

St. Peter's Episcopal Church



Hazleton . Pennsylvania

SAINT PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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Parish Profile

October 2021

Dear Prospective Rector,

We at St. Peter's prayerfully seek a Rector who can join with us on our spiritual journey and faithfully guide us into the future to achieve our goals. We are a warm, loving and caring family with both strengths and areas of opportunity. We pray that God will lead you to consider becoming a part of our family.

**Yours in Christ,
St. Peter's Parishioners**

Table of Contents

Contents

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Table of Contents | 3 |
| Mission..... | 4 |
| Who We Are | 5 |
| What We Do | 5 |
| Services..... | 5 |
| Lay Ministers..... | 6 |
| Music | 6 |
| Outreach..... | 6 |
| Organizations | 6 |
| Sunday School | 6 |
| Coping with Covid | 7 |
| Whom We Seek..... | 8 |
| Preacher and Teacher..... | 8 |
| Pastor | 8 |
| Community (Liaison) | 8 |
| Youth Leader | 8 |
| Where We are Going..... | 10 |
| Vision..... | 10 |
| How We Get There | 10 |
| Let Us Go Forth | 10 |
| Where We Stand | 12 |
| Pledges | 12 |
| Present Staff | 12 |
| In Summary | 12 |
| Budgets | 13 |
| Appendices..... | 15 |
| Appendix A-As We Were..... | 15 |
| Appendix B-As We Appear..... | 16 |
| Appendix C-Where We Minister | 16 |

Mission

Sharing God's love, compassion, justice and mercy by being a community which supports people in their spiritual journey.



St. Peter's 2021 Search Committee Commissioning. From left to right- Tyler Perry (Transitional Deacon), Marion Meiss (Deacon-Ret.), Roberta Brandreth-Committee Chair, George Roskos (Sr. Warden), Pastor Elizabeth Haynes (Ret.), Eric Vasinda, Risa Schatz, Jeremy Bragalone, Yvonne Bragalone, Bruce Smith, Becky Paletski

Who We Are

Although St. Peter's is an urban church, we are a diverse community with most of our members residing in communities other than Hazleton, ranging up to a distance of 20 miles. Families can worship at the same time as Sunday School runs concurrently with the worship service. This allows for interaction between the congregation and the Sunday School.



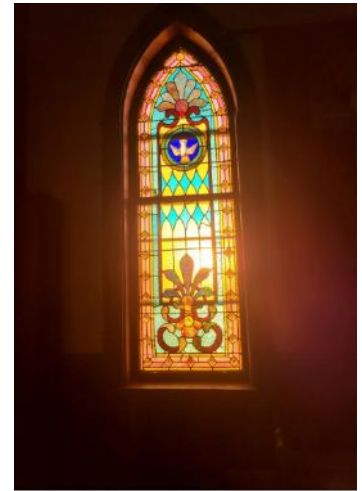
Our newsletter, Sunday bulletin and announcements as well as our website keeps our congregation informed about past and future events. Informal communication and fellowship during Coffee Hour reinforce this sense of community.

Following the Episcopal tradition, all baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's Table to receive the Eucharist or a blessing. Children participate during the Youth Liturgies and assist the lay ministers. The congregation rejoices in the energetic and loving way in which these children take on this responsibility. It touches the heart of each parishioner and draws us all to new heights and a greater closeness to God.

The feeling of family and genuine concern for others has drawn us closer together in recent years. St. Peter's has matured as a parish to where we more freely and openly recognize God's gifts and blessings, both as individuals and a community. We are now on the threshold of an exciting new experience. We hope to

become prepared to utilize these blessings to nourish and share not only within our parish, but with people of the broader community.

*"O send out thy
light and thy
truth, that they
may lead me
and bring me
unto thy holy hill
and to thy
dwelling."
Psalm 43:3*



What We Do

Services

Holy Eucharist is celebrated at St. Peter's every Sunday at 10:30 am. There is anointing for healing every third Sunday after the service. Special Holy Day services are added as appropriate. When no priest is present worship is either a Deacon's Service with reserved Eucharist, or Morning Prayer led by a Lay Minister.



