



St. Peter Episcopal Church

Ripon, WI

St. Mary Chapel, Wautoma, WI

2019 Parish Profile

*To restore all people to
unity with God and each
other in Christ*

WELCOME

Welcome to St. Peter Episcopal Church in historic Ripon, Wisconsin and our chapel, St. Mary Chapel on beautiful Bugh's Lake in Wautoma, Wisconsin. Our church and chapel are part of the Diocese of Fond du Lac, the Right Reverend Matthew Gunter, Bishop. Our mission is "to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ."

We are seeking a priest on a full-time basis to help with our mission; to empower us, guide us in Bible study, join us in Christian fellowship and lead our Eucharist-centered worship.

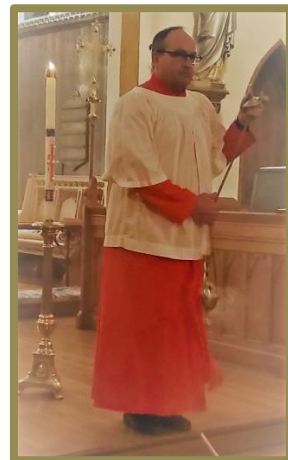
Our mission "to restore all people" is reflected in our congregations with an interesting blend of life-long (cradle) Episcopalians and converts from many other traditions. We enjoy "the unity with God and each other in Christ" as we welcome all baptized Christians at the Lord's Table. We look forward to continuing our mission with the help of the Holy Spirit and the steadfast guidance of a new rector. You might be a candidate. Please read more about our church and chapel and our members in unity with Christ.

ST. PETER and ST. MARY TODAY

St. Peter and St. Mary are a blend of Episcopalians, lifelong to newly converted; drawing from diverse socio-economic, educational and religious backgrounds. We live in various small communities in Ripon, Wautoma and outlying areas, encompassing 9 zip codes.



Worship, Liturgy and Music



The 1979 Book of Common Prayer and the 1982 Hymnal are our primary resources for liturgy. We celebrate the Eucharist Saturday afternoons at St. Mary Chapel, Wautoma and Sunday mornings at St. Peter Church, Ripon. Music is an integral part of the worship at St. Peter's, with organ, piano and occasionally other musical instruments. While our worship style is in the tradition of the Episcopal Church, we are open to other styles, such as a recent baptism by immersion at St. Mary's at Bugh's Lake.

Members participate widely in the Eucharist as greeters/ushers, acolytes, lectors, intercessors, chalice bearers and altar guild members. Order of St. Luke participants offer healing prayers during communion and the lay Eucharistic ministers take communion to shut-ins.



Fellowship



After Sunday worship we gather together for fellowship and coffee hour or a meal. The wonderful cooks among the congregation serve up delicious dishes at our frequent potlucks and coffee hours. Members linger to enjoy the food and socialization. An annual picnic is held during the summer, in either Ripon or Wautoma. On special occasions we have been hosted by the Sisterhood of the Holy Nativity at their Mother House on the south shore of

Green Lake for the Eucharist and refreshments. Since the untimely death of Father Cunningham in 2018, we have had supply priests to celebrate mass weekly at St. Peter and St. Mary.

Service and Community Outreach

St. Peter has hosted Alcoholics Anonymous since the 1960's. Presently there are three groups meeting weekly. The Ripon Food Cooperative has used our facility since mid-1970s. Members of the co-op order food then pick it up here once a month.

The Blessing Box (located in the front yard of the parish hall) was initiated by the Women of St. Peter in 2017 providing food, some clothing, books, coupons and other household necessities free to anyone. Both those giving and receiving are indeed blessed. Also, we have organized a Teachers' Cupboard for the purpose of providing area educators with supplemental classroom supplies at no cost. This year our organist initiated weekly Lenten music meditations open to all.

These 30-minute meditations were well received by several folks from the surrounding area, as well as our church family.

