



The Herald Newsletter

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Worship. Learn. Gather. Serve.

January 2023

10 Delp Road - Lancaster, PA 17601



"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord...To give you a future with hope." Jeremiah 29:11

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Sister Dr. Dottie Almoney, Parish Deaconess
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Chuck Fisher, Sexton

Alyssa Kerper, Nursery Coordinator
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A Thank You to St. Peter's Volunteers

It is virtually impossible to thank all those volunteers who worked so hard this holiday season here at St. Peter's in the many expressions of our ministries, but here is an attempt. To **worship leaders** and **musicians** who brought such a spirit of joy and faithfulness to our services. To **decoration committee** members who helped beautify our building for the holidays. To **Christian Education** and **youth leaders** who helped teach the faith with a variety of activities and lessons. To **Altar Guild** members who so diligently set up for and clean up the wide variety of seasonal worship services. To our **Property volunteers** who had additional set ups and events to prepare for and clean up from. To our **Social Ministry workers** who helped us concentrate our outreach efforts both near and far in so many wonderful special appeals. To our **office volunteers** who helped to proofread, collate, mail, and organize the huge amount of work and mail that was generated out of the Church Office while also covering receptionist duties. To our **Fellowship helpers** who worked so hard to offer us times to play and laugh and socialize together. To our **Communications** committee members who so ably "told the story" of St. Peter's ministries to our community this season. To our **Council** and **committee leaders** who found time in a busy month to keep their groups organized and productive. To our **Children and Youth** who are tangible reminders of the grace which entered the world through the Child Jesus, and through their lives among us. And to all our **Stewards** who made special gifts of time, talent, and treasure in the spirit of the child born in Bethlehem . . .

*to all of you, a hearty thank
you for all the ways in which
you embody the spirit of
ministry and service here in
OUR ST. PETER'S
community of faith.*

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January

Worship Schedule

Sunday, January 1: The Name of Jesus

9:45 a.m. – Service of Communion in the Sanctuary, Pr. Ross preaches

Sunday, January 8: The Baptism of Our Lord

8:00 a.m. – Service of Communion in the Sanctuary, Pr. Hand preaches

10:30 a.m. – Service of Communion in the Sanctuary, Pr. Hand preaches

10:30 a.m. – New Day Service of Communion in the FLC, Pr. Ross preaches

Sunday, January 15: The Second Sunday of Epiphany

8:00 a.m. – Service of Communion in the Sanctuary, Pr. Ross preaches

10:30 a.m. – Service of the Word in the Sanctuary, Pr. Ross preaches

10:30 a.m. – New Day Service of Communion in the FLC, Sr. Dottie preaches

Sunday, January 22: The Third Sunday of Epiphany

8:00 a.m. – Service of the Word in the Sanctuary, Pr. Hand preaches

10:30 a.m. – Service of Communion in the Sanctuary, Pr. Hand preaches

10:30 a.m. – New Day Service of the Word in the FLC, Pr. Ross preaches

Sunday, January 29: The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany (Youth Sunday)

8:00 a.m. – Service of the Communion in the Sanctuary, Youth Drama

10:30 a.m. – Combined Service of Communion in the Sanctuary, Youth Drama



PASTORAL ACTS

The following pastoral acts were offered since the printing deadline of the November Herald.

Funeral Service: Terry Beasley, Charles Snyder Funeral Home, November 3, 2022

Funeral Service: John Zinkand, St. Peter's Chapel, November 12, 2022

Visitation Gathering: Barbara O'Connor, Charles Snyder Funeral Home, November 19-21, 2022



Church Leader Installation

Those who will serve in leadership positions in the coming year will be installed and recognized at all three worship services on Sunday, January 8. We will formally install the 2023 Congregation Council along with our Congregational Officers. Additionally, we will recognize and commission the committee chairs and committee members who are present.

Livestreaming Options

Livestreaming options are available for the 8:00 a.m. Traditional and 10:30 a.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>.

If you have difficulty joining online, here is the direct link to access the traditional services:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLchet49yt-WuV0lwXJZNNOC2QJlm2Jdyw>

Here is the link for the New Day Services:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLchet49yt-WveKbIhrVBQDN0hM2KoGE87>.

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 recent service videos on YouTube.



Sandy Shattuck, Parish Secretary Retiring

Sandy Shattuck began working at St. Peter's in September 2009 as the Parish Secretary and after 13 years she has decided it is a good time in her life to retire.