Lay Ministers

The Ministry of the Laity provides both the parish and others in need with a wealth of spiritual services. A large, caring group of Lectors, Lay Readers, Chalice Bearers and Eucharistic Ministers are eager to be utilized in God's work. These lay ministers are vital to the parish as is their willingness to expand their



areas of service by leading Morning Prayer as needed. We also recognize the value of Acolytes and Ushers in enhancing the liturgical setting.

Music

We are currently utilizing the talents of a supply organist who has taken over after the retirement of our long-term organist and choir director. The Pandemic has presented extra challenges, but our musical liturgy continues to enhance our services and lift our spirits.

Outreach

Under the leadership of Daughters of the King and in cooperation with a neighborhood Lutheran Church "Seeds of Hope" provides a free lunch every third Saturday. Our doors are open to everyone in the area. Our facilities are used weekly by several locally run support groups and we recently hosted the Restored City Church during their time in Hazleton. As we are centrally located in the Diocese, we often host clergy and committee meetings.

There is active participation in district wide services as well as joint services with the Lutheran Church.



Organizations

There are several groups that continue to play an important role in the functioning of St. Peter's. The Worship Committee, Daughters of the King, Altar Guild, Coffee Hour Hosts and Fundraising Committee provide an invaluable supportive ministry.




Sunday School

St. Peter's Sunday school is small but mighty with dedicated and energetic children, staff and parent/grandparent volunteers who seek bible literacy and the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ to provide sustenance and guidance to navigate today's world. This is the impetus that led us to utilize the Weaving God's Promise curriculum. This program focuses on the way of Christ, not only in the church but also in the world integrating theological and historical information on our

extremely difficult situation and find a way to carry on. We chose the latter!



Closing our doors and hoping for the best was never an option, so in response to the challenges of COVID we took steps to coordinate and navigate through the difficult and oft-changing restrictions we faced. The following are several areas of accomplishment:



- Formation of a Worship Committee
- Services were conducted outdoors
- Indoors Services*
- Zoom meetings:
 - Services
 - Sunday School
 - Vestry meetings
 - Lenten Study and Book Study groups
- Our fundraisers including*
 - Vendor Events
 - Cashew Sales and Lenten fish dinner
- Upgrading our sound system in the Sanctuary
- Update the Website including adding online donations
- Formed St. Peter's Facebook page

*Modified to observe COVID guidelines.

As government and Diocesan restrictions mounted, we found ourselves at a fork in the road with two choices: we could literally wither and most likely die on the vine as a parish or, we could search for ways to make the best of an

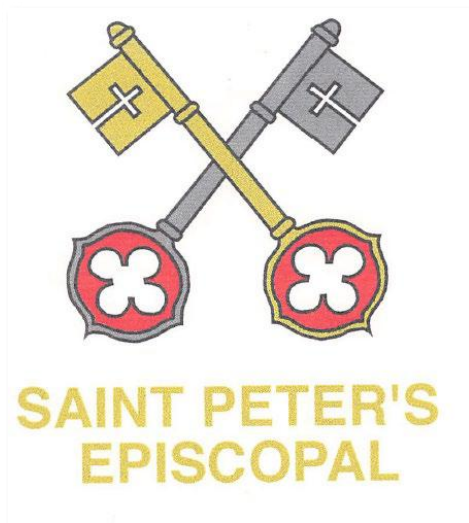


Whom We Seek

Our goal is to exist in harmony by understanding and respecting each other's points of view. Most appreciated are those sermons and teachings that are devoid of political references and innuendos. It is our hope that our new Rector will be a uniting and binding factor, bringing new ideas for spiritual growth and increased membership.



Preacher and Teacher



St. Peter's is seeking a Rector who will interpret the Gospel and how it applies to daily life, providing spiritual guidance and a comprehensive understanding of God's Word, the Church, our liturgical traditions and our Christian obligations.

Pastor

Our Rector should provide for the needs of our Parish in all areas of Pastoral care and should be empowered to guide us and draw on the untapped potential within our membership.

Community (Liaison)

Our desire is to have a Rector that is known by name throughout our community. A desirable quality is the ability to bridge the communication barrier that exists between St. Peters and the neighborhood in which it resides. This neighborhood, its church and its new Rector have the incredible opportunity to unite multiple cultures, fill the pews and become a beloved community. Attending local events with fellow parishioners to 'get the word out' is essential for our growth and to meet our goals.