The Ripon Area Clergy Association (RAMA) initiated the Welcome Picnic at Ripon College. St. Peter's parishioners have participated in providing food and serving at the event for over 20 years. The Ripon area Vacation Bible School (VBS), founded in 2012, has had attendees from St. Peter every year. St. Peter also hosts the Drug Free Communities of Fond du Lac County meetings on a periodic basis, with representation from the congregation.



Governance and Support

Led by the Sr. Warden, our vestry consists of the Jr. Warden, who oversees the buildings and grounds, and six other vestry members. All members serve on rotating three-year terms. Currently we are allocated two delegates to attend the Diocesan Convention. Our paid

employees consist of a part-time organist, a part-time office manager, and a part-time sexton.



HOPES & EXPECTATIONS

We are looking for a priest on a full-time basis to serve St. Peter and St. Mary with the benefit of residing in our rectory on the grounds of St. Peter. We want a person who will strengthen and deepen our relationship with Christ, encouraging us to grow spiritually. Our new pastor should be excited about community outreach, developing a relationship with the Ripon College community, and willing to participate in the Ripon Area Ministerial Association. He/she should support congregants in their ministries including the Order of St. Luke, Cursillo, Diocesan Camps, Ripon Area VBS and RAMA programs. We hope this person will assist us in capitalizing on our strengths and making improvements in our areas of weakness. We also are looking for someone who will guide us spiritually in all ways: Bible Study, prayer, meditation, evangelism and in personal spiritual growth.

DIOCESE

The Diocese of Fond du Lac was organized in 1875 and prior to that St. Peter was part of the Diocese of Wisconsin. The diocesan office is located in Appleton while the cathedral is in Fond du Lac. While the diocesan camp has rented space at several sites, presently it is held at a private camp outside of Wautoma. Delegates have attended diocesan convention since 1860 and in the past decade members -both clergy and lay - have been on the Executive Committee, the Standing Committee, Commission on Ministry, Representatives of Province V

Board, and Delegates to General Convention. Participation in the summer camp as campers and staff has occurred for many years. Congregants frequent programs hosted by churches throughout the diocese including Quiet Days, workshops, Cursillo and Order of St. Luke. Most recently St. Peter hosted the Lake Winnebago Deanery meeting.

The Sisters of the Holy Nativity

The Community of the Sisterhood of the Holy Nativity was founded in 1882 by the Right Reverend Charles Chapman Grafton, the second bishop of Fond du Lac. Before becoming a bishop, Bishop Grafton was rector of the Church of the Advent in Boston, Mass.

The Sisters' first Motherhouse was created in Providence, Rhode Island. After becoming bishop, the Sisters were moved to the Diocese of Fond du Lac to the convent on the corner of Amory and Division Streets in Fond du Lac. The Sisters once lived in a summer cottage on Green Lake in the 50's, which precipitated them to attend mass on Sundays at St. Peter. The cottage has been updated to a year-round residence.



To this day, the Sisters have remained very active in the Diocese and at St. Peter. The Sisterhood of the Holy Nativity was founded to win souls to Christ and to teach the Catholic faith. This has been done through retreats, quiet days, church camps, preaching, Sunday School, visitations, and helping those who are less fortunate than others.

OUR HISTORY

St. Peter

In 1860 Fr. Fayette Durlin was sent to Ripon by Bishop Jackson Kemper of the Diocese of Wisconsin to establish an Episcopal church. A group of Episcopalians met briefly in a store until the church could be built. The cornerstone for Grace Church was laid on June 8, 1860. The new church, of Carpenter Gothic Architecture, was completed and consecrated on Jan. 23, 1881 by Bishop Kemper.

