



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Call to Order..... Scott Leak, Senior Warden

Opening Prayer.....

Passages

Faithfully Departed

Betty L. Brown

Bernard G. Haydahl

Joyce B. Jacobson

Elnol L. Johnson

Thomas W. Miller

Holy Baptism

Oliver J. Dellwo

Ashlyn E. Edgerley

Camden M. Edgerley

KaShawn L. Spencer Jr.

Brock E. Towery

Grant R. Towery

The Preliminaries

Voter Eligibility at the Annual Meeting

In accordance with The Episcopal Church Canon Law and St. Peter's Cathedral Bylaws, paragraph 5.1: *Any person who is a communicant of St. Peter's Cathedral, duly listed in the Cathedral Register, in good standing, and sixteen years of age or older shall automatically be a voting member of the corporation. All members voting at meetings shall sign an attendance form which shall be attached to the official minutes of that meeting.*

Eligible Voting Members Sign-In

Appoint Clerk

Appoint Parliamentarian

Approval of 2024 Minutes: Minutes of the Annual Meeting, 21 Jan 2024.

The meeting was held within the Sunday Service in the Undercroft.

The Bishop gave opening remarks.

The purpose of the meeting was to elect new Chapter members, a senior and junior warden and delegates to the Convention. It was also to update the congregation on the church's financial situation.

Three people are leaving the Chapter, and they were thanked for their service: George Day, Beth Demmons and Scott Hibbard. The three positions were opened up for volunteers. Only two people volunteered to come on the Chapter: Nick Jaynes and Manny Hoag.

A motion was made to accept these two candidates by acclamation by Darien Scott, and seconded by Ron Gumbert.

According to our by-laws the Senior and Junior Wardens have to be elected by the congregation. The people filling these positions do not necessarily have to be on Chapter, but they will have a vote on Chapter. Volunteers were requested and Scott Leak volunteered for Senior Warden and Sam Gilbert agreed to continue in his position as Junior Warden.

A motion was made by Dan Carlson to accept these nominations, and it was seconded by Ruth Ann Schuler. There was unanimous agreement.

Chapter Reports — Various members of the Chapter gave reports.

Stewardship — A current count was given of the pledges received and how they compared to last year. Our pledge amount is down, mainly due to the death of some of our more generous donors.

Capital Campaign — The current contributions were mentioned as well as the upcoming work

Vote on Updated Bylaws

Chapter Nominations & Election

Members Scheduled for Rotation: Aubrey Curtis; Sam Gilbert; Janet Kirkland

Candidates for Election (three-year term): Janet Kirkland (second term);
Ron Gumbert (first term)
Chris Boyce (first term)
Sioux Roth (first term)

Officer Candidates: Scott Leak, Senior Warden (second year of two permitted);
Chris Boyce, Junior Warden (first year of two permitted)

Convention Delegate Nominations & Election

Five delegates and two alternates will be elected for the 2025 Diocesan Convention to be held in Kalispell on 3-5 October 2025.

Melinda Schell

Search Committee Report.....Sandy Gumbert

St. Peter's Search Committee was appointed in April of 2024, following the announced retirement of Dean Scott Anderson. A *"Chapter Trust to the Search Committee"* outlining tasks and expectations was adopted and presented by the Chapter together with a *"Prayer for the New Dean"* to be included in Sunday worship services. The committee held its first meeting on 15 April 2024.

Following training by the Diocesan Canon to the Ordinary including process, candidate screening, budget implications, Chapter coordination, and overall timeline, the Search Committee began its work. The church website was updated with a Dean Search web page and a budget was prepared and approved by the Chapter. Regular communication was established with the parish through emails, *Happenings* articles, and Sunday announcements.

The first major step in the search process was developing a parish survey to help the committee understand who we are as a church today, and what our hopes and expectations are for the future. Thought-provoking questions were posted on easel boards in the undercroft to help guide the survey questions. The parish survey was opened to all congregants on 17 July, with 124 responses received at the close. Additionally, two Listening Sessions, led by facilitators, were held in August to allow everyone another opportunity to voice their needs, hopes and aspirations for St. Peter's. Highlights of the survey and listening sessions were shared with church members.

