



“The Herald” Newsletter

St. Peter’s Evangelical Lutheran Church

Worship. Learn. Gather. Serve.

November 2020



10 Delp Road - Lancaster, PA 17601
(717) 569-9211

*“O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.”*
Psalm 118:1

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Annual Congregational Meeting — November 8 at 9:00 a.m.



This year’s Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 8th, at 9:00 a.m. through the online platform “GoToWebinar”. It is the same digital platform we used to host our October 25th Congregational Meeting on the Mission Campaign approval. So, you will have some familiarity with the process.

Please go to stpeterslutheran.org/annual-meeting and register for the meeting.

When you go to stpeterslutheran.org/annual-meeting and register, you can be part of the meeting and will be allowed to cast votes for voting issues in the meeting. Leadership has been working diligently for weeks to identify this platform that can accommodate the size of our meeting and record votes in a way that meets the legal requirements of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, while also aligning our process with the congregational meeting requirements of our constitution, as required by the Lower Susquehanna Synod.

At this year’s meeting, we will conduct typical business such as approving the 2021 budget and electing congregational officers and council members. We will also hear an update on the Mission Campaign. Please be aware that we will have to delay our ratification of the constitutional changes approved at last year’s annual meeting, because the Lower Susquehanna Synod has only recently sent us their corrections and recommendations to our document. The changes are significant enough that we did not believe that we had the time to assess and update our constitution in accord with the synod’s directives.

PLEASE NOTE – (1) We need a quorum to conduct business; (2) You should know how your congregation is being managed by your staff and fellow members, especially in this unusual time; and (3) It is your responsibility to take ownership for these items which are entrusted into the hands of the congregation gathered at this meeting. Thus, we expect to see you on the 8th. We thank you ahead of time for joining us on the 8th at 9:00 a.m. through your digital devices or phones.

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NOVEMBER 2020 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 1: All Saints' Day

Live Streaming Service of the Word at 10:45 a.m.
Parking Lot Church at 4:00 p.m.
Pastor Craig Preaches

Sunday, November 8: Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Live Streaming Service of the Word at 10:45 a.m.
Parking Lot Church at 4:00 p.m.
Pastor Craig Preaches

Sunday, November 15: Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

In-person worship in sanctuary at 8:00 a.m.
Live Streaming Service of the Word at 10:45 a.m.
Parking Lot Church at 4:00 p.m.
Pastor Sarah preaches

Sunday, November 22: Christ the King Sunday

In-person worship in sanctuary at 8:00 a.m.
Live Streaming Service of the Word at 10:45 a.m.
Parking Lot Church at 4:00 p.m.
Sister Dottie preaches

Sunday, November 29: First Sunday of Advent

In-person worship in sanctuary at 8:00 a.m.
Live Streaming Service of the Word at 10:45 a.m.
Parking Lot Church at 4:00 p.m.
Pr. Sarah preaches



All Saints' Sunday - November 1st



Please join us for worship on Sunday, November 1st as we observe All Saints' Sunday. One of the centerpieces of the service is the litany of those saints who have died since last All Saints' Sunday during the prayers. We will reframe this celebration for our digital world of live-stream worship, as we remember your loved ones who died this past year.

Thanksgiving Break

The Church Office will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 26th & 27th in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. The Office will reopen on Monday, November 30th at 9:00 a.m.

Weekly Updates

Please watch the church website <https://www.stpeterslutheran.org> every Wednesday afternoon at approximately 4:00 p.m. for a short article updating news around the church for the week. It is our attempt to keep you connected to "all things St. Peter's" and the continual unfolding of congregational life in a digital world. You'll find updates on worship life, new Zoom groups that are beginning, news from the broader church and how it affects our lives together, and service opportunities that may present themselves within our church and out in our community.

In-Person, Indoor Worship Service

Beginning November 15th, St. Peter's will hold weekly 30-40 minute-long services of communion with a start time of 8:00 a.m. These traditional services of Word and Sacrament will be conducted using a modified format with the following changes to maximize everyone's safety:

- Attendance is limited to 110 (20 percent of the rated seating capacity of the Sanctuary)
- All attendees will be encouraged to call the church office in advance to receive an assigned seat, enabling households to sit together while maintaining proper distancing, and for purposes of contact tracing
- All attendees are expected to self-monitor for any COVID-19 symptoms and not attend if they are symptomatic or have a positive test
- As a contactless service, handouts and individual communion servings will be available for worshipers to pick up and offerings will be deposited at the entrance rather than collected in passed plates
- Everyone, **including those at the altar**, must wear a mask for the entire time they are inside the church building
- There will be NO SINGING, but instrumental music will enhance worship.

In addition to determining safety protocol, the combined New Day and Worship Committee as well as the Risk Management Committee have recommended guidelines for when we would shut down the indoor worship service. Any of the following situations would be criteria for suspending in-person services:

- If Manheim Township/Warwick school systems suspend in-person classes due to an outbreak in the school or community – OR –
- If an attendee or worship staff member at St. Peter's tests positive for the virus soon after their attendance (contact tracing and deep cleaning of the church would be required) – OR –
- If the state or county reimposes a limit of 25 people or fewer at indoor gatherings.



Watch www.stpeterslutheran.org/worship as well as your weekly email updates for continued updates about this service. We're looking forward to resuming some in-person, indoor services and it is our intent to organize our actions in a way that demonstrates love for our neighbor. We will continue to offer live-streamed worship services, and drive-in services will continue until the weather dictates otherwise.

Peace, *Adam Lefever Hughes*

Live Streaming Continues



Join us for worship each Sunday at 10:45 a.m. for Church @ Home. Worship features our Lutheran liturgy, prayers for the community, a sermon from one of the rostered leaders, a children's sermon, music from our staff musicians, Adam Lefever Hughes and Erik Teichmann, as well as special music from members of our congregation. Be church together on Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

<https://www.stpeterslutheran.org/live/>

Drive In Worship, Sundays 4:00 p.m.



