



"The Herald" Newsletter

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Worship. Learn. Gather. Serve.

September 2021



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

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." Hebrews 13:16

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Traditional Service Indoor at 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

This Fall our Traditional worship services will take place during 8:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. At this time, we will gather masked to keep the vulnerable and young ones in our life safe.

Livestreaming Options

Livestreaming options will be available for the 8:00 a.m. Traditional and 10:45a.m. New Day Praise services. If you can't join us in person, join us online! <https://www.stpeterslutheran.org/live/>. Traditional service bulletins can be accessed at <https://www.stpeterslutheran.org/bulletins>.

New Day Praise Indoor Service Returns!



New Day Praise service returns at 10:45a.m. in the Family Life Center!

After a year and a half hiatus from the Family Life Center space, it will be great to gather, worship, and praise the Lord! The New Day band can't wait to lead you in song. We will have chairs set up for pods and social distancing. As is the case in Traditional setting, we will gather masked to keep the vulnerable and young ones in our life safe as we sing and praise the Lord. See you there!

Outdoor Services

Starting September 12th, St. Peter's will offer a brief service from 9:00-9:30 a.m. outside on the north side of the building. More information on page 8.

Inside This Issue . . .

- Worship Schedule - 2
- Mission Campaign - 3
- Adult Christian Ed. - 4
- Committees - 5
- Worship & Music - 8
- Groups & Events - 10
- From the Volunteer Steward - 11
- Pastoral Letters - 12
- Children & Youth - 13
- Youth Ministries - 14
- St. Peter's Kids - 14
- St. Peter's Preschool - 15
- Worship Assistant Schedule - 16-17
- Looking Ahead/Calendar - 18-19
- Mission/Vision Statement - 20



September Worship Schedule

Sunday, September 5: The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:00 AM – Service of Communion in the Sanctuary and Livestreaming, Pastor Jeff Pretz Preaches
- 10:45 AM – Service of the Word in the Sanctuary, Pastor Jeff Pretz Preaches
- 10:45 AM - New Day Indoor Worship with Communion and Livestreaming, Pastor Sarah Preaches

Sunday, September 12: The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:00 AM - Service of the Word in the Sanctuary and Livestreaming, Sister Dottie Preaches
- 9:00 AM - Outdoor Worship Service, North Side of Building, Pastor Sarah Preaches
- 10:45 AM – Service of Communion in the Sanctuary, Sister Dottie Preaches
- 10:45 AM – New Day Indoor Worship and Livestreaming, Pastor Sarah Preaches

Sunday, September 19: The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:00 AM – Service of Communion in the Sanctuary and Livestreaming, Pastor Sarah Preaches
- 9:00 AM - Outdoor Worship Service, North Side of Building, Pastor Jeff Pretz Preaches
- 10:45 AM – Service of the Word in the Sanctuary, Pastor Sarah Preaches
- 10:45 AM - New Day Indoor Worship with Communion and Livestreaming, Pastor Jeff Pretz Preaches

Sunday, September 26: The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:00 AM - Service of the Word in the Sanctuary and Livestreaming, Pastor Marty Zimmann Preaches
- 9:00 AM - Outdoor Worship Service, North Side of Building, Sister Dottie Preaches
- 10:45 AM – Service of Communion in the Sanctuary, Pastor Marty Zimmann Preaches
- 10:45 AM – New Day Indoor Worship and Livestreaming, Sister Dottie Preaches



SEPTEMBER 11TH TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY PRAYER SERVICE

Come to the memorial garden outside on the north side of St. Peter's on Saturday, September 11th at 7:00 p.m. for a brief contemplative prayer service. We'll gather, rain or shine, to pray and sing together, asking for God's peace to reign throughout the whole earth. Please bring a chair.



Mission Campaign

St. Peter's family,

We are delighted to report that as of mid-August, 100 households have pledged treasures totaling \$917,780. Of that total, we have received \$302,411 to put to work! Thank you for your pledges and gifts. These commitments already have us at 73% of our base campaign goal! This has been a very strong start to the campaign, but more work lies ahead!

If you have not yet made your commitment, please access the pledge form on our website at www.stpeterslutheran.org/mission-campaign/ and return it to the church office. As Chairs of the campaign, both of us are willing to speak with you, confidentially, if it will help you discern your interests and commitment to the campaign. Please reach out and let us know how we can be of service!

Church Council has allocated \$280,000 of the funds received, thus far, to various church property projects, including repayment to the operating fund for replacement of the boiler/controller/heat pump, deposit to secure the estimate to repair the parking lot in spring 2022, furnishings for the narthex, and repairs in two Sunday School rooms. You should begin seeing progress on several of these in the coming weeks. We'll continue to use this Herald column, the church website, and other communication means to keep you informed of these and other Mission Campaign successes.

Over the last week, we have spoken with many who expressed concern over how Pastor Sarah's decision to leave St. Peter's may impact the campaign. We are exceptionally confident that Pastor Sarah's departure will not slow the Campaign or the strategic initiatives the Campaign is designed to fund. In fact, the timing of these events provides a fresh opportunity to refocus on the first objective of the Strategic Vision Plan: Leadership Succession. We see great alignment among the implementation of the Strategic Vision Plan, continuation of the Mission Campaign, and the launch of a call process in the fall.

Thank you for your continued prayer for the Campaign, as well as your discernment surrounding a personal commitment to support St. Peter's growth and ministry enhancement, both near and far. Please continue to reach out to either of us, directly, with any questions or concerns. We appreciate hearing from you!