Youth Leader

Our Rector should provide the direction from their vision of youth involvement within the church and the community. Provide direction to our committees and organizations that are directly involved with our youth. Our Rector should also interact directly with our young parishioners and include them in services.



Prayer for a New Rector

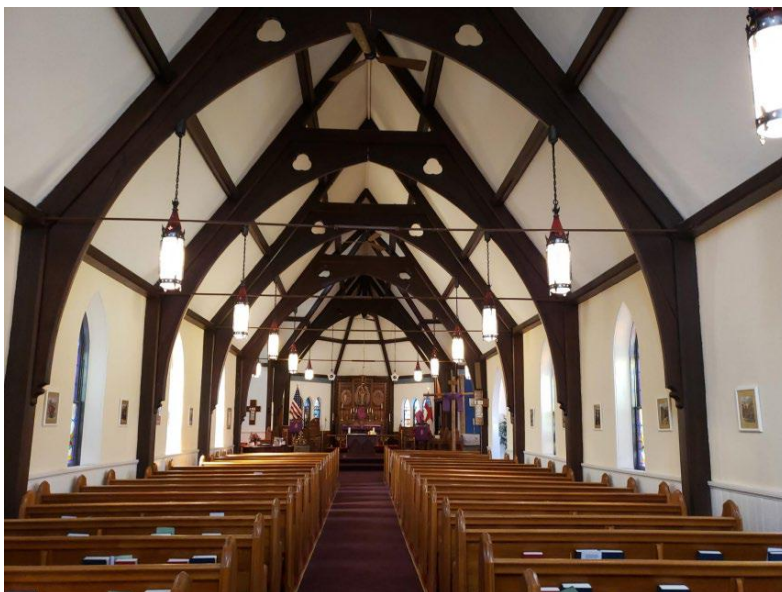
O, God, we desire a new rector to be among us to lead us and walk with us. Direct us and give us patience as we wait upon God's timing. Bless all who serve in the congregation, especially those who have the responsibility to lead us in the search process. In Jesus name we pray, Amen



Where We are Going

Vision

We see ourselves continuing to utilize God's blessings, not only within ourselves and our parish, but within our community as well. To achieve this, our goal is to expand our reach into our community, grow our parish membership and eventually welcome a full-time Rector here at St. Peter's.



How We Get There

We understand that traditional church services appeal to the majority of our membership however we understand changes are necessary if we are to draw in new members, including a blended service, increased use of technology (streaming, recording, Facebook, web-site).

We need to ultimately adapt a more contemporary style that will be more inclusive of our multi-cultural neighborhood. We know that a thriving St. Peters of tomorrow might not look very familiar to us in the pews today. We need slow and careful guidance to get us there.

Let Us Go Forth

In compiling our parish profile, we at St. Peter's have been reminded of our strengths as well as areas of opportunity as we respond to the work of God as it is presented to us.

The warmth and sincerity of responses to our questionnaire have been both enlightening and gratifying and have added tremendously to this undertaking.

We can now address our goals and try to follow God's will for us and our new rector, building on the many riches and blessings we have been given.

“Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the spirit”

THANKS BE TO GOD



Where We Stand

| | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|
| <u>Membership</u> | | | |
| Church Membership | 100 | 98 | 98 |
| Marriages | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burials | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Baptisms | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| <u>Attendance</u> | | | |
| First Sunday in Lent | 37 | 27** | 38 |
| Easter Sunday | 79 | 66 | N/A* |
| Pentecost Sunday | 48 | 39 | N/A* |
| First Sunday in Advent | 35 | 42 | N/A* |
| Sunday Average | 45 | 39 | 38 |
| <u>Church School</u> | | | |
| Officers and Teachers | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| Students | 10 | 10 | 3 |

Pledges

| Year | Units | Amount |
|------|-------|----------|
| 2018 | 32 | \$40,780 |
| 2019 | 30 | \$52,547 |
| 2020 | 30 | \$51,780 |

Present Staff

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Supply Clergy | Rev. Elizabeth Haynes (ret.) |
| Treasurer/Office Manager | Charles Parsons |
| Organist | Jackie Arlotto |
| Governing Lay Body | Vestry and Two Wardens |

In Summary

While our vision is to have a full-time Rector, under present circumstances we must take a realistic approach and find a Rector that who serve St. Peter's half-time.