Sing, commune and worship with your church family on Sundays at 4:00 p.m. in our church parking lot. Worship will take place in the church parking lot with the service transmitted over an FM Transmitter for you to enjoy with your car radio. When you arrive at church, ushers will help you to a designated parking spot. If you desire to sit outside of your car during the service, please bring a mask and adhere to social distancing. Call the church 717-569-9211, to help us get an idea of how many to expect, so we have enough bulletins and Fellowship Communion cups.

Pre-Election Night Prayer Service

Join Sister Dottie for an on-line prayer service on Monday, November 2nd at 6:30 p.m. This short service will focus on scripture and prayer for unity, peace and justice. Erik Teichmann will provide the music. Here is the link: <https://www.stpeterslutheran.org/live/>

Giving Thanks for The Ways You Give

Thank you for being faithful stewards of God's good gifts. We give thanks for the many ways that you have enabled the continuation of St. Peter's mission in the midst of very trying times. Thank you for mailing in your contributions and for using Tithe.ly or Simply Giving for your contributions.

For more information about digital giving visit <https://www.stpeterslutheran.org/give/>



Fall Pledge Drive Reminder



In the month of November, we will observe our Fall Stewardship Emphasis, in which you are both invited and challenged to consider your support of God's mission in the world along with your support of St. Peter's ministries which work to extend and enhance that mission in the world. Watch for your fall stewardship packets to arrive at your homes ... enjoy the digital Temple Talks prepared by the Stewardship Team ... pray over and reflect upon your calling as one of God's stewards in the world ... be part of our Commitment Sunday on November 22nd ... and respond with gratitude and an abundant spirit to the call to be one of God's stewards in the world.

Financial commitment cards and Time and Talent forms should be mailed to the Church Office. Or you can stop by the church and drop it off in person. We count on your pledges of time, talent and treasure through these forms, to anticipate our ability to fully support our mission plans for the year. If you cannot locate your packet, please call the Church Office and we will mail another one to you.

PLEASE NOTE: Annual contribution and pledging information is only seen by our church Financial Secretaries. When we receive your Pledge Form it goes directly to the Financial Secretaries, while your Time & Talent Form goes to our Membership Committee workers.

St. Peter's Archives

\$500 Gift Sent to St. Peter's Neffsville on Anniversary

Lancaster Intelligencer Journal – October 23, 1950

A gift of \$500 to St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Neffsville, from Elmer H. Bobst of Montclair, New Jersey, whose father, the Rev. I. Walton Bobst was pastor of the church from 1890 to 1903, was presented Sunday morning at the **70th anniversary service** by Dr. C. Howard Witmer. Mr. Bobst, who continues acquaintances with several of his boyhood friends in Neffsville, is president of the William Warner Drug Co., New York City. (Later known as Warner-Lambert, and now Pfizer, Inc.). He is also the 1950 president of the American Cancer Society. Sunday afternoon approximately 250 people attended the service. Dr. Witmer read a number of letters from former members who could not be present. Two persons present on Sunday were also present at the cornerstone laying in 1880 at the first church. They were Miss Ada G. Wechter, former organist, and Adam Vogel. All those who had at some time sung in the church choir but were not now members, were asked to join the choir in the loft and join in singing "*Onward, Christian Soldiers,*" and twenty-three responded.

Communication: The Website Is Your Friend!

Please go to our website www.stpeterslutheran.org to find out the latest schedules and calendar events. Check out blog posts to help you plan or to engage your faithful preparations this season. Be sure to check out our Facebook page as well (<https://www.facebook.com/stpeterslancaster>) for posts about upcoming events or to catch the beauty and joy of a past event. If you have questions about events and schedules that you can't find on the website, don't hesitate to contact a staff member. We would love to hear from you.

Adult Christian Education

November 2020 Adult Education Class Schedule

Sunday, November 1 – “Who are the saints, Past & Present”, led by Pastor Sarah

Sunday, November 8 – NO CLASS – Annual Meeting Sunday

Sunday, November 15 – “The Reason for God” – Session 4 -- Why Does God Allow Suffering & Why is there so Much Evil?, led by Sister Dottie

Sunday, November 22 – “Daily Discipleship” -- The Challenge of Discipleship: Compassion - Matthew 25:31-46” led by Adam Lefever Hughes

Sunday, November 29 – “The Reason for God” – Session 5 -- Church and Injustice & Why Are Christians Hypocrites?” led by Pastor Craig



Adult Weekly Faith Formation Classes (Through Zoom)



Looking to Sunday Bible Study – This Fall join Pastor Sarah on Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. for a relaxed 30-40 minute Bible Study where we look to the scripture connected to the upcoming Sunday.

Please contact Pastor Sarah at sarah.teichmann@stpeterslutheran.org for more information.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study



We continue to work through the Book of Exodus in our weekly Bible Study. This second book of the Hebrew Torah, is where we hear some of God’s first and most powerful promises to his people. The class schedule for the month of October is as follows, as we journey with the Israelites out of Egypt on the night of Passover, and into the wilderness where the Law will be gifted to God’s people on Mt. Sinai.

November 4 – Chapters 12 & 13

November 18 – Chapters 16 & 17

November 11 – Chapters 14 & 15

November 25 – No Class -- Thanksgiving Eve

We meet on Wednesdays from 9:30-11:00 a.m. At the moment we are still meeting through the Zoom digital platform. It is never too late to join in the fun. Join us to brush up on your Bible, and enjoy some faith conversation about God, scripture and the world in which we live. Contact Pastor Craig at craig.ross@stpeterslutheran.org



Moral Monday Book Study - Monday, November 16th at 7:00 p.m. We will finish up discussing the book, “Dear Church” by Lenny Duncan. Contact Sister Dottie for more details... dottie.almoney@stpeterslutheran.org

Moms of Young Children Bible Study - Are you a mom with young kids? Do you need some time to chat with fellow moms? How about a place to dive into God’s Word and find wisdom about life, faith, and the crazy journey of being a mom? We have the place for you! Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm , moms just like you are gathering together in the narthex (lobby) of the church for a Bible study. We mask and social distance. To find out more, feel free to reach out to Lauren Jones lpfeif@gmail.com or Pastor Sarah. sarah.teichmann@stpeterslutheran.org

Prayer Chain Ministry

During this season of thankfulness, the Prayer Chain would like to thank the members of the Congregation for the trust and confidence they place in the Prayer Chain, when they submit a request. We know most of these requests come during a time of stress. Angela & Ginny also wish to thank Pastor Ross for his leadership of the committee. Most importantly, we'd like to thank the members of the Chain. Without their faithfulness and prayer, we wouldn't have a chain. What an AMAZING group of members we are honored to lead. If you would like to join the Chain, please contact either Angela Moshos (717) 392-6201 or Ginny Gerhart (717) 626-7406 for more information or to sign up!