With Faith In Our Future,

Adrian and Jen

Jennifer Schlener-Thomas (jmschlener@gmail.com or 717-228-8450)

Adrian Young (adrianyoung@verizon.net or 717-314-8556)

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.

Church Council Meeting Minutes Available

During the August council meeting, the July council minutes were approved. The minutes can now be accessed at the following link to a page on the church website to make them more accessible to the congregation: https://www.stpeterslutheran.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/CC-meeting-minutes_July-12_2021.pdf. If you are unable to access the link and would like a copy of the minutes, please contact the church office at 717-569-9211.



Adult Christian Education

Sunday Morning-9:15-10:15 a.m.

*We are in the process of renaming our Sunday morning adult classes – you can help!
Have an idea? Write it down on the Adult Ed bulletin board and we will choose new names!*

Adult Class #1– meets in the Conference Room. This class is a combination of Theology, Church history and the intersection of Faith and Life.

- September 12th– Pastor Sarah Teichmann Leads
- September 19th – Sister Dottie Almoney leads
- September 26 – Rev. Marty Zimman from United Seminary
- September 29 – Sister Dottie Almoney leads

Adult Class #2 – will meet outside on the Delp Road side or in the old Library which is now another conference room – This class focuses on faith formation and living out your faith in daily life. Bring a chair or use one of ours for outside.

Weekdays

Pastor Ross’s Wednesday Morning Bible Study will begin Wednesday, September 15th – 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. through zoom while he is recuperating from surgery.



September Pub Theology – Wednesday, September 15th– 6:30 p.m. at Uncommon Pizza in Lititz. Our topic: *Do you have to be Lutheran to attend a Lutheran Church?* RSVP to Sister Dottie if you can attend. (dottie.almoney@stpeterslutheran.org)

Safe Church Update



Masks are Requested!

With the rise in variants of Covid 19, we are requesting that all children, youth and adults continue to wear masks on Sunday mornings. We want to make sure we protect everyone, especially those with pre-existing health conditions and our children and youth who are unable to be vaccinated at this time. We will continue to revisit our masking policies based on the CDC guidelines and the transmission rate in our county.

Grocery Cards



Please be aware that grocery cards are available to purchase from the church office Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Please call the office with the amount and the store that you are requesting. The staff will get them ready for you. When arriving please ring the doorbell and enter the narthex and proceed to the window of the office and someone will be able to help you from the window. Thank you.

Social Ministry

Community Meal Day

September Community Meal will be Wednesdays September 1st and September 8th at Grace Lutheran Church. For more information about volunteering, please contact Kathy Berkebile at kberkebile@comcast.net.



Lydia's Closet Clothing Bank at St. Peter's

Lydia's Closet clothing Bank will be open on Saturday September 4th from 10:00 – 12:00 p.m. in the youth lounge. To volunteer, please contact Molly Olmsted at astaloo@me.com. The clothing bank is always in need of new underwear, especially for older teens (adult sizes).



Walmart Gift Card Drive – We will be collecting Walmart Gift cards for the purchase of school uniforms for the school district of Lancaster. Any amount will be appreciated. Many families have a hard time purchasing uniforms due to low incomes. Uniforms are mandated at SDOL. Look for collection boxes in the narthex, youth lounge and at New Day.

God's Work our Hands/Sunday School Open House

Sunday, September 12th – 9:30-10:15 a.m.



Families are invited to participate together in our God's Work our Hands event as well as do a scavenger hunt to visit some of our new spaces and the classrooms. We will be putting together items for blessing bags, collecting items to create activity bags for kids undergoing chemo and more! Regular SS classes begin on Sunday September 19th at 9:30 a.m. There will be one adult class offering on the 12th.

LOCAL SOCIAL MINISTRY UPDATES

September is Recovery Month

St. Peter's actively helps support Vantage House which is a recovery house in Lancaster for women and their children. They are always in need of supplies and clothing items. We will soon be posting a list of needed items; however, if you would like to help Vantage House this month you can do so by donating a Target or Walmart gift card. Please drop off cards in the office and mark them Vantage House, attention Kathy Berkebile. If you have questions please contact Kathy Berkebile at kberkebile@comcast.net. Thank you for your support!

Quilters — The quilters have been on break over the summer, but are planning to get back up and running this fall. They are continuing to focus on donating to the Transitional Living Center. For information contact Jan Gigl at ronjan-gigl@comcast.net

Lydia's Closet — This August, Lydia's Closet had its first in person distribution since March of 2020! It was great to see our families again! We're requiring masks and distancing, but are so happy that we can get back up and running. Contact Molly Olmsted at astaloo@me.com 717-490-3908 for information.

Feed our Sheep — The Sheep Carts in the narthex are always hungry for peanut butter, pastas, and canned vegetables and fruits. All food is taken to the Lancaster County Food Hub.

Community Meals — We have been serving approximately 50 people every month. Due to COVID there has been additional strain on other Churches so St. Peter's picked up a second meal every other month. For more information contact Kathy Berkebile at kberkebile@comcast.net. or 717-725-0162

Administratively Speaking ...

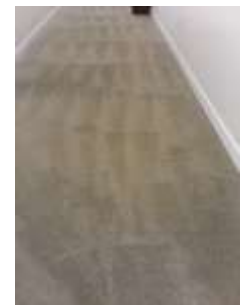
Repair and clean-up work continued in August as we prepare for the start of preschool and church activities in September.

We discovered a large crack in a window in Augsburg Alley. We brought in a window company to replace the broken window pane. It was fascinating to see how he removed the huge glass pane and replaced it with the new one. See photos.