"It was a difficult decision. Although I am excited for what lies ahead it is still bittersweet, since I have loved working here at St. Peter's. I will miss the many wonderful people here and the many friendships made over the years. I am truly grateful to the staff and congregation for the great experience and the memories made."

Sandy was born in Woodbury, NJ (West Deptford Township). She also lived in Mt. Laurel, NJ and Bucks County, PA (Morrisville and Langhorne). Sandy and her husband, Charles, moved to East Earl, Lancaster County in 2006.



She started her career in banking and spent seven years working as the International Wire Transfer Clerk at the First Pennsylvania Bank in Philadelphia followed by six years as the Corporate Trust Administrator at First Peoples Bank of New Jersey, Westmont, NJ. After moving to Morrisville, PA, Sandy spent eighteen years as the Office Manager of the Morrisville Presbyterian Church, Morrisville, PA which is where she met her husband, Charles. Sandy has also worked at Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Company in Princeton, NJ as a Training Administrator for the Global Sourcing and Supplier Management Department and also as Executive Assistant to the General Counsel of the Medical Society of New Jersey, Lawrenceville, NJ. When Sandy and Charles moved to East Earl, she worked two part-time jobs for a short time in Lancaster County churches — Trinity Lutheran, New Holland and Long Memorial UMC.

Sandy's husband, Charles works at the Black Horse Animal Hospital in Gap, PA as the Property Manager. They have a sweet feline "daughter", Shannon.

Sandy enjoys the beach, traveling, reading and making crafts. She is an avid animal lover. During retirement, Sandy plans to spend quality time with her family, work on her crafts, travel to visit family members and friends, and do some volunteer work.





Adult Christian Education

Adult Education Opportunities

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Ross's Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. in the café –Bring a Bible and a friend! All are welcome to join us!

In January, we will begin our mid-year mini-series on “Angels”. Join us as we examine the variety of angels that we read about in the Bible ... explore what God's purpose is in sending us angels ... and consider what possibilities exist for angelic visitation in a world that is typically too “sensible” to believe in angels. We will continue to meet in hybrid fashion in January, with in-person discussion along with Zoom access to our slides and live class discussion. Our schedule for this month is as follows:

Wednesday, January 4: Angels

Wednesday, January 11: Even more angels

Wednesday, January 18: Are there any angels left?

Wednesday, January 25: What about modern angels



Please direct any questions to Pastor Ross at craig.ross@stpeterslutheran.org



January Pub Theology - Wednesday January 18 , 6:30 p.m.

Place to be announced – watch for more details in the bulletin or on the adult ed board. Come for dinner and drinks or just drinks and discussion – RSVP to Sister Dottie at dottie@stpeterslutheran-lanc.org

Sunday Morning Adult Education – 9:15 am

The “Pod” Class meets in room 100 and discusses contemporary issues as well as looking at the Sunday lectionary

Crosspoints Adult Class meets in the Conference Room. In January we will be looking at the ELCA social statements and messages – are they still relevant? What is missing?

Reminder: No Sunday School on January 1. We will return to our normal schedule on January 8.



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

From the Tanzania Mission Committee



Our 15th Annual Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 10, was a huge success. Thank you to the amazing cookie bakers who truly outdid themselves again. We could never do it without you! Thank you to all the congregation members and your friends, families, and neighbors who bought cookies and/or made donations. Thank you also to the wonderful office staff, Pastor Ross, Sister Dottie and sextons who helped us in so many ways. And thank you to Troop 84 Boy Scouts and their leaders. They once again handed out deli gloves, assisted cookie buyers to manage their boxes while they chose their cookies and banded and bagged the boxes.

As always, all of the proceeds (over \$3600) will be wired to the Konde Diocese in Tanzania to be used solely for the Busoka orphans, their education and other needs. The Tanzanian Mission Committee is grateful to the congregation for helping us fulfill St Peter's covenant with our Companions in Christ, Busoka Lutheran Church. Peace and love to all.



New Parish Secretary

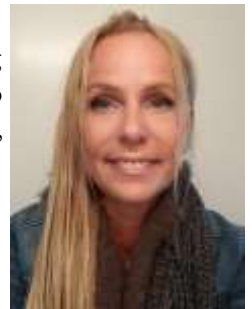
Thank you for this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Kristie Windle. I was born and raised in Lebanon County. I am a mother of three, and a grandmother of three beautiful little ones - Trey, Troy and Kensley. My hobbies are taking long walks, decorating, crafting, and most importantly spending time with my family. I have attended Sunday School as a child with the United Church of Christ, then later in life along with my children, I found a wonderful Methodist church to attend.

I have over 30 years of office experience. I enjoy learning new things and creating marketing material on my publisher site. I am a PA licensed Realtor from Lebanon County, who two years ago moved here to Lancaster County. I am excited to join the staff at St. Peter's Church in December, and super excited to become a member of your church.

I would like to thank you again for taking this time to allow me to introduce myself.

Kindest regards,

Kristie M. Windle



Pictured here is **Jonathan Bowman**, one of your sextons. Jonathan comes in one day each week to vacuum the narthex, cry room, and music hallway, and help set up tables for events. He has been doing so for over 10 years. He is the son of Mike and Sue Bowman. Jonathan just loves to decorate our office Christmas tree and does such a wonderful job that we have asked him to do so every year. This year Jonathan visited NYC with his family and Jonathan got a chance to see the giant, decorated Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center. He said he had a wonderful time. Jonathan is such a blessing to St. Peter's. Be sure to thank him if you see him at church on Sunday.



Mission Campaign

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

St. Peter's Family,

As we read in 1 Thessalonians, we continue to offer prayers and thanks for the continued progress in our *Faith in Our Future* mission campaign.

As of mid-December, 106 households have helped us secure pledges totaling \$946,180 with pledge payments and outright gifts totaling \$563,148. Of the dollars received, \$480,000 have been allocated to the capital projects component of the campaign, almost all of which have been completed -- the final project in the Family Life Center is scheduled for completion in January. As always, you can continue to track our progress at <https://www.stpeterslutheran.org/mission-campaign/>

Especially as our St. Peter's family navigates the transitions affecting our congregation, we look to the name of this campaign – *Faith in Our Future*. We both believe steadfastly that the St. Peter's family has so much to offer our communities in need, both near and far. And that is why NOW is the time to redouble our efforts in supporting the final two components of the mission campaign: Mortgage Reduction and Mission Fund.

If you are drawn to supporting these critical components of the campaign, you can print a campaign pledge form from our campaign website at <https://www.stpeterslutheran.org/mission-campaign/>.

We remain committed to this campaign and are grateful for your gifts of financial treasure, as well as your prayers, discernment, and commitment to the success of *Faith in Our Future*! We appreciate you continuing on this journey with us.

With Faith in Our Future,

Jen and Adrian

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

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

Church Council Meeting Minutes Available

During the December council meeting, the November 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/congregational-documents/>. 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.

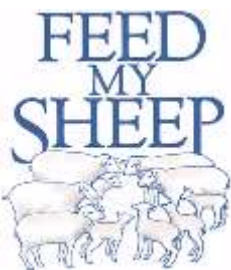
Finance Committee

FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF 2022 (Jan-Nov):

GENERAL OPERATIONS ONLY	2021	2022	2022	negative diff: actual less than budget
	YTD	YTD	YTD	
	Actual	Actual	Budget	
				<i>YTD Act to Bud</i>
Weekly Offering Income	770,689	680,957	818,803	(137,846)
Special Offering Income	5,883	13,100	26,348	(13,249)
Offering Income Totals	\$776,572	\$694,057	\$845,152	\$(151,095)
Debt Reduction Income	151,956	116,087	138,414	(22,327)
Other Income	98,271	72,815	144,430	(71,615)
Total Income	1,026,799	882,960	1,127,996	(245,036)
Total Expense	(1,086,662)	(1,057,992)	(1,134,571)	76,579
Net Income - General Fund	(\$59,863)	(\$175,033)	(\$6,575)	(\$168,458)
<i>Above report excludes Preschool, Scouting and Mission Campaign.</i>				

Commercial Fulton Bank mortgages - balance at 11/15/22: **\$1,468,491**

Breakdown of Debt Reduction donations and payments:	2021 Actual Nov YTD	2022 Actual Nov YTD	2022 Budget Nov YTD	<i>YTD Act to Bud</i>
Debt Reduction Income	151,956	116,087	138,414	(22,327)
Debt Reduction Expenses	(159,762)	(133,544)	(124,948)	(8,596)
	\$ (7,806)	\$ (17,457)	\$ 13,466	\$ (30,923)



The Sheep are Hungry! Please Help Feed Them!

Needed in January: *Peanut butter; jellies and jams; canned fruits; canned pasta; canned tomato products; spaghetti sauce; canned low sodium soup; boxed macaroni and cheese; instant stuffing & potatoes; canned yams; complete pancake mix & syrup; canned tuna and chicken; tuna, beef & chicken helper; cereal; instant oatmeal; ground coffee.* Non-perishable food may be dropped off in the carts in the Narthex and at New Day. Items go to the Lancaster County Food Hub. ***Thanks for your donations!***



Stewardship

Each month your Stewardship committee will bring you a new feature! A member will share how being part of a ministry helps them spiritually and how it keeps them connected to St. Peter's. You will also hear more about the different ministries and the opportunities to serve your church family and community.

Angela Moshos is a co-chair of the Prayer Chain Ministry.

The Prayer Chain Ministry was started in 2001 as an intern project for the then Vicar Jerry Kulp. The Prayer Chain offers intercessory prayer for our church members and for non-church members. We lift up prayers that are received from the pew cards, our website, and emails from the pastors/office. We offer prayers for one week or one month. No request is too big or too small. Intercessory prayer is a way for us to show Christian love for one another.

My family joined St. Peter's in 2001. When I was approached to be a part of the ministry, I felt it was a way to give back to God and a way to make connections with our new church. I have learned prayer is just a conversation with God. Praying for others has helped our group to make connections within our group and with those that we pray for. I have learned that prayer is a safe way to share joys, sorrows, thanksgivings, anger, praise, frustrations and worries. Praying with others has helped me understand that I am not alone in this world and that I am connected to more people than I realize. Prayer brings me comfort and I hope to offer that same comfort to others.



Tom and Deborah Berdos have served together in music ministry for over forty years. Married in 1981, they have served churches in a variety of denominations (Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Lutheran, other) working with choirs as large as 100 and as small as 10.

Tom serves as choral, handbells, and instrumental director, worship and concert pianist, and administrator. Deborah serves as organist, accompanist, and children's choir director.

Highlights of their work each year include conducting Handel's Messiah (with full orchestra, professional soloists, and large community chorus) as well as an annual choir festival to benefit local first responders. Tom and Deborah have performed in many parts of the country, including the south, the midwest, New England, Carnegie Hall, and Avery Fisher Hall. Tom has been a guest conductor at the Ocean Grove Choir Festival numerous times, conducting a chorus of up to 1600 singers. Deborah has a strong reputation as a dynamic performing organist in Lancaster County. They both devote time each week to teaching private students. Tom teaches piano and brass, and Deborah teaches piano and organ.

Tom also serves as the K-12 Music Director at Linville Hill Christian School in Gap.

Tom enjoys reading, fitness, woodworking, and home projects. Deborah pursues her interests of naturopathy, fitness, and keeping busy in the kitchen. They both love to spend time with their five (soon to be six) grandchildren.

Soli Deo Gloria



Prayer Chain Ministry

As we begin a New Year, please consider joining us on the Prayer Chain! You receive requests as we receive them (either a phone call or by email), pray the request daily for a week AT A TIME CONVENIENT for your schedule. All requests received are treated confidentiality and with respect. All your work is done on your time when it suits you. We try to have one 'All Member Meeting' a year, usually in the Spring, to catch-up with everyone. If this might interest you, please contact either co-chairs Angela Moshos (717) 392-6201 or Ginny Gerhart (717) 626-7406 for more information or to sign-up! We would love to have you join this very rewarding ministry!



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

Health & Wellness



As we begin the new year, and start making all those resolutions, we should also think about how easily we can save lives. There are several ways to make an impact.

Many of our friends, neighbors, and those we don't know, are struggling. The holidays are often a time of sadness, loneliness and despair. These feelings prompt deeper depression, anxiety and even an increase in suicide. We are often so caught up in our own busy lives, that we don't stop to recognize how one gesture of caring and love can dramatically impact someone's day, (and maybe their life). Please take time every day, look for a way to reach out, and share God's caring and love. You will

brighten the person's day, and may just save a life.

Another way is through blood donation. January is National Blood Donor Month; a period of critical blood shortages. (The pandemic has further impacted donations). Did you know that 38% of the U.S. population can donate, but only 10% do! People will stop donating during the holidays, (November, December & winter months), and when they get sick with colds, flu, etc. Blood drives will get snowed out during the upcoming winter weather months. This is a time that we recognize the lifesaving contribution of blood and platelet donors. Without them, there are millions of people who would further decline, or die, because of the need for blood (or blood products).

As in 2021, the nation's blood supply has dipped to concerning levels. Blood donors of all blood types – particularly type O, which is needed most – are needed to help meet demands.

More than 50 years ago, on December 31, 1969, the president of the United States signed a proclamation designating January as National Blood Donor Month (NBDM). This observance was meant to honor voluntary blood donors and encourage others to give blood at a time when it's needed more than ever.