“Be still and know that I am God” Psalm 46:10

Health and Wellness Committee

NOVEMBER: National Family Care Givers Month



November is the month where we take time to recognize, give praise, and support the 78 million people who dedicate their time, often unpaid, caring for a family member in need.

Particularly, as we manage through this pandemic and approach the festive season, when focus is placed on family and quality time, it is important that we show our appreciation for those who work tirelessly to provide care; whether it be financial, medical, domestic or emotional support. We must never underestimate the strength that caregivers have for providing this support to those people who need it the most, nor the toll that it can take both emotionally and physically upon them.

The devotion and love that these people show to their loved ones deserves a celebration. A Presidential Proclamation declaring November as National Caregivers Month provides much recognition for these devoted family members and acts as a backdrop for many national and local organizations to structure events, raise funds, provide support networks and most of all celebrate these wonderful people.

Perhaps you know someone who is a care giver (or are yourself) . Reach out and thank them for their unwavering love, and offer them time away (or ask for help, so you can take time for yourself). Thanks to all of you; we couldn't survive without you.

Social Ministry

Our Monthly Community Meal - November 4th



The November Community Meal will be on Wednesday, November 4th at Grace Lutheran Church. For more information, please contact Jan Gigl at ronjangigl@comcast.net

Lydia's Closet



Lydia's Closet is OPEN the first Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. We will also be filling orders through a form that can be obtained through the church office or go to <https://www.stpeterslutheran.org/serve/local/lydias-closet/>

. Please pass the information along to any of your friends and neighbors that may be in need of some extra help. Please contact Molly Olmsted at astaloo@comcast.com with any questions or if you would like to volunteer.

Global Social Ministry

From the Tanzania Mission Committee

Don't despair!! The Tanzania Mission Committee has planned a Covid-19 version of our annual Cookie Walk! We are inviting our church members, friends, and community to a **Cookie Drive Thru** on Saturday, December 12, from 9AM to noon. We are offering only the \$15 dollar box of cookies this year. Instead of coming into the narthex, cookie buyers will drive thru the portico, pay for cookies, and committee members will hand your cookies to you in your car. Please wear your mask as we come to your car. The TMC members will have boxed up all the homemade Christmas cookies on Friday, and we pledge to pack the boxes with a great assortment of your wonderful cookies as if we are packing them for ourselves!

And now for St. Peter's famous cookie bakers: We still need you to sign up to bake a double batch of your best Christmas cookies! The committee will provide the SignUp Genius link in an email blast in mid November. (We still request no bar cookies.) You may bring your cookies to church on Friday December 11 between noon and 7PM, by driving thru the portico where we will meet you to receive them-no need to get out of your car. Please bring them in containers that you do not want back as we cannot pile them on tables as usual for you to retrieve them later. Please wear your mask when we come to your car.

This will be our 14th Cookie Event. As always, all proceeds go to help educate and support the orphans in the Busoka Lutheran Church parish in Tanzania.

The Tanzania Mission Committee knows we can all make this work!! It will be different, but what isn't these days? Actually, what is not different is our need to continue to support our Companions in Christ at Busoka Lutheran Church and their support of the orphans in their parish.

More info will be coming in the next few weeks. It will be here before we know it! We know you will give it your best, as always. Thank you from TMC.



Membership

New Members

We give thanks for the new members who have joined the St. Peter's family this fall. In the midst of some of the challenges of being community in the time of covid-19, we give thanks for being able to welcome new members. During this Fall we invited our Spring 2020 new member class to have an in-person outdoor reunion, and it was good to see several faces. During the spring we welcomed 11 households, but just recently blessed them during a church service. This October we hosted virtual and in person Fall new member classes and welcomed 5 households to the family of faith. We recently blessed both the spring and fall new members. They received double the blessing! One blessing was in person and one blessing was offered during our livestream service. If you want to consider being a sponsor—someone who can help some of these new members feel at home in our community — please let our Evangelism chair, Judy Logan judy.logan50@gmail.com know that you are interested.

Michael & Deborah Leisure

Mike and Debbie are previous members of St. Peter's and are transferring their membership from American Lutheran Church of Sun City, Sun City, AZ. They feel St. Peter's meets their spiritual needs and is a part of their lives. Mike and Debbie appreciate the staff and their leadership to fulfill their Christian beliefs. They believe in God and being able to praise and receive guidance with others in a church setting. Mike and Debbie are both retired.

(continued on next page)

New Members

(continued)

Neil and Alicia Obetz

Neil and Alicia are transferring their membership from Ascension Lutheran Church, Willow Street, PA. They were attracted to St. Peter's for the contemporary and traditional worship services available at the same church. They like having a place not only to worship, but to develop friendships through group activities and giving back to the community. Neil is a software developer with Nielsen Consumer and Alicia is a licensed practical nurse with Wellspan.

Sue Schneider

Sue is transferring from Temple Lutheran Church, Havertown, PA. She found St. Peter's to be very welcoming and has a continued sense that she is not only welcomed, but accepted. Everyone reminds her of the church she grew up in. Sue enjoys hearing all three preaching and feels the love of God when she hears all of them. That is important to her, as well as the sense of humor and the ability to acknowledge that we are not perfect but loved anyway. Sue works as a wine buyer for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Billy and Jill Seitz (Noel & Gabe)

Billy and Jill are transferring their membership from Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church, Omaha, NE. They have two children Noel (11th Grade) and Gabe (7th Grade). Billy and Jill were attracted to the values and message that is delivered each week and the traditional service. The support and being welcomed by others in the church are important to them about their faith community. Billy is a director of consumer compliance at Customers Bank and Jill is a business owner of "Miss Jilly's".

Teresa Williams

Terri comes from a Lutheran background and found a home, joy and grace here at St. Peter's. She is retired from Lancaster-Lebanon IU13 as a teacher/administrator.



Updates to the Church Directory



You should have received a call from either a staff member or a volunteer asking to update your family's information. If you have not responded, please call or email the office with your correct address, phone numbers, and email addresses. Much of our data is outdated. We are also trying to categorize our adult children as to whether they are attending or have moved on to another worship experience. The goal is to establish accurate membership. It is part of the important strategic plan that is being developed. Please respond, it is important to our future! Please feel free to contact Betsy Linn at betsy.linn@stpeterslutheran.org with any questions.

Security and Mail

In light of concerns regarding the security of mailed offerings and gifts, the church has opened a post office box. The addition of a post office box doesn't change the way you send your mail to the church -- please continue to address your mail to St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 10 Delp Road, Lancaster, PA 17601.

Groups and Events

Widows Group

The Widows Group meetings are continuing at St. Peter's outside (or in the Narthex during cold weather) and are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. and usually last about one hour. Our next meeting will be on November 24th. If you would be interested in joining, please call or email me for the details. We discuss what is going on in our lives and some fun things as well. I look forward to hearing from you!

Betsy Linn betsy.linn@stpeterslutheran.org

Quilters Group

The Quilters are in need of donations of material. You may drop off material at the church Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Thank you.



Camp Corner

Our church is blessed to have three Lutheran camp organizations within 90 minutes of St. Peter's! Camp Nawakwa is located in Biglerville near Gettysburg. Camp Kirchenwald is near Mount Gretna. And the Wittel Farm, a working farm to feed those in need, is just outside Elizabethtown. These sites are busy places throughout the year—sharing the beauty and bounty of God's creation. Check out special events happening this season. Contact Joy and Lyle Hosler for more information or check out <https://www.lutherancamping.org/>.



November 1-8: Annual Quilt Auction (online)

November 8: Dinner Church and Campfire Worship (Wittel Farm)

December 5: Advent Day Apart (Wittel Farm)

WELCA Update

Many thanks to all of the WELCA membership as well as those members of the congregation who contributed over the past year to our Lutheran World Relief project of assembling Personal Care Kits. We again were able to donate 90 kits which we delivered on Saturday, October 10th to the Bergstrasse Lutheran Church in Ephrata. From there they were transported to the New Windsor, MD Warehouse and will eventually be sent to disaster areas. Our contribution was much appreciated as the warehouse had no more Personal Care Kits to distribute.

We have no news on resuming our WELCA meetings. It is not likely we will meet any time soon,

Blessings and many thanks to all of you!

Sally Rager and Kathy Caldwell

Volleyball Success!

Thank you to all who met up at the Hoslers' backyard volleyball court for fun and competitive games of volleyball this fall. Games were played six Saturday evenings in September and October, connecting church members from ages 21-50+! What a great way to have fun and fellowship while getting some exercise. A special thank you to Pastor Sarah who started each evening with a brief devotion. The Hoslers hope to see you all again soon!

St. Peter's Book Club



St. Peter's Book Club is continuing through the pandemic, meeting on Zoom. We will meet on Zoom on Tuesday, November 17, at 1:30 p.m. to discuss The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett. If you would like to be included and are not on the book club mailing list, please let me know. We would love to have you!

Here is the list of books we will be reading through November, 2021.

Happy Reading, *Mary Ann Frontz*

NOVEMBER 2020: THE VANISHING HALF by Brit Bennett

The Vignes twin sisters will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small, southern black community and running away at age sixteen, it's not just the shape of their daily lives that is different as adults, it's everything: their families, their communities, their racial identities. Ten years later, one sister lives with her black daughter in the same southern town she once tried to escape. separated by so many miles and just as many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined. What will happen to the next generation, when their own daughters' storylines intersect?

JANUARY 2021: LIGHT ON SNOW by Anita Shreve

Written from the point of view of 30-year-old Nicky as she recalls the vivid December day 19 years ago when she and her father found an abandoned infant in the snow, this beautiful contemporary bestseller about love and memory from the author of the bestselling *All He Ever Wanted*.

MARCH 2021: THE LIONS OF FIFTH AVENUE by Fiona Davis

In nationally bestselling author Fiona Davis's latest historical novel, a series of book thefts roils the iconic New York Public Library, leaving two generations of strong-willed women to pick up the pieces.

MAY 2021: OIL & MARBLE by Stephanie Storey

From 1501—1505, Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo Buonarroti both lived and worked in Florence. Leonardo was a charming, handsome fifty year-old at the peak of his career. Michelangelo was a temperamental sculptor in his mid-twenties, desperate to make a name for himself. *Oil and Marble* is the story of their nearly forgotten rivalry. Storey brings early 16th-century Florence alive, and has entered with extraordinary empathy into the minds and souls of two Renaissance masters. The book is an art history thriller.

JULY 2021: BOOK WOMAN OF TROUBLESOME CREEK by Kim Michele Richardson

In 1936, tucked deep into the woods of Troublesome Creek, KY, lives blue-skinned 19-year-old Cussy Carter, the last living female of the rare Blue People ancestry. Inspired by the true and historical blue-skinned people of Kentucky and the brave and dedicated Kentucky Pack Horse library service, *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* showcases a bold and unique tale of the Packhorse Librarians in literary novels—a story of fierce strength and one woman's belief that books can carry us anywhere—even back home.