Augsburg Window Repair

You may have noticed that our church halls and even the Narthex got pretty messy one week. Almost all your sextons were called in to clear preschool rooms, the conference rooms, and church offices for a professional carpet cleaning. Special thanks to sexton project leader, Evan Breeden, and his great team: Joel Olmsted, Paige Olmsted, Davey Striggle, and Joey Striggle. They worked very hard to clear the rooms - then put everything back by Sunday morning. You will get to meet all your sextons in the next edition of the Herald newsletter.



Messy Hallways - Prep for Professional Carpet Cleaning

Professional Carpet Cleaning

Bud Benton and his team of property committee men answered the call from preschool for the assembly and mounting of bookshelves in the newly created Children's Library in the Puppy Room. Rich Larrick worked with newcomer to the team, Mark Aho, to assemble the shelves while Bud Benton mounted them to the wall. Stop by the Puppy Room and then thank these men when you see them for their outstanding work in the service of our Lord and for our little ones.



Assembly & Installation of Bookshelves in New Children's Library

The Duck Room floor repair and re-tiling is now completed! Below are photos of the before and after photos. Before new tile could be laid down, the old tile had to be removed and the glued grinded down to the concrete flooring. Stop by and see the transformation!



Duck Room Floor Repair

Duck Room Re-tiling

(continued on next page)

Administratively Speaking ...

(continued)

Property Committee chair, Bud Benton, has formed a task force to develop the specifications needed for bidding by contractors for the repaving of St. Peter's parking lot. It is a HUGE job that is way overdue and will be funded through your generous donations to the Mission Campaign. The work is scheduled to be completed next summer after preschool ends. Please be in prayer for this great team of men as they plan out this undertaking.

Whew! That's a lot of work in just one month...with still more work to be done. Speaking of work...I have created a **Maintenance Request Form** for work needed or problems our employees and you, our members, spot at the church. Stop by the church office for a form if you see something that needs to be fixed or repaired. And...if you have skills in any of the trades, please consider joining this great group of men in maintaining and repairing your church. Call or send me an email churchadmin@stpeterslutheran.org

2022 Church Budget development is now underway! Sherry Moul, Finance Chair, sent out notices in August to all church committees informing them that it is time to submit their budget inputs. The Finance Committee will begin working on the church budget in early September for Church Council approval and your vote in November. Please be in prayer as the committees make their plans for 2022.

Your Parish Administrator,
Paul Schultz

Health & Wellness

September: National Fruit and Veggie Month

During this pandemic, many of us have consumed way too many foods that were comforting, but likely not good for us. It's understandable, especially when you are stuck at home!

It's almost fall, and the bounty from God's earth is soon upon us. What a fitting month to set aside as National Fruit and Veggie month. It is also a perfect time for us to take charge of our health and eating habits!



Do you know the benefits of eating a diet made of mostly fruits and vegetables? It may help reduce the risk of:

1. Heart disease
2. Type 2 Diabetes
3. Some types of Cancer
4. Obesity
5. High Blood Pressure

Let's encourage each other to make some small changes to our diets. Start small by swapping out one cookie or "bad item", for an apple or carrot sticks or some other fruit/veggie each day. Lancaster has many great markets to shop for local fruits and veggies, including your local grocery stores. Let's all enjoy God's bounty and gain the health benefits too!

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.

Worship and Music at St. Peter's



Vocal Choirs Delay

Vocal choirs will delay rehearsals for a month. Out of an abundance of caution, we will delay vocal rehearsals until October to see how the current wave of COVID progresses in our community. With schools opening and many changes on the horizon, it seems best to postpone. Stay tuned for updates.

Bell Ensembles Begin

Bell ensemble rehearsals start this month! There is still room in the Exsultate Ringers for more ringers. No worries if you've never rung bells before. We are a fun-loving group and enjoy helping others engage with making music to praise the Lord. For more information please contact Adam at adam.hughes@stpeterslutheran.org.

First Rehearsals

Exsultate Ringers – September 13, 6:00-6:45 p.m.

St. Peter's Ringers – September 13, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Fall Worship Schedule

Indoor Traditional Services

Beginning September 5th traditional services return to the 8:00 and 10:45 worship schedule, making room for a Sunday School hour between them. Services include readings, a sermon, prayers, and congregationally sung music as well as special music from St. Peter's ensembles.

Indoor New Day Services

Our New Day contemporary service returns this fall. Starting August 29th New Day services will be held in the Family Life Center at 10:45. Services will include bible readings, sermons, prayers, and congregational singing led by the New Day band.

Live-streamed Services

Starting August 29th the traditional service will be live-streamed at 8:00 and the New Day service will be live-streamed at 10:45. Live-streaming the two services at different times gives St. Peter's the best opportunity to manage our internet bandwidth while providing the most robust worship schedule possible. Bulletins for the traditional service will be available at www.stpeterslutheran.org/bulletins and the New Day service will all be on screen. Hymnals are available for any who would like to bring them into their home.

Outdoor Services

Starting September 12th, St. Peter's will offer a brief service from 9:00-9:30 outside on the north side of the building. This service will be under a tent, be family-friendly, and will be immediately followed by outdoor Sunday school up to grade 8 as well as one adult class. Worship attendees and staff will help to lead readings, a gospel message, and music in an engaging format. Please bring a chair.