* Impacted by Covid-19

**Impacted by weather conditions

Budgets

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

| BUDGET 2020 | | | BUDGET 2021 | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Income | | | Income | | |
| | 41000 · Altar Flowers | \$1,200.00 | | 41000 · Altar Flowers | \$1,200.00 |
| | 41100 · Altar Guild | \$20.00 | | 41100 · Altar Guild | \$20.00 |
| | 41500 · Plate Offerings | \$1,600.00 | | 41500 · Plate Offerings | \$1,600.00 |
| | 41900 · Bulletins | \$144.00 | | 41900 · Bulletins | \$144.00 |
| | 42500 · Endowment Income | \$6,000.00 | | 42500 · Endowment Income | \$6,000.00 |
| | 43000 · Fundraising | \$11,000.00 | | 43000 · Fundraising | \$11,000.00 |
| | 43200 · Initial Offering | \$60.00 | | 43200 · Initial Offering | \$60.00 |
| | 44000 · Interest Income | \$500.00 | | 44000 · Interest Income | \$500.00 |
| | 45000 · Memorial Fund | \$200.00 | | 45000 · Memorial Fund | \$200.00 |
| | 46000 · Narcotics Anonymous | \$300.00 | | 46000 · Narcotics Anonymous | \$300.00 |
| | 46050 · Miscellaneous Income | \$600.00 | | 46050 · Miscellaneous Income | \$600.00 |
| | 47000 · Pledge Payments | \$52,000.00 | | 47000 · Pledge Payments | \$52,000.00 |
| | 48000 · Restored City Church | \$4,800.00 | | 48000 · Restored City Church | \$4,800.00 |
| | 49400 · Trust Income | \$4,000.00 | | 49400 · Trust Income | \$4,000.00 |
| Total Income | | \$82,424.00 | Total Income | | \$82,424.00 |
| Expense | | | Expense | | |
| | 60000 · Advertising | \$1,000.00 | | 60000 · Advertising | \$1,000.00 |
| | 60100 · Altar Expense | \$500.00 | | 60100 · Altar Expense | \$500.00 |
| | 60105 · Altar Flowers Expense | \$2,400.00 | | 60105 · Altar Flowers Expense | \$2,400.00 |
| | 61500 · Choir | \$230.00 | | 61500 · Choir | \$230.00 |
| | 61600 · Church School Program | \$1,200.00 | | 61600 · Church School Program | \$1,200.00 |
| | 61650 · Cleaning Company | \$3,500.00 | | 61650 · Cleaning Company | \$3,500.00 |
| | 61800 · Conventions | \$500.00 | | 61800 · Conventions | \$500.00 |
| | 62000 · Diocesan Expense | \$11,734.20 | | 62000 · Diocesan Expense | \$16,506.48 |
| | 62700 · Evangelism Expense | \$2,050.00 | | 62700 · Evangelism Expense | \$2,050.00 |
| | 62800 · Fellowship | \$150.00 | | 62800 · Fellowship | \$150.00 |
| | 63000 · Fundraising Expenses | \$6,000.00 | | 63000 · Fundraising Expenses | \$6,000.00 |
| | 63100 · Furnace Expense | \$1,500.00 | | 63100 · Furnace Expense | \$1,500.00 |
| | 63300 · Insurance Expense | \$5,500.00 | | 63300 · Insurance Expense | \$5,500.00 |
| | 63450 · Janitorial Services | \$3,744.00 | | 63450 · Janitorial Services | \$3,744.00 |
| | 63500 · Kitchen Essentials | \$500.00 | | 63500 · Kitchen Essentials | \$500.00 |
| | 63800 · Landscaping Expenses | \$300.00 | | 63800 · Landscaping Expenses | \$300.00 |
| | 64802 · Office Copier Maintenance | \$250.00 | | 64802 · Office Copier Maintenance | \$250.00 |