HOW TO OBSERVE NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH

Donate: not just in honor of national blood donor month, but in the simple spirit of providing the stuff of life to those who need it most. (You can donate again after 8 weeks, as long as you're healthy)

Inspire: those who donate can inspire others, creating an exponential increase in donations!

Learn and remember your blood type: Some examples: O positive (needed more often), O negative (considered universal donors), AB position (considered universal recipients), etc.

**Every time we donate one pint of blood, the potential is there to save three lives.
Every time we share thoughts of caring and love, the potential is there to save a life.**



Social Ministry

Community Meal Day



January Community Meals will be Wednesdays, January 4 and January 11 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, January 7** from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. 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).



Arts Hallway Exhibit

Please visit the "Arts Hallway" during January to view a display of quilts created by the Quilting Group of St. Peter's. These beautiful works of art are on display to share with you how a small group from our church takes 48 squares of fabric and sews them into a warm and comforting quilt. When completed these quilts will leave St. Peters to touch a life in our local community.

Please enjoy the display and know your support of your quilting group is directly returned to support the local community's needs.

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.



Groups and Events



50 + Group - Please join us on Thursday, January 5 at noon in the Café for lunch, fellowship, entertainment, and education. You won't want to miss Bob Frick's last two lectures this session. January's first ladies are Anne Frances Davis Reagan and Barbara Pierce Bush. If we have a weather cancellation, this lecture will move to February. Please bring your own sandwich, place setting, a beverage, and a snack to share. If you want to come just for the lecture, join us by 12:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Debra Shue at 717-318-8848 or email djshue52@Comcast.net.



Widows Group - The Widows Group meetings continue at St. Peter's on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. and usually last about one hour. Our next meeting will be on January 24 in Room 100. We discuss what is going on in our lives and some fun things as well.



Psalm 146:9 The Lord watches over the fatherless and the widow.



Begin the New Year by coming to our WELCA meeting on Thursday, January 12 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 124 (Augsburg Alley). A light breakfast will be served. Our program will center on sharing the meaning of a family heirloom with the rest of the group. The heirloom you bring may be religious or otherwise. All women are welcome. Any questions, contact Sally Rager, 717-569-6119 or Kathy Caldwell, 717-371-7296.



Women's Winter Retreat -

Friday, January 20 - Sunday, January 22 (7:00 p.m. Friday through noon on Sunday)
Camp Kirchenwald Cost: \$80.00



WOMEN'S RETREAT

We will continue our tradition of wine and cheese on Friday night! In order to keep the cost down, we are asking people to sign up for food items [retreat food donations](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D4AAEA723A4F94-womens) or - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D4AAEA723A4F94-womens>. We are asking for people to bring your favorite snack to share and, if you would like, to share your favorite wine! Contact Sister Dottie for more details at dottie.almoney@stpeterslutheran.org.



Pastor's Letter

Hi Folks:

January is a time when many of us look to the year ahead with optimism and hope. Even though these are unusual times in which we live, there is much to celebrate and anticipate this coming year at St. Peter's.

First, we are excited to alert you to two new staff hires. Thomas and Deborah Berdos will officially begin their time among us as our new Directors of Music team. Though slated to start on January 1, they were both gracious enough to jump into the middle of the Advent season, and lead our worship for the final services on 2022, including Christmas Eve. You may already be aware of some of the health complications our interim organist, Eldonna Filardi, experienced with her wrist, and her need to resign her position here due to doctor's orders. The Berdoses were very graciously able to cover all of those final services for which Eldonna was no longer cleared to play. On December 18, we wished Eldonna and her husband Bob, Godspeed and thanks, for their very faithful time among us, which included Eldonna's playing that concluded suddenly on December 4 due to doctor's orders, along with her and Bob's participation in our Sunday School program. Deborah Berdos got off to a wonderful start with us leading worship on Sundays December 11 and 18, with Tom joining her for Christmas Eve worship. We are excited for this new chapter in our music ministry under their leadership.

We have also received, with joy and sadness, the resignation of Sandy Shattuck, as our Parish Secretary. After more than forty years of service to churches in secretarial positions – with 13+ of those years with St. Peter's, Sandy is turning off her church computers to enjoy a well-deserved retirement at the end of 2022. We cannot thank Sandy enough for her years of faithful administrative service, and her bright and joyful spirit among us. She will be deeply missed. We are excited, however, that JoAnn Harriger, our former assistant secretary, will take over the lead secretary role in our office, and our new assistant secretary will be Kristie Windle. They will job share our parish secretary position. Our hope is that you will welcome Kristie to our congregation when you meet her in the office, starting this month, and support both JoAnn and Kristie.