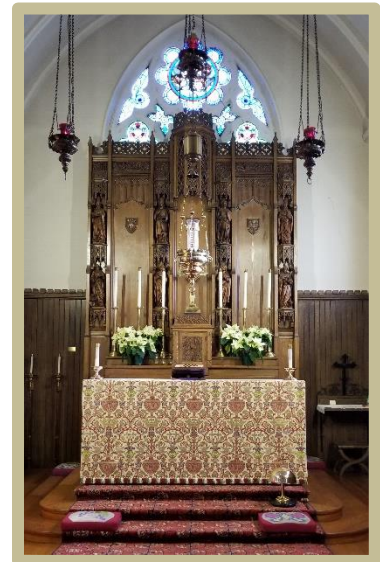
The Parish School was built adjacent in 1864 and operated for approximately 15 years with an enrollment of about 40 students. A matching rectory was erected on the property in 1866. In 1865 the name was changed to St. Peter to correspond to St. Wilfred's dedication of St. Peter Cathedral in Ripon, Yorkshire, England. Fr. Durlin was the first rector serving in 1865. He left for a few years and returned in 1873 to serve until 1883. He was part of the formation of the Diocese of Fond du Lac in 1875. His final wish was granted in September 1901, when he was buried on the grounds between the church and the school. In 1902 the original rectory was replaced with the current solid limestone rectory. In 1926 St. Peter received an altar stone from the crypt of St. Peter Cathedral in Ripon, England.

(photo of original church & school – 1900)



During the 1920's and 1930's seven sanctuary lamps and 14 Stations of the Cross were added. The rood screen was removed about 1932 and the statues were made a part of the reredos and the hanging rood cross added. St. Peter hosted an extremely active VBS through the 1950's. A renovation in 1952 added a rector's office, sacristy and new entrance to the parish hall; with a kitchen and lounge downstairs. Between 1964 and 1978 the stained-glass window project depicting the life of St. Peter was undertaken. Each window was given as a memorial.

The Women of St. Peter began a project in 1974 to provide needlepoint kneelers and cushions. Participation in a trip to Ripon, England in 1972 in celebration of the 130th anniversary of St. Peter and St. Wilfred Cathedral was a high point. The rector, several parishioners and townspeople participated. In 1974 St. Peter was added to the National Register of Historic Places. In 1988 another major project converted a crawl space under the church into an undercroft, recently renamed Brown Hall in memory of the Rev. Canon Robert J.C. Brown, rector from 1965 to 1997.



In the 1980's a Brotherhood of St. Andrew's group was formed and was active for a number of years. They hosted the Shrove Tuesday dinner. For many years, beginning in the 1960's, the Women of St. Peter organized a rummage sale which was affectionately known as "Le Boutique de St. Pere." Several ladies also assisted in constructing and sewing veils for covering the statuary during Lent as well as making altar linens.

In the early 21st century a number of parishioners participated in Ripon's Dicken's of a Christmas celebration by hosting the Night of the Nativities, displaying over 200 crèches. St. Peter has also held Taize services under the direction of two separate rectors with community involvement.



St. Mary

St. Mary Chapel, on Bugh's Lake, Wautoma, was originally gifted to the diocese. Subsequently In the 1950's it was given to St. Peter. This chapel was built by John Barnes, a corporal in the U.S. Army Fifth Wisconsin Infantry in World War I.

Barnes was aboard the USS Tuscania when it was torpedoed and sunk by a German U-boat off the coast of Ireland. While adrift in the North Atlantic, Barnes prayed to have his life spared and, vowed that if he lived, he would build a chapel dedicated to St. Mary. Barnes was rescued and returned to Wautoma. A mason by trade, he built a chapel on his property on Bugh's Lake in 1932. Clergy from St. Peter have celebrated the Eucharist every Saturday year-round. Seating up to 25 people, the chapel is an intimate setting with a choir of birds, frogs and crickets. A small but dedicated group of parishioners and visitors gather weekly for the Eucharist and to hear God's word.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

St. Peter is located on Ripon's Gothic Mill Pond. One of the finest pieces of property in Ripon, it was designated to be the site of St. Peter by Michigan Territorial Governor and Wisconsin Secretary, John Scott Horner. He was an early Anglican settler and instrumental in the founding of the city of Ripon. He named Ripon for his ancestral home in Ripon, Yorkshire, England. He additionally assisted in the establishment of Ripon College.

The Nave seats 200 people with a choir area in the sanctuary. The Nave is enhanced by several life-sized German hand carved wooden statues. Our organ is a Marshall-Lancaster pipe organ built in England and received in 1864. The organ has been extensively rebuilt twice and has been filling the church with glorious sounds since it's installation.