Prayer Chain Ministry

DID YOU KNOW your Prayer Chain has an Ongoing List of about 50 petitions? More than half of those requests have been on this list over six years! When the prayer chain began almost 20 years ago, there was no email, no online requests and no Ongoing List. As technology improved and the chain grew, so did our requests. (For those that don't know, our Ongoing List is a list of petitions that we pray for daily, in addition to the daily requests we receive and our own personal prayers.) After many discussions between the leaders and Pastor Ross over the past few years, we have made the decision to reorganize the Ongoing List to a more manageable size. Beginning October 1st, all ongoing requests are for one month. Submitters are welcome to resubmit requests as needed. All ongoing requests received before January 1, 2021 have been removed from the list. All requests received in 2021 will be our "current" Ongoing List until September 30th. Beginning October 1st, those requests will be removed and we will begin our new and more manageable list.



It remains a privilege that you, the congregation, entrust us with your prayer needs and concerns. It's because we take this so seriously that we felt like we needed to make these changes. We thank you for understanding. Any questions are to be directed to either Ginny Gerhart (717) 626-7406 or Angela Moshos (717) 392-6201.

"Be still and know I am God" Psalm 46:10

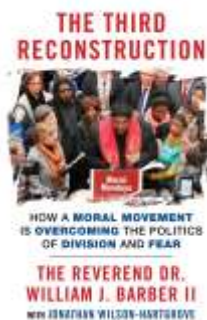
Fellowship

Church Picnic – Sunday, September 19th- Noon



We will be having our annual church picnic after services. Tables and chairs will be set up outside near the memorial garden. All food will be provided. Hamburgers, hotdogs, corn and watermelon will be served. Yard games will also be set up for use. The picnic will be held rain or shine. Join us for food and fellowship. If you have any questions, they can be directed to Lynn Fyfe, Fellowship Chair at lynnfyfe@comcast.net

Moral Monday Book Study



Moral Monday Book Club will meet at the church on September 20th at 6:30 p.m. under the portico if good weather, inside if not. Please bring your own chair.

St Peter's Moral Monday Book Club formed over the summer of 2020 and we have been reading different books about inclusivity. Our goal is to explore different points of view as presented by various authors. Each month we will pick a book to deepen our understanding of others as well as the God who made us all. Even if you do not finish the book, please join us!

This month we will be reading The Third Reconstruction: How a Moral Movement is Overcoming the Politics of Division and Fear by, Reverend Dr William J Barber II. "Over the summer of 2013, the Reverend Dr Barber lead the Moral Mondays movement in a series of protests against North Carolina's restrictions to voting access. This moral movement has since blossomed in states across the country." Please join us to discuss how Christian morality specifically speaks to issues of division and how we can use our faith to form healthy inclusive communities. For more information, contact Molly Olmsted at astaloo@me.com

Need Volunteers

HELP! There's no other way to state it. Your church, St. Peter's, needs help, and we are asking you to step up. As we return to in-person worship, we are going to need you to continue the community we've developed over our years. Several of our committees are in need of guidance and committee members.

Each of us plays a role in helping to drive St. Peter's. Please consider where your time and talents are best served to support the valued ministries at your church.

Here is a list of vacancies for which there is an *immediate and crucial need*:

- Communications Committee-- Chairperson
- Evangelism—Chairperson & committee members
- Homes of Hope---Liaison from St. Peter's and Mentors for families
- Membership Committee-- Chairperson & committee members
- Property Committee—Committee members
- Stewardship---Committee members
- Greeters—Sunday mornings
- Ushers--Sunday mornings
- Welcome Center--Sunday mornings

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 — “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”

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. Or, give me a call to discuss where your talents would be best used.

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

Betsy Linn, Volunteer Steward
betsy.linn@stpeterslutheran.org

Groups and Events

50 + GROUP

50+ will begin meeting Thursday, September 2 in the chapel at 1 pm. The first lecture will be Introduction to the Modern Day Presidents and FDR. October is Harry Truman and Dwight Eisenhower. Any questions, contact Debbie Shue, 717-318-8848, djshue52@comcast.net.

WELCA

Come join us! WELCA will meet on Thursday, September 9th at 9:00 a.m. in the Café/Family Life Center. After a light breakfast we will be assembling our Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Our signup sheet will be available, so think about ideas for programs. Also, there are still spaces to sign up for refreshments. All women are welcome! Any questions, contact Sally Rager, 717-569-6119 or Kathy Caldwell, 717-371-7296.

Yoga Sessions September 11, 18, 25

Local yoga instructor, Christine Healy, will offer sessions that include Ashtanga Yoga poses and restorative postures to stretch and strengthen, and opportunities for reduced stress & calming the mind. No Yoga experience is required. Everyone is welcome to come out and practice yoga in this supportive environment.



When: September 11, 18, 25 at 9:00 a.m.

Where: Family Life Center

Bring: Yoga mat and a water bottle.

Fee: \$5/person per session.

Volleyball is back!

Pick-up volleyball for St. Peter's is back this year! Last year 10 or so players showed up each week to play a fun and casual game of volleyball. Please join in the Hosler backyard court at 6:30 p.m. each Saturday evening from September 11th to October 30th. The group will begin with a short devotion. All adults are welcome! Bring your water and mask.



Camp Corner

Congratulations to all the St. Peter's members who went to camp this summer! Camp is a wonderful place to connect with new friends, God's creation, and personal faith. St. Peter's is blest to have three Lutheran camps to choose from—Nawakwa, Kirchenwald, and the Wittel Farm. The camp fun continues this fall! Talk with Joy and Lyle Hosler (joy@hoslerfamily.net) if you have any questions about camp.



