huddleston
- 21 Nancy Reitz
- 23 Fran Carson, Katelyn O’Hare
- 24 Melissa Carver, Bob Petrie
- 27 Tom Holtam
- 28 Linda Roy

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Sara Holtam
- 4 Mary Jo Huddleston, Scott Petrie
- 7 Josalyn Shaffnit
- 12 Nancy Peterson
- 15 Jane Heesch
- 18 Genevieve Scheidecker
- 22 Dan Bovenmyer
- 30 Kristine Ion-Rood
- 31 Nancy Czubara

APRIL/MAY CALENDAR

Thur, April 21 Maundy Thursday

10:30 a.m. Tinsman Memorial Service
6 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Agape Supper

Fri, April 22 Good Friday

7 p.m. Liturgy

Sun, April 24 Easter Sunday

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sun, May 1 Easter 2

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Christian Education
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
3:30 p.m. Confirmation Class (St. Peter's)

Wed, May 4

6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting

Sun, May 8 Easter 3

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Christian Education
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sat, May 14 Ladies High Tea

Sun, May 15 Easter 4

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Christian Education
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
3:30 p.m. Confirmation Class (Trinity)

Sun, May 22 Easter 5

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Christian Education
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sun, May 29 Easter 6

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer