

## Saint Peter's Parish Profile



### Foreword

This Profile will introduce a prospective Rector to Saint Peter's Church, a stable, vibrant congregation that can continue to grow and thrive under new leadership in the face of challenges now presenting themselves in a secularized society. This report is the result of extensive self-examination, research and spirited discussion throughout our parish and reflects our core values: spiritual formation, social justice and hospitality. We see this as both an opportunity and a challenge for a new Rector.

*Yours in Christ,*

*The Wardens, Vestry and Parishioners*

*Saint Peter's Episcopal Church, Essex Fells, New Jersey.*

### The People of Saint Peter's Church

#### **MEMBERSHIP –**

**Approximately 189 families/501 members**

- 98% White • 2% other
- 68% Female
- 32% Male

#### **MARITAL STATUS**

- 60% Married
- 13% Single/Divorced
- 27% Widowed

#### **AGE**

- 11% under 41
- 42% 41-60
- 47% 60+

#### **ATTENDANCE**

- 31% Weekly
- 36% 1-2x per month
- 33% Less Often

#### **LENGTH OF MEMBERSHIP**

- 12% Five years or less
- 38% Six to Twenty years
- 50% More than Twenty years

- 75% 10 AM service
- 13% 8 AM service
- 12% Other

*(Membership is estimated based on active participants listed in the Church Directory and the other figures above are based on the 122 responses to the survey)*

## A Brief History of Saint Peter's Episcopal Church

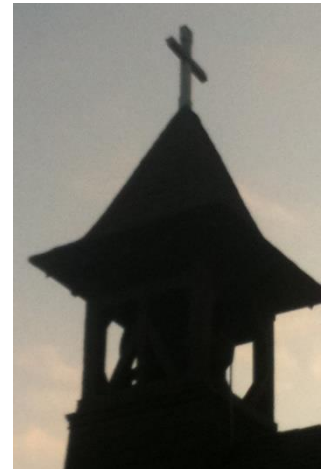


On Christmas morning in 1893, Saint Peter's held its first service in the newly-built railroad station in Essex Fells. Later an architect was hired and in just three years, the first services were held in what is now the Chapel.

The Rev. Appleton Grannis served as Vicar from 1896 – 1902, followed by the Rev. Lewis R. Levering who served as Vicar from 1903-1905.

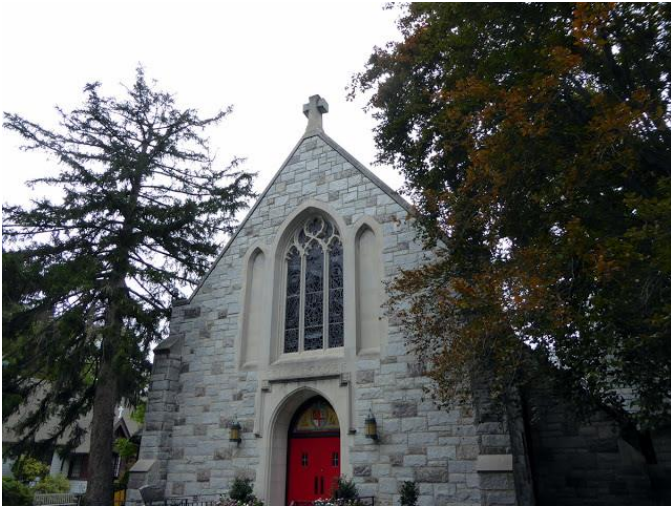
Saint Peter's first Rector was the Rev. R.W.E. Merrington, who led the Church until 1913. The first choir was formed during this time under the direction of Mrs. Samuel Mounteney, who continued to guide the choir for the next 40 years until her death.

In 1913, the Rev. David N. Kirby was called. Mr. Kirby continued to move Saint Peter's forward, increasing the congregation and improving the Church buildings. His era saw the establishment of the Every Member Canvass. Mr. Kirby resigned in 1930 and the chancel window in the Chapel was dedicated to him.



The Rev. Harold R. Onderdonk became Rector in 1932 and a new era of growth and dedication began at Saint Peter's, continuing for the next 35 years. Led by Father Onderdonk and his wife, Sophia, Saint Peter's became a strong and vibrant influence in the entire West Essex community. The congregation grew threefold in those years and a new Church completed in time for its first services at Christmas 1956. During this period of growth, Saint Peter's began to look beyond its own community to give assistance to the Diocese and a larger neighborhood.

The Rev. Dr. David St. George, a native of Essex Fells, was called to Saint Peter's in 1972. He further expanded involvement and outreach to the larger West Essex community. Under Dr. St. George's tenure of nearly 20 years, Saint Peter's further expanded its facilities, building the Christian Education building (later named the Emil J. Piel Education Building), completing the Garth and creating Saint Peter's Nursery School.



Saint Peter's installed its fourth Rector, The Rev. Dr. Gordon Tremaine, in 1991. He was a strong theologian and powerful preacher who nurtured and challenged the Parish to strengthen its faith. The Parish was enriched by his adult education series and his bible study programs. Under his guidance, the Church school and youth group expanded and thrived. Also under Dr. Tremaine's leadership, the Health and Healing ministry was established in 1998, a ministry that has continued to grow and play a vital role in Parish life. Outreach ministries were expanded during Dr. Tremaine's eleven-year ministry and the buildings and grounds of Saint Peter's were enhanced during his tenure as well. Evidence of Dr. Tremaine's vision can be found in the cobblestone courtyard between the Garth and the Chapel.

In 2005, Reverend Stephanie Wethered was called to serve Saint Peter's as its first female Rector. A dynamic force in the larger community, Mother Stephanie elevated the visibility of Saint Peter's in the West Essex area through a variety of ecumenical and interfaith initiatives. Her vision of Saint Peter's as an open, welcoming community resulted in significant growth in parish membership. Program initiatives include a full 9 AM service for children four –years-old and younger (and their parents); the revitalized role of ushers and the Membership Committee, and numerous targeted social programs like Men's Group and Ladies' Crafting Nights. All these enhancements contributed to a strong sense of community under Mother Stephanie's leadership. The parish's physical plant was greatly improved during Mother Stephanie's tenure as well. She oversaw the beautification of the sanctuary and the handsome rock wall and memorial garden on the perimeter of the Church's property, all made possible by generous donations from parish members.



### **Our Community and Environment**

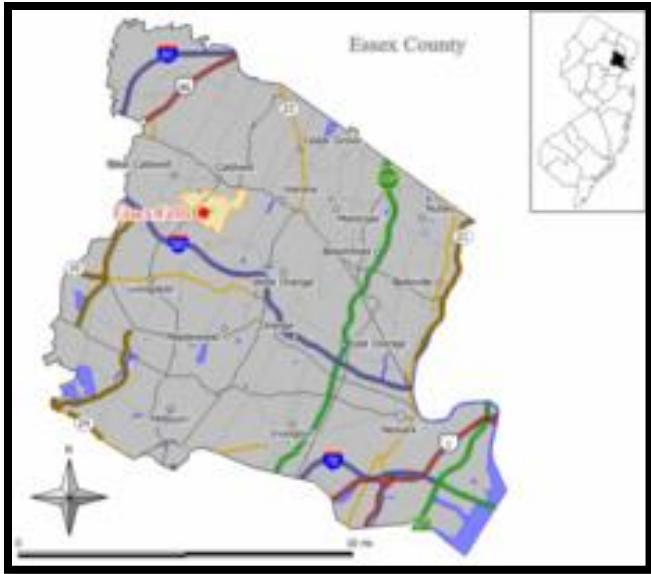
Saint Peter's Church is in the Diocese of Newark, perhaps the most diverse and active diocese in the country. Under the leadership of Bishop Mark Beckwith, the diocesan tradition of confronting head-on the challenges facing Christians in this modern and rapidly changing time continues. Saint Peter's is actively engaged in outreach programs in both the West Essex suburban community and the surrounding urban area.

The 549 members of Saint Peter's predominantly reside in the six communities of West Essex: Essex Fells, Roseland, Fairfield, Caldwell, West Caldwell and North Caldwell. About one third of the members live in Essex Fells; each of the other communities is represented as well as several other towns in the area.

Saint Peter's Church is actually older by four years than the Borough of Essex Fells in which it is located. Anthony Drexel, a Philadelphia banker, and his son-in-law, John R. Fell, founded Essex Fells, originally a part of the Township of Caldwell, as a fine residential community in 1902. The borough's unusual name was created by combining the county name (Essex) with the old English word "fell" which suggests a rolling, hilly area – and perhaps a nod to Mr. Fell's name. For over 100 years Essex Fells has remained unique in densely populated Northern New Jersey. It is completely residential with no commercial businesses within the Borough – and not one traffic light.

The town's only school which serves pre-Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade is rated among the top elementary schools in New Jersey. West Essex Middle School and West Essex Regional High School serve the communities of Essex Fells, Roseland, Fairfield and North Caldwell on a campus in North Caldwell. The student to teacher ratio is 11.1 with many advanced placement courses.

St. Peter's is a diverse parish community with a myriad of gifts exhibited in the lives and involvement of its parishioners. As we seek new leadership, the people of St. Peter's hope to retain a Rector who is attuned to the critical challenges facing the modern world. We seek someone who is able to envision a new role for St. Peter's in the wider community of the Diocese of Newark, someone who can further transform the parish into a diocesan and secular powerhouse. Such a place will be one of welcome, inclusion, hope and exploration of the Gospel mandate to "be the City on the Hilltop" beckoning the faithful and the curious to experience the life-giving Spirit of the Resurrected Lord. We seek a leader who is comfortable moving about in a community whose members are pulled in many different directions and whose time and talent is being tapped to engage in activities which compete with a deeper spiritual life. While people are very busy addressing the demands of work, family and survival, they often neglect the deeper spiritual needs and desires which can nourish them in these endeavors. Our new leader must speak a language which both beckons and challenges current and potential parishioners to embrace the Gospel in new and unexpected ways and help all to live in the Spirit of the Risen Christ. Our parish community needs a leader who can gently and convincingly help to release the bonds holding back the People of God from being the hands and eyes, voices and hearts of the living God in the community of West Essex and beyond.



Situated 20 miles from New York City, the West Essex area is rich with cultural opportunities. The Newark Museum of Art in Newark, New Jersey's largest city, and the Montclair Art Museum in neighboring Montclair, present world class exhibitions. New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in Newark features national and international performers. Amateur and professional acting companies have made the area their home. Montclair State University, Caldwell University, Drew University in nearby Madison, and Essex County College provide opportunities for continuing education. Grover

Cleveland Park, named for our 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> president who was born in Caldwell, was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, designer of Central Park in NYC. Bordering Essex Fells and Caldwell, the park provides tennis courts, baseball fields, horseshoe pitches, fishing derbies, jogging paths, ice skating in winter and outdoor concerts in summer. Restaurants with a variety of ethnic cuisine abound in the Caldwells and Montclair. For clergy and their families, West Essex offers excellent educational and cultural opportunities, historic communities, a variety of housing and a vibrant, welcoming community.

Saint Peter's is a member of the West Essex Ministerial Association which include Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church, Notre Dame Roman Catholic Church, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic Church, the First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell, the Presbyterian Church of West Caldwell, Roseland Presbyterian Church, Caldwell United Methodist Church and Congregation Agudath Israel.



## **PARISH ADMINISTRATION**



The Vestry and the Wardens are the main administrative body of Saint Peter's Church. Twelve Vestry members serve three-year terms and may be elected again after being off the Vestry for one year. Two Wardens may serve two consecutive two-year terms. One third of the Vestry is elected each year at the Annual Meeting, which is typically held in January. Nominations are made 60 days before the Annual Meeting. We seek to have the Vestry reflect our diverse parish family. The Vestry meets monthly with the Rector presiding. Committee reports are provided for review and discussion and votes taken as appropriate. Committees cover the following aspects of parish life:

- Membership
- Adult Education
- Outreach
- Communications
- Financial Stewardship
- Property
- Hospitality

Communication between the Vestry and the congregation is vital. The weekly Church bulletin, the monthly ONWARD and the weekly email LIFE AT SAINT PETER'S report pertinent information to the congregation in addition to announcements made during Church services.

### **Daily Administrative Responsibilities are Managed By:**



- The Rev. Robert Corin Morris, D.D., Interim Rector
- Mrs. Eileen Anderson, Parish Secretary
- Mr. John Pivarnik, Minister of Music
- Mrs. DJ Posey, Bookkeeper
- The Rev. Anthony J. Puca, Jr., Youth Minister
- Mr. Toby West, Property Manager

### **Volunteer Staff**

- Rev. Sue Negrotto, Pastoral Associate
- Mr. Vincent M. Corso, Pastoral Assistant
- Mrs. Dana Leach, Sunday School Head
- Ms. Pat Aliotta, Pledge Recorder
- Mrs. Mallory Copeland, Editor of Onward
- Mrs. Christine Corso, Webmaster & Editor of Life at Saint Peter's

**Search Committee Chair:** Vincent M. Corso

Visit Saint Peter's online at [www.stpeters-esssexfells.org](http://www.stpeters-esssexfells.org)

## WE SEEK IN A RECTOR



In summary of the graphic above, St. Peter's is a Broad-Church, accustomed to many years of Sunday Eucharistic Celebrations. We seek a new Rector who can improve communication between parishioners and the wider community. Our new Rector will be easily-approachable and will have sound fiscal and strategic-thinking skills along with an open comfort level with our diverse membership. Our strong foundation includes a vibrant Health and Healing Network, creative liturgies, and a history of dynamic preaching addressing a multi-faceted and diverse socio-economic membership.

We are a strong parish with multiple active programs, ministries and services, thanks to the inspired leadership of our past Rectors and a long-time engaged membership. To continue on this path, we are seeking a loving, caring shepherd, preacher and leader who can address the evolving needs of our congregation and the larger community. We are a stable parish with many long-term members whose legacy continues to grow through their children. We seek someone with a strong pastoral presence for both our spiritual and emotional care. We are deeply served by compelling sermons, so our new Rector must be passionate, engaging and inspiring in sermons. Our Rector must be able to bring people together who have differing perspectives and opinions while continually reinforcing our knowledge that our actions come from our strong faith.

## STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- **Meaningful Sermons:** Incorporate the Gospel reading in our daily lives.
- **Strong Leadership Skills:** Creative ways to strengthen our parish and bring us together.
- **Sunday School:** Hiring one person to focus on children.
- **Management Skills:** Manage competing needs and optimize space utilization.
- **Diversity:** Promote diversity within the parish, reflective of the broader community.
- **Outreach:** Community and interfaith involvement.
- **Utilize Parishioner Skills:** Incorporate them into the various areas Saint Peter's needs to fill in gaps within the various committees.
- **Planned Giving:** Hold seminars on ways in which parishioners can pass on their estate to Saint Peter's (e.g., IRA distributions as contributions) and recognize giving.
- **Events for Fund Raising:** Try to create new and innovative ways in which to raise funds for the Church through fun activities.
- **Off-site Congregational Events:** Backyard picnics, day-trips, overnight camping trips, or varied athletic and cultural activities to bring people together outside of Sunday Church services.

## WORSHIP

### Holy Eucharist Celebrations

*Sunday 8 AM:* Holy Eucharist (Chapel) - A quiet said Service in the Chapel

*Sunday 9 AM:* Affectionately known as 'Holy Pandemonium', this worship service is joyful and intended for families with young children. This is an abbreviated service that includes a children's sermon and a simple, interactive celebration of Holy Communion in which the children can participate.



*Sunday 10 AM:* Choral Eucharist with the Choir of Saint Peter's and, on occasion, the Choir of Boys and Girls. Once monthly, the children are in church for the whole service and participate as readers, ushers and choir.

### Health and Healing Service with Holy Eucharist – Wednesday at Noon

A simple and intimate service that includes a short sermon on the Gospel, Holy Communion, anointing with oil and offering up to God our concerns and prayers.



## THE MINISTRIES OF SAINT PETER'S

### Music at Saint Peter's



Music is among the most joyful offerings we give to God every Sunday, as well as at parish events and special services. It allows us to articulate beyond words our feelings of jubilation or yearning, of praise and wonder. Music helps us to summon the Holy Spirit in a very direct and personal way and is often considered the 'handmaiden of the liturgy'.

There is a way for everyone to be involved in music at Saint Peter's Parish - whether as a dedicated choir member, an occasional instrumentalist, or an enthusiastic congregational singer. Even the engaged listener has an important role.

### Saint Peter's Chancel Choir



This dedicated group of approximately twenty adults meets twice every week (Thursdays and Sundays), and sings almost every Sunday between September and June. This group provides fellowship, musical instruction and an important part of the celebration of the Liturgy.

Men and women, as well as high school students are welcomed and encouraged to join the Saint Peter's choir regardless of singing experience. With a focus on the music of the English cathedral tradition, the repertoire of the Saint Peter's Choir spans many centuries and traditions. In addition to leading the singing of congregational hymns and service music, the Saint Peter's Choir sings a musical setting of the appointed psalm, an offertory anthem and a communion anthem each Sunday. The Saint Peter's Choir rehearsals are every Thursday from 7:30 - 9:30 PM and Sundays at 9:15 AM before the 10 AM service. These rehearsals are a regular part of the commitment to this ministry.

## **Saint Peter's Children's Choir**

This group of youth, second grade and up, meets weekly and practices the craft of singing. Using the Royal School of Church Music's Voices for Life Chorister Training Program, members of the Boy and Girl Choir develop a strong foundation in music and spirituality. Children may enter the choir at any time. No prior training or experience is expected of prospective choristers and apart from minor incidentals relating to travel or social events, there is no tuition cost expected of parents. The Youth Choir rehearses on Sundays mornings after the 10 AM service. They join the Chancel Choir on occasion and are featured at the monthly Family Church service.

In August 2015, the children participated in a first-ever summer choir camp for our child choristers. It was held during the last full week of August at Saint Peter's and provided a rigorous training, including learning musical notation, rhythm exercises, pitch matching and recognition, note learning, vocal skills, and group and individual singing. The choristers learned 8 new anthems to be sung during the following Church year. Members of Saint Peter's Youth Choir (older youth, 10 and above) have attended the RSCM Royal School of Music Choir training camp at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, PA, which is an annual training event held each July. During the week, the choristers rehearse daily in preparation for numerous evensongs, Eucharist, compline, and other festive services sung at Saint Stephen's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral.

## **Bell Choir**

The Handbell Choir reconvened in 2012 and has a weekly rehearsal. The Bell Choir plays as a group at least once a month and is also used to enhance and support choral and congregational singing. The group has recently expanded to a three-octave set of bells made possible by generous outside donors. All are welcome to join.



## CHRISTIAN FORMATION



Saint Peter's is committed to life-long Christian formation beginning with age appropriate teaching and worship to develop and strengthen our children's faith. Children experience their own faith journey by discussing, creating, sharing and worshipping together. They learn they are valuable members of Saint Peter's and are loved and valued by God.

### "Wee Believers"

An abbreviated and informal service designed for families with children from infants to age 4 years with Holy Communion on Sunday at 9 AM in the Chapel. The children learn about our Christian faith by participating in the worship and age appropriate stories.



### Sunday School

A multifaceted program to reach children of all ages to provide an opportunity for spiritual growth. Children attend the age appropriate classes from 10 AM to 10:40 AM when they join their families in Church for Holy Communion.



**Prekindergarten – Grade 3** - the Godly Play method is followed to teach children the art of using religious language through parable, sacred story, silence and liturgical action.

**Grades 4-6** – a lectionary based curriculum is used in which the children study the same biblical lessons that their parents are hearing in Church.

**Saint Peter's Youth (SPY)** – a program where youth

(grades 6-12) can grow, learn, explore and question in a safe place. Jr. SPY (grades 6-8) and Sr. SPY (grades 9-12) seek to be witnesses to Christ through activities in fellowship and service.

## Family Church



A once a month, intergenerational worship 10 AM service in which children take leadership by reading, ushering, and assisting in distributing Holy Communion.

Saint Peter's offers special programs for children throughout the year including an Advent Event, Christmas Pageant, and weeklong Vacation Bible School in the summer.

## YOUTH



The youth ministries at Saint Peter's are very prominent and valued in our Church community. Currently, the Sunday School enrolls approximately 60 children, and the Saint Peter's Youth (SPY) enrolls 30 middle school and high school aged youth. Many young parents are often drawn to our community because of this impactful and engaging spiritual education for their children.

**SPY** Saint Peter's Youth (SPY) is the Church's young-adult ministry, which is separated into the Junior SPY (grades 6-8), and the Senior SPY (grades 9-12). They meet bi-weekly over a meal to discuss their outreach and community activities, as well as discussing coming-of-age topics in a safe and trusting environment. They are challenged to formulate opinions about religion and the presence of God in their lives. Together, they are molded into parish leaders and prominent members, volunteering their services in many several Church-sponsored events. Volunteer services include fundraising for their annual mission trip, Vacation Bible School counselors, Street Fair volunteers and more.

## Mission Trip

Many of our youth aged 14-18 years, along with adult chaperones, attend an annual week-long Mission Trip. Over the course of the year, SPY hosts several fundraisers to sponsor their trip. This opportunity brings youth together, teaching them how to serve others through Christ. Mission Trips broaden the perspectives of youth and help them realize that the world is bigger and different from their daily lives. The youth come back from these trips feeling empowered and grateful.



## Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School is an annual ministry that brings together parishioners of all ages, usually around the first week of August. Children ages 3-10 years in the surrounding area are invited to be campers for the week. Each day is filled with different stations such as Music, Arts & Crafts, Science, Bible Stories, Snack, and Recreation. These stations are connected to the theme of the week, and the children learn about different scriptures and lessons. Older youth and adults volunteer as counselors, working with the campers as group leaders and activity leaders. In addition, many other parishioners of all ages and abilities are able to participate in the preparation of crafts and decoration in the weeks beforehand. This is a ministry that serves all members of our parish as well as members of the surrounding West Essex Community.

## Acolytes, Readers, Ushers & Choir Members



Every Sunday, the youth of the parish play an active role during the Church services, especially the 10 AM service. During “Family Church,” once a month, the Sunday School children participate in the full Church service as the lesson readers, ushers, and youth choir members. Older youth act as acolytes, clergy crucifers, and adult choir members. With the strong emphasis on participation, our youngest children through those in high school are full members of the Liturgy.

## **ADULT EDUCATION**

Adult Education includes a yearly Lecture Series offered by the Rector for Advent and Lent. Other regular offerings are: Lectio Divina and Centering Prayer – offered on the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

Lectio Divina (Divine Reading) is an ancient, monastic approach to praying the Bible in which one encounters the Word of God through prayer, silence and contemplation. Although similar to the traditional Bible study, Lectio Divina puts a greater emphasis on listening for God’s presence in one’s life than in analyzing the scriptures. Saint Peter’s Lectio Divina offers shared discussion, prayer and silence in experiencing God’s transforming love.

Centering Prayer is a form of silent prayer that has ancient roots within Christianity; it is an approach that aims to transcend thoughts, concepts and feelings in order to experience God in pure simplicity and silence.

In addition, throughout the year a variety of devotional opportunities are offered, both within the Parish (retreats, trips to other churches/houses of worship, diverse evening programs), and from the Diocese of Newark.

## **HEALTH AND HEALING**

The “Health Cabinet” is a committee of parishioners who work in conjunction with the Rector to promote the



well-being of the whole person....Body, Mind and Spirit, this wholeness being God’s will for us. Jesus Christ calls Saint Peter’s Episcopal Church to participate with increasing fullness in His ministry of healing. Headed by the Parish Nurse, the members provide a caring network for our Church community through a wide variety of programs, services and personal support. In 2016, the Health Cabinet celebrates its 18<sup>th</sup> year of ministry. The following ministries are part of our health and healing ministry.

## **Lay Pastoral Callers**

Lay Pastoral Callers visit parishioners in a variety of settings to offer companionship and an opportunity to remain part of the Church family. Our Rector is a vital part of this effort.

## **Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVS)**

LEVS have received special training and are licensed by the Bishop to take Holy Communion and share the Gospel reading with those unable to attend worship services at Church.

## **Prayer Chain**

The Prayer Chain is an opportunity to gather our congregation together “in spirit” to support those of us in need and to witness, as a community of faith, the power of prayer. The process is like a phone chain. You may choose to participate via email or phone. A call to the Coordinator by any parish member initiates the chain.

## **Angel Food**

Volunteers prepare a meal and/or soup or baked goods and deliver to those in need to show support and concern of the parish community.

## **Franny’s Shawls**

Volunteers knit shawls and lap robes and offer prayers for Church members who are hospitalized, undergoing treatment, homebound or in nursing homes. Mini-versions of the shawl are also knitted to bring to parishioners and their loved ones with a prayer to remind them that they are not alone.

## **Healing Service**

Every Wednesday at noon, there is a healing service and Holy Eucharist in the Chapel. This service is an opportunity to experience the Ministry of the Word, guided meditation, the Laying on of Hands, Anointing and Communion.



## **Sermons and Inspirational Prayers**

Sermons are available on Video on our You Tube Channel accessible through our website, and in our own Facebook Page, Copies of "Prayers to Comfort and Inspire," a collection of prayers from parish members and published by Health and Healing, is available in Church office.

## **Special Programs**

Throughout the year, special programs for different interest groups are held and have included:

- Christmas caroling at Crane's Mill, the West Caldwell assisted living facility, that serves several levels of senior care including skilled nursing
- "Making the Holidays Meaningful and Manageable" for those coping with grief
- Parenting and Fostering Self-Esteem in Children
- Fun and fellowship evening knitting mini prayer shawls
- The Five Wishes Program to facilitate our telling loved ones our last wishes

## **Altar Guild**

The Altar Guild plays a critical role in our worship in the preparation of the sanctuary for services and setting God's table each week for Holy Eucharist. Additionally, they decorate the altar for Holy Days and the Church for the Advent and Easter seasons.

## **Lectors**

Lectors read the scripture passages designated for each Sunday for the First and Second Lessons. They also lead the congregation in the Prayers of the People. These readings are done from the lectern.