Upcoming Events

October 3: Capture the Flag spectacular (Kirchenwald)

October 5-7: Adult Study Retreat (Nawakwa)

Widows Group

The Widows Group meetings are continuing at St. Peter's outside (or in the Café during hot weather) and are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. and usually last about one hour. Our next meeting will be on September 28th when we will meet for lunch at a local restaurant. 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

St. Peter's 3rd Annual Craft Show

St. Peter's 3rd Annual Craft Show will be held on Saturday, November 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Vendors may be added to a waiting list for possible vendor spots. If you are interested, please contact Movita Groff at 717-569-0101. If you have any questions, please contact Movita Groff at 717-569-0101 or Kim Sterner at 717-396-7739.





Pastor's Update

Pastor Ross is recovering from his double knee replacement surgery. He is doing well, with the normal ups and downs related to this type of surgery. He will have a complete recovery in the long run. He thanks you all for the continued prayers.

Volunteer Steward Message

A new start! That's how it feels in September. Especially if you have school age children or teach. Isn't there a commercial about it being the most wonderful time of the year? With that image, St. Peter's is looking for a few, well actually many, volunteers. Right now with the transition St. Peter's is facing, we need your help, and I have to say, desperately. Everyone is busy, that's a given, but aren't you able to give some of your time? Many committees meet monthly or bi-monthly for an hour or two at a time. Isn't there a way to squeeze that into your life? Each of you has God given gifts and talents. There is a crucial need for help, now.

I am always available to help you discern where your talents/gifts would be best used. Please contact me to chat on how you can best fulfill your ministry within your church.

To see what committees are available there is a detailed description on the website. It is at the bottom of the Membership page under the Time and Talent section. Follow these instructions when you go to the website: Stpeterslutheran.org--About--Membership--Time and Talent--Learn

Or, you can use this link.

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

Final option, contact me and I can point you in the right direction. We have time and talent forms you can complete which will help you choose what you might enjoy. Now is a great time to see how you can become more involved and support your church!

See you in church! (volunteering, hopefully)

Betsy Linn

Volunteer Steward

Betsy.linn@stpeterslutheran.org

717-618-9615



Schedulers needed for In-Person Worship

Did you ever wonder how Sunday morning worship assistants know how to be there? We have volunteers prepare schedules! This includes volunteers for; Altar Guild, Ushers, Lectors, Communion Assistants, Greeters, Welcome Center and many more. A big thank you to all the new Sunday morning schedulers! We appreciate you taking on this important task.

Right now, we need someone to schedule the volunteers for the **Bread & Wine** presenters. It only takes a couple of hours every three months. You are given all the tools you need to complete the schedule.

Interested in hearing more? Please contact: Betsy Linn-- betsy.linn@stpeterslutheran.org



Pastor Sarah's Message

Dear friends in Christ,

On August 1st I celebrated my 11th year of ordination in the roster of word and sacrament in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, and I give thanks that I have been able to serve as one of your pastors at St. Peter's for 7 of those years. These years have been a privilege: preaching the gospel and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with you; celebrating communion; baptizing blessing affirmations of baptism through confirmation and through new membership classes; talking with you about faith and facilitating Christian education classes, visiting with you in your home, at the hospital and in rehab centers; and walking with you when we commended a loved one to our Lord's eternal care.

I wanted to share a bit of my discernment journey with you as I begin the process of saying farewell as your Pastor of Christian Formation.

A few years ago, church leadership started to look with eyes of faith to what the next five, ten, fifteen years might look like in the mission and ministry of St. Peter's. And, thus began my discernment journey exploring my call to congregational ministry, and specifically, my call as one of the pastors at St. Peter's.

A 2017-19 fellowship with the Clergy Leadership Program of Central Pennsylvania through Messiah College allowed me to deepen my understanding of the pastoral role in the context of congregation and the wider community and to connect with a spiritual director who has walked with me in my discernment process.

During this period of time, I was trying to parse a feeling to a variety of calls — call to the ministry I love, call to the needs of the wider church, and also the call to my family. Since the beginning of 2020, there have been some shifting needs in my nuclear and extended family circles. Over the last year I have been in prayer and conversation with family, spiritual directors, and colleagues about my discernment journey.

In the spring of 2021 after prayerful discernment with my family and spiritual director, I came to the conclusion that in this season of my life, I am feeling called to serve the wider church in a non-congregational setting.

In the beginning of June, I shared with Pastor Craig my intent to end my call as pastor at St. Peter's. We began discussing what a transition may look like. Considering the potential impact of a pastoral transition on our mission campaign and strategic planning work, Pastor Craig and I alerted Richie Musser, our campaign consultant, to my decision.

Several weeks after learning of my intent to leave St. Peter's, Kirby-Smith Associates invited me to discern the opportunity of joining them in helping churches, religious institutions, and non-profits raise and steward funds in service to the Lord.

As I prayed about this opportunity, I was reminded of the ways that God has guided me toward this work. During my internship (vicar year) I served at Christus Victor in Naples, FL and was part of their capital campaign team. During my first call in Perrysburg, OH I helped the Northwestern Ohio Synod with an appeal to raise funds for ministries in need. In my call to St. Peter's, I have loved helping out with the Mission Campaign.

This work in serving the wider church with Kirby-Smith would touch upon my passion toward communication, stewardship, and connecting people to a common vision in love of neighbor and service to our Lord. Through this discernment, my next calling became clear. And, after Pastor Craig returned from his vacation, I shared my plan to leave St. Peter's in early October.