SEPTEMBER 2021: PRIDE & PREJUDICE by Jane Austen

Since its immediate success in 1813, *Pride and Prejudice* has remained one of the most popular novels in the English language. Jane Austen called this brilliant work "her own darling child" and its vivacious heroine, Elizabeth Bennet, "as delightful a creature as ever appeared in print." The romantic clash between the opinionated Elizabeth and her proud beau, Mr. Darcy, is a splendid performance of civilized sparring. And Jane Austen's radiant wit sparkles as her characters dance a delicate quadrille of flirtation and intrigue, making this book the most superb comedy of manners of Regency England.

NOVEMBER 2021: THE AVIATOR'S WIFE by Melanie Benjamin

In the spirit of *Loving Frank* and *The Paris Wife*, acclaimed novelist Melanie Benjamin pulls back the curtain on the marriage of one of America's most extraordinary couples: Charles Lindbergh and Anne Morrow Lindbergh. When Anne Morrow, a shy college senior with hidden literary aspirations, travels to Mexico City to spend Christmas with her family, she meets Colonel Charles Lindbergh, fresh off his celebrated 1927 solo flight across the Atlantic. Enthralled by Charles's assurance and fame, Anne is certain the aviator has scarcely noticed her. But she is wrong. Charles sees in Anne a kindred spirit, a fellow adventurer, and her world will be changed forever. The two marry in a headline-making wedding. In the years that follow, Anne becomes the first licensed female glider pilot in the United States. But despite this and other major achievements, she is viewed merely as the aviator's wife. The fairy-tale life she once longed for will bring heartbreak and hardships, ultimately pushing her to reconcile her need for love and her desire for independence, and to embrace, at last, life's infinite possibilities for change and happiness.



Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends:

As I write, I find myself thinking about November 1st, which is roughly about the time you will be reading this letter. November 1st is All Saints' **Day** ... and this year is also All Saints' **Sunday**, since the first Sunday of November actually falls on Nov. 1st. It is the day, of course, on which we give dedicated thought and reflection to the lives of those human saints who are now part of the Church Triumphant. Although it is a somber celebration, it is one of my favorite Sundays of the year, as it gives me permission to day dream a bit about all those saints I have seen leave our St. Peter's community and join the growing heavenly throng of St. Peter's members (not that God cares what church we attended, when we

get to heaven).

November 1st is also the day that will mark the exact mid-way point between two of the most unusual experiences I have had (and will have) in recent memory at St. Peter's – two completely digital congregational meetings. Our first one will be concluded by the time you read this letter. My expectation is that we will pass the October 25th recommendation to begin our Mission Campaign under the leadership of our Mission Campaign team and our Congregation Council, along with the guiding facilitation of the Mussers and Kirby Smith Associates. We are ready for this financially ... and we are anxious to do some work inside our walls and outside our walls, as a way of strengthening and extending our mission. The second unusual experience is our first (and hopefully last) digital Congregational Meeting. I do not anticipate any major issues at the Annual meeting, but the digital venue will offer challenges in simply conducting the varieties of report and business items that are always part of these meetings.

As I think about these two meetings, I find myself mourning. Mourning the loss of what I love about congregational meetings ... the energy of having a large number of our members in the same room, for discussion, deliberation and celebration ... and the spirit of comradery that exists as we plow through a variety of different issues and decisions and actions. Covid-19 has taken these things from us. And I resent that.

But then, I started thinking about this powerful festival that has landed right in the middle of these two digital meetings. All Saints' Day is a day that we celebrate God's ability to preserve life and create community, even in the face of death and loss. God reminds us that in spite of being separated from those we love, the bond that exists between the saints of God, living or dead, can never be broken. Because God's own Spirit connects us in spite of being separated, and assures us that we are still bound to our loved ones through the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

Now I recognize that I have a penchant for the melodramatic when I write. But I am sure that you, too, can anticipate what I am about to say, which means that you are thinking it, too. Namely ... that if God can connect us to saints from whom we have been separated ultimately, through death ... then God can easily connect us penultimately to saints for whom our separation is merely one of physical distance here on earth. So, although we will be physically separated for each of these congregational meetings, we will still be "in the Spirit" together.

I rejoice at that ... I look forward to that spiritual truth upholding me in the coming weeks as both meetings approach ... and I am grateful that we are people who are in fact bound to each other by more than flesh and blood connections. We are people bound in the Spirit ... bound to God ... and bound to each other.

"See you" in virtual church and in our virtual meetings,

Pastor Craig

craig.ross@stpeterslutheran.org

PREVIOUS WORSHIP SERVICES

Previous services can be accessed under the videos section of our Facebook page, or by visiting our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/c/StPetersLutheranLancaster>

A link to the "Live" page is on our website under the stream that links to recent service videos on YouTube.



Pastor Sarah's Message

Dear friends in Christ,

“Giving thanks when you kind of want to give up.”

This phrase has been on my mind. We are entering into some emotional rough road as we get closer to holidays like Thanksgiving. Whatever stage of life you're in, this time of year is definitely not what it was like last year. I know my own household has had to have some hard conversations about what this month—and particularly Thanksgiving—will look like. And it doesn't look like last year.

We hope whatever activities, traditions, and rituals you engage in this year, that you may do so safely. I deeply care about you, and pray that you may keep on being healthy—in body, in mind, and in spirit.

I'm reminded of a time when I was 5 years old and my dad had to go into the hospital for several weeks. The hospital was a state away. We couldn't see him or visit as we longed. And his stay occurred during the month of November. Perhaps it was only a few weeks, but in my 5 year old memory it felt like a year.

It was a very memorable Thanksgiving. Nothing felt right. Because all we wanted was to have my dad home, healthy, having all the Thanksgiving traditions, and to be able to climb up into his arms and get a big “daddy hug.” And for that year, it just wasn't possible. And I recall the way my family and I struggled through that time. And it was a struggle!

We may have wondered if we should just skip Thanksgiving. We were able to have Thanksgiving, but it looked and felt very different. And yet, somehow we were able to voice the things we could give thanks for...even if it meant saying the words through longing tears.