## Episcopal Church Women (ECW)



One of the oldest ministries of Saint Peter's, the ladies of ECW raise funds for the Episcopal-Affiliated Cross Roads Camp and Retreat Center with their annual bread, soup and chili sale. They also support North Porch, a 501(c)(3) organization which provides emergency aid in the form of baby supplies to mothers and infants in northern New Jersey. Funded by individuals and corporate donors, North Porch provided support to over 3,000 infants and toddlers in 2015.

## Street Fair

**ST. PETER'S STREET FAIR**  
Friday & Saturday • JUNE 9 & 10 • 5:30 to 9:30 pm

271 Roseland Avenue  
Essex Fells

Pony Rides  
Grand Prix  
Inflatables

Games for all Ages  
Win Goldfish  
Smash China

Grilled Burgers 'n' Dogs  
Delicious BBQ Chicken Dinner  
Yummy Strawberry Shortcake

Snacks  
Fries  
Popcorn

Live Music  
MATT & ROB  
ACOUSTIC DUO

**Come One, Come All!**  
...for some Good ole Family Fun!

973.226.6500 | stpeters-essexfells.org

St. Peter's Street Fair is an annual event held in early June that is a parish-wide effort and involves parishioners from all corners of the parish. The church parking lot is transformed into an old-fashioned carnival with family friendly rides and games, hot dogs and hamburgers, chicken dinners and even strawberry shortcake. Street Fair is among the many fund-raising events of the parish and its success each year is a tribute to the hard work of practically the entire parish family.

## **OUTREACH**

Saint Peters continues its tradition of connecting with and serving the broader community by promoting and supporting efforts and organizations that attend to physical, emotional and educational needs of children and families. Support is provided through volunteering, donating of goods and financial contributions. Many members of the congregation are involved in our outreach efforts through individual contributions of time, talent and/or treasure.

There is a strong correlation between the organizations Saint Peter's supports non-financially, with those supported through David St. George Fund grants. The endowment, initiated by a previous rector, provides financial support to various local and diocesan charities active in outreach ministry. Grant applications are sent to a number of organizations and are posted on our website each summer. The applications request information about an organization's mission, financial reports (income, expenses and budget), and proposed use of grant funds. A committee of parishioners reviews the grant requests in December and makes allocation recommendations to the Vestry.

In 2015, the David St. George Fund made distributions of \$31,040 to the following organizations:

- Apostles House
- Caldwell Department of Human Services
- CASA for Children of Essex County
- Cedar Hill Community Development Corp.
- Faith, Hope and Love Food Pantry
- Newark School of Theology
- North Porch
- St. Paul's Community Development Corp. Food Pantry
- St. Peter's Haven
- Senior Resource Center
- Toni's Kitchen
- Turning Point Community Services
- Wynona's House Child Advocacy Center
- Christine's Kitchen
- Habitat for Humanity

## **PROGRAMS**

### **Saint Peter's Nursery School**



Saint Peter's Nursery School was founded in 1972 and established as a non-profit, non-sectarian program of the Church. The school welcomes families of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. As of 2016, there are 111 students and a staff of 13 teachers and a director.

The program provides a nurturing and enriched classroom environment where the children are encouraged to explore and challenged to learn. Social and emotional development is supported and fostered. Play is used as an important tool for healthy emotional growth and development. The school is accredited by the National Association for the Education of the Young Child (NAEYC) and is licensed by the State of New Jersey.

### **Opportunity Shop (Thrift Shop)**

The OpShop ministry was founded in 1943 to help those struggling financially during World War II. It is a resale shop and ministry operated by Saint Peter's Episcopal Church and sells everything from seasonal clothing to designer apparel, from home goods to vintage treasures, from art to furniture. All the items on sale come into the shop through generous donations. As was the mission from its inception, the OpShop continues to provide exceptional-quality items at bargain prices.