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| | 64900 · Office Supplies | \$1,650.00 | | 64900 · Office Supplies | \$1,650.00 |
| | 65101 · Organ Maintenance | \$800.00 | | 65101 · Organ Maintenance | \$800.00 |
| | 66200 · Pest Management | \$600.00 | | 66200 · Pest Management | \$600.00 |
| | 66400 · Pledge Envelopes | \$130.00 | | 66400 · Pledge Envelopes | \$130.00 |
| | 66500 · Postage | \$150.00 | | 66500 · Postage | \$150.00 |
| | 67704 · Office Manager | \$5,200.00 | | 67704 · Office Manager | \$5,200.00 |
| | 67705 · Organist/Choir Director | \$6,261.60 | | 67705 · Organist/Choir Director | \$6,261.60 |
| | 67705.1 · Withholding Tax | \$2,138.40 | | 67705.1 · Withholding Tax | \$2,138.40 |
| | 67707 · Supply Organist | \$400.00 | | 67707 · Supply Organist | \$400.00 |
| | 67708 · Supply Clergy | \$7,000.00 | | 67708 · Supply Clergy | \$7,000.00 |
| | 67712 · Supply Mileage | \$600.00 | | 67712 · Supply Mileage | \$600.00 |
| | 68000 · Snow Removal | \$1,500.00 | | 68000 · Snow Removal | \$1,500.00 |
| | 68051 · Repairs/Improvements | \$1,500.00 | | 68051 · Repairs/Improvements | \$1,500.00 |
| | 68100 · Stewardship | \$100.00 | | 68100 · Stewardship | \$100.00 |
| | 68150 · Tax Expense | \$2,500.00 | | 68150 · Tax Expense | \$2,500.00 |
| | 68151 · Property Taxes | \$1,500.00 | | 68151 · Property Taxes | \$1,500.00 |
| | 68200 · Telephone Expense | \$1,500.00 | | 68200 · Telephone Expense | \$1,500.00 |
| | 68601 · Electricity Rectory | \$1,800.00 | | 68601 · Electricity Rectory | \$1,800.00 |
| | 68602 · Electricity Church | \$3,100.00 | | 68602 · Electricity Church | \$3,100.00 |
| | 68003 · Oil for Church | \$1,200.00 | | 68003 · Oil for Church | \$1,200.00 |
| | 68604 · Gas Rectory | \$2,200.00 | | 68604 · Gas Rectory | \$2,200.00 |
| | 68605 · Gas for Church | \$600.00 | | 68605 · Gas for Church | \$600.00 |
| | 68606 · Water and Garbage | \$1,500.00 | | 68606 · Water and Garbage | \$1,500.00 |
| | 68607 · Security Monitoring | \$300.00 | | 68607 · Security Monitoring | \$300.00 |
| | 680608 · Coal Delivery | \$1,500.00 | | 680608 · Coal Delivery | \$1,500.00 |
| | 68610 · GHJ Sewer Auth | \$1,200.00 | | 68610 · GHJ Sewer Auth | \$1,200.00 |
| | 68201 · Office Telephone | \$1,500.00 | | 68201 · Office Telephone | \$1,500.00 |
| Total Expense | | \$86,488.20 | Total Expense | | \$90,810.48 |
| NET INCOME | | -\$4,064.20 | NET INCOME | | -\$8,386.48 |
| Actual 2020 NET INCOME | | \$9,570.31 | Actual YTD 2021 NET INCOME | | \$4,422.79 |

Appendices

Appendix A-As We Were

The first decade of the last century, 1804-1810, saw the building of the Susquehanna Turnpike connecting the Lehigh and Susquehanna Rivers. The road followed a prominent Indian Trail along the course of the present-day Broad Street and it set the stage for a new village, a village which eventually became Hazleton.

