



Administratively Speaking...

Did our ceiling collapse?

Well a lot has happened in the first three months of 2023 here at St. Peter's. Here is something you may have missed..

In early February at one of our staff meetings, Cindy Geeseey, our children's ministry director, said to me, "The teachers and children have been wearing winter coats during Sunday School for the last 2 weeks. Can you see what's wrong with the heat in the Augsburg Alley classrooms?" Well, that caught my attention. So, the next day I brought in my laser thermometer and went down to the Augsburg classrooms and found that she was correct. When I pointed the device at the floor, the temperature was around 60°. But when I pointed it at the ceiling it was near 80°. I then checked the heating system and it seemed to be working. So, I called in our heating and air conditioning company to investigate.

The technician and I took temperature readings in the Augsburg classrooms and checked out the thermostat on the wall. The heating system was working and calling for heat and he too was puzzled. We could feel heat pumping down from overhead through a missing ceiling tile but no heat through the duct. We then put up a ladder, removed more tiles and stuck our heads up. It felt like August on the beach in New Jersey. We examined the heating duct connections to the ceiling vents and they were all in place. As we left that room we walked out into the main hallway that leads up toward the sanctuary and discovered that the ceiling had caved in. You can see the bulge in the ceiling in the picture. It looked like all of the wires attaching the center of the ceiling grid all broke. Now we had an emergency.



I quickly called a company that specialized in the installation of suspended ceilings to come out and wire up the ceiling so it won't collapse any further. When the technician arrived and started to wire up the ceiling he

noticed that the large heating duct that connects the Bear Room to the Augsburg Alley classrooms had pulled free from the wall, fallen about 12 inches and was resting on some pipes which prevented the whole ceiling from collapsing to the floor. That explains why we had hot air *above* the ceiling in the Augsburg classrooms instead of in the ducts where it was supposed to be. It was pumping hot air across the hall *above* the ceiling tiles instead of through the large ventilation duct.



After another call to our heating contractor, the duct was reattached and ready for the suspended ceiling repair.

Whether a coincidence or a God thing (I lean toward the latter), the suspended ceiling company technician was a former member of our church and his two sisters still attend St. Peter's. His name is Jim Templeton. After Jim did the emergency wiring to keep the suspended ceiling from collapsing any further until the heating technician could repair the duct, he called me to say that he was going to repair the suspended ceiling at no cost to the church on his off-hours. That saved the church a lot of money because this is very expensive work. The Property and Finance committees were very grateful for this act of generosity from our former member, Jim Templeton. What a blessing! Look at the great repair job he did!

Thank you again, Jim!

Fun fact: While I was giving Jim a tour of the church after so many years away, we ran into one of his sisters in the preschool area!

Never a dull day here at St Peter's Lutheran Church!

Your parish administrator,
Paul Schultz



Worship for April 16

Second Sunday of Easter

Traditional Worship
8 a.m.

Preaching: Pastor Ross

**Traditional Worship &
Communion**
10:30 a.m.

Preaching: Pastor Ross

New Day Worship
10:30 a.m.

Preaching: Sister Dottie



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

10 Delp Road
Lancaster, PA 17601

Upcoming Worship Assistant & Volunteer Schedule

April 16

8:00 a.m. — **Lector:** Eric May; **Greeters:** Randy & Susan Ketchum; **Ushers:** Thompson & Betsey McConnell; **Welcome Center:** Ron & Joan Beck; **A/V:** Angela Moshos; **Communion Assistant:** Jo Boltz; **Altar Guild Coordinator:** Debbie Shue & Lori Weaver; **Altar Guild:** Melanie Burkholder.

10:30 a.m. — **Lector:** John Ford; **Greeter:** Scott Glassford; **Ushers:** Scott Glassford; **A/V:** Bill Schlener; **Communion Assistant:** Bob Courtois; **Altar Guild:** Annaliese & Jeff Owens.

New Day — **Communion Assistant:** Sharon Schaefer.

Coffee Bar — Tom & Pat Badorf.

April 23

8:00 a.m. — **Lector:** Steph Gerber; **Greeters:** Luther & Catharine Kimmich; **Ushers:** Mark & Angela Moshos; **Welcome Center:** Bob & Edee Bedford; **A/V:** Tom Chever; **Communion Assistant:** Paul Berkebile.

10:30 a.m. — **Lector:** Greg Hand; **Greeter:** Jillian & Joann Gorner; **Ushers:** Geoff & Anneliese Owen; **Welcome Center:** Libby Stoner; **A/V:** Dave Tilley; **Communion Assistant:** Todd Benner; **Altar Guild Coordinator:** Debbie Shue & Lori Weaver; **Altar Guild:** Lis Wolf.

Coffee Bar — Sharon Breeden.

A note about Sunday Communion: During the Easter season and continuing until Pentecost Sunday, St. Peter's celebrates Holy Communion at all three services every Sunday instead of alternating between Service of Word and Service of Word & Sacrament. We had started this pattern the year before the COVID shutdown, and it is meant to celebrate the season of the risen Christ and our renewal of life through God's grace. Also, we could use a few more communion assistants. A few minutes of training is all it takes to have the privilege of serving communion to your fellow members. Email Pastor Ross if you have interest.

Join us 10 minutes early for church this Sunday: This Sunday our traditional services will begin using a different communion setting. We will do a short congregational review of the music ten minutes before each service (7:50 and 10:20 a.m.).

Vicarage sold! I am delighted to announce that the vicarage is now under contract for sale. Although the transaction will not be finalized until the closing date on April 28, the buyer has provided verified financial statements, and no property inspection is required, leading us to anticipate a seamless process. The agreed-upon sale price is \$325,000, and after accounting for expenses, replacing the leaking hot water heater, and the proration of taxes, we expect the church to net just over \$300,000. The highly competitive market in Manheim Township continues to foster an environment in which potential buyers submit bids significantly above our asking price, as we had initially expected. — *Mark Aho, Property Committee Chair*

Youth Group Event: Poverty Simulation with Community Action Partnership (CAP) on Sunday, April 23, 3:00-5:30 p.m., FLC. St. Peter's is welcoming a CAP representative to lead a series of interactive scenarios that give participants the opportunity to learn about the realities of poverty and its impact on society as a whole. A poverty simulation can be a profoundly moving experience. It is thought-provoking and promotes insightful conversation about the realities of poverty. Learn what you can do to make a difference in the community! Parents are also welcome to participate. Dinner will be served after the event. Check the electronic edition of the Weekly Herald for the link to RSVP.

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

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