I think back to those days. Perhaps it was voicing our gratitude in the midst of grief and grievance that helped my family get through that time. The apostle Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica,

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” - 1 Thessalonians 5:18

I used to read this passage as give thanks no matter what, because it's what God wants... but have come to understand this passage as ***giving thanks...even when I kind of want to give up... because it's what God knows I need.***

Giving thanks is good for the soul, and the body, and the mind, so let me give thanks for a few things and maybe you can do the same.

I'm thankful for my family—both near and far. For the prayers and love that flows so strongly.

I'm thankful for the surprising moments that God grabs my attention and invites me into joy and grace.

I'm thankful for teachers, medical professionals, civil servants, farmers. For God is working in you!

I'm thankful for you—this community who continues to care for each other, worship the Lord together, and see Christ in each other.

And one more thing. This is a tough time of year for many of us. Please know that you are not alone. Please know that you have someone to talk to, and that your church family is here. Always.

Peace,

Pastor Sarah

sarah.teichmann@stpeterslutheran.org



**CHECK OUT ST. PETER'S
FACEBOOK PAGE!
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**



From the Director of Music

Singing in Church

You may have seen by now that the staff is working diligently toward holding in-person worship indoors starting November 15th. In the announcement you would have seen that this service is being offered without sung music. In this article, I attempt to explain how we arrived at that decision and talk about what it might mean to us.

As of this writing, the available information points us to the reality that singing together in an enclosed space for an extended period of time is not safe at this time. Now, I will be the first, and perhaps the loudest, to express my deep sadness about not making music together as a church. I feel it deep in my bones that when we sing together we become the body of Christ and having that important act torn from our gatherings causes me great grief.

While I'm sure you have heard in the news about a recent so-called "super-spreader" events where particular circumstances have allowed for the COVID-19 virus to spread to a large number of people, you may not have realized that these "super-spreader" events have also been linked to singing. In March, a choir in Washington state met for rehearsal, followed good safety protocol and about half of the 60 choir members were infected. This is not an isolated case. As recently as September a choir in Madrid met to rehearse and 3/4 of the choir members were infected. Especially of note in this second instance is that proper safety protocols were followed with the single exception of closing windows to combat mosquitos and moths. Air was running, temperatures were taken, social distancing was maintained, and masks worn.

Why is this the case? Well, when we sing we are forcing air up through our respiratory tract in a more forceful way. On its way out, the air takes any dislodged particles along with it. These particles are aerosolized and these aerosolized particles carry the virus which we can then breathe in. In an enclosed space, without ventilation, these particles can build up to levels which can cause infection. If you are interested in reading more or learning more about this, please feel free to contact me at adam.hughes@stpeterslutheran.org . I have encountered a number of articles and videos that go into more depth on this issue.

The worship committee, worship staff, and pastors have had numerous lengthy conversations surrounding worship, how we will gather, and what our gatherings will look like. Throughout these conversations, one thing has been at the forefront of our decision-making, namely that we make every effort to protect and serve the most vulnerable among us while retaining our sense of community.

So, in the grand tradition of Lutheranism, what does this mean? For now, it means that when we gather together indoors, we will show our love for our neighbor by refraining from singing together. Music during worship will be instrumental in nature, but to every extent that is possible, will still relate to the Gospel message for the day.

We also intend to continue to offer music ministry in various forms: live-streamed worship will continue to include singing. There are monthly zoom meetings of beverages and hymns. I will also be considering the next several months of holidays, their connections to music, and hopefully be determining ways we can engage with the hymns and songs we love to sing, but in safe ways.

While music in the church may look a little different for a while, the God of the covenant, the God of our salvation, remains the same steadfast God who chose us in our baptisms. Peace and blessings to all of you and stay well!



Worship and Music at St. Peter's

Beverages and Hymns

Join with Adam on the first Wednesday of the month for a Beverages and Hymns Zoom at 8:00pm. Settle in with your favorite beverage, a hymnal, and your singing voice for some music and fellowship. Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 4th at 8:00pm. Contact Adam at adam.hughes@stpeterslutheran.org for more info.

Youth & Family Ministry News...



November Youth Event:

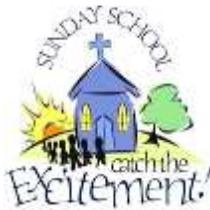
Saturday November 14th - Volleyball at the Hosler Family. 6:00 - 8:00 pm - we will be outside...there will be volleyball and a fire pit. Masks are required. RSVP to Sister Dottie if you can attend.

Contact Sister Dottie Almoney for more info on our youth classes at dottie.almoney@stpeterslutheran.org

RIGHT OF REFUSAL WAIVER FOR PHOTOS — To insure the safety of our parishioners, St. Peter's has adopted a policy for the use of photos from various services, events and educational programs here at church. If you wish that your image or the image of your child(ren) NOT BE USED in any media that St. Peter's publishes, please pick up a "Right of Refusal Waiver" (a bright green form) from the literature racks in the narthex or at the Welcome Desk. For the form to be valid, a photo must be included with the form. Forms will be valid for the calendar year (until December 31). Each year a new form and updated photo will need to be filled. Please hand in the completed form with picture to the church office. Please contact Sister Dottie Almoney or Cindy Geesey if you have any questions.

ST. PETER'S KIDS

We are so excited to offer virtual Sunday School lessons that began Sunday, September 20th for you and your children from preschool to grade 4!



Each Sunday a new Sunday School lesson will be premiered on our YouTube channel at 10:15 a.m. lasting about 10 minutes and including songs for children to sing! Families simply need to visit <https://www.youtube.com/c/stpeterslutheranlancaster> to find the latest Sunday School lesson and all other St. Peter's videos that have been uploaded to our You Tube channel. In addition, we will have craft items corresponding to the weekly lessons for you to use at home with your children. They can be picked up at church during the week. Just reach out to me at cindy.geesey@stpeterslutheran.org so I can prepare your travel bag ahead of time, and then call the church office to schedule a pick up time.

We are also seeking volunteers to assist with our Sunday School lessons. Many of you have volunteered to do children's sermons which have been amazing, and we are so grateful for your willingness to serve! Our Sunday School lessons are equally easy to do and can be video taped ahead of time. We are following the sequential stories from the Spark Story Bible. Please consider this opportunity. You can email me with your interest. cindy.geesey@stpeterslutheran.org Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.