With an ocean of emotion, I say goodbye as one of your rostered leaders, and pray that God continues to guide you and this congregation as you continue in building a community of faith by God's grace. I ask for your prayers, as well, as I continue on my journey.

To quote the lyrics from a beloved hymn, God be with you till we meet again.

Peace,

Pastor Sarah

sarah.teichmann@stpeterslutheran.org

Families of our Children and Youth

Our rostered staff have been discussing and planning our 2021/2022 Christian Education year. We have been mindful as well of the increasing numbers of cases due to the Delta variant with Covid-19.

Due to the increase of cases and the knowledge that the majority of our children and youth are unable to be vaccinated, **we have decided to hold Sunday school outdoors for grades PreK thru grade 8.** Most of our older youth have already been vaccinated. While we realize most of our children and youth will be attending school in person, we want to see if there are outbreaks in school and if cases will increase or decrease in early fall. We believe this is a worthwhile endeavor to keep our children and unvaccinated population safe at this time.

Sunday morning will look a bit different in the fall as well. In addition to our indoor traditional worship services at 8:00 and 10:45 a.m. and our 10:45 a.m. New Day service, we will be offering an **outdoor family service at 9:00 a.m.** on the north side of the building near the memorial garden. The service will last 30 minutes with Sunday school for children and adults beginning immediately after the worship service. If your family chooses not to attend worship, SS will begin at 9:30 a.m. and run until 10:15 a.m.

There will be two adult Sunday School offerings, one will be held indoors in the conference room and the other class will meet outdoors.

We are requesting that children and adults please wear masks while indoors on Sunday. We will continue to revisit proper protocol to keep everyone safe during this current wave of the virus. Children and adults who are meeting outdoors will not be required to wear a mask.

In the event of inclement weather, we will move Sunday school indoors and masks will be necessary.

We are also looking for parents to help lead our Sunday school lessons for grades preK thru grade 4 – curriculum and all materials are provided and you can do as little or as many Sundays as you are able. We are hoping to spread out the work to be able to give some of our teachers a break so they too can attend some adult SS classes.

Please feel free to reach out to Sr. Dottie at dottie.almoney@stpeterslutheran.org if you have any questions.

In Service,

Sister Dr. Dottie Almoney, Director of Education and Outreach

Mrs. Cindy Geesey, Director of Children's Ministries



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.

Youth & Family Ministry News...



Sunday School Open House —

September 12th — 9:30-10:15 a.m. Sunday school open house and “God’s Work our Hands” Sunday. Come and visit our new rooms, a scavenger hunt for children and youth. Parents please stay with your younger children. Regular Sunday School begins on September 19th at 9:30 a.m.



ELCA 2021 Youth Gathering Info Meeting —

Sunday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m. – all youth who are entering grades 8 thru 2022 grads are eligible. We will be discussing fundraising, paperwork, registration and more! We will meet in the Café.

Have you received or updated your clearances? If you work with our children or youth, you will need to provide child abuse and criminal background check clearances. These are free for volunteers. Clearances need to be less than 5 years – and need to be on file at church.

You can complete these online:

Child abuse Clearances - <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>

Criminal Background: <https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp>

Feel free to contact Sister Dottie for help in obtaining these items.

ST. PETER’S KIDS

Dear Families,

It’s hard to believe that September has arrived! We are still proceeding with caution on returning to Sunday School and other children’s activities. Please know that we will continue to follow CDC guidelines as well as Synod guidance. That being said, our Sunday School program officially begins Sunday, September 12th at 9:30 a.m. This year we are



focusing on “God’s Work, Our Hands” and practicing ways to serve one another and our community. It will be a great day where children and parents can get involved in serving the Lord and their neighbor. Then on September 19th, children will attend their grade level Sunday School classes. This year we will be following a lectionary- based curriculum for pre- K through grade 6. This means that what our children learn in Sunday School will be reinforced during our worship services. We will incorporate music with our stories as well activities, games, and crafts! We are looking forward to providing a solid Christian education program in a fun-filled environment!

Vacation Bible School was a HUGE success! Thank you so much to the many, many volunteers who contributed to our success – the station leaders, group leaders, assistants, youth helpers, and, of course, all the children who attended!!

Thank you to the volunteers who contributed to children’s sermons this summer at our 11:00 a.m. outdoor services!



As our Children’s Ministries Committee continues to grow, please consider joining us. Many volunteers are needed to help plan and deliver Christian education to our children in meaningful and fun ways. Thank you, in advance, for considering! I look forward to an amazing year ahead! Stay healthy and safe!



Blessings,

Cindy Geesey

cindy.geesey@stpeterslutheran.org.

St. Peter's Preschool

Welcoming A New Day

August 11, 2021 | By Ann Mead Ash

St. Peter's Preschool Prepares To Reopen

When St. Peter's Preschool, 10 Delp Road, Lancaster, shut down in accordance with COVID-19 restrictions in March of 2020, teachers left their classrooms and did not return until the summer of 2021. Until the teachers were able to begin to prepare for the school's reopening on Monday, Sept. 13, calendars, lists of student names, and seasonal classroom decorations remained locked in time.

•Now, all that is changing, as teachers and Heather Cramer, St. Peter's Preschool director, work to get ready for the arrival of new students. Cramer anticipates a few changes when the parents line up cars to drop off the children on the first day. "We will be a bit smaller than in the past to give a little more social distance for children," said Cramer, who has reduced class size from 16 students to 12 with a teacher and assistant. There will be a class for young 3-year-olds meeting three days a week and classes for 4- and 5-year-olds that meet five days a week with an option for four days a week. Classes will meet from 9 a.m. to noon each weekday.