The next step for the Search Committee was completion of the Parish Profile, a marketing tool that provides information to candidates that describes a parish, its services and programs, and its parish life and goals. The Search Committee chose "One Body, Many Members, Together." as the theme for the profile to convey the very strong sense of St. Peter's community and church family that was evident in our survey results and listening sessions. This document, together with our Office for Transition Ministry (OTM) Portfolio, was posted to the church website the first week in November and advertising for our dean position was opened. Additional advertising was done through the Episcopal News Service and various diocesan sites. The application window for our search closed on 4 December.

Since that time, the Search Committee has been meeting weekly to prepare for review of candidates' resumes and initial interviews. Bias awareness training was provided by the Diocese. The committee has now reviewed all written submissions and viewed videos of candidates' sermons. As 2025 begins, initial interviews via Zoom will be conducted as the committee continues its discernment process.

Search Committee members include Grace Berger, Dan Carlson-Thompson, Sandy Gumbert, Scott Hibbard, Barbara Hoag, Keri Jaynes, Darcy O'Dell, and Hope Stockwell. Janet Kirkland and Melinda Schell served as Chapter liaisons.

Chapter Reports

Senior Warden:.....Scott Leak

This has been an interesting year. I want to thank all of the staff and ministry volunteers for doing such a wonderful job keeping everything working without disruptions while we search for a new Dean/Rector. I'm confident everything will continue to go smoothly for the upcoming year.

Members' Tenures Ending Jan '26: Scott Leak; Ray Paige; Melinda Schell; & Vicky Tiberi

Members' Tenures Ending Jan '27: Manny Hoag & Nick Jaynes

Junior Warden: Sam Gilbert

The grounds area around the Cathedral & Wilson Hall were kept in good condition by several groups. Sara and Tim Johnson continued to support the contract with The Little Guys for spring power raking, weekly mowing, and blowing clippings off the sidewalks on Friday mornings. Spieker Sprinkler Systems maintained the lawn irrigation system and NitroGreen did the seasonal fertilizer applications. Laura Brown and others kept the Columbarium area looking nice. Snow was plowed by a contractor when snow levels exceeded two inches in depth. When depths are less than two inches, shoveling of the sidewalks and ice melt application was done by volunteers. Volunteer work days occurred in the spring and fall to clean up the grounds.

Bill Eyeman is our Sexton, and worked Tuesdays and Thursdays to keep the premises clean. Final cleaning just before church services is done by volunteers.

A major activity was cleaning up the damage from water overflow due to the outlet to the Wilson Hall roof drains being frozen while snow on the roof was melting. Rotorooter was very helpful in getting the drain thawed out and in providing a camera to trace the drain so we could find out where it exited the building. Clarks Plumbing installed an access pipe so the camera could be inserted into the drain. Rainbow Restoration brought in equipment to suck up the water and dry out the walls and ceilings. Bridger Mountain Construction has replaced the damaged ceiling tiles and put up new light fixtures. Reisbeck Excavation LLC installed a new French drain with insulation that should keep the drain from freezing again.

Service Masters with subcontractors did deep cleaning of the inside of the Cathedral and bathrooms in Wilson Hall, as well as cleaning the outside of windows on Wilson Hall and the Guild Room in preparation for St. Peter's to host the annual Diocesan Convention.

FitzGerald Construction is installing the ramps in both levels of the Cathedral as part of the Capital Campaign to improve access within the building.

Light fixtures in both the Cathedral and Wilson Hall are being converted to LED to provide better lighting and to reduce energy costs.

Membership, Attendance & Services Report.....Bookkeeper

(These numbers are also reported on the annual Parochial Report that goes to the Diocese and National Church.)