The main office and rector's offices have been extensively remodeled this past year. We have two large meeting areas: the Parish Hall (formerly the parish school) which is located on the main level, and Brown Hall (the remodeled undercroft) which is located on the lower level. Adjacent to Brown Hall is the certified commercial grade kitchen and lounge area. A portion of Brown Hall is our ancillary chapel.

To the north of the parish hall is a two-story limestone rectory built in 1901. The first floor has a spacious foyer, two formal living rooms, formal dining room, modern kitchen and a half bath. The second floor of this lovely home contains four large bedrooms, 3/4 bath, full bath, laundry facility and attic access. The large back porch affords a scenic view of the Gothic Mill Pond with the comforting sounds of the water falling over the dam. On the street side of the rectory is a lovely stone carving of Christ as the Good Shepherd.



(Left, back of St. Peter; right, back of rectory)

Around the entire church property are memorial gardens, including a rose bush that was transported westward in a Conestoga wagon. We are in the process of planning placement of a columbarium on the church property.

St. Mary Chapel in Wautoma is located 38 miles northwest of Ripon on the shoreline of scenic Bugh's Lake. It was extensively renovated in 2006-07 making it more suitable for year-round use. It is a setting which makes the congregation feel connected to their fellow worshipers and the beauty of nature.



(St. Mary Chapel)

FINANCES

The Church of St. Peter, with its Chapel, St. Mary, is dependent upon our pledges and donations for all expenses. Thankfully our pledging members usually give more than pledged and we have some very devout non-pledging members. Our financial standing is improving thanks to some generous Memorial gifts we have received in the last few years. We also have been blessed to have some very gifted members and staff who have donated their time and talents to offset some of our costs. The Vestry has been a good steward of our money. They have repaid loans owed, are making necessary immediate repairs to grounds and buildings of both Ripon and Wautoma, remodeled the Church office, added a toilet facility to Wautoma, and, hopefully, wisely invested remaining balances. They are conscientiously keeping watch on our operating expenses. With the addition of a Grant, from an anonymous source, we will have the necessary financial support to afford a fulltime Rector for the Parish Church of St. Peter/St. Mary.

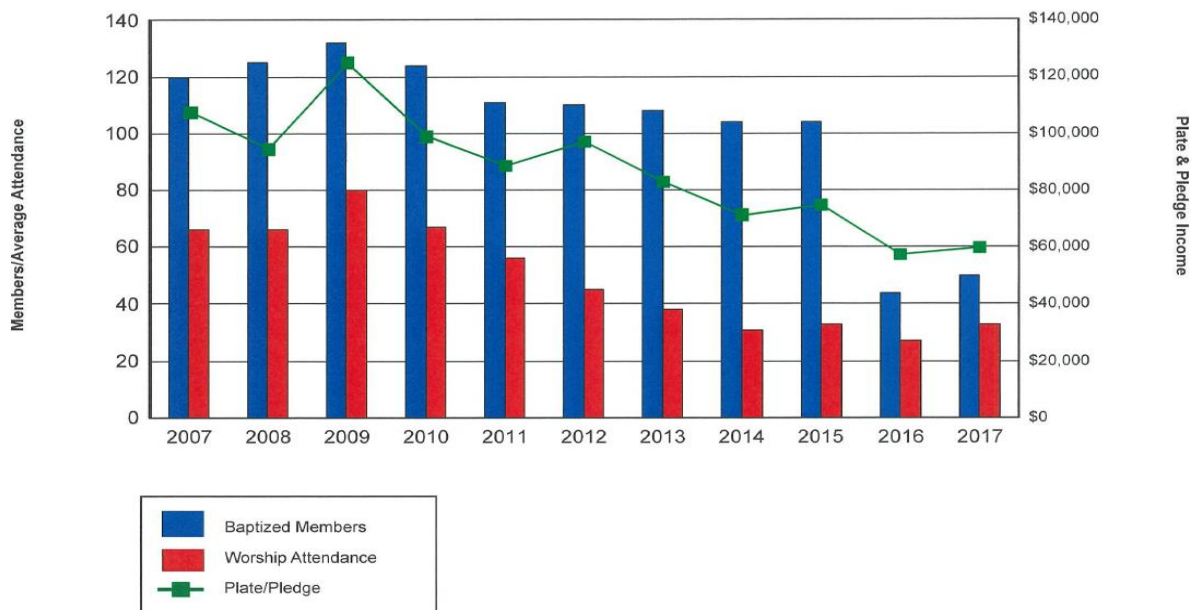
INVESTMENTS	Dec. 31, 2016	Dec. 31, 2017	Dec. 31, 2018	June 10, 2019
Diocesan Investments	\$41,478.78	\$101,743.06	\$106,688.14	\$116,245.15
GWG Investments	N/A	\$135,000.00	\$135,000.00	\$656,520.00
BMO Money Market	N/A	N/A	\$31,423.23 (\$23,338.31 WOSP)	\$33,627.33 (\$23,909.31 WOSP)
TOTAL	\$41,478.78	\$236,743.06	\$273,111.37	\$806,392.48
Checking Account	\$52,267.78	\$131,631.25	\$73,061.61	\$75,283.97
Tithe Account	N/A	\$33,305.28	\$26,815.91	\$28,831.45

