The weekly Herald



Issue No. 4

A publication of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lancaster, PA

February 10, 2023

PR's Ponderings

I am a creature of habit, and I thrive on routines. It is one of the things that has kept me in the church throughout my life ... routines in our worship, in our ritual, and in our personal pieties. So, although I have yet to catch COVID, the pandemic has wreaked havoc inside my head and routines that I have cherished. Things change too regularly for me these days. I struggle to find my rhythm in life. But ... more recently I have seen modest steps of routine and rhythm returning to St. Peter's in worship, in education, and in fellowship. I'm hoping you sense it, too. I am grateful to so very many of you for your leadership and participation that are making this possible. So, if you have been away for a while, stop by again. Things are different in a few ways ... but familiar and grounding in far more ways. I miss you. --PR

Lent Is On The Horizon

Mark your calendars for February 22, Ash Wednesday. We will have a shorter outdoor service in our St. Peter's Cemetery (62 Valley Road, on the right at the flagpole) at 8:00 a.m., and a sanctuary service indoors in the evening at 7:00 p.m. Both services offer Imposition of ashes and Holy Communion.



On February 21, at 6:30 p.m., join us for our annual Palm Burning service in our narthex. Following a brief liturgy, we'll adjourn to the carport and burn ashes from last year's Palm Sunday service. The ashes will be mixed later in the evening for use in Ash Wednesday services. Bring your palms if you have them. We'll have some on hand if you don't have any.

Quilts For The World

Recently the quilting ladies of St. Peters were invited to donate quilts to families who left their country for safety. The City Church of Wilmington, Delaware in conjunction with Bethany Christian Services who sponsors these families in the Wilmington area. My daughter, Kristen, who is a member of this church asked if our group would be willing to donate quilts as there was a great need for these. We were excited to do so as this is our main focus in making them. I delivered 19 quilts to give to those in need. As long as I have been part of this group, I have never had the opportunity to hand them to people personally. It was very heartwarming to see their joy and smiles. Thanks to all those ladies for the love you put into these quilts. -- Cheryl McGovern

Wednesday AM Bible Study

We are returning to the study of Matthew's Gospel on February 15, having finished our mini-unit on saints. The timing is perfect, as we will get to Palm Sunday and Matthew's Passion narrative during the season of Lent. If you have been wondering what it is like, join us on a Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. You can gather in person or by Zoom. Email Pastor Ross for the zoom link if you need it, craig.ross@stpeterslutheran.org.

Congregational Events

Wednesday, February 15 — **Valentine Trivia:** Join us at Iron Hill Brewery on Harrisburg Pike at 6:30 p.m. in honor of St. Valentine and Valentine's Day. Please RSVP to Sister Dottie at *dottie.almoney@stpeterslutheran.org*.

Sunday, February 26 — Lenten Luncheon and Discussion after Church: Youth and adults are invited to come for lunch and stay for a discussion. Our topic for this event is "What are the stories of St. Peter's – past, present and future?" We will eat lunch together and will discuss together in small groups. As we look to the past, what do we want to keep; as we move forward what do we want to include? Our personal and collective stories help shape our ministry and during Lent we will continue the discussion during our Sunday School time beginning March 5 (location TBD). Lunch will be provided. This is an open invitation and all perspectives and views are encouraged to join us.

Questions can be directed to Sister Dottie at dottie.almoney@stpeterslutheran.org.

Worship for Feb. 12

Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

Traditional Worship 8 a.m.

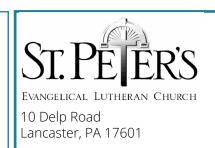
Preaching: Pastor Hand

Traditional Worship & Communion 10:30 a.m.

Preaching: Pastor Hand

New Day Worship 10:30 a.m.

Preaching: Sister Dottie



Worship Assistant and Volunteer Schedule

February 12

8:00 a.m. — Lector: Steph Gerber; Greeter: Janis Sharkey; Usher: Don Wenrich; Welcome Center: Ronald & Joan Beck; A/V: Angela Moshos; Flower Deliverer: Liz O'Brien; Flower Recipient: Anna Dowie

10:30 a.m. — Lector: TBD; Greeters: Scott & Sharon Breeden; Ushers: Geoff & Anneliese Owen; Welcome Center: Dick & Ann Larrick; A/V: Bill Schlener; Communion Assistants: Paul Berkebile & Shirley Gorner; Altar Guild Coordinator: Debbie Shue & Lori Weaver; Altar Guild: Jeff & Anneliese Owen; Flower Deliverer: Debbie Shue; Flower Recipient: Lura Zeswitz

New Day — Lector: James Moshos

Coffee Bar — Cindy Miley

Looking Ahead

February 19

Traditional Preacher — Pastor Hand New Day Preacher — Pastor Ross

February 22 (Ash Wednesday)

Traditional Preacher — Pastor Ross

Lydia's Closet Update - It's been over 7 years!

As you may know, Lydia's Closet was open during the lockdown and we started doing online orders for families while we did not have in-person shopping. This option has remained open to families and you may have noticed the bags under the table by the office window.

I'm sure everyone is aware that the price of everything has increased over the last year. This increase is reflected in the number of families utilizing our service. Over the past six months, we have made clothing available to over 40 children a month! Because of this increase in need, we are finding our racks bare.

The dedicated team has been volunteering every month; without these faithful volunteers, we could not continue this mission. Not everyone can help out on Saturday mornings, but there are unfilled needs.

Please prayerfully consider if you are available to help in any of the following ways:

- 1. Be a liaison with local businesses for donations and see how they could help get the word out about our service.
- 2. Put out posters or business cards that let people know about Lydia's Closet.
- 3. Ask friends and neighbors to donate clothing. Let them know that we do have donation forms for tax purposes found on our website.
- 4. Go through your closet and see what you're not wearing, and put it in the bin!
- 5. Donate new socks and underwear, we always need all sizes.

Thank you for helping to make this ministry a success.

If you have any questions please email lydiascloset@stpeterslutheran.org.

Rev. Craig Ross, Senior Pastor • Sister Dottie Almoney, Director of Education & Outreach

Contact Information 717.569.9211 • www.stpeterslutheran.org • office@stpeterslutheran.org