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Members reported:	482	482	477	222
Increase	13	15	10	*
Decrease	26	20	15	*
Total Active Baptized Members	482	477	472	177
Average Sunday Attendance including online participation	199	101	160	47
Easter Sunday Attendance (in-person)	153	207	199	140

Christmas Eve/Christmas Attendance (in person)			275	202
Total Sunday & Saturday Eve. Eucharists	120	123	121	93
Total Weekday Services	52	48	52	17
Total Private Eucharists	15	0	0	17
Daily Offices - Morning Prayer, etc. (online from 2021)	349	303	229	279
Marriages Conducted	0	0	0	1
Burials Conducted	11	6	11	5
Baptisms 16 years & older	0	0	0	0
Baptisms under 16 years	2	5	1	6
Confirmation 16 years & older	1	1	0	0
Confirmation under 16 years	0	0	0	0
Received by the Bishop	0	1	0	0
Re-Affirmed by the Bishop	0	0	0	0
Total Church School Students & Youth Group	26	21	26	0
# of adults engaged in religious education or spiritual formation	75	36	36	0

* Previous member numbers were unrealistically counted. Audits of the database revealed the mistake.

Treasurer's Report..... Ron Gumbert, Treasurer
The 2025 Budget Ron Gumbert, Treasurer
Stewardship Report..... Ron Gumbert, Interim Bookkeeper

	2022		2023		2024		2025	
Pledging Units	113	\$ 280,472	109	\$ 263,791	97	\$ 247,017	97	\$ 268,076
New pledges	6	\$ 6,380	12	\$ 13,320	8	\$ 8,760	15	\$ 24,270
Lost pledges	5	\$ 9,417	11	\$ 25,828	12	\$ 26,820	18	\$ 21,390
Increased pledges	44	\$ 22,074	47	\$ 19,273	37	\$ 13,852	39	\$ 22,519
Decreased pledges	14	\$ 11,442	11	\$ 22,544	9	\$ 6,366	12	\$ 7,350
Pledges staying the same		47		39		43		31

Note: The 2025 pledge year amount is current as of 9 Jan 25.

Capital Campaign Report Dan Carlson-Thompson

We have had some significant accomplishments, but the work that was done revealed building & structural challenges we had to deal with as we started to rearrange a 92-year-old building. The cost of the elevator or lift has doubled in the last two years to about \$500,000. That is more than 2 times the funds we plan to have when all the pledges have been received and project expenses paid at the end of the 5-year capital campaign fund raising on 1 January 2027.

In 2022, the roof shingles were replaced over the nave, which is approximately 50% of the total church roof. At that time, our roofing expert reported that the rest of the roof would need to be replaced in three to four years. We are in 2025, three years since the nave roof was replaced. We anticipate that the remaining roof replacement will entail similar costs to the nave roof replacement, that is, \$300,000. The Chapter is seeking firm estimates for the remainder of the roof project.

We are continuing to seek approval for \$250,000 from the Montana Historic Preservation Grant to support the installation of an elevator or lift. This requires \$200,000 matching funds from St Peter's. While we have these monies available today, this would not leave us with enough money to complete the rest of the roof.

Financial recap:

Money on hand: \$308,301

Ramp completion/carpeting: \$45,000 to be paid

Total money on hand: \$263,301

Outstanding pledges: \$76,000

Elevator current cost estimate: \$498,000

The church does have a maintenance account. At the beginning of 2024, this account was at \$123,000. This year we spent \$6,800 to fix the Wilson Hall roof drain (under the Bargain Basement sidewalk) and spent \$30,000 to supplement the insurance monies to replace additional ceiling tiles and lights on the upper floor of Wilson Hall. There were also boiler and plumbing repairs of \$6,000. The maintenance fund currently stands at \$80,000.

2024 Capital Campaign expenditures: planning & architectural drawings required to meet city inspection requirements; construction of two ramps with permanent cabinets; enclosed the stage as a storage room with shelving to meet critical cathedral storage needs; improved lighting on the floor outside the nursery, music room, and hallway outside the bathrooms; and new carpeting throughout the church building.

Thank you for your continued generosity as we look to extending the life of St. Peter's Cathedral into the twenty-second century.

Associated Capital Campaign Initiative: Under the skillful leadership of Dave Gallik, your Capital Campaign Committee created the first annual Heart of Helena Art Show & Auction on 11 April 2024, at the Helena Civic Center. The event was sponsored by St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral as part of "The next 100 years" Capital Campaign. The \$22,000 in proceeds was shared between St. Peter's and the 11 organizations sponsored by your Social Concerns Committee. St. Peter's portion of the proceeds was designated as a Capital Campaign contribution. This event was eagerly embraced by the Helena community. The Heart of Helena committee included members that were not St. Peter's parishioners. The first Heart of Helena Art Show and Auction was underwritten by an anonymous donor.