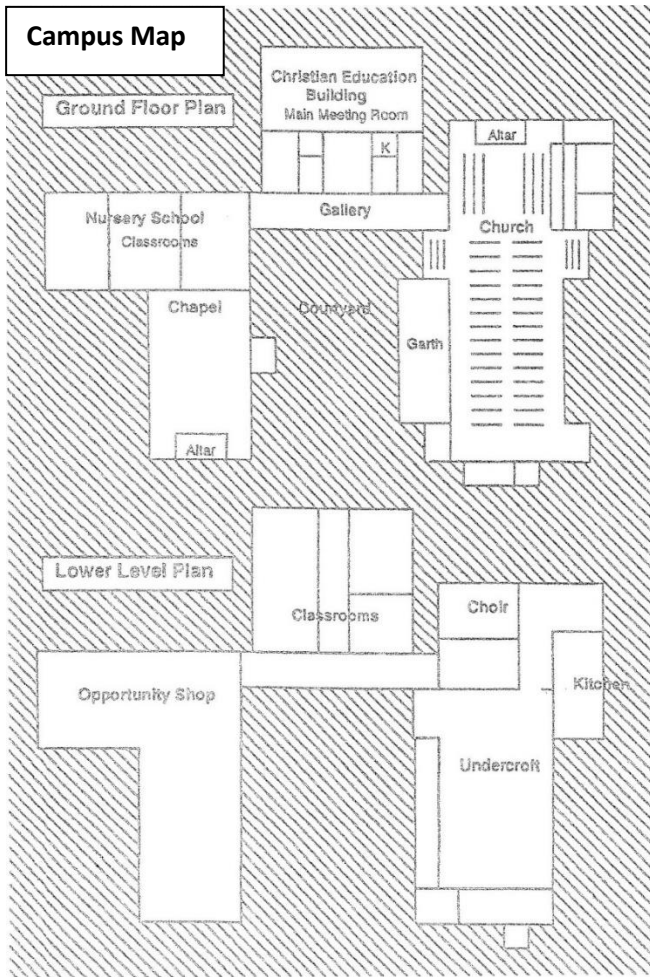


Annual sales proceeds of about \$60,000 go toward supporting Saint Peter's Church, the David St. George Fund and the Rector's Discretionary Fund, as well as local and national charities. The OpShop also joins Saint Peter's Church in assisting local families-in-need with emergency clothing and financial support for food and housing.

Run by nearly 40 volunteers from our parish and community, The OpShop serves not only as an area support but also provides a welcoming place to socialize and find great bargains.

**AA/Al-Anon** We provide space at Saint Peter's for AA and Al-Anon to further their ministries.

**PARISH FACILITIES**



Saint Peter’s Church, Norman in design, has a Baptistry and a stained-glass-enhanced Narthex. Our Garth is just off the Courtyard between the Chapel and main Church buildings. The lower level of our Church houses a spacious finished Undercroft with an adjoining professional kitchen, the Choir Room and ‘Living Room’ with couches, upholstered chairs and wood tables and is especially comfortable for small gatherings.

Our Chapel, the original Church, accommodates the Wednesday Healing Service, the 8:00 AM Sunday worship service and the 9:00 AM Sunday service for young children and their parents. An additional service is held at 5:00 PM on Sunday evenings. Adjoining the Chapel is the Nursery School and our original on-site Rectory, now housing our administrative and clergy offices. At present, Saint Peter’s does not have a rectory.

The Emil J. Piel Building, was completed in 1980 and is a link between the Chapel and main Church buildings. The building houses our Church School classrooms and the OpShop, as well as a large open room used for various Church activities. Several outside organizations also use the “Upper Room.”

**SAINT PETER’S FINANCIAL INFORMATION – RECENT YEARS**

	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016 Budget</i>
<b>Pledge &amp; Plate Income</b>	167,471	368,672	354,465	328,207	298,623
<b>Fund Raisers</b>	(190)	8,863	9,744	11,097	22,375
<b>Space Usage</b>	23,112	64,825	67,323	70,717	80,469
<b>Investment Income</b> [& cash on hand]	49,000	72,000	151,700	109,751 (83k+cash on hand)	149,665
<b>Other</b> (including restricted)	---	72,662	--	21,263	--
<b>Total Resources/Budget</b>	\$239,394	\$587,122	\$584,554	\$540,635	\$551,132

The annual operating budget is prepared after pledge cards are received. The following is based on the 2015 budget of \$558,783.38, showing percentages of total resources that are utilized by significant areas of ministry at Saint Peter's Church (but does not reflect the incredible volunteer efforts nor financial support given).

The costs below reflect the plant, administrative, personnel, and financial resources required to conduct our worship life at Saint Peter's Church (including resources that are required to celebrate the Eucharist twice each Sunday, once each Wednesday afternoon, once on a Saturday or Sunday evening and on the various additional Holy Days during the liturgical year). The people of Saint Peter's Church participate in a wealth of Christian ministries on a volunteer basis. This far-ranging exercise of ministry requires the support of Saint Peter's Church in a number of ways, including physical plant and clergy, staff, volunteer and administrative support.

<b>2015 Expenses</b>		<b>% of 2015 Budget (\$558,783.38)</b>
<i>Salaries, Utilities, Insurance, &amp; fixed office expenses</i> (telephone, copies excluding supplies)	\$424,513.38	<b>76%</b>
<i>Supplies:</i> Office, Janitorial, Sacramental supplies & linens/ laundry	\$10,700	1.9%
<b>Total 'Fixed' Costs</b>	<b>\$435,213.38</b>	<b>78%</b>
<b>What's Left</b>		\$123,525
<b>Required Expenses</b>	<b>\$81,320</b>	<b>% of What's Left</b>
Pledge	\$56,070	<b>66%</b>
Maintenance	\$15,000	
Grounds	\$7,000	
Liturgy	\$800	
Convention Fees	\$1,350	
Altar Guild Xmas (o/w donated)	\$1,100	
<b>Other Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,700</b>	<b>3.8%</b>
Stewardship	\$1,200	
Advertising/Publicity	\$1,000	
Hospitality	\$2,500	
<b>Programs</b>	<b>\$37,550</b>	<b>30%</b>

The following reflects the breakdown of program resources dedicated to the worship, fellowship, education and spiritual development of our children, youth and adults.

<b>2015 Program Expenses</b>		<i>% of Program Budget \$37,550</i>
Music	\$24,800	66%
Sunday School	\$800	2%
VBS	\$500	1.3%
Health & Healing	\$2,500	7%
Adult Education	\$500	1.3%
SPY (incl Mission trip)	\$8,000	21.3%
Confirmation	\$450	1%

The people of Saint Peter's support a number of ministries to the world beyond our walls, as well as providing space and support for various community and self-help groups who meet in our facility. See a description of Outreach for more information.