We have just finished our Christmas season and the end of our calendar year. Our church attendance is gradually growing stronger as more people are vaccinated, and others recognize that while worshipping from your living room is convenient, being in the presence of your sisters and brothers in faith is an irreplaceable blessing of public worship life. As I write, I am also expecting that many of you will be catching up on your offerings to the church, and that you will have participated in an "extra year-end gifts." Your generosity will enable us to be generous to the communities near and far that we serve as a congregation, along with supporting our congregational ministries.

Lastly, I am grateful for the Council's endorsement of my retirement date of June 30, 2024. When I was originally asked to set a date, I offered June 2024 as a "*not later than*" date, thinking that St. Peter's might call a new senior pastor in that period of time. I thought offering flexibility for the church to call someone earlier, or to allow an overlap period if said pastor desired one, would be a positive option in the process. Since a candidate was not identified in the call process, the synod asked me to set a firm date for retirement, at which time an intentional interim pastor will be assigned to us to help clarify our pastoral needs. So I will be with you for roughly another year and a half. That will be both a joy for me, and also a help as we make our retirement plans as a family. I offer my thanks to the Council for allowing me to stay through my original retirement date. It also allows me to serve among you through the successful completion of our Mission campaign, and then move aside for the next exciting stage of St. Peter's ministry ... at the corner of Lititz Pike and Delp ... and in the world beyond our doors.

I am excited for the new year ahead and the challenges of ministry it will present to us in a rapidly changing world. I will be grateful for your support and participation, and I look forward to seeing you "online", but especially "in church".

--Peace, PR

Youth & Family Ministry News...



NO Sunday School on January 1

January 8 – Sunday School returns to its **normal time of 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.**

January 8 – Youth Movie Afternoon at Penn Cinema – watch for details

January 16 (Monday) – MLK Day of Service – we will bake and assemble thank you baskets for first responders – 10:00 a.m. - Kitchen

January 28 (Saturday) – Youth Sunday rehearsal – 10:00 a.m.- Sanctuary

January 29 – Youth Sunday – combined New Day/Traditional services – 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary



2023 Youth Winter Retreat Dates: (notice the age changes) Grade 8 can choose one or both to attend.

February 3-5 Grades **8 -12** at Camp Kirchenwald – Cost: \$80 per person

February 10 – 12 – **Grades 5-8** at Camp Kirchenwald- Cost \$80 per person

Watch for registration information through email or on the youth boards in the in each classroom

Please contact Sister Dottie if you have any questions at dottie.almoney@stpeterslutheran.org.



St. Peter's Preschool

St. Peter's Preschool ended the year with lots of excitement! Our friends were busy decorating Christmas trees, making special snacks, holiday gifts, and celebrating Christmas Around the World! Pastor Ross put on a Christmas puppet show for us and we learned about Advent and Jesus's birth. We learned some new Christmas songs and put on quite a show for our families and the Sages. We also found time to wrap all of the treats donated for Thrive & Grit. We were able to drop off so many "goodie bags" at the Ann Barshinger Cancer Institute - this definitely helped us get into the Christmas spirit! We are excited to announce that we were able to open our Prayground class to seven new friends and we have expanded to five days a week. In mid-January we will be sending home enrollment information for next year. If you have any questions about preschool, Prayground or enrollment please contact me!



ST. PETER'S KIDS

Dear Families,

December was quite a busy month! We held our first Gingerbread Bash on Friday, December 2, in the Family Life Center. It was a huge success!! Families gathered to share cookies, make gingerbread tree ornaments and gingerbread nativity scenes, listen to the Christmas story from the Bible and sing Christmas songs!! What a wonderful way to start the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Thank you to all who helped plan, prepare and participate in this event!

During December our Sunday School classes focused on Christmas Around the World. Children learned about how Christmas is celebrated in different countries – Norway, Mexico and England. They heard stories, made crafts, and played games all related to Christmas in those countries.

We continue to ask families to consider registering for Sunday School by going to our website and clicking on the link that is on the LEARN page. This is helpful for our planning purposes. Thank you, in advance, for utilizing this tool.