The second annual Heart of Helena Art Show and Auction will be held on 10 April 2025.

We continue to seek sponsorships and volunteers. Donations of art of any kind are welcomed. Donated items may be delivered to Dave Gallik at 1124 Billings Avenue, Helena. For additional information, please contact Dave Gallik at (406) 443-0009 or dave@galliklaw.com, or Dan Carlson-Thompson (406) 465-2022, danlizzie@msn.com.

The Endowment Report Charlie Briggs

St. Peter's Parish Endowment Fund begins 2025 with a balance of \$500,854.30, which is a net positive change in value of \$25,344.77 since 1 January 2024, with \$475,509.53 as the former fund balance.

Early in 2023, the Parish Endowment Board finalized and approved its Endowment Investment Policy. In addition, the board changed its investment management from Allstate managed endowment assets to Stockman's Wealth Management, for managing St. Peter's portfolio. This change is positive from a number of standpoints. The board is now working with a local, Helena Stockman's team, who attend the Board's quarterly meetings. Also, the Board was able to pay less in management fees than before, in part because Stockman's also manages the Diocesan Endowment portfolio.

In February, as required by its bylaws, the Board contributed to the Chapter \$18,391.94 in annual dividends generated in 2022. Those funds are intended to assist with ongoing financial operations of the parish. Donations to the Endowment in 2024 were \$1,300.

Parishioners who donate money, stocks, bonds, or funds from their estate are able to lower their tax liability, as well as other potential benefits. Also, donations to the Endowment remain gifts to benefit St. Peter's Church in perpetuity, without touching its principal.

Endowment Board members are: Charlie Briggs, president; Rachel Robison, treasurer; Mark Kelley, secretary; Vicki Rauser; and Ruth Ann Shuler. It is expected the new Dean will also join the board upon arrival. The Board meets quarterly.

Ministry Reports

Acolytes & Crucifers:Sarah Fox

Altar Guild:.....Janet Kirkland

Janet Kirkland, Jean Smith, Edie Landry, and Marlene Campbell — Co-Chairs

Members: 18; Meetings: 3

The Altar Guild works directly with the clergy. The members of Altar Guild prepare the Altar for scheduled services, weddings, and funerals. We take care of the sacramental vessels, candles, altar linens, and decorating the Church for all special occasions. There are 18 dedicated members who serve one week per month with one additional member on a reserve list. We typically meet three times a year; twice for cleaning and polishing the altar and sacramental vessels; and once for an appreciation luncheon. This year we did not meet for our annual appreciation luncheon. Next year we will try to meet twice! We would like to thank those who come in each week to do these important duties, and we welcome all persons interested in serving this quiet ministry.

Bargain Basement:Laura Brown & Jackie Brehe

The Bargain Basement (affectionately known as the BB) is a ministry started in 1983 by Martha Lee Vetch (mother-in-law of Dean Arch Hewitt) with the purpose of providing the Helena community with "gently used items at an affordable price."

Originally in the basement of the church, the BB moved to the bottom level of Wilson hall in 2013. With this move, our ministry became more visible to the community, as indicated by our earnings. In 2014 the BB supplied the church with \$17,019. This year we have provided the Cathedral with \$50,107.46. The impact we have had on the community has also been attested to by the fact that over 40% of our volunteers are from outside the parish. These women have joined us because they believe in our mission.

The success of the BB depends on the donations we receive, our dedicated volunteers, and our loyal customers. The BB accepts donations of clothing (adult and children), shoes, household items, books, jewelry, decorative items, framed art, tools, games/puzzles, bedding, lamps, and *small* pieces of furniture such as chairs, end tables and bookcases. (We cannot accept electronics, sports equipment or luggage.) We accept donations any day we are open. Our hours are 10:30 to 3 Tuesday through Friday and 10 to 2 on Saturday.