Some of the Diocesan Investments are restricted as well as a large portion of the GWG Investments. The interest from these restricted accounts is not restricted, only the principle. Much of the BMO Money Market account is temporary restricted. St. Peter's checking account is basically non-restricted but has some temporary restricted monies. The treasurer and assistant treasurer are working to define the temporary restricted from the non-restricted monies so it will show clearly on our monthly reports. Any non-restricted donations, except plate donations, 10% goes into a *Tithe Account* that is to be used for community outreach and needs of our communities. These monies are located in the checking account and money market account. The Women of St. Peter turned their money over to the General fund. At this point, this money is still earmarked as WOSP and is located in the BMO Money Market account.

INCOME	Dec. 31, 2016	Dec. 31, 2017	Dec. 31, 2018	June 10, 2019
Pledge Received	\$45,542.79	\$53,768.37	\$50,708.00	\$17,355.25
Amount Pledged	\$44,680.00 15 pledgers	\$45,300.00 17 pledgers	\$46,124.00 26 pledgers	\$52,370.00 19 pledgers
Non-pledge & other gifts*	\$13,930.22	\$24,601.23	\$18,625.00	\$13,546.91
Investment Interest**	\$1,652.92	\$4,207.51	\$11,236.12	\$20,660.21
Memorial Monies & Gifts	0	\$334,626.62	\$551,881.10	0

*This includes non-pledge plate donations and miscellaneous donations to our church from memorials, grants, gifts, etc.

St. Peter Participation & Giving Trends



**This is investment income deposited to St Peter's checking account for operation expenses.

EXPENSES	2016	2017	2018	2019
Diocesan Pledge	\$8,805.00	\$ 9,893.04	\$7,073.04	\$ 4,264.38
Utilities	\$8,158.07	\$ 9,247.12	\$9,474.58	\$ 5,786.15
Grounds & Maintenance	\$18,221.27	\$49,024.36	\$34,688.25	\$12,126.90
Administration	\$5,763.31	\$7,401.90	\$8,046.22	\$ 4,589.70
Personnel	\$20,508.98	\$47,844.60	\$58,747.38	\$15,519.61
Programs	\$21,18.45	\$6,528.07	\$13,740.61	\$4,410.83

OUR COMMUNITIES

Ripon and Wautoma

Ripon and Wautoma are located in picturesque east central Wisconsin, about one hour from Wisconsin's biggest population centers – Milwaukee, Madison and Green Bay. The Ripon and Wautoma areas are famous for year-long tourism, ranging from ice fishing in the winter to boating and biking in the summer. Near Ripon is Green Lake, the state's deepest lake, and the Green Lake resort area. Wautoma sits between Big Silver Lake and Little Silver Lake. Annual events include Riponfest, Cookiefest, Septemberfest, and Dickens of a Christmas. Some of Wautoma's events include the Post Office Bar Fisheree in January, the annual Energy Fair in June and Freedom Fest in July. Each city offers unique recreation and leisure activities.