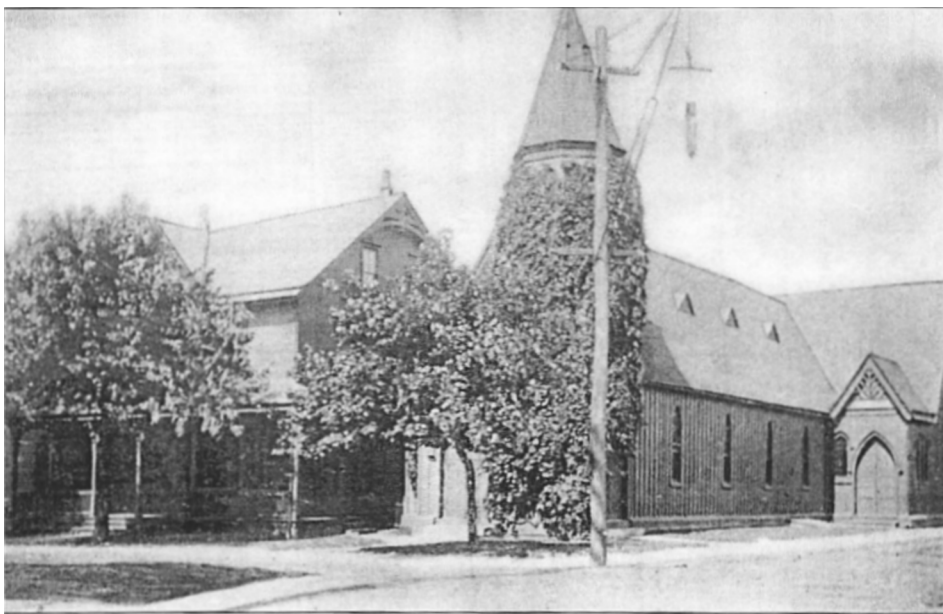
Coal was discovered in 1826. Land patents along the Turnpike were acquired and a town plot plan was designed for the mining ventures of a new company, the Hazleton Railroad and Coal Company. From a lowly settlement of only ten houses in 1836, the town grew to a population of 4,000 by 1860. It progressed from a borough in 1851 to the granting of a city charter in 1891 and a population of 11,872.

Episcopal services date from Hazleton's earliest year. In 1849, a missionary established preaching points at Jeanesville, White Haven and Hazleton. In 1859, the Rev. Peter Russell, who had made his home in Eckley, began work in Hazleton. A congregation grew during the first five years of services, which were conducted in a public-school building. As a result, in 1864 as the Civil War ended, the parish was organized and the cornerstone of the present church building was laid by the Right Reverend Stevens, Bishop of Pennsylvania. St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church was chosen as the name.

The first service was held in the original church, the present-day nave, on Sunday, October 8, 1865. The church was consecrated in April 1866, using Communion Vessels that were a gift from St. Stephen's Church, Wilkes-Barre. In 1871, the building grew with the addition of a vestibule and bell tower. At the same time, the church acquired an altar, which like the Communion Vessels, has been in use to the present day. The beautiful altar cross dates from 1889.

In 1881, the rectory was completed with contributions from churches throughout the diocese and from members of the local congregation. It originally had a large front and side porch in the fashion of the times. The present Parish House was completed in 1895.

In 1888, utilizing space from an earlier parish house, the transept and chancel of the church were erected. Beneath the brick veneer of 1934 is the original board and batten



St. Peters and Rectory in 1910

building of the Victorian Gothic style. The nave's stained-glass windows are from the World War II era but all other large and small windows are original and constitute a major historical treasure. Also greatly prized is our fine Aeolian Skinner organ, installed in the chancel and adjoining organ chamber during a major renovation of the chancel in 1937. The continuation of our church history can be found at <https://stpetershazleton.org/parish-profile/As-We-Were>

Appendix B-As We Appear

We who worship here look upon our Victorian, Gothic edifice with affection. The church interior, with its half-timbered arches, stained glass windows and beautiful chancel, inspires reverence in our worship services. Comfortably seating 200, with choir stalls for 22, the church includes a side altar, a baptistry with stone font and a bell tower.

The parish house includes commercial type kitchen, a small nursery room and a classroom for kindergarten. The main hall area has folding track partitions to create four classrooms. It contains tables, chairs and steel cabinets designed to house the equipment for our Church School. This area is also the site for coffee hours, the rummage sales and so on. Attached to the Parish Hall is a two-stall garage.

The rectory is a large rambling old house with high ceilings and tall windows that remind us of a time when life was less complex and hurried. Windows and doors are framed in wide decorative wood moldings and there are hardwood floors throughout. The house is a two-story building with a full attic and basement. When utilities were separated from the church in the 1980s, new plumbing was installed and new gas heat with baseboard elements. Much of the interior has been repainted and refurbished.

Appendix C-Where We Minister

The benefit of our smaller, close-knit community is the network of resources available through friend, family and colleagues. St. Peter's is a proud member of the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce. Please follow any of the following links for more information on the wealth of resources in the Hazleton area. More information is available on [Real Estate](#), [Education](#), [the history of the area](#), [Arts & Culture](#), [Recreation](#) and [Health Care](#).