Our ministry depends on volunteers and we can always use more, both men and women. If you would like to volunteer please contact Laura Brown at 406-442-3608 or Grace Berger at 406-459-0070 to schedule a training session. Volunteers always work in pairs, so you would be paired with an experienced volunteer when you started. You can choose to work one day a week, once a month or be a substitute.

Please consider supporting this important ministry by volunteering, by donating, or by coming by to shop.

Bible Study:Melinda Schell

The Monday Bible Study group meets weekly 10:15-11:30 a.m. to study the Scripture verses for the upcoming Sunday service. This has been a time of questions and answers, insight, learning, laughter, and prayer. We meet in Wilson Hall and leave feeling uplifted. In the absence of a priest we continue to meet, though with fewer people.

Christian Education:Sarah Fox

Coffee Hour: Jeannine Juhnke

A heartfelt thank you to everyone for participating in our fellowship times after each service during the past year, especially for those who provided refreshments or cleaned up afterwards. That being said, we are always looking for volunteers on the Sundays not covered by the Flippers (first Sunday of the month except summer) and the Comfort & Care Ministry (third Sunday of the month). If you are interested, there is a signup sheet hanging on the wall outside the kitchen. Folks are happy with any kind of snack you can provide. You do NOT have to spend hours slaving away in your kitchen. If you need some ideas or want more information about what is entailed, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Comfort & Care:..... Janet Kirkland

Janet Kirkland & Marsha Baumeister — Co-chairs

Comfort and Care is a ministry devoted to pastoral care of our church community. We all play a role in pastoral care by taking care of each other. There are many facets to this ministry.

- Birthday card ministry: we have 12 wonderful people who write birthday cards to members of the church monthly.
- Altar Flower distribution: we are delivering our Altar flowers each week to church members and to Touchmark services.
- An expansion of the card ministry to include Anniversaries, Sympathy, Words of Encouragement and Welcoming.
- Providing the comfort of food or companionship to those who may be in need. (Home from the hospital, recovering from surgery, or celebrating a new birth.)
- Prayer chain.
- Celebration Sunday: the third Sunday of each month we provide & serve cake and snacks at both coffee hours.

All persons are welcome to participate in this ministry. Please contact the office if you would like to join us or if you may have a need for these services.

Communications: Aubrey Curtis

For 2024, the communications committee (which began as three) laid out some initiatives to tackle, including updating the website, kickstarting social media, and finding other innovative ways to convey information to the congregation. From these, the first two saw success, while the last is still ongoing.

Regarding the website, some significant changes were made to make it more visually appealing, easier to navigate, and more useful in transmitting pertinent information. Many thanks go out to Hope Stockwell for providing her time in supporting this effort, especially with designing and updating a specific search committee webpage. We ask that parishioners frequently check the website for relevant information, and please let me know if there is anything you would like to see included. We will continue to modify and improve the website in the coming year.

Patty Dean has done a fantastic job refreshing St. Peter's Cathedral's Facebook & Instagram accounts. This has been another avenue to post announcements, stream our Sunday service, and advertise for future events (such as Wonderful Wednesdays). You can access links to these sites from the church homepage, and we ask those that are on social media to 'like' and 'share' our posts often. This helps spread the word about St. Peter's Cathedral.

The last major initiative we continue to work towards. There have been several different means of communication to the congregation, including "The Happenings," "Constant Contact," and standard email. Our desire is to consolidate information so as to not inundate parishioners with electronic communications. Please let a chapter member know if you have any ideas or wish to contribute your in this venture.

Cursillo:Kathy Johnson

ECW/St. Anne's Guild: Darien Scott
 The ECW hosted their popular Lenten Luncheons with soups, bread, cookies, coffee, and tea being provided. Our speakers included: Jacob Kuntz from Habitat for Humanity; Carrie Krepps from Florence Crittenton; Katie Loveland from Friendship Center; Theresa Ortega from Good Samaritan Ministries; and our own Patty Dean, whose topic was "A Gothic Revival Gem in the Northern Rockies: The Architecture of St. Peter's Cathedral."

ECW gave \$1,000.00 to Camp Marshall.

In December, ECW hosted a reception following the Lessons & Carols service.