St. Peter's Preschool staff members include (from left) Shannon Striggle, Sally Longenderfer, Heather Cramer, and Dottie Almonee.

In addition to classrooms, children will have scheduled access to a courtyard playground outfitted with a variety of equipment and a material on the ground that facilitates soft landings. A gym area provides bikes, hula hoops, and other types of indoor play equipment. One of the classrooms has been turned into a children's library that students can visit. It also provides waiting space for parents who visit. Cramer has decorated the area with characters from children's books such as "The Very Hungry Caterpillar."

When some teachers retired at the advent of COVID-19 restrictions, they chose to donate educational resources to St. Peter's. "They left toys, games, and puzzles," noted Cramer. "We had what we needed for classes, so we offered gently used toys to Milagro House, (Gaudenzia) Vantage House (and others)." In addition, toys were donated to Miracle Center Fellowship, a nondenominational place of worship in Mount Joy that used the items to set up a Sunday school program and vacation Bible camp.

Another change is an extended lunch program, which will meet on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. "(Students) will have the option of signing up for Prayground," said Cramer, who said that this activity will be led by either herself or Sister Dottie Almonee, director of education and outreach for St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, which oversees the preschool ministry. "There will be a Bible lesson or music or cooking or a science experiment - something they didn't do in the morning," explained Cramer.

Cramer, who has early childhood and elementary education degrees from Millersville University, has contacted her alma mater about helping students with observation experience. "(Millersville) students could read a story, observe, or do a lesson plan," she said. "They could come in for that experience."

Readers who would like to learn more about the preschool may visit <http://www.stpeterslutheran.org/preschool/> or call 717-569-9211.

For more information, please contact Heather Cramer at heather.cramer@stpeterslutheran.org.



Worship Assistant Schedule for September

	LECTORS	GREETERS	USHERS	WELCOME CENTER
September 5 8:00 a.m.	Pamela Hoffmaster	Bob & Phyllis Hollinger	Thompson & Betsy McConnell	Bob & Edee Bedford
10:45 a.m.	Janet Roberts	Cathy Deebel	Bob & Abby Brestensky	Sherry Weller
September 12 8:00 a.m.	Patti Courtois	Beryl Swisher	Eric May, Tom Rothfus	Mary Ann Oberholtzer
10:45 a.m.	Judith Logan	Gerald & Bonnie Detz	Jeff & Anneliese Owen	Clarence Simon
September 19 8:00 a.m.	Susan Ketchum	Michelle Wertz	Cindy Miley, Liz O'Brien	Larry & Sylvia Miller
10:45 a.m.	Lois Miklas	Sara Gable	Robert & Shirley Gorner	James & Martha Fulmer
September 26 8:00 a.m.	Diane Gegg	Bill & Linda Montgomery	Bob & Phyllis Hollinger	Dee Vulgaris
10:45 a.m.	Anneliese Owen	Scott Glassford	John & June Crisp	Rich & Ann Larrick

(continued on next page)



September Flower Delivery Schedule

Date	Deliverer	Recipient
9/05	JoAnn Boltz	Bertie Miller
	Lois Benton	June Hemsteger
9/12	Cheryl Oeschger	Arlene Dodd
	Nancy Pokopec	Anna Dowie
9/19	Tim & Sharon Fickes	Karleen & Lee Eberly
	Debbie Shue	Lura Zeswitz
9/26	Christine Smith	Joan Groff
	John & Kathy Groff	Sally Price

Worship Assistant Schedule for September

(continued)

	A/V	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	ALTAR GUILD COORDINATORS	ALTAR GUILD
September 5 8:00 a.m.	Tom Badorf	Randy & Debbie Shue	Debbie Shue Lori Weaver	TBA
10:45 a.m.	Dave Tilley	No communion	No communion	No communion
September 12 8:00 a.m.	Lloyd Bull	No communion	No communion	No communion
10:45 a.m.	Bob Preston	Todd Benner Thompson McConnell	Debbie Shue Lori Weaver	TBA
September 19 8:00 a.m.	Mark Burkholder	Bret Hoffmaster Mary Jane Wilcox	Debbie Shue Lori Weaver	TBA
10:45 a.m.	Rick Groff	No communion	No communion	No communion
September 26 8:00 a.m.	Tom Chever	No communion	No communion	No communion
10:45 a.m.	Bill Schlener	Geoff & Kathy Groff	Debbie Shue Lori Weaver	TBA

NEW DAY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS — SEPTEMBER 2021

	September 5	September 12	September 19	September 26
Lector	Lisa Teichmann	Megan Thompson	Robert Preston	TBA
Communion Assistant	Jenny Sassaman	No communion	Sharon Schaefer	No communion
Ushers	Cheryl Laub Dave Tilley	Scott Fyfe Bill Sassaman	Jon & Jan Hess	Mark & Sharon Schaefer
Altar Guild	TBA	No communion	TBA	No communion
A/V Sound	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA



LOOKING AHEAD

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Wednesday, September 1

1:00 p.m. - Community Meal Preparation (Kitchen)
2:00 p.m. - Evangelism Committee (Conference Room)
4:30 p.m. - Community Meal (Grace Lutheran)
7:00 p.m. - Worship Committee (Conference Room)
7:00 p.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal (FLC)

Thursday, September 2

1:00 p.m. - 50+ (Chapel)

Friday, September 3

1:00 p.m. - Al Anon (Cry Room)