Bibles for our 3 year old children, second graders and fifth graders were blessed during our October 25th virtual church service and made available for pick up. May God's life-giving word teach and inspire your children as they travel on their faith journeys!

We look forward to seeing you virtually each Sunday morning so that we can continue Christian education in yet another unique way!

If you have any questions about Children's Ministries, you may email Cindy at cindy.geesey@stpeterslutheran.org

Blessings,
Cindy



St. Peter's Preschool

The *Age of Covid* continues to challenge us as we try to find safe and healthy ways to bring our students and teachers back to their classrooms. We are tentatively planning a return to preschool in January. We are presently waiting for preschool survey data to be examined, so that we can make decisions that follow Safe Church guidelines and are fiscally responsible as well.

Many of our students have either enrolled with other schools that have remained open, or are reluctant to come back to physical attendance with us, and we totally understand and support those choices. But it does provide us with many challenges to overcome before we can bring our preschool back to its past glory.

Our teachers continue to plan, present and post our St. Peter's PreschoolTime videos twice weekly and we have over 70 families registered for our online component (which is free of charge) If you would like your preschool aged child to participate, just send your email address to: stpeterspreschooltime@gmail.com You'll receive info and a link to the videos. Join us!

Even though things are looking a bit different right now, the love and dedication our teachers have for their students has never wavered and our spirit and mission remain strong.

A final decision regarding a January reopening will be made by mid-November. Your continued support and prayers would be very much appreciated.

Lorraine DiBernardo, Preschool Director

lorraine@stpeterslutheran.org



Thank You From Margaret Strausser and Family

Thank
You

“To our beloved St. Peter’s family,

I have felt overwhelmingly loved, prayed for, and cared for these past 4 months during my surgeries and radiation treatment for breast cancer. The cards, phone calls, socially distanced visits and delicious meals uplifted my family and me during this difficult time. No pandemic can slow down the support of this congregation! Although I’ve missed seeing you in church, please know my heart has felt your prayers and the love of God carrying me. It made all the difference in my recovery. I sincerely thank you and wish God’s Peace

and blessings to each of you.”

Margaret Strausser and family

Portals of Prayer



The church has received the current “Portals of Prayer” devotional booklets for October - December. If you are interested in receiving one, please contact Sandy Shattuck at sandy.shattuck@stpeterslutheran.org and she will mail a booklet to you. You may also call the church office or stop by the church to pick one up Monday - Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Grocery Cards



Please be aware that grocery cards are now available to purchase from the church office Tuesday through Friday mornings between 9:00 a.m. and noon. Please ring the doorbell and enter the narthex and proceed to the window of the office. You must wear a mask and someone will be able to help you from the window. Thank you.

From the Volunteer Steward

This month has my favorite holiday, Thanksgiving. Normally, you get to see your family with only having to cook a meal! Everyone just hangs out, plays games, goes for walks and spends time reconnecting. This is a perfect time to get back to church! There are several options for Sunday worship; online at 10:45 a.m., Drive In at 4:00 p.m., and starting soon, 8:00 a.m. worship in the Sanctuary. Consider joining us to reconnect with your church family.

Since there are not a lot of options to volunteer in the church, consider joining one of our committees that are meeting through Zoom. Your church needs help, and we are asking you to step up. It is understood that our lives have been turned upside down, but you've cleaned all your closets and fixed everything that needs to be fixed. Consider using your extra time to help with committees that need people & voices. Here are vacancies for which there is an immediate and crucial need:

Cemetery---Chairperson
Finance—Committee members
Homes of Hope---Liaison from St. Peter's and Mentors for families
Property Committee—Committee members
Stewardship---Chairperson and committee members

There are descriptions for each of the groups on St. Peter's website. Here is the link. Consider taking some time to see if any of these are a fit for you.

We can send you the descriptions, or, give a call and we will be happy to explain what is expected.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fVeQyvmq4O5N6mKFsnNacgEPTbGUiYu_ai7E90mCWzA/edit#gid=1

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may be having.

Please stay safe,

Betsy Linn, Volunteer Steward

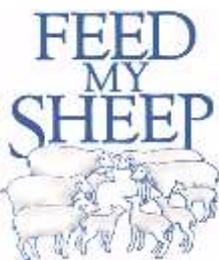
717-618-9615

betsy.linn@stpeterslutheran.org



PLEASE UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

We are striving to reach out to as many people as possible to communicate the various online resources that we are making available to you during this time. Some of you receive the "Herald" by mail, but during this time we are only able to send it digitally or only to a limited number of people. Please note that we will have some copies of the Herald on the table in the Narthex that may be picked up between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. Please contact Sandy in the church office if your email address has changed or if you are not currently receiving the newsletter digitally so we can add you to the list.



The Sheep are Hungry! Please Help Feed Them

Needed in November: *Peanut butter; jellies and jams; canned fruits; canned pasta; canned tomato products; spaghetti sauce; boxed macaroni and cheese; instant stuffing & potatoes; canned yams; complete pancake mix & syrup; canned tuna and chicken; tuna, beef & chicken helper; cereal; instant oatmeal.* Food Carts are in the Narthex. Items go to the Lancaster County Food Hub. *Thanks for your donations!*

OUR MISSION

Building a community of faith by God's grace.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.”

John 15:12

OUR VISION

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church will show our love for God, our love for neighbors, and our desire to make disciples.

Because we love God, we will:

- Worship and pray together.
- Help each other develop a meaningful relationship with God.
- Model our faith to children, youth, and others.

Because we love our neighbor, we will:

- Serve one another, especially the unseen and underserved within our congregation.
- Support those in need in our Lancaster community and in the world through our ties with the Lower Susquehanna Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.
- Love others boldly in a diverse and changing world, deepening relationships with our neighbors.

Because we desire to make disciples, we will:

- Seek to teach God's love through adult education, our programs for children and youth, and our preschool.
- Offer small groups that connect God's Word to our everyday lives and create communities of faith.
- Share the good news in creative and authentic ways with the St. Peter's family and with neighbors in our community.