St. Anne's hosted 5 funerals: Elnor Johnson in March; Al Stine in April; Ben Havdahl and Betty Brown in June; and Joyce Jacobson in October.

Again, we did not have a fundraiser this year. Our main source of income is the donations we receive for funeral receptions.

Our balance on hand is \$1,809.01.

Episcopal Relief & Development: Hank Hudson

Eucharistic Ministers: Hope Stockwell

Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) assist with preparing and serving communion during Eucharist. St. Peter's had seven active LEMs in 2024. Two more were trained in the fall and will begin serving in 2025. The goal is to cross-train two more adult Crucifers as LEMs by mid-2025.

Eucharistic Visitors: Janet Kirkland

Lay eucharistic visitors are people licensed to give communion to those who are unable to join us in worship at the church. St. Peter's is in the process of re-licensing and adding to our list of Lay Eucharistic Visitors. We currently have four teams of two who are distributing communion to persons' homes or persons in the hospital. Training, licensing, SafeChurch and background checks are needed to participate in this ministry.

Evangelism & Church Life:.....

Family Promise:..... Maggie Stockwell

Family Promise (FP) is a national program that started in 1986 and offers families with children help to remain housed and assistance to become housed. There are five affiliates in Montana, including Greater Helena.

In February, Family Promise of Greater Helena purchased the First Christian Church at 311 Power Street from the congregation for ONE DOLLAR. FP has been using the second and third floors in the newer addition for office and storage space and most importantly for sleeping rooms during the Covid pandemic. Now in partnership with FCC, the sanctuary in the original masonry building continues to be used by FCC for worship and meetings. FCC uses the large kitchen and dining area. Other organizations such as Alcoholics Anonymous continue to rent meeting space.

FP continues to use the newer addition. The big change is that the huge area under the sanctuary is now the new Day Center for families to cook, eat, shower, wash clothes, play, relax, do homework, and use computers when they are not at work or school. This is much roomier than the old Day Center on Cooke Street.

The old Day Center, in collaboration with Good Samaritan Ministries, will be remodeled in the coming year. There will be a second story addition with more sleeping rooms and bathrooms. FP families will rotate through there, the sleeping rooms at FCC, and rooms in the individual churches who host in their own facilities.

This all sounds like a lot. And it is! We will keep you posted in Happenings as the project progresses.

FP continues to coordinate services with Good Sam and other agencies in Helena, including AWARE, Vocational Rehab, Colman Community Services for mental health,

Child Protective Services, the Cathedral of St. Helena Baby Boutique, St. Peter's Bargain Basement, and Helena Public Schools homeless liaison.

In December, the John Floridis concert raised about \$8000 for FP. In April, St. Peter's Heart of Helena art auction raised money for various non-profits including FP. There will be a Comfort Food Challenge fundraiser 3 March 2025 at the Fairgrounds pavilion.

FP of Greater Helena obtained an updated housing grant from FP National. Other grants this year include the Community Response Program from Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Montana Children's Trust Fund, the Gianforte Family Foundation, the Oro Y Plata Foundation, the Otto Bremer Trust, and the Steele-Reese Foundation.

In the last few years, Townsend has partnered with Helena helping families. Both cities intervene to prevent homelessness by offering help with gas money to get to work, utilities & rent money, landlord mediation, car repair, and other non-residential assistance. This prevention/diversion has benefited 2 families per month in Townsend and 15 families per month in Greater Helena.

As of November 2024, FP of Greater Helena has assisted 105 families in various ways and has had 10 families in the full program, which gives them access to sleeping rooms and other services: parenting classes; Circle of Security training; good renter classes; budgeting classes; and GED (General Educational Development) tutoring to receive a high school diploma.

Currently there are two families in the formal FP program. Danielle and Jacob are expecting their first child, a girl, this spring. They are both working. Kelly and her son Lucius are working hard to obtain permanent housing. Kelly just got her driver's license, so will have more work options.

St. Peter's next host week is 9-16 February. We plan to host at Wilson Hall, now that the painting and ceiling are complete. If you wish to help by overnight hosting, buying groceries, cooking supper, or setting up Wilson Hall for the guests, contact one of us. Thanks! And please keep FP and the families in your prayers.