We are seeking volunteers to lead and help with the stations for grades 1 to 4 for a 4 to 6 week time period or as often as your time permits throughout the year. Everything is scripted so no preparation is required. All materials and resources are provided. Please consider getting involved with your child's Christian education and supporting our Sunday School program in this way. If you are able to volunteer, contact Cindy Geesey at cindy.geesey@stpeterslutheran.org. In addition, you may go to our sign-up genius by clicking on the following link : <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4AAEAE2EA2F94-stpeters>

As always, we welcome volunteers to serve on our Children's Ministries Committee. Please respond to Cindy Geesey, Director of Children's Ministries at cindy.geesey@stpeterslutheran.org with any amount of interest you may have. Thank you!

I look forward to seeing you and your children in Sunday School!

Blessings,

Cindy Geesey

Director of Children's Ministries



RIGHT OF REFUSAL WAIVER FOR PHOTOS — To ensure 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.

Worship Assistant Schedule for January

	LECTORS	GREETERS	USHERS	WELCOME CENTER
January 1 9:45 a.m. Combined	Jordan Lambert	Randy & Susan Ketchum	Jo Boltz	Bob & Edee Bedford
January 8 8:00 a.m.	Larry Wilcox	Susan Chever	Tom & Betsy McConnell	Ron & Joan Beck
10:30 a.m.	Lois Miklas	Bonnie & Gerald Detz	Bob & Abby Brestensky	James & Martha Fulmer
January 15 8:00 a.m.	Jo Boltz	Adam Gegg	Liz O'Brien	Shirley Dombach
10:30 a.m.	Nicolette Simon	Sara Gable	Hoffman family	Mark & Darla Cardin
January 22 8:00 a.m.	Patti Courtois	Bob & Phyllis Hollinger	Eric May Tom Rothfus	Mary Ann Oberholtzer
10:30 a.m.	Thompson McConnell	Jillian & Joann Gorer	Alan & Beverly Swanson	Art & Libby Stoner
January 29 8:00 a.m.	Donald Diebler	Thomas Rothfus	Rotz family	Christine Ponti
10:30 a.m.	Ashley Miller	Thomas & Debbie Stover	Dave & Lis Wolf	TBD



(continued on next page)

Worship Assistant Schedule for January (continued)

	ACOLYTES	A/V	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	ALTAR GUILD COORD.	ALTAR GUILD
January 1 9:45 a.m. Combined		Jordan Lambert	No Communion	Debbie Shue Lori Weaver	
January 8 8:00 a.m.		Mark Burkholder	Randy & Debbie Shue	Debbie Shue Lori Weaver	
10:30 a.m.		Dave Tilley	Shirley Gorner Shirley Schlener	Debbie Shue Lori Weaver	Jill Mowery
January 15 8:00 a.m.		Tom Badorf	Eric May, Karen Peifer	Debbie Shue Lori Weaver	Shirley Dombach
10:30 a.m.	Hoffman family	Bob Preston	No Communion	No Communion	
January 22 8:00 a.m.		Angela Moshos	No Communion	No Communion	
10:30 a.m.		Bill Schlener	Gary & Dawn Troxell	Debbie Shue Lori Weaver	Cheryl Oeschger
January 29 8:00 a.m.	Rotz family	Tom Chever	Debbie Stover Ginny Stickler	Debbie Shue Lori Weaver	
10:30 a.m.		Dave Tilley	Jeff Pretz Debbie Stover	Debbie Shue Lori Weaver	Pam Preston

Worship Participant Schedulers		
Altar Guild	Debbie Shue	djshue52@comcast.net
A/V	Bill Schlener	billschlener@comcast.net
Communion Assistants	Karen Peiffer	kpeiffer13@comcast.net
Flower Delivery	Christine Smith	cjsmith1984@gmail.com
Greeters	Vicki Legath	Vicki.legath@gmail.com
Lectors	Thompson McConnell	thompsonmcconnell42@gmail.com
Ushers	Nancy Beauregard	rigger1564@comcast.net
Welcome Center	Jamie Rottmund	jrottmund@gmail.com

January Flower Delivery Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Deliverer</u>	<u>Recipient</u>
1/8/23	Cheryl Oeschger	Arlene Dodd
1/8/23	John & Kathy Burke	Sally Price
1/15/23	Cathy Graver	Anna Wetzler
1/15/23	Becky Lutz	Don & Thelma Aurand
1/22/23	Tim & Sharon Fickes	Karleen Eberly
1/22/23	Tim & Sharon Fickes	Peggy Popp
1/29/23	Lois Benton	June Hemsteger
1/29/23	Jo Boltz	Nancy Shimer



NARTHEX COFFEE BAR

Below is the coffee bar schedule for January 2023

January 1	Happy New Year – No Coffee Bar
January 8	Donna & Mark Aho
January 15	Shirley & Joann Gorner
January 22	Shirley Dombach & Phyllis Hollinger
January 29	Amy Smith

Thank you to all who serve at the coffee bar. If anyone would like to serve the church community by volunteering at the coffee bar, please contact Donna Aho at 717-371-0310 or ademaho@comcast.net for more information.

