

Issue No. 26

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July 5, 2024

An Introduction from Pastor Linda Hanus

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Summer blessings to you and yours! It's hard to believe that July has arrived. School is out. Folks are heading to the shore to enjoy the "Salt Life". We're recovering from Fourth of July celebrations. The aroma of burgers on the grill is filling the air. It's a busy and exciting time!

The same can be said here at St. Peter's, as we enter this time of transition. As your Interim pastor, I look forward to walking with you into the blessed and mission-filled future that God has in store for St. Peter's in the months to come. I am grateful for the warm welcome and assistance that I have received from the staff and leadership, as I continue to get settled and acclimated.

It's a "getting to know you" time for us all. I ask for your patience, as I strive to learn your names and your involvement in the life of the congregation. Name tags would be helpful and appreciated on Sunday mornings. I have been asked what I'd like to be called. I prefer "Pastor Linda." (My last name, Hanus, is often mispronounced with a long "a", when it should be a short "a" like in "hand".)

So, "Pastor Linda" is just fine.

I was born and raised in Maryland and am a graduate of the University of Maryland. My undergraduate degree is in Law Enforcement. I am a graduate of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg (now ULS). I was ordained in the Maryland Synod of the LCA

(Lutheran Church in America, a predecessor body of the ELCA) thirty-eight years ago. My spouse, Pastor Cliff Hanus, who prefers to be called "Cliff" or "Pastor Hanus" but never "Pastor Cliff", and I met and were married at the seminary forty years ago by Pastor Craig Ross. It is a very small world! We have served congregations across the country, but most of our years have been spent in Pennsylvania.

You will see more of Cliff in the days and months to come. Currently, he continues to serve as the Interim pastor of Holy Trinity, Lancaster.

Contracted by St. Peter's to serve full-time for one year or until you call your next pastor, I will be keeping regular office hours Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon, barring any emergencies, meetings or appointments. Please feel free to stop by and say "hi". You may also contact me to arrange an appointment outside of these hours, but I ask that you please honor my day off (Monday), which is my weekly day of Sabbath rest with Cliff.

You may be wondering what an interim pastor does. My responsibilities are very similar to those of a regularly called pastor of a congregation. For starters, I will be leading the Sunday morning worship services each week with the assistance of other staff members and volunteers. I will be working closely with the staff, church council and team/committee chairs. Once I get a better understanding of the "rhythm" of the mission and ministry of St. Peter's, I will be better able to insert myself into the places where I am most needed. I look forward to supporting those strong staff and lay-led ministries. One day at a time...

While our starting time together may be filled with excitement and anticipation, there is also some sadness that comes with the retirement of Pastor Ross, who has served this congregation faithfully for nearly forty years. With thanksgiving to God, I am sure that you will join me in wishing Pastor Ross a retirement filled with God's richest blessings. Well done, dear colleague and friend!

It is truly a time of transition, which can bring curiosity, anxiety and fear of the unknown. However, it can also be a time when we are re-energized and a time of growth when we can see new and exciting possibilities and opportunities. May the Spirit of God continue to work in us and through us. May the Spirit of God lead us along the ever-unfolding path of discipleship that is before us. I am excited to be sharing this journey with you and welcome your prayers for our time together. A joyous July to all!

With hope and joy in God's presence and promises,

Pastor Linda Hanus



Pastor Linda Hanus, Interim Pastor • Sister Dottie Almoney, Director of Education & Outreach **Contact Information** 717.569.9211 stpeterslutheran.org • office@stpeterslutheran.org

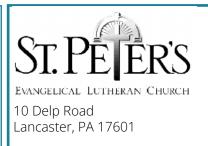
Worship for July 7

Traditional Worship, Service of the Word & Communion 8:00 a.m.

Pastor Linda Hanus preaching Livestream at stpeterslutheran.org

Traditional Worship, Service of the Word 9:30 a.m.

Pastor Linda Hanus preaching



Upcoming Worship Assistant and Volunteer Schedule

July 7

8:00 a.m. — Lector: Ginny Stickler; Greeters: Stephen & Diane Gegg; Ushers: Eric May & Tom Rothfus; Welcome Center: Bob & Phyllis Hollinger; A/V: Angela Moshos; Communion Assistants: Kevin & Weston Groff; Altar Guild Coordinators: Debbie Shue & Lori Weaver; Altar Guild: Shirley Dombach.

9:30 a.m. — Lector: Lois Miklas; Greeters: Bonnie Detz; Ushers: Cortes family; Welcome Center: Mark & Darla Cardin; Acolytes: Cortes family; A/V: Bill Schlener.

Flower Delivery — Lois Benton & Jo Boltz.

July 14

8:00 a.m. — Lector: Diane Gegg; Greeters: John & Jill Kerchner; Ushers: Cindy Miley & Kyle Templeton; Welcome Center: Thomas Rothfus; A/V: Benjamin DeLeonardis.

9:30 a.m. — Lector: Ashley Miller; Greeters: Sara Gable; Ushers: Nancy Beauregard & Scott Glassford; Welcome Center: Rich & Ann Larrick; A/V: Bob Preston; Communion Assistants: Shirley Schlener & Debbie Stover; Altar Guild Coordinators: Debbie Shue & Lori Weaver; Altar Guild: Barb Cooper.

Flower Delivery — Lois Benton & Jo Boltz.

Quick Notes

VBS BEGINS THIS WEEK — Under the Sea VBS will run from July 7-11 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The program will feature Bible stories that take place near bodies of water. Activities will include music, dance and movement, cooking, crafts, and games. On the last night, July 11, there will be a family picnic and closing program. Questions can be directed to Sister Dottie dottie.almoney@stpeterslutheran.org.

NAME TAG SUNDAYS — Starting this Sunday, name tags will be provided for everyone at worship to wear so Pastor Linda and Pastor Cliff Hanus are able to get to know everyone. You are welcome to bring your own name tag if you have any from home or work.

JUST FOR FUN — Come join us for fellowship, fun and food on Thursday, July 11 at 12 noon at Fiorentino's, located by the Lancaster Airport. Sign-up sheet is by the nursery. Questions? Call Kathy Burke at 717-627-6968. All are welcome!

THANK YOU! — A huge thank you to all the people who made Pastor Ross' retirement party a wonderful celebration of his ministry at St. Peter's. It definitely took a village to put this together, and you did exactly what he wanted. Also, here is a big thank you to the communications committee for doing a great job in publicizing PR's retirement. The article in the LNP was a wonderful way to share his journey. There were many past members who came to show their appreciation for his service. We are grateful to you for a job well-done!

CHOIR FESTIVAL — Want to sing at the beach? Tom Berdos will once again be one of the festival conductors at the Ocean Grove Choir Festival on Saturday, July 20, at 7:00 p.m. in Ocean Grove, NJ. There will be rehearsals at St. Peter's on July 16 and 18, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Details about the festival are at oceangrove.org/choir-festival and you can contact Tom Berdos at tom.berdos@stpeterslutheran.org to let him know of your interest.

ST. PETER'S POWER PACKS PROJECT COMMITTEE COULD USE YOUR HELP — We would love for you to join us as volunteers are needed for occasional help. We have divided our tasks into two jobs- picking up the packs and delivering them to St. Peter's around 3:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, and greeting the families at distribution to give them their packs from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. If you would like more information or are interested in helping, please contact Lynn Fyfe at (717) 951-3932 or lynnfyfe@comcast.net.