**2017-2019 Budget**

		<b>TOTAL</b>		
		<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
4000 Pledge Income				
	Current Pledge Income	270,999.96	280,000.00	290,000.00
4000 Pledge Income		270,999.96	280,000.00	290,000.00
4003 Plate		37,600.00	38,000.00	40,000.00
4004 Holiday				
	Christmas	3,240.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
	Easter	2,610.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
4004 Holiday		5,850.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
4100 Use of Building				
	4101 Nursery School	55,217.04	56,045.30	56,885.98
	4102 AA	3,720.00	3,720.00	3,720.00
	4103 Events	2,100.00	2,100.00	2,100.00
	4104 Op Shop	37,500.00	37,500.00	37,500.00
	4105 Haje Church	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
	4106 Street Fair	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
4100 Use of Building		108,737.04	109,565.30	110,405.98
4200 Endowment Transfer In		4,500.00	67,797.00	66,665.00
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>427,687.00</b>	<b>502,362.30</b>	<b>514,070.98</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>		<b>427,687.00</b>	<b>502,362.30</b>	<b>514,070.98</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
5000 Diocesan Pledge		42,000.00	51,200.00	53,200.00
5001 Diocesan Convention Fees		1,660.00	1,660.00	1,660.00
5050 Salaries		156,666.52	165,986.88	165,986.88
5100 Employee Benefits				
	5101 Social Security	11,780.12	13,762.19	13,762.19
	5102 Medicare	1,439.89	1,318.81	1,318.81
	5103 Health Insurance	25,854.00	50,284.20	53,030.20
	5104 Life & LTD	531.00	531.00	531.00
	5106 Pension Expense	15,889.54	26,347.23	26,347.23
	5107 Clergy Housing	11,355.40	31,355.40	31,355.40
	5108 Clergy Professional Exp	12,400.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
5100 Employee Benefits		79,249.95	128,098.82	130,844.82
5200 Property Expense				
	5202 Electric & Gas	20,512.97	20,820.66	21,132.97
	5203 Water/Sewer	1,925.00	1,953.88	1,983.18
	5204 Insurance	30,269.50	35,405.40	40,926.48
	5208 Property Maintenance	18,700.00	18,980.50	19,265.21
5200 Property Expense		71,407.47	77,160.44	83,307.85
5300 Office Expense		45,998.70	46,688.68	47,389.01
6000 Music & Worship		6,070.00	6,870.00	6,870.00
6300 Adult Ministry		600.00	600.00	600.00
6500 Inreach		989.96	989.96	989.96
6600 Outreach		2,025.00	2,025.00	2,025.00
7000 Nursery School		7,572.49	7,686.08	7,801.37
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>427,636.10</b>	<b>502,361.87</b>	<b>514,070.89</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>		<b>50.90</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.08</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>50.90</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.08</b>



## STEWARDSHIP – RECENT YEARS

An integral aspect of our lives together, stewardship at Saint Peter’s Church relies upon the parish. Parish families are asked to consider a financial commitment to the Church based on their understanding of God’s blessings in their lives. Parish members are encouraged to consider stewardship as an opportunity for spiritual growth. A budget is created after stewardship commitments are made, so that the life and work of Saint Peter’s are directly connected to our members’ individual commitments of time, talent and treasure. Pledges are falling, in part due to changing demographics. While we are blessed with a healthy endowment to help fill the pledge gaps, we do not believe that the level of reliance in the recent past is sustainable. We continue to look for ways to manage the Church finances in a fiscally responsible way.

We take a three-pronged approach to Stewardship: the parish is provided with budget information so there is a basic understanding of the Church’s financial obligations; parishioners are asked what is important to them about Saint Peter’s Church, and finally families discern what they are able to pledge. Another essential part of stewardship is commitment of time and talent, an area in which the level of parishioner involvement is extraordinary.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Pledges*</i>	<i>Total Amount</i>	<i>Average Pledge</i>	<i>Actual Collect (Pledge &amp; Plate)</i>
2013				\$368,612
2014	\$324,280	166	1,953	\$354,465
2015	\$302,560	152	1,991	\$328,207
2016	\$269,517	127	2,122	\$300,315

*\* Indicates pledge. See Financial Information for actual pledge & plate received.*

## Ministry Portfolio

Our Worshipping Community, Essex Fells, Diocese of Newark, NJ  
 271 Roseland Avenue, Essex Fells, NJ 07021  
 Interim Rector: Rev. Robert C. Morris

### Full-Time Rector Compensation

Weekly Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	125-150
Number of Weekend Worship Services	2-3
Number of Weekday Worship Services	1 (Health and Healing)
Proposed Annual Compensation	\$140,698.00
Cash Stipend	\$54,996.00
Housing/Rectory Detail with CPF requirements	\$30,000.00
Utilities Included in Housing	
Healthcare Options (negotiable)	\$34,726.00 (including dental)
SECA Reimbursement	\$6504.00
Pension Plan (in compliance)	\$16,476.00
Vacation Weeks	One month, including 5 Sundays (standard)
Continuing Education	2 Weeks (standard)
Continuing Education Weeks Details	To Be Negotiated
Continuing Education Funding in Budget	Up to \$500.00
Professional Expenses	\$4000.00 (auto expense included)
Sabbatical Provision	As per Diocesan Recommendation