NEW DAY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS — JANUARY 2023

	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
Lector	Cheryl Laub	James Moshos	Jenny Sassaman	Lisa Teichmann
Communion Assistant	Mindy Rottman	Bill Sassaman	No communion	Jenny Sassaman

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.



LOOKING AHEAD

JANUARY CALENDAR

Sunday, January 1

9:45 a.m. – Combined Worship Service & Communion
(Sanctuary and Livestream)
10:00 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)

Monday, January 2

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 3

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

Wednesday, January 4

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café & Zoom)
1:00 p.m. - Community Meal Preparation (Kitchen)
4:30 p.m. - Community Meal (Grace Lutheran)

Thursday, January 5

12:00 p.m. - 50+ Fellowship (Café)
7:00 p.m. - Herald Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Saturday, January 7

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

Sunday, January 8

8:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary and Livestream)
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:00 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
10:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary)
10:30 a.m. - New Day Worship & Communion (Family Life Center and Livestream)
11:15 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church Sunday School (Room 100)
5:00 p.m. - Youth Group (FLC)

Monday, January 9

10:00 a.m. - Quilters (Augsburg Alley)
7:00 p.m. - Finance Committee Meeting (Conference Room)

Tuesday, January 10

Herald Deadline
7:00 p.m. - Property Committee (Conference Room)
7:00 p.m. - Worship Committee (Library)

Wednesday, January 11

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café & Zoom)
1:00 p.m. - Community Meal Preparation (Kitchen)
4:30 p.m. - Community Meal (Grace Lutheran)

Thursday, January 12

9:00 a.m. - WELCA (Augsburg Alley)
7:00 p.m. - Herald Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Sunday, January 15

8:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary and Livestream)
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:00 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
10:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
10:30 a.m. - New Day Worship & Communion (Family Life Center and Livestream)
11:15 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church Sunday School (Room 100)

Monday, January 16

10:00 a.m. - Quilters (Augsburg Alley)
6:30 p.m. - Council Meeting (Conference Room)

Tuesday, January 17

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

Wednesday, January 18

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café)
6:30 p.m. - Pub Theology (TBD)

Thursday, January 19

7:00 p.m. Herald Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Friday, January 20

Women's Retreat (Camp Kirchenwald)

Sunday, January 22

8:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary and Livestream)
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
10:00 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)
10:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary)
10:30 a.m. - New Day Worship (Family Life Center and Livestream)
11:15 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church Sunday School (Room 100)

Monday, January 23

10:00 a.m. - Quilters (Augsburg Alley)
1:00 p.m. - Communications Committee (Zoom)
6:30 p.m. - Human Resources Committee (Zoom)
6:45 p.m. - Tanzania Missions Committee (Conference Room)



LOOKING AHEAD (continued)

JANUARY CALENDAR

Tuesday, January 24

10:30 a.m. - Widows Group (Room 100)

Wednesday, January 25

9:30 a.m. - Bible Study (Café)

Thursday, January 26

7:00 p.m. Herald Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Saturday, January 28

10:00 a.m. - Youth Sunday Practice

Sunday, January 29

Youth Sunday

8:00 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion
(Sanctuary and Livestream)

Sunday, January 29 (continued)

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church (Chapel)

10:30 a.m. - Traditional Worship & Communion (Sanctuary)

10:30 a.m. - New Day Worship & Communion (Family Life
Center and Livestream)

11:15 a.m. - Word of Life Deaf Church Sunday School
(Room 100)

Monday, January 30

10:00 a.m. - Quilters (Augsburg Alley)



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 JoAnn Harriger in the Church Office at 717-569-9211 or joann.harriger@stpeterslutheran.org to sign up and start receiving the Herald by email.

THE NEXT ISSUE FOR FEBRUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER — ARTICLES DUE JANUARY 10

NewsLetter
DEADLine

Articles for the February 2023 Herald are due in the church office no later than **January 10**. Please submit articles to JoAnn Harriger in the church office or email joann.harriger@stpeterslutheran.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

Beginning January 2023, JoAnn Harriger will be the point of contact for the Herald.

Please contact JoAnn in the church office at 717-569-9211 or by email

joann.harriger@stpeterslutheran.org .