Saturday, September 4

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

Sunday, September 5

8:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary and online)
10:00 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
10:45 a.m. - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
10:45 a.m. - New Day Worship & Communion (FLC and online)

Monday, September 6

Office Closed

Tuesday, September 7

9:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
10:00 a.m. - Worship Leaders (Conference Room)
6:30 p.m. - Mutual Ministry (Conference Room)

Wednesday, September 8

1:00 p.m. - Community Meal Preparation (Kitchen)
4:30 p.m. - Community Meal (Grace Lutheran)
7:00 p.m. - Finance Committee (Zoom)
7:00 p.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal (FLC)

Thursday, September 9

9:00 a.m. - WELCA (Café/FLC)

Friday, September 10

Herald Deadline

1:00 p.m. - Al Anon (Cry Room)

Saturday, September 11

9:00 a.m. - Yoga (Family Life Center)
6:30 p.m. - Volleyball (Hoslers' Home)

Sunday, September 12

8:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary and online)
9:00 a.m. - Family Outdoor Worship
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:00 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
10:45 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary)
10:45 a.m. - New Day Worship (Family Life Center and online)
6:00 p.m. - Youth Gathering Meeting (Café)

Monday, September 13

9:00 a.m. - Worship Leaders (Pastor's Office)
10:00 a.m. - Quilters (Augsburg Alley)
6:00 p.m. - Exsultate Ringers (Music Room)
7:00 p.m. - Council Meeting (Conference Room)
7:00 p.m. - St. Peter's Ringers (Music Room)
8:00 p.m. - AA (Room 100) Al Anon (Cry Room)

Tuesday, September 14

1:00 p.m. - Communications Committee (Conference Room)
7:00 p.m. - Property Committee (Conference Room)

Wednesday, September 15

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Zoom)
6:30 p.m. - Pub Theology (Uncommon Pizza)
7:00 p.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal (FLC)

Friday, September 17

1:00 p.m. - Al Anon (Cry Room)

Saturday, September 18

9:00 a.m. - Yoga (Family Life Center)
6:30 p.m. - Volleyball (Hoslers' Home)

Sunday, September 19

8:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary and online)
9:00 a.m. - Family Outdoor Worship
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:00 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
10:45 a.m. - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
10:45 a.m. - New Day Worship & Communion (FLC and online)
12:00 p.m. - Church Picnic (FLC/Cafe/Outdoors)

Monday, September 20

9:00 a.m. - Worship Leaders (Pastor's Office)
10:00 a.m. - Quilters (Augsburg Alley)
6:00 p.m. - Exsultate Ringers (Music Room)

(continued)



LOOKING AHEAD

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

(continued)

7:00 p.m. - St. Peter's Ringers (Music Room)
7:00 p.m. - Moral Mondays Book Club (Portico)
8:00 p.m. - AA (Room 100) Al Anon (Cry Room)

Tuesday, September 21

9:00 a.m. - Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
1:30 a.m. - Book Club (Cry Room)
7:00 p.m. - Stewardship Committee (Conference Room)

Wednesday, September 22

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café)
7:00 p.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal (FLC)

Friday, September 24

1:00 p.m. - Al Anon (Cry Room)

Saturday, September 25

9:00 a.m. - Yoga (Family Life Center)
6:30 p.m. - Volleyball (Hoslers' Home)

Sunday, September 26

8:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary and online)

9:00 a.m. - Family Outdoor Worship
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:00 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
10:45 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary)
10:45 a.m. - New Day Worship (FLC and online)

Monday, September 27

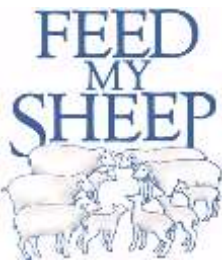
9:00 a.m. - Worship Leaders (Pastor's Office)
10:00 a.m. - Quilters (Augsburg Alley)
6:00 p.m. - Exultate Ringers (Music Room)
6:30 p.m. - Human Resources Committee (Zoom)
6:45 p.m. - Tanzania Missions Committee (Conference Rm)
7:00 p.m. - St. Peter's Ringers (Music Room)
8:00 p.m. - AA (Room 100) Al Anon (Cry Room)

Tuesday, September 28

10:30 a.m. - Widows Group (Café)

Wednesday, September 29

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café)
7:00 p.m. - Praise Band Rehearsal (FLC)



The Sheep are Hungry! Please Help Feed Them

Needed in September: *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.* Non-perishable food may be dropped off in the boxes under the carport or in the grocery carts in the Narthex. Items go to the Lancaster County Food Hub. *Thanks for your donations!*



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

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. 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 by mail. Please note that we have some copies of the Herald at the Welcome Desk that may be picked up. Please contact Sandy in the church office at (717) 569-9211 if your email address has changed or if you are not currently receiving the newsletter digitally so we can add you to the list.

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.

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE SEPTEMBER 10TH

Articles for the October 2021 “Herald” are due in the church office no later than **September 10th**. Please submit articles to Sandy Shattuck in the church office or email sandy.shattuck@stpeterslutheran.org. Thank you for your cooperation.



PLEASE HELP SAVE MAILING COSTS!!!!

PLEASE CONSIDER signing up to receive the online version of the “Herald” Newsletter and help us save on our mailing costs. Contact Sandy Shattuck in the Church Office at 717-569-9211 or sandy.shattuck@stpeterslutheran.org to sign up and start receiving the “Herald” by email.



If you have any questions, please contact me at

sandy.shattuck@stpeterslutheran.org.

Sandy Shattuck

Editor & Parish Secretary