Donna Church, 406-439-6811; Maggie Stockwell, 406-465-0707; Tammy Andridge, 406-465-5976

Flipper Club:.....Tom Morrison

Flower Committee:.....Janet Kirkland & Tammy Reynolds

In August 2024 we decided that St. Peter's would no longer order our Altar flowers from an outside source. We established a committee of five people who would take on the task of doing the arrangements each week. If you have the talent of arranging flowers, please contact Janet Kirkland or Tammy Reynolds to join us.

Foyers:..... Darien Scott

We only had three groups of Foyers for 2023/2024, with six people in each group. By having such small groups, it enables the hostess or host to invite one or two more people to join them for dinner. It is a great way to welcome newcomers.

The object of Foyers is to have fun and to get to know one another in an informal setting. The host usually plans the meal and fixes the main course, with the others contributing salads or desserts. The groups can meet monthly or every other month — it is up to each group. They can enjoy a dinner, brunch, lunch, or go to a restaurant — it is a group choice or effort.

God & Grog:..... Melinda Schell

God & Grog meets every first and third Wednesday of each month at Headwaters or Lewis & Clark from 5-7 p.m. The first hour is time to just visit and munch on very tasty snacks brought by various parishioners. The second hour is discussion time, starting with questions anyone might have about God and faith. These are often lively discourses that sometimes have neighboring tables leaning over to hear what we're talking about.

Lectors:..... Grace Berger

Memorial Garden:..... Laura Brown

If you want to know about how to be interned in the Columbarium at St. Peter's, here is the information. Individual and common niches are available in our Memorial Garden.

COSTS:

- Individual Niches for Parishioners is \$500.00.
- Individual Niches for non-parishioners is \$750.00.
- For internment in the common Niche is \$250.00.

We open and close the niches and provide a nameplate for each niche. The priest places the cremains in the niche canister and then places it in the wall during the burial service.

We do have several niches reserved and paid for and we can do the same for anyone wishing to get this done ahead of time.

Please contact Laura Brown at 406-431-1253 if you have further questions or want to reserve a niche.

Morning Prayer:..... Melinda Schell

Morning Prayer meets every morning, Monday through Saturday, 8:30-9:00 a.m. on Zoom through the church website (spchelena.org, under Visual Center, then Morning Prayer). Assigned leaders facilitate prayer and Scripture reading. This is a good way to start each morning for those able to join.

Music:Patty Dean

In early 2024, now-departed Music Director/Organist Chas Elliott implemented portions of his vocal ensemble reconfiguration with the Cathedral Schola (composed of six female voices) singing every Sunday and the full Cathedral choir, usually numbering approximately a dozen voices which includes two men, singing the first Sunday of each month. He presented two Lenten Taizé programs in March, chanting and playing the piano.

He left the Cathedral in late March and supply organist Dean Mack, who has a long association with St. Peter's, played on Easter Sunday, with the choir singing. In the following weeks, Carroll College student John Goodwin played the organ and Patty Dean played piano on alternating Sundays as the former's academic requirements permitted. This arrangement has continued through the summer to the present.

Starting in June, choristers Darien Scott and Patty Dean met quarterly with Bishop Marty to select hymns for those services whose supply clergy do not select the hymns. Beginning in January 2025, Jean O'Connor will join Darien and Patty to continue this endeavor until the new Dean arrives.

In October, Patty Dean volunteered to serve as Interim Music Director.

In November, Rose Organ Services of Portland, OR, examined the rodent-caused damage to the Trompette en Chamade stop's supply box. They will prepare a proposal for its repair and will return in April 2025 to complete repairs.

Three Taizé services were offered by Patty Dean during Advent.

In January 2025 during the carpet installation in the nave, the Howard grand piano currently in front of the lectionary will be moved to the undercroft and the Yamaha grand piano, a superior instrument, will be moved to the nave.

Musikanten Montana with Maestra Kerry Krebill re-established its relationship with St. Peter's beginning with a Holy Week Baroque Concert on March 26, an All Souls' Concert on November 2, and Advent Lessons and Carols on December 18. St. Peter's continues to provide the undercroft for Musikanten's occasional rehearsals.