Ripon's Watson Street includes the city's downtown business district to the north and historic Italianate houses to the south. Ripon is part of the state Main Street Program, which hosts the "Ripon Summer Concert Series" Fridays in the summer. The Little White School House – reputed as the birthplace for the Republican Party - is located near downtown. The downtown features many eclectic

boutiques and a variety of eateries. Ripon was recently showcased on John McGivern's PBS program "Around the Corner." Many young entrepreneurs are first-time business owners and are adding a vibrant energy to downtown.

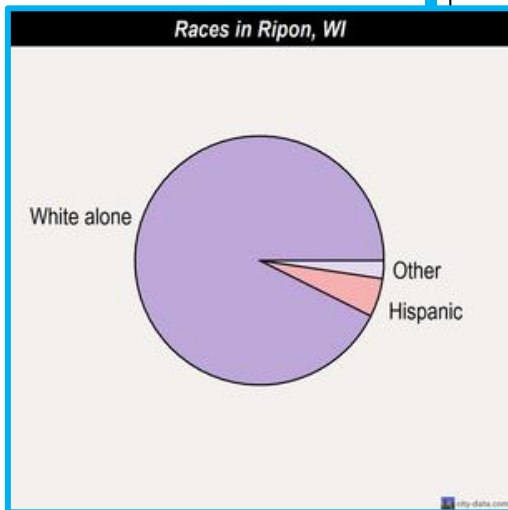
Major employers in Ripon include Alliance Laundry Systems, which manufactures commercial and residential washers and dryers, Smuckers, which makes jams, jellies and other condiments and Ripon Pickle Factory.

There are hospitals located in Ripon, Berlin and Wild Rose, as well as additional health care facilities in those and surrounding communities. Ripon also boasts fitness and wellness centers within the city.

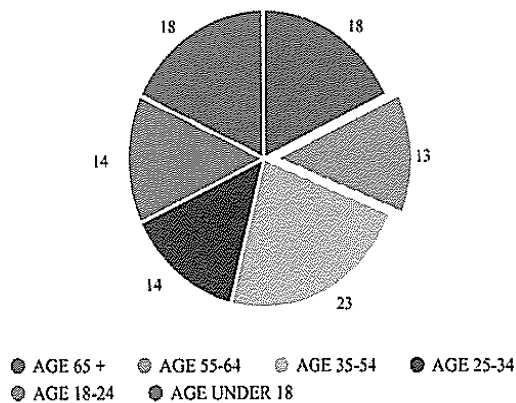
The Ripon Area School District scores in the "Exceeds Expectations" category in the state school report card. All of its schools are less than 20 years old, following the construction of a new 6 – 12 school building. The school district has several charter schools. Ripon has been named one of the "Best Communities for Music Education" for four consecutive years. Ripon's ACT Exam Composite score has been higher than the state average for the past 19 years.

The following data is approximations, coming from varying sources such as city-data.com.

- The population of the greater Ripon area is 9,058.

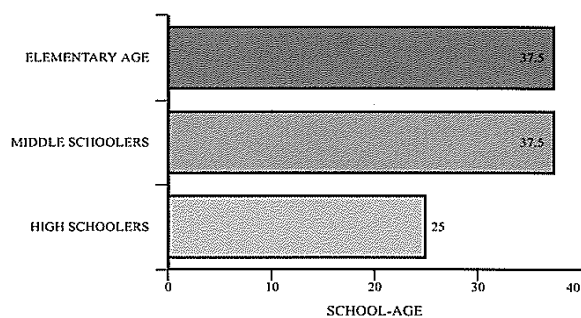


RIPON AREA POPULATION AGE DISTRIBUTION Percentages



- The average age of the population is 40, slightly older than the average age in the State of Wisconsin.
- There are more blue-collar workers and fewer white-collar workers in Ripon.
- About one-third of the population graduated from high school or earned a GED.
- About one-fifth attended some college, about 10% earned an associates' degree, 18% holds a bachelor's degree, and 9% hold a master's degree or doctorate.