POINSETTIA & MEMORIAL GIFT

Poinsettias or a Memorial Gift may be given in honor or in memory of a loved one. Please fill out the form below and return it to the church office by Monday, December 7. A listing for Poinsettias and Benevolence Gifts will appear in the December 24 bulletins.

MEMORIAL GIFT TO ST. PETER'S BENEVOLENCE FUND

\$_____ Gift - Envelope #_____

Given in memory or in honor of: (CIRCLE ONE)

(Print name(s) as you desire them to be printed in the bulletin)

Given by: _____

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



_____ 6½" pot with 3-4 blooms - \$7.50 each



\$_____ Total - Envelope #_____

Given in memory or in honor of: (CIRCLE ONE)

(Print name(s) as you desire them to be printed in the bulletin)

Given by: _____

Please check: _____ I will leave my plant to be delivered to a homebound member whose setting allows the reception of flowers from people outside of the **homebound member's community**.

_____ I will pick up my plant.

Please return this form and check payable

To "St. Peter's Lutheran Church"

By Monday, December 7



LOOKING AHEAD

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday, November 1

9:15 a.m. - Youth & Adult Christian Ed, Grade 5 - Adult (Zoom)
10:20 a.m. - Children's Sunday School, PreK - Grade 4
10:45 a.m. - Online Worship/Hymn Sing, St Peter's website/Youtube
4:00 p.m. - Drive-in Worship (Church parking lot)

Monday, November 2

9:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting (Zoom)
6:30 p.m. - Pre Election Prayer Service (Livestream)
7:00 p.m. - Council Meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, November 3

12:30 p.m. - Looking to Sunday Bible Study (Zoom)
6:30 p.m. - Mutual Ministry (Zoom)

Wednesday, November 4

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Zoom) Pastor Craig
1:00 p.m. - Community Meal Preparation (Kitchen)
2:00 p.m. - Evangelism Committee (Zoom)
4:30 p.m. - Community Meal (Grace Lutheran)
6:30 p.m. - Trivia Night (Home of Shirley Dombach)
8:00 p.m. - Beverages & Hymns (Zoom) Adam

Saturday, November 7

10:00 a.m. - Lydia's Closet Clothing Bank

Sunday, November 8

9:00 a.m. - Annual Meeting (Go to webinar)
10:20 a.m. - Children's Sunday School, PreK - Grade 4 (Livestream), Sister Dottie
10:45 a.m. - Online Worship St Peter's website/Youtube
4:00 p.m. - Drive-in Worship (Church parking lot)

Monday, November 9

9:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting (Zoom)
6:30 p.m. - Human Resources (Zoom)

Tuesday, November 10

Herald Deadline
12:30 p.m. - Looking to Sunday Bible Study (Zoom)
1:00 p.m. - Communications Committee (Zoom)
7:00 p.m. - Worship Committee (Zoom)

Wednesday, November 11

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Zoom) Pastor Craig
6:30 p.m. - Moms of Young Children Bible Study (Narthex) Pastor Sarah

Thursday, November 12

6:30 p.m. - Strategic Planning (Zoom) Pastor Craig
7:00 p.m. - Safe Church Committee (Zoom) Sister Dottie

Saturday, November 14

6:00 p.m. - Youth Volleyball (Hoslers' Home)

Sunday, November 15

8:00 a.m. - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
9:15 a.m. - Youth & Adult Christian Ed, Grade 5 - Adult (Zoom)
10:20 a.m. - Children's Sunday School, PreK - Grade 4 (Livestream), Sister Dottie
10:45 a.m. - Online Worship St Peter's website/Youtube
4:00 p.m. - Drive-in Worship (Church parking lot)

Monday, November 16

9:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting (Zoom)
7:00 p.m. - Finance committee (Zoom), Pastor Craig
7:30 p.m. - Moral Mondays Book Club (Zoom)

Tuesday, November 17

12:30 p.m. - "Looking to Sunday" Bible Study (Zoom) Pastor Sarah
1:30 p.m. - Book Club (Zoom)
7:00 p.m. - Stewardship Committee (Zoom)

Wednesday, November 18

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Zoom) Pastor Craig
6:30 p.m. - Pub Theology (Zoom)

Sunday, November 22

8:00 a.m. - Worship Service (Sanctuary)
9:15 a.m. - Youth & Adult Christian Ed, Grade 5 - Adult (Zoom)
10:20 a.m. - Children's Sunday School, PreK - Grade 4 (Livestream), Sister Dottie
10:45 a.m. - Online Worship St Peter's website/Youtube
4:00 p.m. - Drive-in Worship (Church parking lot)



LOOKING AHEAD (continued)

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Monday, November 23

9:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting

6:45 p.m. - Tanzania Missions Committee (Zoom)

Tuesday, November 24

10:30 a.m. - Widows Group (St. Peter's)

12:30 p.m. - "Looking to Sunday" Bible Study (Zoom)

Pastor Sarah

Wednesday, November 25

6:30 p.m. - Moms of Young Children Bible Study

(Narthex) Pastor Sarah

Thursday, November 26

Thanksgiving - Church Office Closed

Friday, November 27

Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 29

8:00 a.m. - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

9:15 a.m. - Youth & Adult Christian Ed, Grade 5 - Adult (Zoom)

10:20 a.m. - Children's Sunday School, PreK - Grade 4 (Livestream), Sister Dottie

10:45 a.m. - Online Worship St Peter's website/Youtube

4:00 p.m. - Drive-in Worship (Church parking lot)

Monday, November 30

9:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting

	<p>DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE NOVEMBER 10TH</p>
	<p>Articles for the December 2020 "Herald" are due in the church office no later than November 10th. Please submit articles to Sandy Shattuck in the church office or email sandy.shattuck@stpeterslutheran.org. Thank you for your cooperation.</p>



If you have any questions, please contact me at

sandy.shattuck@stpeterslutheran.org.

Sandy Shattuck

Editor & Parish Secretary