The Interim Music Director and choir members fervently pray that with the new Dean's arrival, he/she can assess the status of this significant ministry and make plans to

revitalize it. Such plans should include recruiting and hiring a permanent music director who can direct a choir and demonstrate the beauty of St. Peter's wonderful organ. (Patty Dean does not want to be the permanent Music Director.)

Nursery:.....Leslie Powell

Prayer Shawl Ministry:.....Laura Harden

Prayer shawls provide the gifts of comfort, hope, and peace. These shawls can be crocheted or knitted. If you knit or crochet, please join us the third Thursday of the month at 9:30 am in Wilson Hall to share in the fellowship of the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Social Concerns: Kim Wilson & Hank Hudson

The Social Concerns Commission had an active 2024. We continue to have our monthly meetings and regularly provide financial support to eleven charities. We generally contribute \$100 per month to the following local organizations, serving the needs of the Helena community:

- God's Love
- YWCA
- Helena Food Share
- Friendship Center
- Good Samaritan
- GFWC Helena Woman's Club pantry
- Head Start
- Family Promise
- Habitat For Humanity
- Florence Crittendon Home

In addition, we contribute \$100 per month to Episcopal Relief and Development.

Social Concerns' funding comes from a variety of sources: Flipper Sunday donations; plate offerings from Christmas and Easter services; and individual contributions from parish members. In addition, starting in 2024, we now have a consignment account in the Bargain Basement.

Social Concerns participates in many activities to further support the community. As we did last year, this year we will be taking part in the Heart of Helena Auction as a means to raise more funds for our targeted local organizations. We regularly, at least two times a year, provide volunteers at Helena Food Share for an evening of preparing kids' food packs. Most years we serve dinners at God's Love. We participate in the NAMI walk. And, we respond to emergency requests for assistance made to the Church throughout the year as needed.

We thank all parish members who have helped us in the past, and invite you all to join us in 2025!

Taizé:.....

Togendowagan Society:Darcy O'Dell

Touchmark Ministry:..... Lizzie Carlson-Thompson

During 2024, St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral led worship services twice a month (Sundays at 1pm) at Touchmark senior living facility. Holy Eucharist was presided over by visiting priests. Morning Prayer with distribution of communion was offered by Charlie Briggs and Lizzie Carlson-Thompson. Worship is open to all, both members and non-members of St. Peter's Church. Attendance varies from 5 to 15 people, and we have a core group of regular attendees.

Due to a shortage of people to lead worship services at Touchmark in 2025, we have, for now, reduced our monthly church services to once a month. Our meeting time will be at 12:30 going forward in February. Members of St. Peter's Cathedral are welcome and encouraged to join us at Touchmark for services; it helps all of us stay more connected to each other.

United Thank Offering:.....

Ushers:.....Mark & Susan Bouce

Ushers welcome people to the cathedral and help them to find seating or to receive the eucharistic as needed. They bring the sacraments and offerings to the altar. After the service, they check the pews for forgotten or discarded items. In the event of emergencies, they call for appropriate assistance.

There are now 17 ushers with a rotation of approximately once every 2 months for the single service schedule. We are in need of several more volunteers as substitutes, and to cover the 2 service schedule if restarted.

Virtual Center:.....Scott Leak

For the past year we have provided as many live-stream services as humanly possible; meaning as many as we had humans willing and able to run the equipment. We've improved the internet wi-fi service in the cathedral, thereby improving the streaming quality. We're always looking for new volunteers to learn the easy-to-use MEVO system, so please let us know.

Wonderful Wednesdays:Melinda Schell

Wonderful Wednesday is on the second and fourth Wednesdays, starting at 5:30 pm., with potluck and a teaching time starting at 6 p.m. for an hour. This is another good, encouraging time of learning and fellowship. We included several weeks of learning about the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese in Jerusalem (AFEDJ), led by Jean O'Connor and Maggie Stockwell. Coming up in April and May of 2025, Bishop Marty will be leading an Adult Inquirers class, open to everyone who has questions as well as to those who want to review issues related to being believers in Christ Jesus.

Youth Group:.....

The Blessing

Adjournment

NOTES