RIPON SCHOOL-AGED POPULATION DISTRIBUTION Percentages



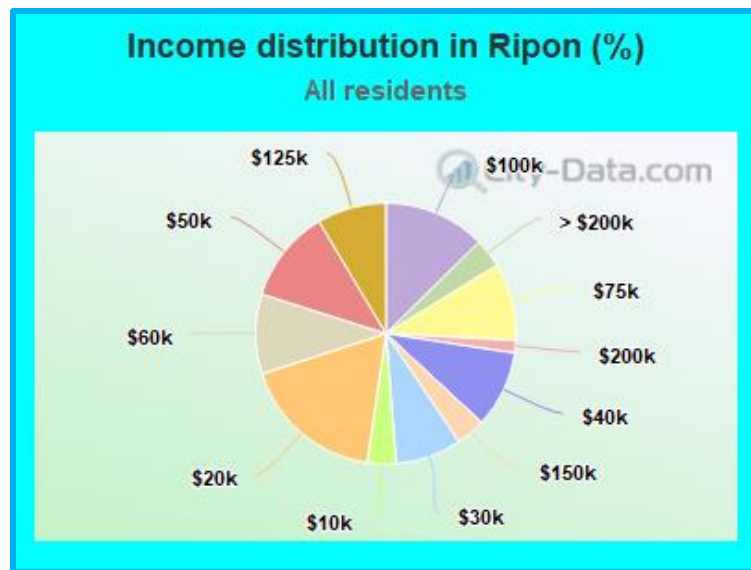
- The number of grade school students is expected to increase by 2021, but the number of middle and high school students is expected to decrease by then.
- Average household income in the area is about \$63,000.

- When it comes to charitable giving for this area, the largest percentage is for public radio - more than the state average. Giving for private foundations, religious, health, social

services/welfare, political organizations, education, environmental and public education is more than the state average.

- **For more information about the City of Ripon, go to**
cityofripon.com

- **For more information about the City of Wautoma, go to**
cityofwautoma.com



RIPON COLLEGE

Ripon College, founded in 1851, is a residential undergraduate liberal arts college that boasts 98% of its graduates move on to their next destination within 6 months of graduating. Around 1000 students pursue a variety of over 80 areas of study from pre-professional to graduate studies. The college hosts well-known speakers, artists and musicians, such as The Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. The art, choral, instrumental, drama and athletic programs also demonstrate the talents of students and community members several times a year through concerts, art showings, plays, and sporting events - all free to the public. Some of the school's interesting graduates include, among others, actors Spencer Tracy, Harrison Ford and singer/musician Al Jarreau.

Ripon is rich in opportunity for self-growth through classes, speaker forums, and organizations at Ripon College and other universities in the area. St. Peter – with

the leadership of its priest – would like to grow in mission with a stronger connection to college students, faculty and staff.

- **For more information about Ripon College, visit**

ripon.edu

VESTRY/SEARCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Rollie Peabody, Sr. Warden	Gail Zahn	Margaret Schmidt
Xavier Mayne, Jr. Warden	Barb Dalton	John Hanson
Kathy VanWie, Treasurer	John Koch	Candy Fitzwater
Barb Stracy, Clerk	Nancy Kuhn	

ST. PETER CHURCH

217 Houston St, Ripon WI 54971
(920) 748-2422 / stpetersripon@gmail.com
Website: stpetersripon.com
Facebook: facebook.com/stpetersripon

ST. MARY CHAPEL

N2616 Bugh's Lake Rd, Wautoma, WI 54982

Bishop Matthew Gunter, Episcopal Diocese of Fond du Lac

(920) 574-0930 / mgunter@diofdl.org
1051 N. Lynndale Dr., Ste 1B
Appleton, Wisconsin 54914-3094
(920) 830-8866 / diofdl.org

The Rev. Meredyth Albright, Transition Ministries Officer

(262) 309-3880 / meredythalbright@gmail.com